Massachusetts Department of Public Health



Analysis of Family Survey Data Addressing Part C SPP/APR Indicator #4

State Report

2024-2025

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Executive Summary

In accordance with federal reporting requirements mandated by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004), Part C Lead Agencies must report annually on performance indicators related to early intervention services for children ages birth to three. This report presents findings of a survey conducted by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) to address Indicator #4, the "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*".

The survey administered by the MDPH included one rating scale 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.

Response Rate

A total of 17,176 surveys were distributed to families in 63 Early Intervention Programs (EIPs). Overall, 4,178 completed surveys were returned, for a **return rate of 24.3%** (4,178/17,176). All returned surveys provided usable data. The number of returned surveys exceeds the minimum number required for an adequate confidence level based on established survey sample guidelines (e.g., http://www.surveysystem.com/sscalc.htm).

Data from the scale was analyzed through the Rasch measurement framework. For the IFS scale, the analysis produces a measure for each survey respondent. Individual measures can range from 0 to 1,000. For the IFS, each family's measure reflects the extent to which the family perceives that Early Intervention has helped them achieve positive family outcomes. The IFS measures of all respondents were averaged to yield a mean measure reflecting the overall performance of the state in regard to the impact of Early Intervention on family outcomes.

As noted, OSEP requires that the state's performance be reported as the percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them achieve specific outcomes. Deriving a percent from a continuous distribution requires application of a standard, or cut-score. The MDPH elected to apply the Part C standards recommended by a nationally representative stakeholder group convened by NCSEAM. The recommended standards, established based on item content expressed in the scale, were as follows: for Indicator 4a, *know their rights*, a measure of 539; for Indicator 4b, *effectively communicate their children's needs*, a measure of 556; and for Indicator 4c, *help their children develop and learn*, a measure of 516.

The following points represent the major findings related to Indicator #4:

Massachusetts' Mean Measure on the IFS

The mean measure on the IFS is 732 with a standard deviation of 190. The standard error of the mean is 2.9, and the 95% confidence interval for the mean is 726.7–738.2. This means that there is a 95% likelihood that the true value of the mean lies between these two values.

Massachusetts' Percent on Indicators

Indicator 4a: The percent of families who reported that Early Intervention services helped them *know their rights* is **85.8%**. The 95% confidence interval for the true population percentage is 84.7%–86.8%. This means that there is a 95% likelihood that the true value of the state percentage for Indicator 4a is between these two values.

Indicator 4b: The percent of families who reported that Early Intervention services helped them *effectively communicate their children's needs* is **82.1%**. The 95% confidence interval for the true population percentage is 80.9%–83.2%.

Indicator 4c: The percent of families who reported that Early Intervention services helped them *help their children develop and learn* is **93.2%**. The 95% confidence interval for the true population percentage is 92.4%–93.9%.

See Appendix A for Massachusetts' historical response rates and Indicator #4 percentages; Appendix F contains the FFY 2024 SPP/APR data template.



Background

Federal Requirements

State Lead Agencies under Part C of the IDEA are required to report data annually addressing key performance indicators. Each state is required to submit an Annual Performance Report (APR) to OSEP addressing established targets set in the State Performance Plan (SPP). Indicator #4, the "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*," is one of the indicators in the federal accountability system. Performance on the indicator is reported annually.

Survey Instrument

The IFS was developed by NCSEAM to provide states with valid and reliable instruments to measure (a) positive outcomes that families experience as a result of their participation in Early Intervention and (b) families' perceptions of the quality of Early Intervention services. Items were developed with substantial input from families and other key stakeholders across the country.

As part of its National Item Validation Study, NCSEAM collected data from a nationally representative sample of over 1,700 families participating in early intervention. Results of NCSEAM's data analyses supported the high reliability and validity of both scales. It was determined that scale reliabilities of .90 or above could be achieved with 22 items for the IFS. NCSEAM provided states with an appropriate sample item set for each scale, as well as instructions for customizing the scale by drawing on the larger bank of piloted items that NCSEAM made available on its website. The MDPH elected to use 23 items for the IFS.

Survey Administration

The primary survey delivery method for the current administration year was the online version, which was available in seven languages (i.e., English, Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Vietnamese, Chinese, and Arabic). Programs distributed unique survey logins to families in person, via online meetings, and by other electronic means. If requested, families still had the option of completing the paper survey, which was available in five primary languages (i.e., all of the previously listed languages except for Chinese and Arabic). The majority of respondents completed online versions of the survey. Only a small number of paper surveys were distributed to families. Online logins and paper surveys were distributed to families in October 2024 and May 2025; the survey return deadline was May 31, 2025.

A total of 17,176 surveys, in seven languages, as noted above, were distributed to families across 63 EIPs; 4,178 were returned (including 4,129 Web submissions), for a response rate of 24.3%. See Appendix B for a sample 2024-25 family survey.

Standards

The MDPH elected to apply the standards recommended by NCSEAM as a way of deriving the percentages to be reported for Indicators 4a, 4b, and 4c.

To establish a recommended standard, NCSEAM convened a group of nationally representative stakeholders, including parents of children with disabilities, state directors of special education, state early intervention coordinators, district and program personnel, advocates, attorneys, and community representatives. Participants were invited to examine a set of items from the IFS, laid out in their calibration order (see Table 11). The items toward the bottom of the scale, having lower calibrations, are items that families tend to agree with most.

The items toward the top of the scale, having higher calibrations, are items that families tend to agree with least. Because of the robust structure of the scale, a respondent who agrees with a given statement will have a very high likelihood of agreeing, or agreeing even more strongly, with all the items below it on the scale.

For Indicator 4a, the stakeholder group agreed that families needed to endorse all items up to and including the item, "Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family, know about my child's and family's rights concerning Early Intervention services." For Indicator 4b, the stakeholder group agreed that families needed to endorse all items up to and including the item, "Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family, communicate more effectively with the people who work with my child and family." For Indicator 4c, the stakeholder group agreed that families needed to endorse all items up to and including the item, "Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family, understand my child's special needs." These standards were operationalized by designating as the numerical standard the measure that, in each case, corresponds to the threshold item's calibration. For Indicators 4a, 4b, and 4c, the measures representing the standards are 539, 556, and 516, respectively. This ensures that in each case, families with a measure at or above the standard have a .95 likelihood of agreeing with the threshold item.



Characteristics of the Sample Data

3.1. Distribution of Race/Ethnicity in the Sample

Table 1 displays the distribution of race/ethnicity in the survey sample.

Table 1. Race/Ethnicity Distribution			
Race/Ethnicity	N	Percentage*	
American Indian or Alaskan Native	9	<1%	
Asian	224	5%	
Black or African American	324	8%	
Hispanic/Latino	792	19%	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	<1%	
Two or more races	532	13%	
White	2,265	54%	
Missing	30	<1%	

3.2. Distribution of Survey Language in the Sample

Table 2 displays the distribution of the sample by survey language.

Table 2. Survey Language Distribution			
Version	N	Percentage [*]	
Arabic	3	<1%	
Chinese	11	<1%	
English	3,811	91%	
Haitian Creole	45	1%	
Portuguese	48	1%	
Spanish	258	6%	
Vietnamese	2	<1%	

^{*} Percentages have been rounded and may not sum to exactly 100%.

3.3. Distribution of Region in the Sample

Table 3 displays the distribution of the survey sample by region.

Table 3. Region Distribution			
Region	N	Percentage [*]	
Boston	306	7%	
Central	727	17%	
Metro	406	10%	
Northeast	1,120	27%	
Southeast	943	23%	
West	676	16%	

^{*} Percentages have been rounded and may not sum to exactly 100%.



Results Pertaining to Indicator #4

4.1. Distribution of the IFS Measures

The properties of the distribution of IFS measures for the 4,178 families who responded to the IFS items are shown in Table 4. The sample mean is 732. The standard deviation of measures is 190, indicating that the average distance of measures from the mean measure is 190 units. The standard error of the sample mean, that is, the expected error of the sample mean in estimating the true population mean for Massachusetts, is 2.9. The 95% confidence interval for the true population mean for Massachusetts extends from 726.7 to 738.2, indicating that we are 95% confident that the true population mean for families of children served by the MDPH's Early Intervention Program lies somewhere in this range. The sample mean for the weighted data is 735 which is consistent with the unweighted mean (732).

Table 4. Properties of IFS Measures					
Weighting	Sample Mean	Standard Deviation ^{**}	Standard Error of the Sample Mean	95% Confidence Interval for the Population Mean	
Unweighted	732	190	2.9	726.7–738.2	
Weighted by the population bivariate distribution of race/ethnicity and region	735			729.7–741.2	

Please refer to Section 8 for a detailed description of weighted proportions and means in the SEPPS measures.

^{**} Because the standard deviation in the population is unknown, we have assumed the same standard deviation for the weighted values as that obtained from the unweighted values obtained from sample of 4,178 respondents for which an IFS measure was obtained.

