

**Vermont Part C:
Early Intervention Program of the
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**

**Annual Performance Report
Federal Fiscal Year 2007
(July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008)**

Vermont Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for 2007

Overview of the 2007 Annual Performance Report Development

Vermont is pleased to report that as of the time of submission of the 2007 APR, we have only two new findings of noncompliance, five instances of remaining noncompliance, and no slippage, **except in Indicator 14**, during the FFY 2007 reporting period. In addition, the 85% rate of timely correction (13 findings FFY 2006, 11 timely corrections FFY 2007) for Indicator 9 demonstrated substantial improvement from the 63% rate of timely correction (24 findings FFY 2005, 15 timely corrections FFY 2006) reported in the 2006 APR.

We demonstrated significant progress in:

- Indicator 1, improving from 92% in FFY 2006 to 97% in FFY 2007
- Indicator 7, improving from 79% in FFY 2006 to 93% in FFY 2007
- Indicator 8A, improving from 93% in FFY 2006 to 100% in FFY 2007
- Indicator 8B, improving from 94% in FFY 2006 to 95% in FFY 2007
- Indicator 8C, improving from 91% in FFY 2006 to 97% in FFY 2007

To enable Vermont Part C to report the above data in this FFY 2007 APR the program has, over the several years of Annual Performance Reports (2005 through 2007), enhanced and refined its “Child Count Database” into what is now called the **expanded child count database**. Vermont had only one set of data collected, which was solely for the purpose of the annual child count – “618” data reports. In FFY 2004 we started to do intensified data analysis and reporting and have had little capacity to create any other way of gathering and analyzing data to meet these additional reporting requirements. We used a regionally-submitted, paper-based, annual data collection process that served well for completing the federal “618” data reports. The expanded child count database now includes the data and data fields for timely initiation of each direct service and determination of compliance; the fields for timely evaluation/assessment within 45 days of referral and timely initial meeting to develop the IFSP within 45 days of referral and the determination of compliance; a field for the location where the child receives the majority of their hours of service (home, community-based setting, service provider location); and fields to determine compliance for the transition sub-indicators. The expanded child count database now serves as our major source of data for compliance and performance. It is also used, along with data from desk audits, self assessments, and on-site file reviews, for determining timely corrections and corrections of remaining noncompliance.

The evolving data management system that will incorporate the data needed by Part C for reporting and management will include data needed by all of the Child Development Division’s Children’s Integrated Services (CIS). This data management system, with Part C data collection, analysis, and reporting as a priority, is under the management of the Department for Children and Families’ (DCF) Information Technology (IT) unit. In the meantime, and as part of this effort to enhance our data management and reporting system, during FFY 2007 Vermont Part C staff revised the process for clearing monthly data from regions so that there is one dedicated staff person who communicates with each regional EIP by phone, e-mail and during on-site visits. As a result, data submitted by the regional EIPs have demonstrated increased accuracy and completeness.

During FFY 2007 (and subsequent to the end of the reporting period), several stakeholder groups had extensive and ongoing involvement in the development and discussion of Vermont Part C's FFY 2007 Annual Performance Report (APR) and State Performance Plan (SPP) for Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004. Stakeholders included:

- The Vermont Interagency Coordinating Council (VICC);
- The Children's Integrated Services State Team;
- The Leadership Team of the Child Development Division (CDD);
- The Regional Early Intervention Program (regional EIP) Directors (called Host Agency Directors) and Supervisors; and
- The Early Education Team of the State Department of Education, which includes Part B-619.

Discussion topics included:

- Monitoring priorities/expected outcomes;
- Indicators and measurement requirements;
- Data collection, analysis, and reporting;
- Progress and slippage;
- Program improvement strategies; and
- Vermont Part C's determination status of Needs Assistance (NA-2) as reported in the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Program's (OSEP) letter of June 6, 2008.

OSEP's June 2008 letter stated that, after a review of Vermont Part C's 2006 APR, the critical areas for improvement were timely services (Indicator 7), transition (Indicators 8B and 8C), and timely correction of noncompliance (Indicator 9). Although Vermont Part C did not "Meet Requirements," we are pleased that the data in the 2006 APR did reflect improvement in the compliance indicators as compared to the 2005 APR. Vermont Part C completed its regional EIP (i.e., local program) determinations in FFY 2007 after reviewing the FFY 2006 data in meetings and in phone calls with each regional EIP. Vermont has continued to work diligently towards attaining the determination status of "Meets Requirements."

During FFY 2007 and FFY 2008, Vermont Part C posted the SPP-Revised (as of 4-14-08), the FFY 2006 APR, Vermont's determination status of NA-2 (needs assistance for the second year) and areas in need of improvement on the CDD's and Vermont Department of Education's (VT DOE's) web sites and other agency web sites. We also distributed hard copies of the SPP-revised and 2006 APR to the above stakeholders and other constituency groups. When the FFY 2007 APR and the data for public reporting are posted, we will use various methods to communicate to the parenting and family organizations, health care professionals, and the general public that the data are available.

Resources Used and Technical Assistance Activities

Based on this 2007 APR submission, Vermont Part C demonstrated significant progress in Indicators 7, 8B, 8C, and 9. Vermont Part C state staff accessed a variety of specific technical assistance during FFY 2007 and FFY 2008 (subsequent to receiving OSEP's June 2008 determination letter) that contributed to this progress. Among other opportunities, staff members accessed/participated in the following:

- Northeast Regional Resource Center's (NERRC's) State to Local Monitoring Group monthly conference calls, regional Data Managers' and other technical assistance conference calls/webinars (e.g., two with Sara Doutre), on-site technical assistance visits, and other RRC-sponsored webinars (Public Reporting, State Improvement Strategies) and teleconferences;
- OSEP SPP/APR TA calls;
- The National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC), National Center on Early Childhood Transition (NECTC); National Center for Special Education Accountability and Monitoring (NCSEAM, now part of Data Accountability Center (DAC));
- National/regional conferences, including NERRC Regional Meeting, Data Managers Meeting, NAC/OSEP Leadership/Early Childhood Outcomes meetings, and OSEP 2007 and 2008 National Early Conferences (including Child Outcomes and General Supervision pre-conference sessions and ICC and ITCA annual meetings); and
- Specialized NERRC meetings/consultations on data management system, timely correction of noncompliance, and transition.

Participation in the OSEP and NERRC/RRC conference calls and webinars was useful as we worked to identify factors contributing to noncompliance at statewide and local levels, and to develop additional and/or enhance existing improvement strategies. Staff maximized their time at the national conferences by identifying sessions that would be most helpful in supporting enhanced data collection, timely correction, and continuous improvement strategies. Upon return to Vermont, these staff members shared information with their state Part C colleagues, and with the VICC and regional EIP staff. The "Integrated Timetable for 2007-2008 APR Development and Part C General Supervision/Monitoring Activities" and the "Local Contributing Factor Tool for SPP/APR Compliance Indicators" were, and will continue to be, useful resources at local, regional and state levels.

Vermont Part C staff have engaged on a regular basis with their OSEP State Contact, Virginia Sheppard, via email, conference calls, at the OSEP national meetings, and during a two-day on-site visit in August 2008. These interactions have been valuable, particularly in addressing the areas of timely services, transition and timely correction. While the OSEP state contact was on-site, Vermont Part C staff arranged a conference call with the regional EIP Program staff to discuss improvement strategies and current policies and procedures. In addition to hearing and discussing the unique issues that presented challenges to the regional EIPs, Ms. Sheppard responded to questions and issues identified by regional EIP staff specifically related to timely services, transition and timely correction of noncompliance. The regional EIP staff appreciated and found helpful this opportunity and the state Part C staff benefited greatly from Ms. Sheppard's visit.

Vermont Part C staff and the Vermont Department of Education's Part B-619 Consultant escalated our access to and collaboration around transition with NERRC, NECTAC, NECTC, and the Vermont Family Network (VFN), a new organization that merged the Vermont Parent Information Center (the VT PIC) and Parent To Parent of Vermont in FFY 2007., Vermont Part C/Part B-619 staff, with the support of these resources, collaboratively are developing an electronic interactive training module on transition requirements and best practices for the regional EIP programs and preschool special education program personnel. These efforts resulted in Vermont's Part C/Part B 619 staff participating in two joint panel presentations on transition at the August 2008 National Accountability/Early Childhood Outcomes - Leadership Conference and the OSEP National Early Childhood Conference in December 2008.

In addition to the efforts related to transition described above, Vermont Part C and Part B 619 staff continued to jointly provide ongoing technical assistance/training related to timely services and transition statewide and on a regional basis, ensuring that Parts C and B 619 providers and special education directors primarily received the technical assistance and training in joint gatherings. Vermont Part C and Part B 619 staff also continued to provide technical assistance related to the role and responsibilities of schools in all relevant aspects of Part C.

There was a thorough discussion in the 2006 APR of The Vermont Agency of Human Services' Child Development Division's (in which Vermont Part C resides) planning and implementation of its child development and family support services system entitled "Children's Integrated Services" (CIS). CIS used Part C as the foundation for a prenatal to school age set of prevention, early intervention and treatment services. The intended result is a holistic, family centered set of services inclusive of health, early childhood and family mental health, and Part C/Early Intervention that produces positive outcomes for children and families. This work intensified in FFY 2007 and continues.

The CIS State Team, comprised of representatives of the three "core" programs as well as other key state and regional representatives, met on a weekly basis and conducted statewide and individual teleconferences with regional CIS Teams (having similar composition as the State CIS Team). These interactions (really reciprocal technical assistance) provided opportunities to identify and engage in collaborative problem solving related to CIS implementation as well as specific Part C program assessment and improvement activities. The integration of these three services has resulted in improved relationships and understanding of the three services in communities, which in turn has benefited families. The CIS regional teams are able to holistically identify the comprehensive needs of families and quickly refer to the appropriate services. Regional EIP staff are able to refer back to the CIS Regional Team those children who are found ineligible for Part C. The CIS Regional Team can then identify other potential resources and/or services, providing a seamless process to meet the individual and diverse needs of families.

Under the umbrella of CIS, Vermont State Part C staff played a major role with a number of other CIS personnel at the state and local levels in developing a draft of a comprehensive, family-centered, outcomes-oriented Family Plan that will serve as the IFSP for Part C, the IPC (Early Childhood and Family Mental Health's Individualized Plan of Care) and the Plan of Care (for Healthy Babies Kids and Families). This draft was reviewed statewide by many interested parties and a final product is nearly finished. When completed, the Family Plan initially will provide a basis for professional development and technical assistance across the three service systems and then to a broader set of early childhood and family support services. The Family Plan also will provide families with a single plan, whereas previously there could have been three "plans" for the three services now within CDD.

During FFY 2007 and ongoing, two additional major efforts that assisted in setting a "tighter" foundation for improvement. The first involved obtaining technical assistance and other resources through the OSEP-funded State Improvement Grant (SIG) –SEA lead agency for this grant, with Part C as a required partner) to address emerging and early literacy within the context of social and emotional development and competence. And, to make this happen in the way the Early Education Team and CIS wanted it to, we sought and won a technical assistance grant from the Center for the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL, funded by federal HHS). We fused the emerging and early language-literacy resources that

came through the SIG and the Center for Early Literacy Learning (CELL, funded by federal OSEP) with the CSEFEL resources and created a state Foundations for Early Learning (FEL) Team. This team plans and delivers intensive training to trainers who in turn train and support early childhood and family support programs/practitioners using the CSEFEL and CELL integrated materials – a “trainer of trainers” model. This key professional development effort was built on input from early childhood and family support services provider needs and the consensus of the Early Education Team in FFY 2006 and 2007 to focus on Outcome 3 A of the APR “Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships)” across the involved service systems.

The second major professional development effort that began in earnest in the FFY 2007 reporting period was the development of Vermont’s Infant and Toddler Early Learning Guidelines. Activities included a review of other state’s guidelines, and the establishment of an advisory group and a writing group. It is likely the Early Learning Guidelines will be completed by the end of FFY 2008. The framework for the guidelines includes the three OSEP/ECO child outcomes areas, which helps even more with the fidelity of what we are attempting to do across service systems in early childhood and family support services. Part C and B-619 staff are playing a key role in the development of the guidelines, along with representatives from CIS, Early Head Start, Child Care, Early Education, Institutions of Higher Education, etc. Through funding from federal HHS, we have accessed support from ZERO TO THREE to assist in the development of the guidelines.

The CDD also, in preparing regional EIP budgets for FFY 2007, took into consideration the challenges facing the EIPs and increased the resources available to them to assist them with an increased caseload and workload, and an increase in the effort necessary to provide valid and reliable data on a monthly and annual basis. The caseload increased 12% from FFY 2006 to FFY 2007.

The VICC spent their annual planning meeting in November 2008 focusing on the issues outlined in OSEP’s June 2008 determination letter and response table. Since the VICC is a major stakeholder and has a vested interest in quality services, they have served as an important group in overseeing the development and implementation of the annual APR. The full VICC and VICC Family Leadership Committee were instrumental in recommending that Vermont Part C administer the full ECO Family survey (18 questions instead of the three questions reported on to OSEP in the APR) during FFY 2007. The agendas for the VICC Executive Committee monthly meetings and the quarterly VICC meetings always include discussion of issues related to how Vermont Part C can continue to make progress in meeting and maintaining compliance and improving/maintaining performance.

Several meetings occurred with the regional EIP Host Agency Directors and supervisory staff to discuss data collection and analysis, public reporting, and determinations. During the March 2008 Host Agency Directors’ meeting, Indicator 7 was a primary topic of discussion. This discussion provided opportunities to further clarify requirements of the 45 day timeline as well as to collaboratively identify factors contributing to noncompliance and current and future strategies to meet the 45-day timeline.

Vermont Part C staff and staff from the University of Vermont’s Center on Disability and Community Inclusion (Vermont’s University Center on Excellence in Developmental Disabilities - UCEDD) began exploring a fee-for-service option in fall 2008. This would involve having an

interdisciplinary team that could provide increased access to Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapists for the regional EIPs.

As reported at the beginning of this Overview, Vermont improved significantly from FFY 2006 to FFY 2007, with the data demonstrating progress on every Indicator and no slippage. We want to highlight regional EIP 3's significant overall improvement since FFY 2004. This regional EIP is an excellent illustration of the time, resources and effort it takes to support a regional EIP's progress. Even so, challenges still exist in achieving full compliance in Indicator 7, the 45 day timeline. Challenges in Indicator 7 definitely have contributed to noncompliance in timely correction in Indicator 9.

Given the increase in caseload, workload, and federal documentation requirements; the unique contextual (i.e., local/community) factors that face the regional EIPs; staff reductions at the state level and adjustments at local levels; and the current economic climate, it is imperative that Vermont Part C continue to maximize available national, state, and local resources.

Based on the work described in this FFY 2007 APR, the State Performance Plan (SPP) was revised in the areas listed below as of **this revision of April 7, 2009**. The revisions were made to update and refine the improvement activities and to outline progress in Indicator 3, child outcomes.

The **progress reporting for Indicator 3**, Child Outcomes, is attached to this APR submission in Appendix A and is **included in the revised SPP** found at:

<http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>

Indicator 1, Timely Services: **revisions** to the SPP made on improvement activities.

Indicator 2, Natural Environments: **revisions** to the SPP made on improvement activities.

Indicator 3, Child Outcomes: progress reporting for child outcomes is in the **revised SPP** and is also submitted in the Appendix A of this FFY 2007 APR.

Indicator 4, Family outcomes: **revisions** to the SPP made on improvement activities.

Indicator 5, Child find for infants under age one: **revisions** to the SPP made on improvement activities.

Indicator 6, Child find for children birth through two: **revisions** to the SPP made on improvement activities.

Indicator 7, Child Find 45 Day timeline: **revisions** to the SPP made on improvement activities.

Indicator 8, Transition: **revisions** to the SPP made on improvement activities.

Indicator 9, General Supervision, Timely Correction of Findings: **revisions** to the SPP made on improvement activities.

Indicator 10-13, Procedural safeguards: no revisions.

Indicator 14, Timely and accurate reporting: **revision to the SPP made on improvement activities**.

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for 2007

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services in Natural Environments

Indicator 1: Percent of infants and toddlers with individualized family service plans (IFSPs) who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.

Measurement: Percent = [(# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner) divided by the (total # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs)] times 100. Account for untimely receipt of services.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 <small>(reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)</small>	100%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: 527/546 = 97%

Data Source: Expanded child count database for 12/1/07.

Data analysis for Indicator 1, timely services, FFY 2007:

Table 1A FFY 2007	# Total children w/new services on IFSPs	# Children with timely services	# Children w/services not timely due to family reasons	# and % Children with timely initiation of services	State Target (compliance)
State Totals	546	527	72	527/546=97%	100%

Of the 546 children with new services on their IFSPs in the analysis of the 12/1/07 child count Database, 527 (97%) received services within 30 days of their parents' signed consent for IFSP services. Included in the 546 were 72 children who had family circumstances that were beyond the control of the early intervention program and who did not have services begin within 30 days of consent for services. There were 19 (3%) children whose services were not initiated within 30 days of consent. The main reasons cited for this noncompliance included the lack of specific early intervention personnel – primarily speech and language (50% of the reasons cited for late services) and occupational therapists (21% of the reasons cited for late services). Part C staff subsequently verified that these services did begin.

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007.

Table 1B below provides data requested by OSEP for Indicator 1 in the June 2008 State “determination” letter and the attached Vermont Part C FFY 2006 SPP/APR Response Table.

