

## Return on Investment (ROI) of High-Quality Early Childhood Development

“Policymakers would be wise to coordinate these early childhood resources into a scaffolding of developmental support for disadvantaged children and provide access to all in need. The gains are significant because quality programs pay for themselves many times over. The cost of inaction is a tragic loss of human and economic potential that we cannot afford.”

*Heckmanequation.org*

- **James Heckman, University of Chicago, Nobel Prize winning Economist**
  - Workforce development starts with early childhood development.
  - 7-10% per year ROI based on **increased school & career achievement** as well as **reduced costs in remedial education, health & criminal justice expenditures.** (*Perry Preschool Program*)
  - Comprehensive, high quality early childhood programs (birth to 5) yielded a 13% ROI per child, per year in education, economic, health and social outcomes. (*Abecedarian/CARE*)
  - The earlier the investment, the greater the return.
  - High-quality early childhood education is an effective tool for fighting intergenerational poverty.
- **Tony Carvajal, Exec VP, FL Chamber of Commerce, Children’s Movement**
  - Expanding early learning initiatives provide benefit of \$8.60 for every \$1 invested. Half of this is from increased earnings of the children when they grow up.
  - Early childhood education is **critical to preparing Florida’s children for future careers.**
- **Children who do NOT receive a quality early education are:**
  - 25% more likely to drop out of school
  - 40% more likely to become a teen parent
  - 50% more likely to be placed in special education
  - 60% less likely to go to college
  - 70% more likely to be arrested for a violent crime

(source: *K-12 Stem Education: Breakthroughs in Research & Practice*)