



## Nebraska Preschool Program Comparison

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### District Size Category: $\leq 250$

Districts in this category: 28

Total Preschool Enrollment: 500

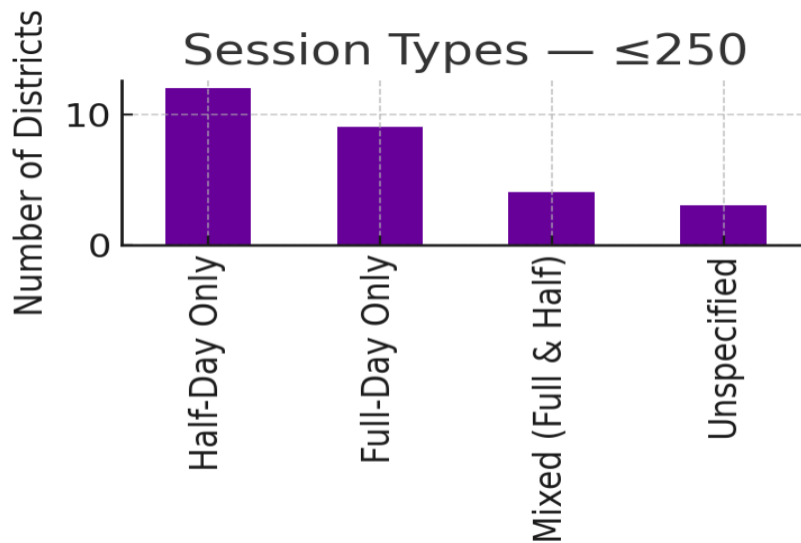
Average Preschool Enrollment per District: 17.9

Total Classrooms: 27

Teacher FTE (sum): 28.0

Para FTE (sum): 39.5

Total FTE (sum): 67.5



- Key Themes:
- Very limited preschool capacity
- Teachers often shared across multiple grades
- Facilities space is a recurring concern

## District Size Category: 251–500

Districts in this category: 35

Total Preschool Enrollment: 1370

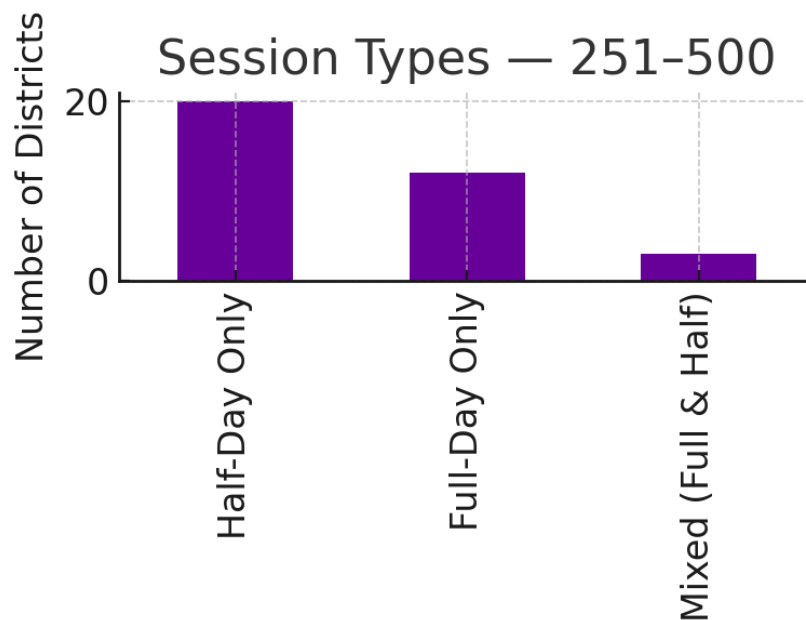
Average Preschool Enrollment per District: 39.1

Total Classrooms: 58

Teacher FTE (sum): 55.0

Para FTE (sum): 66.0

Total FTE (sum): 121.0



- Key Themes:
  - Staffing shortages, especially paras
  - Transportation is inconsistent or unavailable
  - Programs often only offer half-day sessions

