



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Neal Young
Director

FEB 28 2011

The Honorable Janice K. Brewer
Governor of Arizona
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Brewer:

Arizona Revised Statutes § 8-521 requires the Department of Economic Security (DES) to prepare a report by March 1 of each year that contains the following information for the youth served through the Independent Living Program during the previous calendar year:

- The number of children in the program.
- The number of children in the program by age and grade.
- The number of children in the program by county of residence.
- The number of children in the program who graduated from high school.
- The number of children in the program who received a general equivalency diploma.
- The number of children in the program enrolled in postsecondary education.

In accordance with this requirement, the Department is pleased to submit the enclosed report. If you have any questions, please contact me at (602) 542-5757.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Gill
Interim Director

Enclosure

cc: President Russell K. Pearce, Arizona State Senate
Speaker Kirk D. Adams, Arizona State House of Representatives
Secretary of State Ken Bennett
GladysAnn Wells, Director, Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records



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**Department of Economic Security
Division of Children, Youth and Families
Independent Living Program/Education 2010 Annual Report**

Arizona Revised Statutes § 8-521 establishes Arizona's Independent Living Program and the supporting Educational Case Management Unit within the Department of Economic Security's (DES) Division of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF).

The Independent Living Program and the Educational Case Management Unit provide important services that assist foster youth in setting and meeting educational and life skills goals and outcomes. These services are available to both teens who are currently in foster care as well as young adults ages 18-20 years of age who were in foster care when they were teenagers. Young adults over 17 years of age in the Independent Living Program may either be enrolled in post-secondary education; or have completed graduation or attained a general equivalency diploma and chosen to work full-time rather than pursue secondary education.

As required by A.R.S. § 8-521(J), the following information is provided for calendar year 2010:

The number of youth in the Independent Living Program: On December 31, 2010, there were 1,391 youth in the Independent Living Program.

The number of children in the program by age:

Age	Number of Children
Under 13	2
13	2
14	11
15	50
16	223
17	437
18	325
19	188
20	153
TOTAL	1,391

The number of children in the program by grade:

Grade	Number of Children
Below 7	2
7	2
8	11
9	50
10	223
11	422
12	275
Post-Secondary ¹	258
Not in School ²	148
TOTAL	1,391

The number of children in the program by county of residence:

County	Number of Children
Apache	8
Cochise	26
Coconino	29
Gila	5
Graham	1
Greenlee	1
La Paz	3
Maricopa	769
Mohave	22
Navajo	14
Pima	342
Pinal	79
Santa Cruz	7
Yavapai	62
Yuma	23
TOTAL	1,391

The number of children in the program who graduated from high school in 2010: 206 youth

The number of children in the program who received a general equivalency diploma in 2010: 78 youth

The number of children in the program who are enrolled in post-secondary education: 258 youth

¹ *Post-secondary* education includes youth enrolled in colleges, universities, community colleges, and trade/technical schools.

² *Not in School* includes youth who have completed graduation, attained a general equivalency diploma, or chose to work full-time rather than pursue post-secondary education.