

RESULTS AND FINDINGS

2019 WASHOE COUNTY HOMELESS YOUTH POINT IN TIME COUNT



WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF “HOMELESS”?

For the purposes of the PIT Count, we use the terms and definitions provided by HUD when reporting survey results. Note: It is illegal to be an “unaccompanied minor” in Nevada. Kid’s Kottage or NPY (in Vegas) are required by law to take you in, if you are under 18.

“Homeless” is defined as individuals living in a place not meant for human habitation.
“Youth” include anyone 24 years and younger.

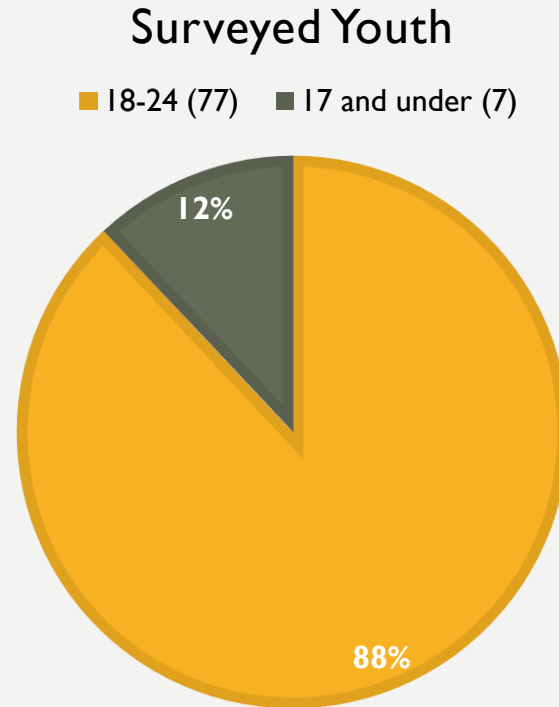
New Category - Homeless Under Other Statutes

Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not meet any of the other HUD categories but are homeless under other federal statutes, have not had a lease and have moved 2 or more times in the past 60 days and are likely to remain unstable because of special needs or barriers.

We’ve got to ask more questions to use this category!



HOW MANY YOUTH WERE AT THE COUNT?



The event was conducted at the Eddy House on January 24th, 2019 for 24 hours.

84 surveys were collected.

12 met HUD's definition of homeless. One was a minor.



YEAR-TO-YEAR AT A GLANCE

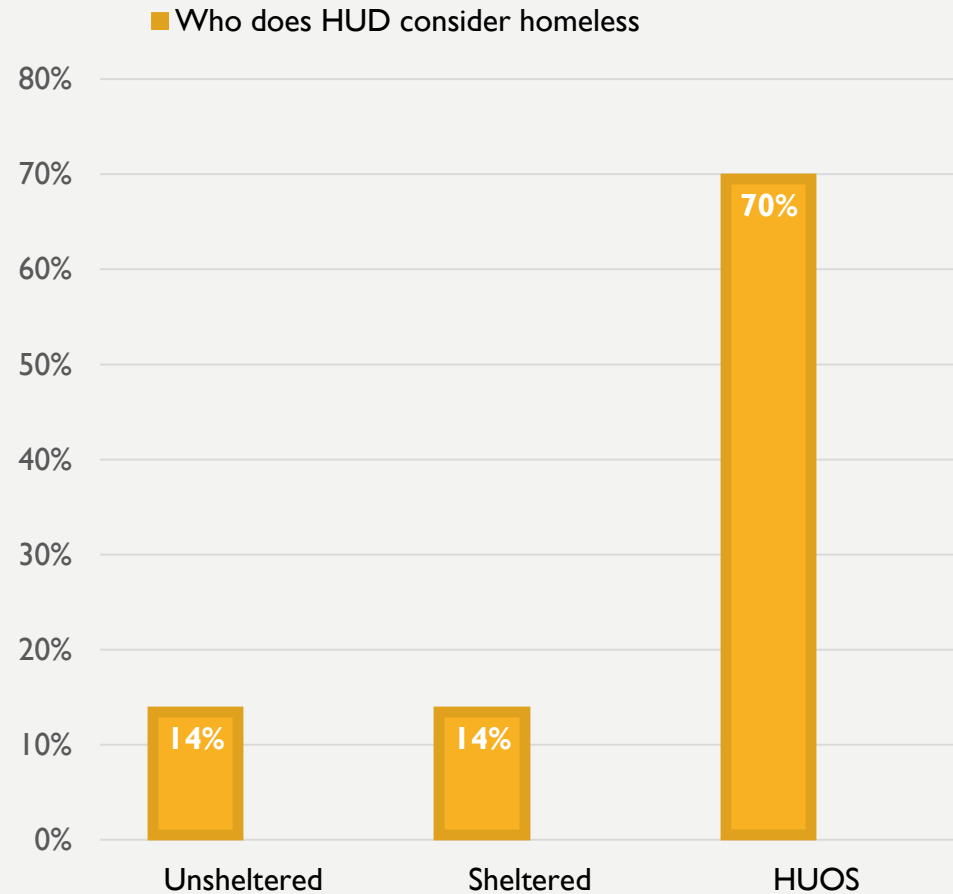
Washoe County Homeless Youth Count (PIT data)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
# 18-24 years olds	53	42	51	99	66	89	77
# considered Homeless by HUD	42	21	32	51	19	19	11*

*Minor (1) = 12



WHERE ARE THEY SLEEPING?



