

Health Disparities and Health Equity: Maximizing the Power of the National Survey of Children’s Health to Promote Social Justice Among the Nation’s Children

Health equity and health disparities are two important, intertwined terms in health care delivery in the United States. Health equity refers to social justice in health—equal access to care for all persons, disadvantaged or not, and the right to be healthy. Health disparities are one metric by which we can measure progress toward achieving health equity.¹

The National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH) is an excellent source of information on health-related disparities among the nation’s children. The survey annually includes information on children’s race and ethnicity along with other variables related to disadvantage in the United States: education level, income level, neighborhood safety and amenities, and experiences of trauma.

The Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative’s Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health has partnered with Health Resources and Services Administration’s Maternal and Child Health Bureau (HRSA MCHB) since 2003 to provide the public with quick access to NSCH data findings, including the ability to assess health disparities. These data provide an excellent jumping-off point for addressing health equity in your state.

Visit www.childhealthdata.org to get data on children in your state.

Resources:

[Introduction to the Data Resource Center for Child & Adolescent Health](#)

[How to use the interactive data query](#)

[Ask a question](#)

[Request a dataset](#)

Subgroup Comparison Example 1: Prevalence of children who experienced two or more adverse childhood experiences by their race/ethnicity

Current Search Criteria

Survey: 2018-2019 National Survey of Children's Health
 Starting Point: Child and Family Health Measures
 State/Region: Nationwide (quick edit)
 Topic: Family Health and Activities
 Question: Indicator 6.13: Adverse childhood experiences ⓘ

Edit Search Criteria

Select a State or Region to Compare ▼

Select a Subgroup ▼

[Change Question, Topic or Survey](#)

Indicator 6.13: Has this child experienced one or more adverse childhood experiences from the list of 9 ACEs? ⓘ

	No adverse childhood experiences	1 adverse childhood experience	Two or more adverse childhood experiences	Total %
%	60.2	21.6	18.2	100.0
C.I.	59.3 - 61.0	20.9 - 22.3	17.6 - 18.9	
Sample Count	36,328	12,277	10,472	
Pop. Est.	43,113,655	15,474,860	13,068,094	

C.I. = 95% Confidence Interval.
 Percentages and population estimates (Pop.Est.) are weighted to represent child population in US.

Select State or Region (if none selected, results will show nationwide data as default)

Click drop-down menu to select subgroup; i.e. Race/ethnicity of child

