



Cradle to Kindergarten: A New Plan to Combat Inequality

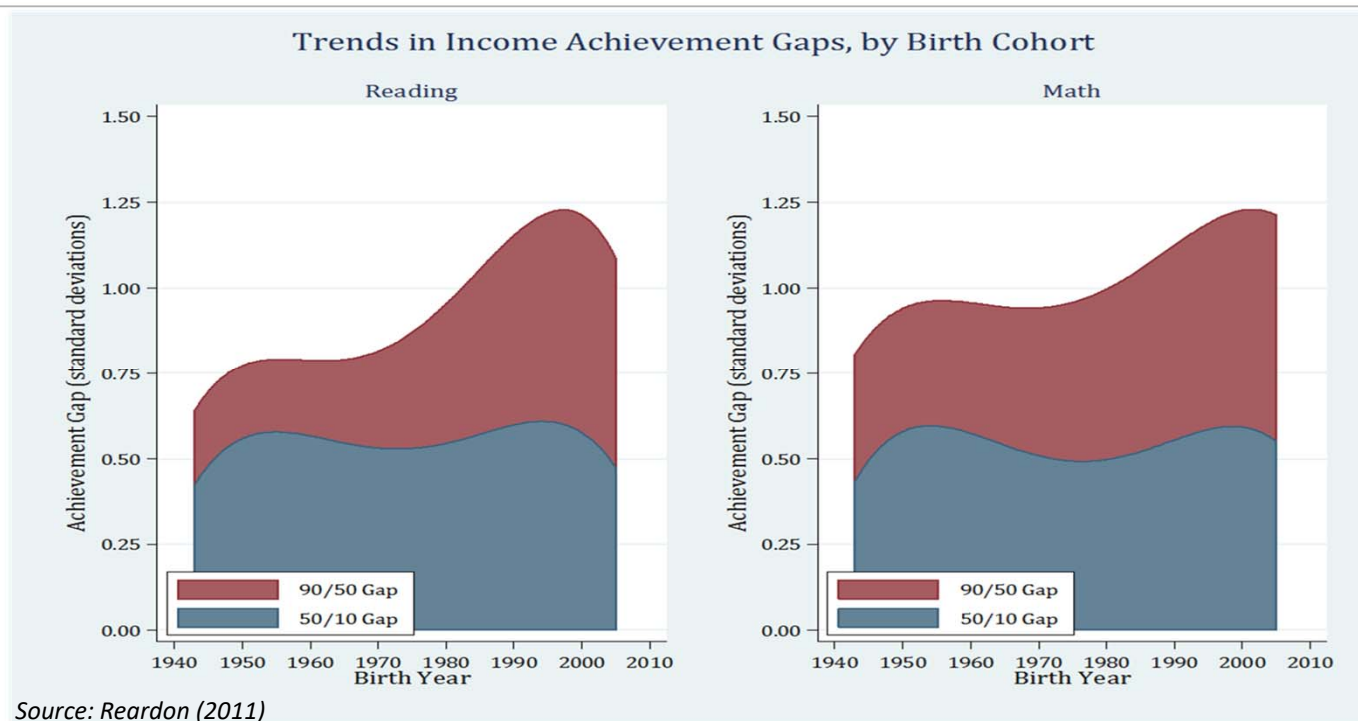
Ajay Chaudry, Taryn Morrissey, Christina Weiland, and Hirokazu Yoshikawa

