

Assistive Technology Data Collection Project

Quantitative Responses From Assistive Technology
Grantees Reporting via the
Web-Based Data Collection System
for Fiscal Year 2001

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research
330 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20202-2645

October 14, 2003

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Submitted to

U.S. Department of Education
National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research
330 C Street, SW
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Table of Contents

Executive Summary	ES-1
Funding	ES-2
Legislative and Policy Changes	ES-2
Public Awareness and Information Dissemination.....	ES-2
Interagency Coordination and Partnerships	ES-3
Technical Assistance (TA) and Training	ES-3
Outreach.....	ES-3
Alternative Financing Programs	ES-3
Demonstrations	ES-4
Interstate Activities	ES-4
1.0 Introduction.....	1
2.0 Funding	3
3.0 Legislative and Policy Changes	5
3.1 Number of Legislative and Policy Changes and Areas Addressed.....	5
3.2 Persons Affected by Legislative and Policy Changes.....	7
3.3 Capacity Building, Systems Change, and Advocacy Activities	8
3.4 Outcomes Associated With Legislative Changes	9
4.0 Public Awareness and Information Dissemination.....	11
4.1 Methods for Increasing Public Awareness and Disseminating Information	11
4.2 Number of Individuals Receiving Information.....	12
5.0 Interagency Coordination and Partnerships	15
5.1 Agencies/Organizations Involved in Coordination Activities	16
5.2 Specific Types of Agencies Involved	17
5.3 Targeted Areas of Policy Change or Improved Coordination	22
5.4 Types of Interagency Involvement	23
6.0 Technical Assistance and Training.....	25
6.1 Technical Assistance (TA)/Training Activities and Participants.....	26
6.2 Topics Addressed in Technical Assistance (TA)/Training Activities	26
7.0 Outreach.....	29
7.1 Types of Outreach Activities	30
7.2 Targeted Populations	31
Population	32
8.0 Alternative Financing Programs	33
9.0 Demonstrations of Assistive Technology (AT).....	35
9.1 Demonstration Services and Individuals Served	35
9.2 Demonstration Locations	36
10.0 Interstate Activities	38

List of Exhibits

Exhibit 1.	Types of Costs Incurred to Ensure Access for Individuals With Disabilities	4
Exhibit 2.	Percentage of Grantees Making Legislative and/or Policy Changes	6
Exhibit 3.	Legislative and Policy Changes, by Area	7
Exhibit 4.	Number of Changes Affecting Particular Types of Individuals With Disabilities	8
Exhibit 5.	Number of Legislative and Policy Changes Resulting in Capacity Building, Systems Change or Advocacy Activities	9
Exhibit 6.	Outcomes Associated With Legislative Changes	10
Exhibit 7.	Number and Percentage of Grantees Using Particular Methods To Increase Public Awareness and Disseminate Information	12
Exhibit 8.	Number of Individuals Receiving Information From Selected Sources	13
Exhibit 9.	Number of Grantees Conducting Interagency Coordination Activities With Each Type of Agency/Organization	17
Exhibit 10.	Types of Community Living/Human Services/Social Services Agencies/Organizations With Which Grantees Conducted Interagency Coordination Activities	18
Exhibit 11.	Types of Education Agencies/Organizations With Which Grantees Conducted Interagency Coordination Activities	19
Exhibit 12.	Types of Employment Agencies/Organizations With Which Grantees Conducted Interagency Coordination Activities	20
Exhibit 13.	Types of Health Care Agencies/Organizations With Which Grantees Conducted Interagency Coordination Activities	21
Exhibit 14.	Types of Telecommunications and Internet Technology (IT) Agencies/Organizations With Which Grantees Conducted Interagency Coordination Activities	22
Exhibit 15.	Focus of Interagency Activities, Across All Goal Areas	23
Exhibit 16.	Number of Grantees With Particular Types of Interagency Involvement	24
Exhibit 17.	Technical Assistance (TA)/Training Participants, by Category	27
Exhibit 18.	Topics Addressed by Technical Assistance (TA)/Training Sessions	28
Exhibit 19.	Percentage of Grantees Conducting Outreach Activities, by Activity Type	30
Exhibit 20.	Underrepresented Groups Targeted by Outreach Activities, by Activity Type	32
Exhibit 21.	Number of Grantees Offering Various Types of Alternative Financing Programs	34
Exhibit 22.	Percentage of Demonstration Sites Offering Various Services	36
Exhibit 23.	Number and Percentage of Grantees Conducting Demonstrations at Various Locations	37
Exhibit 24.	Primary Strategy/Focus of Interstate Activities	39

Executive Summary

This document provides quantitative information from a Web-based reporting system used by state grantees receiving funds under the Assistive Technology (AT) Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-394 Title I, State Grant Program). The system was developed under a grant awarded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) to InfoUse. InfoUse subcontracted with RTI International¹ to develop a new grantee progress form and to design and implement a Web-based data collection system.

RTI's analyses are based on the annual progress reports of 51 of 56 state grantees for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001. Use of the Web-based system was optional during the initial year of implementation, and five grantees elected to report to NIDRR through hard-copy reports.² Information for those five states is not included here.

In this summary, we provide a brief overview of each topic addressed in the full report, including:

- the funding that grantees received
- the legislative and policy changes they accomplished to reduce barriers for individuals with disabilities
- the grantee activities that were supported by federal funds in FY 2001

Those activities include four that are required by federal law: public awareness efforts, which may include developing and disseminating information on AT devices and services; interagency coordination to facilitate coordination among entities that serve individuals with disabilities; training and technical assistance (TA); and outreach. Grantees may also establish alternative financing programs, conduct demonstrations of AT devices, provide advocacy services, inform individuals about options for securing devices and services, pay for expenses to ensure access to a state's AT program and enter into cooperative agreements with other states.

¹ RTI International is a trade name of the Research Triangle Institute.

² The format for the hard-copy reports differs by state and from the Web-based form.

Funding

In FY 2001, the 51 reporting grantees received a total of \$20,356,967 under Title I of the AT Act of 1998. Although 30 of the 51 grantees reported obtaining funds from other sources, federal funds accounted for 58 percent of total dollars received by the 51 grantees. Forty-six grantees (90 percent) incurred costs to ensure that individuals with disabilities had access to project activities or services.

Legislative and Policy Changes

NIDRR collects information about the legislative and policy changes that grantees achieve in five areas (community living, education, employment, health care, and telecommunications and information technology [IT]) to address the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) indicator for the AT program. That indicator is:

Barrier reduction: Annually, grantee activities will result in legislative and policy changes that reduce barriers.

The FY 2001 performance target for this indicator called for 95 percent of grantees to achieve legislative or policy changes.

Forty (78 percent) of the 51 grantees using the Web-based system reported achieving such changes. These data did not include results for the five grantees that submitted an alternate form of their annual progress report. However, even if all five of those grantees engaged in barrier reduction activities, the percentage of grantees achieving legislative and policy changes would rise to only 80 percent, 15 percent short of the GPRA performance target.

Public Awareness and Information Dissemination

All 51 grantees carried out some form of public awareness activity, using a wide variety of methods and approaches. Project Web sites were the single most important source of information for the public as a whole (including consumers, families and others), followed by newsletters and toll-free telephone calls. More than 200,000 consumers and/or families received information from newsletters, TA and training activities, demonstrations, presentations and public forums.

Interagency Coordination and Partnerships

During FY 2001, 49 (96 percent) of the 51 grantees using the Web-based system conducted interagency coordination activities. These activities involved more than 1,000 types of agencies and organizations in community living, education, health care, employment, telecommunications and IT, and other areas. Across the five areas, grantees were most likely to work with independent living centers, postsecondary institutions, vocational rehabilitation agencies, disability-related organizations (no specific disability focus), K-12 schools, senior/aging services agencies and agencies serving individuals with mental retardation or developmental disabilities.

Technical Assistance (TA) and Training

Forty-nine (96 percent) of the 51 grantees indicated that they provided TA and training activities that were funded, either in part or in full, with AT grant funds. During FY 2001, grantees offered 11,273 training and TA activities, which were attended by more than 100,000 individuals. Forty-three percent of participants were professionals who worked with persons with disabilities. An additional 40 percent were individuals with disabilities, family members, advocates or representatives. Participants also included employers, policy makers or state agency personnel and others.

Outreach

Forty-six (90 percent) of the 51 grantees reported conducting outreach activities, either in conjunction with TA and training, interagency coordination, and legislative/policy change efforts or separately. Targeted populations, which varied by type of outreach activity, included older individuals, residents of rural areas, poor persons, minorities, individuals with limited English proficiency, persons with low-incidence disabilities and others.

Alternative Financing Programs

Twenty-three (46 percent) of the 50 grantees completing this section of the reporting form offered alternative financing programs, including traditional loan funds, low-interest or revolving loan funds, interest buy-down programs, loan guarantee or

insurance programs, and other programs.³ The 23 grantees approved 65 percent of the applications for financing they received and provided almost \$2 million in loan funds to recipients. Grantees experienced only 11 defaults, totaling approximately \$34,000, during the reporting period.

Demonstrations

Forty-seven (94 percent) of the 50 grantees completing this section of the reporting form offered demonstrations of AT devices, which allowed individuals to see and try out AT devices, receive information about them, or obtain referrals to other sources. Grantees conducted demonstrations in 238 settings (such as conferences, expos, fairs, exhibits, regional AT centers, nonprofit organizations, schools and state agencies) providing equipment lending services, AT device recycling programs and AT equipment exchange services. During FY 2001, more than 100,000 individuals, 47 percent of whom were individuals with disabilities, received services at demonstration sites.

Interstate Activities

Twenty-one (42 percent) of the 50 grantees completing this section of the reporting form engaged in interstate activities designed to expand their capacity to help individuals with disabilities learn about, acquire, use, and maintain AT devices. These grantees described a total of 43 interstate activities, including public awareness, conferences, outreach, policy development, grant projects, legislative initiatives and other activities.

³ One grantee did not complete reporting form sections for alternative financing, demonstrations, or interstate activities.

1.0 Introduction

In October 1999, the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) awarded a four-year grant to InfoUse to conduct the Assistive Technology (AT) Data Collection Project (Priority 3 under 34 *CFR* 75.105(c)(3) and Section 104 of the AT Act of 1998). InfoUse subcontracted to RTI International⁴ to develop a new progress reporting form and to design and implement a Web-based data collection system to gather annual data from AT state grantees. Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 was the first year this optional system was used by grantees to report on their activities conducted in FY 2001; during this year grantees reported on their FY 2001 activities and accomplishments. Fifty-one (51) of the 56 grantees (91 percent) chose to use the Web-based reporting system. Grantees electing not to use the system were those in Alabama, American Samoa, Georgia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania.⁵ This report provides quantitative information from the 51 grantees using the system on data elements chosen in advance by NIDRR staff.⁶

According to the AT Act of 1998, grantees are required to conduct four types of activities:

- public awareness
- interagency coordination
- technical assistance (TA) and training
- outreach.

