



Child Trends' Research on Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS)

Compendia

Child Care Quality Rating System (QRS) Assessment: Compendium of Quality Rating Systems and Evaluations

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/cc/childcare_quality/

April 2010

Commissioned by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) this Compendium profiles QRS in 26 states and local areas and provides an analytic framework for assessing the critical elements of QRS and QRS evaluations.

Briefs and Reports

Coaching for Quality Improvement: Lessons Learned from Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS)

http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2011_04_27_FR_CoachingQuality.pdf

February 2011

This research brief summarizes a recent report synthesizing findings from a literature review and a multi-case study of coaching in Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS) to understand more about the practice of coaching and whether features of coaching can be identified that are linked to positive outcomes for practitioners and children. The Research Brief concludes with an overview of implications for QRIS policy and practice.

Coaching in Early Care and Education Programs and Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS): Identifying Promising Features

http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2011_04_27_FR_CoachingEarlyCare.pdf

February 2011

This brief synthesizes findings from a review of the literature and a multi-case study of coaching in Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS), in order to understand more about the practice of coaching and whether features of coaching can be identified that are linked to positive outcomes for practitioners and children. Conclusions drawn from the synthesis can be used to generate recommendations for further specification of coaching models in theory and in practice.

July 2011

Minnesota Parent Aware Quality Rating and Improvement System Pilot

<http://www.melf.us/>

November 2010

This report is the third to be produced from the Evaluation of Parent Aware being conducted by Child Trends and funded by the Minnesota Early Learning Foundation (MELF). It covers the third year of Minnesota's pilot QRIS from July, 2009 through August, 2010 and provides an in-depth analysis of the measurement tools and rating process used in Parent Aware, changes in quality among Parent Aware-rated programs, parents' perceptions of quality and knowledge of Parent Aware, and the school readiness of children participating in Parent Aware-rated programs. The previous evaluation reports focused on early implementation of the Parent Aware pilot (see Tout, Starr & Cleveland, 2009; Tout, Starr, Isner, Cleveland, Soli & Quinn, 2010).

Quality Rating and Improvement Systems for Early Care and Education

http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2010_05_10_HL_QRIS.pdf

May 2010

Research suggests that high quality early care and education programs can have a significant impact on improving the cognitive, academic and social skills for all children, especially those most at risk for later school failure. A number of states are developing Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS) to assess and improve the quality of early care and education programs for children ages birth to five and older.

Issues for the Next Decade of Child Care Quality Rating Systems

http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2009_5_19_RB_QualityRating.pdf

May 2009

This Issue Brief draws on a review of the literature on QRSs, as well as the proceedings of three meetings convened by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) in collaboration with other federal partners in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The meetings brought together researchers, federal agency staff, representatives from state QRS and other quality initiatives, and a variety of stakeholders from national organizations to discuss issues related to the measurement of quality and evaluation of quality initiatives. This brief describes key themes from the meetings, and then concludes with a description of follow-up steps OPRE is taking in collaboration with partners to address the issues raised.

July 2011

Additional Child Trends activities related to QRIS

Quality Initiatives Research and Evaluation Consortium (INQUIRE)

INQUIRE supports high quality, policy-relevant research and evaluation on quality rating and improvement systems (QRIS) and other quality initiatives by providing a learning community and resources to support researchers. The Consortium also provides input and information to state administrators and other policymakers and practitioners on evaluation strategies, new research, interpretation of research results, and implications of new research for practice. Child Trends helps to facilitate INQUIRE activities.

QRIS National Learning Network

Child Trends is a member of the Quality Rating and Improvement System National Learning Network which provides information, learning opportunities and direct technical assistance to states that have a QRIS or that are interested in developing one. The Network's webpage includes a state and national resource library.

<http://qrisnetwork.org>