

2016 National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH)

Guide to Topics & Questions Asked

The National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, and is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Between June 2016 and February 2017, participants were mailed an invitation to complete a household screener and then a child-level questionnaire online using a secure, confidential website. Additionally, participants were provided with the opportunity to complete a mailed, paper version of the household screener and questionnaire instead of the web-based materials. Below is a guide to the questions asked on the screener and child-level questionnaires. As in previous editions of the surveys, some variables may be recoded to ensure consistency and ease of use. These recoded variables will appear in the public use file but will not appear in the table below

KEY:

- ^ Denotes that survey item is new to the 2016 NSCH (vs. 2011/12 NSCH or 2009/10 NS-CSHCN).
 - * Denotes that item content has substantively changed in the 2016 NSCH (vs. 2011/12 NSCH or 2009/10 NS-CSHCN). Most wording changes were not substantive – see box below for more information on the criteria used for content changes.
 - Indicates a list of questions under one question stem.
 - [] Complex skip patterns are explained in brackets.
 - x No number was assigned to this survey question. This question is nested within another survey item.
 - Question does not exist in this version of the survey.
- Note: Indented questions are asked if the respondent answered “yes” or gave a response other than “no” or “0” to the primary, non-indented question.

Reasons for changes to content in 2016 NSCH

1. To be consistent with other Federal policy/programs
2. To reflect an updated understanding of a topic/question
3. To combine content from two surveys (limited space)
4. To adjust for the change in survey administration from an interviewer-assisted telephone survey to a self-administered paper or web-based survey
5. To focus on updated Maternal and Child Health Bureau priorities
6. To reflect emerging priorities as identified by stakeholders

Pre-Survey Screener (Completed prior to full survey):

The screener is administered in advance of the full survey. It begins by asking an adult in the household if there are any children 0-17 years old in the home, how many children there are, and what primary language is spoken (English, Spanish, or other). The # sign following each question number indicates which child in the household the response is referencing when there is more than one child in the household.

The following questions are then asked about each of the four youngest children living in the home:

1. Is child [#] of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin? (C#_HISPANIC)
2. What is this child’s race? [Mark one or more boxes] (C#_RACE)
3. How old is this child? (C#_AGE_YEARS/C#_AGE_MONTHS)
4. What is this child’s sex? (C#_SEX)
5. ^How well does this child speak English? [only asked of children 4+ years old] (C#_ENGLISH)
6. Does this child CURRENTLY need or use medicine prescribed by a doctor, other than vitamins? (C#_K2Q10, C#_K2Q11, C#_K2Q12)
7. Does this child need or use more medical care, mental health, or educational services than is usual for most children of the same age (C#_K2Q13, C#_K2Q14, C#_K2Q15)
8. Is this child limited or prevented in any way in his or her ability to do the things most children of the same age can do? (C#_K2Q16, C#_K2Q17, C#_K2Q18)
9. Does this child need or get special therapy, such as physical, occupational, or speech therapy? (C#_K2Q19, C#_K2Q20, C#_K2Q21)
10. Does this child have any kind of emotional, developmental, or behavioral problem for which he or she needs treatment or counseling? (C#_K2Q22, C#_K2Q23)

If YES to any of items 6-10, two follow-up questions are asked:

- Is this because of ANY medical, behavioral, or other health condition?
- Is this a condition that has lasted or is expected to last 12 months or longer?

Respondents are also asked to provide basic information (age and sex) about up to 6 additional children in the household. These data are used for statistical purposes only and are not released.

**After all children are screened, one child is randomly selected.
The remainder of the survey is asked of this randomly selected child.**

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
A. This Child’s Health			
In general, how would you describe this child’s health? (K2Q01)	A1	A1	A1
How would you describe the condition of this child’s teeth (K2Q01_D)	A2	A2	A2
How well do each of the following phrases describe this child?	A3	A3	A3
• This child is affectionate and tender with you (K6Q70_R)	A3a	-	-
• This child bounces back quickly when things do not go his or her way (K6Q73_R)	A3b	-	-
• This child shows interest and curiosity in learning new things (K6Q71_R)	A3c	A3a	A3a
• This child smiles and laughs a lot (K6Q72_R)	A3d	-	-
• This child works to finish tasks he or she starts (K7Q84_R)	-	A3b	A3b
• This child stays calm and in control when faced with a challenge (K7Q85_R)	-	A3c	A3c
• This child cares about doing well in school (K7Q82_R)	-	A3d	A3d

