

**ANALYSIS OF SCSEP NATIONWIDE PROGRAM YEAR 2017  
DATA VALIDATION RESULTS OF PY 2016 DATA**

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## OVERVIEW

SCSEP Data Validation has occurred each year since PY 2007. Data Validation for PY 2017 was conducted between December 20, 2017, and July 6, 2018. Seventy-three of 76 grantees completed their entire validation, and three grantees did not complete validation during that period. 99.1 percent of all required validatable elements were validated.

This report presents the nationwide results of the PY 2017 validation of PY 2016 data. Like Data Validation itself, the report is organized into two sections: Eligibility and Performance. Within each section, the results are presented for groups of related data elements.

Within each table, the data elements are presented by the mean nationwide error rate in descending order to show the most error-prone elements for that group at the top. In addition to the nationwide error rate, presented for each element are the number of errors nationwide, the number of records that were subject to validation for that element, the number of grantees that have errors in more than 20 percent of the records for that element, and the number of grantees whose error rate for the element is one standard deviation or more<sup>1</sup> above the nationwide average<sup>2</sup>.

Following each table is a section entitled *Important Considerations*, which suggests reasons that the element may have caused problems for users and the likely sources of error. The actual sources of errors, however, may be different for each grantee or sub-grantee. Therefore, the causes listed in this section are provided merely as a guide that grantees may use in investigating the cause of their own sub-grantees' errors and in identifying elements for which additional training may be needed. Also included in this section is information about the change in error rates for each element from PY 2016 to PY 2017.

Appendix I of this document contains the same information as the tables in the main text, with data elements listed for each of the two sample types in the order in which each data element appears in the data collection forms and SPARQ. Appendix II contains the same information listed in descending order of the mean error rate. Appendix III shows the change in error rate from the PY 2016 Data Validation to the PY 2017 Data Validation for each data element.

## LIMITATIONS OF THE REPORT

1. Although ETA has not developed data quality standards for data element validation, grantees may compare the estimate of the error rates in their SPARQ Data Validation Report to the estimates of the error rates for the nationwide results presented here. Please note that the nationwide error rates presented in this analysis only provide estimates of the error rates, not the "actual" error rates. Since some data elements are not validated for some sampled records and, for the performance sample, the probability of selecting a

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<sup>1</sup> Standard deviation is a measure of variation of data in a distribution from the mean value of those data. One standard deviation accounts for approximately 68 percent of the variation in a group.

<sup>2</sup> The data elements not validated by the three grantees that did not complete their validation were counted as failures.

record is proportional to the size (i.e. weight) of the record, we are unable to determine how precise these estimates are. To estimate the precision of the error rates it would be necessary to calculate the standard error for the sample and for the relevant population.

2. All the results reported are based on the validation conducted by the grantee validators; there has been no effort to assess the accuracy or consistency of the validation performed. Therefore, differences among grantees may be due to different approaches to data validation taken by different validators. Where grantees have used multiple validators, there may also be inconsistencies in scoring for the elements within a single grantee in a single year or across multiple years.

## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The nationwide results for PY 2017 show a wide distribution of error rates by data element, ranging from 0 percent for types of training received OJE (A20.c) to 29-43 percent for date of termination letter (E6b) and four barriers to employment (P54, P53, P52, and P51). The unweighted average error rate for all data elements is 10.9 percent, down from 13.4 percent in PY 2016. The number of grantees with error rates more than 20 percent for a data element ranges from 0 for types of training received (A.20.c) and did employer provide an OJE (U8) to the low- to mid-20's for five elements (U29d, P29, U29f, U30c, and P51), 27 for persistent unemployment (P54), and 29 for date of termination letter (E6b).

The unweighted average error rate for the eligibility sample (6.75 percent) is substantially lower than the unweighted average error rate for the performance sample (15.79 percent). Similarly, the average number of grantees with error rates greater than 20 percent is substantially lower for the eligibility sample (8.44) than for the performance sample (14.00).

Chart 1 provides details of the change in error rates from PY 2016 to PY 2017 for individual data elements. For the 39 data elements (out of 46 total elements) that were validated in both years, the average error rate on 25 elements decreased by 4.25 percentage points while the average error rate on 14 elements increased by 1.32 percentage points. Performance on seven data elements could not be determined in PY 2016 due to technical issues.

