











	Age 17		Age 18		Age 19		Age 20		Age 21		Other	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>No EFC (N=342)</b>												
<b>Housing</b>												
Homelessness or housing instability	77	23%	139	41%	141	41%	142	42%	146	43%	n/a	n/a
Homelessness	65	19%	121	35%	114	33%	118	35%	131	38%	n/a	n/a
<b>Employment</b>												
No reported earnings	187	55%	155	45%	134	39%	133	39%	119	35%	n/a	n/a
<b>Criminal Legal System</b>												
JR involvement before 18th birthday	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	65	19%
Any involvement before 21st birthday	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	199	58%
Arrest or conviction	114	33%	103	30%	105	31%	102	30%	108	32%	n/a	n/a
<b>Health Care (Medicaid enrolled)</b>												
Indicated MH treatment need	211	65%	124	42%	118	46%	115	43%	120	44%	n/a	n/a
Any substance use disorder (SUD)	111	34%	83	28%	67	26%	83	31%	97	36%	n/a	n/a
Co-occurring MH and SUD	91	28%	57	19%	53	21%	57	21%	69	25%	n/a	n/a
Significant health problems	71	22%	71	24%	79	31%	84	31%	93	34%	n/a	n/a
Developmental disability	19	6%	13	4%	11	4%	14	5%	15	6%	n/a	n/a
Suicide or self-harm ages 17 to 21	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	36	11%
<b>Parenthood (females with Medicaid)</b>												
Live birth ages 17 to 21	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	66	38%

n/a -- Not measured during time period.

SOURCES: DSHS Integrated Client Databases (RDA) and FamLink (DCYF).  
 CONTACT: Barbara Lucenko, DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division, 360.902.0890.

	Age 17		Age 18		Age 19		Age 20		Age 21		Other	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Medicaid Comparison (N=115,379)</b>												
<b>Housing</b>												
Homelessness or housing instability	6,939	6%	11,135	10%	10,654	9%	10,255	9%	9,684	8%	n/a	n/a
Homelessness	1,247	1%	1,358	1%	1,297	1%	1,272	1%	1,270	1%	n/a	n/a
<b>Employment</b>												
No reported earnings	58,879	51%	38,866	34%	34,998	30%	35,468	31%	35,468	31%	n/a	n/a
<b>Criminal Legal System</b>												
JR involvement before 18th birthday	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,578	1%
Any involvement before 21st birthday	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	16,193	14%
Arrest or conviction	4,973	4%	6,306	5%	7,380	6%	7,483	6%	6,894	6%	n/a	n/a
<b>Health Care (Medicaid enrolled)</b>												
Indicated MH treatment need	28,121	27%	27,668	24%	19,749	30%	20,505	31%	20,549	32%	n/a	n/a
Any substance use disorder (SUD)	6,704	6%	6,493	6%	4,902	7%	5,472	8%	5,892	9%	n/a	n/a
Co-occurring MH and SUD	4,202	4%	3,970	3%	3,352	5%	3,666	5%	3,939	6%	n/a	n/a
Significant health problems	7,980	8%	10,155	9%	9,439	14%	9,846	15%	9,984	15%	n/a	n/a
Developmental disability	3,058	3%	3,249	3%	2,882	4%	2,804	4%	2,825	4%	n/a	n/a
Suicide or self-harm ages 17 to 21	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3,216	3%
<b>Parenthood (females with Medicaid)</b>												
Live birth ages 17 to 21	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8,372	14%

n/a -- Not measured during time period.

SOURCES: DSHS Integrated Client Databases (RDA) and FamLink (DCYF).  
CONTACT: Barbara Lucenko, DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division, 360.902.0890.