^ New item in 2016 NSCH
* Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
• This child does all required homework (K7Q83_R)	-	A3e	A3e
• ^This child is bullied, picked on, or excluded by other children (BULLIED)	-	A3f	A3f
• *This child bullies others, picks on them, or excludes them (K7Q71_R)	-	A3g	A3g
• *This child argues too much (K7Q70_R)	-	A3h	A3h
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, has this child had FREQUENT or CHRONIC difficulty with any of the following?	A4	A4	A4
• Breathing or other respiratory problems (such as wheezing or shortness of breath) (BREATHING)	A4a	A4a	A4a
• Eating or swallowing because of a health condition (SWALLOWING)	A4b	A4b	A4b
• Digesting food, including stomach/intestinal problems, constipation, or diarrhea (STOMACH)	A4c	A4c	A4c
• Repeated or chronic physical pain, including headaches or other back or body pain (PHYSICALPAIN)	A4d	A4d	A4d
• Using his or her hands (HANDS)	A4e	-	-
• Coordination or moving around (COORDINATION)	A4f	-	-
• Toothaches (TOOTHACHES)	A4g	A4e	A4e
• ^Bleeding gums (GUMBLEED)	A4h	A4f	A4f
• Decayed teeth or cavities (CAVITIES)	A4i	A4g	A4g
Does this child have any of the following?	A5	A5	A5
• ^Serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition (MEMORYCOND)	-	A5a	A5a
• *Serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs (WALKSTAIRS)	-	A5b	A5b
• *Difficulty dressing or bathing (DRESSING)	-	A5c	A5c
• ^Difficulty doing errands alone, such as visiting a doctor’s office or shopping, because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition (ERRANDALONE)	-	-	A5d
• Deafness or problems with hearing (K2Q43B)	A5a	A5d	A5e
• Blindness or problems with seeing, even when wearing glasses (BLINDNESS)	A5b	A5e	A5f
Has a doctor or other health care provider EVER told you that this child has:			
• Allergies (including food, drug, insect, or other)? (ALLERGIES)	A6	A6	A6
• Arthritis? (ARTHRITIS)	A7	A7	A7
• Asthma? (K2Q40A)	A8	A8	A8
• Blood Disorders (such as Sickle Cell Disease, Thalassemia, or Hemophilia)? (BLOOD)	A9	A9	A9
• Brain Injury, Concussion or Head Injury? (K2Q46A)	A10	A10	A10
• Cerebral Palsy? (K2Q61A)	A11	A11	A11
• Cystic Fibrosis? (CYSTFIB)	A12	A12	A12
• Diabetes? (K2Q41A)	A13	A13	A13
• Down Syndrome? (DOWNSYN)	A14	A14	A14
• Epilepsy or Seizure Disorder? (K2Q42A)	A15	A15	A15
• Heart Condition? (HEART)	A16	A16	A16
• Frequent or Severe Headaches, including Migraine? (HEADACHE)	A17	A17	A17
• Tourette Syndrome? (K2Q38A)	A18	A18	A18
• Anxiety Problems? (K2Q33A)	A19	A19	A19
• Depression? (K2Q32A)	A20	A20	A20
• Other Genetic or Inherited Condition? (GENETIC)	A21	A21	A21
Has a doctor, other health care provider, or educator EVER told you that this child has:			

^ New item in 2016 NSCH
* Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
• Behavioral or Conduct Problems? (K2Q34A)	A22	A22	A22
• ^Substance Abuse Disorder? (SUBABUSE)	-	A23	A23
• Developmental Delay? (K2Q36A)	A23	A24	A24
• Intellectual Disability (also known as Mental Retardation)? (K2Q60A)	A24	A25	A25
• Speech or Other Language Disorder? (K2Q37A)	A25	A26	A26
• Learning Disability? (K2Q30A)	A26	A27	A27
^Has a doctor or other health care provider EVER told you that this child has any other mental health condition? If yes, specify (ANYOTHER)	A27	A28	A28
If YES to any of the items from A6 to this point, two follow up questions are asked:			
• Does this child CURRENTLY have the condition? (variable name differs based on condition)	x	x	x
• If YES, Is it Mild, Moderate, or Severe? (variable name differs based on condition)	x	x	x
Has a doctor or other health care provider EVER told you that this child has Autism or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)? Include diagnoses of Asperger’s Disorder or Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD). (K2Q35A)	A28	A29	A29
Does this child CURRENTLY have the condition? (K2Q35B)			
If yes, is it Mild, Moderate, or Severe? (K2Q35C)			
How old was this child when a doctor or other health care provider FIRST told you that he or she had Autism, ASD, Asperger’s Disorder or PDD? (K2Q35A_1_YEARS)	A29	A30	A30
What type of doctor or other health care provider was the FIRST to tell you that this child had Autism, ASD, Asperger’s Disorder or PDD? (K2Q35D)	A30	A31	A31
Is this child CURRENTLY taking medication for Autism, ASD, Asperger’s Disorder or PDD? (AUTISMMED)	A31	A32	A32
^At any time DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did this child receive behavioral treatment for Autism, ASD, Asperger’s Disorder or PDD, such as training or an intervention that you or this child received to help with his or her behavior? (AUTISMTREAT)	A32	A33	A33
Has a doctor or other health care provider EVER told you that this child has Attention Deficit Disorder or Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, that is, ADD or ADHD? (K2Q31A)	A33	A34	A34
Does this child CURRENTLY have the condition? (K2Q31B)			
If yes, is it Mild, Moderate, or Severe? (K2Q31C)			
Is this child CURRENTLY taking medication for ADD or ADHD? (K2Q31D)	A34	A35	A35
^At any time DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did this child receive behavioral treatment for ADD or ADHD, such as training or an intervention that you or this child received to help with his or her behavior? (ADDTREAT)	A35	A36	A36
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how often have this child’s health conditions or problems affected his or her ability to do things other children his or her age do? (HCABILITY)	A36	A37	A37
To what extent do this child’s health conditions or problems affect his or her ability to do things? (HCEXTENT)	A37	A38	A38
B. This Child as an Infant			
Was this child born more than 3 weeks before his or her due date? (K2Q05)	B1	B1	B1
How much did he or she weigh when born? (K2Q04R)	B2	B2	B2
^What was the age of the mother when this child was born? (MOMAGE)	B3	B3	B3
Was this child EVER breastfed or fed breast milk? (K6Q40)	B4	-	-

