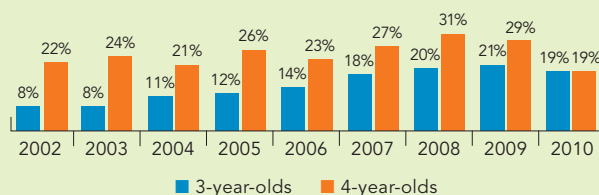
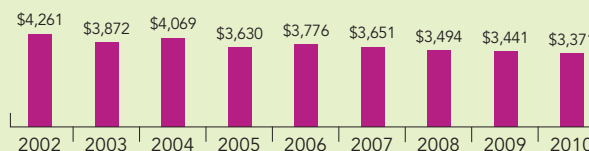


# Illinois

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED  
(2010 DOLLARS)



In 1985, Illinois responded to calls for statewide education reform with the creation of the Prekindergarten Program for At-Risk Children. Funding for the program has been provided through the state's Early Childhood Block Grant (ECBG) since 1998. This grant coordinates services for at-risk infants and toddlers, provides parenting training, and supports preschool education programs. The ECBG must use at least 11 percent of its funding to serve children age 3 or younger.

The Preschool for All initiative was established in 2006 with the goal of offering access to preschool education for every 3- and 4-year-old in the state. Children from all counties participate in the program, although current funding levels do not provide services for all children whose parents want them to attend. Public schools, Head Start programs, private child care and faith-based centers, and family child care homes are all encouraged to apply for grants to serve children through Preschool for All.

At-risk children are the first funding priority during the expansion phase of Preschool for All. Programs locally determine criteria for at-risk status based on needs identified by agencies and districts in their grant proposals. Common risk factors include exposure to drug or alcohol abuse in the family, low parent education levels, poverty, developmental delays, and a history of abuse, neglect, or family violence. Programs that serve families earning up to four times the federal poverty level are the second funding priority.

The state hopes to fully fund Preschool for All by the year 2012, which will allow programs to use state dollars to serve children who do not meet at-risk criteria. Once fully implemented, Preschool for All is expected to serve about 190,000 children annually. In a three year evaluation that ended in the 2009-2010 year, the program was evaluated for both process quality and program impact/child outcomes.

Beginning in the 2009-2010 program year, Preschool for All programs are required to meet bilingual education requirements. School districts are required to identify preschool English Language Learners (ELL) by administering a home language survey and must follow-up with each student identified as having a language background other than English. For a center with 20 or more preschool ELL students who speak the same language, instruction will be provided in the home language and English as well as English as a Second language (ESL). For a center with 19 or fewer preschool ELL students who speak the same language, a locally determined transitional program of instruction may include ESL and home language support as needed. By July 1, 2014, pre-K teachers must meet applicable requirements for bilingual/ESL.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
22	1

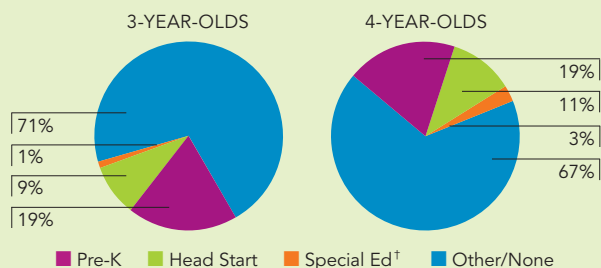
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
28	33

## ILLINOIS PRESCHOOL FOR ALL

### ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	87,580
School districts that offer state program .....	100% (counties)
Income requirement .....	None <sup>1</sup>
Hours of operation .....	At least 2.5 hours/day, 5 days/week <sup>2</sup>
Operating schedule .....	Academic year
Special education enrollment .....	21,542
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .....	34,721
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	0

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



† This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

### 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	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	EC certificate, Birth–grade 3	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	AA	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	120 clock hours/5 years	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, and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	Snack <sup>4</sup>	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

**9**

### RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$295,267,954 <sup>5</sup>
Local match required? .....	No
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$3,371
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$3,371

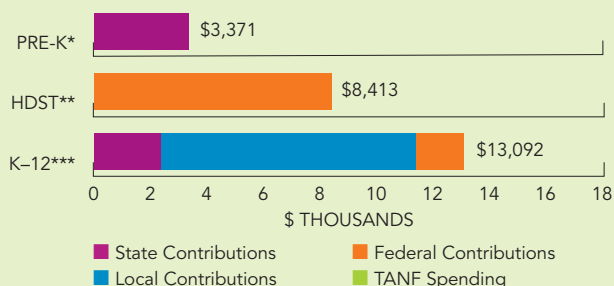
\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

\*\* 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



<sup>1</sup> While at risk children from low-income households are the first priority, children from lower middle-income families may be served if state funding allows.

<sup>2</sup> Full-day classes are permissible. Most programs operate 2.5 hour sessions, but 13 percent of programs operate 21 to 26 hours per week and are funded fully by the state pre-K grant.

<sup>3</sup> Support services include education services or job training for parents, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities. The number of required annual parent conferences or home visits is locally determined.

<sup>4</sup> Full-day programs must provide lunch and snacks, half-day programs must provide snacks.

<sup>5</sup> Additional state funds include \$40,894,07 for 0-3 programs and \$6,073,276 for infrastructure.