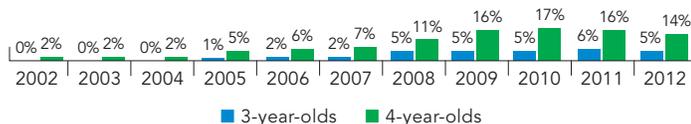
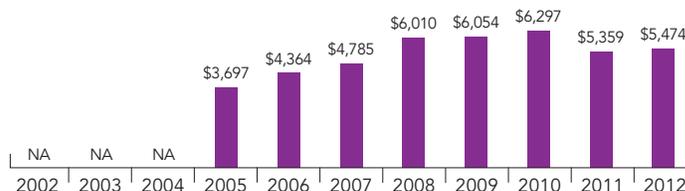


# Pennsylvania

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2012 DOLLARS)



Before 2004, Pennsylvania did not have a state-funded prekindergarten program considered such under state law, although districts could provide preschool education services through Pennsylvania’s Kindergarten for Four-Year-Olds (K4) program or provide preschool to 4-year-olds through the School Based Pre-K program (SBPK). Districts that offer the K4 program are required to follow Pennsylvania’s kindergarten regulations. However, districts offering SBPK are required to adhere to the state’s preschool regulations. Daily membership counts are taken of children enrolled in K4 for public school attendance in districts and therefore partially funded through the state’s basic instructional subsidy formula. In the 2011-2012 school year, the School Based Pre-K program is profiled along with the K4 program, as it was in the past.

Districts have been able to offer prekindergarten through the Education Accountability Block Grant (EABG) since the 2004-2005 school year. This initiative is part of an effort to offer high-quality preschool programs to build strong foundations of learning and support children’s academic success. Children may qualify for this program two years before meeting the locally determined kindergarten eligibility age. However, districts may set additional eligibility requirements such as low income status or a lack of academic readiness. Districts are allowed to use the funds for a number of options, including providing full-day kindergarten, offering prekindergarten, reducing class size in kindergarten through third grade, and other activities that promote academic success. The allocations of these funds are determined by the districts. The amount of funds available through EABG was significantly cut in the 2011-2012 year, resulting in a much lower number of students served. Starting in the 2011-2012 school year, Act 24 implemented a two-year moratorium of professional development requirements which affected both the EABG and the K4 & SBPK programs.

Pennsylvania established the Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program (HSSAP) with an initial investment of \$15 million during the 2004-2005 program year. Over time, both state funding and enrollment have increased. State funds are used by the HSSAP to provide extended-day services for federally funded Head Start children and to create additional Head Start slots. Federal Head Start grantees as well as their child care partners who receive a minimum STAR 3 level in the Keystone STARS quality initiative program have access to this state-funded program. Regardless of setting, all programs must adhere to the federal Head Start Performance Standards. Programs must enter program, staff, and child data into the web-based reporting system, the Early Learning Network (ELN).

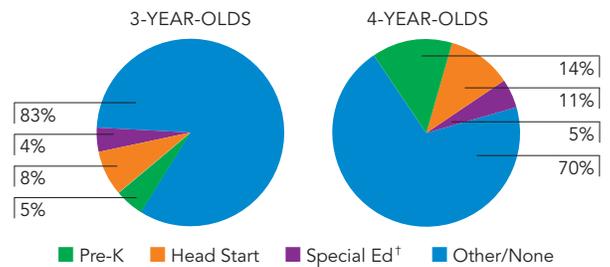
A fourth state-funded initiative, the Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts Program, was founded in the 2007-2008 school year. Similar to EABG, children are eligible for the program two years before their locally determined kindergarten eligibility age, however, programs may set additional criteria based on local need. The primary eligibility criterion for enrollment in addition to age is income. Eligible children must have a household income of 300 percent of the FPL. PA Pre-K Counts funds are allocated through a competitive award system. School districts, Head Start programs, nursery schools, and child care centers that hold a STAR 3 or 4 designation in Keystone STARS are all eligible for funding through this program. Programs also enter data into the ELN.

