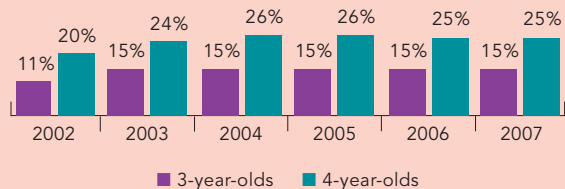
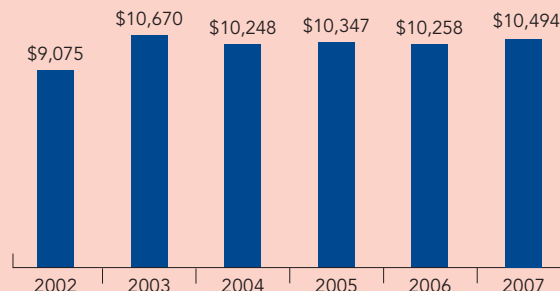


New Jersey

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2007 DOLLARS)



The Abbott Preschool Program was developed in response to a 1998 mandate from New Jersey's Supreme Court, requiring the provision of preschool for all 3- and 4-year-olds in the state's highest poverty districts. Currently, the program is offered in the 31 districts where at least 40 percent of children qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. School districts receive funds directly from the state Department of Education and are permitted to serve students directly or contract with Head Start or private child care providers to offer services. Funding is also used to provide teachers in public and nonpublic settings with salaries comparable to those received by public school teachers. Abbott districts receive additional funds from the state Department of Human Services (DHS) for extended-day, extended-year services. Starting with the 2006-2007 school year, DHS moved to a voucher system that continued to provide all Abbott children with wrap-around care and summer programming. In 2007-2008, the vouchers will only be available for Abbott families with incomes up to 300 percent of poverty.

Through a separate New Jersey initiative, districts in which 20 to 40 percent of children qualify for free or reduced-price lunch are eligible to receive Non-Abbott Early Childhood Program Aid (ECPA). Funds help districts operate a full-day kindergarten program, offer at least a half-day preschool program for 4-year-old children, and improve services for children up to grade 3. Most preschool programs operate in public schools, but some districts contract with private child care centers or Head Start to provide services.

New Jersey's third prekindergarten program, the Early Launch to Learning Initiative (ELLI), began in 2004 as part of the state's effort to provide access to high-quality preschool for all 4-year-olds by 2010. All non-Abbott school districts are encouraged to apply for funding, including districts already providing preschool that need additional funding to cover all income-eligible children. Also, districts receiving ECPA funding may apply for ELLI funds to improve program quality or extend the program hours to a full day. The level of ELLI funding is based on the number of low-income children to be served in the district and the length of the program day.

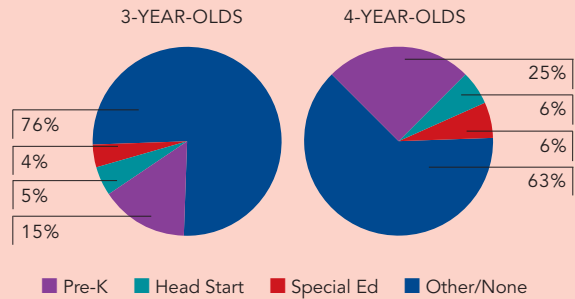
The Department of Education is currently working on a new statewide funding formula to begin during the 2008-2009 program year, with a goal of increasing access to high-quality preschool programs throughout the state. The proposal includes full state funding for all at-risk 3- and 4-year-olds to attend full-day preschool programs in every district. The proposal would also fund all 3- or 4-year-olds, regardless of income, who live in districts with a high concentration of at-risk students. The proposed expansion would be phased in over time.

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.

