

Outputs, Outcomes, Impacts: Building Our Capacity to Assess Results

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Matt Birnbaum and Lisa M. Frehill
Office of Impact Assessment and Learning



Outcomes, Outputs and Impacts: Agreeing on the Vernacular

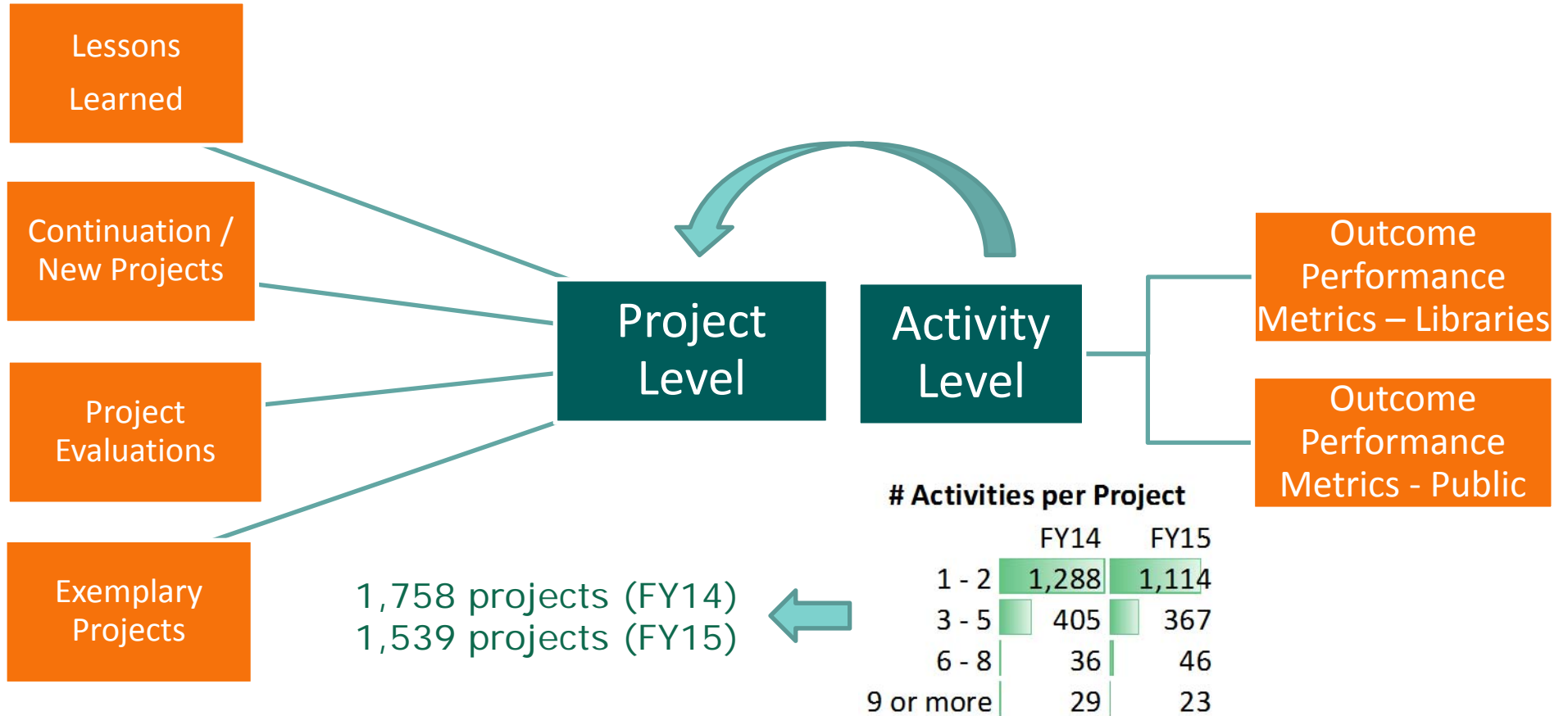
- Output = product created from using an activity(ies).
- Outcome = short-term result after using an output(s).
- Impact = longer-term result after using an output(s).



