



IOWA NATIONAL YOUTH IN TRANSITION DATABASE
ANNUAL REPORT

SURVEY RESULTS FOR 17-YEAR-OLDS

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NYTD OVERVIEW

BACKGROUND

In 1999, Public Law 106-169 established the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (CFCIP) at section 477 of the Social Security Act, providing States with flexible funding to carry out programs that assist youth in making the transition from foster care to self-sufficiency¹. The law also required the federal Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to develop a data collection system to track the independent living services States provided to youth and develop outcome measures that may be used to assess States' performance in operating their independent living programs.

The regulation to implement the law established the [National Youth in Transition Database \(NYTD\)](#), which is a federal initiative that requires States, and specifically the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), to collect outcomes information on youth in foster care².

Beginning in federal fiscal year (FFY) 2011³, states began to collect information on each youth who received state funded independent living services during the year. Independent living services in Iowa include a range of services intended to help the youth in foster care age 14 and older, or alumni, learn life skills. These supports may be anything from contracted life skills for teens in foster care, to funding for books and tuition of a college student. Second, states are to collect demographic and outcome information on certain youth in foster care and subsequently follow the youth over time to collect additional outcome information. Thus, in FFY 2011, Iowa DHS began to survey each youth in foster care who reached age 17. DHS then follows up with a sample of these youth within the reporting period of their 19th and 21st birthday, regardless of whether or not they are still in foster care or other out of home placement. After completing a full reporting cycle, States are then required to repeat this process every three years with a new baseline population of 17-year-olds.

To more effectively collect data in Iowa, DHS contracted with the Department of Human Rights (DHR) in 2016 to survey youth, track data, and create reports for the NYTD federal requirements. The DHR was chosen as a partner based on their effective researched-based practices in the arena of juvenile justice, which increasingly promotes best practices in child welfare. Through grant projects and oversight of state level coalitions, like the statutorily recognized Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development (ICYD), DHR makes an impact on child welfare and juvenile justice. Thus, DHS believes this intergovernmental contract will help to increase NYTD participation rate, access to data, and intends to capitalize on the skills of DHR staff to help DHS and providers use data to improve services. In fact, since hiring a NYTD contractor in Iowa, the youth have been more engaged through the implementation of a website, social media, activities, etc. To learn more about these youth engagement activities, please refer to the [Outreach Activities](#) section (pages 14-15).

¹ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_brief_1.pdf, p. 1

² <https://sites.google.com/a/iowa.gov/national-transition-youth-database-nytd/what-is-nytd>

³ FFY 2011=October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011

17-YEAR-OLD SURVEY

METHODS OF SURVEY COLLECTION

Iowa offers three methods for completing the survey. The youth may take the survey via phone, mail, or online (see instructions below). To reach the youth, the NYTD coordinator mails a paper copy to each address received. If the NYTD coordinator has an email address for a youth, a link to the online survey is emailed to the youth as well. Lastly, depending on the contact information available, the NYTD coordinator calls the youth and/or any acquaintances the youth may have listed under their contact information.

Instructions given to the youth to complete the survey:

Mail: Return or request the paper copy and return the completed survey in a business reply envelope.

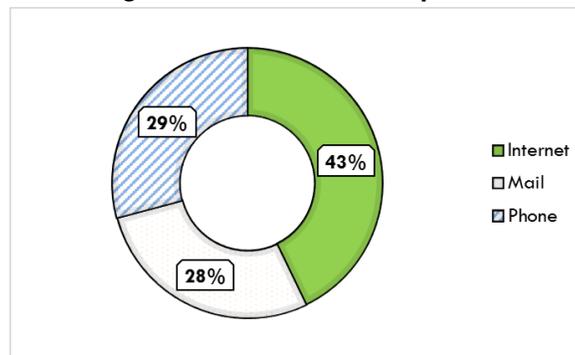
Online: Go to bit.ly/lowaNYTD, click on 'Take the Survey' and then click on the respective survey option.

Phone: Call the toll free hotline at 1-888-228-4912 or the NYTD coordinator at 515-725-4050.

Table 1. Participation Method by Race

	Internet		Mail		Phone	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	85	56.7%	69	70.4%	71	69.6%
Black or African-American	43	28.7%	20	20.4%	18	17.6%
Alaskan/American Native	4	2.7%	6	6.1%	7	6.9%
Asian	5	3.3%	0	0.0%	1	1.0%
Pacific Islander	1	0.7%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	7	4.7%	1	1.0%	4	3.9%
Declined	5	3.3%	1	1.0%	1	1.0%
Total	150	--	98	--	102	--

Figure 1. Method of Participation



Participation Method Observations:

- ❖ 43% of 17-year-old youth completed the survey on the Internet.

Once all survey responses are collected for a cohort, a file is returned to DHS. This information will be reviewed and utilized to make improvements to Iowa's foster care system. Additionally, the results are kept on file with CJJP to provide DHS with an analysis of the trends in the data as the youth complete the survey again when they are 19 and finally when they are 21.

INCENTIVES

Youth who complete the Iowa NYTD survey receive an incentive for participating. Incentives are awarded to survey participants as a way to increase the survey participation rate, as well as to thank youth for taking the time to thoughtfully answer the survey questions. Iowa NYTD offers participants six different options for an incentive.

