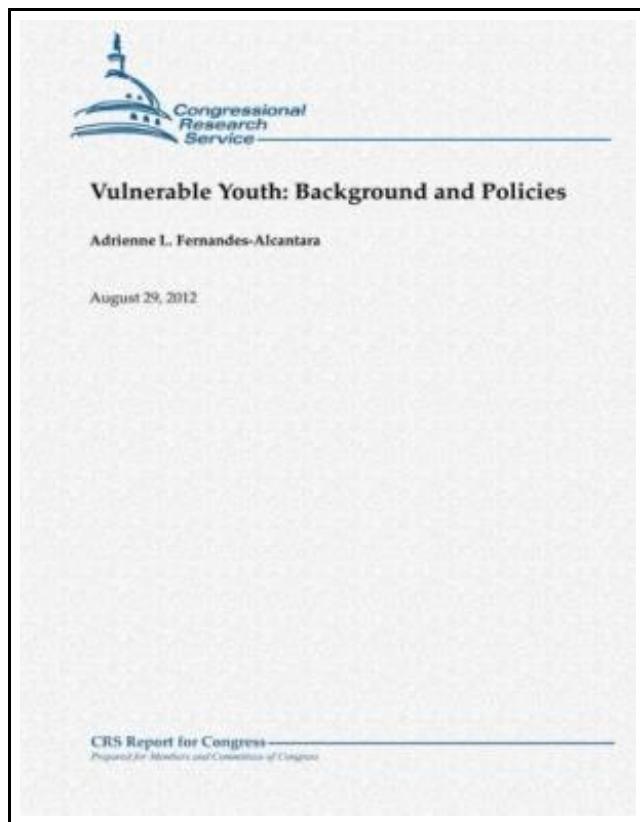


## Vulnerable Youth: Background and Policies



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Createspace. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 72 pages. Dimensions: 11.0in. x 8.5in. x 0.2in. The majority of young people in the United States grow up healthy and safe in their communities. Most of those of school age live with parents who provide for their well-being, and they attend schools that prepare them for advanced education or vocational training and, ultimately, self-sufficiency. Many youth also receive assistance from their families during the transition to adulthood. During this period, young adults cycle between attending school, living independently, and staying with their families. Approximately 60 of parents today provide financial support to their adult children who are no longer in school. This support comes in the form of housing (50 of parents provide this support to their adult children), living expenses (48), cost of transportation (41), health insurance (35), spending money (29), and medical bills (28). Even with this assistance, the current move from adolescence to adulthood has become longer and increasingly complex. For vulnerable (or at-risk) youth populations, the transition to adulthood is further complicated by a number of challenges, including family conflict or abandonment and obstacles to securing employment that provides adequate wages and health insurance. These youth may be prone to outcomes that have negative consequences for their future development as responsible, self-sufficient adults. Risk outcomes include teenage parenthood; homelessness; drug abuse; delinquency; physical and sexual abuse; and school dropout. Detachment from the labor market and school or disconnectedness may be the single strongest indicator that the transition to adulthood has not been made successfully. The federal government has not adopted a single overarching federal policy or legislative vehicle that addresses the challenges vulnerable youth experience in adolescence or while making the transition to adulthood. Rather, federal youth policy today has evolved from multiple programs established...

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