

**Local Program  
Performance Ratings  
(Early Start)**

**Introduction:  
Strengths, Weakness and Limitations  
of the Early Start Performance Data**

In reviewing this data it is important to keep in mind the following considerations:

1. For those indicators in which we rely on samples, data reviewers must recognize that the performance data drawn from small sample sizes may not be representative of the regional center's (RC) actual performance.
2. Some RCs may be in more compliance than what the data reflects but may not be documenting appropriately in the client records and therefore the data extracted will show more noncompliance.
3. Per the Office of Special Education Program (OSEP) criteria, "timeliness" compliance is not measured in degrees but simply whether RCs 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. Some RCs are in a focused improvement mode and making significant progress but this will not show in the data reported here that may be up to 3 years old. Please refer to the color code key at the end of this packet to determine the year in which the data was compiled. Conversely, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) recognizes that there may be some recent slippage in some RC compliance data due to staffing shortages, vendor shortages, and interagency challenges.
5. Regarding the percentage of 0 - 12 month olds and 0 - 36 month olds served, there are additional factor that should be considered when comparing California to the national average. California serves a fewer percentage of 0 - 1 year olds and 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:
  - a. Prenatal care
  - b. Premature births
  - c. Teen birth rate
  - d. Low birth weight
  - e. Female cigarette smoking rate

In additional to the above general considerations, several regional centers took the opportunity to provide information to further put in context their performance on different indicators:

Inland Regional Center (IRC)

**Indicators 5 and 6: Percentage served.** IRC report that they are increasing their child find by improving collaboration with private and community agencies. The result of increased child find efforts is a significantly growing consumer population whose numbers anticipated improvement in terms of percentage served for Indicators 5 & 6.

**Indicator 8: Transition at 3 years of age.** IRC reports that for Indicator #8b, if the child is potentially eligible for Part B, systems have been put in place to notify the appropriate Local Education Agency and invite them to a transition meeting.

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC)

**Indicator 5: Percentage served of 0-12 month olds.** SCLARC recently increased its outreach to community hospitals, a major referral source for newborns. SCLARC believes this effort will result in an increase in percentage served in this age group.

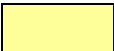
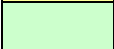



**Indicator 6: Percentage served of 0-36 month olds.** SCLARC has recently been showing an increase in referrals due to the outreach efforts by SCLARC and the Los Angeles County Office of Education. This percentage should increase in subsequent data reports.

Regional Center of the East Bay

**Indicators 1 and 7: IFSP and services within 45 days.**

1. Nation wide there is a shortage of qualified personnel (nurses, PTs, OTs, and speech therapists) that impacts the ability of many local agencies to routinely complete all needed evaluations within specified timelines or to put timely services in place, this national issue can result in service delays and performance slippage in these areas.
2. Regional centers face significant staff recruiting challenges in sustaining sufficient personnel to meet the fluctuation and varied high demands of early intervention consumers.
3. California's focus on access to prenatal care results in healthier babies therefore the percentage of children at risk for developmental disabilities is somewhat lower than the percentage served in other states.
4. Regional centers are reliant upon health providers for timely submission of medical records for IFSP development and service planning. When medical providers delay sending needed medical records, it raises compliance issues for regional centers concerning timeliness.

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

	- Results obtained from database
	- Results obtained from site visit
	- Results for fiscal year 2005/06
	- Results for fiscal year 2006/07
	- Results for fiscal year 2007/08

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

Programs	Goal: Timely Services (45 Days)	Actual Results (Data)	Services in Natural Environments	Actual Results (Data)	Child Outcomes	Actual Results	Family Rights	Actual Results	Ages 0-1 Served	Actual Results (Data)
California	100%	94.6%	76.3%	91.5%	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.95%	1.15%
ACRC		92.5%		91.7%						0.89%
CVRC		83.1%		88.5%						1.45%
ELARC		88.1%		93.3%						0.46%
FDLRC		96.1%		93.0%						0.62%
FNRC		97.5%		95.9%						1.25%
GGRC		89.9%		70.7%						0.73%
HRC		99.2%		89.2%						0.90%
IRC		96.6%		96.3%						0.91%
KRC		91.6%		78.7%						1.12%
NBRC		94.0%		78.8%						0.90%
NLARC		97.8%		95.6%						0.78%
RCEB		88.2%		95.0%						0.61%
RCOC		97.8%		92.5%						0.77%
RCRC		88.9%		97.4%						1.09%
SARC		94.6%		90.3%						0.70%
SCLARC		90.4%		94.3%						0.37%
SDRC		92.3%		93.8%						0.67%
SGPRC		94.4%		84.3%						1.01%
TCRC		95.7%		95.5%						1.69%
VMRC		84.0%		98.3%						1.58%
WRC		97.0%		94.6%						0.92%

