

National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs

Maternal & Child Health Bureau Core Outcomes for CSHCN: Trending Across Years

The Maternal & Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration has established six core outcomes that help assess state and national performance in providing comprehensive systems of care for children with special health care needs (CSHCN). The National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (NS-CSHCN) measures these outcomes but the method of measurement is sometimes modified between survey years to accommodate changing definitions and priorities. The table below provides an overview of key changes between survey years, prevalence estimates for 2009/10 and, when comparable, prevalence estimates for 2005/06.

MCHB Core Outcome	Percent of CSHCN Achieving Outcome		Key Differences to Consider when Comparing Across Survey Years
	2005/06	2009/10	companing Across survey rears
Outcome #1: Families of CSHCN are partners in decision-making for child's optimal health	-	70.3%	The four items which assess shared decision making are new in 2009/10
Outcome #2: CSHCN receive coordinated, ongoing, comprehensive care within a medical home	47.1%	43.0%	Some questions underwent minor revisions and/or placement changes. Questions about receiving interpretation help when needed were only asked in CA in 09/10 and are not included in the medical home measure in 09/10
Outcome #3*: CSHCN have adequate private and public insurance to pay for the services they need	62.0%	60.6%	✓ No changes; same as 2005/06 and 2001
Outcome #4: CSHCN are screened early and continuously for special health care needs	-	78.6%	Questions changed substantially in 2009/10 from need and receipt of preventive care to number of preventive visits in prior 12 months
Outcome #5: Community-based service systems are organized so CSHCN can use them easily	-	65.1%	One question assessing general difficulties in 05/06 was changed into 6 questions assessing specific reasons for difficulties or delays in 09/10; one question assessing frustration getting services was added in 09/10
Outcome #6: Youth with special health care needs receive services necessary to make a successful transition to adult life (age 12-17 only)	41.2%	40.0%	✓ No changes; same as 2005/06

- Outcome is comparable across survey years
- Outcome not comparable across survey years
- Outcome comparable across all three survey years including 2001