Grantees may also conduct demonstrations and interstate activities, establish alternative financing programs, provide advocacy and information about options for securing devices and services, and pay for expenses to ensure access to AT programs for individuals with disabilities. Additionally, the Act (Section 101 (e)(1)(A)) outlines five goals or areas in which a state may strive to meet the AT needs of individuals with disabilities:

⁴ RTI International is a trade name of the Research Triangle Institute.

⁵ These states submitted hard-copy reports in varying formats to NIDRR to report on their FY 2001 activities.

⁶ NIDRR staff will review and analyze the qualitative responses grantees provided.

- community living⁷
- education
- employment
- health care
- telecommunications and information technology (IT)

In various sections of the reporting form, grantees are asked about their activities in these five areas. Grantees are also required to report annually on legislative and policy changes that reduce barriers in these areas to fulfill a Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993⁸ requirement of the program.

This report is organized to provide information on selected quantitative responses of the 51 grantees that used the Web-based system to report their FY 2001 activities. Because not all of these grantees conducted the required or discretionary activities, we provide, in each section, the number of grantees that reported on the particular activity discussed in that section. The report addresses funding first, providing information on the discretionary activity of expenses to ensure access to AT programs. Legislative and policy changes, including data to address the GPRA indicator, are presented next. The remaining sections cover the four required grantee activities of the AT Act of 1998 and the discretionary activities of alternative financing programs, demonstrations and interstate activities.⁹

⁷ The area of community living also includes human services and social services.

⁸ Public Law 103-62

⁹ The Web-based data collection system has a multitude of data elements from each section of the grantee progress report, both qualitative and quantitative. NIDRR determined which of these data elements they wanted RTI to discuss in this report.

2.0 Funding

In this section, we provide information on the:

- amount of funds that grantees receive from Title I and other sources
- amount of Title I funds allocated to subcontractors
- costs that grantees incurred to ensure access to project activities and services.

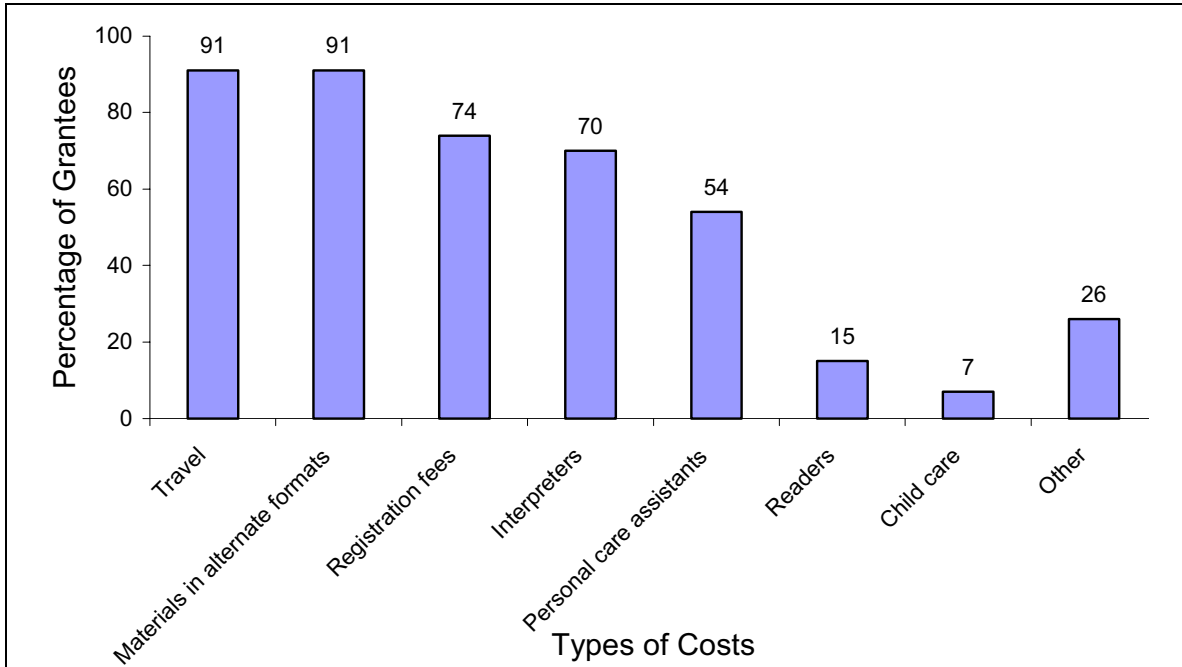
The Web-based reporting system also collects detailed information about the subcontractors to which Title I funds are reallocated and the purposes for which they use those funds; funding sources other than Title I and the activities that those sources support; and significant changes that occurred in grantees' budgets during the reporting period. NIDRR will provide an analysis of those responses.

In FY 2001, the 51 AT grantees that used the Web-based system received \$20,356,967 in Title I funds. Thirty of the 51 grantees (59 percent) reported obtaining an additional \$14,851,407 from other sources, bringing the total funding received by those 31 grantees from all sources to \$27,564,398. Title I funds accounted for 58 percent of total dollars received by all 51 reporting AT grantees (\$35,208,374), but Title I dollars only represented 46 percent of total funds for the 30 grantees who received money from other sources. Forty-one of the 51 grantees (80 percent) reallocated a total of \$6,857,352, or 34 percent, of their federal funds to subcontractors to conduct various AT activities.

Forty-six of the 51 grantees (90 percent) incurred costs, either in the form of direct payment to other entities or staff time, to ensure that individuals with disabilities had access to project activities or services, a discretionary activity under the AT Act. As shown in *Exhibit 1*, grantees most often incurred costs for travel (including mileage, lodging and meals) or for providing materials in alternative formats. Of the 46 grantees that incurred costs to ensure access, 42 (91 percent) reported costs in each of these two categories. Other common costs included registration fees for conferences or workshops and interpreters, with 34 and 32 grantees (74 and 70 percent of the 46 grantees, respectively) reporting costs in these categories. Twenty-five grantees (54 percent of the 46) reported expending funds for personal care assistants. Twelve grantees (26 percent of the 46) reported incurring "other" costs to facilitate the participation of individuals with disabilities in project activities or services. Most of these answers (seven) should have

been coded in existing response categories. Appropriate “other” costs included scholarships, stipends and providing AT for employees.

Exhibit 1. Types of Costs Incurred to Ensure Access for Individuals With Disabilities^{a,b,c}



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees’ Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Counts are duplicated because grantees could incur more than one type of cost.

^c Percentages are based on the number of grantees that incurred any type of cost to ensure access (46).

3.0 Legislative and Policy Changes

NIDRR asks grantees to provide information about the legislative and policy changes¹⁰ that they have achieved in the five areas (community living, education, employment, health care, and telecommunications and IT) outlined in Section 101(e)(1)(A) of the AT Act of 1998 (goals/areas a state can set to meet the AT needs of individuals with disabilities) in order to address the GPRA indicator for this program. The indicator reads:

Barrier reduction: Annually, grantees activities will result in legislative and policy changes that reduce barriers.

The reporting form seeks the following:

- the number of legislative and policy changes that grantees achieved and the area that those changes addressed (community living/human services/social services, education, employment, health care, telecommunications and IT, or other areas)
- the persons affected by those changes (whether the changes affected all individuals with disabilities or only certain subgroups of children or adults)
- the capacity-building, systems change and advocacy activities that were achieved due to those changes
- the outcomes associated with legislative changes

In this section, we present information on each of these four topics and provide baseline data addressing the GPRA indicator.

3.1 Number of Legislative and Policy Changes and Areas Addressed

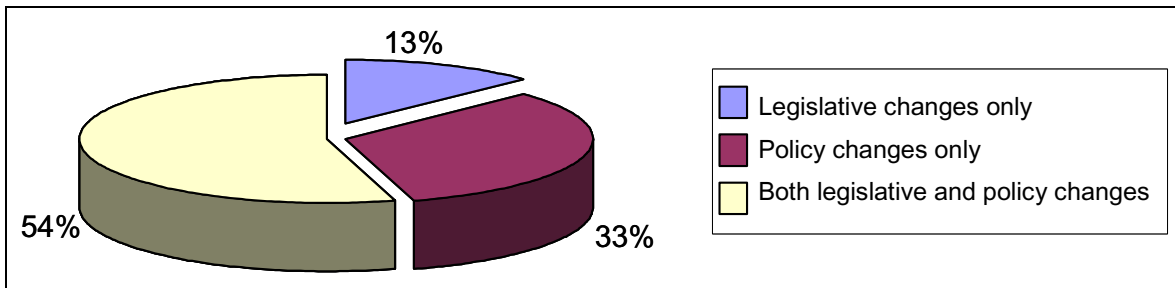
Forty (78 percent) of the 51 AT grantees reported achieving either legislative changes, policy changes, or both related to reducing barriers for people with disabilities to acquiring AT devices or services. The FY 2001 performance target for the GPRA indicator was a 95 percent achievement rate. While the data in this report reflects the activities of the majority of grantees (51), they do not include the five grantees that

¹⁰ As defined by NIDRR, legislative changes result in new laws or amendments to existing laws relating to reducing barriers to acquiring AT devices and services. Policy changes result in a practice, procedure, or course of action sanctioned or adopted by a state government agency to reduce barriers to acquiring AT devices and services.

submitted an alternate form of progress report. However, even if NIDRR determined that all five of those grantees engaged in barrier-reduction activities, the percentage of grantees would only rise to 80 percent, 15 percent short of the GPRA performance target.

Twenty-two of the 40 grantees (55 percent) achieved both legislative and policy changes (see *Exhibit 2*). An additional 13 grantees (33 percent) reported policy changes only, while 5 grantees (13 percent) made legislative changes only.

Exhibit 2. Percentage of Grantees Making Legislative and/or Policy Changes^{a,b}



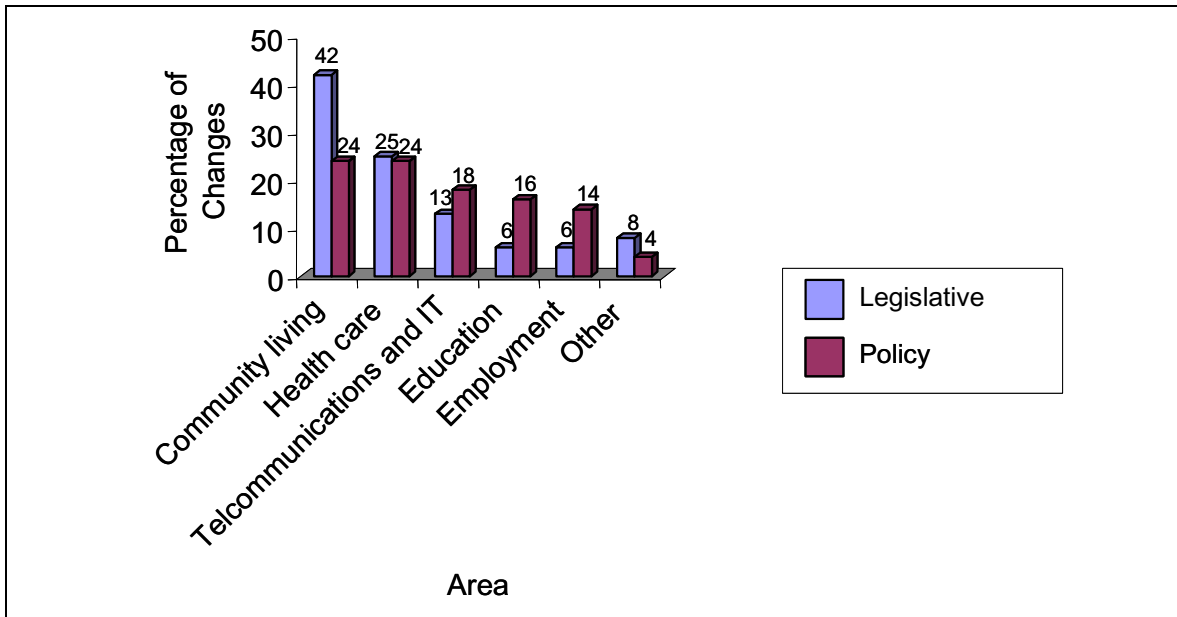
^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Percentages are based on the 40 grantees reporting legislative or policy changes. Total percent exceeds 100 due to rounding.

