Improving Data,
Improving Outcomes
Virtual Convening
October 19 - 22
2020
sponsored by:
DaSy
The Center for IDEA
Early Childhood Data Systems
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in collaboration with:
E C P C
Early Childhood Personnel Center
National Center for
Pyramid Model
INNOVATIONS

DaSy The Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems

Part C Data During COVID-19: Navigating the Next Six Months Together

State Staff: Reyna Ambriz (CA), Sharon DeRego (CA), Nate Taleon (CA), Maggie McCall (IN), Barbara Simpson (NC)

DaSy Staff: Amy Nicholas, Tony Ruggiero, Sharon Walsh

SRI Education
A DIVISION OF SRI INTERNATIONAL

IDIO Virtual Convening
October 20 & 21, 2020

Session Facilitators

State Staff

- Reyna Ambriz (CA)
- Sharon DeRego (CA)
- Nate Taleon (CA)
- Maggie McCall (IN)
- Barbara Simpson (NC)

DaSy Staff

- Amy Nicholas
- Tony Ruggiero
- Sharon Walsh

Session Outcomes

Participants will:

- Discuss with other participants the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Part C program data and data submission requirements; and
- Share and learn strategies for how states are approaching the disruptions in data and/or data quality issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Agenda

- Assumptions
- State Part C Data Presentations
- Small Group Breakout Discussions
- Whole Group Report Out/Debrief
- Questions, Comments, and/or Future TA

FFY2019 SPP/APR: COVID-19 Impact

"If indicator data are impacted due to COVID-19, State must include in narrative:

- The impact on data completeness, validity, and reliability for the indicator;
- An explanation of how COVID-19 specifically impacted the State's ability to collect the data for the indicator; and
- Any steps the State took to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the data collection."

