



## Vocational Rehabilitation - Helping people with disabilities find or keep a job! 2015 Overview

- VR has been helping Floridians with disabilities find or keep a job for more than **90 years**.
- As tax users are employed, they become tax payers, and the investment of both the state and federal government is returned across the state's economy. The calculated **Return on Investment (ROI)** indicates that approximately **\$10.73** is returned to the state economy for every \$1 spent in providing services to customers. More information is provided to you on the attached VR Legislative State Profile.
- VR receives federal funding at a **78.7% federal grant to a 21.3% General Revenue (GR) match**, or approximately \$4 to every \$1 provided by the state.
- As of December 2014, transition age youth cases (16 years to 21 years) totaled 14,208 or 39% of the Florida VR caseload.
- The FRC vocational rehabilitation customer satisfaction survey reports that **89% of successfully closed customers found overall satisfaction** with the services received from VR, with **84%** of survey respondents indicating **satisfaction with the job** obtained.
- The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (**WIOA**) identifies required state-level employment partners and a new set of performance measures for VR that are aligned with those prescribed for the CareerSource system. This act is still in the rulemaking process. Current performance measures will **all be changed by March 2016** when the state will submit a unified state employment plan with CareerSource, with shared, common measures.
- The RSA **rehabilitation rate** is an outcome process measure. The rate is calculated as the number of successful rehabilitations divided by the total number of successful and unsuccessful closures. The same resources are required whether the customer does or does not enter employment. VR deliberately cleared inactive cases in 2014, resulting in a **lower rehab rate for that fiscal year**.
- There is no ranking of state VR agencies, due to structural variations between Combined (VR and Blind Services) and General (VR only) agencies. The Rehabilitation Services Administration (**RSA**), VR's federal partner, has identified Michigan, New York, North Carolina and Virginia as peer states for Florida. Even within these states there are differences that skew comparisons such as order of selection, agency use of Medicaid monies, and population concentrations.