

National Children's Study Update – August 2008

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Many of you are probably aware that full funding for the National Children's Study in fiscal year 2008 was appropriated by Congress in the amount of \$110.9 million. The new funding was sent to the Office of the Director, NIH, specifically for carrying out research activities related to the NCS. Funding for other NIH research activities was not affected. To continue the study, funding in the amount of \$192.3 million is needed for FY 2009. Funding for the study continues to have to be pursued year by year since it is not included in the President's budget.

Background

The National Children's Study is the largest long-term study of environmental exposures and genetic effects on children's health ever conducted in the United States. By following 100,000 children from before birth to age 21, Study researchers hope to better understand how children's genes and their environments interact to affect their health and development. In the study, "environment" includes factors such as contaminants in air, water, and house dust, what children eat, how they are cared for, the safety of their neighborhoods, how often they see a doctor, and other factors. Much more information about planning for and initiation of the Study can be found on the NCS website (www.nationalchildrensstudy.gov).

The National Children's Study is led by a consortium of federal partners including: the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (which includes the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Members of the National Children's Study Federal Advisory Committee—including its working groups of more than 2,400 obstetric, pediatric, and environmental health researchers from federal agencies, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations—completed the planning and groundwork that helped the lead federal agencies design and develop the Study.

The Study will examine important health issues, including: birth defects and pregnancy-related problems; injuries; asthma; obesity; diabetes; and behavior, learning, and mental health disorders to establish links between children's environments and their health. By tracking children's development through infancy, childhood, and early adulthood, the Study hopes to determine the root causes of many childhood and adult diseases.

The Study will be conducted in 105 locations (counties or in rural areas, groups of counties) across the United States (see attached map). All locations were selected using a probability-based method to ensure that children and families across the nation—from diverse ethnic, racial, economic, religious, geographic, and social groups—are fairly represented in the Study. Study Centers are organizations such as universities or hospitals, often working in collaboration, that are engaged through a federal contract to conduct the study at these various locations. The Study Centers will work within their assigned Study locations to recruit participants and collect and process data, and some will conduct the Study in more than one Study location.