Evidence-Based Results Stories in SPR

- **Value outputs**
 - Aka “quantities”
 - Reportable for all activities
- **Measure outcomes when appropriate**
 - Contingent on activity and beneficiary
 - Minimize respondent burden; align with PLA’s Project Outcome and with IMLS’s discretionary grant programs’ performance measures
- **Value states and territories as laboratories of our democracy**
 - Exemplary projects
 - Project evaluations
- **Capture systematic shifts in national investment patterns:**
 - New innovations
 - Sustained endeavors

Results Based Assessment in the New SPR

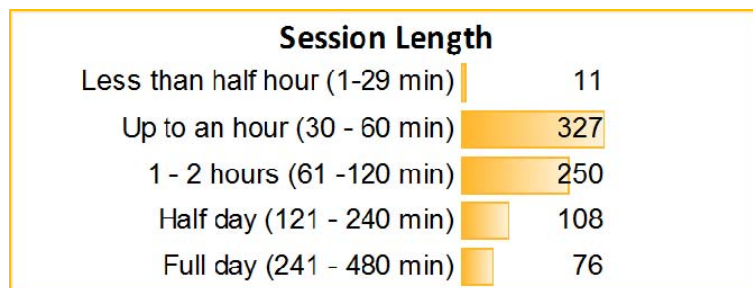
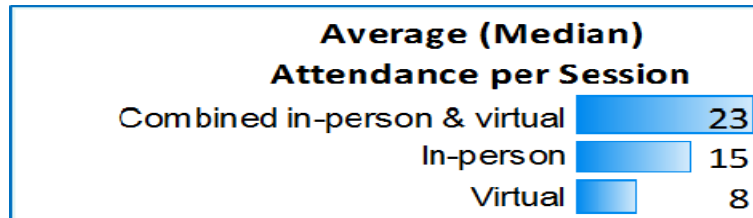
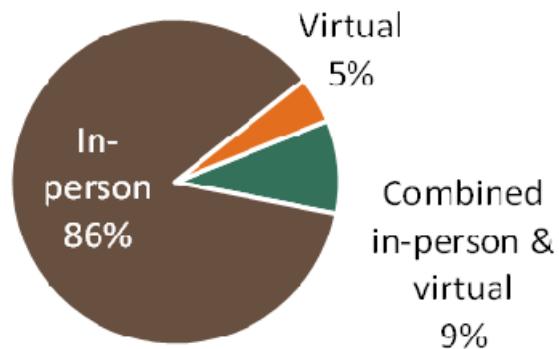


Outputs

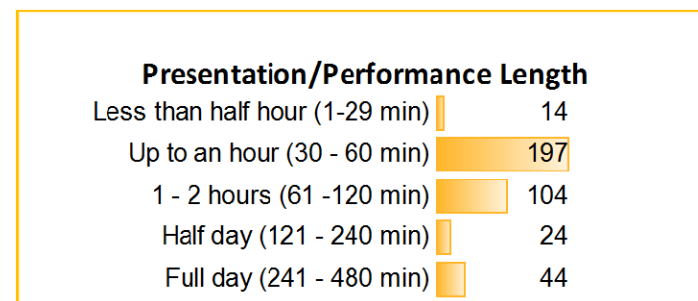
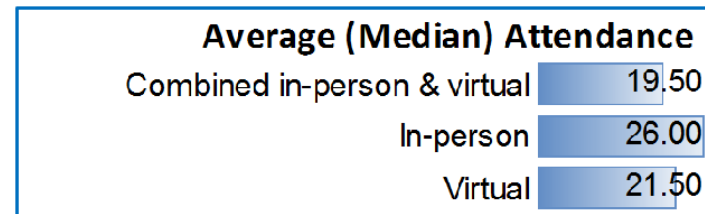
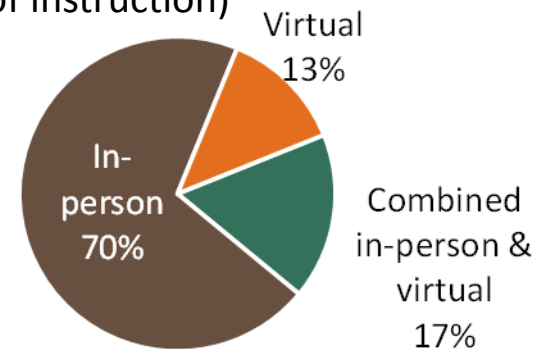


