

CALIFORNIA

SSIP Child Outcomes Data Analysis

August 2014



Developed in collaboration with the Regional Resource Center Program (RRCP) as part of the Part C and 619 State Accountability Systems Priority Area



Overview

As part of the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP), a broad data analysis of child outcomes data may be a useful first step in understanding California's performance. Before diving into the broad data analysis it will be important to look at the quality of the child outcomes data in California.¹

Data quality issues will be an important consideration as you move into the interpretation of your data analysis and will likely determine what questions you can reliability ask of your data. For more information about examining the quality of California data go to the quality assurance section of the ECTA website: http://ectacenter.org/eco/pages/quality_assurance.asp.

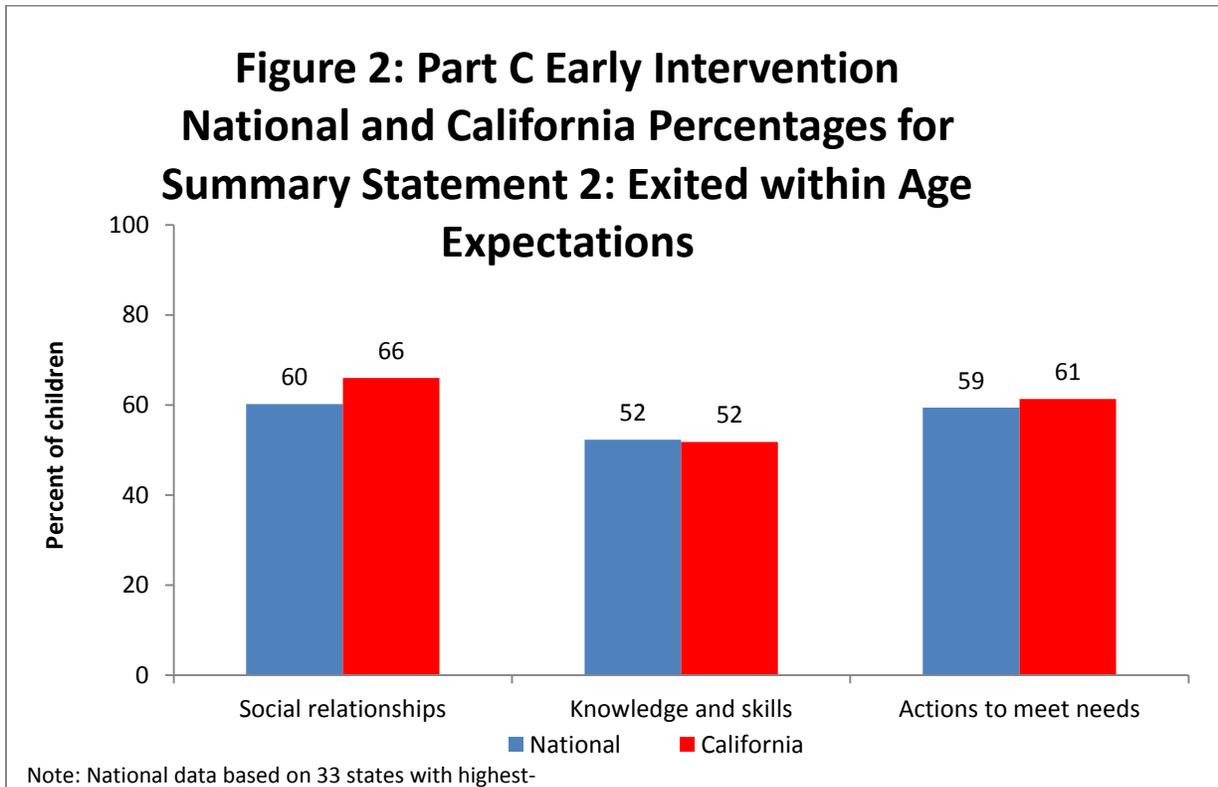
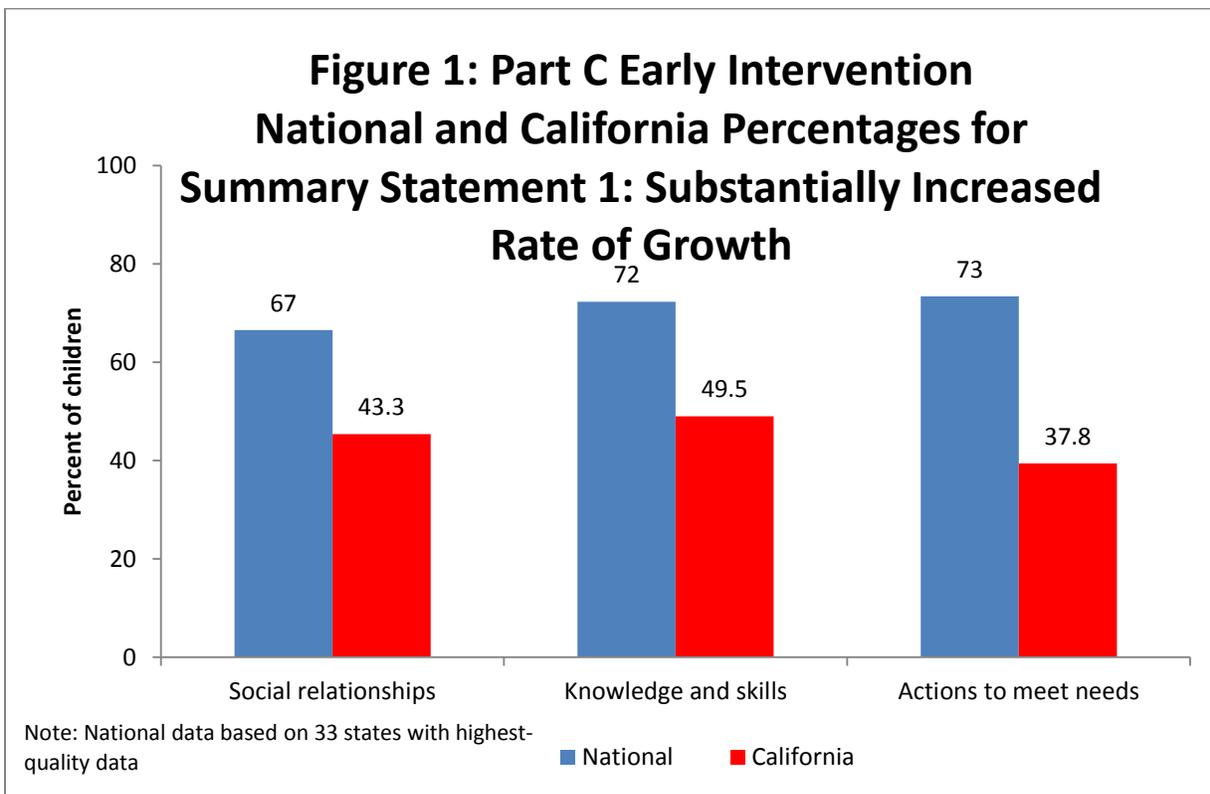
The purpose of broad data analysis is to look at how children in the state are performing relative to national data, across years, within the state and by comparisons across programs within the state. This template has been developed to assist in conducting an initial analysis with data you currently use for reporting in the APR. California's data is used below to begin the broad data analysis for the SSIP by examining child outcomes data.

