STATE PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE:

WHO PARTICIPATES?

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Characteristics of Participants in the SPI Demonstration

I. Who are the SPI participants?
(Early cohort: 6,479 – enrolled by 12/01)

A. Participants overall

B. SSDI/SSI/Concurrents

C. Employment status

II. What factors drive participation?
Many Participants Report Mental Illness

- Mental and emotional conditions: 44%
- Orthopedic impairments or absence/amputation of limb(s): 17%
- Visual or hearing impairments: 6%
- Developmental disabilities: 7%
- Traumatic brain injury: 4%
- Spinal cord injury: 4%
- All other disabilities: 15%
- Missing: 3%
Other Characteristics of SPI Participants

- 71% receive Social Security benefits
- Half are female
- Average age is 38 years
Participants Have Diverse Educational Experience

- Less than high school: 19%
- High school or GED: 32%
- Post-secondary, associate's degree, or vocational certificate: 33%
- Bachelor's degree or higher: 12%
- Missing: 4%
Many SPI Participants Have Some Work Experience

- 75% had job experience since onset of disability
- More than 1/3 were employed at intake
B. Participant Differences By Social Security Benefit Type

- SSDI Only: 42%
- SSI Only: 36%
- Concurrent: 22%
SSI Recipients Face Additional Barriers to Employment

- **Less than high school education**: 27% SSI-only, 17% Concurrent, 13% SSDI-only
- **No employment prior to disability**: 53% SSI-only, 32% Concurrent, 24% SSDI-only
- **Never worked**: 15% SSI-only, 6% Concurrent, 5% SSDI-only
C. Participants Employed at Intake Very Similar to Those Not Employed at Intake

- Age
- Gender
- Time on Social Security benefits
- Education levels
Summary

- Many participants have mental illness
- Many participants have tried work
- SSI recipients have greater barriers to employment
- Employed participants are very similar to those not employed