Using Administrative Data to Understand the Decline in Family Child Care

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Acknowledgements

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Background

- *Understanding the Family Child Care Landscape* is an individualized TA opportunity offered through NCECQA.
- Goal is to develop:
  - A “data story,” which combines and compares data in new ways
  - A clearer understanding of FCC characteristics and longitudinal trends.
- NCECQA is currently working with Oklahoma and Ohio. The TA opportunity is available to other states.
Existing resources on using administrative data

- *Research Connections* includes various resources on linking and integrating, managing, and analyzing administrative data in ECE:
  
  https://www.researchconnections.org/content/childcare/understand/administrative-data.html
1. How has the number and capacity of programs, by program type, changed over time?
2. Are these changes affected by characteristics such as: a) QRIS level, b) number of years licensed, c) reason for closure, d) program characteristics including Head Start and Pre-K?
3. How are these trends consistent or different according to community characteristics from publicly available data?
4. Do these trends align with state or federal policy changes?
Linking Administrative Data

- Similar files **over time**
- Files from a consistent **point in the year** (e.g., January) to provide a **cross-sectional** look at programs and children each year
Key Data Elements for Success

- Consistent, unique identifier
- Information about where programs and families are located
- Program, family, and child demographic characteristics (e.g., race/ethnicity)
Potential Data Challenges

- Hard to disentangle supply and demand (e.g., increase in Early Head Start grantees)
- Time periods might not perfectly match (e.g., fiscal years)
- Zip codes change!
Change in number of programs over time

Number of programs by program type in Oklahoma, 2008 - 2020 FY
Differences by length of time licensed

Number of **large homes** by length of time licensed, 2015 - 2019 FY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 6 years</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 12 years</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 12 years</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

89% increase
2% decrease
58% decrease
Differences by length of time licensed

Number of **small homes** by length of time licensed, 2015 - 2019 FY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Less than 6 years</th>
<th>6 - 12 years</th>
<th>More than 12 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
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<td>2019</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- 30% decrease
- 11% increase
- 33% decrease
Summary

- Length of time in business was associated with patterns of decline
- Exit interview which coded the reasons for leaving the field might need more options, potentially relating to business or financial supports
Questions?

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