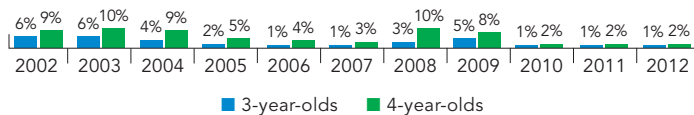
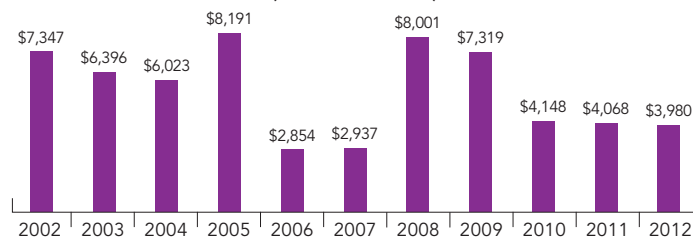


Ohio

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2012 DOLLARS)



In 1990, the Ohio Public Preschool Program (PSP) was established after four years as a pilot program. Now known as Early Childhood Education (ECE), the program serves 3- and 4-year-olds from families with incomes up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). However, a sliding fee scale is used for families who earn between 100 and 200 percent of FPL. Children from families with incomes above 200 percent of FPL may enroll children using parent tuition and support from local funds. An additional 3,679 income-eligible children were served through tuition, local, or Title I funds during the 2011-2012 school year. ECE funds are distributed directly to public schools, and schools may then subcontract with faith-based centers, Head Start programs, and private child care centers. Due to budget cuts in the 2009-2010 school year, the Ohio Department of Education elected to reduce the per-child amount to avoid reducing the number of children receiving preschool services. Since that time, the number of children participating in the program and funded at this level is 5,700.

Also in response to budgets cuts during the 2009-2010 school year, site visits for monitoring and program quality were reduced. Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, Ohio resumed on-site monitoring again, and each site is visited once per three years by Ohio Department of Education staff. Sites are monitored through annual desk audits, internal monitoring requirements, submission of plans and documentation annually. In addition, all sites receive a separate licensing visit annually, which includes checking for basic health and safety compliance indicators. Programs are also required to engage in a continuous improvement process through developing a program plan and rating themselves on compliance and performance indicators of program quality. The annual results of this process are reported through a program monitoring tool, Integrated Monitoring Process and Continuous Improvement Tool (IMPACT). The Ohio Department of Education uses this information to provide feedback to individual programs annually. The ECE program has been evaluated for process quality using the ELLCO tool, with various stages completed in 2009, 2011, and 2012.

In the 2011-2012 school year, changes in ECE legislation require programs to serve children at least 12.5 hours per week, instead of the previous language of 5 days per week. In addition, the Ohio Department of Education is now required to conduct an annual survey of programs to determine whether the provider charged families tuition or fees for the ECE program, the number of families charged, and the amount charged relative to family income.

Ohio's Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge grant has stimulated changes to Ohio's policies and legislation, with the state in a major transition period with its child and program standards. Ohio has revised its Early Learning and Development Standards to include all domains of school readiness, including physical well-being/motor development and social-emotional development, and the Ohio State Board of Education adopted the new standards in 2012. Standards are seamless for children from birth to kindergarten entry and are aligned to Common Core State Standards K-12 and Ohio's Academic Standards in Social Studies and Science for K-12. In addition, Ohio has expanded its tiered quality rating and improvement system that will have common program standards for all types of early childhood programs. The program standards are currently being revised, were posted for public comment in September 2012, and will be in full operation by October 2013. Use of the QRIS is legislatively required for the state pre-K program, preschool special education, and publicly funded child care.

In addition, Ohio is using Race to the Top funding and Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge grant funding in its plans for more accurate and comprehensive assessments of students at kindergarten entry. The state currently uses the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment – Literacy (KRAL) tool. The state is expanding the KRAL to address all domains of school readiness, with plans for statewide implementation in the 2014-2015 school year. Ohio is collaborating with Maryland to develop this new Kindergarten Readiness Assessment and a pre-K through kindergarten formative assessment, covering ages 36 to 72 months. The assessments will be piloted in the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years prior to statewide implementation.

