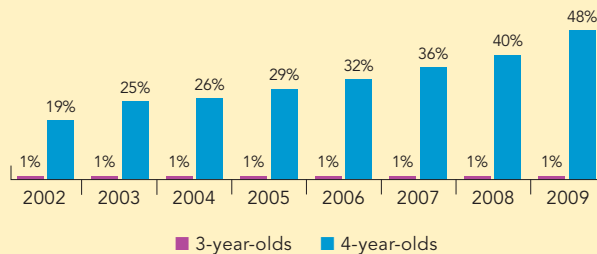
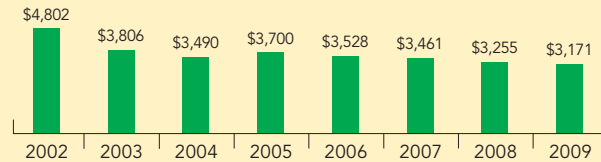


Wisconsin

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2009 DOLLARS)



When Wisconsin became a state in 1848, its constitution included a commitment to provide free education to 4-year-old children. The state established the Four-Year-Old Kindergarten (4K) program in 1873. This program continues to operate today, despite a suspension of state funding between 1957 and 1984. Funds for 4K are distributed directly to public schools, which may offer preschool education services themselves or subcontract with Head Start agencies or private child care centers to provide programs. School districts receive 50 percent of the standard per-pupil K–12 state funding amount to provide half-day 4K slots and may receive 60 percent if they also provide parenting support programs.

Four-Year-Old Kindergarten programs are encouraged to follow the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards, although they are not required to do so. The state has increased 4K enrollment over the last few years by opening new programs in districts that did not previously offer 4K and by increasing enrollment in districts with existing programs. In the 2008-2009 program year, an additional 36 districts began offering the 4K program. As a result, 77 percent of elementary school districts now provide 4K.

The Wisconsin Head Start State Supplement, a separate state-funded preschool initiative, offers comprehensive early childhood education for 3- and 4-year-olds from low-income families or with disabilities. The state supplements funding to the federal Head Start program, enabling federal Head Start grantees to increase access and enhance services. Programs participating in Wisconsin Head Start are required to follow federal Head Start Performance Standards. There have been increased efforts to align Head Start training and technical assistance with other professional development efforts at the state and local levels.

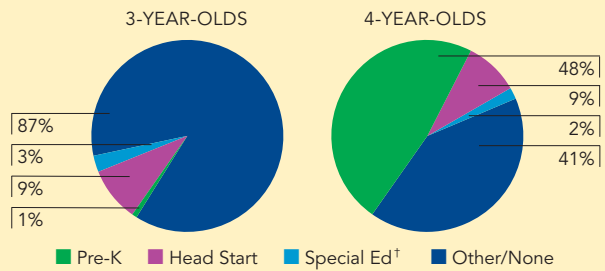
Head Start grantees and local school districts often collaborate to implement 4K, and these partnerships have increased over the past few years. In the 2008-2009 school year, the state began offering start-up grants to encourage further collaborations. Eighty-nine school districts currently collaborate with child care and/or Head Start programs to provide preschool education services.

The first two pages of Wisconsin's profile give an overview of the state's overall commitment and contributions to state-funded preschool education programs, including enrollment and state spending for both 4K and Wisconsin Head Start. The third page presents specific details on the 4K program, and the fourth page focuses exclusively on the Wisconsin Head Start program.

