

¹ Median earnings in the past 12 months for each county in SDA 9 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."

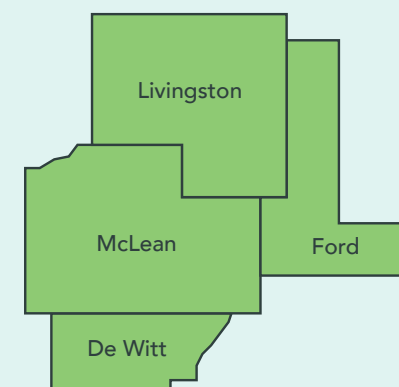
Child Care Resource & Referral Network
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Report prepared by the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies, funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services



Illinois Child Care Resource & Referral Statewide System

CHILD CARE SALARY PROFILES



Child Care Resource & Referral Network

De Witt, Ford, Livingston, & McLean 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
DE WITT	\$40,800	\$45,925
FORD	\$37,960	\$41,634
LIVINGSTON	\$37,222	\$42,427
MCLEAN	\$35,682	\$44,793
SDA 9	\$35,880	\$43,695

CHILD CARE STAFF RECEIVING BENEFITS / 2025

Results were suppressed due to 5 or fewer responses.



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 one of the four counties in this report –McLean County.

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*.

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 teacher assistants and school-age assistants to \$49,774 for administrative directors.

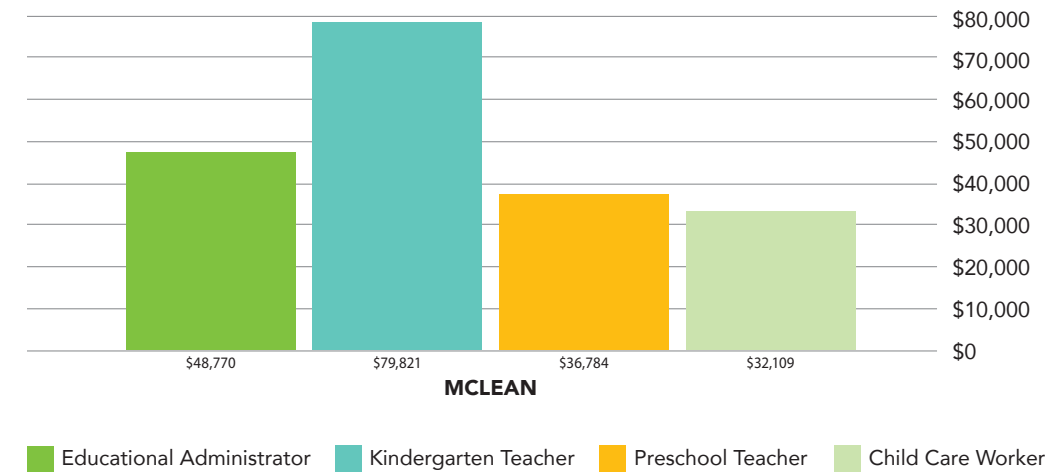
Teachers, 62.7% of whom have an associate’s degree or higher, have a median annual salary of approximately \$35,325.

Half of surveyed family child care practitioners net less than \$30,000 annually.

The median annual salaries of all child care providers in this report are

below the median earnings of persons living and working in each 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 \$42,172 and \$49,774 for director/teachers and administrative directors), the majority of child care center teachers (\$37,814) and family child care providers (\$36,400) are earning well below the median wage for employed persons in their county with school-age workers (\$33,280) and child care center teacher assistants and school-age assistants (\$31,200) earning the least.

MEDIAN YEARLY WAGES / 2024



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

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
DE WITT		-		-		1		1		-		-
FORD	\$18.25	3	\$17.50	3	\$18.25	14	\$13.75	8		-		-
LIVINGSON		-	\$17.54	5	\$17.00	7	\$15.00	8		-		1
MCLEAN	\$23.07	34	\$20.50	8	\$17.35	222	\$14.50	465	\$15.50	8	\$14.63	10
SDA 9	\$23.07	37	\$19.29	16	\$17.50	244	\$14.50	482	\$15.50	8	\$14.25	11

Source: Illinois Salary & Staffing Survey of Licensed, Child Care Facilities: FY 2025

MEDIAN YEARLY WAGES FOR NURSING ASSISTANTS / 2024 (IDES)

MCLEAN COUNTY
\$40,901

In McLean County, nursing assistants make more than child care workers.

In McLean County, kindergarten teachers make more than double that of preschool teachers and child care workers.

Kindergarten teachers in McLean County make nearly two-thirds more than educational administrators.