



Findings from the 2017 ILLINOIS CHILD WELL-BEING STUDY

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 5

On three scales of the Ages and Stages Questionnaire, more than one-fifth of children either showed signs of a possible developmental delay or had scores that suggested the child could benefit from monitoring.

48.4% received a developmental intervention.

42.3% of children who scored in the delay/monitoring range in at least one of the five domains of the ASQ were not receiving developmental interventions.



PHYSICAL HEALTH

94.1% of caregivers said their children were in good to excellent health.

Caregiver responses indicated that 46.8% of children had a serious or chronic health problem.

46.9% of youths reported suffering an injury in the previous 12 months and 27.7% had seen a doctor or nurse for an injury during that time.



EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Caregivers ratings on the Child Behavior Checklist showed that 41.5% of children and youth age 6 to 18 scored in the clinical or borderline clinical range, indicating a need for intervention.

85.9% of those with mental health need were receiving a mental health services.

The most common mental health services currently being received were counseling (44.7% of all children), in-school counseling (22.8%), and outpatient psychiatry (19.0%).



EDUCATION

Majorities of children reported positive behaviors and experiences in school often or almost always (e.g., enjoyed being in school, listened carefully in school).

62.2% of children attended two or more schools in the past two years.

45.3% of children had been absent from school at least one day in the prior 30 days.

Many children were reading below grade level (30.2%), and classified as needing special education (39.7%), according to caregiver responses.

CHILDREN AND THEIR FOSTER CAREGIVERS

Large majorities of children felt their caregiver cared about them (88.1%), helped them (78.9%), enjoyed spending time with them (72.4%), and trusted them (55.1%).



CHILD SAFETY

The percentages of children witnessing or experiencing different forms of violence in their current home were generally small.

32.6% of children reported being physically hurt deliberately by someone in the past year.

53.3% of youths aged 15 to 17 reported this, compared to 37.5% of children age 9 to 11 and 13.9% of youths aged 12 to 14.

CHILDREN AND THEIR BIRTHPARENT

37% of children and youth in out-of-home care never saw their birth mother, 34.2% saw their birth mother at least once a week, and 28.4% saw their mother less than once a week.

53.6% of children and youth in out-of-home care never saw their birth father, 2.7% saw him at least once a week, and 23.7% saw him less often.



RESILIENCE CHILDREN REPORTED

Activities:
76.0% participate in sports
78.7% have a job or chores
37.9% are in clubs or teams

Expectations:
91.3% think they will graduate from high school
81.4% think they will have a good job by the age of 30

ABOUT THE STUDY



The 2017 Illinois Study of Child Well-Being (IL-CWB) is a study of the well-being of children and youths who were in out-of-home care through the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).