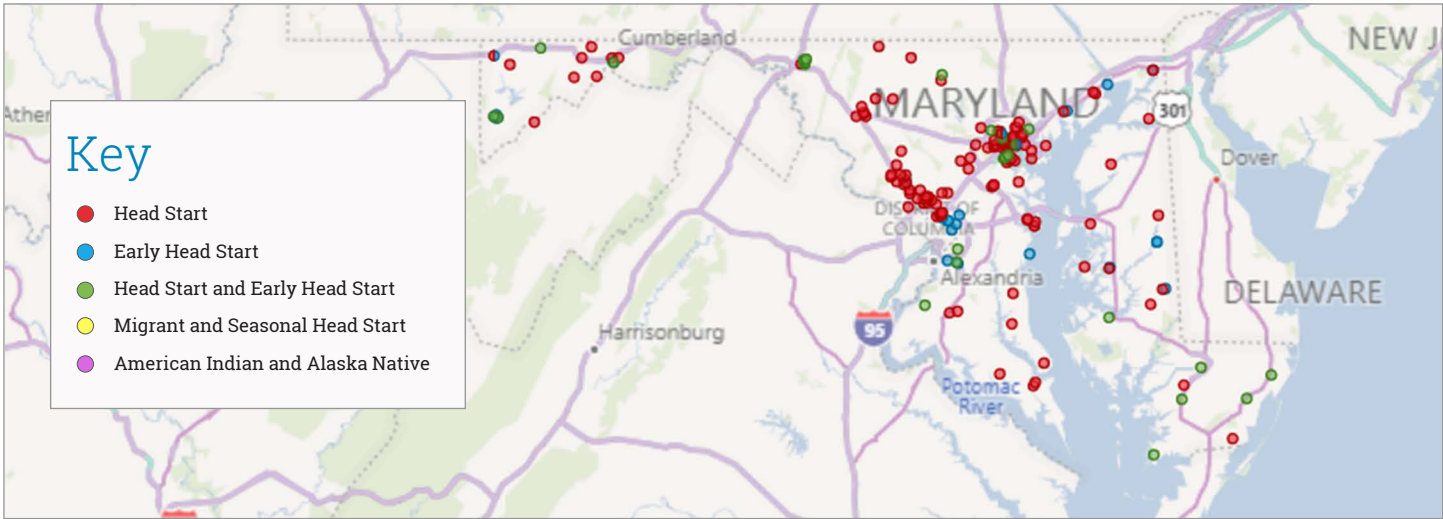


Head Start is a community-based, comprehensive early education program that gives young children from at-risk backgrounds the skills they need to be successful in school and life.

2021 Maryland Head Start Profile



Head Start's Reach in Maryland

In their own words...

Without Head Start, our children would have struggled to learn English. Mrs. Rosa, our family advocate, helped me find employment. She spent so much time supporting my family as we studied for the citizenship test and she helped us learn English. She assisted us for more than five years!"

Ateef Alksan Fhmy
Fall River, Maryland

Funding

\$119,161,817

FY21 Funding (excluding Migrant & Seasonal)

Head Start Jobs

2,536

Head Start and Early Head Start Jobs in Maryland

Access to Head Start

7,797

Funded **Head Start** Slots

21% of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to Head Start

2,991

Funded **Early Head Start** Slots

13% of eligible children under 3 had access to Early Head Start

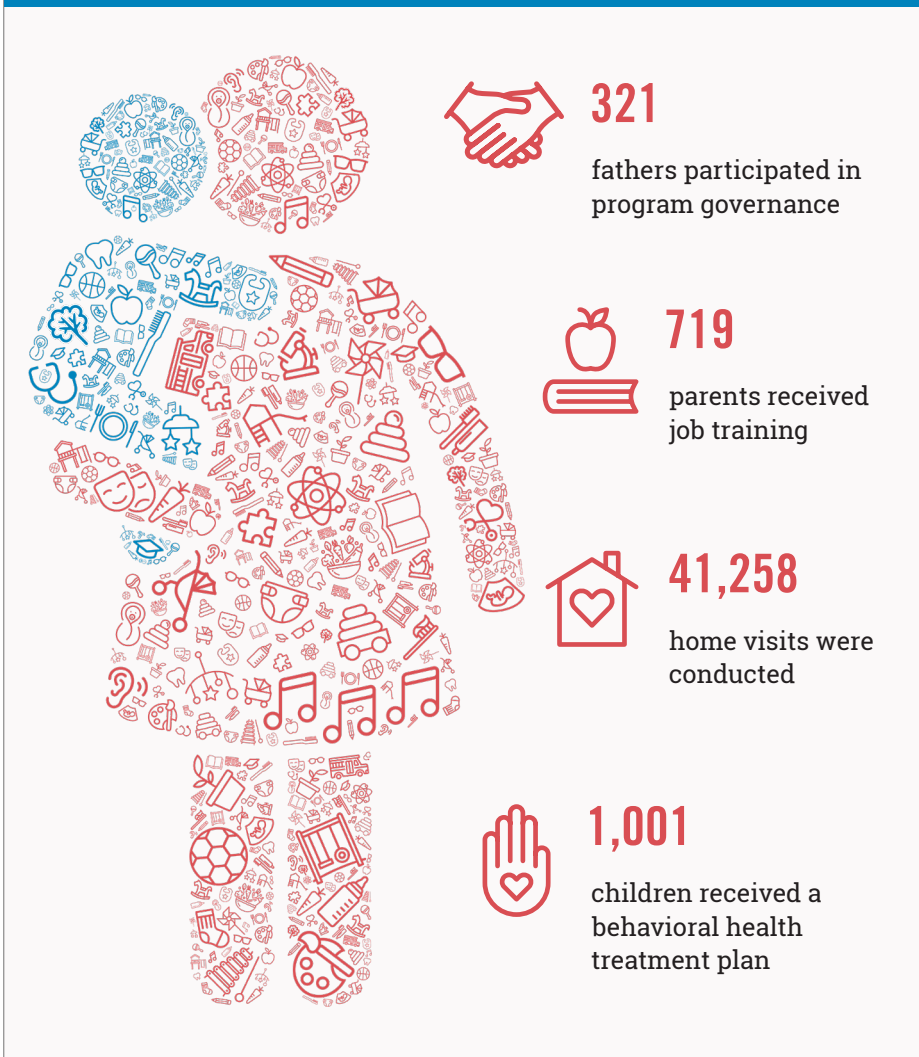
Head Start's Model: Nationwide, Comprehensive, Multi-Generational

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 Maryland



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.