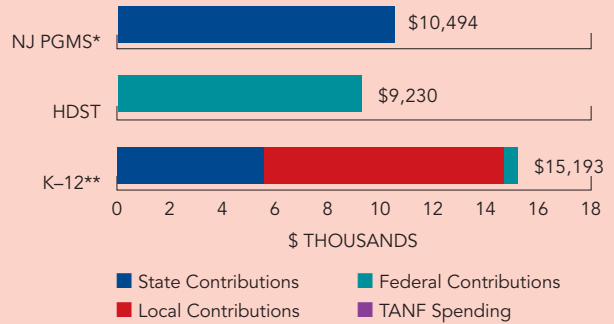
STATE OVERVIEW

Total state program enrollment.....45,499
 Total state spending\$477,466,737
 State spending per child enrolled.....\$10,494¹
 All reported spending per child enrolled\$10,494

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



SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED¹



* 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 '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
13	3

RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
1*	1

* In previous Yearbooks, only state spending was ranked.

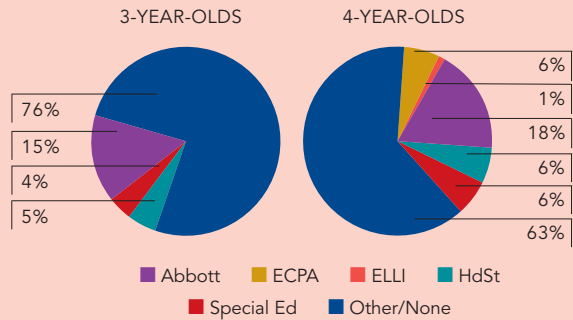
¹ State per-child spending in New Jersey appears to be higher for state prekindergarten programs than for K-12 education, but in fact this is not the case in the districts that offer state pre-K. More than 80 percent of state prekindergarten enrollment is in Abbott districts, which also have a K-12 state 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 ABBOTT PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment.....	37,638
School districts that offer state program.....	5%
Income requirement	None ¹
Hours of operation	10 hours/day, 5 days/week ²
Operating schedule.....	Determined locally ²
Special education enrollment	10,904
Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....	12,753
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	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	Certification in pre-K-3	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/	Vision, hearing, health,	Vision, hearing, health; and	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
referral and	developmental;	at least 1 support service	
support services	and support services ³		
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"/>

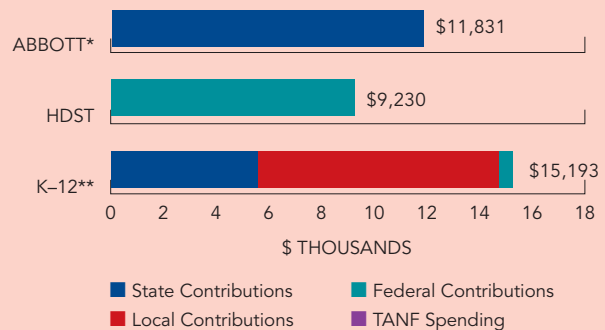
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

9

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending.....	\$445,309,362 ⁴
Local match required?	Yes, amount determined locally
State spending per child enrolled.....	\$11,831
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$11,831

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED⁵



* 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 '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Only districts where at least 40 percent 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 Department of Education (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 Dental screenings and referrals are determined locally. 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.

⁴ 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 funds to extend operation to a 10-hour day.

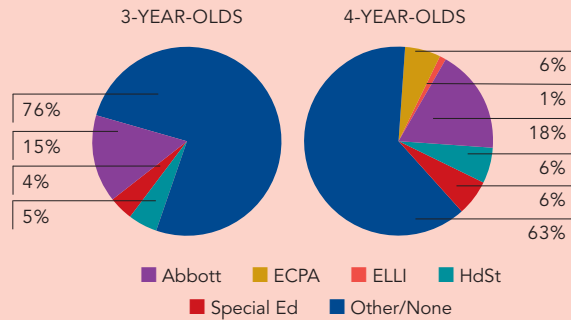
⁵ State per-child spending in New Jersey appears to be higher for state prekindergarten programs than for K-12 education, but in fact this is not the case in the districts that offer state pre-K. More than 80 percent of state prekindergarten enrollment is in Abbott districts, which also have a K-12 state 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 NON-ABBOTT EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM AID

