

See Us Now - Youth Survey Responses
February 2019



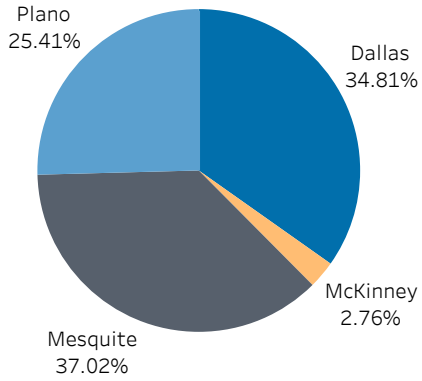
Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance (MDHA) conducts an annual Point in Time count of those experiencing homelessness in Dallas County, in accordance with requirements from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In 2018, MDHA's Youth Committee began a co-occurring outreach event for youth experiencing homelessness in which youth are asked to express their own voices through formal surveys administered by volunteers around Dallas and Collin counties.

This report describes the results from the 2019 See Us Now youth surveys. The surveys were collected by MDHA member agencies and volunteers between January 31 and February 10th, 2019. 183 survey responses were collected. The following pages describe responses to each of the survey questions asked of the youth.

Demographics

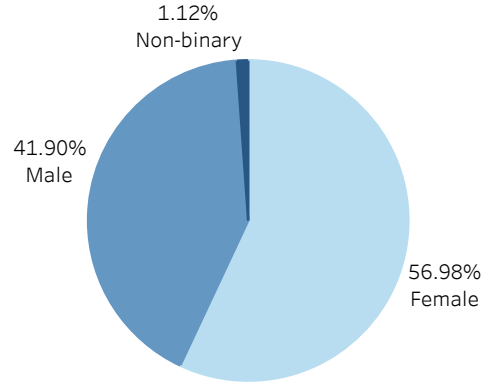
Survey Location

n=181



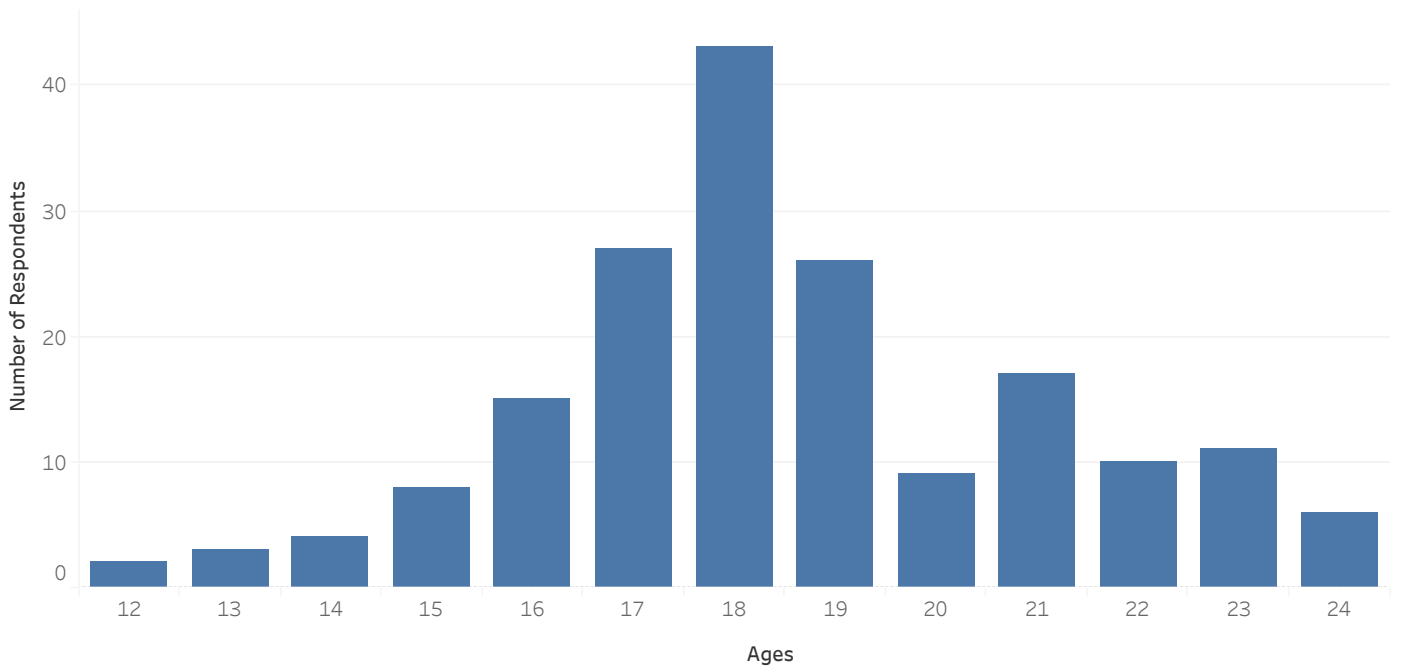
Gender

n=179



Age of Respondents

n=181



Ages	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
# Respondents	2	3	4	8	15	27	43	26	9	17	10	11	6
% of All Ages	0.71%	1.16%	1.67%	3.57%	7.14%	13.66%	23.04%	14.70%	5.36%	10.63%	6.55%	7.53%	4.29%

Demographics

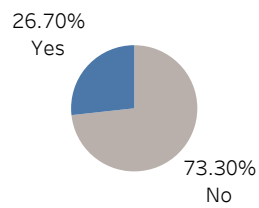
Race

n=159



Hispanic or Latin(o/a/x)

n=176



Sexual Orientation

n=171

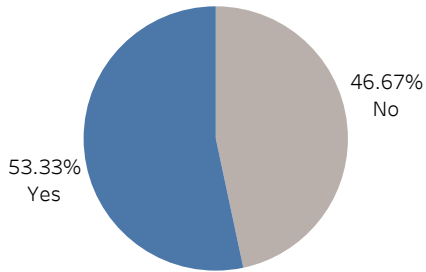
Straight	140
Bisexual	21
Gay or Lesbian	6
Something else	3
Not sure	1

1 respondent identified as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces. None identified as National Guard or Reservist.

