

TN HEAD START BY THE NUMBERS



Updated 2007-08 Numbers!

20,290
Children and their families served by Head Start

11,575
Four-year-olds served by Head Start

7,188
Three-year-olds served by Head Start

5,433
Number of people working for Head Start

892
Staff who are former or current Head Start parents

17,904
Children receiving dental exam

2,879
Children receiving dental treatment

2,129
Children with diagnosed disability

1,761
Children with no health insurance at beginning of year

965
Children with no health insurance at end of year

18,849
Children screened for developmental, sensory, and behavioral concerns

6,808
Two-parent families

11,935
Single-parent families

1,916
Parents receiving job training or in school

14,894
Families who received special family services during the year

32,263
Number of Volunteers

6:1
Ratio of volunteers to employees

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HEAD START FACTS

Tennessee's Head Start programs help high-risk children from low-income families by providing comprehensive services that link high-quality early childhood education with families strengthened by parent education and ties to community services.

- **Head Start programs serve more than 20,000 children in 932 classrooms in Tennessee. Many programs partner with local school systems to help implement the state's new voluntary Pre-K program, and they have become the most frequent partners for school systems. In Tennessee, the governor actively encourages partnerships with Head Start as well as with child care providers.**
- **All Head Start programs provide comprehensive early childhood educational services, including modern playground facilities. Many provide transportation services. In addition, all Head Start programs provide (and/or coordinate) medical, dental, nutritional, and mental health services for all enrolled children. These comprehensive services are the most frequent resource Head Start brings to partnerships with our state's Pre-K program.**
- **Head Start programs also encourage the professional development of all staff. Federally-mandated goals require that 50% of the teachers nationwide must have early childhood degrees or equivalents by 2013 with a minimum of a two-year early childhood degree. In addition, teacher assistants must have child development associate credentials or be in training.**
- **Head Start programs promote self sufficiency and independence in Head Start parents by encouraging and facilitating employment in responsible jobs. Many Head Start employees are former Head Start parents; some were even Head Start students.**
- **Head Start programs consistently score at the 3-Star level on Tennessee Department of Human Services evaluations that use the nationally-recognized Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale (ECERS) . As a result, Head Start in Tennessee is viewed as Tennessee's premier program for children and families.**