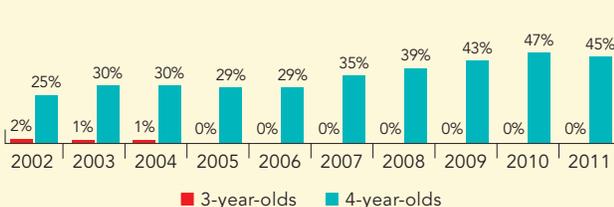
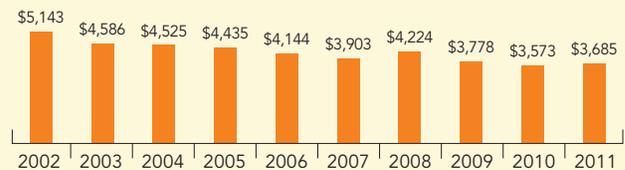


# New York

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED  
(2011 DOLLARS)



Since 1998, New York has sought to offer preschool education to all 4-year-olds in the state through the Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) program. The state previously provided services through the Experimental Prekindergarten (EPK) Program, started in 1966, which later became the Targeted Prekindergarten Program (TPK). TPK was incorporated into UPK during the 2007-2008 school year, resulting in a 50 percent funding increase and eligibility for UPK funding being extended to every district in the state. UPK is administered by a restructured Office of Early Education within the New York Department of Education.

Funding for UPK has not been sufficient to meet the goal of universal access for 4-year-olds. In the 2010-2011 school year, 103,646 children representing about 43 percent of the state's 4-year-olds were enrolled in the program. These slots are filled through district-operated lotteries. Approximately 75 percent of children attend half-day programs.

The UPK Program was flat-funded in the 2010-2011 school year for the second consecutive year, and only districts that had previously offered the program were eligible for funding. Five districts discontinued participation in UPK due to funding. Districts must subcontract at least 10 percent of their funding to community-based organizations (CBOs), including child care centers, Head Start programs, preschool special education providers, and nonpublic nursery schools.

Since 2004, all UPK teachers employed in nonpublic settings must meet the same certification requirements as those in public settings, including a BA if hired prior to 1978 or MA if hired after 1978 and a valid teaching license or certificate in early childhood, or a bachelor's degree in early childhood or a related field with a written plan for obtaining early childhood certification within five years of hire or by January 2013, whichever is later.

Prior to June 30, 2010, a transition period allowed nonpublic agencies to hire teachers who met the staffing requirements of their employer while working to satisfy teacher licensure requirements. Until all UPK teachers at a site possess an appropriate, valid teaching license or certificate, agencies must hire an on-site education director who holds a New York state teaching license or certification valid for services in the early childhood or childhood grades and is responsible for program implementation during the hours the prekindergarten program is in operation. Following the expiration of the transition waiver for teacher requirements in 2010-2011, New York now meets NIEER quality benchmark criteria for teacher degree requirements.

In January 2011, the New York Board of Regents adopted the Prekindergarten Learning Standards with the goal of supporting high-quality early childhood education for children before kindergarten entry. The Board of Regents also adopted the Common Core Standards for Prekindergarten Math and English Language Arts at the same time. Educators and administrators are working toward the goal of aligning the Prekindergarten Learning Standards with the K-12 education system. Based on the adoption of Prekindergarten Learning Standards, New York meets the criteria for achieving the quality benchmark for early learning standards.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
9	24

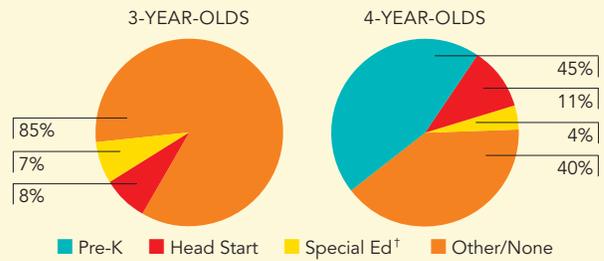
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
24	29

