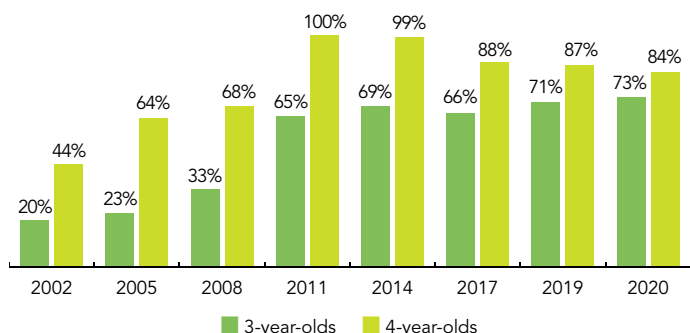
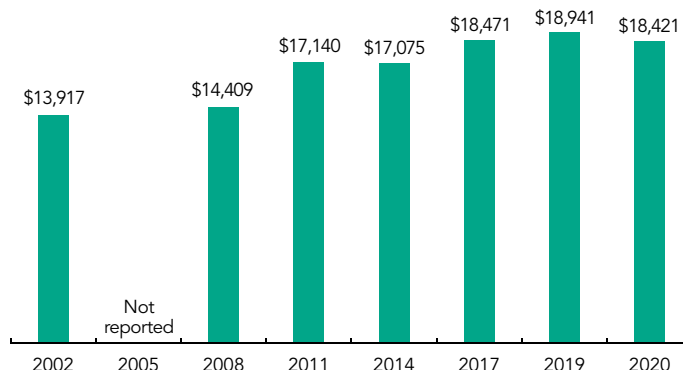


# District of Columbia

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2020 DOLLARS)



## OVERVIEW

District of Columbia preschool enrolled 13,893 children in 2019-2020, an increase of 130 children from the prior year. State funding totaled \$255,918,562, down \$4,761,102 (2%), adjusted for inflation, since last year. State spending per child equaled \$18,421 in 2019-2020, down \$520 from 2018-2019, adjusted for inflation. The District of Columbia met 4 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

## WHAT'S NEW

In March 2020, District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) physically closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the physical closure, DCPS was required to provide remote instruction. Physical closures and remote learning for public charter schools (PCS) and community-based organizations (CBOs) during Spring 2020 were determined locally, though most schools and CBOs shifted their operating procedures to offer virtual learning following the Mayor's declaration of the public health emergency. As a result of the declaration, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) issued a series of policies based on recommendations from DC Health. Examples of these new measures included: Health and safety guidance and resources to track and screen students, teachers, and staff; Guidance and toolkits on serving specific groups of students, including those with disabilities, English learners, and students experiencing homelessness; Changes to required standard processes, e.g. attendance, assessments; and Resources to support students and families continued learning.

## BACKGROUND

Among the first in the nation to invest in early education, DC has offered pre-K since the 1960s. DC began to bolster its investment in pre-K significantly in 2008 through the Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Amendment Act of 2008 (Pre-K Act). The Pre-K Act expanded the DC public pre-K program to provide quality, universally accessible pre-K via a mixed-delivery system in DCPS, PCS, and publicly-funded CBOs that participate in the Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Program and the child care subsidy program. OSSE oversees DC's Universal Pre-K Program, including programs in DCPS and CBOs. PCSs are authorized and monitored by the DC Public Charter School Board (PCSB). Additionally, DC's Birth to Five Head Start initiative helps thousands of children and their families through early learning and comprehensive services.

Pre-K programs operate five days a week for a minimum of 6.5 hours per day and a minimum of 180 instructional days per year. Given the high availability and participation, this program can be considered universal, as DC has a higher percentage of 3- and 4-year-olds enrolled than any U.S. state or territory. Funding for public pre-K programs is based on the Uniform Per Student Funding Formula, with spending per pupil adjusted through a series of weights for higher-cost grade levels and supplemental funding weights for students with particular needs.

Program quality is measured using the CLASS, which informs a school rating that is included on each school's DC School Report Card. The PCSB also uses CLASS in its Performance Management Framework, which provides all public charter local education agencies with an annual score. For CBOs, CLASS assessments are used for Capital Quality, DC's QRIS. CLASS observations for fiscal year 2020 were suspended due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

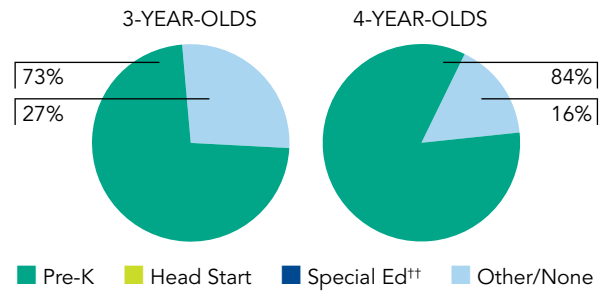
ACCESS RANKINGS		RESOURCE RANKINGS		TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS	STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING	
1	1	1	1	4

## D.C. UNIVERSAL PRE-K

### ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment .....	13,893
School districts that offer state program .....	100% (wards)
Income requirement .....	No income requirement
Minimum hours of operation .....	6.5 hours/day; 5 days/week
Operating schedule .....	School or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	1,288
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	201
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	0

### PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



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

### QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	D.C. 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 (DCPS & CBO); Determined locally (PCS)	<b>BA</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	ECE or Elem. Ed. (DCPS); ECE, CD (CBO); Determined locally (PCS)	<b>Specializing in pre-K</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	Paraprofessional Certification (DCPS); AA (CBO); Determined locally (PCS)	<b>CDA or equivalent</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff professional development	25 hours/year (DCPS teachers); 30 hours/year (CBO teachers); 6 days/year (DCPS assistant teachers); 21 hours/year (CBO assistant teachers); Determined locally (PCS); PD plans (DCPS teachers & CBO); Coaching (DCPS & CBO)	<b>For teachers &amp; assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	DCPS & CBO only: 16 (3-year-olds); 20 (4-year-olds)	<b>20 or lower</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff-child ratio	DCPS & CBO only: 1:8 (3-year-olds); 1:10 (4-year-olds)	<b>1:10 or better</b>	<input 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"/>

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

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### RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$255,918,562
Local match required? .....	No
State Head Start spending .....	\$0
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$18,421
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$19,463

\* 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

