



Foundational Principles

August 2021



Since its inception in 1997, National Core Indicators has been guided by a core set of principles and assumptions:

- People with intellectual and developmental disabilities are the most important people to hear from regarding the performance of public services and supports for IDD
- NCI data should be actionable so it can influence federal and state policies and practices
- NCI data should contribute to knowledge and research in the IDD field; NCI should collaborate with researchers and publish findings
- NCI results should be available publicly, allow for comparisons among states, and be available in formats that are accessible to all stakeholders including people with IDD
- NCI measures should focus on aspirational goals, not just the status quo
- NCI data should be used for quality improvement, not to assess and reward compliance
- NCI surveys should be reviewed periodically to make sure they stay aligned with the collective vision of the IDD field and relevant to the needs of public IDD managers
- NCI data should inform NASDDDS strategic planning and priority setting
- NCI protocols, data collection, and data analysis should be based on the best available science and standards for measuring people's opinions and behaviors (aka robust psychometric standards)
- NCI survey content and processes should be reviewed to make sure the data can be used to advance equity of opportunity



Standards for IPS Survey Administration



- No individual participant is preemptively deemed unable to participate
- The person with IDD is always included in the survey and participates as much as they are able
- The IPS survey process and content are continually reviewed to make sure that the maximum number of people with IDD can respond no matter what their level of disability
- Surveyors respect the preferences of the people with IDD who are participating in the survey, including with respect to how and where they participate
- The survey is designed to ensure that there are no questions that could potentially make someone feel anxious, uncomfortable, or sad
- The survey questions are based on quality-of-life domains that reflect the aspirations of people with IDD and as well as the field of IDD
- Survey participants are guaranteed that their responses are confidential