OVERVIEW

During the 2020-2021 school year, as the COVID-19 pandemic continued, Oregon preschool enrolled 8,995 children, a decrease of 478 children from the prior year. State funding totaled $148,685,903, up $50,595,148 (52%), adjusted for inflation, since last year. State spending per child equaled $16,530 on average in 2020-2021, up $6,175 from 2019-2020, adjusted for inflation. Per child rates were higher than average this year due to low enrollment caused by the pandemic. Oregon met an average of 7 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

WHAT’S NEW

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a mix of in-person and remote instruction during the 2020-2021 school year, but all programs were physically open in Fall 2021 and hybrid/remote learning was not permitted. Licensed pre-K programs could apply for COVID-19 related emergency funds inclusive of federal relief dollars that the state administered during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 program years. Grantees fully funded with public funds were not eligible for all COVID-19 related emergency funds. Programs were also able to apply for additional summer funding to offer services between these program years.

Despite COVID-19 challenges, Oregon expanded both state-funded preschool programs during the 2020-2021 school year. The Oregon Pre-Kindergarten (OPK) program received $17 million in funding to increase the number of available full day slots offering services for over 6 hours per day and for pay parity with K–12 teachers, and an additional $5 million to expand prenatal to three services. Preschool Promise also expanded to serve an additional 2,500 families across the state.

BACKGROUND

Oregon has two state-funded preschool programs: the Oregon Pre-Kindergarten (OPK) program, established in 1987, and Preschool Promise, launched in 2016. OPK and Preschool Promise are both overseen by the Oregon Department of Education’s Early Learning Division.

OPK provides comprehensive child and family development services for 3- and 4-year-old children from low-income families through a state-federal partnership between the Oregon Department of Education and Region X Office of Head Start. OPK is funded using the state general fund to serve additional Head Start-eligible children. Funding is awarded through a competitive process to all grantees. OPK includes Region X, Region XI, and Region XII Head Starts, and, even though most of the funding goes to Head Start grantees, there are six non-affiliated organizations that receive OPK funding. OPK programs must follow federal Head Start Performance Standards and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework. Eligibility for OPK also follows federal Head Start requirements.

Preschool Promise is a mixed-delivery program for children from families with incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL). While funding for Preschool Promise was initially administered through Early Learning Hubs, public schools, child care centers, family child care homes, Head Start, Relief Nurseries, Education Service Districts, and other community-based organizations now receive grants directly from the Early Learning Division. Preschool Promise programs are required to participate in Spark, Oregon’s quality rating and improvement system.

Both OPK and Preschool Promise employ two sets of early learning standards: The Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework and the Oregon Early Learning and Kindergarten Guidelines, which are aligned with the Common Core State Standards for K–12.

Oregon’s overall support for state-funded preschool, including enrollment and funding for both the Pre-Kindergarten program and Preschool Promise, is depicted in the first two pages of this state profile. The third page focuses solely on the Oregon Pre-Kindergarten program and the fourth page provides information on Preschool Promise.
OREGON STATE OVERVIEW

ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment .................................................. 8,995
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ................................. 6,272
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ............. 6,416
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .................... 5,869

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .................................................. $148,685,903
State Head Start spending ................................................. $111,285,754
State spending per child enrolled ...................................... $16,530
All reported spending per child enrolled* ............................ $16,530

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE

3-YEAR-OLDS
4-YEAR-OLDS

PRE-K 7%
Head Start† 6%
Special Ed†† 4%
Other/None 83%

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

PRE-K* $16,530
HDST** $17,326
K-12*** $17,536

ACCESS RANKINGS

4-YEAR-OLDS 3-YEAR-OLDS
34 12

RESOURCE RANKINGS

STATE SPENDING ALL REPORTED SPENDING
4 4

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
7

Data are for the 2018-2019 school year, unless otherwise noted.
OREGON PRE-KINDERGARTEN (OPK)

ACCESS
Total state pre-K enrollment .................................................. 6,121
School districts that offer state program ........................................ 100% (counties/parishes)
Income requirement ................................................................. 100% FPL
Minimum hours of operation ...................................................... 3.5 hours/day
Operating schedule ................................................................. School or academic year

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>3-YEAR-OLDS</th>
<th>4-YEAR-OLDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OPK</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR PP</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start ¹</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Ed ¹¹</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other/None</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>76.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Estimates children in Head Start not also enrolled in state pre-K.
¹¹ Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>OPK REQUIREMENT</th>
<th>BENCHMARK</th>
<th>REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early learning &amp; development standards</td>
<td>Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive</td>
<td>Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum supports</td>
<td>Approval process &amp; supports</td>
<td>Approval process &amp; supports</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher degree</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher specialized training</td>
<td>ECE</td>
<td>Specializing in pre-K</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant teacher degree</td>
<td>CDA</td>
<td>CDA or equivalent</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff professional development</td>
<td>15 hours/year; PD plans; Coaching</td>
<td>For teachers &amp; assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum class size</td>
<td>17 (3-year-olds); 20 (4-year-olds)</td>
<td>20 or lower</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff-child ratio</td>
<td>2:17 (3-year-olds); 1:10 (4-year-olds)</td>
<td>1:10 or better</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening &amp; referral</td>
<td>Vision, hearing, health &amp; more</td>
<td>Vision, hearing &amp; health screenings; &amp; referral</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuous quality improvement system</td>
<td>Structured classroom observations determined locally; Data used for program improvement</td>
<td>Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .................................................. $104,548,724
Local match required? .......................................................... No
State spending per child enrolled ............................................. $17,080
All reported spending per child enrolled* .................................. $17,080

* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
** Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.
*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.
OREGON PRESCHOOL PROMISE

ACCESS
Total state pre-K enrollment ............................................. 2,874
School districts that offer state program ................................ 100% (Early Learning Hub Regions)
Income requirement ........................................................... 200% FPL
Minimum hours of operation ........................................... Determined locally
Operating schedule .......................................................... Determined locally

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE

3-YEAR-OLDS

- 5% OPK
- 2% OR PP
- 6% Head Start
- 4% Special Ed
- 83% Other/None

4-YEAR-OLDS

- 7.7% OPK
- 3.6% OR PP
- 7% Head Start
- 5% Special Ed
- 76.7% Other/None

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>OR PP REQUIREMENT</th>
<th>BENCHMARK</th>
<th>REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK?</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Early learning &amp; development standards</td>
<td>Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive</td>
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<td>CDA</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
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<td>For teachers &amp; assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum class size</td>
<td>18, 20 with a waiver (3- &amp; 4-year-olds)</td>
<td>20 or lower</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff-child ratio</td>
<td>1:10 with 18, 1:9 with 20 (3- &amp; 4-year-olds)</td>
<td>1:10 or better</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening &amp; referral</td>
<td>Immunizations, developmental; referrals</td>
<td>Vision, hearing &amp; health screenings; referral</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuous quality improvement system</td>
<td>Structured classroom observations plan in development</td>
<td>Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

RESOURCES
Total state pre-K spending ............................................. $44,137,179
Local match required? .................................................. No
State spending per child enrolled .................................. $15,357
All reported spending per child enrolled* .................... $15,357

* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
** Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.
*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

- OR PP*: $15,357
- HDST**: $17,326
- K-12***: $17,536

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

Data are for the 2020-2021 school year, unless otherwise noted.