

# Hot Topics, Trends and Insights in the Field of Child Care Research

## -- CiteSpace-based Data Visualization and Analysis

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### Abstract

In this paper, with the relevant papers of Chinese core journals from 2014-2024 in CNKI database as the research object, and with the information visualization software Citespace as the research method, we conducted keyword citation frequency analysis, keyword emergence analysis, keyword centrality analysis, keyword co-occurrence mapping analysis, clustering view analysis and timeline view analysis for childcare research in China. The results of the study show that in recent years, the biggest focus of childcare research is "childcare service", "childcare organization" and "three-child policy". In the future, how to build a universal child care service system, how to strengthen the curriculum construction and government supervision of child care institutions, and how to implement the three-child policy are all aspects we need to focus on.

### Keywords

Child care; bibliometrics; CiteSpace; hot spots; trends.

### 1. Introductory

As a result of the miniaturization of contemporary urban family size and the generalization of women's employment outside the home, society has put forward higher requirements for the high-quality development of childcare. In 2019, the Implementation Plan for the Special Action to Support Social Forces in Developing Inclusive Childcare Services (for Trial Implementation) issued by the State made it clear that it was necessary to expand the supply of inclusive childcare to meet the multilevel and diversified needs of families. In 2021, the State Council issued the China The Outline for the Development of Children (2021-2030) issued by the State Council in 2021 called for the inclusion of the costs of childcare services for infants and young children under the age of 3 in the scope of special additional deductions for individual income tax, and for increased support for housing and other complementary policies to reduce the burden of childcare and education. Against the backdrop of miniaturization of family size and an increase in the proportion of women going out to work, how can we develop the level of childcare in China? This is a question that requires in-depth consideration by our education sector, front-line teachers in kindergartens and other child care institutions, and education researchers. Early childhood education is an important part of people's livelihood. In recent years, on the one hand, the child care industry has entered a period of rapid development, with new models emerging. However, on the other hand, the proportion of universal childcare institutions in the market is low, the quality varies, and the resources are unevenly distributed, resulting in urgent demand from the public and low institutional enrollment. In order to alleviate people's anxiety about childbirth and parenting, and to promote the long-term balanced development of the population, the government should ensure that the level of

childcare in China develops towards safety and quality, affordability, convenience and availability. Childcare usually refers to the social mechanism used to supplement the family's childcare function when, for various reasons, the family's internal childcare function is not functioning properly. Rational planning of the layout of childcare development and ensuring an effective match between the supply side and the demand side of childcare can effectively respond to the difficulties of childbirth and parenting faced by the public in the light of new trends in China's demographic development, such as childlessness, ageing, and regional demographic growth and decline, and will bring convenience to a greater number of families.

Then, what are the research hotspots and development trends in the field of childcare research in China during the decade from 2014 to 2024? In order to solve this problem, this paper uses CiteSpace knowledge mapping software to visualize and analyze the literature in the core dataset of the CNKI database and summarize the literature at key nodes or clusters, so as to explore the research hotspots and development trends in the field of childcare research, with a view to providing educational researchers and practitioners concerned with the field of childcare research. To provide educational researchers and practitioners with certain theoretical basis and practical significance.

## 2. Data and Methodology

### 2.1. Data sources

In order to ensure that the original data are comprehensive, accurate, with high explanatory power, authenticity and credibility, this paper takes CNKI Chinese academic journals (online edition), which has the largest number of literature and the widest coverage, as the sample data source. Meanwhile, in order to accurately grasp the hotspots and trends in the field of childcare research and improve the quality of literature analysis, academic papers in CNKI journals were selected as data sources. Due to the different designations of childcare centers in China, we chose "childcare center" and "kindergarten" as the search terms, and used "title" as the search method. The search spanned from 2014 to 2024 and yielded more than 2,000 documents. The search results were double-checked and organized, and irrelevant entries were removed.

A total of 357 valid sample documents were obtained, each containing information such as author, institution, keywords, abstract, and date of publication, and were searched on October 21, 2024. All the documents were exported to Citespace software in refworks format for processing.