STATE OVERVIEW

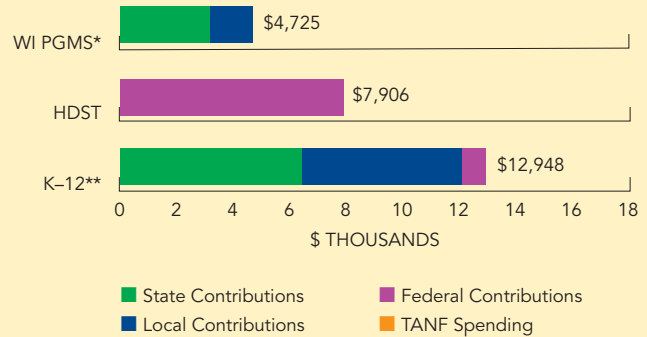
Total state program enrollment	35,392
Total state spending	\$112,212,500
State Head Start spending	\$7,212,500
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,171
All reported spending per child enrolled	\$4,725

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



[†] This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

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 '08-'09 school year, unless otherwise noted.

ACCESS RANKINGS

4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
6	22

RESOURCES RANKINGS

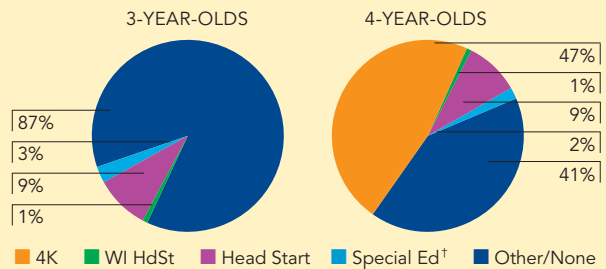
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
28	21

WISCONSIN FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	33,976
School districts that offer state program	77%
Income requirement	None
Hours of operation	Determined locally ¹
Operating schedule	Determined locally ¹
Special education enrollment	8,394
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	12,528
State-funded Head Start enrollment	1,352 ²

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



[†] This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?	
Early learning standards	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET 5 </div>
Teacher degree	BA ³	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher specialized training	License in ECE Birth-age 8 or EC Birth-age 11 ³	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Assistant teacher degree	HSD/GED ⁴	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher in-service.....	6 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	NA			
4-year-olds.....	Determined locally			
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3-year-olds	NA			
4-year-olds.....	Determined locally			
Screening/referral	Determined locally; and support services ⁵	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Meals	Depend on length of program day ⁶	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

RESOURCES

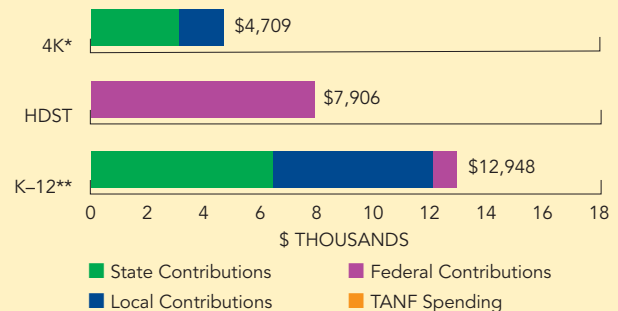
Total state pre-K spending	\$105,000,000
Local match required?.....	Yes, local share of school revenue generated through property tax
State Head Start spending	\$7,212,500
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,090
All reported spending per child enrolled*.....	\$4,709

* 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 '08-'09 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ Programs operate for a minimum of 437 hours per year, or 437 hours per year plus 87.5 hours of parent outreach, or 349.5 hours per year plus 87.5 hours of parent outreach. Some districts may offer the program full-day for 2-3 days per week.

² Wisconsin did not break this figure into specific numbers of 3- or 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart were estimated, using proportions of federal Head Start enrollees in each age category.

³ Teachers must hold an appropriate teacher license with the Department of Public Instruction. Community collaborative sites may require a permanent authorization for community programs provided that the teacher has at least an AA in an approved field and has completed or is working toward an approved list of core ECE courses.

⁴ Assistant teachers in public settings can meet one of three requirements: At least two years of higher education, an associate (or higher) degree, or meet

a rigorous standard of quality through a state or local academic assessment regardless of degree. The requirement for assistant teachers in nonpublic settings reflects child care licensing regulations. School districts that are Head Start grantees may require assistant teachers to have an AA and assistant teacher license.

