

Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap 2026

COMPREHENSIVE SCREENING AND CONNECTION PROGRAMS

What progress have states made in the last year to increase access to comprehensive screening and connection programs?

State	State Context and Policy Progress
Alabama	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, Alabama began using Medicaid funds to support the HealthySteps program. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, Alabama began using state funds to support the HealthySteps program. State support included a \$100,000 grant from the Alabama Children's Trust Fund for the 2024-25 program year. State Context and Policy Update In 2025, Alabama was one of 24 states in which families could access HealthySteps. HealthySteps served 635 children, or 0.3% of children through age 3, at the state's lone site. Families also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Alabama did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Alaska	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Alaska do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Alaska did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Arizona	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Arizona uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update In 2025, Arizona was one of 24 states in which families could access HealthySteps. HealthySteps served nearly 6,200 children, or 1.9% of children through age 3, across 11 sites. In the last year, Arizona did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Arkansas	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Arkansas uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Arkansas have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2025, Arkansas was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 216 families, or 0.6% of births, at the state's lone site. Family Connects in Arkansas is supported by local philanthropy. In 2025, Arkansas was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served approximately 26,700 children, or 18.6% of children through age 3, across 13 sites. Arkansas is serving over triple the number of children as were served through the program in 2024. This growth in services may be reflective of the implementation of a supplemental Medicaid payment made available to participating pediatric practices beginning in 2024. In the last year, Arkansas did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

California	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE and HealthySteps programs in California use Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE and HealthySteps programs in California use state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in California have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, as well as the state's own alternative model. In 2025, California was one of six states in which families could access DULCE. DULCE served over 139 families, or just 0.03% of births at the state's lone site. In 2025, California was also one of 24 states in which families could access HealthySteps. HealthySteps served 40,300 children, or 2.5% of children through age 3, across 29 sites. California's alternative comprehensive screening and connection program, Welcome Baby, has been implemented in nine Los Angeles County hospitals. The program offers universal prenatal and postpartum home visits, as well as one hospital visit immediately following the birth, to facilitate support and service connection to all families. The program, however, has not yet been rigorously evaluated. Families in California also have access to Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, California did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
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Colorado	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes. Colorado used American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for initial start-up costs of the Family Connects programs in four counties, and the state opened its first site in 2022. In 2024 and 2025, the state provided funding for the continued expansion of Family Connects to seven additional counties over the next five years. Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Colorado uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects and HealthySteps programs in Colorado use state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in Colorado have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2025, Colorado was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 1,170 families, or 1.8% of births, across five sites. In 2025, Colorado was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 47,200 children, or 18.5% of children through age 3, across 29 sites. In the last year, legislators enacted H.B. 1410, the Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget, which appropriates approximately \$2.5 million in general funds to continue Family Connects expansions. This maintains state funding for the program at a slightly lower level than the \$2.8 million originally approved for the pilot in 2024, which provided recurring funding through FY 2028-29. In March 2026, state officials reported that Family Connects was operating in multiple counties, including Arapahoe, Boulder, Denver, Eagle, and Jefferson, with additional expansion underway in Mesa and Pitkin counties. The state budget also allocates \$314,113 in general funds to support HealthySteps.
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Connecticut	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes. In 2021, legislators allocated \$8 million of the state's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to launch its Family Connects program, called "Family Bridge." In 2023, legislators enacted a bill directing the state to develop the program statewide, and the first site opened that year. By April 2026, Family Bridge was available across the Greater Bridgeport and Eastern Connecticut regions. Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. Connecticut used state funds in 2023 to launch its Family Connects program. In the last year, Connecticut used state funds once again to support the program's continued expansion. State Context and Policy Update Families in Connecticut have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2025, Connecticut was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. According to national data for 2025, Family Connects served over 120 families, or 0.4% of births, across two sites. State program data, however, indicate that nearly 1,200 families received services in 2025. The difference may reflect which families are counted according to Family Connects International's certification process. In 2025, Connecticut was also one of 24 states in which families could access HealthySteps. HealthySteps served nearly 550 children, or 0.4% of children through age 3, at the state's lone site. Families in Connecticut also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, legislators enacted H.B. 7287, the biennial state budget, which appropriates \$1.8 million to support the Family Bridge (Family Connects) program in Fiscal Year 2027.
Delaware	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Delaware do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Delaware did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

