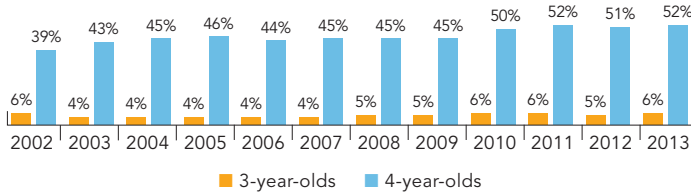
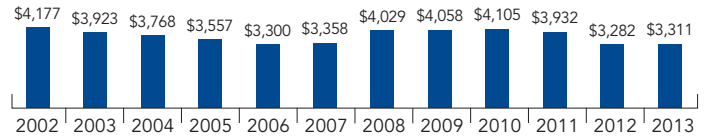


Texas

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2013 DOLLARS)



In 1985, the Texas Public School Prekindergarten initiative began offering half-day preschool services to at-risk 4-year-olds. School districts are required to provide the program if they have 15 or more eligible 4-year-olds. A school district may offer prekindergarten classes if the district identifies 15 or more eligible children who are at least three years old. Risk factors that govern eligibility include: homelessness, qualifying for a free or reduced-price lunch (185 percent of the federal poverty level), inability to speak or comprehend the English language, participation in foster care, or a parent on active military duty or who has been injured or killed on duty. Non-eligible children are able to register at the discretion of the district if parents pay tuition. School districts receive funding directly and are encouraged to collaborate with licensed child care centers and Head Start programs to provide preschool services. Both state and local funds finance the Texas Public School Prekindergarten program. This initiative is a part of the K-12 funding system through the Foundation School Program, which provides funding for half-day services based on Average Daily Attendance (ADA). An additional \$30 million was appropriated for the 2014-2015 year for supplemental prekindergarten funding for students meeting the eligibility criteria.

Since the 2007-2008 school year, the state has used the Texas School Ready Certification System (SRCS), a quality rating system intended to increase school readiness among pre-K students. The SRCS was used by public preschool programs, Head Start grantees, and both nonprofit and for-profit licensed child care centers that participated in the Texas School Ready! program and the previous Prekindergarten Early Start (PKES) grant. In the 2011-2012 school year, the SRCS was re-launched as the Kindergarten Readiness System (KRS), which included changes such as a simplified data collection system. Funds were not appropriated for the continuation of KRS, and TEA has made the decision to move the data collection in-house.

The Texas Prekindergarten Curriculum Guidelines have been applied statewide since 2008. Twenty Regional Education Service Centers (ESCs) provide training on the guidelines and offer professional development and technical assistance to early childhood education providers within that area. In September 2009, the reorganized Prekindergarten Expansion Grant Program became the Prekindergarten Early Start grant, which provided grant funds to qualified school districts and charter schools to prepare preschoolers for kindergarten. However, funding was terminated for this program in the 2011-2012 school year.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
9	12

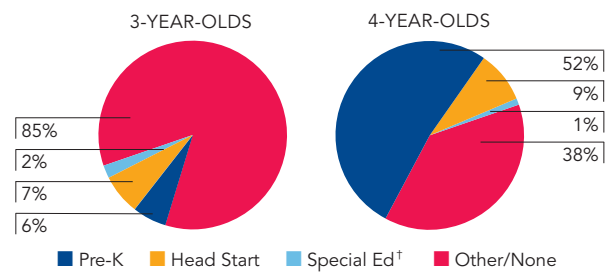
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
30	33

TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOL PREKINDERGARTEN

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	227,555
School districts that offer state program	22%
Income requirement	185% FPL ¹
Hours of operation	3 hours/day, 5 days/week
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	24,091
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	63,422
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	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

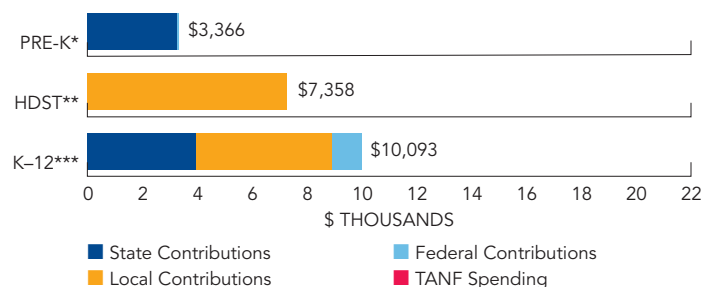
POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET </div>
Early learning standards	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher degree	BA (public); None (nonpublic) ²	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher specialized training	Generalist (EC–6th); Bilingual (EC–6th); ESL (EC–6th); SpEd (EC–6th) (public); ² None (nonpublic)	Specializing in pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Assistant teacher degree	HSD (public); None (nonpublic)	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher in-service	150 clock hours/5 years	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3-year-olds	No limit ³			
4-year-olds	No limit ³			
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3-year-olds	No limit			
4-year-olds	No limit			
Screening/referral and support services	Immunizations ⁴	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Meals	Depend on length of program day ⁵	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Monitoring	None	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>	

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$753,338,055
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,311
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$3,366

* 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 2012-2013 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 '12-'13 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ Children may also qualify if they are homeless or have unstable housing, have a history of foster care, are eligible for TANF or other public assistance, have a parent on active military duty or who was injured or killed on active duty, or have non-English speaking family members.
² Credentials for nonpublic school teachers are overseen by the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission and vary, based on school accreditation. There is no set state requirement for degrees and certifications in nonpublic schools. Based on further clarification, this policy does not meet NIEER's benchmark requirement.

³ Prekindergarten classes no larger than 15 (for 3-year-olds) or 18 (for 4-year-olds) with a staff-child ratio of 1:22 are preferred but not required.
⁴ Some support services are required, but specific services are determined locally.
⁵ School districts are not required to serve meals to prekindergarten students. However, most school districts do serve either breakfast or lunch, and some offer both meals. All districts offering school-day programs provide lunch.