### 2.2. Research tools and methods

At present, the tools for drawing knowledge maps in academia mainly include Citespace, SPSS, Ucinet, VOSviewer, etc. Among them, Citespace software is the most commonly used. Among them, Citespace software is the most commonly used tool, and the main function of Citespace software is to display and analyze the evolution trend of disciplinary fronts and the state of knowledge association through the visualization functions of keyword co-occurrence, institutional distribution, author cooperation, literature coupling, etc. Citespace software can format and convert the data exported from the CNKI database, draw various kinds of knowledge maps, and display the layout of time zones through the node size, network connectivity and other factors. Citespace software can format and convert the data exported from CNKI database, draw various kinds of knowledge graphs, and display the layout of time zones and hot trends of research fields through node size, network connectivity and other factors. Due to the simple operation and obvious visualization effect of this analysis tool, it has attracted wide attention and application in China. The information visualization tool used in this paper is Citespace software, version 6.3.R1.64-bit.

### 3. Results and Analysis

We analyzed a total of 357 nursery schools in the core dataset of the CNKI database from 2014 to 2024, and after visualization and analysis using CiteSpace 6.3.R1.64-bit, we obtained a modular value (Q-value) of 0.8431, which is greater than 0.30, which means that the structure of the delineated associations in the study is significant, and an average silhouette value (Silhouette, S value) is 0.9024, which is greater than 0.70, implying that the clustering of the childcare literature study in the study is efficient and credible. The research hotspots and trends of project-based learning are explored through the methods of knowledge graph visualization, LLR cluster analysis, and word frequency statistics of highly cited keywords.

After LLR clustering, the sample literature of this study was classified into 13 categories representing 13 different child care research topics, including child care services (cluster #0), Germany (cluster #1), child care services (cluster #2), three-child policy (cluster #3), fertility policy (cluster #4), preschool education (cluster #5), de-familialization (cluster #6), and child care institutions (cluster #7), Taiwan (clustering #8), policy tools (clustering #9), statistics (clustering #10), infant and child care industry (clustering #11), population ethics (clustering #12), and health care services (clustering #13). The analysis was then categorized into text type and view type based on the different data types and results obtained after clustering.

#### 3.1. Text analysis: a hot spot for research on child care services

##### 3.1.1. Keyword citation frequency analysis

From 2014 to 2024, the most cited keyword in the literature in the field of childcare research is "childcare services" 82 times in cluster #0, followed by "childcare organizations" 16 times in cluster #7, "fertility intentions" 15 times in cluster #3, "three-child policy" 14 times in cluster #3, "infants and toddlers" 13 times in cluster #5, and "childcare services" 15 times in cluster #3. "fertility intention" 15 times, "three-child policy" 14 times in cluster #3, "infants and toddlers" 13 times in cluster #5, and "Pre-school education" 11 times, "Fertility policy" 9 times in cluster #2, "Fertility support" 8 times in cluster #3, "Childcare services" in cluster #2 "child care" 8 times in cluster #2, "low fertility rate" 8 times in cluster #9, as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1.** High-frequency keywords in childcare research, 2014-2024

| product key (software) | citation frequency | byword               | group number |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 1                      | 82                 | Nursery services     | 0            |
| 2                      | 16                 | Childcare facilities | 7            |
| 3                      | 15                 | fertility            | 3            |
| 4                      | 14                 | three-child policy   | 3            |
| 5                      | 13                 | baby                 | 5            |
| 6                      | 11                 | pre-school education | 5            |
| 7                      | 9                  | Maternity policy     | 2            |
| 8                      | 8                  | Fertility support    | 3            |
| 9                      | 8                  | Childcare services   | 2            |
| 10                     | 8                  | Low fertility rate   | 9            |

##### 3.1.2. Keyword emergence analysis

Keyword emergence is the frequency of sudden rise or fall of a keyword within a certain period of time, which usually represents a change in the direction of the research field. The higher its value, the higher the rate of change of the frequency of the keyword in this period of time.