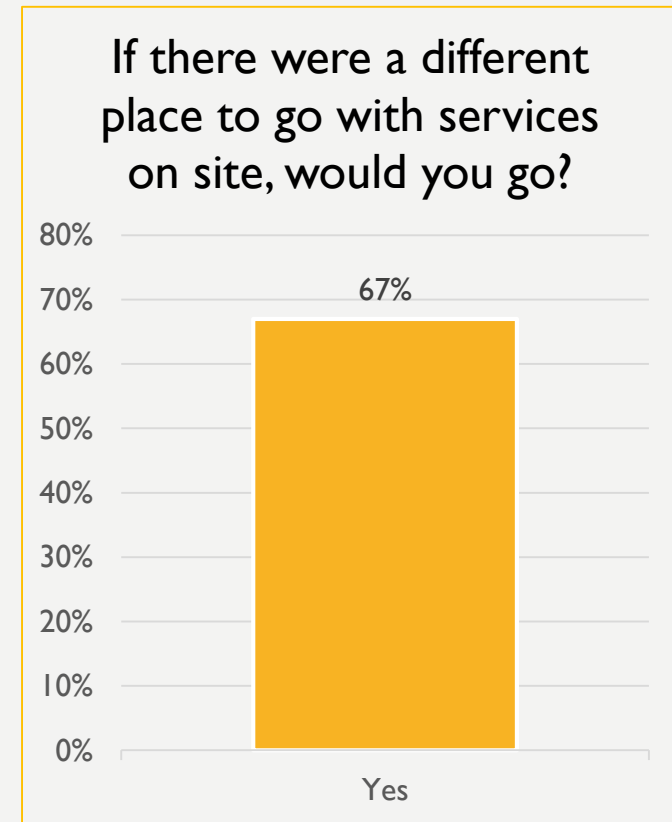
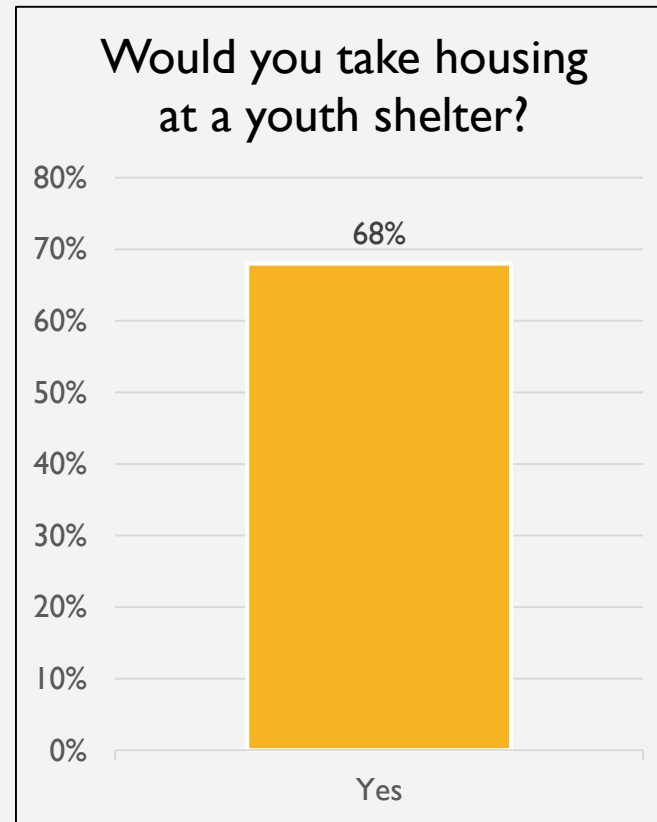
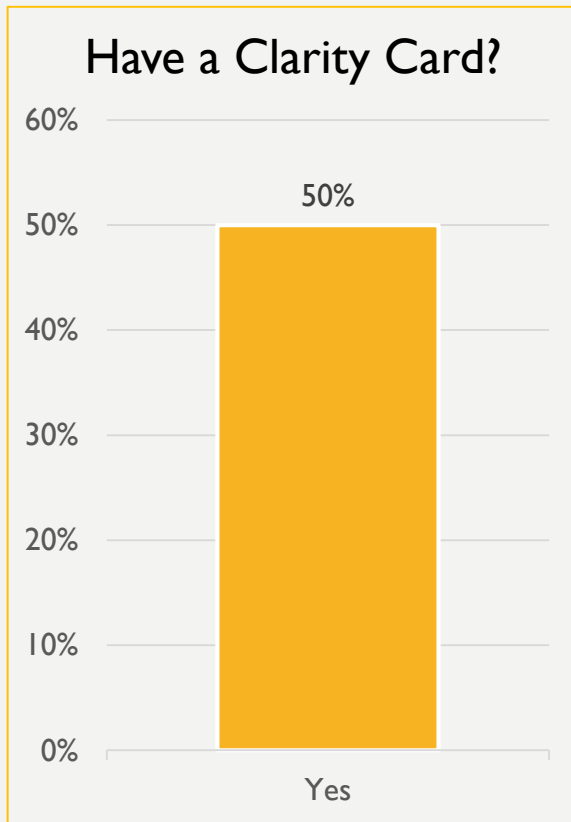
- “Unsheltered Homeless” sleeping in places not meant to be slept in like street/sidewalk (6), vehicle (1), park/outdoor space (4), parking garage, abandoned/empty building (1) – 12
- “Sheltered Homeless” – sleeping in shelter (9), sponsored motel/hotel (1), transitional housing (2) - 12
- “Possibly Homeless Under Other Statutes” – house/apartment (59)

We need to explore: If they are in housing, why are they at the event?

