

# Abbott Indicators District Profiles

## Data Sources and Definitions

### Community Context

***New Jersey Legislative District.*** The geographical area represented by a member of the State Legislature.

***Female head of household families.*** The percent of families led by a female head of household with her own children and no spouse.

***Highest educational attainment.*** The percent of adults ages 25 and over by the highest level of school completed.

***Labor force participation.*** The number of non-military people in the labor force as a percent of civilian population ages 16 and over.

***Unemployment rate.*** The number of people ages 16 and over without a job and looking for work, as a percent of the civilian labor force.

***Median household income.*** The income level that divides the household income distribution into two equal parts.

***Population below poverty level.*** The percent of people who earn below the poverty-level income threshold for a family of a specific size and ages of family members.

***Population 17 and under below poverty level.*** The percent of children under age 18 whose family's income is below the poverty-level threshold for a family of that size and ages of the family members.

***Foreign-born.*** The percent of people who are born in a country other than the United States of America.

***Rent-income ratio.*** Gross rent as a percent of household income.

***Renter-occupied housing.*** The percent of occupied housing units that are not owner-occupied.

***Vacant housing.*** The percent of all housing units where no one lives.

***Violent crime.*** The rate per 1,000 people who have been arrested for one of the following crimes: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, or motor vehicle theft.

***SOURCE: For violent crime: Uniform Crime Report, 2005. For all other measures: 2000 Decennial Census Summary File 3.***

## Characteristics of K-12 Students

***K-12 Total Enrollment.*** Total student enrollment in Kindergarten through Grade 12. Enrollment is shown by the following racial/ethnic groups: African American, Asian, Latino(a), Native American, and White.

***Eligible for free-/reduced-price lunch.*** The percent of students whose families fall within 185 percent of the poverty level and who are therefore eligible for free- or reduced-price lunch under the National School Lunch Program.

***Limited English Proficiency (LEP).*** The percent of students whose native language is not English and who have difficulty speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language as determined through a language proficiency test.

***Students with disabilities.*** The percent of students with individualized education programs (IEP), regardless of placement and program involvement. An IEP contains special instructional activities to meet the goals and objectives of the student.

***Student mobility.*** The percent of students who entered or left school during the school year.

***SOURCE: For Free- and reduced-price lunch eligibility, K-12 Total Enrollment and race/ethnicity: New Jersey Department of Education Fall Survey, 2006-07; Limited English Proficiency, Disabilities, and Mobility: New Jersey Department of Education, School Report Card, 2005-06.***

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**K-12 Student Performance**

**Graduation rate (secondary only).** New Jersey's graduation rate is calculated by dividing the total number of graduates by a sum of the following: the number of graduates, grade 9 dropouts four years prior, grade 10 dropouts three years prior, grade 11 dropouts two years prior, grade 12 dropouts in the current school year.

**Test scores.** The percent of students scoring at least proficient on the Grade 4, 8, and 11 language arts literacy and math exams. For the Abbott average, school-level results are weighted by the number of students taking the test prior to averaging.

**NOTE:** The following districts have missing data for the general education scores and therefore, are not included in the Abbott and New Jersey averages:

**Grade 4** – Burlington City

**Grade 8** – Millville

**Graduation Rate by Traditional Grade Level 11 Exam (HSPA).** Percent of students who graduate from High School by taking and passing the traditional Grade 11 HSPA examination.

**Graduation Rate by Alternative Grade Level 11 Exam (SRA).** Percent of students who graduate from High School taking the alternative Grade 11 SRA examination.

**SOURCE:** For graduation rate and General Education Test Scores: New Jersey Department of Education, School Report Card, 2005-06; For Total test scores: New Jersey Department of Education; Office of Assessment and Evaluation, 2005-06.

### Characteristics of Preschool Students

**Total preschool enrollment.** The total number of 3- and 4-year-olds enrolled in an Abbott preschool program.

**Percentage served of 3- and 4-year old population.** The percent of the estimated population 3- and 4-year olds who are currently enrolled in a preschool program.

