

State Interagency Coordinating Council

April 4, 2022 Minutes
Family Focus Event
9:00 AM-12:00 PM
Remote Zoom Meeting

Cynthia Jackson

ICC Chair/Provider

Leona Adamczyk

ICC Vice

Ann Gionet

Dept. of Public Health

Tiffanie Allain

Parent Representative

Kim Nilson

Dept. for Children and Families

Maris Pelkey

Creative Interventions

Elaine Balsley

ReachOut

Nicole Cossette

Office of Early Childhood

Senator Mary Abrams

State Senator

Shanda Easley

Parent representative

Sharon Marie

Dept. of Aging & Disabilities Services

Ginny, Mahoney

Dept. of Social Services

Anne Giordano

Education Connection

Carol Peltier

American School for the Deaf

Louis Tallarita

SDE-Homeless Children

Andrea Brinnell

SDE-619

Karen Pascale

Early Head Start

Myra Watnick

Rehabilitation Associates, Inc.

Ann Milanese, M.D.

American Academy of Pediatrics

Representative Liz Linehan

House of Representatives

Tammy Venenga

Dept. Of Developmental Services

Mary Beth Bruder

UCEDD

Lisa Opert

Parent Representative

Robb Dunn

Parent Representative

David Gonzalez-Rice

Parent representative

Lauren Black

Parent Representative

Melissa Roberts

Department of Insurance

ICC Members Present: Andrea Brinnel, Anne Giordano, Cindy Jackson, Tiffanie Allain, Shanda Easley, Ann Milanese, Carol Peltier, Elaine Balsley, Ginny Mahoney, Myra Watnick, Nicole Cossette, Robb Dunn, Lisa Opert, Karen Pascale, Maris Pelkey, Leona Adamczyk, Sharon Marie, Tammy Venenga, Louis Tallarita

ICC Members Absent: Representative Linehan, Senator Abrams, Melissa Roberts, Mary Beth Bruder (Bethanne Vergean present for UCEDD), Kim Nilson, Ann Gionet, Lauren Black, David Gonzalez-Rice

CPAC represented by Adriana Fontaine

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM by Cindy Jackson ICC Chair

Introductions: ICC members in attendance introduced.

Carol Peltier was recognized for her 8 years as an ICC member, plus the many years in support of children and families in the Birth to Three System. Well wishes were given to Carol for her impending retirement.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Old Business:

Approval of the February 14, 2022 minutes: Approved.

A small workgroup met with Elisabeth Teller from the Lead Agency at the end of March to provide input and suggestions for this year's priority rubric.

The Equity subcommittee continues to work out details for ICC retreat with equity focus.

OSEP conference scheduled for July 18-21. ICC usually sends 1-2 people to attend. Any member interested is to let Cindy know. Tiffanie Allain expressed interest in attending.

Updates from Committees since February 2022 meeting:

Legislative/Fiscal Committee Providers met with Nicole Cossette and Commissioner Bye to discuss the financial impacts on programs. Programs are requesting a meeting with Mary Coyle, finance with OEC B23, to understand escrow payments.

Education and Outreach Committee Stalled with magnets as the question of who/where will fund is determined. Committee continues to work on FAQ for B23 website. Members of this committee have been busy supporting families speaking or sharing their stories for today's Family Focus event.

System Support/Personnel Development Committee Jen Buffington to finalize roadmap of transition process. The roadmap has been shared with CPAC who has branding people looking it over to make suggested edits.

New Business:

Family Focus:

Lisa, Leona, and Adriana from CPAC supported families sharing their stories, either in person remotely or with written statements. The goal for this year's event was to have families who received B23 supports during COVID. Written statement from Lindsey Silva read by Lisa. Allison, with her daughter Zoe, attended remotely and shared appreciation of B23 supports for her family and daughter. Written statement from Tara Picard read by Adriana. Michelle Fitzgerald attended remotely and shared her experience with B23 supports. Written statement from Kim read by Leona. Written statement from Gwen Nguyen read by Adriana. Written statement from Jaime Rearden read by Lisa. Lisa also shared verbal statement from a foster family who shared praise for B23 and the help given but was unable to formally submit a written statement. Elisabeth Teller provided her contact information for families as the Lead Agency Family Liaison if they would like to talk further about their experiences. Cindy stated how these family stories highlight the current recruitment and retention concerns in the system including the need for experienced staff, a full team available, and family choice options.

