



Characteristics of High Quality Childcare: From Elusive to Understandable

Dr. Jen Gerdes
Nebraska Young Child Institute
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Hello!

I am Jen Gerdes

You can reach me at jenniferkgerdes@gmail.com

The background features a series of overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes in various shades of green and teal. The shapes are layered to create a sense of depth and movement, with some appearing as solid colors and others as halftone patterns. The overall composition is modern and minimalist.

// why does quality matter //

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE)

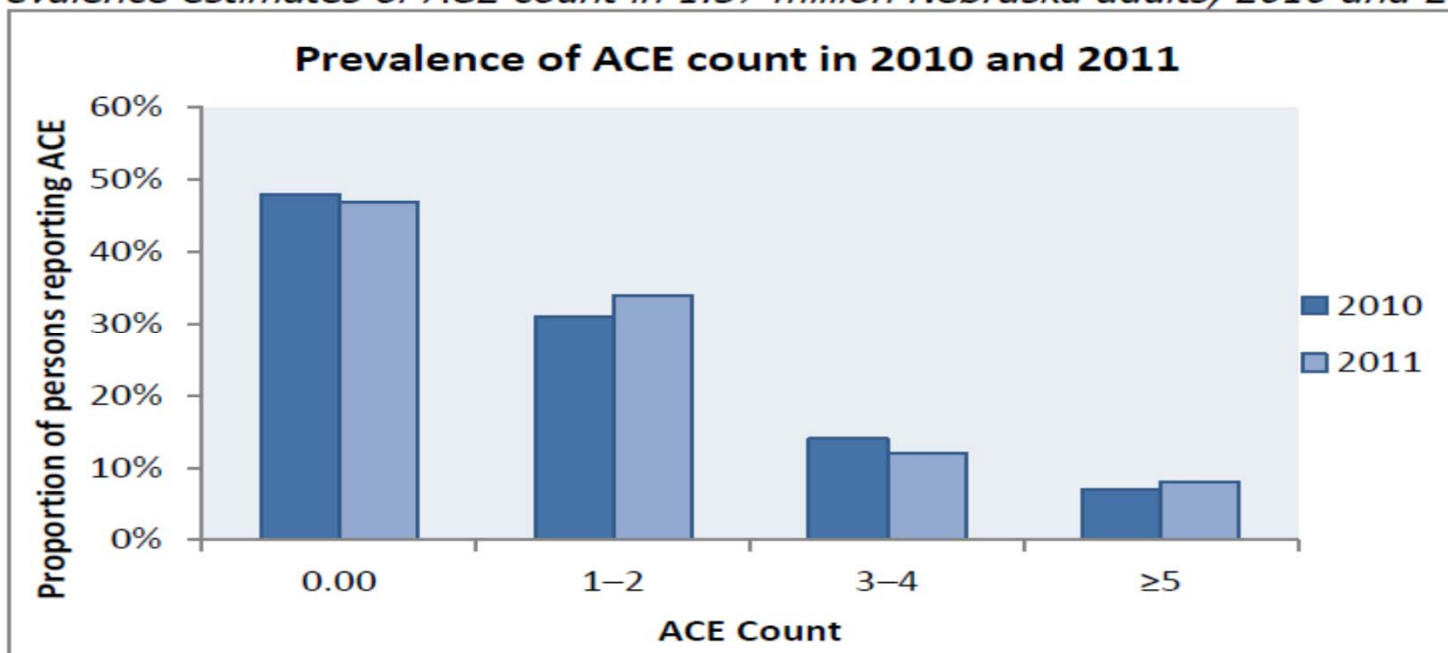
ACE's are stressful or traumatic experiences that affect the neurobiological and psychosocial capacity of children.

ACE's cover a range of experiences that occur up to age 18:

- ◆ **Abuse:** Physical, Emotional, Neglect
- ◆ **Neglect:** Physical, Emotional
- ◆ **Household Dysfunction:** Mental illness, Domestic Violence, Substance Abuse, Incarcerated Relative, Divorce or Separation.

