

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PERFORMANCE OF LOCAL PROGRAMS (REGIONAL CENTERS) FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2009/10



PART C OF THE FEDERAL INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT

Introduction

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C program in California is known as the Early Start Program and is a multi-agency effort that encourages partnerships between families and professionals, family support, and the provision and coordination of services. The statewide system of early intervention services is available throughout California and can be accessed through regional centers for developmental disabilities, county offices of education, local school districts, health or social service agencies, and family resource centers/networks. Early intervention services are provided based on the developmental needs of the child, the concerns and priorities of the family, and the resources available to them. Services are provided within the context of the child and family's daily activities and routines. The type and amount of services provided are specified in each participating child's Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), which is developed in cooperation with the family and others involved. At age three, children in the Early Start Program transition to other services, as appropriate.

The federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) measures each state's performance according to federal law and requires each state measure and report on the progress of its local programs in meeting a subset of selected performance indicator targets. In California, the regional centers are the local programs, which are identified with their abbreviations in Exhibit 1. California's State Performance Plan includes 13 indicators, each of which contains targets used to measure the State's performance with regard to meeting Part C requirements. Descriptions of these indicators are provided in Exhibit 2.

The numbers reported herein reflect the latest data available for each local program through June 30, 2010. Although data are shown for each local program, only that collected electronically or through on-site monitoring visits during the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2009 reporting period was used to calculate the State's level of performance for each indicator. Therefore, while each local program's most recent data are included in this report, only data collected during FFY 2009, were used in determining the State's performance for FFY 2009. This document has been prepared and publicly posted to report on the performance of local programs in accordance with the requirements of Section 616(b) (2) (C) of the federal 2004 IDEA (Public Law 108-446).

Performance Data Considerations and Limitations

1. Indicators 3, 7 and 8 rely on sampling through manual data collection. A small sample size may not be representative of the local programs actual performance. Where manual data were not collected during the reporting year, past year data from actual visits are shown.
2. Some local programs may be more compliant on a target than the data reflect, but may not be documenting appropriately in the client records; therefore, the data extracted may not fully reflect performance.
3. Per the OSEP criteria, “timeliness” compliance is not measured in degrees but simply whether local programs met the deadline (e.g., for services and IFSP development). Thus, a local program may have every IFSP developed within 48 days and average 46 days, but will show poorly on the 45-day compliance measure.
4. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) recognizes that there may be slippage in some local program compliance data due to staffing and vendor shortages and interagency challenges.
5. Regarding the percentage of children served under age three, there are additional factors to consider when comparing California to the national average. California serves a smaller percentage of 0-3 year olds than the national average. This may be due to California demonstrating a better than the national average level of risk for many risk factors that are highly correlated with birth outcomes. These factors include, but are not limited to: a) Prenatal care; b) Premature births; c) Teen birth rate; d) Low birth weight; and e) Female cigarette smoking rate. Moreover, creation of a new state-only-funded Prevention Program for children who previously were served under Part C has depressed California’s numbers.
6. The number of infants/toddlers annually served in the Early Start Program has increased significantly since 2001, placing an ever-increasing burden on local programs to balance available resources between multiple programs and effectively address all the needs of the children and families. Federal funding to address this growth has not materialized, but local programs have continued to provide quality services.

Performance of Local Programs (Indicators 1-4c)

