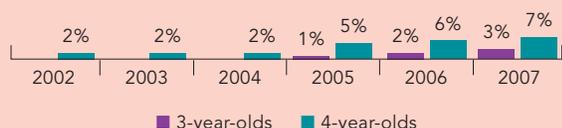


# Pennsylvania

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED  
(2007 DOLLARS)



**P**rior to 2004, Pennsylvania did not have a program considered by state law to be a state-funded prekindergarten program. However, school districts could voluntarily offer prekindergarten services to 4-year-olds through the School Based Pre-K program. Children enrolled in School Based Pre-K are partially funded through the state's basic instructional subsidy formula and are included in the districts' daily membership counts for public school attendance. Funding for School Based Pre-K comes from a combination of local taxes, Title I, public school funds, and Head Start partnerships, but data on funding levels is not collected.

The Education Accountability Block Grant (EABG) began in Pennsylvania during the 2004-2005 school year with the primary purpose of improving early childhood programs. EABG funds can be used for a variety of reasons including prekindergarten, full-day kindergarten, and reducing class sizes in kindergarten through third grade. School districts decide how to allocate their EABG funds. EABG funding allocated to prekindergarten increased to \$15.6 million for the 2006-2007 school year. Generally, children are eligible for EABG prekindergarten programs two years before the locally determined kindergarten eligibility age. However, districts can implement other locally determined eligibility requirements such as low income or other family risk factors. Beginning in 2006-2007, EABG programs received at least one site visit per year and were asked to use the ECERS to assess classroom quality.

New requirements went into effect in December 2006, for both the School Based Pre-K and EABG prekindergarten programs. Revisions to the school code include prekindergarten regulations limiting class size to 20 children with a teacher-child ratio of 1:10 and strategic planning for prekindergarten that includes transition and teacher credentials for community providers.

A third prekindergarten initiative in Pennsylvania is the Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program (HSSAP). These supplemental funds are primarily used to create new Head Start slots but can also be used to provide extended-day services. The state began supplementing Head Start in 2004-2005 with an initial investment of \$11.5 million and funding has increased each year to \$40 million in 2006-2007. Enrollment has also increased each year. Programs are required to follow the federal Head Start Performance Standards, and beginning in 2006-2007, child care partners must be participating in Keystone STARS continuous quality improvement system at a level of STAR 2 or higher.

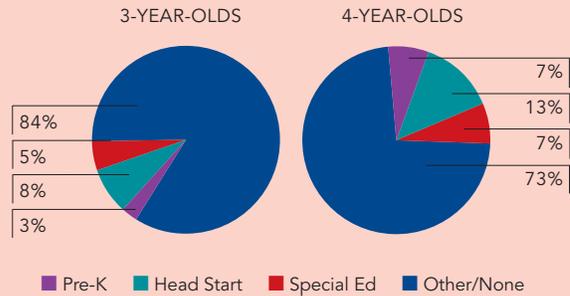
Currently, all guidance for School Based Pre-K, EABG and state Head Start funding includes reference to the Keystone STARS standards. Combined with the new Early Learning Standards, these documents serve as a framework for quality service delivery.

The first two pages of this state profile present information on Pennsylvania's overall commitment and contribution to prekindergarten, including state spending and enrollment for all three of Pennsylvania's state prekindergarten programs. The third page focuses exclusively on EABG, the fourth page describes School Based Pre-K, and the last page provides specific details about HSSAP.

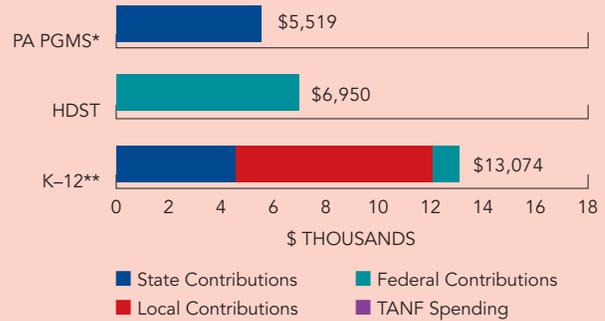
## STATE OVERVIEW

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Total state program enrollment.....            | 13,584                    |
| Total state spending.....                      | \$55,648,261 <sup>1</sup> |
| State Head Start spending.....                 | \$40,000,000              |
| State spending per child enrolled.....         | \$5,519 <sup>1</sup>      |
| All reported spending per child enrolled ..... | \$5,519 <sup>1</sup>      |