Source: OSEP TA Call, Oct. 15, 2020

Assumptions

State Part C Data Presentations

North Carolina

Changes in Referrals and Enrollment

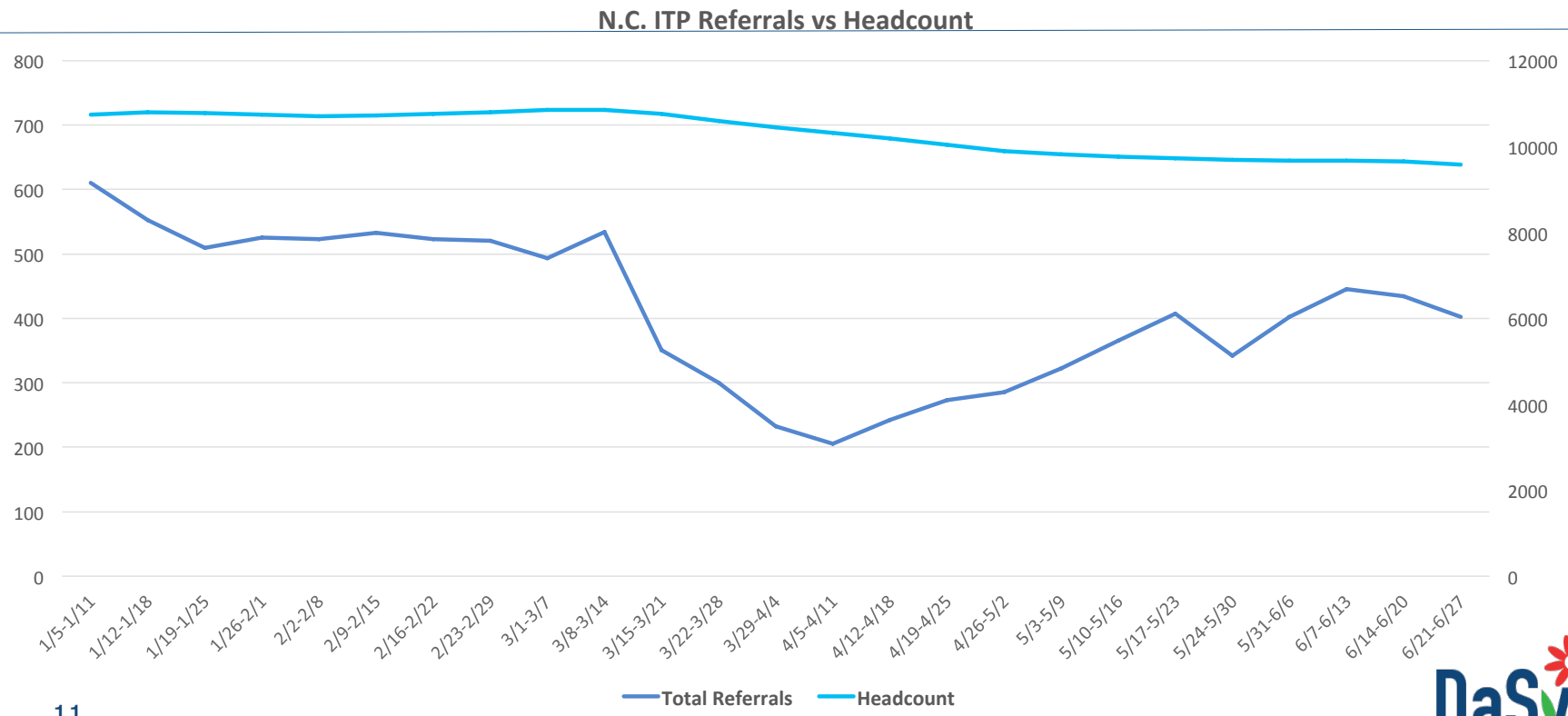
Barbara Simpson

DaSy

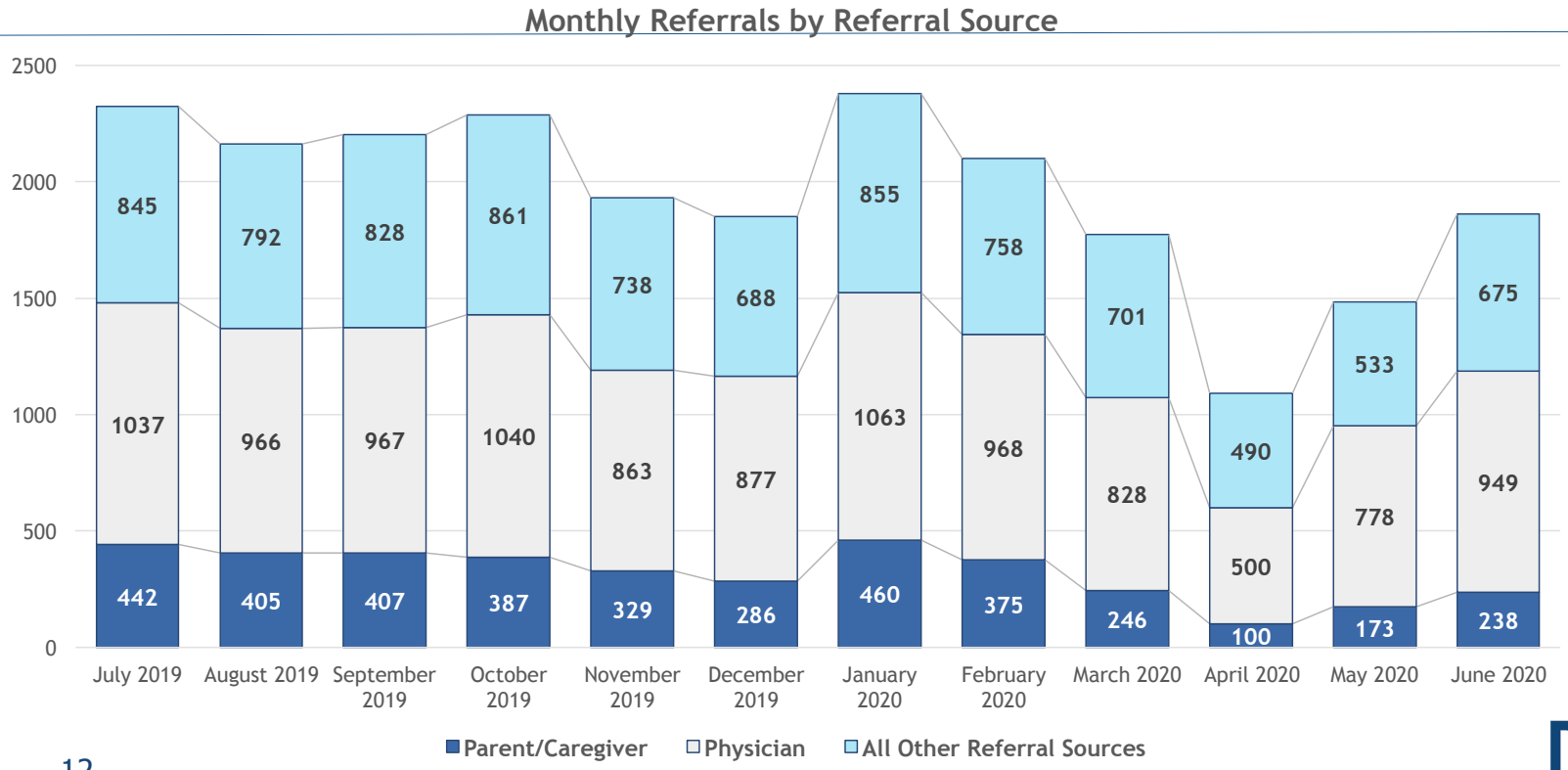
Impact of Changes in Referrals on Enrollment

- Began tracking programmatic data on a weekly basis in late April
- Trends in referral and enrollment data led to additional analysis around referrals
- Likelihood of enrolling varies by referral source
- Changes in where referrals are coming from continues to impact overall enrollment

