

Healthy and Ready to Learn Data on 3-year-olds, 2023-2024

This document presents the 2023-2024 Healthy and Ready to Learn (HRTL) data from the National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH), showing the developmental well-being of 3-year-olds in the United States. It presents the percentage of 3-year-olds who are developmentally “on track” in each domain and on an overall, summary measure of HRTL. Explore the tables below to find state and national data.

These two-year estimates were previously published on the [HRTL 3-year-old data dashboard](#) on the Child Trends website. We are making them available for transparency and archival purposes, in case they are needed for reference. The dashboard now features three-year estimates (2022-2024), which we recommend using to ensure more reliable state-level estimates and to facilitate comparisons between national and state data.

Percentage of 3-year-olds Healthy and Ready to Learn in the United States, 2023-2024

Table 1. 64.1% of 3-year-olds in the United States were Healthy and Ready to Learn, overall

	Overall HRTL measure	95% CI range
National	64.1%	61.5%-66.6%
Alabama	57.7%	45.0%-69.4%
Alaska	73.6%	61.4%-83.1%
Arizona	48.9%	34.1%-63.8%
Arkansas	62.0%	49.0%-73.4%
California	64.7%	58.0%-71.0%
Colorado	75.4%	63.7%-84.2%
Connecticut	54.2%	39.0%-68.7%
Delaware	53.3%	39.3%-66.9%
District of Columbia	79.5%	70.6%-86.3%
Florida	72.9%	55.8%-85.2%
Georgia	64.9%	53.3%-75.0%
Hawaii	61.0%	46.4%-73.9%
Idaho	69.9%	57.6%-79.9%
Illinois	74.5%	64.8%-82.2%
Indiana	65.3%	51.5%-76.9%
Iowa	66.8%	52.2%-78.8%
Kansas	64.0%	55.1%-72.1%
Kentucky	45.2%	33.0%-58.0%
Louisiana	60.7%	51.0%-69.7%

	Overall HRTL measure	95% CI range
Maine	70.4%	57.9%-80.4%
Maryland	72.6%	59.6%-82.6%
Massachusetts	56.5%	40.2%-71.4%
Michigan	52.4%	39.2%-65.4%
Minnesota	70.9%	63.2%-77.6%
Mississippi	62.7%	49.5%-74.3%
Missouri	62.3%	48.1%-74.7%
Montana	73.6%	61.1%-83.2%
Nebraska	68.5%	54.4%-79.8%
Nevada	69.9%	52.5%-83.0%
New Hampshire	64.9%	53.1%-75.1%
New Jersey	68.7%	54.5%-80.1%
New Mexico	54.0%	39.0%-68.3%
New York	60.6%	47.8%-72.0%
North Carolina	61.6%	49.1%-72.7%
North Dakota	68.2%	54.0%-79.7%
Ohio	62.4%	53.5%-70.5%
Oklahoma	61.3%	46.9%-74.0%
Oregon	52.6%	39.3%-65.6%
Pennsylvania	73.2%	62.8%-81.5%
Rhode Island	63.6%	50.2%-75.1%
South Carolina	58.7%	47.3%-69.2%
South Dakota	53.2%	37.7%-68.1%
Tennessee	68.6%	56.7%-78.4%
Texas	60.2%	44.6%-73.9%
Utah	65.5%	55.3%-74.4%
Vermont	67.6%	55.3%-77.8%
Virginia	68.0%	54.2%-79.3%
Washington	57.5%	43.4%-70.4%
West Virginia	67.7%	55.4%-77.9%
Wisconsin	71.7%	61.6%-80.0%
Wyoming	76.9%	66.5%-84.8%

Table 2. 69.5% of 3-year-olds in the United States were “on track” on early learning skills

