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**Post School Outcomes 2016 Follow Up Interviews with**

**Special Education Students One Year Out**

States are required to annually report post-school education and employment outcomes for students ages 14 to 21 who are on an IEP when leaving school. Oregon districts reported that 4,570 youth left special education for the final time during the 2014-15 school year. Districts were required to interview all of these students one year after they left school. In 2016, follow-up interviews were completed with 2,937 of the 4,570 youth (or family members) for a **response rate of 64%.**

**Engagement Outcomes Within One Year of Leaving School**

Within one year of leaving school:

* 717 respondent leavers were enrolled in higher education. (**24%**)
* 1031 respondent leavers were engaged in competitive employment (and not counted above). (**35%)**
* 135 respondent leavers were enrolled in some other postsecondary education or training (and not counted above). (**5**%)
* 268 respondent leavers were engaged in some other employment (and not counted above). (**9**%)
* 786 were not counted in any of the above outcome groups (**27**%) and are considered ‘not engaged’

N=2937

**Federal Definitions of Engagement**:

*Higher education:* Student enrollment on a full- or part-time basis in a community college (two-year program), or college/university (four- or more year program) for at least one complete term/semester, at any time in the year since leaving high school.

*Competitive employment*: they worked for pay at or above the minimum wage in a setting with others who are nondisabled for a period of 20 hours a week for at least 90 cumulative days at any time in the year since leaving high school. This includes military service.

*Other education or training* (i.e., Job Corps, adult education, workforce development program, or a vocational technical school that is less than a 2-year program).To be included, the experience needed to be one complete term school

*Other employment* (i.e., farm, store, fishing, ranching, catering services, etc.). To be included, the experience needed to 90 cumulative days.

The federal reporting requirements for post-secondary engagement outcomes look at higher education, competitive employment, and finally other training or employment outcomes, ranked in that order. Respondents are included in the “highest” category for which their experiences in the 12 months after leaving high school fit. For example, if a student meets the higher education requirement, they are not included in any other category, even though they also had a job.

1. **24.4%** = 717 youth enrolled in higher education divided by the 2,937 of respondent youth who are no longer in secondary school and had IEPs in effect at the time they left school. (State Target 29% Not Met)
2. **59.5%** = 1,748 youth enrolled in higher education or competitively employed within one year of leaving high school, divided by the 2,937 respondent youth who are no longer in secondary school and had IEPs in effect at the time they left school. (State Target 55% - Met)
3. **73.2%** = 2,151 youth who are no longer in secondary school, had IEPs in effect at the time they left school and were enrolled in higher education, or in some other postsecondary education or training program; or competitively employed or in some other employment, divided by the 2,937 respondent youth who are no longer in secondary school and had IEPs in effect at the time they left school. (State Target 72% - Met)

**What have we learned about Oregon’s special education students after leaving school?**

The past three years data collection has shown a steady increase in the percentage of special education students that are engaged in educational and employment outcomes in Oregon. The percent of students not engaged dropped from 30.3% to 26.8%

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Year students left school* | *Follow Up interview year* | *Higher Education (HE)* | *HE + Competitive Employment (CE)* | *HE + CE+ other school, other work* |
| 2014-15 | 2016 | 24.4% | 59.5% | 73.2% |
| 2013-14 | 2015 | 22.4% | 56.4% | 71.3% |
| 2012-13 | 2014 | 24.0% | 53.9% | 69.7% |

**Demographics and Procedure**

The following sections summarize the demographics of the students, the procedures used in collecting the data, and results for the measurements. Not all of the 4,570 students who left in 2014-2015 were interviewed in 2016. The demographics of the students that were interviewed is compared against the actual distribution of leavers in four areas: **gender, primary disability, ethnicity, and method of leaving**. If the distribution matches, the outcome results can be considered representative of the statewide population of students that left special education that year.

For Federal reporting requirements, some categories are collapsed (i.e., all non-white students are summarized into a ‘minority’ category). The federally mandated disability categories are Intellectual Disability, Emotional Disturbance, and Specific Learning Disability. Oregon reported that the sampled group of interviewed students matched the population of all leavers, in all comparison areas, except the method of exit where dropouts made up 19% of the interviewed students, but 25% of the total population. A ± 3% difference or less is considered representative.

