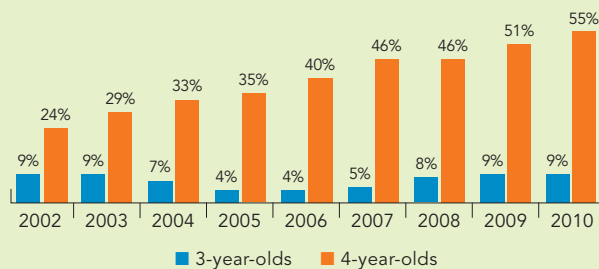
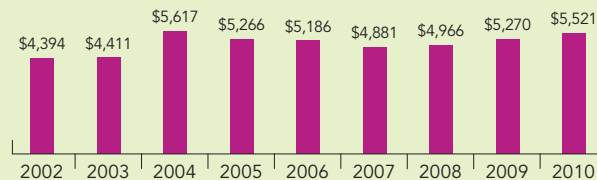


West Virginia

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2010 DOLLARS)



The Public School Early Childhood Education initiative was formed in 1983 after revisions to West Virginia’s school code allowed local school boards to offer preschool programs for 3- and 4-year-olds. The state expanded preschool education in 2002 and set the goal of including all 4-year-olds in the state by the 2012-2013 school year. The state’s preschool initiative, now known as the West Virginia Universal Pre-K System, offers prekindergarten programs in all school districts statewide. The state and its 55 counties, which are working together to ensure a sufficient number of classrooms meet state quality standards, anticipate that an increase in classrooms will enable the state to meet its goal of universal, voluntary access on time. In working toward universal access, counties are required to share their plans for expanding preschool access with the state each year. However, in increasing access for 4-year-olds, access for younger students has decreased. Since July 2004, only 3-year-olds who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) can receive state funding for preschool.

Public schools receive funding for the West Virginia Universal Pre-K System directly, though these schools may subcontract with other agencies to provide services. Half of the programs are required to operate in collaborative settings with Head Start agencies, child care centers, and private prekindergarten centers as a means of facilitating expansion of the pre-K program. The state revised its funding calculations in the 2008-2009 school year, so full-time equivalency is now based on the hours of instruction for all children, regardless of location. As a result, more children are enrolled in full-day programs throughout the state. Programs may also use supplementary funding through federal Head Start, IDEA, and Title I and Title II.

Most programs participating in the West Virginia Universal Pre-K System use Creative Curriculum in their classrooms, and the state currently uses a web-based portfolio designed around Creative Curriculum. This portfolio allows teachers to track student progress and assessment outcomes as required by the West Virginia Early Learning Standards Framework. This program was evaluated for process quality in 2009.

In 2009, the West Virginia Board of Education made policy revisions to require meals, regardless of the hours of instruction, and to establish a process for phasing in a requirement for lead teachers in community partnerships to have a bachelor’s degree. In 2010, policy was revised to update the early learning standards and align them with kindergarten content standards and objectives as well as to address school readiness and assessment, with these policy revisions going into effect in the 2010-2011 program year.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
3	8

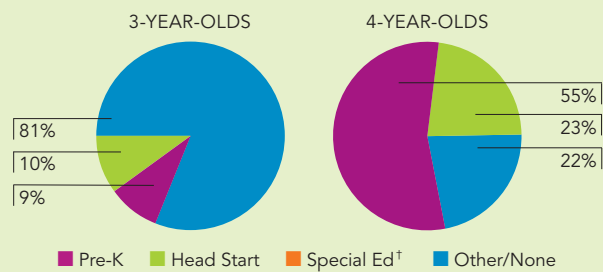
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
10	4

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSAL PRE-K

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	13,878
School districts that offer state program	100%
Income requirement	None
Hours of operation	Determined locally ¹
Operating schedule	Academic year ¹
Special education enrollment	2,906
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	7,071
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



† Fewer than 1 percent of special education students are enrolled in special education programs that are not state pre-K.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA in ECE or Pre-K SpEd (pre-K only programs); AA (blended programs) ²	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training.....	See footnote ³	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree.....	HSD	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	15 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	20		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	1:10		
4-year-olds	1:10		
Screening/referral	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services developmental; and support services ⁴	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	At least 1 meal ⁵	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

8

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$76,617,241
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$.5,521
All reported spending per child enrolled*.....	\$9,413

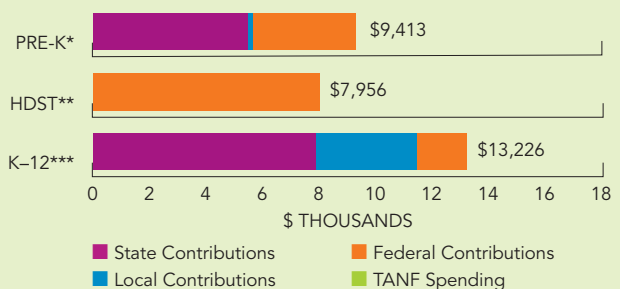
* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

** Head Start per-child spending for the 2009-2010 year includes funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

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

Data are for the '09-'10 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ Hours of operation are determined locally, but programs must operate for at least 12 hours per week, with a maximum of 30 hours per week and at least 108 instructional days.

² Beginning August 1, 2013, all newly hired teachers in nonpublic school settings will be required to have a minimum of a bachelor's degree.

³ Teachers in public school settings that are not collaboratives must be certified in Birth-5, ECE, preschool special needs, or EE with a pre-K-K endorsement.

Teachers in community collaborative settings must have a minimum of an associate degree in child development/early childhood or in Occupational Development with an emphasis in Child Development/Early Childhood.

⁴ Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, transition to kindergarten activities, and other locally determined services.

⁵ Effective with the 2009-2010 school year, breakfast and/or lunch is now required.