GIFT CARDS

The baseline population (17-year-old youth) received a \$25 gift card to Casey's General Store or HyVee. Survey participants in the follow-up population of 19-year-olds will receive a \$25 gift card, and survey participants in the follow-up population of 21-year-olds will receive a \$50 gift card. Participants at age 17 and 19 were offered an additional \$10 and \$25 gift card, respectively, to provide names and contact information for individuals who will know how to contact the youth in two years to take the next survey. Due to requests from the 21-year-old participants, Walmart gift cards are now available.



CARE PACKAGES

Youth may opt to receive a care package instead of a gift card. Youth may select to receive the NYTD Sports Package, the NYTD Arts Package or the NYTD Health and Wellness Package. The contents of the packages are approximately the same value as the gift card.

Sports Package



Health and Wellness Package



Art Package



PROFILE OF PARTICIPATION

The survey includes 27 questions that collect demographic information and measure youth outcomes across six domains:

- Financial Self-Sufficiency
- Educational Attainment
- Positive Connections with Adults
- Experience with Homelessness
- High-Risk Behavior
- Access to Health Insurance

The survey data must be collected directly from the youth (and not administrative records). All survey responses are voluntary, as youth have the option to decline a question, or the survey itself, at any time. Collected responses are always confidential, and are not connected to a specific youth.

A full list of questions is in the Appendix.

The third cohort of surveys for 17-year-olds began October 1, 2016. There are 392 youth in Iowa's third baseline population cohort. Three of these youth were found ineligible to participate in the survey; two youth were not in the sample and one was incapacitated. Of the 389 youth eligible to complete the survey, a total of 350 youth participated, and each of them completed one survey. Comparison data was derived from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau⁴. FFY 2011 data is used as participants from the FFY 2014 cohort are still being surveyed.

Table 2. Participation Rate

	N	%
Youth Participated	350	89.3%
Not In Sample	2	0.5%
Ranaway/Missing	17	4.3%
Unable to Locate/Invite	20	5.1%
Youth Declined	2	0.5%
Youth Incapacitated	1	0.3%
Total	392	--

Participation Rate Observations:

- ❖ Approximately 90% of youth in the 17-year-old baseline cohort participated in the survey, while 9.44% (n=37) were either missing or not located.

Information was not collected on youth who did not participate in the survey. Youth may not have participated in the survey for various reasons:

- Not In Sample
- Ranaway/Missing—reported by parent, foster parent, DHS case worker, or juvenile court officer
- Unable to Locate/Invite—fail to locate youth to invite to complete the survey
- Youth Declined
- Youth Incapacitated
- Youth Incarcerated

⁴ <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb>

States are required to survey 80% of youth in the baseline population during each 6-month reporting period in order to maintain compliance. Iowa surveyed approximately 90% of eligible youth in the third baseline population cohort, which is up two percent from the first baseline population cohort of 17-year-olds in FFY 2011 (87%)⁵, and thus met compliance.

PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

The tables below provide data regarding the race, ethnicity, and gender of the youth who participated in the survey. It is important to note that “Unable to Determine” includes youth who either did not know their race and answered Unknown, or youth who answered Unknown and then subsequently answered yes for Hispanic. The need for distinction is important for the foster care system moving forward as some youth are unable to determine the differences between their race and their ethnicity. Further, it is important for the NYTD coordinator to ensure that the participants are understanding the question in order to provide error free data.

Table 3. Participants by Race and Gender

Question 1	Female		Male		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	93	63.3%	132	65.0%	225	64.3%
Black or African-American	33	22.4%	48	23.6%	81	23.1%
Alaskan/American Native	10	6.8%	7	3.4%	17	4.9%
Asian	4	2.7%	2	1.0%	6	1.7%
Pacific Islander	1	0.7%	1	0.5%	2	0.6%
Unable to Determine	4	2.7%	8	3.9%	12	3.4%
Declined	2	1.4%	5	2.5%	7	2.0%
Total	147	--	203	--	350	--

Table 4. Participants by Ethnicity

Question 2	N	%
Yes	51	14.6%
No	292	83.4%
Unknown	6	1.7%
Declined	1	0.3%
Total	350	--

Participants by Race and Gender Observations:

- ❖ White youth comprised 64.3% of the youth who disclosed their race.
- ❖ African-American youth comprised 23.1% of youth who participated.
- ❖ 83.4% of the youth who participated were Non-Hispanic.
- ❖ These statistics are comparable to the population demographics in Iowa, as White, Non-Hispanic youth comprised nearly 83% of the 17-year-old population in Iowa during 2016⁶.

⁵ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_survey_rates.pdf

⁶ https://www.ojdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison_selection.asp

SURVEY RESULTS

The following data and analysis is of select survey responses from each of the six domains. The data only pertains to those who participated in the survey, or otherwise declined. Declined responses include either declining to answer the given question and/or declining to disclose their race in Question 1.

FINANCIAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Table 5. Participant Full-Time Employment by Race & Gender

Question 3	Declined		No				Yes			
	F		F		M		F		M	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	0	0.0%	91	63.6%	130	65.0%	2	66.7%	2	66.7%
Black or African-American	0	0.0%	32	22.4%	47	23.5%	1	33.3%	1	33.3%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	10	7.0%	7	3.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Asian	0	0.0%	4	2.8%	2	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	4	2.8%	8	4.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Declined	1	100.0%	1	0.7%	5	2.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	1	--	143	--	200	--	3	--	3	--

Table 6. Participant Part-Time Employment by Race & Gender

Question 4	Declined		No				Yes			
	M		F		M		F		M	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	1	100.0%	59	60.2%	104	63.0%	34	69.4%	27	73.0%
Black or African-American	0	0.0%	22	22.4%	40	24.2%	11	22.4%	8	21.6%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	9	9.2%	7	4.2%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%
Asian	0	0.0%	3	3.1%	2	1.2%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.7%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	3	3.1%	8	4.8%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%
Declined	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	4	2.4%	1	2.0%	1	2.7%
Total	1	--	98	--	165	--	49	--	37	--

Table 7. Social Security Payments* Received by Participant

Question 6	Declined				No				Yes			
	F		M		F		M		F		M	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	6	75.0%	1	50.0%	71	62.8%	109	63.4%	16	61.5%	22	75.9%
Black or African-American	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	25	22.1%	44	25.6%	8	30.8%	4	13.8%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	1	50.0%	8	7.1%	5	2.9%	2	7.7%	1	3.4%
Asian	1	12.5%	0	0.0%	3	2.7%	1	0.6%	0	0.0%	1	3.4%
Pacific Islander	1	12.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	3.5%	7	4.1%	0	0.0%	1	3.4%
Declined	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.8%	5	2.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	8	--	2	--	113	--	172	--	26	--	29	--

*Social Security payments (Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or dependents' payments) include payments from the government to meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter for a person with a disability, be it the youth themselves or their guardian

Financial Assistance Observations:

- ❖ 26.3% (N=92) of participating youth reported having either full-time or part-time employment, which has increased just over 11% from the 15% of Iowa's 17-year-olds who reported being employed full-time or part-time in FFY 2011⁷.
- ❖ White youth comprised 70.6% of youth who were employed either full-time or part-time.
- ❖ 1.7% (N=6) of participating youth reported full-time employment.
- ❖ 22.1% of African-American youth reported having a part-time job.
- ❖ Approximately 16% of participating youth received social security payments.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Table 8. Participant Educational Attainment by Race & Gender

Question 9	Declined		High school diploma/GED				None of the above				Vocational license			
	M		F		M		F		M		F		M	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	0	0.0%	3	37.5%	3	60.0%	89	64.5%	128	65.3%	1	100.0%	1	100.0%
Black or African-American	1	100.0%	3	37.5%	2	40.0%	30	21.7%	45	23.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	1	12.5%	0	0.0%	9	6.5%	7	3.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	2.9%	2	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	2.9%	8	4.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Declined	0	0.0%	1	12.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	5	2.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	1	--	8	--	5	--	138	--	196	--	1	--	1	--

Educational Attainment Observations:

- ❖ 4% (N=13) of participating youth already have their high school diploma or GED, which is comparable to the 4% of Iowa's 17-year-olds surveyed in FFY 2011 who also reported having received a high school diploma or GED⁸.

Table 9. Participant Current Educational Status by Race & Gender

Question 10	No				Yes			
	F		M		F		M	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	4	66.7%	4	44.4%	89	63.1%	128	66.0%
Black or African-American	1	16.7%	4	44.4%	32	22.7%	44	22.7%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	1	11.1%	10	7.1%	6	3.1%
Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	2.8%	2	1.0%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	1	0.5%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	2.8%	8	4.1%
Declined	1	16.7%	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	5	2.6%
Total	6	--	9	--	141	--	194	--

Current Educational Status Observations:

- ❖ 95.7% of participating youth are currently enrolled in and attending high school, GED classes, post-high school vocational training, or college, which is comparable to the national average (93%) for 17-year-olds who also responded yes in FFY 2011⁹.
- ❖ African-American youth comprised 22.7% of participating youth enrolled in and attending an educational program.

⁷ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_employment.pdf

⁸ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_diploma_ged.pdf

⁹ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_brief_1.pdf; p. 5

POSITIVE CONNECTION WITH ADULTS

Table 10. Participant Connection to an Adult by Race and Gender

Question 11	Declined		No				Yes			
	M		F		M		F		M	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	1	50.0%	3	100.0%	1	50.0%	90	62.5%	130	65.3%
Black or African-American	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	1	50.0%	33	22.9%	46	23.1%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	6.9%	7	3.5%
Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	2.8%	2	1.0%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	1	0.5%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	2.8%	8	4.0%
Declined	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.4%	5	2.5%
Total	2	--	3	--	2	--	144	--	199	--

Positive Connections with Adults Observations:

- ❖ 98.0% (N=343) of participating youth reported having at least one adult in their life to whom they could go for advice or emotional support, which is up from the 97% of Iowa's 17-year-olds who reported in FFY 2011¹⁰.
- ❖ Approximately 23% African-American youth reported having a positive connection with an adult other than their caseworker.

