How Do We Calculate State-Level Indicators of Child and Family Wellbeing?

Based on the science of the developing child, we have identified 20 outcome measures to track the overall health and wellbeing of infants and toddlers and their parents. Each outcome is aligned with a prenatal-to-3 (PN-3) policy goal and illustrates states’ success in meeting that goal or indicates where a state is lagging. In this document, the information for the source data and calculation parameters for each outcome is organized by the PN-3 policy goal with which it is aligned.

All outcome measures were calculated intentionally in the negative direction to demonstrate where states have room for improvement and to help states prioritize the PN-3 goals that are lagging. Where the relative rank is reported, these state-level estimates were used to rank states from best (1) to worst (51), with higher estimates indicating poorer performance. Importantly, the best state on a given outcome does not necessarily indicate a target for all other states to strive toward; even in the states with the best outcomes, many children and families are struggling. Outcome estimates were rounded to one decimal point prior to ranking and states with the same rounded estimate were assigned the same rank. If multiple states had the same rank, the subsequently assigned rank value would reflect the duplicate ranks and skip values. For example, if two states were both assigned a rank value of 17, the next rank assigned would be 19. The median state indicates that half of states have outcomes that measure better than that state and half of states have outcomes that are worse.

For all outcomes, estimates were based on the most recently available data through September 2022. In some cases, older data are used for the Roadmap outcome measures; in these cases, newer data were unavailable or there were quality concerns about newer data. Where applicable, notes on these cases are discussed within measures. Four outcome measures are impacted by data quality concerns regarding the 2020 American Community Survey (ACS). The Census Bureau warned of quality issues with the 2020 ACS data due to the pandemic’s impact on data collection. Nonresponse bias in the 2020 sample made “it appear that the U.S. population had higher levels of education, had more married couples and fewer never married
individuals, had less Medicaid coverage, had higher median household incomes, had fewer noncitizens, and were more likely to live in single-family housing units” (p. 37). Due to the potential impact of these quality issues on the population we study, we opted to continue using the 2019 ACS data for the 2022 Roadmap.\(^1\)

This impacts the following measures: % Low-Income Women Uninsured, % Children < 3 Without Any Full-Time Working Parent, % of Children < 3 in Poverty, and % Children < 3 Living in Crowded Households.

**GOAL: ACCESS TO NEEDED SERVICES**

**Measure 1: % Low-Income Women Uninsured**

**Definition:**
The percentage of low-income (<138% of the federal poverty level) adult women of childbearing age (19 to 44) who report they do not have any health insurance coverage

**Notes:**
1. **Numerator:** The number of low-income adult women of childbearing age who reported not having health insurance coverage during the prior calendar year
2. **Denominator:** The number of adult (age 19 to 44) women of known age and with known poverty status whose poverty threshold is below 138% of the federal poverty level (FPL)
3. The sample was limited to low-income adult women of childbearing age with known age and poverty status. For this particular measure, the sample was limited to women aged 19 to 44, as people aged 18 and under are eligible for Medicaid as a child and qualify for different Medicaid coverage once they turn 19. Women living in group quarters were excluded from the sample.
4. Race/ethnic groups were calculated using the Hispanic origin and race variables provided in the ACS. From these two variables, four mutually exclusive race/ethnic groups were created: White, non-Hispanic; Black, non-Hispanic; Hispanic; and Other. The “Other” category includes those who identified as “American Indian alone,” “Alaskan Native alone,” “American Indian and Alaskan Native tribes specified,” “Asian alone,” “Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone,” “Some other race alone,” or “2+ major race groups.”
5. The poverty threshold uses the US Census calculation of poverty and is based on the total income of all individuals aged 15 or older who are related to the head of household through marriage, birth or adoption. Income from cohabiting partners who are not married and unrelated children (including foster children) are not included in the calculation of family income. This family income is compared to federal poverty thresholds based on related family size and composition (povpip).\(^2\)

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6. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using both ACS person-level weights, to provide national and state representative estimates, and replicate weights to appropriately adjust standard errors to account for any sampling bias. Given the age and poverty limits imposed on the sample (women age 19-44 with incomes <138% of the federal poverty level) and the calculation of estimates by state, incorporating both population and sampling weights helps to account for exogenous sources of variance and improve the accuracy of estimates.

