

How Early Steps Measures Each of the IDEA Part C Annual Performance Report (APR) Indicators

INDICATOR 1: Timely Service Delivery. Percent of infants/toddlers with IFSPs receiving EI services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.

Measurement: This measure captures the number of infants and toddlers who receive all of the services listed on the IFSP within 30 days after the parent has consented to the services. If there are four services on the IFSP and the child receives only three within the 30-day period, this child would be determined to not have received timely services.

Data Source: The data source for this indicator comes from the annual monitoring of all of the Local Early Steps Centers. This year's monitoring utilized a self-assessment and desk review of child record documentation and data.

Measures/Standards/Statewide Targets: The measure for timeliness in Florida is within 30 days, which was set by Florida. The 30-day measurement was established through the policy revision process, including public comment and public participation, and consultation with OSEP and other states' Part C programs. The performance standard/target is a federal standard of 100%.

INDICATOR 2: Services in Natural Environments. Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings.

Measurement: IFSPs list where services are to be provided, either community-based settings, home or clinics. Community-based settings and homes are considered natural environments. Each state is required to choose a date on which it conducts a count of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings. That number of children is divided by the total number of children with an IFSP then multiplied by 100.

Data Source: Statewide data was used to measure this indicator. Measurement is based on services identified on the IFSP and entered into the Early Steps Data System for infants and toddlers with IFSPs who were eligible on November 15, 2017.

Measures/Standards/Statewide Targets: Set by Florida. The targets were developed with input from the Early Steps Continuous Improvement Workgroup and the Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers and approved by OSEP.

FFY 2013- FFY 2018 Targets:

FFY	FY1314	FY1415	FY1516	FY1617	FY1718
State	87%	88%	89%	90%	91%

INDICATOR 3: Early Childhood Outcomes. 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.

Measurement: Infants’ and Toddlers’ development is assessed when they enter and exit the Early Steps program, and the scores are compared to determine whether the child has made progress in the social/emotional, cognitive and adaptive domains. For each of the 3 developmental skill areas, Early Steps reports:

- 1. The percent of infants/toddlers with substantial increase in rate of growth by age 3 or exit, divided by all infants/toddlers who entered/exited early steps below age level.
- 2. Percent of infants/toddlers within age expectations by age 3 or program exit.

Data Source: The Early Steps State Office and the Department of Education have collaborated to develop an outcome measurement system for children birth to five years of age and have agreed to collect data on children across Part C and Part B on a common instrument - the Battelle Developmental Inventory 2nd Edition (BDI-2). The actual target data are derived from assessments administered upon entry into and exit from Early Steps for eligible children in all local Early Steps programs. Local program staff enters results for assessments in the BDI-2 Data Manager online scoring and reporting program. Data are exported from the Data Manager and a de-identified data file, consisting of all records with sufficient data to be included in the state report is sent to the University of Miami discretionary project whose staff completes the analyses that produce the category assignments.

Measures/Standards/Statewide Targets: Set by Florida. The standard/targets were developed with input from the Florida Child Outcomes Advisory Committee. The committee includes representation from the State Office, the Department of Education (DOE), and the DOE discretionary project for child outcomes, local Early Steps, and local school districts. OSEP approved the targets.

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets:

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target A1 ≥	31.90%	33.00%	33.50%	35.00%	39.00%	44.00%
Target A2 ≥	68.90%	69.00%	70.00%	72.00%	74.00%	76.00%
Target B1 ≥	54.30%	56.50%	57.00%	57.50%	58.00%	60.00%
Target B2 ≥	44.10%	45.00%	46.00%	47.00%	48.00%	50.00%
Target C1 ≥	54.20%	55.00%	56.00%	57.00%	58.00%	60.00%
Target C2 ≥	69.50%	69.60%	69.70%	69.80%	69.90%	70.00%

INDICATOR 4: Family Outcomes. 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.

Measurement: This measurement evaluates how successfully Early Steps has met the needs of families. Families with a child who had an IFSP for at least 6 months and were exiting Part C between February 15th and May 15th, 2018, were given a 22-item anonymous survey, developed and validated by the National Center for Special Education Accountability Monitoring (NCSEAM), to document their experience in the Part C program in Florida. The survey was administered by the FDOH and sent directly to Piedra Data Services, an independent data analysis company, for Rasch analysis, which provided a mean measure reflecting the overall performance of the state in regard to the impact of Early Steps on family outcomes. In 2018, surveys were returned by 1,471 families.

Data Source: Analysis of results from Florida’s Family Survey conducted by Piedra Data Services.

Measures/Standards/Statewide Targets: Set by Florida. The standard/targets were developed with input from the Early Steps Continuous Improvement Workgroup and the Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers, and approved by OSEP.

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets:

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target A ≥	75.00%	75.50%	76.00%	76.50%	77.00%	77.50%
Target B ≥	72.00%	72.50%	73.00%	73.50%	74.00%	74.50%
Target C ≥	87.00%	87.50%	88.00%	88.50%	89.00%	89.50%

INDICATOR 5: Child Find (Birth to One). Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs compared to national data.

Measurement: The number of Florida infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs is divided by the total population of infants and toddlers birth to 1 in Florida times 100, then compared to national data.

Data Source: Statewide data is used to measure this indicator. The number of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs who were eligible November 15, 2017 as a percentage of all Florida infants and toddlers ages birth to 1 (from Census data), compared with the national average as reported by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, Data Analysis System.

Measures/Standards/Statewide Targets: Set by Florida. The standard/targets were developed with input from the Early Steps Continuous Improvement Workgroup and the Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers, and approved by OSEP.

