

SURREY'S

# VitalSigns<sup>®</sup>

2015

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# Methodology

The 2015 Surrey Youth Vital Signs Project uses a combination of statistical sources and public opinion data as the basis for the information contained in this report. The purpose of the research was to ascertain where Surrey is doing well and where it can improve in thirteen important dimensions of community. Specific indicators were designed to measure the overall success or failure of the community in integrating and nurturing a strong sense of community amongst the youth of Surrey. The indicators used in measuring this sense of community included the presence and representative nature of the youth voice in Surrey, the presence and awareness of a youth space, youth's attitudes towards issues and solutions towards environmental problems in the community, youth physical health and mental well being, transportation issues as they effect youth, the extent of youth poverty, issues of housing and homelessness, the development in the arts and culture community, safety and the sense of belonging to a cultural and community identity and education, learning and employment opportunities for youth in Surrey. The sub-focus of this project was to investigate youth experiences in Surrey during their first 5 years of transition from high school into post-secondary education or the workforce.

## Statistical Data

Secondary data was used to support the data collected within the primary survey undertaken in the spring/summer of 2015. Data sources include Statistics Canada, the City of Surrey, Surrey School District, Food Banks of Canada, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, and more. All of this data is available publically and has been “anonymized” by the source organizations.

Depending on the source and the data used; a variety of age groups were used to define youth membership. Overall, youth included Surrey residents between the ages of 10-24, while we did our best to focus specifically on 12-to-24 year olds.

## Public Opinion Data

Public Opinion data was collected via survey, which was distributed in both an online and a printed format using non-probability sampling method (volunteer sampling). The online format was hosted on Fluid Surveys (Canadian- based company and all data is

stored in Canada). The survey was created in partnership with the Surrey Child and Youth Committee, with feedback from the leadership team which consisted of local youth workers and members of local organizations interested in youth welfare.

The hard copy format of the survey that was distributed included two versions an initial draft and the final version. The data from these surveys were then manually entered into Excel and only questions that were included within the final draft were included in the final compilation.

The survey was distributed by SurreyCares Community Foundation and other members of the Youth Vital Signs Leadership Team. The survey was distributed to the school district, community centres, youth groups, SFU Surrey, Kwantlen, etc.

The sample size for the survey was 400. The final respondent total included 80 hard copy responses and 320 online responses. The sample size was found to be large enough to make the data statistically sound with a 95% confidence level and a confidence interval of 5 when using the 2011 (10-24) youth population in Surrey as the overall population denominator. Our survey only included youth 12-24 and thus it is likely that we are underestimating the numeric representation of the survey responses.

All responses were disconnected from any forms of identification, and all personal information was kept confidential unless explicit consent was given (i.e. in the case of a participant entering the survey contest draw).

Furthermore, all data (hardcopy and electronic files) was stored in a secure location to maintain the privacy of the respondents.

## The Survey

For each indicator, youth were asked to choose two responses that they felt represented where Surrey can improve and where Surrey is doing well in each area. These questions were modelled after the youth community foundation surveys that have been made across Canada. Respondents were provided options from a pre-determined list (provided in a checklist fashion) as well as being given an “other” option through which they could provide their own suggestions. The checklist options were developed with the help of the leadership team. In addition a focus group was held with youth volunteers to ensure that the survey was easily understandable for youth and that the options reflected important issues facing youth in Surrey. In the online survey format, the options provided in the pre-determined lists were set so as to appear in a different

order for each respondent. This was done so as to reduce some of the order bias that may exist. Unfortunately, this was not possible for the hard copy survey format. Respondents were then asked to grade Surrey for each indicator. The scale used for grading was A (Excellent), B (Good), C (Average), D (Below Average) and F (Fail).

Youth were given the opportunity to provide open-ended responses within the Transitions section of the survey. Due to the variety of responses provided (203 in total), responses were categorized based on themes that arose as the qualitative analysis progressed. The themes were used as a means of providing discussion for the transitions section.

In order to provide an understanding of the representativeness of the Youth Vital Signs survey report, as well as to provide opportunities for cross-tabulations, respondents were asked demographic question regarding their age, gender, sexual identity, ethnicity, language, education, work and volunteering, and level of satisfaction of living in Surrey.

Some of this data was useful as a means of comparing the youth Vital Signs Survey with the youth population as identified by data from the 2011 Census and National House Survey. In terms of cross-tabulations geographic area and age tended to be the most heavily used.

The rest of the demographic questions, although informative of what demographic groups were included within the survey, had relatively high non-response rates (up to 30%) and therefore were not used for cross-tabulations. Nonetheless, the 30% remains below the threshold for publication (50%)<sup>1</sup>

## Limitations

There is limited data on youth age 12 to 24 for Surrey specifically. For this reason, age groups beyond this age range were sometimes used.

Due to the voluntary nature of this survey, there was a high non-response rate for many of the questions, especially the demographic questions.

Although many efforts were made to include responses from youth from a variety of different cultures, ethnicities, sexual identities etc., the survey was only offered in

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<sup>1</sup> Surrey Poverty Coalition, this is the change: A Forum on Collective Impact and Reducing Poverty in Surrey

English, and thus non-English speaking youth may not be fully represented by the survey results.

It is important to note that due to the variations in methodology comparisons between data collected via Census versus via National Household Survey must be taken cautiously.

# A Profile of Surrey Youth

*Please see Appendix B: Introduction and Demographics for Additional Data*

## Population

Surrey has a significant youth population and is home for more children and youth than any other city in BC (other than Vancouver)<sup>2</sup>. This can be seen in figure 2, which demonstrate that Surrey does indeed have a higher population of youth age 10-24 than the provincial percentage of the population (20% vs. 18% for BC). Surrey alone holds 23% of the youth aged 10-24 in Metro Vancouver (see table 1).

*Table 1: Youth Population of Surrey and Greater Vancouver*

Age	Greater Vancouver Total	Surrey Total	% of GVAN Youth from Surrey
10 to 14	124880	28710	23%
15-19	145190	28210	19%
20 -24	159080	26050	16%
10 to 24	429150	82970	19%

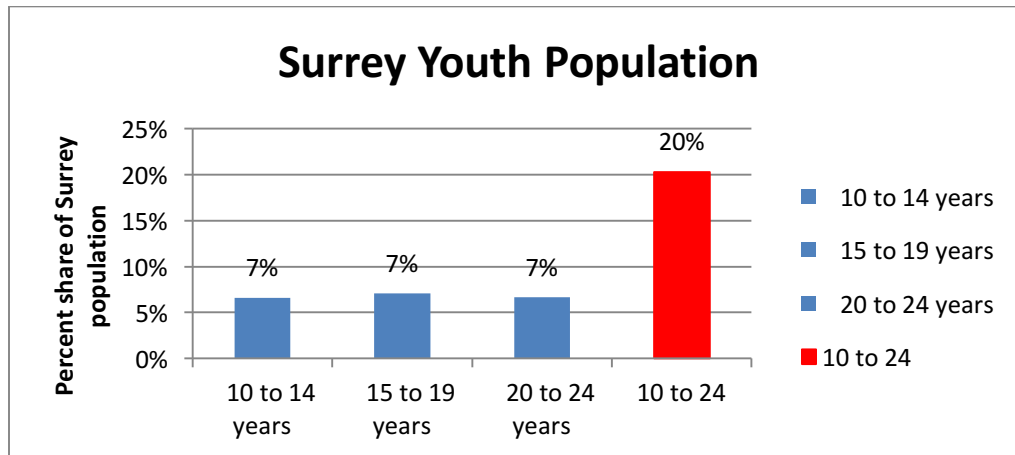
Source: City of Surrey Open Data, Census 2011; Statistics Canada; 2011 Census of Population

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<sup>2</sup> Statistics Canada, Cumulative Profile, 2011 Census. Reproduced and distributed on an "as is" basis with the permission of Statistics Canada.

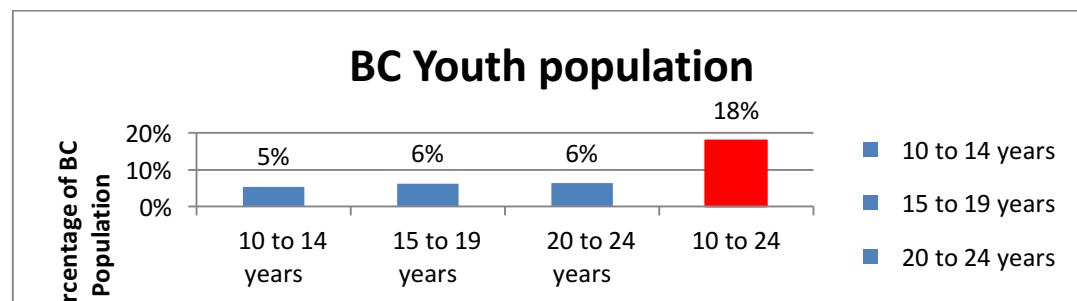


Figure 1: Surrey Youth Population<sup>3</sup>



Source: City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census

Figure 2: BC Youth Population<sup>4</sup>



Source: City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census

## Neighbourhood

Surrey's youth population varies depending on the neighbourhood. Surrey has six major regions: Cloverdale, Fleetwood, Guildford, Newton, Whalley, and South Surrey.

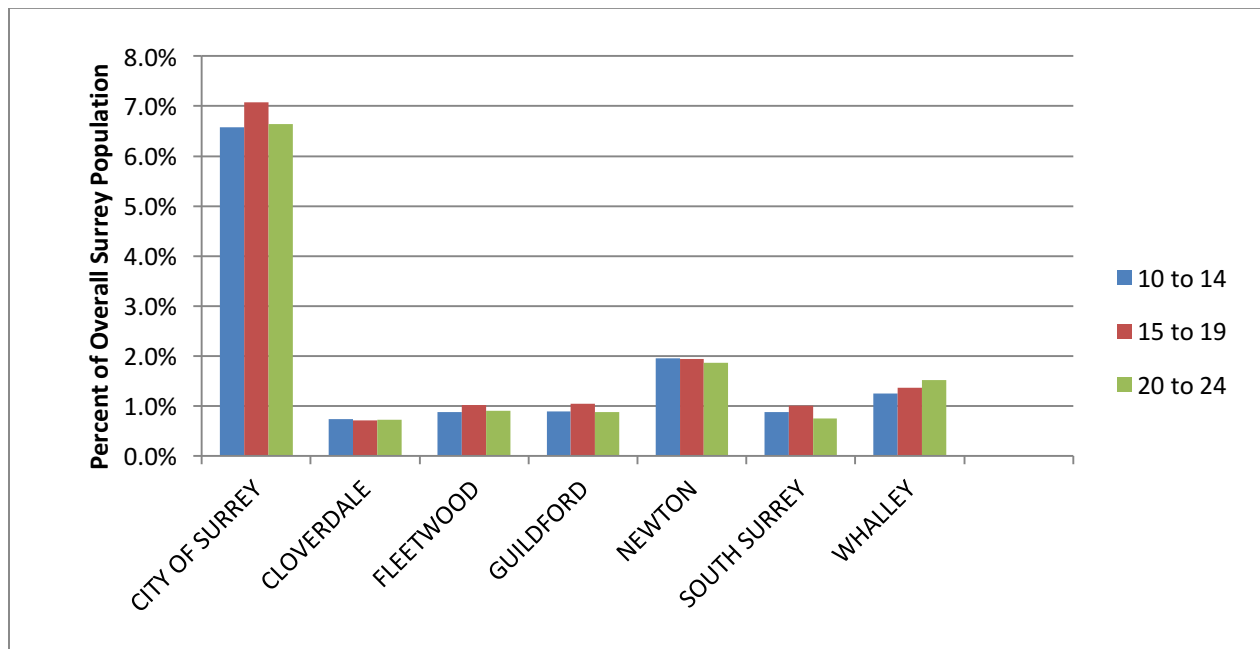
<sup>3</sup> See Table I (Appendix)

<sup>4</sup> See Table II (Appendix)

The map displays the proposed City of New Westmeadows area, which is outlined in a thick black line. The area includes the municipalities of Whalley, Guildford, Fleetwood, Newton, and Cloverdale. The map also shows the Fraser River to the north and west, and the City of White Rock to the south. Key highways shown include Highway 1, Highway 15, Highway 10, and Highway 99. The map includes a scale bar (0 to 5 km) and a north arrow in the bottom left corner. The map is titled "CITY OF NEW WESTMEADOWS" at the top.

According to the 2011 Census, Newton has the highest number of youth 10-24, almost double that of any other neighbourhood in Surrey. 28% of the City of Surrey's youth ages 10-24 resided in Newton, as can be seen in Figure 4.

Figure 4: Percentage of Overall Surrey Population ages 10-24<sup>5</sup>

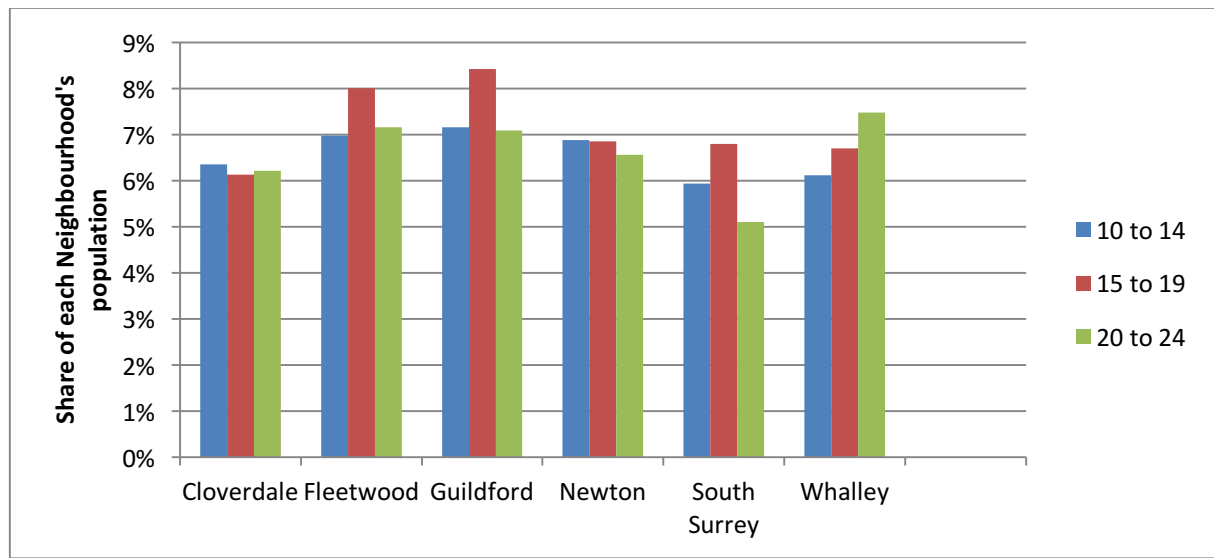


Source: City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census

In 2011, approximately 95,005 youth ages 10-24 were living in Surrey, representing about 20% of the overall City of Surrey population. Of the six regions in Surrey, Cloverdale had the smallest percentage of Surrey's youth ages 10-24.

<sup>5</sup> See Table III (Appendix)

Figure 5: Percentage of Youth ages 10-24 as a share of each neighbourhood's population<sup>6</sup>



Source: City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census

As can be seen in Figure 5, despite the difference of amount of youth ages 10-24 in each area, the proportion of youth as a share of each neighbourhood's population is relatively similar, with youth ages 10-24 representing approximately of 5-9% of the population.

This type of demographic information is important because it demonstrates areas in Surrey that need to be targeted when looking at the allocations of services and programs for youth to ensure more youth can benefit from government, business, and non-profit efforts.

<sup>6</sup> See Table III and IV(Appendix)

## Family Structure

*Table 2: Family types by neighbourhood*

Family Structure	CITY OF SURREY	CLOVERDALE	FLEETWOOD	GUILDFORD	NEWTON	SOUTH SURREY	WHALLEY	Totals
<b>Two-parent families (common law and married)</b>	67725	8050	9155	8605	20375	8805	12730	135445
<b>Single Parent families</b>	19530	2115	2350	2820	5265	2445	4540	39065
<b>% Single Parent</b>	22%	21%	20%	25%	21%	22%	26%	N/A
<b>Female Lone Parent</b>	15555	1670	1870	2240	4255	1955	3565	31110
<b>Male Lone Parent</b>	3975	445	480	580	1010	490	975	7955

Source: City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census; Children's Partnership Surrey – White Rock: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey-White Rock

Most families in Surrey are two parent families (78%), whether they are common law or married. Whalley (26%) and Guildford (25%) have the highest percentage of single parent families.

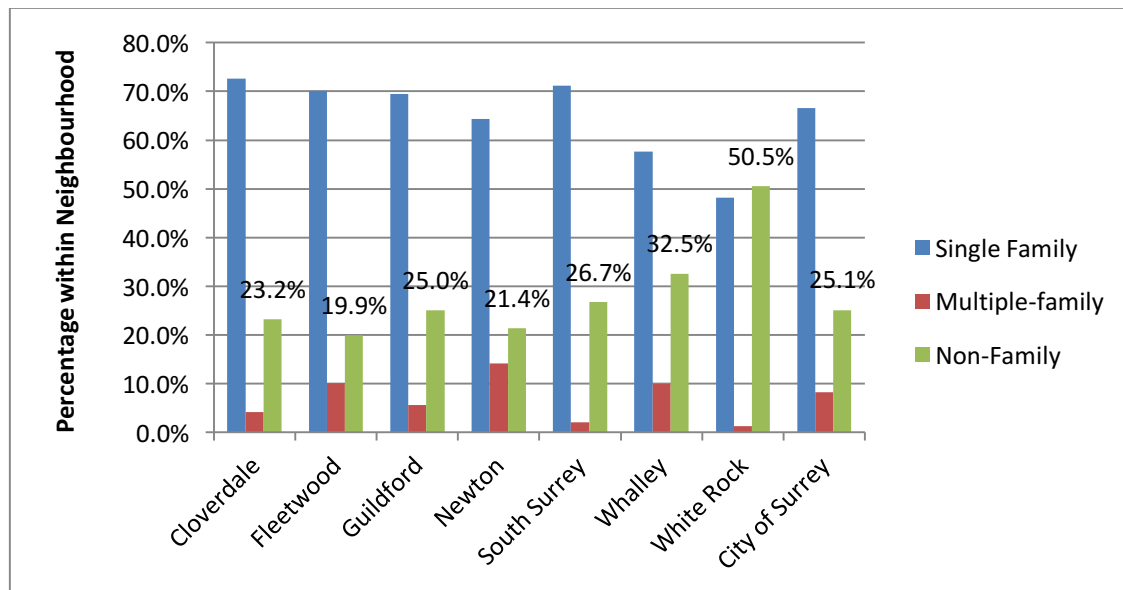
## Household types

*Table 3: Household Types by Neighbourhood*

Neighbourhood	Total Households by Type	Single Family	Multiple-family	Non-Family
<b>Cloverdale</b>	17,525	12,730	735	4,060
<b>Fleetwood</b>	16,195	11,350	1,630	3,215
<b>Guildford</b>	18,055	12,545	1,005	4,505
<b>Newton</b>	34,760	22,390	4,945	7,425
<b>South Surrey</b>	25,730	18,320	545	6,870
<b>Whalley</b>	28,535	16,445	2,835	9,270
<b>White Rock</b>	9,605	4,625	125	4,855
<b>City of Surrey</b>	140,810	93,780	11,675	40,200

Source: Children's Partnership Surrey – White Rock: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey-White Rock; City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census

Figure 6: Family type by neighbourhood<sup>7</sup>



Source: Children's Partnership Survey – White Rock: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey-White Rock; City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census

The majority of families in Surrey live in single family homes. Single family homes include married and common-law Census families with/without children, as well as lone parent families<sup>8</sup>. Newton (14.2%) and Fleetwood (10.1%) have the highest percentage of multiple family homes. White Rock has the lowest multiple family homes<sup>9</sup>. White Rock (50.5) and Whalley (32.5) have the highest percentage of non- family homes<sup>10</sup>.

<sup>7</sup> See Table V (Appendix)

<sup>8</sup> (Children's Partnership Survey – White Rock: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey-White Rock)

<sup>9</sup> Multiple family homes refers to homes in which more than one Census family is living. Source: Children's Partnership Survey – White Rock: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey-White Rock

<sup>10</sup> Non- family homes refer to individuals living on their own, and groups of individuals that are not classified as Census families. Source: Children's Partnership Survey – White Rock: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey-White Rock

*Table 4: Non-Census family types by Neighbourhood\**

	CLOVER-DALE	FLEET-WOOD	GUILD-FORD	NEW-TON	SOUTH SURREY	WHALLEY	CITY OF SURREY
<b>Living with relatives</b>	2%	3%	3%	3%	2%	4%	3%
<b>Living with non-relatives only</b>	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	5%	2%
<b>Living alone</b>	6%	4%	7%	5%	9%	10%	7%

Source: City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census

*\*As a proportion of total private households*

Focusing on non Census family houses specifically, only a small amount of Surrey Residents live in non-Census family types, representing only 2% to 10% of all private households. Whalley tended to have higher proportions of all types of non-Census family types (see Table 3).

## Languages spoken

Most Surrey students (K-12) in 2011/12 spoke English (50%) at home, followed by Punjabi (22%), Hindi (3%), Tagalog (3%) and Mandarin (3%). Table 5 demonstrates that from 2008/9 to 2011/12, there was a decrease in the percent of youth speaking English at home (-12%<sup>11</sup>) and increases in the percent of students speaking Punjabi (+10%), Tagalog (+50%), and Mandarin (+50%) at home.

*Table 5: Language Spoken at Home (% of Surrey Students K-12)*

Language	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
<b>English</b>	57	56	52	50
<b>Punjabi</b>	20	20	21	22
<b>Hindi</b>	3	3	3	3
<b>Tagalog</b>	2	2	3	3
<b>Mandarin</b>	2	2	2	3

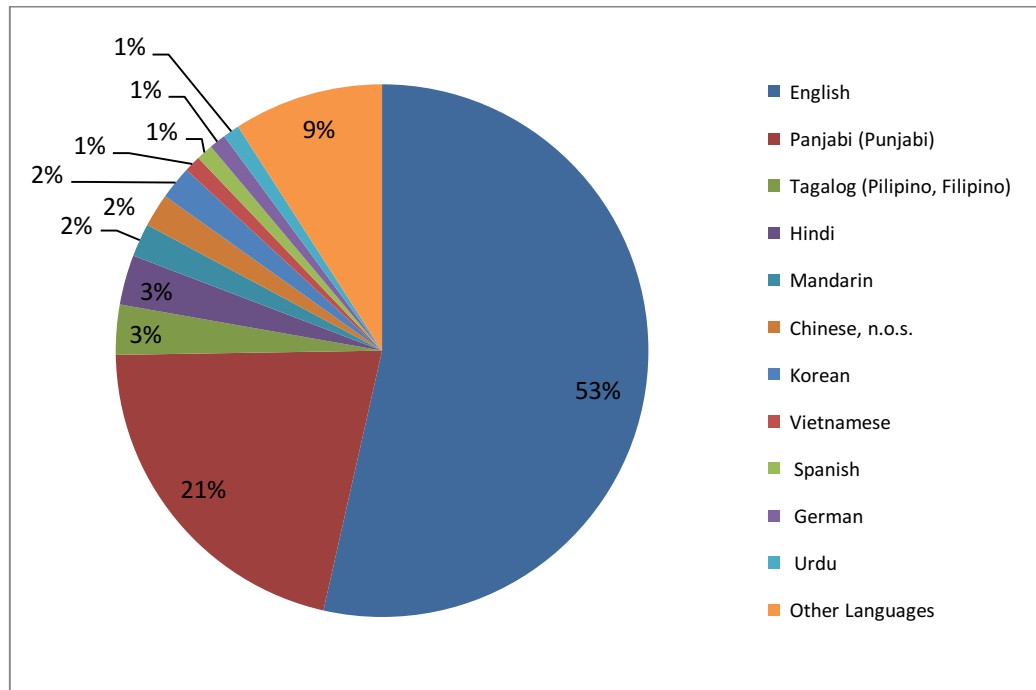
Source: City of Surrey: Profile of Surrey Youth, 2012; Original Source: BC Ministry of Education, SD36 Student Statistics

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<sup>11</sup> All percentage changes and percent difference were calculated using <http://www.calculatorsoup.com/calculators/algebra/percent-change-calculator.php>

As demonstrated in Figure 7, the data for the overall Surrey population is similar. In 2011, 53% of Surrey's residents spoke English, followed by Punjabi (21%), Tagalog (3%), Hindi (3%) and Mandarin (2%).

*Figure 7: Languages spoken at Home (% of population of Surrey)<sup>12</sup>*



Source: City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census

## Immigration

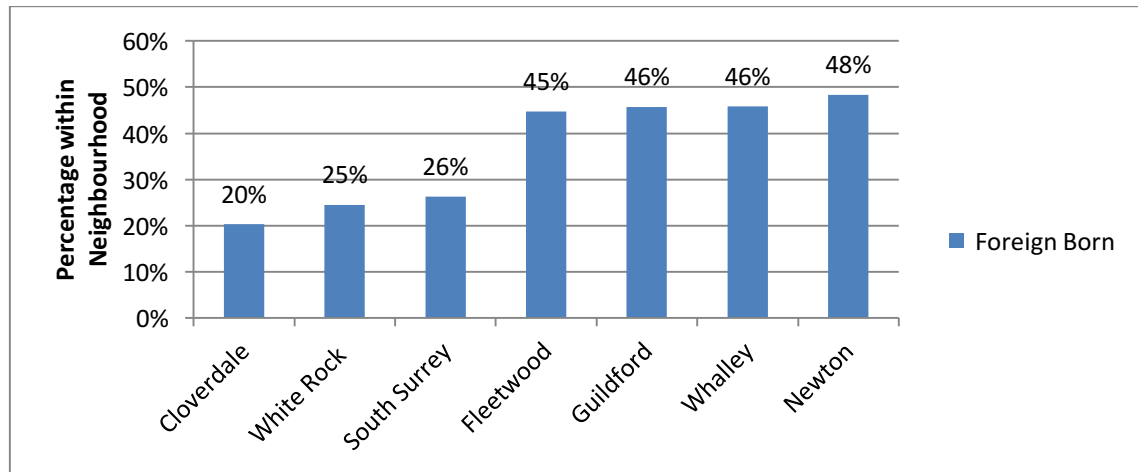
The City of Surrey has a large immigrant population that continues to expand. According to data from the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS), 40% of Surrey residents were born outside of Canada, the majority of whom reside in Newton (48%),

<sup>12</sup> See table VI (Appendix)



Whalley (46%), Guildford (46%) and Fleetwood (45%). Cloverdale had the lowest percentage of foreign born residents (20%)<sup>13</sup>.

*Figure 8: Percentage of Foreign born in Surrey Neighbourhoods<sup>14</sup>*



Source: Children's Partnership Surrey – White Rock: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey-White Rock; Statistics Canada. 2013. Surrey, CY, British Columbia (Code 5915004) (table). National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011

According to data from the NHS 2011 Survey, approximately 27% of immigrants were 15-24 at the time of immigration<sup>15</sup>. This is important since age of immigration has been found to be a potential risk factor associated with youth not graduating from high school<sup>16</sup>. Data from the NHS 2011 survey tends to show that youth who immigrate to Canada after the age of 9 are at a greater risk of not graduating from high school<sup>17</sup>. This

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<sup>13</sup> Source: Children's Partnership Surrey – White Rock: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey-White Rock

<sup>14</sup> See Table VII (Appendix)

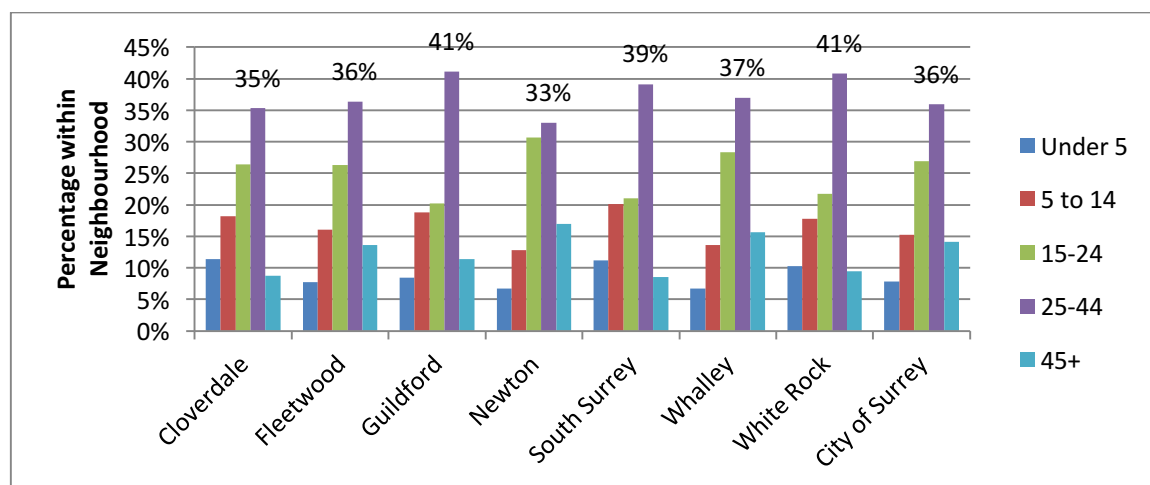
<sup>15</sup> Source: Children's Partnership Surrey – White Rock: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey-White Rock

<sup>16</sup> (<http://www.childrenspartnershipsurreywr.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/WEB-A-Profile-of-Children-and-Youth-in-Surrey-White-Rock1.pdf>, p. 10).

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.childrenspartnershipsurreywr.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/WEB-A-Profile-of-Children-and-Youth-in-Surrey-White-Rock1.pdf>, p. 10).

may demonstrate potential gaps in services and programs meant to assist immigrant youth integrate into the Surrey elementary and secondary school systems.

*Figure 9: Age of immigration, by neighbourhood (2011)<sup>18</sup>*



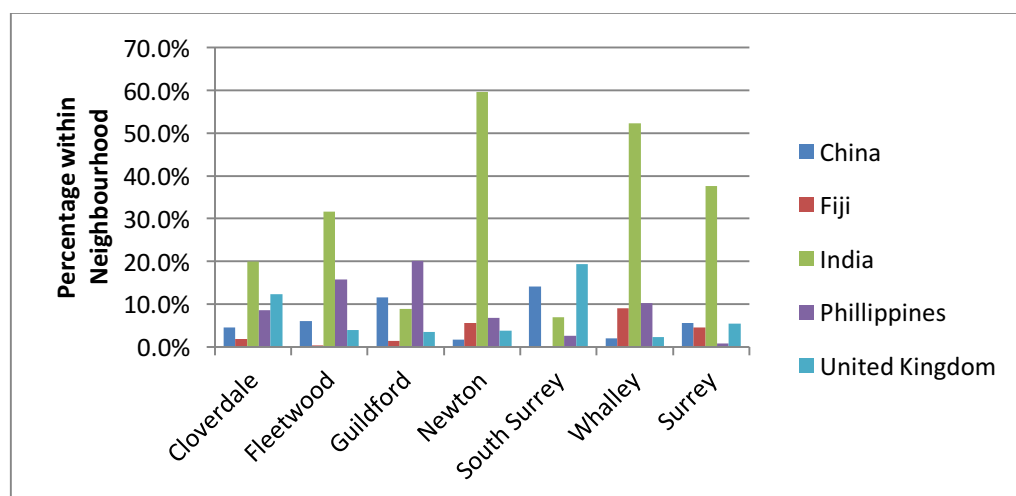
Source: Children's Partnership Surrey – White Rock: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey-White Rock; Statistics Canada. 2013. Surrey, CY, British Columbia (Code 5915004) (table). National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011

The most common birth places of recent immigrants tend to coincide with the languages spoken most often at home. For example, the majority of immigrants coming into Surrey were born in India (speak Punjabi and Hindi), Philippines (Tagalog), and China (Mandarin).

Cloverdale and South Surrey have relatively high percentage of their immigrant population being born in the United Kingdom (12.3 and 19.3% respectively). Guildford (20%) and Fleetwood (15.8%) have relatively high percentage of immigrants coming from the Philippines. Newton (59.7%) and Whalley (52.3%) have the highest relative percentage of immigrants from India.

<sup>18</sup> See Table VIII (Appendix)

Figure 10: Place of Birth of Immigrants, by neighbourhood (Country)<sup>19</sup>



Source: City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census

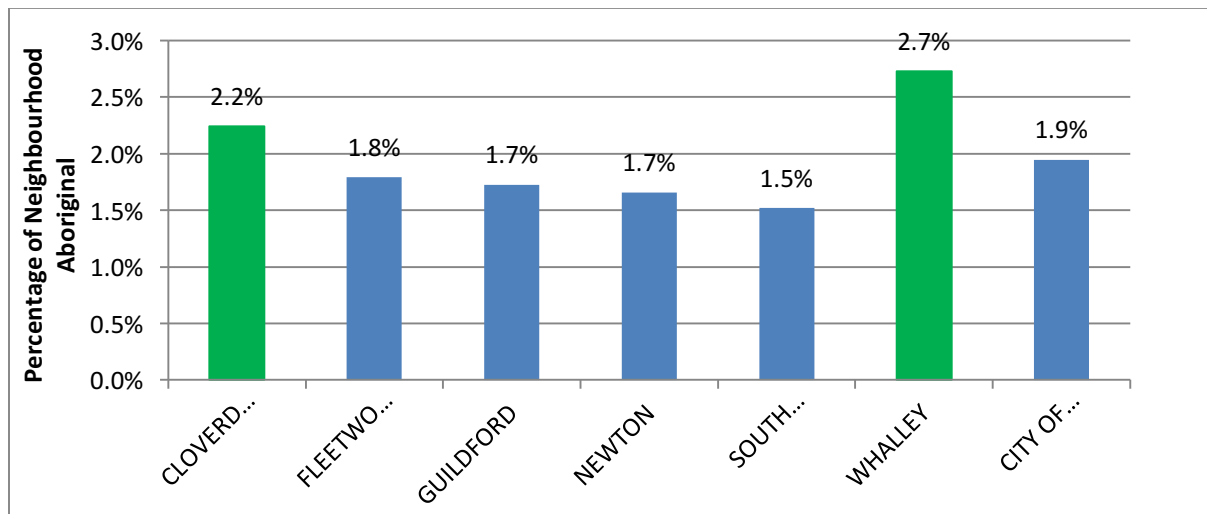
## Aboriginal Population

According to data from the 2011 Census profile, Aboriginal people represent 2% of the population of the City of Surrey. The greatest proportion of Aboriginal population representation is in Whalley (2.7%) and Cloverdale (2.2%); however the greatest numbers of Aboriginal people live in Newton and Whalley<sup>20</sup>.

<sup>19</sup> See Table XI (Appendix)

<sup>20</sup> See Table X (Appendix)

Figure 11: Proportion of Aboriginal Population, by Neighbourhood (2011)<sup>21</sup>



Source: City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census

Aboriginal populations tend to be younger when compared with the non-Aboriginal population in Surrey. Twenty-nine percent of the Aboriginal population is under the age of 15, which is 42% more than the non-Aboriginal population (19%).<sup>22</sup> Furthermore, a higher proportion of the Aboriginal population is between the ages of 15-19 (12% vs. 7% for non-Aboriginal population)<sup>23</sup>.

## Sources

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<sup>21</sup> See Table X (Appendix)

<sup>22</sup> City of Surrey, A Profile of Youth in Surrey

<sup>23</sup> City of Surrey, A Profile of Youth in Surrey

City of Surrey Open Data. (2014). Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census. Retrieved from <http://data.Surrey.ca/dataset/2011-Surrey-Census/resource/beb1a88b-3eb8-43f6-a3c8-fea6ac735a84>

Statistics Canada, Cumulative Profile, 2011 Census. Reproduced and distributed on an "as is" basis with the permission of Statistics Canada.

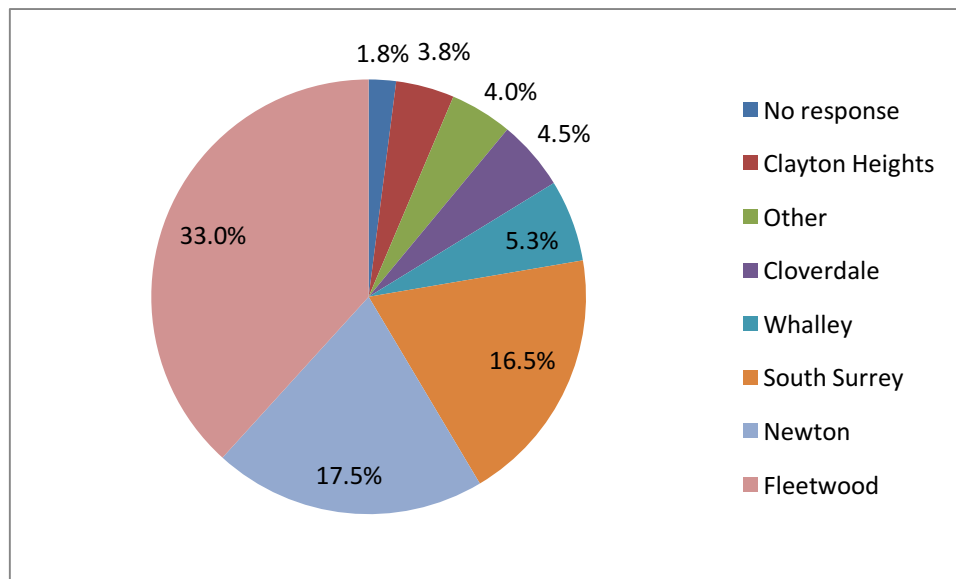
Statistics Canada. 2013. Surrey, CY, British Columbia (Code 5915004) (table). National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 99-004-XWE. Ottawa. Released September 11, 2013. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

# Who responded to the Vital Signs Survey?

A variety of Surrey youth responded to the Youth Vital Signs Survey, including youth of different ages, locations, ethnicities, languages, sexual identities, etc. This section provides a snapshot of the youth who participated in the Youth Vital Signs Survey.

## Geography

*Figure 12: Geography of Survey Respondents*



Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

All of Surrey's major demographic regions were represented by respondents within the Youth Vital Signs survey. Of the six major demographic regions of Surrey<sup>24</sup>, Fleetwood tended to be identified the most as respondent's primary place of residence, with 33 percent. Newton (17.5%) and South Surrey (16.5%) were also well represented. Whalley has the lowest level of representation amongst respondents with only 5.3% of

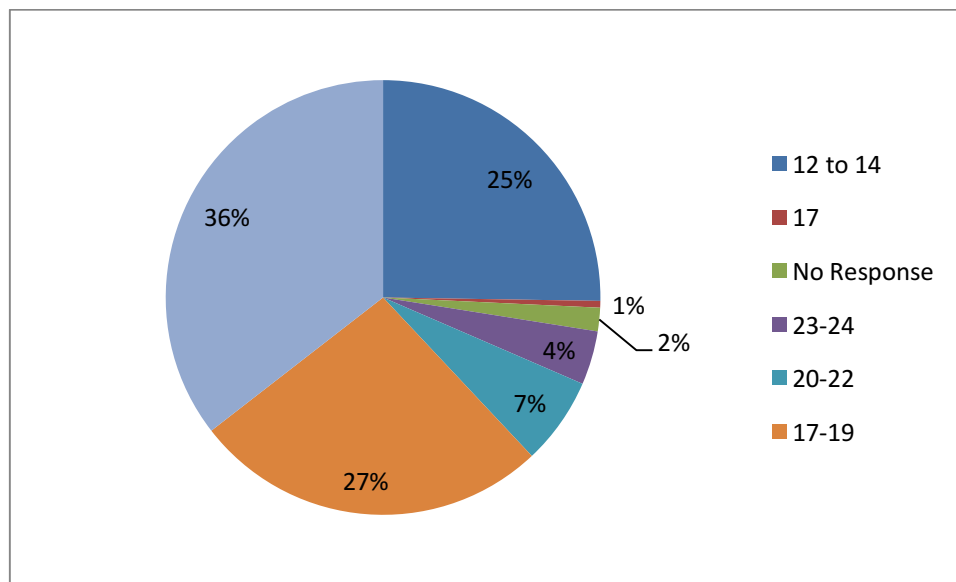
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<sup>24</sup> Students who chose more than one area as their primary place of residence were assigned to the first area specified.

respondents identifying Whalley as their primary place of residence. There did tend to be a slight overrepresentation of Fleetwood youth in the Survey respondents and a slight underrepresentation of Whalley youth; however, all other areas are well represented<sup>25</sup>.

## Age

*Figure 13: Age of Respondents*

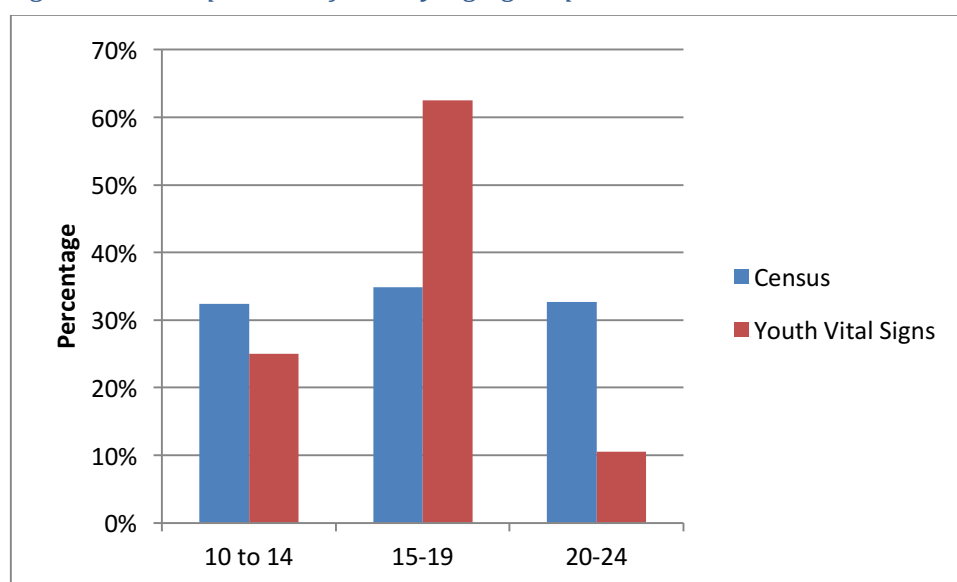


Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

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<sup>25</sup> See figures i,ii,iii

*Figure 14: Comparison of Survey Age groups to Census 2011<sup>26</sup>*



Source: City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census; Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

Census 2011 data was used to determine whether the responses collected via the Youth Vital Signs survey could be seen as representative of the youth population of Surrey as whole. As can be seen in figure 14, there tended to be an overrepresentation of 15-19 year olds within the Youth Vital Signs respondents (60% vs. 35%) and an underrepresentation of 20-24 year olds (11% vs. 33%). The disparity in responses may be due to the difficulty in accessing youth aged 20-24, who are no longer within the K-12 educational system. The underrepresentation in youth age 10-14 can be explained by the fact that the Youth Vital Signs survey only included youth aged 12-14 and therefore a lower representation within this group was expected.

