BACKGROUND

Gender Identity

- Male (66%)
- Female (28%)
- Transgender Female (MTF) (2%)
- Transgender Male (FTM) (2%)
- Genderqueer (2%)

Race/Ethnicity

- White or Caucasian (31%)
- Black or African American (23%)
- Mixed Race (20%)
- Hispanic or Latino (16%)
- American Indian (8%)
- Asian or Pacific Islander (2%)

Sexual Orientation

- Straight (72%)
- Bisexual (15%)
- Gay or Lesbian (6%)
- Other (5%)
- Questioning (2%)

Homelessness History

- Ran away from home (9%)
- Homeless with their families (10%)
- Kicked out by relatives (11%)
- Left because of domestic violence (13%)
- Moved to Phoenix with no place to live (17%)
- Could not afford rent (23%)
- Kicked out by family (44%)

59% are local youth originally from Phoenix or Tempe

Average Age: 22 years old (range 18 to 26)

Homeless Youth Risk and Resilience Study
210 young adults (ages 18-26)
July 2016-January 2017
Phoenix, Arizona

Authors: Carissa Cunningham, B.A., New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, Arizona State University, and Kristin Ferguson, Ph.D., School of Social Work, Arizona State University
**RISK FACTORS**

**Household Dysfunction**

- A Caregiver in Prison (33%)
- A Caregiver Experienced Domestic Violence (45%)
- A Caregiver had Mental Illness (47%)
- A Caregiver Used Drugs (55%)
- Loss of Caregiver (Divorce or Abandonment) (66%)

**Experiences with Child Abuse and Neglect**

- Verbal Abuse (64%)
- Emotional Abuse (59%)
- Physical Abuse (57%)
- Neglect (40%)
- Sexual Abuse (33%)

**Average ACE* score**: 5.37 (SD = 2.6; Median = 6; Range = 0-10)

**Victimization since Homelessness**

- Witnessed an Attack (55%)
- Physically Attacked (51%)
- Sexually Assaulted (23%)

**Mental Health**

- Schizophrenia (16%)
- Oppositional Defiant/Conduct (18%)
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (34%)
- PTSD (34%)
- Bipolar Disorder (35%)
- Major Depression (35%)

71% have been arrested since becoming homeless

*ACE: Adverse Childhood Experience
**RESILIENCE FACTORS**

### Coping Skills*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Coping Technique</th>
<th>Average Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Problem-focused (problem-solving)</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social-focused (going to someone for help)</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avoidance-focused (sleeping)</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Types of Work

- Full-Time (40%)
- Part-Time (46%)
- Temporary (47%)

### Technology Ownership

- Smartphone: 58%
- Computer: 23%
- Cell Phone: 14%
- Tablet: 10%

### Social Media Usage

- Vine (7%)
- Tumblr (14%)
- Twitter (17%)
- Snapchat (31%)
- Google+ (31%)
- Instagram (34%)
- Facebook (68%)

### Statistics

- 68% agree or strongly agree that they need help with housing.
- 25% are currently working, averaging 2 jobs and 31 hours a week.
- 21% report they currently need mental health treatment.
- 66% have a GED, a high-school degree, or higher of educational background.

---