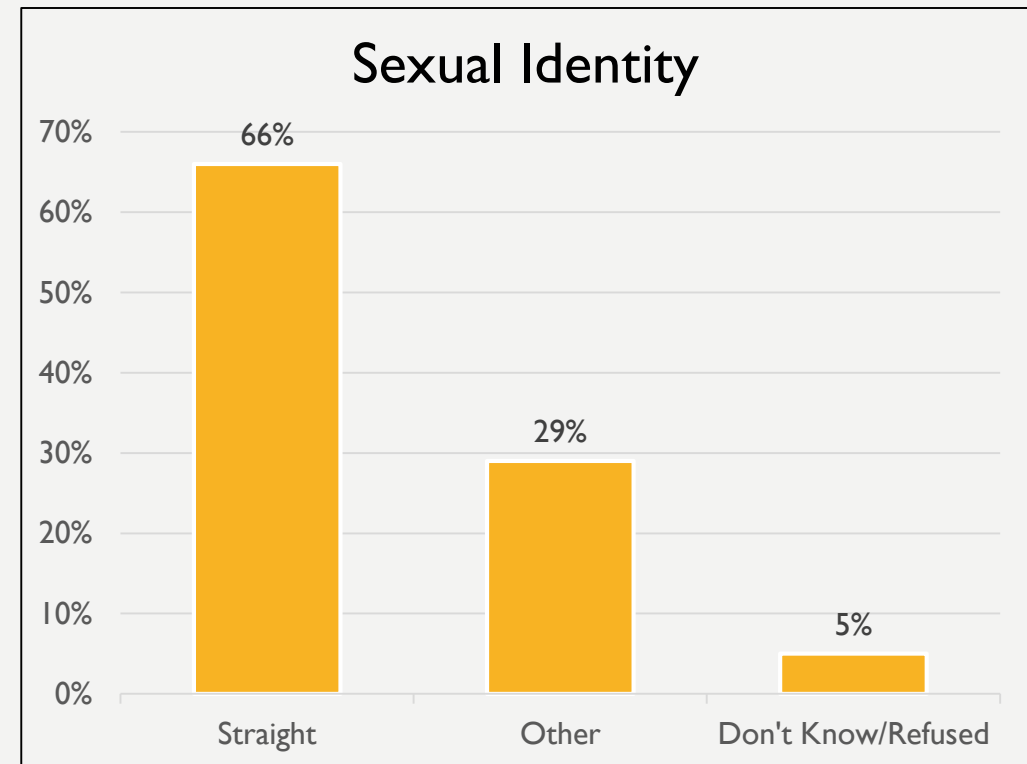
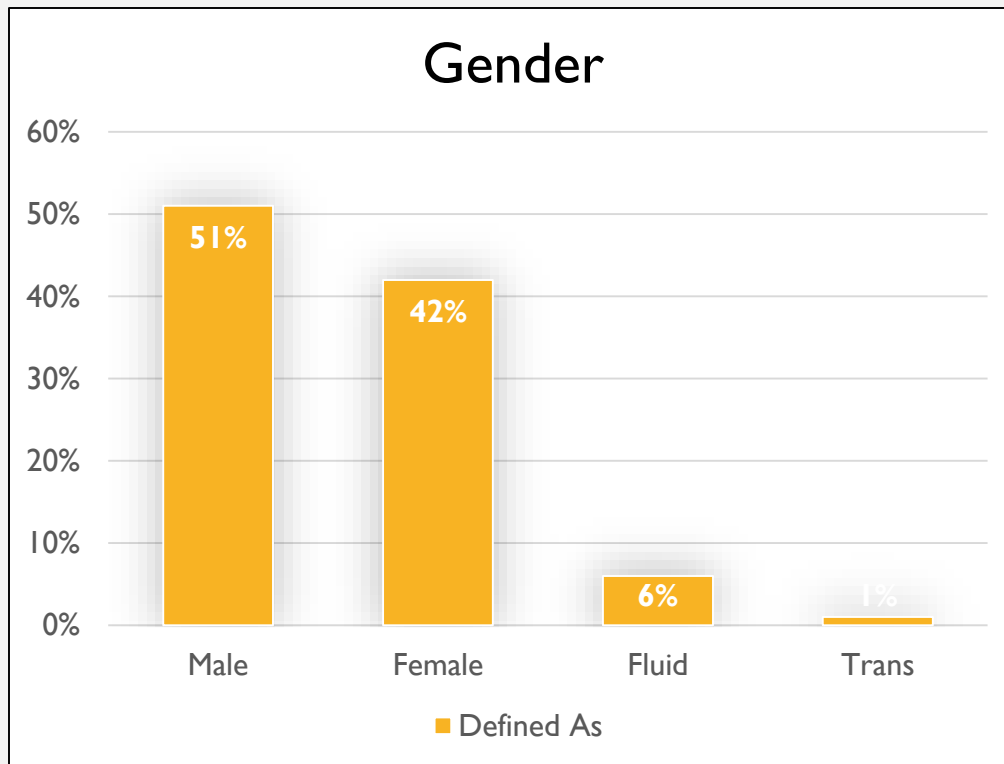


