

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 Georgia Head Start Profile



Access to Head Start in Georgia

19,847

Funded Head Start (HS) Slots



15% of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS*

4,241

Funded Early Head Start (EHS) Slots



4% of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS*

These slots filled **1,615 classrooms** in Georgia.

By the numbers:

\$228,216,125

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

29 Head Start programs

26 Early Head Start programs



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

"I am a successful asset to my community thanks to Head Start. When I became pregnant, I was enrolled in the "Pregnant Moms Program." Therefore, I was able to continue my education. My child loved his Early Head Start educators, and now he is in kindergarten and at the top of his class! I am a college graduate and I am pursuing my master's degree."

Diane N.
Parent
Decatur, Georgia

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.**

Georgia's Head Start Workforce



5,805

HS and EHS jobs in Georgia

The average Head Start teacher with a bachelor's degree makes only **\$29,230** per year.

In Georgia...



0

slots were funded to serve American Indian / Alaska Native children



375

slots were funded to serve Migrant / Seasonal children



360

children in foster care were served by Head Start



320

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



645

children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start



9,474

families participated in health education



25,703

children had continuously accessible health care



24,396

children had continuous access to dental care



2,583

children with disabilities were served by Head Start



5,140

parents advanced their education level



2,819

families received job training



130

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.