Local Programs	Indicator 1 Timely Services (45 Days) Actual Results (Data)	Indicator 2 Services in Natural Environ's Actual Results (Data)	Indicator 3 Child Outcomes Actual Results	Indicator 4a Family Outcomes Actual Results	Indicator 4b Family Outcomes Actual Results	Indicator 4c Family Outcomes Actual Results
ACRC	90.70%	87.44%	SEE ATTACHED CHARTS	67.50%	84.00%	89.70%
CVRC	94.66%	91.42%		91.90%	96.80%	96.70%
ELARC	94.55%	86.56%		88.30%	94.10%	94.00%
FDLRC	97.49%	82.28%		80.60%	95.10%	95.20%
FNRC	96.89%	97.74%		76.20%	95.20%	90.50%
GGRC	86.31%	100.00%		81.80%	90.90%	92.30%
HRC	98.28%	38.31%		69.10%	87.80%	85.40%
IRC	98.74%	95.58%		85.50%	92.20%	94.50%
KRC	96.58%	62.15%		78.30%	82.60%	82.50%
NBRC	95.90%	89.22%		75.00%	83.30%	93.30%
NLACRC	98.08%	94.37%		78.40%	87.60%	88.60%
RCEB	96.24%	87.44%		78.80%	87.90%	88.60%
RCOC	99.13%	77.48%		85.10%	92.90%	96.10%
RCRC	90.70%	90.73%		60.00%	60.00%	60.00%
SARC	91.46%	81.05%		80.00%	83.80%	91.50%
SCLARC	87.78%	57.04%		72.40%	78.70%	80.90%
SDRC	91.90%	93.13%		80.60%	90.40%	89.50%
SG/PRC	85.16%	91.33%		80.70%	82.80%	82.70%
TCRC	97.02%	98.28%		82.50%	89.80%	91.20%
VMRC	97.83%	95.98%		81.00%	93.10%	94.90%
WRC	90.99%	81.92%	72.30%	85.10%	97.90%	

Performance of Local Programs (Indicators 5-8c)

Local Programs	Indicator 5 Ages 0-1 with IFSPs Actual Results	Indicator 6 Ages 0-3 with IFSPs Actual Results	Indicator 7 Timely Services (45 Days) Actual Results	Indicator 8(a) Transition Steps in IFSP Actual Results	Indicator 8(b) Local Education Agency (LEA) Notification Actual Results	Indicator 8(c) Transition Conference Held Actual Results
ACRC	0.86%	2.09%	86.21%	75.00%	100.00%	100.00%
CVRC	0.97%	1.94%	79.17%	90.00%	100.00%	100.00%
ELARC	0.77%	2.44%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
FDLRC	0.81%	2.54%	92.00%	50.00%	100.00%	100.00%
FNRC	1.31%	2.94%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
GGRC	0.71%	2.11%	100.00%	75.00%	75.00%	100.00%
HRC	1.47%	2.20%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
IRC	0.84%	1.41%	95.65%	88.90%	55.60%	88.90%
KRC	0.79%	1.77%	84.38%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
NBRC	0.83%	2.48%	59.09%	75.00%	79.20%	100.00%
NLACRC	1.00%	3.01%	81.08%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
RCEB	0.72%	2.24%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
RCOC	0.94%	2.98%	89.74%	25.00%	100.00%	100.00%
RCRC	1.15%	2.39%	97.30%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
SARC	0.82%	2.17%	61.54%	91.70%	100.00%	100.00%
SCLARC	0.69%	1.44%	96.30%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
SDRC	0.81%	2.10%	84.85%	95.00%	95.00%	100.00%
SG/PRC	1.56%	3.27%	94.29%	95.50%	100.00%	100.00%
TCRC	1.81%	3.75%	88.57%	62.50%	100.00%	87.50%
VMRC	1.06%	2.44%	88.89% ^{1/}	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
WRC	1.42%	3.01%	86.96%	80.00%	94.00%	82.40%