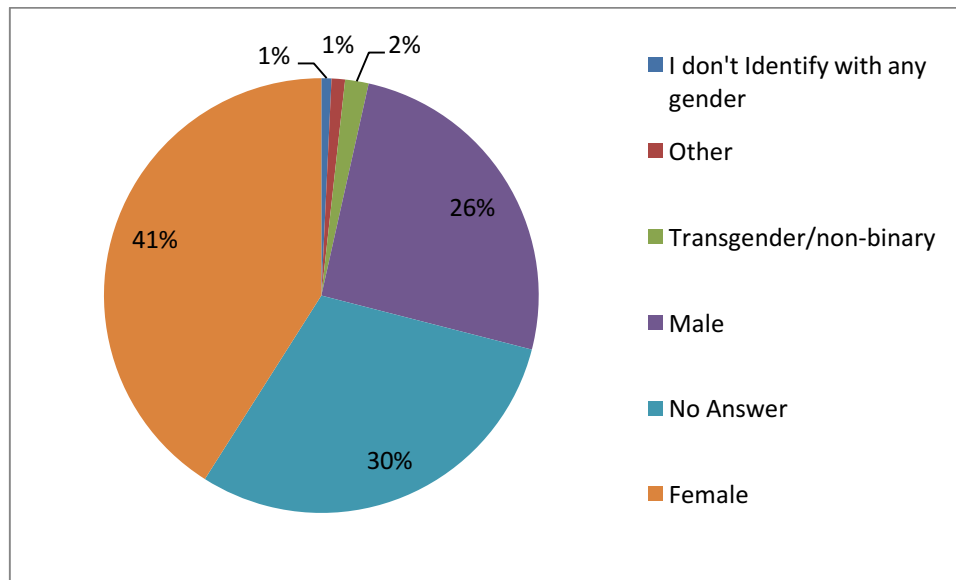
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<sup>26</sup> See Table I (Appendix)



## Gender

*Figure 15: Gender of Respondents*

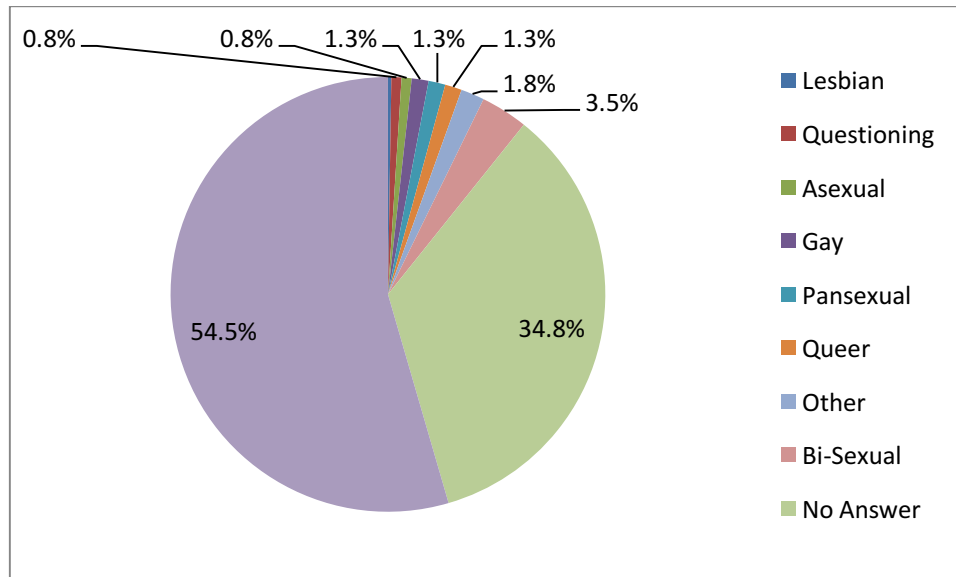


Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

Most of the respondents who responded to the gender question, identified as Female (41%). This was followed by Male (26%), Transgender/non-binary (2%), Other (1%), and Not Identifying with any Gender (1%). Due to the voluntary nature of this demographic question, many respondents (30%) chose not to answer the question regarding gender identity.

Similarly, there was a high non-response rate in regards to the sexual identity of respondents with 34.8% providing no answer. Nonetheless, of those respondents who responded, approximately 54.5% identified as being straight, with only 10.3% identifying as something other than straight.

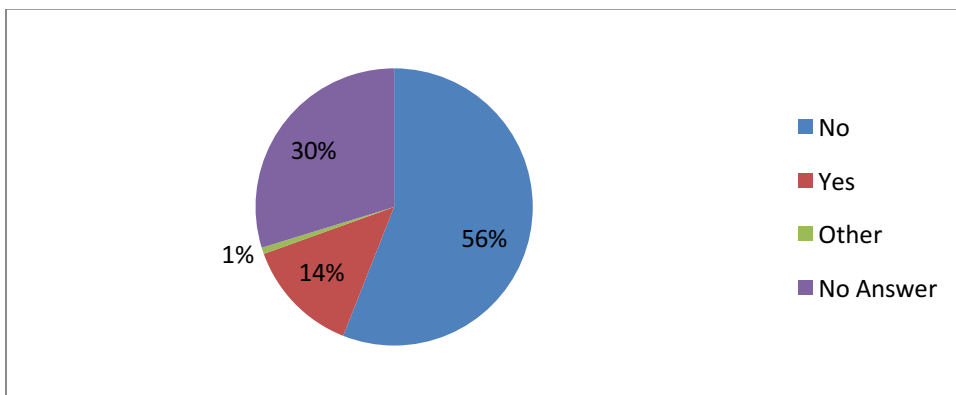
*Figure 16: Sexual Identity of Respondents*



Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

Most of the respondents identified as being straight. However, there was a 34.8% non-response rate for this question.

*Figure 17: Share of Respondents identifying as having a disability*



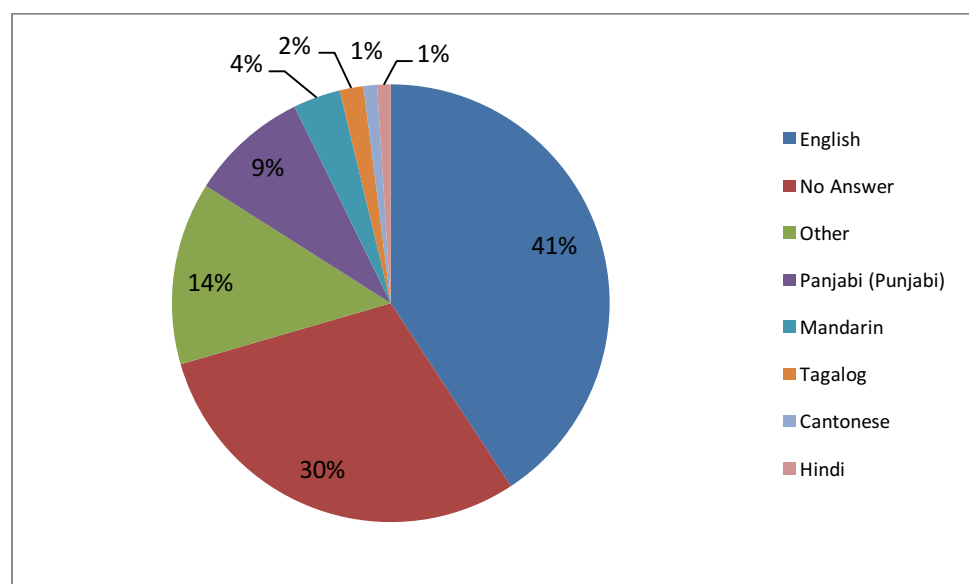
Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

When asked whether respondents identified as having a disability, 56% stated that they did not identify as having a disability. Disability in this case referred to any

developmental/learning, mobility, emotional/mental, seeing, hearing, pain, and other challenging conditions. Fourteen percent of respondents did identify as having a disability. Although there was a high non-response rate for this question (30%), the responses to this question do show that there was some representation of individuals with disabilities within the respondents.

## Languages

*Figure 18: Languages spoken at home*



Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

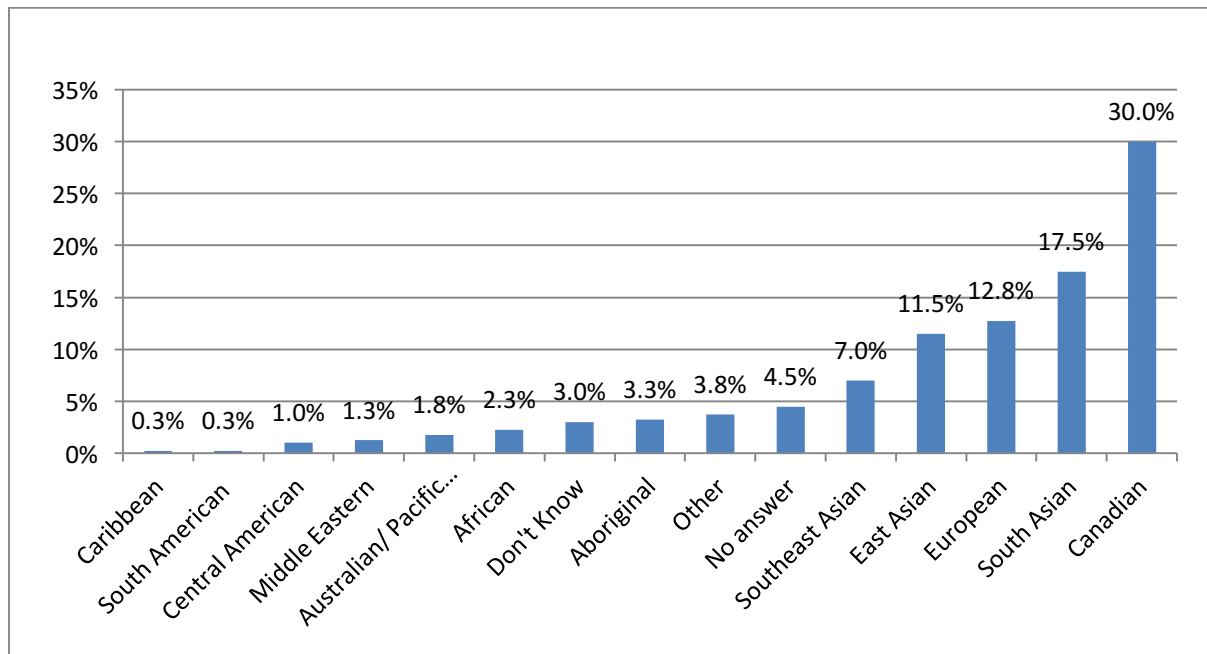
English was most often the language primarily spoken at home with 41 percent. Unfortunately, due to the voluntary nature of the survey, there was a relatively high non-response rate for this question in the Youth Vital Signs Survey with 30% of respondents providing no response. Other included respondents who spoke more than one language primarily within their household (e.g., English and Tagalog). Also similar to the NHS, Panjabi (Punjabi) was one of the more common languages spoken primarily at home with nine percent<sup>27</sup>.

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<sup>27</sup> See Table VI (Appendix)

## Ethnicity

Figure 19: Ethnicity of respondents

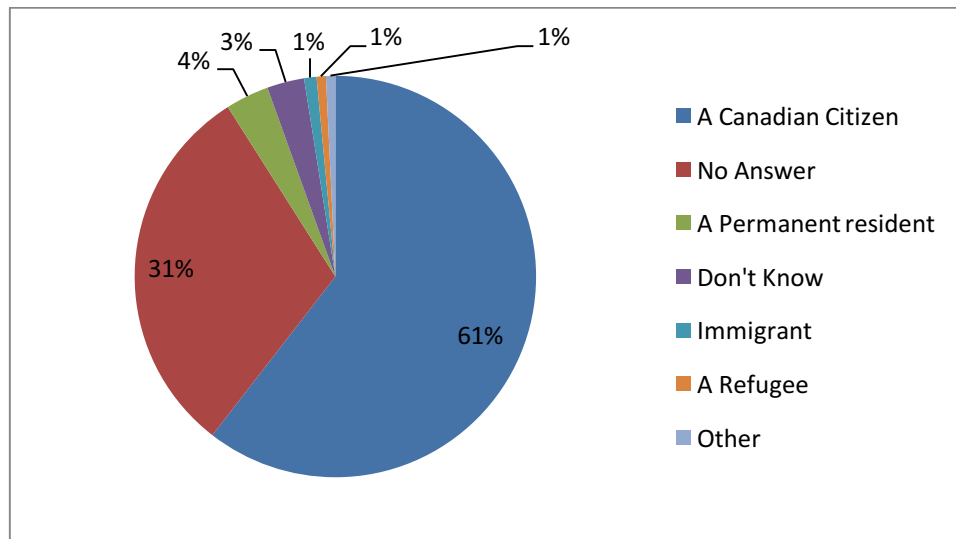


Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

Respondents were able to choose as many identities as they felt represented their ethnic heritage. Thirty percent of respondents identified as Canadian. Notably, 3.3% of respondents identified as being Aboriginal, which demonstrates that there was some representation of Aboriginal youth within the survey respondents.

## Immigration, Citizenship and residency

*Figure 20: Citizenship Status of Respondents*

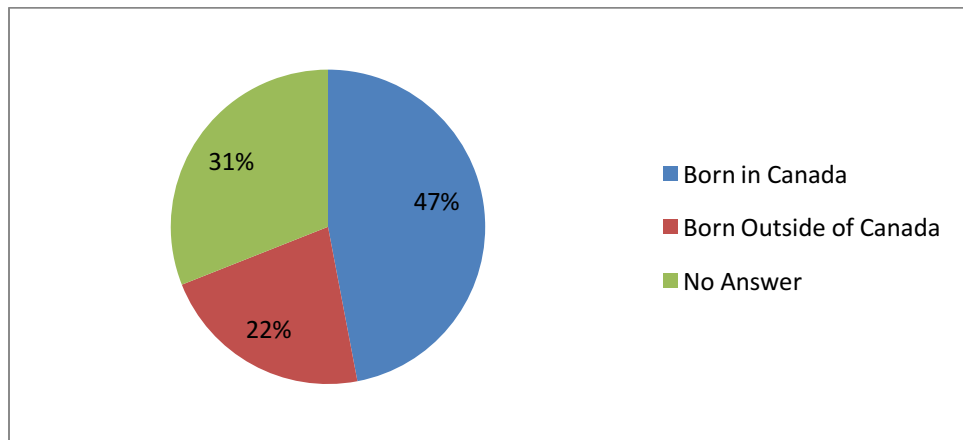


Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey

The majority (61%) of respondents identified as Canadian citizens, with 4% identifying as permanent residents, and 3% not knowing their Canadian residency status. There was a high non-response rate for this question with 31% not choosing to respond. Nonetheless, the results demonstrate that there was some diversity in the respondents' Canadian residency status.

## Born in Canada

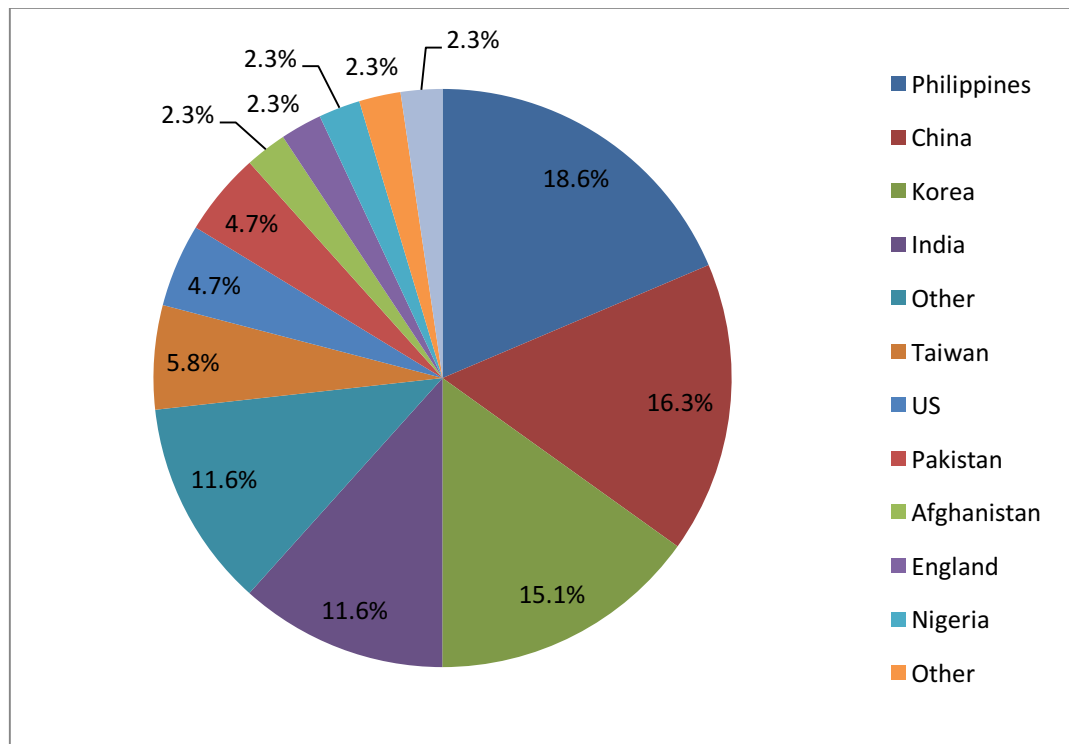
*Figure 21: Percent of Youth Vital Signs Respondents born in Canada*



Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

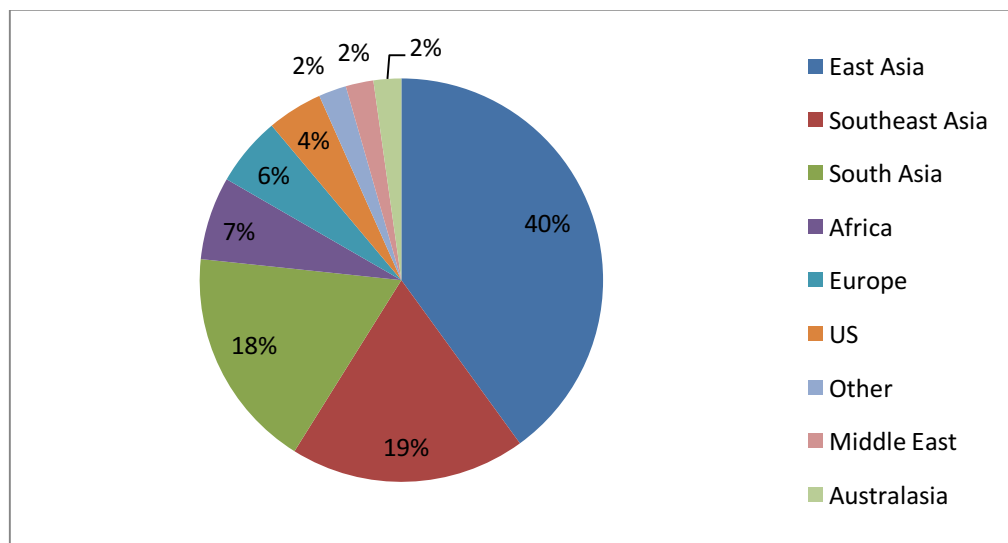
Of those respondents that answered, 47% were born in Canada, with 22% being born elsewhere. Of those respondents not born in Canada (see figure 22), most were born in the Philippines, followed by China (16.3%), Korea (15.1%), and India (11.6%).

Figure 22: Birth Countries of Respondents not born in Canada



Source: Youth Vital Signs, June 2015

Figure 23: Birth Regions of Respondents not born in Canada



Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

Forty percent of Youth Vital Signs respondents that reported being born outside of Canada were born in the East Asia region (i.e. China, Korea and Taiwan). This was followed by South East Asia region (19%) and South Asia region (18%).

## Source

City of Surrey Open Data. (2014). Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census. Retrieved from <http://data.Surrey.ca/dataset/2011-Surrey-Census/resource/beb1a88b-3eb8-43f6-a3c8-fea6ac735a84>



# Arts and Culture

The arts are an important part of a community, providing youth with the means to express themselves. This is particularly important given the variety of cultures that live in Surrey.

*“...As a member of many community orchestras and artistic organizations, I have seen firsthand the struggle that these organizations have for funding and the lack of support they receive from the city...”* – SurreyCares Vital Signs Youth Survey Respondent

## Festivals/Events

Surrey is host to many festival and cultural events and the numbers are increasing!

Surrey has a number of festivals throughout April to September, which include the Canada Day celebrations, the Surrey Fusion Festival, the Surrey Pride Festival, and Youth Fest. Surrey also plays host to a myriad of public markets such as the Surrey Night Market and the Surrey Urban farmers Market<sup>28</sup>.

## YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

**GRADE: 3.4 OR C (AVERAGE)\***

### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Festivals that celebrate diverse cultures and nationalities (31%)
- Surrey Public Library written art events and contest (25%)
- Public Art Classes (24%)

### TOP TOPICS TO IMPROVE

- Lower costs to attend events and activities (33%)
- Need more youth (aged 12-24) focused events (20%)
- More public entertainment in the parks, including youth entertainment (18%)

### FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

Overall, Surrey youth recognize that Surrey does have a many arts and culture events and programs that accentuate the diverse Surrey population, which is one of the reasons why they voted Arts and

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<sup>28</sup> Hello BC, Festival and Events; Tourism Surrey, Festivals and Events

*Table 6: Overall Festival Attendance 2015*

Festivals and Events	Attendance 2015
Cloverdale Rodeo	85,000
Surrey Fusion Fest	80,000
FVDED in the Park	26,000
Party for the Planet	15,000
Surrey Canada Day	Over 100,000

Sources: Cloverdale Rodeo Wrap Release; City of Surrey; Zytaruk, T., & Zillich, T, Surrey Mounties give FYDED in the Park a thumbs up; Griffin, K., Weekend Extra: Surrey City Arts and Culture.

Surrey is increasingly being recognized by organizers and well-known, big-name musicians as an ideal place for youth-centered cultural events, giving Surrey its own unique cultural identity separate from the rest of Metro Vancouver<sup>29</sup>. Music festivals such as the 2015 FVDED in the Park (a two-day electronic music festival in Surrey's Holland Park), the annual Winterfest, and Party for the Planet have all drawn major talent (such as Deadmau5, Mumford and Sons and many more) and huge crowds<sup>30</sup>, which is encouraging for the future of Surrey's youth arts and culture scene.

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<sup>29</sup> Surrey Now, Deadmau5 headlining electronic music fest at Surrey's Holland Park this summer

<sup>30</sup> Lucas, John; FVDED in the Park gives us cause to reconsider Surrey

## Participation in Youth Events

In addition, Surrey youth participation in events sponsored by the city have increased from 5,930 in 2009 to 9,238 in 2013. However, the composition of youth participation in Surrey youth events has changed since 2009. For example, youth participation in art performances has decreased considerably since 2009, going from representing 10% of participation in youth-centred events to representing only .2% of youth participation in 2013.

### YOUTH VITAL SIGNS

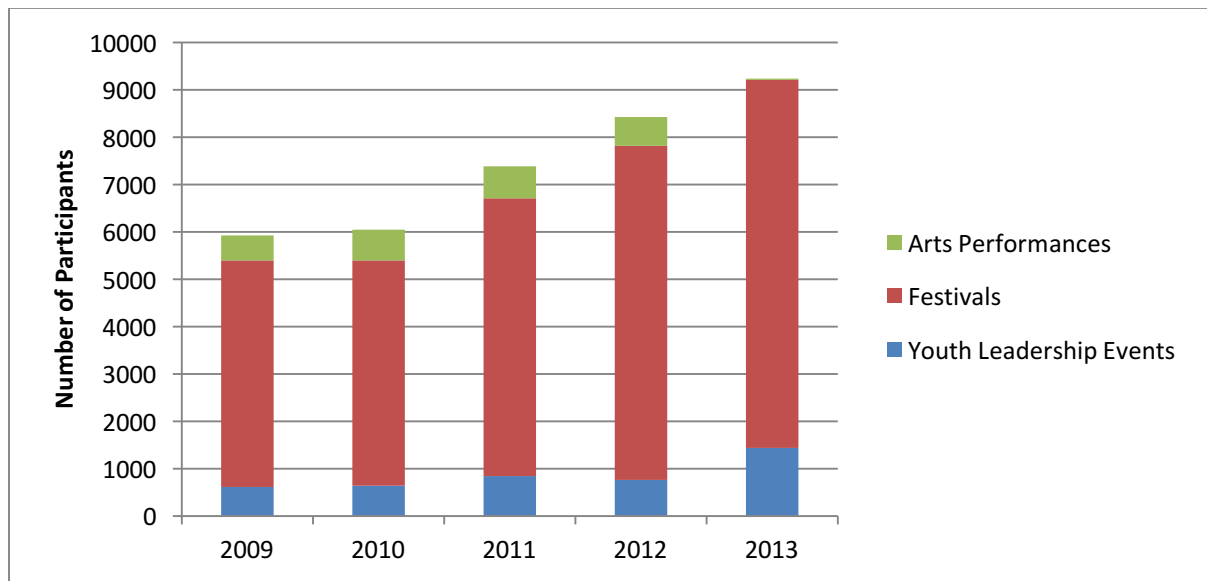
Many of the Youth Vital Signs respondents asked for more performing arts centers, as well as decrying the lack of support available for youth arts programs. This decrease in participation in arts performances, in combination with the suggestions from the Youth Vital Signs respondents, indicates that there is a need for greater promotion of and support for these types of events and programs by the City of Surrey and by other youth organisations within the Surrey community.

### YOUTH VITAL SIGNS RESPONDENTS LOVE OUR LIBRARIES

The Surrey Public Library was highly regarded by Youth Vital Signs respondents, identifying the many ways in which the various locations of the Surrey Public Library benefit their communities.

Youth Vital Signs respondents recognize many of the cultural and art benefits provided by Surrey Public Libraries, such as the written art events and contests.

Figure 24: Participation in Surrey Youth events<sup>31</sup>



Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Youth-Centred Events

## Surrey's Libraries have lots of programs for young adults

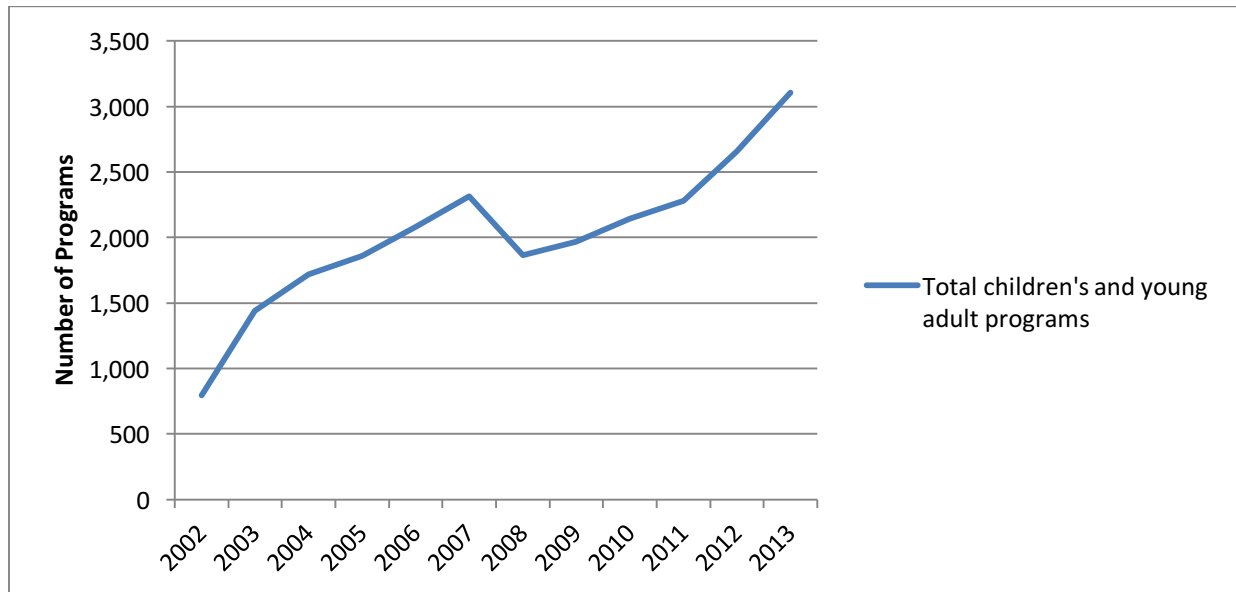
Currently, the Surrey Public Library has 9 locations: City Centre, Cloverdale, Port Kells, Fleetwood, Newton, Guildford, Ocean Park, Semiahmoo, and Strawberry Hill.

In 2013, Surrey Public Library provided 3,105 children and young adult programs across the various locations in Surrey. This marked a 291% increase in programs provided for youth.

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<sup>31</sup> See table XLII (Appendix)

Figure 25: Total Children and young adult programs at Surrey Public Libraries<sup>32</sup>



Source: BC Data, BC Public Libraries Open Statistics

## The number of arts and culture groups is increasing

Table 7: Number of Arts and Culture Groups registered with Surrey Arts Council

Year	Number of Arts and Culture Groups
2010	38
2011	55
2012	68
2013	71
2014	85

<sup>32</sup> See table XXLIII (Appendix)

Since 2010, the number of arts and culture groups in Surrey has more than doubled. Arts and Culture groups provide cultural services such as hosting community events that provide Surrey Residents with the opportunity to showcase their talents, learn about other cultures and values and most importantly express themselves. Most importantly, the number of arts and culture groups provides a quantifiable measure for the opportunities that Surrey youth and other Surrey residents have to participate in cultural activities and services.

### **SURREY STILL HAS ROOM TO IMPROVE: YOUTH VITAL SIGNS FEEDBACK**

Nonetheless, Youth Vital Signs respondents do recognize some areas in which Surrey could improve to further promote and support youth arts and culture. Firstly, youth recognize the need for organizers of events and programs to lower the cost to attend events and activities. Furthermore, 25% of the Youth Vital Signs respondents felt that there needed to be more events in Surrey that focused primarily on youth aged 12 to 24. It is important to include not only events for younger teens but also youth aged 17-24 that may desire different types of programs and events.

One thing that was apparent after conducting the survey was that although Surrey does host several youth events, many youth were not fully aware of all the programs and events that were available to them. For example, one of the youth respondents noted that they had no idea Surrey Youth Week existed (May 1-9). More advertisement and promotion of these types of events may be necessary, particularly using the latest social media options familiar to youth. Finally, youth respondents wanted more public entertainment in the parks, including events in the park that are targeted specifically towards youth.

## **Opportunities for Further Research**

1. Is there a need for greater funding for youth arts and culture events?
2. How can youth entertainment in Surrey be increased?
3. How can youth focused events in Surrey be better promoted to reach a larger audience of youth?
4. Are there enough safe and affordable events for older youth (aged 15 to 24)?  
How can youth be included in the creation of such events?

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Surrey Now. (2015, March 18). Deadmau5 headlining electronic music fest at Surrey's Holland Park this summer. *Surrey Now*

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Zytaruk, T., & Zillich, T. (2015, July 6). Surrey Mounties give FVDED in the Park a thumbs up. *The Now Newspaper*

# Culture, Identity, and Belonging

*“More language learning opportunities should be held in schools.”* – SurreyCares Vital Signs Youth Survey Respondent

## Surrey celebrates its diversity

Surrey is a city with a diverse youth population with various ethnicities, cultures, sexual and gender identities and therefore it is important that Surrey communities promote the acceptance of all youth regardless of their differences.

Surrey does seem to have something to celebrate as data from the Surrey School District demonstrates that the majority of students in Grades 7, 10 and 12 reported respecting people who they saw as different from them. The proportion of youth that respect people that are different from them has been increasing since 2003.

## YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

**GRADE: 3.4 OR C (AVERAGE)**

### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Local events and festivals promoting cultural awareness (31%)
- Community organisations that are connected and care about the people they support (21%)
- Many organisations that support various communities in Surrey (e.g. LGBTQ, youth newcomers to Canada, etc) (18%)

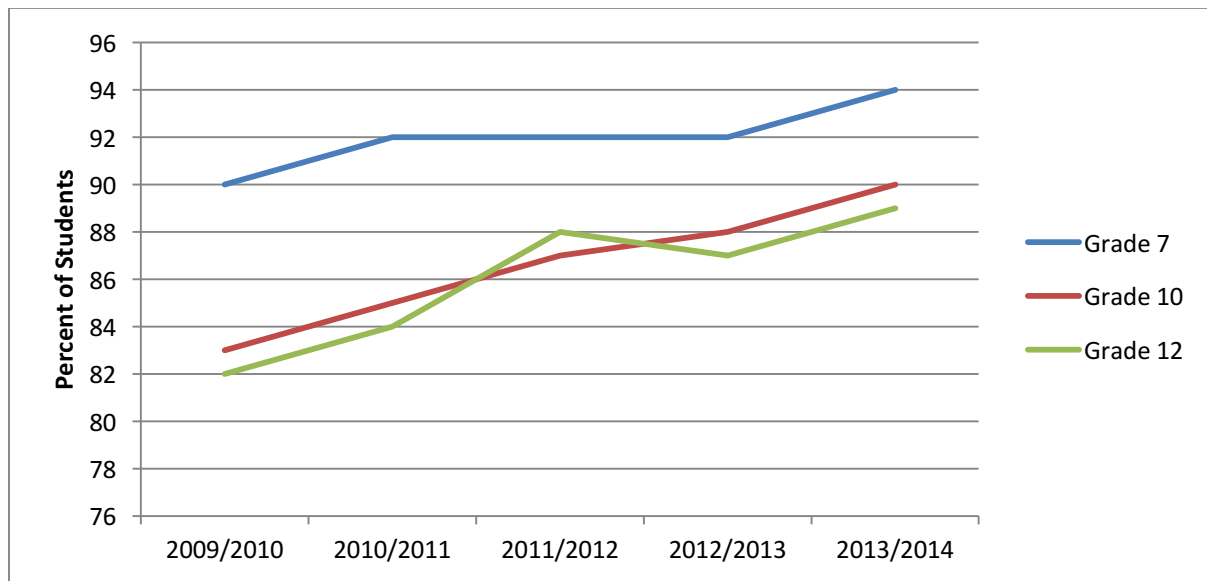
### TOP ISSUES TO IMPROVE

- Increase opportunities to build tolerance and understanding between cultural groups (28%)
- Educate communities about the issues facing youth (e.g., LGBTQ, youth newcomers to Canada, etc) (27%)
- Reduce barriers faced by youth with disabilities (22%)

1=See Figures XXV and XXVI



Figure 26: Proportion of Surrey students who respect people who are different from them



Source: Ministry of Education, Surrey School District Statistics provided

Nonetheless, data from the AHS shows that some South Fraser youth do still experience discrimination. In fact, South Fraser youth reported being discriminated against because of their physical appearance (24% female, 14% male), their age (11% female, 6% male), being seen as different (15% female, 10% male) and their gender/sex (10% female, 2% male)<sup>33</sup>. This demonstrates that efforts to encourage tolerance and understanding within the schools and the community are still necessary to reduce youth experiences of discrimination.

## There needs to be more education about Aboriginal culture and history in Schools and in the Community

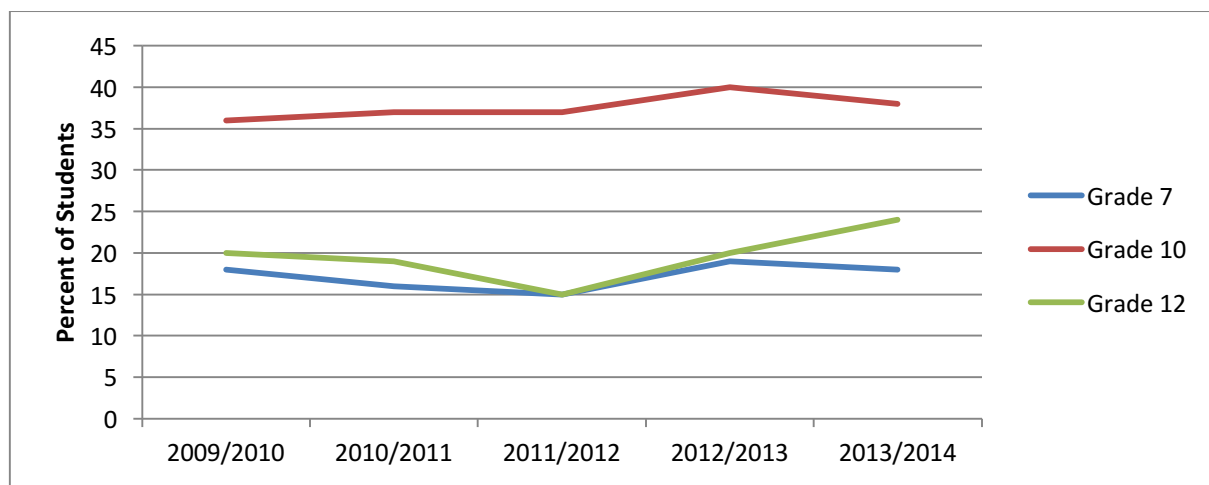
According to data from the Surrey School District, the majority of youth are not being taught about Aboriginal peoples through school curriculum with only 24% of Grade 12s reporting being taught about Aboriginal peoples. This is troubling since 2%<sup>34</sup> of the City of Surrey's population is Aboriginal and in 2012 there were 3,240 Aboriginal students enrolled in k-12 (more than in Vancouver).<sup>35</sup>

<sup>33</sup> McCreary Centre, Results for the 2013 Adolescent Health Survey

<sup>34</sup> NHS 2011 Community Profile

<sup>35</sup> City of Surrey, A Profile of Surrey Youth 2012

Figure 27: the proportion of youth who report being taught about Aboriginal peoples



Source: Ministry of Education, Surrey School District Statistics provided

A new BC school curriculum will take a larger focus on Aboriginal history and culture and the many discriminatory policies that have been implemented against Aboriginal people in BC in the past<sup>36</sup>.

### The City of Surrey does provide events to promote Cultural learning and tolerance

In addition, the number of arts and cultural events seem to be increasing. For example, the number of cultural celebrations at city hall increased from 12 in 2009 to 20 in 2013. However, it would be difficult to assess whether these celebrations are a practical way of all community members experiencing the richness of their community divergence and debunking the cultural stereotypes that lead to discrimination and prejudice.

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<sup>36</sup> <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/british-columbia/new-bc-school-curriculum-will-have-Aboriginal-focus/article25003962/>

*Table 8: Cultural Celebrations at City Hall*

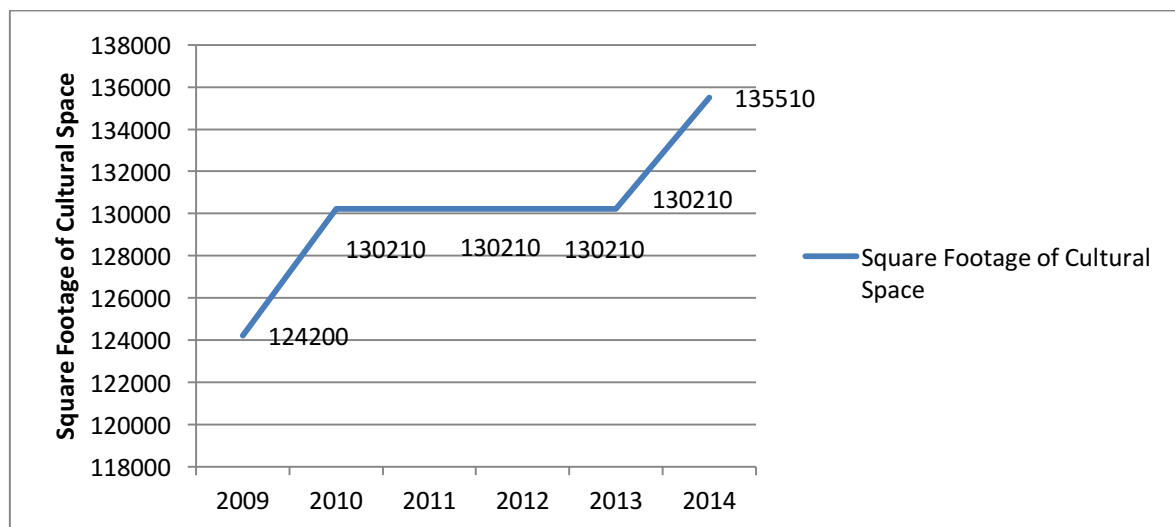
Year	Number of Cultural Celebrations at City Hall
2009	12
2010	16
2011	14
2012	20
2013	20

Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Cultural Celebrations at City Hall

## Cultural Space

Having space for individuals to express their art, identity, and shared values and goals is an extremely important part of fostering community. Culture space provided by the City of Surrey has increased by 9% since 2009. Cultural space provide Surrey residents with opportunities to learn about the cultural and ecological heritages within their community<sup>37</sup>

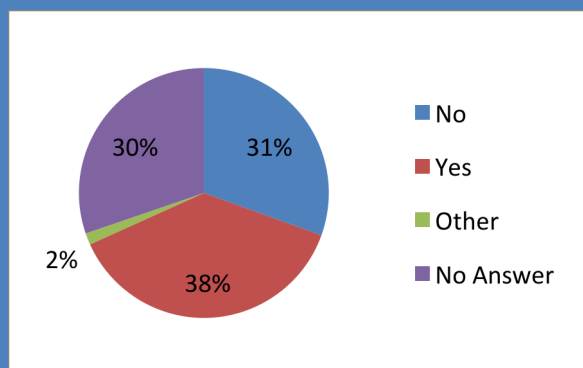
*Figure 28: Cultural Space provided by the City of Surrey*



<sup>37</sup> City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Cultural Spaces Provided by the City

At the time of completing the survey, thirty-eight% of respondents were involved in some form of volunteering. A third of respondents were not volunteering at the time of the survey completion.

*Figure 9: Share of Respondents Volunteering*



Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

## Many youths over the age of 15 volunteer in Surrey

The rate of volunteering within a Community can be a good determinant of civic involvement. The National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating found that approximately 45% of Surrey residents over the age of 15 were volunteering in 2010, which was below both the provincial and national rate. Nonetheless, the volunteer rate did increase from 2007 to 2010 by 4.7 percent; which demonstrates that Surrey residents are becoming more involved in their community.

*Table 9: Volunteer Rate for Surrey Residents over the age of 15*

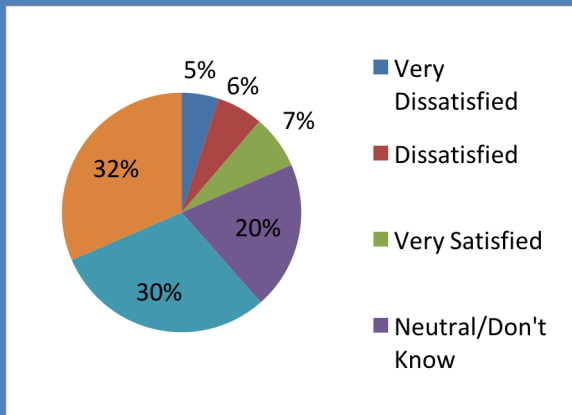
Area	2007	2010	Per Cent Change 2007-2010
Surrey	42.6	44.6	4.7
BC	46.6	49.8	6.9
Canada	46.1	47	2

Source: Statistics Canada; National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating, 2007 and 2010

## YOUTH VITAL SIGNS RESPONDENT'S SATISFACTION WITH LIFE IN SURREY

Of those who responded (32% non-response rate), most respondents (30%) were satisfied living in Surrey. Twenty percent reported being neutral or not knowing whether they were satisfied with living in Surrey or not. Figure ... demonstrates that this is true across all of the age groups within the survey. Only 6% of respondents that answered responded that they were dissatisfied with living in Surrey.

*Figure 29: Satisfaction living in Surrey*



Source: Youth Vital Signs, June 2015

## Satisfaction with Living in Surrey

The majority of South Fraser youth aged 12 to 19 and 20 to 34 reported being satisfied or very satisfied with their life. The percentage of South Fraser youth who were satisfied or very satisfied with their life remained relatively stable from 2003 to 2014.

*Table 10: Perceived Life Satisfaction, satisfied or very satisfied, by age (South Fraser Region)  
(%)*

Age	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>12 to 19 years</b>	95.3	92.4	97.5	98.5	89.2	97.4	92.8	98.7	97.8	93.6
<b>20 to 34 years</b>	91.2	91.1	88.3	88.7	88.5	91.9	95.7	92.9	97.2	93.1

Source: Statistics Canada. Health indicator profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

In addition, the percentage of South Fraser youth who were satisfied or very satisfied with their life has been relatively similar to both their national and provincial counterparts.

