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A Longitudinal Review of System of Care (SOC) Development A Case Study from the Mid-West

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Introduction

- The study examined the implementation of the system of care (SOC) framework in a Midwestern state and efforts to assess the progress over time. The period in focus was 2014 – 2018.
- No known study has utilized a longitudinal approach for assessing SOC development.
- A longitudinal approach allows for an assessment of the consistency and sustainability of current SOC development efforts Caruana, Roman, Hernández-Sánchez & Solli, 2015).

Methods

- Sample.** The sample for the study was composed of stakeholders and key informants recruited from local communities and regions across the state.
- The sample included youth and family members, mental health service providers, and people/professionals from various service systems (e.g. child welfare, education, juvenile justice, health, advocates, and other community stakeholders).
- Survey Tool.** Systems of Care Implementation Survey (SOCIS, Greenbaum, Friedman, Kutash, & Boothroyd, 2008).
- Surveys were completed by local stakeholders and key informants. Surveys were administered in 2014, 2016, and 2018.

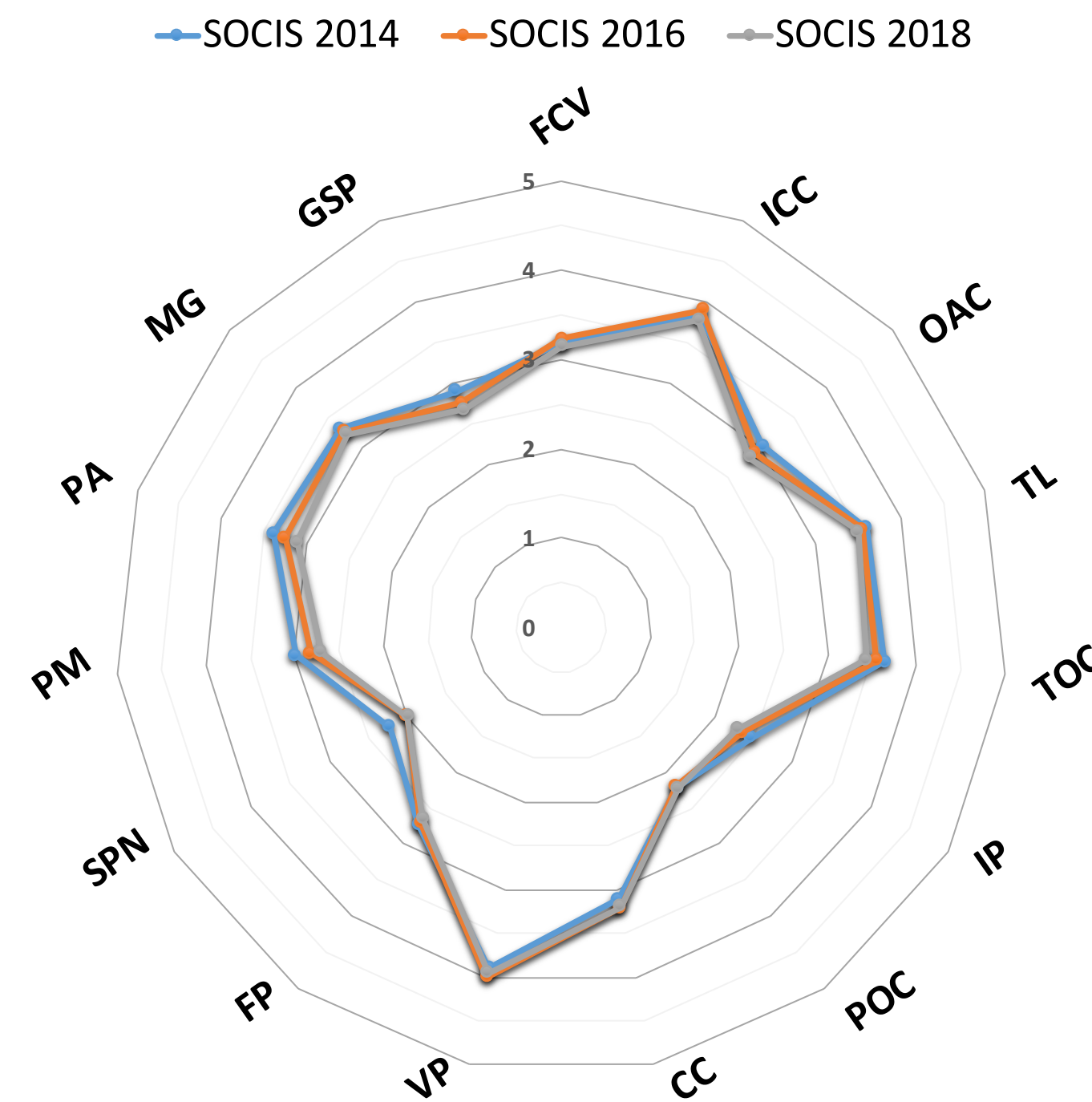
- Analysis.** Descriptive and inferential statistics. Use of One-Way ANOVA ($\alpha = 0.05$) to examine differences in SOC development from 2014 to 2018.
- A Welch ANOVA was used for violations of Homogeneity of Variance (Delacre, Lakens & Leys, 2017).

