

“The bus stops are located far from our locations. Parents that use public transportation spend on average three to four hours on the bus for their child to attend the program.”

- Head Start staff member





**American
Public Transportation
Association**



NATIONAL HEAD START ASSOCIATION

American Public Transportation Association

APTA Roots Trace Back to 1882

**Trade Association for the North American
Public Transportation Industry**

Big Tent – 1,500 Member Organizations

**Navigated Much Change over the
Decades!**





NHSA's Vision

To Lead

To be the untiring voice that will not be quiet until every vulnerable child is served with the Head Start model of support for the whole child, the family, and the community.

To Advocate

To work diligently for policy changes that ensure all vulnerable children and families have what they need to succeed.

NHSA's Mission

To coalesce, inspire, and support the Head Start field as a leader in early childhood development and education.

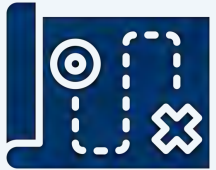
We are compelled to fulfill this mission by the promise of all possible outcomes:

- One powerful, united Head Start voice
- A collegial, collaborative Head Start field
- Nonpartisan support of an increased federal commitment to Head Start
- Healthier, empowered children and families, and stronger, more vibrant communities

Civic Mapping Initiative is charting the proximity of public transit stops to public services.



We build national datasets of key civic locations.



We identify “last mile” transit expansion opportunities.



We partner on research + media outreach to highlight opportunities to support **economic + social mobility**.



2022 to present...

19 state-level community + technical college transit maps

16+ feature articles in local + state media including USA Today, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, NPR Marketplace

2 bipartisan votes in the US House passing the PATH to College Act



Civic Mapping Initiative's current maps in development are focused on higher education and Head Start preschools.



We published the first comprehensive list of community and technical college campuses; now releasing state maps to show transit proximity, in partnership with the colleges.



We're partnering with the National Head Start Association to publish our Head Start Transit Map. **We are actively seeking examples of new/relocated stops to celebrate as part of the launch in October 2023.**



We intend to map the proximity of public transit stops to...



Medicare-accepting medical centers



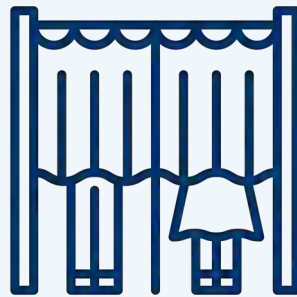
Public housing



Grocery stores that accept SNAP/EBT/WIC



Public schools



Polling stations



Manufacturing jobs



Are Head Start locations transit accessible?

Transit is the #1 barrier to retention and enrollment in Head Start.

Civic Mapping Initiative will publish a series of state and federal **Head Start Transit Maps** highlighting the opportunities for improving access in 2023.



Only 40% of Head Start locations are within walking distance of transit.

An additional 30% of locations are less than five miles from transit, but too far to walk while carrying a toddler.



How can we improve transit access for families and staff?



Head Start providers can...

Assemble background information, notably Center hours of operation, routes used by families and staff.

Meet with transit agencies to share needs and priorities. Consider transit access, engage transit agency prior to new site selection.



Transit providers can...

Review the Head Start locations to identify possible route changes, demand service adjustments.

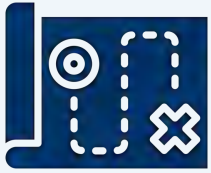
Meet with Head Start providers to learn how families and staff interact with transit, core needs for routes, schedules, stops.



Civic Mapping Initiative, NHSA, and APTA can help by...



Providing the datasets of Head Start, other civic locations



Identifying opportunities for adjustments (e.g., changes of less than half a mile), connecting with local counterparts



Partnering to highlight your route and/or service changes in our national launch in October 2023, or subsequently



