

WORKSHOP 3

Research Opportunities Using Longitudinal Data From the Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey

Chair: Maria Woolverton

Presenters: Alberto Sorongon, Nicholas Zill, Kwang Kim, Shawn Pelak

The Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey (FACES) is an ongoing series of longitudinal studies of Head Start program characteristics and child outcomes, using nationally representative samples of Head Start programs, children, and families. Studies of 2 separate cohorts have been completed to date, namely FACES 1997 and 2000. More than 2,000 children in each cohort were followed from first entrance into Head Start through first grade in FACES 1997 and through the end of kindergarten in FACES 2000. Longitudinal data from these 2 cohorts are now available for secondary analysis. The data sets include information from direct child assessments, parent interviews, teacher interviews, teachers' child reports, and classroom observations. An overview of FACES was provided and potential data users were trained on how to use the FACES datasets for secondary data analysis. Procedures for extracting data, using appropriate weights for analyses, and running descriptive statistics were demonstrated.