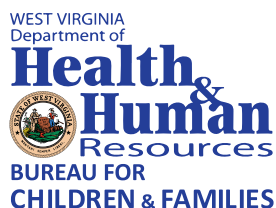




2020

*State of West Virginia
Universal Pre-K*





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2021-2022**

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WV Universal Pre-K Steering Team Members

Janet Bock-Hager

Coordinator

jbockhager@k12.wv.us

304.558.9994

WVDE Early & Elementary Learning Services

Patricia Haynes

Early Care and Education Specialist

Patricia.L.Haynes@wv.gov

304.356.4603

WV Department of Health and Human Resources

Brittany Doss

WV Head Start State Collaboration Director

Brittany.N.Doss@wv.gov

304.993.5807

WV Department of Health and Human Resources

Lisa Fisher

Coordinator

lmray@k12.wv.us

304.558.9994

WVDE Early & Elementary Learning Services

For questions about the information in the 2020 State of West Virginia Universal Pre-K, please contact the West Virginia Universal Pre-K Steering Team at WVPreKsteeringteam.wvde@k12.wv.us.



Find My WV PreK

Find My WV Pre-K is an online application that includes program information for each WV Universal Pre-K classroom by city and county. To find a WV Universal Pre-K Program, visit <https://webtop.k12.wv.us/find-my-prek/>

Acknowledgements

The West Virginia Department of Education's Early & Elementary Learning Services would like to thank the following entities for their assistance with the development of the 2020 WV Universal Pre-K State Overview:

- West Virginia Board of Education
- West Virginia Local Education Agencies
- National Institute for Early Education Research
- Early Childhood Advisory Council of West Virginia
- West Virginia Department of Education Assessment Services
- West Virginia Department of Education Communications Services
- West Virginia Department of Education Data Management and Information Systems
- West Virginia Department of Education Special Education Services
- West Virginia Department of Education WV Education Information System
- West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Division of Early Care & Education
- West Virginia Head Start State Collaboration Office

WV Universal Pre-K Program Summary

Since the induction of West Virginia Universal Pre-K in 2002, West Virginia has been a national pioneer in developing and maintaining a statewide pre-k program for all four-year-olds and three-year-olds with special needs. Conception of pre-k in the state began as early as 1983 with legislation that provided local school boards the ability to offer preschool. Following this initial legislation, localized efforts were made to support pre-k through the nineteen-nineties. State lawmakers solidified the state's commitment to pre-k with the passage of an early childhood education programs bill at the end of the 2002 legislative session. From that point forward, W.Va. Code §18-5-44 mandated that the West Virginia Board of Education, in collaboration with the Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, ensure that every eligible child have access to high-quality pre-k by the 2012-2013 school year. County boards of education were charged with building pre-k programs with existing community programs, including Head Start and licensed child care centers. West Virginia maintains its commitment to high-quality early childhood education through the efforts of the state Pre-K Steering Team supporting local programs, collaboration, and continuous quality improvement processes. WV Universal Pre-K continues as a national leader in quality and access to Universal Pre-K.

WV Universal Pre-K Milestones

- 2002: Legislation passed requiring that by 2012, all 55 WV counties must provide Universal Pre-K for all 4-year-olds and all 3-year-olds with disabilities. A minimum of 50% of pre-k classrooms must be collaborative with community partners
- 2004: Early Learning Standards Framework developed (revised 2010, 2015, 2017, 2019)
- 2004: Universal Pre-K policy developed (revised 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2020)
- 2008: State Board of Education establishes comprehensive definition of School Readiness
- 2008: Equal state aid funding for all Universal Pre-K students mandated by legislation, regardless of setting
- 2010: WVDE Office of School Readiness established
- 2012: WVDE Office of Early & Elementary Learning (Pre-K through Grade 5) established
- 2014: Legislation and state policy were amended to include the pre-k and kindergarten assistant teacher credential, which resulted in WV Universal Pre-K meeting the final benchmark for NIEER's 10 original quality indicators
- 2016: W.Va. Code §18-5-44 amended to require programs operate on a four or five day model, providing 1,500 minutes of instruction weekly, and 48,000 minutes of instruction annually
- 2016: WV becomes one of five states in the US that meets all 10 NIEER original quality benchmarks and 9 of 10 new quality benchmarks
- 2017: W.Va. Code §18-5-44 was amended to adjust the age eligibility date from age four prior to September 1 to age four prior to July 1, effective with the 2018-2019 school year
- 2017: WV is highlighted in a report from the New America Foundation for its commitment to early learning transitions for children as they enter kindergarten from various settings
- 2018: WV is recognized as a state to watch for quality standards, funding, and collaborative program in The State of Preschool 2017: State Preschool Yearbook
- 2018: WV is highlighted in a report from the Education Commission on the States as one of three states in the nation with strong pre-k to kindergarten transitions
- 2018: WV, along with three other states, are featured in On the Road to High-Quality Early Learning: Changing Children's Lives, a book from Teacher's College Press that describes how the four states have built early education systems that positively affect student outcomes
- 2020: West Virginia was identified by NIEER as one of only six states to invest enough funding for high-quality full-day pre-k
- 2020: On March 16, 2020, as ordered by the Governor, all public schools, including WV Pre-K classrooms were physically closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic through the end of the school year. Pre-k programs provided remote learning opportunities for enrolled pre-K families through the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

Landscape of WV Universal Pre-K SY 2020

West Virginia is recognized as a national leader in implementation of a comprehensive and collaborative universal pre-k program. Those families in the state with young children join only a few in the nation with access to free public pre-k, as well as full-day kindergarten. As of the 2012-13 school year, all 4-year-old children, as well as 3-year-old children with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), have access to a quality universal pre-k program. Counties worked over a decade to build pre-k programs as found in state code and West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) Policy 2525. Key components of West Virginia's system for universal pre-k to meet state code and WVBE Policy 2525 include access, collaboration, and blended funding to meet community needs. WVBE Policy 2525 is designed to:

- Provide opportunities for children to receive pre-k services in a setting that is most appropriate.
- Structure programs by including community needs assessments to identify trends in enrollment, parent choice in placement, and monitoring trends of families who choose not to participate and keep their children home until kindergarten.
- Fully maximize its resources by requiring each school district has established collaborative partnerships, where feasible, with a minimum of 50% collaboration with community partners.
- Provide guidance regarding funding for WV Universal Pre-K is part of the State School Aid Funding Formula.
- Exemplifying how funding and resources are also provided by collaborating with childcare and Head Start programs.

