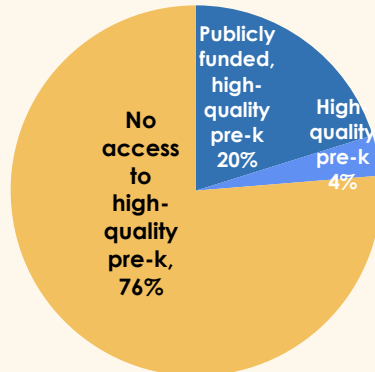


MAKING SURE MERCER COUNTY CHILDREN ARE READY TO SUCCEED

Access to high-quality pre-k gives all children the opportunity to learn. *But ... 1,897 children ages 3 and 4 in Mercer County don't have access to high-quality pre-k!*

76%

of children in the county do not have access to high-quality pre-k



20%

of children in the county have access to publicly funded high-quality pre-k

There are 2,487 children ages 3 and 4 in Mercer County.

Of those children, 1,834 or 74% live in families below 300% poverty.

Despite its benefits, far too many families cannot afford to enroll their kids in high-quality pre-k and often resort to programs that lack elements essential to their child's success.

HIGH-QUALITY PRE-K WORKS!

The percentage of 4-year-olds in 2012-13 with **proficient academic and social skills:**

more than tripled
from 22 percent
to 82 percent
after participating
in PA Pre-K Counts

increased more than six-fold
from 12 percent
to 76 percent
after participating
in Head Start
Supplemental

Education investment must start early, before the achievement gap is too wide and very costly to overcome.

STRENGTHEN OUR SCHOOLS!

High-quality pre-k significantly improves children's early literacy, language, math and social/emotional skills.

Reduces grade repetition by as much as a third through 8th grade

Reduces special education placements by nearly half through 2nd grade

Increases the likelihood of high school graduation

STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY!

Pre-k builds the foundation for a more successful Mercer County.

Preserves taxpayer dollars by decreasing dropout rates

Saves taxpayers' money by decreasing crime and incarceration

Boosts the economy through increased lifetime earnings



The Pre-K for PA issue campaign is working to ensure that all Pennsylvania children are ready to succeed. Our vision is that every 3- and 4-year-old in the commonwealth has access to high-quality pre-kindergarten.

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