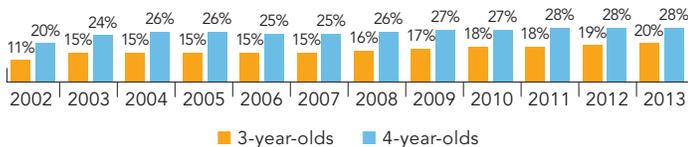
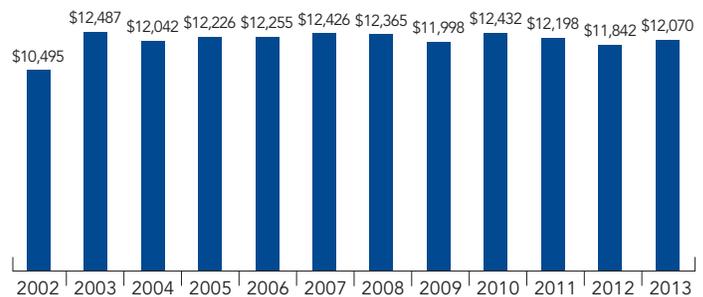


New Jersey

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2013 DOLLARS)



Established as the result of the 1998 New Jersey Supreme Court decision, the largest and most intensive of New Jersey’s three state-funded preschool programs (formerly known as the Abbott Preschool Program) served 43,671 children in 35 school districts during the 2012-2013 school year. Eligible districts receive funding from the New Jersey Department of Education (DOE) to provide the program to all resident 3- and 4-year-olds who choose to enroll. Districts may contract with Head Start programs or private child care centers that meet state standards to deliver services. Additionally, the state Department of Human Services (DHS) offers supplemental child care subsidy funds for Abbott districts to provide extended-day and extended-year services to families; however, changes in DHS eligibility requirements have resulted in a reduced number of programs offering the wrap-around option and fewer children receiving wrap-around services. A “hold harmless” article in the state’s school funding formula prevents former Abbott districts from receiving less preschool aid from DOE than was received in 2008-2009, when the school funding formula went into effect. Formal evaluations of program quality and impact on child outcomes for the former Abbott program were conducted in 2011 and 2013 respectively.

Formerly known as the Non-Abbott Early Childhood Program Aid (ECPA), a second state-funded preschool program is required only in districts where 20 to 40 percent of children meet the criteria for free or reduced-price lunch services. During the 2012-2013 school year, the number of districts offering this program was reduced from 96 to 94, as declining populations in two districts no longer permitted program continuation. These ECPA districts may contract with private providers or Head Start to deliver services. Enrollment in ECPA programs increased during the 2012-2013 school year to 7,515 students, as financial support increased for the second consecutive year.

In 2004, a third program, formerly known as the Early Launch to Learning Initiative (ELLI), was established as part of New Jersey’s efforts to offer access to high-quality prekindergarten education to all of the state’s low-income 4-year-olds. All non-Abbott districts may apply for funds to expand prekindergarten enrollment, improve program quality, or extend program hours. Funding levels are determined by length of the program day and number of low-income 4-year-olds. Twenty-four districts offered the ELLI program to an increased enrollment of 540 children during the 2012-2013 school year.

Beginning in the 2009-2010 school year, districts across all three programs received funding based on the School Funding Reform Act (SFRA) of 2008. SFRA’s funding formula generated a total budget amount for each district, within which districts built their respective budgets. As outlined in the SFRA, New Jersey planned to increase full-day preschool for at-risk 3- and 4-year-olds in all school districts over a six year period, with the goal of providing preschool for an additional 30,000 children by fall of 2013. Although the former ELLI program was level-funded in 2012-2013, the former Abbott and ECPA programs each received increased funding from the previous year to permit the enrollment of additional children.

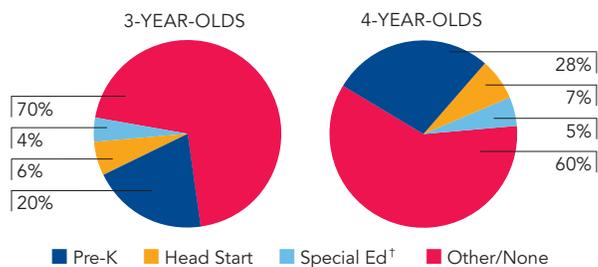
New Jersey was one of five states funded in the third round of federal Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge in 2013.

In order to present the contributions New Jersey makes to preschool education throughout its three separate programs, summary information reflecting the state’s overall commitment to preschool is first presented, where enrollment and state spending for the former Abbott, ECPA, and ELLI programs are combined to demonstrate a comprehensive state profile. Next, we present specific details about each initiative in the state. The third page of this profile focuses exclusively on the former Abbott program; the fourth page on the former ECPA program; and the final page on the former ELLI program.

