

The Economics of Early Care in Georgia



Quality early care is critical to Georgia's economy — it generates jobs and revenue, while equipping kids with the tools they need to be the workforce of tomorrow.

Early Care in Georgia's Economy

$$\begin{array}{rcccl} \$2.5 & + & \$2.2 & = & \$4.7 \\ \text{BILLION} & & \text{BILLION} & & \text{BILLION} \\ \text{Annual Earnings} & & \text{Economic Activity} & & \text{Economic Impact} \end{array}$$

The early care industry generates \$2.5 billion in annual earnings and \$2.2 billion in additional economic activity. This translates to a \$4.7 billion annual investment in the Georgia economy.



Every \$1 spent in early care and education industry...



Generates one additional dollar in short term positive economic activity.



By 2022, the Child Care Industry is expected to be **one of the 20 fastest growing industries in Georgia.**

Investing in Early Care Creates Jobs

Georgia's Early Care Industry **employs 67,507** people who work in a variety of a jobs including:



Teachers



Administrators



Kitchen Staff



Office Staff

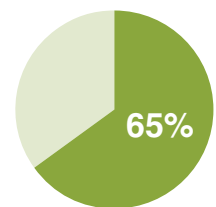


Drivers

Additionally, **every 100 jobs** in early care generates an **additional 26 jobs** in other industries.

Early Care Supports Georgia's Parents

494,000 or 65% of Georgia's children under the age of six have parents in the labor force.



Parents with children enrolled in Early Care Programs have been shown to:

- ✓ Miss fewer days at work
- ✓ Earn more income to support the family
- ✓ Stay employed at higher rates

\$24
BILLION

Georgia parents taking advantage of early care programs earn approximately 24 billion.

Early Care Brightens Our Children's Futures

How Early Care Benefits Children



**School
Readiness**



**Behavioral and
Social Development**



**Health and
Well-being**

These benefits lead to:

- ✓ Lower retention rates/repeated grades
- ✓ Reduced dependency on public welfare systems
- ✓ Lower involvement in the criminal justice system
- ✓ Improved long-term health

**All of which reduces public spending
in the long run.**



For **every dollar**
spent on early
child care...



up to \$8.60
is returned
in benefits to
society.

Creates the Workforce of Tomorrow

Quality early care has been shown to increase:

- ✓ Third grade reading proficiency
- ✓ High-school graduation rates
- ✓ College attendance



Therefore better preparing Georgia's
youngest learners for the jobs of tomorrow.

Children who are enrolled in early care
programs have the potential to gain between

\$9,166 and \$30,851

more in lifetime earnings than other adults
their age who did not receive similar care.

Why should Georgia invest in its youngest learners?

— **1** —

Investments made at the start of a
child's life **accumulate throughout
their entire lives.**

— **2** —

**Young children under the age of eight
have the greatest capacity for change.**

Interventions are often more effective at
this age and can have lasting impacts
for years to come.

— **3** —

**Early education gives young children
skills** they continue to build on throughout
the continuum of their education.



For more information visit our website: www.georgiavoices.org/earlyed