



2020 National Prenatal-to-3 Research to Policy Summit

Building a State Policy Roadmap to Strengthen the Earliest Years

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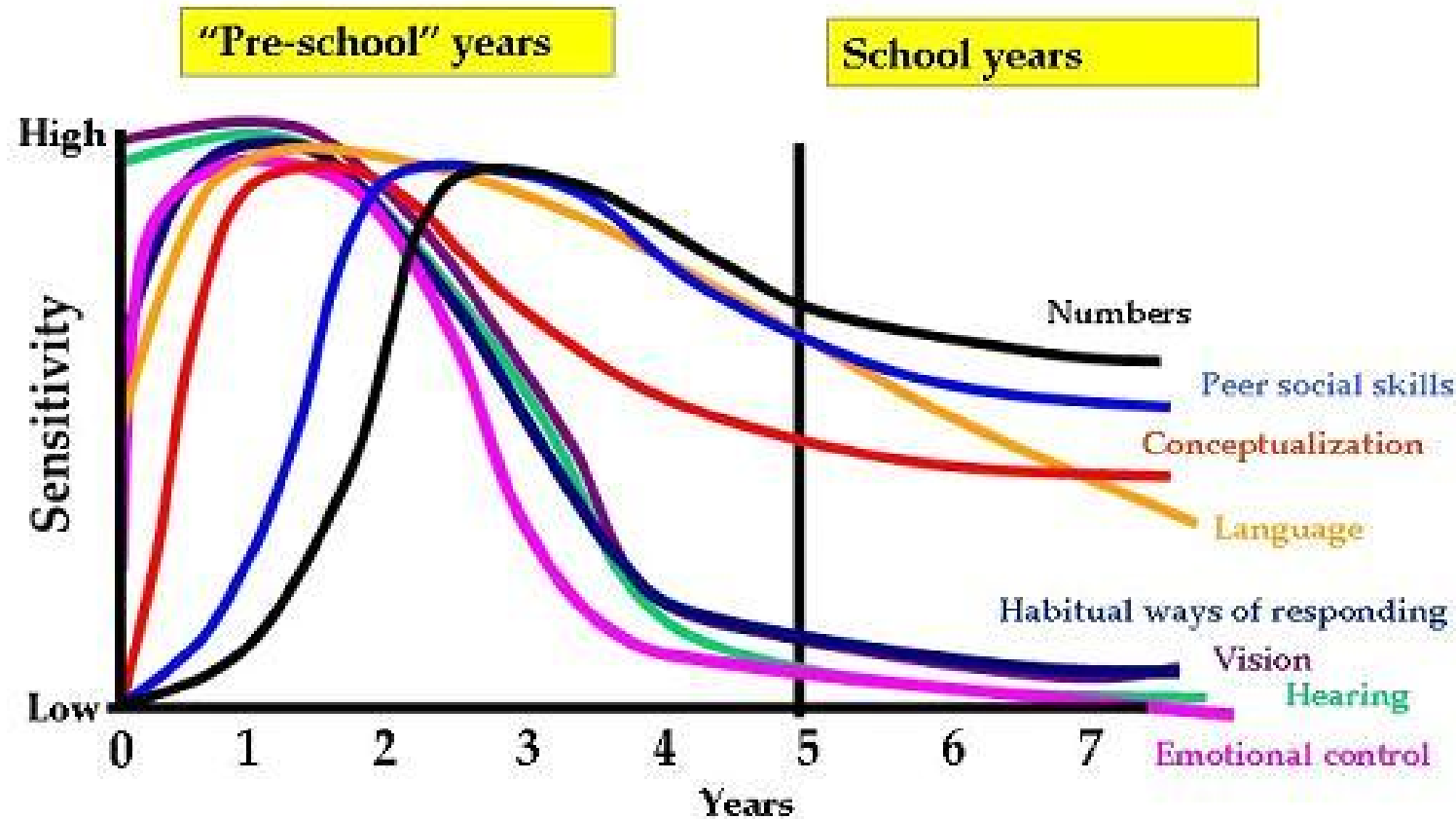
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Austin LBJ School of Public Affairs
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HighScope.org



'Sensitive Periods' in Early Brain Development



**First 1,000
days are
critical.**

Graph developed by Council for Early Child Development (ref: Nash, 1997; Early Years Study, 1999; Shonkoff, 2000.)

