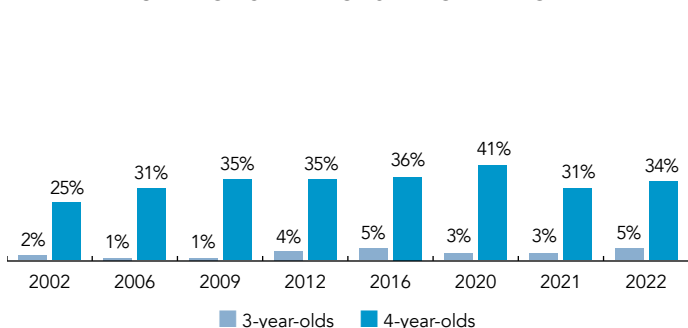
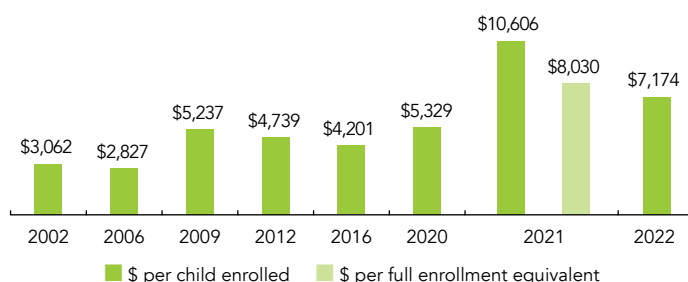


# Maryland

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2022 DOLLARS)



## OVERVIEW

During the 2021-2022 school year, Maryland preschool enrolled 29,318 children, an increase of 4,253 from the prior year, as the program began to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. State spending totaled \$210,328,097, down \$55,523,417 (21%), adjusted for inflation since last year. State spending per child equaled \$7,174 in 2021-2022, down \$3,432 from 2020-2021, adjusted for inflation. Maryland met 7 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

## WHAT'S NEW

House Bill 1300 "Blueprint for Maryland's Future" put in place an increase in preschool funding over the next 10 years to support prekindergarten expansion in the state. As a result, along with multiple education reforms, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is charged with establishing and implementing high-quality prekindergarten programming by expanding voluntary prekindergarten in a mixed-delivery system for 3- and 4-year-old children from families earning incomes at or below 300% FPL beginning in FY 2023.

## BACKGROUND

Maryland created the Extended Elementary Education Program (EEEP) in 1980 as a pilot preschool program in Baltimore City and Prince George's County. The Maryland Prekindergarten Program was started in 2002, giving local boards of education until 2007 to provide pre-K in public schools to all 4-year-olds from families with incomes at or below 185% FPL. Maryland enacted the Prekindergarten Expansion Act in 2014, adding \$4.3 million per year to increase access to full-day public pre-K for 4-year-olds from families with household incomes up to 300% FPL.

The Division of Early Childhood (DEC) in the MSDE is responsible for early care and education. Funding for the Maryland Prekindergarten Program is provided through a school funding formula and is based on the K-12 per pupil amount, to support eligible children attending half-day programs. DEC staff monitor pre-K programs funded through the Prekindergarten Expansion Grants annually using a self-developed checklist. Prekindergarten Expansion Grantees are required to participate in Maryland EXCELS, the state's QRIS, and are able to access targeted technical assistance.

Maryland also has 60 "Judy Centers" located in Title 1 schools that work collaboratively with elementary schools and community-based providers to offer comprehensive, year-round early learning services for children birth to age six.

| ACCESS RANKINGS |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 4-YEAR-OLDS     | 3-YEAR-OLDS |
| 16              | 21          |

| RESOURCE RANKINGS |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| STATE SPENDING    | ALL REPORTED SPENDING |
| 16                | 8                     |

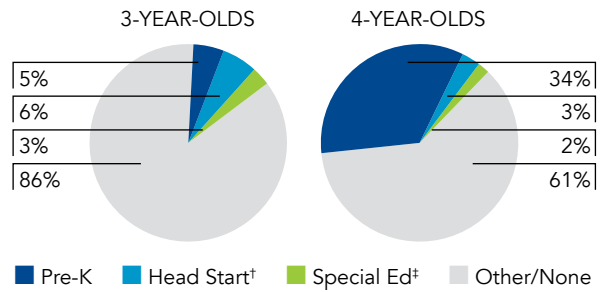
| TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET |
|----------------------|
| 7                    |

# MARYLAND PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

## ACCESS

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Total state pre-K enrollment .....                         | 29,318                                   |
| School districts that offer state program .....            | 100%                                     |
| Income requirement .....                                   | 185% FPL (part-day); 300% FPL (full-day) |
| Minimum hours of operation .....                           | 2.5 hours/day; 5 days/week               |
| Operating schedule .....                                   | School or academic year                  |
| Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....           | 7,911                                    |
| Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ..... | 6,898                                    |
| State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....     | 0  |

## PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



† 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.

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

| POLICY                                 | MD PRE-K REQUIREMENT  | BENCHMARK   | REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK?        |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Early learning & development standards | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive                 | <b>Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive</b>                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Curriculum supports                    | Approval process & supports   | <b>Approval process &amp; supports</b>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree                         | BA  | <b>BA</b>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher specialized training           | ECE   | <b>Specializing in pre-K</b>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Assistant teacher degree               | HSD   | <b>CDA or equivalent</b>  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Staff professional development         | 6 credit hours/5 years (teachers); 24 hours/year (assistants); PD plans | <b>For teachers &amp; assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching</b> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Maximum class size                     | Average of 20 (3- & 4-year-olds)  | <b>20 or lower</b>  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Staff-child ratio                      | 1:10 (3- & 4-year-olds)   | <b>1:10 or better</b>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Screening & referral                   | Vision, hearing, health & more  | <b>Vision, hearing &amp; health screenings; &amp; referral</b>                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Continuous quality improvement system  | Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement    | <b>Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement</b>                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

7

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 .....                | \$210,328,097 |
| Local match required? .....                     | No            |
| State Head Start spending .....                 | \$2,440,960   |
| State spending per child enrolled .....         | \$7,174       |
| All reported spending per child enrolled* ..... | \$11,880      |

\* 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

