

### More early stimulation, more IQ and earnings 30 years later

In the 1980s, researchers began a [study](#) to test the effectiveness of early stimulation and nutritional supplementation on the development of stunted children in Jamaica. There were immediate impacts on children's development, and SIEF-supported [evaluations](#) examining impacts 20 years later found that the early stimulation component led to [reductions in violent behavior and increases in IQ and educational attainment](#), as well as [an average improvement of 25 percent of monthly earnings](#) compared to individuals who had not received the early stimulation intervention. SIEF also supported evaluations to examine impacts 30 years later, and findings have recently been published. In a [paper](#) in the *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, researchers find that children receiving the early stimulation intervention show greater IQ and cognitive flexibility and lower depressive symptoms and substance use as adults, compared with adults who had not received the treatment as children. In a [World Bank working paper](#), researchers also find that the improvement in earnings observed at age 22 has increased to a 37 percent advantage at age 32.



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### Learning at home during the pandemic

What have children done at home during phases of remote learning? Did they engage with

publicly offered learning opportunities through the television or internet? Did they have to work or provide care for other household members? Evidence is emerging from the evaluations in SIEF's [COVID Emergency Window](#).

- In [Bangladesh](#), in March 2021 only 25 percent of secondary school students in the evaluation sample reported watching video lessons online and 20 percent reported watching educational programming on TV. Local schools, however, often required students to submit assignments, and more than two thirds of parents reported that their children had to submit assignments continuously throughout the year. While a larger share of boys reported working for pay, a larger share of girls reported doing care work in the home.
- In [Pakistan](#), in the fall of 2020, only 20 percent of households who had access to a TV or the internet reported knowing about the online and TV-based remote learning options organized by the government. Like in Bangladesh, boys aged 10-14 in Pakistan were more likely to work, whereas girls were more likely to do household chores.
- On the other hand, in [Sierra Leone](#), among primary school children in public schools receiving support from a non-state organization, reported use of educational radio was close to 60 percent, and phone calls from teachers increased usage by 10 percentage points. A [recent working paper](#), however, found that these phone calls from teachers, which also included brief tutorials, did not improve measures of children's learning.