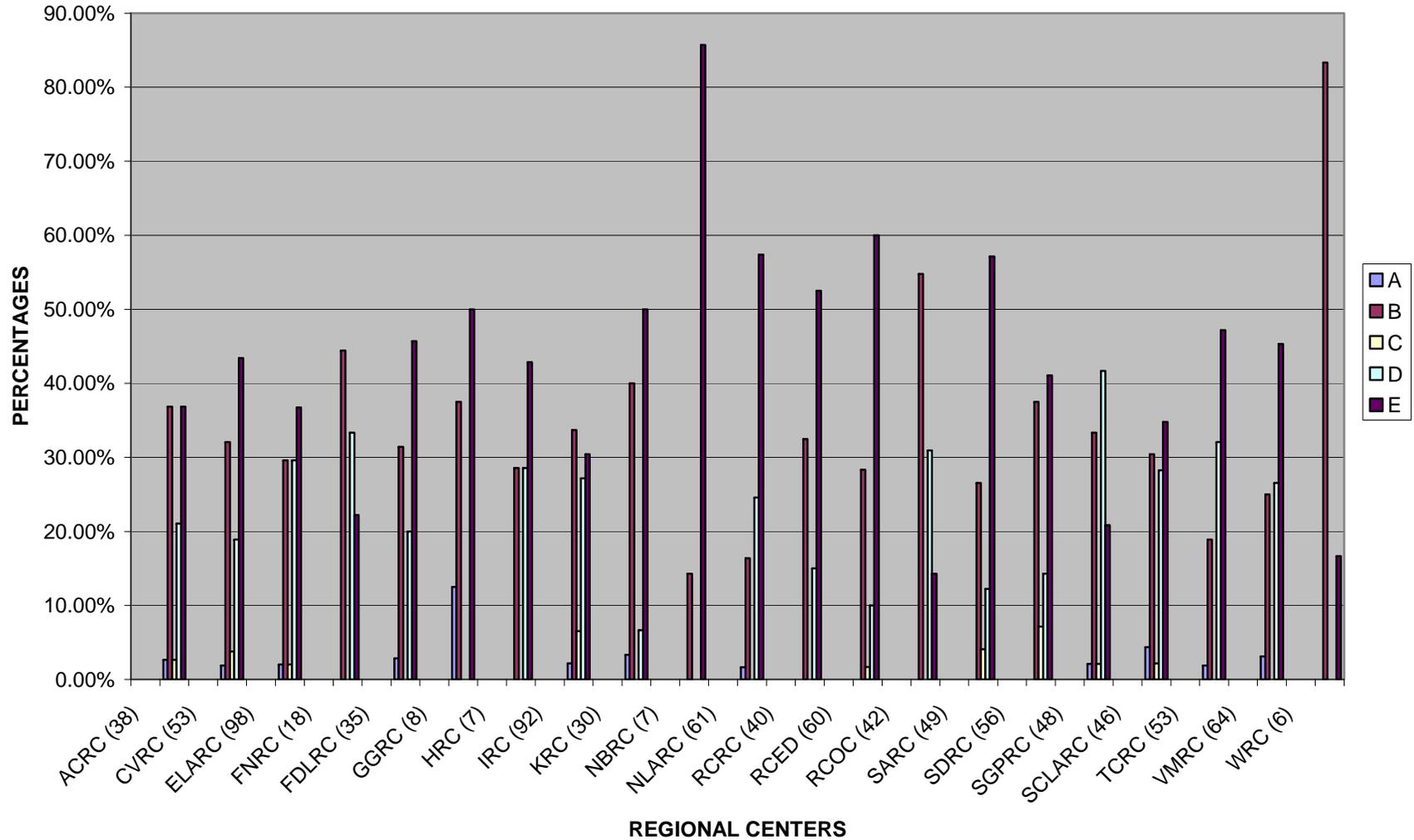
^{1/} Per VMRC: Data for Indicator #7 reflect a small sample size from DDS' manually collected data. Based on data reported by VMRC, performance on this indicator for Federal Fiscal Year 2009 was 95% for all children served, whether or not they were found eligible for Early Start.