EXPERIENCE WITH HOMELESSNESS

Table 11. Participant Homelessness by Race and Gender

Question 12	Declined				No				Yes			
	F		M		F		M		F		M	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	1	100.0%	1	50.0%	64	63.4%	108	65.5%	28	62.2%	23	63.9%
Black or African-American	0	0.0%	1	50.0%	26	25.7%	37	22.4%	7	15.6%	10	27.8%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	5.0%	6	3.6%	5	11.1%	1	2.8%
Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.0%	2	1.2%	2	4.4%	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.6%	1	2.2%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	3.0%	7	4.2%	1	2.2%	1	2.8%
Declined	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	4	2.4%	1	2.2%	1	2.8%
Total	1	--	2	--	101	--	165	--	45	--	36	--

Experience with Homelessness Observations:

- ❖ 76.0% of participating youth reported having never been homeless, while 23.1% (N=81) youth reported having been homeless.
- ❖ Female youth comprised 55.6% of youth who reported being homeless.
- ❖ Nationally, 16% of 17-year-olds reported having an experience with homelessness in FFY 2011¹¹.

¹⁰ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_adult_connection.pdf

¹¹ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_homelessness.pdf

Table 12. Participant Substance Abuse Referral by Race and Gender

Question 13	Declined				No				Yes			
	F		M		F		M		F		M	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	1	50.0%	2	50.0%	55	59.8%	83	68.0%	37	69.8%	47	61.0%
Black or African-American	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	26	28.3%	23	18.9%	7	13.2%	24	31.2%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	6.5%	6	4.9%	4	7.5%	1	1.3%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.8%	1	1.9%	0	0.0%
Asian	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.6%	3	5.7%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	3	3.3%	6	4.9%	1	1.9%	1	1.3%
Declined	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.2%	1	0.8%	0	0.0%	4	5.2%
Total	2	--	4	--	92	--	122	--	53	--	77	--

High-Risk Behavior Observations—Substance Abuse Referral:

- ❖ 61.1% (N=214) of participating youth reported having never been referred for an alcohol or drug abuse assessment or counseling.
- ❖ 37.1% (N=130) of participating youth reported having been referred for substance abuse assessment or counseling, which is higher than the national average (27%) for 17-year-olds in FFY 2011¹².
- ❖ Of participating youth who reported having been referred for substance abuse assessment or counseling, 40.8% were females and 59.2% were male.

Table 13. Participant Confinement* by Race and Gender

Question 14	Declined		No				Yes			
	M		F		M		F		M	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	3	42.9%	68	70.1%	44	75.9%	25	50.0%	85	61.6%
Black or African-American	4	57.1%	19	19.6%	8	13.8%	14	28.0%	36	26.1%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	5	5.2%	1	1.7%	5	10.0%	6	4.3%
Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.7%	4	8.0%	1	0.7%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.7%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	3	3.1%	2	3.4%	1	2.0%	6	4.3%
Declined	0	0.0%	2	2.1%	1	1.7%	0	0.0%	4	2.9%
Total	7	--	97	--	58	--	50	--	138	--

*Confinement refers to youth who were confined in a jail, prison, correctional facility, or juvenile or community detention facility in connection with allegedly committing a crime

High-Risk Behavior Observations—Confinement:

- ❖ 53.7% (N=188) of participating youth reported being incarcerated, which is higher than the national average (35%) for participating 17-year-olds in FFY 2011¹³.
- ❖ 44.3% (N=155) of participating youth reported having never been incarcerated.
- ❖ White males comprised 61.6% of participating males who reported having been incarcerated at some point in their lives, while African-American males comprised 26.1%.
- ❖ 61.7% (N=50) of participating African-American youth reported being incarcerated.
- ❖ 26.6% of female and 73.4% of male participating youth reported being incarcerated.

¹² https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_brief_1.pdf, p. 6

¹³ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_brief_1.pdf, p. 6

Table 14. Female Childbearing by Participants by Race

Question 15	Declined		No		Yes	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	3	100.0%	85	64.9%	5	38.5%
Black or African-American	0	0.0%	27	20.6%	6	46.2%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	9	6.9%	1	7.7%
Asian	0	0.0%	4	3.1%	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	1	0.8%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	3	2.3%	1	7.7%
Declined	0	0.0%	2	1.5%	0	0.0%
Total	3	--	131	--	13	--

Table 15. Male Childbearing by Participants by Race

Question 15	Declined		No		Yes	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	0	0.0%	124	64.6%	8	80.0%
Black or African-American	1	100.0%	45	23.4%	2	20.0%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	7	3.6%	0	0.0%
Asian	0	0.0%	2	1.0%	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	1	0.5%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	8	4.2%	0	0.0%
Declined	0	0.0%	5	2.6%	0	0.0%
Total	1	--	192	--	10	--

High-Risk Behavior Observations—Childbearing:

- ❖ 46.2% of female youth who gave birth to children were African-American; which is 18.2% of all African-American females who participated.
- ❖ 80.0% of male youth who fathered children were White.
- ❖ 6.6% of participating youth reported having given birth to or fathered children, which is comparable to the national average (7%) for 17-year-olds in FFY 2011¹⁴.
- ❖ 92.3% (N=323) of participating youth answered no to having given birth to or fathered any children.

