



Executive Summary

Montana Milestones Part C Early Intervention Program used two specific implementation drivers to review the overall quality of the state-wide program in FFY 2015 in addition to each early intervention provider's self-assessment.

Montana's Comprehensive Monitoring Tool (2014): Montana's regional Quality Improvement Specialists (QIS), assigned to one of seven early intervention service providers, chose a randomized statistically valid sample (based upon FFY 2015 Child Count data) of child records to review both via the online data management system, the Early Intervention Module, and during an on-site visit(s) at the provider agency. The tool provides guidance for the Quality Improvement Specialists to review and document both needs for remediation and exemplary practices. The components:

- Program Management
- Multidisciplinary Teams
- Qualified Personnel
- Assessments and Evaluations
- IFSP development
- IFSP implementation
- Outcomes quality and implementation
- Family Interview

Montana's data management system, the Early Intervention Module (EI Module), retains IFSP records; Child Outcomes records; transition and exit records. The conversion from paper records to electronically recorded documents informs the Part C Coordinator and individual program providers of past and current data about Child Outcomes Summaries; Child Counts; Exiting Reports; Child Outcomes Analysis; IFSP status; notification reports of potentially eligible children; transition conferences report; Part B service referrals; IFSP services(intensity, frequency, and duration); children turning age 3 transition report; and children turning age 8 transition report.

The monitoring mechanisms capture a broad representation of compliance and results indicators from the early intervention programs in Montana. The data gathered distinguishes practices, policies, and procedures that are well-executed and reveal programs of quality practices and corresponding results. Additionally, particular issues identified require improvement approaches and strategies to meet compliance indicators and/or quality indicators. The provider agencies created comprehensive improvement proposals for their agencies based upon the monitoring findings and the plans were approved by the Part C Coordinator and the Quality Improvement Specialists. The execution of each plan is monitored during each quarterly Outcomes Monitoring call with the Part C Coordinator and the Quality Improvement Specialist. The expected results include increased compliance and quality as well as identification of needed technical assistance to achieve ongoing improvement measured by results.



General Supervision System

The systems that are in place to ensure that IDEA Part C requirements are met, e.g., monitoring systems, dispute resolution systems.

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Developmental Disabilities Division: **Montana Milestones Part C Early Intervention Program** is the lead agency for the implementation of Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Montana Milestones Part C Early Intervention Program ensures and requires implementation of IDEA through defined expectations in the following:

- SSIP/APR
- Indicators for monitoring regional early intervention program providers
- Montana Part C Rules and Regulations (compliant with Federal rules and regulations)
- Montana Part C Procedural Safeguards
- Montana Part C System of Payments
- Montana Part C guidance, policies, and procedures
- Interagency agreements
- Contracts with regional early intervention program providers
- Complaints and due process
- Electronic and onsite monitoring
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Remediation Plans

Montana monitors all programs annually on APR indicators.

Technical Assistance System

The mechanisms that the State has in place to ensure the timely delivery of high quality, evidenced based technical assistance and support to early intervention service (EIS) programs.

Montana Milestones Part C Early Intervention currently utilizes the technical assistance of the State's Part C Coordinator and the regional Quality Improvement Specialists along with OSEP technical assistance teams from Westat, SRI, and DaSy. The Part C Coordinator and the Quality Improvement Specialists are engaged in ongoing support of the regional providers through quarterly meetings to assist them in using data and making ongoing improvements through identified improvement plans stemming from monitoring. All types of technical assistance are intended to increase the knowledge, skills, and professional effectiveness of the technical assistance recipients. Typical forms of technical assistance include targeted professional development, mentoring, coaching, and consultation.

The Part C Coordinator and Quality Improvement Specialists work hand in hand with regional providers to determine if non-compliance is systemic or isolated and the actions and data required verifying the results of remediation. The Part C Coordinator reviews progress data on a quarterly or more frequent



basis, depending on concerns to ensure improvement plans are being implemented and include ongoing evaluation. Results are shared throughout the year during Outcomes Monitoring calls.

