

IMPACT REPORT

police youth challenge

2019



BALTIMORE CHESAPEAKE BAY
OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL

POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE (PYC)

PROGRAM BACKGROUND / HISTORY

The Police Youth Challenge (PYC) program has engaged various levels of the Baltimore City Police Department (BPD) and Baltimore City school-aged youth since 2008. Between 2012 and 2015, The Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, funded by a grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice, Delinquency and Prevention, conducted a quantitative and qualitative study of the PYC program.


After the unrest that occurred in Baltimore in April 2015 following the death of Freddie Gray Jr., Baltimore Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School (BCBOBS) worked with the BPD and a variety of funders to significantly expand the program to include all active duty BPD officers, trainees and command staff. The program expansion officially began on January 14, 2016. At this time, BCBOBS also began an internal quantitative study of the program. Results presented in this report are preliminary and include all study data collected since January 2016.

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

Officers who participated in the PYC program reported as part of Baltimore Police Department's in-service training. Baltimore City school-aged youth, average age of 14, were recruited from 76 different Baltimore City schools and nonprofit organizations. Of the 5,993 PYC participants (officers and youth) through Q4 of 2018, the quantifiable data ranged from 1,254 to 1,943 records per scale item. Graphs included in this report show responses in percentage of participants surveyed and reflect cumulative data from January 2016 through December 2018.

Discover more at www.outwardboundbaltimore.org/policeyouthchallenge



 Photo by Matthew Rakola

POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE: PARTICIPANTS

SCHOOLS / ORGANIZATIONS

76

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

5,993

AVERAGE YOUTH AGE

14



0 - 4 YEARS



5 - 9 YEARS



10 - 14 YEARS



15+ YEARS

The chart to the left shows the distribution of Officers, based on their years of service with the Baltimore Police Department.

SCHOOLS / ORGANIZATIONS

ACCE Academy for College and Career Exploration
ACCE High School
Armistead Gardens Elementary Middle School
Arundel Elementary Middle School
Augusta Fells Savage Ins of Visual Arts
Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks
Baltimore City Recreation Centers
Baltimore Community Mediation
Baltimore IT Academy
Baltimore Police Department Explorers
Baltimore SquashWise
Baltimore Urban Debate League
Baltimore Youth Kinetic Energy (BYKE) Collective
Barclay Bike Club
Barclay Elementary Middle School
B'CITY Youth Coalition
Benjamin Franklin High School at Masonville Cove
Booker T. Washington Middle School

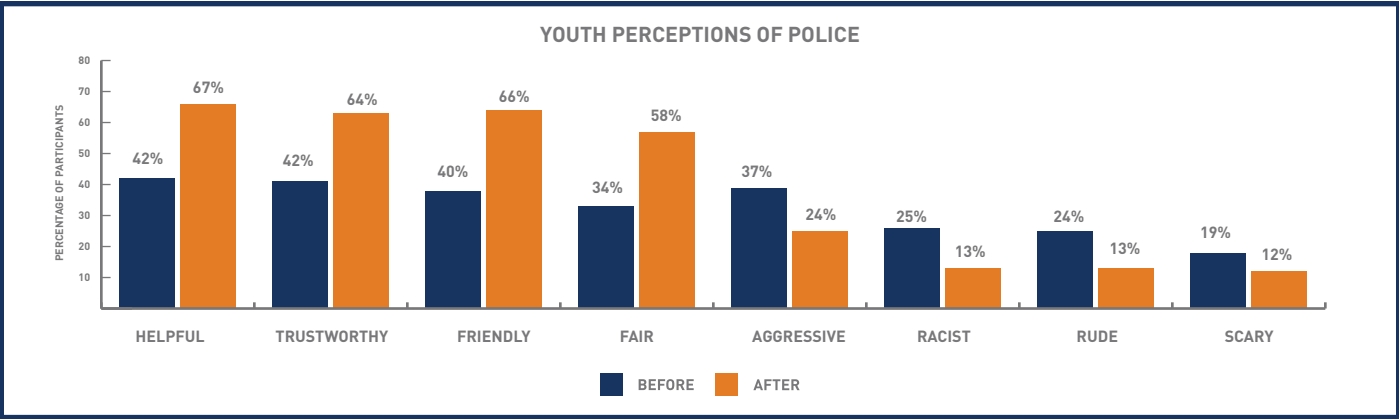
Boy Scouts of America Baltimore Area Council
BPD Community Collaboration Division
Catherine's Family & Youth Services, Inc.
CHIP Mentoring - Alternative Directions Inc.
Choice Program
City Neighbors Charter School 1
City Neighbors High School
City Springs Elementary Middle School
Civic Works
Collington Square Elementary/Middle School
Commodore John Rodgers Elem/Middle School
ConneXions Community Based Arts School
Coppin Academy
DENT Education
Dickey Hill Elem/Middle
Digital Harbor High School
Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson Elementary Middle School
Dr. Nathan A Pitts-Ashburton Elementary Middle School