ACE's in Nebraska

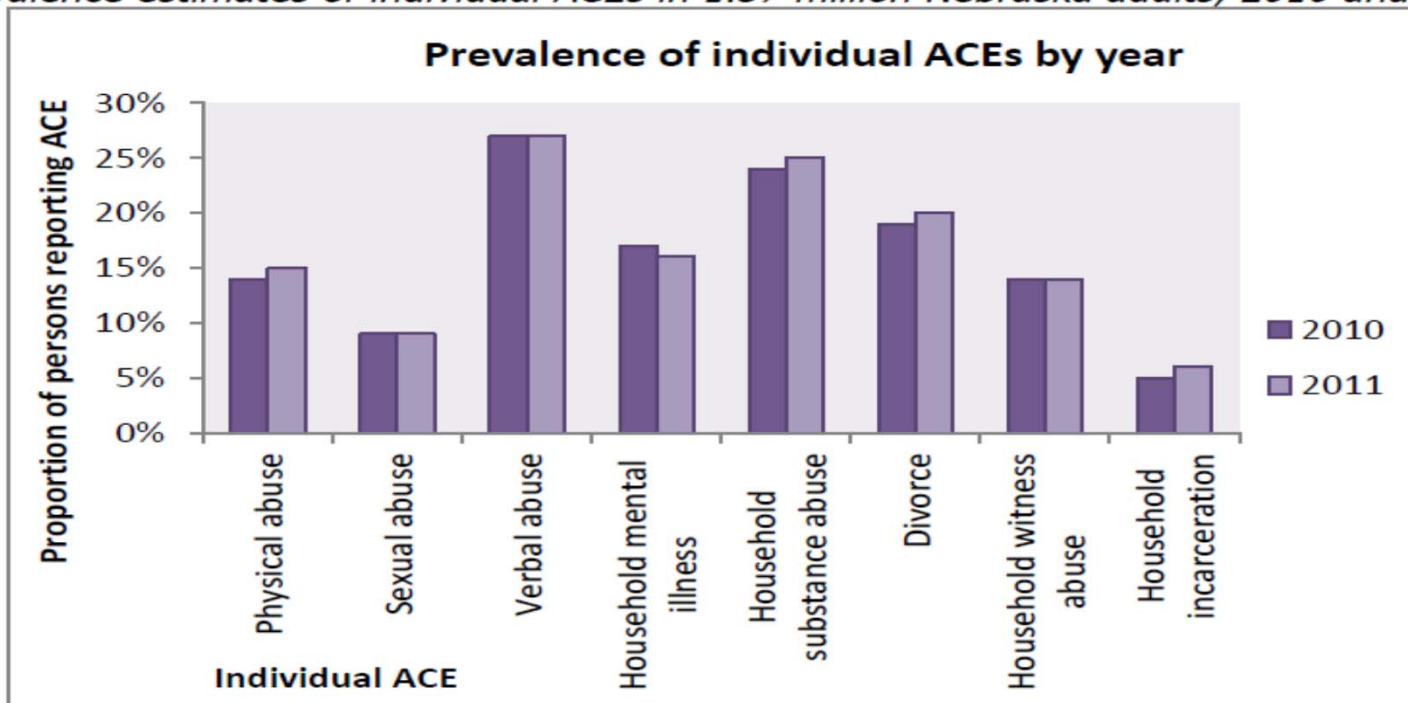
Prevalence estimates of ACE count in 1.37 million Nebraska adults, 2010 and 2011



Safranek, T., Buss, B., Yeoman, K. (2012). Epidemiologic Investigation: Association between Adverse Childhood Experiences and Adverse Health Outcomes. *The Office of Epidemiology at the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services*, 1-17.

ACE's in Nebraska

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ACEs lead to poor outcomes.....

The original 1995-1997 ACE study **found ACEs have a direct relationship to adult health.**

Anda, R. (2010). Adverse Childhood Experiences: Connecting a Developmental Lens to the Health of Society: ppt.
http://www.iowaaces360.org/uploads/1/0/9/2/10925571/dr._robert_anda_presentation.pdf



...but they don't have to

Research indicates that **supportive, responsive relationships** with caring adults as early in life as possible can prevent or reverse the damaging effects of the toxic stress response associated with ACEs.



