

The National Survey of Children's Health : Background

Michael D. Kogan, PhD

Director, Office of Epidemiology and Research
US Department of Health and Human Services
Health Resources And Services Administration
Maternal And Child Health Bureau



Background

- The Health Resources and Services Administration's Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) embarked on a program to collect data on children's health beginning with the 2001 National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (NS-CSHCN), then followed by the 2003 National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH).

Background

- Each of these surveys have been conducted every 4 years since their inception:
 - NS-CSHCN (2001, 2005-2006, 2009-2010)
 - NSCH (2003, 2007, 2011-2012)

Reasons for Initiating Surveys

- The Title V Block Grant which funds maternal and child health services, requires that at least 30% of funds be devoted to children with special health care needs (CSHCN). However, there were no national data on this population.
- States had to respond to performance measures for the Title V Block Grant, and state-specific data were needed on a number of the measures.
- No state-specific data on children's health existed in the US.

Purpose of the NSCH

To produce national and State-based estimates on the health and well-being of children, their families, and their communities

NSCH Design Features

- Independent random-digit-dial samples for all 50 states plus D.C.
- Computer assisted telephone interviewing (CATI)
- Landlines and cell-phone only households beginning in 2011-2012
- Screened households for children under 18 years of age

NSCH Sample Size

- Sample size has been between 91,000 and 102,000 (about 1,800-2,000 per state)

Questionnaire Sections for All Respondents

- Demographics
- Child's health and functional status
- Child's health insurance coverage
- Child's health care access and utilization
- Medical home
- Family functioning
- Parental health
- Neighborhood conditions

Questionnaire Sections for Children, 6 Months-5 Years

- Developmental screening
- Child care arrangements
- Injuries
- Breastfeeding, use of formula, and solid food introduction
- Reading
- Parents' Evaluation of Developmental Status (PEDS) Child Development Screening Test

Questionnaire Sections for Children, 6 - 17 Years

- School enrollment
- School engagement
- Activities outside school
- Social behaviors and emotional difficulties
- Parental involvement in child's activities
- Time spent reading, computing, and television watching

Questions on Autism

- Has a doctor or other health care provider ever told you that your child had autism spectrum disorder?
- Does child currently have ASD?
- What is severity of condition?
- Age when first told child had ASD?
- Type of doctor or other health care provider who told you this?

Contact Information

Michael Kogan, Ph.D.

HRSA/MCHB

Director, Office of Epidemiology and Research

5600 Fishers Lane, Room 18-41

Rockville, MD 20857

301-443-3145

mkogan@hrsa.gov