New:

Montana Milestones Part C Early Intervention Program is participating in a **cross-state learning collaborative, Part C RBA**. Montana's desired outcome is to hone our comprehensive monitoring tool and process as well as increase our technical assistance to individual providers in an effort to achieve the best results for infants, toddlers, and their families.

Professional Development System

The mechanisms the State has in place to ensure that service providers are effectively providing services that improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

Montana Milestones Part C Early Intervention previously adopted Montana's Comprehensive System of Personnel Development developed by Montana's Office of Public Instruction. Montana identified the creation, implementation, and use of an online professional development system, MSU Extended University, to promote systemic, consistent and on-demand professional development pertaining to early intervention in Montana.

The early intervention educational activities correlate to (not an exhaustive list):

- Comprehension of the Individuals with Disability Education Act, Part C emphasizing the development, content and implementation of IFSPs;
- Writing high-quality child and family outcomes;
- Comprehension and use of the Early Intervention Module for IFSPs, Child Outcomes, and Transition data;
- Using data collected for decision making at both local and state-wide levels (with meaningful family engagement);
- Meeting the interrelated social and emotional, health, developmental, and educational needs of infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families;
- Implementing innovative and evidence-based strategies to support the improved development of infants and toddlers with disabilities (with emphasis on social-emotional competence);
- Training personnel to coordinate transition services for infants and toddlers with disabilities who are transitioning from Part C early intervention services to another program;
- Training personnel to measure Child Outcomes and use the Child Outcomes Summary Process with fidelity across the State using a Train the Trainers Model with assistance from the **Child Outcomes Cohort cross-state collaborative**;
- Training personnel to utilize Montana's Routines-Based Interviewing™ as the family information gathering tool in order to develop high-quality and functional child and family outcomes; and
- Training personnel to utilize a Coaching Interaction Style with Families to promote family roles in the development and implementation of the IFSP.



Stakeholder Involvement

The mechanism for soliciting broad stakeholder input on targets in the SSIP/APR, including revisions to targets.

Montana Milestones Part C Early Intervention engages in a variety of activities to ensure stakeholder input for the 2015 APR (Federal Fiscal Year reporting period of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016) for submission by February 1, 2017.

- Montana's Part C Coordinator participated in OSEP's technical assistance conference calls and reviewed SSIP/APR materials and instructions to ensure Montana's SSIP/APR would be in compliance with OSEP requirements, including the involvement by multiple means for stakeholders to provide input and participate in the development of the SPP/APR.
- Lead agency administrative staff were informed and updated on the SSIP/APR requirements, including stakeholder input.
- The FSSAC, Montana's ICC, and the regional provider agencies' representatives participated in the development of the SSIP/APR in the following ways: (1) informed of the APR requirements and (2) reviewed and provided feedback on data collected for Child Count (618), the FFY 2015 Annual Performance Report, and the State Systemic Improvement Plan.
- Montana's Part C Coordinator reviewed the APR data, obtained clarifications concerning the data as needed, and developed the APR.
- Stakeholder meeting was held on January 9, 2017 to review and provide feedback for the FFY 2015 APR. See <http://dphhs.mt.gov/dsd/developmentaldisabilities/PartC-EarlyInt/PartCMeetingMinutes> for presentations and meeting minutes.
- The FSSAC chairperson reviewed and edited the draft to ensure clear and accurate information for the submission of the FFY 2015 APR due February 1, 2017.

Reporting to the Public

How the State will report annually to the public on the performance of EI program or provider located in the State on the targets in the SSIP/APR as soon as practicable, but not later than 120 days following the State's submission of its APR as required by 34 CFR §303.702(b)(1)(i)(A).

- **Montana Milestones/Part C Early Intervention** FFY 2014 will be available on Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services website, <http://dphhs.mt.gov/dsd/developmentaldisabilities/PartC-EarlyInt/PartCReports>, along with websites of Montana's Office of Public Instruction (OPI) Special Education; Parents Let's Unite for Kids (PLUK); Montana Council on Developmental Disabilities, and regional provider agencies.
- PLUK disseminates information to access copies of the FFY 2015 APR through their weekly electronic newsletter shared with the families of children with disabilities and professionals in early intervention and special education. The newsletter is also available in print format.
- Montana State Library provides a link to access the State's FFY 2015 APR through state libraries' websites. It is also included in their electronic database catalog.