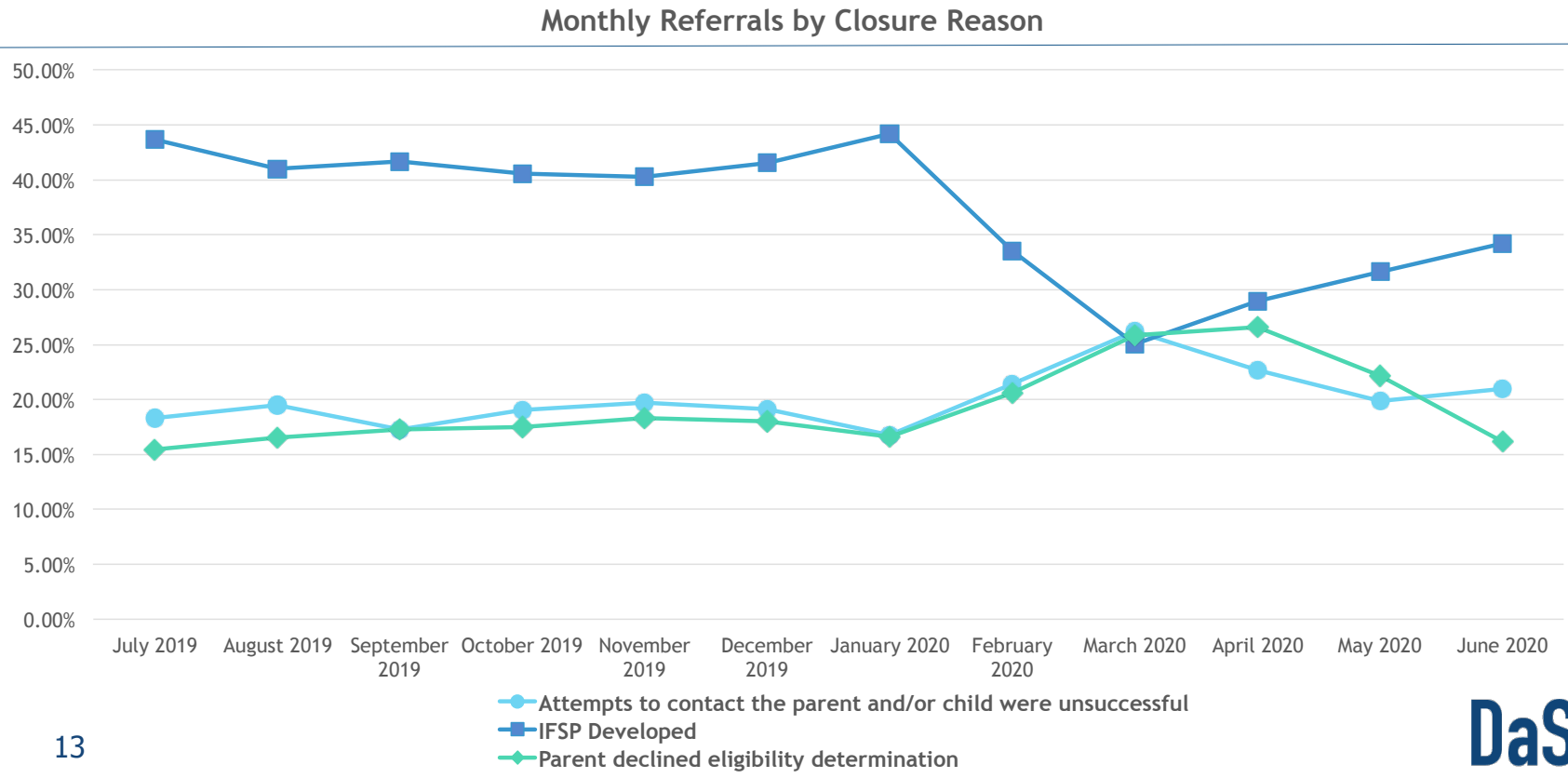
Referrals have rebounded while headcount continues to decline.



