

PART C EXITING DATA NOTES

2012-13 Reporting Year

This document provides information or data notes on the ways in which states collected and reported data differently from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) data formats and instructions. In addition, the data notes provide explanations of substantial changes or other changes that data users may find notable or of interest in the data from the previous year.

Alabama

Currently, Alabama does not serve children over the age of three years.

Alaska

Alaska Part C does not serve children age 3-5.

Arkansas

No Longer eligible for Part C prior to reaching age three: There is an increase of 47 in this area due to better training that was implemented during this timeframe. There was training around Child Outcomes that has helped programs properly working with children in meeting their goals.

Not eligible for Part B exit with referrals to other programs: There is an increase of 81 in this area due to better training that was implemented during this timeframe. There was training around Child Outcomes that has helped programs properly working with children in meeting their goals. That means that these children did not show eligibility or the need to continue services into Part B.

Delaware

Delaware resubmitted data on 5/8/14 to clarify that the following category, "Part B Eligible, continuing in Part C", does not apply for this State

District of Columbia

The District of Columbia tracks the outcome of children exiting Part C and referred to Part B for eligibility for Part B preschool special education. The decrease in the number of children "Part B eligible exiting Part C" and the increase in the number of children with "Part B eligibility not determined" are directly correlated and accurately reflect the data at the time of submission.

Florida

Florida Early Steps does not serve children beyond age 3, therefore no data is reported for "Part B eligible continuing in Part C".

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Guam

Guam Part C does not provide services beyond age 3.

Hawaii

Changed reporting period to 7/1/12 - 6/30/13 from last year reporting period 1/1/11 - 12/31/11

Kansas

3. Part B eligible, continuing in Part C -- The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Part C, and the Kansas State Department of Education, Part B, did not choose to implement the "continuation of early intervention (Part C) services" until kindergarten entry as described in 20 U.S.C. 1432(5)(B)(ii) and 1435(c).

Maine

Part B Eligible continuing in Part C. This is not an option in Maine. The utilization of the IFSP does not afford the child the option of continuing the Part C services. Continuation of Part C services for children 3-5 is not a policy option in Maine. Part C of the Act (IDEA) does not apply to any child with a disability receiving FAPE, in accordance with Part B of the Act, with funds under Section 619 of the Act. [34 CFR 300.818] FROM Maine's rules governing educational policies:

<http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/05/071/071c101.doc> 05-071 Chapter 101 Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty IX 2. Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) Team or Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team for Children Three To Twenty

Massachusetts

The decrease in the percent of children under "Completion of IFSP" is due to the continued impact of the use of the state's approved eligibility tool that became effective for all programs for all newly referred children as of 1/1/2012. Children are deemed eligible for EI services more appropriately under the use of this new tool resulting in children tending to stay in EI longer and, thus, leaving EI more often at the age of three. Percent of children who were discharged at the age of three was 6% higher in fiscal year 2013 than in fiscal year 2012. The increase in the percentage of children under "Withdrawal by Parent or Guardian" is due to the continued trend of families exiting EI as a result of the annual family participation fee. The increase in the number of children under "Attempts to Contact Unsuccessful" is a change in the state's ability to collect the number of children who discontinued services due to the family being inactive (program has demonstrated "good faith efforts" and is unable to locate the family). This category has only been available to programs on the EI discharge form used to report to the state since February 2011.

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Michigan

Michigan is a birth-mandate state - by State law, Special Education services are provided to children ages 0-2. Several recent changes in the Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education (MARSE) and the Michigan Part C eligibility requirements have had an impact on Part C Exit classifications counts.

The specific Year-To-Year changes this impacted in the Fall 2012 collection were the children who were not Part B eligible upon exiting Part C (*Early On*®) at age 3. The category "Part B eligibility not determined" increased substantially, exceeding the OSEP change threshold of 20/20%. The two related categories "Not eligible for Part B exit with referral" and "Not eligible for Part B exit without referral" both decreased more than 10% but less than the trigger of 20%.

The issue is whether the child was actually evaluated for Part B services with an IEP. Formerly, the definition of "Not Part B Eligible" was interpreted by some to include the large number of children who were clearly NOT going to be eligible for Special Education services - no need to have a full IEP; the providers working with the child and family were not even going to refer to Special Education. These children have been called "Part C Only" children.

The MARSE change requires all children ages 0-2 receiving Michigan Special Ed services to have an IFSP. An IEP is only made available when the child reaches age 2 years six months, and is regarded as an OSEP Part B process. Formerly an "IEP" for Michigan Special Ed services could be administered starting at birth. This has led to increased understanding of the difference between "Not Part B eligible" and "Part B eligibility not determined." When no Part B IEP is held, the category "Part B eligibility not determined" must be used.