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



### 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 '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

| ACCESS RANKINGS |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 4-YEAR-OLDS     | 3-YEAR-OLDS |
| 28              | 14          |

| RESOURCES RANKINGS |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| STATE SPENDING     | ALL REPORTED SPENDING |
| 7*                 | 16                    |

\* In previous Yearbooks, only state spending was ranked.

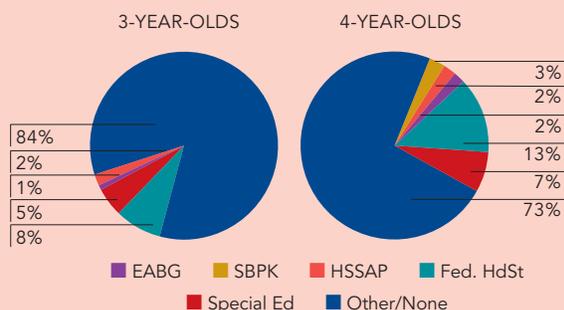
<sup>1</sup> These calculations do not include the School Based Pre-K program, as the state was unable to provide funding information for this program.

# PENNSYLVANIA EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY BLOCK GRANT

## ACCESS

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Total state program enrollment.....            | 4,303                           |
| School districts that offer state program..... | 9%                              |
| Income requirement .....                       | None <sup>1</sup>               |
| Hours of operation.....                        | Determined locally <sup>2</sup> |
| Operating schedule.....                        | Determined locally <sup>2</sup> |
| Special education enrollment .....             | 17,674                          |
| Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....    | 31,067                          |
| State-funded Head Start enrollment.....        | 5,780                           |

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT<sup>3</sup>  
AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



## 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);<br>See footnote (community partners) <sup>4</sup>                            | BA   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Teacher specialized training .....            | Certification in ECE (public);<br>None (community partners) <sup>4</sup>                  | Specializing in pre-K                                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Assistant teacher degree .....                | Meets NCLB requirements (public);<br>Determined locally (community partners) <sup>5</sup> | CDA or equivalent  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Teacher in-service.....                       | 180 clock 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 .....                             | 20 <sup>6</sup>   |  |                                     |
| 4-year-olds .....                             | 20 <sup>6</sup>   |  |                                     |
| Staff-child ratio .....                       |   | 1:10 or better   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3-year-olds .....                             | 1:10 <sup>6</sup>   |  |                                     |
| 4-year-olds .....                             | 1:10 <sup>6</sup>   |  |                                     |
| Screening/referral and support services ..... | Determined locally  | Vision, hearing, health; and<br>at least 1 support service | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Meals.....                                    | None  | At least 1/day   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Monitoring .....                              | Site visits and other monitoring <sup>7</sup>   | Site visits  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

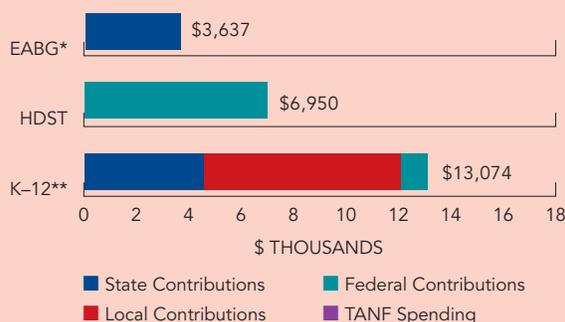
**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

5

## RESOURCES

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Total state pre-K spending.....                 | \$15,648,261 |
| Local match required?.....                      | No           |
| State Head Start spending.....                  | \$40,000,000 |
| State spending per child enrolled.....          | \$3,637      |
| All reported spending per child enrolled* ..... | \$3,637      |

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 '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>1</sup> Eligibility requirements are locally determined, but most districts focus on children who are at risk academically or economically. State guidance specifies that EABG programs should target children at risk.

