

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 Arizona Head Start Profile



Access to Head Start in Arizona

15,235

Funded Head Start (HS) Slots



24% of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS*

3,161

Funded Early Head Start (EHS) Slots



6% of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS*

These slots filled **995 classrooms** in Arizona.

By the numbers:

\$143,205,748

FY17 Estimated Funding for HS, EHS, and EHS-Child Care Partnerships in AZ

18 Head Start programs

16 Early Head Start programs



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

"I truly believe if I had not enrolled my child in Head Start I would not be where I am at today. While in the program, I was able to attend school and complete the dreams that I always wanted. The program also showed me how important it was to be involved in my child's health, become an advocate for my child, and what was important in the development of my child."

Linda W.
Parent
Phoenix, Arizona

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.**

Arizona's Head Start Workforce



4,239

HS and EHS jobs in Arizona

The average Head Start teacher with a bachelor's degree makes only **\$33,184** per year.

In Arizona...



3,935

slots were funded to serve American Indian / Alaska Native children



930

slots were funded to serve Migrant / Seasonal children



664

children in foster care were served by Head Start



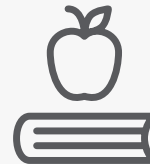
323

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



1,168

children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start



8,828

families participated in health education



20,232

children had continuously accessible health care



18,910

children had continuous access to dental care



2,179

children with disabilities were served by Head Start



1,925

parents advanced their education level



1,378

families received job training



142

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



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