



# HOWARD AREA FAMILY CENTER

## Assessing Progress Toward School Readiness

Utilizing Teaching Strategies GOLD as the evidence-based assessment tool, Howard Area Community Center's Early Childhood Department evaluates individual child progress across all program models – Home Visiting, Center-Based Birth-Three, and Center-Based Three-Five. GOLD's assessment system enables the program to evaluate student achievement data and individual child progress toward school readiness goals.

Through ongoing observations, evidence of each child's knowledge and skills are collected, documented, and compared to national benchmarks, otherwise known as Widely-Held Expectations. This student achievement data is utilized to inform planning on a variety of levels. Data is utilized to create individualized plans for children and families. It informs action plans for improving instructional delivery, and it informs programmatic planning.

### Early Head Start Growth Highlights:

Throughout all domains of development and learning, student achievement data highlighted a positive growth trajectory for each age level of children. See highlights below.

**Table 1: Average Annual Student Growth: Early Head Start – Students Ages Birth-One**

Bottom Range: Widely Held Expectations	Top Range: Widely Held Expectations	Domain	Score: Beginning Program Year 2016-2017	Score: End Program Year 2016-2017	Margin of Growth for Program Year 2016-2017
272	387	Social/Emotional	252	352	+100
278	389	Physical	281	369	+88
312	410	Language	292	388	+96
313	377	Cognitive	314	354	+40
200	375	Literacy	281	362	+81
200	200	Mathematics	332	381	+49

**Children Ages Birth-One** demonstrated a growth margin between +40 and +100 points, with Social/Emotional development seeing the highest level of growth.

**Table 2: Average Annual Student Growth: Early Head Start – Students Ages One-Two**

Bottom Range: Widely Held Expectations	Top Range: Widely Held Expectations	Domain	Score: Beginning Program Year 2016-2017	Score: End Program Year 2016-2017	Margin of Growth for Program Year 2016-2017
387	494	Social/Emotional	400	453	+53
399	466	Physical	383	428	+45
410	492	Language	394	448	+54
377	465	Cognitive	382	427	+45
408	444	Literacy	394	442	+48
441	491	Mathematics	391	457	+66

**Children Ages One-Two** demonstrated a growth margin between +45 and +66 points, with Mathematical development seeing the highest level of growth.

**Table 3: Average Annual Student Growth: Early Head Start – Students Ages Two-Three**

Bottom Range: Widely Held Expectations	Top Range: Widely Held Expectations	Domain	Score: Beginning Program Year 2016-2017	Score: End Program Year 2016-2017	Margin of Growth for Program Year 2016-2017
458	546	Social/Emotional	484	556	+78
455	543	Physical	487	551	+64
469	554	Language	497	543	+46
453	540	Cognitive	471	540	+69
470	530	Literacy	477	539	+62
483	557	Mathematics	501	558	+57

**Children Ages Two-Three** demonstrated a growth margin between +46 and +78 points, with Social/Emotional development seeing the highest level of growth.

## Head Start Growth Highlights:

Throughout all domains of development and learning, student achievement data highlighted a positive growth trajectory for each age level of children. See highlights below.

**Table 4: Average Annual Student Growth: Head Start – Students Ages Three-Four**

Bottom Range: Widely Held Expectations	Top Range: Widely Held Expectations	Domain	Score: Beginning Program Year 2016-2017	Score: End Program Year 2016-2017	Margin of Growth for Program Year 2016-2017
516	614	Social/Emotional	558	591	+33
512	617	Physical	532	581	+49
524	639	Language	551	607	+56
519	634	Cognitive	546	599	+53
530	610	Literacy	552	598	+46
545	621	Mathematics	554	596	+42

**Children Ages Three-Four** demonstrated a growth margin between +33 and +56 points, with Language development seeing the highest level of growth.

**Table 5: Average Annual Student Growth: Head Start – Students Ages Four-Five**

Bottom Range: Widely Held Expectations	Top Range: Widely Held Expectations	Domain	Score: Beginning Program Year 2016-2017	Score: End Program Year 2016-2017	Margin of Growth for Program Year 2016-2017
589	690	Social/Emotional	630	683	+53
578	698	Physical	610	672	+62
580	721	Language	612	716	+104
591	738	Cognitive	641	720	+79
572	705	Literacy	635	702	+67
615	712	Mathematics	632	689	+57

**Children Ages Four-Five** demonstrated a growth margin between +53 and +104 points, with Language development seeing the highest level of growth.