

Statewide Report of Transitional Services Survey Responses

October 2018 Results



nebraskachildren
CONNECTED YOUTH INITIATIVE



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Executive Summary

This report shares statewide results of 622 Connected Youth Initiative (CYI) participants who completed a Transitional Services Survey in October of 2018. Results provide a point-in-time snapshot of who is involved with CYI and how they are faring across several domains: education, employment, housing, transportation, physical and mental health, economic stability, and social support (permanence). Key Indicators (Figure 1) highlight several of these domains, and are included with select community-specific data in Appendix A. Descriptive summaries of selected survey results are also included in this report, and demonstrate common characteristics among CYI survey respondents. Salient characteristics include:

- **Most survey respondents are white women ages 19 and over, and respondents are about evenly located in urban and rural communities.**
- **The majority of survey respondents have connections to at least one adult, and report levels of hope similar to the general population.**
- **While most respondents are engaged in work and/or school and have relatively reliable living and transportation situations, most have financial challenges, and few have a financial safety net.**
- **The likelihood a respondent is expecting/parenting increases substantially with small changes in age, with young people ages 19-21 almost 5 times as likely to be expecting/parenting as their peers ages 16-18.**

Additionally, the Special Commentary section within this report explores the relationship between young adults' employment and education status and several other factors. The goal of the analysis was to better understand factors that may relate to the relatively high number of survey respondents 19 and older who indicated they were neither currently employed nor in school. Results show:

- **There is a statistically significant correlation between being pregnant and/or parenting, and not being employed or in school**
- **There is a statistically significant correlation between having a disability and not being employed or in school**

Results are also contextualized with publicly available data when possible to better understand how CYI-involved young people are progressing relative to their peers in the general population. Although survey respondents were similar to their peers in some areas, there is room for growth across the majority of domains.

When interpreting results, stakeholders should consider how successful transitions to adulthood may look different for subpopulations of CYI participants who have different life experiences, such as participants who are also parents, and consider varied or additional approaches to providing services and supports. Qualitative methodologies are recommended for future studies to gain a deeper understanding of how young people's intersectional identities shape their transition to adulthood.

Beyond preliminary recommendations listed in this report, communities should engage local partners and young people when discussing results within this report and consider other possible actions that could be taken to continue to improve supports, services, and systems that impact young people, especially those that are most relevant within local communities' unique contexts.

Introduction

This report illustrates the experiences of 622 young people across Nebraska who have participated in the Connected Youth Initiative (CYI) at some level and responded to a survey in October 2018. These 622 young people are a subset of all young people participating in CYI, which currently spans more than 50 counties across Nebraska.

In this report, background information on CYI is provided. Next, detailed demographic information and descriptive summaries of October 2018 survey responses are given, organized into three sections that align with CYI's three focus areas: Permanence, Educational Success and Economic Security, and Pregnancy Prevention and Parenting Status. The Special Commentary section follows, which includes results from the analyses of education and employment status with other participant characteristics. Key takeaways are then discussed, contextualizing findings with the general population when possible. Finally, preliminary recommendations for future study and stakeholders are provided. Key indicators and selected results by geographic area are also included in Appendix A. Additionally, Appendix B includes a description of the methodologies used to compile report results, including how Transitional Services Survey are collected as well as methodology limitations.

This report is primarily intended for stakeholders who want to ensure young people in Nebraska who already participate in CYI or are eligible to participate transition to adulthood successfully. Though limitations to this evaluation exist, it is hoped that findings will nevertheless help inform future decisions and actions of those who seek to support these young people. It is recommended that these findings are shared and discussed amongst communities across the state to aid in shaping how to move Connected Youth Initiative work forward.

What is the Connected Youth Initiative?

Through a collective impact approach, CYI promotes evidence-informed programming, multi-level systematic change, and collaboration to enable young people in Nebraska to thrive. The model includes strategies in four core components (youth leadership, support services/need based funding, coaching, and Opportunity Passport™) that are believed to lead to improved outcomes.

Eligibility to participate in CYI varies by geographic location; broadly, however, participants are generally ages 14-24 and have at least one of the following characteristics:

- Are currently or have been in the Nebraska foster care system
- Have had contact with child protective services
- Have had contact with the juvenile justice system (including diversion or young adults transitioning out of Probation)
- Are homeless or near-homeless

It is important to note that some areas of the state only serve young people with previous or current experience in the Nebraska foster care system. In addition, there are slight variations in age eligibility for supports and services across communities and agency partners.

About Oct. 2018 Transitional Services Survey Respondents

Specific takeaways are listed with each figure throughout this section.

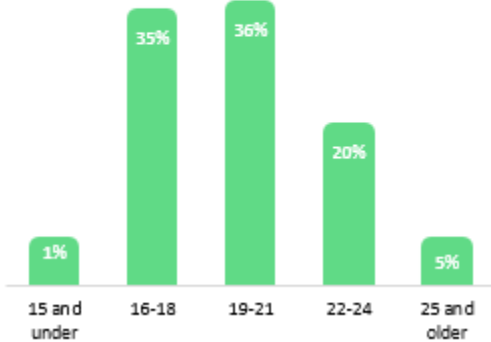
General Demographics

Survey respondents were asked a series of demographic questions to determine basic characteristics of young people who took the survey. Name, address, date of birth, and other identifiable data were also collected. **Overall, most respondents are white women ages 19 and over, and respondents are about evenly located in urban and rural communities.**

Age of participants (Figure 2)

Over half of survey participants were **19 or older**

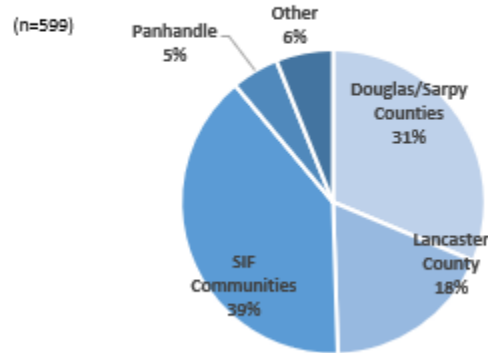
(n=578)



Area of the State (Figure 3)

Half of survey participants were from **Douglas, Sarpy, and Lancaster Counties**

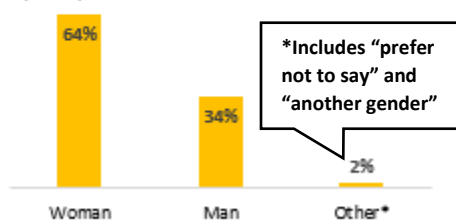
(n=599)



Participant gender (Figure 4)

