

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 Connecticut Head Start Profile



Access to Head Start in Connecticut

4,836

Funded Head Start (HS) Slots



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

1,172

Funded Early Head Start (EHS) Slots



8% of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS*

These slots filled **376 classrooms** in Connecticut.

By the numbers:

\$64,032,679

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

21 Head Start programs

17 Early Head Start programs



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

"Head Start helped both my children start their love of learning. As a single working parent, Head Start was not just a 'day care' for me, but a community I leaned on to help my daughters with growing friendships and a starting point in their education."

Keri M.
Parent
Suffield, Connecticut

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.**

Connecticut's Head Start Workforce



1,799

HS and EHS jobs in Connecticut

The average Head Start teacher with a bachelor's degree makes only **\$35,126** per year.

In Connecticut...



0

slots were funded to serve American Indian / Alaska Native children



0

slots were funded to serve Migrant / Seasonal children



171

children in foster care were served by Head Start



79

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



437

children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start



3,057

families participated in health education



7,484

children had continuously accessible health care



6,956

children had continuous access to dental care



1,009

children with disabilities were served by Head Start



673

parents advanced their education level



637

families received job training



125

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.