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Abstract

In this presentation, Professor Rockoff summarizes a few important lessons from research in economics on the role of the education sector and educational policies in addressing issues of inequality. First, it is well established that the quantity and quality of an individual's education has a major influence on adult income and other measures of well-being. Second, there are robust correlations between inequality in educational investment and inequality in societal outcomes, both across and within countries. Third, there is promising research on innovative policies which can improve educational outcomes for disadvantaged students. These policies represent potential tools to combat inequality.