VOA, EDDY HOUSE & WASHOE COUNTY

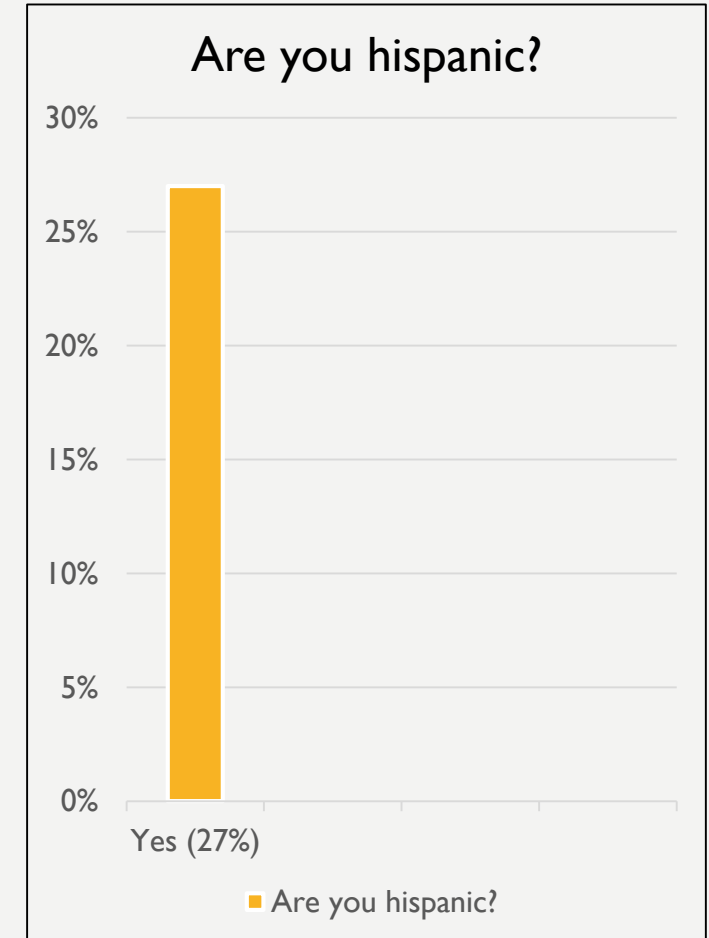
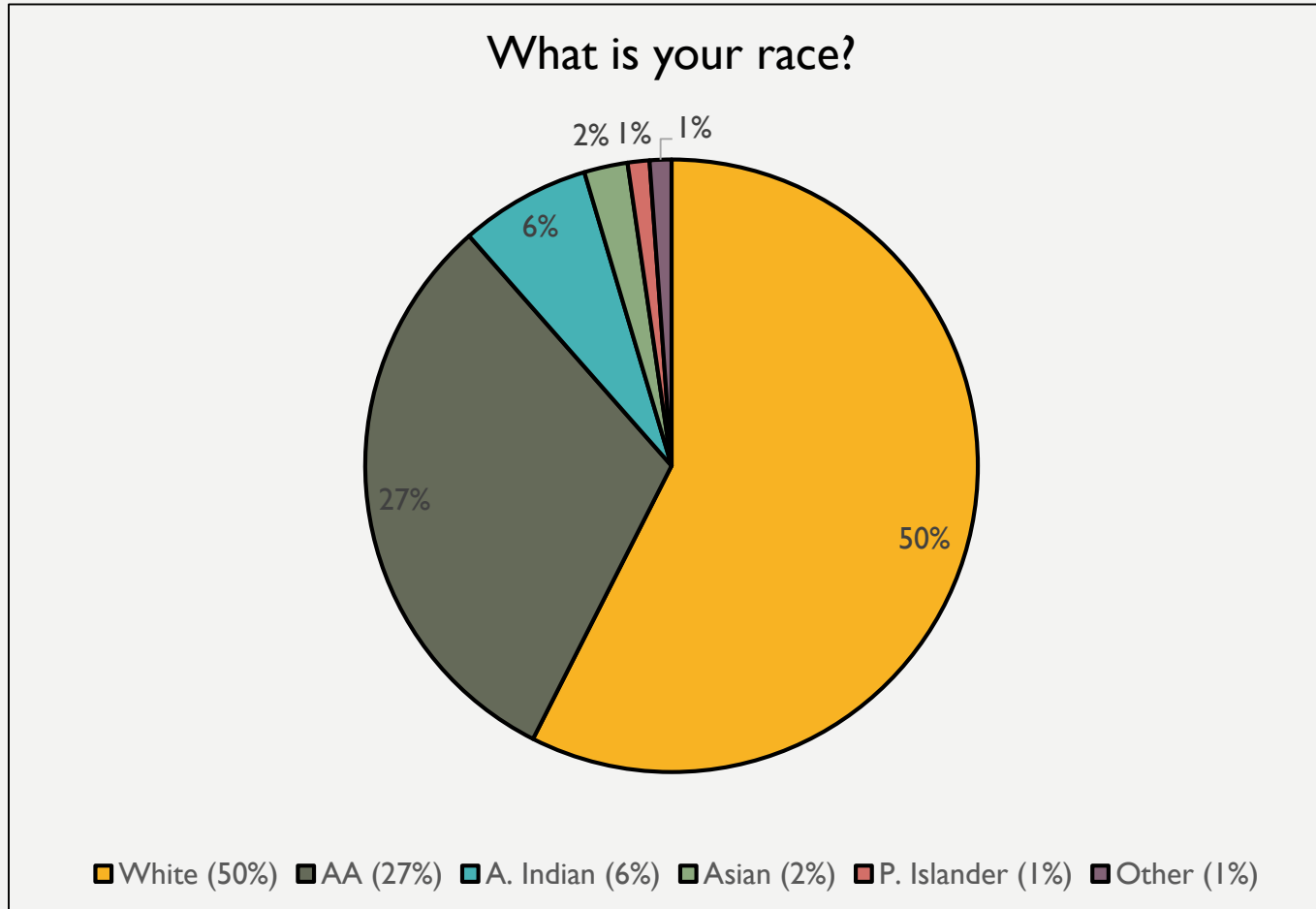
45% reported going to the Eddy House for 6 months or longer.



