



Columbia River Wraparound (CRW) Evaluation Report Glossary

The purpose of this glossary is to provide interpretation support for the monthly CRW Evaluation Reports. As new terms are presented in the Evaluation Reports readers will be referred to this document.

Anonymous/ Anonymity:	The term anonymous in research or evaluation means that the respondents are totally unknown to everyone, including the researchers.
Average:	See Mean definition below. They are the same.
Axis I:	This is a term for the section of the DSM IV that refers to clinical disorders.
Confidential:	The term confidential in research or evaluation means that the information shared by respondents in the study is held private. The SOC evaluation data is confidential.
Degrees of Freedom:	A phrase used in statistical testing referring to the number of independent observations.
Demographic:	Demographics are characteristics of human populations such as age, ethnicity, or income.
DSM IV:	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders - Fourth Edition. This manual is used to formalize and catalog mental disorders. There are five main categories in the DSM IV: Clinical Disorders; Personality Disorders & Mental Retardation; General Medical Conditions; Psychosocial & Environmental Problems; and a Global Assessment of Functioning.
Diagnostic:	Diagnostic refers to the identification of a particular disorder or characteristic.
Longitudinal:	This term refers to how we look at data or a specific study design. Longitudinal refers to looking for <i>change over time</i> with the same people. This means that when we look at long-term outcomes, only people that have data at all the different time points (e.g., intake, 6-month, 12-month, 18-month) will be included.
Mean:	The total of the responses divided by the number of responses.

Example:
Let's say that 10 of the families in System of Care report their yearly income.

One family makes \$100,000 per year	100,000 +
Two families make \$75,000 per year	75,000 +
Two families makes \$50,000 per year	75,000 +
Four families makes \$15,000 per year	50,000 +
One family makes \$9,000 per year	50,000 +
	15,000 +
	15,000 +
	15,000 +
	15,000 +
	9,000
	419,000
	Divided by 10 (the number of responses) =
	\$41,900
	The mean salary is \$41,900

Adapted from <http://www.robertniles.com/stats/mean.shtml>

Range:	The difference between the highest and lowest score. For example, using the example above, the range in salaries is \$81,000. Taking the highest salary, \$100,000 and subtracting the lowest salary \$9,000 determines this value.
Paired t-test:	A t-test is a statistical technique used to determine if the overall group difference between two means, or averages, is significantly different from one another. In a t-test, it could be that data from different people make up the data set. In a paired t-test, the groups have to include all the same people at both time points. The advantage of a paired t-test is that you are sure that the analysis is considering the same people over time instead of a different combination of data at the two time points.
Standard Deviation (SD):	This is a statistical term that indicates how much difference exists in the sample, or how much variability there is in the sample. If you have a big standard deviation in relation to your average, it means your data is very spread out or had a wide range. If you have a small standard deviation in relation to your average, it means that the range of responses is much smaller. SD is the abbreviation for standard deviation.
Significance Level:	The probability of obtaining the results by chance or error. For example, if you see $p < .05$. This means that there is less than a 5% chance that the results are due to error instead of an true effect or that the results could occur by chance 5 out of 100 times.
Subscale/ Subscale Score:	A group of questions on the same topic can be grouped together to create a subscale. For example, if I ask 5 questions about educational planning, the responses can be grouped to give us an overall measure of educational planning. That way we can talk about an overall measure of educational planning that may take into account different aspects of planning instead of talking about each question individually.
Standard Score:	A standard score is a way to compare scores difference from the mean or average score. It is most used in clinical measures that compare to a mean.
T-Score:	A type of standard score.
Valid Percent:	A <i>valid percent</i> removes the “refused to answer,” “don’t know” or “not applicable” responses to a given question from the analysis. While using a valid percentage is more accurate in understanding the reported data, it means that the number of people that are included in the calculation may vary in accordance with the individual questions.
	<i>Why does this happen?</i> It happens because caregivers and youth are not required to answer all the questions in the evaluation because participation is voluntary. Or, caseworkers may not know the answer to some questions. In turn, during analysis, a researcher must make a determination about how to treat ‘non-valid’ responses.

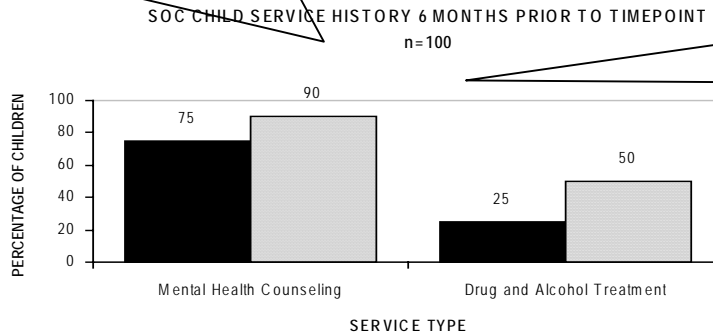
How to Read A Bar Graph:

Note: The data in the graph below is fake and is only for tutorial purposes.

The **main title** of the bar graph reveals details about what the bar graph is reporting. In this example, the graph is about what services kids got in the 6 months before the data was collected. A **timepoint** refers to the moment in time that data gets collected.

This tells you that information about 100 people is being reported in the bar graph. The **sample size** is called the "n."

The **Y Axis** is up the left side of a bar graph. It typically reports amounts. The **Y Axis Title** will tell you the units used in reporting.



Like on a map, the **legend** tells you how to interpret the information in the actual bars. **Baseline** means beginning. So in this case, it means upon entry to SOC. **Mos** is short for month.

The **X axis** is along the bottom of a bar graph. Like the main title, the **X Axis Title** tells you about what is being reported in the graph. In this case, information about two kinds of services are being reported: Mental Health Counseling and Drug and Alcohol Treatment

For a little more help:

Glossaries, dictionaries, and tutorials: <http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/pgGlossaries.shtml>
Reading line, pie, and bar charts: <http://www.mathleague.com/help/data/data.htm>
List of mental health terms: <http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/pgGlossaryOfChildrensMH.shtml>