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

\[ \text{Annual Earnings} \times \text{Economic Activity} = \text{Economic Impact} \]

- **$2.5 billion** in annual earnings
- **$2.2 billion** in additional economic activity
- **$4.7 billion** in economic impact

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 approximately 67,500 people who work in a variety of 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

George’s working parents earn **$24 billion** per year supported by the availability of child care.

www.georgiavoices.org
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
- Lower likelihood of repeating a grade
- 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 $1 spent expanding early learning initiatives…

**up to $8.60** is returned in benefits to society, about half of which comes from increased earning for children when they grow up.

Sources: https://tinyurl.com/y44mgjy3

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 in 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. **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.

2. **For every $1 spent expanding early learning initiatives…**

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