Chart 1

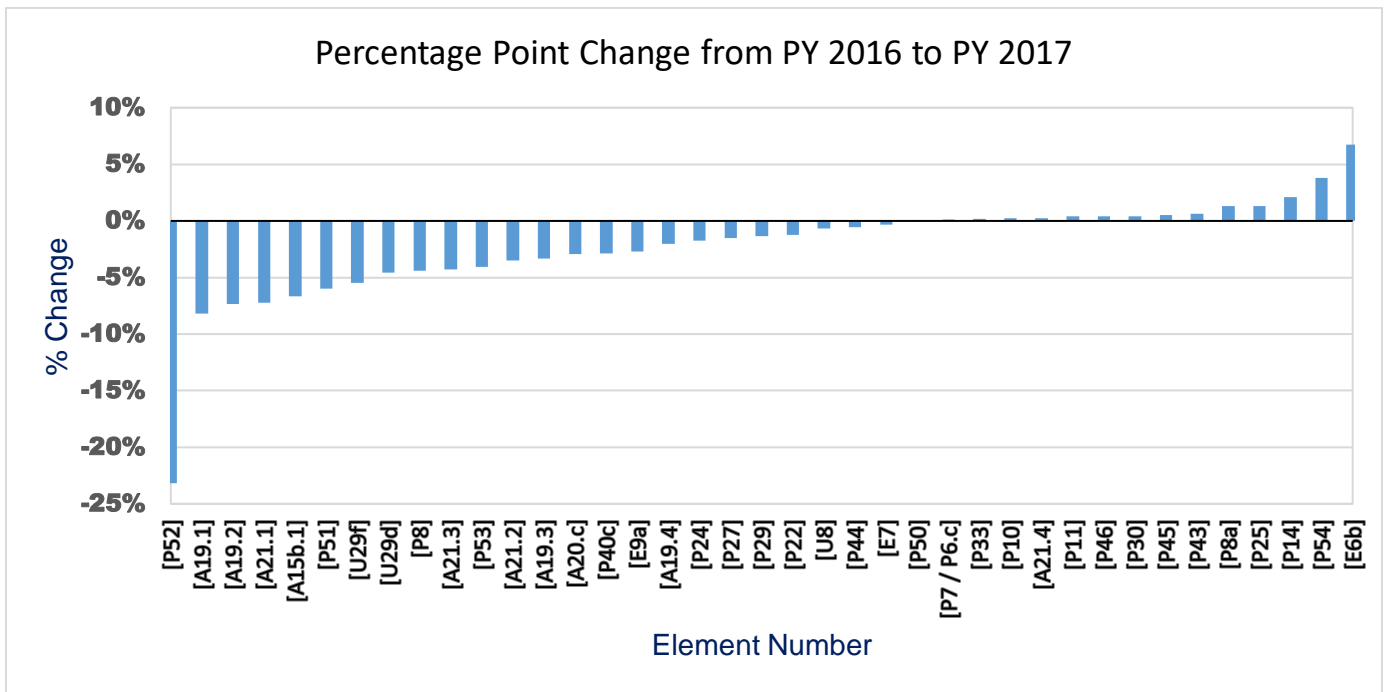
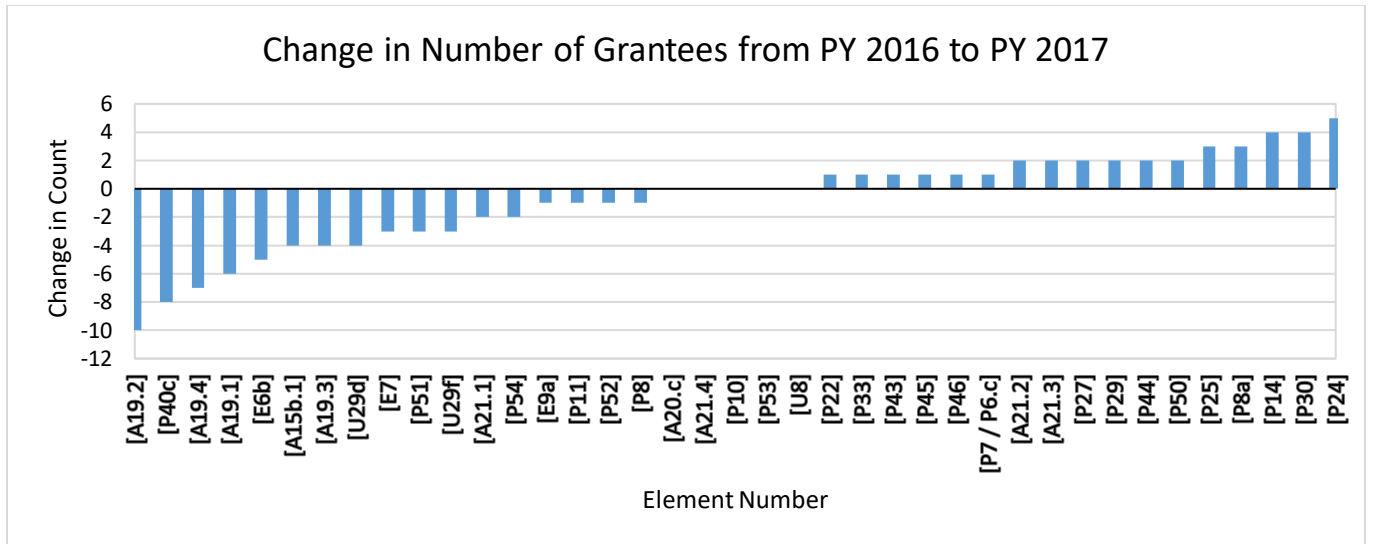


Chart 2 shows the distribution of the change from PY 2016 to PY 2017 in the number of grantees with error rates greater than 20 percent for each data element. The change in this measure from PY 2016 was mixed. On 17 data elements, the average number of grantees with error rates greater than 20 percent decreased by 3.82 grantees while the average number of grantees with error rates greater than 20 percent increased on 17 data elements by 2.18 grantees; performance on five data elements had no change from PY 2016. Performance on seven data elements could not be determined in PY 2016 due to technical issues.

Chart 2



## **CROSS-CUTTING CONSIDERATIONS FOR IMPROVING DATA VALIDATION SUCCESS**

In addition to the specific considerations listed for each data table, the considerations below may apply to many or all elements.

