

BROOKINGS

QUALITY. INDEPENDENCE. IMPACT.

Wisconsin Future of the Family Commission

June 28, 2016

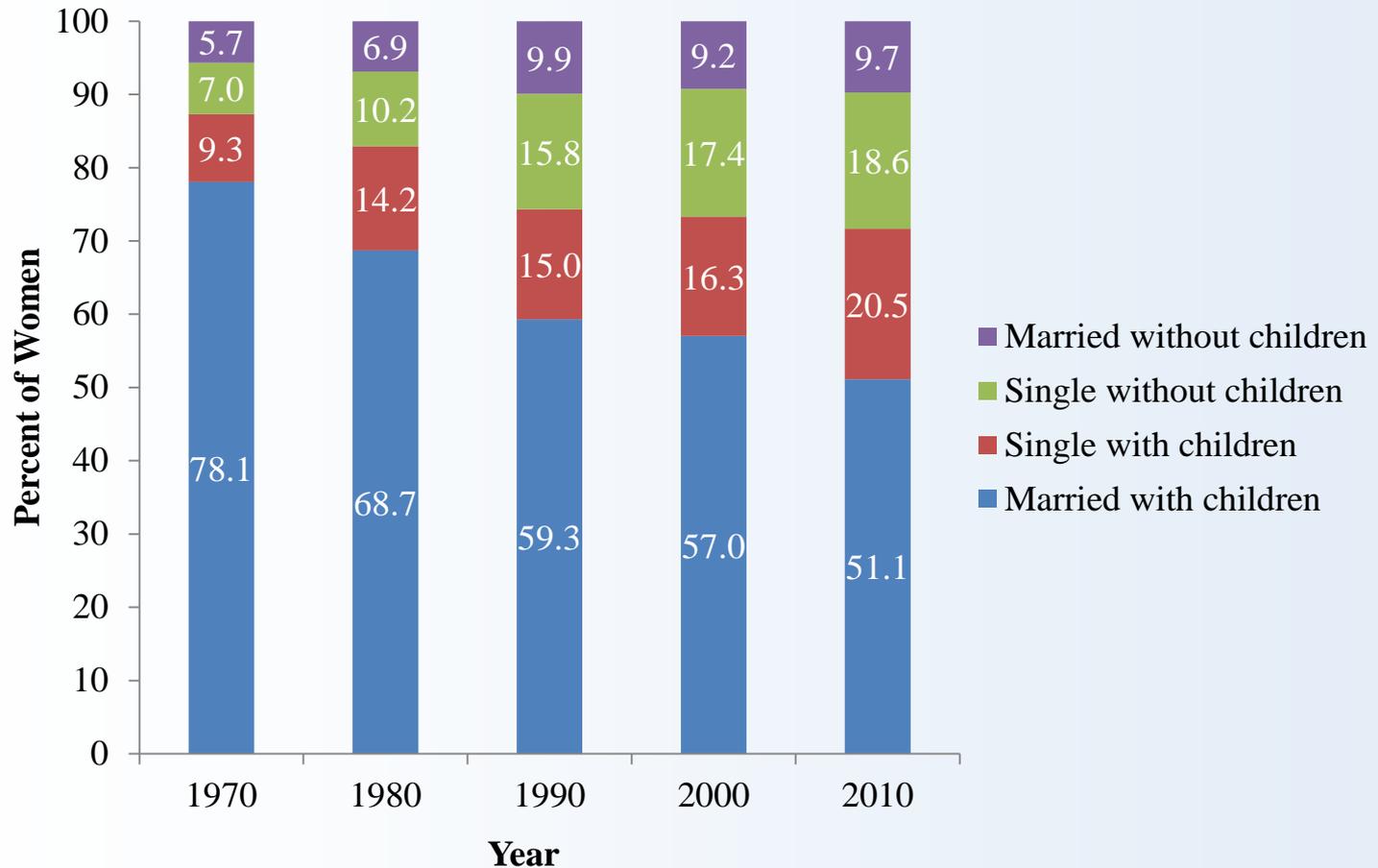
Ron Haskins

Cabot Family Chair and Co-Director, Center on Children and Families

Brookings Institution