Instruction Outputs

- Programs (n = 831, 39% of instruction)



- Presentations/Performances (n = 409, 22% of instruction)



Note: Consultation/Drop-in/Referrals accounted for 16% of all instruction reported in FY 2015.

FY 2015 Content Outputs by Type and Format *(see Handout)*

Content Type	Content Format			All Types of Content
	Combined, Digital & Physical	Digital Only	Physical Only	
FY 2015 Content - Acquisition				
Number of audio/visual units (audio discs, talking books, other recordings) acquired	15,096	89,478	6,834	111,408
Number of electronic materials acquired	94,720	753,835	1,436	849,991
Number of hardware acquired	3,521	192	2,886	6,599
Number of licensed databases acquired	73	1,178	4	1,255
Number of print materials (books & government documents) acquired	175,111	3,214	1,810,079	1,988,404
Number of software acquired	2,615	73	310	2,998
FY 2015 Content - Creation				
Number of items digitized	197,610	1,638,877	1	1,836,488
Number of items digitized and available to the public	169,236	1,323,281	0	1,492,517
Number of learning resources (e.g. toolkits, guides)	1,720	577	18,623	20,920
Number of open-source applications/software/systems	24	43	0	67
Number of physical items	366,815	21,449	670,326	1,058,590
Number of plans/frameworks	137	40	7	184
Number of proprietary applications/software/systems	26	44	0	70
FY 2015 Content - Description				
Number of collections made discoverable to the public	267	24,097	34	24,398
Number of items made discoverable to the public	13,157,312	6,516,848	1,369,112	21,043,272
Number of metadata plans/frameworks produced/updated	17	21,071	39	21,127
FY 2015 Content - Lending				
Average number of ILL transactions / month	101,065	4,572	754,425	860,062
Average number of items circulated / month	8,896,375	1,280,064	6,452,616	16,629,055
Total number of ILL transactions	1,450,491	54,860	11,881,870	13,387,221
Total number of items circulated	107,694,411	21,710,936	84,687,834	214,093,181
FY 2015 Content - Preservation				
Number of items conserved, relocated to protective storage, rehoused, or for which other preservation-appropriate physical action was taken	52,739	492,423	5,983	551,145
Number of items reformatted, migrated, or for which other digital preservation-appropriate action was taken	39,511	76,708	525	116,744
Number of preservation plans/frameworks produced/updated (i.e. preservation readiness plans, data management plans)	3	10,000	40	10,043

FY 2015 Planning and Evaluation Outputs

	Number of Activities			Percent	
	In-House	Third Party	Total	In-House	Third Party
Plans	61	55	116	53%	47%
Evaluations	33	19	52	63%	37%
Total	94	74	168	56%	44%

168 activities produced 1,861 evaluations and/or plans

	Number of Evaluations and/or Plans			Percent	
	In-House	Third Party	Total	In-House	Third Party
Plans	384	554	938	41%	59%
Evaluations	846	77	923	92%	8%
Total	1,230	631	1,861	66%	34%

