

2013 Program Report Card: Summer Youth Employment (CT Department of Labor)

Quality of Life Result: All Connecticut working age residents have jobs that provide financial self-sufficiency.

Contribution to the Result: The five workforce boards provide youth with work opportunities designed to increase their success in school and careers by giving them knowledge and experience in the world of work.

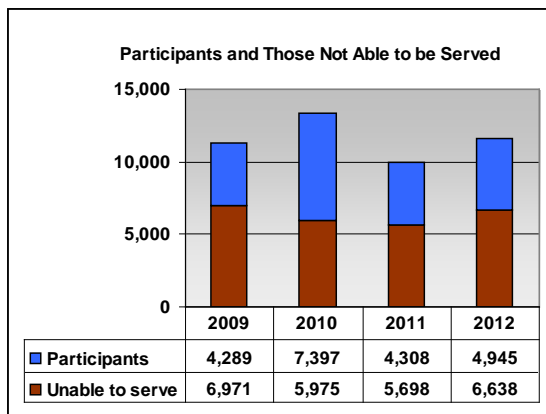
Program Expenditures	State Funding	Leveraged Funding*	DCF Funding	Total Funding
Actual PY 11	\$4,179,432	\$1,850,000	\$438,368	\$6,627,800
Actual PY 12	\$4,500,000	\$2,770,528	\$554,982	\$8,185,510

*Funds include municipal funds (City of Hartford, \$1,250,000), Walmart Foundation (\$500,000) and other private and public foundation grants, etc. These are funds the Boards leverage state funding with to engage more youth.

Partners: Employers, municipal government, CSSD, DCF, other state agencies, community agencies, local boards of education, and parents.

How Much Did We Do?

Number of Participants Served



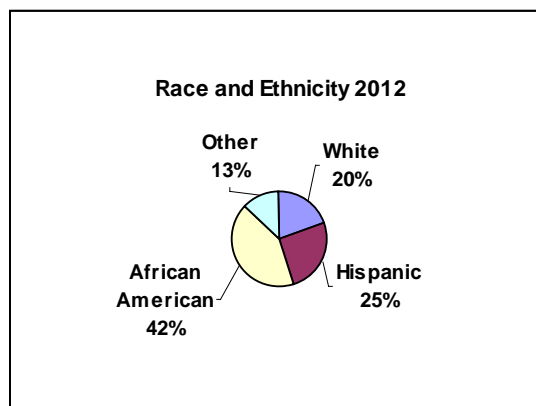
Story behind the baseline:

The uncertainty of the amount of funding, the source, and whether there will be funding makes planning and a significant problem. Despite this uncertainty, the demand and levels of service have continued to grow. The top portion of the bar shows the participants served, while the bottom portion of the bar reflects the increased demand in the program. However, despite the significant investment in the 2012 program, the bars show the increasing demand and the increasing need for funds to meet the growing demand.

Trend: ▲

How Well Did We Do It?

Race and Ethnicity of Participants



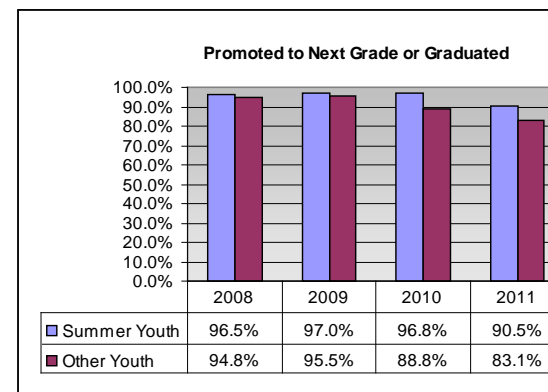
Story behind the baseline:

The distribution is similar to that of other years. The large proportion of Hispanic and Black youth demonstrates that the program is focusing on minority youth who are often most in need of employment experience, especially because they have the highest unemployment rates. The distribution of males and females is similar (47% female and 53% male).

Trend: ◀▶

Is Anyone Better Off?

Percent of Participants Promoted to the Next Grade or Graduated



Story behind the baseline:

The "Other Youth" are young people eligible for free or reduced priced meals at the beginning of the school year, and therefore meet family income criteria similar to the summer youth participants. The graph shows that program participants have consistently higher promotion or graduate rates than those who did not participate or were unable to participate because of insufficient program resources. There have been changes in the procedure used to match the summer youth data with SDE's student records. Since the procedures changed, we don't know if the decline in promotion is due to the data matching process or some other factor more closely related to student characteristics or behavior.

Trend: ▼

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Proposed Actions to Turn the Curve:

Currently, summer youth employment leaves too many young people un- or under-served. The economic benefits to both the young people as they enter adulthood and the communities in which they live are great, while the investment is relatively small. The acquisition of more funding will help address the shortage of employment opportunities for youth interested in the program. Increased employment opportunities will enable the CTDOL and its WIBs to take a more strategic approach to the use of the summer employment program as part of a more comprehensive approach to preparing youth for success in education and careers. This will improve the connections to employers and jobs that are sorely needed and move toward building the summer employment as part of a set of year-round career exploration activities for youth.

Data Development Agenda:

Several efforts to improve data collection and analysis are underway. The Workforce Investment Boards have undertaken regular reporting of data for all summer youth activity. They are also conducting analyses with the help of CSDE to determine if young people's school behavior (e.g., attendance, suspensions, and expulsions) can change from the time before they participate and after they participate.