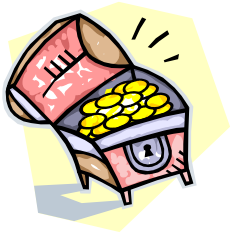


RSA 911 Data Is a Gold Mine If You Have the Right Shovel!



4th Annual Summit on Vocational Rehabilitation Program
Evaluation & Quality Assurance

September 13, 2011

Sukyeong Pi, Ph.D.

Virginia Thielsen, Ph.D.

Michigan State University



Agenda

- Basic information of the RSA-911 data
- A Logic Model (Input-Process-Output)
- Things to do with the RSA-911 data
- Ways to find and deal with funky data/outliers
- Investigation of the effectiveness of VR services to VR outcomes



Basic Info of the RSA-911 Data

How do you know
what it means and
what is where?...

Policy Directives
are our Friend!

<http://www.ed.gov/policy/speced/guid/rsa/pd/2009/pd-09-01.pdf>

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND
REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

POLICY DIRECTIVE
RSA-PD-09-01
DATE: December 9, 2008

ADDRESSEES: STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES
CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

SUBJECT: This is to inform you that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the use of the Case Service Report (RSA-911) through October 31, 2011. The OMB control number for this collection is 1820-0508.

POLICY STATEMENT: The data elements and record layout have not been changed from those transmitted with PD-07-01 (October 5, 2006).

State vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies should examine their data for accuracy with the RSA_ERA Program before submitting their file to us. The most current version of the RSA_ERA can be downloaded from the following URL: http://www.scvrd.net/g_eralink.html. All information must be provided in the format outlined in the edit specifications.



Example from the PD

11. Individualized Education Program (IEP) Record Position: 40

Use one of the following codes to indicate whether the individual ever received services under an IEP in accordance with the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Use code 1 if the individual was in special education or an ungraded classroom.

- 0 Did not have an IEP
- 1 Had an IEP
- * Information is not available for Closure Code 1



Data Analysis Tools

- What do you use to analyze data?

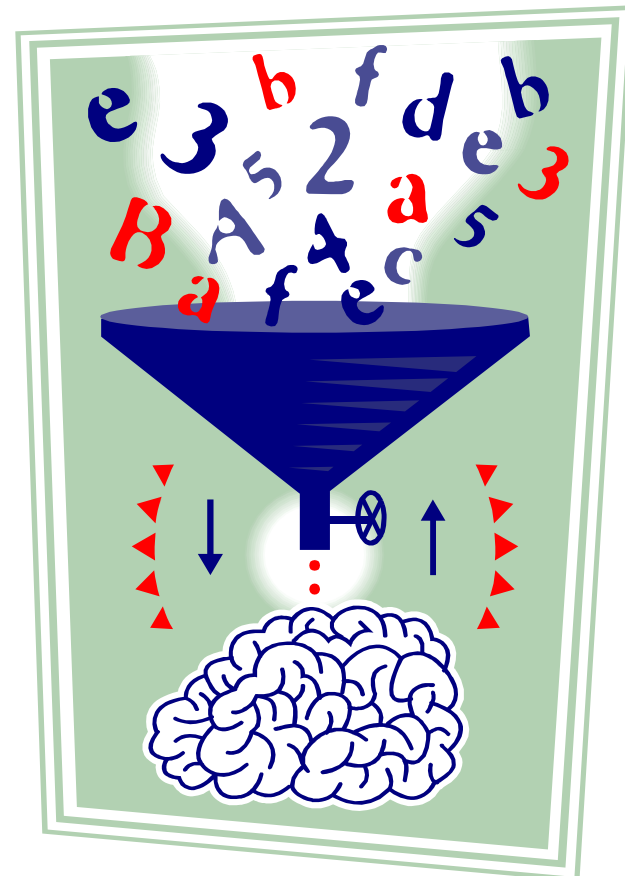


How Do You Make It Usable?

CONVERSION!

Examples:

- Race/Ethnicity
- Age
- Date variables
- Service variables
- Weekly Earnings to Hourly wage



Additional Variables We Create

- Depends on what we are investigating, for example, we convert some of the continuous variables to categorical variables to make a comparison between groups and to display the data in a meaningful way.

Example:

- Age Categories (e.g., Youth, Working Age, Older Workers, etc)

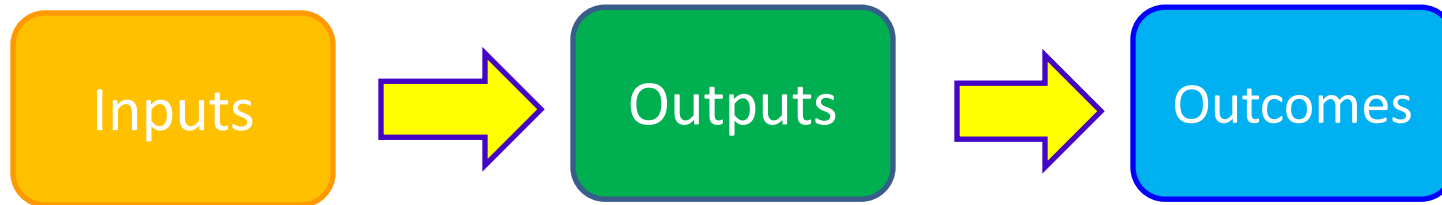


How Long Does All This Take to Do?

First time, a
loooooong time...
unless you have
colleagues that
are willing to
share the syntax
with you!



Logic Model



- ▶ **INPUTS:** resources, contributions, investments that go into the program (e.g., age, type of disabilities, education level at application)
- ▶ **OUTPUTS:** specific activities, services and products provided to people who participate or who are targeted (e.g., job placement services, training services)
- ▶ **OUTCOMES:** results or changes for individuals, groups, the agency and/or key external stakeholders (e.g., type of closure, hourly wage at closure)



Types of PE Questions

Description

- Does our agency serve a higher proportion of youth than (1) other states in our Region; (2) other general/combined state agencies?

Relationship (Difference or Association)

- Are there any differences in earning patterns between male and female consumers with an employment outcome?

Trends Over Time

- Were there any changes in consumer profile in our agency over the past five years?



Examples of Data Analysis

1. Describe Consumer Characteristics
2. Develop a Baseline
3. Identify Relationships
4. Compare Groups
5. Find and Track Trends



Effectiveness of VR Services

- What impact do specific groups have on the agency's standard and performance indicator outcomes?

Examples:

- Age
- Supported Employment
- Minority Status
- Type of Disability



Funky Data and Outliers

- Ways to find funky data and outliers and strategies to deal with them



Let's DIG into the Data!

- Live Demonstration!
(*we hope*)



**COMMENTS
OR
QUESTIONS**



THANKS!

