



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care

**Maintaining the Aggregate Data
Report for the Consumer
Education Website**

Field Operations Policy

- ❖ **Applicable to: Family Child Care, Group and School Age Child Care, Funded Programs, Unlicensed Programs (Programs operating illegally)**
- ❖ **Effective date: October 1, 2019**
- ❖ **Supersedes: New Policy**

Overview:

Pursuant to federal law and regulations, EEC is required to maintain a data report which displays the aggregate number of deaths, serious injuries, and substantiated allegations of child abuse that occur in child care programs. This policy statement sets forth EEC's process for maintaining this report.

Regulations Impacted:

45 CFR § 98.33: The Lead Agency shall:

(a) Certify that it will collect and disseminate consumer education information to parents of eligible children, the general public, and providers through a consumer-friendly and easily accessible Web site that ensures the widest possible access to services for families who speak languages other than English and persons with disabilities, including:

(5) Aggregate number of deaths and serious injuries (for each provider category and licensing status) and instances of substantiated child abuse that occurred in child care settings each year, for eligible providers.

Scope:

The aggregate data report will display number of child deaths, serious injuries to children, and substantiated allegations of child abuse against children, that occur in family child care programs, group and school age children, and funded programs. In addition, EEC will also aggregate this data for illegally-operating child care programs that are investigated by EEC.

Process for Maintaining Report:

Starting on October 1, 2019, EEC will begin aggregating the number of deaths, serious injuries, and substantiated allegations of child abuse that occur in child care programs. This information will display on a live data report on EEC's website on mass.gov/eec.

This information will be tracked every month from October 2019 going forward. This information will be separated into three separate reports: one for deaths, one for serious injuries, and one for substantiated child abuse. Each type of care will also be tracked separately: family child care, group and school age child care, funded programs, and illegally-operating child care programs.

The report will be live, which means that as information is aggregated at the conclusion of a visit or investigation, the report will update automatically.

Timing:

Deaths, serious injuries, and substantiated child abuse are confirmed at the conclusion of EEC's investigation process. As a result, the aggregate data report may be updated for a previous month, if the case or investigation closes in a later month from when the death, serious injury, or substantiated child abuse occurred.

For example: if EEC were to open an investigation in October 2019, and the investigation concludes in November 2019 that a serious injury occurred in a child care program, the October 2019 data will be adjusted to reflect that the serious injury occurred in October 2019 at the conclusion of the investigation in November 2019. This way, the aggregate data report will reflect when the death, serious injury, or substantiated child abuse actually occurred, as opposed to when the investigation closed.