



# The National Survey of Children's Health and Behavioral Health Measures

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# Overview

**National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH)**

**National Survey of Children with Special Health  
Care Needs (NS-CSHCN)**



# History & Purpose of the NSCH/NS-CSHCN



**NSCH:** Purpose: to produce national and State-based estimates on the health and well-being of children, their families, and their communities.

**NS-CSHCN:** Purpose: to assess the prevalence and impact of special health care needs among children in the U.S., and to evaluate change over time.

**Fielded:** 2003, 2007, 2011-12

**Fielded:** 2001, 2005-06, 2009-10

## **Common Elements:**

- Historically directed and funded by HRSA MCHB and fielded by the CDC as a module of SLAITS as a RDD telephone survey (landline + cell-phone samples);
- Produces both national and state-level estimates;
- All data are parent/care-giver reported.



# Uses of the NSCH/NS-CSHCN



- Healthy People 2010/2020 Objectives
- Federal policy and program development
- Title V needs assessments and funding
- State-level planning and program development
- Scientific research



## Selected publications:

- Bitsko RH, Holbrook JR, Visser SN, Mink JW, Zinner SH, Ghandour RM, Blumberg SJ. **A national profile of tourette syndrome, 2011-2012.** *J Dev Behav Pediatr.* 2014 Jun;35(5):317-22.
- Bramlett MD, Radel LF. **Adverse family experiences among children in nonparental care, 2011-2012.** *Natl Health Stat Report.* 2014 May;(74):1-9.
- Visser SN, Danielson ML, Bitsko RH, Holbrook JR, Kogan MD, Ghandour RM, Perou R, Blumberg SJ. **Trends in the parent-report of health care provider-diagnosed and medicated attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder: United States, 2003-2011.** *J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry.* 2014 Jan;53(1):34-46.e2.
- Singh GK, Kenney MK, Ghandour RM, Kogan MD, Lu MC. **Mental health outcomes in US children and adolescents born prematurely or with low birthweight.** *Depress Res Treat.* 2013;2013:570743.
- Perou R, Bitsko RH, Blumberg SJ, Pastor P, Ghandour RM, Gfroerer JC, Hedden SL, Crosby AE, Visser SN, Schieve LA, Parks SE, Hall JE, Brody D, Simile CM, Thompson WW, Baio J, Avenevoli S, Kogan MD, Huang LN; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). **Mental health surveillance among children--United States, 2005-2011.** *MMWR Surveill Summ.* 2013 May 17;62 Suppl 2:1-35.



# Accessing the Data



Ask us a question | Request a dataset  
Sign In to Access Your Briefcase

- About the Data Resource Center
- Learn About the Surveys
- Browse the Data
- Put Data into Action
- Get Help

Keyword Search

**Only 36%**  
of children living in poverty receive care within a medical home

- Survey Fast Facts
- Quick Data Search
- Get State Snapshots
- How to Use This Site

### Data at a Glance

At your fingertips—easy-to-read data snapshots for each state

State/Region

Welcome to the Data Resource Center for Child & Adolescent Health!  
Trying to find your way? Take a tour of our website and give us your feedback.

The mission of the Data Resource Center (DRC) is to take the voices of parents, gathered through the National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH) and the National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (NS-CSHCN), and share the results through this free online resource. Easy access to children’s health data allows researchers, policymakers, family advocates and consumers to work together to promote a higher quality health care system for children, youth and families. **Learn more about the DRC**

