
NEW YORK CITY YOUTH COUNT REPORT 2017



**The City of New York
Mayor Bill de Blasio**



**Center for Innovation
through Data Intelligence**



**Department of
Youth & Community
Development**



Acknowledgments

CIDI and DYCD would like to thank the service providers, City agencies, and youth who participated in the count. We would also like to thank everyone who participated in planning for the Count.

About the Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence

The Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence (CIDI) is a research/policy center located in the Office of the Mayor of the City of New York under the auspice of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services. As part of the Office of the Mayor, CIDI conducts citywide interagency research to identify areas of service need in the City. The vision of CIDI is to make data come alive to inspire change. To learn more about CIDI, please visit www.nyc.gov/cidi.

Background

Stability in youths' lives is critical for youth to thrive and successfully transition to adulthood. Unfortunately, many youth experience homelessness and housing instability at some point during their young adulthood, but this population can be difficult to locate or identify. Increasing attention is being given to identifying methods to better estimate this population, including enhancing existing count methodologies to be more sensitive to the characteristics of homeless youth.

Each year, New York City conducts a point-in-time (PIT) count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless adults, families, and youth based on the guidelines put forth by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). For the past two PIT counts, NYC agencies, runaway and homeless youth (RHY) providers, and advocates have collaborated to improve upon the traditional PIT methodology for counting homeless youth. A full description of 2015 effort and its results can be found [here](#). In 2016 and 2017, the youth count was expanded to include more locations, greater outreach to community partners, and youth participation in the planning process. The 2016 report can be found [here](#).

Overall Point-in-Time Count Data

Overall Numbers from PIT

These totals are a compilation of the counts that are conducted for the HUD PIT tabulations.



UNSHELTERED

SHELTERED

Overall Youth PIT Numbers 24 and Under

PIT Numbers

2015 2016 2017

Unaccompanied Youth	1,706	1,805	2,003
Sheltered	1,518	1,653	1,738
Unsheltered	188	152	265
Parenting Youth	2,114	2,261	2,525
Sheltered	2,114	2,261	2,525
Unsheltered	0	0	0
Children with Parenting Youth	2,539	2,681	2,723
Sheltered	2,539	2,681	2,723
Unsheltered	0	0	0
Total	6,359	6,747	7,251
Sheltered	6,171	6,595	6,986
Unsheltered	188	152	265

Youth Count Method

Categories of Living Situations

Definition

Data were collected from every youth, age 24 years and younger, who came to a program or were encountered during outreach from Tuesday, February 7 to Friday, February 10 and Monday, February 14, 2017.

The youth were then categorized by living situation based on where they spent the night on Monday, February 6, 2017.

Although imperfect, these categories generally represent a spectrum of living situations from least stable to most stable. It should be noted that youth can move between these categories on any given night and often do. See Living Situation analyses on pages 9-10 for more information.

Only youth who were categorized as unsheltered were submitted in the HUD PIT tabulations. Other categories of youth are reported here to present information on a broader spectrum of unstably housed youth.

Unsheltered (According to HUD PIT definition)