As a result of implementation of WVBE Policy 2525 and work of county collaborative early childhood teams during the 2019-20 school year:

- The total program enrollment was 15,142 children.
- The participation rate of the state's four-year-old population was 78% for the 2019-20 school year.
- The state collaboration rate of 82% has remained unchanged over the past four years, as most of the school districts surpass the collaboration requirement of 50%.
- FY 2020 Total State Aid funding generated by WV Universal Pre-K was nearly 91 million dollars.
- FY 2020 Total pre-k spending was reported at \$156,163,429, which includes Federal Head Start and Childcare funding.

Investing in Early Childhood Programs

Research on the effects of high-quality early childhood education continues to indicate not only significant and immediate positive outcomes for young children, but also better social outcomes and up to a 13% return on investment (Heckman, 2017). While the critical examination of early childhood education is fairly new, researchers and economists have now spent the better part of this century seeking evidence of long-term outcomes. In the research snapshot on the benefits of pre-k, the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) notes that, “pre-k programs produce both academic and non-academic benefits for participants” (Durrance, 2018). These benefits for children who attend high-quality pre-k programs include fewer examples of retention from one grade to the next, less likely to need special education, and more likely to graduate from high school. Further, children who participate in pre-k have higher earnings as adults and are less likely to engage in criminal activities as adolescents and young adults. High-quality early childhood programs include more than pre-k. Alignment with kindergarten through grade three is imperative in supporting longevity of the benefits. Building on gains of pre-k further supports returns on investment.

Garcia, J.L., Heckman, J.J., Leaf, D.e., & Prados, M.J., (May 2017) Quantifying the Life-cycle Benefits of a Prototypical Early Childhood Program. Heckman: The Economics of Human Potential. Retrieved from https://heckmanequation.org/assets/2017/12/abc_comprehensivecba_JPE-SUBMISSION_2017-05-26a_sjs_sjs.pdf.

Durrance, S. (March 2018). Research Snapshot Pre-K Benefits: 2018 Update. Southern Regional Education Board. Retrieved from <https://www.sreb.org/education-level-early-childhood>.

State Snapshot SY 2020

The state snapshot illustrates the landscape of WV Universal Pre-K for the 2019-20 school year. Information is gathered and reported based on October 1 enrollment information, as well as program reporting in the West Virginia Early Learning Reporting System (ELRS). Annually, each county must verify program data by October 15. Program data is presented in three main areas:

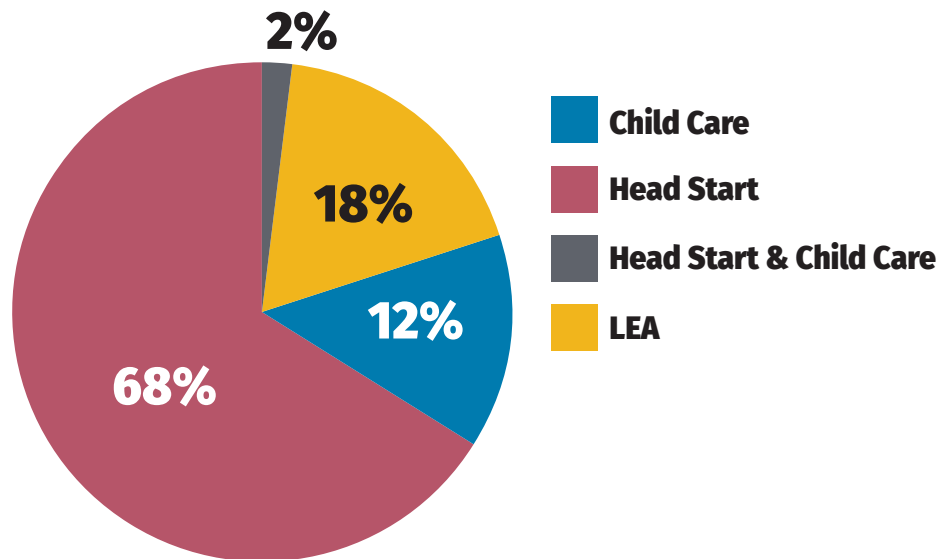
1. Program options
2. Program operations
3. Pre-K Enrollment

Program Options

This section contains information regarding collaboration rates, as well the availability of early childhood partnerships throughout the state. As mentioned, counties must maximize early childhood resources by collaborating with existing programs within the county before opening new classrooms operated solely by the county board of education. No less than 50% of the classrooms for eligible children must be provided through contractual agreements with community programs, including but not limited to Head Start and child care, unless programs do not exist in that county, cannot meet the mandates of policy, or choose not to participate. In some areas of West Virginia, there are no opportunities for local education agencies to collaborate with other early childhood education programs. In other areas, collaboration among early childhood education programs illustrates a strong commitment to serving the needs of families and children through comprehensive services within one program.

Find My WV Pre-K is an application that includes program information for each WV Universal Pre-K classroom by community and county. To find a WV Universal Pre-K Program near you, visit Find My WV Pre-K at <https://webtop.k12.wv.us/find-my-prek/>.

