The National Survey of Early Care and Education Center-Based Provider Screening

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Rationale for method

• There are a wide variety of options available to parents of all income brackets, but it is unknown if needs match availability
  – Early Care and Education (ECE) resources are fragmented
  – Funding from multiple, often indirect, sources (e.g. Federal to State to County)
  – Parents may choose multiple options

• Variety makes building an all-inclusive provider sample frame challenging.
Sample Frame Construction

• Created a comprehensive list of ECE programs serving children under age 13 in all 50 states and Washington, D.C.

• State-level administrative records used to compile the frame
  – Listable providers supplied by child care licensing unit, division, department in each state, including licensed Pre-K and before/afterschool designations.
  – State department of education Pre-k land before/afterschool designations
  – State-level before/after-school lists through afterschool networks and Alliance

National Survey of Early Care & Education
Sample Frame Construction

• **Various national lists to supplement**
  – Department of Defense child care
  – General Services Administration child care on federal property
  – National Association for the Education of Young Children accredited programs
  – Boys and Girls Clubs of America
  – YMCA child care and afterschool programs
  – Office of Head Start national list of programs
  – QED proprietary data on all schools offering at least one grade K through 8 and any early childhood program operated by a public school district.
Sampling of Center-based Providers

• Programs geocoded to address (sampling unit)
• Address could have multiple programs
• Addresses were assigned to stratum and sampled for inclusion in the NSECE
  – Ia: Community-based Child Care
  – Ib: Home-based
  – Ic: Head Start/Pre-K
  – Id: School-age only care
• Multiple-program addresses classified into one and only one of these categories based on the first category, in order of Ic, Ia, Ib, and Id, in which it is qualified.
## Sample Size by Stratum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stratum from Sampling Frame</th>
<th>Sampled (Address count)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>la.</em> Community Based</td>
<td>6,909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>lb.</em> Home-Based</td>
<td>6,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>lc.</em> Head Start/Pre-K</td>
<td>5,757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>ld.</em> School-age only</td>
<td>6,073</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Screening Data Collection

• Screening of sampled addressed conducted before interview to:
  – Confirm status of programs from sample frame
  – Add new programs not included in frame
  – Determine eligibility of all programs
  – Identify organizations running programs
  – Sample organization to interview

• Screening conducted by Web, phone & CAPI
Preloaded Programs

• Programs identified at address through sample frame were verified as offering ECE services:
  – Operating ECE program at location
  – Duplicate of other preloaded program
  – Part of other preloaded program
  – Not providing ECE care at location
Adding New Providers

• Add any additional programs offering ECE services at the address not included in sampling frame, including
  • Type of program
  • Enrollment requirement
  • Type of activities offered
## Verification of Frame Providers

*(Program counts)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stratum</th>
<th>Program Providing ECE services</th>
<th>Duplicate Program</th>
<th>Part of another program</th>
<th>Program not providing ECE services</th>
<th>Don’t Know / Refuse</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community-Based</td>
<td>5,828</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5,959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start/Pre-K</td>
<td>4,706</td>
<td>621</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-age</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10,583</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12,074</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*National Survey of Early Care & Education*
# Verification of Provider frame
(Address counts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stratum</th>
<th>All preloaded programs operating</th>
<th>Some preloaded programs operating</th>
<th>No preloaded programs operating</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community-Based</td>
<td>5,611</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>5,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start/Pre-K</td>
<td>3,003</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>926</td>
<td>3,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-age</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8,660</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>1,022</td>
<td>9,748</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Frequency of Adding New Providers

**Address counts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stratum</th>
<th>Only Eligible Programs added</th>
<th>Only Ineligible programs added</th>
<th>Both Eligible and Ineligible programs added</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community-Based</td>
<td>1,747</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>2,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start/Pre-K</td>
<td>1,182</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>1,316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-age</td>
<td>1,414</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>1,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,343</strong></td>
<td><strong>248</strong></td>
<td><strong>279</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,870</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Types of Eligible new programs added

*(Program counts)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stratum</th>
<th>Head Start</th>
<th>Public Pre-K</th>
<th>Other Preschool</th>
<th>Before/Afterschool</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community-Based</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>797</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>2,574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start/Pre-K</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>1,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-age</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>696</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>2,441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>1,406</td>
<td>1,906</td>
<td>1,937</td>
<td>1,096</td>
<td>6,796</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis of these data

• This operational work already shows the dynamic nature of ECE, including:
  – The overlap of programs are specific sites
  – The closing of programs

• It also shows that careful survey work needs to get done in order to have an accurate picture of ECE
In conclusion

• We believe that we have been successful in collecting data about the complicated set of center-based options.

• The challenge is to properly describe the supply in a way that makes the complex picture of ECE care accurate and understandable so that we can inform policy makers well.