

ILP Participation Makes a Difference for Oregon Foster Youth

Oregon systematically collects data about Independent Living services and outcomes for the *National Youth in Transition Database* (NYTD). We can compare these by whether youth aged 16-21 participated in **individualized transition planning and life skills coaching** through one of the 14 contracted Independent Living Program (ILP) providers across the state.

According to the most recent NYTD data¹, 19 year-olds who had an ILP provider in 2019 had **better outcomes**. Compared to eligible youth who were not enrolled in ILP, youth in ILP were:

- 1.6 times as likely to have graduated high school
- More likely to be working after high school, and almost three times as likely to be enrolled in post-secondary education/training
- More likely to have medical insurance
- Less likely to report having had children

On the other hand, those who did NOT have an ILP provider:

- Almost three times as likely to have been homeless in the past two years
- Almost five times as likely to have been incarcerated in the past two years

Does ILP provision improve outcomes for foster youth in Oregon?

In 2019, 172 youth aged 19 completed NYTD surveys, and the table shows the percentage of youth who reported each outcome by whether they had an ILP provider or not. For example, youth who were not in ILP were almost three times as likely to say they had been homeless.

Youth Outcomes at age 19	Youth <u>with</u> an ILP Provider	Youth <u>without</u> an ILP Provider
Has graduated high school/GED	71%	45%
Currently working AND/OR enrolled in school	67%	50%
Has Medicaid or other insurance	93%	71%
Was incarcerated in the past two years	2%	9%
Was homeless in the past two years	4%	11%

¹ This summary reports findings from analysis of Oregon NYTD data for 1373 youth who received any IL services in 2019, including outcome surveys for a subgroup of 172 current and former foster youth aged 19. Analysis was conducted in January 2020 by Jennifer Blakeslee at Portland State University, and detailed findings can be provided.