

Head Start & Early Head Start in Montana

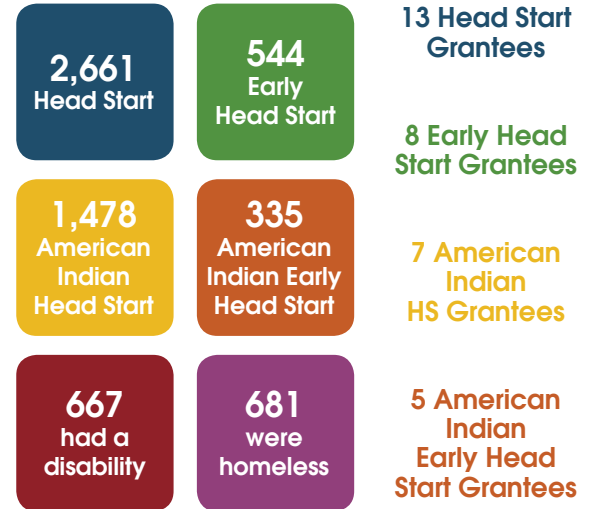


“Head Start children have a higher likelihood of graduating high school, attending college, and receiving a post-secondary degree, license or certificate” (Bauer et al. 2016)

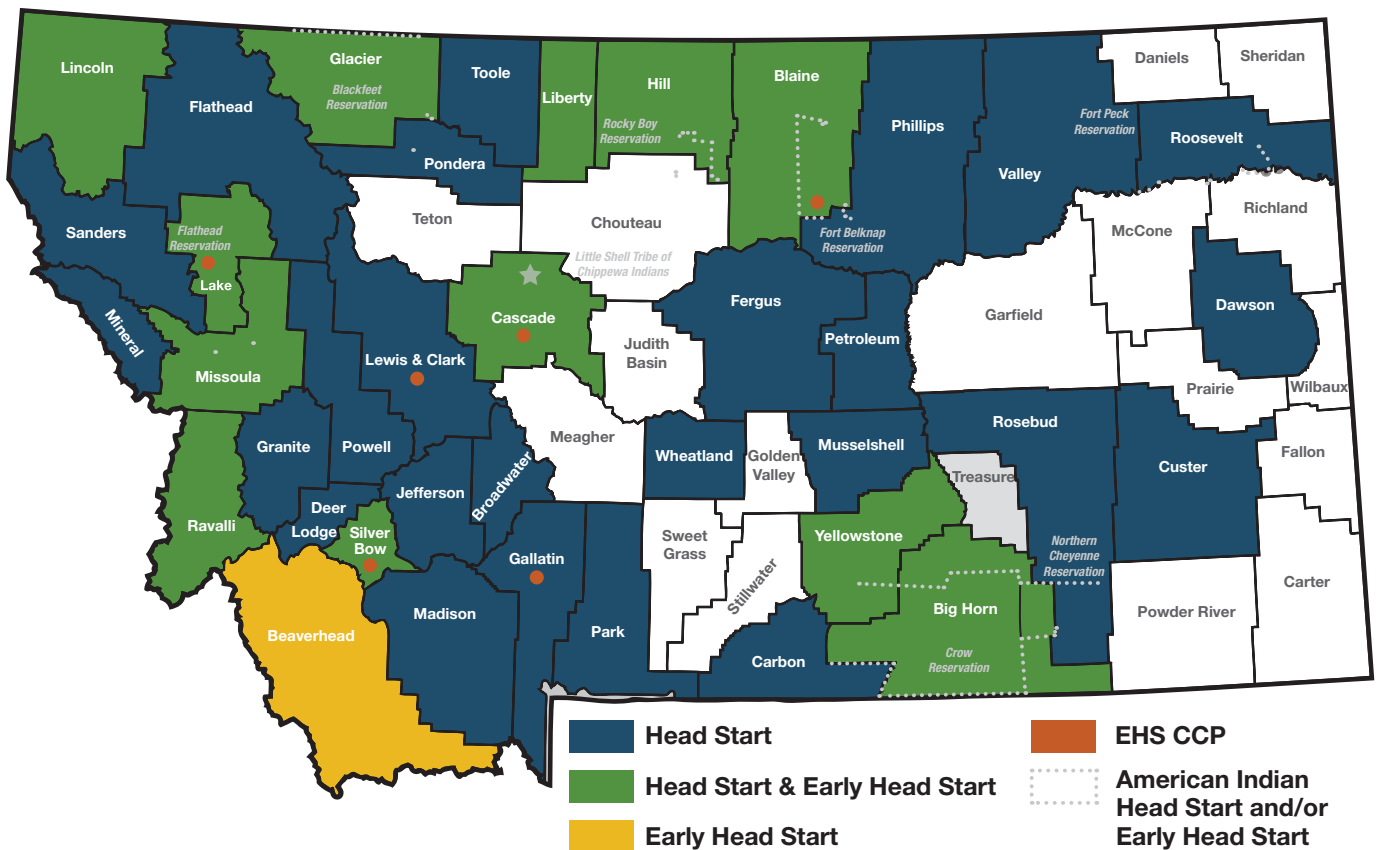
Head Start is a comprehensive early care and education program dedicated to serving over 30 million low-income families nationwide since 1965. Head Start serves children ages 3-5 and their families. Early Head Start - Child Care Partnerships are new collaborations as of 2014, which serve children 0-3 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 2014-2015, there were 11,627 children in poverty under the age of five in Montana. Of those, only 82% of three and four year olds had access to Head Start. Only 10% of children under three had access to Early Head Start.

By the numbers:

Total Funded Enrollment: 4,976



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 2015-2016 families participated in:



218 Workforce Trainings



2,885 Parenting Classes



695 Adult Education



1,359 Emergency Crisis Interventions



Support for homeless children and families.
583 families and 681 children



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



93.06% of children were current on all required immunizations or exempt.



81.58% received continuous access to dental care



92.09% of children had health insurance

Each Program matches their federal grant with in-kind donations at the rate of 25%. 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 14 community partners!

Head Start's Workforce

Over 72% of Head Start teachers nationally have a BA or advanced degree, but salaries remain dismally low compared to pre-k teachers. The real value of Head Start teacher salaries today is less than in 2007, according to a 2013 report that found Head Start teachers make 58% of the mean salary of the female civilian labor force.