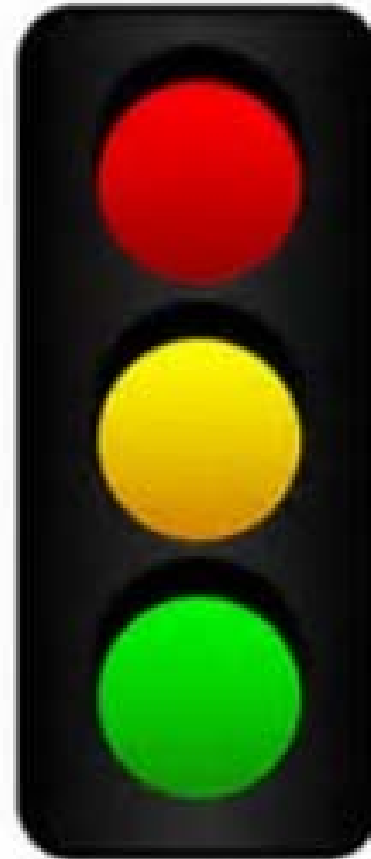
FY 2015 Procurement Outputs - Summary

<i>Number of ...</i>	Average (Mean)	Number of Activities	Total
Materials/supplies acquired	52.9	71	3,755
Hardware items acquired	30.2	103	3,110
Equipment acquired	20.2	88	1,778
Software items acquired	20.4	79	1,608
Acquired hardware items used	27.9	97	2,708
Acquired materials/supplies used	40.0	60	2,400
Acquired software items used	20.8	77	1,599
Acquired equipment used	12.9	72	928

Note: Procurement is defined as purchasing facilities, equipment/supplies, hardware/software, or other materials that are not content-related and that support general library infrastructure.

Outcomes: First Principles

- Attribution
- Status on some condition
- “Signal”



Definitions for Outcomes

- **General definition:** short-term result after using an output
- **Narrow definition:** change in a person's circumstance from using an output
 - Knowledge (K)
 - Attitude (A)
 - Behavior (B)
- **Broader definition:** changes in circumstances of:
 - Groups, communities
 - Organizations
 - Larger constructs (e.g., "environments")

I learned something by participating in this library activity.

SD	D	NA/ND	A	SA	NR
0	0	0	0	0	0

I am confident about using what I have learned.

SD	D	NA/ND	A	SA	NR
0	0	0	0	0	0

I am likely to apply what I have learned.

SD	D	NA/ND	A	SA	NR
0	0	0	0	0	0

I am more likely to participate in a similar library activity.

SD	D	NA/ND	A	SA	NR
0	0	0	0	0	0

I am more likely to use other library services and resources.

SD	D	NA/ND	A	SA	NR
0	0	0	0	0	0

When to Survey Participants on Outcomes in a Grants to States Project

		Beneficiary	
		Library Staff	General Public
Activity	Instruction	Mode = Program	Mode = Program
	Content	Mode = Acquisition or Creation	No
	Plan/Evaluation	Yes	No
	Procurement	No	No

- *Activity mode*: How an activity gets delivered, created, or experienced
- *Activity beneficiary* (“end user”)
- Outcome surveying only when attribution is feasible of the activity; feasibility based on activity’s mode and beneficiary.

Performance Measurement Surveys

- Surveying - exemplary evaluative practice for performance measurement.
- *Flexible* questionnaires - let SLAAs and grantees add optional state-level and local-level questions.
- Measuring Success' questions strongly align with PLA's *Project Outcome* ("Level 1")



Measuring Success and Project Outcome

Measuring Success

1. “I learned something...”
2. “...confident about what learned.”
3. “...apply what...learned.”
4. “...more likely to participate in a similar library activity.”
5. “...more likely to use other library services and resources.”

Project Outcome

1. “You learned something...”
2. “...confident about what learned.”
3. “...apply what...learned.”
4. “...more aware of applicable resources and services provided by the library.”

Performance Measurement Packet Contents (FY 2016 LSTA)

- When to Survey Participants in a Grants to States Project
- People as Your Information Source
- Questioning in a General
- Processing the Completed Questionnaires
- Sample Questionnaires



Finding More About What Results Work

- Attribution and limits of outputs and outcomes
- Evaluation and counterfactuals
 - “Counterfactual thinking”
 - “Counterfactual evidence”
- SPR and evaluation
 - Exemplary projects
 - Project evaluations



Exemplary Project Tags with at Least 3 Instances

FY 2014 (n = 77 projects)



FY 2015 (n = 110 projects)



Features of Projects Reported as “Exemplary”

