

Biannual Estimate of Need for Intensive Care Coordination using Wraparound in Idaho, SFY 2024 (December 2023 report)

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Executive Summary

Objective: The State of Idaho Youth Empowerment Services (YES) program aims to implement a coordinated and comprehensive system-of-care that meets the mental health needs of Idaho youth who experience a serious emotional disturbance. One important component of YES is the delivery of Intensive Care Coordination (ICC). One model of ICC used in many States, and which has been implemented in Idaho, is high-quality Wraparound. The Wraparound model is a specific method for delivering ICC that incorporates well-specified procedures and standardized quality monitoring. It is designed to support youth with the most complex and intensive mental health needs so they can remain in the community. In order to monitor the State's progress toward meeting the needs of this population, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Behavioral Health contracted with Boise State University to develop biannual estimates of the need for ICC specifically using the Wraparound model (hereafter 'Wraparound') among Idaho youth. This is the first report for State fiscal year (SFY) 2024. The purpose of this report is to estimate the number of Idaho youth who will likely need Wraparound in SFY 2024. This estimate will be updated in June 2024 when additional data for SFY 2024 are available.

Method: Using two methodologies developed in prior work, two projections of the number of Idaho youth who will likely need Wraparound in SFY 2024 were generated. The first methodology used a predictive analytic model developed through an analysis of Wraparound utilization data from 11 States and the incorporation of Idaho population characteristics. The second methodology analyzed aggregate Idaho administrative data on publicly-funded, out-of-home and inpatient mental health services for youth from SFY 2023.

Results: Application of the predictive analytic model resulted in an estimate of 1,476 Idaho youth who will likely need Wraparound in SFY 2024. Analysis of Idaho service utilization data for SFY 2023 yielded an estimate of 1,652 Idaho youth who will likely need Wraparound in SFY 2024. In combination, these methodologies suggest 1,564 Idaho youth (337 per 100,000) will likely need Wraparound in SFY 2024.

Conclusions and Recommendations: In SFY 2024, it is estimated that 1,564 Idaho youth will need Wraparound. These estimates provide benchmarks for monitoring Idaho's progress toward meeting the needs of youths with intensive mental health needs.

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The purpose of this report is to estimate the number of Idaho youth who will likely need Intensive Care Coordination using high-quality Wraparound (hereafter, 'Wraparound') in order to meet their mental health needs in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024. Under terms specified by the Jeff D. Settlement Agreement, the State of Idaho is required to implement a sustainable, accessible, comprehensive, and coordinated array of community-based mental health services that meet the needs of children with serious emotional disturbance (SED). To fulfill this charge, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) has initiated a children's mental health program called Youth Empowerment Services (YES). One critical component of YES is Intensive Care Coordination (ICC). ICC is a case management service designed to ensure youths who have more intensive needs receive accessible, coordinated services. ICC can be delivered in a variety of formats and at different levels of intensity. The most intensive level of ICC occurs when it is implemented using the Wraparound model, which is a specific program model with demonstrated effectiveness and criteria for establishing fidelity (Olson et al., 2021). Wraparound is targeted toward youths with SED who experience the most severe levels of impairment in daily functioning and who require the most intensive support to remain in the community.

The goal of this report is to provide an estimate of the number of Idaho youth who are likely to need Wraparound in SFY 2024. Beginning in 2023, IDHW contracted with Boise State University to develop biannual estimates of the need for Wraparound among Idaho youth. The final report for SFY 2023 was delivered in June 2023. Using a predictive analytic model and mental health service utilization data, the June 2023 report

estimated that 1,582 Idaho youth needed Wraparound in SFY 2023. The purpose of this report is to provide the first estimate of need for Wraparound in Idaho in SFY 2024. A final estimate for SFY 2024 will be produced in June 2024.

Method

Two methodologies were used to estimate the number of Idaho youth who are likely to need Wraparound in SFY 2024. Both methodologies were validated and extensively described in a prior report on the need for ICC using high-quality Wraparound among Idaho youth (see Williams, 2018). The March 2023 report that generated the initial estimated need for Wraparound in SFY 2023 also provides details of these methodologies as applied in this report (Williams & Beauchemin, 2023). Here, we briefly summarize the two methods.

