

ABSTRACT

Quality is the key word that parents, early childhood professionals, and stakeholders in early childhood education look for in early childhood education (ECE). This study is an attempt to examine the quality and management domains of ECE centers run by three different management type- government, non-government organizations, and private across three cities, namely, Mumbai, Jaipur, and Vadodara. This investigation was carried out by seeking the perceptions of school principals, administrators, teachers, and parents of children attending the ECE centers.

Forty-six ECE institutions were sampled in this study. The quality indices included physical setup, program content, staff qualifications, and parent-teacher association. The management features were planning and administration, leadership, staff management, utilization of resources, and institutional evaluation.

The study framework consisted of an array of data collection instruments such as questionnaires that were provided to the study participants. Qualitative and quantitative analyses were carried out in line with the objectives of the study.

The data indicated that although conceptualization of quality did not differ across the study samples, there were some differences in terms of importance assigned to various aspects of quality and management.