Homeless Youth Risks and Resilience Survey - St. Louis Area

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We greatly appreciate the youth who shared their experiences with us, and the service agencies in the greater St. Louis area, including Epworth Youth Drop-In Center, Youth In Need and Covenant House, that collaborated in this project. Without their support, this project wouldn’t have been possible.
HYRRS Brief Overview
Average Age
19
Gender Identity

- Male: 55.84%
- Female: 41.62%
- Trans Male: 1.00%
- Trans Female: 1.00%
- Genderqueer: 0.50%
Sexual Orientation

- Gay or Lesbian: 4.57%
- Bisexual: 14.21%
- I don't know/Questioning: 0.51%
- Something else: 1.52%
- Straight (That is not gay): 79.19%
School and Work

- Currently in School: 22.45%
- At least HS or GED: 72.59%
- Full-Time Work: 35.38%
- Part-Time Work: 60.52%
- Temporary Work: 50.26%
Ever in Foster care: 39.80%

Average number of placements: 7
(Range 1 - 25)
Self-Identity

Identify as “homeless” 60.71%

Have a “Street Family” 24.83%

Juggalo 10.36%

Traveler 41.84%
Has Children: 15.9%

Ever Pregnant or Get Someone Pregnant: 33.33%

Children Living With Them: 7.73%
Reasons for Homelessness

- Kicked out of Family/Foster/Relative/Group Home: 72.59%
- Ran Away from Family/Foster/Relative/Group Home: 12.18%
- Had No Place to Stay When I Moved Here: 9.64%
- Could Not Pay Rent: 10.15%
- Left a Situation of DV: 7.11%
- Family Homelessness: 10.66%
- Other: 9.14%
- Left Gang or Gang Neighborhood: 4.57%
- Aged Out of Foster Care: 7.11%
- Had No Place to Go After Leaving Prison: 4.06%
- Had No Place to Go When Leaving Hospital: 2.54%
- Aged Out of Juvenile Justice: 5.08%
Average Number of Moves
4
(Range 0 - 60)
18.97%

Chronic Homelessness
Identify A Need For Housing

62.83%
Abuse and Neglect
Household Dysfunction

Caregiver in prison
Caregiver experienced domestic violence
Caregiver with mental illness
Caregiver used drugs
Loss of Caregiver (Divorce or Abandonment)
Average ACE score 4.00
Victimization While Homeless

- Robbery: 29.23%
- Threatened: 34.02%
- IPV Victim: 19.07%
- IPV Perpetrator: 18.04%
- Gang Violence Victimization: 17.01%
- Gun Violence Victimization: 29.53%
- Assaulted With a Weapon: 39.9%
- Assaulted Without a Weapon: 30.93%
- Sexual Assault: 20.1%
- Forced Sex: 20.62%
Forced Sex - Reasons for No Exam

- Exam After Forced Sex: 35%
- Didn’t Know Where to Go: 13.23%
- Couldn’t Safely Leave the Situation: 23.08%
- Didn’t Know What a Sexual Assault Exam Is: 26.92%
- Didn’t Think It Was Important: 30.77%
- Didn’t Have Health Insurance: 15.38%
- Didn’t Want to Get Involved with Legal System: 34.62%
Discrimination Experiences at Least Once per Week

- You Are Treated With Less Courtesy Or Respect Than Other People: 33.67%
- You Receive Poorer Service Than Other People at Restaurants or Stores: 20.21%
- People Act As If They Think You Are Not Smart: 37.82%
- People Act As If They Are Afraid Of You: 29.02%
- You Are Threatened Or Harassed: 21.24%
Have You Been Hit or Attacked Because of...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Someone Saying You Were Homeless</td>
<td>16.06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your skin color</td>
<td>21.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your religion</td>
<td>12.04%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where Your Family Comes From</td>
<td>20.94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Physical Problem You Have</td>
<td>16.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone Saying You Were Gay</td>
<td>11.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone Saying You Were Transgender</td>
<td>9.42%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Average Age to Join a Gang: 14

Currently Active: 10.88%  

Gang Member Ever: 24.48%
Gangs Provide

- Money: 70.21%
- Food: 57.45%
- Protection: 72.34%
- Clothes: 51.06%
- Shelter: 53.19%
- Safety: 70.21%
- Social Support: 55.32%
Sexually Active Ever: 83.08%

Sex With People Met Online: 45%

Sex Debut Before 14: 41.62%

Concurrency Engagement in Past 3 Months: 19.8%

Sexually Active in Past 3 Months: 63.27%

Consistent Condom Use in Past 3 Months: 29.84%

Condom Last Sex: 45.12%
Ever Trade
14.29%
Recent Drug Use (Past 30 Days)

- Smoke Cigarettes (most days) 48.97%
- Heroin 11.05%
- Cocaine 11.58%
- Crack 10.53%
- Meth 12.11%
- Ecstasy 13.3%
- Spice 29.47%
- Chronic Alcohol Use 8.42%
- Binge Drinking 62.34%
- Marijuana 58.55%
- Rx Abuse 16.14%
- Inject 7.77%
- Needle Sharing 53.33%
Ever Been Diagnosed?

- ADHD/Attention/ Hyperactivity: 38.1%
- PTSD: 19.05%
- Oppositional Defiant or Conduct Disorder: 25.4%
- Major Depression: 32.11%
- Bipolar: 33.68%
- Schizophrenia or Schizoaffective: 14.89%
Suicidal Ideation
21.03%

Suicidal Attempts
8.21%

Suicide Risks
HIV tested in past 3 months
46.94%

Ever tested for HIV
74.49%

HIV +
3.58%
PrEP

- Know About PrEP: 17.07%
- Interest in PrEP: 69.07%
- Likely to Take PrEP Daily: 58.76%
- Likely to Take PrEP Daily if Told By Doctor: 61.34%
How Important Would the Following Be to Using PrEP

- Free PrEP: 78.96%
- Access to Free HIV Testing: 85.66%
- Access to Sexual Healthcare and Monitoring: 83.26%
- Access to 1 on 1 Counseling and Support Around PrEP Use: 80.96%
- Access to Text-Based Support for PrEP Use: 78.95%
- Not Having to Go to The Regular Doctor to Get PrEP: 80.63%
- Access to Group-Based Adherence Support for PrEP: 76.56%
STI tested in past 3 months: 46.15%

Ever tested for STI: 76.41%

STI + 10.71%
Hep C tested in past 3 months
33.68%

Hep C +
3.58%

Ever tested for Hep C
60.1%
Technology Access

- Smartphone: 66.15%
- Cellphone (Not a Smartphone): 16.15%
- Desktop or Laptop: 31.77%
- Tablet: 14.58%
Social Media Use

Has a Social Media Profile 81.15%

Facebook: 73.30%
Twitter: 23.04%
Instagram: 51.83%
Google+: 26.18%
Snapchat: 49.74%
Vine: 9.95%
Tumblr: 10.99%
Other: 5.76%
Social Media Impact

- Uses social media at least once per day: 64.58%

- Social media makes me feel more connected because I know what's going on in friends' lives: 73.51%

- Social media makes me feel worse about my own life because of what I see from other friends: 27.15%