From Preschool to Prosperity

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Published by W.E. Upjohn Institute

Bartik, Timothy J.
From Preschool to Prosperity: The Economic Payoff to Early Childhood Education.
W.E. Upjohn Institute, 2014.
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Timothy J. Bartik is a senior economist at the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research. His research focuses on state and local economic development and local labor markets. This research includes studies of how taxes and public services, such as education, affect local and national economies.

Bartik is recognized as a leading scholar on state and local economic development policies in the United States. His 1991 book, Who Benefits from State and Local Economic Development Policies?, is widely cited as an important and influential review of the evidence on how local policies affect economic development. Bartik is coeditor of Economic Development Quarterly, the only journal focused on local economic development in the United States, and also serves on the editorial board of other regional economics journals.


Bartik’s blog, http://investinginkids.net/, provides regular coverage of new research and public debate over early childhood programs and the economy. His Twitter account is @TimBartik.

Bartik received both his PhD and his MS in economics from the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 1982. He earned a BA from Yale University in political philosophy in 1975. Prior to joining the Upjohn Institute in 1989, he was an assistant professor of economics at Vanderbilt University. From 2000 to 2008, Bartik served on the Kalamazoo Public Schools Board of Education.
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