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

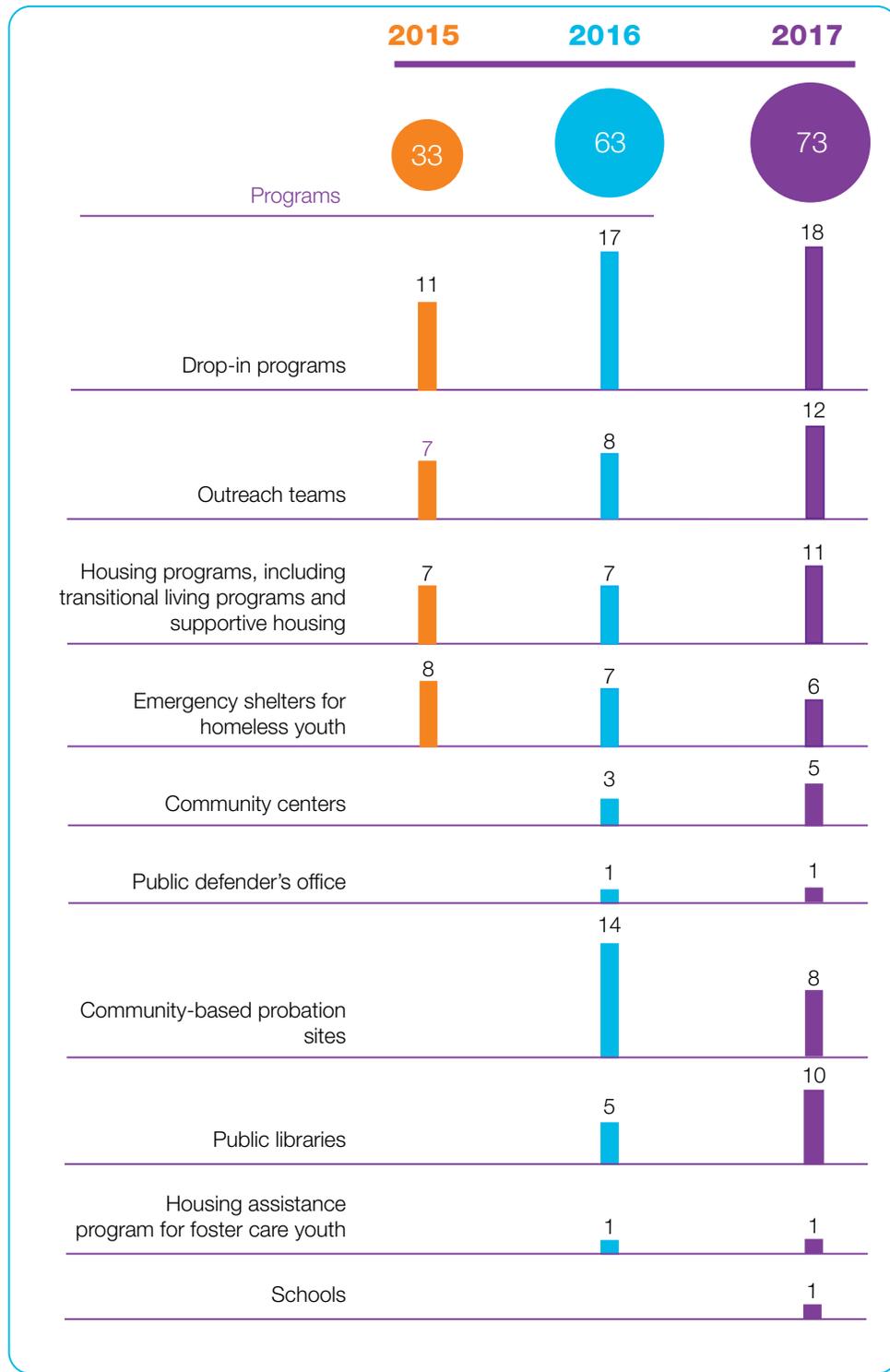
Other unstable living situation

- Shelter / Drop-in Center / Transitional Living / Church
- Couch surfing (due to lack of stable housing)
- Boyfriend / Girlfriend's place (due to lack of stable housing)
- Hospital / Mental Health Facility
- Hotel/Motel
- Jail / Juvenile Detention / Prison
- Sex for shelter
- Forced sex for shelter / trafficked
- Working (if they did not have a place to go the following morning)

Stable living situation

- Own Apartment / Room / Dorm
- Parent's apartment
- Other relative's apartment
- Friend's place (for social reasons)
- Boyfriend / Girlfriend's place (for social reasons)
- Group home (residential foster care)