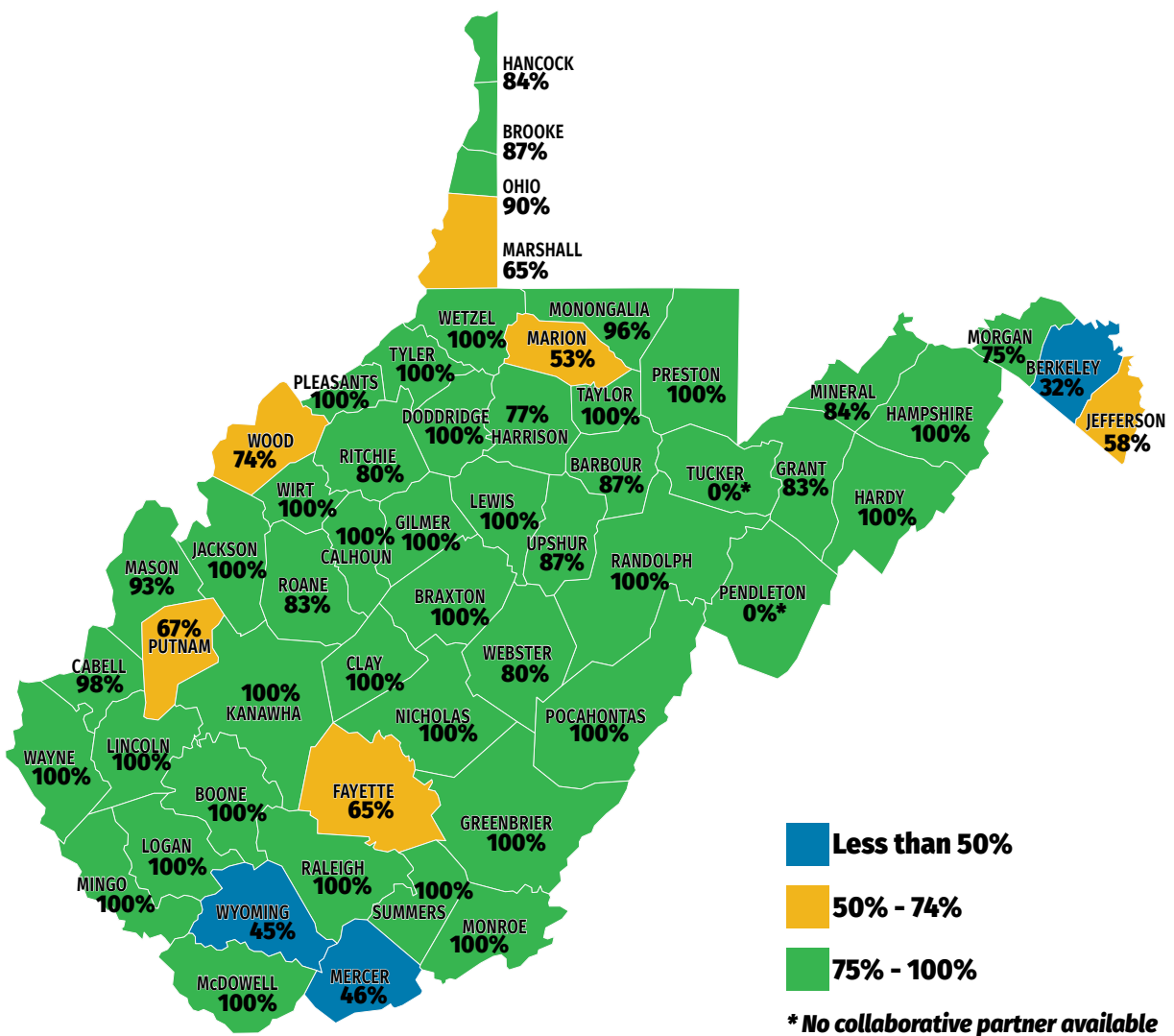
1.1. Collaboration Rates Summary - SY 2020



1.1.a. Collaboration State Summary - Yearly Comparison - SY 2012-2020

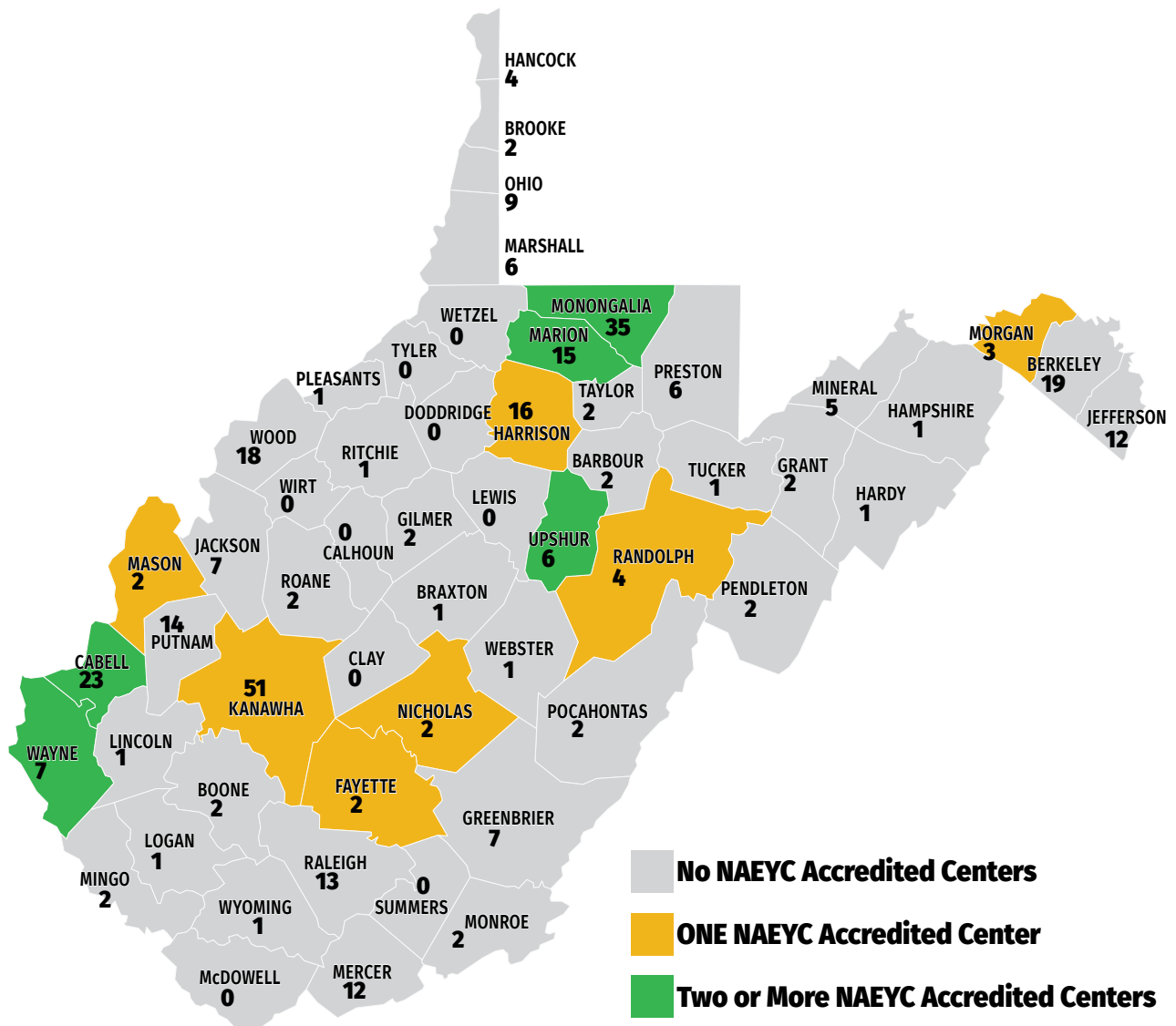
	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Head Start	56%	56%	61%	64%	66%	66%	67%	68%
Child Care	16%	16%	15%	14%	14%	14%	13%	12%
Head Start & Child Care	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Local Education Agency	26%	26%	21%	19%	18%	18%	18%	18%
Total Collaboration Rate	74%	74%	79%	81%	82%	82%	82%	82%

