

Perspectives of Pediatric Nursing

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Health Care for Children

The major goal for pediatric nursing is to improve the quality of health care for children and their families. In 2014, almost 75 million children 0 to 17 years old lived in the United States, comprising 24% of the population ([Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics, 2015](#)). The health status of children in the United States has improved in a number of areas, including increased immunization rates for all children, decreased adolescent birth rate, and improved child health outcomes. The 2015 America's Children in Brief—Indicators of Well-Being reveals that preterm births declined for the seventh straight year and that the adolescent birth