

# The Decision Tree

## Child Indicator Seeds for Success

### How Does Virginia Rate?

This year's Child Indicator data is hot off the press. Statewide, Virginia reported results on 4007 children who received services during the FFY13 (July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013). So how did we do?



OSEP, the Office of Special Education Programs requires states to set targets for each of the three Child Indicators. When the results come in, we compare our statewide data and each local system's data to the targets that were set for Virginia. The table below shows the statewide results for each indicator for the two required summary statements.

Virginia's Child Indicator Summary Statement Results			
	A. Positive Social Emotional Skills	B. Acquisition & Use of Knowledge and Skills	C. Use of Appropriate Behaviors to Meet Needs
1. Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in (outcome), the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they exited the program.	73.3% (State Target: 73.6%)	79.0% (State Target: 78.5%)	80.8% (State Target: 81.4%)
2. Percent of children who were functioning within age expectations in (outcome), by the time they exited the program.	67.4% (State Target: 69.7%)	57.3% (State Target: 60.9%)	58.2% (State Target: 59.9%)



### Child Indicator Data Needs Translation to Interpret

Entry (1-7) + Exit (1-7) + Progress  
= Summary Statements  
(Categories a-e)

### Tips for Answering the Progress Question at Exit:

- Progress is defined as “the acquisition of at least one new skill or behavior related to the outcome”
- Progress question compares child to her/himself over time (not to same-age peers, as with the 1-7 ratings)
- HINT: The answer should almost always be YES, unless the child has a degenerative or extremely disabling condition
- “Impossible” – 1-7 ratings indicate growth but ‘no progress’ indicated

Did you know that there were 6183 children who were eligible for exit ratings in Virginia last year even though we only reported on 4007 children?

Check back next month for tips to increase the percentage of children represented in your system.