1.1.b. Collaboration Rates by County - SY 2020



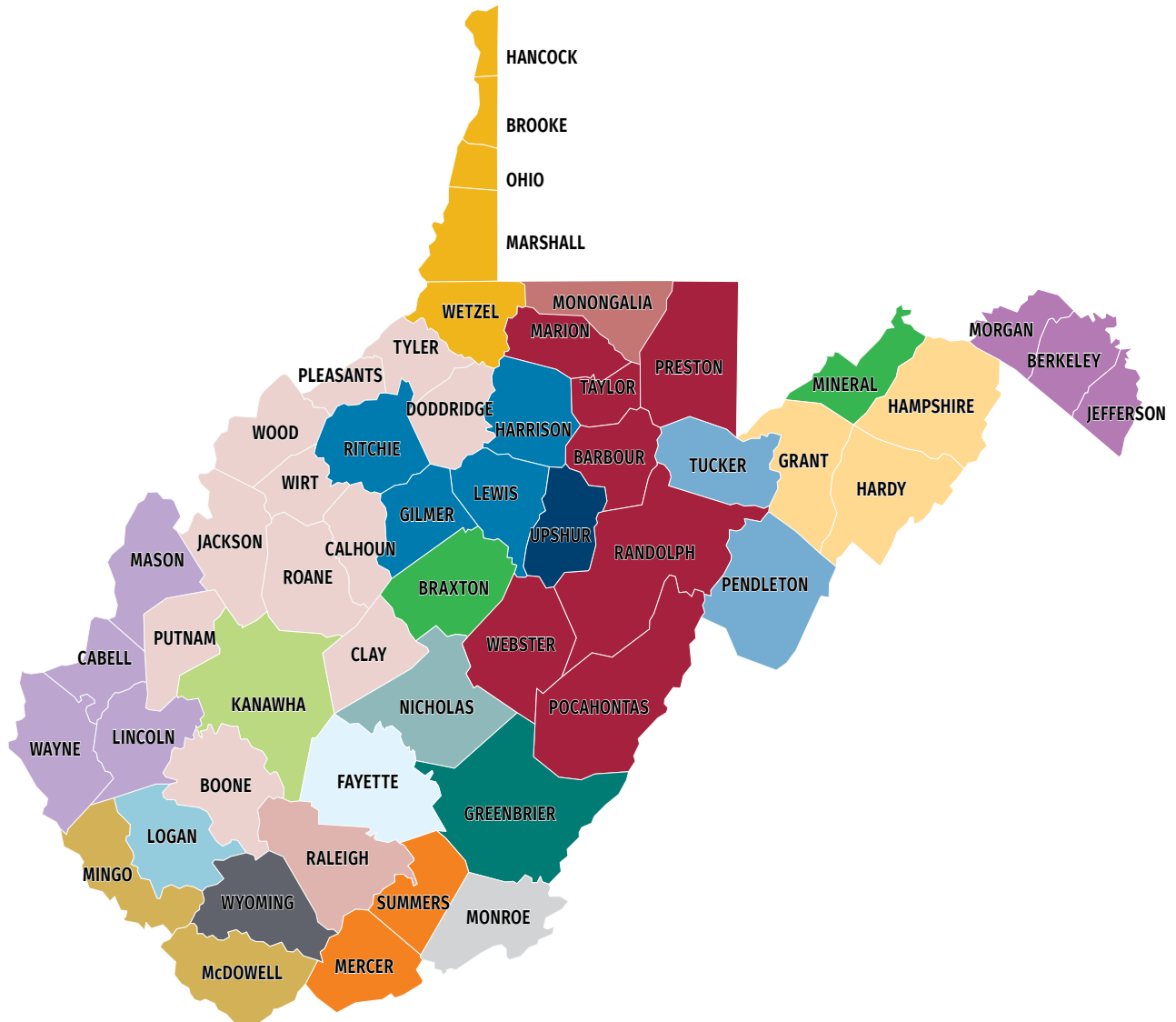
1.2. State Licensed & Accredited Child Care Centers - SY 2020

The State Licensed & Accredited Child Care Centers map illustrates the number of child care centers who are licensed in each county as reported by the WV Department of Health and Human Resources in 2020. The map also includes a county of those programs that hold accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). NAEYC accreditation is a nationally recognized program that reviews child care programs using ten standards of high-quality early education.



1.3. West Virginia Head Start Programs & Counties Served - SY 2020

The following map and chart illustrate the landscape of Head Start in West Virginia. There are twenty-one Head Start programs across the state serving low-income families and children. Through blended programs, eligible families and children who participate in WV Universal Pre-K can receive additional Head Start services and supports. Head Start services are available in 53 of 55 counties.



West Virginia Head Start Programs & Counties Served SY 2020

AFL-CIO Appalachian Council Head Start

(Counties served- Boone, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Jackson, Pleasants, Putnam, Roane, Tyler, Wirt, Wood)

Braxton County Schools

Central WV Community Action Association Head Start

(Counties served- Gilmer, Harrison, Lewis, Ritchie)

Coalfield CAP

(Counties served- McDowell, Mingo)

Community Action of Southeast WV (CASE) Head Start

(Counties served- Mercer, Summers)

Eastern Allegheny Council for Human Services (EACHS) Head Start

(Counties served- Grant, Hampshire, Hardy)

Fayette County Child Development, Inc.

