

**FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Introduction to the State Performance Plan
(SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)**

Executive Summary:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) is the state lead agency that has the responsibility for administering and overseeing the statewide system of Early Intervention (EI) services. Activities include certifying programs, coordinating funding sources, and carrying out general supervision activities. The state currently has contracts with 31 community based agencies to provide EI/Part C services throughout the Commonwealth. Massachusetts Bureau of Family Health & Nutrition's (BFHN) Division of Early Intervention provides EI services to children who are experiencing developmental delays and to children at risk for delay. In FFY 2017, Massachusetts served 50,788 children, of which 41,076 were enrolled with IFSPs. The Massachusetts annual budget for EI is between \$160 - 180 million, which includes multiple payer sources including federal, state, Medicaid and private insurers. The mission of the Massachusetts EI System is to build upon and provide supports and resources to assist family members and caregivers to enhance children's learning and development through everyday learning opportunities. In order to ensure the quality of services provided to children and families enrolled in Massachusetts EI and to comply with federal and state requirements through monitoring and professional development activities, DPH has developed its General Supervision system to promote the Massachusetts EI Mission, Key Principles, and Core Values. The MA State Systemic Improvement Plan supports this effort by focusing on an area of lower performance with a systemic improvement approach. The DPH utilizes information from the most recent Annual Performance Plan (APR) data from six compliance indicators in the State Performance Plan (Timely Services, Initial IFSP Meetings within 45 days, Transition [complete Transition Plans; Notification to the LEA/SEA; Transition Planning conferences], and Timely Correction of NonCompliance) to make "Determinations" annually on the performance of each local Early Intervention Program. Information from the Early Intervention Information System (EIS), Annual Report/Self Assessment, and Complaint Management system is used as criteria in making Local Program Determinations. Each local program receives a determination of "meets requirements," "needs assistance," "needs intervention," or "needs substantial intervention" based on compliance with Part C of IDEA. Unfortunately, Massachusetts' Determination for FFY 2017 was "needs assistance." This is extremely frustrating for Massachusetts as we continue to participate in a variety of technical assistance support and work hard on improving the accuracy of our Child Outcome reporting which impacts the results data/component of the matrix and is keeping us from the "Meets Requirements" category. The state has participated in multiple technical assistance (TA) opportunities related to improving child outcome results and the identification of root causes or trends in outcome performance through the investigation of our data by examining various variables such as program and region. The state is currently receiving TA to determine how other states do this and is in discussion about how to best present child outcome data to providers so that there is an understanding about the link between the various statewide initiatives and their child outcome results. In addition, the Lead Agency regional staff follow up with local programs to encourage the timely submission of Local Educational Agency (LEA) notification to the lead agency to enhance the timeliness of the State Educational Agency (SEA) submission. Ongoing collaboration meetings with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education have occurred to discuss transition activities from Part C to B to ensure more efficient and smooth transitions for families. The new web based EIS/EIFS will resolve the delay between the LEA and SEA notification by capturing this under one system and setting up SEA notifications to occur on a daily basis. Until then the state will continue to monitor programs to ensure timely submissions of data. Based on OSEP's Results Driven Accountability System for differentiated monitoring and support, Massachusetts was designated as "*Universal*" for the level of engagement in each area – results, compliance, fiscal and SSIP. Massachusetts will continue to utilize OSEP resources and TA resources in meeting the requirements of IDEA. The State is currently receiving TA from the National Center for Systemic Improvement, The Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems (DaSY), by participating in webinars and utilizing tools and resources developed to support the SSIP. In addition, Massachusetts is participating in Cohort 4 of the Fiscal Initiative to:

- Improve our understanding of the sub-components of a high-quality state finance system that supports IDEA Part C.
- Participate in opportunities to learn about fiscal challenges and strategies from other states, and to share and generate ideas with peers.
- Participate in state team time to identify next steps in strengthening the Massachusetts finance system to support SSIP activities.
- Identify ongoing technical assistance and support needs in developing a finance system.

The state Lead Agency is also engaged in internal strategic planning to define performance measures that are indicative of a high quality EI program.

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General Supervision System:

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

General Supervision of Early Intervention in the Massachusetts system is designed to promote core values and to ensure compliance

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with federal and state requirements through monitoring and professional development activities. General Supervision focuses on individualized support to identify practices that lead to compliant and high-quality services, identifying commendable practices, suggesting improvements to enhance quality of services and identifying and enforcing corrective action plans in areas of non-compliance. Regional EI Specialists are based in regional state offices and provide administrative oversight and monitoring of all local programs. In addition to the Regional Specialists, lead agency staff also include EI training center staff, Fiscal and Data team members, Parent Leadership Project staff and the Director of the Office of Family Rights and Due Process.

State Monitoring of Local Programs

Purpose

The purpose of the Massachusetts Monitoring Process is to:

1. Monitor and evaluate program compliance with federal Part C IDEA regulations;
2. Monitor program compliance with Department of Public Health Early Intervention Operational Standards to ensure that eligible children and families receive timely, comprehensive, community-based services that enhance the developmental progress of children from birth to age three.
3. Monitor and evaluate vendor and program contract activities;
4. Contribute to ongoing quality improvement of programs and vendors to ensure a baseline of quality services for all families participating in the Massachusetts EI system.

Process

There are six components of the Massachusetts Monitoring System: (1) Annual Report/Self Assessment; (2) Focused Monitoring Site Visit; (3) Data Verification Process; (4) Dispute Resolution System; (5) Local Program Determinations; and (6) Professional Development system.

1. Annual Report/Self Assessment

EIPs are required to complete the Annual Report/Self Assessment every year, which is a key piece of data gathering for federal and state reporting requirements. The information requested annually is based on the federal indicators that have been selected as target areas of the State Performance Plan as well as an information gathering opportunity to support the work of the State Systemic Improvement Plan. The information obtained from the Annual Report/Self Assessment is used to report on Indicators #1 of the SPP/APR and in making Local Program Determinations. Regional Specialists review the results with program and vendor administrative staff. A Corrective Action and/or Quality Improvement plan is requested to address any issues of non-compliance identified through the Annual Report/Self Assessment and submitted to the lead agency staff within 30 days of written notification.

2. Focused Monitoring Site Visit

The Statewide Coordinator of Comprehensive Monitoring oversees the onsite monitoring process. The Coordinator provides administrative oversight of the statewide monitoring and General Supervision systems through participation in onsite monitoring policy and process review and revision; contributes to selection criteria for EI Programs chosen for onsite monitoring visits; identifies and assigns teams for each visit; recruits, trains and provides ongoing mentoring to family team members; ensures presence of a trained family member for each onsite visit; coordinates all components and preparation of onsite monitoring visits to EI programs; collects information from multiple sources including data for desk audit; and coordinates the follow up process consisting of recommendations and a final report to the early intervention programs.

Annually, DPH staff will analyze priority areas and data sources to determine selection for onsite monitoring. In FFY 2016, onsite monitoring was utilized to collect information on the implementation of the state's Mission and Key Principles that were presented to the EI field through trainings at the local EI Program. This included identifying if home visits were completed within the family routine, how everyday visits linked to identified parent priorities and concerns listed on the IFSP and program administration of the EI eligibility tool.

3. Data Verification Process

Throughout the year, activities are completed by the lead agency to verify the reliability, accuracy and timeliness of data reported by providers to the DPH. Several methods for data verification are utilized, such as EIIS error reports, Service Delivery Report, verification of selected indicators during onsite Monitoring, and data reports summarizing contract performance. DPH will be utilizing a new report that reviews the percentage of EIIS data forms verified by each provider for completeness. This will provide another measure of data accuracy for monitoring purposes.

4. Dispute Resolution System

The Director of the Office of Family Rights and Due Process, oversees the Dispute Resolution System in Massachusetts. The Director supports families and providers to access the Part C procedural safeguards system; provides technical assistance to lead agency/DPH staff on the implementation of Part C Procedural Safeguards, FERPA, MA General Law 66A via active and regular participation in Regional and EI staff meetings; completes Part C formal investigations within federal timelines; and ensures that public awareness of procedural safeguards and family rights materials meet the literacy level and language capacity of the system.

Written complaints are investigated to determine whether there are any findings of non-compliance with IDEA. The DPH, as the Lead Agency for EI in Massachusetts, sends a written response to the family, the program and the DPH Regional Specialist within 60 days of the complaint. If an area of non-compliance is identified, a corrective action plan is requested of the program by the Regional Specialist and programs have one year from the notification of noncompliance to come into compliance.

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The EIP must submit the Corrective Action or Quality Improvement plan to the Regional Specialist within identified timelines. The Regional Specialist reviews and approves the Corrective Action/Quality Improvement Plan and develops a follow-up monitoring plan as appropriate. Any areas of non compliance must be corrected within one year from the written notification.

5. Local Program Determinations

In making local program determinations, the DPH uses the four federal compliance indicators, six state determined measures for Timely and Accurate Data and the two federal indicators for Complaint Management issues. DPH takes into consideration the percent of Massachusetts' target population served by the program and the percent of community-based services provided.

The DPH utilizes information from the Early Intervention Information System (EIIS), the Annual Report/Self-Assessment, and the Complaint Management System as criteria in making local program determinations. Each local program will receive a determination of "meets requirements", "needs assistance", "needs intervention," or "needs substantial intervention" based on compliance with Part C of IDEA.

Lead agency staff have been engaged in discussions and strategic planning regarding performance measures for a program dashboard that would identify high quality programs. These measures would inform our local program determinations process going forward.

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Technical Assistance System:

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

Pursuant to section 616(e)(1) of the IDEA and 34 C.F.R. § 300.604(a), OSEP's June 29, 2018 determination letter informed the State that it must report with its FFY 2017 SPP/APR submission, due February 1, 2019, on: (1) the TA sources from which the State received assistance; and (2) the actions the State took as a result of that TA.

Massachusetts has participated in multiple TA opportunities related to improving child outcome results and identifying root causes or trends in outcome performance by examining our data using variables such as program and region. The state is currently receiving TA to determine how other states achieve this and is exploring how to best present child outcome data to providers so that there is an understanding about the link between the various statewide initiatives and their child outcome results.

FEDERAL TA RESOURCES:

Massachusetts Early Intervention has utilized Federal resources to improve data quality and advance its SSIP goals. The following three initiatives represent existing collaborations with Federal agencies.

The Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems (DaSY) – Supporting Local Data Use for Program Improvement

Massachusetts EI is currently participating in TA through DaSY to develop a high-quality program improvement plan to provide state support of local data use for program improvement and decision-making. This TA opportunity has allowed the state to start to build local capacity for program improvement and help establish a recommended process and associated guidance for local programs or enhance an existing process/guidance; and create a plan for resources and professional development around the process.