Step 1: Comparison to National Data

See Figure 1 for a comparison between California and national data in the percent of children that substantially increased their rate of growth (Summary Statement 1) and Figure 2 for a comparison in the percent of children that exited within age expectations (Summary Statement 2). Looking at Figures 1 you can see that the largest difference between California's and national percentages are in children's actions to meet needs for Summary Statement 1. California's percentage is 34 points below the national data for Summary Statement 1- children that substantially increased rate of growth. California's Summary Statement 1 for outcome areas, social relationships and knowledge and skills are also below the national data at 22 and 23 percentage points, respectively. California's percentages are above or equal to the national data for Summary Statement 2 – children that exited at age expectations.

Conclusion: Compared to the national data, children in this state make significant growth and are more likely to exit functioning at age expectations. The reason that a great percentage of children in California exit at age expectations cannot be determined from this limited comparison to national data. Further analysis is needed to identify the root cause. It is important to note that a new data entry system began implementation in the FFY 2010-11. The period of time between initial implementation and three years of full implementation is considered a stabilization time for the data.

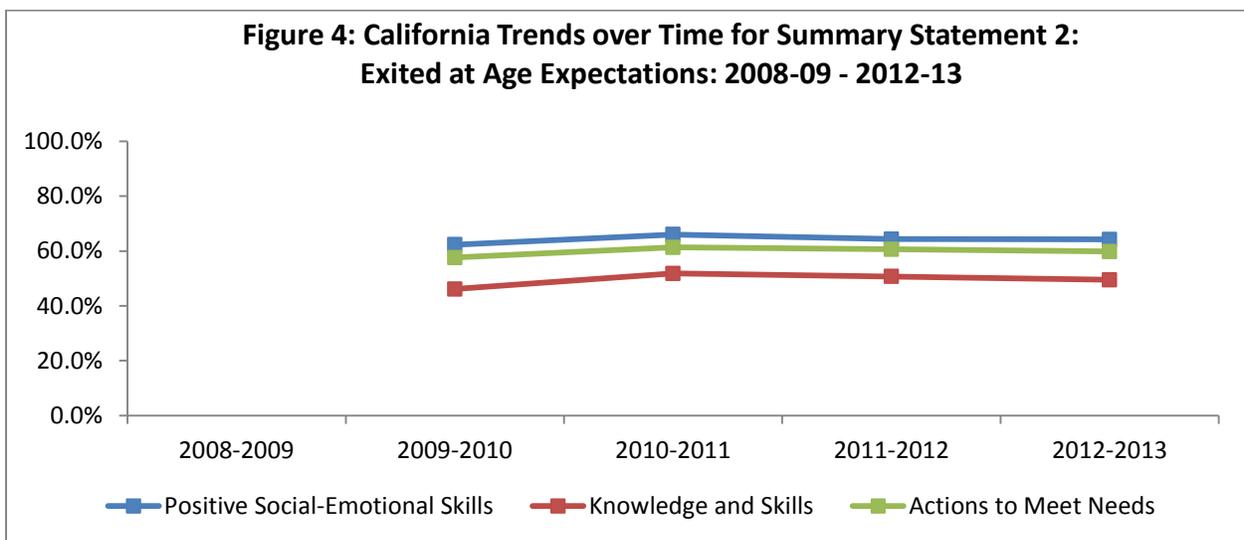
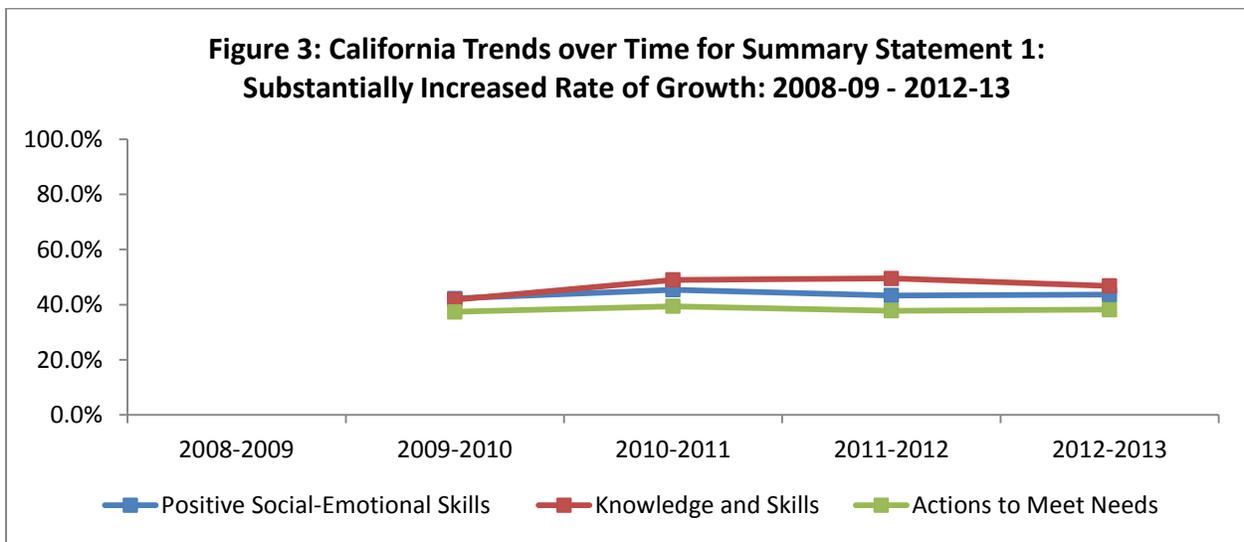
¹ This document is based on the draft SPP/APR package disseminated for public comment by the Office of Special Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education in 2013.



Step 2: Analysis of Trends in State Performance

The next step in the broad data analysis is to focus on trends over time within the State . See Figure 3 for Summary Statement 1 and Figure 4 for Summary Statement 2. In California, for Summary Statement 1, the trends are relatively stable across time. There have been changes in the percentages in the upward and downward direction during this period of time. For Summary Statement 2, the trends for all Outcome areas are stable and the overall trend shows improvement since 2008-09.

Conclusion: This analysis does not provide enough evidence for us to make inferences or interpretations about the variable or stabilizing trend in the percent of children exiting at age expectations in all outcome areas but it does provide data points in which to follow up with in-depth/root cause analysis.



Step 3: Comparison across Local Programs

The final step in the broad data analysis compares California's local programs to each other and to the state. The purpose of this analysis is to identify high and low performing programs. In general, program improvement activities focus on low performing programs. However, when some programs are performing much higher or lower than others in the state further analysis to confirm that the programs do not have data quality issues (e.g. inflated exit scores/ratings) will be required.

In California, the analysis of local data will focus on Summary Statement 1, in all outcomes areas, since this metric was lower than national performance. Table 1 identifies the lowest and the highest performing programs for Summary Statement 1, Social/Emotional. Outcome Area A has a wide variance in local programs for the results in this domain.

In Figure 5 the local programs are compared to the State Average for Outcome Area A, beginning with the regional center with the highest percentage below the State Average and ending with the regional center with the highest percentage of children exiting above the State Average for their rate of growth as described in child outcomes data. All local programs had percentages below the National Average as shown in Figure 8.