Key: “F” = Finding; “C” = Correction, “RNC” = remaining noncompliance

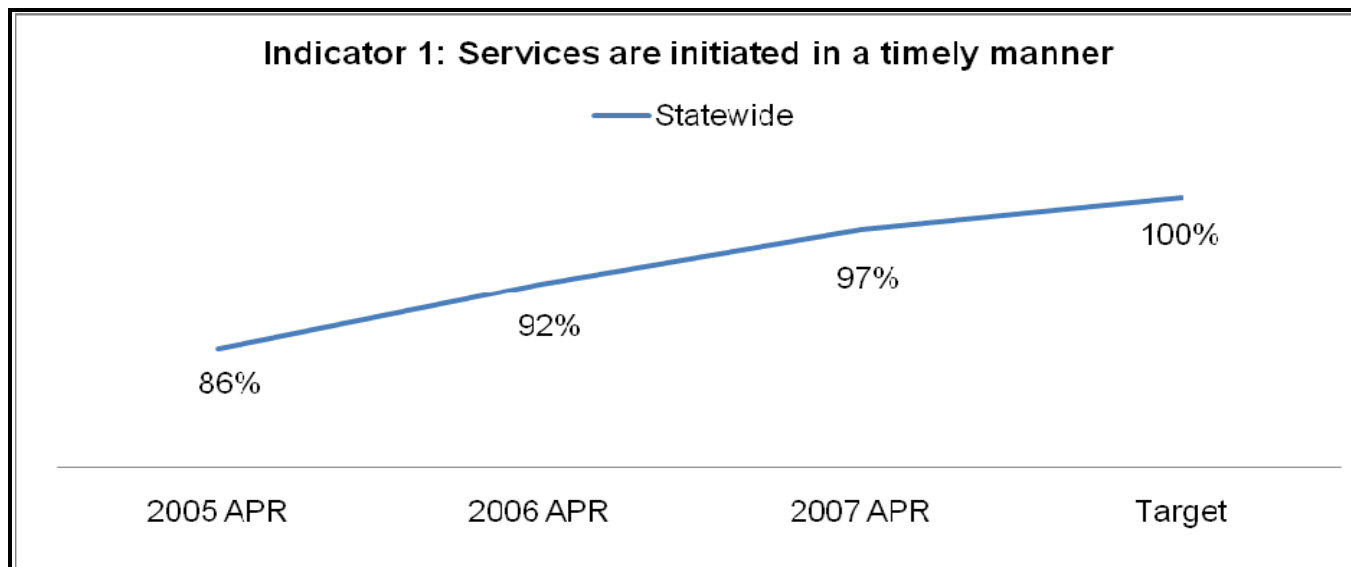
Table 1B Regional EIP	FFY 2004	FFY 2005	FFY 2006	FFY 2007	Subsequent correction (post FFY 2007)	Remaining noncompliance (as of 2/09 submission)
1						
2						
3	F	RNC	RNC	C		
4	F	RNC	C			
5						
6						
7	F	RNC	C			
8				F		
9		F	C			
10						
11						
12		F	C			
All regions					Not Applicable	None

As of the 2007 APR submission:

- FFY 2007 Findings: 1
- Remaining noncompliance: None

Vermont has made ongoing and significant progress since FFY 2004, having moved from 86% compliance as reported in the 2004 APR to 97% compliance in FFY 2007 as reported in the 2007 APR. This improved compliance is demonstrated in Table 1C below.

Table 1C: Progress over three years and the State target.



Actions Taken:

Vermont, as indicated in the Overview, used multiple national, regional, State and Territorial, and internal State and regional/local resources to address the State’s noncompliance issues related to providing initial IFSP services in a timely manner. We conducted monthly conference calls with regional EIP directors and supervisors. In addition, we systematically reviewed data at the regional and state level and provided follow up phone, on-site and email communication to discuss how best to achieve compliance on Indicators 1 and 7. We solicited input from a number of people and organizations at national OSEP sponsored conferences (workshops, networking, and large audience technical assistance sessions). We also utilized technical assistance opportunities provided by the Northeast Regional Resource Center (NERRC), the National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC), the Regional Resource Center (RRC) network, and the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), including regular conversations with Vermont’s State Contact.

In order to progress from the 86% reported compliance in the 2004 APR to the 97% reported compliance in this 2007 APR, Vermont Part C provided extensive support to the 12 regional Early Intervention Programs (EIPs) throughout the year. For both Indicators 1 and 7, we held discussions with the Vermont Interagency Coordinating Council (VICC) and the regional EIP staff and providers. We clarified policies and procedures, refined the data collection and verification process, and attempted to debunk various “myths” and misunderstandings that grow in service delivery.

Regional EIP 3 demonstrated correction of its significant ongoing noncompliance, progressing from a compliance rate in FFY 2004 of 50% to a compliance rate of 100% in FFY 2007. The improvement activities that supported this progress are outlined in the SPP and in the listing below. In addition, to support regional EIP 3 in achieving 100% compliance, dedicated state staff worked directly with the regional EIP staff and conducted six on-site visits during this reporting period. State and regional staff developed trusting relationships and these technical assistance visits addressed multiple areas of compliance, performance and other evidence-based best practices. This particular regional EIP had been put out to bid for lack of support from the original host agency and for noncompliance. The new agency was eager to do well with services and data and welcomed the technical assistance and general support. The agency hired a

highly qualified supervisor and a solid staff. Since this region is large, isolated, and lacks jobs, health care, family support and early intervention providers, the state and regional staff continued to address the needs for timely speech and language and occupational therapy services. The intensive support also resulted in provider agreements that used a Speech and Language Pathologist from another area of the state to conduct evaluations and act as a consultant to staff who served as primary service providers. The provider agreements for this area often had to offer somewhat higher rates than the set rate. This was negotiated at the State level after discussions at the regional level about timely initiation of services. Clearly it took much effort to “import” these services from other parts of the state. Many of these out of area resource solutions helped improve compliance in both Indicators 1 and 7.

In addition to on-site visits and locating resources that may have helped regional EIP 3, State Part C staff technical assistance (TA) liaisons also partnered with other Children’s Integrated Services (CIS) team members to provide technical assistance

The new finding in regional EIP 8 accounted for the noncompliance in this indicator. During this reporting period, this regional EIP was put out to bid because the prior agency no longer felt it could provide the necessary supervision, support and in-kind resources needed.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets /Improvement Activities/Timelines/ Resources for FFY 2007. The Improvement Activities table for Indicator I has been revised in the 2/2/09 version of the SPP, posted on the Vermont Part C web site. The revisions were made to update and refine the activities. These activities also apply to Indicator 7. The web site is: <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>

Outlined below are the revised Program Improvement Activities for Indicator 1 (and Indicator 7).

Activities Indicator 1	Timelines	Resources	Notes
Regulation, policy and procedural guidance/clarifications; development of guidance for regional agreements driven by Part C-B Interagency Agreement.	By 1/06 and ongoing	State Staff	
C/CIS/DOE monitoring and TA system: assessing status of compliance, performance and support needed for regions, private providers and schools through ongoing regular data review, analysis and feedback of expanded child count/CIS data, file reviews, self assessments, complaints review, etc.	Spring of 2006 and ongoing through FFY 2010	State Part C/CIS Team, DOE personnel and VICC Family Leadership and Support Committee who comprise the monitoring team	
Preparation for and delivery of meaningful technical assistance, training, professional development and other improvement and support strategies.		State Part C – B team along with CIS partners and regional EIPs and SUs/EEE staff	

Activities Indicator 1	Timelines	Resources	Notes
Assuring effective multi-way communication system regarding continuous improvement activities/strategies with regional EIPs via C/CIS TA liaisons, regular conference calls, email, on-site TA visits, guidance materials, etc. (multiple partners including SEA, CIS, and regional EIPs).	By 1/06 and ongoing	State staff	
Infrastructure infusions and/or adjustments: Regional and State capacity - resource/personnel issues addressed through annual budgeting and planning process (caseloads, workloads, expertise needed).	Ongoing beginning January 2006 through FFY 2010	State staff	For regions with continuing non-compliance and significant improvement issues, budget & personnel were increased to assist them in coming into compliance FFY 2007. Regional EIPs received some funds specifically to address improvement of documentation and data collection and reporting.
Data management system developed – web based, regionally driven, practice based, real time. Regional EIPs are trained and supported in converting to an electronic regionally entered data system.	Spring of 2006 ongoing and through 2007; with improvements ongoing through FFY 2010	Part C/CIS staff/Child Development Division and Department IT staff	We are continuing to work on full implementation of this activity.
Continue to seek resources through the SIG grant and other grants in the SLP – Communication, ASD, OT and advanced child development fields to work with Part C/CIS staff and families.	Ongoing January 2007-2010	State Part C/CIS staff, community partners, University of Vermont CDCI-UCEDD, DOE and SLP professional association	This activity has been and continues to be implemented.

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for 2007

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services in Natural Environments

Indicator 2: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services in the home or programs for typically developing children

Measurement: Percent = [(# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services in the home or programs for typically developing children) divided by the (total # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs) x 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 <small>(reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)</small>	95%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: 739/762 = 97%

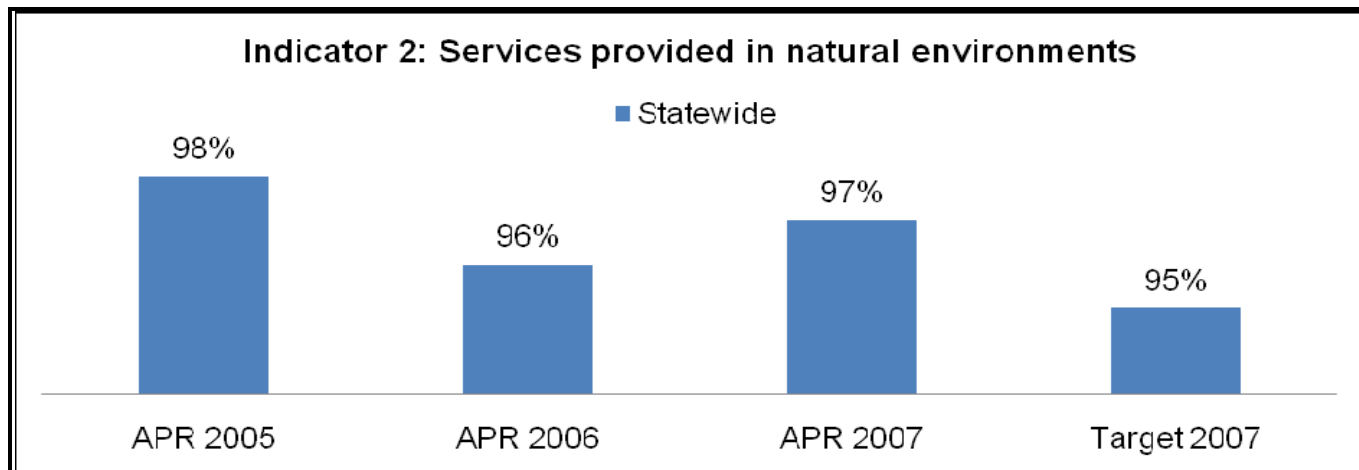
Data Source: “618” data reported in Table 1, which is based on child count data from children with “active” IFSPs on 12/1/07. These 2007 APR Indicator 2 data were checked against the data submitted for the “618” report on 2/1/08 and it matched.

Data analysis for Indicator 2, Early Intervention Services in Natural Environments, FFY 2007:

Table 2A 2007	# Active 12/1/07	# Natural Environments	Service Provider location	# and % Natural Environments	State Target
State Totals	762	739	23=3%	739/762 = 97%	95%

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007. The data presented above in Table 2A, show Vermont exceeded its State performance target of 95%.

Table 2B: Summary of services in natural environments (home & community-based settings) FFY 2004-2007 and FFY 2007 state target.



Comparing 2006 data with 2007 data from the two expanded child count databases used to produce the “618” reports on children with “active” IFSPs, 97% of children with active IFSPs received services in natural environments in 2007, compared to 96% in 2006.

In the 2007 data, there were 762 children with active IFSPs, 739 (97%) of whom received their services in natural environments of either their home (656) or in community-based settings (83). Twenty three children (3%) received services at their service provider’s location (SPL of office, clinic, etc). These 23 children all have reasons for why the IFSP team requested the services take place at these locations. Therefore, there is no noncompliance.

Several regions used slightly more service provider locations in 2007, including one (regional EIP 2) that used hospital staff for providing speech and language services for seven children while they were looking for therapists to deliver services in the home. IFSP teams agreed that it was the best possible situation for that area at that time. Other regions had one or two children where this was the situation. In regional EIP 9’s area, the number of children receiving services at the SPL decreased, due to their diligent efforts at promoting the use of natural environments.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets /Improvement Activities/Timelines/ Resources for FFY 2007. The Improvement Activities table for Indicator 2 has been revised in the 2/2/09 version of the SPP, and posted on the Vermont Part C web site. The revisions were made to update and refine the activities. The web site is: <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>

Outlined below are the **revised** Program Improvement Activities for Indicator 2.

Activities Indicator 2	Timelines	Resources
Tailored technical assistance in regions where data indicate problems in use of natural	Ongoing, through 2010	State Part C/CIS staff w/regional EIP staff

Activities Indicator 2	Timelines	Resources
environments.		
Data management system developed – web based, regionally driven, practice based, real time	Phase in Spring of 2006 ongoing and through 2007; revisions as needed to improve system through FFY 2010	State Part C/CIS staff and Department Information Technology staff

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2006

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report. The progress reporting for Indicator 3 for FFY 2007 appears in the Appendix as well as the current SPP (2/2/09) which is located on the Child Development Division, Part C web site: <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Indicator 3: 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)

Measurement:

A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships):

- a. Percent of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- b. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- c. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- d. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- e. Percent of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.

If a + b + c + d + e does not sum to 100%, explain the difference.

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

- a. Percent of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- b. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- c. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- d. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- e. Percent of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.

If a + b + c + d + e does not sum to 100%, explain the difference.

C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs:

- a. Percent of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- b. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- c. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- d. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- e. Percent of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.

If a + b + c + d + e does not sum to 100%, explain the difference.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 (reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)	Baseline data will be reported in SPP in FFY 2010.

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: Targets and baseline data are not available until the APR of 2010. Progress data are reported for FFY 2007 in the 2/2/09 version of the SPP, posted on the Vermont Part C website: <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>.

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007. See above.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets/Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources for FFY 2007. Progress data are reported for FFY 2007 in the revised SPP. Targets and baseline data are not available until the APR of FFY 2010.

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2007

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Indicator 4: 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)

Measurement:

- A. Percent = [(# of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights) divided by the (# of respondent families participating in Part C)] times 100.
- B. Percent = [(# of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs) divided by the (# of respondent families participating in Part C)] times 100.
- C. Percent = [(# of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family help their children develop and learn) divided by the (# of respondent families participating in Part C)] times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 <small>(reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)</small>	Rate of return 30% Outcome 4 A = 80% Outcome 4 B = 85% Outcome 4 C = 85%.

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: The return rate for the FFY 2007 (spring of 2008) Family Outcomes Survey was 29%, with a target of 30%. **The results are as follows: Outcome A = 80%, Outcome B = 85%, Outcome C = 89%.**

Data Source: The full ECO Family Outcomes Survey (which includes the three OSEP questions) was sent to all families who had been in the Part C program a minimum of six months in spring 2008. The survey included some demographic data and an area for comments (see survey in Appendix A).

Data Analysis for Indicator 4, Family Outcomes, FFY 2007: The statewide return rate for FFY 2007 was 29% and is represented in Table 1 below. The return rate of 29% fell just short of the state target (30%), but was not surprising as Vermont switched from an abbreviated survey (using just the three OSEP questions) to the full ECO survey (using all 18 questions) this year.

Table 1: Percentage of Statewide Survey Returns FFY 2005 – FFY 2007			
FFY	FFY 2005	FFY 2006	FFY 2007
Total returned/ Total sent	201/663	223/651	137/479
Percentage	30%	34%	29%

For this reporting year alone, the three family outcomes either met or exceeded the targets set for FFY 2007 (see Table 2 below).

Table 2: Percentage of families who reported early intervention services helped their family FFY 2007			
Family Outcomes	# Positive Response/Total	Statewide Performance	State Target
Outcome A	110/137	80%	80%
Outcome B	116/137	85%	85%
Outcome C	122/137	89%	85%

Compared to FFY 2006, Outcome A (Know their rights) decreased slightly, Outcome B (effectively communicate their child’s needs) stayed the same, and Outcome C (help their child develop and learn) increased (see Table 3 below).

Table 3: Percentage of families who reported early intervention services helped their family FFY 2005 – FFY 2007			
Family Outcomes	FFY 2005	FFY 2006	FFY 2007
Outcome A: Know their rights	157/196 = 80%	184/222 = 83%	110/137 = 80%
Outcome B: Effectively communicate their needs	163/195 = 84%	188/222 = 85%	117/137 = 85%
Outcome C: Help their child develop and learn	174/197 = 88%	192/221 = 87%	122/137 = 89%

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007:

Responses

The response rate for the regions ranged from 14% to 41%. Seven of the regions met the target this year, as compared with 10 regions in 2006 and eight regions in 2005. Part C staff continued using strategies identified in FFY 2006 to bolster the return rate. In addition, this year we sent a postcard reminder to families three weeks after they received their survey.

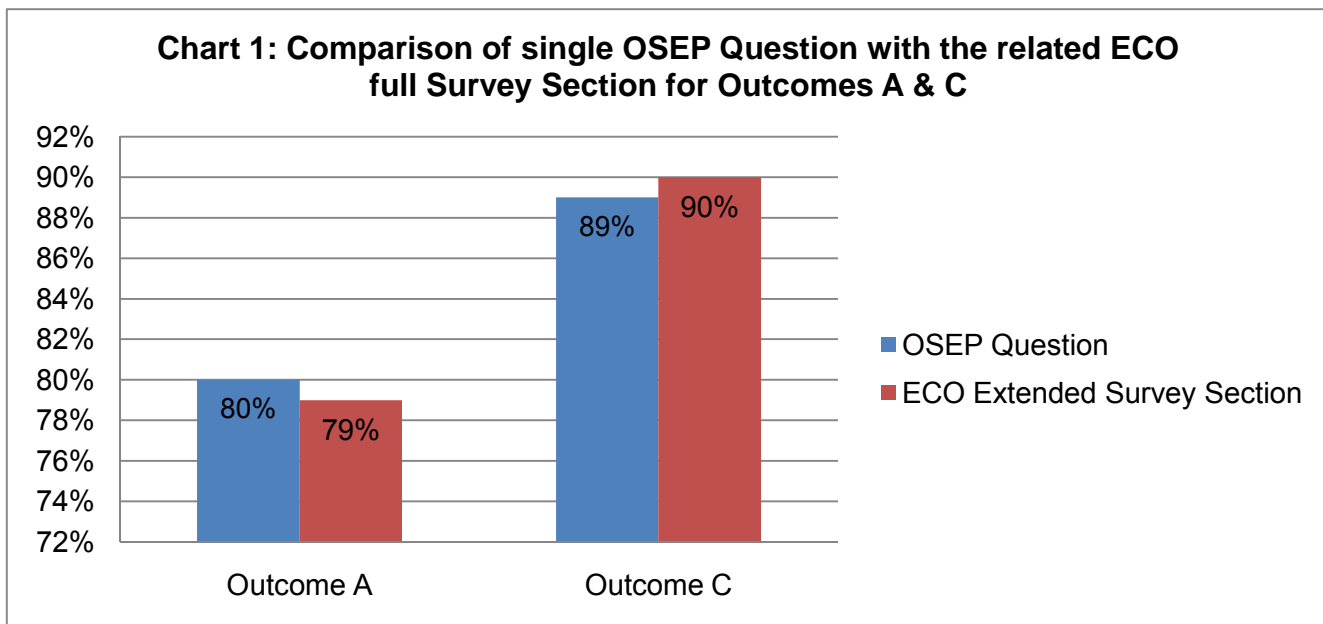
This year’s minor drop in the return rate was not unexpected as the full ECO Family Outcomes Survey was used, increasing the survey’s length from the three to 18 questions. The decision to risk a lower return was carefully weighed by the ICC in conversations with Part C staff. The VICC members identified several potential gains from using the full survey. First, the full survey can serve as a means to validate the results of the three OSEP outcomes for Indicator 4 when the three questions are compared to results of related survey sections. Second, the additional survey questions might provide enough information to help us understand the family’s meaning behind the results. Finally, we hoped that over time the additional questions regarding social supports and accessing community resources would help us learn more about the ongoing needs of the families we serve. The VICC requested that we continue to have a section for comments on the survey as that yielded a wealth of information in past years.