DaSy & ECTA – IFSPs in State Data System Cohort Technical Assistance

The MA Part C program continues to participate in technical assistance to develop a high-quality statewide IFSP that meets all federal and state requirements and the needs of families and practitioners. Reviews by DPH, TA Providers and OSEP have occurred to assure the document meets legal requirements; and feedback from stakeholders and local providers will assure the IFSP meets the needs of families and practitioners. MA, with stakeholder involvement has identified critical questions and reports that use IFSP data for monitoring needs related to program practice, and child outcome progress at the state and local levels. This support will assist the state in its training efforts on the IFSP and producing an electronic IFSP within the new EIIS system to be used as a tool and not just a document.

ECTA Center/ITCA/NCSI Fiscal Initiative

Massachusetts is currently participating in Cohort 4 of the Fiscal Initiative to:

- Improve our understanding of the sub-components of a high-quality state finance system that supports IDEA Part C.
- Participate in opportunities to learn about fiscal challenges and strategies from other states, and to share and generate ideas with peers.
- Participate in state team time to identify next steps in strengthening the MA finance system to support SSIP activities.

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- Identify ongoing technical assistance and support needs in developing a finance system.

The Massachusetts Part C system has developed a technical assistance system that utilizes the wide array of expertise in DPH staff. Our TA system includes weekly opportunities to review issues at programs (weekly status call) and identify resources to support the program in moving forward. DPH staff follow a process to determine the level of support a program needs. We have also developed tiers of support for initiatives to ensure equitable allocation of resources and a systematic approach to TA.

MA EI Web based system - (EIS-EIFS) has selected a vendor, Strategic Solutions Group. This system will incorporate the IFSP as an electronic tool that takes advantage of its software environment by providing clinicians with easy navigation, access and progress reports.

The Massachusetts Early Intervention system will continue to utilize many of the TA resources available to support the SPP/APR and implementation of the SSIP. The specific actions as a result of the TA have been to revise the current IFSP to embed the Federal Child Outcomes; development of the Massachusetts Mission and Key Principles Training for all 60 programs; establishment of a Data Use Group and other key Stakeholder groups to provide input on the State's SSIP; and the Battelle Developmental Inventory (BDI-2) fidelity checklist and ongoing audits to ensure the fidelity of the evaluation tool.

IMPLEMENTATION OF TA FRAMEWORK:

Massachusetts developed an internal process and framework to support needs of local EIPs and has been engaged in Quality Improvement activities, using the Driver Diagram in establishing a structure for successful implementation of SSIP activities.

MA Guidance, Support, Training Framework

Vision Statement: The MA Guidance, Support and Training Framework is a systemic approach to support programs in effectively implementing research-based best practices through clear, consistent, continuous and reciprocal communication to promote a confident, highly effective and competent workforce.

A TA Request is initiated/a desired outcome is articulated that the program wants to achieve or DPH wants the program to achieve. The TA topic area is identified with the program – the request can come in from multiple channels (i.e., monitoring, dispute resolution, professional development opportunity, conversation with program).

STEPS IN THE FRAMEWORK:

1. Present the TA request from an EI program to the EI staff during the weekly status call. In this way every staff person is aware of and understands the request and responses can be shared
 - a. Share information collected to date
 - b. Hear related information from others
 - c. All perspectives and information heard
2. Identify the key people to address the request ~ (information gathering)
3. Identify information DPH has available
4. Collect additional information from the program. Follow up with the EI program (call or face to face) to include:
 - a. What is the next step?
 - No TA needed
 - Moving forward with a plan
 - b. Meeting with program for next steps ~ determine additional information
 - Training needed
 - Support needed
 - Guidance needed
 - c. Work with program to develop a plan
 - Develop action steps
 - Identify resources
 - Develop a plan
 - Evaluate the plan
 - d. Present back to EI staff at next status call
 - e. Evaluate the process internally

The three levels of TA include (a) guidance, (b) support, and (c) training.

The MA EI DPH staff have been utilizing the Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) improvement tool to organize activities related to the SSIP to provide clarity to the plan and successfully reach our goal.

Systemic Monitoring:

- The monitoring process of selected vendor agencies looks at all aspects of the administration of the EI programs they manage. This process looks at billing systems, data systems, administrative oversight of the program and agency interaction with the program.
- Initial information gathering from appropriate sources (program, vendor, DPH) is used to profile the program and provide information for the onsite visit.

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- Vendor agencies we prioritized based on criteria set by DPH staff includes local determination status, inconsistent data and/ or billing submissions, and concerns related to administration of programs. All programs within chosen agencies receive onsite visits in this process. *Agencies are chosen on a cyclical basis to participate in this process.*
- Visits include multiple days of data gathering by a DPH team that includes EIP staff and participants having a variety of areas of expertise. Data gathered may include: record review; staff interviews; parent interviews; and administrative interviews that include vendor staff, billing reviews and policy reviews.
- Agencies and programs are given verbal and written information regarding the information collected at the agency. If appropriate, agencies and programs may receive a Corrective Action Plan, Quality Improvement Plan or Required TA.
- TA is available to programs when improvement activities are recommended.

Onsite Monitoring Planning Workgroup:

The onsite monitoring workgroup was created this year to look at ways to gather information to ensure the implementation of the state identified Mission and Key Principles at the local program level. This workgroup has examined each Key Principle area to determine how to gather information through critical questions. These questions will be used to better understand policies and procedures being used at the program level that support implementation. Once the critical questions have been vetted through lead agency staff and stakeholders, a workgroup will then establish a structure of individual program visits within the onsite process to gather and evaluate information.

DPH Communication Plan/Protocol – The Department’s new communication protocol includes a monthly EI Newsletter to improve the flow of information to providers regarding upcoming initiatives, events, data requests, etc. The communication protocol also includes a monthly webinar to share information about upcoming initiatives, new requirements and recommendations, resources, SSIP progress, system changes, etc. In addition, two face-to-face EI Program Director sessions are held annually to continue to engage the EI community in the Lead Agency priorities related to the SSIP and embedding evidence-based practices. The intent is to streamline information being sent to providers and offer an opportunity for input on upcoming initiatives, respond to provider questions and offer technical assistance.

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Professional Development System:

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

The Massachusetts Part C, over time has improved and refined a framework or model for supporting the EI clinical workforce. The Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD) is a sustainable framework that builds and supports a qualified workforce using evidence-based standards of practice that promote community inclusion and life-long learning. The components of this framework are applicable across disciplines and encompass teaming and partnership efforts, ongoing self-reflection and meaningful supervision.

The Lead Agency and Early Intervention Training Center (EITC) are participating in "Technical Assistance" from the Early Childhood Personnel Center to align the Massachusetts CSPD with national standards related to pre-service and in-service personnel development, retention, and recruitment and evaluation. Massachusetts has completed the self-assessment of the CSPD system framework, and is currently completing activities to align the work of the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) within the CSPD.

The EI Training Center, located at the Massachusetts DPH, is responsible for the Massachusetts CSPD. This year, the EITC updated their Mission Statement to provide support and professional development opportunities to the Massachusetts Early Intervention (EI) community, including clinicians seeking certification under the DPH.

EITC is committed to developing and delivering professional development opportunities that advance the well-being of families with young children, and addressing the needs of children with disabilities and those at risk. EITC staff are committed to responding to the needs of EI personnel by supporting growth both within and across disciplines. Core training and mentorship ensure that all team members share common values and a knowledge-skill base that is a prerequisite so that consistent messages and services are provided to families across the state. EI parents are integral members of EITC training teams as lead facilitators and share their personal stories related to their experience in EI as part of the curriculum.

The Lead Agency has allocated significant resources to build capacity to provide training to identify and support all EIPs to engage in research based practices via the Foundations of Massachusetts EI Part I: Partnering with Families throughout the IFSP process training and Part II the Parents Interacting With Infants (PIWI) philosophy. Both of these initiatives are overseen by lead EI and EITC staff.

Foundations of Massachusetts EI: Part I

Lead agency staff representing all aspects of the system (including, fiscal, data, personnel, training, monitoring, etc.) engaged in a two day strategic planning process to develop a consistent Mission & Key Principles framework for the Massachusetts EI system. Technical assistance was provided by the Early Childhood TA Center. The goal of the Foundations of Massachusetts EI: Part I is to:

- Apply the Massachusetts Early Intervention Mission Statement, Key Principles and Core Values to the IFSP Process
- Review and apply current research to the IFSP process
- Review and practice clinical skills to support research-based best practices

This training is Day 1 of the required orientation for new EI Specialists entering the Massachusetts EI system.

Foundations of Massachusetts EI: Part II

Massachusetts has selected the PIWI as the research based best practice to be implemented universally to support positive social emotional outcomes. The PIWI was chosen after significant input and feedback from Stakeholders. The training focuses on the importance of a strong caregiver-child dyad, and supporting confidence, competence and mutual engagement between the child and caregiver.

Initially, PIWI training occurred at each local program to ensure all staff participated. This was completed in three cohorts and all program based trainings were completed by December, 2017. This training has now been incorporated into Day 2 of the required orientation for new EI specialists entering the Massachusetts EI system.

Additional information related to the Massachusetts Professional Development System may be found at the following link: <http://www.eitrainingcenter.org>

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Stakeholder Involvement: apply this to all Part C results indicators

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

Massachusetts stakeholders have been informed of the progress of the SSP/APR Indicators throughout the year, and their input and guidance has been critical in identifying improvement strategies. The state has four major Stakeholder groups: the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC); Early Intervention Provider Community; Early Childhood Outcomes Stakeholders; EI Client System Stakeholders that provide input in the development of the web based data system and most recently we have established a Stakeholder group (comprised of providers, parents, DPH staff and other state agency staff) to complete the MA Procedural Safeguards Self-Assessment. These groups provide input in the development of the Annual Performance Report (APR) including the SSIP.

An overview of the Massachusetts APR was presented to EI Programs on the January 22, 2019 monthly EI Webinar. The webinar provided an opportunity for the lead agency staff to present an overview of the SPP/APR targets and progress data. The ECO Stakeholders continue to meet regularly throughout the year to advise and assist the State in embedding child and family outcomes into everyday practice and are utilized as the core Stakeholder group to assist the lead agency in identifying an improvement area to focus on for the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). The ECO Stakeholders consist of representatives from the following: Higher Ed, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Early Education and Care, Parents, EI Providers and Administrators.

In addition, the EI provider community provides input throughout the year through our ongoing communication methods (e.g. monthly provider webinars, program director sessions, etc.) and sharing feedback with the DPH regional team. An EI program director session was held in December 2018, "Empowering Programs...Stories from the Field. The purpose of the EI program director/team leader and supervisors session, hosted by the lead agency, is to come together as a community, connect with colleagues, and share best practices. The session provided an opportunity to hear from EI agencies, programs, providers and parents to learn and discuss implementation of the DPH priorities related to the administration of the BDI-2; Parents Interacting with Infants (PIWI) and the IFSP process.

