

iCount Miami 2021

HIGHLIGHTS



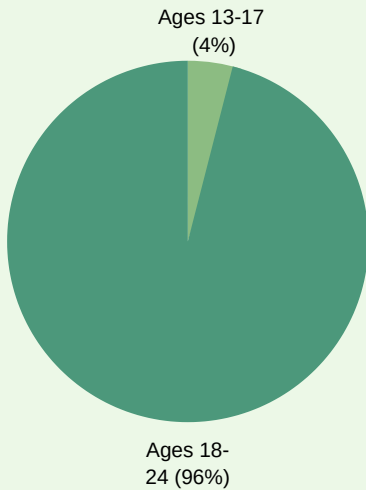
About the iCount Miami:

- Each year Miami Homes For All, the University of Miami, M-DCPS Project UP-START, The Homeless Trust, and The HOMY Collective: Helping Our Miami-Dade Youth partner to do the iCount Miami. This is our community's youth point-in-time census. The iCount Miami is directly after the general Point-In-Time count and lasts until the end of January. In 2021, it was from January 24 to January 31.
- The iCount Miami 2021 numbers are significantly less compared to previous years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, we surveyed over 300 youth experiencing homelessness. In 2021, engagement was lower and all strategies were implemented differently.
- The iCount is conducted all over the county through various magnet site partners (housing providers, service providers, libraries, parks, etc.) and youth leaders. However, due to the pandemic, many of our partner agencies were closed. All surveys were conducted over the phone or virtually.
- We raised awareness about the iCount through the leadership of our Youth Voice Action Council, partner agencies, social media, and news outlets. The following are some highlights. With these results, HOMY develops strategies to address youth homelessness in Miami-Dade County.

206 youth were counted as experiencing homelessness in Miami-Dade County!

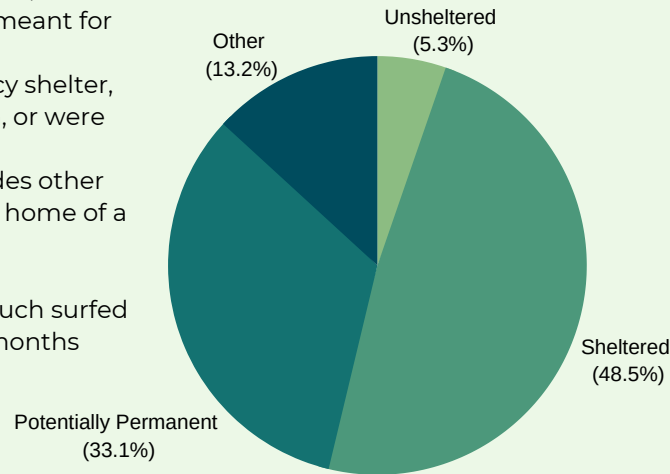
We estimate that there may be 2,000 youth experiencing homelessness* under all definitions of youth homelessness**.

How old were they?



- Unsheltered includes the street, sidewalk, or somewhere not meant for human habitation
- Sheltered includes emergency shelter, transitional housing program, or were couch-surfing
- Potentially permanent includes other relatives' home, group home, home of a significant other, or a dorm
- 44% (117) of all youth survey participants said that they couch surfed at some point in the past 12 months

Where did they sleep?



25.8% identified as LGBTQIA+



- 65.2% identified as Black or African-American
- 35.4% identified as Hispanic or Latinx

Their biggest barriers:

- Did not know where to go for help
- Lack of transportation
- Did not have ID/personal documents

Regarding education + employment



- 51% were not in school
- 56.2% were unemployed

Regarding foster care and families:



- 28.7% were placed in foster care
 - Of those, 70.7% said they left foster care and did not receive housing assistance
- 24.2% were pregnant/parenting
 - Of those, 65% have custody of their children

What is the main reason that they were on their own + experiencing housing struggles?

- Disagreement with parent(s)/legal guardian(s)
- There was physical, sexual, or mental abuse at home
- They turned 18 and were asked to leave
- They wanted to leave
- They left foster care/group home and had no place to go

*This estimate is based on various reports describing the under count problem, including: Fleming, D. and P. Burns, Who Counts? Assessing Accuracy of the Homeless Count. 2017, Economic Roundtable: Los Angeles CA.

**There are various definitions of youth homelessness. As of January 2020, the Miami-Dade Continuum of Care adopted the Department of Housing & Urban Development's Category 3 definition. This means, they also recognize youth experiencing homelessness as per the Department of Education definition of youth homelessness.

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