Two-thirds of survey respondents **identified as women**

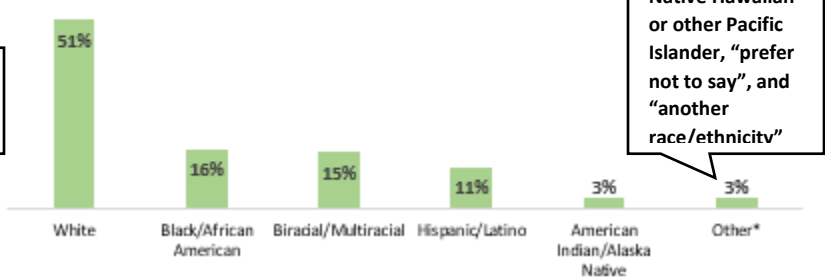
(n=594)



Participant Race/Ethnicity (Figure 5)

Half of survey respondents **identified as white**

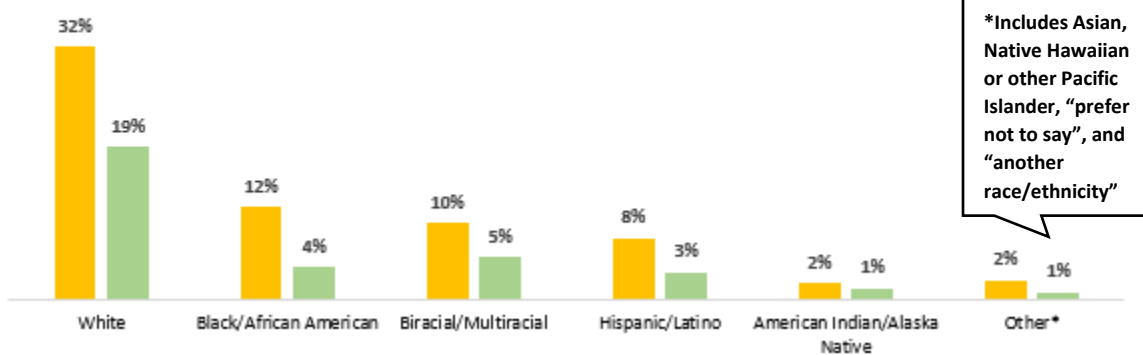
(n=593)



Gender and Race/Ethnicity of Participants (Figure 6)

More survey respondents were **women** than **men** in almost every race/ethnicity category

(n=633)



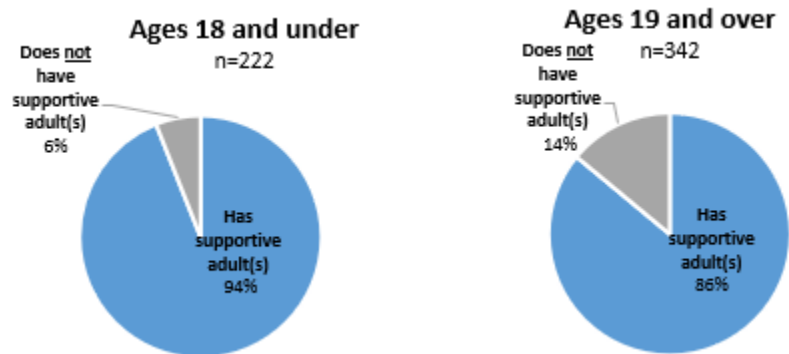
Note: those indicating a gender defined as "other" are not included in Figure 6 above.

Permanence

Several questions related to permanence and social support were asked. In addition to those presented here, questions included whether youth had enough people to turn to for advice or money in an emergency. Finally, young people took two published measurement tools as a part of the survey: the Adult State Hope Scale, and 10 survey items of the Emotional Self-Regulation domain of the Children and Adolescent Wellness Scale. **Overall, the majority of survey respondents have connections to at least one adult, and report levels of hope similar to the general population.**

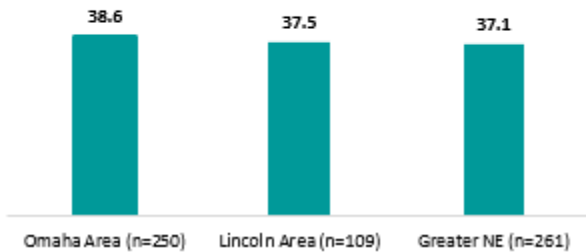
Supportive Adults (Figure 7)

The majority of all survey respondents indicated that they had **at least one adult they could always turn to**, though fewer young people ages 19 and over reported having a supportive adult in their life.



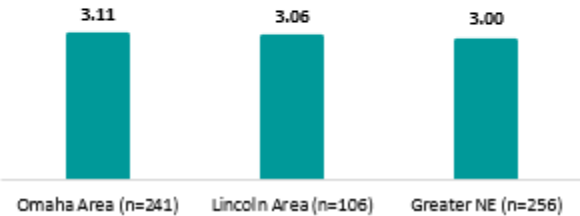
Hope Scale* (Figure 8)

Average total scores on the Adult State Hope Scale were consistent across the state (maximum possible score = 48).



Self-Regulation Scale^o (Figure 9)

Average total scores on the Emotional Self-Regulation domain of the Children and Adolescent Wellbeing Scale (CAWS) were consistent across the state (maximum possible score = 4).



*To offer a comparison for the **Adult State Hope Scale**, which has been published in several peer-reviewed journal articles, in a study of 444 University of Kansas college students, the average State Adult Hope Scale score was 37.15 (Snyder et al., 1996).

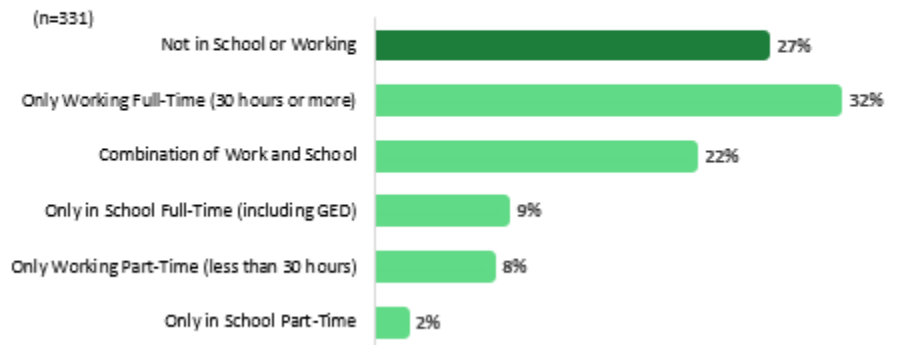
^oThe **Emotional Self-Regulation domain** of the CAWS includes 17 survey items. A modified version of 10 of these 17 items was used in the Transitional Services Survey. Because all 17 survey items of the domain are not used, there are no comparison data available.