*Table 11: Perceived Life Satisfaction, satisfied or very satisfied, by Region (12 to 19)*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>South Fraser</b>	95.3	92.4	97.5	98.5	89.2	97.4	92.8	98.7	97.8	93.6
<b>BC</b>	94	93.4	95.2	94.9	95.4	97.1	95.8	95.8	96.9	95.8
<b>Canada</b>	94.1	94	95.2	94.4	96.3	96.9	96.9	96.6	96.3	97.4

Source: Statistics Canada. Health indicator profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

Table 12: Perceived Life Satisfaction, satisfied or very satisfied, by region (20-34)

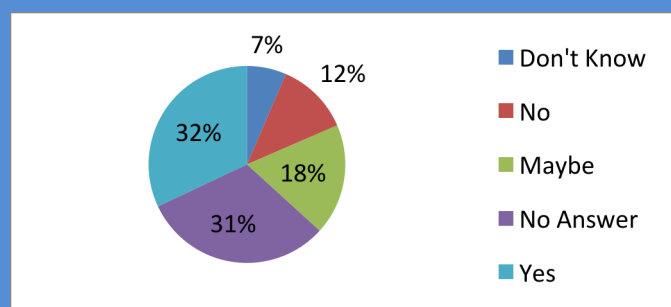
Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
South Fraser	91.2	91.1	88.3	88.7	88.5	91.9	95.7	92.9	97.2	93.1
BC	91.2	90.7	92.3	91.8	93.5	93.9	93.5	92.7	95.8	93.1
Canada	91	92	92.2	92.1	94.5	94.3	94.7	94.6	94.7	94.5

Source: Statistics Canada. Health indicator profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

## YOUTH VITAL SIGNS RESPONDENTS WANT TO STAY IN SURREY

This relatively high life satisfaction in Surrey may explain why most of the Youth Vital Signs respondents are planning on (32%) or might be planning (18%) on staying in Surrey for the next 5 years (see figure 72)

Figure 72: Living in Surrey in the next 5 years

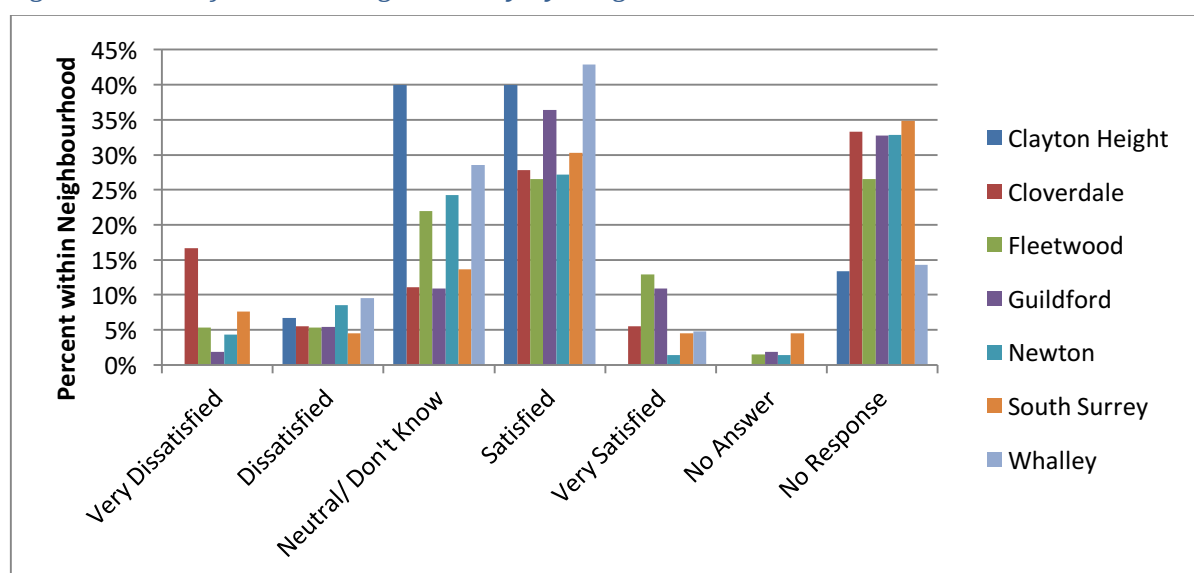


Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey, June 2015

## Satisfaction living in Surrey may depend on age and neighbourhood

Although most Youth Vital Signs respondents were satisfied with living in Surrey, life satisfaction was found to vary based on neighbourhood and age. For example, Youth in Fleetwood and Guildford were more likely than any other neighbourhood in Surrey to be 'very satisfied' living in Surrey. Youth in Cloverdale were much more likely to be 'very dissatisfied' living in Surrey.

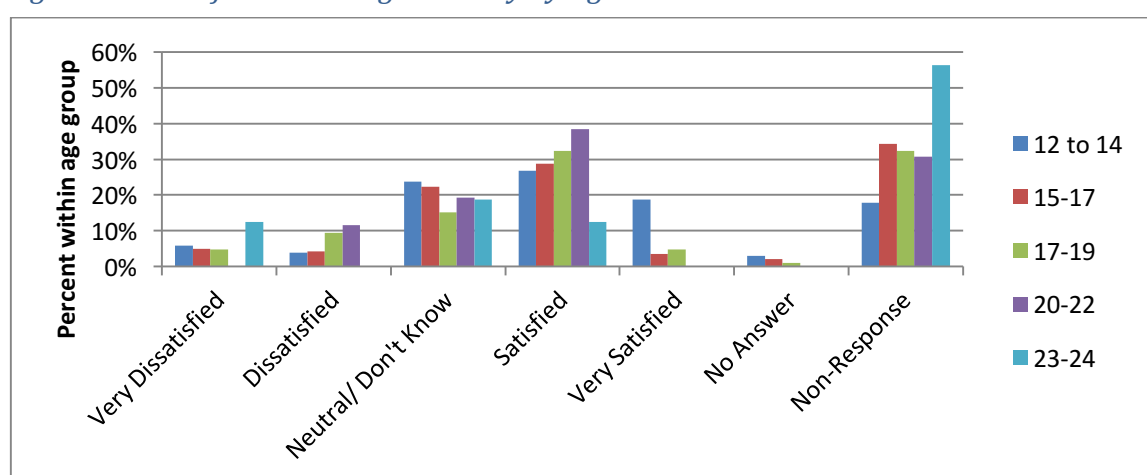
Figure 29: Satisfaction Living in Surrey by Neighbourhood



Source: Youth Vital Signs, June 2015

Furthermore, Figure 74 demonstrates that Youth Vital Signs respondents age 12 to 14 were more likely than all other age groups to be 'very satisfied' living in Surrey. On the other hand, Youth Vital Signs respondents aged 23 to 24 were much more likely to be 'very dissatisfied' living in Surrey. No Youth Vital Signs respondents aged 20 to 24 reported being very satisfied living in Surrey. This may demonstrate the difficulties many youths aged 20 to 24 face while transitioning into adulthood.

Figure 30: Satisfaction Living in Surrey by Age



Source:

Youth Vital Signs, June 2015



## Opportunities for Further Research

1. What is the extent of discrimination faced by youth in Surrey and how does discrimination impact sense of belonging?
2. Why does life satisfaction vary by age and Neighbourhood? What kinds of programs and services could help increase life satisfaction for youth in the “less satisfied” neighbourhoods?
3. Further data on experiences of LGBTQ youth and youth newcomers to Canada experiences living in Surrey would be useful for future research.

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# Education and Learning

An important part of the opportunity structure for youth in Surrey is their success in education as a vehicle for social mobility.

*“[More] support for both physically and mentally unstable students to gain the support they need to maintain proper grades. Their disability should not get in the way of them receiving a high school diploma”* – SurreyCares Vital Signs Youth Survey Respondent

## Elementary and Secondary Education in Surrey

The Surrey School District, No.36, is the largest school district in BC, containing 125 elementary schools and secondary schools and providing education for approximately 71,974<sup>38</sup> (38,780 elementary, 31,317 secondary, and 1877 adult) students across Surrey.

### YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

**GRADE: 3.4 OR C (AVERAGE)**

#### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Lots of online learning options (22%)
- Public library provides programs for informal learning (20%)
- All levels of education are provided locally (18%)

#### TOP ISSUES TO IMPROVE

- More funding for post-secondary education (31%)
- Smaller class sizes (25%)
- Greater emphasis on life-skills training in school (23%)

1=See Figures XV and XVI

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<sup>38</sup> BC Ministry of Education, District reports: Surrey (36)

## Changing Class Composition

*Table 13: School District Student Composition Surrey School Districts*

Students	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Male	51.0	51.6	51.0	51.0	51.3
Female	49.0	48.4	49.0	49.0	48.7
Aboriginal	5.3	5.3	5.1	4.9	4.8
ELL	20.8	22.1	21.1	21.5	22.6
French Immersions	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.7
Non-Residents	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.2

Source: BC Ministry of Education

The percentage of male and female students within the Surrey School District has remained relatively consistent since 2010/11. There have been some changes in the overall student composition of the Surrey School District.

For example, the proportion of English Language Learners (ELL), French Immersion students, and non-residents has all increased since 2010/11. On the other hand, the proportion of Surrey School District students that identify as Aboriginal has decreased

### **SURREY YOUTH ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT THEIR EDUCATION**

From the results of this survey, it would seem that youth in Surrey are very passionate about their education, which is why it was chosen as both one of the top things to celebrate and one of the top things that needs to improve.

Surrey is fortunate to have all levels of education available locally, and Youth Vital Signs respondents agreed that this was a significant community attribute. At the same time, many of the youth respondents were frustrated with the overcrowding in the K-12 system, the lack of financial support for post-secondary education and the lack of linkage between what is being learned in school and what is needed in the job market.

since 2010/11. Based on this data it is not possible to identify why the proportion of students identifying as Aboriginal has decreased; however, this could be fodder for future research.

## Youth want more life skills training

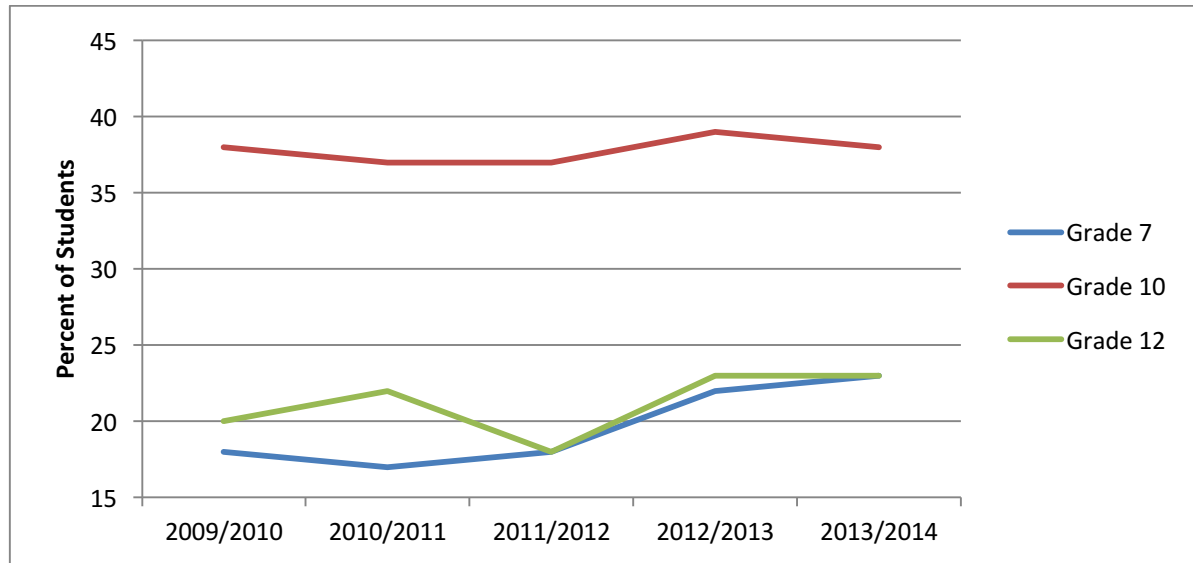
According to data from the Ministry of Education's satisfaction survey, in 2013/14, only 23% of students in grade 12 had learned about spending and saving in school, which is the same percentage as Grade 7 students. Thirty-eight percent of students in Grade 10 had received this type of life skills training. Financial education is one part of the types of life skills training that students want, which includes more information about how to do taxes, how to buy a house, how to apply for university, what courses should they take. These are important skills that may be difficult for some youth to learn on their own.

### **YOUTH WANT TO BE PREPARED FOR ADULthood**

One of the most common comments both within the education section of the survey and the transitions section was that youth felt that they had not received enough life-skills training in elementary and secondary school. This is supported by data from the Ministry of Education.

Youth in the Youth Vital Signs Survey also wanted a broader variety of opportunities to hear about various careers. Many respondents felt that certain employment options were not as well advertised as other employment options. For example, one respondent felt that there was a lack of discussion regarding professional occupations such as medicine and law, and the processes that are required for achieving these kinds of educational and occupational goals.

Figure 51: Percent of Students who had learned about spending in saving in school<sup>39</sup>



Source: Ministry of Education; Surrey School District Statistics Provided

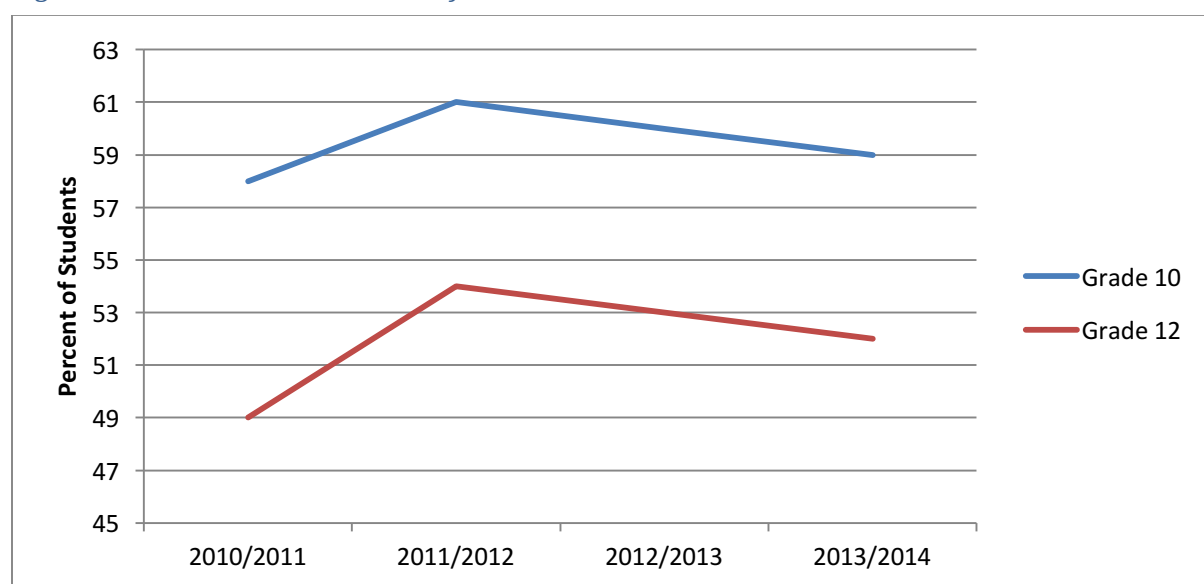
### Youth want more Advanced Placement opportunities

According to data from the Surrey School District, only 52% of students were satisfied with the courses they had available to them, which should pose a challenge to the education system to look at a more comprehensive set of offerings. Perhaps more offerings could be provided by co-operating with other School Districts in on-line course development.

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<sup>39</sup> See table XXXIX (Appendix)

Figure 31: Students who are satisfied with Courses Available<sup>40</sup>



Sources: Ministry of Education; Surrey School District Statistics

### More youth are completing high school

According to data from the Ministry of education, there has been an increase in six-year completion rates (percentage of students that graduate within six years of starting grade 8) for all students in Surrey from 2009 to 2014. There is some disparity in six-year completion rates amongst students of different genders. For example, female students are more likely than male students to graduate within six years.

Table 14: Six-year completion rates for Surrey School District

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<b>All Students</b>	82.10%	83.40%	83.90%	86.10%	88.80%
<b>Female</b>	85.60%	86.20%	85.80%	88.80%	91.40%
<b>Male</b>	78.90%	80.80%	82.10%	83.60%	86.40%
<b>Aboriginal</b>	51.80%	54.40%	52.10%	48.20%	61.00%
<b>ELL</b>	84.70%	88.90%	87.60%	90.10%	92.60%
<b>Special Needs</b>	49.10%	51.30%	50.60%	59.20%	60.60%

Source: Ministry of Education; Surrey School District Statistics provided

<sup>40</sup> See table XL (Appendix)

## English Language Learners are doing really well

In the 2013/14 school year, English-language learners (ELL) had the highest completion rates when compared to the entire student population. This is important because the proportion of ELL students in the Surrey School District has increased in both Elementary and Secondary schools since 2010/11 and it is encouraging to see that these students are succeeding within the Surrey School District.

*Table 15: Proportion of ELL Students in Elementary and Secondary Schools*

	English Language Learners in Surrey Schools (%)				
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
<b>Elementary</b>	34.0	34.8	34.2	34.4	35.1
<b>Secondary</b>	20.8	22.1	21.1	21.5	22.6

Source: BC Ministry of Education

## More Aboriginal and Special Needs Students are graduating high school

In comparison to years' past, Aboriginal and Special Needs six-year completion rates have increased. For instance, Aboriginal and Special Needs completion rates have increased by 17% and 20% respectively since 2011/12. However, Table 19 (see above, page 53) demonstrates that both Aboriginal students and students with special needs still have relatively low six-year completion rates. For example, in the 2013/14 school year only 61% of Aboriginal students completed high school within six years of starting. Special Needs students' six-year completion rate was also 61% in 2013/2014. This data demonstrates that greater support is needed for both Aboriginal students and students with special needs to increase the six-year completion rates so that they are equivalent to that of other students within the Surrey School District.

This is especially true for Special Needs students, whose representation within the Surrey School District population has increased since 2010/11, as can be seen in Table 21. Having more Special Needs students within the Surrey School District means that there needs to be an increase in the supports available for these youth who may face significant barriers to education.

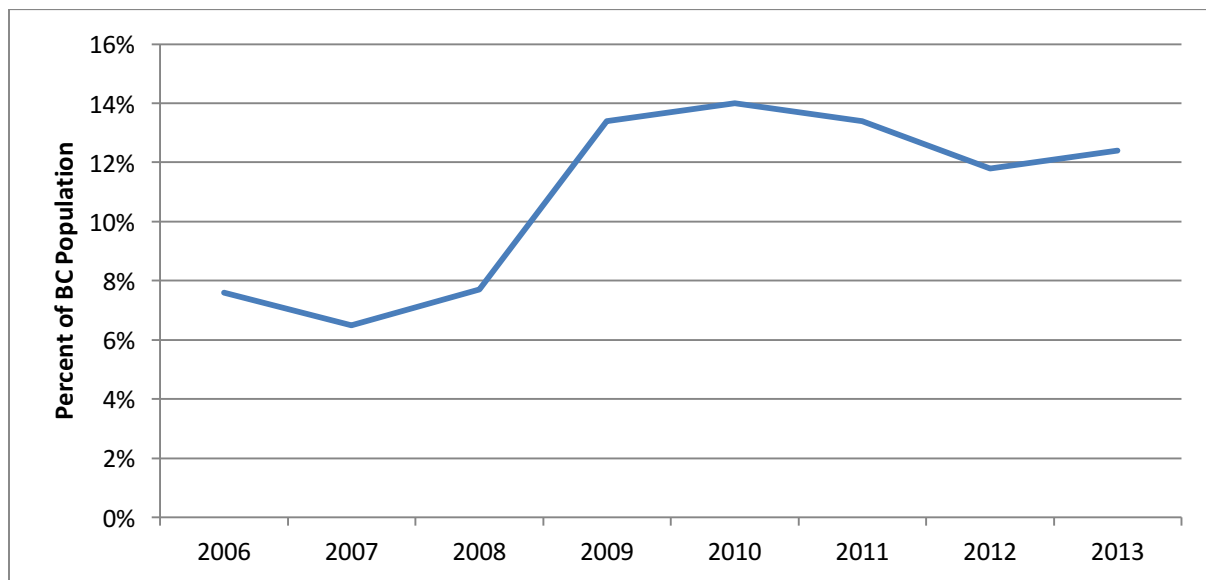
*Table 16: Surrey School District Special Needs composition*

<b>Disability</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>
<b>Visual Impairment</b>	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>Deaf or Hard of Hearing</b>	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>Learning Disability</b>	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
<b>Behaviour Disabilities</b>	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.0
<b>Gifted</b>	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8
<b>Physically Dependent</b>	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>Deaf-blind</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Moderate to Profound intellectual Disability</b>	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
<b>Physical Disability/Chronic Health Impairment</b>	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4
<b>Autism Spectrum Disorder</b>	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.2
<b>Mild intellectual Disability</b>	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4

Source: BC Ministry of Education

Similarly, although overall the proportion of youth 18 to 29 who have a high school education or less has increased since 2006; there has been a slight downward trend of youth 18 to 29 who have a high school education or less since 2010.

*Figure 32: B.C. Population with high school credentials or less, age 18 to 29 years<sup>41</sup>*



Source: BC Statistics, Population with high school credentials or less, age 18 to 29 years

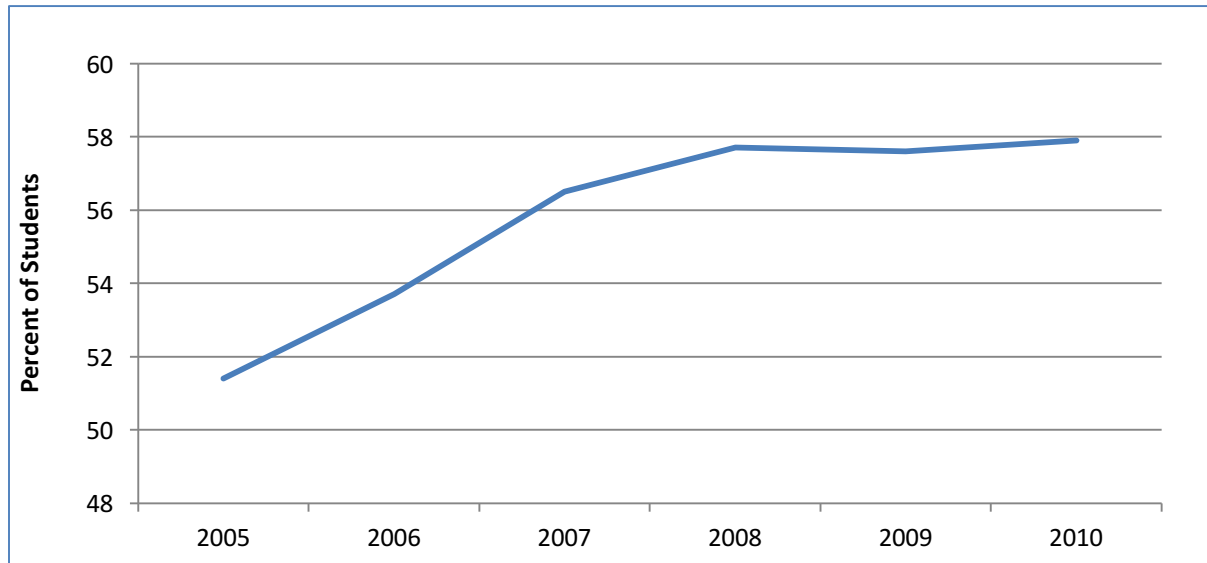
<sup>41</sup> See table XLI (Appendix)



## Post-secondary Education in Surrey

More youth are transitioning into post-secondary

*Figure 33: Percent of Youth Transitioning into Post-Secondary (2005-2010)<sup>42</sup>*



Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Transition to Post-Secondary

The majority of youth graduating from high school were successful in transitioning to post-secondary education. Figure 54 demonstrates that there was a 12.6% increase in the transition to post-secondary from 2005 to 2010. Youth in Surrey are not necessarily continuing their education in Surrey and therefore figure 54 provides a more general representation of how Surrey is doing in regards to helping youth move on to post-secondary.

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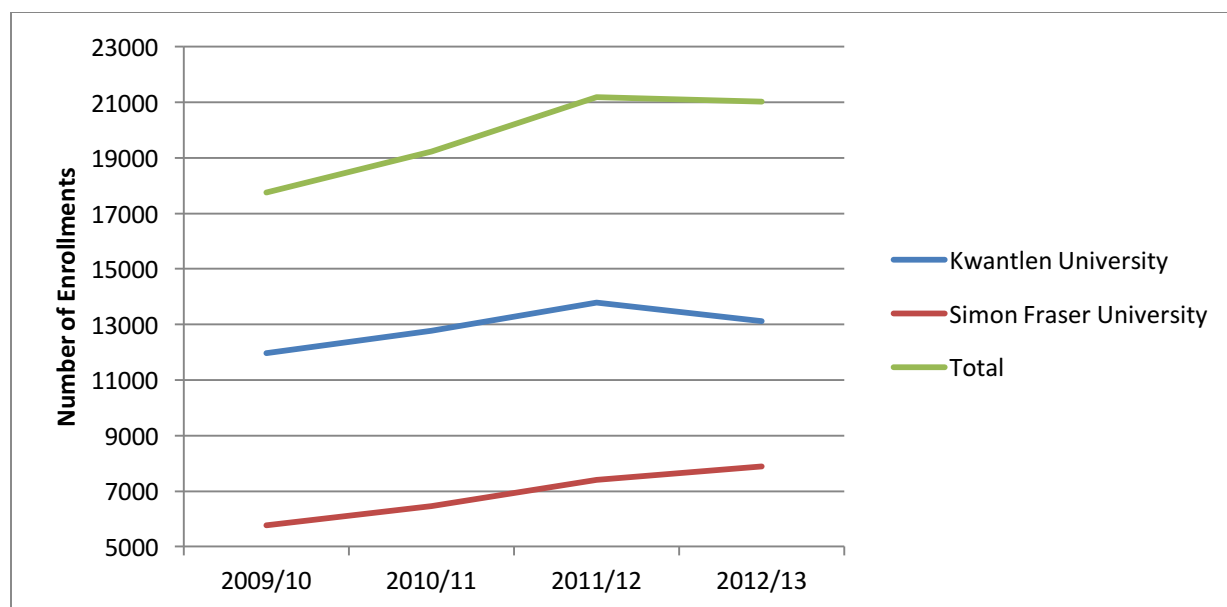
<sup>42</sup> See table XLII (Appendix)

## Enrollment in local post-secondary schools is increasing

On a more local level, enrolment in the two universities in Surrey, Simon Fraser University (SFU) Surrey and Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU), is increasing

Figure 55 demonstrates the enrollment in SFU Surrey and KPU from 2009-2013 by Surrey students. Although, there has been an overall increase in enrollment at both universities since 2009; however, there was a slight decline in enrollment at KPU from 2011/12 to 2012/13.

*Figure 34: Local post-secondary enrollment (2009-2013)<sup>43</sup>*



Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Post-Secondary Enrolment

Although local post-secondary enrolment may be increasing, Surrey youth aged 18 to 24 have less access to post-secondary education than their counterparts in the rest of BC. According to a 2014 report by the Surrey Board of Trade (“Can the Future Learn in Surrey and in the South Fraser”), there are only 12.7 post-secondary spaces available for every hundred 18-24 year olds in the South Fraser Region. The rest of BC has 48.7 spaces for every hundred 18 to 24 year olds<sup>44</sup>. This is an important issue since,

<sup>43</sup> See table XLIII (Appendix)

<sup>44</sup> Surrey Board of Trade; Can the future learn in Surrey and in the South Fraser?

according to the BC 2022 Labour Market Outlook, 78% of the 985.100 projected job openings in 2022 will require at least a college diploma or trade certificate<sup>45</sup>.

## BC Apprenticeship Students are satisfied with their education

A strong majority of BC Apprenticeship students across different programs that responded to the B.C. Apprenticeship Student Outcomes Survey reported being very satisfied/satisfied with their education. Similarly, a strong majority felt that the knowledge and/or skills that they had gained in this program had been very or somewhat useful in their employment. The self-reported unemployment rates for BC apprenticeship programs were relatively low; however, precision production and personal and culinary services tended to have the highest level of self-reported unemployment, whereas mechanic and repair technologies had the lowest level of self-reported unemployment.

*Table 17: Results of the B.C. Apprenticeship Student Outcomes Survey\**

<b>Program Area</b>	<b>Very Satisfied or Satisfied with Education</b>	<b>Knowledge and Skills Gained Very Useful or Somewhat Useful in Performing Job</b>	<b>Unemployment Rate</b>
<b>Construction Trades</b>	96%	95%	9%
<b>Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians</b>	93%	96%	3%
<b>Personal and Culinary Services</b>	93%	91%	12%
<b>Precision Production</b>	96%	90%	13%

Source: BC Data; Apprenticeship Students by Program

*\*Aggregate of 2011, 2012, and 2013 results*

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<sup>45</sup> WorkBC, British Columbia 2022 Labour Market Outlook

## Tuition at local universities is increasing

For Canadian students, tuition at the local universities has indeed been on the rise. That being said, KPU's tuition is lower than the provincial average (\$5029) in 2013/2014 and both SFU Surrey's and KPU's tuition were below the national (\$5772) average in 2013/14<sup>46</sup>. According to a report by the Research Universities' Council of British Columbia, BC's average tuition remains to be the fourth lowest in Canada, which is apparent when looking at tuition at schools in Ontario, such as the University of Toronto, where tuition is 6,010-10,460 for a full-time undergraduate<sup>47</sup>.

*Table 18: Cost of Tuition (SFU and KPU) 2013-2015*

	2013-2014		2014-2015	
	Canadian Students	International Students	Canadian Students	International Students
<b>Simon Fraser University</b>	\$5115	\$17862	\$5217	\$19648
<b>Kwantlen Polytechnic University</b>	\$3855	\$15750	\$3932	\$15750

Source: Canadian Universities, Tuition by University.

## Students are going into more debt

According to a report by the Research Universities' Council of British Columbia, 49% of undergrads had incurred debt by graduation in 2012, 36% of whom had taken out some form of government student loan. In BC, average student debt at the end of a four-year degree is \$27,600, which can be a substantial burden for youth when a bachelor degree is no longer a guarantee for finding full-time employment. The increasing costs in regards to post-secondary does not only involve tuition, but also the costs of books, groceries, housing and other miscellaneous opportunity costs<sup>48</sup>.

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<sup>46</sup> The Research Universities' Council of British Columbia, Quick Facts on Tuition and Student Debt at BC's Universities

<sup>47</sup> Universities Canada, Tuition by University

<sup>48</sup> The Research Universities' Council of British Columbia, Quick Facts on Tuition and Student Debt at BC's Universities

The federal and provincial government do offer some help for students trying to repay their debt. These include the loan reduction plan (for full-time students), the repayment assistance plan (for low income youth) and the loan forgiveness program (for youth who agree to work with publicly funded organizations. For those eligible for these programs, their student loan debt can be reduced by up to 24 percent.<sup>49</sup>

## Opportunities for Further Research

1. Why is the proportion of Aboriginal students in the Surrey School District decreasing?
2. Should life-skills training be a bigger part of Surrey school curriculum? Is there a need for more advanced placement opportunities in Surrey schools?
3. Should there be more funding available for Surrey university/college students to help them pay for their tuition.
4. Is debt amongst Surrey university/college students a significant problem? What kinds of services or resources could help reduce student debt in Surrey?

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# Employment and Training

Some youth in Surrey find it challenging to find employment in their community.

*“As a grade 12 student, I have been STRUGGLING to find job support. I have applied to many places for work and feel very much on my own. I have not been provided with the education I need to excel in interviews and find jobs that are in need.”* – SurreyCares Vital Signs Youth Survey Respondent

*“I like how my school has work experience. It allows students to gain experience, grow, and have a higher chance of getting hired.”* – SurreyCares Vital Signs Youth Survey Respondent

## YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

GRADE: 3.2 OR C (AVERAGE)\*

### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Opportunities for Grade 11 and 12 students to participate in trade skills programs (32%)
- In-school career and life planning and preparation (21%)
- Potential for job growth in Surrey (18%)

### TOP ISSUES TO IMPROVE

- More teen-friendly employers (38%)
- Increase number of local job opportunities (27%)
- Better training for jobs (21%)

Surrey has many programs and services to help youth find employment.

Surrey has a myriad of programs and services that are offered in school and via various organizations to help youth find employment. This includes programs for immigrant youth (such as DIVERSECity, S.U.C.C.E.S.S, Immigrant Services Society of BC), disabled youth (BC Centre for Ability), and youth facing barriers to employment (Phoenix Society). This includes programs such as help with resume writing, interview practice, etc. There are also programs such as the Pacific Community Resources Society Barista Program that help youth with barriers find employment at the local Starbucks.

Some of the high schools in Surrey have apprenticeship programs, such as ACE-IT (a partnership between the BC Ministry of Education, the Industry Training Authority and several post-secondary institutions) and Computer Aided Design and Drafting Technologies-Secondary School partnership (partnership between Surrey School

District, KPU, and the Career Technical Consortium)<sup>50</sup>, which allows Surrey students to take part of their first year of the apprenticeship program (technical or theoretical) in Grade 11 and 12. This provides youth with the opportunity to try out various trades and see if careers in trade are a good fit for them.<sup>51</sup>

Many Surrey Students are taking advantage of these career programs as can be seen by Table 25. Involvement of Surrey students in the Career Technical program has increased since 2010/2011, whereas participation in the Co-op Education Program and the Career Preparation Program has decreased since 2012/13. Participation in the Secondary School Apprenticeship Program has remained the same since 2012/13.

*Table 19: Surrey students enrolled in career (numbers)*

<b>Programs</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>
<b>Career Preparation Program</b>	2065	1978	2262	2172	2143
<b>Career Technical Program</b>	197	201	211	194	238
<b>Co-operative Education Program</b>	573	594	650	604	453
<b>Secondary School Apprenticeship Program</b>	42	32	23	23	23

Source: BC Ministry of Education, District Reports: Surrey (36)

Older Surrey youth who are attending SFU Surrey also have access to the CO-OP programs during their undergraduate and in some cases graduate studies. Co-operative education provides SFU students with work experience that is related to their field of study and therefore allows youth to find out more about the employment opportunities within their field of study.

A notable aspect of some of these programs is that the assistance offered was often to help youth find employment in service level jobs as opposed administrative or office work. This type of training may limit young people to marginal employment opportunities and it was important to many of the youth respondents that they get more opportunities working with the municipal government and businesses through mentoring programs and/or paid internships.

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<sup>50</sup> Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Career Technical Consortium (CTC)

<sup>51</sup> Kwantlen Polytechnic University, ACE-IT



## Youth want to be employed

According to data from the Adolescent Health Survey, only 24% of South Fraser Students were employed during the school year, which was below both the provincial rate and the 2008 South Fraser rate (37%). Only 4% of South Fraser Youth reported working more than 21 hours a week during the school year.<sup>52</sup>

*Table 20: Type of Employment by Region and year*

Employment	S Fraser (2008)	S Fraser (2013)	BC 2013
<b>Total (Work Paid Job)</b>	37%	24%	29%
<b>Worked 21 hours or more</b>	N/A	4%	7% males/ 5% females

Sources: McCreary Centre Society; Results of the 2013 Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South; McCreary Centre Society, Provincial results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: From Hastings Street to Haida Gwaii

This may denote some of the difficulties that youth face balancing employment, school, and extra-curricular activities. Some of the respondents noted in the comments that, despite applying for various positions, they had thus far been unsuccessful in finding any sustainable employment.

That being said, it is encouraging that in 2011, the City of Surrey had a lower unemployment rate than both the province and Canada, which means that of willing employable youth aged 15 to 24, the majority of youth in Surrey are employed in some capacity<sup>53</sup>.

*Table 21: Unemployment rate for youth 15 to 24, by area (2011)*

Area	Unemployment Rate (ages 15-24)
<b>City of Surrey</b>	10.1
<b>Canada</b>	14.3
<b>British Columbia</b>	14.4

Source: City of Surrey Open Data, Surrey Census 2011; Statistics Canada. Table 109-5334

Furthermore, the availability of jobs in Surrey is increasing. The jobs per resident worker aged 15 and over have increased from .68 in 2008 to .71 in 2014. This means that

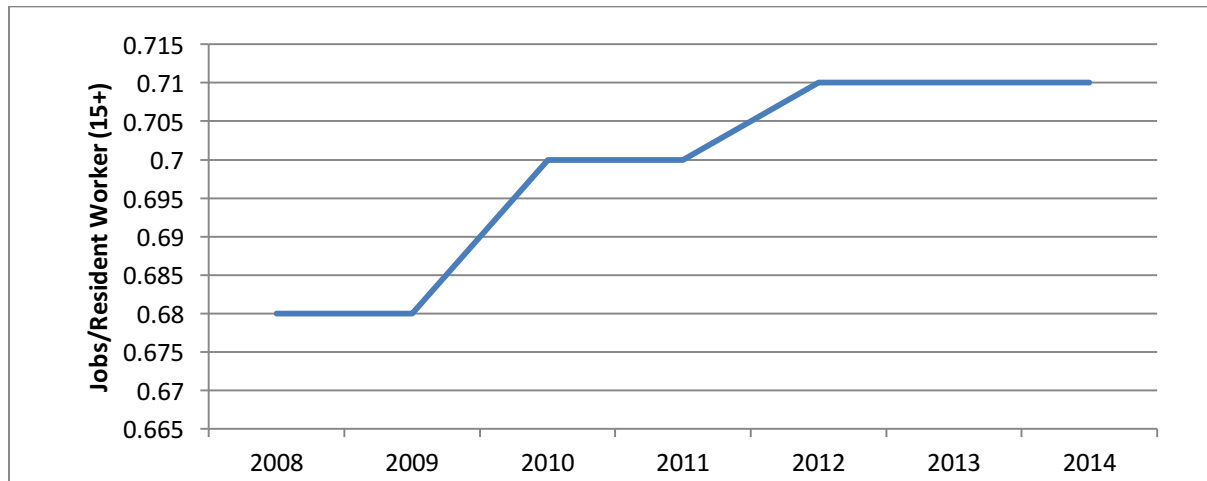
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<sup>52</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>53</sup> <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/71-543-g/2010001/part-partie2-eng.htm>

youth in Surrey will hopefully have more opportunities to work within Surrey, which will decrease their commute as well as allowing them to continue to live in their community.

*Figure 35: Jobs per resident worker 15+, by year<sup>54</sup>*



Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Availability of Employment

### The majority of post-secondary students are employed

The majority of graduates in BC do find employment as only 7% of graduates were unemployed in 2013. Furthermore, unemployment rates for apprenticeship graduates are on the decline, which is probably due to the increased demand in BC for trade workers.

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<sup>54</sup> See table XL (Appendix)

*Table 22: Unemployment Rate of Graduates from BC Public Post-Secondary Schools*

Degree/Certificate	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Bachelor Degree Graduates</b>	4%	3%	4%	6%	7%	7%	6%	7%
<b>Diploma, Associate degree, and Certificate Graduates</b>	6%	6%	6%	10%	11%	11%	9%	10%
<b>Apprenticeship Graduates</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10%	11%	8%	8%

Source: BC Statistics, Unemployment Rate of Graduates from BC Public Post-Secondary Schools

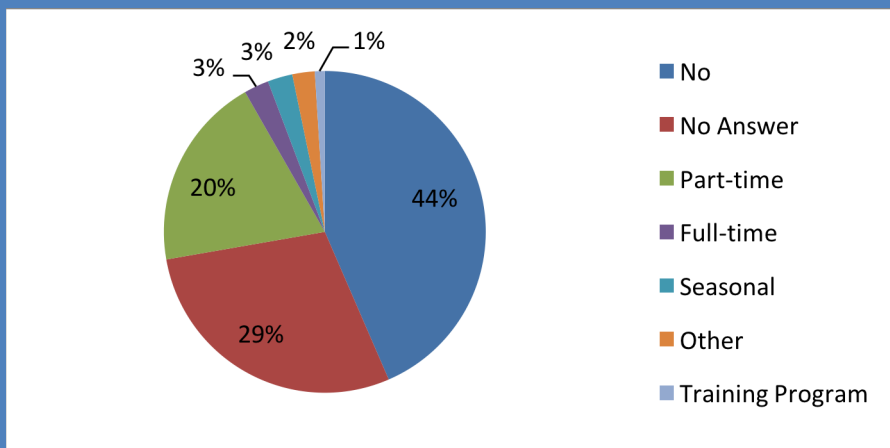
On the other hand, the number of bachelor degree and diploma/associate degree/certificate graduates who are unemployed in BC has increased by almost 50% since 2006. This may be a sign of the growing difficulty youth face finding employment after graduation unless they continue their education (Masters/PhD) or have significant work/volunteer experience.

Furthermore, this data does not take into account whether graduates are working within their field of study and therefore underemployment of graduates is a concern that needs to be further investigated.

## SURREY YOUTH WANT TO WORK

Many youth from the Youth Vital Signs survey expressed frustration in the comment section regarding the difficulty they have had finding employment. Youth in Surrey want more local job opportunities that provide youth with the training they need to increase their employability in the future

*Figure 62: Share of Respondents that are currently working*



Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey

Most respondents of the Youth Vital Signs Survey (44%) were not currently working at the time of completing the survey, with only 20% working part-time. Only 3% of respondents had full-time employment at the time of completing the survey.

## Opportunities for Further Research

1. What are the gaps in services when it comes to youth unemployment in Surrey?
2. Why is the number of post-secondary graduates without employment increasing?
3. What is the underemployment rate of youth in Surrey?
4. Is there a need for more teen-friendly employers in Surrey? Why might youth in Surrey feel that local job opportunities are not available for youth?
5. Is there a need for more paid intern positions for youth?

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# Environment

## Surrey has many great parks

Currently, the City of Surrey has 2626 hectares devoted to park land. That is the equivalent to approximately 47 regulation American football fields (5604 yards<sup>55</sup>). The number of hectares devoted to park land has increased since 2010 (2626 hectares vs. 2584 hectares in 2010<sup>56</sup>), but the design for park usage has not changed significantly since 2010, and perhaps, given it was chosen by Youth Vital Signs respondents as one of the top issues to improve, there has not been as much attention made to integrate new park space into neighbourhood housing designs to provide a greater sense of green space.

### YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

GRADE= 3.4 OR C (AVERAGE)\*

#### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Recycling and food scrap collection for single family housing (32%)
- Many great parks (32%)
- Awareness of environmental issues in schools (26%)

#### TOP ISSUES TO IMPROVE

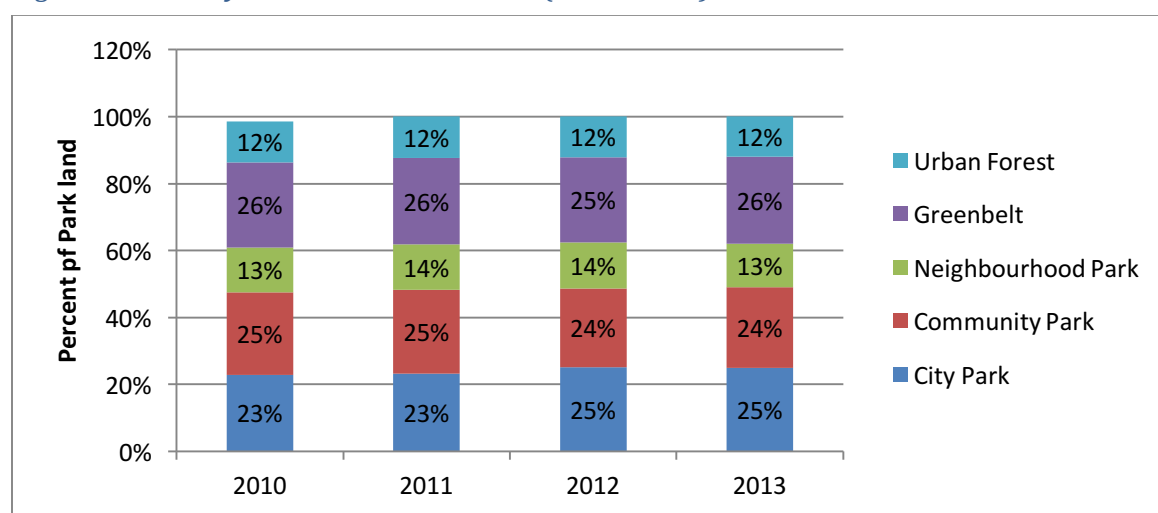
- Maintain more trees and greenspace in new housing developments (30%)
- More walkable neighbourhoods (29%)
- More bike trails and lanes (22%)

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<sup>55</sup> A regulation Football Field is 120 yards (Source: Sports Know How, Professional Football Field Dimension Diagram);  $5604/120 = 46.7$  football fields

<sup>56</sup> See table XI

Figure 36: Surrey Parkland distribution (2010-2013)<sup>57</sup>



Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard

The City of Surrey's Official Community Plan does demonstrate a concerted effort on the part of the City to conserve "particular areas of the city in their natural state. These include major parks and open spaces – some of which comprise environmentally sensitive areas, such as watercourses, riparian areas, and other habitat areas"<sup>58</sup>. To expand on these efforts, a possible consideration for municipal planners is to consider more green space allocations for new developments that retain the conservation elements.

