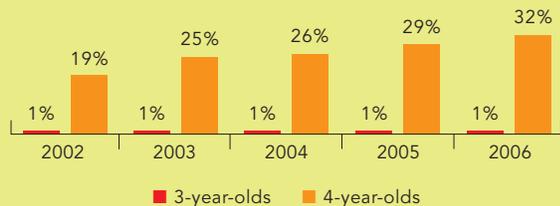
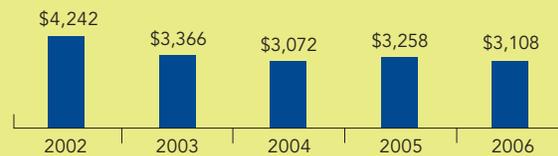


Wisconsin

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2006 DOLLARS)



Wisconsin's state constitution has included a commitment to provide free education for 4-year-olds since it was adopted in 1848. The Four-Year-Old Kindergarten (4K) program dates back to 1873. This initiative continues today, though there was a suspension of state funding from 1957 to 1984. The 4K program is currently available in about half of Wisconsin's school districts, which receive 50 percent of the standard state per-pupil funding amount to provide half-day classes for 4-year-olds, or 60 percent if the school also offers parent support. Public schools may offer prekindergarten directly, or contract with Head Start, private child care centers, or family child care homes to provide services. The state has pushed successfully for program expansion in recent years, serving more children in districts with existing programs and opening programs in districts that did not have 4K previously. The growth continues, with 23 new districts implementing 4K in 2006-2007. In recent years, the state has also promoted use of the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards in state-funded prekindergarten programs.

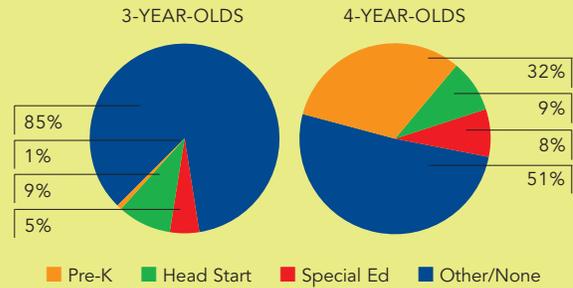
Wisconsin offers a separate initiative that provides state funds to all existing federal Head Start grantees in the state, allowing them to serve additional children. These programs follow the federal Head Start Performance Standards and offer comprehensive early education for 3- and 4-year-olds from low-income families or who have disabilities. Many Head Start grantees also work with their local school districts to implement 4K.

In order to document the contributions Wisconsin makes to preschool education through its separate initiatives, we first present summary information reflecting the state's overall commitment to prekindergarten. Enrollment and state spending for both the 4K and state-financed Head Start initiatives are taken into account. Next, we present specific details about each initiative in the state. The third page of this profile focuses exclusively on the 4K program, while the final page focuses exclusively on the state-funded Head Start program.

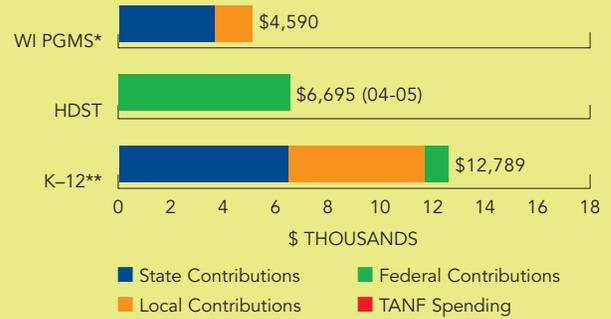
STATE OVERVIEW

Total state program enrollment	22,395
Total state spending	\$69,612,500
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,108
State Head Start spending	\$7,212,500
State spending per 3-year-old	\$38
State spending per 4-year-old	\$976

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



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 '05-'06 school year, unless otherwise noted.

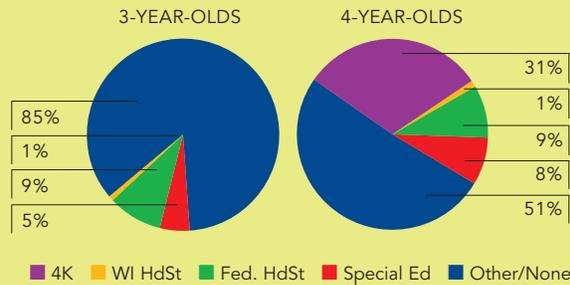
ACCESS RANKING-4s	ACCESS RANKING-3s	RESOURCES RANKING
7	22	23

