



2022 Youth Count DC

ICH YOUTH POLICY WORKGROUP | 4/18/2023

Background

- The End Youth Homelessness Act of 2014 requires that the District of Columbia Department of Human Services (DHS) conduct an annual census of youth experiencing homelessness and housing instability.
- DHS has contracted with The Community Partnership (TCP) to conduct the "Homeless Youth Census" (HYC) or "Youth Count DC" since 2015.
- TCP, DHS, and the District of Columbia Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) use the data collected through HYC, in addition to other annual data, to inform strategic planning for the youth system.



Methodology

Who are we counting?

Age

- **Transitional Age Youth (TAY)**, 18 to 24
- **Minors**, Under 18 and without a parent or guardian

Housing Status

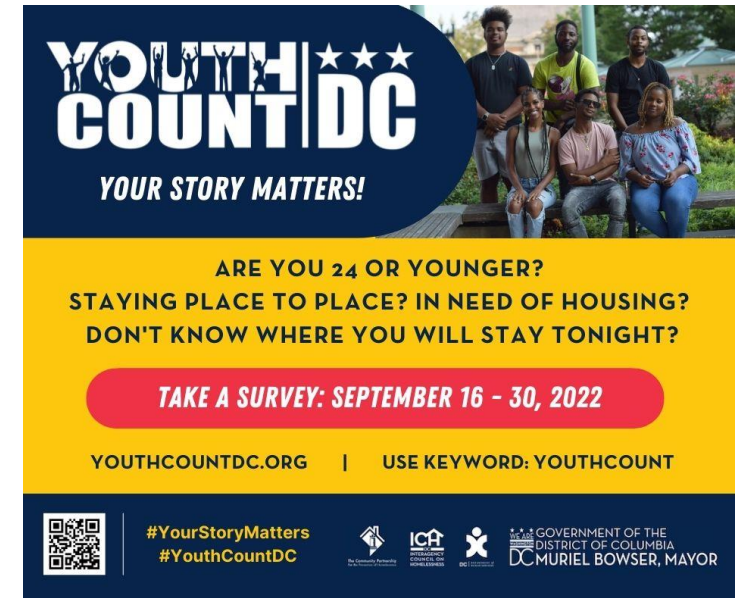
- **Literally Homeless:** Unsheltered or in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program.
- **Unstably-housed:** Staying in non-permanent housing arrangement (“couch-surfing”, etc.) or at imminent risk of homelessness.

Household Type

- **Unaccompanied** (single)
- **Young families** (head of household is 24 years old or younger)

Planning

- TCP developed a plan for completing the 2022 Youth Count with input from DHS, ICH, youth providers, and S.H.Y. Youth Action Board, beginning in late Spring 2022.
- TCP leveraged relationships with outreach, drop-in/meal programs, emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, and youth advocacy and community partners to share information on how and where to take the survey throughout their networks and with their peers.
- Methodology remained mostly the same since the 2020 Count, when the public health emergency necessitated a shift in data collection methods.
- Youth-serving providers were trained and equipped to conduct surveys with youth with whom they engaged during the week, and partners were requested to advertise the Count through their social media and youth programming to encourage youth who did not take a survey at a provider agency to take one online.
- HMIS-participating agencies were informed of the Count and instructed to ensure their programs were entering data on youth and checking their data quality in the HMIS.



YOUTH COUNT DC
YOUR STORY MATTERS!

ARE YOU 24 OR YOUNGER?
STAYING PLACE TO PLACE? IN NEED OF HOUSING?
DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU WILL STAY TONIGHT?

