

GDTFII Early Childhood Education

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GDTFII: Early Childhood Education

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Chapter 1: The Early Learning Landscape

Chapter 2: Early Learning for Children with Disabilities

Chapter 3: Preparation and Training for Professionals in Early Childhood Education

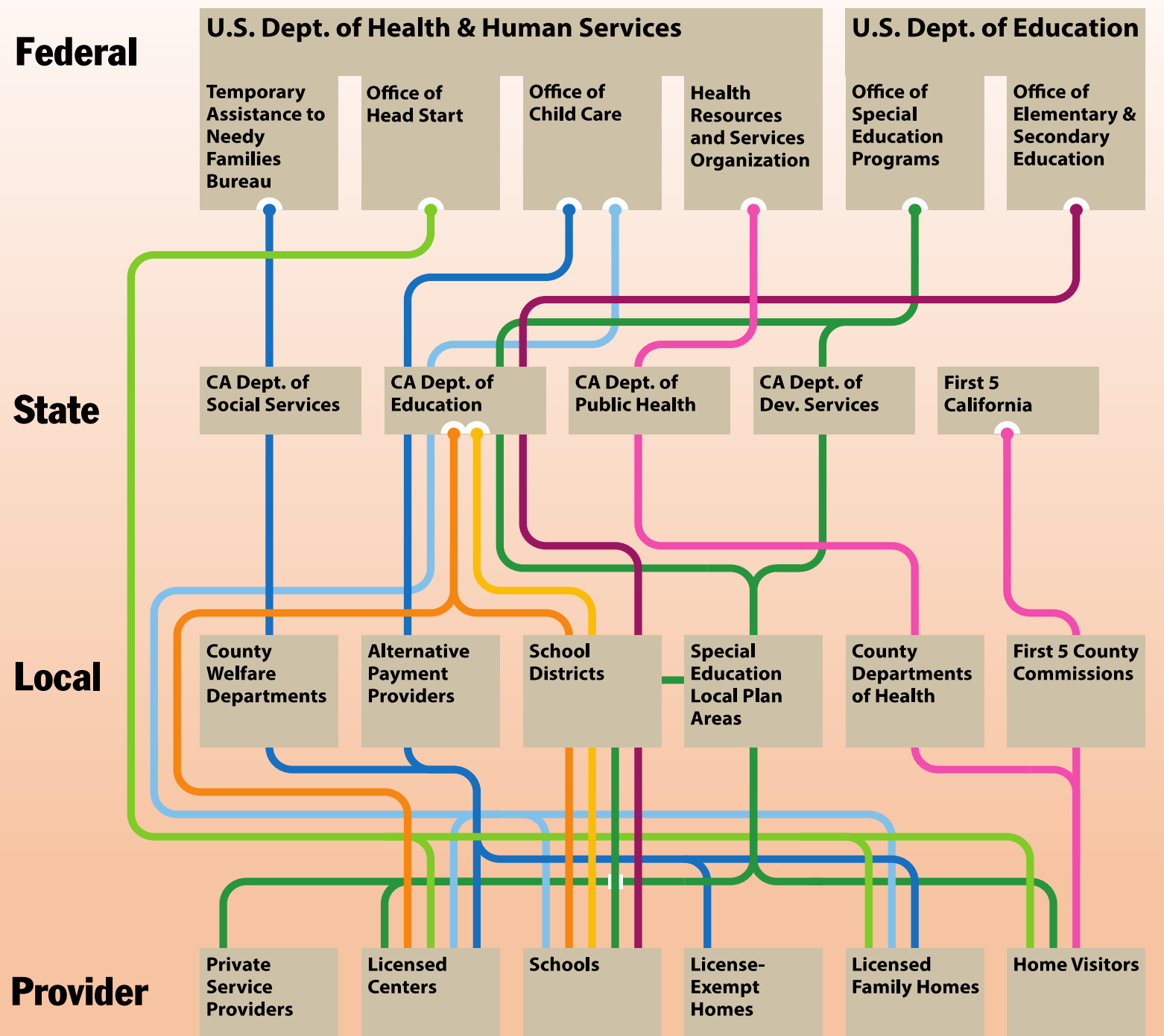
Chapter 4: Strengthening California's Early Childhood Education Workforce

Chapter 5: Program Quality Monitoring and Improvement

Chapter 6: PreK-3 Alignment

Chapter 7: Early Child Care Data Systems

The early learning system in California is complex.





