7. The US Census Bureau recommends using a 90% confidence interval for evaluating the accuracy of estimates using ACS data.³

8. A few states had estimates with confidence interval widths that were larger than the recommended 10% margin of error. In 2019, four states (Maine, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming) had over criteria confidence intervals ranging from 10.4% to 14.5%.

9. Due to data quality concerns regarding 2020 ACS data, 2019 data were used for this measure in the 2022 Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap.

10. After the production of 2022 Roadmap graphics, we identified an error in this measure due to a misinterpretation of Medicaid expansion income eligibility thresholds. This measure should be calculated using a definition of low-income that is income less than or equal to 138% of the federal poverty level. These figures were reported correctly in the 2021 Roadmap and the error will be corrected in future Roadmaps.

Source:

Measure 2: % Births to Women Not Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care

Definition:
The percentage of births to women who received no prenatal care, whose prenatal care started in the fifth month of pregnancy or later, or who received fewer than 50% of expected prenatal visits based on when prenatal care was initiated and the gestational age at delivery.

Notes:
1. March of Dimes calculations were based on the Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index and identified those births to women who either had no prenatal care, whose prenatal care started in the fifth month of pregnancy or later, or who received fewer than 50% of expected prenatal visits based on when prenatal care was initiated and the gestational age at delivery.⁴


2. The American College of Gynecologists recommends 14 prenatal visits for a normal term pregnancy, with 1 visit per month up to 28 weeks, 1 visit every two weeks from 29 to 36 weeks, and 1 visit per week from 37 to 40 weeks.

3. While data by race/ethnicity were not available for each individual year, data disaggregated into three mutually exclusive groups (White, non-Hispanic; Hispanic; and Black, non-Hispanic) were available as averages across the most recent three years (2018-2020) of natality data from March of Dimes Peristats.

Source:

Measure 3: % Eligible Families with Children < 18 Not Receiving SNAP

Definition:
Percentage of SNAP-eligible families with children under age 18 who did not receive SNAP in the past year

Notes:
1. **Numerator:** The number of SNAP-eligible families with children under age 18 who did not report receiving SNAP during the prior calendar year

2. **Denominator:** The number of SNAP-eligible families with at least one child under age 18

3. Data for this measure are the same as those reported in the 2021 Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap. Updated data for the 2019 and 2020 CPS ASEC samples were not available in TRIM3 as of August 9, 2022.

4. The sample was limited to SNAP-eligible families with children under age 18. These data are the pooled TRIM3 model adjusted values based on the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC) 2018, 2017, and 2016 datasets. The model adjusts Census data, based on program eligibility requirements and program administrative data on recipients, to account for underreporting of benefit receipt. The TRIM3 project microdata uses the actual date of the data. For example, as the 2018 CPS ASEC survey questioned respondents about activities and benefits from 2017, the TRIM3 model refers to these data as the 2017 input files.

5. All estimates (national and state-level) were calculated in Stata 16 using family-level weights. To improve data quality and accuracy of state-level estimates, per US Census Current Population Survey guidance, estimates were calculated using the three most recent years of CPS ASEC data and family-level population weights were adjusted by three to account for the multi-year dataset. All state-level estimates fell within this recommended 10% margin of error.

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7. Information presented here is derived in part from the Transfer Income Model, Version 3 (TRIM3) and associated databases. TRIM3 requires users to input assumptions and/or interpretations about economic behavior and the rules governing federal programs. Therefore, the conclusions presented here are attributable only to the authors of this report.

Source:

Measure 4: % Children < 3 Not Receiving Developmental Screening

Definition:
Percentage of children ages 9 months through 35 months whose parent reports the child did not receive a developmental screening using a parent-completed screening tool in the past year

Notes:
1. Numerator: The number of children between the ages of 9 and 35 months whose parent reported they had not received a developmental screening using a parent-completed screening tool in the past year
2. Denominator: The number of children between the ages of 9 and 35 months whose parent responded yes or no to a survey item regarding their receipt of a parent-completed screening tool
3. The sample was limited to children between the ages of 9 and 35 months whose parent responded to a survey item regarding their receipt of a developmental screening tool.
4. To improve accuracy in calculating sample estimates, especially at the state-level, three years of NSCH data (2018, 2019, and 2020) were combined to create one multi-year dataset.
5. Approximately 1.5% of children ages 9 to 35 months in the three-year combined data file were missing data for developmental screenings. In accordance with the reporting practice of the Data Resource Centers' Interactive Data Query (https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey), cases with missing data were excluded from the analysis.6
6. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using NSCH provided person level weights and adjusting standard errors based on sampling stratum. Per NSCH guidance the individual year population weight was divided by three to account for the combined data.7

