

Investments in Early Childhood Development Yield High Public Returns

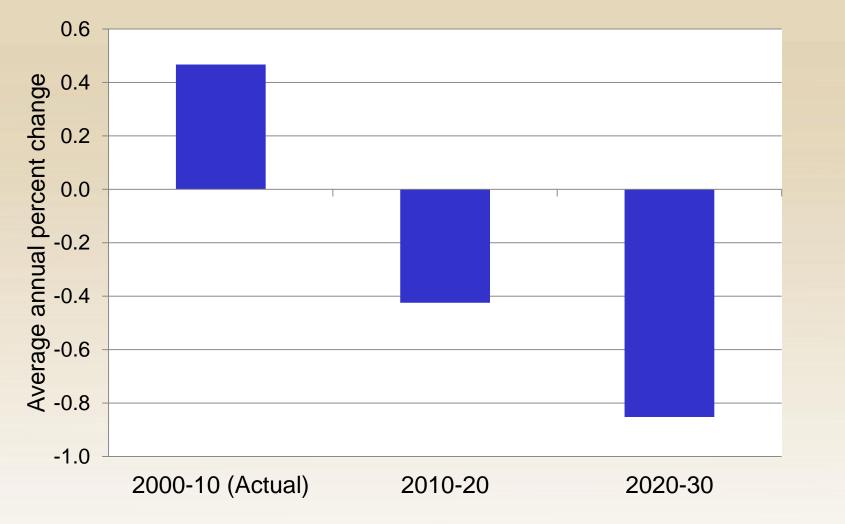


February 5, 2015

Rob Grunewald Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

Vermont Population Projections, Ages 15 to 64

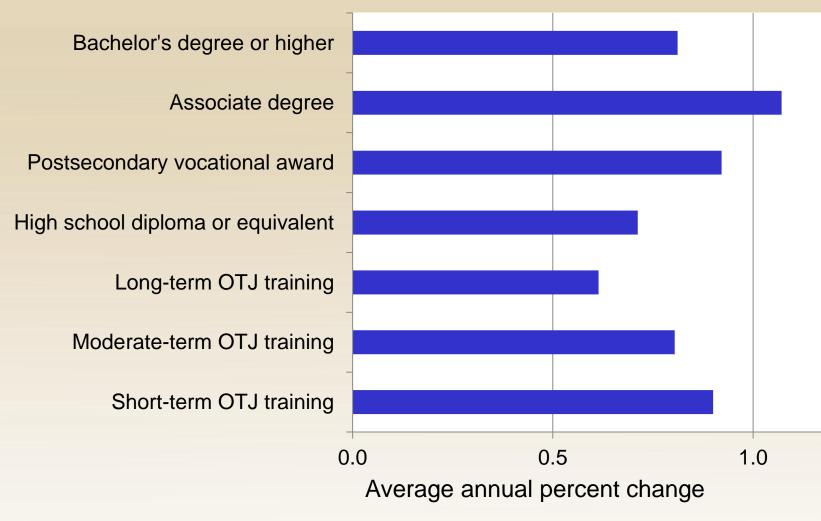




Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development

Vermont Job Growth by Primary Source of Education or Training, 2012 to 2022

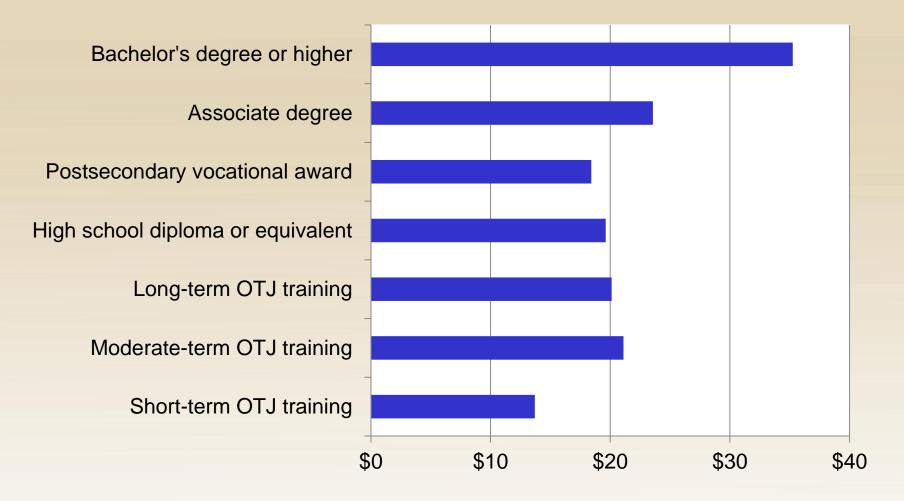




Source: Vermont Department of Labor, Occupational Projections

Vermont Average Hourly Wage by Source of Education or Training, 2012



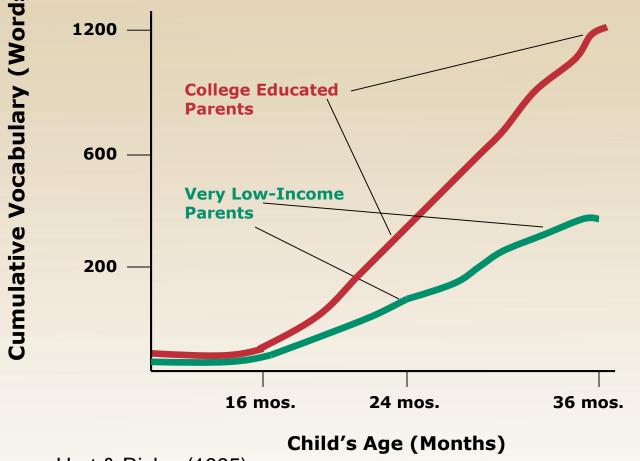


Source: Vermont Department of Labor, Occupational Projections





