



## Resilience Issue Primer: Educational Foundation

Every child and youth needs and deserves the intellectual development, motivation and personal, social-emotional and cultural skills needed for educational, professional, and financial success. Research shows that the more years a child spends in school, the better are their chances for a successful future. This requires that children have access to quality early learning environments, consistent formal education, and access to informal career guidance and mentoring.

### Experiences of Children in New York

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- \* 20% of NYC parents do not believe that their child's school offers a wide enough variety of classes and activities to hold their child's interest;
- \* Three quarters of low-income parents in the city are not accessing available high quality subsidized early education programs;
- \* 60% of teens that began high school in 2002 had still not graduates after four years;
- \* Approximately 200,000 NYC teens over 16 years old are "disconnected" from both school and the workforce.

### Related Resilience Law and Policy Areas

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- \* Policies that promote availability of, and access to, quality early education learning environments and child care programs;
- \* Policies that promote and protect parents' access to family and adult literacy programs;
- \* Laws that protect parents' rights to access their children's school records, meet with school personnel and demand certain educational support services for their children;
- \* Education laws that ensure the availability of meaningful non-traditional educational opportunities;
- \* Workforce development policies that link secondary and post-secondary educational programs to employment opportunities.