Youth Count Locations

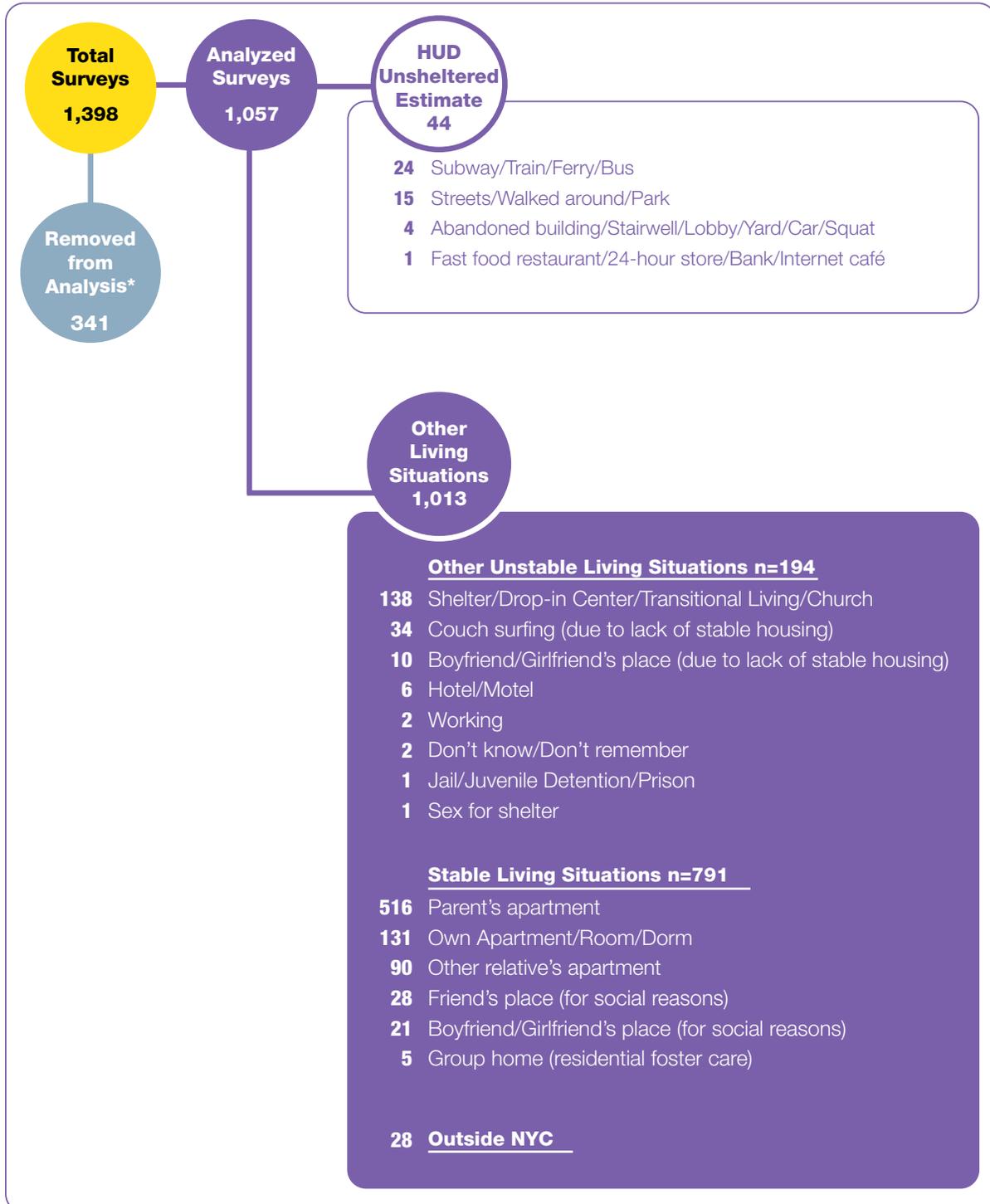


Youth Count Data

Data included in these analyses are only from the Youth Count and does not include information about individuals counted through HOPE or the shelter census tabulations.

Section 1: Overview of Surveys

On the night of this past Monday, February 6, where did you spend the night?



*Surveys were removed from analysis if the respondent did not consent to taking the survey, had already taken the survey, was surveyed by HOPE, or was over 24 years old. Additional surveys were removed because they were missing all relevant data.

Surveys Conducted by Program Type: All

		2015 n=857		2016 n=1,192		2017 n=1,057	
Program Type		Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Drop-in		716	84	455	37	383	37
Library		-	-	433	36	195	18
NeON		-	-	179	15	223	21
Community Center		-	-	37	3	110	10
Housing		8	1	34	3	12 (TIL only)	1
Outreach*		105	12	34	3	84	7
Shelter		28	3	19	2	34	3
School		-	-	-	-	14	1
Public Defender		-	-	11	1	2	0.2

Surveys Conducted by Program Type: Unsheltered

		2015 n=68		2016 n=44		2017 n=44	
Program Type		Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Drop-in		52	76	32	73	23	52
Library		-	-	2	5	0	0
NeON		-	-	0	0	0	0
Community Center		-	-	0	0	0	0
Housing		0	0	1	2	0 (TIL only)	0
Outreach*		15	22	6	14	17	39
Shelter		1	2	1	2	3	7
School		-	-	-	-	1	2
Public Defender		-	-	2	5	0	0

*At several sites in 2015, drop-in and outreach surveys may have been used interchangeably and therefore, these may not reflect the actual breakdown.

Section 2: Living Situation Categories

How many places have you stayed in the past month?

Living situations youth identified they had stayed
on the night of Monday, February 6

Outside NYC n=25	Unsheltered n=38	Unstable Situation n=174	Stable Situation n=723
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	%	%	%	%
1	56.0	10.5	37.4	69.3
2	24.0	15.8	21.8	19.1
3	4.0	18.4	19.0	5.4
4	12.0	7.9	9.8	2.6
5	0	2.6	4.0	1.0
6	4.0	0.0	2.3	0.6
7	0	5.3	1.7	0.1
8	0	10.5	0.6	0.1
9	0	0	0	0
10+	0	29.0	3.5	1.8

