Addressing the Decrease in Family Child Care

August, 2018

Office of Child Care

Early Childhood
National Centers

Presenters

- **Siobhan Bredin**, National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment (NCASE)

- **Nadia Orfali & Kathryn Tout**, ChildTrends

- **Tasha Owens-Green**, Child Care Services Director, Tennessee Department of Human Services

- **Mary Beth Salomone-Testa**, Policy Consultant, National Association for Family Child Care

Session Objectives

- Understand how data can support FCC supply building policies and implementation practices

- Identify state examples of policies and implementation practices to support FCC

- Explore strategies, challenges, and solutions for FCC supply building

Agenda

- Family Child Care overview
  - National data
  - Characteristics
- Using administrative data
- Discussion
- Wrap-up
- Resources

Family Child Care

- One of three categories of care

- Family child care providers:
  - Licensed (family child care)
  - License-exempt (family, friend and neighbor care)

Advantages of Family Child Care

Children	Parents	Community
• Single caregiver • Family setting • Nurturing and responsive	• Convenient, flexible, and affordable • Siblings together • Familiar language and culture	• Economic asset • Continuity of care • Social asset

Source: Bromer, 2016.

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Who is Using Family Child Care

- More infants and toddlers than in centers

- Low-income families with non-standard work hours

- Approximately 25 percent of children in subsidized child care are in home-based child care (child's home, family home, and group home)

Source: Retrieved from https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/fy-2016-preliminary-data-table-3

Decline in Family Child Care

◆ Children receiving CCDF subsidies in FCC (child's home, family home, group home):
  – 2008, 38%
  – 2016, 22% [1]

◆ Decline in the number of licensed or regulated FCC providers:
  – 13% from 2008 to 2011[a]
  – 15% from 2011 to 2014[b]

Sources: [1] ACF-800 (provider) and ACF-801 (child) data
[a] National Center on Child Care Quality Improvement, 2013; [b] National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance, 2015.

Using Administrative Data to Understand the Decline in Family Child Care

Nadia Orfali & Kathryn Tout

Presentation at the State and Territory Administrators Meeting, August 2018

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 New Mexico. The TA opportunity is available to other states.

New Mexico's Questions about Family Child Care

Over time and across different areas of the state...

1

How has the **supply** of family child care (registered and licensed) changed over time, compared to center-based programs?

2

How has the **need** for family child care changed over time among children receiving CCDF?
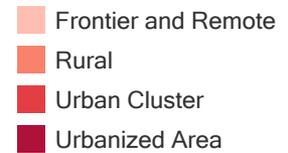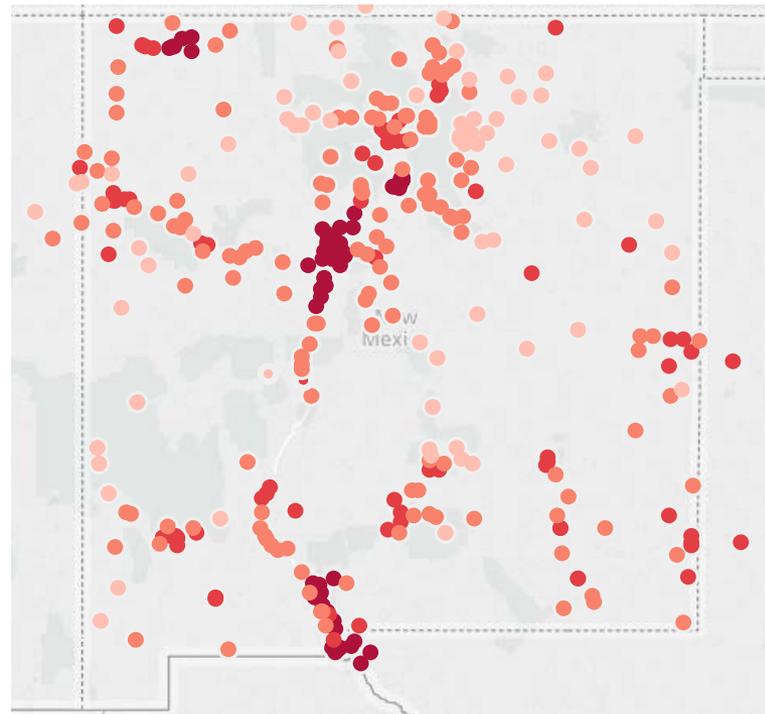
Data Linking Process

