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The Administration for Children and families publishes an annual fact sheet that provides information about the amount of federal Head Start funds allocated to each state. Using this data alongside Head Start program enrollment numbers, Heartland has calculated the annual Head Start cost-per child and ranked each state in the nation for the fiscal year 2015. Leading all states is Vermont and the lowest ranked state is Oregon. It should be noted that the average cost-per-child in 56% of all states is lower than the national average. It is important to monitor state funding and enrollment allocations and view them in concert with other available funding streams such as state preschool and child care subsidies to determine your own agency cost-per-child and available opportunities to increase the amount of funds you receive. While this data can be helpful it also should be noted that it reflects the full amount of funds and combines Head Start and Early Head Start funding. Therefore, when using it for your own program you should consider both programs when making an assessment of where you stand.

STATE/TERRITORY	FEDERAL FUNDING 2015	HS FUNDED ENROLLMENT-ACF	COST PER CHILD	RANK IN US	BELOW NATIONAL AVERAGE CPC
Alabama	\$133,689,882	17,532	\$ 7,625	46	X
Alaska	\$14,697,027	1,593	\$ 9,226	12	
Arizona	\$131,546,248	14,413	\$ 9,127	13	
Arkansas	\$81,496,636	10,273	\$ 7,933	41	X
California	\$1,039,415,453	102,728	\$ 10,118	8	
Colorado	\$88,256,495	10,945	\$ 8,064	35	X
Connecticut	\$67,254,862	6,495	\$ 10,355	5	
Delaware	\$16,305,939	2,281	\$ 7,149	50	X
District of Columbia	\$28,020,388	3,306	\$ 8,476	24	X
Florida	\$345,209,484	39,668	\$ 8,702	21	
Georgia	\$217,928,237	25,205	\$ 8,646	22	X
Hawaii	\$27,260,269	3,217	\$ 8,474	25	X
Idaho	\$27,906,313	3,182	\$ 8,770	16	
Illinois	\$336,043,938	41,188	\$ 8,159	33	X
Indiana	\$123,000,650	15,310	\$ 8,034	38	X
Iowa	\$62,633,575	7,756	\$ 8,075	34	X
Kansas	\$62,945,976	8,356	\$ 7,533	47	X
Kentucky	\$136,136,445	16,961	\$ 8,026	39	X
Louisiana	\$174,153,534	21,655	\$ 8,042	37	X
Maine	\$33,851,143	3,243	\$ 10,438	4	
Maryland	\$94,632,101	10,426	\$ 9,077	14	
Massachusetts	\$130,475,615	12,627	\$ 10,333	7	
Michigan	\$284,964,075	32,662	\$ 8,725	19	
Minnesota	\$91,473,725	11,459	\$ 7,983	40	X
Mississippi	\$195,189,104	26,474	\$ 7,373	48	X
Missouri	\$150,433,720	16,919	\$ 8,891	15	
Montana	\$26,537,570	3,193	\$ 8,311	30	X
Nebraska	\$46,654,413	5,334	\$ 8,747	18	
Nevada	\$33,442,154	3,128	\$ 10,691	2	
New Hampshire	\$16,527,565	1,686	\$ 9,803	9	
New Jersey	\$156,887,641	16,021	\$ 9,793	10	
New Mexico	\$65,502,509	7,851	\$ 8,343	28	X
New York	\$527,069,097	50,987	\$ 10,337	6	
North Carolina	\$190,807,543	21,800	\$ 8,753	17	
North Dakota	\$21,282,228	2,442	\$ 8,715	20	

STATE/TERRITORY	FEDERAL FUNDING 2015	HS FUNDED ENROLLMENT-ACF	COST PER CHILD	RANK IN US	BELOW NATIONAL AVERAGE CPC
Ohio	\$309,427,962	37,128	\$ 8,334	29	X
Oklahoma	\$107,630,356	14,641	\$ 7,351	49	X
Oregon	\$78,684,207	13,149	\$ 5,984	51	Lowest Cost
Pennsylvania	\$286,559,676	36,605	\$ 7,828	44	X
Rhode Island	\$27,335,605	2,893	\$ 9,449	11	
South Carolina	\$110,668,372	13,464	\$ 8,220	32	X
South Dakota	\$22,844,310	2,912	\$ 7,845	43	X
Tennessee	\$148,440,179	17,750	\$ 8,363	27	X
Texas	\$604,774,593	73,202	\$ 8,262	31	X
Utah	\$51,029,723	6,343	\$ 8,045	36	X
Vermont	\$16,536,670	1,503	\$ 11,002	1	Highest Cost
Virginia	\$124,211,408	14,427	\$ 8,610	23	X
Washington	\$129,467,147	12,370	\$ 10,466	3	
West Virginia	\$62,577,957	8,138	\$ 7,690	45	X
Wisconsin	\$114,647,779	14,557	\$ 7,876	42	X
Wyoming	\$14,479,234	1,724	\$ 8,399	26	X
Total	\$7,388,946,732	849,122	\$8,702		

About Us...

Heartland Solutions specializes in writing all types of Head Start grant proposals and contributes to social justice efforts.

This includes recompetition, continued funding, supplemental funds, and Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships grants. We work across all fifteen federal grantmaking agencies and within state preschool and early childhood funding systems to ensure comprehensive funding solutions that help programs develop strong and sustainable funding strategies.

Our professional staff includes former Head Start and State Preschool Program Directors and early childhood experts that are certified grant writers, Head Start grant reviewers, attorneys, and researchers with the knowledge and expertise required to discover new pathways and resolve complex issues within Head Start programs. Our research, community assessment, and general program development consulting services are appropriate for all types and sizes of programs and agencies.

