

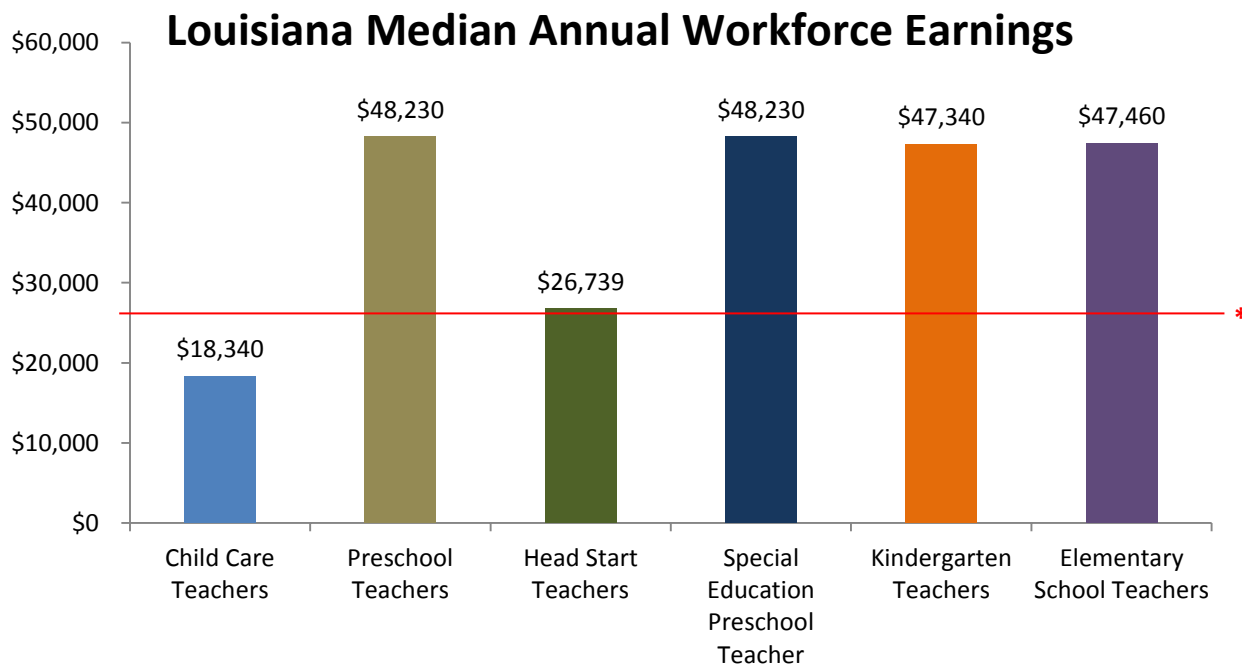
LOUISIANA

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



Louisiana Demographics

- 371,352** Children Under Age 6
- 203,052** Children Under Age 6 Below 200% of Poverty
- 6.6%** Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working
- 4.9%** Families Led by a Single Mother with Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty
- 3.2%** Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

Louisiana Median Annual Wages for Other Occupations

- Parking Lot Attendants: \$18,870
- Manicurist & Pedicurist: \$20,170
- Word Processors/Typists: \$31,940
- Nurses: \$59,780

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).

