

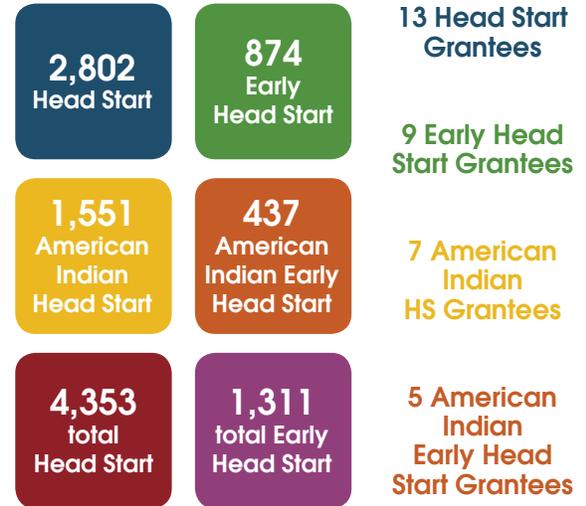
# The Head Start Advantage in Montana



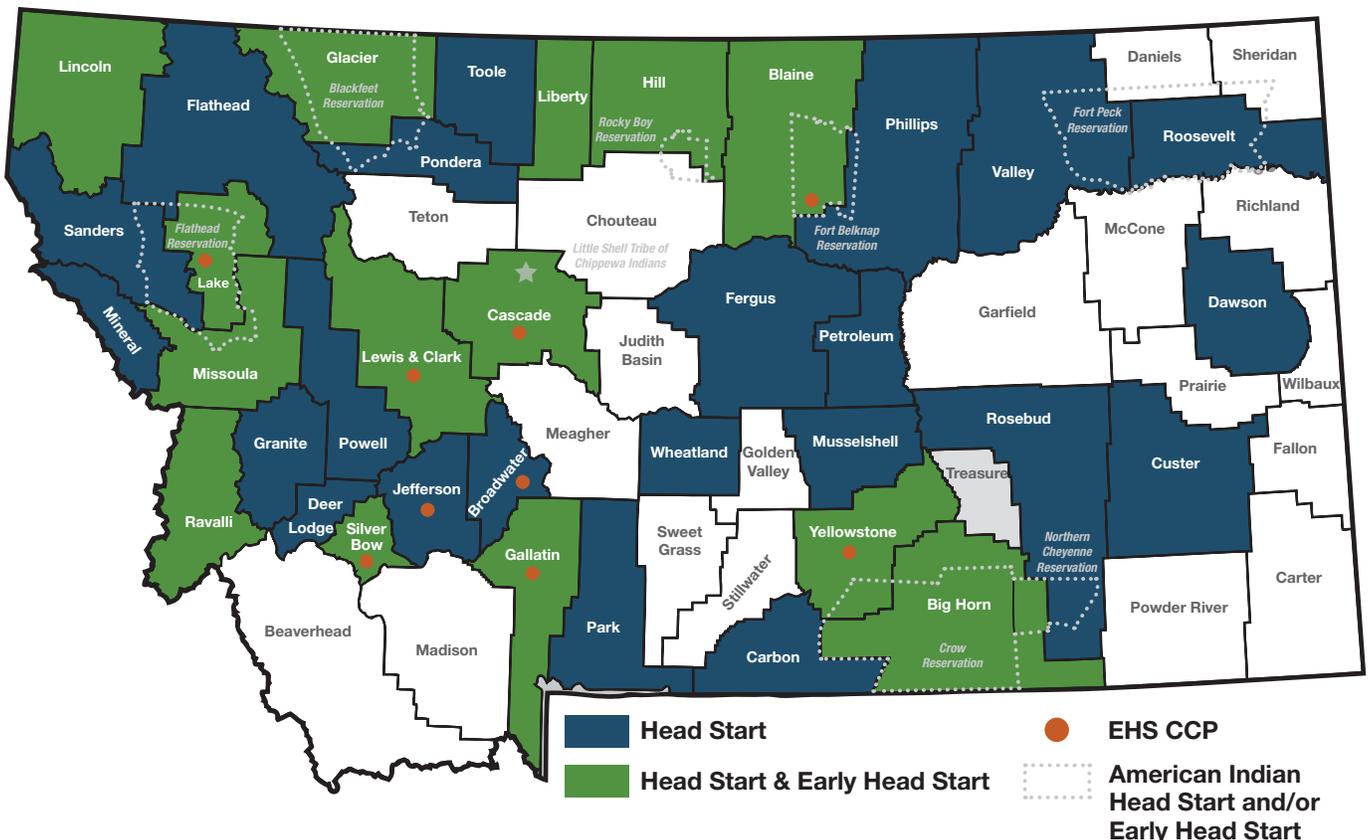
*“Head Start children have a higher likelihood of graduating high school, attending college, and receiving a post-secondary degree, license or certificate” (Bauer et al. 2016)*

Head Start is a comprehensive early care and education program dedicated to serving over 30 million low-income families nationwide since 1965. Head Start serves children ages 3-5 and their families. Early Head Start serves children and families prenatally to 3. Early Head Start - Child Care Partnerships serve children 0-3 in partnership with local child care providers using the Early Head Start model. **Funding goes directly from the Federal Office of Head Start to community Head Start grantees in Montana.** In 2016-2017, 47% of three to five year olds had access to Head Start and 17% of children under three had access to Early Head Start.

**By the numbers:**  
 Total Funded Enrollment: 4,837  
 Total Cumulative Enrollment: 5,664



To find the location nearest to you, go to:  
<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/HeadStartOffices>



# Comprehensive and Two-Generation Services

Head Start takes a comprehensive approach to meeting the needs of the whole child and family. This two-generational approach supports stability and long-term success for families who are most at risk. Depending on each family's needs, they receive a wide range of services. In 2017-2018 families participated in:



1,122 in Mental Health Services



2,692 in Parenting Classes



570 in Adult Education



1,421 in Emergency Crisis Interventions



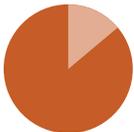
Support for homeless children and families.  
663 families and 702 children



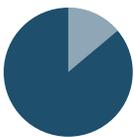
Thanks to Head Start's comprehensive services, by the end of the school year children have received education, health and nutrition services.



4,808 or **86%** of children were current on all required immunizations or exempt.



4,966 or **87.23%** received continuous access to dental care.



5,157 or **88.23%** of children had an ongoing source of continuous healthcare.

The federal government awards 80% of the cost of the program and expects the agency to fund 20% from cash or in-kind donations. Head Start and Early Head Start programs are imbedded in their community and partnerships are critical to providing support to children and families in all aspects of the work. EHS and Head Start programs in Montana have an average of 22 community partners!

## Head Start's Economic Impact in Montana

The Head Start advantage promotes comprehensive services to children and families of our most economically disadvantaged citizens. In Montana, Head Start and Early Head Start programs employ 1523 regular staff and 298 contracted staff. The Federal investment for HS in Montana in fiscal year 2017 was \$48,247.802. Head Start funds go directly from the Federal Office of Head Start into your local community to support services for low income children and families.

