

# CFCR DATA DICTIONARY

*Defining the Council for Children's Rights Indicators*



# CFCR DATA DICTIONARY

*Defining the Council for Children’s Rights Indicators*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- CHILD CARE .....2
  - Child Care .....2
  - Foster Care .....5
  
- CHILD MALTREATMENT .....6
  - Child Abuse .....6
  
- DEMOGRAPHICS .....8
  - Population .....8
  
- ECONOMY .....9
  - Employment Assistance .....9
  - Food Assistance .....11
  - Homelessness .....12
  - Poverty .....12
  - Unemployment .....14
  
- EDUCATION .....15
  - Enrollment .....15
  - High School Graduation Rate .....16
  - Student Achievement .....17
  
- HEALTH .....18
  - Child Health .....18
  - Dental Health .....20
  - Health Care Coverage .....21
  - Maternity & Births .....22
  - Mortality .....25
  - Obesity .....26
  - Substance Abuse .....27
  - Teen Pregnancy .....28
  
- MENTAL HEALTH .....29
  - Mental Health .....29

## CHILD CARE

### Child Care

#### Children Receiving Subsidized Child Care

What is measured:

The total number of children who received subsidized child care.

Definitions:

**Child Care Subsidy**

Financial assistance for income eligible families to secure North Carolina Division of Child Development licensed child care while parents/guardians are working, attending school or job training activities.

Source: Child Care Resources, Inc.

<http://www.childcareresourcesinc.org/publications-and-multimedia/data-reports/>

#### Children on Waiting List for Subsidized Child Care

What is measured:

The total number of children on the wait list to receive subsidized child care.

Definitions:

**Child Care Subsidy**

See definition above (Children Receiving Subsidized Child Care).

Source: Child Care Resources, Inc.

<http://www.childcareresourcesinc.org/publications-and-multimedia/data-reports/>

## Four and Five Star Child Care Centers

What is measured:

The percent of child care centers that receive four or five star ratings based on the Star Rated Licenses.

Definitions:

### **Center-Based Programs**

Child care programs that are independently operated in schools, workplaces, individual homes (considered small centers), churches or synagogues. Most are open on a fixed schedule, eight or more hours per day, Monday through Friday. Children in centers are usually grouped by age. As they grow, children often move into the next age group with a different caregiver. Child care programs include child care centers and family child care homes.

### **Star Rated License**

Programs that apply for a 2- to 5-star license will be assessed under a two-component system that uses program standards and staff education to determine the license points for the star rating. In addition, all child care programs, regardless of the type of license they have, will also be required to maintain 75% compliance history. An additional “quality point” may be earned by child care programs that meet additional education or programmatic criteria not addressed under the Program Standards or Staff Education components.

### **Licensure**

Legal permission, granted by the North Carolina Division of Child Development, to operate a child care facility for more than two children for more than four hours a day. A licensure is issued according to the rules and regulations set forth by federal and state laws or local ordinances pertaining to a child’s health, safety and welfare.

Numerator: The total number of child care centers with four and five star ratings

Denominator: The total number of licensed child care centers

Source: Child Care Resources, Inc.

<http://www.childcareresourcesinc.org/publications-and-multimedia/data-reports/>

## Four and Five Star Child Care Programs

What is measured:

The percent of child care programs that receive four or five star ratings based on the Star Rated Licenses.

Definitions:

### **Star Rated License**

See definition above (Four and Five Star Child Care Centers).

Numerator: Total number of child care programs that received four or five star ratings

Denominator: Total number of licensed child care programs

Source: Child Care Resources, Inc.

<http://www.childcareresourcesinc.org/publications-and-multimedia/data-reports/>

## Four and Five Star Family Child Care Homes

What is measured:

The percent of four or five star rated family child care homes that receive four or five star ratings based on the Star Rated Licenses.

Definitions:

### **Licensed Family Child Care Homes (FCCH)**

Child care programs operated by individuals who provide care in their homes for more than two children who are not related to them. These programs offer a home-like setting that provide the opportunity for siblings to stay together. A licensed FCCH may care for up to eight children, with no more than five preschool children in care at any given time. The caregiver's own preschool-age children must be included in the number of preschoolers. However, their school-age children are not counted for licensing purposes. FCCHs must provide age-appropriate toys and activities, nutritious meals and snacks and meet basic health and safety standards. All FCCHs must meet licensing regulations for the legal operation of a child care facility.

### **Star Rated License**

See definition above (Four or Five Star Child Care Centers).

Numerator: The total number of family child care homes with a four or five star rating

Denominator: The total number of licensed family child care homes

Source: Child Care Resources, Inc.

<http://www.childcareresourcesinc.org/publications-and-multimedia/data-reports/>

## Percent of Annual Income Spent on Child Care

What is measured:

The percent of annual income that is spent on child care for one child in a family of three in Mecklenburg County.

