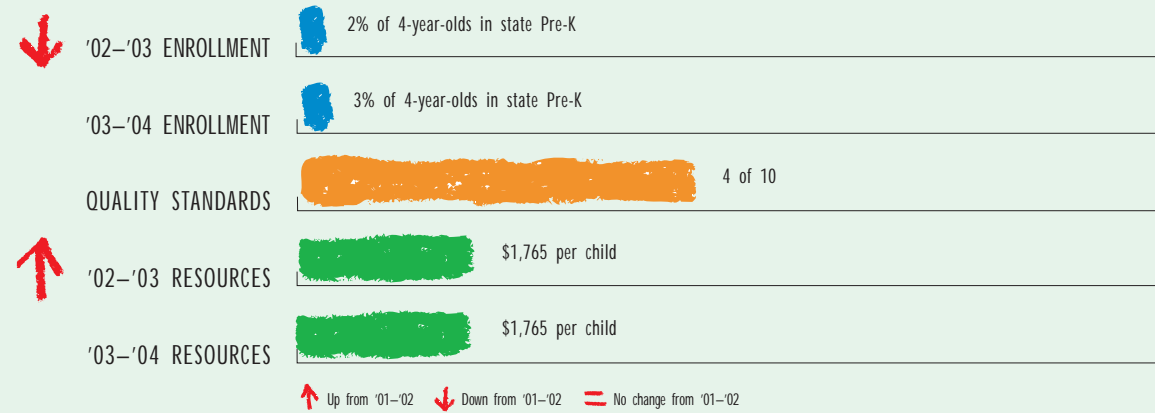


New Mexico



New Mexico began appropriating funds for the Child Development Program in 1991. These funds support prekindergarten as well as home visits, family support services, and other types of services for children from birth to age 5. The Child Development Program does not have specific income criteria but instead aims to serve children at risk who do not qualify for other eligibility-based programs. This allows for local flexibility, with enrollment priorities based on local needs. Groups that communities choose to target include children of teen parents, homeless families, families in poverty, or children with special emotional or mental health needs.

Prekindergarten classes funded by the program can be operated by public schools, private child care centers, or institutions of higher education. Programs are required to offer comprehensive services and work toward accreditation. The Child Development Program also funds home-based services such as Parents as Teachers programs and hospital-based services for high-risk infants.

All programs that children attend on a regular basis are required to use the Focused Portfolio System, which assists teachers in observing and documenting children's cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development, and in planning appropriate activities.

In 2003–2004, state funding of \$1,499,900 provided for an enrollment of 850 children.

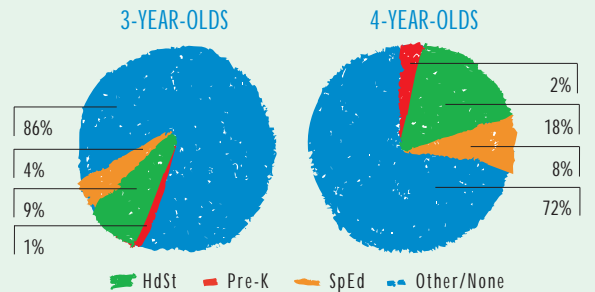
New Mexico also dedicates funds to enhance services in federal Head Start classrooms. During fiscal year 2003, the state supplement to Head Start totaled \$1.65 million.



ACCESS

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Total state program enrollment | 850 ¹ |
| School districts that offer state program | 17% |
| Income requirement | None |
| Hours of operation | Determined locally |
| Operating schedule | Determined locally ² |
| Special education enrollment | 3,116 |
| Federally funded Head Start enrollment | 7,031 |
| State-funded Head Start enrollment | 0 |

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



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

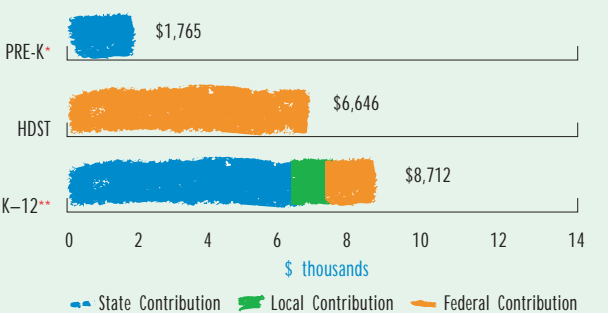
| POLICY | STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK? |
|--|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Curriculum standards | Not comprehensive | Comprehensive | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree requirement | None | BA | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher specialized training requirement | None | Specializing in Pre-K | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Assistant teacher degree requirement | None | CDA or equivalent | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher in-service requirement | 24 clock hours | At least 15 hours/year | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Maximum class size | | 20 or lower | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3-year-olds | 24 ³ | | |
| 4-year-olds | 24 ³ | | |
| Staff-child ratio | | 1:10 or better | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3-year-olds | 1:12 ³ | | |
| 4-year-olds | 1:12 ³ | | |
| Screening/referral requirements | Vision, hearing, and health | Vision, hearing, and health | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Required support services | 2 parent conferences and support services ⁴ | At least 1 service | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Meal requirement | At least 1 meal ⁵ | At least 1/day | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

TOTAL:
4
of 10

RESOURCES

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total state Pre-K spending | \$1,499,900 |
| Local match required? | No |
| State spending per child enrolled | \$1,765 |
| State Head Start spending | \$1,650,000 |
| State spending per 3-year-old | \$14 ⁶ |
| State spending per 4-year-old | \$44 ⁶ |

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
² K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.
³ Data are for the '02-'03 school year, unless otherwise noted.

⁴ This enrollment total includes children from birth to age 5. Some of the infants and toddlers received home-visiting or hospital-based services rather than attending center-based programs.
⁵ Most programs operate year-round.
⁶ These figures represent state child care licensing regulations. Child Development programs are required by contract to be accredited or working toward accreditation. Out of the 18 center-based programs in operation during 2002–2003, 10 are either accredited or awaiting validation. These 10 programs maintain lower class sizes and child-staff ratios than licensing regulations require.
⁷ Support services include parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, referral to social services, transition to kindergarten activities, and child assessments.
⁸ Center-based programs that meet for at least a half-day session must provide meals. The home-visiting and hospital-based programs funded by this initiative are not required to offer meals.
⁹ New Mexico did not break its total enrollment figure into specific numbers of 3- or 4-year-olds. As a result, these calculations are estimates, based on proportions of enrollees who were ages 3 and 4 in states that served 3-year-olds and provided age breakdowns for 2002–2003. Although New Mexico's Pre-K program served children younger than age 3, for the purposes of these calculations we considered all children to be ages 3 or 4. This likely results in overestimates of spending per 3-year-old and spending per 4-year-old.