



Things to Consider When Incorporating PREP Performance Measures Into Local Evaluations

To facilitate incorporating the most recent performance measures into ongoing Tribal PREP and PREIS grantee evaluations, we have summarized differences between the PREP performance measures dated April 2013 and the performance measures released on October 15, 2019. For PREIS grantees, we have also prepared a summary of the differences between the PREIS core measures and the new performance measures.

Table 1 summarizes the differences between the two performance measures instruments by the type of revision (e.g., removing questions, adding questions) and the list that follows summarizes the same information, just organized by content (e.g., demographics, sexual behaviors and intentions). Table 2 then summarizes the differences between the eight core measures for PREIS grantees and the performance measures entry survey.

Grantees will need to administer the new entry and exit surveys at program entry and exit, respectively. The surveys need to be administered as approved by OMB, without changes or insertions into the instruments. However, to maintain comparability with existing instruments, grantees can choose to include additional items needed for their evaluations *after* the OMB-approved entry or exit survey or administer a separate survey at a different time.

Below we provide some considerations and recommendations about how to approach questions being removed, added or revised. Feel free to reach out to your RETA to brainstorm about how to deal with incorporating PREP performance measures in your evaluation.

Table 1. List of differences between 2013 and 2019 performance measures, by type of revision

Differences between PREP Performance Measures	At Entry	At Exit	Recommended Approach
Questions removed			
Specific Latino origin (for those who identified as Hispanic)	X	X	Grantees should determine whether each question is a key variable (outcome or covariate) for their analyses or a key descriptive characteristic. If so, grantees can add the relevant question either after the OMB-approved entry/exit survey, or administer the question as part of a separate survey.
Number of pregnancies	X		
Intentions to have sex in the next 6 months	X		
APS questions related to stress, conflict, and money management	X	X	
Questions added			
Language	X	X	Grantees should assess whether the new questions overlap with items on previous evaluation instrument(s). If so, grantees should consider differences in the wording of the question or response options in deciding whether to retain the old items, in addition to asking the performance measure question. Essentially ask yourself—do you feel like these are getting at the same concept? Your RETAs are happy to help you think through this.
Residence	X	X	
Sexual orientation		X	
STI diagnosis	X		
Intentions for future, including marriage, career, sex, pregnancy (set of 6 questions)	X	X	
Motivations to not have sex, for those who stated intention to abstain		X	
Several APS-related questions	X	X	
Program satisfaction (2 questions)		X	
Questions revised			
Sex (Now asks “What is your sex?”) <i>Revised question prompt only</i>	X	X	Grantees should determine whether the revised wording would change the interpretation of the data.
Sexual orientation (dropped transgender, separated and expanded undecided options) <i>Revised question prompt and response options</i>	X		Grantees should determine whether they want to add a question to allow youth to identify as transgender. (Note the revised response options offer the youth the opportunity to specify an “other” response.)
Abstinence (revised from a certainty scale to yes/no/not sure) <i>Revised question prompt and response options</i>		X	Grantees should consider whether they could align responses using the two different scales used over time to create a consistent scale or consider whether they want to ask an additional question to use one scale across the full sample over time.
Reference period revised from 6 months to 3 months for all sexual intentions questions <i>Revised question prompt only</i>		X	Grantees should assess the implications of the revised reference period on the interpretation of data collected across different instruments, including within an individual over time and also across individuals over time. Grantees might opt to add questions using the longer reference period to provide consistent data for analysis.
Birth control use (now excludes condoms) <i>Revised question prompt only</i>	X	X	Grantees should be aware that the new question wording means that the performance measures instruments do not include a measure of unprotected sex capturing all forms of birth control. One measure captures condom use, and one captures other birth control use. But those measures cannot be combined to get a measure of unprotected sex in the prior three months. If that is a measure of interest, grantees should add an item that includes condoms and other birth control to be able to measure whether a youth had unprotected sex in the past three months.
All sexual behavior questions (added “not applicable” responses) due to removal of skip logic from this sequence <i>Revised response options only</i>	X		At analysis, “Not applicable” responses should be treated the same way as any legitimate skips from previous surveys using skip logic. Grantees should also have a plan to handle any inconsistent responses from youth within or across surveys.
APS questions (now use two sets of response options across all APS questions) <i>Revised response options only</i>	X		Grantees should consider how they could recode data to align the response categories over time or consider whether they want to ask an additional question to retain consistency within the sample over time.

