The Washington State Opportunity Gap

Only 1 in 5 Washington eighth-graders from low income families met the standard on the National Assessment for Educational Progress in math for 2009. 39% of all Washington eighth-graders scored at or above proficient the same year.

Benefits to Preschool Participation

Two studies have measured the long-term effects of preschool attendance. Both studies found that children who attended preschool had higher graduation rates, increased earnings, and saved taxpayers money through lower K-12 education costs. The cost-benefit ratio was 1:10 for the study with more modest findings.

36% of eligible low-income children remain unserved by state or federal preschool programs. Those 11,247 low-income children are more likely to enter school behind compared to their peers.