## District Size Category: 501–1,000

Districts in this category: 19

Total Preschool Enrollment: 763

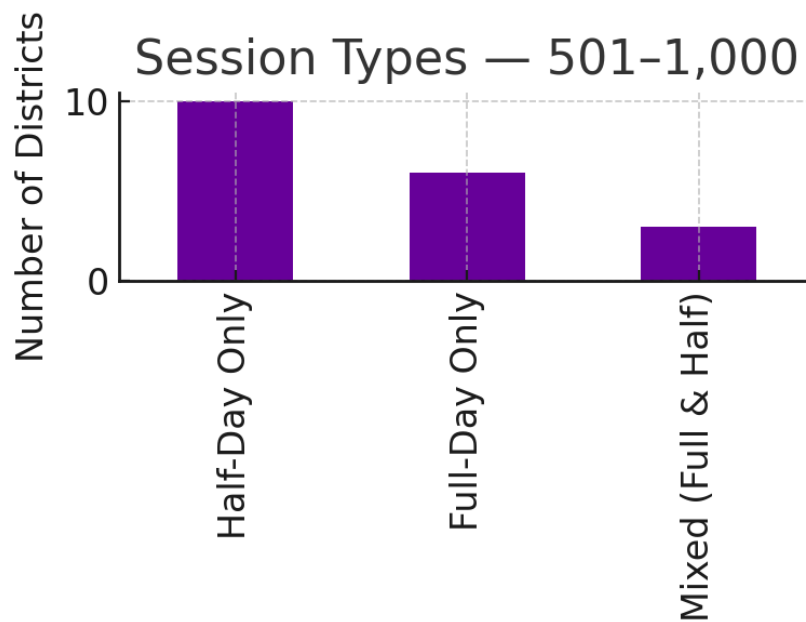
Average Preschool Enrollment per District: 40.2

Total Classrooms: 42

Teacher FTE (sum): 37.0

Para FTE (sum): 50.75

Total FTE (sum): 87.75



- Key Themes:
  - Limited classroom capacity compared to peers
  - Few full-day preschool options
  - Families face waitlists for entry

## District Size Category: 1,001–2,000

Districts in this category: 4

Total Preschool Enrollment: 188

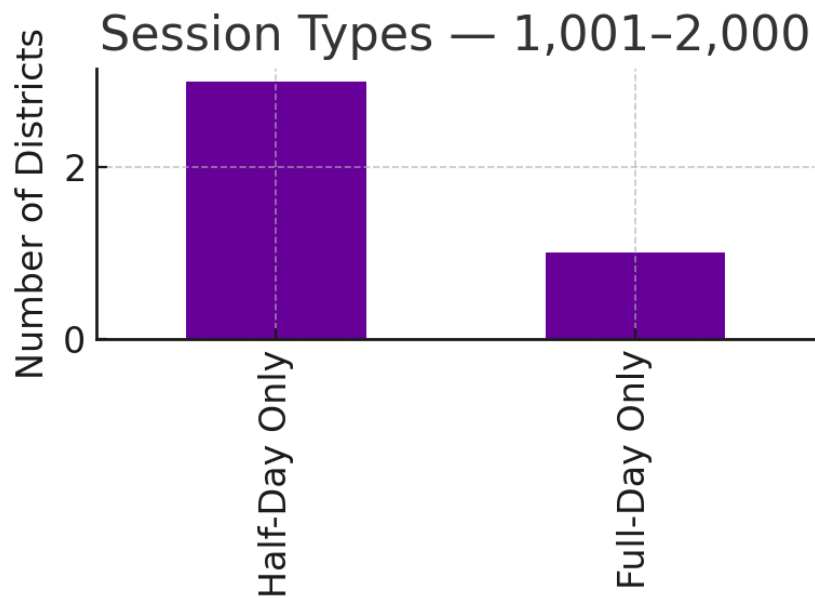
Average Preschool Enrollment per District: 47.0

Total Classrooms: 17

Teacher FTE (sum): 12.0

Para FTE (sum): 17.0

Total FTE (sum): 29.0



- Key Themes:
  - Balancing expansion with resource constraints
  - Equity across multiple school sites
  - Compliance and reporting add administrative load

## What This Means for Minden Public Schools

Minden Public Schools has an overall enrollment of about 850 students. Our preschool program includes two half-day classrooms serving ~30–35 children (<5% of total district enrollment). Compared to peer districts in the 501–1,000 category, Minden offers fewer preschool seats and limited options, such as transportation and before- and after-school care. In fact, Minden’s preschool capacity resembles that of much smaller districts (enrollment  $\leq 250$  and 251–500), which typically operate with limited classroom options and part-day schedules. This shows preschool is available but limited, and expansion may be considered in the future.

