



# Office of English Language Acquisition Head Start Enrollment

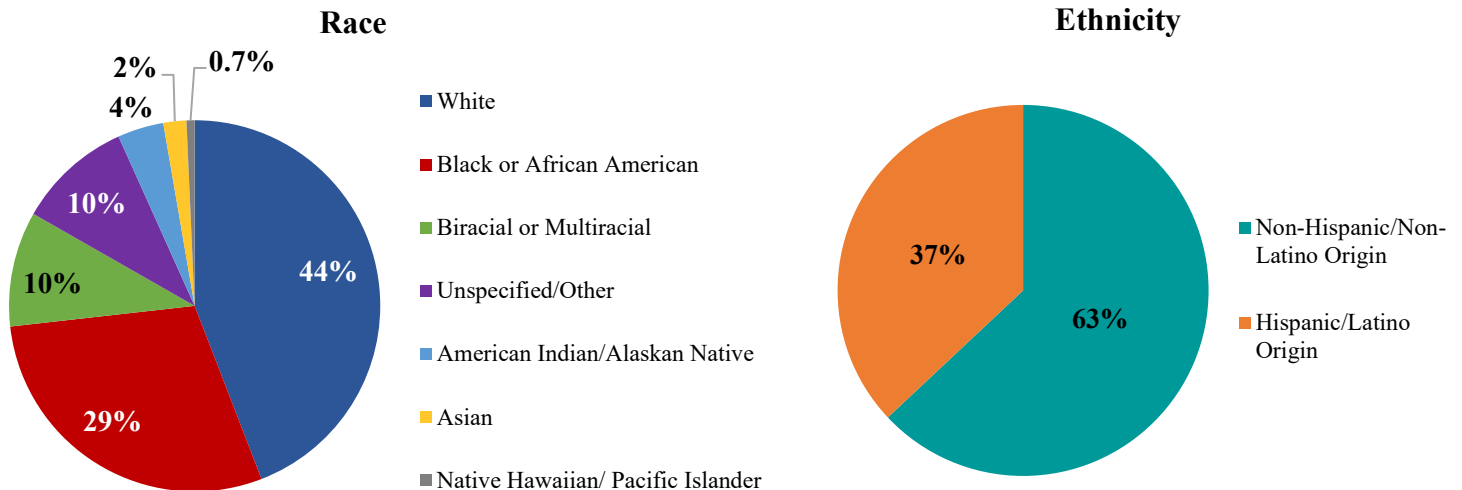
## Primary Home Language of Head Start Participants: FY 2017

Language	Number of Participants	Percentage of Participants
English	575,783	72.1%
Spanish	176,451	22.1%
Middle Eastern or South Asian Languages	10,578	1.3%
East Asian Languages	9,777	1.2%
African Languages	6,832	0.9%
European or Slavic Languages	5,822	0.7%
Unspecified Languages	5,439	0.7%
Caribbean Languages	3,074	0.4%
Pacific Island Languages	2,641	0.3%
Central American, South American, or Mexican Languages	1,098	0.1%
Other Languages	878	0.1%
Native North American or Alaskan Native Languages	133	0.01%

**In fiscal year (FY) 2017, 28% of Head Start families spoke a language other than English at home.**

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start, Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center. (n.d.). *Office of Head Start — Head Start services snapshot: National (2016–17)*. Retrieved from <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/service-snapshot-hs-2016-2017.pdf>

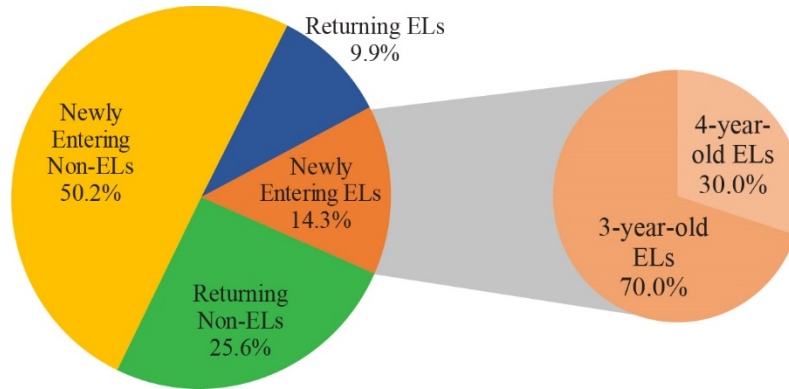
## Race and Ethnicity of Head Start Participants: FY 2017



NOTE: The Head Start program serves children, families, and pregnant women in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and six territories. Families may self-identify as both an ethnicity and a race based on U.S. Census Bureau measures.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start, Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center. (n.d.). *Head Start program facts: Fiscal year 2017*. Retrieved from [https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/hs-program-fact-sheet-2017\\_0.pdf](https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/hs-program-fact-sheet-2017_0.pdf)

## Head Start Participation: Returning and Newly Entering: English Learners vs. Non-English Learners: Fall 2014



NOTE: Statistics are weighted to represent all children enrolled in Head Start in Fall 2014.  
 SOURCE FOR BOTH CHARTS: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families. (2017). *Descriptive data on Head Start children and families from FACES 2014: Fall 2014 data tables and study design*. OPRE Report 2017-97. Retrieved from [https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/opre/faces\\_fall\\_2014\\_child\\_family\\_data\\_tables\\_final\\_clean\\_toacf\\_122217\\_508.pdf](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/opre/faces_fall_2014_child_family_data_tables_final_clean_toacf_122217_508.pdf)

**In Fall 2014, English learners (ELs)\* composed approximately 24% of the total enrollment in Head Start. Of the ELs entering Head Start for the first time, nearly 70% were 3 years old.**

\*NOTE: The study does not explicitly use the term “English learner,” but identifies students by their “primary home language.”

## Frequency Head Start Children Were Read to Per Week: English Learners vs. Non-English Learners: Fall 2014

**Nearly three quarters (74%) of ELs in Head Start during Fall 2014 were read to at least three times per week by a family member.**