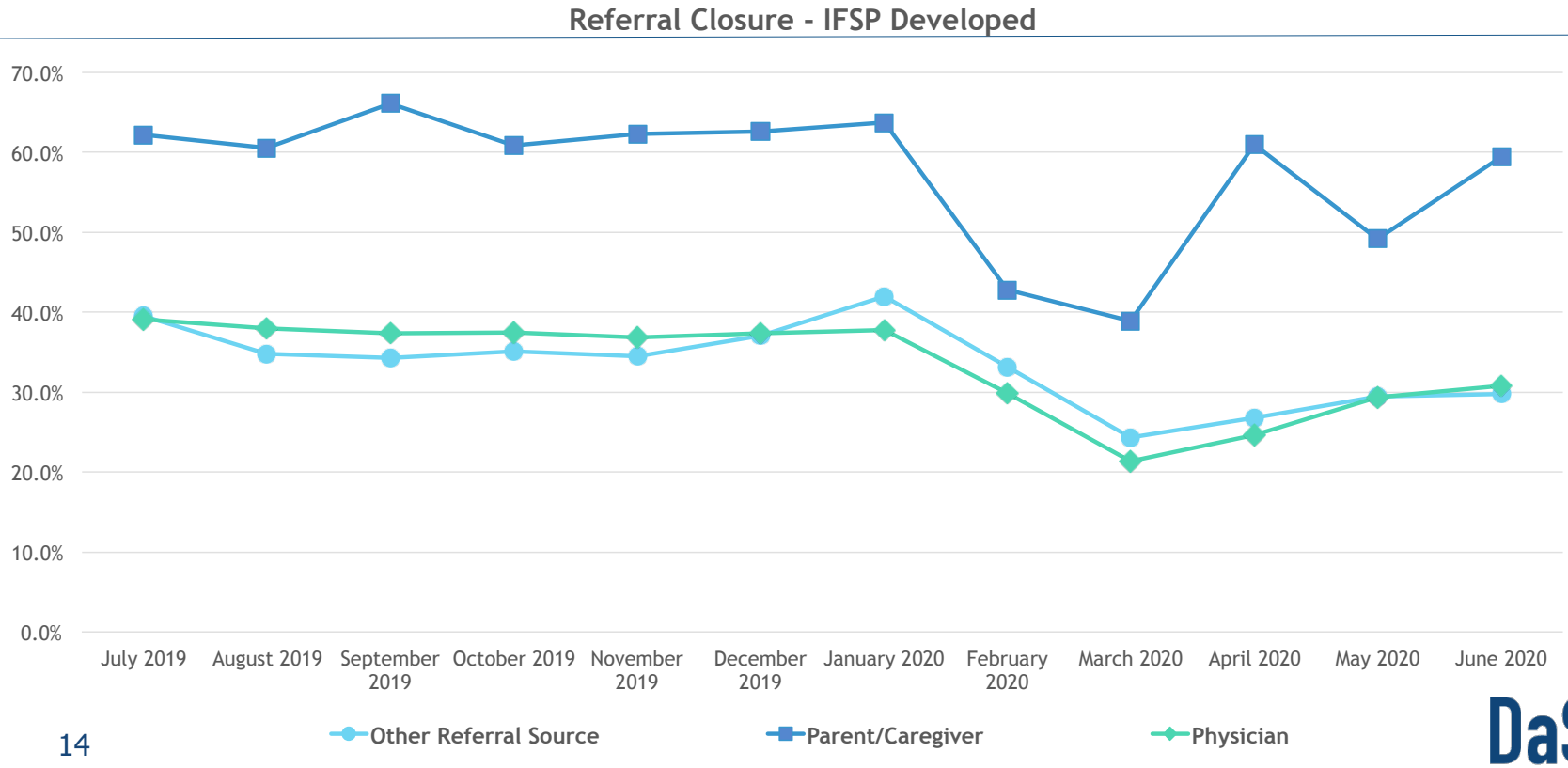
Referrals sources have "rebounded" at different rates.



Referral closure distribution changed dramatically.



The trends are different, but the result is the same – fewer enrolled children.