The Meaningful Differences Table in Appendix A identifies those local programs that have a statistically significant difference in the percentage for this measurement as compared to the State Average. There are 11 local regional center programs that have a statistically lower percentage of children improving their rate of growth in this domain than the State average. Conversely, there are 5 local regional center programs that have a statistically higher percentage of children improving their rate of growth in this domain than the State Average.

In Table 2 the data for Summary Statement 1 in Outcome Area B, Knowledge and skills, are depicted for the local programs beginning with the lowest performing and sequencing to the highest performing. This shows a wide variance of percentages from 29.3 percent to 67.9 percent. The assessment scores from the cognitive and communication domains are utilized in calculating this Outcome Area.

In Figure 6 the local programs are compared to the State Average for the Knowledge and Skills, Outcome Area B, in Summary Statement 1. All of California's regional center programs are performing below the National Average in this domain, Figure 9.

The Meaningful Differences Table in Appendix A identifies those local programs that have a statistically significant difference in the percentage for Outcomes Area B as compared to the State Average. There are 8 local programs that have a statistically lower percentage of children improving their rate of growth in this domain than the State Average. On the other hand, there are 3 local programs that have a statistically higher percentage of children improving their rate of growth in this domain than the State Average.

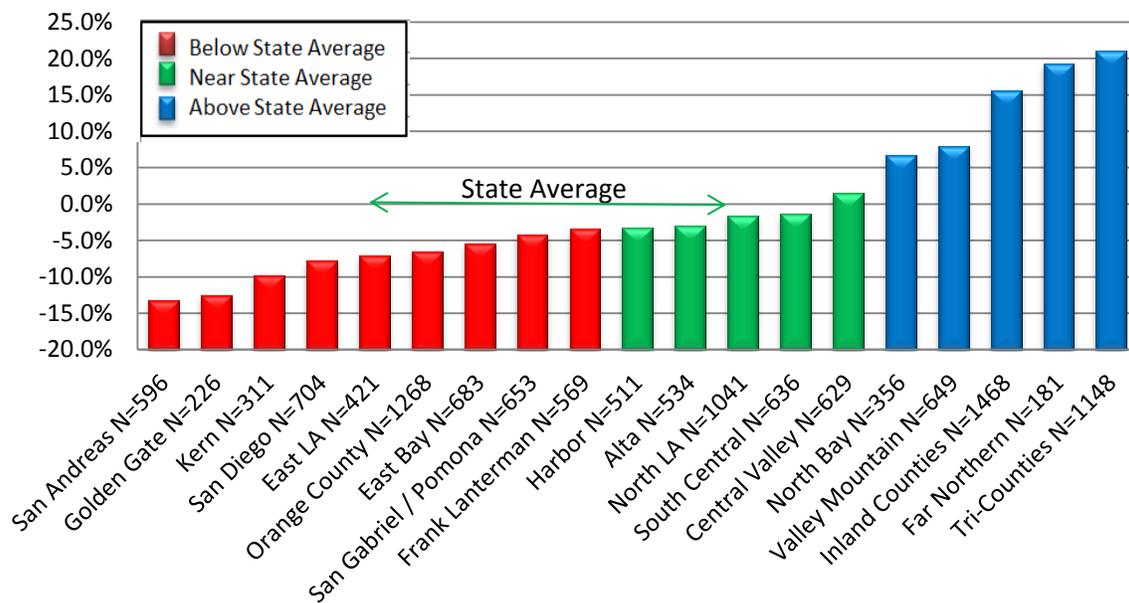
In Table 3 the data for Summary Statement 1 in Outcome Area C, Self Help/ Adaptive, are depicted for the local programs beginning with the lowest performing and sequencing to the highest performing. This shows a wide variance of percentages from 23.4 percent to 56.4 percent. The assessment scores from the self-help, the behavior and adaptive domains are utilized in calculating this Outcome Area. All of California's regional center programs are performing below the National Average for Outcome Area C, as depicted in Figure 10.

In Figure 7 the local programs in self-help/ adaptive are compared to the State Average for Summary Statement 1. The Meaningful Differences Table in Appendix A identifies those local programs that have a statistically significant difference in the percentage for this measurement as compared to the State Average. There are 7 local programs that have a statistically lower percentage of children improving their rate of growth in this domain than the State Average. On the other hand, there are 6 local programs that have a statistically higher percentage of children improving their rate of growth in this domain than the State Average.

