

Supporting the Use of Administrative Data in Early Care and Education Research

The **Child Care Administrative Data Analysis Center** (CCADAC) works to strengthen the ability of state/territory child care administrators and their research partners to utilize administrative data to address policy-relevant early care and education research questions. CCADAC is part of the Child Care and Early Education Policy and Research Analysis contract at Child Trends. The work is funded by the Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The CCADAC team has developed a **series of resources** intended to support the use of administrative data in early care and education research. The resources are designed for researchers who are new to the analysis of administrative data as well as seasoned users of administrative data who are expanding their research to include new types of administrative data (e.g., expanding to a new state or new agency). Research staff in state agencies may also find these resources useful.

1. *Developing Collaborative Partnerships with State Agencies to Strengthen Research Using Early Care and Education Administrative Data* provides considerations for building a strong partnership between researchers who want to analyze administrative data and the state partners who oversee the administrative data.
2. *Determining the Feasibility of Using State Early Care and Education Administrative Data* is designed to help researchers and their state partners determine whether analyzing administrative data is feasible and appropriate for addressing their child care and early education research questions.
3. *Considerations in Preparing to Analyze Administrative Data to Address Early Care and Education Related Research Questions* can help researchers prepare for issues that may arise when using administrative data in a research project.
4. *Early Childhood Data Definitions: A Guide for Researchers Using Administrative Data* summarizes four existing early childhood resources that can help researchers define variables to support secondary analysis of administrative data sets.
5. *Opportunities through State Agency Research Partnerships for Using Administrative Data to Support Early Care and Education* highlights three research partnerships between state agencies and researchers, provides examples of research questions answered by the partnerships, and describes benefits and challenges of establishing a strong research partnership.
6. *Guidelines for Developing Data Sharing Agreements to Use State Administrative Data for Early Care and Education Research* describes components of a data sharing agreement, outlines steps in developing an agreement, and includes examples of data sharing agreements.

These resources are available at

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/resource/supporting-use-administrative-data-early-care-education-research-resource-series>



Online Discussion Forum for Using Administrative Data in Early Care and Education Research

CCADAC has launched an online discussion forum to support the use of administrative data in early care and education research. The online space offers an opportunity for researchers to discuss facilitated topics, ask questions, and share useful resources. If you are using--or interested in using--administrative data in early care and education research, we hope you will join. We welcome everyone, from novices to experts!

Please use this link to join the discussion forum:

<https://3.basecamp.com/3709297/join/ASGxxNYuqV4g>

CCADAC partnered with Child Care & Early Education Research Connections to bring together in one place **resources about using administrative data for research**.

The resources are organized into four topics:

1. Managing administrative data
2. Analyzing administrative data
3. Linking and integrating administrative data
4. Data confidentiality/security

Within each topic, there is a brief description of resources and a hyperlink to the full document.

Visit this page of Research Connections:

<https://www.researchconnections.org/content/childcare/understand/administrative-data.html>

For more information about CCADAC, please contact

Kathleen Dwyer
Project Officer, OPRE
kathleen.dwyer@acf.hhs.gov

or

Kelly Maxwell
Child Trends
kmaxwell@childtrends.org