Nicole Cossette shared results of Family Surveys from 2021. Discussion with ICC members of how the data from these surveys should be used, such as looking for trends and TA needs for support, especially around families understanding their rights and stating their needs.

Lead Agency report by Nicole Cossette. See attached.

Committee reports out:

Legislative/fiscal topics: Discussion around escrow numbers being reported. A group will be meeting with Mary Coyle from Lead Agency for clear understanding of the numbers to go legislature and OPM. Further discussion of recruitment and retention concerns. The group will organize list of questions for Mary in prep for the meeting with her.

Education and Outreach topics: Further magnet discussion as there are providers not wanting magnets. Discussion around other options if not going with magnets. Discussion around engagement opportunities for families such as places to have day of fun or picnic. Ideas shared included Camp Harkness, Bushnell Park, Orchards, Farms.

System Support/Personnel Development topics: Used parent stories from today to guide system PD, such as reflective practice and relationship building, transition themes. Discussion around upcoming joint convening between Part B and C and research from Yale in use of puppets, with more info to come. Robb Dunn to be new co-chair. Chairs of committees are looking for info on the roles of subcommittee chairs, what do the bylaws say.

Next Meeting: scheduled for June 6, 2022. Survey will be sent to gauge the interest in having this meeting in-person versus remote. American School for the Deaf has previously offered their space which would support hybrid meeting as well.



State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

Parents will be able to describe their child's abilities and challenges more effectively as a result of their participation in Early Intervention.

SPP / APR / SSIP

- The FFY20 public reporting tables are posted.
- State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) Week of Clarification begins April 18, 2022.
- FFY21 Family Surveys will be sent out in the coming weeks.

Education and Outreach

- Birth to Three and Early Head Start Convening held on March 29, 2022, with good attendance to discuss the updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- Department of Children Families (DCF) outreach presentations covering Birth to Three referrals/evaluation/supports are being scheduled.
- Parent Cabinet Panel on Birth to Three scheduled for April 2022

Personnel Development

- Circle of Security (COS): staff will receive training on COS through a combination of funding from DCF Grant and lead agency American Rescue Plan Amendment (ARPA) funds.
- Planning has begun for the second annual joint convening of Part C/Part B. Save the date! June 2, 2022 11am-1pm. More details are coming soon.

Fiscal Enhancements

- The *DRAFT* Annual Part C Application is posted here: <https://www.birth23.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Part-C-FFY-2022-Application-DRAFT.pdf>
- The Lead Agency continues to work with Public Consulting Group on the adjudication process.
- Several Memorandum of Agreements (MOA) expires on June 30, 2022. Lead Agency Staff is working with contractors to renew those MOA.
- A second General Administrative Payment will be paid to programs during April.
- Nicole Cossette, Part C Coordinator, and Elisabeth Teller, General Supervision Coordinator, meet bi-weekly with the Center for IDEA Fiscal Reporting (CiFR) to review IDEA Part C Funds and expenditures.
- In March, Nicole and Elisabeth presented on a panel with two other states at the CiFR national conference.

Leadership Grant

- The Annual Performance Report (APR) is due May 6, 2022.
- The second cohort of the leadership academy meets weekly. Scholars are beginning to plan their academy projects.
- The Lead Agency staff are meeting with scholars on the proposed projects.

Personnel Development Grant

- The Annual Performance Report (APR) is due May 6, 2022.
- Year two will also focus on updating and solidifying Birth to Three's professional development/career pathway. Analysis and alignment work is scheduled to begin in April. The goal being – well-qualified staff and staff retention.
- Dathan Rush and M'Lisa Shelden will be doing the 3-day training to support the next round of coaches as we start thinking about year three of the PD grant. This training will be held remotely from November 15-17 (11/15 & 16 will be Family coach training, and the 17th will be mentor coach training).

