

The Quality Compendium Webinar

Question and Answer Report

February 26, 2020 3:00pm EST
View the [recording](#) and [slide deck](#).

The BUILD Initiative and Child Trends hosted a webinar to share updates to the Quality Compendium, including new data, features of the website, and how quality improvement leaders use the data in their work.

Speakers included:

- **Debi Mathias**, Director of the QRIS National Learning Network, *BUILD Initiative*
- **Kathryn Tout**, Vice President of Early Childhood Research and Partnerships, *Child Trends*
- **Liz Bedrick**, Senior Policy Assistant of Early Childhood Research, *Child Trends*
- **Simon Workman**, Director of Early Childhood Policy, *Center for American Progress*
- **Char Goodreau**, Senior Technical Assistance Specialist Consultant, *National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance*

The Quality Compendium

The [Quality Compendium](#) is a catalog and comparison of quality initiatives to promote thoughtful design, analysis, and ongoing improvement in early care and education systems building.

Webinar Questions and Answers

1. By what date will the data be updated?
 - a. All of the data is up-to-date and ready to be used for analysis. We are aiming to have the participation and density data cleaned by the end of March.

2. I often use the compendium but at times have a hard time getting reports for what I am looking for. Is there a good resource for asking for support when a report is needed.
 - a. Feel free to reach out to any of us on the Compendium team for support!
 - i. ebedrick@childtrends.org
 - ii. ktout@childtrends.org
 - iii. dmathias@buildinitiative.org

3. The new data variables are very helpful and I wanted to see a report of who/how they were addressing equity. I don't see that as a tab in the create a report section.
 - a. Equity is dispersed throughout the QRIS profiles on various tabs. For instance, you can find information on racial equity on the Program Information tab. You can also find information on how QRIS serve children with special needs throughout the Indicators tabs.

4. Where in the website are the states' quality scores?
 - a. The Participation tab in the QRIS profiles has data on participation at each quality level.

5. Can you provide more details about the data linkages you included in the compendium? Did you look at participation in CACFP?
 - a. We don't specifically ask states to report whether they link or integrate CACFP, however we do ask states to report whether they link or integrate with social services. We include the following options for states to select:

- i. Professional development/registry
 - ii. Case management (e.g. coaching, technical assistance)
 - iii. Licensing
 - iv. Subsidized child care
 - v. State pre-kindergarten
 - vi. Head Start
 - vii. K-12
 - viii. Social services (e.g. TANF, child welfare, SNAP, housing assistance)
 - ix. Health data (e.g. WIC, Medicaid, immunizations, birth records)
 - x. Preschool special education (IDEA Part B, Section 619)
 - xi. Early intervention (IDEA Part C)
 - xii. Home visiting
 - xiii. Other (Describe)
 - xiv. No data linkages
 - xv. No data system in use

6. Does the compendium have examples of specific language that states have used in their QRIS (indicators/standards of quality care)?
 - a. You can link to state-specific information by going to View State Profiles. When you click on a state, the website for the state QRIS will be visible. This is the best source for finding the language used in their indicators/quality standards. You can also view the [Resources](#) page for additional information (specifically the [National Program Standards Crosswalk Tool](#)). You may be able to find some state-specific language by reading through the description boxes throughout a state QRIS profile, but there is no set of data elements in the Compendium with this information.

7. Is there a way to see which states require CCDF programs to participate in QRIS? Or to see if participation in QRIS is mandatory or voluntary?
 - a. This information is housed in the Participation tab on the State Profiles. As of 3/10/2020, we are still cleaning this information so that the states' responses are more aligned with one another. We plan to have this cleaning finished by the end of March.

8. Is there data available about how many programs take advantage of QRIS TA/Coaching? Or how often programs take advantage of TA/Coaching?
 - a. There is data on TA in the Technical Assistance tab of the QRIS profiles. To view all of the states' TA information at once, we recommend you use the [Create a Report](#) function or the [Master Data Set](#). A few states added links in their QRIS profiles to their TA manuals and TA provider competencies. There also is a [fact sheet](#) with in-depth information on TA across QRIS from 2016, which you can find by going to About the Data → Fact Sheets → Technical Assistance. We are working to update this fact sheet to reflect the 2019 data.

9. In working with parents who may have difficulty enrolling their children in higher quality care, how much do QRIS focus on non-ECE funding sources for parent support and services?
 - a. This is a gap. We don't have a specific set of data options to focus on outside funding. States can write in additional details in their QRIS profiles where you might be able to find more information.

10. Do you have any recommendations for how philanthropic partners can use this data to support state partners, advocates, and grantees?

- a. The data can be used to show trends over time and to reveal areas for potential investments. One example is a recent trend in connecting subsidy systems with QRIS. There is an interest in knowing the number of states that have moved towards that connection. The compendium data aims to show those trends and the range of variability across states. It gives the philanthropic organizations a place to start understanding the QRIS by using a state profile or pulling data on a few states. The data are a conversation starter for grantees. The next part of the conversation is, “what are the needs to move the quality work forward?” QRIS are about taking a systematic approach. We want this to be visualized through the compendium because we want to include ALL quality improvement work, even if it may not be a whole system yet. This includes showing a wide range of efforts, from the small quality efforts in a state, to robust systematic approaches occurring elsewhere. It gives everyone a place to start and reveals insights into the foundation of a QRIS. Continuous quality improvement and movement is another big conversation that people give a lot of thought to. We reflect those trends in the data by what we hear in the field and we update the compendium based on that.
 - b. You can customize the data to view exactly what you are interested in. The fact sheets are helpful to look at because they include tables and analysis of some important QRIS data elements.
11. Does the compendium have examples of language used in QRIS?
- a. When we collect the data, we try to standardize information so that we can compare systems easily. However, most data elements include an “other” category, which allows states to write in an answer using language that fits their system. See the answer to question 6 for further information.
12. It would be great to have a way to reach out to other administrators to solve a policy problem.
- a. The National Center for Early Childhood Quality Assurance (the Quality Center) works directly with state administrators and implementers. We have a QRIS community of practice (~11 states currently), and they come together to ask questions. Contact Char Goodreau directly if you would like more information.
 - b. There’s a QRIS national meeting in July in Orlando where attendees will discuss challenges and hear about how others think about solutions. The QRIS E-News is another great source for quality systems building.
13. Can we use the Compendium data to see how systems embed non-ECE funding?
- a. We do not focus on funding outside of ECE. There may be options to expand the data to see these more innovative ways to bring in non-early care and education funding. States can write in additional information about funding in their QRIS. There may be useful information there worth examining. Ultimately it may be worth further coding of the financial data in the Compendium.
14. Which states recently updated their systems?
- a. The Program Information tab has a data element called “information about major revisions” where this information is housed. This tab also shows when states have pilots or have redesigned some components of their system.
15. In case we want to use Quality Compendium data for a dissertation or publication purpose, would we need to conduct any petition/permission process or can we use it just as public data without any paperwork?
- a. All of the data is publicly available. We request that you cite the website (guidance found [here](#)).