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets:

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target ≥	0.72%	0.72%	0.73%	0.73%	0.74%	0.74%

INDICATOR 6: Child Find (Birth to Three). Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs compared to national data.

Measurement: The number of Florida infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs is divided by the total population of infants and toddlers birth to 3 in Florida times 100, then compared to national data.

Data Source: Statewide data was used to measure this indicator. The number of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs who were eligible November 15, 2017, as a percentage of all Florida infants and toddlers ages birth to 3 (from Census data), compared with the national average as reported by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, Data Analysis System.

Measures/Standards/Statewide Targets: Set by Florida. The standard/targets were developed with input from the Early Steps Continuous Improvement Workgroup and the Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers, and approved by OSEP.

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets:

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target ≥	1.90%	1.91%	1.91%	1.92%	1.92%	1.93%

INDICATOR 7: Timeliness of IFSP. Percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an initial evaluation and initial assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within Part C’s 45-day timeline.

Measurement: The percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an initial evaluation and initial assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within Part C’s 45-day timeline.

Data Source: The data source for this indicator comes from monitoring of Local Early Steps. All 15 local Early Steps programs are monitored annually. This year's monitoring utilized a self-assessment and desk review of child record documentation and data.

Measures/Standards/Statewide Targets: The target is set by OSEP. The performance standard/target is a federal standard of 100%.

INDICATOR 8: Early Childhood Transition. The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler’s third birthday;

B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the SEA (State Education Agency–DOE) and the LEA (Local Educational Agency – school district) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler’s third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and

C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler’s third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

Measurement: IDEA Part C early intervention funding provides services for eligible infants and toddlers from birth to 36 months. For ages 3 through 21, IDEA Part B funds each state’s lead education agency to provide special education services to eligible children. This measurement ensures that families with children who need continuing services, and meet the school system’s eligibility criteria, are assisted with the transition to school based services so that gaps in service don’t occur when the child’s eligibility for Early Steps ends at age 3.

- A. Measures the percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who have an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties not more than nine months, prior to their third birthday.
- B. Measures the percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C where notification (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) to the SEA and LEA occurred at least 90 days prior to their third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services. Notification of children who are potentially eligible allows SEA and LEA planning for potential numbers of children to be served.
- C. Measures the percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C where the transition conference occurred at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties at least nine months, prior to the toddler’s third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B.

Data Source: The data for this indicator comes from monitoring of Local Early Steps. All 15 local Early Steps programs are monitored annually. The monitoring utilized a self-assessment and desk review of child record documentation and data.

Measures/Standards/Statewide Targets: The target is set by OSEP. The performance standard/target is a federal standard of 100%.

INDICATOR 9: Hearing Requests Resolved. Percent of hearing requests that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution session settlement agreements.

Measurement: States enter data into OSEP’s IDEA Part B Dispute Resolution Survey; Section C: Due Process Complaints to reflect the number of resolution sessions resolved through settlement agreements.

Data Source: Hearing Requests are sent directly to the State’s Part C IDEA lead agency, the Florida Department of Health, where they are logged, tracked and entered into OSEP’s survey tool. Sampling is not allowed.

Measures/Standards/Statewide Targets: N/A for Florida. States are not required to establish baseline or targets if the number of resolution sessions is less than 10. In a reporting period when the number of resolution sessions reaches ten or greater, the State must develop baseline and targets and report them in the corresponding APR.

Florida had no hearing requests in federal fiscal year 2017 – 2018. Please see chart below for Florida Hearing Request statistics:

Due Process Hearings		
<i>Purpose: A due process hearing request can be filed when there is a disagreement regarding the proposal to initiate or change, or refusal to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or placement of the infant or toddler with a disability, the provision of appropriate early intervention services to the infant or toddler with a disability and his or her family, or to challenge information in Early Steps record to ensure that it is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the child.</i>		
FFY	Number of Due Process Hearing Requests	Due Process Hearing Outcomes
2011 - 2012	0	NA
2012 - 2013	0	NA
2013 - 2014	1	NA – Hearing request withdrawn
2014 - 2015	0	NA
2015 - 2016	0	NA
2016 - 2017	0	NA
2017 - 2018	0	NA

INDICATOR 10: Mediation Agreements. Percentage of mediations held resulting in mediation agreements.

Measurement: States enter data into OSEP’s IDEA Part B Dispute Resolution Survey; Section B: Mediation Requests to reflect the number of mediations that were held that resulted in mediation agreements.

Data Source: Mediation Requests are sent directly to the State’s Part C IDEA lead agency, the Florida Department of Health, where they are logged and tracked and entered into OSEP’s survey tool. Sampling is not allowed.

Measures/Standards/Statewide Targets: N/A for Florida. States are not required to establish baseline or targets if the number of mediations is less than 10. In a reporting period when the

number of mediations reaches ten or greater, the State must develop baseline and report them in the corresponding APR.

Florida had no mediation requests in federal fiscal year 2017 – 2018. Please see chart below for Florida Mediation Request statistics:

Mediations		
<i>Purpose: Allows parties of disputes involving any matter, including matters arising prior to the filing of a due process, to resolve such disputes through a mediation process at any time.</i>		
FFY	Number of Mediations	Mediation Outcomes
2011 - 2012	0	NA
2012 - 2013	0	NA
2013 - 2014	0	NA
2014 - 2015	2	1. Agreement reached 2. No agreement reached
2015 - 2016	0	NA
2016 - 2017	0	NA
2017 - 2018	0	NA