A comparison of families who responded to the survey over three years showed family characteristics were remarkably similar (see Table 4 below). These data, along with a consideration of the procedures for distribution and collection of surveys, contributed to the reliability of this year’s results.

Table 4: Characteristics of families who responded to the survey			
Characteristics	FFY 2005	FFY 2006	FFY 2007
Average age of child	26 mos.	27.6 mos.	26.9 mos.
Time in program:			
Less than 1 year	61%	51%	53%
12 to 24 months	27%	34%	35%
24 to 36 months	13%	14%	12%
Number of developmental concerns/reasons for service:			
1 reason	52%	50%	42%
2 reasons	21%	18%	26%
3 or more	26%	33%	32%
Communication only	30%	30%	26%

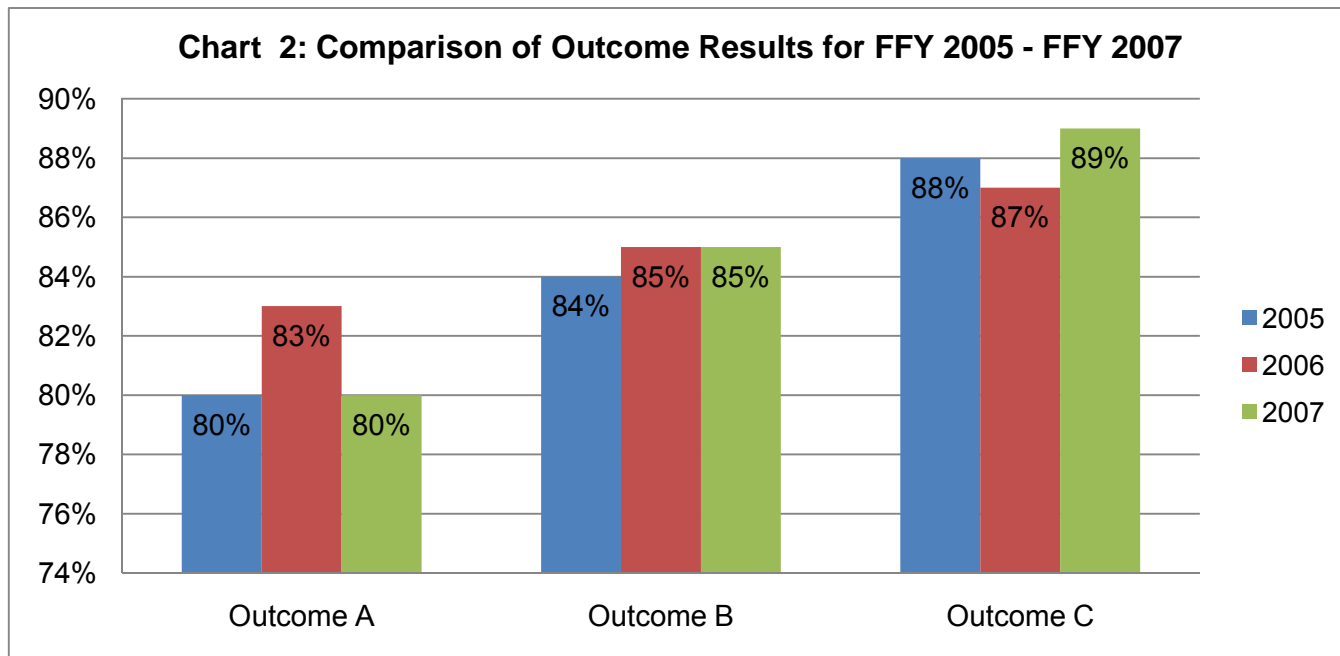
A comparison of each of the three Outcomes with related sections of the full ECO survey proved relatively straightforward for two of the Outcomes and could be interpreted as a strong validation of the above reported results. The results of the single OSEP question for Outcome A (knowing their rights) when compared with the results of the ECO survey section (comprised of three questions) on ‘knowing rights and advocating for your child’ were surprisingly similar. The same relationship held true for the comparison between OSEP Outcome C (help their child develop and learn) and the section (three questions) of the survey addressing ‘helping child develop and

learn” (see Chart 1) for a comparison of these results. An analysis for Outcome B was not conducted at this time since a corresponding section does not exist on the full survey.



Results

Overall, the results of the statewide survey for Family Outcomes were very positive (80%, 85% and 89% respectively). A positive response was defined by a rating of '5 or above' and interpreted as 'families who report that early intervention services helped their families' on each of the three survey questions.¹ Results were at or above the state target for FFY 2007. Comparison with previous year's data (see Chart 2) showed that this year had a slight dip for Outcome A, was on par with last year for Outcome B, and had a slight increase over last year for Outcome C.



For Outcome A, 80% of the families (110/137) who responded reported that early intervention had helped their families know their rights. The average statewide response for this question was 5.6 and ranged from 4.1 to 6.3 for regional EIPs. The percentage of families responding positively to this question ranged from 50% to 100% in regions, with six regions falling below the state target for this year (80%). A difficulty in interpreting the responses at the regional level was that four of the six regions, who were below target, had a low response rate (i.e., fewer than eight responses). A comparison of the results of Outcome A was made with the full ECO survey in order to enhance our knowledge as to where strengths and areas for growth might exist for Part C in this outcome. Percentages were lower when families were asked to identify how much they knew about their rights (question 6, 69%) and how much they knew about programs and services (question 4, 75%), as opposed to how much early intervention helped them know their rights (80%). Families did report that they felt very comfortable in meetings with early intervention professionals (93%). Although we are on target for this outcome for the state, we are working to support all regions to be at or above the state target. Towards this end, a committee of the VICC began work in collaboration with the Vermont Family Network (VFN) to produce a handbook on Family Rights.

¹ **Criterion for defining "Families who report that early intervention services have helped their family":** The rating scale for ECO's Family Outcome Survey ranges from 1 to 7 with 1 to 3 representing a 'poor' to 'fair' job by the early intervention program and 5 to 7 representing a 'good' to 'excellent' job by the early intervention program. Responses of 5 or above were defined as 'families who report that early intervention services helped their families'.
Vermont APR 2007 R 4-09.doc

For Outcome B, 85% of families (116/137) from across the state reported that early intervention services had helped them to effectively communicate their children's needs. The average statewide response was 5.9 and ranged from 4.5 to 6.3 for the regional EIPs. The percentage of families responding positively to this outcome ranged from 50% to 100% in regions, with four regions falling below the state target of 85%. Unfortunately, two of these regions had fewer than six respondents, which made it difficult to interpret the response as a trend for these EIPs.

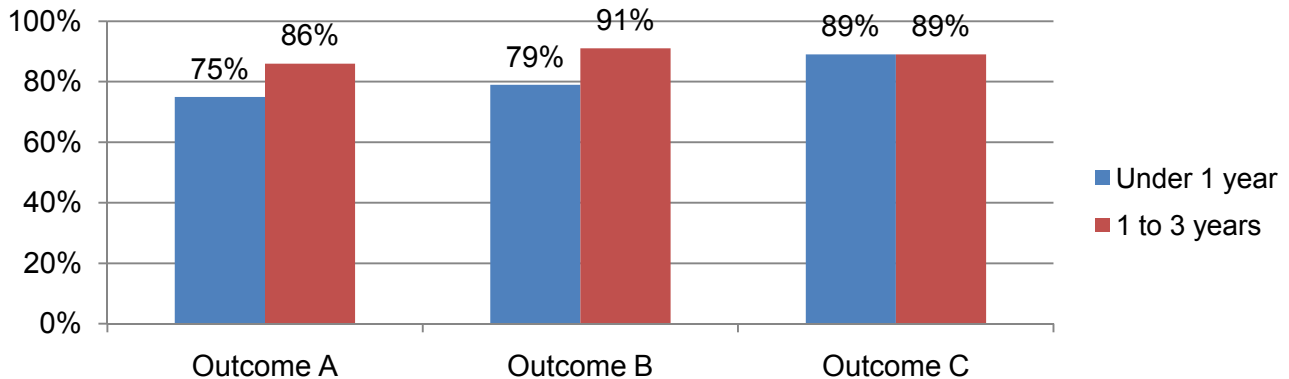
Outcome C once again had the highest positive response from families. Statewide, 89% of families (122/137) who responded reported that early intervention services had helped them help their children develop and learn. The average statewide response was 6.0, ranging from 5.2 to 6.8 for the regional EIPs. The percentage of families responding positively to this outcome ranged from 67% to 100%, with four regions falling below the 85% statewide target. As was the case for the above outcomes, a low response rate made it difficult to interpret the data, as a change in a single response would change the rating for some regional EIPs. We also compared this response to the section of the full ECO survey that corresponded with it. Families felt that they knew a great deal about 'how to help their child develop and learn' (92%) and that they routinely 'helped their child practice new skills' (93%). Families reported to a lesser degree that they knew how to help their child behave the way they wanted (84%).

Several factors contributed to the validity of the survey's results. Aside from a comparison of each Outcome with portions of the full ECO survey, survey comments from parents were also analyzed to glean meaning from the Outcome results. This year, there were fewer comments than last year. Out of 137 surveys returned to the state, a total of 53 families wrote a comment (39%). Of these, two were neutral and were subtracted from the total. Of the remaining 51 comments, 36 (71%) were positive, six (12%) indicated areas for growth and nine (18%) were a combination of positive and negative feedback. Our sense is that the drop in comments could be due to the extended length of the survey, satisfying a family member's need to give specific feedback. Regional profile reports were created from the FFY 2006 data to show how regions compared with statewide results. These reports also included family feedback with identifying information removed. In addition, a family focus forum was held in a central region of the state to explore family needs regarding Outcome A, 'know their rights.'

This year a portion of the ECO Family survey was distributed to the CIS Family Support pilot regions. Plans are in place to compare the results from the two programs (Family Support and Part C) across similar survey items.

Finally, additional analyses were conducted to see if other factors corresponded with the three Outcome results. In an examination of time in program, families who had been in the program less than a year were less positive in their response to Outcomes 1 and 2 than were families who had been in the program more than a year (see Chart 3 below).

**Chart 3: Relationship between family's time in program and positive response to outcomes
FFY 2007**



Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets/Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources for FFY 2007. The Improvement Activities table for Indicator 4 has been revised in the 2/2/09 version of the SPP, and posted on the Vermont Part C web site. The revisions were made to update and refine the activities. The web site is: <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>

Outlined below are the **revised** Program Improvement Activities for Indicator 4.

Activities Indicator 4	Timelines	Resources	Notes
Provide procedural guidance/clarifications based on review of reliability and validity checks of COSF data	Special Professional Development- TA sessions Spring 2009 and ongoing	Professional Development Director/Part C State and regional resources, including Part B	Increase joint C-B regional TA sessions regarding feedback on COSF validity issues on reporting forms in Spring 2009
C/CIS/DOE monitoring and TA system: assessing accuracy and completeness of data submitted on child outcomes via on-site monitoring and other means of regular review.	Spring of 2006 and ongoing through FFY 2010	State Part C/CIS Team, DOE personnel and VICC Family Leadership and Support Committee	
Preparation for and delivery of meaningful technical assistance, training, professional development and other improvement and support strategies.	Ongoing through 2010	Professional Development Director, State Part C – B team along with regional EIP resources as needed	Make sessions available to CIS and interested partners as well as C-B providers.

Activities Indicator 4	Timelines	Resources	Notes
<p>Using multi-way communication system regarding continuous improvement activities/strategies with regional EIPs via C/CIS TA liaisons, regular conference calls, email, onsite TA visits, regional trainings, guidance materials, etc. (multiple partners including SEA, CIS, regional EIPs)</p>	<p>Spring 2009</p>	<p>State Part C/CIS staff, NERRC</p>	<p>Consider regular CIS staff briefings to review regional issues regarding child outcome data system and identify regional TA needs</p>
<p>Infrastructure infusions and/or adjustments: Regional and State capacity - resource/personnel issues addressed through annual budgeting and planning process (caseloads, workloads, expertise needed).</p>	<p>Ongoing beginning January 2006 through FFY 2010</p>	<p>State staff</p>	<p>As more funds become available use to buy time for Professional Development and TA for Child Outcomes efforts, integrated with other key indicators like initial and ongoing assessment in CIS (and across other services).</p>
<p>Data management system developed – web based, regionally driven, practice based, real time is used for child outcomes data collection and analysis purposes. Further develop strategies to review data accuracy and use findings to inform regional professional development activities.</p> <p>Regional EIPs are trained and supported in converting to an electronic regionally entered data system.</p>	<p>Through FFY 2010</p>	<p>Part C/CIS staff/Child Development Division and Department IT staff & Part C – B</p>	<p>Develop data system to link demographic data to child outcome ratings</p>
<p>Continue to seek national and other technical assistance and professional development resources related to the meaningful use of this data in program evaluation and continuous improvement.</p> <p>Continue participation in ECO Communities of Practice, including COSF data analysis and TA cadre.</p> <p>Continue to embed child and family outcomes into Vermont Foundation for Early Learning framework and the evolving Infant and Toddler Early Learning Guidelines.</p>	<p>Ongoing through 2010</p>	<p>Professional Development Director/State Part C/CIS staff, Early Education Team, University of Vermont CDCI, other DOE; CSEFEL, CELL and Zero To Three, ECO</p> <p>State FEL Team</p> <p>Infant and Toddler Early Learning Guidelines Team</p>	<p>Consider linking related data, (demographic, type of group care settings etc.) to child outcomes (COSF ratings).</p>

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2007

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C/Child Find

Indicator 5: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs compared to:

- A. Other States with similar eligibility definitions; and
- B. National data.

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

Measurement:

A. Percent = [(# of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs) divided by the (population of infants and toddlers birth to 1)] times 100 compared to the same percent calculated for other States with similar (narrow, moderate or broad) eligibility definitions.

B. Percent = [(# of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs) divided by the (population of infants and toddlers birth to 1)] times 100 compared to National data.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 <small>(reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)</small>	.93%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: 88/6454 = 1.36%

Data Source: Table 1 of the “618” data report which is based on child count data from children with “active” IFSPs on 12/1/07.

Data analysis for Indicator 5, Child Find infants birth to one, FFY 2007

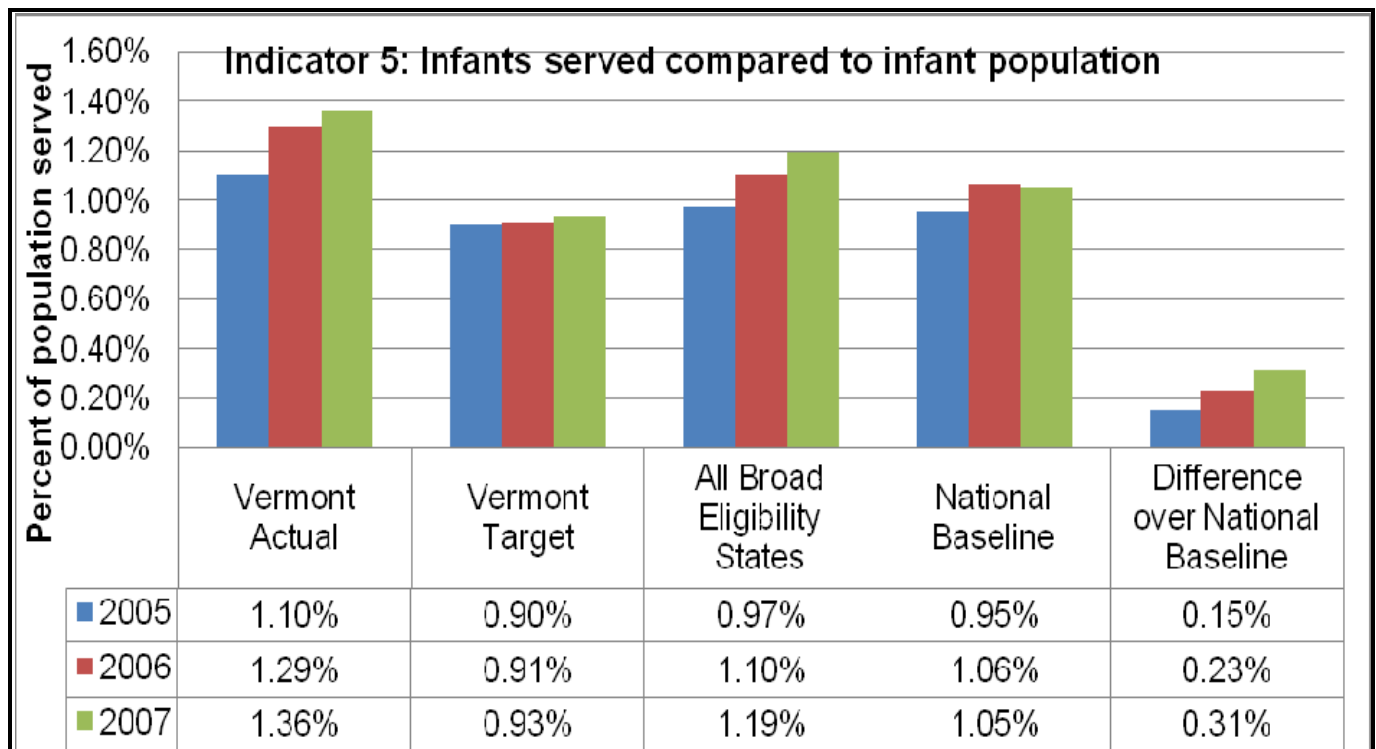
Table 5A FFY 2007	# Served in Part C	# Total Vermont Infants	# and % Vermont Infants Served in Part C	State Target
Infants	88	6454	88/6454 = 1.36%	.93%

The state increased its percentage of infants served under age one from 1.29% of the Vermont birth population in FFY 2006 to 1.36% of the Vermont birth population during FFY 2007. This means that for FFY 2007, Vermont ranked 12th in the broad eligibility category of states and territories, with Vermont .32% above the national baseline (55 states and territories) figure of 1.05%.