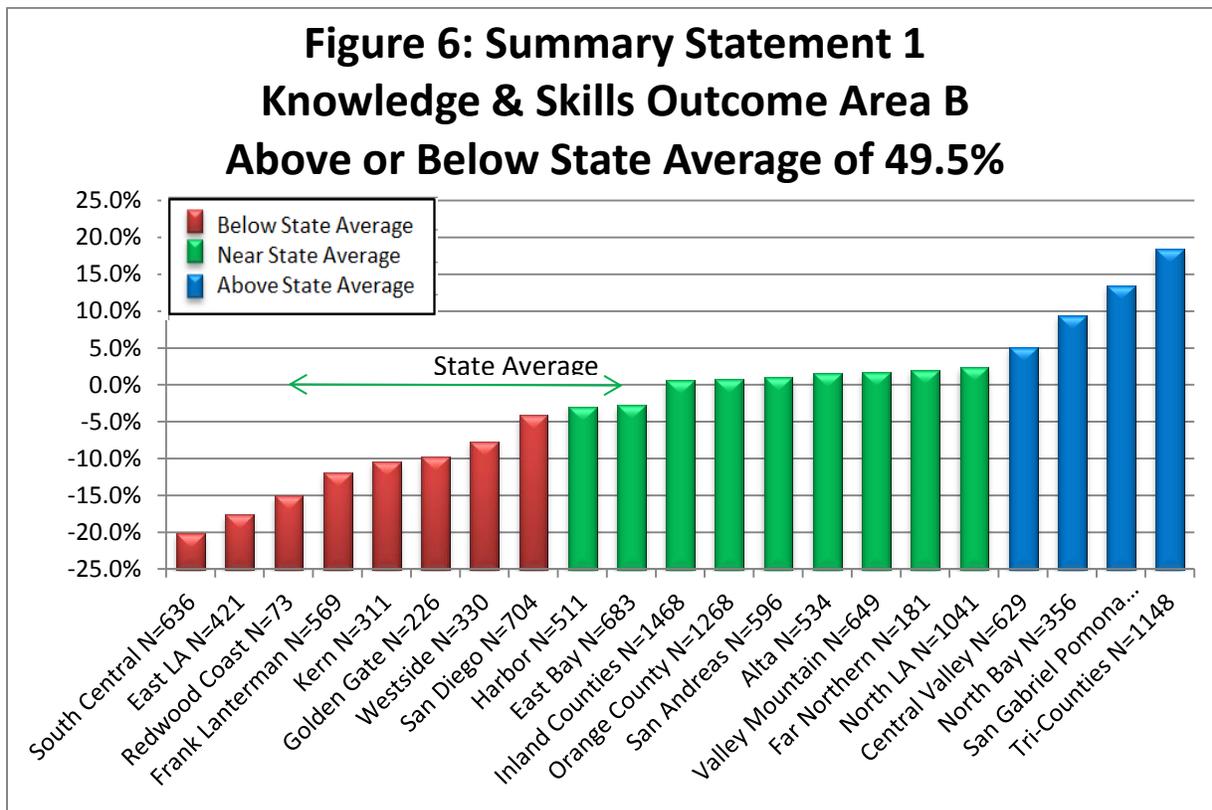
Conclusions: The current analysis does not provide enough information for us to make inferences about why the lowest performing programs are not performing at the same level as other programs. To make these inferences we would need to look at the characteristics of the children and of the lowest performing programs and how these compare to other programs in the state, especially those programs with high performing outcomes data.

| Table 1 Regional Center | Child Count | Summary Statement 1 Social / Emotional | Above or below State Average 43.3% |
|----------------------------|-------------|---|--|
| Westside | 330 | 26.6% | -16.7% |
| Redwood Coast | 73 | 28.3% | -15.0% |
| San Andreas | 596 | 30.0% | -13.3% |
| Golden Gate | 226 | 30.8% | -12.5% |
| Kern | 311 | 33.5% | -9.8% |
| San Diego | 704 | 35.5% | -7.8% |
| East LA | 421 | 36.2% | -7.1% |
| Orange County | 1268 | 36.8% | -6.5% |
| East Bay | 683 | 37.9% | -5.4% |
| San Gabriel / Pomona | 653 | 39.1% | -4.2% |
| Frank Lanterman | 569 | 39.9% | -3.4% |
| Harbor | 511 | 40.0% | -3.3% |
| Alta | 534 | 40.3% | -3.0% |
| North LA | 1041 | 41.7% | -1.6% |
| South Central | 636 | 42.0% | -1.3% |
| Central Valley | 629 | 44.8% | 1.5% |
| North Bay | 356 | 50.0% | 6.7% |
| Valley Mountain | 649 | 51.2% | 7.9% |
| Inland Counties | 1468 | 58.8% | 15.5% |
| Far Northern | 181 | 62.6% | 19.3% |
| Tri-Counties | 1148 | 64.3% | 21.0% |

