Maryland

2025 Head Start Profile



BY THE NUMBERS

\$135,576,763

FY24 Funding

7,774

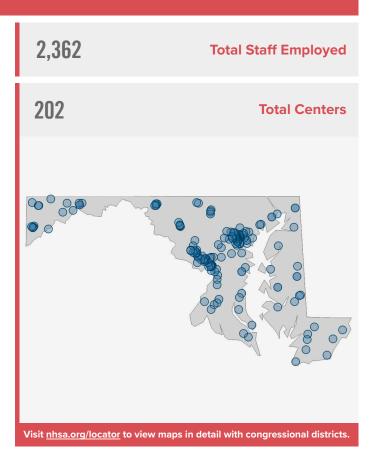
Total Funded Seats

5,765

Funded Head Start Preschool Seats

2,009

Funded Early Head Start Seats





SNAPSHOT



Without Head Start, our children would have struggled to learn English. Mrs. Rosa, our family advocate, helped me find employment. She spent so much time supporting my family as we studied for the citizenship test and she helped us learn English. She assisted us for more than five years!"

-Ateef, Head Start Parent



THE HEAD START MODEL

The premise of Head Start is simple: every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, has the ability to reach their full potential.

In the six decades since its founding, Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start has served nearly 40 million children and their families. Innovators and small business owners, police officers and members of the military, nurses and teachers, and even members of Congress—our alumni represent the vast and diverse fabric of our country. From early math and reading skills, to confidence and resilience, Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start help with children build the skills they need to be successful in school and life.

There are four pillars in every program.

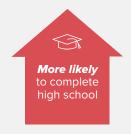
Education: Leaning on decades of brain science, Head Start staff work with children to build the brain connections and self confidence necessary for success in kindergarten and beyond.

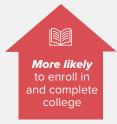
Health: Providing dental, health, and mental health services and referrals, as well as healthy eating based on current nutritional best practices, and early identification of health problems, Head Start addresses critical health and nutrition needs so that children are fully ready to learn and grow.

Parent Engagement and Support: Believing that parents are a child's first and most important teachers, Head Start requires parent involvement in major program decision-making. Further, Head Start works with parents to put them on a path of economic self-reliance through goal-setting, parenting training, and genuine engagement, enabling parents to join the workforce and stay working.

Local Design: Acknowledging that each community has different strengths, resources, and challenges, each program is designed to reflect the traditions, priorities, and cultures of their community.

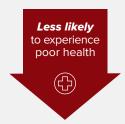
Children who attend Head Start are:











Research shows that the benefits of Head Start appear to transfer from one generation to the next in a substantial way.

OJB TJO	CHILDREN					
	31,970	Home Visits Conducted	914	Children Received Care for a Chronic Health Condition		
	95	Pregnant Women Served	6,749	Children Received Preventative Dental Care		
	4,435	Newly Enrolled Children Completed Behavioral Screenings	5,923	Children Up-to-Date on Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Screenings		

 FAMI	LIES		
456	Homeless Families Served	1,200	Fathers Involved in their Child's Educational Experiences
98	Active Duty or Military Veteran	5,762	Families Received Services that Promote Family Outcomes

COMMUNITIES

Head Start and Early Head Start Classrooms

4,388

Parents Employed, in School, or in Job Training