¹⁴ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_brief_1.pdf, p. 7

Table 15. Participant's Medicaid Insurance by Race and Gender

Question 17	Don't know				No				Yes			
	F		M		F		M		F		M	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	12	80.0%	26	72.2%	9	60.0%	11	52.4%	72	61.5%	95	65.1%
Black or African-American	1	6.7%	6	16.7%	5	33.3%	6	28.6%	27	23.1%	36	24.7%
Alaskan/American Native	1	6.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	9.5%	9	7.7%	5	3.4%
Asian	1	6.7%	1	2.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	2.6%	1	0.7%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.8%	1	0.9%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	3	8.3%	1	6.7%	0	0.0%	3	2.6%	5	3.4%
Declined	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.8%	2	1.7%	4	2.7%
Total	15	--	36	--	15	--	21	--	117	--	146	--

Table 16. Participant's Other Health Insurance by Race and Gender

Question 18	Declined		Don't know				No				Not applicable		Yes			
	M		F		M		F		M		M		F		M	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	1	100.0%	21	58.3%	38	62.3%	49	65.3%	58	61.7%	1	100.0%	23	63.9%	34	73.9%
Black or African-American	0	0.0%	6	16.7%	13	21.3%	15	20.0%	28	29.8%	0	0.0%	12	33.3%	7	15.2%
Alaskan/American Native	0	0.0%	4	11.1%	4	6.6%	6	8.0%	3	3.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Asian	0	0.0%	2	5.6%	0	0.0%	1	1.3%	1	1.1%	0	0.0%	1	2.8%	1	2.2%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	1	2.8%	1	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	1	2.8%	4	6.6%	3	4.0%	3	3.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.2%
Declined	0	0.0%	1	2.8%	1	1.6%	1	1.3%	1	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	6.5%
Total	1	--	36	--	61	--	75	--	94	--	1	--	36	--	46	--

Access to Health Insurance Observations:

- ❖ 98.6% of participating youth reporting having Medicaid or some other health insurance, which is up almost 8% from the 91% of Iowa's 17-year-olds reported in FFY 2011¹⁵.
- ❖ 97 youth did not know if they were currently enrolled in health insurance other than Medicaid.
- ❖ 14.6% (N=51) of participating youth reported not knowing if they had Medicaid coverage, which is higher than the national average (5%) for 17-year-olds in FFY 2011¹⁶.
- ❖ 10.3% (N=36) of participating youth reported not currently being on Medicaid.

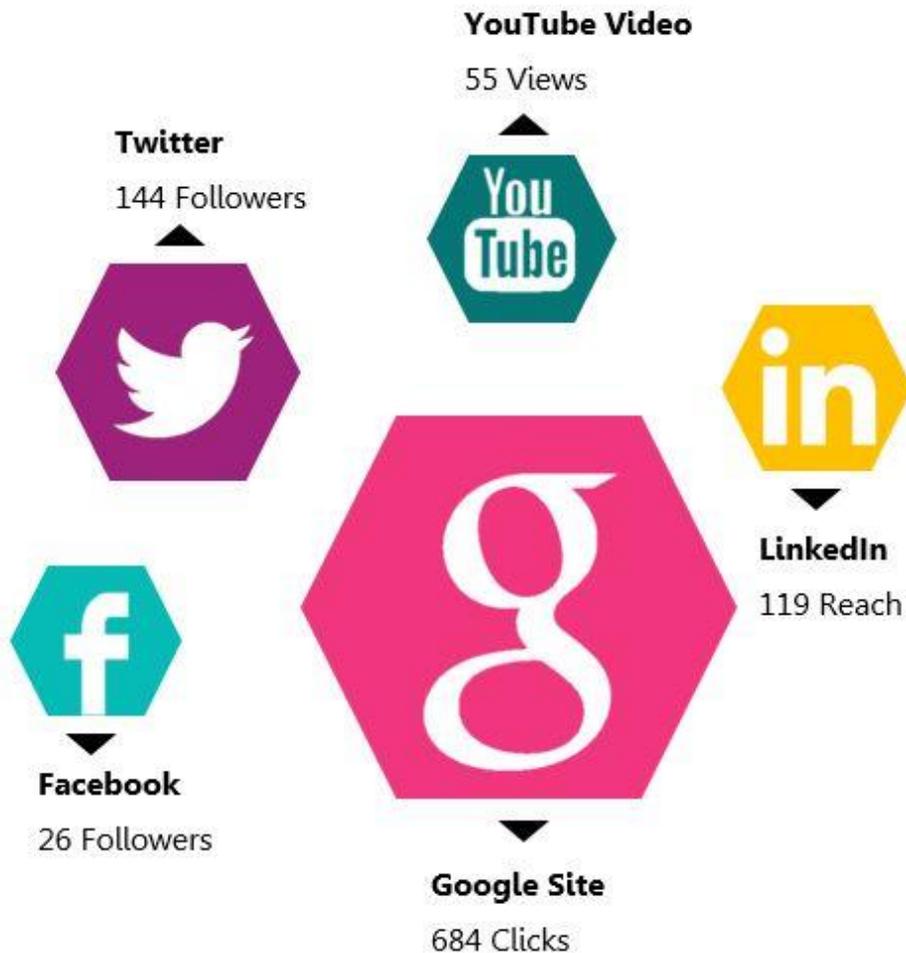
¹⁵ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_health_insurance.pdf

¹⁶ https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/nytd_data_brief_1.pdf, p. 7

ONLINE PRESENCE

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media is a powerful tool to engage youth. It allows NYTD to share information with its target survey population instantaneously. Iowa NYTD utilizes the social media platforms of [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Google](#) and [LinkedIn](#)¹⁷ to promote the NYTD survey and youth activities. Iowa NYTD's online presence has grown since its inception on October 1, 2016.