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7. NSCH guidance recommends using a 95% confidence interval and identifying estimates with confidence interval widths that exceed 20% as having questionable reliability and accuracy. Two states (Connecticut and Maine) had estimates with confidence interval widths that were larger than the recommended 20% margin of error, both with over criteria confidence intervals of 20.7%.

Source:

GOAL: PARENTS’ ABILITY TO WORK

Measure 5: % Children < 3 Without Any Full-Time Working Parent

Definition:
Percentage of children under age 3 living in a family in which no parent has regular, full-time (35 hours per week or more), year-round (50 weeks per year or more) employment

Notes:
1. **Numerator**: The number of children under age 3 who have no parent reporting that they have regular, full-time (35 hours per week or more), year-round (50 weeks per year or more) employment
2. **Denominator**: The number of children under age 3 living with parents who have valid labor force participation data or who are not reported to be living with either parent and are not living in group quarters
3. The sample was limited to children under age 3 whose parents have valid labor force participation data or who are not reported to be living with either parent. Year-round employment was defined as working 35 hours per week or more for at least 50 weeks during the 12 months prior to the survey.
4. For children living in two parent households, neither parent had secure employment; for children living in single parent families, the resident parent was not securely employed. Children whose parents were not labor-force eligible (under age 16) or who were reported to not be living with any parents were considered to have insecurely employed parents. Children whose parents provided inconsistent employment information (e.g., reported their status as unemployed but had valid data for hours worked) or who were living in group quarters were excluded from the sample.
5. Parents’ resident status with the child was determined by merging in the parent location variables (momloc, momloc2, poploc, poploc2), as determined by the University of Minnesota’s IPUMS USA and available in the single year 2019 IPUMS ACS data file, with the 2019 ACS 1-Year PUMS data file. The

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IPUMS familial interrelationship variables were used in the identification of resident parents as they allow for the identification and inclusion of both cohabiting and same sex couples.9

6. Race/ethnic groups were calculated using the Hispanic origin and race variables provided in the ACS. From these two variables, four mutually exclusive race/ethnic groups were created: White, non-Hispanic; Black, non-Hispanic; Hispanic; and Other. The “Other” category includes those who identified as “American Indian alone,” “Alaskan Native alone,” “American Indian and Alaskan Native tribes specified,” “Asian alone,” “Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone,” “Some other race alone,” or “2+ major race groups.”

7. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using both ACS person-level weights, to provide national and state representative estimates, and replicate weights to appropriately adjust standard errors to account for any sampling bias.

8. The US Census Bureau recommends using a 90% confidence interval for evaluating the accuracy of estimates using ACS data.10

9. Six states had estimates with confidence interval widths that were larger than the recommended 10% margin of error in 2019. Delaware, the District of Columbia, Montana, North Dakota, Rhode Island, and Vermont had out of range intervals ranging from 11.0% to 15.4%.

10. Due to data quality concerns regarding 2020 ACS data, 2019 data were used for this measure in the 2022 Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap. Data for this measure are the same as those reported in the 2021 Roadmap.

Sources:

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9 See https://usa.ipums.org/usa/chapter5/NewfamilyinterrelationshipvariablesinIPUMSUSA.shtml for a thorough description of how IPUMS determines the location of parents in the household.

