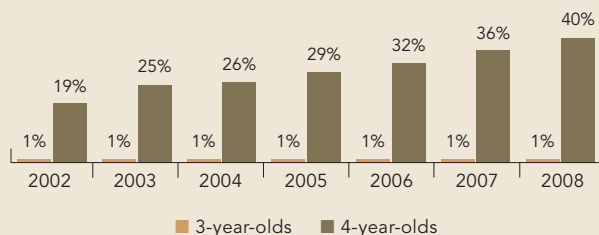
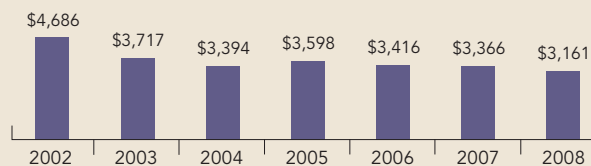


Wisconsin

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2008 DOLLARS)



Since 1848 when Wisconsin became a state, its constitution has included commitment to provide free education for 4-year-olds. In 1873, the state established the Four-Year-Old Kindergarten (4K) program, which continues to operate today despite a suspension of state funding between 1957 and 1984. Funds are distributed to public schools, which may choose to offer preschool education programs or contract with Head Start or private child care centers to do so. Public school districts receive 50 percent of the standard state per-pupil K–12 funding amount to provide half-day slots for 4-year-olds. They may receive 60 percent if they also offer parent support programs.

Over the past few years, Wisconsin has successfully increased enrollment in its Four-Year-Old Kindergarten program by both opening new programs in districts that did not previously offer 4K and by increasing enrollment in districts with existing programs. Sixty-eight percent of elementary school districts offered 4K during the 2007–2008 school year, an increase from the previous years. State-funded programs are encouraged to follow the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards, although they are not required to do so.

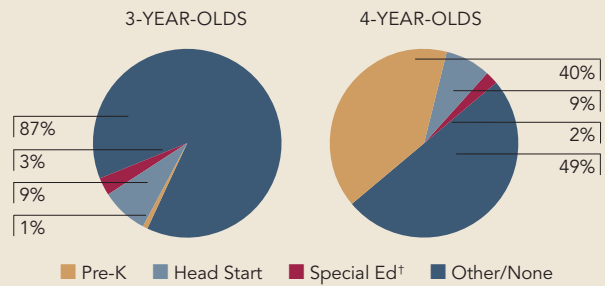
Wisconsin has a second, separate state-funded preschool initiative, the Wisconsin Head Start program, which offers comprehensive early education for 3- and 4-year-olds with a disability or from a low-income family. Wisconsin uses state funding to supplement federal Head Start, enabling federal Head Start grantees to increase access and other preschool services. Head Start grantees and local school districts frequently collaborate to implement 4K. These partnerships have increased over the last few years and the state has offered start-up grants to encourage such collaboration. Wisconsin Head Start programs are required to follow federal Head Start Performance Standards.

The first two pages of the Wisconsin profile summarize the state’s overall contribution and commitment to state-funded preschool education programs, including enrollment and state spending for both 4K and Wisconsin Head Start. The third page presents specific details on the 4K program and the fourth page focuses on the state-financed Head Start program.

STATE OVERVIEW

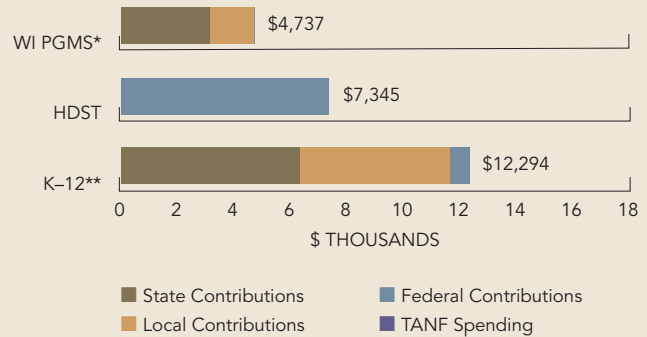
Total state program enrollment	29,175
Total state spending	\$92,212,500
State Head Start spending	\$7,212,500
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,161
All reported spending per child enrolled	\$4,737

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 or 4K.

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 '07-'08 school year, unless otherwise noted.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
7	23

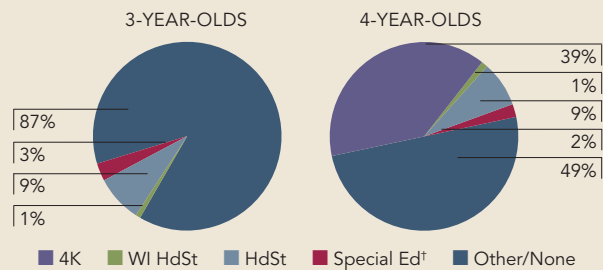
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
26	20

WISCONSIN FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	27,759
School districts that offer state program	68%
Income requirement	None
Hours of operation	Determined locally ¹
Operating schedule	Determined locally ¹
Special education enrollment	8,246
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	12,913
State-funded Head Start enrollment	1,229 ²

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 or 4K.