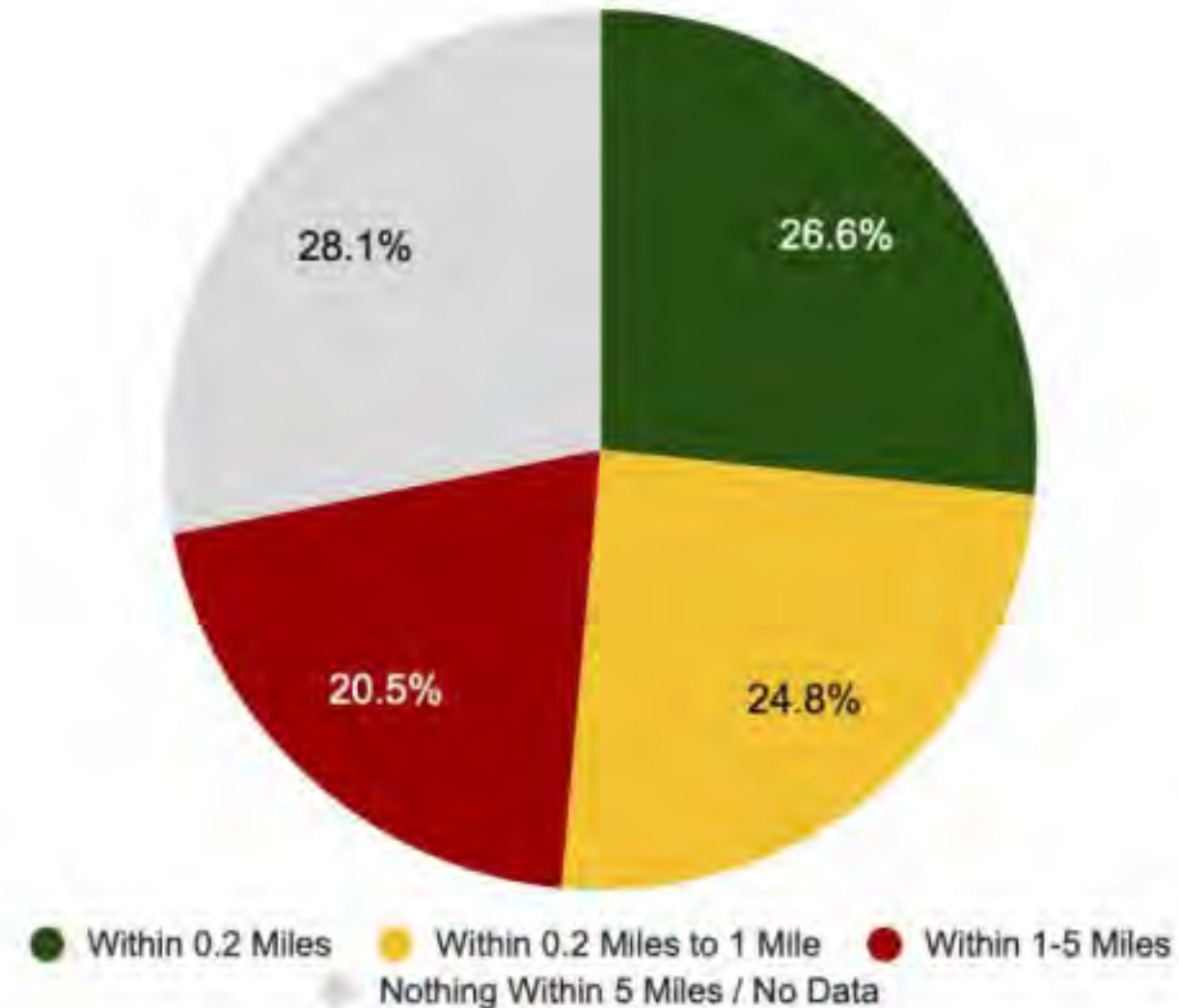
25% of Michigan's Head Start Centers are less than one mile away from a bus stop – but still beyond “walking distance” for a young child.

Modest location changes for these **173 bus stops** offer Michigan a low-cost opportunity to ease Head Start enrollment, address attrition, and enable employee retention.



Michigan currently has 698* Head Start Centers

**CMI is unable to map home-based centers*



Many Head Start Centers are co-located with other points of interest, like elementary schools, which would benefit from easier transit access.

In the Lansing area, there are **four Head Starts** co-located with MSU and/or elementary schools with bus stops just beyond walking distance.



We are excited to connect with you to improve transit access to increase ridership and transit access for core services.



We are building a list of cities that will adjust services/stops/routes – or make commitments – in time for Head Start Awareness Month (October 2023).



If you are interested in connecting with your local transit agency or Head Start provider, reach out to CMI, APTA, or NHSA.



www.civicmaps.org