## FACT SHEET

# Educational Outcomes for Children and Youth in Foster and Out-of-Home Care

For the almost 800,000 children and youth served in foster care each year in the United States, educational success is a potential positive counterweight to abuse, neglect, separation, and impermanence. Positive school experiences enhance their well-being, help them make more successful transitions to adulthood, and increase their chances for personal fulfillment and economic self-sufficiency, as well as their ability to contribute to society.

Unfortunately, the educational outcomes for many children in foster care are dismal. As this current research summary reveals, a large proportion of young people in foster care are in educational crises. Although data are limited, particularly national data, research makes it clear that serious issues must be addressed to ensure the educational success of children and youth in foster care.

## National Foster Care Data

The following data are based on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services report: *The AFCARS Report: Preliminary FY 2006 Estimates as of January 2008.*<sup>1</sup>

#### TABLE 1. NATIONAL FOSTER CARE STATISTICS

Children and Youth in Foster Care	Percentages/Numbers	
Children and youth served in foster care during 2007	Over 783,000 (about 1% of child population <sup>2</sup> )	
Children and youth in foster care on September 30, 2006	510,000	
Young children in foster care (age 0–4)	29% (146,479)	
School age children in foster care (age 5–18)	71% (354,721)	
Young adults in foster care (age 18–20)	5% (22,107)	
Children and youth of color in foster care	60% (304,347)*	
Male children and youth in foster care	52% (267,027)	
Youth who emancipated/aged out of foster care in 2006	9% (26,517)	
Children and youth exiting foster care who had been in care for one year or more	51% (145,611)	
Children and youth exiting foster care who had been in care for three years or more	16% (46,907)	

\*includes 2% (11,286 youth) whose race/ethnicity was unknown

A 2008 report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation uses Census Bureau data to illustrate that, in general, households with children in foster care are at a disadvantage when compared to all households with children. For example, there is often a larger ratio of children to adults, couples are less likely to be married, they have lower average household incomes, are more likely to have a householder or spouse who did not complete high school, are less likely to have a householder or spouse with a disability. <sup>3</sup>

## School Placement Stability/Enrollment Issues

#### School Mobility Rates of Children and Youth in Foster Care

- Children and youth have an average of one to two home placement changes per year while in out-of-home care.<sup>4</sup>
- School mobility rates are highest for those entering care for the first time. According to a 2004 study of almost 16,000 children and youth in the Chicago Public School system, over two-thirds switched schools shortly after their initial placement in out-of-home care.<sup>5</sup>
- A study of 479 alumni of foster care in Oregon and Washington (the Northwest Alumni Study) found that 65% experienced seven or more school changes from elementary through high school.<sup>6</sup>
- In an ongoing three-state study of youth aging out of care (the Midwest Study) by Chapin Hall, over a third of young adults reported having had five or more school changes.<sup>7</sup>
- A 2003 study of 1,087 Casey Family Programs alumni of foster care served across the country (the Casey National Alumni Study) found that over two-thirds (68%) of them had attended three or more different elementary schools and a third (33%) had attended five or more.<sup>8</sup>
- In a 2003 study of state Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs), it was found that 21 of 46 states (46%) needed to address, "multiple school changes as a result of changes in foster care placement" in order to improve the Educational Needs outcome on their review.<sup>9</sup>

#### **Negative Effects of School Mobility**

- In the 2003 Casey National Alumni Study, youth who had had one fewer placement change per year were almost twice as likely to graduate from high school before leaving care.<sup>10</sup>
- A 1999 study found that California high school students who changed schools even once were less than half as likely to graduate as those who did not change schools, even when controlling for other variables that affect high school completion.<sup>11</sup>
- A 1996 study of students in Chicago Public Schools found that students who had changed schools four or more times had lost approximately one year of educational growth by their sixth grade year.<sup>12</sup>