# NEW YORK UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	103,646
School districts that offer state program .....	66% <sup>1</sup>
Income requirement.....	None
Hours of operation .....	2.5 hours/day (part-day), 5-hours/day (full-day), 5 days/week
Operating schedule .....	Academic year
Special education enrollment .....	45,605
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .....	43,775
State-funded Head Start enrollment.....	0

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



<sup>†</sup> This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards .....	Comprehensive <sup>2</sup>	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree .....	BA and NYS teaching certificate (public); BA in early childhood grades or related field with 5-year plan to become certified (nonpublic) <sup>3</sup>	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	Certification in Birth-Grade 2, Students with Disabilities Birth-Grade 2, N-6, or Pre-K-6	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree.....	HSD + 9 credits in EC + Level I certification (public); HSD (nonpublic) <sup>4</sup>	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	175 clock hours/5 years	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size .....		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	NA		
4-year-olds .....	20		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	NA		
4-year-olds .....	1:9		
Screening/referral.....	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	Depend on length of program day <sup>6</sup>	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Other monitoring <sup>7</sup>	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>

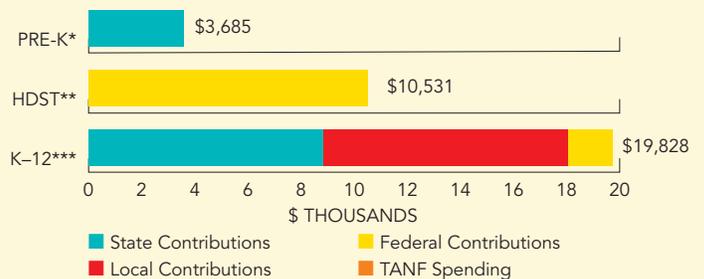
**TOTAL  
BENCHMARKS  
MET**

7

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$381,908,267
Local match required? .....	No
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$3,685
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$3,685

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

\*\* Head Start per-child spending for the 2010-2011 year includes funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '10-'11 school year, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>1</sup> Funding had been made available to all 677 districts in the past but for the 2010-2011 school year, the UPK program was flat-funded (as it was in 2009-2010), meaning only districts that previously had a program would be offered an allocation. Some districts elected not to offer a program in 2010-2011 school year, reducing the total number of districts operating a prekindergarten to 447.

<sup>2</sup> The New York state Board of Regents formally adopted comprehensive Prekindergarten Learning Standards in January 2011 for use in UPK programs.

<sup>3</sup> Since 2004, programs in nonpublic settings have been required to meet the same certification requirements as those in public settings. However, a statute expiring in 2010 had allowed certain community-based organizations to be exempt from this requirement until at least 2013, as long as uncertified teachers meeting the teaching requirements of the sponsoring agency (AA in ECE or CDA) receive on-site supervision by certified teachers. These teachers must have a plan to become certified within five years or by 2013, whichever is later. Expiration of the exemption for teacher certification requirements on June 30, 2010, now establishes a policy for uniform criteria of public and nonpublic teaching personnel.

<sup>4</sup> The Level I Teaching Assistant Certificate is the entry level certificate for teacher assistants. It permits the holder to provide direct instructional services to students under the general supervision of a licensed or certified teacher. Assistant teachers employed by nonpublic schools must have a HSD and meet the standards of the licensing or registering agency.

<sup>5</sup> A social and emotional assessment and referral are also required. Support services include parent conferences and/or home visits, parent education or job training, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for parents and children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities. State regulations require that support services be provided to the maximum extent practicable.

<sup>6</sup> Programs meeting for 3 hours or fewer must provide a snack. Programs meeting more than 3 hours must provide a meal and snack.

<sup>7</sup> Site visits of each site and classroom are performed annually by district personnel with results reported to the state. Site visits by state personnel are performed periodically or as needed, often in coordination with Title I monitoring but not on a regular cycle for all classrooms. This no longer meets NIEER's requirement for monitoring.