	Early Learning Skills	95% CI range
National	69.5%	67.0%-71.9%
Alabama	59.0%	45.8%-71.1%
Alaska	80.7%	69.4%-88.5%
Arizona	54.9%	38.5%-70.3%
Arkansas	55.6%	42.2%-68.2%
California	72.5%	65.9%-78.2%
Colorado	77.6%	65.5%-86.3%
Connecticut	82.5%	68.6%-91.1%
Delaware	58.7%	43.6%-72.3%
District of Columbia	89.4%	82.6%-93.7%
Florida	74.6%	56.6%-86.9%
Georgia	70.8%	59.7%-79.9%
Hawaii	73.6%	59.0%-84.4%
Idaho	58.0%	44.9%-70.1%
Illinois	73.2%	62.8%-81.5%
Indiana	61.8%	48.1%-73.9%
Iowa	60.7%	45.9%-73.7%
Kansas	73.8%	65.8%-80.4%
Kentucky	54.3%	40.7%-67.3%
Louisiana	63.1%	53.4%-71.9%
Maine	75.3%	63.5%-84.2%
Maryland	79.5%	66.1%-88.5%
Massachusetts	67.8%	49.8%-81.7%
Michigan	59.6%	45.4%-72.3%
Minnesota	72.2%	64.6%-78.7%
Mississippi	69.3%	55.8%-80.2%
Missouri	72.1%	58.3%-82.7%
Montana	74.7%	61.0%-84.8%
Nebraska	75.1%	62.9%-84.3%
Nevada	70.3%	52.8%-83.3%
New Hampshire	70.5%	58.6%-80.1%
New Jersey	68.1%	53.0%-80.1%
New Mexico	68.2%	52.1%-80.8%
New York	68.3%	55.6%-78.8%
North Carolina	65.2%	52.7%-75.9%
North Dakota	79.8%	67.9%-88.1%
Ohio	71.1%	61.6%-79.0%
Oklahoma	61.5%	47.0%-74.2%

	Early Learning Skills	95% CI range
Oregon	65.5%	51.1%-77.4%
Pennsylvania	71.1%	60.3%-80.0%
Rhode Island	78.0%	64.6%-87.3%
South Carolina	68.3%	57.2%-77.7%
South Dakota	49.0%	34.4%-63.8%
Tennessee	67.8%	55.5%-78.0%
Texas	72.8%	55.8%-85.0%
Utah	68.3%	58.1%-76.9%
Vermont	70.5%	58.8%-80.0%
Virginia	76.8%	60.3%-87.9%
Washington	64.0%	49.9%-76.0%
West Virginia	64.2%	51.6%-75.1%
Wisconsin	64.1%	52.6%-74.1%
Wyoming	73.3%	62.2%-82.0%

Table 3. 70.6% of 3-year-olds in the United States were “on track” on self-regulation

	Self-regulation	95% CI
National	70.6%	68.2%-72.9%
Alabama	62.7%	49.6%-74.2%
Alaska	67.8%	51.8%-80.4%
Arizona	59.0%	41.6%-74.3%
Arkansas	69.4%	57.0%-79.6%
California	68.8%	62.0%-74.8%
Colorado	76.6%	64.8%-85.4%
Connecticut	61.1%	44.9%-75.3%
Delaware	63.5%	47.9%-76.7%
District of Columbia	74.7%	62.0%-84.3%
Florida	85.2%	71.7%-92.9%
Georgia	69.3%	57.5%-78.9%
Hawaii	69.8%	56.0%-80.7%
Idaho	70.7%	58.1%-80.7%
Illinois	75.9%	65.6%-83.9%
Indiana	72.9%	58.7%-83.5%
Iowa	73.5%	56.9%-85.3%
Kansas	61.6%	52.1%-70.3%
Kentucky	72.0%	59.8%-81.6%
Louisiana	61.3%	51.4%-70.3%
Maine	67.2%	54.6%-77.7%

