



A Decisionmakers Primer on Investing in Children Recommended Reading list:

Benefits and Costs of Prevention and Early Intervention Programs for Youth, Washington State Institute for Public Policy, www.wsipp.wa.gov

Cost Effective Investments in Children: Budgeting for National Priorities, January 2007. Brookings Institute, www.brookings.edu.

Early Care and Education: Realizing a Collective Vision. National Economic Development and Law Center, www.nedlc.org/Publications/PDF_childcare/ececr.pdf.

Early Childhood Development: Economic Development with a High Public Return, Art Rolnick and Rob Grunewald, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, www.minneapolisfed.org/pubs/fedgaz/03-03/earlychild.cfm

Early Childhood Investment Yields Big Payoff. Policy Perspectives, www.wested.org/online_pub/pp-05-02.pdf

Funding What Works: Exploring the Role of Research on Effective Programs and Practices in Government Decisionmaking, National Center for Service Integration, Child and Family Policy Center, www.cfpciowa.org/pdf/FundWhatWorks.pdf

Investments in Children Pay Huge Economic Dividends, Partnership for America's Economic Success and the Committee for Economic Development, www.ced.org/newsroom/center_investmentsinchildren2007.html.

Lifetime Affects of the Hig/Scope Research Foundation Perry Preschool Project, Ypsilanti, Michigan. Larry Schweinhart. <http://www.highscope.org/Research/PerryProject/perrymain.htm>

Many Happy Returns: Three Economic Models that Make the Case for School Readiness. State Early Childhood Policy Technical Assistance Network. www.finebynine.org/pdf/SECPTAN_MHR_final.pdf.

The Productivity Argument for Investing in Young Children. James J. Heckman and Dimitriy V. Masterov. On productivity grounds alone, it appears to make sound business sense to invest in young children from disadvantaged environments. www.ced.org/docs/summary/summary_heckman.pdf

Kids Count of Michigan Databook, www.milhs.org

The Economic Development Argument for Investing in Young Children

A Nobel Laureate economist is saying it. *“Skill begets skill and learning begets more learning. At current levels of public support, America under invests in the early years of disadvantaged children. Redirecting funds towards the early years, before the start of traditional schooling, is a sound investment in the productivity and safety of our society.”* James J. Heckman, University of Chicago. Author of **The Productivity Argument for Investing in Young Children.**

“It is family lifetime resources that effect a child’s college readiness not parental income. Investments in children are complementary. Early investments improve the return on later investments.” James Heckman

A Federal reserve banker is saying it.”*Most of the numerous projects and initiatives that state and local governments fund in the name of creating new businesses and jobs result in few public benefits. **In contrast, studies find that well-focused investments in early childhood development yield high public as well as economic returns.** State and local governments should use their limited resources on developing human capital—their future workforce.”* Art Rolnick Senior Economist Federal Reserve Bank in Minneapolis