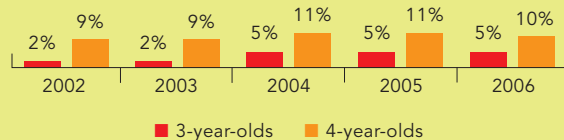
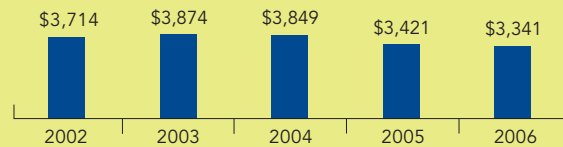


California

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2006 DOLLARS)



California was among the first states to offer state-funded prekindergarten, beginning with the California State Preschool Program in 1965. The program serves 3- to 5-year-old children, and provides funding to school districts, Head Start agencies, and private child care providers through a competitive grant process. Children are eligible to participate if their family income is below 230 percent of the federal poverty level or if they have experienced or are at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation. The State Preschool Program mainly provides part-day services but also coordinates funding with federally and state-funded child care assistance programs to help parents working full time receive extended hours of child care.

California operates other state-funded programs that provide funding for child care and development services but are not distinct state prekindergarten programs. The state funds full-time slots for 3- and 4-year-olds with working parents in the General Child Care Programs, which must follow the same curriculum standards and program requirements as the State Preschool Program. Also, the First 5 initiative, established in 1998, uses a tobacco tax to fund programs promoting early childhood development from prenatal care to age 5. First 5 funds are allocated by county commissions and may be used for services such as early care and education, parent education, family support, or child health care. In addition, California reserved \$200 million over four years for a School Readiness Initiative. In June 2006, California voters rejected a ballot initiative to make part-day preschool available on a voluntary basis to all 4-year-olds in the state. Data in this report focus on the State Preschool Program.

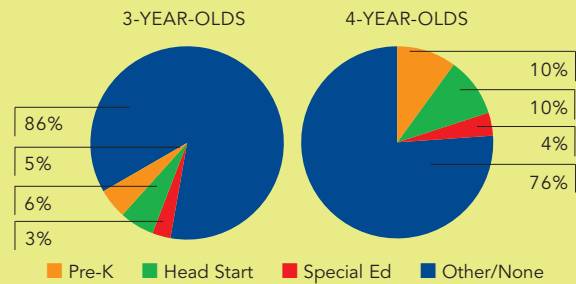
All State Preschool programs record children's development using the Desired Results for Children and Families system and use the findings to plan curriculum and developmentally appropriate activities. California has not yet adopted early learning standards, although state administrators anticipate holding hearings and requesting public input in 2007 on draft documents covering language, literacy, and mathematics.

ACCESS RANKING-4s	ACCESS RANKING-3s	RESOURCES RANKING
24	7	20

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	79,621
School districts that offer state program	95% (counties)
Income requirement	Approximately 230% FPL ¹
Hours of operation	3 hours/day, 5 days/week
Operating schedule	Academic year ²
Special education enrollment	38,588
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	89,355
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



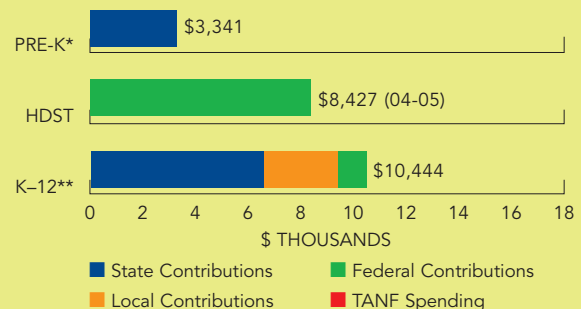
QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?	TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET 4
Early learning standards	None ³	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher degree	CDA ⁴	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher specialized training	Meets CDA requirements ⁴	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Assistant teacher degree	CD Asst. Teacher Permit ⁵	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher in-service	105 clock hours/5 years	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Maximum class size	20 or lower		<input type="checkbox"/>	
3-year-olds	No limit ⁶			
4-year-olds	No limit ⁶			
Staff-child ratio	1:10 or better		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3-year-olds	1:8			
4-year-olds	1:8			
Screening/referral	Health; and support services ⁷	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Meals	Depend on length of program day ⁸	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$266,018,034
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,341 ⁹
State spending per 3-year-old	\$152 ⁹
State spending per 4-year-old	\$330 ⁹

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '05-'06 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ The income cutoff applies to all children except those who receive protective services or who are at risk for abuse, neglect, or exploitation.
² Some agencies operate up to 250 days per year.
³ Although the state has not yet adopted early learning standards, hearings and public opinion surveys are anticipated in Fall 2007 to obtain feedback on draft standards in language, literacy, and mathematics.
⁴ The Child Development Associate Teacher permit is the minimum requirement for an individual who may function as a lead teacher in the classroom. The permit requires 12 units in ECE or child development and 50 days of work experience in an instructional capacity. A CDA credential issued in California meets temporary alternative qualifications for the Associate Teacher permit. The full Child Development Teacher permit requires a minimum of 40 semester units of education including a minimum of 24 units in ECE or child development, and 175 days of work experience.
⁵ The Child Development Assistant Teacher Permit requires 6 credits in ECE or child development.

⁶ While class size is not statutorily controlled, it is typically limited to 24 children.
⁷ Decisions regarding vision and hearing screening are made at the local level. A physical exam is required for program entry. Health and social services referral and follow-up to meet family needs are required. Other support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, and transition to kindergarten activities.
⁸ Contractors must provide meals and snacks that meet nutritional requirements specified by the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program or the National School Lunch Program. Contractors must provide breakfast and/or lunch if they specified in their application for services that those meals would be provided. For a 3.5 hour program, licensing rules require that all programs provide at least a snack, but do not require lunch or breakfast.
⁹ These figures reflect state spending for preschool programs only and do not reflect spending for General Child Care programs.