- The FFY 2015 APR includes Montana’s progress or slippage in meeting the measurable targets found for each indicator along with any required remediation.
- The FFY 2015 APR is reported to the public as soon as possible after February 1, 2017.

Dissemination of **Montana Milestones Part C Early Intervention** Provider Agencies’ FFY 2015 APRs to the Public:

- Each provider agencies’ FFY 2015 APR will be available at <http://dphhs.mt.gov/dsd/developmentaldisabilities/PartC-EarlyInt/PartCReports> and at each regional provider agency website.
- PLUK disseminates information to access copies of each local provider agencies’ FFY 2015 APRs through their weekly electronic newsletter shared with families of children with disabilities and professionals in early intervention and special education. The newsletter is also available in print format.
- Provider agencies’ FFY 2015 APRs will be available to the members of the FSSAC, Office of Public Instruction (OPI), and PLUK, and Boards of Directors for Part C provider agencies.
- Provider agencies’ FFY 2015 APRs include progress or slippage in meeting the measurable targets and any identified remediation requirements.
- Provider agencies’ FFY 2015 APRs are reported to the public as soon as possible after February 1, 2017 but no later than April 30, 2017.

Indicator 1: Timely Provision of Services

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Compliance indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner. (20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

FFY 2015	Measurable and Rigorous Target: 100% of infants and toddlers with IFSPs will receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.
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Montana met the compliance target for FFY 2015. Actual Target Data for FFY 2015 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016):

Progress reporting continued:



REPORT OF PROGRESS – INDICATOR 1

	Measurable and Rigorous Target FFY 2015	Actual Target Data FFY 2013	Actual Target Data FFY 2014	Actual Target Data FFY 2015
Indicator 1	100%	100%	98%	99.877%

RAW DATA CALCULATION – INDICATOR 1

A	B	C	D	E
Total child records reviewed.	Children with IFSPs receiving early intervention services in a timely manner.	Children with IFSPs not receiving early intervention services in a timely manner due to documented exceptional family circumstances.	Percent of children with IFSPs who received early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner or there was a documented exceptional family circumstance that prevented timely service delivery.	Total children not receiving timely service delivery for reason other than documented exceptional circumstances.
819	796	22	99.877%	1

22/819 delayed due to exceptional family circumstances.

1/819 delayed due to agency circumstance.

Methods Used in Collection of Data:

Data is based on two methods of data collection with each regional early intervention program provider agency. The two methods and schedules cover the delivery of services throughout FFY 2015 including both children with their initial IFSPs as well as children with subsequent IFSPs.

Method 1: A survey method, following specific State protocol, was used to collect data from each provider agency from children’s files for the Federal Fiscal Year of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 and submitted to Montana’s Part C Coordinator. Each agency randomly selected a specified number of files. The collection provides the State a proportional representation by geographical region of the whole population served in Montana’s Part C. After the selection of random files, the provider reviewed data to document compliance to timely provision of services for each file. A total of **129** individual files were reviewed from geographical regions around the State: **26** from Region 1; **18** from Region 2; **38** from Region 3; **25** from Region 4; and **22** from Region 5. Regions 1 and 3 have two Part C provider agencies; each of the other regions has one.



The provider reviewed the files to determine if services were provided according to the definition of timely services, and recorded: (1) if the Part C service(s) were provided in a timely manner and if not, (2) the number of days over the timely definition for each child if services scheduled were not provided (within 30 days after the IFSP was signed), (3) the reason the services were not provided (e.g., child was sick, winter weather prevented travel, service provider canceled) due to exceptional family circumstances or not.

