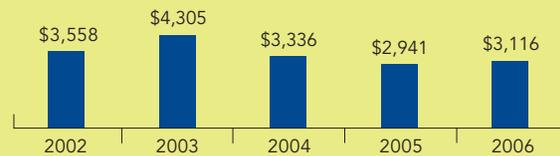


Nevada

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2006 DOLLARS)



The Nevada Early Childhood Education Comprehensive Plan (ECE) was launched in 2002, providing funding to create new preschool education programs and expand existing ones. The state awards competitive grants to public schools and community-based organizations including private child care centers, family child care homes, and Head Start. The program serves children from birth to age 5, although most participants are 4-year-olds. Grantees must tailor eligibility criteria and individualize services to address identified needs in their communities, although children from low-income families are given enrollment priority in all programs. Nevada controls the quality of the ECE program primarily through the requirements of the competitive grant process rather than through explicit program policy.

A second initiative in Nevada, Classroom on Wheels (COW), provides prekindergarten opportunities to 3- and 4-year-olds. COW buses, refurbished as preschool classrooms, make scheduled stops in communities across the state. The program began as a grassroots effort and later obtained funding from the state, although it was not required to follow any specific standards until 2003. Nevada began requiring the COW program to follow the same quality standards as the ECE program in 2003, and the COW program data have been included in this report since the 2003-2004 program year. In 2005, the guaranteed set-aside funding for COW was eliminated, and COW programs were required to compete for funding along with ECE programs.

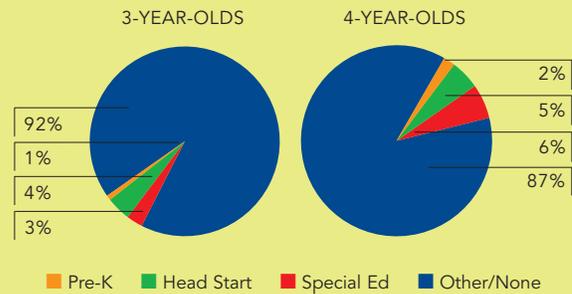
Data in this report represent both the ECE and COW initiatives. In the 2005-2006 program year, Nevada implemented several new requirements for both prekindergarten programs. Programs are now required to follow the state's early learning standards, which were introduced in 2004. Maximum group sizes were established, with 3-year-olds limited to groups of 16 with two adults and 4-year-olds in groups of 20 with two adults. Programs must also operate at least 10 hours per week starting in 2005.

ACCESS RANKING-4s	ACCESS RANKING-3s	RESOURCES RANKING
36	23	22

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	973
School districts that offer state program	65%
Income requirement	None ¹
Hours of operation	Determined locally ²
Operating schedule	Determined locally ²
Special education enrollment	3,025
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	2,812
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

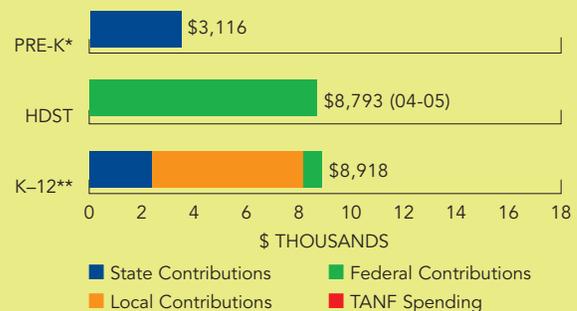
POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	Comprehensive ³	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA ⁴	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	ECE license or Birth-Grade 2/EC endorsement on K-8 license ⁴	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	GED or HSD	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	5 credit hours/5 years	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	16 ⁵		
4-year-olds	20 ⁵		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	1:8 ⁵		
4-year-olds	1:10 ⁵		
Screening/referral and support services	Support services only ⁶	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals	None	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	\$3,032,172
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,116
State spending per 3-year-old	\$19 ⁷
State spending per 4-year-old	\$67 ⁷

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 Although there is no income requirement, all programs give priority to children from low-income families.

² Most programs operate 2.5 hours per day, 4 days per week for the academic year.

³ The Nevada Pre-Kindergarten Content Standards were approved in March 2004, and beginning in 2005-2006 all programs were required to use the standards.

⁴ COW teachers already employed as of 2003-2004 were grandfathered in and do not have to meet these requirements currently, but are expected to work toward meeting them. All new hires must be credentialed teachers, and most COW classrooms now have a credentialed teacher.

⁵ As of 2005-2006, all classrooms must have two adults, with a maximum class size of 16 for 3-year-olds, 20 for 4-year-olds, and 25 for 5-year-olds.

⁶ Screening and referral requirements are decided at the local level. Each program is required to have a parent involvement component that typically encompasses home visits, classroom volunteering, literacy nights, parenting classes, workshops, ESL classes, and parent conferences.

⁷ Age breakdowns provided by the state were based on a duplicated count of all children served over the course of the year. As a result, these calculations are estimates based on the percentages of 3- and 4-year-olds included in the duplicated count.