Numerator: The average annual fee for child care based on the age of the child

Denominator: The annual income of \$41,750, which is the income needed for a family of one parent, one infant and one preschool child, as reported by the North Carolina Justice and Community Development Center 2008, based on 2007 data.

Source: Child Care Resources, Inc.

<http://www.childcareresourcesinc.org/publications-and-multimedia/data-reports/>

## Foster Care

### Children in Foster Care

What is measured:

The total number of unique children reported to be in custody of foster care under the Department of Social Services (DSS) annually. Data is based on the fiscal year from July to June. The caseload counts are based on the total number of unique children in foster care under DSS during a particular 12-month period. Caseload statistics are provided on a rolling quarter basis.

Definitions:

#### **Foster Care**

According to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services, foster care is a temporary living arrangement for abused, neglected, and dependent children who need a safe place to live when their parents or another relative cannot take care of them. Often their families face issues such as illness, alcohol or drug addiction, or homelessness.

Numerator: The number of unique children reported to be in foster care custody by sex

Denominator: The total number of unique children reported to be in custody of foster care under DSS

Source: Jordan Institute for Families at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/index.html>

### Duration in Foster Care

What is measured:

The percent of children who remained in custody or placement authority for a specific period of time in Mecklenburg County and were then released.

Definitions:

#### **Duration in Foster Care**

The period of time for which a child is still under the custody of DSS foster care. The time intervals measured include:

- 90 days
- 180 days
- 360 days
- 450 days
- 540 days
- 720 days
- 1,080 days

Numerator: The number of children who remained in custody for the specific period of time and were then released

Denominator: The total number children who entered custody within that cohort

Source: Jordan Institute for Families at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/index.html>

Note: Length of stay is a longstanding concern regarding children's experiences in out-of-home care. The estimation of rates of exit from care for 3 months and 6 months make it possible to track the experiences of children who entered care in recent months. Percentages of children remaining in custody at 12 months, 15 months, 18 months, 24 months, and 36 months are also included.

# CHILD MALTREATMENT

## Child Abuse

### Parents who Have Hit Their Children

What is measured:

The percent of parents who answered yes when asked the question “Have you shaken (him/her)?” regarding a specific child between the ages of 3 and 18 years of age in their household on the annual Child Health Assessment and Monitoring Program (CHAMP) conducted by the North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics.

Numerator: The number of CHAMP respondents indicating yes to the question “Have you shaken (him/her)?”

Denominator: The total number of CHAMP respondents to the question “Have you shaken (him/her)?”

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, CHAMP

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/champ/>

### Child Abuse and Neglect Reports

What is measured:

The total number of reports received during the state fiscal year. It is important to note that this information is report-based and one report may include one child or multiple children. Also, if a child is reported multiple times, each report is counted separately. Each report is classified with a certain race or ethnicity if all the children in the report have the same race or ethnicity. If the children have multiple race or ethnicity on one report, the report is classified as “Other” race or “Unknown/Missing” ethnicity.

Source: Jordan Institute for Families at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/index.html>

### Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect Reports

What is measured:

The total number of substantiated reports received during the state fiscal year per 1,000 children under age 18. Types of abuse where reports are found to be substantiated include: Abuse and Neglect; Abuse; Neglect; Dependency; Services Needed; Services Provided; Services Provided, No Longer Needed. It is important to note that this information is report-based and thus, one report may include multiple children. Each report is classified with a certain race or ethnicity if all children in the report have the same race or ethnicity. If the children have multiple race or ethnicity on one report, the report is classified as “Other” race or “Unknown/Missing” ethnicity.

Numerator: The total number of reports received during the state fiscal year

Denominator: The number of children under age 18 in Mecklenburg County

Multiplier: 1,000

Source: Jordan Institute for Families at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/index.html>

U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/>

## Child Victims of Sexual Abuse

What is measured:

The number of children under age 18 who were reported sexually assaulted. Data reported is only from one program in Mecklenburg County funded by The North Carolina Council for Women, Domestic Violence Commission and the North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault which provides technical assistance to the local county programs. Each county programs provides a 24-hour confidential crisis hotline, crisis intervention services, referrals to other community resources as needed, emergency shelter or shelter referral, advocacy, counseling and community education.

Source: North Carolina Council for Women, Domestic Violence Commission

<http://www.councilforwomen.nc.gov/>

## Child Abuse Homicides

What is measured:

The total number of children under age 18 who died with the cause of death found to be homicide. Data is based on county residents only.

Source: North Carolina Center for Health Statistics, Child Death Listings

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/county.cfm>

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Population

#### Youth Population

What is measured:

The total population ages 0 to 17 years in Mecklenburg County.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/>

#### Population Females Under 18

What is measured:

The total female population ages 0 to 17 years in Mecklenburg County.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/>

## ECONOMY

### Employment Assistance

#### Work First Cases

What is measured:

The total number of Work First cases. This includes child only, one parent, two parent or other family cases.