Educational Success and Economic Security

Young people were asked about their education, employment, housing, transportation, and financial situations. They were also asked to provide additional details such as hourly wage, average hours worked, and the stability, safety, and affordability of their housing situation. **Overall, while most respondents are engaged in work and/or school and have relatively reliable living and transportation situations, most have financial challenges, and few have a financial safety net.**

Combined Education and Employment Status (Figure 10)

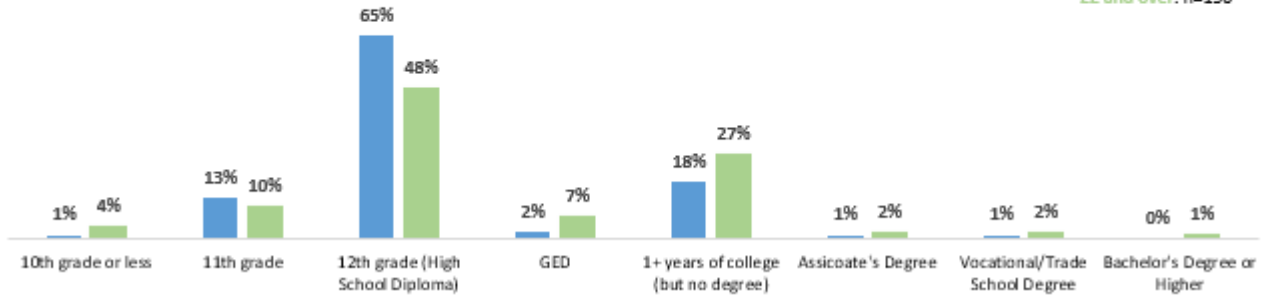
More than a quarter of survey respondents 19 and over are considered "opportunity youth," young people who are not in school or working.



Highest Grade Achieved (Figure 11)

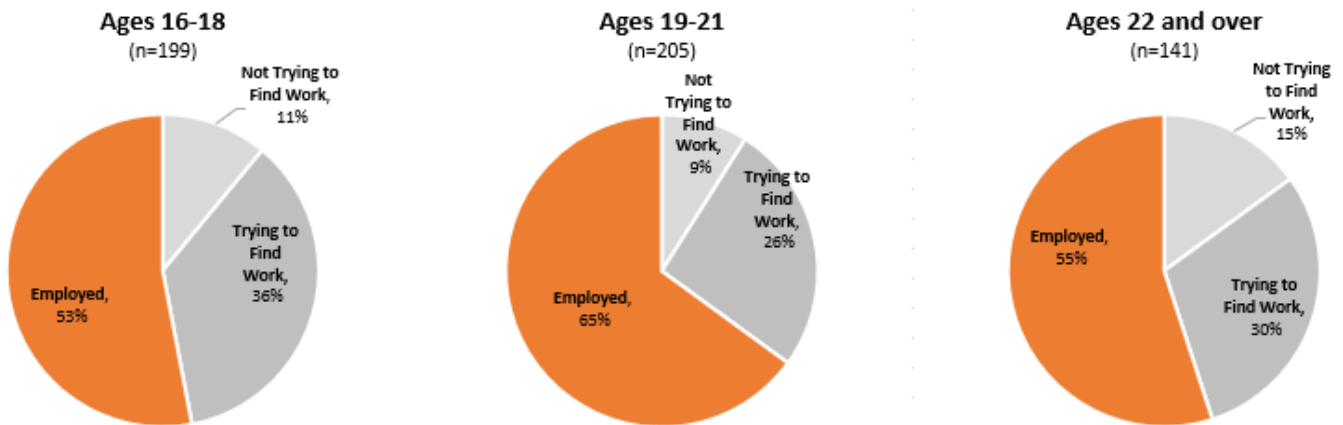
Of those **19-21**, 86% achieved a high school diploma or GED and 20% pursued additional post-secondary education. Of those **22 and over**, 86% achieved a high school diploma or GED, 32% pursued additional post secondary education, and 5% have received a post-secondary degree.

19-21: n=199
22 and over: n=136



Employment (Figure 12)

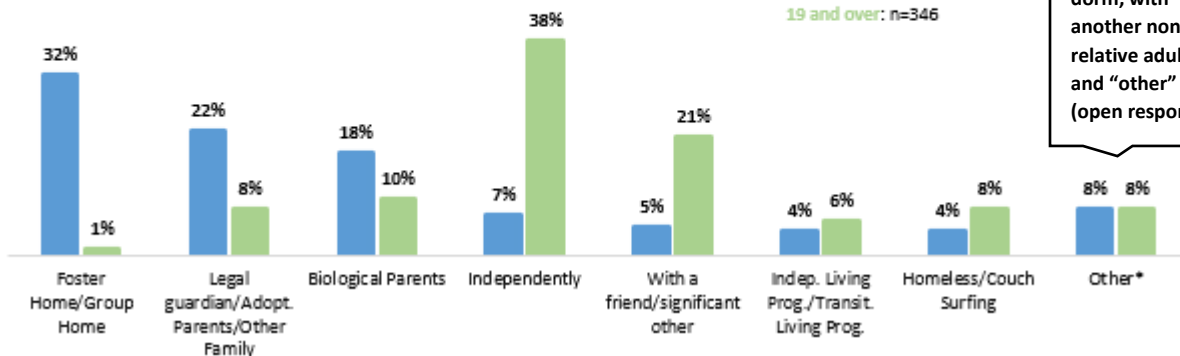
Young people ages 19-21 were most likely to be **employed** compared to those ages 16-18 and those ages 22 and over.



Current Living Situation (Figure 13)

Young people ages **18 and under** are most likely to live in a foster home or group home, while those ages **19 and older** are most likely to live on their own. Of those 18 and under, 4% reported that they are currently homeless or couch surfing. Of those 19 and over, 8% reported that they are currently homeless or couch surfing.

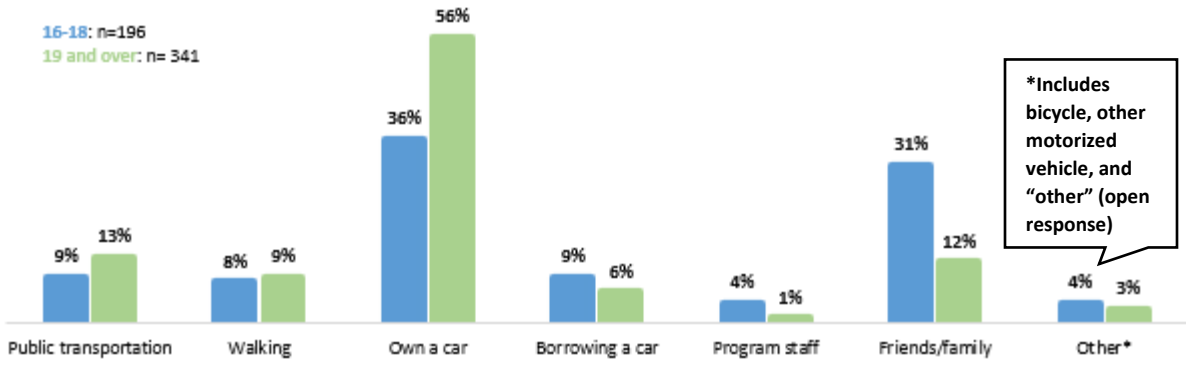
18 and under: n=225
19 and over: n=346



*Includes school dorm, with another non-relative adult, and "other" (open response)

Transportation (Figure 14)

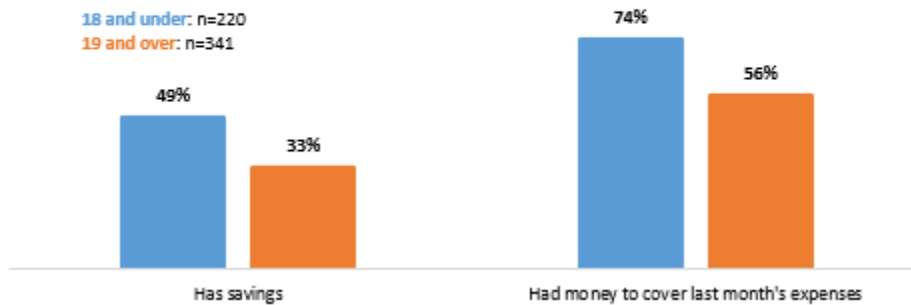
Young people ages 16-18 were most likely to rely on their own vehicle or friends and family for transportation, while young people ages 19 and over were most likely to own a vehicle.



