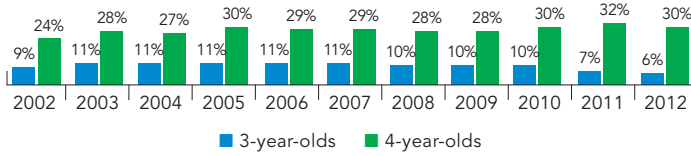
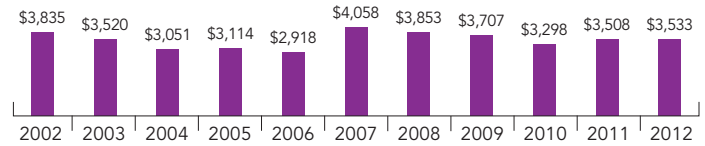


# Kentucky

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2012 DOLLARS)



The Kentucky Preschool Program (KPP) was launched in 1990 in response to the Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA). KPP is available to 4-year-olds who are from low-income families, are homeless, or in foster care as well as 3- and 4-year-olds with disabilities. In the 2006-2007 school year, the number of children eligible to participate increased when the income eligibility requirement was raised from 130 percent of the federal poverty line (FPL) to 150 percent of FPL. Local districts have the option to enroll additional children if space is available using district funds, tuition or other funds.

Based on an unduplicated December 1 count, there were 21,160 eligible children participating in KPP in 2011-2012, including 9,523 receiving special education services. Enrollment figures represent a reduction of 1,005 (5 percent) from the 2010-2011 school year, largely attributed to refinement of the electronic student information system and introduction of the Kentucky System of Intervention (KSI), modeled from the Response to Intervention (RtI) approach, which provided a more accurate count of children with an identified disability.

Funding for the Kentucky Preschool Program is distributed to local school districts according to a funding formula based on the number of eligible children enrolled the previous year and weighted by the appropriate per-child rate for at-risk or disability category (speech/language, mild to moderate, and severe). School districts may subcontract with Head Start programs, private child care centers, and special education providers to offer preschool services. Total funding for KPP was \$145.5 million in 2011-2012, a reduction of \$3 million from the previous year that continues a trend of reduced funding since the 2007-2008 school year. The funding allocation for 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 are projected to remain level.

While there has not been a recent formal evaluation of the KPP initiative to measure program quality or effectiveness, Kentucky continues its efforts to strengthen program quality and child outcomes. The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has been identifying Classrooms of Excellence that are high-quality, state-funded preschool classrooms, a practice that began in the 2006-2007 school year. As part of the KSI, programs were able to more accurately identify children with disabilities and provide research-based interventions for any children suspected of having a disability in 2011-2012. Also, following a two year pilot period, Kentucky implemented the Preschool Program Review (P2R) statewide monitoring process in 2011-2012 in which all districts are reviewed at least once every five years to assess program quality. The P2R requires an ECERS-R for every classroom and a district self-evaluation of the preschool standards through an online survey, as well as site visit teams that observe classrooms, examine documentation, and interview teachers, administrators, and parents. The Early Childhood Regional Training Centers (RTCs) have worked with KDE staff to ensure reliability of program quality assessment for the P2R process and to provide subsequent technical assistance. In addition to P2R, the Kentucky Preschool Program participated in a statewide consolidated monitoring of state and federal programs in 14 school districts.

Focusing on professional learning, KDE began work in 2011 to strengthen district capacity to understand and implement Kentucky's Early Childhood Standards and support school readiness through Early Learning Leadership Networks (ELLNs). ELLNs helped to ensure that districts have knowledgeable, cohesive leadership teams representing child care, Head Start, preschool, and kindergarten to guide the professional learning and practice of all administrators, teachers and staff. Through ELLNs, KDE supported districts with professional learning communities of teacher and administrative leaders that deliver highly effective teaching, learning, and assessment practices in early childhood development.

Efforts to develop a P-12 integrated data management system aligning program and child outcome data from KPP, Head Start, and child care with the K-12 system continued in 2011-2012. During the 2011-2012 legislative session, Kentucky changed the kindergarten entrance age from October 1 to August 1, effective in the 2017-2018 year, a decision that may have future implications for KPP enrollment.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
15	9

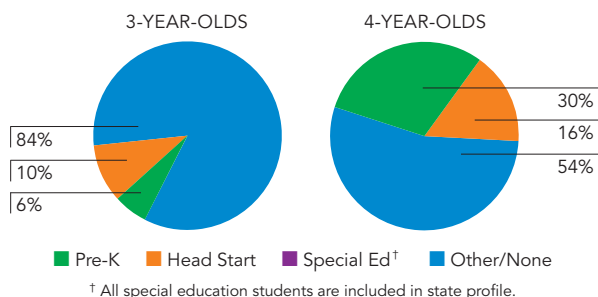
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
24	13

## KENTUCKY PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

### ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	21,160 <sup>1</sup>
School districts that offer state program .....	100%
Income requirement .....	150% FPL
Hours of operation .....	2.5 hours/day + meal time, 4 or 5 days/week
Operating schedule .....	Academic year
Special education enrollment .....	10,048 <sup>2</sup>
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4 .....	14,900
State-funded Head Start enrollment.....	0

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



### QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards .....	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree .....	BA <sup>3</sup>	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	Interdisciplinary ECE - Birth to K	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	HSD	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	28 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size .....		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	20		
4-year-olds .....	20		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	1:10		
4-year-olds .....	1:10		
Screening/referral.....	Vision, hearing, health; and support services <sup>4</sup>	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	Breakfast or lunch	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

**9**

### RESOURCES

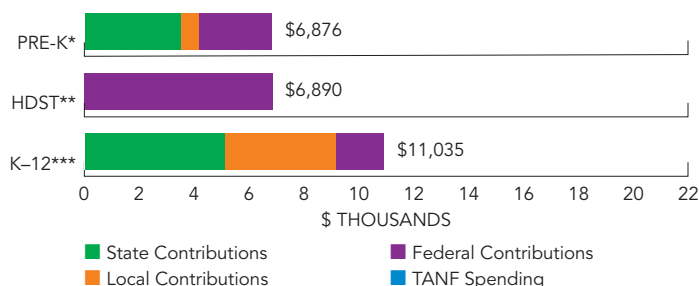
Total state pre-K spending .....	\$74,765,158
Local match required? .....	No
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$3,533
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$6,876

\* 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 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



<sup>1</sup> This total does not include an additional 1,914 3- and 4-year-olds who were served through tuition or district funds as of December 1.

<sup>2</sup> Because the state pre-K program is interrelated with the state special education program, the figure for special education enrollment reported a total of 9,523 children with disabilities in the Dec. 1 count. The figure does not include an additional 729 3-year-old children receiving special education services whose birthdays were after December 1.

<sup>3</sup> Teachers hired as lead teachers before 2004-2005 can hold a CDA or AA in child development. These teachers are allowed to remain in their current positions but may not transfer to other districts.

<sup>4</sup> Support services include parent education or job training, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for parents and children, nutrition information, referral for social services, transition to kindergarten activities, and parent conferences or home visits.