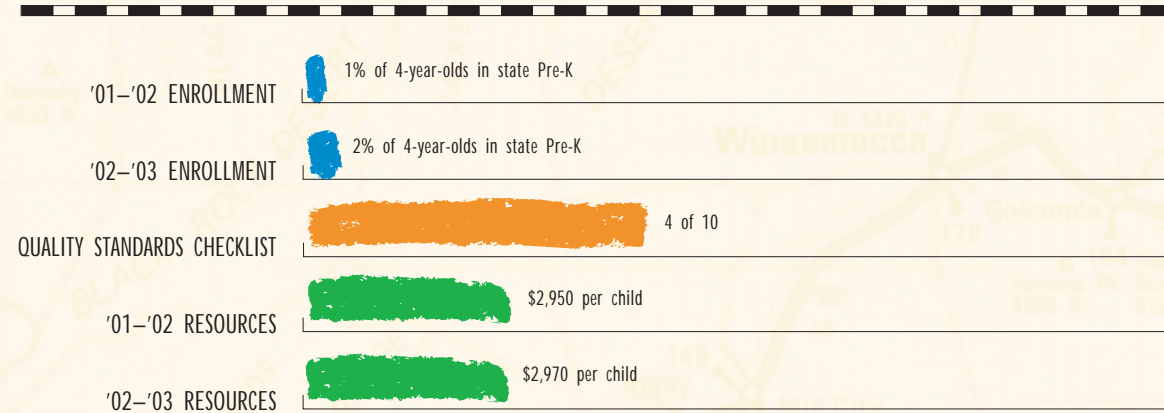


Nevada



The Nevada Early Childhood Comprehensive Plan serves children ages birth to 5 and began operating early in 2002. Both schools and community-based organizations receive funding to operate programs. During the 2002–2003 year, the program was funded with \$3 million and 894 children between ages 3 and 5 attended.

Since the initiative emphasizes collaboration, these schools and community organizations work with other agencies to provide services. Individual communities set their own eligibility criteria, and most give priority to low-income children.

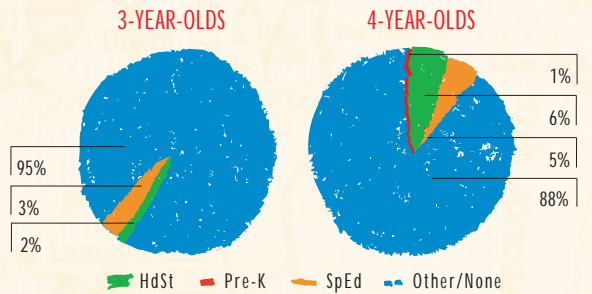
Although not a focus of data in this report, the state also provides about 20 percent of the funding for the Classroom on Wheels (COW) prekindergarten program. However, this program is operated by an independent, community-based nonprofit organization. The COW program uses buses refurbished as classrooms to bring prekindergarten into low-income neighborhoods in several counties.



ACCESS

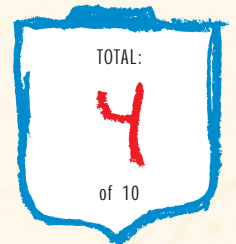
Total state program enrollment	432 ¹
School districts that offer state program	47% ²
Income requirement	None ³
Hours of operation	Determined locally ⁴
Operating schedule	Determined locally ⁵
Special education enrollment	2,172
Federally-funded Head Start enrollment	2,439
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



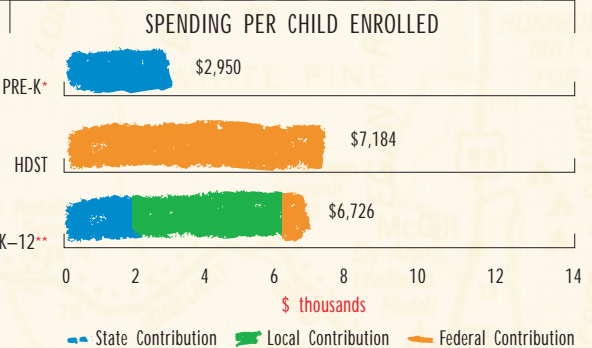
QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Curriculum standards	None	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree requirement	BA	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training requirement	ECE teacher license	Specializing in EC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree requirement	GED or HSD ⁶	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service requirement	5 credit 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 ⁷		
4-year-olds	No limit ⁷		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	No limit ⁷		
4-year-olds	No limit ⁷		
Screening/referral requirements	Determined locally	Vision, hearing, and health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family support service requirements	Family support services ⁸	At least 1 service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meal requirements	None	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	\$1,274,341 ⁹
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$2,950
State spending per 3-year-old	\$21 ¹⁰
State spending per 4-year-old	\$73 ¹⁰



* 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 '01-'02 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Enrollment figures represent Spring 2002 enrollment. The program was not yet operational in Fall 2001, since the school year for the program's first year of operation was only 5 months long.
² The program is offered in partnership with 2 districts by community-based organizations. Programs in 10 of 17 districts statewide were funded through June 1, 2002, although only 8 provided services to children during 2001–2002.
³ Communities set eligibility criteria based on need. Priority is often given to 4-year-olds with no prior preschool experience who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. The goal is to serve families that cannot afford private Pre-K, but do not qualify for Head Start.
⁴ Each program provides services based on community need, and funding is based on services the community proposes to provide. Most programs are half-day, 4 days per week.
⁵ The yearly schedule is based on need. Most programs operate during the academic year, but one program operates for the calendar year.
⁶ Teachers in Title I schools must fulfill degree requirements set by Title I.
⁷ Programs must provide a rationale for class size and ratio. The state recommends NAEYC guidelines.
⁸ Programs are required to develop a parent involvement component. Many provide referral and support services, and some conduct workshops or home visits. At least one parent or guardian is required to be involved.
⁹ This figure represents the program's actual spending on preschool services. Because the program did not start operating until early 2002, districts spent approximately \$2 million of an original \$3 million allocated, inclusive of start-up costs. The remainder of the allocation was returned to the state unspent.
¹⁰ The state reported data by age group. For the purpose of these estimates, the 85 children in the 2–4 age group were considered to be 3 years old and the 298 children in the 4–6 age group were considered to be 4 years old.