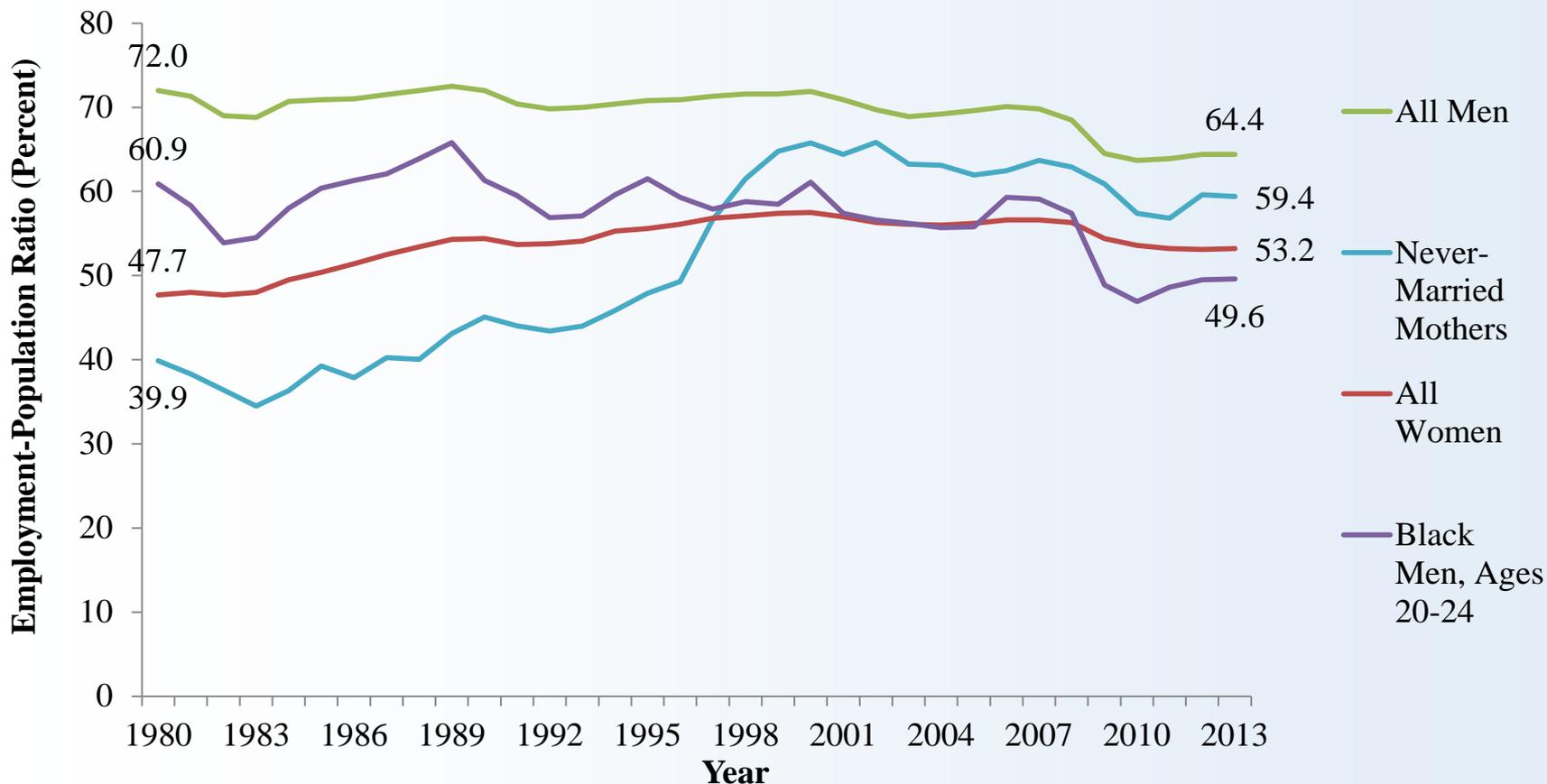
Washington, DC

Changes in Women's Family Structure at Age 35, 1970-2010



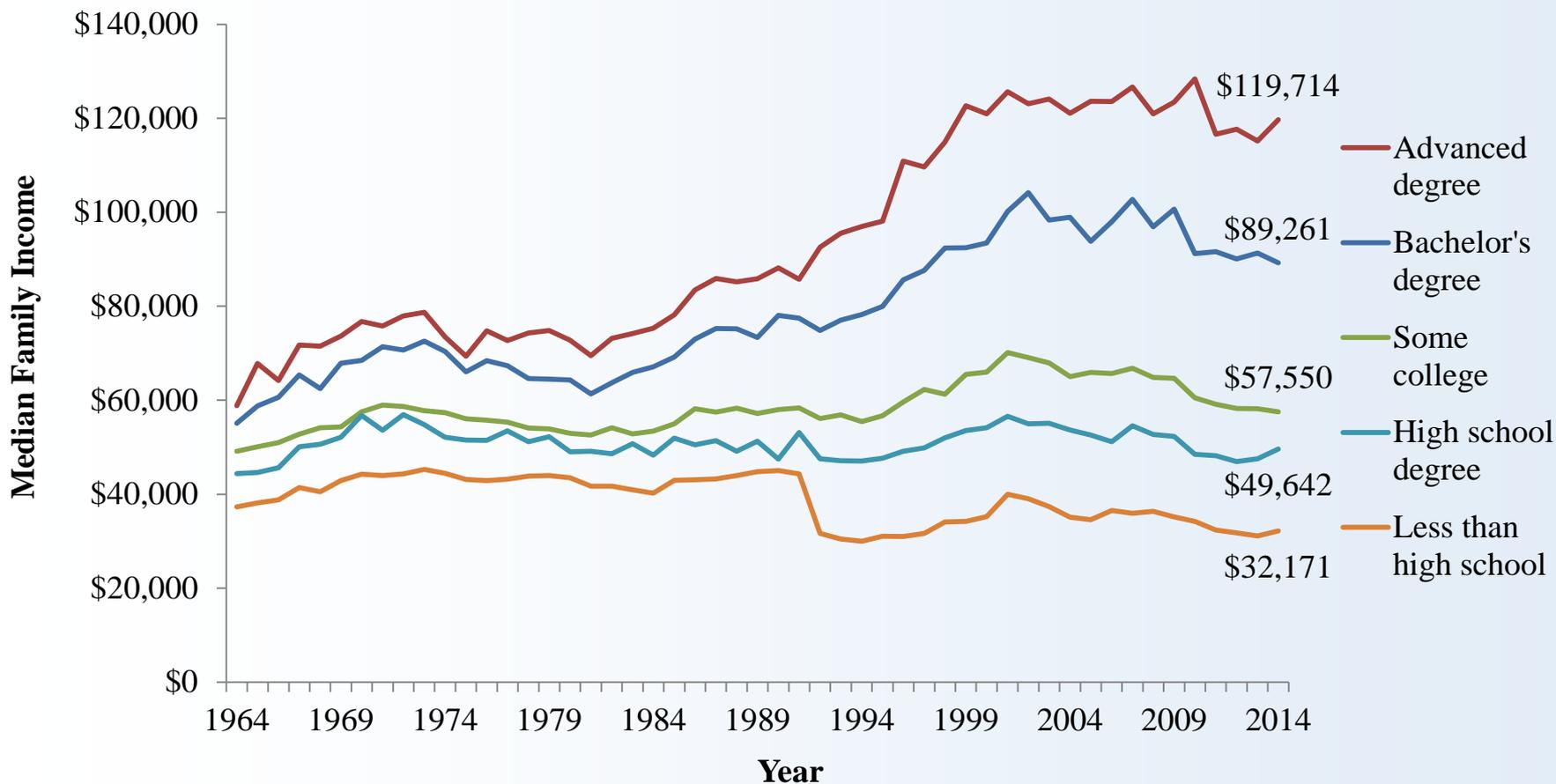
Source: Author's calculations from the decennial census (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000) and the American Community Survey (U.S. Bureau of the Census 2010)

Employment-to-Population Ratio for Selected Populations, 1980-2013



Source: Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the CPS, 1980-2013.