Barriers to Social Mobility Emerge at a Very Young Age



Source: Hart & Risley (1995)

Nurse-Family Partnership



Home visiting program by registered nurses for at-risk mothers, prenatal through first two years of child's life.

- Elmira, NY (1977), low-income whites, semi-rural
- Memphis, TN (1987), low-income blacks, urban
- Denver, CO (1994), low-income mixed population, largely Hispanic

Effects Found in Two or More Trials



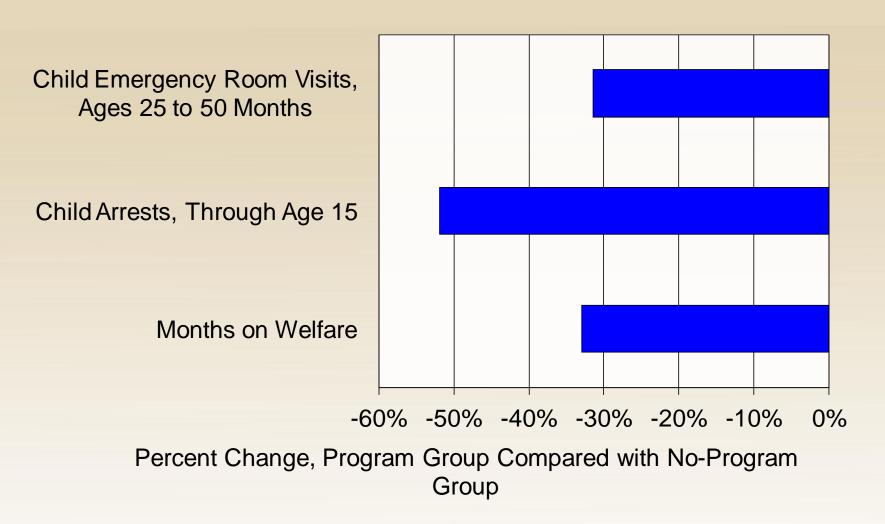
 Improved prenatal health Fewer childhood injuries

 Fewer subsequent pregnancies Improved school readiness

 Increased intervals between births Increased maternal employment



Elmira Prenatal/Early Infancy Project High-Risk Families



Source: David Olds, et al.