District of Columbia	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in the District of Columbia uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, the District of Columbia began using state funds to support the HealthySteps program. The District's Fiscal Year 2025 budget authorized \$1.05 million in grants to support HealthySteps sites. State Context and Policy Update In 2025, the District of Columbia was one of 24 states in which families could access HealthySteps. HealthySteps served more than 6,800 children, or 22.5% of children through age 3, across eight sites. Families in the District of Columbia also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, councilmembers did not take any legislative action to enhance comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Florida	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Florida uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE and HealthySteps programs in Florida use state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in Florida have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2025, Florida was one of six states in which families could access DULCE. DULCE served approximately 42 families, or just 0.02% of births at the state's lone site. In 2025, Florida was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 8,700 children, or 1.0% of children through age 3, across eight sites. Families in Florida also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Florida legislators enacted H.B. 5001, the Fiscal Year 2026-27 state budget, which appropriated \$1.8 million in recurring funds and \$4.7 million in nonrecurring funds for continuance of Help Me Grow.

Georgia	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Georgia do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Georgia did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Hawaii	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Hawaii do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Healthy Start, provided by the Hawaii Department of Health, Maternal and Child Health Branch. Healthy Start supports at-risk families with newborns through home visits and connects those families with necessary community resources. To date, the program has not been rigorously evaluated. In the last year, Hawaii did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Idaho	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Idaho do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, nor an alternative state model. In the last year, Idaho did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Illinois	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes. In 2021, the Illinois Department of Human Services received a five-year federal grant to develop recommendations for a universal newborn support system intended to connect families with evidence-based services across the state. In 2026, the department received authorization to build the administrative and funding infrastructure needed to support existing programs and future statewide expansion. Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, Illinois began using Medicaid funds to support the Family Connects program. The HealthySteps program already used Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Illinois uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in Illinois have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2025, Illinois was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 7,400 families, or 5.9% of births, across 10 sites. In 2025, Illinois was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served nearly 17,600 children, or 3.4% of children through age 3, across six sites. In the last year, legislators enacted H.B. 4606, which lays the groundwork for a statewide universal newborn support system. It authorizes the state to establish standards for qualifying evidence-based programs, coordinate state-administered funding, collect program data, and identify communities for potential future implementation. It will take effect in July 2027.
Indiana	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Indiana do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. Families also have access to an alternative connection program, My Healthy Baby. The program, available statewide, is a partnership between the Indiana Department of Health, Family and Social Services Administration, and the Department of Child Services. The program connects pregnant Medicaid enrollees with free home visiting services and local support throughout pregnancy and their infant's first year of life. To date, the program has not yet been rigorously evaluated. Though Indiana did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings in the last year, the state did announce the opening of a HealthySteps site in February 2026. The rollout is ongoing and updated service data are not currently available.

