



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

*Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona*

Janice K. Brewer  
Governor

Clarence H. Carter  
Director

**FEB 19 2013**

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

Dear Governor Brewer:

Arizona Revised Statute § 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,

Clarence H. Carter  
Director

Enclosure

cc: President Andy Biggs, Arizona State Senate  
Speaker Andy Tobin, Arizona State House of Representatives  
Secretary of State Ken Bennett  
Joan Clark, 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 2012 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, Division of Children, Youth and Families.

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 who were in foster care when they were teenagers. Young adults over 17 years of age in the Independent Living Program must be either enrolled in postsecondary education or have completed graduation or attained a general equivalency diploma and chosen to work full-time rather than pursue post-secondary education.

As required by A.R.S. § 8-521(J), the following information is provided for calendar year 2012:

*The number of youth in the Independent Living Program:* On December 31, 2012 there were 1,572 youth in the Independent Living Program.

*The number of children in the program by age:*

Age	Number of Children
Under 13	0
13	0
14	13
15	52
16	299
17	513
18	390
19	182
20	123
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,572</b>

*The number of children in the program by grade:*

Grade	Number of Children
Below 7	0
7	0
8	13
9	52
10	299
11	493
12	305
Post-Secondary <sup>1</sup>	250
Not in School <sup>2</sup>	160
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,572</b>

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

County	Number of Children
Apache	6
Cochise	11
Coconino	17
Gila	5
Graham	1
Greenlee	1
La Paz	2
Maricopa	1,014
Mohave	38
Navajo	15
Pima	294
Pinal	93
Santa Cruz	1
Yavapai	54
Yuma	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,572</b>

*The number of children in the program who graduated from high school in 2012: 223 youth*

*The number of children in the program who received a general equivalency diploma in 2012: 75 youth*

*The number of children in the program who are enrolled in post-secondary education: 250 youth*

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

<sup>2</sup> *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.