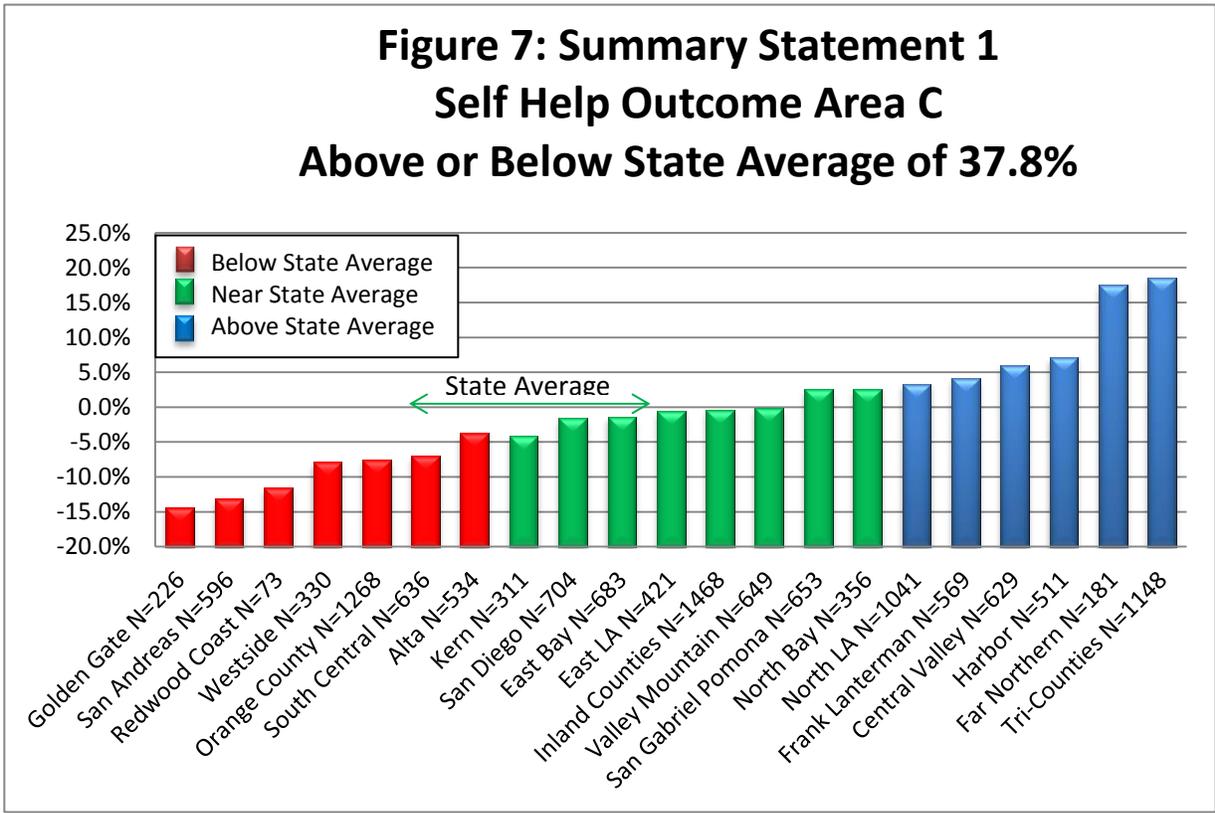
**Figure 5: Summary Statement 1
Social Emotional Outcome Area A
Above or Below State Average of 43.3%**



