

A3.2 Preschool Education and Educational Careers among Migrant Children



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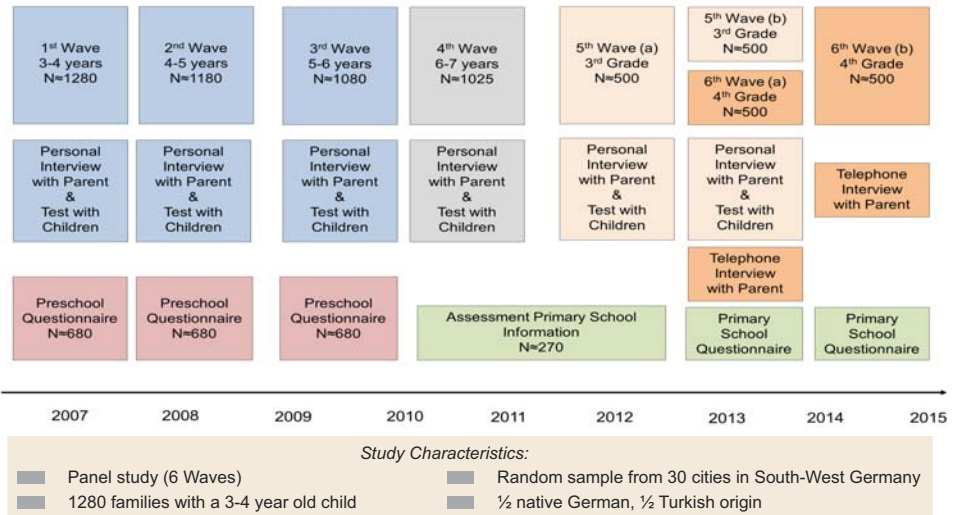


Contribution

The main goal of this panel project is the explanation of ethnic differences in the acquisition of cultural and linguistic skills during preschool age in Germany and their impact on later school achievements and educational decisions. Furthermore, the importance of different contexts for the skill development i.e., the family- and preschool environment, is of major interest.

It was the first study on early ethnic educational inequality in Germany and will be the first panel study to comprise the complete period from preschool attendance to the end of primary school including the choice for the secondary school track.

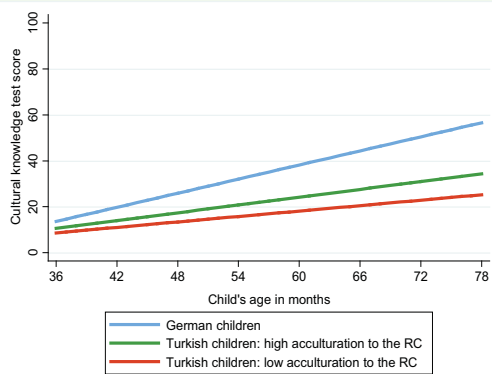
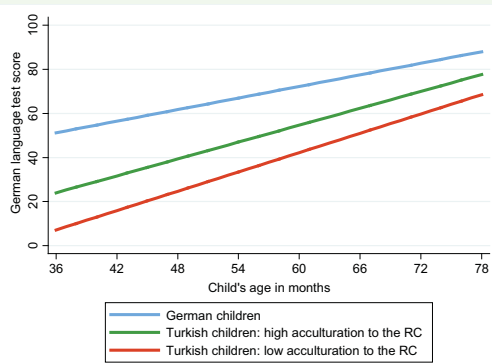
Research Design



Results

Family Environment

The Development of German Language and Cultural Skills from Age 3 to Age 6 depending on Immigrant Parents' Acculturation to the Receiving Society



Source: Becker, Birgit, Oliver Klein and Nicole Biedinger (2013): *The Development of Cognitive, Language, and Cultural Skills From Age 3 to 6: A Comparison Between Children of Turkish Origin and Children of Native-Born German Parents and the Role of Immigrant Parents' Acculturation to the Receiving Society*. *American Educational Research Journal* 50(3): 616-649.

Preschool Environment

The Effect of Preschool Attendance on German Language Development of Native German and Turkish Immigrant Children

Estimating fixed effects models to analyse the importance of preschool attendance for the development of German language skills, we find a positive effect of a longer duration in preschool for native German and Turkish immigrant children. While preschool quality does not matter for German children, the effect of preschool attendance is largest among children from Turkish families that visit high quality preschools. Therefore, we find a need for high quality preschools especially for children of Turkish immigrant families. Moreover, Turkish immigrant children should start preschool as early as possible.

