

Santa Fe Reconnecting Youth Survey
Results Brief: Education Statistics by Age Group

The **RECONNECTING YOUTH SURVEY (RYS)** was conducted in the late summer and fall of 2017 to identify risk and resiliency factors, and barriers to services among youth who are not included in school-based surveys.

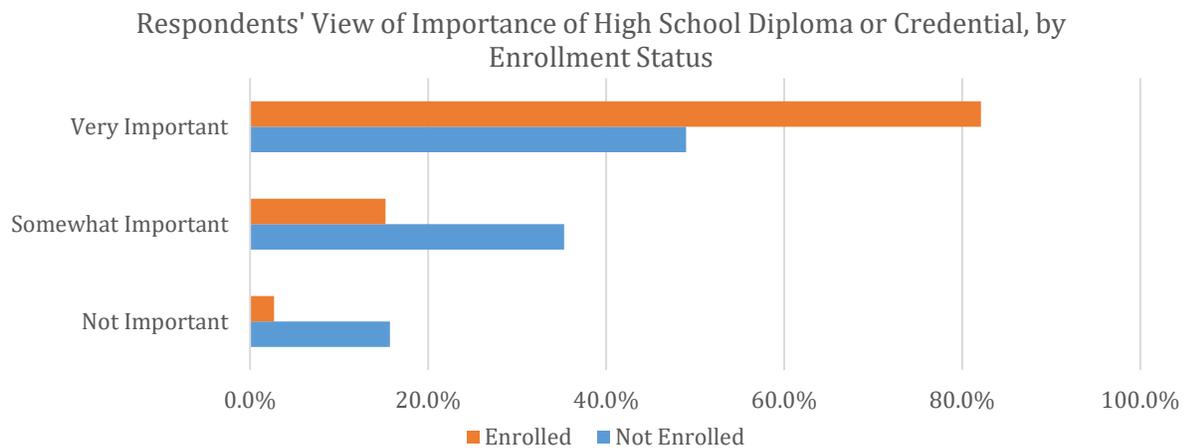
TARGET POPULATION 14-26 year old Santa Fe County youth not in school and not working, or at risk of not being in school or work
SAMPLING Non-probability sample based on list of community-based locations
DATA COLLECTION Youth and young adults hired to collect survey data using mobile devices
SAMPLE SIZE 457 completed surveys

RESPONDENT CHARACTERISTICS

Of all respondents, 279 were not enrolled in schooling of any sort – as well as not enrolled in HiSET or GED classes – during Fall semester 2017. Of these 279 respondents, 75 unique respondents (26.9%) were between the ages of 14 and 18.# Of those 75 respondents, 53 were also unemployed.

EDUCATION STATISTICS: AGES 14-18

Of the respondents aged 14-18, those who are not enrolled in school are **5.9 times as likely** to view having a diploma* as not important as their enrolled counterparts.



During the previous 12 months, some 14-18-year-old respondents reported challenges related to school. The three most prominent issues reported were poor grades, having other family responsibilities, and not having adequate transportation.

Barriers:	Percent Responding "Yes":
Poor grades	33.8%
Other family responsibilities	20.3%
No transportation	16.5%
Had to work instead	11.7%
Had to care for kids	8.1%
Can't afford to go to school	7.8%
Poor English skills	5.2%
Lack necessary documents	3.0%



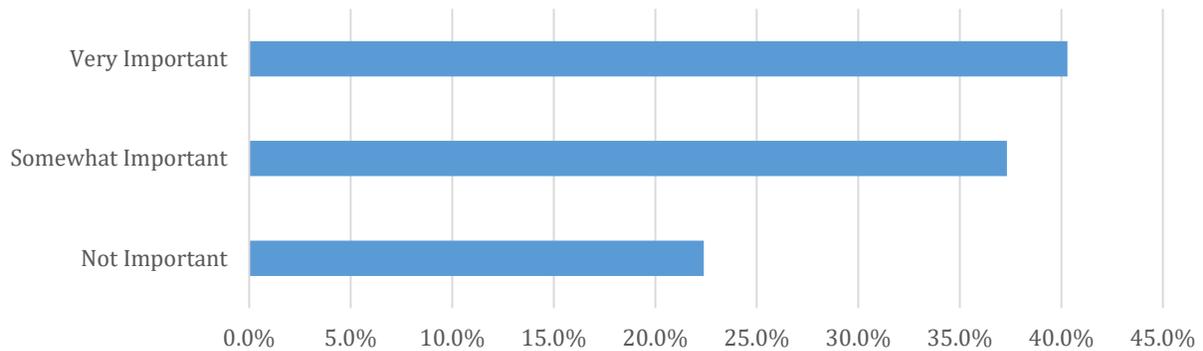
According to NMSA 1978, § 22-12-2, a “school-age person shall attend [a public, private or home school, if that person is not institutionalized] until... at least eighteen years of age” unless that person has graduated from high school or received a high school equivalency credential.

* “Diploma” is defined as a high-school-level credential, such as a general equivalency diploma (GED), a passing score on the ETS High School Equivalency Test (HiSET), or a high-school diploma. Permission to use data and more documentation are available from the Reconnecting Youth Working Group of Opportunity Santa Fe (info@opportunitysantafe.org).

