Background Resources on the Child and Adult Core Sets

This resource list includes reporting and analytic resources related to the Child and Adult Core Sets as well as other quality measurement resources. We hope these resources will help inform the 2028 Child and Adult Core Sets Annual Review.

Core Sets Reporting Years, Mandatory Reporting, and the Annual Review Cycle

First, it might be helpful to understand the Core Sets reporting and review cycle, as we work on multiple years simultaneously. The resources listed cover one or more of these reporting years.

- The most recent publicly reported data are for the **2023 Child and Adult Core Sets**; 2023 Core Set data products were released by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on a rolling basis starting in September 2024. Links are provided below.

- State reporting of data for the **2024 Child and Adult Core Sets** took place in fall 2024 and is currently in CMS review.

  - In August 2023, CMS released the final rule for Mandatory Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Core Set Reporting. Beginning with 2024 Core Sets reporting, states are required to report on all measures of the Child Core Set and the behavioral health measures on the Adult Core Set. More information is available at https://www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection/2023-18669/mandatory-medicaid-and-childrens-health-insurance-program-core-set-reporting.

- State reporting of data for the **2025 Child and Adult Core Sets** will take place in fall 2025.

  - A State Health Official (SHO) letter that describes updates to the 2025 Child and Adult Core Sets and provides mandatory reporting guidance was released in May 2024. It is available at https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/sho24001.pdf.

  - The technical specifications and related resources for the 2025 Child and Adult Core Sets were released in January 2025. Links are provided below.

- State reporting of data for the **2026 Child and Adult Core Sets** will take place in fall 2026.

  - A SHO letter that describes updates to the 2026 Child and Adult Core Sets and provides mandatory reporting guidance was released in December 2024. It is available at https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/sho24007.pdf.

  - Links to the 2026 Child and Adult Core Set measure lists are provided below.

- State reporting of data for the **2027 Child and Adult Core Sets** will take place in fall 2027.

  o The final report of the 2027 Child and Adult Core Sets Annual Review, containing recommendations for the 2027 Child and Adult Core Sets, was released in June 2025 and is available at https://www.mathematica.org/features/MACCoreSetReview.

  o CMCS expects to release the 2027 Child and Adult Core Sets by the end of 2025.

- The **2028 Child and Adult Core Sets** Annual Review Workgroup is charged with assessing the existing Core Sets and recommending measures for removal or addition to strengthen and improve the 2028 Child and Adult Core Sets.

  o More information about the Child and Adult Core Sets Annual Review and Selection Process is available at https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/downloads/annual-core-set-review.pdf.

2026 Core Set Reporting Resources

CMS announced updates to the Child and Adult Core Sets, based on input received through the 2026 annual review process, in December 2024. The following resources related to the 2026 Core Set measures are available on Medicaid.gov.

- The **2026 Child and Adult Core Sets** measure lists show the measure names, measure stewards, CMS Measures Inventory Tool (CMIT) number, and the data collection method.

  o The 2026 Child Core Set measure list is available at https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/downloads/2026-child-core-set.pdf.

  o The 2026 Adult Core Set measure list is available at https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/downloads/2026-adult-core-set.pdf.

- The **2026 Core Sets History Table** provides a list of the measures included in the Child Core Set from 2010 to 2026 and in the Adult Core Set from 2013 to 2026. The table also documents CMS's reasons for adding and removing measures over time. The table is available at https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/downloads/core-set-history-table.pdf.

2025 Core Set Reporting Resources

The 2025 Child and Adult Core Set reporting resources provide detailed information on the technical specifications and technical assistance resources to help states report the Core Set measures. The following 2025 Core Set reporting resources are available on Medicaid.gov at the links shown in the table below.

- The **2025 Child and Adult Core Sets** measure lists show the measure names, measure stewards, CMIT number, and the data collection method.

- The **2025 Core Set Technical Specifications and Resource Manuals** provide general information on data collection and reporting, and include technical specifications and measure-specific reporting guidance for each measure included in the 2025 Core Sets.

- A **Summary of Updates** describes the changes between the 2024 and 2025 Core Set resource manuals.

- **2025 Core Set Data Quality Checklists** help states improve the completeness, accuracy, consistency, and documentation of data reported for the Core Set measures. The checklists include common issues noted in reviewing state data, and help states review the data entered into the web-based reporting system.

- **2025 Core Set Measurement Period Tables** specify the measurement period for the denominators, numerators, and continuous enrollment periods for each Core Set measure.

- **Reporting Stratified Results in the QMR System for the 2025 Core Sets** resource identifies the stratification categories and subcategories for 2025 Core Sets reporting and provides additional reporting guidance.

Child Core Set	Adult Core Set
2025 Child Core Set Measure List	2025 Adult Core Set Measure List
2025 Core Set Technical Specifications and Resource Manual	2025 Core Set Technical Specifications and Resource Manual
2025 Core Set Summary of Changes	2025 Core Set Summary of Changes
2025 Core Set Data Quality Checklist	2025 Core Set Data Quality Checklist
2025 Core Set Measurement Period Table	2025 Core Set Measurement Period Table
Reporting Stratified Results in the QMR System for the 2025 Core Sets	Reporting Stratified Results in the QMR System for the 2025 Core Sets

2023 Core Sets Measure Performance

The most recent year of public reporting available is for the 2023 Core Sets. The following resources are available on Medicaid.gov at the links shown in the table below.

