TAACCCT Annual Performance Report (APR) Thermometer

Rounds 2, 3 and 4

Interpreting the Results

The TAACCCT Annual Performance Report (APR) Thermometer compares a grantees’s performance outcomes reported in the APR against the applicable targets projected in the Statement of Work (SOW). It can be used to assess grantee progress toward achieving its own outcomes. In general, there are columns that display these numbers, along with percentages in additional columns, as explained below. Please note that the thermometers are designed only to capture the standardized outcomes in the APR. Any customized measures added by grantees in the APR or additional outcome targets in a grantees’s SOW are not reflected. Also, participant-related outcomes are one aspect of grantees outcomes and deliverables. Progress toward the development of proposed deliverables should also be assessed separately.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outcomes for which grantees were asked to provide targets in their SOWs include:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Total Unique Participants Served/Enrolled (corresponds to APR data element B1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Total Number of Participants Completing a TAACCCT-Funded Program of Study (corresponds to APR data element B2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Total Number of Participants Still Retained in Their Program of Study or Other TAACCCT-Funded Program (corresponds to APR data element B3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Total Number of Participants Completing Credit Hours (corresponds to APR data element B5a)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Total Number of Participants Earning Credentials (corresponds to the sum of APR data elements 6a+6b+6c)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Total Number of Participants Enrolled in Further Education After TAACCCT-Funded Program of Study Completion (corresponds to APR data element B7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Total Number of Participants Employed After TAACCCT-Funded Program of Study Completion (corresponds to APR data element B8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Total Number of Participants Retained in Employment After Program of Study Completion (corresponds to APR data element B9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Total Number of Those Participants Employed at Enrollment Who Received a Wage Increase Post-Enrollment (corresponds to APR data element B10)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
THERMOMETER COLUMN EXPLANATIONS

Number from APR: Aggregate numbers provided in the Annual Performance Report by the grantee for the outcomes.

Target from SOW: Targets provided in the Statement of Work by the grantee.

Percent of Target Number Achieved: This column displays the percent of the target that has been achieved to date and is calculated as follows: Target from SOW (numerator) column divided by the Number from APR column for each outcome.

Actual Rate/Avg Out of Eligible Participants: Based on the definitions of each outcome as shown in the OMB package, only certain participants are eligible to be counted in some data elements in the APR based upon whether they are counted in other data elements. For example, only completers can be counted as having been placed into employment. The rates and averages are calculated as follows:

1. Total Unique Participants Served/Enrolled: N/A
2. Total Number of Participants Completing a TAACCCT-Funded Program of Study: Number of participants completing a program (B2) divided by the number of participants (B1) * 100
3. Total Number of Participants Still Retained in Their Program of Study or Other TAACCCT-Funded Program: Number of participants still retained in their program or other TAACCCT-funded program (B3) divided by the number of participants (B1) * 100
4. Total Number of Participants Completing Credit Hours: Number of participants completing credit hours (B5a) divided by the number of participants (B1) * 100
5. Total Number of Participants Earning Credentials: The sum of the numbers of participants earning certificates of less than one year (B6a), more than one year (B6b) and degrees (B6c) divided by the number of participants (B1) * 100
6. Total Number of Participants Enrolled in Further Education After TAACCCT-Funded Program of Study Completion: Number of students pursuing further education (B7) divided by the number of participants (B1) * 100
7. Total Number of Participants Employed After TAACCCT-Funded Program of Study Completion: Number of participants entering employment (B8) divided by the number of completers (B2) * 100
8. Total Number of Participants Retained in Employment After Program of Study Completion: Number of participants retaining employment (B9) divided by the number entering employment (B8) * 100
9. Total Number of Those Participants Employed at Enrollment Who Received a Wage Increase Post-Enrollment: Number of incumbent workers: N/A

READING THE THERMOMETER YEAR-BY-YEAR

The purpose of each year’s table is to show how the grantee is performing against its annual milestones. Therefore, for each year’s table, the targets and number reported in the APR for each outcome are shown for that year only, which means that the percentages shown are also calculated for that year only. What this means is that if the percentage is low, a grantee is far behind its projected targets for that particular year without taking into account the total outcome targets, which may indicate a challenge.

READING THE THERMOMETER’S “TOTAL” TABLE

The purpose of this table is to show how the grantee is performing against its total targets to see whether it is on track to complete its goals by the end of the period of performance. The columns that are not auto-calculated are derived from the following sources:

Number from APR column: cumulative for all APR years to date

Target from SOW (numerator) column: total target from SOW
In the first year, grantees a grantee’s percent of target achieved are often expected to be low, given that the numbers reported are compared against the target projected for the entire grant period. However, as time elapses in the grant period, the percentage attained toward the target should increase dramatically. If it does not, this may indicate a challenge.

**TIPS FOR ASSESSMENT**

- Look for areas where large “drop-offs” occur and determine if this reflects a challenge in grant implementation. Examples:
  - Is the percentage of target number of participants high, yet the percentage of target number of completers low? Assess why. Potential reasons could include that the length of the program has not allowed for many completers to be reported yet, or it could be that student retention is low.
  - Is the percentage of target number of completers high, yet the number placed into employment low? Again, assess why. Potential reasons could include that the participants have not yet exited the college, that data has not yet been received from state agencies providing wage records, or that participants are not getting jobs after completing programs, which would indicate a challenge.

**Resources**

- Rounds 2/3/4 FAQ #1: General:  
  https://etagrantees.workforce3one.org/view/2001410557601650396/info  
  Contains information about definition participants

- Rounds 2/3/4 FAQ #2: Annual Performance Report:  
  https://etagrantees.workforce3one.org/view/2001410557985572913/info

- Rounds 2/3/4 FAQ #3: Non-Credit Participants:  
  https://etagrantees.workforce3one.org/view/2001410559213074633/info  
  More information about defining participants

- Rounds 2/3/4 FAQ #4: Miscellaneous Questions on Reporting:  
  https://etagrantees.workforce3one.org/view/2001410558626580501/info

- OMB Reporting Package for Rounds 2/3/4:  
  https://etagrantees.workforce3one.org/view/2001317238525173049/info  
  Contains definitions of outcomes listed above