

Integrating the Blueprint Into Your Needs Assessment Part 1: Understanding How to Use NSCH Data

The purpose of this one-pager is to summarize key resources about the National Survey of Children's Health and offer links to additional resources/technical assistance support.

What is the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH)?

- The NSCH supports national efforts to improve the health and development of our children. The federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration funds and directs the NSCH. The U.S. Census Bureau conducts this household survey each year. The survey provides national and state level data for key measures of child health and well-being.
- Annual, parent-reported survey of children 0-17 years old in the US.
- Data is collected on the health and well-being of children, including access to and use of health care, family interactions, parental health, school and after-school experiences, and neighborhood characteristics.
- A screener is used to determine eligibility for the survey and to determine if there is a child in the household that meets special health care needs criteria. [A link to the 2022 screener tool is available here.](#)

How can you access survey data on your state?

- The Data Resource Center takes the results from the NSCH and makes them easily accessible.
- Visit www.childhealthdata.org and select your survey year and state/region you wish to see data on.
- State and national data can be further refined to assess differences by race/ethnicity, income, type of health insurance, age group, and a variety of other important demographic and health status characteristics.

How can you use this data for your needs assessment?

- Using the worksheet [Aligning your Work with the Blueprint for Change for CYSHCN](#), you can think through your state's performance on the well-functioning system of care measure and its components.
- State data that relates to the 4 critical areas of the Blueprint for Change can be compared to national or other state's data and used as part of the needs assessment.

Additional Resources/Citations:

- Ghandour R, Hirai A, Kenney M. Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs: A Profile. *Pediatrics* June 2022; 149 (Supplement 7): e2021056150D. 10.1542/peds.2021-056150D. Available at: <https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/149/Supplement%207/e2021056150D/188226/Children-and-Youth-With-Special-Health-Care-Needs>
- Bramlett MD, Read D, Bethell C, Blumberg SJ. Differentiating subgroups of children with special health care needs by health status and complexity of health care needs. *Matern Child Health J.* 2009;13(2):151-163. doi:10.1007/s10995-008-0339-z. Available at: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18386168/>
- Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative (2023). "Child and Family Health Data for Title V Needs Assessment." Data Resource Center. Available at [Title V Needs Assessment_Brief_2.21.2024.pdf \(mchneeds.net\)](#)

The National Center for a System of Services for CYSHCN is available to provide individualized support and technical assistance to Title V CYSHCN who have specific questions about this content. Contact Blueprint4CYSHCN@aap.org with questions. Visit [our Web site](#) for more resources. For more information about the Data Resource Center, contact: info@cahmi.org

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