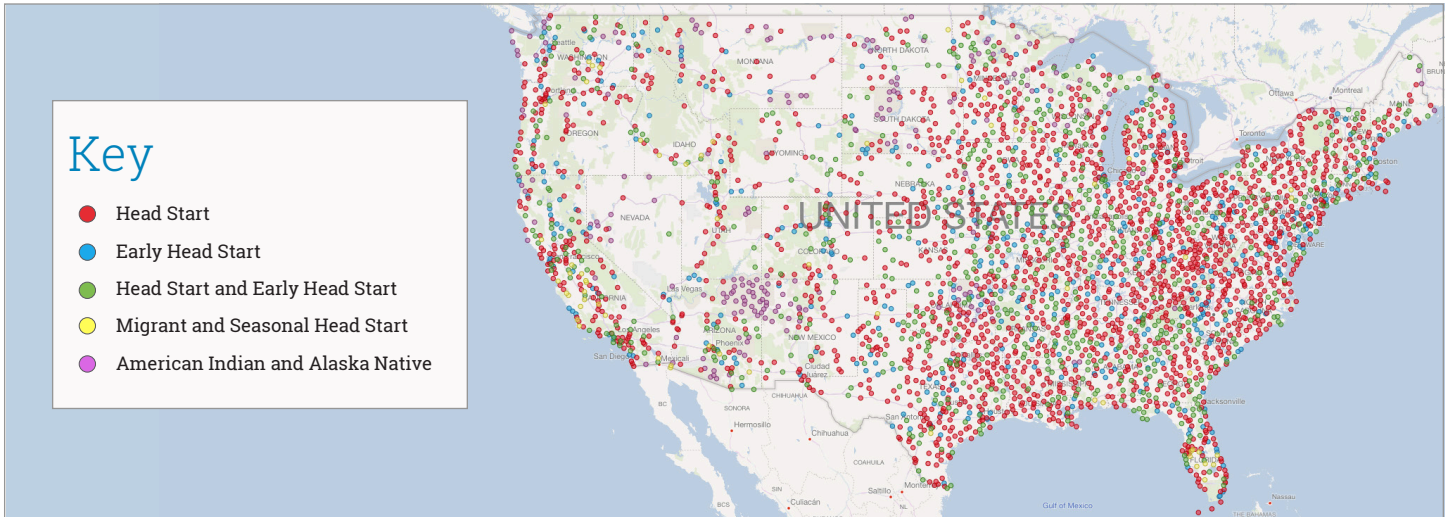


Head Start is a community-based, comprehensive early education program that gives young children from at-risk backgrounds the skills they need to be successful in school and life.

## 2020 National Head Start Profile



### Head Start's Accessibility and Reach Across the United States

#### In their own words...

"My husband lost his job and we were evicted from our home. It is incredibly stressful to be homeless with an infant, but because of Early Head Start we were able to keep the stress away from our son. We worked at getting back on our feet—my husband took a job as a dishwasher and I worked as a secretary, which we could do knowing our son was receiving excellent care. Our son is doing great in all areas and learning social/emotional skills."

**Erin Martino**, New York

#### Funding

**\$9,838,693,013**

FY18 Funding

#### Head Start Jobs

**272,900**

Head Start and Early Head Start Jobs in the USA

**652,422**

Funded **Head Start** (HS) Slots

**36%** of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS

**163,126**

Funded **Early Head Start** (EHS) Slots

**11%** of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS

**29,252** Funded **Migrant/Seasonal** (M/S) Slots

**22,355** Funded **American Indian/Alaska Native** Slots

# Head Start's Model: Nationwide, Comprehensive, Multi-Sectoral

In the 55 years since Head Start began, families and society have changed dramatically, but our commitment to partnering with vulnerable children and families remains unwavering. 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. Our comprehensive approach meets the needs of the whole child, addressing health and well-being as well as ABCs and 123s. The proof of our success is in the outcomes—our 37 million alumni have gone on to succeed in all walks of life, breaking the cycle of poverty in communities across the country.



## Comprehensive Services Across the Country



24,460

fathers participated in program governance



63,508

parents received job training



4,632,050

home visits were conducted



111,203

children received a behavioral health treatment plan

## Long-Term Impact

Head Start participants are **12% less likely to live in poverty** as adults and **29% less likely to receive public assistance**.

“Evidence suggests Head Start not only helps kids develop and allows parents to go to work, but **it may also help at-risk kids from ending up in the foster care system.**”

Head Start parents have **steeper increases in their educational attainment** by the time their children are six years old.

Questions? Contact us at [advocacy@nhsa.org](mailto:advocacy@nhsa.org). For more information, including citations, please visit: [go.nhsa.org/Facts](https://go.nhsa.org/Facts).



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