

Research Connections
Fellows:
Web site User Guides

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Quick Tips on Using the Web Site

Child Care & Early Education *Research Connections* provides useful resources, whether you are conducting research, analyzing policy or seeking practitioner information on child care and early education issues. The site is easy to use and offers a wealth of information.

Read further to learn how to get the most out of *Research Connections*:

Navigate with Ease

Research Connections' streamlined home page helps you access resources with ease. The Topics of Interest section allows you to quickly see resources and publications related to a specific issue area. The New Research section highlights the latest research findings in the field of child care and early education. The Search box lets you immediately search the database for your subject of interest. And finally, the main toolbar and drop-down menus, accessible from any page on the site, help you easily pinpoint the information you need.

Perform Searches on Specific Topics

Search functions provide easy access to the ever-expanding collection of resources, currently including over 15,000 reports & papers, datasets, fact sheets & briefs, and other resource types. Obtain tips for searching the database and navigating various sections of the Web site by reading the **Database Search and Web Site User Guide** in the next section.

Clarify Search Results with Icons

When you perform searches on *Research Connections*, icons designate resources as peer reviewed journals (*), or produced by *Research Connections* (RC), to clarify your search results. You can also search exclusively for full-text articles by checking the 'full text available' box before performing your search. View the sample search below on **Infant and Toddler Child Care** to see the various icons:

Search Results RC Produced by Research Connections
Peer Reviewed Journal

Did you find what you were looking for? If not, please consult our [search help](#), or provide us with [feedback on the search](#).

Results for: infant and toddler child care exact phrase

60 results found, sorted by relevance Re-sort by: ---select option--- GO 1 - 25

<p>Child care and early education: Infant and toddler care: Meeting the needs of families with options that work Rigby, D. Elizabeth, 2004 Washington, DC: National Conference of State Legislatures</p> <p>A review of research on infant and toddler care in a variety of settings identifying promising state policy strategies and highlighting options for policymakers who aim to improve the affordability, availability, quality and coordination of infant and toddler care in their state</p>	<p>Fact Sheets & Briefs</p> <p>100%</p>
<p>Partnerships for quality: Improving infant-toddler child care for low-income families United States. Child Care Bureau, 2002 Washington, DC: Zero to Three</p> <p>A study of collaborations to increase access to high-quality child care for low-income families</p>	<p>Reports & Papers</p> <p>92%</p>
<p>The regulatory status of center-based infant and toddler child care Young, Kathryn T., 1997 American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 67(4), 535-544</p> <p>A discussion of the state of center-based child care quality, particularly the necessity of proper staff training and the importance of improved state-level infant and toddler child care regulation</p>	<p>Reports & Papers</p> <p>88%</p>
<p>How on-site mentoring improves the quality of infant and toddler child care providers Fiene, Richard, 2002 Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Atlanta, Georgia</p> <p>A summary of the design, implementation, and randomized trial evaluation of a mentoring training program for infant and toddler center-based child care workers</p>	<p>Other</p> <p>82%</p>
<p>Infant and toddler child care arrangements Kreder, J. Lee, August 2005 (Research-to-Policy Connections No. 1). New York: Child Care & Early Education Research Connections</p> <p>An examination of employed parents' child care arrangements for their infants, otherwise unavailable to provide parental child care, and secondarily what factors</p>	<p>Fact Sheets & Briefs</p> <p>74%</p>

Access the full text of a resource

To access the full text of a resource after conducting a search, select the title from the **Search Results** page, which will take you to the **View Resource Details** page. On this page you will see a box in the top right hand corner of the page with a variety of options for obtaining full text.

Get the full text now:

- 1 Download from *Research Connections*
- 2 Obtain from *original source*
- 3 *Search for an electronic copy from an on-line subscription service*
- 4 *Query Google Scholar* (which may discover other full text options)

Not all options are present for all publications, and for some publications the full text may not be available at all. Please note that access to full text published in journals is dependent upon whether your institution subscribes to the journal. Scholarly journals seldom provide free access to the full text of their articles. If your institution hasn't paid for access, you may have to pay to obtain the full text.

1 Download from *Research Connections*. This document is available for you to download directly from the *Research Connections* site. Selecting this option will open up a PDF version of the document.

2 Obtain from the original source. This item is freely available to the public through another Web site. Selecting this option will link you directly to the document at another Web site.

3 Search for an electronic copy from an online subscription service. This option will be most useful to anyone at an institution that subscribes to online journals. Based on your computer's network address, selecting this option will take you to the full text of the document, if your institution has paid for access to it.

4 Query *Google Scholar*. Selecting this option will link you to the Google Scholar search results for this document. An abstract or summary of the document may be available at no charge and payment may be required to access the full text.

Export a Citation

You can create a bibliographic list of your search results by exporting a citation from the **View Resource Details** page. Select the **Export via RIS** link under the *Export Citation* heading in the box on the upper right hand corner of the **View Resource Details** page.