Education and Job Status

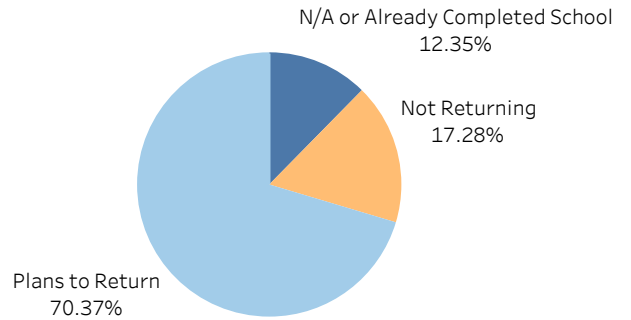
Currently Enrolled in School

n=180



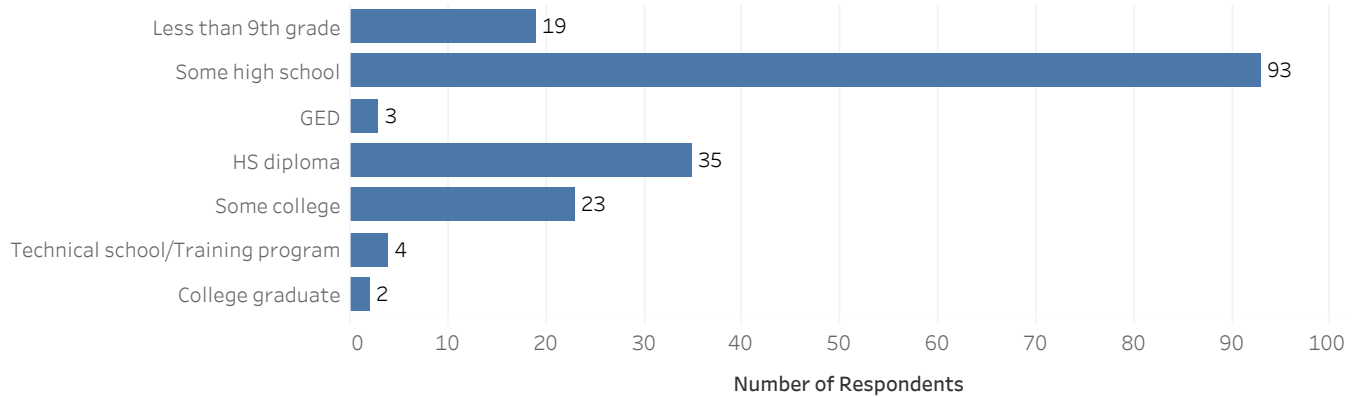
If Not Enrolled, Plan to Return to School in the Future

