NSECE Purpose: Address Key Policy Needs

- Comprehensive national data
- Match parental needs and preferences and availability of providers at the local level

- Profile all families with age-eligible children in a location
- Document all care in that location
  - Center-based providers to children not yet in kindergarten
  - Home-based providers to children under age 13 years
- Characterize early care and education (ECE) teachers and caregivers
- Describe place-based aspects of child care provision/use
National Survey of Early Care and Education

- An integrated set of surveys conducted in 2012 with
  - Households with children under 13
  - Home-based providers regularly providing early care and education to children under 13
  - Center-based programs providing early care and education to children not yet in kindergarten
  - Center-based classroom-assigned staff

- Sponsored by Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Home-Based Provider Survey
The figure on the slide depicts the interrelationship among the two sample sources and the four NSECE surveys at the foundation of the NSECE data collection design. The two long rectangles on the right and left sides represent the two NSECE sample sources; each of the gray boxes in the middle indicates a survey, and the diamond shaped boxes stand for screening instruments.

This presentation will focus on the Home-based Provider Survey, which drew respondents from two sample sources. These two types of home-based providers are circled in red in the figure above. On the right, we have the provider sample; home-based providers who appeared in provider sampling frames constructed from state and national lists were sampled for this survey. We designated these providers as ‘listed.’ Listed providers were primarily licensed or regulated family day care providers, but also included other formally listed home-based providers such as license-exempt providers or providers participating in Early Head Start. Alternatively, on the left, households could have been identified as eligible based on their responses to the household screener (specifically, that an adult in the household regularly cared for children not his or her own at least five hours per week in a home-based setting). These providers did not appear in the provider sampling frame and are designated as ‘unlisted.’
The schematic presented on this slide depicts the relationships of the three separate data sources which comprise the national population of ECE teachers and caregivers to children age five years and under, not yet in kindergarten, including teachers and caregivers from both center-based and home-based settings. At the highest level of the schematic are the two sample sources for the NSECE: state and national administrative lists on the left and the address-based household sample on the right. The schematic then indicates with downward arrows how the population of ECE teachers and caregivers was selected from each source.

Home-based teachers and caregivers come from both sample sources and make up a portion of the national population of ECE teachers and caregivers.

The NSECE home-based teachers and caregivers may serve children up to age 13, but there is no center-based analogue for school-age teacher and caregivers. The classroom-assigned workforce respondents were selected from programs serving children up to 5 years old, not yet in kindergarten.
Home-based Data Collection

- Same questionnaire for listed and unlisted
  - Listed: drawn from state and national lists, including for licensing, license-exempt, registered, Early Head Start, etc.
  - Unlisted: identified through household screening as caring regularly for children under 13 not their own in a home-based setting
- Web, phone and in-person data collection. English or Spanish (no web)

Home-based providers from each sample source completed the same instrument, but cases could be fielded differently depending on which sample they came from. Listed home-based providers followed a data collection protocol similar to that implemented for center-based providers, while unlisted home-based provider cases were fielded like the households. For additional details see the NSECE summary methodology report.
Topics Covered – Home-based Survey

• Characteristics of provider, including qualifications and work history
• Characteristics of children cared for
• Quality-related measures of care
• Prices, revenues, government program participation
• Household structure and assistance in providing care

Since the NSECE wanted to create a comprehensive picture of listed providers caring for children across settings, the home-based provider and the center-based provider survey captured data across many of the same constructs. The home-based provider quick tabulation codebook indicates these correspondences in the field labeled “Counterpart in the Center-based Quick Tab Files”.

There are also links between the home-based provider and the workforce survey since these respondents together make up the national population of ECE teachers and caregivers. The home-based provider quick tabulation codebook contains a field called “Counterpart in the Workforce Quick Tab Files” where data users can find the name of the comparable variable in that file.
Home-Based Provider Data
To be eligible for the home-based provider interview, an individual had to be caring for a child not their own for at least five hours a week in a home-based setting. Because home-based provider respondents were identified through two different sample sources, state and national administrative lists or screening of randomly selected households, we interviewed a diverse group of home-based providers from individuals running a business to less formal providers like grandmothers watching their grandchildren on a regular basis. By incorporating these unlisted providers into the survey design, the NSECE is able to offer unprecedented nationally representative data on the full spectrum of home-based care providers.
Levels of Observation

- Child-level (for small providers)
- Age-group level (for large providers)
- Provider-level: Prices, revenues, government program participation
- Respondent-level: qualifications, earnings, professional development
- Household members
- Paid caregivers

- The NSECE home-based provider instrument initially categorized providers into two groups based on enrollment size. If a provider cared for four or more children, the instrument considered them “large” and collected enrollment data in summary for all children. For providers classified as “small”, data is collected on each child individually. For the quick tabulation and main public use files, we have created combined variables to make the data easy to use. Variable descriptions indicate source questions and explain how variables were constructed.

