Improving Child Well-Being in New Mexico

Economic Well-Being
INDICATOR: Teens Not in School and Not Working*

2016 indicator ranking: 40th

Percent of teens not in school and not working: 9%

Number of teens not in school and not working: 10,000

Trends in teens not in school and not working:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>NM</th>
<th>US</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHAT IT WOULD TAKE TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES**

To move up 1+ rankings to 32nd:
It would take a 5% drop in teens not in school and not working.
Which means 530 fewer disconnected teens.

To move up 5+ rankings to 20th:
It would take a 17% drop in teens not in school and not working.
Which means 1,700 fewer disconnected teens.

To move up to the top ranking:
It would take a 50% drop in teens not in school and not working.
Which means 5,100 fewer disconnected teens.

WHAT NEW MEXICO CAN DO

- Enact initiatives to lower the cost of college.
- Develop a state youth employment strategy using a career pathways approach to help identify and provide support for disconnected youth.
- Provide support for vulnerable students who are at risk for dropping out.
- Implement systems to identify and address chronic absenteeism.
- Fund alternative high schools, evidence-based drop-out prevention and recovery programs.
- Expand access to education-oriented youth employment and career exploration programs.
- Target WIOA funds for out-of-school youth.

*Teens (ages 16 to 19) not attending school and not working, 2014
**Ranking improvement estimates are based on point-in-time data reported in 2016; changes in other states’ outcomes can also influence New Mexico’s future rankings.
Sources: Rankings from: KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2016 (because states can tie in indicator rankings it may take more than 1 or 5 rankings in order to move up); Data from: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2008-2014