# Missouri 

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED

## STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2020 DOLLARS)

\author{

| 3\% 5\% | 2\% 4\% | 2\% 4\% | 2\% 4\% | 2\% 3\% | 1\% 2\% | 1\% $6 \%$ | 1.5\% ${ }^{7.4 \%}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2002 | 2005 | 2008 | 2011 | 2014 | 2017 | 2019 | 2020 |
| 3-year-olds |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



## OVERVIEW

Missouri's two preschool programs together enrolled 6,874 children in 2019-2020, an increase of 1,086 children from the prior year. State funding for the two programs totaled $\$ 22,054,239$, up $\$ 2,499,029$ ( $13 \%$ ), adjusted for inflation, since last year. State spending per child averaged \$3,208 in 2019-2020, down $\$ 170$ from 2018-2019, adjusted for inflation. The Missouri Preschool Program met 10 of 10 quality standards benchmarks and the Missouri Pre-K Foundation Formula met 5 of 10.

## WHAT'S NEW

Missouri was one of 23 states that was awarded a three-year PDG B-5 renewal grant for $\$ 11,176,961$ designed to implement the strategic plan developed with the 2018 PDG B-5 planning grant. In March, state-funded preschool programs had the option to close due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Decisions to close and reopening delivery options (in-person, hybrid, or remote) were made at the local level.

The Assistant Teacher degree requirement for the Missouri Preschool Program changed to requiring at least nine college credits in ECE, therefore meeting this benchmark and the program now meets all 10 NIEER benchmarks. The 2020-2021 school year is anticipated to be the last year of funding for Missouri Preschool Program. Missouri will continue to operate its newer program, the Missouri Pre-K Foundation Formula.

## BACKGROUND

MPP, launched in 1998, serves 3- and 4-year-olds in public schools, private child-care centers, and nonprofit agencies. Roughly $90 \%$ of children are served in programs operated by public schools. Programs are required to work with the local Parents as Teachers program to provide parent education, family visits, group connections, health and development screenings, and services referrals.

MPP is funded through the state's Tobacco Settlement Fund. In the 2018-2019 school year, MPP was offered in nine percent of school districts statewide. A competitive grant process determines which programs receive MPP funds, with priority given to those serving children with special needs or from low-income families. MPP contracts are for a maximum of five years. Programs require payment on a sliding scale based on criteria including eligibility for free or reduced-priced school lunch.

Program quality is monitored through site visits and classroom assessments using ECERS-3 to support goal setting and professional development. On-site consultation hours are also provided, ranging from 14 to 20 annually, based on program needs. Children enrolled in MPP are assessed using the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP).
Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, Missouri's Local Education Agencies (LEAs) were encouraged to use the Missouri Pre-K Foundation Formula fund for preschool. Most policy decisions are made by the LEAs but must meet requirements around teacher to child ratio, teaching degrees and certification, and fiscal spending and reporting. DESE offers professional development opportunities for MPP classroom teachers, including coaching.

Missouri's overall support for state-funded preschool, including enrollment and funding for both MPP and the Missouri Pre-K Foundation Formula program, is depicted in the first two pages of this state profile. The third page focuses solely on MPP and the fourth page provides information on the Missouri Pre-K Foundation Formula program.

## MISSOURI STATE OVERVIEW

## ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment ..... 6,874
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ..... 10,066
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ..... 10,359
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ..... 0
RESOURCES
Total state pre-K spending ..... \$22,054,239
State Head Start spending ..... \$0
State spending per child enrolled ..... \$3,208
All reported spending per child enrolled* ..... \$3,208

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE


+ Some Hed Stat child
+ Some Head Start children may also be counted in state pre-K
${ }^{\text {t+ }}$ Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state 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 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 |
| 4 |  |



TOTAL
BENCHMARKS MET 5.3

## MISSOURI PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

## ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment ..... 461
School districts that offer state program ..... 4\%
Income requirement

$\qquad$
No income requirement

Minimum hours of operation $\qquad$ 3 hours/day Operating schedule. $\qquad$ School/academic year or calendar year

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE

${ }^{+}$Some Head Start children may also be counted in state pre-K (VPK/SRP).
${ }^{\dagger+}$ Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

| POLICY | MO PP REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | BENCHMARK? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Early learning \& development standards | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | $\checkmark$ |
| Curriculum supports | Approval process \& supports | Approval process \& supports | $\checkmark$ |
| Teacher degree | BA | BA | $\checkmark$ |
| Teacher specialized training | ECE, CD, ECE SpEd | Specializing in pre-K | $\checkmark$ |
| Assistant teacher degree | CDA, AA in Child Care/Education, or 60 college hours (min. of 9 college hours in ECE) | CDA or equivalent | $\checkmark$ |
| Staff professional development | 22 hours/year; PD plans; Coaching | For teachers \& assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching | $\checkmark$ |
| Maximum class size | 20 (3- \& 4-year-olds) | 20 or lower | $\checkmark$ |
| Staff-child ratio | 1:10 (3- \& 4-year-olds) | 1:10 or better | $\checkmark$ |
| Screening \& referral | Vision, hearing, health \& more | Vision, hearing \& health screenings; \& referral | $\checkmark$ |
| Continuous quality improvement system | Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement | Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement | $\checkmark$ |

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

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .............................................. \$2,337,458
Local match required? .................................................................. No
State spending per child enrolled ........................................... \$5,070
All reported spending per child enrolled* ................................ \$5,070

[^0]SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED


## MISSOURI PRE-K FOUNDATION FORMULA

## ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment..................................................... 6,413
School districts that offer state program....32\%; 36\% charter schools Income requirement 185\% FPL

Minimum hours of operation.............................. Determined locally
Operating schedule. $\qquad$ School or academic year

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE

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${ }^{\text {t+ }}$ Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

\(\left.\begin{array}{lll|l} \& \& \& REQUIREMENT <br>

POLICY \& MO PRE-K FF REQUIREMENT\end{array}\right]\)| MEETS |
| :--- |
| BENCHMARK? |

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


## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending ............................................ \$19,716,781
Local match required? .. No
State spending per child enrolled .......................................... \$3,075
All reported spending per child enrolled* ............................. \$3,075

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

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



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