

Homelessness in Southern Nevada

Homeless Youth



On any given night, approximately 1,530 unaccompanied youth, including 280 unaccompanied children under 18 and 1,250 unaccompanied youth ages 18-24, are homeless in Southern Nevada. This is about **25 percent** of the approximately 6,200 people who are homeless in Southern Nevada on any given night, according to the 2016 Southern Nevada Homeless Census. ¹

Unaccompanied homeless youth may be staying in a shelter program, living on the street, or squatting in an abandoned building. In addition, more than 13,000 children and youth are in households that are unstably housed, such as multiple families sharing a single family residence, or families staying in weekly hotels.³

As a result of their homelessness, unaccompanied youth may face devastating barriers and risks to their well-being.

Homeless youth have a disproportionate impact on police and juvenile justice agencies. According to national estimates it costs \$53,665 to maintain a youth in the criminal justice system for one year, but only \$5,887 to permanently move a homeless youth off the streets and into housing and services.⁴

One out of every three teens on the streets will be lured into prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home. Over **33 percent** of homeless youth report exchanging sex for food, shelter, or drugs.

The U.S. pregnancy rate of 13-15 year-old homeless girls is 14 percent versus 1 percent for non-homeless girls.

Homeless youth are more likely to contract HIV and/or STDs due to increased likelihood of sexual exploitation, rape, and sexual assault.

In 2016, the methodology for collecting Point-In-Time (PIT) data on youth homelessness was modified from previous years and was developed with guidance from HUD and increased collaboration with the Clark County School District. Due to significant changes in the data collection methodology, the 2016 data on youth homelessness should be considered baseline data and not be compared to previous year's census data on youth homelessness.

GET INVOLVED

Unaccompanied youth need specialized outreach, housing, and supportive services to help them recover from the consequences of homelessness.

You can be a part of the solution!
Support Southern Nevada agencies serving homeless youth and children. Serve as an advocate, volunteer, and donor.

Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth (NPHY)
www.nphy.org

The Shade Tree
www.theshadetree.org

Shannon West Homeless Youth Center
www.helpsonv.org/programs-youth.php

Street Teens
<http://www.streetteens.org/>

St. Jude's Ranch for Children
<http://www.stjudesranch.org/>

Southern Nevada Children First
www.childrenfirst-nv.org

WestCare Youth Shelter
www.westcare.com/page/where-we-serve_NV

Visit www.HelpHopeHome.org and www.NevadaHomelessAlliance.org to learn more about how to get involved and be a part of the solution.