Definitions:

##### **Work First**

Work First provides temporary cash assistance to needy families, along with targeted help to families that leave cash assistance for work, including short-term job training, help paying for child care, transportation assistance and substance abuse services. It began in North Carolina in July 1995 with work requirements and time limits that were added in July 1996. North Carolina's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program is called Work First and is based on the premise that parents have a responsibility to support themselves and their children. Ultimately, North Carolina's goal is to help all families move to self-sufficiency. Most will make it all the way; some, because of hardship or disability, will have a harder time.

Through Work First, parents can get short-term training and other services to help them become employed and self-sufficient, but the responsibility is theirs, and most families have two years to move off Work First Family Assistance. Work First emphasizes three strategies:

1. **Diversions:** Keeping families off welfare by helping them cope with unexpected emergencies or setbacks. *Under Work First, qualifying families can get a one-time payment equivalent to up to three months worth of cash Work First benefits, based on a needs assessment by the county worker, Medicaid, child care and Food and Nutrition Services, if eligible, and other supportive services.*
2. **Work:** Shortening the length of time that families are on Work First Family Assistance by making work mandatory and by limiting how long a family can receive cash assistance. *To receive Work First Family Assistance benefits, parents must register with the First Stop Employment Assistance Program, sign a Mutual Responsibility Agreement (MRA) and, once they move into the work components of the program, they can continue to receive benefits for up to 24 months. In most cases, families who have reached the 24-month limit cannot receive Work First Family Assistance for three years.*
3. **Retention:** Helping families to stay off public assistance by encouraging them to save and by helping to make sure they really are better off working than on welfare. *Work First increased limits on savings and vehicles, and the state legislature raised income eligibility limits for subsidized child care to ease the burden on low-income, working families. To help families stay employed, counties are also providing services, such as transportation, to families whose income is at or below 200 percent of poverty.*

Source: Jordan Institute for Families at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/index.html>

## Work First Cases: Child Only

What is measured:

The total number of Work First cases where the child is receiving cash assistance.

Definitions:

**Work First**

See definition above (Work First Cases).

Source: Jordan Institute for Families at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/index.html>

## New Work First Cases: Child Only

What is measured:

The total number of new Work First cases where the child is receiving cash assistance.

Definitions:

**Work First**

See definition above (Work First Cases).

Source: Jordan Institute for Families at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/index.html>

## New Work First Cases: Two Parents

What is measured:

The total number of new Work First cases where two parents receive cash assistance.

Definitions:

**Work First**

See definition above (Work First Cases).

Source: Jordan Institute for Families at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/index.html>

Note: Cash assistance families with two parents are relatively rare. They constitute less than one percent of the cash assistance caseload. These families are watched closely, however, since the federal cash assistance reform law places stricter work requirements on them. Therefore, the state implemented a policy of “pay after performance,” which requires most two parent families to find work or job training before receiving cash benefits. This policy went into effect in March 1998.

## Work First Cases: Two Parents

What is measured:

The total number of Work First cases where two parents receive cash assistance.

Definitions:

**Work First**

See definition above (Work First Cases).

Source: Jordan Institute for Families at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/index.html>

Note: Cash assistance families with two parents are relatively rare. They constitute less than one percent of the cash assistance caseload. These families are watched closely, however, since the federal cash assistance reform law places stricter work requirements on them. Therefore, the state implemented a policy of “pay after performance,” which requires most two parent families to find work or job training before receiving cash benefits. This policy went into effect in March 1998

## Food Assistance

### Children in Households Receiving Food Stamps

What is measured:

The number of children in households that received food stamp benefits during the past 12 months per 1,000 children under age 18.

Definitions:

**Food Stamps/SNAP**

Federally-funded program intended to “permit low-income households to obtain a more nutritious diet”. Eligible households are provided with coupons or cards that can be used to purchase food. In 2008, the Food Stamp Program was renamed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Numerator: The number children in households that received food stamp benefits during the past 12 months

Denominator: The total number of children under age 18

Multiplier: 1,000

Source: Jordan Institute for Families at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/index.html>

U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/>

### Households Receiving Food Stamps

What is measured:

The percent of households that received food stamp benefits during the past 12 months.

Definitions:

**Food Stamps/SNAP**

See definition above (Food Stamps/SNAP).

Numerator: The number of households that received food stamp benefits during the past 12 months

Denominator: The total number of households accounted for in the survey

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates)

<http://factfinder.census.gov/>

## Homelessness

### Homeless Children in Public Schools

What is measured:

The total number of children found to be homeless in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools school district. This is a running count throughout the year and data reflects the total number of children found to be homeless at the end of each school year.