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Reporting to the Public:

How and where the State reported to the public on the FFY 2016 performance of each EIS Program or Provider located in the State on the targets in the SPP/APR as soon as practicable, but no later than 120 days following the State's submission of its FFY 2016 APR, as required by 34 CFR §303.702(b)(1)(i)(A); and a description of where, on its Web site, a complete copy of the State's SPP, including any revision if the State has revised the SPP that it submitted with its FFY 2016 APR in 2018, is available.

Massachusetts publicly reported local program performance on the FFY 2016 SPP/APR on the EI Parent Leadership website at <http://eiplp.org/part-c-public-reporting/>. The Parent Leadership website is more frequently utilized and accessible to families, ICC members, EI providers and other Part C Stakeholders. Data will continue to be reported on an annual basis. In addition, both state and local program reports are distributed to each EIP highlighting program performance on all compliance and results indicators. Data gathered for the SPP/APR are used in making Local Determinations.

The website will post a complete copy of the State's SPP/APR, including any revisions if the State revises the SPP during the data clarification period, as soon as possible, but no later than 120 days following the State's submission of its FFY 2017 APR.

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Actions required in FFY 2016 response

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Indicator 1: Timely provision of services

Historical Data and Targets

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Compliance indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with Individual Family Service Plans (IFSPs) who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.

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

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Target			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Data		74.00%	86.80%	90.00%	95.50%	99.30%	99.10%	99.00%	98.30%	100%	99.32%

FFY	2015	2016
Target	100%	100%
Data	99.67%	99.50%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2017 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%

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Indicator 1: Timely provision of services

FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Compliance indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with Individual Family Service Plans (IFSPs) who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.

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

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner	Total number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
393	600	99.50%	100%	99.33%	Did Not Meet Target	No Slippage
Number of documented delays attributable to exceptional family circumstances <i>This number will be added to the "Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive their early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner" field above to calculate the numerator for this indicator.</i>						203

Include your State's criteria for "timely" receipt of early intervention services (i.e., the time period from parent consent to when IFSP services are actually initiated). Massachusetts continues to define "timely services" as those that begin within 30 calendar days from the IFSP Signature date or with delays due to exceptional family circumstances.

The Timely Services information captures the timeliness of services based on the State's definition of 30 days from IFSP signature date.

What is the source of the data provided for this indicator?

- State monitoring
- State database

Describe the method used to select EIS programs for monitoring.

The actual target data were collected from the Massachusetts state FY18 Annual Report, Timeliness of Services Survey. This survey is used to provide data for the Massachusetts State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR) response to Indicator #1, Timely Provision of Services.

The data collection at each program includes a sample of 10 children with an IFSP on or after July 1, 2017 (data source: EIS) to capture all new services on initial or subsequent IFSPs. Each EIP must provide the following data for each service listed on the IFSP for ten clients: IFSP type (initial, review or subsequent), IFSP signature date, service type, frequency and duration of services provided per month, professional discipline of person rendering the service, first date of service and the primary reason for the delay (if the number of days between the IFSP signature date and the services date is greater than 30 days).

Compliance is based on the percent of clients who began all IFSP services within 30 days from the signature date. Situations in which the client did not receive timely services but has a justifiable reason are considered compliant (i.e. family request or other exceptional family circumstances). Exceptional family circumstances are included in the numerator and denominator for this indicator.

The criteria for the selection of the 10 sampled records is consistent across all 60 EI programs and includes all age groups and eligibility categories that reflect data for infants and toddlers with IFSPs for the full reporting period.

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

Situations in which children did not receive timely services but had a justifiable reason due to exceptional family circumstances are considered compliant. There were 203 children having 275 services which were not timely due to an exceptional family circumstance. The data for these children are noted in the table below.

Exceptional Family Circumstances

Reasons	Services	
	#	%
Family cancelled visit	97	35.3%
Family requested delay (due to situation, schedule, vacation, etc.)	66	24.0%
Visit adheres to IFSP (quarterly, etc.)	39	14.2%
Family changed mind and declined service	35	12.7%
Difficulties contacting family (no shows/unresponsive)	25	9.1%
Child/family member sick or hospitalized	8	2.9%
Severe weather conditions (weather emergency situations)	5	1.8%
Total	275	100.0%

Massachusetts did not report any Findings of Noncompliance in FY16 related to Indicator 1, percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner, even though it did not report 100% compliance at 99.33%.

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The Massachusetts Lead Agency staff followed up with 1 EI program that was not at 100% compliance with timeliness of IFSP services. The EI program was required to provide the Lead Agency with an explanation and support documentation highlighting the nature of the issue and subsequent activities in which the program has successfully corrected the noncompliance. The EI program provided training to staff on the federal requirement of timely services, and instituted a supervision policy to review timely services with all staff. The Lead Agency verified that the program is correctly implementing the timeliness of services requirements, achieved 100% compliance as evidenced through subsequent record review, and is providing timely services for all children for whom the 30-day timeline was not met. The Lead Agency determined the noncompliance to be isolated and not systemic in nature and did not issue a Finding, as further verification evidenced that the program is providing timely IFSP services for all children inclusive of the 4 children who initially did not receive timely services.

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Indicator 1: Timely provision of services

Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Compliance indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with Individual Family Service Plans (IFSPs) who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.

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

Actions required in FFY 2016 response

none

Note: Any actions required in last year's response table that are related to correction of findings should be responded to on the "Correction of Previous Findings of Noncompliance" page of this indicator. If your State's only actions required in last year's response are related to findings of noncompliance, a text field will not be displayed on this page.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 1: Timely provision of services

Correction of Previous Findings of Noncompliance

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Compliance indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with Individual Family Service Plans (IFSPs) who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.

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

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified in FFY 2016

Findings of Noncompliance Identified	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected Within One Year	Findings of Noncompliance Subsequently Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
0	0	0	0

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified Prior to FFY 2016

	Findings of Noncompliance Not Yet Verified as Corrected as of FFY 2016 APR	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
None			

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 2: Services in Natural Environments

Historical Data and Targets

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings.

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

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Target ≥			99.40%	95.00%	95.00%	95.00%	95.00%	95.00%	95.00%	96.00%	96.00%
Data		98.80%	98.50%	98.40%	98.40%	98.30%	98.50%	98.40%	98.40%	98.39%	99.77%

FFY	2015	2016
Target ≥	96.00%	96.00%
Data	99.77%	99.76%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2017 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2017	2018
Target ≥	96.00%	96.00%

Key: Blue – Data Update

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 2: Services in Natural Environments
FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings.

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

Prepopulated Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
SY 2017-18 Child Count/Educational Environment Data Groups	7/11/2018	Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings	20,534	
SY 2017-18 Child Count/Educational Environment Data Groups	7/11/2018	Total number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs	20,565	

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings	Total number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
20,534	20,565	99.76%	96.00%	99.85%	Met Target	No Slippage

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

Massachusetts continues to provide the majority of IFSP services in Natural Settings. Of the total number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs, only 31 children received services in a clinical or non-natural environment. These services and the reason why these services could not be provided in a natural setting are documented on the child's IFSP. Local EI programs document the reason why services can not be provided in the child's natural setting; the actions and steps to ensure the provision of services in a natural setting and a timeframe to be accomplished.

EI Only child group (for low incidence populations, i.e., deaf and hard of hearing, low vision, etc.), center-based individual service; hospital and residential treatment centers are the location of services considered non natural settings. EIPs work hard to ensure infants and toddlers receive the support needed to eventually receive services in natural settings and daily routines within the community.

The Massachusetts State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) evidence based practice utilizing the Parents Interacting with Infants (PIWI) approach and research indicates that children birth to age three learn best through repetition, within their natural environment interacting with familiar caregivers and embedding strategies in their daily routines. Massachusetts Lead Agency staff continue to provide supports and technical assistance to local programs on the importance of the provision of services with daily routines and natural settings.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 2: Services in Natural Environments
Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings.

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

Actions required in FFY 2016 response

none

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 3: Early Childhood Outcomes
Historical Data and Targets

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who demonstrate improved:

- A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
- B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/ communication); and
- C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

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

Does your State's Part C eligibility criteria include infants and toddlers who are at risk of having substantial developmental delays (or "at-risk infants and toddlers") under IDEA section 632(5)(B)(i)? **No**

Historical Data

	Baseline Year	FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
A1	2013	Target ≥						96.70%	96.70%	60.70%	60.80%	56.67%	56.70%
		Data					96.70%	63.90%	88.10%	60.70%	57.30%	56.67%	56.25%
A2	2013	Target ≥						97.90%	97.90%	84.20%	84.30%	70.85%	70.90%
		Data					97.90%	86.90%	87.10%	84.20%	74.50%	70.85%	68.48%
B1	2013	Target ≥						93.80%	93.80%	88.80%	88.90%	87.64%	87.70%
		Data					93.80%	53.30%	89.70%	88.80%	89.60%	87.64%	85.88%
B2	2013	Target ≥						87.00%	87.00%	64.20%	64.30%	51.63%	51.70%
		Data					87.00%	59.90%	60.60%	64.20%	56.60%	51.63%	49.79%
C1	2013	Target ≥						96.00%	96.00%	95.70%	95.80%	94.66%	94.70%
		Data					96.00%	54.80%	93.00%	95.70%	95.40%	94.66%	93.95%
C2	2013	Target ≥						92.90%	92.90%	83.30%	83.40%	73.66%	73.70%
		Data					92.90%	72.10%	73.70%	83.30%	78.90%	73.66%	71.33%

	FFY	2015	2016
A1	Target ≥	56.70%	56.70%
	Data	55.83%	56.17%
A2	Target ≥	70.90%	70.90%
	Data	68.33%	69.01%
B1	Target ≥	87.70%	87.70%
	Data	84.96%	85.78%
B2	Target ≥	51.70%	51.70%
	Data	47.68%	48.10%
C1	Target ≥	94.70%	94.70%
	Data	94.06%	93.51%
C2	Target ≥	73.70%	73.70%
	Data	69.04%	68.61%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2017 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2017	2018
Target A1 ≥	56.80%	56.90%
Target A2 ≥	71.00%	71.10%
Target B1 ≥	87.80%	87.90%
Target B2 ≥	51.80%	51.90%
Target C1 ≥	94.80%	94.90%
Target C2 ≥	73.80%	73.90%

Key: Blue – Data Update

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input - Please see the Stakeholder Involvement section of the [introduction](#).