#### Suspensions/Expulsions

• Two-thirds (67%) of youth in out-of-home care in the Midwest Study had been suspended from school at least once compared to 28% in a national sample of general population youth. About one sixth (17%) of the Midwest youth had been expelled compared with 5% of the general population sample.<sup>13</sup>

#### **Enrollment Issues**

- In a 2000 New York study of 70 children and youth in foster care, 42% did not begin school immediately upon entering foster care. Nearly half of these young people said that they were kept out of school because of lost or misplaced school records.<sup>14</sup>
- A 2001 Bay Area study of over 300 foster parents found that "missing information from prior schools increased the odds of enrollment delays by 6.5 times."<sup>15</sup>
- The CFSR study found that 18 of 46 states (39%) had "educational records missing from case file or not provided to foster parents" and 12 states (26%) had "issues with school/agency relationships, communication or cooperation" limiting their ability to meet their Educational Needs outcome on their review.<sup>16</sup>
- A 2008 report found that "chronic absence in kindergarten is associated with lower academic performance in first grade for all children, regardless of gender, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status. Among poor children, chronic absence in kindergarten predicts the lowest levels of educational achievement at the end of fifth grade."<sup>17</sup>

## **Academic Outcomes**

#### **Academic Achievement**

- A 2001 Washington State study found that children and youth in foster care attending public schools scored 16 to 20 percentile points below youth who were not in foster care in statewide standardized tests at grades three, six, and nine.<sup>18</sup>
- Youth in foster care in the Midwest Study, interviewed primarily after completing 10th or 11th grade, on average read at only a seventh grade level. Approximately 44% read at high school level or higher. Few excelled in academic subjects, especially relative to a comparable national sample. Less than one in five received an "A" in English, math, history, or science.<sup>19</sup>
- Chapin Hall's 2004 research on Chicago Public School children and youth in out-of-home care indicates they lag at least half a school year behind demographically similar students in the same schools. (There is an overall achievement gap of upwards of one year. However, some of this is attributed to the low-performing schools that many youth in foster care attend.) Almost 50% of third to eighth grade students in out-of-home care scored in the bottom quartile on the reading section of the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS) test.<sup>20</sup>
- In the 2003 CFSR study, it was found that over half of the states failed to provide appropriate educational services to children in out-of-home care.<sup>21</sup>

#### Grade Retention/Old for Grade

- In the Washington State study, twice as many youth in foster care at both the elementary and secondary levels repeated a grade compared to youth not in care.<sup>22</sup>
- Nearly 45% of youth in care in the New York State study reported being retained at least once in school.<sup>23</sup>
- In the Midwest Study, 37% of youth in foster care (compared with 22% of a comparable national sample) reported repeating a grade.<sup>24</sup>
- Chicago Public School students in out-of-home care were almost twice as likely as other students to be at least a year older for their grade, even after demographic factors were taken into account and comparisons made to other students attending the same schools.<sup>25</sup>
- The Casey National Alumni Study found that 36% of the alumni of foster care had repeated a grade.<sup>26</sup>

## **Special Education Issues**

#### Number of Youth in Special Education

- Numerous studies indicate anywhere between one-quarter and nearly one-half (23%–47%) of children and youth in out-of-home care in the U.S. receive special education services at some point in their schooling.<sup>27</sup> The national average of all school-aged children and youth served in special education each year is close to 12%.<sup>28</sup>
- At both the elementary and secondary levels, more than twice as many youth in foster care in the Washington State study had enrolled in special education programs compared to youth not in foster care.<sup>29</sup>
- Nearly half of the youth in foster care in the Midwest Study had been placed in special education at least once during the course of their education.<sup>30</sup>
- Chicago Public School students in out-of-home care between sixth and eighth grades were classified as eligible for special education nearly three times more frequently than students not in care.<sup>31</sup>
- 38% of Casey alumni of foster care reported they had been enrolled in special education classes for youth needing extra help.<sup>32</sup>