Source: *Building an early learning system that works: Next steps for California* Learning Policy Institute.

California's ECE Programs Have Different Quality Standards

Minimum program standards for 4-year-olds

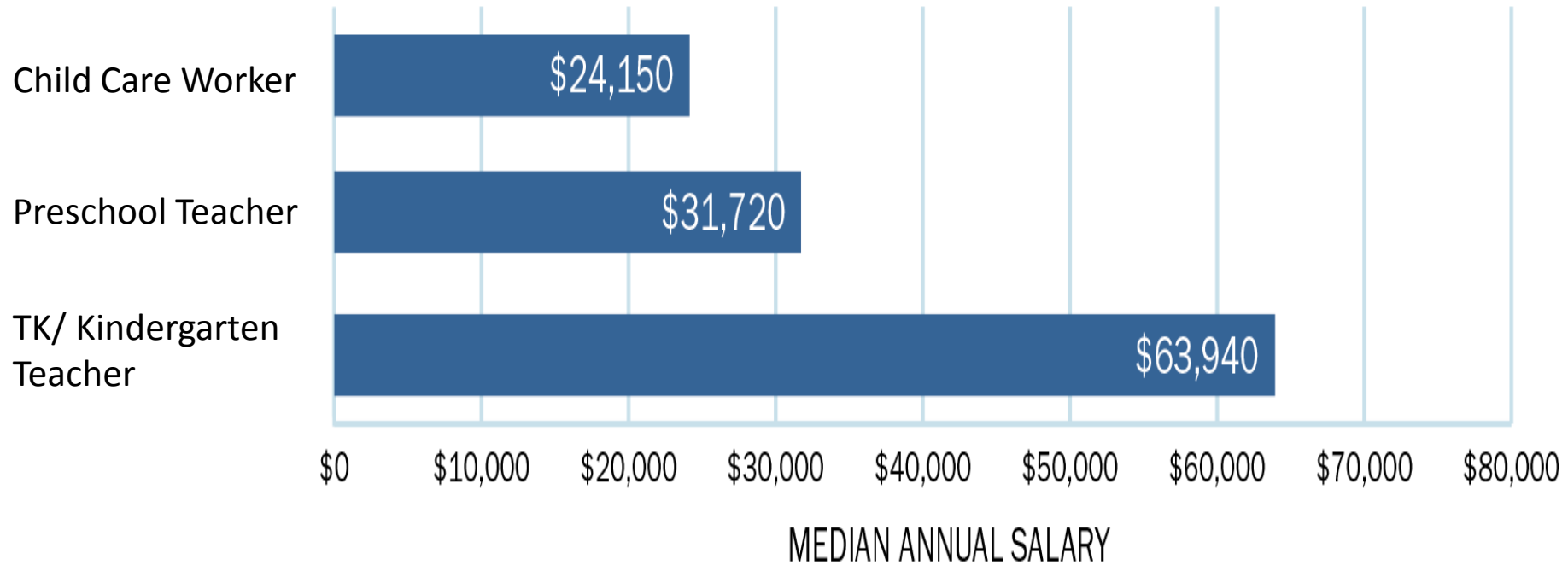
Standards are relatively low and variable

		Minimum Teacher Requirements	Staff-to-Child Ratios	Curriculum Standards
Alternate Payment Program	License-Exempt Providers	 No requirement	 No requirement	 No requirement
	Family Child Care Homes	 No requirement	 1:8 ^a	 No requirement
	Centers	 12 ECE units	 1:12	 No requirement
Transitional Kindergarten		 Teaching credential and 24 ECE units	 No requirement ^b	 Developmentally appropriate curriculum
California State Preschool Program		 24 ECE units plus 16 general education units	 1:8	 Developmentally appropriate curriculum
Head Start		 A.A. or B.A. ^c	 1:10	 Developmentally appropriate curriculum