<sup>2</sup> Most programs operate 2.5 hours or 5 hours per day, 5 days per week, for the academic year. New regulations finalized in December 2006 require prekindergarten programs in all districts to meet this minimum schedule.

<sup>3</sup> The state did not break EABG enrollment into specific numbers of 3- or 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart were also estimated, using the proportions of enrollees who were ages 3 or 4 in state programs that served 3-year-olds and provided age breakdowns for 2006-2007.

<sup>4</sup> Prior to December 2006, nonpublic settings followed the relevant program's regulatory requirements (e.g., Head Start, child care) for the year in question. Regulations finalized in December 2006 mandate that teachers in programs operated by community providers must have at least an AA. In 2011, all teachers regardless of setting will need ECE certification.

<sup>5</sup> In public school settings, assistant teachers must meet the requirements to be highly qualified for NCLB. For non-public settings, programs follow relevant regulatory requirements. By 2009-2010 all aides (in non-public settings) will be required to meet the highly qualified requirements of NCLB.

<sup>6</sup> Beginning December 2006, programs were required to limit class size to 20 and maintain a staff-child ratio of 1:10 or better.

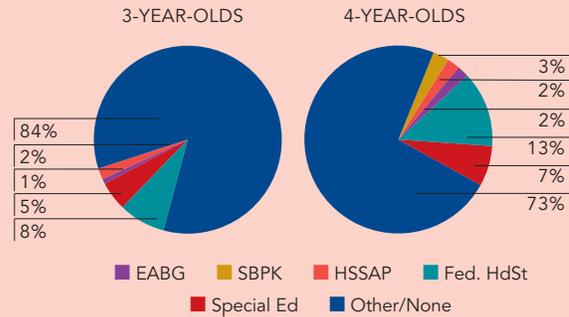
<sup>7</sup> As of 2006-2007, EABG required site visits at least once per year.

# PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL BASED PRE-K

## ACCESS

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Total state program enrollment.....            | 3,501                           |
| School districts that offer state program..... | 13%                             |
| Income requirement .....                       | None                            |
| Hours of operation.....                        | Determined locally <sup>1</sup> |
| Operating schedule .....                       | Academic year                   |
| Special education enrollment .....             | 17,674                          |
| Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....    | 31,067                          |
| State-funded Head Start enrollment.....        | 5,780                           |

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                   | Comprehensive   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree .....               | BA                              | BA  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher specialized training ..... | EE or ECE certification         | Specializing in pre-K                                   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Assistant teacher degree .....     | Determined locally <sup>2</sup> | CDA or equivalent                                       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Teacher in-service.....            | 180 clock 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 .....                  | NA                              |   |                                     |
| 4-year-olds .....                  | 20 <sup>3</sup>                 |   |                                     |
| Staff-child ratio .....            |                                 | 1:10 or better  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3-year-olds .....                  | NA                              |   |                                     |
| 4-year-olds .....                  | 1:10 <sup>3</sup>               |   |                                     |
| Screening/referral .....           | Determined locally              | Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Meals.....                         | None                            | At least 1/day  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Monitoring .....                   | None                            | Site visits   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

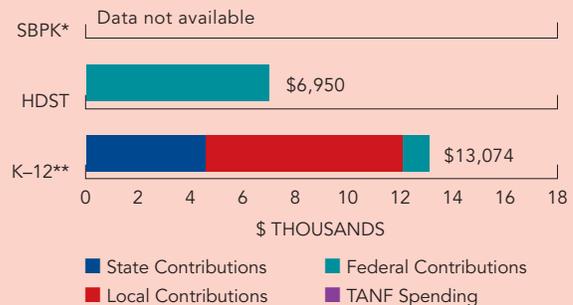
**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

5

## RESOURCES

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Total state pre-K spending .....                | Not available |
| Local match required?.....                      | No            |
| State Head Start spending.....                  | \$40,000,000  |
| State spending per child enrolled .....         | Not available |
| All reported spending per child enrolled* ..... | Not available |

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 '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>1</sup> Students may attend either a half-day or full-day program but the minimum requirement is 2.5 hours/day, 5 days/week.

