



Slide 1



National Survey of **Early Care & Education**

## NSECE Downloadable Presentation VI: Household Survey



## 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



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## 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



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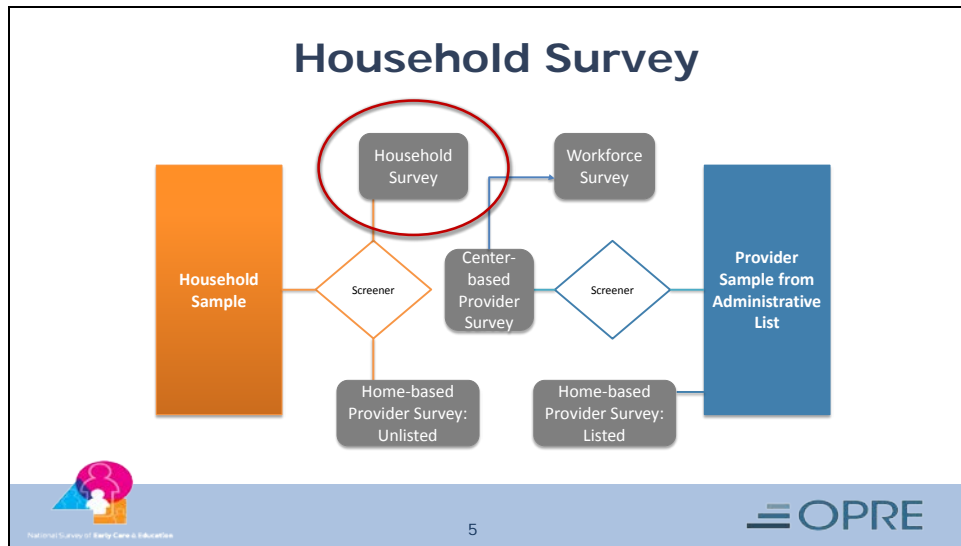
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# Household Survey





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 Household Survey, circled in red in the figure above. The Household Survey was conducted with households selected from the household sample. To determine eligibility, these household were screened for the presence of children under 13 years old, regardless of the relationships of children and adults in the household.

## Household Data Collection

- Address-based sample
  - Screener by mail, phone, or in-person
- Household interview
  - Primarily in-person, with small fraction by phone. English or Spanish
- 11,629 households, including 21,665 children under 13 years



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- The NSECE household sample is an address-based sample drawn from the Delivery Sequence File (DSF) maintained by the US Postal Service and a freshly listed sample of housing units in a small number of locations where the DSF lacked adequate coverage to support a high-quality sample
- Screening was completed in three modes (mail, telephone, and in-person). Most interviews were completed shortly after screening, but in some instances, several months might have elapsed between the screening and the interview.
- The NSECE HH data offer large samples of low-income children. Because the experiences of low-income families are of special interest in public policy addressing ECE/SA, the NSECE sample design included a low-income oversample. Samples were selected disproportionately from areas in which at least 40 percent of households had income below 250 percent of federal poverty guidelines.

## Topics Covered – Household Survey

- Child-level data for all children
  - All regular arrangements (type and cost)
  - All non-parental care in prior week (type)
- Nonparental care calendar for prior week
- Work-related calendar for prior week for all parents or resident care-givers
- Household characteristics
- Perceptions of care and recent search



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- The HH questionnaire collected data on all children in the household under 13 years of age, not just a focal child. The instrument also collected ECE payment data for each child-provider pair.
- The nonparental care schedule captures the child's schedule for the prior week in 15-minute increments of time.
- The work-related schedule for parents and resident care-givers also recorded data in 15-minute increments of time.
- The HH survey also provides the first national information on the search for nonparental care; if a household reported searching for care within the last 24 months, the instrument collected information on why, how and when they searched for care as well as what the outcome of the search was.



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# Household Data





## Household Respondent

- 11,629 households, including 21,665 children under 13 years
- Respondent was an individual who was knowledgeable about the ECE usage and schedule of the youngest child in the HH
- Most commonly the mother, but could be another guardian or adult



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It was possible for some households to have more than one parent of a child under 13 years of age and therefore the data may not be as consistently complete across all children living in the household. For instance, a parent may have children under thirteen years old as well as a teenage daughter who is also the parent of the youngest child in the household. In this scenario, we would have made an effort to conduct the interview with the teenage daughter since she is the parent of (and probably most knowledgeable about) the youngest child living in the household. In such instances the data collected for the other child(ren) may not be as detailed. Another scenario we encountered was multiple families living in one household. These situations were not very common, but did occur.

