



# Publicly Funded Pre-Kindergarten Programs Serving Four-Year-Olds in South Carolina



**Estimated Four-Year-Old Population in South Carolina: 56,054<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Public 4K in South Carolina</b>	
Total children served in public 4K (04-05):	17,755 <sup>2</sup>
Percentage of overall children served in public 4K:	31.67%
<b>Full-Day Programming</b>	
Number of children served full-day:	9,653 <sup>2</sup>
Percentage of 4K participants served full-day:	54.37%
Estimated minimum number of full-day classrooms:	483 <sup>3</sup>
Estimated minimum cost full-day 4K*:	\$39,606,000 <sup>4</sup>
<b>Half-Day Programming</b>	
Number of children served half-day:	8,102 <sup>2</sup>
Percentage of 4K participants served half-day:	45.63%
Estimated minimum number of half-day sessions:	406 <sup>3</sup>
Estimated minimum cost of half-day 4K:	\$16,646,000 <sup>4</sup>
<b>Estimated Public Spending on 4K in SC:</b>	
EIA 4K funding (05-06)	\$21,532,678 <sup>6</sup>
Estimated non-EIA funds devoted to 4K:	\$34,719,322 <sup>7</sup>
(First Steps 4K funds 05-06, included in above)	\$4,600,000 <sup>8</sup>
<b>Estimated programmatic spending, per child (FULL-DAY):</b>	<b>\$4,102.97<sup>9</sup></b>
<b>Estimated programmatic spending, per child (HALF-DAY):</b>	<b>\$2,054.55<sup>9</sup></b>

<b>Head Start in South Carolina</b>	
Total children served (three- and four-year olds):	12,561 <sup>10</sup>
Estimated number of four-year-olds served:	6,059 (48.24%) <sup>10</sup>
Percentage of SC four-year-olds served by Head Start:	10.81%
<b>SC Head Start Funding in 2004-05:</b>	
Estimated HS spending on four-year-olds:	\$81,718,067 <sup>10</sup> \$39,420,796 <sup>11</sup>

<b>Preschool Special Education in South Carolina</b>	
Percentage of SC four-year-olds receiving special education services:	6.70% (3,756) <sup>12</sup>
Estimated percentage of SC four-year-olds receiving unduplicated classroom-based pre-kindergarten programming via special education:	3.35% (1878) <sup>13</sup>
Estimated spending on preschool special education serving four-year-olds in South Carolina:	PENDING <sup>14</sup>

<b>ABC Child Care Vouchers</b>	
Estimated number of SC four-year-olds receiving child care assistance through ABC voucher program:	2,395 <sup>15</sup>
Percentage of four-year-olds receiving ABC vouchers:	4.27%
Estimated spending on ABC vouchers targeted at four-year-olds:	\$7,903,500 <sup>16</sup>

<b>ACCESS to Publicly Funded Pre-Kindergarten Programs for Four-Year-Olds in South Carolina</b>		
Type of Pre-K Programming	Number of SC Four-Year-Olds Served	Percentage of SC Four-Year-Olds Served
Public 4K (EIA, First Steps, Title One, Local, etc.)	17,755	31.67%
Head Start (4-yr-old participation only)	6,059	10.81%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>23,814</b>	<b>42.48% (4K + Head Start only. Access estimate does not including Preschool Special Education and ABC vouchers in an effort to provide an unduplicated count.<sup>17</sup>)</b>

<b>Public SPENDING devoted to Pre-Kindergarten Programs for Four-Year-Olds in South Carolina</b>	
Program	Estimated Public Spending Devoted to Four-Year Old Programming
Public 4K	\$56,252,000 (includes all public spending: EIA, First Steps, Title One, Local)
Head Start	\$39,420,796 (48.24% of overall spending)
Preschool Special Education	PENDING
ABC Child Care Vouchers to Four-Year-Olds	\$7,903,501
<b>Estimated Annual Public Spending:</b>	<b>\$103,576,297</b>

**Footnotes:**

1. SC Office of Research and Statistics (ORS) estimate drawn from US Census Bureau Population Estimate 2004
2. SC Department of Education, Office of Early Childhood Education (Early Childhood Assets Studies, December 2005)
3. Exact classroom counts are not available. Estimated minimum number of classrooms is based upon student counts and a maximum group size of 20.
4. Average costs are *programmatic only* (staffing and supplies), and estimated at \$82,000 per full-day classroom and \$41,000 per half-day session. The SC Department of Education is currently reviewing the early childhood assets studies completed by each of the state's 85 school districts. This data, upon release, may provide a more precise portrait of actual spending – which is likely to surpass the conservative estimates provided here.
5. Total estimated cost is the sum of estimated full-day and half-day cost estimates.
6. Total EIA 4K allocations to school districts. Note that this figure does not include \$300,000 earmarked for Early Childhood Assets Studies. Source: FY 2005-2006 EIA Program Report on Half-Day 4K, SC Department of Education, Office of Early Childhood Education.
7. Estimate of non-EIA funds is derived from estimated total cost, minus EIA 4K allocation. These non-EIA sources - all public - include First Steps, federal and local funds.
8. South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness
9. These per child programmatic spending estimates (which include staffing and supplies only) are premised upon the classroom costs detailed in #4 above and a maximum class size of 20.
10. South Carolina Head Start Collaboration Office (South Carolina Head Start Census, December 2005)
11. This estimate constitutes 48.24% of the state's overall Head Start allocation. (48.24% of participants are four-years-old.)
12. SC Department of Education Office of Exceptional Children, 2004-2005 IDEA/FAPE reporting. Note that this figure (3,756 children) includes *all* special education services provided in *all* settings – including 4K, Head Start and child care.
13. In an effort to distinguish between students receiving *any* special education service (itinerant speech therapy, for example) and students receiving a classroom-based pre-kindergarten experience via special education, the overall figure of 3,756 has been divided in half to create an estimate of 1,878 (3.35% of children) thought to access classroom-based services via preschool special education. Because some of these children may have been captured in the 4K access figures provided as part of the December 2005 Early Childhood Assets data provided by school districts, this figure has been removed from the access table above in an effort to provide an unduplicated estimate of statewide Pre-K access.
14. An estimate of special education spending devoted to four-year-old programming is, as yet, unavailable.
15. SC Department of Social Services estimate, October 2005.
16. Estimated voucher cost of \$3,300 per child provided by SC Department of Social Services. Total estimated cost is derived by multiplying estimated number of children (2,395) by estimated voucher cost (\$3,300).
17. ABC Voucher recipients and Preschool Special Education students are not included in the access table in an effort to provide an unduplicated count. Some public 4K participants also receive ABC vouchers to provide wrap-around care, though this exact figure is unavailable. Additionally, it is likely that some (but not all) students accessing Pre-K through special education may be reflected in the 4K counts provided by school districts above.