4-year old Standards and Teacher Education Requirements

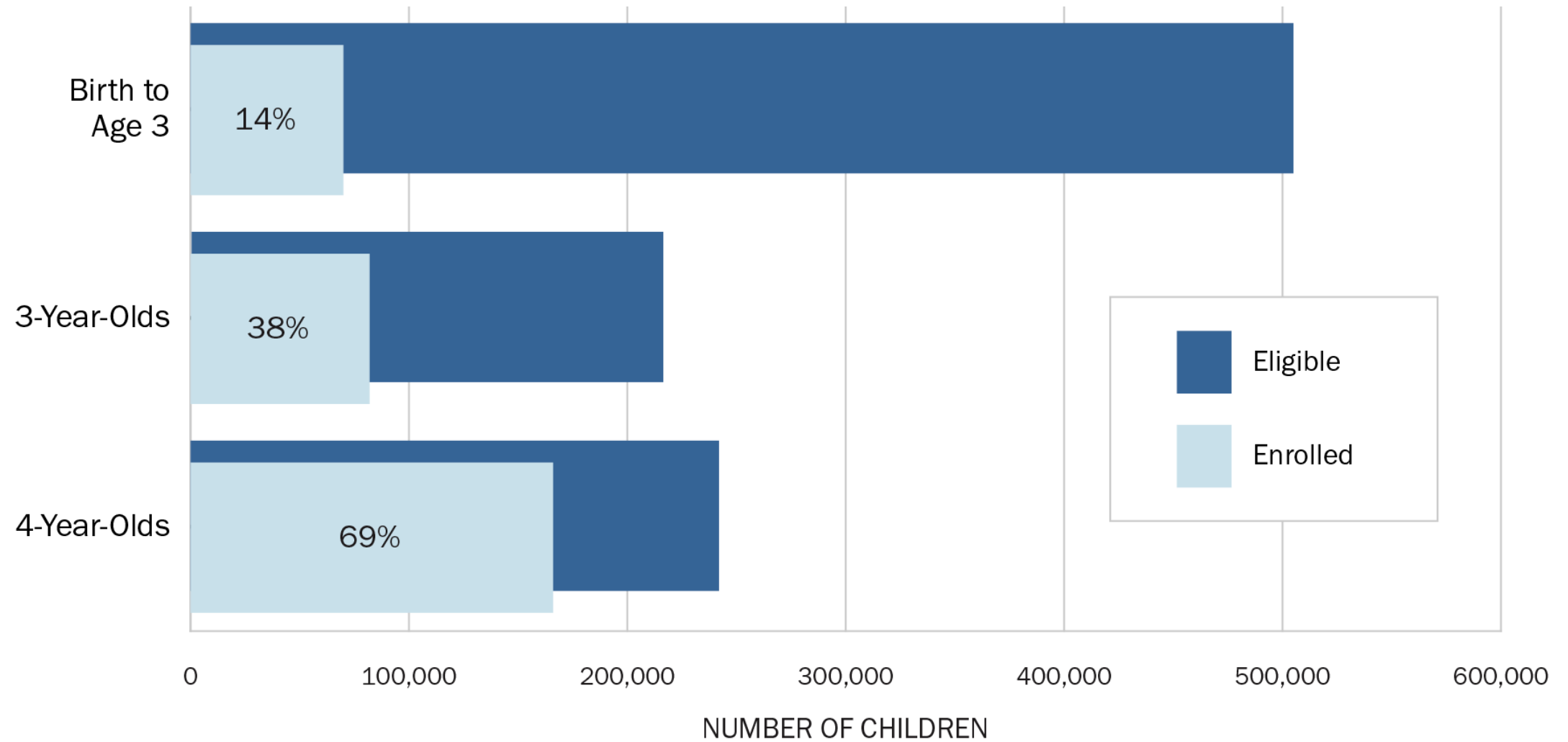
Program	Standards	Care Provider/Head Teacher Education Requirements
License exempt FCCH	License exempt	Criminal background check
Licensed FCCH	Title 22	15 hours health and safety training
Child Care Centers or FCCH funded by Dept. of Social Services	Title 22	12 postsecondary units of EC
CA State Preschool and Child Care and Development Programs (FCCH and centers)	Title 5	24 postsecondary units of EC
Head Start	Head Start standards	50% have BA's
District sponsored preschool (Title 1)	Head Start standards	50% have BA's
District sponsored preschool (LCFF)	Title 5	24 postsecondary units of EC
Transitional Kindergarten	Public school K standards	BA + teaching certificate

California's Early Educators Earn Very Low Wages



Source: *Building an early learning system that works: Next steps for California* Learning Policy Institute.