	Self-regulation	95% CI
Maryland	74.3%	62.0%-83.7%
Massachusetts	71.8%	54.1%-84.7%
Michigan	60.8%	47.1%-72.9%
Minnesota	77.6%	69.9%-83.7%
Mississippi	71.8%	59.4%-81.6%
Missouri	68.2%	53.6%-79.9%
Montana	65.6%	51.5%-77.4%
Nebraska	80.8%	66.3%-90.0%
Nevada	75.4%	57.4%-87.5%
New Hampshire	68.9%	57.0%-78.7%
New Jersey	73.0%	58.5%-83.8%
New Mexico	63.3%	47.8%-76.5%
New York	76.2%	64.8%-84.8%
North Carolina	72.1%	60.1%-81.6%
North Dakota	63.8%	48.0%-77.1%
Ohio	73.2%	65.4%-79.8%
Oklahoma	70.9%	57.5%-81.5%
Oregon	53.3%	39.8%-66.2%
Pennsylvania	79.4%	70.6%-86.1%
Rhode Island	78.5%	66.9%-86.8%
South Carolina	65.6%	54.2%-75.5%
South Dakota	68.4%	50.4%-82.2%
Tennessee	64.9%	52.1%-75.8%
Texas	61.8%	46.8%-74.8%
Utah	70.7%	61.4%-78.5%
Vermont	74.8%	63.5%-83.5%
Virginia	69.9%	56.6%-80.5%
Washington	73.5%	59.9%-83.8%
West Virginia	76.4%	64.8%-85.1%
Wisconsin	80.9%	72.6%-87.2%
Wyoming	77.0%	67.4%-84.4%

Table 4. 83.5% of 3-year-olds in the United States were “on track” on social-emotional development

	Social-emotional	95% CI
National	83.5%	81.2%-85.6%
Alabama	75.6%	60.6%-86.2%
Alaska	91.5%	81.1%-96.4%
Arizona	74.0%	53.5%-87.6%
Arkansas	80.4%	67.7%-88.9%

	Social-emotional	95% CI
California	84.6%	78.5%-89.1%
Colorado	90.6%	83.4%-94.8%
Connecticut	90.3%	78.7%-95.9%
Delaware	67.4%	51.2%-80.4%
District of Columbia	92.6%	86.0%-96.2%
Florida	93.1%	85.6%-96.8%
Georgia	81.5%	71.1%-88.7%
Hawaii	88.7%	80.5%-93.8%
Idaho	88.8%	79.1%-94.3%
Illinois	93.8%	88.6%-96.7%
Indiana	80.9%	66.5%-90.0%
Iowa	85.7%	73.5%-92.8%
Kansas	83.7%	75.5%-89.5%
Kentucky	75.3%	60.1%-86.0%
Louisiana	86.1%	77.5%-91.7%
Maine	86.5%	75.1%-93.1%
Maryland	87.3%	77.1%-93.3%
Massachusetts	76.0%	56.3%-88.6%
Michigan	71.0%	55.2%-83.0%
Minnesota	84.2%	76.6%-89.6%
Mississippi	80.4%	68.4%-88.6%
Missouri	85.6%	71.1%-93.5%
Montana	92.4%	84.9%-96.4%
Nebraska	89.0%	75.9%-95.5%
Nevada	85.2%	69.9%-93.5%
New Hampshire	88.0%	76.9%-94.2%
New Jersey	93.3%	86.7%-96.7%
New Mexico	77.6%	61.7%-88.2%
New York	81.0%	69.7%-88.8%
North Carolina	76.6%	63.8%-85.8%
North Dakota	89.3%	73.5%-96.2%
Ohio	88.3%	80.0%-93.5%
Oklahoma	81.5%	68.1%-90.1%
Oregon	79.4%	63.7%-89.4%
Pennsylvania	89.9%	80.9%-94.9%
Rhode Island	74.1%	60.6%-84.2%
South Carolina	78.7%	67.4%-86.9%
South Dakota	70.5%	51.8%-84.2%
Tennessee	88.8%	79.5%-94.1%
Texas	75.8%	57.8%-87.7%
Utah	85.5%	76.5%-91.4%

	Social-emotional	95% CI
Vermont	87.9%	78.0%-93.7%
Virginia	81.4%	66.2%-90.7%
Washington	84.6%	72.0%-92.2%
West Virginia	87.5%	77.0%-93.6%
Wisconsin	88.5%	80.4%-93.5%
Wyoming	88.8%	77.6%-94.8%

