



National Youth in Transition Database

What is NYTD?



- Federal program which requires all states to collect information on youth transitioning out of foster care.
- The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) requires states to compile and report data about these youth every six months.
- There are two components – **youth outcomes** (survey-driven) and **independent living services** (service-driven).
- In PA, data is collected via the [GetNYTDPA.org](https://www.getnytdpa.org) website.

- **Baseline surveys** are administered to all 17-year-olds in foster care on their 17th birthday including youth who enter care up to 45 days following that 17th birthday
- **Follow-up surveys** are administered to a random sample of baseline youth when they turn 19 and 21
- **Six outcomes** are measured via baseline & follow-up surveys:
 - Financial self-sufficiency
 - Experience with homelessness
 - Educational attainment
 - Positive connection with adults
 - High-risk behavior
 - Access to health insurance

Youth Surveys - Baseline



- Baseline survey data are submitted to the federal government at the beginning of each Cohort
- Baseline surveys are to be completed by **every** 17-year-old in foster care on their **17th birthday** or who enter care up to 45 days **following that 17th birthday**
- **Counties are responsible** for administering and educating youth on the importance of completing baseline surveys
- The state must achieve an **80 percent** participation rate
- **An answer (other than declined) to at least one outcome question constitutes a valid survey.**

Youth Surveys – Baseline



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

A **Baseline Survey** must be completed when a youth turns 17 while in foster care or enter care within 45 days following their 17th birthday.

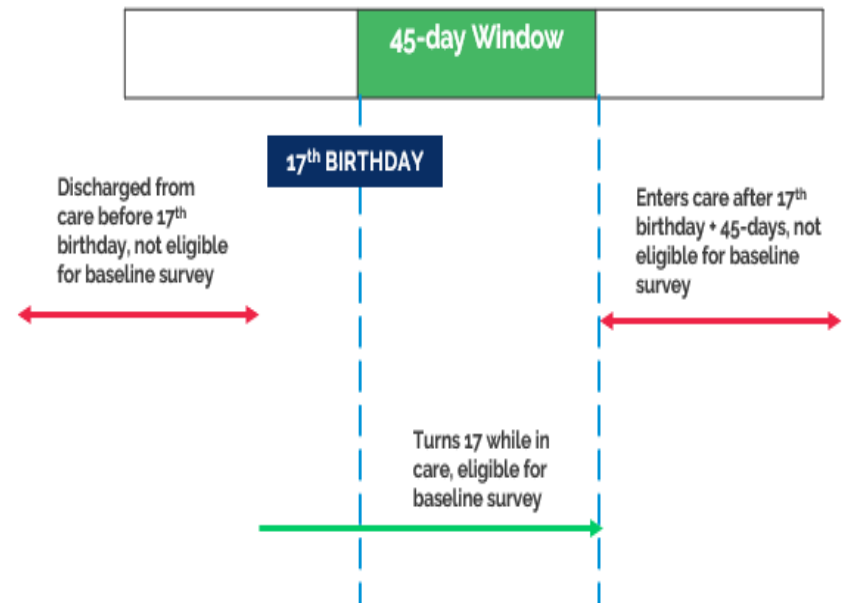
During the year, the group is divided into two reporting periods based on the youth's date of birth:

“A” sample: youth with 17th birthday between Oct – March

- Surveys are to be completed by March 31st.

“B” sample: youth with 17th birthday between April – September

- Surveys are to be completed by September 30th.



