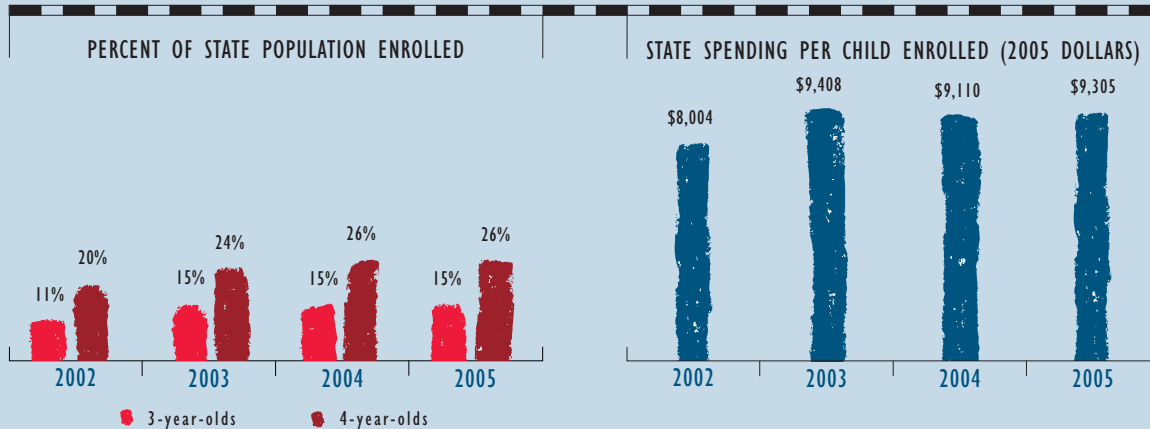


New Jersey



As a result of a 1998 state Supreme Court ruling, New Jersey's Abbott program is offered in the state's 31 highest poverty districts. The goal of this program is to provide high-quality preschool for all 3- and 4-year-olds in districts where at least 40 percent of children qualify for free or reduced-price meals. Funds from the Department of Education are provided to Abbott school districts. The districts may serve children in district public schools or contract with private providers and Head Start agencies to provide preschool programs. Additional money from the Department of Human Services is available to fund extended-day services for up to 10 hours per day. School districts are responsible for ensuring that individual programs, regardless of setting, meet the standards set out by the state Supreme Court. Teacher salaries are fully funded through the Abbott program, so that teachers in private centers are paid on the public school salary scale. In addition, annual evaluations are conducted in every district to promote uniform quality for every child.

State funds also support Non-Abbott Early Childhood Program Aid (ECPA), which provides half-day preschool primarily to 4-year-olds in 102 additional districts. State funds are provided for districts in which 20 to 40 percent of children qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. The majority of programs are in public schools, but some operate in Head Start or private child care centers. ECPA funds are also used to support full-day kindergarten and improve services for children up to grade 3.

To improve program quality, ECPA districts are aligning their standards with the high-quality program standards used in the Abbott districts. New regulations that reduce class size and require assistant teachers in every ECPA classroom went into effect in September 2005. The development of Abbott and Non-Abbott versions of the Preschool Program Implementation Guidelines has helped districts improve quality and meet state expectations.

A third program, the Early Launch to Learning Initiative (ELLI), began serving children in 2004 as part of an effort to provide access to high-quality preschool for all 4-year-olds by 2010. All districts that serve elementary-aged children are encouraged to apply. The level of funding is based on the number of low-income children to be served. Districts already providing preschool through other funding sources are eligible to apply for funding to cover all income-eligible children if they plan to expand their program. Districts receiving ECPA funds, with the exclusion of Abbott districts, are eligible for funding to increase from half-day to full-day programs.

In order to document the contributions New Jersey makes to prekindergarten through its separate initiatives, we first present summary information reflecting the state's overall commitment to prekindergarten. Enrollment and state spending for Abbott, ECPA, and ELLI initiatives are taken into account. Next, we present specific details about each initiative in the state. The third page of this profile focuses exclusively on the Abbott program; the fourth page focuses exclusively on the ECPA program; and the final page focuses exclusively on the ELLI program.

STATE OVERVIEW

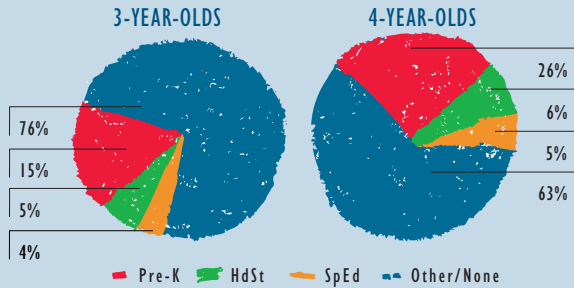
Total state program enrollment - - - - -	46,464
Total state spending - - - - -	\$432,347,956
State spending per child enrolled - - - - -	\$9,305
State spending per 3-year-old - - - - -	\$1,536
State spending per 4-year-old - - - - -	\$2,226

* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

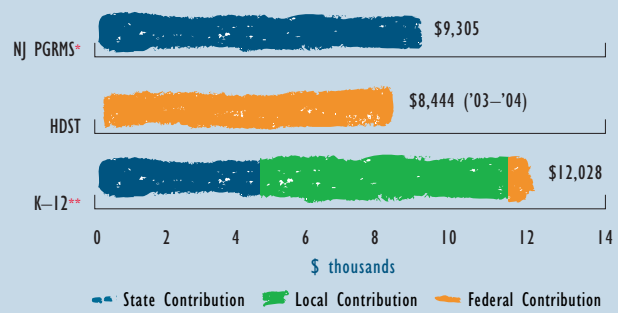
** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '04-'05 school year, unless otherwise noted.