With respect to environmental awareness, Surrey has a significant number of youth programs and public events that promote the importance of the environment and awareness of environmental issues but youth participation may be in fact decreasing...

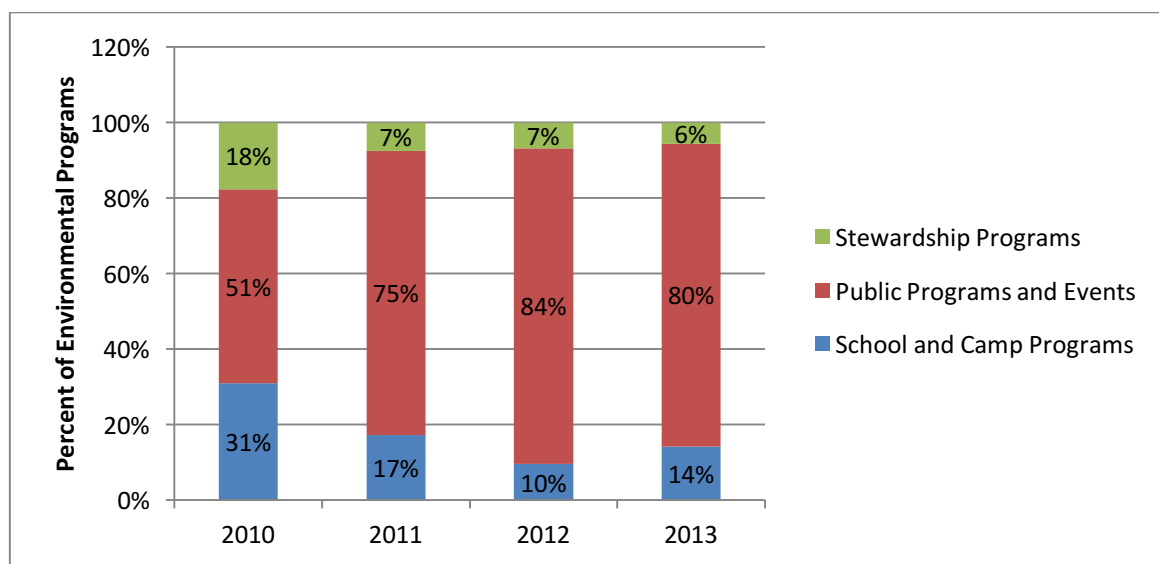
In 2013, Surrey had 68,306 programs that were categorized as being environmentally-focused. These include programs aimed to increase the level of education and awareness around the environment and environmental issues for children, youth and adults. Overall, there has been an increase in the number of participants in environmental programs available in Surrey (see Fig. 26). However, there have been changes in the types of programs that Surrey residents are participating in. For

<sup>57</sup> See Table XI

<sup>58</sup> City of Surrey; Environmental Protection; <http://www.surrey.ca/city-services/1320.aspx>. Accessed July 10/2015

example, Figure 26 demonstrates that in the past three years the number of Surrey residents participating in public programs and events has increased (80% vs. 51% in 2010). On the other hand, youth participation in school and camp programs have decreased from 31% of participants in environmental programs in Surrey in 2010 to only 14% in 2013. That being said, the data only refers to programs run and sponsored by the City of Surrey and since data from external environmental youth organizations is not available, the City of Surrey data may not be representative of overall youth participation in other types of community-run youth programs.

*Figure 37: Breakdown of Environmental Program participation in Surrey (2010-2013)<sup>59</sup>*



Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Environmental Programs

## Emphasis on the environment in school curriculum is marginally decreasing

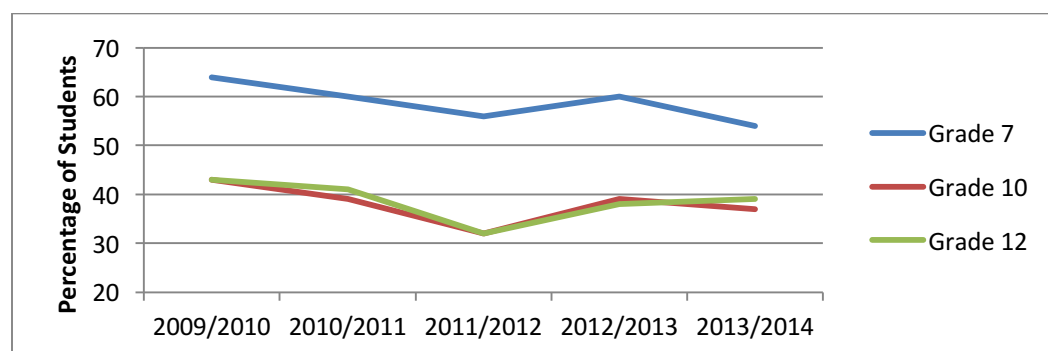
Data from the Surrey School District seems to show a marginal declining trend when it comes to students being exposed to information about the environment and climate change many times/ most of the time<sup>60</sup> during their studies.

<sup>59</sup> See Table XII (Appendix)

<sup>60</sup> Terms used by the Surrey School District data (Ministry of Education, Surrey School District Statistics)



*Figure 38: Proportion of students that are learning to do things to take care of the environment (many times/most of the time)<sup>61</sup>*



Source: Ministry of Education, Surrey School District statistics

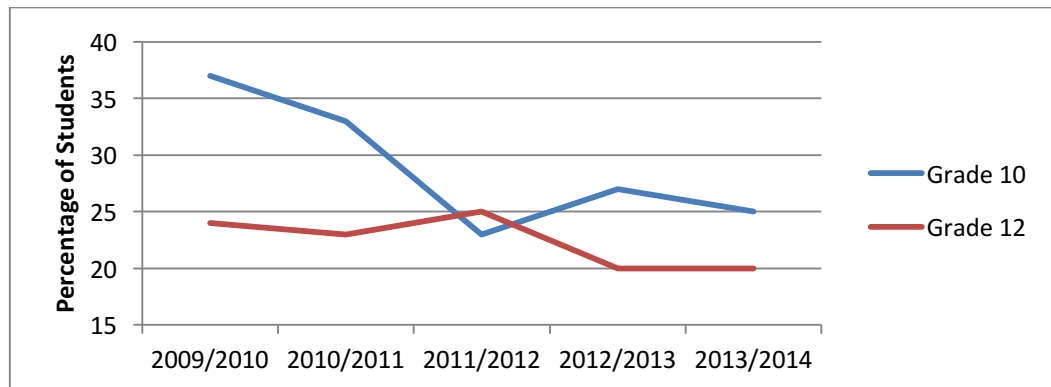
Surrey students were even less likely to have been exposed to discussions about climate change. Only 20% of Grade 12s in 2013/14 had learned about climate change many times or most of the time. Although it is not solely the responsibility of the School District to educate youth about climate change, a greater emphasis on environmental issues in the curriculum would be beneficial not only for the youth but for the community as a whole. It would provide youth with vital information about reducing water consumption, waste, and greenhouse gas emissions and the benefits that this can have on the environment.

### YOUTH VITAL SIGNS

Many youth respondents of the Youth Vital Signs Survey celebrated the awareness of environmental issues provided by local schools in Surrey. However, data from the Ministry of Education shows a marginal decline in exposure to information about how to take care of the environment and about climate change.

<sup>61</sup> See Table XIII (Appendix)

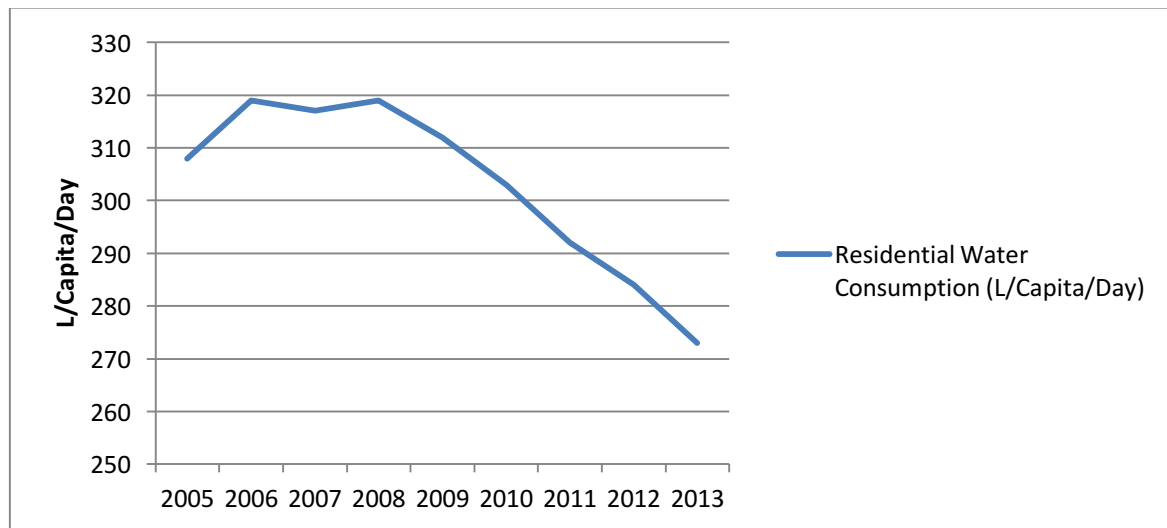
Figure 39: Proportion of Students learning about climate change (many times/most of the time)<sup>62</sup>



Source: Ministry of Education; Surrey School District Statistics

Surrey Residents are consuming less water.

Figure 40: Surrey Residential Water Consumption (2005-2013)<sup>63</sup>



Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Water Consumption

<sup>62</sup> See Table XIV (Appendix)

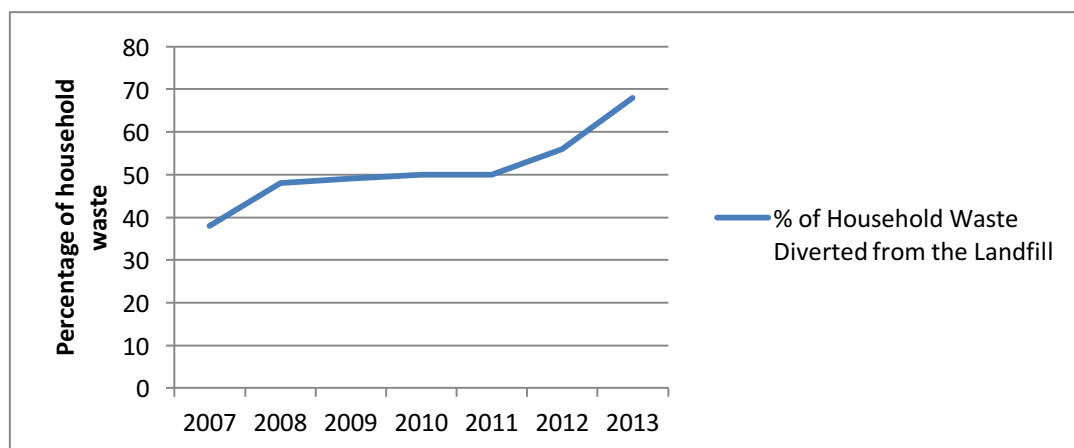
<sup>63</sup> See Table XV (Appendix)

Figure 29 shows that Surrey has reduced its residential water consumption considerably with an 11.4% decrease in residential water consumption from 2005 to 2013.

Surrey currently has a combination of a voluntary and mandatory water metering program. Water metering is mandatory for all new residential and industrial developments, as well as any new structures. Surrey residents with existing residences can choose to participate in the water metering program. There may be a correlation between the implementation of this program, which was implemented in 2007/8, and the decline in residential water consumption since 2008<sup>64</sup>. The hope is that the consequences of this metering program have provided a clear message of water conservation for the youth of Surrey. This is important for youth aged 12 to 24 who may be currently (or in the future) renting and/or owning property with water meters. It is also encouraging for the future well-being of youth as reduced water consumption in the present means greater accessibility of water in the future.

## Surrey residents are reducing waste

*Figure 41: Surrey Community Water Diversion (2007-2013)<sup>65</sup>*



Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Community Waste

<sup>64</sup> City of Surrey, Water Metering

<sup>65</sup> See Table XVI (Appendix)

The City of Surrey has been very successful in reducing the amount of waste being sent to the landfills. From 2007-2013, there was a 79% decrease in the amount of residential waste being sent to landfills. The City of Surrey's goal is to reach 70% diversion by this year<sup>66</sup>. This may be a result of the significant effort on the part of the City to encourage Surrey residents to recycle and to compost<sup>67</sup>. Again, the recycling campaign would expect to provide strong socialization for the youth of Surrey to be environmentally conscious.

### YOUTH VITAL SIGNS

Thirty-two percent of Youth Vital Signs respondents chose recycling and food scrap collection for single family housing as one of the top areas to celebrate in Surrey when it comes to youth and the environment. City of Surrey data shows why this is a reason to celebrate for youth.

## Opportunities for Further Research

1. Is there a need for greater emphasis in school curriculum on environmental issues?
2. Does teaching youth about climate change and environmental issues actually result in a change in behaviour?
3. Should the City of Surrey require new developments to include green spaces in their development plans?
4. Why is youth participation in environmental programs decreasing?

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<sup>66</sup> City of Surrey, Reducing Waste

<sup>67</sup> City of Surrey, Organics Cart

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# Getting Around

*“Increase Road Capacity, while improving the transit system”* –  
SurreyCares Vital Signs Youth Survey  
Respondent

## Transit needs to be improved

Concerns about ‘getting around’ in Surrey is a common theme among youth in Surrey who struggle get around the city using public transportation, sometimes facing commutes from 1 to 2 hours to get from one part of the Surrey to the next.<sup>68</sup>

This is a significant issue for youth attending school or working, who are frequent transit users within Metro Vancouver<sup>69</sup>.

## YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

**GRADE: 3.2 OR C (AVERAGE)\***

### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Good marked crosswalks for pedestrians (29%)
- Affordable public transportation (25%)
- Access to safe bike and walking trail to get around on (22%)

### TOP ISSUES TO IMPROVE

- Reduced transit fares
- Late-night bus and skytrain service times
- Increase areas receiving bus services

1=See Figures XXIII and XXIV

## Commuting to work and school

The majority (62%) of employed Surrey Residents over the age of 15 work within Surrey. Thirty-eight percent of residents work outside of Surrey. Nonetheless, many of those employed persons who work within Surrey may have to commute to another part of Surrey, which means that this may be an underrepresentation of the amount of Surrey residents that are commuting to work. In fact, according to the 2011 National

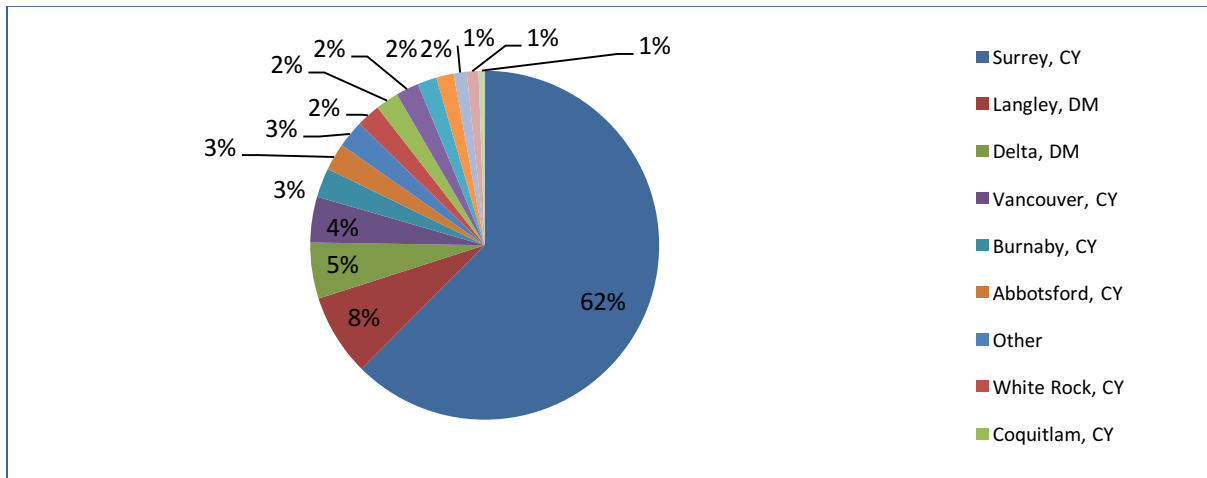
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<sup>68</sup>Based on a youth commuting from City Centre Shopping Centre to Cloverdale by bus on a Wednesday. The commute could take from 45 mins to an hour and 5 mins depending on the time of day (not taking into account traffic). Commute times were verified using Google Maps; O'Connor, Elaine, New Campaign urges for light-rail transit system

<sup>69</sup>TransLink, 2011 Metro Vancouver Regional Trip Diary Survey: Analysis Report

Household Survey the median commute to work in Surrey takes 30 minutes, which is 10 minutes longer than the median times in BC and Canada<sup>70</sup>.

*Figure 42: Percentage of place of employment of Employed Surrey Residents over the age of 15 (2011)<sup>71</sup>*



Source: City of Surrey Open Data, Surrey Census 2011

<sup>70</sup> Statistics Canada. NHS Profile: Surrey, CY.

<sup>71</sup> See table XLIV (Appendix)

## Modes of Transportation

### Commuting to Work

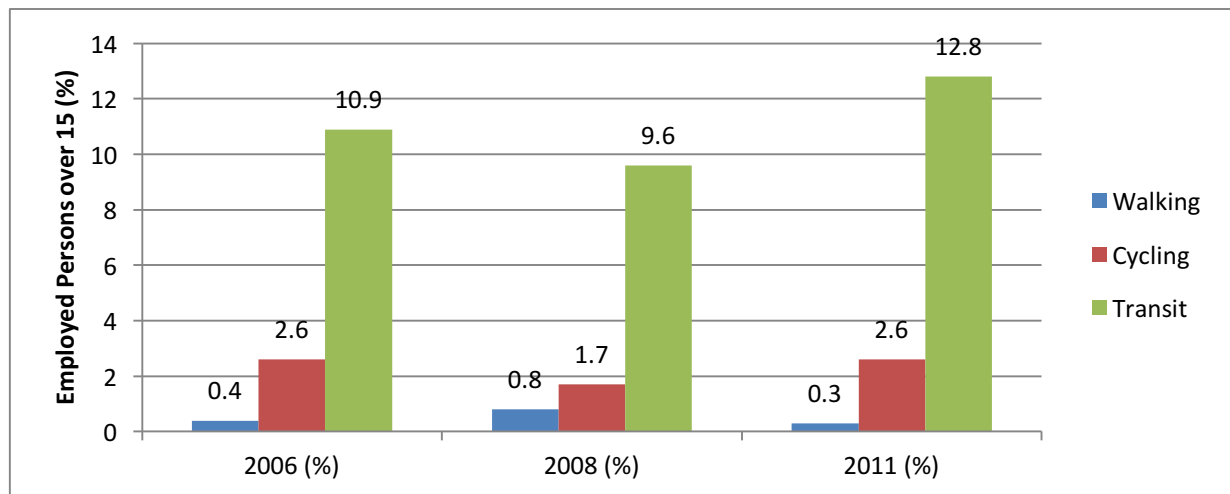
According to data from the Census 2006 and the NHS 2011, the majority of Surrey residents (84%) commute to work using a car and only 12% use transit. From 2006-2011 there was a slight increase in transit usage and a slight decrease in employed persons over 15 who walked to work. Employed persons over the age of 15 who cycled to work remained relatively stable.

### TRANSPORTATION IS A PRIORITY

Transportation was chosen by Youth Vital Signs respondents as one of the top four areas where Surrey could improve, with 30% of respondents feeling that more work needed to be done.

This was especially apparent for Whalley respondents, 57% of whom felt that transportation in their area needed improvement. Many Youth Vital Signs respondents expressed their frustrations in the comments section, stating that the transit system is inadequate for their needs in many ways. Bus and Skytrain frequencies and service areas were the primary concerns for Youth Vital Signs respondents, who felt that Surrey needed more late-night bus and Skytrain service (30%), and needed more areas services by busses (23%).

Figure 43: Mode of Transportation to work<sup>72</sup>



Source: City of Surrey Open Data; Surrey Census 2011

<sup>72</sup> See table XLV



## Commuting to School

Similarly to the NHS and Census data on commuting to work, respondents of the Adolescent Health Survey (South Fraser youth Grade 7-12) most commonly commuted to school using a car (64%); however, AHS respondents were more likely to use active means of transportation such as walking, biking and cycling (49%)<sup>73</sup>.

The lower use of cars as a means of transportation by AHS respondents may be due to the respondents being too young to drive, or perhaps an inability to afford a car and the costs that are associated with owning a vehicle (gas, insurance, etc.)<sup>74</sup>.

## Transit

According to the most recent TransLink Trip Diary Survey (2011), transit was the mode of transportation used most by youth between the ages of 18-24. One possible explanation, provided by TransLink, for this phenomenon is the success of the U-Pass program in providing youth in post-secondary with reduced rate transit (equals out to about \$30 a month)<sup>75</sup>.

Access to relatively affordable and accessible transit (in relation to the costs of owning and maintaining a car) in Metro Vancouver has led to an overall reduction in the proportion of youth choosing to get a driver's license. For example, according to the 2011 Metro Vancouver Regional Trip Diary Survey, there was a 17% decrease in youth ages 16-19 and an 11% in youth

### YOUTH LOVE HAVING ALTERNATE MODES OF TRANSPORTATION

Another potential reason why there are lower usage levels of cars as a means of transportation amongst youth is the access to affordable alternatives modes of transportation in Surrey, such as walking, biking trails and affordable public transportation. This was chosen by the Youth Vital Signs respondents as the top thing to celebrate about Surrey in transportation.

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<sup>73</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>74</sup> Based on Travel Smart, Average Annual Cost of Owning a Car 2014

<sup>75</sup> TransLink, 2011 Metro Vancouver Regional Trip Diary Survey: Analysis Report

ages 20-29 receiving their driver's license<sup>76</sup>. This is supported by data from the South Fraser AHS, which found that only 29% of the South Fraser AHS respondents had some form of BC Driver's License, with 20% of youth having a "Learner" license and 9% having received the "New Driver" License<sup>77</sup>.

*Table 23: Active BC Driver's Licenses, by age*

Age	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
16-19	147,000	146,000	146,000	145,000	143,000
20-24	230,000	229,000	230,000	231,000	230,000

Source: ICBC Quick Statistics

Approximately 11% of AHS respondents used transit to commute to school, although 75% of Fraser South youth reported using transit as a means of transportation<sup>78</sup>. Although the increased use of alternative means of transportation is beneficial for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and traffic congestion, it is important to ensure that Surrey's transportation systems meet the needs of all youth in Surrey and does not lead to some youth left out.

For example, the South Fraser AHS found that South Fraser youth who were dependent on public transit were more likely than their peers to miss out on extra-curricular activities because they had no way of getting there or no way of getting back home. This is concerning since low income individuals, Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, and recent immigrant are more likely to be dependent on public transportation than other Surrey residents<sup>79</sup>; meaning that particular groups of youth may not be getting the opportunity to fully participate within their school and other community activities.

### Transit accessibility is increasing

The proportion of bus stops that are accessible is a representation of how accessible the transit system is for people of various abilities. In Surrey, the majority of bus stops

<sup>76</sup> ibid

<sup>77</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>78</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>79</sup> Surrey Poverty Reduction Coalition, Surrey Poverty Reduction Plan

are accessible (76.2% in 2013). Since 2011, there has been a 10% increase in the proportion of bus stops that are accessible. This is very important since transit is a common mode of transportation for youth with disabilities.<sup>80</sup>

*Table 24: Accessibility of Bus Stops (2010-2013)*

Year	% of Bus Stops that are Accessible
2010	69
2011	72.7
2012	74.4
2013	76.2

Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Transit Accessibility

## The number of kilometers of recreational and cycling trails is increasing

Eighteen percent of Youth Vital Signs respondents wanted to have more walking/ cycling trails to get to school or just to enjoy in their leisure time. Since 2010, there have been increases in the kilometers provided of each type of recreation and cycling trails. Furthermore, the City of Surrey, in their “Cycling Plan”, has agreed to increase cycling lanes/trails by 12 km every year and to increase the number of bike racks at popular cyclist destinations<sup>81</sup>. This should help make cycling a more attractive way of commuting in Surrey and will hopefully reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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<sup>80</sup> Surrey Poverty Reduction Coalition, Surrey Poverty Reduction Plan

<sup>81</sup> City of Surrey, Surrey Cycling Plan 2012

*Table 25: Expansion of Cycling and Walking Pathways (2010-2013)*

<b>Kms of Recreational and Cycling Trails</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Greenways</b>	70	72	86.2	99
<b>Off Street and Separated Bike Lanes</b>	200	208	216.3	236.9
<b>Park Paths and Trails</b>	262.4	266.4	273.4	304
<b>Total</b>	532.4	546.4	575.9	639.9

Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Active Transportation Infrastructure

## Traffic incidents involving youth ages 16-21 are decreasing

A recent report released by ICBC demonstrates that the number of crashes involving at least one youth (aged 16-21) in the lower mainland has been decreasing since 2009. There have also been decreases in number of youth injuries and number of fatalities.

*Table 26: Crashes where at least one youth (age 16-21) was involved, Lower Mainland*

<b>Crashes</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>5-year Average</b>
<b>Incidents</b>	23,000	22,000	21,000	21,000	20,000	21,000
<b>Injured youth</b>	4,700	4,700	4,600	4,600	4,400	4,600
<b>Fatal youth</b>	39	37	34	34	27	35

Source: ICBC Quick Statistics

Furthermore, according to the AHS there has been a decrease in youth driving after alcohol and marijuana use. Only 5% of South Fraser youth had ever driven after drinking alcohol in 2013, which represented a 58% decrease from 2008 (12% in 2008)<sup>82</sup>. Though more common, marijuana use before driving decreased from 19% in 2008 to 14% in 2013, marking a 26% decrease over the 5 years<sup>83</sup>. That being said, it is concerning that 26% of Fraser South students who drove after alcohol or marijuana use did not have a license and that 22% of Fraser South students have been passengers on a vehicle with an intoxicated driver<sup>84</sup>.

<sup>82</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>83</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>84</sup> ibid

## Opportunities for Further Research

1. Why are youth driving less in Metro Vancouver?
2. How can transit be improved to meet the needs of youth in Surrey?
3. How does dependence on the transit system in Surrey affect certain groups of youth in BC? Does it prevent them from participating in extracurricular activities, employment, and or post-secondary education?

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# Housing and Homelessness

*“I have not come across any affordable housing in Surrey. As someone who is interested in living on my own as soon as possible, I have come to terms with the fact that I will have to move out of the city to somewhere else when the time comes to enter the real estate market.” – SurreyCares Vital Signs Youth Survey Respondent*

Having access to safe, affordable housing plays an essential role in supporting the economic and social well-being of families and individuals. Housing in Surrey is more affordable than some other parts of the Metro Vancouver region, but there are still too many families and individuals living in Surrey who are unable to find housing that is affordable with the resources that they have available<sup>85</sup>

## Affording rent in Surrey can be difficult for youth

As can be seen by Table 36, rent in Surrey has stayed relatively stable with only minor fluctuations. Regardless, in 2011, 37.7% of renters in Surrey were spending more than 30% of their household’s income on rent<sup>86</sup>. To put this in perspective for youth: if a youth working full-time at the minimum wage<sup>87</sup> was paying rent based on the Surrey average in 2013, 52% of their income would be spent solely on their rent; leaving only

### YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

**GRADE: 2.9 OR D+ ( BELOW AVERAGE)\***

#### TOP ISSUES TO IMPROVE

- Greater support for youth living on their own
- Greater funding for housing for single parent families
- More long term living arrangements for youth

#### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Surrey offers a variety of different housing options (24%)
- Financial support for low income renters (20%)
- Youth housing outreach program (18%)

1=See figure XIII and XIV

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<sup>85</sup> Surrey Poverty Reduction Coalition, Surrey Poverty Reduction Plan

<sup>86</sup> City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Percent of Renter Households in Core Housing Need

<sup>87</sup> (\$10.25 an hour \*40\*4=\$1,640)

794 dollars/ month to cover food, vehicle expenses (gas, insurance, etc.), etc. A youth attending post-secondary has to pay for tuition may only be able to work part-time or risk sacrificing their grades. A part-time youth working 24 hours a week<sup>88</sup> would be spending 86% of their income on rent; which makes incurring large amounts of student debt a likely event. If youth are to avoid serious amounts of debt, there needs to be more financial support for youth in Surrey living on their own.

*Table 27: Average Monthly Rental Price\* in Surrey*

<b>Average Monthly Rental Price</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Bachelor</b>	615	636	635	626	621	632
<b>1 Bedroom</b>	756	756	767	737	731	751
<b>2 Bedroom</b>	936	947	932	921	896	921
<b>3+ Bedroom</b>	1025	1063	1074	1008	1027	1080
<b>Surrey Average</b>	799	859	858	835	822	846
<b>Metro Average</b>	852	1042	1053	1054	1059	1067

Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Average Monthly Rental Price

\*In 2013 Constant Dollars<sup>89</sup>

## YOUTH HOUSING

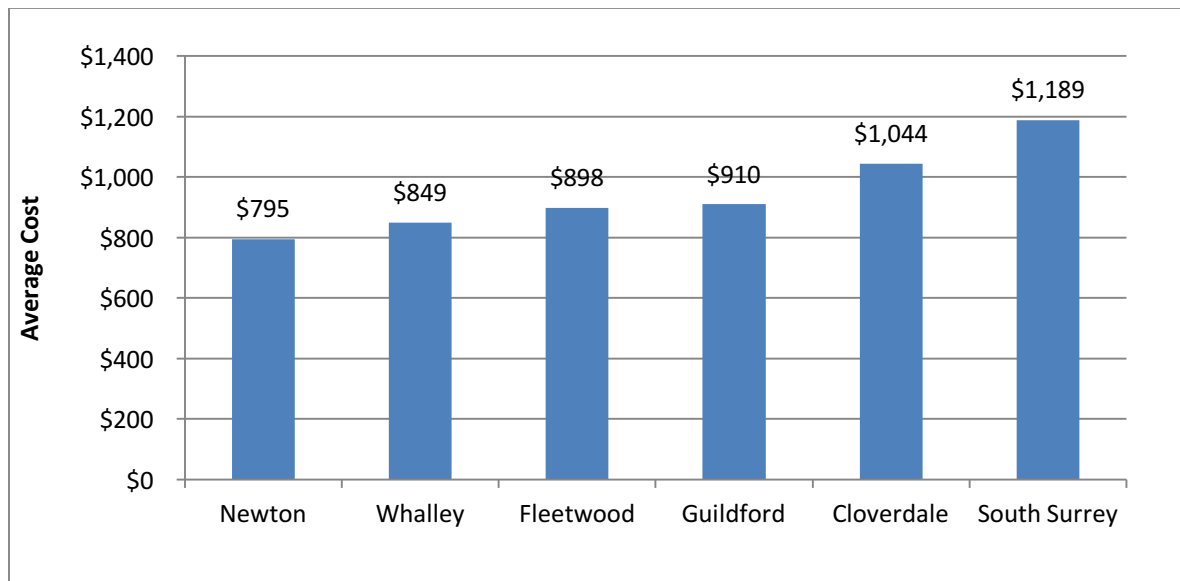
Many Youth Vital Signs respondents commented on the lack of affordable housing available for youth and the need for more assistance in obtaining safe and affordable housing. Youth Vital Signs respondents wanted more long-term housing options (e.g., co-ops, rental subsidies, etc.) and further financial funding and support for single-parent families.

<sup>88</sup> (\$10.25\*24\*4=\$984)

<sup>89</sup> Bank of Canada, Inflation Calculator



Figure 44: Average Monthly Rent by Neighbourhood<sup>90</sup>



Source: Source: City of Surrey Open Data, Census 2011

The issue of affordability varies with neighbourhood. Certain parts of Surrey are more expensive to live in than others. South Surrey and Cloverdale have the highest average monthly rents in Surrey; Newton and Whalley have the lowest average monthly rents. Because of the lower rents, there is a tendency for low income and recent immigrant populations to reside within the lower rent regions. (These areas tend to have higher levels of mobility, which can affect the capacity for community growth within these regions<sup>91</sup>).

### YOUTH ASK FOR HELP FINDING HOUSING

Twenty-nine percent of Youth Vital Signs respondents stated that more of support was needed for youth living alone in Surrey. By supporting youth, especially those transitioning into adulthood (18-24), it will encourage youth to stay in Surrey and be a continuing part of the community.

<sup>90</sup> See Table XXXVIII (Appendix)

<sup>91</sup> Children's Partnership Surrey – White Rock: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey-White Rock

## Rental availability is on the decline

Making matters worse, Table 17 shows that there has been a 49% decrease in the availability of apartments in Surrey, meaning that it is becoming more difficult for Surrey youth and other Surrey residents to find safe and affordable apartments in the region.

*Table 28: Surrey Rental Markets by year (2010-2015)*

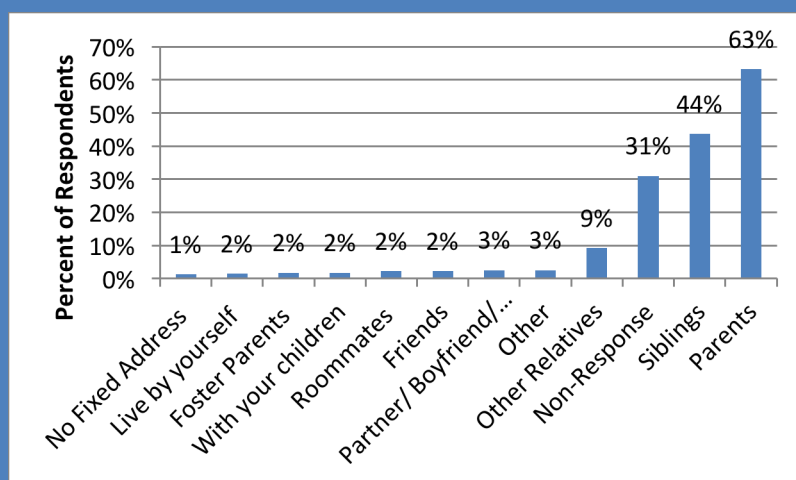
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Vacancy Rate (%)</b>	5	3.2	3	4.2	4.6	1.5
<b>Availability Rate (%)</b>	5.5	3.6	3.9	4.8	5.2	2.8
<b>Units</b>	5,420	5,444	5,533	5,616	5,587	5,486

Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Rental Market Statistics Summary by Census Subdivision

## WHERE SURVEY RESPONDENTS ARE LIVING AND WITH WHOM

At the time of survey completion, many of the respondents in the Youth Vital Signs Survey were living with their parents and siblings (63% and 44% respectively of those who responded) at the time of the survey. Though the majority of the survey respondents were under the age of 20,

*Figure 45: Living Arrangements of Respondents*



## Surrey youth are living at home longer...

There is a growing trend in Surrey and in the rest of Metro Vancouver of youth living with their parents for longer<sup>92</sup>. In 2011, 86% of youth ages 15-24 were living at home<sup>93</sup>. There is a myriad of reasons for this trend, such as the rising costs of housing in Metro Vancouver; difficulties finding full time employment or employment beyond the minimum wage; higher educational requirements for jobs; and cultural reasons.

## Youth in care

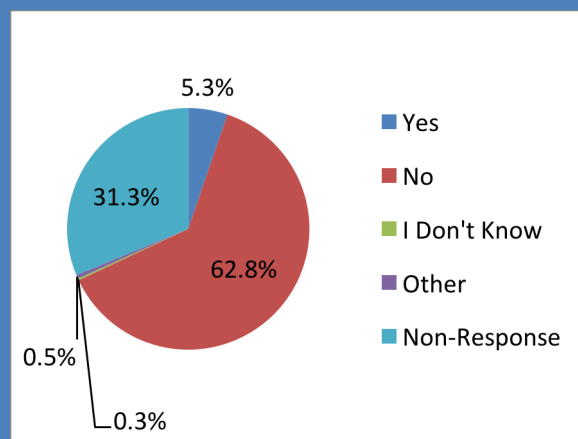
Related to living arrangements, and perhaps to some extent the health of the family structure in Surrey, is the number and extent of youth who are in the care of foster parents.

The 2013 AHS found that 1% lived in a group home, 1% were currently in government care, 1% was in government care and fewer than 2% indicated that they had been in foster care<sup>94</sup>.

The AHS also identified that youth in care (past and present) in the South Fraser region had a higher probability of having moved in the past year than youth who were not in care (50% vs. 20%) and had a higher

### YOUTH IN CARE

*Figure 46: Youth Vital Signs Respondents that are/were Youth in Care*



Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey

5.3% of survey respondents identified as having been a youth in care (e.g., foster care, group home, ministry social worker, youth agreements, etc.). This is similar to data found in the 2013 AHS..

<sup>92</sup> McIntyre, Gordon, Young adults still living at home a growing trend

<sup>93</sup> City of Surrey Open Data, Census 2011

<sup>94</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

probability to have moved three or more times in the past year (20% vs. 4% who had not been in government care)<sup>95</sup>. This is troublesome since the AHS found that having a stable household was considered to be a factor in whether youth felt an adult in their community cared for them (59% vs. 53% of those who had moved) and a factor in the likelihood of having attempted suicide in the past year (5% vs. 8% of youth in care)<sup>96</sup>. If youth in care are more likely to move around (therefore not be in a stable household), it may prevent them from feeling a part of the community and may put them at greater risk for suicide

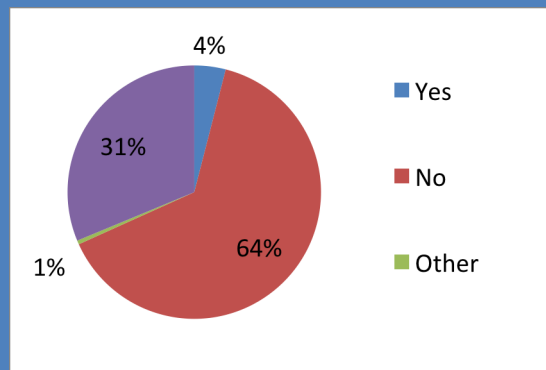
Furthermore, although some changes have been made in BC to help youth transitioning out of the care system, such as tuition waivers at BC Universities and Colleges, there needs to be further support for youth who are transitioning out of the “care” system, to ensure that these youth are provided with stable housing, education support and the financial support to prevent the youth from becoming homeless or a part of crime<sup>97</sup>.

### Youth homelessness in Surrey remains a problem

In the 2014 Metro Vancouver Homeless Count (MVHC), 403 homeless Surrey individuals were identified<sup>98</sup>. Unfortunately, further data regarding the age of said homeless was not available. Data regarding youth homelessness in Surrey is limited and thus data from all of Metro Vancouver has been used. Youth

#### YOUTH HOMELESSNESS AMONG SURVEY RESPONDENTS

*Figure 47: Youth Homelessness in Surrey*



Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey

The majority of Youth Vital Signs respondents had never been homeless, with only 4% stating that they had been homeless at some point in their life (high non-response= 31%).

<sup>95</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>96</sup> ibid

<sup>97</sup> Sherlock and Culbert, BC takes steps to help former foster kids

<sup>98</sup> City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Homelessness

homelessness in Metro Vancouver and Surrey remains to be a significant issue. For example, the MVHC<sup>99</sup> found that 20% of the Metro Vancouver homeless (includes Surrey) were under the age of 25. A higher proportion of youth under the age of 19 were considered sheltered homeless whereas a higher proportion of youth age 19-24 were considered unsheltered homeless<sup>100</sup>. The MVHC also found that the number of youth under the age of 25 (not accompanied by a parent) has increased by 3% since the 2011 count.<sup>101</sup>

### **SURREY YOUTH WANT THEIR PEERS TO HAVE ACCESS TO YOUTH SHELTERS**

The fourth most popular choice in regards to youth housing and homeless was the need to increase access to youth shelters with 23% of respondents choosing that as a concern. This concern is supported by data from the City of Surrey.

The demographics of Metro Vancouver youth homeless differed substantially from the overall homeless population. The MVHC found that there was a

greater proportion of youth that identified as women and/or Aboriginals than in the overall homeless population (women=38% vs. 27%; Aboriginals= 40% vs. 31%).<sup>102</sup> Youth respondents were also less likely to be homeless by themselves than the general homeless population (68% vs. 79% of the total homeless population)<sup>103</sup>. Similar to the general homeless population, 32% of youth homeless identified as having a mental illness (32% vs. 34% of general homeless population) and addiction (47% vs. 49% of general homeless population)<sup>104</sup>.

Fortunately, the MVHC found that youth had the lowest probability of being considered long-term homeless (1 year +). Youth had a higher probability of reporting being homeless for less than a month compared to the general homeless population<sup>105</sup>.

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<sup>99</sup> Greater Vancouver Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness, Results of the 2014 Homeless Count in the Metro Vancouver Region

<sup>100</sup> Greater Vancouver Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness, Results of the 2014 Homeless Count in the Metro Vancouver Region

<sup>101</sup> *ibid*

<sup>102</sup> *ibid*

<sup>103</sup> *ibid*

<sup>104</sup> *ibid*

<sup>105</sup> *ibid*

Furthermore, youth homeless were more likely to find a place off the streets to such as staying at someone else's place (56% vs. 40% of the general homeless population)<sup>106</sup>

## Emergency Shelters

According to data from the City of Surrey, there are a total of 185 emergency shelter beds available in Surrey, only six of which are devoted to youth (age 12- 29)<sup>107</sup>. Due to the lack of available shelter beds in Surrey, youth are sometimes forced to visit shelters in Vancouver. This can lead to an underestimation of the youth homelessness and poverty issues in Surrey communities<sup>108</sup>.

## Surrey does have many resources available for youth to help them with housing issues.

It is important to note some of the significant ways that Surrey has been successful in providing resources and information, as well as financial and emotional support to youth with housing issues.

Some examples include:

- Pacific Community Resources<sup>109</sup>: provide housing search support for youth aged 16-19, as well as supported independent living.
- The Subsidized Youth Independent Housing program (Options BC)<sup>110</sup>: helps secure and sustain housing and provides support for job searches and educational pursuits (ages 16-24)
- Surrey Street Youth Services<sup>111</sup>: Housing Outreach programs

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<sup>106</sup> *ibid*

<sup>107</sup> City of Surrey, Homelessness in Surrey

<sup>108</sup> Jane, Warren; The demographics of Surrey homeless are changing

<sup>109</sup> Pacific Community Resources Society, Surrey Youth Housing

<sup>110</sup> Options Community Services, Youth Services in the Community

<sup>111</sup> Key Solutions, City of Surrey Street ...

It is important to note that some of these programs are only available for youth under the age of 19. Given the data noted above, the expansion of these programs to include youth 20-24 would be very beneficial.

## Opportunities for Further Research

1. How can youth be better supported in finding safe and affordable housing for youth in Surrey?
2. What are some of the difficulties that youth transitioning out of care face? Is there enough support (both financial and in terms of resources) for these youth?
3. Is there a need for more youth shelter beds in Surrey? What impact would this have on youth homelessness in Surrey?
4. Are youth aware of the resources available to them in regards to housing? Is there a need for greater promotion of programs?

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# Making Ends Meet

Youth represent a large proportion of low income individuals<sup>112</sup>

Approximately 72,000 low income people live in Surrey, a number which makes up about 16% of the entire Surrey population.<sup>113</sup>

Data from the 2011 NHS (table 7) shows that 18.7% of youth under the age of 18 were considered low income after-tax. This was higher than the prevalence of low income individuals (after-tax) in Surrey residents ages 18 to 64.

## YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

**GRADE: 3.0 OR C (AVERAGE)\***

### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- School programs (like free meals) that reduce the effects of poverty (36%)
- Providing affordable transportation (33%)
- Resources available to low income families (30%)

### TOP ISSUES TO IMPROVE

- Increase the minimum wage (46%)
- Increase access to healthy food at low cost/no cost (37%)
- Provide more programs for at-risk youth (23%)

1=See Figure VII and VIII

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<sup>112</sup> Due to changes in survey method, Stats Canada has stated that data on low income individuals is NOT comparable to Census data (Surrey Poverty Coalition, this is the change: A Forum on Collective Impact and Reducing Poverty in Surrey)

<sup>113</sup> Surrey Poverty Coalition, *this is the change: A Forum on Collective Impact and Reducing Poverty in Surrey*; Statistics Canada. 2013. Surrey, CY, British Columbia (Code 5915004) (table). National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011

*Table 29: Prevalence and Incidence of low income based on After-Tax LIM<sup>114</sup> (2011)*

	Under the age of 18			18 to 64		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Prevalence (%)</b>	18.7	18.4	19	14.9	14.3	15.5
<b>Incidence</b>	20355	10460	9895	44840	21110	23735

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey Profile. 2011 National Household Survey

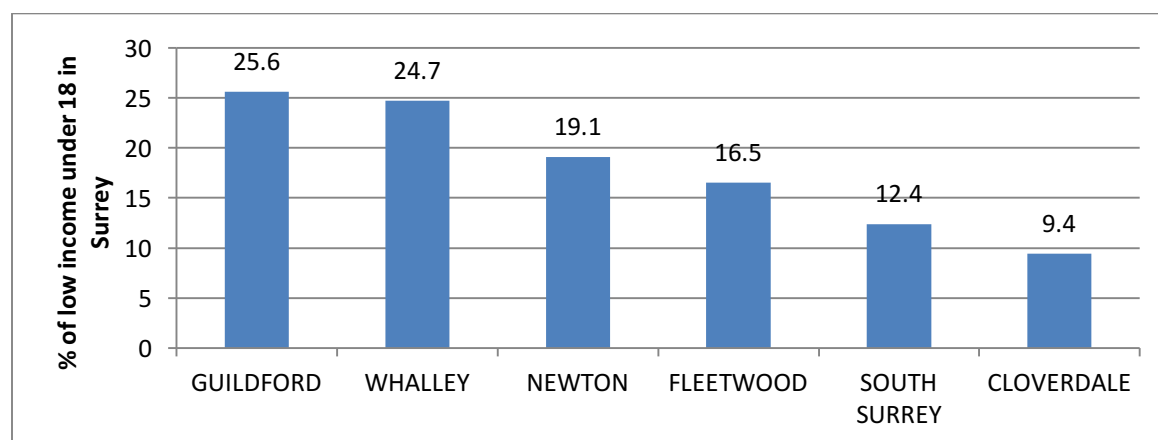
## Youth poverty tends to be found within particular neighbourhoods

Youth poverty in Surrey tends to be distributed unevenly and tends to be clustered in particular neighbourhoods in Surrey. The majority (69.4%) of low income youth under the age of 18 in Surrey reside in Guildford (25.6%), Whalley (includes City Centre) (24.7%), and Newton (19.1%). Certain areas in Surrey that are more affluent, such as Cloverdale and South Surrey, tend to have lower proportions of low income youth (under the age of 18). Only 9% of low income youth live in Cloverdale (9.4%) and 12.4% in South Surrey.

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<sup>114</sup> The Low Income Measure (LIM) is a fixed percentage of median adjusted household income (adjusted= household needs are taken into account. Source: Statistic Canada, Low Income Measures

*Figure 48: Distribution of low income (After-Tax LIM<sup>115</sup>) under 18, by Neighbourhood (2011)<sup>116</sup>*



Sources: City of Surrey Open Data; Statistics Canada: 2011 Surrey Census

## The Child Poverty rate is below the regional and provincial child poverty rates

Table 8 shows that the child poverty rate in Surrey was higher in 2005 than the provincial and national rate and was only slightly below the child poverty rate in all of Metro Vancouver. In 2010, Surrey was below both the regional and provincial child poverty rates but above the national child poverty rate. Unfortunately, due to the voluntary nature of the National Household Survey, it is not possible to effectively compare child poverty rates in 2011 with the results of the 2006 Census.

<sup>115</sup> The Low Income Measure (LIM) is a fixed percentage of median adjusted household income (adjusted= household needs are taken into account). Source: Statistic Canada, Low Income Measures

<sup>116</sup> See Table XVII (Appendix)

*Table 30: Child (Persons 18 years and under) Poverty Rate (2005 and 2010)*

<b>Region</b>	<b>LICO<sup>117</sup> 2005</b>	<b>LIM 2010</b>
<b>Surrey</b>	17.3	18.7
<b>Metro Vancouver</b>	18.5	19.5
<b>BC</b>	14.9	19.1
<b>Canada</b>	13.1	17.3

Source, 2005: 2006 Census of Population, Community Profiles.; Source, 2010: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles 2011

## The majority of Surrey households are food secure<sup>118</sup>

It is a good sign to see that 93.8% of families in the South Fraser Region are food secure, with only 5.1% of households in 2011-2012 reporting being moderately food insecure. It is slightly troubling that from 2007-2008 there has been a .4% decrease in family households that are food secure and .9 increase in those who are moderately food secure.

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<sup>117</sup> Low Income Cut-off (LICO) “are income thresholds below which a family will likely devote a larger share of its income on the necessities of food, shelter and clothing than the average family” Source: Statistics Canada, Low income cut-offs

<sup>118</sup> The term Food secure is used in reference to the definition as provided in the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS). Food Security indicates whether households are able to afford the food they needed in the previous 12 months. The levels of food security are defined as: 1- Food secure: No, or one, indication of difficulty with income-related food access; 2- Moderately food insecure: Indication of compromise in quality and/or quantity of food consumed; 3- Severely food insecure: Indication of reduced food intake and disrupted eating patterns.” Source: CANSIM Table 105-0547, based on Canadian Community Health Survey

*Table 31: Level of Food Security 2007-2012 (Surrey)*

Year	Food Secure	Moderately food insecure	Severely food insecure
2007-2008	94.2	4.2	1.6
2011-2012	93.8	5.1	N/A*
Percent change	-0.4	0.9	N/A*

Source: CANSIM Table 105-0547, based on Canadian Community Health Survey

\*Missing data is because the data was too unreliable to be published.

According to data from the 2013 AHS, 95% of South Fraser region never went to bed hungry because their family couldn't afford food. Only 5% of youth had sometimes gone to bed hungry and less than 1% went to bed hungry regularly or often. Youth who indicated going to bed hungry were more likely than their peers to report not having any food to eat for breakfast<sup>119</sup>.

Not having access to regular meals can substantially impact the mental, emotional, and physical health of youth and can reduce the likelihood of youth becoming involved in community activities such as organized sports. Youth who went to bed hungry were 33% less likely than youth who did not go to bed hungry to play organized sports and were 22% less likely to play informal sports<sup>120</sup>.

## Food banks support youth when income isn't enough

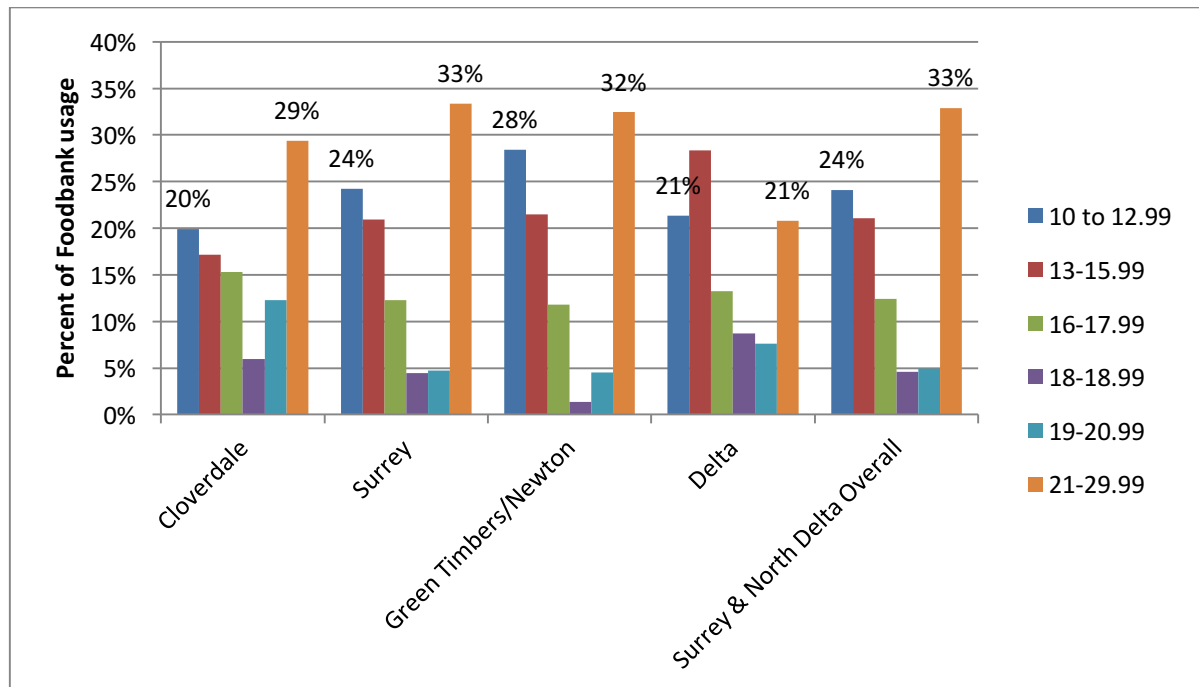
For youth trying to make ends meet, the various food banks within Surrey and North Delta provide support for when there is not enough money to pay for food. Data provided by the Surrey Food bank provides a glimpse at local youth food bank usage.

The Surrey Food Bank serves 14,000 people per month in Surrey and North Delta; 41% of those are children under age 18. That is one of the highest child usage rates for any food bank in the country, with the national averages hovering around 35%. According to Surrey Food Bank data, these numbers have stayed relatively consistent over the past few years, demonstrating that though youth food bank usage has not increased, it also has not decreased either.

<sup>119</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>120</sup> McCreary Centre Society, A Picture of Health: Highlights from the 2008 BC Adolescent Health Survey

Figure 49: Youth Surrey Food Bank Usage, January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2014<sup>121</sup>



Source: Surrey Food Bank; Statistics provided

As demonstrated by Figure 32, there seem to be some trends in regards to food bank usage for youth based on their age. Youth aged 21-30 and youth aged 10-13 are the most common youth food bank users across all Surrey food banks, whereas youth aged 18-20.99 are the least common food bank users.

<sup>121</sup> See table XVIII (Appendix)

Although not every low income youth will access a Surrey food bank, it is crucial that the services by the Surrey Food Bank and other food banks in Surrey (i.e., Sources Food Bank and the Muslim Food Bank) continue to be supported by the entire community. This can be done through individual, business, and/or organizational donations of food. Donations of money are often preferred since food banks usually have commercial purchasing

discounts that allow them to buy more with the same amount of money and it also allows food banks to adjust their purchases according to supply requirements.

### **INCREASE THE MINIMUM WAGE TO ENSURE FOOD SECURITY**

Many (37%) Youth Vital Signs respondents were concerned with increasing Surrey residents' access to low/no-cost food.

An option that was well-supported by Youth Vital Signs respondents (46% chose this option) was the idea of increasing the minimum wage so that youth would be more able to afford the rising costs of living in Surrey and the rest of Metro Vancouver. Increasing the minimum wage and/or introducing a living wage in Surrey may be possible solutions for reducing some of the financial strain that many youth in Surrey are currently facing.

## **Opportunities for Further Research**

1. Would increasing the minimum wage reduce youth poverty in Surrey?
2. How can programs and services be targeted so as to reduce income disparities between the neighbourhoods of Surrey?
3. Why are there age disparities when it comes to food bank usage? What can be learned from this? Should there be more funding and services available for youth transitioning into adulthood (age 21-30)?

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Surrey Food Bank; data provided



# Mental Wellness

Mental wellness refers to both perceived mental health as well as access to mental health services within a community. The primary sources of data used within this section are the Statistics Canada Community Health Profile (youth age 12-34) and the Adolescent Health Report (youth age 12-19). Both of these data sources focus on the SFHSDA, of which Surrey has the highest population. Both of these data sources use self-reporting methods to collect data so the data may not necessarily be representative of the actual population.

## Most Surrey youth feel as if they have good mental health

Most youth age 12 to 19 rated their mental health in the AHS as being good or excellent (84%), which was higher than the provincial rate (81%)<sup>122</sup>. South Fraser students were also less likely than their provincial counterparts to report having at least one mental condition (16% vs. 19%) and to be less likely to report a drug and/or alcohol addiction.<sup>123</sup> The most common medical conditions that were reported by Youth respondents to the AHS were depression (8%), Anxiety Disorder (8%), and/or ADD/ADHD (4%)<sup>124</sup>.

### YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

**GRADE: 3.0 OR C (AVERAGE)\***

#### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Many support systems and resources available for youth (e.g., LGBTQ, bullied youth, youth newcomers to Canada, etc) (18%)
- Youth specific addictions counselling (18%)
- Awareness of mental wellness challenges faced by youth in schools (18%)

#### TOP ISSUES TO IMPROVE

- More programs to help manage stress and/or anxiety (37%)
- More discussion of mental wellness issues in the school system (28%)
- Greater access to mental wellness services for youth (26%)

1=See figure XI and XII

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<sup>122</sup> See table XXXV (Appendix)

<sup>123</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

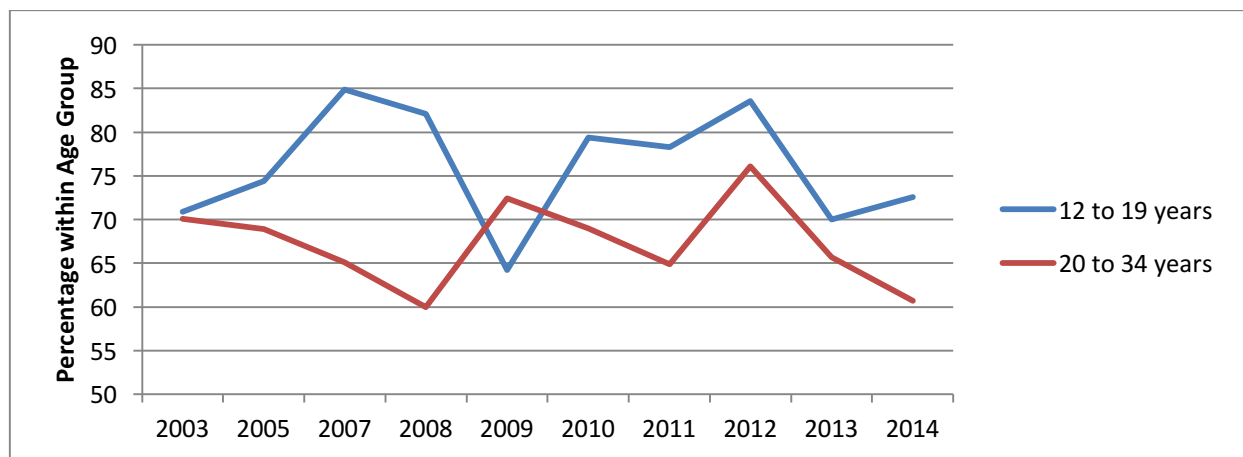
<sup>124</sup> McCreary Centre Society

Similarly, the Community health profile indicated that the majority of youth respondents ages 12-19 (72.6%) and ages 20 to 34 (60.7%) perceived their mental health to be very good or excellent<sup>125126</sup>.

## MENTAL HEALTH

Although mental wellness was chosen by respondents as one of the top four areas in Surrey that need improvement, most youth in Surrey perceive their mental health as good or excellent.

*Figure 50: Trend in perceived Mental Health, by age group (2003-2014)<sup>127</sup>*



Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

## Mental wellness declines with age

Nonetheless, as Figure 46 demonstrates, there does appear to be a correlation between respondents' age and their perceptions of their mental health. For example, comparing the perceived mental health of youth ages 12-19 and youth 20-34 reveals

<sup>125</sup> See table XXXVI

<sup>126</sup> Statistics Canada. Table 105-0501 - Health indicator profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

<sup>127</sup> See table XXXIV

that youth ages 20-34 tend to have significantly<sup>128</sup> lower percentages of these youth reporting very good or excellent mental health.

## Females struggle more than males

Results from the Adolescent Health Survey revealed that gender can also be a factor in respondents' perceptions of their own mental health. For example, male respondents were more likely to rate their mental health as being good or excellent; whereas female respondents were more likely to rate their mental health as fair or poor<sup>129</sup>. In addition, females were more likely than males to have at least one condition (19% vs. 12%); females were more likely to have multiple conditions (8% vs. 3%)<sup>130</sup>. Females were also more likely than male respondents to have an Anxiety disorder (11% vs. 4%) and suffer from Depression (11% vs. 4%)<sup>131</sup>.

## Stress and anxiety is a big issue for youth in Surrey

Whether it is stress from school, work, or life, many youth (81%) in Surrey reported feeling some level of stress within the past month. Furthermore, Fraser South youth are more likely in 2013 than in 2008 to report experiencing some level of despair (52% vs. 46% in 2008)<sup>132</sup>.

### STRESS AND ANXIETY PROGRAMS

Providing programs to help youth deal with stress and anxiety was chosen by the youth respondents in the Youth Vital Signs Survey as

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<sup>128</sup> See table XXXVII

<sup>129</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>130</sup> McCreary Centre Society

<sup>131</sup> Ibid

<sup>132</sup> Ibid

*Table 32: Percentages of youth who perceived their life stress to be, "quite a lot" by region (youth aged 12-19)*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>South Fraser</b>	N/A	14.4	N/A	31.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	27.6
<b>BC</b>	16	14.2	13.5	16.4	11.5	19	15.8	17.9	19.6	21.3
<b>Canada</b>	18.4	15.7	16.5	16.3	16.3	18.3	19.9	17.2	17.1	19.5

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table 33: Percentages of youth perceived life stress, quite a lot (15 years and over) by region (youth age 20-34)*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>South Fraser</b>	20.3	21.2	32.1	23.7	24.2	26.5	12.3	19.6	16.2	26.1
<b>BC</b>	20.8	23.3	21	21.9	19.8	22.2	16.4	22.1	21.9	22.7
<b>Canada</b>	26.2	24.3	23	22.7	24.2	22.9	23.9	23.1	22.9	23

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

Notably, percentages of extreme stress and despair tended to be higher among older students. For example, according to results from the 2013 Adolescent Health Survey, youth aged 17 and 18 were 50% more likely to experience extreme stress and despair than youth aged 13 and under (8% vs. 4% youth aged 13 and under)<sup>133</sup>. Amongst South Fraser youth age 15 to 19, respondents tended to have higher levels of stress than both their provincial and national counterparts (see table 14 and 15).

Moreover, the amount of stress experienced by older youth seems to be increasing. Table 9 shows that from 2013 to 2014, there was a 61% increase in the percent of respondents ages 20-34 who reported experiencing quite a lot of stress (16.2% vs. 26.1%). Unfortunately, due to lack of data a similar comparison cannot be completed for youth age 12-19 using the Health Indicator Profile<sup>134</sup>.

<sup>133</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>134</sup> Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional (Table 105-0501)

## South Fraser female youth at a greater risk of self harm and suicide

Approximately 11% of South Fraser students had seriously thought about killing themselves in the past year. Moreover, females are at a much greater risk of suicide than their South Fraser male counterparts. According to the results from the 2013 Adolescent Health Survey, South Fraser females are 86% (16% vs. 5%) more likely to have seriously thought about suicide and are 63% more likely to have attempted suicide (8% vs. 3%)<sup>135</sup>.

Males were less likely in 2013 than in 2008 to have thought about suicide and female rates have remained relatively constant over time. Likewise, local females were more likely in 2013 than in 2008 to have attempted suicide, whereas the male rates remained relatively stable<sup>136</sup>.

Similarly, females were 89.7% more likely to have reported cutting themselves without the intent of killing themselves. Males were more likely to report only self-harm once, whereas 25% of females who self-harmed reported doing so six or more times<sup>137</sup>.

This data suggests the need to have mental wellness services and programs target each gender specifically.

### RESPONDENTS CARE: THEY WANT MORE HELP FOR THEIR PEERS

Youth respondents in the Youth Vital Signs Survey chose the need for greater access to mental wellness services and programs as one of their top three concerns for Surrey when it comes to mental wellness. Mental health issues are particularly hard to measure since, in many cases, youth are less willing to report that they have a mental health issue than a physical health issue. This is supported by data from

## Mental health services

According to the Adolescent Healthy survey results, only 10% of South Fraser youth reported not accessing mental health services when they thought they needed to, which is consistent with the provincial rates. The rate of youth not accessing mental health

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<sup>135</sup> Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional (Table 105-0501)

<sup>136</sup> *ibid*

<sup>137</sup> *ibid*

services when necessary is higher than the rate of youth not accessing medical care when necessary (10% vs. 7%)<sup>138</sup>. Similar to physical medical care, the most common cited reasons for youth not accessing mental services were (a) that they did not want their parents to know, and (b) that they were hoping that the problem would go away<sup>139</sup>.

This may demonstrate the continued need to promote mental health awareness within Surrey schools and within the community. Providing greater discussion of mental health issues with youth is important to reduce much of the stigma that exists surrounding 'mental illness' today.

## Opportunities for Further Research

Overall, there needs to be a greater collection of data on youth mental well-being. This would be beneficial for organizations that could then better target programs and services to help youth with mental health issues in Surrey. Some other possible areas for future research include:

1. Why do a lower proportion of youth aged 20-34 perceive their mental health as good or excellent? How can programs and services be better targeted to older youth?
2. What role does gender play in determining mental health? What factors contribute to female youth reporting lower levels of mental well-being?
3. Are Surrey youth facing increasing levels of stress? How can programs and services help youth deal with their stress/ anxiety?
4. How can the stigma surrounding mental health be reduced in Surrey to reduce the amount of youth not seeking help for their mental health issues?

## Sources

Mental Health Profile, Canadian Community Health Survey - Mental Health (CCHS), by age group and sex, Canada and provinces (2002,2012) Table 105-1101

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<sup>138</sup> Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional (Table 105-0501)

<sup>139</sup> *ibid*

Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional (Table 105-0501)

McCreary Centre Society. (2014). Results of the 2013 BC adolescent health survey: Fraser south. Retrieved from [http://www.mcs.bc.ca/pdf/AHSV\\_FraserSouth.pdf](http://www.mcs.bc.ca/pdf/AHSV_FraserSouth.pdf)

# Physical Health, Fitness, and Nutrition

The Physical Health, Fitness, and Well-Being section encompasses two aspects of health care in the Fraser South region: youth perceptions of physical health, as well as the accessibility of the health care system for youth.

The majority of data within this section has its source from the Statistics Canada Community Health Survey 2014 and the Adolescent Health Survey 2013. Both of these data sources examine the South Fraser Health Services Delivery Area (SFHDA) which services Surrey, Delta, Langley, and White Rock. Surrey is the largest population serviced within the SFHSDA.

The Adolescent Health Survey (AHS) was distributed via the school systems focusing on youth in grades 7 to 12 and therefore does not include data for youth not in the school system or youth who have graduated from high school.

All data from the Community Health Survey and the AHS are self-reported and therefore may not accurately represent some health indicators. Furthermore, much of the data focuses on youth age 12-19 and in some cases additional data for the 20-34 age group had to be used to encompass some of the older youth that the Surrey Youth Vital Signs was attempting to capture. This section has been broken down into Physical Health, Fitness and Nutrition.

## YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

**GRADE: 3.3 OR C (AVERAGE)**

### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Many outdoor recreation facilities are often available for free (e.g., tennis courts, water parks, etc) (39%)
- Recreation centres are accessible and offer many programs at reasonable (26%)
- Many affordable recreation programs (22%)

### TOP ISSUES TO IMPROVE

- Provide free youth health services to the age of 25 (29%)
- Greater focus on nutrition and physical health in school (27%)
- Improve access to healthy food for low income families (27%)

<sup>1</sup>=See Figure IX and X

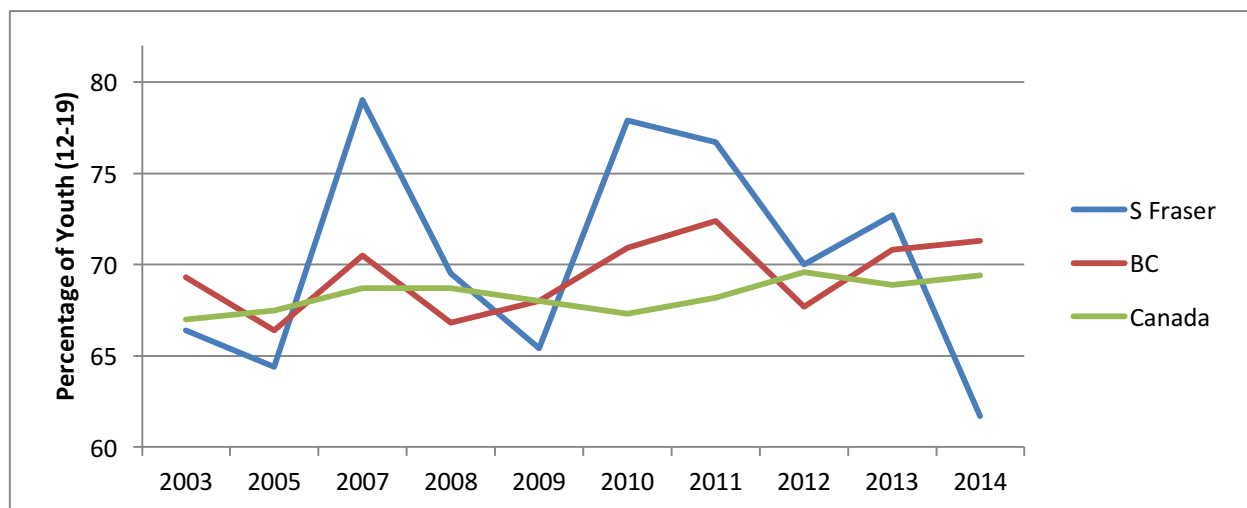


## Physical Health

Overall, youth feel as if they are in good health

Overall, the majority of youth ages 12 to 19 years old perceive themselves as being in good health, with 61.7% of youth in 2014 stating that they were in good or excellent health. Similarly, 60.7% of youth age 20-34 perceived themselves as being in good or excellent health in 2014 as can be seen in Figure 34. Furthermore only 24% of respondents in the Adolescent Health Survey reported having at least one health condition or disability<sup>140</sup>. These perceived health rates are similar to both BC and Canada<sup>141</sup>.

*Figure 51: Perceived Health, good or excellent (12-19) in Percentages<sup>142</sup>*



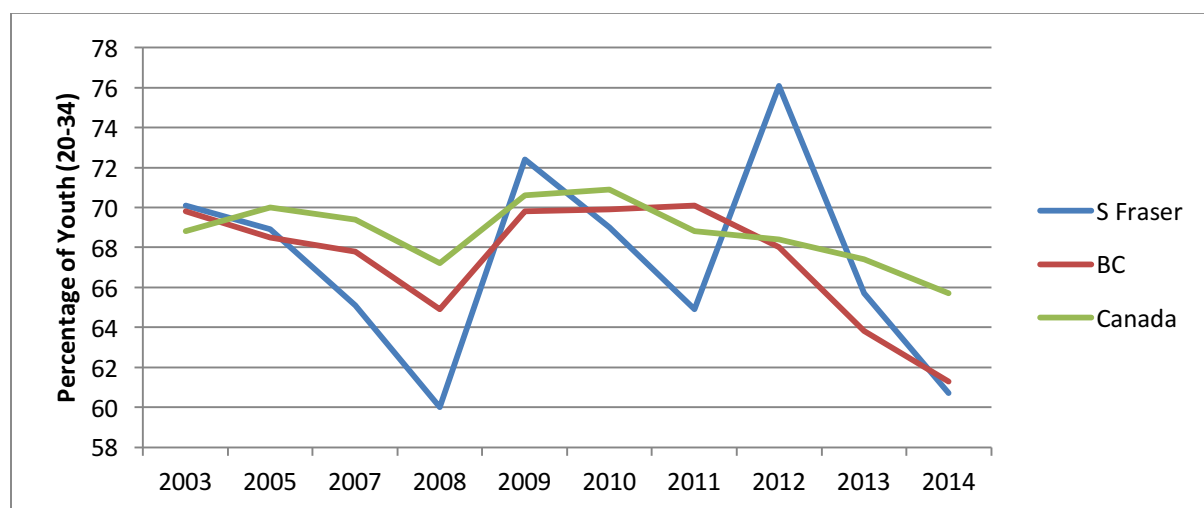
Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

<sup>140</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>141</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>142</sup> See table XIX (Appendix)

Figure 52: Perceived Health, good or excellent (20-34) in Percentages<sup>143</sup>

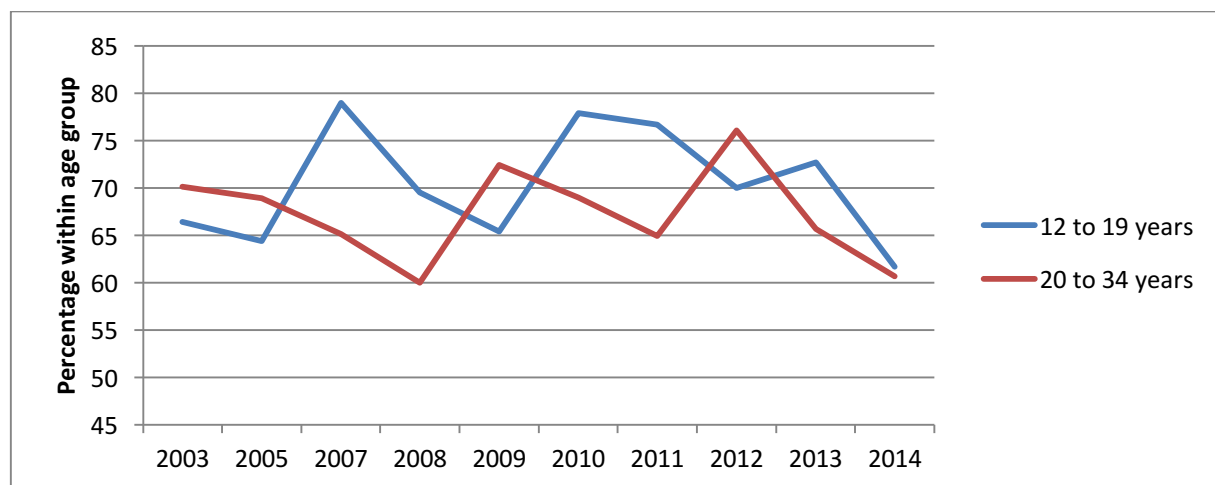


Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

Interestingly, Figure 35 demonstrates the trend for perceived health has been fluctuating since 2003; however, there does seem to have been a marginal decline (14% decline for youth age 12-19 and a 24% for youth age 20-34) in perceived health since 2011/2012. This may indicate a potential shift in perceived health that needs to be further investigated. For example, is this because youth are starting to have higher expectations of “good health” or are youth actually feeling sicker?

<sup>143</sup> See table XX (Appendix)

Figure 53: Trend of Perceived Health (good or excellent) of youth age 12-19, 20-34 (2003-2014)<sup>144</sup>



Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

## Many youths do have access to regular doctors

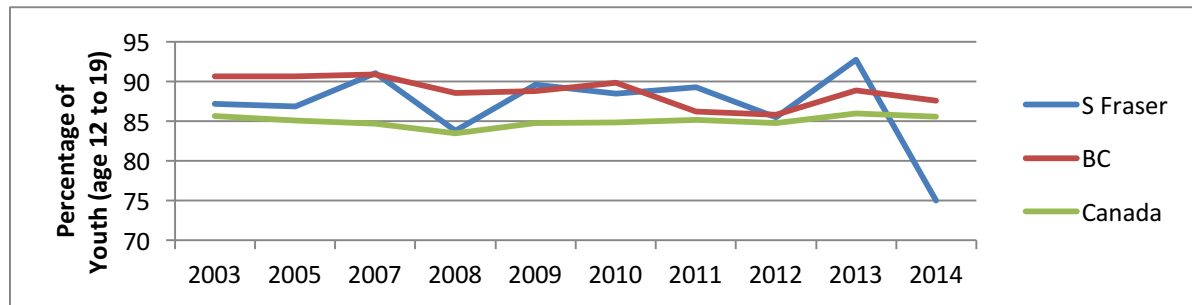
In some respects, the South Fraser Region has been successful in providing youth with access to primary health care. For example, in 2014, 75% of youth age 12-19 reported that they had access to a regular doctor. Youth age 20-34 tended to have slightly lower levels of access to regular doctor visits; nonetheless, the majority of 20-34 year olds (65.6%) did have regular access to a doctor. These rates are similar to both Canada and BC.

### YOUTH FIND PAYING FOR HEALTH CARE TOUGH

Free access for youth (aged 12 to 24) to healthcare was one of the top priorities identified by the Youth Vital Signs respondents, with 29% stating that there is a need for free access to healthcare for youth up to the age of 24. The need for greater access to medical care for youth is somewhat supported by the data.

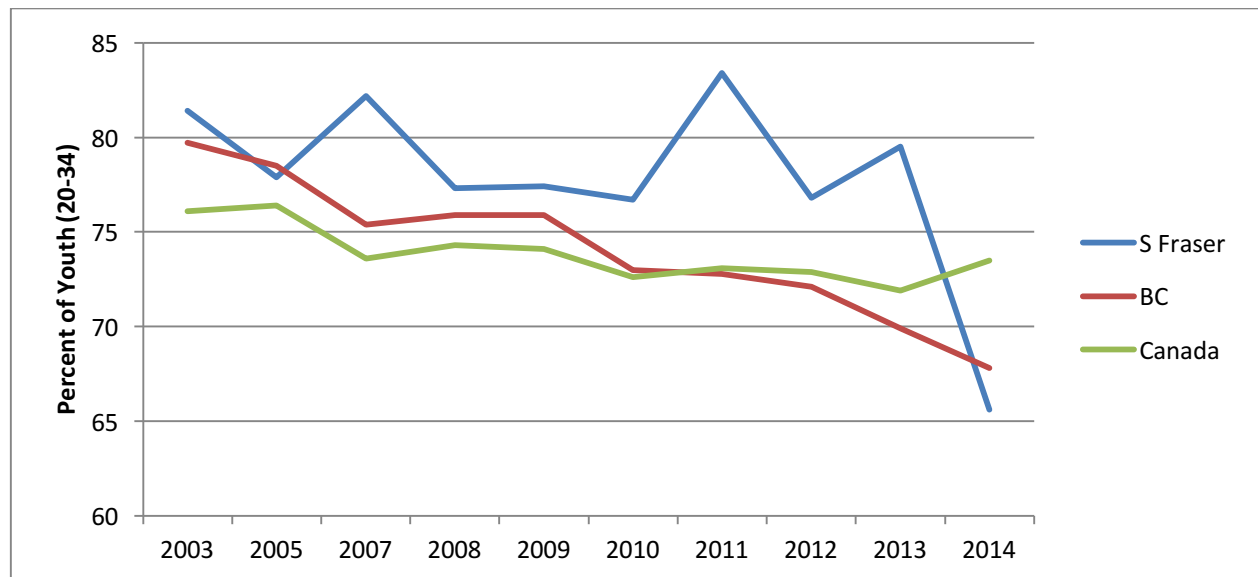
<sup>144</sup> See table XXI

Figure 54: Percentage of youth with access to a regular medical doctor (age 12-19)<sup>145</sup>



Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

Figure 55: Percentage of youth with access to a regular medical doctor (age 20-34)<sup>146</sup>

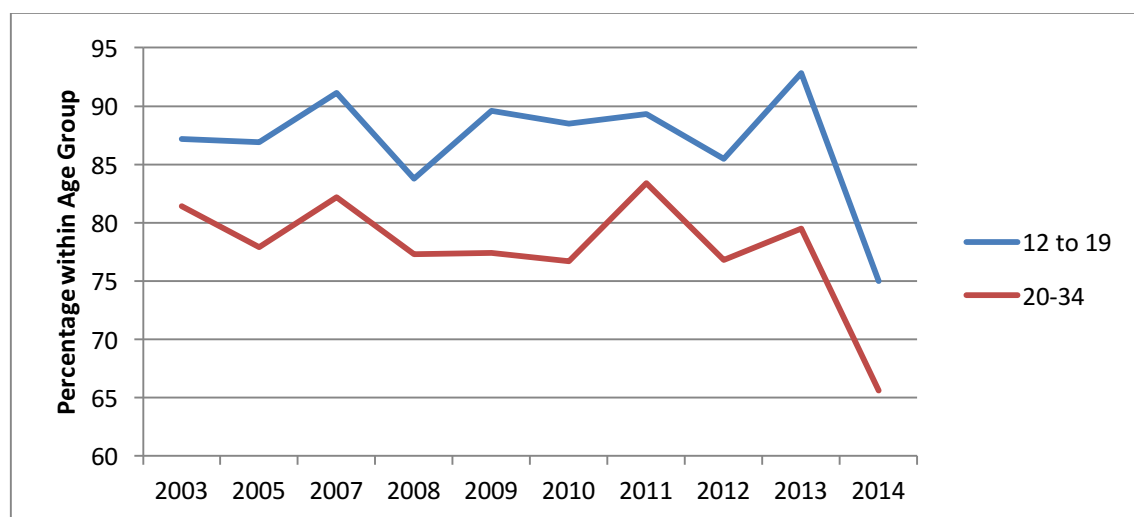


Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

<sup>145</sup> See table XXII

<sup>146</sup> See table XXII

Figure 56: Trends in Youth Access to Doctors (2003-2014)<sup>147</sup>



Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

Only 7% (6% males, 8% females) of youth aged 12-19 reported not receiving health care when they needed it. This was below both the provincial and 2008 rates for the SFHSDA<sup>148</sup>.

Sometimes youth choose not to seek medical help even though they need it

Table 34: Youth Not Seeking Medical Care when Needed

Region	2008	2013
South Fraser	12%	7%
BC	15% (females) and 11%(Males)	8%

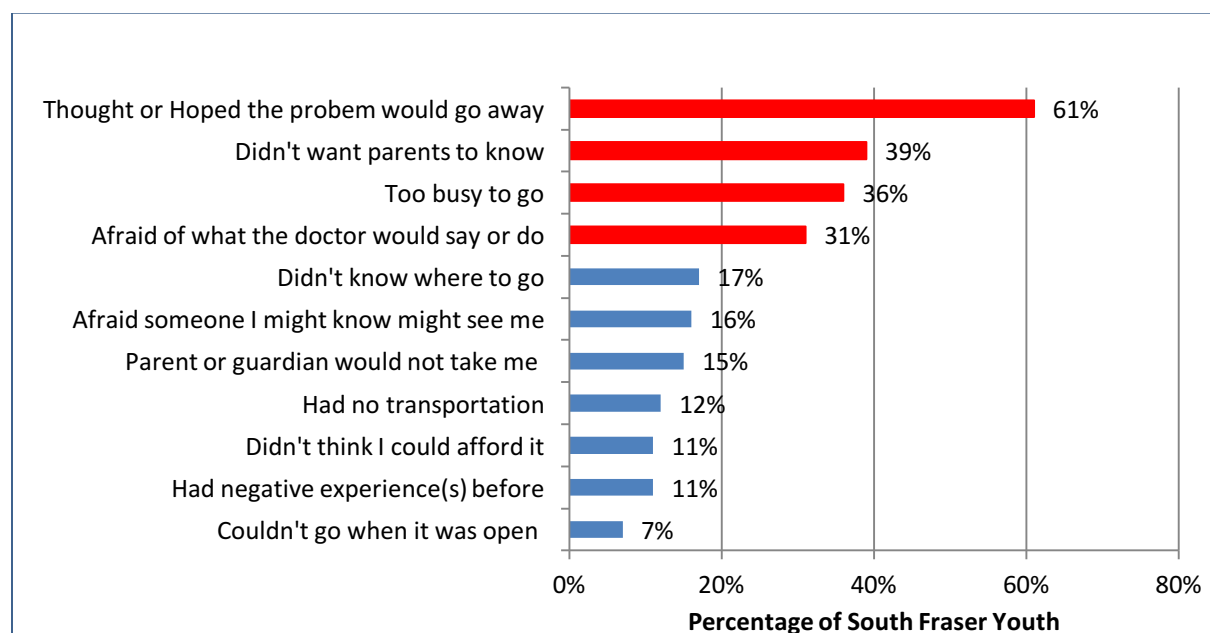
Source: McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South; McCreary Centre Society, Highlights from the 2008 BC Adolescent Health Survey

<sup>147</sup> See table XXIII

<sup>148</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

The primary reason youth cited for not seeking medical attention was that they were hoping the problem would go away (61%), followed by youth not wanting their parents to know (39%), being too busy to go (36%), or being afraid of what the doctor would say or do (31%)<sup>149</sup>.

*Figure 57: Reasons for Not Seeking Medical Attention (AHS 2013)*



Source: Taken from McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

### Access to doctors is declining

Despite these successes, it is slightly problematic that between 2013 and 2014, there was a 19% decrease in reported access to regular doctors for youth age 12-19 and a 17.5% decrease in access to doctors for youth 20-34<sup>150</sup>. In addition, youth aged 20 to 34 tended to have significantly<sup>151</sup> lower levels of access to regular doctors, which may

<sup>149</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>150</sup> See Table XXIII (Appendix) and Table XXIV

<sup>151</sup> See table XXIV (Appendix)

denote a need for more accessible or more targeted health services and programs for youth aged 20-24.

Furthermore, 2013 data from the Canadian Institute for Health Information demonstrates that though there has been a 13.2% increase from 2009 to 2013 in the number of physicians in the Fraser South Region per 100,000 (82 physicians vs. 58 physicians)<sup>152</sup>, the number of physicians per 100,000 in the Fraser South Region remains well below both the provincial and national rates (123 provincial, 111 National)<sup>153</sup>.

*Table 35: Number of Physicians (2009, 2013)*

<b>Area</b>	<b>Total Number 2009</b>	<b>Total Number 2013</b>	<b>Percentage Change</b>	<b>Physicians per 100,000 Population*</b>
<b>Fraser South</b>	554	627	13.2%	82
<b>BC</b>	5,282	5,675	7.4%	123
<b>Canada<sup>††</sup></b>	34,793	39,392	13.2%	111

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2014). The supply, distribution, and migration of Canadian physicians 2013.