Table 5. 68.7% of 3-year-olds in the United States were “on track” on motor skills

	Motor skills	95% CI
National	68.7%	66.2%-71.0%
Alabama	65.0%	51.4%-76.5%
Alaska	76.3%	63.5%-85.6%
Arizona	60.3%	44.7%-74.1%
Arkansas	70.4%	57.2%-80.9%
California	74.1%	68.2%-79.2%
Colorado	70.7%	58.9%-80.3%
Connecticut	56.9%	40.9%-71.5%
Delaware	59.4%	44.1%-73.2%
District of Columbia	79.1%	69.9%-86.0%
Florida	71.7%	55.0%-84.0%
Georgia	72.6%	60.9%-81.9%
Hawaii	74.7%	59.8%-85.5%
Idaho	74.3%	61.2%-84.1%
Illinois	73.2%	63.5%-81.0%
Indiana	67.5%	53.5%-79.0%
Iowa	68.5%	54.8%-79.7%
Kansas	72.9%	64.7%-79.8%
Kentucky	56.0%	42.6%-68.7%
Louisiana	69.9%	60.8%-77.6%
Maine	64.9%	52.4%-75.6%
Maryland	71.1%	58.0%-81.4%
Massachusetts	65.8%	49.7%-79.0%
Michigan	58.8%	44.7%-71.6%
Minnesota	71.3%	63.5%-78.1%
Mississippi	72.7%	60.6%-82.1%
Missouri	66.4%	51.6%-78.5%
Montana	73.2%	60.2%-83.2%
Nebraska	74.1%	61.3%-83.7%
Nevada	73.2%	58.6%-84.1%

	Motor skills	95% CI
New Hampshire	67.3%	55.6%-77.3%
New Jersey	66.3%	52.3%-78.0%
New Mexico	72.8%	58.0%-83.9%
New York	58.9%	45.7%-70.9%
North Carolina	70.3%	57.5%-80.5%
North Dakota	78.0%	65.9%-86.6%
Ohio	67.4%	58.6%-75.2%
Oklahoma	57.1%	41.7%-71.1%
Oregon	58.6%	45.0%-71.0%
Pennsylvania	65.3%	54.2%-74.9%
Rhode Island	59.8%	45.5%-72.7%
South Carolina	66.0%	55.1%-75.4%
South Dakota	56.8%	40.5%-71.7%
Tennessee	73.8%	62.1%-82.9%
Texas	71.0%	55.4%-82.8%
Utah	73.3%	63.8%-81.1%
Vermont	67.2%	55.2%-77.4%
Virginia	79.6%	68.1%-87.6%
Washington	57.4%	42.3%-71.2%
West Virginia	71.4%	59.6%-80.9%
Wisconsin	73.3%	63.4%-81.3%
Wyoming	68.7%	56.3%-78.8%

Table 6. 90.7% of 3-year-olds in the United States were “on track” on physical health

	Physical health	95% CI range
National	90.7%	88.8%-92.2%
Alabama	82.4%	66.8%-91.6%
Alaska	94.4%	86.0%-97.9%
Arizona	89.9%	77.5%-95.8%
Arkansas	92.1%	84.1%-96.2%
California	91.4%	86.8%-94.5%
Colorado	87.7%	74.2%-94.7%
Connecticut	97.0%	92.5%-98.9%
Delaware	86.5%	67.9%-95.1%
District of Columbia	92.1%	84.6%-96.1%
Florida	96.3%	88.5%-98.8%
Georgia	87.3%	76.2%-93.7%
Hawaii	92.3%	80.5%-97.2%
Idaho	96.7%	86.4%-99.3%

