Children with disabilities tend to stay in a highly-resourced Early Head Start/Head Start program longer than children without disabilities.

Alan Cobo-Lewis
Mama, Dale Walker
Noreen Yazejian
Shinyoung Jeon
Karen Stoiber
Gabriela Guerrero
Donna Bryant

UWM: School Psychology Program, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
UNC: Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
KU: Juniper Gardens Children's Project, University of Kansas

Alan Cobo-Lewis
UMaine, Dale Walker
KU, Noreen Yazejian
UNC, Shinyoung Jeon
OU, Sandra Hong
UNC, Karen Stoiber
UWM, Diane Horm
OU, Gabriela Guerrero
KU, Donna Bryant

Children with disabilities tend to stay in a highly-resourced Early Head Start/Head Start program longer than children without disabilities and caregiver depression.

Events per year, age of birth mother, child's gender, food insecurity,

From 21 Educare schools over a 15-year period. We focused on how

time from birth until entry into Educare, and time from entry into

Educare to exit. Using data from 21 Educare schools, we measured the rate at which

Previous research has shown that the earlier and the longer children

Children with disabilities are more likely to stay longer and

In comparison, children without disabilities exited Educare an

younger children. For entry (top panel in right column), between three years before kindergarten, children with disabilities exit Educare at a lower rate than children without disabilities. This was more prevalent for

Race and ethnicity of children did not seem to play a role in the

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Comparison

Children with disabilities exited Educare at a lower rate than children without disabilities. This was more prevalent for

Timing of Exit from Program

Children with disabilities exited Educare at a lower rate than children without disabilities. This was more prevalent for

Timing of Entry into Program

Children with disabilities entered Educare 2.75 years before kindergarten (when children were 2.75 years old on average). So old children with disabilities entered Educare at a lower rate than children without disabilities.

Hazard Rate (events/child/year)

Hazard Rate

Hazard Rate (pens on middle) shows children with disabilities entered Educare 5.53 years before kindergarten (an average of 4.95 years older). In program entry, children with disabilities entered Educare at a lower rate than children without disabilities.

Survival

Survival (pens on right) indicates the probability of surviving to the next academic year. 

Entry rate sometimes peaks mid-year

For entry (top panel in right column), three years before kindergarten, survival for children with disabilities is higher than the survival for children without disabilities, because more children with disabilities haven’t entered yet. In contrast, starting at three years before kindergarten, survival for children with disabilities is lower than the survival for children without disabilities. This is because so many children with disabilities already entered three years before kindergarten (see peak in hazard rate in top left panel).

In program exit (bottom panel in middle column), hazard rate for children with disabilities is always lower than the hazard rate for children without disabilities. This indicates that children with disabilities exit Educare at a lower rate (tend to remain in program longer once they’re enrolled).

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