

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 Wisconsin Head Start Profile



Access to Head Start in Wisconsin

12,925

Funded Head Start (HS) Slots



31% of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS*

2,789

Funded Early Head Start (EHS) Slots



6% of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS*

These slots filled **983 classrooms** in Wisconsin.

By the numbers:

\$120,137,875

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

29 Head Start programs

23 Early Head Start programs



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

"I am a mother of two who has recently gone back to work after being a stay-at-home mom. My daughter is enrolled in Head Start and it is comforting to know that her educational, physical, social, and emotional needs are being met. Head Start isn't just a place my child goes for school; Head Start is an extension of our family whom I trust to take care of my child while I am at work."

Jessica H.
Parent
Waukesha, Wisconsin

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.**

Wisconsin's Head Start Workforce



4,001

HS and EHS jobs in Wisconsin

The average Head Start teacher with a bachelor's degree makes only **\$36,115** per year.

In Wisconsin...



1,046

slots were funded to serve American Indian / Alaska Native children



457

slots were funded to serve Migrant / Seasonal children



640

children in foster care were served by Head Start



275

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



1,307

children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start



8,421

families participated in health education



17,625

children had continuously accessible health care



13,287

children had continuous access to dental care



2,686

children with disabilities were served by Head Start



2,231

parents advanced their education level



1,025

families received job training



333

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.