Enter additional information about stakeholder involvement

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Massachusetts continues to utilize the existing Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) Stakeholders group to advise the state on Child and Family Outcomes of the SPP/APR as well as on the SSIP process, oversee SSIP activities and initiatives and help determine the state's focus area and implementation of embedding evidence-based practices. The ECO Stakeholders group is an existing group that was initially formed to advise the lead agency on child outcome data collection, measurement, and training to support the EI system in improving child outcomes and was in agreement to take on this initiative. In moving forward with preparations for the SSIP, the Lead Agency broadened the ECO Stakeholder group to include representation from the following groups:

- Higher Education Task Group
- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Department of Early Education and Care
- Parents

The state's actual Indicator 3 percents have decreased in all domains under both summary statements since we started using BDI-2 data in FFY 2011 for Child Outcome results. In response to these findings, training and technical assistance have been implemented to support this trend and we have begun to see lower but more accurate scores with the tool. We expect that this trend will continue as the accuracy of administration improves.

Baseline data is re-set based on FFY 2013 actual data. Targets remain the same for the first three years of the SSP/APR to allow the State to collect and analyze data and develop appropriate improvement strategies to continue progress.

Stakeholder involvement is described in the Introduction to the SPP/APR. Stakeholders agreed with the proposed change in baseline and targets, which more accurately reflects actual data.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 3: Early Childhood Outcomes
FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who demonstrate improved:

- A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
- B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/ communication); and
- C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

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

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed	9419.00
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Outcome A: Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships)

	Number of Children	Percentage of Children
a. Infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning	198.00	2.10%
b. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers	1948.00	20.68%
c. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it	761.00	8.08%
d. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers	1942.00	20.62%
e. Infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers	4570.00	48.52%

	Numerator	Denominator	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
A1. Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome A, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program $(c+d)/(a+b+c+d)$.	2703.00	4849.00	56.17%	56.80%	55.74%	Did Not Meet Target	No Slippage
A2. The percent of infants and toddlers who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome A by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program $(d+e)/(a+b+c+d+e)$.	6512.00	9419.00	69.01%	71.00%	69.14%	Did Not Meet Target	No Slippage

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

	Number of Children	Percentage of Children
a. Infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning	48.00	0.51%
b. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers	1219.00	12.94%
c. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it	3736.00	39.66%
d. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers	3460.00	36.73%
e. Infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers	956.00	10.15%

	Numerator	Denominator	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
B1. Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome B, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program $(c+d)/(a+b+c+d)$.	7196.00	8463.00	85.78%	87.80%	85.03%	Did Not Meet Target	No Slippage
B2. The percent of infants and toddlers who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome B by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program $(d+e)/(a+b+c+d+e)$.	4416.00	9419.00	48.10%	51.80%	46.88%	Did Not Meet Target	Slippage

Reasons for B2 Slippage

Massachusetts continues to review and analyze data from previous years on Indicator 3 Child Outcomes. The State Identified Measurable Result (SIMR) is improved positive social emotional skills (including social relationships) as measured by using BDI-2 raw scores. One of the work strands of the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) is to improve data accuracy in the administration of the BDI-2. We believe the slippage in B2 of the child outcomes continues to be due to the change in data accuracy. As the accuracy of administration improves, it is possible that the entry score could be less accurate than the exit score (indicating improvement in data quality over time). At initial or earlier administrations, we estimate that scores were inflated and at exit, if more accurate, they would show less growth over the year because of the inaccuracy of the initial measure.

Outcome C: Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs

	Number of Children	Percentage of Children
a. Infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning	30.00	0.32%
b. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers	384.00	4.08%

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

	Number of Children	Percentage of Children
c. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it	2695.00	28.61%
d. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers	3042.00	32.30%
e. Infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers	3268.00	34.70%

	Numerator	Denominator	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
C1. Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome C, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program (c+d)/(a+b+c+d).	5737.00	6151.00	93.51%	94.80%	93.27%	Did Not Meet Target	No Slippage
C2. The percent of infants and toddlers who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome C by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program (d+e)/(a+b+c+d+e).	6310.00	9419.00	68.61%	73.80%	66.99%	Did Not Meet Target	Slippage

Reasons for C2 Slippage

Massachusetts continues to review and analyze data from previous years on Indicator 3 Child Outcomes. The State Identified Measurable Result (SIMR) is improved positive social emotional skills (including social relationships) as measured by using BDI-2 raw scores. One of the work strands of the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) is to improve data accuracy in the administration of the Battelle Developmental Inventory (BDI-2). We believe the slippage in C2 of the child outcomes continues to be due to the change in data accuracy. As the accuracy of administration improves it is possible that the entry score could be less accurate than the exit score (indicating improvement in data quality over time). At initial or earlier administrations, we estimate that scores were inflated and at exit, if more accurate, they would show less growth over the year because of the initial inaccurate measure.

The number of infants and toddlers who did not receive early intervention services for at least six months before exiting the Part C program

The number of infants and toddlers who exited the Part C program during the reporting period, as reported in the State's part C exiting 618 data	19605
The number of those infants and toddlers who did not receive early intervention services for at least six months before exiting the Part C program.	5482

Please note that this data about the number of infants and toddlers who did not receive early intervention services for at least six months before exiting the Part C program is optional in this FFY16 submission. It will be required in the FFY17 submission.

Was sampling used? No

Did you use the Early Childhood Outcomes Center (ECO) Child Outcomes Summary (COS) process? No

Provide the criteria for defining "comparable to same-aged peers."

A Developmental Quotient (DQ) of 80 utilizing the BDI-2 is considered "comparable to same age peers".

BDI-2 Criteria for each indicator category is as follows:

- The exit DQ is less than 80 and all exit raw subdomain scores are less than or equal to entry raw subdomain scores.
- The exit DQ is less than 80 and less than or equal to entry DQ and one or more exit raw subdomain scores are greater than the entry raw subdomain score
- The exit DQ is less than 80 and greater than entry DQ and one or more exit raw subdomain scores are greater than the entry raw subdomain score
- The entry DQ is less than 80 and the exit DQ is greater or equal to 80
- The entry and exit DQs are greater than or equal to 80

List the instruments and procedures used to gather data for this indicator.

The Massachusetts EI system continues to collect entry and exit data on every child through the EIS, which is a client based data system that captures registration, evaluation, IFSP and discharge data. The BDI-2 is the universal tool to determine initial and ongoing eligibility for early intervention services and is being used to determine developmental improvement for child outcome reporting. Massachusetts utilized exit data on children who had two or more valid evaluations and whose length of enrollment in EI was six months or greater to report FFY 2017 actual data.

The following children were excluded from the analysis:

- Children whose length of stay in EI was less than 6 months
- Children having only one evaluation
- Children having an issue under one or more specified outcome areas
- Children having illogical data (e.g., evaluation date was prior to birth date)

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

The Massachusetts' State-Identified Measurable Result (SIMR) is improving positive social-emotional outcomes for children enrolled in the Part C system. One of the major State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) work strands is Data Quality related to the administration of the BDI-2.

Several activities have been implemented related to improving the fidelity of administration such as:
2/1/2019

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Training resources for local program use:

Standardized Interview Procedure Module - In this on-line module, participants learn what standardized interview procedure is and how and when to use it. They explore common administration challenges through video examples and how the challenges might be addressed.

Standardized Structured Procedure Module - In this on-line module, participants learn about what standardized structured procedure is, and how and when to use it. Participants learn through virtually practicing items, video examples, and information excerpted from the BDI-2 Examiner's Manual.

BDI-2 Fidelity Checklist with definitions

BDI-2 Fidelity Checklist Grab and Go - Supports EI Specialists learning about the BDI-2 Fidelity Checklist as a tool. PowerPoint and video examples help participants learn what the checklist is and how it can be used as a tool to identify observable errors in the administration of the BDI-2.

Introduction to the BDI-2 in MA module - This online training offers a general overview of the administration, interpretation, and scoring of the BDI-2 and gives the general context of use within the Early Intervention system in Massachusetts.

In addition to these activities, Massachusetts will review videos of BDI-2 administration. These data checks will be administered by the Early Intervention Training Center using a fidelity checklist and will also provide Technical Assistance as necessary. We predict that these efforts will have a direct impact on child outcome scores and more accurately reflect child outcome data.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 3: Early Childhood Outcomes
Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who demonstrate improved:

- A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
- B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/ communication); and
- C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

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

Actions required in FFY 2016 response

none

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 4: Family Involvement
Historical Data and Targets

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family:

- A. Know their rights;
- B. Effectively communicate their children's needs; and
- C. Help their children develop and learn.

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

Historical Data

	Baseline Year	FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
A	2006	Target ≥				70.00%	71.00%	72.00%	73.00%	75.00%	75.00%	79.00%	80.00%
		Data			74.90%	77.60%	78.60%	81.50%	81.30%	86.00%	84.93%	85.43%	86.23%
B	2006	Target ≥				70.00%	71.00%	72.00%	73.00%	75.00%	75.00%	78.00%	78.10%
		Data			71.60%	74.60%	75.10%	78.30%	78.90%	82.90%	81.98%	82.67%	83.41%
C	2006	Target ≥				85.00%	86.00%	87.00%	88.00%	89.00%	89.00%	89.00%	89.10%
		Data			85.90%	85.60%	86.30%	88.00%	89.30%	91.90%	91.07%	92.33%	92.39%

	FFY	2015	2016
A	Target ≥	80.10%	80.20%
	Data	86.04%	86.73%
B	Target ≥	78.20%	78.30%
	Data	83.07%	84.24%
C	Target ≥	89.20%	89.30%
	Data	92.33%	93.55%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2017 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2017	2018
Target A ≥	80.30%	80.50%
Target B ≥	78.40%	78.50%
Target C ≥	89.40%	89.50%

Key: Blue – Data Update

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input - Please see the Stakeholder Involvement section of the [introduction](#).

Enter additional information about stakeholder involvement

Massachusetts continues to use the Early Childhood Outcomes Stakeholders as the main stakeholder group to provide input on the methodology for collecting Family Outcome data.

Stakeholders recommend ongoing Training and Professional Development opportunities for program staff in understanding the three federal family outcomes. One of the major SSIP evaluation measures related to writing high quality functional outcomes, gathers information on the number of outcomes linked to the federal child and family outcomes. This information is shared in a report for each local IIP and is used to improve local performance in this area.

Based on the aggregate analysis for the 2017 NCSEAM Family Survey, the Lead Agency is pleased to report that **4461** of 12,161 Surveys were returned which is a return rate of 36.68%.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 4: Family Involvement
FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family:

- A. Know their rights;
- B. Effectively communicate their children's needs; and
- C. Help their children develop and learn.

