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:


Walters, 2015.


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