California

Response to Impact of COVID-19 on Early Start Program

Nate Taleon

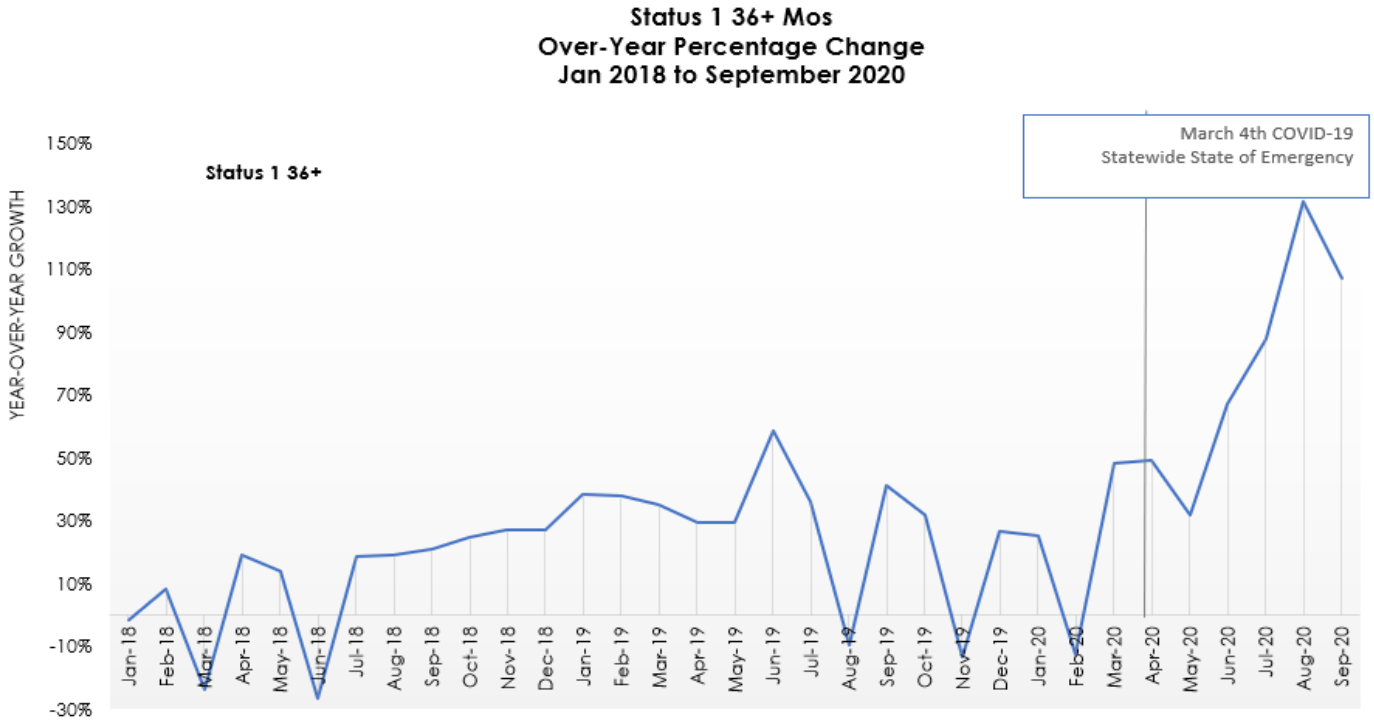
DaSy

Extension of Early Start Services

June 15, 2020

- The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) issued a directive waiving requirements that early intervention services end at 36 months for children who received ES services *and* turned 3 during the pandemic and whose transition to Part B services were delayed due to the pandemic.
- This permits regional centers to continue to provide services to children and their families past the age of 3, while they await transition to Part B services.

Children Served Over 3 Years Old

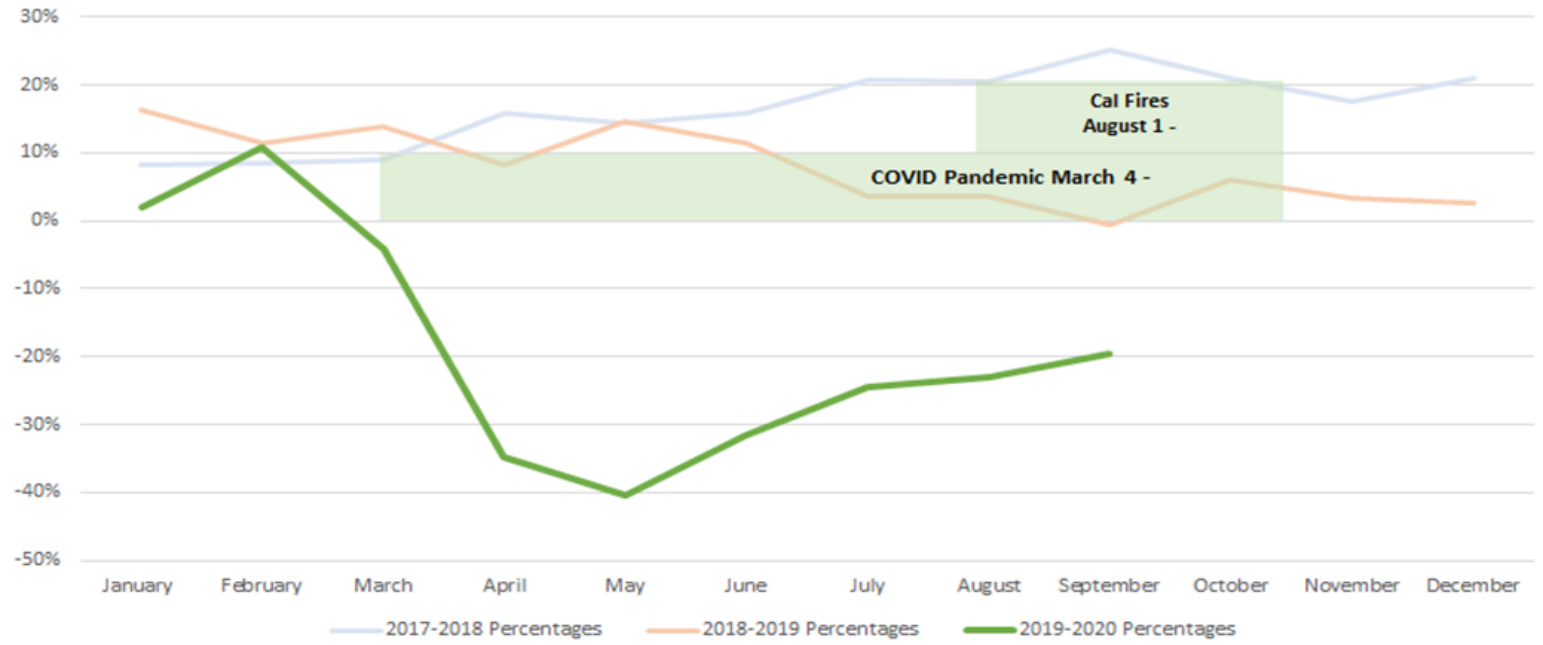


https://www.dds.ca.gov/transparency/facts-stats/

Early Start Decrease in Referrals

- In comparing the monthly average of children referred to Early Start, there is a total decrease of approximately 19% in January to August of this year compared to same time last year.
- We are seeing a slow uptick in referrals on a month to month basis since June 2020, though still significantly lower than last year.

