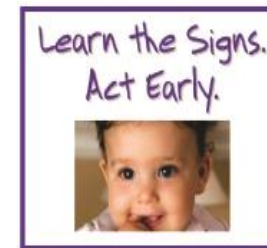




Developmental Monitoring Program for WIC Annual Survey Results



U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services

Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention



Year 5 Extension Survey



Intensive State Survey

4 states completed



Technical Assistance State
Survey

16 states completed

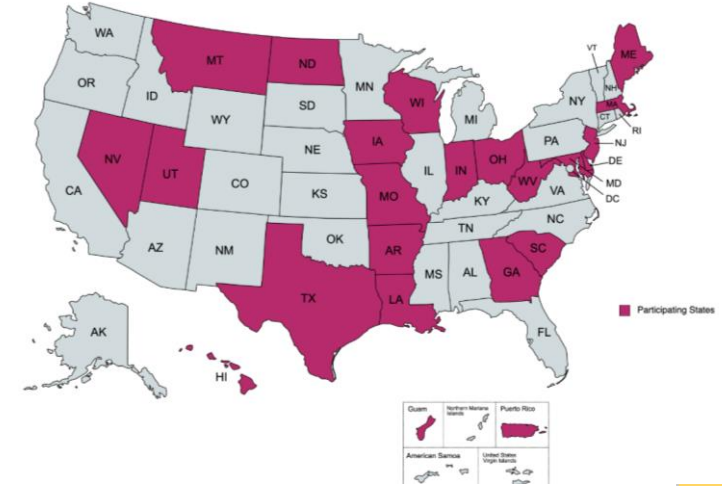


Clinic Staff Survey

67 clinic staff completed

Combined Intensive State & Technical Assistance State Survey Results

- 16 states have begun implementing DM
 - 8 statewide
- 7 states have hopes to expand & 10 have plans to continue their current efforts
- 19 states encourage their clinics to promote the Milestone Tracker App
- 94% felt well supported by ASPHN and CDC



“Our partnership with ASPHN during planning and implementation was crucial to our success; our accomplishments are a testament of ASPHN’s support.”

– Intensive State who has expanded statewide

Intensive State & Technical Assistance State Data

Most Commonly Used LTSAE Materials:

- CDC's Milestone Checklists (Paper)
- WICShopper App Developmental Content
- CDC's Milestone Tracker App
- CDC and/or State Specific Online Checklists
- Participant Education Modules (WIChealth.org, WICSmart, WIC-ed.com, etc.)
- ASPHN's "Introduction to Child Development for WIC Staff" training module

How States are Encouraging the Checklists in Clinics:

- Sharing information about LTSAE in newsletters
- Providing trainings on LTSAE
- Sharing ASPHN's monthly WIC DM newsletters
- Providing incentives (One example: "We currently have a staff monetary incentive if their program is able to reach a certain number within a chosen metric. One of the four metric options is DM.")

Intensive State & Technical Assistance State Data

Barriers:

- 25% not enough staff time
- 19% WIC staff are hesitant to add another program or initiative
- 16% staff turnover
- 16% faced no barriers
- Other: increasing caseloads with staff shortages, problems with the EI program, competing priorities

Suggestions for how we can better support you:

- Easier access to materials and funds for printing costs
- Continue monthly trainings

Quotes from Intensive & TA State Surveys

A few of the quotes gathered from the state survey include:

