

Pre-K Enrollment across the United States

The National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER), a unit of Rutgers University, has published annual state pre-K reports for the last decade. *The State of Preschool 2011*, for the 2010-2011 school year, includes detailed profiles for each state's pre-kindergarten programs and tracks funding, access, and policies.

The nine states in this table have the highest percent of children enrolled in state pre-K. Unlike most states, they offer Universal pre-K and eligibility is based solely on age.

The percentage of 4-year-olds served by pre-K varies significantly by state. State pre-K enrollment at age 4 varied from 0 to 76% in the 2010-2011 school year. Florida had the highest percentage of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-K.

In the last few years, the states with the largest percentage change in preschool enrollment have been Vermont, Iowa and Florida. In 2010, Vermont eliminated the cap on enrollment; Iowa's program, which started in 2007-2008, expanded access to all 4-year-olds and has grown considerably.

Participation rates are calculated from 4-year-olds enrollment numbers published by each state and population of 4-year-olds from the Census Bureau's datasets. NIEER used the 2010 Census data for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years. In previous years, estimates for the month of July were used to calculate participation rates. Enrollment numbers and participation rates for the 2011-2012 school year were gathered from each state. Participation rates are estimated using the state's population estimate or Census estimates. *The State of Preschool 2012* will be published in April 2013.

Participation Rates for 4-year-olds										
Rank	State	Year Started	School Year						Enrollment	
			2011-2012*	2010-2011	2009-2010	2008-2009	2007-2008	2006-07	2011-12*	2010-11
1	Florida	2005	81%	76%	73%	67%	61%	57%	175,121	164,388
2	Oklahoma	1998	-	74%	71%	71%	71%	68%	-	38,441
3	Vermont	2003	62%	67%	50%	53%	50%	45%	5,260	4,387
4	Georgia	1993	61%	59%	59%	53%	53%	53%	82,868	82,608
5	West Virginia	2002	61%	58%	55%	51%	46%	46%	13,244	12,188
6	Wisconsin	1984	62%	55%	51%	47%	39%	35%	46,158	40,206
8	Iowa SVPP	2007	49%	52%	35%	25%	13%	4%	20,396	21,263
7	Texas	1985	51%	52%	50%	45%	45%	45%	203,143	200,181
9	New York	1998	49%	45%	47%	43%	39%	35%	114,221	103,445
10	Arkansas	2004	43%	44%	42%	44%	28%	21%	15,284	17,470

Source: National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER), *The State of Preschool 2011*

* Data gathered from each state.

* Texas requires students to be below 185% FPL. Arkansas requires 90% of children to be at or below 200% FPL.