The 40 grantees that reported achieving either legislative changes, policy changes, or both accomplished a total of 71 legislative changes and 103 policy changes. *Exhibit 3* illustrates that legislative changes were most likely to address the area of community living, which includes human services and social services, with 30 (42 percent of the 71 changes) falling into this category. Eighteen (25 percent) of the legislative changes focused on health care issues, while nine (13 percent) dealt with telecommunications and IT. Issues in education and employment each accounted for four (6 percent) of the legislative changes. Seven grantees provided an “other—specify” response that addressed the areas of funding and voting/election law.

Community living, human services, and social services issues were also the focus of approximately one-fourth of the 103 policy changes (25 changes, or 24 percent), and an equal number addressed health care issues. Changes pertaining to telecommunications/IT, education, and employment accounted for 19, 16, and 14 policy changes, respectively (18, 16, and 14 percent of changes, respectively.)

Exhibit 3. Legislative and Policy Changes, by Area^{a,b}



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

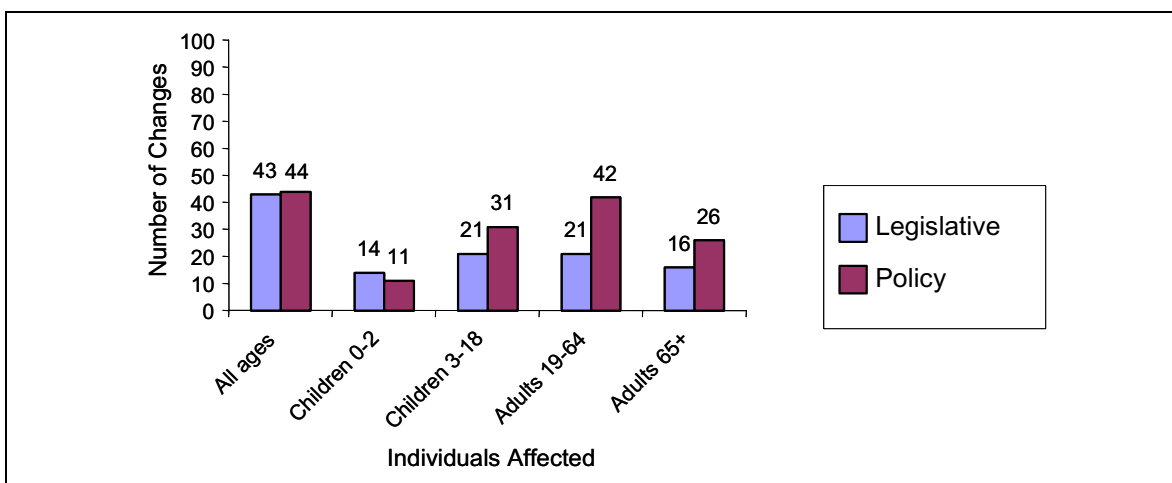
^b Percentages are based on a total of 71 legislative changes and a total of 103 policy changes.

3.2 Persons Affected by Legislative and Policy Changes

As *Exhibit 4* shows, 43 of the 71 legislative changes achieved by grantees affected all individuals with disabilities. Twenty-one focused on children aged 3 to 18; a similar number affected adults aged 19 to 64. Sixteen changes targeted adults aged 65 and up, while 14 addressed children aged 2 and under.

Policy changes were about equally likely to affect individuals of all ages (44 of the 103 changes) or adults aged 19 to 64 (42 changes). Changes affecting children aged 3 to 18 were the next most common (31 changes). Twenty-six policy changes targeted adults 65 and up, while 11 were aimed at children aged 2 and under.

Exhibit 4. Number of Changes Affecting Particular Types of Individuals With Disabilities^{a,b}



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Total number of legislative changes was 71; total number of policy changes was 103. Counts are duplicated because some changes affected more than one subgroup.

3.3 Capacity Building, Systems Change, and Advocacy Activities

Both legislative and policy changes achieved by grantees focused on activities addressing capacity-building/systems change and advocacy. As shown in *Exhibit 5*, legislative change activities most often improved coordination among state human services programs (resulting from 42 of the 71 legislative changes). Other common activities included increased program capacity to provide technology-related assistance, dissemination of information about the availability and potential of AT, and outreach to underrepresented¹¹ populations, resulting from 32, 28, and 27 changes, respectively. Twenty-five of the 71 legislative changes led to systems change to ensure timely acquisition and delivery of AT devices and services, while 24 secured financing to pay for AT devices and services.

Like legislative changes, policy change activities most frequently improved the coordination among state human services programs (resulting from 61 of the 103 policy changes). Dissemination of information about the availability and potential of AT and changes to ensure timely acquisition of AT devices and services were also important

¹¹ As defined by the AT Act (Section 1(b)(3)(a)(16)), underrepresented populations include persons with low-incidence disabilities, minorities, poor persons, persons with limited-English proficiency, older individuals, or persons from rural areas.

results of policy changes, produced by 55 and 50 of the changes, respectively. Forty-nine changes led to increased program capacity for providing technology-related assistance, and 45 resulted in financing for AT devices and services.

Exhibit 5. Number of Legislative and Policy Changes Resulting in Capacity Building, Systems Change or Advocacy Activities^{a,b}

Capacity Building, Systems Change or Advocacy Activities	Number of Changes	
	Legislative	Policy
Improved coordination among state human service programs	42	61
Increased program capacity to provide technology-related assistance	32	49
Provided/disseminated information about the availability and potential of AT	28	55
Provided outreach to underrepresented populations and rural populations	27	29
Systems changed to ensure timely acquisition and delivery of AT devices and services	25	50
Obtained financing to pay for AT devices and services	24	45
Improved access to telecommunications and information technology	16	26
Trained personnel to assist individuals with disabilities to use AT	13	28
Other	10	3

^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

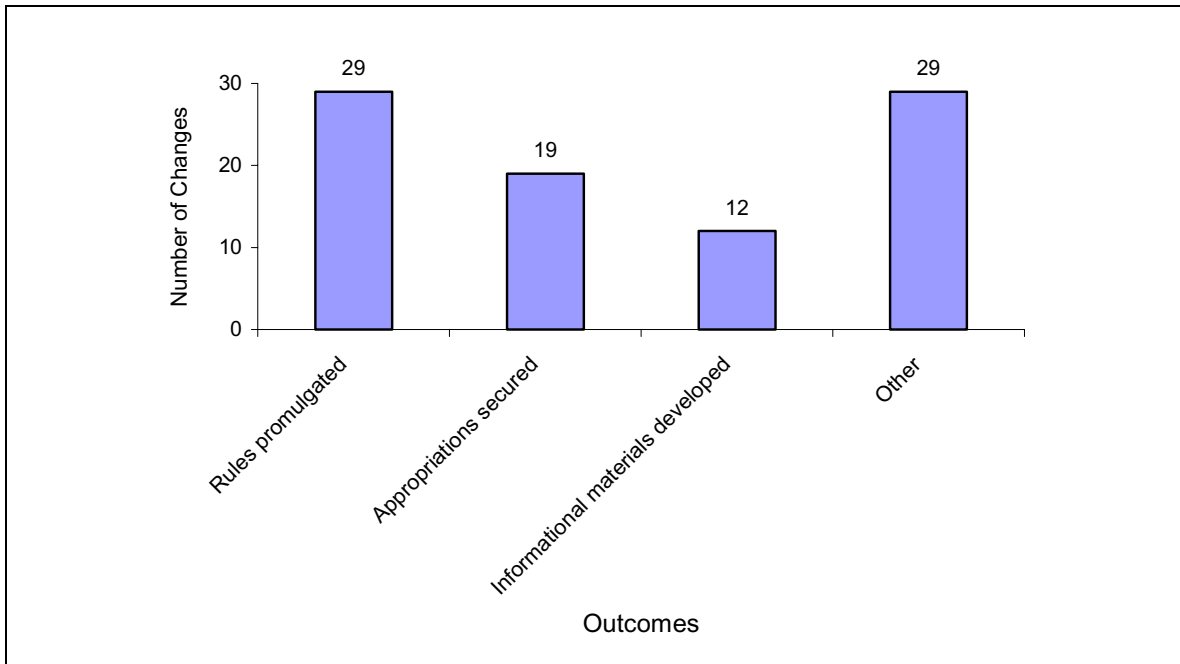
^b Counts are duplicated because a single legislative or policy change could result in more than one systems change.

3.4 Outcomes Associated With Legislative Changes

The most common outcome of legislative changes (resulting from 29 of the 71 changes) was the promulgation of rules (see *Exhibit 6*). Nineteen changes resulted in appropriations, while 12 led to the development of informational materials. Twenty-nine fell into the “other” category, which primarily included passing/enacting legislation (20 responses). Additional outcomes cited were a report to the governor and legislators, the adoption of legislative comments, the establishment of a study group and increased awareness of AT among legislators.¹²

¹² One grantee provided four responses of “no applicable choice.”

Exhibit 6. Outcomes Associated With Legislative Changes^{a,b}



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Total number of legislative changes was 71. Counts are duplicated because some changes resulted in more than one outcome.

4.0 Public Awareness and Information Dissemination

As outlined in the AT Act of 1998 (Section 101(b)(2)(A)), grant recipients are required to conduct public awareness activities that may include: developing and disseminating information on AT devices and services (including availability, benefits of and cost); facilitating communication between AT providers and targeted individuals; and developing and disseminating information to specific audiences.

The Web-based reporting system provides information about:

- the methods and approaches that grantees use to increase awareness and disseminate information
- the number of consumers, family members, and others who receive information through selected sources
- narrative descriptions of grantee approaches to public awareness

This section presents information on the first two topics.¹³

4.1 Methods for Increasing Public Awareness and Disseminating Information

AT grantees used a wide variety of methods and approaches to increase public awareness about AT devices and related services and to disseminate information to consumers, their families and others. All 51 grantees carried out some form of public awareness activities. *Exhibit 7* shows that nearly all grantees (49 of the 51, or 96 percent) provided information to individuals who made drop-in visits to AT grantee offices or demonstration centers. Seven other strategies for raising public awareness—mailings, Web sites, fact sheets and flyers, telephone, articles or notifications in other agency publications, exhibits and fairs, and presentations—were cited by 90 percent or more of grantees.

