

WISe Length of Stay and CANS Outcomes

UPDATED JANUARY 2020

The WISe Dashboard demonstrates that youth engaged in the WISe program make substantial progress to recovery over their first six months in the program. This document presents data on how outcomes differ for youth staying in the program for different lengths of time (see Figure 1). Results show:

1. Youth whose outcomes improve more rapidly tend to exit the WISe program earlier, and youth who make slower progress tend to exit the program later. Youth who exit the program later – between 9 and 15 months – tend to make faster gains during their final months in the program.
2. Youth engaged in WISe for at least 3 but less than 6 months demonstrate the most rapid rate of improvement.
3. Youth in WISe for 6 or more months demonstrate similar average improvements in outcomes over their time in the program, regardless of their ultimate length of stay.
4. The data indicate that length of stay in the WISe program is a function of how rapidly youth show improvement, which is consistent with WISe services being tailored to the needs and progress of individual youth.

FIGURE 1.

Youth Whose Outcomes Improve More Rapidly Tend To Exit the WISe Program Earlier

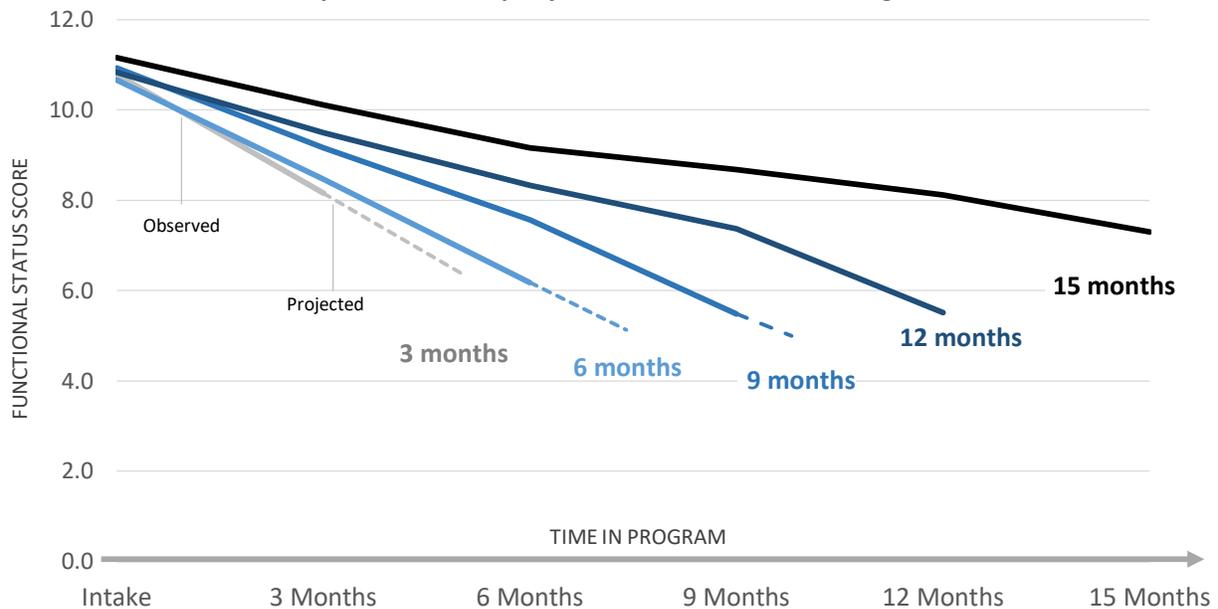


TABLE 1.

Functional Status Score by Last Full CANS Assessment Time Point

Last Assessment	N	FUNCTIONAL STATUS SCORE							Net Change	Per Month
		Intake	3 months	6 months	9 months	12 months	15 months			
3 months	826	10.8	8.2						-2.6	-0.9
6 months	744	10.7	8.5	6.2					-4.5	-0.7
9 months	444	10.9	9.2	7.6	5.5				-5.4	-0.6
12 months	437	10.8	9.5	8.3	7.4	5.5			-5.3	-0.4
15+ months	416	11.2	10.1	9.2	8.7	8.1	7.3		-3.9	-0.3

NOTES: Table 1 shows numbers in Figure 1. Data from BHAS. Additional detail on data/measures shown on in first box on next page.

TABLE 1 NOTES (see previous page)

DATA: Samples for each row include all clients with an initial Full CANS Assessment conducted between July 2014 and December 2017 AND a follow-up assessment within +/-45 days of each follow-up time point AND the last assessment as identified in the first column was the last in the episode recorded in BHAS data as of May 2019. These can be interpreted as exit cohorts, i.e. those with a last assessment at “3 months” exited the program between 1.5 and 4.5 months, those with a last assessment at “6 months” exited the program between 4.5 and 7.5 months, and so on.

MEASURE: The ‘Functional Status Score’ counts CANS items scored ‘2’ or ‘3’ (“need for action” or “need for immediate or intensive action”) on a scale from 0 to 3 in three key domains (behavioral/emotional needs, risk factors, and life domain functioning) on Washington’s Full CANS Assessment. In his book, *Communicametrics*, Lyons indicates that these domains are appropriate for grouping into a single functional status score. The measure has a possible range from 0 to 28, with 0 representing no actionable treatment needs, and 28 representing a need for action on each of the 28 individual need items assessed. Net change represents the change in Functional Status Score between intake and the last available assessment time point.

TABLE 2.

WISe Length of Stay

	N Unduplicated WISe Clients	N WISe Episodes	% Censored	Average Length of Stay	Median Length of Stay
Washington	7,790	9,395	24.4%	8.9	7
Great Rivers	552	619	31.2%	9.1	7
Greater Columbia	1,358	1,693	20.6%	8.7	6
King	801	998	29.7%	9.5	8
North Central	281	345	31.0%	8.0	6
North Sound	1,016	1,262	22.8%	8.9	9
Pierce	1,136	1,304	18.8%	8.1	6
Salish	290	328	51.2%	12.3	12
Southwest	647	777	16.7%	7.8	7
Spokane	886	984	34.9%	10.5	8
Thurston-Mason	887	1,085	15.8%	8.6	7

DATA: Analysis of administrative data on WISe service utilization available as of June 2019. This represents data from July 2014 through December 2018 for all regions. Re-entering WISe services after breaks of one month or longer was treated as entry to a new service episode rather than a continuation of the previous WISe episode.

ANALYSIS: Censored WISe episodes are episodes that are ongoing as of the last month of service data in this analysis. For censored episodes, the length of stay is known to be at least as long as the observed period in WISe, but the full length of stay is unknown. Life-table analysis is used to account for censoring in the estimation of length of stay. Region is based on service location in month of WISe entry.