Michigan expects to see a continued decrease in the two categories "Age 3, Not Part B Eligible with Referral" and "Age 3, Not Part B Eligible without Referral" because Part C Only children will not be included there.

At the same time, the tightened eligibility requirements have reduced the count of less delayed children. The decrease in the number of Part C Only eligible children will offset the increase in those identified as not having an IEP, so that the number of children with exit category "Part B eligibility not determined" will stay flat for 2013-14.

Michigan does not serve children ages 3 and older under Part C. The 12 month EXIT collection period ended on Count Day, 10/3/12. The period was from 10/4/11 to 10/3/12. The Michigan ACTIVE Child Count submitted in May 2013 showed an 8.0 percent decrease (10,285 to 9,458) from the prior year. Here are the two reasons given at that time: First, the Part C data were collected for Fall 2012 in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS), along with all K-12 and Special Education students. The collection date was moved up from December 1 to October 3 to standardize with the other collections. Some districts were unable to utilize the new system completely and did not submit all their records. Second, the state supported student tracking system was eliminated. Local districts developed or contracted for their own data tracking systems. Some districts did not have their new system in place in

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time for the collection. Since most of the 12 month child EXITS were collected under the previous tracking system supported by the state, the EXIT count reported in this survey only shows a 0.4 percent decrease (from 9,800 to 9,759). The June End Of Year MSDS collection went smoothly, and we are expecting an increase in the upcoming Active Child Count for 2013-14 as Service Areas adjust more fully to their new systems.

Mississippi

OSEP Year-to-Year Comparisons for the November IDEA Section 618 Data Submissions. No longer eligible for Part C prior to reaching age three – Eligibility requirements were changed during this time period from 25% of delay in one area or more to 33% in one area of development or 25% in two areas of development. The change in eligibility has led to more critical children remaining in program until their third birthday. Deceased – During this time period Mississippi had a decline in birth population and a decrease in infant mortality during this time frame. Withdrawal by parents – During this time period, the program emphasized the enrollment process and needs to completely explain the Early Intervention Program (EIP) and process to parents at enrollment. This training has led to a decrease in parents withdrawing their children from the program. Since parents have a better understanding about the program and the outcomes for their child, there has been less concerns and withdrawal of families from EIP.

Missouri

The category: Part B eligibility not determined” decreased from 2011-12 to 2012-13. The decrease could be attributed to changes to transition requirements that include a 90 day transition timeline. The change resulted in earlier referrals to Part B and therefore, Part B eligibility is more likely to have been determined prior to the child exiting Part C.

The category “Attempts to contact unsuccessful” increased from 2011-12 to 2012-13. The increase could be attributed to a change that allows services to resume upon re-entry to the program without going through the referral and eligibility processes. This change allows service providers to remove children from active IFSP status when they could not be located.

Montana

Montana implemented the Early Intervention (EI) Module, an online data collection system in March 2013. Utilizing a number of strict business rules, the reporting requirements of all Part C provider agencies are now held to a higher standard and able to be monitored more in-depth and frequently with just a click of the mouse for the Part C Coordinator, Quality Assurance Specialists, and provider agencies’ administrators. This is in comparison to previous years data which was compiled by hand both at the provider level and by a hired contractor in the Part C office. As the EI system did not contain an entire fiscal year’s data for 2012-2013, providers were required to provide additional data to the Part C Coordinator who worked with providers’ staff to determine its validity and reliability. The specific counts noted show a variety of decreases and increases which Montana’s Part C Program believes to be

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accurate. The process of validating the 2012-2013 counts required providers to have reporting categories in place with evidence in order to be counted such as actual referral information for children not eligible for Part B, case notes showing a move out of state, withdrawal, or attempted contacts. Montana will continue to monitor exit information and counts closely.

New Hampshire

NH does not serve children over the age of 3 years. Recommendations for referrals to childcare, other services are typically made early and do not show up in the exit data.

New York

The general instructions for Table 3 require that the 8,446 children turning three prior to the reporting period (July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013) be excluded from the report. 297 children with unknown race/ethnicity were distributed by apportioning the unknown children within each county in direct proportion to the distribution of children in that county with known race/ethnicity or, for New York City, apportioning the unknown race/ethnicity using the results of a match of New York City EI eligibles with the race/ethnicity reported by their birth mother from birth certificate records. 8 children with unknown gender were distributed by apportioning them in direct proportion to the distribution of children with known gender. In Exit reports prior to PY 2003-04, children moving out of county were assigned to exit category "moved out of state". For the current reporting period, 322 children fell into this category. In an effort to determine their true program status or exit category, these children were matched against both enrolled children and children closed during the program year. Matching criteria included the child's name, sex, date of birth, Social Security Number, Medicaid ID and mother's maiden name. Based on the results of this match, 98 children were found to be enrolled in the EIP in another county and were removed from the Exit report, the other 224 children could not be located (unable to be matched) and were under three years of age, so were categorized as "attempts to contact unsuccessful". There were 29 children remaining who exited the EIP during the year with a NYS exit reason that did not explicitly correspond to a federal exit category and whose status could not be resolved by any of the previous steps. Based on additional guidance from Westat, these children were assigned to an exit category based on their age at time of program exit. All of these children were under age 3, and were placed in "10 - Attempts to contact unsuccessful".

