

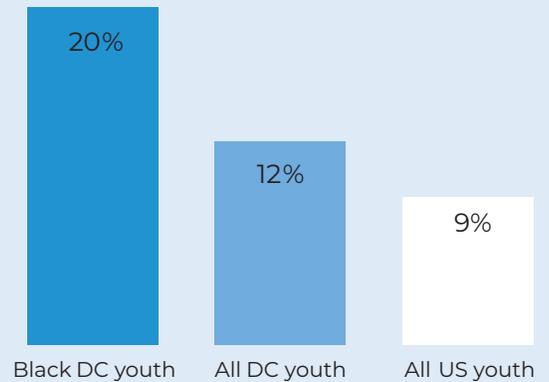
# Youth Employment

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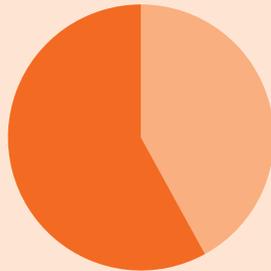
**YOUNG DC RESIDENTS STRUGGLE TO ACCESS ENTRY-LEVEL EMPLOYMENT**

Among black District residents age 20-24, over **20%** were unable to find paid, unsubsidized work in 2016

**Youth Unemployment Rates**



**TOO MANY DC YOUTH LACK THE EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIALS THEY NEED FOR CAREER SUCCESS**



**ONLY 42%** of DCPS high school seniors are on track to graduate in 2018

Yet **71%** of all jobs in the District require some post-secondary training beyond high school



**TOO FREQUENTLY, DC YOUTH LACK THE SUPPORTS TO OBTAIN CRITICAL EDUCATIONAL & WORKFORCE SKILLS**

**8,300+** DC youth 16 - 24 are neither in school nor employed  
This represents **9%** of all District youth of this age.

Under-resourced youth struggle to succeed in educational programs

Are hindered in meeting educational benchmarks

Cannot access living wage jobs with career potential

Experience multiple, increasingly prolonged periods of disconnection

Lack access to entry-level employment

# QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

## Youth Employment

Young people need strong education and workforce development opportunities to succeed in DC's competitive job market.

1. DC's job market is difficult to enter, especially for young people without a high school diploma or with low reading or math skills. How will you make sure that young DC residents are prepared for employment or job training after high school?
2. We know the unemployment rate for youth of color is nearly double the rate for all youth. What are your plans to ensure that young people of color have access to early, paid work experiences so they can succeed in the long term?
3. Thousands of District youth are disconnected from school and work. How will you prioritize these young people in your role through educational and training opportunities?
4. Perhaps the best-known employment program in the District, the Marion Barry Summer Youth Employment Program (MBSYEP) provides exposure to work for nearly 13,000 youth every year. Is it enough? What more can the District do to engage youth in workforce development year-round?