

Early Childhood Transition

Michigan's State Performance Plan
Indicator 12

Early Childhood Transition Matters for Students With Disabilities

- The earlier services are provided, the greater the chance that a child can begin school ready to learn.
- Knowledge of the supportive services provided to children before the age of three will enhance the preschool planning process.

Reporting Requirement: Early Childhood Transition

Indicator 12 is a compliance indicator with a target of 100 percent.

Indicator 12—Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age three, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays.

20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B)

Michigan Information on Early Childhood Transition

Early childhood transition is an effort to promote successful transitions between infant/toddler programs, preschool programs, and public school programs for young children with disabilities and their families.

In Michigan, children from birth through age two with disabilities are supported by *Early On*[®] and sometimes special education services. Transition data are collected to help ensure that as children grow, they and their families receive uninterrupted support from birth through their transition to school-age support services.

Districts are required to develop Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for all children referred by *Early On* who are eligible for special education programs and services prior to their third birthday. If the child is found to be eligible for programs and/or services, the district is required to implement the IEP by the child's third birthday.

Michigan's Commitment to Education

The Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services (OSE-EIS) collaborates with the Office of Early Childhood Education and Family Services (ECE&FS) regarding early childhood transition. Michigan is a birth mandate state (special education services are available from birth). Therefore, the transition process for the majority of children and their families is seamless.

Defining Early Childhood Transition

The *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA) Part C early intervention services (*Early On* in Michigan) are provided for infants and toddlers birth through age 2. The IDEA Part B special education services are provided for students aged 3 through age 21. This indicator measures the timely transition of children from Part C services to Part B services.

For children whose IEPs are completed by their third birthday, this indicator also reports whether they are eligible or ineligible for special education programs and services. For children whose IEPs were not completed by their third birthday, this indicator counts the number of days beyond the timeline and examines any reasons the timeline was not met.

Michigan's Performance

Measurable and Rigorous Targets

Indicator 12 is a compliance indicator. This target is set by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) at 100 percent.

Indicator Component	FFY 2008 Result	FFY 2009* Result	FFY 2009 Target	FFY 2009 Status
Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays.	97.8%	98.7%	100%	Target Not Met
(a) Number of children who have been served in Part C and referred to Part B for eligibility determination.	3,348	4,647		
(b) Number of those referred determined to be NOT eligible and whose eligibilities were determined prior to their birthdays.	23	144		
(c) Number of those found eligible who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays.	3,176	4,252		
(d) Number of children for whom parent refusal to provide consent caused delays in evaluation or initial services.	44	35		
(e) Number of children who were referred to Part C less than 90 days before their third birthdays.	34	158		

Source: Michigan Compliance Information System (MI-CIS), Data Verification Survey

*Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2009 = July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

Percent = [(c) divided by (a-b-d-e)] times 100
 $[4,252 \div (4,647 - 144 - 35 - 158)] \times 100 = 98.7\%$

Michigan did not meet the target for this indicator. A total of 98.7 percent of the children referred by Part C (children from birth through age 2) prior to age 3 and found eligible for Part B (children from age 3 through 21) had an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthday. The 2009-2010 compliance rate of 98.7 percent represents an improvement of 0.8 percent from 2008-2009 (97.8 percent).

For More Information

Michigan's Continuous Improvement and Monitoring System (CIMS)
<http://cims.cenmi.org>

Michigan Department of Education (MDE), Office of Early Childhood Education and Family Services (ECE&FS)
www.michigan.gov/ecse

National Early Childhood Transition Center
www.ihdi.uky.edu/nectc

Michigan's State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR)
www.michigan.gov/ose-eis

Michigan Can Improve

- The Michigan Department of Education continues to work with *Early On* Training and Technical Assistance (EOT&TA)—as well as with districts—to define, support, and monitor transition activities from Part C to Part B.
- The OSE-EIS continues to collaborate with the ECE&FS in order to improve transition from Part C to Part B services.
- *Early On* and Part B systems are implementing plans and interagency agreements designed to improve the transition process.