WISCONSIN FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	21,004
School districts that offer state program	56%
Income requirement	None
Hours of operation	Determined locally ¹
Operating schedule	Academic year ¹
Special education enrollment	9,214
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	12,644
State-funded Head Start enrollment	1,196 ²

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	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	EC-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	180 clock hours or 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"/>

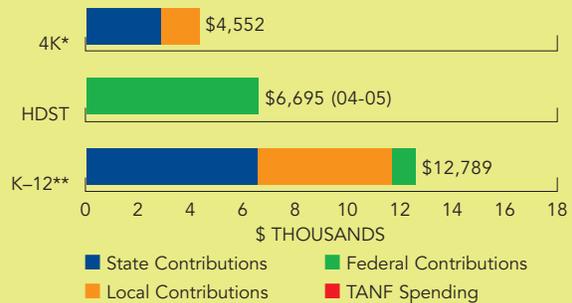
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

5

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$62,400,000
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	\$2,971
State spending per 3-year-old	\$0
State spending per 4-year-old	\$922

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 '05-'06 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Programs must operate for a minimum of 437 hours and 180 days per year. Although districts determine specific weeks and months of operation, most programs operate 2.5 hours per day and 5 days per week. Programs may add 87.5 hours per year for parent outreach.

² Wisconsin did not break state-funded Head Start enrollment into specific numbers of 3- or 4-year-olds. The total number of 3- and 4-year-olds and the age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart were estimated, using proportions of federal Head Start enrollees in each age category.

³ Wisconsin licensing standards define the early childhood level as applicable to the approximate ages of birth through 8. Licensing at this level requires all teachers to obtain competencies specific to working with preschool-age children.

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.

⁵ Although screening and referral requirements are determined locally, vision, hearing, immunization, and general health screenings are required at kindergarten entrance for all children. Support services include parent involvement activities, health services for children, referral to social services, school counseling, and transportation.

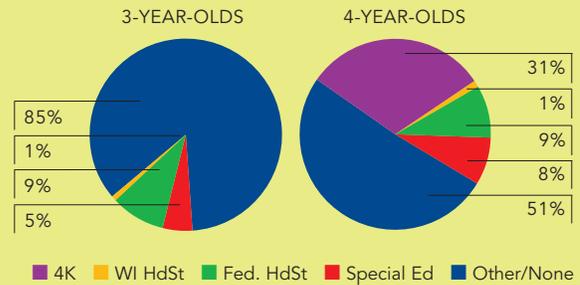
⁶ Snack and/or lunch may be provided based on the length of the program day and requirements of other community programs.

WISCONSIN STATE-FUNDED HEAD START MODEL

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	1,391 ¹
School districts that offer.....	100% (federal state program 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.....	9,214
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	12,644
State-funded Head Start enrollment	1,196 ³

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



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

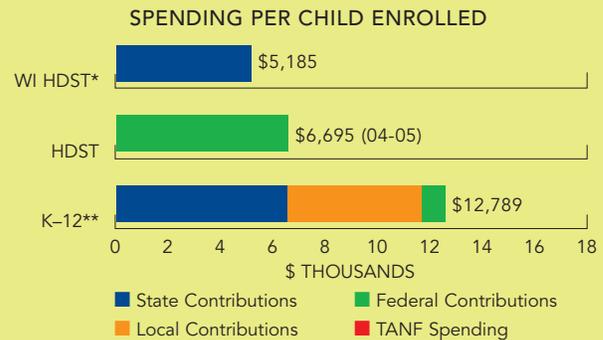
POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	CDA ⁴	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	Meets CDA requirements ⁴	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree.....	Determined locally (public),	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1 course in EC (nonpublic) ⁵		
Teacher in-service	Amount not specified	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size.....		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds		17	
4-year-olds		20	
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds.....		2:17	
4-year-olds.....		1:10	
Screening/referral	Vision, hearing, health;	Vision, hearing, health; and	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
and support services	and support services ⁶	at least 1 support service	
Meals	Lunch and/or breakfast ⁷	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	None ⁸	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

6

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	\$5,185
State spending per 3-year-old.....	\$38 ¹
State spending per 4-year-old.....	\$54 ¹



* 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 '05-'06 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.

³ This is an estimate of the total number of 3- and 4-year-olds served in state-funded Head Start.

⁴ School districts that are federal Head Start grantees may require lead teachers to have a BA and appropriate licensure.

⁵ 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.

⁶ Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, education services or job training for parents, parenting support or education, 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. All children in morning center-based settings must be given the opportunity to have a nutritious breakfast.

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.