Access Related Resources

You can use the Related Resources links that appear in some resource records to access related materials that have been indexed by *Research Connections*. For example, a dataset may be linked to instruments used for data collection, a report may be linked to a major research project of which it is part, and an executive summary or fact sheet may be linked to a larger report of original research on which it is based.

Understand Research

Research Connections offers resources on **Understanding Research**. This page offers information on how to evaluate the quality of research, descriptions of common data collection methods, and two glossaries--one of terms used in policy research and another on terms used in child care and early education practice and policy.

Use our State Data Tools

Our **State Data Tools** page provides links to various 50-state databases on the web related to child care and early education, including those developed by the National Center for Children in Poverty which allow you to create customized tables for a range of child care and social welfare policies and state-level statistics.

Download Publications in our Series

Research Connections produces various publications that synthesize research on critical issues and identify policy implications. You can easily search and download **Our Publications** by topic or by publication type. Research Connections currently offers four types of publications: **Key Topic Resource Lists, Reviews of Research, Research-to-Policy Connections, and Research Guides**.

Search Datasets and Statistics

Research Connections offers data sets for further analysis using your own statistical software as well as a number of datasets that can be analyzed online, using software provided by Research Connections. Click on the **Datasets** section on the main Toolbar to get started.

Access Information on Federally Funded Research and Early Childhood Policies

From the Policy Resources section of our Toolbar, you can access information about the **Good Start, Grow Smart (GSGS) Interagency Workgroup**, as well as other research supported by the **Child Care Bureau** and other **Federal Research Links**. These resources provide useful context for understanding child care research.

Contribute Research

Research Connections welcomes contributions to the database. Research contributions are indexed, described, and displayed on the *Research Connections* Web site and can easily be located using the search tools. By contributing to our collection, authors receive professional recognition for their research and data collection efforts and make them available to others. From the **Research Collection** section of the main Toolbar select **Contribute Research** from the drop-down menu.

Learn About Grants, Jobs, and Events

Research Connections features a section devoted to keeping you aware of the latest **Grants, Jobs, and Events** related to child care and early education. Learn of these frequent updates in the field by clicking on the light blue **Learn** box on the bottom of our home page, or by clicking on the **What's New** section of the Toolbar. From there, select **Grants, Jobs, and Events** from the drop-down menu.

Subscribe to Our Listserv: *News & Resources*

You can easily subscribe to **News & Resources** to receive bi-monthly e-mail notifications of the latest research and opportunities in the field of child care and early education. Just click on the light blue **Join** box on the bottom of our home page. Also included in these announcements are updates from *Research Connections* on our new publications and additions to our site.

Find Research Connections in the Field

Research Connections participates in conferences and meetings related to child care and early education -- through presentations, posters, and exhibits. We also host data training workshops and provide technical assistance. You can find a continually updated listing of **Our Presentations and Trainings** by clicking on the light blue **Attend** box at the bottom of the home page, or by clicking on the **What's New** section of the Toolbar.

Technical Assistance

Research Connections offers online Technical Assistance. To ask a question, report a problem, or share comments, e-mail us at contact@researchconnections.org. *Research Connections* staff will respond within 48 hours.

Guide to Searching the Collection

This guide includes tips for searching the *Research Connections* collection and navigating the various sections of the Web site, and a description of the fields and types of resources found in the collection. For more information, send an email to contact@researchconnections.org and *Research Connections* staff will respond within 48 hours.

Resource Types in the *Research Connections* Collection

Datasets	Raw data compiled by researchers that users can analyze using statistical applications
Executive Summaries	Brief summaries of major findings and recommendations from larger, more detailed reports of original research
Fact Sheets & Briefs	Brief, descriptive summaries of statistical results, research findings, and/or their policy implications
Instruments	Data collection tools and measures used in child care and early education research reports, datasets, and major research projects in the <i>Research Connections</i> collection
Literature Reviews	Resources that summarize and critique various reports on a particular topic, to provide a broad understanding of the status of research and knowledge on the topic
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
Reports & Papers	Reports of original research, and papers dealing with theoretical issues relevant to child care and early education
Research in Progress	Descriptions of research initiatives currently underway that are sponsored by the Child Care Bureau, Administration for Children and Families of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Tables of Findings	Created or commissioned by <i>Research Connections</i> , these tables on specific topics describe the methods, data and findings of all original research reports cited in an accompanying literature review
Bibliographies	Descriptive lists of books, journal articles, reports, or other printed materials that are commonly compiled on one subject by one author, or relating to a particular time period
Book Reviews	Critical descriptions of newly printed books, usually by experts in the field
Methods	Resources discussing research design, data collection methods, instruments, and data analysis techniques that address issues specific to the field of child care and early education
Other materials	Other printed materials that do not fit into any of the groups above