The first method employed a predictive analytic model based on Wraparound utilization data from 11 States (Williams, 2018). To estimate the projected need for Wraparound in Idaho in SFY 2024 for the present report, the investigators incorporated the most up-to-date data on Idaho's youth population from the U.S. Census

Bureau into the predictive analytic model and assumed full Wraparound program implementation. The U.S. Census Bureau updates its population estimates annually using the American Community Survey. For this analysis, we used the 2022 1-Year American Community Survey estimates, which were the most recent data available. These estimates indicated Idaho's under age 18 youth population was 464,620 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2023). This represented a decrease of 1.1% from Idaho's estimated under-18 population for 2021 (469,986).

The second method estimated need for ICC based on an analysis of aggregate SFY 2023 Idaho service utilization data reflecting youth out-of-home placements or risk for out-of-home placement due to a mental health disorder. These aggregate data were provided by the IDHW Division of Behavioral Health in its Quality, Management, Improvement, and Accountability Quarterly report for SFY 2023, Quarter 4 (IDHW, 2023). This method may have overestimated the number of youths participating in out-of-home services because only aggregate data were available and the same youth may have participated in multiple services.

In this report, the total number of service utilizers in Quarters 1 through

Figure 1 Estimated Need for Wraparound among Idaho Youth, SFY 2023-2024

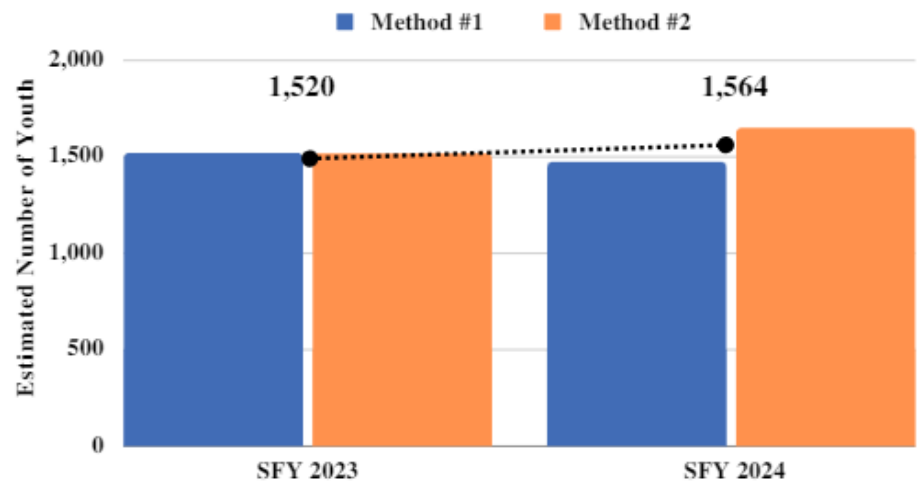
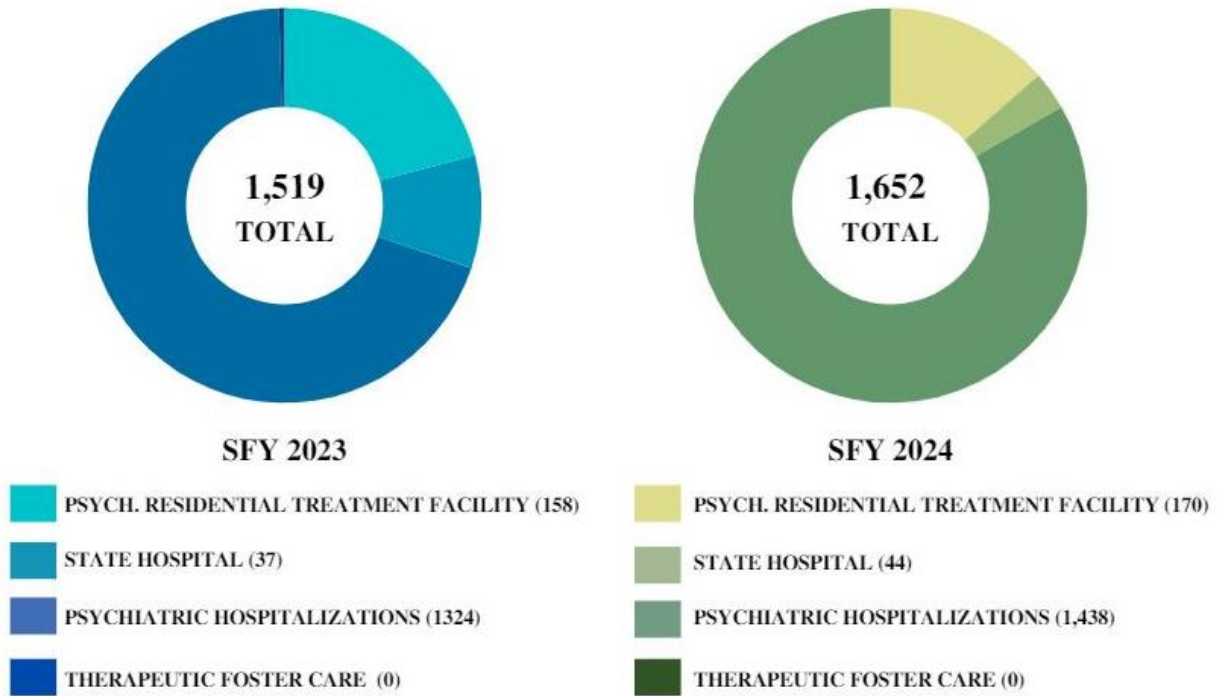


