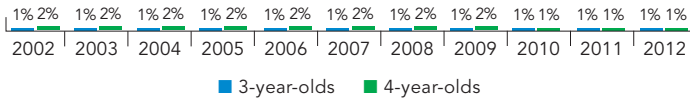


Minnesota

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2012 DOLLARS)



In an effort to increase access for children from birth to age 5, Minnesota provides supplemental funding to both Head Start and Early Head Start (EHS) programs. Any agency that receives federal Head Start funding is eligible for the funding. The agencies may work in partnership with public schools, private child care centers, and family child care homes while adhering to the federal Head Start Performance Standards. Additionally, the state’s early learning standards, the Early Childhood Indicators of Progress, guide assistance and training for all program staff members as well as technical assistance.

These additional program funds can be used to supplement either Early Head Start or Head Start. Local programs have increasingly used funds to enroll families in Early Head Start while their children are young, resulting in decreased enrollment in Minnesota Head Start. In the 2009-2010 school year, longitudinal spending and enrollment information was corrected to reflect only Head Start participation. Minnesota is a recipient of a Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge grant.

Statutory changes during the 2008-2009 school year affected the operation of state-funded pre-K programs in Minnesota. Programs that provided EHS services could use a per-child rate up to the federal EHS average within the state even if the program did not receive federal funding for EHS. Additionally, programs could be exempt from strict enrollment requirements if they were approved to serve a high-risk population, such as the homeless.

The School Readiness Program, a second state initiative, provides services through community-based organizations, subcontracted charter schools, and school districts. The program is intended to promote kindergarten readiness through an assortment of approaches, including preschool education programs, home visits, and services for children with disabilities. Individual school districts determine which services to provide. Programs must have research-based program content, coordinate with other local programs, encourage parent involvement, and ensure that children receive appropriate screenings and referrals. Funding data and program enrollment for center-based preschool education services are not tracked at the state level, hence the absence of the School Readiness Program in this profile.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
39	22

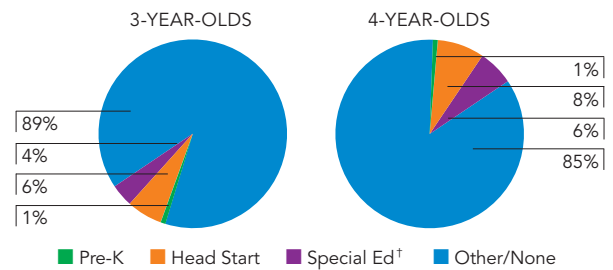
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
5	10

MINNESOTA HEAD START

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	1,813
School districts that offer state program	100% (counties)
Income requirement	At least 90% of children must be at or below 100% FPL or receiving TANF ¹
Hours of operation	At least 3.5 hours/day, 4 days/week ²
Operating schedule	At least 32 weeks/year ²
Special education enrollment	8,765
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4	10,033
State-funded Head Start enrollment	1,731 ³

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



[†] 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	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA (public); AA (nonpublic) ⁴	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	AA in EC or equivalent ⁴	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	Meets child care regulations ⁵	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	15 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	17		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	2:17		
4-year-olds	1:10		
Screening/referral.....	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Lunch and/or breakfast ⁷	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

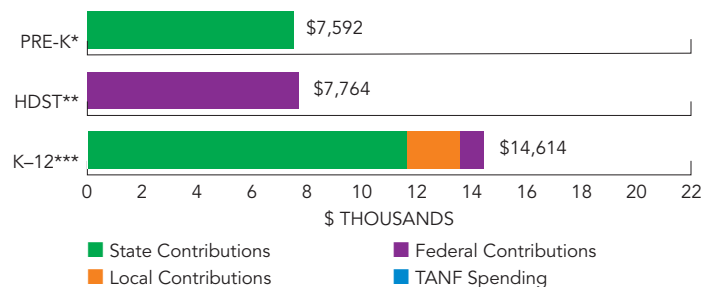
Total state pre-K spending	\$13,764,296 ⁸
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending	\$13,764,296 ⁸
State spending per child enrolled	\$7,592
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$7,592

* 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



¹ State pre-K children must meet the federal Head Start income guidelines. Effective December 2007, 35 percent of enrollment may be children whose family incomes are between 100 and 130 percent FPL after priority is given to children at 100 percent or below FPL.

² Schedules are determined locally but must be in compliance with federal Head Start regulations. Programs must operate at least 3.5 hours per day, 4 days per week, and 32 weeks per year.

³ All state-funded Head Start enrollment is through the state pre-K program, but the state could not break into a specific number of 3- or 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart were estimated, using proportions of federal Head Start enrollees in Minnesota in each age category 2011-2012.

⁴ Under the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007, all lead teachers were required to have at least an AA by October 2011; by September 30, 2013, 50 percent must have at least a BA. By September 30, 2013, all assistant teachers must have at least a CDA or be enrolled in a program to receive a CDA, AA, or BA within two years. Currently, about 87 percent of Minnesota Head Start teachers have at least an AA and 65 percent have at least a BA in ECE or a related field. In a public school, teacher union rules require that teachers have at least a BA.

⁵ Assistant teachers in settings subject to child care regulations must work under the supervision of a teacher, be at least 18 years old, and meet one of nine combined credential, educational, and experience requirements, such as a high school diploma, 12 quarter units in early childhood or a related field, and 2,080 hours of experience. Federal Head Start requires that by 2013 all assistant teachers have a CDA or be enrolled in a program to receive a CDA, AA, or BA within 2 years.

⁶ Support services include parent conferences or home visits, education services or job training for parents, 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.

⁷ Federal Head Start Performance Standards require half-day programs to provide children with at least one-third of their daily nutritional needs (breakfast or lunch), and full-day programs to provide two meals or two-thirds of their daily nutritional needs.

⁸ All spending through this initiative is directed toward Head Start programs.