# PART Department of Youth & Community Development Of Control EVERYONE COUNTS!

Mayor Eric L. Adams
First Deputy Mayor Sheena Wright
Deputy Mayor Ana J. Almanzar
DYCD Commissioner Keith S. Howard









### Dear Friends:

Welcome to the 2023 New York City Youth Count, a point-in-time census of unsheltered young people that supplements the larger Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) Count.

I am proud to report that a record 3,422 surveys were collected—a more than 300 percent increase over the previous year. This was the result of a "full court press" by our community partners, with the goal of reaching as many youth as possible and accurately recording their experiences. DYCD could not have done it without the support of the partners acknowledged in this report.

DYCD continues to expand our partnerships and outreach to create an even bigger and better Youth Count. We look forward to the support of all New Yorkers in promoting this important initiative, and helping to ensure that our young people always have a stable place to call home.

Everyone counts!

Keith S. Howard

Commissioner, New York Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD)

# NEW YORK CITY YOUTH COUNT 2023

# **Understanding Characteristics of Homeless and Unstably Housed Youth**

Each year, the City of New York conducts a point-in-time count of homeless adults, families, and youth based on guidelines by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This count comprises:

1

The Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) to count unsheltered individuals on Tuesday, January 24, 2023.

2

Censuses of transitional housing and emergency shelters to count individuals and families who were sheltered.

3

A supplemental NYC Youth Count, administered by the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), to identify unsheltered youth not counted during the HOPE Count.



# 2023 YOUTH COUNT HIGHLIGHTS

3,422 surveys—the most conducted in NYC Youth Count history—led by DYCD, was a result of:

An increase of 334 percent from 2022 in the number of surveys conducted, and a 157 percent increase over 2019 (the previous record year with the most surveys conducted).



- A tremendous amount of outreach about Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) programs directly to young people.
- Unprecedented agency-wide collaboration and support.
- Partnerships with DYCD Youth Services community programs Cornerstone, Beacon, and afterschool programs through COMPASS.
- The mobilizing of DYCD staff in three vans, and outreach teams to conduct surveys in areas youth frequent.

### Other key partnerships include:

New York City Youth Action Board members were key stakeholders, participating in the overall planning of Youth Count and surveying young people.

- DYCD Strategic Partnerships with the My Brother's and Sister's Keeper program.
- New York City Department of Probation NeON Program participation borough-wide resulted in 10 percent of the surveys conducted.
- New York City Council members and staff conducted surveys for the first time.
- New York City Department of Veterans' Services requested DYCD collect information about veterans. Twenty-seven young people stated they were veterans.

# CITYWIDE YOUTH POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

### **Citywide Youth Point-in-Time Count**

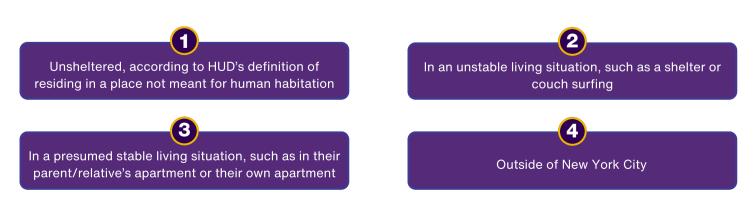
Data based on the HOPE Count, NYC Youth Count, and the census of all NYC shelters for youth ages 14 to 24

	<u>Unsheltered</u> 	Shelt	<u>Total</u> 	
	<b>1</b>	Emergency	Transitional	<b></b>
Unaccompanied (Single) Youth	147	3,264	262	3,673
Parenting Youth	0	2,244	10	2,254
Children of Parenting Youth	0	2,223	11	2,234
Total	147	7,731	283	8,161

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 2023 Youth Count took place from Wednesday, January 25, to Friday, January 27. As part of the survey, youth were asked where they spent the night on Tuesday, January 24 (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 aged 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=2,899) was categorized based on where youth spent the night on January 24. The categories identified youth who were:



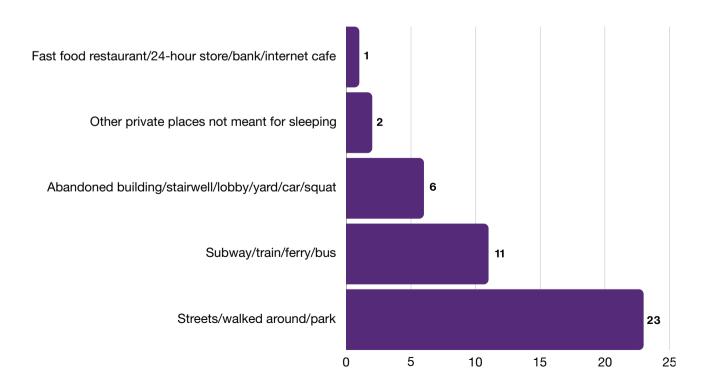


# 2023 YOUTH COUNT RESULTS

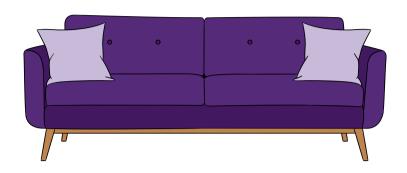
The living situations where young people stayed are listed below. Young people characterized their living situation as stable or unstable. As a result, the 'stable' and 'unstable' labels cross over living situations. For example, "friend's place" can be stable or unstable, depending on how a youth decided to characterize their situation (or experienced their situation). Note: Ninety-five young people identified as being outside of New York City.



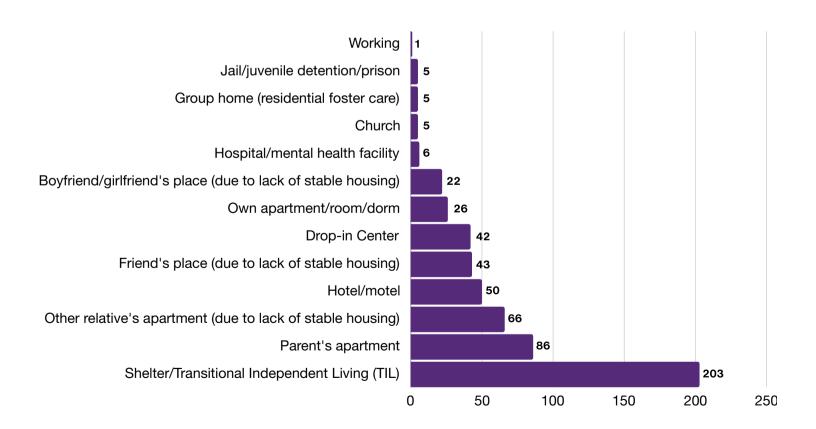
# HUD UNSHELTERED ESTIMATE 43



# UNSTABLE LIVING SITUATION



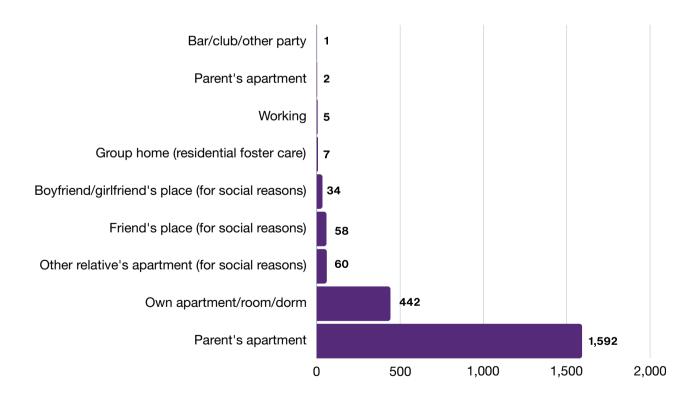
# UNSTABLE LIVING SITUATION 560



# STABLE LIVING SITUATION



# STABLE LIVING SITUATION 2,201



# 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. Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.







### **Ethnicity by Living Situation**

Ethnicity	n=43	n=462	n=1,692
Latinx	58%	47%	44%
Not Latinx	42%	53%	56%

### **Age by Living Situation**

Age	n=43	n=560	n=2,201
<18	21%	15%	49%
18-20	28%	47%	25%
21-24	51%	38%	27%

### **Race by Living Situation**

Race	n=43	n=488	n=1,886
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	0%	2%	3%
Asian	0%	2%	4%
Black/ African American	44%	63%	67%
Multiple Race	16%	13%	8%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0%	2%	1%
Other	19%	11%	13%
White	21%	7%	5%