Figure 1 displays the distribution of the 4,178 IFS measures. Each bar indicates the number of families with measures at the value indicated on the x-axis. The vertical black lines correspond to the three standards applied to Indicator 4a (539), 4b (556), and 4c (516).

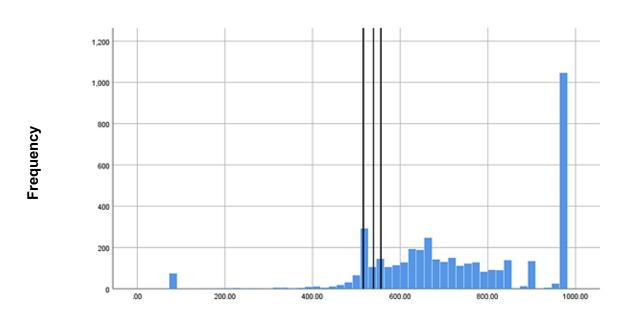


Figure 1. Distribution of IFS Measures

The distribution of measures approximates a normal distribution with one exception. An extremely high number of respondents with measures at the positive end of the scale are represented by the high bar at the extreme right of the graph. These individuals responded in the "very strongly agree" category to each and every item. When individuals fail to make any distinction among items that are known to have different levels of agreeability, they are said to display a "response set," that is, a uniform way of responding that makes it hard to judge whether the responses are authentic or are, in effect, a way of complying with the task that does not really provide useful information. This phenomenon should be taken into consideration when interpreting the findings.

IFS Measure

4.2. Interpretation of the Mean IFS Measure

The state's performance on the IFS conveys information that goes beyond the three outcomes that are addressed in OSEP's Indicator #4. A mean measure of 732 on the IFS indicates that the MDPH is helping families to achieve many positive outcomes. These positive outcomes `are evident from the response percentages displayed in Table 5. The table also displays each item's calibration value, to be discussed in Section 6.

Table	Table 5. Percent of Families Expressing Agreement with IFS Items				
Item #	Item Calibration	Item Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family:	% Agree in any category	% Strongly/ Very strongly agree	
20	498	- do things with and for my child that are good for my child's development.	97%	80%	
22	498	- feel that my efforts are helping my child.	97%	78%	
23	508	- be more hopeful about my child's future.	97%	78%	
15	559	- feel that my child will be accepted and welcomed in the community.	97%	76%	
16	562	- feel that my family will be accepted and welcomed in the community.	97%	74%	
19	539	- know about my child's and family's rights concerning Early Intervention services. [Indicator 4a]	97%	73%	
18	546	- understand the roles of the people who work with my child and family.	97%	72%	
14	534	- be able to evaluate how much progress my child is making.	96%	77%	
6	539	- get the services that my child and family need.	96%	77%	
3	559	- figure out solutions to problems as they come up.	96%	76%	
7	559	- feel more confident in my skills as a parent.	96%	76%	

Та	Table 5. Percent of Families Expressing Agreement with IFS Items (continued)				
Item #	Item Calibration	Item Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family:	% Agree in any category	% Strongly/ Very strongly agree	
21	516	- understand my child's special needs. [Indicator 4c]	96%	75%	
13	553	- understand how the Early Intervention system works.	96%	75%	
12	565	- feel that I can get the services and supports that my child and family need.	96%	75%	
4	609	- know where to go for support to meet my child's needs.	96%	74%	
17	556	- communicate more effectively with people who work with my child and family. [Indicator 4b]	96%	73%	
11	540	- do activities that are good for my child even in times of stress.	96%	72%	
10	584	- be more effective in managing my child's behavior.	95%	68%	
5	640	- know where to go for support to meet my family's needs.	95%	68%	
9	577	- make changes in family routines that will benefit my child with special needs.	94%	67%	
2	656	- know about services in the community.	94%	64%	
8	608	- help other children in my family (if there are other children) adjust to their brother's or sister's needs.	93%	63%	
1	678	- participate in typical activities for children and families in my community.	93%	63%	

As seen in the table, 97% of families agreed, with 78%–80% expressing strong or very strong agreement, that Early Intervention services helped them do things with and for their child that are good for their child's development, feel that their efforts are helping their child, and be more hopeful about their child's future.

Approximately 96% of families agreed, with 74%–75% expressing strong or very strong agreement, that Early Intervention services helped them understand how the Early Intervention system works, feel that they can get the services and supports that their child and family need, and know where to go for support to meet their child's needs.

Less agreement was found in other areas. Approximately 93%–94% of families agreed, with 63%–64% expressing strong or very strong agreement, that Early Intervention services helped them know about services in the community, help other children in the family (if there are other children) adjust to their brother's or sister's needs, and participate in typical activities for children and families in their community.

For reference, the frequency distribution of responses to all the items in the IFS is provided in Appendix C.

4.3. Performance of the MDPH: Percent of Families Meeting Each of the Standards for Indicator #4

Table 6 presents the percentage of families having an IFS measure that met or exceeded each of the three standards for Indicator #4, as well as a 95% confidence interval for the true population percentage. When weighted by race/ethnicity and region, the differences in percentage are insignificant compared to the unweighted results.

Note that the confidence interval is asymmetric about the sample percentage, in that there is a greater distance in the confidence interval below the sample percentage than above the sample percentage. The asymmetric confidence interval represents a more accurate confidence interval for percentages than normal distribution-based symmetric confidence intervals (since percentages are bounded between 0 and 100). The asymmetric confidence interval reported here is the score interval proposed by Wilson (1927), and described in greater detail in Agresti (1996) and Penfield (2003).

Table 6. Percent of Respondents Meeting or Exceeding Each of the Standards for Indicator #4				
	Indicator 4a	Indicator 4b	Indicator 4c	
	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them know their rights (Item 19)	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them effectively communicate their children's needs (Item 17)	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them help their children develop and learn (Item 21)	
State Target	90.0%	85.5%	94.0%	
	85.8%	82.1%	93.2%	
Unweighted Percentage	(3,584 of 4,178 met standard)	(3,431 of 4,178 met standard)	(3,893 of 4,178 met standard)	
	CI: 84.7%-86.8%	CI: 80.9%-83.2%	CI: 92.4%–93.9%	
Weighted by Race/Ethnicity and	86.2%	82.9%	93.3%	
Region Percentage	CI: 85.1%–87.2%	CI: 81.7%–84.0%	CI: 92.5%–94.0%	

4.4. Percent of Families Meeting Each of the Standards by Race/Ethnicity

Table 7 presents the percentage of families with measures that met or exceeded each of the three standards, by racial/ethnic category. Please note that the sample was not designed to be representative of race/ethnicity. Therefore, Table 7 is included for illustrative purposes only, as are Tables 8, 9, and 10.

Table 7. Percent of Respondents Meeting or Exceeding Each of the Standards for Indicator #4 by Race/Ethnicity [±]				
	Indicator 4a	Indicator 4b	Indicator 4c	
Race/Ethnicity	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them know their rights (Item 19)	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them effectively communicate their children's needs (Item 17)	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them help their children develop and learn (Item 21)	
American Indian or Alaskan Native (N = 9)	77.8% (7 met standard) CI: 45.3%–93.7%	77.8% (7 met standard) CI: 45.3% - 93.7%	88.9% (8 met standard) CI: 56.5% - 98.0%	
(1. 0)	CI. 45.5%-95.7%	C1. 45.5% - 95.1%	CI. 30.3% - 96.0%	
Asian (<i>N</i> = 224)	82.6% (185 met standard)	76.8% (172 met standard)	89.7% (201 met standard)	
(N - 224)	CI: 77.1%-87.0%	CI: 70.8% - 81.8%	CI: 85.1% - 93.1%	
Black or African American	83.6% (271 met standard)	78.4% (254 met standard)	93.5% (303 met standard)	
(N = 324)	CI: 79.2% - 87.3%	CI: 73.6% - 82.5%	CI: 90.3% - 95.7%	
Hispanic or Latino (N = 792)	85.7% (679 met standard)	83.3% (660 met standard)	93.2% (738 met standard)	
(17 - 102)	CI: 83.1% - 88.0%	CI: 80.6% - 85.8%	CI: 91.2% - 94.7%	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	% (met standard)	% (met standard)	% (met standard)	
(N = 2)	CI:	CI:	CI:	

[±] Data in the three sub-indicator columns have been suppressed as the number of respondents is less than six.

Table 7. Percent of Respondents Meeting or Exceeding Each of the Standards for Indicator #4 by Race/Ethnicity (continued)				
	Indicator 4a	Indicator 4b	Indicator 4c	
Race/Ethnicity	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them know their rights (Item 19)	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them effectively communicate their children's needs (Item 17)	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them help their children develop and learn (Item 21)	
Two or more races	82.5% (439 met standard)	78.0% (415 met standard)	92.3% (491 met standard)	
(N = 532)	CI: 79.1% - 85.5%	CI: 74.3% - 81.3%	CI: 89.7% - 94.3%	
White	87.4% (1,979 met standard)	84.0% (1,902 met standard)	93.7% (2,122 met standard)	
(N = 2,265)	CI: 85.9% - 88.7%	CI: 82.4% - 85.4%	CI: 92.6% - 94.6%	
Missing	76.7% (23 met standard)	66.7% (20 met standard)	93.3% (28 met standard)	
(N = 30)	CI: 59.1% - 88.2%	CI: 48.8% - 80.8%	CI: 78.7% - 98.2%	

4.5. Percent of Families Meeting Each of the Standards by Survey Language

Table 8 presents the percentage of families with measures that met or exceeded each of the three standards by survey language.