⁵ State law supports vision, hearing, and general health screenings prior to enrollment. When 4K uses a community approach with Head Start, screenings are required. Support services include parent involvement activities, health services for children, referral to social services, and access to a school nurse, psychologist, and social worker. The number of annual parent conferences or home visits is determined locally.

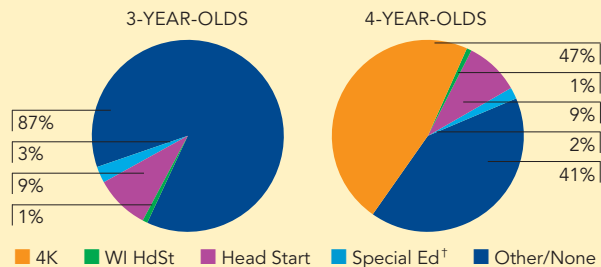
⁶ If a school-based program operates longer than 2.5 hours, it is required to provide some form of nourishment (breakfast, milk, or snack). Programs being implemented in child care or Head Start must follow applicable requirements.

WISCONSIN HEAD START STATE SUPPLEMENT

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	1,416 ¹
School districts that offer state program	97% (federal Head Start grantees)
Income requirement	90% of children must be at or below 100% FPL ²
Hours of operation	Determined locally ³
Operating schedule	Determined locally ³
Special education enrollment	8,394
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	12,528
State-funded Head Start enrollment	1,352 ¹

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



† This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

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); CDA (nonpublic) ⁴	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	License in ECE Birth–age 8 or EC Birth–age 11 (public); 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	15 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" 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	1:10		
Screening/referral	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services developmental; and support services ⁵	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Lunch and snack ⁶	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Other monitoring ⁷	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

7

RESOURCES

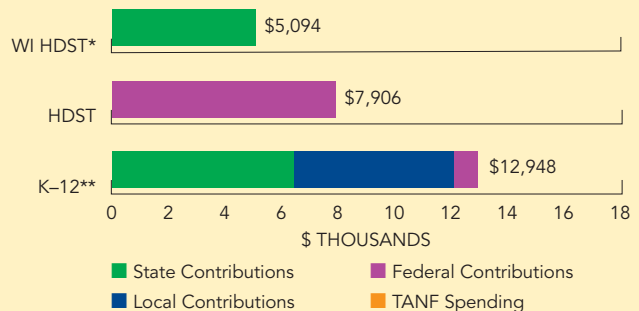
Total state pre-K spending	\$7,212,500
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending	\$7,212,500 ⁸
State spending per child enrolled	\$5,094
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$5,094

* 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 '08-'09 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ Wisconsin did not break this figure into specific numbers of 3- or 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart were also estimated, using proportions of federal Head Start enrollees in each age category.

² State pre-K children must meet the federal Head Start income guidelines. Effective December 2007, 35 percent of the enrollment may be children whose family incomes are between 100 and 130 percent FPL after priority is given to children at or below 100 percent FPL.

³ As required by federal Head Start Performance Standards, programs must operate a minimum of 3.5 hours per day, 4 days per week, and 32 weeks per year, unless approved as a federal Head Start alternative. Programs may partner with child care or 4K to extend hours, days, or weeks.

⁴ School districts that are federal Head Start grantees may require lead teachers to have a BA and appropriate licensure. Head Start requires teachers to have at least a CDA.

⁵ Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, education services or job training for parents, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for parents and children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, transition to kindergarten activities, and other support services in accordance with Head Start performance standards.

⁶ The federal Head Start Performance Standards require that part-day programs provide children with at least one-third of their daily nutritional needs, and full-day programs provide one-half to two-thirds of daily nutritional needs, depending on the length of the program day. Breakfast may also be required depending on the hours of the program.

⁷ The state mandates that all programs follow federal Head Start monitoring requirements. The state itself does not conduct monitoring of these programs. Information such as grant applications, budget reports, sections of the federal application, and submission of the Head Start PIR are included.

⁸ All spending through this initiative is directed toward Head Start programs.