



WELCOME TO  
THE 2023  
NDACAN  
SUMMER  
TRAINING  
SERIES!

- The session will begin at 12pm EST.
- Please submit questions to the Q&A box.
- This session is being recorded.

**NDACAN SUMMER TRAINING SERIES:  
NDACAN & ADMINISTRATIVE DATA**

National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect  
Cornell University & Duke University

NATIONAL DATA ARCHIVE ON  
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT



**Children's Bureau**

An Office of the Administration for Children & Families

## NDACAN SUMMER TRAINING SERIES SCHEDULE 2023

- July 5 — Introduction to NDACAN and the Administrative Data Series
- July 12 — New Data Acquisition: CCOULD Data
- July 19 — Causal Inference Using Administrative Data
- July 26 — Evaluating and Dealing with Missing Data in R
- August 2 — Time Series Analysis in Stata
- August 9 — Data Visualization in R

# SESSION AGENDA

- Archiving Data
  - Why is it important and how do we do it?
- NDACAN
  - Who are we and what do we do?
- Available Datasets
  - Administrative data
  - Survey data
  - Other data

# ARCHIVING DATA

## WHY IS ARCHIVING IMPORTANT?

- Maximize the utility and exposure of data
- Allow data to be analyzed from multiple perspectives
- Preserve the history of child welfare
- Increase research volume on issues of child welfare

## ARCHIVING WITH NDACAN

- Benefits to the data contributor:
  - NDACAN preserves the original data
  - NDACAN connects interested users from the existing NDACAN network to the data, thereby increasing the potential number of author citations
  - NDACAN staff work directly with data users to ensure high standard of research and ensure data is being used and interpreted appropriately



## ARCHIVING WITH NDACAN

- Benefits to the research community:
  - NDACAN helps bring a greater understanding to the study of child well-being through replication and extension of previous research
  - NDACAN's events and support help foster connections between people in the child welfare community, such as researchers, practitioners, and policy makers.

# INTRODUCTION TO NDACAN

## MISSION

The National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) promotes secondary analysis of child abuse and neglect data by providing researchers with high quality datasets, documentation, and technical support, and encourages collaboration within the scientific community.

## BACKGROUND

- Located at two institutions: Cornell University and Duke University
- Founded in 1988
- Supported by contract with Children's Bureau, ACF

# STAFF

- **Director:**
  - *Christopher Wildeman, Ph.D. (Duke)*
- **Senior Advisor:**
  - *John Eckenrode, Ph.D. (Cornell)*
- **Project Manager:**
  - *Marie Tillema Cope, M.P.H., M.S.W. (Cornell)*
- **Research Associates:**
  - *Alexander F. Roehkasse, Ph.D. (Butler)*
  - *Frank R. Edwards, Ph.D. (Rutgers)*
- **Graduate Research Associate**
  - *Clayton Covington (Harvard)*
- **Co-Directors:**
  - *Erin McCauley, Ph.D., M.Ed. (UCSF)*
  - *Maria Fitzpatrick, Ph.D. (Cornell)*
- **Statisticians:**
  - *Michael Dineen, M.A. (Duke)*
  - *Sarah Sernaker, M.S. (Duke)*
- **Archiving Assistant:**
  - *Andres Arroyo (Cornell)*
- **Research Aide:**
  - *Alexandra Gibbons (Duke)*

# NDACAN ACTIVITIES

<b>Acquire</b>	<b>Collect and assess child welfare data</b>
<b>Protect</b>	<b>Protect confidentiality</b>
<b>Transform</b>	<b>Create documentation to make data usable</b>
<b>Disseminate</b>	<b>License and distribute datasets in multiple formats</b>
<b>Support</b>	<b>Support child welfare researchers</b>
<b>Expand</b>	<b>Expand the scope of child welfare research</b>

## ACQUIRE

- We acquire administrative and survey-based data to publicly archive.
- We serve anyone with child welfare related data who want to or are required to archive their data (e.g. grant requirements).
- If you are interested in archiving data with us visit our website:

<https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/contribute-data/contribute-data-general.cfm>

# PROTECT

- We review all data submissions to ensure participant confidentiality and remove all PII.
- Examples include masking data from very small counties or permuting dates.
  - For example in AFCARS
    - The FIPS codes of counties with fewer than 1,000 cases are masked
    - Child's DOB is recoded to the 15<sup>th</sup> of the respective month/year
    - All other dates are adjusted to preserve the time spans between dates
- To obtain data, users submit an application that is reviewed and approved by staff, sign data use agreements, and for some of our data, must obtain IRB approval.



# TRANSFORM

- Create user-guides and codebooks
- Add variables for ease of use
  - For example in AFCARS we add two-character postal codes for state (e.g. 'NY'), child's age derived at certain dates (AgeAtStart), rural/urban continuum code RUI3, and derived length of stay in foster care (LifeLOS).
- Other resources aimed to help researchers use the data:
  - Multiple data formats (e.g. SAS, SPSS, Stata, text) and program specific support for importing data
  - Any additional supplemental documentation to assist the user's understanding and use of the data

## DISSEMINATE

- License data to eligible researchers
- Distribute data in multiple data formats (e.g. SAS, SPSS, Stata)
- Conduct ad hoc special analyses, such as tabulations/aggregates