High quality early childhood experiences matter.

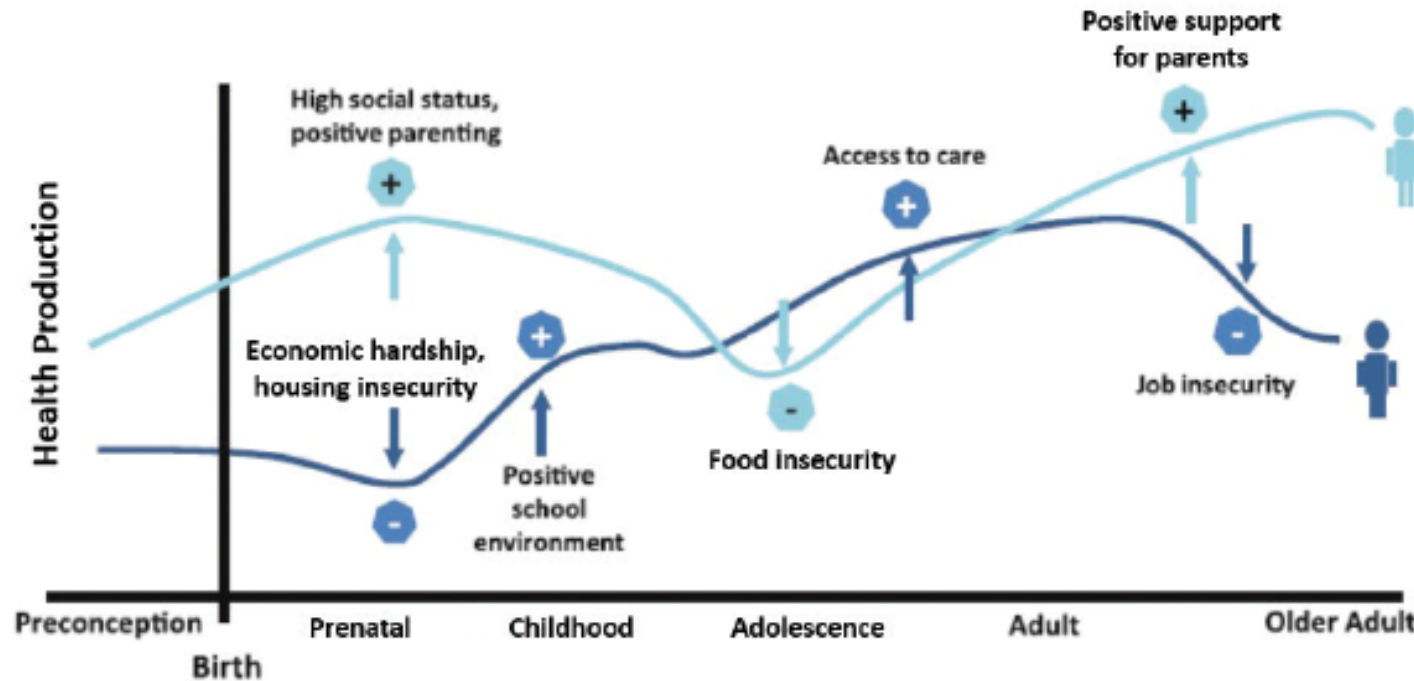
