Descriptions of Resource Types

This document includes descriptions of the types of resources found in the Research Connections collection. *Italicized* types are no longer used, but may appear in older records. For more information, email ResearchConnections@icf.com.

Administration for Children and Families/OPRE Projects: Research initiatives sponsored by the Office of Child Care or Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families.

Bibliographies: Descriptive lists of books, journal articles, reports, or other materials, usually sharing a common subject, author, time period, or other theme.

Book Reviews: Critical descriptions of books, usually by experts in the field and typically published in peer-reviewed journals.

Data Sets: Raw data compiled by researchers that users can analyze using statistical applications.

Executive Summaries: Summaries of major findings and recommendations from larger, more detailed reports of original research.

> **What are Resource Types?**
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> Resource type refers to the nature or genre of the content of a publication, not the format. For example, a Book Review (genre) can be published as a journal article or gray literature (format). The only exception is Multimedia, which is strictly a format.

Fact Sheets and Briefs: Descriptive summaries of statistical results or research findings, often accompanied by policy implications.

Instruments: Data collection tools and measures used in reports, data sets, and major research projects in the collection.

Literature Reviews: Resources that summarize and critique reports on a particular topic, to provide a broad understanding of the status of research on the topic. Literature reviews include a methodology section that describes how the author identified the reviewed publications.

Major Research Projects: Projects that encompass data collection in various ways over time and often in multiple sites, are significant in scope, and result in various reports.

Meeting Summaries: Overall summaries of Child Care Policy Research Consortium meetings and topical meetings supported by the Office of Planning, Research & Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Methods: Resources discussing research design, data collection methods, instruments, and data analysis techniques.

Multimedia: A presentation or discussion of original research and/or policy topics delivered in the form of a webinar or a recorded audio or video presentation.

Other: Policy papers, discussions of research or policy, commentaries, descriptions of existing research, or materials that do not fit into any of the other categories.

Reports and Papers: Reports of original research and papers dealing with theoretical issues relevant to child care and early education and contributing new knowledge to the field. These may include secondary analyses of datasets, meta-analyses, and survey, observational, or experimental research.

Tables of Findings: Tables created or commissioned by Research Connections on specific topics, describing the methods, data, and findings of all original research reports cited in an accompanying literature review.

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