Median Family Income of Adults Age 30-39 by Education Level, 1964-2014



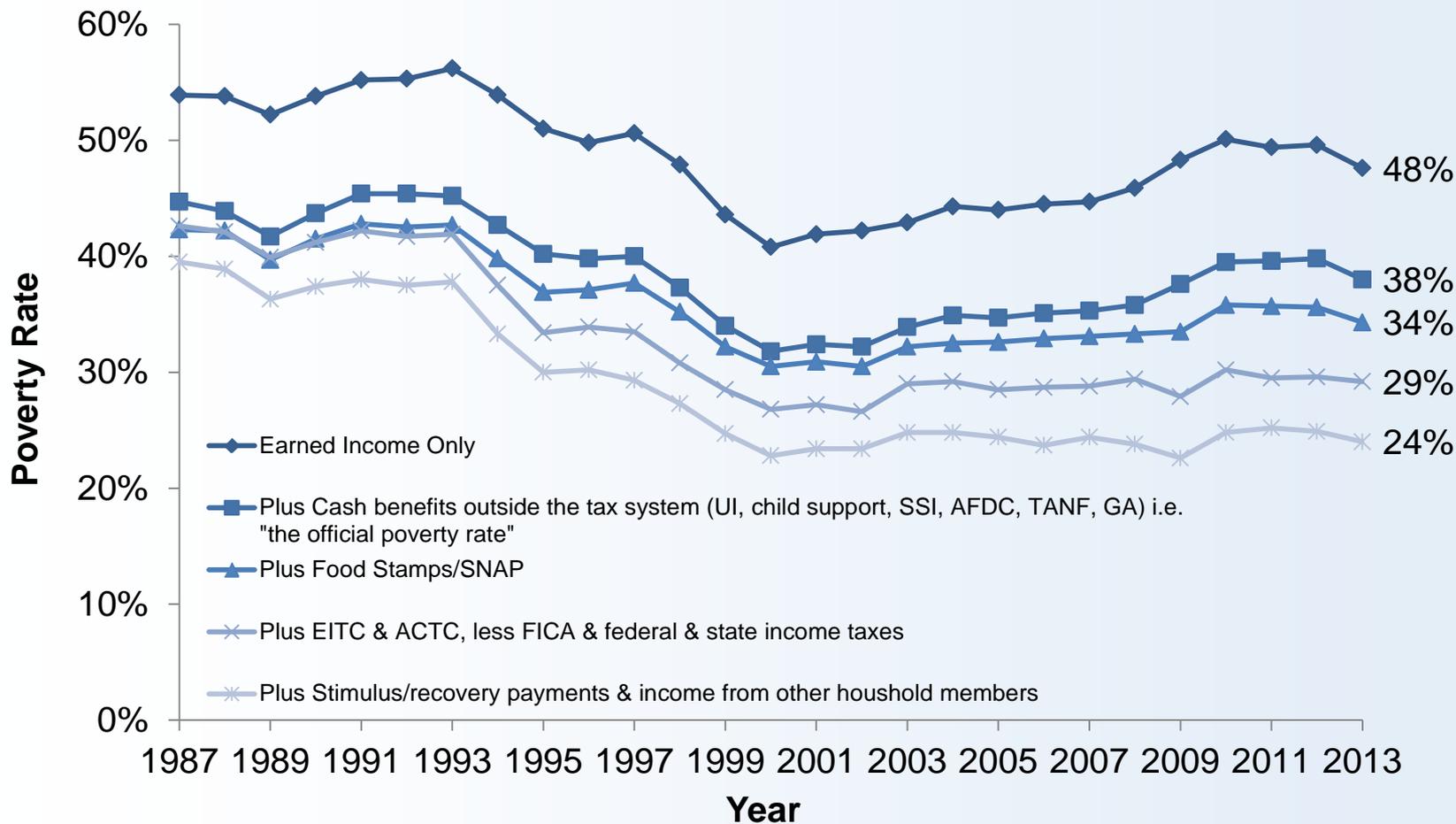
Source: Census' Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey. Inflation adjusted using PCE deflator.

Note: The CPS changed the phrasing of the educational attainment question in 1992, which accounts for that year's sudden drop among the less-than-high-school group.

Summary

Trends in family composition, employment, and education are moving in the wrong direction for reducing poverty and increasing economic mobility

Best Bet #1: The Most Successful Way to Reduce Poverty: Combine Work and Work Supports



Note: Abbreviations are as follows: Unemployment Insurance (UI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Government Assistance (GA), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Additional Child Tax Credit (ACTC), and Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA).
 Source: Thomas Gabe, Congressional Research Service, *Welfare, Work, and Poverty Status of Female-Headed Families with Children: 1987-2013*.

