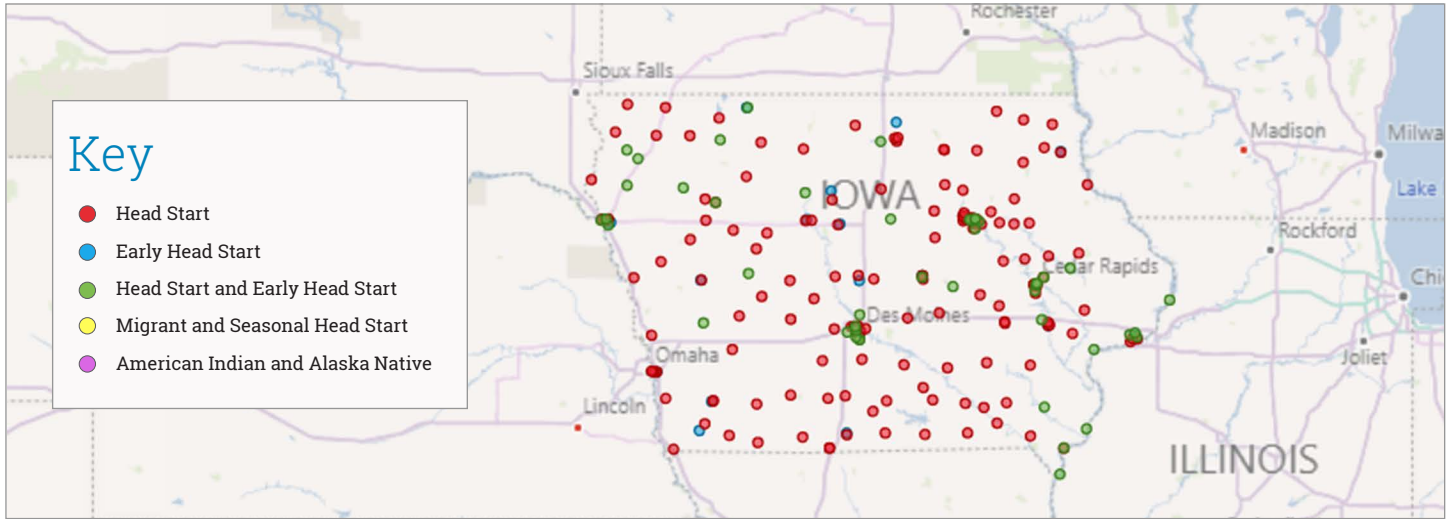


Head Start is a community-based, comprehensive early education program that gives young children from at-risk backgrounds the skills they need to be successful in school and life.

2021 Iowa Head Start Profile



Head Start's Reach in Iowa

In their own words...

"I give a tremendous amount of credit to Head Start for helping me to achieve my career goals. I've met people in the community who saw my potential and recognized that I was striving for more, for both for myself and my daughter. Without Head Start, I don't believe I'd be nearly as successful as I have been in achieving my career dreams."

Lisa Reid
Creston, Iowa

Funding

\$81,477,752

FY21 Funding (excluding Migrant & Seasonal)

