



Fast Facts: Children, Families and Early Education in Amesbury

	Amesbury	Statewide
Children birth through 5 (under 6)	1,337	477,882
Total # of preschool-aged (3-5yr) children	703	239,190
% of children under age 6 living below the poverty line*	8.9%	12.6%
% of children under 6 with all parents in the labor force	60.7%	61%
% of public school children attending full-day kindergarten	100%	65.9%
% of students eligible to receive free or reduced lunch	15.4%	28.2%
% of children 5-17 whose first language is not English	1.5%	14.9%
% of students unable to perform classwork in English	0.1%	5.6%
% of students receiving special education services	17.2%	16.9%
% of students who dropped-out of high school	4%	3.8%
% of third graders who do not meet the state standards for reading proficiency on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System	40%	42%

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

Early Education and Care in Amesbury

- According to the 2000 Census 58.5% of 3-5 year-olds in Amesbury are enrolled in preschool.
- Of those children enrolled in preschool in Amesbury, 79 (19.2%) attend public school pre-kindergarten, according to the Department of Education. The remaining 80.8% are enrolled in community-based or family child care programs.
- In Amesbury, there are 2 public school preschool programs, 5 licensed center-based programs, and 28 licensed family child care programs, according to the Department of Early Education and Care.
- As of January 2007, 26 children ages 0-14 in Amesbury were on a waiting list to receive a child care subsidy from the Department of Early Education and Care, of whom 10 are of preschool-age (2.9-5 years).
- The Department of Early Education and Care estimates that 122 of Amesbury's jobs are in the early education and care industry.
- The average salary of a preschool teacher in the Boston Area is \$28,820, 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 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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June 2007