



## **Runaway & Homeless Youth Month November 2016**

### **FACT SHEET**

- In California, more than 298,000 youth up to the age of 18 experience homelessness each year. Many thousands more between the ages of 18-to-24 suffer the same circumstances.  
Source: CA Homeless Youth Project, *California's Homeless Students: A Growing Population and California Department of Education*. (2014)
- California has the second highest percentage in the country of unaccompanied minor homeless youth who are unsheltered at 79.2%.  
Source: US Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, *2013 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress*
- Two-thirds of California counties have no shelters for homeless youth, leaving young people with few options but to sleep outside if they find themselves without a stable place to call home.  
Source: CA Homeless Youth Project, *We Count, California!: Lessons Learned from Efforts to Improve Youth Inclusion in California's 2015 Point-in-Time Counts*, (2015)
- California is home to 20-25% of the homeless students in the country, yet it receives only 11% of available federal funding to help homeless students succeed.  
Source: CA Homeless Youth Project, *California's Homeless Students: A Growing Population* (2014)
- California's annual funding for runaway and homeless youth programs is about \$1.5 million dollars, a funding level that has changed very little in the last decade.  
Source: California State Budget
- California has the largest population of homeless students in the country and twice the rate of homeless students as the national average.  
Source: CA Homeless Youth Project, *California's Homeless Students: A Growing Population* (2014)
- In the 2012-13 school year, California's schools reported 20,000 more homeless students than in the previous school year (an increase of 8%).  
Source: UC Berkeley, *California's New Vagrancy Laws: The Growing Enactment and Enforcement of Anti-Homelessness Laws in the Golden State* (2015)
- Compared with other cities, California cities are more than twice as likely to ban sleeping or lodging in vehicles. California cities are also more likely than other U.S. cities to impose city-wide bans on loitering and panhandling, a critical survival strategy for many of the most destitute homeless youth.  
Source: UC Berkeley, *California's New Vagrancy Laws: The Growing Enactment and Enforcement of Anti-Homelessness Laws in the Golden State* (2015)

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- In the 2015 Point-in-Time (PIT) count, 11,365 unsheltered, unaccompanied children and youth were counted, i.e., found to be residing in a place not meant for human habitation on the night of the count.
- Source: California Homeless Youth Project, *We Count, California: Lessons Learned from the Efforts to Improve Youth Inclusion in California's 2015 Point-in-Time Counts*.
- Transitional age youth (TAY), from the ages of 18 to 24, comprise the vast majority of unsheltered homeless youth counted across communities. A total of 10,531 unsheltered homeless TAY were identified in 2015, 8% more than in 2013, and 87% more than in 2011.
- Source: California Homeless Youth Project, *We Count, California: Lessons Learned from the Efforts to Improve Youth Inclusion in California's 2015 Point-in-Time Counts*.
- Los Angeles County had 4,961 Unaccompanied Youth and Transitional Age Youth in the 2015 Point-in-Time Count.  
Source: California Homeless Youth Project, *We Count, California: Lessons Learned from the Efforts to Improve Youth Inclusion in California's 2015 Point-in-Time Counts*.
- The City of Los Angeles had 4,873 Unaccompanied Youth and Transitional Age Youth in the 2015 Point-in-time Count.  
Source: California Homeless Youth Project, *We Count, California: Lessons Learned from the Efforts to Improve Youth Inclusion in California's 2015 Point-in-Time Counts*.
- San Francisco City/County had 1,378 Unaccompanied Youth and Transitional Age Youth in the 2015 Point-in-time Count.  
Source: California Homeless Youth Project, *We Count, California: Lessons Learned from the Efforts to Improve Youth Inclusion in California's 2015 Point-in-Time Counts*.