



Early Childhood Screening 2013 - 2014

Health Department

Overview

Minnesota law requires all children to be screened before entering kindergarten. Early childhood screening checks overall development, social/emotional development, hearing and vision, and height and weight. Screening is important to get children help they need to be ready for school. For example, screening identifies health or developmental concerns or connects parents with early childhood programs and services. Screening is preferred at age 3, but can be done at ages 4 or 5. In Minneapolis, early childhood screening is tracked by two organizations, the Minneapolis Public School (MPS) system and Parents in Community Action (PICA), a private, non-profit agency delivering Head Start and Early Head Start programs in Hennepin County.

Screening

A total of 1,758 individual children were screened in 2013 – 2014 between the two agencies. MPS screened 1,259 children, and PICA screened 499 children.

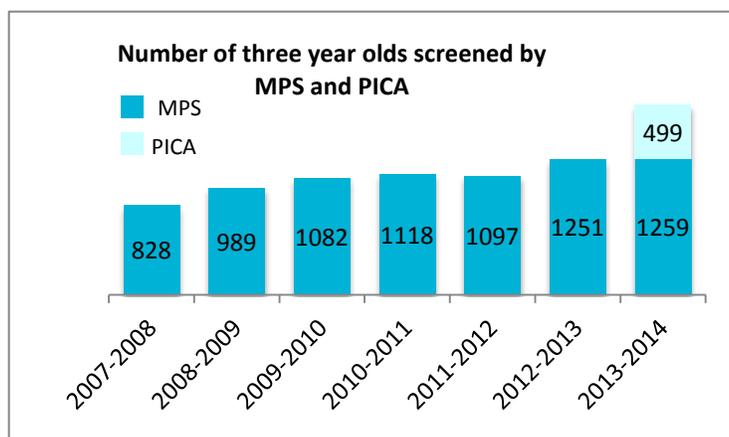
Complementary Services

Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS)

- MPS offers Birth-2 Early Intervention Central Intake to address concerns about how a child is developing from birth through age 2. This program connects families to special services to support children in this age group.

Parents in Community Action (PICA)

- PICA reported screening 397 children for hearing and vision, and height and weight. PICA also completed 90 post-natal home visits to assess newborn and mother's health and mental health.
- Of the more than 2,400 children enrolled in PICA in 2014, 742 children had a diagnosed chronic health condition, requiring an Individual Child Care Plan (ICCP). ICCPs were created with a PICA Health Advocate, the parent, and doctor, as appropriate.
- PICA partnership with *Sight and Hearing Association of MN* led to 447 referrals for follow-up treatment. 110 children received glasses through an on-site partnership with *A Chance to Grow*.
- PICA's on-site dental provider, *Children's Dental Services*, identified 560 children needing follow-up dental care. All 560 children received the needed services.



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health@minneapolismn.gov

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact Minneapolis Health Department at 612-673-2301 or health@minneapolismn.gov.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000.

TTY users call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626.

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