**INDICATOR #3: Targets and Actual Percentages for Infants and Toddlers
Federal Fiscal Year 2009
(Excludes at-risk children)**

Summary Statements	2008 Baseline (Adjusted) ¹	Targets/Actuals for FFY 2009 (% of children)
Outcome A		
1. Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome A, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned three years of age or exited the program	38.8	39.3/46.9
2. The percent of children who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome A by the time they turned three years of age or exited the program	76.4	76.9/72.5
Outcome B		
1. Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome B, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned three years of age or exited the program	42.4	42.9/43.9
2. The percent of children who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome B by the time they turned three years of age or exited the program	68.0	68.5/64.2
Outcome C		
1. Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome C, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned three years of age or exited the program	33.2	33.7/41.4
2. The percent of children who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome C by the time they turned three years of age or exited the program	71.0	71.5/67.8

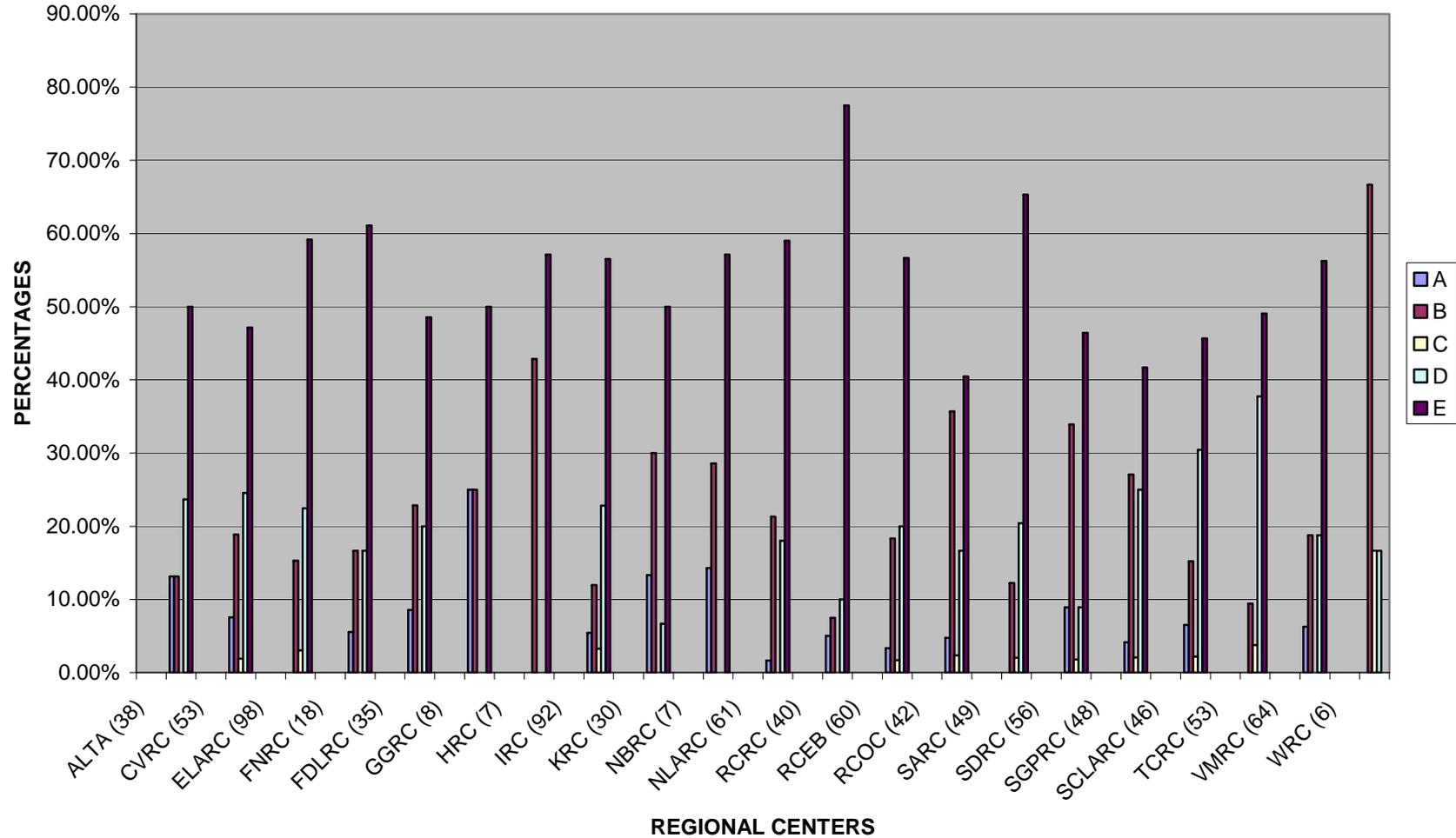
¹ "Adjusted" baseline excludes at-risk children who no longer qualify for Part C services in California.

