

**Notes for NC Early Childhood Data Advisory Council (ECDAC) Meeting  
Sept 15, 2021, 11:30am-1:00pm, Zoom**

Total Attendance: 35

NC ECIDS Governance Council also joined the meeting (12 participants ECIDS GC only + ECDAC overlap)

**NC Early Childhood Data Advisory Council Objectives:**

- Improve quality and scope of early childhood data
- Advocate for agencies and organizations to align their work around the NC Early Childhood Action Plan (ECAP) and Pathways measures
- Advocate for and facilitate better data sharing
- Provide guidance, feedback, support to ground the state's early childhood work in data/research
- Build partnerships with other existing data groups
- Serve as ambassadors for NC ECAP, ECIDs, and Pathways

**NC ECIDS Update—Dr. Tanya Morgan**

- Shared updated visual for NC ECIDS infrastructure (see PPT attached)
  - Edit first slide visual--Infant Toddler and Part C are the same
- DCDEE is proposing increasing frequency of ECIDS data refresh to monthly
  - From Barbara Simpson: Part C and other groups may have challenges reporting monthly
  - From KC Elander (chat/follow-up email): DPI does not, as a rule, share data with outside entities until the districts and the State Board have had a chance to review and correct, if necessary. This typically takes place the summer AFTER an academic year. Headcount numbers are sometimes available for the Exceptional Children area before the year is over, but we deliver more than that to ECIDs. We don't typically provide "feeds" of real time data because that process would short cut the step above. That is why the EC Program data which we send to ECIDS is on an annual delivery schedule. Changing that schedule to a "during the school year" delivery would require a much bigger conversation between the agency leadership, the EC business area and data team.
  - **Action Step: DCDEE will schedule a meeting to discuss proposed frequency changes**
- Shared Phase 2 selector timeline.
  - Three programs to be added: Head Start, Home Visiting, and Early Hearing Detection and Intervention.

**DCDEE Data Update—Justine Rogoff**

- Justine is the new Early Childhood Data and Policy Analyst at DCDEE
- DCDEE is developing a public administrative data dashboard to make available frequently requested information (e.g., data visuals, downloadable de-identified aggregate data sets).
  - Should be available by the end of 2021
- New COVID data story will document DCDEE data response to pandemic in downloadable report
- DCDEE is committed to ongoing analysis of COVID-19 related data impacting young children, families, and early education staff across NC
- Why? Increased data transparency, help to address multiple data requests to DCDEE
- **Action Step: DCDEE may reach out to ECDAC members for feedback on dashboard, Share new dashboard and data story at next ECDAC meeting**

### **DPI Office of Early Learning Update—Dan Tetreault**

- NC Early Learning Inventory (ELI) standards setting process, conducted in collaboration with Center for Education Measurement and Evaluation at UNC-Charlotte, was delayed by the pandemic. They will be engaging different stakeholders—including PreK and elementary school teachers--in this planning over the next year.
- Standards setting panel tasks include:
  - Confirming that the Teaching Strategies GOLD color bands are relevant for NC
  - Developing a process for determining a "readiness indicator" for state reporting
  - Making recommendations for how to display readiness indicator on School Report Card
- Timeline:
  - October – Recruitment of participants
  - Mid-January – Orientation meeting
  - Mid-February – Standards setting meeting
  - End of March – CEME report
  - April-May – State Board of Education meeting
  - Fall 2022 – School Report Cards
- Question: Should we now refer to the Kindergarten Entry Assessment as Teaching Strategies GOLD? We call the KEA the NC Early Learning Inventory and it utilizes 14 of TS GOLD dimensions.