General Supervision

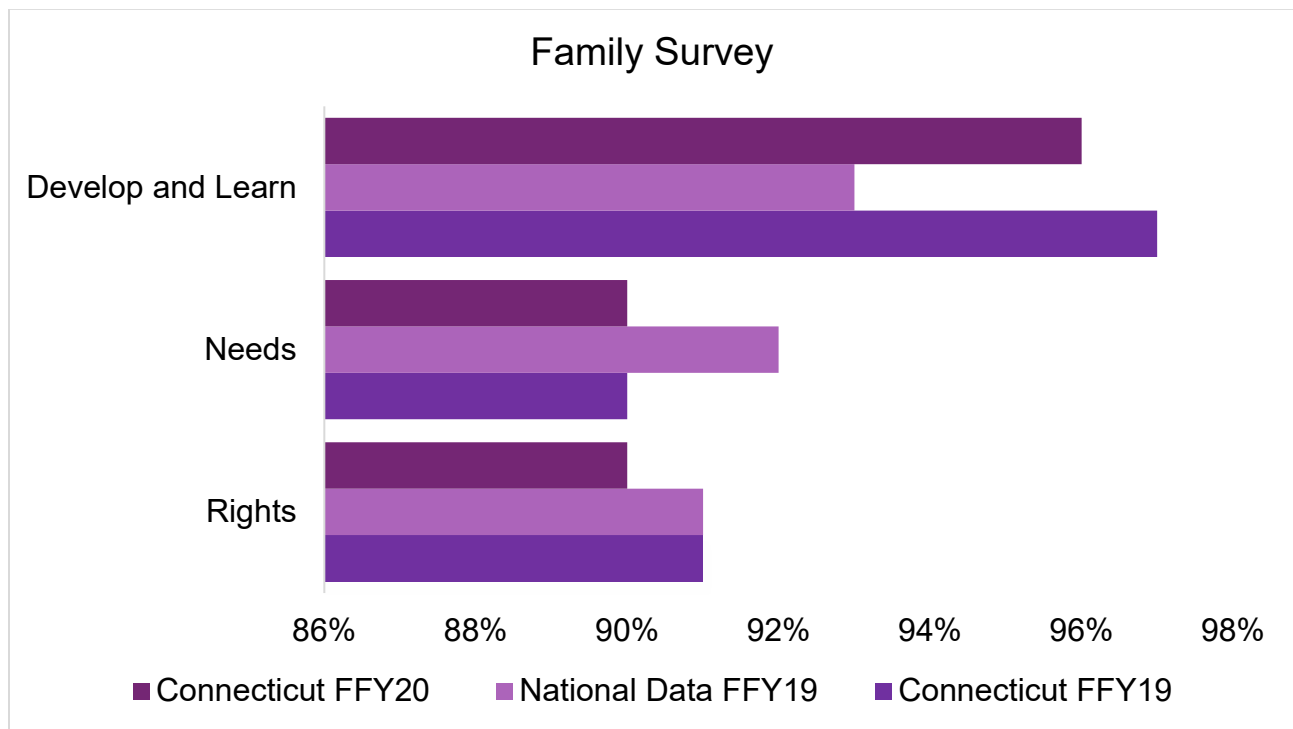
- The Lead Agency met with stakeholders to discuss Priority Rubric categories, measures, and timelines.
- A complaint came into the Lead Agency on March 7 that was found to have non-compliance.
- The Lead Agency is currently taking feedback for the minimal revision to the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

Data

The enrollment and fiscal data requested by the ICC on a regular basis is attached.

Family Survey

Report Presents information on Connecticut's Family Survey Responses compared to national responses.



Connecticut's Data Collection:

- NCSEAM Family Survey
- Sent Yearly
- Eligible families have children who have been enrolled for over six months and not exited.