**INDICATOR 3
2009/2010 CHILD OUTCOME BY PROGRAM RE: KNOWLEDGE SKILLS**



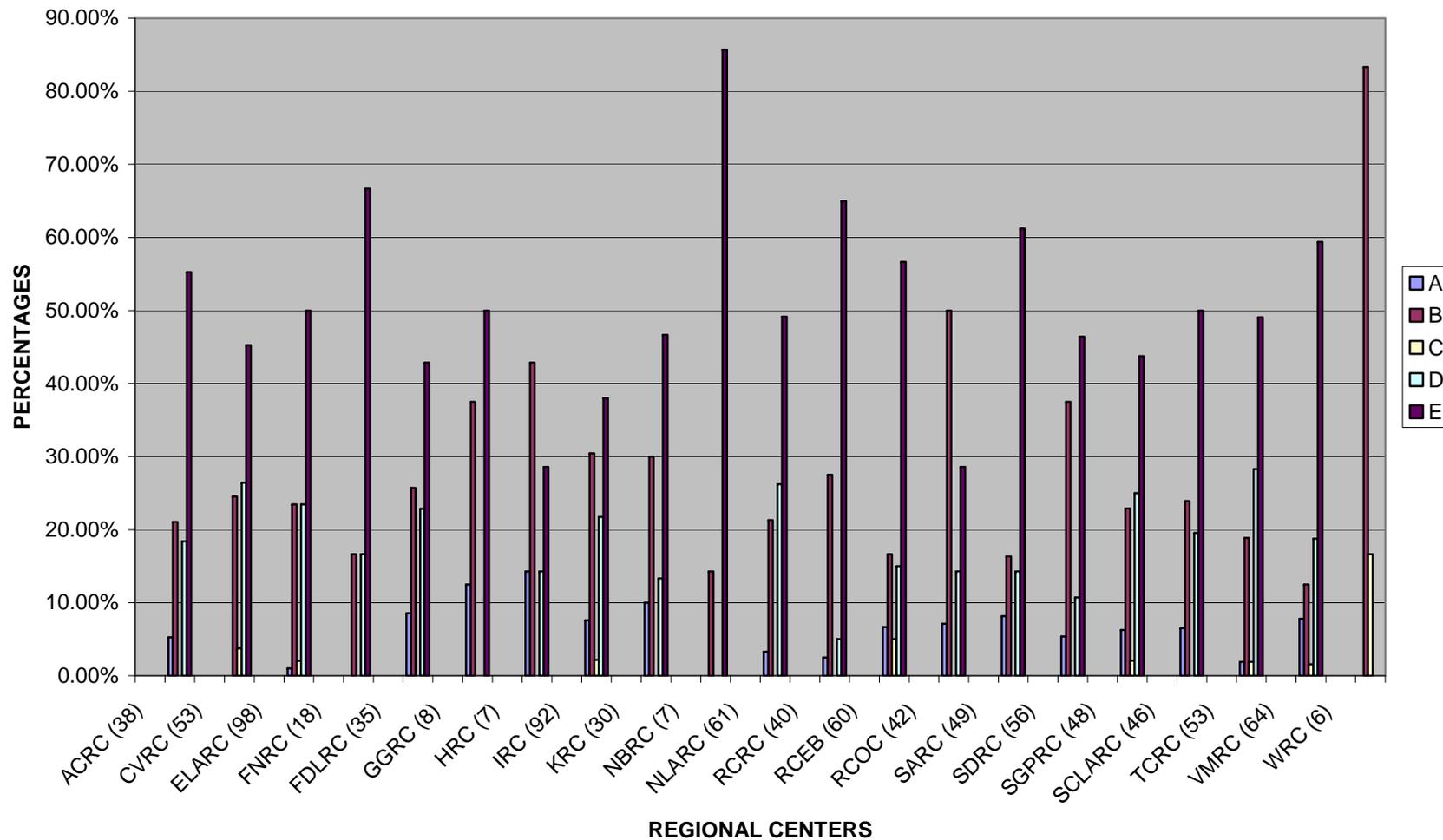
KEY for Outcome Chart regarding percent of infants/toddlers who: ■ A = did not improve functioning; ■ B = improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers; ■ C = improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it; ■ D = improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers; ■ E = maintained functioning at a level comparable to same aged peers.

