Where Are Kids Spending Their Days?
Exploring the Array of Early Learning Settings

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Parental Care Only

37.7%  19.6%
Nonparental Child Care

Center-Based

Family Child Care (Home-Based)
Child Care Use: By Type, Across Age

Percent of non-parental care types by child age

- Infants
- 1-year-olds
- 2-year-olds
- 3-year-olds
- 4-year-olds
- 5-year-olds

Not exclusive categories.

*66% of 5-year-olds are in kindergarten
Center-Based

- Group care
  - For profit or non-profit
  - Includes preschool/pre-k
Center-Based

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- Most are licensed
- Undergo the most inspections
Center-Based

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2012
6.98 million
0-5 year-olds
in 129,000
centers

Preschool on the Rise

Publicly-Funded Center-Based

- Serves families below the federal poverty line & children with disabilities.
- Prenatal to 5 years old
  - 78% enrolled are between ages 3 and 5.
Publicly-Funded Center-Based

2015-2016
1.1 million children
Publicly-Funded Center-Based

Public Pre-K

2015-2016

45 states + D.C.

1.4 million children

Nonparental Child Care

Center-Based

Family Child Care (Paid vs. Unpaid)
Child Care Use: By Type, Across Age

Percent of non-parental care types by child age

Not exclusive categories.
*66% of 5-year-olds are in kindergarten
Family Child Care (Home-Based)

- Family Child Care Home
- Licensed Child Care Home
- Licensed Group Family Child Care Home
- Legally or License-Exempt Home
- Certified Child Care Home
- Registered Child Care Home
- Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) Care

2012
7.7 million 0-5 year-olds in 3.8 million homes
Paid Family Child Care

• May or may not be required to follow health and safety standards.
  – Standards may be set by state/county/city.
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  – Standards may be set by state/county/city.
  – Often depends upon number of unrelated children provider cares for.
Paid Family Child Care

- If they are required to meet standards, they may be called:
  - Regulated, Licensed, Registered, or Certified.
Paid Family Child Care

- Licensed-exempt providers:
  - Family, Friend, and Neighbor Care
- Not regulated care:
  - Informal Child Care
Unpaid Family Child Care

- Unregulated form of child care in or out of family’s home.

- Across all ages 0-5, 60% of home-based care is unpaid
Common Combinations of Care

Irregular: 11.7%

Home Paid & Unpaid: 2.3%

Center & Home Unpaid: 2.0%

Center & Home Unpaid: 7.5%

Irregular: 7.4%
Resources

National Study of Early Care and Education

Child Care Aware of America

Child Trends Data Bank

Education Commission of the States

National Center for Education Statistics

National Research Center on Hispanic Children & Families
Be in Touch

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