### **Child Care Measures Data Development Workgroup**

- A workgroup convened this summer to discuss and plan data development for the following two affordable, high-quality child care measures included in ECDAC's [Data Development Strategy](#):
  1. Estimated eligible children under age 6 receiving child care subsidies, disaggregated by race/ethnicity and income.
  2. Families paying 10 percent or less of their income on child care, disaggregated by race/ethnicity, income, and age of child.
- Workgroup members:
  - Amy Hawn Nelson, Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy, U Penn
  - Janet Singerman, Child Care Resources Inc., Charlotte
  - Joanne Brosch, Carolina Demography
  - Kristi Snuggs, Division of Child Development and Early Education
  - Rachel Kaplan, School of Education, UNC-Chapel Hill
  - Vikki Crouse, NC Child
- Subsidy Measure
  - Data available in NC FAST (Families Accessing Services through Technology).
    - Disaggregated race/ethnicity and income data have not been publicly available
  - Workgroup proposes using the following race/ethnicity categories:
    - Black, non-Hispanic
    - White, non-Hispanic
    - Other race, non-Hispanic
    - Hispanic
    - Two or more race
  - Explore options for income categories with Subsidized Child Care team
  - DCDEE is already planning to report disaggregated subsidy data on dashboard. Additional request may not be needed--NCECF to confirm. Also, race/ethnicity categories to be used.
  - Question: Do we know % unreported race/ethnicity for subsidy data? Not at this time.
  - Make sure to disaggregated and report at county level on the dashboard

- Family Income Measure
  - We currently have access to some family income data in NC FAST, but only for families receiving child care subsidies--not families paying on their own
  - Potential options:
    - Overlaying CCR&R and DCDEE data with ACS data
    - Periodic survey of families on affordability of child care
  - There may be an opportunity to add incorporate an affordability/family income question in to the PDG needs assessment with Hunt Institute/CCFP
  - What is the goal of this measure? To demonstrate affordability of high-quality child care for all families, not just those receiving subsidies. Also, disaggregated to provide more detail.
  - Why 10%? Percent identified by ECAP.
  - DCDEE does not “own” data measures, updating, reporting, etc. for Early Childhood Action Plan. Need to figure out where this lies. Potential supportive role of ECDAC
  - **Action Step: NCECF to reach out to PDG Needs Assessment Team about potential to add question that gets at this measure. Workgroup to support with wording for questions.**
- Next Measures for Data Development
  - From Poll: #1 Social-emotional health screening, #2 Parent education supports—measures group is most interested in working on next
  - From Kristi Snuggs—Suggests seeing what data work is moving forward in other PDG areas (e.g., social-emotional health, family engagement & leadership) & potentially aligning efforts
  - **Action Step: NCECF will research work already taking place in these areas/measures and see potential alignment with ECDAC data development**

#### Other Updates

- Hayley Young shared about data included in the NC COVID-19 data dashboard, including some new data. Also, child care/K-12 COVID-19 data report available. See links below.
- Carla Garrett presented on ESSER and early childhood, and shared a new resource: [How Pandemic Relief for K-12 Education Can Support Early Childhood](#). See PPT slides for more info.
- **Action Step: Share ideas for next ECDAC meeting agenda items with [Mary Mathew](#) by Dec 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Next Meeting:** December 15, 2021 @ 11:30am via Zoom

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#### COVID-19 Data Dashboard

##### Vaccinations

- [Link to dashboard here](#)
- Navigate to “Demographics Data” tab
- Can filter to state or county and by metric
- See “Percent of Population” metrics (third and fourth options on dropdown) for data on percent of population vaccinated
- Coming soon: Working towards adding state-level “cross-tabs” of data (e.g., race + age group, ethnicity + age group)

### **Outbreaks & Clusters**

- [COVID-19 Ongoing Clusters in Child Care and School Settings Report](#) is updated every Tuesday
- [Public dashboard](#) is updated every Thursday and includes a section for Child Care and K-12 School Settings

### **Cases & Deaths Demographics**

- [Link to dashboard here](#)
- Updated every Monday
- Includes data on Cases, Cases per 100,000 and Deaths
- Includes data by age group

### **Hospitalizations**

- [Link to dashboard here](#)
- Navigate to “Hospitalizations Demographics” tab, which is updated twice/week on Tues and Fri
- Includes data by age group
- Coming soon: adding trend line for percent of total hospitalizations that are pediatric