	Physical health	95% CI range
Illinois	95.0%	90.2%-97.5%
Indiana	91.0%	79.5%-96.3%
Iowa	87.2%	71.1%-95.0%
Kansas	90.9%	83.2%-95.3%
Kentucky	81.9%	68.6%-90.4%
Louisiana	87.0%	78.3%-92.5%
Maine	89.3%	78.3%-95.0%
Maryland	94.1%	76.8%-98.7%
Massachusetts	98.6%	95.5%-99.6%
Michigan	87.6%	76.6%-93.9%
Minnesota	92.7%	86.3%-96.2%
Mississippi	89.7%	80.6%-94.8%
Missouri	89.5%	75.9%-95.8%
Montana	95.8%	88.4%-98.6%
Nebraska	96.5%	89.8%-98.9%
Nevada	81.8%	63.5%-92.0%
New Hampshire	85.5%	73.3%-92.7%
New Jersey	93.9%	82.8%-98.0%
New Mexico	76.5%	59.4%-87.9%
New York	89.6%	79.5%-95.0%
North Carolina	86.0%	73.8%-93.0%
North Dakota	99.4%	97.5%-99.9%
Ohio	93.3%	88.0%-96.4%
Oklahoma	94.7%	86.2%-98.1%
Oregon	95.4%	89.8%-98.0%
Pennsylvania	92.4%	83.9%-96.6%
Rhode Island	95.9%	85.8%-98.9%
South Carolina	90.5%	81.0%-95.5%
South Dakota	85.8%	65.9%-95.0%
Tennessee	96.6%	91.3%-98.7%
Texas	86.1%	69.2%-94.5%
Utah	94.8%	90.1%-97.3%
Vermont	96.5%	90.8%-98.7%
Virginia	91.3%	79.8%-96.6%
Washington	84.3%	70.7%-92.3%
West Virginia	89.8%	79.5%-95.2%
Wisconsin	93.2%	83.0%-97.4%
Wyoming	93.2%	86.2%-96.7%

Another way to understand the national and state HRTL estimates is by examining the number of domains on which children score either “on track” or “needs support” (the lowest of the three scoring categories, with “emerging” as the middle category). While the percentage “on track” overall and by domain is one useful way of understanding children’s development at the national and state levels, it’s also possible to see the percentage of children who are “on track” in all domains or in none, along with the percentage who score “needs support” in two or more domains.

This also helps clarify how the overall HRTL measure is scored. To receive an overall “on track” score, a child must be “on track” in 4 or 5 domains and have no domains on which they score “needs support.” The tables below present national and state data from 2023-2024 showing the percentage of children “on track” in 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, or 0 domains, as well as the percentage scoring “needs support” in 2 or more domains.