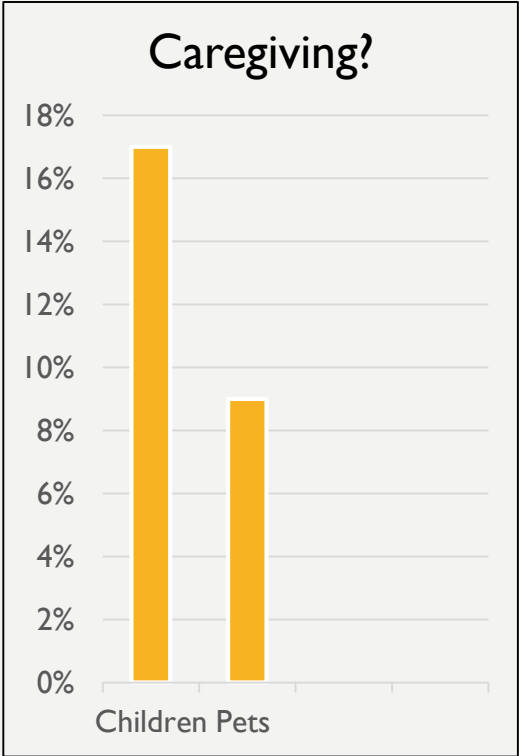
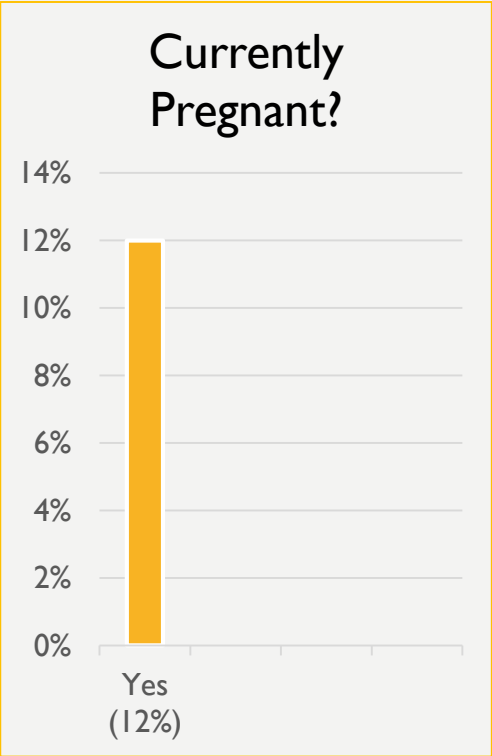
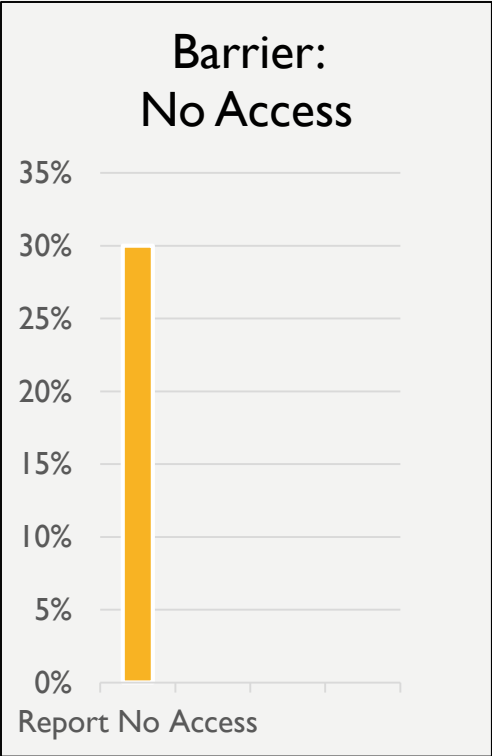
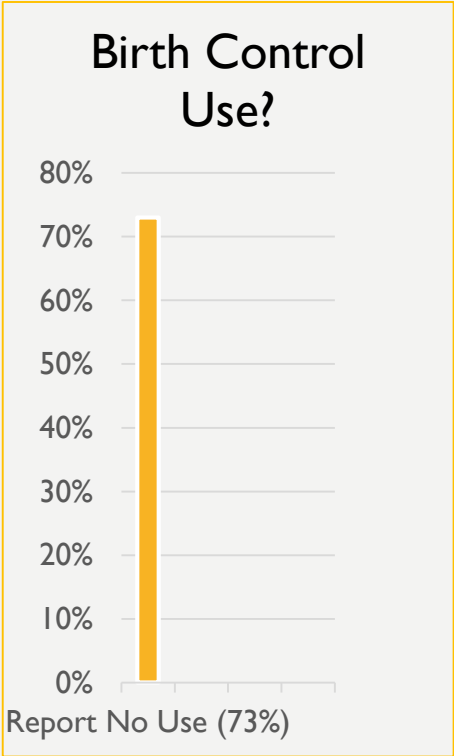
GENDER & SEXUAL IDENTITY



