

2005 Neighborhood Profiles: Allston-Brighton
What do children and families need? What's available? How good is it?

What does early care and education look like in Allston-Brighton? Is it meeting the needs of Allston-Brighton's children and families? What is the quality of early care and education in Allston-Brighton? This profile provides the data to answer these questions and prompts thought about how these data can be used to improve upon the access of children and families to high quality early care and education in Allston-Brighton.



This profile is one of a series being produced from the report Early Childhood in Boston: What do children and families need? What's available? How good is it? (Boston EQUIP, Associated Early Care and Education, 2005). Profiles are available for nine Boston neighborhoods. The data in the profiles come from the Community Profiles surveys and other local and national data sources. Community Profiles surveys were sent to all Boston community-based and Head Start centers, a random sample of active family child care providers, and all Boston Public Schools with a preschool classroom. For more information about the methodology, see the full Early Childhood in Boston report.

Community Profiles Survey Response Rates for Allston-Brighton

	# Surveys Sent	# Surveys Received	Response Rate
Community-Based/Head Start Centers	15	10	67%
Family Child Care	8	7	88%
Boston Public School Preschool*	5	2	40%

*additional surveys sent to Boston Public Schools with K2 classrooms

DEMAND & SUPPLY OF EARLY CARE & EDUCATION

How Many Young Children Live in Allston-Brighton?

- **3,226¹** children between birth and 5 years, 4 months live in Allston-Brighton. This number represents 7% of Boston's 42,822 young children.
- Approximately **742 (23%)** of these children live below 25% of the state-median-income (SMI) and **1,484 (46%)** live below 50% of the SMI².
- Approximately **86%** of children live with at least one caregiver in the labor force³.

¹ Source: Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) birth records (1997-2002). Population ranges between 2,285 (2000 U.S. Census) – 3,525 (birth records + estimate of foreign born children)

² Source: BPHC birth records (1997-2002), U.S. Census Bureau; Analysis: Boston EQUIP

³ Source: BPHC birth records (1997-2002), U.S. Census Bureau; Analysis: Boston EQUIP

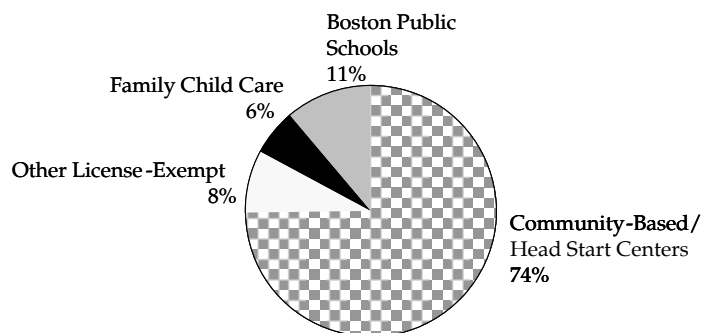
What is the Supply of Early Care & Education in Allston-Brighton?

Early Care & Education Programs in Allston-Brighton

	# Programs
Community-Based/Head Start Centers	17
Family Child Care	11
Boston Public School Preschools	5
Other License-Exempt ⁴	3
Total	36

Allston-Brighton has a full- and part-time early care and education active capacity of **1,162** (6% of the 18,876 slots for Boston). Of these slots, 29% are available for infant-toddlers and 71% are available for preschoolers.

Capacity by Type of Early Care & Education in Allston-Brighton



Does the Supply of Early Care & Education Meet the Demand in Allston-Brighton?

If demand = total population of young children in Allston-Brighton,

- 36% of children would find spaces; 64% would not
- An additional 2,064 spaces would be required to accommodate ALL young children in Allston-Brighton
- 19% of infant-toddlers and 51% of preschool children would find spaces

If demand = all children living in families with incomes:

- Less than approximately 25% of the state-median-income, 420 spaces would still be available
- Less than approximately 50% of the state-median-income, 322 spaces would be required

If demand = children living in working families⁵ in Allston-Brighton, an additional 255 spaces would be required

If demand = Universal Demand estimates of

- 50% of Infant-toddlers, 503 infant-toddler spaces would be required
- 77% of Preschoolers, 414 preschool spaces would be required

⁴ Includes faith-affiliated and private programs

⁵ Formula for calculating demand from working families derived from Cowden, M. & Stinchcombe, K. (2003). Unmet Need for Early Care and Education in Boston. Boston EQUIP, Associated Early Care and Education.

