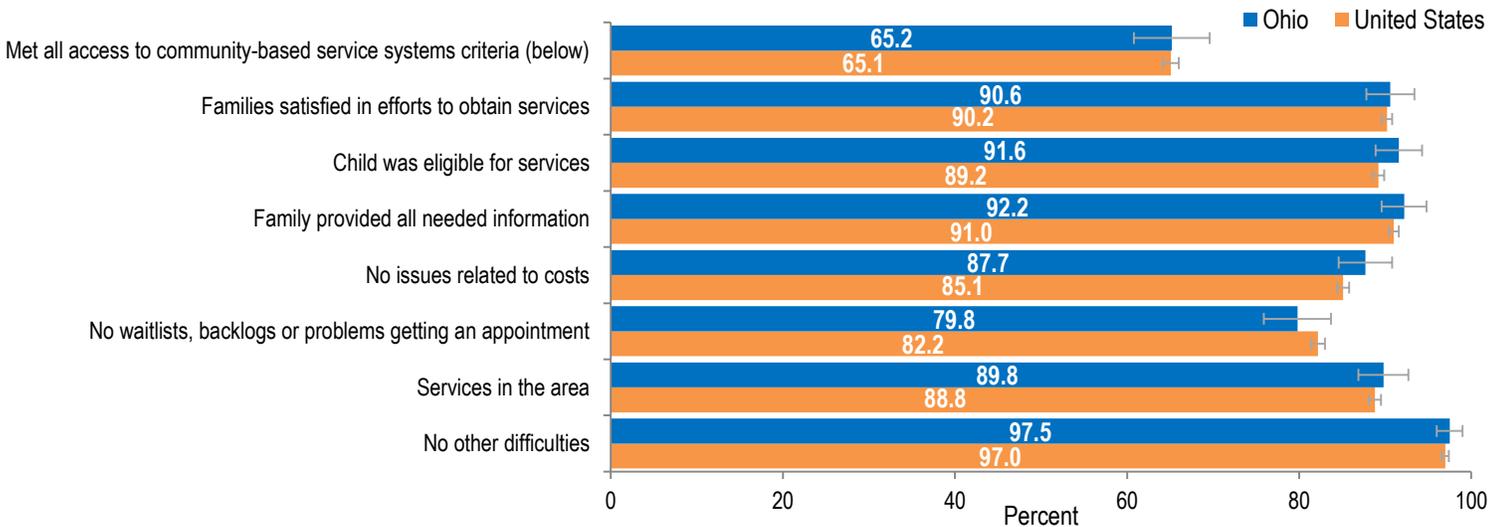




Access to Community-Based Services

Children with special health care needs (CSHCN) often need more health care services than their non-CSHCN counterparts. The National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (NS-CSHCN) has measured the ease families had when accessing community-based services (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Children with Special Health Care Needs Meeting Components of Access to Community-Based Services, Ohio and United States, 2009/2010



Source: National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (NS-CSHCN) 2009/2010

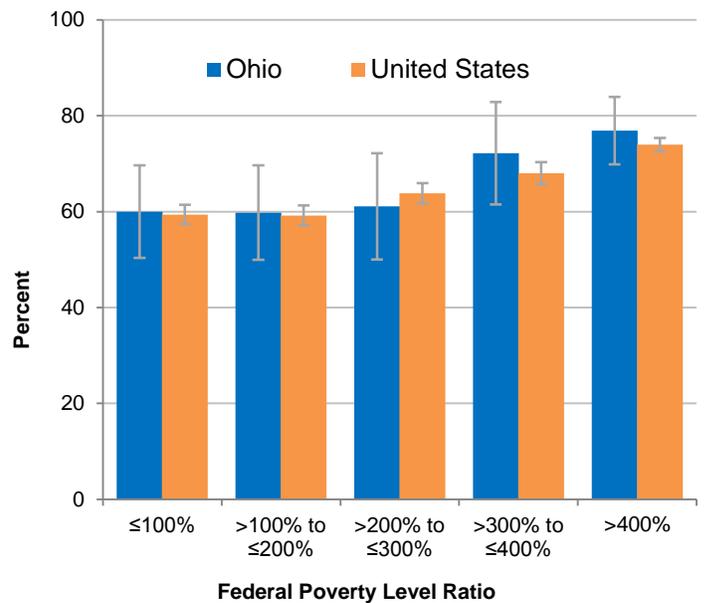
Examining Ease of Access

- Ohio CSHCN have similar success accessing Community-Based Services as CSHCN nationally (Figure 1).
- Both in Ohio and nationally, families with CSHCN living in poverty (≤ 100 percent federal poverty level) had more difficulties accessing needed services than wealthier families with CSHCN (Figure 2).

In the United States:

- CSHCN with more functional difficulties had more trouble accessing community-based services.¹
- Families with CSHCN that received care coordination (or felt they did not need coordination) could more easily access community-based services than families lacking care coordination ($\alpha=0.05$).
- Families with CSHCN and private insurance had less difficulties in obtaining community-based services than publically insured families ($\alpha=0.05$).

