New York City Youth Count 2022

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 (HUD). This count comprises 1) The Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) to count unsheltered individuals on Tuesday January 25, 2022; 2) censuses of transitional housing and emergency shelters to count individuals and families who were sheltered; and 3) a supplemental NYC Youth Count, administered by the Department of Youth and Community Development, to identify unsheltered youth who were not counted during the HOPE Count.

Citywide Youth Point-in-Time Count

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

	Unsheltered	Sheltered		Total
		Emergency	Transitional	
Unaccompanied (single) Youth*	156	1,798	140	2,094
Parenting Youth	0	1,491	9	1,500
Children of Parenting Youth	0	1,659	10	1,669
Total	**156**	**4,948**	**159**	**5,263**

* Based on the HUD definition, unaccompanied youth are young people between the ages of 14 through 24. Totals for unaccompanied youth include results from HOPE Count and NYC Youth Count.

Youth Count Data: Overview of Surveys

The 2022 Youth Count took place from Wednesday, January 26th to Friday, January 28th. Youth were asked where they spent the night on Tuesday, January 25th (the same date as HOPE and the shelter census count). Program staff at the participating programs, which included drop-in centers, outreach teams and community centers, asked every participant ages 14 through 24 to participate in a short survey to better understand and estimate homeless and unstably housed youth.
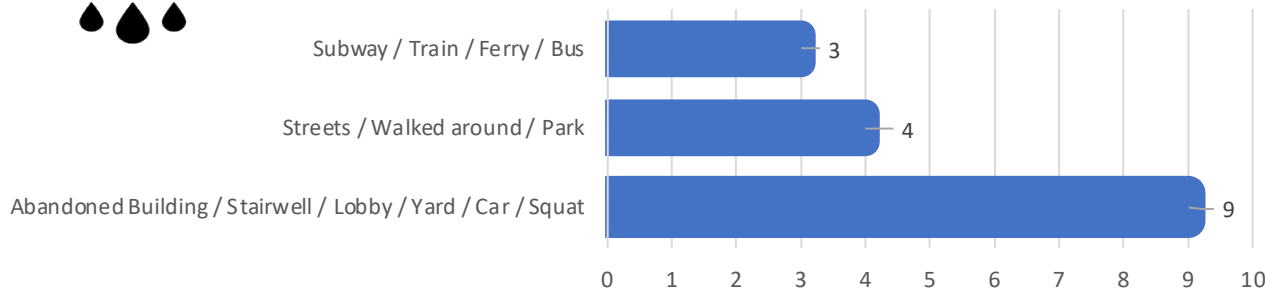
The living situation reported in the surveys (n=627) was categorized based on where youth spent the night on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 The categories identified youth who were **1) unsheltered**, according to HUD's definition of residing in a place not meant for human habitation **2) in an unstable living 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 **4) Outside of NYC**.