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

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

Number of families to whom surveys were distributed		12161.00
Number of respondent families participating in Part C	36.68%	4461.00
A1. Number of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights		3872.00
A2. Number of responses to the question of whether early intervention services have helped the family know their rights		4461.00
B1. Number of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs		3751.00
B2. Number of responses to the question of whether early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs		4461.00
C1. Number of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family help their children develop and learn		4152.00
C2. Number of responses to the question of whether early intervention services have helped the family help their children develop and learn		4461.00

	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
A. Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights	86.73%	80.30%	86.80%	Met Target	No Slippage
B. Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs	84.24%	78.40%	84.08%	Met Target	No Slippage
C. Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family help their children develop and learn	93.55%	89.40%	93.07%	Met Target	No Slippage

Was sampling used? No

Was a collection tool used? Yes

Is it a new or revised collection tool? No

The demographics of the families responding are representative of the demographics of infants, toddlers, and families enrolled in the Part C program. Yes

Include the State's analysis of the extent to which the demographics of the families responding are representative of the demographics of infants, toddlers, and families enrolled in the Part C program.

Massachusetts utilizes the NCSEAM Family Survey Impact on Family Scale (IFS) developed and validated by the National Center for Special Education Accountability Monitoring (NCSEAM). The 23-item Impact on Family scale (IFS) measures the extent to which early intervention helped families achieve positive outcomes, including the three outcomes specified in Indicator # 4.

Survey Administration

Surveys were distributed to families being served by the MA Early Intervention System. Cover letters as well as postage-paid business reply envelopes were included with the surveys. Surveys were distributed in March and October 2018. Local EI program service coordinators distributed surveys individually to parents. The return deadline was December 1, 2018.

A total of 12,161 surveys, printed in English, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese, were distributed to families across all 60 Early Intervention Program (EIP) locations throughout Massachusetts; 4,461 were returned for a response rate of 36.68%.

Table 1 displays the distribution of race/ethnicity of survey respondents.

Table 1. Distribution of Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	N	Percentage
White	2,463	55%
Hispanic or Latino	841	19%

Multi-racial	556	13%
Black/African-American	285	6%
Asian or Pacific Islander	205	5%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	17	<1%
Missing	94	2%

Based on FFY 2017 statewide participant demographics for the Massachusetts EI system, the response rate by race/ethnicity correlates strongly to the population served based on FFY 2016 618 data/State Summary data (57.6% white; 24.19% Hispanic, 8.6% Black, 5.7% Asian, 3.8% multi-race, 0.2% American Indian) although families on the IFS identified themselves as multi-race at a higher percent than in the Early Intervention Information System (EIS). In general, the IFS data are representative of the population of children served in the MA EI system. The distribution of race/ethnicity in the sample survey is also consistent with the previous year's response. Table 2 displays the distribution of survey respondents by language.

Table 2. Distribution of Language

Language	N	Percentage
English	4,014	90%
Spanish	400	9%
Portuguese	36	<1%
Haitian Creole	6	<1%
Vietnamese	5	<1%

Surveys are available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole and Vietnamese. The State will continue to analyze data and correlate responses with the Early Intervention Information System to ensure accurate representation of the entire population.

In 2018, based on input from Stakeholders, families were offered two methods to return completed surveys.

- Put survey into self-addressed, stamped envelope, seal and drop in the mail
- Put survey into self-addressed, stamped envelope, seal, initial and return to Service Coordinator

DPH Office of Family Initiatives/Early Intervention Parent Leadership Project supports families and EI providers to understand the use and importance of the NCSEAM Family Survey in gathering Family Outcomes data by sharing information and tools. In 2018, articles about the Survey and resources to complete it appeared in the *Parent Perspective Newsletter*, mailed to 20,000+ and sent electronically to 7500+ individuals.

Information aimed specifically at providers was included in the EI monthly newsletter, *The Update*, several times as well.

The Massachusetts EI Parent Leadership Project has developed many resources for families and local programs related to the importance of completing the survey. These activities include the following: A Voice over PowerPoint of the "Who, What, Why, When and How of the Family Survey", a YouTube video on completing the survey with a family, a list of frequently asked questions about completing the family survey which is available on the eiplp.org website and is included in each issue of the Parent Perspective Newsletter and is translated into Spanish for inclusion in the newsletter. A newly developed video from the DaSy TA Center on "Supporting Children By Improving Family Outcomes" has been linked on this website as an additional resource. EIPLP staff have developed a presentation to share with EI staff about the resources available and strategies on ways to encourage families to complete and mail in the survey.

These tools to support implementation and completion of the Survey are housed on the EIPLP website. There have been 192 unique views for the NCSEAM Family Survey tools on the EIPLP website. This includes:

- Voice over PowerPoint for providers
- Family video
- Frequently Asked Questions
- DaSy Video - Supporting Children by Improving Family Outcomes

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

Based on the 2016 MA Family Outcomes Profile created by the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA), Massachusetts response rate of 36.68% is less than the average response rate across the 54 states and territories reporting 40.97%. In addition, MA is slightly below the national average of 90 in the percent of families who reported that Early Intervention services helped them know their rights at 87% and below the national average of 91 in the percent of families who reported that Early Intervention services helped them effectively communicate their children's needs at 84%.

Massachusetts established an internal team to review the patterns of EI Indicator 4: "Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services have helped them:

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Know their rights

Effectively communicate their children's needs

Help their children develop and learn

Ongoing discussions regarding the methodology behind derivation of each Indicator and what items contribute to overall parentage; discuss trends over time with respect to reporting, response rate and each program contribution; and discuss how MA compares with other states.

Action steps

1. State Approaches to Family Outcome Measures

What other states are doing?

Review public reports from other states available on the Internet

How their target measures compare with MA?

2. MA Family Outcome Methodology

Compare current survey items with original item "shopping list"

Prepare presentation summarizing how the model works

Explain how outcomes are derived

3. Trends over time

For Indicator 4 – a, b, and

For Indicator 4 (a,b,c) by program

Response rate by programs

4. Conduct Focus Groups with EI providers and families to assess their knowledge of the survey

5. Develop additional tools and resources to support programs and families

In 2018, the lead agency made access to translations services available to EI programs and families completing the survey.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 4: Family Involvement
Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family:

- A. Know their rights;
- B. Effectively communicate their children's needs; and
- C. Help their children develop and learn.

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

Actions required in FFY 2016 response

none

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 5: Child Find (Birth to One)

Historical Data and Targets

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs compared to national data.

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

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2009

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Target ≥			2.85%	2.85%	2.85%	2.85%	2.85%	2.85%	2.85%	2.75%	2.76%
Data		2.92%	3.12%	3.12%	2.31%	2.45%	2.63%	2.43%	2.59%	3.97%	4.60%

FFY	2015	2016
Target ≥	2.77%	2.78%
Data	4.57%	4.82%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2017 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2017	2018
Target ≥	2.79%	2.80%

Key: Blue – Data Update

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 5: Child Find (Birth to One)
FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs compared to national data.

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

Prepopulated Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
SY 2017-18 Child Count/Educational Environment Data Groups	7/11/2018	Number of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs	3,372	null
U.S. Census Annual State Resident Population Estimates April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017	6/12/2018	Population of infants and toddlers birth to 1	71,523	null

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

Number of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs	Population of infants and toddlers birth to 1	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
3,372	71,523	4.82%	2.79%	4.71%	Met Target	No Slippage

Compare your results to the national data

Massachusetts continues to maintain broad eligibility and serve "At Risk" children under the age of three. The Lead Agency utilizes a universal eligibility tool to ensure the system is capturing children potentially eligible for EI services through the consistent administration, scoring and interpretation of the tool. When compared to the National Data, Massachusetts ranks highest among states and territories with moderate eligibility (defining the level of developmental delay at 1.5 standard deviations in one domain and children considered to be "at risk" for developmental delay). The following provides comparative data between the national average and Massachusetts for infants served under the age of one, including children at risk of delay:

National Average: 1.25% Massachusetts: 4.71%

Massachusetts EI continues to be involved in two major Public Health priorities serving children and families that are homeless and substance exposed newborns. A number of initiatives with birthing hospitals have been implemented to obtain referrals on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) babies prior to discharge enhancing engagement and enrollment in EI. In addition, the state is revisiting its current eligibility criteria related to Substance Exposed Newborns to ensure early and appropriate referrals are made to EI in a timely manner.

The Lead agency is also increasing its capacity to do thorough data analysis to ensure we are not missing any underserved populations, such as homeless or diverse cultural populations.

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 5: Child Find (Birth to One)

Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs compared to national data.

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

Actions required in FFY 2016 response

none

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 6: Child Find (Birth to Three)
Historical Data and Targets

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs compared to national data.

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

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Target ≥			5.85%	5.85%	5.85%	5.85%	5.85%	5.85%	5.85%	5.86%	5.87%
Data		5.90%	6.41%	6.72%	6.42%	6.51%	6.96%	6.70%	7.18%	7.94%	8.89%

FFY	2015	2016
Target ≥	5.88%	5.89%
Data	9.05%	9.44%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2017 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2017	2018
Target ≥	5.90%	6.00%

Key: Blue – Data Update

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 6: Child Find (Birth to Three)
FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs compared to national data.

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

Prepopulated Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
SY 2017-18 Child Count/Educational Environment Data Groups	7/11/2018	Number of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs	20,565	
U.S. Census Annual State Resident Population Estimates April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017	6/12/2018	Population of infants and toddlers birth to 3	215,593	

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

Number of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs	Population of infants and toddlers birth to 3	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
20,565	215,593	9.44%	5.90%	9.54%	Met Target	No Slippage

Compare your results to the national data

Massachusetts is serving close to three times the national average for the birth to three year population and services the highest percentage of infants and toddlers of all states regardless of category of eligibility. Massachusetts engages in robust Child Find activities at the local EI program level, and does considerable outreach to vulnerable populations such as low incidence (autism, deaf and hard of hearing, blind), homeless and families of children born substance exposed. Massachusetts also has a long-standing collaborative relationship with the Child Welfare agency to ensure children under the age of three involved with the Department of Children and Families are referred in a timely manner to the local Early Intervention Program.

National Average: 3.26% Massachusetts: 9.54%

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 6: Child Find (Birth to Three)
Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs compared to national data.

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

Actions required in FFY 2016 response

none

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 7: 45-day timeline
Historical Data and Targets

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

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

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

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Target			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Data		93.30%	94.90%	96.60%	97.90%	98.90%	99.80%	99.90%	99.90%	99.59%	99.63%

FFY	2015	2016
Target	100%	100%
Data	99.69%	99.68%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2017 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 7: 45-day timeline

FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

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

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

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

Number of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an initial evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting was conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline	Number of eligible infants and toddlers evaluated and assessed for whom an initial IFSP meeting was required to be conducted	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
13,554	18,031	99.68%	100%	99.72%	Did Not Meet Target	No Slippage
Number of documented delays attributable to exceptional family circumstances <i>This number will be added to the "Number of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an initial evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting was conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline" field above to calculate the numerator for this indicator.</i>					4,426	

What is the source of the data provided for this indicator?

