

The Head Start Impact Study: *Giving America's Children the Head Start Advantage*

When the Impact Study was published in 2012, it had a significant analytic error: most control group children still received early education. Notably, 60% of control children still attended preschool, some even through Head Start. Researchers have since re-analyzed the data to correct for this issue and found that Head Start has significant impacts on children after all. These impacts include:



Head Start children with low baseline scores make greater progress in cognitive skills.



Head Start children with limited English experience have cognitive gains that persist through 1st grade.



Head Start children in foster care or non-parental care are more ready for school.



Head Start children who would have otherwise been home make progress in receptive vocabulary.



Head Start children in programs with full-day services receive a bigger boost in cognitive skills.



Head Start children whose mothers did not finish high school have greater cognitive gains.



Head Start parents provide more positive learning experiences to their children.



Parents of 3-year-old Head Start children advance their own education more by the time the child is 6.

Citations:



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