Human Impact

- At-risk children who are left out of quality early learning programs are 70 percent more likely to be arrested for a violent crime before they turn 18.¹

- By the time they are adults, at-risk children who are left out of quality early learning programs are:²
  - up to 5 times more likely to be chronic lawbreakers (by age 27);
  - 4 times more likely to be arrested for drugs felonies (by age 40);
  - 7 times more likely to be arrested for possession of dangerous drugs (by age 40); and
  - 85 percent more likely to have been sentenced to prison or jail (by age 40).

- Quality early childhood education, especially for disadvantaged children, has been shown to:³
  - Reduce juvenile arrest by 33 percent
  - Reduce special education placement by 49 percent
  - Decrease grade retention by 50 percent

- Quality early childhood education, especially for disadvantaged children, has also been shown to:⁴
  - Increase high school graduation by 31 percent
  - Increase college attendance by more than 80 percent
  - Increase employment by 23 percent

Cost Effect

- The $11.2B California spends annually on corrections and rehabilitation is more than 5 times greater than the $2.1B it spends on early learning.⁵,⁶

- It costs $216,081 to incarcerate a juvenile for one year in California, which is almost 36 times more than the $6,075 it costs to provide a child with a year’s worth of early learning.⁷,⁸

- The $43,149 it costs to incarcerate an adult for one year in California is 7 times greater than the cost of providing one child with early learning.⁹,¹⁰

- The amount California spends on each inmate has grown almost 5 times faster than the amount it spends on each K-12 student since 1995.¹¹

- California spends on average $60,000 per inmate (not accounting for age), which is $51,800, or more than seven times, more than the $8,200 it currently spends on each K-12 student.¹²