n=81



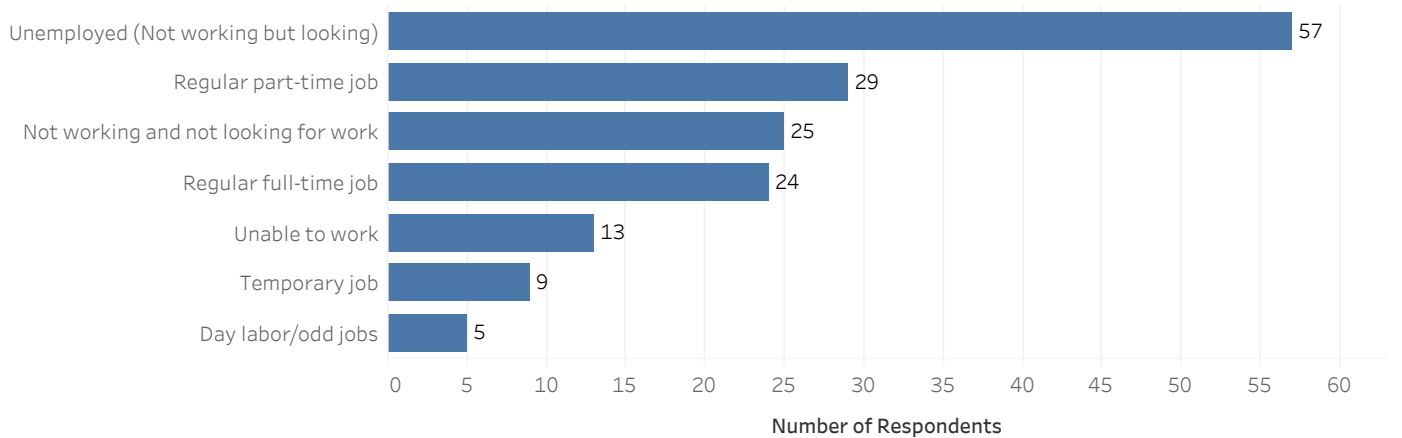
Highest Level of Education

n=179



Job Status

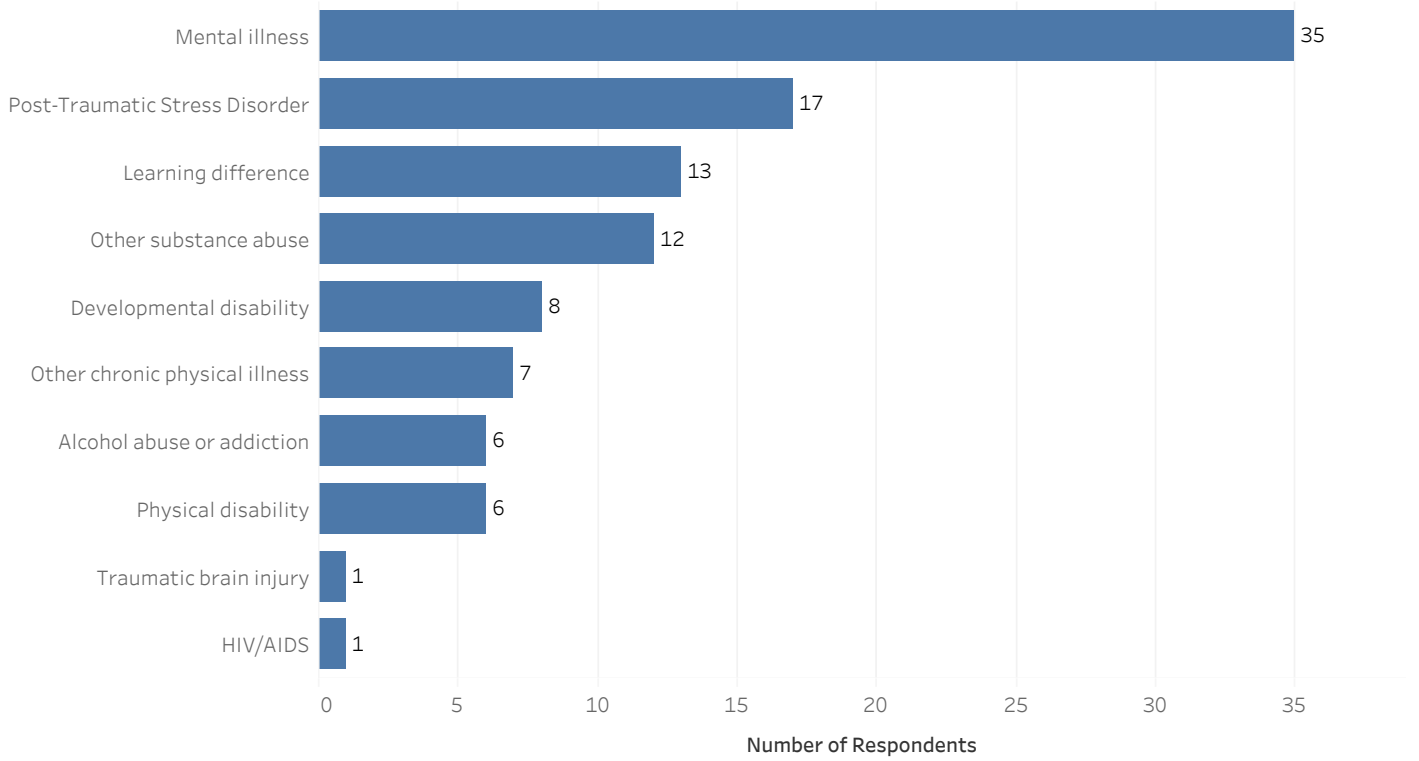
n=162



Respondent's Health

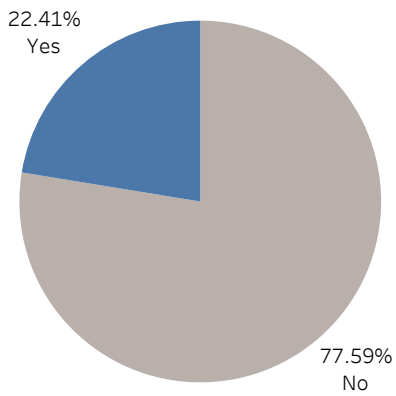
Respondent's Health Conditions

n=63



Do Health Conditions Keep Respondent From Getting or Keeping a Job?

n=58



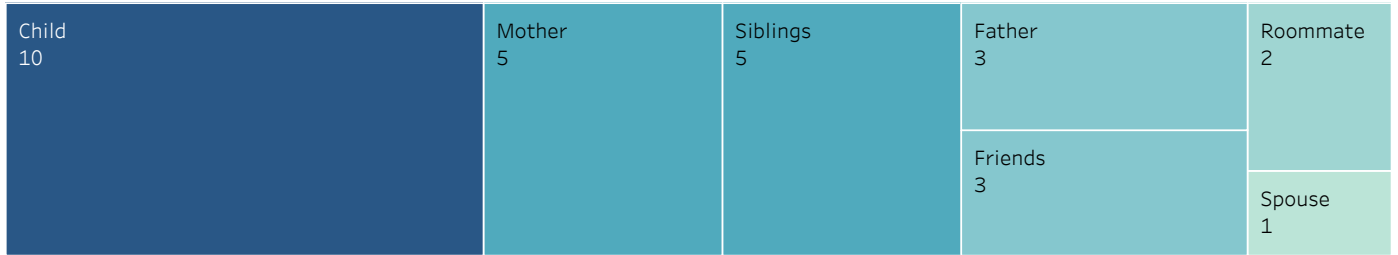
Inhibiting Health Conditions Include:

- Mental Illness (5)
- Physical Disability (3)
- Substance Abuse (2)
- PTSD (2)
- Learning Disability (1)

Current Family Status

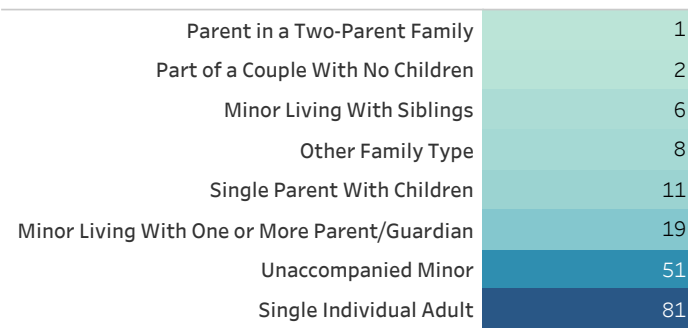
Members of Current Family

n=26 respondents that listed family members



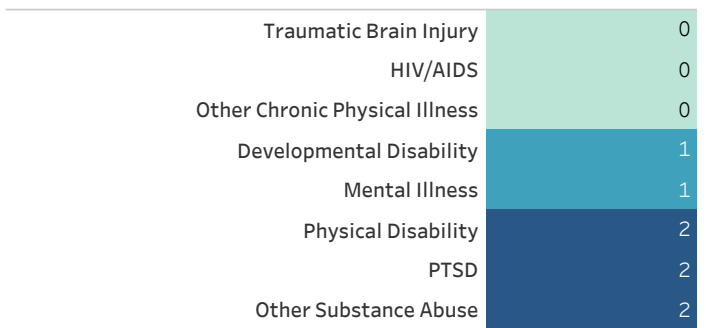
Current Family Type

n=172



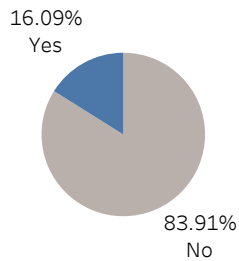
Current Family Members' Disabilities

n=26 respondents that listed family members



Respondent Ever Had a Child

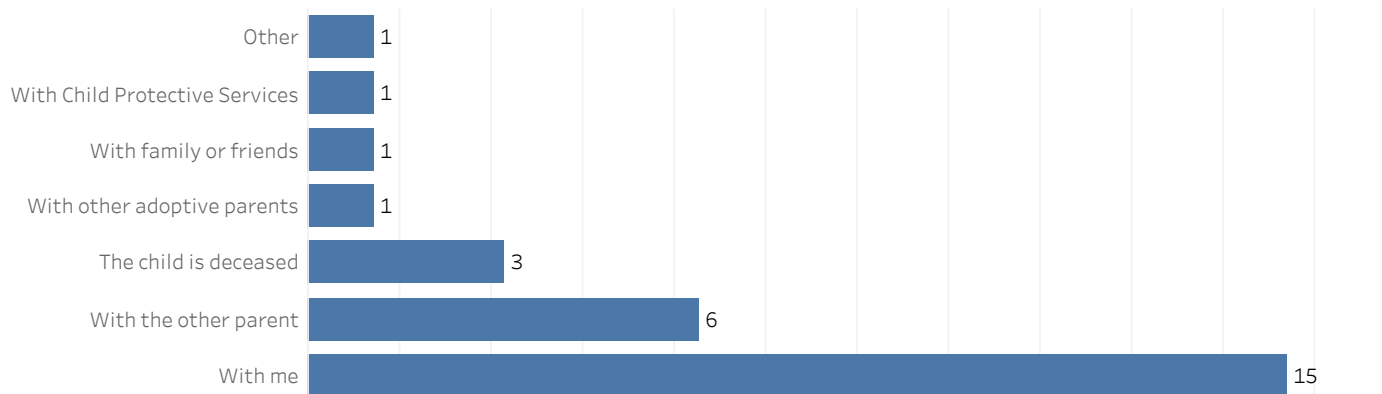
n=174



Six respondents (3%) are currently pregnant or expecting a child.

