# New Mexico

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED\*

STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED\* (2014 DOLLARS)



ince its establishment in the 2005-2006 school year, the state-funded New Mexico PreK program continues to provide centerbased early childhood education services for 4-year-olds. Approximately half of the 7,674 children were enrolled in public school programs while the remaining children were served in nonpublic sites, such as community child care centers, Head Start programs, faith-based centers, family child care homes, municipalities, and universities. Following a significant decrease in enrollment during the 2010-2011 school year, participation increased by 44 percent in the 2013-2014 school year, the third consecutive year additional children have been served. For the second consecutive year, ten additional school districts offered the PreK program in 2013-2014.

The New Mexico PreK program is supported exclusively through state funds. The 2013-2014 budget increased to \$27.2 million, from \$19.2 million the previous year. A competitive process awards program support, though preference is given to programs in communities with public elementary schools designated as Title I. Two-thirds of enrolled children at each program site must live in the attendance zone of a Title I elementary school, though eligibility is not determined by a specific family income requirement. Programs are funded for part-day preschool slots at the rate of \$3,000 per child

The New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines, Birth to Kindergarten, were revised in July 2014 and are aligned with the Common Core State Standards. The Guidelines address multiple domains of early development and learning. Annual site visits conducted by state personnel and program information submitted throughout the year, including child assessment results, monitor program quality. Formal assessments for both program quality and impact occurred on an annual basis but were discontinued in the 2010-2011 school year due to fiscal constraints.

New Mexico was one of five states to receive funding in the second round of federal Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge in 2012.

ACCESS RANKINGS		RESOURCES RANKINGS		
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS	STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING	
19	None Served	28	32	

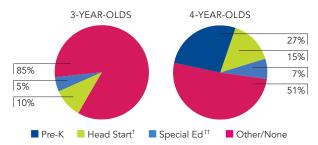
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#### NEW MEXICO PREK

### ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	7,674
School districts that offer state program	61%
Income requirementNo income	requirement <sup>1</sup>
Hours of operationDeterr	mined locally <sup>2</sup>
Operating scheduleAd	cademic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	3,858
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	7,259
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	0





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

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT Comprehensive	BENCHMARK		QUIREMENT NCHMARK?
	(public); HSD or equivalent (nonpublic) <sup>3</sup>	•		
-	EC (public) <sup>3</sup>		$\checkmark$	
Assistant teacher degreeAA	(public); HSD or equivalent (nonpublic) <sup>4</sup>	CDA or equivalent		
Teacher in-service	45 clock hours/year	At least 15 hours/year		TOTAL
3-year-olds	NA 	20 or lower		BENCHMARKS MET
3-year-olds	NA 1:10	1:10 or better		8
Screening/referral and support services	Vision; hearing; health, dental, developmental; and support services <sup>5</sup>			
MealsBre	akfast or lunch, depending on schedule <sup>6</sup>	At least 1/day	$\checkmark$	
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits		

#### RESOURCES

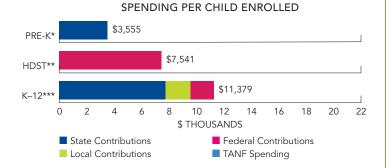
Total state pre-K spending	\$27,280,800
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,555
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$3,555

 $^{\ast}$  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 2013-2014 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years figured have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '13-'14 school year, unless otherwise noted.

- <sup>1</sup> Program support is awarded on a competitive basis, with preference given to programs in communities with public elementary schools designated as Title 1. All age-eligible children in locations offering the program are eligible.
- <sup>2</sup> Schedules are determined locally, but the majority of programs operate 2.5-3.5 hours daily for 5 days per week with state funding paying for 450 instructional hours per school year.
- <sup>3</sup> Lead teachers in public school programs must have a bachelor's degree and licensure in early childhood education. Teachers who have an elementary education or special education license are required to take a minimum of 6 credit hours of early childhood education coursework annually. Teachers in nonpublic school settings should, but are not required to have a bachelor's degree and are required to take at least 6 college credits annually with an approved professional development plan to complete the degree in early childhood education.



<sup>4</sup> Assistant teachers in both public and nonpublic settings are expected to have an AA in early childhood education, but may be hired without an AA with an approved professional development plan and take at least 6 college credits annually toward the requirement. New Mexico offers an Education Assistant certificate for P-12 in public settings only.

<sup>5</sup> Support services include parent conferences or home visits, parent education or job training, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

<sup>6</sup> At least one meal per day is provided, breakfast or lunch depending on schedule.