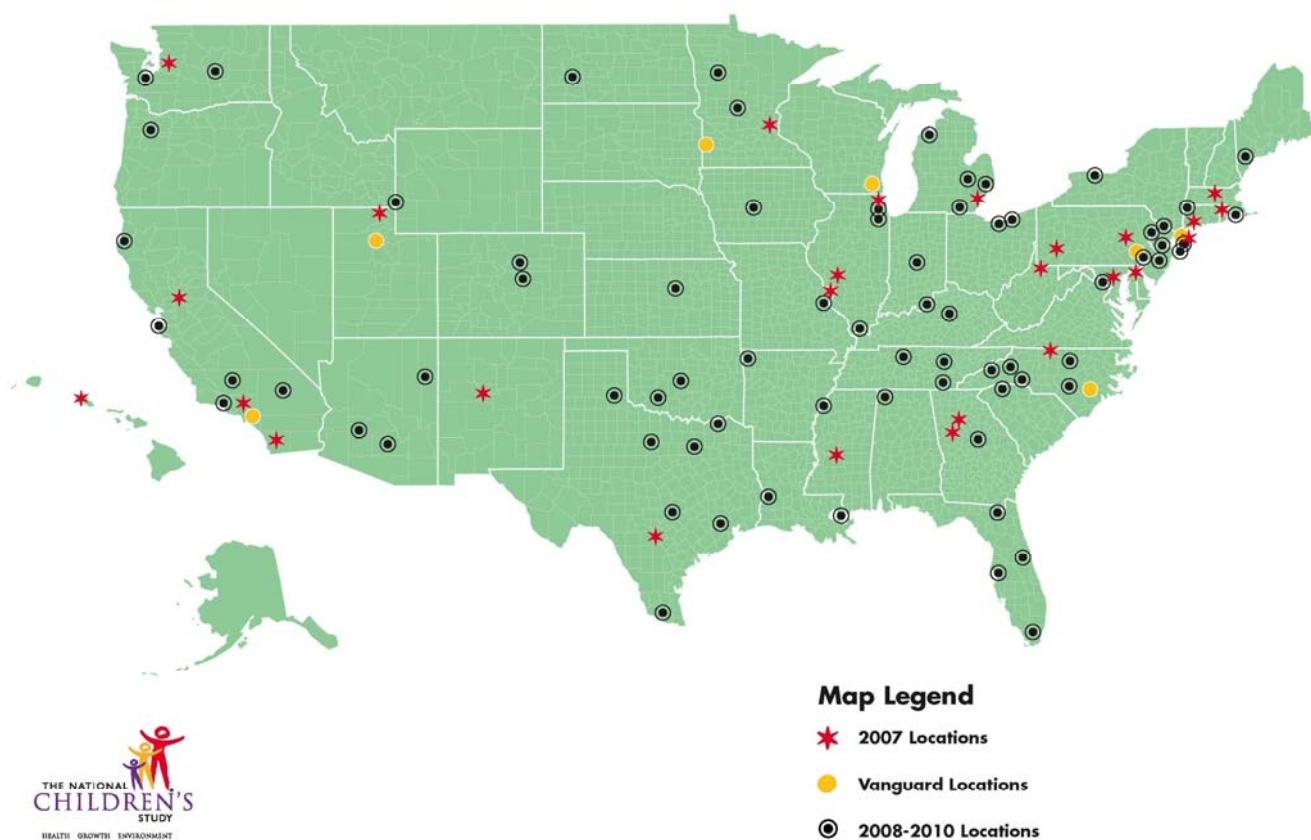
Current Status

Twenty-Four Study Centers are currently operational and are at various stages of preparation for participant recruitment. The seven Vanguard Centers will be the first to begin recruitment efforts in

2009, followed by the remaining Study Centers over the next few years. These Centers will manage Study operations in more than 30 of the 105 previously designated Study locations.

In fiscal years 2000 to 2006, the early development and initial implementation were funded with agency funds from the lead supporting agencies: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services—through the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In fiscal year (FY) 2007, the NIH received a Congressional appropriation of \$69 million specifically for the National Children’s Study and in FY 2008, \$110.9 million was appropriated. For FY 2009, funding in the amount of \$192.3 million is needed. This will be used to fund another wave of Centers, participant recruitment in the Vanguard Centers, operation of the Coordinating Center and gearing up of the other Centers. In addition, laboratory and repository contracts will be pursued in 2009.

National Children’s Study Locations



National Children's Study Locations

★ **2007 Locations**

● **Vanguard Locations**

◎ **2008-2010 Locations**

★ **2007 Locations**

Los Angeles County, CA
 Sacramento County, CA
 San Diego County, CA
 New Haven County, CT
 New Castle County, DE
 DeKalb County, GA
 Fayette County, GA
 Honolulu County, HI
 Cook County, IL
 Macoupin County, IL
 Worcester County, MA
 Baltimore County, MD
 Wayne County, MI
 Ramsey County, MN
 St. Louis, MO
 Hinds County, MS
 Rockingham County, NC
 Valencia County, NM
 Nassau County, NY
 Schuylkill County, PA
 Westmoreland County, PA
 Providence County, RI
 Bexar County, TX
 Cache County, UT
 King County, WA
 Marion County, WV

● **Vanguard Locations**

Orange County, CA
 Duplin County, NC
 New York City (Queens), NY
 Montgomery County, PA
 Salt Lake County, UT
 Waukesha County, WI
 Lincoln, Pipestone, and Yellow
 Medicine Counties, MN, and
 Brookings County, SD

◎ **2008-2010 Locations**

Colbert County, AL
 Benton County, AR
 Apache County, AZ
 Maricopa County, AZ
 Pinal County, AZ
 Humboldt County, CA
 Kern County, CA
 San Bernardino County, CA
 San Mateo County, CA
 Ventura County, CA
 Denver, CO
 Douglas County, CO
 Litchfield County, CT
 Baker County, FL
 Hillsborough County, FL
 Miami-Dade County, FL
 Orange County, FL
 Baldwin County, GA
 Polk County, IA
 Bear Lake County, ID and Lincoln
 and Uinta Counties, WY
 DuPage County, IL
 Johnson, Union, and Williamson
 Counties, IL
 Will County, IL
 Marion County, IN
 Saline County, KS
 Jefferson County, KY
 Jessamine County, KY
 Beauregard and Vernon Parishes, LA
 New Orleans, LA
 Bristol County, MA
 Montgomery County, MD
 Cumberland County, ME
 Genesee County, MI
 Grand Traverse County, MI
 Lenawee County, MI
 Macomb County, MI

Becker, Clearwater, and Mahanomen
 Counties, MN

Stearns County, MN
 Jefferson County, MO
 Coahoma County, MS
 Buncombe County, NC
 Burke County, NC
 Cumberland County, NC
 Durham County, NC
 Gaston County, NC
 Stark County, ND
 Burlington County, NJ
 Middlesex County, NJ
 Passaic County, NJ
 Warren County, NJ
 New York City (Brooklyn), NY
 New York City (Manhattan), NY
 Monroe County, NY
 Cuyahoga County, OH
 Lorain County, OH
 Cleveland County, OK
 Comanche County, OK
 Marion County, OR
 Philadelphia County, PA
 Spartanburg County, SC
 Bradley County, TN
 Cumberland and Morgan Counties, TN
 Davidson County, TN
 Childress, Collingsworth, Donley,
 and Hall Counties, TX
 Dallas County, TX
 Harris County, TX
 Hidalgo County, TX
 Lamar County, TX
 Stephens and Young Counties, TX
 Travis County, TX
 Grant County, WA
 Thurston County, WA