Definition:

#### **Homeless Students**

Students recognized as homeless are individuals aged 4-21 who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence; children and youth who are sharing housing of other persons due to loss of housing due to economic hardship, are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to lack of alternative accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement; children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human being; children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and migratory children who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because they are living in circumstances described above

Source: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

## Poverty

### Children in Poverty

What is measured:

The percent of children under age 18 who lived below the poverty line during the past 12 months.

Definitions:

#### **Poverty**

In determining the poverty status of families and unrelated individuals, the Census Bureau uses thresholds (income cutoffs) arranged in a two-dimensional matrix. The matrix consists of family size (from one person to nine or more people) cross-classified by presence and number of family members under 18 years old (from no children present to eight or more children present). Unrelated individuals and two-person families are further differentiated by age of reference person (RP) (under 65 years old and 65 years old and over). If a family's total income in the last 12 months is less than the dollar value of the appropriate threshold, then that family and every individual in it are considered to be in poverty.

#### **Income**

The sum of the amounts reported separately for wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips; self-employment income from own nonfarm or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income, or income from estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions; and any other sources of income received regularly such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support, or alimony.

Numerator: The number of children who lived below the poverty line during the past 12 months

Denominator: The total number of children under age 18

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates)

<http://factfinder.census.gov/>

## Children Under 5 Years in Poverty

What is measured:

The percent of families with children under age 5 that lived below the poverty line during the past 12 months.

Definitions:

**Poverty**

See above definition (Children in Poverty).

Numerator: The number of families with children under age 5 that lived below the poverty line during the past 12 months

Denominator: The total number of families with children under age 5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates)

<http://factfinder.census.gov/>

## Families in Poverty

What is measured:

The percent of families reported to have lived below the poverty line during the past 12 months.

Definitions:

**Poverty**

See above definition (Children in Poverty).

Numerator: The number of families that lived below the poverty line during the past 12 months

Denominator: The total number of families

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates)

<http://factfinder.census.gov/>

## Individuals in Poverty

What is measured:

The percent of individuals who lived below the poverty line during the past 12 months.

Definitions:

**Poverty**

See above definition (Children in Poverty).

Numerator: The number of individuals who lived below the poverty line during the past 12 months

Denominator: The total number of individuals

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates)

<http://factfinder.census.gov/>

## Single Parent Families in Poverty

What is measured:

The percent of single parent families that lived below the poverty line during the past 12 months.

Definitions:

**Poverty**

See above definition (Children in Poverty).

Numerator: The number of single parent families that lived below the poverty line during the past 12 months

Denominator: The total number of single parent families.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates)

<http://factfinder.census.gov/>

## Unemployment

### Unemployment Rate

What is measured:

The percent of individuals in the civilian labor force who are unemployed.

Definitions:

**Civilian Labor Force**

Included are all persons in the civilian non-institutional population classified as either employed or unemployed.

**Unemployed Persons**

Included are all persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work, except for temporary illness, and had made specific efforts to find employment some time during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Numerator: Number of individuals in the civilian labor force who are unemployed

Denominator: Number of individuals in the civilian labor force

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

<http://www.bls.gov/lau/>

## EDUCATION

### Enrollment

#### Capacity of Publicly-Sponsored Pre-K Sites

What is measured:

The total number of children enrolled in publicly-sponsored pre-kindergarten programs, such as Head Start and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools' Bright Beginnings, during the academic school year.

Definitions:

**Public Pre-Kindergarten Programs**

Include center-based classrooms for four-year olds that are fully or partially publicly funded and operate under the direction of state, local and federal education and human service agencies.

**Head Start (and Early Head Start)**

Federally-funded program that provides free, comprehensive developmental services for children ages birth to five from low-income eligible families. These programs are child-focused and family-centered.

**More at Four**

A statewide, voluntary program that prepares eligible four-year-old children for school success by providing them with high quality pre-kindergarten experiences. The curricula used are child-centered, have a literacy and language focus and include parent participation. More at Four classrooms operate in centers and school settings for six hours per day, follow the public school calendar and have no more than a one-to-nine staff-to-child ratio.

**Bright Beginnings**

According to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, a Title One program offered free of charge to prepare four-year-old children for school success with high-quality pre-kindergarten experiences. Using the same curricula as More at Four, Bright Beginnings differs in that it is offered by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, not the state, and provides free transportation to the program sites, which are located in pre-kindergarten centers and area elementary schools. Eligibility is determined through demonstrated academic need and assessed through a formal screening process, as opposed to family income and current child care enrollment.

Source: Child Care Resources, Inc.

<http://www.childcareresourcesinc.org/publications-and-multimedia/data-reports/>

## Students Applying for Free & Reduced Lunch

What is measured:

The percent of students applying for Free and Reduced Meals at the beginning of a school year.

Definitions:

### **Free and Reduced Meals**

School meals offered at a reduced price of 30 cents for breakfast and 40 cents for lunch for children from families whose total household income is within the reduced-price limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines Chart.

