New York City Youth Count 2019

Estimating and Understanding Characteristics of Homeless and Unstably Housed Youth

Each year, NYC conducts a point-in-time count of homeless adults, families and youth based on the guidelines put forth by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. This count comprises: 1) The Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) to count unsheltered individuals; 2) censuses of transitional housing and emergency shelters to count individuals and families who were sheltered and 3) a supplemental Youth Count, administered by the Department of Youth and Community Development, to identify unsheltered youth who were not counted during HOPE.

Citywide Youth Point-in-Time Count

Data based on the HOPE Count and the census of all NYC shelters for youth ages 14 to 24

	Unsheltered	Sheltered		Total
		Emergency	Transitional	
Unaccompanied (single) Youth*	170	1,665	428	2,263
Parenting Youth	n/a	2,184	4	2,188
Children of Parenting Youth	n/a	2,553	4	2,557
Total	**170**	**6,402**	**436**	**7,008**

* Based on the HUD definition, unaccompanied youth are young people between the ages of 14 through 24 without children.
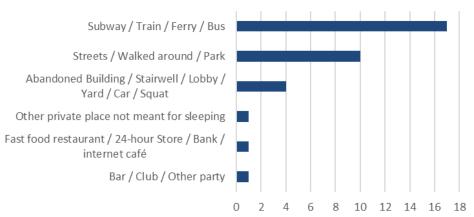
Youth Count Data: Overview of Surveys

The Youth Count took place from Tuesday, January 29th to Friday, February 1st. Youth were asked where they spent the night on Monday, January 28th (the same date as HOPE and the shelter census). Program staff at the participating programs, which included drop-in centers, outreach teams, community centers and schools asked every participant ages 14 through 24 and under to complete a short survey to better understand and estimate homeless and unstably housed youth.

Youth who took the survey (n= 1332) were categorized based on where they spent the night on Monday, January 28th. The categories identified youth who were 1) unsheltered, according to HUD's definition; 2) in an unstable living situation, such as a shelter or couch surfing; 3) in a presumed stable living situation, such as in their parent/relative's apartment or their own apartment.
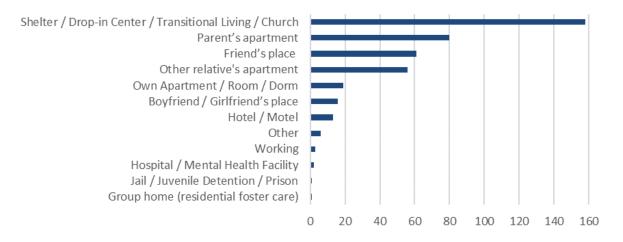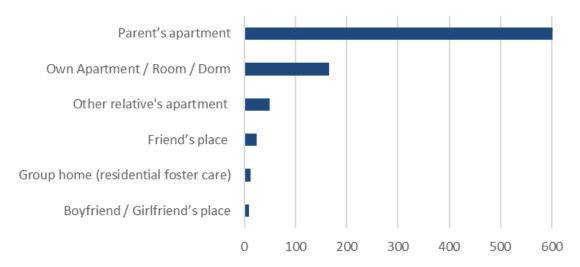
Youth Count Results

HUD Unsheltered Estimate **34**

Subway / Train / Ferry / Bus
Streets / Walked around / Park
Abandoned Building / Stairwell / Lobby / Yard / Car / Squat
Other private place not meant for sleeping
Fast food restaurant / 24-hour Store / Bank / internet café
Bar / Club / Other party

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18

Unstable Living Situations **416**

Shelter / Drop-in Center / Transitional Living / Church
Parent's apartment
Friend's place
Other relative's apartment
Own Apartment / Room / Dorm
Boyfriend / Girlfriend's place
Hotel / Motel
Other
Working
Hospital / Mental Health Facility
Jail / Juvenile Detention / Prison
Group home (residential foster care)

0 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160

Stable Living Situation **866**

Please note that young people were able to identify whether their living situation is stable or unstable. As a result the categories are duplicated among the living situations. For example, "friend's place" can be stable or unstable. The cateogires where young people stayed are below. Please note that 16 young people identified as being outside of New York City on January 28th.

Demographics by Living Situation

Youth were asked questions about their demographics and characteristics. Please note that the questions were not mandatory, so the number of responses vary. These percentages may not be representative of the entire population.

☁ Unsheltered   🛋 Unstable Situation   🏠 Stable Situation

Age Group by Living Situation

	☁ n=34	🛋 n=411	🏠 n=850
<18	6%	7%	17%
18-20	15%	55%	61%
21-24	79%	38%	22%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Gender Identity by Living Situation

	☁ n=32	🛋 n=358	🏠 n=694
Male	72%	63%	71%
Female	25%	32%	26%
Transgender Male	0%	0.8%	0%
Transgender Female	3%	0.8%	1%
Gender Non Binary		2.8%	1%
Other		1.4%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Sexual Orientation

	☁ n=32	🛋 n=364	🏠 n=711
Bisexual	22%	13%	4%
Gay	3%	7%	1%
Lesbian	3%	3%	1%
Other	13%	3%	3%
Pansexual	3%	4%	1%
Queer	0%	1%	0%
Questioning	0%	0%	0%
Straight	56%	68%	89%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Ethnicity by Living Situation

	☁ n=33	🛋 n=334	🏠 n=543
Latinx	52%	37%	30%
Not Latinx	48%	63%	70%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Race by Living Situation

	☁ n=33	🛋 n=383	🏠 n=763
American Indian / Alaskan Native	3%	2%	1%
Asian	3%	3%	12%
Black / African American	61%	58%	50%
Multiple Race	6%	1%	0%
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0%	2%	1%
Other	18%	28%	28%
White	9%	7%	8%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Living Situation Categories

The Youth Count survey asked questions about where youth had spent the night over the past month to understand the transience of their homelessness. Youth Were asked how many places they had spent the night over the past month, what types of places they had stayed, and how long they had been without a permanent place to stay.

Number of Places Stayed in the Past Month

		1	2	3	4	5+
☁	n=31	13%	35%	16%	3%	32%
🛋	n=337	45%	27%	15%	8%	6%
🏠	n=539	65%	27%	5%	1%	2%

Length of Time withouth a Permanent Place to Stay

		N/A	Less than 1 week	1 week to 6 months	6 months to 1 year	1 to 2 years	> 2 years
☁	n=34	0%	3%	21%	29%	9%	38%
🛋	n=416	20%	1%	25%	17%	16%	22%
🏠	n=866	85%	3%	4%	2%	2%	4%

Places Stayed Over Past Month vs Monday, January 28th

In order to understand the transient nature of youth's living situations, youth were asked to identify the types of places they had stayed over the past month. These were categorized as unsheltered, unstable and stable. Along the top of the chart are the categories of living situations where youth stayed on January 28th. Along the side are the categories of living situations where youth stayed over the past month. Because youth may have stayed in multiple categories of living situations, percentages total over 100%.

Living Situation on Monday January 28th

	Unsheltered n=34	Unstable n=416	Stable n=866
☁	100%	4%	2%
🛋	68%	100%	3%
🏠	24%	21%	100%