



## *Arizona Department of Child Safety*

**Douglas A. Ducey**  
Governor

**Gregory McKay**  
Director

March 25, 2014

The Honorable Douglas A. Ducey  
Governor of Arizona  
1700 West Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Ducey:

Arizona Revised Statute § 8-521 requires the Department of Child Safety (DCS) 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) 542-5844.

Sincerely,

Gregory McKay  
Director

Enclosure

cc: President Andy Biggs, Arizona State Senate  
Speaker David M. Gowan, Sr., Arizona State House of Representatives  
Secretary of State Michelle Reagan  
Joan Clark, Director, Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records



## ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM / EDUCATION 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Arizona Revised Statutes § 8-521 establishes Arizona's Independent Living Program and the supporting Educational Case Management Unit within the Department of Child Safety.

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 may either be enrolled in postsecondary 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 2014:

*The number of youth in the Independent Living Program:* On December 31, 2014, there were 1665 youth in the Independent Living Program.

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

Age	Number of Children
Under 13	0
13	2
14	3
15	41
16	258
17	512
18	456
19	236
20	157
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1665</b>

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

Grade	Number of Children
Below 7	0
7	2
8	3
9	41
10	258
11	509
12	415
Post-Secondary <sup>1</sup>	310
Not in School <sup>2</sup>	127
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1665</b>

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

County	Number of Children
Apache	2
Cochise	18
Coconino	11
Gila	7
Graham	4
Greenlee	0
La Paz	2
Maricopa	1115
Mohave	33
Navajo	14
Pima	296
Pinal	89
Santa Cruz	3
Yavapai	48
Yuma	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1665</b>

*The number of children in the program who graduated from high school in 2014:*

**205 youth**

*The number of children in the program who received a general equivalency diploma in 2014:*

**52 youth**

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

**310 youth**

<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.