Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

Research Questions and Data Points

Data & Evaluation Subcommittee Approved 12.18.2025

Nevada ECAC Vision

Nevada's children will be safe, healthy, and thriving during the first eight years of life, and the system will support children and families in achieving their full potential.

Research Questions

1. Are we providing access to high-quality early childhood programs and services in the state of Nevada that ensure children ages 0-8 are safe, healthy, and thriving?
    a. How do we know children are **safe**? (Outcomes)
        i. What are the high-quality programs or services that positively impact child safety?
            1. How many/what percentage of "vulnerable or underserved" children are receiving or participating in each of these programs or services?
                a. What barriers exist to ensuring access to these programs and services?
    b. How do we know children are **healthy**? (Outcomes)
        i. What are the high-quality programs, services, or strategies that positively impact child health?
            1. How many/what percentage of "vulnerable or underserved" children are receiving or participating in each of these programs or services?
                a. What barriers exist to ensuring equitable access to these programs and services for these populations?
    c. How do we know children are **thriving**? (Outcomes)
        i. What are the high-quality programs, services, or strategies that help children thrive?
            1. How many/what percentage of "vulnerable or underserved" children are receiving or participating in the programs or services?
                a. What barriers exist to ensuring equitable access to these programs and services for the population?

2. Is Nevada's early childhood system supporting children and families to achieve their full potential?
    a. How do we know if children and families are achieving their full potential? (Outcomes)
        i. What are the system-level policies or strategies that impact these outcomes?

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Outcomes

Safety

- Child abuse and neglect rate by each factor in the vulnerable population definition including race/ethnicity
- Child victimization rate by each factor in the vulnerable population definition, including race/ethnicity
- Child death rate (excluding natural deaths) by type and by each factor in the vulnerable **population definition, including race/ethnicity**

Health

- Maternal mortality rate by each factor in the vulnerable population definition, including race/ethnicity (apply factors to pregnant person v. children)
- Infant mortality rate by each factor in the vulnerable population definition as applicable, including race/ethnicity
- Child chronic disease/ infectious disease rates by type and by each factor in the vulnerable **population definition, including race/ethnicity**

Thriving Children/Families

- Poverty rate of families with children ages 0-8 by each factor in the vulnerable population **definition (excluding FPL), including race/ethnicity**
- Third-grade reading comprehension of children by each factor in the vulnerable population **definition, including race/ethnicity**
- Housing stability (?) of families with children ages 0-8 by each factor in the vulnerable population **definition, including race/ethnicity**

PN3 Outcome Measures (Policy)

- % of Low-Income Women Uninsured
- % of Births to Women Not Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care
- % of Eligible Families with Children Not Receiving SNAP
- % of Children <3 Not Receiving Developmental Screening
- % of Children <3 Without Any Full-Time Working Parent
- % of Children <3 in Poverty
- % of Children <3 Living in Crowded Households
- % of Households Reporting Child Food Insecurity
- % of Babies Born Preterm (<37 Weeks)
- # of Infant Deaths per 1,000 Births
- % of Children <3 Whose Mother Reports Fair/Poor Mental Health
- % of Children <3 Whose Parent Lacks Parenting Support
- % of Children <3 Not Read to Daily
- % of Children <3 Not Nurtured Daily

- % of Children <3 Whose Parent Reports Not Coping Very Well
- % Providers Not Participating in the State's QRIS
- % of Children Without Access to Early Head Start
- % of Children Whose Mother Reports Never Breastfeeding
- % of children <3 Not Up to Date on Immunizations

Maltreatment Rate per 1,000 Children <3

Programs and Services [Outputs]

Early Learning / Child Care:

- The amount of QRIS 4 and 5-star slots in early learning programs *(PN3-NFS)*
- The amount of slots in Early Head Start and Head Start *(PN3-E)*
- The amount of slots/seats in Nevada Ready! Pre-K
- The amount of slots/seats in District Pre-K programs.
- The amount/percentage of children served in these slots by each factor in the vulnerable **population definition, including race/ethnicity**
- The percentage of eligible children receiving childcare subsidy support *(PN3-E)*
  - The percentage of children with subsidy in 4/5 star centers/programs
- The percentage of eligible children in Early Head Start/Head Start programs *(PN3-E)*
- The percentage of eligible children in Nevada Ready! PreK
- The percentage of eligible children in District PreK

