



2022 Fact Sheet

Providing #HOPE to Florida's Children, Families, and Communities



HEAD START WAS FOUNDED IN 1965 as a national early education program based on the premise that every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, can reach their full potential. Head Start (HS) and Early Head Start (EHS) offer comprehensive, multi-generational, community-based programs that provide health, nutrition, and family services to children from birth to age five and pregnant women. Working closely with local communities to identify and meet specific needs, Head Start promotes family health and stability while engaging parents as equal partners in their child's education.

Florida Head Start Association

Led by a Director and a volunteer Board of Directors, the Florida Head Start Association (FHSA) serves, unifies, and empowers the statewide voice of Head Start/Early Head Start programs.

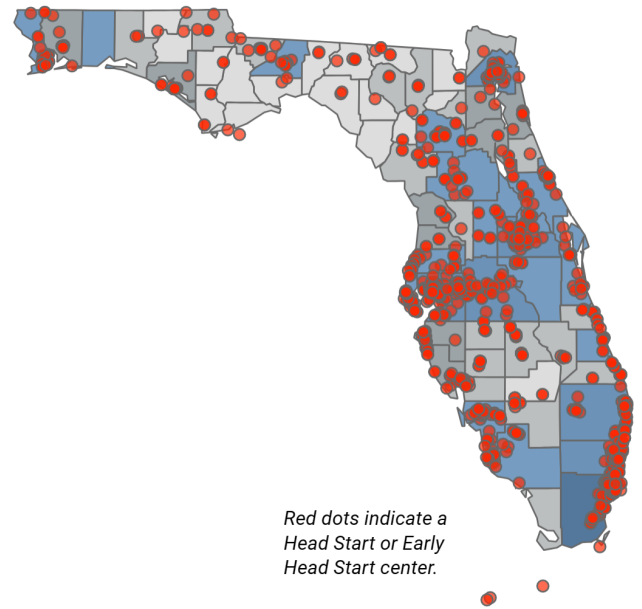
Head Start Positive Statewide Impact

- Head Start federal funding added \$442,454,135 to Florida's economy
- Florida Head Start programs employed 10,797 individuals
- 43,189 children/pregnant women and 39,205 families served
- 21,684 parents employed, in school or job training
- 2,208 homeless families served
- 398 acquired housing



Florida 2022 Head Start at a Glance

- 59 Head Start programs
- 71 Early Head Start programs
- 4 Migrant and Seasonal HS/EHS programs
- 43,189 cumulative children served
- 522 EHS pregnant women
- 28,098 Head Start preschool children (3-5 years)
- 14,569 Early Head Start children (birth-3 years)



Outreach to Vulnerable Populations

Some of the children and families with the greatest need for Head Start services and support can be the most difficult to reach. FHSA-led coalitions and statewide partnerships enable information-sharing and establish mutually beneficial lines of communication. During the 2021-22 academic year, those efforts reached:

- 34,877 serving income at or below 100% of federal poverty line
- 490 children in foster care
- 2,582 children receiving Public assistance TANF, SSI
- 1,905 children experiencing homelessness

Disabilities and Mental Health Services

Head Start/EHS programs take advantage of the early intervention window so crucial to remediating developmental delays and disabilities.

- 2,098 staff consultations with mental health professionals
- 2,196 total children with IEP* or IFSP*

**Individualized Education Program (IEP), Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)*

Year-End Health Profile Across Programs

In the face of overwhelming delays and obstacles in connecting to healthcare services, HS/EHS programs made remarkable progress in supporting parents and families, as evidenced by the following key metrics:

- 40,111 children with health insurance
- 40,710 children with a continuous source of medical care
- 36,375 children with a continuous source of dental care
- 443 pregnant women with a continuous source of health care

Head Start Family Profile

Respected as the very heart of Head Start, parents are involved in governance, program planning, and classroom activities. They receive support for personal and family goal-setting and guidance on creating a stable and healthy home environment.

- 39,205 Head Start/EHS families
- 12,214 two-parent families
- 26,990 single-parent families
- 26,791 at least one parent employed or enrolled in school/job training



Florida Head Start Association

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Source: Office of Head Start
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