Search

- Search the Collection**
- Enter one or more words in the box on the [Search the Collection](#) page (also on home page) and hit Enter on your keyboard or click the “Go” button, or
 - Enter one or more words in one or more of the search boxes on the [More Search Options](#) page, and hit Enter on your keyboard or click the “Search” button
 - By default, the search engine looks for the word(s) in all the fields describing resources, as well as the full text, if *Research Connections* has archived a copy of that resource
 - Searching is case insensitive, so you may enter words in any case (e.g. a search for "Faces" will retrieve resources containing the terms FACES, Faces, or faces)

Perform a Boolean search	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enter words or phrases in two or more of the search boxes on the More Search Options page, and select a Boolean operator between the search boxes to combine terms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AND retrieves only resources that contain search terms in all search boxes. Using this operator will narrow or limit your search ○ OR retrieves all resources that contain search terms from one or both of the search boxes. Using this operator will expand your search
Limit your search to a particular field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enter one or more words in the search box on the More Search Options page, and select a Field from the drop-down menu to the left of the search box
Limit your search by date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Limit your search to resources published in a particular year by entering in the publication years you are searching for below the search box.
Limit your search by full-text availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Limit your search to resources that offer full-text access by selecting the ‘full-text’ availability box on the Search the Collection page or on the More Search Options page. Due to copyright restrictions, some resources, including journal articles do not offer full-text availability. However, for instructions on how to find the full-text of these articles visit the Frequently Asked Questions about Searching page and read the last section of the page titled ‘How do I access the full text of a resource?’
Use truncation or wildcards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enter an asterisk * at the end of a word to search for plurals or to truncate (search for the word with various endings) ■ Enter an asterisk * at the beginning of a word to search for the word with a variety of prefixes ■ Enter an asterisk * in place of one or more letters to search for other word variations ■ Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A search for network* will also find resources containing the words networks, networking, or networked ○ A search for wom*n will find resources containing the words woman or women ○ A search for lab*r will find resources containing the words labor or labour ○ A search for *time will find resources containing the words full-time or part-time
Search for hyphenated or compound words	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ For words that may be single words or may be hyphenated, enter the word either with or without the hyphen to retrieve both hyphenated and single word forms ■ For words that may be hyphenated or written as two separate words, enter both variations in separate search boxes on the More Search Options page, and combine using the OR operator ■ Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A search for child care (with “exact phrase” button selected) will retrieve resources containing the phrase child care, but not child-care or childcare ○ A search for childcare will retrieve resources containing child-care or childcare, but not child care ○ A search for child-care will retrieve resources containing child-care or childcare, but not child care ○ A search for childcare OR child care (with “exact phrase” button selected) will retrieve resources containing child care, child-care, or childcare
Locate information relevant to a particular U.S. State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Select a state on the Browse by State page to find datasets, major research projects, or reports of original research for which data were collected in that state ■ Enter a state name in the search box on the or More Search Options page, to retrieve all resources containing the state name, sorted by relevance ■ Use the links provided in the State Data Tools section to locate statistical information on states
Locate resources relevant to a country other than the U.S.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enter the name of the country in the search box on the Search the Collection or the More Search Options page to retrieve all resources containing the country name, sorted by relevance (resources containing the country name in the Title, Country, or Description fields will appear among the top results)
Locate resources published in a particular journal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ On the Search the Collection or More Search Options page, enter the journal International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) in the search box (format: XXXXXXXXX or XXXX-XXXX) ■ On the More Search Options page, enter the name of the journal in the search box, select the “exact phrase” button, and select “Source” from the drop-down menu to the left of the search box <p>Browse a partial list of journals cited in the <i>Research Connections</i> database available from the Scope and Sources of the Collection page in the Research Collection section.</p>

Search

Locate resources from a particular author

- Click on the name of an individual or organization on the [Browse by Author](#) page, or
- Enter a name in a search box on the **More Search Options** page and select “Author/Editor/Preparer” from the drop-down menu to the left of the search box to limit your search to this field

Locate resources from a particular publisher

- Click on the name of an individual or organization on the [Browse by Author](#) page, or
- Enter a name in a search box on the [More Search Options](#) page and select “Publisher” from the drop-down menu to the left of the search box to limit your search to this field
- Browse a partial list of publishers cited in the *Research Connections* database available from the [Scope and Sources of the Collection](#) page in the [Research Collection](#) section

Locate resources funded by a particular organization

- Click on the name of an organization from the [Browse by Author](#) page, or
- Enter the organization name in a search box on the [More Search Options](#) page and select “Funder” from the drop-down menu to the left of the search box to limit your search to this field

Search for datasets

- Limit your search to the resource type *Datasets* by checking the datasets box on the [More Search Options](#) page.
- Or select [Datasets](#) from the main Toolbar and click ‘GO’ in the search box that appears on that page

Search for instruments and measures

- Limit your search to the resource type *Instruments* by checking the Instruments box on the [More Search Options](#) page

