



Key Facts and Statistics about youth who age out of Foster Care

- 25% of America's foster care population is over the age of 13 ¹
- There are approximately 23,000 children who age out of the US foster care system every year ²
- 1 out of 5 teens who age out of the system become instantly homeless ²
- Only about half of aged out youth have found gainful employment by the age of 24 ²
- Although most foster kids would like to go to college, only 3% of those who age out will ever attain a bachelor's degree ²
- 1 in 4 aged out youth still suffer from the direct effects of PTSD ²

Michigan performs worse than the national average in regard to aged out youth outcomes. In Michigan by the age of 21:

- 41% have full or part time income (compared to 49% of aged out youth nationally) ³
- 66% have high school diploma or GED (compared to 76%) ³
- 59% have stable housing (vs 70%) ³
- 34% are parents (vs 31%) ³

Research confirms that more supports at a later age (beyond the age of 18) results in better outcomes for aged out and transition aged youth.⁴ Longer involvement in foster care beyond age 18 is linked to:

- Higher rates of employment
- Higher education
- Lower rates of homelessness
- Lower rates of young adult parenthood

1. "FOSTERING YOUTH TRANSITIONS: USING DATA TO DRIVE POLICY AND PRACTICE DECISIONS" By the Annie E. Casey Foundation November 13, 2018 <https://www.aecf.org/resources/fostering-youth-transitions#lists>
2. "51 Useful Aging Out of Foster Care Statistics | Social Race Media" <https://nfyi.org/51-useful-aging-out-of-foster-care-statistics-social-race-media>
3. "FOSTERING YOUTH TRANSITIONS: USING DATA TO DRIVE POLICY AND PRACTICE DECISIONS" By the Annie E. Casey Foundation November 13, 2018 <https://www.aecf.org/resources/fostering-youth-transitions#lists>
4. Fact Sheet: Older Youth Need Support Transitioning from Foster Care to Adulthood. Authors: [Rachel Rosenberg](#), [Samuel Abbott](#), [Kristin Sepulveda](#) June 03, 2019 <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/fact-sheet-older-youth-need-support-transitioning-from-foster-care-to-adulthood>