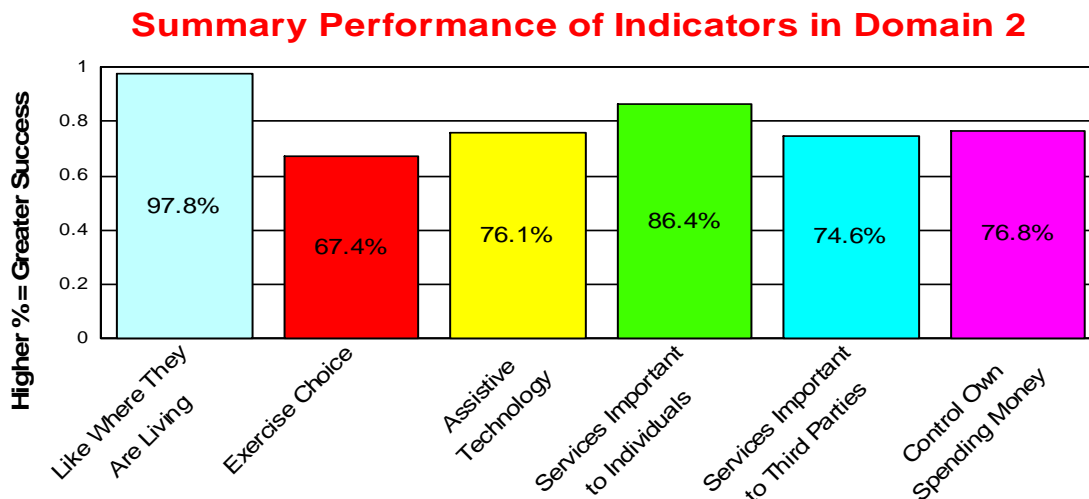


Domain #2 CHOICE, CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION



Choice, Control and Communication are three fundamental tenets of self determination. The community developmental service system mission emphasizes that individuals with developmental disabilities have opportunity for exercising choice and control in all aspects of their lives and that it is the systems responsibility to listen to its' constituency.

This year's survey shows that 97.8% of individuals surveyed like where they are living. Over the past six years of surveys, individuals with developmental disabilities have reported a high satisfaction rate with their living situations. In the surveys, there are other questions that are used to determine if a person is exercising choice. This includes but is not limited to: Deciding where to live, who to live with, daily activities and routines. It is in the area of choice that there has been a consistently low result. In FY 2005, 32.6% of people surveyed have indicated that they have limited to no choice in a variety of areas. This percentage has been consistent for six years. It is the responsibility of the community developmental system to delve further into what the may be getting in the way of people exercising choice and control in their lives.

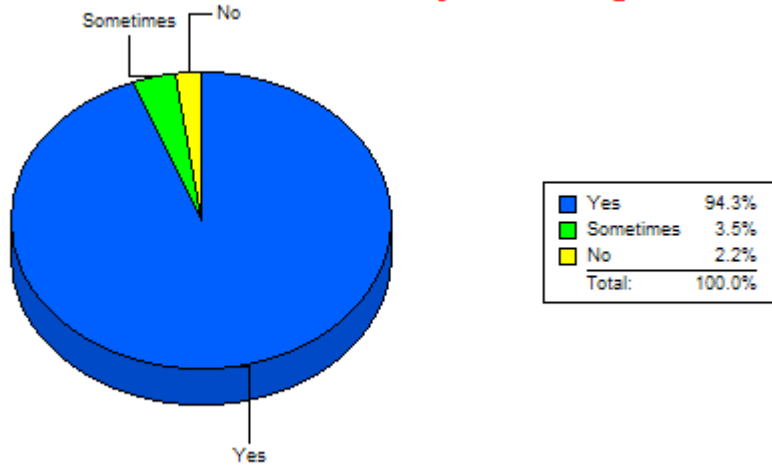
In FY 2005, 76.1% of people surveyed reported that they have access to assistive technology that meets there mobility and communication needs. We see a continued positive upward rate of satisfaction with regard to adults with disabilities access to and acquiring of assistive technology.

Efforts to improve the individual service plan and agreement have continued for the past six years of this survey. FY 2005 data shows that 86.4% of individuals and 74.6% of third parties (family members, guardians, and staff) say that the service plan contains features that are important. These are the lowest rates in the six years of the survey. Clearly, there is a need for the community developmental system to reevaluate service planning.

The last indicator in Domain two, control over one's own spending money continues to show a progressive decline. In FY 2005, 23.2% of people surveyed said that they have no control over there spending money. This trend parallels the decreasing rate in exercising choice.

Indicator #1: The proportion of people receiving residential services and supports who like where they are living now increases.

Individuals who like where they are living now



Total All Answers

228

Comments: This indicator result has held fairly steadfast over the past six years. Since FY 2000 an average of 96.52% of people surveyed indicated that they like where they are living. In FY 2005, we see again a very positive view of the residential services that are being provided through the area agency and community service providers system.

Indicator #3: The exercise of individual choice increases, for example: in housing, roommates, daily routines, support staff, social/recreational activities.