Youth Surveys – Follow-up



- Follow-Up surveys are administered **two and four years after baseline surveys.**
- A **random sample** of participants is identified for follow-up surveys.
- PCG **can** administer follow-up surveys.
- The state is penalized if the response rate is below **60 percent** (This number rises to **80 percent**, if youth are still in care.).
 - Exclusions for incarceration, incapacitation or death
- **An answer (other than declined) to at least one outcome question constitutes a valid survey.**

NYTD Cohort Dates

Pennsylvania NYTD Data Collection & Reporting

	Federal Submission Due Date	Reporting Period	Served Data (IL Services)	Baseline Survey (age 17)	Follow-up Survey (age 19)	Follow-up Survey (age 21)
2024 A	May 15, 2024	Oct 1, 2023-Mar 31, 2024	✓	*		✓ Co-hort
2024 B	Nov 14, 2024	Apr 1, 2024-Sept 30, 2024	✓	*		✓ 4
2025 A	May 15, 2025	Oct 1, 2024-Mar 31, 2025	✓	*	✓	Co-hort
2025 B	Nov 14, 2025	Apr 1, 2025-Sept 30, 2025	✓	*	✓	5
2026 A	May 15, 2026	Oct 1, 2025-Mar 31, 2026	✓	✓	Co-hort	
2026 B	Nov 14, 2026	Apr 1, 2026-Sept 30, 2026	✓	✓	6	



(✓) Federal Submission (*) State Collection only

Which of the following best describes the highest grade you have completed?
(If you are currently enrolled in school, do not include the grade that you are in.)

	17	19	21
8th Grade or less	4%	0%	0%
9th Grade	18%	2%	1%
10th Grade	40%	9%	7%
11th Grade	32%	20%	12%
12th Grade	5%	68%	72%
GED Program	1%	1%	6%
Vocational School	0%	1%	2%

What is the highest educational degree or certification that you have achieved?

	17	19	21
Bachelor's Degree	0%	0%	0%
HS Diploma/GED	5%	69%	74%
Higher Degree	0%	0%	0%
Vocational Certificate	0%	1%	1%
Declined	5%	3%	6%
None of the Above	89%	28%	19%

Currently are you enrolled in and attending high school, GED classes, post-high school vocational training, or college?

	17	19	21
No	7%	56%	75%
Yes	93%	44%	25%

In the past two years, have you ever been homeless?

	17	19	21
No	73%	77%	78%
Yes	22%	23%	22%

Any IL service **paid for or provided by** the county agency, regardless of the youth's age:

- Special education
- Independent living needs assessment
- Academic support
- Post-secondary educational support
- Career preparation
- Budget and financial management
- Housing education and home management training
- Health education and risk prevention
- Family support/healthy marriage education
- Mentoring
- Supervised independent living
- Room and board financial assistance
- Education financial assistance
- Other financial assistance
- Employment programs or vocational training

According to NYTD, in FFY 2023, counties reported a total of 10,880 youth and young adults between the ages of 14 to 23 received at least one IL service/support. The top three service areas broken down by region are as follows:

- **Southeast:** Academic Support, Health Education and Career Preparation
- **Northeast:** Budgeting/Financial Management, Career Preparation, and Health Education
- **Central:** Health Education, Budgeting/Financial Management and Career Preparation
- **Western:** Health Education, Budgeting/Financial Management, and Family Support

Educate Youth & Maintain Engagement

- **It is important youth and young adults receive education about NYTD prior to the 17-year-old baseline survey being administered, to include:**
 - Youth may be contacted at ages 19 and/or 21 to complete a follow-up survey.
 - Stipends and gift card incentives for completing these follow-up surveys is available.
- **Continuously engage youth.**
 - As you know, life circumstances can be fluid.
 - Maintain accurate contact information in order to facilitate follow-up surveys participation.

Engagement Strategies

- Positive Relationships
- Remaining in constant contact with your IL worker through IL services.
- Birthday cards
- Reaching out to former foster parent(s)
- Social Media
- Incentives such as gift cards or stipends.
- Working with youth over the phone to complete surveys.

Maintaining contact challenges and barriers identified:

- Difficulty locating youth when they have moved out of state
- Receiving assistance in searching for youth in follow up surveys
- Youths' lack of knowledge about NYTD surveys
- Problems with adequate staffing and retention
- Large case loads
- Youths' lack of interest

Questions



Contact Information



Office of Children, Youth & Families

- Teresa Musser – temusser@pa.gov
- Lindsey Glezen – liglezen@pa.gov

CWRC

- Meghan O'Hare – meo43@pitt.edu