

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Agency of Human Services, Department of Mental Health
103 South Main Street, Waterbury, Vermont 05671

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

FROM: John Pandiani and Barbara Carroll

DATE: October 1, 2010

RE: Parents' Participation in Their Children's Mental Health Services.

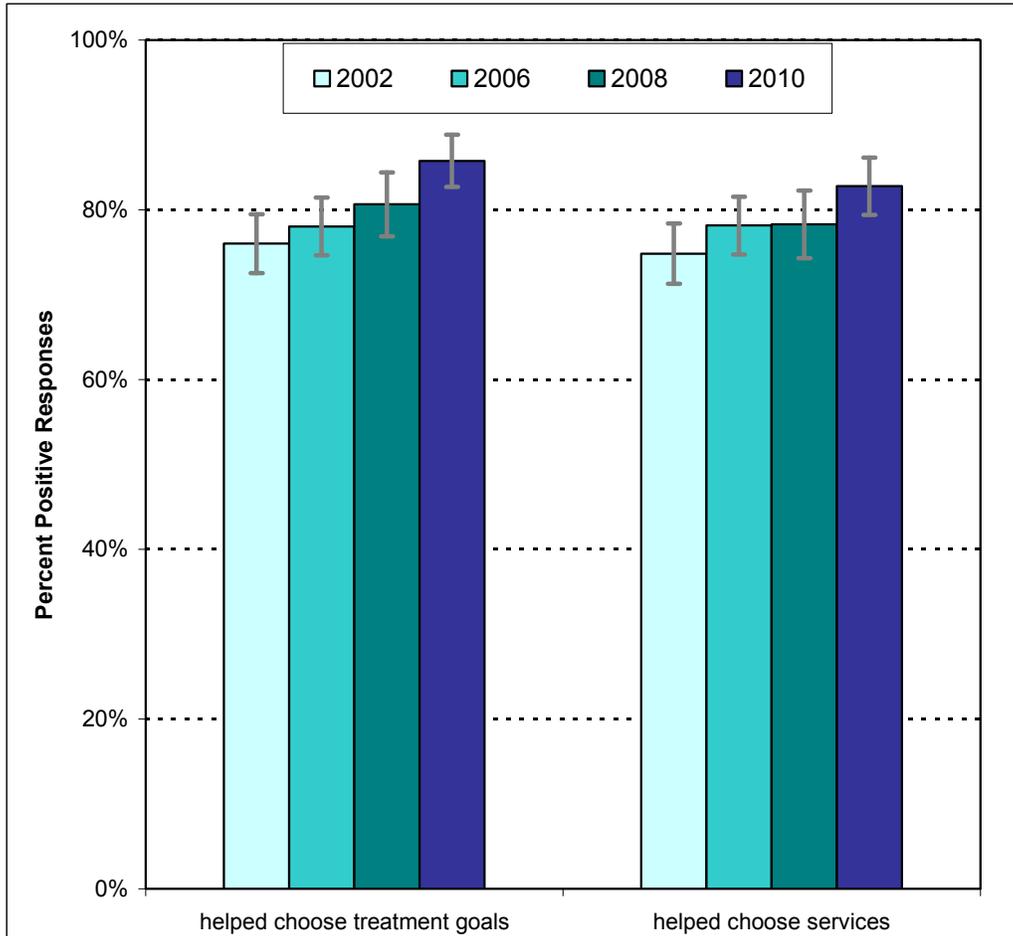
This week's brief report provides information regarding parents' reports of the degree to which they participated in decisions regarding their child's treatment goals and their child's services during four years: 2002, 2006, 2008, and 2010. This report is the first in a series of reports that will provide information about various aspects of parents' evaluations of the services their children received.

The parent surveys included fixed-alternative and open-ended questions designed to provide information that would help stakeholders to compare the performance of child and adolescent mental health programs in Vermont. The survey instrument was based on the Mental Health Statistics Improvement Program (MHSIP) Consumer Survey developed by a multi-state work group and modified in response to input from Vermont stakeholders. Parent survey response rates declined substantially from 28% in 2002 to 24% in 2006, 22% in 2008, and 21% in 2010.

As you will see, the rate at which parents reported participating in decisions regarding their child's treatment goals increased steadily from 76% in 2002 to 78% in 2006, 81% in 2008, and 86% in 2010. The rate at which parents reported participating in decisions regarding their child's services also increased, from 75% in 2002 to 78% during 2006 and 2008, and 83% in 2010.

We look forward to your questions and comments about this report, and your suggestions for further analyses of these data. As always, we can be reached at pip@ahs.state.vt.us or 802-241-4049.

**Parents' Participation in Children's Treatment
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Programs
Vermont: 2002 - 2010**



Year of Parent Survey	Responses to "I helped choose my child's ..."			
	treatment goals		services	
	#	% Positive	#	% Positive
2002	586	76% ± 3%	574	75% ± 4%
2006	565	78% ± 3%	565	78% ± 3%
2008	425	81% ± 4%	411	78% ± 4%
2010	494	86% ± 3%	481	83% ± 3%

Analysis is based on responses to surveys of parents of children served by Vermont's Department of Mental Health regional community-based child and adolescent mental health programs. Responses of "agree" or "strongly agree" are considered positive, compared to "no opinion", "disagree", and "strongly disagree".