

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND
REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202-2531

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

RSA-IM-91-08

RSM-1250

DATE: November 27, 1990

ADDRESSEES: STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (GENERAL)
STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (BLIND)
CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
RSA DISCRETIONARY GRANTEES
RSA SENIOR MANAGEMENT STAFF

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Report: "Characteristics of Persons Rehabilitated and
Reasons for Case Closures in Fiscal Year 1988"

The accompanying report presents the personal and program-related characteristics of persons rehabilitated by the State-Federal Program for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) biennially from Fiscal Year 1984 through Fiscal Year 1988. Also included in this report are the reasons for non-acceptance and non-rehabilitation closures during the same period.

There have been several changes in the type of individuals served by State VR agencies from 1984 to 1988. Declining proportions were reported for: 1) clients who were under 25 years old when they applied for services; 2) females; 3) Blacks; 4) individuals primarily supported by family and friends; 5) persons with orthopedic impairments and mental illnesses as major disabling conditions; and 6) clients whose disabilities were too severe for them to be accepted for or successfully complete the VR program. Increases occurred in the percentages of: 1) Hispanics; 2) persons who have completed at least high school; 3) clients primarily supported by public assistance; 4) individuals with hearing impairments, mental retardation, drug abuse and specific learning disabilities as major disabling conditions; 5) rehabilitants who were provided with on-the-job training; and 6) clients employed by and placed into the competitive labor market at application and closure.

As expected, the average cost of providing services to clients rehabilitated increased from Fiscal Year 1984 to Fiscal Year 1988. The mean cost for all persons rehabilitated rose by 30 percent, and the average cost for those served with cost to the State agency increased by 25.5 percent during this period. Gains were also noted in the average amount of weekly earnings received by rehabilitants at closure. Mean weekly earnings at closure increased by 14.6 percent and 17.6 percent for clients with earnings and all clients rehabilitated, respectively.

Several statistical charts which diagram selected characteristics have been added to the report this year. The source for the data presented here is the RSA-911, Case Service Report System.

INQUIRIES: Further information on the contents of this report may be obtained from Patricia Nash, Statistician, (202) 732-1412.

Commissioner
Rehabilitation Services
Administration