Numerator: The total number of students applying for free and reduced meals for a school year

Denominator: The final average daily membership released for school or school system

Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/fbs/resources/data/>

## High School Graduation Rate

### 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate

What is measured:

The percent of students who entered 9<sup>th</sup> grade in a particular year that graduated 4 years later.

Definitions:

### **Cohort**

A cohort essentially refers to a high school class.

Cohort calculation (using 2009-10 data as an example) = students in a school district in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2006-07\* plus students who transferred into the district in the grade appropriate to the cohort\*\* minus students who transferred out of the district or are deceased\*\*\*.

\*Only includes those students who are in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade for the first time.

\*\*Students who were in 8<sup>th</sup> grade in 2005-06 and transfer in as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader in 2006-07 or 10<sup>th</sup> grader in 2007-08 or 11<sup>th</sup> grader in 2008-09 or 12<sup>th</sup> grader in 2009-10.

\*\*\*Students who transfer out are those who have not been reported as having dropped out and the school has received a request for a student's records from an educational institution, public or private in North/South Carolina or another state.

Numerator: The number of students from the cohort that graduated within four years

Denominator: The total number of students in the cohort

Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Note: Dropout students count as non-graduates unless they later enroll in another school and graduate on time as their initial cohort. Students who receive a General Education Development (GED) are not counted as high school graduates for these calculations.

## Student Achievement

### At or Above Grade Level in Math/Reading/Math & Reading Composite

What is measured:

The percent of students performing at or above grade level in reading; math; or on the math and reading composite.

Definitions:

**At or Above Grade Level**

Students who scored in achievement level III or IV on the annual end-of-grade test in a particular subject. Students performing at this level consistently demonstrate mastery of grade level subject matter and skills and are well prepared for the next grade level.

**Math and Reading Composite**

Math and reading composite scores include end-of-grade test scores for both math and reading. These scores are combined to create the composite score and the percent of students who scored in achievement level III or IV on the annual end-of-grade test on both reading and math end-of-grade tests are compiled.

Numerator: The number of students performing at or above level III in reading; math; or on the math and reading composite

Denominator: The total number of valid scores

Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/reporting/leaperformancearchive/>

## HEALTH

### Child Health

#### Children Age 0-3 Years Enrolled in Early Intervention Services

What is measured:

The percent of children ages 0 to 3 years enrolled in early intervention services to reduce the effects of developmental delay, emotional disturbance and/or chronic illness.

Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT Data Center

<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/bystate/stateprofile.aspx?state=NC&loc=4969>

Note: Data was provided from the source as a percentage.

#### Percent of Children Age 1-3 with Elevated Blood Lead Levels

What is measured:

The percent of children ages 1 to 3 years confirmed to have elevated blood lead levels.

Definitions:

**Elevated Blood Lead Levels**

A blood lead level of greater than ten micrograms per deciliter.

**Confirmed Lead Level**

Two consecutive blood lead test results indicating elevated blood lead levels (greater than ten micrograms per deciliter) within a six-month period.

Numerator: The number of children tested demonstrating confirmed elevated blood lead levels

Denominator: The unduplicated count of children tested for lead poisoning within the calendar year

Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT Data Center

<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/bystate/stateprofile.aspx?state=NC&loc=4969>

Note: Data was provided from the source as a percentage.

## Children Receiving Well-Child Doctor Visits

What is measured:

The percent of parents that answered yes to the question “During the past 12 months has (CHILD) had a preventive care visit or Well Child check-up?” regarding a specific child under 18 years of age in their household on the annual Child Health Assessment and Monitoring Program (CHAMP) conducted by the North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics.

Numerator: The number of CHAMP respondents indicating yes to the question “During the past 12 months has (CHILD) had a preventive care visit or Well Child check-up?”

Denominator: The total number of CHAMP respondents to the question “During the past 12 months has (CHILD) had a preventive care visit or Well Child check-up?”

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, CHAMP  
<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/champ/>

## Children Age 3-17 Years with Developmental Disabilities

What is measured:

The number of children ages 3 to 17 years with developmental disabilities, as reported by the North Carolina Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse.

Definitions:

### **Developmental Disabilities**

North Carolina General Statute 122C-3(12a) defines a developmental disability as "a severe, chronic disability of a person which: is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments; is manifested before the person attains age 22, unless the disability is caused by traumatic head injury and is manifested after age 22; is likely to continue indefinitely; results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity:

- self-care
- receptive (understanding) and expressive language
- learning mobility (ability to move)
- self-direction (motivation)
- the capacity for independent living
- economic self-sufficiency;

reflects the person's need for a combination or sequence of special, interdisciplinary, generic services, individual supports, or other forms of assistance which are of a lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated; an individual from birth to age 9, inclusive, who has a substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired condition, may be considered to have a developmental disability without meeting at least three of the above 'areas of major life activities,' if the individual, without services and supports, has a high probability of meeting those criteria later in life."

