



National Youth in Transition Database

NYTD 101

Indiana Department of Child Services

Table of Contents

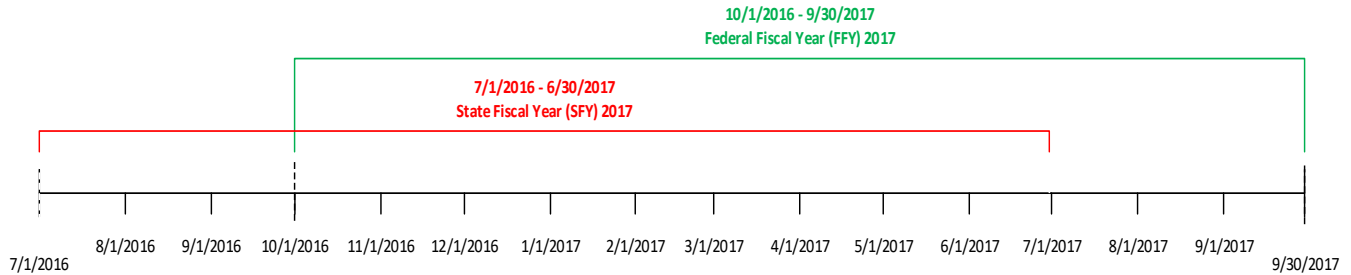
I. What is the NYTD Youth in Transition Database – NYTD?	2
A. What Type of Data is Being Collected?	2
1. Services	2
2. Youth Characteristics & Basic Demographics	2
3. Outcomes Measures	2
II. Deeper Dive into the NYTD Outcome Survey	3
III. What Could Go Wrong?	4
A. NYTD Standards and Penalties	4
IV. How does DCS Administer the NYTD Survey?	4
A. NYTD Outcomes Survey Workflow	4
1. 17-Year-Old NYTD Outcomes Survey Workflow	5
2. 19- & 21-Year-Old NYTD Outcome Survey Workflow	5
B. How do Youth Take the NYTD Outcome Survey?	5
C. NYTD Outcome Survey Methodology	6
V. NYTD Outcome Survey & Youth Engagement	7
A. Incentives	7
B. Youth Engagement	7
1. How to Engage Youth	7
2. Communication Tips	8
VI. NYTD Video’s	8
VII. References	8
Notes	9

I. What is the NYTD Youth in Transition Database – NYTD?

The National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) is a federal data collection system for States to track the independent living services and outcome measures that are used to assess States' performance in their independent living programs / service delivery; what the Indiana Department of Child Services has reframed as Older Youth Services (OYS).

NYTD federal regulation; requiring states to track independent living services and survey the outcomes of foster youth throughout the federal fiscal timeline (October 1st – September 30th). The NYTD data collection process for all States began October 1, 2010.

- The below timeline illustrates the difference between the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) and the State Fiscal Year (SFY).



A. What Type of Data is Being Collected?

The law mandates all states to engage in two data collection activities:

- States are to collect information on each youth who receives independent living services paid for or provided by the State agency that administers the Chafee Program.
- States are to collect demographic and outcome information on certain youth in foster care whom the State will follow over time to collect additional outcome information.

1. Services

The independent living services and supports they provide to all youth in eleven broad categories:

- Independent living needs assessment
- Academic support
- Post-secondary educational support
- Career preparation
- Employment programs or vocational training
- Budget and financial management
- Housing education and home management training
- Health education and risk prevention
- Family support and healthy marriage education
- Mentoring
- Supervised independent living
- Financial assistance (education, room and board and other aid)

2. Youth Characteristics & Basic Demographics

Youth characteristics are identified as a youth education level and tribal membership. Basic demographic information includes sex and race of each youth in the service population.

3. Outcomes Measures

Outcomes are collected and information is reported on youth who are in foster care. ACF uses this information to measure the collective outcomes of youth and States' performance in six general outcome areas:

- Increase youth financial self-sufficiency
- Improve youth educational (academic or vocational attainment)
- Increase youth connections with adults
- Reduce homelessness among youth
- Reduce high-risk behavior among youth
- Improve youth access to health insurance

The NYTD data collected provides a detailed outlook on DCS older youth services service delivery and outcomes for youth.