Home Visiting:

- The amount of slots in evidence-based home visiting programs
  - Nurse Family Partnership *(PN3-E) (US-HHS, ACF)*
  - HIPPY (US-HHS, ACF)
  - Parents as Teachers (PN3-E) (US-HHS, ACF)
- The amount/percentage of children served in these slots by each factor in the vulnerable population definition, including race and ethnicity
- The percentage of children who are eligible and receiving home visiting services

Early Intervention/Special Education:

- The number/percentage of children who are eligible/need early intervention services by each factor in the vulnerable population definition, including race and ethnicity
- The number/percentage of children served in NEIS by each factor in the vulnerable population definition, including race and ethnicity *(PN3-E)*
- The number/percentage of children age 3-5 with IEPs attending & receiving the majority of services in a regular early childhood program *(IDEA Indicator B6)*

Nutrition/Food Assistance:

- The percentage of eligible children and Mothers participating in WIC
- The percentage of eligible children and families participating in SNAP *(PN3-E)*

- The percentage of children and families receiving CACFP support in early learning settings
- The percentage of children served in these programs by each factor in the vulnerable population definition, including race, ethnicity

Parental Engagement:

- The number of parents or family members involved in local or state advisory groups or boards in the early childhood sector
- The percentage of parents or family members involved by each factor in the vulnerable population definition, including race/ethnicity

Prenatal/Postpartum Care:

- The percentage of OBGYNs (per capita)
  - Rate of providers in Vulnerable or Underserved Communities
- The percentage of Doulas/Midwives (per capita) *(PN3-E)*
  - Rate of providers in Vulnerable or Underserved Communities
- The percentage of birthing centers/ group prenatal care (per capita) *(PN3-E)*
  - Rate of centers in Vulnerable or Underserved Communities
- The percentage of pregnant persons with health insurance within first trimester of pregnancy by each factor in the vulnerable population definition, including race/ethnicity *(apply factors to pregnant person v. children) (PN3-E)*
- The percentage of pregnant people who access prenatal care beginning in the first trimester by each factor in the vulnerable population definition, including race/ethnicity *(apply factors to pregnant person v. children)*

Children's Health Care:

- The percentage of Pediatricians (per capita)
  - Rate of providers in Vulnerable or Underserved Communities
- The percentage of Pediatric Specialists (per capita) by type
  - Rate of providers in Vulnerable or Underserved Communities
- The percentage of children receiving vaccinations by each factor in the vulnerable or underserved population definition, including race/ethnicity
- The percentage of children with health insurance by type and by each factor in the vulnerable or underserved, including race/ethnicity *(PN3-E)*
- The number/ percentage of children who received a preventive check-up in the past 12 months.

Mental/Behavior Health:

- The percentage of individuals receiving a maternal depression screening by each factor in the vulnerable population definition, including race/ethnicity *(apply factors to parents v. children)*
- The percentage of children who are eligible/need infant and early childhood mental health (IECMH) services by each factor in the vulnerable population definition including race and ethnicity

- The percentage of children served by IECMH services by each factor in the vulnerable
- population definition, including race and ethnicity
- The percentage of Mental Health Providers (per capital)
  - Rate of providers in Vulnerable or Underserved Communities

- The percentage of IECMH Consultants (per capita)
  - Rate of providers in Vulnerable or Underserved Communities
- The number of children receiving a mental health/ social emotional screener (per capita) by type **and each factor in the vulnerable population definition including race and ethnicity**

Economic/Social Support:

- The percentage of employees with paid family leave benefits by each factor in the vulnerable **population definition, including race and ethnicity *(PN3-E)***
- The percentage of families who access comprehensive screening and connection
- programs (Family Connects, DULCE, HealthySteps) *(PN3-E)*

Codes:

- *PN3-E* – Policy/Strategy identified as "effective" by the Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center, Policy Clearinghouse (https://pn3policy.org/pn-3-state-policy-clearinghouse/)
- *PN3-NFS* – Policy/Strategy identified as "needs further study" by the Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center, Policy Clearinghouse (https://pn3policy.org/pn-3-state-policy-clearinghouse/)
- *US-HHS, ACF* – Program identified as "effective" by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (https://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/)