Search for original research

- Limit your search to the resource types *Reports & Papers*, *Major Research Projects*, or *Child Care Bureau/OPRE projects* by checking the various boxes on the [More Search Options](#) page

Search for research syntheses

- Limit your search to the resource types *Executive Summaries*, *Fact Sheets & Briefs*, or *Literature Review* by checking the various boxes on the [More Search Options](#) page

Find recent publications

- Select the [Recently Added Resources](#) page from the [What's New](#) section to see newly acquired *Reports & Papers*, *Fact Sheets & Briefs*, *Executive Summaries*, *Datasets*, and *Instruments & Measures*
- Limit your search to resources published in the current year, by the year from the drop down menu on the [Search the Collection](#) page or entering the year in the boxes on the [More Search Options](#) page

Search

Navigate through search results

- Click on the blue arrow at the top of the **Search Results** page to move to the next page of results
- Change the default setting of 25 search results per page by selecting a different setting from the drop-down menu on the [More Search Options](#) page
- For searches with more than 250 results, select which resources to skip to by clicking on the drop box at the bottom of the **Search Results** page

Sort results

- By default, search results are sorted by a relevance ranking, or score, with the most relevant resources listed first (resources that are equally relevant will be sorted by date)
- Select an option from the drop-down menu at the top of the **Search Results** page to resort results by **Title, Date, Author, or Resource Type**

Locate peer reviewed articles

- Articles from peer reviewed journals are identified with a green asterisk on the **Search Results** page
- The **Peer Reviewed** field on the **View Resource** page will indicate whether a particular resource was published in a peer reviewed journal

Locate Research Connections publications

- Publications written or commissioned by *Research Connections* are identified with an *RC* symbol on the **Search Results** page
- For a complete list of *Research Connections* publications, click on [Our Publications](#) on top navigation bar

View the full text of a resource

- You can limit your search to resources that are freely available on the Internet or that *Research Connections* has permission to distribute by checking the 'Full Text Available' box that appears in the [Search the Collection](#) box
- To view the full text of a resource selecting the link that appears in the box on the top right hand corner of the **View Resource Details** page
- Copyright law prevents *Research Connections* from providing full text for some resources, but full text may be accessed through your library, or purchased from the publisher or a document delivery service by clicking on the links provided on the **View Resource Details** page

Access datasets for download or online analysis

- Download data and documentation files, and access tools for online analysis for a specific data collection, by selecting the link appearing in the "Download" field on the **View Resource** page
- Visit the [Datasets](#) page for more information about using research data, or to create a MyData account to take advantage of additional features

Export a Citation

- To create your own bibliography you can export citations for any of the resources that appear in your search results
- To export a citation just select the **Export via RIS** link that appears in the top right hand corner of the box on the **View Resource Details** page

Find related resources

- Select the **Related Resources** link appearing on the **View Resource Details** page to access related materials that have been indexed by *Research Connections*

Fields in the Research Connections Collection

Abstract

For **Reports & Papers, Datasets, Major Research Projects, and Literature Reviews**, contains an informative, non-evaluative description (250 words or less) of the research project and its findings, written in language accessible to a wide audience. Abstracts commonly contain a sentence describing the topic or problem being researched or the purpose, thesis, or organizing construct and the scope of the paper; information on the participants, including pertinent characteristics; the design and methods or sources used; the findings, including statistical significance levels, if applicable; and conclusions reached by the authors.

Country	For Reports & Papers, Datasets, Major Research Projects, and Literature Reviews , contains the name of the country or countries covered by a study
State	For Reports & Papers, Datasets, Major Research Projects, and Literature Reviews , contains the name of the U.S. state where data were collected for a study
Geographic Unit	For Reports & Papers , describes the lowest level of geographic aggregation covered by the data (Country, State, City, Town, Neighborhood, Zip Code area, Census tract, etc.)
Data	For Major Research Projects describes all types of information collected from observations and analyzed during the research study, as well as methods utilized for observing, measuring, and recording information.
Design and Method	For Major Research Projects describes research design and methods for data collection
Research Questions	For Major Research Projects presents the overarching research question(s), followed by the more specific research questions, if applicable
Sample	For Major Research Projects describes type of sample, sample design, and sample size
Unit Of Analysis	For Datasets and Major Research Projects , the basic unit of analysis or observation, or for Instruments , the unit of analysis the instrument can be used to assess (Individuals, Dyads, Families/households, Groups, Institutions/organizations, Administrative units, Social artifacts, etc.)
Date Of Collection	For Datasets , provides the date(s) when data for the research were collected
Kind Of Data	For Datasets , describes the types of data collected in the study
Universe	For Datasets , describes the population studied; for Instruments , describes the population that the instrument can be applied to in order to collect data and describe or draw conclusions
Administration Procedures	For Instruments , provides general description of the procedure for administration/use
Administration Time	For Instruments , the average administration time
Minority Populations	For Instruments , describes suitability for minority populations
Scores	For Instruments , gives the range of valid scores on the instrument
Reliability	For Instruments , describes reliability measures
Special Needs	For Instruments , describes suitability for special needs populations
Standardization	For Instruments , indicates if the instrument has been standardized
Training Requirements	For Instruments , includes training requirements for using the instrument properly
Translated Versions	For Instruments , notes languages other than English in which instrument is available
Use Restrictions	For Instruments , may indicate any restriction, as indicated in the manual or documentation, regarding the use of an instrument, or identifies situations or circumstances in which or subpopulations with which an instrument should not be used because it yields unreliable and/or invalid data
Uses	For Instruments , a description of the appropriate uses of the instrument (instructional, assessment, etc.)
Validity	For Instruments , provides measures or discussion of validity