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, NC-CATCH  
<http://www.ncpublichealthcatch.com/ReportPortal/design/view.aspx>

## Dental Health

### Percent of Medicaid Eligibles Receiving Dental Services

What is measured:

The percent of Medicaid (XIX) eligibles receiving dental services, as reported by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance.

Definitions:

**Medicaid**

A public assistance program that pays for the medical care of people who are eligible for cash assistance payments or who have medical needs greater than their resources. The five categories of eligibility are Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (Formerly called Aid to the Families with Dependent Children), Aid to the Aged (persons 65 years and older), Aid to the Disabled, Aid to the Blind, and children who are in foster care or adoptive homes under Title IV-E. The federal government pays the largest share of Medicaid costs.

Numerator: The number of persons eligible for Medicaid receiving dental services

Denominator: The total number of Medicaid eligible persons

Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT Data Center

<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/bystate/stateprofile.aspx?state=NC&loc=4969>

Note: Data was provided from the source as a percentage.

### Percent of Children who Visited a Dentist in the Past Year

What is measured:

The percent of parents of children ages 1 to 18 years that answered either “6 months or less” or “6 to 12 months” to the question “About how long has it been since (CHILD) last saw a dentist?” on the annual Child Health Assessment and Monitoring Program (CHAMP) conducted by the North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics.

Definitions:

**Dentist**

Includes all types of dentists, such as orthodontists, oral surgeons, and all other dental specialists, as well as dental hygienists.

Numerator: The number of CHAMP respondents indicating either “6 months or less” or “6 to 12 months” to the question “About how long has it been since (CHILD) last saw a dentist?”

Denominator: The total number of CHAMP respondents to the question “About how long has it been since (CHILD) last saw a dentist?”

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, CHAMP

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/champ/>

## Health Care Coverage

### Children Eligible for Health Choice

What is measured:

The number of children ages 0 to 18 years who received a North Carolina Health Choice identification card and are authorized to receive Health Choice services in December of each year.

Definitions:

**North Carolina Health Choice**

The North Carolina children's health insurance program, funded by federal and state governments.

Source: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance  
<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/elig/index.htm>

### Children Eligible for Medicaid

What is measured:

The number of children ages 0 to 18 years who received a Medicaid identification card and are authorized to receive Medicaid services in December of each year.

Definitions:

**Medicaid**

See definition above (Percent of Medicaid Eligibles Receiving Dental Services).

Source: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance  
<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/elig/index.htm>

### Individuals Ages 0-20 Years Eligible for Medicaid

What is measured:

The total number of residents ages 0 to 20 years eligible for Medicaid services.

Definitions:

**Medicaid**

See definition above (Percent of Medicaid Eligibles Receiving Dental Services).

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, NC-CATCH  
<http://www.ncpublichealthcatch.com/ReportPortal/design/view.aspx>  
U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates  
<http://www.census.gov/>

## Children without Health Insurance

What is measured:

The total number of individuals under 18 years of age without health insurance coverage.

Definitions:

### **Health Insurance Coverage**

Includes plans and programs that provide comprehensive health coverage. Plans that provide insurance for specific conditions or situations such as cancer and long-term care policies are not considered coverage. Likewise, other types of insurance like dental, vision, life, and disability insurance are not considered health insurance coverage.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates)

<http://factfinder.census.gov/>

## Maternity and Births

### Fetal Deaths

What is measured:

The total number of fetal deaths during a calendar year.

Definitions:

### **Fetal Death**

According to the World Health Organization (1950), death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of human conception, irrespective of the gestation of pregnancy. The death is indicated by the fact that after such expulsion or extraction, the fetus does not breathe or show any evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles. Consistent with North Carolina law, NC State Center for Health Statistics publications include only fetal deaths that do not qualify as therapeutic abortions and that result from pregnancies of 20 or more weeks of gestation.

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/county/cfm>

## Infant Mortality Rate

What is measured:

The number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

Definitions:

### **Infant**

Babies age one year or younger.

### **Live Birth**

According to the World Health Organization (1950), the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the gestation of pregnancy, which, after separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as a beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or any definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Numerator: The number of infant deaths

Denominator: The total number of live births

Multiplier: 1,000

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/county.cfm>

## Late or No Prenatal Care

What is measured:

The percent of live births to mothers who received late or no prenatal care.

Definitions:

### **Prenatal Care**

The objective of prenatal care is to monitor and improve the health of the pregnant mother and her baby. Getting early and regular prenatal care is crucial because it allows the health care provider the chance to find problems early so they can be treated as soon as possible. Those who do not get adequate prenatal care run the risk that such complications will go undetected or will not be identified soon enough. This can lead to potentially serious consequences for both the mother and her baby.