## Service Connections by Study Group at Age Shown

	Age 17		Age 18		Age 19		Age 20		Age 21	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>EFC-Full (N=398)</b>										
<b>Health Coverage</b>										
Disability Medicaid enrollment	---	---	23	6%	23	6%	38	10%	64	16%
Medicaid enrollment	388	97%	387	97%	383	96%	382	96%	368	92%
<b>Health Services (Medicaid enrolled)</b>										
Emergency department visit	159	41%	174	45%	205	54%	178	47%	168	46%
Inpatient visit	34	9%	18	5%	30	8%	30	8%	25	7%
Mental health service	237	61%	167	43%	165	43%	145	38%	128	35%
SUD Service	31	8%	26	7%	23	6%	20	5%	12	3%
<b>Disability Services</b>										
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)	---	---	22	6%	29	7%	30	8%	29	7%
Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)	29	7%	29	7%	32	8%	33	8%	32	8%
<b>Economic Services</b>										
Basic Food	106	27%	181	45%	184	46%	197	49%	196	49%
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)	103	26%	51	13%	14	4%	14	4%	21	5%
<b>Housing Services</b>										
HMIS housing services	---	---	12	5%	24	10%	27	11%	21	8%
HMIS emergency shelter	---	---	17	7%	26	10%	27	11%	17	7%
<b>Foster Care Services</b>										
Independent Living Services (ILS)	236	59%	256	64%	220	55%	203	51%	105	26%
Supervised Independent Living (SIL) placement	167	42%	290	73%	324	81%	339	85%	---	---

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SOURCES: DSHS Integrated Client Databases (RDA) and FamLink (DCYF).  
CONTACT: Barbara Lucenko, DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division, 360.902.0890.



	Age 17		Age 18		Age 19		Age 20		Age 21	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>EFC-Early Exit (N=250)</b>										
<b>Health Coverage</b>										
Disability Medicaid enrollment	14	6%	46	18%	53	21%	47	19%	49	20%
Medicaid enrollment	246	98%	246	98%	232	93%	214	86%	205	82%
<b>Health Services (Medicaid enrolled)</b>										
Emergency department visit	117	48%	146	59%	125	54%	108	50%	102	50%
Inpatient visit	24	10%	30	12%	24	10%	19	9%	20	10%
Mental health service	184	75%	121	49%	83	36%	75	35%	59	29%
SUD Service	27	11%	22	9%	13	6%	21	10%	21	10%
<b>Disability Services</b>										
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)	---	---	11	4%	12	5%	---	---	---	---
Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)	18	7%	22	9%	21	8%	21	8%	21	8%
<b>Economic Services</b>										
Basic Food	69	28%	145	58%	175	70%	160	64%	154	62%
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)	36	14%	28	11%	17	7%	18	7%	14	6%
<b>Housing Services</b>										
HMIS housing services	---	---	12	5%	24	10%	27	11%	21	8%
HMIS emergency shelter	---	---	17	7%	26	10%	27	11%	17	7%
<b>Foster Care Services</b>										
Independent Living Services (ILS)	149	60%	132	53%	58	23%	32	13%	24	10%
Supervised Independent Living (SIL) placement	81	32%	134	54%	62	25%	0	0%	0	0%

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SOURCES: DSHS Integrated Client Databases (RDA) and FamLink (DCYF).  
 CONTACT: Barbara Lucenko, DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division, 360.902.0890.

	Age 17		Age 18		Age 19		Age 20		Age 21	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>No EFC (N=342)</b>										
<b>Health Coverage</b>										
Disability Medicaid enrollment	18	5%	39	11%	27	8%	27	8%	26	8%
Medicaid enrollment	325	95%	296	87%	258	75%	269	79%	271	79%
<b>Health Services (Medicaid enrolled)</b>										
Emergency department visit	164	50%	164	55%	138	53%	149	55%	140	52%
Inpatient visit	25	8%	34	11%	35	14%	27	10%	35	13%
Mental health service	178	55%	89	30%	81	31%	77	29%	82	30%
SUD Service	49	15%	32	11%	27	10%	33	12%	42	15%
<b>Disability Services</b>										
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)	13	4%	11	3%	12	4%	---	---	---	---
<b>Economic Services</b>										
Basic Food	156	46%	223	65%	213	62%	198	58%	185	54%
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)	95	28%	43	13%	23	7%	31	9%	25	7%
<b>Housing Services</b>										
HMIS housing services	---	---	16	5%	16	5%	17	5%	16	5%
HMIS emergency shelter	21	6%	21	6%	18	5%	13	4%	20	6%
<b>Foster Care Services</b>										
Independent Living Services (ILS)	97	28%	60	18%	24	7%	22	6%	15	4%
Supervised Independent Living (SIL) placement	11	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

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SOURCES: DSHS Integrated Client Databases (RDA) and FamLink (DCYF).  
 CONTACT: Barbara Lucenko, DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division, 360.902.0890.

