

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 South Dakota Head Start Profile



## Access to Head Start in South Dakota

**3,740**

Funded Head Start (HS) Slots



**66%** of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS\*

**912**

Funded Early Head Start (EHS) Slots



**11%** of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS\*

These slots filled **298 classrooms** in South Dakota.

## By the numbers:

**\$23,197,917**

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

**8** Head Start programs

**6** Early Head Start programs



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

"My husband and I have two older children and two younger children and. On one income at the time, we qualified for Head Start. Our family service worker mentioned there were job openings in our school district and I got hired soon after submitting my application! I love my job as a lunch assistant. I get contact with the children and am learning new skills through it."

**Shiela D.**  
Parent  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

## 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.**

## South Dakota's Head Start Workforce



**1,310**

HS and EHS jobs in South Dakota

The average Head Start teacher with a bachelor's degree makes only **\$31,545** per year.

## In South Dakota...



1,778

slots were funded to serve American Indian / Alaska Native children



0

slots were funded to serve Migrant / Seasonal children



232

children in foster care were served by Head Start



111

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



445

children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start



2,575

families participated in health education



5,504

children had continuously accessible health care



5,268

children had continuous access to dental care



815

children with disabilities were served by Head Start



362

parents advanced their education level



93

families received job training



109

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](https://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.