Homeless Youth Who Identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or Questioning

Findings from YouthCount 2.0!

434 Youth Surveyed

106 Reported that they were lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning. (25%)

The following statistics provide information on the characteristics, histories and risk behaviors for these youth.

- **Age 13-17**: 13%
- **Age 18-24**: 87%

**Race/Ethnicity**

- **African American**: 49%
- **White**: 28%
- **Hispanic**: 10%
- **Multiracial**: 11%

**Gender**

- **Male**: 28%
- **Female**: 55%
- **Transgender/Something Else**: 18%

25% reported they had been involved with the juvenile probation system

- **Emotional Abuse**: 63%
- **Emotional Neglect**: 69%
- **Physical Abuse**: 49%
- **Physical Neglect**: 43%
- **Lost a Parent/Guardian**: 60%
- **Witnessed Domestic Violence**: 37%
- **HH Member Went to Prison**: 46%
- **HH Member Used Drugs**: 49%
- **HH Member Was in Foster Care**: 35%
- **Sexual Abuse**: 39%

48% reported they are currently homeless because they were kicked out of a family or relative home

- **Mean Score = 4.67** (significantly more than other homeless youth)
RISK BEHAVIORS

- Sexually Active: 76%
- Smoke Cigarettes: 65%
- Used Marijuana in Past Year: 58%
- Traded Sex for Money/Needs: 42%

MENTAL HEALTH

- 63% met screening criteria for serious mental distress based on last 30 days
- 36% Had attempted suicide

LIFETIME HISTORY OF DIAGNOSES

- 45% Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- 63% Bipolar
- 65% Depression
- 22% Conduct Disorder or Oppositional Defiant Disorder
- 36% Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- 24% Schizophrenia

SERVICE USE

- 63% Had taken psychiatric medications
- 52% Had received outpatient therapy
- 62% Reported an unmet need for mental health treatment

SOCIAL SUPPORT

- 42% Reported there is no adult in the community they can go to for job or school advice
- 38% Reported there is no adult they can go to for emotional support
- 31% Say there is no adult in their life who cares about them

For More Information:

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