



## POSITIVE OUTCOMES

# Flourishing Behaviors (Children)

### INDICATOR

Percent of children who have behaviors and characteristics indicating that they are flourishing.

**Numerator** Number of children about whom the parent responded "Definitely True" to all four measures of flourishing

**Denominator** Children aged 6 months to 5 years

### DESCRIPTION

Flourishing as a concept contains multiple dimensions of physical health, mental and emotional health, caring, empathy and resilience. This is a composite measure created by child experts at the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) by combining four aspects of a child: (1) child is affectionate and tender, (2) child bounces back quickly when things don't go his/her way, (3) child shows interest and curiosity in learning new things, and (4) child smiles and laughs a lot.

### IMPORTANCE

Being affectionate, being resilient, and having curiosity are indicative of a child's long-term success (Lippman, 2011). These early markers of success have implications for lasting positive effects on a children's social and emotional well-being (Keyes, 2003).

### LIMITATIONS

- The response options were changed from "Never, rarely, sometimes, usually, or always true" to "Definitely true, somewhat true, or not true" in 2016.
- This construct of flourishing is limited to a small set of variables, defined by NSCH, and could potentially include many more concepts.

### ADDITIONAL ANALYSES

#### Wisconsin Analyses

Federal Poverty Level	% Children Flourishing
Under 100% FPL	Unreliable
100-200% FPL	Unreliable
200-400% FPL	79.9%
Over 400% FPL	74.2%

#### National Analyses

Federal Poverty Level	% Children Flourishing
Under 100% FPL	52.2%
100-200% FPL	59.9%
200-400% FPL	68.4%
Over 400% FPL	72.7%

#### YEAR:

2016

WI	US	Best	Worst
67.0%	64.6%	73.8%	49.8%
		WY	CA

#### PAST YEAR:

2011/2012

WI	US
78.6%	73.2%

### SOURCE

Keyes, C. L. (2007). Promoting and protecting mental health as flourishing: a complementary strategy for improving national mental health. *American psychologist*, 62(2), 95.

Lippman, L. H., Moore, K. A., & McIntosh, H. (2011). Positive indicators of child well-being: A conceptual framework, measures, and methodological issues. *Applied Research in Quality of Life*, 6(4), 425-449.

National Survey of Children's Health. (2016). Data query from the Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health website. Retrieved from [www.childhealthdata.org](http://www.childhealthdata.org).