Child Assessment Tools in Boston Early Care & Education Programs
Methods: Who Participated in the Survey?

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Surveys were sent to **all** Boston licensed early care and education agencies and providers, as well as the Boston Public Schools. Only one survey was sent out per agency, even if the agency comprised multiple centers or family child care homes. Surveys were completed either online or on paper and returned by postal mail. Independent family child care providers received surveys in both English and Spanish. Fifty-six surveys were returned for an overall response rate of 13%. However, these respondents represent 455 classrooms, 168 family child care homes, and serve 7,685 children (40% of the early care and education capacity in Boston[1]). Table 1 demonstrates the wide variety of programs that responded to the survey, as well as the number of classrooms, family child care homes, and children that they represent.

Table 1. Description of respondents

Type of Program	# Sent	# Rec'd	% Response	# Classrooms	# Family child care homes	# Children enrolled^ in classrooms	# Children enrolled^ in FCC	# Children enrolled^ total
Single site center	143	26	18%	119	N/A	1,555	N/A	1,555
Multiple site center*	15	10	67%	173	N/A	3,078	N/A	3,078
Independent family child care	252	14	6%	N/A	14	N/A	77	77
Family child care system	10	3	30%	N/A	72	N/A	243	243
Center-based and family child care	5	2	40%	37	82	518	414	932
Public school district	1	1	100%	126	N/A	1,800	N/A	1,800
Total	**426**	**56**	**13%**	**455**	**168**	**6,951**	**734**	**7,685**

*There are more than 15 multiple site early care and education centers in Boston. However, in cases where the main contact was unknown, surveys were sent to individual sites. These sites were placed in the "Single site center" category for the purpose of calculating response rate.
^Respondents were asked to supply the approximate number of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who had been enrolled in their program the previous week.

[1]Zimmerman, C. & Connaghan, K. (2007). "*Where Are the Children!?*" Boston EQUIP/Associated Early Care & Education. Boston: MA