Table 8. Percent of Respondents Meeting or Exceeding Each of the Standards for Indicator #4 by Survey Language [±]				
	Indicator 4a	Indicator 4b	Indicator 4c	
Survey Language	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them know their rights (Item 19)	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them effectively communicate their children's needs (Item 17)	Percent of families who report that Early Intervention services helped them help their children develop and learn (Item 21)	
Arabic	%	%	%	
(N = 3)	(met standard) CI	(met standard) CI	(met standard) CI	
Chinese	90.9% (10 met standard)	81.8% (9 met standard)	100% (11 met standard)	
(N = 11)	CI: 62.3% - 98.4%	CI: 52.3% - 94.9%	CI:	
English (<i>N</i> = 3,811)	85.4% (3,255 met standard)	81.6% (3,110 met standard)	93.0% (3,545 met standard)	
(// - 3,011)	CI: 84.3 – 86.5%	CI: 80.3% - 82.8%	CI: 92.2% - 93.8%	
Haitian Creole (N = 45)	77.8% (35 met standard)	71.1% (32 met standard)	88.9% (40 met standard)	
(77 – 43)	CI: 63.7% - 87.5%	CI: 56.6% - 82.3%	CI: 76.5% - 95.2%	
Portuguese (N = 48)	89.6% (43 met standard)	85.4% (41 met standard)	97.9% (47 met standard)	
,	CI: 77.8% - 95.5%	CI: 72.8% - 92.8%	CI: 89.1% - 99.6%	
Spanish (<i>N</i> = 258)	91.9% (237 met standard)	91.1% (235 met standard)	95.0% (245 met standard)	
(200)	CI: 87.9% - 94.6%	CI: 87.0% - 94.0%	CI: 91.6% - 97.0%	
Vietnamese (N = 2)	% (met standard) CI	% (met standard) CI	% (met standard) CI	

[±] Data in the three sub-indicator columns have been suppressed as the number of respondents is less than six.

4.6. Percent of Families Meeting Each of the Standards by Region

Table 9 presents the percentage of families with measures that met or exceeded each of the three standards by region.

Table 9. Percent of Respondents Meeting or Exceeding Each of the Standards for Indicator #4 by Region				
Region	N	Indicator 4a	Indicator 4b	Indicator 4c
Boston	306	84.0%	79.7%	90.5%
Central	727	85.7%	82.1%	93.4%
Metro	406	85.5%	81.5%	91.1%
Northeast	1,120	87.1%	83.6%	93.5%
Southeast	943	87.1%	82.7%	94.6%
West	676	82.8%	80.3%	92.9%

4.7. Percent of Families Meeting Each of the Standards by Program

Table 10 presents the percentage of families with measures that met or exceeded each of the three standards by program.

Table 10. Percent of Respondents Meeting or Exceeding Each of the Standards for Indicator #4 by Program [±]					
Program	N	Indicator 4a	Indicator 4b	Indicator 4c	
Arc of the South Shore/First Early Intervention Program	57	84%	77%	95%	
Aspire Early Intervention (catchment 15)	9	78%	67%	89%	
Aspire Early Intervention Program	262	83%	80%	91%	
Associates for Human Services Taunton Early Intervention Program	256	87%	84%	94%	
BAMSI Early Intervention	131	80%	72%	91%	
Bay Cove Early Intervention	83	77%	73%	88%	
BEAM Early Intervention	14	86%	86%	86%	
Behavioral Health Network EI (BHN Early Intervention)	24	83%	83%	96%	
Behavioral Health Network Holyoke		%	%	%	
Boston Children's Hospital Early Intervention Program	26	88%	88%	92%	
Cambridge/Somerville Early Intervention at Riverside	140	87%	84%	91%	
Center for Human Development Early Intervention Program	57	72%	72%	82%	
Community Healthlink Lipton Early Intervention Program	73	92%	86%	96%	
Criterion Boston Early Intervention Program	46	83%	76%	91%	
Criterion Heritage Early Intervention Program	122	84%	83%	94%	
Criterion Medford Early Intervention Program	41	95%	85%	98%	
Criterion Middlesex Early Intervention Program		%	%	%	
Criterion Riverway Early Intervention Program	9	67%	56%	78%	
Criterion Stoneham Early Intervention Program	54	91%	87%	96%	
Criterion Valley Early Intervention Program	129	76%	73%	88%	
Criterion Wachusett Early Intervention Program	70	91%	90%	94%	
Criterion Worcester Early Intervention Program	44	80%	80%	91%	
Dimock Early Intervention Program	8	75%	75%	75%	
Eliot Malden Early Intervention Program	14	86%	86%	86%	
Empower LGA Early Intervention	48	85%	83%	88%	
Harbor Area Early Intervention/North Suffolk Community Services	133	87%	83%	92%	
Kennedy Donovan Center - Attleboro Early Intervention Program	64	95%	89%	98%	
Kennedy Donovan Center - Cape Cod & Islands Early Intervention Program	67	88%	85%	96%	
Kennedy Donovan Center - Greater Plymouth Early Intervention Program	125	92%	86%	98%	

[±] Data in the three sub-indicator columns have been suppressed as the number of respondents is less than six.

Standards for Indicator #4 by Program (continu	ieu)	In all 1	Locality 4	la di d
Program	N	Indicator 4a	Indicator 4b	Indicator 4c
Kennedy Donovan Center - New Bedford Early Intervention Program	69	91%	90%	97%
Kennedy Donovan Center - South Central Early Intervention Program	90	90%	87%	97%
May Center for El	9	56%	56%	78%
Meeting Street Early Intervention	56	86%	86%	93%
Meeting Street Fall River		%	%	%
Mentor South Bay - Early Childhood, Brockton	57	82%	81%	91%
Mentor South Bay - Early Childhood, Fall River	43	84%	84%	98%
Mentor South Bay - Early Childhood, Framingham	25	96%	92%	96%
Mentor South Bay - Early Childhood, Lawrence	54	80%	74%	89%
Mentor South Bay - Early Childhood, Lowell	39	92%	82%	92%
Mentor South Bay - Early Childhood, Worcester	12	67%	67%	92%
Minute Man Arc Early Intervention Program	62	89%	89%	92%
Northeast Arc EI - Cape Ann	170	91%	87%	96%
Northeast Arc EI - Northshore		89%	85%	93%
Northern Berkshire Early Intervention Program	33	67%	67%	91%
Partners in Child Development Early Intervention	144	87%	84%	94%
Partners in Child Development Greater Lowell Area Early Intervention	14	93%	93%	93%
Pediatric Development Center Early Intervention Program	47	87%	87%	94%
Pediatric Development Center South Early Intervention Program	16	88%	75%	94%
People Incorporated Early Intervention	122	87%	82%	98%
Pernet Early Intervention Program	13	85%	85%	100%
Riverside Early Intervention - Needham	100	88%	85%	94%
Step One Early Intervention Program	78	87%	86%	97%
The Reach Program of ServiceNet	82	82%	80%	93%
Thom Anne Sullivan Center	64	81%	75%	92%
Thom Boston Metro Early Intervention Program	10	100%	90%	100%
Thom Charles River Early Intervention Program	75	81%	77%	92%
Thom Marlboro Area Early Intervention Program	40	83%	78%	88%
Thom Mystic Valley Early Intervention Program	140	94%	91%	96%
Thom Neponset Valley Early Intervention Program	30	80%	67%	83%
Thom Pentucket Area Early Intervention Program	121	83%	83%	92%
Thom Springfield Infant Toddler Services	93	87%	80%	97%
Thom Westfield Infant Toddler Services	54	89%	83%	94%
Thom Worcester Area Early Intervention Program	59	86%	78%	95%

[±] Data in the three sub-indicator columns have been suppressed as the number of respondents is less than six.



Measurement Framework

The measurement approach used by NCSEAM, known as the Rasch framework, applies a series of parametric models to estimate the properties of each survey item and each respondent in a way that places individuals and items on a common metric (Bond & Fox, 2001; Fischer & Molenaar, 1995; Rasch, 1960; Wright & Masters, 1982). The Rasch approach offers many advantages over typical approaches to survey development. First, it is possible to test whether the items administered belong together, that is, whether they are all related to the construct that the scale is supposed to measure. Ongoing confirmation of the fit of the items helps to maintain the quality of the measurement system. It is also possible to test whether the response categories are operating in the expected fashion. Often, the way in which respondents use the response categories does not correspond to the equidistant way in which they are laid out on paper. Extreme categories (e.g., "very strongly disagree") are sometimes used so infrequently that it makes sense to combine them with an adjacent, less extreme, category ("very strongly disagree/strongly disagree").