Greenbrier County Schools

Kanawha County Schools

Mineral County Schools

Monongalia County Schools (Delegate of North Central WV Community Action)

Monroe County Schools

Mountainheart Community Services Head Start

(County served- Wyoming)

Nicholas County Community Action Partnership Head Start

(County Served- Nicholas)

North Central WV Community Action Association (NCWCAA) Head Start

(Counties served- Barbour, Marion, Pocahontas, Preston, Randolph Taylor, Webster)

Northern Panhandle Head Start

(Counties served- Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio, Wetzel)

PRIDE, Inc. Head Start

(County served- Logan)

Raleigh County Community Action Association

(County Served- Raleigh)

Eastern Panhandle Instructional Cooperative (EPIC) Head Start

(Counties served- Berkeley, Jefferson, Morgan)

Southwestern Community Action Agency

(Counties served- Cabell, Lincoln, Mason, Wayne)

Upshur Human Resources, Inc.

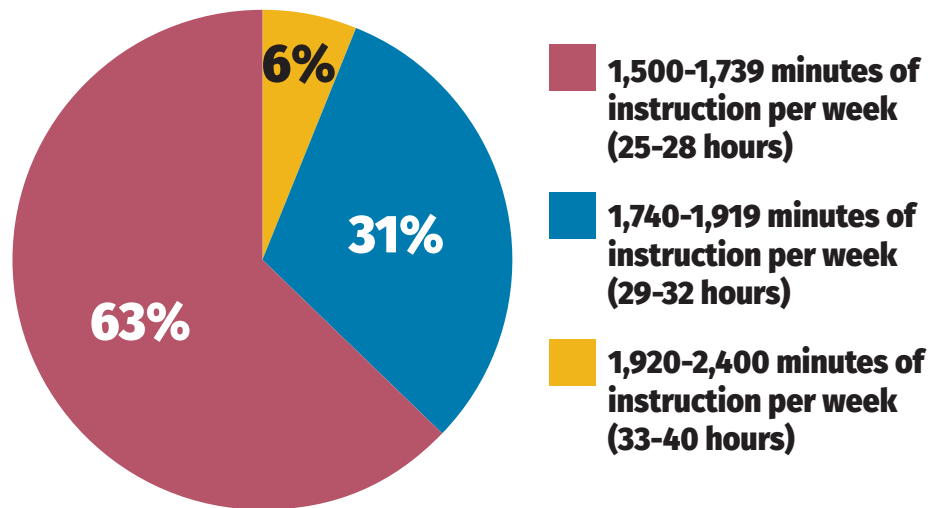
(County Served- Upshur)

**Head Start services are not available in Pendleton & Tucker Counties*

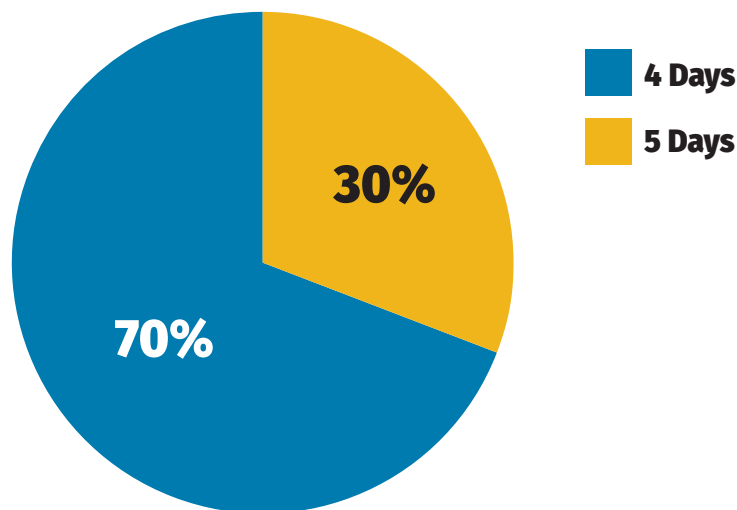
Program Operations

Program Operations include the number of classrooms, average weekly minutes of operation, and average days per week of operations. Each county collaborative early childhood team must submit an addendum to open or close a classroom. Legislation requires that each pre-k classroom, including preschool special needs classrooms, must provide at least fifteen hundred minutes of instruction per week and forty-eight thousand minutes of instruction annually. Additionally, programs must operate no fewer than four days per week to meet annual and weekly operational requirements.

2.2. Average Weekly Minutes Per Week of Instruction - SY 2020



2.3. Days of Instruction Per Week - All Classrooms - SY 2020



2.4. Days of Instruction per Week - Yearly Comparison - SY 2013-2020

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
4 days	87%	85%	84%	80%	67%	69%	70%	70%
5 days	13%	15%	16%	20%	33%	31%	30%	30%

Pre-K Enrollment

This section includes enrollment trends for four-year-olds, and three-year-olds with IEPs in Universal Pre-K. Participation rates are also included in this section. Participation rates are comparisons between the 5 yr. old kindergarten enrollment and the 4 yr. old population enrolled in pre-k from the previous year. Since pre-k is a voluntary program, participation rates are examined for program planning and collaboration. Counties also report capacity of each classroom. Capacity data provides information on the potential number of enrollees for each area of the district to assist in program planning.

3.1. WV Universal Pre-K Enrollment Trend Data - SY 2009-2020

	Year	Pre-K Enrollment
System being built	2009	13,135
	2010	13,878
	2011	14,647
	2012	15,268
System required by code and policy to be available to all 4 year olds.	2013	15,767
	2014	15,459
	2015	15,256
	2016	15,113
	2017	14,940
	2018	15,101
	2019	13,534*
	2020	15,142

Total pre-k enrollment based on 2nd month enrollment annually.

**During the 2017 legislative session, the age eligibility date for West Virginia Universal Pre-K was changed from September 1 to July 1 beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. The decrease in pre-K enrollment and participation rates are attributed to changes of the age eligibility date.*

3.2. WV Universal Pre-K Participation Rates (Four-Year-Olds) Trend Data - SY 2013-2020

Year	WV Universal Pre-K 4-year-old participation
2012-2013	69%
2013-2014	73%
2014-2015	75%
2015-2016	76%
2016-2017	76%
2017-2018	76%
2018-2019	75%
2019-2020	78%