As shown in Table 2, in the field of childcare research from 2014 to 2024, the top keyword in terms of emergence is "childcare institutions" in cluster #7, with an emergence of 2.66, and the year of emergence is 2021; the second keyword is "government responsibility" in cluster #1, with an emergence of 2.52, and the year of emergence is 2017; the third keyword is "childcare institutions" in cluster #2, with an emergence of 2.40, and the year of emergence is 2017; and the third keyword is "childcare institutions" in cluster #2, with an emergence of 2.40. " in cluster #1, with an emergence rate of 2.52 and an emergence year of 2017; the third keyword is "childcare institutions" in cluster #2, with an emergence rate of 2.40 and an emergence year of 2015; the fourth keyword is "three-child policy" in cluster #3, with an emergence rate of 2.40 and an emergence year of 2021; and the fourth keyword is "three-child policy" in cluster #3, with an emergence rate of 2.66 and an emergence year of 2021. Three-child policy" in cluster #3, with an emergence of 1.95 and an emergence year of 2022; the 5th ranked keyword is "policy instruments" in cluster #9, with an emergence of 1.73 and an emergence year of 2022; the 6th ranked keyword is "de-familialization" in cluster #6. "de-familialization" in cluster #6, with an emergence of 1.59 and an emergence year of 2017; the keyword in the 7th place is "child care" in cluster #1, with an emergence of 1.54 and an emergence year of 2019; the keyword in the 8th place is "child care" in cluster #1 in cluster #1, with a salience of 1.45 and a salience year of 2018; and in the 9th place, the keyword "public policy" in cluster #4, with a salience of 1.42 and a salience year of 2018.

**Table 2.** Emerging Keywords in Child Care Research 2014 to 2024

| serial number | sudden appearance | byword                    | Year of emergence | clustering number (e.g. on a cluster) |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1             | 2.66              | childcare institution     | 2021              | 7                                     |
| 2             | 2.52              | Government responsibility | 2017              | 1                                     |
| 3             | 2.4               | Childcare institutions    | 2015              | 2                                     |
| 4             | 1.95              | three-child policy        | 2022              | 3                                     |
| 5             | 1.73              | Policy tools              | 2022              | 9                                     |
| 6             | 1.59              | de-familiarization        | 2017              | 6                                     |
| 7             | 1.54              | childcare                 | 2019              | 1                                     |
| 8             | 1.45              | Childcare                 | 2018              | 1                                     |
| 9             | 1.42              | public policy             | 2018              | 4                                     |

From the perspective of keyword emergence and the clustering theme of its source, after 2015, "child care institutions" became a hot keyword in the field of child care research; after 2017, "government responsibility" and "de-familialization" became the focus of researchers; in 2018, "child care" and "public policy" appeared as two keywords that attracted researchers' attention. In 2018, the emergence of the keywords "child care" and "public policy" attracted the attention of researchers, and in 2019, "child care" became a hot topic of research. In 2021, researchers began to pay close attention to the topic of "childcare organizations", and in 2022, researchers began to pay attention to the topic of "three-child policy" and "policy tools". In 2022, researchers start to focus on the topics of "three-child policy" and "policy tools". Among them, "childcare organizations" has the highest rate of occurrence, and there are no keywords of childcare research with a high rate of occurrence after 2022 for the time being.

### 3.1.3. Keyword center degree analysis

The central keyword refers to the keyword that occupies an important position in the structure, i.e. it plays an important role in connecting other nodes or several different clusters. As shown in Table 3, the keyword "public child care" ranks first, with a centrality of 0.50, belonging to cluster #6; followed by "de-familiarization", with a centrality of 0.46, belonging to cluster #6; "female employment "Female Employment", with a centrality of 0.46, belongs to cluster #6; "Child Care", with a centrality of 0.35, belongs to cluster #1; and "Government Responsibility", with a centrality of 0.34, belongs to cluster #1; "Child care services", with a centrality of 0.33, belongs to cluster #0; "Pre-school education", with a centrality of 0.31, belongs to cluster #5; "Early childhood care", with a centrality of 0.31, belonging to cluster #1; "Functional orientation", with a centrality of 0.28, belonging to cluster #1; "Low fertility rate", with a centrality of 0.21, belonging to cluster #9.