Savings and Monthly Expenses (Figure 15)

Half of young people 18 and under reported having some savings, while just under one-third of young people ages 19 and over said they had savings.

A majority of youth said they had enough money to cover last month's expenses.



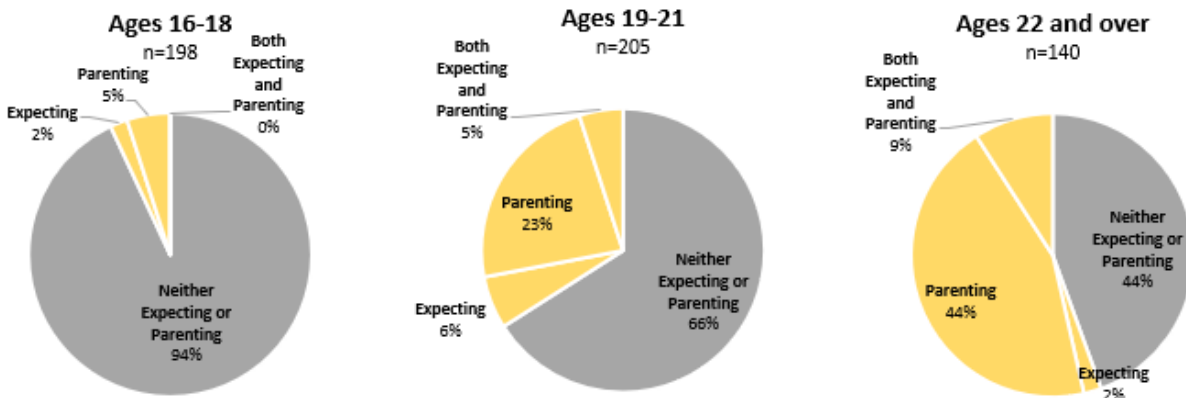
Pregnancy Prevention and Parenting Status

Results around respondents' health status are also included in this section. Young people were asked a series of questions about their health insurance, access to health services, and unmet needs related to physical/medical health, mental health, and dental health. They were also asked about their parenting status (including whether their children live with them).

Overall, the likelihood a respondent is expecting/parenting increases substantially with small changes in age, with young people ages 19-21 almost 5 times as likely to be expecting/parenting as their peers ages 16-18.

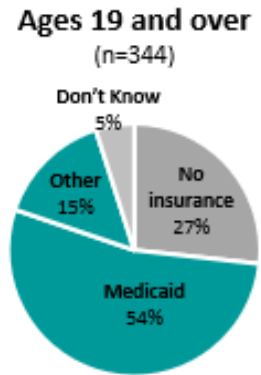
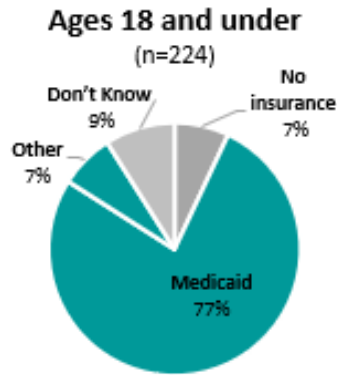
Parenting (Figure 16)

Only 7% of young people ages 16-18 were parenting, expecting a child, or both, compared to 34% of young people ages 19-21 and 55% of young people ages 22 and over.



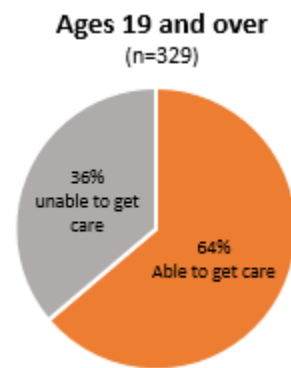
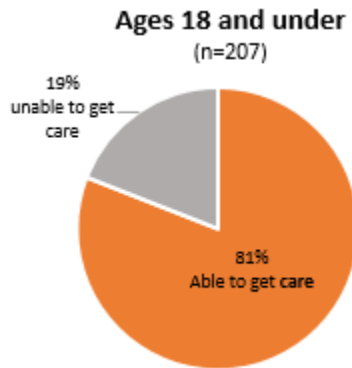
Health Insurance (Figure 17)

Most young people **have health insurance** through Medicaid, though over one quarter of respondents ages 19 and older indicated that they do not have health insurance.



Unmet Physical/Medical and Mental Health Needs (Figure 18)

Most survey respondents reported they were **able to get medical, dental, and mental health care when needed in the past 6 months**, but fewer young people ages 19 and over reporting being able to do so



Special Commentary: Analysis of Factors Related to Education and Employment Status

A significant portion of young people involved in CYI are 19 and older (61% of survey respondents in this report), and previous survey analyses have shown that young people seem to face additional challenges as they age¹. The goal of the analyses summarized in this section is to better understand factors that relate to the relatively high number of survey respondents 19 and older who indicated they were neither currently employed nor in school (sometimes referred to as “opportunity youth”). The analyses sought to answer the following overarching question: Is being a CYI-involved “opportunity youth” related to other experiences and characteristics?