Connecticut Office of Early Childhood Birth to Three System Monthly Enrollment Data

| | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar* |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Calls to 211CD | 1008 | 1302 | 1110 | 1111 | 1086 | 1119 | 1116 | 1088 | 981 | 1094 | 1745 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (1113) | 91% | 117% | 100% | 100% | 98% | 101% | 100% | 98% | 88% | 98% | 157% |
| <i>Families declining the referral to B23¹</i> | 185 | 255 | 182 | 187 | 207 | 196 | 188 | 198 | 169 | 82 | 47 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (199) | 93% | 128% | 91% | 94% | 104% | 98% | 94% | 99% | 85% | 41% | 24% |
| Percent of calls to 211CD (CY2019 average was 17%) | 18% | 20% | 16% | 17% | 19% | 18% | 17% | 18% | 17% | 7% | 3% |
| Referrals to Birth to Three | 823 | 1045 | 927 | 924 | 879 | 923 | 925 | 882 | 790 | 826 | 1235 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (913) | 90% | 114% | 102% | 101% | 96% | 101% | 101% | 97% | 87% | 90% | 135% |
| <i>Families declining eligibility evaluations²</i> | 78 | 99 | 103 | 86 | 81 | 69 | 90 | 86 | 74 | 75 | 66 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (67) | 116% | 148% | 154% | 128% | 121% | 103% | 134% | 128% | 110% | 112% | 99% |
| Percent of B23 referrals (CY2019 average was 7%) | 9% | 9% | 11% | 9% | 9% | 7% | 10% | 10% | 9% | 9% | 5% |
| Initial Eligibility Determinations | 802 | 875 | 816 | 923 | 802 | 813 | 804 | 783 | 831 | 781 | 852 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (843) | 94% | 102% | 95% | 108% | 94% | 95% | 94% | 92% | 97% | 91% | 100% |
| Determined to be Eligible | 613 | 631 | 559 | 633 | 574 | 564 | 577 | 548 | 599 | 566 | 637 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (570) | 108% | 111% | 98% | 111% | 101% | 99% | 101% | 96% | 105% | 99% | 112% |
| Percent Eligible | 76% | 72% | 69% | 69% | 72% | 69% | 72% | 70% | 72% | 72% | 75% |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (68%) | 8% | 4% | 1% | 1% | 4% | 1% | 4% | 2% | 4% | 4% | 7% |
| <i>Families leaving Part C in the month before an initial IFSP meeting³</i> | 41 | 42 | 35 | 28 | 40 | 36 | 28 | 21 | 33 | 28 | 17 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (55) | 75% | 76% | 64% | 51% | 73% | 65% | 51% | 38% | 60% | 51% | 31% |
| Percent of B23 those eligible (CY2019 average was 10%) | 7% | 7% | 6% | 4% | 7% | 6% | 5% | 4% | 6% | 5% | 3% |
| Initial IFSP meeting held during the month | 525 | 555 | 569 | 585 | 555 | 528 | 563 | 555 | 575 | 526 | 499 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (516) | 102% | 108% | 110% | 113% | 108% | 102% | 109% | 108% | 111% | 102% | 97% |
| <i>Families leaving Part C after the initial IFSP meeting but before EITS³</i> | 12 | 14 | 12 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 13 | 6 | 7 | 14 | 4 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (15) | 80% | 93% | 80% | 67% | 100% | 67% | 87% | 40% | 47% | 93% | 27% |
| Percent of all Exits | 3% | 4% | 3% | 1% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 1% | 2% | 3% | 1% |

Connecticut Office of Early Childhood Birth to Three System Monthly Enrollment Data

| | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar* |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Eligible children who received an EITS in the month | 5219 | 5324 | 5360 | 5630 | 5530 | 5565 | 5597 | 5553 | 5648 | 5846 | 5464 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (5177) | 101% | 103% | 104% | 109% | 107% | 107% | 108% | 107% | 109% | 113% | 106% |
| Average hours per child per month | 5.3 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 4.7 | 4.9 | 5.0 | 4.5 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (7.3) | 73% | 75% | 71% | 71% | 71% | 71% | 71% | 64% | 67% | 68% | 62% |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| Eligible children with an ASD who received an EITS in the month | 610 | 564 | 530 | 675 | 694 | 674 | 634 | 675 | 694 | 634 | 91 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (676) | 90% | 83% | 78% | 100% | 103% | 100% | 94% | 100% | 103% | 94% | 13% |
| Average hours per child per month | 14.5 | 14.1 | 15.0 | 13.9 | 11.7 | 12.3 | 12.3 | 11.3 | 11.6 | 12.3 | 1.6 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (24.9) | 58% | 56% | 60% | 56% | 47% | 49% | 49% | 45% | 47% | 49% | 6% |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Eligible children without an ASD who received an EITS in the month | 4609 | 4760 | 4830 | 4955 | 4836 | 4891 | 4963 | 4878 | 4954 | 5212 | 5373 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (4529) | 102% | 105% | 107% | 109% | 107% | 108% | 110% | 108% | 109% | 115% | 119% |
| Average hours per child per month | 4.4 | 4.2 | 4.7 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 3.7 | 1.1 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (4.7) | 93% | 90% | 100% | 92% | 85% | 89% | 87% | 89% | 89% | 79% | 23% |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Children in families who exited before age 3³ | 211 | 210 | 237 | 473 | 311 | 198 | 182 | 150 | 156 | 188 | 132 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (224) | 94% | 94% | 106% | 211% | 139% | 88% | 81% | 67% | 70% | 84% | 59% |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| Children in families who exited at age 3⁴ | 255 | 172 | 124 | 253 | 319 | 327 | 263 | 382 | 310 | 292 | 249 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (322) | 79% | 53% | 39% | 79% | 99% | 102% | 82% | 119% | 96% | 91% | 77% |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| Children in Families who exited at age 3 as eligible for Part B | 189 | 87 | 56 | 174 | 214 | 226 | 179 | 270 | 196 | 194 | 174 |
| Percent compared to CY2019 average (225) | 84% | 39% | 25% | 77% | 95% | 100% | 80% | 120% | 87% | 86% | 77% |

March data preliminary as of 4/3/22

All counts are counts of cases and include may include referrals within 45 days of age 3.

- 1) includes parent declined, referred to LEA, DCF no concerns and unable to contact
- 2) includes parent declined, moved out of CT, deceased and unable to contact
- 3) EITS stands for Early Intervention "Treatment" Services vs EIS (also evaluations, assessments, and IFSP meetings)
- 3) includes parent withdrew, moved out of CT, deceased and unable to contact
- 4) includes eligible for Part B, not eligible, and eligibility not determined/LEA not included

| All Visits | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| | January | | February | | March* | |
| R/E Group | <i>In-Person</i> | <i>Remote</i> | <i>In-Person</i> | <i>Remote</i> | <i>In-Person</i> | <i>Remote</i> |
| All | 80% | 20% | 81% | 19% | 82% | 18% |
| Hispanic | 81% | 19% | 82% | 18% | 84% | 16% |
| Black Non-Hispanic | 82% | 18% | 81% | 19% | 81% | 19% |
| White Non-Hispanic | 83% | 20% | 81% | 19% | 82% | 18% |
| Other Non-Hispanic | 82% | 14% | 87% | 13% | 81% | 19% |
| <i>*March Preliminary as of 4/3/22</i> | | | | | | |

| <i>March Remote versus In-Person F84*</i> | | |
|---|------------------|---------------|
| R/E Group | In-Person | Remote |
| All | 52% | 47% |
| Hispanic | 53% | 46% |
| Black Non-Hispanic | 55% | 44% |
| White Non-Hispanic | 52% | 47% |
| Other Non-Hispanic | 50% | 50% |
| <i>*March Preliminary as of 4/3/22</i> | | |