Statewide Percentage Change in Referrals: FY17/18 vs. FY18/19 vs. FY19/20 (through Sept.)



https://www.dds.ca.gov/transparency/facts-stats/

Reasons for Decreased Referrals

Regional Centers attributed the decrease to the following:

- Decrease in referrals from pediatrician offices
- Decrease in families not referring their children due to:
  - Families not prioritizing EI services due to basic needs
  - Families not having access due to lack of technology
  - Families not interacting with other families because of stay at home orders so not noticing areas of concern in their children as compared to other children
- Face to face developmental screening events cancelled to comply with state orders related to large gatherings
- Closure of Local Educational Agencies/schools and childcare providers during the summer months.

Regional Center Strategies to Improve Early Start Referrals

Some RCs have attributed rebound/increase in referrals directly to:

- Use of specialized RC staff (Cultural specialist and Federal Programs Specialist) to concentrate efforts on referral sources that connect underserved groups with services;
- Individual relationships with community partners that include local healthcare agency offices, such as Help Me Grow, First Five, and county offices of Children and Family Services;
- Utilization of virtual townhall meetings to discuss services; and
- Connecting to family and other groups via social media (Facebook).

DDS Strategies to Improve Early Start Referrals

Current and ongoing strategies include:

- Developing outreach materials (i.e. Public Service Announcement, physician's referral flyer and social media blasts) to share with our Early Start partners and the public.
- Engaging with partners to share outreach materials and connect families to Early Start by way of social media, email listservs, and web site announcements. Partners include:
  - Family Resource Center Network of California
  - Interagency Coordinating Council
  - First 5 California
  - California Departments of Social services and Public Health
  - California Department of Education