To answer this question, the relationship between a survey respondent’s education and employment status was explored with four separate factors:

- expectant/parenting status
- disability status
- presence of social support
- race/ethnicity

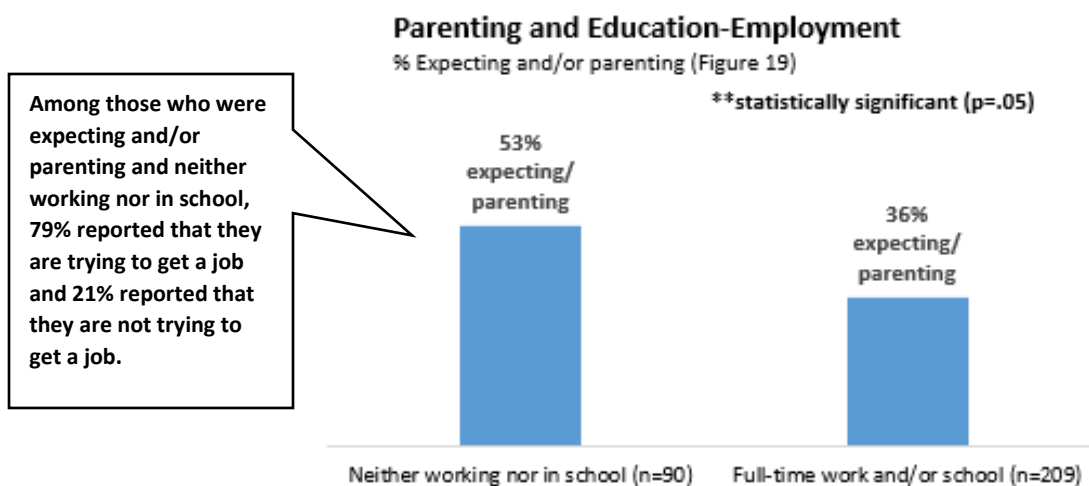
Only respondents ages 19 and over were included in the analyses (See Appendix B for detailed methodology). Overall, results show:

- There is a statistically significant correlation between being pregnant and/or parenting, and not being employed or in school.
- There is a statistically significant correlation between having a disability and not being employed or in school.

For both statistically significant results, this means there is sufficient confidence that these results did not occur by chance and are generalizable to the CYI population. See below for all detailed results.

Combined Education-Employment Status and Parenting Status Findings

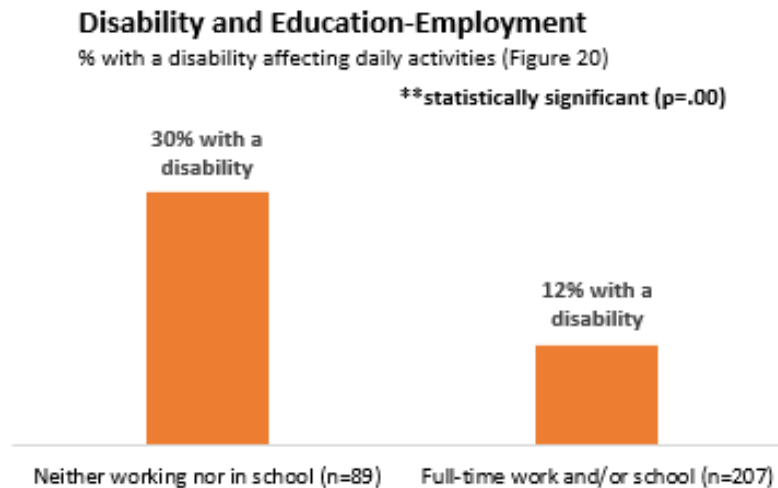
There is a statistically significant correlation between being **pregnant and/or parenting**, and not being employed or in school. Over half (53%) of young people neither working nor in school reported they were **expecting and/or parenting**, compared to just over one-third (36%) of those in the full-time work and/or school group.



¹ Nebraska Children and Families Foundation. (2017). *Statewide Report of Transitional Services Survey Outcomes: October 2017 Results*. doi:<https://www.nebraskachildren.org/our-approach/community-toolkit/evaluation/>

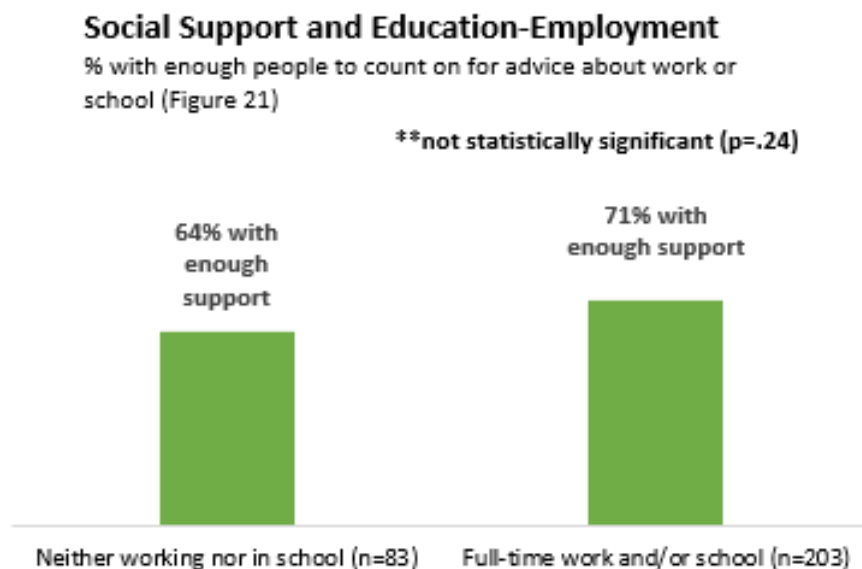
Combined Education-Employment Status and Disability Status Findings

There is a statistically significant correlation between having a **disability** and not being employed or in school. Nearly one-third (30%) of respondents who are neither in school nor working reported having a **disability that affects their ability to engage in daily activities**, compared to 12% of those who reported being in work and/or school full-time.



Combined Education-Employment Status and Presence of Social Support Findings

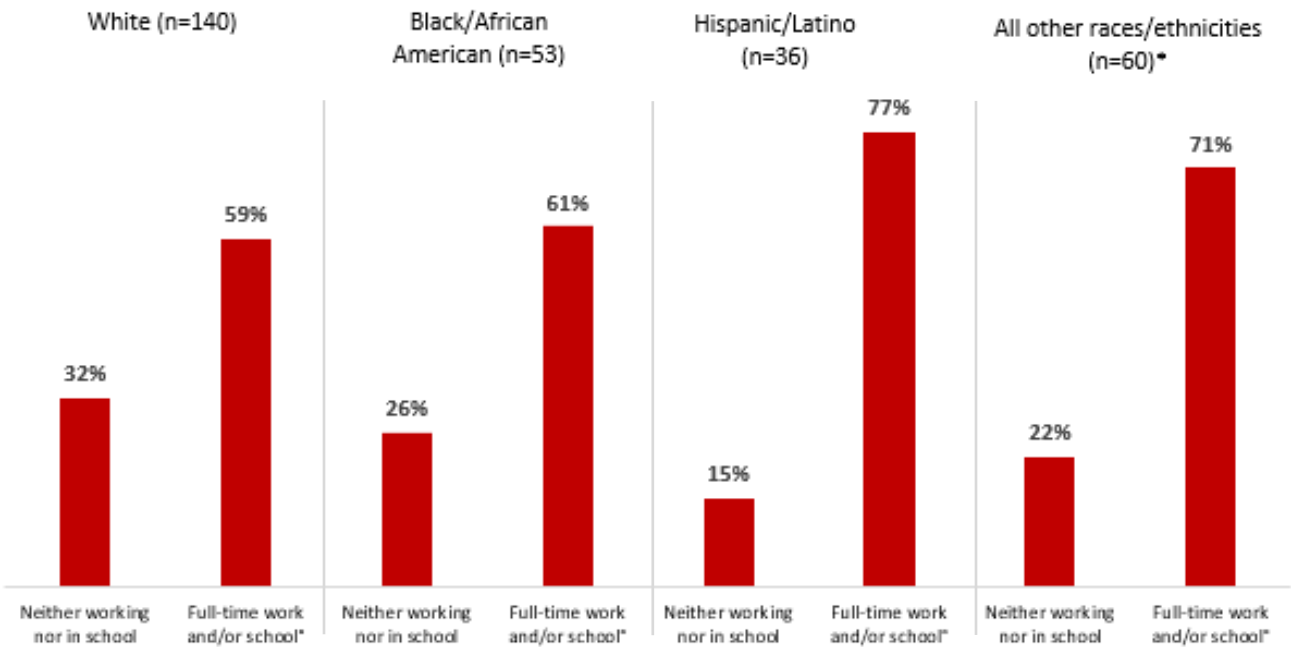
There were no statistically significant differences between those in the full-time work and/or school group and those neither working nor in school in terms of **having enough people to count on for advice about work or school**, though a higher percentage of those in the full-time work and/or school group reported having this type of social support compared to those neither working nor in school.