- ◆ Many high failure rates may be attributable to a lack of systematic documentation to support data validation elements entered into SPARQ even though the elements themselves are accurate.
- ◆ Consistent training of sub-grantees is needed to ensure that the system and methods for managing the documentation of data elements are properly and consistently implemented.
- ◆ Multiple-step validations are easily misinterpreted or misunderstood. Training provided to sub-grantees should focus attention on those elements whose validation requires multiple steps to ensure that all required information is documented.
- ◆ Elements that are relatively new, or for which the documentation requirements recently changed, may also warrant special attention. No new data elements were required data validation in PY 2015, PY 2016, or PY 2017. The last new elements requiring data validation were included in Revision 7.2 of the Data Validation Handbook, released in March 2014.
- ◆ For each data element, a comparison with the error rate for PY 2016 is presented in the considerations beneath each data table and in Appendix III. In addition to comparing their error rates for each data element to the nationwide average, grantees should also compare their own performance in PY 2017 to their performance in PY 2016 to determine if additional improvement actions are required.
- ◆ Data elements for which there are very few validatable records should be viewed with extra care since a change in rating for just a few validated records can substantially change the error rate for those elements. This is especially true for elements with fewer than 100 validatable records: P52, A20c, E9a, and U8. Where possible, grantees should combine the results for PY 2017 and PY 2016 (and PY 2015 if necessary) to obtain a more reliable estimate of the error rate for such elements.

**SECTION I – ELIGIBILITY SAMPLE DATA VALIDATION RESULTS, PY 2017**

**TABLE 1: Nationwide Error Rates for Core Eligibility Determination Elements**

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean</b>
[P14] Total includable family income (12-month or 6-month annualized)	10.90%	429	3934	10	1
[P11] Number in family	5.74%	226	3934	3	1
[P13] Employed prior to participation?	3.38%	133	3934	4	2
[P10] Date of birth	2.39%	94	3934	1	1
[P7/P6.c] State of Residence/ State of Mailing Address	1.45%	57	3934	1	0

**Important Considerations:**

- ◆ Documentation of eligibility has been required since at least July 1, 2004
- ◆ Four of the validatable data elements in this section have increased error rates from PY 2016. One element was not able to be validated in PY 2016
- ◆ P14: Sub-grantees may be confused about which income to include or may have calculated income improperly

Validation of this data element is a two-step process:

- (1) Confirmation that total includable family income was correctly calculated in accordance with the TEGL; and



(2) Confirmation that family income is less than or equal to 125% of the federal poverty level for the appropriate family size using whichever look-back period is more favorable to the applicant

Change in error rate from PY 2016: +2.08 percent

- ◆ P11: Sub-grantees may be confused about which family members to include

Change in error rate from PY 2016: +0.40 percent

- ◆ P13: Sub-grantees may not realize that P13 requires documentation (it is both an eligibility requirement and a component of the Entered Employment Rate) or may not know how to document a negative, e.g., self-attestation

Validation of this data element is a two-step process:

(1) Confirmation of applicant's employment status prior to participation; and

(2) Confirmation that the applicant was unemployed at the point of enrollment

Change in error rate from PY 2016: N/A. For technical reasons, this element was not able to be validated in PY 2016.

- ◆ P10: Edits prevent the entry of a date of birth for someone under the age of 55; correct date of birth should be easy to document

Change in error rate from PY 2016: +0.21 percent

- ◆ P7/P6c: Sub-grantees are required to update the address; validators may not understand that they should validate the address that was in effect at the end of the prior program year.

Validation of this data element is a two-step process:

(1) Confirmation of state of mailing address/state of residence if different from mailing address; and

(2) Confirmation that participant has an in-state residence or that there is a cross-border agreement covering the participant's state of residence and the state in which the grantee operates

Change in error rate from PY 2016: +0.13 percent

**TABLE 2: Nationwide Error Rates for Elements Defining Priority of Service**

Element Number and Name	Percentage of Records with Failures	Number of Failures	Number of Validatable Records	Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures > 20%	Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean
[P29] Failed to find employment after using WIA Title I?	14.79%	113	764	21	14
[P25] Veteran (or eligible spouse of veteran)?	8.71%	44	505	13	4
[P8] Homeless	7.34%	21	286	9	4
[P26] Disability?	7.30%	67	918	9	4
[P24] Low literacy skills?	5.96%	52	872	14	10
[P8a] Urban/rural	5.62%	62	1103	12	7
[P30] Low employment prospects?	5.06%	174	3441	9	6
[P27] At risk of homelessness?	4.67%	79	1691	8	6
[P22] Limited English Proficiency	3.32%	11	331	4	2

**Important Considerations:**

- ◆ The current priorities of service have been in effect since July 1, 2007
- ◆ Four data elements in this section have decreased error rates from PY 2016, and four have increased rates. One element was not able to be validated in PY 2016.
- ◆ P29: Validation of this data element is a two-step process:
  - (1) Confirmation through the WIOA provider that the participant was enrolled in WIOA Title I (adult services); and
  - (2) Confirmation that the participant was not employed subsequent to the WIOA enrollment