Comparison between all-student population (4570) and leavers interviewed (2937).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *.* | *Number of Students* | *Gender* | *Dropouts* | *Race/Ethnicity* | *Disability* |
| Students leaving SE in 2014-2015 | 4570 | 66% male  34% female | 64% Reg + Mod diploma  25% Dropout | 65% Caucasian  35% Minority | 64% ID, ED, SLD  36% All others |
| Students interviewed in 2016 | 2937 | 65% male  35% female | 69% Reg + Mod diploma  19% Dropout | 66% Caucasian  34% Minority | 63% ID, ED, SLD  37% All others |

In 2016 Oregon changed the PSO collection to include ALL students exiting special education services, ages 14-21, during the 2014-2015 school year. (Prior to the 2016 Post School Outcomes data collection, a stratified sample of students were selected for the interviews.) This resulted in more students completing interviews than ever before; with 98% of Oregon school districts completing the collection.

Districts selected the staff to make the calls and complete the interviews, and interviews could be completed by the former student, a family member, or someone who knew the educational and employment experiences of the student. Oregon encourages the school districts to conduct a pre-exit interview with the students they anticipate leaving special education to let them know that the district is interested in their experiences and will be calling the next year.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | Completed by: | | | Completed with: | | | Completed Pre-Exit interview before leaving school? |
|  | *teachers, specialists, administrators* | *ed assistants/ paras/clerical staff* | *Youth Transition Program* | *student* | *Family member* | *other* |
| 2016 | 44% | 36% | 16% | 46% | 46% | 9% | 974 / 2,937 = 33% |
| 2015 | 38% | 43% | 18% | 47% | 46% | 7% | 836 / 2,195 = 38% |

**Post School Outcome results by size of school district.**

The following table presents information on the districts by size of leaver group. The size group comparison information is useful for districts in evaluating their PSO response rate and engagement outcomes in comparison to like-size districts.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | District Size | | | | |
|  | *Very Small* | *Small* | *Medium* | *Large* | *Total* |
| *Leavers per district* | 1-4 | 5-15 | 16-50 | 51-400 |  |
| *Number of districts* | 52 | 43 | 49 | 21 | **165** |
| *Total leavers* | 113 | 358 | 1367 | 2732 | **4570** |
| *Selected for interviews\** | 113 | 358 | 1367 | 2732 | **4570** |
| *Number interviewed* | 85 | 260 | 915 | 1677 | **2937** |

\*in previous years, only a portion of the students were required to be interviewed. This is the first year all students were required.

The following table compares the engagement outcomes for students from different sized districts. The factors influencing outcomes can be different, depending on the number of opportunities available to students in various sized districts.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | District Size | | | | |
|  | *Very Small* | *Small* | *Medium* | *Large* | *Statewide* |
| *Total Engagement* | 82% | 73% | 69% | 75% | **73%** |
| *Higher Education* | 29% | 16% | 19% | 29% | **24%** |
| *Competitive Employment* | 39% | 42% | 37% | 33% | **35%** |
| *Other training/school* | 8% | 8% | 7% | 7% | **14%** |
| *Other employment* | 5% | 5% | 4% | 4% | **5%** |
| *Not Engaged* | 19% | 29% | 33% | 27% | **27%** |
| *Response rate* | 75% | 73% | 67% | 61% | **64%** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Engagement Rate by District Size** | 2015 | 2016 |
| very small districts (1-4 leavers) | 90% | 82% |
| small districts (5-15 leavers | 76% | 73% |
| medium districts (16-50 leavers) | 72% | 69% |
| Large districts (51-400 leavers) | 69% | 75% |
| Statewide | 71% | 73% |

The following table compares the overall engagement rate for the four district size groups between the follow up collection conducted in 2015 (students left school in 2013-14) and in 2016 (students left school in 2014-15).

Students who are Not Engaged: Federal reporting does not include students who are not counted in the four outcome measurements showing educational and employment experiences. However, the factors describing the remaining 786 students (27% of all interviews) are of great interest to the districts and the state. The following page contains a table summarizing the answers to the follow up questionnaire for the students who report no activity, or less than a 90 days experience in work or school activities

Trends: Data from the districts with one to four students exiting must be viewed with caution, due to the very small number of students for each district.