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



ACCESS RANKING—4s

12

ACCESS RANKING—3s

1

RESOURCES RANKING

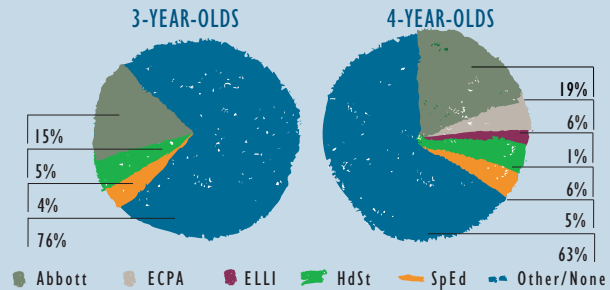
1

NEW JERSEY ABBOTT PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

ACCESS

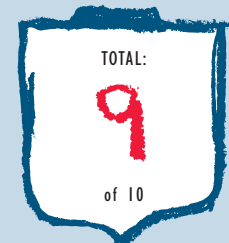
Total state program enrollment	-----	38,683
School districts that offer state program	-----	6%
Income requirement	-----	None ¹
Hours of operation	-----	10 hours/day, 5 days/week ²
Operating schedule	-----	Determined locally ²
Special education enrollment	-----	10,509
Federally funded Head Start enrollment '03-'04	-----	13,679
State-funded Head Start enrollment	-----	0

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



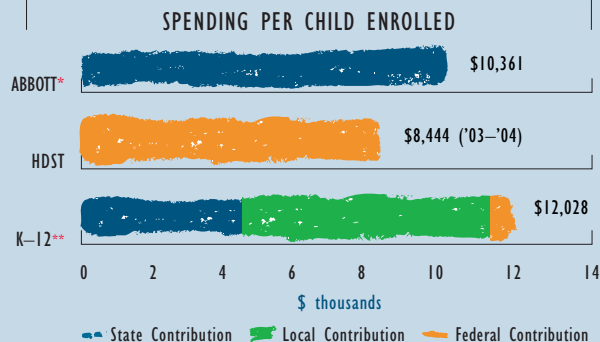
QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	----- Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	----- BA ³	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	----- EC certification	Specializing in Pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	----- HSD	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	----- 100 clock hours/5 years	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	----- 15		
4-year-olds	----- 15		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	----- 2:15		
4-year-olds	----- 2:15		
Screening/referral	Vision, hearing, health, and	Vision, hearing, health;	
and support services	----- developmental; and support services ⁴	and at least 1 service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	----- Breakfast, lunch and snack	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	----- Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	-----	\$400,782,544 ⁵
Local match required?	-----	No
State spending per child enrolled	-----	\$10,361
State spending per 3-year-old	-----	\$1,531
State spending per 4-year-old	-----	\$1,953



* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
 ** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '04-'05 school year, unless otherwise noted.

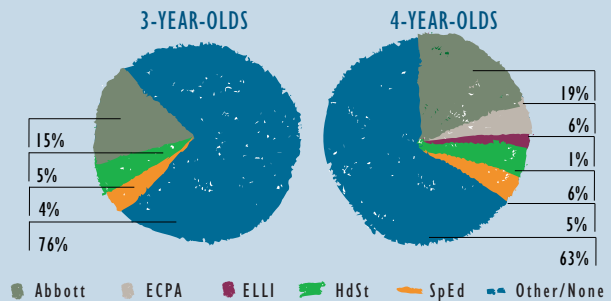
¹ Only districts where at least 40% of children qualify for free or reduced-price lunch receive funding through this initiative. All 3- and 4-year-old children within those districts are eligible to participate.
² Funds from the Department of Human Services (DHS) are combined with DOE funds to operate programs for 10 hours per day and 245 days per year. At least 180 days must include the 6-hour educational day plus 4 hours of wrap-around services. Some districts may choose to provide 10 hours of service per day for more than 180 days.
³ Teachers who worked in center-based programs before the degree requirement was implemented have until September 2006 to meet the requirement. In 2005, fewer than 1.5% of teachers did not yet meet the degree requirement.
⁴ Support services include parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.
⁵ This figure reflects DOE funds only, and does not include additional funds from the DHS. The DOE mandates and pays for a 6-hour educational day, and the DHS provides approximately \$3,700 per child to extend operation to a 10-hour day.

