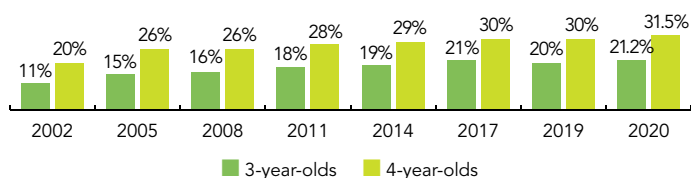
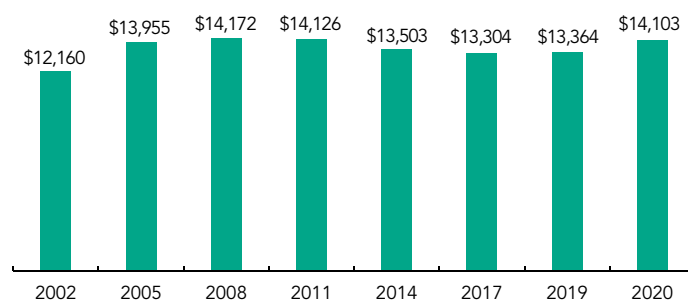


New Jersey

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2020 DOLLARS)



OVERVIEW

New Jersey preschool programs enrolled 55,413 children in 2019-2020, an increase of 2,860 children from the prior year. State funding totaled \$781,471,254, up \$79,150,473 (11%), adjusted for inflation, since last year. State spending per child equaled \$14,103 in 2019-2020, up \$739 from 2018-2019, adjusted for inflation. New Jersey met an average of 8 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

WHAT'S NEW

For the third year in a row, Governor Murphy allocated new funding for preschool expansion in the 2019-2020 school year. The NJ Department of Education (DOE) led a competitive application process to award school districts with this additional funding to serve more children in high-quality, full-day preschool programs. Increased funding was also allocated to maintain the prior year expansion and provide a cost of living increase for all other existing preschool slots.

Also, in December 2019, New Jersey was one of 23 states awarded a three-year PDG B-5 renewal grant for \$11,178,750 designed to implement the strategic plan developed with the 2018 PDG B-5 planning grant.

A March 2020 Executive order physically closed all schools and child care/Head Start facilities through the end of the school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but all programs were required to provide remote instruction during that time.

BACKGROUND

New Jersey funds three preschool programs. The largest and most intensive of the programs, formerly known as the Abbott Preschool Program and now referred to as the state's Preschool Expansion program, served 51,648 children in 118 of the state's poorest school districts during the 2019-2020 school year. These numbers include the original 31 Abbott districts as well as districts more recently approved to expand their preschool programs to meet Abbott standards. The NJ DOE funds eligible districts to provide a full-day program to all 3- and 4-year-olds who live in those districts and choose to enroll. Private child-care centers or Head Start programs that meet state standards may contract with districts to deliver services.

The Non-Abbott Early Childhood Program Aid (ECPA) program operates in districts where 20% to 40% of children met the criteria for free or reduced-price lunch when the program was established in the late 1990's. New Jersey's third program, formerly known as the Early Launch to Learning Initiative (ELLI), was established in 2004 as part of an effort to expand access to high-quality pre-K education to all 4-year-olds in low-income households across the state. There is some overlap between districts in the ECPA and ELLI program, and some of these districts have recently elected to expand their programs in line with the former Abbott program.

Now that the original federal PDG has phased out, New Jersey is using state funding to support former grant slots, including in the three districts outside of New Jersey's state-funded programs participating in the PDG.

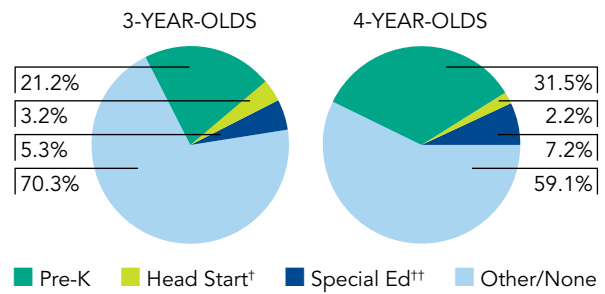
New Jersey's overall support for state-funded preschool, including enrollment and funding for Abbott, ECPA, and ELLI, is depicted in the first two pages of this state profile. The third page focuses solely on Abbott, the fourth page provides information on ECPA, and the fifth on ELLI.

