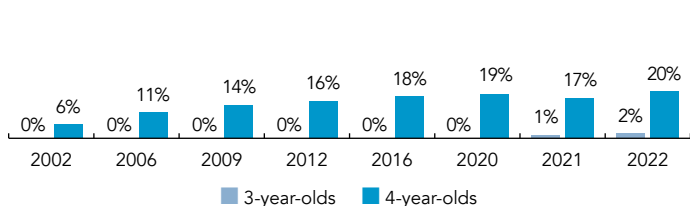
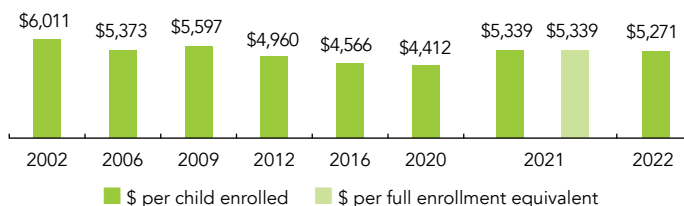


# Virginia

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2022 DOLLARS)



## OVERVIEW

During the 2021-2022 school year, Virginia preschool enrolled 22,243 children, an increase of 4,187 from the prior year, as the program recovered from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. State spending totaled \$106,627,053, including \$10,785,265 in federal recovery funds that supported preschool, up \$21,018,465 (22%), adjusted for inflation since last year. State spending per child (including federal recovery dollars) equaled \$5,279 in 2021-2022, down \$60 from 2020-2021, adjusted for inflation. Virginia met an average of 5.9 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

## WHAT'S NEW

During the 2021-2022 school year, more than 1,200 children benefited from the state's Early Childhood Foundation Mixed Delivery Program. This is a public/private partnership that is included in this report for the first time this year. The Mixed Delivery Program is administered by Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (VECF) and provides publicly funded early childhood care and education (ECCE) services in licensed, non-school-based and non-faith-based private ECCE settings for children who have been identified as at-risk for entering kindergarten without the necessary social and academic skills for success. The Mixed Delivery Program uses VPI child eligibility criteria.

In 2022, the state budget included an additional \$16 million for the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) and increased per pupil rates that are benchmarked based on the standards of quality. Starting during the 2022-23 school year, the per pupil rates will be based on the biannually re-benchmarked rate, which follows the same model of basing costs on standards of quality as K-12. This change led to a significant increase in the per child rate and will ensure that the VPI rate remains comparable to other grade levels.

VPI also expanded eligibility during the 2021-2022 school year, with more programs using the local eligibility criteria waiver, the community provider add-on, and expanding their focus on inclusive classrooms. Beginning in 2022-2023, children with disabilities or delays who are eligible for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, regardless of household income, are eligible for VPI.

In December 2022, Virginia was awarded a federal Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) one-year planning grant for \$4 million. The state will use the funding to update the statewide ECCE needs assessment and strategic plan, as well as implement key ECCE priorities related to quality early learning settings and supporting the ECCE workforce.

## BACKGROUND

The Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) began in 1995 to serve at-risk 4-year-olds not enrolled in existing preschool programs. During the 2021-2022 school year, VPI programs operated in 96% of eligible school divisions. Programs are required to operate for a minimum of three hours per day, though 95% of children attend full-day programs throughout the school year. VPI is funded by an annual legislative appropriation of state general funds and a required local match based on the local composite index. The local match is capped at half the per-pupil amount. Funding for VPI is available to school divisions where there are at-risk 4-year-olds who are not served by Head Start.

VPI eligibility has always been based on risk factors including, but not limited to: family income at or below 200% FPL, family income at or below 350% FPL for students with special needs or disabilities, homelessness, or parent(s) with limited education. A total of 15% of slots can be filled using locally determined eligibility criteria unless a locality applies and is approved for a waiver to fill more than 15% of slots using local at-risk criteria.

Beginning in 2021-22, 535 public school VPI programs opted to participate in the first practice year of the state's new required Unified Measurement and Improvement System, VQB5. These programs received Practice Year 1 ratings in fall 2022. The new unified system uses measures of teacher-child interactions and curriculum implementation to support improvement across all publicly funded birth-to-five program and will be required for all publicly funded preschool programs by fall 2023.

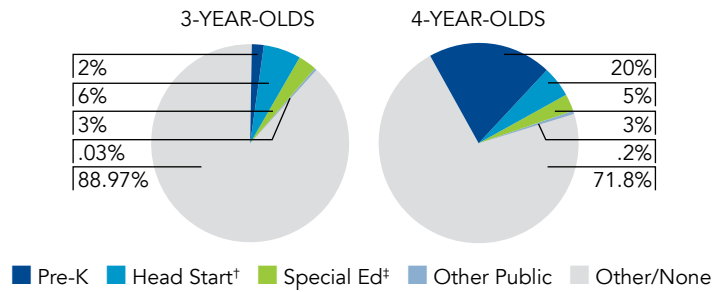
Virginia's overall support for state-funded preschool, including enrollment and funding for both VPI and Mixed Delivery, is depicted in the first two pages of this state profile. The third page focuses solely on VPI and the fourth page provides information on Mixed Delivery.

