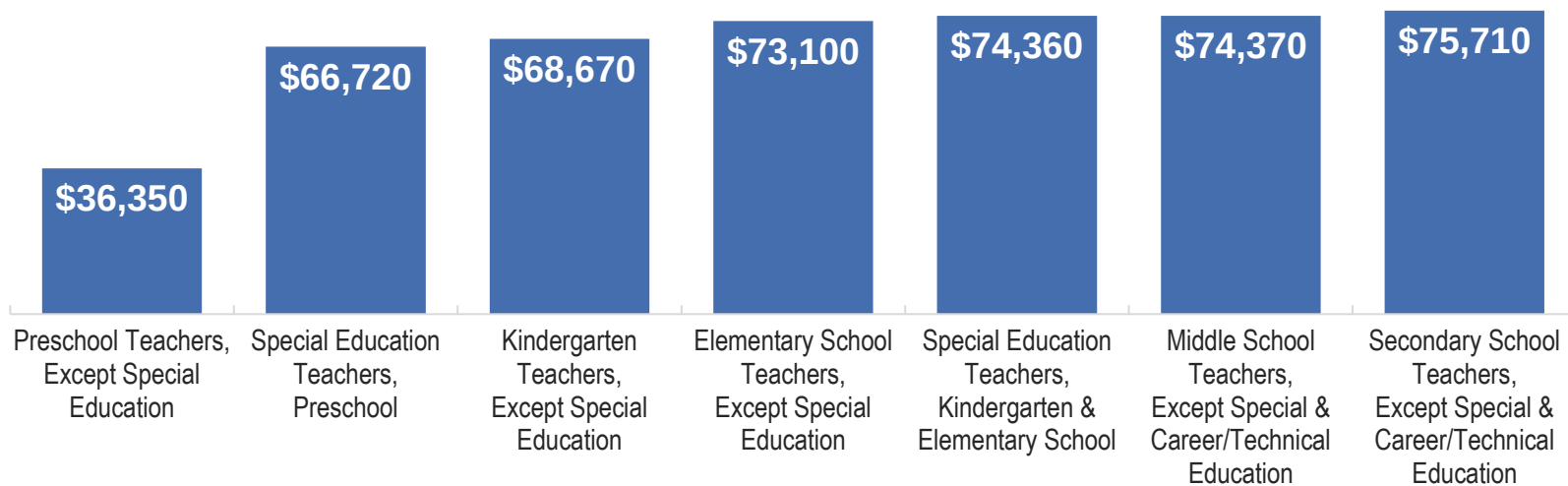


# HIGH-QUALITY, PUBLICLY FUNDED PRE-K Beaver County

Low Wages = Teacher Shortage



2023 PA Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, Mean Annual Salary

| County      |                                                             | Pennsylvania  |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 3,460       | Population age 3-4                                          | 278,983       |
| 1,780 (51%) | Eligible children age 3-4*                                  | 151,325 (54%) |
| 759         | Eligible children with access                               | 66,558        |
| 1,021       | Eligible children without access                            | 84,767        |
| 57%         | Percent unserved                                            | 56%           |
| 102         | Additional educators needed for eligible, unserved children | 8,477         |
| 37          | Eligible pre-k providers**                                  | 3,199         |
| 28 (76%)    | Locations receiving public pre-k funds                      | 2,432 (76%)   |
| 15          | Pre-K Counts (PKC) providers                                | 1,001         |
| 3 (20%)     | PKC in high-quality child care                              | 466 (47%)     |

\*Eligible children live in families earning up to 300% of federal poverty level. Children with access includes those enrolled in high-quality providers using public funds to support their pre-k education.

\*\*High-quality, publicly funded pre-k programs are offered through Head Start, Pre-K Counts, Philadelphia pre-k (PHLpreK), school district pre-k programs, and through child care provided in Keystone STAR 3-4 centers and group child care homes participating in the Child Care Works program for preschool-age children. Eligible providers include Head Start, Keystone STARS 3 and 4 center and group child care, PDE-licensed nursery schools and school districts.



*The Pre-K for PA vision is to ensure that all children can enter school ready to succeed by making high-quality pre-kindergarten accessible to every three- and four-year-old in Pennsylvania.*

VISIT [PAPARTNERSHIPS.ORG/MAPPING-TOOLS](https://papartnerships.org/mapping-tools) FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HIGH-QUALITY, PUBLICLY FUNDED PRE-K AND PROVIDERS IN THIS REGION

# HIGH-QUALITY, PUBLICLY FUNDED PRE-K

## BENEFITS OF HIGH-QUALITY PRE-K



reduced grade  
repetition



increased  
graduation rates



reduced special ed  
placements



taxpayer dollars  
preserved



decreased crime  
and incarceration



stronger  
economy

*Pre-K Counts teachers have their degree and teaching certification - just the same as school district teachers do. Our Pre-K Counts teachers could make significantly more (for the school year/school day hours only) and on top of that, be entitled to generous health and paid time off benefits. The state must invest in pre-k to get closer to pay parity.*

- Abigail Enz-Doerschner,  
Assistant Director, Once Upon a Time Early Learning Center,  
Pre-K for PA and Start Strong PA Provider Advisory Board member

**As part of the 2025-26 final state budget, Pennsylvania policymakers should:**

- **Support the proposed investment of \$15 million in Pre-K Counts to help stabilize early learning providers by boosting per child rates to help combat inflationary pressures and staffing shortages caused by low wages.**
- **Include an investment of \$9.5 million for the Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program to help stabilize the Head Start workforce.**



Campaign led by Children First, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, First Up, Mission: Readiness, Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children, Pennsylvania Head Start Association, Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children, Trying Together and United Way of Pennsylvania.

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4/2025

*Data is provided by KIDS COUNT®: Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children*