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Abstract: Restricted-access data from the Early Childhood Longitudinal

Study (ECLS) allow us to identify household location of a nationally

representative sample of individuals and to match the household to the

actual school attended as well as to other nearby schools. We construct

school choices by considering distance of all school types from the

household. With these matched data, we address a very basic question

that few have been able to answer: how important is distance in the

household choice of which type of school and which school to attend?

The answer is very important in a policy environment in which households

face an increasing array of school types in which to enroll.