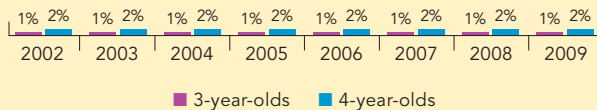
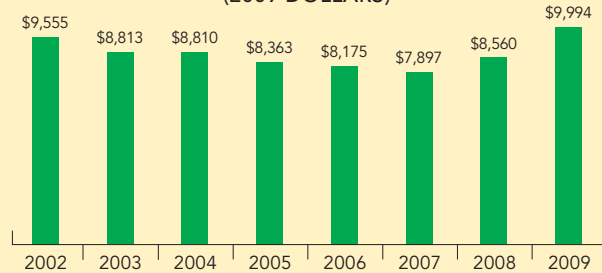


Minnesota

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2009 DOLLARS)



Minnesota provides state funding to Head Start and Early Head Start to offer more access to these programs for children from birth to age 5. Agencies receiving federal monies for Head Start programs are eligible for the state's additional funding. These agencies may collaborate with family child care homes, private child care centers, and public schools, but all service providers receiving state funds are required to follow the federal Head Start Performance Standards. In addition, all program staff receives training and technical assistance on using the state's early learning standards, the Early Childhood Indicators of Progress.

The state supports a second initiative, the School Readiness Program, which is provided through community-based organizations, school districts, and subcontracted charter schools. The School Readiness Program aims to promote kindergarten readiness through a variety of means, including home visits, preschool education programs, and services for children with disabilities. Individual school districts determine which of these services to offer. Participating programs are required to assess children's cognitive skills upon entrance and exit of the program. In addition, programs are required to ensure that appropriate screenings and referrals occur, provide research-based program content, encourage parent involvement, and coordinate with other local programs. The School Readiness Program is not the focus of data in this profile as program enrollment and funding data for center-based preschool education services are not tracked at the state level.

As of the 2007-2008 school year, new initiatives in the state are providing additional services for children and families. Using a mixture of public and private funding, these initiatives enable low-income families to purchase high-quality early care and education services for their 3- and 4-year-old children. For example, the Pre-K Allowances Project provides funds to pay for high-quality early education programs in the form of parent fees, increasing program duration, or for overall program quality and access. Another program, the Saint Paul Early Childhood Scholarship Program, provides parent mentoring through a home-visiting program and scholarships for low-income children to attend high-quality preschool programs.

In the 2008-2009 program year, two statute changes affected state-funded pre-K in Minnesota. The first allows programs proposing to provide Early Head Start (EHS) services but not receiving federal funding for EHS to use a per-child rate up to the federal EHS average within the state. The second allows for the exemption from strict enrollment requirements for programs that are approved to serve a high-risk population such as the homeless.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
38	21

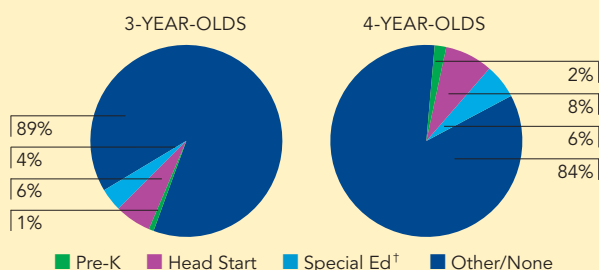
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
2	3

MINNESOTA HEAD START

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	2,069
School districts that offer state program	100% (counties)
Income requirement	90% of children must be at or below 100% FPL or receiving TANF ¹
Hours of operation	At least 3.5 hours/day, 4 days/week ²
Operating schedule	At least 32 weeks/year ²
Special education enrollment	8,287
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	9,772
State-funded Head Start enrollment	1,922

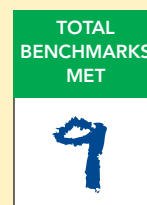
STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



[†] 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); CDA (nonpublic) ³	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	License or certification in EC (public); Meets CDA requirements (nonpublic)	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	Meet child care regs. ⁴	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	15 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	17		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	2:17		
4-year-olds	1:10		
Screening/referral and support services	Vision, hearing, health, dental, developmental; and support services ⁵	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Lunch and/or breakfast ⁶	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

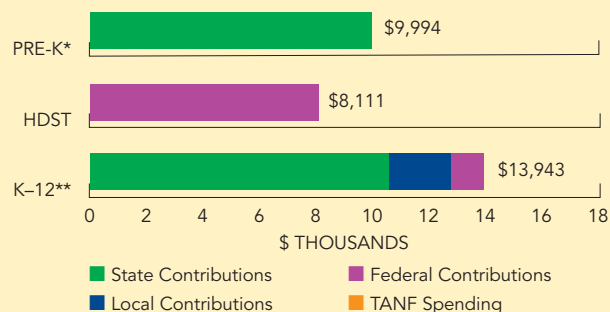
Total state pre-K spending	\$20,678,000
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending	\$20,678,000 ⁷
State spending per child enrolled	\$9,994
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$9,994

* 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 '08-'09 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ State pre-K children must meet the federal Head Start income guidelines. Effective as of December 2007, 35 percent of enrollment may be children whose family incomes are between 100 and 130 percent FPL after priority is given to children at or below 100 percent FPL. Children may also be eligible if they are homeless or in foster care.

² Schedules are determined locally but must be in compliance with federal Head Start regulations. Programs must operate at least 3.5 hours per day, 4 days per week, and 32 weeks per year.

³ The Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007 requires that by 2011 all lead teachers have at least an AA; by 2013, 50 percent must have at least a BA. Currently, about 80 percent in Minnesota Head Start programs have at least an AA and 60 percent have at least a BA in ECE or a related field. In a public school, teacher union rules require that teachers have at least a bachelor's degree.

⁴ Assistant teachers in settings subject to child care regulations must work under the supervision of a teacher, be at least 18 years old, and meet one of nine combined

credential, educational, and experience requirements, such as a high school diploma, 12 quarter units in early childhood or a related field, and 2,080 hours of experience. Federal Head Start requires that by 2013 all assistant teachers have a CDA or be enrolled in a program to receive a CDA, AA, or BA within 2 years.

⁵ Programs are also required to provide screenings and referrals for nutrition, social-emotional, and behavioral issues. Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, education services or job training for parents, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for parents and children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

⁶ Federal Head Start Performance Standards require half-day programs to provide children with at least one-third of their daily nutritional needs (breakfast or lunch) and full-day programs to provide two meals or two-thirds of their daily nutritional needs.

⁷ All spending through this initiative is directed toward Head Start programs.