Change in error rate from PY 2016: -1.37 percent

- ◆ P25: Previously required use of DD-214, which may be difficult to obtain in some cases; rules now permit other forms of documentation  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: +1.33 percent
- ◆ P8: Should be much easier to document than risk of homelessness if definition is followed  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: -4.42 percent
- ◆ P26: Government determination of disability is acceptable. Otherwise, supporting documentation must provide confirmation that:
  - (1) A medical professional made a determination of disability; and
  - (2) How the disability meets the SCSEP regulatory definition
 Change in error rate from PY 2016: N/A. For technical reasons, this element was not able to be validated in PY 2016
- ◆ P24: Is a difficult issue for some sub-grantees to address; requires testing or some demonstration of difficulty reading; rarely will participant self-attest  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: -1.76 percent
- ◆ P8a: Requires the use of the November 2014 RUCA look-up table. It is possible that some sub-grantees and validators are using the old table or are unaware of the RUCA requirements  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: +1.31 percent
- ◆ P30: Should be easy to document; requires providing facts that are relied on for the determination of at least one of the barriers to employment  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: +0.43percent
- ◆ P27: Requires providing facts upon which conclusion of risk of homelessness is based  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: -1.52 percent
- ◆ P22: Should be easy to document; a case note explaining the basis can suffice (for example, participant appeared with interpreter)  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: +1.25 percent

**TABLE 3: Nationwide Error Rates for Signature and Date Elements**

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean</b>
[P43] Date of eligibility determination	5.49%	216	3934	2	1
[P33] Date of signing	4.47%	176	3934	2	1

**Important Considerations:**

- ◆ Policy requiring signatures and dates has been in place since July 1, 2004; electronic signatures are acceptable with adequate documentation of the process
  - ◆ Both data elements in this section have increased error rates from PY 2016
  - ◆ Validation is a two-step process:
    - (1) Confirmation of the presence of the applicant’s signature in P32 and the director or authorized representative’s signature in P42; and
    - (2) Confirmation that the dates in P33 and P43 match the documentation
- Change in error rate for P43 from PY 2016: +0.61 percent  
 Change in error rate for P33 from PY 2016: +0.18 percent

**TABLE 4: Nationwide Error Rates for Break Reason Element**

Element Number and Name	Percentage of Records with Failures	Number of Failures	Number of Validatable Records	Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures > 20%	Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean (Out of 72)
[A15b.1] Reason for approved break in participation	12.50%	90	720	18	8

Important Considerations:

- ◆ Documentation of approved breaks has been required since the first Data Validation in PY 2008
- ◆ Requires existence of grantee policy and proof of compliance with policy
- ◆ Required element to validate because it affects durational limit calculation; grantees may not have fully developed procedures or trained sub-grantees in proper entry of break information
- ◆ Validation is a three-step process:
  - (1) Verification of the existence of a written grantee policy regarding breaks in participation; and
  - (2) Confirmation of valid entry for A 15a.1 (start date) and A15a.3 (end date) if applicable; and
  - (3) Confirmation that the reason entered is within the policy of the grantee concerning breaks in participation

Change in error rate from PY 2016: -6.64 percent

**TABLE 5: Nationwide Error Rates for Community Service Assignment Hours Elements**

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean (Out of 72)</b>
[A19.4] Total hours paid in Q4	9.91%	277	2794	10	7
[A19.3] Total hours paid in Q3	8.66%	168	1941	9	6
[A21.4] Total hours of paid training received in Q4	8.57%	57	665	11	8
[A19.2] Total hours paid in Q2	7.98%	119	1492	8	2
[A19.1] Total hours paid in Q1	7.01%	60	856	9	3
[A21.3] Total hours of paid training received in Q3	5.92%	28	473	8	5
[A21.2] Total hours of paid training received in Q2	5.88%	22	374	10	8
[A21.1] Total hours of paid training received in Q1	5.71%	12	210	6	4

**Important Considerations:**

- ◆ Documentation of total hours and paid training hours has been required since the first Data Validation in PY 2008
- ◆ Documentation originally required because sub-grantees were substantially under-reporting hours; now also required because hours are used in Community Service measure

- ◆ Seven data elements in this section have decreased error rates from PY 2016; one data element has an increased rate.
- ◆ Sub-grantees allowed to use either time sheets or payroll documentation; must be consistent in the use of the selected method
- ◆ Correct source of documentation may not be available to validator
- ◆ Sub-grantees may have entered a value (for example, 0) as a placeholder and then not replaced it with the true value
- ◆ Actual hours may have been incorrectly calculated from time sheets or payroll records
- ◆ Validators may not understand that they are only validating the information for one assignment. When there is more than one assignment active in a quarter, sometimes the sub-grantee does not split the hours properly; other times, however, the validator may improperly fail the record based on the mistaken belief that all hours for the quarter should be displayed

Change in error rate for A19.4 from PY 2016: -2.04 percent  
Change in error rate for A19.3 from PY 2016: -3.30 percent  
Change in error rate for A21.4 from PY 2016: +0.26 percent  
Change in error rate for A19.2 from PY 2016: -7.35 percent  
Change in error rate for A19.1 from PY 2016: -8.21 percent  
Change in error rate for A21.3 from PY 2016: -4.26 percent  
Change in error rate for A21.2 from PY 2016: -3.50 percent  
Change in error rate for A21.1 from PY 2016: -7.21 percent

**SECTION II – PERFORMANCE SAMPLE DATA VALIDATION RESULTS, PY 2017**

**TABLE 6: Nationwide Error Rates for IEP Element**

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean</b>
[P40c] Date of last IEP	13.03%	677	5195	17	9

**Important Considerations:**

- ◆ P40c: This data element was first validated in PY 2014, but the underlying program requirements have been in place since at least 2004.
- ◆ Validation of this data element is a three-step process:
  - (1) Verification of the existence and date of the last IEP;
  - (2) Verification of the existence and date of the assessment on which the IEP is based; and
  - (3) Confirmation that the content of the assessment and IEP meet the grantee’s standards.