**Table 3.** Core keywords in the field of childcare research, 2014-2024

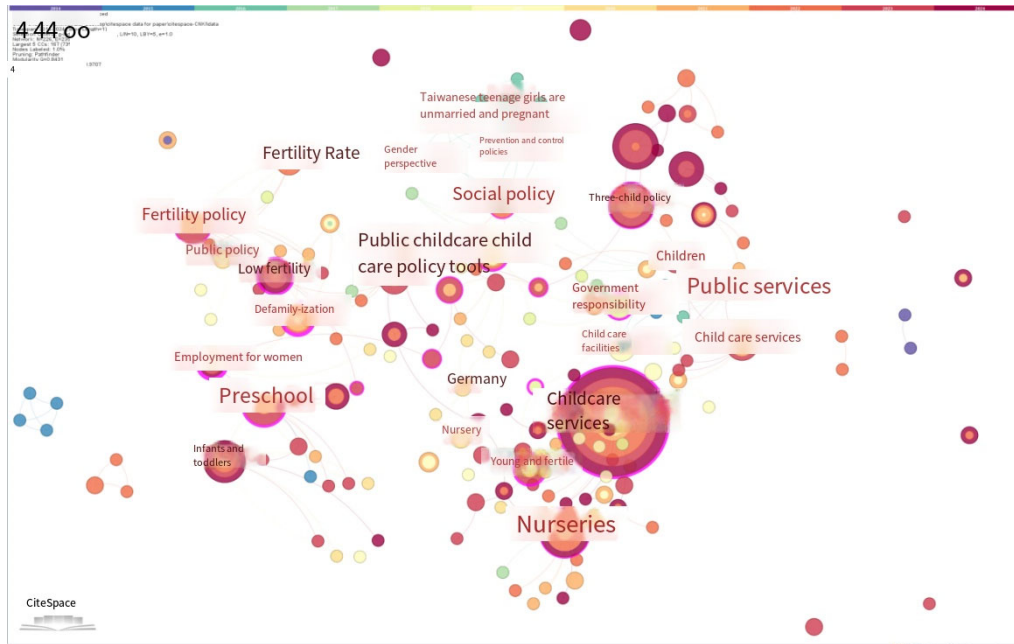
| serial number | centrality | byword                         | clustering number (e.g. on a cluster) |
|---------------|------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1             | 0.50       | Public childcare               | 6                                     |
| 2             | 0.46       | de-familiarization             | 6                                     |
| 3             | 0.46       | Female employment              | 6                                     |
| 4             | 0.35       | Childcare                      | 1                                     |
| 5             | 0.34       | Government responsibility      | 1                                     |
| 6             | 0.33       | childcare                      | 0                                     |
| 7             | 0.31       | pre-school education           | 5                                     |
| 8             | 0.31       | have children under one's care | 1                                     |
| 9             | 0.28       | Functional positioning         | 1                                     |
| 10            | 0.21       | low fertility                  | 9                                     |

## 3.2. View Analysis: Research Trends in Child Care Services

### 3.2.1. Keyword co-occurrence graph analysis

As shown in Figure 3, the most popular keyword in childcare research is "childcare services", followed by "childcare organizations", "fertility intentions", "three-child policy", "infants and toddlers", "preschool education", "fertility policy", and "low fertility rate". "policy", "infants and toddlers", "preschool education", "fertility policy", "low fertility rate", "child care service", "child care center", and "child care center". "Low Fertility Rate", "Child Care Services" and "Fertility Support".