### Connect with the DRC

Sign up for email updates

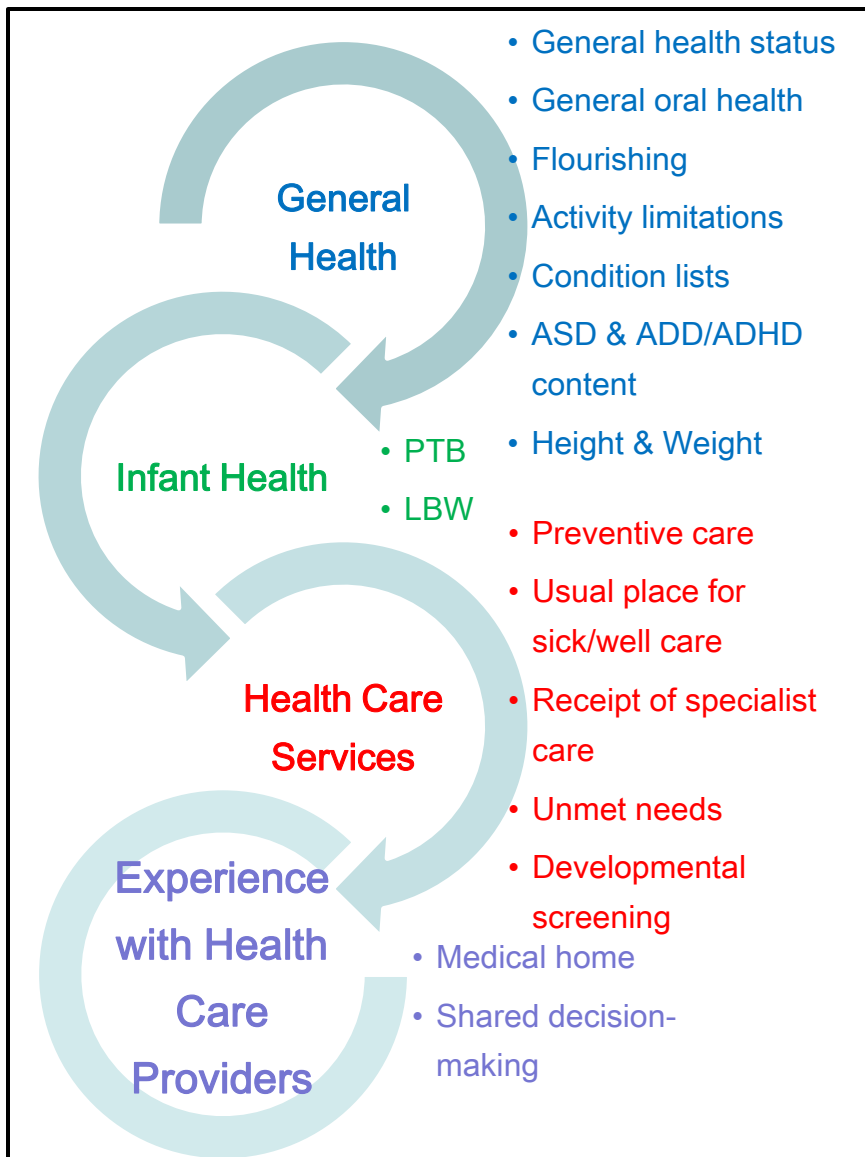
email address

Join our conversation!



# Emotional and Behavioral Health Content and Related Items







# Emotional, Behavioral and Developmental (EBD) Items



## General Health Section:

- Lifetime and current diagnosis of 12 EBDs:  
Has a doctor or other health care provider EVER told you that this child has...)
  1. Anxiety Problems
  2. Depression
  3. Behavioral or Conduct Problems\*
  4. Substance Abuse Disorder\*\*
  5. Developmental Delay\*
  6. Intellectual Disability\*
  7. Speech or other language disorder\*
  8. Learning Disability\*
  9. ADD/ADHD
  10. Autism / Autism Spectrum Disorder
  11. Tourette Syndrome
  12. Any Other Mental Health Condition (fill in blank)
  
- Severity of current diagnoses: Mild, Moderate or Severe

\*Can be identified by educator.

\*\* Only asked of parents whose children are aged 6 – 17 years.



## Treatment:

- Medication and behavioral treatment (separate) for ADD/ADHD;
- Medication and behavioral treatment (separate) for Autism;
- Receipt of any treatment or counseling from a mental health professional (past 12 months);
- Problems receiving needed mental health treatment or counseling;
- Use of medication because of difficulties with emotions, concentration, or behavior (past 12 months);
- Forgone care... for mental health services (past 12 months);
- Number of ER visits (past 12 months);
- Receipt of special education or an early intervention plan (age at receipt; current use);
- Receipt of special services to meet developmental needs such as speech, occupational, or behavioral therapy (age at receipt; current use).



## Other Items:

- Frequency and degree of [activity] limitations;
- Parental concern about development or behavior;
- Developmental Screening (9-71 months), includes question on problems with behavior and getting along with others;
- Degree to which insurance adequately covers mental and/or behavioral health needs and services;
- Missed school days;
- Parental “aggravation”;
- Family burden associated with child health needs (cost, care coordination, reduced employment);
- Healthy and ready to learn (“school readiness”);
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).