Combined Education-Employment Status and Race/Ethnicity Findings

There were no statistically significant differences between **racial/ethnic categories** and education/employment status. However, a higher percentage of respondents identifying as white indicated that they are neither working nor in school as compared to all other race/ethnic groups. However, it is important to note the differences in sample sizes across racial/ethnic categories, which can influence the reliability of results.

Education-Employment Status by Race/Ethnicity (Figure 22)



*"All other races/ethnicities" include those identifying as biracial, multiracial, Asian, Native American/Alaskan Native, other, and "prefer not to say".

Discussion: Key Takeaways

October 2018 Detailed Results

➤ **Generally positive findings**

- **Most survey respondents 19 and older have a diploma or GED (86%)**, which resembles the 89.3% of young people ages 18 to 24 in the entire state of Nebraska who have a diploma or GED².
- **Most survey respondents 19 and older have access to transportation they need for work or school (91%)**. Most respondents ages 16-18 also indicated they have access to transportation for work or school (96%).
- **Nearly all respondents reported having at least one supportive adult in their life** (18 and under, 94%; 19 and over, 86%). Comparatively, 92.7% of Nebraska adults reported their child (ages 6 to 17) has at least one adult outside the home to whom the child can turn to for guidance³.
- **On average, respondents report levels of hope that are comparable to their college-attending peers**. The average hope scale score was 37.7 out of 48, which is comparable to the average score of 37.2 found among a random sample of 444 students at the University of Kansas⁴.

➤ **Potential areas for growth**

- **The percentage of CYI survey respondents pursuing education beyond a high school diploma or equivalent was lower, when compared to state and national data**. Specifically, only 53% of survey respondents with a high school diploma or GED have pursued further education. A U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics study revealed that 67% of 2017 high school graduates had enrolled in colleges or universities⁵.
- **More than one-in-four respondents 19 and over are considered Opportunity Youth (i.e., not in school and not working) (27%)**. This is considerably higher than the national rate of 16% and the state of Nebraska rate of 10% among those ages 20 to 24, as documented in 2015⁶. However, 12% of survey respondents 19 and over reported having a disability that prevents them from engaging in daily activities, which is double the rate of 6% for 18 to 34 year olds in Nebraska⁷.
- **Just over two-thirds (69%) of those 19 and over have insurance, and 84% of young people 18 and under have insurance**. Across the entire state of Nebraska, 84% of those ages 19 to 25 have health insurance⁸.
- **A low percentage of respondents reported having any financial savings**. Just half (49%) young people 18 and under and one-in-three (33%) of young people 19 and over reported having any savings. For comparison, 68% of young people ages 18-24 reported having at least some savings in a national study⁹.

² Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1501 (factfinder.census.gov)

³ Source: 2016 National Survey of Children's Health (childhealthdata.org/browse/survey/results?q=4752&r=1&r2=29)

⁴ Source: Snyder et al., 1996 (enablemob.wustl.edu/ot572d-01/requiredarticles/snyder_hopescale.pdf)

⁵ Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, College Enrollment and Work Activity of High School Graduates (www.bls.gov/bls/news-release/home.htm#HSGEC)

⁶ Source: US. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Data provided by National Kids Count (<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/9292-youth-not-attending-school-and-not-working-by-age-group#detailed/1/any/false/573,869,36,868,867/4121,4122,4123/18399,18400>).

⁷ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate, Table S1810 (factfinder.census.gov)

⁸ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B27001 (factfinder.census.gov)

⁹ Source: 2015 GoBankingRates Survey (www.gobankingrates.com/saving-money/data-americans-savings/)

➤ **Potential areas for growth (continued)**

- **Many survey respondents are parents, increasing substantially with age.** While relatively few young people ages 16 to 18 are expecting and/or parenting (6%), this percentage increases drastically for young people ages 19 to 21 (34%), and then increases substantially again for young people 22 and over (56%).
- **One-in-twelve (8%) respondents age 19 and over reported being homeless or couch surfing.** According to a national point-in-time count, on a single night in January 2016 an estimated 50,001 young people ages 18 to 24 were homeless in the United States¹⁰, accounting for only 0.2% of the total population 18-24¹¹.

Analysis of Factors Related to Education and Employment Status

- There was a statistically significant correlation between parenting status and education-employment. Over half (53%) of those who were neither working nor in school were expecting and/or parenting. Among those in school full-time, working full-time, or doing a combination of work and school, 36% reported that they were expecting or parenting.
- There was a statistically significant correlation between having a disability and education-employment. Nearly one-third (30%) of those who were neither working nor in school reported having a disability that affects their ability to engage in daily activities. Among those in school full-time, working full-time, or doing a combination of work and school, 12% reported having a disability.
- There do not appear to be significant racial/ethnic disparities among this population in terms of the combined education-employment status, though this may be partially due to a low sample size among respondents who identify as non-white.

¹⁰ Source: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development: 2016 Annual Homeless Report (www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2016-AHAR-Part-1.pdf)

¹¹ Based on a total 2016 population of 30,843,811 18-24 year olds as estimated by the U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate, Table PEPAGESEX (factfinder.census.gov)

Preliminary Recommendations

Based on the results of this evaluation, future studies and stakeholders should consider the recommendations below as a starting point, while remaining mindful of feasibility and community context as appropriate.

