



The Economic Benefits from Halving the Dropout Rate

A BOOM TO BUSINESSES IN THE NATION'S LARGEST METROPOLITAN AREAS

January 2010

Summary of Findings for Metropolitan Areas

Few people realize the impact that high school dropouts have on a community's economic, social, and civic health. Business owners and residents—in particular, those without school-aged children—may not be aware that they have much at stake in the success of their local high schools. Indeed, everyone—from car dealers and realtors to bank managers and local business owners—benefits when more students graduate from high school.

The following chart summarizes the estimated economic benefits that each metropolitan area could expect to see if it were to reduce its number of Class of 2008 dropouts by half. These findings are powerful reminders that entire communities are impacted by the educational outcomes of their youth, and they underscore the notion that the best economic stimulus package is a high school diploma.

For more information about these findings, including frequently asked questions and technical notes, and to see detailed information for each metropolitan area, visit http://www.all4ed.org/publication_material/EconMSA.



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Metropolitan Area	Combined Additional Earnings (in average year)	Additional Spending and Investment (in average year)	Increased Home Sales (by midpoint of career)	Increased Auto Sales (in average year)	Additional Jobs Supported (by midpoint of career)	Increase in Gross Regional Products (by midpoint of career)	Increased State and Local Tax Revenue (in average year)	Increased Human Capital (percent continuing on to post-secondary education)
Albuquerque, NM	\$38 million	\$26 million (spending) \$9 million (investment)	\$87 million	\$3 million	300	\$46 million	\$5 million	64%
Atlanta, GA	\$160 million	\$110 million (spending) \$40 million (investment)	\$349 million	\$14 million	1,200	\$204 million	\$19 million	57%
Austin, TX	\$29 million	\$21 million (spending) \$8 million (investment)	\$47 million	\$3 million	250	\$39 million	\$3 million	69%
Baltimore, MD	\$77 million	\$51 million (spending) \$21 million (investment)	\$263 million	\$6 million	500	\$95 million	\$12 million	68%
Boston, MA	\$78 million	\$52 million (spending) \$21 million (investment)	\$279 million	\$7 million	450	\$99 million	\$9 million	69%
Charlotte, NC	\$36 million	\$25 million (spending) \$9 million (investment)	\$87 million	\$4 million	250	\$45 million	\$5 million	57%

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Chicago, IL	\$211 million	\$147 million (spending) \$57 million (investment)	\$577 million	\$18 million	1,750	\$290 million	\$25 million	64%
Cleveland, OH	\$52 million	\$36 million (spending) \$12 million (investment)	\$121 million	\$4 million	450	\$66 million	\$8 million	61%
Colorado Springs, CO	\$16 million	\$11 million (spending) \$4 million (investment)	\$54 million	\$1 million	100	\$19 million	\$2 million	80%
Columbus, OH	\$39 million	\$27 million (spending) \$10 million (investment)	\$88 million	\$3 million	350	\$49 million	\$6 million	57%
Dallas - Fort Worth - Arlington, TX	\$197 million	\$143 million (spending) \$54 million (investment)	\$304 million	\$15 million	1,700	\$277 million	\$19 million	65%
Denver, CO	\$69 million	\$47 million (spending) \$18 million (investment)	\$251 million	\$5 million	450	\$87 million	\$8 million	77%

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Detroit, MI	\$145 million	\$98 million (spending) \$36 million (investment)	\$417 million	\$11 million	1,050	\$181 million	\$24 million	59%
El Paso, TX	\$33 million	\$25 million (spending) \$7 million (investment)	\$43 million	\$3 million	300	\$42 million	\$3 million	65%
Fresno, CA	\$40 million	\$28 million (spending) \$10 million (investment)	\$117 million	\$3 million	350	\$51 million	\$6 million	64%
Honolulu, HI	\$32 million	\$21 million (spending) \$8 million (investment)	\$144 million	\$4 million	200	\$36 million	\$5 million	84%
Houston, TX	\$165 million	\$120 million (spending) \$44 million (investment)	\$257 million	\$13 million	1,150	\$218 million	\$16 million	59%
Indianapolis, IN	\$42 million	\$30 million (spending) \$11 million (investment)	\$95 million	\$3 million	350	\$55 million	\$5 million	61%

