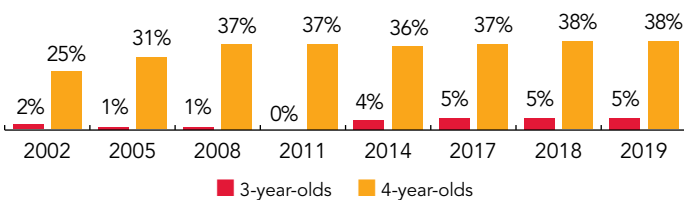
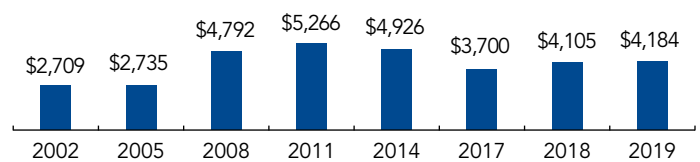


Maryland

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2019 DOLLARS)



OVERVIEW

Maryland preschool enrolled 32,062 children in 2018-2019, an increase of 588 children from the prior year. State funding totaled \$134,159,629, up \$4,972,504 (4%), adjusted for inflation, since last year. State spending per child equaled \$4,184 in 2018-2019, up \$80 from 2017-2018, adjusted for inflation. Maryland met 7 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

WHAT'S NEW

In January 2020, the Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (Kirwan Commission) released final recommendations calling for free, full-day pre-K for 3- and 4-year olds from families with incomes up to 300% FPL through a mixed-delivery system. Recommendations also include full-day pre-K on a sliding scale for 4-year-olds between 300-600% FPL. In addition, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) was awarded a renewal grant of \$8.9 million under the PDG Birth through Five. Also, starting in FY 2020, state funding was provided to support preschool slots previously funded through the federal Preschool Development Grant (PDG).

BACKGROUND

Maryland created the Extended Elementary Education Program (EEEP) in 1980 as a pilot preschool program in Baltimore City and Prince George's County. The Maryland Prekindergarten Program was started in 2002, giving local boards of education until 2007 to provide pre-K in public schools to all 4-year-olds from families with incomes at or below 185% FPL.

Maryland enacted the Prekindergarten Expansion Act in 2014, adding \$4.3 million per year to increase access to full-day public pre-K for 4-year-olds from families with household incomes up to 300% FPL. That same year, Maryland was awarded a federal PDG of \$15 million per year to support pre-K for children in families with incomes at or below 200% FPL. That funding supported 4,485 children in new and enhanced quality state pre-K slots in 2018-2019.

The Division of Early Childhood (DEC) in the MSDE is responsible for early care and education. Funding for the Maryland Prekindergarten Program is provided through a school funding formula and is based on the K-12 per pupil amount, to support eligible children attending half-day programs. DEC staff monitor pre-K programs annually using a self-developed checklist. State Pre-K programs are required to participate in Maryland EXCELS, the state's QRIS, and are able to access targeted technical assistance.

Maryland also has 53 "Judy Centers" located in Title 1 schools that work collaboratively with elementary schools and community-based providers to offer comprehensive, year-round early learning services for children birth to age 6.

Through recommendations from the Kirwan Commission, prekindergarten supplemental grants were provided to local boards of education, in which all additional prekindergarten students are provided full-day prekindergarten for fiscal years 2018 through 2020. The supplemental prekindergarten grant for eligible local boards equals the State share of the per pupil foundation amount multiplied by the number of full-time equivalent eligible children enrolled in a public full-day pre-K program on September 30 of the previous school year. The grant program phases in between 2018 and 2020. In 2020, the program was extended to all local boards of education for any 4-year-old served in full-day prekindergarten.

Governor Hogan's FY2021 budget proposes to increase the \$26.6 million Prekindergarten Expansion Grants by an additional \$20 million.

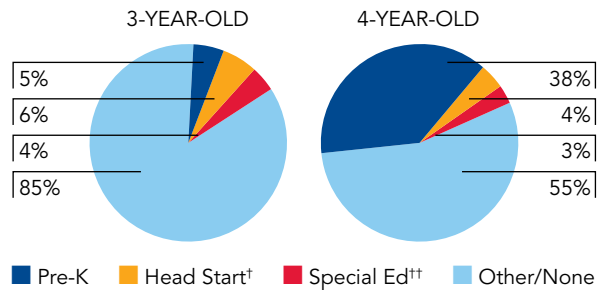
ACCESS RANKINGS		RESOURCE RANKINGS		TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS	STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING	
14	17	28	15	7

MARYLAND PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment	32,062
School districts that offer state program	100%
Income requirement	185% FPL
Minimum hours of operation	2.5 hours/day; 5 days/week
Operating schedule	School or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	9,060
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	7,628
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	2

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	MD PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK?
Early learning & development standards	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Curriculum supports	Approval process & supports	Approval process & supports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	ECE	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff professional development	6 credit hours/5 years (teachers); 24 hours/year (assistants); PD plans; Coaching (some teachers via pilot)	For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	Average of 20 (3- & 4-year-olds)	20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff-child ratio	1:10 (3- & 4-year-olds)	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Screening & referral	Vision, hearing, health & more	Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Continuous quality improvement system	Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement	Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

7

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

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$134,159,629
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending	\$1,800,000
State spending per child enrolled	\$4,184
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$8,432

* 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