+ *Child and family socio-demographic characteristics.*



# Recent Data

Survey	Parent-Reported Diagnosis		
	Anxiety Problems (ever/current)	Depression (ever/current)	Behavioral or Conduct Problems (ever/current)
2011-12 NSCH	5.0%; 3.3%	3.8%; 2.2%	4.1%; 3.2%
	Moderate/Severe Anxiety Problems**	Moderate/Severe Depression**	Moderate/Severe Behavioral or Conduct Problems*
2011-12 NSCH	1.7%	1.0%	2.2%
2009-10 NS-CSHCN	21.3%; 17.1%	14.9%; 10.3%	16.0%; 13.5%
	Moderate/Severe Anxiety Problems**	Moderate/Severe Depression**	Moderate/Severe Behavioral or Conduct Problems*
2009-10 NS-CSHCN	9.7%	5.6%	9.7%

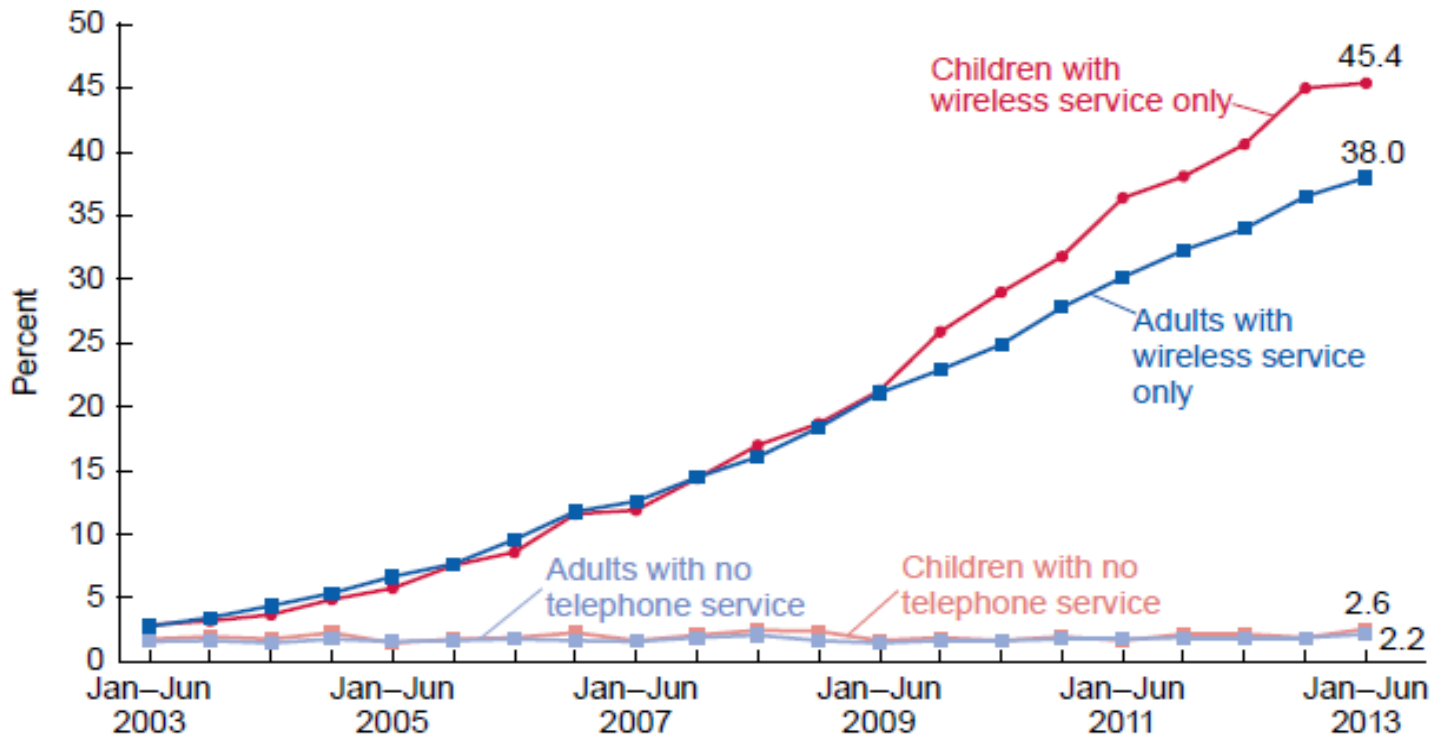
\* Among children aged 2-17 years.

\*\* Among children aged 2-17 with current diagnosis.



# New Directions: Redesign of the National Survey of Children's Health

## Percentages of adults and children living in households with only wireless telephone service or no telephone service: United States, 2003–2013



NOTE: Adults are aged 18 and over; children are under age 18.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Health Interview Survey.



# Purpose



The purpose of the redesign is threefold:

1. To shift the survey's sampling frame from landline and cell phone numbers to household addresses.
2. To combine the NSCH and NS-CSHCN into a single instrument.
3. To provide more timely data.





## Timeline of Activities

- Cognitive interviews: September-October 2014
- Instrument revisions: December 2014-February 2015
- Mode effects experiments: December 2014-March 2015
- **Survey pretest: Summer 2015-Spring 2016**
- Full survey fielded: Summer-Fall 2016
- Public data release: (late) Spring 2017



# Contact Information

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