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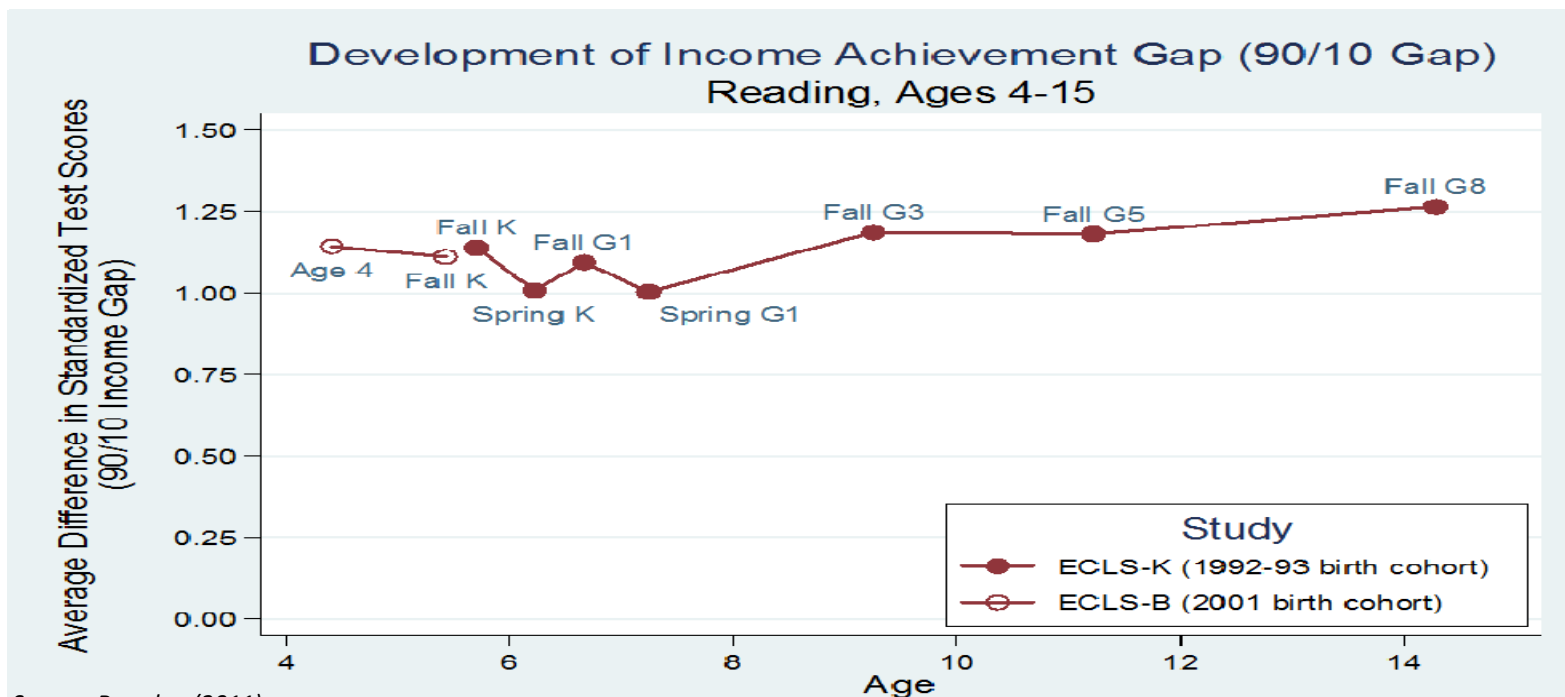
ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN OF NEW JERSEY

THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

The educational achievement gap is large, growing, and spans a wide socio-economic gradient.