TAKE A SURVEY: SEPTEMBER 16 - 30, 2022

YOUTHCOUNTDC.ORG | USE KEYWORD: YOUTHCOUNT

#YourStoryMatters
#YouthCountDC

ICF
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Data Sources

Youth Count Survey

- Shelter / Transitional Housing programs that do NOT enter into HMIS
- Unsheltered youth
- Youth staying in unstable housing arrangements



HMIS

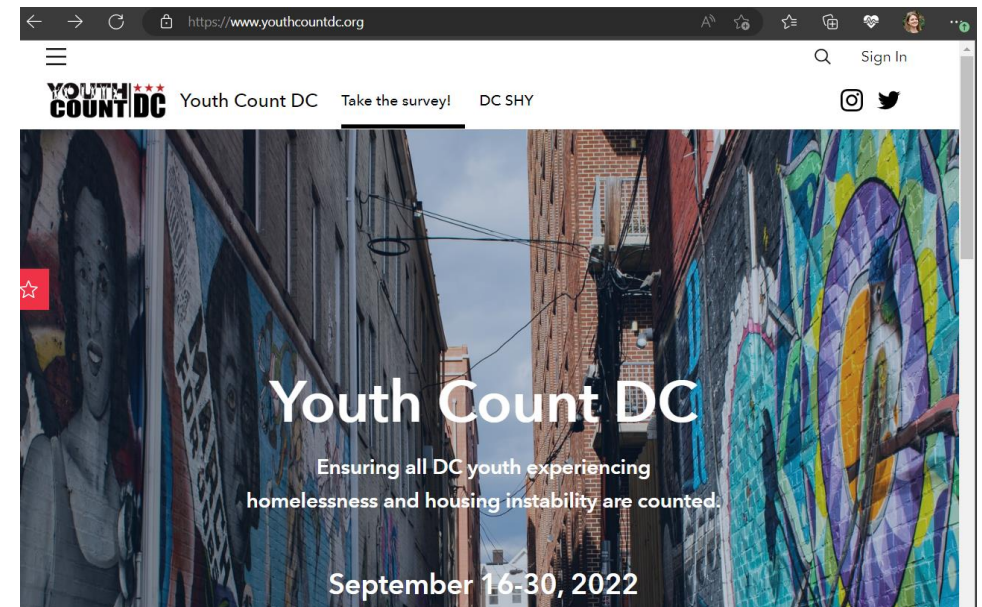
- Shelter / Transitional Housing programs
- Permanent Housing programs (for de-duplication)

OSNIUM

- De-identified records from DV providers serving youth in DV-specific Shelter or Transitional Housing programs.

HYC Survey

- Took place over the course of two weeks (September 16th to 30th, 2022) – expanded timeline for 2022. Self-administered and site-based surveys
- The survey questions have remained mostly consistent since 2018. In response to the public health emergency, TCP built the self-administered, web-based survey tool for respondents to submit their info (as opposed to using paper forms).
- To make the tool as accessible as possible, the survey was translated in DC's 5 threshold languages with the option to use the Language Access Line if another language was required.
- Since the survey was accessible to anyone, online, at www.YouthCountDC.org, additional checks were put in place to ensure that we could differentiate eligible youth from anyone who may have come across the survey online.
- Youth who completed the survey were able to receive a \$20 Visa gift card for their participation. Several community agencies served as gift card pick up locations so youth could easily receive their gift card, if they took the survey online.