Individuals who say they exercise choice

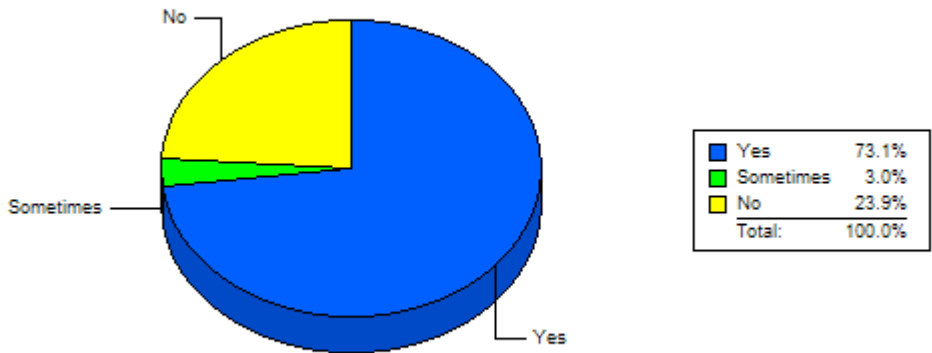


Total All Answers
656

Comments: Since FY 2000, there has been a significant decline of 14.2 percentage points in this indicator. The survey involves a person's participating in choicemaking in the areas of daily routines, support staff, housing, social and recreational activities as well as a few others. More than 28% of people surveyed in six years have said that they are not exercising choice. Where as self determination is one of the cornerstones of the mission of the service systems, it is imperative that this indicator's results be further analyzed.

Indicator #4: The proportion of people with mobility/communication problems who report they have sufficient assistive technology to support their independence increases

Proportion of Consumers Satisfied



Total All Answers
197

Comments: There has been an ebb and flow of positive responses from people surveyed as to whether they have sufficient assistive technology to support their independence (A high of 91.6% in FY 2003 and a low of 76.1% in FY 2005). In order to understand the relevance of this data, area agencies could easily take a survey of individuals who utilize assistive technology and have what they need as well as those who may be in need and/or are waiting. Clearly knowing the needs of individuals on a statewide level could help activate a statewide response which could improve the results of this indicator.

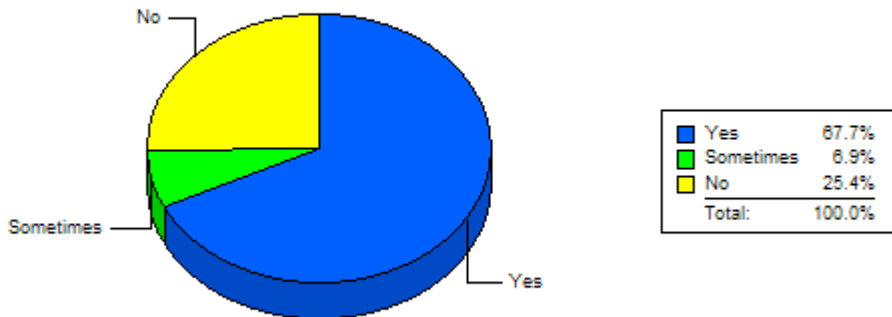
Indicator #5 & 6: The proportion of individuals and third parties reporting that their service agreement reflects/includes/is about things that are important to them increases.

Individuals who say their service agreement is about important things



Total All Answers
428

Third parties who say the individual's service agreement is about important things

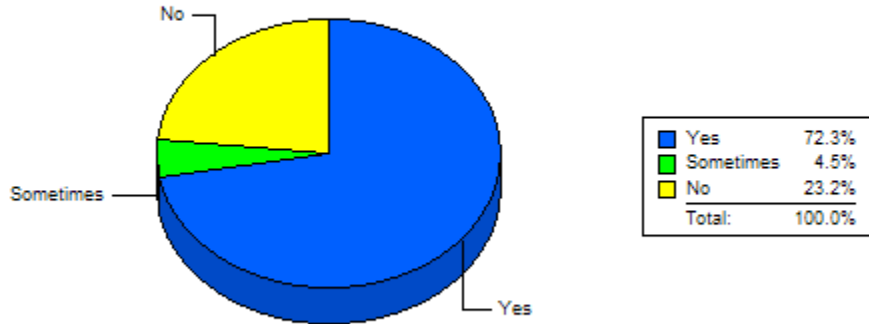


Total All Answers
189

Comments: In six years, 78.96% of folks surveyed have indicated that their service agreement (the document that establishes what, when, where and by whom services will be delivered) is important. (Critical to this indicator is whether the goals are important). In FY 2005, 13.6% expressed that the service agreement information is not important. Where as this indicator is a partner to Domain 2 Indicator 5: "Individuals who say the individual's service agreement is about important things" and in FY 2005, 13.6% of these folks surveyed indicated a "No" response. It is very important that the community developmental system examine this data and determine what is contained in the service agreement(s) that are not important in order to improve the results of these two indicators.

Indicator #7: The proportion of participants who report that they control their own spending money increases.

Individuals who say they control their own spending money



Total All Answers

805

Comments: In FY 2005, 76.8% of people surveyed indicated that they had all or some of the control of their spending money. In five years of surveys, 24.7% of the people had said they have "No" control over just their spending money alone. The key component to this indicator is financial independence however, the survey looks only at spending money. In order to improve on this outcome, area agencies will need to look more closely at why a quarter of the people do not determine how to spend their own "pocket money" and perhaps what financial independence means for those people it supports.