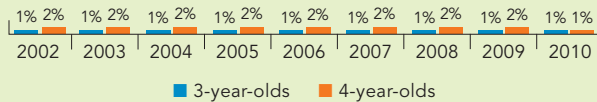
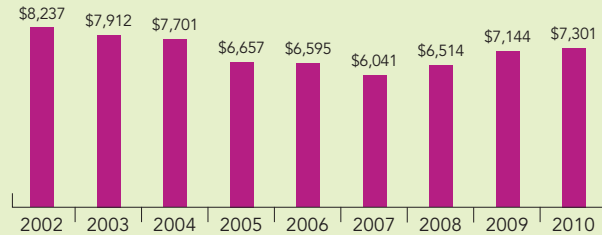


# Minnesota

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED  
(2010 DOLLARS)



Minnesota provides state funding to both Early Head Start and Head Start in order to increase access to these programs for children from birth to age 5. Any agency which receives federal Head Start funding is eligible for the state's additional funding. Agencies may collaborate with private child care centers, public schools, and family child care homes, but all providers who receive state funds must follow the federal Head Start Performance Standards. Additionally, all program staff members receive technical assistance and training on the state's early learning standards, Early Childhood Indicators of Progress.

Minnesota allows their Head Start programs the flexibility to allocate funds to either Early Head Start or Head Start. In recent years, programs have allocated more funds to Early Head Start programs as a means for reaching families while their children are younger. As a consequence, total enrollment in Minnesota Head Start has decreased over time. For the first time, the state was able to provide spending for Head Start programs only and not include funds allocated to Early Head Start for the 2009-2010 school year as well as for previous years.

The School Readiness Program, a second initiative supported by the state, provides services through school districts, community-based organizations, and subcontracted charter schools. This program aims to promote kindergarten readiness through several approaches, including preschool education programs, home visits, and services for children with disabilities, though individual school districts determine which services to offer. Programs must provide research-based program content, encourage parent involvement, coordinate with other local programs, and ensure that children receive appropriate screenings and referrals. However, since program enrollment and funding data for center-based preschool education services are not tracked at the state level, the School Readiness Program is not the focus of data in this profile.

Statutory changes in the 2008-2009 school year affected the operation of state-funded pre-K in Minnesota. The first change allowed programs that propose to provide Early Head Start (EHS) services to use a per-child rate up to the federal EHS average within the state, even if the program does not receive federal funding for EHS. Another change exempts some programs from strict enrollment requirements if they have been approved to serve a high-risk population, such as the homeless.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
39	22

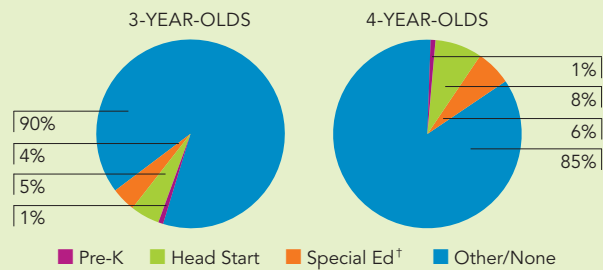
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
5	11

# MINNESOTA HEAD START

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	1,874
School districts that offer state program .....	100% (counties)
Income requirement .....	90% of children must be at or below 100% FPL or receiving TANF <sup>1</sup>
Hours of operation .....	At least 3.5 hours/day, 4 days/week <sup>2</sup>
Operating schedule .....	At least 32 weeks/year <sup>2</sup>
Special education enrollment .....	8,520
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .....	9,867
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	1,732

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



<sup>†</sup> 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 (public); CDA (nonpublic) <sup>3</sup>	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	License or certification in EC (public); Meets CDA requirements (nonpublic)	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	Meet child care regs. <sup>4</sup>	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" 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 .....	17		
4-year-olds .....	20		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	2:17		
4-year-olds .....	1:10		
Screening/referral and support services .....	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services <sup>5</sup>	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	Lunch and/or breakfast <sup>6</sup>	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

**9**

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$13,682,074 <sup>7</sup>
Local match required? .....	No
State Head Start spending .....	\$13,682,074 <sup>7</sup>
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$7,301
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$7,301

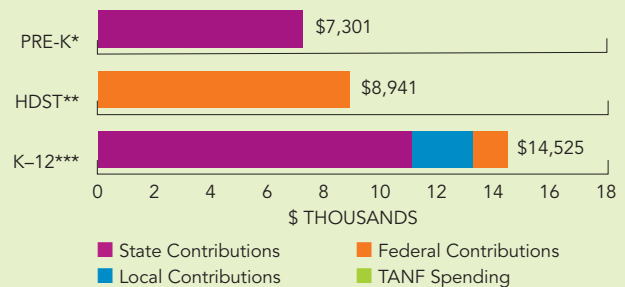
\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

\*\* 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> State pre-K children must meet the federal Head Start income guidelines. Effective December 2007, 35 percent of enrollment may be children whose family incomes are between 100 and 130 percent FPL after priority is given to children at 100 percent or below FPL.

<sup>2</sup> Schedules are determined locally but must be in compliance with federal Head Start regulations. Programs must operate at least 3.5 hours per day, 4 days per week, and 32 weeks per year.

<sup>3</sup> The Head Start reauthorization that went into effect in December 2007 requires that by 2011 all lead teachers must have at least an AA degree and by 2013 at least 50 percent must have at least a BA related to teaching preschool children. Currently, about 80 percent in Minnesota Head Start programs have at least an AA and 60 percent have at least a BA in ECE or a related field. In a public school, teacher union rules require that teachers have at least a bachelor's degree.

<sup>4</sup> Assistant teachers in settings subject to child care regulations must work under the supervision of a teacher, be at least 18 years old, and meet one of nine

combined credential, educational, and experience requirements, such as a high school diploma, 12 quarter units in early childhood or a related field, and 2,080 hours of experience. Federal Head Start requires that by 2013 all assistant teachers have a CDA or be enrolled in a program to receive a CDA, AA, or BA within two years.

<sup>5</sup> Programs are also required to provide screenings and referrals for nutrition issues. Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, education services or job training for parents, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for parents and children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

<sup>6</sup> Federal Head Start Performance Standards require half-day programs to provide children with at least one-third of their daily nutritional needs (breakfast or lunch), and full-day programs to provide two meals or two-thirds of their daily nutritional needs.

<sup>7</sup> All spending through this initiative is directed toward Head Start programs.