Change in error rate from PY 2016: -2.89 percent



**TABLE 7: Nationwide Error Rates for Recertification of Eligibility Elements**

Element Number and Name	Percentage of Records with Failures	Number of Failures	Number of Validatable Records	Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures > 20%	Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean
[P45] Recert: Total includable family income (12-month or 6-month annualized)	10.66%	316	2964	13	3
[P44] Recert: Number in family	8.49%	252	2968	10	3

**Important Considerations:**

- ◆ Documentation of recertification has been required since at least July 1, 2004, and was included in the first Data Validation in PY 2008
- ◆ Sub-grantees may have failed to document all relevant information
- ◆ One data element in this section has a decreased error rate from PY 2016, and one data element has an increased error rate
- ◆ P45: Sub-grantees may be confused about which income to include or may have calculated income improperly

Validation of this data element is a two-step process:

- (1) Confirmation that total includable family income was correctly calculated in accordance with the TEGL; and
- (2) Confirmation that family income is less than or equal to 125 percent of the federal poverty level for the appropriate family size using whichever look-back period is more favorable to the applicant

Change in error rate from PY 2016: +0.54 percent

- ◆ P44: Sub-grantees may be confused about which family members to include  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: -0.57 percent

**TABLE 8: Nationwide Error Rates for Recertification Signatures and Dates Elements**

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean</b>
[P50] Recert: Date of recertification determination	6.90%	204	2958	6	3
[P46] Recert: Signature of participant	4.65%	136	2922	6	3

Important Considerations:

- ◆ Policy requiring signatures and dates has been in place since July 1, 2004; electronic signatures are acceptable with adequate documentation of the process
- ◆ One data element in this section has a decreased error rate from PY 2016, and one data element has an increased error rate
- ◆ P50: Validation is a two-step process:
  - (1) Confirmation of the presence of participant’s signature in P46 and the director or authorized representative’s signature in P49; and
  - (2) Confirmation that the date in P50 matches the documentation

Change in error rate for P50 from PY 2016: -0.02 percent

Change in error rate for P46 from PY 2016: 0.42 percent

**TABLE 9: Nationwide Error Rates for Waiver Factor Elements**

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean</b>
[P51] Severe Disability?	42.71%	85	199	24	18
[P52] Frail?	40.74%	33	81	12	11
[P53] Old enough for but not receiving SS Title II?	32.26%	40	124	17	15
[P54] Severely limited employment prospects in area of persistent unemployment?	30.16%	377	1250	27	21

**Important Considerations:**

- ◆ These waiver factors have been in effect since July 1, 2007, but are still relatively rare
- ◆ Three of the data elements in this section have decreased error rates from PY 2016, and one data element has an increased rate
- ◆ Documentation requirements for these elements are fairly technical
- ◆ Some sub-grantees may not understand that the waiver factors have to be re-documented in each program year for which credit is claimed
- ◆ P51: The requirement for medical documentation that meets the regulatory standard may be a factor in the high error rate  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: -6.01 percent
- ◆ P52: Documentation must meet the regulatory standard. Given the small number of validatable records, the results may not be representative of nationwide performance and should be used with caution  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: -23.19 percent
- ◆ P53: The error rate may be due to either confusion about the requirements for this element or failure to obtain proper documentation.  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: -4.04 percent

- ◆ P54: Validation of this data element is a two-step process:
  - (1) Confirmation of severely limited employment prospects requires two or more barriers to employment; and
  - (2) Confirmation of area of persistent employment requires use of the appropriate persistent unemployment table in SPARQ or equivalent data at a city level

Change in error rate from PY 2016: +3.79 percent

**TABLE 10: Nationwide Error Rates for OJE Elements**

Element Number and Name	Percentage of Records with Failures	Number of Failures	Number of Validatable Records	Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures > 20%	Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean
[U8] Did employer provide an OJE training site for this participant?	1.67%	1	60	0	0
[A20.c] Types of training received OJE	0.00%	0	44	0	0

**Important Considerations:**

- ◆ U8 and A20c: These data elements were first validated in PY 2014, but the underlying program requirements have been in place since 2004.
- ◆ Both data elements in this section have decreased error rates from PY 2016
- ◆ Given the small number of validatable records for both elements in this year’s sample, the results may not be representative of nationwide performance and should be used with caution
- ◆ U8: Validation of this data element is a four-step process:
  - (1) Verification that the grantee has approval for OJEs in its grant;
  - (2) Verification that there is a signed contract with the employer/training provider;
  - (3) Verification that the employer/training provider is not a host agency; and
  - (4) Verification that the employer is the same organization as the employer/training provider in A23

Change in error rate for U8 from PY 2016: -0.66 percent

- ◆ A20c: Although not reflected in this year’s limited sample, annual audits of all OJEs still reveal many OJEs during the community service assignment that are entered in error because sub-grantees do not understand that OJE is a specialized type of training that requires approval from DOL and a contract with an employer. This mischaracterization of OJEs even occurs within grantees that do not have approval from DOL to use OJEs at all

Validation of this data element is a three-step process:

- (1) Verification that the grantee has approval for OJEs in its grant;
- (2) Verification there is a signed contract with the employer/training provider; and
- (3) Verification that the employer/training provider is not a host agency