Results: Literally Homeless Totals

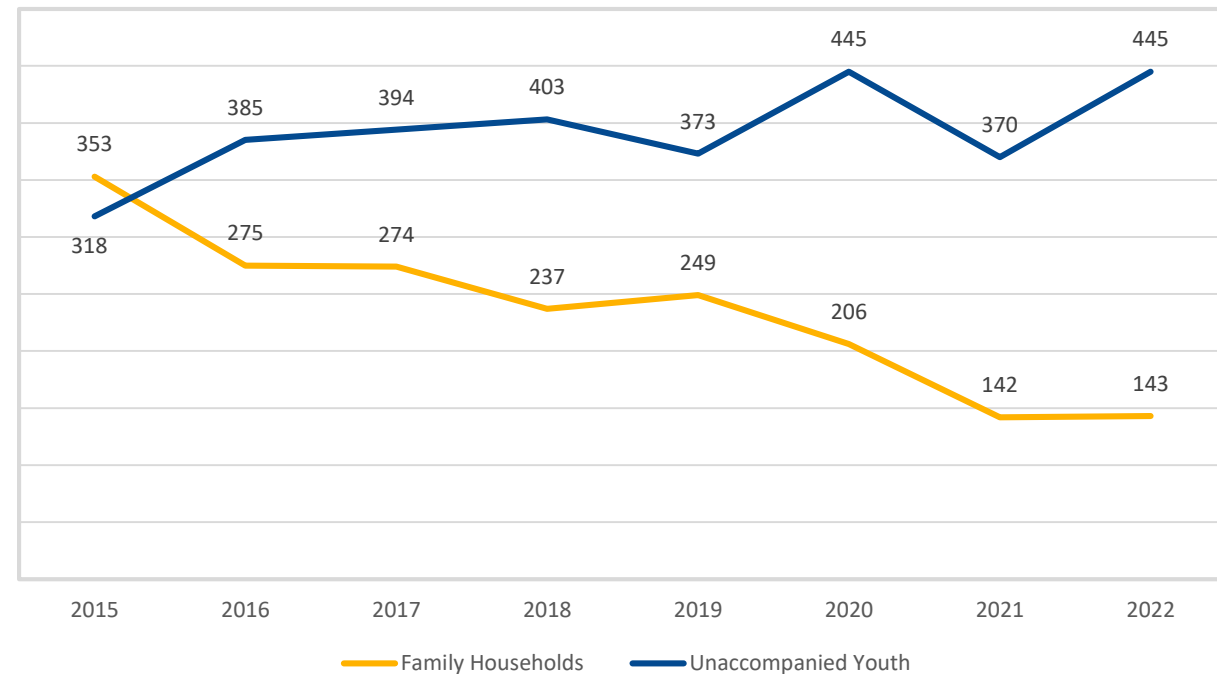
- 588 youth (unaccompanied and heads of household) were counted as **literally homeless** during the 2022 Youth Count.
- Single youth make up 76% of the youth counted (455 persons), youth heads of family households make up just under a quarter (24%) of all youth counted (143 persons).
- Just under 3% of youth counted were unaccompanied minors and minors with children (17 persons), as opposed to TAYs.

2022 Homeless Youth Census			
<i>Literally Homeless Comparison (2022 - 2021)</i>			
Population	2022 Totals	2021 Totals	% Change
All Persons			
All Persons	588	512	15%
Location			
Sheltered	523	474	10%
Singles	392	338	16%
<i>Transition Age Youth (18 - 24)</i>	378	329	15%
<i>Minors (Under 18)</i>	14	9	56%
Family Heads of Household (HoH)	131	136	-4%
<i>Transition Age Youth (18 - 24)</i>	130	133	-2%
<i>Minors (Under 18)</i>	1	3	-67%
Unsheltered	65	38	71%
Singles	53	32	66%
<i>Transition Age Youth (18 - 24)</i>	51	32	59%
<i>Minors (Under 18)</i>	2	0	-
Family Heads of Household (HoH)	12	6	100%
<i>Transition Age Youth (18 - 24)</i>	12	6	100%
<i>Minors (Under 18)</i>	0	0	0%

Results: Literally Homeless Totals by Year

- Overall, there was a 15% increase in the total number of literally homeless (sheltered and unsheltered) youth counted in 2022 as compared to 2021.
- The increase is due almost entirely to single youth, as family households increased by just one household.

