Part 1: OYP Round 5 Youth Cohort Description (October 2016)

This section describes the current round of updated youth as of October 2016.

There were 756 youth with valid data in round 5, which included 694 unique individuals (the remaining 60 records consisted of youth reported more than once). The number of youth reported by each agency in round 5 is shown in the figure below. In addition to the primary data collection across participating organizations, 64 Opportunity Works youth were also included.

**Fig. 1.** Number of Opportunity Youth With Data in Round 5, by Organization

Note: Total Duplicated Count = 756. Total Unduplicated Count = 694.

Figure 2 shows the percentage of each type of youth represented in the round 5 cohort.

**Fig. 2.** Round 5 Youth by OYP Eligibility Type
Demographics (Round 5)

As shown in Figure 3, there were slightly more females than more males, the majority of youth were Latino, and the majority were 18 and older.

**Fig. 3. Demographics of Overall OYP Cohort (Round 5)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Pct (N=694)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Race/Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino/Hisp</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/Afr. Amer.</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian-American</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Needs/Disability</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannot report</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age (as of May 1, 2016)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 18</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 and Up</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key Outcomes

High School Graduation Status

Approximately half of youth ages 18 and older had graduated from high school or gotten their GED.

**Fig. 4. Pct of Opp. Youth With HS Diploma or GED**

- All Opp. Youth: 38%
- 18 and Up: 51%
- Under 18: 1%

N=679.
Current Educational Status

Most youth were enrolled in school, with particularly high rates for youth under 18 and those who had not graduated from high school. Only 65% of high school graduates were enrolled in school.

**Fig. 5.** Opportunity Youth Current Enrollment Status (October 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>In School (HS or Postsec.)</th>
<th>Not In School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Opp. Youth (n=684)</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 18 (n=196)</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 and Up (n=488)</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS Graduates (or GED)  (n=259)</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Graduated HS (n=400)</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approximately half of youth with available data had experienced a lapse or other disconnection from school lasting more than two weeks during middle or high school. In round 5, there were 54 youth who were not enrolled in school and did not have a job (9% of youth with data for both enrollment and employment).

**Fig. 6.** Percent of Youth Ever Disconnected from Middle or High School

Employment Status

There were 268 youth (39%) who were reported as being employed in the previous two months. As expected, the rate of employment was higher among high school graduates (who were also older overall). Many older youth who had not graduated from high school did not have employment information.
Fig. 7. Current Work Experience, By HS Graduation Status

Note: High school graduates are not separated into age groups because over 80 percent were 19-24 years old.

Approximately five percent of employed youth were in a career-related position. Nearly all were making at least $10 per hour, and nearly half were making over $11 per hour.

Fig. 8. Wage Distribution Among Opportunity Youth

Note: N=175 youth with wage data reported. This represents 75 percent of youth with jobs.
Self-Sufficiency of Current Round 5 Cohort

Figure 9 details the self-sufficiency levels of all 18-24 year olds reported during round 5. Scores in green indicate self-sufficiency (three and above for all except medical care; two and above for medical care). The domains with the lowest percentage of self-sufficient youth were Education and Income. Nearly all youth were self-sufficient in Health Care.

N=398-417.

Youth Connections to Organizations

Most youth were connected to only the reporting organization both at the time of data collection and in the past. It is important to note, however, that youth may be connected to other organizations that the reporter is not aware of.
Part 2: Changes From Round 3/4 to Round 5

How did the original OYP cohort sample change between round 3 (November 2016) and round 5 (October 2016)?

Of the 694 youth reported in round 5, 290 were also reported in round 4, and 240 were reported in round 3. There were 302 youth from reported in round 3 or round 4 or remained in round 5.

The figure below shows the percentage of foster youth, justice-engaged, pregnant or parenting, and homeless youth that comprise the cohort from round 3 or 4 that remained through round 5.

![Graph showing the percentage of youth remaining from round 3/4 to round 5 by eligibility type.]

**Fig. 11.** Opp. Youth Retained from Rd 3/4 to Rd 5, by Eligibility Type

What happened to youth from rounds 4 who were not updated in round 5?

Of the 703 youth reported in round 4, 290 (41%) had data in round 5, and 413 youth did not have updated data in round 5. Reasons for not updating the data were provided for 341 youth (83%). For a small portion (9%), youth were enrolled in the program but not available to update the data. The remainder of youth had left the program for a variety of reasons, such as a case being closed and program completion.
In round 5, organizations were asked to report if they knew whether the youth from rounds 4 that they could no longer report had begun working with a different organization. This information was only known and reported for 12 youth in round 5.

How did the main education and employment indicators shift from round 3/4 to round 5?

Between rounds 3 and 5, the percentage of youth who completed HS, enrolled in postsecondary, and gained employment (or internships) increased substantially.

The overall disconnection rate increased slightly due primarily to a small number of recent HS graduates that did not continue in school and had not started new jobs by round 5.
What were the employment rates by HS completion status and age?

Both non-HS graduates and HS graduates increased employment rates from round 3 to round 5. While there was large increase in the percentage of 18-24 year-olds with jobs (38% to 57%), the percentage among youth ages 16-17 decreased slightly.

![Fig. 14. Employment Rates From Round 3 to Round 5, by HS Graduation and Age](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currently Employed (or other work experience)</th>
<th>Rd 3</th>
<th>Rd 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All OY</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-HS/GED graduates*</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS/GED graduates*</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 16-17*</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 18-24*</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of October 1, 2016.

What happened to the youth who were disconnected in round 3?

In round 3 there were 59 youth disconnected youth (neither working nor going to school). Because 45 (76%) of these youth were not updated in round 5, there is not a sufficiently large sample to determine what happened to the disconnected youth.

What kinds of youth made the most and least overall progress between rounds 1 and 3?

**Definition of Overall Progress:**

To classify the general state of progress for each student in terms of education and work experience, we created criteria and labeled each youth according to one of three levels.

1. **MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT:** In which any of the following apply between rounds 3 and 5...
   - Youth graduated from HS
   - Was out of school in round 3, but enrolled in school in round 5
   - Was jobless in round 3, gained new job as of round 5.
   - Note: This category includes four youth that stopped attending school but started new jobs. Three of these youth were HS graduates, and three were also parents.

   *If none of the above occurred, then the following criteria applied.*

2. **MAINTAINED PROGRESS:** Applies if youth either...
   - Remained in school (HS or postsecondary), or
   - Kept his/her job.

   *If no major achievements were attained, and progress was not maintained, then the following criteria applied.*
3. **LOST GROUND:** Applies to youth who did any of the following...
   - Ceased employment
   - Left school without graduating
   - Continued to be disconnected from work and school

As the figure below shows, there were very few youth who lost ground, with the greatest proportion (11%) among justice-engaged youth. Pregnant or parenting youth were the most likely to have made major achievements.

**Fig. 15. Progress Levels by OYP Eligibility**

![Progress Levels by OYP Eligibility](image-url)
Part 3: Changes in Self-Sufficiency from Round 3/4 to Round 5

The figure below shows self-sufficiency levels among 280 youth reported between round 3 and round 5. The largest change was for education: in round 3, 39% of youth were self-sufficient (score of 3 and higher), compared to 56% in round 5. There was little change in the other domains.

**Fig. 16.** Self-Sufficiency: Round 3 and Round 5

![Bar chart showing changes in self-sufficiency from Round 3 to Round 5 across different domains: Education, Income, Housing, Food, and Health Care.](image-url)