Many grantees maintained reference libraries or databases on AT for use by the public (45 [88 percent] and 30 [59 percent] of the 51, respectively). Others published their own manuals, guides and booklets (45, or 88 percent) or newsletters and calendars of events (39, or 76 percent). Forty-two grantees (82 percent) used the radio, television,

¹³ NIDRR will analyze the qualitative data on grantee approaches to public awareness.

or newspaper to disseminate information, and 26 (51 percent) sponsored public service announcements.

Exhibit 7. Number and Percentage of Grantees Using Particular Methods To Increase Public Awareness and Disseminate Information^{a,b}

Method	Grantees Using Method ^c	
	Number	Percentage
Drop-ins to office and/or demonstration center	49	96
Mailings	48	94
Web site	48	94
Informational fact sheets/flyers for public	48	94
Telephone	47	92
Articles/notifications in other agency publications	47	92
Exhibits/fairs in public areas	47	92
Presentations	47	92
Reference library available to public	45	88
Manuals/guides/booklets	45	88
Radio/TV/newspaper	42	82
Newsletter/calendar of events	39	76
Database on AT information available to public	30	59
Public service announcements	26	51
Video(s) produced by AT project	20	39
Public forums conducted by grantee	19	37
Internet discussion list or bulletin/message board	18	35
Other	16	31

^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Counts are duplicated because grantees used more than one method/approach.

^c Percentages are based on the number of grantees conducting public awareness activities (51).

4.2 Number of Individuals Receiving Information

Several of the public awareness methods that grantees used allowed them to monitor the number of individuals receiving information by specific source. The total number of individuals (and the total number of consumers and families) who received information about AT through selected methods are reported in *Exhibit 8*. Excluding

Web site hits,¹⁴ newsletters, toll-free telephone calls, TA and training activities, and demonstrations were the dissemination vehicles grantees used most often.

Exhibit 8. Number of Individuals Receiving Information From Selected Sources^{a,b}

Method	Number of Recipients	
	Consumers and Families ^c	All Individuals ^d
Project Web site hits	Not available	3,186,540
Newsletters	90,555	232,581
Toll-free telephone calls	Not available	123,260
TA/training activities ^e	31,895	104,540
Demonstrations	48,855	103,969
Presentations	29,318	77,112
Public forums	6,357	12,010
Total	206,980 ^f	3,840,012

^aData Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^bCounts may be duplicated, particularly for Web site hits and toll-free telephone calls.

^cSome grantees using particular methods were not able to report the number of consumers and/or families receiving information. The numbers of grantees that provided counts of consumers and/or families are: newsletters, 38 of 39 that used this method; TA/training activities, 36 of 49; demonstrations, 43 of 47; presentations, 43 of 47; and forums, 19 of 19.

^dSome grantees using particular methods were not able to report the total number of individuals receiving information. The numbers of grantees that provided counts of individuals are: Web hits, 29 of 48 that used this method; newsletters, 38 of 39; toll-free telephone calls, 45 of 47; TA/training activities, 48 of 49; demonstrations, 46 of 47; presentations, 46 of 47; and forums, 19 of 19.

^eDetails on grantee activities in these areas are discussed in later sections of this report.

^fDoes not include individuals receiving information from Web sites and toll-free telephone calls.

Of all methods of dissemination, project Web sites were the single most important source of information for the public as a whole (including consumers, families and others). Information provided by 29 of the 48 grantees sponsoring project Web sites indicates that those sites experienced more than 3 million hits during FY 2001.¹⁵ AT grantees also responded to more than 100,000 toll-free telephone calls.

Grantees provided information to 90,555 consumers and/or family members through newsletters. Approximately 50,000 consumers were able to see and try AT devices at various demonstration settings, while 31,895 obtained information through

¹⁴ To be consistent with changes to the reporting forms of eight other NIDRR programs, RTI recommended changing the response category of "Web site hits" to "number of page views", which provides a more accurate count of individuals using a project's Web site to obtain information. NIDRR agreed with this recommendation and the electronic dissemination questions were revised for FY02 reporting.

¹⁵ Remaining Web sites did not have counters to monitor the number of hits.

TA/training activities. Approximately 29,000 consumers and family members attended presentations sponsored by AT grantees, while a relatively small number participated in public forums.

5.0 Interagency Coordination and Partnerships

Another required activity that grantees must undertake is interagency coordination. As defined in the AT Act of 1998 (Section 101 (b)(2)(B)), interagency coordination activities are designed to “facilitate, especially through new and improved policies, coordination among public and private entities that are or could be responsible for policies, procedures, funding, or the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services to individuals with disabilities of all ages. . . .” Such activities may include supporting policies that result in improved coordination between agencies (including public and private entities); development of interagency agreements; convening of interagency work groups to improve funding options and coordinate access to funding; and documenting and disseminating information about interagency activities that promote coordination.

Among the data elements the Web-based data collection system collects about grantees’ interagency coordination activities are:

- agencies/organizations with which grantees conducted interagency coordination activities by major area (community living/human services/social services, education, employment, health care, telecommunications and IT and other)
- the specific types of agencies within each area that were involved
- the targeted areas of policy change or improved coordination
- the types of interagency involvement (such as memorandum of understanding or cooperative agreement, task force membership or membership on an advisory panel/council)¹⁶

In this section, we present information on each of the above topics. Details about the underrepresented populations targeted for these activities are included in Section 7.

¹⁶ Grantees also provided narratives on: (1) their major interagency activities (limited to three), describing their focus and expected outcomes; and (2) the partnerships they supported between the public and private sectors. NIDRR will analyze these narrative responses.

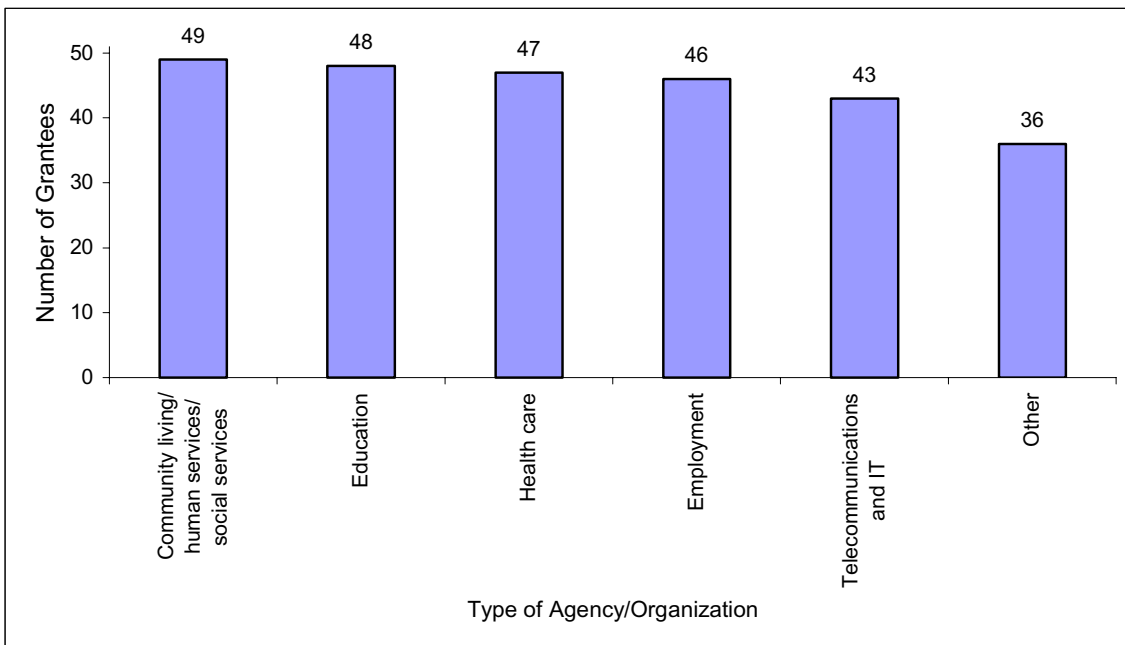
5.1 Agencies/Organizations Involved in Coordination Activities

Forty-nine (96 percent) of the 51 AT grantees conducted interagency coordination activities during the reporting period. As seen in *Exhibit 9*:

- all 49 indicated that they had coordinated with community living/human services/social services agencies
- 48 of the 49 grantees (98 percent) had undertaken interagency coordination activities that involved educational agencies/organizations
- 47 (96 percent of the 49) worked with health care entities
- 46 (94 percent) coordinated their activities with employment agencies
- 43 (88 percent) reported interagency coordination activities that involved telecommunications and IT agencies and organizations
- 36 (73 percent) described coordination efforts that involved other types of agencies, many of which were disability-related nonprofits, such as the ARC, Easter Seals, Goodwill, and the National Federation for the Blind. Several of the “other” responses should have been reported under an existing category¹⁷

¹⁷ RTI’s analysis of “other—specify” answers for this item indicates a need to add response categories to the form. For complete details, see RTI’s report, “Analysis of, and Recommendations Concerning, ‘Other’ Responses,” November 25, 2002.

Exhibit 9. Number of Grantees Conducting Interagency Coordination Activities With Each Type of Agency/Organization^{a,b}



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b A total of 49 grantees reported conducting interagency coordination activities. Counts are duplicated, because grantees could report more than one activity.

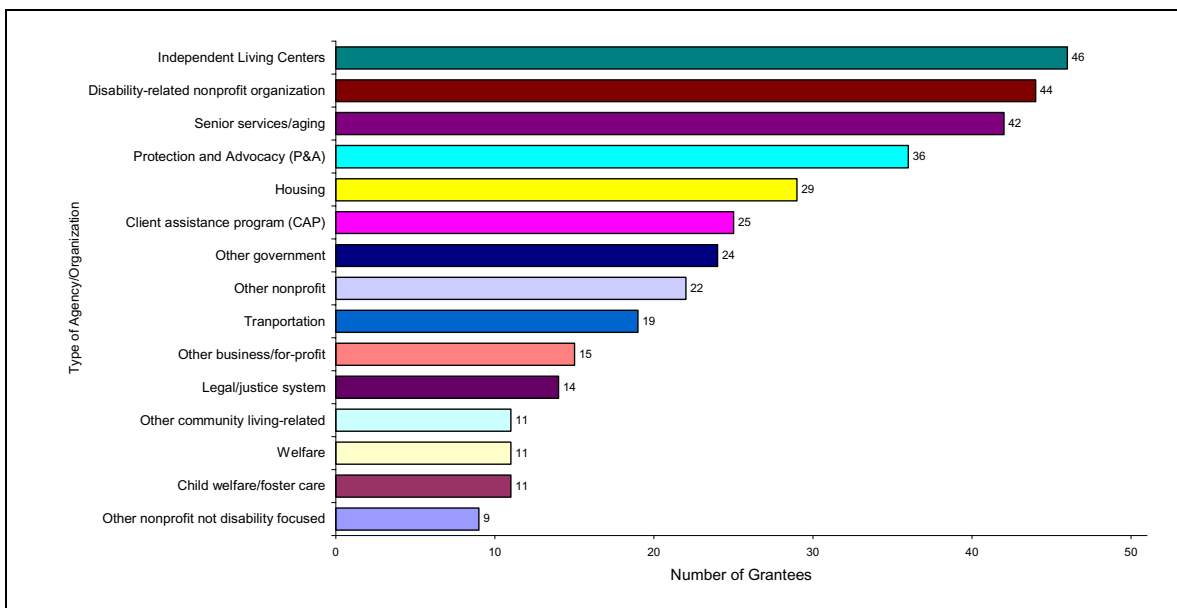
Grantees' interagency activities involved more than 1,000 types of agencies and organizations, including 358 in the community living/human services/social services area and 222 in the health care area. One hundred sixty (160) types of education-related organizations participated in interagency activities, along with 107 types of telecommunications and IT organizations and 104 types of employment organizations. Fifty-eight "other" types of organizations also participated: the overwhelming majority of these were disability-related nonprofits (not focused on a specific disability). Grantees also reported working with government-funded entities and agencies involved with housing, the justice system and financial services.