Previously, this report also profiled the Early Learning Initiative (ELI) program, which used funding from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to provide ECE through full-day, full-year programs for working families with incomes up to 200 percent of FPL. However, funding for the ELI program was eliminated entirely from the state budget as of the 2009-2010 school year and therefore it is no longer profiled in this report.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
37	20

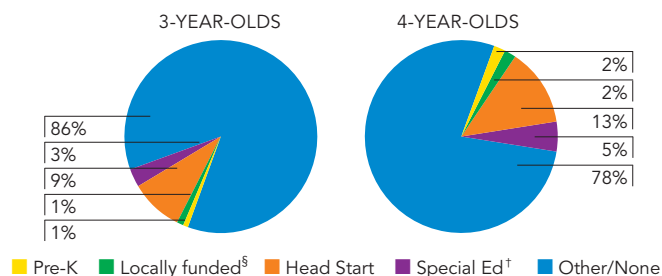
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
18	25

OHIO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	5,700 ¹
School districts that offer state program	33%
Income requirement	200% FPL
Hours of operation	3-3.5 hours/day (part-day); 4 days/week ²
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment	14,691
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4	32,115
State-funded Head Start enrollment.....	0

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



■ Pre-K
 ■ Locally funded[§]
■ Head Start
 ■ Special Ed[†]
■ Other/None

[§]These are children served in ECE programs through local and federal funds.
[†] 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	Not comprehensive ³	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	AA in ECE ⁴	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	See footnotes ⁵	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	20 clock hours/2 years	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	24		
4-year-olds	28		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	1:12		
4-year-olds	1:14		
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 ⁷	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring ⁸	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

3

RESOURCES

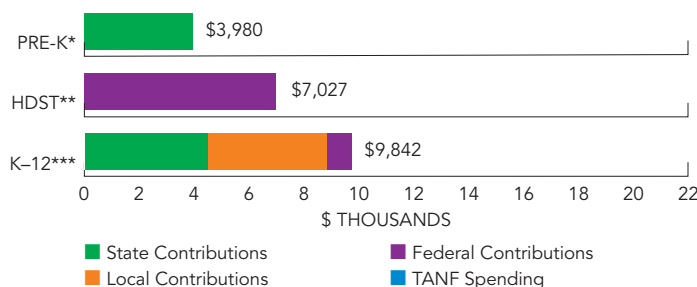
Total state pre-K spending	\$22,688,446
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,980
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$3,980

* 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 Ohio funded 5,700 children with a per-child allocation of \$4,000. Programs could also choose to enroll additional children by charging tuition or using local or Title I funds but exact funding amounts are unknown. Total enrollment in the ECE program, including children funded entirely by non-state sources, was 9,379. Enrollment breakdowns are estimated figures based on the funded enrollment of 5,700 children only and not the total enrollment.

² ECE funds 3 to 3.5 hours of services daily, 12.5 hours per week. However, many districts use local or other funding sources to offer a school- or extended-day program. On average, programs operate 4 days per week. Programs are required to provide home visits, parent conferences, and other services for families on the fifth day.

³ While the state did not have comprehensive early learning standards in place for the 2011-2012 school year, standards were updated and revised to be comprehensive and will be in place by October 2013.

⁴ The current minimum requirement in public school settings is a Prekindergarten Associate License, which requires at least an associate degree. However, many school districts already require that lead teachers have a bachelor's degree in ECE. For all types of settings, the Ohio Revised Code specifies a timeline by which a percentage of teachers must attain certain degree levels. For programs that began in fiscal year 2006, 50 percent must have a BA or

higher in ECE. For programs that began in or after fiscal year 2007, 50 percent must have a BA or higher in ECE by July 1, 2012.

⁵ For teachers in public school settings with bachelor's degrees, acceptable licenses include the following: Pre-K-3, Pre-K, Intervention Specialist, Early Childhood Intervention Specialist (P-3), or K-3 or K-8 certificate plus four courses in ECE or CD from an accredited college or university. The minimum requirement in a public school setting is the Prekindergarten Associate License, which requires an AA in ECE. Teachers in nonpublic settings are required to have at least an AA in ECE.

⁶ Screening and referrals for hemoglobin and lead are also required. Support services include parent conferences or home visits, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

⁷ Programs are required to provide breakfast, lunch or snack depending on hours of attendance.

⁸ Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, Ohio began its on-site monitoring system where each site is visited once per three years by Ohio Department of Education program monitoring staff. Sites submit annual desk audits, internal monitoring requirements, plans and documentation annually. In addition, all sites receive a separate licensing visit annually.