During prenatal visits, the health care provider teaches the woman about pregnancy, monitors any medical conditions she may have, tests for health problems with the mother and baby, and refers the woman to needed services such as a support group, childbirth class, or the WIC program.

### **Late Prenatal Care**

Prenatal care received beginning in the third trimester.

Numerator: The number of live births to mothers receiving either no prenatal care or prenatal care beginning in the third trimester

Denominator: The total number of live births

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/births/bd.cfm>

## Live Births by Mother's Educational Attainment

What is measured:

The percent of live births to mothers with a specified level of educational attainment at the time of birth.

Definitions:

**Live Birth**

See definition above (Fetal Death Rate).

**Education of Mother**

Years of schooling completed by mother at time of the birth. The levels include:

- Less than High School
- High School Diploma
- Some College
- College

Numerator: The number of live births to mothers with a specified level of educational attainment

Denominator: The total number of live births

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/births/bd.cfm>

## Low Birth Weight Babies

What is measured:

The percent of babies who were of low birth weight.

Definitions:

**Low Birth Weight**

Live born infants who weigh less than 2,500 grams (5 lb, 8 oz) at birth, regardless of the gestation period.

Numerator: The number of babies weighing 2,500 grams or less at birth

Denominator: The total number of live births

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/births/bd.cfm>

## Perinatal Complications Hospital Discharges

What is measured:

The total number of hospital discharges with a primary diagnosis of perinatal complications.

Definitions:

**Perinatal Complication**

Complications that take place during the perinatal period, which is defined as beginning at the 20th to 28th week of gestation and ending 1 to 4 weeks after birth.

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, NC-CATCH

<http://www.ncpublichealthcatch.com/ReportPortal/design/view.aspx>

U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/>

## Prenatal Care in the First Trimester

What is measured:

The percent of live births to mothers who received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester of pregnancy.

Definitions:

**Prenatal Care**

See definition above (Late or No Prenatal Care).

Numerator: The number of live births in which the mothers received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester of pregnancy.

Denominator: The total number of live births.

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/births/bd.cfm>

## Women that had Diabetes while Pregnant

What is measured:

The number of women who had diabetes while pregnant during a calendar year.

Definitions:

**Gestational Diabetes**

According to the World Health Organization, gestational diabetes is hyperglycaemia (increased concentration of glucose in the blood) that is first recognized during pregnancy.

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, NC-CATCH

<http://www.ncpublichealthcatch.com/ReportPortal/design/view.aspx>

## Mortality

### Child Deaths

What is measured:

The number of deaths of individuals ages 0 to 17 during a calendar year.

Definitions:

**Child**

Individual under the age of 18 years old.

**Death**

The permanent disappearance of any evidence of life at any time after live birth. Also, North Carolina law (G.S. 90-322) defines criteria for certifying “brain death.”

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/dms/dms.cfm>

## Obesity

### Obese Children

What is measured:

The percent of children that demonstrated an obese body mass index based on their height, weight and age compared to their peers as provided in the North Carolina Nutrition and Physical Activity Surveillance System (NC-NPASS).

Definitions:

#### **Body Mass Index (BMI)**

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), body mass index (BMI) is a number calculated from a person's height and weight that provides a reliable indicator of body fatness for most people and is used to screen for weight categories that may lead to health problems.

#### **Obese**

Having a body mass index greater than or equal to the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile based on the CDC's 2000 Body Mass Index Reference for weight and height by age.

Numerator: The number of obese children in the NC-NPASS

Denominator: The total number of children reporting weight in the NC-NPASS

Source: Eat Smart, Move More NC

<http://www.eatsmartmovemorenc.com/Data/ChildAndYouthData.html>

Note: North Carolina-Nutrition and Physical Activity Surveillance System (NC-NPASS) includes data on children seen in North Carolina Public Health Sponsored WIC and Child Health Clinics and some School Based Health Centers.

### Overweight Children

What is measured:

The percent of children that demonstrated an obese body mass index based on their height, weight and age compared to their peers as provided in the North Carolina Nutrition and Physical Activity Surveillance System (NC-NPASS).

Definitions:

#### **Body Mass Index (BMI)**

See definition above (Obese Children).

#### **Overweight**

Having a body mass index greater than or equal to the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile but less than the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile based on the CDC's 2000 Body Mass Index Reference for weight and height by age.

Numerator: The number of overweight children in the NC-NPASS

Denominator: The total number of children reporting weight in the NC-NPASS

Source: Eat Smart, Move More NC

<http://www.eatsmartmovemorenc.com/Data/ChildAndYouthData.html>

## Percent of High School Students who were Obese/Overweight

What is measured:

The percent of high school students that demonstrated an obese/overweight body mass index based on the self-reported height and weight they provided in the biennial Youth Behavior Risk Survey conducted by the Mecklenburg County Health Department.

Definitions:

**Body Mass Index (BMI)**

See definition above (Obese Children).

