

NPM 9: DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

GOAL

To increase the percent of children who receive a developmental screening.

SIGNIFICANCE

Early identification of developmental delays and disabilities is critical to provide referrals to services that can promote health and educational success.¹ It is an integral function of the primary care medical home. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends developmental screening at the 9-, 18-, and 24- or 30-month visit.² Developmental screening is part of the Core Set of Children's Health Care Quality Measures for Medicaid and CHIP. Systems-level quality improvement efforts that build on the medical home are needed to improve rates of developmental screening and surveillance.¹

DEFINITION

Numerator: Number of children, ages 9 through 35 months (2 years), whose parents reported completing a standardized developmental screening questionnaire from a health care provider in the past year with age-specific content on language development and social behavior.

Denominator: Number of children, ages 9 through 35 months.

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2030 OBJECTIVE

Identical to Maternal, Infant, and Child Health (MICH) Objective 17: Increase the proportion of children who receive a developmental screening. (Baseline: 31.1 percent in 2016-17, Target: 35.8 percent).

STATUS

In Delaware, the percentage of White non-Hispanic children who received a developmental screening tool was higher than that of Black non-Hispanic children, which in turn, was higher than that of Hispanic children (Figure 1). In addition, the percentage of children who received a developmental screening tool was higher among children covered by private insurance as compared to children who were enrolled in Medicaid (Figure 2).

¹ Council on Children With Disabilities; Section on Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics; Bright Futures Steering Committee; Medical Home Initiatives for Children With Special Needs Project Advisory Committee. Identifying infants and young children with developmental disorders in the medical home: an algorithm for developmental surveillance and screening [published correction appears in *Pediatrics*. 2006 Oct;118(4):1808-9]. *Pediatrics*. 2006;118(1):405-420. doi:10.1542/peds.2006-1231

² Hirai AH, Kogan MD, Kandasamy V, Reuland C, Bethell C. Prevalence and Variation of Developmental Screening and Surveillance in Early Childhood. *JAMA Pediatr*. 2018 Sep 1;172(9):857-866. doi: 10.1001/jamapediatrics.2018.1524.

Figure 1. Percentage of Children Ages 9-35 Months Who Received a Developmental Screening Tool, by Selected Race/Ethnicities, NSCH 2021-2022.

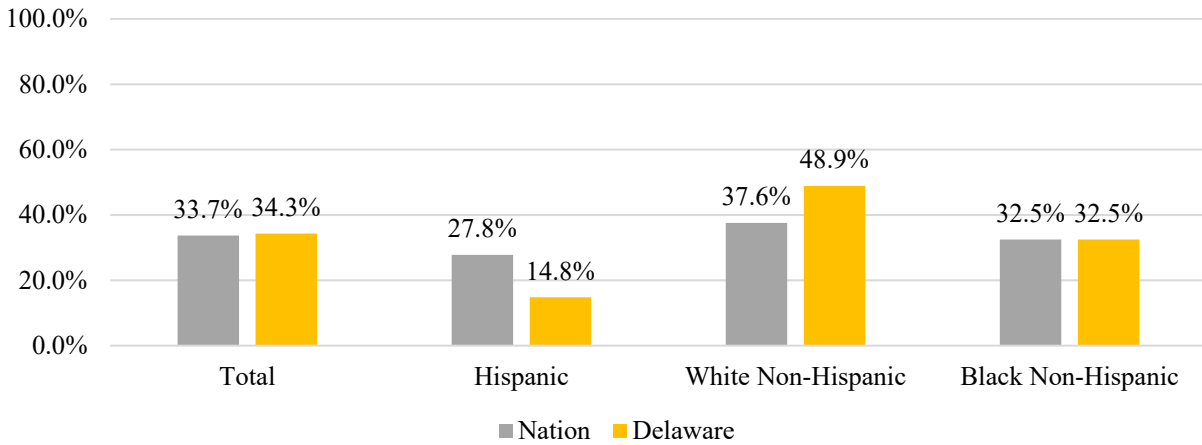


Figure 2. Percentage of Children Ages 9-35 Months Who Received a Developmental Screening Tool, by Health Care Coverage, NSCH 2021-2022.

