

Highlights From State Reports to the National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD), Federal Fiscal Year 2012

Background

The Children’s Bureau is pleased to release the following National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD)¹ highlights from Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012 (October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012). During this second year of NYTD data collection, States² reported information on all youth and young adults who received independent living services (the “served population”) paid for or provided by State agencies that administer the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP). This brief contains no information on the outcome experiences of young people as no outcomes data were scheduled to be collected in FY 2012.

In this data brief:

We present highlights from State NYTD reports submitted in FFY 2012, including information on independent living services paid for or provided to youth.

For more information, please contact the Children’s Bureau at NYTDinfo@acf.hhs.gov.



Information on Youth Receiving Independent Living Services

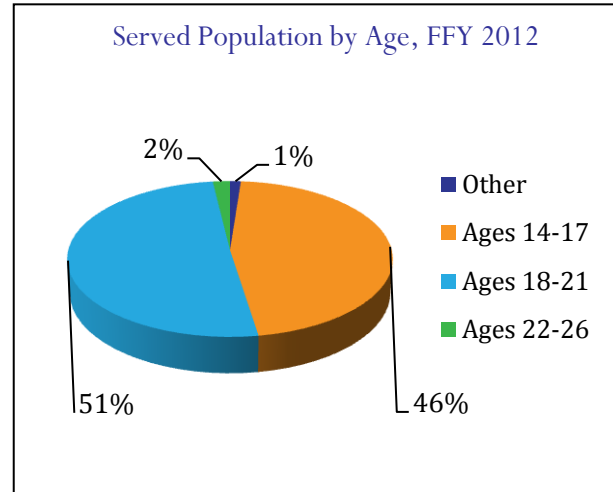
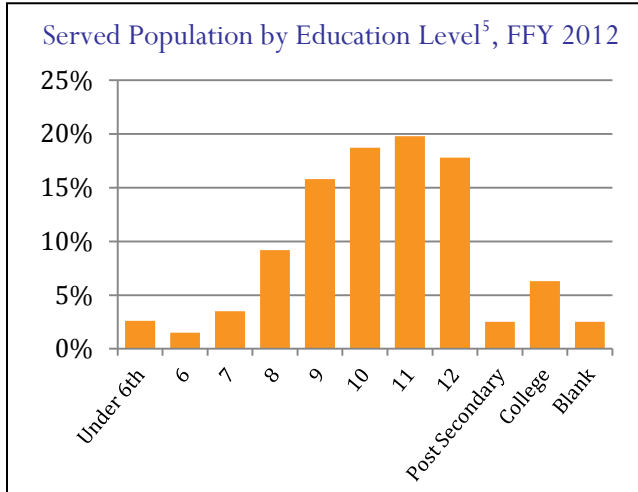
In FFY 2012, States reported that **101,780 youth** and young adults received at least one independent living service. Similar to FFY 2011³, States provided a broad array of services to a diverse population of young people.

Demographics

- Nearly half (46%) were between the ages of 14 and 17, and 53% were between ages 18 and 26; the average age was 18.
- Over one-quarter (27%) had completed at least 12th grade, begun post-secondary education or training or completed at least one semester of college.
- About the same number of males (49%) and females (51%) received services.
- The majority (56%) was White, and close to one-third (36%) were African American. Almost one in five (19%) were Hispanic.

Served Population by Race and Ethnicity, FFY 2012

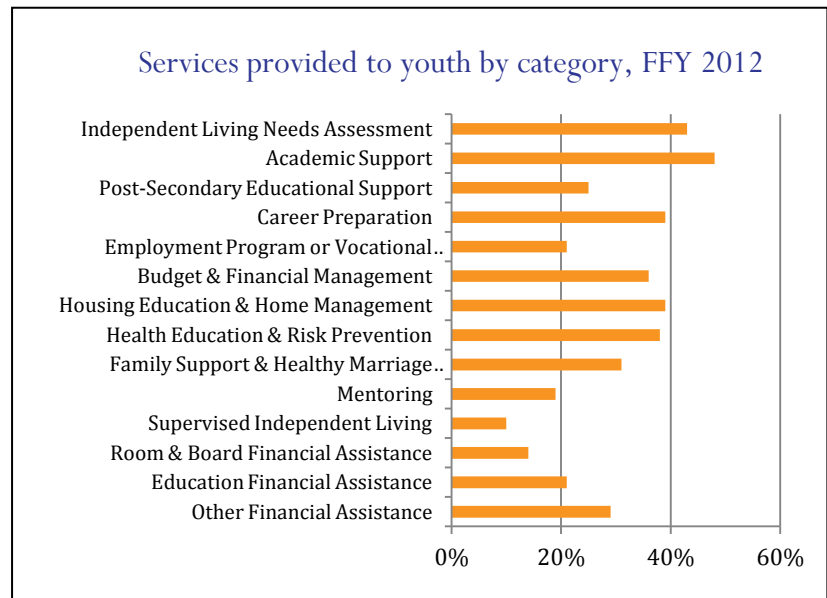
Race ⁴	
<i>American Indian or Alaska Native</i>	4%
<i>Asian</i>	2%
<i>Black or African American</i>	36%
<i>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</i>	<1%
<i>White</i>	56%
<i>Unknown</i>	2%
<i>Declined</i>	6%
Ethnicity	
<i>Hispanic or Latino (of any race)</i>	19%



- Over two-thirds (69%) were still in foster care during the report period in which they received services.
- Eighteen percent of youth were reported to have been adjudicated delinquent. Of these, 70% were male.
- About one in five (21%) were receiving special education services. Of these, 61% were male.

Services Paid for or Provided to Youth

- Over half of youth (58%) received three or more services.
- Close to 70 percent of youth had received at least one independent living life skills support service (e.g., budget and financial management, housing education and home management, supervised independent living, or received an independent living needs assessment).
- Over half (56%) had received at least one educational support service (academic support and/or post-secondary educational support).
- Forty-six percent had received a career preparation or employment training service.



Conclusion

As we noted in the previous fiscal year report, the majority of youth in FFY 2012 received services that are intended to support life skills and financial independence while a smaller percentage received academic support services. As States begin to examine their service data over time, they may be better able to identify whether or not certain sub-populations of youth are consistently receiving or not receiving particular services. This second year of service data collection suggests that States are continuing to provide the same level of services to a diverse group of youth and young adults.

Endnotes

¹ For information on NYTD, please contact the Children's Bureau at NYTDinfo@acf.hhs.gov or visit us at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/research-data-technology/reporting-systems/nytd>.

² "State" refers to all 50 States plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In the first reporting period of FFY 2012 (October 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013), 50 States reported services information. In the second reporting period of FFY 2012 (April 1, 2013 – September 30, 2013), 51 States reported services information. The information in this brief comes from all data reports submitted by States as of June 13, 2013.

³ For NYTD data highlights from FFY 2011, see NYTD Data Brief #1 at http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_brief_1.pdf.

⁴ States report all races that apply to a youth. "Unknown" is used to indicate when the race or at least one race of the youth is unknown. "Declined" is used to indicate when the youth or parent has declined to provide any race information.

⁵ States report the highest grade or educational level completed by the youth. The value "blank" (2.5%) refers to missing data.