

The ECO Family Outcomes Survey

Recent Updates and Preliminary State Data

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Goals for Today

- Review the goals and format of the Family Outcomes Survey
- Provide an update on the revisions made to the scale
- Summarize data Illinois and Texas
 - Comparing 2006 and 2007 data
 - Examining types of family outcomes
 - Describing family outcomes by child and family characteristics

What is a Family Outcome?

- A benefit experienced by families as a result of services and supports received
- An outcome is not the receipt of services or satisfaction with services
- *An outcome is what happens as a result of services provided to families*

ECO Recommended Family Outcomes

ECO

- Understand their child's strengths, abilities, and special needs
- Know their rights and advocate effectively for their children
- Help their children develop and learn
- Have support systems
- Access desired services, programs, activities in their community

ECO Family Outcomes and OSEP APR Requirements [Part C]

ECO

- Understand their child's strengths, abilities, and special needs
- Know their rights and advocate effectively for their children
- Help their children develop and learn
- Have support systems
- Access desired services, programs, activities in their community

OSEP

- Percent of families participating in Part C who report that EI services have helped the family
 - Know their rights
 - Effectively communicate their children's needs
 - Help their children develop and learn

ECO Scale:

Family Outcomes Survey

- Three items for each of the five proposed family outcomes
- Each item rated on a scale from 1-7
- Descriptive statements for ratings of 1, 3, 5, 7
- Blanks left for “in between” ratings of 2, 4, 6
- Three additional items for states to use in responding to APR requirements

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S STRENGTHS, ABILITIES, AND SPECIAL NEEDS

1. *Your child is growing and learning. How much does your family understand about your child's development?*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We are just beginning to understand our child's development		We understand some about our child's development		We understand a good amount about our child's development		We understand a great deal about our child's development

2. *Some children have special health needs, a disability, or are delayed in their development. These are often referred to as "special needs." How familiar is your family with your child's special needs?*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We are just beginning to understand our child's special needs		We understand some about our child's special needs		We understand a good amount about our child's special needs		We understand a great deal about our child's special needs

3. *Professionals who work with you and your child want to know if the things they do are working. How often is your family able to tell if your child is making progress?*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We seldom can tell if our child is making progress		We sometimes can tell if our child is making progress		We usually can tell if our child is making progress		We almost always can tell if our child is making progress

THE HELPFULNESS OF EARLY INTERVENTION

The next questions ask how well early intervention has helped your family. When answering, think about the early intervention services you have received.

16. To what extent has early intervention helped your family know and understand your rights?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Early intervention has done a poor job of helping us know our rights		Early intervention has done a fair job of helping us know our rights		Early intervention has done a good job of helping us know our rights		Early intervention has done an excellent job of helping us know our rights

17. To what extent has early intervention helped your family effectively communicate your child's needs?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Early intervention has done a poor job of helping us communicate our child's needs		Early intervention has done a fair job of helping us communicate our child's needs		Early intervention has done a good job of helping us communicate our child's needs		Early intervention has done an excellent job of helping us communicate our child's needs

18. To what extent has early intervention helped your family be able to help your child develop and learn?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Early intervention has done a poor job of helping us help our child develop and learn		Early intervention has done a fair job of helping us help our child develop and learn		Early intervention has done a good job of helping us help our child develop and learn		Early intervention has done an excellent job of helping us help our child develop and learn

Family Outcomes Survey Updates

- Conducted a pilot study in 2006 in Illinois and Texas
 - Funded initially by GSEG grant to IL
 - TX awarded new GSEG to continue work
- Reviewed and revised the scale
 - Cognitive testing with English and Spanish families
 - Revised wording on scale
- Conducted large scale data collection in 2007

Family Outcomes Survey Updates

- Examine data over time, comparing 2006 and 2007 data
- Determine if the Family Outcomes Survey measures a single or multiple constructs
- Are child or family characteristics related to family outcomes

Comparing Data Over Time

- Mean for FOS and APR items for 2006 and 2007
- Frequency distribution for 5 of the FOS items and the 3 APR items
- Comparison of FOS and APR items

Comparing English and Spanish versions

- Compare English and Spanish means for 2007
- Compare 2 versions of Spanish instrument

Summary of Findings

- Mean scores tended to stay the same across time, although distributions for some items differed
- Same highest rated items each year
 - Items 3, 5, 9, 13
- Similar lowest rated items
 - 2006: 4, 12, 15
 - 2007: 4, 11, 15

Summary of Findings

- State A
 - Items with the largest mean increase = 1, 7, 14
 - Items with the largest mean decrease = 4, 10, 11
- State B
 - Items with the largest mean increase = 7, 14, 16
 - Items with the largest mean decrease = 4, 10, 11

Summary of Findings

- Different distributions for the FOS and APR items
- Spanish means lower than English on most items
- Second Spanish version did not substantially change mean scores

Types of Family Outcomes

- High internal consistency for total scale and each original subscale
 - Strength and Ability subscale, $\alpha = 0.68$
 - Rights and Services subscale, $\alpha = 0.68$
 - Develop and Learn subscale, $\alpha = 0.77$
 - Social Support subscale, $\alpha = 0.74$
 - Community Access subscale, $\alpha = 0.56$
 - Total score, $\alpha = 0.88$.

Types of Family Outcomes

- Examined correlations among subscales

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	1.00	.54	.68	.38	.34	.78
2		1.00	.58	.41	.33	.76
3			1.00	.47	.40	.82
4				1.00	.51	.76
5					1.00	.65
Total						1.00

Types of Family Outcomes

- Correlations between FOS total score, APR items, and NCSEAM Family-Centered Services subscale
 - FOS and APR, $r = .55$
 - FOS and NCSEAM, $r = .42$
 - APR and NCSEAM, $r = .60$

Types of Family Outcomes

- Exploratory factor analysis
- Oblimin rotation, KMO = .92
- 2 factors retained
 - Factor 1: Eigenvalue = 6.13, 38% of the variance
 - Factor 2: Eigenvalue = 1.62, 10% of the variance

Types of Family Outcomes

- **Family Knowledge and Ability**
 - Understand child's development
 - Understand child's special needs
 - Understand child's progress
 - Know about services
 - Comfortable in meetings
 - Know rights
 - Help child develop and learn
 - Help child behave
 - Practice new skills
- **Social Support and Access to Services**
 - Have someone to talk to
 - Have someone to call for help
 - Able to do things you enjoy as a family
 - Access to medical care

Factors Associated with Family Outcomes

- Examined how child and family characteristics related to each type of family outcome and total score

Factors Associated with Family Outcomes

- Child
 - Age
 - Gender
 - Eligibility
 - Race/ethnicity
- Family
 - Income

Factors Associated with Family Outcomes

- Child
 - Race/ethnicity
 - Caucasian families > African American, Hispanic, or other types of families
 - African American > Hispanic families
- Family
 - Income
 - Families with higher incomes > families with middle or lower incomes
 - Families with middle incomes > families with lower incomes

Summary

- Two types of outcomes
 - Family knowledge and ability
 - Social support and access to services
- APR items are closely associated with NCSEAM Family-Centered Services subscale
- Ethnicity and income are related to family outcomes

Next Steps

- Work with ECO Center to create a plan for how to use data from the Family Outcomes Survey
 - An overview of the FOS, the rationale for its development, and intended uses
 - A summary of findings from psychometric analyses regarding the structure of the scale and the clustering of items
 - A variety of suggestions of ways to examine and aggregate scores on the scale.
 - Examples of ways to use data for program evaluation and program improvement
- Working on article to publish the results presented today

For more information

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