- State monitoring
- State database

Provide the time period in which the data were collected (e.g., September through December, fourth quarter, selection from the full reporting period).

The data were collected from the Early Intervention Information System (EIS), Client Data System: Initial IFSP meetings conducted in FFY2017 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018).

Describe how the data accurately reflect data for infants and toddlers with IFSPs for the full reporting period.

The data were collected from the Early Intervention Information System (EIS) Client Data System: Initial IFSP meetings conducted in FFY 2017 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018) which totaled 18,031 children with 17,980 or **99.72%** of children received an IFSP meeting within the Part C 45-day timeline or whose delay was due to exceptional family circumstances. The data collected from the EIS are census data for all EIPs for the entire reporting period. Compliance is based on the percent of clients whose evaluation and initial IFSP meeting occurred within the Part C 45-day timeline. Situations in which the client did not meet the 45-day timeline but had a justifiable reason are considered compliant (i.e. family requested delay or other exceptional family circumstances).

Although Massachusetts did not meet its target of 100% compliance, the lead agency followed up with each local EIP and for each incidence of noncompliance determined that the noncompliance was isolated and not systemic in nature.

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

55 of the 60 EIPs were 100% compliant with IFSP Timeliness. Even though 5 programs were not at 100% for timely IFSPs, lead agency followed up each incidence of noncompliance and further data collection through the EIS data system verified that all children and families have received an IFSP meeting and are receiving IFSP services.

Exceptional Family Circumstances/Reasons for the 1st IFSP Meeting not within 45 days of referral date (Compliant):

Family Requested Delay (includes family member sick, vacation, etc.) = 2,418 - 54.63%
 Difficulty contacting family/Cancellations/No Shows/No response = 1,924 - 43.47%
 Hospitalizations/Family Illness = 72 - 1.63%
 Extreme weather conditions = 12 - .27%
Total = 4,426 - 100%

Massachusetts will report two Findings of Noncompliance in FY16 related to Indicator 7, percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an initial evaluation, assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 7: 45-day timeline

Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

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

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

Actions required in FFY 2016 response

none

Note: Any actions required in last year's response table that are related to correction of findings should be responded to on the "Correction of Previous Findings of Noncompliance" page of this indicator. If your State's only actions required in last year's response are related to findings of noncompliance, a text field will not be displayed on this page.

**FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 7: 45-day timeline**

Correction of Previous Findings of Noncompliance

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

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

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

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified in FFY 2016

Findings of Noncompliance Identified	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected Within One Year	Findings of Noncompliance Subsequently Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
2	2	0	0

FFY 2016 Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected

Describe how the State verified that the source of noncompliance is correctly implementing the regulatory requirements

Massachusetts identified two findings of noncompliance in two EIPS in FFY 17 (7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017) related to the timeliness of IFSP services. The findings were identified through the FY16 Annual Report. The programs were notified of the noncompliance on 3/30/2017. Correction of noncompliance was verified by Lead Agency staff on 12/11/2017 and 2/19/2018 respectively.

Describe how the State verified that each individual case of noncompliance was corrected

The first EI program was notified in writing of the noncompliance on 3/30/2017 and a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) was due to the Lead agency by 5/29/2017. The program submitted the CAP within the required timeframe and the following verification activities occurred to ensure timely correction of noncompliance:

On 4/18/2017 lead agency staff met with the Program Director and administrative team to discuss the 45-day timeline requirement, current program practice and a process to ensure ongoing compliance with timely IFSP meetings. In August, 2017 the program submitted a new protocol for timely assignment of staff to participate in IFSP meetings. The November 2017 error reports (generated from the State's data system) showed no new instances of IFSP meetings not meeting the 45-day timeline. In December, 2017, Lead Agency staff reviewed 5 files at the program which were all compliant with the 45-day timeline. Lead agency staff also reviewed files of those children initially not receiving an IFSP meeting within the 45-day timeline and verified that each individual instance of child-specific noncompliance had been corrected and the EI program is implementing the regulatory 45-day timeline requirement.

The second EI program was notified in writing of the noncompliance on 3/30/2017 and a CAP was due to the Lead Agency on 5/29/2017. The CAP was received within the required timeline. On December 18, 2017, Lead Agency staff met with the Program Director to discuss the nature of the issue (understaffing at the time of data collection to which the program has successfully hired additional staff) and the subsequent activities the program has put in place to successfully correct the noncompliance. A file review occurred on 2/19/2018 of five randomly selected files of newly enrolled children with current IFSPs were reviewed for Indicator 7. All five of those children received an IFSP meeting within the 45-day demonstrating 100% compliance supporting the program's explanation that the issues were isolated and not systemic. The record review also verified that the EI program has corrected each individual instance of child-specific noncompliance, and that the EI program is currently correctly implementing the 45 day timeline regulatory requirement.

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified Prior to FFY 2016

Findings of Noncompliance Not Yet Verified as Corrected as of FFY 2016 APR	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
None		

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 8: Early Childhood Transition

FFY 2017 Data: All Indicator 8 Sections

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C	14,879
Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B	9,187

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

The data for Indicator 8 were collected from 618 data, Table 3 (EXITING) of all IFSP children over 2 years of age who were discharged between 7/1/2017 and 6/30/2018 based on the Early Intervention Information System (EIS) data. Data were collected on all children from all Early Intervention Programs. The EIS Discharge form provides information on individual transition plans for each IFSP child.

The Massachusetts Lead Agency works closely with the Departments of Early Education and Care (EEC) and Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to support smooth transitions from Part C to Part B. Efforts include distribution of FAQs related to transition; face to face forums with EI providers and local school districts to discuss federal requirements related to transition activities; and support local collaboration and MOU development.

This year representatives from DESE and Early Childhood Special Education convened a joint task group to review early childhood transition data and identify best practices related to smooth transitions from Part C to Part B. Representatives from Early Intervention, school districts, Department of Public Health (DPH), DESE, and EEC participated in this short term task group to develop a joint technical assistance advisory related to ECSE transitions from EI.

The purpose of the TA Advisory is to promote best practice to ensure a smooth transition for toddlers exiting EI and entering ECSE or related services and explain the roles and responsibilities of EI and school districts. The advisory outlines EI and School district responsibilities for transition; offers transition implementation strategies that EI programs and districts may individualize for their own MOUs; and considers best practice principles from the Division of Early Childhood (DEC) on early childhood transitions.

The advisory was rolled out to all school districts during regional Special Education Director meetings and to EI programs on the October EI monthly webinar.

Please see the attached Joint Advisory; Planning Tool and PowerPoint Presentation that was utilized to roll out to the EI providers.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 8A: Early Childhood Transition
Historical Data and Targets

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Target			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Data		98.30%	96.60%	97.00%	98.70%	98.70%	99.70%	99.90%	99.50%	99.86%	99.90%

FFY	2015	2016
Target	100%	100%
Data	99.77%	99.91%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2017 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 8A: Early Childhood Transition
FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
Indicator 8	12/31/2018	Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C	14,879	null

Data include only those toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday.

- Yes
- No

Number of children exiting Part C who have an IFSP with transition steps and services	Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
13,669	14,879	99.91%	100%	99.99%	Did Not Meet Target	No Slippage

Number of documented delays attributable to exceptional family circumstances <i>This number will be added to the "Number of children exiting Part C who have an IFSP with transition steps and services" field to calculate the numerator for this indicator.</i>	1,209
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What is the source of the data provided for this indicator?

- State monitoring
- State database

Provide the time period in which the data were collected (e.g., September through December, fourth quarter, selection from the full reporting period).

Completed Transition Plan
 Data Source: 618 data, Table 3 (Exiting) of all IFSP children over 2 years of age who were discharged between 7/1/2017 and 6/30/2018; Transition Survey Kids 2+ at Discharge

Describe how the data accurately reflect data for infants and toddlers with IFSPs for the full reporting period.

The data for Indicator 8A were collected from 618 data, Table 3 (Exiting) of all IFSP children over 2 years of age who were discharged between 7/1/2017 and 6/30/2018 based on Early Intervention Information System (EIS) data. Data were collected on all children from all EIPs. The EIS Discharge form provides information on individual transition plans completed for each IFSP child. Compliance is based on the percent of clients two years of age or more who have a complete IFSP with transition steps and services.

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

Situations in which the client did not receive a timely transition plan but had a justifiable reason due to exceptional family circumstances are considered compliant.

The data for these children follows:

INDICATOR 8A: Completed Transition Plan

Data Source: 618 data, Table 3 (Exiting) of all IFSP children over 2 years of age who were discharged between 7/1/2017 and 6/30/2018

Description: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the EI program has developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday

Children 2+ years of age at Discharge	#	%
Compliance		

2/1/2019

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Compliant	13,669	91.9%
Compliant due to exceptional family circumstances	1,209	8.1%
Not compliant (Staff scheduling/Lack of staff)	1	0.0%
Total	14,879	100%
Total compliant	14,878	99.99%

Exceptional Family Circumstances

Reasons	Children	
	#	%
Late IFSP development (33+ months of age)	375	31.02%
Late EI referral (33+ months of age)	244	20.18%
Family situation (i.e., illness, moved abruptly)	424	35.07%
Inactive/unable to contact/cancellations	67	5.54%
Family not interested in services	99	8.19%
Totals	1,209	100%

Massachusetts did not report any findings of noncompliance in FY17 related to Indicator 8A complete Transition Plans even though it did not report 100% compliance at 99.99%. For the one EIP that did not provide a complete transition plan in a timely manner, the Massachusetts lead agency staff followed up with the EIP. After reviewing the documentation provided by the program and Lead Agency onsite review of five randomly selected files of discharged children, all five of those files had documentation demonstrating 100% compliance with complete transition plans supporting the program's explanation of staffing issues at the time of noncompliance. Based on the annual report follow up and finding of 100 % compliance the Lead Agency did not issue a Finding. The Lead agency verified that the EIP has policies and procedures in place and are correctly implementing the federal requirement of complete transition plans and has completed a transition plan for each child, unless the child was no longer within the jurisdiction of the EI program.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 8A: Early Childhood Transition

Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

Actions required in FFY 2016 response

none

Note: Any actions required in last year's response table that are related to correction of findings should be responded to on the "Correction of Previous Findings of Noncompliance" page of this indicator. If your State's only actions required in last year's response are related to findings of noncompliance, a text field will not be displayed on this page.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 8B: Early Childhood Transition
Historical Data and Targets

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Target			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Data		80.40%	94.70%	96.10%	99.20%	99.90%	99.60%	99.70%	NVR	85.89%	89.20%

FFY	2015	2016
Target	100%	100%
Data	88.73%	88.90%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2017 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 8B: Early Childhood Transition

FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
Indicator 8	12/31/2018	Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B	9,187	null

Data include notification to both the SEA and LEA

- Yes
- No

Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C where notification to the SEA and LEA occurred at least 90 days prior to their third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services	Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
7,181	9,187	88.90%	100%	86.88%	Did Not Meet Target	Slippage

Number of parents who opted out <i>This number will be subtracted from the "Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B" field to calculate the denominator for this indicator.</i>	922
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Reasons for Slippage

Massachusetts continues to strategize on ways to improve the data submission to the SEA and are hoping that the new EIS system will improve accurate data collection and timely submission to the SEA.

