

¹ Median earnings in the past 12 months for each county in SDA 8 from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2024 American Community Survey 5-year estimates (Table S2001).

² If fewer than three responses were received, salary statistics were not reported.

³ N is the number of staff members for whom an hourly wage was reported.

⁴ **Educational Administrators, Preschool and Child Care Center/Programs** (SOC 11-9031) "Plan, direct, or coordinate the academic and nonacademic activities of preschool or child care centers or programs."

⁵ **Kindergarten Teachers, Except Special Education** (SOC 25-2012) "Teach elemental natural and social science, personal hygiene, music, and literature to children from 4 to 6-years old. Promote physical, mental, and social development. May be required to hold state certification."

⁶ **Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education** (SOC 25-2011) "Instruct children (normally up to 5 years of age) in activities designed to promote social, physical, and intellectual growth needed for primary school in preschool, day care center, or other child development facility."

⁷ **Child Care Worker** (SOC 39-9011) "Attend to children in schools, businesses, private households, and child care institutions. Perform a variety of tasks such as dressing, feeding, bathing, and overseeing play."

SAL Child Care Connection
(800) 421-4371
www.salchildcareconnection.org

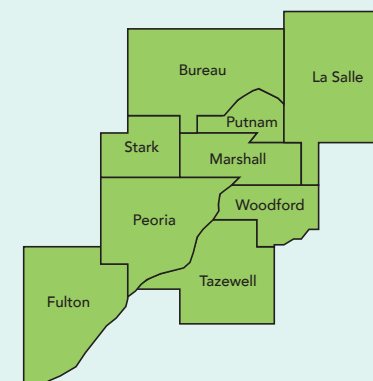
Report prepared by the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies, funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services

Illinois Child Care Resource & Referral Statewide System

CHILD CARE SALARY PROFILES



iStock™
Credit: FatCamera



SAL Child Care Connection

Bureau, Fulton, LaSalle, Marshall, Peoria, Putnam, Stark, Tazewell, & Woodford Counties

MEDIAN ANNUAL WAGE

Illinois Salary & Staffing Survey wages compared to American Community Survey wages

	FY 2025 Illinois Salary & Staffing Survey Child Care Occupations	2024 American Community Survey ¹ All Occupations
BUREAU	\$37,773	\$40,123
FULTON	\$37,960	\$37,980
LA SALLE	\$37,201	\$42,526
MARSHALL	\$36,400	\$43,393
PEORIA	\$35,880	\$43,393
PUTNAM	\$53,625	\$46,062
STARK		\$43,602
TAZEWELL	\$34,840	\$45,944
WOODFORD	\$33,800	\$51,572
SDA 8	\$35,880	\$43,844

Aside from Putnam County, the median annual salaries of all child care providers in this report are significantly below the median earnings of persons living and working in each county, with the exception of Putnam County.¹ While individuals serving in administrative capacities in child care centers are most likely to receive wages above the county's median wage (between \$41,600 and \$46,436 for director/teachers and administrative directors), the majority of child care center teachers (\$37,960), family child care providers (\$37,500), and school-age assistants (\$32,448) are earning well below the median wage for employed persons in their county with school-age workers (\$32,032) and assistant teachers (\$31,200) earning the least. When it comes to insurance and pension benefits offered by surveyed centers, a little more than three of every five child care center staff members are provided partial or full coverage by their employer and nearly three-fourth receive pension or retirement benefits.

MEDIAN CHILD CARE CENTER HOURLY WAGES BY POSITION / 2025

	Administrative Director		Director/Teacher		Teacher		Assistant Teacher		School-Age Worker		School-Age Assistant	
	Median ²	N ³	Median ²	N ³	Median ²	N ³	Median ²	N ³	Median ²	N ³	Median ²	N ³
BUREAU		2		1	\$19.57	17	\$17.00	17		-		-
FULTON	\$17.13	6		2	\$18.08	38	\$15.00	53	\$14.84	3		1
LA SALLE	\$19.76	6	\$18.64	10	\$18.25	59	\$16.75	49		2		-
PEORIA	\$22.63	60	\$20.10	21	\$18.00	379	\$15.00	392	\$15.00	18	\$13.75	10
STARK		-		1		-		-		-		-
TAZEWELL	\$21.10	29	\$19.00	11	\$17.60	193	\$14.50	215	\$16.25	5	\$15.00	3
WOODFORD	\$21.50	3	\$20.41	6	\$16.45	26	\$14.00	17		-		-
SDA 8	\$21.54	106	\$20.00	52	\$18.00	712	\$15.00	743	\$15.00	28	\$14.00	14