5.2 Specific Types of Agencies Involved

Exhibits 10 through 14 demonstrate that interagency coordination activities involved a wide variety of organizations within each of the five major areas. Within the area of community living/human services/social services (see *Exhibit 10*), grantees were most likely to coordinate their activities with those of independent living centers

(reported by 46 of the 49 grantees that worked with community living/human services/social services agencies/organizations); disability-related nonprofit organizations (44 of the 49 grantees); senior services/aging agencies (42 grantees); and protection and advocacy (P&A) organizations (36 grantees). The number of grantees that coordinated their activities with housing agencies, client assistance programs (CAPs), other government agencies and nonprofits ranged from 22 to 29.

Exhibit 10. Types of Community Living/Human Services/Social Services Agencies/Organizations With Which Grantees Conducted Interagency Coordination Activities^{a,b}

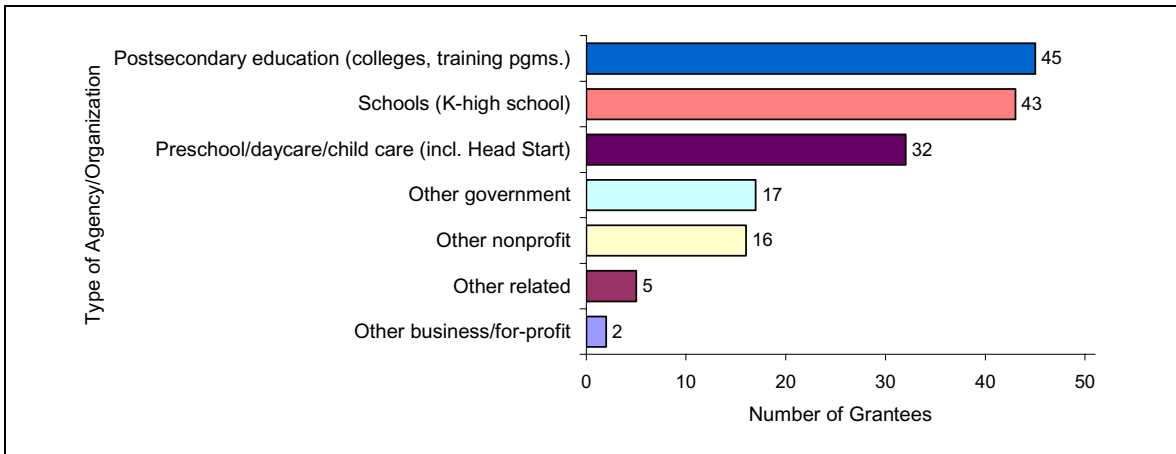


^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b A total of 49 grantees reported conducting interagency coordination activities with community living/human services/social services organizations. Counts are duplicated, because grantees could work with more than one agency/organization.

Forty-five of the 48 grantees that coordinated with education agencies/organizations worked with postsecondary programs (e.g., colleges and training programs). Almost as many grantees (43 of the 48) indicated that they conducted interagency coordination activities involving K-12 schools. Thirty-two grantees had undertaken activities involving preschool, day care or child care agencies, including Head Start.

Exhibit 11. Types of Education Agencies/Organizations With Which Grantees Conducted Interagency Coordination Activities^{a,b}

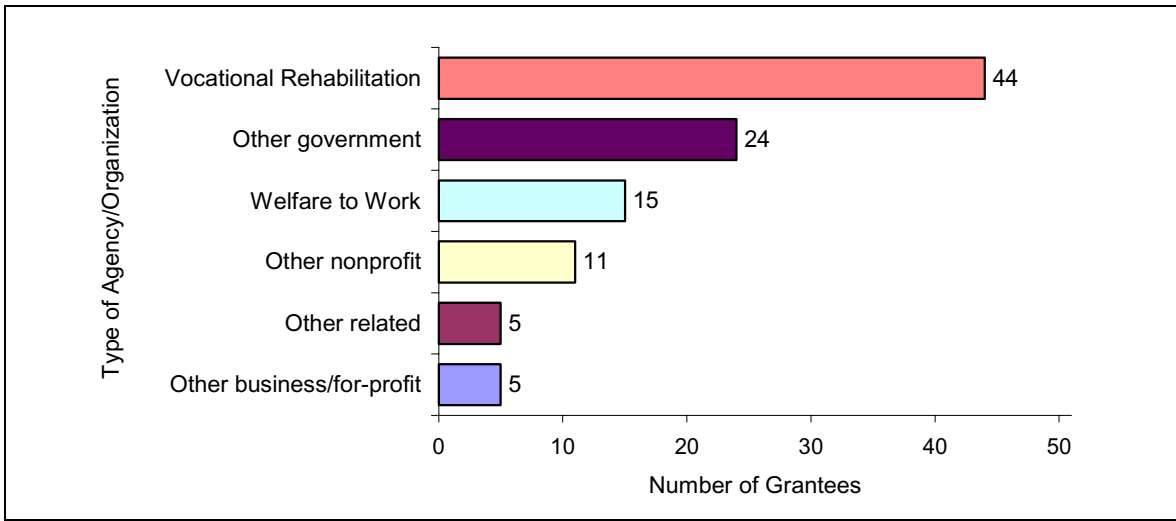


^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b A total of 48 grantees reported conducting interagency coordination activities with education agencies/organizations. Counts are duplicated because grantees could work with more than one type of agency/organization.

Forty-four of the 46 grantees that worked with employment agencies/organizations coordinated their activities with vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies (see *Exhibit 12*). About one-half as many grantees (24) had undertaken interagency coordination activities that involved other government agencies. Fifteen grantees coordinated with welfare-to-work programs, and 11 worked with other nonprofit agencies.

Exhibit 12. Types of Employment Agencies/Organizations With Which Grantees Conducted Interagency Coordination Activities^{a,b}

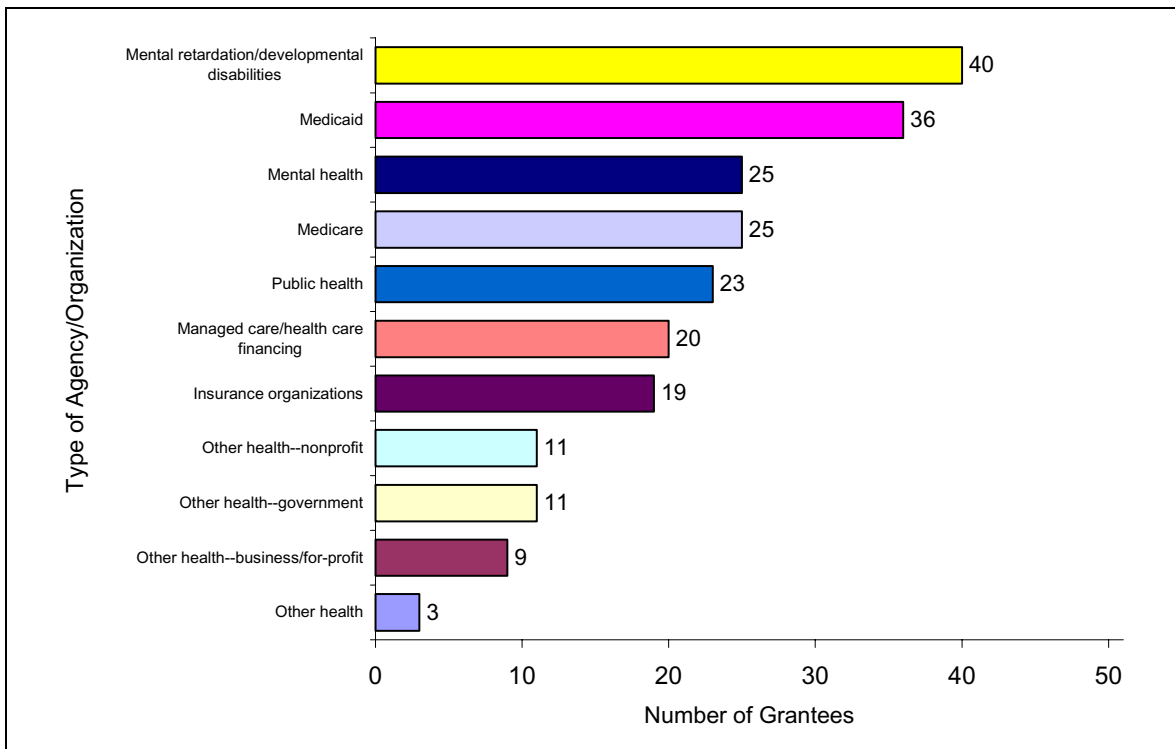


^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b A total of 46 grantees reported conducting interagency coordination activities with employment agencies/organizations. Counts are duplicated, because grantees could work with more than one type of agency/organization.

As shown in *Exhibit 13*, in the area of health care, grantees were most likely to work with entities serving individuals with mental retardation or developmental disabilities (40 of the 47 grantees that reported activities in this area). Thirty-six grantees described interagency coordination activities that involved Medicaid agencies. Grantees also frequently coordinated their activities with those of mental health and Medicare agencies, with 25 reporting having done so in each category.

Exhibit 13. Types of Health Care Agencies/Organizations With Which Grantees Conducted Interagency Coordination Activities^{a,b}



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b A total of 47 grantees reported conducting interagency coordination activities with health care agencies/organizations. Counts are duplicated, because grantees could work with more than one type of agency/organization.

