

Leaving Home

36 % of youth felt they had no choice but to leave home for reasons of safety

Those who had witnessed family violence, or had been victims of abuse were more likely to run away or get kicked out.

Of youth who had run away or been kicked out,

- 70% have run away at least once
- 54% have been kicked out of home at least once
- 60% of these youth were kicked out by the age of 14

40% of youth said they had lived in foster care or a group home at some point

18% Of youth had entered a Youth Agreement

A youth Agreement is a legal agreement between youth aged 16-18 and the Ministry of Children and Families intended to help youth gain independence, return to school, and or gain work experience and life skills

For more information go to:
http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/youth/youth_agreements.htm



Want to Talk?

Kids Help phone
1800 668 6868
www.kidshelphone.ca

MCFD Children's Help Line
Call: 310 1234 (no area code needed)
Deaf and hard of hearing: 1 866 0505

Youth Against Violence Line
Safe and confidential way to report
1.800.680.4264

Mind Your Mind
www.mindyourmind.ca
Information on youth and mental health

PFLAG Canada
www.pflagcanada.ca
Information concerning gay, lesbian, bisexual and questioning teens, their friends and family

Social Insurance number (SIN)
To work legally in Canada, and to receive government benefits like Employment Insurance and welfare you need a Social Insurance Number
For information visit:
<http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca/en/home.shtml>

Moving On School, Work, Shelter



Youth living in homelessness, living on the streets, living in an abandoned building, a tent or car. Youth who are willing to trade sex for drugs, money, clothes, food or shelter. Youth who are using or selling drugs on the streets, or passing out. Youth who have recently moved from any of these situations into a more stable environment.

**Against
the
Odds**

A profile of street involved and marginalized youth in BC



The McCreary Centre Society

This information is from:

Against the Odds – A profile of marginalized and street-involved youth in BC

Lots of people have the wrong idea about why some youth are street involved.

This research was done to learn about what life is like for street involved youth. And to give youth a chance to voice their opinions and concerns.

762 youth from nine communities in BC participated in the Against the Odds survey in 2006

Youth included in this survey were those who are:

- Homeless
- Living on the street
- Couch surfing
- Staying in a: tent, car, abandoned building, or squat
- Using or Selling Drugs on the street
- Involved in the Sex Trade
- Or anyone who has recently moved from these conditions to a more stable environment

McCreary Centre Society

www.mcs.bc.ca

School

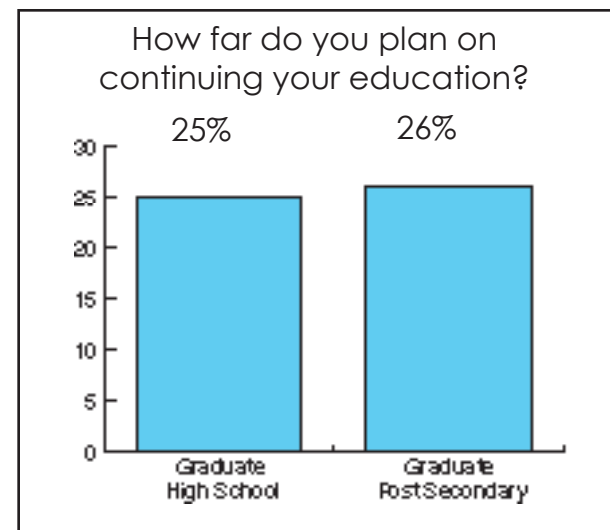
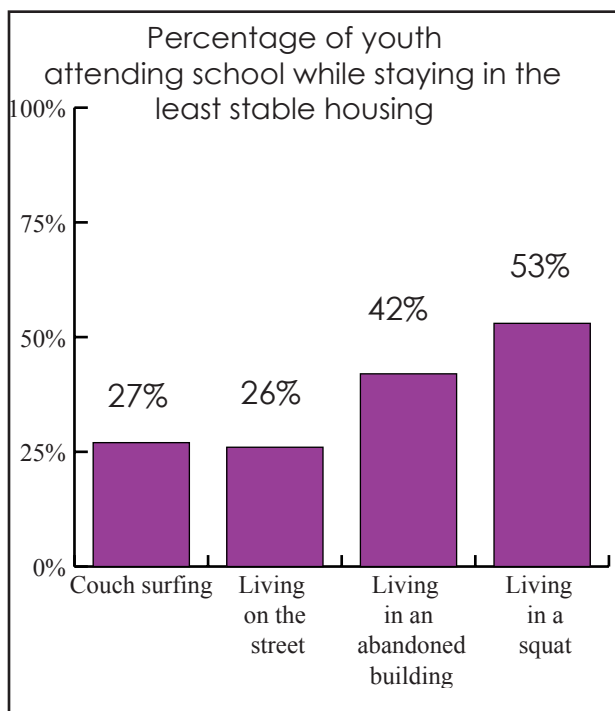
Despite the challenges in their lives, school was important to many of the youth in this survey

62% of Youth in this survey started school in September

28% Attended a mainstream school

34% Attended an alternative education program

A fairly stable living environment increased youth's chances of going to school, but many youth in the least stable situations still reported school attendance



Work and Income

One in three youth (35%) were working at a legal job

Of those youth more than half (52%) reported that they worked 20 or more hours a week

Another 32% worked between 5 and 19 hours a week

Only 13% of youth in this survey reported that they had received income assistance

The four most common sources of income were:

- Parents - 45%
- Legal Job - 35%
- Dealing/Drug Runs- 25%
- Panhandling- 14%