Data from Regional Part C agencies Sampling and Reporting for the APR Information:

- 113/129 files randomly selected using the *Research Randomizer Program* indicated infants and toddlers received Part C early intervention services within 30 days of parent(s) signing IFSP.
- 15/129 children's files randomly selected using the *Research Randomizer Program* indicated infants and toddlers with IFSPs did not receive early intervention services within 30 days of parent(s) signing IFSP due to exceptional family circumstances.
- 1/129 children's files randomly selected using the *Research Randomizer Program* indicated infants and toddlers with IFSPs did not receive early intervention services within 30 days of parent(s) signing IFSP due to agency circumstance.

The definition and procedures/instructions provided aid in assurance all providers' uniform implementation of data collection protocol. Each of the seven providers reported data to the Part C Coordinator who reviewed and compiled the data for the APR.

Each program provider maintains a record for **Indicator 1** to include the identification of the children/families randomly selected. The Quality Improvement Specialist verifies the accuracy (reliability and validity) of the data submitted and this specific information will be required at the upcoming quarterly Outcomes Monitoring meeting in February 2017.

Method 2: The second method was a combination of on-site monitoring and electronic file review using the EI Module by Montana's Quality Improvement Specialists (QIS). The collected data was recorded using Montana's Comprehensive Monitoring Tool for FFY 2015. The tool requires a statistically valid sample size from each individual provider thus casting our monitoring net wider. Additionally, its comprehensiveness includes not only a more in-depth look at compliance indicators but also quality monitoring of Qualified Personnel; Child and Family Outcomes; Assessment and Evaluation; and Program Management.

The files were reviewed for each child/family selected to determine if services were provided according to the definition of timely services, and recorded: (1) if the Part C service(s) were provided in a timely manner and if not, (2) the number of days over the timely definition for each child if services scheduled were not provided (within 30 days after the IFSP was signed), (3) the reason the services were not provided (e.g., child was sick, winter weather prevented travel, service provider canceled) due to exceptional family circumstances or not.



Data from Montana’s Comprehensive Monitoring Tool Spreadsheet:

- 683/690 files reviewed indicated services were provided without delay and according to Part C requirements for children/family.
- 7/690 files reviewed indicated services were delayed due to exceptional family circumstances.

Indicator 2: Services in Natural Environments

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings. (20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target ≥	97%	97%	98%	98%	99%	99%

FFY 2015	Measurable and Rigorous Target: 98% of infants and toddlers with IFSPs will primarily receive early intervention services in the home or programs for typically developing children.
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Montana met the target for FFY 2015. Actual Target Data for FFY 2015 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016):

REPORT OF PROGRESS – INDICATOR 2

	Measurable and Rigorous Target FFY 2015	Actual Target Data For FFY 2013	Actual Target Data For FFY 2014	Actual Target Data for FFY 2015
Indicator 2	98%	98.77%	99%	99%

A	B	C	D	E
Infants and toddlers with IFSPs receiving services in the home	Infants and toddlers with IFSPs receiving services in community-based settings	Infants and toddlers with IFSPs receiving services in other settings.	Total infants and toddlers with IFSPs reported.	Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs receiving services in the home or community-based settings.
714	5	2	721	99%



Indicator 3: Early Childhood Outcomes

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: 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.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target A1 ≥	59%	59%	62%	65%	65%	68%
Target A2 ≥	53%	53%	53%	56%	56%	59%
Target B1 ≥	61%	61%	61%	64%	64%	67%
Target B2 ≥	44%	44%	44%	47%	47%	50%
Target C1 ≥	67%	67%	67%	70%	70%	73%
Target C2 ≥	52%	52%	52%	55%	55%	58%

FFY 2015	Measurable and Rigorous Target
	<p>Outcome A: Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The State’s Identified Measurable Result (SiMR) Target: 62% 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 3 years of age or exited the program. Target 53% of children who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome A by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program. <p>Outcome B: Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication and early literacy)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Target: 61% 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 3 years of age or exited the program.