Recommendations for Future Study

- ❖ Gather qualitative data to gain a richer understanding of how young people achieve various outcomes and given results from the Special Commentary, it is especially recommended that interviews or focus groups be conducted with pregnant/parenting young people to better understand how their identity as a parent influences their ability to engage in work and/or school, and what improvements in systems and/or programming/supports might better equip them to pursue education and/or employment.
- ❖ Engage in longitudinal studies, both qualitative and quantitative, to better understand how young people's life situations and experiences may change and influence outcomes over longer periods of time.
- ❖ Review the Transitional Services Survey instrument in partnership with stakeholders, particularly CYI participants, to ensure outcomes of interest are adequately captured with survey questions and response options, and consider modifications, if needed.
- ❖ Develop ways to integrate data on level, type, and duration of CYI involvement in analysis and discussion of results.
- ❖ Enhance efforts to survey young people who were formerly engaged in CYI, but are no longer actively engaged.
- ❖ Explore additional ways to contextualize survey findings with data on young people who have similar life experiences (e.g., state-specific data from the National Youth in Transition Database).

Recommendations for Stakeholders

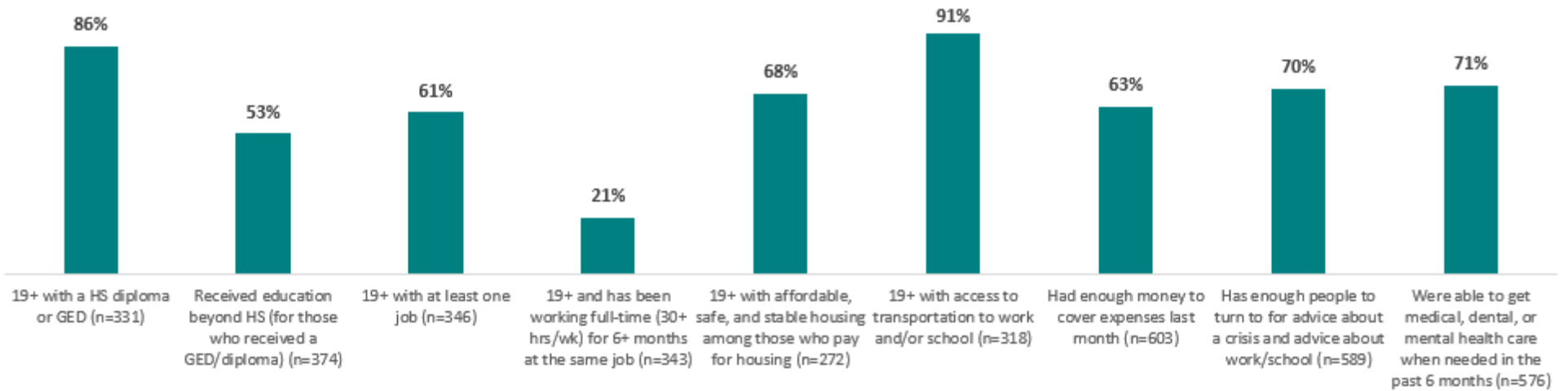
Stakeholders should use findings as context alongside experiences working with young people in their own community to further consider how young people's various identities relate to successful transitions to adulthood in order to determine what additional or targeted programming/services, or systems changes may support subpopulations of young people in outcome achievement. In particular, stakeholders should determine how expansions or enhancements of current work might better support young people who are pregnant or parenting, or who have a disability, as both subpopulations have a statistically significant relationship with not being in school or working.

Outcome achievements in education and employment are considered by many as key to making a successful transition to adulthood. However, stakeholders should also continue to engage in conversations with young people to understand what outcome goals resonate with an individual young person's situation, and continue to work with researchers and evaluators to determine the best ways to define and measure success.

Appendix A: Key Indicators and Community-Specific Data

Key Indicators cut across several domains (education, employment, housing, transportation, economic stability, permanency, health). They are intended to provide a high-level summary of results from the October 2018 survey administration.

Key Indicators (Figure 1)



Selected Results by Geographic Location

Tables 1 through 13 below provide a more detailed breakdown of select results by geographic location. Tables 1 through 3 provide demographic information, Table 4 describes the education/employment status (including the prevalence of Opportunity Youth), and tables 5 through 13 display the key indicators. These breakdowns are intended to provide community stakeholders additional levels of information which can be used to inform decisions. The locations are segmented according to CYI's designated service areas (see next page).

CYI Service areas

(**Bolded** counties indicate at least one survey respondent self-identified as residing within the county)

- Omaha: **Douglas, Sarpy**
- Lincoln: **Lancaster**
- Panhandle: Banner, Box Butte, **Cheyenne, Dawes**, Garden, **Kimball, Morrill, Scottsbluff**, Sheridan, Sioux
- Social Innovation Fund (SIF) Communities: **Adams**, Blaine, **Buffalo, Butler, Cass, Clay, Custer, Dawson, Dodge, Filmore**, Franklin, **Gage, Garfield, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Jefferson**, Johnson, Kearney, **Lincoln**, Loup, **Madison**, Merrick, Nemaha, **Nuckolls, Otoe**, Pawnee, **Pierce, Phelps**, Polk, Richardson, **Saline, Seward, Sherman**, Stanton, **Thayer, Valley, Wayne, Webster, York**
- **Other**: any other Nebraska county not listed above. Minimal respondents also indicated living in a County outside of the state of Nebraska and are included in this category. It is likely these respondents have permanent residence elsewhere, but recently received programming and services in Nebraska.

Notes: Total response categories (n) and responses within item categories were masked if there were 10 or fewer responses to protect the privacy of individual respondents. Additionally, the “overall” category includes a small number of respondents who did not indicate an area.

Table 1	Age				
	15 & under	16-18	19-21	22-24	25 and over
Omaha Area (n=178)	-	23.6%	36.0%	23.6%	12.9%
Lincoln (n=100)	-	32.0%	44.0%	21.0%	-
Panhandle (n=28)	-	21.4%	50.0%	25.0%	-
SIF Communities (n=217)	6.5%	42.4%	32.7%	17.5%	-
Other (n=35)	-	54.3%	28.6%	11.4%	-
Overall (n=578)	4.5%	34.8%	36.0%	19.7%	5.0%

Table 2	Race/Ethnicity					
	White	Black/ African American	Biracial- Multiracial	Hispanic/ Latino	Native American/ Alaska Native	Other
Omaha Area (n=183)	30.1%	37.2%	14.2%	12.0%	-	-
Lincoln (n=108)	48.1%	12.0%	20.4%	9.3%	-	-
Panhandle (n=30)	56.7%	-	-	-	-	-
SIF Communities (n=232)	66.4%	-	12.9%	10.3%	-	-
Other (n=36)	69.4%	-	-	16.7%	-	-
Overall (n=593)	51.4%	15.7%	15.0%	11.1%	3.4%	3.4%

Table 3	Gender		
	Woman	Man	Other
Omaha Area (n=183)	71.6%	27.3%	-
Lincoln (n=109)	57.8%	39.4%	-
Panhandle (n=30)	73.3%	26.7%	-
SIF Communities (n=231)	62.3%	36.4%	-
Other (n=36)	50.0%	41.7%	-
Overall (n=594)	64.3%	33.8%	2.0%

