

The WSIPP benefit-cost analysis examines, on an apples-to-apples basis, the monetary value of programs or policies to determine whether the benefits from the program exceed its costs. WSIPP's research approach to identifying evidence-based programs and policies has three main steps. First, we determine "what works" (and what does not work) to improve outcomes using a statistical technique called meta-analysis. Second, we calculate whether the benefits of a program exceed its costs. Third, we estimate the risk of investing in a program by testing the sensitivity of our results. For more detail on our methods, see our [Technical Documentation](#).

Current estimates replace old estimates. Numbers will change over time as a result of model inputs and monetization methods.

Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) for families in the child welfare system

Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2019. Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) in child welfare populations has been successfully tested with the addition of a group motivational component to increase engagement and success of the parent. As in standard PCIT, over the course of 12 to 14 sessions, a therapist directly observes a parent and child through a one-way mirror, and provides direct coaching to the parent through a radio earphone. The focus is building the skills of the parent to more positively interact with the child and manage his or her behavior.

Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

Benefits to:

Taxpayers	\$9,517	Benefit to cost ratio	\$15.10
Participants	\$13,564	Benefits minus costs	\$24,009
Others	\$1,458	Chance the program will produce	
Indirect	\$1,173	benefits greater than the costs	95 %
Total benefits	\$25,712		
Net program cost	(\$1,703)		
Benefits minus cost	\$24,009		

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2018). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

Benefits from changes to: ¹	Benefits to:				
	Participants	Taxpayers	Others ²	Indirect ³	Total
Crime	\$0	\$523	\$1,124	\$262	\$1,909
Child abuse and neglect	\$284	\$2,239	\$0	\$1,119	\$3,642
K-12 grade repetition	\$0	\$69	\$0	\$34	\$103
K-12 special education	\$0	\$750	\$0	\$375	\$1,124
Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence	\$1	\$0	\$1	\$0	\$2
Health care associated with PTSD	\$91	\$323	\$333	\$161	\$908
Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect	\$13,179	\$5,610	\$0	\$0	\$18,789
Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect	\$9	\$4	\$0	\$73	\$86
Adjustment for deadweight cost of program	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$852)	(\$852)
Totals	\$13,564	\$9,517	\$1,458	\$1,173	\$25,712

¹In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

²"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

³"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

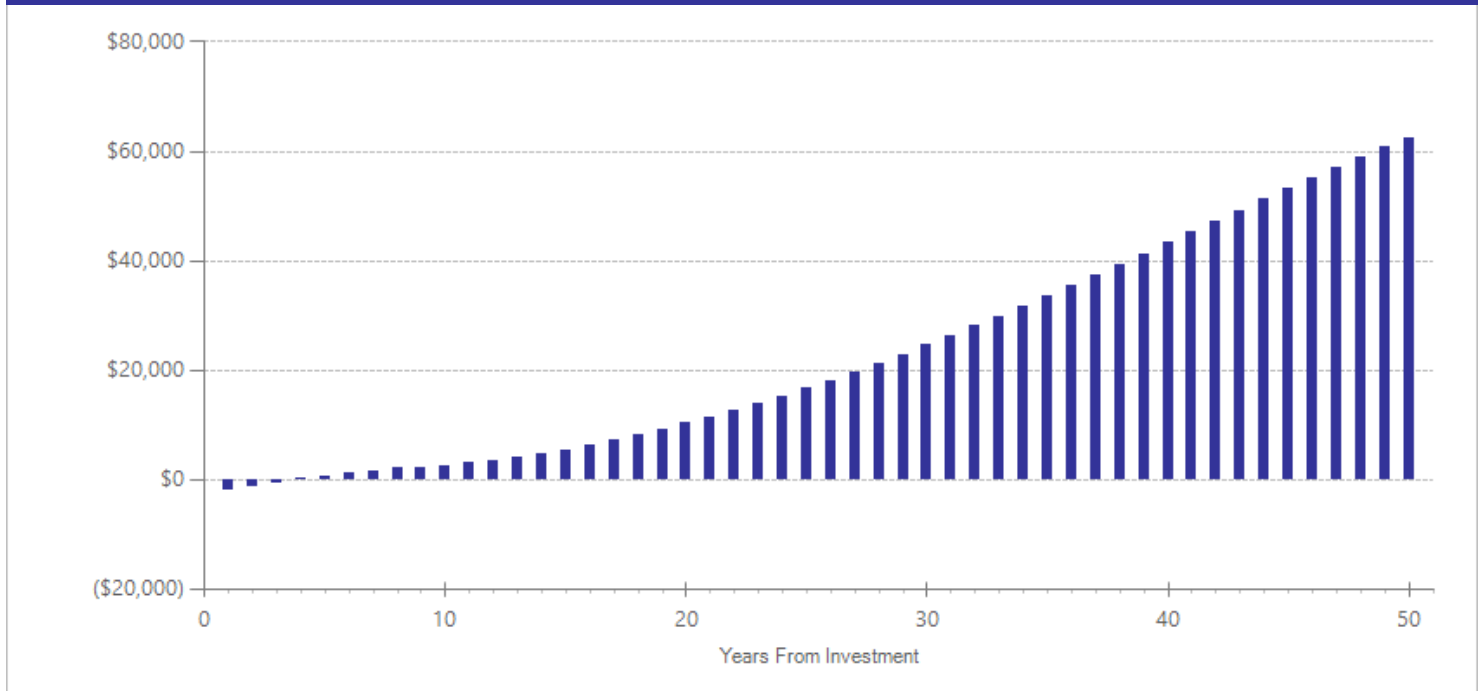
Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

	Annual cost	Year dollars	Summary	
Program costs	\$2,440	2007	Present value of net program costs (in 2018 dollars)	(\$1,703)
Comparison costs	\$1,000	2007	Cost range (+ or -)	10 %

This program is typically delivered over a three- to four-month period. Standard PCIT expenditures provided by Washington DSHS Children's Administration (average reimbursement rate per family receiving PCIT in 2007). WSIPP also estimated costs of the additional group motivational component; families receive an average of 5.2 motivational session. (Chaffin, M., Funderburk, B., Bard, D., Valle, L. A., & Gurwitch, R. (2011). A combined motivation and parent-child interaction therapy package reduces child welfare recidivism in a randomized dismantling field trial. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 79(1), 84-95.) Cost per family for the motivational component is estimated by multiplying 5.2 sessions by \$36.64, the average rate paid for group treatment in Washington in 2011.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	Treatment age	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis						Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
				First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated				
				ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age	ES	p-value
Child abuse and neglect	8	2	78	-0.718	0.237	10	-0.718	0.237	17	-0.718	0.001

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Chaffin, M., Silovsky, J.F., Funderburk, B., Valle, L.A., Brestan, E.V., Balachova, T., . . . Bonner, B.L. (2004). Parent-child interaction therapy with physically abusive parents: Efficacy for reducing future abuse reports. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 72*(3), 500-510.

Chaffin, M., Funderburk, B., Bard, D., Valle, L.A., & Gurwitch, R. (2011). A combined motivation and parent-child interaction therapy package reduces child welfare recidivism in a randomized dismantling field trial. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 79* (1),84-95.

Intensive Family Preservation Services (HOMEBUILDERS®)

Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2019. Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Intensive Family Preservation Services are short-term, home-based crisis intervention services that emphasize out-of-home placement prevention. The original program, HOMEBUILDERS®, was developed in 1974 in Federal Way, Washington. The program emphasizes contact with the family within 24 hours of the crisis, staff accessibility round the clock, small caseload sizes, service duration of four to six weeks, and provision of intensive, concrete services and counseling. These programs are intended to prevent removal of a child from his or her biological home (or to promote his or her return to that home) by improving family functioning. For this analysis, we present the effects of all such programs together.

Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

Benefits to:			
Taxpayers	\$9,866	Benefit to cost ratio	\$4.76
Participants	\$4,710	Benefits minus costs	\$13,628
Others	\$516	Chance the program will produce	
Indirect	\$2,158	benefits greater than the costs	96 %
Total benefits	\$17,250		
Net program cost	(\$3,623)		
Benefits minus cost	\$13,628		

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2018). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

Benefits from changes to: ¹	Benefits to:				
	Participants	Taxpayers	Others ²	Indirect ³	Total
Crime	\$0	\$180	\$401	\$90	\$671
Child abuse and neglect	\$101	\$249	\$0	\$125	\$475
Out-of-home placement	\$0	\$7,144	\$0	\$3,572	\$10,715
K-12 grade repetition	\$0	\$25	\$0	\$12	\$37
K-12 special education	\$0	\$209	\$0	\$104	\$313
Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence	\$0	\$0	\$1	\$0	\$1
Health care associated with PTSD	\$31	\$111	\$115	\$56	\$313
Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect	\$4,576	\$1,948	\$0	\$0	\$6,524
Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect	\$1	\$1	\$0	\$11	\$13
Adjustment for deadweight cost of program	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$1,811)	(\$1,811)
Totals	\$4,710	\$9,866	\$516	\$2,158	\$17,250