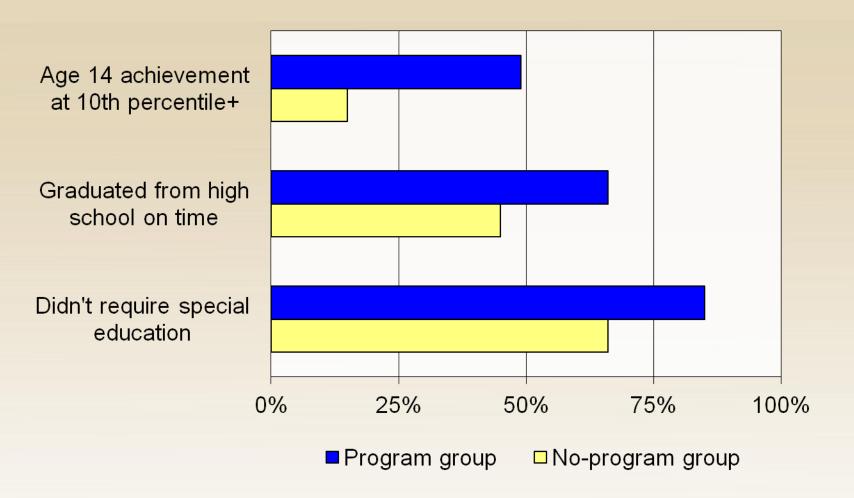


High/Scope Study of Perry Preschool

- In early 1960s, 123 children from low-income families in Ypsilanti, Mich.
- Children randomly selected to attend Perry or control group.
- High-quality program with well-trained teachers, daily classroom sessions and weekly home visits.
- Tracked participants and control group through age 40.



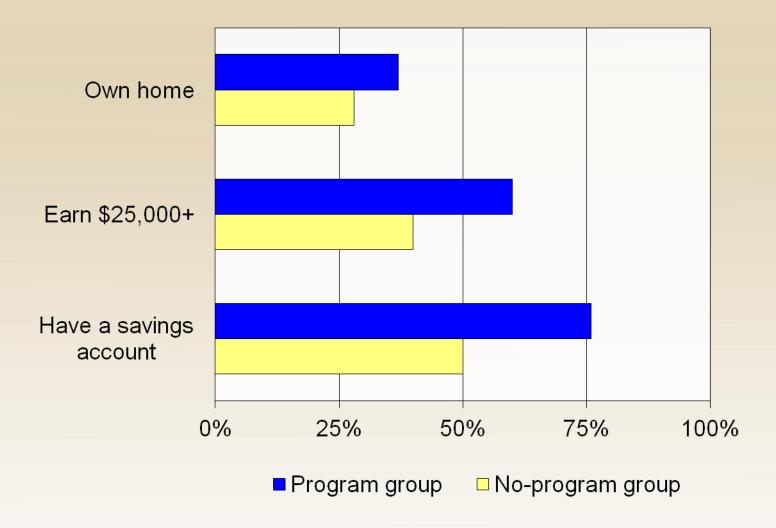
Perry: Educational Effects



Source: Schweinhart, et al. (2005)