Second, it is possible to determine where each item is located on the measurement ruler. The item's location is referred to as the item's "calibration." Typically, items in a test or survey are not all equal with respect to the amount of the attribute or quality that the items are measuring. It has been empirically demonstrated, in fact, that items in the IFS are not all of equal agreeability. Items range from those that are most likely to draw "agree" responses to those that are least likely to draw "agree" responses. Highly agreeable items have low calibrations; less agreeable items have higher calibrations. Table 11 displays the IFS items in calibration order.

Table 11	l. IFS Items in	Calibration Order
Item #	Item Calibration	Item Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family:
1	678	- participate in typical activities for children and families in my community.
2	656	– know about services in the community.
5	640	 know where to go for support to meet my family's needs.
4	609	 know where to go for support to meet my child's needs.
8	608	 help other children in my family (if there are other children) adjust to their brother's or sister's needs.
10	584	- be more effective in managing my child's behavior.
9	577	- make changes in family routines that will benefit my child with special needs.
12	565	- feel that I can get the services and supports that my child and family need.
16	562	feel that my family will be accepted and welcomed in the community.
7	559	- feel more confident in my skills as a parent.
3	559	- figure out solutions to problems as they come up.
15	559	feel that my child will be accepted and welcomed in the community.
17	556	communicate more effectively with people who work with my child and family.[Indicator 4b]
13	553	- understand how the Early Intervention system works.
18	546	- understand the roles of the people who work with my child and family.
11	540	 do activities that are good for my child even in times of stress.
6	539	- get the services that my child and family need.
19	539	know about my child's and family's rights concerning Early Intervention services. [Indicator 4a]
14	534	- be able to evaluate how much progress my child is making.
21	516	- understand my child's special needs. [Indicator 4c]
23	508	- be more hopeful about my child's future.
22	498	- feel that my efforts are helping my child.
20	498	- do things with and for my child that are good for my child's development.

The fact that items have highly stable calibrations (agreeability levels) regardless of the population that is asked to respond to the items is a very important attribute of well-constructed measurement scales. This stability means that items with similar calibrations are, for all intents and purposes, interchangeable. As an example, this is why the SAT is the "same" test each time it is administered, even though it contains different items each time. The score achieved on any particular version of the SAT is comparable to the score achieved on any other version. Thus, a state can change some of the items on the survey from year to year, and still have validly comparable IFS measures across successive years.

Third, a Rasch analysis condenses information from a person's responses to all the items in a scale into a single number. That number is the person's measure on the scale. Since the Rasch framework puts measures on the same metric as item calibrations, a person's measure on a scale can be meaningfully interpreted in terms of the items on the scale. A person with a higher measure is expressing more agreement with items, overall, than a person with a lower measure. When IFS measures from a representative sample of parents are aggregated, the average value represents a reliable and highly interpretable measure of the extent to which Early Intervention services have helped the family know their rights, effectively communicate their children's needs, and help their children develop and learn.

Fourth, a Rasch analysis yields an estimate of the reliability of both the calibration values (related to the items) and the measures (related to people's responses). Scientific approaches to measurement require that the amount of "error," or imprecision, in the system be estimated, so that interpretations based on the measures can take this into consideration.

For a more detailed explanation of these concepts, please refer to Bond and Fox (2001) and Wright and Masters (1982).



Results Pertaining to the Psychometric Properties of the Impact On Families Scale (IFS)

6.1. Psychometric Properties of the IFS Measures

In assessing the quality of the person-level measures derived from the IFS, it is germane to consider the issues of reliability and validity. The reliability of the obtained IFS measures pertains to the extent to which a particular individual is expected to attain the same IFS measure if the IFS were to be administered to the individual multiple times. That is, reliability concerns the stability of the IFS measure¹ (Crocker & Algina, 1986; Lord, 1980; Traub, 1994); low reliability coincides with a low level of stability, and high reliability coincides with a high level of stability. Reliability can range from 0 (lack of any stability) to 1 (perfect stability). In contrast to reliability, the validity of the IFS measures concerns the extent to which they are actually representative of the intended trait (i.e., level of impact on family).² The validity of the IFS measures can be assessed using numerous approaches, several of which are described below.

Statistics used to express measurement reliability range from 0 (indicating lack of any stability) to 1 (indicating perfect stability). The reliability of the IFS measures for the Massachusetts sample was measured in the Rasch framework to be .89. An alternative approach to estimating the reliability of the IFS measures is to employ Cronbach's alpha, which makes no assumptions about the fit of the responses to any particular model (Cronbach's alpha is based on the simpler true score model, and is commonly used in the behavioral sciences as a model-free index of reliability). The value of Cronbach's alpha was .99, which is consistent with the value of .89 obtained from the Rasch analysis. These results suggest that the measures obtained from the IFS serve as stable measures of the underlying trait.

¹ A definition of reliability that is more theoretically accurate describes reliability as the extent to which a given respondent's measure is determined by random error versus his or her true level of the trait being measured; low reliability coincides with a high level of measurement error, and high reliability coincides with a high low level of measurement error (Crocker & Algina, 1986; Lord, 1980; Traub, 1994).

² This definition of validity is a simplification of the definition now endorsed by the technical measurement community. The contemporary definition of validity describes it as the extent to which evidence and theory support the interpretations of the scale measures entailed by the proposed use of the scale (AERA/APA/NCME, 1999; Osterlind, 2006). That is, the validity of the IFS measures is based on how much evidence we have that the measures support the intended purposes of the use of the measures (i.e., are the measures behaving as they are supposed to behave, and leading to the correct decisions about individuals).

Support for the validity of the measures obtained by the IFS comes from several lines of evidence. First, items for the IFS were developed in consultation with multiple groups of individuals, including parents of children with disabilities, state directors of special education, state early intervention coordinators, district and program personnel, advocates, attorneys, and community representatives, with direct and extensive experience related to early intervention programs' facilitation of positive family outcomes. A subsequent review of the items by expert panels, researchers, and NCSEAM's Parent/Family Involvement Workgroup confirmed that the item content maps onto the intended content domain of the IFS. Second, dimensionality analysis (i.e., principal components analysis and factor analysis) indicates that the items of the IFS are all measuring one primary construct, which is likely the intended one (i.e., positive family outcomes achieved as a result of Early Intervention services). A third line of evidence is related to a characteristic of items known as discrimination, discussed in Section 6.2. The high discrimination indices of the IFS items (see Table 12) indicate that the items provide useful information concerning the construct that is intended to be measured. All of these types of evidence support the claim that the measures obtained using the IFS are valid.

6.2. Psychometric Properties of the IFS Items

Table 12 gives the calibration of each item along with indices of the item's fit to the Rasch model. The column labeled "Item Calibration" provides the value of the location parameter of the item. The higher the value of the item calibration, the greater the overall positive impact of Early Intervention services on family outcomes. The "Infit" and "Outfit" columns provide two measures of how well the Rasch model fits the responses provided to each item. In general, values of 1.0 indicate a very good fit. Values approaching 2, or less than 0.5, suggest a poorer fit (Bond & Fox, 2001).

The rightmost column of the table presents an index of discrimination for each item, calculated as the corrected item-total correlation coefficient. The values in this column are all quite high (≥0.81), indicating that each item is discriminating well between respondents who had more positive versus more negative perceptions of early intervention programs' facilitation of positive family outcomes.

Table 12. Calibi	ration, Fit, and Disc	crimination of the I	FS Items	
Item #	Item Calibration	Infit	Outfit	Discrimination
Q1	677.5	1.95	2.04	0.81
Q2	656.0	1.49	1.62	0.83
Q3	559.2	0.88	0.90	0.84
Q4	608.8	1.03	0.96	0.85
Q5	639.8	1.14	1.14	0.86
Q6	539.0	0.85	0.84	0.84
Q7	559.3	0.81	0.86	0.85
Q8	608.2	1.25	1.47	0.85
Q9	576.8	1.00	1.06	0.87
Q10	583.5	0.85	0.92	0.88
Q11	540.4	0.90	1.00	0.87
Q12	564.5	0.64	0.61	0.87
Q13	552.9	0.75	0.89	0.85
Q14	534.4	0.71	0.74	0.85
Q15	559.1	0.69	0.73	0.85
Q16	562.2	0.66	0.69	0.86
Q17	555.9	0.63	0.62	0.87
Q18	545.5	0.70	0.80	0.88
Q19	538.9	0.84	0.93	0.86
Q20	497.8	0.77	0.66	0.84
Q21	516.1	0.93	1.18	0.86
Q22	498.1	0.89	1.10	0.85
Q23	507.5	0.84	0.94	0.84

While items Q1 and Q2 ("Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family participate in typical activities for children and families in my community." and "Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family know about services in the community.") display less than ideal levels of fit, they nevertheless have relatively strong discrimination indices, which provide evidence that they are useful items. Therefore, these items appear to be measuring the intended construct relatively well, but are not a very good fit for the Rasch framework, which employs specific assumptions concerning the properties of the items. The poor fit of items #1 and #2 make them possible candidates for revision and/or replacement in future administrations of the SEPPS.



