

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.



# 2019 Virginia Head Start Profile

## Access to Head Start in Virginia

**11,734**

Funded *Head Start* (HS) Slots



**29%** of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS

**2,587**

Funded *Early Head Start* (EHS) Slots



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

These slots filled **951 classrooms** in Virginia.

### By the Numbers

**\$128,180,176**  
FY18 Estimated Funding for HS, EHS, and EHS-Child Care Partnerships in Virginia

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**48** Head Start Programs

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**28** Early Head Start Programs

## Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)



**2.3x**

Children in poverty are **2.3 times** more likely to suffer from 3 or more ACEs.

ACEs include abuse, neglect, homelessness, parental substance abuse, or foster care.

Research shows that as the number of ACEs increases, so does the risk of lifelong negative outcomes.

## Virginia's Head Start Workforce



**3,806**

HS and EHS jobs in Virginia

In Virginia, the average Head Start teacher with a bachelor's degree makes **\$33,932** per year, compared to an average kindergarten teacher salary of **\$67,760**.

### Head Start Story

"Head Start is not only good for kids, but it opens doors for parents to improve their lives, too. If I didn't have the Head Start program, I don't believe I would've been able to finish school and start college this semester. Head Start has made a huge impact in my son's life, and I wouldn't change my decision to put my kids in this program for anything."

**Amanda Lankford**  
Parent

# The Head Start Advantage in Virginia

Demographics



**287**

pregnant women were served by Early Head Start



**2,054**

children with disabilities were served by Head Start



**315**

children in foster care were served by Head Start



**320**

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



**835**

children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start



**915**

children in the care of grandparents or other relatives were served by Head Start



**17,108**

children had continuously accessible health care



**15,222**

children had continuous access to dental care



**6,025**

families participated in health education



**1,305**

parents advanced their education level



**1,009**

families received job training



**3,445**

families received crisis intervention

Services

## Head Start in the Community



**339**

agreements between Head Start and **local school districts**



**130**

agreements with agencies to provide **disability services** to infants and toddlers



**103**

collaboration agreements with **child welfare agencies**

For more information, please visit: [go.nhsa.org/Facts](http://go.nhsa.org/Facts)



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.