GOAL: SUFFICIENT HOUSEHOLD RESOURCES

Measure 6: % of Children < 3 in Poverty

Definition:
Percentage of children under age 3 whose family lives below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL)

Notes:
1. **Numerator:** The number of children under age 3 living in a household in which they are related to the household head whose family income falls below 100% of the federal poverty level
2. **Denominator:** The number of children under age 3 living in a household in which they are related to the household head and have valid poverty data
3. The sample was limited to children under age 3 living in a household in which they are related to the household head and have valid poverty data. Children living in group quarters or who were unrelated to the head of household (e.g., foster children or children of unmarried cohabiters) were excluded from the sample. The poverty threshold uses the US Census calculation of poverty and is based on the total income of all individuals aged 15 or older who are related to the head of household through marriage, birth or adoption. Income from cohabiting partners who are not married and unrelated children (including foster children) are not included in the calculation of family income. This family income is compared to federal poverty thresholds based on related family size and composition (povpip).¹¹
4. Race/ethnic groups were calculated using the Hispanic origin and race variables provided in the ACS. From these two variables, four mutually exclusive race/ethnic groups were created: White, non-Hispanic; Black, non-Hispanic; Hispanic; and Other. The “Other” category includes those who identified as “American Indian alone,” “Alaskan Native alone,” “American Indian and Alaskan Native tribes specified,” “Asian alone,” “Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone,” “Some other race alone,” or “2+ major race groups.”
5. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using both ACS person-level weights, to provide national and state representative estimates, and replicate weights to appropriately adjust standard errors to account for any sampling bias.
6. The US Census Bureau recommends using a 90% confidence interval for evaluating the accuracy of estimates using ACS data.¹²
7. Four states had estimates with confidence interval widths that were larger than the recommended 10% margin of error in 2019. Delaware, Montana, Rhode Island, and South Dakota had confidence interval widths that fell outside of the 10% margin of error, ranging from 11.0% to 14.6%.

8. Due to data quality concerns regarding 2020 ACS data, 2019 data were used for this measure in the 2022 Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap. Data for this measure are the same as those reported in the 2021 Roadmap.

Source:

Measure 7: % Children < 3 Living in Crowded Households

Definition:
Percentage of children under age 3 living in a household in which there is more than one person per room or more than two people per bedroom

Notes:
1. **Numerator**: The number of children under age 3 living in a household in which there is more than one person per room or more than two people per bedroom
2. **Denominator**: The number of children under age 3 living in a household reporting valid household size and providing data regarding the number of rooms and bedrooms in the household
3. The sample was limited to the number of children under age 3 with valid household size and housing structure data. Children living in group quarters were excluded from the sample.
4. Race/ethnic groups were calculated using the Hispanic origin and race variables provided in the ACS. From these two variables, four mutually exclusive race/ethnic groups were created: White, non-Hispanic; Black, non-Hispanic; Hispanic; and Other. The “Other” category includes those who identified as “American Indian alone,” “Alaskan Native alone,” “American Indian and Alaskan Native tribes specified,” “Asian alone,” “Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone,” “Some other race alone,” or “2+ major race groups.”
5. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using both ACS person-level weights, to provide national and state representative estimates, and replicate weights to appropriately adjust standard errors to account for any sampling bias.
6. The US Census Bureau recommends using a 90% confidence interval for evaluating the accuracy of estimates using ACS data. From these two variables, four mutually exclusive race/ethnic groups were created: White, non-Hispanic; Black, non-Hispanic; Hispanic; and Other. The “Other” category includes those who identified as “American Indian alone,” “Alaskan Native alone,” “American Indian and Alaskan Native tribes specified,” “Asian alone,” “Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone,” “Some other race alone,” or “2+ major race groups.”
7. Four states had estimates with confidence interval widths that were larger than the US Census’ recommended 10% margin in 2019. Alaska, the District of Columbia, Rhode Island, and Vermont had out of range confidence interval values ranging from 11.8% to 14.5%.
8. Due to data quality concerns regarding 2020 ACS data, 2019 data were used for this measure in the 2022 Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap. Data for this measure are the same as those reported in the 2021 Roadmap.

13 Ibid.
Source:

**Measure 8: % of Households Reporting Child Food Insecurity**

**Definition:**
The percentage of households with at least one child under age 3 who reported experiencing low or very low child food security

