



Fiscal Year 2008
Budget and Performance Integration
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February 6, 2007





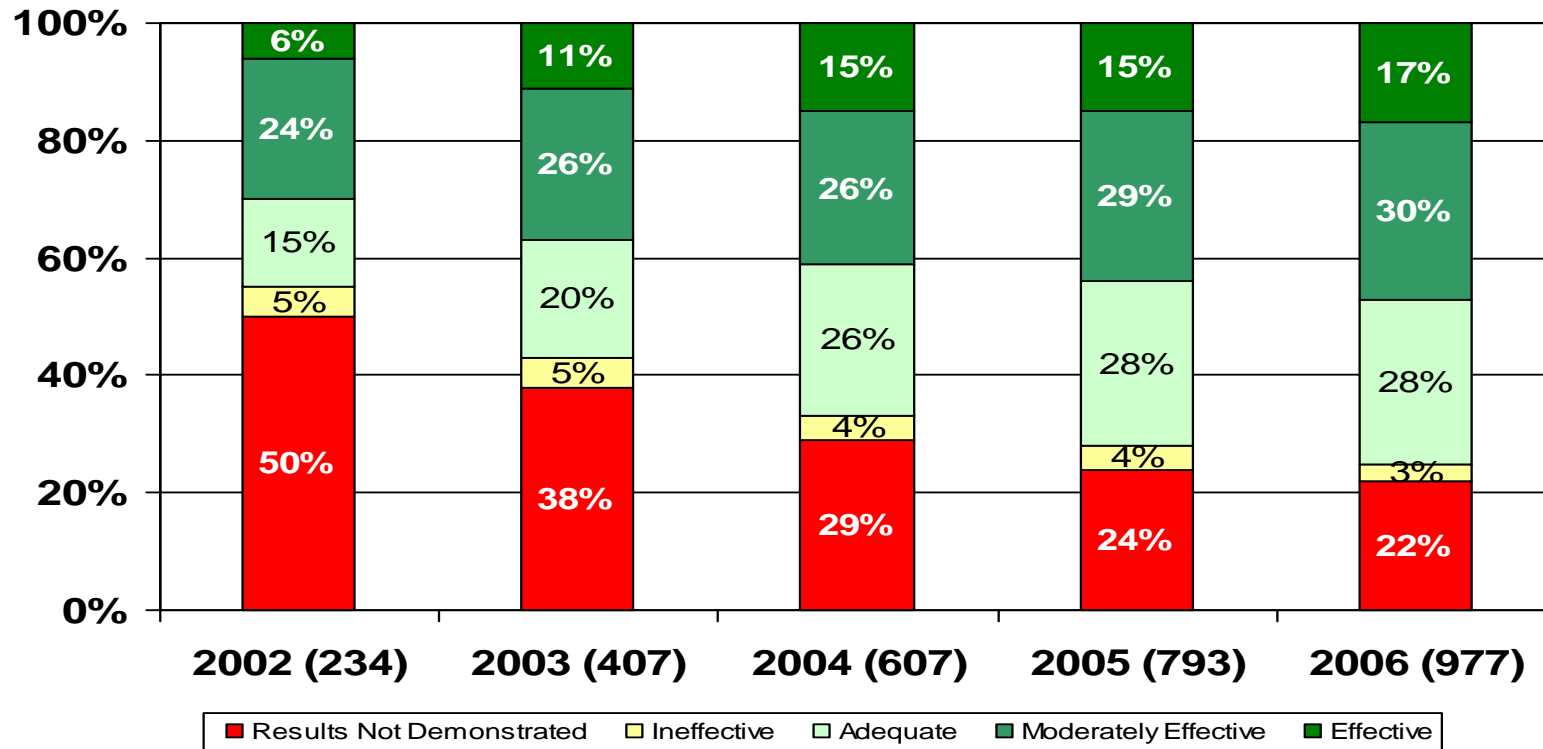
Program Assessment Rating Tool (The PART)

- Assesses Programs in Four Key Dimensions
 1. Purpose and Design
 2. Planning
 3. Management
 4. Results and Accountability

- Generates Objective Program Ratings
 - Effective
 - Moderately Effective
 - Adequate
 - Ineffective
 - Results Not Demonstrated



Program Ratings are Improving *Cumulative Program Results by Ratings Category (2002-2006)*



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PROGRAM

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RATING

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IMPROVEMENT PLAN

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PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

Early Reading First

The Early Reading First (ERF) program is designed to implement research-based early literacy programs in already existing preschool programs to enhance the early language, literacy, and prereading development of preschool-aged children.

PERFORMING

☆☆ Moderately Effective

- **The program addresses a compelling need.** Studies show that a high percentage of children from low-income families attend preschools that often fail to provide the language, cognitive, and early reading instruction and activities needed. The Early Reading First program is intended to address the gaps in quality between low-income children and their peers of higher socioeconomic status.
- **The program is reaching its original performance targets.** The percentage of preschool-aged children participating in ERF programs who demonstrated age-appropriate oral language skills increased from 56 percent in 2004 to 67.9 percent in 2005.
- **The Department of Education has recently established new performance measures in the areas of significant literacy gains and program efficiency.**

We are taking the following actions to improve the performance of the program:

- Collecting data for the new measures: significant gains in early literacy skills, and the cost per preschool-aged child participating in Early Reading First programs who achieves significant gains.
- Implementing a measure of kindergarten readiness by requiring entities that receive a grant for a second three-year period to collect former participants' academic achievement in kindergarten.
- Updating the recent performance data on the program's website as they become available.

- [View Similar Programs.](#)
- [How all Federal programs are assessed.](#)
- [Learn more about Early Reading First.](#)

DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE EARLY READING FIRST ASSESSMENT

- View this [program's assessment summary](#).
- Visit [ExpectMore.gov](#) to learn more about how Federal Government programs are assessed and their plans for improvement.
- [Learn more](#) about detailed assessments.

Program Code	10003322	
Program Title	Early Reading First	
Department Name	Department of Education	
Agency/Bureau Name	Department of Education	
Program Type(s)	Competitive Grant Program	
Assessment Year	2006	
Assessment Rating	Moderately Effective	
Assessment Section Scores	Section	Score
	Program Purpose & Design	100%
	Strategic Planning	88%
	Program Management	100%
	Program Results/Accountability	58%
Program Funding Level (in millions)	FY2006	\$103
	FY2007	\$103
	FY2008	\$118

- [Program Improvement Plans](#)
- [Program Performance Measures](#)
- [Questions/Answers \(Detailed Assessment\)](#)

Program Improvement Plans

Year Began	Improvement Plan	Status	Comments
2006	Collecting data for the new measures: significant gains in early literacy skills, and the cost per preschool-aged child participating in Early Reading First programs who achieves significant gains.	Action taken, but not completed	
2006	Implementing a measure of kindergarten readiness by requiring entities that receive a grant for a second three-year period to collect former participants' academic achievement in kindergarten.	No action taken	
2006	Updating the grantee performance data on the program's website as data become available.	Action taken, but not completed	

Program Performance Measures