Program Data → **ACF 801 Data** → **Publicly available data**

- 16 files of each type from 2003 –2018
- Almost all files are from January of each year to provide a **cross-sectional** look at programs and children each year

Classifying Program and Family Location

- Zip Codes, ZCTA, Urban Areas, FAR Codes

Frontier and Remote
Rural
Urban Cluster
Urbanized Area

Key Data Elements for Success

Consistent, unique identifier at the program level in the program files and the ACF 801 files

Program zip code and family zip code (could use FIPS code or county)

Program, family, and child demographic characteristics (e.g., language spoken)

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Examples of Data Questions

- How has the number of registered FCC, licensed FCC, and licensed centers in urban, rural, and frontier areas of the state changed over time?

- How has the number of children receiving CACFP attend registered FCC, licensed FCC, and licensed centers in urban, rural, and frontier areas of the state changed over time?

- How has the number of registered FCC providers becoming licensed or dropping out of the system changed over time?

Lessons Learned (so far…)

Hard to disentangle the supply and demand of license-exempt family child care

Grace periods to become registered to receive CCDF funds may lead to unmatched records, requiring creative data solutions

Zip codes change!

Exploring the Decline in Other States

- Identify available data elements:
  - Licensing data
  - QRIS data
  - Facility data
- What characteristics are associated with closures or with staying open?
  - Age of business/Age of provider
  - Geographic region
  - Participation in QRIS
  - Licensing violations
  - Other?

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Child Care Administrative Data Analysis Center (CCADAC)

- *The Child Care Administrative Data Analysis Center (CCADAC) is supported through the Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) in the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and managed through the Child Care and Early Education Policy Analysis (CCEEPRA) contract with Child Trends.*
  - *Ivelisse Martinez-Beck, CCEEPRA Project Officer*

- *The primary purpose of CCADAC is to support the use of administrative data to address policy-relevant early care and education research questions for state child care administrators and their research partners.*
  - *Kathleen Dwyer, CCADAC Project Officer*

Where to find resources on using administrative data?

Child Care & Early Education
RESEARCH CONNECTIONS

http://www.researchconnections.org/content/childcare/understand/administrative-data.html

Organizes resources by topic:

• Managing administrative data

• Analyzing administrative data

• Linking administrative data

• Data confidentiality and security

CCADAC Resources

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/resource/supporting-use-administrative-data-early-care-education-research-resource-series

1. Developing Collaborative Partnerships with State Agencies
2. Determining the Feasibility of Using Administrative Data
3. Considerations in Preparing to Analyze Administrative Data
4. Early Childhood Data Definitions: A Guide for Researchers Using Administrative Data
5. Opportunities through State Agency Research Partnerships for Using Administrative Data to Support Early Care and Education

CCADAC Resource Coming Soon…

- Guidelines for Developing Data Sharing Agreements to Use State Administrative Data for Early Care and Education Research

Discussion

Data

- What types of data do you collect?

- Do you share data with other agencies?

- How have you used or will you use data to inform your work on FCC supply building?

Contributing Factors

- What have you learned about the contributing factors for the decline in the number of FCC providers in your state?

Family Child Care Challenges

- Multiple standards and regulations

- Isolation

- Lack of access to information and resources

- Role burden

- Low income; lack of benefits

Strategies for Addressing the Decline

- What strategies is your state using to encourage inclusion of family child care in your state systems?

- What strategies have you used to reach out to and engage providers?
    - What has been the response/resulted in the greatest response?

- What supports have you offered to family child care providers in your state?

Strategies

- Revisit subsidy policies and payment rates
- Create supports to reduce isolation, and share program costs and services
- Expand training opportunities
- Assess the impact of regulatory and policy changes, zoning and homeowner association rules

Strategies

- Encourage and support participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), quality initiatives and accreditation programs

- Raise awareness and recognition

- Share resources on partnering with organizations in the community

- Support license-exempt providers

Wrap-Up

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Resources

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Thank you!

- **Nadia Orfali** norfali@childtrends.org, **Kathryn Tout** ktout@childtrends.org, ChildTrends https://www.childtrends.org/

- **Tasha Owens-Green**, Child Care Services Director, Tennessee Department of Human Services Tasha.Owens-Green@tn.gov

- **Mary Beth Salomone-Testa**, Policy Consultant, marybeth@mbstsolutions.com, National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) https://www.nafcc.org/

- **National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance (NCECQA)** QualityAssuranceCenter@ecetta.info

- **National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment (NCASE)** ncase@ecetta.info

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