

Early Support for Infants & Toddlers



Data activity: Analyzing COS reports for expected patterns for progress categories

The following activity is designed to compare local, LLA service area and statewide data in order to determine if there are outcomes data that fall outside the expected patterns. This activity will support providers' understanding of the COS reports as a tool for analyzing the quality of their program's COS ratings as well as how their enrolled children are progressing overall.

Instructions

Using the table below, ask each providing agency to chart their progress category percentages for each outcome for the year comparable to these data for the state and LLA service area from 7/1/15 – 6/30/16. Use the COSF Progress Codes report to view COS data by providing agency.

If LLA patterns are found to be outside of the typical range, take a look at the prior year or two of data to get an overall view of the patterns. Review this with the provider and discuss possible reasons why the patterns may be out of range. Use the guiding questions handout to support the discussion.

For Providing agencies that serve a small number of children, these data should be interpreted cautiously as they may be more likely to show unexpected patterns because a single child may represent a larger proportion of the children served. It may be useful to analyze this data for certain populations (diagnosis, for example) or even by individual providers.

Expected Patterns for Progress Categories

- Progress category 'a' includes children with the most significant delays and degenerative conditions who do not make any progress or actually regress from entry to exit. The established a cutoff of 5% of children in progress category "a" as reasonable.
- Progress category "e" includes children who enter and exit at age expectations in the outcome area. On the basis of previously reported national data, we established a cutoff of 65% of children in progress category "e" as the limit of reasonable.
- Progress categories 'b,' 'c' and 'd' include children who enter the program functioning below same age peers and either maintain functioning relative to same age peers (b), move closer to the functioning of same age peers (c), or exit the program functioning at a level comparable to same age peers (d). We expect that between 5% and 50% of children in each state will fall into each of these progress categories.
- The table below shows the comparison of each progress category to the expected range.

Results
Below the Expected Range
Within the Expected Range
Above the Expected Range

	Progress Categories- Expected Pattern and WA Status				
	a	b	c	d	e
Expected Pattern	0%-5%	5%-50%	5%-50%	5%-50%	5%-65%
Outcome 1 state	In Range 1%	In Range 28%	In Range 14%	In Range 24%	In Range 31%
LLA service area					
Providing agency					
Outcome 2 state	In Range 1%	In Range 27%	In Range 20%	In Range 30%	In Range 22%
LLA service area					
Providing agency					
Outcome 3 state	In Range 1%	In Range 25%	In Range 19%	In Range 32%	In Range 23%
LLA service area					
Providing agency					