

Family Data: Indicator C4 Highlights Results and State Approaches, FFY 2009

Part C Indicator 4: The percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family:



A) Know their rights	85.5%
B) Effectively communicate their children's needs	86.0%
C) Help their children develop and learn	90.2%

Performance Over Time

Across all three sub-indicators, the majority of states reported improved performance (greater than 1% increase) or stable performance (+/-1% change) compared to last year, while a smaller number of states reported slippage (decrease of greater than 1%). Overall there has been a steady increase in performance across the three sub-indicators since the baseline year of data collection (2005-06).

Change from FFY 2008 to FFY 2009

4A: EI has helped the family know their rights:

- Progress: 44% (24 states)
- Stable: 38% (21 states)
- Slippage: 18% (10 states)

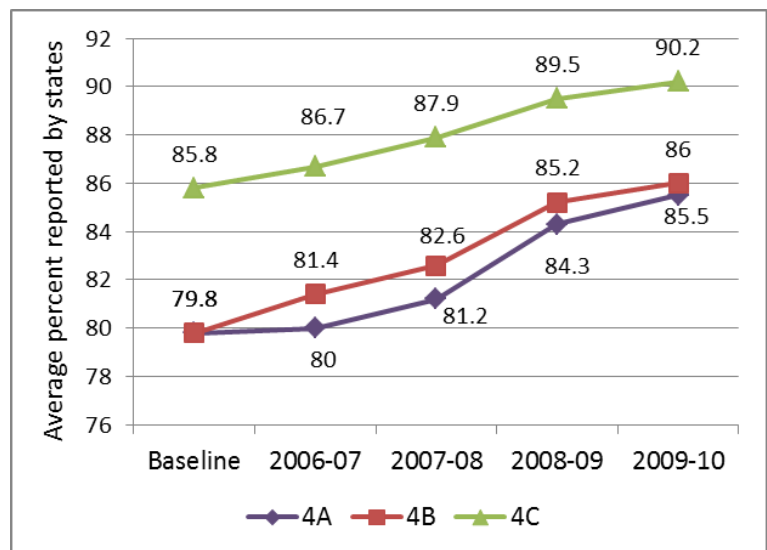
4B: EI has helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs:

- Progress: 45% (25 states)
- Stable: 36% (20 states)
- Slippage: 18% (10 states)

4C: EI has helped the family help the child develop and learn:

- Progress: 40% (22 states)
- Stable: 36% (20 states)
- Slippage: 24% (13 states)

Trends Since Baseline



Highlights of Improvement Activities

- Improving response rates among subgroups of families through targeted data collection approaches
- Targeting improvement activities based on detailed analysis of subgroups of families (e.g. Spanish-speaking, families in specific programs, large urban districts, etc.)
- Developing resources to improve outcomes: parent leadership, playgroups, links with communities
- Using on-line tools to communicate with families, report survey results, and train providers (e.g. web-based modules for training and local data reporting, online IFSPs, social media sites, videos, etc.)
- Integrating child and family outcomes through revisions to IFSPs, trainings, and data analysis

Approaches to Data Collection

All states used survey methodology to gather data from families for Indicator C4 reporting. Data on approaches used in FFY 2009 are based on 55 states and jurisdictions.

- States reported using three main survey approaches to collect data for this indicator: the NCSEAM Family Survey (25 states, 45%), the ECO Family Outcomes Survey (24 states, 44%), and state-developed surveys (six states 11%).
- Forty-four states (80%) reported using a census approach, and eleven states (20%) reported using sampling.
- A majority of states surveyed families regardless of the length of time their child was in services (n=31, 55%). Twenty-four states surveyed families who had a minimum amount of time in services (greater than six, nine, or 12 months of services).
- Most states (n=36, 65%) surveyed families at a designated point in time or time frame. Others timed the survey to child participation in the program (e.g. at exit or IFSP meetings) (n=17 states), according to their monitoring schedule (n=1), or staggered by region/ district (n=1).



Representativeness of Family Data

States reported conducting analyses to assess whether their data represented the population of families served in their state. States reported using multiple criteria, as follows:

Criteria	Number of States (%)
Race/ ethnicity	41 (75%)
Geography (district, county, region)	17 (31%)
Gender	14 (25%)
Child's age (at survey, at referral)	13 (24%)
Disability type/ eligibility category	6 (11%)
Length of time in services	6 (11%)
Income (i.e. receipt of Medicaid)	3 (5%)

States compared returned surveys to family demographics of their state using program data or child count/ 618 data.

41 states (75%) reported their data were representative of the families they serve in their state.



For more information about family outcomes, state measurement approaches, or Indicator C4 results, please visit the Early Childhood Outcomes Center website at www.the-eco-center.org, or email staff@the-eco-center.org. July, 2011

