

WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

December 2006

Site of the Month

If you're interested in child health and well-being data, the Data Resource Center for Child & Adolescent Health, available at <www.childhealthdata.org>, is for you. About a week ago, I participated in an audioconference, sponsored by the Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative (CAHMI) in partnership with Child Trends and Health Systems Research, Inc. on using the Resource Center for accessing state-level indicators. The conference facilitators walked the participants through the data-rich Web site using a PowerPoint presentation, which had been E-mailed to us earlier. We navigated through two data sets: the National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (NS-CSHCN) and the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH).

From the NS-CSHCN data you will have access to information on (1) child health and functional status, (2) child's health-insurance status, (3) access to care—use of services and unmet needs, (4) care coordination, (5) satisfaction with care—family-centered care—transition, (6) impact of child's health care on the family, and (7) adequacy of health-care coverage. The NSCH provides information in the following areas related to children: (1) health status, (2) health care, (3) school and activities, (4) family, and (5) neighborhood.

I used the NSCH data set to conduct an interactive data search. First, I selected the category, child health measures, followed by geographic region (Nevada), followed by physical and dental health. From the last selection I chose the indicator, the overall condition of children's teeth. The findings, which were presented in a table and in a graph, show that based on parents' responses, 60.1 percent considered the condition of their child's teeth excellent or very good, 25.2 percent good, and 14.7 percent fair or poor. You are also given the option of comparing states and subgroups on the indicator. The second figure on the following page shows that of the racial/ethnic groups, white children fared the best on the condition of their teeth as perceived by their parents and Hispanic children the worst.

Please note that the data are not for 2006. The NSCH data are for 2003 and the NS-CSHCN data for 2001. NS-CSHCN data for 2005 will be released fall of 2007.

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Figure 1. Nevada Parents' Perception of the Condition of Their Children's Teeth: 2003

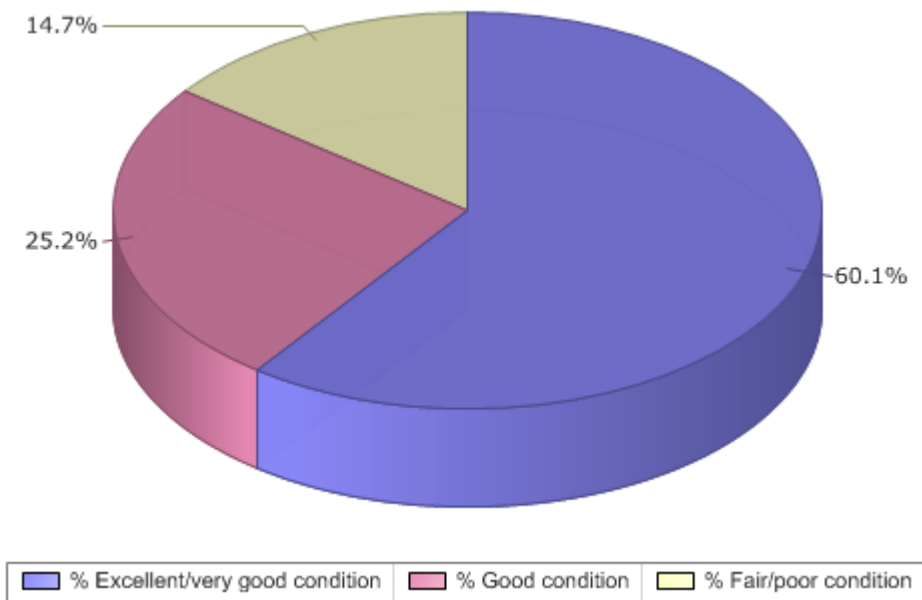


Figure 2. Nevada Parents' Perception of the Condition of Their Children's Teeth by Children's Racial/Ethnic Group: 2003