#### **Advocacy Regarding Special Education Services**

- A 2006 Oregon study compared a group of 45 youth in foster care in special education to a group in special education, but not in foster care. They found that:<sup>33</sup>
  - » The education and transition plans of youth in foster care were lower in quality.
  - » The transition plans of the foster care group were half as likely as the comparison group's plans to contain goals regarding education after high school (31% vs. 60%).
  - » Youth in foster care were less likely to have an advocate (i.e., family member, foster parent, or educational surrogate) present at their planning process meeting (42% vs. 69%).
- In the Bay Area study, 68% of the school-age children in foster care reviewed were identified as having special needs, yet only 36% were receiving special education services.<sup>34</sup>
- In the New York study, Advocates for Children of New York found that:
  - » 90% of biological parents of children in foster care surveyed did not participate in any special education processes concerning their child.<sup>35</sup>
  - » 60% of caseworkers/social workers surveyed "were not aware of existing laws when referring children to special education" and over 50% said "that their clients did not receive appropriate services very often while in foster care."<sup>36</sup>

## Mental, Emotional and Behavioral Issues

#### **Mental Health**

- In the Northwest Alumni Study, 54% of alumni of foster care had one or more mental health disorders in the past 12 months, such as depression, social phobia or panic syndrome (compared with 22% of general population).<sup>37</sup>
- In the same study, 25% of alumni had post-traumatic stress disorder within the past 12 months (compared with 4% of general population), which is twice the rate of U.S. war veterans.<sup>38</sup> This is a mental health condition that can substantially affect school performance in terms of interfering with a youth's ability to concentrate and come to school rested.
- A 2003 study that surveyed key child welfare administrators in 92 localities about their policies for screening children entering out of home care found that only 43% of them provided comprehensive assessments that included physical, mental health, and developmental examinations.<sup>39</sup>

#### **Emotional and Behavioral Issues**

- Recent research in Chicago confirmed previous statewide research findings that children in foster care are significantly more likely than children in the general population to have a special education classification of an emotional or behavioral disturbance.<sup>40</sup>
- Several studies have found that children and youth in foster care are significantly more likely to have school behavior problems and that they have higher rates of suspensions and expulsions from school.<sup>41</sup>

## **High School Completion Rates**

#### High School Completion Rates/Drop-Out Rates

- A 2008 report by the EPE Research Center indicates that, nationwide, about 71% of 9th graders make it to graduation four years later. That figure drops to 58% for Hispanics, 55% for African-Americans, and 51% for American Indians.<sup>42</sup>
- Studies have found differing rates of high school completion (through a degree or GED), by youth in out-of-home care, though the measures have been defined somewhat differently:
  - » In the Washington State study, 59% of youth in foster care enrolled in 11th grade completed high school by the end of 12th grade.<sup>43</sup>
  - » The young adults in the Northwest Alumni Study and the Casey National Alumni Study completed high school (via diploma or GED) at rates of 85% and 86%, respectively, by age 25, which is comparable to the general population rate. This study found that foster care for some children can have positive effects, due in part to the encouragement and supports provided by foster parents and agency staff members. Both studies found, however, much higher GED completion rates compared to the general population (5%): over one in four (29%) in the Northwest Study,<sup>44</sup> and one in five (19%) in the Casey National Alumni Study.<sup>45</sup>
  - » In the Midwest Study, approximately 58% of youth in foster care had a high school degree at age 19, compared to 87% of their same-age peers in a comparable national sample.<sup>46</sup> Nearly one-quarter did not have a diploma by age 21, compared to only 11% of the national sample.<sup>47</sup>
  - » A 1994 national study of young adults who had been discharged from foster care found that 54% had completed high school. <sup>48</sup>
  - » In the Chapin Hall study of Chicago Public School youth, fifteen-year-old students in out-of-home care were about half as likely as other students to have graduated five years later, but significantly more likely to have dropped out (55%) or been incarcerated (10%).<sup>49</sup>
- A 1997 study on long-term outcomes for children in foster care on a national level found that youth in foster care are more than twice as likely (37% vs. 16%) to have dropped out of high school than non-foster youth. Five years later, 77% of the alumni of foster care who had dropped out of high school had completed a high school diploma or GED, compared with 93% of the youth not in foster care who had dropped out.<sup>50</sup>

