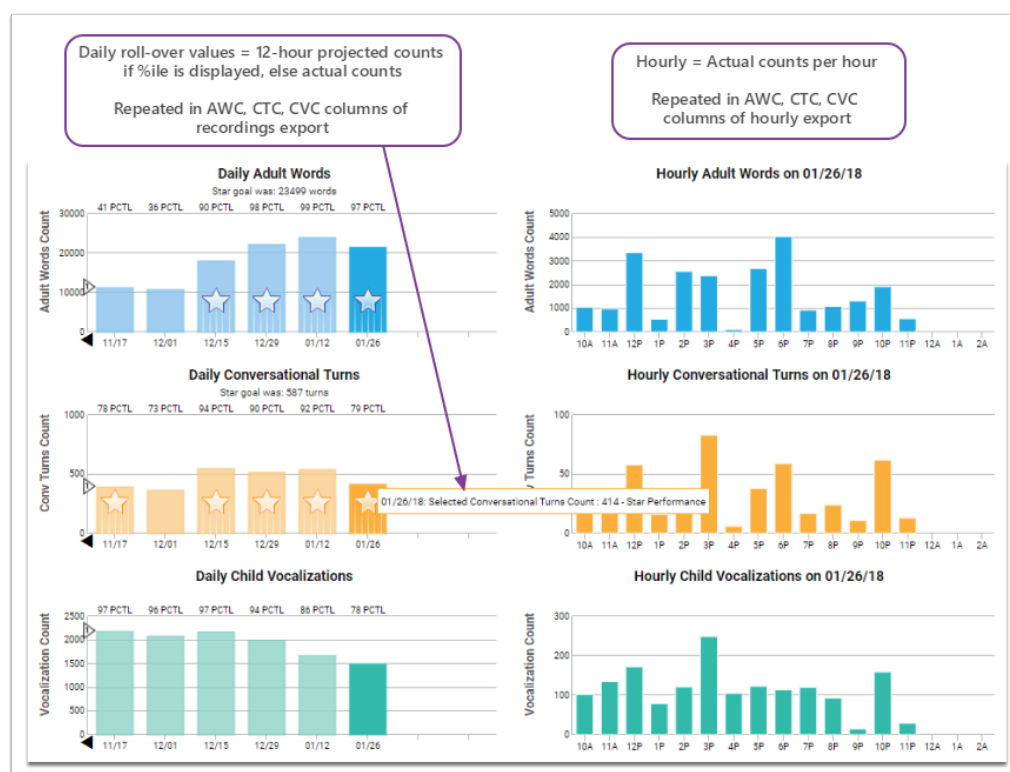# Projected values vs. actual (raw) counts in LENA SP data

LENA's norms for Words, Turns, and Vocalizations are based on 12-hour recordings; however, a family's recording can be shorter, or can be up to 16 hours long. Variable durations make a direct comparison to the norms invalid. Statistical interpolation is necessary to compare variable length recordings to the norms and, by extension, to a family's own performance over time as the child ages. To this end, LENA computes and reports **12-hour projected values** representing what the Words, Turns, and Vocalizations counts *would have been* had the recording been exactly 12 hours long. A recording must be *at least 9.5 hours long* to be eligible for this projection and comparison to the norms; shorter recordings are not valid for comparison. The 12-hour projected values are reported in:

- the roll-over information on the *daily* bars of the LENA report for recordings >9.5 hours
- the AWC, CTC, and CVC columns of the full recording export

The **actual counts** for Words, Turns, and Vocalizations in the processing results are just that - the actual number detected in the recording. The actual counts can be seen in:

- the *hourly* bars on the LENA reports
- the roll-over information on the *daily* bars of the LENA report for recordings <9.5 hours
- the AWC, CTC, and CVC columns in the hourly and 5-minute level exports
- the ITS file

To quickly find the actual counts for any recording, if desired, sum the hourly data. Note that the resulting values are *not* adjusted for duration and so are not appropriate for comparison against the 12-hour norms, nor against other recordings of varying durations from the same child or other children.

> 💡 Note that the daily Audio Environment portion of the report is not prorated to conform to the 12-hour normative sample. It always shows the percent of the day for the full recording.