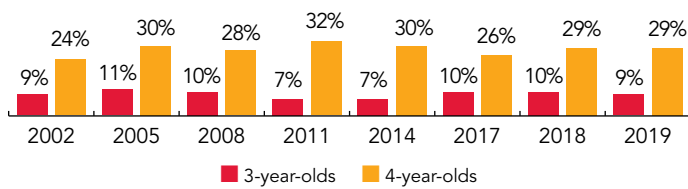
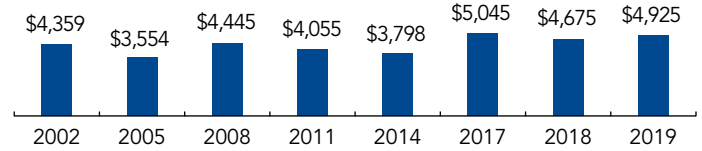


# Kentucky

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2019 DOLLARS)



## OVERVIEW

Kentucky preschool enrolled 21,351 children in 2018-2019, an increase of 81 children from the prior year. State funding totaled \$105,163,876, up \$5,718,259 (6%), adjusted for inflation, since last year. State spending per child equaled \$4,925 in 2018-2019, up \$250 from 2017-2018, adjusted for inflation. Kentucky met 8 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

## WHAT'S NEW

In 2018-2019, Kentucky began a new monitoring system, the Kentucky Preschool Evaluation System, which is aligned with the Kentucky All STARS quality rating system and requires all programs to be evaluated once every three years during a six-year cycle.

## BACKGROUND

The Kentucky Preschool Program (KPP), launched in 1990, is available to 4-year-olds from low-income families, as well as 3- and 4-year olds with disabilities. KPP programs operate either half- or full-day, for at least 2.5 hours per day, four or five days per week. Income eligibility increased from 150% to 160% of FPL beginning with the 2015-2016 school year. Children who do not meet state eligibility requirements may still participate, depending on space availability, although they are funded either by the school district or tuition rather than state dollars.

KPP is administered by the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), Office of Special Education and Early Learning, Division of IDEA Implementation and Preschool, School Readiness Branch. Funds are distributed to school districts through a funding formula. Each of Kentucky's 173 school districts offered KPP services in 2017-2018. School districts may subcontract with private child care centers, Head Start programs, and special education providers to offer preschool services.

The KDE launched a grant program in 2016-2017 to encourage cooperative public/private partnerships between public school districts and child care providers to increase the number of Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) eligible preschool children served in high-quality, full-day programs. High-quality is defined as achievement of three or more STARS in the state's QRIS.

All early childhood programs that receive public funds, including KPP, participate in the Kentucky All STARS quality rating system. In 2017-2018, the ECERS-3 was used to evaluate preschool classrooms. In addition, between 10 and 14 school districts are selected for monitoring based upon a newly developed risk analysis of program data. Monitoring occurs in collaboration with KDE's Title I office.

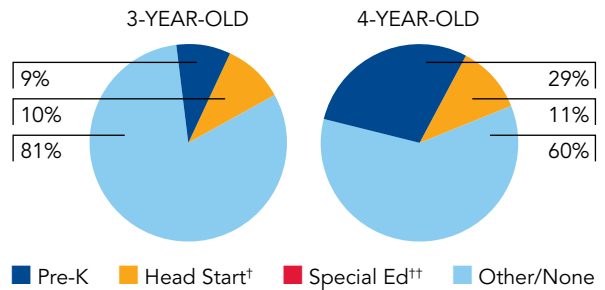
ACCESS RANKINGS		RESOURCE RANKINGS		TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS	STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING	
25	11	22	14	8

# KENTUCKY PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

## ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment .....	21,351
School districts that offer state program .....	100%
Income requirement .....	160% FPL
Minimum hours of operation .....	2.5 hours/day
Operating schedule .....	School or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	10,194
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	12,307
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	0

## PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



† Estimates children in Head Start not also enrolled in state pre-K.  
 †† Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	KY PRE-K 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	<b>BA</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	ECE, CD, ECE SpEd	<b>Specializing in pre-K</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD	<b>CDA or equivalent</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff professional development	24 hours/year (teachers); 18 hours/year (assistants); PD plans (public teachers only); Coaching (certified teachers)	<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	<b>Vision, hearing &amp; health screenings; &amp; referral</b>	<input checked="" 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.

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## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$105,163,876
Local match required? .....	No
State Head Start spending .....	\$0
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$4,925
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$8,453

\* 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