	FY 2014				FY 2015			
	Total # Projects	# Projects Indicated as "Exemplary"	% All Projects Exemplary	% of Exemplary Projects	Total # Projects	# Projects Indicated as "Exemplary"	% All Projects Exemplary	% of Exemplary Projects
Focal Areas								
Lifelong learning	1169	33	3%	43%	986	42	4%	38%
Information access	1064	20	2%	26%	964	30	3%	27%
Institutional capacity	1058	17	2%	22%	912	18	2%	16%
Human services	130	1	1%	1%	98	9	9%	8%
Civic engagement	77	6	8%	8%	80	8	10%	7%
Economic development	74	5	7%	6%	50	4	8%	4%
State Group								
Small / SLAAs	129	15	12%	19%	143	15	10%	14%
Large / SLAAs	121	6	5%	8%	109	3	3%	3%
Small / Subgrants	898	35	4%	45%	738	52	7%	47%
Large / Subgrants	620	21	3%	27%	549	40	7%	36%
Total Budget								
Under \$7,500	369	7	2%	9%	326	8	2%	7%
\$7,500 - \$24,999	532	21	4%	27%	418	33	8%	30%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	231	8	3%	10%	186	19	10%	17%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	208	12	6%	16%	208	18	9%	16%
\$100,000 - \$249,999	187	13	7%	17%	172	15	9%	14%
\$250,000 - \$999,999	170	13	8%	17%	169	16	9%	15%
\$1 M or more	61	3	5%	4%	60	1	2%	1%
Total	1,758	77			1,539	110		

Monitoring Project Evaluations in SPR

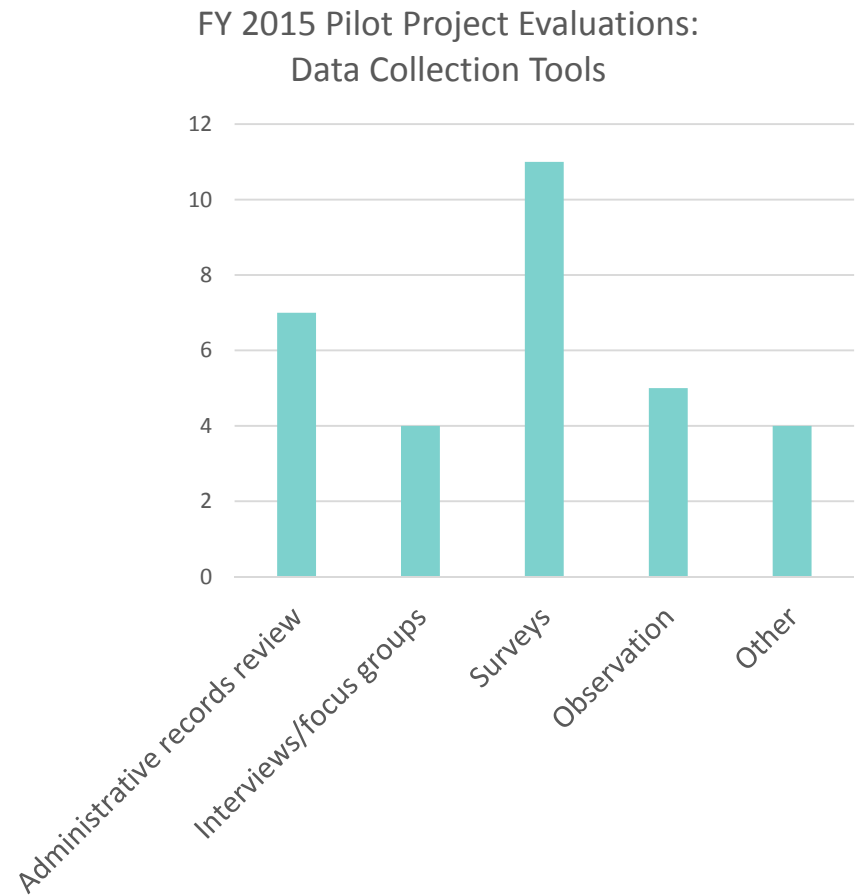
- Focus on publicly shared written reports.
- “Meta-evaluations”
- Modeled Based on Work in Other Sectors:
 - Department of Education, “What Works Clearinghouse”
 - The Center for Advancement of Informal Science (CAISE), www.informalscience.org