Note: Total n is lower because of missing data

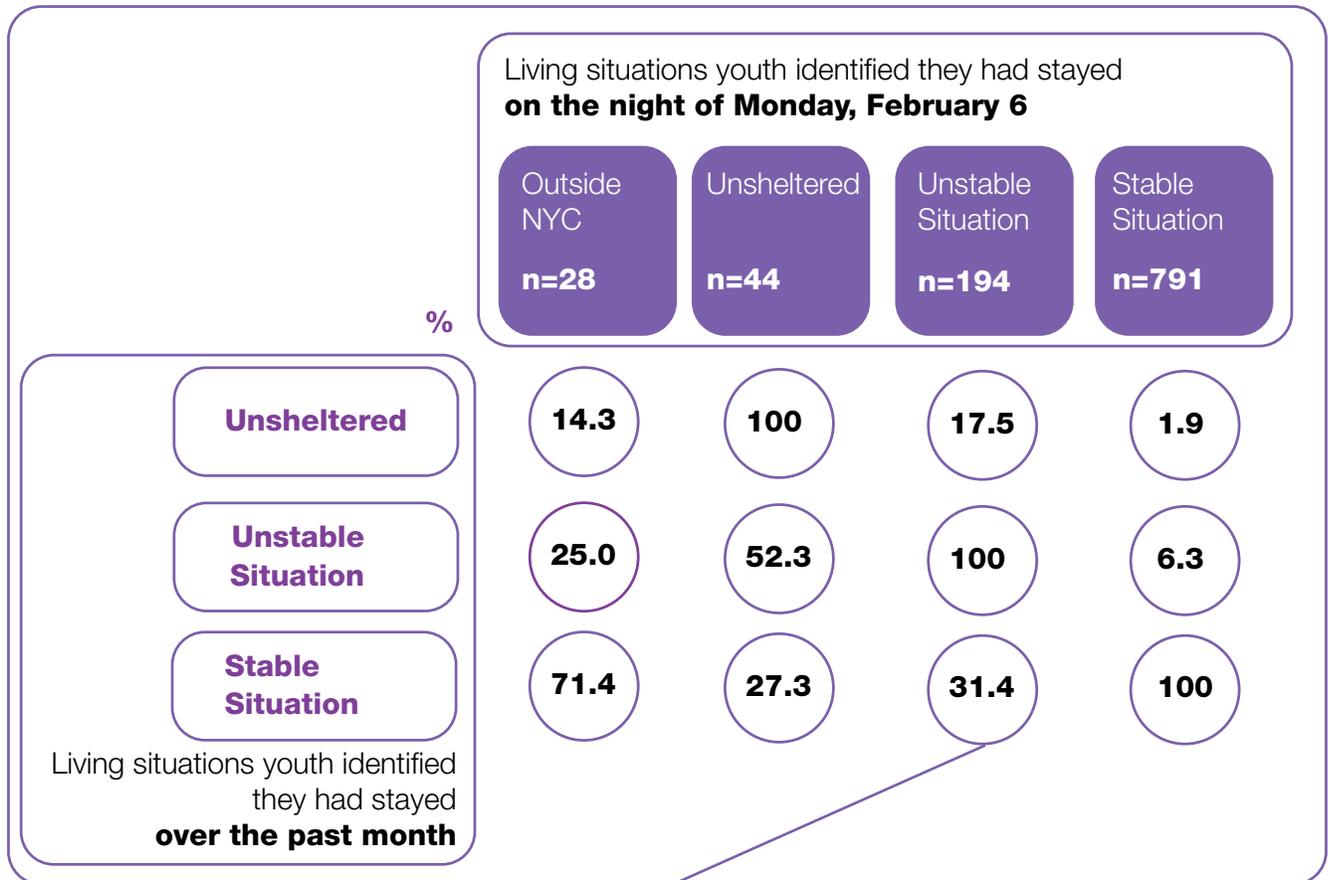
How long have you been without a permanent place to stay?

Outside NYC n=25	Unsheltered n=38	Unstable Situation n=183	Stable Situation n=773
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	%	%	%	%
N/A	44.0	0	2.2	85.5
Less than 1 week	8.0	0	1.6	2.5
1 week to 1 month	0.0	2.6	4.9	0.9
More than 1 month to 3 months	4.0	23.7	10.4	1.7
More than 3 months to 6 months	8.0	5.3	12.0	1.7
More than 6 months to 9 months	0	7.9	13.1	1.7
More than 9 months to 1 year	12.0	5.3	7.1	0.7
More than 1 year to 1.5 years	4.0	10.5	13.7	1.6
More than 1.5 years to 2 years	8.0	18.4	10.9	0.3
More than 2 years to 2.5 years	4.0	7.9	4.4	0.5
More than 2.5 years to 3 years	4.0	10.5	3.8	0.3
Over 3 years	4.0	7.9	15.9	2.9

Note: Total n is lower because of missing data

What kind of places have you stayed over the past month?