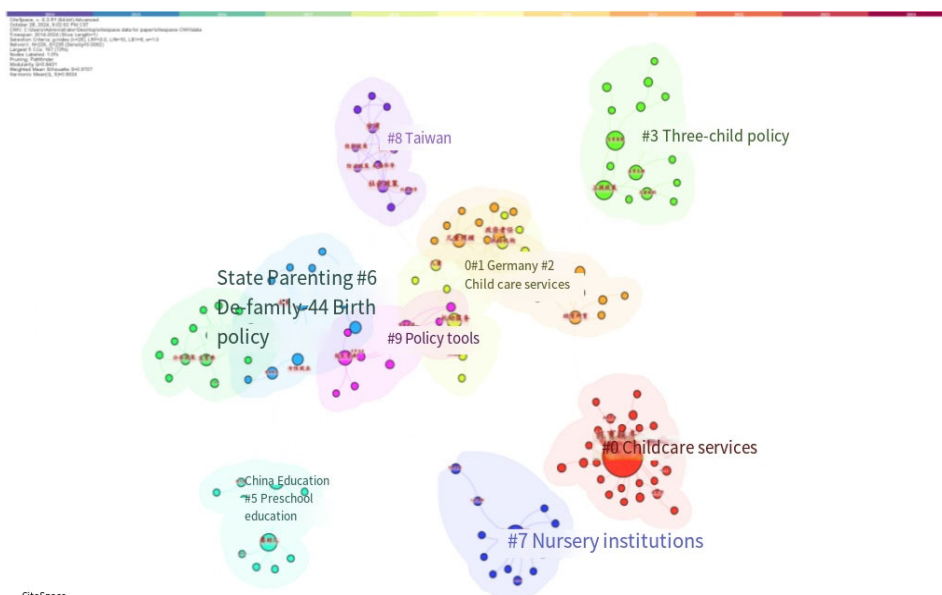
Since 2015, the hot keyword of childcare research is "pre-school education", and the heat will last until the end of 2023; since 2016, "childcare service" has become a new hot spot; since 2017, researchers have begun to focus on "childcare service" and "childcare organizations", with "childcare services" being the biggest hotspot; in 2018, "birth policy" becomes the focus of researchers' attention, but the boom ends in 2023 In 2019, "infants and toddlers" and "low fertility rate" began to receive widespread attention; in 2021, "three-child policy" attracted much attention; in 2022, "fertility intention" became a new research hotspot.



**Figure 3.** co-occurrence map of keywords in the field of child care services research from 2014 to 2024

### 3.2.2. Cluster view analysis

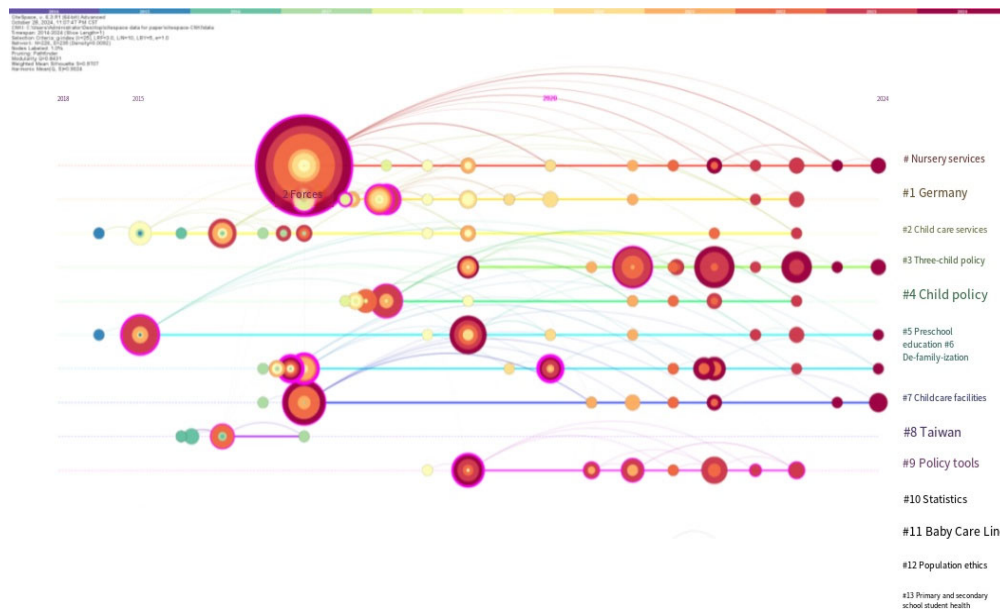
The clustering view focuses on the knowledge structure of different research fields. From Fig. 4, it is easy to find that with the development of time, from 2014 to 2024, the area of the childcare research clusters shows a gradual expansion trend, which indicates that the heat of childcare research is not decreasing and the field of childcare research is still expanding. As can be seen from the key node connectivity of the clusters, by 2024, the different research directions of childcare research have not yet fully formed a network structure, and the cross-cutting areas of some research directions have not yet been explored and developed by researchers.



