

A Snapshot of Head Start in Maine for the 2012-2013 Program Year

from the Maine Head Start 2014 Annual Report



Demographics

Maine has 11 non-tribal Head Start grantee organizations and 24 programs.

4,394 pregnant women, infants, toddlers and preschoolers served in Maine's Head Start programs
Head Start (3,207) Early Head Start (1,115) Pregnant Women (72)



Families Served

- 4,027** families served by Head Start.
- 3,777** families received at least one of the available family services.
- 747** families received mental health services.
- 433** families experienced homelessness.



Children's Health

- 97%** of children had access to health insurance at the end of enrollment year.
- 98%** of enrolled children had a medical home.
- 89%** of enrolled children were current on all immunizations.
- 67%** of enrolled children's daily nutritional needs were supplied by Head Start.
- 14%** of enrolled children received mental health consultation services in Head Start.



Economic Impact

- 1,185** Maine citizens employed by Head Start.
- 73%** of Head Start preschool teachers have a baccalaureate or advanced degree.
- 64%** of Head Start parents are employed.
- 16%** of Head Start parents are in school/training.



Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start, Early Childhood & Knowledge Center. (2014). *2012-2013 Program Information Report (PIR)*. [Data file]. Retrieved from <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/data/pir>

Important Facts



*“As leaders in the early childhood field for almost **50** years, with a relentless insistence on quality and adherence to rigorous high standards, Head Start gets results for our neediest children.”¹*

<p>Just over one-fourth of Maine children who were eligible for Head Start participated in 2012.</p>		<p>Maine Head Start served 4,394 children which represented only 28% of the income eligible children in Maine. 72% of eligible children did not have the opportunity to benefit from this comprehensive early learning program.</p>
<p>The Maine Head Start programs exceeded the federal Head Start requirement to make at least 10% of funded slots available for children with disabilities.</p>		<p>In 2013, 22% of the enrolled children had a diagnosed disability.</p>
<p>There are more Maine Head Start teachers with baccalaureate degrees than required by the federal Head Start Office AND the percentage of Maine Head Start teachers with a bachelor’s degree is higher than the national average.</p>		<p>As mandated by the Head Start Act (2007), at least 50% of Head Start teachers must have a bachelor’s or advanced degree in early childhood by 2013.</p> <p>Nationally 66% of all Head Start center-based preschool teachers had a degree.</p> <p>In Maine, 73% of the Head Start teaching staff reached this standard.</p>
<p>Head Start teacher salaries are lower than those in public school programs, barely keeping many out of poverty.</p>		<p>In 2012, the average Head Start teacher salary was \$25,826.</p> <p>This is almost \$3,000 per year less than a Maine public school pre-kindergarten teacher, and almost \$21,000 less than a Maine kindergarten teacher.</p>

1. National Head Start Association. (2014). *Statement on House Budget Committee Report*. Retrieved from http://www.nhsa.org/statement_on_house_budget_committee_report

To read the complete Maine Head Start 2014 Annual Report and for more information about Head Start in Maine visit the Maine Head Start State Collaboration Office website at <http://umaine.edu/ccids-mhssco/>

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