**Obese**

Having a BMI greater than 30.0.

**Overweight**

Having a BMI between 25.0 and 29.9.

**Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)**

A survey developed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor priority health risk behaviors that contribute markedly to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The YRBS is administered at the middle and/or high school level by individual states, counties and/or cities in odd-numbered years to coincide with the national high school administration of the YRBS conducted by the CDC. In Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, the YRBS is conducted by the Mecklenburg County Department of Health.

Numerator: The number of YRBS respondents having a BMI that was indicated as overweight/obese

Denominator: The total number of YRBS respondents

Source: Mecklenburg County Health Department

<http://charmeck.org/mecklenburg/county/HealthDepartment/HealthStatistics/Pages/HealthBehaviors.aspx>

## Substance Abuse

### Youth Ages 12-17 Years with a Substance Abuse Problem

What is measured:

The estimated number of youth ages 12-17 with a substance abuse problem during a 12-month period, from January to December.

Definitions:

**Substance Abuse**

According to the NC Department of Health and Human Services, substance abuse refers to the overindulgence in and dependence on a stimulant, depressant, chemical substance, herb (plant) or fungus leading to effects that are detrimental to the individual's physical health or mental health, or the welfare of others. The disorder is characterized by a pattern of continued pathological use of a medication, a non-medically indicated drug or toxin that results in repeated adverse social consequences related to drug use, such as failure to meet work, family, or school obligations, interpersonal conflicts, or legal problems. Substance abuse is sometimes used as a synonym for drug abuse, drug addiction, and chemical dependency, but actually refers to the use of substances in a manner outside socio-cultural conventions. All use of illicit drugs and all use of licit drugs in a manner not dictated by conventions (e.g. according to physician's orders) is abuse according to this definition.

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, NC-CATCH

<http://www.ncpublichealthcatch.com/ReportPortal/design/view.aspx>

## Teen Pregnancy

### Teen Birth Rate

What is measured:

The number of live births to mothers ages 15 to 19 years per 1,000 female population ages 15 to 19 years.

Definitions:

**Live Birth**

See definition above (Infant Mortality Rate).

Numerator: The number of live births to mothers ages 15 to 19 years

Denominator: The total female population ages 15 to 19 years

Multiplier: 1,000

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/county.cfm>

### Teen Pregnancies

What is measured:

The number of pregnancies to mothers under the age of 18.

Definitions:

**Pregnancies**

The total number of live births plus fetal deaths of 20 or more weeks gestation plus induced abortions.

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/preg/preg.cfm>

# MENTAL HEALTH

## Mental Health

### Children with a Emotional, Developmental, or Behavioral Problem

What is measured:

The percent of parents that answered yes to the question “Does (CHILD) have any kind of emotional, developmental, or behavioral problem for which {he/she} needs treatment or counseling?” regarding a specific child under 18 years of age in their household on the annual Child Health Assessment and Monitoring Program (CHAMP) conducted by the North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics.

Numerator: The number of CHAMP respondents indicating yes to the question “Does (CHILD) have any kind of emotional, developmental, or behavioral problem for which {he/she} needs treatment or counseling?”

Denominator: The total number of CHAMP respondents to the question “Does (CHILD) have any kind of emotional, developmental, or behavioral problem for which {he/she} needs treatment or counseling?”

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, CHAMP  
<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/champ/>

### Youth Risk Behavioral Survey Questions

What is measured:

The percent of middle or high school students who indicated one of the following risk behaviors on the biennial Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

Definitions:

#### **Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)**

A survey developed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor priority health risk behaviors that contribute markedly to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The YRBS is administered at the middle and/or high school level by individual states, counties and/or cities in odd-numbered years to coincide with the national high school administration of the YRBS conducted by the CDC. In Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, the YRBS is conducted by the Mecklenburg County Department of Health. The survey measures such risk behaviors as:

- Attempted suicide
- Have depressive symptoms
- Felt sad or hopeless
- Made a suicide plan
- Thought about suicide

Numerator: The number of students indicating participation in a specific risk behavior

Denominator: The total number of students surveyed with the YRBS

Source: Mecklenburg County Department of Health

<http://charmec.org/mecklenburg/county/HealthDepartment/HealthStatistics/Pages/HealthBehaviors.aspx>

## Children with a Severe Emotional Disturbance

### What is measured:

The estimated number of children ages 0 to 17 years with a severe emotional disturbance, as reported by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse.

### Definitions:

#### **Severe Emotional Disturbance**

According to the NC Department of Health and Human Services, emotional disturbance means impairment in the capacity expected of one for his age and endowment for: reasonably accurate perception of the world around him; impulse control; satisfying and satisfactory relations with others; learning; occupational adjustment; or any combination of these.

Source: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, NC-CATCH

<http://www.ncpublichealthcatch.com/ReportPortal/design/view.aspx>