Iowa	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Iowa uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update In 2025, Iowa was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 760 families, or 2.1% of births, at the state's lone site. Families in Iowa also have access to an alternative connection program, 1st Five Iowa. The program is a partnership between the Iowa Department of Public Health and primary care providers across 88 Iowa counties. Primary care providers universally screen children ages birth to 5 during well-child visits and then refer identified children to a 1st Five Developmental Support Specialist who links the child to appropriate services and follows up with the family on a regular basis. The program, however, has not yet been rigorously evaluated. Families in Iowa also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, legislators enacted H.F. 2782, which appropriates approximately \$3.1 million to support and expand the 1st Five Iowa program in Fiscal Year 2026-27.
Kansas	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Kansas do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. Kansas also makes its statewide Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) system available to schools and community partners serving children from birth through age 5, supporting the use of a consistent developmental screening tool across settings. In the last year, Kansas did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Kentucky	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Kentucky do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Kentucky did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Louisiana	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update In 2025, Louisiana was one of 20 states in which families could access Family Connects. Family Connects served nearly 890 families, or 1.7% of births, at the state's lone site. Family Connects in Louisiana is supported by local public health funding. In the last year, Louisiana did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Maine	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Maine do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Maine did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Maryland	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Maryland uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Maryland uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in Maryland have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2025, Maryland was one of 20 states in which families could access Family Connects. Family Connects served 1,950 families, or 3.0% of births, across three sites. In 2025, Maryland was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served more than 10,900 children, or 4.0% of children through age 3, across seven sites. In the last year, legislators enacted S.B. 282, the Fiscal Year 2027 state budget, which appropriates \$400,000 to support Family Connects in Frederick County.
Massachusetts	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Massachusetts uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No. State Context and Policy Update In 2025, Massachusetts was one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served more than 17,200 children, or 6.2% of children through age 3, across 12 sites. Families in Massachusetts also have access to an alternative connection program, Welcome Family, which was launched in 2013. Welcome Family offers one free, universal postpartum home visit with an experienced nurse, as well as one follow-up call, to facilitate support and service connection. Welcome Family is funded by the federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program funds and state support. The program is modeled on the Family Connects model, however, it has not yet been rigorously evaluated. In the last year, Massachusetts did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Michigan	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Michigan do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, legislators introduced S.B. 860, which would appropriate \$30 million in Fiscal Year 2026-27 to restructure the state's Help Me Grow system by requiring each participating school district to have a dedicated care coordinator who helps families connect to services. As of September 2026, this bill had not passed.
Minnesota	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects and HealthySteps programs in Minnesota use Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Minnesota uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in Minnesota have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2025, Minnesota was one of 20 states in which families could access Family Connects. Family Connects served nearly 300 families, or 0.5% of births, at the state's lone site. In 2025, Minnesota was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served nearly 2,300 children, or 0.9% of children through age 3, at the state's lone site. Families in Minnesota also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Minnesota did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Mississippi	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Mississippi uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Mississippi uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update In 2025, Mississippi was one of six states in which families could access DULCE. DULCE served approximately 59 families, or 0.2% of births, at the state's lone site. Families in Mississippi also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Mississippi did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Missouri	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Missouri uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in Missouri have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2025, Missouri was one of 20 states in which families could access Family Connects. Family Connects served over 600 families, or 0.9% of births, at the state's lone site. In 2025, Missouri was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served 3,000 families, or 1.1% of children through age 3, at the state's lone site. HealthySteps in Missouri is supported by local public health funding. In the last year, Missouri did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Montana	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update In 2025, Montana had one HealthySteps site that did not report its data. For this reason, it is not counted among the 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model this year. Montana did not hold a regular legislative session this year.
Nebraska	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, Nebraska began using Medicaid funds to support the Family Connects program. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Nebraska uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update In 2025, Nebraska was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 930 families, or 3.8% of births, at one of its two sites. The state's second site opened in late 2025 and data are not yet available. Families in Nebraska also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Nebraska did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Nevada	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Nevada do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, nor an alternative state model. Nevada did not hold a regular legislative session this year.