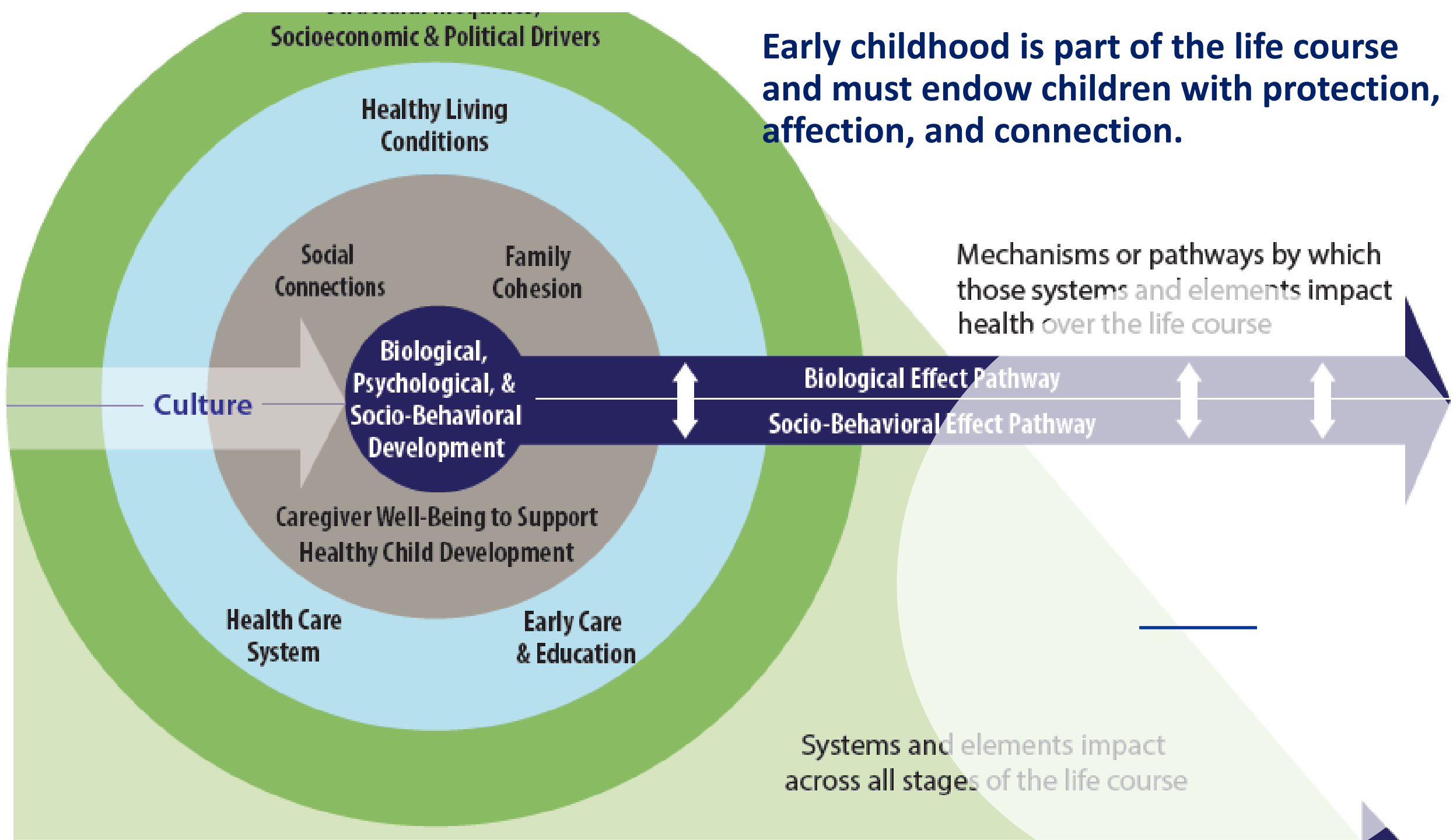


FIGURE 1-1 Variable health trajectories: Life course approach.