**Notes:**
1. **Numerator:** The number of households with at least one child under age 3 reporting low or very low child food security
2. **Denominator:** The number of households with at least one child under age 3 with a valid score on the child food security scale
3. The sample was limited to households with at least one child under age 3 with valid child food security scale data. The child food security scale was selected instead of the household food security scale to more realistically capture the food security situation for children in the household. Parents frequently shield children from experiencing hunger even though they may report low or very low food security for themselves. Estimates of household food security may overestimate the food insecurity experience of children in the household and this may be especially true for younger children as research suggests that older children in the household may be more likely to experience food insecurity compared to younger children.¹⁴
4. To improve data quality and accuracy of state-level estimates, per US Census Current Population Survey guidance, estimates were calculated using the three most recent years of CPS, Food Security Supplement data (2018, 2019, and 2020) and household-level population weights were adjusted by three to account for the multi-year dataset.¹⁵
5. All estimates (national and state-level) were calculated in Stata 17 using both household-level population weights (for representative estimates) and replicate weights to account for any sampling bias.
6. The US Census Bureau recommends using a 90% confidence interval for evaluating the accuracy of estimates using CPS data.
7. Several states (Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Kentucky, Maine, Nevada, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming) had estimates with confidence interval widths that were larger than the recommended 10% margin of error, with over criteria confidence intervals ranging from 10.3% to 32.2%. The Rhode Island sample size was too small to generate a reliable estimate.

GOAL: HEALTHY AND EQUITABLE BIRTHS

Measure 9: % Babies Born Preterm (< 37 Weeks)

Definition:
Percentage of babies born in the past year who were born prior to 37 weeks gestational age

Notes:
1. Numerator: The number of births in the past year in which the baby was born prior to 37 weeks gestational age
2. Denominator: The number of births in the past year with known gestational age
3. The sample was limited to births in the past year with valid gestational age information. Per Vital Statistics guidance, the obstetric estimated (OE) gestational age was used to measure gestational age instead of the last menstrual period (LMP) gestational age.16
4. Race/ethnic groups based on mother’s race and ethnicity were calculated using the Hispanic origin and 6-race category variables provided in CDC WONDER. From these two variables, four mutually exclusive race/ethnic groups were created. If a birth was identified with a Hispanic mother, then the birth was categorized as Hispanic regardless of the race of the mother. Next, births were identified as those to Black, non-Hispanic mothers, then White, non-Hispanic mothers. The fourth group was created from all other non-Hispanic mothers (Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, more than one race, or unknown/not stated). Births to mothers whose Hispanic origin was reported as unknown on the birth certificate were excluded from the percentages reported by race/ethnic group.
5. CDC reporting rules require the suppression of sub-national counts of 9 or fewer births.17

Source:
United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use

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Measure 10: # of Infant Deaths per 1,000 Births

Definition:
The number of infant deaths within the first year per 1,000 live births.

Notes:
1. Per CDC guidance, when available national estimates disaggregated by race/ethnicity were derived from the Vital Statistics period linked birth/infant death data. Race/ethnic subgroups are based on the race and ethnicity of the mother; using the linked birth/death file provides better accuracy in identifying mother’s race/ethnicity from birth certificate data. However, to fully provide the rate of infant deaths at the state-level, state estimates were derived from the mortality file. The mortality file does not require the child to have a valid US (or US territory) birth certificate and provides a more complete picture of the state-level infant mortality rate.18
2. In 2020, the infant mortality rate for Vermont was not available due to unreliable data quality associated with smaller sample sizes.

Sources:

GOAL: PARENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Measure 11: % Children < 3 Whose Mother Reports Fair/Poor Mental Health

Definition:
Percentage of children under age 3 whose mother rates her own mental/emotional health as fair or poor

Notes:
1. Numerator: The number of children under age 3 whose mother rated her own mental/emotional health as fair or poor

2. **Denominator:** The number of children under age 3 whose mother provided a valid response to a survey item regarding her current mental/emotional health

3. The sample was limited to children under age 3 whose mother responded to a survey item regarding her current mental/emotional health. Children who did not have a mother listed as either adult in the household (generally children living with grandparents, in single father households, or living with other relatives) were excluded from the analyses.

4. To improve accuracy in calculating sample estimates, especially at the state-level, three years of NSCH data (2018, 2019, and 2020) were combined to create one multi-year dataset.

5. Approximately 0.4% of children under 3 with a mother in the household were missing data for maternal mental health in the three-year combined data file. In accordance with the reporting practice of the Data Resource Centers’ Interactive Data Query ([https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey](https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey)), cases with missing data were excluded from the analysis.¹⁹

6. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using NSCH provided person level weights and adjusting standard errors based on sampling stratum. Per NSCH guidance the individual year population weight was divided by three to account for the combined data.²⁰

7. NSCH guidance recommends using a 95% confidence interval and identifying estimates with confidence interval widths that exceed 20% as having questionable reliability and accuracy.²¹ No states had estimates that exceeded the 20% width.