#### Factors Contributing to Dropping Out

- A 1995 nationwide study of over 17,000 students found that being retained even once between first and eighth grade makes a student four times more likely to drop out than a classmate who was never held back, even after controlling for multiple factors.<sup>51</sup>
- School mobility has also been implicated as a clear risk factor for dropout in several studies.<sup>52</sup>
- The 2006 EPE Research Center report indicates that repeating a grade, changing schools, and behavior problems are among the host of signals that a student is likely to leave school without a traditional diploma.<sup>53</sup>
- The book *Drop Outs in America* reports research that shows the following students are at risk for dropping out: students of color, students who had been held back, students who are older than others in their grade, and English-language learners.<sup>54</sup>

## Postsecondary Preparation, Entrance, and Completion

#### **College Preparation**

- The majority (80%) of those youth in out-of-home care interviewed in the Midwest Study at age 17–18 hoped and expected to graduate from college eventually.<sup>55</sup>
- A national study done in 1997 indicates that only 15% of youth in foster care are likely to be enrolled in college preparatory classes versus 32% of students not in foster care, even when they have similar test scores and grades.<sup>56</sup>
- Strong academic preparation has been found to be the single most important factor in enrolling and succeeding in a postsecondary program. However, in the United States, studies of the general population have found that:
  - » Only 32% of all students leave high school qualified to attend a four-year college.<sup>57</sup>
  - » Only 20% of all African American and 16% of all Hispanic students leave high school college-ready.58
  - » Between 30–60% of students "now require remedial education upon entry to college, depending on the type of institution they attend."<sup>59</sup>

#### Postsecondary Entrance/Completion Rates

- The Northwest Alumni Study<sup>60</sup> found that of the alumni of foster care who were interviewed:
  - » 43% completed some education beyond high school.
  - » 21% completed any degree/certificate beyond high school.
  - » 16% completed a vocational degree (22% among those age 25 or older).
  - » 1.8% completed a bachelor's degree: (3% among those age 25 or older) compared to the general population rate of 24%.
- The Midwest Study found that 30% of 21 year-old alumni of foster care completed any college compared to 53% of 21 year-olds nationally. Only one-quarter were currently enrolled in school compared with 44% of their national sample peers. Among those enrolled, young adults in the Midwest Study were less likely to be enrolled in a four year-college than young adults in the general population (28% vs. 71%).<sup>61</sup>
- The Casey National Alumni Study reported college completion rates of 9% (at any age) compared to the general population rate of 24%.<sup>62</sup>

## Social/Economic Issues

#### Social Issues

- In the Midwest Study, 71% of the young women reported having been pregnant by age 21, compared to only one-third (34%) of the comparison national sample. Three in five (62%) of the pregnancies among alumni of foster care were repeat pregnancies.<sup>63</sup>
- The Midwest Study also found that youth aging out of the child welfare system had higher rates of offending across a range of behaviors from property crimes to serious violent crimes than their same age peers. Both male and female youth in foster care, for example, were over 10 times more likely to report having been arrested since age 18 than youth in a comparative sample.<sup>64</sup>
- In the Northwest Alumni Study, more than one in five alumni (22%) reported experiencing homelessness since discharge from foster care.<sup>65</sup> In the Midwest Study, 18% of youth at age 21 reported experiencing homelessness since leaving care, and of those, one-third (33%) had been homeless three or more times.<sup>66</sup>

#### GED vs. High School Diploma

• In research done in 1998 analyzing the educational and labor market performance of GED recipients, it was found that individuals earning a GED credential instead of a high school diploma spend less time working, experience more job turnover, and earn lower wages than those with a high school diploma. They were also half as likely to earn associate's degrees and even less likely to earn bachelor's degrees.<sup>67</sup>