California's ECE Programs Serve Few Eligible Children



Early child care data is fragmented



Lack of Data Impacts:

- Decision Makers
- Providers
- Families



Building a System to Support Effective PreK

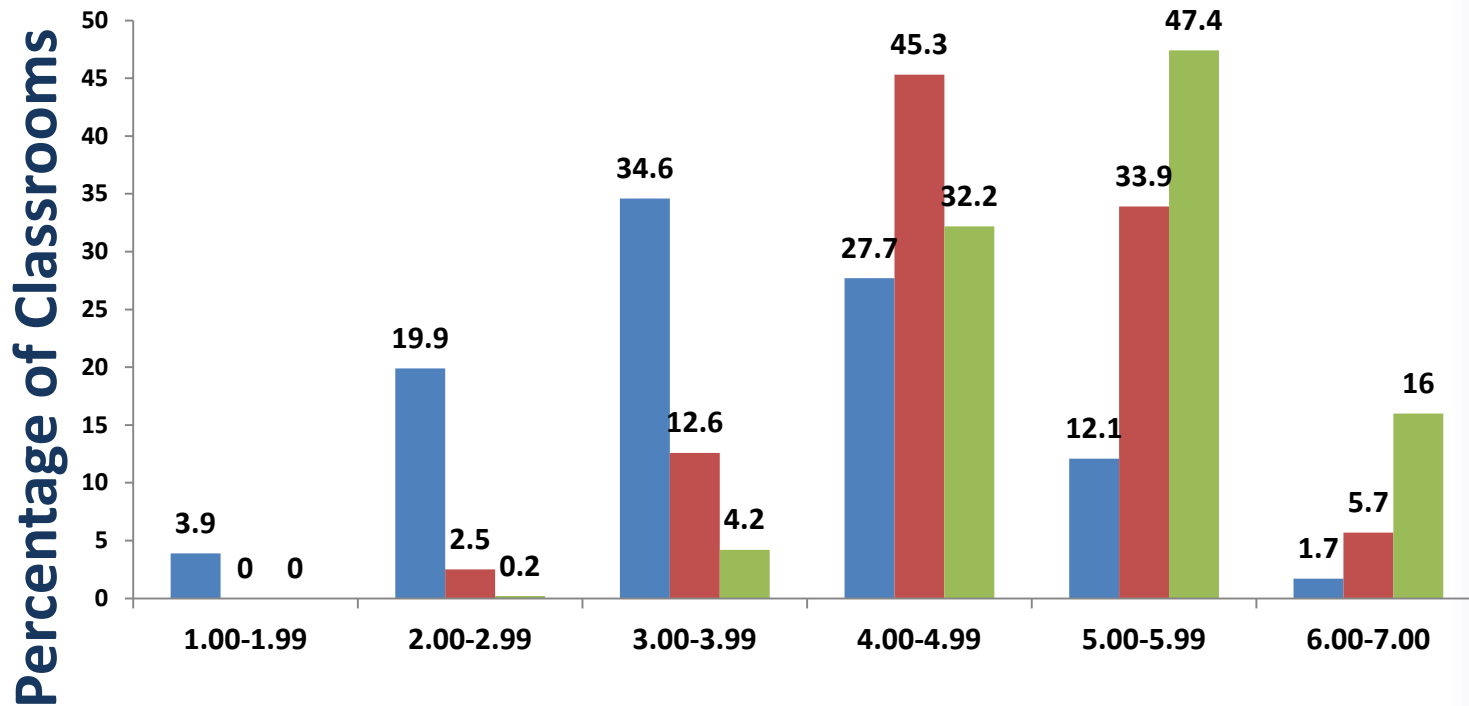
New Jersey's Universal Urban Pre-K Program

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New Jersey's Urban Pre-K Program

- All 3 and 4 year-olds in 35 districts (~25% of population). Pre-k expanding to ~ 100 districts.
- DOE funds the 35 eligible districts. 2/3 in private provider classrooms, 1/3 district
- Certified teachers and trained assistants paid at K-12 parity
- Full school day (6 hour)
- Maximum class size of 15
- Strong curricula/ aligned child and classroom assessment with support for fidelity of implementation
- Inclusion with support for potential learning difficulties
- Coherent and comprehensive professional development/coaching & administrator training
- Early learning and program standards within a continuous improvement system informed by data