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007: Vermont exceeded its target figure of serving .93% of its infants born in the most recent year of census figures (and will likely keep doing so given our emphasis on seeking children who may be eligible at the earliest possible time, and in keeping with the expanded child find outlined in the IDEA of 2004). This is a high priority not only of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, but also it has been a high priority of the Vermont Interagency Coordinating Council (VICC) as well as the Child Development Division, the operating agency for the Co-Lead Agencies.

The further planning and implementation of Children’s Integrated Services (CIS) at the State and regional levels has had, and will have, an impact on child find for infants. The CIS referral and intake process has attracted pregnant women and families with infants, toddlers and preschoolers into the integrated system of child development and family support services.

Table 5B: Percent of Vermont infants served compared to percent of total population of Vermont infants over three years and comparison with other similar eligibility States



Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2007. The Improvement Activities table for indicator 5 has been revised in the 2/2/09 version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C web site. The revisions were made to update and refine the activities. The web site: <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>

Outlined below are the **revised** Program Improvement Activities for Indicator 5.

Activities Indicator 5	Timelines	Resources
Identify Regional EIPs below state target in determinations data - address emphasis on outreach for infants in annual regional EIP goals, and in CIS outreach plan. Complete outreach materials for CIS including CIS/C priorities and discuss with primary referral sources.	Ongoing 12/6/05 through FFY 2010	State C/CIS and regional partners
Continue presentations in partnership with CSHN DOE and CIS to hospitals, VT Chapter of AAP, shelters, child welfare, drug treatment programs, and related organizations	Ongoing 12/6/05 through FFY 2010	Regional and state resources including CSHN/DOE/C/CIS as appropriate

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2007

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C/Child Find

Indicator 6: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs compared to:

- A. Other States with similar eligibility definitions; and
- B. National data.

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

Measurement:

A. Percent = [(# of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs) divided by the (population of infants and toddlers birth to 3)] times 100 compared to the same percent calculated for other States with similar (narrow, moderate or broad) eligibility definitions.

B. Percent = [(# of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs) divided by the (population of infants and toddlers birth to 3)] times 100 compared to National data.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 <small>(reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)</small>	3.28%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: 762/19051 = 4%

Data Source: Table 1 of the “618” data report, which is based on child count data from children with “active” IFSPs on 12/1/07.

Data analysis for Indicator 6, Child Find infants and toddlers birth through two, FFY 2007:

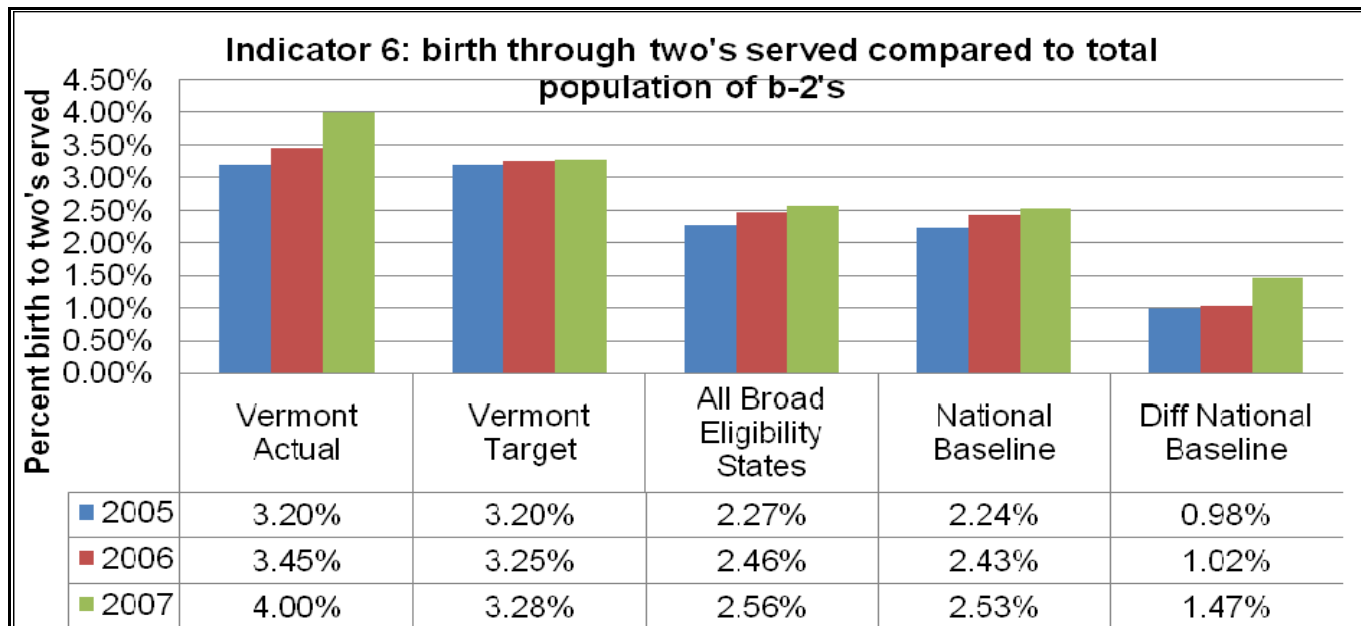
Table 6A FFY 2007	# Served in Part C	# Total Vermont B-3	# and % Vermont B-3 served in Part C	2007 SPP State Target
Infants and toddlers	762	19051	762/19051 = 4%	3.28%

Vermont served 4% (762 of 19051) of the birth to three state population (comprising the three most recent years of births), and exceeded by .72% its FFY 2007 target of 3.28%. Vermont

ranked sixth of 25 in the group of States categorized as “broad eligibility” States. The number of children served increased from 679 to 762, a 12.2% increase from 2006 to 2007.

In comparing Vermont data to other States with similar eligibility requirements, Table 6B below demonstrates Vermont’s actual data over three years, compares it to the State target figure, the entities in the broad eligibility category, the national baseline and then shows the difference between Vermont’s actual percent of the comparable Vermont population served and the national baseline reported by OSEP for FFY 2007.

Table 6B: Percent of Vermont birth through two numbers served in Part C in comparison to percent of same total age population in Vermont FFY 2005-2007



Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007: Vermont implemented its ongoing improvement strategies and surpassed the target figure. Vermont is in the “broad eligibility” category, which consists of 25 states and territories. Vermont remains ranked as number 6 in this group, serving 4% of the birth to three population, which is 1.47% above the national baseline of 2.53% that was reported for all states and territories for the 12/1/07 data reported in the “618” report. Regional EIPs successfully partnered with the Child Welfare agency to assure that all children under three with a substantiated case of child abuse and/or neglect were referred for screening/evaluation to Part C/FITP. The revised July 2007 protocol for CAPTA – Part C/FITP services has been effective.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2007. The Improvement Activities table for Indicator 6 has been revised in the 2/2/09 version of the SPP, posted on the Vermont Part C web site. The revisions were made to update and refine the activities The web site: <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>

Outlined below are the **revised** Program Improvement Activities for Indicator 6.

Activities for Indicator 6	Timelines	Resources
<p>Identify Regional EIPs below state target in determinations data - address emphasis on outreach for infants and toddlers in annual regional EIP goals, and in CIS outreach plan. Complete outreach materials for CIS including CIS/C priorities and discuss with primary referral sources.</p>	<p>Ongoing 12/6/05 through FFY 2010</p>	<p>State C/CIS and regional partners</p>
<p>Continue to make presentations in partnership with CSHN DOE and CIS to hospitals, VT Chapter of AAP, shelters, child welfare, drug treatment programs, and related organizations</p>	<p>Ongoing 12/6/05 through FFY 2010</p>	<p>Regional and state resources including CSHN/DOE/C/CIS as appropriate</p>

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2006

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C/Child Find

Indicator 7: Percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and 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)

Measurement:

Percent = [(# of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting was conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline) divided by the (# of eligible infants and toddlers evaluated and assessed)] times 100.

Account for untimely evaluations.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 <small>(reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)</small>	100%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: 508/546 = 93%

Data Source: Expanded child count database for 12/1/07

Data analysis for Indicator 7, 45-day timeline, FFY 2007:

Table 7A FFY 2007	# Total children w/new IFSPs	# Children with timely services	# Children services not timely due to family reasons	# and % Children whose services were timely	State Target (compliance)
State Totals	546	508	204	508/546 = 93%	100%

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY2007:

Table 7A shows there were 546 children with new services on their IFSPs and 508 of these children had an evaluation/assessment and an initial meeting to develop the IFSP within the 45 day timeline. Of the 508 children who received these services in a timely manner, 204 (40%) had exceptional family circumstances. The FFY 2007 rate of compliance of 93%, although not 100%, showed significant improvement over the FFY 2006 rate of compliance of 79.2%. The

average number of days statewide, from referral to initial IFSP meeting (inclusive of the evaluation/assessment) for the FFY 2007 reporting period was 49 days compared to FFY 2006 average of 57.26 days, representing impressive progress.

The overwhelming majority of evaluations in Vermont (527 of 546, 97%) were completed within 45 days. The 527 included 110 that had exceptional family circumstances. Of the 19 (3%) evaluations that were noncompliant, a significant number were due to provider unavailability (primarily speech and language, physical and occupational therapists). One regional EIP had serious staff medical issues due to two car accidents within a two month period.

There were a total of 38 children (7%) whose initial evaluations/assessment and initial IFSP meeting were not conducted within the 45 day time line, and were not due to child or family circumstances. The primary issues contributing to noncompliance during this reporting period were the lack of provider availability, and conflicting school and partner schedules. Several instances of noncompliance in a regional EIP were due to personnel shortages in the regional EIP where the car accidents and staff injuries occurred (they have now recovered). There also was a dramatic increase in this same regional EIP in referrals of children with intensive and early needs. As discussed in Indicator 1, one of the strategies was to “import” SLPs on special provider agreements to address this situation.

Table 7B below provides data requested by OSEP for Indicator 7 in the June 2008 State “determination” letter and the attached Vermont Part C FFY 2006 SPP/APR Response Table.

Key: “F” = finding; “C” = correction; “SC” = subsequent correction; “RNC” = remaining noncompliance.

Table 7B Regional EIP	FFY 2004	FFY 2005	FFY 2006	FFY 2007	Subsequent Correction (post FFY 2007)	Remaining Noncompliance (as of 2009 submission)
1						
2		F	RNC	C		
3	F	RNC	RNC	C		
4		F	RNC	RNC		Yes
5	F	C				
6		F	C			
7		F	RNC	RNC		Yes
8	F	C				
9			F	C		
10		F	RNC	RNC		Yes
11			F	RNC	C	
12			F	C		
All regions					1 regional EIP	3 regional EIPs

As of the 2007 APR submission:

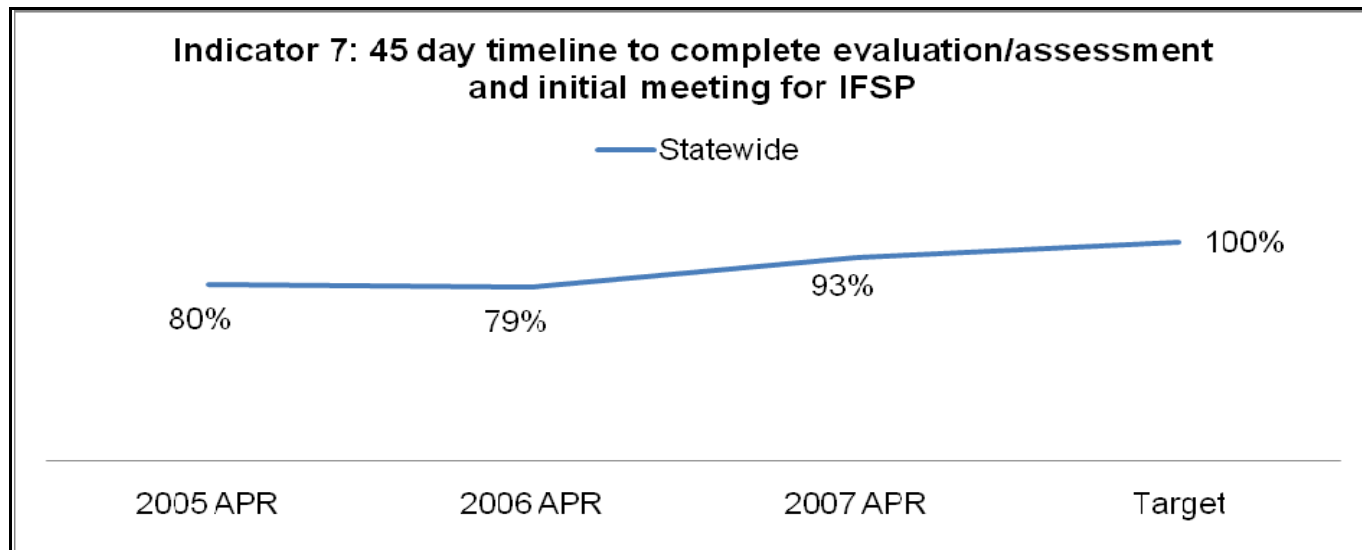
- FFY 2007 Findings: 0
- Timely Corrections in FFY 2007: 2
- Remaining noncompliance: 3 instances

- Regional EIP 3 corrected in FFY 2007 its remaining noncompliance from FFY 2004
- EIP 11 subsequently corrected post FFY 2007 its remaining noncompliance from FFY 2006
- EIPs 4, 7 and 10 had remaining noncompliance (85%, 85%, and 97% respectively) from findings reported in FFY 2005 in this FFY 2007 APR (the car accidents occurred in regional EIP 7)

The three regions with remaining noncompliance moved into the category of “needs intervention” based on FFY 2006 data, from their previous category of “needs assistance.” As a result, they submitted a corrective action plan with their budgets and state staff provided tailored onsite technical assistance.

Vermont has made significant statewide improvements over the past three reporting years as Table 7C below demonstrates.

Table 7C: Progress over three years and State target



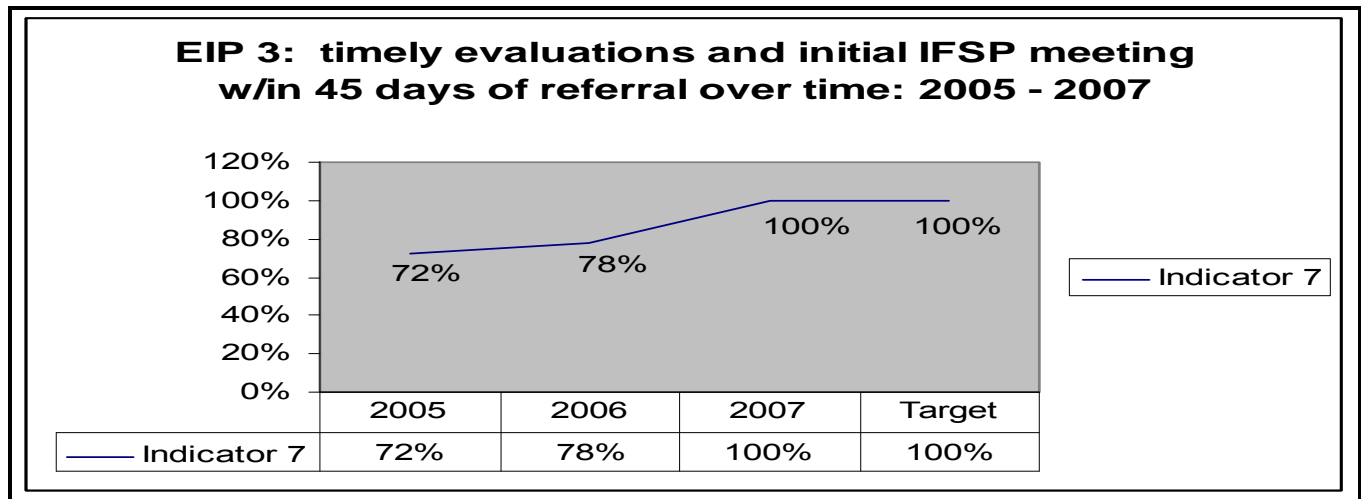
Actions Taken:

As described in the Overview and in Indicator 1, we sought input from a number of people and organizations at national OSEP sponsored conferences (workshops, networking, and large audience technical assistance sessions). In addition we utilized resources provided by the NERRC, NECTAC, RRC network and OSEP personnel, including regular conversations with Vermont’s State Contact. Primarily we continued to have ongoing discussions with the regional EIPs to clarify policy and procedure, re-adjust resources, problem solve and review documentation issues.

Vermont conducted regularly scheduled monthly conference calls with regional EIP directors and supervisors, data review and analysis at the regional and state level with follow up phone calls, and email communications and on-site visits to address how best to improve compliance on both Indicators 1 and 7. Indicator 7 remains challenging, even though there has been significant improvement.

The one regional EIP (3) with remaining noncompliance since 2004 corrected to 100% during this FFY 2007 reporting period. As reported in Vermont's 2006 APR, the EIP for this region moved to a new agency. There were substantial compliance issues prior to the change. The new agency took some time to establish itself and, as mentioned in Indicator 1, received intensive on-site and other technical assistance. Regional EIP 3 demonstrated substantial progress from FFY 2005 (72%), when the former host agency was transferring responsibilities to the new agency, to FFY 2006 (78%) when the new agency assumed responsibilities, to FFY 2007 when the agency achieved 100% compliance. Please see Table 7D below.

Table 7 D.



We devoted substantial effort to recruit and maintain appropriately trained personnel who could travel and be available in remote areas of Vermont as well as in the more urban areas. There is a lack of personnel in nearly all areas in Vermont for Speech and Language, Occupational and Physical Therapists and Autism program developers and consultants. After reviewing each regional EIP's data on all indicators, staff developed a customized technical assistance plan to address noncompliance and other issues. Staff provided on-site visits with the regional EIPs and reviewed files and administrative procedures at the same time. Certain regional EIPs were targeted with follow-up visits, especially regional EIPs 3, 4, 7 and 11. Based on the data reported in the FFY 2006 APR, regional EIP 3 remained in "needs intervention" for a second year, and regional EIPs 4 and 7 moved from "needs assistance" to "needs intervention."