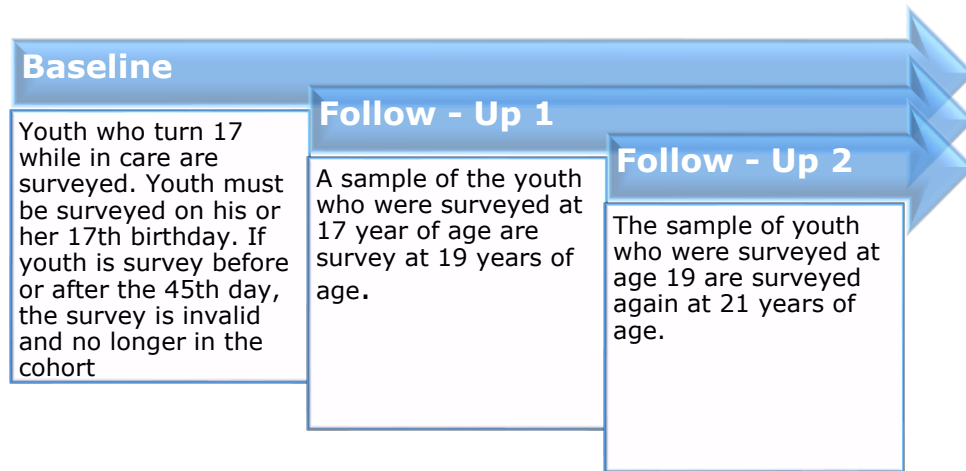


II. Deeper Dive into the NYTD Outcome Survey

States survey youth and young adults who are or were previously in foster care on the 6 outcome measures described above. States are to collect outcomes information by conducting a survey of youth in foster care on or around their 17th birthday, 19th birthday, and 21st birthday. The NYTD survey outcome data is collected by cohort. Youth will remain in their cohort throughout the survey period and timeframe.

Youth taking the survey at age 17 are referred to as the baseline population and youth taking the survey at age 19 and 21 are referred to as the follow up population. The below follow charts illustrate the population and cohort schedule.

NYTD Population Flowchart



NYTD Cohort Schedule

Reporting Population	FFY11	FFY12	FFY13	FFY14	FFY15	FFY16	FFY17	FFY18	FFY19	FFY20
Baseline population (Age 17)	Cohort 1			Cohort 2			Cohort 3			Cohort 4
Follow-up population (Age 19)			Cohort 1			Cohort 2			Cohort 3	
Follow-up population (Age 21)					Cohort 1			Cohort 2		

Reporting Population	FFY21	FFY22	FFY23	FFY24	FFY25	FFY26	FFY27	FFY28	FFY29	FFY30
Baseline population (Age 17)			Cohort 5			Cohort 6			Cohort 7	

Follow-up population (Age 19)		Cohort 4		Cohort 5		Cohort 6	
Follow-up population (Age 21)	Cohort 3		Cohort 4		Cohort 5		Cohort 6

III. What Could Go Wrong?

If States do not meet the federal requirements or comply with federal standards, Indiana will receive a .5% - 5% financial penalty. This fiscal penalty is withdrawn from the federal funding used to support older youth services. This could mean a loss of current services.



A. NYTD Standards and Penalties

- Meet file format requirements and contain error-free information for certain standard demographic information.
- Contain information that is 90 percent error-free for other data elements (i.e., be free of missing information, internally inconsistent responses, and invalid information).
- Provide full or partial outcome survey information on all 19/21-year-olds in the follow-up population or sample, or indicate why the survey information was not obtainable (i.e., because the youth is incapacitated or deceased); and
- **Achieve 60 percent participation compliance in the outcomes survey for the 19- and 21-year-old youth follow-up population who are no longer in foster care.**
- **Achieve 80 percent participation compliance in the outcome survey for the 19- and 21-year-old follow up population who are in foster care.**
[\(<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/about-nytd>\)](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/about-nytd)

IV. How does DCS Administer the NYTD Survey?

DCS Responsibility	NYTD Provider Responsibility
Conducting NYTD surveys for all youth who turn 17 while in foster care.	Engage and maintain contact information for all youth who took the NYTD survey at age 17.
Conducting NYTD surveys for all youth who are randomly selected into the follow up population at age 19 who are in foster care.	Conducting NYTD surveys for all youth who are randomly selected into the follow up population at age 19 who have aged out of foster care.
Assist the NYTD provider with conducting surveys for all youth in the random follow up population at age 21.	Conduct NYTD survey for all youth in the random follow up population at age 21.