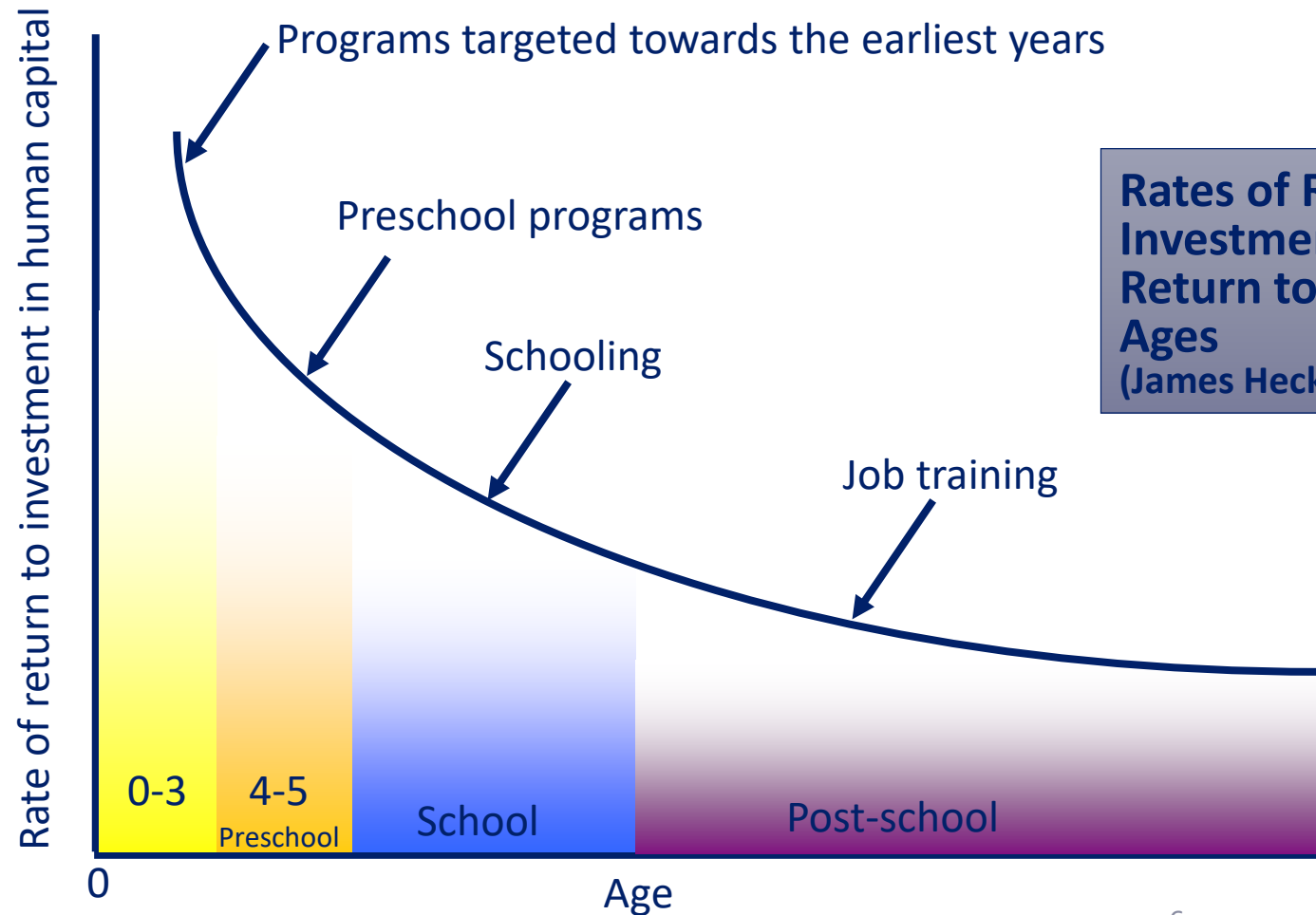
NOTE: This figure includes several examples; however, there are many other variables that impact health trajectories (see Chapter 3).

SOURCE: Adapted from Halfon et al., 2014.