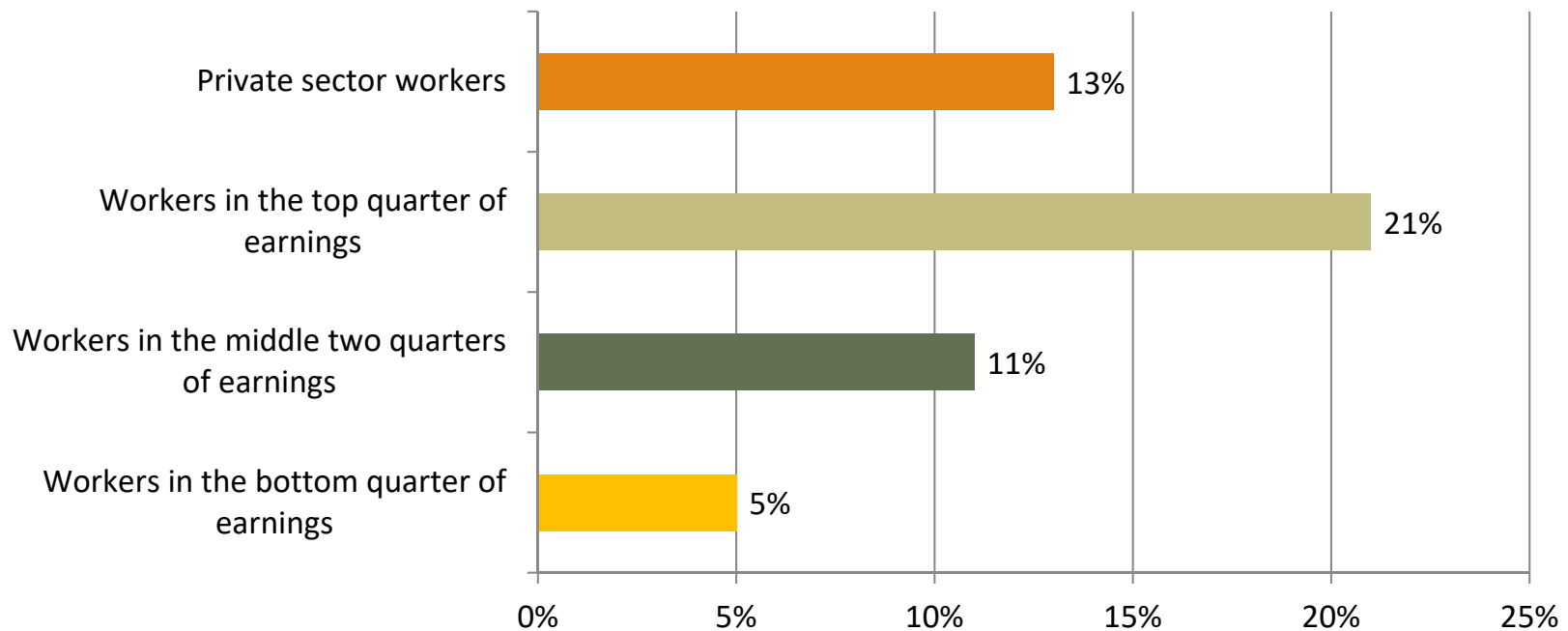


Much of the gap measured across primary schooling are present at school-entry.



Source: Reardon (2011)

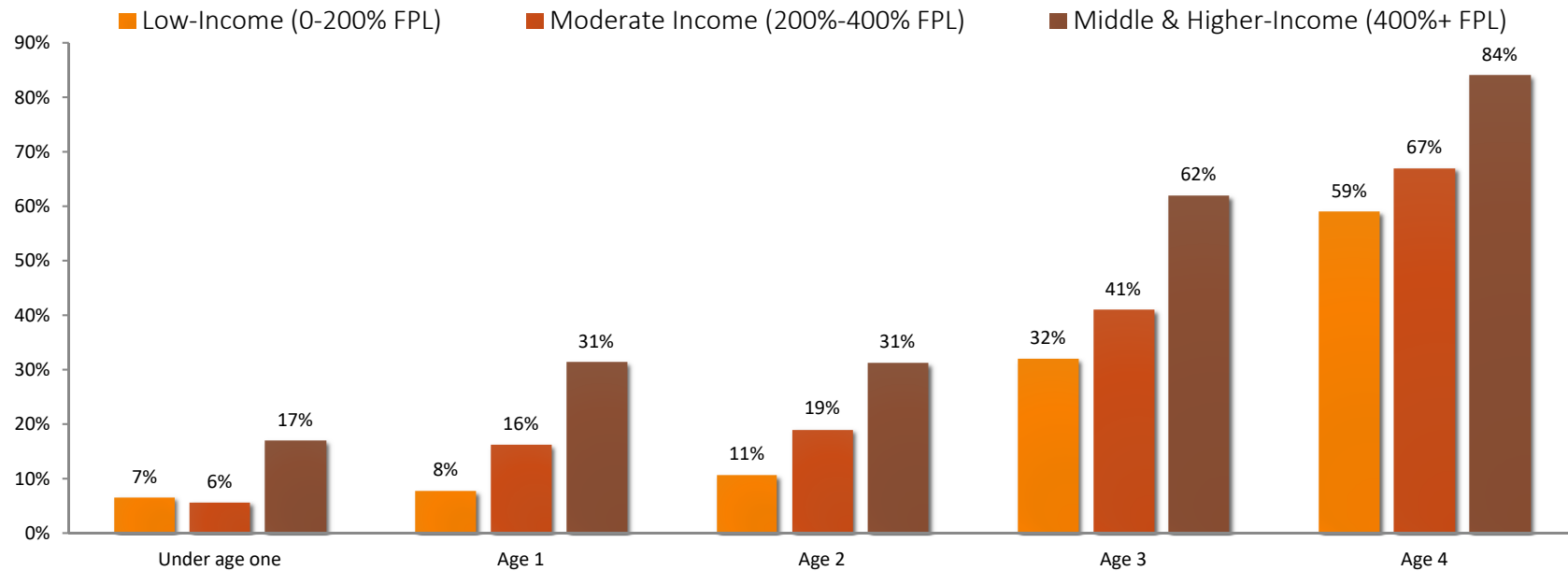
U.S. workers lack access to paid family leave – especially lower income workers.