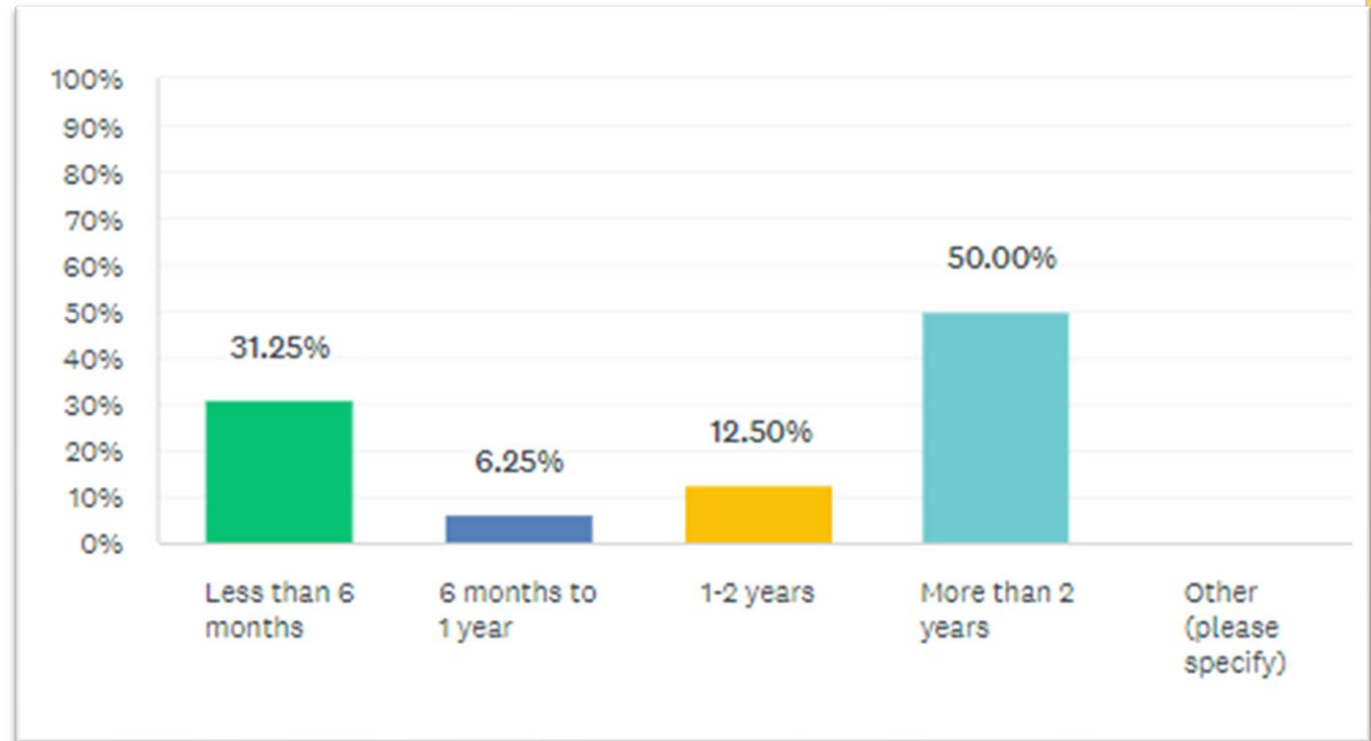
"I felt both agencies, especially ASPHN, provided excellent support/technical assistance. Amber was always available when needed for questions/technical assistance. The monthly check-in meetings and trainings were a great way to learn more and/or network with other state and local WIC programs doing the same work."

"I think this program is such a great benefit to our WIC families, and it ties nicely with WIC's mission since nutrition, growth, and development are all connected. I'm also excited to continue to work with our state's LTSAE Ambassador. This project helped us get connected with her."

"WIC staff were very diligent about asking questions to clarify how to document referrals and letting me know about problems with making referrals to EI program. Because of this, we were able to work with the EI program to brainstorm work-arounds for providing referrals over the phone while the online referral system was not working. It took more time from staff, but the referrals were made."

Clinic Staff Survey Results

- Completed by 67 staff from AR, LA, MA, MO, ND, NH, NJ, WI
- Mostly nutritionists/CPAs
- Most responders have been using the checklists for either more than 2 years or less than 6 months. (*see table on the right*)
- 65% said that the checklist adds less than 5 minutes to the WIC appointment.



Clinic Staff Survey Results

Most Commonly Used LTSAE Materials:

- CDC's Milestone Checklists (Paper)
- CDC's Milestone Tracker App
- CDC's Wall & Floor Graphics
- ASPHN's "Introduction to Child Development for WIC Staff" training module
- WICShopper App Developmental Content

Problems getting started:

- No problems (40%)
- Materials slow to arrive (33%)
- Staff Shortages (26.7%)
- Lack of time (20%)
- Materials took longer than expected to arrive (13%), other tasks took priority (13%) and other

Clinic Staff Survey Results

88%

- The program is beneficial

85%

- The program is easy for families to use and easy to administer

77%

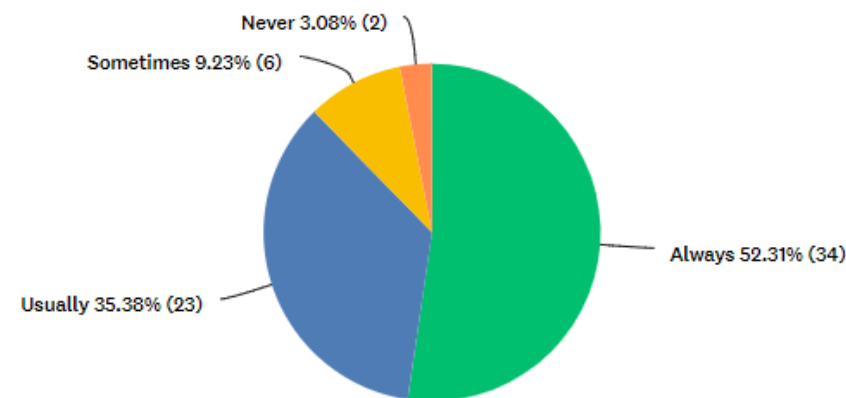
- Like offering the milestone checklists to families