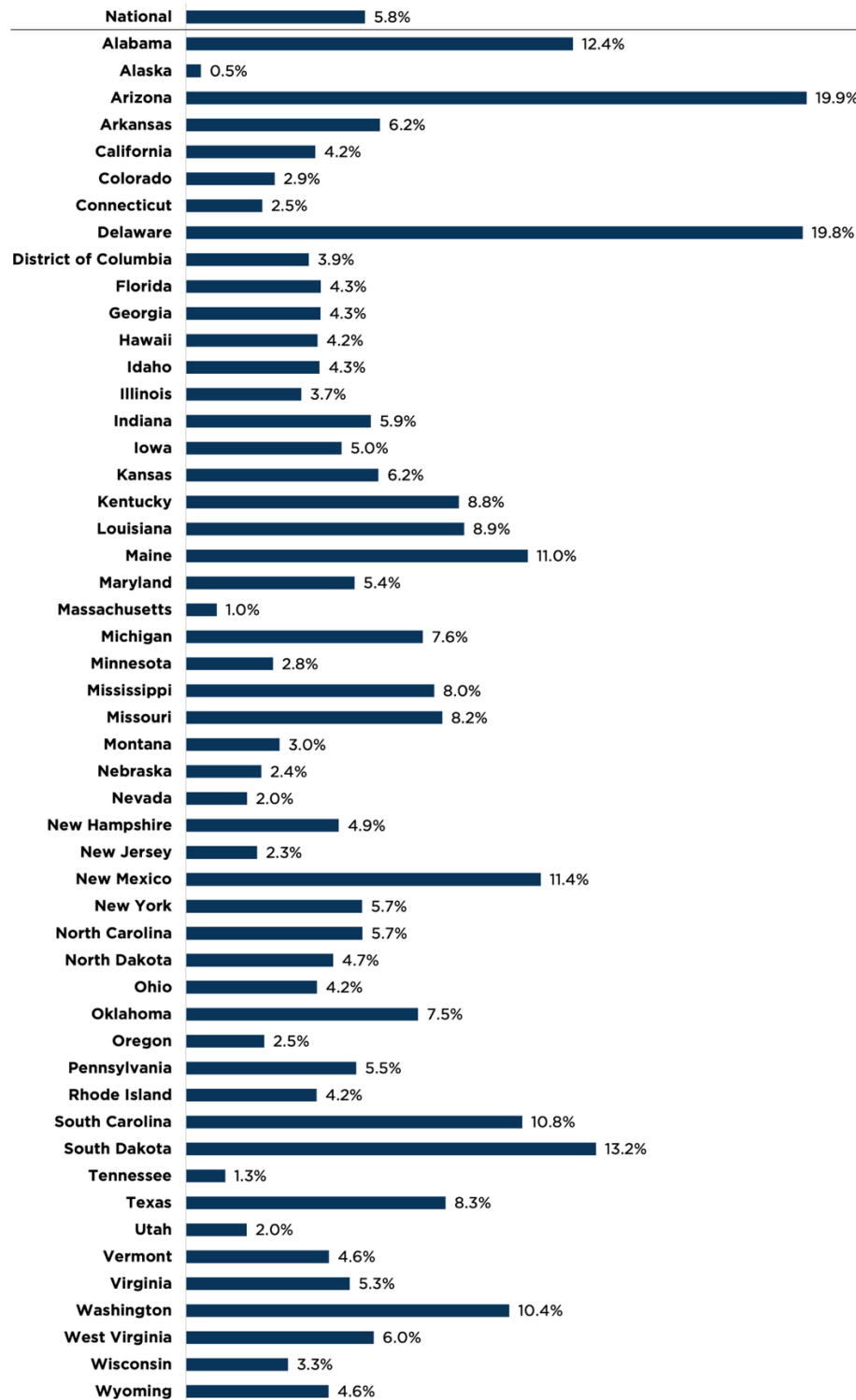
Percentage of U.S. Children “On Track” in 0-5 Domains of Healthy and Ready to Learn, 2023-2024

Table 7. 65.1% of 3 year-olds in the United States are “on track” in 4 or 5 domains, and 8.9% are “on track” in 0 or 1 domains

