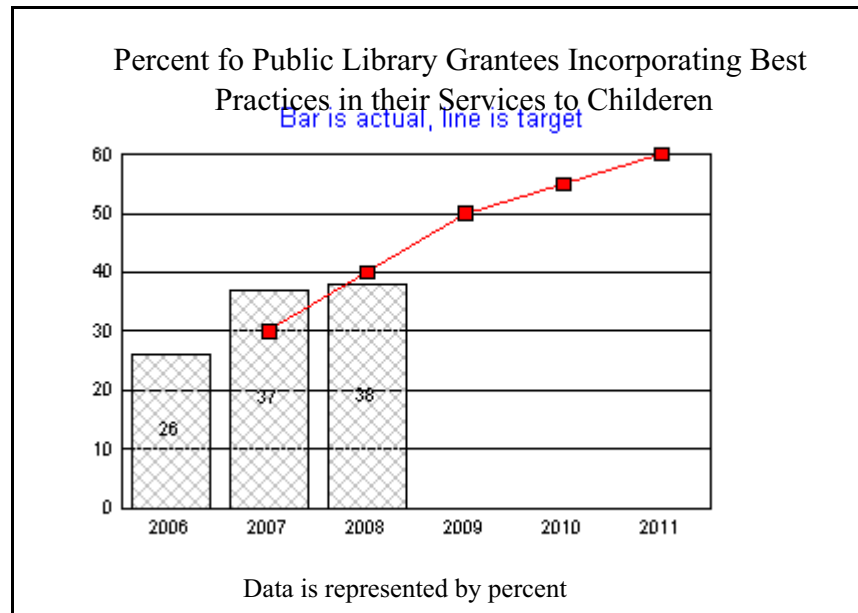


KPM #8	USE OF BEST PRACTICES IN SERVING CHILDREN – Percent of public library grantees incorporating best practices in their services to children.
Goal	GOAL 3: Lead public libraries to achieve excellence in services to children.
Oregon Context	OBM 18: Percent of Oregon children entering school ready-to-learn.
Data Source	Annual survey of Ready to Read Grant recipients by the Library Development Services department.
Owner	Library Development Services, MaryKay Dahlgreen, 503-378-5012.



1. OUR STRATEGY

Provide basic youth services training, ongoing education, and consulting to encourage local library staff to utilize their Ready to Read grants to implement best practices. Encourage the use of Ready to Read funds as leverage for local and grant funding to implement best practices.

2. ABOUT THE TARGETS

The goal of this measure is to increase the use of best practices in library service to children in libraries in Oregon. The best practices are: library outreach to underserved children, conducting summer reading programs in the summer, and providing early literacy training for parents and caregivers. Libraries meeting the target provide all three best practices.

3. HOW WE ARE DOING

In 2008 we clarified the definitions of the three best practices for local library reporting purposes. We believe that because the definitions were not clear in 2007, the 37% of libraries that reported meeting best practices was over-reported. While we didn't reach our 2008 target of 40% we believe that the percentage increase was greater than 1%. The increase in Ready to Read grant funding for 2007-09, along with the new \$1,000 minimum grant, and narrowing of acceptable use of Ready to Read funding appears to have increased the number best practices being provided. Our data shows that 19 libraries provided one additional best practice in 2008.

4. HOW WE COMPARE

The library can find no comparable measurement used by other libraries or government agencies.

5. FACTORS AFFECTING RESULTS

The data for this KPM is taken from the annual statistics we gather from Oregon public libraries. We clarified the definitions of the three best practices in the instructions for the 2007-2008 reports, and we believe that the clarification will correct over-reporting that occurred last year.

6. WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

In addition to providing youth services training and consulting around best practices, we will continue to coach library staff on correctly reporting best practice activity using the appropriate definitions. The State Library, along with the Oregon Commission on Children and Families, has begun a three year training project, Reading for Healthy Families, that we anticipate will increase the number of libraries providing early literacy training.

7. ABOUT THE DATA

Data are reported on the Oregon Fiscal Year and accuracy depends on self-reporting by public libraries.