**INDICATOR 3
2009/2010 CHILD OUTCOME BY PROGRAM RE: SOCIAL EMOTIONAL**



KEY for Outcome Chart regarding percent of infants/toddlers who: ■ A = did not improve functioning; ■ B = improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers; ■ C = improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it; ■ D = improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers; ■ E = maintained functioning at a level comparable to same aged peers.

**INDICATOR 3
2009/2010 CHILD OUTCOME BY PROGRAM RE: SELF HELP**



KEY for Outcome Chart regarding percent of infants/toddlers who: ■ A = did not improve functioning; ■ B = improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers; ■ C = improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it; ■ D = improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers; ■ E = maintained functioning at a level comparable to same aged peers.

The foregoing tables reflect the synthesis of local programs data submitted to DDS and the results of record reviews conducted for the Early Start Program. DDS will update these tables with the most current data at the beginning of each year as part of the federal Annual Performance Report (APR) process. Data will be obtained through electronic (universal) and manual (sampling records on location) means. DDS is in the process of implementing universal reporting on all indicators through the Early Start Report (ESR). The ESR is the data collection system utilized by local programs to collect required information for the Early Start Program.

DESCRIPTION OF INDICATORS

Exhibit 1:

Indicator #1, Timely Services (45 Days) – Indicator #1 is the percentage of infants and toddlers with an IFSP who receive the early intervention services on their IFSP in a timely manner. Timeliness is defined as the provision of initial Part C services listed in the infant/toddler’s IFSP within, or no later than, 45 days from the date of the IFSP. The measurement of timeliness is derived from IFSP date data entered on the ESR, which is the data-tracking form used by local programs for all Early Start participants, and data derived from service provider claim forms processed at the local program (month service was provided). Services that are not identified as primary services for improving infant/toddler outcomes are not included in the calculation.

Indicator #2, Services in Natural Environments – Indicator #2 is the percentage of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive early intervention services primarily in the home or programs for typically-developing children. The data used for reporting progress on this indicator are derived from the ESR’s primary location of services data element that uses data definitions and guidance as provided by OSEP. The locations and definitions listed in the ESR for provision of services are: *Home* (Residence of the child’s family or caregiver), *Community-Based Settings* (settings where children without disabilities are typically found including, but not limited to, child care centers, family child care, preschool and nursery schools, early childhood centers, libraries, grocery stores, parks, restaurants, and community centers, i.e., YMCA and Boys and Girls Clubs), *Other* (settings including, but not limited to, hospitals, residential facilities, clinics, and early intervention center/class specifically for children with disabilities).

Indicator #3, Child Outcomes – Indicator #3 is the percentage 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.

NOTE: The detailed information on this indicator is displayed on a separate document titled FFY 2009 Indicator 3 Data (Page 5).

