

Child Welfare Research



RTI International conducts policy assessments, program evaluations, and research studies on the needs, experiences, and outcomes of vulnerable children and families. Study methods encompass a combination of qualitative and quantitative approaches—including case studies, focus groups, systematic literature reviews and meta-analysis, administrative data and other secondary data analysis, and multivariate modeling. Our experts are at the forefront of research on child welfare, conducting studies that directly affect government policy.

At RTI, we research a variety of issues affecting child welfare, including adoption, kinship care, foster care, sexual abuse, teen pregnancy, education, therapeutic intervention, and court systems change. The following select projects demonstrate the breadth of the issues we address and the relevance of this work to government policy.

Studies of Child Welfare Programs

- National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being
- Assessment of the Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children
- Understanding Adoption Subsidies
- Effects of Termination of Parental Rights on Older Children
- Assessing the Field of Post-Adoption Services
- Understanding Adoption Subsidies
- Terminating the Parental Rights of Older Children

- Children in TANF Child-Only Cases with Relative Caregivers
- Dynamics of Foster Parenting
- Co-occurrence of Spouse Abuse, Child Abuse, and Substance Abuse among Army Families
- Evaluation of Family to Family: Reconstructing Foster Care
- Translating Child-Parent Psychotherapy into the Juvenile and Family Court System

Studies of Child Health and Well-Being

- Pride in Parenting, Parenting Education Impacts on Health Care Utilization: NIH/District of Columbia Initiative to Reduce Infant Mortality
- Child and Family Well-Being Study
- National Early Intervention Longitudinal Study
- Coordinating Center for Legacy for Children™ Longitudinal Early Intervention Study
- Child and Adolescent Health Services and Insurance Study



Studies of Outcomes for Children and Youths

- Evaluation of the Community Healthy Marriage Initiative
- Sexual Abuse Experiences of Runaway Youths
- Juvenile Breaking the Cycle Project
- Supporting Adolescents with Guidance and Employment
- National Education Longitudinal Study
- Longitudinal Study of Substance Use Careers
- Community and Neighborhood-Level Performance Indicators for Human Services and Health Topics

Related Research at RTI

Constituting the largest single field of study at RTI, health research spans everything from the human genome to global health education. We pursue multidisciplinary studies in many areas, drawing on a range of capabilities that includes survey and research methodology, sampling and statistics, and medical epidemiology. RTI also maintains strong programs in education, including research in family literacy, community needs, parenting, and care-giving skills, as well as studies of elementary and secondary education.



More Information

Deborah Gibbs, MSPH
Social, Public Health, and Economics Research
Phone: 919.541.6942
E-mail: dag@rti.org
RTI International
3040 Cornwallis Road, PO Box 12194
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2194 USA

RTI 7005 0410