Example:

Of the youth who were in an unstable situation on the night of Monday, February 6, 31.4% of them also stayed in a stable situation over the past month.

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 according to the groupings on page 5.

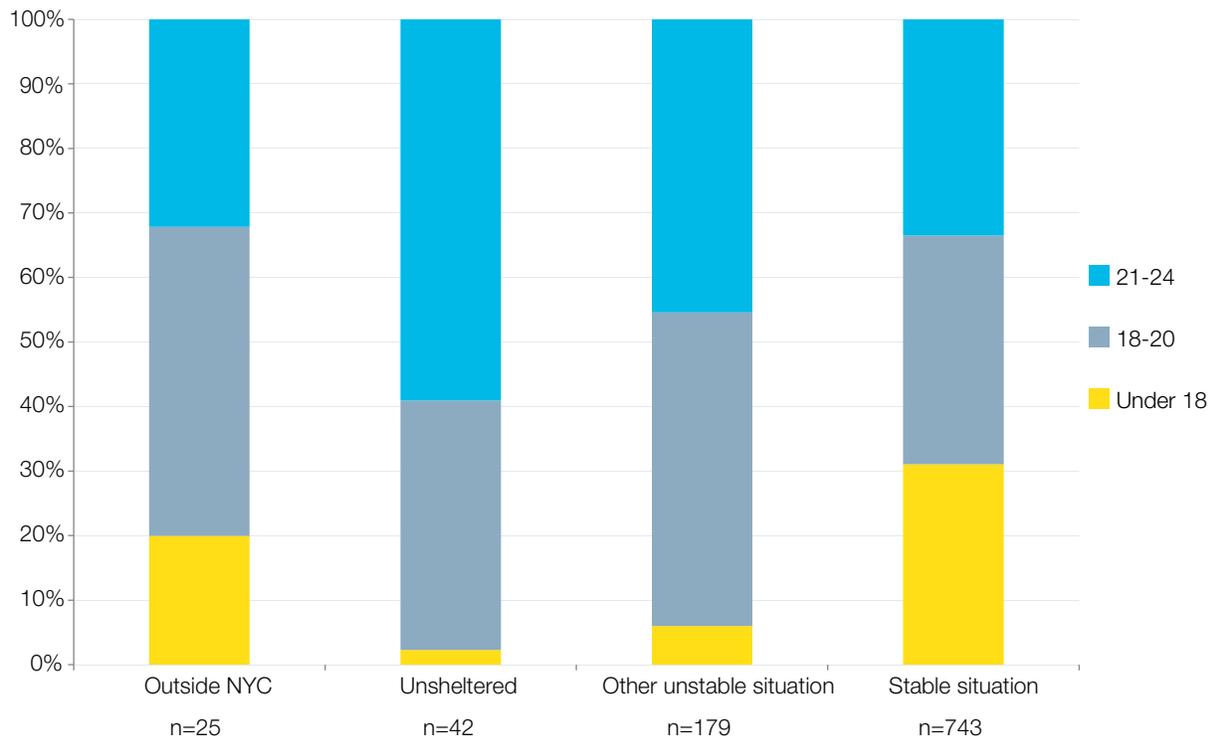
Along the top of the chart are the categories of living situations where youth stayed on the night of Monday, February 6.

Along the side are the categories of additional living situations where youth stayed over the past month, including the night of Monday, February 6.