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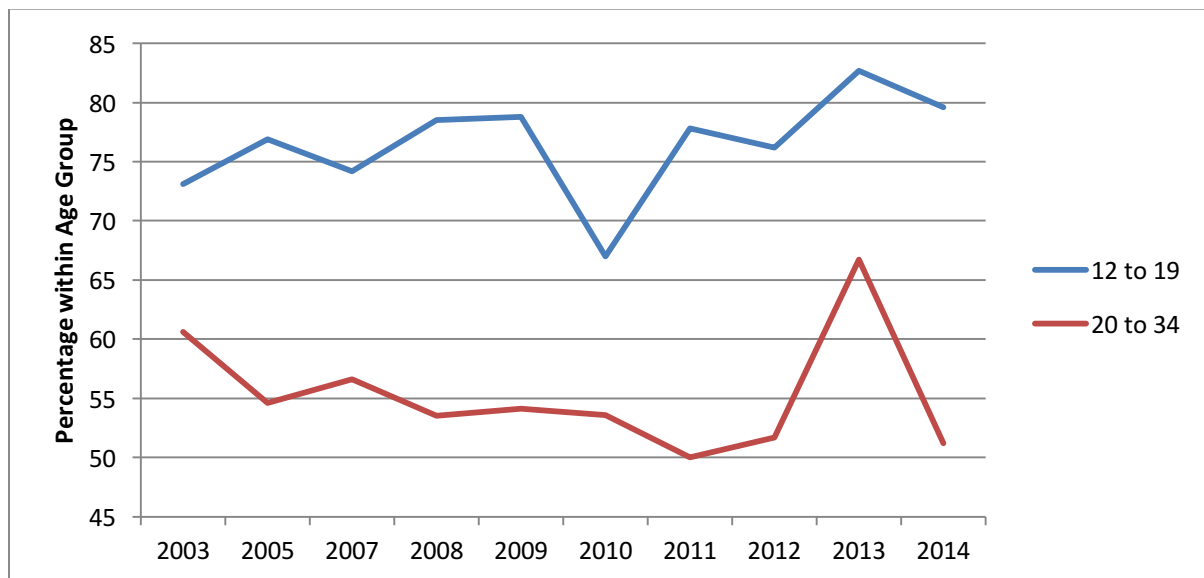
<sup>152</sup> Canadian Institute for Health Information; Supply, Distribution and Migration of Canadian Physicians (2013)

<sup>153</sup> Canadian Institute for Health Information; Supply, Distribution and Migration of Canadian Physicians (2013)

## Fitness

### Youth in Surrey need to get more active

*Figure 58: Percent of youth who are moderately active or active during leisure time, by age (2003-2014)<sup>154</sup>*



Source: Health indicator profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

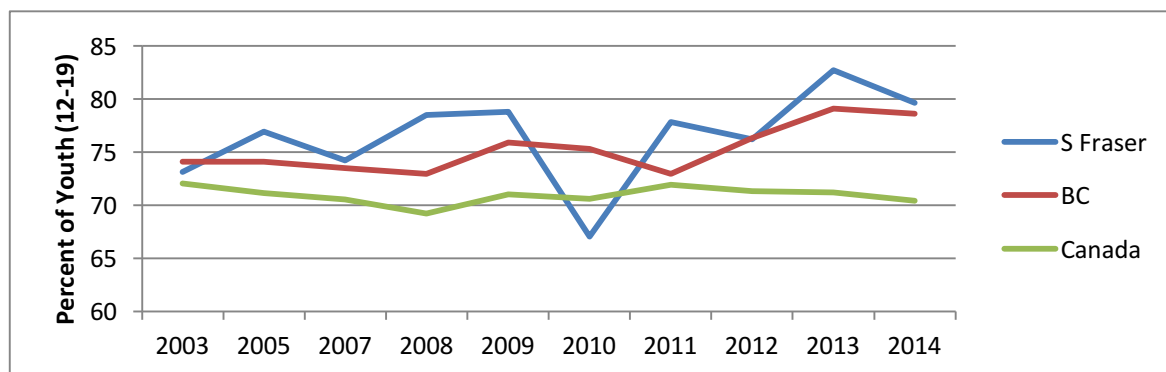
The majority of youth (ages 12-19) in the Community Health Profile indicated that they were either moderately active or active in physical exercise, with 79.6% of respondents engaged in physical exercise in 2014. Overall, the percent of youth age 12-19 who are moderately active or active has been increasing since 2010 as can be seen in figure 42.

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<sup>154</sup> See table XXVII



Figure 59: Percentage of youth who are moderately active or active (12 to 19)<sup>155</sup>



Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

## SURREY YOUTH ARE PRETTY ACTIVE

This is great news since it coincides with what the Vital Signs respondents chose as the three things to celebrate in Surrey in regards to physical health\*. There are many youth programs that are offered in the community centres that are accessible and affordable for youth. In combination with extra-curricular activities, in school many kids have opportunities to get active through the various sports leagues within the City of Surrey

Unfortunately, it appears that age plays a role in determining levels of physical activity during leisure time. The percent of youth ages 20-34 that consider themselves to be moderately active or active is significantly<sup>156</sup> lower than youth age 12-19 from 2003-2014. Similarly, youth age 20-34 tended to be significantly<sup>157</sup> more likely to report being inactive than youth age 12-19<sup>158</sup>. This may suggest their needs to be more programs and services that focus on youth 20-24.

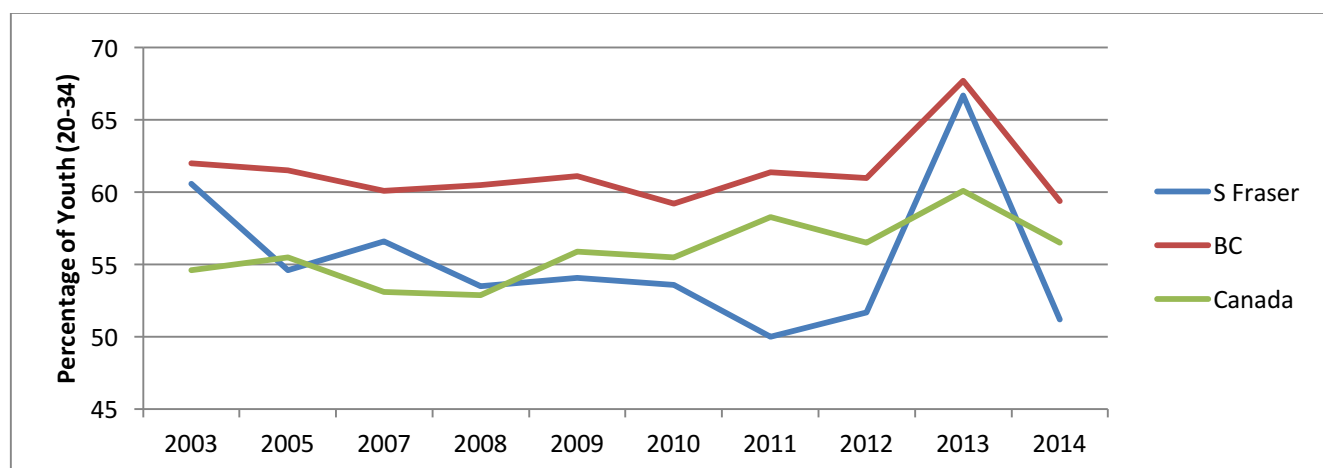
<sup>155</sup> See table XXVIII (Appendix)

<sup>156</sup> See table XXX (Appendix)

<sup>157</sup> See table XXXIII (Appendix)

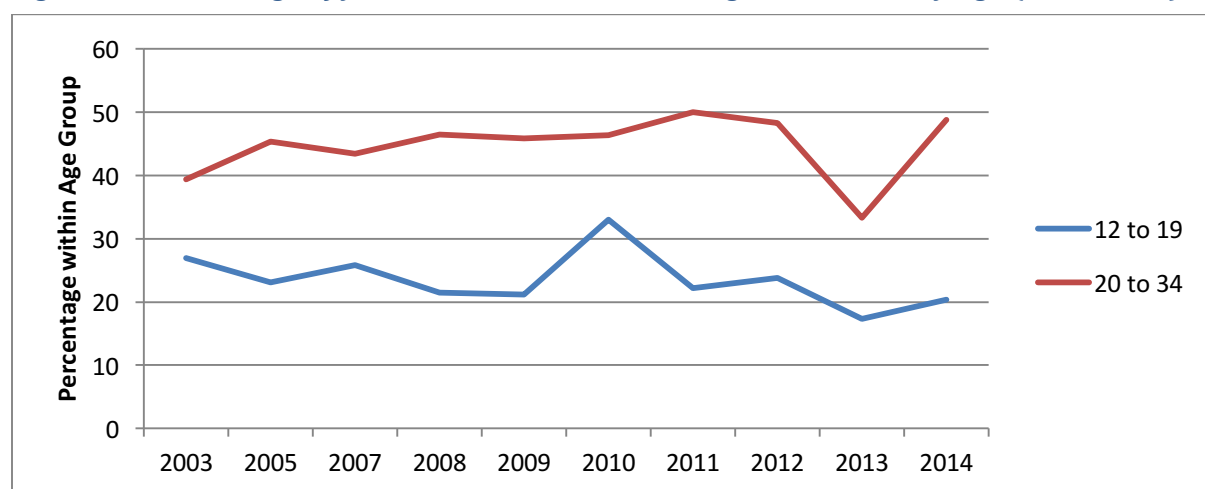
<sup>158</sup> See Table XXXI and Table XXXII (Appendix)

Figure 60: Percentage of youth who are moderately active or active (20-34)<sup>159</sup>



Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

Figure 61: Percentage of youth who are inactive during leisure time, by age (2003-2014)<sup>160</sup>



Source: Statistics Canada. Table 105-0501 - Health indicator profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

<sup>159</sup> See table XXIX (Appendix)

<sup>160</sup> See table XXXI and table XXXII (Appendix)

## Nutrition

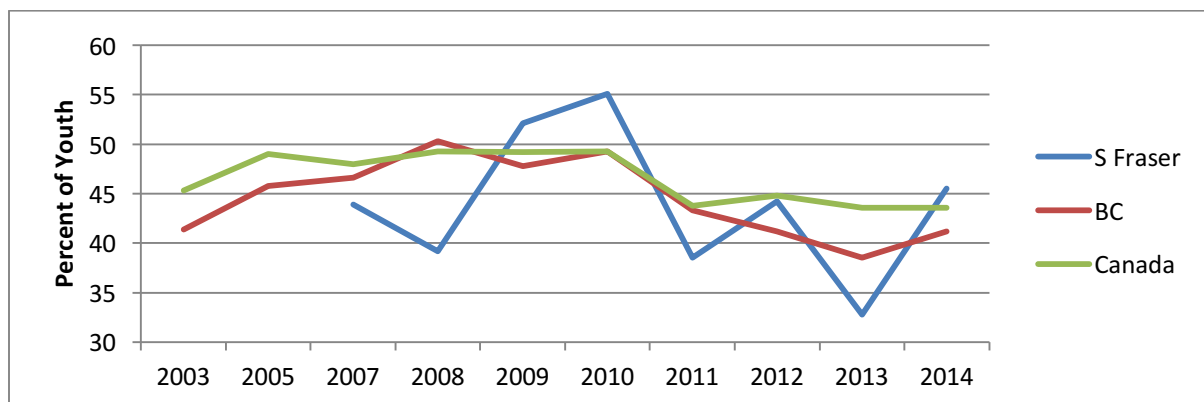
### Surrey youth need to eat better

The AHS found that 93% of youth reported eating fruits and vegetables at least once the day before the survey<sup>161</sup>. However, data from the Community Health Profile demonstrates that in 2014 only 45.4% of youth age 12-19 and 37.4% of youth ages 20-34 ate fruits and vegetables 5 or more times per day. This is similar to both provincial and national rates.

### YOUTH WANT GOOD HEALTH

Eating right and having access to healthy food encompassed two of the most important options for youth respondents to the Youth Vital Signs survey, which is important because it shows that youth in Surrey are concerned with nutrition and the benefits that healthy eating can have for both mental and physical health.

*Figure 62: Percentage of youth who consume fruits and vegetables 5 times or more per day (12 to 19)<sup>162</sup>*

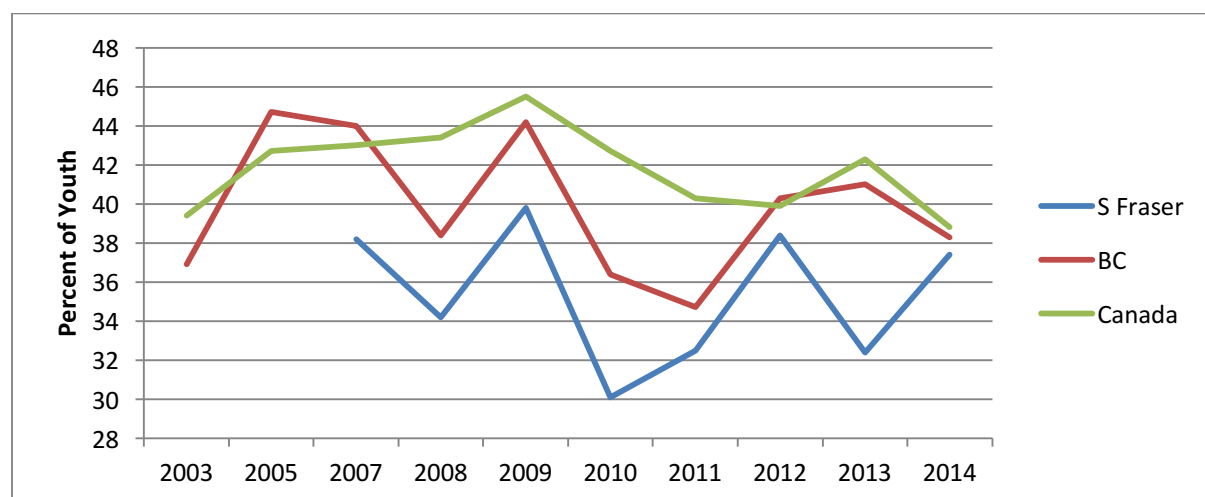


Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

<sup>161</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>162</sup> See table XXV (Appendix)

Figure 63: Percentage of youth who consume Fruit and vegetable 5 times or more per day (20 to 34)<sup>163</sup>



Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

It is concerning is that youth (age 12-19) from the South Fraser region were more likely than youth in the rest of the province to have consumed fast food. South Fraser males were particularly prone to eating fast food, being 11% more likely than South Fraser females to consume fast food (50% vs. 45% of females). Also, South Fraser female respondents were more likely than their provincial counterparts to consume soda or pop, and were less likely to have eaten vegetables (83% vs. 80% of females across BC)<sup>164</sup>.

Table 36: South Fraser Youth Nutrition\*

Food	Fraser South	
	Males (%)	Females (%)
Fast Food	50	45
Soda or Pop	46	32
Water	98	96

Source: McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

\*Based on what AHS respondents ate the day before the AHS was completed.

<sup>163</sup> See table XXVI (Appendix)

<sup>164</sup> McCreary Centre Society

Finding ways to make healthier options more appealing, accessible, and/or affordable for youth is very important because of the potential links between eating healthily and overall physical, emotional, and mental health<sup>165</sup>. For example, youth aged 12-19 who ate three or more servings of fruits and vegetables were more likely to have engaged in physical activity, were more likely to report excellent or good mental health, and were less likely to report extreme stress or despair (Adolescent Health Survey, 2013-2014).

### Majority of youth in the South Fraser Region are a healthy weight

According to the Adolescent health survey results, 76% of youth ages 12-19 who participated were a healthy weight for their age and gender. Fifteen percent of participants were considered overweight, 6% were considered obese and only 3% were considered underweight (2013-14). Males were found to be more likely to be obese than females. A greater percent of females were considered obese than back in 2008<sup>166</sup>.

Healthy weight females were more likely than healthy weight males to think they are overweight (22% vs. 5% of healthy weight males). Healthy weight females were also more likely to be trying to lose weight (51% vs. 15% healthy weight males). A greater percentage of healthy weight males were trying to gain weight (33% vs. 4% of healthy weight females)<sup>167</sup>

### But ...South Fraser obesity rates are still increasing...

Although the majority of youth are considered to be a healthy weight, data from the Community Health Survey<sup>168</sup> demonstrated that in 2014, 29.2% of youth (12-17) in the Fraser South region reported as being obese/overweight which is higher than both the provincial (18.6%) and national (23.1%) self-reported obesity rates. This was an 8% increase in self-reported obesity from 2013 to 2014. Due to the significant health

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<sup>165</sup> ibid

<sup>166</sup> Ibid

<sup>167</sup> Ibid

<sup>168</sup> Source: Statistics Canada. Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)

concerns that are associated with obesity, such as increased risk of heart disease, diabetes, etc., this is definitely something that needs to be addressed.

## Smoking and Drinking

Youth in Surrey are less likely to smoke and drink than the rest of BC

### Smoking<sup>169</sup>

Since 2008, only 16% of youth had ever tried smoking which is a 31% less than the BC rate of 21%. Furthermore, of those youth who did smoke, most of them had begun to start smoking later with 51% waiting till they were 15 compared to 41% in 2008<sup>170</sup>.

Compared to their provincial counterparts, Fraser South students were less likely to be exposed to tobacco smoke inside their home or family vehicle at least sometimes (16% vs. 21% BC)<sup>171</sup>.

### Drinking

Fraser South students were 22% less likely to have ever tried alcohol than their BC counterparts (37% vs. 45%). In addition, the Adolescent Health Survey found that there had been a 29% decrease from 2008<sup>172</sup>.

## Safe Sex

Safe Sex awareness seems to be improving in the South Fraser Region

In 2009, teen birth rate per 100,000 teen females in the Fraser Health region was 9.7%, which at the time was higher than the provincial average of 9.5<sup>173</sup>. However data from the AHS shows a decline in pregnancy reports in students, with only 1% of student in 2013 having reported any history of pregnancy compared to 6% in 2008<sup>174</sup>.

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<sup>169</sup> National Household Survey Data was unavailable for the smoking and drinking habits of youth under the age of 18.

<sup>170</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>171</sup> McCreary Centre Society

<sup>172</sup> Ibid

<sup>173</sup> Health & Business Analytics, Fraser Health Authority. Health Profile 2012: A Snapshot of the Health of Fraser Health residents

<sup>174</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

Most youth are not sexually active, with only 14% of youth reporting having intercourse, which represented a 22% decrease from 2008, and which is lower than the provincial rate (19%). Of those students that had had intercourse, 71% of them reported using some form of protection<sup>175</sup>.

*Table 37: Safe Sexual Behaviour (South Fraser: 2008, 2013)*

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>% increase/ decrease</b>
<b>Ever Been Pregnant</b>	6%	1%	-83%
<b>Used Condoms (Oral Sex)*</b>	N/A**	12%	N/A**
<b>Used Condoms (Intercourse)*</b>	62%	71%	15%
<b>Intercourse Before Age 14</b>	36%	29%	-19%

Source: McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

\*Last time they had oral sex/intercourse

\*\*N/A means that the data was not provided by the McCreary Centre Society

Of those students who engaged in oral sex, 12% had used some form of protection the last time they had oral sex, which was less than the provincial rate (17%). Only 5% of South Fraser Students did not use any form of contraceptive in their last sexual encounter (intercourse). However, not using a contraceptive made respondents five times more likely to report having been pregnant than those who used contraceptives<sup>176</sup>.

Furthermore, youth are having sex at a later age compared to 2008. The proportion of South Fraser youth having intercourse before the age of 14 has decreased by approximately 19% since 2008 (29% vs. 36% in 2008). Males were more likely than females to have had sex before the age of 12<sup>177</sup>.

Regardless of the improvements in sexual health and awareness within the South Fraser Region, there needs to be a continued effort on the part of the community, health providers and educators to educate youth about sexual health issues and safe sex.

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<sup>175</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>176</sup> BC Stats Socioeconomic Profiles. As reported in Health & Business Analytics, Fraser Health Authority.

<sup>177</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

## Opportunities for Further Research

Due to limitations with the Survey, we were unable to determine why youth have chosen these areas as priorities within Physical Health Nutrition and Fitness. Further research could investigate:

1. Whether or not youth would benefit from having greater access to free health care for youth up to the age of 24. What are the reasons youth feel as if there is a need for greater access to youth health care?
2. Is access to regular doctors actually decreasing for youth aged 12-34? Why are youth aged 20-34 in the South Fraser less likely to have a regular doctor? Are clinics becoming more popular with youth rather than having a regular doctor?
3. Why are South Fraser Youth more likely to eat fast food than their provincial counterparts? Is there a need for greater promotion and availability of healthy foods with the Surrey community?
4. What role does age play in physical activity levels? Is there a need for physical health programs that target youth aged 20-24?

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McCreary Centre Society, (2009). Highlights from the 2008 BC Adolescent Health Survey. Retrieved from [http://www.mcs.bc.ca/pdf/AHSIV\\_APictureOfHealth.pdf](http://www.mcs.bc.ca/pdf/AHSIV_APictureOfHealth.pdf)

Statistics Canada. Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), Indicator Profile, CANSIM Table 105-0501 for Canada, Provinces and Health Regions

Statistics Canada. Table 105-0501 - Health indicator profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

# Safety

*“investing in an actual long board park, similar to the one in Kamloops to get most of the long boarders of the roads. Just because you make long boarding illegal or a by-law, doesn’t mean kids are going to stop boarding. This will control at least part of the long boarding crowd and prevent more injuries and damage on public roads and even private roads.”*  
– SurreyCares Vital Signs Youth Survey Respondent

*“From personal experiences, schools don’t respond to bullying (even those with “0 Tolerance” policies). Some students go to school only feeling ‘physically’ safe (bullies won’t physically harm them, but will tease, vandalize their belongings, etc.)”* – SurreyCares Vital Signs Youth Survey Respondent

Surrey’s youth crime rate is below the provincial rate...

Surrey’s youth (ages 12-17) crime rate is below the provincial crime rate; however, unlike the provincial crime rate, which has been decreasing since 2009, the overall youth crime rate in Surrey has been increasing since 2012.

## YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

**GRADE: 3.0 OR C (AVERAGE)\***

### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Anti-bullying programs (24%)
- Good lighting in parks (16%)
- More awareness of crime and personal safety (14%)

### TOP ISSUES TO IMPROVE

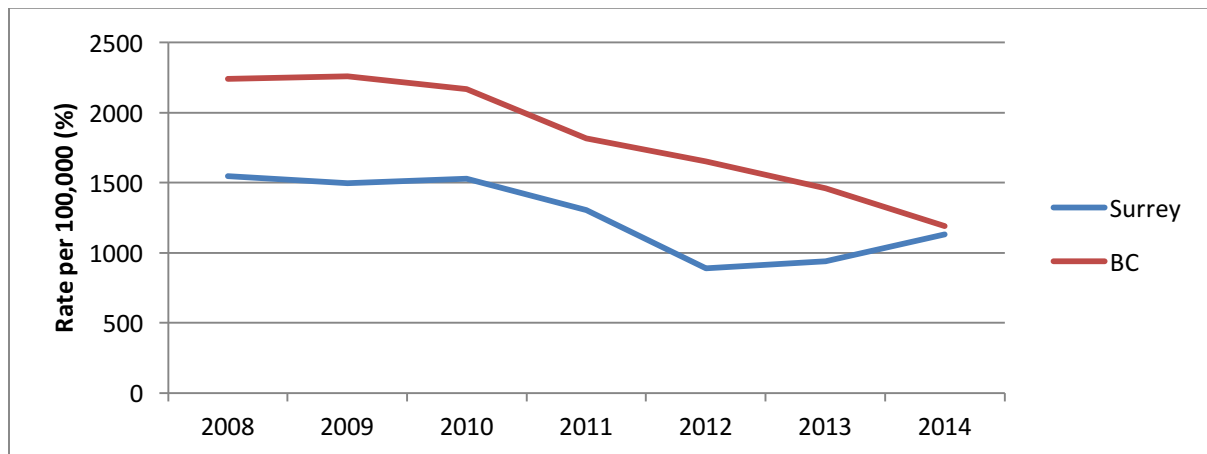
- Better relationship between police and youth (26%)
- Greater punishment for online and in-person bullying (25%)
- Increase programs to keep youth from being involved in crime (21%)

1=See Figures XVII and XVIII

## SAFETY

Safety is a big concern for youth in Surrey and was ranked as the top issue that needs to be improved by the Youth Vital Signs respondents. It was considered to be a greater issue for older youth (17-24) which may be due to the increased probability of youth 15+ of being both the victims and perpetrators of crime. The primary data shows mixed results demonstrating areas in which Surrey has improved in regards to Safety and areas that need improvement.

Figure 64: Youth charged per 100,000 pop aged 12 to 17 All Criminal Offences<sup>178</sup>



Sources: Statistics Canada. *Table 252-0081*

### ...but it's on the rise...

Although overall youth crime rate is increasing, there has been a marked overall decrease in youth being charged for violent offences in Surrey. Since 2008, there has been a 31% decrease in violent offences committed by youth. It is important to note however that from 2013 to 2014, there was a 3% increase in violent offences committed by youth.

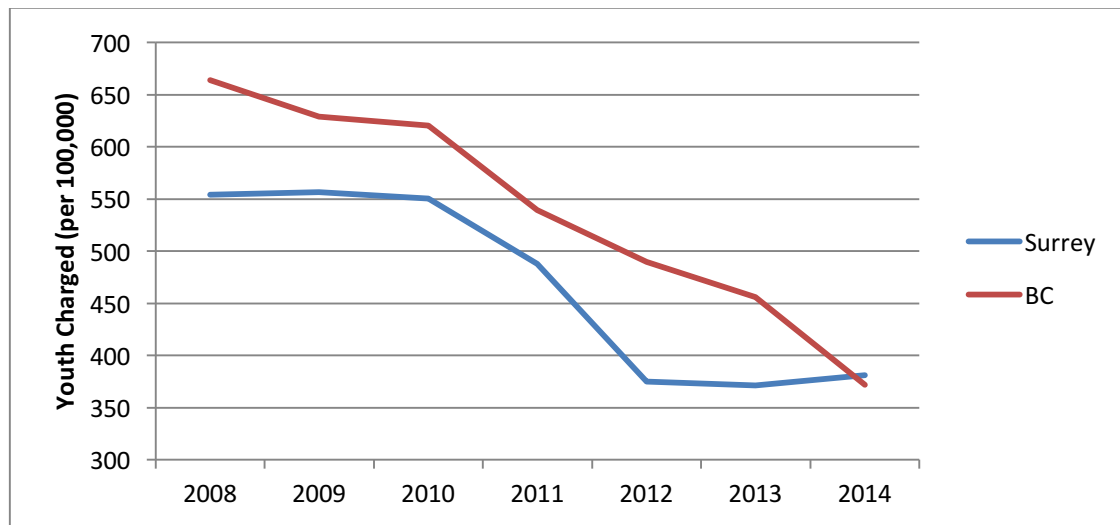
Similarly, up until 2014, Surrey's youth crime rate had been below the provincial rate. In 2014, Surrey's youth violent offence rate was 2.5% higher than the provincial rate. The overall decrease in violent offences may be a consequence of the crime prevention programs that are offered within Surrey's K-12 system.

#### YOUTH WANT MORE CRIME PREVENTION SUPPORT

This increase in the crime rate may be why respondents in the Youth Vital Signs Survey regardless of their age wanted to increase crime prevention programs to prevent youth from becoming part of criminal activities

<sup>178</sup> See table XLIV (Appendix)

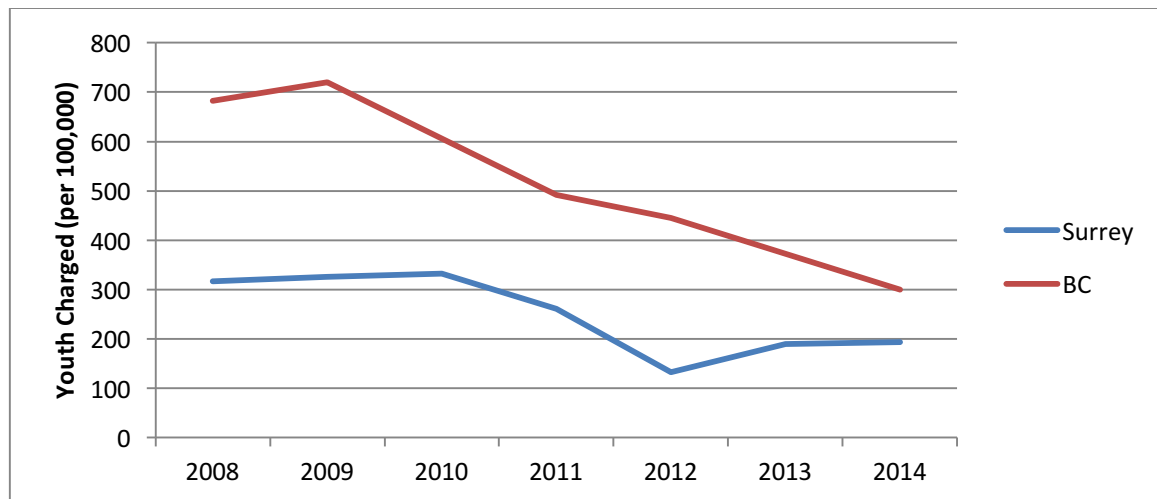
Figure 65: Youth Charged per 100,000 pop aged 12 to 17 Violent Offences<sup>179</sup>



Sources: Statistics Canada. *Table 252-0081*

Property offences statistics committed by youth aged 12 to 17 in Surrey have decreased substantially since 2010, and are considerably below the provincial rate. Since 2008, youth property crime has decreased by 39%.

Figure 66: Youth Charged per 100,000 pop aged 12 to 17 Property Offences<sup>180</sup>



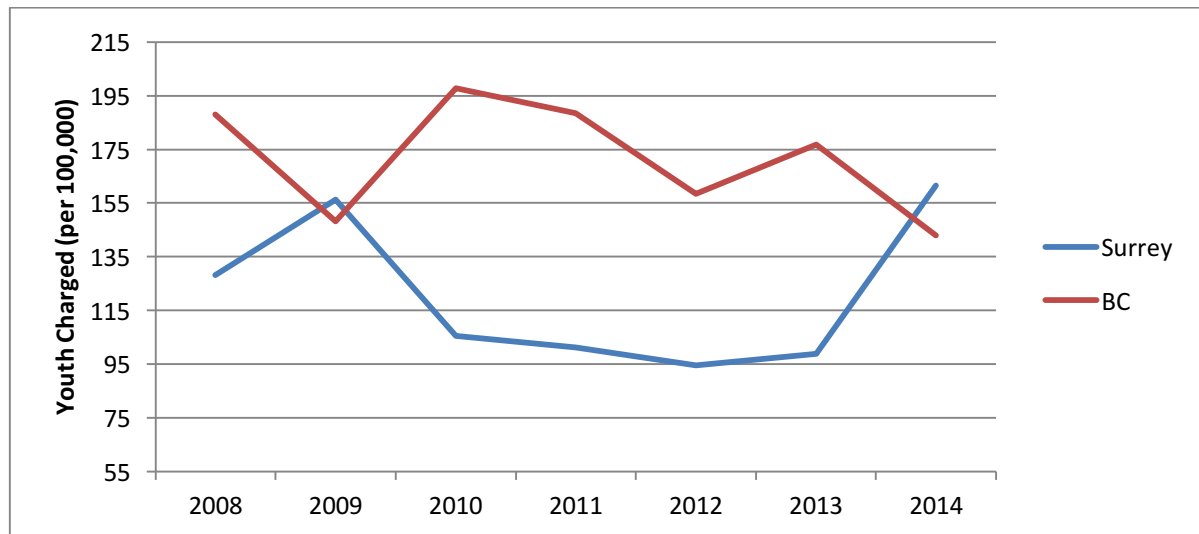
<sup>179</sup> See table XLV (Appendix)

<sup>180</sup> See table XLVI (Appendix)

Sources: Statistics Canada. *Table 252-0081*

Overall, the rate of youth drug offences per 100,000 has increased since 2008. Between 2013 and 2014 there was a staggering 64% increase in youth aged 12 to 17 charged with drug offences.

*Figure 67: Youth Charged per 100,000 pop aged 12 to 17 Drug Offences<sup>181</sup>*



Sources: Statistics Canada. *Table 252-0081*

## School Safety

### Surrey youth feel safer in schools

It is comforting to note that the majority of Surrey School District students feel safe at school most of the time. Moreover, more students are feeling safe most of the time when compared to 2009/10.

Nonetheless, it is interesting to note the disparity between various grades. For example, the average of students who feel safe most of time for Grade 7s over the last 5 years is

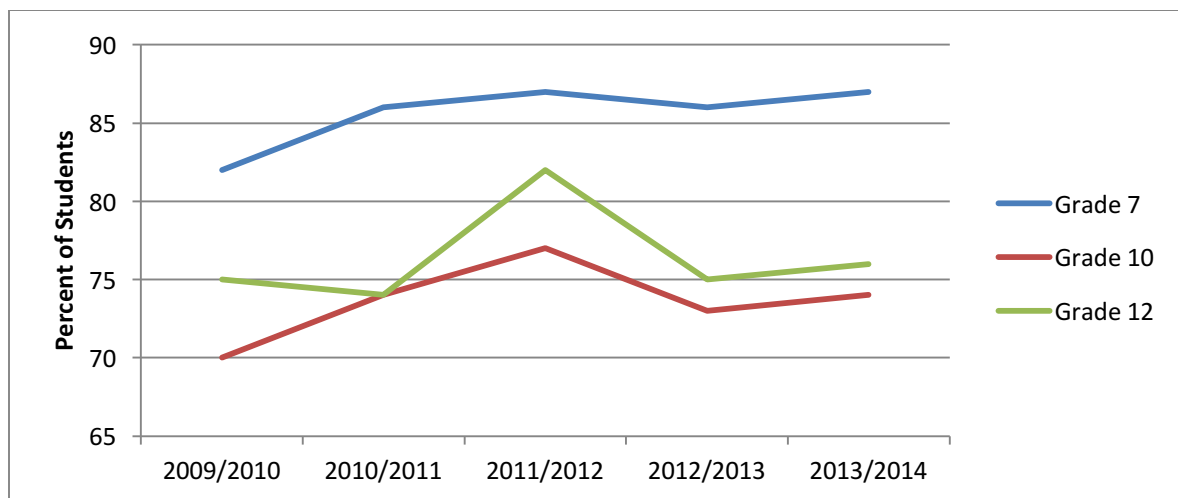
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<sup>181</sup> See table XLVII (Appendix)

86.6%. The average for Grade 10s and 12s is 73.6 and 76.4 respectively. Clearly older students in high school are feeling less safe than students in Grade 7.

Grade 10-12 are important years for students looking to go onto post-secondary. Data from the Adolescent Health Survey<sup>182</sup> found that students who don't feel safe in school are more likely to have skipped school and are less likely to have plans for the future (post-secondary)<sup>183</sup>. Therefore, not feeling safe in school can be detrimental for educational attainment and perhaps continuing participation in educational institutions.

*Figure 68: Feeling Safe at School many times/most the time<sup>184</sup>*



Source: Ministry of Education; Surrey School District Statistics provided

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<sup>182</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>183</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

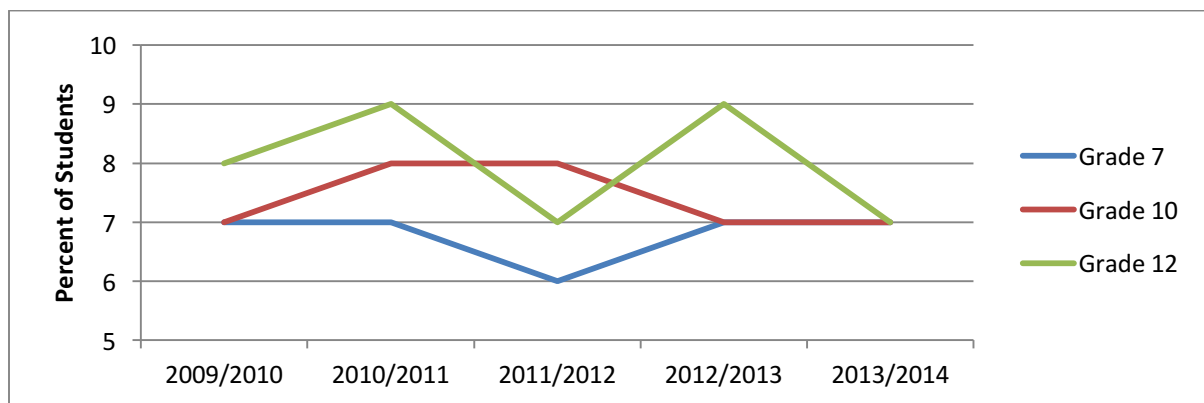
<sup>184</sup> See table XLVIII (Appendix)

## Bullying

Figure 69: Percentage of students being bullied, teased, or picked on<sup>185</sup>

### BULLYING

Bullying was a big issue for respondents in the Youth Vital Signs. Youth thought that Surrey has done well with its anti-bullying programs, but also felt that there needed to be greater punishment for in-person and online bullying.



Source: Ministry of Education; Surrey School District Statistics provided





The number of students in the Surrey School District that reported being bullied, teased or picked on has stayed relatively stable over the past 5 years, ranging from 6-9%. This may be an underrepresentation since many youths may not feel comfortable reporting any bullying that they may have experienced. According to data from the Adolescent Health Survey, 34% of South Fraser students had been teased at least once to point where they felt bad or extremely uncomfortable.<sup>186</sup> Rates of teasing tended to increase until youth were 14-15 and then reports of teasing tended to decline<sup>187</sup>.

<sup>185</sup> See table XLIX (Appendix)

<sup>186</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>187</sup> McCreary Centre Society

*Table 38: Types of Bullying in the South Fraser (2008 and 2013)*

<b>Bullying Type</b>	<b>Male (2013)</b>	<b>Female (2013)</b>	<b>2008 Total</b>	<b>2013 Total</b>	<b>Compared to BC</b>
<b>Teasing*</b>	29%	40%	30%	34%	 **
<b>Social Exclusion (at least once)</b>	26%	41%	29%	34%	 **
<b>Assault (attacked at least once)</b>	10%	4%	10% Males 6% Females	7%	
<b>Cyber-bullying (in the past year)</b>	9%	16%	12%	18%	

Source: McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

\*at least once to the point where they felt bad or extremely uncomfortable

\*\*Symbols refer to how South Fraser rates relate to BC. Downward arrow means below BC rate, black bar means comparable to BC rate

Social exclusion was another type of bullying that was discussed in the Adolescent Health Survey, 34% of local students had been socially excluded at least once, and 9% had been socially excluded on three or more occasions.<sup>188</sup> South Fraser Females are more likely than South Fraser males to use social exclusion as a form of bullying and, although not outwardly injurious, social exclusion can have serious effects on the mental and emotional health of youth<sup>189</sup>. It is also very difficult for teachers, parents, or other adults to address this type of bullying.

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<sup>188</sup> [ibid](#)

<sup>189</sup> [ibid](#)



Physical bullying tended to be less common in South Fraser students than the other types of bullying. Only 7% of students had been physically assaulted once and only 1% had been physically assaulted on three or more occasions<sup>190</sup>.

Cyber-bullying is one of the most difficult types of bullying to address because of the anonymity that the internet provides, as well as the difficulty in prosecuting the perpetrators. Fortunately, there are signs that cyber-bullying may be decreasing in the South Fraser region. In the Adolescent Health Survey, respondents reported a 50% decrease in cyber bullying between 2008 and 2013. Females in the South Fraser females were less likely than their provincial counterparts to have experience cyber bullying (16% vs. 19% in BC).<sup>191</sup>

Bullying can have serious consequences and can greatly impact a youth's physical, mental, and emotional health. In some cases, it can lead youth to start skipping classes to avoid getting bullied. It can prevent youth from becoming part of their school community for fear of that they may encounter their bullies. All of this can be detrimental for youth's educational attainment and overall health<sup>192</sup>.

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<sup>190</sup> [ibid](#)

<sup>191</sup> [ibid](#)

<sup>192</sup> [ibid](#)

## YOUTH WANT A BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE POLICE

Twenty-six percent of respondents in the Youth Vital Signs survey felt that their community could benefit if youth had better relationship with the police. It was chosen by the Vital Signs respondents as one of the top areas for improvement when it comes to safety. A few youth in the comments section of the survey voiced strong negative comments about the police and their interaction with them. This is concerning since if youth are apprehensive about turning to police for help or do not trust the police, it may prevent youth from relying on the police when they are actually needed and/or prevent them from helping the police with information on crimes\*.

Regardless, 18% of youth respondents from the Youth Vital Signs survey did want there to be an increase in the number of police officers in Surrey, which demonstrates that Surrey youth do feel that police officers do a necessary job in protecting their communities.

<http://www.sascv.org/ijcjs/pdfs/henrychowicjs2012istissue.pdf>

## Opportunities for Further Research

1. Why has youth crime in Surrey been increasing since 2012?
2. Why did youth drug offence charges increase by 64% from 2013 to 2014?
3. Why is there a disparity in youth that feel safe in school between younger and older students?
4. How can the relationship between police and youth in Surrey be improved?

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# Youth Spaces

Giving youth space to exercise, hangout with friends, or just relax is not only important for building a sense of community among youth but also gives youth a safe space to grow and develop.

Youth want more, free youth-dedicated, hangout places

The respondents in the Youth Vital Signs Survey are aware of the many programs and facilities that are provided by the City of Surrey, such as community centre programs, outdoor recreation facilities, city-sponsored youth spaces. The City does offer a multitude of different youth programs through local community centres in Surrey, such as drop-in sports programs, arts programs, etc. In addition, the number of facilities that offer City programs and services is in most cases increasing, but the number of schools offering city programs and services has decreased.

## YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

**GRADE: 3.4 OR C (AVERAGE)\***

### TOP ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Outdoor spaces available (e.g. Parks, pools) (45%)
- Malls (41%)
- Adequate sports facilities (24%)

### TOP ISSUES TO IMPROVE

- More free youth-dedicated hangout places for youth under 19 (33%)
- More space for youth recreation (26%)
- More affordable youth spaces (24%)

Youth in the Vital Signs survey loved the outdoor facilities provided by the City such as pools, skateboard parks, soccer fields, etc.

Other non-city sponsored youth spaces such as the many malls in Surrey were highly regarded by many (41%) of the Youth Vital Signs Survey respondents. These spaces provide a multi-purpose space for youth to congregate and hang out on weeknights and weekends.

1=See Figures III and IV

*Table 39: Public Facilities that offer City Programs and Services*

<b>Public Facilities</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Arts, Community and Senior's Centres</b>	9	16	17	17	17
<b>Pools, Rinks and REC Centres</b>	30	27	27	27	27
<b>Schools</b>	47	51	51	39	31
<b>Heritage Sites</b>	6	4	4	4	4
<b>Libraries</b>	6	7	7	7	7
<b>Total</b>	98	105	106	94	86

Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard, Facilities that Offer City Programs

The City of Surrey has found some innovative ways to help youth find safe and affordable youth spaces. For example, the City of Surrey created an application called the “City of Surrey: Low Cost No Cost Map”<sup>193</sup> that allows youth and other Surrey Residents to find places nearby where they can go for low cost/no cost activities. It also includes information on locations for important amenities such as hospitals, legal services, etc., that many youth and newcomers to Surrey may not necessarily know. The expansion of this application to include local events and festivals that may be available any time would also be very helpful.

### **WE LOVE OUR SPACE; MORE SPACE, PLEASE!**

The message from youth respondents in the Vital Signs survey is that they want to have more spaces available for them; whether it be for recreation, leisure, or just to hang out. South Surrey (23%) and Whalley (19%) had the highest proportions of youth in the Youth Vital Signs who felt that youth spaces was an area that needed improvement in

It is very important that youth spaces are not only made available for all youth 12-24 but that different youth spaces are made to serve a variety of youth and purposes. For example, many of City of Surrey youth spaces primarily serve youth under the age of 18, leaving youth ages 19-24 with fewer programs and services provided specifically for them. There needs to be more effort to ensure that youth age 19-24, who are at great risk for criminal activity (see figure), also have spaces within the community where they can hang out and feel safe.

<sup>193</sup> City of Surrey, Low Cost No Cost

Figure 70: Persons accused of crimes, by age, Canada, 2010

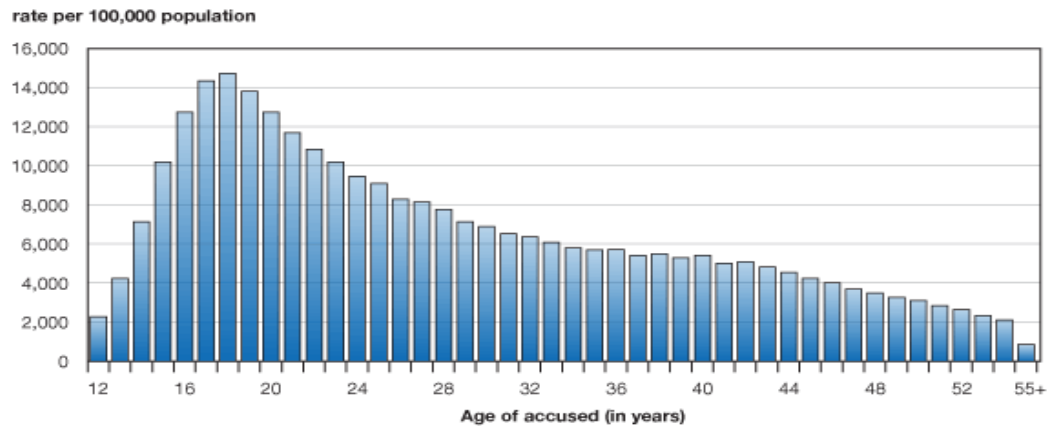


Image Taken from: Public Safety Canada (2012) *A Statistical Snapshot of Youth at Risk and Youth Offending in Canada*. Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR2) Survey.