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets /Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources for FFY2007. The Improvement Activities table for indicator 7 has been revised in the 2/2/09 version of the SPP, posted on the Vermont Part C web site. The revisions were made to update and refine the activities. These activities also apply to Indicator 1. The web site is <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>

Outlined below are the **revised** Program Improvement Activities for Indicator 7 (and Indicator 1).

Activities Indicator 7	Timelines	Resources	Notes
Regulation, policy and procedural guidance/clarifications; development of guidance for regional agreements driven by	By 1/06 and ongoing	State Staff	

Activities Indicator 7	Timelines	Resources	Notes
Part C-B Interagency Agreement.			
C/CIS/DOE monitoring and TA system: assessing status of compliance, performance and support needed for regions, private providers and schools through ongoing regular data review, analysis and feedback of expanded child count/CIS data, file reviews, self assessments, complaints review, etc.	Spring of 2006 and ongoing through FFY 2010	State Part C/CIS Team, DOE personnel and VICC Family Leadership and Support Committee who comprise the monitoring team	
Preparation for and delivery of meaningful technical assistance, training, professional development and other improvement and support strategies.		State Part C – B team along with CIS partners and regional EIPs and SUs/EEE staff	
Assuring effective multi-way communication system regarding continuous improvement activities/strategies with regional EIPs via C/CIS TA liaisons, regular conference calls, email, on-site TA visits, guidance materials, etc. (multiple partners including SEA, CIS, regional EIPs).	By 1/06 and ongoing	State staff	
Infrastructure infusions and/or adjustments: Regional and State capacity - resource/personnel issues addressed through annual budgeting and planning process (caseloads, workloads, expertise needed).	Ongoing beginning January 2006 through FFY 2010	State staff	For FFY 2007 regions with continuing non-compliance and significant improvement issues, budget & personnel were increased to assist them in coming into compliance FFY 2007. Regional EIPs received some funds specifically to address improvement of documentation and data collection and reporting.
Data management system developed – web based, regionally driven, practice based, real time. Regional EIPs are trained and supported in converting to an electronic regionally entered data system.	Ongoing through FFY 2010	Part C/CIS staff/Child Development Division and Department IT staff	We are continuing to work on full implementation of this activity.
Continue to seek resources through the SIG grant and other grants in the SLP – Communication, ASD, OT and advanced child development fields to work with Part C/CIS staff and families.	Ongoing	State Part C/CIS staff, community partners, University of Vermont CDCI-UCEDD, DOE and SLP association	This activity has been and continues to be implemented.

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2006

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C/Effective Transition

Indicator 8: Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child’s transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday including:

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

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

Measurement:

A. Percent = [(# of children exiting Part C who have an IFSP with transition steps and services) divided by the (# of children exiting Part C)] times 100.

B. Percent = [(# of children exiting Part C and potentially eligible for Part B where notification to the LEA occurred) divided by the (# of children exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B)] times 100.

C. Percent = [(# of children exiting Part C and potentially eligible for Part B where the transition conference occurred) divided by the (# of children exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B)] times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 <small>(reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)</small>	A, B, C: 100%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: Indicator 8A = 504/504 = 100%

Indicator 8B = 451/473 = 95%

Indicator 8C = 460/473 = 97%

Data Source: Expanded child count database of 12/1/07

Data analysis for Indicator 8A, IFSPs have transition steps and services, FFY 2007:

Table 8A 1 FFY 2007	Total # Children Exiting @ 3	# Children with Transition Plan	# and % Compliant	State Target (compliance)
State Totals	504	504	505/504 = 100%	100%

In FFY 2007, 504 children exited at age three and all 504 of them had an IFSP with transition steps and services which equaled **100% and therefore met OSEP's required target for compliance.**

Data analysis for Indicator 8B, timely LEA notification, FFY 2007:

Table 8B 1 FFY 2007	# Children Potentially Eligible for Part B (EEE)	# For Whom LEA Notified in Timely Manner	# and % Compliant	State Target (compliance)
State Totals	473	451	451/473 = 95%	100%

In FFY 2007, the number of children exiting Part C and potentially eligible for Part B where LEA notification occurred was 451 of 473 or **95%**, improved from 94% reported in the 2006 APR.

Data analysis for Indicator 8C, timely transition conference, FFY 2007:

Table 8C 1 FFY 2007	# Children Potentially Eligible for Part B (EEE)	# Children w/Timely Transition Conference	# and % Compliant	State Target (compliance)
State Totals	473	460	460/473 = 97%	100%

In FFY 2007, the number of children statewide exiting Part C and potentially eligible for Part B where the Transition Conference occurred in a timely manner was 460 of 473 or 97%. Of the 460, there were 139 children for whom exceptional family circumstances prevented the transition conference from occurring at least 90 days prior to the child's third birthday. Of these 139 children, 47 were "late referrals," and 11 were instances where the family declined approval for the transition conference. Of the 473 children potentially eligible for part B preschool special education services statewide, there were 13 instances of noncompliance (3%). Seven of these were because of the lack of availability of school personnel; the remaining six instances were due to lack of availability of regional EIP staff and partner providers, and a miscalculation of dates.

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007.

This discussion of improvement and explanation of progress or slippage section for Indicator 8, Transition Services, is organized in the following manner:

- A brief summary of technical assistance sought and used related to transition;
- A brief summary of the actions taken that impacted transition across Indicators 8A, 8B, and 8C; and

- By transition sub-indicator,
 - compliance status in response to OSEP June 6, 2008 “determination” letter and response table
 - statewide progress as reported in the FFY 2005, 2006 and 2007 APRs
 - actions taken.

Summary of technical assistance resources sought related to transition. Substantial improvement occurred in all three of the Transition sub-indicators. There has been a “snowball” effect on improvement driven by the coordinated use of multiple levels of technical assistance (national, regional, other state and in-state/regional resources) and the gathering of evidence-based best practices. The improvement was related to the combined intensive focus of Part C and Part B-619 designated program staff as well as to the implementation of a written technical assistance agreement with NERRC that helped keep the effort “front and center.” The Parts C and B-619 team sought resources that have evidence-based strategies and activities to improve understanding, documentation, and practices associated with successful transitions. The team tapped national, state and local technical assistance resources such as the National Early Childhood Transition Center (NECTC) and the Vermont Family Network (VFN), and participated in national conference calls sponsored by NECTC and NECTAC. These resources helped in the development of a statewide “wellness” plan as well as provided the Part C and Part B-619 staff an evidence-based framework that targeted all regional EIPs and Vermont LEAs. The collaborative team also helped regional EIPs and their respective Supervisory Unions (LEAs) produce effective local improvement strategies. The strategies used to achieve compliance in all three Transition sub-indicators in Part C and in early childhood Transition in Part B came from carefully integrating technical assistance resources, and expertise; providing joint contact, follow up and assuring joint commitments at all levels.

Summary of actions taken to improve compliance across Indicators 8A, 8B and 8C. The Part C/B state team targeted four regional EIPs and partner LEAs to receive on-site, intensified technical assistance (TA). Two additional regional EIPs requested TA from the state C/B team. This TA included on-site training/discussions with staff, providers, and schools. Prior to on-site visits, Part C & B state staff requested that participants complete an on-line survey using Survey Monkey so that the state team could analyze transition practices and regional partnerships between Part C and Part B. The results of the on-line survey assisted the Part C/B state team in identifying local contributing factors and developing a customized on-site visit and local action plan. The Part C/B state team also continued efforts to maintain compliance and enhance transition planning for all regional EIPs and LEAs.

Transition data and ongoing improvement efforts were routinely shared with the VICC for feedback. In addition, state and regional staff jointly identified and resolved documentation issues. Data verification reviews occurred on a regular basis as part of a state team effort for all data collection. Technical Assistance Liaisons (Part C/CIS and B) offered follow up and support to regional EIPs and Supervisory Unions (LEAs) through visits, emails, phone contacts, and conference calls.

In March 2007, with assistance from NERRC, Vermont held a statewide conference with regional EIP, Part B-619, and other LEA staff and providers. The conference provided an opportunity to clarify misunderstandings related to transition regulations and requirements. The afternoon was used for regional breakout sessions to discuss local factors contributing to

noncompliance and to develop local-regional action plans to improve communication and services. This conference provided a strong foundation for follow up technical assistance and support to regional EIPs and their partner SUs/LEAs in efforts to improve compliance for both Part C and for Part B-619.

Transition Sub-Indicators 8A, 8B, 8C

Vermont Part C has made substantial progress in Indicators 8A, 8B and 8C from the 2004 APR to this 2007 APR. The following highlights for each indicator:

- Compliance status in response to the OSEP June 2008 Determination Letter and Response Table;
- Statewide progress across APRs 2005, 2006, and 2007; and
- Actions taken.

Indicator 8A

Table 8A 2 below provides data requested by OSEP for Indicator 8A in the June 2008 State “determination” letter and the attached Vermont Part C FFY 2006 SPP/APR Response Table.

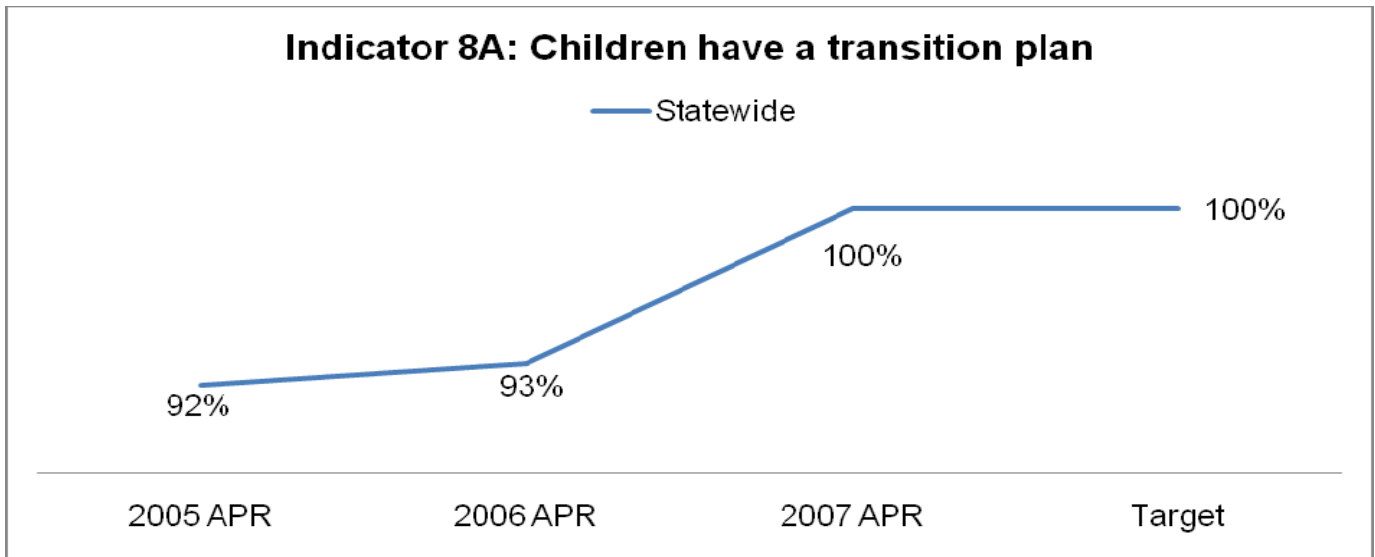
Key: “F” = Finding; “C” = Correction, “RNC” = remaining noncompliance

Table 8A 2 Regional EIP	FFY 2004	FFY 2005	FFY 2006	FFY 2007	Subsequent Correction (post FFY 2007)	Remaining Noncompliance (as of 2/09 submission)
1		F	C			
2						
3	F	C				
4						
5	F	C				
6			F	C		
7			F	C		
8	F	RNC	C			
9						
10						
11	F	C				
12						
All regions					Not Applicable	None

As of the 2007 APR submission:

- FFY 2007 Findings: 0
- Timely Corrections in FFY 2007: 2
- Remaining noncompliance: None

Table 8A 3: Progress over three years and the State target



Actions Taken:

Specific technical assistance related to transition planning was provided to all regional EIPs. Regional EIPs that demonstrated noncompliance in the FFY 2006 APR received technical assistance that was more intensive and tailored to their individual needs. Six out of the 12 regional EIPs received focused on-site visits from Vermont’s Part C/B State Transition Team. Participants in these on-site activities included regional EIP staff, other early intervention providers, and school staff.

The two regional EIPs (6 and 7) that had findings of noncompliance in FFY 2006 corrected in a timely manner to 100% in FFY 2007. Along with the statewide improvement activities, regional EIP 6 received intensive technical assistance from the Part C/B State transition team including an on-site visit. Regional EIP 7 had close contact with the State C/B transition team and the regional EIP’s supervisor received additional on-site guidance. Of the remaining 10 Regional EIPs five of them also received on-site technical assistance, and they all reached 100% compliance in FFY 2007.

Indicator 8B

Table 8B 2 below provides data requested by OSEP for Indicator 8B in the June 2008 State “determination” letter and the attached Vermont Part C FFY 2006 SPP/APR Response Table.

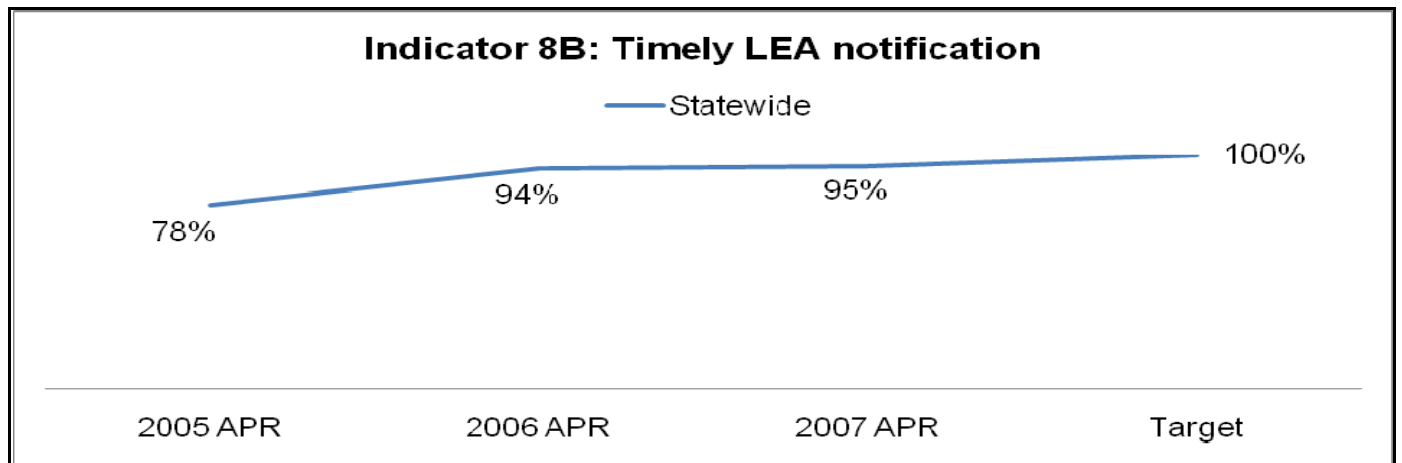
Key: “F” = Finding; “C” = Correction, “RNC” = remaining noncompliance

Table 8B 2 Regional EIP	FFY 2004	FFY 2005	FFY 2006	FFY 2007	Subsequent Correction (after close of FFY 2007)	Remaining Noncompliance (as of 2/09 submission)
1						
2						
3		F	RNC	C		
4		F	C			
5		F	C			
6			F	C		
7		F	RNC	C		
8		F	C	F		
9		F	C			
10						
11		F	RNC	C		
12						
All regions					None	None

As of the 2007 APR submission:

- FFY 2007 Findings: 1
- Timely Corrections in FFY 2007: 1
- Remaining noncompliance: None

Table 8B 3: Progress over three years and the State target



Actions Taken:

Specific technical assistance related to notification to the LEA was provided to all Regional EIPs as part of the statewide “wellness” plan. The Part C/B transition team and other state liaisons conducted on-site visits and ongoing data verification and communication with the regional EIP staff and partner providers.

Regional EIPs 3 and 6 received targeted intensive technical assistance from the Part C/B state transition team, including regional on-site visits with staff, providers, and schools. These regional EIP staff developed and implemented improvement plans as a result of these on-site visits.

After the March 2007 Statewide transition conference all regional EIPs, including regional EIPs 7 and 11 with ongoing noncompliance from FFY 2006, established a systematic process which ensures that, for children potentially eligible for Part B pre-school special education, notification to the LEAs occurs at least six months prior to the child’s transition.

Indicator 8C

Table 8C 2 below provides data requested by OSEP for Indicator 8C in the June 2008 State “determination” letter and the attached Vermont Part C FFY 2006 SPP/APR Response Table.

