Evolving Perspectives: A Repeated Cross-Sectional Analysis of Early Childhood Transition Practices

Study Context



2008 (N = 343)

Education: 54.5% Master's Gender: 74.1% Female

Race: 88.3% White

Role: 58.2% Teacher/Service

Provider

Agency: 38.8% Local Public

School



2016 (N = 697)

Education: 54.4% Master's Gender: 89.2% Female Race: 82.4% White

Role: 62.3% Teacher/Service

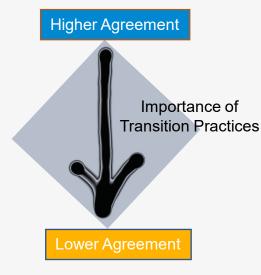
Provider

Agency: 55.1% Local Public

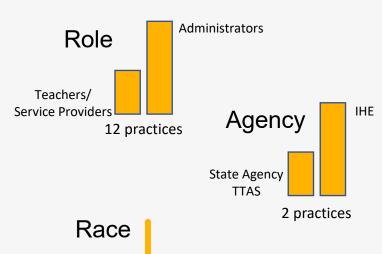
School

An 85-item survey of cross sector early childhood professionals measuring importance of 21 transition practices.

Changes in Perception Over Time



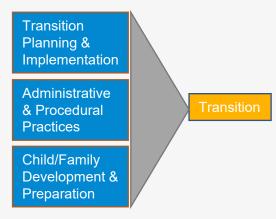
Rating Differences





Displayed distinct perspectives on the compared to white respondents.

Changes in Factor Structure



Consolidation from three constructs to a singular construct by 2016 highlights a potential narrowing of focus in the field.

Conclusion: The longitudinal survey over eight years reveals a dynamic shift in the perception of transition practices in early childhood. A decline in consensus on several practices and the consolidation to a single construct in 2016 underscore a changing focus in the field. These shifts call for a reevaluation and realignment of existing frameworks to support modern, cohesive transition strategies, enhancing the transition experience for children and families.

White

respondents