# SUPPORT

- Electronic mailing list (CMRL list serve)  
[child-maltreatment-research-1@cornell.edu](mailto:child-maltreatment-research-1@cornell.edu)
- *Updata* e-newsletter
- Child abuse and neglect Digital Library (canDL) reference database
- Summer Research Institute
- Summer Training Series
- NDACAN Office Hours
- General support and resources for getting started in various statistical programming languages  
<https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/user-support/user-support.cfm>
- Direct support or inquiries  
[NDACANsupport@cornell.edu](mailto:NDACANsupport@cornell.edu)

## EXPAND

- Foster interdisciplinary research teams
- Draw in researchers from new disciplines
  - Conference workshops and presentations
  - Summer Training Webinar Series
  - NDACAN Office Hours

# AVAILABLE DATASETS

# FEDERAL DATA COLLECTION EFFORTS

- **Administrative Data**
  - National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS)
  - Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS)
  - National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD)
- **National and Cross-Site Surveys**
  - National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW)
  - Longitudinal Studies of Child Abuse and Neglect (LONGSCAN)
  - National Incidence Studies of Child Abuse and Neglect (NIS)

## ADDITIONAL DATA OFFERINGS

- Rockwool-Duke Global Child Welfare Database (RDGCWD)
- Voluntary Cooperative Information System (VCIS)
- State Child Abuse and Neglect Policies Database (SCAN)
- Many, many more!

# NCANDS: NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT DATA SYSTEM

- A federally-sponsored national data collection effort created for the purpose of tracking the volume and nature of child maltreatment reporting each year within the United States. Data are collected annually through voluntary participation of states.
- The Child File (2000-2021) has case-level records and the Agency File (2009-2021) has state-level aggregates.
- Data consist of all investigations or assessments of alleged child maltreatment that received a disposition in the reporting year. Records are provided at the level of each child on a report, also known as the report-child pair.
- Data include the demographics of children and their perpetrators, types of maltreatment, investigation or assessment dispositions, risk factors, and services provided as a result of the investigation or assessment.
- Some state-level summary statistics are published annually by the Children's Bureau in the Child Maltreatment Report (1995-2021)



## **AFCARS: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ANALYSIS AND REPORTING SYSTEM**

- Federally mandated data on all children covered by the protections of Title IV-B/E of the Social Security Act (Section 427). States are required to collect data on all adopted children placed by the state's child welfare agency or by private agencies under contract with the public child welfare agency, and on all children in foster care for whom the state child welfare agency has responsibility for placement, care, or supervision.
- The Foster Care (FC) data files (2000-2021) contain information on child demographics including gender, birth date, race, and ethnicity, and information about their experience in foster care, such as removal reason, the number of previous stays in FC, service goals, availability for adoption, dates of removal and discharge, funding sources, and some demographic information about the child's caregiver.
- The Adoption data files (2000-2021) contain information on the adopted child's gender, race, birth date, ethnicity, prior relationship with the adoptive parents, the date the adoption was finalized, as well as dates parental rights were terminated, characteristics of birth and adoptive parents, and whether the child was placed from within the United States or from another country are also captured.
- The AFCARS collection and structure is going to dramatically change after 2021 due to updated regulations via the final rule published in May 2020 (85 FR 28410). More information and granularity will be collected about a child's experience in FC and adoption.

# NSCAW: NATIONAL SURVEY OF CHILD AND ADOLESCENT WELL-BEING

- NSCAW I (5 waves, 1999-2007), NSCAW II (3 waves, 2008-2012), NSCAW III (2 waves, only WI 2018-2021 released to date)
- A longitudinal study which examines child wellbeing and outcomes; captures information about their families, provides information about child welfare interventions and other services, and describes key characteristics of child development.
- Sponsored by the Administration for Children and Families, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- Research Example:
  - Campbell, K.A., Thomas, A. M., Cook, L. J., & Keenan, H.T. (2013). Resolution of intimate partner violence and child behavior problems after investigation for suspected child maltreatment resolution of IPV and child behavior problems. *JAMA Pediatrics*, 167(3), 236-242.

## LONGSCAN: LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- Followed 1,300+ children for comprehensive assessments of them, their parents, and their teachers, completed at child ages 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16, and 18 (1991-2012)
- Survey and administrative data was collected separately at 5 collection sites, each with different selection criteria representing varying levels of risk or exposure to maltreatment.
- Sponsored by Office of Child Abuse and Neglect, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services
- Research Example:
  - Godinet, M. T., Li, F., & Berg, T. (2014). Early childhood maltreatment and trajectories of behavioral problems: Exploring gender and racial differences. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 38(3), 544-556.

## **VCIS: VOLUNTARY COOPERATIVE INFORMATION SYSTEM**

- Historical data of annual state-level counts of children entering, in, and existing substitute care by age, sex, race/ethnicity, and duration of care from 1982 - 1995.
- Collected voluntarily by the American Public Welfare Association from state agencies administering public child welfare programs.
- Can be linked with aggregated data from AFCARS to create longer timespans.

## **SCAN: STATE CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT POLICIES DATABASE**

- This dataset compiles information on state definitions and policies related to the surveillance of child maltreatment incidence and associated risks and protective factors.
- A primary use of these data is to allow researchers to link the analytic files to other data sources to address important questions about variations in state definitions and policies.
- Can be linked at the state level with NCANDS, AFCARS, state administrative data, and survey data

# QUESTIONS?

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NEXT WEEK...

**July 12, 2023**

Presenter:

**Ben Allaire, RTI**

Topic:

**New Data Acquisition: Child and Caregiver  
Outcomes Using Linked Data (CCOULD)**