

Head Start Supports SD Early Learners



Head Start is a federally funded program that serves expectant women and children ages 0-5. Community-based programs serve children and families who meet income eligibility requirements, are placed in a foster care setting or are experiencing homelessness. Services are provided through the home, in a classroom setting, or in other locally designed options. Head Start takes a comprehensive approach to meet the needs of the whole child and family. There are 16 Grantees (8 Region VIII, 8 Region XI) in South Dakota which receive funding from the Office of Head Start.

In 2018 – an estimated **61,756** children were under 5 years of age in South Dakota.⁶

Programs**	Age 0-2	Ages 3-5
Family Home Childcare Slots ¹	5,340	
Group Family Childcare Slots ¹	948	
Child Care Center Slots ¹	23,310	
Early Childhood Spec Ed. ^{2,3}	1,227	2002
Head Start	1505	4161
MIECHV Program ⁵	287	
Public & Private District PK ⁴	0	4293
Unknown*	18,683	

*Home, Relative, Unregistered Care, Private Preschool, etc

**Children may be enrolled in more than one program.

1 – <https://dss.sd.gov/childcare/licensing/childcaredata.aspx>

2 – <https://doe.sd.gov/birthto3/documents/18-SDCC.html>

3 – <https://doe.sd.gov/ofm/data-childcount.aspx>

4 – <https://doe.sd.gov/ofm/enrollment.aspx>

5 <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/mchb/MaternalChildHealthInitiatives/HomeVisiting/pdf/sd.pdf>

6 – <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/SD/PST045218>

Head Start Waiting List

In the Fall of 2018 there were an estimated **953**

applicants on the waiting list for the 8 Region VIII Grantees (**Fall 2019 839 estimated**) applicants on the waiting list.

**It is noted that the waiting list numbers in each county is not a reflection of how many children are eligible for Head Start services – it is the number that have completed applications that are not currently receiving services. Head Start programs accept applications year round.*

You can find an interactive Head Start waiting list map by county here:

<https://tinyurl.com/HeadStartWaitlist>

Find Out More at www.sdheadstart.org or use the Resource Locator at www.SDStepAhead.org



2018-2019 Program Year

EARLY HEAD START

965 funded slots
(expectant women and children ages 0-2)
Provided Services to:



123 expectant women
1,382 infants/toddlers ages 0-2

HEAD START

3600 funded slots*
(children ages 3-5)
Provided Services to:



4,161
children ages 3-5

(*an additional 109 children in SD are served by a ND tribal program)

866	income below 100% federal poverty guidelines	2,714
94	public assistance (such as TANF/SSI)	226
97	foster children	170
218	homeless children	366
133	income above 100% of poverty level	435
97	income between 100-130% of poverty level	241

Federal Poverty Guidelines:
<http://www.aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>

Note: Reported cumulative enrollment (higher than funded slots) – when children withdraw, the program is required to fill the vacancy within 30 days.