	Age 17		Age 18		Age 19		Age 20		Age 21	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Medicaid Comparison (N=115,379)</b>										
<b>Health Coverage</b>										
Disability Medicaid enrollment	4,201	4%	5,488	5%	4,957	4%	4,735	4%	4,760	4%
Medicaid enrollment	105,941	92%	115,379	100%	66,240	57%	66,818	58%	64,985	56%
<b>Health Services (Medicaid enrolled)</b>										
Emergency department visit	27,646	26%	30,082	26%	21,552	33%	20,779	31%	19,710	30%
Inpatient visit	2,091	2%	2,616	2%	2,661	4%	2,528	4%	2,625	4%
Mental health service	19,997	19%	18,289	16%	13,198	20%	13,863	21%	13,979	22%
SUD Service	2,234	2%	2,059	2%	1,593	2%	1,703	3%	1,832	3%
<b>Disability Services</b>										
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)	591	1%	1,413	1%	1,756	2%	2,140	2%	2,051	2%
Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)	2,191	2%	2,333	2%	2,426	2%	2,345	2%	2,342	2%
<b>Economic Services</b>										
Basic Food	48,590	42%	46,640	40%	34,332	30%	27,947	24%	26,058	23%
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)	8,000	7%	5,171	4%	2,502	2%	2,148	2%	2,170	2%
<b>Housing Services</b>										
HMIS housing services	930	1%	938	1%	980	1%	937	1%	928	1%
HMIS emergency shelter	579	1%	587	1%	559	<1%	559	<1%	545	<1%

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SOURCES: DSHS Integrated Client Databases (RDA) and FamLink (DCYF).  
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## Technical Notes

### Acronyms

ACES	Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES). The DSHS system used to determine benefit eligibility.
DCYF	Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families.
HCA	Washington State Health Care Authority.
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System. The Department of Commerce system used to track housing and homeless services.
ICDB	Integrated Client Databases. Includes data from Washington State health and human services agencies.
JR	Juvenile Rehabilitation
MH	Mental Health
P1	ProviderOne. The Health Care Authority system used to track medical claims and encounters.
PCA	Placement and care authority.
SFY	State Fiscal Year. SFY 2016, for example, spans July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.
SUD	Substance Use Disorder
TANF	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

### Study Populations

The study populations were identified among individuals in the ICDB who turned 18 years old in SFY 2016-2018 (July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2018). Young adults who aged out of foster care were identified using DCYF FamLink data and grouped based on the duration of their time in EFC into three foster care groups. A group of same-age young adults with Medicaid coverage at age 18 is included to contextualize the results for the three foster care-involved groups.

**EFC-Full** (n=398): Young adults in foster care for more than 31 days while 18 years old and exited care after their 20th birthday and prior to June 30, 2021. Nine young adults were excluded because of duplicate linkage results with ICDB.

**EFC-Early Exit** (n=250): Young adults in foster care for more than 31 days while 18 years old and exited foster care prior to their 20th birthday.

**No EFC** (n=342): Young adults with a final exit from foster care on or within 31 days after their 18th birthday.

**Medicaid group** (n=115,379): Young adults enrolled in Medicaid for at least one month when they were 18 years old. This population is not mutually exclusive of the other population sub-groups.

NOTE: The foster care populations do not include young adults who were in care after their 21st birthday as a result of the EFC eligibility extension that was in place from January 27, 2020 to September 30, 2021 (n=248) ([https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pubs/AP\\_0002.pdf](https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pubs/AP_0002.pdf)) or youth who were not in DCYF PCA when they were 18 years old but then entered DCYF PCA after their 19th birthday (i.e. “late entry” EFC youth, n=16).