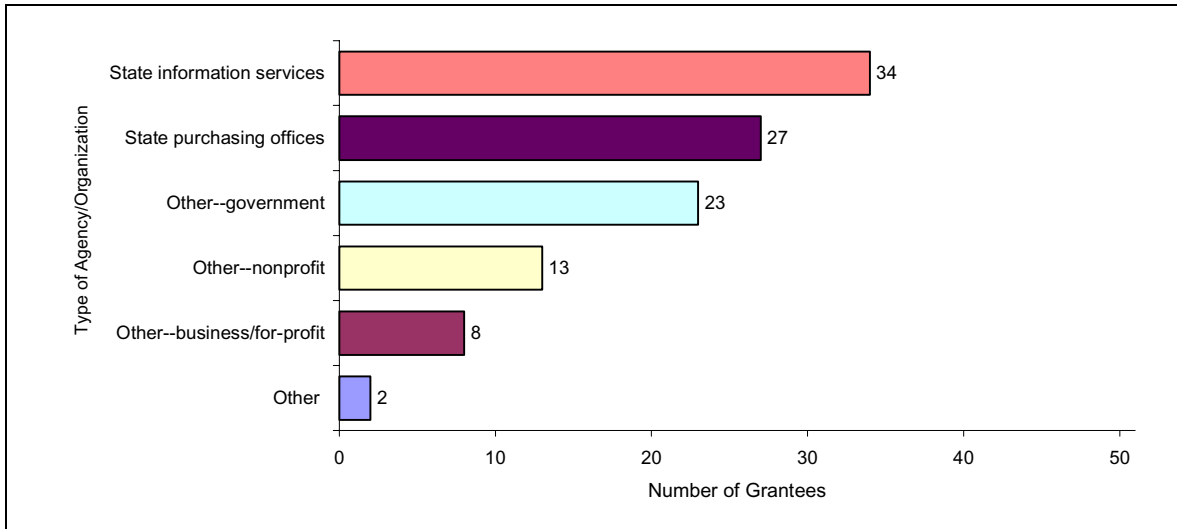
Exhibit 14 shows that, in the area of telecommunications and Information Technology (IT), grantees most often worked with state information service agencies (34 of the 43 grantees reporting activities in this area). More than one-half (27) conducted interagency activities that involved state purchasing offices. Twenty-three grantees indicated that they worked with other government agencies, and 13 reported coordinating with other nonprofits.

Overall, across all five major areas, the types of organizations with which grantees primarily worked on interagency coordination activities during FY 2001 were:

- independent living centers (46 grantees)
- postsecondary institutions (45)
- vocational rehabilitation agencies (44)
- disability-related organizations (no specific disability focus) (44)
- schools (K-12) (43)

- senior/aging services agencies (42)
- mental retardation or developmental disabilities agencies (40)

Exhibit 14. Types of Telecommunications and Internet Technology (IT) Agencies/Organizations With Which Grantees Conducted Interagency Coordination Activities^{a,b}



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b A total of 43 grantees reported conducting interagency coordination activities with telecommunications and IT agencies/organizations. Counts are duplicated, because grantees could work with more than one agency/organization.

5.3 Targeted Areas of Policy Change or Improved Coordination

Exhibit 15 shows the focus of interagency activities across all goal areas (i.e., community living, education and so forth). Forty-six (94 percent) of the 49 grantees that conducted interagency coordination activities reported activities designed to increase their program capacity to provide technology-related assistance. Forty-five grantees (92 percent of the 49) cited activities to train personnel to assist individuals with disabilities in using AT; an equal number indicated that their interagency activities were designed to improve coordination between state human services programs and private entities. At least 80 percent of the 49 grantees reported activities focused on outreach, obtaining financing for AT, improving timely acquisition of AT, and disseminating information. The “other” targeted focus of improved coordination most often cited was improving accessibility to products, services, or Web sites. As with other “specify” responses throughout the form, several “other” answers should have been reported in existing categories.

Exhibit 15. Focus of Interagency Activities, Across All Goal Areas^{a,b}

Focus	Number of Grantees ^b	Percentage of Grantees ^c
Increase program capacity to provide technology-related assistance	46	94
Train personnel to assist individuals with disabilities to use AT	45	92
Improve coordination between state human service programs and private entities	45	92
Conduct outreach to underrepresented populations and rural populations	44	90
Obtain financing to pay for assistive technology devices and services	43	88
Change systems to ensure timely acquisition and delivery of AT devices and services	42	86
Provide/disseminate information about the availability and potential of AT	39	80
Other	11	22

^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Includes grantees that targeted this focus through one or more interagency activities across the areas of community living, education, employment, health care, telecommunications/IT and others.

^c Based on the number of grantees that conducted interagency activities (49).

5.4 Types of Interagency Involvement

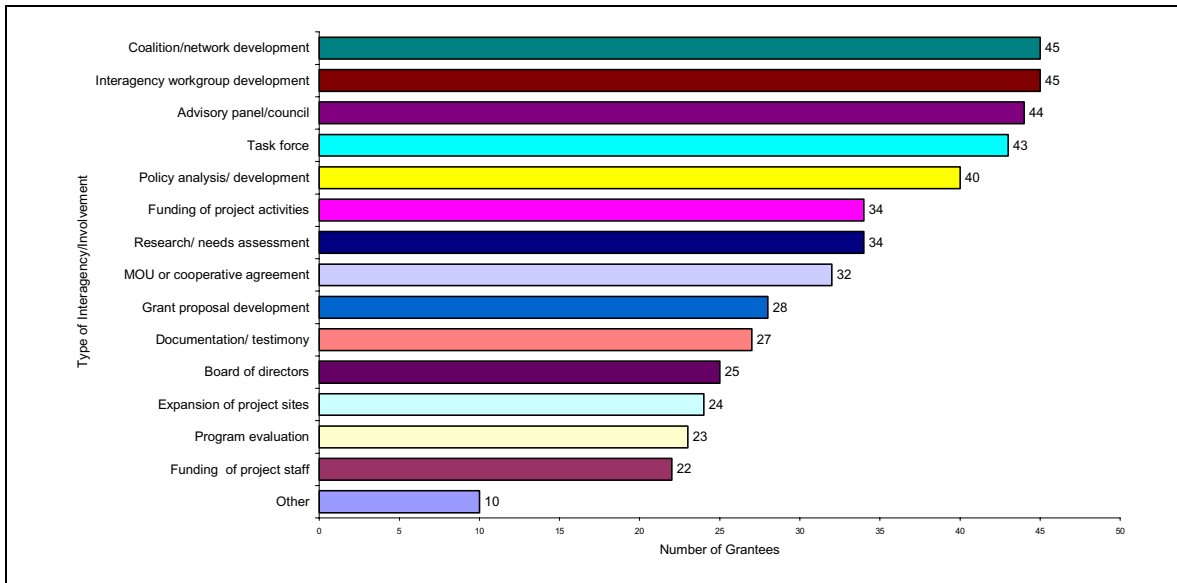
As shown in *Exhibit 16*, the most common types of interagency involvement across all major areas (community living, education and so on), in order, were:

- coalition/network development and interagency work group development (each cited by 45, or 92 percent of, the 49 grantees that conducted interagency coordination activities)
- member of advisory panel/council (44, or 90 percent of, the 49 grantees)
- member of a task force (43, or 88 percent of, the 49 grantees)
- policy analysis/development (40, or 82 percent of, the 49 grantees)
- funding of project activities (34, or 69 percent of, the 49 grantees)
- research/needs assessment (34, or 69 percent of, the 49 grantees)
- memoranda of understanding (MOUs) or cooperative agreements (32, or 65 percent of, the 49 grantees)

At least 45 percent of the 49 grantees cited the interagency activities of grant proposal development, preparation of documentation/testimony, serving on a board of directors, expansion of project sites, program evaluation, and funding of project staff. Ten grantees (20 percent of the 49) also described “other” methods of interagency

involvement, the majority of which should have been coded in an existing response category. “Other” methods of note included advocating for the successful passage of Medicaid buy-in legislation, developing Web standards, and conducting accessibility assessments of the state’s one-stop career centers.

Exhibit 16. Number of Grantees With Particular Types of Interagency Involvement^{a,b}



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees’ Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b A total of 49 grantees reported conducting interagency coordination activities. Exhibit includes all types of interagency coordination activities. Counts are duplicated, because grantees could have more than one type of involvement.

6.0 Technical Assistance and Training

Section 101(b)(1)(C) of the AT Act of 1998 requires state grantees either to carry out training and TA activities themselves or to provide support for public and private entities that provide training and TA. As stated in the legislation, TA and training activities include:

- (i)(I) the development of training materials and the conduct of training in the use of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;
- (II) technical assistance, including how
 - (aa) to consider the needs of an individual with a disability for assistive technology devices and AT services in developing any individualized plans or programs authorized under Federal or State law;
 - (bb) the rights of the persons described in subclause (I) to assistive technology devices and assistive technology services are addressed under any law other than this Act, to promote fuller independence, productivity, and inclusion in and integration into society of such persons; or
 - (cc) to increase consumer participation in the identification, planning, use, delivery, and evaluation of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;
- (ii)(I) enhancing the assistive technology skills and competencies of individuals working for public or private entities (including insurers and managed-care providers), who have contact with individuals with disabilities; educators and related services personnel; technology experts (including engineers); health and allied health professionals; employers; and other appropriate personnel; and
- (II) taking actions to facilitate the development of standards, or, when appropriate, the application of such standards, to ensure the availability of qualified personnel.

The Web-based reporting system collects information from grantees on the following topics:

- TA/training activities supported by AT grant funds and the individuals who participate in those activities
- topics addressed by those TA/training activities
- underrepresented populations targeted by any TA/training sessions that were conducted as outreach activities
- action plans participants develop for applying new information
- follow-up activities grantees conduct with TA/training participants

In this section, we address the first two of these topics. The third (populations targeted by TA/training sessions conducted as outreach) is addressed in Section 7 of this report, which describes outreach activities.¹⁸

6.1 Technical Assistance (TA)/Training Activities and Participants

Forty-nine of the 51 grantees (96 percent) indicated that they provided TA or training activities that were funded, either in part or in full, with AT grant funds. During the FY 2001 these grantees offered 11,273 TA and training activities, which were attended by 104,540 individuals. Forty-three percent of participants (34,446 individuals) were professionals who worked with persons with disabilities, including case managers, counselors, educators, technology experts and health professionals (see *Exhibit 17*). Individuals with disabilities and family members/advocates/representatives together accounted for an additional 31,895 (40 percent) of participants.

6.2 Topics Addressed in Technical Assistance (TA)/Training Activities

Of the 49 grantees using AT funds for TA and training, 47 (or 96 percent) offered sessions that addressed the topic of AT evaluation or assessment (see *Exhibit 18*). An equal number offered sessions that provided TA on device modifications or device-specific training.