## Levels of Observation

- Child-level: all children < 13 years
- HH members in roster
- ECE Providers used by HH last week
- ECE Arrangements (provider-child pairs)
- Parents/Caregivers for work calendar
- Most recent search for ECE
- Respondent level: work, demographics
- HH level: income/program participation





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The Household Questionnaire included multiple levels of observation.

### Household Survey Data Files

	Sample Size	Topics	Type of Added Information
Quick Tab – HH	11,629 HHs	Demographics, ECE Usage & Cost	
Quick Tab - Child	21,665 Children	Demographics, ECE Usage	
Main Public Use	11,629 HHs and 21,665 Children	All but Calendar	Topics (Search), Levels (HH members, ECE arrangements), Values and Variables
Calendar (Public Use)	11,629 HHs and 21,665 Children	Child and Adult Calendar only	
Restricted Use L1 Questionnaire	11,629 HHs and 21,665 Children	Selected	Non-topcoded values, community characteristics, selected ECE provider characteristics

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Four public use files and one restricted use Level 1 file contain Household Survey data. The Quick Tab files address considerably fewer topics than does the Main Public Use file.

## Key Differences Across Household Data Files

- Quick tabulation: limited child- or HH-level created variables to support usage and cost analyses
- Public use: Comprehensive data from calendars, at arrangement-level, search/perceptions
- Restricted use: A few variables with disclosure risk (income, occupation, cost of care)



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Relatively little additional information is available in the Restricted Use Level 1 file.

## Household, from Household-level Quick Tab

Variable name:	HH_HHCOMP_NUMCH_0THRU5YRS		
Label:	Number of children ages 0 through 5 in HH		
Response	Codes	Unweighted Frequency	Weighted Percentage
None	0	4,595	39.39%
One	1	4,650	40.88%
Two	2	1,920	16.08%
Three	3	400	3.26%
Four or more	4	64	0.40%



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Data users are able to distinguish between variables from the household-level file from the child-level file by looking at the variable prefix. In this case, the prefix is HH\_. This indicates that the variable is a household-level variable.



This slide and the next few following provide some basic indications of the key sample sizes within the data. Note that almost 40 percent of households in the survey data have no children age birth through five years; these households have only school-age children.

### Household, from Child-level Quick Tab

Variable name: **HHC**\_HH\_KIDS\_NUM\_0TO13

Label: Number of children ages 0-12 in the HH

Response	Codes	Unweighted Frequency	Weighted Percentage
1	1	5,093	25.67%
2	2	8,214	40.38%
3	3	5,070	22.11%
4	4	2,052	7.87%
5	5	740	2.59%
6	6	324	0.89%
7	7	147	0.37%
8	8	16	0.10%
9	9	9	0.01%



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This variable is a child-level variable for the Household child-level quick tabulation file. The prefix HHC\_ indicates child-level.



This table shows the number of eligible children for whom child-level data are available in each household. Just over 25 percent of children are in households with only one child age birth through 12 years.

### Household, from Child-level Quick Tab

Variable name: HHC\_NPC\_NPROV\_TOC4

Label: Child Provider count: center-based ECE

Response	Codes	Unweighted Frequency	Weighted Percentage
0	0	19,291	86.99%
1	1	2,247	12.32%
2	2	122	0.66%
3	3	4	0.02%
4	4	1	0.01%






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A series of variables in the child-level Quick Tabulation file indicates the number of providers in each type of care. This variable from the series of Nonparental care (NPC) variables indicates the number of center-based ECE providers used by each child. A weighted 87 percent of children in the survey data do not use any center-based ECE.

### Household, from Child-level Quick Tab


Variable name:	HHC_HH_ECON_INCOME_POVRATCAT		
Label:	Ratio of annual income for calendar year 2011 to poverty level		
Response	Codes	Unweighted Frequency	Weighted Percentage
<100% income-to-poverty ratio	1	8,302	29.38%
>=100 to <200% income-to-poverty ratio	2	5,491	22.33%
>=200 to <300% income-to-poverty ratio	3	2,925	14.58%
>=300% income-to-poverty ratio	4	4,947	33.70%

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This child-level variable shows children’s households categorized based on their 2011 income to poverty needs ratio. Twenty-nine percent of children in the data are in poor households (< 100% of poverty level). Note that the unweighted proportion, 8302/21665 , is substantially larger, reflecting the oversampling of low-income areas built into the NSECE sampling design. This variable also appears in the Household Quick Tabulation file, indicating rates for households.





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Questions about using the  
NSECE data?

Please write **NSECE@NORC.ORG**

