

Minnesota Head Start Facts 2008

Minnesota Head Start Programs

Head Start Agency	Headquarters	Phone No.
Anoka County Community Action Program, Inc.	Blaine	763-783-4300
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Inc.	Virginia	218-749-2912
Bi-County Community Action Program, Inc.	Bemidji	218-751-4631
Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council	Nett Lake	218-754-3265
Child Care Resource and Referral, Inc.	Rochester	507-287-2020
Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington Counties	St. Paul	651-645-6445
Duluth Head Start	Duluth	218-336-8815
Fond du Lac Reservation Business Committee	Cloquet	218-878-8100
Grand Portage Reservation Tribal Council	Grand Portage	218-475-2234
Heartland Community Action Agency	Willmar	320-235-0850
Inter-County Community Council, Inc.	Oklee	218-796-5144
Kootasca Community Action, Inc.	Grand Rapids	218-327-6718
Lakes and Pines Community Action Council, Inc.	Mora	320-679-1800
Lakes & Praries Community Action Partnership	Moorhead	218-299-7021
Leech Lake Reservation Tribal Council	Cass Lake	218-335-8257
Mahube Community Council, Inc.	Detroit Lakes	218-847-1385
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians	Onamia	320-532-4690
Minnesota Valley Action Council, Inc.	Mankato	507-345-6822
Northwest Community Action, Inc.	Badger	218-528-3227
Otter Tail-Wadena Community Action Council, Inc.	New York Mills	218-385-2900
Parents in Community Action, Inc.	Minneapolis	612-374-8309
Prairie Five Community Action Council, Inc.	Madison	320-598-3118
Reach-Up, Inc.	St. Cloud	320-253-8110
Red Lake Tribal Government	Red Lake	218-679-3396
Scott-Carver-Dakota CAP Agency, Inc.	Shakopee	651-322-3500
Semcac, Inc.	Rushford	507-864-7741
Southwestern Minnesota Opportunity Council, Inc.	Worthington	507-376-4195
Three Rivers Community Action, Inc.	Zumbrota	507-732-7391
Tri-County Community Action, Inc.	Little Falls	320-632-3691
Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.	Crookston	218-281-5832
Upper Midwest American Indian Center	Minneapolis	612-522-4436
West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc.	Elbow Lake	218-685-4486
Western Community Action, Inc.	Marshall	507-537-1416
White Earth Reservation Tribal Council	White Earth	218-983-3285
Wright County Community Action, Inc.	Maple Lake	320-963-6500

For a listing of Head Start programs by county go to:

<http://www.mnheadstart.org/grantees.html>

For more information contact:

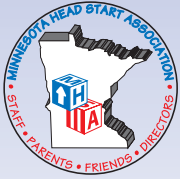
Minnesota Head Start Association, Inc.

www.mnheadstart.org

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COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL READINESS SOLUTIONS – ONE FAMILY AT A TIME

Childhood poverty is the single greatest deterrent to school readiness. Head Start¹ uniquely combines state of the art early childhood learning research with decades of childhood poverty experience to deliver school readiness – one family at a time.

Head Start Families

Families eligible for Head Start services are those greatest in need with incomes at or below the federal poverty guidelines. In 2008, the annual income of a family of 4 had to be less than \$21,200 to be eligible for Head Start. The number of families with children under 18 in poverty has been on the rise in Minnesota – accounting for 10.3% of families in 2006.

U.S. Census population estimates (2005) indicate **45,612 Minnesota children under 5 are income-eligible for Head Start**. Minnesota Head Start programs received state and federal funding to serve **14,424 children in FY 2008**. In 2008, **only 32% of income-eligible children under 5 received Head Start services**. From 2005 to 2008, rising child poverty rates coupled with flat funding for Head Start has reduced the percentage of income-eligible children served by 10%.

Who Does Head Start Serve?

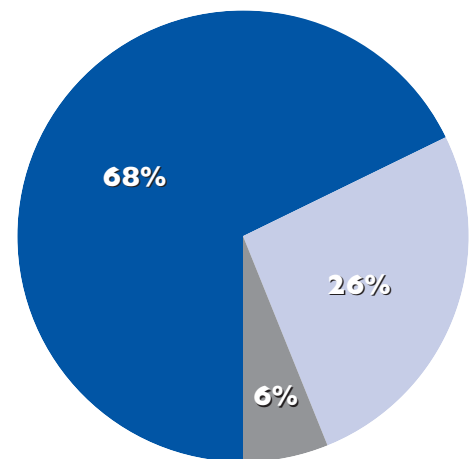
Head Start's priority is to serve families most at-risk.

