



NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER ON
**HISPANIC
CHILDREN
& FAMILIES**

Using Large-Scale Data for Examining Child Care Utilization and Experiences for Hispanic Children and Families

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Hispanics and ECE



- Despite evidence of benefits, estimates suggest that Hispanic children are under-represented in ECE, particularly in center-based care
- Understanding the complex process of access and utilization of ECE for Hispanics is emerging
- Hispanic children and families are a diverse group; yet, existing research fails to capture this heterogeneity

Project Overview



- To build capacity, we reviewed 15 large scale, publically available data sets with sizeable Hispanic samples
- Twelve data sets had sample sizes of at least 500 children under the age of 6 and were analyzed
- We produced 4 research briefs:
 1. Hispanic Elements in Large Scale Data Sets
 2. ECE Search and Decision Making
 3. ECE Utilization
 4. Experiences with ECE

Inclusion Criteria



- Nationally representative or large-scale national study
- Publicly available (with or without restricted access)
- Collected in the last decade (since 2000)
- Widely used, included in major ECE reports or papers, or considerable potential for use in examining ECE issues such as search, decision-making or utilization
- Sizable sample of Hispanics, in particular low-income Hispanic households raising young children as a possible subgroup analysis

Benefits and Challenges of Large-Scale Data



- While large-scale datasets offer unique opportunities, they also have limitations and present challenges
 - Not all datasets contain a comprehensive set of ECE data elements
 - Differential measurement of key constructs across studies yields inconsistent results
 - Key variables with relevance for Hispanics may go unmeasured

Priority Data Elements for Diversity of Hispanic Families



- Hispanic Elements
 - Hispanic Heritage
 - Child Country of Birth
 - Parent Country of Birth
 - Time in the U.S.
 - U.S. Citizenship/ Legal Status
 - Home Language(s)
 - Parent English Proficiency
 - Parent Literacy in Any Language
 - Parent Education Outside U.S.

Sample Data Elements: Utilization



- In our review, we include important ECE data elements grouped by two dimensions
- Characteristics of Current Arrangements
 - Care Arrangements - number, provider type, setting, cost, self-care with siblings
 - Provider variables: race/ethnicity, languages spoken
- ECE Retrospective/History
 - Time with current provider, child ever participated in ECE, child age at first care arrangement, continuity/instability

Sample Data Elements: Experiences with ECE



- In our review, we examined a range of variables that might characterize elements of parent satisfaction or experiences with the care more broadly
- ECE Quality Indicators
 - Ratios of adult/child, program services
- Parent Satisfaction
 - Satisfaction with child or family services, parent-provider relationship, would recommend provider
- Coordination with Employment, Work, and Family Life
 - ECE provider reliability, ECE-work decisions, family-friendly work policies, commute

Key Findings: Utilization and Experiences



Key Findings: Utilization



- Differences in study design produce data on primary arrangement of a focal child or data on a broader set of arrangements for multiple children in the household
 - Implications for financial costs and subsidies research
- Little data on ECE utilization patterns over time for Hispanic children, as few data sets ask about this
- Need for understanding of children's experiences in self-care, care by older siblings, or with parents at the worksite
- Attendance is largely unmeasured in large-scale data sets

Sample Coding: Utilization



Characteristics of Current Arrangements

	Number of Arrangements	Provider Type(s)	Specific Type of Center	Co-Resident Provider	Setting Location	Self Care or w/Siblings <13	Parent Brings Child to Work	Number of Hours	Days of Week	Child Absences	Cost	Financial Assistance	Trade or Barter	Provider Language	Provider Race/Ethn
NHES-ECPP: 2012	❖	✓	✓ P	❖	✓ P			✓ P,O	✓ P		✓ P	✓ P,O		✓ P	
NSAF		✓	❖	✓ T	❖ T	✓		✓ type,O			✓ O	✓ O			
NSECE	✓	✓	❖	✓ E	✓ E	✓	✓	✓ E,O	✓ E		✓ E	✓ E	✓ E	❖ E	
SIPP 2008		✓	❖		✓ E	✓		✓ E,O			✓ E	✓ O			

Key Findings: Experiences



- Few large-scale studies have
 - observational measures of ECE quality
 - parent report of the flexibility and stability of their current ECE arrangements, two important dimensions with implications for parent and child well-being
- Data on parent satisfaction for studies with samples of preschool and older children, which limits understanding of care for infants/toddlers.
- New possibilities for research on ECE coordination with work and family life with more recent data sets like NSECE (2012).

Sample Coding: Experiences



	ECE Quality Indicators ^a				Parent Satisfaction				Coordination with Employment, Education, and Family Life						
	Structural Quality	Observed Process Quality	Provider Rpt of Activities	Program Services	Satisfaction w/Child Experiences	Satisfaction w/Support to Family	Parent-Provider Relationship	Would Recommend Provider	ECE Provider Flexibility	ECE Provider Reliability	Work/School Disruptions	ECE-Work Decisions	Family-Friendly Work Policies	Work Schedule Difficulties	Transportation & Commute
FFCWS															
Age 1										✓	✓		✓	✓	
Age 3		✓ P	✓ P			✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	
HS FACES 2009	✓	✓ P	✓ P	✓	✓	✓	✓								

Summary and Next Steps



- ECE Brief Series on Methodological Challenges and Opportunities can shed new light on possible strengths and limitations of large-scale data sets
- Many existing data sets were not explicitly designed to address issues of access, utilization and experiences
- New research is needed to inform supports for the coordination of work, family life, and ECE experiences for a diverse and fast-growing population of Hispanic families raising young children

Thanks to our Funders!



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Thank you!



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