



Ensuring Quality Health Care for Colorado's Kids





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New AKC Quality Report

- “Ensuring Quality Health Care for Colorado’s Children”
- Packard Grant deliverable
 - Report on access and quality of care for Colorado’s kids
 - Audience
 - Health care leaders, policymakers, etc.



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Overview of Data Source

- [National Survey of Children's Health \(NSCH\), 2011/2012](#)
- Metric used in the report: **Quality of Care Summary Measure**
 - Developed by Maternal and Child Health Bureau, National Center for Health Statistics, and national technical expert panel



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More Data Overview

- Quality of Care Summary Measure
 - **Adequate insurance**
 - 4 different survey questions
 - **Medical home**
 - 19 different survey questions
 - **Preventive care**
 - During past year or since birth, how many times did child see health care provider for preventive medical care (e.g., physical exam or well-child checkup)?



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The State of Kids' Coverage

- There has been progress in getting Colorado kids insured
- % of **uninsured** children in CO
 - 2007: 13%
 - 2013: 7%
- However, we are still worse than the national average of 5%
 - 14% of kids lack consistent coverage



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A Closer Look at Access

- Colorado not doing well in terms of kids' ability to access care
 - Around **1 in 6** kids not getting yearly medical check-ups
 - Around **1 in 5** kids not getting yearly dental check-ups
 - Only **55%** of kids have a medical home



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Most Colorado kids aren't getting quality access to care

- Quality of Care Summary Measure (where high quality access means meeting all three criteria)
 - For only 39.5% of kids, care met criteria
 - For 60.5% of kids, care did not meet criteria

Certain kids are vulnerable to lower quality care



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- Certain kids are at risk for poorer access to quality care because of social & demographic factors like:
 - Race and ethnicity
 - Age
 - Sex
 - Income
 - Type of Insurance



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Race and Ethnicity

- Kids of color face greater risk of receiving lower-quality care
 - 44.1% of White, non-Hispanic kids met all quality of care criteria, compared to:
 - **32.6% of Hispanic kids**
 - 35.4% of Black, non-Hispanic kids
 - 37.5% of kids of another race/ethnicity



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Household Language

- Quality of care is worse for kids in households where little English is spoken
 - Where Spanish is the primary HH language, only 19% of Hispanic kids met all quality of care criteria
 - Where English is the primary HH language, 42% of Hispanic kids met all quality of care criteria



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Age

- The younger the kid, the likelier he or she is to get high quality care
 - 46.9% of kids who are 0-5 years old met all quality of care criteria
 - 38.6% of kids who are 6-11 years old met all criteria
 - 32.5% of kids who are 12-17 years old met all criteria



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Gender

- Girls in our state are receiving higher quality of care than boys
 - 56% of girls **did not** meet all quality of care criteria
 - 64% of boys **did not** meet all quality of care criteria, while
 - This means that girls are **1.2 times** more likely than boys to receive high quality care



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Education

- Colorado kids living with better educated adults are more likely to receive high quality health care
 - 24% of kids who live with an adult with **less than** high school education have met all quality of care criteria
 - 44% of kids who live with an adult with **more than** high school education have met all quality of care criteria



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Income

- Kids in families who live at or near poverty level have a harder time getting quality care
 - 25% of kids in homes with an income that is 0-99% FPL met all quality of care criteria
 - 51% of kids in homes with an income that is 400% FPL or higher met all quality of care criteria



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Having insurance doesn't guarantee high quality care

- Of kids insured at the time of the survey, 57% **did not** meet all quality of care criteria
 - Gaps remain that prevent kids from getting optimal care



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But insurance is a good start to ensuring access to better health care!

- 44% of kids with consistent coverage received high quality care, while only 13% of uninsured kids did
- Privately insured kids are 1.4 times more likely than publicly insured kids to have a medical home and consistent preventive care



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We can do better!

- Certain kids are at risk for poorer access to quality care in Colorado
 - We need to end disparities in quality of care for these kids, while accounting for interplay between social factors, as kids of color are:
 - More likely be poor, live in homes with low educational attainment, and live in places with less ability to access care



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Data Source

- National Survey of Children's Health. 2011-2012. Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, Data Resource Center.





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References

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Health Policy Institute Center for Children and Families.



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