## VIRGINIA STATE OVERVIEW

### ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment .....	22,276
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	9,221
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	11,259
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4.....	0

### PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE

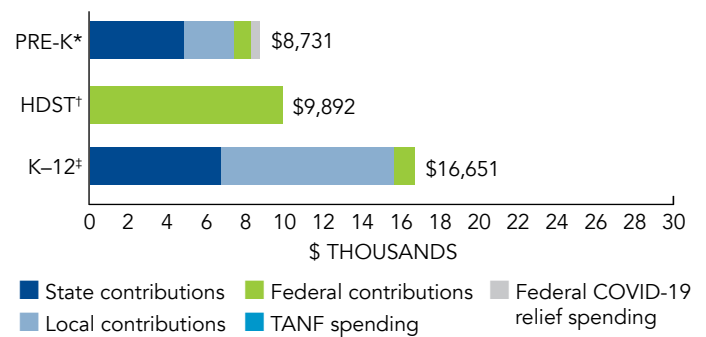


† Some Head Start children may also be counted in state pre-K.  
‡ Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

### RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$117,412,318
State Head Start spending .....	\$0
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$5,271
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$8,731

### 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 includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.  
‡ K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
29	24

RESOURCE RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
27	19

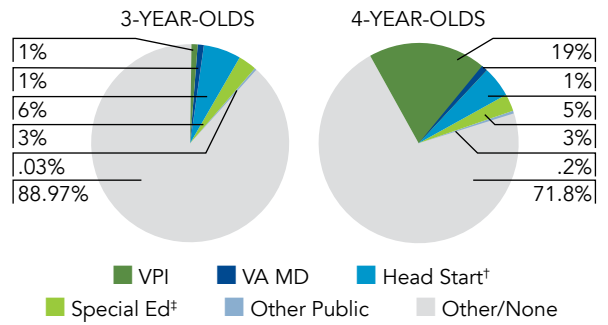
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
5.9

# VIRGINIA PRESCHOOL INITIATIVE

## ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment.....	21,006
School districts that offer state program.....	94% (school divisions)
Income requirement.....	200% FPL; 350% FPL for students with disabilities
Minimum hours of operation.....	3 hours/day; 5 days/week
Operating schedule.....	School or academic year

## PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



† Some Head Start children may also be counted in state pre-K.  
 ‡ Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	VA VPI REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK?
Early learning & development standards	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	<b>Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Curriculum supports	Approval process & supports	<b>Approval process &amp; supports</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA (public); HSD (nonpublic)	<b>BA</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	ECE, CD	<b>Specializing in pre-K</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD (public); None (nonpublic)	<b>CDA or equivalent</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff professional development	15 hours/school year	<b>For teachers &amp; assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	20 (3- & 4-year-olds)	<b>20 or lower</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff-child ratio	1:10 (3- & 4-year-olds)	<b>1:10 or better</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Screening & referral	Vision, hearing, health & more; Referrals not required	<b>Vision, hearing &amp; health screenings; &amp; referral</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Continuous quality improvement system	Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement	<b>Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

\* Indicates that while policy meets the benchmark, it is not being implemented fully.

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## RESOURCES

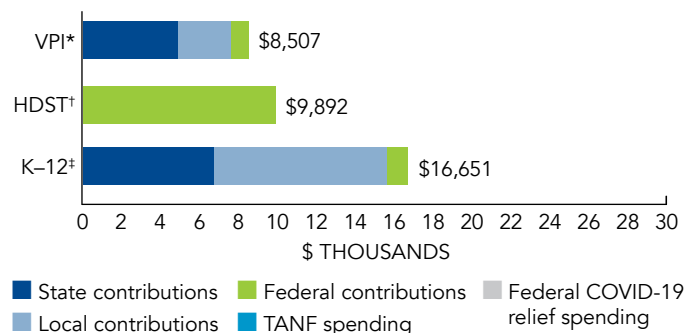
Total state pre-K spending .....	\$101,637,053
Local match required?.....	Yes
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$4,838
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$8,507

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

† Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.

‡ K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

## SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

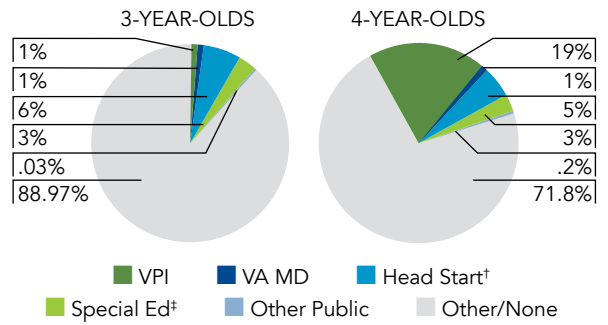


# VIRGINIA EARLY CHILDHOOD FOUNDATION MIXED DELIVERY

## ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment.....	1,270
School districts that offer state program.....	30% (school systems)
Income requirement.....	200% FPL; 350% FPL for students with disabilities
Minimum hours of operation.....	3 hours/day; 5 days/week
Operating schedule.....	990 hours (determined locally)

## PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



† Some Head Start children may also be counted in state pre-K.  
‡ Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	VA MD REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK?
Early learning & development standards	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	<b>Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Curriculum supports	Approval process & supports	<b>Approval process &amp; supports</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	None	<b>BA</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	None	<b>Specializing in pre-K</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	None	<b>CDA or equivalent</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff professional development	16 hours/year	<b>For teachers &amp; assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	30 (3- & 4-year-olds)	<b>20 or lower</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff-child ratio	1:10 (3- & 4-year-olds)	<b>1:10 or better</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Screening & referral	Immunizations	<b>Vision, hearing &amp; health screenings; &amp; referral</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Continuous quality improvement system	Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement	<b>Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

\* Indicates that while policy meets the benchmark, it is not being implemented fully.

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## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$15,785,265
Local match required?.....	No
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$12,429
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$12,429

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

† Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.

‡ K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

## SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

