

Behind the Scenes Working with Administrative Data:

Lessons Learned from a Study of Early Care and Education in New York State

CCEEPRC Annual Meeting

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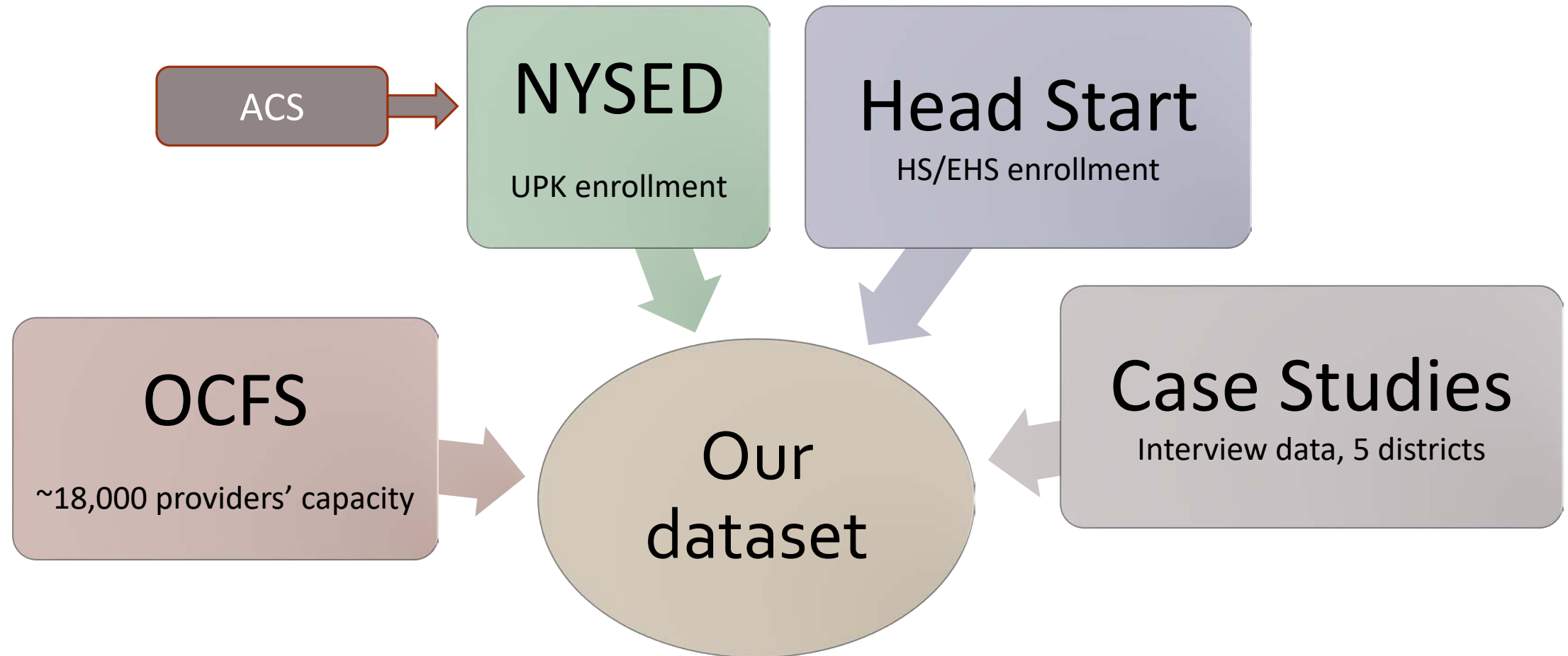


The story of our developing our dataset



- 2007 – Rural Education Advisory Council
- Examining relationships between schools and communities
- Started small and added data sources, as needed

Data Sources



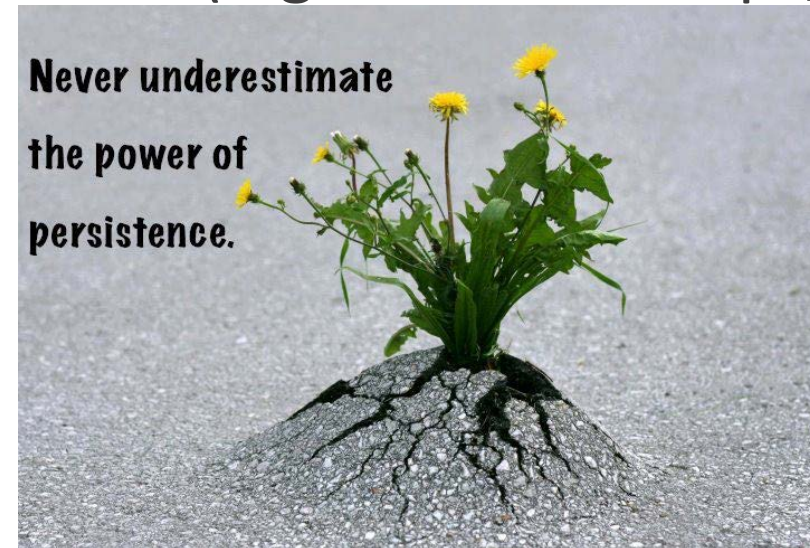
Archiving Data

- **CHALLENGE:** Administrative datasets are continually updated.
- **WORK AROUND:** Request data extract at the same time every year.
- **SOLUTION:** Communication of research needs to data set creators.