FFY 2015	Measurable and Rigorous Target
	<p>2. Target: 44% of children who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome B by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program.</p> <p>Outcome C: Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs:</p> <p>1. Target: 67% 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 3 years of age or exited the program.</p> <p>2. Target: 52% of children who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome C by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program.</p>

Montana did not meet Indicator 3a(2), 3b(2), and 3c FFY 2015 targets. Montana’s Actual Target Data for FFY 2015 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016):

REPORT OF PROGRESS – INDICATOR 3, OUTCOME A
Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships)

	Measurable and Rigorous Target	Actual Target Data FFY 2013	Actual Target Data FFY 2014	Actual Target Data FFY 2015
Summary Statement 1	62%	72%	66%	63%
Summary Statement 2	53%	63%	53%	48%

REPORT OF PROGRESS – INDICATOR 3, OUTCOME B

Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication and early literacy)

	Measurable and Rigorous Target	Actual Target Data FFY 2013	Actual Target Data FFY 2014	Actual Target Data FFY 2015
Summary Statement 1	61%	72%	70%	64%
Summary Statement 2	44%	56%	42%	38%



REPORT OF PROGRESS – INDICATOR 3, OUTCOME C

Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs

	Measurable and Rigorous Target	Actual Target Data FFY 2013	Actual Target Data FFY 2014	Actual Target Data FFY 2015
Summary Statement 1	67%	73%	65%	66%
Summary Statement 2	52%	64%	54%	51%

RAW DATA CALCULATION – INDICATOR 3

	Indicator 3 Outcome A Positive social-emotional skills		Indicator 3 Outcome B Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills		Indicator 3 Outcome C Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs	
	Number of Children	%	Number of Children	%	Number of Children	%
a. Percent of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning.	3	1%	2	1%	2	1%
b. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers.	126	30%	134	32%	115	28%
c. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it.	86	21%	119	29%	84	20%
d. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers.	131	32%	125	30%	148	36%
e. Percent of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level	68	16%	34	8%	65	15%



	Indicator 3 Outcome A Positive social- emotional skills		Indicator 3 Outcome B Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills		Indicator 3 Outcome C Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs	
comparable to same-aged peers.						
Total	N=414	100%	N=414	100%	N=414	100%

Ongoing State-wide Remediation Required to Improve COS Validity and Reliability:

Concentrated Child Outcomes Summary ratings professional development, with the support of OSEP Technical Assistance Centers, is ongoing at each early intervention provider agency with expected completion July 1, 2017. Each provider agency assigned staff members to participate in Montana’s Train the Trainer in the Child Outcomes Summary Process who, in turn, provided systemic training to the agency’s Family Support Specialists and Quality Improvement Specialist within the timelines provided by the State. Additionally, IFSP and COS Guidance documents have been written and disseminated to provider agencies. Ongoing revisions to the data management system, the EI Module, are being made to reflect the changes in the IFSP and COS practices.

After collecting additional data for FFY 2017, the State will be better able to make informed decisions about potentially adjusting targets in each of the three outcomes.

New Remediation required:

1. **State-wide Remediation Required:** Targeted support from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) to improve performance outcomes for infants and toddlers in the three global outcomes.
2. **The State of Montana will receive targeted assistance to improve the percentage of children exiting Part C that are included in outcome data (≥ 25%).**
 - Montana exit data recorded and reported to OSEP for FFY 2015: 811. The number of Montana child records with an exit Child Outcome Summary: 414. Percentage of Montana children exiting who are included in Montana outcome data: **51%**.



Indicator 4: Family Involvement

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: 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.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target A ≥	93%	93%	94%	94%	95%	95%
Target B ≥	93%	93%	94%	94%	95%	95%
Target C ≥	88%	93%	94%	94%	95%	95%

The State's Quality Improvement Specialists continued interviewing families in FFY 2015 to determine the family's rate of satisfaction (on a scale of 1 – 5) in the following categories:

- Overall satisfaction with the services the family was provided;
- Helpfulness of early intervention in knowing their rights;
- Helpfulness of early intervention in communicating their child's needs; and
- Helpfulness of intervention in helping their child to develop and learn.

The QIS reviewed files for evidence the family either viewed the Montana's Part C Early Intervention Procedural Safeguards video or were provided opportunity to do so when they initially entered supports and services and then again annually.