**Source:**

**Measure 12: % Children < 3 Whose Parent Lacks Parenting Support**

**Definition:**
Percentage of children under age 3 whose parent reported that during the past year there was not someone they could turn to for emotional parenting support

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Notes:
1. **Numerator:** The number of children under age 3 whose parent reported that during the past year they did not have someone they could turn to for emotional parenting support.
2. **Denominator:** The number of children under age 3 whose parent responded yes or no to a survey item regarding the availability of someone providing emotional parenting support over the past year.
3. The sample was limited to children under age 3 whose parent responded to a survey item regarding emotional parenting support. To improve accuracy in calculating sample estimates, especially at the state-level, three years of NSCH data (2018, 2019, and 2020) were combined to create one multi-year dataset.
4. Approximately 1.5% of children under 3 in the three-year combined data file were missing data for parenting support. In accordance with the reporting practice of the Data Resource Centers’ Interactive Data Query (https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey), cases with missing data were excluded from the analysis.
5. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using NSCH provided person level weights and adjusting standard errors based on sampling stratum. Per NSCH guidance the individual year population weight was divided by three to account for the combined data.
6. NSCH guidance recommends using a 95% confidence interval and identifying estimates with confidence interval widths that exceed 20% as having questionable reliability and accuracy. No states had estimates that exceeded the 20% width.

Source:

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GOAL: NURTURING AND RESPONSIVE CHILD-PARENT RELATIONSHIPS

Measure 13: % Children < 3 Not Read to Daily

Definition:
Percentage of children under age 3 whose family did not read to them daily during the prior week

Notes:
1. **Numerator:** The number of children under age 3 whose parent reported that family members read to them fewer than 7 days in the prior week
2. **Denominator:** The number of children under age 3 whose parent reported on the frequency of family reading behaviors
3. The sample was limited to children under age 3 whose parent responded to a survey item regarding family reading behaviors. To improve accuracy in calculating sample estimates, especially at the state-level, three years of NSCH data (2018, 2019, and 2020) were combined to create one multi-year dataset.
4. Approximately 1.4% of children under 3 in the three-year combined data file were missing data on family reading behavior. In accordance with the reporting practice of the Data Resource Centers’ Interactive Data Query (https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey), cases with missing data were excluded from the analysis.25
5. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using NSCH provided person level weights and adjusting standard errors based on sampling stratum. Per NSCH guidance the individual year population weight was divided by three to account for the combined data.26
6. NSCH guidance recommends using a 95% confidence interval and identifying estimates with confidence interval widths that exceed 20% as having questionable reliability and accuracy.27 No states had estimates that exceeded the 20% width.

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Measure 14: % Children < 3 Nurtured Daily

Definition:
Percentage of children under age 3 whose family did not sing songs or tell stories to them every day during the prior week

Notes:
1. **Numerator:** The number of children under age 3 whose parent reported that family members told stories or sang songs with the child fewer than 7 days of the prior week
2. **Denominator:** The number of children under age 3 whose parent reported on the frequency of family storytelling and other nurturing behaviors (singing songs)
3. The sample was limited to children under age 3 whose parent responded to a survey item regarding family nurturing behaviors. To improve accuracy in calculating sample estimates, especially at the state-level, three years of NSCH data (2018, 2019, and 2020) were combined to create one multi-year dataset.
4. Approximately 1.3% of children under 3 in the three-year combined data file were missing data on family nurturing behaviors. In accordance with the reporting practice of the Data Resource Centers’ Interactive Data Query (https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey), cases with missing data were excluded from the analysis.28
5. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using NSCH provided person level weights and adjusting standard errors based on sampling stratum. Per NSCH guidance the individual year population weight was divided by three to account for the combined data.29
6. NSCH guidance recommends using a 95% confidence interval and identifying estimates with confidence interval widths that exceed 20% as having questionable reliability and accuracy.30 No states had estimates that exceeded the 20% width.