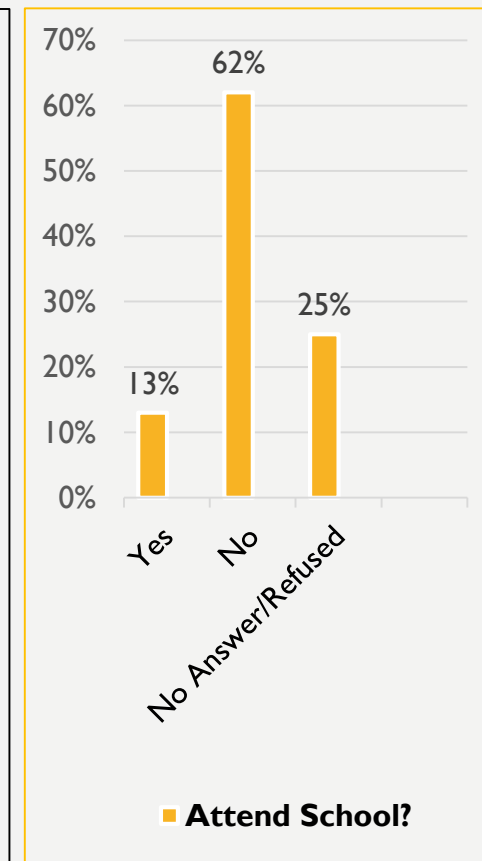
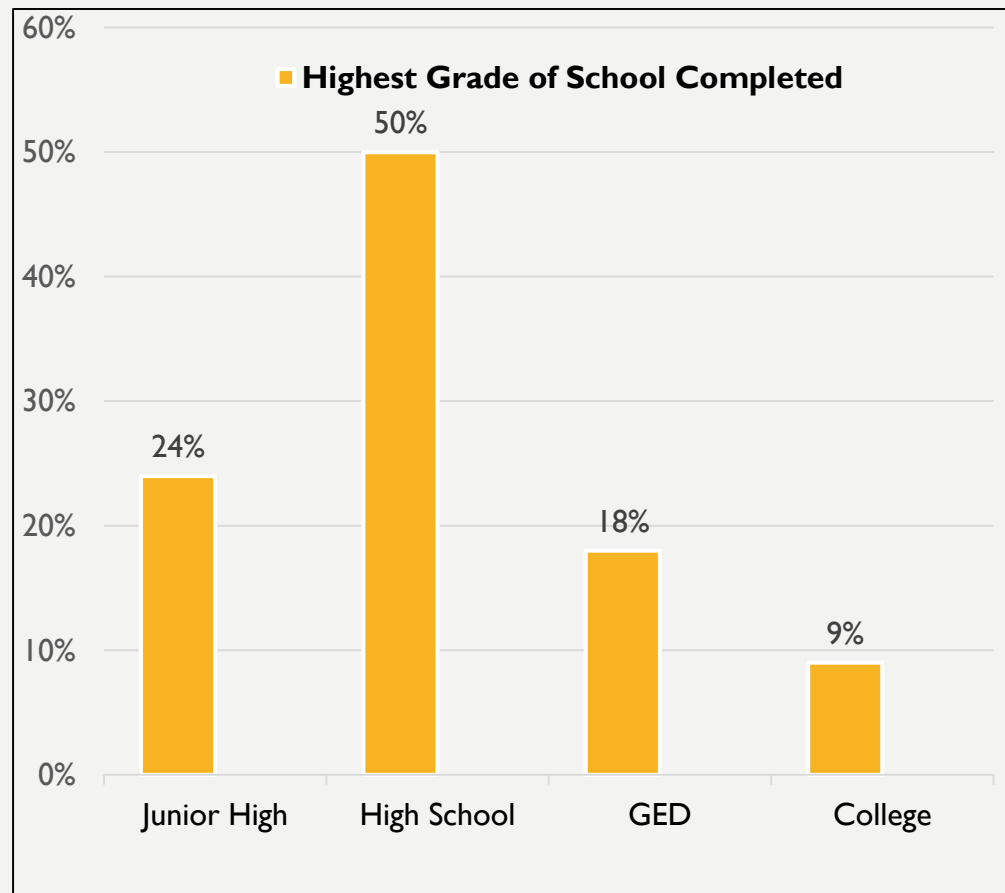
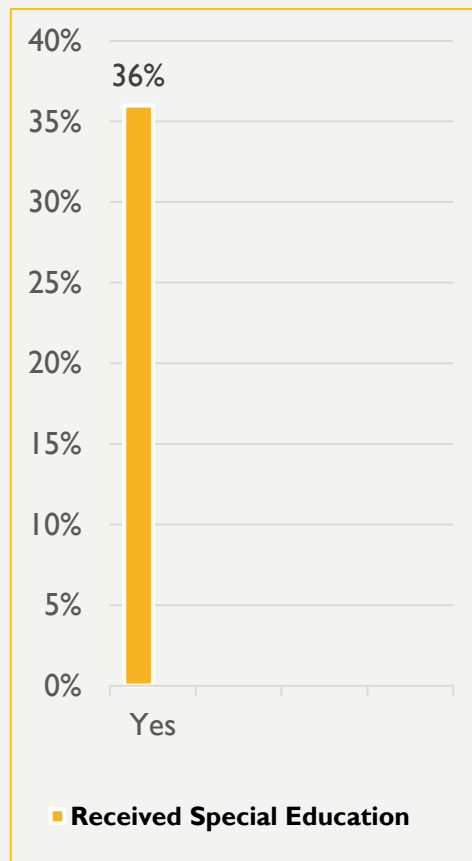
RACE & ETHNICITY



BIRTH CONTROL, PARENTING & CAREGIVING



EDUCATION



EMPLOYMENT & INCOME

- 13% reported receiving a government check – *same as last year*
- 33% reported working 20 hours a week – *same as last year*
- 40% said they required financial assistance from their friends, family or partner – *6% more than last year*
- 45% report housing instability gets in the way of going to school or work

2018 Question: Is this number so low because they don't have financial responsibilities? We need to explore this.

2019 Question: Did this get explored? Also, how do 60% of these youth financially cover things? Why are 55% out of school and out of work?



BARRIERS TO HOUSING & EMPLOYMENT

- 30% reported having a disability that gets in the way
- 44% reported needing help with mental health
- 11% said their drug/alcohol use did
- 5% said it was legal trouble

2019 Question: We must explore what's in the way for the 70% of youth without a disability, 56% without mental health problems, 89% without a addiction, and the 95% with no legal barriers, to what is needed to get them employed and housed. Is a skill, a hill or a will?