**Early childhood is part of the life course
and must endow children with protection,
affection, and connection.**



High quality early childhood experiences matter for children's outcomes and wellbeing. They also matter for society.



**Rates of Return to Human Capital Investment at Different Ages:
Return to an Extra Dollar at Various
Ages**
(James Heckman, University of Chicago)

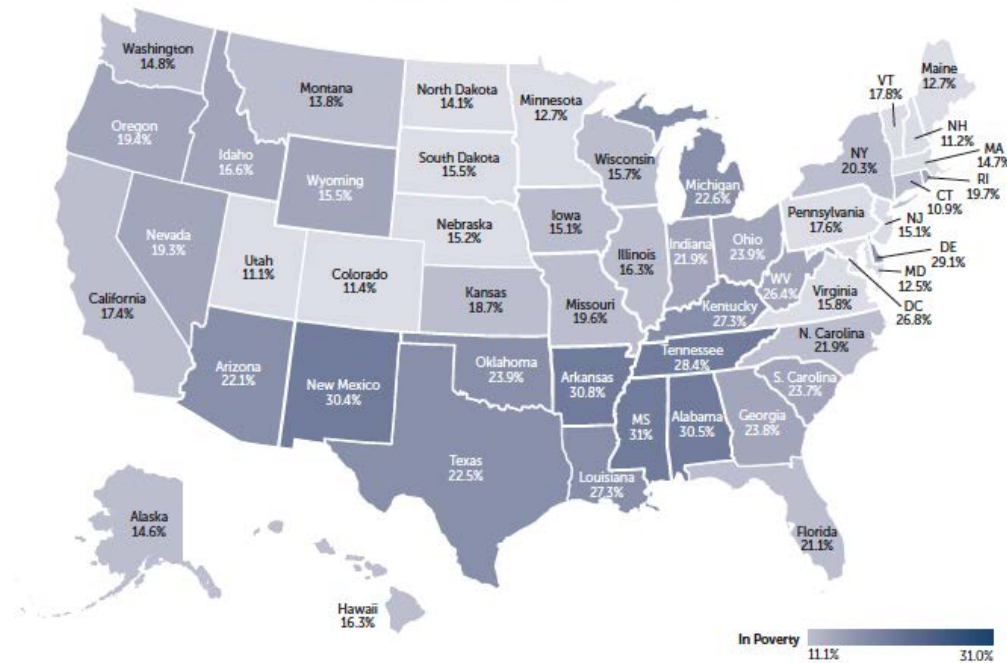
Majority of infants and toddlers in non parental care, likely to live in poverty, and less likely to receive subsidy.

•Cui, J., and Natzke, L. (2020). *Early Childhood Program Participation: 2019* (NCES 2020-075), National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC. Retrieved August 24, 2020 from <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2020075> .

•Keating, K., Cole, P., & Schaffner, M. (2020). *State of babies yearbook: 2020*. Washington, DC: ZERO TO THREE.

•National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. (2019). *Vibrant and Healthy Kids: Aligning Science, Practice, and Policy to Advance Health Equity*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/25466>.