3.3. WV Pre-K Enrollment, 4 Yr. Old Participation Rates, and Capacity for Enrollment

County	Enrollment 2019-2020	*Participation Rate 2019-2020	Number of Classrooms 2019-2020	Enrollment Capacity 2019-2020
Barbour	146	92%	8	160
Berkeley	1118	68%	68	1184
Boone	183	82%	13	251
Braxton	129	96%	8	157
Brooke	126	78%	9	140
Cabell	793	85%	49	874
Calhoun	60	82%	4	80
Clay	99	97%	7	134
Doddridge	63	78%	5	100
Fayette	321	68%	20	370
Gilmer	46	88%	3	60
Grant	106	81%	6	120
Greenbrier	261	74%	18	321
Hampshire	160	79%	9	164
Hancock	226	69%	13	230
Hardy	130	82%	6	120
Harrison	651	87%	44	761
Jackson	266	78%	15	264
Jefferson	318	53%	19	361
Kanawha	1383	80%	81	1585
Lewis	160	81%	9	180
Lincoln	204	91%	13	245
Logan	293	82%	19	376

County	Enrollment 2019-2020	*Participation Rate 2019-2020	Number of Classrooms 2019-2020	Enrollment Capacity 2019-2020
Marion	492	76%	32	619
Marshall	261	77%	17	308
Mason	247	93%	15	296
McDowell	149	87%	13	251
Mercer	524	78%	37	736
Mineral	246	87%	19	335
Mingo	245	85%	22	438
Monongalia	750	78%	53	1020
Monroe	90	88%	7	138
Morgan	106	73%	8	130
Nicholas	205	67%	12	224
Ohio	335	69%	20	398
Pendleton	42	100%	5	100
Pleasants	90	98%	5	100
Pocahontas	58	76%	4	80
Preston	285	78%	16	316
Putnam	480	68%	30	494
Raleigh	669	80%	43	766
Randolph	221	72%	12	232
Ritchie	106	87%	5	100
Roane	88	74%	6	108
Summers	76	82%	6	114
Taylor	135	82%	8	160
Tucker	52	80%	4	80
Tyler	69	89%	4	80
Upshur	240	83%	16	305
Wayne	412	79%	23	460
Webster	71	87%	5	85
Wetzel	164	82%	12	223
Wirt	57	96%	3	60
Wood	671	70%	28	681
WVSDB	3	100%	2**	--
Wyoming	260	95%	20	391
State	15,142	78%	966	18,065

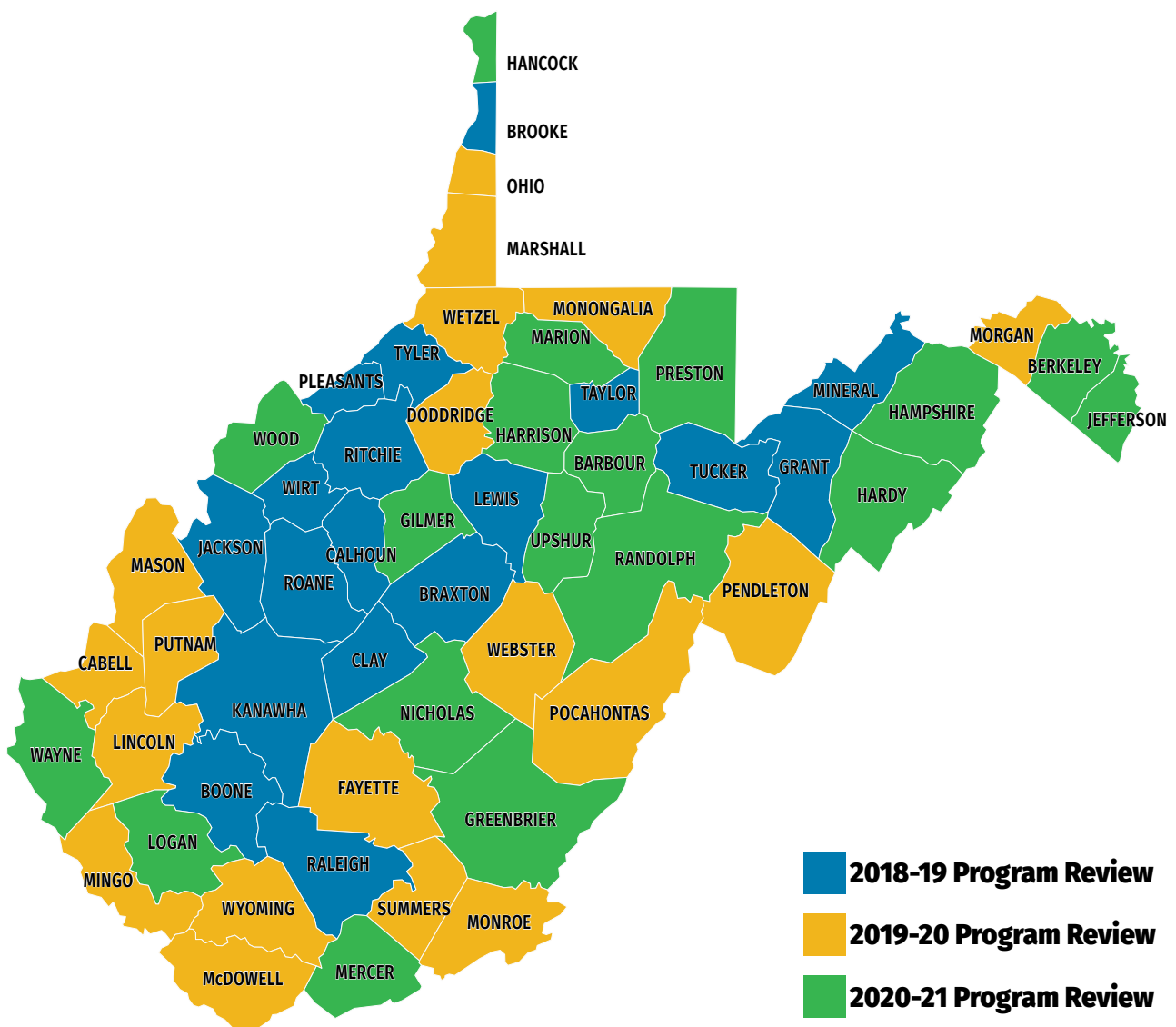
* 4 year olds by July 1, 2018 & 5 year olds by July 1, 2019 enrolled in pre-k the previous school year- 2nd month Enrollment State Aid Funding

** Classrooms at the WVSDB are also counted as collaborative classrooms with Hampshire County Schools

WV Universal Pre-K Program Review Summary SY 2020

WVBE Policy 2525: West Virginia's Universal Access to Early Education System requires that the WV Universal Pre-K Steering Team conduct a Pre-K Program Review every three years. The purpose of the program review is to ensure counties continue to implement WV Pre-K programs in alignment with policy and assist with each county's continuous quality improvement process within the comprehensive collaborative model. Program reviews are designed to provide individualized technical assistance to county collaborative early childhood teams. This section includes the WV Pre-K Program Review map of the triennial schedule, overview of the process, and 2019-2020 WV Universal Pre-K Program Review Results Summary.