New:

The state-wide use of the Family Survey created by the Office of Special Education Programs, Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center, will be implemented in FFY 2016 at all provider agencies. Additionally, Montana's Part C Coordinator will pursue alternative collection methods of survey responses, i.e., electronic means, with the assistance of the Family Data work group comprised of current Part C families and parent representatives from each region.



New:

Each provider agency reported how survey results are shared within the agency and how the results are used to enhance program planning. Providers will report on their specific uses during the upcoming Outcomes Monitoring Call in February 2017.

FFY 2015	Measurable and Rigorous Target
	<p>A. 94% will report early intervention services have helped the family know their rights</p> <p>B. 94% will report early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their child’s needs</p> <p>C. 94% will report early intervention services has helped the family help their children develop and learn</p>

Montana did not meet the FFY 2015 targets. Actual Target Data for FFY 2015 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016):

REPORT OF PROGRESS – INDICATOR 4

	Measurable and Rigorous Target FFY 2015	Actual Target Data FFY 2013	Actual Target Data FFY 2014	Actual Target Data FFY 2015
Indicator 4A	94%	93%	96%	89%
Indicator 4B	94%	93%	96%	92%
Indicator 4C	94%	93%	95%	88%

RAW DATA CALCULATION – INDICATOR 4A

A	B	C
Total surveys received	Total families reporting that early intervention services have helped their family know their rights.	Percent of families reporting that early intervention services have helped their family know their rights.
372	331	89%



RAW DATA CALCULATION – INDICATOR 4B

A	B	C
Total surveys received	Total families reporting that early intervention services have helped their family communicate their children’s needs.	Percent of families reporting that early intervention services have helped their family communicate their children’s needs.
372	341	92%

RAW DATA CALCULATION – INDICATOR 4C

A	B	C
Total surveys received	Total families reporting that early intervention services have helped their family help their children develop and learn.	Percent of families reporting that early intervention services have helped their family help their children develop and learn.
372	326	88%

Indicator 5: Child Find (Birth to One)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs compared to national data. (20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target ≤	1.39%	1.43%	1.43%	1.46%	1.46%	1.46%

FFY 2015	Measurable and Rigorous Target: 1.43% of all infants and toddlers, birth to 1, with IFSPs compared to national data, 1.15%
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Montana did not meet the FFY 2015 target. Actual Target Data for FFY 2015 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016):



REPORT OF PROGRESS – INDICATOR 5

	Measurable and Rigorous Target FFY 2015	Actual Target Data FFY 2013	Actual Target Data FFY 2014	Actual Target Data FFY 2015
Indicator 5	1.43%	1.07%	1.15%	1.07%

Montana’s Raw Data:

135 (infants and toddlers, birth to age one) with IFSPs divided by 12,601* (*2015 U.S. Census Annual State Resident Population Estimates April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015 of infants and toddlers, birth to age one) times 100 = 1.07% compared to national data, 1.15%.

New Remediation Required:

The State of Montana will receive targeted assistance to improve Montana’s efforts to serve infants and toddlers, birth to one year of age. OSEP will provide targeted assistance to improve Montana’s Section 618 Child Count. For each provider of Part C of IDEA, referral sources and their impact on the number of infants and toddlers, birth to one year of age, served will be analyzed including the following referral sources:

- Child Protective Services
- Hospitals, clinics, and medical personnel focusing upon low birthweight babies.

Indicator 6: Child Find (Birth to Three)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs compared to national data. (20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target ≤	2.14%	2.14%	2.20%	2.20%	2.20%	2.25%

FFY 2015	Measurable and Rigorous Target: 2.20% of all infants and toddlers, birth to 3 with IFSPs, compared to national data, 2.95%
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Montana did not meet the FFY 2015 target. Actual Target Data for FFY 2015 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016):



REPORT OF PROGRESS – INDICATOR 6

	Measurable and Rigorous Target FFY 2015	Actual Target Data FFY 2013	Actual Target Data FFY 2014	Actual Target Data FFY 2015
Indicator 5	2.20%	1.97%	2.22%	1.93%

Montana’s Raw Data:

721 infants and toddlers, birth to three years of age with IFSPs divided by 37,356* (*2015 U.S. Census Annual State Resident Population Estimates April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015 of infants and toddlers, birth to age three) times 100 = 1.93% compared to national data, 2.95%.