Literally Homeless Youth Count, by Year



Results: Youth in Unstable Housing

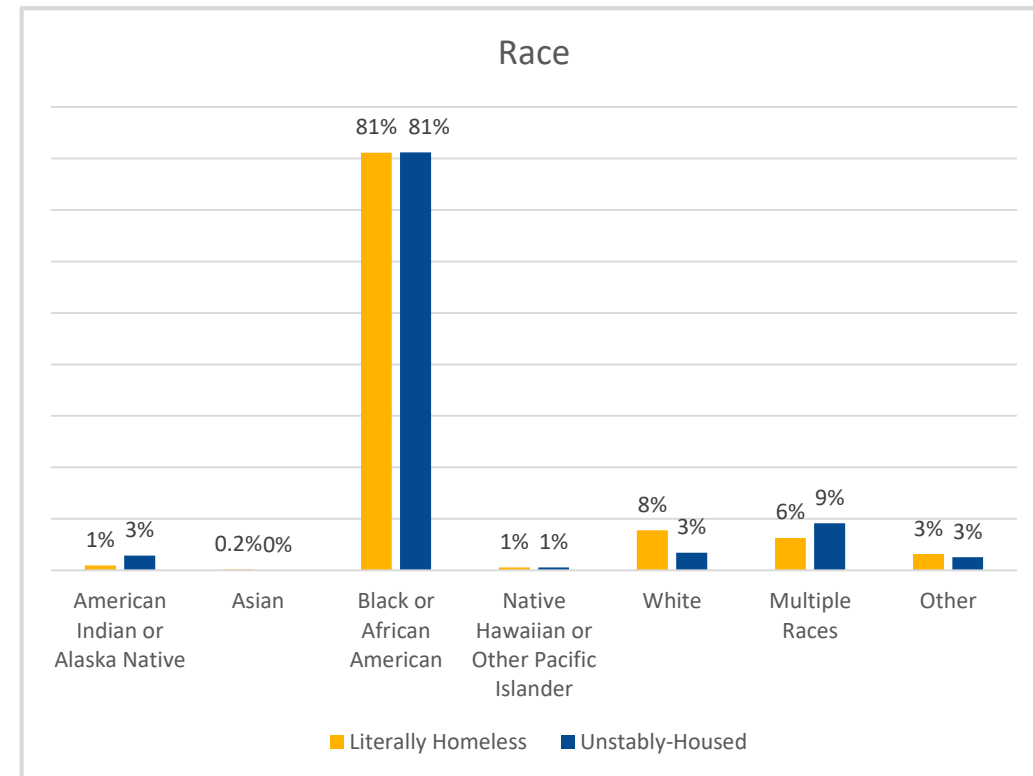
2022 Homeless Youth Census			
<i>Literally Homeless and Unstable Housing Count Totals</i>			
Population	Literally Homeless*	Unstable Housing**	Total
All Persons			
All Persons	588	360	948
Household Composition			
Singles	445	307	752
<i>Transition Age Youth (18 - 24)</i>	429	272	701
<i>Unaccompanied Minors (Under 18)</i>	16	35	51
Family Heads of Household (HoH)*	143	53	196
<i>Transition Age Youth (18 - 24)</i>	142	53	195
<i>Minors (Under 18)</i>	1	0	1
<p>* "Literally Homeless" includes youth in shelter or transitional housing programs and those counted in an unsheltered location. ** "Unstable Housing" includes youth who indicated they mostly stayed in a non-permanent housing situation (such as staying house to house with friends or relatives) over the past month or who mostly stayed in an institutional setting or permanent housing over the past month but indicated that they were unlikely to have stable, permanent housing in the next month.</p>			