^ New item in 2016 NSCH
* Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
If yes, how old was this child when he or she COMPLETELY stopped breastfeeding or being fed breast milk? (K6Q41R)	B5	-	-
How old was this child when he or she was FIRST fed formula? (K6Q42R)	B6	-	-
How old was this child when he or she was FIRST fed anything other than breast milk or formula? (K6Q43R)	B7	-	-
C. Health Care Services			
Health Care Visits			
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did this child see a doctor, nurse, or other health care professional for sick-child care, well-child check-ups, physical exams, hospitalizations or other kind of medical care? (S4Q01)	C1	C1	C1
If yes, DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how many times did this child visit a doctor, nurse, or other health care professional to receive a PREVENTIVE check-up? (K4Q20R)	C2	C2	C2
^Thinking about the LAST TIME you took this child for a preventive check-up, about how long was the doctor or health care provider who examined this child in the room with you? (DOCROOM)	C3	C3	C3
^At his or her LAST preventive check-up, did this child have a chance to speak with a doctor or other health care provider privately, without you or another adult in the room? (DOCPRIVATE)	-	-	C4
Height and Weight			
What is this child's CURRENT height? (HEIGHT)	C4	C4	C5
How much does this child CURRENTLY weight? (WEIGHT) [Data from the items on height and weight will not be released individually, but they will be combined to create a variable on BMI which will be released]	C5	C5	C6
^Are you concerned about this child's weight? (WGTCONC)	C6	C6	C7
Developmental Concerns & Screening			
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did this child's doctors or other health care providers ask if you have concerns about this child's learning, development, or behavior? (K6Q10)	C7	-	-
[If child is <9 months, skip to C9]	C8	-	-
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did a doctor or other health care provider have you or another caregiver fill out a questionnaire about specific concerns or observations you may have about this child's development, communications, or social behaviors? (K6Q12)			
If yes, [and child is 9-23 months], did the questionnaire ask about your concerns or observations about: [Mark ALL that apply]	x	-	-
• How this child talks or makes speech sounds? (K6Q13A)	x	-	-
• How this child interacts with your and others? (K6Q13B)	x	-	-
If yes, [and child is 2-5 years], did the questionnaire ask about your concerns or observations about: [Mark ALL that apply]	x	-	-
• Words and phrases this child uses and understands? (K6Q14A)	x	-	-
• How this child behaves and gets along with you and others? (K6Q14B)	x	-	-
Usual Source of Care			
Is there a place that this child USUALLY goes when he or she is sick or you or another caregiver needs advice about his or her health? (K4Q01)	C9	C7	C8
If yes, where does this child USUALLY go? (K4Q02_R)	C10	C8	C9
Is there a place that this child USUALLY goes when he or she needs routine preventive care, such as a physical examination or well-child check-up? (USUALGO)	C11	C9	C10
If yes, is this the same place this child goes when he or she is sick? (USUALSICK)	C12	C10	C11