1 IN 5 BABIES LIVES IN POVERTY



190

VIBRANT AND HEALTHY KIDS

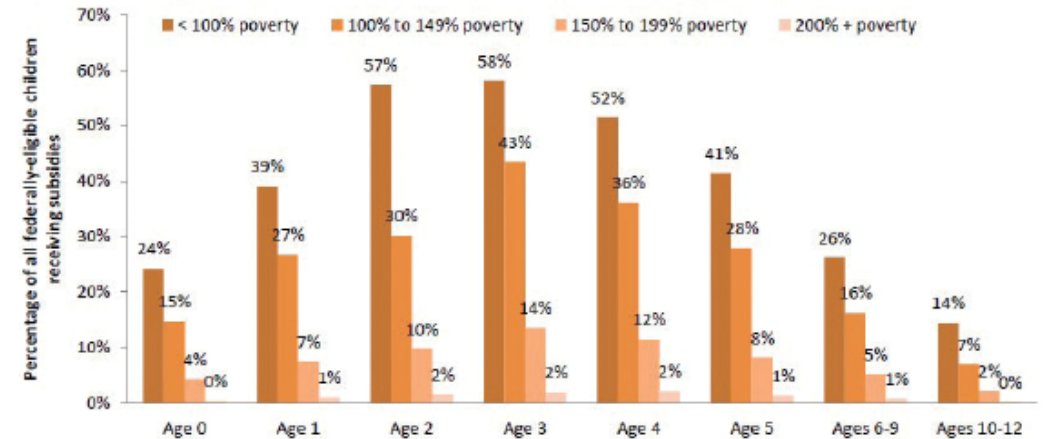


FIGURE 3-11 Percentage of federally eligible children receiving subsidies by age and income.

NOTES: Poverty figures are based on 2013 poverty thresholds published by the U.S. Census Bureau. For families with one adult and two children, 150 percent of poverty is \$28,154 (\$2,346 monthly).

SOURCE: Chien, 2017.

Unfortunately, early childhood opportunities are not early enough, equally effective, and race-centered.

- Black babies are more likely to die, be born preterm, be low birth weight, and also lose their mother during childbirth

Keating, K., Murphey, D., Daily, S., Ryberg, R., & Laurore, J. (2020). *Maternal and Child Health Inequities Emerge Even Before Birth*. Washington, DC: ZERO TO THREE

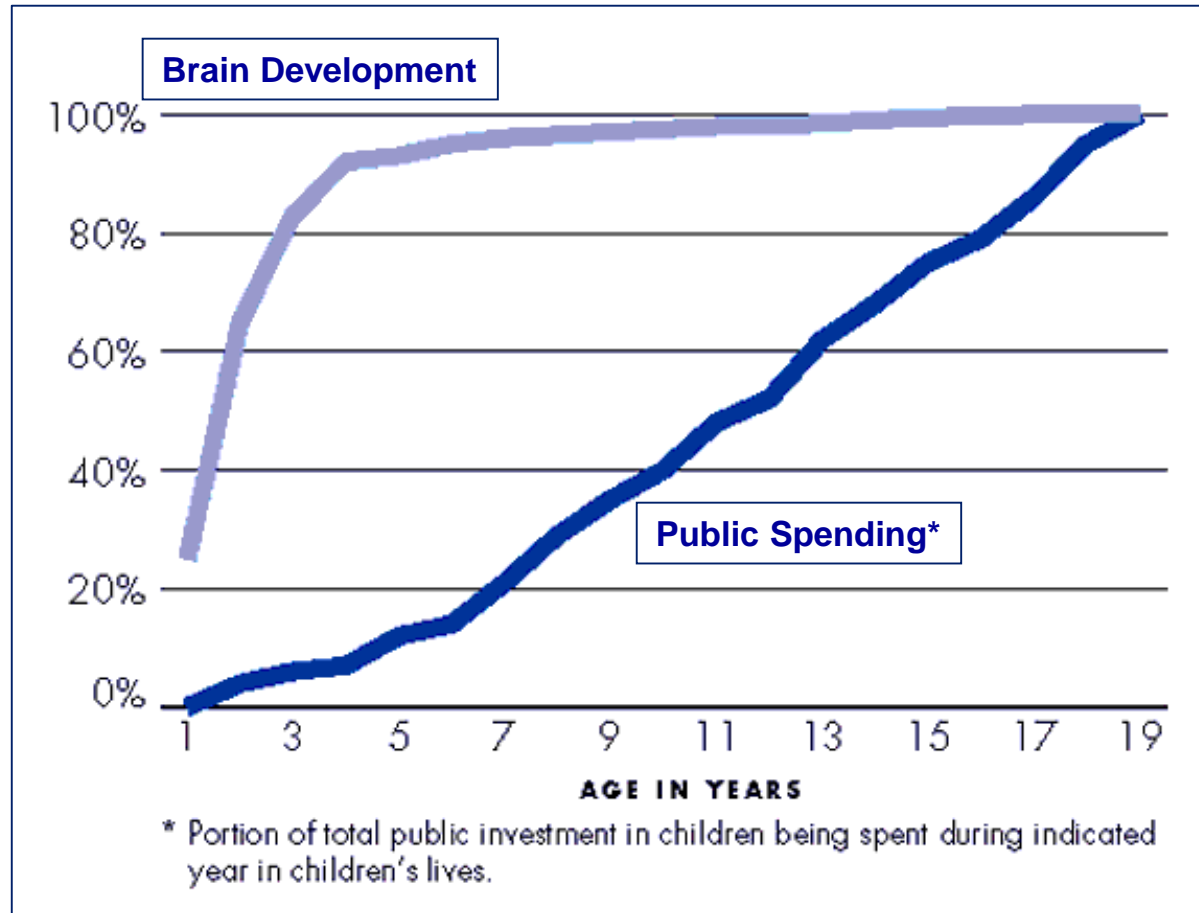
- Effect sizes for early intervention – home visiting & early childhood programs – range from negative (-.49), null to moderate effects (.69)