Published Project Evaluations (FY 2015 – Pilot States Only)

What's sharable

Filter	Projects	%
Total projects	559	100%
Was evaluation conducted?	127	30%
If yes, was an evaluation written?	22	4%
If yes, can it be publicly shared?	16	3%

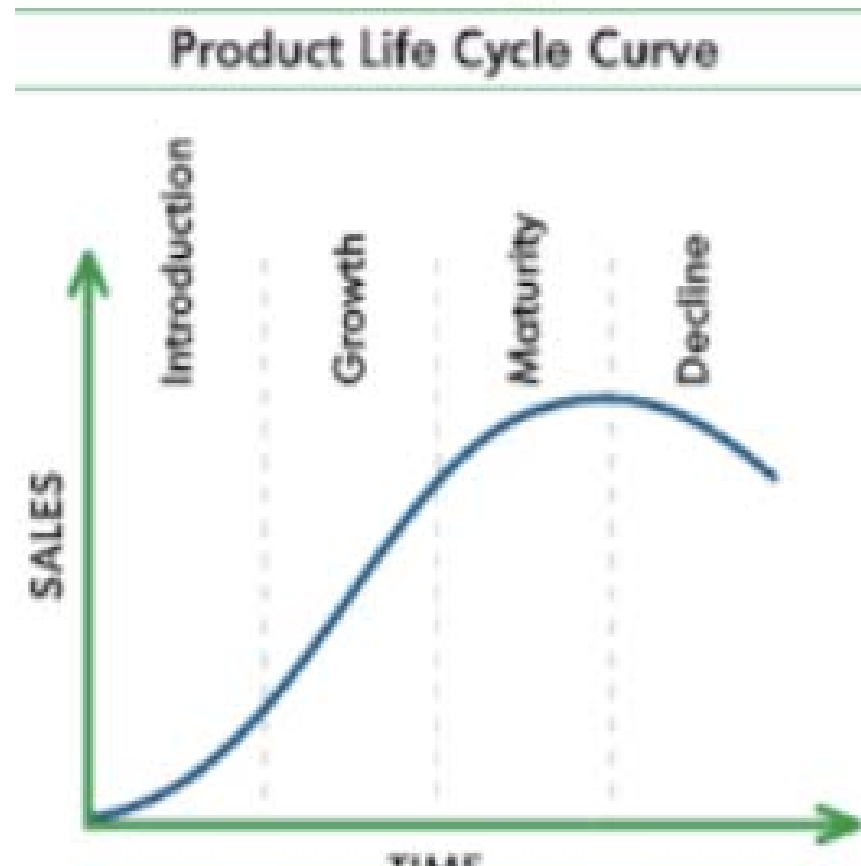
Assessing the Evidence