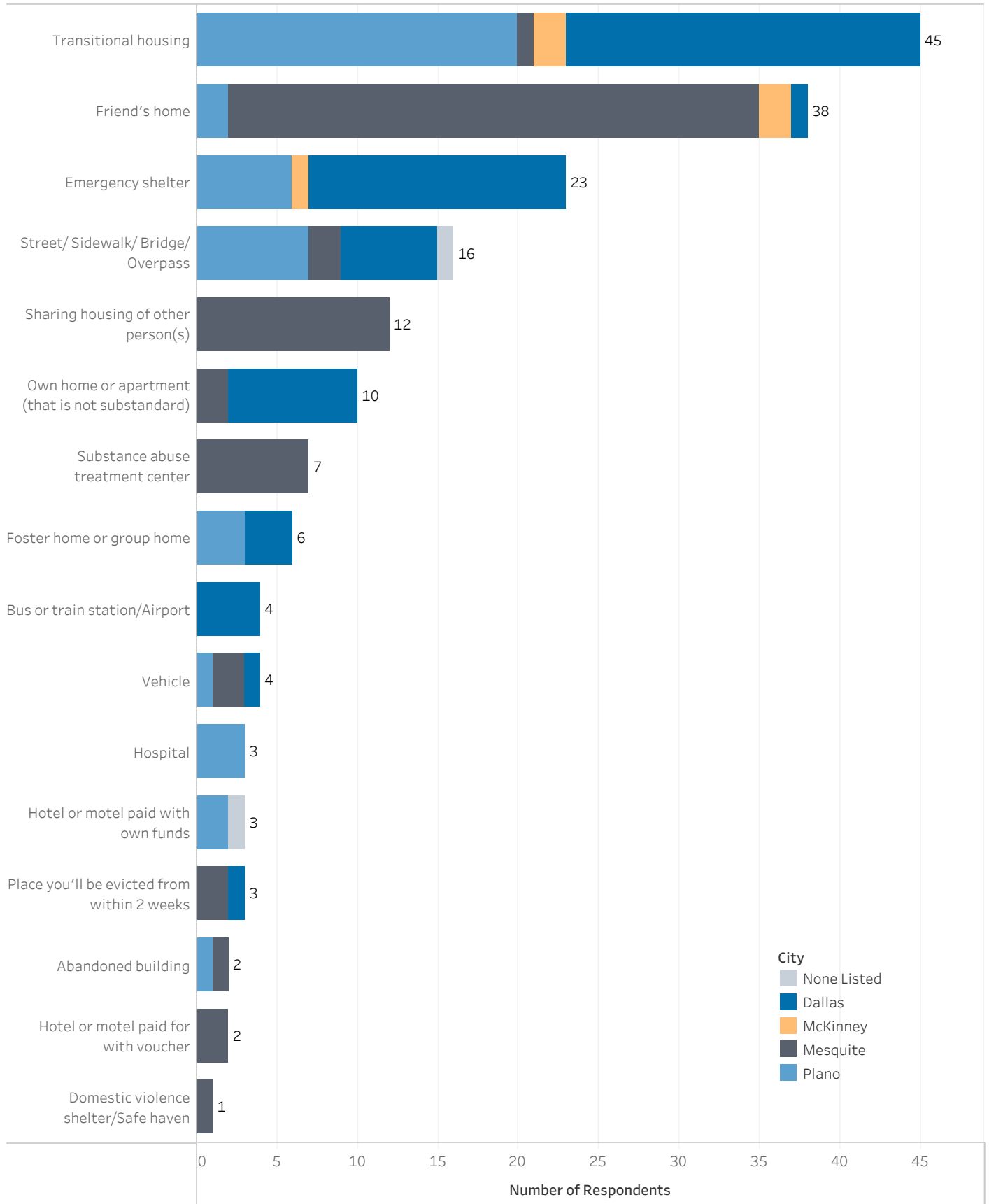
Where Does the Child Live?

n=28 respondents that reported having ever had a child



Where Respondents Slept "Last Night"

n=179



Current Sleeping Arrangement

Where Respondents Slept "Last Night"

