



**Department of
Job and Family Services**

John R. Kasich, Governor
Michael B. Colbert, Director

June 29, 2012

To: Directors, Public Children Service Agencies
Directors, Private Child Placing Agencies

From: Jennifer Justice, Deputy Director
Office of Families and Children

Subject: **National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) Survey**

The purpose of this notice is to disseminate information regarding the National in Youth Transition Database (NYTD) survey as completed by your agency at the beginning of Federal Fiscal Year 2011. With assistance of public children service agencies (PCSA) and private child placing agencies (PCPA), youth in care age 17 became the baseline cohort study group, surveyed information was compiled about the following six outcomes:

- financial self-sufficiency
- experience with homelessness
- educational attainment
- positive connections with adults
- high-risk behavior
- access to health insurance.

Survey data was collected and will be used to:

- assist youth in making the transition from foster care to self-sufficiency,
- track the independent living services provided to youth, and
- develop outcome measures that may be used to assess Ohio's performance in operating individual independent living programs.

(Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Administration of Children and Families. http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/nytd/about_nytd.htm)

The results of the survey and plans for use of NYTD data in upcoming months are detailed in the attachment. For additional information specific to your county, contact Elaine Hall by phone at 614-752-0080 or email at Elaine.Early-Hall@jfs.ohio.gov.

cc: Barbara Manuel, ODJFS
Joel Potts, OJFSDA
Kim Newsome, OCDA
Dora Sterling, OFCA
Renuka Mayadev, OCDF
Crystal Allen, PCSAO
Larry Long, CCAO
Mark Mecum, OACCA
Josh Komives, OHILA
Technical Assistance Managers

30 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
jfs.ohio.gov

Results from Ohio's National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) Survey

(Statewide summary of implementation efforts)

Brief Background

The Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 required States to develop a data collection system in order to trace and evaluate data in the following two areas:

- 1) Trace Independent Living Services provided to youth.
- 2) Evaluate how the Independent Living programs in Ohio are meeting the needs of youth in foster care and those that have emancipated from care.

Compliance to Date

ODJFS has submitted three sets of NYTD data. The first submission to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) occurred on May 15, 2011 and the second submission occurred November 17, 2011. The third submission occurred May 2012. All reports were submitted timely and met the qualifications of 90% error-free data.

Baseline Population – Cohort

SACWIS data indicated that on March 8, 2012 a total of 526 youth were in foster care on or around their 17th birthday. Two hundred nineteen (219) youth completed at least one question on the survey.

Demographic information was submitted to HHS for all 526 youth, indicating information was recorded in SACWIS for all youth in the served and baseline population. The cohort survey and results follow.

NYTD Survey

1. Currently are you employed full-time (35 hours per week at one or multiple jobs)?
2. Are you currently employed part-time (at least 1-34 hours per week at one or multiple jobs)?
3. In the past year, did you complete an apprenticeship, internship, or other on-the-job training, either paid or unpaid?
4. Currently are you receiving social security payments (Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Insurance (SSDI), or dependents payments)?
5. Currently are you receiving social security payments (Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), or dependents' payments)?
6. Currently are you receiving any periodic and/or significant financial resources or support from another source not previously indicated and excluding paid employment?
7. What is the highest education degree or certification that you have received?
8. Currently are you enrolled in and attending high school, GED classes, post-high school

30 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
jfs.ohio.gov

vocational training, or college?

9. Currently is there at least one adult in your life, other than your caseworker, to whom you can go for advice and emotional support?

10. Have you ever been homeless? Or in the past two years, have you been homeless at any time?

11. Have you ever referred yourself or has someone else referred you for an alcohol and drug abuse assessment or counseling? Or in the past two years, did you refer yourself, or had someone else referred you for an alcohol or drug abuse assessment or counseling?

12. Have you ever been confined in a jail, prison, correctional facility, or community detention facility, in connection with allegedly committing a crime? Or in the past two years, were you confined in a jail, prison, correctional facility, or juvenile or community detention facility, in connection with allegedly committing a crime?