¹In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

²"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

³"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

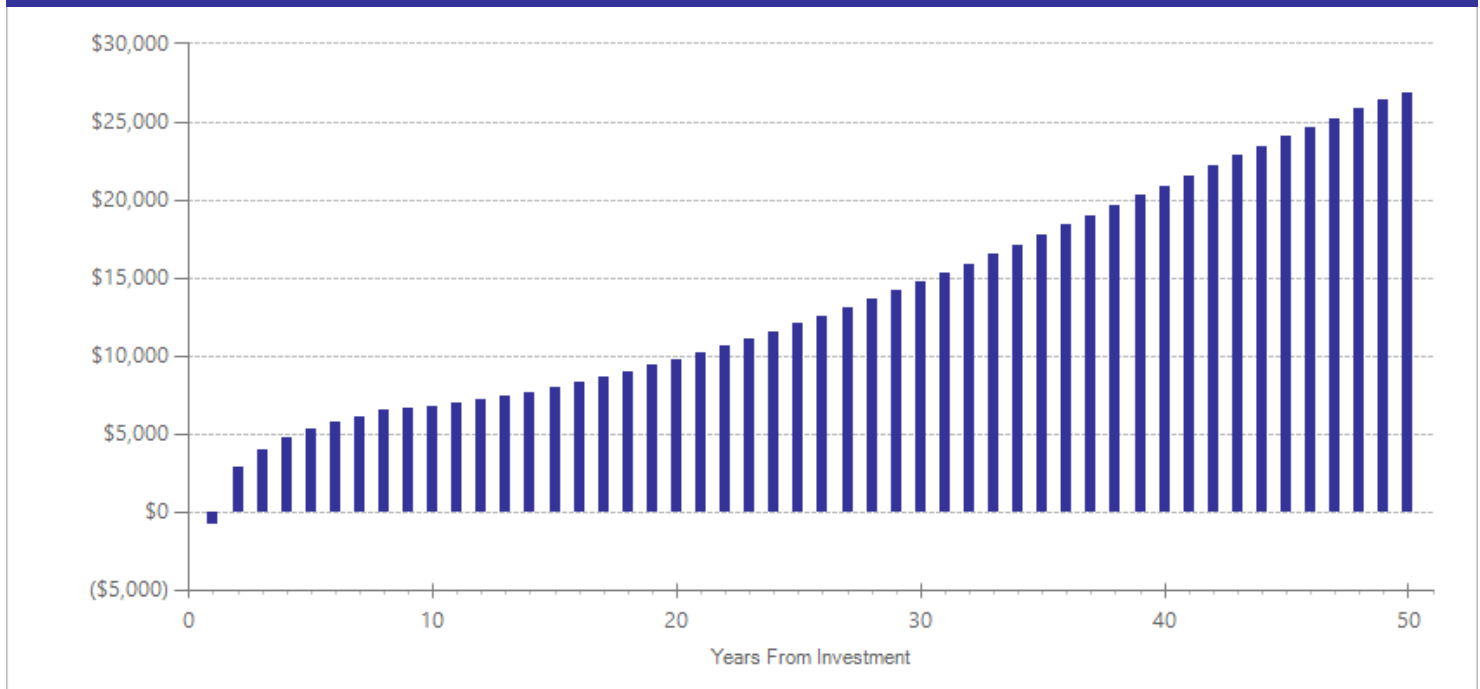
Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

	Annual cost	Year dollars	Summary	
Program costs	\$3,547	2008	Present value of net program costs (in 2018 dollars)	(\$3,623)
Comparison costs	\$392	2008	Cost range (+ or -)	10 %

This program is typically delivered over a four- to six-week period. Program costs per family provided by DSHS Children's Administration, 2008. WSIPP adjusted for multiple children per family. Comparison group costs were calculated based on social worker time.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	Treatment age	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis						Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
				First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated			ES	p-value
				ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age		
Child abuse and neglect	10	2	180	-0.231	0.114	11	-0.231	0.114	17	-0.231	0.044
Out-of-home placement	10	4	337	-0.553	0.148	11	-0.553	0.148	17	-0.553	0.001

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

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WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Blythe, B., & Jayaratne, S. (2002). *Michigan families first effectiveness study*. Retrieved December 5, 2003, from <http://www.michigan.gov/printerFriendly/0,1687,7-124--21887--,00.html>
- Feldman, L.H. (1991). *Assessing the effectiveness of family preservation services in New Jersey within an ecological context*. Trenton, NJ: New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services: Bureau of Research, Evaluation, and Quality Assurance.
- Fraser, M.W., Walton, E., Lewis, R.E., Pecora, P.J., & Walton, W.K. (1996). An experiment in family reunification: Correlates of outcomes at one-year follow-up. *Children and Youth Services Review, 18*(4-5), 335-361.
- Mitchell, C., Tovar, P., & Knitzer, J. (1989). *The Bronx Homebuilders program: An evaluation of the first 45 families*. New York: Bank Street College of Education.
- Walton, E. (1998). In-home family-focused reunification: A six-year follow-up of a successful experiment. *Social Work Research, 22*(4), 205-214.

Subsidized guardianship (Title IV-E waivers) Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2019. Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Subsidized guardianship is a permanent placement alternative that does not require termination of parental rights. A licensed foster parent may become the child's legal guardian and continue to receive foster care payments. In addition to the outcomes reported here, three evaluations demonstrated a significant positive impact on placement permanency.

Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

Benefits to:			
Taxpayers	\$1,191	Benefit to cost ratio	n/a
Participants	\$2,150	Benefits minus costs	\$9,427
Others	\$216	Chance the program will produce	
Indirect	\$2,112	benefits greater than the costs	99 %
<u>Total benefits</u>	<u>\$5,669</u>		
<u>Net program cost</u>	<u>\$3,758</u>		
Benefits minus cost	\$9,427		

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2018). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

Benefits from changes to: ¹	Benefits to:				
	Participants	Taxpayers	Others ²	Indirect ³	Total
Crime	\$0	\$67	\$159	\$34	\$260
Child abuse and neglect	\$428	\$44	\$0	\$22	\$494
Out-of-home placement	\$0	\$261	\$0	\$130	\$391
K-12 grade repetition	\$0	\$10	\$0	\$5	\$16
K-12 special education	\$0	\$28	\$0	\$14	\$41
Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health care associated with PTSD	\$15	\$55	\$56	\$27	\$154
Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect	\$1,707	\$727	\$0	\$0	\$2,433
Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Adjustment for deadweight cost of program	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,879	\$1,879
Totals	\$2,150	\$1,191	\$216	\$2,112	\$5,669

¹In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

²"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

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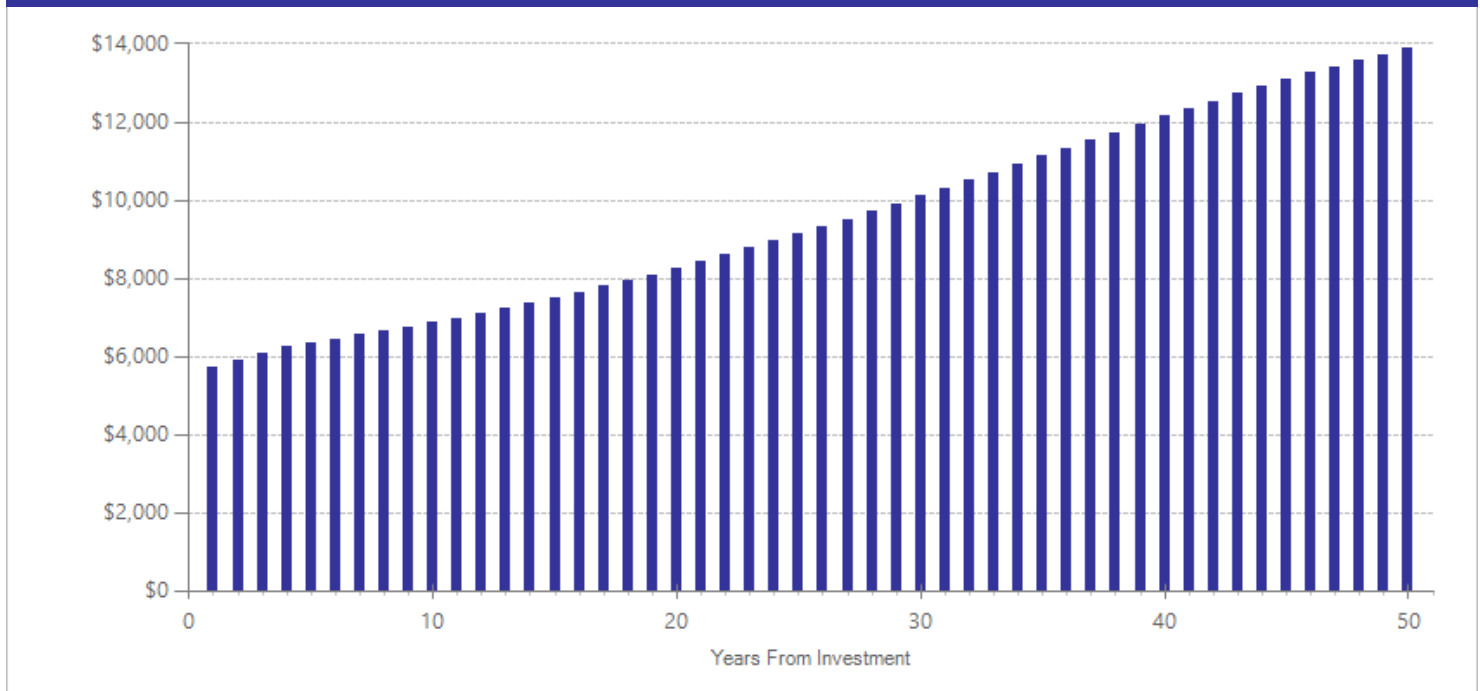
Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