#### **Economic Impact**

- Compared to graduates, the EPE Research Center found that high school dropouts are more likely to be unemployed, earn lower wages, have higher rates of public assistance, be single parents, and have children at a younger age.<sup>68</sup>
- According to the Northwest Alumni Study, alumni of the foster care system experience difficult employment and financial situations once they become 18 and age out of the system.<sup>69</sup>
  - » One-third (33%) lived at or below poverty (about three times the national rate).
  - » One-third (33%) had no health insurance (almost twice the national rate of 18%).
  - » Their employment rate was 80% (compared with 95% of same-aged members of the general population).
  - » 17% were currently receiving cash public assistance (compared to 3% of the general population).
- The Midwest Study reported that, compared to a national sample, fewer youth formerly in care were currently employed (52% v. 64%), and they had lower mean hourly wages (\$8.85 v. \$9.99) and mean annual incomes (\$8,914 v. \$12,728). In addition, only half had a checking or savings account compared with 81% of their peers.<sup>70</sup>
- In addition, half of the 21 year-olds (50%) in the Midwest Study had experienced at least one of five material hardships (i.e., not enough money to pay rent, not enough money to pay utility bill, gas or electricity shut off, phone service disconnected, or evicted), more than one-quarter had low or very low food security and three-quarters of women and over one-third of men had received government benefits in the last few years.<sup>71</sup>

## **Supportive Factors**

#### Staying in Foster Care After Age 18

- The Midwest Study <sup>72</sup> found that:
  - » Young adults who stayed in care after 18 were more than twice as likely to be enrolled in a school or training program as those who had been discharged (67% vs. 31%).
  - » Young adults who stayed in care after 18, who had a high school diploma or GED, were over three times as likely as those no longer in care to be enrolled in a 2- or 4-year college. (37% vs. 12%).
  - » Compared to the 19 year olds still in foster care, those who left the system were more likely to have become pregnant.<sup>73</sup>

#### **Caring, Stable Relationships**

• A study conducted with 216 emancipated foster youth attending a four-year university found that social support was an important factor in their educational success: nearly 87% had either a friend or family member to ask for help or advice if needed, 80% had contact with their birth family, and 60% still maintained relationships with their foster or kin-care parents.<sup>74</sup>

- A qualitative study of 38 educationally high-achieving (i.e., obtained at least a bachelor's degree) alumni of foster care found that most of the young adults had a mentor or a role-model with whom the youth had a close relationship.<sup>74</sup> One in three young adults believed that for alumni of foster care to succeed in higher education, they need the continued support and advice of a mentor or other adult who understands their experiences.<sup>75</sup>
- A recent study using National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health data from 1994–2002 showed that youth in foster care who were mentored had, on average, a significantly greater number of positive outcomes than non-mentored youth, such as higher educational attainment (borderline significant), lowered physical aggression, and better general health.<sup>76</sup>

#### **Existence of Education Advocates**

- Multiple studies indicate that children in foster care often lack a knowledgeable, consistent educational advocate.77
- Further studies indicate that foster parents, social workers, and judges who are entrusted with the welfare of the child in care too often lack the training and awareness to provide the educational advocacy that children in care especially need.<sup>78</sup>
- In the 2003 CFSR study, it was found that one-third of the states reviewed failed to provide appropriate educational advocacy for children and youth in foster care.<sup>79</sup>
- A 2008 study of children age three and younger entering care found that children who had a legal advocate had a significantly higher rate of exit to permanency than comparison children without an advocate.<sup>80</sup>

#### **Independent Living Services**

- A 2008 five-state study of youth in foster care and alumni of care age 16–21 showed that the more quarters of college preparation services they received, the greater the likelihood they had of achieving a postsecondary outcome. With no college preparation services, 8% achieved a postsecondary outcome. For participants with 7–9 quarters of college preparation services, 63% obtained a postsecondary outcome.<sup>81</sup>
- About two in five (39%) 21 year-old alumni of foster care in the Midwest Study reported that it would have been useful to have received training or assistance to help them learn to live on their own.<sup>82</sup>