List of differences between 2013 and 2019 performance measures, by survey content area

Demographics

On the entry *and* exit surveys:

1. Questions were **added** on language and residence
2. Questions were **dropped** on detailed Latino origin (for those who identified as Hispanic)
3. Question **prompts were revised** for gender

On the entry survey only:

1. Question **prompts were revised** for sexual orientation
2. **Response options were revised** for sexual orientation (dropped transgender, separated and expanded undecided options, reordered options)

Additionally, on the exit survey:

1. Question was **added** on sexual orientation

Sexual behaviors and intentions

On the entry survey:

1. **Skip logic was removed** through the sequence, necessitating different response options to add “not applicable” responses
2. Questions were **added** on STI diagnosis and intentions for future, including marriage, career, sex, pregnancy
3. Questions were **removed** on number of pregnancies and intentions to have sex in the next 6 months
4. Question **prompt was revised** for birth control use (to exclude condoms)

On the exit survey:

1. **Reference period was revised** from 6 months to 3 months
2. Questions were **added** on intentions for future, including marriage, career, sex, pregnancy; and motivations to not have sex, for those who stated intention to abstain
3. Question **prompts were revised** for birth control use (to exclude condoms) and abstinence
4. **Response options were revised** for abstinence

Adulthood Preparation Subjects (APS)

On the entry and exit surveys:

1. Questions were **removed** on stress, conflict, and money management.
2. **Added** items to sets of APS questions, particularly for financial literacy, education and career, parent-child communication, and healthy relationships

On the entry survey only:

1. New survey uses two types of question structures and response options. The first (Q: “How often would you...” with response options “All, some or most of the time”) was used on the previous survey. The second (Q: “Mark how true each statement is”, with response options “Not at all, somewhat, or very true”) was not used on the previous survey.

Program Satisfaction (exit only)

1. Two questions were **added**

PREIS Only: Comparison of PREP performance measures to PREIS Core Measures

If you incorporated the PREIS core measures in your evaluation survey, please take note of the following information. The PREP performance measures include questions on sexual behavior on only the entry survey. Therefore, seven of the eight core measures are not included on the performance measures exit survey. At entry, the performance measures survey uses the term “sexual intercourse” instead of “vaginal sex.” Three core measures are not asked on the performance measures entry survey. The question on pregnancy remains the same. The phrasing of the question on parent communication is different.

Core Measures	Performance Measures
Have you ever had vaginal sex?	Uses “sexual intercourse” instead of “vaginal sex”
In the past 3 months, how many times did you have vaginal sex?	Not asked
When you had vaginal sex in the past 3 months, how often did you or a partner use a condom?	Uses “sexual intercourse” instead of “vaginal sex”
When you had vaginal sex in the past 3 months, how often did you or a partner use birth control? (excluding condoms)	Uses “sexual intercourse” instead of “vaginal sex”
When you had vaginal sex in the past 3 months, how often did you and your partner have sex without a condom or birth control?	Not asked
To the best of your knowledge, have you ever been pregnant or gotten someone else pregnant, even if no child was born?	Same
In the past 3 months, how many times did you have oral sex?	Not asked
In the past 3 months, how often would you say you talked about <i>things that really matter</i> with a parent or adults?	In the past 3 months, how often would you say you talked with <i>your parent, guardian, or caregiver</i> about <i>things going on in your life</i> ? ¹

Endnotes

¹ The question on parent-child communication is included on both the PREP performance measures entry and exit survey.