Measuring Access to ECE using the National Survey of Early Care and Education

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FEBRUARY 7, 2018

Acknowledgement

This presentation draws from work that is currently underway and funded by the Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) in the Administration for Children and Families, under the Child Care and Early Education Policy and Research Analysis (CCEEPRA) Project.

◦ Ivelisse Martinez-Beck, Project Officer

Making access measurable

Definition of access
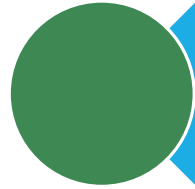

Research Brief OPRE 2017-08
February 2017

Defining and Measuring Access to High-Quality Early Care and Education (ECE): A Guidebook for Policymakers and Researchers
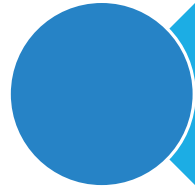
CCEEPRA
Child Care and Early Education Policy and Research Analysis

ECE ACCESS AND CHOICES

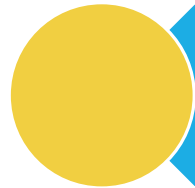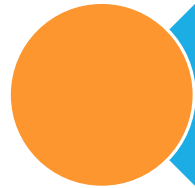**Nationally-representative data**
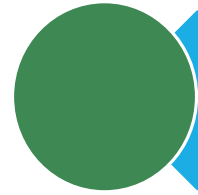
Defining Access

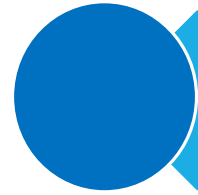- Reasonable effort
- Affordability
- Meets the parents' needs
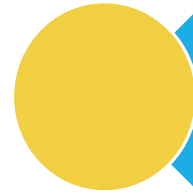- Supports the child's development

Reasonable effort

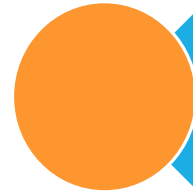**Care is easy to find and reasonably close**

Affordability

Available care is affordable

Meets the parents' needs

Available care meets parents' needs and desires

Supports the child's development

Available care is supportive of children's healthy development

National Survey of Early Care and Education

Households with young children
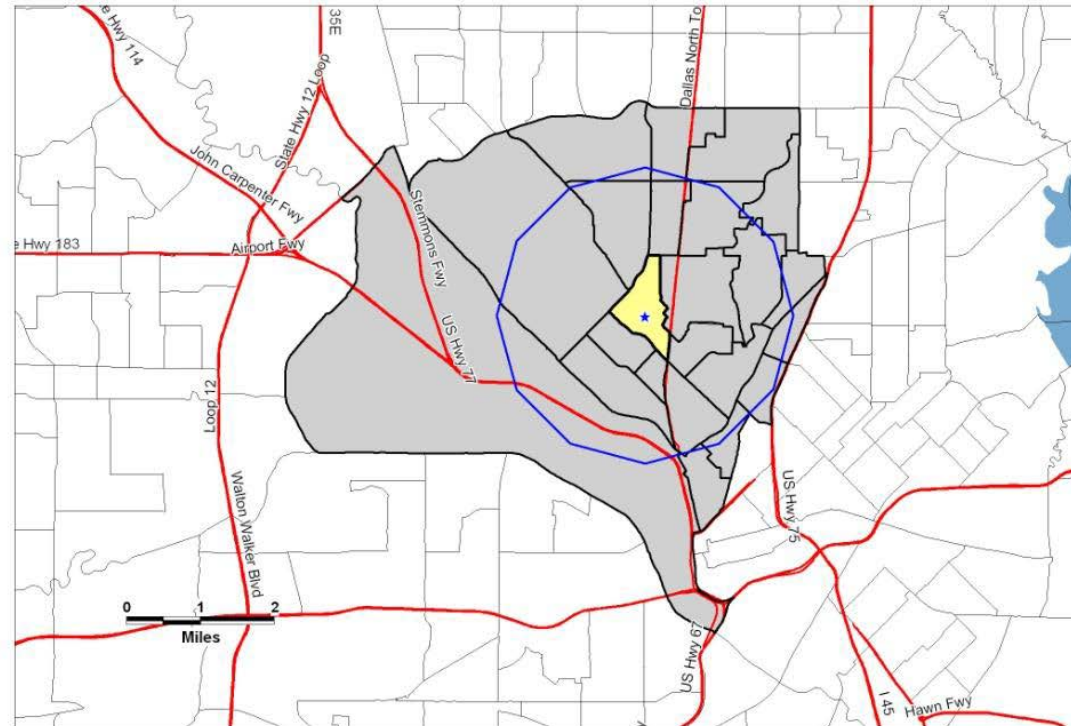
Center-based providers + workforce

Home-based providers + workforce

Alignment with NSECE

Dallas County 0006.01

Measuring access

Within an area, what are the characteristics of available care?

Family needs, use of care, and characteristics

Sample questions

Is there high or low availability of infant center-based care in this area?	

Sample questions

Is there high or low availability of infant center-based care in this area?	**How far are families driving for center-based infant care in this area?**

Sample questions

Who provides more infant care? Home-based vs. center-based providers	How many families use home-based care as the primary care type for their infants?

Sample questions

What prices do home-based providers charge?	How many families do not pay anything out of pocket for center-based care for 0 to 5 year olds?

Sample questions

Is there low-availability of center-based care for 2-year-olds?	How much do families pay out of pocket for center-based care for 2-year-olds?

Issues we're tackling

1. How to define "low" and "high" price/availability
   - Locally-dependent
   - Regionally-dependent
   - National-level

Issues we're tackling
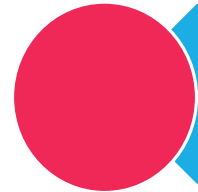
Cluster 1

Cluster 2

Next steps: Comparing access

Access varies by characteristics

Child, family, community characteristics

Urbanicity

Immigrant families

Diverse communities

Thank you!

THE ACCESS GUIDEBOOK IS AVAILABLE AT: CHILDTRENDS.ORG

BE IN TOUCH: KPASCHALL@CHILDTRENDS.ORG