NEW JERSEY STATE OVERVIEW

ACCESS

| | |
|--|--------|
| Total state pre-K enrollment | 55,413 |
| Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 | 13,934 |
| Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 | 11,385 |
| State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4..... | 0 |

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE

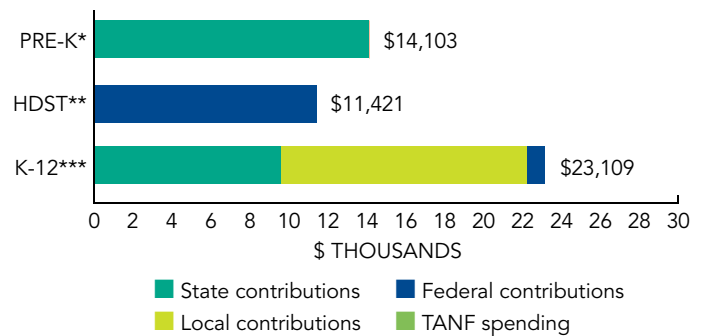


[†] Estimates children in Head Start not also enrolled in state pre-K.
^{††} Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

RESOURCES

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Total state pre-K spending | \$781,471,254 |
| State Head Start spending | \$0 |
| State spending per child enrolled | \$14,103 |
| All reported spending per child enrolled* | \$14,103 |

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 includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.
 *** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

| ACCESS RANKINGS | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 4-YEAR-OLDS | 3-YEAR-OLDS |
| 22 | 4 |

| RESOURCE RANKINGS | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| STATE SPENDING | ALL REPORTED SPENDING |
| 2 | 2 |

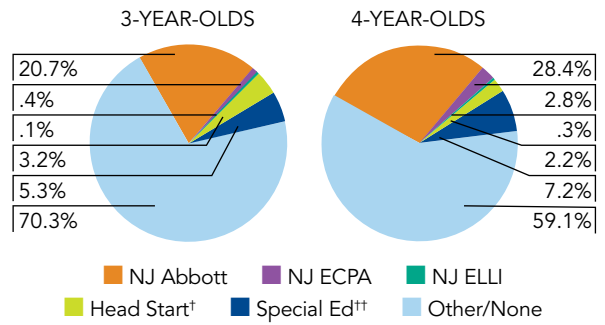
| TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET |
|----------------------|
| 8 |

NEW JERSEY PRESCHOOL EXPANSION PROGRAM (FORMER ABBOTT PRESCHOOL PROGRAM)

ACCESS

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Total state pre-K enrollment | 51,648 |
| School districts that offer state program | 20% |
| Income requirement | No income requirement |
| Minimum hours of operation | 6 hours/day; 5 days/week |
| Operating schedule | School or academic year |

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



† Estimates children in Head Start not also enrolled in state pre-K.
 †† Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

| POLICY | NJ ABBOTT REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK? |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Early learning & development standards | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Curriculum supports | Approval process & supports | Approval process & supports | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree | BA | BA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher specialized training | ECE | Specializing in pre-K | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Assistant teacher degree | HSD | CDA or equivalent | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Staff professional development | 20 hours/year; PD plans (teachers only); Coaching | For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maximum class size | 15 (3- & 4-year-olds) | 20 or lower | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Staff-child ratio | 2:15 (3- & 4-year-olds) | 1:10 or better | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Screening & referral | Vision, hearing, health & more | Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Continuous quality improvement system | Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement | Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

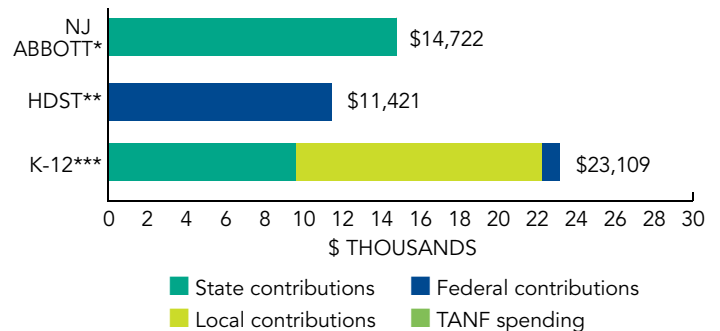


RESOURCES

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Total state pre-K spending | \$760,385,753 |
| Local match required? | No |
| State spending per child enrolled | \$14,722 |
| All reported spending per child enrolled* | \$14,722 |

* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
 ** Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.
 *** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