## Space needs to be inclusive, supportive and safe

There also needs to be greater funding for youth spaces and programs that are supportive and inclusive of LGBTQ youth, youth newcomers to Canada and youth with varying levels of abilities; allowing these youths a place to feel safe and hang out with their friends.

## Youth want to have a say in the creation and management of “their” space

It is also important that youth have an opportunity to have a say in the types of spaces that are available to them. Allowing youth to lead youth space projects will ensure that these spaces will be meeting the needs of the people that will actually be using them and will ensure that the spaces will be attractive to youth.

## Opportunities for Further Research

1. Are there enough safe and affordable youth spaces available for youth aged 12 to 24 in Surrey?
2. Do the youth spaces available meet the needs of all youth in Surrey regardless of age, gender, sexual identity, ethnicity, level of family income, etc.?
3. What kinds of spaces are youth most interested in having available to them?

## Sources

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Public Safety Canada (2012) *A Statistical Snapshot of Youth at Risk and Youth Offending in Canada*. Retrieved from <http://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/ststclsnpsh-t-yth/ssyr-eng.pdf>

Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR2) Survey.

# Youth Voice

Surrey youth seem to have lots of great opportunities to have a say in decision-making in our community.

Surrey has done a good job of incorporating youth into decision making through various leadership groups and councils and youth forums such as the City of Surrey's Surrey Leadership Youth Council (which provides youth with the opportunity to be involved in decisions within their community), the Teen Library Council (advisory committee for Surrey Libraries)<sup>194</sup>. In addition, many of the schools in the Surrey School District have youth councils that allow youth to be involved in the decision-making process within their schools.

Surrey also hosts youth forums such as the Surrey Leadership Action Conference, which is a forum organized by youth for youth to give youth the opportunity to impact their communities. There is also an upcoming youth-led forum hosted by the Surrey Child and Youth Committee that will provide youth with the chance to discuss issues that affect them.

## YOUTH VITAL SIGNS SURVEY RESULTS

**GRADE: 3.0 OR C (AVERAGE)\***

### TOP THREE ASSETS TO CELEBRATE

- Many Youth Leadership Councils and Groups (e.g. SLYC, school councils) (47%)
- Elementary and Secondary School Practice Voting Programs (29%)
- Many Activist Groups (e.g., LGBTQ, youth with mental and physical disabilities, etc) (25%)

### TOP THREE CHALLENGES TO IMPROVE

- Make elections and politics more interesting and relevant and interesting for youth (35%)
- Raise importance of groups that represent youth voices (33%)
- Include youth in government decision making (26%)

<sup>1</sup>=See Figure VII and VIII

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<sup>194</sup> City of Surrey; City of Surrey Youth Councils & Youth Groups

## Surrey youth want even more opportunities

When South Fraser youth were asked in the 2013 Adolescent Health Survey (AHS) about their level of engagement in the activities they take part in, only 46% felt that their ideas were listened to and acted upon in the activities that these youth were participating in<sup>195</sup>. This is important to take into account because allowing youth (especially youth directly affected) the chance to be more involved in decision making provides a level of legitimacy to the decision making process that cannot otherwise be gained by simply consulting them. Furthermore, the AHS found that youth who felt as if they were meaningfully engaged were 21% more likely to rate their health as good or excellent (93% vs. 75% of those who did not feel engaged), and were 32% more likely to feel good about themselves (76% vs. 55% of those who did not feel engaged)<sup>196</sup>.

In general, it would seem important that organizations try and incorporate a variety of youth in the decision making process; involving youth who reflect the multitude of cultures, ethnicities, genders, sexual identities, ages, etc. that exist in Surrey.

In this regard, it should also be noted that in some instances, certain groups have not had as many opportunities to take part in the decision making process as others. For example, many of the youth councils and forums only allow youth under the age of 18 to participate. There needs to be more opportunities for youth 18-24 to be involved in the decision making process as well.

### RESPECT OUR INPUT, PLEASE

It became apparent through conducting the Youth Vital Signs survey that youth have a desire to have a greater role in the decision-making process, especially when the decisions being made directly affect them. This can be seen by the Youth Vital Signs respondents' top choices for where Surrey can improve. This may mean not only giving youth a voice through consultation, but also actively allowing youth to take on more responsibility and to be in charge of the decision making process when it directly affects them.

Some (10) of the youth who chose to contribute their own suggestions on where Surrey can improve stated that they felt Surrey had not done a good job promoting the voice of youth.

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<sup>195</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South

<sup>196</sup> McCreary Centre Society, Results of the 2013 Adolescent Health Survey: Fraser South



## Elections need to be more interesting for youth.

In the 2013 BC election, approximately 47.9% of youth age 18-24 voted<sup>197</sup>, which represents a 77% increase from 2009 when only 27% of youth age 18-24 voted. This is important because it shows that youth are interested in politics and will become involved in voting as long as they feel engaged by the process.

In some respects, Surrey has made a good effort at encouraging youth to become interested in politics, such as the Elementary and Secondary Practice voting programs, which encourage school age youth to start thinking about the political world.

Some thought, however, could be investigated as to other ways Surrey could get youth more involved, particularly at the municipal level. One idea might be to lower the voting age to allow a greater number of youth to get involved<sup>198</sup>.

Furthermore, there is a trend in youth voting participation that at the ages of 18 and 19, youth are keener to vote but as they turn 20-24, youth voter participation tends to decline<sup>199</sup>. This may denote a need for programs and initiatives that encourage older youth to continue voting.

## Opportunities for Further Research

1. How can youth become more involved in local decision making processes?
2. Why do some youth feel that their “voice” is not being heard within the community?
3. Would lowering the voting age actually encourage greater youth participation in the democratic process?
4. What are the most effective ways for schools and the community to make elections more interesting for youth?
5. What are some of the reasons why youth voting declines from ages 20 to 24?

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<sup>197</sup> Elections BC, Voter Participation by Age Group, 2013 General Election

<sup>198</sup> This strategy was recently used in Scotland with regards to their independence vote in 2014, where the voting age was reduced from 18 to 16. (Source: The Scottish Government, Who Can Vote in the Referendum)

<sup>199</sup> Barnes and Virgint (2010). Youth Voter Turnout in Canada: 1. Trends and Issues.

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# Transitions

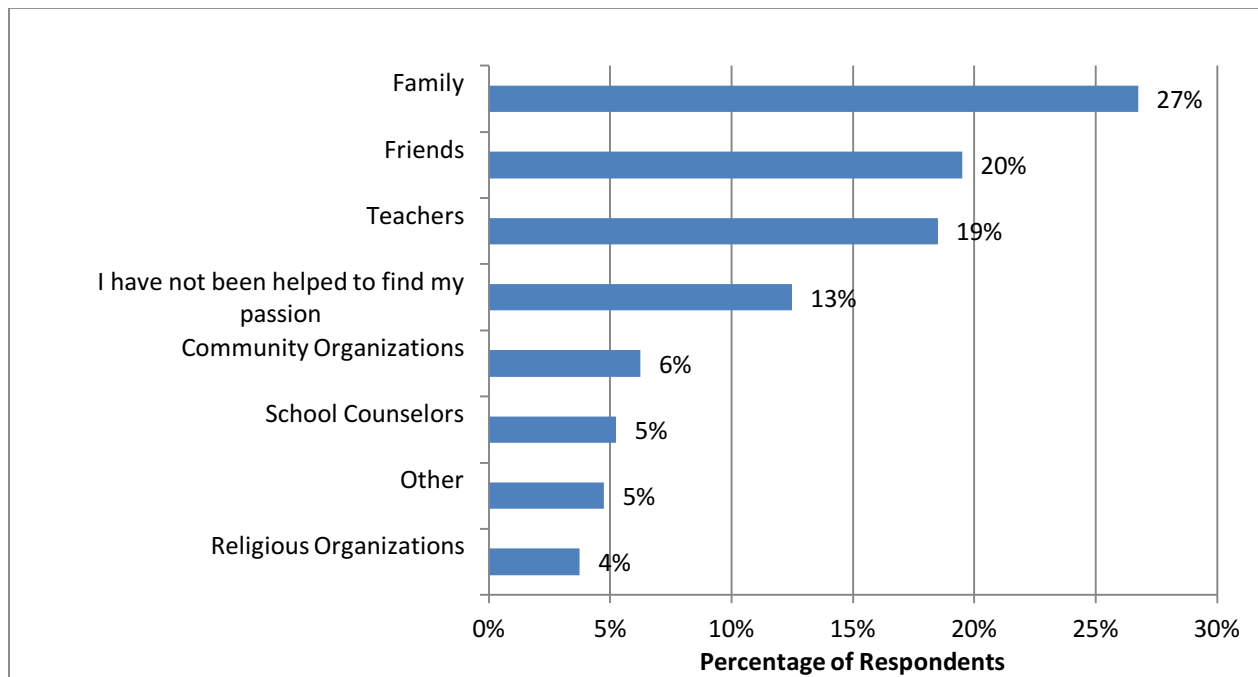
## Definition, for our purposes

When we talk about transitions, we are talking about the shift from high school into the “real world” (e.g., the work force or post-secondary). This can be a very difficult time for many youths who may face multiple pressures and many important decisions. This section will hopefully be useful in prompting discussion about how to implement programs and services meant to help the smooth the transition to adulthood for Surrey youth. The section has been broken down into themes based on qualitative responses provided by the Youth Vital Signs respondents. The complete selection of comments can be found in the appendix.

## Majority of youth in Surrey feel supported to find their “passion”

One of the first questions that was asked of the Youth Vital Signs respondents in the transitions sections was who they felt had been the most supportive of them finding their passion. It is useful to note that the majority of respondents who responded to this question felt that they had been supported in finding their passion, and the primary supporters were family (27%) and friends (20%), as well as teachers (19%). At the same time, there is a minority of young people (13%) who felt that they had not received support in finding their passions. Of that 13%, the majority of respondents were from Fleetwood (30%), Newton (20%), Guildford (14%), and South Surrey (14%). This may mean that youth in this area do not feel as supported as youth from other areas in Surrey in finding and developing their passions.

*Figure 71: Who has supported respondents to find and develop their “passion”*



Source: SurreyCares Youth Vital Signs Survey 2015

## Youth feel unprepared for the future

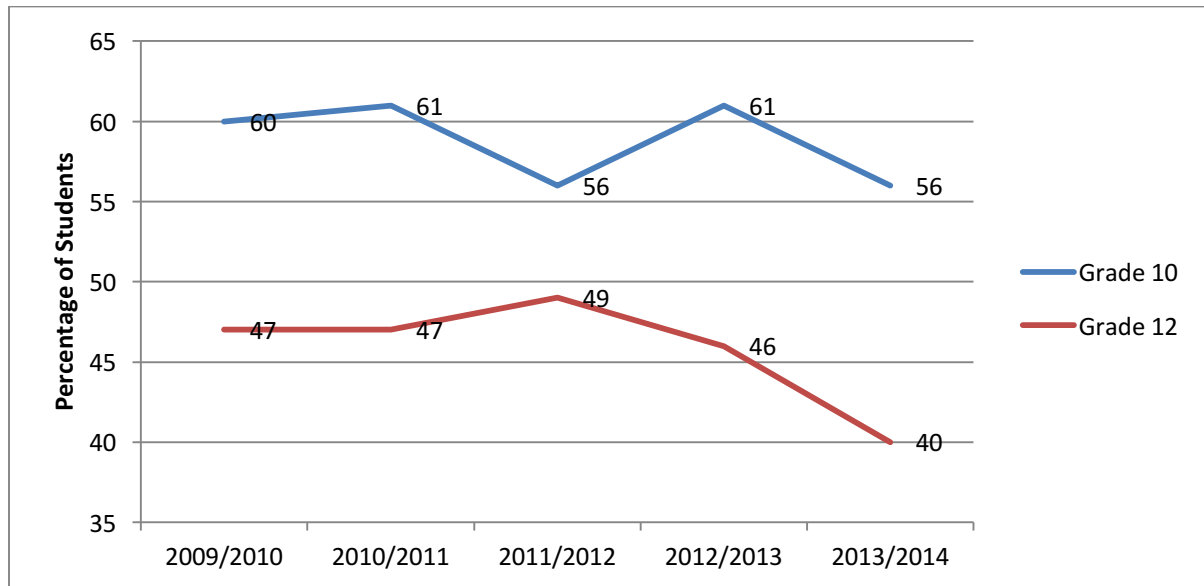
Whether it be applying to post-secondary school, finding employment, or just basic life-skills, Youth Vital Signs respondents were frustrated with the lack of preparedness that they had received from the K-12 school system and from their communities. This was one of the biggest themes in the comment section of transition.

Youth felt unprepared to apply for university and were worried about being able to afford university if they managed to get accepted. For example, many of the respondents of the Youth Vital Signs Survey were dissatisfied with the lack of information and support they had received in applying for university. Respondents also felt that they were not properly made aware of the increased challenges posed by post-secondary education.

Data from the Surrey School District found that only 40% of Grade 12s were satisfied that school had prepared them for post-secondary. The percentage of Grade 12s who felt school had prepared them for post-secondary has declined since 2011/12 (49% vs. 40%). A greater proportion (56%) of Grade 10s felt that school was preparing them for post-secondary. Nonetheless, it is likely that the Grade 12s may be feeling more

unprepared since many of them would be planning on and/or currently applying for university at the time of completing the survey.

*Figure 72: Students who are satisfied that school is preparing them for post-secondary*



Source: Ministry of Education; Surrey School District Data Provided

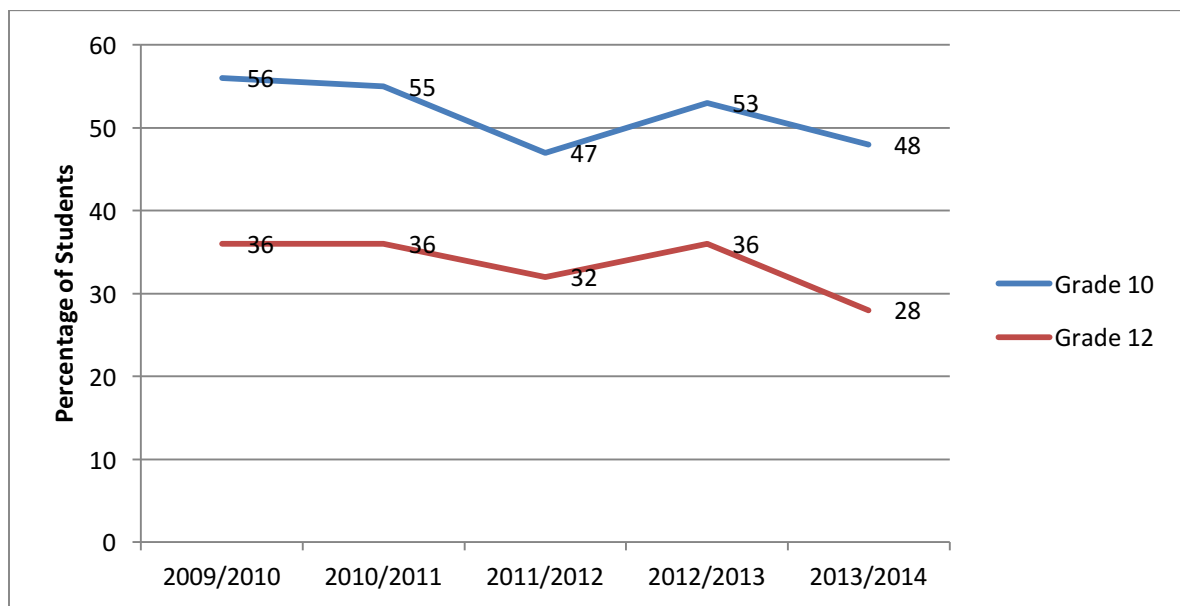
Youth respondents specifically wanted more information from their secondary schools about how to apply to universities and how to apply for financial aid. Youth respondents also mentioned wanting more information and support in regards to picking courses in the first semester. This could be provided in collaboration with the local universities; bringing in current university students to mentor Grade 11s and 12s about what university life is like, such as what to expect, and how students can best prepare themselves for the transition from high school to post-secondary.

### Youth are worried about being able to find employment

Many of the Youth Vital Signs respondents felt stress/ anxiety over what they would do in the future in regards to employment, especially when it came to finding a job that would be in a field that interested them. Similarly, data from the Surrey School District found that in 2013/14, only 28% of Grade 12 students felt that school was preparing

them for a job in the future; which was a 22% decrease from 2009/10. In 2014, Grade 10 students were 52% more satisfied that school was preparing them for a job in the future than Grade 12 students. This is concerning, since once Grade 12s graduate they will either be continuing their education or entering the workforce and if the majority of youth do not feel prepared; it means there is a substantial gap in the programming provided for youth to prepare them for employment. There needs to be an increase in curriculum focus on the various employment opportunities that are available to youth.

*Figure 73: Students that are satisfied school is preparing them for a job in the future*



Source: Ministry of Education; Surrey School District

## Youth want to learn more life-skills before they head out

This was an important theme that was discussed in the Education section of this report. Youth desire to have a greater understanding of how to live on their own, pay bills, file taxes, etc., before they transition into adulthood so that they can be better prepared for 'real life'.

## Transitioning into adulthood causes youth in Surrey a lot of stress and anxiety

All of these concerns lead to a considerable amount of stress and anxiety for youth, who by their comments seemed overwhelmed by many of the uncertainties they are currently facing transitioning into post-secondary/work force. For example, some of the Youth Vital Signs respondents had no idea what they want to do in the future, which can be a frightening prospect, especially if the youth are in their latter years of secondary school. In addition, youth currently in high school are facing the additional stresses derived from homework and balancing school, work and extra-curricular activities. Youth respondents also reported dealing with important amounts of stress related to their social situations; more specifically stress related to peer-pressure and the desire to fit in.

## Youth want more support

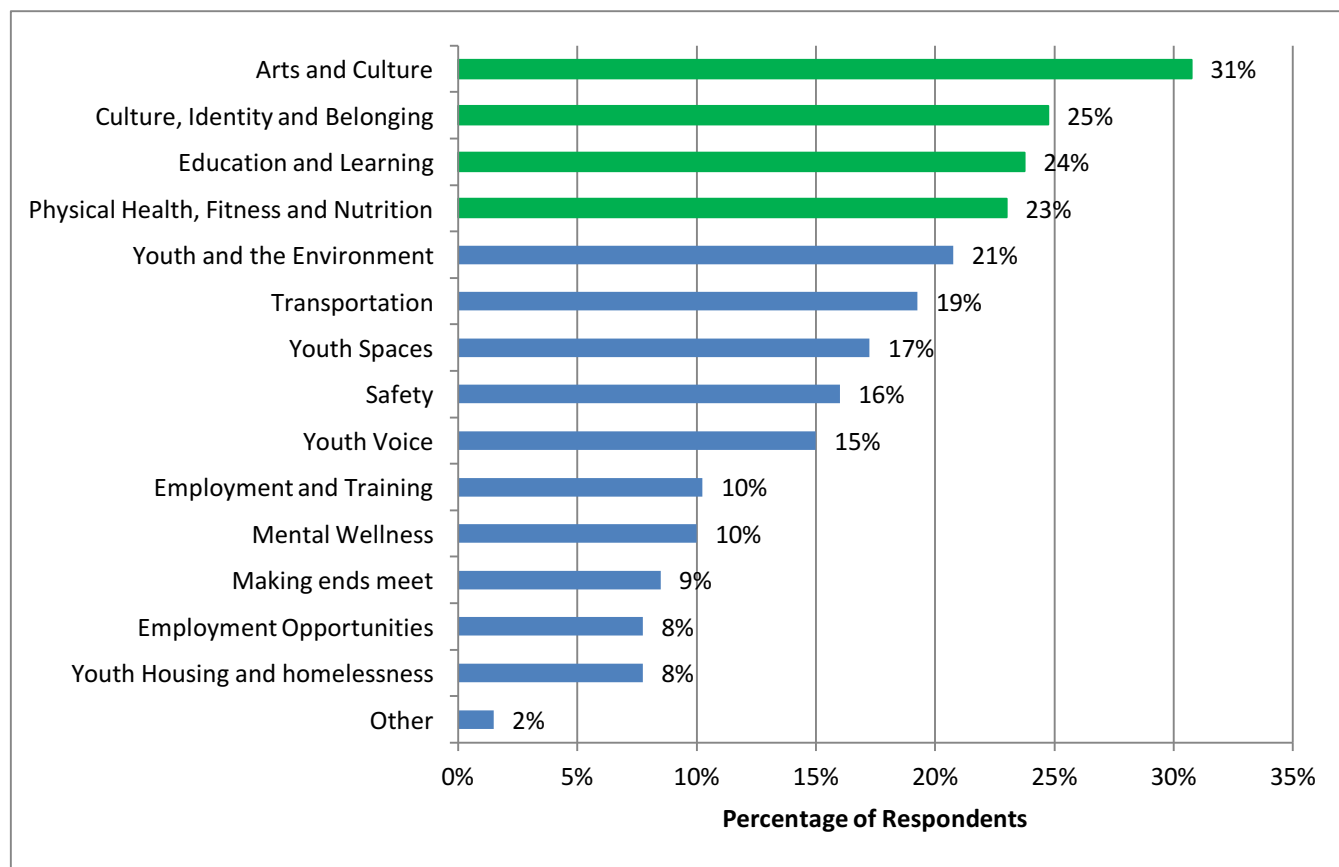
Overall, the biggest theme within the 'Transitions' comment section was that youth want more support from the school system and the community to help make this transition into adulthood easier and more rewarding.

# Appendix A: Top Survey Choices

## Top Assets to Celebrate in Surrey

Each respondent was invited to pick their top four favourite features of Surrey. Youth respondents, who reported similar choices across all ages and neighbourhoods, celebrated the following benefits of living in Surrey: Arts and Culture (31%), Culture, Identity, and Belonging (25%), Education and Learning (24%), and Physical Health, Fitness and Nutrition (23%). Environment (21%) was another area that is well celebrated by Surrey's youth.

*Figure 74: Top Areas to Celebrate in Surrey\**



Source: Youth Vital Signs, June 2015

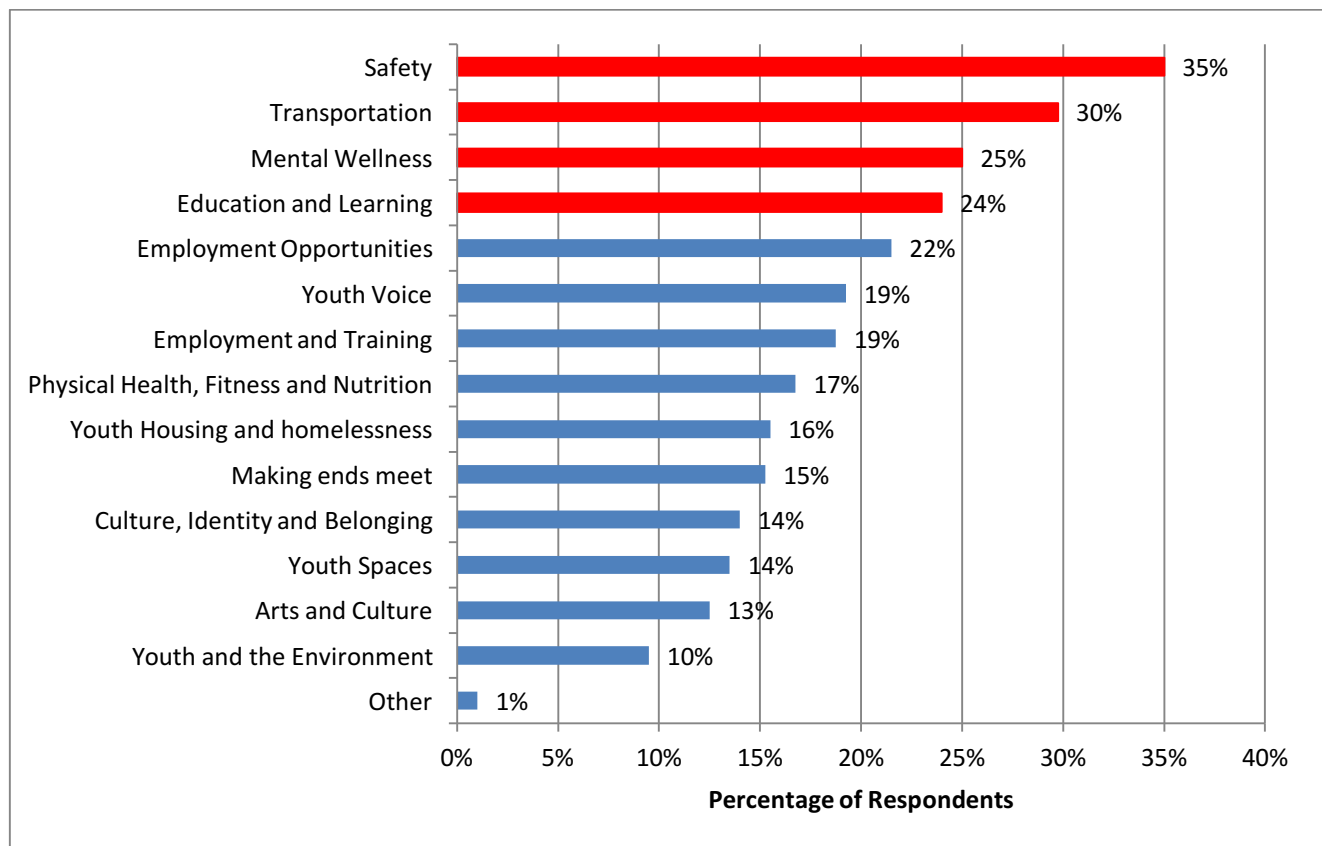
\* Youth were given the opportunity to choose up to four options



## Top Areas to Improve in Surrey

In the Vital Signs survey, youth, regardless of age and neighbourhood<sup>200</sup> and with only a few digressions, chose similar areas that they felt needed to improve in Surrey. The four top areas respondents said need to improve were Safety (35%), Transportation (30%), Mental Wellness (25%) and Education and Learning (24%). Employment opportunities (22%) were also seen as a major concern for youth, especially youth ages 20-24.

*Figure 75: Top Areas Needing Change or Improvement\**



Source: Youth Vital Signs, June 2015

\*Youth were given the opportunity to choose four options

<sup>200</sup> See Appendix A for results by neighbourhood and/or age for both areas to celebrate and areas to improve

# Appendix B: Charts and Graphs

## Introduction and Demographics

*Table I: Surrey Youth Population (2011)*

Age	Total	Male	Female
10 to 14 years	30785	15955	14830
15 to 19 years	33130	17230	15905
20 to 24 years	31085	15750	15335
(10-24)	95000	48935	46070
Total Population	468250	231570	236680

Source: City of Surrey Open Data; National Household Survey. Community Profiles 2011

*Table II: BC Youth Population (2011)*

Age	Total	Male	Female
10 to 14 years	238780	122465	116315
15 to 19 years	275165	141670	133500
20 to 24 years	279825	142290	137535
10 to 24 years	793770	406425	387350
Total Population	4400055	2156600	2243455

Source: City of Surrey Open Data; National Household Survey. Community Profiles 2011

*Table III: Percentage of Overall Surrey Population ages 10-24, by Neighbourhood*

Popul ation	BRITIS H COLUM BIA	CITY OF SURREY	CITY CENTRE	CLO VER- DAL E	FLEE T- WOOD	GUI LDF ORD	NEW TON	SOUT H_SU RREY	WHAL LEY (EXCL UDIN G CITY CENTRE)	WHAL LEY (INCL UDING CITY CENTRE)
10 to 14	238780	30785	960	3455	4130	416 5	9120	4105	4855	5815
15 to 19	275165	33130	1165	3340	4740	490 0	9085	4695	5205	6370
20 to 24	279825	31090	1915	3385	4235	412 5	8705	3530	5195	7105
10 to 24	793770	95005	4040	1018 0	13105	131 90	26910	12330	15255	19290

Source: NHS 2011, Community Profiles

*Table IV: Youth Population of Each Neighbourhood*

	CITY CENTRE	CLOVER DALE	FLEET WOOD	GUILD FORD	NEWTON	SOUTH SURREY	WHALLEY (EXCLUDING CITY CENTRE)	WHALLEY
<b>Population</b>	22925	54390	59160	58180	132550	69060	71995	94920

Source: NHS 2011, Community Profiles

*Table V: Household Type by Neighbourhood*

Neighbourhood	Total Households by Type	Single Family	Multiple-family	Non-Family
<b>Cloverdale</b>	17,525	12,730	735	4,060
<b>Fleetwood</b>	16,195	11,350	1,630	3,215
<b>Guildford</b>	18,055	12,545	1,005	4,505
<b>Newton</b>	34,760	22,390	4,945	7,425
<b>South Surrey</b>	25,730	18,320	545	6,870
<b>Whalley</b>	28,535	16,445	2,835	9,270
<b>White Rock</b>	9,605	4,625	125	4,855
<b>City of Surrey</b>	140,810	93,780	11,675	40,200

Sources: <http://www.childrenspartnershipSurreywr.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/WEB-A-Profile-of-Children-and-Youth-in-Surrey-White-Rock1.pdf> ; NHS 2011

*Table VI: Languages spoken at home*

Language	Share of respondents
<b>English</b>	53%
<b>Punjabi (Punjabi)</b>	21%
<b>Tagalog (Pilipino, Filipino)</b>	3%
<b>Hindi</b>	3%
<b>Mandarin</b>	2%
<b>Chinese, n.o.s.</b>	2%
<b>Korean</b>	2%
<b>Vietnamese</b>	1%
<b>Spanish</b>	1%
<b>German</b>	1%
<b>Urdu</b>	1%
<b>Other Languages</b>	9%

Source: NHS 2011, Community Profiles

*Table VII: Foreign born and Immigrant Population by Neighbourhood (2011)*

Neighbourhood	Total Population	Non-Immigrants	Immigrants	% Foreign Born
<b>Cloverdale</b>	54,160	42,810	10,970	20.30%
<b>Fleetwood</b>	58,190	32,460	26,035	44.70%
<b>Guildford</b>	58,280	30,815	26,620	45.70%
<b>Newton</b>	131,800	67,110	63,685	48.30%
<b>South Surrey</b>	67,360	49,195	17,705	26.30%
<b>Whalley</b>	93,555	49,350	42,825	45.80%
<b>White Rock</b>	18, 535	13,865	4,535	24.50%
<b>City of Surrey</b>	463,345	270,735	187,840	41%

Taken from: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey- White Rock

(<http://www.childrenspartnershipSurreywr.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/WEB-A-Profile-of-Children-and-Youth-in-Surrey-White-Rock1.pdf>). Source: National Household Survey

*Table VIII: Age of Immigration, by Neighbourhood (2011)*

Neighbourhood	Under 5	5 to 14	15-24	25-44	45+
<b>Cloverdale</b>	11%	18%	26%	35%	9%
<b>Fleetwood</b>	8%	16%	26%	36%	14%
<b>Guildford</b>	8%	19%	20%	41%	11%
<b>Newton</b>	7%	13%	31%	33%	17%
<b>South Surrey</b>	11%	20%	21%	39%	9%
<b>Whalley</b>	7%	14%	28%	37%	16%
<b>White Rock</b>	10%	18%	22%	41%	9%
<b>City of Surrey</b>	8%	15%	27%	36%	14%

Source: A Profile of Families, Children and Youth in Surrey- White Rock). Source: National Household Survey 2011

*Table IX: Place of Birth by Neighbourhood (Country)*

Place of Birth	Cloverdale	Fleetwood	Guildford	Newton	South Surrey	Whalley	Surrey
<b>Immigrants</b>	10970	26035	26620	63690	17705	33825	187840
<b>China</b>	495	1555	3085	1055	2510	670	10570
<b>Fiji</b>	205	101	380	3590	30	3040	8545
<b>India</b>	2190	8250	2360	38015	1230	17680	70680
<b>Philippines</b>	935	4105	5335	4340	445	3460	20240
<b>United Kingdom</b>	1350	1035	925	2365	3420	785	10125

Source: City of Surrey Open Data Catalogue, National Household Survey 2011

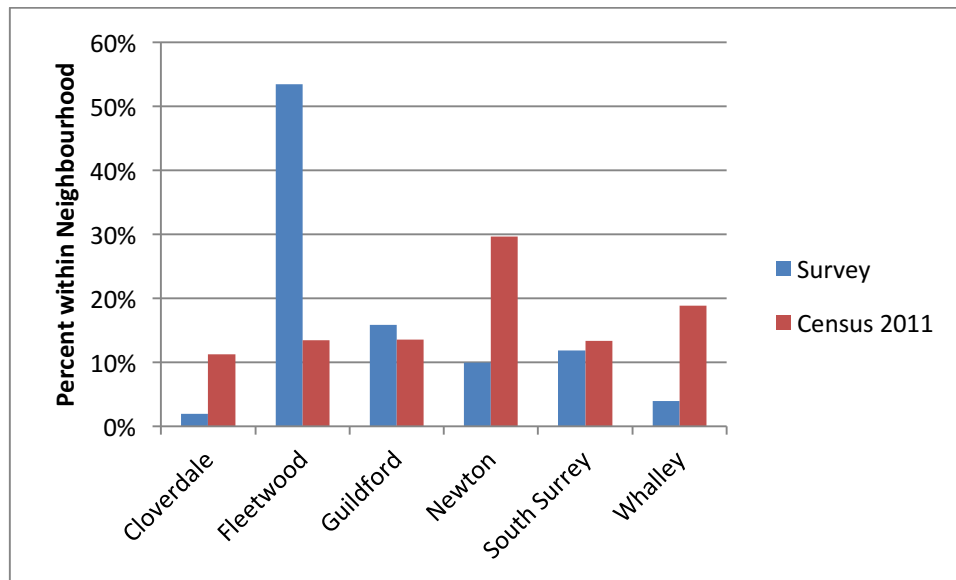
*Table X: Number of Aboriginal Peoples in Surrey by Neighbourhood*

	CITY CENTRE	CLOVER DALE	FLEET WOOD	GUILD FORD	NEW TON	SOUTH SURREY	WHALLEY (EXCLUDING CITY CENTRE)	WHALLEY	CITY OF SURREY
<b>Total population</b>	17325	37705	50795	51660	109475	59935	65560	82880	392450
<b>Total Aboriginal Population</b>	710	845	910	890	1815	910	1550	2260	7630

Source: NHS Community Profiles

## Youth Vital Signs Respondent Profiles

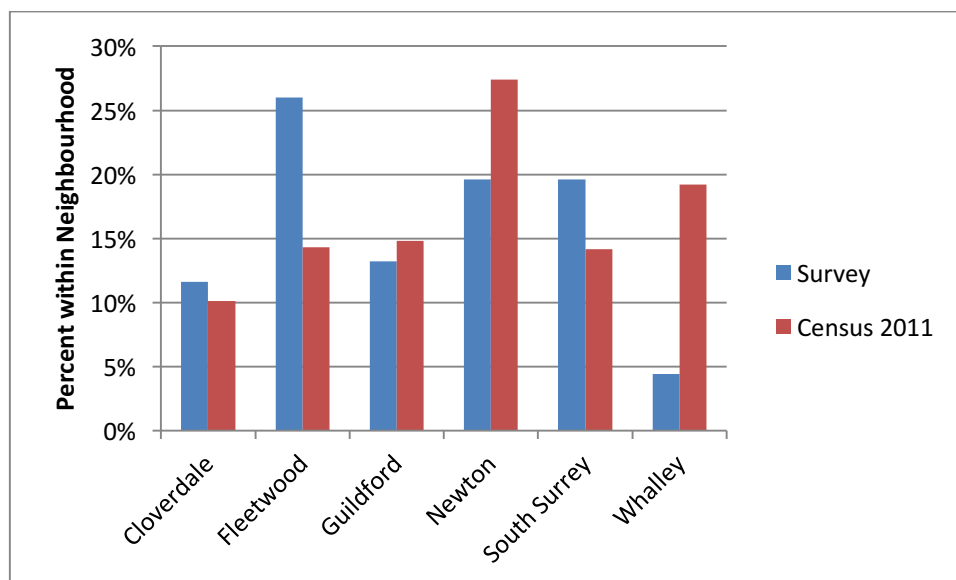
*Figure i: Share of 12 to 14 year olds by neighbourhood\**



Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey; City of Surrey Open Data, Census 2011

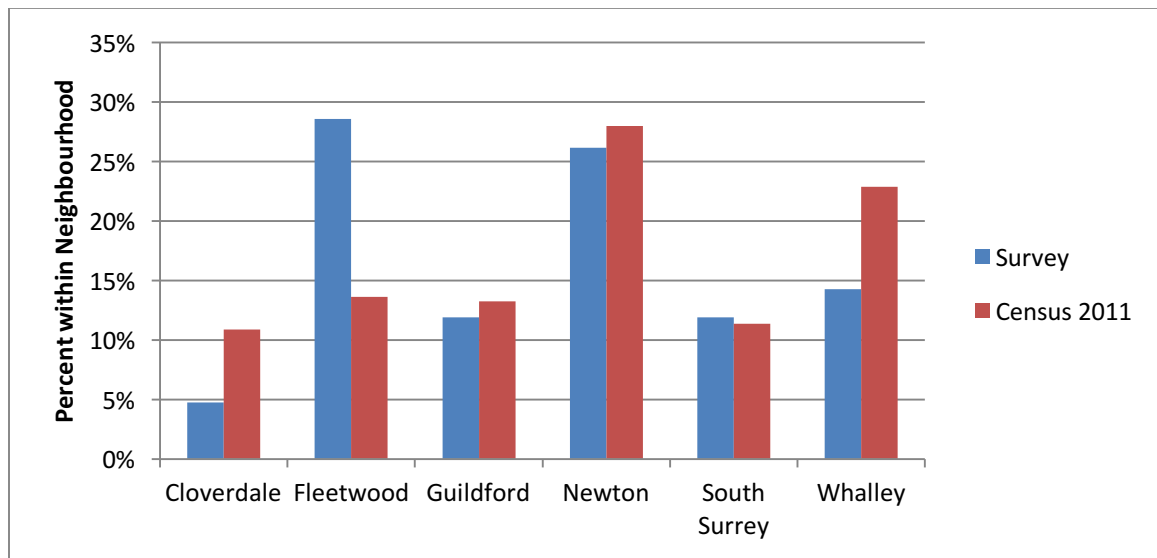
\*The Census 2011 data include 10 and 11 year olds that are not included within the Youth Vital Signs Survey

*Figure ii: Share of 15 to 19 year olds by neighbourhood*



Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey; City of Surrey Open Data, Census 2011

*Figure: iii. Share of 20 to 24 year olds by Neighbourhood*

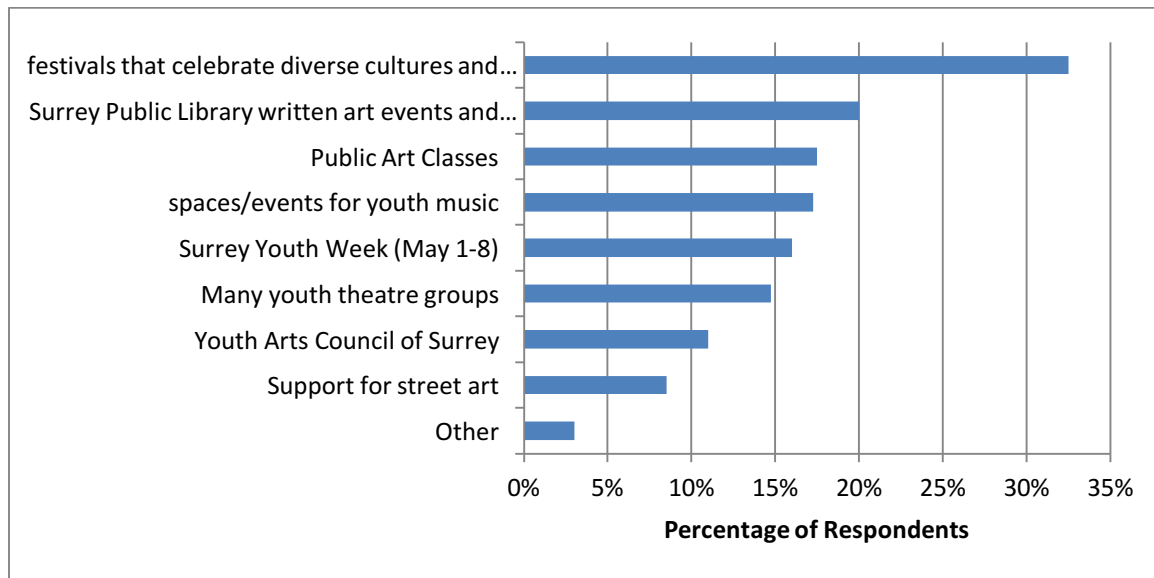


Source: Youth Vital Signs Survey; City of Surrey Open Data, Census 2011



## Arts and Culture

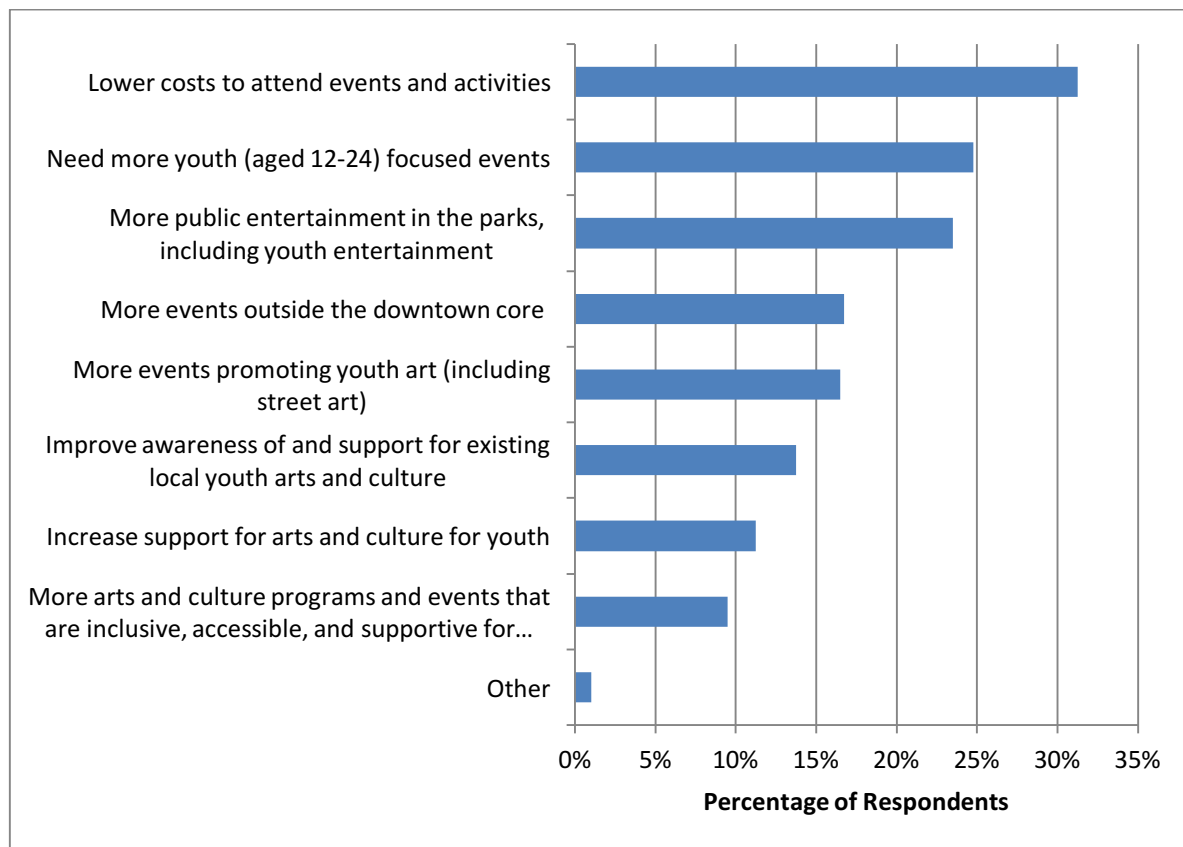
*Figure XXI: In what areas has Surrey been successful in promoting youth art and culture?*