A. NYTD Outcomes Survey Workflow

DCS is responsible for conducting NYTD outcomes survey for all youth who turn 17 while in foster care during the NYTD survey period. All youth surveyed during the NYTD report period are considered the states baseline population and is submitted to the NYTD portal. DCS is responsible for conducting NYTD outcomes surveys for all youth who are randomly selected into the follow up population at age 19. These youth are surveyed during the report period and results are submitted to the NYTD portal. The follow up population is surveyed again at 21 during the NYTD survey period and results are submitted to the NYTD portal.



1. 17-Year-Old NYTD Outcomes Survey Workflow

All youth who turn 17 within the NYTD outcomes survey period are included in the 17 year old NYTD baseline population (Oct 1st - Sept 30th)

Population A: October 1st - March 31st.

Population B: April 1st - September 30th

Notification will be sent to case managers informing them of when the NYTD Outcome Survey will come due.

Email notification on DOB w/
45 day completion date

30 day email notification

15 day email notification

7 day email notification

Case managers will engage youth to complete the NYTD Outcome Survey. Surveys must be completed by the youth either on - line or by paper survey

Computer

Phone

Cell Phone

2. 19- & 21-Year-Old NYTD Outcome Survey Workflow

DCS will survey youth randomly selected to be a part of the 19 & 21 follow - up population

Notifications will be sent for youth with in care and out of care status

Engage youth to complete NYTD Outcomes Survey on- line or by paper

Population A: October 1st -
March 31st

Email notification will be sent to case managers

Computer

Population B: April 1st -
September 30th

Correspondance will be sent to youth who are not in care

Phone / Cell phone

B. How do Youth Take the NYTD Outcome Survey?



- Youth can take the survey online or complete a paper copy.
- Youth will be provided information on how to take the survey, their login, and password.
- Surveys must be completed by the survey completion date.
- Completed paper surveys can be scanned into the NYTD mailbox with the completion date and initialed by the youth.
- The DCS staff and / or the NYTD provider can assist the youth if needed.

❖ **Please Note!**

- ❖ **The NYTD survey must be completed by the youth.**
- ❖ **The NYTD survey is designed to be youth focused and to elevate youth voice.**

C. NYTD Outcome Survey Methodology

The NYTD outcome survey collects data on six outcome measure. The NYTD outcome survey methodology is a longitudinal study for each cohort. The questions on the NYTD survey are designed to collect information on each of the outcome measures and were developed by the federal NYTD team. The figures below will describe the NYTD outcome survey methodology.

NYTD Longitudinal Design



NYTD Survey Questions

Outcome Measures	Financial Self Sufficiency	Educational Attainment	High Risk Behaviors	Homelessness	Connection to Adults	Access to Health Care
Questions	Employed full- or part-time	Finished high school or GED	Referred for substance abuse treatment	Reported being homeless	Reported having a current positive connection to an adult	Reported having Medicaid
	Received Employment - related Training	Attending school	Incarcerated			Reported having some other type of health insurance
	Receives public assistance		Had children			