Explore

Understand the scope of the Research Connections Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Scope and Sources of the Collection page in the Research Collection section to learn about <i>Research Connections</i> collection development policies, and view lists of journals and Web sites used by <i>Research Connections</i> staff to select resources for the database
Find information on assessing research quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Assessing Research Quality page in the Understanding Research section and download the “Quantitative Research Assessment Tool” or “Qualitative Research Assessment Tool”
Learn about research methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Research Methods page in the Understanding Research section for information on topics such as research design, data collection, and data analysis
Understand child care terminology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Child Care & Early Education Glossary in the Understanding Research section for definitions of terms used to describe aspects of child care and early education practice and policy
Understand research terminology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Research Glossary in the Understanding Research section for definitions of terms used in conducting social science and policy research
Find statistical information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the links provided in the State Data Tools section to locate statistical information on U.S. states Visit the Statistical Sources page in the Datasets section to access a list of links for summary statistical information, including demographics, economic conditions, early care and education statistics, and program and policy statistics
Learn about federally funded research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Child Care Bureau/OPRE Projects, Good Start, Grow Smart Interagency Work Group and the Federal Research Links pages by selecting the links under Policy Resources on the <i>Research Connections</i> home page, for a summary of research initiatives from the U.S. government, and for quick access to resources in the database published or funded by the U.S. Child Care Bureau/OPRE
Learn about state and federal policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Policy Resources section to access to access various policy relevant resources related to early care and education
Learn about collaborative activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Collaborative Projects section from the main Toolbar to access materials from partnerships of researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in the field of child care and early education
Contribute research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Contribute Research section to learn how to contribute research reports, instruments, measures, data, and other related materials, and to learn about the benefits of contributing
Contact Research Connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Staff page under the About Us section to access a complete listing of staff names and email addresses Send an email to contact@researchconnections.org to ask a question, report a problem, or share comments, and <i>Research Connections</i> staff will respond within 48 hours
Join the Research Connections listserv	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Join our Email List to receive bi-weekly updates on additions and enhancements to the Web site, including announcements of new <i>Research Connections</i> publications, information on events and opportunities related to child care and early education, and notifications about <i>Research Connections</i> data trainings, presentations, and exhibits

Tips and Guide for Data Users

Research Connections disseminates child care and early education research to researchers, policymakers, and practitioners through a comprehensive collection of research reports and

summaries, policy analyses, key findings, literature reviews, data collection instruments and measures, and datasets for use in secondary analysis.

Secondary data analysis is fundamental to the scientific process in that it allows for the verification of results through replication efforts. Making data available to other researchers is a cost effective way of maximizing the value and utility of research data, for it enables those beyond the original research team to explore questions previously not investigated. Moreover, it democratizes the discipline by making high quality research available to the broader community, as well as providing a training resource for students of research.

Through *Research Connections*, data users can access and download 148 datasets for use in secondary analysis including the Early Head Start Research and Evaluation Study, Head Start Family and Child Experiences Surveys (FACES), National Household Education Surveys, and the Child Care and Development Fund Administrative (CCDF) data.

For a complete listing of all datasets available through *Research Connections*, you can either choose to search “Datasets” in the Search the Collection box on the home page and click go (Option 1.) or go to the Datasets page and simply click “go” in the search box (Option 2.).

Option 1.

**Child Care & Early Education
RESEARCH CONNECTIONS**

Home | Contact Us | Search | [Icons] - MyData options... [Dropdown]

ABOUT US | UNDERSTANDING RESEARCH | RESEARCH COLLECTION | OUR PUBLICATIONS | WHAT'S NEW | DATASETS | POLICY RESOURCES | COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS | HELP

Search the Collection

Search for the exact word or phrase:
[Text Box]

Search in...
Datasets [Dropdown]

Full Text Available

Any Date [Dropdown] [GO]

[More Search Options](#) | [Search Help](#)

Topics of Interest

- Child Care and Mental Health
- Child Care Decision-Making
- Child Care Market Rate Surveys
- Child Care Subsidies
- Coordination and Integration of Early Childhood Services
- Data Collection and Analysis

RESEARCH CONNECTIONS

Offering a comprehensive, up-to-date, and easy-to-use collection of more than 15,000 resources from the many disciplines related to child care and early education.

