

Health Care Providers



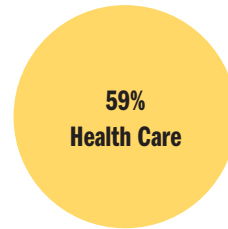
In the first few years of life:

- More than **1 million** neural connections are formed **every second**.
- Young brains are built up over time, laying a foundation for healthy development in these early years.

Mississippi parents primarily turn to health care providers for information about their child's development. As a health care provider, parents can learn from YOU about how to support children's developmental progress.

Mississippi families get information about early childhood development from:

8%
Child Care



Source: Mississippi Child Health and Development Survey, 2018

Developmental Surveillance and Developmental Screening

The combination of surveillance and screening allows for earlier identification of children with developmental concerns, with follow up and referral for intervention as needed. **Don't wait to act.** When there is a concern about development, it is important to refer children to the needed supports right away. While developmental surveillance is more likely to happen regularly, according to parent reports, only 30% of Mississippi children between 9 months and 6 years of age have received developmental screenings.*

Developmental Surveillance

- Is a continuous process of marking developmental milestones
- Includes eliciting and attending to parental concerns
- Incorporates informative observation of children's abilities
- Should be performed at each wellness visit beginning at 2 weeks of age

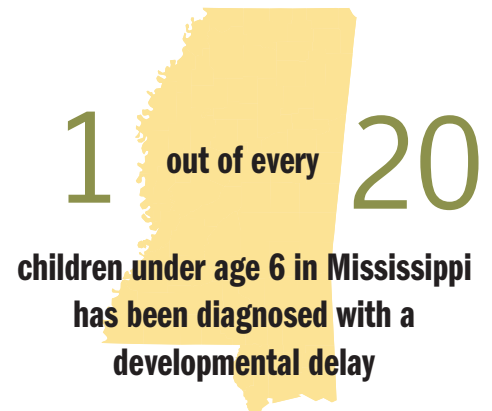
Monitoring alone detects less than 30% of children with developmental concerns.

Developmental Screening

- Uses a billable/reimbursable, formal validated screening tool at age appropriate intervals
- Is recommended for universal screening at 9, 18, and 24 or 30 months
- Can be done at any time/age there is a concern
- Can help identify milder delays that may be missed in surveillance

Screening increases the identification rate of developmental delays with sensitivities and specificities of 90% or higher.

For more information on developmental screening, brain building resources for families, referral and communication with parents, please visit us online. The Mississippi Thrive! team is available to provide assistance in helping you implement regular developmental screenings into your practice through our Practice Transformation project. Contact us at **601-815-6382**.



Source: Mississippi Child Health and Development Survey, 2018

*Source: Mississippi Child Health and Development Survey



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www.MississippiThrive.com



The Child Health and Development Project: Mississippi Thrive! (CHDP) is a joint project of the University of Mississippi Medical Center's (UMMC) Center for the Advancement of Youth (CAY) and the Social Science Research Center (SSRC) of Mississippi State University (MSU).

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