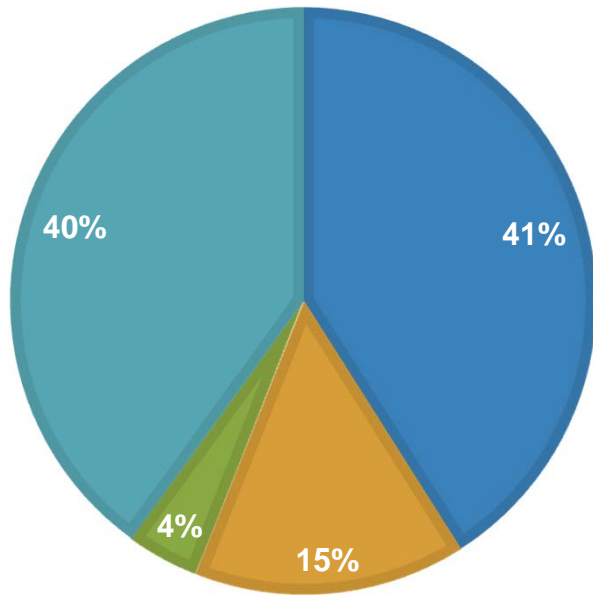
The first 5 years



With whom are children spending time?

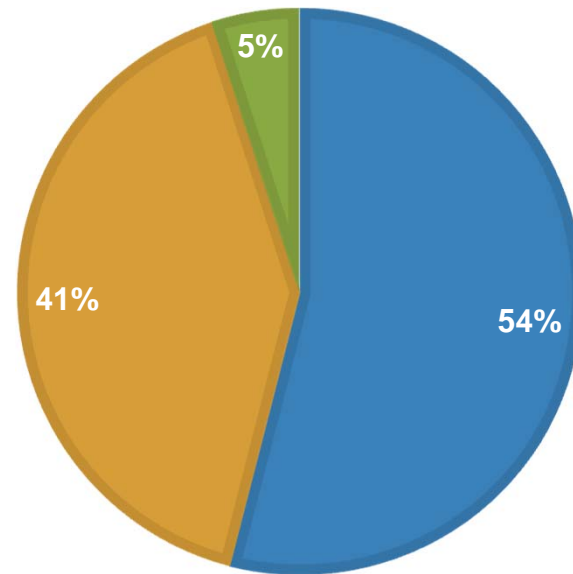
DURING THE WORK WEEK

■ Childcare ■ Home & Awake ■ Commute ■ Asleep



ALL WAKING HOURS (INCLUDES WEEKENDS)

■ Childcare ■ Home & Awake ■ Commute





QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT GIVES DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN A HEALTHIER FUTURE


“This tells us that adversity matters
and it does affect adult health.
But it also shows us that we can
do something about it.”

James Heckman, Nobel Laureate in Economics,
on finding that quality early childhood development substantially
improves long-term health outcomes for disadvantaged children





The adult-child relationship

- Through the relationship with parents and others, children learn what to expect of others.
 - Nurturing, stable and consistent environments are essential to a young child's mental health and neural development.
 - The state of the adults' emotional well being profoundly impacts the quality of the relationship
- 


The background consists of several overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes in shades of green and teal. A large, dark teal shape is at the top, with a lighter teal shape below it. The bottom features a dark teal shape and a light green shape. The central area is a large, medium teal shape with a fine grid pattern.