In addition, as noted in Indicator 8, the Massachusetts Lead Agency works closely with the Departments of Early Education and Care and Elementary and Secondary Education to support smooth transitions from Part C to Part B. Our efforts include distribution of FAQs related to transition; face-to-face forums with EI providers and local school districts to discuss federal requirements related to transition activities; and support local collaboration and MOU development.

Quarterly meetings are held with Part C and B lead agency staff to continue collaboration and data sharing agreements. Unfortunately, given the size of the Massachusetts Part C system, and the number of children potentially eligible for Part B, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) cannot receive the SEA notification from 60 individual EI Programs. The lead agency must receive the data first from the local EIP, review for accuracy and then transmit to DESE.

Massachusetts did not report any Findings of Non compliance in FYY16 related to Indicator 8B LEA/SEA Notification even though it did not report 100% compliance at 86.88%. As noted above, local EIPs work closely with LEAs to ensure timely transitions. The issue with the timely SEA Notification is a data submission issue between the Part C and Part B Lead agency and how the data can be transmitted.

For the one EIP that did not notify the LEA in a timely manner (99.99%), the Massachusetts lead agency staff followed up with the EIP. After reviewing the documentation provided by the program and Lead Agency onsite review of five randomly selected files of discharged children for Indicator 8b LEA/SEA Notification. All five of those files had documentation demonstrating 100% compliance supporting the program's explanation that the issue was isolated. Based on the annual report follow up and finding of 100% compliance the Lead Agency did not issue a finding. The Lead agency verified that the EIP has policies and procedures in place and are correctly implementing the LEA Notification requirements and has provided notification to the LEA for each child, unless the child was no longer within the jurisdiction of the EI program.

The development of a new data system is expected to help to alleviate some of the stressors at the program level so programs and staff can focus on the important work with infants and toddlers and their families around transition. The current onerous process of local EIPs providing notification to the LEA, reporting to the lead agency prior to transmitting to the SEA will be eliminated as the system will capture the data in real time and ensure the timely notification to the SEA. The new data system will enhance efficiency, data accuracy and completeness.

Describe the method used to collect these data

This year's data for Indicator 8B were collected from the State FY 2018 Transition Survey on all IFSP children who exited Part C between 7/1/2017 and 6/30/2018 and were referred to an LEA. These data are available through the State's Transition Survey application. Compliance is based on the percent of toddlers exiting Part C where the notification to the LEA/SEA occurred in a timely manner, at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday and no greater than nine months.

Do you have a written opt-out policy? Yes

Is the policy on file with the Department? Yes

What is the source of the data provided for this indicator?

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

- State monitoring
- State database

Provide the time period in which the data were collected (e.g., September through December, fourth quarter, selection from the full reporting period).

State Fiscal Year 2018 Transition Survey System data of LEA-referred children discharged between 7/1/2017 and 6/30/2018.

Describe how the data accurately reflect data for infants and toddlers with IFSPs for the full reporting period.

The data represents the full reporting period.

To ensure the accuracy of data, the lead agency generates monthly Error Reports for local programs to identify any illogical data. Regional lead agency staff follow up with local programs related to the data issues to ensure the accuracy and timely submission of data entered into the Transition Survey application.

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

As noted above the data is collected from the 2017 Transition Survey System of LEA referred children discharged between 7/1/2017 - 6/30/2018. Massachusetts has a high compliance rate with regard to the LEA notification that occurs at the local program level.

INDICATOR 8B: LEA/SEA Notification

Data Source: Federal Fiscal Year 2017 Transition Survey System of LEA-referred children discharged between 7/1/2017 and 6/30/2018

Description: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the EI program has notified (consistent with the MA opt-out policy) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services

	Children Referred to an LEA		Children Receiving SEA Notification	
	#	%	#	%
Compliance				
Compliant	7,381	89.3%	6,287	76.1%
Compliant due to exceptional family circumstances	883	10.7%	894	10.8%
Not compliant (SEA: Late SEA submission)	1	0.0%	1,084	13.1%
Total	8,265	100.0%	8,265	100%
Parent Opt-out	922	10.0%	922	10.0%
Grand Total	9,187		9,187	
Total compliant	8,264	99.99%	7,181	86.88%

Exceptional Family Circumstances

Reasons	Children Receiving SEA Notification	
	#	%
Parent consent not provided within timeframe	440	49.2%
Late Referral/IFSP development (33+ months of age)	393	44.0%
Family initially Opted Out of LEA referral	35	3.9%
Parent initiated referral	17	1.9%
Family situation (i.e., illness, moved abruptly)	9	1.0%
Totals	894	100.0%

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 8B: Early Childhood Transition

Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

Actions required in FFY 2016 response

none

Note: Any actions required in last year's response table that are related to correction of findings should be responded to on the "Correction of Previous Findings of Noncompliance" page of this indicator. If your State's only actions required in last year's response are related to findings of noncompliance, a text field will not be displayed on this page.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 8B: Early Childhood Transition
Correction of Previous Findings of Noncompliance

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified in FFY 2016

Findings of Noncompliance Identified	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected Within One Year	Findings of Noncompliance Subsequently Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
0	0	null	0

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified Prior to FFY 2016

	Findings of Noncompliance Not Yet Verified as Corrected as of FFY 2016 APR	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
None			

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 8C: Early Childhood Transition
Historical Data and Targets

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Target			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Data		97.70%	98.40%	99.20%	93.70%	98.20%	99.50%	99.80%	98.90%	99.52%	99.97%

FFY	2015	2016
Target	100%	100%
Data	99.75%	99.77%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2017 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 8C: Early Childhood Transition
 FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
Indicator 8	12/31/2018	Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B	9,187	null

Data reflect only those toddlers for whom the Lead Agency has conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services

- Yes
- No

Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C where the transition conference occurred at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties at least nine months prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B	Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
6,942	9,187	99.77%	100%	99.89%	Did Not Meet Target	No Slippage
Number of toddlers for whom the parent did not provide approval for the transition conference <i>This number will be subtracted from the "Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B" field to calculate the denominator for this indicator.</i>						922
Number of documented delays attributable to exceptional family circumstances <i>This number will be added to the "Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C where the transition conference occurred at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties at least nine months prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B" field to calculate the numerator for this indicator.</i>						1,314

What is the source of the data provided for this indicator?

- State monitoring
- State database

Provide the time period in which the data were collected (e.g., September through December, fourth quarter, selection from the full reporting period).

This year's data for Indicator 8C were collected from FFY 2017 Transition Survey on all IFSP Children who exited Part C between 7/1/2017 and 6/30/2018 and were referred to an LEA. These data are available through the State's Transition Survey.

Describe how the data accurately reflect data for infants and toddlers with IFSPs for the full reporting period.

This year's data for Indicator 8C were collected from the FFY2017 Transition Survey on all IFSP Children who exited Part C between 7/1/2017 and 6/30/2018 and were referred to an LEA. These data are available through the State's Transition Survey application. Compliance is based on the percent of toddlers exiting Part C where the transition conference occurred at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties at least nine months prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B.

To ensure the accuracy of data, the lead agency generates monthly Error Reports for local programs to identify any illogical data. Regional lead agency staff follow up with local programs related to the data issues to ensure the accuracy and timely submission of data entered into the Transition Survey application.

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

Massachusetts Part C, with concurrence of the family, requires the Early Intervention Program to convene a transition planning conference for the child exiting Early Intervention not fewer than 90 days, and at the discretion of the parties, up to 9 months before the child's third birthday. A transition planning conference is a designated opportunity to meet with all parents of children exiting EI (including families who have "opted out" of the LEA notification). Each local EIP must document if a parent declines a transition.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

As noted above, there were 1,314 documented delays attributed to exceptional family circumstances for not having a timely transition planning conference. Table 1 depicts the reasons for the transition planning conference not occurring within the 90 day timeline, but did occur before the child transitioned out of Part C:

Table 1 reflects the documented delays attributable to Exceptional Family Circumstances for the transition planning conference and Table 2 reflects the documented noncompliant reason for the TPC not occurring at all:

Table 1: Delays attributable to Exceptional Family Circumstances/Reasons for Not Receiving a Timely Transition

INDICATOR 8C: Transition Planning Conference

Data Source: FFY2017 Transition Survey System of LEA-referred children discharged between 7/1/2017 and 6/30/2018

Description: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the EI program has conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services

Compliance	Children Referred to an LEA		
	#	%	
Compliant	6,942	75.6%	
Compliant due to exceptional family circumstances	1,314	14.3%	
Parent did not provide approval for the transition conference	922	10.0%	Opted out
Not compliant (Staff scheduling/Lack of staff)	9	0.1%	
Total	9,187	100%	
Total compliant	9,178	99.90%	INCREASE

Exceptional Family Circumstances

Reasons	Children Referred to an LEA	
	#	%
Late Referral (33+ months of age)	163	12.4%
Initial IFSP signed at 33+ months of age	234	17.8%
Family situation (incl. vacation, sickness, moved, discontinued services abruptly)	544	41.4%
Family cancelled TPC/No show/Difficult to contact	155	11.8%
Family declined TPC	199	15.1%
Extreme weather conditions	19	1.4%
Totals	1,314	100%

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 8C: Early Childhood Transition

Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

Actions required in FFY 2016 response

none

Note: Any actions required in last year's response table that are related to correction of findings should be responded to on the "Correction of Previous Findings of Noncompliance" page of this indicator. If your State's only actions required in last year's response are related to findings of noncompliance, a text field will not be displayed on this page.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 8C: Early Childhood Transition
Correction of Previous Findings of Noncompliance

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the State educational agency (SEA) and the local educational agency (LEA) where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

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

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified in FFY 2016

Findings of Noncompliance Identified	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected Within One Year	Findings of Noncompliance Subsequently Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
1	1	null	0

FFY 2016 Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected

Describe how the State verified that the source of noncompliance is correctly implementing the regulatory requirements

Massachusetts identified one finding of noncompliance in one EI Program in FFY 16 (7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017) related to complete Transition Planning Conferences. The finding was identified through the FY16 Annual Report. The program was notified of the noncompliance on 3/31/2017. Correction of noncompliance was verified by Lead Agency staff on 11/7/2017.