The first two pages of this state profile present information on Pennsylvania’s overall commitment and contribution to state-funded preschool education, including state spending and enrollment for the four Pennsylvania preschool programs. The third page focuses exclusively on EABG, the fourth page describes K4, the fifth page provides specific details about HSSAP, and the last page highlights the PA Pre-K Counts program.

## STATE OVERVIEW

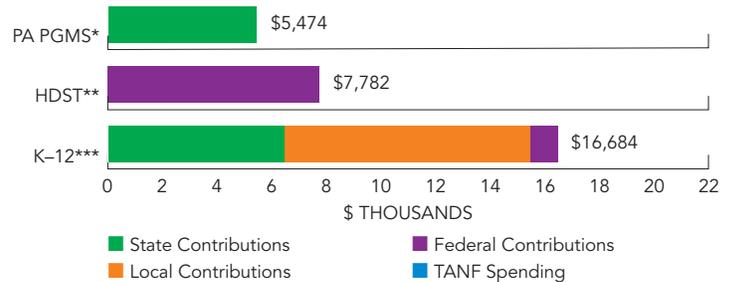
Total state program enrollment .....	28,790
Total state spending .....	\$157,591,897
State Head Start spending .....	\$35,414,000
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$5,474
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$5,474

### 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.  
 \*\* Head Start per-child spending for the 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.  
 \*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

#### ACCESS RANKINGS

4-YEAR-OLDS

3-YEAR-OLDS

28

12

#### RESOURCES RANKINGS

STATE SPENDING

ALL REPORTED SPENDING

9

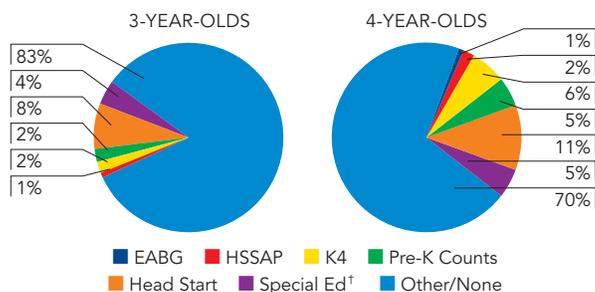
18

# PENNSYLVANIA EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY BLOCK GRANT

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	915 <sup>1</sup>
School districts that offer state program .....	4%
Income requirement.....	None <sup>2</sup>
Hours of operation .....	Determined locally <sup>3</sup>
Operating schedule .....	Determined locally <sup>3</sup>
Special education enrollment .....	21,365
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4 .....	27,764
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	4,747 <sup>4</sup>

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 and ECE certification (public); AA in ECE (community partners) <sup>5</sup>	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	Certification in ECE; PK-4, N-3 (public); AA in ECE (community partners) <sup>5</sup>	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	Must meet NCLB requirements <sup>6</sup>	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	None <sup>7</sup>	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size .....		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	20		
4-year-olds .....	20		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	1:10		
4-year-olds .....	1:10		
Screening/referral and support services .....	Health	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	None	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	None <sup>8</sup>	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>

**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

4

## RESOURCES

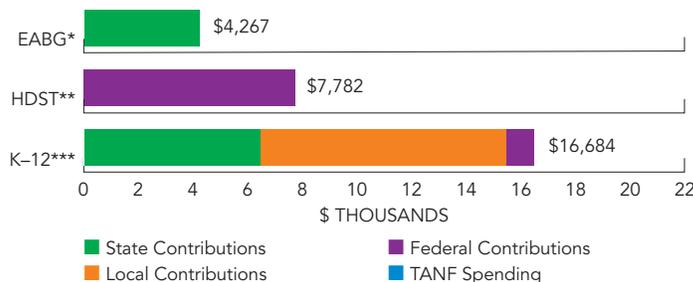
Total state pre-K spending .....	\$3,904,559
Local match required? .....	No
State Head Start spending .....	\$
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$4,267
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$4,267

\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

\*\* Head Start per-child spending for the 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



<sup>1</sup> The state could not break EABG enrollment into a specific number of 3- or 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart were 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 2011-2012.

