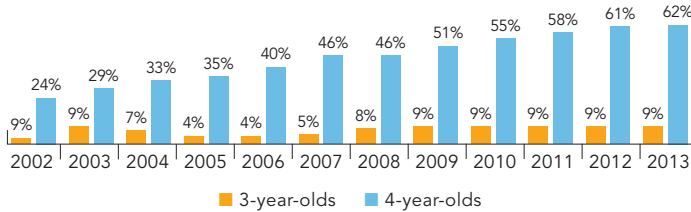
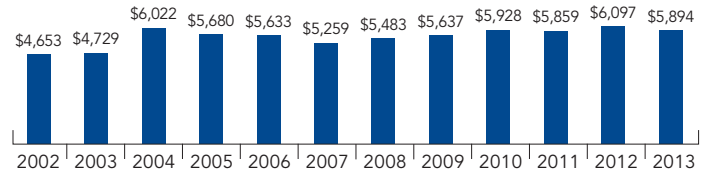


West Virginia

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2013 DOLLARS)



In 1983, adjustments to West Virginia’s school policy permitted local school boards to offer programs for 3- and 4-year-olds through the Public School Early Childhood Education program. As of 2004, 3-year-olds have only been qualified for state-funded preschool if they have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). West Virginia extended preschool education, and made it accessible to all 4-year-olds statewide by the 2012-2013 school year. Now referred to as the West Virginia Universal Pre-K System, this program provides prekindergarten programs in all 55 of the state’s counties.

Financial support for the West Virginia Universal Pre-K System supports public schools directly, however, these schools may pass along funds to other agencies to offer services. Half of the programs are required to partner with Head Start agencies, private prekindergarten, and child care centers. Some programs use additional funding from sources such as IDEA, federal Head Start, and Titles I and II. However, districts are moving towards more state aid funding as the state moves toward universal access.

The West Virginia Board of Education has required programs to supply meals, regardless of the hours of instruction, since the 2009-2010 school year. The state’s early learning standards were restructured in 2010 to align with kindergarten content standards and objectives, and to undertake evaluation and school readiness, with these revisions implemented during the 2010-2011 program year.

Child and program evaluation were revised in 2010 and fully operational in the 2011-2012 program year. A comprehensive assessment system uses health data, the Early Learning Scale, and additional information to review child outcomes. Programs are evaluated using the ECERS-R tool once every three years. Programs also develop an inclusive monitoring system to offer ongoing continuous quality improvement, using monitoring tools recognized by a local collaborative team. The West Virginia Universal Pre-K program was assessed for process quality in 2009 and 2012, and for program impact/child outcomes in 2005.

Additional revisions to state guidelines went into effect during the 2012-2013 school year; changing the total number of instructional days per year from 108 to 128, and increasing the minimum number of instructional hours per week from 12 to 14. Programs were required to create a process for phasing in support for lead teachers in community partnerships to have a bachelor’s degree, compulsory for all newly hired teachers as of August 2013. West Virginia also planned to modify and reinforce requirements for assistant teachers during the 2012-2013 school year, with the state Department of Education recommending that assistant teachers be mandated to hold a CDA.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
6	8

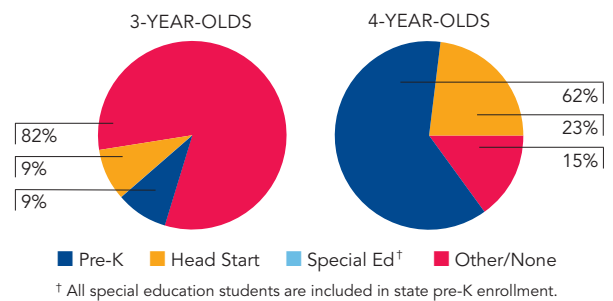
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
10	4

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSAL PRE-K

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	15,770
School districts that offer state program	100%
Income requirement	None
Hours of operation	Determined locally, minimum of 12 hours/week ¹
Operating schedule	Academic year ¹
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	2,755
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	6,789
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); AA (nonpublic) ²	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	EC Endorsement; SN (public); AA in ECE or CD (nonpublic) ³	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD (public and nonpublic)	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	15 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	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, psychological/ behavioral, and support services developmental, dental; and support services ⁴	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Lunch	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

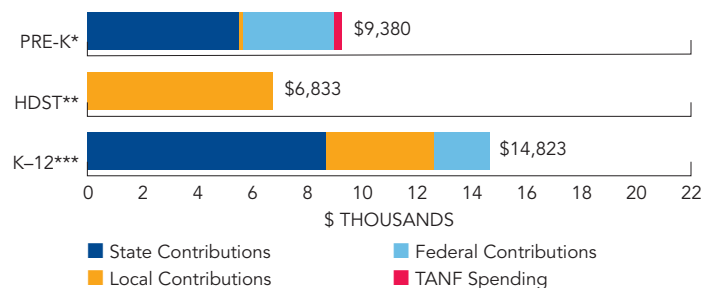
8

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$92,946,182
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$5,894
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$9,380

* 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 Hours of operation are determined locally, but programs must operate for at least 12 hours per week and at least 128 instructional days.
² Beginning August 1, 2013, all newly hired teachers in nonpublic school settings will be required to have a minimum of a BA. Beginning July 1, 2014, all assistant teachers must have a CDA or equivalent determined by the WVBE.

³ Teachers in public school settings that are not collaborative must be certified in pre-K, 3-5, ECE, preschool special needs, or EE with a pre-K-K endorsement. Teachers in community collaborative settings must have a minimum of an AA in child development, early childhood education, or occupational development, with an emphasis in child development.
⁴ Support services include parent conferences and/or home visits, transition to kindergarten activities, and other locally determined services.