Indiana

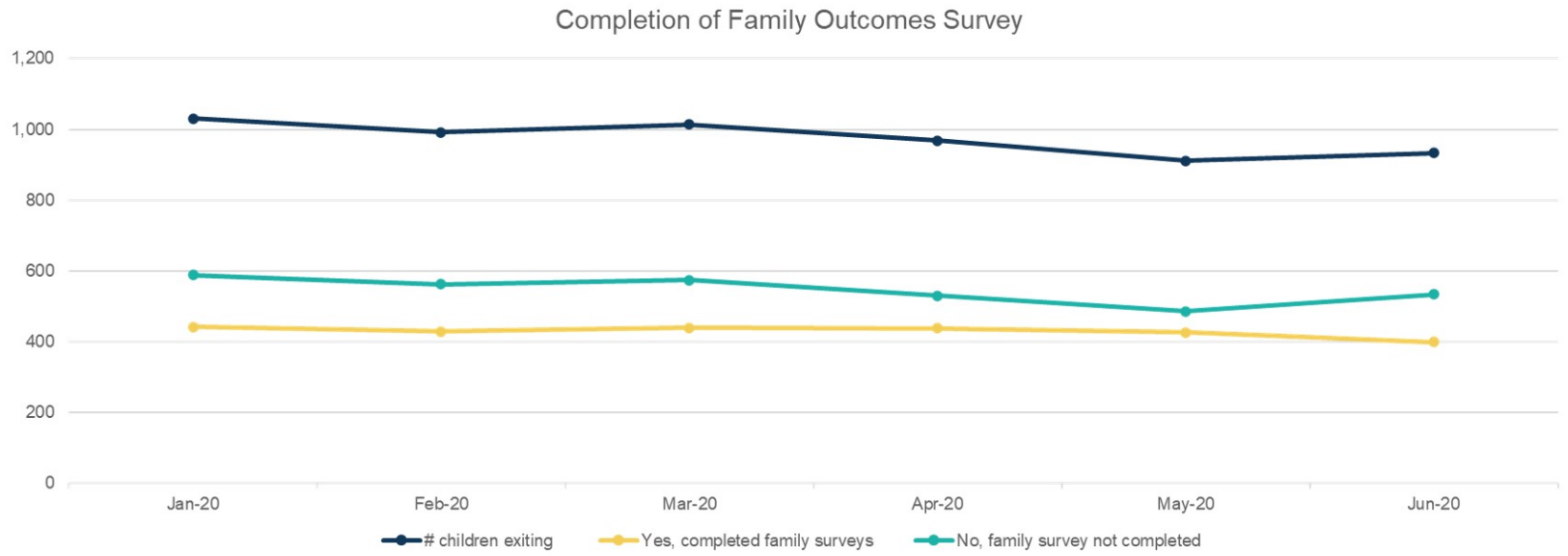
Family Outcomes Measurement

Maggie McCall

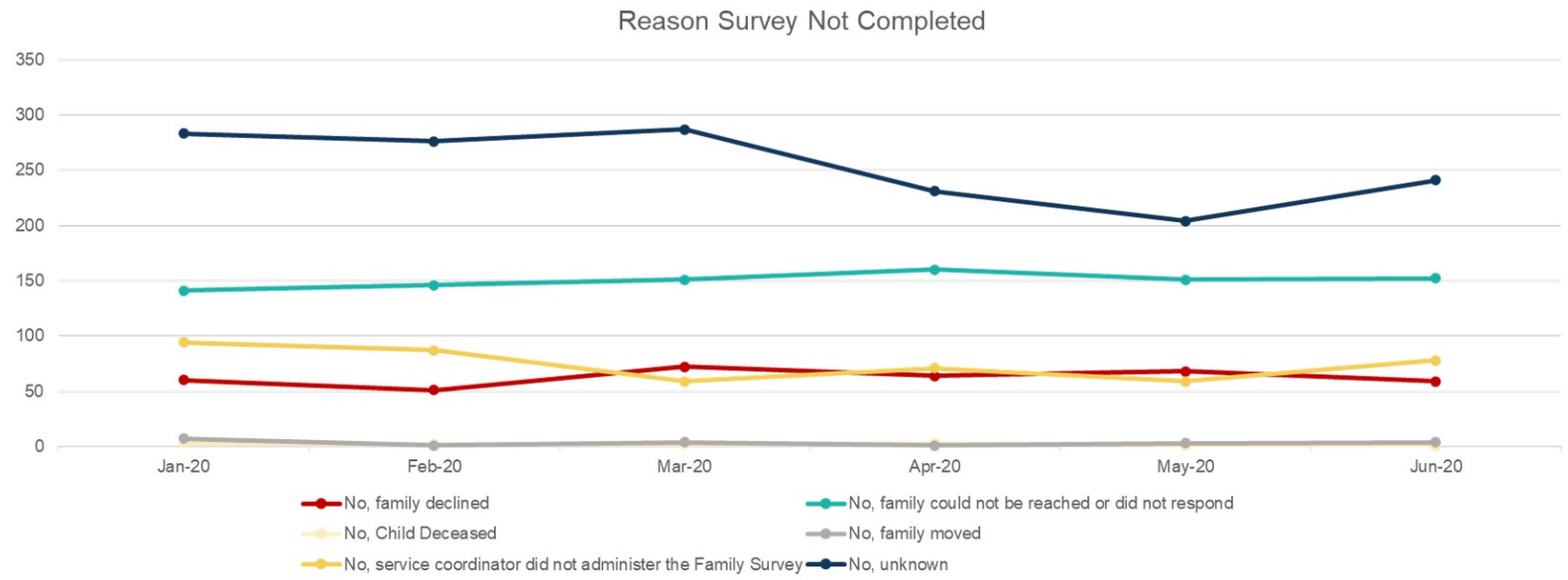
Methodology

- Utilize the original ECO survey
- Provided when child exits
- Typically hand delivered by SC--returned in person or by mail
- Results entered by local program staff

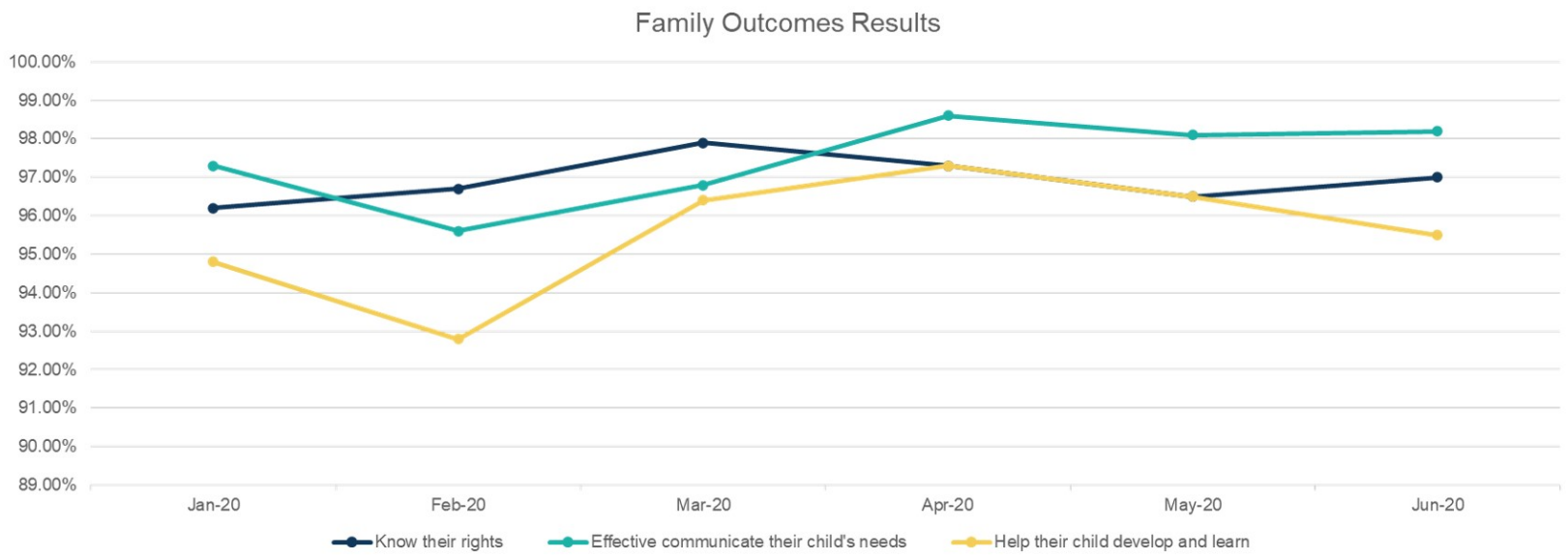
SFY20 Response to Family Outcomes Survey