## Early Childhood Education/Early Intervention

#### Early Education Experiences of Young Children in Foster Care

- A 2007 analysis of multistate foster care data indicates that about one in five children initially placed in foster care is under the age of one year and infants have a much longer duration of first placement in foster care than any other group. An additional 26% are ages one to five, with the next longest duration of first placement in care.<sup>83</sup>
- Research on 2003 data from the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW) and the National Survey of America's Families found that 6% of children in foster care under age six are in Head Start, and about one-third (29%) attend some type of child-care center.<sup>84</sup>
- The NSCAW study also reported that "59% of foster children ages two months to two years can be described as being at high risk for a clinical level of impairment," based on caregivers responses to questions designed to assess infants' and toddlers' neurological and cognitive development. Only about one in ten children (9%) are at low risk.<sup>85</sup>
- A 2006 focus group study bringing together individuals within the foster care system found that many Child Protective Services (CPS) agencies do not require or provide adequate funding for caregivers to send young foster children to preschool. In addition, there are often not enough spaces, and children in foster care are often not given the priority status to which they may be entitled.<sup>86</sup>

- A 2005 national study on 2,813 young children in child welfare found that about 40% of toddlers and 50% of preschoolers have high developmental and behavioral needs; however, only 23% of children overall are receiving services for these issues.<sup>87</sup>
- Only 18% of the foster parents in the 2000 New York study reported that children in their care were enrolled in preschool programs. Of the foster parents who indicated that none of the foster children they cared for were enrolled in preschool programs, 80% reported that no one advised them to enroll these children in such programs.<sup>88</sup> In addition, 89% of the biological parents in the study stated that they were unaware of, and never informed about, the Early Intervention program while their children were in foster care. Without parental consent, most children in foster care cannot receive these services.<sup>89</sup>

#### **General Early Learning Research**

- The Chicago Longitudinal Study followed the education and social development of more than 1,500 low-income children served by the Chicago Child-Parent Center. When compared to a peer group who did not receive the center's services, participants had a 41% lower rate of juvenile arrest for violent offenses, 41% fewer special education placements, and 51% fewer allegations of child abuse and neglect. At age 21, the participants had a 20% higher rate of high school completion. Every dollar invested in the program returned four dollars to the public in reduced costs of crime, welfare, and remedial education (2001 data).<sup>90</sup>
- The High/Scope Perry Preschool is a multi-year study of 123 low income African-American children who were assessed to be at high risk of school failure. Fifty-eight received a high-quality preschool program at ages 3 and 4; the other 65 children received no preschool program. Differently timed follow-up studies were used to track the child outcomes over time. One early follow-up study found that the group that received high-quality early learning had higher IQs at age 5. A later follow-up noted that these children had higher high school graduation rates. More recent follow-up studies have found the treatment group children had fewer arrests and higher median annual incomes than those who received no preschool.<sup>91</sup>
- A 2005 review of research on socioeconomic status and academic achievement found that "children who live in families with lower income and less parent education begin to score lower on standardized developmental tests as early as 18 months, and the differences typically increase into the school-age years."<sup>92</sup>

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## Endnotes

This research was compiled by Casey Family Programs in support of work efforts of the National Working Group on Foster Care and Education.