Connecticut Birth to Three System Fiscal Data Report

| OEC Birth to Three System Direct Service Expenditures ¹ | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|--------|--------|
| Invoice | Jun-21 | Jul-21 | Aug-21 | Sep-21 | Oct-21 | Nov-21 | Jan-22 | Feb-22 | Mar-22 | Apr-22 | May-22 |
| Paid in | Jul-21 | Aug-21 | Sep-21 | Oct-21 | Nov-21 | Dec-21 | Feb-22 | Mar-22 | Apr-22 | May-22 | Jun-22 |
| Escrow | 2,974,994 | 2,834,630 | 2,834,859 | 2,787,842 | 2,806,686 | 2,999,325 | 3,310,356 | 3,323,278 | | | |
| GAP | 398,000 | 404,300 | 421,200 | 418,200 | 422,600 | 426,000 | 426,400 | 429,000 | | | |
| Interpretation | 20,907 | 17,343 | 23,828 | 11,396 | 5,750 | 27,063 | 14,933 | 5,285 | | | |
| ATech + Other | 8,765 | 4,576 | 7,644 | 5,294 | 7,972 | 10,273 | 10,997 | 12,021 | | | |
| Total | 3,402,666 | 3,260,849 | 3,287,532 | 3,222,732 | 3,243,008 | 3,462,660 | 3,762,686 | 3,769,584 | | | |
| Commercial Insurance Payments ² | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Jul-21 | Aug-21 | Sep-21 | Oct-21 | Nov-21 | Dec-22 | Jan-22 | Feb-22 | Mar-22 | Mar-22 | Apr-22 |
| Claims Paid | 293,193 | 312,397 | 254,076 | 246,402 | 257,926 | 226,708 | 237,916 | 173,988 | | | |
| Amount Billed | 2,226,090 | 2,991,324 | 1,531,551 | 1,461,915 | 1,411,701 | 982,668 | 796,170 | 1,031,268 | 1,141,045 | | |
| %Paid/Billed | 13% | 10% | 17% | 17% | 18% | 23% | 30% | 17% | | | |
| Billing Fees | - | 30,993 | 21,868 | - | 17,800 | 35,303 | 15,870 | - | | | |
| OEC Birth to Three State Allocation Budget Actual & Projections [Surplus / (Deficit)] ³ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Invoices | Jun-21 | Jul-21 | Aug-21 | Sep-21 | Oct-21 | Nov-21 | Dec-21 | Jan-22 | Feb-22 | Mar-22 | Apr-22 |
| Report | Jul-21 | Aug-21 | Sep-21 | Oct-21 | Nov-21 | Dec-21 | Jan-22 | Feb-22 | Mar-22 | Apr-22 | May-22 |
| Deficit Proj | 921,660 | 1,026,669 | 440,947 | 85,615 | 273,246 | 21,236 | 2,953 | 0 | | | |
| Direct Service Hours ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FY | 19 Act. | 20 Act. | 21 Act. | 22 Est. | 1) Based on Budget Tracking system as of January 2022 | | | | | | |
| Jun | 36,792 | 39,459 | 33,683 | 34,276 | 2) Based on data from PCG using date paid not date of service | | | | | | |
| Jul | 36,942 | 42,673 | 34,273 | 32,815 | Values in grey are being double checked with PCG. | | | | | | |
| Aug | 38,265 | 41,179 | 30,114 | 33,879 | 3) Based on monthly estimates by the OEC including a list of assumptions and data that | | | | | | |
| Sept | 35,742 | 42,384 | 31,226 | 33,868 | change frequently | | | | | | |
| Oct | 41,640 | 44,791 | 31,724 | 34,088 | 4) Based on reconciled invoices (actual) and estimates using a list of assumptions using | | | | | | |
| Nov | 37,810 | 38,150 | 29,208 | 33,941 | available information | | | | | | |
| Dec | 33,032 | 49,433 | 30,734 | 30,902 | Actual | | | | | | |
| Jan | 41,645 | 42,772 | 30,865 | 31,401 | Estimated | | | | | | |
| Feb | 37,283 | 41,300 | 30,888 | 35,521 | | | | | | | |
| Mar | 40,631 | 32,283 | 35,848 | 41,225 | | | | | | | |
| Apr | 42,542 | 33,630 | 31,892 | 38,270 | | | | | | | |
| May | 44,478 | 32,416 | 31,720 | 38,064 | | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | | | | | | |
| % Chg | 466,801 | 480,470 | 382,171 | 419,594 | | | | | | | |
| | 55.88% | 2.93% | -20.46% | 9.79% | | | | | | | |