

# National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (NS-CSHCN), 2005

## FAST FACTS about the SURVEY

### **What is the National Survey of CSHCN?**

- A national telephone survey conducted for a second time during 2005-2006; the first administration of the survey took place in 2000-2001
- Independent random samples taken in all 50 states and the District of Columbia
- Telephone numbers are randomly generated and called to find households with one or more children under 18 years old. Trained interviewers ask parents or guardians a series of questions for all children in the household to identify those with special health care needs
- In 2005-2006, a total of 364,841 children under 18 years old from 192,083 households were screened to identify those with special health care needs
- A total of 40,804 detailed CSHCN interviews were collected during 2005-2006; approximately 750 in EACH state and the District of Columbia
- The interview takes about 28 minutes, on average, to complete
- The 2005-2006 NS-CSHCN was administered in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese and Korean

### **What information from the survey is available for EACH state?**

- The estimated prevalence and number CSHCN in the state population, and the estimated percent of households with children having one or more CSHCN under 18 years old
- Approximately 750 CSHCN interviews providing detailed information about each state's CSHCN population overall, and for subgroups such as age, race/ethnicity, family structure, household income, etc.

### **What topics are covered by the CSHCN interview?**

- Child's health and functional status; including current conditions and functioning limitations information added in 2005-2006
- Child's health insurance status and adequacy of coverage
- Access to health care — including types of health care services needed and any unmet needs for care
- Care coordination
- Family-centeredness of child's health care
- Impact of child's health on family

## **What topics and questions are new in 2005-2006?**

- Checklist asking about child's current health conditions
- List of functioning difficulties experienced due to health conditions
- Revised and improved care coordination questions
- Improved section on transition to adulthood
- Primary language spoken in the home
- Unmet need for interpreters during health care visits
- Number of ER visits
- Number of specialty doctors
- Use of specific health care services
- Receipt of preventive dental care
- Reasons for difficulty using community-based services
- Family structure

## **What else is new in 2005-2006?**

- The 2005-2006 NS-CSHCN includes a national referent sample of 4,945 non-CSHCN
- Parents or guardians are asked every question from the detailed CSHCN interview
- Results from the referent sample can be used to compare non-CSHCN with CSHCN from the main sample

## **Why is the NS-CSHCN sometimes called "SLAITS"?**

- The sampling and data collection for the National Survey of CSHCN is conducted using the SLAITS program
- SLAITS is an acronym for the "State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey," an approach developed by the National Center for Health Statistics to quickly and consistently collect information on a variety of health topics at the state and local levels
- Other national surveys collected through the SLAITS program include: the National Survey of Children's Health, the National Survey of Early Childhood Health, the National Asthma Survey, and the National Survey of Adoptive Parents

## **Who sponsors the NS-CSHCN?**

- The National Survey of CSHCN is sponsored by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- The National Center for Health Statistics of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention oversees the sampling and telephone interviews for the survey

## **Are data from the NS-CSHCN available to the public?**

- National, state and regional level results are easy to access online using the interactive "search the data" feature on the Data Resource Center website: [www.childhealthdata.org](http://www.childhealthdata.org)
- State-level datasets with the core outcome and indicator variables included can be ordered at no charge in SAS and SPSS formats at [www.childhealthdata.org](http://www.childhealthdata.org)
- Data files for the National Survey of CSHCN can be downloaded in SAS file format at no cost from the National Center for Health Statistics website: [www.cdc.gov/nchs](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs)