

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PERFORMANCE OF LOCAL PROGRAMS (REGIONAL CENTERS) FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2008/09



PART C OF THE FEDERAL INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT

(February 1, 2010)

Background

The Part C program in California is known as “Early Start” and is a multi-agency effort that encourages partnerships between families and professionals, family support, and the provision and coordination of services. The statewide system of early intervention services is available throughout California and can be accessed through regional centers for developmental disabilities, county offices of education, local school districts, health or social service agencies, and family resource centers/networks. Early intervention services are provided based on the developmental needs of the child, the concerns and priorities of the family, and the resources available to them. Services are provided within the context of the child and family’s daily activities and routines. Eligible children and families may receive a variety of services; some children may need only one or two early intervention services. The type and amount of services provided are specified in each participating child’s Individualized Family Service Plan, which is developed in cooperation with the family and involved others. At age three children in the Early Start Program transition to other services, as appropriate.

California’s six-year State Performance Plan includes 13 “indicators,” each of which contains “targets” used to measure the state’s performance with regard to meeting Part C requirements. Similar to how the federal Office of Special Education Programs measures each state’s performance, federal law also requires that each state measure and report on the progress of its local programs in meeting selected performance indicator targets. Therefore, consistent with the requirements of Section 616(b)(2)(C) of the federal 2004 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (Public Law 108–446), this document has been prepared and publicly posted to report on the performance of local programs’ (regional centers).

Performance Data Considerations and Limitations




1. For those indicators that rely on sampling through manual data collection, a small sample size may not be as representative of the regional center’s actual performance than if universal performance data were available.
2. Some regional centers may be more compliant on a target than what the data reflect, but may not be documenting appropriately in the client records; therefore, the data extracted will show more non-compliance than what is the actual case.
3. Per the OSEP criteria, “timeliness” compliance is not measured in degrees but simply whether regional centers met the deadline (e.g., for services and Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) development). For example, a regional center may have every IFSP developed within 48 days and average 46 days, but will show poorly on the 45-day compliance measure.
4. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) recognizes that there may be some recent slippage in some regional-center compliance data due to staffing shortages, vendor shortages, and interagency challenges.
5. Regarding the percentage of under three-year children served, there are additional factors to consider when comparing California to the national average. California serves a fewer percentage of 0-3 year olds than the national average. This may be due to California demonstrating a better than the national average level of risk for many risk factors that are highly correlated with birth outcomes. These factors include but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Prenatal care
 - b. Premature births
 - c. Teen birth rate
 - d. Low birth weight

e. Female cigarette smoking rate

Moreover, the creation of the new state-only-funded Prevention Program for children who previously were served under part C has depressed California's numbers.

6. The number of infants/toddlers annually served in Early Start has increased significantly since 2001, placing an ever-increasing burden on regional centers to balance available resources between multiple programs and effectively address all the needs of the children and families. Federal funding to address this growth has not materialized, but regional centers have continued to provide quality services.

Please refer to the narrative following the tables for more discussion on specific indicators. Colors depicted in the tables indicate the following:

	Universal data results for fiscal year 2008/09
	Manual data results for fiscal year 2007/08
	Manual data results for fiscal year 2008/09

Indicator Area Performance Level (Target %/Actual Results %)

Programs	Target: Timely Services (45 Days)	Actual Results (Data)	Target: Services in Natural Environments	Actual Results (Data)	Child Outcomes	Actual Results	Family Rights	Actual Results	Target: Ages 0-1 Served	Actual Results (Data)
California	100%	96.73%	83.2%	86.28%	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.95%	0.53%
ACRC		96.42%		89.72%						0.24%
CVRC		85.89%		93.19%						0.43%
ELARC		96.85%		85.06%						0.29%
FDLRC		98.26%		92.78%						0.43%
FNRC		99.00%		98.94%						0.64%
GGRC		95.16%		99.73%						0.22%
HRC		99.61%		73.56%						0.57%
IRC		98.62%		95.76%						0.31%
KRC		91.33%		65.94%						0.29%
NBRC		94.74%		94.17%						0.29%
NLACRC		98.20%		90.25%						0.39%
RCEB		94.24%		88.34%						0.24%
RCOC		99.45%		80.37%						0.32%
RCRC		94.44%		97.55%						0.35%
SARC		96.33%		78.10%						0.35%
SCLARC		92.36%		87.72%						0.22%
SDRC		93.07%		71.01%						0.29%
SGPRC		98.03%		93.71%						0.56%
TCRC		98.62%		97.78%						0.79%
VMRC		97.72%		97.73%						0.44%
WRC		96.15%		82.81%						0.58%

Programs	Target: Ages 0-3 Served	Actual Results (Data)	Target: IFSP (45 Days)	Actual Results (Site Visit)	Target: Transition Steps in IFSP	Actual Results (Site Visit)	Target: LEA Notification	Actual Results (Site Visit)	Target: Transition Conference Held	Actual Results (Site Visit)
California	1.90%	1.90%	100%	75.97%	100%	91.38%	100%	87.36%	100%	96.55%
ACRC		1.45%		67.6%		76.9%		84.6%		84.6%
CVRC		1.39%		79.2%		90.0%		100%		100%
ELARC		1.92%		100%		100%		85.2%		100%
FDLRC		1.95%		57.1%		50.0%		100%		100%
FNRC		2.38%		100%		100.0%		100%		100%
GGRC		1.51%		100%		75.0%		75%		100%
HRC		1.53%		100%		100%		100%		100%
IRC		0.98%		95.7		88.9%		55.6%		88.9%
KRC		1.22%		22.2%		100%		100%		100%
NBRC		1.64%		59.1%		87.5%		50.0%		100%
NLACRC		2.13%		90.0%		100%		100%		100%
RCEB		1.61%		100%		100%		100%		100%
RCOC		2.33%		76.3%		77.8%		94.4%		88.9%
RCRC		1.55%		97.3%		100%		100%		100%
SARC		1.62%		61.5%		91.7%		100%		100%
SCLARC		1.05%		96.3%		100%		90.9%		100%
SDRC		1.53%		86.2%		75.0%		55.0%		95.0%
SGPRC		2.50%		90.3%		95.5%		90.9%		100%
TCRC		2.82%		81.3%		85.7%		100%		100%
VMRC		1.84%		63.9%		100%		79.0%		100%
WRC		2.25%		87.0%		100%		100%		100%

These foregoing tables reflect the synthesis of regional center data submitted to DDS and the results of record reviews conducted for the Early Start Program. DDS will update these tables every January with the most current data available obtained through electronic (universal) and manual (sampling records on location) means. DDS is also working on moving from small sample sizes to universal reporting in several indicator areas in the tables.

Description of Indicators

- **Timely Services (45 Days), Indicator #1:** Percent of infants and toddlers with Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSP) who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner. Timeliness is defined as the provision of initial Part C services listed in the infant/toddler's IFSP within, or no later than, 45 days from the date of the IFSP. The measurement of timeliness is derived from IFSP date data entered on the Early Start Report (ESR), which is the data tracking form used by regional centers for all Early Start participants, and data derived from service provider claim forms processed at the regional centers (month service was provided). Services that are not identified as primary services for improving infant/toddler outcomes are not included in the calculation.
- **Services in Natural Environments, Indicator #2:** Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or programs for typically developing children. The data used for reporting progress on this indicator is derived from the Early Start Report's primary location of services data element, which uses data definitions and guidance as provided by OSEP. The eight locations listed for provision of services in the ESR are 1) early intervention program; 2) family child care; 3) home; 4) hospital, inpatient; 5) outpatient service facility; 6) regular nursery/child care; 7) residential facility; and 8) other setting.
- **Child Outcomes, Indicator #3:** Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who demonstrate improved:
 - A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
 - B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/ communication); and
 - C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.This indicator will not have an established baseline with targets until 2010 and is, therefore, not yet reportable by regional centers.
- **Family Rights, Indicator #4:** Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family:
 - A. Know their rights;
 - B. Effectively communicate their children's needs; and
 - C. Help their children develop and learn.DDS has a state improvement activity for this indicator to expand next year's survey sample size to achieve statistical significance at the local program level so that meaningful reporting data will be available for next year's report.
- **Ages 0-1 Served, Indicator #5:** The State's percentage of population served is calculated using the percentage of infants and toddlers, birth to 1, with IFSPs compared to national data posted by OSEP on the following website: <http://spp-apr-calendar.rrfcnetwork.org/explorer/view/id/793> (Table C-13. Percent of infants and toddlers receiving early intervention services under IDEA, Part C, by age and state: Fall 2008). Local programs' data was calculated using their status 1 and 2 children under age one (as of December 1, 2009), divided by the general population of

children under one in each local program's respective service area. Population data for the County of Los Angeles was obtained for each of the 26 health districts, which are the geographic divisions used to determine local programs' service areas. The Los Angeles County population data were obtained January 21, 2009, from the Data Collection & Analysis Unit, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, Department of Public Health, County of Los Angeles. The data used for Indicator 5 limits comparisons of regional centers because, at any point in time, program population may fluctuate month-to-month due to the short time span that children may be enrolled the program and significant month-to-month variations regional centers may experience in referrals. This

- **Ages 0-3 Served, Indicator #5:** The State's percentage of population served is calculated using the percentage of infants and toddlers, birth to 3, with IFSPs compared to national data posted by OSEP on the following website: <http://spp-apr-calendar.rrfcnetwork.org/explorer/view/id/793> (Table C-13. Percent of infants and toddlers receiving early intervention services under IDEA, Part C, by age and state: Fall 2008). Local programs' (Regional Centers) data was calculated using their status 1 and 2 children under age three (as of January 1, 2009), divided by the general population of children under three in each local program's respective service area. Population data for the County of Los Angeles was obtained for each of the 26 health districts, which are the geographic divisions used to determine local programs' service areas. The Los Angeles County population data were obtained January 21, 2009, from the Data Collection & Analysis Unit, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, Department of Public Health, County of Los Angeles. The data used for Indicator 5 limits comparisons of regional centers because, at any point in time, program population may fluctuate month-to-month due to the short time span that children may be enrolled the program and significant month-to-month variations regional centers may experience in referrals.
- **IFSP (45 days), Indicator #7:** Percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline. The data used for reporting progress on this indicator comes from On-Site Record Reviews conducted by DDS and includes comparison of the date of referral to the regional center and the IFSP date. In some cases, the actual number of days that exceeded the 45-day requirement may be small, but is still reportable. Additionally, to provide a more accurate, reportable measure of this indicator, DDS is planning on data changes that will eliminate sampling.
- **Transition Steps in IFSP/LEA Notification/Transition Conferences Held, Indicator #8a, b, c:** Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday including:
 - A. IFSPs with transition steps and services
 - B. Notification to LEA, if child potentially eligible for Part B: and
 - C. Transition conference, if child potentially eligible for Part B.The data used for reporting progress on this indicator comes from On-Site Record Reviews conducted by DDS and includes reviewing the records of infants/toddlers eligible for, or transitioned to, Part B services.