

Calculating OSEP Categories from COSF Responses

The two tables below show the OSEP reporting category generated from all **possible** combinations of COSF ratings at entry and exit (<http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/outcomes.cfm>).

Possible Combinations (Arranged by COSF Rating)

If the COSF rating at Time 1 is...	If the COSF rating at Time 2 is...	If the answer to the new skills ¹ question is...	The OSEP reporting category is....
7	7	yes	e
7	6	yes	e
7	1 to 5	yes	b
7	1 to 5	no	a
6	7	yes	e
6	6	yes	e
6	1 to 5	yes	b
6	1 to 5	no	a
5	6 or 7	yes	d
5	5	yes	b
5	1 to 4	yes	b
5	1 to 4	no	a
4	6 or 7	yes	d
4	5	yes	c
4	4	yes	b
4	1 to 3	yes	b
4	1 to 3	no	a
3	6 or 7	yes	d
3	4 or 5	yes	c
3	3	yes	b
3	1 or 2	yes	b
3	1 or 2	no	a
2	6 or 7	yes	d
2	3 to 5	yes	c
2	2	yes	b
2	1	yes	b
2	1	no	a
1	6 or 7	yes	d
1	2 to 5	yes	c
1	1	yes	b
1	1	no	a

¹ **Note:** The “new skills” question refers to answer to the question “Has the child shown any new skills or behaviors related to [outcome 1/2/3] since the last outcomes summary?”

Possible Combinations (Arranged by OSEP Categories)

If the COSF rating at Time 1 is...	If the COSF rating at Time 2 is...	If the answer to the new skills² question is...	The OSEP reporting category is....
7	1 to 5	no	a
6	1 to 5	no	a
5	1 to 4	no	a
4	1 to 3	no	a
3	1 or 2	no	a
2	1	no	a
1	1	no	a
7	1 to 5	yes	b
6	1 to 5	yes	b
5	5	yes	b
5	1 to 4	yes	b
4	4	yes	b
4	1 to 3	yes	b
3	3	yes	b
3	1 or 2	yes	b
2	2	yes	b
2	1	yes	b
1	1	yes	b
4	5	yes	c
3	4 or 5	yes	c
2	3 to 5	yes	c
1	2 to 5	yes	c
5	6 or 7	yes	d
4	6 or 7	yes	d
3	6 or 7	yes	d
2	6 or 7	yes	d
1	6 or 7	yes	d
7	7	yes	e
7	6	yes	e
6	7	yes	e
6	6	yes	e

² **Note:** The “new skills” question refers to answers to the question “Has the child shown any new skills or behaviors related to [outcome 1/2/3] since the last outcomes summary?”

Impossible Combinations of COSF Responses

The following table presents combinations that are **impossible** and provides an explanation for why.

	If the COSF rating at Time 1 is...	If the COSF rating at Time 2 is...	If the answer to the new skills question is...	Explanation why this combination of COSF responses is impossible
# 1	7 or 6	7 or 6	no	A "no" response to the new skills question means the child has not shown any new skills or behaviors related to the outcome between entry and exit. This combination of responses is impossible since a child has to have acquired new skills to receive a rating of age expected development (over the minimum time span which is 6 months); children must acquire new skills over time to maintain age expected development.
#2	5	6 or 7	no	A "no" response to the new skills question means the child has not shown any new skills or behaviors related to the outcome between entry and exit. A higher rating at time 2 means he/she acquired new skills.
#3	5	5	no	A "no" response to the new skills question means the child has not shown any new skills or behaviors related to the outcome between entry and exit. To receive the same rating on the scale at two time points, the child has to have acquired new skills, because as children get older it takes more skills to receive the same rating.
#4	4	5, 6 or 7	no	See explanation for #2 above.
#5	4	4	no	See explanation for #3 above.
#6	3	4, 5, 6 or 7	no	See explanation for #2 above.
#7	3	3	no	See explanation for #3 above.
#8	2	3, 4, 5, 6 or 7	no	See explanation for #2 above.
#9	2	2	no	See explanation for #3 above.
#10	1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7	no	See explanation for #2 above.