<sup>2</sup> New regulations finalized in December 2006 require a second adult in classrooms with more than 10 children. Assistant teachers in Title I schools must meet the NCLB requirements for highly qualified teachers. There are no specific degree requirements for assistant teachers in other schools, and these requirements are determined at the local level. By 2009-2010 all assistant teachers will be required to meet the highly qualified requirements of NCLB.

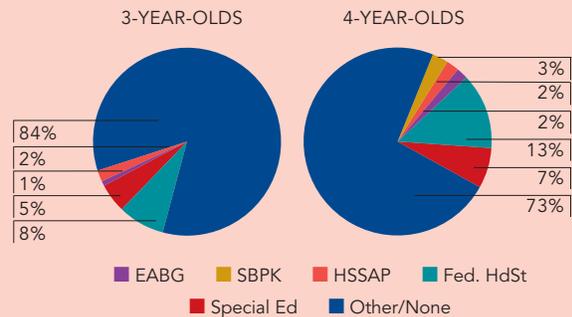
<sup>3</sup> Beginning December 2006, programs were required to limit class size to 20 and maintain a staff-child ratio of 1:10 or better.

# PENNSYLVANIA HEAD START SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment.....5,780  
 School districts that offer state program.....86% (Head Start grantees)  
 Income requirement.....90% of children must be at or below 100% FPL  
 Hours of operation.....Determined locally <sup>1</sup>  
 Operating schedule.....Determined locally <sup>1</sup>  
 Special education enrollment .....17,674  
 Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....31,067  
 State-funded Head Start enrollment.....5,780

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   | Comprehensive   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree                          | CDA <sup>2</sup>  | BA  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Teacher specialized training            | Meets CDA requirements <sup>2</sup>   | Specializing in pre-K                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Assistant teacher degree                | HSD   | CDA or equivalent                                       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Teacher in-service                      | Determined locally  | At least 15 hours/year                                  | <input 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                             | 2:17  |   |                                     |
| Screening/referral and support services | Vision, hearing, health, developmental, dental; and support services <sup>3</sup> | Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Meals                                   | Lunch and either breakfast or snack   | At least 1/day  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Monitoring                              | Site visits and other monitoring <sup>4</sup>                                     | Site visits   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

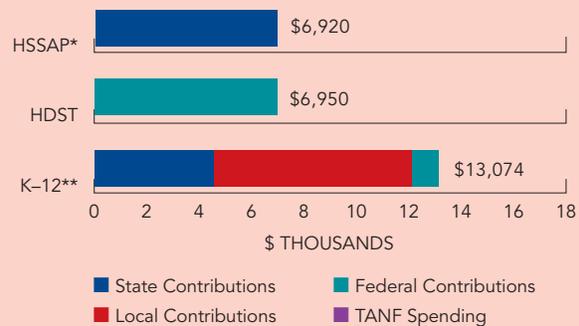
**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

**7**

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending.....\$40,000,000  
 Local match required?.....Yes, following Head Start performance standards  
 State Head Start spending.....\$40,000,000 <sup>5</sup>  
 State spending per child enrolled.....\$6,920  
 All reported spending per child enrolled\*.....\$6,920

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 '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>1</sup> The operating schedule is determined locally, but the minimum follows federal Head Start requirements of 3.5 hours per day, 4 days per week, and 128 days per year.

<sup>2</sup> Federal Head Start requirements indicate that 50 percent of teachers must have an AA in ECE. If teachers are employed by a school district, ECE certification is required.

<sup>3</sup> Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits and comprehensive services as required by federal Head Start Performance Standards that include parenting education or job training, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

<sup>4</sup> For 2006-2007, site visits were written into the grantee letters of agreement, and were conducted by consultants employed by the state.

<sup>5</sup> All spending through this initiative is directed toward Head Start programs.