	Annual cost	Year dollars	Summary	
Program costs	\$21,870	2009	Present value of net program costs (in 2018 dollars)	\$3,758
Comparison costs	\$25,140	2009	Cost range (+ or -)	10 %

This program is an alternative to long-term foster care. We computed the weighted average of comparison group and waiver group total costs from the two state evaluation reports included in our analysis (University of Iowa, 2010 and Testa et al., 2010). In this case, "annual cost" refers to the total average cost per case, regardless of the length of the case.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the "break-even" point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	Treatment age	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis						Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
				First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated			ES	p-value
				ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age		
Child abuse and neglect	14	2	1626	-0.096	0.100	14	-0.096	0.100	17	-0.096	0.335
Out-of-home placement	14	1	245	-0.434	0.119	14	-0.434	0.119	17	-0.434	0.001

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Testa, M.F., Slack, K.S., Gabel, G., Evans, M. & Cohen, L. (2010). *Wisconsin subsidized guardianship assessment and evaluation: Final evaluation report*. Rockville, MD: Westat.

University of Iowa School of Social Work. (2010). *Evaluation of Iowa's subsidized guardianship program*. Iowa City, IA: Author.

SafeCare Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2019. Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Formerly known as Project 12-Ways, SafeCare (<http://safecare.publichealth.gsu.edu/>) is a manualized parent-training curriculum for parents who are at-risk or have been reported for child maltreatment. Trained professionals work with at-risk families in their home environments to improve parents' skills in several domains, such as planning and implementing activities with their children, responding appropriately to child behaviors, improving home safety, and addressing health and safety issues. SafeCare is generally provided in weekly home visits lasting from one to two hours. The program typically lasts 18-20 weeks for each family.

Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

Benefits to:			
Taxpayers	\$1,533	Benefit to cost ratio	\$20.80
Participants	\$1,983	Benefits minus costs	\$3,804
Others	\$207	Chance the program will produce	
Indirect	\$273	benefits greater than the costs	93 %
<u>Total benefits</u>	<u>\$3,996</u>		
<u>Net program cost</u>	<u>(\$192)</u>		
Benefits minus cost	\$3,804		

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2018). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

Benefits from changes to: ¹	Benefits to:				
	Participants	Taxpayers	Others ²	Indirect ³	Total
Crime	\$0	\$78	\$157	\$39	\$274
Child abuse and neglect	\$48	\$405	\$0	\$203	\$656
K-12 grade repetition	\$0	\$10	\$0	\$5	\$14
K-12 special education	\$0	\$175	\$0	\$88	\$263
Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health care associated with PTSD	\$13	\$48	\$49	\$24	\$134
Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect	\$1,919	\$817	\$0	\$0	\$2,737
Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect	\$2	\$1	\$0	\$12	\$14
Adjustment for deadweight cost of program	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$96)	(\$96)
Totals	\$1,983	\$1,533	\$207	\$273	\$3,996

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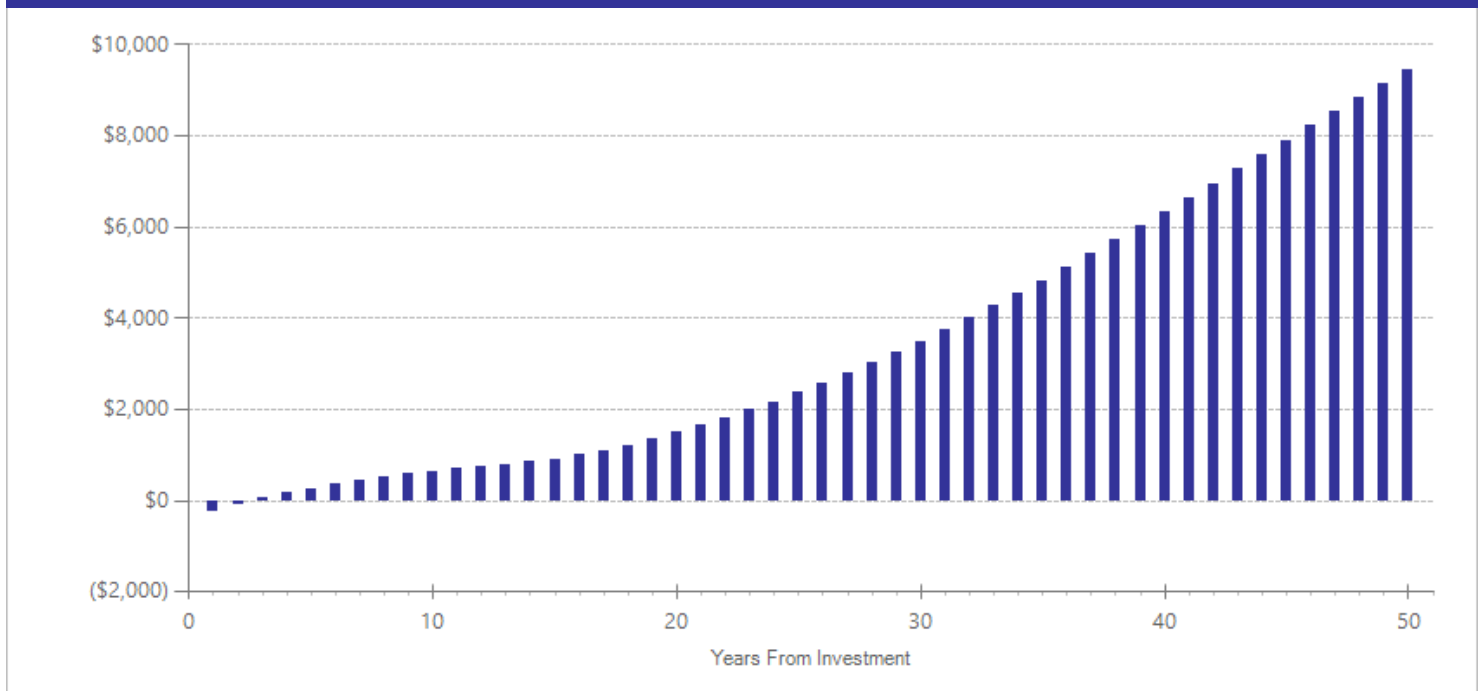
Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

	Annual cost	Year dollars	Summary	
Program costs	\$1,950	2010	Present value of net program costs (in 2018 dollars)	(\$192)
Comparison costs	\$1,780	2010	Cost range (+ or -)	25 %

This program is typically delivered over an 18 to 20 week period. Costs for SafeCare provided by Washington DSHS, March 2012. Based on costs for 18 home visits per family, including supervision, coaching, and travel time, plus a \$60 per-family cost for services. In the evaluation of SafeCare described here, the results achieved by the intervention were achieved against a comparison group who received an equal number of home visits. However, the comparison group did not receive the manualized SafeCare curriculum, SafeCare health kits and handouts, or fidelity monitoring for the home visitors. Costs for the comparison group were computed by estimating a cost of \$100 for each family for these three components and subtracting that from the SafeCare cost.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	Treatment age	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis						Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
				First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated			ES	p-value
				ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age		
Child abuse and neglect	5	1	1079	-0.113	0.058	7	-0.113	0.058	17	-0.113	0.051

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Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Chaffin, M., Hecht, D., Bard, D., Silovsky, J. F., & Beasley, W. H. (2012). A statewide trial of the safe care home-based services model with parents in child protective services. *Pediatrics*, *129*(3) 509-515.

Alternative Response Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2019. Literature review updated November 2018.

Program Description: Alternative Response (also called Family Assessment Response or Differential Response) is a system of responding to referrals to Child Protective Services that is an alternative to a traditional investigation. If there are no imminent concerns about a child's safety, the Alternative Response method includes a family assessment, with the goal of engaging a family to determine strengths and needs and plan for the future, without requiring a determination that maltreatment has occurred or that the child is at risk of maltreatment. This is perceived by some as less intrusive and less confrontational than a traditional investigation.

Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

Benefits to:			
Taxpayers	\$583	Benefit to cost ratio	\$6.80
Participants	\$1,047	Benefits minus costs	\$1,465
Others	\$98	Chance the program will produce	
Indirect	(\$11)	benefits greater than the costs	82 %
<u>Total benefits</u>	<u>\$1,717</u>		
<u>Net program cost</u>	<u>(\$252)</u>		
Benefits minus cost	\$1,465		

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2018). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

Benefits from changes to: ¹	Benefits to:				
	Participants	Taxpayers	Others ²	Indirect ³	Total
Crime	\$0	\$32	\$70	\$16	\$118
Child abuse and neglect	\$207	\$21	\$0	\$10	\$238
Out-of-home placement	\$0	\$92	\$0	\$46	\$139
K-12 grade repetition	\$0	\$5	\$0	\$2	\$7
K-12 special education	\$0	\$51	\$0	\$26	\$77
Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health care associated with PTSD	\$8	\$27	\$28	\$14	\$77
Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect	\$833	\$354	\$0	\$0	\$1,187
Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1	\$1
Adjustment for deadweight cost of program	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$126)	(\$126)
Totals	\$1,047	\$583	\$98	(\$11)	\$1,717

¹In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

²"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

³"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

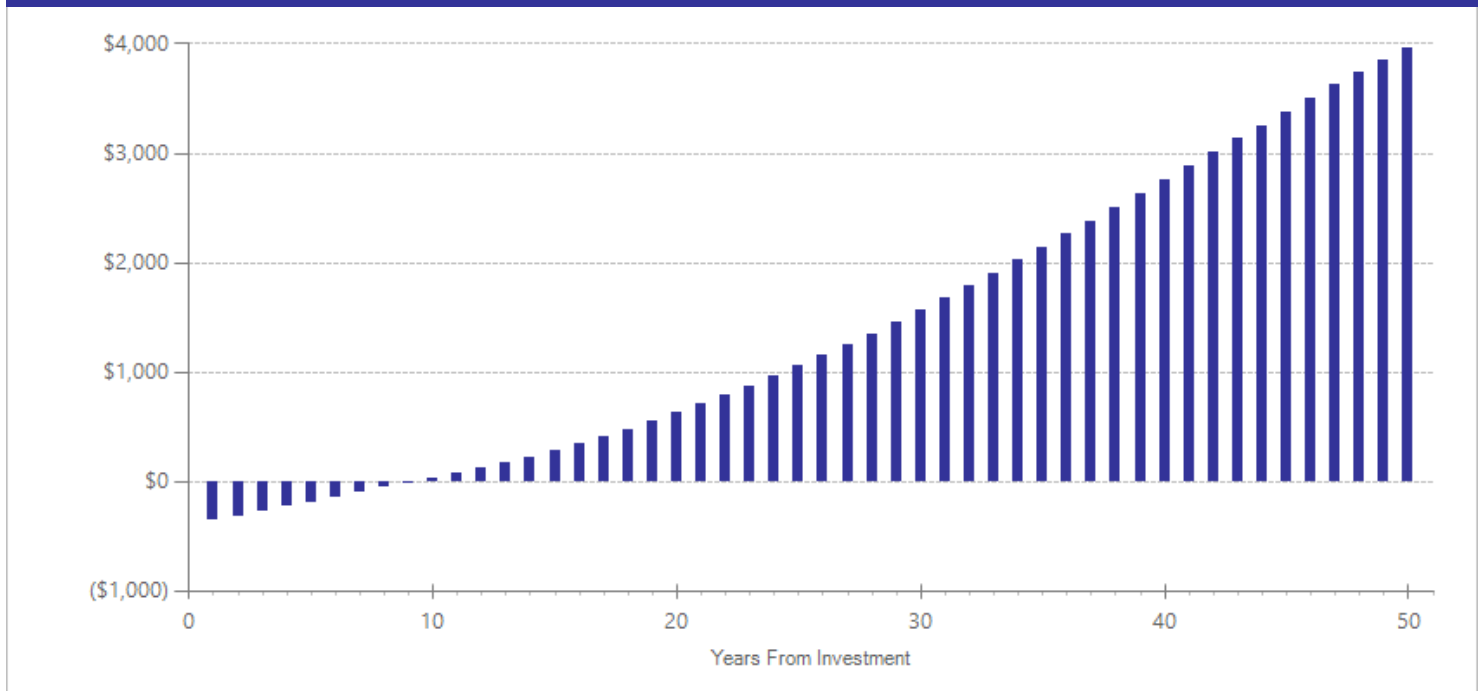
Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

	Annual cost	Year dollars	Summary	
Program costs	\$229	2011	Present value of net program costs (in 2018 dollars)	(\$252)
Comparison costs	\$0	2011	Cost range (+ or -)	10 %

This program is delivered as an alternative to traditional child welfare investigations. We used costs for initial investigation or assessment reported in evaluations of Alternative Response in four states: Colorado, Illinois, Ohio, and Minnesota. The program cost reported here is the caseload-weighted average additional cost for alternative response relative to investigation response.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	Treatment age	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis						Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
				First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated			ES	p-value
				ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age		
Child abuse and neglect	8	9	22233	-0.030	0.027	8	-0.030	0.027	17	-0.030	0.145
Out-of-home placement	8	7	20943	-0.146	0.048	8	-0.146	0.048	17	-0.146	0.788

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

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Flexible funding (Title IV-E waivers)

Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2019. Literature review updated April 2012.

Program Description: The flexible funding allowed by states obtaining Title IV-E waivers is designed to allow states to reallocate federal dollars normally used for foster care to other types of child welfare services, such as prevention or treatment.

Federal funds for foster care are "categorical." That is, as foster care caseloads rise or fall, the federal funds change in proportion. Thus, if states reduce the number of children in foster care, the federal support is reduced. With Title IV-E waivers, if states reduce foster care caseloads they may reallocate saved foster care dollars to other types of child welfare services, such as prevention or treatment services.

Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

Benefits to:			
Taxpayers	\$441	Benefit to cost ratio	n/a
Participants	\$817	Benefits minus costs	\$1,417
Others	\$77	Chance the program will produce	
Indirect	\$82	benefits greater than the costs	89 %
<u>Total benefits</u>	<u>\$1,417</u>		
<u>Net program cost</u>	<u>\$0</u>		
Benefits minus cost	\$1,417		

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2018). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

Benefits from changes to: ¹	Benefits to:				
	Participants	Taxpayers	Others ²	Indirect ³	Total
Crime	\$0	\$25	\$55	\$13	\$93
Child abuse and neglect	\$159	\$16	\$0	\$8	\$183
Out-of-home placement	\$0	\$59	\$0	\$30	\$89
K-12 grade repetition	\$0	\$4	\$0	\$2	\$6
K-12 special education	\$0	\$38	\$0	\$19	\$57
Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health care associated with PTSD	\$6	\$21	\$22	\$11	\$60
Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect	\$652	\$277	\$0	\$0	\$929
Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Totals	\$817	\$441	\$77	\$82	\$1,417

¹In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

²"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

³"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

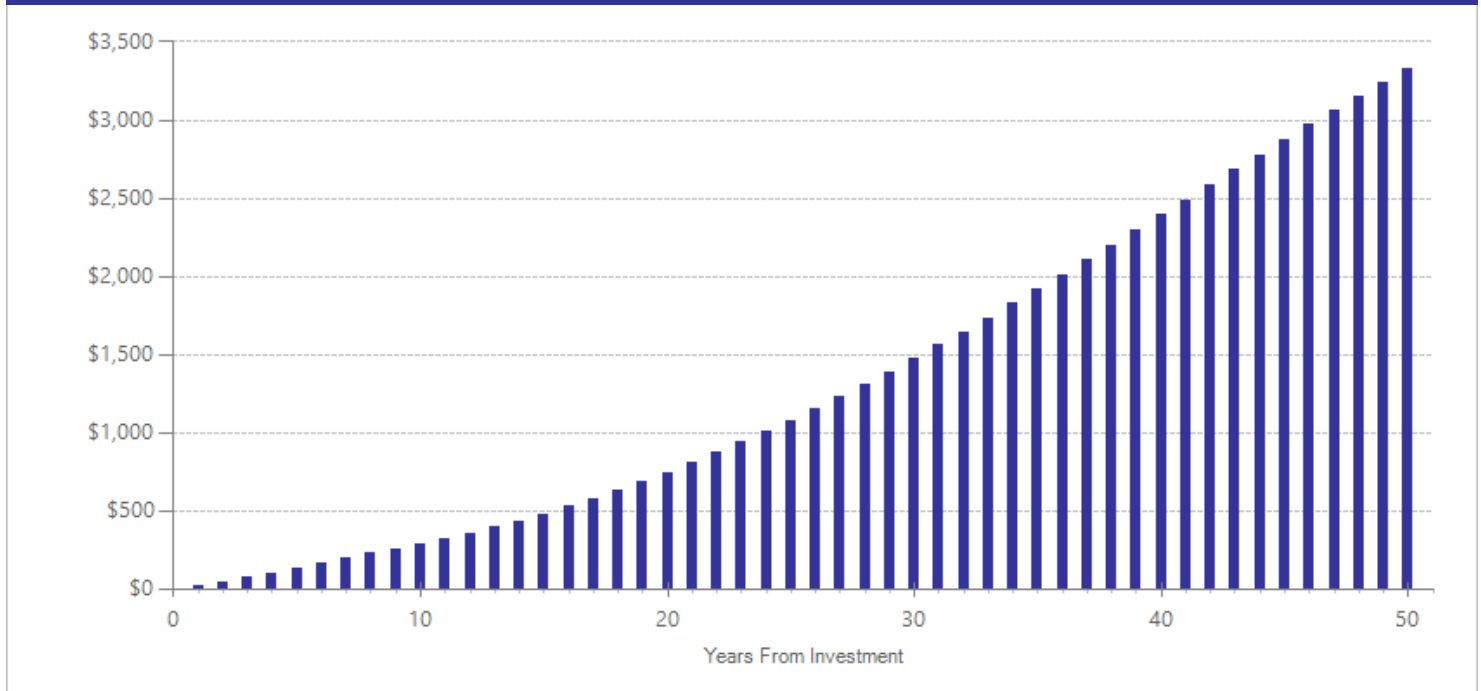
Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

