



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

	Chelsea	Statewide
Total # of children under age 6	3,398	480,422
Total # of preschool-aged (3-5 yrs) children	1,704	244,464
% of children under age 6 living below the poverty line*	27.9%	12.4%
% of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	54.5%	64.6%
% of public school kindergarteners attending full-day kindergarten	100.0%	65.9%
% of students identified as low-income	86.8%	29.5%
% of children whose first language is not English	82.5%	15.1%
% of students receiving special education services	14.2%	16.9%
% of students graduating high school within four years	53.0%	80.9%
% of third graders who do not meet the state standards for reading proficiency on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System	69.0%	44.0%

\* The 2008 federal poverty line for a family of four is \$21,200 per year.

## Early Education and Care in Chelsea

- According to the 2000 Census, 48.2% of preschool-aged children (3-4yrs) in Chelsea attend school.
- According to the Departments of Early Education and Care (EEC) and Elementary and Secondary Education, Chelsea has 7 licensed center-based programs, 67 licensed family child care providers, and 328 students attending public school preschool at John Silber Early Learning Center.
- In August 2008, 296 eligible children were on a waiting list to receive a child care subsidy from EEC and 73 were of preschool-age (2.9-5yrs).
- EEC estimates that 277 of Chelsea's jobs are supported by the early education and care industry.
- The average salary of a preschool teacher in the Boston Metropolitan Area is \$29,490 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Early Education Grant Programs in Chelsea

### Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) grants:

- UPK Classroom Quality grants have been awarded to 4 qualified early education providers in Chelsea.
- In FY08, 4 Assessment Planning grants were awarded to family child care systems representing providers in the Northeast region.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, 2007  
 Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care: Early Childhood Education Indicators, 2004  
 Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care: Provider Regional List, Boston-Chelsea-Revere, 2008  
 Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care: UPK Grant Program Data, 2008  
 Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care: Wait List Data, 2008  
 Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education: 2008 MCAS Report  
 Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education: FDK Grant Program Data, 2008  
 Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education: School District Profiles, 2007-08  
 US Census, 2000