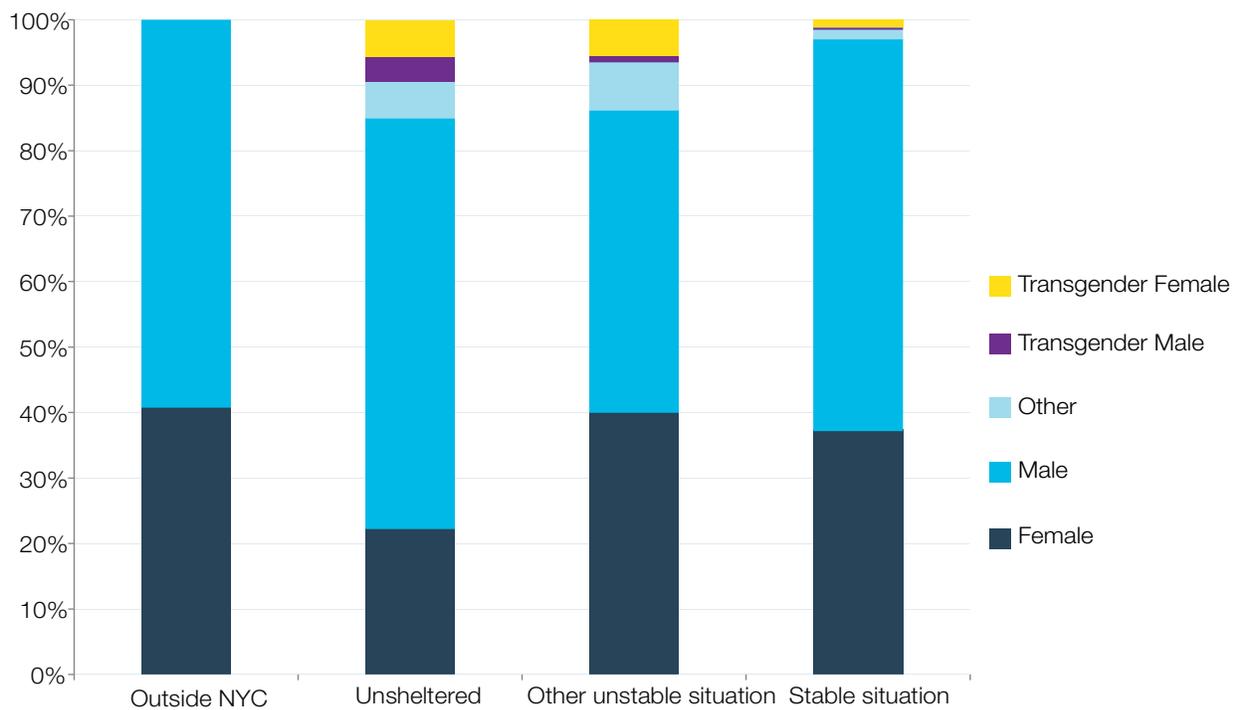
Because youth may have stayed in multiple categories of living situations, percentages total over 100%.