Youth Count Results

The living situations where young people stayed are listed below. Young people to characterized their living situation as stable or unstable. As a result, the 'stable' and 'unstable' labels cross over among the living situations. For example, "friend's place" can be stable or unstable, depending on how a youth decided to characterize their situation (or experienced their situation). Please note that 5 young people identified as being outside of New York City.
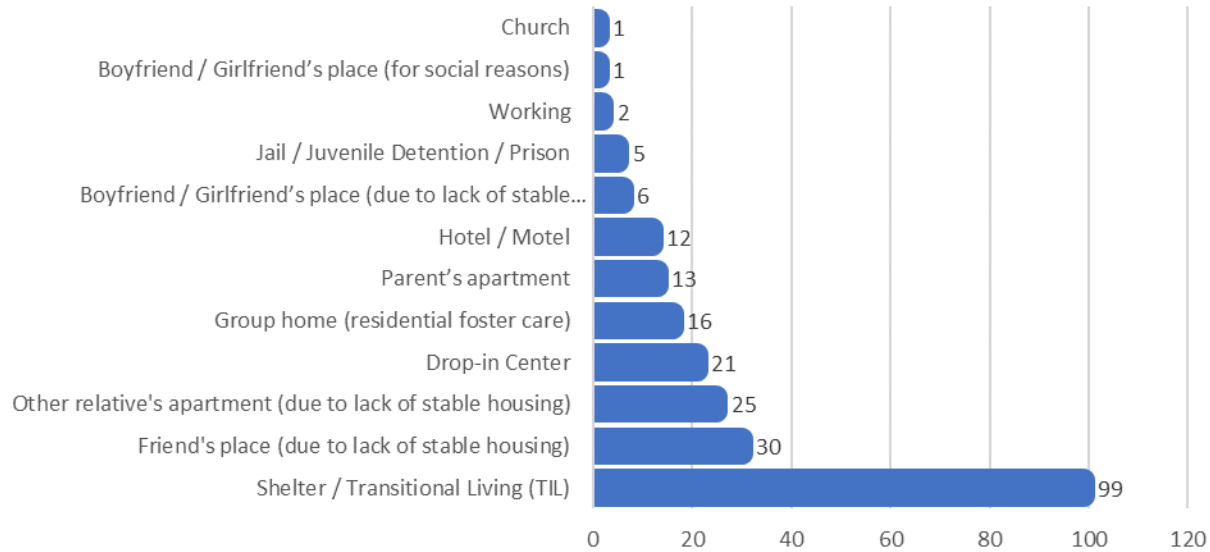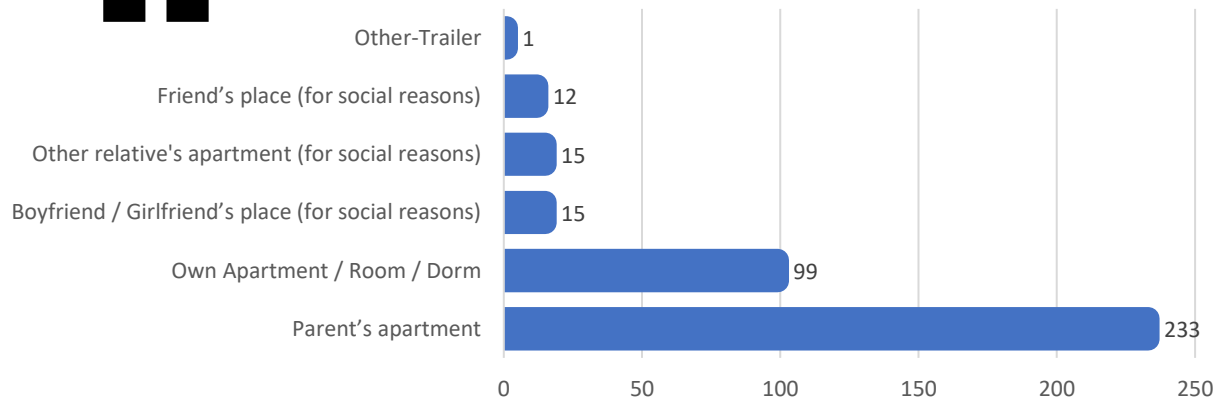
HUD UNSHELTERED ESTIMATE 16

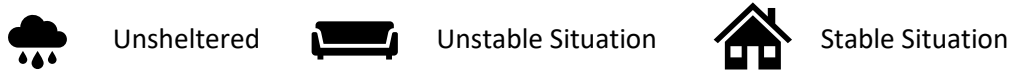| Living Situation	Count
Subway / Train / Ferry / Bus	3
Streets / Walked around / Park	4
Abandoned Building / Stairwell / Lobby / Yard / Car / Squat	9

UNSTABLE LIVING SITUATION **231**

Category	Value
Church	1
Boyfriend / Girlfriend's place (for social reasons)	1
Working	2
Jail / Juvenile Detention / Prison	5
Boyfriend / Girlfriend's place (due to lack of stable…)	6
Hotel / Motel	12
Parent's apartment	13
Group home (residential foster care)	16
Drop-in Center	21
Other relative's apartment (due to lack of stable housing)	25
Friend's place (due to lack of stable housing)	30
Shelter / Transitional Living (TIL)	99

