

## A LOOK AT THE HEALTH OF YOUTH WITH GOVERNMENT CARE EXPERIENCE IN VANCOUVER

Data in this fact sheet comes from the report, *A health profile of youth in government care: Vancouver Coastal*. It was created for TRRUST by McCreary Centre Society to share data about the health of youth with government care experience, the inequities that exist in our communities, and to offer evidence about how we can improve the health of youth transitioning out of care.

### SOME TERMS USED IN THIS FACT SHEET

**IN CARE:** Youth currently staying in a foster home, group home, or an alternative to government care such as a Youth Agreement.

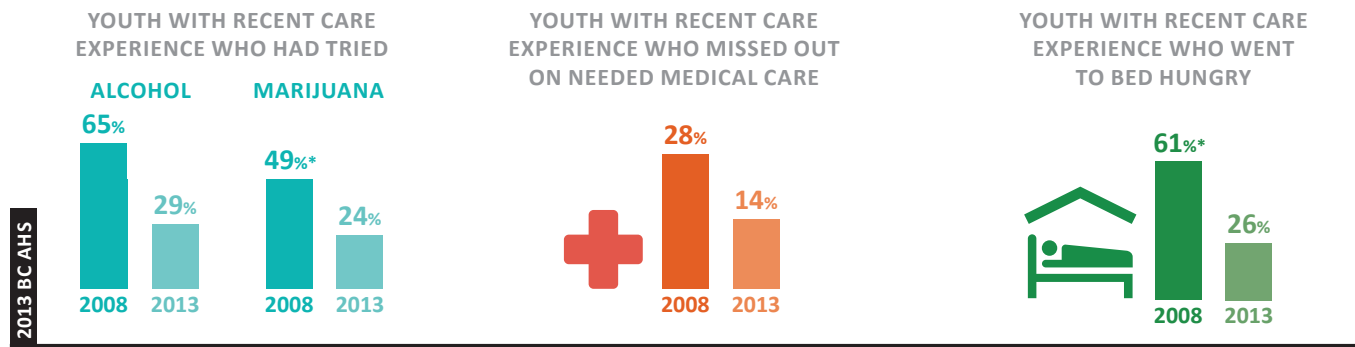
**RECENT CARE EXPERIENCE:** Youth who were in government care or an alternative to government care in the past year.

**CARE EXPERIENCE:** Youth who were in government care or an alternative to government care at some point.

### Some youth are over represented in government care in the Vancouver Coastal region.



### There have been positive changes in the health of youth with care experience in a number of important areas.



### Youth with care experience still face greater challenges in some areas than their peers without this experience.



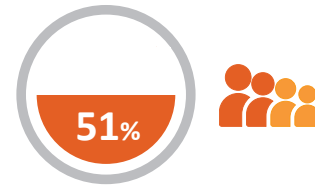
# A LOOK AT THE HEALTH OF YOUTH WITH GOVERNMENT CARE EXPERIENCE IN VANCOUVER

Young people with government care experience are over represented among homeless and street-involved youth.

AMONG HOMELESS AND STREET-INVOLVED YOUTH



AMONG HOMELESS AND STREET-INVOLVED YOUTH WITH CARE EXPERIENCE



2014 HSIYS

Despite the challenges in their lives, there are protective factors that are associated with more positive health outcomes for youth with care experience.



YOUTH WHO HAD AN **ADULT IN THEIR COMMUNITY WHO CARED ABOUT THEM** WERE LESS LIKELY TO HAVE ATTEMPTED SUICIDE IN THE PAST YEAR



YOUTH WHO HAD A **SOCIAL WORKER THEY FOUND HELPFUL** WERE LESS LIKELY TO HAVE SELF-HARMED IN THE PAST YEAR



YOUTH WHO HAD **PROSOCIAL FRIENDS** WERE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE POSITIVE PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

2013 BCAHS

Protective factors can improve outcomes for even the most vulnerable youth. Results of the Homeless and Street-Involved Youth Survey showed that:



YOUTH WHO **GOT ALONG WITH THEIR TEACHERS** WERE MORE LIKELY TO PLAN TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL



YOUTH WHO FELT **MEANINGFULLY ENGAGED** IN THEIR ACTIVITIES WERE MORE LIKELY TO RATE THEIR CURRENT LIFE CIRCUMSTANCES AS GOOD OR EXCELLENT



YOUTH WHO FELT **SAFE IN THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD** WERE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE, INCLUDING EXPECTING TO HAVE A JOB OR CAREER.

2014 HSIYS

This fact sheet was prepared by McCreary Centre Society. The full report can be requested by emailing [mccreary@mcs.bc.ca](mailto:mccreary@mcs.bc.ca). If you have any questions about the TRRUST Collective Impact Initiative, please visit [www.mcs.bc.ca](http://www.mcs.bc.ca).



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