### Data Sources and Measures

**Demographic characteristics:** Race/ethnicity and gender information comes from compiled client records in the ICDB. Information recorded in state administration systems generally allows for only two responses for gender or sex, ‘male’ or ‘female’. Race/ethnicity categories are reported using the Washington State Racial Disproportionality Advisory Committee Modified (WSRDAC/M) reporting standard adopted by DCYF in 2020. See <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/reports/OIAAEquityData2021.pdf> for details.

## PRIOR FOSTER CARE EXPERIENCES

**Duration in DCYF PCA:** Total number of days spent in DCYF PCA before 18th birthday, summed across all placements. This measure was calculated using FamLink

**Earliest Removal Age:** Age at first out-of-home placement. This measure was calculated using FamLink data.

**Placement Stability:** Total number of moves a young adult experienced per 1,000 days in DCYF PCA before their 18th birthday. This measure was calculated

**On-the-Run Event:** Youth experienced a placement event with an “on the run” service code or discharge reason in FamLink.

**Behavior Rehabilitation Services (BRS):** Services for children with mental, developmental, emotional, and/or behavioral difficulties that exceed the care capacity of regular foster families. BRS was identified using payment codes from FamLink.

**Family Reconciliation Services (FRS):** A voluntary program serving runaway youth and youth in conflict with their families. The program targets youth ages 12-17. FRS use was identified using case assignments in FamLink.

**Responsible Living Skills Program (RLSP):** A residentially based independent living program. RLSP use was identified using placement service codes in FamLink.

**Congregate care:** An out-of-home placement in a group home, residential treatment facility, detention facility, or crisis center. Congregate care placements were identified using placement settings in FamLink.

**Kinship care:** An out-of-home placement with either licensed or unlicensed relative caregivers. Kinship care placements were identified using placement settings in FamLink.

## SUPPORT NEEDS

**Homelessness or housing instability:** Client living situations as identified from an integrated set of indicators from ACES, HMIS, and P1. It includes ACES indicators for homeless without housing, homeless with housing, currently residing in a battered spouse's shelter or emergency shelter, living in an inappropriate living situation, WorkFirst clients who indicate they are homeless, and homelessness indicated in address information. HMIS indicators include receipt of housing services targeting homeless individuals. P1 indicators are from service encounters with a diagnosis code that indicated homelessness at the time of service.

**Homelessness:** See Homelessness or Housing Instability description above, but this measure excludes the ACES homeless with housing indicator, individuals with an address of “General Delivery,” “Couch Surfing,” or whose reported address was the same as their Community Services Office, and those who only received HMIS transitional housing or homeless prevention services.

**No reported earnings:** No reported earnings using Employment Security Department (ESD) wage data. ESD wage data does not include income from self-employment, most federal employment, or unreported earnings.

**Criminal legal system involvement:** Any arrest, conviction, or JR involvement. See descriptions below.

**Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR) involvement:** Receipt of any JR service prior to age 18. JR services include parole, community placement, institutions, youth camps, dispositional alternatives, and additional services. JR involvement continued past age 18 for some young adults, but counts were less than 11 for all foster care groups by age 21.

**Arrest or conviction:** ICDB data on arrests or convictions based on arrest data from the Washington State Patrol (WSP) and conviction data from the Administrative Office of the Courts.

**Indicated mental health (MH) treatment need:** Identified among young adults enrolled in Medicaid for at least one month in the measurement year using diagnoses, prescriptions, and treatment records from P1. MH diagnoses include ICD-9 and ICD-10 diagnosis codes for psychotic disorder, bipolar, depression, anxiety, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), and conduct disorder. MH prescriptions include antipsychotic, antimania, antidepressant, antianxiety, or ADHD-filled prescriptions. MH treatment records are derived from P1 using inpatient and outpatient MH services administered by the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA), including the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) or Tribal Authorities

**Substance use disorder (SUD):** Identified among young adults enrolled in Medicaid for at least one month in the measurement year using diagnoses, prescriptions, and treatment records from P1, as well as drug- and alcohol-related arrests from Washington State Patrol. Diagnoses include those related to use of alcohol, amphetamines (including methamphetamine), cocaine and other stimulants, heroin and other opioids (including synthetic opioids), and cannabis. It does not include diagnoses related to tobacco use disorder.