STABLE LIVING SITUATION **375**

Category	Value
Other-Trailer	1
Friend's place (for social reasons)	12
Other relative's apartment (for social reasons)	15
Boyfriend / Girlfriend's place (for social reasons)	15
Own Apartment / Room / Dorm	99
Parent's apartment	233

Demographics by Living Situation

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

☁ Unsheltered　　🛋 Unstable Situation　　🏠 Stable Situation

Ethnicity by Living Situation

	Unsheltered n=16	Unstable n=209	Stable n=350
Latinx	31%	40%	37%
Not Latinx	69%	60%	63%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Gender by Living Situation

	Unsheltered n=16	Unstable n=226	Stable n=370
Female	44%	38%	25%
Gender non conforming	6%	5%	2%
Male	50%	49%	71%
Other	0%	1%	0%
Transgender: Female	0%	3%	1%
Transgender: Gender non conforming	0%	1%	0%
Transgender: Male	0%	4%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Sexual Orientation by Living Situation

	Unsheltered N=15	Unstable n=221	Stable n=353
Bisexual	33%	14%	4%
Gay	7%	7%	1%
Lesbian	7%	5%	3%
Other	0%	2%	1%
Pansexual	0%	8%	2%
Queer	7%	1%	0%
Questioning	0%	1%	1%
Straight	47%	62%	87%
Asexual	0%	0%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Age by Living Situation

	Unsheltered n=16	Unstable n=230	Stable n=376
<18	13%	7%	16%
18-20	69%	41%	26%
21-24	19%	52%	58%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Race by Living Situation

	Unsheltered n=16	Unstable n=199	Stable n=339
American Indian / Alaskan Native	0%	1%	1%
Asian	0%	1%	3%
Black / African American	44%	67%	70%
Multiple Race	25%	14%	8%
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0%	1%	1%
Other	19%	10%	12%
White	13%	7%	5%
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 transient nature of youths' living situations. 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 in the Past Month

		1	2	3	4	5+
☁	n=15	7%	20%	33%	7%	33%
🛋	n=218	47%	22%	14%	6%	11%
🏠	n=364	76%	15%	3%	1%	4%

Time without Permanent Place To Stay

		Less than 1 week	1 week to 6 months	6 months to 1 year	1 year to 2 years	More than 2 years	N/A
☁	n=15	0%	67%	13%	7%	13%	0%
🛋	n=184	4%	28%	13%	17%	21%	16%
🏠	n=369	1%	4%	2%	1%	4%	88%

Places Stayed Over Tuesday, January 25th vs Past Month

To understand the transient nature of youths' 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 based on the living situation (not based on a direct question as above). Because youth may have stayed in multiple categories of living situations, percentages total over 100%.

For example, of the youth who were in an unsheltered living situation on Tuesday, 63% had also stayed in a stable living situation during the past month.

Living Situation on Tuesday, January 25th compared to Past Month

		Unsheltered	Unstable	Stable
☁	n=16	100%	50%	63%
🛋	n=231	8%	100%	26%
🏠	n=375	1%	7%	100%

Survey Methods

In the past, the survey methods for NYC Youth Count include in-person surveys using a paper survey, a survey application online, or on the phone.

Due to COVID 19, gatherings were restricted, especially in congregate settings like drop-in centers. The usual way of conducting youth count had to be reconsidered to reach as many youth as possible. Virtual Tabling sessions were established to reach young people who will not be going to the drop-in center programs during NYC Youth Count. Zoom links were posted on the DYCD website inviting young people to participate in the tabling session each day of Youth Count. As part of the survey, interviewers were asked to note whether each survey was done via phone, web, or in-person. The results are below.

Survey Methods of Youth Count Participants

Pie chart legend: ■ In-person ■ On the phone ■ Virtual face to face

- In-person: 58%
- On the phone: 37%
- Virtual face to face: 6%