

Objective: Children in placement are supported in age-appropriate educational and developmental programs

Measured by: High school/general equivalency diploma or educational/vocational enrollment

The Children's Administration recognizes that educational outcomes are often reflective of a child's well-being in out-of-home placement. In recent years, the administration has made increased efforts to track educational outcomes and factors impacting the educational success of young people in foster care.

In Calendar year 2002, 470 youth aged out of foster care. "Aging out" means they remained in foster care for a minimum of one year and had not been placed into a permanent home prior to exiting care, many of them were in guardianship placements at time of exit.

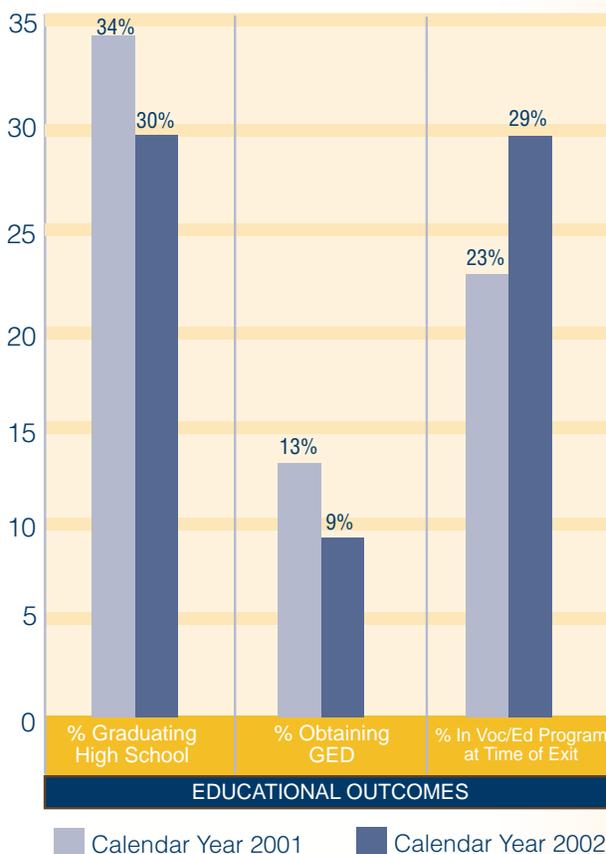
Of the 470 youth, 141 graduated from high school; 44 obtained a General Education Diplomas (GED); and 138 were enrolled in an educational or vocational program at time of exit.

All total, 323 youth or 69% demonstrated a positive educational outcome upon leaving the foster care system. Of the 323, 147 planned to pursue higher education. Only 14 of those youth who did not reach an educational goal while in foster care planned to pursue higher education.

As the administration examines factors impacting educational outcomes toward the goal of improving them, additional data is handcounted. Of the 147 youth who did not demonstrate a positive educational outcome, 84 of them or 57% had been enrolled in special education while in school. Of those who did graduate, obtain a GED or were enrolled in an educational or vocational program, 52% had also been enrolled in an Independent Living Program prior to exit.

The administration continues developing improved educational outcome data measures, tracking and reporting strategies toward improving practice and outcomes for youth.

Youth Turning 18 in Foster Care Who Graduated From High School, Obtained a GED or Were Enrolled on an Educational or Vocational Program at Time of Exit*



*Handcount of youth who turn 18 and have no permanent plan completion or were in guardianship at the time of exit from foster care. A total of 69 youth or 12% were excluded from the statistics as no information was available regarding those youth following exit from care

Do you know?

10. What the well-being objectives include?
11. How often social workers must visit with children in their out-of-home placements?
12. Which young people are eligible to receive Transitional Living Services?

Answers may be found on page 58 of this report.

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