Empowerment Academy Elementary/Middle
Esperanza Center
Fallstaff Elementary / Middle School
Francis Scott Key Elementary Midd
Great Kids Farms
Green Street Academy
Hampden Elem/Middle
Hampstead Hill Academy
Harlem Park Elementary Middle School
Holabird Elementary Middle School
I Am Mentality/Youth Male Empowerment Project
Independence School Local 1
Lakeland Elementary Middle School
Lillie May Carroll Jackson Charter School
Maree Farring Elementary Middle School
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School
Monarch Academy Baltimore City Public Charter School
Mt. Royal Elementary Middle School
New Era Academy

Patterson High School #405
Patterson Park Public Charter School
Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
Penn North Kids Safe Zone
REACH Partnership School
Reginald F. Lewis High School
Renaissance Academy
Roberta's House
Rognel Heights Middle School
Roland Park Elementary Middle School
SAFE Alternative Foundation for Education, Inc
SEED School of Maryland
Soccer Without Borders (SWB)
St. Francis Neighborhood Center
Stadium School
The Crossroads School
Tunbridge Public Charter School
Vanguard Collegiate Middle School
Western High School
Windsor Hills Elementary Middle School

POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE: SHIFTING PERCEPTIONS

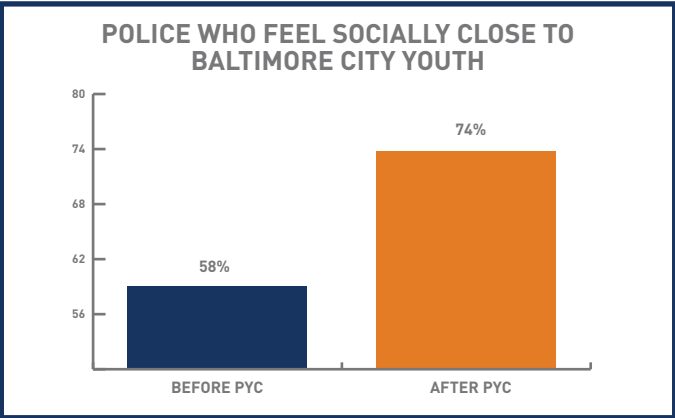
Youth are given an opportunity to rank their perceptions of Officers on a 7-point Likert scale both before and after the PYC. The data below represents the percentage of the surveyed population that experienced a statistically significant change in their perceptions. Findings demonstrate an increase in positive perceptions and a decrease in negative perceptions across all adjectives given.



Y-axis indicates percentage of youth who responded to the survey questions. Each of the attitudes included here show significant differences in attitudes after participation in PYC; all paired t-tests were <0.001, n=1,943.

42% of Officers surveyed made significant positive change in their responses regarding stereotyped beliefs of youth after the PYC.

Questions included, “Most Baltimore youth deserve to be helped”, “Engaging with Baltimore youth is a worthwhile use of time and energy”, and “In general, Baltimore youth think and act alike”. (n=1,669).



Y-axis represents percentage of Police who responded to the survey. Paired t-test <0.001, n= 1,739.

SOCIAL DISTANCE

60% of Officers surveyed made significant positive change in their responses to these questions from before the PYC program to after the PYC program. Questions included, “There is reason for additional caution when working with Baltimore youth”, “I don’t relate very well to Baltimore youth”, “I wouldn’t mind living next to Baltimore youth”, and “I would never want my children dating a Baltimore Youth”.

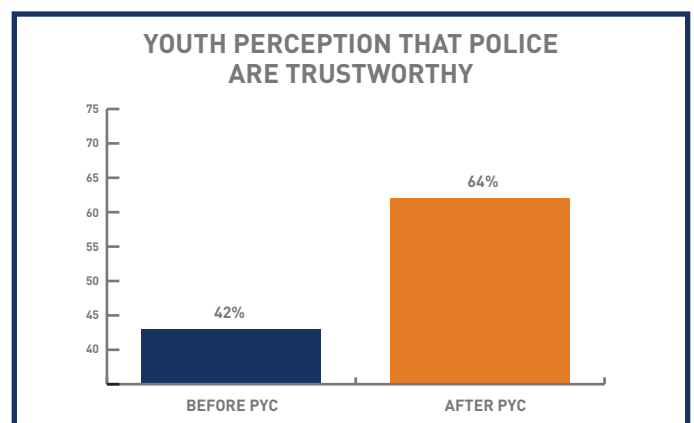
POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE: REBUILDING TRUST

After the PYC, 88% of Officers surveyed think youth are trustworthy. 56% of Officers made significant positive change in their feelings from pre survey to post-survey.

Questions included, "Baltimore youth typically tell the truth", and "I can let my guard down around Baltimore youth". (Paired t-test <0.05 , $n=1,746$).



64% of the youth left the program thinking police are trustworthy.



Y-axis indicates percentage of youth who responded to the survey questions. Each of the attitudes included here show significant differences in attitudes after participation in PYC; all paired t-tests were <0.001 , $n=1,943$.

POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE: FORGING RELATIONSHIPS

IMPORTANCE OF POLICE AND YOUTH RELATIONSHIP

After the PYC, 88% of Officers feel that building relationships with youth is important. 52% of Officers surveyed made significant positive changes in their response to questions from before the PYC program to after the PYC program. Questions included, “Police Officers can benefit from positive interactions with Baltimore City youth,” and, “Police Officers should be positive role models for Baltimore City youth.” (Paired t-test <0.05, n=1,714)

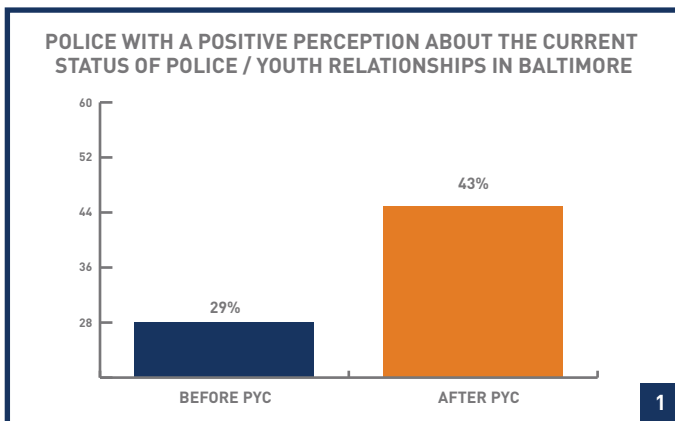
CURRENT CLIMATE OF RELATIONSHIP (TABLE 1)

48% of Officers surveyed made significant positive changes in their feeling that the relationship between Officers and youth is getting better. Question: “Police relationships with Baltimore City youth are very good.” (Paired t-test <0.001, n=1,678)

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING SKILLS

40% of Officers surveyed made a significant positive change toward feeling like they now have the skills to interact with youth after the PYC. (n=1,707)

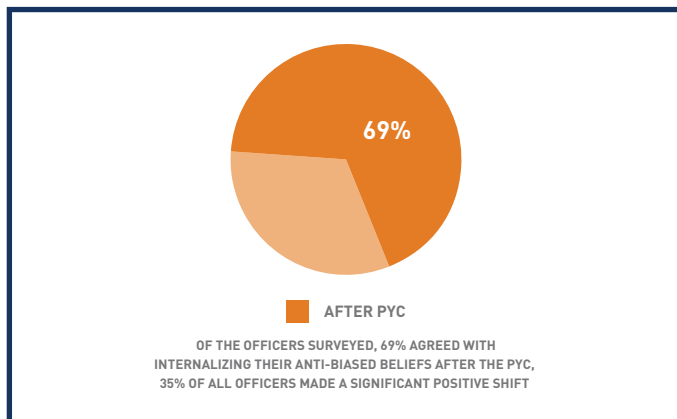
85% of Officers feel that they have the skills to positively interact with youth after the PYC.



Y-axis represents percentage of Police who responded to the survey. Paired t-test <0.001, n=1,678.



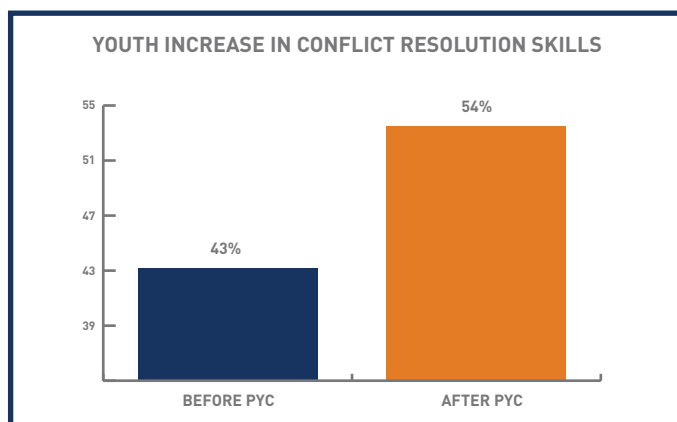
POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE: BIAS & BEHAVIOR



Represents percentage of Officers who responded to the survey. (n=1,327)

POLICE WITH INTERNALLY DRIVEN MOTIVATIONS TO ACT IN NON-PREJUDICED WAYS TOWARD BALTIMORE CITY YOUTH

35% of Officers made significant positive changes toward internalizing anti-biased beliefs about Youth from before the PYC program to after the PYC program. The question for internal motivation was as follows, "If I acted prejudiced toward Baltimore youth, I would be concerned that others would be angry with me."



Y-axis represents percentage of youth who showed statistically significant change.

YOUTH SKILL DEVELOPMENT IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION

After just one day at the PYC, youth leave feeling more capable of resolving conflict in constructive, non-violent ways. As future interactions between youth and police are promoted and encouraged, these skills become increasingly important.

"A great experience, what Outward Bound is doing with youth is very powerful. Getting to know the youth definitely made me appreciate why I signed up to work for the Police Department."

- PYC Officer Participant

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 All Photos by Matthew Rakola



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