



HOME VISITING IN WASHINGTON

Home Visiting Services Prioritize Families

Our home visiting programs target the most vulnerable families - those with certain risk factors:

- Teenage parents
- Underserved populations
- Homeless families
- Families with multiple young children between birth to age 5 not currently connected to early learning resources

Who We Serve

Last year, these programs served 2,806 households through 38,361 home visits.

More than half (57%) of families served are considered living in extreme poverty.

1 in 3 primary caregivers are employed full-time or part-time.

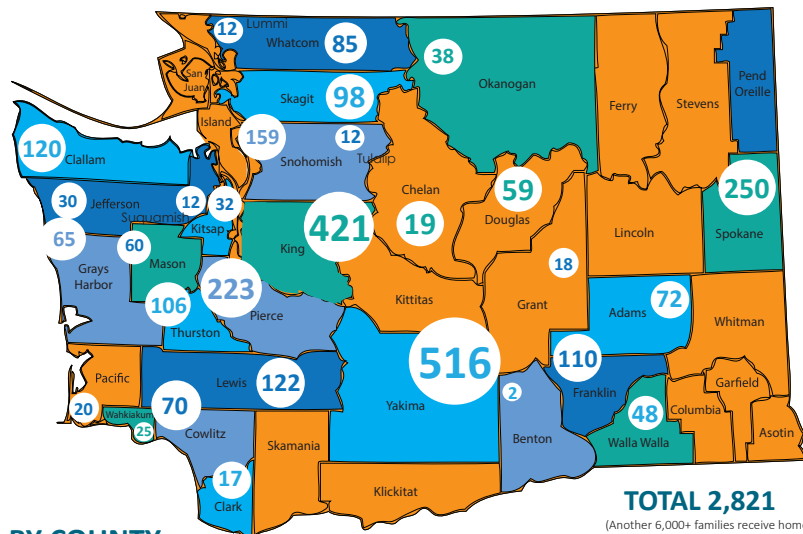
Among caregivers with less than a high school education, 15% sought additional education.

Children Served by the HVSA



- Under 1-year-old31%
- 1-2 Years Old50%
- 3-4 Years Old17%
- 5 Years Old and Over..... 2%

HVSA Family Slots in 2021



BY COUNTY

Adams 72	Franklin110	Lummi12	Spokane250
Benton2	Grant18	Mason60	Suquamish12
Chelan 19	Grays Harbor65	Okanogan38	Thurston106
Clallam120	Jefferson30	Pacific20	Tulalip12
Clark17	King421	Pierce223	Wahkiakum25
Cowlitz70	Kitsap32	Skagit98	Walla Walla48
Douglas59	Lewis122	Snohomish159	Whatcom85
			Yakima516

Keys to Washington's Home Visiting System

The Home Visiting Services Account (HVSA) is administered by the Department of Children, Youth, and Families and supported by Start Early Washington, bringing together state, federal and private dollars to support a portfolio of high-quality proven and promising programs - and make sure they deliver results. The HVSA key functions include leveraging and braiding various revenue sources, serving families and ensuring high quality programs while providing support and empowering the community. One of the largest revenue sources for the HVSA is the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program grant funds issued by the US Department of Health and Human Services Health Resource Services Administration. Families in MIECHV are participating in either Nurse - Family Partnership or Parents as Teachers.

A Family Story

A family with five children had been in the program for about 18 months and stayed with the program even after their home visitor was no longer able to serve them. The mother has a lot on her plate with five children, and the father is an essential worker (construction), working long hours. Her new home visitor focused on supporting mom by creating or showing activities the mom could use at home to engage the children. The mother expressed much thankfulness, since engaging five children all at home due to the stay-at-home order, can often be overwhelming. The activities included things that supported physical and cognitive growth, such as a homemade bowling set, a coloring activity, stacking cups with balls, among activities.

