

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

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TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani, Kathy Holsopple, and Olivia Kobel

DATE: June 23, 2006

RE: 5 Indicators of CRT Program Performance

This week's PIP presents five indicators of CRT program performance in a single graph. These include one positive outcome indicator (employment), one negative outcome indicator (criminal justice involvement) and three measures of access to health care (doctor's visits, mammograms, and prostate specific antigen (PSA) tests). All of these indicators were previously published in our weekly PIP report series.¹ These indicators were brought together for a presentation at the 2006 SAMHSA Joint National Conference on Mental Health Block Grant and Mental Health Statistics. Presenters included Kathleen Holsopple (Executive Director of the Vermont Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health), John Pandiani (Chief of Vermont Mental Health Research and Statistics) and Steven Banks (statistical consultant and frequent PIP collaborator).

This presentation, "Using Data to Empower Consumer Choice," used data from Vermont as the basis for a discussion of three ways in which data can promote knowledge and empower consumers, family members, and advocates. First, the data consumers and family members choose to use to evaluate program performance is a powerful statement of what they value. Service providers and policy makers will recognize the values underlying these choices. Second, data-based discussions of public policy can help to clarify the values of the various participants in the system of care and to explicitly relate those values to measures of program performance. Data can help people to think more precisely and to focus their discussion on the relationship among abstract values, concrete actions, and real-world implications for children with severe emotional disturbance and adults with serious mental illness. Third, data can provide a clear concrete focus for action. Service providers will understand what consumers and family members want and how consumers and family members will know if they are getting what they want. The data provided here are only a few of many examples that were used in this presentation. The handout and slideshow from this presentation are available on-line.^{2,3}

For purposes of comparison, "% of best" scores for five measures of each program are reported in three broad categories: 85-100% is considered an indication of "Good" performance; 70-84% is considered "Average"; and less than 70% is considered to be "Not Good". For the Criminal Justice measure lower is considered better, for employment and the access to health care measures, higher is considered better. This "% of best" measure is each region's rate as a % of the maximum rate for that measure. For example Lamoille had the highest rate for employment (27%). Washington's rate of 24% is 90% of Lamoille's 27%.

As you will see, no CRT program is rated “Good” on all measures, and no CRT program is rated “Not Good” on all measures. Nine of the ten CRT programs had at least one “Good” rating and at least one “Not Good” rating out of the five indicators reported here. For participants in this presentation, this variation in program performance raised important questions about the relative “value” of different measures to different consumers and family members with different needs and desires. Consumers and family members for whom employment is a greater concern than access to health care, for instance, would be likely to interpret and act on these findings very differently. One of the strengths of this presentation format is that it provides a range of information that meets the information needs of a variety of information consumers.

We look forward to your comments on this presentation and your suggestions for other potential multi-indicator presentations to pip@vdh.state.vt.us or call 802-863-7249.

¹ Previous PIPs with these measures include:

