Head Start is a federally-funded, locally-run early childhood development program that provides comprehensive services for America’s most vulnerable children and their families.

### 2017 Maryland Head Start Profile

#### Access to Head Start in Maryland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Funded Head Start (HS) Slots</th>
<th>Funded Early Head Start (EHS) Slots</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>7,501</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1,687</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40% of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS*</td>
<td>12% of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS*</td>
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</table>

These slots filled 572 classrooms in Maryland.

#### By the numbers:

$96,096,636

FY17 Estimated Funding for HS, EHS, and EHS-Child Care Partnerships in MD

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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>19</strong></td>
<td>Head Start programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>35</strong></td>
<td>Early Head Start programs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### The Head Start Advantage

- Head Start children reduce their vocabulary deficit by 38% during the program year.
- Head Start children are 31% less likely to have been held back a grade.
- Head Start children are 19% less likely to smoke as adults.
- High quality birth-to-five programs, like the combination of EHS and HS, pay off 13% per year.

### Maryland’s Head Start Workforce

- **2,110** HS and EHS jobs in Maryland

The average Head Start teacher with a bachelor’s degree makes only $34,472 per year.

*Photo: A Head Start parent from Oakland, California with her child.*

"I enrolled my son in Head Start for the social interaction he was not getting from being home with me during the day. Head Start has motivated me to open my own in-home childcare. Today, my son is excelling in school, I have a successful business, and I provide transportation for students in Head Start who may not have any other transportation to Head Start."

Crystal G.
Parent
Waldorf, Maryland
In Maryland...

- 0 slots were funded to serve American Indian / Alaska Native children
- 57 children with veteran / active military parents were served by Head Start
- 10,729 children had continuously accessible health care
- 1,092 parents advanced their education level
- 0 slots were funded to serve Migrant / Seasonal children
- 485 children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start
- 9,845 children had continuous access to dental care
- 726 families received job training
- 1,64 children in foster care were served by Head Start
- 3,742 families participated in health education
- 1,205 children with disabilities were served by Head Start
- 183 pregnant women were served by Early Head Start

About NHSA

The National Head Start Association is a nonprofit organization committed to the belief that every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, has the ability to succeed in life. NHSA is the voice for more than 1 million children, 200,000 staff and 1,600 Head Start grantees in the United States.

For more information, please contact us: go.nhsa.org/Contact.

*Eligible is defined as children from birth to age five who are from families with incomes below the poverty level, are homeless, and/or receive public assistance. Foster children are eligible regardless of their foster family’s income.

For citations and other state fact sheets, please visit www.nhsa.org/Fact-Sheets

Our mission is to coalesce, inspire, and support the Head Start field as a leader in early childhood development and education.