	Annual cost	Year dollars	Summary	
Program costs	\$0	2011	Present value of net program costs (in 2018 dollars)	\$0
Comparison costs	\$0	2011	Cost range (+ or -)	10 %

This waiver strategy allows states to reallocate funds from foster care to other kinds of services. One state evaluation reported that children on the waiver cost more than comparison children, one evaluation reported waiver children cost less than comparison children. In nearly all evaluations, the waiver was reported as "cost-neutral", which was the aim of the waiver: to be able to re-allocate dollars normally spent on foster care to other services. Therefore, we have taken a cautious approach and estimated that the cost of this program is zero relative to business-as-usual.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the "break-even" point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	Treatment age	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis						Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
				First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated				
				ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age	ES	p-value
Child abuse and neglect	8	3	29252	-0.040	0.032	8	-0.040	0.032	17	-0.040	0.221
Out-of-home placement	8	5	99344	-0.090	0.045	8	-0.090	0.045	17	-0.090	0.045

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

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Promoting First Relationships Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2019. Literature review updated November 2018.

Program Description: Promoting First Relationships is a 10-week home visiting program for toddlers and their caregivers who are experiencing adversity. In the studies included here, children were either dependents of the state or alleged victims of child maltreatment. The program aims to strengthen the relationship between parent and child, thereby increasing the child's sense of safety and security. Home visitor therapists focus on increasing sensitive parenting behaviors using consultation and video feedback to observe and support child-caregiver interactions. In the studies used in this analysis, participating families received an average of 9.5 visits.

Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

Benefits to:			
Taxpayers	\$753	Benefit to cost ratio	\$0.57
Participants	\$319	Benefits minus costs	(\$582)
Others	\$31	Chance the program will produce	
Indirect	(\$326)	benefits greater than the costs	47 %
<u>Total benefits</u>	<u>\$777</u>		
<u>Net program cost</u>	<u>(\$1,359)</u>		
Benefits minus cost	(\$582)		

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2018). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

Benefits from changes to: ¹	Benefits to:				
	Participants	Taxpayers	Others ²	Indirect ³	Total
Crime	\$0	\$13	\$23	\$6	\$42
Child abuse and neglect	\$10	\$25	\$0	\$13	\$48
Out-of-home placement	\$0	\$542	\$0	\$271	\$814
K-12 grade repetition	\$0	\$1	\$0	\$1	\$2
K-12 special education	\$0	\$33	\$0	\$17	\$50
Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health care associated with PTSD	\$2	\$8	\$8	\$4	\$21
Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect	\$302	\$128	\$0	\$0	\$430
Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect	\$5	\$2	\$0	\$42	\$49
Adjustment for deadweight cost of program	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$679)	(\$679)
Totals	\$319	\$753	\$31	(\$326)	\$777

¹In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

²"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

³"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

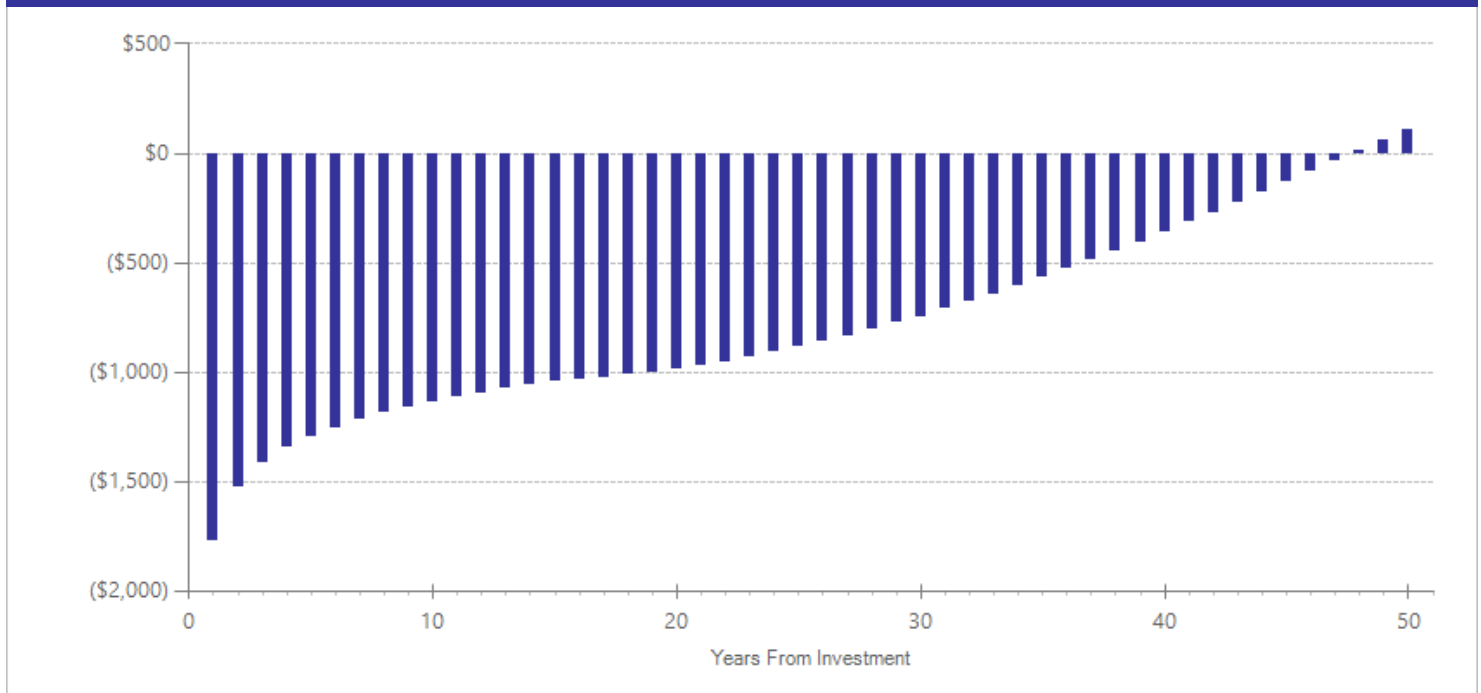
Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

	Annual cost	Year dollars	Summary	
Program costs	\$1,331	2017	Present value of net program costs (in 2018 dollars)	(\$1,359)
Comparison costs	\$0	2017	Cost range (+ or -)	15 %

The per participant cost of the program is based on the average number of sessions per family in the included studies (9.5). We apply the reimbursement rate paid by the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (\$138 per session, per fee schedule for Promoting First Relationships, <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/PFR-fee.pdf>) and add \$20 per case for fidelity monitoring.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	Treatment age	Primary or secondary participant	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis						Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
					First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated			ES	p-value
					ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age		
Child abuse and neglect	1	Primary	1	124	-0.021	0.337	1	-0.021	0.337	17	-0.058	0.865
Out-of-home placement	1	Primary	1	124	-0.124	0.341	1	-0.124	0.341	17	-0.345	0.316
Permanent placement [^]	1	Primary	1	105	0.057	0.260	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.158	0.583
Placement stability [^]	1	Primary	1	105	-0.046	0.260	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	-0.127	0.606
Parental stress [^]	27	Secondary	1	124	0.008	0.256	27	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.023	0.929

[^]WSIPP's benefit-cost model does not monetize this outcome.

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

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Other Family Preservation Services (non-HOMEBUILDERS®)

Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2019. Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: "Other" Family Preservation Services (FPS) Programs have the same goals as "intensive" FPS—to prevent removal of a child from his or her biological home (or to promote his or her return to that home) by improving family functioning. However, "other" FPS programs lack the rigorous criteria for implementation as defined by the HOMEBUILDERS® model and may be delivered over a longer time period.

Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

Benefits to:			
Taxpayers	(\$992)	Benefit to cost ratio	(\$1.41)
Participants	(\$1,701)	Benefits minus costs	(\$8,015)
Others	(\$186)	Chance the program will produce	
Indirect	(\$1,811)	benefits greater than the costs	0 %
<u>Total benefits</u>	<u>(\$4,691)</u>		
<u>Net program cost</u>	<u>(\$3,325)</u>		
Benefits minus cost	(\$8,015)		

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2018). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

Benefits from changes to: ¹	Benefits to:				
	Participants	Taxpayers	Others ²	Indirect ³	Total
Crime	\$0	(\$65)	(\$145)	(\$32)	(\$242)
Child abuse and neglect	(\$38)	(\$96)	\$0	(\$48)	(\$182)
Out-of-home placement	\$0	\$4	\$0	\$2	\$6
K-12 grade repetition	\$0	(\$9)	\$0	(\$4)	(\$13)
K-12 special education	\$0	(\$82)	\$0	(\$41)	(\$123)
Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health care associated with PTSD	(\$11)	(\$40)	(\$41)	(\$20)	(\$113)
Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect	(\$1,651)	(\$703)	\$0	\$0	(\$2,354)
Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect	(\$1)	\$0	\$0	(\$4)	(\$5)
Adjustment for deadweight cost of program	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$1,662)	(\$1,662)
Totals	(\$1,701)	(\$992)	(\$186)	(\$1,811)	(\$4,691)

¹In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

²"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

³"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

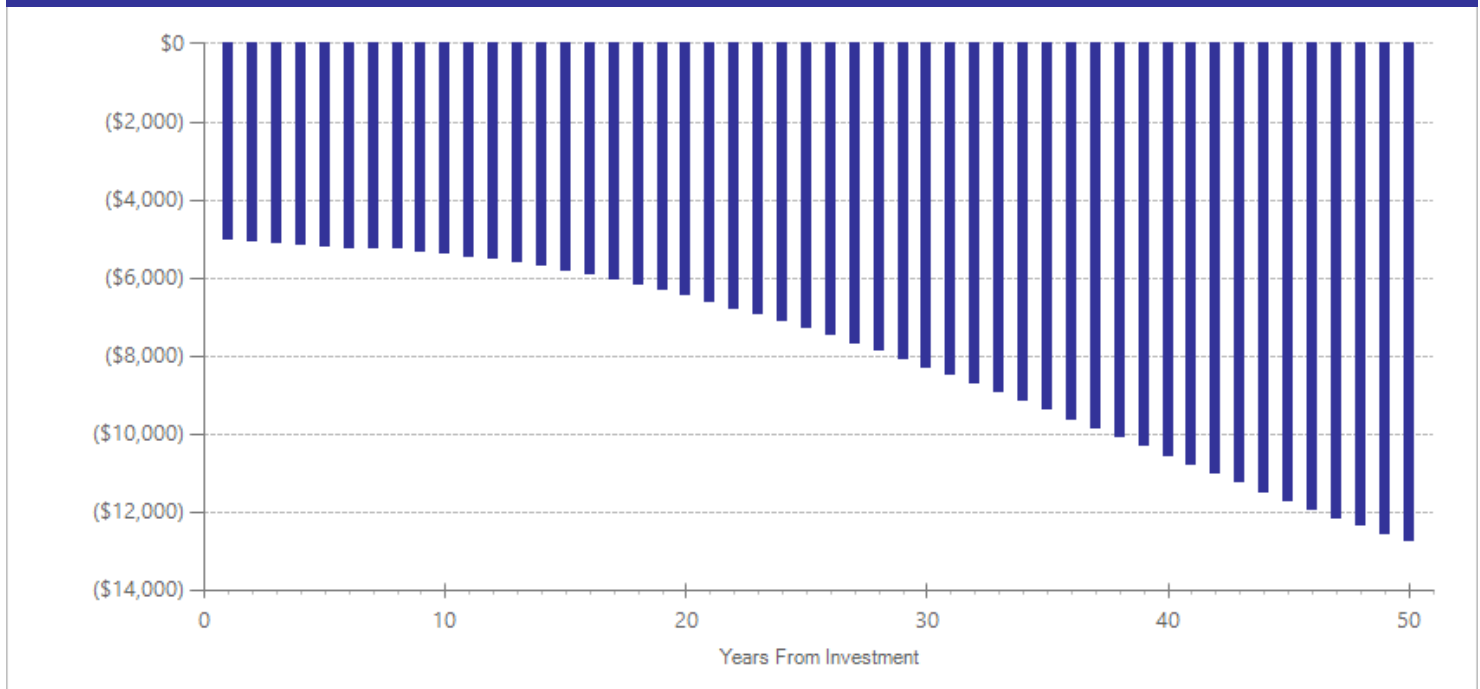
Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

	Annual cost	Year dollars	Summary	
Program costs	\$2,846	2003	Present value of net program costs (in 2018 dollars)	(\$3,325)
Comparison costs	\$314	2003	Cost range (+ or -)	10 %

The duration of this program is variable but may be delivered for up to six months. Program costs per family provided by Washington DSHS Children's Administration, 2008. WSIPP adjusted for multiple children per family. Comparison group costs calculated based on social worker time.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	Treatment age	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis						Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
				First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated			ES	p-value
				ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age		
Child abuse and neglect	10	7	2031	0.085	0.053	11	0.085	0.053	17	0.085	0.107
Out-of-home placement	10	11	2760	-0.002	0.081	11	-0.002	0.081	17	-0.002	0.978

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

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WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

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Family dependency treatment court

Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2019. Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Family Dependency Treatment Courts (FDTc) are adaptations of drug courts for adult offenders. They provide an alternative to regular Dependency Court for parents whose children were placed in foster care due to parent substance abuse. FDTcs take a collaborative approach to dependency cases, employing teams that include judges, treatment providers, child welfare caseworkers, attorneys, prosecutors and service providers. Parents are quickly referred treatment and compliance with treatment progress is monitored by frequent court appearances. Early in the cases, parents may be required to appear weekly. As parents make progress with the mandated treatment, frequency of hearings is reduced.

Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

Benefits to:

Taxpayers	(\$1,476)	Benefit to cost ratio	(\$1.15)
Participants	(\$2,020)	Benefits minus costs	(\$12,292)
Others	\$159	Chance the program will produce	
Indirect	(\$3,236)	benefits greater than the costs	7 %
<u>Total benefits</u>	<u>(\$6,572)</u>		
<u>Net program cost</u>	<u>(\$5,719)</u>		
Benefits minus cost	(\$12,292)		

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2018). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

Benefits from changes to: ¹	Benefits to:				
	Participants	Taxpayers	Others ²	Indirect ³	Total
Crime	\$0	\$167	\$365	\$84	\$616
Subtotals	\$0	\$167	\$365	\$84	\$616
From secondary participant					
Crime	\$0	(\$80)	(\$155)	(\$40)	(\$275)
Child abuse and neglect	(\$55)	(\$477)	\$0	(\$238)	(\$770)
K-12 grade repetition	\$0	(\$9)	\$0	(\$5)	(\$14)
K-12 special education	\$0	(\$199)	\$0	(\$99)	(\$298)
Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health care associated with PTSD	(\$14)	(\$48)	(\$50)	(\$24)	(\$136)
Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect	(\$1,944)	(\$828)	\$0	\$0	(\$2,772)
Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect	(\$6)	(\$3)	\$0	(\$53)	(\$62)
Subtotals	(\$2,020)	(\$1,644)	(\$205)	(\$460)	(\$4,328)
Adjustment for deadweight cost of program	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$2,860)	(\$2,860)
Totals	(\$2,020)	(\$1,476)	\$159	(\$3,236)	(\$6,572)

¹In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

²"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

³"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

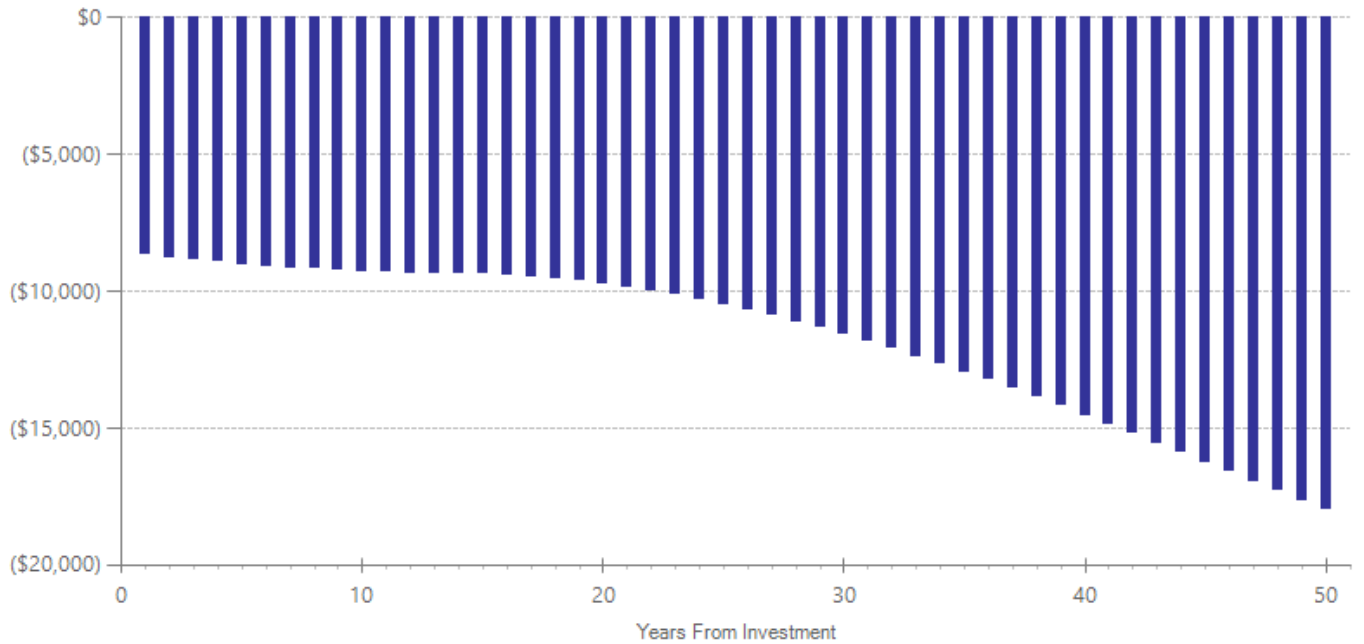
Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