Calibration Methodology for the IFS

The Rasch calibrations of the IFS were conducted using the Winsteps software program. All items were fit using the Rating Scale Model (Wright & Masters, 1982). The metric of the calibration was set by equating the items in relation to the calibrated values obtained by Dr. William Fisher, consultant to NCSEAM, for a large dataset of five states. The mean and logit scale of the current calibration were also set equal to those generated in the larger analysis on five states conducted by Dr. Fisher. These equating procedures were conducted so that the scale measures obtained in the current calibration have equivalent meanings to those of other states' data.

Based on the analysis of the current data and the results of Dr. Fisher's combined multi-state analysis, it was decided to combine the response categories "very strongly disagree" and "strongly disagree" into a single category. The rationale for combining the two categories was based on two factors: (a) low response rates (i.e., < 5%) in these two categories making their corresponding threshold parameter estimates relatively unstable, and (b) the two category threshold estimates were not far enough apart to indicate that the two categories served to meaningfully distinguish between individuals having substantially different levels of the trait being measured. As a result, the final analysis was based on a five-category response structure for each item. The control file used in the current analysis is given in Appendix D. Selected output related to the Rasch analysis of the IFS is given in Appendix E.



Description of Weighted Proportions and Means

The obtained sample mean value of IFS may become a biased estimate of the true population mean if the sample used to compute the mean is not representative of the population as a whole with respect to key demographic variables. For example, if the distribution of race/ethnicity in the sample is not representative of that in the population as a whole, the resulting sample mean may not be representative of the overall population mean. As a result of this effect, it is often of interest to obtain a sample mean that weights the contribution of each relevant demographic group (e.g., racial/ethnic group, region) according to the weight attributed to that group in the population. Such a mean is called a weighted mean. To obtain a mean value of IFS measures that is weighted with respect to the race/ethnicity and primary exceptionality of the population, the following procedures are followed. First, the mean IFS measure for each combination of race/ethnicity category (i.e., White, Black/African-American, etc.) and region category (e.g., Boston, Central, etc.) is obtained for the sample. Then, the sample mean for each combination of race/ethnicity and region is multiplied by the proportion of the population classified as the particular combination of race/ethnicity and region categories (these proportions are referred to hereafter as the categoryspecific population proportions). Next, the category-level products (sample mean for the category multiplied by the corresponding category-specific population proportion) are summed. Finally, this sum is divided by the sum of the category-level population proportions for which data exists in the sample to yield the final weighted mean.

A similar procedure would be used to obtain a weighted percentage meeting the criteria associated with the standards for Indicator #4 (a, b, and c), with the exception that the sample mean for each race/ethnicity category would be replaced by the sample percentage meeting each of the three standards for each combination of race/ethnicity category and region category.

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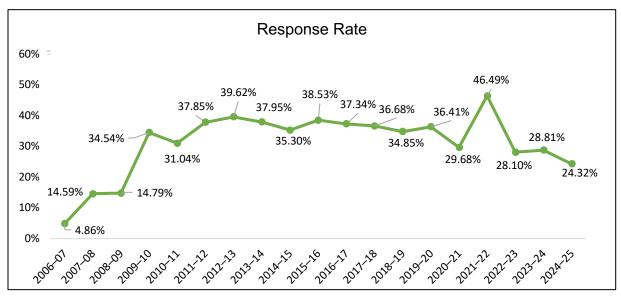
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APPENDIX A: LONGITUDINAL FIGURES

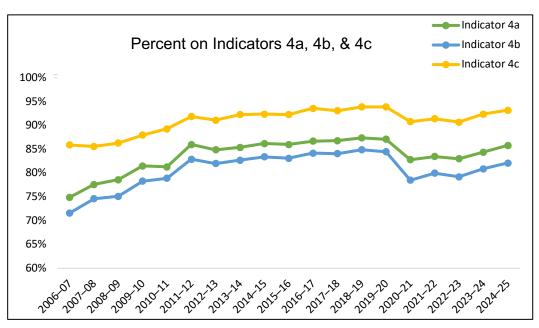
Response Rates 2006–2025

Fiscal Year	Surveys Distributed	Surveys Completed	Response Rate
2006–07	13,675	665	4.86%
2007–08	15,350	2,239	14.59%
2008–09	15,350	2,270	14.79%
2009–10	11,057	3,819	34.54%
2010–11	8,943	2,776	31.04%
2011–12	9,114	3,450	37.85%
2012–13	9,664	3,829	39.62%
2013–14	10,514	3,990	37.95%
2014–15	11,133	3,930	35.30%
2015–16	12,328	4,750	38.53%
2016–17	12,180	4,548	37.34%
2017–18	12,161	4,461	36.68%
2018–19	13,542	4,719	34.85%
2019–20	3,337	1,215	36.41%
2020–21	8,283	2,458	29.68%
2021–22	6,074	2,804	46.16%
2022–23	13,872	3,898	28.10%
2023–24	15,031	4,331	28.81%
2024–25	17,176	4,178	24.32%



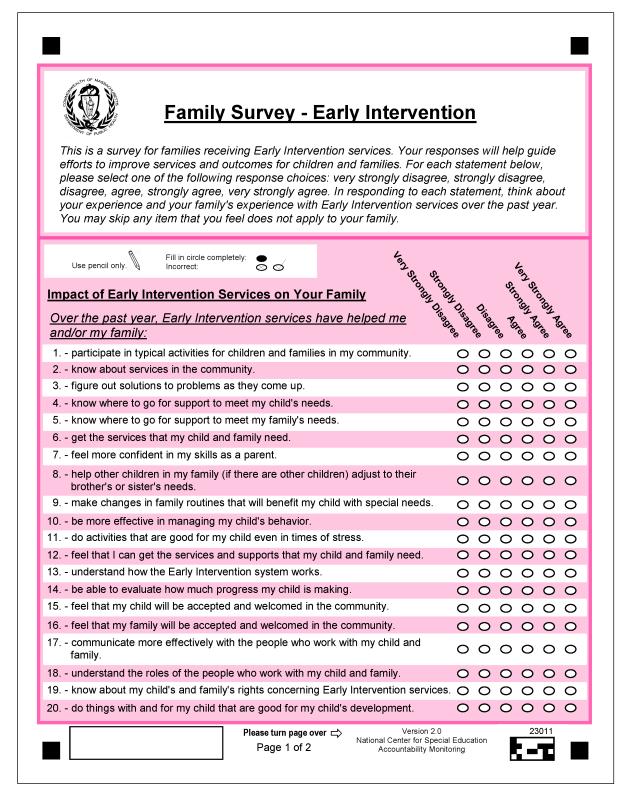
Indicator 4 Percentages 2006–2025

Fiscal Year	Indicator 4a	Indicator 4b	Indicator 4c
2006–07	74.9%	71.6%	85.9%
2007–08	77.6%	74.6%	85.6%
2008–09	78.6%	75.1%	86.3%
2009–10	81.5%	78.3%	88.0%
2010–11	81.3%	78.9%	89.3%
2011–12	86.0%	82.9%	91.9%
2012–13	84.9%	82.0%	91.1%
2013–14	85.4%	82.7%	92.3%
2014–15	86.2%	83.4%	92.4%
2015–16	86.0%	83.1%	92.3%
2016–17	86.7%	84.2%	93.6%
2017–18	86.8%	84.1%	93.1%
2018–19	87.4%	84.9%	93.9%
2019–20	87.1%	84.5%	93.9%
2020–21	82.8%	78.5%	90.8%
2021–22	83.5%	80.0%	91.4%
2022–23	83.0%	79.2%	90.7%
2023–24	84.4%	80.9%	92.4%
2024–25	85.8%	82.1%	93.2%





APPENDIX B: SAMPLE FAMILY SURVEY



	Services on Your Family (cont.) Vention services have helped me eeds.
21 understand my child's special no22 feel that my efforts are helping r23 be more hopeful about my child	ny child.
24. Child's Age at Time of Survey Completion O Birth to 1 year O 1 - 2 years O 2 - 3 years O Over 3 years	25. Child's Age When First Referred to Early Intervention O Birth to 1 year O 1 - 2 years O 2 - 3 years
	Version 2.0 23011 National Center for Special Education

APPENDIX C: RESPONSE FREQUENCIES BY ITEM

Q1 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family participate in typical activities for children and families in my community.