<sup>2</sup> Eligibility requirements are locally determined.

<sup>3</sup> Most programs operate 2.5 hours or 5 hours per day, 5 days per week, for 180 days per year.

<sup>4</sup> All state-funded Head Start enrollment is through HSSAP, but the state could not break HSSAP into a specific number 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 Pennsylvania in each age category 2011-2012.

<sup>5</sup> For nonpublic school settings contracted by an LEA prior to September 2006, teachers have until September 2012 to become ECE-certified. If contracts were initiated after September 2006, teachers have five years to become ECE certified. Beginning in January 2012, only PK-4 will be applicable for certification; prior to that, all ECE certifications apply.

<sup>6</sup> All assistant teachers are required to meet NCLB requirements. This requires completing at least two years of postsecondary study/60 college credits, possessing an AA or higher, or passing a rigorous state or local assessment of knowledge of and ability to assist in instruction.

<sup>7</sup> The program has traditionally required 180 clock hours of professional development every five years. However, Act 24 issued a two-year moratorium of this PD requirement beginning in 2011. This no longer meets NIEER's quality standard benchmark.

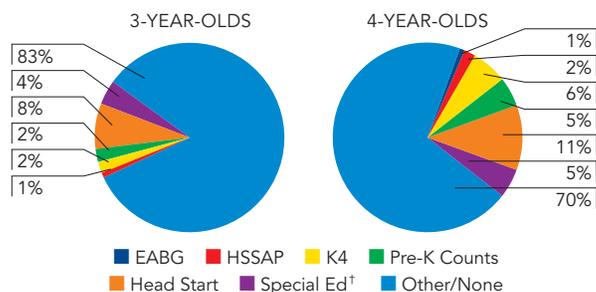
<sup>8</sup> There was no formalized monitoring of this program during the 2011-2012 school year. This no longer meets NIEER's quality standard benchmark.

# PENNSYLVANIA KINDERGARTEN FOR FOUR-YEAR-OLDS AND SCHOOL BASED PRE-K

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	11,718 <sup>1</sup>
School districts that offer state program .....	18%
Income requirement .....	None (K4); Determined locally (SBPK)
Hours of operation .....	2.5 hours/day (part-day), or 5 hours/day (school-day); 5 days/week
Operating schedule .....	Academic year
Special education enrollment .....	21,365
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4 .....	27,764
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	4,747 <sup>2</sup>

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	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	EE or ECE certification (K4); ECE certification (SBPK)	Specializing in pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	Meets NCLB requirements (SBPK); None (K4) <sup>3</sup>	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	None <sup>4</sup>	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size .....		20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	NA		
4-year-olds .....	No limit (K4); 20 (SBPK) <sup>5</sup>		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	NA		
4-year-olds .....	No limit (K4); 1:10 (SBPK) <sup>5</sup>		
Screening/referral .....	Health	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**

## RESOURCES

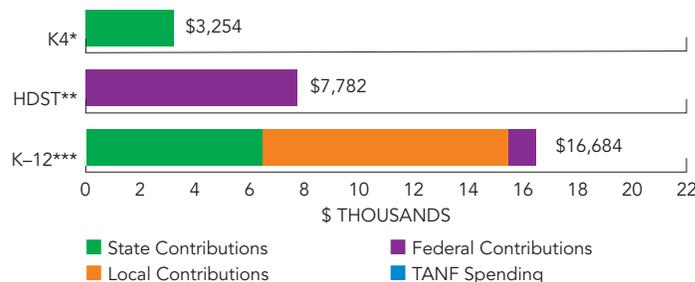
Total state pre-K spending .....	\$38,135,744
Local match required? .....	No
State Head Start spending .....	\$35,414,000
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$3,254
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$3,254

\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

\*\* Head Start per-child spending for the 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



<sup>1</sup> The state could not break K4 & SBPK enrollment into a specific number of 3- or 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart were 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 2011-2012.