^ New item in 2016 NSCH
* Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
Vision Testing			
Has this child [EVER (0-5)/DURING THE PAST 2 YEARS (6-17)] had his or her vision tested with pictures, shapes, or letters? (K4Q31_R)	C13	C11	C12
If yes, what kind of place or places did this child have his or her vision tested? (K4Q32X)	C14	C12	C13
Dental Health Care			
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did this child see a dentist or other oral health care provider for any kind of dental or oral health care? (K4Q30_R)	C15	C13	C14
If yes, DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did this child see a dentist or other oral health care provider for preventive dental care, such as check-ups, dental cleanings, dental sealants, or fluoride treatments? (DENTISTVISIT)	C16	C14	C15
^If yes, DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, what preventive dental services did this child receive? (DENTALSERV)	C17	C15	C16
Mental Health Care and Other Types of Care			
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, has this child received any treatment or counseling from a mental health professional? (K4Q22_R)	C18	C16	C17
How much of a problem was it to get the mental health treatment or counseling that this child needed? (TREATNEED)	C19	C17	C18
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, has this child taken any medication because of difficulties with his or her emotions, concentration, or behavior? (K4Q23)	C20	C18	C19
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did this child see a specialist other than a mental health professional? (K4Q24_R)	C21	C19	C20
How much of a problem was it to get the specialist care that this child needed? (K4Q26)	C22	C20	C21
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did this child use any type of alternative health care or treatment? (ALTHEALTH)	C23	C21	C22
Unmet Need for Health Care			
*DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, was there any time when this child needed health care but it was not received? (K4Q27)	C24	C22	C23
Which types of care were not received? (K4Q28X)	C25	C23	C24
Which of the following contributed to this child not receiving needed health services:	C26	C24	C25
• This child was not eligible for the services? (NOTELIG)	C26a	C24a	C25a
• The services this child needed were not available in your area? (AVAILABLE)	C26b	C24b	C25b
• There were problems getting an appointment when this child needed one? (APPOINTMENT)	C26c	C24c	C25c
• ^There were problems with getting transportation or child care? (TRANSPORTCC)	C26d	C24d	C25d
• ^The (clinic/doctor's) office wasn't open when this child needed care? (NOTOPEN)	C26e	C24e	C25e
• There were issues related to cost? (ISSUECOST)	C26f	C24f	C25f
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how often were you frustrated in your efforts to get services for this child? (C4Q04)	C27	C25	C26
ER Use			
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how many times did this child visit a hospital emergency room? (HOSPITALER)	C28	C26	C27
Educational & Developmental Services			
*Has this child EVER had a special education or early intervention plan? (K6Q15) ...	C29	C27	C28

^ New item in 2016 NSCH
* Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
*How old was this child at the time of the FIRST plan? (SESPLANMO)	C30	C28	C29
*Is this child CURRENTLY receiving services under one of these plans? (SESCURRSVC)	C31	C29	C30
Has this child EVER received special services to meet his or her developmental needs such as speech, occupational, or behavioral therapy? (K4Q36)	C32	C30	C31
How old was this child when he or she began receiving these special services? (K4Q37)	C33	C31	C32
Is this child CURRENTLY receiving these special services? (K4Q38)	C34	C32	C33
D. Experience with This Child's Health Care Providers			
Personal Doctor or Nurse			
Do you have one or more persons you think of as this child's personal doctor or nurse? (K4Q04_R)	D1	D1	D1
Referrals for Care			
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did this child need a referral to see any doctors or receive any services? (K5Q10)	D2	D2	D2
If yes, how much of a problem was it to get referrals? (K5Q11)	D3	D3	D3
Family-Centered Care			
[Only answer questions D4-D12 if child had a health care visit in the past 12 months]	D4	D4	D4
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how often did this child's doctors or other health care providers:			
• Spend enough time with this child? (K5Q40)	D4a	D4a	D4a
• Listen carefully to you? (K5Q41)	D4b	D4b	D4b
• Show sensitivity to your family's values and customs? (K5Q42)	D4c	D4c	D4c
• Provide the specific information you needed concerning this child? (K5Q43)	D4d	D4d	D4d
• Help you feel like a partner in this child's care? (K5Q44)	D4e	D4e	D4e
Shared Decision Making			
^DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, were any decisions needed about this child's health care services or treatment, such as whether to start or stop a prescription or therapy services, get a referral to a specialist, or have a medical procedure? (DECISIONS)	D5	D5	D5
If yes, DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how often did this child's doctors or other health care providers:	D6	D6	D6
• Discuss with you the range of options to consider for his or her health care or treatment? (DISCUSSOPT)	D6a	D6a	D6a
• *Make it easy for you to raise concerns or disagree with recommendations for the child's health care? (RAISECONC)	D6b	D6b	D6b
• *Work with you to decide together which health care and treatment choices would be best for this child? (BESTFORCHILD)	D6c	D6c	D6c
Care Coordination			
Does anyone help you arrange or coordinate this child's care among the different doctors or services that this child uses? (K5Q20_R) [If child did not see more than one health care provider in past 12 months, skip to D11]	D7	D7	D7
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, have you felt that you could have used extra help arranging or coordinating this child's care among the different health care providers or services? (K5Q21)	D8	D8	D8
If yes, DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how often did you get as much help as you wanted with arranging or coordinating this child's health care? (K5Q22)	D9	D9	D9