Describe how the State verified that each individual case of noncompliance was corrected

The first EI program was notified in writing of the noncompliance on 3/31/2017 and a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) was due to the Lead Agency by 5/31/2017. The program submitted the CAP within the required timeframe and the following verification activities occurred to ensure timely correction of noncompliance:

On 9/18/2017, Lead Agency staff held a webinar meeting with the Program Director and administrative team to review transition requirements, current program practice and policies to ensure ongoing compliance with complete Transition Plans within the required timelines. All program staff were required to take the transition online training module "Connecting the Dots" to review federal transition requirements. On November 7, 2017 a record review at the program of 10 randomly-selected files verified that Transition Planning conferences were occurring at 100%. The record review also indicated that the EI program has corrected each individual instance of child-specific noncompliance, and that the EI program is currently correctly implementing the specific regulatory requirement. On November 17, 2017 a close out letter was sent to the program related to the noncompliance.

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified Prior to FFY 2016

	Findings of Noncompliance Not Yet Verified as Corrected as of FFY 2016 APR	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
None			

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 9: Resolution Sessions

Historical Data and Targets

Explanation of why this indicator is not applicable

Massachusetts Part C has not adopted Part B Procedural Safeguards.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Results indicator: Percent of hearing requests that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution session settlement agreements (applicable if Part B due process procedures under section 615 of the IDEA are adopted).

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

This indicator is not applicable, as described above.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 9: Resolution Sessions

FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Results indicator: Percent of hearing requests that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution session settlement agreements (applicable if Part B due process procedures under section 615 of the IDEA are adopted).

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

This indicator is not applicable, as described on the [Historical Data Page](#).

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 9: Resolution Sessions

Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Results indicator: Percent of hearing requests that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution session settlement agreements (applicable if Part B due process procedures under section 615 of the IDEA are adopted).

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

This indicator is not applicable, as described on the [Historical Data Page](#).

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 10: Mediation

Historical Data and Targets

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Results indicator: Percent of mediations held that resulted in mediation agreements.

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

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Target ≥											
Data											

FFY	2015	2016
Target ≥		
Data		100%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2017 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2017	2018
Target ≥		

Key: Blue – Data Update

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input - Please see the Stakeholder Involvement section of the [introduction](#).

Enter additional information about stakeholder involvement

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 10: Mediation
FFY 2017 Data

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Results indicator: Percent of mediations held that resulted in mediation agreements.

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

Prepopulated Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
SY 2017-18 EMAPS IDEA Part C Dispute Resolution Survey; Section B: Mediation Requests	11/8/2018	2.1.a.i Mediations agreements related to due process complaints	0	null
SY 2017-18 EMAPS IDEA Part C Dispute Resolution Survey; Section B: Mediation Requests	11/8/2018	2.1.b.i Mediations agreements not related to due process complaints	0	null
SY 2017-18 EMAPS IDEA Part C Dispute Resolution Survey; Section B: Mediation Requests	11/8/2018	2.1 Mediations held	0	null

FFY 2017 SPP/APR Data

2.1.a.i Mediations agreements related to due process complaints	2.1.b.i Mediations agreements not related to due process complaints	2.1 Mediations held	FFY 2016 Data	FFY 2017 Target	FFY 2017 Data	Status	Slippage
0	0	0	100%			N/A	N/A

Provide additional information about this indicator (optional)

Massachusetts 618 data reported less than 10 mediations in reporting year.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 10: Mediation

Required Actions from FFY 2016

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Results indicator: Percent of mediations held that resulted in mediation agreements.

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

Actions required in FFY 2016 response

none

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 11: State Systemic Improvement Plan
Data and Overview

Monitoring Priority: General Supervision

Results indicator: The State's SPP/APR includes a State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) that meets the requirements set forth for this indicator.

Reported Data

Baseline Data: 2013

FFY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Target		60.90%	56.70%	56.70%	56.80%
Data	56.67%	56.25%	55.83%	56.17%	55.74%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

Explanation of Changes

FFY 2018 Target

FFY	2018
Target	56.90%

Key: Blue – Data Update

Description of Measure

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

Overview

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 11: State Systemic Improvement Plan

Data and Overview

Monitoring Priority: General Supervision

Results indicator: The State's SPP/APR includes a State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) that meets the requirements set forth for this indicator.

Data Analysis

A description of how the State identified and analyzed key data, including data from SPP/APR indicators, 618 data collections, and other available data as applicable, to: (1) select the State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families, and (2) identify root causes contributing to low performance. The description must include information about how the data were disaggregated by multiple variables (e.g., EIS program and/or EIS provider, geographic region, race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, etc.) As part of its data analysis, the State should also consider compliance data and whether those data present potential barriers to improvement. In addition, if the State identifies any concerns about the quality of the data, the description must include how the State will address these concerns. Finally, if additional data are needed, the description should include the methods and timelines to collect and analyze the additional data.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 11: State Systemic Improvement Plan

Data and Overview

Monitoring Priority: General Supervision

Results indicator: The State's SPP/APR includes a State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) that meets the requirements set forth for this indicator.

Analysis of State Infrastructure to Support Improvement and Build Capacity

A description of how the State analyzed the capacity of its current infrastructure to support improvement and build capacity in EIS programs and/or EIS providers to implement, scale up, and sustain the use of evidence-based practices to improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. State systems that make up its infrastructure include, at a minimum: governance, fiscal, quality standards, professional development, data, technical assistance, and accountability/monitoring. The description must include current strengths of the systems, the extent the systems are coordinated, and areas for improvement of functioning within and across the systems. The State must also identify current State-level improvement plans and other early learning initiatives, such as Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge and the Home Visiting program and describe the extent that these new initiatives are aligned, and how they are, or could be, integrated with, the SSIP. Finally, the State should identify representatives (e.g., offices, agencies, positions, individuals, and other stakeholders) that were involved in developing Phase I of the SSIP and that will be involved in developing and implementing Phase II of the SSIP.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 11: State Systemic Improvement Plan

Data and Overview

Monitoring Priority: General Supervision

Results indicator: The State's SPP/APR includes a State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) that meets the requirements set forth for this indicator.

State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and Their Families

A statement of the result(s) the State intends to achieve through the implementation of the SSIP. The State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families must be aligned to an SPP/APR indicator or a component of an SPP/APR indicator. The State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families must be clearly based on the Data and State Infrastructure Analyses and must be a child- or family-level outcome in contrast to a process outcome. The State may select a single result (e.g., increase the rate of growth in infants and toddlers demonstrating positive social-emotional skills) or a cluster of related results (e.g., increase the percentage reported under child outcome B under Indicator 3 of the SPP/APR (knowledge and skills) and increase the percentage trend reported for families under Indicator 4 (helping their child develop and learn)).

Statement

Description

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Indicator 11: State Systemic Improvement Plan

Data and Overview

Monitoring Priority: General Supervision

Results indicator: The State's SPP/APR includes a State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) that meets the requirements set forth for this indicator.

Selection of Coherent Improvement Strategies

An explanation of how the improvement strategies were selected, and why they are sound, logical and aligned, and will lead to a measurable improvement in the State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families. The improvement strategies should include the strategies, identified through the Data and State Infrastructure Analyses, that are needed to improve the State infrastructure and to support EIS program and/or EIS provider implementation of evidence-based practices to improve the State-identified result(s) for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The State must describe how implementation of the improvement strategies will address identified root causes for low performance and ultimately build EIS program and/or EIS provider capacity to achieve the State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families.

FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Indicator 11: State Systemic Improvement Plan
Data and Overview

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Results indicator: The State's SPP/APR includes a State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) that meets the requirements set forth for this indicator.

Theory of Action

A graphic illustration that shows the rationale of how implementing the coherent set of improvement strategies selected will increase the State's capacity to lead meaningful change in EIS programs and/or EIS providers, and achieve improvement in the State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families.

Submitted Theory of Action: No Theory of Action Submitted



Provide a description of the provided graphic illustration (optional)

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Indicator 11: State Systemic Improvement Plan
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Infrastructure Development

- (a) Specify improvements that will be made to the State infrastructure to better support EIS programs and providers to implement and scale up EBPs to improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
- (b) Identify the steps the State will take to further align and leverage current improvement plans and other early learning initiatives and programs in the State, including Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge, Home Visiting Program, Early Head Start and others which impact infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
- (c) Identify who will be in charge of implementing the changes to infrastructure, resources needed, expected outcomes, and timelines for completing improvement efforts.
- (d) Specify how the State will involve multiple offices within the State Lead Agency, as well as other State agencies and stakeholders in the improvement of its infrastructure.

Support for EIS programs and providers Implementation of Evidence-Based Practices

- (a) Specify how the State will support EIS providers in implementing the evidence-based practices that will result in changes in Lead Agency, EIS program, and EIS provider practices to achieve the SIMR(s) for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
- (b) Identify steps and specific activities needed to implement the coherent improvement strategies, including communication strategies and stakeholder involvement; how identified barriers will be addressed; who will be in charge of implementing; how the activities will be implemented with fidelity; the resources that will be used to implement them; and timelines for completion.
- (c) Specify how the State will involve multiple offices within the Lead Agency (and other State agencies such as the SEA) to support EIS providers in scaling up and sustaining the implementation of the evidence-based practices once they have been implemented with fidelity.

Evaluation

- (a) Specify how the evaluation is aligned to the theory of action and other components of the SSIP and the extent to which it includes short-term and long-term objectives to measure implementation of the SSIP and its impact on achieving measurable improvement in SIMR(s) for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
- (b) Specify how the evaluation includes stakeholders and how information from the evaluation will be disseminated to stakeholders.
- (c) Specify the methods that the State will use to collect and analyze data to evaluate implementation and outcomes of the SSIP and the progress toward achieving intended improvements in the SIMR(s).
- (d) Specify how the State will use the evaluation data to examine the effectiveness of the implementation; assess the State's progress toward achieving intended improvements; and to make modifications to the SSIP as necessary.

Technical Assistance and Support

Describe the support the State needs to develop and implement an effective SSIP. Areas to consider include: Infrastructure development; Support for EIS programs and providers implementation of EBP; Evaluation; and Stakeholder involvement in Phase II.

**FFY 2017 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)
Certify and Submit your SPP/APR**

I certify that I am the Director of the State's Lead Agency under Part C of the IDEA, or his or her designee, and that the State's submission of its IDEA Part C State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report is accurate.

Selected: Lead Agency Director

Name and title of the individual certifying the accuracy of the State's submission of its IDEA Part C State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report.

Name: Patricia Fougere

Title: Part C Coordinator

Email: patti.fougere@state.ma.us

Phone: 617-624-5975