Employment

<http://healthvermont.gov/mh/docs/pips/pip-cross-sector-indicator.aspx#emp>

Criminal Justice

<http://healthvermont.gov/mh/docs/pips/2003/pip053003.pdf>

Doctor's Visits

<http://healthvermont.gov/mh/docs/pips/2004/pip111204.pdf>

Mammogram & PSA Tests

<http://healthvermont.gov/mh/docs/pips/2006/pip042806.pdf>

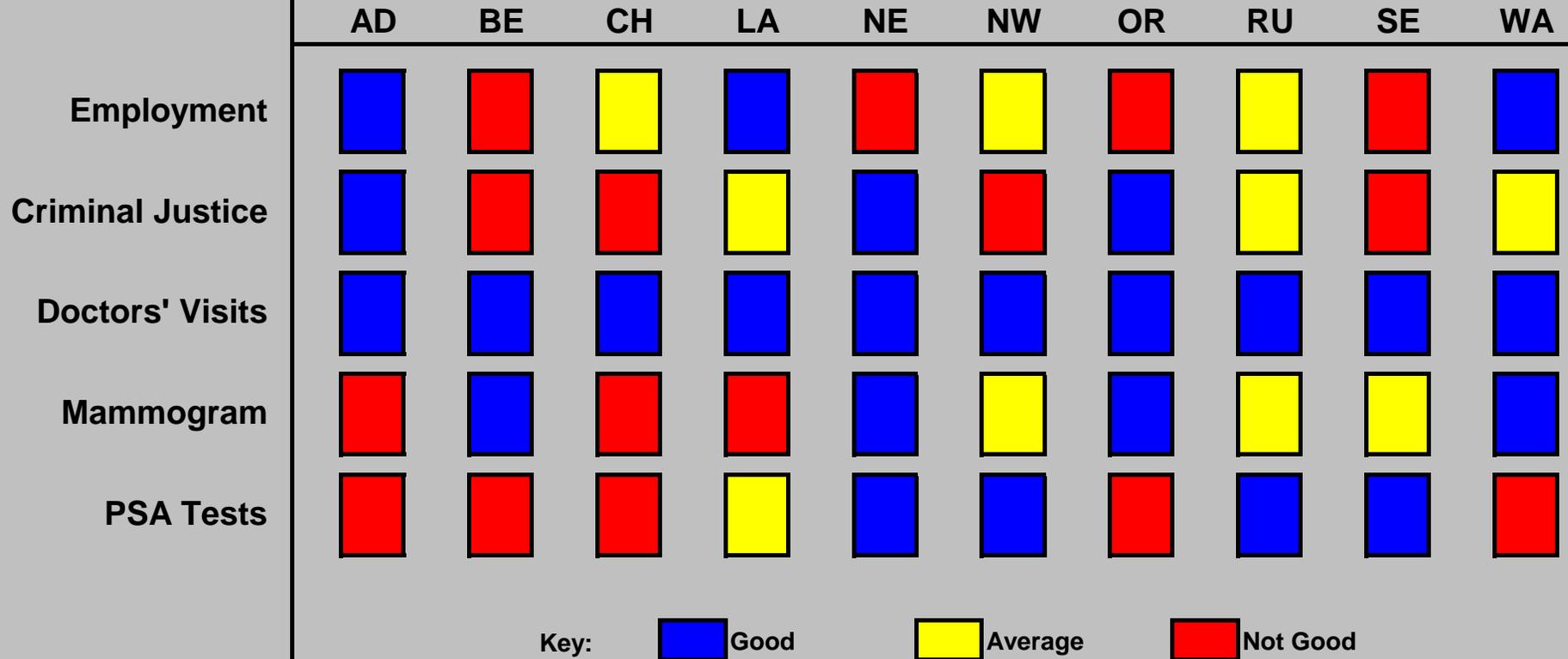
² Handout “Using Data to Empower Consumer Choice”:

<http://www.thebristolobservatory.com/fulltext/JNC2006handout.pdf>

³ Slideshow “Using Data to Empower Consumer Choice”:

http://206.196.29.126/Sites/ds2000/Documents/Conference_2006/Pandiani,%20John.ppt

Selected Indicators of CRT Program Performance



	REGION																			
	Addison		Bennington		Chittenden		Lamoille		Northeast		Northwest		Orange		Rutland		Southeast		Washington	
	Rate	% of Best	Rate	% of Best	Rate	% of Best	Rate	% of Best	Rate	% of Best	Rate	% of Best	Rate	% of Best	Rate	% of Best	Rate	% of Best	Rate	% of Best
Employment	25%	93%	15%	55%	22%	81%	27%	100%	16%	58%	22%	83%	17%	63%	20%	73%	17%	62%	24%	90%
Criminal Justice	0.67	65%	1.07	41%	1.06	41%	0.96	45%	0.44	100%	1.19	37%	0.77	57%	0.86	51%	1.07	41%	0.95	46%
Doctors' Visits	68%	85%	80%	100%	70%	88%	76%	96%	76%	95%	75%	94%	71%	88%	78%	97%	74%	92%	76%	95%
Mammogram	33%	58%	52%	92%	36%	63%	35%	62%	48%	85%	44%	77%	51%	90%	44%	78%	44%	78%	57%	100%
PSA Tests	0%	0%	5%	50%	5%	48%	8%	71%	9%	85%	10%	90%	5%	50%	11%	100%	11%	99%	6%	53%

Change in employment is based on data provided by the Vermont Department of Employment and Training (DET). Change in criminal Justice involvement is based on anonymous arrest data provided to DMH by the Vermont Department of Public Safety. Because these datasets do not include unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation was used to determine unduplicated counts of caseload size and overlap. The three measures of access to medical care are based on analysis of extracts from the VT Medicaid database.