**Significant health problems:** Identified among young adults enrolled in Medicaid for at least one month in the measurement year and with diagnoses and prescriptions from P1 indicating costly medical conditions. Individuals with costly medical conditions have a risk score above that of the average in the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) population based on a combination of age, gender, diagnosis, and prescription indicators.

**Developmental disability:** Identified among young adults enrolled in Medicaid for at least one month in the measurement year and an ICD-9 or ICD-10 diagnosis code from P1 that corresponds to a developmental disability (such as developmental coordination disorder, alexia, and dyslexia) or pervasive developmental disability (such as autosomal deletion syndrome and autism).

**Suicide or self-harm behavior:** Identified among young adults enrolled in Medicaid for at least one month in the measurement year and an ICD-9 or ICD-10 diagnosis code from P1 that corresponds to intentional self-injury (e.g. intentional self-harm by handgun discharge) or self-injury where intent was undetermined (e.g. handgun discharge undetermined intent).

**Live birth:** Identified among female young adults enrolled in Medicaid for at least one month in the measurement year and an indication of livebirth in P1 based on ICD-9 or ICD-10 diagnosis codes, procedure codes (CPT, HCPCS), and diagnosis-related group codes (DRG).

## SERVICE CONNECTIONS

**Medical coverage:** Medicaid enrollment data were obtained from eligibility codes in ICDB. Disability coverage indicates at least one month of disability-related Medicaid eligibility.

**Emergency department visit:** Identified among young adults enrolled in Medicaid for at least one month in the measurement year and with medical claim or encounter in P1 for an outpatient emergency department visit.

**Inpatient hospitalization:** Identified among young adults enrolled in Medicaid for at least one month in the measurement year and with P1 medical claim or encounter for an inpatient hospitalization.

**Mental health service:** Identified among young adults enrolled in Medicaid for at least one month in the measurement year and with medical claim or encounter in P1 indicating receipt of inpatient or outpatient mental health treatment administered by the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA), including the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR), or Tribal Authorities.

**Substance use service:** Identified among young adults enrolled in Medicaid for at least one month in the measurement year and medical claim or encounter in P1 indicating receipt of any of the following through the state-funded behavioral health system: outpatient SUD treatment, inpatient residential SUD treatment, medication for opioid use disorder (buprenorphine, naltrexone, methadone), medication for alcohol use disorder (acamprosate, disulfiram, naltrexone).

**Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Services:** ICDB client data including Vocational Rehabilitation Case Management, Vocational Assessments, Medical and Psychological Services, Support Services, Placement Support, and Training, Education, and Supplies through the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

**Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Services:** ICDB client data on Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) services were used to identify youth who either received services through DDA or who received a determination of positive eligibility for DDA services, even if no paid service was received.

**Basic Food:** Washington’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Food Assistance Program for legal immigrants (FAP) that provides food benefits for low-income individuals and families. Recipients are identified in ACES if they were a recipient in a Basic Food assistance unit.

**Temporary Assistance to Needy Families:** Washington’s cash assistance program for very low-income families with children. TANF recipients are identified in ACES if they were a recipient in a TANF assistance unit.

**Housing services:** Includes Rapid Re-housing, Permanent Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Transitional Housing as reported in HMIS. Homelessness prevention, Street Outreach, Day Shelter, assessment, and non-housing services are not included because they do not provide actual housing to clients. Safe Haven counts were zero across all populations and time periods.

**Emergency shelter:** Use of temporary shelter (lodging) for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless as reported in HMIS. Requirements

**Independent Living Services (ILS):** A voluntary program for young adults ages 15 through 22 who are or were in foster care with DCYF or a tribal court. Services may include daily living skills, educational support, and employment assistance.

**Supervised Independent Living (SIL) Placement:** A placement option for young adults in DCYF EFC where they live independently in an approved setting and receive a monthly stipend payment. Approved settings may include apartments, dormitories, shared rooms, and other settings.

## REFERENCES

Mancuso, D., & Huber, A. (2021). Washington State Health and Human Services Integrated Client Databases. Olympia, WA: DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division. Retrieved from <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/rda/reports/research-11-205.pdf>

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