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Jacksonville, FL	\$48 million	\$36 million (spending) \$13 million (investment)	\$113 million	\$4 million	400	\$65 million	\$3 million	62%
Kansas City, MO	\$34 million	\$24 million (spending) \$8 million (investment)	\$65 million	\$3 million	300	\$43 million	\$5 million	53%
Las Vegas, NV	\$70 million	\$51 million (spending) \$20 million (investment)	\$194 million	\$7 million	450	\$91 million	\$5 million	56%
Los Angeles - Long Beach, CA	\$575 million	\$390 million (spending) \$151 million (investment)	\$1.8 billion	\$42 million	4,700	\$772 million	\$79 million	74%
Louisville, KY	\$27 million	\$19 million (spending) \$6 million (investment)	\$49 million	\$2 million	200	\$33 million	\$4 million	48%
Memphis, TN	\$41 million	\$31 million (spending) \$10 million (investment)	\$75 million	\$4 million	350	\$55 million	\$4 million	47%

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Miami, FL	\$212 million	\$157 million (spending) \$55 million (investment)	\$480 million	\$19 million	1,950	\$295 million	\$16 million	59%
Milwaukee, WI	\$41 million	\$28 million (spending) \$10 million (investment)	\$100 million	\$3 million	300	\$51 million	\$7 million	64%
Minneapolis, MN	\$86 million	\$57 million (spending) \$22 million (investment)	\$256 million	\$6 million	650	\$108 million	\$14 million	68%
Nashville, TN	\$30 million	\$22 million (spending) \$8 million (investment)	\$58 million	\$3 million	250	\$41 million	\$3 million	48%
New York, NY	\$537 million	\$343 million (spending) \$137 million (investment)	\$1.1 billion	\$44 million	3,050	\$657 million	\$92 million	66%
Oklahoma City, OK	\$24 million	\$17 million (spending) \$5 million (investment)	\$32 million	\$2 million	200	\$29 million	\$3 million	55%

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Omaha, NE	\$15 million	\$10 million (spending) \$4 million (investment)	\$27 million	\$2 million	100	\$18 million	\$2 million	57%
Philadelphia, PA	\$125 million	\$83 million (spending) \$32 million (investment)	\$294 million	\$10 million	900	\$159 million	\$18 million	65%
Phoenix – Mesa, AZ	\$71 million	\$50 million (spending) \$19 million (investment)	\$186 million	\$6 million	650	\$97 million	\$7 million	66%
Portland, OR	\$38 million	\$25 million (spending) \$9 million (investment)	\$108 million	\$4 million	300	\$47 million	\$4 million	61%
Sacramento, CA	\$54 million	\$37 million (spending) \$15 million (investment)	\$181 million	\$5 million	400	\$68 million	\$8 million	79%
San Antonio, TX	\$56 million	\$42 million (spending) \$14 million (investment)	\$82 million	\$5 million	550	\$77 million	\$5 million	61%

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San Diego, CA	\$101 million	\$68 million (spending) \$27 million (investment)	\$327 million	\$7 million	650	\$124 million	\$14 million	78%
San Francisco – Oakland, CA	\$116 million	\$76 million (spending) \$33 million (investment)	\$384 million	\$9 million	550	\$142 million	\$17 million	81%
San Jose, CA	\$38 million	\$25 million (spending) \$11 million (investment)	\$129 million	\$3 million	150	\$45 million	\$5 million	71%
Seattle, WA	\$96 million	\$68 million (spending) \$28 million (investment)	\$344 million	\$9 million	700	\$128 million	\$9 million	71%
Tucson, AZ	\$18 million	\$13 million (spending) \$4 million (investment)	\$42 million	\$2 million	150	\$23 million	\$2 million	69%
Tulsa, OK	\$18 million	\$13 million (spending) \$4 million (investment)	\$26 million	\$2 million	150	\$23 million	\$3 million	54%

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Virginia Beach, VA	\$51 million	\$35 million (spending) \$13 million (investment)	\$145 million	\$5 million	350	\$61 million	\$6 million	59%
Washington, DC	\$157 million	\$99 million (spending) \$43 million (investment)	\$275 million	\$11 million	750	\$179 million	\$22 million	70%
Wichita, KS	\$11 million	\$8 million (spending) \$3 million (investment)	\$21 million	\$1 million	100	\$14 million	\$2 million	56%
Total	\$4.1 billion	\$2.8 billion (spending) \$1.1 billion (investment)	\$10.5 billion	\$340 million	30,000	\$5.3 billion	\$536 million	65%