- 90% of enrollment is reserved for families at or below the federal poverty level, families eligible to receive public assistance and/or homeless families
- 10% of enrollment is reserved for children with diagnosed disabilities

In 2007, MN's 35 federally designated Head Start grantees served 15,414 families with 17,716 children²:

- 60% of enrolled children were racially diverse
- 27% spoke a primary language at home other than English
- 15% had a diagnosed disability
- 8% of families were homeless (1,362)

Minnesota's Unmet Need for Head Start in 2008



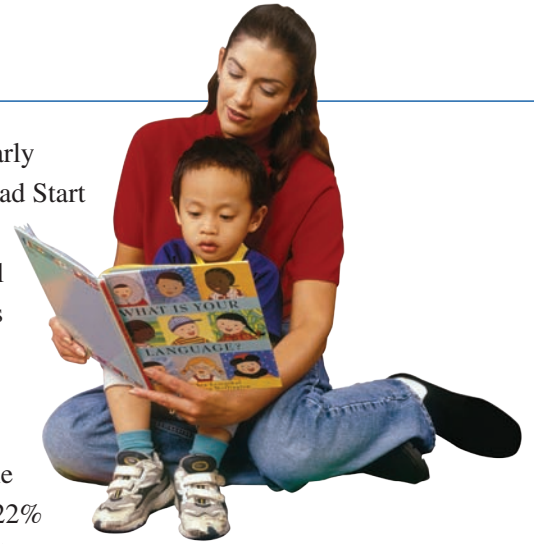
- Eligible Children Unserved – 68%
- Eligible Children Served with Federal Funds – 26%
- Eligible Children Served with State Funds – 6%



¹ Head Start throughout refers to both Head Start (serving families with children 3-5) and Early Head Start (serving pregnant women and families with children 0-3).

² Head Start's actual enrollment is generally greater than its funded enrollment because there is significant turnover in enrollment. During the 2007 school year, approximately 20% of enrolled children left the program and were replaced.

School Readiness Outcomes for Minnesota Head Start



Achieving School Readiness through Head Start's Approach: 2008

Head Start's focus helps low-income families prepare their children for school and life success by:

- > Improving their child's:
 - School Readiness
 - Social Competence
 - Health, and
- > Promoting economic self-sufficiency for parents.

All Head Start programs provide family-centered services grounded in comprehensive, research-based standards known as the Federal Head Start Performance Standards. These standards ensure the goals of Head Start are implemented and monitored successfully.

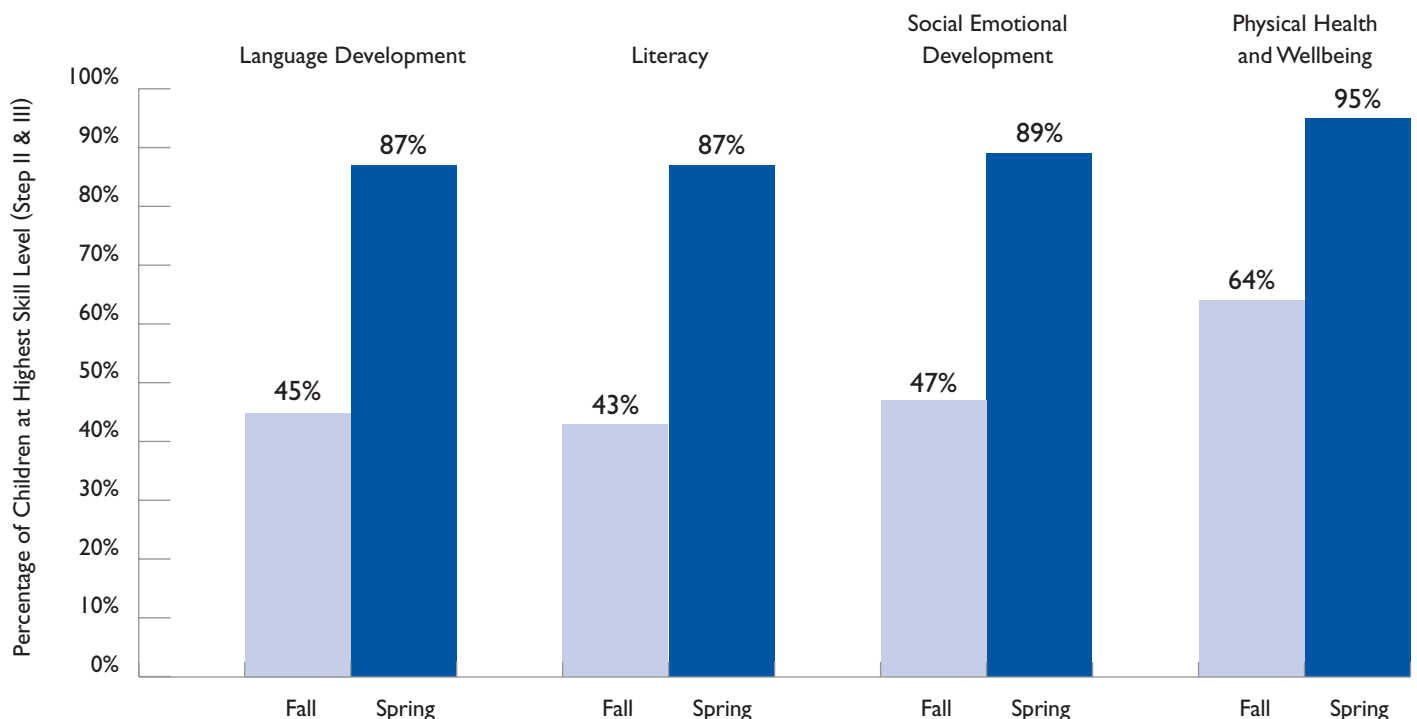
Through a grant from the Minnesota Early Learning Foundation, about 42% of Head Start programs were able to aggregate their child outcomes data in the 07-08 school year. The following examples of child's annual progress comes from a sample of 1409 4-5 year olds receiving Head Start services in programs throughout Minnesota (Note: 14% of children in the sample had a diagnosed disability and 22% spoke a language other than English at home).