New Remediation Required:

The State of Montana will receive targeted assistance to improve Montana’s efforts to serve infants and toddlers, birth to three years of age. For each provider of Part C of IDEA, referral sources and their impact on the number of infants and toddlers served will be analyzed. OSEP will provide targeted assistance to improve Montana’s Section 618 Child Count.

Montana’s Report of Child Find and Referral

Primary Referral Sources	Documented Referrals FFY 2013	Documented Referrals FFY 2014	Documented Referrals FFY 2015	Documented Child Find Events FFY 2015
Hospital facilities including NICU	86	131	97	47
Medical personnel	345	354	317	0
Parents or family member	300	296	416	0
Child care/early learning programs	24	19	62	33
Local education agencies	12	16	64	154
Public health facilities	58	62	67	30
Child Protective Services	191	146	229	12
Specialized clinics or health care providers	61	64	128	0
Homeless shelters	0	0	0	0
Domestic violence agencies	0	0	4	0
Other (not identified or other social services agencies)	233	165	44	48



Indicator 7: 45-day timeline

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Compliance indicator: 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. (20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

FFY 2015	Measurable and Rigorous Target: 100% of all infants and toddlers eligible for Part C services will have completed evaluation(s) and assessment(s) and an initial IFSP meeting conducted within Part C’s 45-day timeline.
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Montana did not meet the compliance target for FFY 2015. Actual Target Data for FFY 2015 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016):

REPORT OF PROGRESS – INDICATOR 7

	Measurable and Rigorous Target FFY 2015	Actual Target Data FFY 2013	Actual Target Data FFY 2014	Actual Target Data FFY 2015
Indicator 7	100%	100%	97%	93%



RAW DATA CALCULATION – INDICATOR 7

A	B	C	D	E
Total child records reviewed	Children with timely evaluation and assessment and initial IFSP.	Children with evaluation and assessment and initial IFSP completed more than 45 days from the child’s referral, with documented exceptional family circumstances that caused the delay.	Percent of children with timely evaluation and assessment and initial IFSP or there is a documented exceptional family circumstance that caused the delay in the completion of the evaluation and assessment and initial IFSP.	Children whose evaluation and assessment and initial IFSP were held more than 45 days from the date of the referral for reasons other than documented exceptional family circumstances.
579	447	92*	93%	40

*92/579 files reviewed documented exceptional family circumstances resulting in delay meeting 45-day timeline.

40/578 files reviewed documented agency circumstances resulting in delay meeting 45-day timeline.

Data from Regional Part C agencies Sampling and Reporting for the APR Information:

- 96/115 files randomly selected using the *Research Randomizer Program* indicated infants and toddlers received timely evaluation and assessment and initial IFSP within 45 days.
- 18/115 files were delayed due to exceptional family circumstances.
- 1/115 files were delayed due to agency circumstances.

A proportional sample from each of the regional provider agencies was required to complete a random sample of files using the *Research Randomizer Program* from all Part C eligible children with an IFSP and received services in FFY 2015. The provider reviewed the files for each child/family selected to determine if services were provided according to the definition of timely services, and recorded: (1) if the Part C IFSP was provided in a timely manner and if not, (2) the number of days over the child’s referral, and (3) the reason the IFSP was not completed prior to the 45-day timeline. This list will be shared with the Quality Improvement Specialist for their verification and will be presented at the Outcomes Monitoring call in February 2017.

Data from Montana’s Comprehensive Monitoring Tool:

- 351/464 files reviewed found IFSPs were in place within 45-days of the referral date.
- 74/464 files reviewed delayed due to documented exceptional family circumstances.
- 39/464 files reviewed delayed due to agency circumstances.