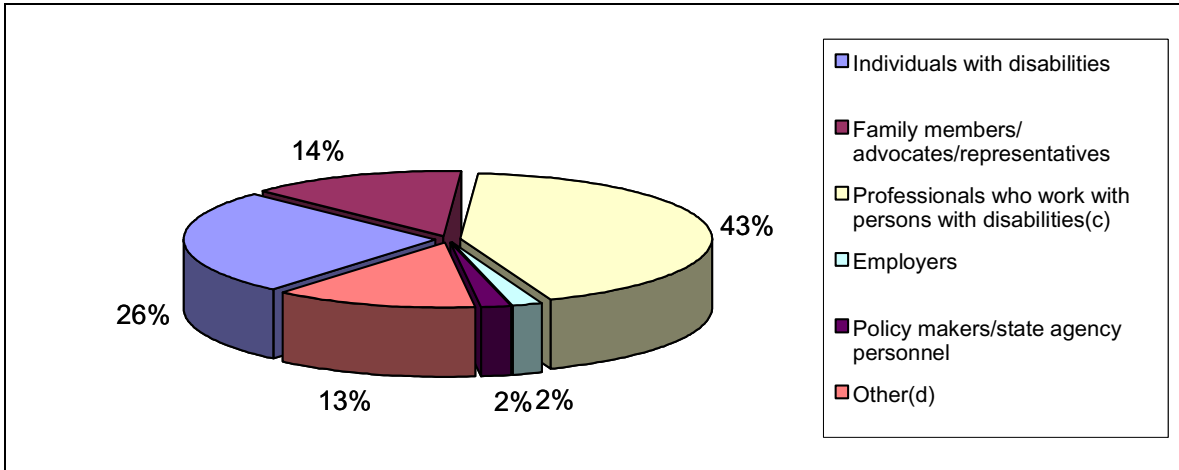
Forty-four of the 49 grantees (90 percent) conducted TA or training on funding or the acquisition of AT devices and services; an equal number addressed the topics of advocacy, consumer rights issues, laws and informed consumer choice. Sessions that covered the development and implementation of laws and regulations, policies, practices, procedures or organizational structures to promote access to AT devices and services were offered by 39 (80 percent) of those conducting TA or training sessions.

TA and training sessions that provided information on modifications and specific devices most often addressed computers and computer adaptations, communication/augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices and aids for daily living. Other common topics (addressed by at least 80 percent of the 49 grantees) included environmental modification, switch/access devices, vision aids, environmental control, learning/curricular adaptations, mobility aids, recreation/leisure and hearing devices.

¹⁸ NIDRR will analyze the narrative responses from the last two topics.

Eight grantees used the “other – specify” category. Two of these answers should have been reported in existing response categories. Several “other” replies indicate a need for a new response category to this item: Web accessibility/IT.

Exhibit 17. Technical Assistance (TA)/Training Participants, by Category^{a,b}



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees’ Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Forty-nine grantees used AT funds for TA and training. Of these, 36 were able to report participants by category, which totaled 80,166. This chart is based on that information. Grantees also reported serving an additional 24,374 individuals who could not be categorized.

^c Includes case managers, counselors, educators, technology experts and health professionals.

^d Includes members of the general public, students and individuals whom grantees could not categorize.

Exhibit 18. Topics Addressed by Technical Assistance (TA)/Training Sessions^a

Topic	Grantees Addressing This Topic	
	Number	Percentage ^b
AT evaluation/assessment practice/AT devices	47	96
Modifications/device-specific training	47	96
Computer/computer adaptations	46	94
Communication/AAC	45	92
Aids for daily living	44	90
Environmental modification (home/work/school)	43	88
Switch/access devices	43	88
Vision aids	42	86
Environmental control	41	84
Learning/curricular adaptations	41	84
Mobility aids	41	84
Recreation/leisure devices	40	82
Hearing devices	39	80
Positioning/seating/mounting devices	38	78
Durable medical equipment	36	73
Farm machinery adaptations	17	35
Funding/acquisition of AT devices or services	44	90
Advocacy/consumer rights issues/laws/informed consumer choice	44	90
Development and implementation of laws, regulations, policies, practices, procedures or organizational structures that promote access to AT devices and services	39	80
Other	8	16

^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Percentages are based on number of grantees indicating that they used funds for TA/training (49). Counts are duplicated, because grantees could report more than one type of TA/training.

7.0 Outreach

The AT Act of 1998 requires grantees to support statewide and community-based organizations that provide AT devices and services or that assist persons with disabilities in using AT devices and services, “including a focus on organizations assisting individuals from underrepresented and rural populations” (Section 101(b)(1)(D)). The legislation defines an “underrepresented population” as “one that is typically underrepresented in service provision (including populations such as persons who have low-incidence disabilities,¹⁹ persons who are minorities, poor persons, persons with limited-English proficiency, older individuals, or persons from rural areas” (Section 1(b)(3)(a)(16)). This support may include outreach to consumer organizations and other groups to coordinate efforts to assist individuals with disabilities in obtaining AT devices and services.

The Web-based reporting system collects information about the:

- number and type of outreach activities grantees conduct (including outreach activities combined with interagency coordination, TA/training, legislative/policy change activities and other activities)
- populations targeted by outreach activities
- primary strategy, or main focus, of each grantee’s outreach services and the outcomes of those services.

In this section, we address the first two topics above.²⁰

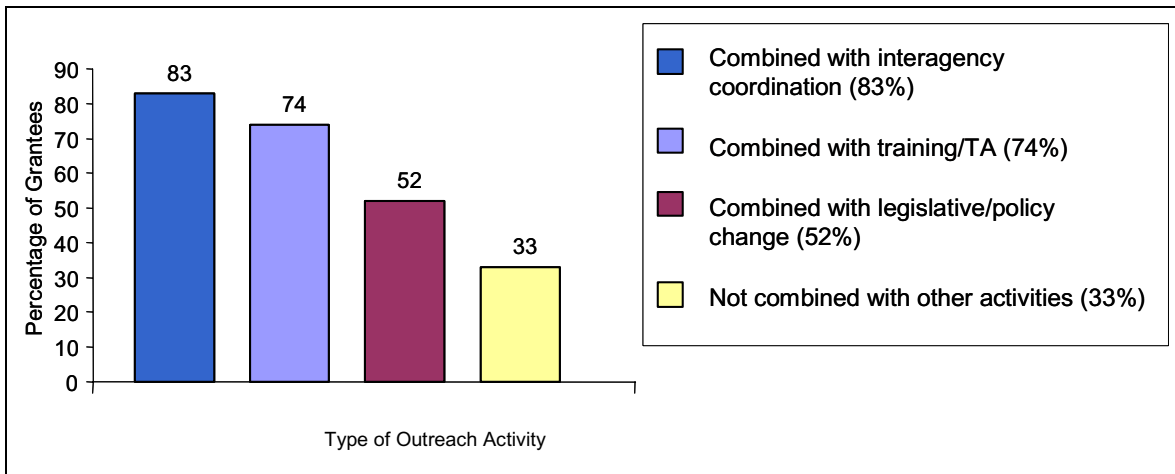
¹⁹ As defined in IDEA, Section 673(b)(3) and adapted by NIDRR to include the general population, “persons with low-incidence disabilities” are individuals with (1) a visual or hearing impairment, or simultaneous visual and hearing impairments; (2) a significant cognitive impairment; or (3) any impairment for which a small number of personnel with highly specialized skills and knowledge are needed in order for persons with disabilities with that impairment to receive services.”

²⁰ NIDRR will analyze grantees’ descriptions of their primary strategy or focus.

7.1 Types of Outreach Activities

Most grantees reported combining outreach efforts with interagency coordination, training and TA or legislative/policy change activities.²¹ However, as shown in *Exhibit 19*, 15 (33 percent) of the 46 grantees that conducted outreach undertook additional efforts.²²

Exhibit 19. Percentage of Grantees Conducting Outreach Activities, by Activity Type^{a,b,c}



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Counts are duplicated, because grantees could report more than one type of outreach activity.

^c Percentages are based on the number of grantees conducting outreach activities (46).

²¹ When prompted for this information, 46 states reported conducting outreach activities in conjunction with training/TA, interagency coordination or other outreach. One grantee did not answer any of these three "screener" questions (i.e., "Did you conduct..."). Additionally, four states did not indicate conducting outreach as previously mentioned. However, these four states did provide a narrative section (Section 10, Question 1) about their primary strategy for outreach. Because these four states did not provide specific details on their outreach activities, they are excluded from our analysis on outreach. The denominator for outreach activities remains 46.

²² NIDRR will provide an analysis of those "other" outreach efforts.

7.2 Targeted Populations

Grantees also reported whether their outreach activities targeted persons with limited English proficiency, residents of rural areas, poor persons, persons with low-incidence disabilities, older individuals, minorities, or other underrepresented groups.

As *Exhibit 20* illustrates, targeted populations varied by type of outreach activity.²³ Outreach efforts conducted in conjunction with training/TA activities most often targeted older individuals. When conducted in combination with interagency coordination activities, outreach activities most frequently focused on residents of rural areas, poor persons, or older individuals, while outreach efforts that were not combined with other activities most frequently targeted poor persons, minorities, and older individuals. Individuals with limited English proficiency and minorities were least likely to be targeted by outreach efforts that were conducted in conjunction with other activities (such as training or interagency coordination); however, many of the grantees conducting additional outreach activities reported targeting each of these subgroups.

For each type of outreach activity, three to four grantees reported targeting “other” populations. A few of these responses should have been listed under existing response categories. Three “other” responses were appropriate, including individuals with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness and persons living in state developmental centers.

²³ Data on the persons affected by legislative and policy changes are reported in Exhibit 4. Grantees were not asked to report on the specific types of underrepresented populations with whom they conducted outreach (see Exhibit 5, row 4).

Exhibit 20. Underrepresented Groups Targeted by Outreach Activities, by Activity Type^{a,b,c}

Population	Outreach Combined with TA/Training		Outreach Combined with Interagency Coordination		Outreach Not Combined with Other Activities	
	No. of Grantees	Percentage of Grantees	No. of Grantees	Percentage of Grantees	No. of Grantees	Percentage of Grantees
Persons with low-incidence disabilities	23	50	28	61	8	17
Minorities	21	46	26	57	12	26
Poor persons	23	50	33	72	13	28
Persons with limited English proficiency	15	33	19	41	11	24
Older individuals	33	72	33	72	12	26
Persons from rural areas	28	61	34	74	9	20
Other	3	7	4	9	4	9
Total	34	74	38	83	15	33

^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Counts are duplicated, because grantees could target more than one population.

^c Percentages are based on the number of grantees conducting outreach activities (46).

8.0 Alternative Financing Programs

Among the discretionary activities that AT grantees may undertake is the development of alternative financing programs, which may include traditional loan funds, low-interest or revolving loan funds, interest buy-down programs, loan guarantee or insurance programs and other programs.

The Web-based reporting system collects information about the:

- number of alternative financing programs offered by grantees and the status of those programs
- types of alternative financing programs grantees made available
- number of applicants receiving funding and the dollar value of those funds

In this section, we present information on each of the above topics.