Figure 2: Children with Special Health Care Needs Meeting Criteria for Ease of Access to Community-Based Services, by Federal Poverty Level, Ohio and United States, 2009-2010



Source: National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (NS-CSHCN) 2009/2010

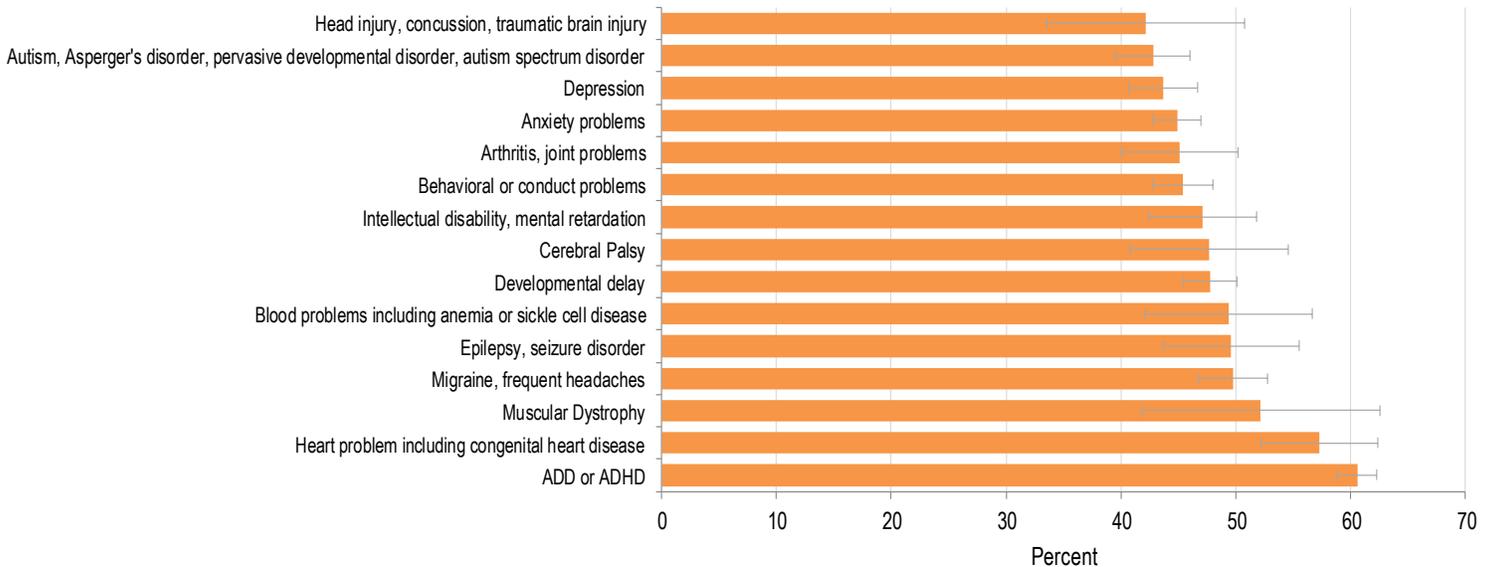
Ease of Access by Condition

Figure 3 displays the percent of CSHCN with select conditions who could access community-based services with ease.

165,715

The estimated number of Ohio children and youth with special health care needs who had difficulties obtaining services within the last year.

Figure 3: Children with Special Health Care Needs Meeting Criteria for Ease of Access to Community-Based Services, by Condition, United States, 2009-2010.



Source: National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (NS-CSHCN) 2009/2010

Ohio

What Is Being Done to Improve Ease of Access to Services in Ohio?

- Ohio's Title V Children/Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) program strives to promote organization of community-based services so families can use them easily.
- With this goal in mind, the Bureau for Children with Developmental and Special Health Needs (BCDSHN) was created at the Ohio Department of Health and now houses ODH programs serving a broad range of CYSHCN, including children and youth with complex and chronic medical conditions, special nutritional needs and developmental delays and disabilities. This change has led to improved program coordination and collaboration, has promoted positive health outcomes, and connected social, emotional and developmental well-being.
- Ohio's Title V CYSHCN program works collaboratively with partners at the local, regional and state levels on innovative initiatives to improve ease of access to services.
 - A Web-based organizational tool called GPS or "Guiding People through Systems" is under development by a group of these partners. The GPS project will allow families and individuals to maintain and manage health care information in a customizable, notebook fashion. It will help families and individuals provide accurate and concise information to members of their health care team. The GPS application will also provide content on health service topics, such as transition to adult care, and information on topics such as recreation and emergency preparedness.

Grey bars within figures represent 95% confidence intervals (CI). The width of the CI gives us an idea of how certain we are about the true prevalence. The 95% CI means that if we were to repeat this study 100 times, 95 of the intervals generated would contain the true estimate. Children with special health care needs are those who have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally. A comment on CSHCN / CYSHCN / YSHCN: These terms are often used synonymously within the programs that provide services to children and youth with special healthcare needs. Use of one term over another is not mutually exclusive to a particular age cut-point, as service needs may differ over various conditions.

For further information on the NS-CSHCN, see the Data Resource Center for Child & Adolescent Health: <http://childhealthdata.org/home>

References:

1. National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs. NS-CSHCN 2009/10. Data query from the Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health website. Retrieved 04/09/2014 from www.childhealthdata.org.

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