	Annual cost	Year dollars	Summary	
Program costs	\$10,013	2016	Present value of net program costs (in 2018 dollars)	(\$5,719)
Comparison costs	\$4,508	2016	Cost range (+ or -)	20 %

WSIPP has estimated that the average traditional dependency case costs \$4,508. Based on the frequency of additional hearings for FDTC in Thurston County (Personal communication with Britnee Thornton, Coordinator, Thurston County Family Recovery Court. The program is organized in levels. During the first 2 levels, which last at least 5 months, parents make weekly court appearances. During Level 3, lasting at least 4 months, hearings are bi-weekly. Frequency is reduced to monthly in the final level; for this analysis, we assume parents remain in Level 4 for two months.) a case that closed in the minimum amount of time would require an additional 30 court appearances. Based on estimates of salary of persons presents at hearings, and assuming 15 minutes per appearance, we estimate cost per appearance is \$128. We estimate the per participant cost to operate the separate court to be \$1,652. (van Wormer, J., Hamilton, Z., & Murphy, S. (2014). Snohomish County adult drug treatment court: Process, outcome and cost-benefit evaluation. Washington State University, unpublished manuscript. Inflated to 2016 dollars.)

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	Treatment age	Primary or secondary participant	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis						Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
					First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated				
					ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age	ES	p-value
Crime	28	Primary	2	214	-0.534	0.146	30	-0.534	0.146	40	-0.534	0.001
Child abuse and neglect	3	Secondary	2	222	0.131	0.250	5	0.131	0.250	17	0.131	0.601
Permanent placement [^]	3	Secondary	4	492	0.283	0.182	5	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.283	0.119
Placement stability [^]	3	Secondary	2	197	0.038	0.108	5	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.038	0.721

[^]WSIPP’s benefit-cost model does not monetize this outcome.

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Burrus, S.W.M., Mackin, J.R., & Arborn, J.A. (2008). *Baltimore City family recovery program (FRP) independent evaluation: Outcome and cost report*. Portland, OR: NPC Research
- Carey, S.M., Sanders, M.B., Waller, M.S., Burrus, S.W.M., & Aborn, J.A. (2010). *Marion county fostering attachment treatment court process, outcome and cost evaluation: Final report*. Salem, OR: Oregon Criminal Justice Commission.
- Carey, S.M., Sanders, M.B., Waller, M.S., Burrus, S.W.M., & Aborn, J.A. (2010). *Jackson county community family court process, outcome and cost evaluation: Final report*. Salem, OR: Oregon Criminal Justice Commission.
- Chuang, E., Moore, K., Barrett, B., & Young, M.S. (2012). Effect of an integrated family dependency treatment court on child welfare reunification, time to permanency and re-entry rates. *Children and Youth Services Review, 34, 9*, 1896-1902.

Youth Villages LifeSet (YV LifeSet) for former foster youth

Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2019. Literature review updated July 2019.

Program Description: Youth Villages LifeSet (YV LifeSet) is a transitional living program for youth aging out of state custody. This analysis is on YV LifeSet for youth aging out of the foster system. Each youth is assigned to a YV LifeSet Specialist. YV LifeSet Specialists have a caseload of eight to ten youth. The YVLS Specialist meets with individuals weekly to help youth establish goals in the areas of education, employment, housing, and life skills. YV LifeSet Specialists may also refer youth to program-provided practices for mental health or substance abuse treatment. The program duration can range from a few months to over a year. More information can be found on the Youth Villages website: <https://www.youthvillages.org/yvlifaset/>.

In the included study, youth participated in YV LifeSet for an average of 215 days. Program and comparison group youth had access to usual services upon aging out of the foster system.

We report a separate analysis on YV LifeSet for youth released from juvenile custody.

Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

Benefits to:			
Taxpayers	\$377	Benefit to cost ratio	(\$0.39)
Participants	\$1,453	Benefits minus costs	(\$14,177)
Others	(\$646)	Chance the program will produce	
Indirect	(\$5,192)	benefits greater than the costs	7 %
Total benefits	(\$4,008)		
Net program cost	(\$10,169)		
Benefits minus cost	(\$14,177)		

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2018). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

Benefits from changes to: ¹	Benefits to:				
	Participants	Taxpayers	Others ²	Indirect ³	Total
Crime	\$0	(\$254)	(\$665)	(\$127)	(\$1,046)
Labor market earnings	\$1,448	\$616	\$0	\$0	\$2,064
Property loss associated with problem alcohol use	\$2	\$0	\$3	\$0	\$4
Health care associated with problem alcohol use	\$3	\$15	\$16	\$7	\$41
Mortality associated with problem alcohol	\$1	\$0	\$0	\$12	\$13
Adjustment for deadweight cost of program	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$5,085)	(\$5,085)
Totals	\$1,453	\$377	(\$646)	(\$5,192)	(\$4,008)

¹In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

²"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

³"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

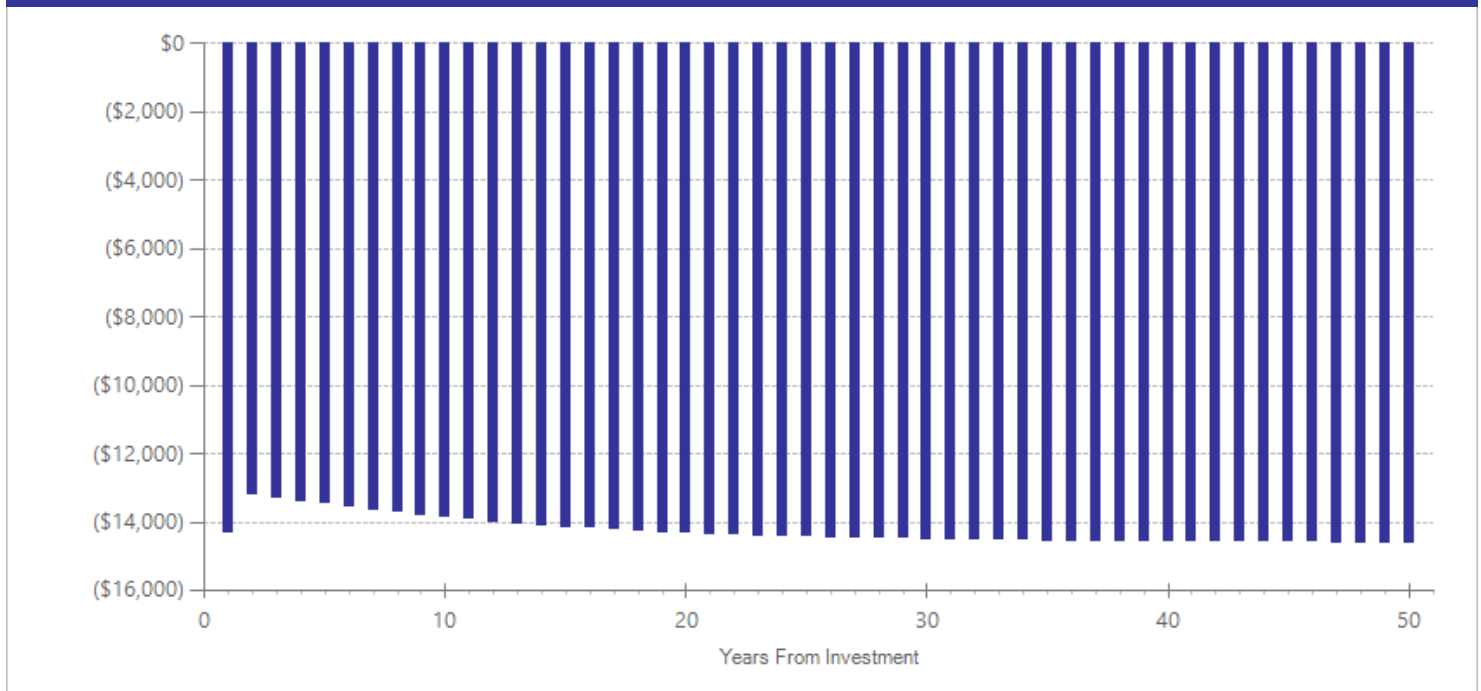
Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

	Annual cost	Year dollars	Summary	
Program costs	\$9,690	2015	Present value of net program costs (in 2018 dollars)	(\$10,169)
Comparison costs	\$0	2015	Cost range (+ or -)	20 %

The per-participant cost is based on information provided by Youth Villages (June 2016). The cost per day enrolled in the program ranges from \$40 to \$50. In the included study, the average youth was enrolled for 215 days. We multiply the mid-range daily rate of \$45 by the average number of days enrolled.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	Treatment age	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis						Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
				First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated			ES	p-value
				ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age		
Crime	19	1	372	0.034	0.151	20	0.034	0.151	28	0.034	0.821
Earnings*	19	1	372	0.073	0.146	20	0.000	0.014	21	0.073	0.616
Enroll in any college [^]	19	1	372	-0.094	0.107	20	n/a	n/a	n/a	-0.094	0.378
Homelessness [^]	19	1	319	-0.196	0.088	19	n/a	n/a	n/a	-0.196	0.026
Illicit drug use [^]	19	1	330	-0.037	0.116	19	n/a	n/a	n/a	-0.037	0.753
Problem alcohol use	19	1	319	-0.149	0.088	19	-0.020	0.132	21	-0.149	0.091

[^]WSIPP's benefit-cost model does not monetize this outcome.