Results: Fluidity of Youth Homelessness

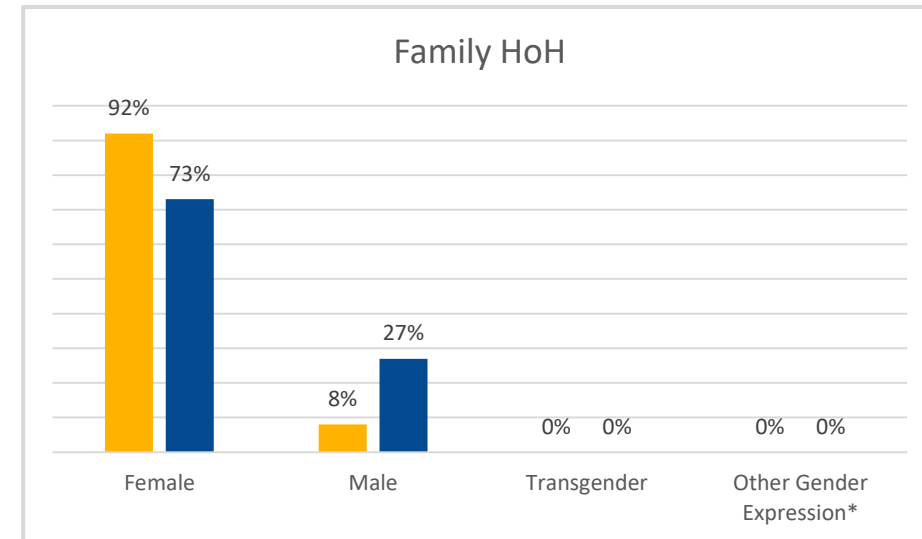
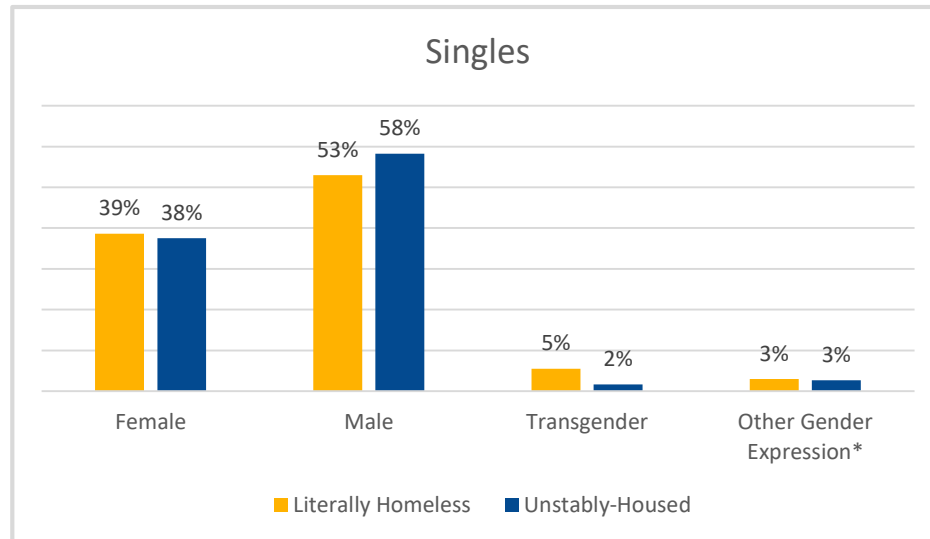
2022 Homeless Youth Census				
<i>All Nighttime locations stayed in past 30 days (multiple choices)*</i>				
	All Youth Counted	Emergency Shelter or Transitional Housing†	Unsheltered Location	Unstable Housing††
All Persons				
All Persons	948	66%	23%	42%
Household Composition				
Singles	752	64%	24%	45%
Family Heads of Household	196	76%	20%	29%
<p><i>*Prevalence does not include youth who did not take a survey, such as those who were counted through HMIS records or on whom data was submitted in another way.</i></p> <p><i>† Includes all youth counted in an ES/TH program and any survey respondent who said they stayed in a shelter or transitional housing location at some point in the past month, regardless of HMIS documentation of a stay.</i></p> <p><i>††Includes all youth who indicated on the survey that they stayed in any of the following, because they did not have their own safe and stable housing: at family or friend's houses, with someone they did not know well because so they had a place to stay the night, or at hotels or motels. Additionally, this category includes respondents who indicated that they stayed in a permanent housing arrangement or institutional setting but indicated that they will not have safe and stable housing in the next month.</i></p>				

Demographics: Race and Ethnicity

- Non-white youth experience homelessness at far greater rates than their white counterparts, making up 92% of literally homeless youth and 97% of unstably-housed youth.
- 20% of literally homeless and 15% of unstably-housed youth identified as Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x).