Section 3: Demographics

Age Groups by Living Situation

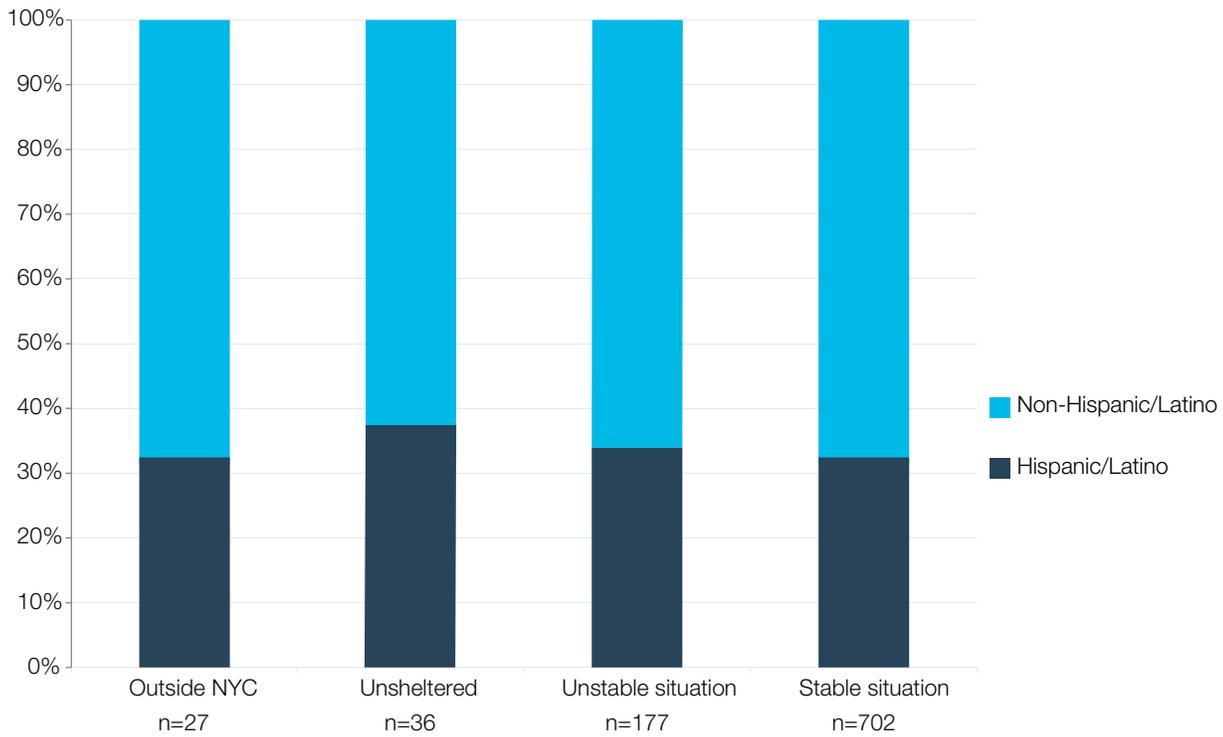


Gender by Living Situation

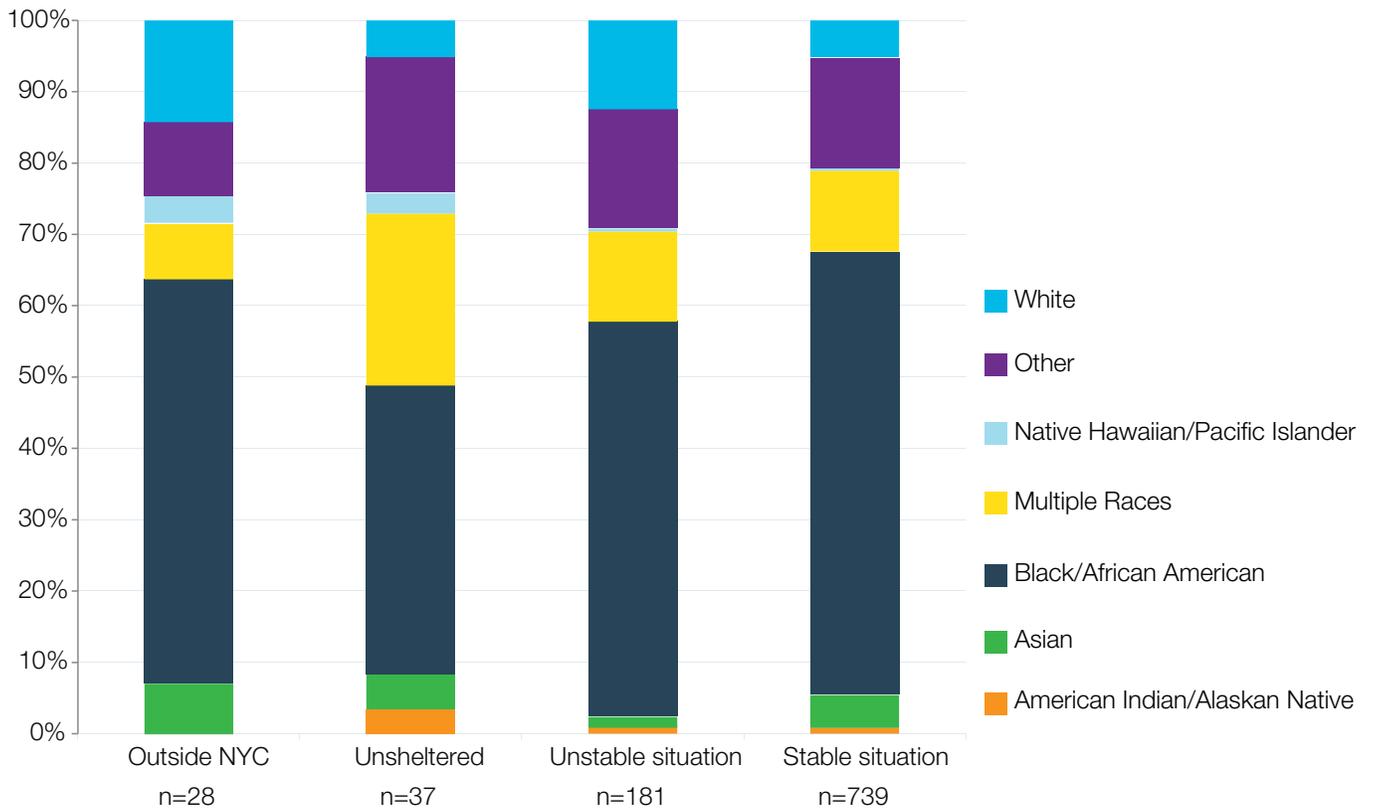


Section 3: Demographics

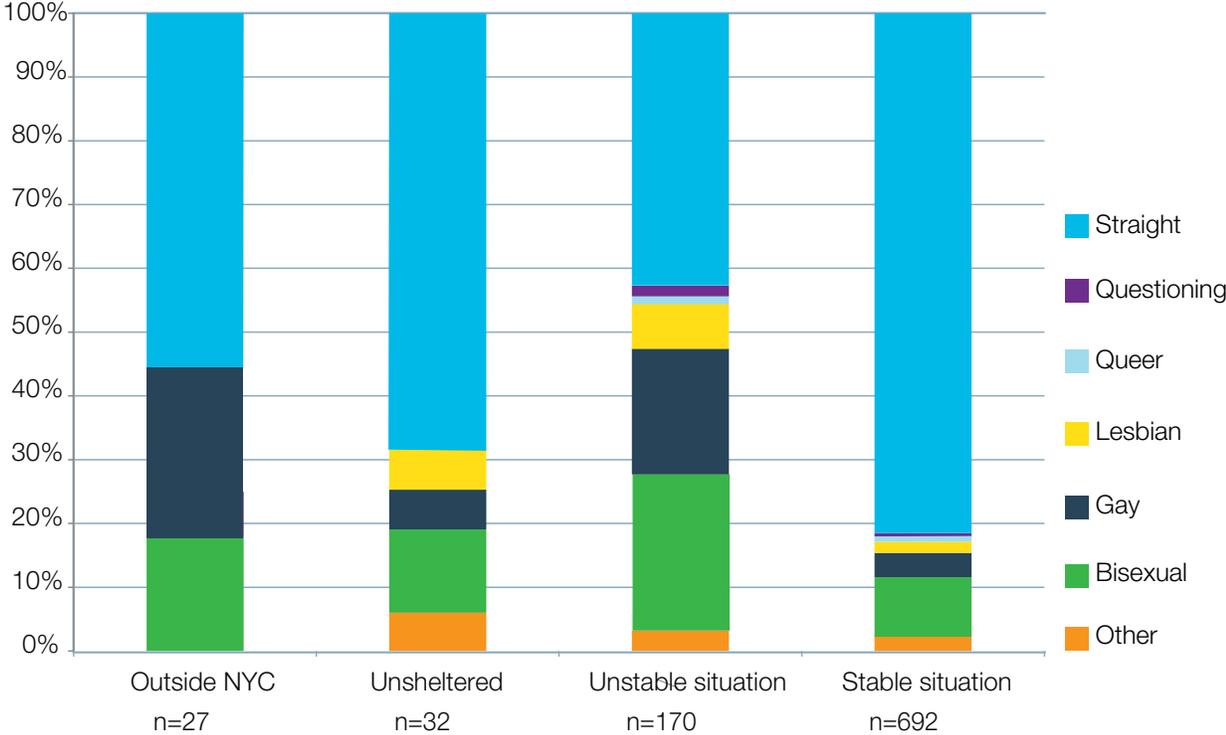
Ethnicity by Living Situation



Race by Living Situation



Sexual Orientation by Living Situation



Participating Programs

Community Centers (NYC Department of Youth and Community Development)

Cornerstone Community Center - Edenwald
Cornerstone Community Center - Johnson
Cornerstone Community Center - Queensbridge
Cornerstone Community Center - Sheepshead
Cornerstone Community Center - Ravenswood

Drop-in Centers

Ali Forney
Cardinal McCloskey Services
GEMS
Hetrick-Martin Institute
Housing Works
Mainchance (Adult)
MCCNY (Sylvia's Place)
Olivieri Drop-in Center (Adult)
Project Hospitality (Adult)
Project Hospitality
Safe Space
SCO Family Services
Sheltering Arms Far Rockaway
Streetwork Project
Streetwork Project LES
The Door
The Gathering Place (Adult)
The Living Room (Adult)

Community-based Probation Sites (NeONs; NYC Department of Probation)

Bedford-Stuyvesant NeON
Brownsville NeON
Castle Hill YMCA - NeON Satellite
East New York NeON
Harlem NeON