			,		Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	101	2.4	2.5	2.5
	Strongly Disagree	40	1.0	1.0	3.4
	Disagree	143	3.4	3.5	6.9
	Agree	1249	29.9	30.4	37.3
	Strongly Agree	814	19.5	19.8	57.0
	Very Strongly Agree	1767	42.3	43.0	100.0
	Total	4114	98.5	100.0	
Missing	System	64	1.5		
Total	•	4178	100.0		

Q2 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family know about services in the community.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Vary Strangly Diagram	<u> </u>			
valid	Very Strongly Disagree	85	2.0	2.1	2.1
	Strongly Disagree	36	0.9	0.9	2.9
	Disagree	137	3.3	3.3	6.3
	Agree	1238	29.6	30.0	36.2
	Strongly Agree	954	22.8	23.1	59.4
	Very Strongly Agree	1677	40.1	40.6	100.0
	Total	4127	98.8	100.0	
Missing	System	51	1.2		
Total		4178	100.0		

Q3 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family figure out solutions to problems as they come up.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	93	2.2	2.2	2.2
	Strongly Disagree	18	0.4	0.4	2.7
	Disagree	37	0.9	0.9	3.6
	Agree	845	20.2	20.3	23.9
	Strongly Agree	994	23.8	23.9	47.8
	Very Strongly Agree	2173	52.0	52.2	100.0
	Total	4160	99.6	100.0	
Missing	System	18	0.4		
Total		4178	100.0		

Q4 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family know where to go for support to meet my child's needs.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	87	2.1	2.1	2.1
	Strongly Disagree	24	0.6	0.6	2.7
	Disagree	62	1.5	1.5	4.2
	Agree	920	22.0	22.2	26.4
	Strongly Agree	914	21.9	22.1	48.5
	Very Strongly Agree	2134	51.1	51.5	100.0
	Total	4141	99.1	100.0	
Missing	System	37	0.9		
Total		4178	100.0		

Q5 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family know where to go for support to meet my family's needs.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	85	2.0	2.1	2.1
	Strongly Disagree	29	0.7	0.7	2.8
	Disagree	107	2.6	2.6	5.4
	Agree	1086	26.0	26.3	31.7
	Strongly Agree	866	20.7	21.0	52.7
	Very Strongly Agree	1949	46.6	47.3	100.0
	Total	4122	98.7	100.0	
Missing	System	56	1.3		
Total	-	4178	100.0		

Q6 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family get the services that my child and family need.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	88	2.1	2.1	2.1
	Strongly Disagree	16	0.4	0.4	2.5
	Disagree	49	1.2	1.2	3.7
	Agree	823	19.7	19.8	23.5
	Strongly Agree	850	20.3	20.4	43.9
	Very Strongly Agree	2332	55.8	56.1	100.0
	Total	4158	99.5	100.0	
Missing	System	20	0.5		
Total	•	4178	100.0		

Q7 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family feel more confident in my skills as a parent.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	84	2.0	2.0	2.0
	Strongly Disagree	21	0.5	0.5	2.5
	Disagree	60	1.4	1.4	4.0
	Agree	840	20.1	20.2	24.2
	Strongly Agree	948	22.7	22.8	47.1
	Very Strongly Agree	2197	52.6	52.9	100.0
	Total	4150	99.3	100.0	
Missing	System	28	0.7		
Total		4178	100.0		

Q8 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family help other children in my family (if there are other children) adjust to their brother's or sister's needs.

					Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	83	2.0	2.2	2.2
	Strongly Disagree	26	0.6	0.7	2.9
	Disagree	168	4.0	4.5	7.5
	Agree	1103	26.4	29.8	37.3
	Strongly Agree	700	16.8	18.9	56.3
	Very Strongly Agree	1616	38.7	43.7	100.0
	Total	3696	88.5	100.0	
Missing	System	482	11.5		
Total		4178	100.0		

Q9 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family make changes in family routines that will benefit my child with special needs.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	93	2.2	2.4	2.4
	Strongly Disagree	24	0.6	0.6	3.0
	Disagree	105	2.5	2.7	5.6
	Agree	1075	25.7	27.2	32.8
	Strongly Agree	841	20.1	21.3	54.0
	Very Strongly Agree	1818	43.5	46.0	100.0
	Total	3956	94.7	100.0	
Missing	System	222	5.3		
Total		4178	100.0		

Q10 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family be more effective in managing my child's behavior.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	89	2.1	2.2	2.2
	Strongly Disagree	26	0.6	0.6	2.8
	Disagree	87	2.1	2.1	5.0
	Agree	1103	26.4	27.0	32.0
	Strongly Agree	917	21.9	22.5	54.5
	Very Strongly Agree	1856	44.4	45.5	100.0
	Total	4078	97.6	100.0	
Missing	System	100	2.4		
Total	-	4178	100.0		

Q11 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family do activities that are good for my child even in times of stress.

		_			Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	91	2.2	2.2	2.2
	Strongly Disagree	19	0.5	0.5	2.7
	Disagree	61	1.5	1.5	4.2
	Agree	963	23.0	23.4	27.6
	Strongly Agree	947	22.7	23.1	50.7
	Very Strongly Agree	2026	48.5	49.3	100.0
	Total	4107	98.3	100.0	
Missing	System	71	1.7		
Total	•	4178	100.0		

Q12 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family feel that I can get the services and supports that my child and family need.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	81	1.9	1.9	1.9
	Strongly Disagree	17	0.4	0.4	2.4
	Disagree	57	1.4	1.4	3.7
	Agree	904	21.6	21.8	25.5
	Strongly Agree	910	21.8	21.9	47.4
	Very Strongly Agree	2185	52.3	52.6	100.0
	Total	4154	99.4	100.0	
Missing	System	24	0.6		
Total	•	4178	100.0		

Q13 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family understand how the Early Intervention system works.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	81	1.9	1.9	1.9
	Strongly Disagree	21	0.5	0.5	2.5
	Disagree	45	1.1	1.1	3.5
	Agree	882	21.1	21.2	24.7
	Strongly Agree	935	22.4	22.5	47.2
	Very Strongly Agree	2197	52.6	52.8	100.0
	Total	4161	99.6	100.0	
Missing	System	17	0.4		
Total		4178	100.0		

Q14 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family be able to evaluate how much progress my child is making.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	84	2.0	2.0	2.0
	Strongly Disagree	20	0.5	0.5	2.5
	Disagree	44	1.1	1.1	3.6
	Agree	809	19.4	19.4	23.0
	Strongly Agree	912	21.8	21.9	44.9
	Very Strongly Agree	2292	54.9	55.1	100.0
	Total	4161	99.6	100.0	
Missing	System	17	0.4		
Total	-	4178	100.0		

Q15 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family feel that my child will be accepted and welcomed in the community.

					Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	82	2.0	2.0	2.0
	Strongly Disagree	15	0.4	0.4	2.4
	Disagree	35	0.8	0.9	3.2
	Agree	860	20.6	20.9	24.1
	Strongly Agree	864	20.7	21.0	45.1
	Very Strongly Agree	2258	54.0	54.9	100.0
	Total	4114	98.5	100.0	
Missing	System	64	1.5		
Total	-	4178	100.0		

Cumulative

Q16 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family feel that my family will be accepted and welcomed in the community.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	84	2.0	2.1	2.1
	Strongly Disagree	12	0.3	0.3	2.3
	Disagree	38	0.9	0.9	3.3
	Agree	919	22.0	22.4	25.7
	Strongly Agree	848	20.3	20.7	46.4
	Very Strongly Agree	2196	52.6	53.6	100.0
	Total	4097	98.1	100.0	
Missing	System	81	1.9		
Total	-	4178	100.0		

Q17 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family communicate more effectively with people who work with my child and family.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	82	2.0	2.0	2.0
	Strongly Disagree	13	0.3	0.3	2.3
	Disagree	50	1.2	1.2	3.5
	Agree	966	23.1	23.5	27.0
	Strongly Agree	877	21.0	21.3	48.4
	Very Strongly Agree	2123	50.8	51.6	100.0
	Total	4111	98.4	100.0	
Missing	System	67	1.6		
Total		4178	100.0		

Q18 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family understand the

roles of the people who work with my child and family.

					Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	81	1.9	2.0	2.0
	Strongly Disagree	15	0.4	0.4	2.3
	Disagree	47	1.1	1.1	3.5
	Agree	990	23.7	24.0	27.5
	Strongly Agree	935	22.4	22.7	50.2
	Very Strongly Agree	2051	49.1	49.8	100.0
	Total	4119	98.6	100.0	
Missing	System	59	1.4		
Total		4178	100.0		

Q19 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family know about my child's and family's rights concerning Early Intervention services.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	79	1.9	1.9	1.9
	Strongly Disagree	21	0.5	0.5	2.4
	Disagree	44	1.1	1.1	3.5
	Agree	991	23.7	23.9	27.4
	Strongly Agree	879	21.0	21.2	48.6
	Very Strongly Agree	2129	51.0	51.4	100.0
	Total	4143	99.2	100.0	
Missing	System	35	0.8		
Total		4178	100.0		

Q20 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family do things with and for my child that are good for my child's development.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	85	2.0	2.0	2.0
	Strongly Disagree	12	0.3	0.3	2.3
	Disagree	16	0.4	0.4	2.7
	Agree	701	16.8	16.8	19.5
	Strongly Agree	860	20.6	20.7	40.2
	Very Strongly Agree	2490	59.6	59.8	100.0
	Total	4164	99.7	100.0	
Missing	System	14	0.3		
Total	-	4178	100.0		

Q21 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family understand my child's special needs.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	79	1.9	2.0	2.0
	Strongly Disagree	13	0.3	0.3	2.3
	Disagree	55	1.3	1.4	3.6
	Agree	875	20.9	21.6	25.3
	Strongly Agree	845	20.2	20.9	46.1
	Very Strongly Agree	2180	52.2	53.9	100.0
	Total	4047	96.9	100.0	
Missing	System	131	3.1		
Total		4178	100.0		

Q22 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family feel that my efforts are helping my child.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	81	1.9	2.0	2.0
	Strongly Disagree	16	0.4	0.4	2.3
	Disagree	28	0.7	0.7	3.0
	Agree	767	18.4	18.5	21.5
	Strongly Agree	886	21.2	21.4	42.9
	Very Strongly Agree	2365	56.6	57.1	100.0
	Total	4143	99.2	100.0	
Missing	System	35	0.8		
Total	-	4178	100.0		

Q23 - Over the past year, Early Intervention services have helped me and/or my family be more hopeful about my child's future.

					Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	Very Strongly Disagree	83	2.0	2.0	2.0
	Strongly Disagree	12	0.3	0.3	2.3
	Disagree	30	0.7	0.7	3.0
	Agree	773	18.5	18.8	21.9
	Strongly Agree	859	20.6	20.9	42.8
	Very Strongly Agree	2352	56.3	57.2	100.0
	Total	4109	98.3	100.0	
Missing	System	69	1.7		
Total	•	4178	100.0		

Q24 - Child's Age at Time of Survey Completion

	ommu o o nego un m		o o p. o t. o		
					Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	Birth to 1 Yr	384	9.2	9.2	9.2
	1-2 Yrs	1,412	33.8	34.0	43.2
	2-3 Yrs	2,250	53.9	54.2	97.4
	Over 3 Yrs	107	2.6	2.6	100.0
	Missing	25	0.6		
	Total	4,178	100.0	100.0	

Q25 - Child's Age When First Referred to Early Intervention

			_		Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	Birth to 1 Yr	2,315	55.4	55.9	55.9
	1-2 Yrs	1,598	38.2	38.6	94.5
	2-3 Yrs	229	5.5	5.5	100.0
	Missing	36	0.9		
	Total	4,178	100.0	100.0	

Q28 - Do you think your race, skin color, ethnicity or language you speak affect the Early Intervention services you and your child receive?

	•				Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	Yes	74	1.8	1.8	1.8
	No	4,085	97.8	98.2	100.0
	Missing	19	0.5		
	Total	4,178	100.0	100.0	



APPENDIX D: WINSTEPS CONTROL FILE

```
&INST ; THIS FILE MUST BE SAVED AS ASCII DOS TEXT BEFORE USE WITH WINSTEPS
Title="MA Impact on Families Scale: June 2025, parameters fixed to 2010 values"
ITEM1=2
DELIMITER=TAB ;
                       specifies a tab as a delimiter
;FITI=7
;FITP=7
ITLEN=15 ; max length of item label
LCONV=0.0001
RCONV=0.001
RESCOR=2
NEWSCR="112345"
DATA=C:\Users\13059\OneDrive\Documents\Consulting\Massechussets\2025C\MA C 2025 Data.txt; Name of
data file
NI=23
XWIDE = 1
CODES = "123456"
IAFILE=*
1 677.5
2 656.0
3 559.2 ; fixed to 2010 value
4 608.8
5 639.8
6 539.0
7 559.3
8 608.2 ; fixed to 2010 value
9 576.8
10 583.5
11 540.4
12 564.5
13 552.9
14 534.4
15 559.1
16 562.2
17 555.9
18 545.5
19 538.9
20 497.8
21 516.1
22 498.1
23 507.5 ; fixed to 2010 value
SAFILE=*
 2 = -220.93
 3 = -147.88
 4 = 55.95
 5 = 128.99
NAME1 = 1; Column containing person name
NAMLEN = 15; Length of person name
PRCOMP=S
UDECIM=2
UMEAN=568.3
USCALE=58.91
CSV=S
HLINES=N
IFILE=ItemStats.sav ; Name of file containing item-level statistics
PFILE=PersonStats.sav ; Name of file containing person-level statistics
TABLES=1110000001001100000000100011
&END
Q1
Q2
Q3
Q4
```

Q5 Q6 Q7 Q8 Q9 Q10 Q11 Q12 Q13 Q14 Q15 Q16 Q17 Q18 Q19 Q20 Q21 Q22 Q23 END NAMES



APPENDIX E: SELECTED WINSTEPS OUTPUT

TABLE 1.2 MA Impact on Families Scale: June 2025 ZOU700WS.TXTf Jun 10 2025 18:33s INPUT: 4178 PERSON 23 ITEM REPORTED: 4178 PERSON 23 ITEM 5 CATS WINSTEPS 4.4.7

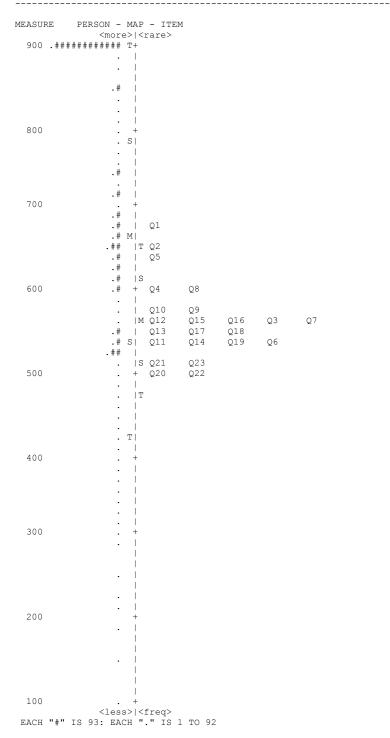


TABLE 3.1 MA Impact on Families Scale: June 2025 ZOU700WS.TXTf Jun 10 2025 18:33s INPUT: 4178 PERSON 23 ITEM REPORTED: 4178 PERSON 23 ITEM 5 CATS WINSTEPS 4.4.7

SUMMARY OF 3023 MEASURED (NON-EXTREME) PERSON

	TOTAL			REAL	II	NFIT	OUTE	'IT	-
	SCORE	COUNT	MEASURE	S.E.	MNSQ	ZSTD	MNSQ	ZSTD	
									-
MEAN	88.9	22.5	664.01	26.49	.98	40	.98	39	
SEM	.3	.0	2.18	.22	.01	.04	.01	.04	-
P.SD	17.9	1.6	119.86	11.84	.66	2.01	.80	1.93	-
S.SD	17.9	1.6	119.88	11.84	.66	2.01	.80	1.93	-
MAX.	114.0	23.0	897.30	80.68	9.90	9.91	9.90	9.91	-
MIN.	4.0	1.0	145.63	17.70	.00	-6.11	.00	-5.69	-
									-
REAL	RMSE 29.02	TRUE SD	116.29 SE	PARATION	4.01 PE	RSON REL	IABILITY	.94	-
MODEL	RMSE 26.31	TRUE SD	116.93 SE	PARATION	4.45 PE	RSON REL	IABILITY	.95	-
S.E.	OF PERSON ME	2AN = 2.18	8						-

MAXIMUM EXTREME SCORE: 1081 PERSON 25.9% MINIMUM EXTREME SCORE: 74 PERSON 1.8%

SUMMARY OF 4178 MEASURED (EXTREME AND NON-EXTREME) PERSON

	TOTAL			REAL		INFIT	OUT	FIT
	SCORE	COUNT	MEASURE	S.E.	М	NSQ Z	STD MNSQ	ZSTD
MEAN	94.2	22.6	732.45	49.08				
SEM	.3	.0	2.93	.59				1
P.SD	21.3	1.5	189.60	37.90				1
S.SD	21.3	1.5	189.62	37.90				1
MAX.	115.0	23.0	969.87	110.96				1
MIN.	4.0	1.0	73.62	17.70				1
REAL	RMSE 62.01	TRUE SD	179.18 SEI	PARATION	2.89	PERSON	RELIABILIT	Y .89
MODEL	RMSE 61.12	TRUE SD	179.48 SEI	PARATION	2.94	PERSON	RELIABILIT	Y .90
S.E.	OF PERSON ME	2AN = 2.9	3					1

PERSON RAW SCORE-TO-MEASURE CORRELATION = .93
CRONBACH ALPHA (KR-20) PERSON RAW SCORE "TEST" RELIABILITY = .99 SEM = 1.85

SUMMARY OF 23 MEASURED (NON-EXTREME) ITEM

		TOTAL SCORE	COUNT	MEASUI	REAL RE S.E.	II MNSQ	NFIT ZSTD	OUTF MNSQ	IT ZSTD	
i	MEAN SEM P.SD S.SD MAX. MIN.	744.4 761.1 18122.0	4101.4 20.8 97.5 99.7 4164.0	564.4 9.8 46.2 47.2 677.5	85 .03 20 .13 24 .13 50 2.38		-3.87 1.37 6.41 6.55 9.90	.07 .33 .34 2.04	-1.33 1.22 5.73 5.86	
· 	REAL MODEL	RMSE 1.92	TRUE SD	46.16	80 1.80 	24.07 ITE	EM REL	IABILITY	1.00	- į

ITEM RAW SCORE-TO-MEASURE CORRELATION = -.65 Global statistics: please see Table 44.