Children's Outcomes Were Assessed Using The Creative Curriculum® Development Continuum

“The Continuum assesses children’s growth in four areas of development: social/emotional, physical, cognitive, and language. Teachers observe children as they participate in everyday activities and then assess their progress on objectives three or four times a year as “Forerunner,” “Step I,” “Step II,” or “Step III.” “Forerunner” level offers teachers a way to identify children who are not yet at the initial level of typical preschool development but show beginning evidence of developing the skill. Step I approximates a beginning level of typical preschool development. Steps II and III represent higher levels in acquiring the particular skill.”³

³Excerpt from Creative Curriculum®.Net from Teaching Strategies, Inc. Head Start Outcomes (All Categories) Report: Minnesota Head Start Association Outcomes Report, 07-08.

Steady Progress in Children's Development: Fall to Spring, 2008



Research Evidence Head Start Works

- > The first year's data of the national Head Start Impact Study - a large, rigorous, randomized experimental evaluation – demonstrates the positive effects of the Head Start program on children's pre-reading and pre-writing skills, and equally as important, positive improvements in children's health. *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. (2005, June).* Available at:

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/hs/impact_study/reports/first_yr_finds/firstyr_finds_title.html

Placing the first year findings of the National Head Start Impact Study in context. Washington DC. Available at:

<http://www.srcd.org/documents/policy/Impactstudy.pdf>.

- > In their recent analysis of these Head Start Impact Study findings, Jens Ludwig and Deborah Phillips calculated that Head Start's benefits to children, families and society exceed its costs. In fact, they assert, "These impact estimates taken at face value would suggest that Head Start as it operated in the 1960s through the 1980s generated benefits in excess of program costs, with a benefit-cost ratio that might be at least as large as the 7-to-1 figure often cited for model early childhood programs such as Perry Preschool." *Ludwig, J., and Phillips, D. (2007).* Available at:

http://www.srcd.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=229&Itemid=381

- > A recent rigorous study suggested that Head Start reduced mortality rates for children aged 5- to 9-years-old from causes that could have been affected by their participation in Head Start, when they were 3- and 4-years-old. *Ludwig, J. and Miller, D. (2007).* Available at:

<http://www.mitpressjournals.org/doi/abs/10.1162/qjec.122.1.159?cookieSet=1&journalCode=qjec>

- > Early Head Start Impact Study found positive impacts for Early Head Start children and their families. The Early Head Start program provides favorable child outcomes in the cognitive, socio-emotional, and health domains. *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2002, June).* Available at:

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/ehs/ehs_resrch/reports/impacts_exesum/impacts_execsum.pdf



2007 Federal Head Start Reauthorization:

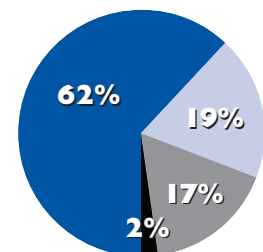
New Opportunities

On December 12, 2007 President George W. Bush signed into law the "Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007", a bill to reauthorize Head Start through 2012. Some key provisions of the bill include:

- Opportunities to strengthen Head Start Performance Standards,
- Expanded services to homeless families and those with limited English proficiency, and
- Improved coordination of early childhood delivery systems.

Changes to income eligibility allows up to 35% of each program's enrollment to include children in families making up to 130% of federal poverty threshold if evidence suggests the needs of income-eligible children have been met. The bill also requires changes in Head Start staff qualifications but Minnesota programs overall currently meets federal requirements for qualified staff through 2010.

Teacher Qualifications of Minnesota Head Start: 2006/2007



- BA or above – 62%
- AA – 19%
- CDA – 17%
- Unspecified – 2%