<sup>2</sup> All state-funded Head Start enrollment is through HSSAP, but the state could not break HSSAP into a specific number 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 Pennsylvania in each age category 2011-2012.

<sup>3</sup> Beginning in the 2009-2010 school year, all assistant teachers in SBPK are required to meet NCLB requirements. This requires completing at least two years of postsecondary study/60 college credits, possessing an AA or higher, or passing a rigorous state or local assessment of knowledge of and ability to assist in instruction.

<sup>4</sup> The program has traditionally required 180 clock hours of professional development every five years. However, a two-year moratorium of this PD requirement was issued beginning 2011.

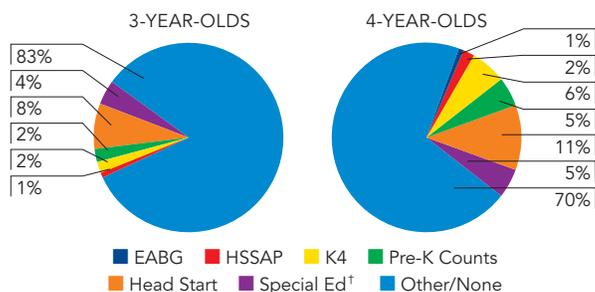
<sup>5</sup> The K4 program follows kindergarten requirements, which do not limit class size or staff-child ratio. However, most programs have 20 children and a 1:10 staff-child ratio. School Based Pre-K follows the PA School Board regulations, which require a maximum class size of 20 and a staff-to-child ratio of 1:10.

# PENNSYLVANIA HEAD START SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	4,889 <sup>1</sup>
School districts that offer state program .....	23%
Income requirement .....	90% of children must be at or below 100% FPL <sup>2</sup>
Hours of operation .....	Determined locally <sup>3</sup>
Operating schedule .....	Determined locally <sup>3</sup>
Special education enrollment .....	21,365
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4 .....	27,764
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	4,747 <sup>1</sup>

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 .....	AA <sup>4</sup>	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	AA <sup>4</sup>	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	HSD <sup>4</sup>	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 .....	20		
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 .....	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services	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	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

8

## RESOURCES

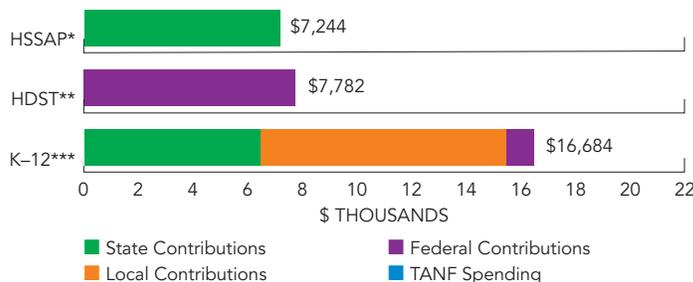
Total state pre-K spending .....	\$35,414,000 <sup>6</sup>
Local match required? .....	No
State Head Start spending .....	\$35,414,000
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$7,244
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$7,244

\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

\*\* Head Start per-child spending for the 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



<sup>1</sup> All state-funded Head Start enrollment is through HSSAP, but the state could not break HSSAP into a specific number 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 Pennsylvania in each age category 2011-2012.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</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>4</sup> The Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007 requires that by 2011 all lead teachers must have at least an AA; by 2013, 50 percent must have at least a BA. If teachers are employed by a school district, ECE certification is required. Federal Head Start requires that by 2013 all assistant teachers have a CDA or be enrolled in a program to receive a CDA, AA or BA within two years.