Gaining Access to Data

- **CHALLENGE:** No point person from whom to request data.
- **WORK AROUND:** Persistence.
- **SOLUTION:** Engage data holders in process (e.g. feedback loops, mutual interest in findings).



Data Confidentiality

- **CHALLENGE:** Restricted access due to confidentiality.
- **WORK AROUND:** None.
- **SOLUTION:** NSECE techniques.



Data Quality

Program Type	School District Name	Infant Capacity	Toddler Capacity	Preschool Capacity	School Age Capacity	Total Capacity
DCC	Albany	0	0	18	0	18
DCC	Albany	8	12	103	0	123
DCC	Albany	24	24	34	8	90
DCC	Albany	24	18	40	0	82
DCC	Guilderland	14	24	21	0	59
DCC	Albany	27	12	60	0	99
DCC	Albany	8	8	13	19	48
DCC	Albany	8	10	19	7	44
DCC	Albany	0	12	62	20	94
DCC	Albany	16	48	111	0	175
DCC	Albany	8	10	39	0	57
DCC	Albany	0	0	32	0	32
DCC	Albany	38	41	21	12	112
DCC	Albany	24	70	132	19	245
DCC	Albany	0	0	68	0	68
DCC	Albany	0	24	68	0	92
DCC		16	24	22	17	79
FDC	Albany	0	0	0	2	8
FDC	Albany	0	0	0	2	8
FDC	Albany	0	0	0	2	8
FDC	South Colonie	0	0	0	2	8

Data Quality

Program Type	School District Name	Infant Capacity	Toddler Capacity	Preschool Capacity	School Age Capacity	Total Capacity
DCC	Albany	8	22	28	0	58
FDC	Albany	0	0	0	2	8

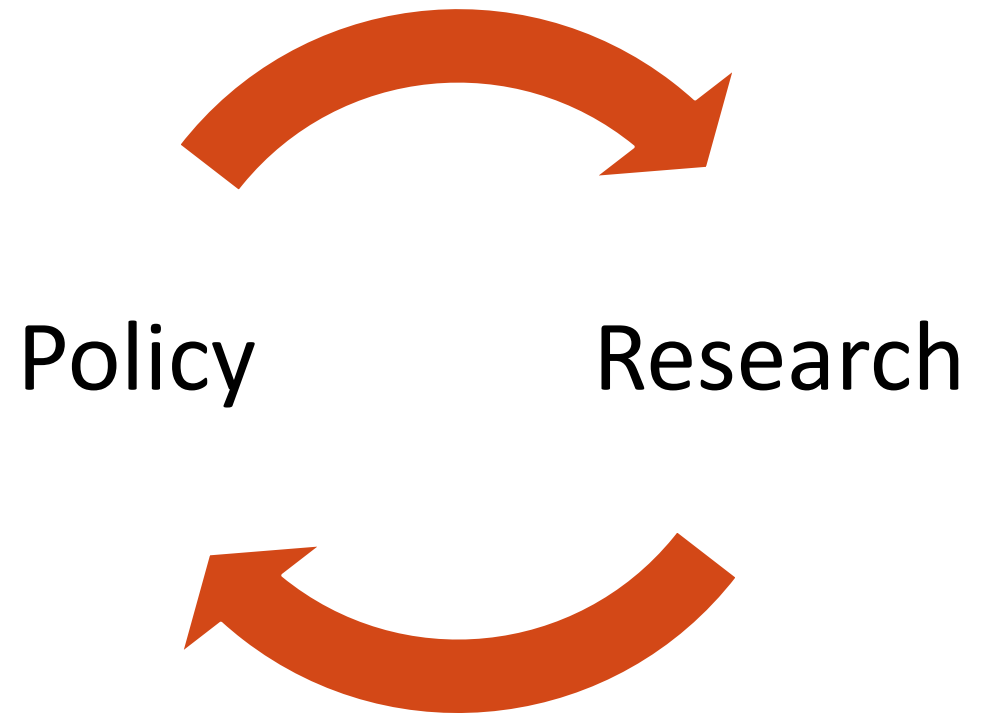
Data Quality

- **CHALLENGE:** Variable names change over time and no codebook, missing data, incomplete data.
- **WORK AROUND:** Detective work (e.g. access data reporting forms).
- **SOLUTION:** Communicate research needs to data set managers.



How to facilitate connections between researchers and policy makers?

- Research/Policy briefs
- Research/Policy meetings
- Face-to-face visits
- State-level data collaborative
- Other?



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