



# Fast Facts: Children, Families and Early Education in Acushnet

	Acushnet	Statewide
Children birth through 5 (under 6)	614	477,882
Total # of preschool-aged (3-5yr) children	307	239,190
% of children under age 6 living below the poverty line*	0.8%	12.6%
% of children under 6 with all parents in the labor force	84.8%	61%
% of public school children attending full-day kindergarten	100%	65.9%
% of students eligible to receive free or reduced lunch	12.2%	28.2%
% of children 5-17 whose first language is not English	0.2%	14.9%
% of students unable to perform classwork in English	0%	5.6%
% of students receiving special education services	18.2%	16.9%
% of students who dropped-out of high school	N/A%	3.8%
% of third graders who do not meet the state standards for reading proficiency on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System	36%	42%

\* The 2006 federal poverty line for a family of four is \$20,000 per year.

## Early Education and Care in Acushnet

- According to the 2000 Census, 35.5% of 3-5 year-olds in Acushnet are enrolled in preschool.
- Of those children enrolled in preschool in Acushnet, 27 (25%) attend public school pre-kindergarten, according to the Department of Education. The remaining 75% are enrolled in community-based or family child care programs.
- In Acushnet, there is 1 public school preschool program, 2 licensed center-based programs, and 10 licensed family child care programs, according to the Department of Early Education and Care.
- As of January 2007, 20 children ages 0-14 were on a waiting list to receive a child care subsidy from the Department of Early Education and Care, of which 4 are of preschool-age (2.9-5 years).
- The Department of Early Education and Care estimates that 42 of Acushnet's jobs are in the early education and care industry.
- The average salary of a preschool teacher in the New Bedford Area is \$25,480, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Sources: US Census, 2000

Massachusetts Department of Education: Kindergarten Enrollment Data, FY06, FY07 (statewide)

Massachusetts Department of Education: School District Profiles, 2006-07

Massachusetts Department of Education Dropout Rate Data, 2004-05

Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care: Early Childhood Education Indicators, 2004

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, 2004

Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care, Wait List Data, 2007



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