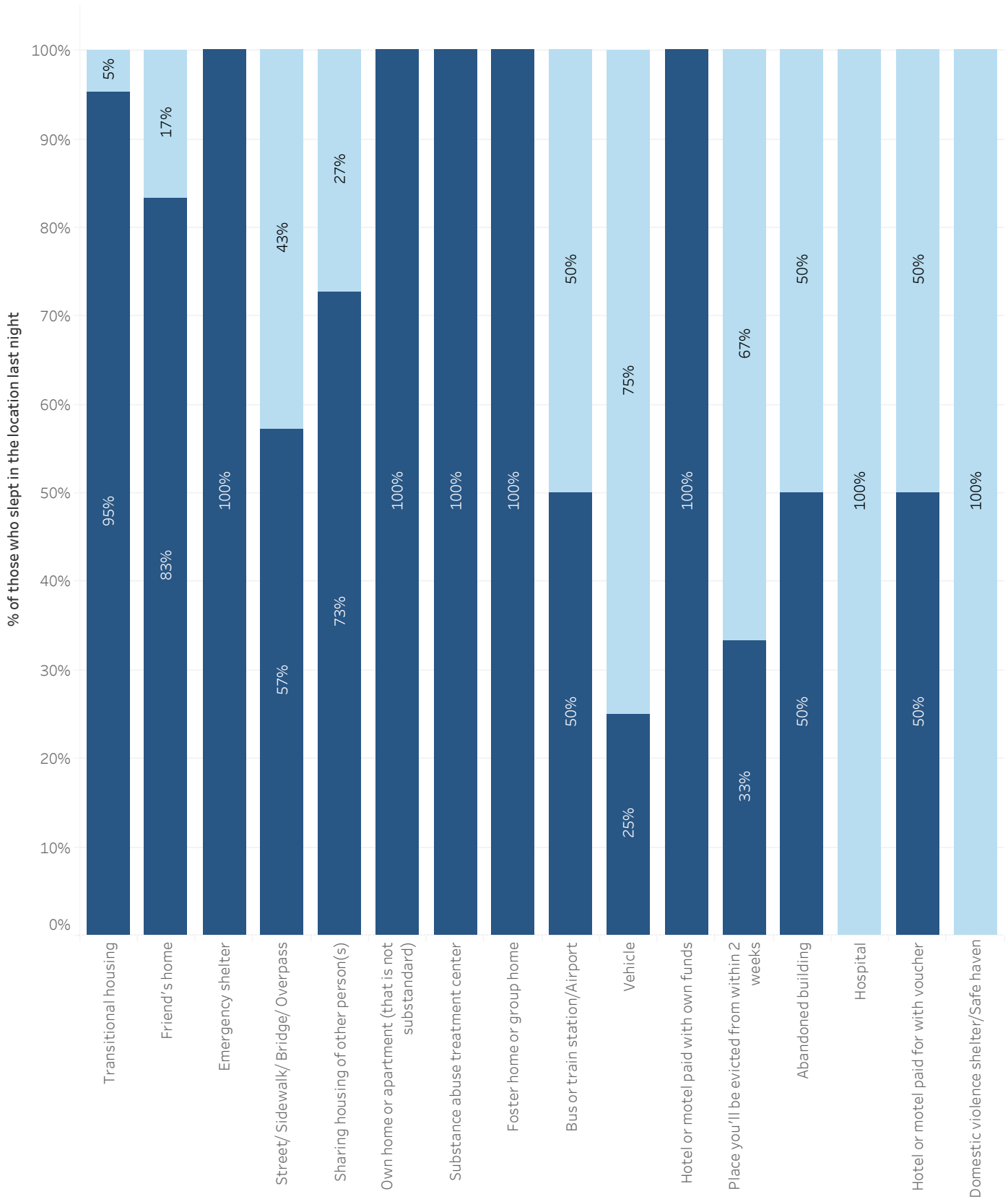
n=179

	City				
	Dallas	Plano	Mesquite	McKinney	None Listed
Transitional housing	22 35.48%	20 44.44%	1 1.54%	2 40.00%	
Emergency shelter	16 25.81%	6 13.33%		1 20.00%	
Own home or apartment (that is not substandard)	8 12.90%		2 3.08%		
Street/ Sidewalk/ Bridge/ Overpass	6 9.68%	7 15.56%	2 3.08%		1 50.00%
Bus or train station/Airport	4 6.45%				
Foster home or group home	3 4.84%	3 6.67%			
Vehicle	1 1.61%	1 2.22%	2 3.08%		
Place you'll be evicted from within 2 weeks	1 1.61%		2 3.08%		
Friend's home	1 1.61%	2 4.44%	33 50.77%	2 40.00%	
Substance abuse treatment center			7 10.77%		
Sharing housing of other person(s)			12 18.46%		
Hotel or motel paid with own funds		2 4.44%			1 50.00%
Hotel or motel paid for with voucher			2 3.08%		
Hospital		3 6.67%			
Domestic violence shelter/Safe haven			1 1.54%		
Abandoned building		1 2.22%	1 1.54%		

Stability of Sleeping Arrangement

Respondents Plan to Sleep in the Same Place Tonight

n=171



Stability of Sleeping Arrangement

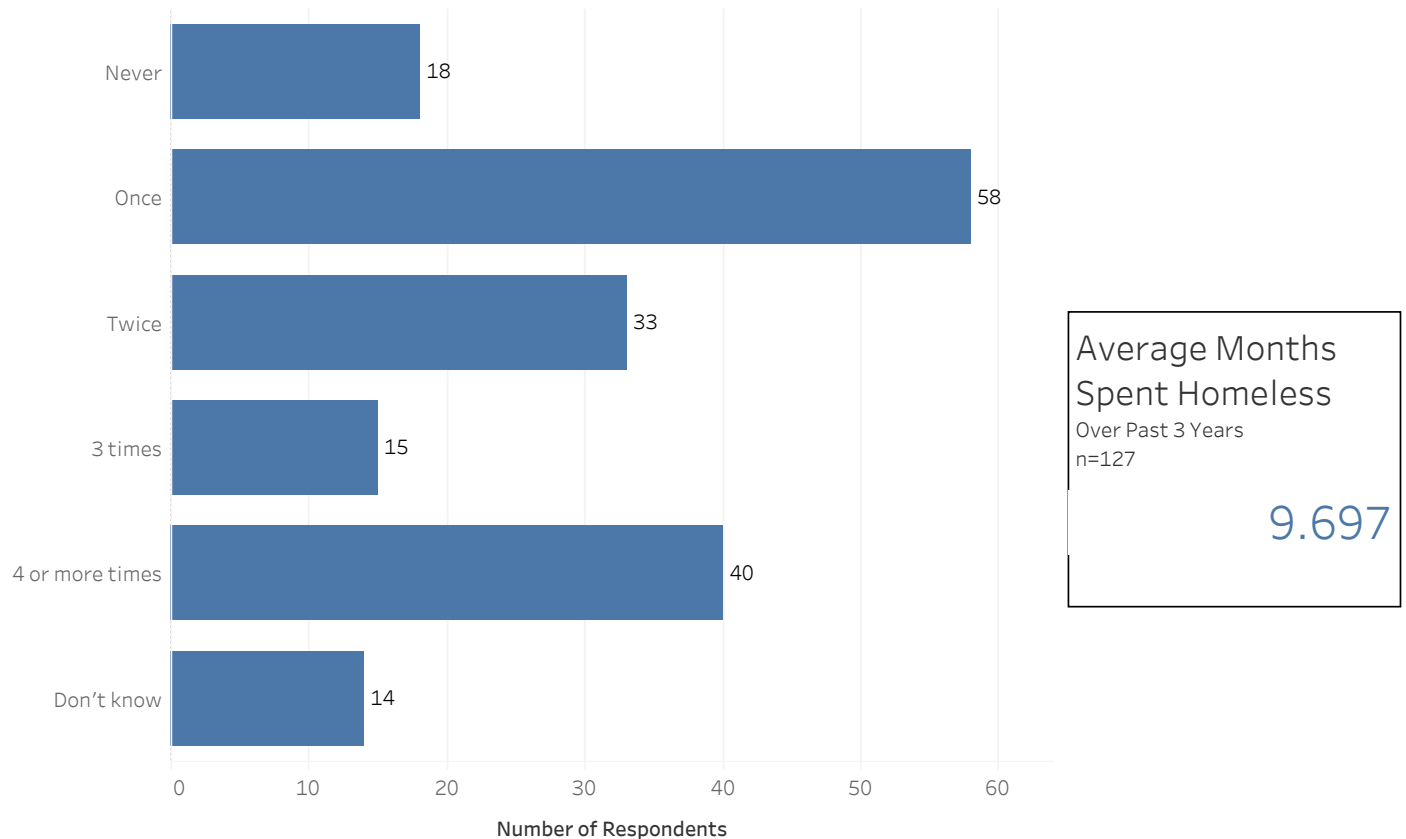
Respondents Plan to Sleep in the Same Place Tonight

