

Head Start is a federally-funded, locally-run early childhood development program that provides comprehensive services for America's most vulnerable children and their families.

2017 American Indian / Alaska Native Head Start Profile



Access to AIAN Head Start

18,052

Funded Head Start (HS) Slots



44% of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS*

4,211

Funded Early Head Start (EHS) Slots



10% of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS*

These slots filled **1,475 classrooms** in AIAN Head Start.

By the numbers:

\$240,471,950

FY17 Estimated Funding for HS, EHS, and EHS-Child Care Partnerships in AIAN Head Start

145 Head Start programs

71 Early Head Start programs



Photo: A Head Start parent from Oakland, California with her child.

"My daughter attends Head Start on the Indian Reservation. My husband and I work full-time, so we are not able to be with our children like we want to. We really appreciate the Head Start program. As a parent, I feel comfortable leaving my child with the teachers all day. My daughter loves to go to school every day and when she gets home, she immediately starts talking about what she learned."

Tia G.
Parent
Carthage, Mississippi

The Head Start Advantage

Head Start children **reduce their vocabulary deficit by 38%** during the program year.

Head Start children are **31% less likely to have been held back** a grade.

Head Start children are **19% less likely to smoke** as adults.

High quality birth-to-five programs, like the combination of EHS and HS, **pay off 13% per year.**

American Indian / Alaska Native Head Start's Workforce



6,797

HS and EHS jobs in American Indian Alaska Native Head Start

The average Head Start teacher with a bachelor's degree makes only **\$35,181** per year.

In AIAN Head Start...



22,263

slots were funded to serve American Indian / Alaska Native children



0

slots were funded to serve Migrant / Seasonal children



1,535

children in foster care were served by Head Start



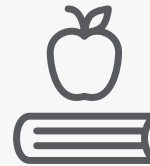
190

children with veteran / active military parents were served by Head Start



1,592

children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start



6,740

families participated in health education



20,956

children had continuously accessible health care



20,418

children had continuous access to dental care



2,934

children with disabilities were served by Head Start



264

parents advanced their education level



693

families received job training



415

pregnant women were served by Early Head Start

About NHSA

The National Head Start Association is a nonprofit organization committed to the belief that every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, has the ability to succeed in life. NHSA is the voice for more than 1 million children, 200,000 staff and 1,600 Head Start grantees in the United States.

For more information, please contact us: [go.nhsa.org/Contact](https://www.nhsa.org/Contact).

*Eligible is defined as children from birth to age five who are from families with incomes below the poverty level, are homeless, and/or receive public assistance. Foster children are eligible regardless of their foster family's income.

For citations and other state fact sheets, please visit www.nhsa.org/Fact-Sheets



NATIONAL HEAD START ASSOCIATION

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