NEW RESEARCH -- Updated Aug 27, 2009

Our Recent Publications, Datasets & Upcoming Events

- » Young Dual Language Learners: A Key Topic Resource List
- » Guide to Datasets for Research and Policymaking in Child Care & Early Education: January 2009
- » Telephone Survey of Oregon Facilities, 2006
- » Child Care Decision-Making: A Key Topic Resource List

Option 2.

ABOUT US	UNDERSTANDING RESEARCH	RESEARCH COLLECTION	OUR PUBLICATIONS	WHAT'S NEW	DATASETS	POLICY RESOURCES	COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS	HELP
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Datasets

- » [Register to Download Datasets](#)
- » [Analyze Data Online](#)
- » [Tips and Guide for Data Users](#)
- » [Contribute Data](#)
- » [State Data Tools](#)
- » [Statistical Sources](#)
- » [Additional Resources](#)

Research Connections offers both research data suitable for further analysis and statistical results generated from public sources. We use the term "research data" to refer to the coded responses from each respondent, documentation that provides the original questions asked, and discussions of complex statistical methods. In order to make use of this data, you will need statistical software and a good understanding of statistical methodology.

Search the Collection

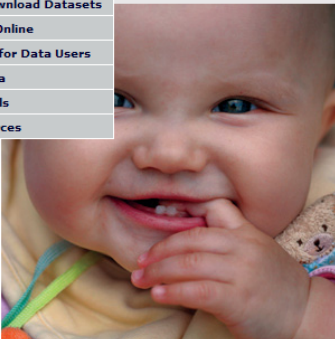
Search for the exact word or phrase:

Search in...
Datasets

Full Text Available

Any Date

[More Search Options](#) | [Search Help](#)



Data Files

In this context, a data file is not the analyzed findings of a study or statistics, but the raw collected data from which these statistics might be extrapolated. It usually consists of rows and columns of alphanumeric characters. The storage formats of data files may be logical record length format, card image, or delimited format. The physical structure of data files also varies and may be rectangular, hierarchical, or relational.

Codebook and Documentation Files

A codebook provides information on the structure, contents, and layout of a data file. Users are strongly encouraged to look at the codebook of a study before downloading the data files. While codebooks vary widely in quality and amount of information given, a typical codebook includes:

- Column locations and widths for each variable
- Definitions of different record types
- Response codes for each variable
- Codes used to indicate nonresponse and missing data
- Exact questions and skip patterns used in a survey
- Other indications of the content and characteristics of each variable

Additionally, codebooks may also contain:

- Frequencies of response
- Survey objectives
- Concept definitions
- A description of the survey design and methodology
- A copy of the survey questionnaire (if applicable)
- Information on data collection, data processing, and data quality

Data File Formats

We distribute data in the following formats:

- ASCII
- SPSS (PASW)¹ Portable or System
- SAS XPORT or CPORT Library and Transport Files
- Stata DTA

ASCII

Research Connections data files are distributed as undelimited, or columnar, ASCII files. An ASCII data file consists of alphanumeric characters. ASCII data files are text files; as such, they can be opened in any word processing program, text editor, or Internet browser. The alphanumeric characters, however, are not meaningful without the help of a codebook or setup file, which will identify the columns of an ASCII data file as particular variables. In order to analyze the data, the ASCII file should be imported into a statistical, database, or spreadsheet software package. A tabbed formatted ASCII file may be available as well.

SPSS (PASW)

Research Connections data files are distributed either as SPSS data (.sav) files or as SPSS portable (.por) files that are not specific to a particular SPSS version or computer platform. These files can be opened directly in SPSS statistical software without the use of setup files, by using the SPSS 'IMPORT' command.

SAS

Research Connections data files are distributed either as SAS XPORT (.xpt) or CPORT (.stc) library and transport files that are not specific to a computer platform. These files can be opened directly in SAS statistical software without the use of setup files, by using PROC COPY with a libname statement that properly defines the XPORT or CPORT Library file or by using PROC CIMPORT with the transport file.

Stata

Research Connections data files are distributed as Stata DTA (.dta) files that are not specific to a computer platform. These files can be opened directly in Stata Statistical software without the use of setup files.

Documentation Files and Format

For any study, there are several possible types of documentation files for *Research Connections* data collections:

- **Codebook:** Information on the structure, contents, and layout of a data file. The codebook may also contain information on study design and methodology.
- **Setup file:** Information on column locations and labeling of variables.
- **Data collection instrument:** Original survey instrument or questionnaire.
- **Data map:** Similar to a setup file.
- **Errata file:** Errors noted for a particular collection, usually supplied by the principal investigator.

¹ PASW Statistics is the new name for SPSS Statistics.