Table 4	Combined Education and Employment Status among those 19 and over					
	Not in school or working (Opportunity Youth)	Only working full-time (30 hours or more)	Combination of work and school	Only in school full-time (including GED)	Only working part-time (less than 30 hours)	Only in school part-time
Omaha Area (n=115)	27.8%	31.3%	19.1%	9.6%	9.6%	-
Lincoln (n=66)	16.7%	30.3%	34.8%	-	-	-
Panhandle (n=22)	-	50.0%	-	-	-	-
SIF Communities (n=108)	31.5%	31.5%	18.5%	10.2%	-	-
Other (n=14)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Overall (n=331)	27.2%	32.0%	22.1%	9.4%	7.6%	-

Table 5	19+ with a HS diploma or GED
Omaha Area (n=115)	85.2%
Lincoln (n=65)	89.2%
Panhandle (n=22)	77.3%
SIF Communities (n=109)	89.9%
Other (n=13)	-
Overall (n=331)	86.1%

Table 6	Received education beyond HS (for those who received a GED/diploma)
Omaha Area (n=118)	52.5%
Lincoln (n=77)	68.8%
Panhandle (n=21)	-
SIF Communities (n=130)	45.4%
Other (n=18)	66.7%
Overall (n=374)	52.7%

Table 7	19+ with at least one job	
Omaha Area (n=127)		59.8%
Lincoln (n=67)		68.7%
Panhandle (n=22)		63.6%
SIF Communities (n=110)		56.4%
Other (n=14)		-
Overall (n=346)		61.0%

Table 8	19+ and has been working full-time (30+ hrs/wk) for 6+ months at the same job	
Omaha Area (n=127)		17.3%
Lincoln (n=67)		23.9%
Panhandle (n=22)		-
SIF Communities (n=110)		24.5%
Other (n=13)		-
Overall (n=343)		21.3%

Table 9	19+ with affordable, safe, and stable housing among those who pay for housing	
Omaha Area (n=99)		70.7%
Lincoln (n=53)		71.7%
Panhandle (n=19)		73.7%
SIF Communities (n=85)		65.9%
Other (n=10)		-
Overall (n=272)		68.4%

Table 10	19+ with access to transportation to work and/or school	
Omaha Area (n=120)		90.0%
Lincoln (n=60)		95.0%
Panhandle (n=21)		95.2%
SIF Communities (n=100)		89.0%
Other (n=14)		85.7%
Overall (n=318)		90.9%

Table 11	Had enough money to cover expenses last month	
Omaha Area (n=183)		61.2%
Lincoln (n=109)		66.1%
Panhandle (n=30)		66.7%
SIF Communities (n=233)		64.4%
Other (n=36)		58.3%
Overall (n=603)		63.3%

Table 12	Has enough people to turn to for advice about a crisis and advice about work/school	
Omaha Area (n=179)		62.6%
Lincoln (n=108)		82.4%
Panhandle (n=30)		66.7%
SIF Communities (n=223)		70.9%
Other (n=36)		69.4%
Overall (n=589)		70.1%

Table 13	Were able to get medical, dental, or mental health care when needed in the past 6 months	
Omaha Area (n=174)		68.4%
Lincoln (n=104)		64.4%
Panhandle (n=28)		50.0%
SIF Communities (n=219)		78.1%
Other (n=35)		74.3%
Overall (n=576)		70.5%

Appendix B: Methodology and Limitations

Methodology for Transitional Services Survey

Beginning in October of 2015, surveys assessing the wellbeing of older youth in Nebraska have been collected across the state twice annually (April and October). Originally based on the Opportunity Passport Participant Survey designed by the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, the Transitional Services Survey was developed and finalized via a collaborative process involving key stakeholders from across the state.

At the beginning of October 2018, an e-mail with survey materials was sent to the leads of CYI community collaboratives across the state, who then forwarded materials to the appropriate direct service workers. The survey was made available in both online and paper format, and in both English and Spanish. Direct service workers were instructed to give the survey to young people who participate in CYI in their given area. Though direct service workers distribute the survey to each young person, the young person completes the survey on their own to the best of their ability. Survey responses were collected through late November 2018. Survey responses were included in the analysis as long as there was sufficient identifying information to ensure a unique response, even if specific response items were missing. Generally, analyses were calculated based on total responses available for a specific item.

Methodology for Special Commentary: Analysis of Factors Related to Education and Employment Status

The “Special Commentary” section of this report explores the relationships between combined education-employment status and other factors among those 19 and over. Respondents age 19 and over were placed into one of two groups (see Table 1 below), using survey responses around current education enrollment and current employment status to create proxies for level of engagement in work and/or school. For the purposes of this analysis, a potential third group was omitted, which included those who were only working part-time or only in school part-time. This group was omitted due to small sample size (n=31).

Table 1: group designations of combined education-employment status

Group 1 (n=90) No engagement in work and/or school	Group 2 (n=210) “Full” engagement in work and/or school
Survey respondents 19 and over who reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Not working- Not in school	Survey respondents 19 and over who reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Only working full-time- Only in school full-time- Combination of full-time and/or part-time work and/or school

Bivariate correlation analyses were conducted between the two groups, with a particular focus on potential factors contributing to a young person not being in work or in school. Specific factors analyzed include:

- Parenting status
- Disability status
- Presence of social support
- Race/ethnicity

Statistical significance was tested between Group 1 and Group 2 on these factors using Pearson’s chi-squared test. This test evaluates how likely it is that any observed differences between Group 1 and Group 2 arose by chance, or if observed differences are truly present and can be generalized to the whole population. If statistical significance ($p < .05$) is determined, there is a sufficient level of confidence that the difference between the two groups did not occur by chance and is generalizable to the whole population.

Limitations

It is imperative to consider the limitations below when discussing the findings and takeaways within this report.

❖ **General Limitations**

- There is potential selection bias in who takes a survey, with those who are actively receiving some type of CYI-related service during the administration period being most likely to respond. In these cases, it is more likely that young people are still working towards meeting their needs and reaching outcomes. Thus, those whose needs have been met, or were never met, are less likely to respond, which may skew results.
- As CYI is a system of supports, programming, and services in which participants voluntarily engage over varying amounts of time and according to their own needs, each participant's involvement will look different and is not "set" upon initial engagement. Length of time involved in CYI, level of involvement, and types of involvement is not considered in this evaluation.
- Comparison data primarily concern the general population. Significant differences exist between survey respondents and the general population, so direct comparisons should be made with caution.
- Involvement in CYI is only one of many factors that can contribute to the success of a young person. The design of this evaluation does not allow for any changes in outcomes to be attributed to CYI specifically.
- The Transitional Services Survey instrument and related analyses assume certain outcomes (such as postsecondary education and employment) are suitable and desirable for all survey respondents, who have a variety of life experiences and goals.

❖ **Limitations to the analysis of factors related to education and employment status**

- The sample size for the "only school or work part-time group" was very small, and was omitted. Therefore, how factors may relate to partial engagement in work and/or school was not considered within the scope of the analyses.
- Analyses are correlative in nature only. Therefore, it can only be concluded that certain factors are related to combined education-employment status, rather than a factor *causing* combined education-employment status, or vice versa.