Karoly, L. A., Kilburn, M. R., & Cannon, J. S. (2005). *Early childhood interventions: Proven results, future promise*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corp.

Yazejian, N., Bryant, D. M., Hans, S., Horm, D., St. Clair, L., File, N., & Burchinal, M. (2017). Child and Parenting Outcomes After 1 Year of Educare. *Child Development*, 88(5), 1671-1688. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.12688>



Our limited attention to and investment on very young children and their families is in contradiction with the science.



Early childhood system must fully center families and the female and minority workforce.

- Early childhood should not about “fixing” children, but about creating stronger families and communities that will benefit children
- Almost 80% of single-female headed household are employed, so need nonparental care.

<https://www.bls.gov/opub/reports/race-and-ethnicity/2018/home.htm>

- We can’t continue to build a quality and effective early childhood system on the backs of Black women; 52% teach infants and toddlers.

Whitebook, M., McLean, C., Austin, L.J.E., & Edwards, B. (2018). *Early Childhood Workforce Index – 2018*. Berkeley, CA: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, University of California, Berkeley. Retrieved from <http://cscce.berkeley.edu/topic/early-childhood-workforce-index/2018/>.



There are many roadmaps....commonalities

- Intervene early
- Support caregivers
- Create supportive and stable early living conditions:
 - Reduce child poverty and address economic and food security,
 - Provide stable and safe housing, and
 - Eliminate exposure to environmental toxicants.
- Maximize the potential of early care and education to promote health outcomes.
- Implement initiatives across systems to support children, families, other caregivers, and communities.
- Integrate and coordinate resources across the education, social services, criminal justice, and health care systems, and make them available to translate science to action.



Strategies must be policy-embedded and anti-racist.

- Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Road Map provides information on areas of strengths and areas needing to be strengthened that focuses on what matters and racial equity
- Remind us that many early childhood strategies – childcare subsidies, home visiting, and Early Head Start – need to be converted to anti-racist policies.

Strategies and programs can help people manage the effects of these injustices, but they don't overcome or cure them. Policies, conversely, actually shift the way communities and their members react and relate to one another, empowering people to improve their own well-being in a systematic way. We can only achieve equity for all in America through collective commitment to policy intervention and a clearly articulated picture of success.

~Starsky Wilson

<https://www.governing.com/gov-institute/voices/col-social-equity-crucial-difference-policies-programs-ferguson.html>



A young girl with dark skin and short hair is smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a black and white leopard print top over a black long-sleeved shirt. She is holding a baby in her arms. The baby is also smiling and wearing an orange and grey striped shirt. The background is a light-colored wall with some texture and a dark wooden baseboard.

THANK YOU!!!

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