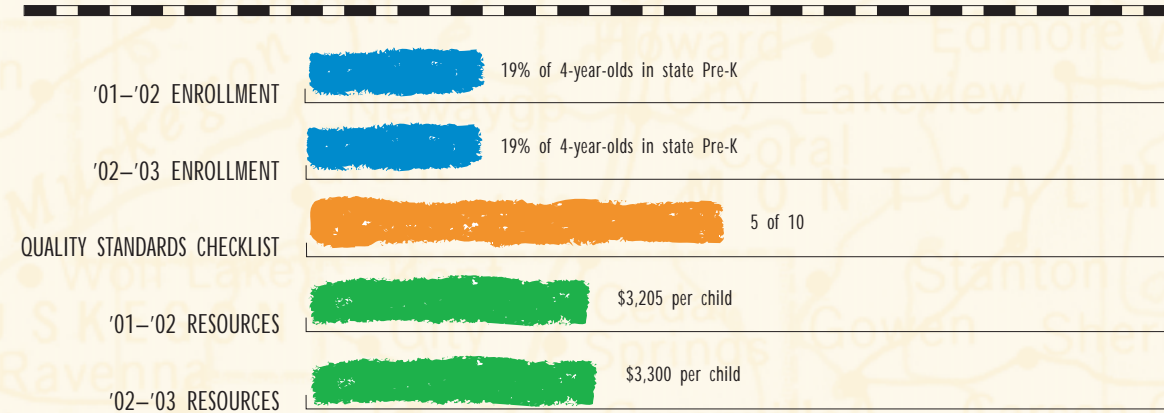


Michigan



The Michigan School Readiness Program began as a pilot program in 1985. It serves 4-year-old children who are considered at risk of school failure because they exhibit at least two of 25 risk factors. At least half of the children served must be eligible for free or reduced-price lunch (defined as having an income below 185 percent of poverty). The large majority of funding for the program is provided to schools on a formula basis. The formula takes into account the number of children eligible for free lunch in the district, the size of the district, and how many eligible children are not served by other programs. Remaining funds for the state prekindergarten program are provided to private nonprofit agencies, including child care centers and Head Start programs, through competitive grants. Child care and Head Start agencies may also offer prekindergarten by subcontracting with schools that receive formula funding.

In 2001–2002, the state provided \$16,000,000 in funds above the basic allocation for prekindergarten to support full-day services; however, those funds were not provided in the following year. In 2002–2003, total state funding was \$84,850,000, and the number of 4-year-olds served was 25,712.

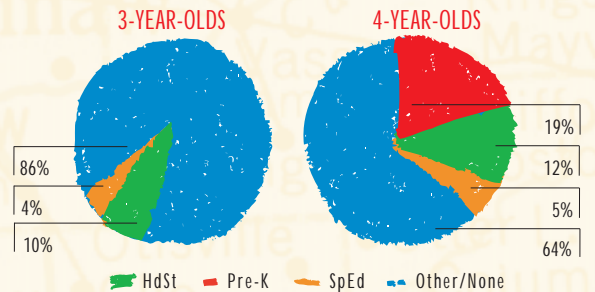
Michigan has developed a model for a comprehensive system of early childhood accountability, focusing on the evaluation and improvement of programs according to program standards of quality as well as immediate and long-term outcomes for children's development. The system has both a local program improvement phase and a statewide research component, and drives professional development in the state.



ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	26,477
School districts that offer state program	84% ¹
Income requirement	50% must be free or reduced-meal eligible
Hours of operation	Half-day, part-week ²
Operating schedule	Academic year ³
Special education enrollment	11,413
Federally-funded Head Start enrollment	31,309
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



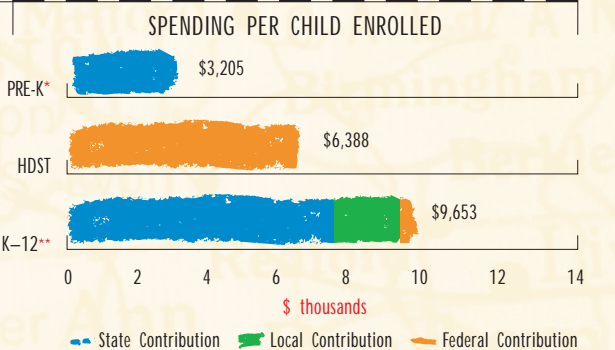
QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Curriculum standards	Not comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree requirement	BA (public), AA + CDA (nonpublic)	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training req.	Teaching certification with EC endorsement (public), ⁴ meets CDA requirements (nonpublic)	Specializing in EC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree requirement	CDA or 120 clock hrs ⁵	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service requirement	None	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	18		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	1:8 ⁶		
Screening/referral requirements	Vision, hearing, and health referrals only ⁷	Vision, hearing, and health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family support service requirements	Family referral services and 2 parent conferences	At least 1 service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meal requirements	Snack only ⁸	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	\$84,850,000 ⁹
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,205
State spending per 3-year-old	\$0
State spending per 4-year-old	\$613



* 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 '01-'02 school year, unless otherwise noted.

- The program is offered in some additional districts by 67 agencies receiving competitive grants. These programs are meant to fill gaps where need is not met by formula funding.
- Some programs choose to operate for 2 full days per week, but most offer 4 half-days. Providers may charge tuition if they offer a fifth day. A home-based option serves < 2% of enrollees.
- Most programs operate for the full school year, with a 30-week minimum required.
- The early childhood endorsement is an add-on to the elementary certificate, and follows NAEYC requirements.
- Associate (assistant) teachers are given 2 years to meet the requirements for their position.
- A qualified teacher must be present, plus an associate teacher in rooms with between 9 and 16 children. If more than 16 students are in a class, then a third adult (who does not have to meet any specified qualifications) must be present.
- Michigan School Readiness Programs must make referrals, but are not required to conduct screenings. Screening before kindergarten entry is required.
- Programs have the option to offer breakfast or lunch instead of a snack.
- In FY 2001, Michigan spent an additional \$16,000,000 from general funds on full-day services for School Readiness and Head Start programs. These funds were given as grants based on needs for construction, salaries and/or transportation. This money will not be available after 2001–2002.