

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

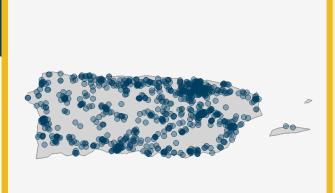
Puerto Rico

2022 Head Start & Early Head Start Profile

"Head Start has been a blessing for me because it has given me the opportunity to concentrate on my degree in nursing and start my job hunt. Being a single mother is hard, but earning my degree has given me the hope of finding a quality job to provide for my small family. Head Start has given my son the opportunity to learn a lot and given him the stage to show how smart he really is."

- Keishla Diaz, San Sebastian





• 834 Head Start Centers Statewide

\$330,686,873

FY21 Funding (Excluding Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Funding)

30,089 Funded Slots Statewide

24,208 Funded Head Start Slots

5,881 Funded Early Head Start Slots

Head Start's Model Nationwide, Comprehensive, Multi-Generational

In the six decades since our founding, we have reached a new milestone: 37 million children have been served by Head Start. Innovators and small business owners, police officers and members of the service, nurses and teachers—our alumni represent the vast and diverse fabric of our country. From early math and reading skills, to confidence and resilience, Head Start helps children build the skills they need to be successful in school and life.

Head Start takes a comprehensive approach to meeting the needs of young children and their families. There are four pillars in every program:

Education: Learning experiences support intellectual, social, and emotional growth

Health Services: Immunizations, dental, medical, and mental health support, nutritional services, and early screenings ensure healthy development

Family Involvement: Opportunities for parents and caregivers to be involved in decision making, participate in classes, and volunteer in the program strengthen families

Wraparound Support: Tailored services meet local and individual needs and link children and families to community supports.

- Head Start and Early Head Start programs successfully implemented CDC recommended guidance and other ancillary measures for child care programs that remained open, allowing them to continue offering in-person learning."
 - CDC, <u>Implementing Mitigation</u> <u>Strategies in Early Care and</u> <u>Education Settings for Prevention</u> <u>of SARS-CoV-2 Transmission</u>

December 2020





The National Head Start Association is committed to the belief that every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, has the ability to succeed in life. Since 1974, NHSA has worked for policy changes that ensure all income-eligible children have access to the Head Start model.

For citations, the national profile, and other state profiles, visit go.nhsa.org/state-profile