STATE OVERVIEW

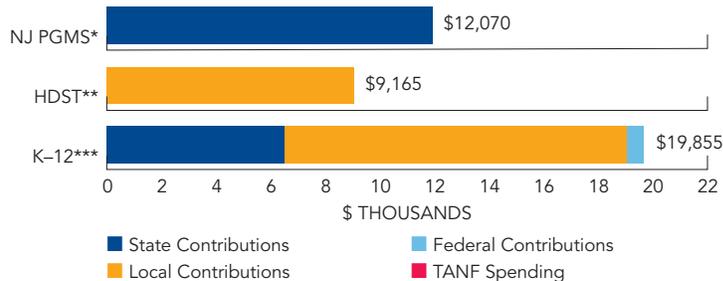
Total state program enrollment	51,726
Total state spending	\$624,344,361
State spending per child enrolled	\$12,070
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$12,070

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



† This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



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

** Head Start per-child spending for the 2012-2013 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years figured have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '12-'13 school year, unless otherwise noted.

ACCESS RANKINGS

4-YEAR-OLDS

3-YEAR-OLDS

17

3

RESOURCES RANKINGS

STATE SPENDING

ALL REPORTED SPENDING

2

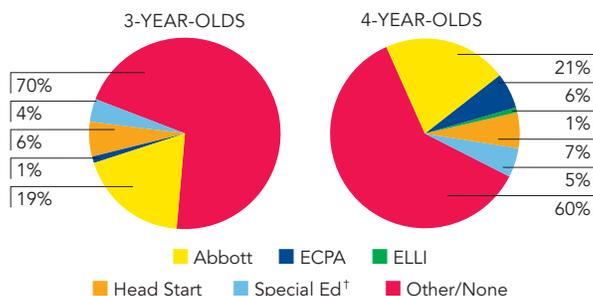
3

NEW JERSEY FORMER ABBOTT PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	43,671
School districts that offer state program	6%
Income requirement	None ¹
Hours of operation	6 hours/day, 5 days/week ²
Operating schedule	Academic year ²
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	11,160
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	12,701
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	0

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



† This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

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	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized	P-3, Nursery School Certificate, P-8 with 2 years preschool teaching experience ³	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD ⁴	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, dental, and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support 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"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

9

RESOURCES

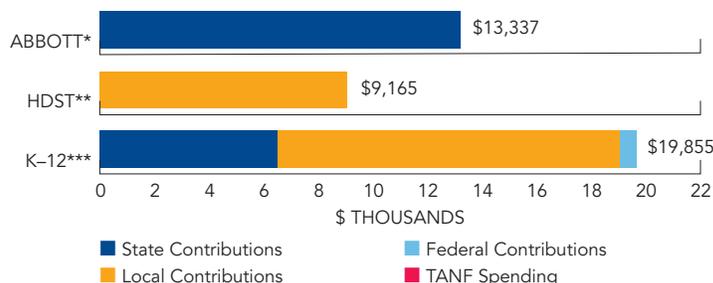
Total state pre-K spending	\$582,440,127
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$13,337 ⁶
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$13,337 ⁶

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

** Head Start per-child spending for the 2012-2013 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years figured have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '12-'13 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ The program is offered in the poor urban districts initially identified by the NJ Supreme Court in 1990 as having at least 40 percent of children who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, and 4 additional districts designated since by the legislature. All 3- and 4-year-old children within those districts are eligible to participate.

² Providers are only required by the Department of Education to provide a 6-hour educational program for the 180-day academic year. Providers can choose to operate a before- and after-care program and/or a full-year (245-day) program. If they chose to do so, all children meeting income requirements are paid for through the Department for Children and Families.

³ Teachers with an Elementary School certificate (N-8) may teach preschool if they have an equivalent of two academic years of full-time experience teaching 3- and 4-year-olds under the certificate or demonstrate content knowledge in line with a district's established documentation requirements. Teachers with related certificates may apply for preschool licensure, take the Praxis exam, and begin the process of obtaining a P-3 certificate.

⁴ Assistant teachers in public schools supported by Title I funding must meet the education/degree requirements specified in NCLB.

⁵ Support services include parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, transition to kindergarten activities and parent conferences or home visits.

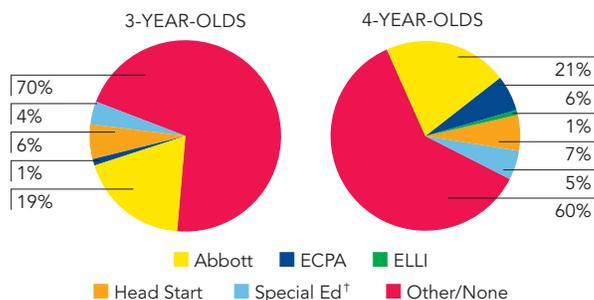
⁶ State per-child spending in New Jersey appears to be higher for state prekindergarten programs than for K-12 education, but this is not the case in the districts that offer state pre-K. More than 80 percent of state prekindergarten enrollment is in Abbott districts, which also have a K-12 state aid payment that is nearly 3 times the statewide average per child. In other words, state spending per child is also much higher for K-12 in the Abbott districts.

