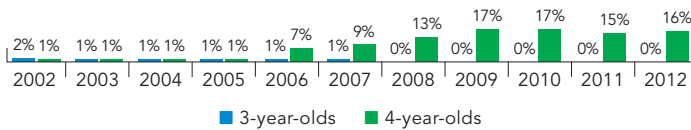
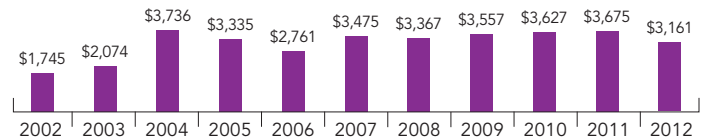


# New Mexico

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2012 DOLLARS)



The 2011-2012 school year was the sixth year of operation for New Mexico PreK, the state’s center-based early childhood education program for 4-year-olds. About half of the 4,591 enrolled children attended programs in public schools while the other half were served in nonpublic settings, such as faith-based centers, community and municipal child care centers, Head Start programs, family child care homes, and universities. Enrollment in the program school year increased by 8 percent following a 12 percent decrease the previous year. Despite the increase in statewide enrollment, 14 fewer school districts offered the pre-K program in 2011-2012 reducing district participation state-wide from 54 percent in 2010-2011 to 38 percent.

The New Mexico PreK initiative, provided entirely with state funds, operated at a budget of \$14.5 million in 2011-2012, down from \$15.2 million the previous school year. Program funding is awarded on a competitive basis with priority given to programs in areas where schools have the highest percentages of children failing to meet No Child Left Behind’s requirement for demonstrating adequate yearly progress in reading and math. Eligibility for New Mexico PreK is not determined by a specific family income requirement, though two-thirds of enrolled children at each program site must live in the attendance zone of a Title I elementary school. Associated with the state school funding formula, half-day preschool slots are funded at the rate of half of the level for kindergarten slots.

The New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines Birth to Kindergarten, revised in January 2012, address multiple domains of early development and learning and are aligned with the Common Core State Standards. Program quality is monitored through annual site visits conducted by state personnel or consultants and submission of program information throughout the year, including results of child assessment. New Mexico PreK had been formally evaluated on an annual basis through 2009 for both process quality and program impact/child outcomes using child outcome data and classroom observation data; however, planned evaluation for subsequent years was discontinued in the 2010-2011 school year due to financial constraints.

The Child Development Program (CDP), a second state-supported early learning initiative, offers family support services, early childhood education, and home visits to at-risk children from birth to age 3 who did not qualify for other eligibility-based programs. Following several years of budget cuts, CDP no longer serves any of the state’s 4-year-olds and serves fewer than 1 percent of 3-year-olds. Therefore, NIEER no longer considers the program’s primary focus to be providing center-based preschool education for 3- and 4-year-olds, and thus it is not profiled in this report.

Prior to January 2010, New Mexico allocated state funds to provide additional slots in federal Head Start programs and to extend the day to allow families that were TANF-eligible to work and/or go to school. This Head Start state supplement was permanently eliminated from the state budget.

New Mexico was one of five states funded in the second round of federal Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge in 2012.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
26	None Served

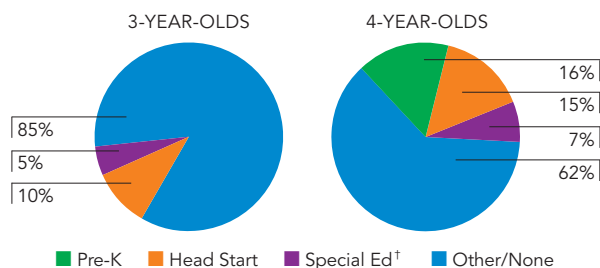
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
31	35

## NEW MEXICO PREK

### ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	4,591
School districts that offer state program .....	38%
Income requirement.....	None <sup>1</sup>
Hours of operation .....	Determined locally <sup>2</sup>
Operating schedule .....	Academic year
Special education enrollment .....	4,193
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4 .....	7,622
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	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree .....	BA (public); HSD (nonpublic) <sup>3</sup>	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	See footnotes <sup>3</sup>	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	HSD <sup>3</sup>	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	45 clock hours per year	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 .....	1:10		
Screening/referral.....	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	At least one meal	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

8

### RESOURCES

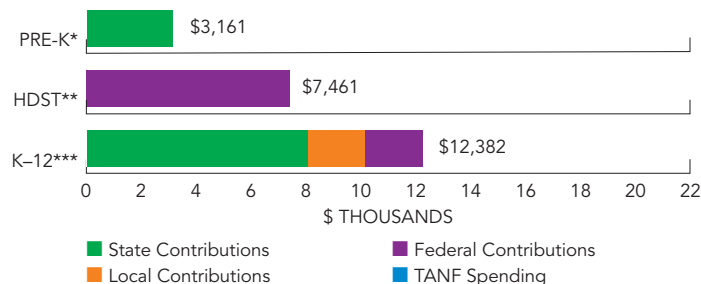
Total state pre-K spending .....	\$14,514,300
Local match required? .....	No
State Head Start spending .....	\$0 <sup>5</sup>
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$3,161
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$3,161

\* 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> Priority is given to all age-eligible children who will attend Title I schools in locations offering the program.

<sup>2</sup> Schedules are determined locally but the majority of programs operate 2.5-3 hours daily for 5 days per week with state funding paying for 2.5 hours per day.

<sup>3</sup> Lead teachers in public school programs must have a bachelor's degree and licensure in early childhood education. Teachers who have an elementary education license are required to take early childhood education coursework. Teachers in non-public school settings should, but are not required to, have a bachelor's degree and are required to take at least 6 college credits annually with an approved professional development plan to complete the degree in early childhood education. Assistant teachers in both public and nonpublic settings are

expected to have an AA in early childhood education but may be hired without an AA with an approved professional development plan and take at least 6 college credits annually toward the requirement. Assistant teachers in public schools must also hold an Educational Assistant License.

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

<sup>5</sup> Supplemental state Head Start funding was eliminated in January 2010 by a legislative action designed to curb state spending.