NEW JERSEY NON-ABBOTT EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM AID

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	-----	7,247
School districts that offer state program	-----	19%
Income requirement	-----	None ¹
Hours of operation	-----	At least 3 hours/day, 5 days/week
Operating schedule	-----	Academic year
Special education enrollment	-----	10,509
Federally funded Head Start enrollment '03-'04	-----	13,679
State-funded Head Start enrollment	-----	0

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



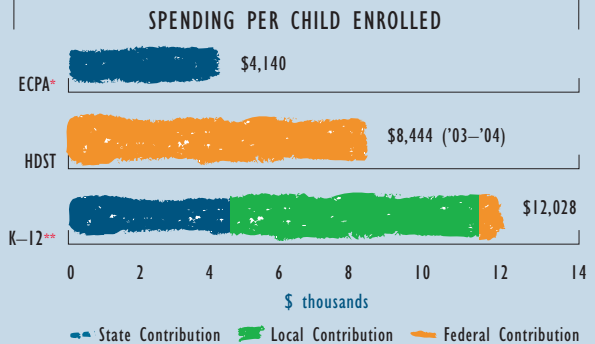
QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	-----	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	-----	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	-----	Specializing in Pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	-----	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	-----	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	-----		
4-year-olds	-----		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	-----		
4-year-olds	-----		
Screening/referral	Vision, hearing, health;	Vision, hearing, health;	
and support services	-----	and at least 1 service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	-----	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	-----	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	-----	\$30,000,000 ⁴
Local match required?	-----	No
State spending per child enrolled	-----	\$4,140
State spending per 3-year-old	-----	\$5
State spending per 4-year-old	-----	\$259



^{*} Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

^{**} K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '04-'05 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Only districts where 20 to 40% of children qualify for free or reduced-price lunch receive funding through this initiative. All 3- and 4-year-old children within those districts are eligible to participate. However, the program is only open to 3-year-olds once the district has offered full-day kindergarten to all age-eligible children, and either half- or full-day preschool to all 4-year-olds.

² Support services include education services or job training for parents, parent involvement activities, transition to kindergarten activities, and other locally determined services.

³ Meals are required in full-day programs.

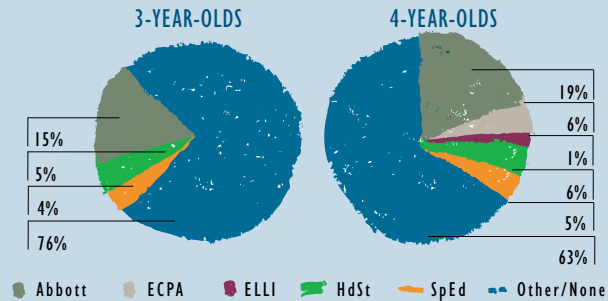
⁴ This figure is an estimate of state funds directed to services for preschool-age children.

NEW JERSEY EARLY LAUNCH TO LEARNING INITIATIVE

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	-----	534
School districts that offer state program	-----	5%
Income requirement	-----	185% FPL ¹
Hours of operation	-----	Determined locally ²
Operating schedule	-----	Academic year
Special education enrollment	-----	10,509
Federally funded Head Start enrollment '03-'04	-----	13,697
State-funded Head Start enrollment	-----	0

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY

STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT

Early learning standards	-----	Comprehensive
Teacher degree	-----	BA
Teacher specialized training	-----	EC certification
Assistant teacher degree	-----	HSD
Teacher in-service	-----	100 clock hours/5 years
Maximum class size		
3-year-olds	-----	NA
4-year-olds	-----	20
Staff-child ratio		
3-year-olds	-----	NA
4-year-olds	-----	1:10
Screening/referral		Vision, hearing, health, and
and support services	-----	developmental; and support services ³
Meals	-----	Depend on length of program day ⁴
Monitoring	-----	Site visits and other monitoring

BENCHMARK

DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?

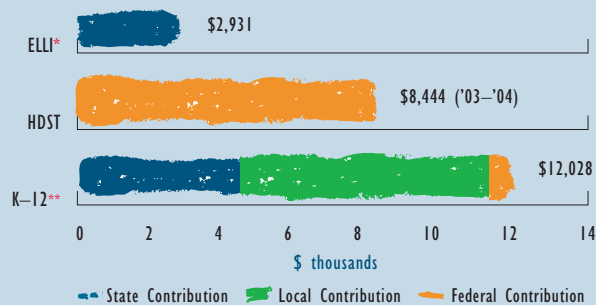
Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Specializing in Pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	-----	\$1,565,412
Local match required?	-----	Yes ⁵
State spending per child enrolled	-----	\$2,931
State spending per 3-year-old	-----	\$0
State spending per 4-year-old	-----	\$14

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '04-'05 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Special circumstances may be considered beyond income, such as parental health or the number of children in a household under the age of 5.

² Programs operate either half-day (2 hours, 45 minutes) or full-day (6 hours), and for 5 days per week.

³ Support services include parent involvement activities and transition to kindergarten activities.

⁴ Full-day programs must offer breakfast and lunch.

⁵ Special education and local funding or tuition must be used to meet costs beyond DOE funding.