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment.....	7,336
School districts that offer state program.....	17%
Income requirement	None ¹
Hours of operationAt least 2.75 hours/day, 5 days/week ²	
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment	10,904
Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....	12,753
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	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	Certification in pre-K-3	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 type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	25		
4-year-olds	25		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	1:25 ⁴		
4-year-olds	1:25 ⁴		
Screening/ referral and support services	Vision, hearing, health, and developmental; and support services ⁵	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Depend 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"/>

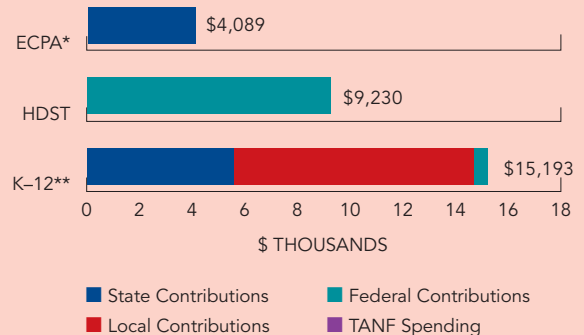
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

6

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$30,000,000 ⁷
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled.....	\$4,089
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$4,089

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 '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Only districts where 20 to 40 percent 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 Half-day programs must be at least 2.75 hours per day; full-day programs must be at least 6 hours per day. Length of program day varies by districts. In some cases, both half- and full-day programs are offered.

³ Higher requirements apply in Title I public schools.

⁴ This teacher-child ratio requirement is the same as is mandated for kindergarten classrooms. Beginning in July 2008, the ratio requirement for ECPA will be 2:18.

⁵ Dental screenings and referrals are determined locally. Support services include education services or job training for parents, parent involvement activities, transition to kindergarten activities, and other locally determined services.

⁶ Meals are required in full-day programs.

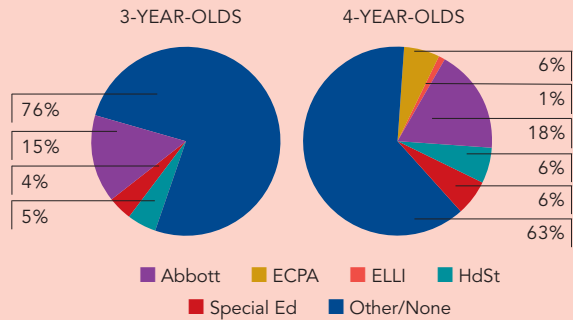
⁷ This figure is an estimate of state funds directed to services for preschool-age children.

NEW JERSEY EARLY LAUNCH TO LEARNING INITIATIVE

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	525
School districts that offer state program.....	5%
Income requirement.....	185% FPL ¹
Hours of operation	2.75 hours/day (part-day), 6 hours/day (full-day), 5 days/week
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment	10,904
Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....	12,753
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	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	Certification in pre-K-3	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	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 and support services	Vision, hearing, health, developmental; and support services ²	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Depend on length of program day ³	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

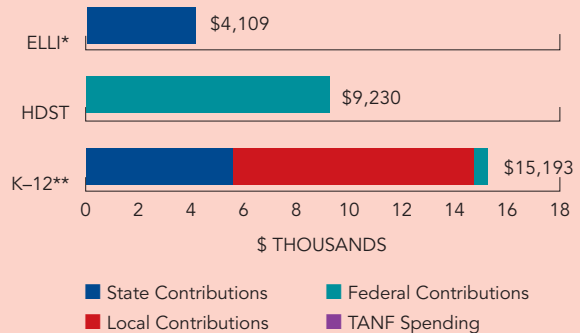
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

8

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending.....	\$2,157,375
Local match required?	Yes ⁴
State spending per child enrolled.....	\$4,109
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$4,109

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 '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Districts have the opportunity to make a case for eligibility of children who do not meet the income criteria but who have extenuating circumstances.

² Dental screenings and referrals are determined locally. Support services include parent involvement activities and transition to kindergarten activities.

³ Full-day programs must offer breakfast and lunch.

⁴ Special education and local funding or tuition must be used to meet costs beyond DOE funding.