Assessing Shifts in G2S Investments

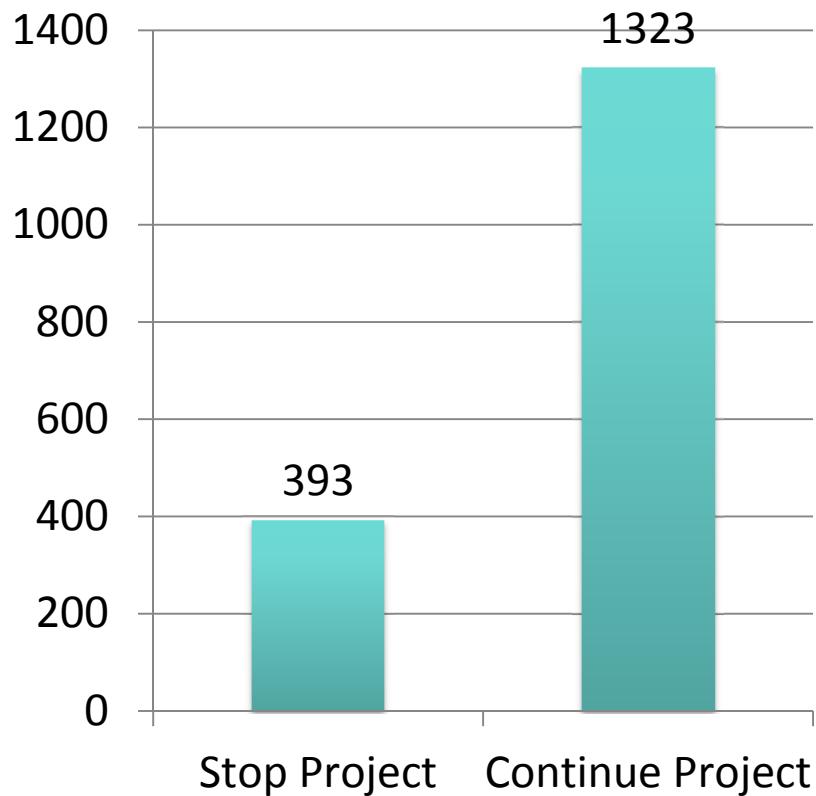
Dynamic Models

- Project interrelationships
- Longitudinal assessments
- Issues of concern:
 - Entries
 - Spread
 - Sustainability
 - Exits

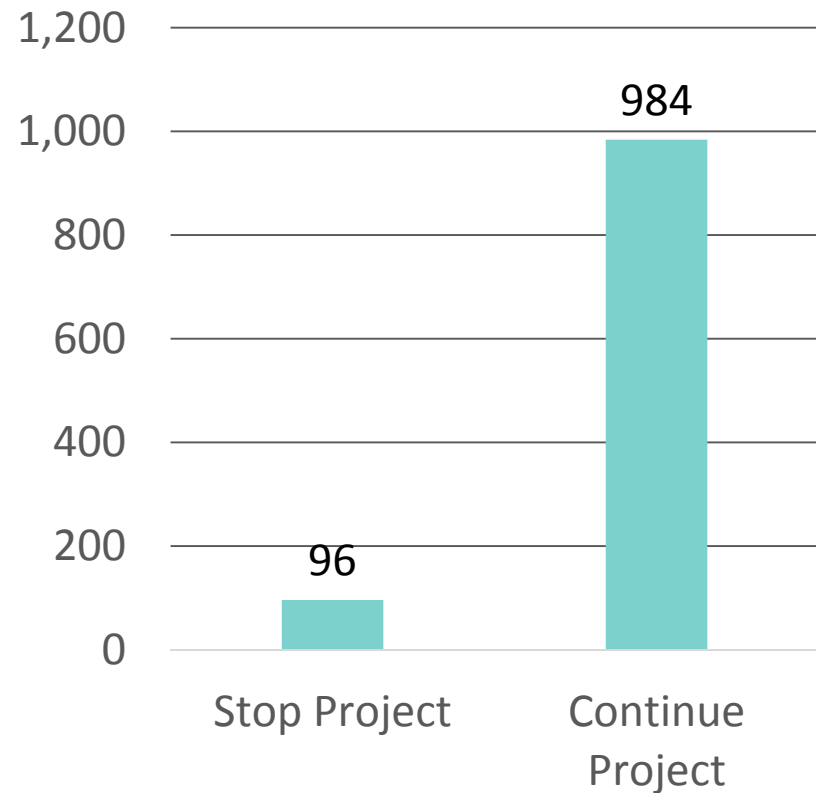


Beginning G2S Lifecycle Analyses: Will a Project Continue?