Figure 2 Utilization of Publicly-Funded Out-of-Home Services and Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitalization among Idaho Youth, SFY 2023-2024



Note: SFY = State fiscal year. SFY 2024 data are based on Quarters 1-4 of SFY 2023 service utilization data. SFY 2023 data were based on projections from Quarters 1-3 of SFY 2023.

4 of SFY 2023 were analyzed. Services included in the analysis were: (a) placement in, or approved for placement in, a psychiatric residential treatment facility, (b) placement in therapeutic foster care, (c) placement in a State Hospital for psychiatric illness, and (d) experience of an inpatient psychiatric hospitalization.

Results

Predictive Analytic Model (Method #1)

Results of the predictive analytic model indicated 1,476 Idaho youth will likely need Wraparound in SFY 2024. Based on Idaho’s estimated youth population, this represents 318 youth per 100,000. As is shown in Figure 1, there was a decrease in the number of Idaho youths estimated to need Wraparound from SFY 2023 to SFY

2024 based on Method #1. This is because the U.S. Census Bureau estimate of Idaho’s youth population decreased by 1.1% from 2021 to 2022. New Census Bureau estimates for 2023 will be published in December 2023 and these will be incorporated into the second Wraparound estimation report for SFY 2024.

Aggregate Service Utilization Data (Method #2)

Analysis of service utilization data for SFY 2023, Quarters 1-4, indicated 1,652 Idaho youth, or 356 youth per 100,000, will likely need Wraparound in SFY 2024. This represents an increase of 8.8% from the final SFY 2023 projection of need for Wraparound, which utilized data from Quarters 1-3 in SFY 2023 (see orange bars in Figure 1). Figure 2 shows the change in projected number of service utilizers from SFY 2023 to SFY 2024.

The increased number of service users was primarily driven by increased psychiatric hospitalizations, which have been higher for youths across the U.S. in recent years (Arakelyan et al., 2023).

Conclusion

The two estimates of need for Wraparound are combined by taking their average. This results in an estimated 1,564 Idaho youth (337 per 100,000) who are likely to benefit from participating in Wraparound in SFY 2024. These estimates will be updated in July 2024 to produce the final estimated need for Wraparound in SFY 2024. ■

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