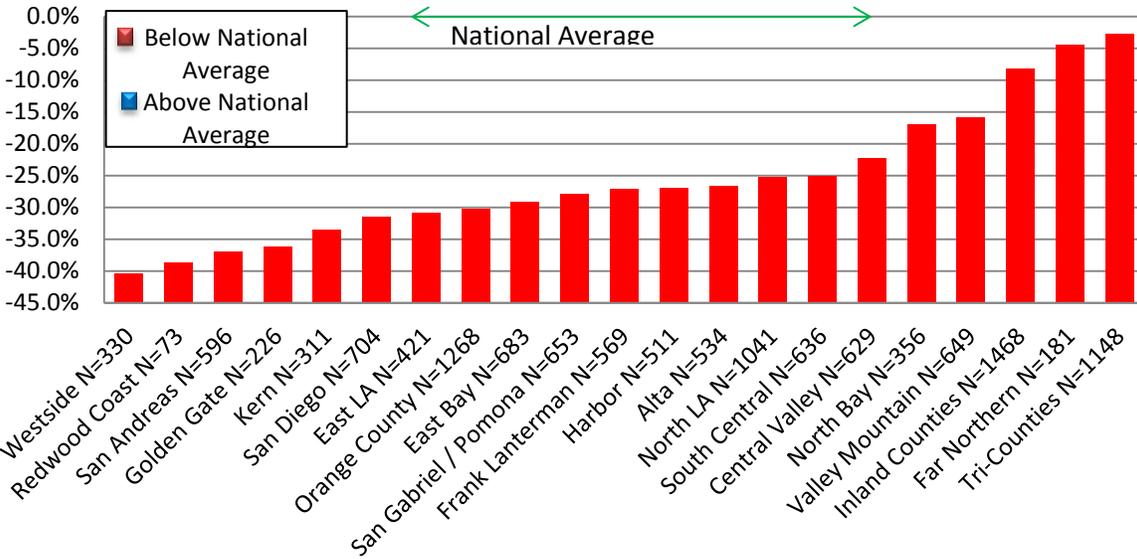
| Table 2 Regional Center | Child Count | Summary Statement 1 Knowledge & Skills | Above or below State Average 49.5% |
|----------------------------|----------------|---|--|
| South Central | 636 | 29.3% | -20.2% |
| East LA | 421 | 31.9% | -17.6% |
| Redwood Coast | 73 | 34.4% | -15.1% |
| Frank Lanterman | 569 | 37.6% | -11.9% |
| Kern | 311 | 39.0% | -10.5% |
| Golden Gate | 226 | 39.7% | -9.8% |
| Westside | 330 | 41.8% | -7.7% |
| San Diego | 704 | 45.4% | -4.1% |
| Harbor | 511 | 46.5% | -3.0% |
| East Bay | 683 | 46.7% | -2.8% |
| Inland Counties | 1468 | 50.1% | 0.6% |
| Orange County | 1268 | 50.3% | 0.8% |
| San Andreas | 596 | 50.5% | 1.0% |
| Alta | 534 | 51.0% | 1.5% |
| Valley Mountain | 649 | 51.2% | 1.7% |
| Far Northern | 181 | 51.5% | 2.0% |
| North LA | 1041 | 51.9% | 2.4% |
| Central Valley | 629 | 54.6% | 5.1% |
| North Bay | 356 | 58.9% | 9.4% |
| San Gabriel Pomona | 653 | 63.0% | 13.5% |
| Tri-Counties | 1148 | 67.9% | 18.4% |



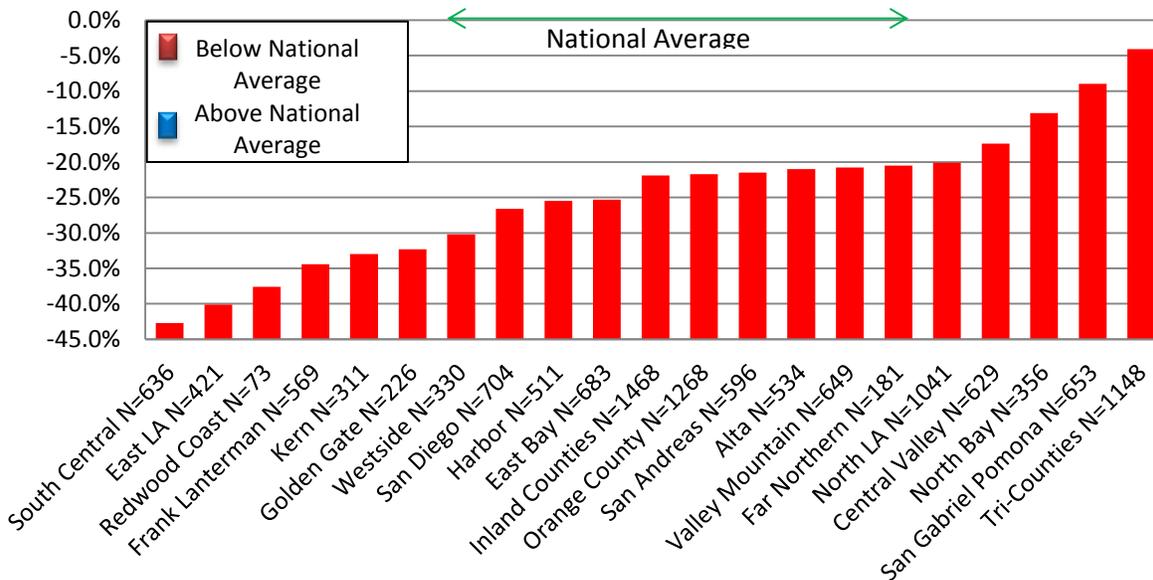
| Table 3 Regional Center | Child Count | Summary Statement 1 Self Help | Above or below State Average 37.8% |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Golden Gate | 226 | 23.4% | -14.4% |
| San Andreas | 596 | 24.6% | -13.2% |
| Redwood Coast | 73 | 26.2% | -11.6% |
| Westside | 330 | 29.9% | -7.9% |
| Orange County | 1268 | 30.3% | -7.5% |
| South Central | 636 | 30.8% | -7.0% |
| Kern | 311 | 33.6% | -4.2% |
| Alta | 534 | 34.1% | -3.7% |
| San Diego | 704 | 36.2% | -1.6% |
| East Bay | 683 | 36.3% | -1.5% |
| East LA | 421 | 37.2% | -0.6% |
| Inland Counties | 1468 | 37.3% | -0.5% |
| Valley Mountain | 649 | 37.6% | -0.2% |
| San Gabriel Pomona | 653 | 40.3% | 2.5% |
| North Bay | 356 | 40.4% | 2.6% |
| North LA | 1041 | 41.1% | 3.3% |
| Frank Lanterman | 569 | 41.9% | 4.1% |
| Central Valley | 629 | 43.8% | 6.0% |
| Harbor | 511 | 44.9% | 7.1% |
| Far Northern | 181 | 55.3% | 17.5% |
| Tri-Counties | 1148 | 56.4% | 18.6% |



