

January 30, 2026

Representative Jennifer Leeper, Co-Chair of the Education Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3300, Hartford, CT 06106

Senator Douglas McCrory, Co-Chair of the Education Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3300, Hartford, CT 06106

Representative Cory Paris, Co-Chair of the Children's Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2701, Hartford, CT 06106

Senator Ceci Maher, Co-Chair of the Children's Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2701, Hartford, CT 06106

Representative Steven Stafstrom, Co-Chair of the Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3300, Hartford, CT 06106

Senator Gary Winfield, Co-Chair of the Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3300, Hartford, CT 06106

Representative Emmanuel Sanchez, Co-Chair of the Labor Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3300, Hartford, CT 06106

Senator Julie Kushner, Co-Chair of the Labor Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3300, Hartford, CT 06106

Representative Jillian Gilchrest, Co-Chair of the Human Services Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2002, Hartford, CT 061062

Senator Matthew Lesser, Co-Chair of the Human Services Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2002, Hartford, CT 061062

Representative Cristin McCarthy Vahey Co-Chair of the Public Health Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3300, Hartford, CT 06106

Senator Saud Anwar, Co-Chair of the Public Health Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3300, Hartford, CT 06106

Representative Toni Walker, Chair of the Appropriations Committee



Legislative Office Building, Room 3300, Hartford, CT 06106

Senator Catherine Osten, Co-Chair of the Appropriations Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3300, Hartford, CT 06106

Honorable Leaders of the Education, Children's, Judiciary, Labor, Human Services, Public Health and Appropriations Committees:

Pursuant to Section 22 of Public Act 24-45, please find enclosed the final report on disconnected and at-risk youth.

The act requires the Executive Board of DataLinkCT (formerly the Connecticut Preschool Through Twenty and Workforce Information Network, P20 WIN) to "submit an annual report on disconnected youth," using the data model established in the data sharing agreement for past P20 WIN "Research on Disengaged and Disconnected Youth in Connecticut." The report uses the definition of "disconnected youth" established in Section 21 of the same Public Act.

As the Chair of the Executive Board for DataLinkCT, I submit this report to meet these statutory requirements outlined in PA 24-45. The report was developed by the Data and Policy Analytics division at the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), which staffs the DataLinkCT board, and the State Department of Education.

The report details various counts and trends for disconnected youth and youth at-risk of disconnection. As of the 2024-25 school year, approximately 108,140 of Connecticut's 612,826 young people aged 14 to 26 were disconnected or at-risk of disconnection. Efforts underway at the State Department of Education designed to address chronic absenteeism continue to yield benefits to students, with the number of students considered at-risk for disconnection declining compared to the 2024 report.

In closing, I would like to reiterate our commitment to supporting the needs of Connecticut youth, young adults, and their families. The findings of this report will support agencies in meeting that commitment. If you have any questions regarding the report and data, please contact Scott Gaul, Chief Data Officer at OPM (scott.gaul@ct.gov / 860-418-6236).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelli-Marie Vallieres".

Dr. Kelli-Marie Vallieres
Chief Workforce Officer, Office of Workforce Strategy
Chair, P20 WIN (now DataLinkCT) Executive Board

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