CAUSES OF YOUTH HOMELESSNESS & HOUSING INSTABILITY

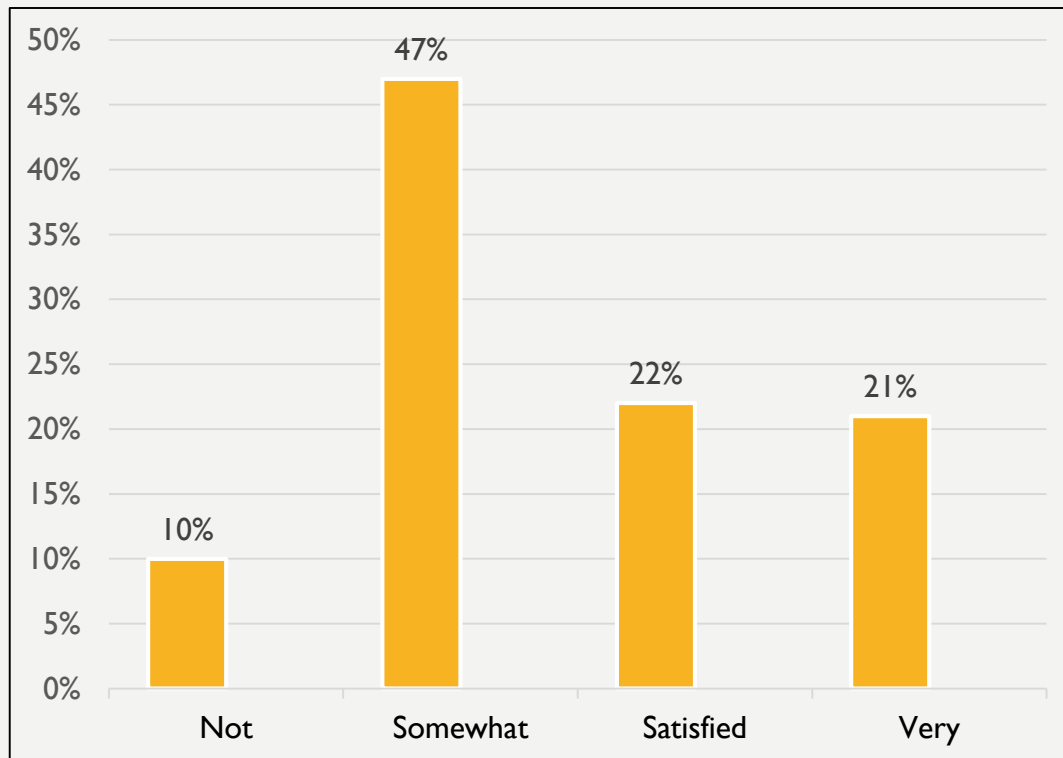
- 44% no longer had enough money to pay rent
- 27% had their rent increase and couldn't afford it – *10% increase from last year*
- 28% left because of family violence
- 15% left because there was violence towards them
- 4% experienced gender violence
- 9% left because of a difference in religious beliefs
- 33% reported “None”, and 8% reported “Don't Know/Refused” – *explore “none”...why did they leave stable housing then?*
- 36% reported it being 6 months or longer that they felt they were living in safe and stable housing

Reasons given but not quantified: went to jail, didn't want to be in the system, family death, aged out, no room

Important to note...when assisting youth with establishing themselves as young adults, understanding where they want to go is more helpful than knowing where they've been.



SATISFACTION WITH YOUR LIFE?



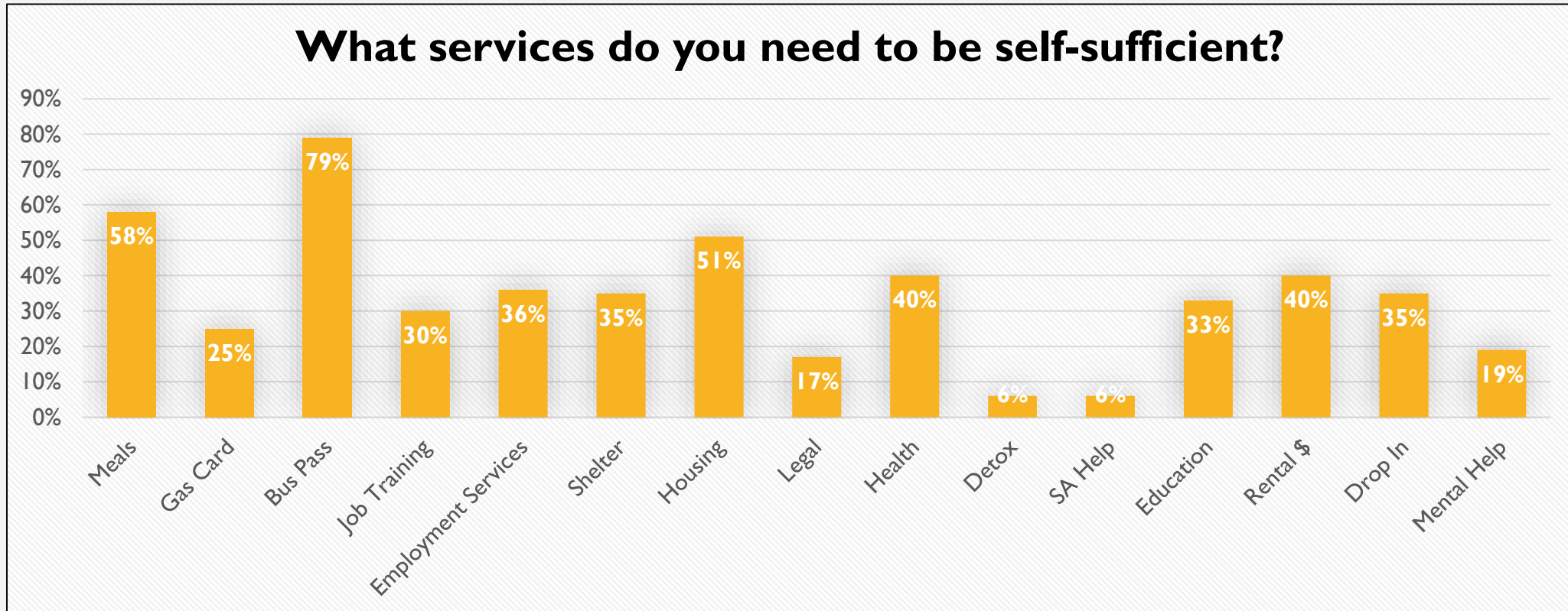
90% of the youth surveyed reported being somewhat to very satisfied with their life...*then how will we motivate change?*