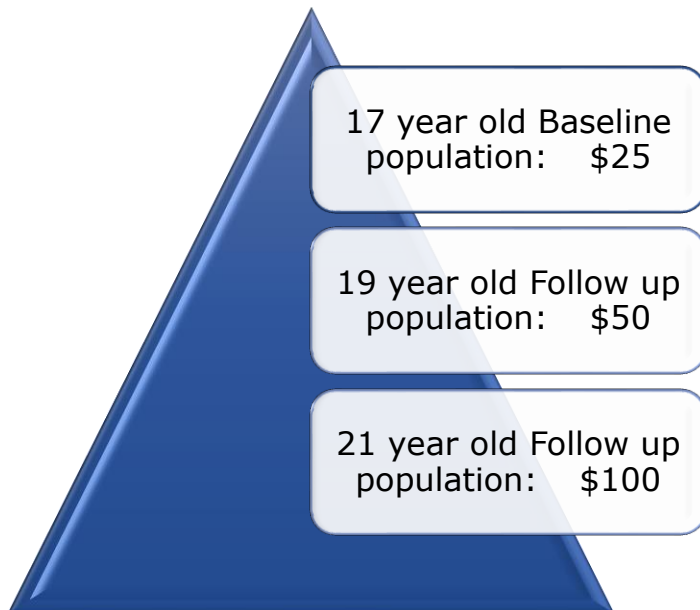
<https://www.in.gov/dcs/files/19>



V. NYTD Outcome Survey & Youth Engagement

A. Incentives

A monetary incentive may be provided to all youth within the baseline and follow up population, who complete the survey within the required timeframe. Incentives for each age group are as follows:



B. Youth Engagement

The NYTD outcome survey provides an opportunity for youth and young adults voices to be heard on how well DCS is doing in providing older youth services. Their participation in the survey provides the information DCS needs to effect change. It is important to keep youth engaged by involving them in the education process of NYTD by engaging them in the data collection tasks. This starts by intentionally informing youth about NYTD to build rapport and get “buy-in”. Youth who understand the importance of participating in the NYTD youth outcome survey before they leave foster care are more likely to maintain contact. When engaging youth about the NYTD Survey:

- Be personal
- Be informed
- Ensure have access to a phone or computer
- Use Authentic Youth Engagement
- Incentives do not drive the youth into taking the survey

1. How to Engage Youth

Knowing how and when to engage youth about NYTD will increase the “buy-in” needed to ensure youth are committed to taking the survey in the future. As the older youth services and initiatives providers your knowledge and expertise in authentic youth engagement will help support the NYTD process.

- Early and Ongoing Engagement*
 - Talking to youth while they’re still in care and receiving services
 - Inviting youth in CQI projects
 - Sharing service log data with youth and asking for feedback
 - Maintaining contact information
- Supporting Youth*
 - Building rapport

- Collaborating with the NYTD provider
- Assist youth in completing the survey
- Show empathy
- Support youth voice and youth / adult partnerships
- Be trauma informed

2. Communication Tips

Communicating with youth about NYTD can be difficult; however, it is very important to ensure youth understand what the NYTD outcome survey is and how their participation will drive change within the system. You don't need to know the details of NYTD; however, you should educate yourself on what "NYTD" stands for and what it means, what outcome we're measuring, and how youth voice matters. Here are a few talking points:

- NYTD is a national survey being taken by many youth who are or were in foster care informing their states on and nationally how services can be improved.
- Taking the NYTD survey at 17 offers DCS and service providers a starting point of where you started when you began services.
- By taking the NYTD survey at 17 you may be eligible to take it again at 19 and 21 to update DCS and services providers on how you're doing with the services offered.
- Taking the NYTD survey prevents DCS from losing older youth services funding and will allow OYS providers the ability to provide various services.
- The survey does not ask you about personal details of your life or why you made certain decisions.
- Your information is confidential and will not be signed out.
- Support you in taking the survey and ensure their answers will not be changed
- Ask youth to provide or update their contact information (phone, email, social medial name). Share how it is important of contacting and locating them in the future.

VI. NYTD Video's

Each video offer information and a different perspective on the importance taking the NYTD Survey and can be used as a resource to educate staff and youth.

- Spotlight on NYTD: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_jKCVShd8
- Taking the NYTD Survey: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9RmIsaGQ7dw>
- Give the NYTD Survey: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tuvQMZh5BJY>

VII. References

Children's Bureau. (2021, April 6). Retrieved from An Office of the Administration for Children & Families:
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/fact-sheet/about-nytd>

(2016). *Engaging Youth in NYTD*. Oklahoma: Capacity Building Center for States.