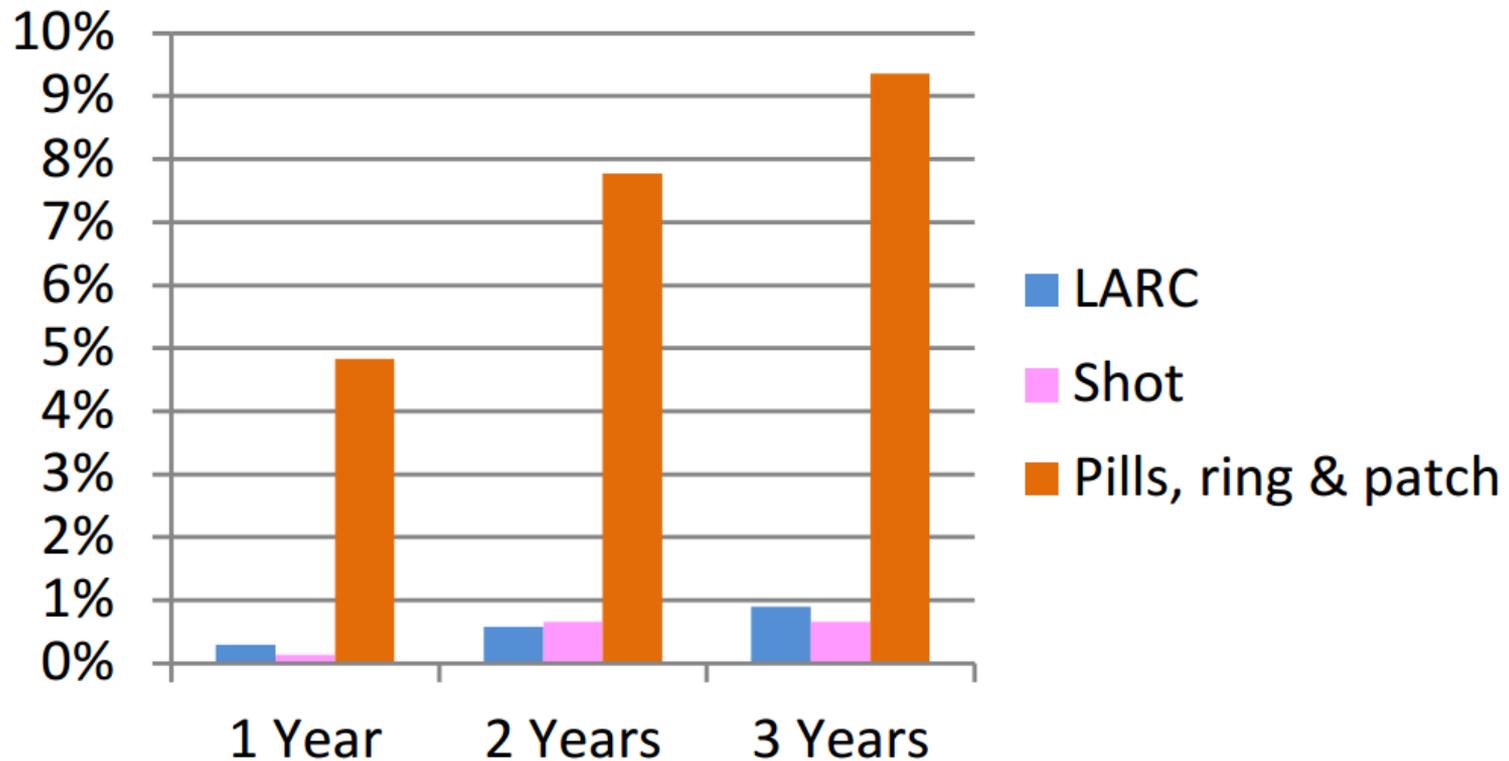
Best Bet #2: Family Stability (Birth Control)

Potential Benefits of Reducing Unplanned Pregnancies

- Reduced poverty rates
- Lower abortion rates
- Better spacing of babies
- Increased likelihood of prenatal care
- Less postpartum depression
- Reduced partner separation rates
- More education for mothers
- Cost savings for government

St Louis: The CHOICE Project

Women using LARCs or shots had lowest unintended pregnancy rates after 1, 2, and 3 years



Best Bet #3: Skilled Employment

- 4-year colleges (college prep programs)
- 2-year colleges
- Apprenticeships
- Certificates & Licenses
- Career Academies
- Goal: Prepare kids for skilled jobs available in the local economy

Best Bet #4: Early Childhood Education

- Programs:
 - Home Visiting
 - Head Start
 - State pre-K
 - Child Care
- Spending about \$25 billion per year (federal & state)
- Quality Is the Key
- State and Local Governments Have to Step Up