

Purpose

P.L. 2019, Chapter 205 states: “The Early Intervention Program in the Department of Health, established pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1993, c.309 16 (C.26:1A-36.7), shall annually collect and publicly report data on the language acquisition and developmental progress of infants and toddlers from birth to age two who are deaf or hard of hearing.”

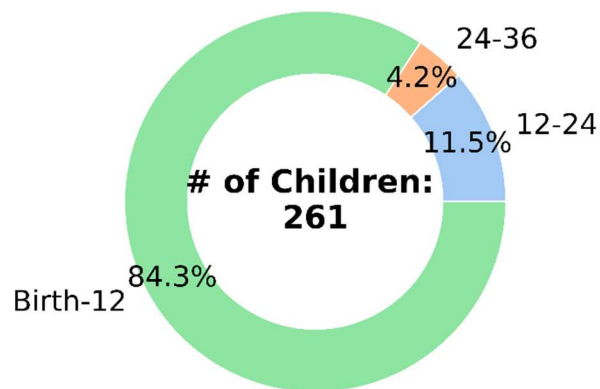
The data and reporting provided in this document is compliant with P.L. 2019, Chapter 205.

Data Summary

Number of children included in this report = 261

Average age at initial evaluation with BDI-3 = 7 months

Language Acquisition Data & Rating Scale for Children with Hearing Loss 0-3 Age at First NJEIS Evaluation



The overall Language Acquisition Score for FY2025 is 2.48 (Below Age-Level Expectations)

RATING	CHILD COUNT
1 - Significantly Below Age Level Expectations	45
2 - Below Age Level Expectations	56
3 – Approaching Age Level Expectations	132
4 - Age Level Expectations or Above	28
Total Child Count	261

Method

NJEIS utilizes the same descriptions and overall rating scale established by the NJ Department of Education (DOE) for purposes of this reporting. These are listed in the table below.

Rating	Rating Score	Rating Description	Summary Score (BDI-3)
Age Level Expectations or Above	4	• The child demonstrates age-appropriate receptive and expressive language development in English and/or ASL across all settings to include social, functional, and academic communication. • No concerns are currently noted by any team members. Careful monitoring should continue.	110-155
Approaching Age Level Expectations	3	• The child's receptive and expressive language, in English and/or ASL, may be unevenly developed but is generally within range of peers across all settings to include social, functional, and academic communication. • Some concerns have been noted by any team members; however, the language gap between the child and peers is closing.	80-109
Below Age Level Expectations	2	• The child's receptive and expressive language, in English and/or ASL, is less developed than same-age peers across all settings to include social, functional, and academic Expectations communication. • Concerns have been noted by team members	70-79
Significantly Below Age Level Expectations	1	• The child's receptive and expressive language, in English and/or ASL, is significantly less developed than same-age peers across all settings to include social, functional, and academic communication. • Significant concerns have been noted by team members.	45-69

The NJEIS uses the Battelle Developmental Inventory Third Edition (BDI-3) for all children as part of their initial evaluation process for the NJEIS. Evaluators use supplemental tools as necessary to obtain additional information on a child's developmental status, including the acquisition of

Language Acquisition Data and Rating Scale Report for Children with Hearing Loss
New Jersey Early Intervention System
SFY 2025

language, the development of skills and knowledge and the child's ability to take actions to meet their needs

For purposes of this report the BDI-3 was the common evaluation tool available for all children in the time sample, and therefore was chosen as the data point to collect and determine each child's individual Language Acquisition Rating. The Communication Domain on the BDI-3 has 2 sub-domains that measure a child's 1) Receptive Communication skills and 2) Expressive Communication skills relative to their same age peers. The information from both sub-domains is calculated into an overall domain Summary Score (mean= 100, Sd = 15). The Summary Score was identified by NJEIS as the measure to align with the 1-4 rating descriptions as described in the table above.

The DOH reviewed the most recent Summary Score in the Communication Domain for each child with hearing loss participating in NJEIS during the month of March 2026. The data was sorted by score, and a weighted average was determined. A weighted average or mean is one where each item being averaged is multiplied by a number based on the item's relative importance, rather than treating each item equally. In this case the numbers were 1 through 4. The determination of the overall Language Acquisition Score for FY25 for the 261 children in NJEIS was calculated as an average sum of all items divided by the number of observations. As the rating scale is 1 through 4, the multiplier calculations are $646 / 261$, for an overall rating of 2.48.

Rating	Child Count	Multiplier (score)	Total of Scores
1 - Significantly Below Age Level Expectations	50	1	50
2 - Below Age Level Expectations	64	2	128
3 - Approaching Below Age Level Expectations	120	3	360
4 - Age Level Expectations or Above	27	4	108
Total Child Count	261		646