New Hampshire	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, New Hampshire began using Medicaid funds to support the HealthySteps program. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, New Hampshire began using state funds to support the HealthySteps program. State Context and Policy Update In 2025, New Hampshire was one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. The state launched its first two sites in late 2024 and reported its service data for the first time in 2025. In 2025, HealthySteps served over 900 children, or 1.8% of children through age 3, across two sites. Families in New Hampshire also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, New Hampshire did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
New Jersey	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes. In January 2024, Family Connects launched sites in five counties and expanded to six more in January 2025. Statewide rollout continued in January 2026 with the addition of sites in Camden, Salem, Atlantic, Burlington, Cape May, and Monmouth counties. The New Jersey Department of Children and Families announced that Family Connects was on track to reach all 21 counties by January 2027. Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in New Jersey uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in New Jersey uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in New Jersey have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2025, New Jersey was one of 20 states in which families could access Family Connects. Family Connects served nearly 5,150 families, or 5.1% of births, across 11 sites. In 2025, New Jersey was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 11,100 children, or 2.7% of children through age 3, across eight sites. Families in New Jersey also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, legislators enacted A. 5327, the Fiscal Year 2027 state budget, which appropriated an additional \$48.6 million to continue expanding Family Connects.

New Mexico	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in New Mexico uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, New Mexico began using state funds to support the Family Connects program. The DULCE program in New Mexico already used state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in New Mexico have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. Beginning in late 2024, New Mexico was one of six states in which families could access DULCE. In 2025, DULCE served six families across two sites. In 2025, New Mexico was also one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 380 families, or 1.8% of births, at the state's lone site. Families also have access to an alternative connection program, First Born. First Born is a universal home visiting program that offers prenatal and postpartum visits for first-time parents with children up to age 5. The state-supported program began in Grant County, New Mexico in 1997 and has since expanded to nine counties. Although First Born may include up to 40 home visits, the model also screens and provides families with resources and connections to services. The program, however, has not yet been rigorously evaluated. In the last year, legislators enacted H.B. 2, which appropriates \$461,800 in state general funds for Fiscal Year 2027 to support the First Born program.
New York	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in New York uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in New York uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update In 2025, New York was one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 138,300 children, or 16.4% of children through age 3, across 105 sites – the greatest number of sites of any HealthySteps state. Families in New York also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, legislators enacted S. 9003D, which appropriates \$1 million to support Help Me Grow in Fiscal Year 2026-27. Legislators also introduced A. 8048A and S. 7833B, which would have established a Medicaid add-on payment to pediatric practices that offer HealthySteps services. These bills did not pass this session.

North Carolina	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, North Carolina began using Medicaid funds to support the HealthySteps program. The Family Connects program already used Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in North Carolina uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in North Carolina have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2025, North Carolina was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 3,050 families, or 2.5% of births, across three sites. In 2025, North Carolina was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 30,000 children, or 6.0% of children through age 3, across 16 sites. HealthySteps in North Carolina is also supported by local philanthropy. In the last year, North Carolina did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
North Dakota	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in North Dakota do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, nor an alternative state model. North Dakota did not hold a regular legislative session this year.