POWTOON

Iowa NYTD utilized PowToon, a free online video maker, to create a visually pleasing animated video to engage youth, foster parents, and child welfare professionals in learning what NYTD is, why NYTD is important, and why youth should take the NYTD survey.

The Iowa NYTD PowToon is available to watch on YouTube at bit.ly/lowaNYToons.

¹⁷ As of April 2018, NYTD no longer utilizes LinkedIn as a social media platform.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

IOWA NYTD LOGO

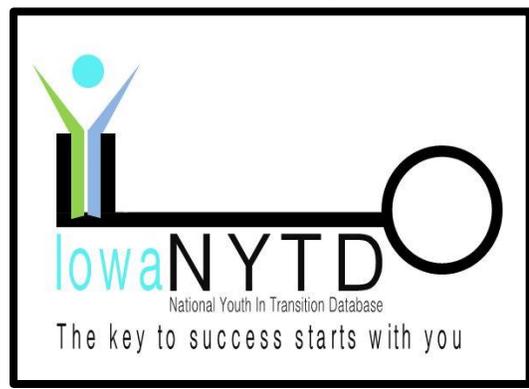
Keeping youth engaged is an integral part of NYTD's success. Inspired by the Achieving Maximum Potential (AMP) slogan, "Nothing About Us Without Us," Iowa NYTD developed opportunities to keep youth engaged as they transition through foster care or other out of home placement.

In September, 2016, Iowa NYTD utilized its community partnership with AMP and presented the opportunity for a youth in foster care to design the new logo for NYTD. An AMP youth submitted the following conceptual drawing for the new logo. After receiving positive feedback and suggestions from AMP, Iowa Aftercare Services Network and DHS, the logo for Iowa NYTD was finalized.

Conceptual Design by AMP Youth

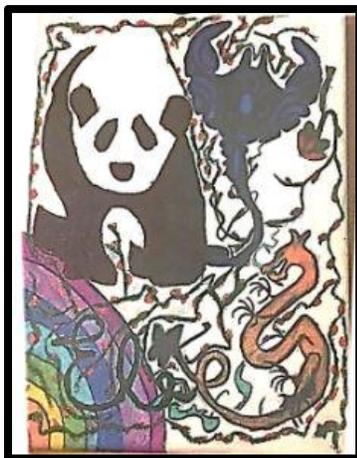


Finalized Logo



CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS CONTEST

Artistic engagement is a powerful tool to express oneself. Iowa NYTD conducts an annual creative expressions contest and invites all Iowa youth up to age 24 who have experienced foster care or other out of home placement to participate. Participants are asked to submit a work of art that captures the given theme of the contest. Approximately 60 youth have participated in NYTD's two Creative Expressions contests. In 2017, 8 entries were submitted. In 2018, 10 entries were submitted. Multiple youth worked on single entries.



All contest submissions for the 2017 Expressive Creations Contest can be viewed at bit.ly/IowaNYTD.

APPENDIX

Included in the Appendix are the survey questions broken down by domain. Unless noted, each survey question has the response options of Yes, No, Decline, and Do not know and/or Not applicable, if applicable.

Participant Demographics:

- a. **Question 1:** Using the options provided below, check the box that best describes your race.
 - 1. American Indian or Alaska Native
 - 2. Asian
 - 3. Black or African-American
 - 4. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 - 5. White
 - 6. Unknown
 - 7. Decline
- b. **Question 2:** Are you of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity?

Financial Self-Sufficiency:

- c. **Question 3:** Currently are you employed full-time?
- d. **Question 4:** Currently are you employed part-time?
- e. **Question 6:** Currently are you receiving social security payments?
- f. **Question 7:** Currently are you using a scholarship, grant, stipend, student loan, voucher or other types of educational financial aid to cover any educational expenses?
- g. **Question 8:** Currently are you receiving any periodic and/or significant financial resources or support from another source not previously indicated and excluding paid employment?

Educational Attainment:

- h. **Question 5:** In past year, did you complete an apprenticeship, internship, or other on-the-job training, either paid or unpaid?
- i. **Question 9:** What is the highest educational degree or certification that you have received?
- j. **Question 10:** Currently are you enrolled in or attending high school, GED classes, post-high school vocational training, or college?
- k. **Question 26:** In what type of school or educational program are you currently enrolled?
- l. **Question 27:** What is the biggest barrier preventing you from continuing your education?

Positive Connections with Adults:

- m. **Question 11:** Currently is there at least one adult in your life, other than your caseworker, to whom you can go for advice or emotional support?
- n. **Question 23:** Which of the following best describes the adult with who you have the closest trusting, supportive, and unconditional relationship?
- o. **Question 24:** Did you know this person before you entered foster care?
- p. **Question 25:** With which members of your biological family do you currently have a close relationship?

Experience with Homelessness:

- q. **Question 12:** Have you ever been homeless?
- r. **Question 12a:** Have you been homeless within the last two years?

High-Risk Behavior:

- s. **Question 13:** Have you referred yourself or has someone else referred you for an alcohol or drug abuse assessment or counseling?
- t. **Question 14:** Have you even been confined in a jail, prison, correctional facility, or juvenile or community detention facility, in connection with allegedly committing a crime?
- u. **Question 15:** Have you ever given birth or fathered any children that were born?
- v. **Question 16:** If you responded yes to [Question 15], were you married to the child's other parent at the time each child was born?