Source: US DOL Bureau of Labor Statistics Leave benefits: Access, National Compensation Survey, March 2014

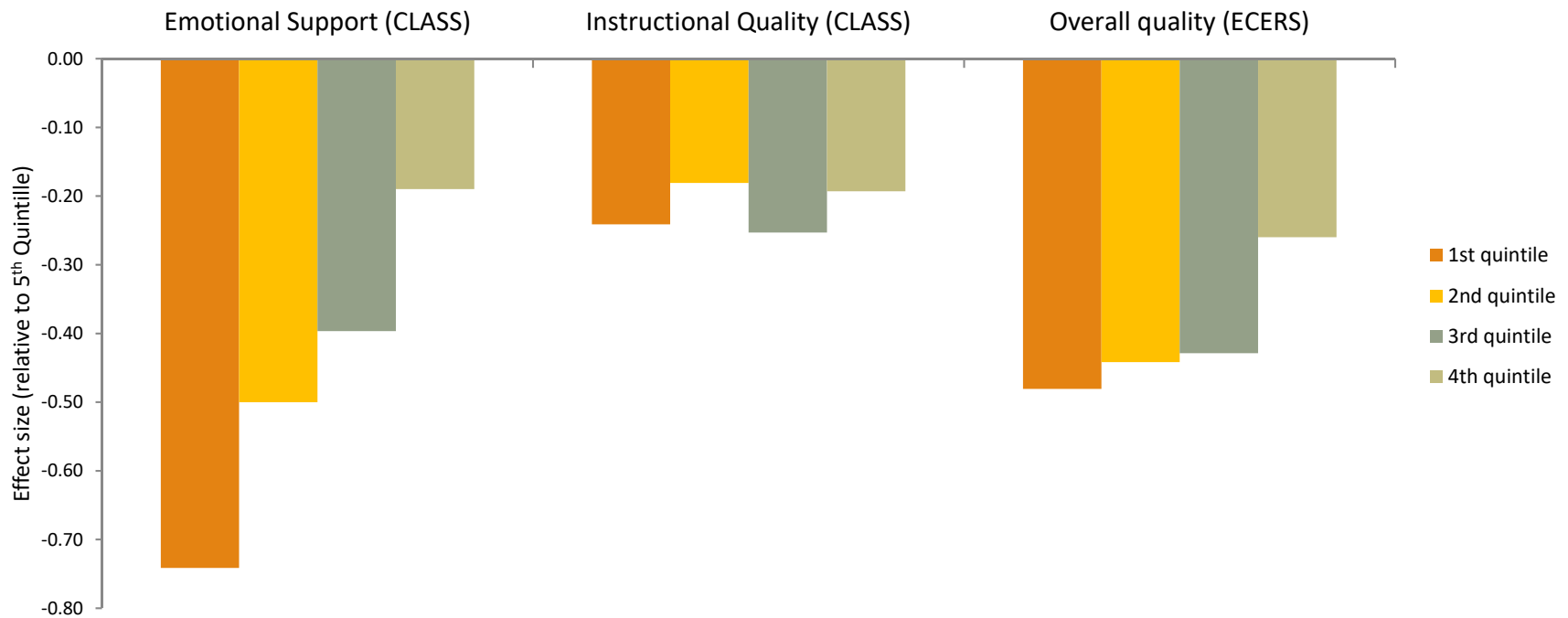
Large disparities by family income in use of early learning programs, especially for youngest children.