Indicator #4a, b and c, Family Outcomes – Indicator #4a, b and c is the percentage of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family to:

- A. Know their rights;
- B. Effectively communicate their children’s needs; and

C. Help their children develop and learn.

DDS employed an adapted version of the Family Outcomes Survey (2006) to gather and analyze data for FFY 2009. A random sample of approximately 17,000 families of children whose children were currently receiving Early Start services and had been receiving those services for at least six months (in October 2009) was chosen. DDS used systematic sampling procedures to stratify a random sample of 5,000 families proportionally drawn across five ethnicity groups (Asian, Black, Hispanic, Native American, and White) and "Declined to State." The systematic sampling procedure was calculated using a confidence level of 90 percent. The overall response rate was 28.6 percent (1,431 surveys) with respondents representing all programs. DDS is piloting the use of a third language for the FFY 2010 survey: Chinese is being added to the previous languages, which are English and Spanish.

Exhibit 2:

Indicator #5, Ages 0-1 with IFSPs – Indicator #5 is the State's percentage of population served and is calculated using the percentage of infants and toddlers birth to age one with IFSPs, compared to national data posted by OSEP on the following network: <http://spp-apr-calendar.rrfcnetwork.org/explorer/view/id/793> (Table C-13 - Percent of infants and toddlers receiving early intervention services under IDEA, Part C, by age and state: Fall 2009). Local program data were calculated using the status 1 and 2 children under age one, divided by the general population of children under age one in each local program's respective service area. Population data for the County of Los Angeles was obtained for each of the 26 health districts, which are the geographic divisions used to determine local programs' service areas. The County of Los Angeles population data were obtained December 3, 2010, from the Data Collection and Analysis Unit, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, Department of Public Health, County of Los Angeles. The data used for Indicator #5 limit comparisons of local programs because, at any point in time, program population may fluctuate month-to-month due to the short time span that children may be enrolled in the program and the significant month-to-month variations local programs may experience in referrals.

Indicator #6, Ages 0-3 with IFSPs – Indicator #6 is the State's percentage of population served is calculated using the percentage of infants and toddlers birth to age three with IFSPs, compared to national data posted by OSEP on the following network: <http://spp-apr-calendar.rrfcnetwork.org/explorer/view/id/793> (Table C-13 - Percent of infants and toddlers receiving early intervention services under IDEA, Part C, by age and state: Fall 2009). Local program data were calculated using the status 1 and 2 children under age three, divided by the general population of children under age three in each local program's respective service area. The County of Los Angeles population data were obtained for each of the 26 health districts, which are the geographic divisions used to determine local programs' service areas. The County of Los Angeles population data were

obtained December 3, 2010, from the Data Collection and Analysis Unit, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, Department of Public Health, County of Los Angeles. The data used for Indicator #6 limit comparisons of local programs because, at any point in time, program population may fluctuate month-to-month due to the short time span that children may be enrolled in the program and the significant month-to-month variations local programs may experience in referrals.

Indicator #7, Timely Services (45 Days) – Indicator #7 is the percentage of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs who received evaluation, assessment, and an initial IFSP meeting within Part C's required 45-day timeline. The data used for reporting progress on this indicator are derived from on-site record reviews conducted by DDS and include comparison of the date of referral to the local programs and the IFSP date. In some cases, the actual number of days that exceeded the 45-day requirement may be small, but it is still reportable.

Indicator #8a, b and c, Timely Transition – Indicator #8 represents the percentage of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition services by their third birthday including:

- A. IFSPs with transition steps and services;
- B. Notification to LEA, if the child is potentially eligible for Part B; and
- C. Transition conference, if the child is potentially eligible for Part B.

The data used for reporting progress on this indicator are derived from on-site record reviews conducted by DDS and include reviewing the records of infants/toddlers eligible for, or transitioned to, Part B services.

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