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 ³	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	EC-level or EC to Middle Childhood-level license ³	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher	Teacher asst. license or AA (public); 1 course in EC (nonpublic) ⁴	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service.....	6 credit hours/5 years	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds.....	Determined locally		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds.....	Determined locally		
Screening/referral.....	Support services only ⁵	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Depend on length of program day ⁶	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

5

RESOURCES

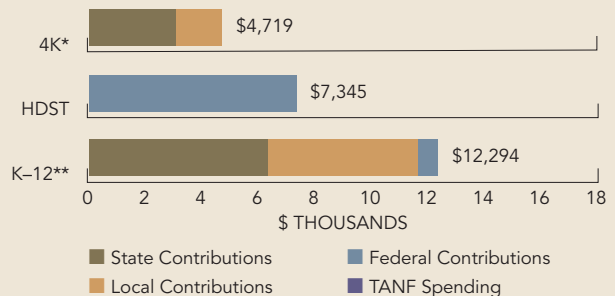
Total state pre-K spending	\$85,000,000
Local match required?.....	Yes, local share of school revenue generated through property tax
State Head Start spending	\$7,212,500
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,062
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$4,719

* 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 Programs operate for a minimum of 437 hours per year, or 437 hours per year plus 87.5 hours of parent outreach, or 349.5 hours per year plus 87.5 hours of parent outreach.

² Wisconsin did not break this figure into specific numbers of 3- or 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart were also estimated, using proportions of federal Head Start enrollees in each age category.

³ Teachers must hold an appropriate early childhood teacher license with the Department of Public Instruction. The pre-K, K, or EC license all require that the BA program addresses early childhood birth to third grade and includes field work and practicum with this age level. Some licenses go beyond third grade but still require early childhood-specific work.

⁴ In public schools, assistant teachers may be required to have an AA if Title I standards are applicable. The requirement for assistant teachers in nonpublic settings reflects child care licensing regulations, which also require that assistant teachers be at least 18 years old.

⁵ State law supports vision, hearing, immunization, and general health screenings prior to enrollment in Wisconsin's Four-Year-Old Kindergarten and they are required at kindergarten entrance for all children. Support services include parent involvement activities, health services for children, referral to social services, and school counseling. The number of annual parent conferences or home visits is determined locally.

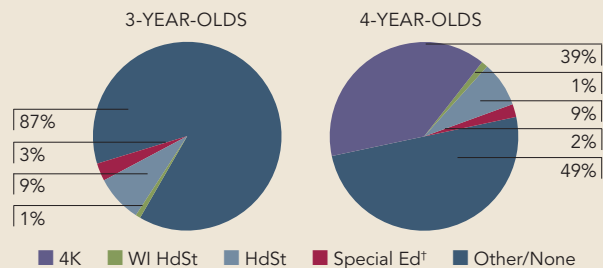
⁶ Snack and/or lunch may be provided based on the length of the program day and requirements of other community programs.

WISCONSIN HEAD START STATE SUPPLEMENT

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment.....	1,416 ¹
School districts that offer state program.....	92% (federal Head Start grantees)
Income requirement	90% of children must be at or below 100% FPL
Hours of operation	Determined locally ²
Operating schedule	Determined locally ²
Special education enrollment	8,246
Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....	12,913
State-funded Head Start enrollment	1,229 ¹

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 or 4K.

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) ³	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	ECE License in birth to age 8 or 12 (public); Meets CDA requirements (nonpublic) ³	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	Determined locally (public), 1 course in EC (nonpublic) ⁴	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	15 clock hours ⁵	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds17		
4-year-olds20		
Staff-child ratio	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds2:17		
4-year-olds1:10		
Screening/referral	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services developmental; and support services ⁶	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Lunch and snack ⁷	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring.....	None ⁸	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>

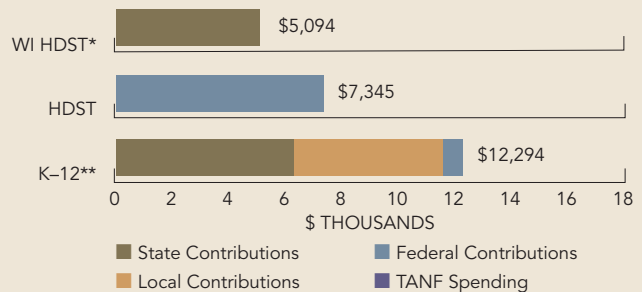
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

7

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$7,212,500
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending	\$7,212,500 ⁹
State spending per child enrolled	\$.5,094
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$.5,094

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 '07-'08 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Wisconsin did not break this figure into specific numbers of 3- or 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart and Resources section were also estimated, using proportions of federal Head Start enrollees in each age category.

² As required by federal Head Start Performance Standards, programs must operate a minimum of 3.5 hours per day, 4 days per week, and 32 weeks per year, unless approved as a federal Head Start alternative. Programs may partner with child care or 4K to extend hours, days or weeks.

³ School districts that are federal Head Start grantees may require lead teachers to have a BA and appropriate licensure. Head Start requires teachers to have at least a CDA.

⁴ This requirement for assistant teachers in nonpublic settings reflects child care licensing regulations, which also require that assistant teachers be at least 18 years old. School districts that are federal Head Start grantees may require assistant teachers to have an AA and assistant teacher license. Title I standards apply in some districts.

⁵ In December 2007, the Head Start reauthorization changed the requirement to 15 clock hours of professional development per year.

⁶ 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, transition to kindergarten activities, and others as per federal Head Start Performance Standards.

⁷ The federal Head Start Performance Standards require that part-day programs provide children with at least one-third of their daily nutritional needs, and full-day programs provide one-half to two-thirds of daily nutritional needs, depending on the length of the program day.

⁸ The state mandates that all programs follow federal Head Start monitoring requirements. The state itself does not conduct monitoring of these programs.

⁹ All spending through this initiative is directed toward Head Start programs.