Early Childhood Data Collaborative

Making Use of Integrated Data: State Examples of How ECIDS Data Can Inform Policies and Practices
June 6, 2017
Webinar
Overview

Overview of Early Childhood Data Collaborative

• Carlise King, Early Childhood Data Collaborative

Presenters:

• North Carolina’s Early Childhood Integrated Data System
  – Dale Epstein, Child Trends

• Evaluating Early Childhood Program Access Using Integrated Data
  – Stephanie Hogenson, Children’s Defense Fund Minnesota
  – Anita Larson, Minnesota’s Department of Education
The Early Childhood Data Collaborative (ECDC) promotes policies and practices to support policymakers’ development and use of coordinated state early care and education (ECE) data systems.

Effective use of data systems will help policymakers improve:
• Access to high-quality programs
• Program quality
• ECE workforce quality
• Child outcomes
WHAT IS NC ECIDS?

NC ECIDS is the single source for integrated North Carolina early childhood data for selected education, health, and social services program to help answer key policy and program questions.
Our Goal

We believe early childhood integrated data will lead to:

Better insight into how early childhood services are utilized across NC

Better answers to key early childhood policy and program questions

Better decisions regarding use and refinement of early childhood programs

Better outcomes for the children and families of North Carolina
PARTICIPATING PROGRAMS

Current:
• NC Pre-K
• Subsidized child care
• Early Intervention - IDEA, Part C
• Special Education - IDEA Part B (619)
• Food & Nutrition Services
• Child Protective Services

Planned for the Future:
• Head Start/EHS
• Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
• EC Workforce data
• Child Care Regulatory Data
INTENDED USERS AND USES

Two pathways:

• All Users (general public, participating state agencies, policymakers, researchers
  – Standard Reports
  – Query/Customizable Reports

• Internal and External Researchers
  – Dedicated data request portal for individual research requests
  – Research stakeholder group
WHAT CAN WE DO NOW THAT WE COULDN’T DO BEFORE?

• Have a **single source** in NC for integrated early childhood data for selected education, health and social services programs.

• Can provide **distinct counts** of which children are being served and where.
WHAT CAN WE DO NOW THAT WE COULDN’T DO BEFORE?

• Provides the **ability to link data** to answer questions that currently cannot be answered (e.g., Part C and Part B).

• Researchers can **request data** to answer key policy and program questions.
Examples of questions that can now be answered

• How many children are receiving multiple services?
  • What are the demographics of children who are receiving 3, 4, or 5 services?
  • Is there geographic variation where children are receiving larger or fewer numbers of services?
How many children who are pre-K age eligible are not in NC Pre-K are receiving other types of services (e.g., subsidized child care, TANF, food and nutrition services)?
EXAMPLES OF QUESTIONS THAT CAN NOW BE ANSWERED

• How many children who received IDEA Part C (Early Intervention) services **transitioned to IDEA Part B** (Exceptional Children) services within 6 months of turning 3 years old?

• Are there some counties (or certain demographic groups) where there are fewer or more children not transitioning from Part C to Part B who may need more assistance?
PUBLIC STANDARD AGGREGATE REPORTS

How many children used NC early childhood services during recent fiscal years?
PDF - 325KB - 1 page

How many children received a combination of two programs during recent fiscal years?
PDF - 416KB - 2 pages

How many children used two or more programs during recent fiscal years?
PDF - 584KB - 1 page

How many NC Pre-K age eligible children are receiving NC ECIDS Services?
PDF - 293KB - 1 page

Get the standard report
for 2014-2015 →
for 2013-2014 →
Or, create a custom version of this report

Show Less Reports
(You must disable pop-up blockers to access reports.)
**Total and Unduplicated Number by NC ECIDS Service**

The total number of distinct, unduplicated children enrolled across all NC ECIDS Services is 339,413. Of this total, 247,074 children were enrolled in only one program; 92,339 were enrolled in more than one program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Total Children Enrolled</th>
<th>Children Enrolled Only in this Program</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Protective Services</td>
<td>31,708</td>
<td>7,524</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional Children (IDEA Part B)</td>
<td>18,775</td>
<td>7,974</td>
<td>42.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNS</td>
<td>278,249</td>
<td>100,166</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant Toddler (IDEA Part C)</td>
<td>19,070</td>
<td>11,161</td>
<td>58.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC Pre-K</td>
<td>73,060</td>
<td>18,060</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table shows the total duplicated and unduplicated counts of children enrolled in only one program who participated in NC ECIDS during the 2014-2015 State Fiscal Year.

1Ages 0-5 Years includes children from birth to six years old minus one day.

2The column labeled ‘Total Children Enrolled’ represents the total number of children enrolled at least one time in each program during the 2014-2015 State Fiscal Year. While some children may have been enrolled in a program multiple times within the year (e.g. because of eligibility status or moving), each child is only counted once regardless of how many times they enter or exit during the 2014-2015 State Fiscal Year.

3The two columns under the label ‘Children Receiving Only this Program’ reflect the number and percent of children who were only enrolled in a given program, but not enrolled in any of the other programs listed. This provides an unduplicated count of children in each of these early childhood programs and services. For example, 7,524 children were enrolled only in Child Protective Service (CPS) and no other programs, accounting for 23.7% of the CPS total enrollment. That also means that 78.3% of children served by CPS were enrolled in at least one other program.

Notes:
- Each agency and program participating in NC ECIDS maintains its own data, and each has protocols for data entry and data quality. NC ECIDS does not conduct any additional data quality measures. All programs ensure the highest VSTSS (Values Too Small To Show). When there are no children that meet the specific criteria within a cell (N=0), the cell will display as 0.0%.
- All numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding. It is also possible that some rows and/or columns may not be based on a total of 100%, so the user should read each table carefully.