In March, when visits went virtual, the home visitor stayed in close contact with mom to continue to support the family. The mother was now juggling a newborn along with virtual schooling for the older ones. In April, the mother came down with a significant sickness, potentially COVID-19. Because the family does not have health insurance, the mother was afraid to go to the hospital or clinic.

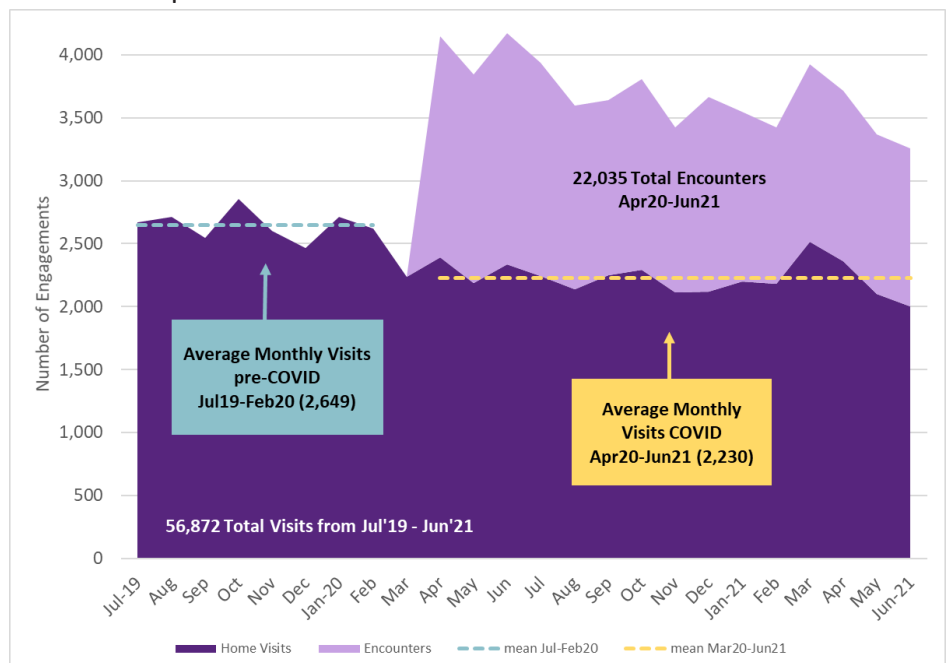
The home visitor continued to stay in close contact, providing emotional support and engaging the family via zoom visits and continuing to do door drop offs of activities for the family. The mother said the support during such a hard time was invaluable. The mother has since recovered, as have the children and the family remains resilient. While not in person, the virtual visits and phone connections during the COVID-19 pandemic continue to promote child development, reduce parental stress and support parent-child bonds.

COVID-19 Impact on Home Visiting

On March 17, 2020, the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) provided guidance in response to the COVID-19 pandemic for Home Visiting Services Account funded home visiting programs, allowing them to shift services to fully virtual (video-based) or remote (telephone-based) visits with enrolled families.

Like many other services, home visiting programs shifted quickly to working and serving families virtually and remotely. While some programs took a short pause to reset services and examine the capacity and interest for families to engage, others moved immediately to serving families from a distance. Programs were proactive and sought out training and supports to serve families effectively in remote and virtual formats.

While there are some limitations to virtual and remote only services, home visitors continue to utilize creative strategies to support parents in reaching their goals for their children and themselves, developing new parenting skills, and addressing their family's immediate needs. Home visiting programs report that home visitors safely drop or mail materials or supplies in advance of visits, are connecting with families more often than previously, and family needs are especially acute during the pandemic. Home visiting programs will continue to operate virtual and remote services through the pandemic and with in-person (outdoor) visits happening when feasible. Additionally, home visitors are seeing parents take the lead during the virtual home visits, demonstrating interactions and activities with their child, showing an increase in parenting efficacy and the partnership between home visitors and parents.



Average monthly visits declined since the start of the pandemic from 2,649 to 2,230. However, LIAs continue to engage with families for a total of 78,709 engagements (home visits + encounters) from July 2019 through June 2021.