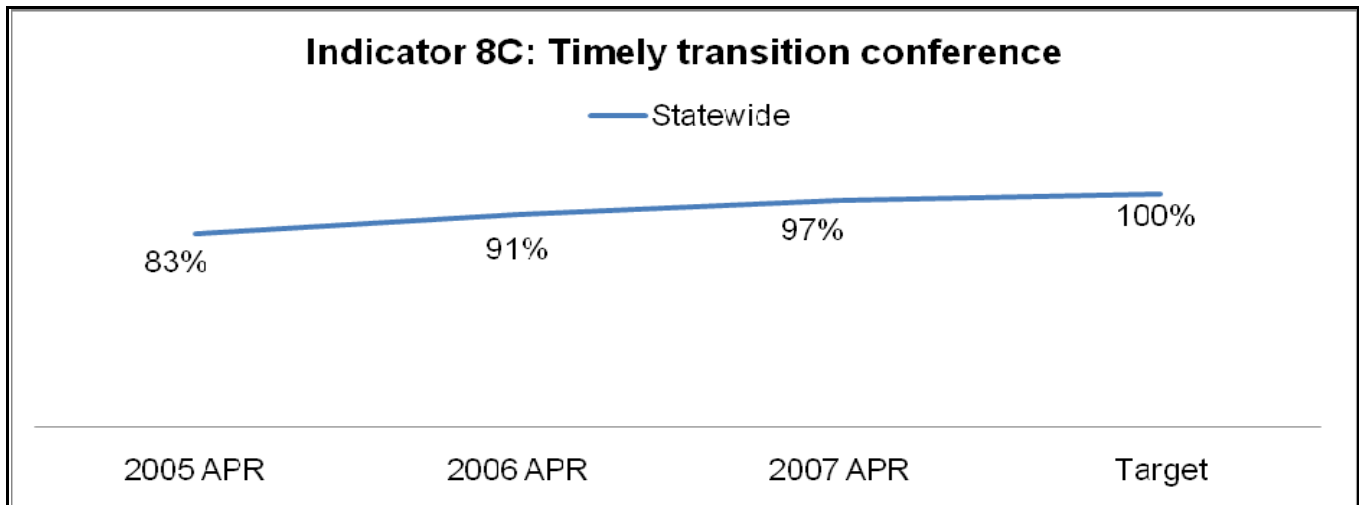
Key: “F” = Finding; “C” = Correction, “RNC” = remaining noncompliance

Table 8C 2 Regional EIP	FFY 2004	FFY 2005	FFY 2006	FFY 2007	Subsequent Correction (after post FFY 2007)	Remaining Noncompliance (as of 2/09 submission)
1						
2		F	C			
3	F	RNC	RNC	C		
4		F	RNC	RNC		Yes
5	F	C				
6						
7						
8		F	C			
9						
10		F	RNC	C		
11	F	RNC	C			
12						
All regions					None	1

As of the 2007 APR submission:

- FFY 2007 Findings: 0
- Remaining noncompliance: 1 instance

Table 8C 3: Progress over three years and the State target



Actions Taken:

The statewide “wellness” plan for all regional EIPs and partner LEAs incorporated specific technical assistance for all regional EIPs that addressed continued maintenance of conducting timely transition conferences and implementation of “best practices” supporting this critical time for children and their families. The Part C/B transition team and other state liaisons conducted on-site visits and ongoing data verification and communication with the regional EIP staff and partner providers and LEA staff.

Regional EIPs 3, 4, and 10 with remaining noncompliance in FFY 2006 received tailored on-site technical assistance from the Part C/B State Team. Three other regional EIPs, along with their partner LEAs, also received on-site technical assistance. This technical assistance for all six regional EIPs and their partner LEAS included activities to help identify the root causes and/or potential local or state contributing factors that impacted levels of noncompliance either in C-8 and/or B-12. After regional EIPs and LEAs identified contributing factors, action plans were implemented to address these factors and improve compliance and performance. Regional EIPs 3 and 10 subsequently corrected their remaining noncompliance in FFY 2007. Regional EIP 4 has remaining noncompliance (92%) and, as reported in Indicator 7 moved into the “needs intervention” category based on FFY 2006 data and developed a corrective action plan.

In collaboration with the Vermont Family Network (VFN), families received specialized training on transition using material developed by Part C, Part B-619, and VPIC. Regional EIPs 9 and 10 specifically requested these trainings.

The strong partnership between the Part C and Part B state staff enabled the C/B transition team to address, “with conviction,” communication issues, misunderstanding related to legal requirements, attitudinal “barriers,” and practices that needed improvement. Regional EIP and LEA staff almost always received technical assistance together. Prior to providing specific technical assistance, the C/B team was able to assess both the C and B data, compile and analyze the results from the Survey Monkey data on practices and attitudes, and incorporate any old or current informal or formal complaint information into the background information. This provided the team with the solid foundation needed to offer useful technical assistance. Part C and Part B state staff also individually received emails and phone calls on an ongoing basis and

were very careful to respond to them jointly so that the “messages” were consistent across service systems.

The March 2007 Transition Conference provided the opportunity to address the fact that Vermont Part C had a very low rate of compliance in the 2005 APR, particularly in Indicators 8B and 8C. One of the reasons cited that impacted the level of compliance in 8C was the inability of school personnel to schedule timely transition conferences. As noted previously, this March statewide conference was integral to providing the foundation for subsequent provision of technical assistance across all transition indicators.

Both the VICC and CIS addressed the issue of the lack of specialized providers statewide that impacted timely transition planning (and the other indicators related to the provision of timely services). There has been a strong emphasis on ensuring that families and staff have the necessary assessment information available at the transition conference (e.g., if a provider cannot be at the meeting, her relevant information is available and shared) and that the primary service provider is present (in addition to the service coordinator). This ensures not only timely planning, but also that the function of the transition planning is meaningful for the family, child and the Part C and B staff.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets /Improvement Activities/Timelines/ Resources for FFY 2007. The Improvement Activities Table for Indicators 8A, B and C has been revised in the 2/2/09 version of the SPP and posted on the Vermont Part C web site. The revisions were made to update and refine the activities. The web site is <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>

Outlined below are the **revised** Program Improvement Activities for Indicators 8A, B & C.

Activities for Indicator 8, inclusive of the sub-indicators 8 A, B and C	Timelines	Resources	Notes
Regulations, policy and procedural guidance/clarifications; development of guidance for regional agreements driven by IAA	By 1/06 and ongoing	State Staff both C/CIS and B; NERRC and Larry Edelman; 619 and Part C discretionary resources	Continue with joint workshops on roles and responsibilities, attitudes and practices. Continue to use resources to make on-line – web based guidance available to Part C and Part B personnel (interactive self training on best transition practices).
C/CIS/DOE monitoring and TA system: assessing status of compliance, performance and support needed to regions, private providers and schools through ongoing regular data review, analysis and feedback of expanded child count/CIS data, file reviews, self assessments, complaints review, etc.	Spring of 2006 and ongoing through FFY 2010	State Part C/CIS Team, DOE personnel, VICC Family Leadership Committee who may comprise the monitoring team	

Activities for Indicator 8, inclusive of the sub-indicators 8 A, B and C	Timelines	Resources	Notes
Preparation for and delivery of meaningful technical assistance, training, professional development and other improvement and support strategies.	Ongoing through FFY 2010	State Part C – B team along with CIS partners and regional EIPs and SU's/EEE staff	Continue practice of gathering data and analyzing prior to delivery of TA. Including use of Survey Monkey data prior to joint local workshops/meetings.
Assuring effective multi-way communication system regarding continuous improvement activities/strategies with regional EIPs via C/CIS TA liaisons, regular conference calls, email, on-site TA visits, guidance materials, etc. (multiple partners including SEA, CIS, regional EIPs,	Ongoing through 2010	State staff (Part C/CIS, DOE) and regional EIPs	
Infrastructure infusions and/or adjustments: Regional and State capacity - resource/personnel issues addressed through annual budgeting and planning process (caseloads, workloads, expertise needed).	Ongoing through 2010	State staff C/CIS, DOE, CSHN, etc.	
Data management system developed – web based, regionally driven, practice based, real time. Regional EIPs are trained and supported in converting to an electronic regionally entered data system.	Ongoing through 2010	Part C/CIS staff/Child Development Division and Department IT staff	
Continue to seek additional resources through grants and personnel to improve compliance and performance in: the provision of timely services, seeking to attract families with children at the earliest possible time, providing services in natural environments and having successful transitions when children enter or leave Part C/CIS.	Ongoing through 2010	State Part C/CIS staff, community partners, University of Vermont CDCI, DOE and SLP and other professional associations	

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for 2007

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C/General Supervision

Indicator 9: General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.

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

Measurement: Percent of noncompliance corrected within one year of identification:

- a. # of findings of noncompliance.
 - b. # of corrections completed as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.
- Percent = [(b) divided by (a)] times 100.

For any noncompliance not corrected within one year of identification, describe what actions, including technical assistance and/or enforcement that the State has taken.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2007 <small>(reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)</small>	100%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007 (July 2007-June 2008): 11 Timely Corrections/13 Findings = 85%

Data Source(s): Expanded child count databases for 12/1/06 and 12/1/07, and on-site visits conducted in FFY 2006 and FFY 2007.

Data Analysis for Indicator 9, General Supervision, FFY 2007:

VT Part C groups together as one monitoring finding individual instances in a regional EIP that involve the same legal requirement. To identify noncompliance during FFY 2006, Vermont Part C staff gathered and analyzed data from the expanded child count database 12/1/06 for all children in all 12 regional EIPs. It also conducted file reviews for 15% of the children receiving services, or a minimum of 12 files, in each of three regional EIPs during on-site visits. These three regional EIPs were the last of Vermont Part C's 12 regional EIPs to have on-site visits conducted as part of Vermont Part C's cyclical monitoring process (described in the State Performance Plan), which was completed in FFY 2006.

During FFY 2006, Vermont Part C identified six findings of noncompliance in the Indicators/Indicator Clusters through a review of the expanded child count database of 12/1/06. During FFY 2007, we verified timely correction of five of the six findings through a review of the expanded child count database of 12/1/07 and through statewide on-site file reviews. In addition, through on-site file reviews in FFY 2006, we identified seven findings in other areas of noncompliance (parental rights, all domain evaluation and assessment and current levels of functioning, multidisciplinary evaluation and assessment, and prior written notice) and verified timely correction of six of these seven findings through on-site file reviews in FFY 2007. Although we were pleased with the rate of correction of these other areas of noncompliance, the number of findings validated the need to continue monitoring them, as reported in the 2006 APR.

Following verbal and written notification of findings to the regional EIPs, the regional EIPs submitted a corrective action plan to the Part C State staff. This corrective action plan was developed in collaboration with each regional EIP's local advisory group. During FFY 2007, one of the Vermont State Part C staff member's primary responsibilities was to provide follow-up technical assistance, including regular on-site visits, to the regional EIPs with findings to monitor progress on the corrective action plan and to ensure timely correction of noncompliance identified in FFY 2006. This staff member, along with other staff members assigned as technical assistance liaisons to specific regional EIPs, also provided technical assistance to regional EIPs with remaining noncompliance. Additional technical assistance for these regions, and for all 12 regional EIPs, included individual telephone conversations, individual and group e-mail correspondence, and monthly teleconferences, and at least two face to face meetings in FFY 2007.

Indicators/Indicator Clusters and Other Areas

Indicator/Indicator Clusters	General Supervision System Components	# of EIS Programs Issued Findings in FFY 2006 (7/1/06 to 6/30/07)	(a) # of Findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2006 (7/1/06 to 6/30/07)	(b) # of Findings of noncompliance from (a) for which correction was verified no later than one year from identification
1. Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.	Monitoring Activities: Data Review/Desk Audit On-Site Visits Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0 0 0		
2. Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings	Monitoring Activities: Data Review/Desk Audit On-Site Visits Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0 0 0		
3. Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who demonstrate improved outcomes New Indicator – no data 2006 to 2007	Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0		
4. Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family	Monitoring Activities: Survey Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0		

Indicator/Indicator Clusters	General Supervision System Components	# of EIS Programs Issued Findings in FFY 2006 (7/1/06 to 6/30/07)	(a) # of Findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2006 (7/1/06 to 6/30/07)	(b) # of Findings of noncompliance from (a) for which correction was verified no later than one year from identification
5. Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs	Monitoring Activities: Data Review/Desk Audit			
6. Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs	Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0		
7. Percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline.	Monitoring Activities:			
	Data Review/Desk Audit	3	3	2
	On-Site Visits	0	NA	NA
	Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0		
8. Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday including: C. IFSPs with transition steps and services;	Monitoring Activities:			
	Data Review/Desk Audit	2	2	2
	On-Site Visits	0	NA	NA

Indicator/Indicator Clusters	General Supervision System Components	# of EIS Programs Issued Findings in FFY 2006 (7/1/06 to 6/30/07)	(a) # of Findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2006 (7/1/06 to 6/30/07)	(b) # of Findings of noncompliance from (a) for which correction was verified no later than one year from identification
	Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0		
<p>8. Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday including:</p> <p>D. Notification to LEA, if child potentially eligible for Part B</p>	<p>Monitoring Activities:</p> <p>Data Review/Desk Audit</p> <p>On-Site Visits</p> <p>Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings</p>	<p>1</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p>	<p>1</p> <p>NA</p>	<p>1</p> <p>NA</p>

Indicator/Indicator Clusters	General Supervision System Components	# of EIS Programs Issued Findings in FFY 2006 (7/1/06 to 6/30/07)	(a) # of Findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2006 (7/1/06 to 6/30/07)	(b) # of Findings of noncompliance from (a) for which correction was verified no later than one year from identification
<p>8. Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday including:</p> <p>C. Transition conference, if child potentially eligible for Part B.</p>	<p>Monitoring Activities:</p> <p>Data Review/Desk Audit 0</p> <p>On-Site Visits 0</p>			
	Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0	0	
<p>OTHER AREAS OF NONCOMPLIANCE:</p> <p>Notification of Parental Rights 34 CFR 303.403</p>	<p>Monitoring Activities:</p> <p>On-Site Visits 2</p>	2	2	2
	Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0		

Indicator/Indicator Clusters	General Supervision System Components	# of EIS Programs Issued Findings in FFY 2006 (7/1/06 to 6/30/07)	(a) # of Findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2006 (7/1/06 to 6/30/07)	(b) # of Findings of noncompliance from (a) for which correction was verified no later than one year from identification
OTHER AREAS OF NONCOMPLIANCE: All domain evaluation and assessment and current levels of functioning 34 CFR 303.17, 303.344(a)	Monitoring Activities: On-Site Visits	1	1	1
	Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0		
OTHER AREAS OF NONCOMPLIANCE: Multidisciplinary Evaluation and Assessment 34 CFR 303.17, 303.322	Monitoring Activities: On-Site Visits	1	1	1
	Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0		
OTHER AREAS OF NONCOMPLIANCE: Prior written notice of all IFSP meetings to family and others 34 CFR 303.342(d)(2)	Monitoring Activities: On-Site Visits	3	3	2
	Dispute Resolution: Complaints, Hearings	0	NA	
Sum the numbers down Column a and Column b			13	11

Total Number of Findings of Noncompliance Indicator/Indicator Clusters and Other Areas FFY 2006: **13**

Total Number Findings of Noncompliance for which Correction was Verified no later than one year from identification: **11**

Percent of Noncompliance Corrected within One Year of Identification: 11/13 = 85%

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007:

Although Vermont Part C did not reach 100% compliance in FFY 2007 for timely correction of findings identified in FFY 2006, 85% compliance represents substantial progress from 63% compliance reported in the 2006 APR for timely correction. There were almost half the number of findings in FFY 2006 (13) as there were in FFY 2005 (24). Significant staff time was devoted to improving documentation by clarifying what, when and how to document and “going to scale” with that effort. Vermont Part C is confident the improvement in compliance (as evidenced by a reduction of findings) is a reflection of overall statewide progress. Due to restructuring staff responsibilities, Vermont Part C made significant progress in its ability to support regional EIPs in achieving timely correction of identified noncompliance. As discussed previously, one staff member assumed specific responsibility for following up with each regional EIP with identified current and ongoing noncompliance. As noted in the Overview, challenges in Indicator 7 definitely have contributed to noncompliance in timely correction in Indicator 9.

Compliance status as of 2007 APR submission, including update on remaining noncompliance in response to OSEP’s June 2008 “determination” letter and Response Table

APR 2006/FFY 2006 (July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007) - There were nine remaining instances of noncompliance from findings identified in FFY 2005 that were not timely corrected in FFY 2006:

- Indicator 7: The four instances of remaining noncompliance occurred in four regional EIPs. Regional EIP 2 subsequently corrected in FFY 2007. Regional EIPs 4 at 85% compliance, 7 at 85% compliance, and 10 at 97% compliance (from 78% compliance in FFY 2005) have remaining noncompliance. Vermont Part C staff worked diligently with these regions to improve the completeness and accuracy of their documentation, and provided significant levels of technical assistance, as described in Indicator 7. Vermont Part C staff also discussed with these regional EIPs alternate ways to gather information from team members who are unable to attend the initial IFSP meeting so that the meeting occurs in a timely way (rather than being re-scheduled to accommodate these team members). Statewide, the lack of personnel to conduct evaluations to determine eligibility for some children, e.g, speech and language pathologists, occupational therapists, continues to be a significant systemic factor contributing to remaining noncompliance. As reported previously, regional EIPs 4, 7, and 10 received a determination of “Needs Intervention” based on data reported in the 2006 APR (from “Needs Assistance” in the prior year). As a result, these three regions were required to submit a corrective action plan along with their annual budget.
- Indicator 8B: The three instances of remaining noncompliance occurred in three regional EIPs (3, 7, and 11). These three programs subsequently corrected their instances of remaining noncompliance in FFY 2007.
- Indicator 8C: The two instances of remaining noncompliance occurred in two regional EIPs (4 and 10). Regional EIP 10 subsequently corrected its remaining noncompliance in FFY 2007. Regional EIP 4 has remaining noncompliance at 92% (from 70% in FFY 2005). As previously reported, this regional EIP received a determination of “needs intervention” based on FFY 2006 data and received significant levels of technical assistance during FFY 2007.

APR 2007/FFY 2007 (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008) - There were two remaining instances of noncompliance from findings identified in FFY 2006 that were not timely corrected in FFY 2007:

- Indicator 7: The one instance of remaining noncompliance occurred in Regional EIP 11. This program reached 98% compliance in FFY 2007. Vermont Part C staff subsequently verified correction to 100% through a review of the regional EIP's 12/1/08 child count data for three consecutive months.
- Prior Notice: The one instance of remaining noncompliance occurred in Regional EIP 4 and remains ongoing at 76% compliance (from 36% in FFY 2006). Vermont Part C staff have conducted regular telephone conversations and on-site visits with this particular regional EIP to address this issue. After discussions with regional EIP staff, it was determined that the cause of this noncompliance was due to the lack of documentation rather than to noncompliance in fulfilling this legal requirement. Regional EIP 4 received a determination of "Needs Intervention" based on data reported in the FFY 2006 APR (from "Needs Assistance" in the prior year) and was required to address this area in its corrective action plan.

As of the 2007 APR submission:

- FFY 2006 Findings: 13
- Timely Corrections in FFY 2007: 11
- Remaining noncompliance: 5 instances

Actions Taken:

Vermont Part C engaged multiple national, regional, state and regional/local resources and implemented specific actions to ensure timely correction of identified noncompliance.

National and Regional

Vermont Part C utilized significant technical assistance from the Northeast Regional Resource Center (NERRC) during FFY 2007. NERRC, in collaboration with the National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC) and the National Early Childhood Transition Center (NECTC) continued to provide specific technical assistance in the area of transition (discussed under Indicator 8). NERRC supported Vermont Part C's efforts in revising its data management system by facilitating an on-site visit by Bruce Bull to Vermont in fall 2007. Vermont Part C staff also participated in the Data Managers' teleconferences facilitated by NERRC. A Vermont Part C staff member continued to participate in the monthly NERRC State to Local Monitoring Group teleconferences and two staff attended the NERRC-sponsored luncheon meeting at the 2007 OSEP National Early Childhood Conference. All of these resources contributed to Vermont Part C's efforts in making progress in the area of transition and in refining its general supervision system, including data management and monitoring.

