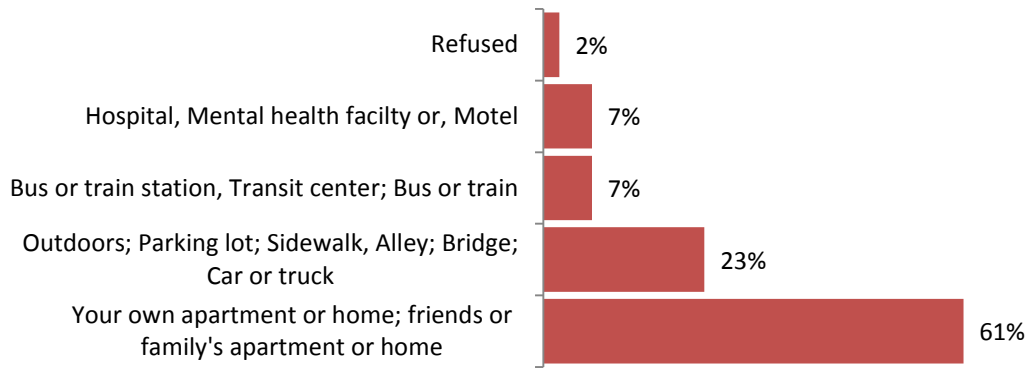




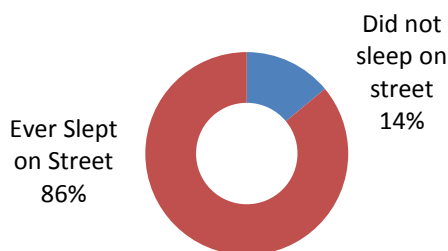
Transition Age Youth Not Captured During Homeless Count

During the week of the homeless youth count in Los Angeles County (1/22-1/31/18), 451 young people were served by the 2 largest homeless youth drop-in centers in Service Planning Area 4 (My Friend’s Place and the Youth Center on Highland). Of those, 314 young people were screened for inclusion in the LAHSA- organized homeless youth count. Of the 187 youth that were determined to be ineligible for the LAHSA survey¹, 100 completed the Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership (HHYP) Pilot. The goal of the HHYP Pilot was to find out more about the young people who were accessing services from agencies that are part of the continuum of care for youth experiencing homelessness yet were being excluded from the youth count. Of the 100 young people who were surveyed, 57 indicated that they had stayed in a shelter, transitional living program, or safe haven the previous evening; data about these young people would have been included in the shelter component of the LAHSA youth count. However, the data about the remaining 43 youth was not captured in the LAHSA Youth Count. Their data are described below:

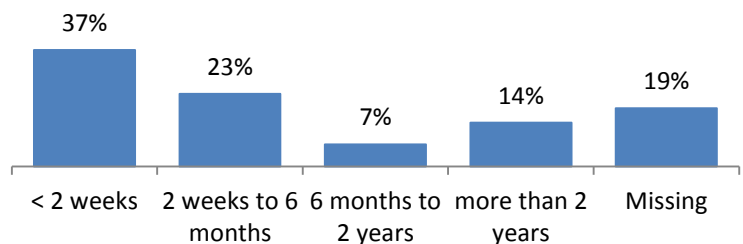
30% had spent the previous night in a place not meant for human habitation (n=43)



Most youth reported ever sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation. (n=43)

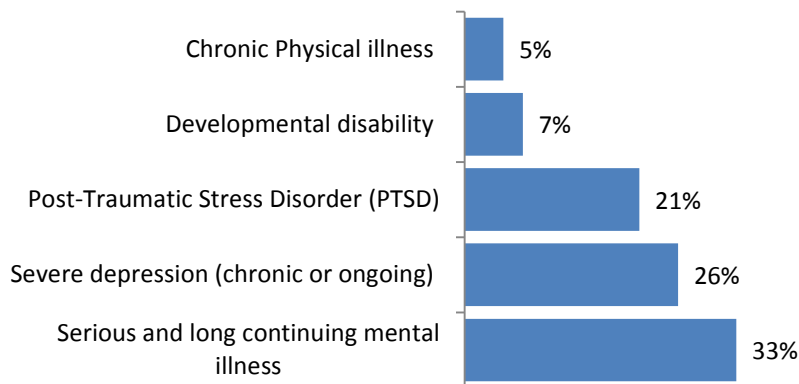


More than 1/3 of youth surveyed were only able to stay at their current location for less than 2 weeks. (n=43)

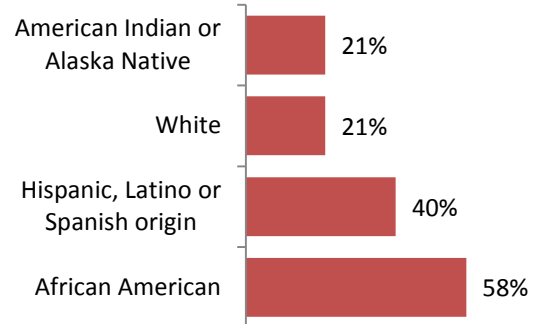


¹Youth reporting that they spent most of the last 30 days in apartment/home, emergency shelter, foster care, hospital, hotel, jail, safe haven, or transitional housing were excluded from the Youth Count Survey.

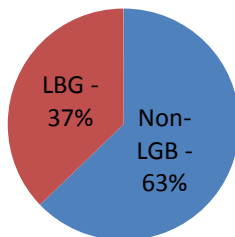
Many youth reported a physical or mental illness. (n=43)



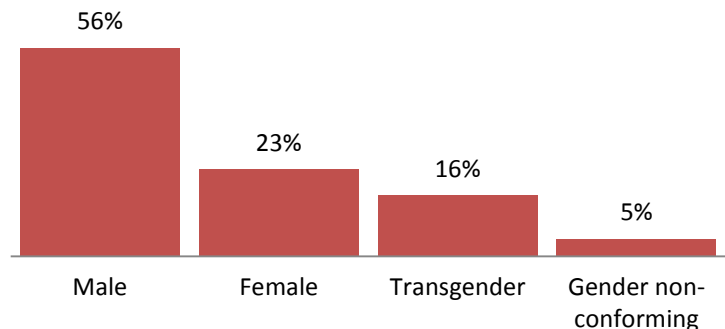
Majority of youth surveyed were African-American.



37% identified as Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual (n=43)



Majority of youth were male. (n=43)



Conclusion: The methodology used in the 2018 youth count was inadequate for the following reasons:

- Data from a significant number of young people that were unstably housed or literally homeless were systematically excluded from the count;
- The young people that were not captured as part of the youth survey were very similar to other youth experiencing homelessness in SPA 4. However, they were more likely to be transgender (16% in the HHYP Pilot vs 5%) and more likely to be African American/Black (58% in the HHYP Pilot vs 45%).
- Many of the young people excluded from the 2018 youth count were eligible for HUD funded services;
- The exclusion of these young people from the count leads to an underestimate of the numbers of youth experiencing homelessness in our community, interfering with efforts to allocate resources appropriately.

Recommendation:

- LAHSA needs to reexamine the methodology for the 2019 youth count needs to ensure that we are not systematically missing eligible young people.