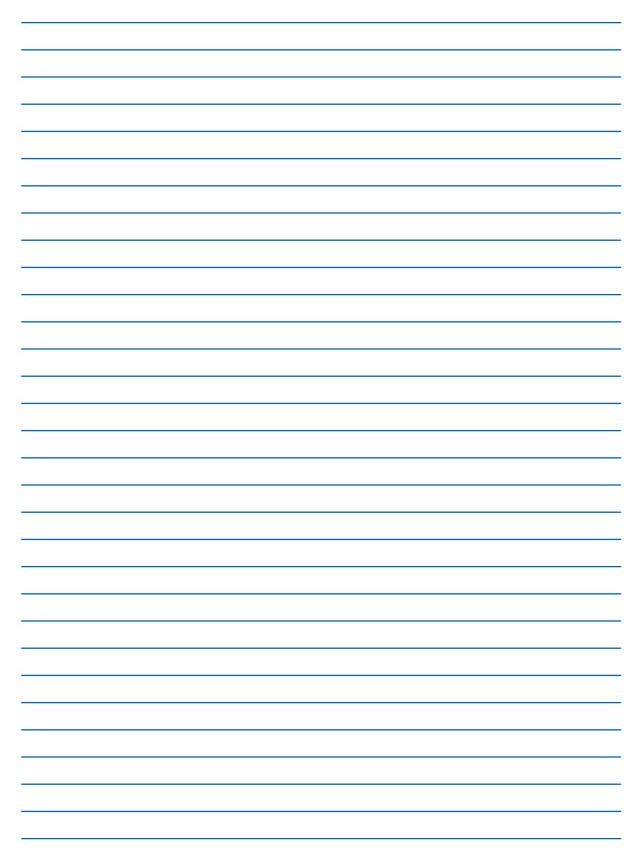
- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- <sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2007
- <sup>3</sup> O'Hare, 2008, pp. 3, 18
- <sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- <sup>5</sup> Smithgall et al., 2004, p. 46
- <sup>6</sup> Pecora, et al., 2005, pp. 26, 28
- <sup>7</sup> Courtney, et al., 2004, p. 42
- <sup>8</sup> Pecora, et al., 2003, pp. 26-27
- <sup>9</sup> Christian, 2003, p. 3
- <sup>10</sup> Pecora et al., 2003, p. 43
- <sup>11</sup> Rumberger, et al., 1999, p. 37
- <sup>12</sup> Kerbow, University of Chicago, 1996, p. 20
- <sup>13</sup> Courtney, et al., 2004, p. 42
- <sup>14</sup> Advocates for Children of New York, Inc., 2000, p. 4
- <sup>15</sup> Choice, et al., 2001, p. 44
- <sup>16</sup> Christian, 2003, p. 4
- <sup>17</sup> Chang & Romero, 2008, pp. 4-5
- <sup>18</sup> Burley & Halpern, 2001, p. 13
- <sup>19</sup> Courtney, et al., 2004, pp. 43, 45
- <sup>20</sup> Smithgall et al., 2004, pp. 14, 17
- <sup>21</sup> Christian, 2003, p. 3
- <sup>22</sup> Burley & Halpern, 2001, p. 1
- <sup>23</sup> Advocates for Children of New York, Inc., 2000, p. 45
- <sup>24</sup> Courtney, et al., 2004, p. 42
- <sup>25</sup> Smithgall et al., 2004, p. 22
- <sup>26</sup> Pecora, et al., 2003, p. 26
- <sup>27</sup> Courtney, et al., 2004 (47% of 732); Smithgall, et al., 2004 (45% of 1,216 sixth through eighth graders); Burley and Halpern, 2001 (23% of 1,423 third graders, 29% of 1,539 six graders, 24% of 1,597 ninth graders); Choice, et al., 2001 (36% of 303); Advocates for Children of New York Inc., 2000 (30% of 70); Zanghi, 1999 (41% of 134); Jones, et al., 1998 (23% of 249); Goerge, et al., 1992 (29.1% of 14,714).
- <sup>28</sup> IDEA Part B Child Count (2005), Table 1-10 and IDEA Part B Data Fact Sheet. The percentage of children ages 6-17 served by IDEA in the United States in 2005 at a certain point in time was 11.59%. It is not a cumulative count of all students served throughout the year and actual percentage may be slightly higher. States have different eligibility criteria for each disability category. As a result, the proportion of students with a particular disability differs from state to state. Accessed 8/29/07 at: www.ideadata.org/arc\_toc7.asp#partbCC.
- <sup>29</sup> Burley & Halpern, 2001, p. 16

