WHERE VERMONT STANDS: UNDERSTANDING THE NIEER STATE OF PRESCHOOL YEARBOOK

Vermont Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council
Williston, VT
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Center on Enhancing Early Learning Outcomes
National Institute for Early Education Research
Today’s Focus

- What Does the 2013 NIEER State of Yearbook Data Tell Us About Vermont and the Nation?
- How Can You Use These Data?
- Additional Resources
A Peek Inside the Yearbook

- Executive Summary
- Tables
  - State Rankings and Quality Checklist Sums
  - Pre-K Access By State
  - Change in Preschool Enrollment over Time
  - State Pre-K, Preschool Special Education, and Head Start Enrollment
  - State Pre-K Quality Standards
  - Pre-K Resources Per Child Enrolled by State
  - Rankings of All Reported Resources Per Child
- What Qualifies as a State Pre-K?
- State Profiles
- Methodology
- Appendices
  - State Survey Data 2012-2013
  - Head Start Data
  - Child Care Data
  - Census Population Estimate
  - Pre-K Special Education Enrollment
Survey Methodology for 2012-2013

- Annual survey of state-funded preschool programs serving 3- and/or 4-year-olds
- Collect information on 2012-2013 school year in following categories:
  - Access
  - Resources
  - Quality Benchmarks
- 53 programs in 40 states plus D.C.
  - 10 No Program states are included with Head Start and Special Education figures only
Pre-K Funding Increased

- Total state pre-K funding increased by $30M (adjusted for inflation)
- Funding per child now $1,000 below level a decade ago
- State funding per child increased in 11 states; dropped in 20
- In 5 states per-child spending fell by 10% or more; 5 states increase
Access Dropped in 2012-2013

- 9,000 fewer served in 2012-2013
- 11 states enrollment declined
- 20 states increased enrollment
Access Depends on Child’s Zip Code

FIGURE 1: PERCENT OF 4-YEAR-OLDS SERVED IN STATE PRE-K
# Quality Standards Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Of the 53 pre-K initiatives, number meeting benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early learning standards</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher degree</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher specialized training</td>
<td>Specializing in pre-K</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant teacher degree</td>
<td>CDA or equivalent</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher in-service</td>
<td>At least 15 hours/year</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum class size</td>
<td>20 or lower</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff-child ratio</td>
<td>1:10 or better</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening/referral and support services</td>
<td>Vision, hearing, health; at least 1 support service</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals</td>
<td>At least 1/day</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td>Site visits at least every five years</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trends in Quality Benchmarks

FIGURE 2: PERCENT OF STATE PRE-K PROGRAMS MEETING BENCHMARKS 2002-2013
Vermont Profile

STATE OVERVIEW
Total state program enrollment: 5,948
Total state spending: $17,490,888
State spending per child enrolled: $3,778

ACCESS RANKINGS
4-YEAR-OLDS: 4
3-YEAR-OLDS: 2

RESOURCES RANKINGS
STATE SPENDING: 22
ALL REPORTED SPENDING: 27
VERMONT PREKINDERGARTEN EDUCATION - ACT 62

ACCESS
- Total state program enrollment: 5,525
- School districts that offer state program: 88% (communities)
- Income requirement: None
- Hours of operation: Determined locally
- Operating schedule: Academic year
- Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4: 1,144
- Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4: 914
- State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4: 0

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY
- Early learning standards: Comprehensive
- Teacher degree: BA (public), AA (nonpublic)
- Teacher licensed training: ECE, Limited ECCE or ECSE endorsement
- Assistant teacher degree: AA (public), CDA or equivalent
- Teacher in-service: 9 credit hours/year
- Minimum class size: 20 or lower
- Staff-child ratio: 1:10 or better
- Screening assessment: Determined locally
- Meals: No meals are required
- Monitoring: Site visits

RESOURCES
- Total state pre-K spending: $21,379,945
- Local match required: No
- State spending per child enrolled: $3,363
- All reported spending per child enrolled: $3,363

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

3 YEAR-OLDS
- Act 62: 10%
- Other: 5%
- Head Start: 10%

4 YEAR-OLDS
- Act 62: 10%
- Other: 5%
- Head Start: 10%

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET: 4

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

- ADM:
  - State Contributions: $2,363
  - Federal Contributions: $7,624
- Head Start:
  - State Contributions: $2,363
  - Federal Contributions: $7,624
- E-12:
  - State Contributions: $2,363
  - Local Contributions: $7,624
  - State Aid Spending: $27,108

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*Pre-K programs may secure additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this report.
**Head Start pre-kindergarten students for the 2012-2013 year include funding only for 3- and 4-year-old students. This year's figures have been substantially impacted by Early Learning awards.
***E-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the 2012-2013 school year, unless otherwise noted.