Change in error rate from PY 2016: -2.94 percent

**TABLE 11: Nationwide Error Rates for Exclusion and Exit Elements**

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean</b>
[E6b] Date of termination letter	29.41%	480	1632	29	17
[E9a] Exclusion discovered after exit	18.31%	13	71	8	5
[E6] If exit is not due to unsubsidized employment-other reason for exit	10.26%	115	1121	9	7
[E7] Date of exit or other closing of record	7.39%	410	5551	6	3

**Important Considerations:**

- ◆ Two of the four data elements in this section have decreased error rates from PY 2016; one element has an increased error rate; and one element was not able to be validated in PY 2016.
- ◆ E6b: This data element was first validated in PY 2014, but the underlying program requirements have been in place since at least 2004.  
Validation of this data element is a three-step process:
  - (1) Verification that there is a signed termination letter in all cases involving involuntary exit;
  - (2) Verification of the date; and
  - (3) Verification that the date is at least 30 days before the date of exit
 Change in error rate from PY 2016: +6.75 percent
- ◆ E9a: Sub-grantees may not realize that they need to document exclusions discovered after exit. Given the small number of validatable records in this year’s sample, the results may not be representative of nationwide performance and should be used with caution  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: -2.68 percent

- ◆ E6: Exclusions have a high regulatory standard; most common exclusions require medical documentation or provision of detailed facts by participant or family member  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: N/A. For technical reasons, this element was not able to be validated in PY 2016.
- ◆ E7: Sub-grantees may not realize they need to document date of exit  
Change in error rate from PY 2016: -0.32 percent

**TABLE 12: Nationwide Error Rates for Employment, Wages and Earnings Elements**

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage More Than One Standard Deviation above Mean</b>
[U29f] Earnings for third quarter after exit quarter	15.28%	315	2061	21	15
[U29d] Earnings for second quarter after exit quarter	15.08%	320	2122	20	15
[U30c] Any wages for fourth quarter after exit quarter?	13.81%	278	2013	21	14
[U29e] Any wages for third quarter after exit quarter?	11.16%	241	2159	19	12
[U29c] Any wages for second quarter after exit quarter?	9.80%	219	2235	16	9
[U28c] Any wages for first quarter after exit quarter?	9.76%	268	2746	13	8

**Important Considerations:**

- ◆ Documentation of source of information about wages and earnings has been required since July 1, 2004
- ◆ Two data elements in this section have increased error rates from PY 2016; four elements were not able to be validated in PY 2016.



- ◆ Sub-grantees may fail to identify source of information adequately
- ◆ Sub-grantees may be obtaining information from participants without documenting efforts to first obtain it from employers
- ◆ Sub-grantees may make computational errors when entering information into U29d and U29f
- ◆ For exclusions discovered during follow-up, sub-grantees may fail to document basis for exclusion

Change in error rate for U29f from PY 2016: -5.48 percent

Change in error rate for U29d from PY 2016: -4.57percent

Change in error rate for U30c from PY 2016: N/A. For technical reasons, this element was not able to be validated in PY 2016

Change in error rate for U29e from PY 2016: N/A. For technical reasons, this element was not able to be validated in PY 2016

Change in error rate for U29c from PY 2016: N/A. For technical reasons, this element was not able to be validated in PY 2016

Change in error rate for U28c from PY 2016: N/A. For technical reasons, this element was not able to be validated in PY 2016

**APPENDIX I: Results by Form Order Number within Sample**

Nationwide Data Validation Results, PY 2017 Eligibility and Performance Samples

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage more than one standard deviation above mean</b>
[P7 / P6.c] State of Residence / State of Mailing Address	1.45%	57	3934	1	0
[P8] Homeless	7.34%	21	286	9	4
[P8a] Urban/rural	5.62%	62	1103	12	7
[P10] Date of birth	2.39%	94	3934	1	1
[P11] Number in family	5.74%	226	3934	3	1
[P13] Employed prior to participation?	3.38%	133	3934	4	2
[P14] Total includable family income (12-month or 6-month annualized)	10.90%	429	3934	10	1
[P22] Limited English Proficiency	3.32%	11	331	4	2
[P24] Low literacy skills?	5.96%	52	872	14	10
[P25] Veteran (or eligible spouse of veteran)?	8.71%	44	505	13	4
[P26] Disability?	7.30%	67	918	9	4
[P27] At risk of homelessness?	4.67%	79	1691	8	6
[P29] Failed to find employment after using WIA Title I?	14.79%	113	764	21	14
[P30] Low employment prospects?	5.06%	174	3441	9	6
[P33] Date of signing	4.47%	176	3934	2	1
[P43] Date of eligibility determination	5.49%	216	3934	2	1

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage more than one standard deviation above mean</b>
[A15b.1] Reason for approved break in participation	12.50%	90	720	18	8
[A19.1] Total hours paid in Q1	7.01%	60	856	9	3
[A19.2] Total hours paid in Q2	7.98%	119	1492	8	2
[A19.3] Total hours paid in Q3	8.66%	168	1941	9	6
[A19.4] Total hours paid in Q4	9.91%	277	2794	10	7
[A21.1] Total hours of paid training received in Q1	5.71%	12	210	6	4
[A21.2] Total hours of paid training received in Q2	5.88%	22	374	10	8
[A21.3] Total hours of paid training received in Q3	5.92%	28	473	8	5
[A21.4] Total hours of paid training received in Q4	8.57%	57	665	11	8
[P40c] Date of last IEP	13.03%	677	5195	17	9
[P44] Recert: Number in family	8.49%	252	2968	10	3
[P45] Recert: Total includable family income (12-month or 6-month annualized)	10.66%	316	2964	13	3
[P46] Recert: Signature of participant	4.65%	136	2922	6	3
[P50] Recert: Date of recertification determination	6.90%	204	2958	6	3
[P51] Severe Disability?	42.71%	85	199	24	18
[P52] Frail?	40.74%	33	81	12	11

