COMMONWEALTH CORPORATION

YouthWorks

PY 24-25

Creating pathways to opportunity for young people



YouthWorks gives young people ages 14–25 greater access to paid employment opportunities, where they gain meaningful work experience, build essential core skills, and explore future careers. The program serves as an important entry point into the workforce, particularly for young people who may face barriers to employment, including those from low-income families, those involved with the justice or foster care system, young people with disabilities, those who identify as LGBTQIA+, and those with limited English proficiency.

Through partnerships with employers, schools, and community organizations, YouthWorks provides structured summer and year-round work experience across public, private, and nonprofit sectors, with participants earning approximately $15–$20 per hour. YouthWorks also combines on-the-job experience with workforce readiness training through the Signal Success curriculum, helping participants develop foundational skills such as communication, teamwork, time management, and professionalism.

YouthWorks is a state-funded workforce development program (GAA Line Item #7002-0012) administered by Commonwealth Corporation on behalf of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development. By connecting young people with early employment and career exploration, YouthWorks expands access to opportunity while helping Massachusetts employers build a skilled and prepared pipeline of future talent.

YouthWorks impact

The following provides an overview of YouthWorks results and impact in 2024 and 2025.

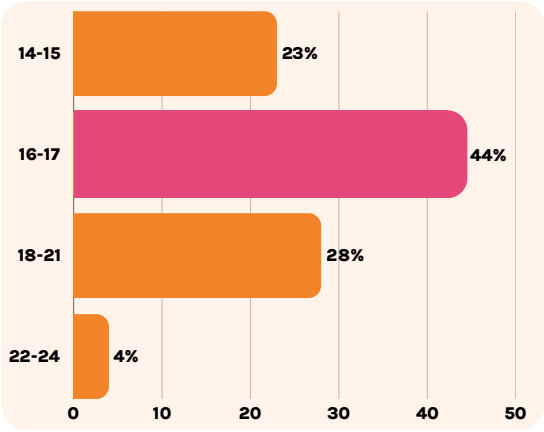
$20,093,183
Total Funding Awarded

5,387
Young Adults Served

4,392
Paid Work Experiences

668
Employer Partners

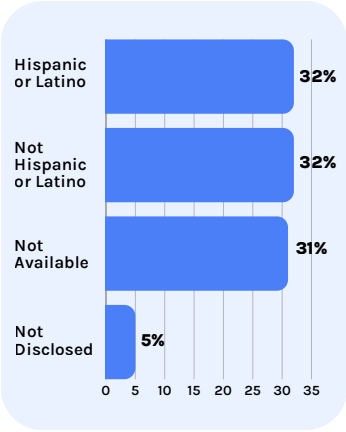
AGE



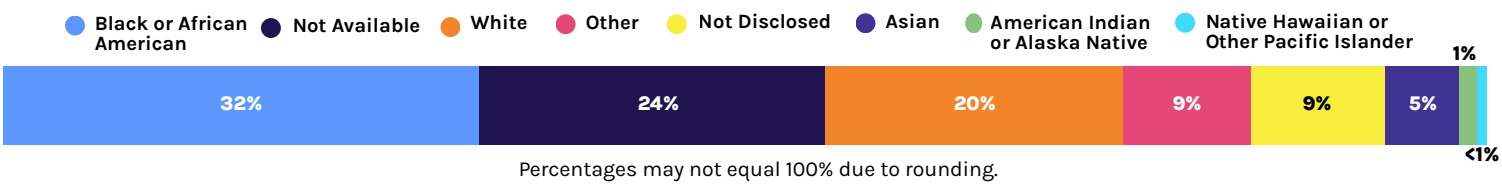
GENDER IDENTITY

Gender Identity	% of Participants
Male	49.3%
Female	48.7%
Non-Binary/ Non-Conforming	0.9%
Not Disclosed	0.8%
Transgender	0.3%

ETHNICITY



RACE



Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

YOUTHWORKS REGIONAL IMPACT PY 24-25

Across Massachusetts regions, YouthWorks connects youth, employers, and communities.

BERKSHIRE

Over $500K Invested

99 Youth Served | 34 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Education and Hospitality

BOSTON

$4M Invested

1,183 Youth Served | 82 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Social Services & STEM

BRISTOL

Over $1.3M Invested

509 Youth Served | 67 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Education, Child Care, Maintenance, Grounds Keeping

GREATER BROCKTON

Over $990K Invested

189 Youth Served | 48 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Education and Retail

CAPE COD & ISLANDS

Over $120K Invested

26 Youth Served | 15 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Educational Services

CENTRAL REGION

Over $1.6M Invested

457 Youth Served | 72 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Community/Social Service, Agriculture/Environmental

FRANKLIN HAMPSHIRE

Over $240K Invested

32 Youth Served | 18 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Maintenance/ Landscaping and Human Services

HAMPDEN COUNTY

$2.4M Invested

661 Youth Served | 88 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Youth Counselor and Clerical

GREATER LOWELL

Over $1M Invested

289 Youth Served | 44 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Arts and Communication, Childcare

MERRIMACK VALLEY

$1.3M Invested

330 Youth Served | 32 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Non-profit, Social Services, Public Sector, Education

METRO NORTH

Over $2.1M Invested

492 Youth Served | 51 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Healthcare & Social Assistance, Professional, Scientific, Technical Services

METRO SOUTH WEST

Over $800K Invested

162 Youth Served | 46 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Education and Public Sector

GREATER NEW BEDFORD

Over $1M Invested

312 Youth Served | 24 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Culinary, Food & Hospitality

NORTH CENTRAL

Over $450K Invested

104 Youth Served | 6 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Early Childhood Education and Media Arts

NORTH SHORE

Over $1.2M Invested

442 Youth Served | 15 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Public Sector/Social Services and Education

SOUTH SHORE

$900K Invested

120 Youth Served | 33 Employer Partnerships

Top Industries: Healthcare, STEM, Childcare, Hospitality, Manual Labor, Manufacturing