### **Gender by Living Situation**

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Gender	n=43	n=516	n=1,977
Female	28%	40%	44%
Gender non conforming	7%	5%	1%
Male	51%	47%	52%
Other	2%	0%	0%
Transgender: Female	2%	4%	1%
Transgender: Gender non conforming	0%	1%	0%
Transgender: Male	7%	2%	0%
Two spirit	2%	1%	0%

### **Sexual Orientation by Living Situation**

	263		
Sexual Orientation	n=32	n=475	n=1,852
Asexual	9%	1%	1%
Bisexual	22%	16%	10%
Gay	9%	5%	3%
Lesbian	6%	4%	3%
Other	0%	1%	1%
Pansexual	13%	10%	2%
Queer	0%	3%	1%
Questioning	0%	2%	1%
Straight (Heterosexual)	41%	59%	79%

# 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. Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.







### **Number of Places in the Past Month**

		1	2	3	4	5+
1111111	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
863	n=31	11%	36%	14%	11%	14%	14%
	n=503	5%	32%	12%	13%	16%	22%
	n=1,929	1%	3%	1%	1%	2%	93%

### Places Stayed On Tuesday, January 24 Versus Past Month

To understand the transient nature of young people'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 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 percent. For example, of the youth who were in an unsheltered living situation on January 24, 16 percent had also stayed in a stable living situation during the past month.

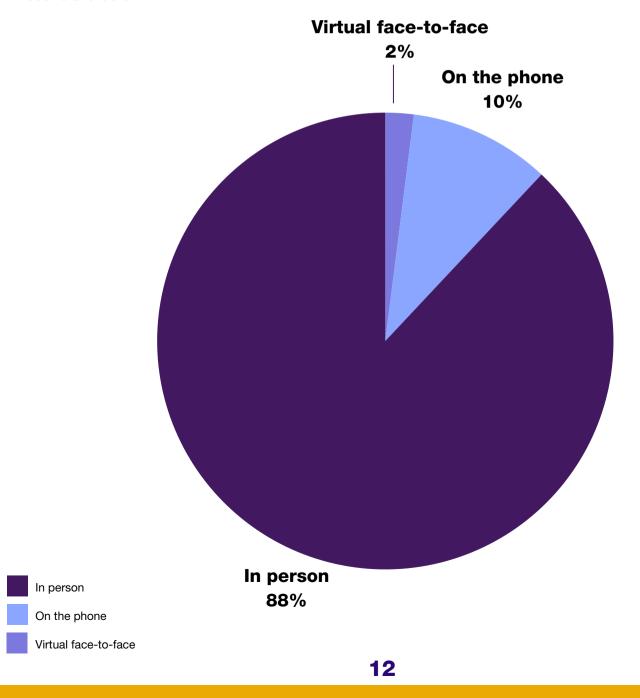
### Living Situation on Tuesday, January 24 Compared to Past Month

		Unsheltered	Unstable	Stable
2005	n=43	100%	40%	16%
	n=560	6%	100%	36%
	n=2,201	1%	3%	100%

