

Rikers Island Education Report: Educational Programming for Adolescents and Young Adults at Rikers Island – Local Law 168 of 2017

INTRODUCTION

The tables below present data for the New York City Department of Education’s (DOE) annual Rikers Island Education Report. In line with the requirements of Local Law 168 of 2017, data are reported for young adults (18-, 19-, 20-, and 21-year-olds) who were in educational programming at Rikers Island during the 2023-24 school year. East River Academy (ERA) provides educational programming for young adults at Rikers Island. On October 1st, 2018, all 16- and 17-year-olds (adolescents) were moved off Rikers Island and ERA moved from serving 16–21-year-old students to 18–21-year-old students.

DATA TABLES

Enrollment by Month and Student Age Group

Group	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Adolescent	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Young Adult	65	77	92	94	104	129	135	139	132	114	286

Enrollment among Young Adults in Educational Programming

Status	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
In Custody	573	572	556	545	533	537	520	514	496	494
Enrolled N	65	77	92	94	104	129	135	139	132	114
Enrolled %	11%	13%	17%	17%	20%	24%	26%	27%	27%	23%

Notes: Figures for “In Custody” were provided by the Department of Corrections (DOC) and represent the number of young adults in custody at Rikers Island as of the last school day of each month.

The number of hours of educational programming afforded to young adults on each school day:
4 hours and 11 minutes

List of Course Offerings Provided to Adolescents and Young Adults by Subject Area

Art
Digital Literacy
ELA
Health
Math
Physical Education
Science
Social Studies

Enrollment by Academic Track and Student Age Group

Student Group	HS Grade		HSE Track	
	N	%	N	%
Adolescent	.	.	.	.
Young Adult	13	5%	273	95%

Number of Students who Graduated from High School or Took and Passed the GED

Student Group	HS Grad	Took HSE	Passed HSE
Adolescent	.	.	.
Young Adult	7	63	20

Student Functional Levels According to Grade Equivalent Score Range on the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE)

GE Range	Reading		Math	
	N	%	N	%
0 - 1.9	<5	.	<5	.
2 - 3.9	18	20%	15	24%
4 - 5.9	39	44%	34	55%
6 - 8.9	20	22%	8	13%
9 - 10.9	8	9%	<5	.
11 - 12.0	<5	.	<5	.

Notes: The Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) is administered to students at admission to ERA and approximately every 30 instructional days. ERA students who are working towards earning a Regents diploma typically do not take the TABE. Figures between 1 and 5 are replaced with a "<5".

Student Age in Years as of Discharge Date/Last Day of School Year

Age in Years	N	%
18	41	14%
19	100	35%
20	145	51%

Notes: Age is measured as of students' discharge date from ERA or the last day of the school year among students who were still enrolled as of that date.

Enrollment among Students with IEPs by Month and Age Group

Group	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Adolescent	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Young Adult	28	36	40	41	49	64	66	70	63	56	137
	43%	47%	43%	44%	47%	50%	49%	50%	48%	49%	48%

Number of Students with IEPs with Completed Special Education Plans

Student Group	Total SWD	SWD Enrolled 30+ Days	Completed SEP
Adolescent	.	.	..
Young Adult	137	86	66

Notes: The Special Education Plan (SEP) outlines the special education services to be provided to ERA students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). It is based on the IEP prepared by the last school attended by the student, modified to the extent necessary so that it can be implemented in a correctional facility. Students at ERA are required to get all the services listed on their SEP. SEPs are to be completed and implemented within 30 instructional days of program admission.

Number of Students with IEPs Who Received Counseling Services at East River Academy

Student Group	Total SWD N	Received Counseling N	%
Adolescent	.	.	.
Young Adult	137	91	66%

Notes: ERA guidance counselors and social workers use a case management system to log the counseling services they provide to students. Counseling service provision was determined by an analysis of data from that system.

Enrollment among English Language Learners by Month and Age Group

Group	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Adolescent	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Young Adult	7	7	9	8	6	8	8	10	10	7	17
	11%	9%	10%	9%	6%	6%	6%	7%	8%	6%	6%

Number of Department of Education Staff Assigned to Work at Department of Education Sites

Staff Type	Number of Staff
Teacher	26
Other than Teacher	29

Average Class Size at East River Academy: 13

Vocational Education Participation, Completion, and Programming by Age Group

Student Group	Voc Ed Enroll	Passed Course
Adolescent	.	.
Young Adult	<5	<5

Notes: Figures between 1 and 5 are replaced with a "<5". Program participation is measured based on ERA vocational course enrollment and completion is measured by whether students passed one or more vocational course at ERA. Note that some students passed more than one vocational course at ERA.

Number and Percentage of HS Grade Students Enrolled 50 or more Days and Credits Accumulation by Age Group

Student Group	Enrolled 50+ Days	Earned HS Credits		Average HS Credits Earned	
	N	N	%	Mean	Median
Adolescent	.	.	.	.	.
Young Adult	<5	.	.	.	.

Notes: Notes: Figures between 1 and 5 are replaced with a "<5". Students on the high school tracker at ERA are awarded credits at the end of each trimester. Trimesters are approximately 60 days long.

NYC DOE School Attendance Following Release

Student Group	Has Post-Program Attend N	Average Attendance Rate	
		Mean	Median
Adolescent	.	.	.
Young Adult	23	20%	13%

Notes: Post-program attendance is measured for up to 60 instructional days following students' transfer from ERA. Only students who transferred from ERA to a DOE school or program and who had at least 10 instructional days of post-ERA attendance were included in the analysis.

The number of unique assaults on department of education staff by incarcerated individuals: <5

Plans to Ensure the Educational Progress of Students Released from the Custody of DOC

Every student at ERA is assigned to a guidance counselor or social worker called a Transition Specialist who helps the student to plan for their post-DOC transition and provide ongoing support following their release.

ERA students complete transition plans with the support of their Transition Specialists. The plans record students' short and longer-term educational goals as well as where the students plan to enroll following release and why this is a good fit for the student.

ERA Transition Specialists provide follow-up support to students for approximately six months post-release from DOC. They visit students after release at schools and CBOs to provide ongoing support and they check-in with students via phone and text. An Assistant Principal is assigned to manage the Transition Specialists and oversee transition support at ERA.

ERA student support staff use a case management system that provides them with access to post-release educational data including enrollment and attendance data as well as contact information for the students and their families. The system is also used to record Transition Specialists' case notes and students' transition plans.