n=171

	Yes		No	
	#	%	#	%
Transitional housing	41.00	95.35%	2.00	4.65%
Friend's home	30.00	83.33%	6.00	16.67%
Emergency shelter	23.00	100.00%		
Street/ Sidewalk/ Bridge/ Overpass	8.00	57.14%	6.00	42.86%
Sharing housing of other person(s)	8.00	72.73%	3.00	27.27%
Own home or apartment (that is not substandard)	10.00	100.00%		
Substance abuse treatment center	7.00	100.00%		
Foster home or group home	6.00	100.00%		
Bus or train station/Airport	2.00	50.00%	2.00	50.00%
Vehicle	1.00	25.00%	3.00	75.00%
Hotel or motel paid with own funds	3.00	100.00%		
Place you'll be evicted from within 2 weeks	1.00	33.33%	2.00	66.67%
Abandoned building	1.00	50.00%	1.00	50.00%
Hospital			2.00	100.00%
Hotel or motel paid for with voucher	1.00	50.00%	1.00	50.00%
Domestic violence shelter/Safe haven			1.00	100.00%

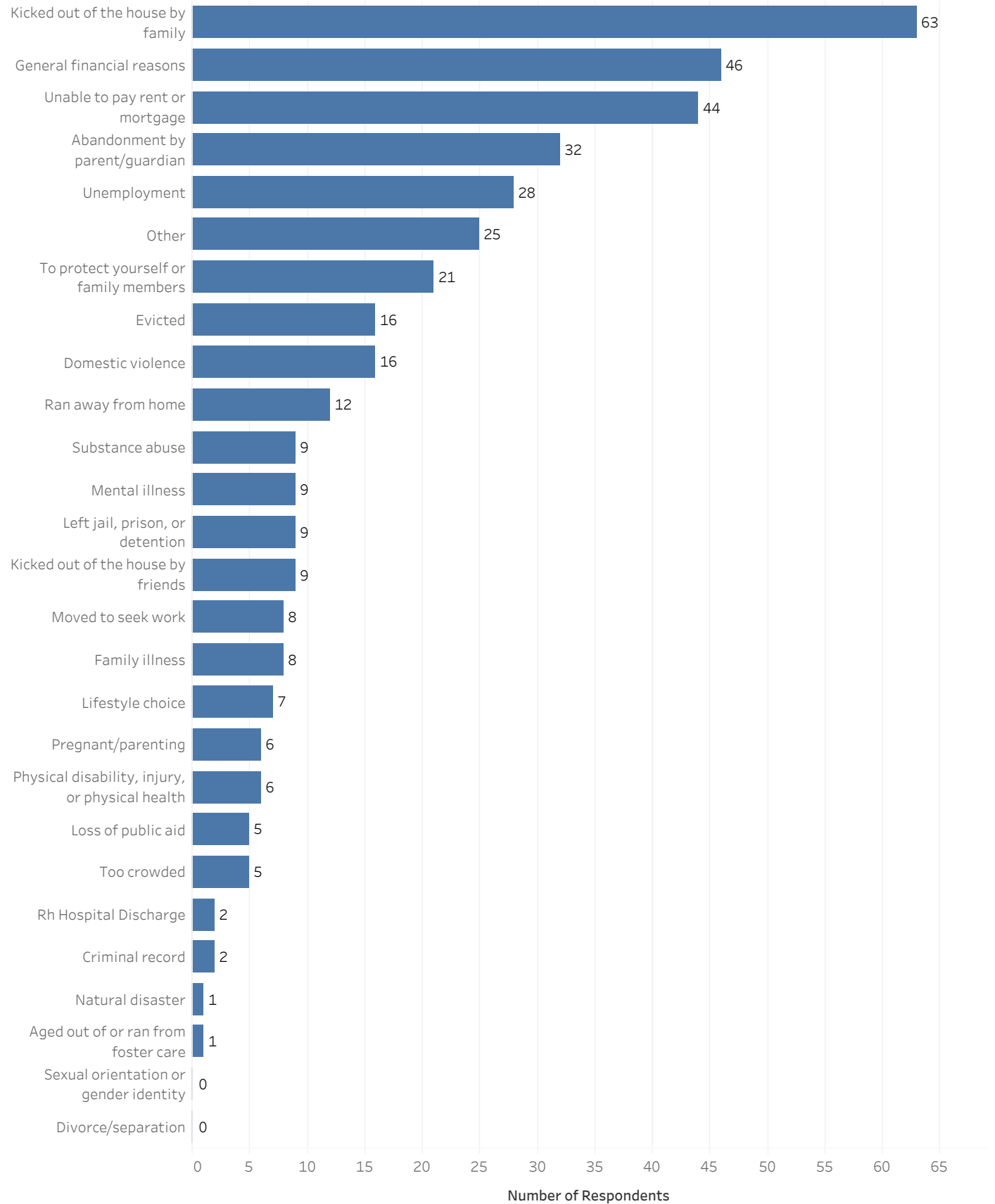
Number of Times Without a Permanent Home in the Past 3 Years

n=178



Factors Contributing to Homelessness

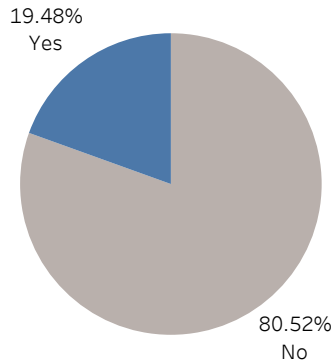
n=163



Shelter Experiences

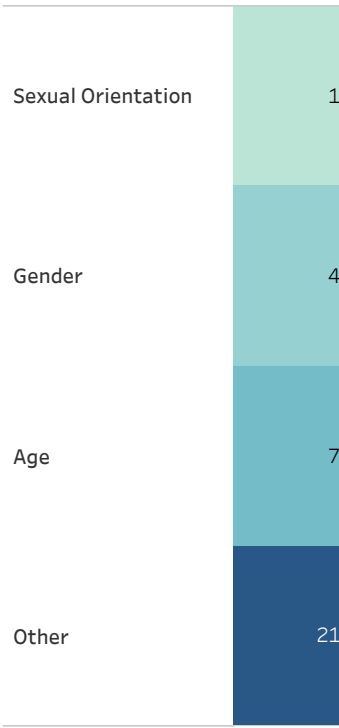
Have Ever Gone to a Shelter and Did Not Feel Safe

n=154



Why Respondents Did Not Feel Safe

n=27

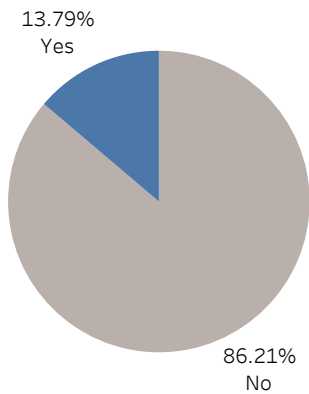


Other concerns include:

- Other people in the shelter
- Lack of security
- Shelter staff
- Violence
- Drugs
- Rape

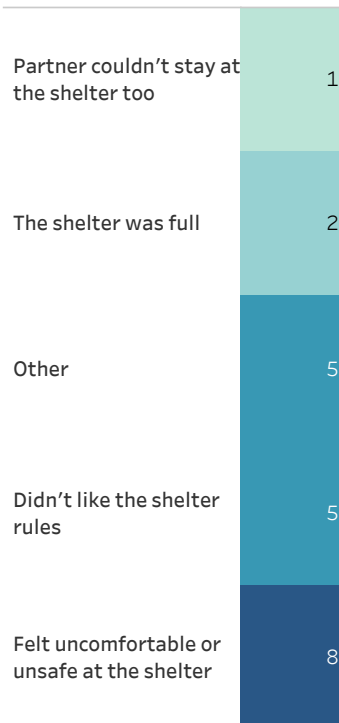
Have Ever Gone to a Shelter But Did Not Stay the Night

n=145



Why Respondents Did Not Stay

n=18



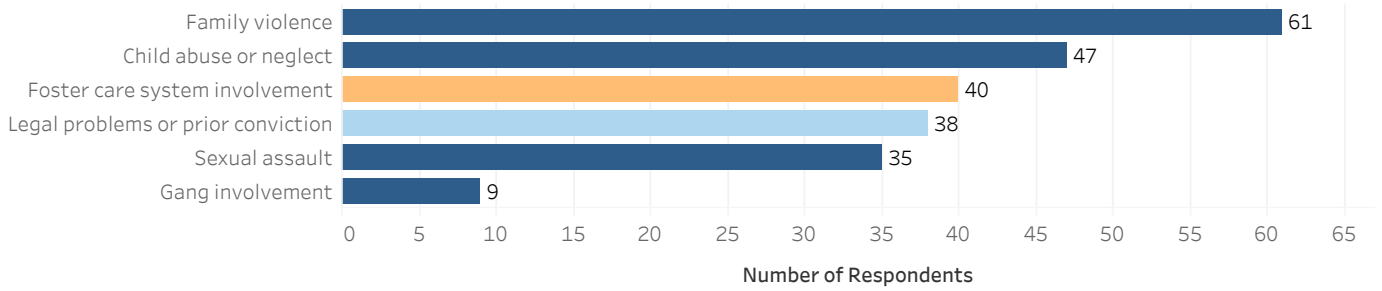
Other factors include:

- Went only for other resources
- Didn't like the shelter Placement

Adverse Experiences

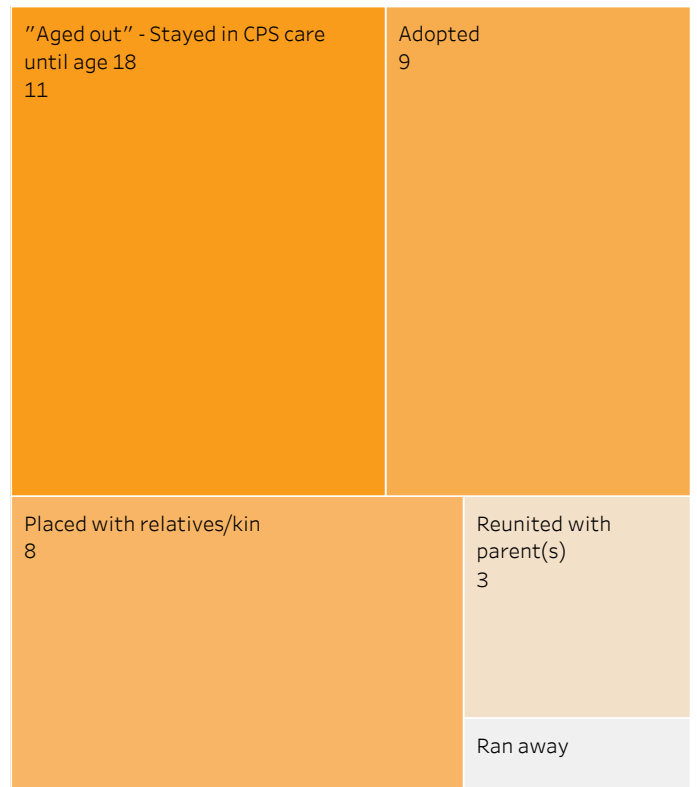
Prior Experiences

n=107



How Respondents Left Foster Care

n=32



Foster Care Experiences

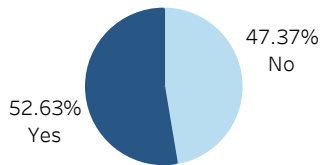
range from 1 month to 16 years

average 47 months in foster care (nearly 4 years)

average 4 different placements (up to 30 placements reported)

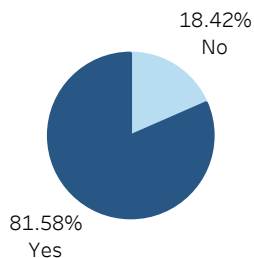
Involvement With Adult Criminal Justice System

n=38



Involvement With Juvenile Justice System

n=38



Legal System Experiences

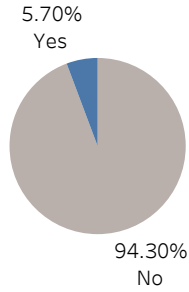
Age of first involvement ranges from 12 to 21

Average age of first involvement was 15

Trafficking

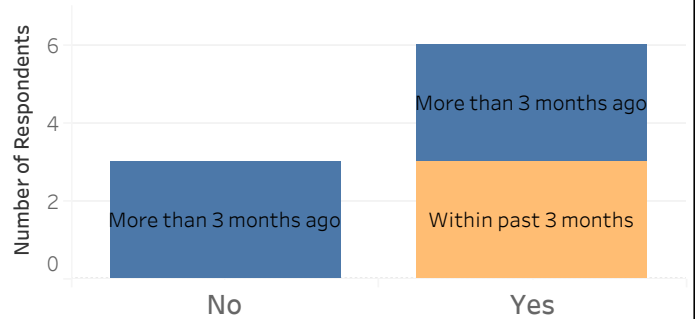
Have Been Afraid to Leave Work Situation Due to Fear of Violence or Harm

n=158



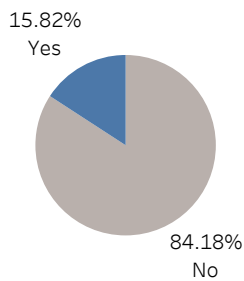
Felt Forced, Pressured, or Tricked into Continuing the Violent or Harmful Job