SFY20 Reason Family Outcomes Survey Not Completed



SFY20 Results of Family Outcomes Survey



Silver Linings

- Transition to virtual visits
  - Families more engaged in sessions
  - Providers utilizing coaching techniques
- Communication between families, providers, and SCs
- Families completing surveys without SCs present
- Increased comfort with use of technology
  - Moving family outcome survey to online format in future

Small Group Breakout Discussions

Referrals & Enrollment

Services (including Telepractice)

Family Outcomes

Small Group Discussion Tool: Padlet

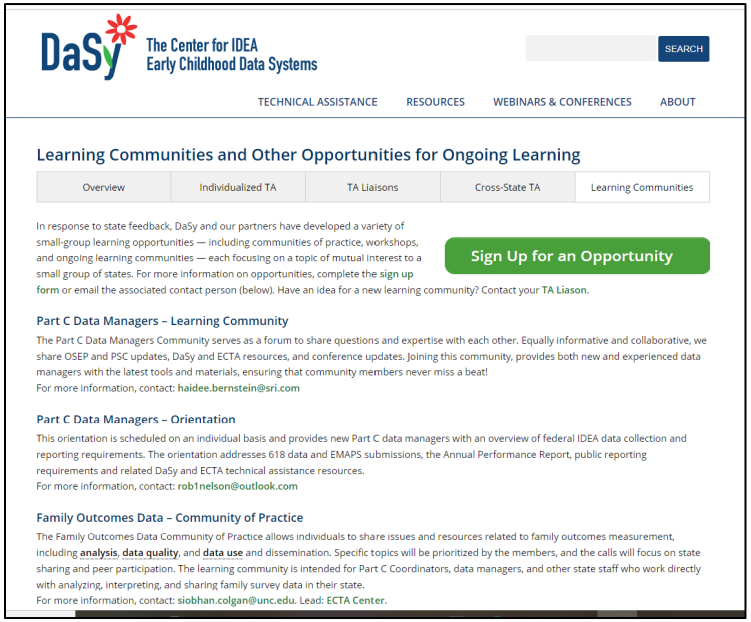
Large Group Report-Out/Debrief

- Small group notetakers share 2-3 key takeaways from the topical discussions
- Participants are encouraged to share additional thoughts or state experiences related to each topic

Questions, Comments, and/or Future TA

Learning Communities & Other Ongoing TA Opportunities

- **Part C Data Managers – Learning Community**
- **Part C Data Managers – Orientation**
- **Child and Family Outcomes Measurement**
  - BDI Users Group
  - COS Learning Community
  - Family Outcomes Data CoP
  - TS GOLD Learning Community



https://dasycenter.org/technical-assistance/learning-communities/

Data Managers Community Calls

- Calls are on the first Monday of each month
  - **Next call: November 2nd (2:00pm ET)**
- Notes and slides from each call sent to all Part C Data Managers and Part C Coordinators
  - Individuals are not named, but state names are shared.
  - OSEP is not copied on the notes.
- For more information, email Haidee Bernstein at haidee.bernstein@sri.com

COVID-19 Resources

- U.S Dept of ED: https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus
- DaSy:
  - https://dasycenter.org/covid-19-resources-from-the-u-s-department-of-education/
  - Responding to COVID-19: Ongoing Considerations for Part C Data Webinar
- ECTA: https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/coronavirus.asp

Reminder

Please remember to complete the session evaluation!

- You will get a notice from the event platform (CrowdCompass) with a link to the evaluation.
- You can also scroll to the bottom of the session page on CrowdCompass for a link to the evaluation.

Thank you

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DaSy The Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems

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U.S. Office of Special Education Programs

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