

Texas Department of **Family and Protective Services**

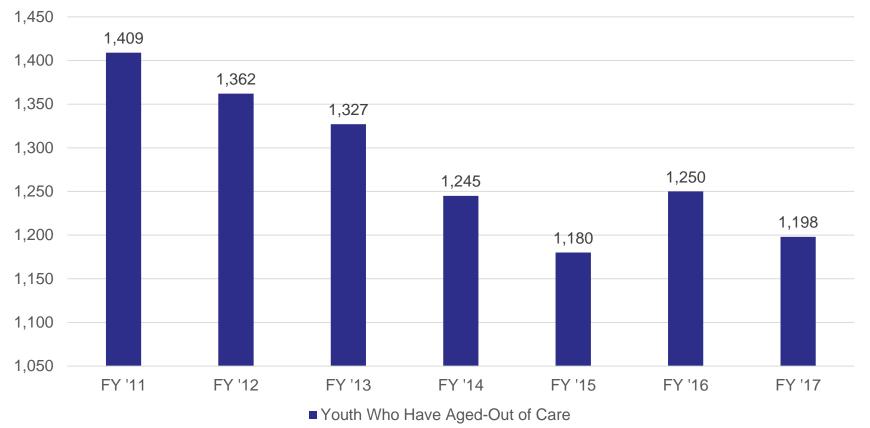
Senate Health and Human Services Charge 2C: Transitional Living Services

Kristene Blackstone, Associate Commissioner for Child Protective Services March 22, 2018



Aging Out Youth

Youth Who Have Aged-Out of Care





National Youth in Transition Database

Surveyed 17 and 19 year olds who were transitioning out of foster care

Question Posed	FY 14 Texas Data (Youth aged 17)	FY 14 National Data (Youth aged 17)	FY 16 Texas Data (Youth aged 19)	FY 16 National Data (Youth aged 19)
Employed Full or Part Time	13%	15%	39%	23%
Finished High School or GED	5%	5%	48%	57%
Attending School	93%	93%	54%	52%
Substance Abuse	18%	27%	5%	14%
Incarcerated	32%	33%	21%	20%
Homeless	20%	17%	25%	20%
Had a Child	6%	5%	13%	10%



Aging Out Youth Outcomes

Comparisons from FY 11/FY 13 NYTD data

Questions to Age 17 youth: anytime in lifetime Questions to Age 19 youth: in last 2 years.

Cohort 1 Employment	Cohort 2 Employment
Age 17 – 9% FY 11	Age 17- 13% FY 14
Age 19 – 31% FY 13	Age 19-39% FY 16
Cohort 1 Incarceration	Cohort 2 Incarceration
Age 17 – 36% FY 11	Age 17- 32% FY 14
Age 19 – 28% FY 13	Age 19- 21% FY 16
Cohort 1 Had children	Cohort 2 Had children
Age 17 – 8% FY 11	Age 17- 6% FY 14
Age 19 – 13% FY 13	Age 19- 13% FY 16
<u>Cohort 1 Homeless</u>	Cohort 2 Homeless
Age 17 – 16% FY 11	Age 17- 20% FY 14
Age 19 – 25% FY 13	Age 19- 25% FY 16



Transitional Living Services for foster youth ages 14-23 include:

- Permanency Planning;
- Preparation for Adult Living Services (PAL) including life skills assessment and training;
- College Tuition and Fee Waiver;
- Extended Care/Return to Care;
- Supervised Independent Living;
- Personal documents and credit reports; and
- Regional and Statewide Youth Leadership Councils.