Access to Health Insurance:

- w. **Question 17:** Currently are you on Medicaid (i.e., Iowa's *hawk-i* program?)
- x. **Question 18:** Currently do you have health insurance, other than Medicaid?
- y. **Question 19:** Does your health insurance include coverage for medical services?
- z. **Question 20:** Does your health insurance include coverage for mental health services?
- aa. **Question 21:** Does your health insurance include coverage for prescription drugs?

Follow-Up Information:

- bb. **Question 22:** Do we have permission to seek you out in two years to conduct a follow-up survey, and can we have the names and phone numbers of one or two adults close to you who we could contact in order to try and find you?

Attachment 1 contains a copy of the full survey.

ATTACHMENT 1



Note: If you have questions or concerns regarding this survey, please contact your DHS or JCO worker: _____ . Their phone number is: _____ .



Iowa National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) Survey Instrument

Each year, thousands of youth are discharged from foster care across the nation because they reach the age at which they are no longer eligible for foster care. Research indicates many youth who are emancipated from foster care experience difficulties in their attempts to be self-sufficient. Beginning in October 2010, the US government required all states to track the independent living services provided to youth in out-of-home care.

Youth input is very important to understanding the extent to which young adults are prepared to live independently, as they exit foster care. Your feedback, along with foster youth from other states, will help states and the nation as a whole learn what changes need to be made to help youth be successful young adults, as they transition from being in foster care to being self-sufficient. We need your help!

There are three ways you can take the survey; by web, by phone, or by mail. Regardless of how you choose to answer the survey, please be aware that the survey must be completed and returned to our office by _____ .

To take the survey online:

Visit Bit.ly/lowaNYTD (**CASE SENSITIVE**) and click on "Take the Survey." You will then be asked to enter your passcode, which is [_____]. You will then be guided through each of the questions and answers.

To take the survey by phone:

If you would like to take the survey by phone, just call us! Dial toll free **1-888-228-4912** Monday-Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Central Standard Time and tell the NYTD representative who answers your call that you would like to take the Iowa NYTD survey. The NYTD representative will ask you for your passcode, which is [_____], and then walk you through each one of the questions.

If you would like for us to call you, simply fill out the section below and mail this form back to us in the envelope provided in this packet:

Yes, I would like a NYTD representative to call me so I can take the survey by phone!

Best number(s) at which to call me: _____

Best day(s) and time(s) to call me: _____

To take the survey in paper form:

To take the survey in paper form, answer each of the following 27 questions. Once you have completed all of the questions, mail the survey back to us using the envelope provided in this packet.

Answer each question to the best of your ability. **Do not leave questions blank.** If you have any questions while completing the survey, or if you need assistance completing the survey, please feel free to contact us by phone toll free at 1-888-228-4912, or by email at betsy.penisten@iowa.gov.

1. Using the options provided below, check each box that best describes your race.

- A. American Indian or Alaska Native
- B. Asian
- C. Black or African American
- D. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- E. White
- F. Unknown
- G. Decline

2. Are you of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't know
- D. Decline

3. Currently are you employed full-time?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Decline

"Full-time" means working at least 35 hours per week at one or multiple jobs.

4. Currently are you employed part-time?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Decline

"Part-time" means working at least 1-34 hours per week at one or multiple jobs.

5. In past year, did you complete an apprenticeship, internship, or other on-the-job training, either paid or unpaid?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Decline

This means apprenticeships, internships, or other on-the-job trainings, either paid or unpaid, that helped the youth acquire employment-related skills (which can include specific trade skills such as carpentry or auto mechanics, or office skills such as word processing or use of office equipment).

6. Currently are you receiving social security payments (Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or dependents' payments)?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Decline

These are payments from the government to meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter for a person with a disability. A youth may be receiving these payments because of a parent or guardian's disability, rather than his or her own.

7. Currently are you using a scholarship, grant, stipend, student loan, voucher, or other type of educational financial aid to cover any educational expenses?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Decline

Scholarships, grants, and stipends are funds awarded for spending on expenses related to gaining an education. "Student loan" means a government-guaranteed, low-interest loan for students in post-secondary education.

8. Currently are you receiving any periodic and/or significant financial resources or support from another source not previously indicated and excluding paid employment?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Decline

This means periodic and/or significant financial support from a spouse or family member (biological, foster or adoptive), child support that the youth receives or funds from a legal settlement. This does not include occasional gifts, such as birthday or graduation checks or small donations of food or personal incidentals, child care subsidies, child support for the youth's child or other financial help that does not benefit the youth directly in supporting him or herself.

9. What is the highest educational degree or certification that you have received?
- A. High school diploma/GED
 - B. Vocational certificate
 - C. Vocational license
 - D. Associate's degree (e.g., A.A.)
 - E. Bachelor's degree (e.g., B.A. or B.S.)
 - F. Higher degree
 - G. None of the above
 - H. Decline

“Vocational certificate” means a document stating that a person has received education or training that qualifies him or her for a particular job, e.g., auto mechanics or cosmetology. “Vocational license” means a document that indicates that the State or local government recognizes an individual as a qualified professional in a particular trade or business. An Associate’s degree is generally a two-year degree from a college or university. “Higher degree” indicates a graduate degree, such as a Masters or Doctorate degree. “None of above” means that the youth has not received any of the above educational certificates.