The following two tables present the responses to questions on the follow up survey for all students interviewed (2,937) and the non-engaged students (786) by district size group and state totals. These results are by individual question and do not reflect the combined questions used for Federal Reporting. Not all students answered all questions.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **All interviews (n=2,937)** | **Percent answering question with Yes** | | | | |
| **Very small** | **Small** | **Medium** | **Large** | **All** |
| **Number of Students** | **85** | **260** | **915** | **1,677** | **2,937** |
| **Attend school during the 12 months? (% yes)** | 60% | 33% | 38% | 45% | 42% |
| Attend a 2-4 year college or university? | 5% | 5% | 5% | 10% | 8% |
| Voc/tech school, mission, short term training | 52% | 22% | 26% | 1% | 29% |
| High School completion document | 4% | 3% | 4% | 3% | 4% |
| Completed entire term or semester? | 51% | 24% | 29% | 37% | 34% |
| **Ever worked during the 12 months? (% yes)** | 81% | 75% | 71% | 70% | 71% |
| Competitive setting or military? | 71% | 62% | 59% | 61% | 61% |
| Self-employed or Family business | 8% | 6% | 5% | 5% | 5% |
| Sheltered or Supported employment | 0% | 2% | 2% | 1% | 2% |
| Other employment/jail or prison employment | 2% | 2% | 2% | 1% | 1% |
| Work 90 cumulative days? | 67% | 67% | 59% | 61% | 61% |
| Work at least half time? | 69% | 62% | 57% | 53% | 56% |
| Receive same benefits as coworkers? | 72% | 68% | 53% | 54% | 55% |
| Earn at least minimum wage? | 75% | 70% | 64% | 64% | 65% |
| **Have a driver’s license? Learners permit?** | 67% + 4% | 48% + 6% | 42% + 8% | 37% + 8% | 40% +7% |
| **Where are you currently living?** | **n = 78** | **n = 249** | **n = 873** | **n = 1524** | **n = 2724** |
| Family | 64% | 69% | 70% | 74% | 72% |
| Campus or military base | 8% | 6% | 4% | 4% | 4% |
| Independently or with friend | 26% | 21% | 22% | 19% | 20% |
| Foster home, group home | 3% | 1% | 3% | 2% | 2% |
| Homeless/ jail | 0% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| No answer/ other/missing | 8% | 4% | 5% | 9% | 7% |
| **Why haven’t you worked since high school?** | **n = 10** | **n = 44** | **n = 163** | **n = 276** | **n =493** |
| Haven’t found job | 40% | 34% | 22% | 24% | 25% |
| Don’t want or need to work | 0% | 9% | 17% | 14% | 14% |
| Disability | 10% | 23% | 29% | 26% | 26% |
| Baby/family | 10% | 2% | 6% | 9% | 7% |
| Medical | 10% | 14% | 8% | 9% | 9% |
| Need skills/help | 0% | 2% | 12% | 12% | 11% |

The following information reports on students who did not meet the Federal definition of engagement: working at least half time for at least minimum wage for at least 90 cumulative days, or completing at least one term or semester of specific training or education. Not all students answered all questions.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Interviews with ‘Not Engaged’ outcome (n=786)** | **Percent answering question with Yes** | | | | |
| **Very Small** | **Small** | **Medium** | **Large** | **All** |
| **Number of Students** | **15** | **70** | **282** | **419** | **786** |
| **Attend school during the 12 months? (% yes)** | 13% | 11% | 14% | 14% | 14% |
| Attend a 2-4 year college or university? | 7% | 4% | 3% | 6% | 5% |
| Voc/tech school, mission, short term training | 7% | 3% | 6% | 4% | 5% |
| High School completion document | 0% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% |
| **Ever worked during the 12 months? (% yes)** | 27% | 34% | 31% | 26% | 28% |
| Competitive setting or military? | 8% | 18% | 20% | 18% | 19% |
| Self-employed or Family business | 7% | 4% | 3% | 3% | 3% |
| Sheltered or Supported employment | 0% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| Work at least half time? | 13% | 21% | 17% | 13% | 15% |
| Receive same benefits as coworkers? | 20% | 27% | 17% | 13% | 16% |
| Earn at least minimum wage? | 20% | 27% | 23% | 18% | 21% |
| **Have a driver’s license? Learners permit?** | 33% + 13% | 19% + 3% | 12% + 7% | 9% + 6% | 11% + 6% |
| **Where are you currently living?** | **n = 12** | **n = 66** | **n = 265** | **n = 362** | **n = 705** |
| Family | 75% | 73% | 78% | 82% | 79% |
| Independently or with friend | 8% | 17% | 16% | 10% | 13% |
| Foster home, group home | 8% | 2% | 5% | 4% | 4% |
| Homeless/ jail | 0% | 6% | 0% | 1% | 1% |
| **Why haven’t you worked since high school?** | **n = 9** | **n = 40** | **n = 144** | **n = 229** | **n = 422** |
| Haven’t found job | 33% | 35% | 21% | 21% | 23% |
| Don’t want or need to work | 0% | 8% | 17% | 14% | 14% |
| Disability | 11% | 23% | 30% | 27% | 27% |
| Baby/family | 11% | 3% | 6% | 10% | 8% |
| Medical | 11% | 15% | 8% | 10% | 10% |
| Need skills/help | 0% | 3% | 13% | 12% | 11% |