Rates of center-based ECE for children ages 0 to 5, by family income and child age, 2011



Source: Chaudry, Morrissey, Weiland, and Yoshikawa (2017)

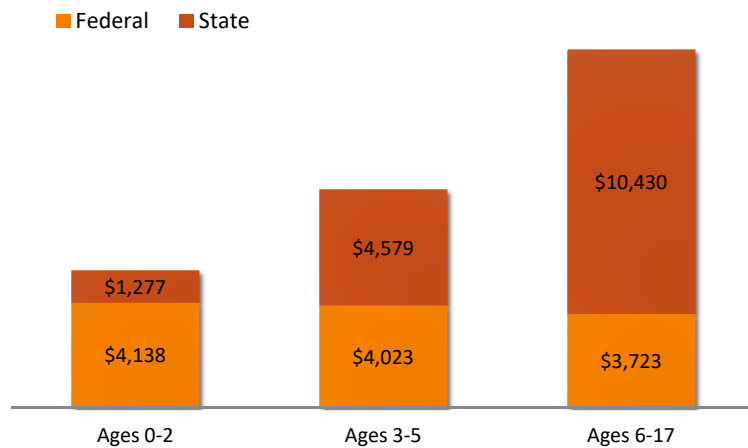
Children from low-income families experience lower quality in center-based care at age 4.



Source: Chaudry, Morrissey, Weiland, Yoshikawa (2017)

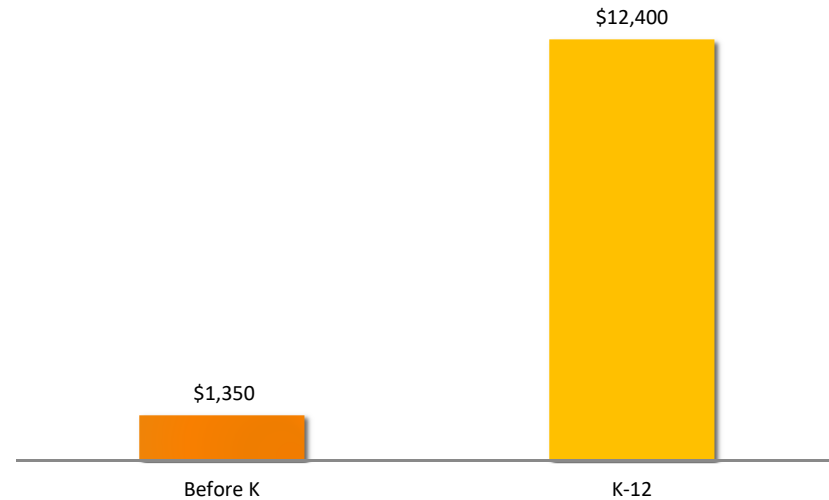
Educational investments in the early years have greatest benefit – but we do too little.

