

The Importance of Youth Employment

Philadelphia struggles with continued poverty and inequity, which has serious implications for not only our young people, but for the economic growth of our city overall. Too many young people are out of work, which is disproportionate to the demand for workers in a local economy driven by knowledge and STEM industries.

Among the 10 largest US cities, Philadelphia has the highest rate of deep poverty, households with incomes below half of the poverty line.¹

Philadelphia is one of the most unequal cities in the country, with high levels of disparity in key indicators including income, housing value, and education level.²

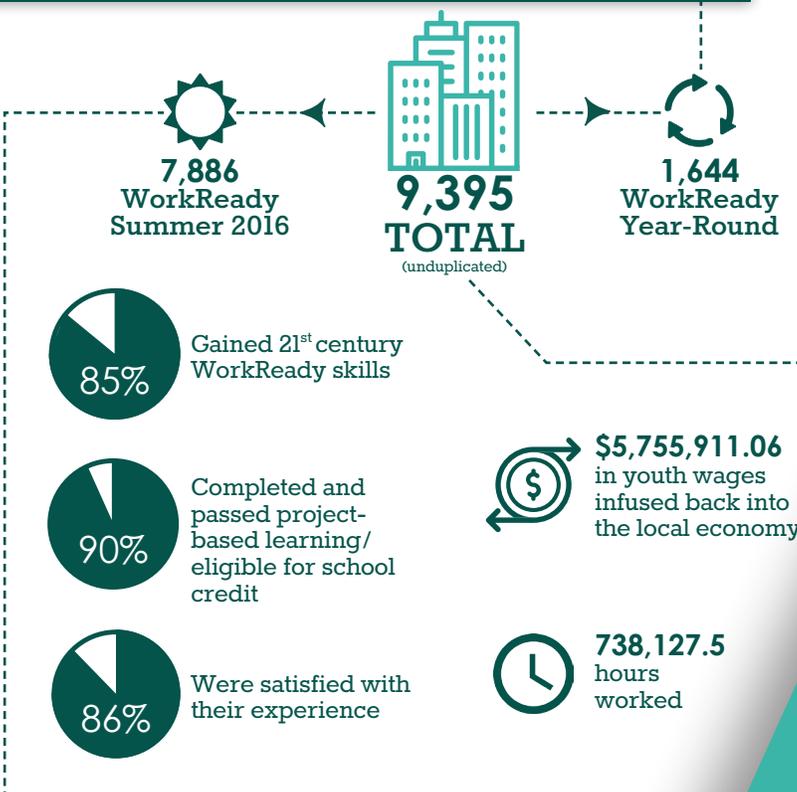
Youth employment rates are 47.3% and 48.3% nationally and statewide, respectively, while Philadelphia lags behind at 36.4%.³



WorkReady Philadelphia, managed by the Philadelphia Youth Network (PYN), addresses the skills gap for vulnerable young people. With programs in the summer and year-round, WorkReady is designed to create long-lasting relationships while helping young people gain critical 21st century skills that are foundational to entering the workforce. WorkReady addresses youth employment by providing young people an opportunity to learn and bringing employers new energy, creativity, comfort with technology and eagerness to learn.

1. Bureau of Labor Statistics
2. Urban Institute
3. 2015 American Community Survey, 16-24 year olds, 5-year estimates

The Impact of WorkReady Philadelphia in 2015 - 2016



Since the Inception of WorkReady



Working Collaboratively to Make a Difference

WorkReady is a citywide effort that uses cross-sector partnerships to connect our city's young people to opportunity. PYN works to leverage funding through public and private investments to support WorkReady, which distributes support to a network of providers, who coordinate worksites where young people have their introduction to the world of work.

Youth

9,395 youth served

Youth involved in WorkReady:

- Gain professional skills and long-lasting connections
- Learn fiscal responsibility and financial literacy
- Participate in early exposure of varied career opportunities

Providers

A network of 64 providers

Youth-serving organizations offering high-quality experiences.

Providers involved in WorkReady:

- Connect to built-in programmatic and administrative supports
- Receive diversified funding through procurement to increase program offerings
- Have greater access to youth populations throughout the city to expand reach of programs

Investors

\$25+ million invested from public and private sectors

There are many ways to invest in WorkReady.

Investors involved in WorkReady:

- Financially support youth work experiences across Philadelphia through donations and Education Improvement Tax Credits (EITC)
- Create unique funding opportunities, including public and private partnerships

Employers

807 worksites across 18 industries

When employers participate in WorkReady, they help create meaningful experiences for young people, while shaping the future workforce of our city.

Employers involved in WorkReady:

- Host young people at their worksite
- Invest in the future of their organization and industry
- Build a targeted talent pipeline of youth

WorkReady
PHILADELPHIA

**Data above relates to the 2015-2016 program year.*



Get Connected

pyninc.org/connected



Contact Us:

workready@pyninc.org
267.502.3800



Financially sponsor a work experience

Hire a young person at your workplace

Help us expand and innovate programs to reach more young people

Make a Commitment to Youth Employment

Help us give more young people an opportunity by supporting WorkReady programs that promote career-connected education experiences.

WorkReady is managed by the Philadelphia Youth Network



To alleviate poverty and inequity through education and employment.

VISION

MISSION

To create coordinated systems which promote the attainment of academic achievement, economic opportunity and personal success.