

## **Part C Exiting Data Notes**

### **2015-16 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**

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The exiting reason where a 20/20% difference was found is “Withdrawal by parent (or guardian)”. The increase in the number of “Withdrawal by parent (or guardian)” may be due to a revision of Alabama Early Intervention’s annual eligibility determination procedures which makes it possible for parents who have no further concerns to withdraw from Early Intervention after one evaluation, which indicates no delays, is completed.

#### **American Samoa**

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Please note that Part B Eligible, Continuing in Part C is NOT applicable for American Samoa. That reporting category should have been marked as NA.

#### **California**

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As part of the State's SSIP infrastructure changes, California researched and analyzed data from all submission points. By using the Early Start Report application, data gathering was refined to produce figures that more accurately represent California's children. This is reflected with the decrease in the total children reported for FFY 15/16

#### **Kansas**

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There was a significant increase in the category Part B Eligibility Not Determined of 21.27% from 2014-2015 to 2015-2016. Kansas clarified guidance on exit categories in November, 2014.

In drilling down the 2015-2016 data, Kansas examined rates of individual program change looking at programs with the greatest change in numbers from one year to the next. However, when calculating the number for each year in the category by the total number of children exiting from that program, the percentage difference from one year to the next was not significant.

25 of the 36 programs experienced an increase in the number of children exiting the program, accounting for a total of 356 more exits than last year. There were 9 programs that experienced a total

of 134 less exits for the year. Overall, Kansas had 262 more exits in 2015-2016. Because no significant difference could be found for individual programs, the significant increase in the category Part B Eligibility Not Determined of 21.27% for 2015-2016 is attributed to the increase in the number of children exiting the program overall.

## **Maine**

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The increase in exiting Attempts to Contact Unsuccessful may be due to the following:

- 1) Increase oversight at the site level to ensure that those families who had dropped off the radar received the required attempts to re-engage and then were closed when they had not contacted CDS by the date indicated in those attempts to re-engage and
- 2) Service coordinators have been given the guidance to select Attempts to Contact Unsuccessful when they are unable to make contact with a family and the family has not provided a reason.

## **Maryland**

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Increase in the Number (191) Withdrawal by Parent (or guardian)

Thirteen jurisdictions are responsible for the increase. Three of Maryland's largest jurisdictions accounted for 3/4 of this increase. These jurisdictions have highly transient populations.

## **Michigan**

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Michigan does not serve children 3 and older under Part C. The 12 month EXIT period was from 10/8/2014 to 10/7/2015.

## **Minnesota**

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First is the change from 2014-15 to 2015-16 in the number of children who were determined to no longer be eligible for services under Part B and exited Part C at age 3 with referrals. The change report showed that 64 more children exited Part C with no referrals for this reason in 2015-16 than in 2014-15. We attribute this change to improved child find that is identifying more children with mild delays who exit appropriately at age three, not eligible for Part B and not in need of referrals. The increase in referrals may also reflect additional state investment in early learning programs for preschool children meaning that there are more sites to which to refer.

Second is the change from 2014-15 to 2015-16 in the number of children who were determined to no longer be eligible for services under Part B and exited Part C at age 3 with no referrals. The change report showed that 121 more children exited Part C with no referrals for this reason in 2015-16 than in

2014-15. We attribute this change to improved child find that is identifying more children with mild delays who exit appropriately at age three, not eligible for Part B and not in need of referrals.

## Missouri

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The number of children receiving Part C services has been increasing over the past several years, which leads to a larger number of children exiting Part C services. Total child count increased almost 10% from 2014-15 to 2015-16 compared to an increase of almost 7% in total exiters, with the largest increase seen in the Withdrawal by Parent category. Parent withdrawals tend to be higher in a few regions of the state, and many of these children were referred to Part C by the Department of Social Services (DSS) for various reasons. Often, these families feel compelled to participate in Part C services, but then choose to discontinue Part C services when they were no longer receiving services through DSS.

## Nevada

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A significant portion of Nevada's workforce is associated with the casino and mining industries which operate on 24 hours/7 days a week schedule. This type of industry tends to create a more transient population which frequently moves in and out of the state. This type of employment also results in changing work schedules, sometimes week by week which significantly contribute to situations for families exiting based on these three exit reasons.

Drill-down in the data indicates the following issues are most frequently reported as the primary reasons families exiting in each exit code.