- **Frequency file:** Frequency of response or descriptive statistics for selected variables in a collection.
- **Cross-tabulation file:** Cross-tabulations for some or all variables in a collection.
- **User Guide:** More detailed information about a particular collection, often provided by the principal investigator.
- **Manual:** Instructions prepared by the principal investigator on some aspect of the data collection.
- **Appendices:** Additional documentation.
- **Reports:** Description of findings or results based on analysis of a dataset. Prepared by the principal investigator.
- **Record layout file:** Similar to a setup file.
- **Tables/Crosstables:** Similar to frequencies files but presented in tabular format.

The standard format for documentation is Portable Document Format (PDF), and we are moving toward compliance with the PDF/A standard. The PDF file format was developed by Adobe Systems Incorporated and can be accessed using PDF reader software, such as the Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Downloading Data and Documentation Files

Downloading data from the *Research Connections* website is easy. Once you have identified a dataset of interest to you, click on the "download" link found in the right hand box of the View Resource Details page.

Child Care & Early Education RESEARCH CONNECTIONS

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View Resource Details

Resource Type: Datasets

Title: Child Care and Development Fund Administrative Data, Federal Fiscal Year 2006 [United States]

Principal Investigator(s): United States. Department of Health and Human Services, United States. Child Care Bureau, United States. Administration for Children and Families, United States. Administration on Children, Youth, and Families

Date Issued: 2009

Source: United States Department of Health and Human Services. Administration for Children and Families. Administration on Children, Youth and Families. Child Care Bureau. Child Care and Development Fund Administrative Data, Federal Fiscal Year 2006 [Computer file]. ICPSR23640-v1. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 2009-01-07

Funder(s): United States. Child Care Bureau, United States. Administration for Children and Families, United States. Department of Health and Human Services

Alternative Title: ACF 801 Data, 2006

Description: This administrative dataset provides descriptive information about the families and children served through the federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). CCDF dollars are provided to states, territories, and tribes to provide assistance to low-income families receiving or transitioning from temporary public assistance, in obtaining quality child care so they can work, or depending on their state's policy, attend training or receive education.

Download Data:

- Access to Documentation does not require a User Agreement. Please log in to download.

Export Citation:

- Export via RIS (EndNote/Zotero)
- Help with Export

The Download page will walk you through a series of steps:

1. Select your statistical package, from the list of available packages. Some of our studies have "ready to go" files available; for others you'll need to download the ASCII data and setup files to make your own "ready to go" file.
2. Select the datasets you wish to download. Many of our studies have only one dataset, but the more popular ones tend to have multiple datasets.
3. Add the files to your data cart using the "Add to Data Cart" button.
4. You can review the contents of your cart with the the "Review Data Cart" button.
5. Finally, click on the button "Download Data Cart." This will download a zip file that contains all the files you requested, including the appropriate documentation.

Description & Citation
Browse Documentation
Download Data
Analyze & Subset
Related Resources

Download -- Study No. 3804

Title: Early Head Start Research and Evaluation (EHSRE) Study, 1996-2001: [United States]

Principal Investigator(s): United States Department of Health and Human Services. Administration for Children and Families

Step 1. Select available data formats

Documentation Only
 SAS Transport (CPORT/CIMPORT) file
 SPSS System
 Stata DTA
 ASCII Data File + SAS Setup Files
 ASCII Data File + SPSS Setup Files
 ASCII Data File + Stata Setup Files
 ASCII Tab-delimited Data File
 All Files

Documentation files are automatically included with download.
[more information on data format types](#)

Step 2. Select datasets

DS1: Early Head Start Research and Evaluation (EHSRE) Study, 1996-2001: [United States]

Step 3. Add to data cart

Step 4. Review cart (optional)

Step 5. Download cart contents

0 file(s); 0KB

Analyzing Data Files Online

Online Analysis Using SDA

The online analysis system allows you to run both simple and complex analyses, recode and compute new variables, and subset variables or cases online and without downloading the data. No statistical software is required. The software powering this online system, named Survey Documentation and Analysis (SDA), was developed by the Computer-assisted Survey Methods Program (CSM) at the University of California, Berkeley.

To find data to analyze online you can go to the Datasets – Analyze Data Online page to browse the list of studies that are available for SDA (Option 1.) or you can select a dataset from your search, click on the “download data” link on the right and if there is an “Analyze and Subset” tab at the top then the study is available in SDA (Option 2.).

Option 1.

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Analyze Data Online

Many datasets available for download through *Research Connections* are also available for an online analysis system allows you to run both simple and complex analyses, recode and compute new variables, and subset variables or cases for downloading. The software powering the system, named Survey Documentation and Analysis (SDA), was developed by the Computer-assisted Survey Methods Program (CSM) at the University of California, Berkeley. There are video tutorials to help you get started.