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Source:

Measure 15: % Children < 3 Whose Parent Reports Not Coping Very Well

Definition:
Percentage of children under age 3 whose parent reports they are not coping “very well” with the day-to-day demands of parenting

Notes:
1. **Numerator:** The number of children under age 3 whose parent reported that they are not coping very well with the demands of parenting
2. **Denominator:** The number of children under age 3 whose parent responded to a survey item regarding how well they are coping with the demands of parenting
3. The sample was limited to children under age 3 whose parent responded to a survey item regarding parenting stress and coping. Responses to the survey item were on a four-point scale: very well, somewhat well, not very well, or not very well at all. Our calculation grouped the last three categories (somewhat well, not very well, or not very well at all). To improve accuracy in calculating sample estimates, especially at the state-level, three years of NSCH data (2018, 2019, and 2020) were combined to create one multi-year dataset. Approximately 1.3% of children under 3 in the three-year combined data file were missing data for parenting stress and coping. In accordance with the reporting practice of the Data Resource Centers’ Interactive Data Query (https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey), cases with missing data were excluded from the analysis.31
4. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using NSCH provided person level weights and adjusting standard errors based on sampling stratum. Per NSCH guidance the individual year population weight was divided by 3 to account for the combined data.32 Additionally, NSCH guidance recommends using a

95% confidence interval and identifying estimates with confidence interval widths that exceed 20% as having questionable reliability and accuracy. No states had estimates that exceeded the 20% width.

Source:

GOAL: NURTURING AND RESPONSIVE CHILD CARE IN SAFE SETTINGS

Measure 16: % Children Without Access to Early Head Start

Definition:
The estimated percentage of income-eligible children (those in families whose poverty status was less than 100% of the federal poverty level) under age 3 without access to Early Head Start (as measured through the total number of EHS slots).

Notes:
1. Numerator: The number of EHS slots (regardless of funding source) available in all EHS programs (traditional EHS, American Indian, Alaska Native (AIAN) and migrant EHS) as provided in state-level PIRs
2. Denominator: The number of children under age 3 living in households in which they are related to the household head and the household income level is below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level, as estimated from two years of the American Community Survey (ACS)
3. The sample was limited to children with valid poverty status data living in households with incomes below 100% of the FPL.
4. The data for the numerator (the number of funded EHS slots for children under age 3) came from the state EHS Program Information Reports (PIRs).
5. The denominator reflects population level estimates from the American Community Survey (ACS) Public-Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) for the sample of children under the age of 3 whose family poverty value was below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL).
6. Sample size estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using ACS-provided person-level weights. Given the age and income limits imposed on the sample (children under age 3 living in families below 100% FPL) and the estimates by state, two years of ACS data were combined to improve data quality and accuracy and all weights were appropriately adjusted to account for the two combined years of data. Children living in group quarters or whose family poverty status was not available (e.g., foster children or children who were unrelated to the head of household) were excluded from the calculation.

7. The US Census calculation of poverty is based on the total income of all individuals aged 15 or older who are related to the head of household through marriage, birth or adoption. Income from cohabiting partners who are not married and unrelated children (including foster children) are not included in the calculation of family income. This family income is compared to federal poverty thresholds based on related family size and composition \( \text{pov}\text{p}\text{i}\text{p} \).\(^{34}\)

8. A single year of the funded slot data from the EHS PIR, reflecting all program types and funding sources, was paired with two combined years of data from the ACS PUMS 1-year data, reflecting income-eligible children under age 3. The 2019 EHS PIR Vintage data were paired with the 2018-2019 ACS samples.

9. Due to the impact of COVID-19 on early care and education programs, the federal Office of Head Start did not require PIRs from Early Head Start grantees in 2020. PIRs were collected in 2021, but 2021 ACS data for the denominator were yet not available as of 2022 Roadmap publication to update this measure.

Sources:


Measure 17: % Providers Not in Participating in the State’s Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)

Definition:
Percentage of child care providers not participating in state QRIS

Notes:
1. **Numerator:** The number of center-based and family child care (FCC) providers rated in the QRIS in the state.

2. **Denominator:** The total number of center-based and FCC providers in the state.

3. “NR” indicates that the state did not report these data about its QRIS in the 2021 Quality Compendium.

4. Hawaii, Mississippi, and Wyoming do not currently have a QRIS or plans to develop a QRIS.

5. Missouri does not have a QRIS but reported plans to develop one in the state CCDF plan.

6. Connecticut, Kansas, South Dakota, and West Virginia are currently piloting or planning their QRIS and state data are not reported in the 2021 Quality Compendium.