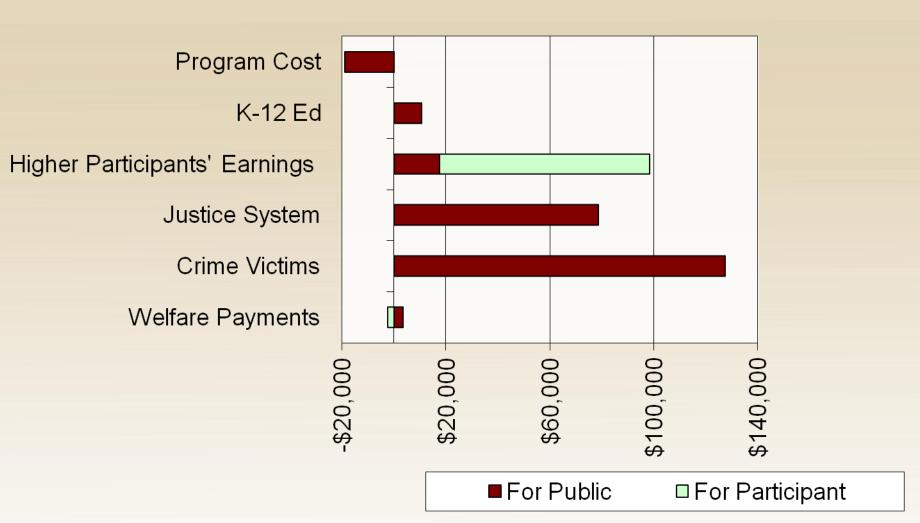


Perry: Economic Effects at Age 40



Source: Schweinhart, et al. (2005)

Perry Preschool Costs and Benefits Over 62 Years



Source: Schweinhart, et al. (2005)

Benefit-Cost Ratios for Longitudinal Studies



- Elmira Prenatal/Early Infancy Project
 - \$5 to \$1
- Perry Preschool
 - \$16 to \$1
- Abecedarian Educational Child Care
 - \$4 to \$1
- Chicago-Child Parent
 - \$10 to \$1

Sources: Karoly, et al (1998); Schweinhart, et al. (2005); Heckman, Moon, Pinto, Savelyez, & Yavitz (2010); Masse & Barnett (2002); Reynolds, Temple, White, Ou, & Robertson (2011)

Recent research findings



- State preschool program studies show positive gains in vocabulary and emerging math and literacy skills
- Evaluations of Head Start and Early Head Start show positive impact on development with mixed findings regarding persistence
- Analysis of program similar to Abecedarian for children ages 1 to 3 shows reduction in achievement gap
- Michigan's state preschool program associated with stronger graduation rates

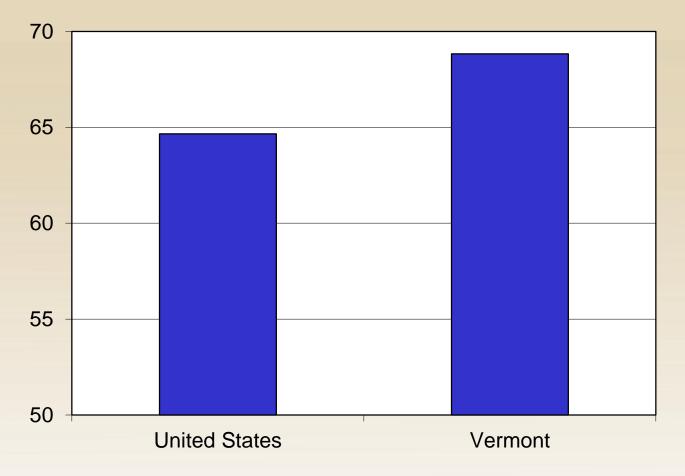
Short-Run Benefits



- Fewer low-weight and pre-term births
- Fewer emergency room visits
- Reduced child abuse and neglect
- Reduced grade retention and special education
- Reduced employee absenteeism and turnover



Percent of children under 6 years old with all parents in the labor force, 2013



Source: American Community Survey

Lessons Learned from Research



- Invest in quality
- Involve parents
- Start early
- Reach at-risk population
- Bring to scale

Key Investments



- Home visiting
- Preschool
- Quality child care
- Parent education
- Health care



Sources



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Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development

Vermont Department of Labor, Occupational Projections



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