^ New item in 2016 NSCH * Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH
--

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
Overall, how satisfied are you with the communication among this child's doctors and other health care providers? (K5Q30)	D10	D10	D10
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did this child's health care provider communicate with the child's school, child care provider, or special education program? (K5Q31_R)	D11	D11	D11
If yes, overall, how satisfied are you with the health care provider's communication with the school, child care provider, or special education program? (K5Q32)	D12	D12	D12
Transition to Adult Health Care			
Do any of this child's doctors or other health care providers treat only children? (TREATCHILD)	-	-	D13
If yes, have they talked with you about having this child eventually see doctors or other health care providers who treat adults? (TREATADULT)	-	-	D14
Has this child's doctor or other health care provider actively worked with this child to:	-	-	D15
• ^Think about and plan for his or her future? (PLANFUTURE)	-	-	D15a
• ^Make positive choices about his or her health? (POSCHOICE)	-	-	D15b
• *Gain skills to manage his or her health and health care? (GAINSKILLS)	-	-	D15c
• ^Understand the changes in health care that happen at age 18? (CHANGEAGE)	-	-	D15d
^Have this child's doctors or other health care providers worked with you and this child to create a written plan to meet his or her health goals and needs? (WRITEPLAN)	-	-	D16
^Does this plan identify specific health goals for this child and any health needs or problems this child and any health needs or problems this child may have and how to get these needs met? (PLANNEEDS)	-	-	D17
^Did you and this child receive a written copy of this plan of care? (RECEIVECOPY)	-	-	D18
^Is this plan CURRENTLY up-to-date for this child? (PLANUTD)	-	-	D19
Eligibility for health insurance often changes in young adulthood. Do you know how this child will be insured as he or she becomes an adult? (HEALTHKNOW)^	-	-	D20
If no, has anyone discussed with you how to obtain or keep some type of health insurance coverage as this child becomes an adult? (KEEPINSADULT)	-	-	D21
E. This Child's Health Insurance Coverage			
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, was this child EVER covered by ANY kind of health insurance or health coverage plan? (K3Q04_R) [If child was covered all 12 months, skip to E4]	E1	E1	E1
Indicate whether any of the following is a reason this child was not covered by health insurance DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS:	E2	E2	E2
• Change in employer or employment status (K12Q01_A)	E2a	E2a	E2a
• ^Cancellation due to overdue premiums (K12Q01_B)	E2b	E2b	E2b
• Dropped coverage because it was unaffordable (K12Q01_C)	E2c	E2c	E2c
• ^Dropped coverage because benefits were inadequate (K12Q01_D)	E2d	E2d	E2d
• ^Dropped coverage because choice of health care providers was inadequate (K12Q01_E)	E2e	E2e	E2e
• Problems with application or renewal process (K12Q01_F)	E2f	E2f	E2f
• Other, specify (K12Q01_G)	E2g	E2g	E2g