The data is collected throughout FFY 2015 using the EI Module and on-site monitoring with the local provider agency. The Quality Support Specialists conducted review of statistically valid samples at each provider agencies. The data is based on monitoring of children and families who received a Part C services and were evaluated and assessed with an initial IFSP completed within 45 days during FFY 2015.

Ongoing remediation is required at each provider agency to identify and overcome the barriers preventing the 45-day timeline to be met. Technical assistance will be provided by the regional Quality Improvement Specialist. Reporting, using data retrieved from the data management system, is required at each quarterly outcomes monitoring call beginning February 2017.

Indicator 8: Early Childhood Transition

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Compliance indicator: 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 and the LEA 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.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

FFY 2013 – FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

FFY 2015	Measurable and Rigorous Target
	<p>100% of all children exiting Part C will receive timely transition planning to support the child’s transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday including.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. 100% IFSPs with transition steps and services developed at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler’s third birthday;



FFY 2015	Measurable and Rigorous Target
	<p>B. 100% Notification (consistent with the opt-out policy adopted by the State) to LEA/SEA 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</p> <p>C. 100% Transition conference occurred with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, and prior to the toddler's birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.</p>

Montana did not meet the compliance target for Indicator 8A and 8b, FFY 2015. Actual Target Data for FFY 2015:

REPORT OF PROGRESS – INDICATOR 8

	Measurable and Rigorous Target FFY 2015	Actual Target Data FFY 2013	Actual Target Data FFY 2014	Actual Target Data FFY 2015
Indicator 8A	100%	100%	98%	99%
Indicator 8B	100%	100%	100%	97%
Indicator 8C	100%	100%	97%	100%

RAW DATA CALCULATION – INDICATOR 8A

A	B	C	D
Total child records reviewed.	Children with transition steps and services to support the child's transition developed at least 90 days and not more than nine months prior to the child's third birthday.	Children with transition plans that do not include steps and services to support the child's transition.	Percent of children with transition plans including steps and service developed at least 90 days and not more than nine months prior to the child's third birthday.
115	113	2*	99%

*1/115 child entered services less than 60 days before transition at age 3.

*1/115 did in include reason why steps and services were not included in the transition plan.

RAW DATA CALCULATION – INDICATOR 8B

A	B	C	D	E
Total child records reviewed.	Children whose families opted out of notification.	Children with notification to the LEA/SEA at least 90 days prior to the	Children for whom the LEA/SEA was not notified (excluding children whose	Percent of children with notification to the LEA/SEA at least 90 days prior to the



A	B	C	D	E
		child's third birthday.	families opted out of notification).	child's third birthday.
130	18	108	4*	97%

*1/130 file reviewed noted the child entered services late, thereby; notification was not made within 90 days.

*1/130 file reviewed noted the notification was sent 81 days before transition.

*2/130 files reviewed did not identify a reason.

RAW DATA CALCULATION – INDICATOR 8C

A	B	C	D	E
Total child records reviewed.	Children for whom the family did not provide approval to conduct the transition conference due to exceptional family circumstances.	Total child records reviewed less the children for whom the family did not provide approval to conduct the transition and the transition conference was not held due to exceptional family circumstances.	Children with timely transition conference, at least 90 days and not more than nine months prior to the child's third birthday	Percent of children with timely transition conference, at least 90 days and not more than nine months prior to the child's third birthday, if child potentially eligible for Part B.
118	5*	113	113	100%

*files reviewed documented exceptional family circumstances.

New:

Regional providers use a randomized sample of infants and toddlers exiting Part C meeting the criterion of A, B, and C. For FFY 2015, exit data contained within the data management system was unreliable due to a system error which has since been rectified. Beginning FFY 2017, data for this indicator will be obtained from the data management system.

Indicator 9: Resolution Sessions

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Results indicator: Percent of hearing requests that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution session settlement agreements (applicable if Part B due process procedures are adopted). (20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)



This indicator is not applicable to Montana as the Part B due process procedures have not been adopted.

Indicator 10: Mediation

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Results indicator: Percent of mediations held that resulted in mediation agreements. (20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

Montana did not have any complaints resolved through mediation agreements for FFY 2015.