

**The State of Preschool in the SECA States**  
**A Summary of the 2004 Preschool Yearbook from the**  
**National Institute for Early Education Research**

Source: *The State of Preschool: 2004 State Preschool Yearbook*,  
The National Institute for Early Education Research, Rutgers University, New Jersey

<b>National Rankings for the SECA States (State Funded Pre-K Programs)</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Access Ranking-4's</b>	<b>Access Ranking-3's</b>	<b>Resources Ranking</b>
<i>Alabama</i>	35	None served	14
<i>Arkansas</i>	26	12	21
<i>Georgia</i>	2	None served	12
<i>Kentucky</i>	7	3	27
<i>Louisiana</i>	12	None served	10
<i>North Carolina</i>	28	None served	6
<i>Oklahoma</i>	1	None served	29
<i>South Carolina</i>	4	15	35
<i>Tennessee</i>	32	21	7
<i>Texas</i>	3	8	26
<i>Virginia</i>	24	None served	20
<i>West Virginia</i>	6	4	18

*Note: Florida and Mississippi did not have state funded pre-school programs in 2004.*

<b>Quality Standards</b>	
<b>State</b>	<b># of Recommended Standards Met in State Pre-K Standards</b>
<i>Alabama</i>	8 of 10
<i>Arkansas</i>	10 of 10
<i>Georgia</i>	6 of 10
<i>Kentucky</i>	7 of 10
<i>Louisiana</i>	7 of 10 (Block Grant) 8 of 10 (LA4) 6 of 10 (NSECD)
<i>North Carolina</i>	9 of 10
<i>Oklahoma</i>	8 of 10
<i>South Carolina</i>	8 of 10
<i>Tennessee</i>	8 of 10
<i>Texas</i>	3 of 10
<i>Virginia</i>	5 of 10
<i>West Virginia</i>	5 of 10



Summary prepared by the Southern Early Childhood  
Association, PO Box 55930, Little Rock, AR 72215-5930  
1-800-305-SECA □ [www.southernearlychildhood.org](http://www.southernearlychildhood.org)

<b>Enrollment Trends in State Pre-K</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>'02-'03 Enrollment (4- year-olds in state)</b>	<b>'03-'04 Enrollment (4-year-olds in state)</b>
<i>Alabama</i>	2%	NA at press time
<i>Arkansas</i>	6%	6%
<i>Georgia</i>	54%	56%
<i>Kentucky</i>	28%	N/A at press time
<i>Louisiana</i>	21%	24%
<i>North Carolina</i>	6%	9%
<i>Oklahoma</i>	59%	64%
<i>South Carolina</i>	32%	32%
<i>Tennessee</i>	3%	3%
<i>Texas</i>	43%	46%
<i>Virginia</i>	6%	6%
<i>West Virginia</i>	29%	32%

<b>Resource Trends</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>'02-'03 Resources (Per Child)</b>	<b>'03-'04 Resources (Per Child)</b>
<i>Alabama</i>	\$3,638	N/A at press time
<i>Arkansas</i>	\$2,998	\$2,907
<i>Georgia</i>	\$3,824	\$3,830
<i>Kentucky</i>	\$2,484	N/A at press time
<i>Louisiana</i>	\$3,922	\$3,887
<i>North Carolina</i>	\$4,819	\$4,310
<i>Oklahoma</i>	\$2,368	\$2,409
<i>South Carolina</i>	\$1,303	\$1,324
<i>Tennessee</i>	\$4,573	\$3,534
<i>Texas</i>	\$2,746	\$2,614
<i>Virginia</i>	\$3,090	\$3,102
<i>West Virginia</i>	\$3,309	\$4,543

Source: *The State of Preschool: 2004 State Preschool Yearbook*,  
The National Institute for Early Education Research, Rutgers University, New Jersey



Summary prepared by the Southern Early Childhood  
Association, PO Box 55930, Little Rock, AR 72215-5930  
1-800-305-SECA □ [www.southernearlychildhood.org](http://www.southernearlychildhood.org)

<b>Teacher/Staff Requirements</b>				
<b>State</b>	<b>Teacher Degree Requirement</b>	<b>Teacher Specialized Training</b>	<b>Asst Teacher Degree Requirement</b>	<b>Teacher in-service requirement</b>
<i>Alabama</i>	BA	Degree in ECE, ECSE, EE or CD	CDA	40 clock hours
<i>Arkansas</i>	BA	P-4 Teacher license	CDA	30 clock hours
<i>Georgia</i>	AA or Montessori diploma	Degree in ECE or meet Montessori requirements	HSD or equivalent + experience	12 clock hours
<i>Kentucky</i>	CDA	CDA	HSD	4 days for certified teachers 18 clock hours for CDAs/AAs
<i>Louisiana</i>	BA (Block grant)	Certification in N or K	Determined locally	150 clock hours/5 years
	BA (LA4)	Certificate in N, K, or early intervention	HSD or equivalent (public) None (nonpublic)	18 clock hours
	BA (NSECD)	Degree in EE, K or N or 12 credits in CD	None	None
North Carolina	BA	Birth-K license	CDA or meets NCLB regs (public), CDA (non-public)	150 clock hours/5 years or 15 credit hours/5 years
Oklahoma	BA	EC certificate	GED or HSD	15 clock hours
South Carolina	BA	EC certification & licensure	HSD (public) None (non-public)	12 clock hours per year & 6 credit hours every 5 years
Tennessee	BA	Teacher license with Pre-K endorsement	CDA	18 clock hours
Texas	BA	Endorsement in EC or K	Determined locally	Not specified
Virginia	BA (public) None (nonpublic)	Certification in Pre-K-3 or -6 (public) None (nonpublic)	HSD or GED	Determined locally
West Virginia	BA	Certified in Birth-5, EC or Preschool Special Needs; or Pre-K/K endorsement; or EE certificate	HSD or equivalent	18 clock hours