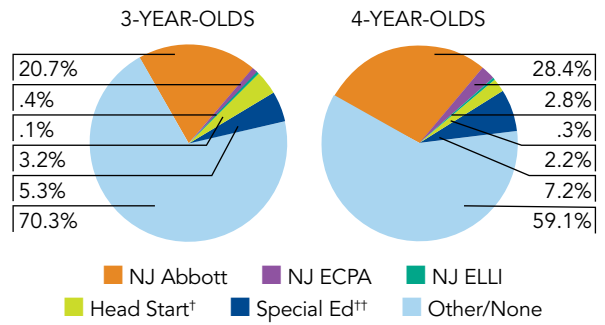


NEW JERSEY FORMER NON-ABBOTT EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM AID (ECPA)

ACCESS

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| Total state pre-K enrollment..... | 3,316 |
| School districts that offer state program..... | 9% |
| Income requirement..... | No income requirement |
| Minimum hours of operation..... | 2.5 hours/day; 5 days/week |
| Operating schedule..... | School or academic year |

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



† Estimates children in Head Start not also enrolled in state pre-K.
 †† Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

| POLICY | NJ ECPA REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK? |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Early learning & development standards | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Curriculum supports | Approval process & supports | Approval process & supports | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree | BA | BA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher specialized training | ECE | Specializing in pre-K | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Assistant teacher degree | HSD | CDA or equivalent | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Staff professional development | 20 hours/year; PD plans (teachers only); Coaching | For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maximum class size | 18 (3- & 4-year-olds) | 20 or lower | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Staff-child ratio | 1:9 (3- & 4-year-olds) | 1:10 or better | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Screening & referral | Vision, hearing, health & more | Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Continuous quality improvement system | Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement | Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

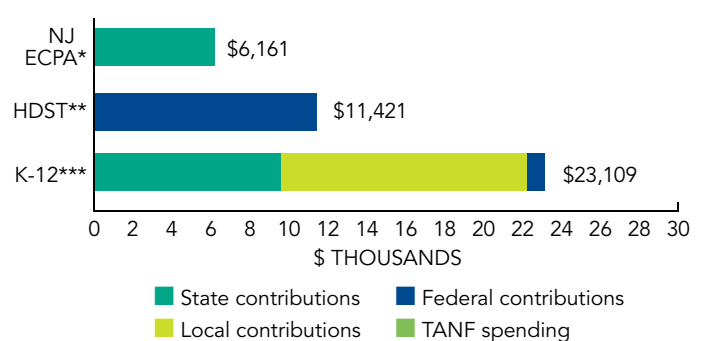


RESOURCES

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Total state pre-K spending..... | \$20,428,771 |
| Local match required?..... | No |
| State spending per child enrolled..... | \$6,161 |
| All reported spending per child enrolled*..... | \$6,161 |

* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
 ** Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.
 *** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

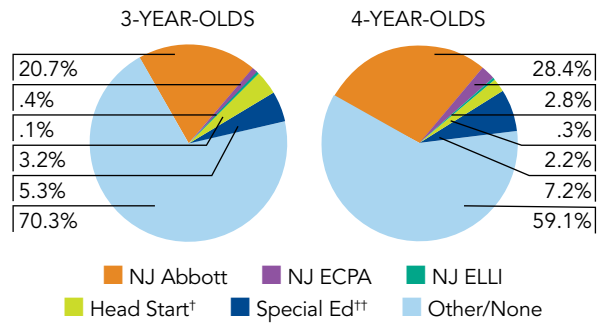


NEW JERSEY FORMER EARLY LAUNCH TO LEARNING INITIATIVE (ELLI)

ACCESS

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Total state pre-K enrollment | 449 |
| School districts that offer state program | 2% |
| Income requirement | 185% FPL |
| Minimum hours of operation | 2.5 hours/day; 5 days/week |
| Operating schedule | School or academic year |

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



† Estimates children in Head Start not also enrolled in state pre-K.
 ** Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

| POLICY | NJ ELLI REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK? |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Early learning & development standards | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Curriculum supports | Approval process & supports | Approval process & supports | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree | BA | BA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher specialized training | ECE | Specializing in pre-K | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Assistant teacher degree | HSD | CDA or equivalent | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Staff professional development | 20 hours/year; PD plans (teachers only); Coaching | For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maximum class size | 20 (4-year-olds) | 20 or lower | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Staff-child ratio | 1:10 (4-year-olds) | 1:10 or better | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Screening & referral | Vision, hearing, health & more | Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Continuous quality improvement system | Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement | Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.



RESOURCES

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Total state pre-K spending | \$656,700 |
| Local match required? | No |
| State spending per child enrolled | \$1,463 |
| All reported spending per child enrolled* | \$1,463 |

* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
 ** Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.
 *** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