Jamaica NeON
South Bronx NeON
Staten Island NeON

Libraries

Broadway Library (Queens)
Central Library (Brooklyn)
Central Library (Queens)
Coney Island Library (Brooklyn)
Far Rockaway Public Library (Queens)
Lefferts Public Library (Queens)

Mid-Manhattan Public Library (Manhattan)
Mott Haven Library (Bronx)
New Lots Library (Brooklyn)
St. George Library (Staten Island)

Outreach Teams

Ali Forney
Bronxworks (Adult)
Common Ground (Adult)
Covenant House
Hetrick-Martin Institute
Housing Works
Manhattan Outreach Consortium (Adult)
Project Hospitality (Adult)
Streetwork Project Uptown
Streetwork Project LES
The Door
THRIVE NYC

Emergency Shelters

Ali Forney (Park Slope)
Ali Forney (Sunset)
Ali Forney (Taaffe)
Covenant House (Mother and Child)
Covenant House (Under 21)
Safe Horizon

Housing Programs

Diaspora Community Services
Good Shepherd Services: Chelsea Foyer
Maya's Place
Project Hospitality TIL
Rachel's Place
SCO Independence Inn I, II, III, IV, V
The LIGHT House

Housing Assistance Program for Foster Care Youth

Housing Academy Collaborative (NYC Administration for Children's Services)

Public Defender's Office

Brooklyn Defender Services

School

Jamaica Pathways to Graduation