78%

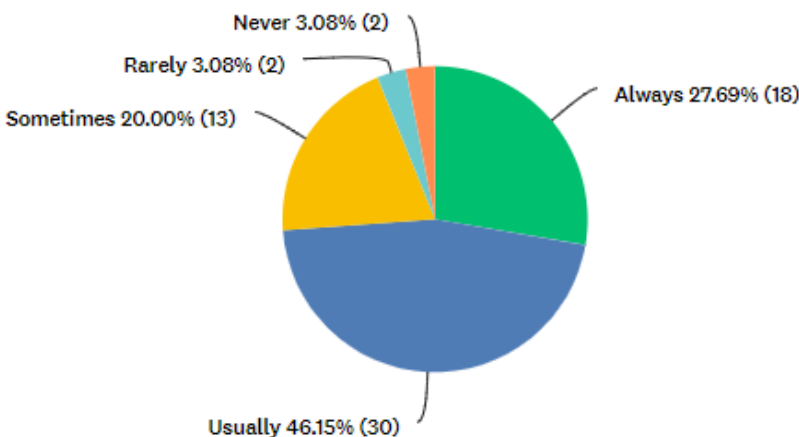
- Say families are willing to complete checklists

How clinic staff feel about the checklist program and their comfort levels

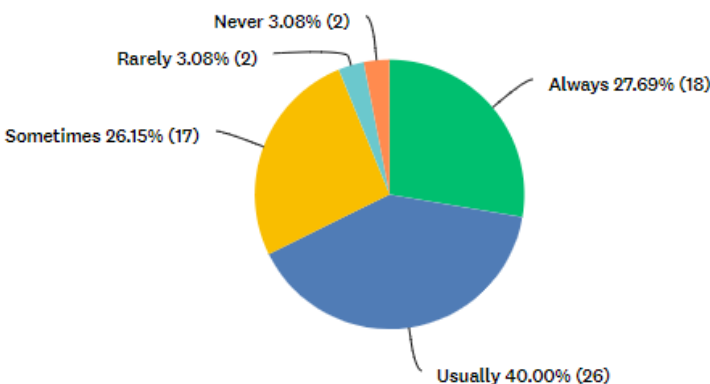
Most staff feel comfortable supporting parents when they are concerned about their child’s development.



Most staff feel comfortable talking to families about the results of the checklists.

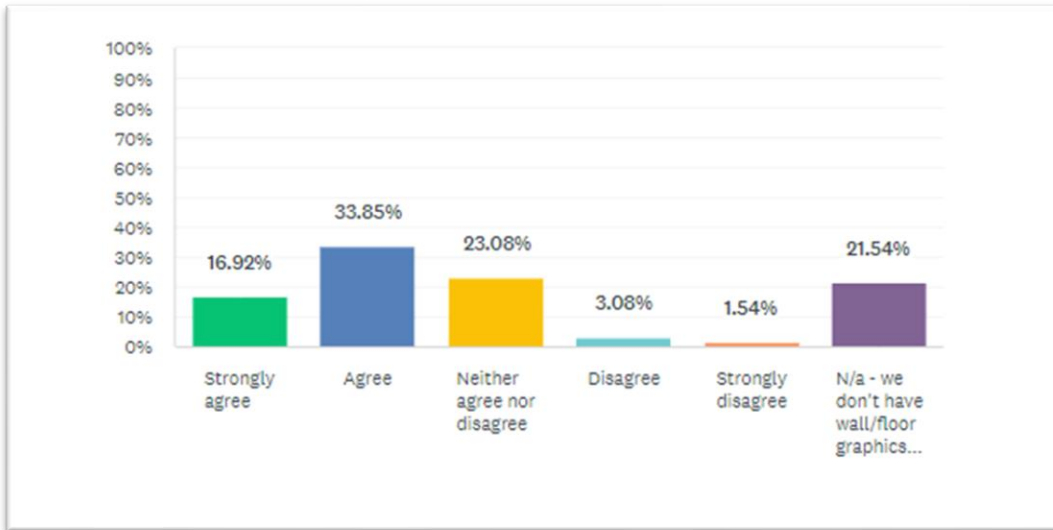


Staff rarely received pushback after providing a referral.

