



Early Childhood Data Collaborative

Developing Comprehensive Early Childhood Data Systems to Support Accountability Systems



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Overview


- Early Childhood Data Collaborative
- Policy Choices for Accountability Systems
- 2013 Early Care and Education Data Systems Survey

Early Childhood Data Collaborative

www.ecedata.org

Supports state policymakers' development and use of coordinated state early care and education (ECE) data systems to improve the quality of ECE programs and the workforce, increase access to high-quality ECE programs, and ultimately improve child outcomes.

Guiding Principles

- From compliance-driven to **improvement-driven data systems**
 - From fragmented data systems to **coordinated data systems**
 - From “snapshot” data to **longitudinal data systems**
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Accountability Systems: Policy Choice #1

- Evaluate quality early learning experiences by collecting early childhood data that can be analyzed at the child, program, and workforce levels
 - ✓ Developing and connecting systems to track child, program, and workforce data (10 fundamentals of data systems)
 - ✓ Reduce duplication of data collection and improve the quality of data gathered for decision-makers

Accountability Systems: Policy Choice #2

- Have clear indicators of child, family, and program effectiveness
 - ✓ Early childhood data systems need to be guided by key policy questions that are critical for your state
 - ✓ ECDC's key policy questions
 - Are children ready for school?
 - What is the quality of early learning programs?
 - How prepared is our workforce?
 - What policies and investments have been successful?

Accountability Systems: Policy Choice #3

- Longitudinal, linked data systems between programs and state agencies that can be disaggregated by risk factors to inform strategies for improving program quality and child outcomes
 - ✓ Most states have point-in-time data systems that don't show the experiences of children over time
 - ✓ Linked systems allow policymakers to see trends and examine differences for subgroups

Accountability Systems: Policy Choice #4


- Early warning systems to identify problems such as chronic absence and allow for timely intervention
 - ✓ Data collected at the child, program, and workforce level may be used to understand the outcome of services or identify when and where policy changes may be needed (ex. child development data or QRIS rating)

Accountability Systems: Policy Choice #5

- Professional development for data users (parents, teachers, administrators) to support the correct interpretation and use of data
 - ✓ Early childhood data governance entities play a key role in supporting the quality and use of data by all stakeholders

Status of State Systems

2013 ECDC Survey

- Linkages of child-level data across ECE programs and with other data systems
 - State-level data on child screening, diagnostic and assessment data
 - Governance entities, authority and functions
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