7. Florida operates a statewide system of quality improvement, but also allows local QRIS development. The figures reported here are for the statewide School Readiness Program Assessment program.

8. New Hampshire’s Compendium data was last updated in 2019.

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Source:

GOAL: OPTIMAL CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Measure 18: % Children Whose Mother Reported Never Breastfeeding

Definition:
Percentage of children ages 19 to 35 months whose mother reported never breastfeeding

Notes:
1. Numerator: The number of children between the ages of 19 and 35 months whose mother reported they never breastfed the child
2. Denominator: The number of children between the ages of 19 and 35 months whose mother reported yes or no to an item regarding whether the child was ever breastfed
3. The sample was limited to children between the ages of 19 and 35 months whose mother responded to a survey item regarding breastfeeding of the child. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using NIS-Child provided person-level weights and adjusting standard errors based on sampling stratum.
4. NIS-Child guidance recommends using a 95% confidence interval and identifying estimates with confidence interval widths that exceed 20% as having questionable reliability and accuracy.\(^35\) No states had estimates that exceeded the 20% width.

Source:

Measure 19: % Children < 3 Not Up to Date on Immunizations

Definition:
Percentage of children ages 19 to 35 months who are not up to date on the combined 7-vaccine series

Notes:
1. **Numerator**: The number of children ages 19 to 35 months who are not up-to-date on the combined 7-vaccine series, based on the child’s age
2. **Denominator**: The number of children ages 19 to 35 months with adequate provider-verified immunization information
3. The sample was limited to children ages 19 to 35 months with adequate provider-verified information regarding immunizations. Children with at least one vaccination verified by a provider are considered to have adequate provider-verified data. The combined 7-vaccine series consists of 4 or more Diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis (DTaP) vaccinations; 3 or more polio vaccinations; 1 or more measles-containing (MCV) vaccinations; 3 or 4 Hib vaccinations (depending upon vaccine manufacturer); 3 or more hepatitis B vaccinations; 1 or more varicella vaccinations (administered at 12 months or older); and 3 or more pneumococcal vaccinations. The NIS-Child public use data file contains a constructed variable indicating whether the child is up-to-date on the combined 7-vaccine series based on the age of the child at the time of the survey and provider-verified vaccination data.
4. All estimates were calculated in Stata 17 using NIS-Child provided person-level weights, modified for adequate provider data, and adjusting standard errors based on sampling stratum.
5. NIS-Child guidance recommends using a 95% confidence interval and identifying estimates with confidence interval widths that exceed 20% as having questionable reliability and accuracy. No states had estimates that exceeded the 20% width.

Source:

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36 Ibid.
37 Ibid.
Measure 20: Maltreatment Rate per 1,000 Children < 3

Definition:
The rate of substantiated incidents of child maltreatment (per 1,000) for children under age 3

Notes:
1. **Numerator**: The number of unique child maltreatment victims under age 3
2. **Denominator**: The number of children under age 3
3. The sample was limited to children under age 3. The numerator is derived from the restricted-use NCANDS Child Files and is the unique count of substantiated child maltreatment victims under age 3. The denominator is derived from Census Population Estimates and is the estimate of the total number of children under age 3.  

4. The analyses presented in this publication were based on data from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS). These data were provided by the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect at Cornell University, and have been used with permission. The data were originally collected under the auspices of the Children’s Bureau. Funding was provided by the Children’s Bureau, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, Administration for Children and Families, US Department of Health and Human Services. The collector of the original data, the funding agency, NDACAN, Cornell University, and the agents or employees of these institutions bear no responsibility for the analyses or interpretations presented here. The information and opinions expressed reflect solely the opinions of the authors.

Sources:
2. US Census Bureau, Population Division. (2021). *Annual state resident population estimates for 6 race groups (5 race alone groups and two or more races) by age, sex, and Hispanic origin: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019; April 1, 2020; and July 1, 2020* – sc-est2020-alldata6.csv [Data Set]. August 15, 2022 from [https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/datasets/2010-2020/state/asrh/SC-EST2020-ALLDATA6.csv](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/datasets/2010-2020/state/asrh/SC-EST2020-ALLDATA6.csv)

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