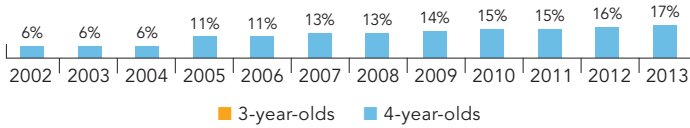
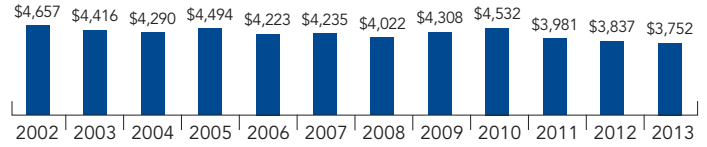


Virginia

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2013 DOLLARS)



Since 1995, the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) has served at-risk 4-year-olds who are not enrolled in existing preschool programs. In the 2012-2013 school year, VPI enrollment increased for the second consecutive year by 4 percent, serving 17,295 4-year-olds. VPI classrooms operate in 88 percent of school districts with the majority of children participating in public school settings. While funding allocations to local school divisions are based on number of students eligible for free lunch, criteria for student eligibility are based on locally determined risk factors including, but not limited to, poverty, family unemployment, limited English proficiency, homelessness, parent with limited education, and parent incarceration. VPI programs may provide services on either a part- or school-day schedule throughout the school year.

Funding for VPI is distributed to public school districts and local departments of social services, though these agencies may subcontract with Head Start programs or private child care centers to provide prekindergarten education services. Communities are required to contribute matching funds, as calculated by a local composite index of district resources. During the 2012-2013 school year, the required local match remained capped at one-half the per-pupil amount, regardless of local composite index, with the state contributing at least half of the \$6,000 per-pupil rate. Local matching funds accounted for more than 35 percent of total costs statewide. Programs operating on a part-day schedule receive half of the full-day funding allocation.

State funding for VPI in the 2012-2013 school year increased \$2.0 million from the previous year. Re-benchmarking in 2011-2012 of the VPI formula for the 2012-14 biennium generates additional funding for as many as 24,500 openings each year. Lottery revenues continue to account for all state funding for VPI in the 2012-2013 school year.

VPI curricula are aligned with Virginia’s Foundation Blocks of Early Learning Standards, which were expanded in the 2012-2013 school year to include music and the visual arts.

The Virginia Preschool Initiative was evaluated for both program quality and child outcomes in 2011 by the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia. Prior to 2011-2012, program monitoring by state education staff and consultants was conducted through biennial site visits to review program facilities, on-site safety procedures, and program record checks. Budget constraints in 2011-2012 caused the elimination of site visits, resulting in Virginia meeting six of NIEER’s quality standards benchmarks, down from seven benchmarks in previous years. Desk monitoring of local plans and results of child assessments continue as methods to conduct an annual review of program-level outcomes.

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

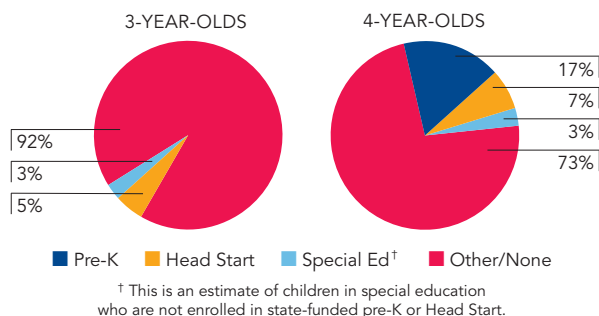
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
23	16

VIRGINIA PRESCHOOL INITIATIVE

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	17,295
School districts that offer state program	88%
Income requirement	None
Hours of operation	3 hours/day or 5.5 hours/day, 5 days/week ¹
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	9,345
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	11,668
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	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 (public); HSD (nonpublic) ²	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	Certification in P-3 or P-6 ²	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD (public); None (nonpublic)	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	15 clock hours/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	18		
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;	Vision, hearing, health; and	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
and support services	and support services ³	at least 1 support service	
Meals	No meals required ⁴	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Other monitoring	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

6

RESOURCES

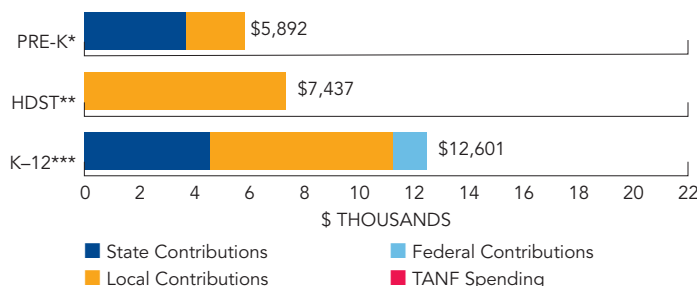
Total state pre-K spending	\$64,953,097
Local match required?	Yes
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,752
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$5,886

* 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 2012-2013 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years figured have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '12-'13 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ Localities may choose to offer part-day programs for 3 hours per day or school-day programs for 5.5 hours per day. Most programs operate on a school-day schedule. All programs operate 5 days per week.

² For program sites where public funds are paying for nonpublic personnel, localities report the highest degree and/or credential for only the teacher who is the instructional lead. The instructional lead, who must hold a BA and appropriate specialized training, supervises the classroom teachers and is responsible for management and oversight of the program's curriculum and instructional practices, including on-site presence for a substantial portion of the instructional time. This policy does not meet NIEER's benchmark requirement.

³ Support services include parent involvement activities, health services for children, and referral to social services. Other comprehensive services, including developmental and dental screenings and referrals, and the annual number of required parent conferences or home visits, are determined locally.

⁴ Currently, the state offers the opportunity for all programs to provide meals, but programs are not required to do so. The number of programs providing at least one meal is not known.