Programs	Ages 0-3 Served	Actual Results (Data)	IFSP (45 Days)	Actual Results (Site Visit)	Transition Steps in IFSP	Actual Results (Site Visit)	LEA Notification	Actual Results (Site Visit)	Transition Conference Held	Actual Results (Site Visit)
California	1.76%	2.11%	100%	90.3%	100%	90.0%	100%	100%	100%	100%
ACRC		2.10%		100%		100%		100%		100%
CVRC		2.15%		100%		100%		100%		100%
ELARC		1.95%		85.7%		50.0%		100%		100%
FDLRC		1.85%		57.1%		50.0%		100%		100%
FNRC		2.33%		72.3%		60.0%		100%		100%
GGRC		2.03%		100%		100%		100%		100%
HRC		1.81%		96.7%		80%		100%		100%
IRC		1.50%		95.7%		100%		71.4%		100%
KRC		2.19%		72.8%		100%		100%		100%
NBRC		2.38%		56.7%		100%		100%		100%
NLARC		2.39%		75.0%		100%		100%		100%
RCEB		1.74%		100%		100%		83.3%		100%
RCOC		2.31%		86.7%		100%		100%		100%
RCRC		2.77%		88.2%		100%		100%		100%
SARC		1.67%		93.3%		100%		100%		100%
SCLARC		1.12%		96.3%		100%		90.9%		100%
SDRC		1.59%		100%		100%		100%		100%
SGPRC		2.16%		95.0%		100%		100%		100%
TCRC		3.20%		81.25		85.7%		100%		100%
VMRC		2.74%		54.6%		100%		100%		100%
WRC		2.64%		86.0%		80.0%		100%		100%

\* Differs from Table 2; is limited to Regional Center EI Programs (excludes CDE). \*\* CA percent served includes CDE Part C children and is a calculation provided by OSEP.

This tables represent the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) analysis of regional center data submitted to the Department and the results of record reviews conducted for the Early Start Program. DDS has conducted several record reviews, beginning with fiscal year 2005/06 through November 2007/08, which will be posted to this chart once final review and analysis is complete. Subsequently, as record reviews are completed during each fiscal year, the performance ratings for each indicator, for each regional center will be updated. Ratings based on record reviews currently use small sample sizes, and should be considered when looking at the ratings. DDS is working on moving from small sample sizes to universal reporting in several indicator areas.

### 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 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 comes from the ESR'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 local programs.
- 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 reported to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) on Indicator #4 in fiscal year 2005/06. OSEP determined that there were insufficient responses from families.

- Ages 0-1 Served, Indicator #5: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs compared to: other states with similar eligibility definitions; and national data. Measurement for this indicator uses data provided by OSEP that is posted on the Regional Resource & Federal Center Network website which can be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.rffcnetwork.org/content/view/409/47/#c5>. For program comparability, California uses the data provided for Texas as it is most like California in terms of program eligibility criteria, geographic size, demography, urban-rural mix, ethnic mix, and migration patterns.

The data used for Indicator 5 limits comparisons of regional center to regional center because at any point in time, program population may vary from month to month due to the short time span that children may be enrolled the program.

- Ages 0-3 Served, Indicator #6: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs compared to: other states with similar eligibility definitions; and national data. Measurement for this indicator uses data provided by OSEP that is posted on the Regional Resource & Federal Center Network website which can be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.rffcnetwork.org/content/view/409/47/#c5>. For program comparability, California uses the data provided for Texas as it is most like California in terms of program eligibility criteria, geographic size, demography, urban-rural mix, ethnic mix, and migration patterns.

The data used for Indicator 6 limits comparisons of regional center to regional center because at any point in time, program population may vary from month to month due to the short time span that children may be enrolled the program.

- 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, in order 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.