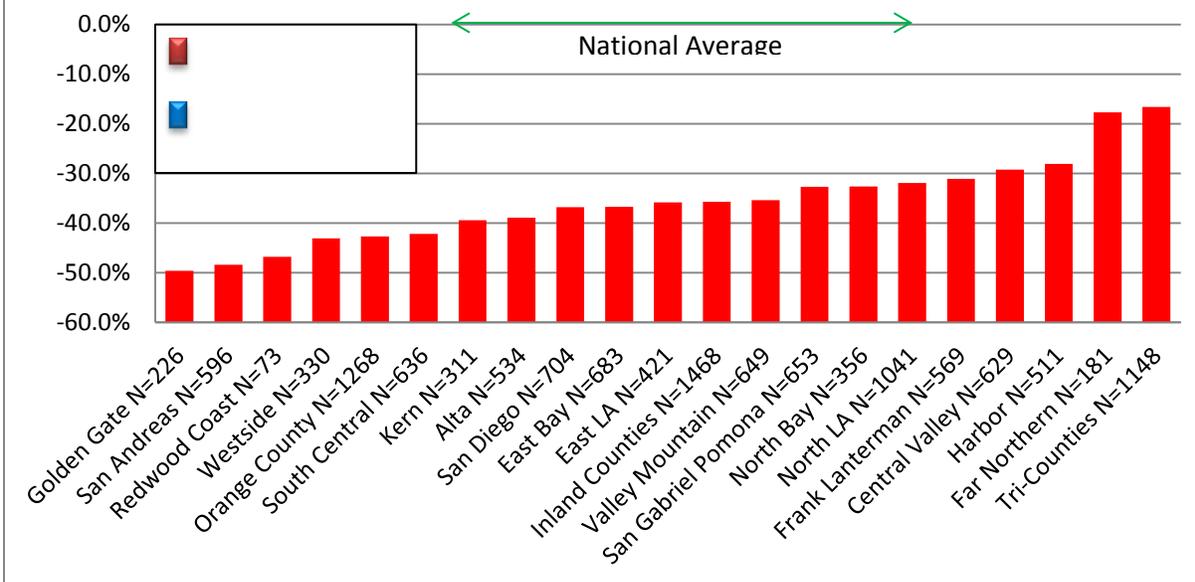
**Figure 8: Summary Statement 1
Social Emotional Outcome Area A
Above or Below National Average of 67%**



**Figure 9: Summary Statement 1 Knowledge &
Skills Outcome Area B Above or Below
National Average of 72%**



**Figure 10: Summary Statement 1
Self Help Outcome C Above or Below
National Average of 73%**



After you review and present the data from your broad data analysis it will be important to add some interpretation and decide on the next steps for more indepth analysis and determination of root causes related to the performance. Involving stakeholders is recommended to broaden the perspective as the analyses continue . The table below includes some questions that you could ask to help guide interpretation and next steps.

| Question | Notes |
|---|---|
| <p>* Does California’s child outcomes data look different than the national data?</p> | <p>All California Regional Centers rated significantly below the National Average for Summary Statement 1.</p> <p>Overall, California scored as well as or above in all three outcome areas for Summary Statement 2.</p> |
| <p>* Is California performing more poorly in some outcomes than others?</p> | <p>California scores the lowest percentage in Summary Statement I, Outcome C Actions to Meet Needs (Self Help) with 38% overall.</p> |
| <p>* Are California’s child outcomes trends stable over time? Trending upwards? Trending downwards?</p> | <p>California’s trends remain relatively constant with Summary Statement 1 (while below the National average) trending slightly upward & Summary Statement 2 (while above the National Average) trending slightly downward.²</p> |
| <p>* Are the child outcomes similar across programs?</p> | <p>There is a wide variance among the programs (Regional Centers).</p> |

Some possible next steps in conducting a more in depth analysis could include questions like:

- * Does California’s child outcomes data look like that of other states with similar eligibility criteria and/or service delivery systems?
- * For a given outcome of interest, how does the breakdown by progress categories a through e inform our interpretation and possible next steps?

² – National Average includes only states and territories that have complete data on at least 28% of exiting children; progress within reasonably expected patterns and ranges.