Ohio

The increase in the "No longer eligible for Part C prior to reaching age 3" eligibility reason is due to guidance given by the Department in early 2012 to exit children who no longer needed Early Intervention services. Until then, common practice was to retain children on Service Coordinator caseloads without receiving services until the child transitioned at age three, rather than individualizing to each child. This is further supported by the decrease in children exiting at age 3, reflected in all of the following eligibility reasons: "Part B eligible, Exiting Part C", "Not eligible for Part B, exit with referrals to other programs", and "Not Eligible for Part B, exit with no referral". Thus, more children are being exited

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prior to age three because they are meeting IFSP outcomes and no longer need Early Intervention services.

Oklahoma

Oklahoma has determined that the exiting data submitted for 2011-12 was not from the same date parameters as the exiting data submitted for 2012-13.

Monitoring emphasis on transition planning resulted in earlier Transition Planning Conferences and earlier opportunities for the LEAs to complete eligibility determination.

2011-12 all children who were withdrawn by parent or guardian were included in the exiting data. In 2012-13 only those children withdrawn from program by parent or guardian that were on an IFSP at the time of exit.

In 2011-12 all children who were withdrawn from parent or guardian were included in the exiting data. In 2012-13 reported only those children with attempts to contact unsuccessful that were on an IFSP at the time of exit were included.

Oregon

Not Eligible for Part B Exit with No Referrals – The majority of the increase in this category were attributable to five of the nine EI contracted areas. As compared to 2011-12 data, in 2012-13 Oregon experienced a 7.7% increase in EI enrollments, which would have an overall positive effect on the increase in code 13. The identified five contracted areas experienced a 14.2% increase in EI enrollment, which had an even larger positive effect on the increase in code 13. Also, staff in these areas received training on how to better identify the correct exit codes which could be responsible for some of the increase.

Attempts to contact unsuccessful – The significant increase in the numbers of EI children exited because of unsuccessful contacts can also be related to the overall EI enrollment increase.

One out of nine programs indicated a highly mobile population where cultures and the stresses families are under just to support their families – both parents working and sometimes two to three part-time jobs.

Oregon does not allow for children to continue in Part C past their 3rd birthday.

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania attributes the increase percentage of children who have been determined not eligible for Part B, exiting with referrals to other programs to focused efforts on establishing eligibility for children prior to a child transitioning to preschool Part B programs. These efforts have resulted in a decrease in the percentage of children in the category of Part B eligibility not determined.

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Tennessee

We performed comparisons of the data for the last two (FY 2011-12, FY 2012-13) years by both Point of Entry and Service Coordinator across all exit reasons. After reviewing the comparison data for the last two years we found that a majority of our differences that were outside the 20/20 threshold was in one Point of Entry office. We have decided to perform additional training in that Point of Entry office on choosing the correct 618 Exit Reason when exiting a child from our program.

Texas

In Texas no child continues in Part C after exiting at age 3.

Utah

BWEIP (Utah Part C) serves only children from birth to age two.

Vermont

Children receiving Part C Early Intervention services in Vermont do not have an option of continuing in Part C beyond their third birthday.

Virginia

These reasons pertain to the destinations 2. Part B eligible exiting Part C., 4. Not eligible for Part B exit with referrals to other programs and 5. Not eligible for Part B exit with no referrals.

Change is due to a combination of the following factors:

1. As a cost saving effort, some school systems across Virginia have tightened their interpretation of eligibility standards making fewer children eligible.
2. Child outcome data indicated improved child outcomes over the time period with more children leaving EI at age level or with only mild delays

Withdrawal by parent (or guardian).

Virginia's Part C early intervention system experienced significant budget shortfalls in FFY 2012 that resulted in several local systems establishing waiting lists for services which caused some parents to withdraw. This situation has since been corrected.

Children receiving Part C Early Intervention services in Vermont do not have an option of continuing in Part C beyond their third birthday.

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Washington

Washington State has a large, growing military population (army, navy and air force). Families frequently move in and out of state due to deployments. The number is substantial enough to impact our “Moved out of State” data collection.