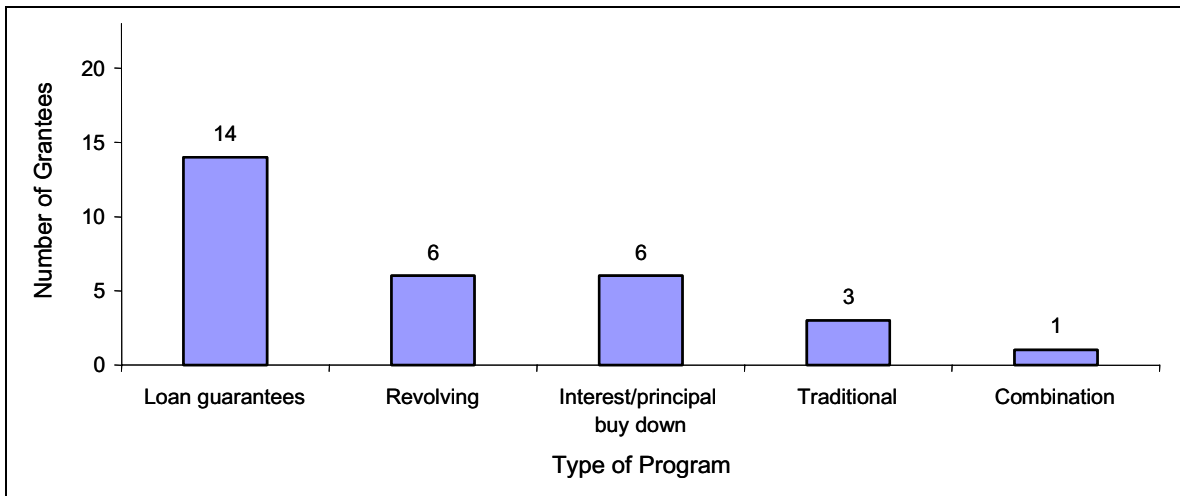
Just under one-half of reporting grantees (23, or 46 percent of the 50 grantees that completed this section of the reporting form) offered alternative financing programs supported either fully or in part by Title I funds.²⁴ Nearly all of these programs were operational, with only three still in the developmental stage.

As seen in *Exhibit 21*, loan guarantees were the most common type of alternative financing program, offered by 14 of the 23 grantees. Six of the 23 grantees operated revolving programs, with a similar number offering interest/principal buy down programs. Only three had established traditional alternative financing programs.

Collectively, the 23 grantees received a total of 332 applications for financing and approved 215 (65 percent). The grantees provided \$1,950,580 in loan funds and experienced only 11 defaults (5 percent of recipients), which totaled approximately \$34,000 (1.7 percent of loan funds).

²⁴ Does not include programs funded under Title III of the legislation. One grantee did not complete this section of the reporting form.

Exhibit 21. Number of Grantees Offering Various Types of Alternative Financing Programs^{a,b}



^aData Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^bCounts are duplicated, because grantees may offer more than one type of program. Includes programs in development.

9.0 Demonstrations of Assistive Technology (AT)

Among the optional activities that assistive technology (AT) grantees may conduct are demonstrations that allow individuals to see and try out AT devices, receive information about them, or obtain referrals to other sources. Demonstrations of AT devices may be conducted in settings where targeted individuals can learn about the devices from personnel familiar with them and their applications. A demonstration setting is a venue for conducting demonstrations (such as a library, a mobile van unit or a regional demonstration center).

The Web-based reporting system provides the following information about grantees' activities in this area:

- demonstration services offered by grantees
- individuals who receive those services
- specific locations at which demonstration services are offered

In this section, we address each of the three topics above.

9.1 Demonstration Services and Individuals Served

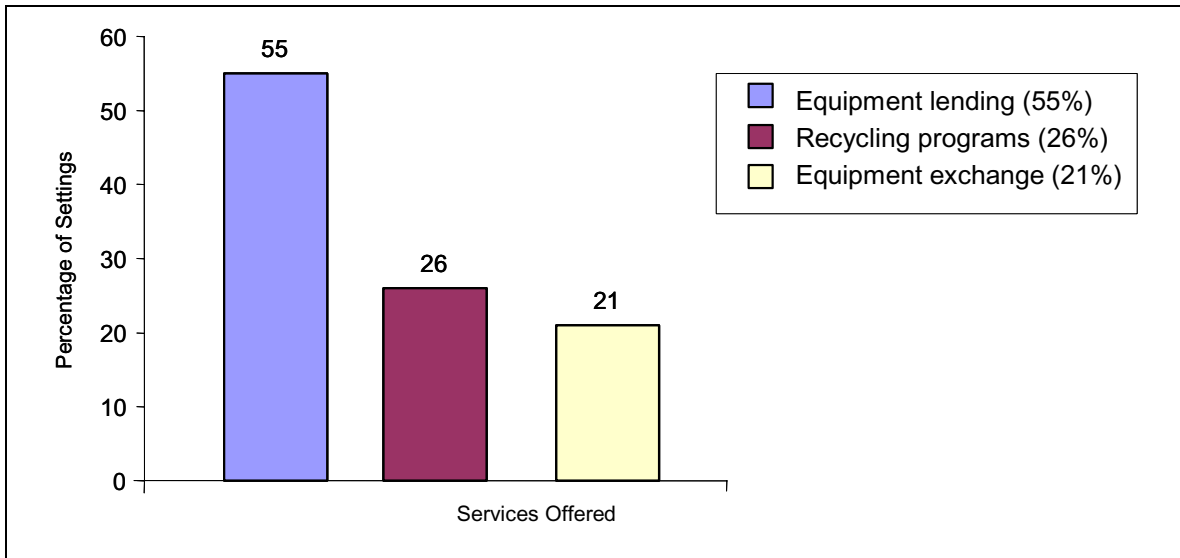
Forty-seven (94 percent) of the 50 grantees that completed this section of the reporting form offered this service, which they made available in 238 settings.²⁵ During FY 2001, demonstration sites served 103,969 persons, 48,855 (47 percent) of whom were individuals with disabilities.²⁶ Just over one-half (128, or 54 percent) of demonstration sites were operated by subcontractors.

As *Exhibit 22* indicates, the most common service offered at demonstration sites was AT equipment lending (available at 131, or 55 percent, of locations). Sixty-one (26 percent) of sites operated AT device recycling programs, while 51 (21 percent) offered AT equipment exchange services.

²⁵ One grantee did not complete this section of the reporting form.

²⁶ Of the 47 grantees that conducted demonstrations, 46 were able to report the total number of persons served, and 43 were able to report the number of individuals with disabilities served.

Exhibit 22. Percentage of Demonstration Sites Offering Various Services^a



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

9.2 Demonstration Locations

AT grantees conducted demonstrations at a wide variety of locations. More than 90 percent of the 47 grantees conducting demonstrations indicated that they offered services at conferences, expos, fairs or exhibits. Other frequently used settings (identified by more than 70 percent of the 47 grantees) included regional AT centers, nonprofit organizations, schools and state agencies (see *Exhibit 23*).

Exhibit 23. Number and Percentage of Grantees Conducting Demonstrations at Various Locations^a

Location	Grantees Conducting Demonstrations at This Location	
	Number	Percentage ^b
Conferences/expos/fairs/exhibits	44	94
AT regional centers	40	85
Nonprofit organizations	37	79
Schools	37	79
State agencies	37	79
Senior citizen centers	32	68
Health clinics/hospitals	31	66
Independent demos/lending centers	29	62
Community centers	28	60
Rehabilitation centers	28	60
Community-based employer organizations	25	53
Libraries	24	51
Workforce development resource centers	21	45
Churches/synagogues	19	40
Shopping malls	19	40
Federal agencies	13	28
Web-based demos	10	21
Other ^c	12	26

^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Percentages are based on number of grantees conducting demonstrations (47).

^c Includes consumers' homes, nursing facilities, colleges and universities and other locations.

10.0 Interstate Activities

As permitted under the AT Act of 1998, a grantee may enter into cooperative agreements with other states to expand the capacity of the states involved to help individuals (of all ages) with disabilities learn about, acquire, use, maintain, adapt, and upgrade AT devices (Section 101(b)(3)(E)(i)).

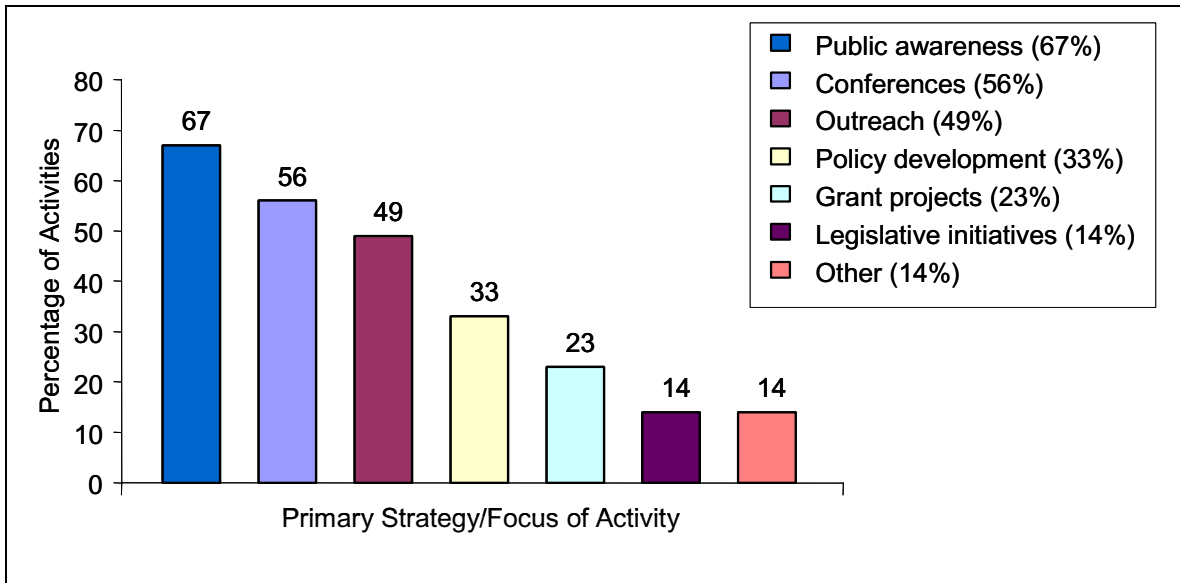
The Web-based reporting system provides detailed information about the interstate activities conducted by grantees. In this section, we discuss: (1) the number of grantees conducting interstate activities and the number of activities that they undertook and (2) the primary strategy or focus of those activities. NIDRR will analyze additional data provided by the reporting system, which includes information on the states and regions that are represented in interstate collaborations, the specific organizations that are involved, and the purpose of collaborative activities.

Twenty-one grantees (42 percent of those that completed this section of the reporting form) reported conducting a total of 43 interstate activities. Of these 21 grantees, 7 had conducted one interstate activity, while 6 had undertaken 2 activities, and 8 had carried out at least 3.²⁷

As shown in *Exhibit 24*, nearly 70 percent of interstate activities focused on public awareness. Additional common initiatives included conferences and outreach activities. Interstate activities were least likely to focus on grant projects or legislative initiatives. “Other” activities included advocacy, funding for AT, developing a network to address issues on aging, and universal design.

²⁷ One grantee did not complete this section of the reporting form. The reporting system allowed grantees to report on a maximum of three activities.

Exhibit 24. Primary Strategy/Focus of Interstate Activities^{a,b}



^a Data Source: State AT Grantees' Annual Progress Reports for FY01. Data from additional hard-copy forms received from states not using the Web-based system are not included.

^b Counts are duplicated, because grantees could report on up to three activities.