Demographics: Gender

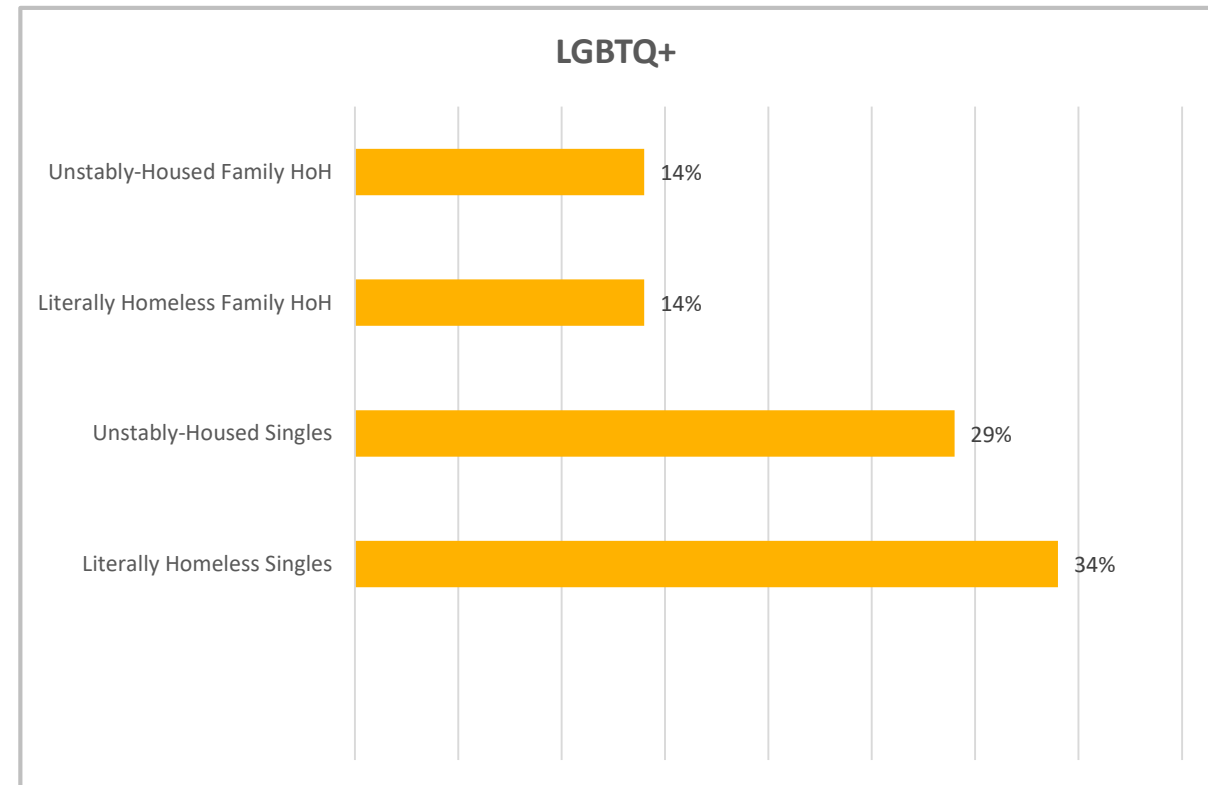


- Most youth-headed family households are headed by female-identifying persons, at 92% of all literally homeless families, though slightly lower for unstably-housed families, at 73%.
- Over half of the singles population identify as male.

**Includes Gender Queer, Non-Binary, Gender Non-Conforming options from survey tool.*

LGBTQ+

- Nearly 1/3 of single youth counted in the Youth Count are LGBTQ+ youth.
- 14% of youth-headed families, both unstably-housed and literally homeless are LGBTQ+, this figure is significantly higher than what we typically see in the general family system.

