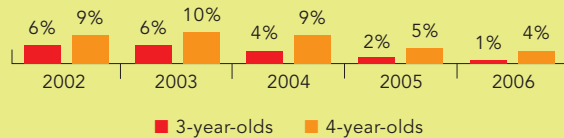
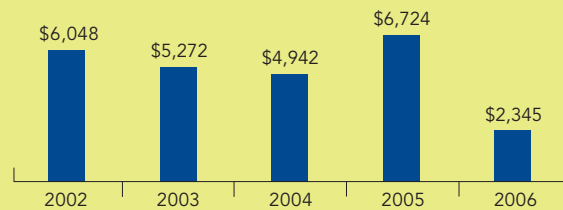


Ohio

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2006 DOLLARS)



Ohio established the Public School Preschool Program (PSP) in 1990 after a 4-year pilot initiative was successful. PSP funding is awarded to public schools, which may subcontract with Head Start and private child care centers to offer services. PSP programs initially followed the federal Head Start Performance Standards, but now the state requires programs to use its Early Learning Program Guidelines. These guidelines address all aspects of program services and management. Three- and 4-year-old children from families with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) qualify for services, although families earning above 100 percent of the FPL pay fees on a sliding scale. Programs may also enroll children from families above 200 percent of the FPL, but these services are usually paid for either by district funds or parent tuition.

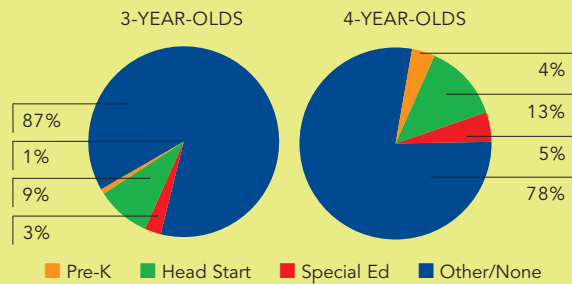
Ohio also operated a separate state-funded Head Start initiative from 1990 until 2005. State funds to supplement funding for the federal Head Start program were reduced significantly over time and replaced with federal TANF funding that introduced more stringent eligibility requirements. The result was a large drop in enrollment between 2002 and 2004 due to changes in eligibility criteria. In 2005-2006, Ohio eliminated its Head Start initiative entirely and replaced it with the Early Learning Initiative (ELI), which is completely funded by TANF. While the new initiative has an educational component that mirrors PSP and is viewed as a companion to that initiative, the goal of these TANF funds is to support working families. Enrollment occurs on a rolling basis throughout the calendar year, and income eligibility is re-assessed every 6 months. If family income exceeds 195 percent of the FPL, TANF funding is terminated within a month of a child being determined ineligible. Children may continue to be served in the program if other funding is available. Due to the potential for ongoing fluctuation in children's eligibility status, ELI does not meet our criteria for a prekindergarten education program. As a result, data on ELI are not included in this report.

| ACCESS RANKING-4s | ACCESS RANKING-3s | RESOURCES RANKING |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 33 | 20 | 32 |

ACCESS

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Total state program enrollment | 8,102 ^{1,2} |
| School districts that offer state program | 18% |
| Income requirement | 200% FPL |
| Hours of operation | Determined locally ³ |
| Operating schedule | Determined locally ³ |
| Special education enrollment | 12,594 |
| Federally funded Head Start enrollment | 32,087 |
| State-funded Head Start enrollment | 0 |

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



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

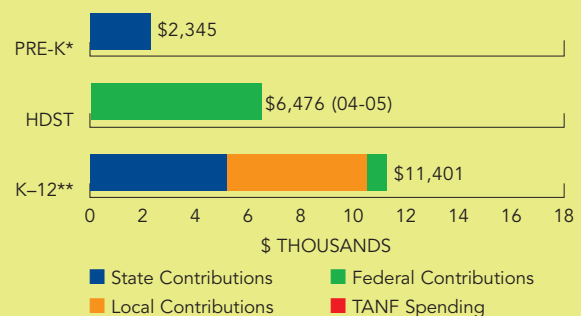
| POLICY | STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK? |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Early learning standards..... | Not comprehensive ⁴ | Comprehensive | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree | AA (public), CDA (nonpublic) ⁵ | BA | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher specialized training | Pre-K Associate level teaching cert., pre-K, K, or EC license (public); ⁶ Meets CDA requirements (nonpublic) | Specializing in pre-K | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Assistant teacher degree | HSD | CDA or equivalent | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher in-service | 20 clock hours | At least 15 hours/year | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Maximum class size | 20 | 20 or lower | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3-year-olds | 24 | | |
| 4-year-olds | 28 | | |
| Staff-child ratio | | 1:10 or better | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3-year-olds..... | 1:12 | | |
| 4-year-olds..... | 1:14 | | |
| Screening/referral and support services | Vision, hearing, health; and support services ⁷ | Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service | <input checked="" 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"/> |

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
4

RESOURCES

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Total state pre-K spending | \$19,002,195 |
| Local match required? | No |
| State spending per child enrolled | \$2,345 |
| State spending per 3-year-old..... | \$24 ¹ |
| State spending per 4-year-old..... | \$102 ¹ |

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 state did not break enrollment down into specific numbers of 3- and 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart and Resources section were estimated using proportions of enrollees who were ages 3 and 4 in states that served 3-year-olds and provided age breakdowns for 2005-2006.

² This enrollment figure includes 4,368 children from families with income between 101% and 200% FPL who were partially funded through sliding scale tuition or local funding. An additional 810 children from families with income above 200% FPL paid full tuition; these children are not counted in the enrollment total.

³ Most programs operate between 3 and 3.5 hours per day, 4 days per week. Operating schedules are generally coordinated with district calendars.

⁴ In addition to its Early Learning Content Standards, Ohio also has Program Guidelines that address child health and development, but these have not been adopted by the State Board of Education.

⁵ Teachers in nonpublic schools must be working toward their AA and are required to attain this degree by 2007.

⁶ Teachers may also qualify with a BA that includes 20 credits in early childhood plus a supervised practicum.

⁷ A change in state policy for 2005-2006 reinstated a previous requirement for vision, hearing, and health screening and referral services. Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

⁸ Lunch must be provided for children in attendance for the entire period between 11:00 and 1:30. Snack is also provided for children attending 4 hours or longer.