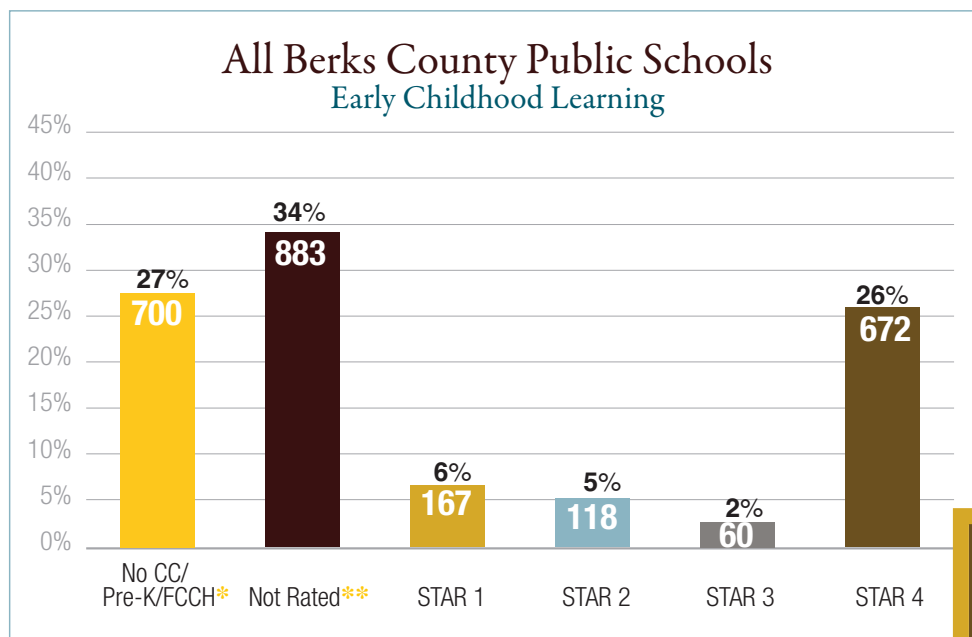


FAST FACTS



Keystone STARs Rating 1–4

STAR qualifications
are located on the
back of this handout.

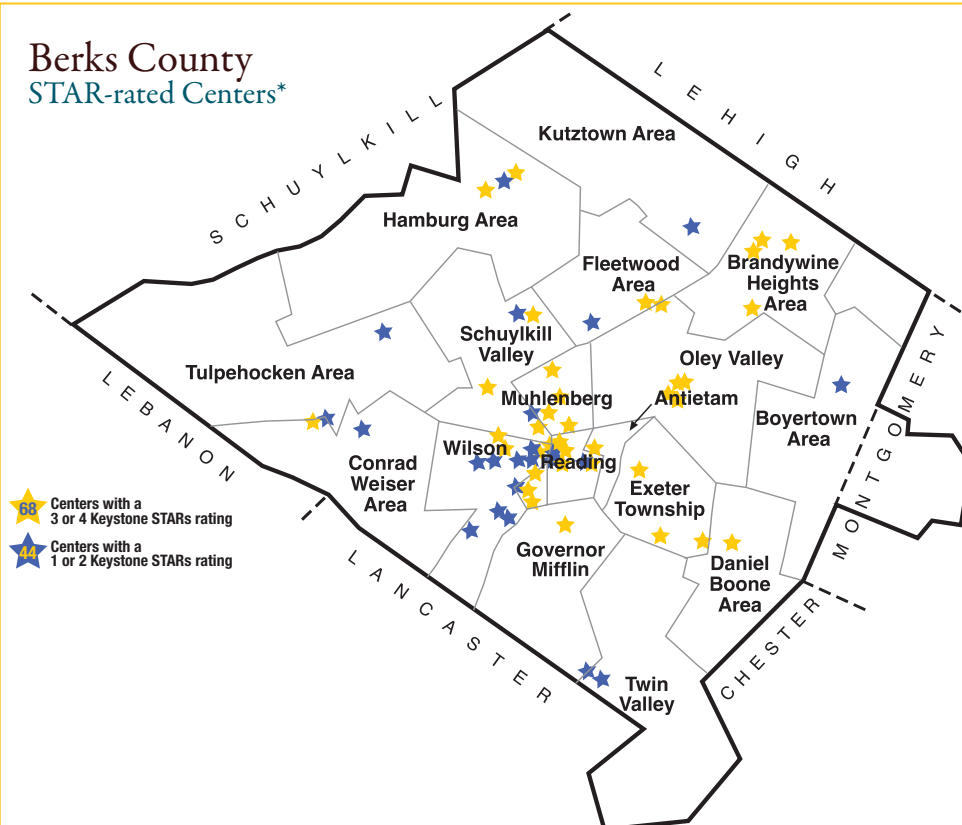
- * No Childcare / Pre-K /
Family Childcare
Home attended
- ** Not Rated (NR)–
Non-participating
STAR program

**DATA REPRESENTS
NUMBER OF
STUDENTS SURVEYED**

2,600*
across 18 public
school districts

*out of a total of 4,782 students:
54% response rate

Berks County STAR-rated Centers*



**INTERESTED?
BE A PART OF
THE SOLUTION.**

belc@berksiu.org
610-987-8486

In partnership with
United Way of Berks County:



*This map is a representation and may not be exact.

Keystone STARS is Pennsylvania's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS). A QRIS is a continuous quality improvement systemic approach to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early and school-age care and education programs. Keystone STARS is a program of Pennsylvania's Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL).

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Keystone STARS is a responsive system to improve, support, and recognize the continuous quality improvement efforts of early learning programs in Pennsylvania. Our system is guided by three core principles:

- A whole child approach to education is essential to meeting the holistic and individual needs of each and every child and family.
- Knowledgeable and responsive early care and education professionals are essential to the development of children and the support of families.
- Building and sustaining ongoing positive relationships among children, families, early care and education professionals, and community stakeholders is essential for the growth and development of every child.

We believe inclusion, diversity, equity, and respect are foundational values embedded in these principles.

KEYSTONE STARS HAS FOUR PRIMARY GOALS:

- To improve the quality of early care and education;
- To support early care and education providers in meeting their quality improvement goals;
- To recognize programs for continuous quality improvement and meeting higher quality standards; and
- To provide families a way to choose a quality early care and education program.

STAR 1: Certification/Compliance with Focus on Health and Safety

STAR 2: Required Elements: Demonstrates programs commitment to Quality and Quality Improvement

STAR 3 & 4: Point system based upon Staff and Leadership qualifications and professional development
– Early care and education programs
– Partnership with families and community partners

Additional option to receive Star 4 – If program is accredited by a National Early Childhood program such as NACEY or ASCI (Association of Christian Schools).



**KEYSTONE
STARS
HELPS YOU**



RAISE YOUR STAR

Thirty-five percent of households in Reading have children under the age of 5 years old and more than half (54.3%) of households with children in Reading have household incomes that fall below the poverty level.

The cost of child care and child development programs in Berks County are excessively high for many Head Start and Early Head Start eligible families. These costs can exceed \$11,000 annually for full-time infant care, and \$7,000 annually for 4- and 5-year-olds.