



Fast Facts: Children, Families and Early Education in Melrose

	Melrose	Statewide
Total # of children under age 6	2,151	480,422
Total # of preschool-aged (3-5yrs) children	1,029	244,464
% of children under age 6 living below the poverty line*	2.7%	12.4%
% of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	65.9%	64.6%
% of public school children attending full-day kindergarten	90.2%	65.9%
% of students identified as low-income	11.5%	29.5%
% of children whose first language is not English	4.7%	15.1%
% of students receiving special education services	17.4%	16.9%
% of students graduating high school within four years	91.4%	80.9%
% of third graders who do not meet the state standards for reading proficiency on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System	30.0%	44.0%

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

Early Education and Care in Melrose

- According to the 2000 Census, 66.0% of preschool-aged children (3-4yrs) in Melrose attend school.
- According to the Departments of Early Education and Care (EEC) and Elementary and Secondary Education, Melrose has 2 public school preschool programs, 8 licensed center-based programs and 20 licensed family child care providers.
- In August 2008, 28 children were on a waiting list to receive a child care subsidy from EEC and 7 were of preschool-age (2.9-5yrs).
- EEC estimates that 186 of Melrose'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 Melrose

Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) grants:

- In FY08, 4 Assessment Planning grants were awarded to family child care systems representing providers in the Northeast region.

Full-Day Kindergarten grants:

- In FY08, Melrose Public Schools received Quality grant funding to support 11 full-day kindergarten classrooms.

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, Essex-North Shore, 2007-08
 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