The following studies are available for online analysis:

- » Child Care and Development Fund Administrative Data
 - » [Federal Fiscal Year 2001 \(ICPSR 4379\)](#)
 - » [Federal Fiscal Year 2002 \(ICPSR 4597\)](#)
 - » [Federal Fiscal Year 2003 \(ICPSR 4643\)](#)
 - » [Federal Fiscal Year 2004 \(ICPSR 4529\)](#)
 - » [Federal Fiscal Year 2005 \(ICPSR 21401\)](#)
 - » [Federal Fiscal Year 2006 \(ICPSR 23640\)](#)
- » Child Care Market Rate Survey Practices and Policies of States, Territories, and Tribes, 2005-2006 (ICPSR 21402)
- » Child Care Market Rate Survey Project
 - » [Mail Survey of Oregon Facilities, 2006 \(ICPSR 23260\)](#)
 - » [Oregon Resource and Referral Administrative Data Update, 2006 \(ICPSR 23261\)](#)

Option 2.

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Description & Citation | Browse Documentation | Download Data | **Analyze & Subset** | Related Resources

Analyze & Subset--Study No. 23640

ICPSR Study No.: 23640

Title: Child Care and Development Fund Administrative Data, Federal Fiscal Year 2006

Principal Investigator(s): United States Department of Health and Human Services. Administration for Children and Families. Administration on Children, Youth and Families. Child Care Bureau

Online Analysis Using SDA

The online analysis system allows you to run both simple and complex analyses, recode and compute new variables, and subset variables or cases for downloading. The software powering the system, named Survey Documentation and Analysis (SDA), was developed by the Computer-assisted Survey Methods Program (CSM) at the University of California, Berkeley.

Click on the link(s) below to begin using SDA.

- » [DS6: Child Care and Development Fund Administrative Data, Federal Fiscal Year 2006: Adjusted Child Data](#)
- » [DS7: Child Care and Development Fund Administrative Data, Federal Fiscal Year 2006: Unadjusted Child Data](#)
- » [DS8: Child Care and Development Fund Administrative Data, Federal Fiscal Year 2006: Adjusted Family Data](#)
- » [DS9: Child Care and Development Fund Administrative Data, Federal Fiscal Year 2006: Unadjusted Family Data](#)

Online data analysis allows users to:

- Search for variables of interest in a dataset
- Review frequencies or summary statistics of study variables to determine what further analyses are appropriate
- Review frequencies or summary statistics for missing data
- Run crosstabulations, comparison of means, correlation matrix and comparison of correlations
- Produce simple summary statistics for reports
- Create statistical tables from raw data
- Create a subset of cases or variables from a large collection to save time and storage space when downloading to a personal computer
- Browse the electronic codebook

The following studies are currently available for online analysis:

- Child Care and Development Fund Administrative Data 2001-2006
- Child Care Market Rate Survey Practices and Policies of States, Territories, and Tribes, 2005-2006
- Child Care Market Rate Survey Project
 - Mail Survey of Oregon Facilities, 2006
 - Oregon Resource and Referral Administrative Data Update, 2006
 - Telephone Survey of Oregon Facilities, 2006
- Early Childhood Longitudinal Study: Kindergarten Class of 1998-1999
 - Early Childhood Longitudinal Study: Kindergarten Class of 1998-1999, 3rd Grade
 - Early Childhood Longitudinal Study: Kindergarten Class of 1998-1999, 5th Grade
- Early Head Start Research and Evaluation (EHSRE) Study, 1996-2001
- The 500 Family Study 1998-2000
- National Center for Early Development and Learning Multi-State Study of Pre-Kindergarten, 2001-2003
- National Health Interview Survey 1997-2006
- National Survey of America's Families 1997, 1999, 2002
- National Survey of Family Growth, Cycle V, 1995
- National Survey of Parents, 2000-2001
- Partnership Impact Research Project, 2001-2004
- Welfare, Children, and Families: A Three-City Study

Learning More

Throughout the year, *Research Connections* offers several opportunities for data users to learn more about using these files for secondary analysis. Training opportunities range from mini-workshops (1 ½ hours in length) at professional meetings to in-depth training seminars (3-5 days in length) held as part of the ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods at the University of Michigan.

Additional information about data training opportunities may be found on the Web site.

Sharing Data through *Research Connections*

Research Connections encourages the sharing of research and administrative data, both quantitative and qualitative, gathered in the field of child care and early education. *Research Connections* is uniquely positioned as a vehicle for recipients of Child Care Bureau-funded research grants and contracts, and other projects supported with federal funds, to fulfill the requirement of archiving and making publicly available their completed data. *Research Connections* also welcomes data from privately funded or independent researchers.

Research Connections provides tools and resources for preparing and disseminating data; developing effective and thorough documentation; assessing the risk of disclosure and identifying steps that can be taken to avoid those risks; disseminating public-use and restricted-use data; training in the use of data for secondary analysis; and preserving data in perpetuity.

Additional resources, including a handbook for use in the preparation of data files is available on our Web site.