10. Currently are you enrolled in and attending high school, GED classes, post-high school vocational training, or college?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Decline

This means both enrolled in and attending high school, GED classes or post-secondary vocational training or college. A youth is still considered enrolled in and attending school if the youth would otherwise be enrolled in and attending a school that is currently out of session (e.g., Spring break, summer vacation, etc.).

11. Currently is there at least one adult in your life, other than your caseworker, to whom you can go for advice or emotional support?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Decline

This refers to an adult who the youth can go to for advice or guidance when there is a decision to make or a problem to solve, or for companionship to share personal achievements. This can include, but is not limited to, adult relatives, parents or foster parents. The definition excludes spouses, partners, boyfriends or girlfriends, and current caseworkers. The adult must be easily accessible to the youth, either by telephone or in person.

12. Have you ever been homeless?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Decline

“Homeless” means that the youth had no regular or adequate place to live. This includes living in a car, or on the street, or staying in a homeless or other temporary shelter.

12a. Have you been homeless within the last 2 years?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Decline

13. Have you ever referred yourself or has someone else referred you for an alcohol or drug abuse assessment or counseling?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Decline

This includes either self-referring or being referred by a social worker, school staff, physician, mental health worker, foster parent, or other adult for an alcohol or drug abuse assessment or counseling. An alcohol or drug abuse assessment is a process designed to determine if someone has a problem with alcohol or drug use.

14. Have you ever been confined in a jail, prison, correctional facility, or juvenile or community detention facility, in connection with allegedly committing a crime?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Decline

This means that the youth was confined in a jail, prison, correctional facility, or juvenile or community detention facility in connection with a crime (misdemeanor or felony) allegedly committed by the youth.

15. Have you ever given birth or fathered any children that were born?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Decline

This means giving birth to or fathering at least one child that was born. If males do not know, answer “No.”

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

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Not applicable
- D. Decline

This means that when every child was born the youth was married to the other parent of the child.

17. Currently are you on Medicaid (i.e., Iowa's *hawk-i* program)?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't know
- D. Decline

Medicaid and hawk-i are health insurance programs funded by the government.

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

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't know
- D. Decline

"Health insurance" means having a third party pay for all or part of health care. Youth might have health insurance such as a group coverage ordered by employers or schools, or individual policies that cover medical and/or mental health care and/or prescription drugs, or a youth might be covered under parents' insurance. This also could include access to free health care through a college, Indian Tribe, or other source.

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

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't know
- D. Not applicable
- E. Decline

This means that the youth's health insurance covers at least some medical services or procedures. This question is for only those youth who responded "yes" to having health insurance.

20. Does your health insurance include coverage for mental health services?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't know
- D. Not applicable
- E. Decline

This means that the youth's health insurance covers at least some mental health services. This question is for only those youth who responded "yes" to having health insurance with medical coverage.

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

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't know
- D. Not applicable
- E. Decline

This means that the youth's health insurance covers at least some prescription drugs. This question is for only those who responded "yes" to having health insurance with medical coverage.

22. Do we have your permission to seek you out in two years to conduct a follow-up survey, and can we have the names and phone numbers of one or two adults close to you who we could contact in order to try to find you?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- D. Decline

23. Which of the following best describes the adult with whom you have the closest trusting, supportive, and unconditional relationship?

- A. Birth parent
- B. Adoptive parent
- C. Spouse/partner
- D. Sibling
- E. Aunt/uncle
- F. Grandparent/great grandparent
- G. Cousin
- H. Legal guardian
- I. Foster parent (or former foster parent)
- J. Current or former case worker, social worker, or ILS program staff
- K. Teacher or coach
- L. Mentor (Big Brother/Big Sister, other volunteer or informal mentor)
- M. Someone from church or faith-based community
- N. Parent of a friend
- O. Other (Please specify _____)
- P. Don't know
- Q. Decline

24. Did you know this person before you entered foster care?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't know
- D. Decline

25. With which members of your biological family do you currently have a close relationship? Select all that apply.

- A. Mother
- B. Father
- C. Sibling
- D. Aunt/uncle
- E. Grandparent/great grandparent
- F. Cousin
- G. Other
- H. Don't know
- I. Decline

26. In what type of school or educational program are you currently enrolled?

- A. regular high school
- B. GED program
- C. Vocational school
- D. Community, junior or two year college
- E. Four-year college or university
- F. Graduate or professional school
- G. I'm not currently enrolled
- H. Other (please specify)
- I. Declined
- J. Do not know

27. What is the biggest barrier preventing you from continuing your education?

- A. I have no way to pay for school
- B. I need to work full time
- C. I have child care responsibilities
- D. I don't have transportation
- E. I have been discouraged by significant others
- F. I have academic difficulties
- G. Other (specify)
- H. Declined
- I. Do not know

Date Completed: __/__/__ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Contact Information:

My preferred method of contact is: Phone Email

My phone number: _____ My email address: _____

Receive an extra **\$10.00** by providing the contact information of two adults we can contact if we need help locating you in the future:

Contact #1

Contact #2

Full name: _____

Full name: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

Relation(e.g., Mom): _____

Relation (e.g., Mom): _____

