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

West Virginia

2022 Head Start & Early Head Start Profile

In West Virginia, a former addict found support through Head Start and is now working to support a group of mothers who are all suffering with depression. “I never would have stayed in that waiting room if you Head Start weren’t there with me,’ the mom said. “That’s walking beside somebody.”

– Home Visitors in West Virginia Approach Families with Empathy, Understanding

$75,798,821
FY21 Funding
(Excluding Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Funding)

7,849
Funded Slots Statewide

6,771
Funded Head Start Slots

1,078
Funded Early Head Start Slots

399
Head Start Centers Statewide

Visit nhsa.org/locator to view the map in more detail.
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.

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**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, Implementing Mitigation Strategies in Early Care and Education Settings for Prevention of SARS-CoV-2 Transmission

December 2020

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**Children**

- 43,668 Home Visits Conducted Throughout the Year
- 158 Pregnant Women Served
- 3,812 Newly Enrolled Children Completed Behavioral Screenings
- 659 Children Received Care for a Chronic Health Condition
- 4,046 Children Received Preventative Dental Care
- 5,350 Children Up-to-Date on Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic & Treatment Screenings

**Families**

- 538 Homeless Families Served
- 5,666 Families Received Services that Promote Family Outcomes
- 1,638 Fathers Involved in their Child’s Educational Experiences

**Community**

- 743 Head Start and Early Head Start Classrooms
- 3,187 Total Head Start and Early Head Start Staff
- 4,388 Parents Employed, in School, or in Job Training

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