Source: *The State of Preschool: 2004 State Preschool Yearbook*,  
The National Institute for Early Education Research, Rutgers University, New Jersey



Summary prepared by the Southern Early Childhood Association, PO Box 55930, Little Rock, AR 72215-5930  
1-800-305-SECA □ [www.southernearlychildhood.org](http://www.southernearlychildhood.org)

<b>Access to Pre-K</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Total state program enrollment</b>	<b>School districts that offer state program</b>	<b>Income requirement</b>
<i>Alabama</i>	1,260	94% (counties)	None
<i>Arkansas</i>	3,806	63%	156% of FPL
<i>Georgia</i>	65,900	100%	None
<i>Kentucky</i>	18,882	100%	130% of FPL
<i>Louisiana</i>	4721 (Block Grant) 7,222 (LA4) 1,025 (Nonpublic Schools)	98% (parishes) 82% 9% (parishes)	None 185% FPL 200% FPL
<i>North Carolina</i>	6,271	91% (counties)	None
<i>Oklahoma</i>	28,060	91%	None
<i>South Carolina</i>	17,279	100%	None
<i>Tennessee</i>	3,280	46%	185% FPL
<i>Texas</i>	157,498	74%	Free or reduced-price lunch eligible
<i>Virginia</i>	5,886	55%	None
<i>West Virginia</i>	7,727	80% (counties)	None

<b>Resources ('02-'03 School Year)</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Total state Pre-K spending</b>	<b>Local match required</b>
<i>Alabama</i>	\$4,584,500	50% of granted amount
<i>Arkansas</i>	\$9,250,285 (center based component only)	40% of total funding
<i>Georgia</i>	\$252,000,000	No
<i>Kentucky</i>	\$46,900,000	No
<i>Louisiana</i>	\$9,358,905 (Block grant) \$35,000,000 (LA4) \$6,000,000 (NSECD)	No No No
<i>North Carolina</i>	\$30,217,723	Yes, but amount not specified
<i>Oklahoma</i>	\$66,439,166	No
<i>South Carolina</i>	\$22,514,278	No
<i>Tennessee</i>	\$15,000,000	No
<i>Texas</i>	\$432,436,912	No
<i>Virginia</i>	\$18,189,075	Based on composite index of local ability to pay/match varies by community wealth
<i>West Virginia</i>	\$25,571,000	No

Source: *The State of Preschool: 2004 State Preschool Yearbook*,  
The National Institute for Early Education Research, Rutgers University, New Jersey



Summary prepared by the Southern Early Childhood Association, PO Box 55930, Little Rock, AR 72215-5930  
1-800-305-SECA □ [www.southernearlychildhood.org](http://www.southernearlychildhood.org)

<b>Standards Checklist</b>				
<b>State</b>	<b>Curriculum Standards</b>	<b>Maximum Class Size (4's)</b>	<b>Staff-child Ratio</b>	<b>Hours of Operation</b>
<i>Alabama</i>	None	18	1:9	Full-day/ week Academic year
<i>Arkansas</i>	Comprehensive	20	1:10	Full-day,/ week Academic year
<i>Georgia</i>	Not comprehensive	20	1:10	Full-day/week Academic year
<i>Kentucky</i>	None	20	1:10	Determined locally Academic year
<i>Louisiana</i>	Comprehensive (Block Grant)	20	1:10	Full-day/week Academic year
	Comprehensive ( LA4)	20	1:10	Full-day/week Academic year
	Comprehensive (NSECD)	20	1:10	Full-day/week Academic year
<i>North Carolina</i>	None	18	1:9	Full-day/week Academic year
<i>Oklahoma</i>	Comprehensive	20	1:10	Determined locally Academic year
<i>South Carolina</i>	Not comprehensive	20	1:10	Half-day, full week Academic year
<i>Tennessee</i>	None	20	1:10	5.5 hours/day full week academic year
<i>Texas</i>	Comprehensive	No limit	No limit	Half-day/full week Academic year
<i>Virginia</i>	Not comprehensive	16	1:8	Full-day/week Academic year
<i>West Virginia</i>	None	20	1:10	Determined locally Academic year

Source: *The State of Preschool: 2004 State Preschool Yearbook*,  
The National Institute for Early Education Research, Rutgers University, New Jersey



Summary prepared by the Southern Early Childhood Association, PO Box 55930, Little Rock, AR 72215-5930  
1-800-305-SECA □ [www.southernearlychildhood.org](http://www.southernearlychildhood.org)