Ohio	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes. In 2024, Governor DeWine announced plans to establish a statewide universal nurse home visiting program using the Family Connects model. The program launched in early 2025 with sites in 11 counties. In April 2026, the Department of Children and Youth announced expansion to an additional 22 counties. Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Ohio uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, Ohio began using state funds to support the Family Connects program. Funds were provided in Fiscal Year 2025 through the Ohio Department of Children and Youth's Help Me Grow program, under which the new Family Connects model was launched. State Context and Policy Update Families in Ohio have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2025, Ohio became one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 485 families, or 0.4% of births, across 10 sites. In 2025, Ohio was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 14,200 children, or 2.8% of children through age 3, across six sites. Families in Ohio also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. Ohio has also expanded statewide access to its Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) system by making screening available through a mobile app. In the last year, legislators introduced H.B. 885, which would codify and strengthen Ohio's existing universal home visiting strategy by requiring a formal implementation plan, setting a target of 20% annual home visiting expansion over five years, and creating automatic enrollment pathways through the state's central intake and referral system. Legislators also introduced H.B. 782, which would establish an At-Home Infant Care Program and require the Department of Children and Youth to set up procedures for joint enrollment in the new program and Help Me Grow. Finally, legislators introduced H.B. 635, which would require all welfare case plans for children under age 3 in temporary custody to include participation in Help Me Grow. As of September 2026, these bills had not passed.
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Oklahoma	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, Oklahoma began using Medicaid funds to support the HealthySteps program. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Oklahoma have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2025, Oklahoma was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served nearly 1,960 families, or 4.1% of births, at the state's lone site. Family Connects in Oklahoma is supported by federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program funds and local philanthropy. In 2025, Oklahoma was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served nearly 16,700 children, or 8.5% of children through age 3, across 15 sites. Families in Oklahoma also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Oklahoma did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Oregon	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes. After passing legislation in 2019, Oregon has been expanding Family Connects statewide. The program is currently available in 12 counties, with limited service in one additional county. Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects and HealthySteps programs in Oregon use Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in Oregon have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2025, Oregon was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 1,730 families, or 4.5% of births, across 12 sites. In 2025, Oregon was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 1,000 children, or 0.7% of children through age 3, at the state's lone site. Families in Oregon also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Oregon did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Pennsylvania	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, Pennsylvania began using Medicaid funds to support the HealthySteps program. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Pennsylvania have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2025, Pennsylvania was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 730 families, or 0.6% of births, at the state's lone site. Family Connects in Pennsylvania is supported by local public health funding. In 2025, Pennsylvania was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 3,900 families, or 0.8% of children through age 3, across three sites. In the last year, Pennsylvania did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Rhode Island	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Rhode Island uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Rhode Island uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update In 2025, Rhode Island was one of six states in which families could access DULCE. While the state had three active sites, data on the number of families served was not reported in 2025. In the last year, Rhode Island did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

South Carolina	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. In the last year, South Carolina began using Medicaid funds to support the HealthySteps program. The Family Connects program in South Carolina already used Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects and HealthySteps programs in South Carolina use state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in South Carolina have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2025, South Carolina was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 3,000, or 5.2% of births, across two sites. In 2025, South Carolina was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 8,500 children, or 3.6% of children through age 3, across nine sites. Families in South Carolina also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, South Carolina did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
South Dakota	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in South Dakota do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, nor an alternative state model. In the last year, South Dakota did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Tennessee	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Tennessee have access to one of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In late 2024, Tennessee launched a HealthySteps program through Allied Behavioral Systems. In 2025, although Tennessee was one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model, service and funding source data were not available. Families also have access to two alternative, statewide connection program models. Welcome Baby, which began in 2013, connects families with necessary community resources by providing an informational packet via mail and potential follow-up phone calls and outreach for families with newborns. Families also have access to Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Tennessee did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Texas	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Texas uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects and HealthySteps programs in Texas use state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update Families in Texas have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2025, Texas was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served nearly 2,340 families, or 0.6% of births, across four sites. In 2025, Texas was also one of 24 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served nearly 5,650 children, or 0.4% of children through age 3, across four sites. Families in Texas also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. Texas did not hold a regular legislative session this year.

Utah	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Utah do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Utah did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Vermont	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes Vermont is using federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Transforming Pediatrics for Early Childhood agreement funds to expand the reach of DULCE statewide. Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Vermont uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Vermont uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update In 2025, Vermont was one of six states in which families could access the DULCE model. DULCE served 504 families, or 10% of births, across eight sites. Families in Vermont also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Vermont did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Virginia	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Virginia do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, nor an alternative state model. In the last year, Virginia did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Washington	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Washington uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update In 2025, Washington was one of 20 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served nearly 620 families, or 0.7% of births, at the state's lone site. Families also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Washington did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

West Virginia	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in West Virginia do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, West Virginia did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Wisconsin	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Wisconsin do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Wisconsin did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Wyoming	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Wyoming do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, nor an alternative state model. In the last year, Wyoming did not take any legislative action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Find additional information on the [methods and sources](#) used throughout the Roadmap and for each state.