YOUTH CONNECTION ACROSS THE OYF NETWORK IN 2019: Summary of OYF Common Measures

About Opportunity Youth

657,019 opportunity youth across 35 OYF communities in 2019

Gender*

- Male: 52.4%
- Female: 47.6%

Age

73.9% of opportunity youth were over 20 years old

Race & Ethnicity

- Hispanic, any race: 41.5%
- Black or African American: 25.5%
- White: 22.8%
- Asian or Pacific Islander: 4.7%
- Two or more races: 3.0%
- American Indian or Alaskan Native: 2.1%
- Another race: 0.4%

Network-wide Disconnection in 2019

Across the OYF Network, 657,019 of 5,936,746 young people were not working or in school in 2019. Network-wide disconnection overall—and from high school, postsecondary education, and the workforce—decreased between 2017 and 2019.

Community Disconnection Rate

- High School Disconnection Rate: 12.0% (2017) vs. 12.9% (2019) [Change: -0.9]
- Postsecondary Disconnection Rate: 20.7% (2017) vs. 21.3% (2019) [Change: -0.6]
- Workforce Disconnection Rate: 10.8% (2017) vs. 12.0% (2019) [Change: -1.2]

Equity Outcomes

Equity outcomes look at the proportion of disconnected youth within each racial or ethnic group. Comparing these rates can reveal disproportionate levels of disconnection and help partners prioritize and customize their efforts. This calculation accounts for variations in the distribution of each group by capturing each group’s disconnection rate.

In 2019, American Indians and Alaskan Natives were most likely to be disconnected; more than one-quarter were disconnected. Asian or Pacific Islanders were least likely to be disconnected; about 5% of Asian or Pacific Islanders across the OYF Network were disconnected from work or school.

*The American Community Survey does not track other gender identities.*
2019 High School Disconnection Rate: 12.0%

- 25,351 fewer youth were disconnected from high school in 2019 than in 2017.
- American Indian and Alaskan Native youth were most likely to be disconnected from high school, almost twice the rate of any other racial/ethnic group (27.3%). The high school disconnection rate for American Indian and Alaskan Native youth increased by 5.6 percentage points between 2017 and 2019.
- Asian and Pacific Islander youth had the lowest levels of high school disconnection among racial and ethnic groups (4.7%)

2019 Postsecondary Disconnection Rate: 20.7%

- 34,410 fewer youth were disconnected from postsecondary education in 2019 than in 2017.
- While postsecondary disconnection for most gender and racial/ethnic groups decreased between 2017 and 2019, Hispanic youth disconnection increased by 0.6 percentage points – the most among any racial/ethnic group.
- There were large racial and ethnic disparities in the postsecondary disconnection rate. Hispanic, American Indian and Alaskan Native, and Black or African American youth were much more likely to be disconnected from postsecondary than White and Asian or Pacific Islander youth.

2019 Workforce Disconnection Rate: 10.8%

- 4,169 fewer youth were disconnected from the workforce in 2019 than in 2017.
- Young women had a higher workforce disconnection rate than young men. Workforce disconnection was the only disconnection rate that was higher for women than for men.
- Workforce disconnection rates decreased for all gender and racial/ethnic groups, except for Hispanic youth. Hispanic youth were also the most likely to be disconnected from the workforce (16.7%).

OYF Communities Reflected in this Analysis

Atlanta, Austin, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Del Norte County, Denver, Detroit, Flint, Greenville, Hartford, Hopi, Houston, Jasper, Los Angeles, Minneapolis / St. Paul, Missoula, New Orleans, New York City, Newark, Oakland / Alameda County, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Pueblo of Jemez, Pueblo of Laguna, Pueblo of Taos, Roaring Fork, San Antonio, San Augustine, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Clara County, Seattle / South King County, Southern Maine, Tucson.

About the analyses: Equal Measure combined the geographic areas of 35 collaboratives in the OYF network as of March 2021, then ran analyses using American Community Survey PUMS 1 year estimate data from 2017 and 2019.