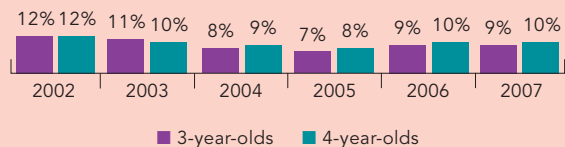
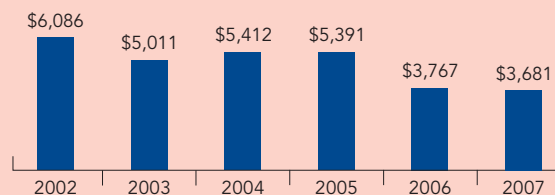


Massachusetts

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2007 DOLLARS)



Since its inception in July 2006, the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) has focused on quality, access, and affordability of prekindergarten. With the creation of EEC, Massachusetts changed the name of its existing prekindergarten initiative from Community Partnerships for Children (CPC) to Preschool Direct and added the Universal Pre-Kindergarten initiative. The CPC initiative was established by the Massachusetts School Improvement Act of 1985 and by 1996 its focus was on serving 3- and 4-year-old children with working parents. The Preschool Direct program continues to use state funds to expand and coordinate preschool services, distributing funds to local preschool providers that demonstrate compliance with the Early Childhood Program Standards and the Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences. Agencies eligible to receive funding include private child care centers, public school prekindergarten programs, Head Start agencies, and family child care homes.

The 2006-2007 school year was the first year of operation for Massachusetts' Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) initiative, which promotes school readiness and positive outcomes for children. The program was supported by \$4.6 million in state funds awarded in grants to 130 private child care centers, public school prekindergarten programs, Head Start agencies, and family child care providers across 63 cities/towns in the state. More than \$1 million was distributed as planning grants. Programs that receive UPK funding must operate or provide access to full-day, full-year services, follow specific standards for child assessment, and use the Early Childhood Program Standards and the Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences. During the 2007-2008 school year, Massachusetts plans to increase spending on UPK to \$7.1 million and will begin an evaluation of the program.

Children ages 2 years, 9 months are eligible to participate in Preschool Direct and UPK until they reach the locally determined kindergarten eligibility age. Preschool Direct serves children from families with incomes up to 100 percent of the state median income (SMI) with a priority for children from families at or below 50 percent of SMI. There is a sliding scale fee for Preschool Direct and most families do pay some tuition. However, children in legal custody of grandparents or other adult guardians, in foster care, who are homeless, or have other risk factors are exempt from these fees. All children are eligible for UPK funding at participating programs, but additional funding is provided for children from families with incomes at or below 85 percent of the state median income.

Massachusetts also supplements federal funding for Head Start as a separate initiative. This profile focuses on Preschool Direct and UPK, which are reported together because both programs have similar requirements and standards.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
25	6

RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
16*	23

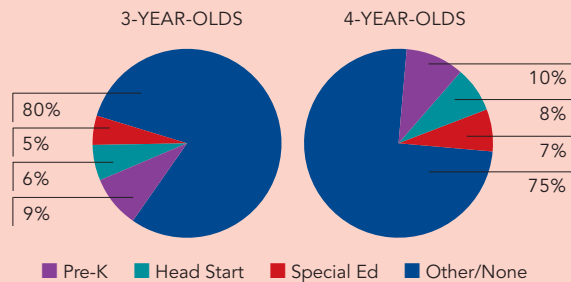
* In previous Yearbooks, only state spending was ranked.

MASSACHUSETTS UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN (UPK) AND PRESCHOOL DIRECT ACCESS

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment.....	17,882
School districts that offer state program	96% (towns)
Income	100% SMI with priority at or below requirement 50% SMI (Preschool Direct); none (UPK) ¹
Hours of operation.....	Determined locally ²
Operating schedule.....	Determined locally ²
Special education enrollment	9,405
Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....	10,816
State-funded Head Start enrollment	221

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



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); None (nonpublic) ³	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized	EC teacher of students with	Specializing in pre-K training and without disabilities, pre-K-2 ³	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD (public); None (nonpublic) ⁴	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	20 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds20 ⁵		
4-year-olds20 ⁵		
Staff-child ratio	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds1:10		
4-year-olds1:10		
Screening/referral	Vision, hearing, health;	Vision, hearing, health; and support services ⁶ at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Depend on length of program day ⁷	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

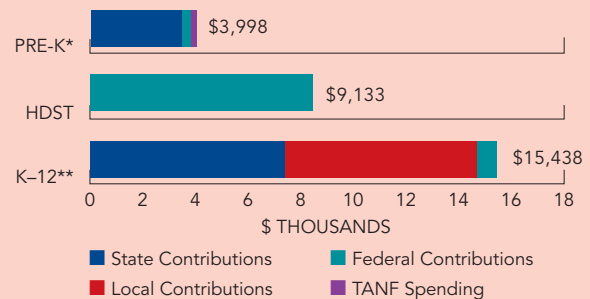
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

6

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$65,816,375 ⁸
Local match required?.....	No
State Head Start spending	\$8,500,000
State spending per child enrolled.....	\$3,681
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$3,998

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



* 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 '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Preschool Direct grants provide funding for children up to 100 percent of SMI under certain circumstances, with priority for children at or below 50 percent of SMI. UPK quality grants provide funding for all children enrolled, with additional funding for children in families with incomes at or below 85 percent SMI.

² Preschool Direct programs operate 2.5 to 10 hours per day, 2 to 5 days per week, 9 to 12 months per year, depending on families' needs and preferences. At least one-third of children served statewide must be served in full-day, full-year programs. UPK quality grantees are required to provide or facilitate access to full-day and full-year programs.

³ Nonpublic school teachers must be certified by the Department of Early Education and Care. Teachers must either be 21 years old or have a high school diploma, and must complete a 3-credit college course in child growth and development. Family child care providers receiving funding through the Preschool Direct program must have or acquire a CDA, AA, BA or NAFCC accreditation. Nonpublic teachers in Preschool Direct-funded classrooms must hold an AA degree by 2010 and a BA by 2017. All classrooms funded through the UPK quality program must have at least one BA teacher or be accredited by NAEYC or NAFCC (with CDA substitute for NAFCC accreditation). Public schools participating in both the UPK and Preschool Direct programs require teachers to have a BA degree.

⁴ Assistant teachers in nonpublic settings must complete a 3-credit child development course and be at least 18 years old. A CDA may be substituted for these requirements.

⁵ In addition to the class size requirement, the proportion of children with IEPs must be less than 50 percent. In classes larger than 15, no more than 5 children may have an IEP.

⁶ All LEAs are required to provide screenings under "child find" and evaluations upon referral for all 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds. Required support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, and additional support services are determined locally.

⁷ Programs operating fewer than 4 hours per day must provide snacks, and programs operating between 4 and 9 hours must provide a regularly scheduled meal in addition to a snack. Programs operating more than 9 hours must provide two meals and two snacks.

⁸ This figure includes \$4,631,237 in TANF funds.