Has it happened in the past three months?
n=9



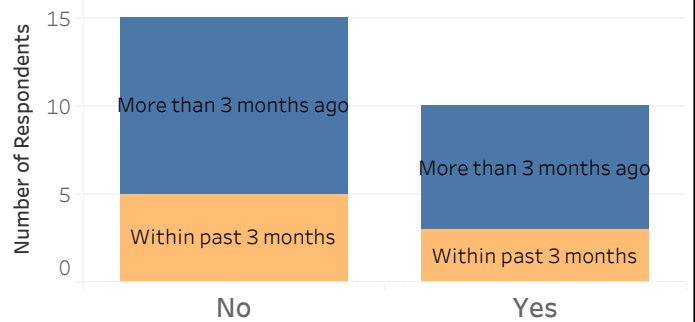
Have Been Promised Work Where Work or Payment Was Different Than Expected

n=158



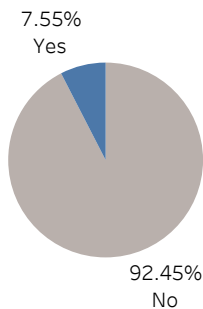
Felt Forced, Pressured, or Tricked into Continuing the Misleading Job

Has it happened in the past three months?
n=25



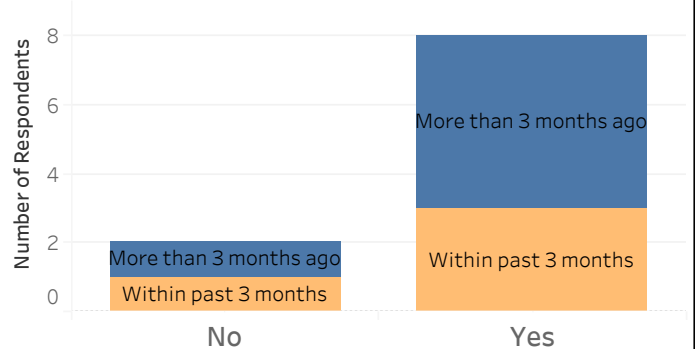
Have Received Anything (Food, Drugs, Shelter) in Exchange for Sexual Relations

n=159



Felt Forced, Pressured, or Tricked into Continuing the Sexual Exchange

Has it happened in the past three months?
n=10

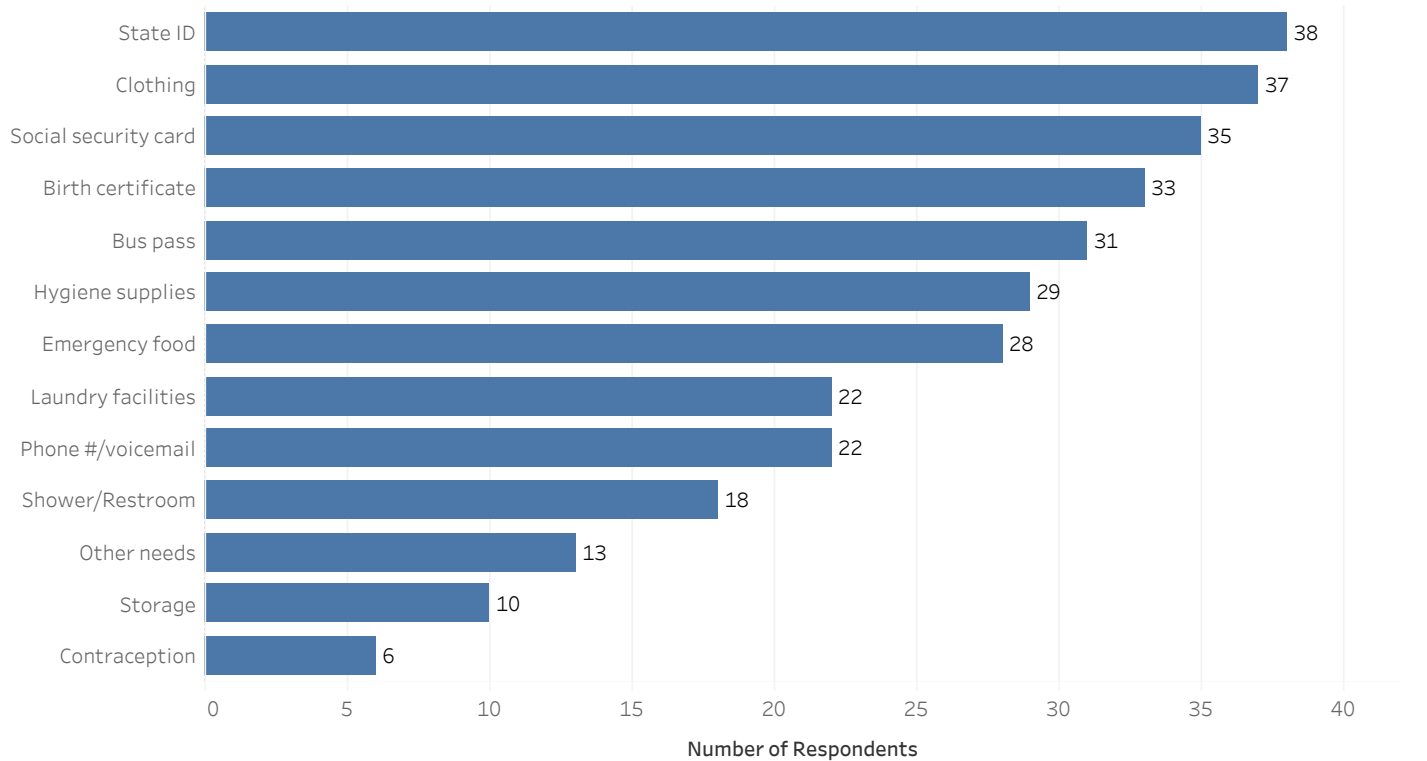


Note: The question "how many times have you received something in return for having sexual relations" is excluded from this report due to low sample size.

Respondent Needs

Things Respondents Need Help Getting

n=92



Rules or Practices That Make Life Harder

n=34



The most helpful support or service received in the past year:

- Resources (bus passes, food, vouchers, etc.) (4)
- McKinney Vento (3)
- Housing assistance (3)
- City House (3)
- Case management (2)
- Personal factors (family, faith) (2)
- POWS, CPS, Nexus, TRAC, TLP programs (1 each)

Services That Respondents Need But Are Not Getting

n=90