- The **Core Set Data Dashboard** is an interactive tool for reviewing 2023 Core Set performance data for all publicly reported measures. It aims to improve accessibility of data about the quality of care provided to Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries. CMCS expects to add 2024 Core Set data to the dashboard in early fall 2025.

- The **Summary Fact Sheet** provides an overview of findings from 2023 Child and Adult Core Sets reporting.

- The **Child and Adult Core Set Chart Packs** summarize state reporting on all 2023 Child and Adult Core Set measures; they also provide summary performance data on publicly reported measures.

- **Performance on the Child and Adult Core Set Measures** is presented through tables for each publicly reported measure, which is defined as being reported by 25 or more states and which met CMS's standards for data quality. The tables show state-level performance, including the population, methodology, denominator, and rate.

- **Child and Adult Quality Measures Datasets** are data files that provide summary and state-level performance data on publicly reported Child and Adult Core Sets measures.

- The **Trending Criteria Methods Brief** provides an overview of criteria for using the Child and Adult Core Set measures to assess trends in state performance.

- The **Trends in State Performance** resource presents the median state performance rates for Child and Adult Core Set measures that met the criteria for trending analysis over the most recent three-year period available and identifies statistically significant trends.

Child Core Set	Adult Core Set
Child Core Set Home Page	Adult Core Set Home Page
Core Set Data Dashboard	Core Set Data Dashboard
Summary Fact Sheet: Quality of Care for Children and Adults in Medicaid and CHIP: Overview of Findings from the 2023 Child and Adult Core Sets	Summary Fact Sheet: Quality of Care for Children and Adults in Medicaid and CHIP: Overview of Findings from the 2023 Child and Adult Core Sets
2023 Child Core Set Chart Pack	2023 Adult Core Set Chart Pack
Performance on the 2023 Child Core Set Measures	Performance on the 2023 Adult Core Set Measures
2023 Child Core Set Health Quality Measures Dataset	2023 Adult Core Set Health Quality Measures Dataset
2023 Core Set Trending Criteria Methods Brief	2023 Core Set Trending Criteria Methods Brief
Trends in State Performance: 2021 to 2023 Child and Adult Core Sets	Trends in State Performance: 2021 to 2023 Child and Adult Core Sets

Medicaid and CHIP Scorecard

The Medicaid and CHIP Scorecard was first released in 2018 to increase public transparency about the programs' administration and outcomes. The Health Care Quality Performance content area includes publicly reported quality measures that show how states serve Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries across the life span.

- Information about the Medicaid and CHIP Scorecard is available at https://www.medicaid.gov/state-overviews/scorecard/index.html.

- While many of the measures in the Health Care Quality Performance content area of the Scorecard are included in the Child and Adult Core Sets, not all measures in the Child and Adult Core Sets are included in the Scorecard.

- The 2024 Scorecard generally includes Child and Adult Core Set data from the 2021 to 2023 Core Sets.

Other Quality Measurement Resources

This section identifies additional quality measurement resources that may inform the discussion of measures for addition to or removal from the 2028 Child and Adult Core Sets, including efforts to reduce reporting burden, facilitate alignment, and address gaps.

- The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Measure Inventory Tool (CMIT)** is the repository of record for information about the measures that CMS uses to promote health care quality and quality improvement. The searchable database provides information on more than 2,000 measures, including title, numerator, denominator, exclusions, measure type, reporting status, use in federal and other programs, measure steward, placement in cascade of Meaningful Measures, and other attributes. The tool is available at https://cmit.cms.gov/cmit/. A public access quick start guide for CMIT is available at https://cmit.cms.gov/cmit/assets/CMIT-QuickStartPublicAccess.pdf.

- The **Cascade of Meaningful Measures** is a tool CMS developed to help prioritize existing health care quality measures, align or reduce measures where there are too many, and identify gaps where new measures may need to be developed. The tool starts by utilizing the eight health care priorities of the Meaningful Measures 2.0 Framework. More information is available at https://www.cms.gov/medicare/meaningful-measures-framework/cascade-measures.

- The **Core Quality Measures Collaborative (CQMC)** is a public-private partnership to facilitate measure alignment across payers through the creation of core sets of quality measures. The CQMC aims to reduce burden by identifying high-impact, evidence-based measures and by eliminating redundancies and inconsistencies in measure specifications and reporting requirements across payers. More information is available at https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/QualityMeasures/Core-Measures.

- CMS is exploring the use of **Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System (T-MSIS)** data to calculate Child and Adult Core Sets measures on behalf of states to reduce state burden and increase consistency across states. More information about T-MSIS is available at https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/data-systems/macbis/transformed-medicaid-statistical-information-system-t-msis/index.html. More information about the **T-MSIS Analytic Files (TAF)** used to calculate the measures is available at https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/data-systems/macbis/medicaid-chip-research-files/transformed-medicaid-statistical-information-system-t-msis-analytic-files-taf/index.html. The DQ (Data Quality) Atlas provides information about TAF data quality by topic and by state and is available at https://www.medicaid.gov/dq-atlas/welcome.

- The **Medicaid and CHIP Beneficiary Profile** and **Medicaid and CHIP At-a-Glance Infographic** provide an overview of the characteristics, health status, access, utilization, expenditures, and experience of Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries. The latest versions of the profile and infographic, which were published in April 2023 and include special sections on health-related social needs, are available at https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/medicaid-chip-data-products/index.html.

For More Information

If you have questions, please contact MACCoreSetReview@mathematica-mpr.com.