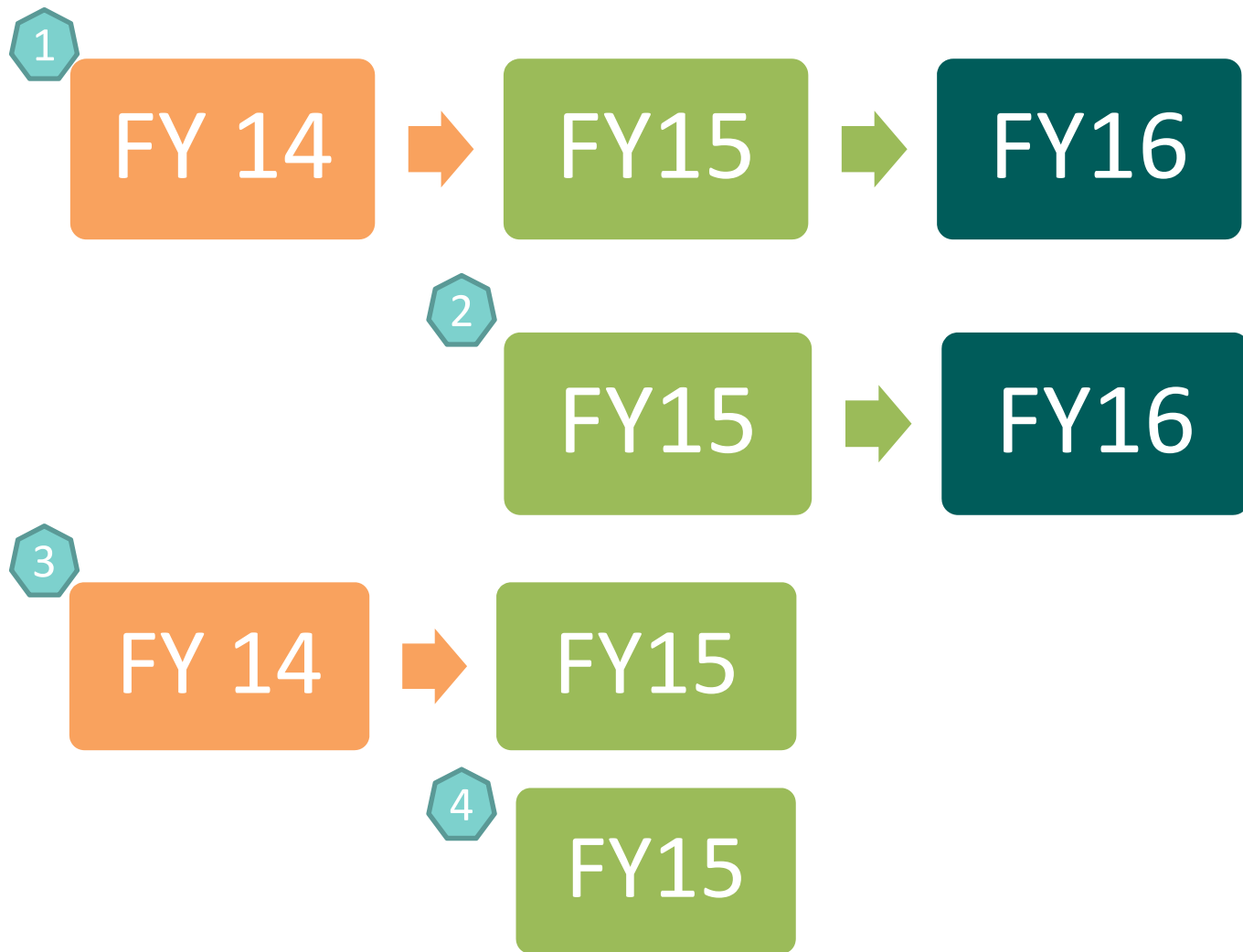
FY 2014



FY 2015



Lifecycles - 4 Patterns (FY 2015)



# of Projects	% of Projects
281	18%
703	46%
236	15%
319	21%

Questions / Discussion

- What tools would be useful to make use of the data at the state/territory level?
- What types of support can we in IMLS provide to you for better analyzing the collected data?
- What types of research are you looking for us in IMLS to do/continue to do?

Thank You!

Matt Birnbaum

mbirnbaum@imls.gov

Lisa M. Frehill

lfrehill@imls.gov

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