OVERVIEW
During the 2021-2022 school year, Hawaii preschool enrolled 549 children, an increase of 158 from the prior year, as the program began to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. State spending totaled $6,912,020, down $2,630,313 (28%), adjusted for inflation since last year. State spending per child equaled $12,590 in 2021-2022, down $11,815 from 2020-2021, adjusted for inflation. Hawaii met 10 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

WHAT’S NEW
In the 2021-2022 school year, most Hawaii State Public Charter Schools elected to enroll their pre-K classrooms to their enrollment capacity and provided flexibility in the use of virtual instruction as needed due to COVID-19. In-person instruction, though, predominated throughout the year. For EOEL classrooms, all were at reduced capacity during the 2021-2022 school year and all offered in-person instruction exclusively.

The Hawaii State Legislature, through Act 257, Sessions Laws of Hawaii 2022, has appropriated $200 million for the School Facilities Authority to add or expand access to prekindergarten for eligible children across the state for the fiscal year 2022-2023.

In January 2023, Hawaii was awarded a federal Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B–5) renewal grant for $6.6 million. The University of Hawaii Systems is the lead in this grant.

BACKGROUND
In Hawaii, the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) Public Prekindergarten Program serves 4-year-old children, with priority given to students considered to be “at-risk,” including those from low-income families, now defined as 300% FPL. The EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program is required to operate on the same schedule as public elementary schools, providing services for 1,080 hours a year.

Beginning in SY 2020-2021, through Act 46, SLH 2020, the legislature gave statutory authority to the State Public Charter School Commission to administer the early learning program in charter schools. Act 46, SLH 2020 also changed the eligibility criteria to include both three- and four-year-old children. No other priority categories were defined.

Teachers in the EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program and the Hawaii State Public Charter School (SPCS) Early Learning Program are part of the Hawaii State Teachers Association and, as such, receive salary and benefit parity with teachers in K–12 classrooms. Lead teachers in both programs are required to have a bachelor's degree with licensure in ECE, while assistant teachers are required to have a CDA credential or coursework for a certificate that meets the requirements for child development associate credential preparation. The EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program and the SPCS Early Learning Program classrooms receive CLASS observations twice a year, and formative child assessments using Teaching Strategies GOLD are conducted throughout the year with three checkpoints. In addition, all programs undergo fiscal monitoring annually and a review of program records more than once per year.

Hawaii's overall support for state-funded preschool, including enrollment and funding for Hawaii's EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program and the Hawaii SPCS Early Learning Program, is depicted in the first two pages of the state profile. The third page focuses solely on EOEL and the fourth on the SPCS.
HAWAII STATE OVERVIEW

ACCESS
Total state pre-K enrollment ............................................................ 549
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ................................. 1,499
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ............... 2,220
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ....................... 0

RESOURCES
Total state pre-K spending ......................................................... $6,912,020
State Head Start spending ........................................................... $0
State spending per child enrolled ........................................... $12,590
All reported spending per child enrolled* ......................... $12,590

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE
3-YEAR-OLDS 4-YEAR-OLDS
Pre-K 0.4% 3%
Head Start† 6% 7%
Special Ed‡ 3% 4%
Other/None 90.6% 86%

HERITAGE RANKINGS
4-YEAR-OLDS 3-YEAR-OLDS
45 32

RESOURCE RANKINGS
STATE SPENDING ALL REPORTED SPENDING
4 4

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
10

Data are for the 2021-2022 school year, unless otherwise noted.

* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
† Estimates children in Head Start not also enrolled in state pre-K.
‡ Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

FEDERAL CONtributes

Local contributions

TANF spending

Federal contributions

Federal COVID-19 relief spending

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

$12,590
$10,171
$18,705

$ THOUSANDS
0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28 30

K–12‡
HDST†
PRE-K*

■ State contributions
■ Federal contributions
■ Local contributions
■ TANF spending
■ Federal COVID-19 relief spending

4-YEAR-OLDS
3-YEAR-OLDS

■ Pre-K
■ Head Start†
■ Special Ed‡
■ Other/None

† Estimates children in Head Start not also enrolled in state pre-K.
‡ Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.
HAWAII’S EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING PUBLIC PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

ACCESS
Total state pre-K enrollment................................................................. 318
School districts that offer state program............................. 87% complex areas
Income requirement................................................................. 300% FPL
Minimum hours of operation......................... 30.5 hours/week; 5 days/week
Operating schedule................................. School or academic year

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>HI EOEL 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>BA</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher specialized training</td>
<td>ECE, CD</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>60 hours/year (teachers); 10 days/year (assistants); 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>20 (4-year-olds)</td>
<td>20 or lower</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff-child ratio</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Full physical exam (includes vision &amp; hearing)</td>
<td>Vision, hearing &amp; health screenings; &amp; referral</td>
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For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.
* Indicates that while policy meets the benchmark, it is not being implemented fully.

RESOURCES
Total state pre-K spending ................................................................. $4,270,095
Local match required? .............................................................. No
State spending per child enrolled................................................. $13,428
All reported spending per child enrolled* ...................................... $13,428

* 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.

Data are for the 2021-2022 school year, unless otherwise noted.
HAWAII STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment................................. 231
School districts that offer state program........ 53% (complex areas)
Income requirement........................................ No income requirement
Minimum hours of operation........... 30.5 hours/week; 5 days/week
Operating schedule................................. School or academic year

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

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<th>REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK?</th>
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For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.
* Indicates that while policy meets the benchmark, it is not being implemented fully.

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending................................. $2,641,925
Local match required?........................................ No
State spending per child enrolled.......................... $11,437
All reported spending per child enrolled*.............. $11,437

* 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.

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE

3-YEAR-OLDS

- .4%
- 6%
- 3%
- 90.6%

4-YEAR-OLDS

- 2%
- 1%
- 7%
- 4%
- 86%

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

HI SPCS*

$11,437

HDST†

$10,171

K-12‡

$18,705

State contributions

Federal contributions

TANF spending

Data are for the 2021-2022 school year, unless otherwise noted.