**Figure 4.** Clustered view of childcare research areas, 2014-2024

### 3.2.3. Timeline View Analysis

A timeline view that focuses primarily on outlining the relationships between clusters and the historical span of a particular cluster. Combined with the Link Walkthrough feature in CiteSpace 6.3.R1.64-bit, it allows you to analyze whether the field of child care research is in a boom or a bust in different time zones.



**Figure 5.** Timeline view of the childcare research field, 2014-2024

Cluster #0 (Childcare Services) lasts from 2019 to 2024 with unabated research fervor. Cluster #1 (Germany) lasts from 2017 to 2023. Cluster #2 (childcare services) lasts from 2015 to 2023. Cluster #3 (three-child policy) lasts from 2019 to 2024 and has been the focus of researchers' attention. Cluster #4 (Fertility Policy) heat lasts from 2019 to 2023. Cluster #5 (Preschool Education) research heat lasts from 2015 to 2024. Cluster #6 (De-Familing) also lasts from 2017 to 2024. Cluster #7 (childcare providers) continues to attract attention from 2017 to 2024. Cluster #8 (Taiwan) and Cluster #9 (Policy Tools) are hot from 2016 and 2019 to 2023, respectively.

## 4. Insights from Hot Spots in Childcare Research

Based on the hotspots and trends in child care research, we offer some insights into the future development of child care research in light of the current state of child care research:

### 4.1. Building an inclusive child care system will be a research pain point for child care services

In terms of childcare research, childcare services will continue to be a topic of focus in the field of childcare research. Through the analysis of the timeline view, it can be seen that 2019 has become a research hotspot, and according to the analysis of the citation frequency of keywords, the highest citation rate is "childcare services" in cluster #0. It can be seen that compared with other topics in the field of childcare research, the topic of childcare services has unprecedented heat and will continue to receive sustained attention in the future. In the study of childcare services, researchers focus on the following three aspects: 1. The implementation status of childcare services. In terms of research on the implementation status of childcare services, studies have been conducted on the implementation status of childcare services in a certain region through questionnaires, interviews, and other research methods, and a representative

