

2018 Camper Outcome Report

At the end of each summer camp week campers are given the American Camping Association's (ACA) Youth Outcomes Battery – Basic Version to measure the success of its programs. From the results collected, on average, campers said they improved across the board in areas related to friendship, independence and camp connectedness. At Okizu kids highly rated their overall experience, pointed out they were treated fairly by staff and respected by peers, and became more independent.

Camper Demographics		
Gender	Female	357 (51%)
	Male	368 (49%)
Camper Status	First Year Camper	158 (22%)
	Returning Camper	567 (78%)
Camp	Oncology Camp	264 (36%)
	Siblings Camp	461 (64%)

2018 Camper Demographics

Total Number of Campers by Camp Session

There were a total of 725 campers, ages 6 to 17, who were registered and attended Okizu oncology and sibling summer programs. The chart shows attendance numbers broken down by gender, separated by first time and returning campers, and which summer program the camper participated in. Of the 725 campers 264 were oncology campers and the remaining 461 were sibling campers.

2018 Okizu Outcomes Survey Results for 10 to 17 year-olds

Okizu utilized the American Camping Association's (ACA) Youth Outcomes Battery – Basic Version to measure the success of its programs. There were a total of 725 campers, 468 of these campers ages 10 to 17 completed and returned the ACA survey questionnaire after each week of summer camp; seven weeks in total. The discrepency in numbers can be due to our campers ages 6-9 not taking this version of the survey, incomplete surveys and not all kids that were age eligible took the survey if they were picked up early or other extenuating circumstances. As part of the survey, we evaluated the overall experience of each camper, along with three common youth

outcomes that are standard to many camps and other youth development programs: Friendship skills, Camp Connectedness, and Independence.

We have outlined our camper survey results in the following format: Camper Demographics that include a breakdown of camper gender, camper status, and camp type, Overall Camper Experience, and the results from the three Youth Outcome Battery assessments.

Camper Demographics		
Gender	Female	222 (47.4%)
	Male	235 (50.2%)
	Not Disclosed	(2.4%)
Camper Status	First Year Camper	67 (14%)
	Returning Camper	414 (86%)
Camp	Oncology Camp	164 (39%)
	Siblings Camp	304 (61%)

Camper Demographics

Total Number of Campers by Camp Session



Overall Rating of the Camp Experience by Week

The campers were asked to rate their overall camp experience on a 1 to 10 likert scale, with 1 being absolutely the worst and 10 being absolutely the best. Of the surveys collected summer 2018 had an avarage rating of 9.1 out of 10.



The ACA Youth Outcomes Battery – Basic Version: Three Youth Outcomes

To evaluate the success of Okizu's residental camping program, we utilized the ACA's Youth Outcomes Battery to assess the impact of it's program on campers. The data suggests that campers experience growth when attending camp, and this growth may be related to the amount of time spent at a camp, the friendships they make and peer support they receive.

Okizu focused on measuring three ACA Youth Outcomes Battery surveys: Friendship skills, Camp Connectedness, and Independence. Friendship skills measures whether a camper is making friends and maintaining relationships. Camp Connectedness measures whether a camper feels welcomed and supported at a specific camp session. Independence scale measures a campers ability to rely less on adults for solving problems and their day-to-day activities. Each measurement coincides with the mission of Okizu to help all members of families affected by childhood cancer to heal through peer support, respite, mentoring, and recreational programs.

Friendship Skills

Overall Camper Average

We found that the overall camper Friendship skill average was 4.03 on a likert scale of 1 to 5, where 1 represents Decreased and 5 represents Increased a Lot, I am Sure. It has been reported that with a cancer diagnosis children and their siblings have experience isolation from peers and have higher levels of anxiety – camp has shown to improve self esteem through a supportive community, normalizing the shared experience, and giving them a space to just be kids (Dawson, Knapp, & Farmer, 2012). Campers reported strongest increase post camp in the areas of "Becoming better at getting to know more things about my friends" and "Becoming better at enjoying being with my friends" & "becoming better at helping my friends to have a good time when are with me". Questions with the lowest scores of increased a little bit were "becoming better at finidng friends who like many of things that I like" & "Becoming better at choosing people who would be good to be friends with."

Camp Connectedness

Overall Camper Average:

We found that the overall camper Camp Connectedness average was 5.49 on a likert scale of I to 6, where I represents False and 6 represents True. The highest rated questions in Camp Connectedness were "I am treated fairly by staff" & "I am happy." The two questions with the lowest rating of a Somewhat true were "I get to make decisions" and "I make choices that make a difference."

Independence

Overall Camper Average:

We found that the overall camper Independence average was 4.03 on a likert scale of 1 to 6, where 1 represents Decreased and 6 represents Increased a Lot, I am Sure. Campers found that they increased some at "Making decisions by (themselves)" and "Making good decisions even when members of (their) family are not around to help (them)." The lowest scoring question still was rated as an increased a little was "Needing help from adults" and "Being less dependent on (their) family."

Reference

Dawson, S., Knapp, D., & Farmer, J. (2012). Camp war buddies: Exploring the therapeutic benefits of social comparison in a pediatric oncology camp. *Therapeutic Recreation Journal*, 46(4), 313-325.