- <sup>30</sup> Courtney, et al., 2004, p. 40
- <sup>31</sup> Smithgall et al., 2004, p. 58
- <sup>32</sup> Pecora, et al., 2003, p. 26
- <sup>33</sup> Geenen & Powers, 2006, pp. 9-11
- <sup>34</sup> Choice et al., 2001, pp.54, 89
- <sup>35</sup> Advocates for Children of New York, Inc., 2000, p. 6
- <sup>36</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>37</sup> Pecora et al., 2005, p. 34
- <sup>38</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>39</sup> Leslie, et al., 2003, p. 2
- <sup>40</sup> Goerge et al., 1992, p. 3; Smithgall et al., 2004, p. 58
- <sup>41</sup> Courtney, et al., 2004, p. 42; Barber & Delfabbro, 2003, pp. 6-7; McMillen et al., 2003, p. 475; Zima et al., 2000, pp. 98, 99; Kortenkamp & Ehrle, 2002, pp. 2-3
- <sup>42</sup> EPE Research Center, 2008, p. 3
- 43 Burley & Halpern, 2001, p. 1
- <sup>44</sup> Pecora, et al., 2005, pp. 2, 35
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- <sup>50</sup> Blome, 1997, pp. 45, 47
- <sup>51</sup> Rumberger, 1995, p. 601
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- <sup>53</sup> EPE Research Center, 2006
- 54 Orfield, G., Ed., 2004, p. 157
- <sup>55</sup> Courtney, et al., 2004, p. 39
- <sup>56</sup> Blome, 1997, p. 47
- <sup>57</sup> Greene, 2005, p. 9
- 58 Ibid.
- <sup>59</sup> Conley, 2005, p. xi
- <sup>60</sup> Pecora, et al., 2005, p. 36
- <sup>61</sup> Courtney, et al., 2007, pp. 26-27
- <sup>62</sup> Pecora, et al., 2006, p. 225
- 63 Courtney, et al., 2007, p. 50
- 64 Cusick & Courtney, 2007, p.6
- <sup>65</sup> Pecora, et al., 2005, p. 23
- <sup>66</sup> Courtney, et al., 2007, pp. 15-16
- <sup>67</sup> Boesel, Alsalam, & Smith, 1998, pp. xii-xiv.
- <sup>68</sup> EPE Research Center, 2006

- <sup>69</sup> Pecora, et al., 2005, p. 27
- <sup>70</sup> Courtney, et al., 2007, pp. 32, 35-36
- <sup>71</sup> Courtney, et al, 2007, p. 37
- <sup>72</sup> Courtney, et al., 2005, p. 21
- <sup>73</sup> Courtney, et al., 2005, p. 54
- <sup>74</sup> Merdinger, et al., 2005, p.891
- <sup>75</sup> Martin & Jackson, 2002, p. 128
- <sup>76</sup> Ahrens et al., 2008, p. e251
- <sup>77</sup> Ayasse,1995, p. 10; Goerge, et al., 1992, p. 8; Smucket, et al., 1996, pp.11-13
- <sup>78</sup> Advocates for Children of New York, Inc., 2000, pp. 56, 58; Altshuler, 1997, p. 3
- <sup>79</sup> Christian, 2003, p. 4
- <sup>80</sup> Zinn, 2008, p. 14
- <sup>81</sup> Institute for Educational Leadership, 2008, pp. 26-27
- <sup>82</sup> Courtney, et al., 2007, p. 25
- 83 Wulczyn, 2007, pp. 13, 33-34
- <sup>84</sup> Vandivere, et al., 2003, p. 3
- <sup>85</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>86</sup> Zetlin, et al., 2006, p. 169
- <sup>87</sup> Stahmer, et al, 2005, pp. 896-7

- <sup>88</sup> Advocates for Children of New York, Inc., 2000, p. 35
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- <sup>90</sup> Reynolds, et al., 2002, pp. 278, 289
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- 92 Sirin, 2005, qtd. in Center on the Developing Child, p. 7

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