



**California  
Interagency Council  
on Homelessness**

# Youth & Young Adult Homelessness in CA: Data Overview

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# Establishment

- Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council - SB 1380 (2017)
  - Oversee the implementation of Housing First policies, guidelines, and regulations
- California Interagency Council on Homelessness - AB 1220 (2021)
  - Two significant changes
    - Restructured Council Membership
    - Created Advisory Committee



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# Council Membership

- 2 Council Co-Chairs
  - BCSH Secretary, Tomiquia Moss
  - CalHHS Secretary, Mark Ghaly
- 16 Secretaries and Directors of State Agencies and Departments
- 1 Senate Appointed Community Member
- 1 Assembly Appointed Community Member



California  
Community  
Colleges



# How Many K-12 Students Experience Homelessness in CA?

- CA Dept of ED McKinney-Vento Data
- Definition: Any student lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Includes Hotels/motels, emergency shelters, doubled/tripled up and unsheltered/places not meant for habitation
- 246,480 or 4% CA students exp homelessness in 2022-23
- 8,537 unaccompanied
- 83% are doubled up; 7% in temporary shelters; 6% in hotels/motels; 4% unsheltered
- 19% of homeless students in the US live in CA, an overrepresentation

# How Many College Students Experience Homelessness in CA?

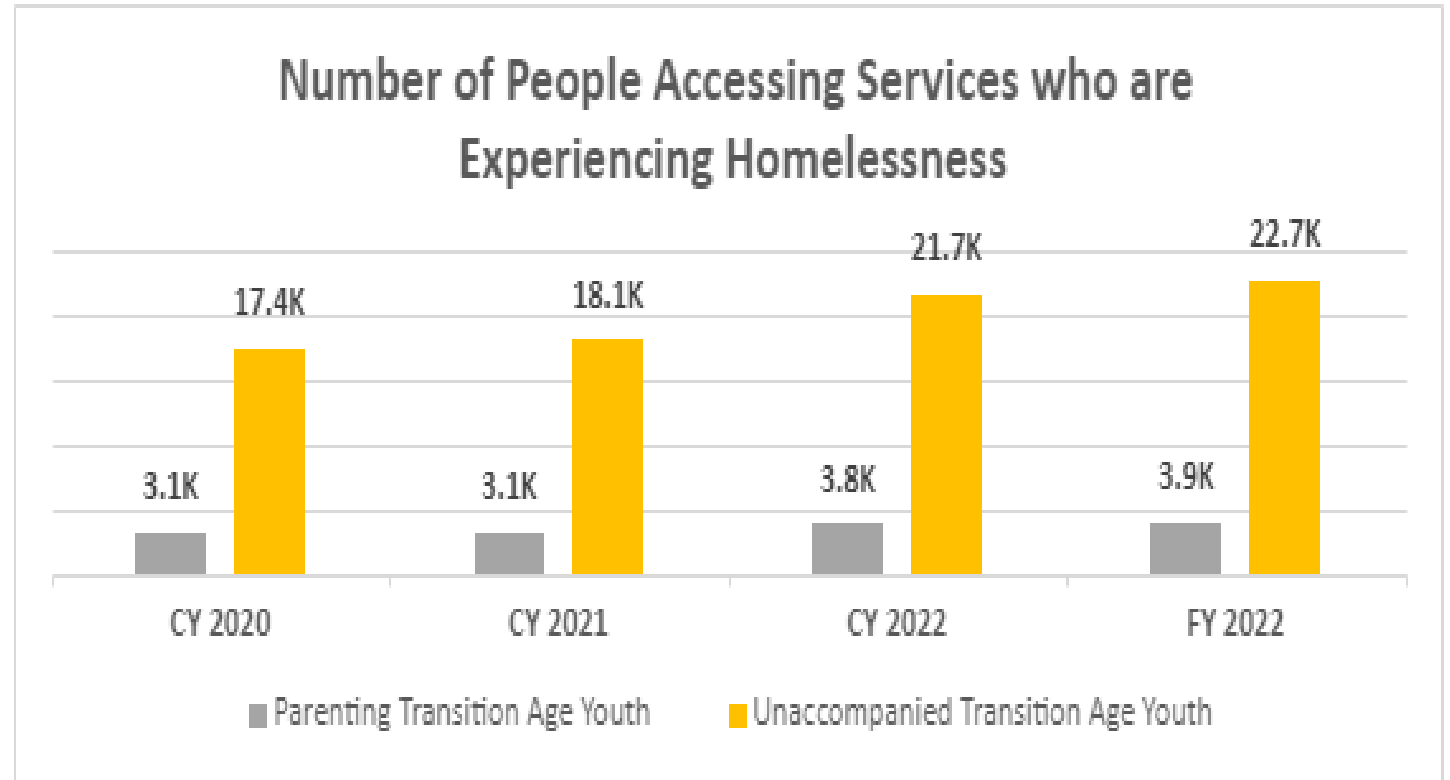
- 1 in 4 CCC experiencing homelessness, 58% report housing insecurity
- 1 in 10 CSU students
- 1 in 20 UC students
- Students who have been in foster care, the military, or the criminal justice system are more likely to report basic needs insecurities
- 2/3 of students with basic needs insecurities accessed at least one form of public assistance, mostly food assistance; 16% accessed housing assistance
- Community College Chancellors Office is represented on Cal ICH's Council