NEW JERSEY FORMER NON-ABBOTT EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM AID

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	7,515
School districts that offer state program	16%
Income requirement	None ¹
Hours of operation	2.5 or 6 hours/day, 5 days/week ²
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	11,160
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	12,701
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	0

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



† This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

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	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized	P-3, Nursery School Certificate, P-8 with 2 years preschool teaching experience ³	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD ⁴	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	18		
4-year-olds	18		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	1:9		
4-year-olds	1:9		
Screening/referral	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Depends on length of program day ⁶	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

8

RESOURCES

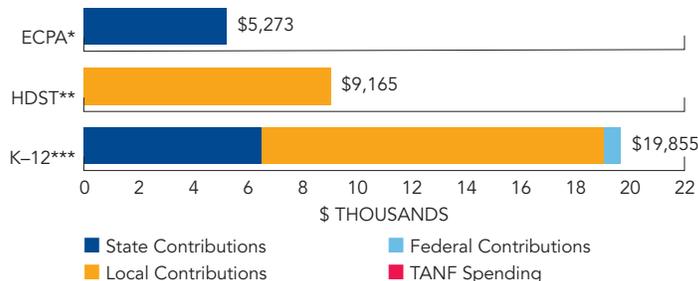
Total state pre-K spending	\$39,623,934 ⁷
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$5,273
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$5,273

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

** Head Start per-child spending for the 2012-2013 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years figured have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '12-'13 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ Funds are only provided to those districts indicated by the legislature at the program's inception as having between 20 to 40 percent of children who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. 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 Part-day programs must be at least 2.5 hours per day; school-day programs must be at least 6 hours per day. Length of program day varies by districts. In some cases, both part- and school-day programs are offered. Part-day programs are most common.

³ Teachers with an Elementary School certificate (N-8) may teach preschool if they have an equivalent of two academic years of full-time experience teaching 3- and 4-year-olds under the certificate or demonstrate content knowledge in line with a district's established documentation requirements. Teachers with related certificates may apply for preschool licensure, take the Praxis exam, and begin the process of obtaining a P-3 certificate.

⁴ Assistant teachers in public schools supported by Title I funding must meet the education/degree requirements specified in NCLB.

⁵ Support services include parent involvement activities, health services for children, parent conferences or home visits, and transition to kindergarten activities.

⁶ Breakfast, lunch and snack are required for at-risk students in school- and extended-day programs.

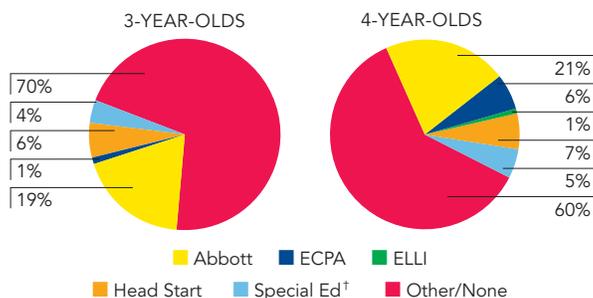
⁷ This figure reflects state funds directed to services for preschool-age children. Additionally, unspecified amounts of federal or local funds contribute to the program.

NEW JERSEY FORMER EARLY LAUNCH TO LEARNING INITIATIVE

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	540
School districts that offer state program	4%
Income requirement	185% FPL ¹
Hours of operation	2.5 or 6 hours/day, 5 days/week ²
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	11,160
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	12,701
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	0

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



[†] This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

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	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized	P-3, Nursery School Certificate, P-8 with 2 years preschool teaching experience ²	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD ³	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	NA		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	1:10		
Screening/referral	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Depends on length of program day ⁵	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

8

RESOURCES

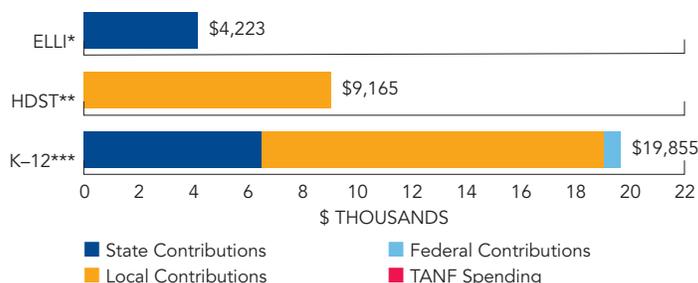
Total state pre-K spending	\$2,280,300
Local match required?	Yes ⁶
State spending per child enrolled	\$4,223
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$4,223

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

** Head Start per-child spending for the 2012-2013 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years figured have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '12-'13 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ Districts may enroll other students in unusual circumstances.

² Teachers with an Elementary School certificate (N-8) may teach preschool if they have an equivalent of two academic years of full-time experience teaching 3- and 4-year-olds under the certificate or demonstrate content knowledge in line with a district's established documentation requirements. Teachers with related certificates may apply for preschool licensure, take the Praxis exam, and begin the process of obtaining a P-3 certificate.

³ Assistant teachers in public schools supported by Title I funding must meet the education/degree requirements specified in NCLB.

⁴ Support services include parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, parent conferences or home visits, and transition to kindergarten activities.

⁵ School- and extended-day programs are required to offer breakfast, lunch, and snack for at-risk students.

⁶ Classrooms must include general and special education students funded through other sources.