



Alabama Early Intervention Systems Family Survey 2021 Results

Who Took the Survey



523 caregivers of children receiving AEIS services in all 67 counties in Alabama. Jefferson, Madison, Mobile, Shelby, and Tuscaloosa counties have the highest number of responses.



Most caregivers (94%) have one child receiving AEIS services. The rest have between 2 and 4 children receiving services.



Half of caregivers who took the survey (49%) have a child between 25 and 36 months receiving AEIS services. Some caregivers (41%) have a child between 13 and 24 months, and the rest (10%) have a child under 12 months.



Caregivers were asked to share the race and ethnicity of their child(ren) in AEIS. Most said their children are White (64.7%) or Black or African American (28.2%). Some caregivers said their children are Hispanic or Latino (4.6%).

Families' Experience with AEIS

Most caregivers said that their AEIS Provider:

- Asked about their family's daily activities (95.8%).
- Talked with them about services that fit with their family's daily activities (95.0%).
- Talked with them about what they most want for their family and child from AEIS (97.5%).
- Talked with them about setting goals for their family and child (98.5%).
- Included them fully when setting goals for their child (97.2%).

Most caregivers said that:

- All of their child's goals fit with their family's daily activities (83.8%).
- All of their child's goals fit with what matters most to their family (90.6%).

Families' Satisfaction with AEIS

Most caregivers were very or mostly satisfied with their AEIS provider.

96.2%



Our therapist has given us great activities to do with our daughter that feel more like play than work. She also listens to our questions and concerns.

- Survey Respondent



Strengths and Opportunities for Improvement

Caregivers said that the strengths of AEIS are: Communication and consistency, free and accessible services available in the home and natural environment, high quality providers who listen and care, services tailored towards children and families, services that support caregivers, and a variety of services offered.

Caregivers said that AEIS could improve by: Communicating better, broadening the eligible age range, increasing and improving use of technology to support caregivers, increasing the number of providers and trainings that are offered, increasing the number of visits and time with children, providing more information and resources, reducing scheduling conflicts and offering more options, and shortening the amount of time it takes to get an initial appointment.

AEIS Goals

The majority of caregivers agreed with the AEIS goals and targets:

1 For 30 more children each year to improve their social-emotional skills. This means 150 more children will make improvements by 2025.

2 By 2025, 74 more children will have social-emotional skills at the same level as other children their age.

Social emotional skills are so vital and any increases are very much a step in the right direction.
- Survey Respondent

3 For 30 more children each year to improve their knowledge, skills, and language communication. This means 150 more children will make improvements by 2025.

4 By 2025, 59 more children will have knowledge, skills, and language communication at the same level as other children their age.

It is important for children to learn how to communicate so they can make it in life to be successful adults. Now is the time to help them the most.
- Survey Respondent

5 For 30 more children each year to improve their use of appropriate behavior. This means 150 more children will make improvements by 2025.

6 By 2025, 73 more children will use appropriate behavior at the same level as other children their age.

Social queues and concepts are hard to grasp. The more we equip them the better we can educate them.
- Survey Respondent

7 For one more family each year to report that they know their rights, are able to communicate their child's needs, and are able to support their child's growth outside of AEIS. This means 5 more families by 2025.

8 To serve at least 34 more children ages birth to one year. This means at least 171 more children served, ages birth to one year, by 2025.

9 To serve at least 162 more children ages birth to three years. This means at least 811 more children served, ages birth to three years, by 2025.

Everyone deserves to be happy and function in everyday life, this program gives that opportunity!
- Survey Respondent