**NC ECIDS Programs in the Report**
- Child Protective Services (CPS)
Are you a qualified researcher with a program or research question that cannot be answered by the data made publically available on the website? A data request system which allows qualified researchers to make data requests directly to NC ECIDS in order to answer specific program and research questions is available.

Our data request process works like this:

- **Step 1**: Data requester submits data request package
- **Step 2**: Agencies review and approve data request
- **Step 3**: NC ECIDS application produces data package
- **Step 4**: Agencies review data package
- **Step 5**
- **Step 6**
- **Step 7**
- **Step 8**
Data Request Process

1. Data Requester submits data request package
2. Agencies review and approve data request
3. NC ECIDS Application produces data package
4. Agencies reviews data package
5. Data Requester retrieves data
DATA REQUEST PACKAGE CONTENT

• Data Use Profile/Proposal (DUPP)
  – Profile Section: Information about the applicant
  – Proposal/Research Request Section
    • Description and purpose of project
    • How it will improve education, health, & well-being of children in NC
    • How it addresses at least one of NC ECIDS key questions
    • Research questions and methodology
    • Why Standard and/or Query Reports will not meet their need
    • Names of any other research staff to work with data
**Data Request Package Content (continued)**

- **IRB Status** - Required to provide evidence of their IRB review.
- **Research Confidentiality Agreement** - All researchers on project must sign.
- **Data Use Agreement** - Official agreement between requester & NC ECIDS that covers the use, security, disclosure, and reporting of data requested in the specific Data Request.
- **Data Cart** - Data elements selected by the Data Requester.
Questions that can be answered in the future

- How are children who received early care and education services doing in early elementary school?
- How do certain combinations of services affect children’s outcomes?
- How does the quality of child care programs affect children’s outcomes?
QUESTIONS?
FOR MORE INFORMATION:

DALE EPSTEIN
depstein@childtrends.org
Evaluating Early Childhood Program Access Using Integrated Data

An Analysis of Participation Data for Lower Income Children, Children of Color and American Indian Children from the Minnesota ECLDS.
Children’s Defense Fund-MN
a strong, effective, independent voice for all children

Legislative Advocacy:
• Early Childhood
• Health Care
• Child Care
• Child Well-Being
• Economic Security

Research & Education:
• Issue Research
• KIDS COUNT

Outreach & Organizing:
• Bridge to Benefits®
• Voices & Choices for Children

Youth Leadership:
• Freedom Schools®
• Young Advocate Leadership Training® (YALT)
• Beat the Odds®
Early Childhood Integrated Data System Grant Program

Collaborated with the Minnesota Department of Education to gain comprehensive understanding of the ECLDS system, data and the system’s governance to answer pressing policy questions.
What is the Minnesota Early Childhood Longitudinal Data System (ECLDS)?

A web-based, integrated system that combines data collected by the Departments of Education, Human Services and Health focused on early childhood. Launched in February 2016.
ECLDS Data Context

Slide compliments of MDE
Part of Broader State Work

Pre-K to 3rd Grade

ECLDS
(eclds.mn.gov)

K-12, Higher Ed and Wages

SLEDS
(sleds.mn.gov)

Higher Ed and Wages

Grad Employment Outcomes
(http://mn.gov/deed/data/data-tools/graduate-employment-outcomes/)

P20W

Slide compliments of MDE
Research Question:
Do children of color and children enrolled in the state’s TANF program (MFIP) and Food Programs (SNAP and School Meal Program) have equal access to early childhood programs?
Process for Gathering Data and Producing Analysis

- Met with MDE to understand the data and the online system
- Ran custom reports from eclds.mn.gov to access and analyze data
- Compiled census data to compare statewide and national trends
1) Black, American Indian, children of Two or More Races and children accessing TANF or food programs were more likely to access one of the four early childhood programs included on ECLDS than their White and wealthier peers.
Key Findings

2) Child Care Assistance Program drives their participation in one or more of the four programs.
3) Hispanic/Latino and Asian children in MN have lower rates of participation in early childhood programs.
Key Findings

4) Participation in ECE programs varied by program type and race:

- ECFE served wealthier, White children at a higher rate.
- District Preschool participation was representative of the diversity of the cohort.
- ECSE has slightly higher rates of lower income and children of color participating but below the rates in K-12 Special Education.
Participation by Race by Program

**FIGURE 8: PARTICIPATION BY RACE BY PROGRAM**

- **American Indian/Alaska Native**: CCAP - 3.2%, ECFE - 0.5%
- **Asian**: CCAP - 32.9%, ECFE - 6.1%
- **Black/African American**: CCAP - 40.0%, ECFE - 5.3%
- **Hispanic/Latino**: CCAP - 10.0%, ECFE - 4.4%
- **Two or More Races**: CCAP - 9.4%, ECFE - 4.6%
- **White**: CCAP - 4.6%

**Note:** "Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander" total too small to count by program.
Next Steps

• Share analysis with legislators, advocates and others in early childhood field to implement report recommendations.
• Increase awareness of the ECLDS
• Encourage and support the use the ECLDS data to inform early childhood programs and advocacy efforts
Contact Information

Stephanie Hogenson
Research and Policy Director
shogenson@childrensdefense.org
651-855-1175

datacenter.kidscount.org

Visit the ECLDS at eclds.mn.gov

Download the analysis at:
Questions?
Carlise King, Executive Director, Early Childhood Data Collaborative
Phone: 240-223-9329
Email: cking@childtrends.org
Visit www.ecedata.org for more information
Follow us on twitter @ecedata