Head Start Jobs

2,569

Head Start and Early Head Start Jobs in Iowa

Access to Head Start

5,656

Funded **Head Start** Slots

36% of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to Head Start

1,518

Funded **Early Head Start** Slots

8% of eligible children under 3 had access to Early Head Start

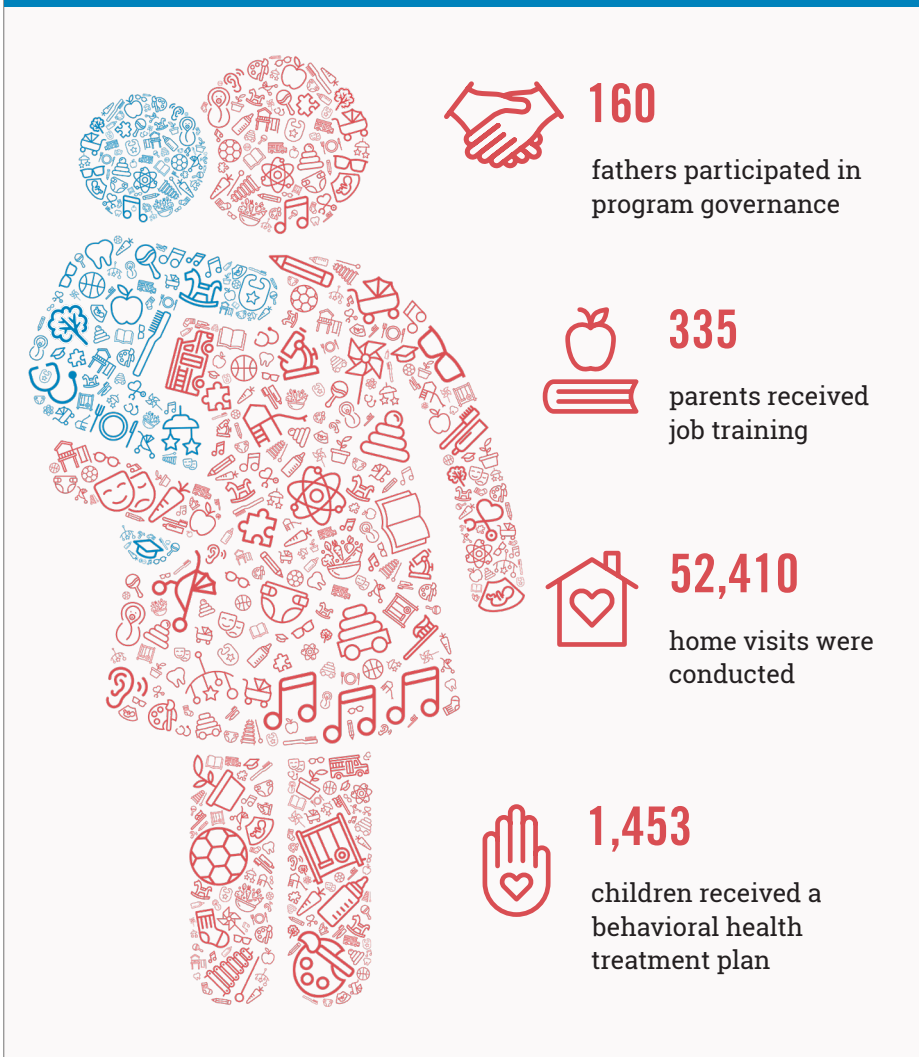
Head Start's Model: Nationwide, Comprehensive, Multi-Generational

In the six decades since our founding, we have reached a new milestone: **37 million children have been served by Head Start**. That is 1 out of every 11 Americans. Innovators and communicators, advocates and thinkers, health care heroes and teachers themselves—our alumni represent the vast and diverse fabric of our country.

When we speak with our alumni, they recall the warmth they felt from their Head Start teachers. Kind words that gave them comfort and nutritious meals that felt like home. For many, this start to their educational journey imprinted a love of learning and a sense of possibility.

From early math and reading skills, to confidence and resilience, Head Start helps children build the skills they need to be successful in school and life. Our comprehensive approach meets the needs of the whole child, addressing health and wellbeing as well as ABCs and 123s. Our success is in the stories, testimony, and experiences of our 37 million living proof points of Head Start's impact and decades of rigorous research on how equitable access to preschool and wraparound services break the cycle of poverty in communities across the country.

Comprehensive Services in Iowa



Long-Term Impact

Head Start participants are **12% less likely to live in poverty** as adults and **29% less likely to receive public assistance**.

“Evidence suggests Head Start not only helps kids develop and allows parents to go to work, but **it may also help at-risk kids from ending up in the foster care system.**”

Head Start parents have **steeper increases in their educational attainment** by the time their children are six years old.

Questions? Contact us at advocacy@nhsa.org. For more information, including citations, please visit: go.nhsa.org/Facts.