**Enrollment in district programs.** Percent of preschool students in district-based preschool programs

**Enrollment in private provider programs.** Percent of preschool students in private provider programs including Head Start and other community providers.

**SOURCE:** New Jersey Department of Education: Office of Early Childhood Education, Budget Approval Letters, January 13, 2007; New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Early Childhood Department 2003-2004 to 2005-2006.

## Characteristics of Preschool Staff

**Number of teachers.** The total number of preschool teachers.

**Highest educational attainment.** The percent of teachers by highest degree attained.

**Certifications.** The percent of teachers who hold the following preschool teaching certifications:

**Preschool to Grade 3 (P-3).** A teaching credential required for any new preschool teacher in an Abbott district in either a district program or community provider setting.

**Nursery to Kindergarten.** Certification formerly earned by pre-Kindergarten teachers. Teachers with this certification are eligible to teach in Abbott preschool programs if they have two years teaching experience in an early childhood setting.

**Elementary (Kindergarten to Grade 8).** Elementary and middle school teacher certifications. Teachers with one of these types of certification are eligible to teach in Abbott preschool programs if they have two years teaching experience in an early childhood setting.

**Special Education.** Teachers who are certified to teach preschool children with special education needs in an inclusion or self-contained learning environment.

**Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS).** A provisional credential with lifetime validity issued to individuals who have completed the CE requirements plus traditional professional preparation programs. A CEAS permits individuals to seek and accept employment in a preschool program while they complete the additional requirements for the P-3 certificate.

**Certificate of Eligibility (CE).** A provisional credential with lifetime validity issued to individuals who have completed the required degree, academic study, and applicable test requirements for certification. A CE permits individuals to seek and accept employment in a preschool program while until they complete the additional requirements for the P-3 certificate.

**Uncertified.** Teachers who do not possess any of the above preschool teacher certifications.

**SOURCE:** New Jersey Department of Education: Office of Early Childhood Education, 2005-06.

### Characteristics of K-12 Staff

**Highly qualified teachers.** To be highly qualified under federal law, a teacher must hold a four-year college degree, be fully certified, and show a level of knowledge in his or her subject matter by passing a state test. New middle and high school teachers must also have a certain amount of college credits in the subject matter they teach. This table shows the percent of teachers who are highly qualified in *one* of the core content areas, in *all* of the core content areas, and the percent of core *classes* that are taught by highly qualified teachers.

**SOURCE:** *Highly Qualified Teacher Survey, 2005-06*

## Fiscal Resources and Education Funding

**Average property value per student.** The equalized, assessed value of property divided by the total number of students.

**Average equalized tax rates.** The local property taxes levied expressed as a dollar amount for every \$100 of equalized, assessed property value.

**Average equalized school tax rates.** The portion of local tax revenues used to support public education expressed as a dollar amount for \$100 of equalized, assessed property value.

**General education funding.** Local and state revenues intended for the support of general education. The following revenue sources were used to determine the general education revenue totals: local tax levy, Core Curriculum Standards Aid, Supplemental Core Curriculum Standards Aid, Stabilization Aid, Supplemental Stabilization Aid, and the Foundation Aid portion of Educational Opportunity Aid. Per student funding is the sum of these revenues divided by the total resident enrollment grouping.

**Supplemental program aid.** The state and federal revenue intended to support health, nutrition, and social services in schools. The following revenue sources were used to determine the supplemental program aid: Title I, Demonstrably Effective Program Aid, and the Supplemental portion of Educational Opportunity Aid. Reported is the sum of these revenues over the total resident enrollment.

**Preschool aid per student.** State aid for Abbott preschool including Early Childhood Program Aid and Preschool Expansion Aid. Per student amounts are calculated by dividing the sum of these revenues by the appropriate preschool enrollment.

**SOURCE:** For Tax data: New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, 2005-06. For Educational Aid data: New Jersey Department of Education, Division of Finance, Office of School Funding, Advertised District Revenues, 2005-06.