



## Part C Child Count (Table 1)

### Questions and Answers

Revised March 2012

*The purpose of this document is to assist states with collection of data about the number of children receiving early intervention services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C. States should use this document to supplement the General Instructions provided in Table 1.*

#### **1. What is an active IFSP?**

An active IFSP is one that has been approved in writing by the child's parent. According to Section 636(e) of *IDEA*, the contents of the IFSP must be fully explained to the parents and informed written consent obtained prior to the provision of the services described in the plan. If, as of the child count date, the parent has not given written consent to the IFSP, then states should not report the child in their child count.

#### **2. Should a state include a child even if the child has not yet received any early intervention services by the child count date?**

If the child has an active IFSP on the child count date, the state should count that child even *if* the child has not yet begun to receive services.

#### **3. Should a state count a child who is being evaluated for eligibility or monitored to determine if he/she requires early intervention services?**

The state should not include a child in the child count unless the child has an active IFSP.

#### **4. Do states that serve at-risk infants and toddlers report these children in their child count? OR Do they only report them in the at-risk portion of the child count table?**

At-risk children should be included in both the state's total child count (Section A) and in the separate at-risk count (Section C). However, as with all children, to be included in the count these children must have an active IFSP in place on the child count date.

#### **5. How should a state report a child if the state's general rule is to honor the IFSP of a child who moves into the state from another state, even if the child is not "officially" eligible for services in the receiving state?**

This scenario meets the requirement for child count reporting. The state should report the number of eligible children under age 3 receiving early intervention services according to an active IFSP in place on the child count date.

If the state is implementing an active IFSP on the child count date, the child should be included in the count.

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