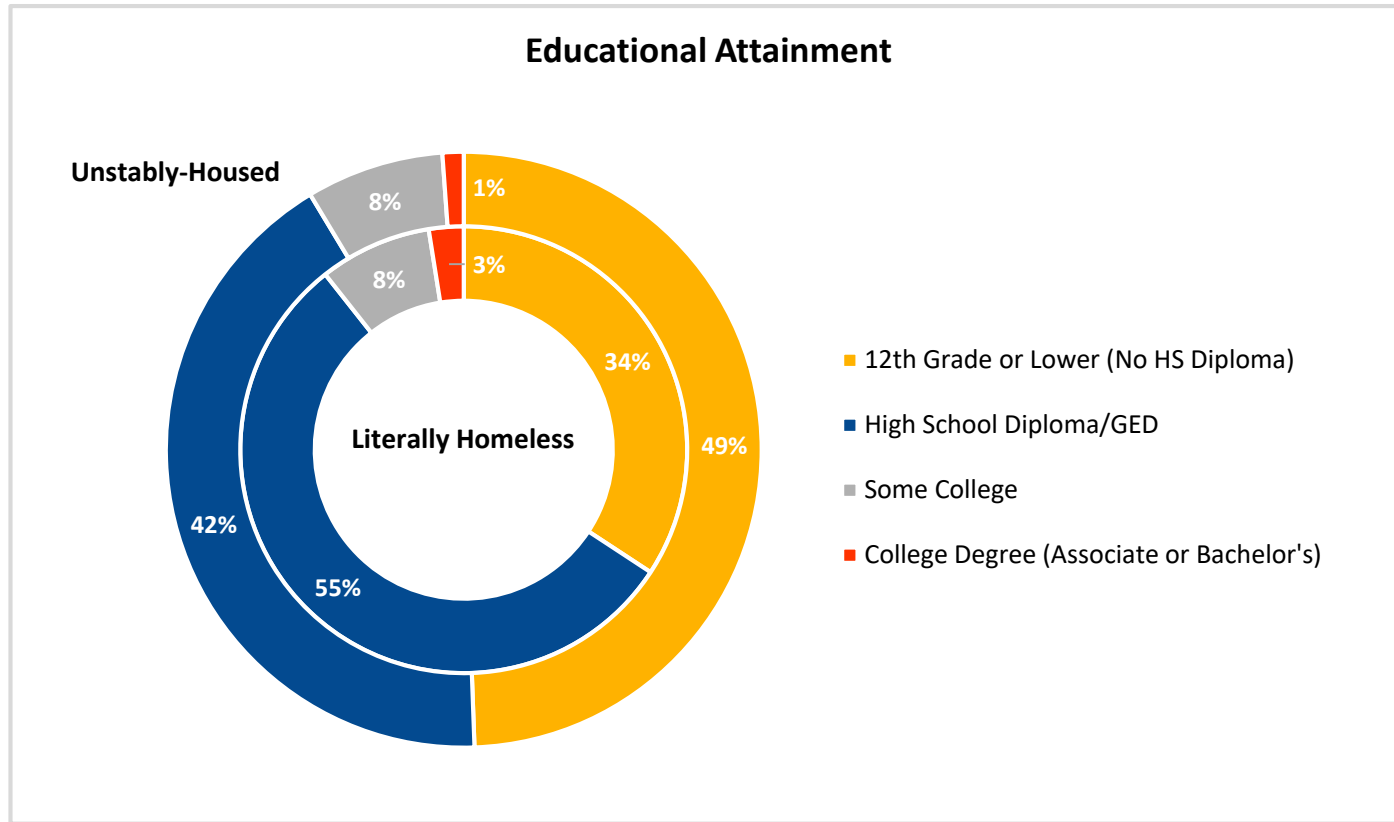


Disabilities and Systems Involvement

Conditions & Experiences	Literally Homeless Singles	Unstably-Housed Singles	Literally Homeless Family HoH	Unstably-Housed Family HoH*
Mental Health Issues	28%	40%	19%	55%
Physical/Developmental/Chronic Health Issues	15%	19%	8%	35%
Child Welfare Experience	24%	23%	18%	33%
Justice System Involvement	21%	26%	26%	26%

* Note: Data for Unstably-Housed Family HoH Table has been updated as of 4/20/23.

Education



- Just over half of literally homeless youth reported having a high school diploma, that rate is even lower for those who were unstably-housed (42%).
- Of those without a high school diploma, 17% of 18 to 24 year-olds and 43% of minors reported that they were currently enrolled in some type of educational program.