EDUCATION STATISTICS: AGES 19-26

Of respondents aged 19-26, those enrolled in schooling of some sort are **1.77 times as likely** to say that obtaining a diploma is “Very Important” when compared to their non-enrolled counterparts.

Non-enrolled Respondents' View of Importance of High School Diploma or Credential

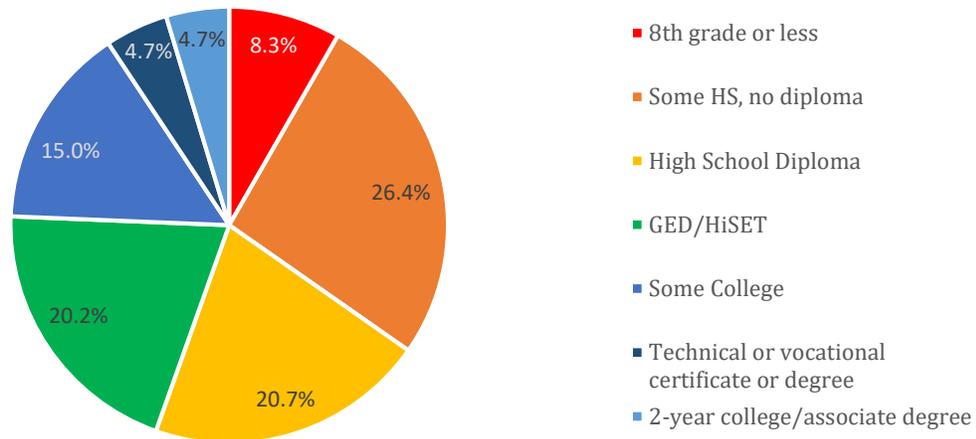


Respondents between 19 and 26 reported challenges related to school. The largest challenge reported was having to work as opposed to attending school; however, inadequate transportation and inability to afford school were also widely reported as challenges.

Barriers:	Percent Responding "Yes":
Had to work instead	35.1%
Poor grades	33.8%
Other family responsibilities	25.7%
No transportation	23.0%
Can't afford to go to school	16.2%
Lack necessary documents	9.5%
Had to care for kids	6.8%
Poor English skills	4.1%

Among respondents age 19 to 26, those having an eighth-grade education or less are **8 times as likely to not be enrolled in schooling of any sort**. Those having some high school education but no diploma are **10.2 times as likely to not be enrolled**.

Educational Attainment, Non-enrolled 19-26 year olds

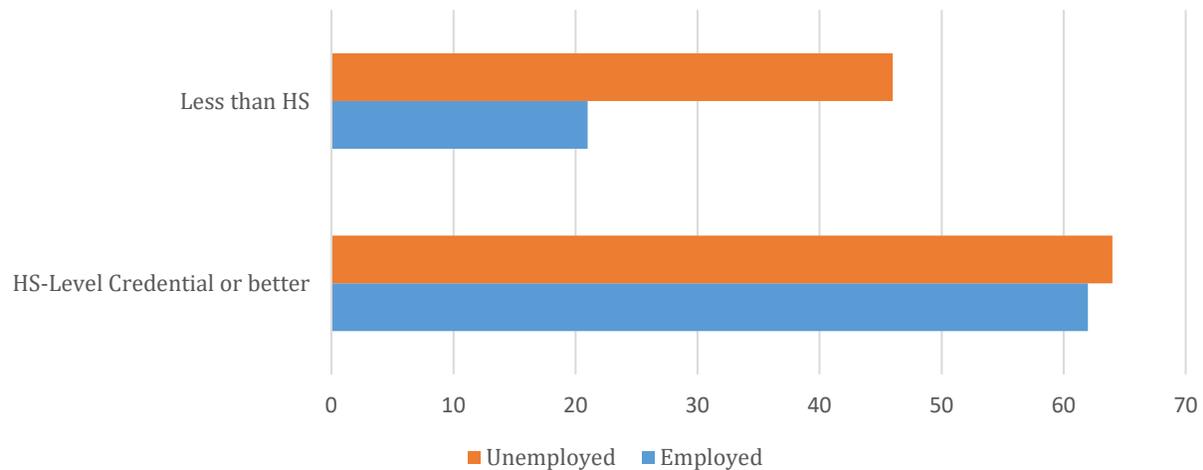


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EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: AGES 19-26

Respondents lacking a diploma are **1.35 times as likely to be unemployed** rather than employed. These respondents made up **22.9%** of the cohort that is employed, while unemployed respondents who lack a diploma made up **41.3%** of the cohort.

Employment by Educational Attainment, Non-enrolled 19-26 year olds



Respondents who have a diploma can expect to have higher yearly earnings. While only **16.7%** of respondents having an 8th grade education or less made \$1,000 or more in the previous year, **61.6%** of respondents with a diploma made at least \$1,000 in the previous year. Respondents possessing a post-secondary award (degree or certificate) tend to earn more, with **47.8%** of these making more than \$15,000 a year.

Educational Attainment vs. Yearly Earnings, Non-enrolled 19-26 year olds