During FFY 2007, Vermont Part C staff participated in webinars sponsored by other regional RRCs. The webinar on Public Reporting was particularly helpful in assisting Vermont Part C in providing guidance to develop and post its Public Reporting in FFY 2007. Vermont Part C staff

continued to access the RRC Website in FFY 2007 and very much appreciate having this resource and its supporting materials.

Two Vermont Part C staff members attended the FFY 2007 Data Managers' meeting sponsored by WESTAT, now DAC. Although it was not specifically related to technical assistance, Vermont Part C also gained valuable information during discussions with the two individuals who conducted a second visit in May 2008 as part of WESTAT's national monitoring study. These discussions highlighted for Vermont Part C staff some potential additional revisions to its monitoring process.

During FFY 2007, Vermont Part C staff continued to have regular conference calls with its OSEP State Contact. These calls were very helpful in joint problem solving and in mutual sharing of relevant information. Vermont Part C staff continued to participate in the monthly OSEP SPP/APR Technical Assistance calls to receive ongoing guidance related to SPP/APR requirements and General Supervision. Part C staff attended the OSEP Leadership, National Accountability, and National Early Childhood Conferences in FFY 2007. Part C staff also participated in ECO Center-sponsored pre- and post-conference workshops held in conjunction with these three conferences.

Vermont State, Regional, and Local

Vermont Part C staff engaged their 12 regional EIPs in collaboratively identifying and problem solving specific factors that contributed to noncompliance and the regional EIPs' inability to timely correct. These discussions occurred during/via on-site monitoring and follow up technical assistance visits, regular monthly teleconferences, annual meetings and emails, the 2007 determination process, and on an ongoing basis via individual email and telephone conversations. Vermont Part C staff not only gained helpful knowledge from the national resources that helped to frame the issues and provided excellent evidence-based assistance and guidance materials, but also from the regional EIPs/CIS personnel, the VICC members, the DOE Early Education Team (including the Part B-619 coordinator), the Part B 619 Advisory Group, the VT DOE's Student Support Team, the CDD Children's Integrated Services state team, the Vermont University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD, the Center for Disability and Community Inclusion at the University of Vermont), the Vermont Family Network (formerly Vermont Parent Training and Information Center), and staff from the Maternal and Child Health's Children with Special Health Care Needs Division.

Vermont Part C re-aligned staffing in FFY 2007 to ensure there was a dedicated staff person providing follow up technical assistance to each region with identified findings of noncompliance and remaining noncompliance. In addition, another staff member assumed the dedicated role of clearing and following up on child count data sent in monthly by the regional EIPs.

Each Vermont Part C staff member is a designated technical assistance liaison to each of the 12 regional EIPs and supported the staff member dedicated to providing follow up technical assistance. In addition, these staff members partnered with a member of the Children's Integrated Services State Team to provide technical assistance to the regional Children's Integrated Services Teams comprised of Part C, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health, and Healthy Babies/Maternal and Child Health providers.

Vermont Part C continued to revise its MS ACCESS database and process to ensure collection of appropriate and accurate data (described in the Overview). The dedicated staff person who cleared monthly data followed up in writing and by telephone if data submitted by a regional EIP was incomplete and/or inaccurate. Two of the regional EIPs (4 and 7) that received on-site technical assistance specific to data collection and reporting were determined to be in the

“Needs Intervention” category based on data reported in the FFY 2006 (from “Needs Assistance in the prior year); regional EIP 4 provides Part C services for approximately 25% of the infants and toddlers receiving Vermont Part C services. These combined actions significantly improved the accuracy and completeness of the data submitted by the regional EIPs.

Vermont Part C continued to work on full implementation of an on-line, real time data management system. This effort, which had been contracted externally, was brought “in-house” to the Agency of Human Services (AHS) during the FFY 2007 reporting year. AHS identified Vermont Part C’s data management system as a priority within the Child Development Division, in which the Part C program resides. Although it is encouraging that AHS is taking ownership for the development and maintenance of the Part C data management system, there are many other priorities within AHS as a whole that supersede Part C’s needs and that limit the capacity of the IT staff to make as much progress as quickly as anticipated.

Vermont Part C completed its cyclical monitoring process in FFY 2006. In FFY 2007, staff developed a more focused monitoring process based on ongoing review and analysis of data rather than on an arbitrary scheduling of regions every three years. The monitoring system includes on-site visits; focus groups/interviews; desk audits/data review of all 12 regional EIPs on a monthly basis, including review of both informal and formal complaints; self-assessment by the 12 regional EIPs; and an annual family survey using the ECO Family Survey. In addition to verifying timely and subsequent correction of noncompliance and maintenance of compliance, the fall 2007 on-site file reviews in all 12 regional EIPs were part of the phase-in of the revised monitoring system. These on-site visits were scheduled for a full day to also provide technical assistance opportunities for the regional EIP staff. One of the state Part C staff continued to be a member of the Vermont Part B Focused Monitoring Stakeholders Group.

During FFY 2007, Vermont Part C made minor revisions to its FFY 2006 Determination process. Of the 12 regional EIPs, based on data reported in the 2006 APR, two regional EIPs moved from “Needs Assistance” to “Meets Requirements,” six regional EIPs remained in “Needs Assistance” for the second year, one regional EIP remained in “Needs Intervention” for the second year, and three regional EIPs moved from “Needs Assistance” to “Needs Intervention.” Regional EIP 3 that remained in “Needs Intervention” in FFY 2007 has had ongoing noncompliance discussed in APRs 2005 and 2006, but has made significant progress in this APR 2007 reporting year, as discussed in the Overview and prior compliance indicators. Regional EIPs 4, 7 and 10 in “Needs Intervention” have received customized technical assistance. It was clear that the determination process in FFY 2007 in and of itself had a significant impact on the regional EIPs, providing incentive to either maintain and or improve determination status. All regional EIPs in the three categories addressed either maintenance or improvement in their annual budget process and goals for the FFY 2008 year. All 12 were required to conduct monthly internal file reviews

Vermont Part C slightly revised its Public Reporting format in FFY 2007 to incorporate both the FFY 2005 and FFY 2006 data for each regional EIP. These data were posted to the Agency of Human Services and Vermont Department of Education web sites.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets/Improvement Activities /Timeline/Resources for FFY 2007: The Improvement Activities for Indicator 9 have been revised in the 2/2/09 version of the SPP, and posted on the Vermont Part C web site. The revisions were made to update and refine the activities. The web site is: <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>.

Outlined below are the **revised** Program Improvement Activities for Indicator 9.

Activities Indicator 9	Timelines	Resources
Policy and procedural guidance - clarifications on what data to be used in monitoring (and sources), for what reasons, how it will be collected, when and by whom.	Ongoing through FFY 2010	Part C – CIS state team with input from regional EIPs
C/CIS/DOE monitoring and TA system: assessing status of compliance, performance and support needed for regional EIPs, private providers and schools through ongoing regular data review, analysis and feedback of expanded child count/CIS data, file reviews, self assessments, complaints review, etc.	Spring of 2006 and ongoing through FFY 2010	State Part C/CIS Team, DOE personnel, VICC Family Leadership and Support Committee
Preparation for and delivery of meaningful technical assistance, training, professional development and other improvement and support strategies on timely correction of noncompliance or lower than targeted performance.		State Part C – B team CIS partners & EIP, SU/EEE staff
Data management system developed – web based, regionally driven, practice based, real time. Regional EIPs are trained and supported in converting to an electronic regionally entered data system. Data management system incorporates timely correction system of follow up and support to come into compliance.	Ongoing through FFY 2010	Part C/CIS staff/Child Development Division and Department IT staff
Continue to seek resources by networking with other states, seeking assistance from NERRC and NECTAC and others regarding system of follow up and correction.	Ongoing through FFY 2010	State Part C/CIS and Part B monitoring staff.

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2007

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Indicator 10: Percent of signed written complaints with reports issued that were resolved within 60-day timeline or a timeline extended for exceptional circumstances with respect to a particular complaint.

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

Measurement: Percent = [(1.1(b) + 1.1(c)) divided by 1.1] times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 (reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)	100%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: There were no signed written complaints for the Part C program during this reporting period.

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007:

Does not apply since there were no signed written complaints during this time period that involved the Part C program.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2007: There were no revisions to the SPP for this indicator.

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2007

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C/General Supervision

Indicator 11: Percent of fully adjudicated due process hearing requests that were fully adjudicated within the applicable timeline.

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

Measurement: Percent = [(3.2(a) + 3.2(b)) divided by 3.2] times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 <small>(reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)</small>	100%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: There were no requests and no adjudications during this time period for the Part C program.

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007:

The Part C SPP Improvement Activities continue with Part B; however there has been no activity related to the Part C program.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2007: There were no revisions to SPP for this indicator.

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2007

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C/General Supervision

Indicator 12: 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)

Measurement: Percent = (3.1(a) divided by 3.1) times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 <small>(reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)</small>	Vermont will coordinate with and support Part B targets

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: There have been no Part C requests for hearings that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution settlement agreements.

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007:

Does not apply during this reporting period.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2007: There were no revisions to the SPP for this indicator.

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2007

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C/General Supervision

Indicator 13: Percent of mediations held that resulted in mediation agreements.

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

Measurement: Percent = $[(2.1(a)(i) + 2.1(b)(i)) \text{ divided by } 2.1] \text{ times } 100.$

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 (reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)	Assist Part B in promoting mediation and in reaching their targets

Actual Target Data for FFY 2007: There was one mediation request for Part C that resulted in a mediation agreement during this time period.

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007:

The one mediation request was resolved during this reporting period.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2007: There were no revisions to the SPP for this indicator.

SECTION A: Written, signed complaints	
(1) Written, signed complaints total	0
(1.1) Complaints with reports issued	0
(a) Reports with findings	0
(b) Reports within timeline	0
I Reports within extended timelines	0
(1.2) Complaints withdrawn or dismissed	0
(1.3) Complaints pending	0
(a) Complaints pending a due process hearing	0
SECTION B: Mediation requests	
(2) Mediation requests total	1
(2.1) Mediations	
(a) Mediations related to due process	0
(i) Mediation agreements	0
(b) Mediations not related to due process	1
(i) Mediation agreements	1
(2.2) Mediations not held (including pending)	0
SECTION C: Hearing requests	
(3) Hearing requests total	0
(3.1) Resolution meetings (For States adopted Part B Procedures)	0
(a) Settlement agreements	0
(3.2) Hearings (fully adjudicated) (For all states)	0
(a) Decisions within timeline SELECT timeline used {30 day Part C, 30 day Part B, or 45 day Part B}	0
(b) Decisions within extended timeline (only applicable if using Part B due process hearing procedures).	0
(3.3) Resolved without a hearing	0

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2007

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see the Overview beginning on page 2 for a full description of the development of this Annual Performance Report.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C/General Supervision

Indicator 14: State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) are timely and accurate.

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

Measurement: State reported data (618 and State performance plan and annual performance report) are:

- a. Submitted on or before due dates (February 1 for child count, including race and ethnicity, settings and November 1 for exiting, personnel and dispute resolution; and
- b. Accurate (describe mechanisms for ensuring error free, consistent, valid and reliable data and evidence that these standards are met).

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 <small>(reporting period 7/07 – 6/08)</small>	100%

Actual Target Data for 2007: 100%

Data Sources: monthly and annual data from the Expanded Child Count Database (from 12/1/06, 12/1/07 and 12/1/08 data systems) which produces the data for the two “618” reports as well as the data for the SPP and the APR.

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2007:

Vermont did not reach the required target of 100% for timely and accurate submissions of “618” and SPP/APR data to OSEP and others in FFY 2007 because of a mistake made in submitting its Table B.1 of the “618” report. This caused errors to be reported for one of the tables in two categories of the OSEP/DAC “rubric” used for scoring this indicator: completeness of data and edit checks. As soon as we noticed the fact that the wrong file was submitted for Table B.1 it was resubmitted on 2/22/08, obviously missing the 2/1/08 deadline for that table. This means that Vermont slipped from 100% in FFY 2006 to 92.8% in FFY 2007.

Vermont continued to verify, input, query, re-query, verify again and analyze data from its expanded hand posted MS ACCESS Database. These activities take place in an ongoing and regular manner, with one staff person assigned to conduct regional EIP data submission reviews and offer ongoing feedback regarding reliability or missing data/documentation issues. Additionally, other staff review the data prior to and after data entry when the data is in report format, and prior to analysis and use in federal reporting, the making of determinations and public reporting. These activities to assure the data is timely and accurate were in lieu of a long planned, re-planning of a web-based, regionally uploaded, real time electronic data management, practice-based system that is inclusive of Part C needs and those of the two other programs that, at a minimum, compose Children's Integrated Services.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets/Improvement Activities/Timelines /Resources for FFY 2007: There were revisions to the SPP for this indicator regarding improvement activities:

Until the new data management system is in place, the director will seek and assure adequate staff support for intensive data entry during December and January.

The director will review each "618" Table the week prior to the submission date to assure completeness, accuracy and arrangements for submission, including conveyance letter or email.

**VERMONT PART C
APR 2007**

Appendix A

SPP Indicator 3: Child Outcomes for FFY 2007

**ARP Indicator 4: Family Outcomes Survey Used
in FFY 2007 (Spring 2008)**

Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:

Please see Overview section for this information.

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Indicator 3: 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)

Measurement:

A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships):

- a. Percent of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- b. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- c. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- d. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- e. Percent of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.

If $a + b + c + d + e$ does not sum to 100%, explain the difference.

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

- a. Percent of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning = $[(\# \text{ of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning}) \div (\# \text{ of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed})] \times 100$.
- b. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move

nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers = [(# of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers) divided by (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.

- c. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it = [(# of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it) divided by (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.
- d. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers = [(# of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers) divided by (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.
- e. Percent of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers = [(# of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers) divided by (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.

If a + b + c + d + e does not sum to 100%, explain the difference.

C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs:

- a. Percent of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning = [(# of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning) divided by (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.
- b. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers = [(# of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers) divided by the (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.
- c. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it = [(# of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it) divided by the (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.
- d. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers = [(# of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers) divided by the (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.
- e. Percent of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers = [(# of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers) divided by the (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.

If a + b + c + d + e does not sum to 100%, explain the difference.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2007 (reporting period 7-07 6-08)	NA: Baseline data will be reported in SPP in FFY 2010

Baseline (Progress) Data for FFY 2007 (July 2007 through June 2008):

The data presented in the following tables are not baseline data. Rather, they contain the second year of progress data for children exiting during the FFY 2007 reporting period. The data represented infants and toddlers who had both entry and exit data between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008 and had been in the program a minimum of six months.

Progress Data for Infants and Toddlers Exiting During FFY 2007

A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships):	Number of Infants/Toddlers	Percentage of Infants/Toddlers
a. Children who did not improve functioning.	2	1%
b. Children who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same age peers.	41	22%
c. Children who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it.	26	14%
d. Children who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-age peers.	61	33%
e. Children who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers.	57	30%
Total	N = 187	100%

B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication):	Number of Infants/Toddlers	Percentage of Infants/Toddlers
a. Children who did not improve functioning.	1	<1%
b. Children who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same age peers.	33	18%
c. Children who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it.	49	26%
d. Children who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-age peers.	80	43%
e. Children who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers.	24	13%
Total	N = 187	100%

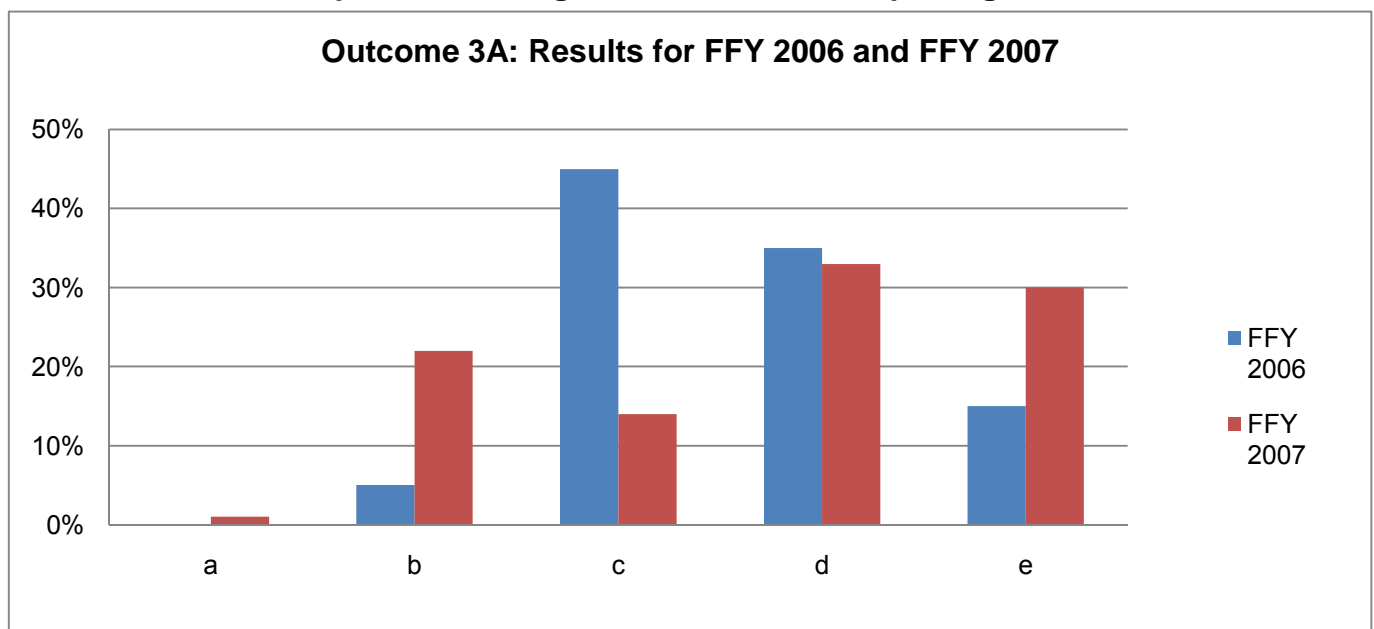
C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs:	Number of Infants/Toddlers	Percentage of Infants/Toddlers
a. Children who did not improve functioning.	0	0
b. Children who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same age peers.	34	18%
c. Children who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it.	29	15%
d. Children who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-age peers.	80	43%
e. Children who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers.	44	24%
Total	N = 187	100%

Discussion of Baseline (Progress) Data:

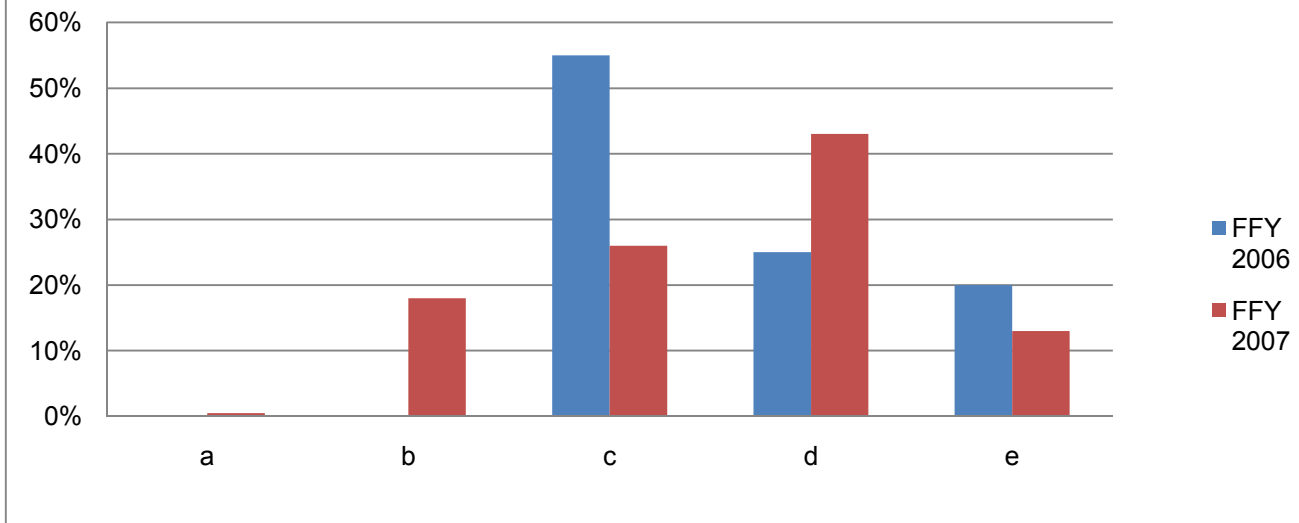
Progress data reported in FFY 2010 will be considered baseline data.

Progress data are available on 187 children for the reporting period, July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. Results from the FFY 2007 analysis are not yet representative of all children from all regions of the state. This report represents data for children in the three pilot sites beginning April 1, 2006, with a potential range of program participation between six and 26 months as of June 30, 2008. Statewide collection of child outcome data began October 1, 2006 and therefore the potential range for program participation for all Vermont children for the reporting period ending June 30, 2008 is between six and 20 months.

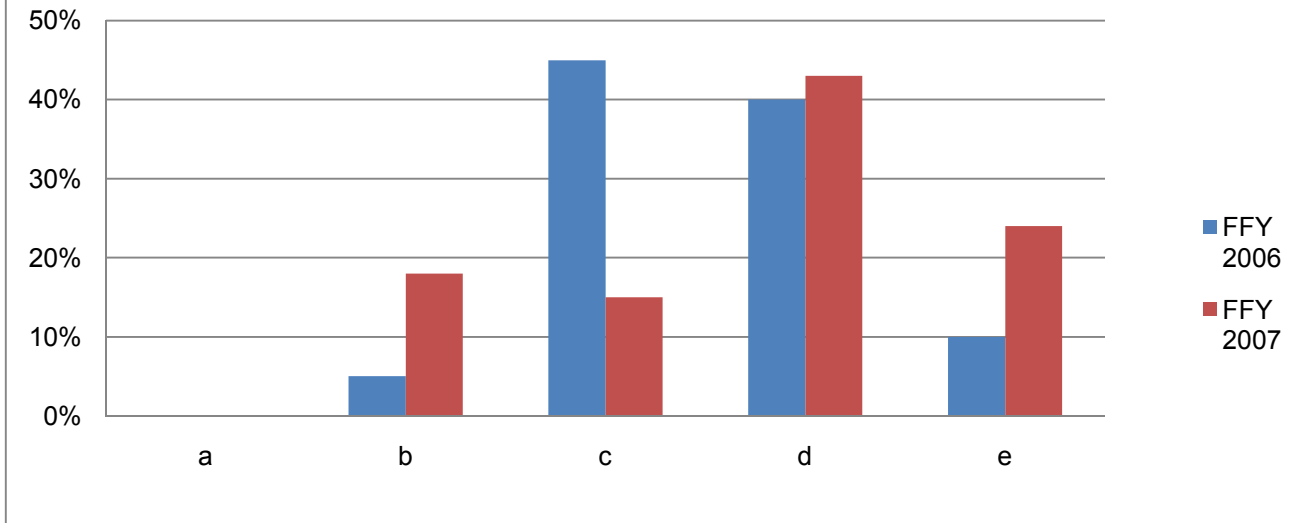
Comparison of Progress Data for Two Reporting Years



Outcome 3B: Results for FFY 2006 and FFY 2007



Outcome 3C: Results for FFY 2006 and FFY 2007



As one would expect, category 'a' numbers are very small to non-existent across all three outcomes for both years. This category may represent children with significant delays, a degenerative condition, or an infant who hasn't begun to exhibit delays at entry. It is expected that this category may grow slightly as the period of program participation is extended to include all children.

There are only a few discernable patterns in the data at this early stage. For FFY 2007, all three outcomes show the largest gain in category 'd', signifying improved functioning for this population of infants/toddlers (34% to 44% of children exiting from program) that is comparable to same-aged peers. In category 'e', Outcome 2 has the lowest percentage of children who came into the program with age appropriate skills that were maintained. This is not surprising considering the high number of children eligible for communication delays that would fall into this outcome. Also, it is notable that the percentages of children in the combined categories of d

and e across all outcomes are high (For FFY 2007, 55% to 66%) and might be reflective of the fact that younger children (with potentially more significant delays) are not represented in the data yet.

Targets will be set once baseline data are available.

Revised SPP (as of 2/2/09) Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources FFY 2005 through FFY 2010 are located at: <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C>

Outlined below are the **revised Program Improvement Activities for Indicator 3.**

Activities Indicator 3	Timelines	Resources	Notes
Provide procedural guidance/clarifications based on review of reliability and validity checks of COSF data	Special Professional Development- TA sessions Spring 2009 and ongoing	Professional Development Director/Part C State and regional resources, including Part B	Increase joint C-B regional TA sessions regarding feedback on COSF validity issues on reporting forms in Spring 2009
C/CIS/DOE monitoring and TA system: assessing accuracy and completeness of data submitted on child outcomes via on-site monitoring and other means of regular review.	Spring of 2006 and ongoing through FFY 2010	State Part C/CIS Team, DOE personnel and VICC Family Leadership and Support Committee	
Preparation for and delivery of meaningful technical assistance, training, professional development and other improvement and support strategies.	Ongoing through 2010	Professional Development Director, State Part C – B team along with regional EIP resources as needed	Make sessions available to CIS and interested partners as well as C-B providers.
Using multi-way communication system regarding continuous improvement activities/strategies with regional EIPs via C/CIS TA liaisons, regular conference calls, email, onsite TA visits, regional trainings, guidance materials, etc. (multiple partners including SEA, CIS, regional EIPs)	Spring 2009	State Part C/CIS staff, NERRC	Consider regular CIS staff briefings to review regional issues regarding child outcome data system and identify regional TA needs
Infrastructure infusions and/or adjustments: Regional and State capacity - resource/personnel issues addressed through annual budgeting and planning process (caseloads, workloads, expertise needed).	Ongoing beginning January 2006 through FFY 2010	State staff	As more funds become available use to buy time for Professional Development and TA for Child Outcomes efforts, integrated with

Activities Indicator 3	Timelines	Resources	Notes
			other key indicators like initial and ongoing assessment in CIS (and across other services).
<p>Data management system developed – web based, regionally driven, practice based, real time is used for child outcomes data collection and analysis purposes. Further develop strategies to review data accuracy and use findings to inform regional professional development activities.</p> <p>Regional EIPs are trained and supported in converting to an electronic regionally entered data system.</p>	Through FFY 2010	Part C/CIS staff/Child Development Division and Department IT staff & Part C – B Professional Development	Develop data system to link demographic data to child outcome ratings
<p>Continue to seek national and other technical assistance and professional development resources related to the meaningful use of this data in program evaluation and continuous improvement.</p> <p>Continue participation in ECO Communities of Practice, including COSF data analysis and TA cadre.</p> <p>Continue to embed child and family outcomes into Vermont Foundation for Early Learning framework and the evolving Infant and Toddler Early Learning Guidelines.</p>	Ongoing through 2010	<p>Professional Development Director/State Part C/CIS staff, Early Education Team, University of Vermont CDCI, other DOE; CSEFEL, CELL and Zero To Three, ECO</p> <p>State FEL Team</p> <p>Infant and Toddler Early Learning Guidelines Team</p>	Consider linking related data, (demographic, type of group care settings etc.) to child outcomes (COSF ratings).



DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The Family Infant and Toddler Program

May 15, 2008

Dear Family,

The state of Vermont is conducting its third annual survey of families who receive services from the Family, Infant and Toddler Program (FITP). We want to know about your experience with services you and your child receive. Your answers help us to evaluate our program and to find ways to improve it. You can see some of the results from last year's survey on pages 18-19 on the web at <http://www.dcf.state.vt.us/CDD/programs/prevention/Assets/Vermont%20FFY%202006%20APR%20Final.pdf>

There are some changes in the survey this year. We adopted the full length national survey for early intervention programs. By adding questions, we will learn more about the needs of the families we serve. This survey asks you to rate each statement and should only take about 10 to 15 minutes to complete. If you would like to add a comment, there is a space for this on the first page. In the past, over fifty percent of families have written a comment and this has been very useful.

All survey responses are anonymous and confidential, and your child's service providers do not see your survey. Your answers will be combined with others to create an overall picture of families' views of FITP. Survey responses are reported for the state and each region.

We hope completing this survey will give you an opportunity to think about the services your child receives. You can respond to the survey in two ways, by returning your survey in the self-addressed, stamped envelope, or by calling Lianne Petrocelli at (802) 241-1072. Please respond to the survey by June 15th.

Thank you very much.

The Family, Infant and Toddler Program



**The Family Infant and Toddler Program wants to know . . .
How Are We Doing?**

If you wish to complete the survey over the phone please call Lianne at (802) 241-1072 between 9-3 M-F

How old is your child? _____yrs. _____mos.

*(If you have more than one child **currently in FITP**, please fill out the survey for only one child)*

Gender of your child: male female

Race/Ethnicity of your child *(you may check more than one):*

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> White |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

My child is now receiving services: yes no

How often does your child receive services?

3-4 times a week 1-2 times a week 1-2 times a month Other _____

My child is receiving services because of (check all that apply):

- Cognitive (to play, think and explore)
- Physical (to use hands and move body)
- Communication (to understand and use speech and language).
- Social and Emotional (to express feelings and relate to others).
- Adaptive (to develop eating, dressing and toileting skills)
- Medical/Health needs (including vision and hearing)

How long has your child been in the FIT Program?

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> less than 6 months | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 to 12 months | <input type="checkbox"/> 13 to 18 months |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 19 months to 24 months | <input type="checkbox"/> 25 months to 30 months | <input type="checkbox"/> 31 months to 36 months |

Please check if your child participates in both or one of these programs?

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy Babies Kids and Families(HBKF) | <input type="checkbox"/> Children Upstream Services (CUPS) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|

COMMENTS:

Family Outcomes Survey

Part C Version

The Family Outcomes Survey is designed to provide a way for you to describe your family and the ways you support your child’s needs.

Instructions:

- This survey should be filled out by the person in your family who has the most interaction with early intervention.
- All of the responses include the word “we” or “our.” This refers to your family. Usually this means parents and others who support and care for your child. But every family is different, so think of what “family” means to you when answering.
- On every page, you will be asked to answer questions like the example below:

How much does your family know about dinosaurs?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We know a little about dinosaurs		We know some about dinosaurs		We know a good amount about dinosaurs		We know a great deal about dinosaurs

- Read each question and circle the number that best describes your family right now.
- If a statement almost describes your family, but not quite, circle the number just to the left or the right. For example if you feel that the statement 5 “We know a **good amount** about dinosaurs” almost describes your family, but not quite—circle the 4.

If you do not know how to answer a question, or if you are not comfortable answering the question, skip it and go to the next question.

Family Outcomes Survey

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S STRENGTHS, ABILITIES, AND SPECIAL NEEDS

1. *Your child is growing and learning. How much does your family understand about your child's development?*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We are just beginning to understand our child's development		We understand some about our child's development		We understand a good amount about our child's development		We understand a great deal about our child's development

2. *Some children have special health needs, a disability, or are delayed in their development. These are often referred to as "special needs." How familiar is your family with your child's special needs?*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We are just beginning to understand our child's special needs		We understand some about our child's special needs		We understand a good amount about our child's special needs		We understand a great deal about our child's special needs

3. *Professionals who work with you and your child want to know if the things they do are working. How often is your family able to tell if your child is making progress?*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We seldom can tell if our child is making progress		We sometimes can tell if our child is making progress		We usually can tell if our child is making progress		We almost always can tell if our child is making progress

KNOWING YOUR RIGHTS AND ADVOCATING FOR YOUR CHILD

4. *A variety of programs and services may be available to help your child and family. How much does your family know about the programs and services that are available?*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We are just beginning to learn about the programs and services that are available		We know some about the programs and services that are available		We know a good amount about the programs and services that are available		We know a great deal about the programs and services that are available

5. *Families often meet with early intervention professionals to plan services or activities. How comfortable is your family participating in these meetings?*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We are just beginning to feel comfortable participating in meetings		We are somewhat comfortable participating in meetings		We are generally comfortable participating in meetings		We are very comfortable participating in meetings

6. *Families of children with special needs have rights, including what to do if you are not satisfied. How familiar is your family with your rights?*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We are just beginning to understand our rights		We understand some about our rights		We understand a good amount about our rights		We understand a great deal about our rights

HELPING YOUR CHILD DEVELOP AND LEARN

7. Families help their children develop and learn. How much does your family know about how to help your child develop and learn?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We are just beginning to know how to help our child develop and learn		We know some about how to help our child develop and learn		We know a good amount about how to help our child develop and learn		We know a great deal about how to help our child develop and learn

8. Families try to help their children learn to behave the way they would like. How much does your family know about how to help your child learn to behave the way your family would like?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We are just beginning to know how to help our child behave the way we want		We know some about how to help our child behave the way we want		We know a good amount about how to help our child behave the way we want		We know a great deal about how to help our child behave the way we want

9. Families work with professionals to help their children learn and practice new skills at home or in their communities. How often does your family help your child learn and practice these new skills?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We are just beginning to help our child learn and practice these skills		We sometimes help our child learn and practice these skills		We usually help our child learn and practice these skills		We routinely help our child learn and practice these skills

HAVING SUPPORT SYSTEMS

10. Many people feel that talking with another person helps them deal with problems or celebrate when good things happen. How often does your family have someone your family trusts to listen and talk with when they need it?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We seldom have someone to talk with about things when we need it		We sometimes have someone to talk with about things when we need it		We usually have someone to talk with about things when we need it		We almost always have someone to talk with about things when we need it

11. Families sometimes must rely on other people for help when they need it, for example to provide a ride, run an errand, or watch their child for a short period of time. How often does your family have someone you can rely on for help when your family needs it?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We seldom have someone we can rely on for help when we need it		We sometimes have someone we can rely on for help when we need it		We usually have someone we can rely on for help when we need it		We almost always have someone we can rely on for help when we need it

12. Most families have things they enjoy doing. How often is your family able to do the things your family enjoys?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We seldom are able to do the things we enjoy		We sometimes are able to do the things we enjoy		We usually are able to do the things we enjoy		We almost always are able to do the things we enjoy

ACCESSING YOUR COMMUNITY

13. All children need medical care. How well does your family's medical care meet your child's special needs?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Our medical care meets few of our child's needs		Our medical care meets some of our child's needs		Our medical care meets many of our child's needs		Our medical care meets almost all of our child's needs

14. Many families have a need for quality childcare. By this, we do not mean occasional babysitting, but regular childcare, either part-day or full-day. How well does your family's childcare meet your child's needs?

- CHECK HERE IF YOUR FAMILY HAS NOT WANTED CHILD CARE, AND GO TO QUESTION 15.
- CHECK HERE IF YOUR FAMILY HAS WANTED CHILD CARE BUT IT IS NOT CURRENTLY AVAILABLE, AND GO TO QUESTION 15.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Our childcare meets few of our child's needs		Our childcare meets some of our child's needs		Our childcare meets many of our child's needs		Our childcare meets almost all of our child's needs

15. Many families want their child to play with other children or participate in religious, community, or social activities. How often does your child participate in these activities right now?

- CHECK HERE IF YOUR FAMILY HAS NOT WANTED YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH ACTIVITIES AND GO TO QUESTION 16.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Our child seldom participates in the activities we want		Our child sometimes participates in the activities we want		Our child usually participates in the activities we want		Our child almost always participates in the activities we want

THE HELPFULNESS OF EARLY INTERVENTION

The next questions ask how well early intervention has helped your family. When answering, think about the early intervention services you have received.

16. To what extent has early intervention helped your family know and understand your rights?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Early intervention has done a poor job of helping us know our rights		Early intervention has done a fair job of helping us know our rights		Early intervention has done a good job of helping us know our rights		Early intervention has done an excellent job of helping us know our rights

17. To what extent has early intervention helped your family effectively communicate your child's needs?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Early intervention has done a poor job of helping us communicate our child's needs		Early intervention has done a fair job of helping us communicate our child's needs		Early intervention has done a good job of helping us communicate our child's needs		Early intervention has done an excellent job of helping us communicate our child's needs

18. To what extent has early intervention helped your family be able to help your child develop and learn?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Early intervention has done a poor job of helping us help our child develop and learn		Early intervention has done a fair job of helping us help our child develop and learn		Early intervention has done a good job of helping us help our child develop and learn		Early intervention has done an excellent job of helping us help our child develop and learn

If you would like to make further comments please do so in the comment section on the front page.

Thank you for completing this survey!