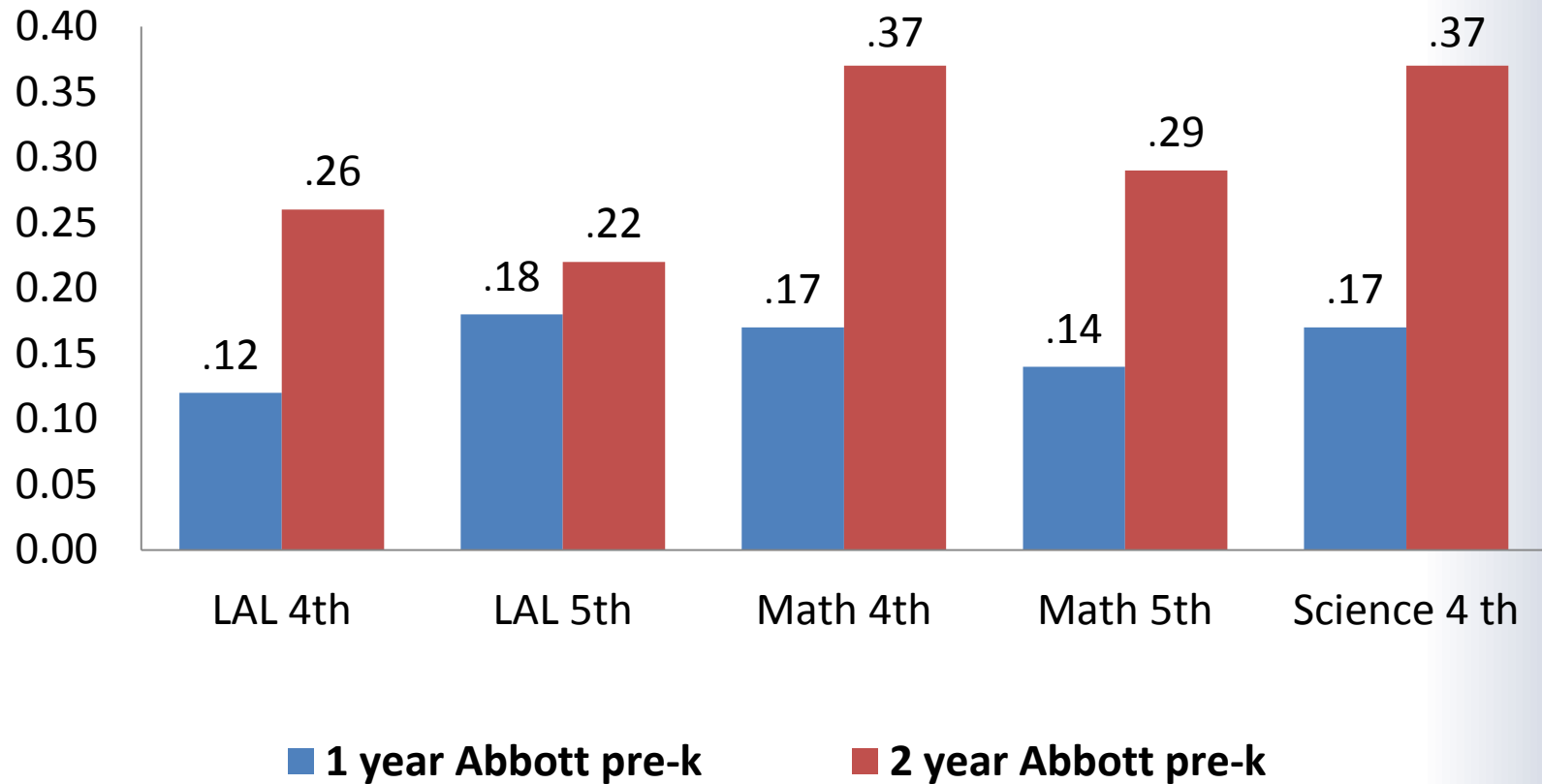
Transformation of Quality in NJ UPK (ECERS-R)