Domestic Violence

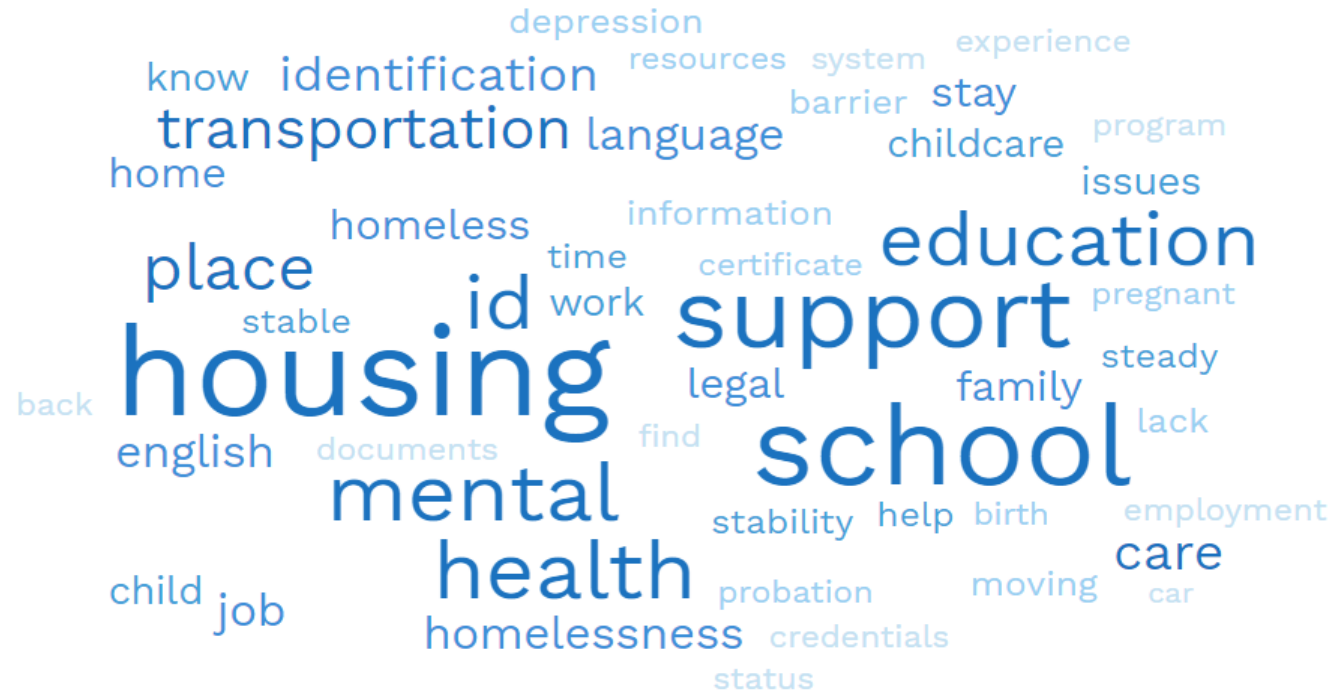
- Roughly 2 out of 5 youth, regardless of where they were counted for the purposes of the Youth Count indicated a past experience of domestic violence.
- Of those who have experienced domestic violence, nearly half (48%) of the literally homeless youth counted and 80% of unstably-housed youth said their homelessness was due to fleeing domestic violence.

Domestic/Intimate Partner Violence	Literally Homeless	Unstably-Housed
Lifetime Experience	37%	40%
<i>Currently Fleeing*</i>	48%	80%

**Currently fleeing is a subset of Lifetime Experience, rates are the percentage out of those with a lifetime experience.*



What are your needs?



Preparing for HYC 2023

- TCP will continue to use HMIS and leverage partnerships in homeless services to complete the literally homeless portion of the count.
- TCP is working on a better methodology to report out on unstably-housed youth in a more consistent way, to allow us to better compare year-to-year rates.
- TCP has started internal planning and will begin planning with partners and other stakeholders in early summer.

YOUTH COUNT | DC