	5 Domains	4 Domains	3 Domains	2 Domains	1 Domains	0 Domains
National	39.4%	25.6%	17.3%	8.8%	5.7%	3.2%
Alabama	34.3%	27.9%	12.9%	8.4%	4.1%	12.4%
Alaska	42.0%	33.7%	16.7%	5.5%	1.6%	0.5%
Arizona	31.9%	14.4%	23.7%	15.1%	9.2%	5.7%
Arkansas	32.6%	29.8%	18.1%	9.3%	6.9%	3.3%
California	38.2%	25.9%	20.5%	7.1%	7.4%	1.0%
Colorado	48.5%	26.6%	11.4%	5.0%	7.4%	1.0%
Connecticut	38.8%	21.0%	27.6%	11.3%	1.4%	0.0%
Delaware	29.1%	22.7%	21.1%	12.2%	4.6%	10.3%
District of Columbia	54.6%	21.7%	12.5%	6.5%	4.6%	0.1%
Florida	52.6%	23.3%	17.8%	0.4%	3.6%	2.3%
Georgia	35.0%	25.7%	13.1%	13.5%	10.5%	2.2%
Hawaii	41.6%	27.1%	21.7%	7.1%	1.6%	0.9%
Idaho	34.2%	37.5%	10.2%	10.5%	7.6%	0.0%
Illinois	46.5%	28.9%	15.7%	3.6%	3.8%	1.5%
Indiana	36.1%	21.7%	10.4%	18.5%	9.7%	3.7%
Iowa	32.2%	31.4%	17.2%	9.7%	9.5%	0.0%
Kansas	38.4%	30.4%	12.8%	11.7%	5.2%	1.4%
Kentucky	17.6%	29.8%	35.9%	10.0%	3.7%	3.0%
Louisiana	32.8%	33.8%	15.3%	8.0%	5.1%	5.1%
Maine	38.7%	31.4%	13.8%	2.8%	6.5%	6.6%
Maryland	42.6%	34.3%	13.0%	3.9%	5.5%	0.7%
Massachusetts	39.9%	20.7%	19.3%	11.3%	7.9%	1.0%
Michigan	36.9%	16.1%	15.0%	15.5%	11.8%	4.7%
Minnesota	41.3%	29.5%	12.7%	7.7%	8.6%	0.2%
Mississippi	45.5%	19.8%	18.4%	8.2%	6.2%	2.1%
Missouri	44.0%	19.7%	20.3%	6.6%	7.9%	1.5%
Montana	41.8%	33.6%	12.1%	10.1%	1.6%	0.9%
Nebraska	40.3%	38.2%	15.8%	3.2%	0.0%	2.5%
Nevada	31.9%	38.4%	15.2%	8.2%	4.4%	2.0%
New Hampshire	38.4%	28.2%	18.4%	5.9%	4.5%	4.7%
New Jersey	40.8%	28.1%	13.2%	11.7%	1.6%	4.6%
New Mexico	27.1%	26.2%	23.6%	6.4%	14.3%	2.4%
New York	43.7%	19.2%	16.0%	11.8%	6.4%	2.8%
North Carolina	40.3%	22.4%	16.1%	9.4%	7.1%	4.8%
North Dakota	45.7%	23.6%	20.8%	9.4%	0.6%	0.0%
Ohio	39.4%	28.7%	20.0%	6.8%	4.8%	0.3%
Oklahoma	31.5%	33.0%	12.7%	15.2%	7.4%	0.2%
Oregon	25.1%	36.5%	19.4%	4.8%	12.4%	1.9%
Pennsylvania	37.5%	33.4%	13.5%	10.3%	5.3%	0.0%
Rhode Island	39.4%	30.2%	10.3%	13.3%	4.2%	2.6%
South Carolina	41.4%	18.8%	17.9%	9.1%	8.3%	4.5%
South Dakota	36.5%	18.1%	18.0%	3.4%	14.9%	9.1%
Tennessee	41.3%	27.8%	15.7%	11.8%	3.4%	0.0%
Texas	36.6%	23.4%	20.2%	7.7%	0.6%	11.6%
Utah	45.4%	22.6%	13.5%	15.0%	2.8%	0.6%
Vermont	44.6%	28.5%	12.2%	9.0%	5.0%	0.6%
Virginia	42.4%	26.1%	21.9%	4.4%	4.4%	0.8%
Washington	35.9%	22.5%	16.3%	17.2%	5.2%	2.9%
West Virginia	43.5%	23.0%	18.4%	6.4%	7.2%	1.6%
Wisconsin	42.1%	31.2%	13.4%	6.5%	5.9%	0.9%
Wyoming	40.9%	36.2%	7.4%	10.1%	3.0%	2.5%

Percentage of U.S. Children Scoring “Needs Support” in 2 or More Domains of Healthy and Ready to Learn, 2023-2024

Figure 1. 5.8% of 3 year-olds in the United States score “needs support” in 2 or more domains



Data source descriptions and notes

Data are from the 2023 and 2024 National Survey of Children's Health datasets, which are nationally and state-representative surveys completed by U.S. parents of children from birth to age 18. The 2023 sample includes 4,005 respondents representing 3,783,493 3-year-olds and the 2024 sample includes 2,462 respondents representing a total of 3,773,897 3-year-olds. Tables and graphs display the weighted estimates with 95% confidence intervals.