For youth ages 16 – 21 PAL services include:

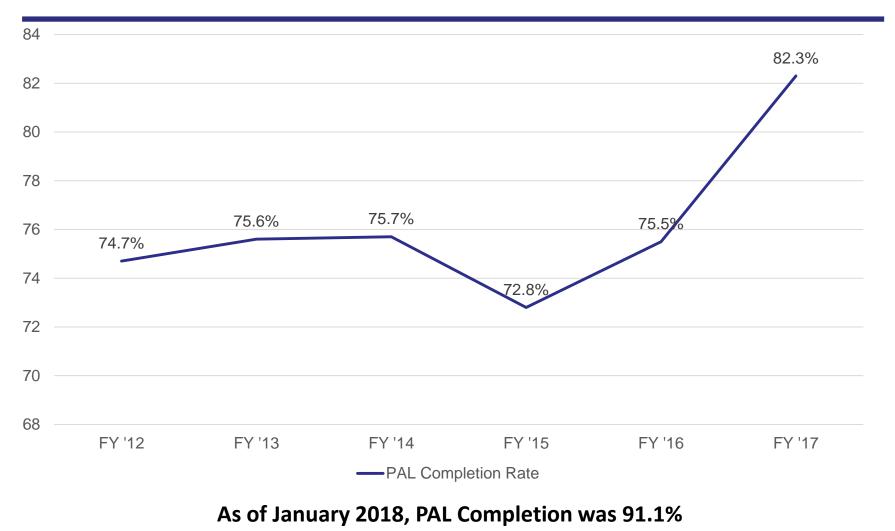
- Life Skills Assessment; and
- Life Skills Training
 - Health and Safety
 - Housing and Transportation
 - Job Readiness
 - Financial Management
 - Life Decisions and Responsibility
 - Personal and Social Relationships

FY 17 completion rate – 82.3%

FY 18 Goal – 85%



PAL Life Skills Completion Rate



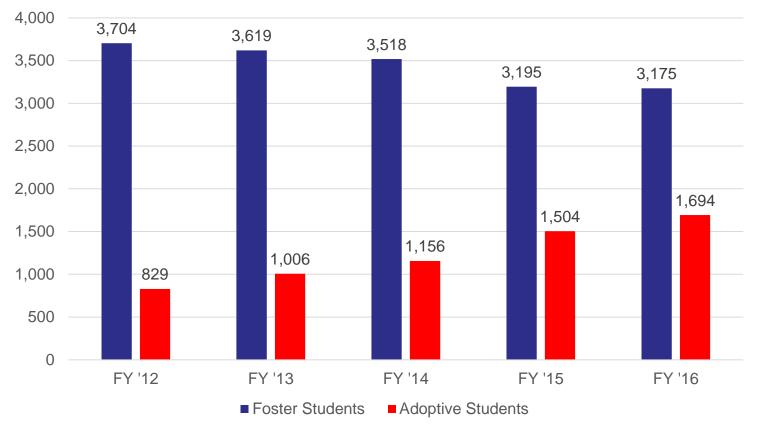
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- Provides exemption from tuition and fees at Texas state supported colleges, universities, and technical schools.
- Eligibility requires a youth to have been in Permanent Managing Conservatorship
- Youth are informed from caseworkers, foster care providers, PAL, Aging-out Seminars, and teen and college conferences
- Youth are provided with a waiver letter to present financial aid offices.



Utilization Rates by Former Foster and Adoptive Youth



Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board



Extended Foster Care – Young adults, ages 18 to 21, are eligible if:

- Attending high school or enrolled in a GED program;
- Attending an institution of higher education;
- Enrolled in an employment program; or
- Employed for at least 80 hours per month.
- Supervised Independent Living (SIL)
 - Allows young adults to live independently with minimum supervision.
 - 11 SIL are in operation.
- **Education and Training Voucher**
 - Up to \$5,000 per academic schoolyear to use for housing and other financial needs while attending school.



SB 1758 (85R) by Zaffirini

- Requires independent living skills assessments be conducted on a yearly basis to youth in permanent conservatorship aged 14 and 15 and for all youth in temporary or permanent conservatorship aged 16 and older.
- FY 18 DFPS is referring youth at age 15 for assessments.
- FY 19 DFPS will refer youth at age 14 for assessments.