4.1. WV Universal Pre-K Triennial Program Review Schedule 2018-2021



4.2. Overview of the WV Universal Pre-K Program Review Process

The WV Universal Pre-K Program review process includes a desktop audit of county policies and procedures and a county collaborative core team interview. Upon completion of the Program Review, a report is provided to each county superintendent and county collaborative core team member. The Pre-K Program Review Report includes a summary of each section of WVBE Policy 2525 through four key areas.

Curriculum, Instruction and Child Assessment

- §126-28-8. Inclusive Settings
- §126-28-9. Family Engagement
- §126-28-11. Meals
- §126-28-13. Environmental Design
- §126-28-14. Child Guidance
- §126-28-15. Curriculum and Assessment

County Collaborative Early Childhood Team

- §126-28-4. Collaborative Early Childhood Team
- §126-28-16. Personnel
- §126-28-19. Finance
- §126-28-20. Program Oversight

Universal Pre-K Access

- §126-28.5. Eligibility and Enrollment
- §126-28-6. Attendance
- §126-28-3. School Readiness
- §126-28-10. Transitions
- §126-28-7. Transportation

Ongoing Program Assessment and Improvement

- §126-28-12. Health and Safety
- §126-28-17. Staff Training
- §126-28-18. Program Assessment and Continuous Quality Improvement

4.3. WV Universal Pre-K Program Review Results Summary SY 2020

Pre-K Program Review Report Summaries include commendations, recommendations, and required follow-up. Commendations identify strengths within each county pre-k program. Recommendations are provided to support strengthening growth of county policies and procedures that minimally meet WVBE Policy 2525. Required follow-up is included when it is not evident that a section of WVBE Policy 2525 is in place in a county. When required follow-up is indicated, timelines for corrections are also included. County collaborative early childhood core teams are encouraged to include program review results as a data source in their ongoing continuous quality improvement process.

The following counties reviewed during SY 2020 illustrated overall strengths in implementation of WVBE Policy 2525 and had no required follow-up to their WV Universal Pre-K Program Reviews:

- Cabell
- McDowell
- Mingo
- Pendleton
- Wetzel

Commendations Summary

- §126-28-3. School Readiness/§126-28.10. Transitions: Mingo, McDowell, Monongalia, Summers
- §126-28-4. Collaborative Early Childhood Team: Cabell, Doddridge, Fayette, Mason, McDowell, Morgan, Ohio, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Putnam, Webster, Wetzel
- §126-28-7. Transportation: Lincoln
- §126-28-9. Family Engagement: Monroe, Summers
- §126-28-11. Meals: Marshall, Mason
- §126-28-14. Child Guidance: Lincoln
- §126-28-18. Program Assessment and Continuous Quality Improvement: McDowell

Recommendations Summary

- §126-28-3. School Readiness/§126-28.10. Transitions: Doddridge, Fayette, Lincoln, Putnam, Summers, Webster, Wyoming
- §126-28-4. Collaborative Early Childhood Team: Marshall, McDowell, Mingo, Monroe, Ohio, Wetzel, Wyoming
- §126-28.5. Eligibility and Enrollment: Lincoln, Monroe, Summers, Webster
- §126-28-6. Attendance: Doddridge, Mingo, Morgan, Ohio, Pendleton, Wyoming
- §126-28-7. Transportation: Doddridge, Marshall, Monroe, Wyoming
- §126-28-8. Inclusive Settings: Mason
- §126-28-11. Meals: Lincoln, Mason, Monroe, Ohio, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Summers
- §126-28-12. Health and Safety: Cabell, Doddridge, Fayette, Marshall, McDowell, Monongalia, Pocahontas, Putnam, Webster, Wetzel
- §126-28-13. Environmental Design: Cabell, Fayette, Lincoln, Mingo, Monongalia, Morgan, Ohio, Pocahontas, Putnam, Wetzel, Wyoming
- §126-28-14. Child Guidance: Morgan
- §126-28-15. Curriculum and Assessment: Cabell, Doddridge, Fayette, Marshall, Mason, McDowell, Mingo, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Ohio, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Putnam, Summers, Webster, Wetzel, Wyoming
- §126-28-16. Personnel: McDowell
- §126-28-17. Staff Training: Cabell, Morgan, Pendleton, Pocahontas
- §126-28-18. Program Assessment and Continuous Quality Improvement: Cabell, Fayette, Marshall, Mason, Morgan, Wetzel, Wyoming
- §126-28-19. Finance: Summers
- §126-28-20. Program Oversight

Required Follow-Up Summary

- §126-28-3. School Readiness/§126-28.10. Transitions: Marshall, Mason
- §126-28-4. Collaborative Early Childhood Team: Doddridge, Fayette, Lincoln, Marshall, Mason, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Ohio, Pocahontas, Summers
- §126-28.5. Eligibility and Enrollment:
- §126-28-6. Attendance:
- §126-28-7. Transportation: Fayette, Ohio, Summers,
- §126-28-8. Inclusive Settings: Wyoming
- §126-28-11. Meals: Webster
- §126-28-12. Health and Safety: Mason, Summers, Webster, Wyoming
- §126-28-13. Environmental Design:
- §126-28-14. Child Guidance: Wyoming
- §126-28-15. Curriculum and Assessment: Ohio
- §126-28-16. Personnel: Marshall, Ohio, Putnam
- §126-28-17. Staff Training: Monroe
- §126-28-18. Program Assessment and Continuous Quality Improvement: Doddridge, Summers
- §126-28-19. Finance: Marshall, Mason, Monongalia, Morgan, Ohio, Pocahontas, Summers
- §126-28-20. Program Oversight: Fayette, Monroe, Pocahontas, Summers, Wyoming

2020 State of Preschool Yearbook: National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER)

The State of Preschool Yearbook is a publication released by the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) to track the funding, access, and policies of state-funded preschool programs. The Yearbook, which is published annually beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, seeks to improve the public’s knowledge and understanding of state efforts to expand the availability of high-quality education to young children. NIEER ranks states regarding access for three and four-year olds, state and other spending to support the state pre-k program, and measures each state’s pre-k policies against a checklist of 10 research-based quality standards benchmarks. West Virginia is one of only eleven states to meet at least nine of ten quality benchmarks. West Virginia moved from 8th to 16th from the previous year in the resource ranking for state spending. This decrease is attributed to changes in the enrollment cutoff date from September 1 to July 1 beginning with the 2018-2019 school year based on legislative rule. The one-year drop in enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year is reflected in state aid funding for the 2019-2020 school year based on the previous year’s enrollment. West Virginia was identified in the report as one of only five state who spend enough to pay for high-quality full-day pre-k. The State of Preschool 2020 full annual report can be accessed at <http://nieer.org/state-preschool-yearbooks>.

