

2024 NSECE Data Files Overview

Data Access Levels

Which level of file access is right for you?

Data files from the 2024 National Survey of Early Care and Education (NSECE) are available for secondary analysis from the Child and Family Data Archive and NORC at the University of Chicago. The NSECE files have three configurations with increasing levels of detail: one level of downloadable public data files and two levels of restricted data files. The table on the right is intended to help analysts determine which level of file access will meet their needs.

Questions?

Contact the NSECE team at nsece@norc.org

User's Guides for the main public use data files show the available variables for both the PU and L1 files. For L2 data, contact the NSECE team at the email above to request an information packet.



National Survey of
Early Care & Education

ICPSR *NORC

Data File Type	Public vs. Restricted	Where to Access	Data File Description
Main Public Use (PU) Data Files 4 files ► Center-based ► Workforce ► Home-based ► Household		ICPSR	Expected users: academic researchers with programming expertise and data/statistical knowledge • All questionnaire response data subject to disclosure considerations • Extensive created variables • Summary variables supplementing from Census data, coding of responses into standard code frames
Restricted Use (RU) Level 1 (L1) Files 4 files ► Center-based L1 ► Workforce L1 ► Home-based L1 ► Household L1		ICPSR	RU L1 is permitted for approved research projects subject to researcher agreement on data access requirements and publication/dissemination. Expected users: academic researchers with programming expertise and data/statistical knowledge • Questionnaire response data not directly identifying respondents or locations but with some disclosure risk
RU Level 2 (L2) Files 4 files ► Center-based L2 ► Workforce L2 ► Home-based L2 ► Household L2		 Held by NORC, use subject to ACF approval.	RU L2 is permitted via remote access for approved research projects, subject to researcher agreement on data access requirements, IRB approval from the researcher's institution, ACF approval, and NORC restrictions on reporting of findings from analyses. Expected users: advanced researchers • Information can include state and county as well as linking variables for cluster-level analyses and county- and cluster-level sampling weights • NORC will work with researchers to create a unique dataset for each research team to fit their analytical needs • For data or analyses that involve geographical, census tract ID, or other information directly disclosing individual identity, NORC will work with researchers to determine if they can facilitate the analysis through the L2 environment