

Measuring Outcomes

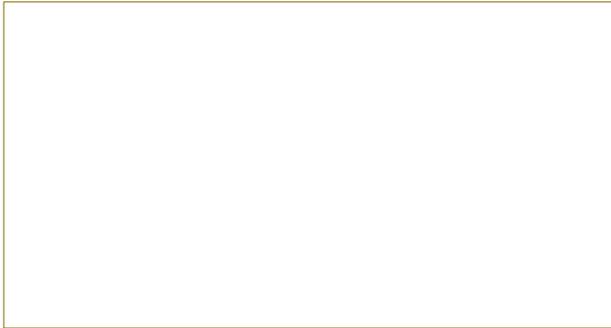
Measuring outcomes is a major effort throughout the United States to understand how children and families benefit from early intervention services and supports.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) now requires all states to report data on outcomes that help states measure the benefits experienced by a child and family as a result of their involvement in the early intervention system.

To meet this new requirement, Maryland has developed comprehensive systems to measure outcomes for families and children who receive early intervention services through the local Infants and Toddlers Programs. Information reported on these outcomes will help federal, state and local agencies determine the effectiveness of early intervention and improve the delivery of services and supports to young children and their families.

Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs) will continue to include individual outcomes to meet the unique needs of each child and family.

Your Local Infants and Toddlers Program



Statewide Family Support Services Coordinators

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For online resources visit:
marylandlearninglinks.org
or
marylandpublicschools.org



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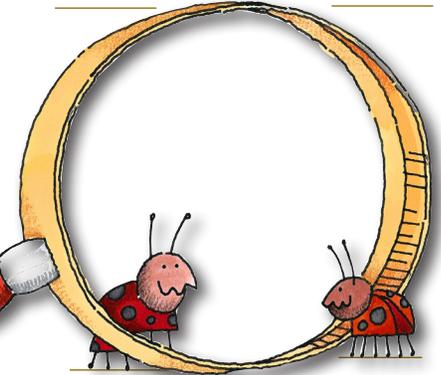
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Larry Hogan, Governor

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Maryland State Department of Education | Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services
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Taking A Closer Look

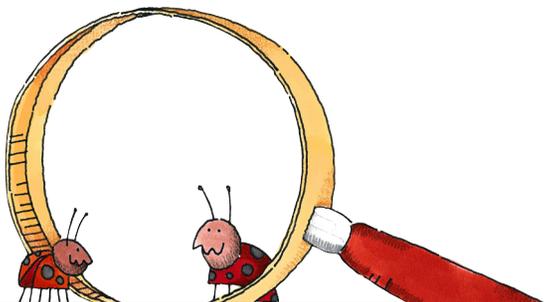


At Child & Family Outcomes

How Maryland Measures the Benefit of Early Intervention Services and Supports to Children and Families in the Early Intervention System



Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program



What Is An Outcome?

An outcome is a benefit experienced by a child and family as a result of services.

Child Outcomes: Progress for all children in early intervention will be measured on three child outcomes. The three outcomes focus on skills and abilities children use to be successful in everyday activities and routines.

The three Child Outcomes:

1. Children develop positive social-emotional skills.
2. Children acquire and use knowledge and skills.
3. Children use appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

Family Outcomes: Parents and caregivers are the primary teachers of young children. The Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program is committed to working in partnership with families and caregivers to enhance the development and learning of their child.

The three Family Outcomes:

1. Families know their rights.
2. Families effectively communicate their children's needs.
3. Families help their child develop and learn.

Gathering Child and Family Outcomes

Child Outcomes:

The Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program collects child outcome information that is gathered by local Infants and Toddlers Programs, through the assessment process, when children enter and leave the program. Data on individual children is combined for reporting an overall picture of the progress children make during their participation in early intervention.

Information about the outcomes of individual children is protected by Federal and State confidentiality laws, and will not be reported publicly.

Local Infants and Toddlers Programs are using Maryland's *Child Outcomes Summary* process to organize the information about a child's development already gathered through the functional assessment process when children enter and leave the program.

Family Outcomes:

The Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program is committed to providing information and skills that are beneficial to supporting families and caregivers in the role of helping their children learn.

Once a year, families participating in local Infants and Toddlers Programs receive a survey which is developed by the National Center for Special Education Accountability and Monitoring (NCSEAM) and modified to represent families in Maryland.

The survey measures the extent to which early intervention services helped families achieve positive family outcomes. The results of the survey help shape future improvements in early intervention services and supports.

The Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program (MITP) is dedicated to ensuring that all eligible infants and toddlers receive high-quality, effective early intervention services and supports. For additional information about measuring child and family outcomes, contact your service coordinator, the Family Support Network coordinator at your local Infants and Toddlers Program or the Statewide Family Support Services coordinators in the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services (DSE/EIS).

See the back panel for local and Statewide Family Support Services contact information.