<sup>5</sup> Support services include parent conferences or home visits and comprehensive services as required by federal Head Start Performance Standards including parent education or job training, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for parents and children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

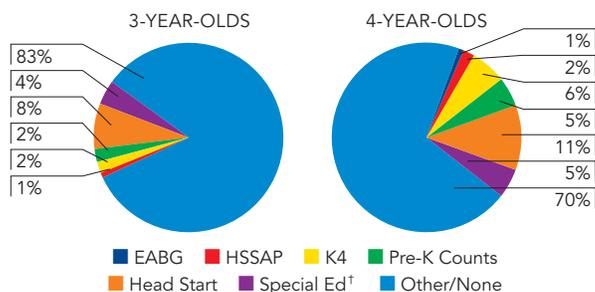
<sup>6</sup> All spending through this initiative is directed toward Head Start programs.

## PENNSYLVANIA PRE-K COUNTS

### ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	11,268 <sup>1</sup>
School districts that offer state program .....	80%
Income requirement .....	300% FPL <sup>2</sup>
Hours of operation .....	2.5 instructional hours/day (part-day), 5 instructional hours/day (school-day); 5 days/week
Operating schedule .....	Determined locally <sup>3</sup>
Special education enrollment .....	21,365
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4 .....	27,764
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	4,747 <sup>4</sup>

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 and ECE cert. (public and nonpublic) <sup>5</sup>	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	ECE cert. (public and nonpublic) <sup>5</sup>	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	Must meet NCLB requirements <sup>6</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		
4-year-olds .....	20		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	1:10		
4-year-olds .....	1:10		
Screening/referral .....	Determined locally; and support services <sup>7</sup>	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	Depends on length of program day <sup>8</sup>	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET  
**7**

### RESOURCES

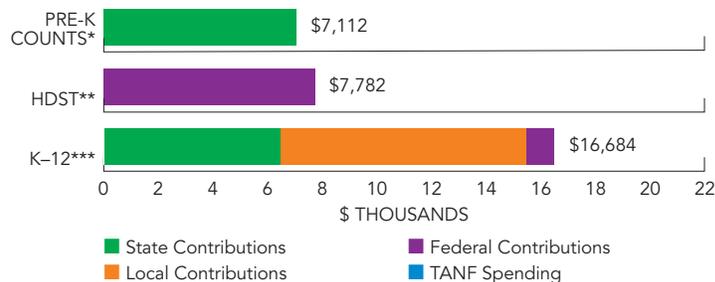
Total state pre-K spending .....	\$80,137,594
Local match required? .....	No
State Head Start spending .....	\$35,414,000
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$7,112
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$7,112

\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

\*\* Head Start per-child spending for the 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



<sup>1</sup> The state could not break Pre-K Counts into a specific number of 3- or 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart were 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 2011-2012.

<sup>2</sup> Income is only one of the possible risk factors used to determine eligibility. Other risk factors are determined locally and could include low parental education level or other economic, language, and/or cultural disadvantages that put children at risk for school failure.

<sup>3</sup> Programs must operate at least 180 days per year, though days can be "stretched" across the full calendar year rather than used in the traditional 9 month school calendar. This is a local decision.

<sup>4</sup> All state-funded Head Start enrollment is through HSSAP, but the state could not break HSSAP into a specific number 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 Pennsylvania in each age category 2011-2012.

<sup>5</sup> By December 2011, lead teachers in all settings had to have a BA and ECE certification. The N-3 certification will no longer be issued, though teachers who currently have it will still be able to work in the program.

<sup>6</sup> Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, all assistant teachers are required to meet NCLB requirements. This requires completing at least two years of postsecondary education, possessing an AA or higher, or passing a rigorous state or local assessment of knowledge of and ability to assist in instruction.

<sup>7</sup> Health screenings and referrals are determined locally. Support services required of all programs include parent involvement activities, referral for social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

<sup>8</sup> Half-day programs are required to provide a snack. Full-day programs are required to provide a snack and one meal.