13. Have you ever given birth or fathered any children that were born? Or in the past two years, did you give birth to or father any children that were born? (If an answer of NO selected, please skip question 14).

14. If you responded yes to the previous question, were you married to the child's other parent at the time each child was born?

15. Currently are you on Medicaid?

16. Currently do you have health insurance, other than Medicaid?

17. Does your health insurance include coverage for medical services?

18. Does your health insurance include coverage for mental health?

19. Does your health insurance include coverage for prescription drugs?

20. Currently are you receiving ongoing welfare payments from the government to support your basic needs?

21. Currently are you receiving public food assistance?

22. Currently are you receiving any sort of housing assistance from the government, such as living in public housing or receiving a housing voucher?

Financial Self-sufficiency

Questions #1 through #4 on the survey produced the following results:

- 195 youth reported being in foster care
- 5 youth reported being employed full time
- 36 youth reported being employed part time
- 48 youth felt they had employment related skills
- 48 youth were receiving social security benefits

Educational Attainment

Questions #7 and #8 on the survey produced the following results:

- 207 youth remained in secondary education
- 6 youth received a GED
- 1 youth began post secondary courses
- 1 youth received a vocational certificate

30 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
jfs.ohio.gov

Positive Connections with a Supportive Adult

Question #9 on the survey produced the following results:

- 203 youth reported yes
- 10 youth reported no

Youth Experiencing Homelessness

Question #10 on the survey produced the following results

- 184 youth reported no experience
- 30 youth reported yes

High Risk Behaviors

Questions #11 through #13 on the survey produced the following results

- Incarceration: 116 youth replied yes
- Substance Abuse Referral: 68 youth were referred
- Pregnancy/Parenting: 11 youth reported having a child

Insurance

Questions #15 through #19 on the survey produced the following results

- Medicaid:
 - 187 youth reported yes
 - 17 reported they did not know if they had Medicaid coverage
- Other insurance:
 - 25 youth reported they had other health insurance
 - 158 youth reported no other health insurance
 - 26 youth reported they did not know

Follow-Up Surveys

Subsequent surveys for youth in the follow-up population will begin **October 1, 2012** and conclude **September 30, 2013**. PCSA and PCPAs must conduct new surveys on or around the youth's 19th birthday, and again on or around the youth's 21st birthday. The second survey must be completed within forty-five (45) days of the youth's birthday. Surveys complete outside of the 45 day time frame will not be considered. Surveys must be completed regardless of the youth's foster care status or whether they are still receiving independent living services. For example:

if the youth's 19 th birthday is on	the earliest date the agency's youth can complete survey is	the last date the agency's youth can complete survey is
September 30, 2012	N/A-youth falls outside of baseline	N/A-youth falls outside of baseline
October 1, 2012	October 1, 2012	November 14, 2012
January 1, 2013	January 1, 2013	February 14, 2013
September 30, 2013	September 30, 2013	November 13, 2013
October 1, 2013	N/A-youth falls outside of baseline	N/A-youth falls outside of baseline

Survey Participation Requirements

To comply with NYTD standards as prescribed by HHS, counties must garner the participation in the outcomes survey of at least **60 percent of 19 year old youth in the follow-up population who are no longer in foster care**. Ohio must achieve an outcome survey participation rate of at least 80 percent for youth in the cohort study group who are still in foster care. Incentives from the TANF IL funds may be used to assist achieving a higher compliance rate.

If the data is not submitted timely, error-free and within the participation rate, Ohio will be penalized between one and five percent of their annual Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) allotment for each reporting period, depending on the standard that was not achieved.

ODJFS Aggregate Summaries

After the completion of each survey, ODJFS will compile a statewide summary and provide information to each custodial agency relative to their youth and county participation. The summary will also list challenges and barriers if any. Ohio will collect and report outcome information on a new baseline population cohort every three years.