^ New item in 2016 NSCH
* Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
Is this child CURRENTLY covered by ANY kind of health insurance or health coverage plan? (CURRCOV)	E3	E3	E3
Is this child covered by any of the following types of health insurance or health coverage plans?	E4	E4	E4
• Insurance through a current or former employer or union (K12Q03)	E4a	E4a	E4a
• Insurance purchased directly from an insurance company (K12Q04)	E4b	E4b	E4b
• Medicaid, Medical Assistance, or any kind of government assistance plan for those with low incomes or a disability (K12Q12)	E4c	E4c	E4c
• TRICARE or other military health care (TRICARE)	E4d	E4d	E4d
• Indian Health Service (K11Q03R)	E4e	E4e	E4e
• Other, specify (HCCOVOTH)	E4f	E4f	E4f
How often does this child’s health insurance offer benefits or cover services that meet this child’s needs? (K3Q20)	E5	E5	E5
How often does this child’s health insurance allow him or her to see the health care providers he or she needs? (K3Q22)	E6	E6	E6
^Thinking specifically about this child’s mental or behavioral health needs, how often does this child’s health insurance offer benefits or cover services that meet these needs? (MENBEVCOV)	E7	E7	E7
F. Providing for This Child’s Health			
How much money did you pay for this child’s medical, health, dental, and vision care DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS? (K3Q21A)	F1	F1	F1
How often are these costs reasonable? (K3Q21B)	F2	F2	F2
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did your family have problems paying for any of this child’s medical or health care bills? (K3Q25)	F3	F3	F3
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, have you or other family members:	F4	F4	F4
• Stopped working because of this child’s health or health conditions? (STOPWORK)	F4a	F4a	F4a
• Cut down on the hours you work because of this child’s health or health conditions? (CUTHOURS)	F4b	F4b	F4b
• Avoided changing jobs because of concerns about maintaining health insurance for this child? (AVOIDCHG)	F4c	F4c	F4c
IN AN AVERAGE WEEK, how many hours do you or other family members spend providing health care at home for this child? (ATHOMEHC)	F5	F5	F5
IN AN AVERAGE WEEK, how many hours do you or other family members spend arranging or coordinating health or medical care for this child, such as making appointments or locating services? (ARRANGEHC)	F6	F6	F6
G. This Child’s Learning (0-5 years)			
*Has this child started school? (STARTSCHOOL) [If child is <3 years, skip to section H]	G1	-	-
How well is this child learning to do things for him or herself? (K6Q08_R)	G2	-	-
^How confident are you that this child will be successful in elementary or primary school? (CONFIDENT)	G3	-	-
^How often can this child recognize the beginning sound of a word? (RECOGBEGIN)	G4	-	-
^About how many letters of the alphabet can this child recognize? (RECOGABC)	G5	-	-
^Can this child rhyme words? (RHYMEWORD)	G6	-	-
^How often can this child explain things he or she has seen or done so that you get a very good idea what happened? (CLEAREXP)	G7	-	-
^How often can this child write his or her first name, even if some of the letters aren’t quite right or are backwards? (WRITENAME)	G8	-	-

^ New item in 2016 NSCH
* Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
^How high can this child count? (COUNTTO)	G9	-	-
^How often can this child identify basic shapes such as a triangle, circle, or square? (RECSHAPES)	G10	-	-
^How often is this child easily distracted? (DISTRACTED)	G11	-	-
^How often does this child keep working at something until he or she is finished? (WORKTOFIN)	G12	-	-
^When he or she is paying attention, how often can this child follow instructions to complete a simple task? (SIMPLEINST)	G13	-	-
^When this child holds a pencil, does he or she use fingers to hold, or does he or she grip it in his or her fist? (USEPENCIL)	G14	-	-
^How often does this child play well with others? (PLAYWELL)	G15	-	-
^This child becomes angry or anxious when going from one activity to another. (NEWACTIVITY)	G16	-	-
^This child shows concern when others are hurt or unhappy. (HURTSAD)	G17	-	-
This child can calm down when excited or all wound up. (CALMDOWN)	G18	-	-
^This child loses control of his or her temper when things do not go his or her way. (TEMPER)	G19	-	-
Compared to other children his or her age, how much difficulty does this child have making or keeping friends? (MAKEFRIEND)	G20	G7	G7
^Compared to other children his or her age, how often is this child able to sit still? (SITSTILL)	G21	-	-
^IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, were you ever asked to keep your child home from any child care or preschool because of their behavior? (EXPULSION)	G22	-	-
G. This Child's Schooling and Activities (6-17 years)			
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, about how many days did this child miss school because of illness or injury? (K7Q02R_R)	-	G1	G1
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how many times has this child's school contacted you or another adult in your household about any problems he or she is having with school? (K7Q04R_R)	-	G2	G2
SINCE STARTING KINDERGARTEN, has this child repeated any grades? (REPEATED)	-	G3	G3
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did this child participate in:	-	G4	G4
• A sports team or did he or she take sports lessons after school or on weekends? (K7Q30)	-	G4a	G4a
• Any clubs or organizations after school or on weekends? (K7Q31)	-	G4b	G4b
• Any other organized activities or lessons, such as music, dance, language, or other arts? (K7Q32)	-	G4c	G4c
• Any type of community service or volunteer work at school, church, or in the community? (K7Q37)	-	G4d	G4d
• Any paid work, including regular jobs as well as babysitting, cutting grass, or other occasional work? (K7Q38)	-	G4e	G4e
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how often did you attend events or activities that this child participated in? (K7Q33)	-	G5	G5
*DURING THE PAST WEEK, on how many days did this child exercise, play a sport, or participate in physical activity for at least 60 minutes? (PHYSACTIV)	-	G6	G6
Compared to other children his or her age, how much difficulty does this child have making or keeping friends? (MAKEFRIEND)	G20	G7	G7
H. About You and This Child			
Was this child born in the United States? (BORNUSA)	H1	H1	H1

