

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 Kentucky Head Start Profile



Access to Head Start in Kentucky

13,613

Funded Head Start (HS) Slots



42% of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS*

2,528

Funded Early Head Start (EHS) Slots



7% of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS*

These slots filled **1,328 classrooms** in Kentucky.

By the numbers:

\$140,772,897

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

40 Head Start programs

21 Early Head Start programs



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

"Not only did Head Start help our child with special needs, but they also helped me. They inspired me to stay in college to finish my Early Childhood Education Degree. I have been working with the Zero to Three Program to help develop criteria about families like mine in Head Start. I am very grateful for all of these wonderful people. Because they not only helped my little one, but they helped me too."

Amanda S.
Parent
Leitchfield, Kentucky

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.**

Kentucky's Head Start Workforce



4,317

HS and EHS jobs in Kentucky

The average Head Start teacher with a bachelor's degree makes only **\$30,207** per year.

In Kentucky...



0

slots were funded to serve American Indian / Alaska Native children



229

slots were funded to serve Migrant / Seasonal children



863

children in foster care were served by Head Start



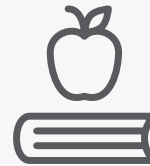
276

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



736

children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start



8,958

families participated in health education



18,964

children had continuously accessible health care



18,086

children had continuous access to dental care



2,856

children with disabilities were served by Head Start



1,911

parents advanced their education level



474

families received job training



153

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.