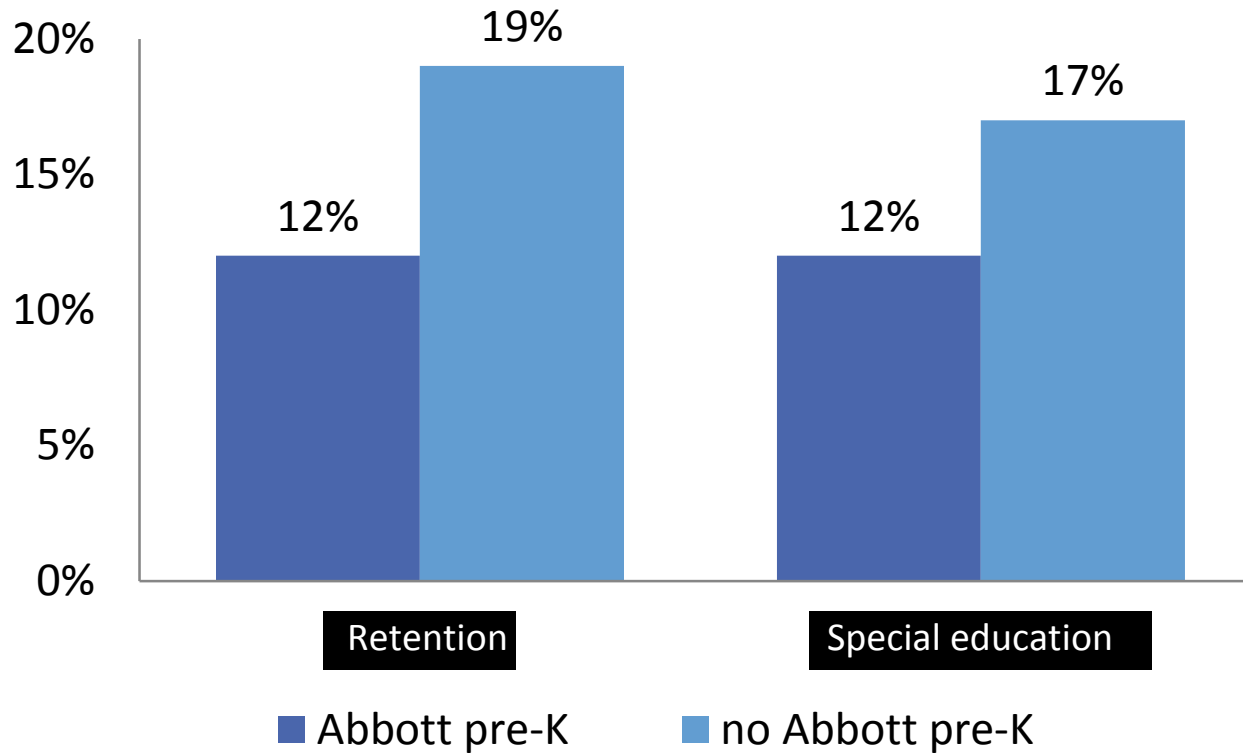
**1= Inadequate, 3=Minimal, 5=Good,
 7=Excellent**

■ 2000 ■ 2005 ■ 2008

NJ UPK Effects on Achievement Grades 4 and 5



NJ Effects on Retention & Special Education at Grade 5



Next Steps for California

Beth Meloy

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Building an Early Learning System That Works

Next Steps for California

By Hanna Melnick, Beth Meloy, Madelyn Gardner,
Marjorie Wechsler, and Anna Maier



JANUARY 2018

1

Build a coherent system of ECE administration

- Designate a **single coordinating body** to unify and streamline ECE decision making at the state and local level.
- Develop a **one-stop-shop** for parents to find high quality care.
- Build a **comprehensive data system** that offers policymakers and administrators actionable information.

2

Make ECE affordable for all children birth to age 5

- Establish **universally-available** preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds, utilizing a **mixed delivery system** and a **sliding fee scale**.
- Expand access to subsidized child care on a **sliding fee scale for infants and toddlers**.

3

Build a well-qualified ECE workforce

- Reform the reimbursement rate system and supplement reimbursement rates to **enhance educator wages**.
- **Raise expectations** for teacher qualifications and support existing educators in meeting new requirements.
- **Invest in higher education programs** that adequately prepare early educators for the demands of the classroom.

4

Improve the quality of all ECE programs

- **Raise quality requirements** for programs with the lowest standards.
- Fully fund Quality Rating Improvement Systems to **support required participation** of all state subsidized providers.
- Ensure all programs have access to **quality improvement activities**.

5 | Improve birth to 8 alignment

- Develop leaders who understand **effective teaching practices for young children**, including dual language learners.
- Ensure educators **understand child development** and early language development.
- Provide **joint professional development** for educators and leaders across ECE and elementary school.