^ New item in 2016 NSCH
* Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
If no, how long has this child been living in the United States? (LIVEUSA_YR/LIVEUSA_MO)	H2	H2	H2
How many times has this child moved to a new address since he or she was born? (K11Q43R)	H3	H3	H3
^How often does this child go to bed at about the same time on weeknights? (BEDTIME)	H4	H4	H4
^DURING THE PAST WEEK, how many hours of sleep did this child get [during an average day (count both nighttime sleep and naps)/on an average weeknight]? (HOURSLEEP)	H5	H5	H5
^In which position do you most often lay this baby down to sleep now? [<12 months only] (SLEEPPOS)	H6		
ON AN AVERAGE WEEKDAY, about how much time does this child usually spend in front of a TV watching TV programs, videos, or playing video games? (K7Q60_R) . . .	H7	H6	H6
*ON AN AVERAGE WEEKDAY, about how much time does this child usually spend with computers, cell phones, handheld video games, and other electronic devices doing things other than schoolwork? (K7Q91_R)	H8	H7	H7
DURING THE PAST WEEK, how many days did you or other family members read to this child? (K6Q60_R)	H9	-	-
DURING THE PAST WEEK, how many days did you or other family members tell stories or sing songs to this child? (K6Q61_R)	H10	-	-
How well can you and this child share ideas or talk about things that really matter? (K8Q21)	-	H8	H8
How well do you think you are handling the day-to-day demands or raising children? (K8Q30)	H11	H9	H9
DURING THE PAST MONTH, how often have you felt:	H12	H10	H10
• That this child is much harder to care for than most children his or her age? (K8Q31)	H12a	H10a	H10a
• That this child does things that really bother you a lot? (K8Q32)	H12b	H10b	H10b
• Angry with this child? (K8Q34)	H12c	H10c	H10c
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, was there someone that you could turn to for day-to-day emotional support with parenting or raising children? (K8Q35)	H13	H11	H11
^If yes, did you receive emotional support from:	H14	H12	H12
• ^Spouse? (EMOSUPSP0)	H14a	H12a	H12a
• ^Other family member or close friend? (EMOSUPOFM)	H14b	H12b	H12b
• ^Health care provider? (EMOSUPHCP)	H14c	H12c	H12c
• ^Place of worship or religious leader? (EMOSUPWOR)	H14d	H12d	H12d
• ^Support or advocacy group related to specific health condition? (EMOSUPADV)	H14e	H12e	H12e
• ^Peer support group? (EMOSUPPEER)	H14f	H12f	H12f
• ^Counselor or other mental health professional? (EMOSUPMHP)	H14g	H12g	H12g
• ^Other person, specify (EMOSUPOTH)	H14h	H12h	H12h
Does this child receive care for at least 10 hours per week from someone other than his or her parent or guardian? (K6Q20)	H15	-	-
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did you or anyone in the family have to quit a job, not take a job, or greatly change your job because of problems with child care for this child? (K6Q27)	H16	-	-
I. About Your Family and Household			

^ New item in 2016 NSCH
* Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
DURING THE PAST WEEK, on how many days did all the family members who live in the household eat a meal together? (K8Q11)	I1	I1	I1
Does anyone living in your household use cigarettes, cigars, or pipe tobacco? (K9Q40)	I2	I2	I2
If yes, does anyone smoke inside your home? (K9Q41)	I3	I3	I3
^When your family faces problems, how often are you likely to do each of the following?	I4	I4	I4
• ^Talk together about what to do (TALKABOUT)	I4a	I4a	I4a
• ^Work together to solve our problems (WKTOSOLVE)	I4b	I4b	I4b
• ^Know we have strengths to draw on (STRENGTHS)	I4c	I4c	I4c
• ^Stay hopeful even in difficult times (HOPEFUL)	I4d	I4d	I4d
SINCE THIS CHILD WAS BORN, how often has it been very hard to get by on your family's income – hard to cover the basics like food or housing? (ACE1)	I5	I5	I5
^The next question is about whether you were able to afford the food you need. Which of these statements best describes the food situation in your household IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS? (FOODSIT)	I6	I6	I6
At any time DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, even for one month, did anyone in your family receive:	I7	I7	I7
• Cash assistance from a government welfare program? (K11Q60)	I7a	I7a	I7a
• Food Stamps or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits (SNAP)? (K11Q61)	I7b	I7b	I7b
• Free or reduced-cost breakfasts or lunches at school? (K11Q62)	I7c	I7c	I7c
• Benefits from the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program? (S9Q34) ..	I7d	I7d	I7d
In your neighborhood, is/are there:	I8	I8	I8
• Sidewalks or walking paths? (K10Q11)	I8a	I8a	I8a
• A park or playground? (K10Q12)	I8b	I8b	I8b
• A recreation center, community center, or boys' and girls' club? (K10Q13) ..	I8c	I8c	I8c
• A library or bookmobile? (K10Q14)	I8d	I8d	I8d
• Litter or garbage on the street or sidewalk? (K10Q20)	I8e	I8e	I8e
• Poorly kept or rundown housing? (K10Q22)	I8f	I8f	I8f
• Vandalism such as broken windows or graffiti? (K10Q23)	I8g	I8g	I8g
To what extent do you agree with these statements about your neighborhood or community?	I9	I9	I9
• People in this neighborhood help each other out (K10Q30)	I9a	I9a	I9a
• We watch out for each other's children in this neighborhood (K10Q31)	I9b	I9b	I9b
• This child is safe in our neighborhood (K10Q40_R)	I9c	I9c	I9c
• ^When we encounter difficulties, we know where to go for help in our community (GOFORHELP)	I9d	I9d	I9d
• This child is safe at school (K10Q41_R)	-	I9e	I9e
Other than you or other adults in your home, is there at least one other adult in this child's school, neighborhood, or community who knows this child well and who he or she can rely on for advice or guidance? (K9Q96)	-	I10	I10
To the best of your knowledge, has this child EVER experienced any of the following?	I10	I11	I11
• Parent or guardian divorced or separated (ACE3)	I10a	I11a	I11a
• Parent or guardian died (ACE4)	I10b	I11b	I11b
• Parent or guardian served time in jail (ACE5)	I10c	I11c	I11c

