

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

American Indian/ Alaska Native

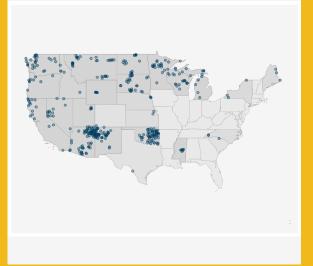
2023 Head Start & Early Head Start Profile

"I love Head Start and have for a long time. My two grandchildren were so prepared when they started school. The teachers were fantastic, the staff were very helpful and friendly. This year my youngest grandson is in Head Start. I can really see a big change in him. I know he is in good hands."



– Vickie May

Visit <u>nhsa.org/locator</u> to view state maps in detail.



• 461

Head Start and Early Head Start Centers Nationwide

\$309,184,414 FY22 Funding

20,498 Funded Slots Nationwide

16,076

Funded American Indian / Alaska Native Head Start Slots

4,422

Funded American Indian / Alaska Native 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

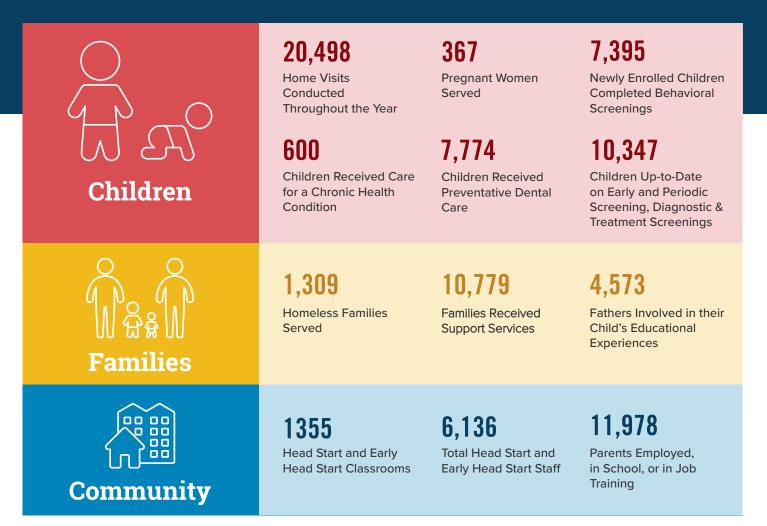
Health Services: Immunizations, dental, medical, and mental health support, nutritional services, and early screenings ensure healthy development

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.

The key takeaway is that the benefits of Head Start appear to transfer from one generation to the next in a substantial way... These results imply that cost-benefit analyses of Head Start and similar early childhood interventions underestimate the benefits of such programs by ignoring the transmission of positive effects across generations."

> Breaking the Cycle?
> Intergenerational Effects of an Antipoverty Program in Early Childhood, Journal of Political Economy, 2022





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