// how do I know quality when I see it //



Three basic needs of all children

A quality program for children must provide for the three basic needs of **all** children:

- ① Protection of Health & Safety
 - ② Positive Relationships
 - ③ Opportunities for Stimulation and Learning from Experience
- 

- age-appropriate experiences
- positive guidance and discipline
- small groups and independent play
- active and quiet activities

- Age-appropriate materials and toys are accessible and organized
- Opportunities for outdoor play
- TV and video are not used to occupy children
- Strict health and sanitation policies

make eye contact, and speak directly to children with an encouraging tone

- Children are soothed and supported when frustrated or



- Infants: no more than 8 with at least 2 teaching staff
- Toddlers: no more than 12 with at least 2 teaching staff
- Preschoolers: no more than 20 with at least 2 teaching

Comprehensive supports for children and families such as

- health and nutrition
- parent engagement opportunities
- referral services



*The active ingredient in the environment that's having an influence on development is the **quality of the relationships** that children have with the important people in their lives. That's what it's all about.*

Jack Shonkoff

The background features a central teal-colored area with a fine halftone dot pattern. This area is framed by dark teal and light green geometric shapes that create a sense of depth and perspective, resembling a stylized landscape or architectural structure.

// how do we measure quality //

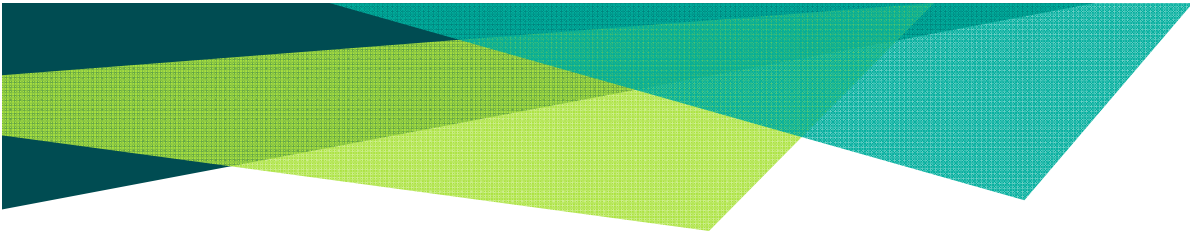
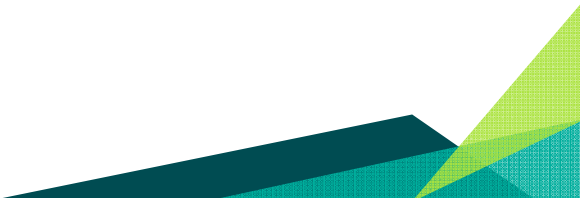
CROSSWALK OF QUALITY RATING TOOL TOPICS

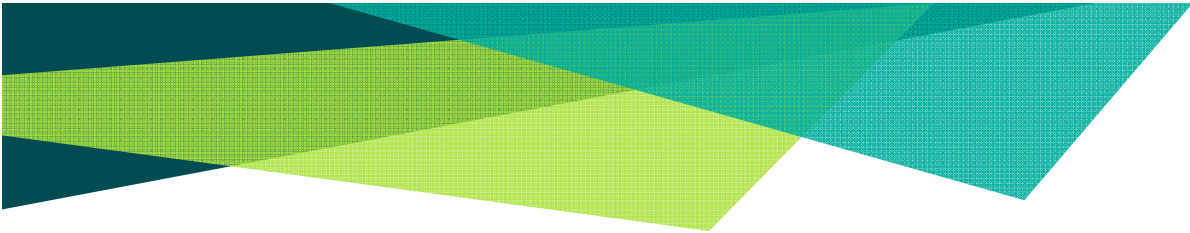

Rating tools specific to use in Nebraska Step Up to Quality and Pyramid Model Implementation