### Part B Not Determined

- Parent cancellation of IEP appointment and rescheduling after age three.
- Parent satisfied with progress, no further concerns.
- Parent home, work or life changes, including work schedule changes.

### Withdrawal by Parent (or Guardian)

- Parent satisfied with progress, no further concerns
- Parent home, work or life changes, including work schedule changes
- Parent does not ~~desire schooling~~ want to pursue further supports for child
- Child's medical condition and/or illness.
- Child is removed from the home or home is relocated.

### Attempted Contact Unsuccessful

- Service notes document numerous attempts to contact through various methods, phone, text, email and home visits.
- Notes document issues prior to loss of contact that parent's home, work or life changes are occurring that later contribute to the loss of contact.

- Notes document issues prior to loss of contact that parent's work schedule changes are occurring that later contribute to loss of contact.
- Notes document issues prior to loss of contact regarding the child's living arrangement situations (for example being moved from a parent's custody to a foster family) that contribute to loss of contact.

## New York

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The general instructions for Table 3 require that the 16,914 children turning three prior to the reporting period (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016) be excluded from the report. For the current reporting period, 177 children were closed with exit reason "moved out of county." A match was performed using child's name, sex, date of birth, Social Security Number, Medicaid ID and mother's maiden name in order to find these children in another county. Based on the results of this match, 3 children were found to be enrolled in the EIP in another county and were removed from the Exit report. The other 174 children could not be located (unable to be matched) and were under three years of age, so were categorized as "attempts to contact unsuccessful."

## Puerto Rico

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### I. Reasons for large changes by data element

1. **No longer eligible for Part C prior to reaching age three** - As less infants and toddlers are exiting the Program, less children are placed in this category.
2. **Part B eligible, exiting Part C** - Some of the regional programs are receiving more feedback from families and their Part B counterparts as children are determined eligible for Part B.
6. **Part B eligibility not determined** - As more feedback is being received in the regional programs whenever a child is determined eligible for Part B, less children exit Part C for this reason.
9. **Withdrawal by parent (guardian)** – As less infants and toddlers are exiting the Program, less children are placed in this category.
10. **Attempts to contact unsuccessful** – Strategies were carried out lower the quantity of children that exit the Program because of unsuccessful attempts to contact the family. Some of these strategies include visiting the children's homes multiple times, contacting the provider, having more than one contact phone number, and sending letters through regular mail.

## Tennessee

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Three factors impacted the 20/20 changes seen in Tennessee's child exit data:

1. TEIS conducted refresher sessions early in the fiscal year instructing and reminding TEIS staff of proper selection of 618 exit reasons. This prompted “Completion of IFSP / no longer requires services” to increase in numbers across the state.
2. TEIS emphasized the need to find a program which would benefit the family, even if the child was found to be ineligible. Therefore, “Not Eligible for Part B – Exit with no referrals” reduced in number while “Not Eligible for Part B – Exit with referral to other programs” increased.
3. TEIS experienced an overall increase in child population stemming from Tennessee’s above-average growth in population. This impacted a number of factors across the board, for families who chose to accept TEIS services, as well as for families who chose not to avail themselves of TEIS services.

## Utah

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There was a significant change in data for exit reason No longer eligible for Part C prior to reaching age three (row 1). This change is a result of training efforts by the Baby Watch Early Intervention Lead Agency for Utah’s early intervention programs. According to Baby Watch Early Intervention’s Eligibility Criteria Policy, early intervention eligibility is determined annually. Prior to training efforts, early intervention programs were exiting children with the exiting reason “No longer eligible for Part C prior to reaching age three.” Post training efforts on Utah’s Part C Eligibility Criteria Policy, programs are now exiting children prior to reaching age three with the exit reason “Withdrawal by parent (or guardian),” noting that the parent (or guardian) is happy with the child’s progress. As a result of this ongoing education, there was a large year-to-year change in data for the exit reason No longer eligible for Part C prior to reaching age three.

## Washington

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### **Not eligible for Part B exit with referrals to other programs/Not eligible for Part B exit with no referrals:**

Washington State Department of Early Learning’s state-to-local coordination efforts have supported the increased partnerships in local communities between early learning programs. Our State funded preschool program that serves 3 and 4 year-olds continues to expand throughout the state, which supports the data showing an increase number of children being referred to other programs after leaving Part C.