

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 Virginia Head Start Profile



Access to Head Start in Virginia

12,670

Funded Head Start (HS) Slots



25% of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS*

2,452

Funded Early Head Start (EHS) Slots



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

These slots filled **931 classrooms** in Virginia.

By the numbers:

\$128,260,089

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

51 Head Start programs

28 Early Head Start programs



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

"My daughter is 18 months and can do sign language and can count to ten. She started in the infant program, and that was a blessing to me and my wife because it was hard to find a baby sitter. We even considered my wife quitting all together and staying home but we could not afford it. Thanks so much Head Start."

Adam H.
Parent
Norton, Virginia

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.**

Virginia's Head Start Workforce



3,698

HS and EHS jobs in Virginia

The average Head Start teacher with a bachelor's degree makes only **\$36,173** per year.

In Virginia...



0

slots were funded to serve American Indian / Alaska Native children



120

slots were funded to serve Migrant / Seasonal children



238

children in foster care were served by Head Start



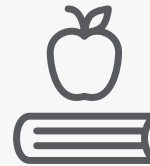
306

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



731

children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start



7,471

families participated in health education



16,811

children had continuous accessible health care



15,493

children had continuous access to dental care



2,087

children with disabilities were served by Head Start



974

parents advanced their education level



1,333

families received job training



296

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.