NIEER West Virginia Rankings SY 2020

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
6 TH	15 TH

RESOURCE RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
16 TH	4 TH

NIEER Quality Standards Checklist SY 2020

Policy	WV Pre-K Requirement	Benchmark	State Requirement Meets Benchmark
Early learning & development standards	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	✓
Curriculum supports	Approval process & supports	Approval process & supports	✓
Teacher degree	BA	BA	✓
Teacher specialized training	ECE, CD, ECE SpEd	Specializing in pre-K	✓
Assistant teacher degree	CDA	CDA or equivalent	✓
Staff professional development	15 hours/year; PD plans	For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching	
Maximum class size	20 (4-year-olds)	20 or lower	✓
Staff-child ratio	1:10 (3- & 4-year-olds)	1:10 or better	✓
Screening & referral	Vision, hearing, health & more; Support services	Vision, hearing, health & at least one support service	✓
Monitoring/Continuous quality improvement system	Structured classroom observations (more than once/year); Improvement plan	Structured classroom observation; program improvement plan	✓
Total Benchmarks Met			9 of 10

*Staff professional development- WVBE Policy 2525 requires that all pre-k staff participate in 15 hours of professional learning annually based on needs determined in the county continuous quality improvement process, which includes program assessment data. Classrooms collaborative with Head Start are required to implement a research-based universal pre-k coaching model that utilizes educator self-assessments and data to identify strengths and areas of needed support, as part of the CQI process. Further, it is recommended that all WV Pre-K classrooms include an effective pre-k coaching model as part of the CQI process to best support the individualized professional learning needs of education staff. Therefore, West Virginia meets part of the staff professional development NIEER Quality Standard.

Trend Data: NIEER Quality Standards Checklist & WV Universal Pre-K

Year	Number of NIEER Quality Benchmarks Met (out of 10)
2006	7
2007	7
2008	7
2009	7
2010	8
2011	8
2012	8
2013	8
2014	9
2015	10
2016	10 previous and 9 new
2017	10 previous and 9 new
2018	9*
2019	9
2020	9

*Beginning with the 2018 Yearbook, the previous quality standards benchmarks were replaced by the new benchmarks reported.

Friedman-Krauss, A. H., Barnett, W. S., Garver, K. A., Hodges, K. S., Weisenfeld, G. G. & Gardiner, B. A. (2020). The State of Preschool 2020: State Preschool Yearbook. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research.

Looking Ahead

WV Universal Pre-K SY 2021 Snapshot

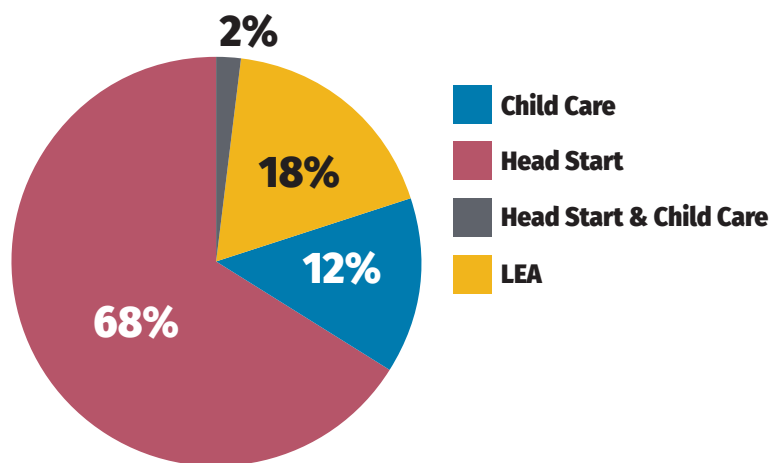
School-Readiness

All four-year-olds have access to high-quality Universal Pre-K programs.



Percent of four-year-old students enrolled in a WV Universal Pre-K program.

Collaboration Rates



WV Universal Pre-K Participation Rates (Four-Year-Olds) Trend Data SY 2019-2021

Year	Number of 4-Year-olds in Pre-K	Number of 5-Year-Olds in kindergarten	WV Universal Pre-K 4-Year-Old Participation Rate
2018-2019	13,716 (2017-2018)	18,346 (2018-2019)	75%
2019-2020	11,913 (2018-2019)	15,295 (2019-2020)	78%
2020-2021	13,385 (2019-2020)	15,969 (2020-2021)	84%

Footnotes:

- Participation rates are comparisons between the 5 yr. old kindergarten enrollment and the 4 yr. old population enrolled in pre-k from the previous year.
- During the 2017 legislative session, the age eligibility date for West Virginia Universal Pre-K was changed from September 1 to age four prior to July 1, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year and the age eligibility date for kindergarten was changed from September 1 to age four prior to July 1, beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. The decrease in pre-k enrollment during 2018-2019 and kindergarten in 2019-2020 can be attributed to changes to the age eligibility date.
- The participation rate for the 2020-2021 school year reflects kindergarten enrollment during the pandemic. Pre-k enrollment during this time will be reflected in participation rates for the 2021-2022 school year.
- The Pre-K Participation rate for 2020-2021 does not include 4-year-olds from the exclusion count based on enrollment status WVEIS (6 students).

Enrollment

WV Pre-K Enrollment	SY 20		SY 21 (Pandemic)	
	Total Pre-K	With IEP	Total Pre-K	With IEP
3 years old	1,232	1,232	1012	1012
4 years old	13,391	1,507	10,540	1,381
5 years old	273	123	244	114
Under 3 years	246	246	182	182
Total Pre-K Enrollment	15,142	3,108	11,978	2,689



W. Clayton Burch
West Virginia Superintendent of Schools