one is the study conducted by Gao Chenzhuo, Yang Xueyan, and Jing Wen in Xi'an City, Shaanxi Province, on the needs and preferences of urban parents for infant and toddler childcare services. The study found that "parent-oriented and grandparent-assisted" is the current infant and toddler care model commonly adopted by families, with families bearing a heavier burden of parenting and a lower degree of socialization of infant and toddler care; in choice experiments, urban parents tended to choose to buy childcare services, and their demand for childcare services showed the preference characteristics of "safety first, combination of childcare and education, and universal accessibility". Therefore, the supply-side reform of childcare services should be gradually promoted in the direction of quality, childcare and education combination, universal accessibility and community. [1] 2. Government management of childcare services. In the existing studies, researchers mainly study the issue of "government management of child care services" from the aspects of policy and regulation introduction, resource supply, supervision and evaluation. Liu Zhongyi pointed out that China's government departments should start from the characteristics of public (public welfare), institutionalization, marketization and professionalization of child care services, and correct the problems of unclear and unambiguous positioning of child care services, unclear departmental responsibilities, and lack of laws, regulations and policies. [2] In order to promote the healthy development of China's childcare service industry in the future, it is necessary to clarify the development concept of the childcare service industry, improve the policies and regulations to promote the development of the childcare service industry, enrich and innovate the operation mechanism of the childcare service industry, and build a childcare service system that suits the characteristics of the localities according to local conditions. Improve the organization of childcare services and talent guarantee mechanism Pang Lina pointed out that China's childcare services should have the dual attributes of public welfare and education, and the government should focus on solving the core problems of the management system, financial investment system, organization body, education and health care team building and supervision and management. [3] 3. Supply relationship of childcare service system. In terms of the supply relationship of child care service system, it has been pointed out that the supply relationship of China's child care service system is unbalanced and there is a shortage of child care service supply. [4] Yang Juhua pointed out that at present, the total supply of China's child care service has the problems of extremely insufficient supply, serious structural imbalance, unprotected service quality, and low social benefits. [5] In the context of supply-side reform in the field of social services, the government should clarify the idea and direction of the coordinated development of the childcare service industry and the market-oriented service industry, and rationally allocate public, market and family childcare service resources. [6] In the existing studies, researchers have analyzed the implementation status of childcare services, the status of government management and the supply relationship in China. All researchers have pointed out that universality is the most important feature of China's childcare services. However, how to construct a high-quality inclusive childcare service system still needs further research and exploration by researchers. Building an inclusive childcare service system will become a pain point in the field of childcare service research.

#### **4.2. Strengthening Teachers and Government Regulation Will Be Focus of Research on Child Care Organizations**

In terms of childcare research, keyword citation frequency analysis, keyword occurrence analysis, keyword co-occurrence graph analysis and timeline analysis show that, except for childcare services, childcare organization research has received more attention and exploration from researchers than other fields, and its popularity continues until 2024. In the future, it will be the second most popular area of research after child care services. In the study of child care institutions, researchers focus on the following three main areas: 1. International comparison

of child care institutions. Luo Li and Liu Hao conducted an in-depth study of the "CLASS Interactive Evaluation System" (CLASS) developed by the Center for the Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning in the School of Education at the University of Virginia in the U.S. in terms of the basic content, main features and applications, and proposed that the interactive evaluation of the classroom in China's child-care institutions should be based on both scale and quality. Emphasis is placed on the continuity of the quality evaluation system and indicators, and on the application of quality evaluation data. [7] 2. The development status of child care institutions. Qin Xufang used the choice experiment method to select 2968 parents of infants and toddlers aged 0-3 years old in East China and 2045 parents of infants and toddlers aged 0-3 years old in Northeast China, and investigated their demand preferences, preference heterogeneity, and willingness to pay for their participation in child care service organizations. The results show that: parents in the two regions have different focuses on elements of child care service programs; parents in different regions and with different demographic characteristics have different preferences for child care service curricula; and parents in East China are most willing to purchase child care services for the service curricula attribute, while parents in Northeast China are more willing to consume the public institution attribute. Based on this, this article puts forward some suggestions in terms of strengthening government-led functions and inputs, optimizing regional resource allocation, and improving the quality of child care and education in order to promote the benign development of child care and education services and balance the supply and demand issues. [8] Through the research, the researchers mentioned that there are common problems such as single mode, insufficient teachers, lack of industry standards, and ineffective government supervision in China's care institutions. It is essential to vigorously cultivate nursing teachers, improve industry standards, and strengthen government supervision. Therefore, how to strengthen the construction of teacher courses and government supervision of care institutions will become the future focus of the research field of care institutions.

