

Child Care Works (CCW) - Unserved, Eligible Families

	Under 5 years	Infants and toddlers
Eligible children	2,530	1,490
Eligible children enrolled	321	164
Unserved, eligible children	2,209	1,326
	87% unserved	89% unserved

ONLY **57%**
of Child Care Works (CCW)
children under five years are
in high-quality programs

...and ONLY **57%** of CCW
infants and toddlers are in
high-quality programs

Only **61%** of child care
capacity in this
county currently
meets high-quality
standards

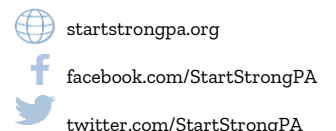
BENEFITS OF HIGH-QUALITY CHILD CARE

-  increased employment and tax revenue
-  increased job retention and productivity for employers
-  higher earning potential for parents
-  improved math and language ability
-  healthy development
-  reduced grade repetition



Start Strong PA believes that because every child deserves an equal opportunity to a quality educational foundation that will prepare them to grow, learn, and succeed, we are calling on Pennsylvania to focus on the most important years of a child's development; the first three years of life.

Data is provided by KIDS COUNT: Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children



Child Care Works (CCW) - Unserved, Eligible Families

	Under 5 years	Infants and toddlers
Eligible children	203,110	120,430
Eligible children enrolled	53,770	27,016
Unserved, eligible children	149,340	93,414
	74% unserved	78% unserved

ONLY **40%**
of Child Care Works (CCW) children
under five years are in high-quality
programs



...and ONLY **37%** of CCW infants and
toddlers are in high-quality programs

Only **43%** of child care capacity in the state currently
meets high-quality standards

It is imperative that state leaders take action now to save early learning in PA and focus COVID-19 recovery funds on:

- 1) Enabling a rapid reopening of early learning programs and return to work for all families by:
 - continuing to pay child care subsidies and Pre-K Counts (PKC) and Head Start Supplemental Assistance Programs (HSSAP) contracts for the duration of the closure;
 - compensating providers for lost child care subsidy parent co-payments (prioritizing STAR 2, 3 and 4); and
 - covering a portion of uncollected private pay tuition at the child care subsidy rate (prioritizing STAR 2, 3 and 4 that serve subsidized children).
- 2) Protecting child care providers and ensuring confidence in Pennsylvania’s early care and education system during recovery by:
 - providing all child care, PKC and HSSAP programs free training on sanitization practices required to re-open and funding for subsidized child care, PKC and HSSAP programs to sanitize their programs; and
 - providing child care programs immunity from tort liability associated with COVID-19 claims.
- 3) Boosting the chances of school success for this year’s PKC and HSSAP students by appropriating funds to allow PKC and HSSAP programs to offer one month of summer instruction for children entering kindergarten in the fall.

As state budget discussions get underway, we urge policymakers to further increase the stability, supply and quality of infant and toddler child care in PA and support them to be equipped to operate in a post COVID-19 world – ensuring the safety and healthy development of young children, while alleviating the anxiety of parents returning to work.



Campaign led by Fight Crime: Invest in Kids | First Up | Mission:Readiness | Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children | Pennsylvania Child Care Association | Pennsylvania Head Start Association | Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children | Public Citizens for Children and Youth | The United Way of Pennsylvania | Trying Together

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