*The effect size for this outcome indicates percentage change, not a standardized mean difference effect size.

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Skemer, M. & Valentine, E.J. (2016). *Striving for Independence: Two-Year Impact Findings from the Youth Villages Transitional Living Evaluation*. New York, NY: MDRC.
- Valentine, E.J., Skemer, M., & Courtney, M.E. (2015). *Becoming Adults: One-Year Impact Findings from the Youth Villages Transitional Living Evaluation*. New York, NY: MDRC.

Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-Up

Child Welfare

Literature review updated November 2017.

Program Description: Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-Up (ABC) is a manualized home visiting program for maltreated children, typically between 6 and 24 months old, and their caregivers. ABC aims to teach caregivers to reinterpret avoidant or resistant child behavior and respond in nurturing ways. Parent coaches provide ten weekly home visits of approximately 60 minutes. In the included study, licensed therapists provided ABC to caregivers of foster children younger than six who were diagnosed with attachment-related problems.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect size and standard error			Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
			ES	SE	Age	ES	p-value
Internalizing symptoms	1	29	-0.475	0.266	4	-1.284	0.001

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An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

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Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Sprang, G. (2009). The efficacy of a relational treatment for maltreated children and their families. *Child and Adolescent Mental Health, 14*(2), 81-88.

Family Team Decision-Making

Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Family Team Decision-Making (FTDM), used in Washington State's child welfare system, involves meetings with parents and other family members, the child (when appropriate), friends, foster parents, caseworkers, and other professionals to make decisions involving child removal, change of placement, and reunification or other permanency plans. In the evaluation of Washington's program, outcomes for children in child welfare offices that had implemented FTDM were compared to outcomes for children served in offices that had not yet begun having meetings.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect size and standard error			Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
			ES	SE	Age	ES	p-value
Out-of-home placement	1	32339	-0.004	0.020	9	-0.005	0.750

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Miller, M. (2011). *Family Team Decision-making: Does it reduce racial disproportionality in Washington's child welfare system?* (Document No. 11-03-3901). Olympia: Washington State Institute for Public Policy.

Fostering Healthy Futures

Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Fostering Healthy Futures is an intensive mentoring program for children, ages 9 to 11, who were placed in foster care because of maltreatment within the previous year. Children are paired with mentors who meet with them two to four hours per week for 30 weeks. Children also attend weekly group meetings that focus on emotion recognition, perspective taking, problem solving, anger management, cultural identity, change and loss, healthy relationships, peer pressure, abuse prevention, and future orientation.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects							
Outcomes measured	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect size and standard error			Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
			ES	SE	Age	ES	p-value
Internalizing symptoms	1	69	-0.069	0.170	11	-0.193	0.257
Permanent placement	1	56	0.129	0.232	11	0.358	0.130
Placement stability	1	56	0.094	0.191	11	0.262	0.172
Post-traumatic stress	1	74	-0.113	0.168	11	-0.314	0.063

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Taussig, H.N., Culhane, S.E., Garrido, E., & Knudtson, M.D. (2012). RCT of a mentoring and skills group program: placement and permanency outcomes for foster youth. *Pediatrics*, 130(1), 33-9.
- Taussig, H.N., & Culhane, S.E. (2010). Impact of a mentoring and skills group program on mental health outcomes for maltreated children in foster care. *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, 164(8),739-46.

Functional Family Therapy-Child Welfare (FFT-CW)

Child Welfare

Literature review updated September 2017.

Program Description: Functional Family Therapy-Child Welfare (FFT-CW) is a modification of FFT that has been used with youth involved in the criminal justice system. FFT-CW has two tracks, one for lower-risk families (FFT-LR) and another for higher-risk families (FFT-HR). The FFT-LR program is implemented in three distinct phases: Engagement/Motivation, Support/Monitor, and Generalization. The FFT-HR model, based on the original FFT, is more intensive and includes five phases. In the single study included here families received one or the other track, but it is unclear what percentage of the treatment group was assigned to either track. In the study, those in the comparison group received various other services.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects							
Outcomes measured	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect size and standard error			Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
			ES	SE	Age	ES	p-value
Child abuse and neglect	1	1625	0.000	0.043	10	0.000	1.000
Out-of-home placement	1	1625	0.188	0.179	10	0.188	0.294

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Turner, C.W., Robbins, M.S., Rowlands, S., & Weaver, L.R. (2017). Summary of comparison between FFT-CW® and usual care sample from Administration for Children's Services. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 69, 85-95.

Multisystemic Therapy (MST) for child abuse and neglect

Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Multisystemic Therapy (MST) for child abuse and neglect is an intensive in-home program, which promotes the parent's ability to monitor and discipline their children and replace deviant peer relationships with pro-social friendships. In the child welfare setting, MST has been rigorously evaluated against enhanced outpatient treatment in one small study, for families referred to CPS for physical abuse.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects							
Outcomes measured	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect size and standard error			Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
			ES	SE	Age	ES	p-value
Child abuse and neglect	1	44	-0.228	0.437	15	-0.633	0.230
Out-of-home placement	1	44	-0.226	0.295	15	-0.627	0.061

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Swenson, C.C., Schaeffer, C., Henggeler, S.W., Faldowski, R., Saldana, L., & Mayhew, A.M. (2010). Multisystemic Therapy for child abuse and neglect: A randomized effectiveness trial. *Journal of Family Psychology* 24(4): 497-507.

Project KEEP Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Project KEEP is a foster parent training and support program, delivered in 16 weekly group sessions. The primary focus is teaching foster parents ways to increase the use of positive reinforcements and consistent non-harsh discipline techniques, and teaching parents the importance of close monitoring child's whereabouts and peer associations.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects							
Outcomes measured	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect size and standard error			Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
			ES	SE	Age	ES	p-value
Permanent placement	1	359	0.119	0.101	10	0.330	0.001

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Price, J.M., Chamberlain, P., Landsverk, J., Reid, J.B., Leve, L.D., & Laurent, H. (2008). Effects of a foster parent training intervention on placement changes of children in foster care. *Child Maltreatment*, 13(1), 64-75.

Structured Decision Making Risk Assessment Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: The Structured Decision Making (SDM) model is a system of assessment tools used at various decision points in the child welfare system. Washington State's child welfare system has implemented the SDM risk assessment tool to classify families on their risk of further child maltreatment. This effect size is specific to Washington's implementation of the SDM risk assessment, comparing outcomes for children entering the system after SDM was implemented to children entering the system when the state was using a consensus-based risk assessment. The effect size should not be interpreted as a statement on the effectiveness of SDM as a whole or as implemented elsewhere.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects							
Outcomes measured	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect size and standard error			Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
			ES	SE	Age	ES	p-value
Out-of-home placement	1	17986	-0.006	0.015	9	-0.006	0.692

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

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Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Miller, M. (2011). *Structured Decision-making risk assessment: Does it reduce racial disproportionality in Washington's child welfare system?* (Document No. 11-05-3901). Olympia: Washington State Institute for Public Policy.

Locating family connections for children in foster care

Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: These programs are intensive efforts to find extended family or fictive kin for children in foster care. Typically, a designated worker attempts to identify and locate family members and to engage them in decision making for children in order to provide more options for legal and emotional permanency for children. Three of the four studies included in this analysis, utilized the Family Search and Engagement (also known as Family Finding) developed at Catholic Family Services in Tacoma. Program duration ranged from 2 to 5 months.

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects							
Outcomes measured	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect size and standard error			Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
			ES	SE	Age	ES	p-value
Externalizing behavior symptoms	3	467	0.038	0.093	14	0.091	0.330
Internalizing symptoms	2	331	0.032	0.107	13	0.032	0.768
Permanent placement	3	509	-0.064	0.100	14	-0.064	0.520
Placement stability	2	227	0.124	0.098	14	0.124	0.208

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Landsman, M.J., Boel-Studt, S., & Malone, K. (2014). Results from a family finding experiment. *Children and Youth Services Review, 36*, 62-69.
- Leon, S.C., Saucedo, D.J., & Jachymiak, K. (2016). Keeping it in the family: The impact of a Family Finding intervention on placement, permanency, and well-being outcomes. *Children and Youth Services Review, 70*, 163-170.
- Malm, K., Allen, T., Williams, S.C., McKlindon, A., Vandivere, S. (2013). A rigorous evaluation of family finding in San Francisco. *Child Trends*.
- Malm, K. Vandivere, S., Allen, T., Williams, S.C., McKlindon, A. (2014). A rigorous evaluation of family finding in North Carolina. *Child Trends*.
- Vandivere, S., Malm, K. E., Allen, T. J., Williams, S. C., & McKlindon, A. (2017). A randomized controlled trial of Family Finding: A relative search and engagement intervention for youth lingering in foster care. *Evaluation Review*.

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