### **4.3. How to implement the three-child policy will be a key area for future research**

In parenting research, the three-child policy research is also significantly popular in terms of keyword citation frequency analysis, keyword occurrence analysis, keyword co-occurrence graph analysis, and timeline view analysis. Researchers mainly focus on the following three aspects: 1. Family fertility intention in the context of the three-child policy. Wang Jun found that firstly, fertility intention can be expanded into a serial indicator system including fertility motivation, fertility intention and family planning, and the measurement technology shows a trend of scale. Secondly, the "low fertility trap hypothesis", the theory of planned behavior and the TDIB model are the three main theoretical explanations for the shaping mechanism of low fertility intentions. Finally, public policies based on the perspective of fertility intentions should strive to narrow the gap between fertility intentions and family planning, and integrate the three perspectives of the whole life cycle of the individual, the whole population of the society, and the combination of macro and micro into the whole process of the policy. [9] 2. Problems in the implementation of the three-child policy. Nie Jianliang points out that the implementation of the three-child policy faces multiple obstacles at the macro, meso and micro levels, leading to some young people "not daring to have children" and "not wanting to have children". With the weakening of the role of "raising children to prevent old age" and the disappearance of the concept of "passing on the family line", finding new reasons for childbearing and mobilization strategies is the key to the effective implementation of the "three-child" policy. Therefore, it is necessary to build a fertility-friendly society, strengthen support for family development, and actively guide young people's concept of fertility to change from "having fewer children" to "having more children", so as to form a social atmosphere that encourages fertility, thereby

promoting the effective implementation of the "three-child" policy. Through relevant coping strategies, the potential of society to have two children is stimulated, which in turn helps to realize the birth of three children, forming a fertility pattern of "must have one child, must have two children, and can have three children," and ultimately forming a pyramid-shaped fertility structure. Existing research indicates that there is a contradiction between the demand for population growth for national development and the gradually declining fertility intentions of Chinese families. Against this backdrop, existing studies point to existing and potential obstacles to the implementation of the three-child policy. However, how to solve these obstacles and implement the three-child policy will be the focus of further research by researchers. [10]

## 5. Research Conclusions

Through text analysis, the following conclusions can be drawn: From 2014 to 2024, the top three keywords cited in the literature in the field of childcare research are "childcare services" in cluster #0, "childcare institutions" in cluster #7 and "fertility intentions" in cluster #3, of which "childcare services" is cited 82 times, "childcare institutions" is cited 16 times and "fertility intentions" is cited 16 times. #3, of which "childcare services" was cited 82 times, "childcare institutions" was cited 16 times, and "fertility intentions" was cited 15 times. Keyword occurrence analysis shows that from 2014 to 2024, the top three keywords in the field of childcare research are "childcare institutions" in cluster #7, "government responsibility" in cluster #1 and "childcare institutions" in cluster #2. The keyword centrality analysis shows that the top three keywords are "public childcare", "de-familialization" and "female childcare", with an occurrence rate of 2.66, 2.52 and 2.40 respectively. The analysis of keyword centrality shows that the top three keywords are "public childcare", "de-familialization" and "female employment".

From the keyword co-occurrence mapping analysis, it can be concluded that the most popular keyword in childcare research is "childcare service", followed by "childcare institutions", "fertility intention", and "childbearing intention"; the clustering view shows that the top three keywords are "public childcare", "de-familialization" and "female employment". "Cluster view analysis shows that the field of childcare research is still expanding. By 2024, the different research directions of childcare research have not yet fully formed a network structure. The analysis of the timeline view shows that the research heat of cluster #0 (childcare services), cluster #3 (three-child policy), cluster #5 (pre-school education), cluster #6 (de-familialization) and cluster #7 (childcare institutions) is still continuing. Cluster #1 (Germany), Cluster #2 (Childcare), Cluster #4 (Fertility Policies), Cluster #8 (Taiwan) and Cluster #9 (Policy Instruments) are no longer the focus of researchers in 2024.

Combining the textual analysis and perspective analysis, the following conclusions can be drawn: 1. Building a universal childcare service system will become a pain point in childcare service research. 2. Strengthening teacher training and government regulation will become the focus of kindergarten research. 3. How to implement the three-child policy will become a key area of research in the future.

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