QUALITY OF EARLY CARE & EDUCATION

Research consistently supports the assertion that access to early care and education is important for children’s positive outcomes. Once the child has access however, it is the quality of the early care and education that is one of the strongest predictors of positive child outcomes⁶.

How Many Programs in Allston-Brighton Are Accredited (or family child care providers possess a CDA)?

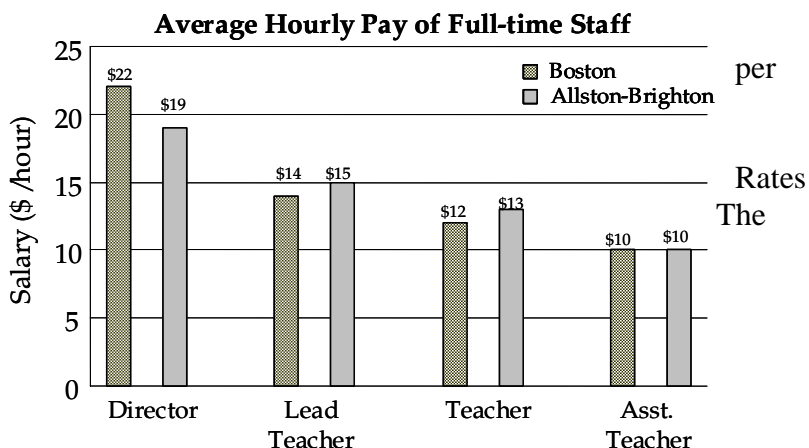
22% (8) of Allston-Brighton’s programs are accredited, accounting for 6% of the city’s accredited programs, and 42% of Allston-Brighton’s capacity⁷

How Many Educators Possess a Bachelor Degree or Higher⁸?

- 100% of Public Preschool teachers in Boston
- 14% of Family Child Care providers in Boston
- Community-Based/Head Start Center in Allston-Brighton
 - 80% of Directors in Allston-Brighton (69% in Boston)
 - 89% of Lead Teachers in Allston-Brighton (36% in Boston)

How Much Do Early Care & Education Teachers & Providers Earn?

In Boston, the average salary of Public School teachers is \$57.93 hour⁹ and of Community-Based/Head Start Center Lead teachers is \$14.00 per hour¹⁰. are similar in Allston-Brighton. average hourly earnings for a Family Child Care provider in Massachusetts are \$7.32¹¹.



⁶ NICHD Early Child Care Research Network (1999). *American Journal of Public Health*, 89, 1072-1077; Clarke-Stewart, K.A., Vandell, D.L., Burchinal, M., O’Brien, M., & McCartney, K. (2002). *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 17, 52-86.

⁷Source: NAEYC, NAFCC, CPR; Analysis: Boston EQUIP

⁸Source: Community Profiles 2003-2004 BPS and C/HS surveys; Analysis: Boston EQUIP

⁹Source: Boston Teacher’s Union

¹⁰ Source: Community Profiles 2003-2004 C/HS survey; Analysis: Boston EQUIP

¹¹ Massachusetts Cost and Quality study on Family Child Care
www.wcwonline.org/earlycare/FamilyChildCare2004.pdf

LOOKING AHEAD

How can we use this data to improve upon and plan for early care and education in Allston-Brighton?

Planning & Resource Allocation

What Needs to Be Planned?

- Improving quality and access
- Higher education/UPK

Where Will Planning Occur?

- Individual agency level
- Neighborhood level
- Boston level

How Will Planning Occur?

- Set benchmarks to improve quality/access to early care and education

About the Boston Early Education Quality Improvement Project (EQUIP):

Boston EQUIP was established in 1994 as a project of Associated Early Care and Education's Research & Policy Department, with the mission to "to collaborate with members of the Boston early education community to systematically evaluate, set goals for, and improve upon the quality of early childhood programs."

About this report:

This report and further information can be obtained at www.bostonequip.org or by contacting:

Corey Zimmerman

Boston EQUIP

Associated Early and Education

95 Berkeley St., Suite 306

Boston, MA 02116

617-695-0700, ext. 229

e-mail: czimmerman@associatedeace.org

Permission is granted for copying all parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes. Please credit Boston EQUIP, Associated Early Care and Education.

Funding for 2005 Neighborhood Profiles: Allston-Brighton provided by the Boston Community Partnerships for Children.