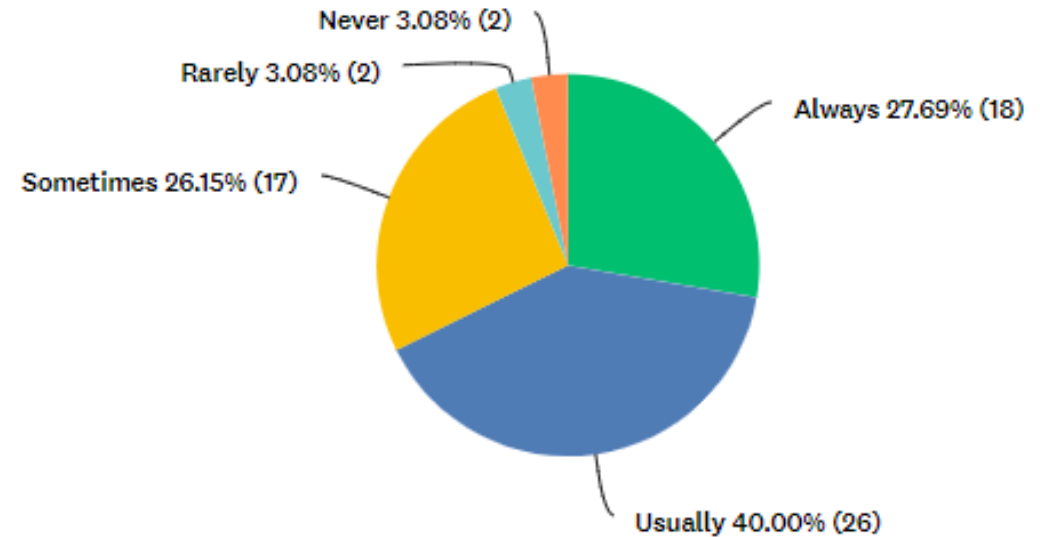


Clinic Staff Survey Results

Most staff agree that families seem to notice the wall/floor graphics.



Most Staff say the checklists fit easily into the flow of WIC appointments.



Clinic Staff Survey Results

Suggestions for improving the WIC DM Program:

- More time needed during appointments to offer the checklists.
- More clear resources on where to refer participants.
- Training on child development.
- More languages for the checklists (Kinyarwanda, Swahili, French, Spanish, etc.)
- Written info on how other agencies are implementing. Sharing of helpful hints.
- Recommendations on how to implement the checklist better into an appointment.
- Communication with the EI program before starting a pilot. *“Make sure that the Early Intervention Office is agreeable and on board to this. WIC Staff need to feel confident that if a child needs to be referred on, or if a parent has a question or concern, that the Early Intervention Office will be receptive and willing to help. I can't say that I feel that here.”*
- Feedback from some Intensive State Clinics: Having materials on hand during clinic training and decreasing time between clinic training and implementing.

Positive Stories Shared

“My favorite experiences are with those parents that get the news that their children are on track. I love seeing how proud and excited they get. Parents light up and feel empowered.”

“We had a mother that was concerned that her child was not meeting the milestones that she read on the checklist for their age. We referred them to their primary provider, and they had test done and was able to get a diagnosis to what was going on.”

“We had a client that felt something was off but her pediatrician just wasn't responding to her concerns - had her complete the survey at 2 and 4 months then referred her on. Ended up the baby's vision was not as it should be so developmental delays were occurring. Now has a specialist”

“We had a child who did not meet the developmental milestones when we did the checklist screening. Upon talking to mom, she stated the child had been screened at the physician's office as well and they were continuing more testing. This seemed to help reinforce the physicians' findings and the mother was more agreeable to making sure the additional testing would be completed.”

Next Steps

- ASPHN and CDC will use the results of these surveys to inform our work during this year (October 2024-September 2025).
 - Develop new resources
 - Provide guidance on the referral process.
 - Offer trainings geared toward WIC clinic staff.
 - Notifying WIC when new resources are being developed and timelines for release.
 - Ensuring WIC clinic staff have materials on hand before training takes place.
 - Continue supporting the WICShopper app and nutrition education module content.

Questions/Thoughts About Survey Results

1. How can you use these results to inform your work?
2. How can CDC/ASPHN use these results?
3. Anything you'd like to see from this project over the coming year (October 2024-September 2025)?

Upcoming Funding Opportunity

- Intensive State Application – Due December 15th
- What questions do you have?
- Please let me know of any topics of interest for future calls.