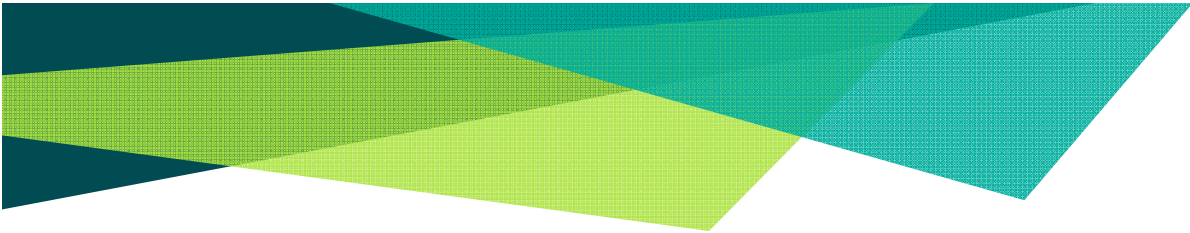
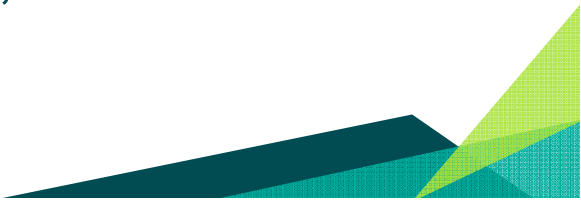
	ITERS-R	CLASS Infant	CLASS Toddler	TPITOS	FCCERS	ECERS-R	TPOT	CLASS Pre-K
Emotional Climate		X	X	X			X	X
Interactions	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Social, Emotional & Behavioral Teaching			X	X			X	X
General Teaching Strategies			X	X				X
Language Environment	X	X	X		X	X		X
Activities & Materials	X				X	X		
Connections with Families	X			X	X	X	X	
Room Arrangement	X			X	X	X	X	
Daily Schedule & Routines	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Personal Care	X				X	X		



// questions to ask //

- 
- ◆ What training do staff members have in child development?
 - ◆ Do caregivers speak to the children, even babies? Do they sing and read to the children?
 - ◆ Do adults answer the child's questions patiently? Do they ask the children questions?
 - ◆ Are babies allowed to eat and sleep on their own rhythms or is it based on a schedule?
- 

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- ◆ Are you welcome at any time?
 - ◆ Do caregivers seem to enjoy the children?
 - ◆ Is the environment sanitary and safe?
 - ◆ How does the caregiver feel about discipline?
Toilet training? Feeding? Do these match the beliefs of the primary caregiver?
 - ◆ Does the caregiver handle conflicts without losing patience, shaming, or displaying anger?
- 

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- ◆ Does the caregiver know about the effects of trauma and stress on behavior?
 - ◆ Is the setting appealing with comfortable lighting and an acceptable noise level?
 - ◆ Is there a daily schedule that uses visuals?
 - ◆ Are the toys and materials organized?
 - ◆ Do caregivers respect language, culture, and values of families in the program?
- 

The background features a central teal-colored area with a fine halftone dot pattern. This central area is framed by several overlapping, angular shapes in various shades of green and dark teal, creating a layered, mountain-like or architectural effect. The overall composition is modern and minimalist.

// resources //



Answers 4 Families- The Right Place Childcare Finder

<https://nrns.ne.gov/therightplace/>

Nebraska Step up to Quality

<http://www.education.ne.gov/StepUpToQuality/>

Nebraska Association for Infant Mental Health (NAIMH)

<https://www.nebraskainfantmentalhealth.org/>

Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children (NeAEYC)

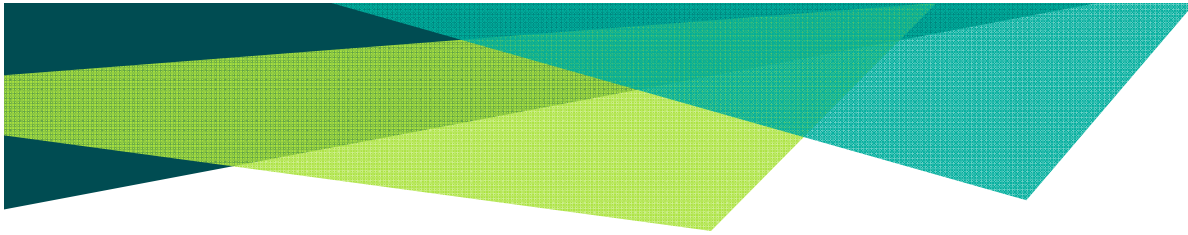
<http://www.nebraskaaeyc.org/>

Nebraska Department of Education, Office of Early Childhood (NDE)

<http://www.education.ne.gov/oec/elc.html>

DHHS, Child Care Licensing

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/pages/crlChildCareLicensingIndex.aspx>



Thanks!

Any questions?

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Special thanks to all the people who made and released this presentation template by [SlidesCarnival](#)