Results

- Overall, the results suggest that the SOC is at a mid-range level of development with mean ratings of '3' or above on 6 to 10 factors (Kutash, Greenbaum, Wang, Boothroyd & Friedman, 2011) (see Fig. 1).
- State and County comparisons revealed a similar outcome (see Fig. 2).

Results

Fig 1. SOCIS 2014 - 2018: Overall Year-by-Year Comparison



Legend: SOC Factors		
FCV – Family Choice and Voice	IP – Implementation Plan	SPN – Skilled Provider Network
ICC – Individualized Culturally Competent Treatment	POC – Population of Concern	PM – Performance Measurement System
OAC – Outreach and Access	CC – Interagency Cross-sector Collaboration	PA – Provider Accountability
TL – Transformational Leadership	VP – Values and Principles	MG – Management and Governance
TOC – Theory of Change	FP – Comprehensive Financial Plan	GSP – General System Performance

Fig. 2. SOCIS 2014 - 2018: State/County Comparison

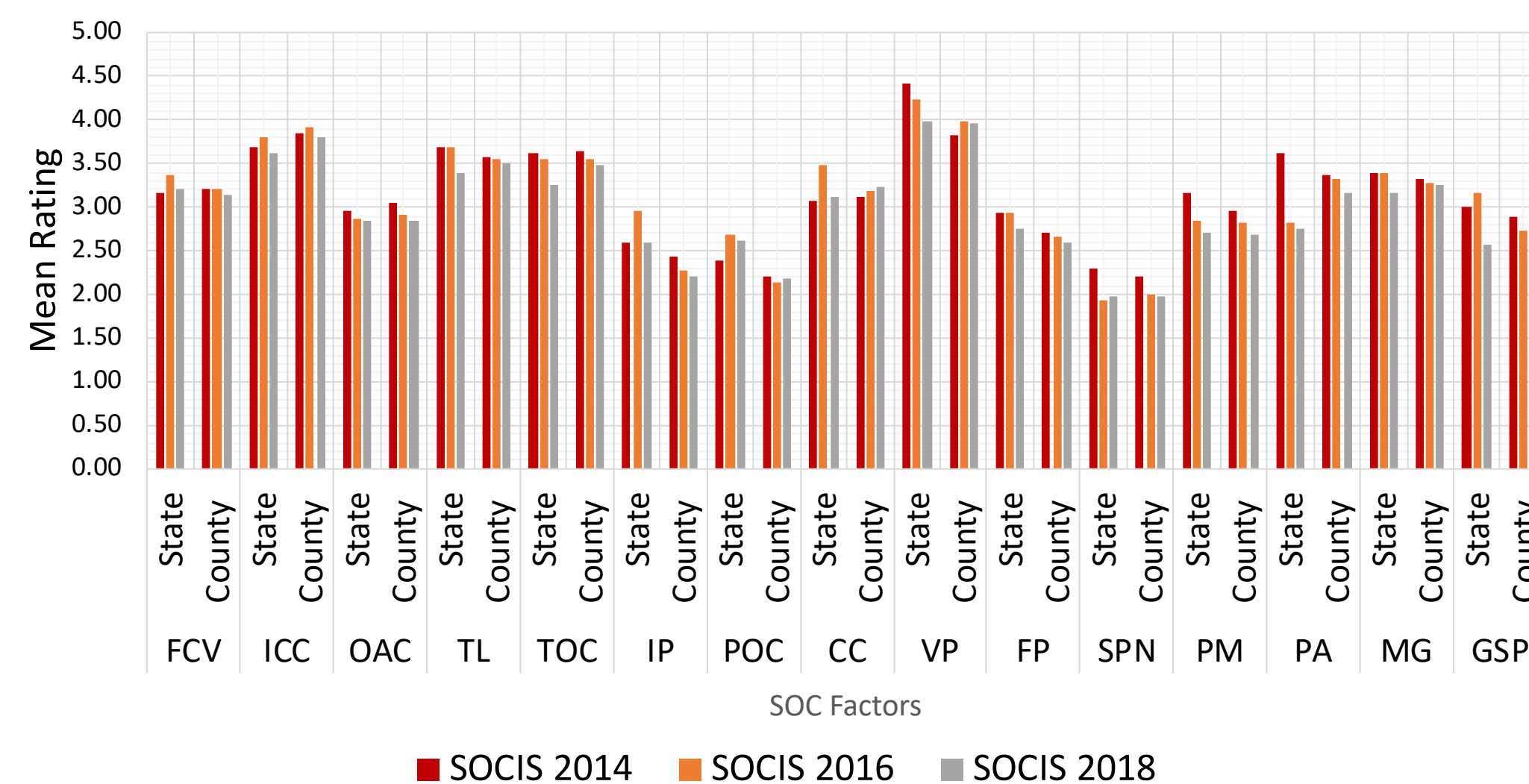
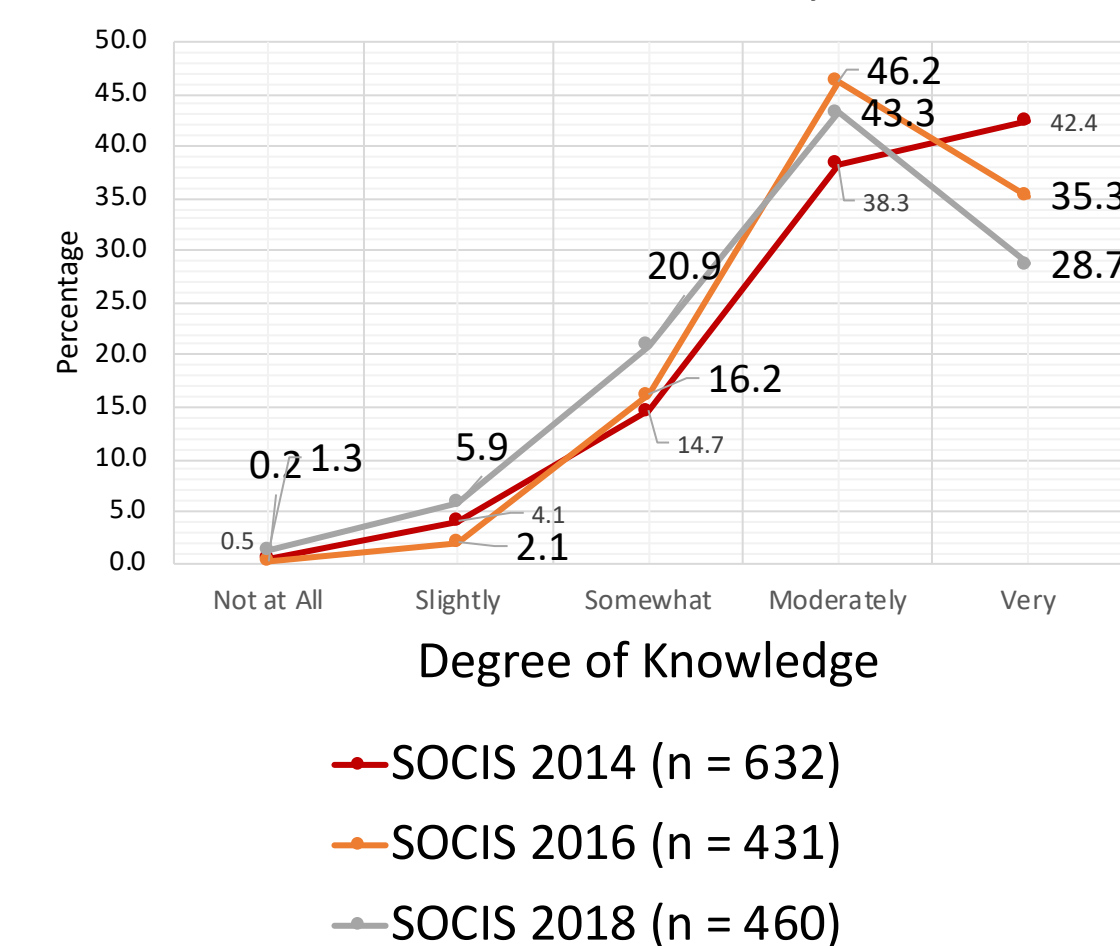


Fig. 3. Level of Knowledge of Local Children's Mental Health System



Results Contd.

- ANOVA results (and the Tukey post hoc) revealed some statistically significant differences in SOC development from 2014 to 2018. The specific periods and the related SOC factors are below:

SOC Factor	Time Period	SOC Factor	Time Period
ICC	2016 rated higher compared to 2018	SPN	2014 rated higher compared to 2018
OAC	2014 rated higher compared to 2018	PM	2014 rated higher compared to 2016; 2014 rated higher compared to 2018
TOC	2014 rated higher compared to 2018	GSP	2014 rated higher compared to 2018

- Over the 2014 – 2018 period, respondents reported varying levels of knowledge of local children's mental health system (see Fig. 3).

Discussion

- The fact that six factors indicated statistically significant changes over time underscores the importance of completing longitudinal assessments to monitor progress and identify areas on which to focus strategic plans, policies, and programs.
- At local and system levels, the process helps youth, their families, organizations, systems, and stakeholders better understand SOC principles, and to plan and monitor progress over time.
- With this longitudinal assessment, the study aimed to provide an enhanced framework for assessing SOC development.
- Although there was a diverse range of survey respondents in this study, the sample was, of course, not inclusive of each and every relevant profession.

References

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