Federal and State/Local Spending on Children, by age



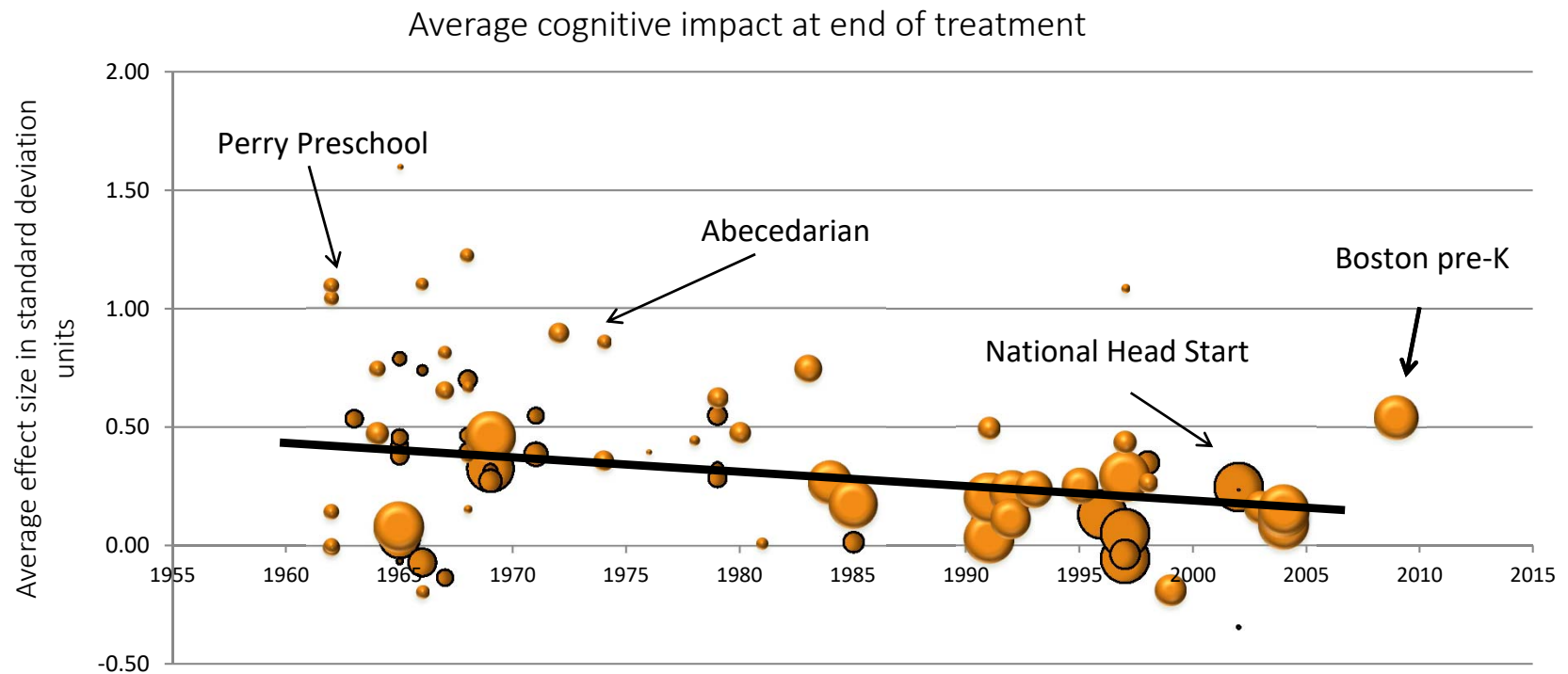
Source: Edelstein et al. 2013

Average per child annual public expenditure for education in U.S.



Source: Kena et al. 2016

Average cognitive and achievement skill impact at the end of preschool program treatment.



Source: Magnuson & Duncan, 2016, *The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*

Cradle to Kindergarten:

A new plan for early childhood that gives all children a fair shot.

- **Paid parental leave** as social insurance for children and working parents.
- Reliable **guarantee of child care assistance** for working families to assure all children can access good, stable early care and learning opportunities.
- **Universal early education** that starts at age 3.
- **Re-imagine Head Start** to begin early and provide continuous development services to the most vulnerable children until school entry.

A 10-year investment plan

Program	Existing Funding & Service Levels		Cradle to Kindergarten Funding & Service Levels		New Investments
	Funding (in billions)	Number Served (annually)	Funding (in billions)	Number Served (annually)	
Public paid parental leave	\$0.9	~330,000 (8% of newborns in US)	\$19.0	3,400,000 (85% of newborns in US)	\$19.0
Child Care Subsidies/Assurance	\$13.9	~730,000	\$30.2	2,500,000	\$16.3
Child & Dependent Care Tax Credit					
State or Local Public Preschool for 3 and 4 year-olds	\$6.2 (states)	1,050,000* (13% of 3 & 4 year olds)	\$33.0	3,000,000^ (38% of 3 & 4 year olds in US)	\$26.8
A New Head Start for Infants and Toddlers	\$9.0	960,000 (5% of birth to 5 in US)	\$17.2	1,125,000 (825,000 (7%) children under 3 & 300,000 (4%) 3s & 4s)	\$8.2
Total New Public Investments (federal and state)	\$30.0	2,600,000	\$99.4	9,300,000	\$70.3

*Of this number 450,000 children receive Head Start and/or Child Care Subsidy Funding in combination with public preschool funds

^Of this number 700,000 children would receive Head Start and/or Child Care Subsidy Funding in combination with public preschool funds