UMEAN=568.3000 USCALE=58.9100

TABLE 3.2 MA Impact on Families Scale: June 2025 ZOU700WS.TXTf Jun 10 2025 18:33s INPUT: 4178 PERSON 23 ITEM REPORTED: 4178 PERSON 23 ITEM 5 CATS WINSTEPS 4.4.7

SUMMARY OF CATEGORY STRUCTURE. Model="R"

									_
CATEGORY	Z	OBSERV	/ED OBSVD	SAMPLE	INFIT	OUTFIT	ANDRICH	CATEGORY	
					_				
			+	+		++		+	
1	1	2427	3 -213.1	-250	1.29	1.36	NONE	-295.89)	1
2	2	1505	2 -86.49	-171	1.12	1.16	-220.93A	-185.38	3
3	3	21682	23 -2.41	4.23	1.00	1.21	-147.88A	-45.97	4
4	4	20355	22 96.41	83.76	.88	.80	55.95A	93.44	5
5	5	48363	51 219.19	230.5	.95	1.01	128.99A	(203.95)	6
			+	+		++		+	1
MISSING	3	1762	2 100.39	I		11		1	I
	LABEL 1 2 3 4 5	1 1 2 2 3 3 4 4 4 5 5 5	1 1 2427 2 2 1505 3 3 21682 4 4 20355 5 5 48363	LABEL SCORE COUNT % AVRGE 1 1 2427 3 -213.1 2 2 1505 2 -86.49 3 3 21682 23 -2.41 4 4 20355 22 96.41 5 5 48363 51 219.19	LABEL SCORE COUNT % AVRGE EXPECT 1 1 2427 3 -213.1 -250 2 2 1505 2 -86.49 -171 3 3 21682 23 -2.41 4.23 4 4 20355 22 96.41 83.76 5 5 48363 51 219.19 230.5	LABEL SCORE COUNT % AVRGE EXPECT MNSQ 1 1 2427 3 -213.1 -250 1.29 2 2 1505 2 -86.49 -171 1.12 3 3 21682 23 -2.41 4.23 1.00 4 4 20355 22 96.41 83.76 .88 5 5 48363 51 219.19 230.5 .95	LABEL SCORE COUNT % AVRGE EXPECT MNSQ MNSQ 1 1 2427 3 -213.1 -250 1.29 1.36 2 2 1505 2 -86.49 -171 1.12 1.16 3 3 21682 23 -2.41 4.23 1.00 1.21 4 4 20355 22 96.41 83.76 .88 .80 5 5 48363 51 219.19 230.5 .95 1.01	LABEL SCORE COUNT % AVRGE EXPECT MNSQ MNSQ THRESHOLD 1 1 2427 3 -213.1 -250 1.29 1.36 NONE 2 2 1505 2 -86.49 -171 1.12 1.16 -220.93A 3 3 21682 23 -2.41 4.23 1.00 1.21 -147.88A 4 4 20355 22 96.41 83.76 .88 .80 55.95A 5 5 48363 51 219.19 230.5 .95 1.01 128.99A	4 4 20355 22 96.41 83.76 .88 .80 55.95A 93.44

OBSERVED AVERAGE is mean of measures in category. It is not a parameter estimate.

i	CATEGORY LABEL	MEASURE	S.E.	AT CAT.	ZC	ONE		M->	C C->M	RMSR	DISCR	RESIDUAL	D-EXPECTED DIFFERENCE	
i	1 2	NONE		-295.89)	-INF -	-247.18		78	% 43%	1.2139	i i	-13.3%	-97.8	1
	3	-147.88A	1.20	-45.97-	127.29	35.36	-137.31 45.39	74	% 68%	.5964	1.21		1410.5	4
	5	128.99A	.67	(203.95)	155.24	+INF	141.46	81	§ 77%	.5224	1.01	-9.0%	-2138.0	6

M->C = Does Measure imply Category? C->M = Does Category imply Measure?

Category Matr P	ix : Confusion		_	ix		
Obs Cat Freq	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1 2 3 4 5	2032.00 149.31 306.03 28.48 8.96	190.05 368.92 2146.69 360.30 66.60	159.29 768.46 12074.57 5740.40 1528.81	33.05 171.18 5254.73 7630.04 4813.14	12.60 47.13 1899.99 6595.78 41945.49	2427.00 1505.00 21682.00 20355.00 48363.00
+- Total	2524.78	3132.56	20271.53	17902.13	50500.99	94332.00

CATEGORY PROBABILITIES: MODES - Andrich thresholds at intersections 1.0 + 55 33 .6 22 0 32 4 3 5 4 35 4 53 2 3 1 2 44
22 3 11 224
'2 33 1 44422
333 1*** 2** .2 + 2*** -400 -300 -200 -100 100 PERSON [MINUS] ITEM MEASURE

TABLE 10.1 MA Impact on Families Scale: June 202 ZOU700WS.TXT Jun 10 2025 18:33es INPUT: 4178 PERSON 23 ITEM REPORTED: 4178 PERSON 23 ITEM 5 CATS WINSTEPS 4.4.7

PERSON: REAL SEP.: 2.89 REL.: .89 ... ITEM: REAL SEP.: 24.07 REL.: 1.00

ITEM STATISTICS: MISFIT ORDER

ENTRY NUMBER	TOTAL SCORE		MEASURE	REAL S.E. MNS				CORR.		OBS%			ITEM	-
1	16265	4114	677.50A	2.38 1.9	5 9.90	12.04	9.90	A .81	.88	37.7	57.9	-61.60	Q1	i
2	16310	4127	656.00A	2.10 1.4	9 9.90	1.62	9.90	B .83	.88	44.0	58.3	-40.54	Q2	1
8	14634	3696	608.20A	2.13 1.2	5 7.96	11.47	9.90	C .85	.87	62.1	61.2	10.84	Q8	1
21	17107	4047	516.10A	1.95 .9	3 -2.33	1.18	3.08	D .86	.79	72.9	65.8	38.50	Q21	1
1 5	16795	4122	639.80A	1.86 1.1	4 4.91	1.14	4.48	E .86	.87	58.0	59.8	-52.17	Q5	1
22	17823	4143	498.10A	1.98 .8	9 -3.86	11.10	1.66	F .85	.77	70.6	67.2	37.58	Q22	
1 9	16006	3956	576.80A	1.86 1.0						69.6	62.8	20.61	Q9	
4	17321	4141	608.80A	1.80 1.0							61.0			
11	17039	4107	540.40A	1.88 .9						71.6			-	
23	17670	4109	507.50A	1.96 .8						74.5			-	
19	17322	4143	538.90A	1.87 .8						72.9			~	
10	16546	4078	583.50A	1.82 .8						72.0		9.72		
1 3	17561	4160	559.20A	1.83 .8							64.0			
	17563	4161	552.90A	1.84 .7						74.7				
1 7	17522	4150	559.30A	1.83 .8						70.1				
1 6	17731	4158	539.00A	1.87 .8						70.9		5.31		
18	17155	4119	545.50A	1.86 .7						75.7				
20	18122	4164	497.80A	1.97 .7							67.1		~	
14	17727	4161	534.40A	1.88 .7						75.6			~	
15	17493	4114	559.10A	1.84 .6						76.2			~	
16	17301	4097	562.20A	1.84 .6						76.1			~	
12		4154	564.50A	1.82 .6						75.4		-8.16		
17	17216	4111	555.90A	1.85 .6	3 -9.90	1 .62	-9.90	a .87	.83	77.5	63.9	7.04	Q17	-
			564.41 46.20	1.91 .9 .13 .3							63.6 2.4			1
1 1.30							J./	' 			Z,4			_



APPENDIX F: FFY 2024 SPP/APR DATA

FFY 2024 SPP/APR Data	Number
The number of families to whom surveys were distributed	17,176
Number of respondent families participating in Part C	4,178
A1. Number of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights	3,584
A2. Number of responses to the question of whether early intervention services have helped the family know their rights	4,178
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	3,431
B2. Number of responses to the question of whether early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs	4,178
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	3,893
C2. Number of responses to the question of whether early intervention services have helped the family help their children develop and learn	4,178

Data analysis conducted by Randall D. Penfield, Ph.D. Report generated by Piedra Data Services.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Piedra Data Services at 305-254-9986.