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage more than one standard deviation above mean</b>
[P53] Old enough for but not receiving SS Title II?	32.26%	40	124	17	15
[P54] Severely limited employment prospects in area of persistent unemployment?	30.16%	377	1250	27	21
[A20.c] Types of training received OJE	0.00%	0	44	0	0
[E6] If exit is not due to unsubsidized employment- other reason for exit	10.26%	115	1121	9	7
[E6b] Date of termination letter	29.41%	480	1632	29	17
[E7] Date of exit or other closing of record	7.39%	410	5551	6	3
[E9a] Exclusion discovered after exit	18.31%	13	71	8	5
[U8] Did employer provide an OJE training site for this participant?	1.67%	1	60	0	0
[U28c] Any wages for first quarter after exit quarter?	9.76%	268	2746	13	8
[U29c] Any wages for second quarter after exit quarter?	9.80%	219	2235	16	9
[U29d] Earnings for second quarter after exit quarter	15.08%	320	2122	20	15
[U29e] Any wages for third quarter after exit quarter?	11.16%	241	2159	19	12
[U29f] Earnings for third quarter after exit quarter	15.28%	315	2061	21	15

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage more than one standard deviation above mean</b>
[U30c] Any wages for fourth quarter after exit quarter?	13.81%	278	2013	21	14

**APPENDIX II: Results by Percentage of Records with Failures**

Nationwide Data Validation Results, PY 2017 Eligibility and Performance Samples

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage more than one standard deviation above mean</b>
[A20.c] Types of training received OJE	0.00%	0	44	0	0
[P7 / P6.c] State of Residence / State of Mailing Address	1.45%	57	3934	1	0
[U8] Did employer provide an OJE training site for this participant?	1.67%	1	60	0	0
[P10] Date of birth	2.39%	94	3934	1	1
[P22] Limited English Proficiency	3.32%	11	331	4	2
[P13] Employed prior to participation?	3.38%	133	3934	4	2
[P33] Date of signing	4.47%	176	3934	2	1
[P46] Recert: Signature of participant	4.65%	136	2922	6	3
[P27] At risk of homelessness?	4.67%	79	1691	8	6
[P30] Low employment prospects?	5.06%	174	3441	9	6
[P43] Date of eligibility determination	5.49%	216	3934	2	1
[P8a] Urban/rural	5.62%	62	1103	12	7
[A21.1] Total hours of paid training received in Q1	5.71%	12	210	6	4
[P11] Number in family	5.74%	226	3934	3	1
[A21.2] Total hours of paid training received in Q2	5.88%	22	374	10	8



<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage more than one standard deviation above mean</b>
[A21.3] Total hours of paid training received in Q3	5.92%	28	473	8	5
[P24] Low literacy skills?	5.96%	52	872	14	10
[P50] Recert: Date of recertification determination	6.90%	204	2958	6	3
[A19.1] Total hours paid in Q1	7.01%	60	856	9	3
[P26] Disability?	7.30%	67	918	9	4
[P8] Homeless	7.34%	21	286	9	4
[E7] Date of exit or other closing of record	7.39%	410	5551	6	3
[A19.2] Total hours paid in Q2	7.98%	119	1492	8	2
[P44] Recert: Number in family	8.49%	252	2968	10	3
[A21.4] Total hours of paid training received in Q4	8.57%	57	665	11	8
[A19.3] Total hours paid in Q3	8.66%	168	1941	9	6
[P25] Veteran (or eligible spouse of veteran)?	8.71%	44	505	13	4
[U28c] Any wages for first quarter after exit quarter?	9.76%	268	2746	13	8
[U29c] Any wages for second quarter after exit quarter?	9.80%	219	2235	16	9
[A19.4] Total hours paid in Q4	9.91%	277	2794	10	7
[E6] If exit is not due to unsubsidized employment- other reason for exit	10.26%	115	1121	9	7

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage more than one standard deviation above mean</b>
[P45] Recert: Total includable family income (12-month or 6-month annualized)	10.66%	316	2964	13	3
[P14] Total includable family income (12-month or 6-month annualized)	10.90%	429	3934	10	1
[U29e] Any wages for third quarter after exit quarter?	11.16%	241	2159	19	12
[A15b.1] Reason for approved break in participation	12.50%	90	720	18	8
[P40c] Date of last IEP	13.03%	677	5195	17	9
[U30c] Any wages for fourth quarter after exit quarter?	13.81%	278	2013	21	14
[P29] Failed to find employment after using WIA Title I?	14.79%	113	764	21	14
[U29d] Earnings for second quarter after exit quarter	15.08%	320	2122	20	15
[U29f] Earnings for third quarter after exit quarter	15.28%	315	2061	21	15
[E9a] Exclusion discovered after exit	18.31%	13	71	8	5
[E6b] Date of termination letter	29.41%	480	1632	29	17
[P54] Severely limited employment prospects in area of persistent unemployment?	30.16%	377	1250	27	21

