



# Babies don't come with an instruction manual...

Home Visiting programs help parents raise safe, healthy and educated children.

Home Visiting in Alabama is a free, voluntary program to support parents at home and help them learn how to be more engaged in their child's life.



## Home Visiting in Alabama has led to:



Improved health outcomes for mothers and newborns



Decreased total number of preventable child injuries



Reduced total number of cases of child abuse & neglect



Improved school readiness

Parents are their children's first and most important teachers, and every parent can benefit from resources and information about their child's development.



A specialized parent educator helps parents establish their own expectations for their children and provides support to help their children meet these goals.

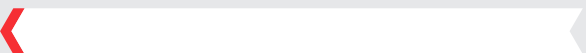
## Home Visiting programs strengthen families by:

- Focusing on meeting families where they are most comfortable – in their home
- Establishing stronger relationships between families and parent educators
- Effectively assessing the true needs of children and families and connect them to resources
- Reinforcing what families are already doing well

**84%** of Alabama's counties participate in Home Visiting programs



But they can only reach **2%** of children ages birth to five years



Only a small percentage of families interested in participating are able to do so. The program is too small to move the needle gauging the well-being of Alabama's children.

Expanding funding for Home Visiting will enable more families in Alabama to participate and provide better opportunities for their children from birth to five years old.

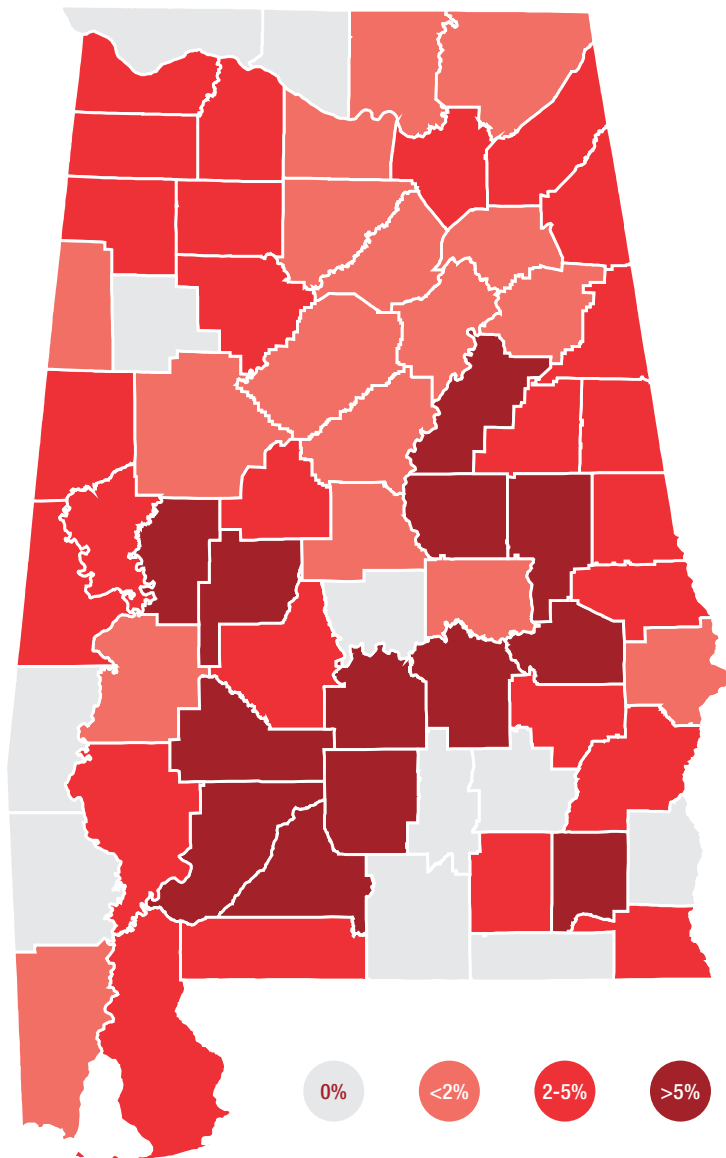
Learn more at [smartstartalabama.org](http://smartstartalabama.org)



## Home Visiting Program Availability



14 locally selected & managed models



### Among program participants in Alabama, Home Visiting has led to an increase in:

- pregnant women beginning prenatal care in the first trimester
- mothers screened for depression
- children screened for physical, social, cognitive and educational developmental delays
- mothers who are screened for and reporting domestic violence
- parents enrolled in a program to get a high school diploma or GED

The Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education and the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention partner to provide Home Visiting grants to local communities. Local leaders determine which Home Visiting model best addresses their unique needs. These state partners and a Home Visiting Advisory Board work with local communities to ensure the successful implementation of these programs and adherence to quality standards across the state.