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**Vermont**

### QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT</th>
<th>BENCHMARK</th>
<th>DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early learning standards</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher degree</td>
<td>BA (public); BA</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher specialized training</td>
<td>ECE, Limited ECE, or ECSE (public); Specializing in pre-K</td>
<td>Specializing in pre-K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Meets child care regulations (nonpublic)³</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant teacher degree</td>
<td>AA (public); CDA or equivalent</td>
<td>HSD + 30 hr course in CD (nonpublic)³</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher in-service</td>
<td>9 credit hours/7 years (public); At least 15 hours/year</td>
<td>At least 15 hours/year (nonpublic)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum class size</td>
<td>20 or lower</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-year-olds</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-year-olds</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff-child ratio</td>
<td>1:10 or better</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-year-olds</td>
<td>1:10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-year-olds</td>
<td>1:10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening/referral</td>
<td>Determined locally; Vision, hearing, health; and support services</td>
<td>Determined locally; Vision, hearing, health; and support services⁴ at least 1 support service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals</td>
<td>No meals are required</td>
<td>At least 1/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td>None⁷</td>
<td>Site visits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**: 4
The Data Goldmine: Appendix A

Access
- Availability of program
- Program enrollment including ELL and special education
- Program settings

Operating Schedule

Age Eligibility
- Prekindergarten and kindergarten eligibility requirements
- Exceptions to age requirements

Income Requirement

Other Eligibility Requirements
- Risk factors for eligibility
- Reassessment of eligibility

Program Standards
- Class sizes
- Staff-child ratios
- Meal requirements
- Screening and referral services
- Supports for English Language Learners
- Comprehensive services

Early Learning Standards

Personnel
- Teacher degree requirements and specialization
- Teacher education levels
- Teacher in-service requirements
- Assistant teacher degree requirements and specialization

Resources
- Fiscal year 2012 spending (state, federal and local amounts)
- Agencies eligible to receive funding directly and indirectly
- Required local match

Monitoring
- Information collected for monitoring purposes
- How monitoring is collected and used by the state
- Formal evaluations of the prekindergarten program
- Assessments used in pre-K and Kindergarten
### Lead Teacher Degree Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HSD</td>
<td>59.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDA</td>
<td>15.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>5.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA</td>
<td>18.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA</td>
<td>0.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other, not specified</td>
<td>0.04%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD/JD</td>
<td>0.05%</td>
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</table>
### Vermont Kindergarten Readiness Survey Results

(Percent “ready”)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008-09</th>
<th>2009-10</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
<th>2011-12</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social-Emotional</td>
<td>66.9</td>
<td>77.4</td>
<td>76.0</td>
<td>79.4</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>App. to Learning</td>
<td>66.2</td>
<td>79.3</td>
<td>78.6</td>
<td>78.7</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>81.3</td>
<td>84.2</td>
<td>83.3</td>
<td>85.7</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive</td>
<td>61.2</td>
<td>72.9</td>
<td>74.6</td>
<td>73.9</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellness</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>79.1</td>
<td>79.0</td>
<td>83.3</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Domains</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Considerations and Limitations

- States are limited in their data capacity; do not collect all data (e.g., funding from all sources).
- Data may not accurately portray the current situation.
- Data are missing from states without pre-K and territories.
- There is much we want and need to know.

“Not everything that counts can be counted; not everything that can be counted counts.”

Albert Einstein (unverified)
Further Reading

- 2003-2013 Yearbook Data on [www.nieer.org](http://www.nieer.org)
Center on Enhancing Early Learning Outcomes

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