One youth even wrote on his survey:

“I’m all good”then why are you here today?



RESOURCES & NEEDS

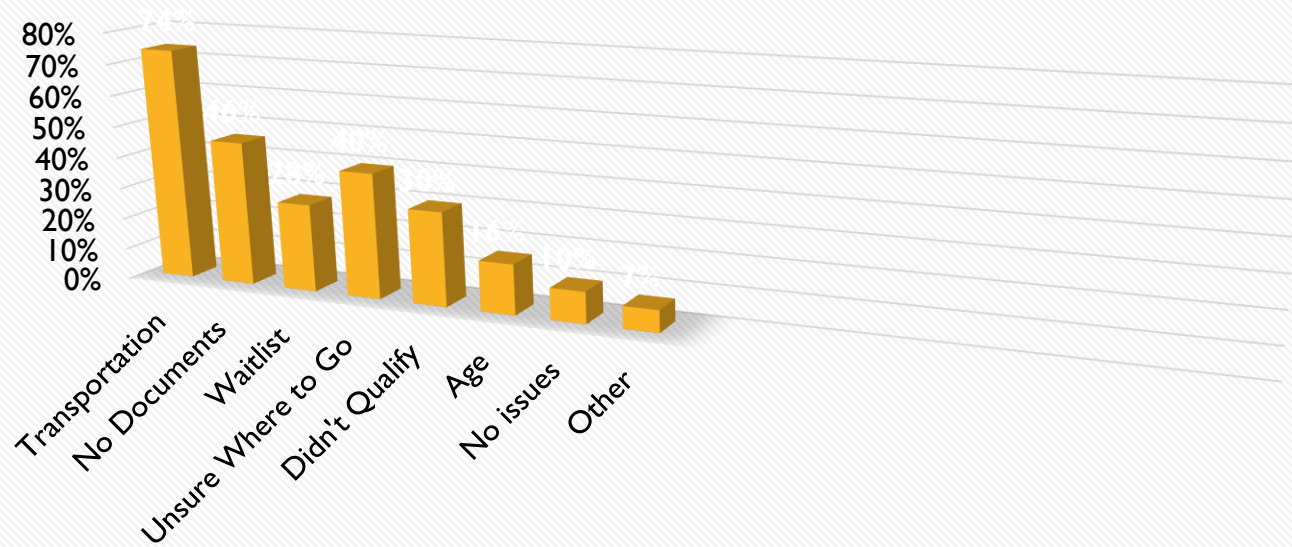


Other requests not included: laundry, childcare, emotional support, clothing, ID, personal documents, custody help, unwilling parents won't sign program papers



ACCESS ISSUES

What service access issues have you encountered?



Other issues not included: being sick, lack of motivation, lack of wanting, accessing while employed



MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

As a community, we should look for provider opportunities in schools, public services, and community-based agencies to recognize youth, at risk, and intervene early to prevent their homelessness.

- 22% reported aging out of foster care
- 25% reported having a BBBS growing up
- 39% reported attending BGC growing up
- Discharged with nowhere to go: Foster care-61%, Detention/Jail-42%, Shelter-22%, Recovery-15%, Residential program-14%, Hospital-34%
- 36% said they could live with their parents. 49% said the last time they lived in stable housing it was with family/caregiver – *family reunification?*

2018 Question: (still relevant) Are tax funded systems of support perpetuating the cycle of government dependency by transitioning youth from the child welfare system to the adult welfare system when they “age out” and turn 18?

SUGGESTED CONTINUUM INITIATIVES

What do they want to be doing? Why aren't they doing it? Is it a skill, a hill, or a will? As youth providers and connectors, we've got to stop failing these youth. We've got to give them what we'd give our own kids. We've got to move past services that reinforce poverty mindset, and instead choose program approaches that empower through education, training, support and accountability to ensure they achieve economic mobility. And, we need to have courage to talk about what's not working!

ADVOCATE for 2 CONTINUUMS. One continuum serves homeless youth with intake, assessment and referral to the appropriate housing based program. The second continuum serves out of school and out of work youth with education, training, housing and support services. Two very different populations require different system/agency approaches.

DEVELOP "NEW" PROGRAMMING based off survey data. Its important we do right by these youth, and ensure our program interactions are always pushing them towards their highest potential. Third sector organizations can be doing a much better job for youth.

2020 HOMELESS YOUTH COUNT should use 2 different surveys. One for homeless youth and one for at risk youth. In the meantime, youth providers should be exploring follow up questions. *How much of this was done over the past year?*

Program failure is youth transitioning from child welfare dependency to adult welfare dependency.



Thank you!

Have questions, please contact:

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