Source: Illinois Salary & Staffing Survey of Licensed, Child Care Facilities: FY 2025
Note: No data was available for Marshall or Putnam County

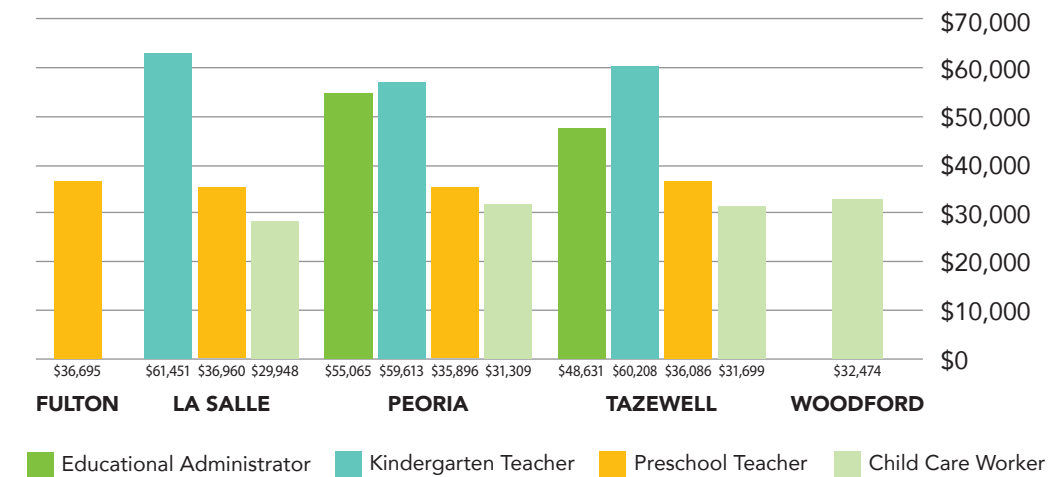
CHILD CARE STAFF RECEIVING BENEFITS / 2025



The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) reported median yearly wages for 2024 for four early care and education occupations (Educational Administrators of Preschools/Child Care Programs⁴, Kindergarten Teachers⁵, Preschool Teachers⁶, and Child Care Workers⁷) in five of the nine counties in this report –Fulton, La Salle, Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford.

Although the specific occupational definitions differed from IDES descriptions and the Illinois Salary & Staffing Survey descriptions, salaries were rather consistent with one another in that wages within IDES's preschool teacher and child care worker categories and the Illinois Salary & Staffing Survey child care staff categories were within the same range; however, it should be noted that the IDES's definition of child care worker includes a provider working in either a center or family child care home which is differentiated by the *Illinois Salary & Staffing Survey*.

MEDIAN YEARLY WAGES / 2024



Source: The Illinois Department of Employment Security, <http://lmi.ides.state.il.us/wagedata/wage.htm>

Nursing assistants in La Salle, Peoria, and Tazewell Counties make more than preschool teachers and child care workers in the same counties.

Kindergarten teachers in La Salle, Peoria, and Tazewell Counties make almost or more than double the amount of child care workers in the same counties.

Nursing assistants in Woodford County earn a little over 20 percent more than nursing assistants in Peoria, La Salle, and Fulton Counties.

KEY POINTS FROM THE ILLINOIS SALARY & STAFFING SURVEY OF LICENSED CHILD CARE FACILITIES: FY 2025

The median full-time, full-year salary of child care staff range from \$31,200 for assistant teachers to \$46,436 for administrative directors.

Teachers, 52.3% of whom have an associate's degree or higher, have a median annual salary of approximately \$36,410.

A little over half (57.7%) of family child care practitioners net less than \$30,000 annually.

MEDIAN YEARLY WAGES FOR NURSING ASSISTANTS / 2024 (IDES)

FULTON COUNTY

\$38,974

LA SALLE COUNTY

\$39,593

PEORIA COUNTY

\$39,729

TAZEWELL COUNTY

\$42,582

WOODFORD COUNTY

\$48,479