# How Many YYA are Unsheltered in CA?

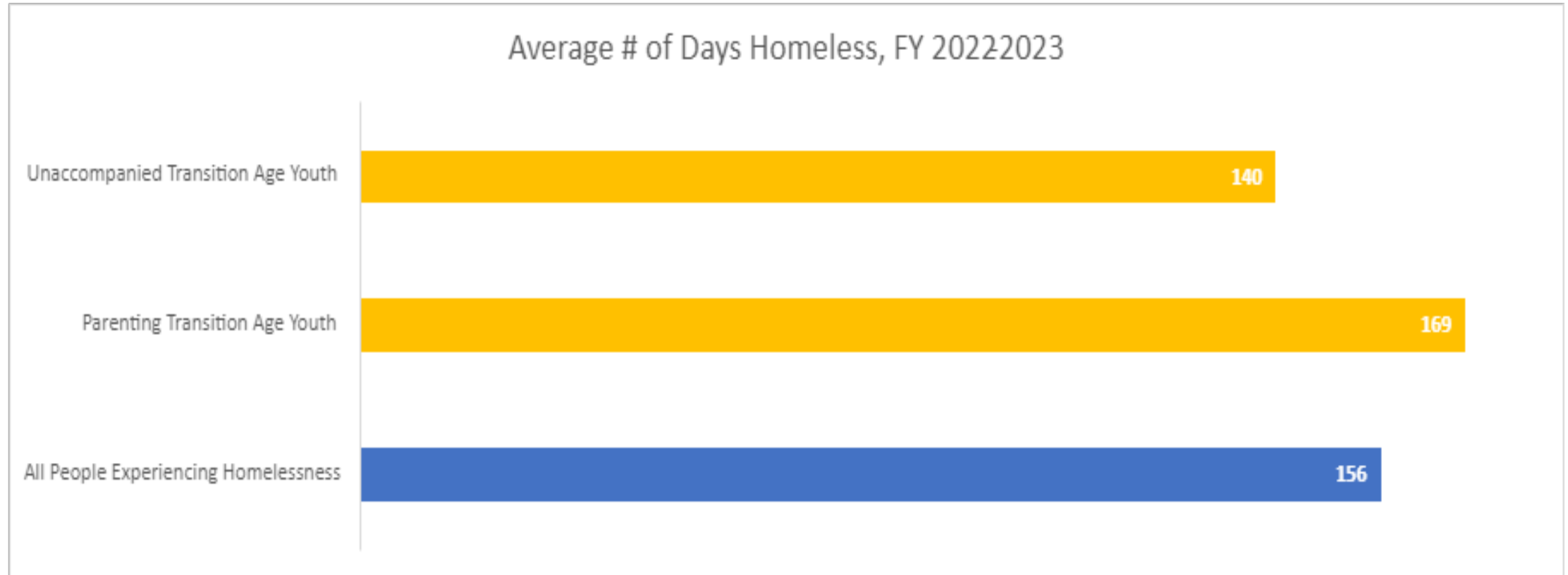
- HUDs Biennial Point-in-Time Count identified on a **single night** in January
- Definition: people under the age of 25, who are experiencing homelessness “unaccompanied”—that is, without a parent or guardian present
- In 2023, CA reported **10,173** minors and TAY experiencing homelessness, **19%** of the national total.
- Largely understood to be an undercount, especially for youth

# Trends Among YYA Accessing Services in CA

- Homeless Data Information System (HDIS) comes from local reporting into Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)



# How Many Days Do YYA experience homelessness?





# Cal ICH-Funded Research on YYA

- **Unaccompanied Children & Young Adults Served by CA's Homelessness Programs**, (Turner Center, UCSF, Benioff Homelessness & Housing Initiative, Abt Assoc, Nov 2023)
  - Snapshot of 7,500 unaccompanied minors and 31,500 YA ages 18-24 served by homelessness programs that report to HDIS.
  - 75% were people of color; transgender and gender non-conforming children and youth were also overrepresented (2% of minors, 3% of TAY, and less than 1% of adults above age 25)
  - Episodes of homelessness often followed family instability or exits from institutional settings like juvenile justice or foster care system
  - Young adults were more likely than children to continue needing assistance to move into permanent housing

# Cal ICH-Funded Research on YYA

- Guidelines to Prevent, Address, and End Youth Homelessness, (UC Berkeley, i4y, Cal ICH, 2024)
  - Concrete **strategies, best practices** and **policies** for serving YYA
  - Young people represent 20% of homeless pop in CA
  - Higher rates of mortality & poor health relative to housed peers
  - **Return on youth investment** is very high; more expensive for youth to be excluded from society
  - CA has increased investment in youth in recent years with HEAP & HHAP
  - Adult housing models cannot be applied to youth – youth choice & youth voice are key
  - Rapid-Rehousing, Transitional Housing, Host homes, & Permanent Supportive Housing can all be employed using a Housing First for Youth Approach

# You Count: CA Homeless Youth Data Hub

- [You Count Data Hub](#)
- CA's first integrative data dashboard on youth homelessness, updated annually with up-to-date data and visualization. (2021)
- An effort of the [California Homeless Youth Project](#) (CHYP), a research and policy initiative of the [California Research Bureau](#) committed to bringing youth to the policy table and to informing policymakers, opinion leaders, and other stakeholders about the needs, issues, and perspectives of youth experiencing homelessness.

# Thank you!

Attend our upcoming [Advisory Committee](#) meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup> or our [Council](#) meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> to learn more about Cal ICH and our work to prevent and end homelessness.

For additional questions or regionally specific data, please reach out to the research team at [hdis@bcsh.ca.gov](mailto:hdis@bcsh.ca.gov), the policy team at [calich@bcsh.ca.gov](mailto:calich@bcsh.ca.gov) or visit us at <https://bcsh.ca.gov/calich/>