- The home-based provider instrument collected data about the other people who lived in the respondent’s household, their age and relationship to the respondent, and whether they helped with looking after children.

- The home-based provider instrument also asked questions about individuals from outside the household who helped care for children including questions about their qualifications, experience, hours worked per week, and the highest wage paid.
There are separate quick tabulation files for listed and unlisted providers, but all are contained in a single main public-use data file.

Only in the restricted use Level 1 questionnaire data file can users access data on individual children cared for by ‘small’ home-based providers. Some additional information on individual household members and paid employees of the home-based provider are also available only in the restricted use L1 file.
Key Differences Across Files of Home-based data

- Quick tabulation: separate files for Listed and Unlisted.
- Public use:
  - One file for both listed and unlisted.
  - Many variables reported for only one sample source because of disclosure risk.
- Restricted use: child-level detail among small providers, masked values
The NSECE classification emerges from the study’s sampling approach, which achieved comprehensive coverage of all individuals regularly providing home-based care by drawing on two different ways of identifying those individuals. These two sources were 1) state and national lists of ECE providers, and 2) a nationally representative sample of households that were screened for individuals providing home-based care at least 5 hours weekly to children not their own.

- ‘Listed’ individuals appear on state or national lists of early care and education services, such as licensed, regulated, license-exempt, or registered home-based providers.

- ‘Unlisted, paid’ individuals do not appear on state or national lists, but were identified in households. Individuals in this category receive payment for the care of at least one child.

- ‘Unlisted, unpaid’ individuals do not appear on state or national lists, but were identified in households. They do not receive payment for providing care. This category includes family and friends who may or may not live in the same household as the children they look after.
### NSECE Classification of HB Providers: Examples # 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NSECE Classification</th>
<th>Examples of Home-Based Care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listed</td>
<td>Early Head Start (home-based)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grandmother caring for a grandchild and who also operates a licensed family day care home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unlisted Paid</td>
<td>Nanny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uncle receiving subsidy payments to care for nephew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neighbor providing at least 5 hours per week of paid babysitting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unlisted unpaid</td>
<td>Adult sibling who lives in the same household as younger sibling children and cares for them for free at least five hours per week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The NSECE classification of home-based providers does not match directly with commonly used terms for these types of care. This table illustrates some correspondences between terms. The Factsheet, “Who's Providing Home-based Care?” provides additional information about listed and unlisted home-based providers.
## NSECE Classification of HB Providers: Examples # 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NSECE Classification</th>
<th>Examples of Home-Based Care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listed or Unlisted-Paid, depending on state requirements and provider’s status</td>
<td>Family Child Care Providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unlisted-Paid or Unlisted-Unpaid, depending on whether she is paid (whether by the family or through a subsidy)</td>
<td>Grandmother caring for one grandchild who does not live with her</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any category depending on: - payment status of any child in care - appearance of provider in state administrative lists</td>
<td>Family, friend or neighbor providing at least 5 hours per week of care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussions of home-based care often refer to care provided by family, friends and neighbors. NSECE data can describe each person who provides regular home-based care based on whether or not that person had prior personal relationships with the children he or she cares for. Prior personal relationships could include family, friends and neighbors, as well as colleagues, acquaintances from church, or other social ties. The graph on the slide shows that overall, 91 percent of listed providers care for at least one child with whom they had no prior personal relationship. This drops to 35 percent among unlisted, paid providers; a great deal of paid care is happening among families and providers who also have social ties. Not surprisingly, individuals providing only unpaid care virtually always have a prior personal relationship to the children they care for. Unlisted, unpaid providers are therefore not shown. The graph shows that listed and unlisted, paid providers in low-poverty density areas are more likely to care for at least one child with no prior personal relationship than listed and unlisted, paid providers in moderate or high-poverty density areas.
Questions about using the NSECE data?

Please write NSECE@NORC.ORG