

MISSOURI

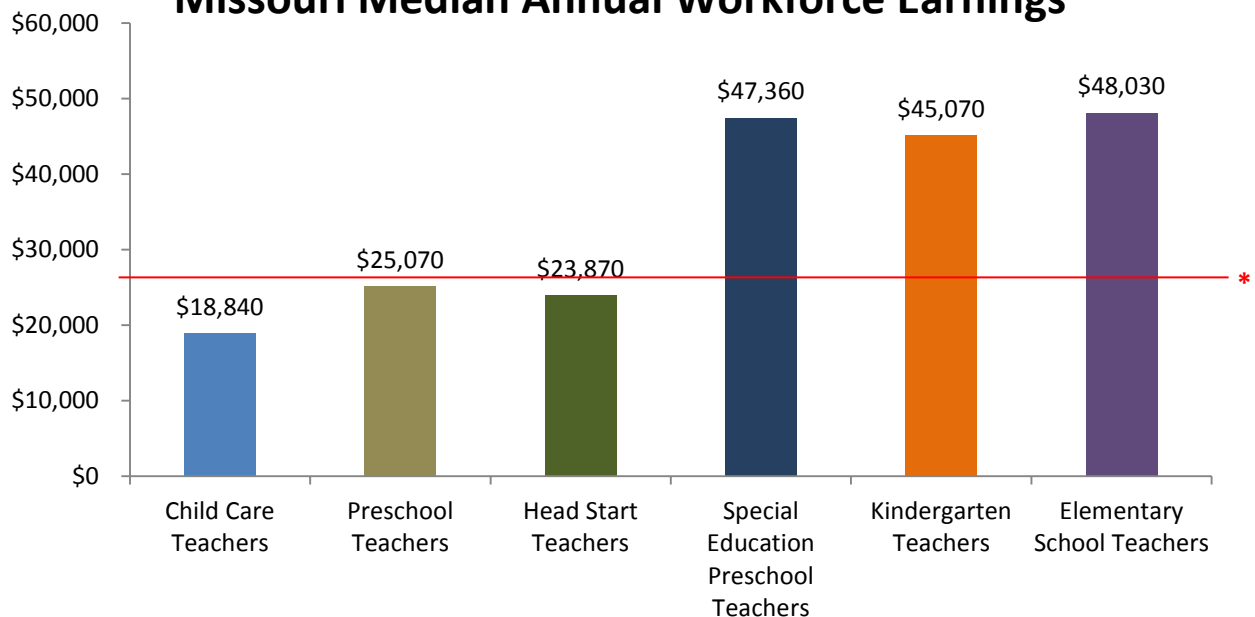
Access to High Quality Early Learning Matters!

Research shows that during the earliest years of a child's life:

- 700 - 1,000 new neural connections form every second
- Genetics plus experiences shape the developing brain
- The foundation forms for future cognitive abilities
- Vocabulary at age 3 can predict 3rd Grade Reading Achievement

High Quality Programs Depend on a Quality Workforce Low Wages Undermine Quality

Missouri Median Annual Workforce Earnings



Missouri Demographics

- 444,396** Children Under Age 6
- 215,199** Children Under Age 6 Below 200% of Poverty
- 67.8%** Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working
- 50.6%** Families Led by a Single Mother with Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty
- 25%** Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

Missouri Median Annual Wages for Other Occupations

- Parking Lot Attendants: \$18,500
- Manicurist & Pedicurist: \$19,510
- Word Processors/Typists: \$30,560
- Nurses: \$57,770

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 1 Year data (2014); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics (2015); Head Start Program Information Report (2015).

