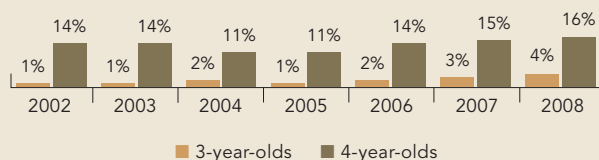
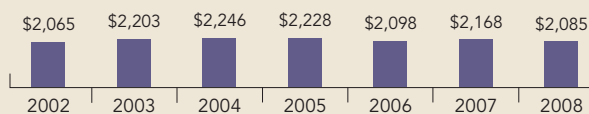


Colorado

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2008 DOLLARS)



In an effort to reduce school dropout rates, the Colorado Preschool and Kindergarten Program (CPKP) began in 1988 and provides preschool services to at-risk 3- and 4-year-olds and full-day kindergarten children. In order to participate in CPKP, 3-year-olds must have at least three risk factors, while 4-year-olds must have at least one. These risk factors include eligibility for free or reduced-price lunch, low parental education levels, parental substance abuse, homelessness, or participation in the foster care system. Prior to 2008, state legislation permitted 15 percent of the CPKP slots to be used for full-day kindergarten and 5 percent of the slots to be used for full-day preschool. During the 2007-2008 school year, more than 2,000 children were served in the second half of their kindergarten day and 266 children participated in full-day preschool programs.

All CPKP funding is provided to public schools through Colorado's school finance funding formula, although public schools may in turn subcontract with Head Start or community-based agencies. In addition, preschool education programs may use other funding sources, such as federal Head Start money, to supplement CPKP services, extend the program day, or provide wrap-around care.

Starting with the 2006-2007 school year, CPKP sites began implementing and reporting outcomes on approved assessment systems identified in Results Matter. Results Matter, initially funded through a federal grant, involves collecting outcomes data for children from birth to age 5 in early childhood programs in order to build a comprehensive system for reporting data. Currently, 30,000 children across a range of programs in Colorado participate in Results Matter. In addition, Colorado has established a P-20 Education Coordinating Council, which focuses on identifying options to expand, monitor and coordinate preschool through third grade education.

In the 2007 legislative session, CPKP was expanded to serve an additional 2,000 children (1,700 in preschool and 300 in kindergarten). The state also authorized 3,500 more children to be served during the 2008-2009 program year. During the 2008 legislative session, the kindergarten component of CPKP was eliminated and the program's name returned to the Colorado Preschool Program (CPP). With the 3,500 slots authorized and the full-day kindergarten slots converted back to preschool, CPP will experience a 45 percent increase in its capacity to serve preschool children in the 2008-2009 program year.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
23	12

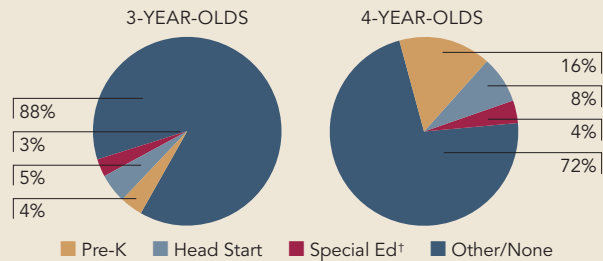
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
36	29

COLORADO PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	13,636 ¹
School districts that offer state program	96%
Income requirement	185% FPL ²
Hours of operation	2.5 hours/day, 4 days/week ³
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment	6,420
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	8,786
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



† This number represents children in special education who are not enrolled in Head Start but may be enrolled in state-funded pre-K.

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 6 </div>
Early learning standards	Comprehensive ⁴	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher degree	CDA or AA in ECE or CD ⁵	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher specialized training	Meet CDA requirements or AA in ECE	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Assistant teacher degree	None ⁶	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	16			
4-year-olds	16			
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3-year-olds	1:8			
4-year-olds	1:8			
Screening/referral and support services	Health and developmental; and support services ⁷	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Meals	Depend on length of program day ⁸	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

RESOURCES

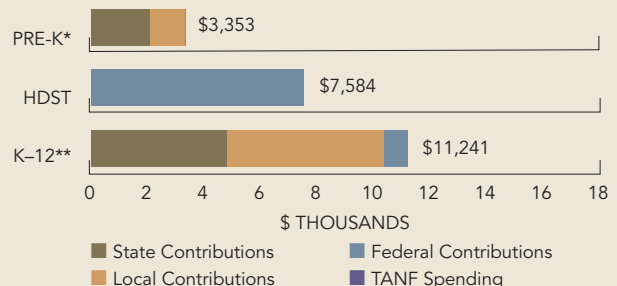
Total state pre-K spending	\$28,433,185 ^{9,10}
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$2,085
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$3,353

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

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

Data are for the '07-'08 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ In 2007-2008, the Colorado Preschool and Kindergarten Program served 2,454 children in the second half of their kindergarten day. These children are not included in the enrollment total above. In addition, under the Early Childhood Councils, three school districts have waivers to serve children younger than 3 in CPKP. Finally, state statute allows 5 percent of the preschool slots to fund a child to participate in a full-day preschool program using two slots. In 2007-2008, 266 children were served in this way. These children are not included in the enrollment total above.

² Income is the most frequently used risk factor for eligibility. Children may also qualify based on other risk factors.

³ Programs must operate the equivalent of 2.5 hours per day, 4 days per week, though there is flexibility in the length of the program day. Five days per week are funded. Children attend 4 days per week, with the fifth day used for home visits, teacher planning time, completion of child assessments, or staff training.

⁴ The Building Blocks to Colorado's Content Standards document has been revised and expanded. The updated standards were in place at the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year.

⁵ Teachers must have coursework in child development, developmentally appropriate practices, understanding parent partnerships, and multicultural education and must be supervised by someone with at least a BA in ECE or CD.

⁶ Although there is no educational requirement, assistant teachers must meet Colorado Department of Human Services licensing requirements.

⁷ Vision, hearing, and dental screenings and referrals are determined locally. Support services include one annual parent conference or home visit, 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, transition to kindergarten activities, and information for referral to immunization and dental care.

⁸ Meals and nutritious snacks must be served at suitable intervals. Children who are in the program for more than 4 hours per day must be offered a meal that meets at least one-third of their daily nutritional needs.

⁹ Total 2007-2008 funding for the Colorado Preschool and Kindergarten Program, including both preschool and full-day kindergarten, was \$53,805,314. The figure above reflects only the portion of these funds provided for the preschool component of the program. This is a change from previous years when the state was unable to break down CPKP funding for preschool and kindergarten.

¹⁰ This figure does not include a contribution of \$17,286,849 from local sources which is required by the School Finance Formula.