^ New item in 2016 NSCH
* Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH

Survey Questions (variable name in public use data file)	Survey question number		
	0-5 yrs survey	6-11 yrs survey	12-17 yrs survey
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saw or heard parents or adults slap, hit, kick punch one another in the home (ACE6) • Was a victim of violence or witnessed violence in neighborhood (ACE7) • Lived with anyone who was mentally ill, suicidal, or severely depressed (ACE8) • Lived with anyone who had a problem with alcohol or drugs (ACE9) • Treated or judged unfairly because of his or her race or ethnic group (ACE10) 	I10d	I11d	I11d
	I10e	I11e	I11e
	I10f	I11f	I11f
	I10g	I11g	I11g
	I10h	I11h	I11h
J. About You			
These questions are to be completed for each of the two adults in the household who are this child's primary caregivers. If there is just one adult, provide answers for that adult.			
How are you related to this child? (A#_RELATION)	J1/J11	J1/J11	J1/J11
What is your sex? (A#_SEX)	J2/J12	J2/J12	J2/J12
^What is your age? (A#_AGE)	J3/J13	J3/J13	J3/J13
Where were you born? (A#_BORN)	J4/J14	J4/J14	J4/J14
[If outside of the U.S.] When did you come to live in the United States? (A#_LIVEUSA)	J5/J15	J5/J15	J5/J15
What is the highest grade or year of school you have completed? (A#_GRADE)	J6/J16	J6/J16	J6/J16
What is your marital status? (A#_MARITAL)	J7/J17	J7/J17	J7/J17
In general, how is your physical health? (A#_PHYSHEALTH)	J8/J18	J8/J18	J8/J18
In general, how is your mental or emotional health? (A#_MENTHEALTH)	J9/J19	J9/J19	J9/J19
Were you employed at least 50 out of the past 52 weeks? (A#_K11Q50_R)	J10/J20	J10/J20	J10/J20
K. Household Information			
How many people are living or staying at this address? (HHCOUNT)	K1	K1	K1
How many of these people in your household are family members? (FAMCOUNT)	K2	K2	K2
^Income IN THE LAST CALENDAR YEAR (2015). Mark Yes or No for each type, and give best estimate of total amount for those types marked Yes.	K3	K3	K3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ^Wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips from all jobs? (INCWAGES) • ^Self-employment income from own nonfarm businesses or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships? (INCSSELFEMP) • ^Interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income, or income from estates and trusts? (INCINTDIV) • ^Social security or railroad retirement; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions? (INCSSRR) • *Supplemental security income (SSI); any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office? (INCSSIP) • ^Any other sources of income received regularly such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support, or alimony? (INCOTHER) 	K3a	K3a	K3a
	K3b	K3b	K3b
	K3c	K3c	K3c
	K3d	K3d	K3d
	K3e	K3e	K3e
	K3f	K3f	K3f
^Think about your total combined family income IN THE LAST CALENDAR YEAR for all members of the family. What is that amount before taxes? (TOTINCOME)	K4	K4	K4

^ New item in 2016 NSCH
* Item with substantive change in 2016 NSCH