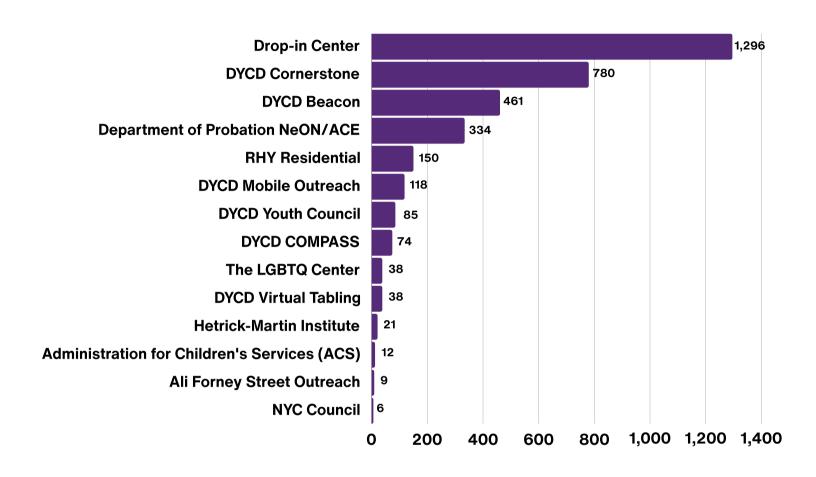
# SURVEY METHODS

In the past, the survey methods for NYC Youth Count included 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.



# YOUTH COUNT STAKEHOLDER ACHIEVEMENTS





# YOUTH COUNT OVERVIEW (UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Surveys Conducted*	857	1,192	1,057	725	1,332	1,184	532	789	3,422

All Youth (14-24)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Stable**	469	884	791	354	866	631	237	375	2,201
Unstable**	317	248	194	323	416	498	214	231	560
HUD definition unsheltered**	68	44	44	36	34	47	7	16	43
Under 18					2	0	1	2	9
18-20					***	19	2	11	12
21-24					32	28	4	3	22
% of youth with HUD-defined unsheltered living situation	8%	4%	4%	5%	3%	4%	2%	3%	1%
% of youth with unstable living situations	37%	21%	18%	45%	31%	42%	47%	37%	19%
% of youth with stable living situations	55%	74%	75%	49%	65%	53%	52%	60%	76%
DYCD Program Census (PIT)				434	507	645	576	601	626
DYCD + DHS Census	1,518	1,653	1,738	1,922	2,093	2,161	1,881	1,938	3,526
HUD Unsheltered (Youth Count + HOPE Count)	188	152	265	220	170	257	n/a	156	147
Total unaccompanied homeless youth	1,706	1,805	2,003	2,142	2,263	2,418	1,881	2,094	3,673
Outside of NYC**	3	16	28	12	16	8	1	5	95
Total for Youth Count	857	1,192	1,057	725	1,332	1,184	459	627	2,899

<sup>\*</sup>Total surveys conducted differs from final totals for Youth Count

<sup>\*\*</sup>Source is the NYC Youth Count Survey

<sup>\*\*\*2019</sup> unsheltered combined 18-24

## THANK YOU TO OUR YOUTH COUNT PARTNERS!

**Ali Forney Center** 

**Bronx Borough President's Office** 

**Cardinal McCloskey Community Services** 

The Children's Village

**Community Boards** 

**Covenant House** 

**Diaspora Community Services** 

**The Door - A Center of Alternatives** 

**DYCD Youth Council** 

Girls Educational and Mentoring Services Inc. (GEMS)

**Good Shepherd Services** 

**Hetrick-Martin Institute (HMI)** 

**Imeinu** 

**Legal Aid Society** 

Interagency Coordinating Council on Youth (ICC) partners

**The LGBTQ Center** 

**Manhattan Borough President's Office** 

My Brother's and Sister's Keeper

New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS)

**New York City Council** 

NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS) Street Outreach Programs

New York City Department of Probation (DOP) NeON/ACE

**New York City Department of Social Services (DSS)** 

**New York City Department of Veterans' Services** 

New York City Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) Beacon, COMPASS, Cornerstone, Neighborhood

Development Areas (NDA), and Strategic Partnerships programs

**New York City Youth Action Board (YAB)** 

**New York Coalition for Homeless Youth** 

**Project Hospitality** 

**Queens Borough President's Office** 

**Rising Ground** 

Safe Horizon

**SCO Family of Services** 

**Staten Island Borough President's Office** 

Streetlives.nyc

United States Department of Health and Human Services - Administration for Children and Families

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

# LEARN MORE

# LOCATE A DROP-IN CENTER OR OTHER SERVICES IN YOUR AREA



Contact Community Connect, DYCD's resource referral hotline, at 1.800.246.4646 or 646.343.6800

Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm

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