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures</b>	<b>Number of Failures</b>	<b>Number of Validatable Records</b>	<b>Number of Grantees where Percentage of Records with Failures &gt; 20%</b>	<b>Number of Grantees with Percentage more than one standard deviation above mean</b>
[P53] Old enough for but not receiving SS Title II?	32.26%	40	124	17	15
[P52] Frail?	40.74%	33	81	12	11
[P51] Severe Disability?	42.71%	85	199	24	18

**APPENDIX III: Change in Error Rates from PY 2016 to PY 2017**

Nationwide Data Validation Results, PY 2016 and PY 2017 Eligibility and  
Performance Samples

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures PY 2016</b>	<b>Number of Failures PY 2016</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures PY 2017</b>	<b>Number of Failures PY 2017</b>	<b>Percentage Point Change from PY 2016 to PY 2017</b>
[P7/P6.c] State of Residence/State of Mailing Address	1.32%	54	1.45%	57	0.13%
[P8] Homeless	11.76%	30	7.34%	21	-4.42%
[P8a] Urban/rural	4.31%	49	5.62%	62	1.31%
[P10] Date of birth	2.18%	89	2.39%	94	0.21%
[P11] Number in family	5.34%	218	5.74%	226	0.40%
[P13] Employed prior to participation?*	NA	NA	3.38%	133	NA
[P14] Total includable family income (12-month or 6-month annualized)	8.82%	360	10.90%	429	2.08%
[P22] Limited English Proficiency	4.57%	18	3.32%	11	-1.25%
[P24] Low literacy skills?	7.72%	55	5.96%	52	-1.76%
[P25] Veteran (or eligible spouse of veteran)?	7.38%	42	8.71%	44	1.33%
[P26] Disability?*	NA	NA	7.30%	67	NA
[P27] At risk of homelessness?	6.19%	105	4.67%	79	-1.52%
[P29] Failed to find employment after using WIA Title I?	16.16%	145	14.79%	113	-1.37%
[P30] Low employment prospects?	4.63%	166	5.06%	174	0.43%
[P33] Date of signing	4.29%	175	4.47%	176	0.18%
[P43] Date of eligibility determination	4.88%	199	5.49%	216	0.61%
[A15b.1] Reason for approved break in participation	19.14%	133	12.50%	90	-6.64%
[A19.1] Total hours paid in Q1	15.22%	132	7.01%	60	-8.21%
[A19.2] Total hours paid in Q2	15.33%	248	7.98%	119	-7.35%
[A19.3] Total hours paid in Q3	11.96%	274	8.66%	168	-3.30%

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures PY 2016</b>	<b>Number of Failures PY 2016</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures PY 2017</b>	<b>Number of Failures PY 2017</b>	<b>Percentage Point Change from PY 2016 to PY 2017</b>
[A19.4] Total hours paid in Q4	11.95%	355	9.91%	277	-2.04%
[A21.1] Total hours of paid training received in Q1	12.92%	23	5.71%	12	-7.21%
[A21.2] Total hours of paid training received in Q2	9.38%	35	5.88%	22	-3.50%
[A21.3] Total hours of paid training received in Q3	10.18%	50	5.92%	28	-4.26%
[A21.4] Total hours of paid training received in Q4	8.31%	60	8.57%	57	0.26%
[P40c] Date of last IEP	15.92%	860	13.03%	677	-2.89%
[P44] Recert: Number in family	9.06%	294	8.49%	252	-0.57%
[P45] Recert: Total includable family income (12-month or 6-month annualized)	10.12%	328	10.66%	316	0.54%
[P46] Recert: Signature of participant	4.23%	136	4.65%	136	0.42%
[P50] Recert: Date of recertification determination	6.92%	224	6.90%	204	-0.02%
[P51] Severe Disability?	48.72%	95	42.71%	85	-6.01%
[P52] Frail?	63.93%	39	40.74%	33	-23.19%
[P53] Old enough for but not receiving SS Title II?	36.30%	49	32.26%	40	-4.04%
[P54] Severely limited employment prospects in area of persistent unemployment?	26.37%	379	30.16%	377	3.79%
[A20.c] Types of training received OJE	2.94%	1	0.00%	0	-2.94%
[E6] If exit is not due to unsubsidized employment, other reason for exit*	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

<b>Element Number and Name</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures PY 2016</b>	<b>Number of Failures PY 2016</b>	<b>Percentage of Records with Failures PY 2017</b>	<b>Number of Failures PY 2017</b>	<b>Percentage Point Change from PY 2016 to PY 2017</b>
[E6b] Date of termination letter	22.66%	436	29.41%	480	6.75%
[E7] Date of exit or other closing of record	7.71%	467	7.39%	410	-0.32%
[E9a] Exclusion discovered after exit	20.99%	17	18.31%	13	-2.68%
[U8] Did employer provide an OJE training site for this participant?	2.33%	1	1.67%	1	-0.66%
[U28c] Any wages for first quarter after exit quarter?*	NA	NA	9.76%	268	NA
[U29c] Any wages for second quarter after exit quarter?*	NA	NA	9.80%	219	NA
[U29d] Earnings for second quarter after exit quarter	19.65%	488	15.08%	320	-4.57%
[U29e] Any wages for third quarter after exit quarter?*	NA	NA	11.16%	241	NA
[U29f] Earnings for third quarter after exit quarter	20.76%	500	15.28%	315	-5.48%
[U30c] Any wages for fourth quarter after exit quarter?*	NA	NA	13.81%	278	NA

\*For technical reasons, this element was not able to be validated in PY 2016.