### *Other Comments*

1. Punjabi banquet
2. Art communities in Surrey
3. and music
4. this survey is too long
5. I think Surrey is a perfect place of Art program
6. SLYC
7. has not promoted it at all
8. not at shcools
9. None
10. Can't answer- no exposure to comment
11. Not a supporter of the arts
12. Surrey's support for the arts and culture is simply pathetic and sad. As a member of many community orchestras and artistic organizations, I have seen first hand the struggle that these organizations have for funding and the lack of support they receive from the city. The festivals that Surrey has to offer are pitiful and just not fun. They are really about the party and not about the music and friendly enjoyment. I am incredibly frustrated with the arts scene in Surrey. Wait...is there even one? Not that I've seen.
13. Surrey Art Centre
14. Didn't know Youth week existed

*Figure XXII: If you could change two things about youth arts and culture in Surrey what would they be?*



#### *Other comments*

1. more public art classes
2. don't even try
3. None of the above
4. Need more performing art centers
5. Need more performing art centers
6. Need more performing art centers
7. Need more performing art centers
8. Need more performing art centers
9. Need more performing art centers
10. Need more performing art centers
11. Youth doesn't just mean 11-14. Try doing something that actually interests teens
12. Need more performing art centers
13. Need more performing art centers
14. None

## 15. More spaces/ events for youth music

### Reference Tables

*Table XLII: Participation in Surrey Youth Events*

<b>Participation at Youth-Centered Events</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Youth Leadership Events</b>	607	645	842	761	1435
<b>Festivals</b>	4793	4756	5871	7062	7783
<b>Arts Performances</b>	530	650	670	608	20
<b>Total</b>	5930	6051	7383	8431	9238

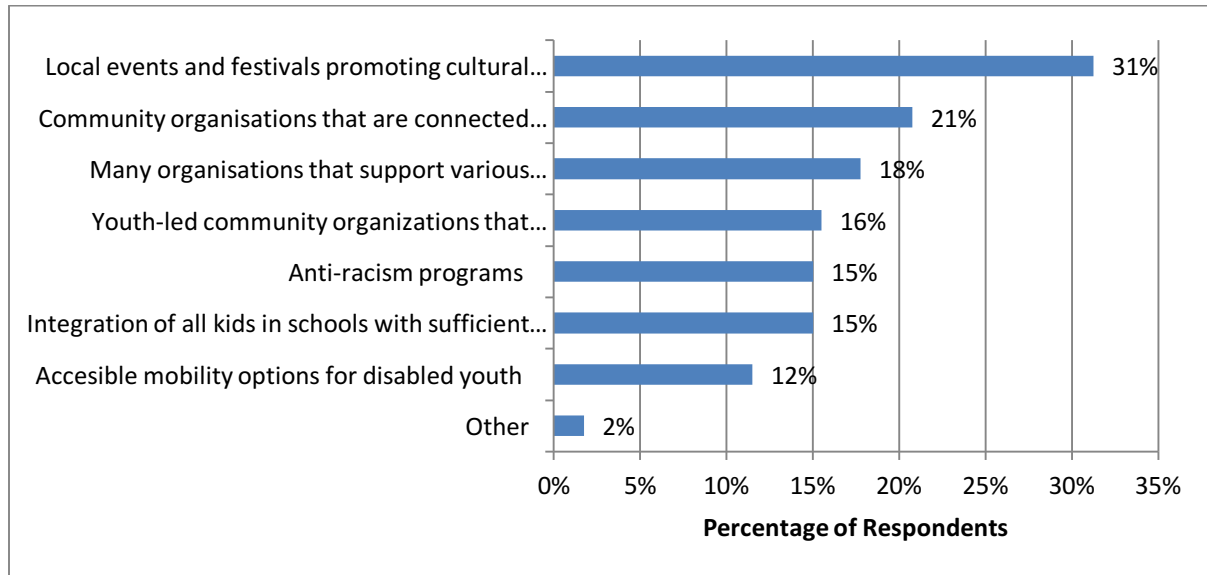
Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard

*Table XLIII: Total Children and young adult programs at Surrey Public Libraries*

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total children's and young adult programs</b>
<b>2002</b>	794
<b>2003</b>	1,439
<b>2004</b>	1,718
<b>2005</b>	1,860
<b>2006</b>	2,082
<b>2007</b>	2,314
<b>2008</b>	1,867
<b>2009</b>	1,967
<b>2010</b>	2,142
<b>2011</b>	2,278
<b>2012</b>	2,655
<b>2013</b>	3,105

## Culture, Identity and Belonging

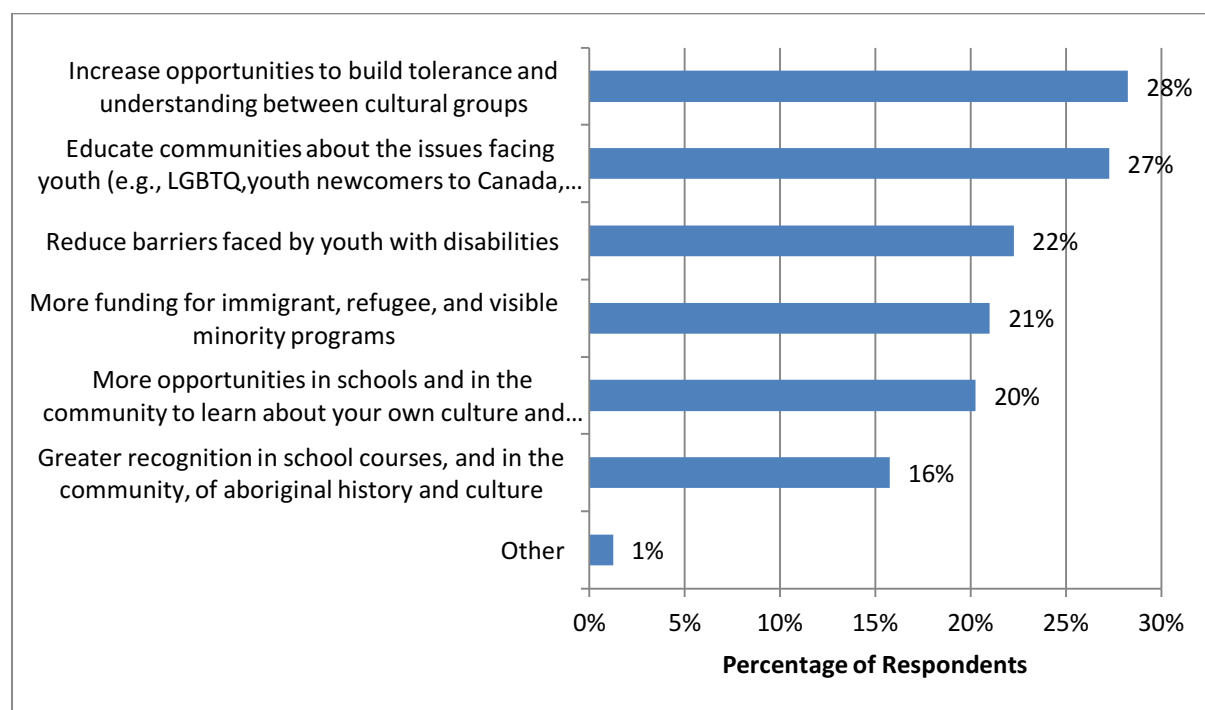
*Figure XXV: In what areas has Surrey been successful in promoting culture, identity and belonging?*



### *Other comments*

1. None
2. Multi-cultural days at school
3. None
4. Festivals
5. Needs Improvement
6. Surrey needs to teach youth that Surrey is in Canada where there is Canadians not India where there is just Indian youth.

*Figure XXVI: If you could change two things about identity culture and belonging, what would they be?*



## Reference Tables

*Table: Proportion of Surrey students who respect people who are different from them*

Year	Grade 7	Grade 10	Grade 12
2009/2010	90	83	82
2010/2011	92	85	84
2011/2012	92	87	88
2012/2013	92	88	87
2013/2014	94	90	89

Source: Ministry of Education, Surrey School District Statistics provided

*Table...: the proportion of youth who report being taught about Aboriginal peoples*

Year	Grade 7	Grade 10	Grade 12
2009/2010	18	36	20
2010/2011	16	37	19
2011/2012	15	37	15
2012/2013	19	40	20
2013/2014	18	38	24

Source: Ministry of Education, Surrey School District Statistics provided

*Table: Cultural Space provided by the City of Surrey*

Year	Square Footage of Cultural Space
2009	124200
2010	130210
2011	130210
2012	130210
2013	130210
2014	135510

Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard

*Figure... Satisfaction with Surrey by Age Group*

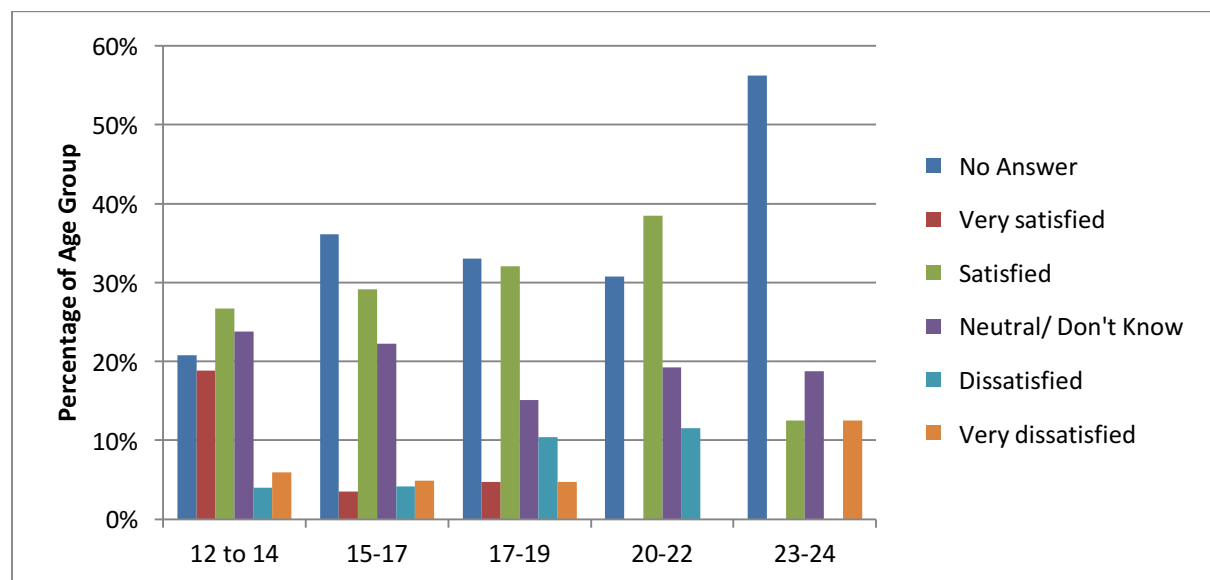
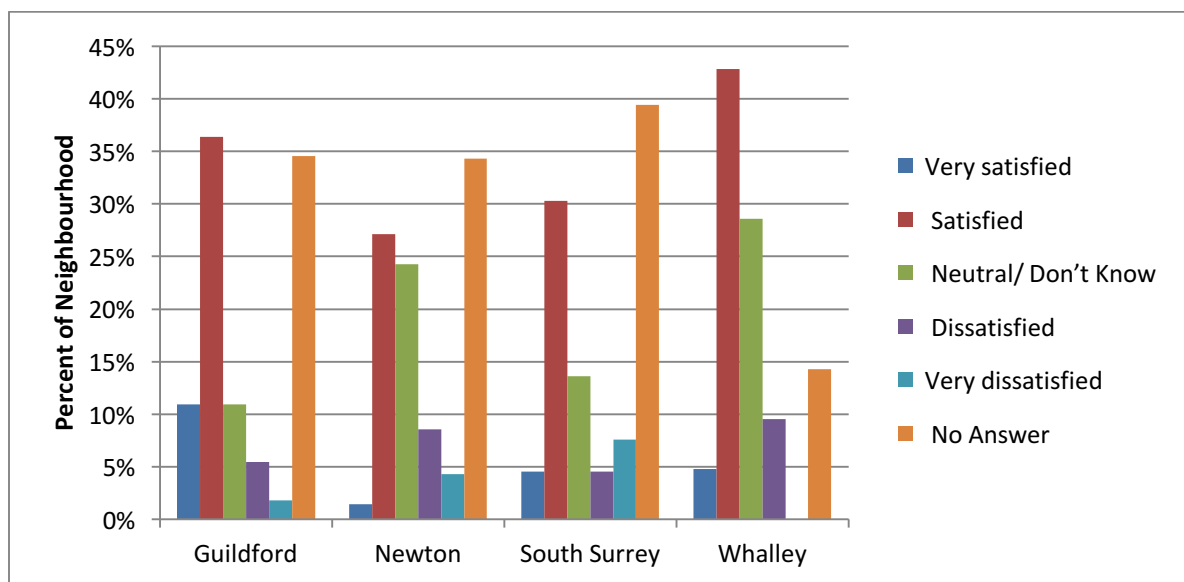
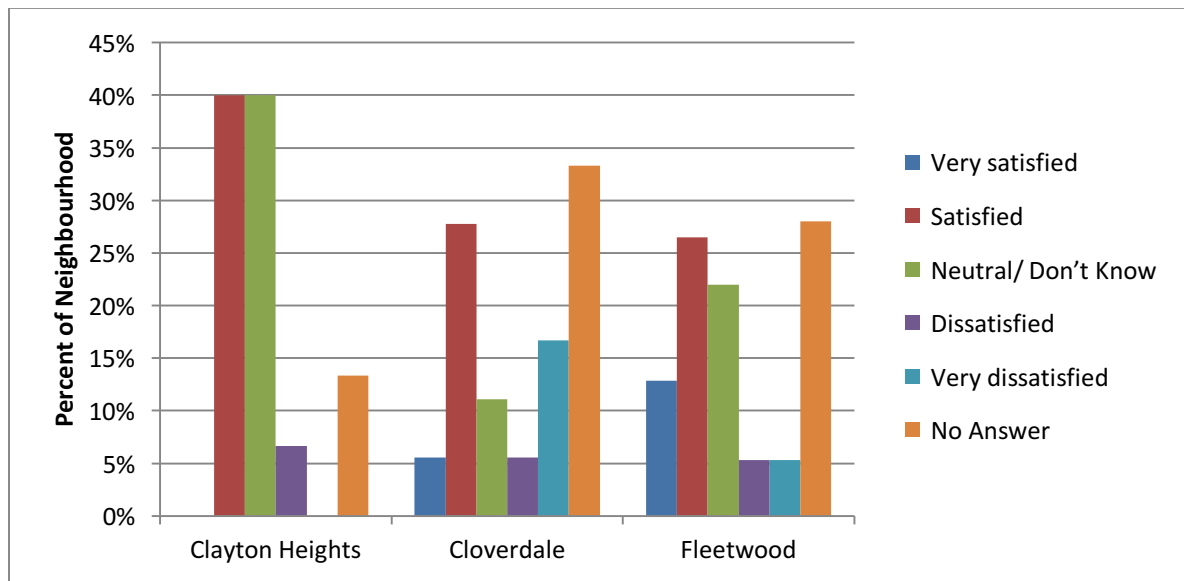
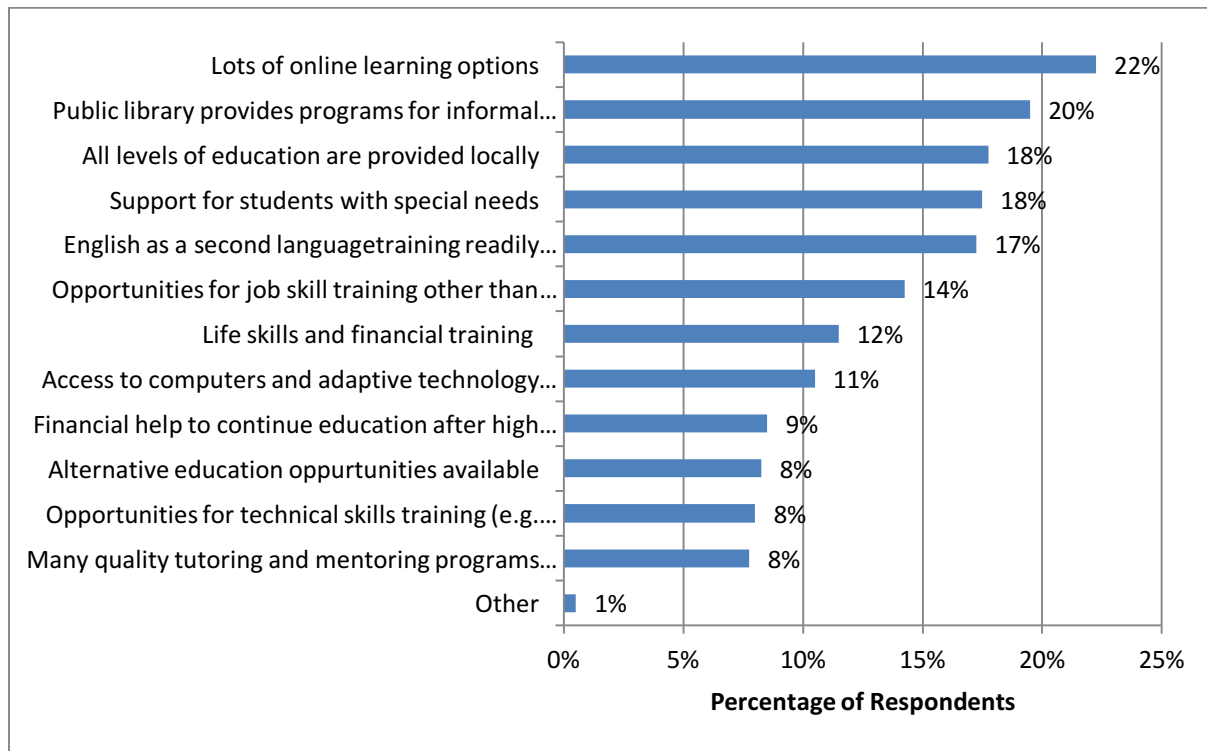


Figure ...: Satisfaction with Surrey by neighbourhood (excluding Other and No Answer)



## Education and Learning

Figure xlviii: In what areas has Surrey been successful in helping youth get an education?

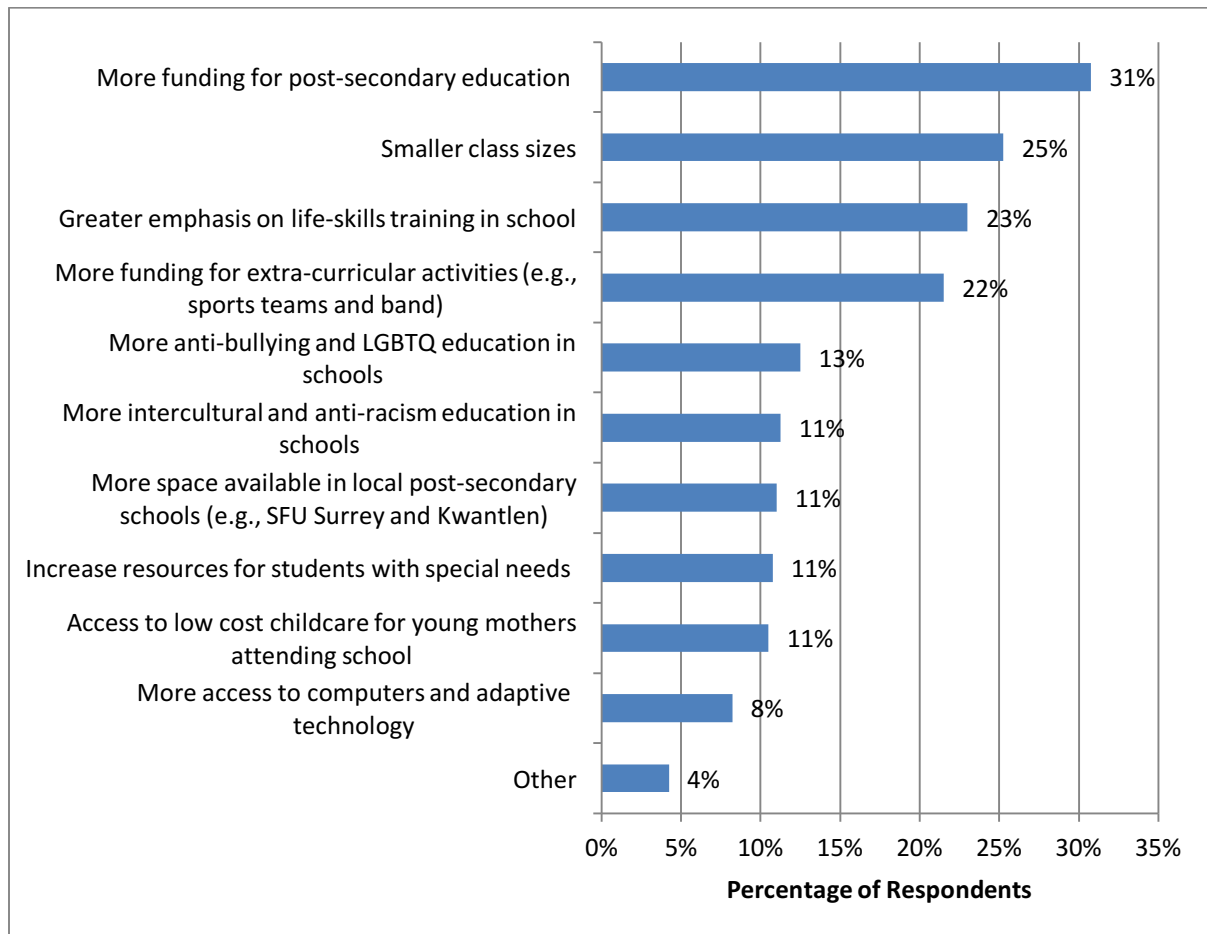


### OTHER comments:

- I have been extremely frustrated with Surrey's education system. I have been forced to attend summer school classes in other cities, due to over full and limited classes (as well as the rudest school district staff I have ever come across). The libraries are falling apart as well. I have given up my library card due to lack of proper instruction on courses, teen engagement opportunities, incredibly high fines (\$1.00 a day for overdue DVDs? Really?! and books (which few there are) that are not falling apart at the seems (or have chocolate sauce or mold on them).
- You guys didn't prepare me with life skills after high school



*Figure xlix: If you could change two things about education and learning in Surrey, what would they be?*



#### *Other comments*

- more long-term mentoring opportunities
- More funding in general for elementary schools (We don't have enough textbooks)
- More funding towards elementary schools for more textbooks.
- Support for both physically and mentally unstable students to gain the support they need to maintain proper grades. Their disability should not get in the way of them receiving a high school diploma
- less (Emotional Abuse In School)

- More tutor choices
- better math teachers.
- more jobs
- Teaching people how not to be scrubs when playing COMP
- All of the above
- All of the above
- All high schools should be offering enriched programs like AP and IB and Concurrent Studies. It is not fair that for example, students from South Surrey are able to advance their studies, while students of North Surrey do not have such opportunities.
- students that need help with student fees after post-secondary education, sometimes some people end up paying for their fees for a really long time, and the prices that professors/education facilities put on textbooks (<-- emphasized) are out of the ballpark.
- online courses offered in addition to regular classes for grade 8-9 as well as 10-12
- Funding for much-needed new high schools
- Basic Financial Literacy training in schools
- Bring funding back to public libraries to give them the support they need!! Where is my tax money going?! I have to pay ridiculous fines as it is and for what? To be 356 on the hold list for a brand new book that the library only ordered 7 copies of. Like come on, really?
- More schools: too many young people in one school
- Greater link between education and the needs of the job Market
- Greater link between education and the needs of the job Market
- Greater link between education and the needs of the job Market
- NEED MORE FINANCIAL HELP IN SCHOOLS
- General shrinking of the school population/ try valuing education and the arts for once. Sports aren't all that matters
- Better resources and information for youth with mental health concerns
- Greater link between education and the needs of the job market
- Greater link between education and the needs of the job market
- Greater link between education and the needs of the job market
- Greater link between education and the needs of the job market
- Greater link between education and the needs of the job market
- Greater link between education and the needs of the job market

## Reference Tables

*Table L: Percent of Students who had learned about saving and spending in school*

Year	Grade 7	Grade 10	Grade 12
2009/2010	18	38	20
2010/2011	17	37	22
2011/2012	18	37	18
2012/2013	22	39	23
2013/2014	23	38	23

Source: Statistics provided by the School District

*Table Li: Students who are satisfied with Courses Available*

Year	Grade 10	Grade 12
2010/2011	58	49
2011/2012	61	54
2012/2013	60	53
2013/2014	59	52

Source: Ministry of Education, School District Statistics provided

*Figure Lii: B.C. Population with high school credentials or less, age 18 to 29 years*

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
B.C.	8%	7%	8%	13%	14%	13%	12%	12%

Source: BC Statistics

*Table Liii: Percent of Students Transitioning into Post-Secondary*

Year	Transition to Post-Secondary (%)
2005	51.4
2006	53.7
2007	56.5
2008	57.7
2009	57.6
2010	57.9

Source: City of Surrey Open Source Data

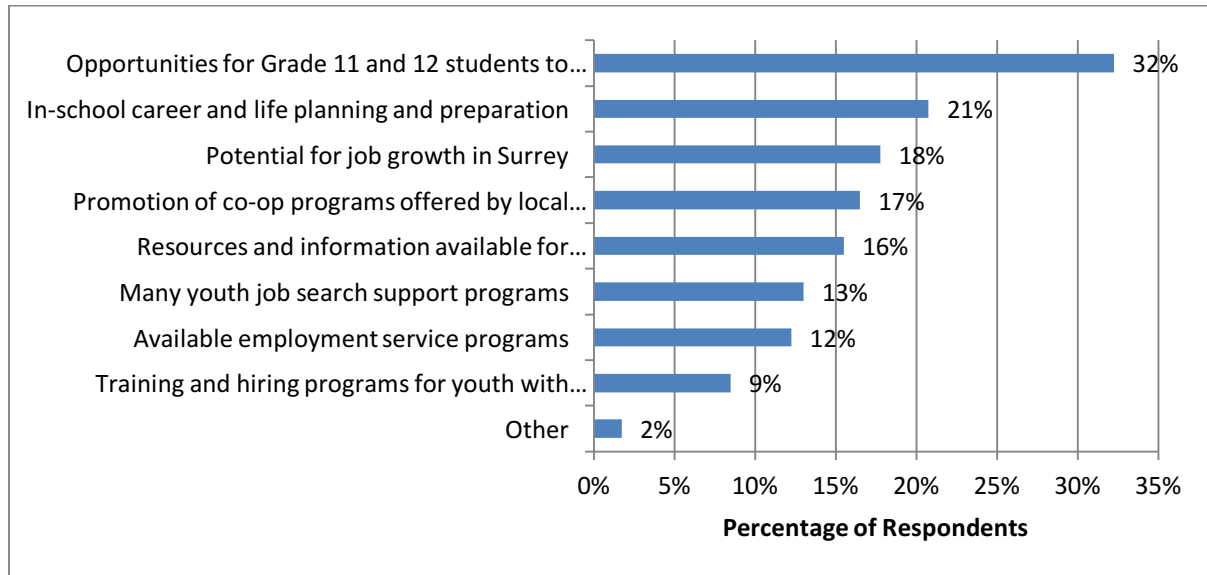
*Table Liv: Local post-secondary enrollment (2009-2013)*

<b>Post-Secondary Enrolment</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>
<b>Kwantlen University</b>	11968	12774	13780	13128
<b>Simon Fraser University</b>	5773	6462	7397	7891
<b>Total</b>	17741	19236	21177	21019

Source: City of Surrey Open Data (Data provided by SFU Surrey and Kwantlen)

## Employment and Training

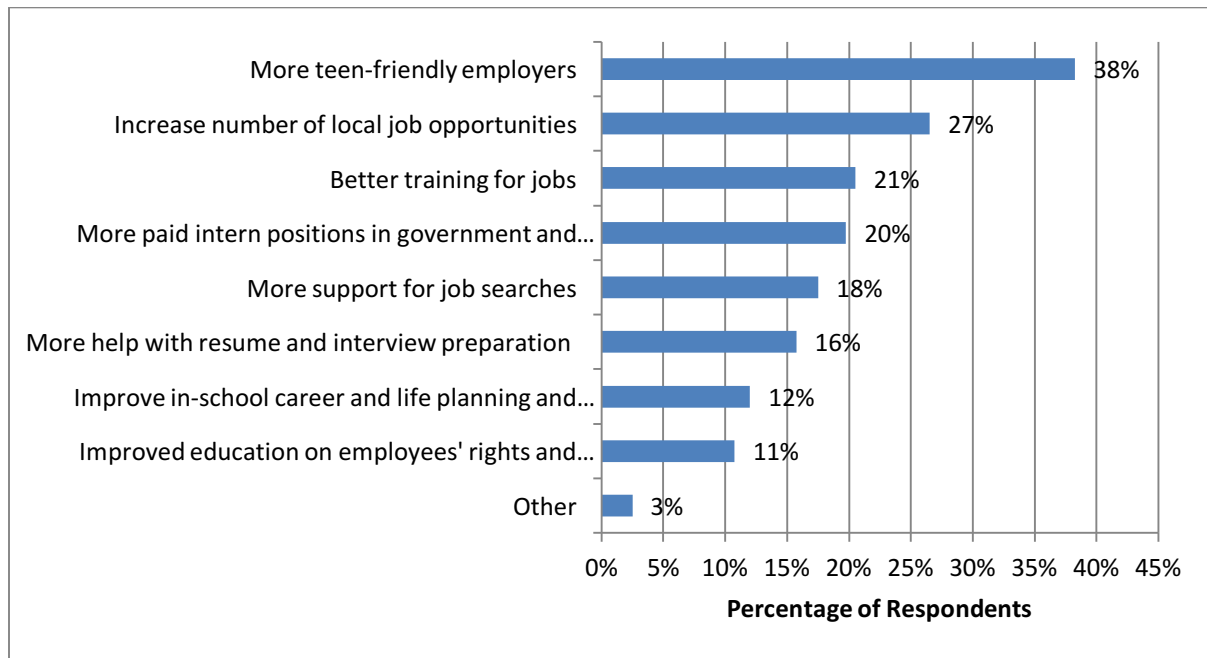
*Figure LXIII: In what areas has Surrey been successful in helping youth get employment and training?*



### *Other comments*

- None.
- None
- I like how my school has work experience. It allows students to gain experience, grow, and have a higher chance of getting hired.
- Nothing
- As a grade 12 student, I have been STRUGGLING to find job support. I have applied to many places for work and feel very much on my own. I have not been provided with the education I need to excel in interviews and find jobs that are in need. Please change this!
- Highschool courses such as Engineering and Design or Industrial Drafting - helps students experience the industrial technology field
- Im still in high school so I don't know
- NONE

*Figure LXIV: If you could change two things about the employment and training available in Surrey, what would they be?*



#### *Other comments*

- "Planning course" in school should be grade 8 AND 9, 10 is too late.
- paid positions within government that are stable and provide long-term development (not auxiliary)
- more jobs for youth ages 15 and up in different fields
- more variety in trade skills programs available to youth
- More open jobs for youth
- more education for life planning
- All of the above
- All of the above
- More employers for special needs teens

## Reference Tables

*Table LXV: Jobs per resident worker 15+, by year*

Area	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Surrey</b>	0.68	0.68	0.7	0.7	0.71	0.71	0.71

Source: City of Surrey Open Data Catalogue

## Environment

*Figure iv: In what areas has Surrey been successful in promoting youth awareness of and action on environmental issues?*

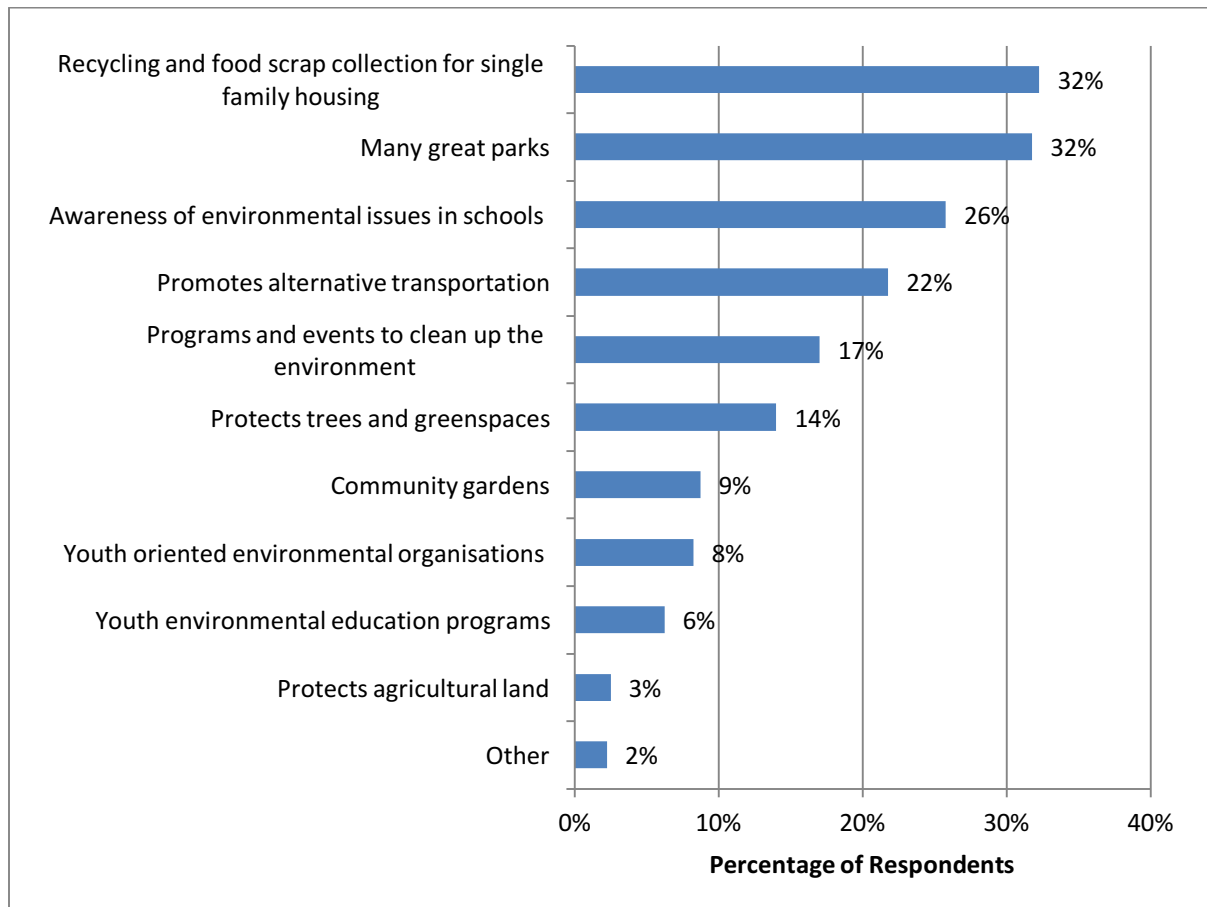




Figure v: If you could change two things about Surrey's approach to environmental issues, what would they be?

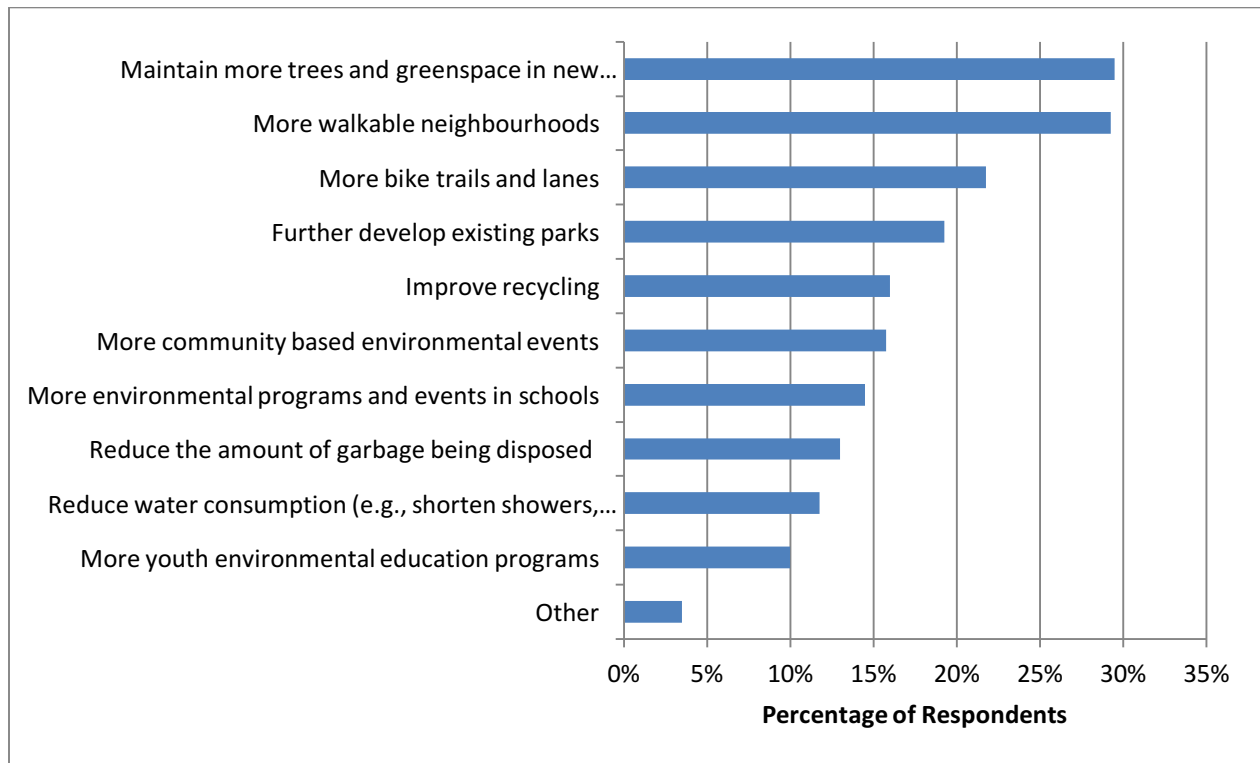


Table vii: Surrey Park Land Distribution (2010-13)

Hectares by Park Type	2010	2011	2012	2013
City Park	593	595	652	654
Community Park	636	639	609	632
Neighbourhood Park	345	347	354	344
Greenbelt	659	662	657	681
Urban Forest	315	315	315	315
<b>Total</b>	<b>2584</b>	<b>2558</b>	<b>2587</b>	<b>2626</b>

Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard

*Table viii: Breakdown of Environmental Program participation in Surrey (2010-2013)*

<b>Number of Participants in Environmental Programs</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>School and Camp Programs</b>	16812	7395	5502	9730
<b>Public Programs and Events</b>	27910	32390	48325	54715
<b>Stewardship Programs</b>	9573	3202	3906	3861
<b>TOTAL</b>	54295	42987	57733	68306

Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard

*Table ix: Proportion of students that are learning to do things to take care of the environment (many times/most of the time)*

<b>Year</b>	<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>Grade 10</b>	<b>Grade 12</b>
<b>2009/2010</b>	64	43	43
<b>2010/2011</b>	60	39	41
<b>2011/2012</b>	56	32	32
<b>2012/2013</b>	60	39	38
<b>2013/2014</b>	54	37	39

Source: Ministry of Education, Surrey School District Data Provided

*Table x: Proportion of students that are learning about climate change (many times/most of the time)*

<b>Year</b>	<b>Grade 10</b>	<b>Grade 12</b>
<b>2009/2010</b>	37	24
<b>2010/2011</b>	33	23
<b>2011/2012</b>	23	25
<b>2012/2013</b>	27	20
<b>2013/2014</b>	25	20

Source: Ministry of Education, Surrey School District Data Provided

*Table xi: Surrey Residential Water Consumption (2005-2013)*

<b>Year</b>	<b>Residential Water Consumption (L/Capita/Day)</b>
<b>2005</b>	308
<b>2006</b>	319
<b>2007</b>	317
<b>2008</b>	319
<b>2009</b>	312
<b>2010</b>	303
<b>2011</b>	292
<b>2012</b>	284
<b>2013</b>	273

Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard

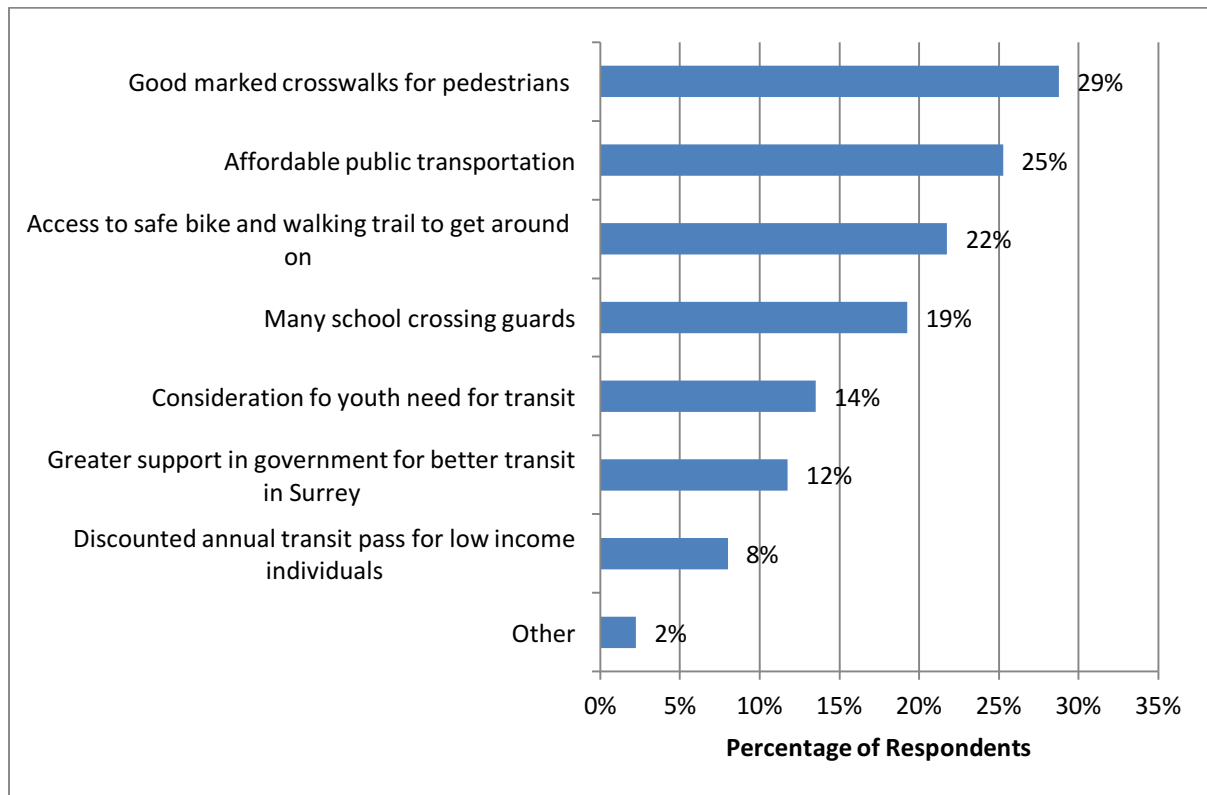
*Table xii: Surrey Community Water Diversion (2007-2013)*

<b>Year</b>	<b>% of Household Waste Diverted from the Landfill</b>
<b>2007</b>	38
<b>2008</b>	48
<b>2009</b>	49
<b>2010</b>	50
<b>2011</b>	50
<b>2012</b>	56
<b>2013</b>	68

Source: City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard

## Getting Around

*Figure XXIII: In what areas has Surrey been successful in helping youth get around in Surrey?*

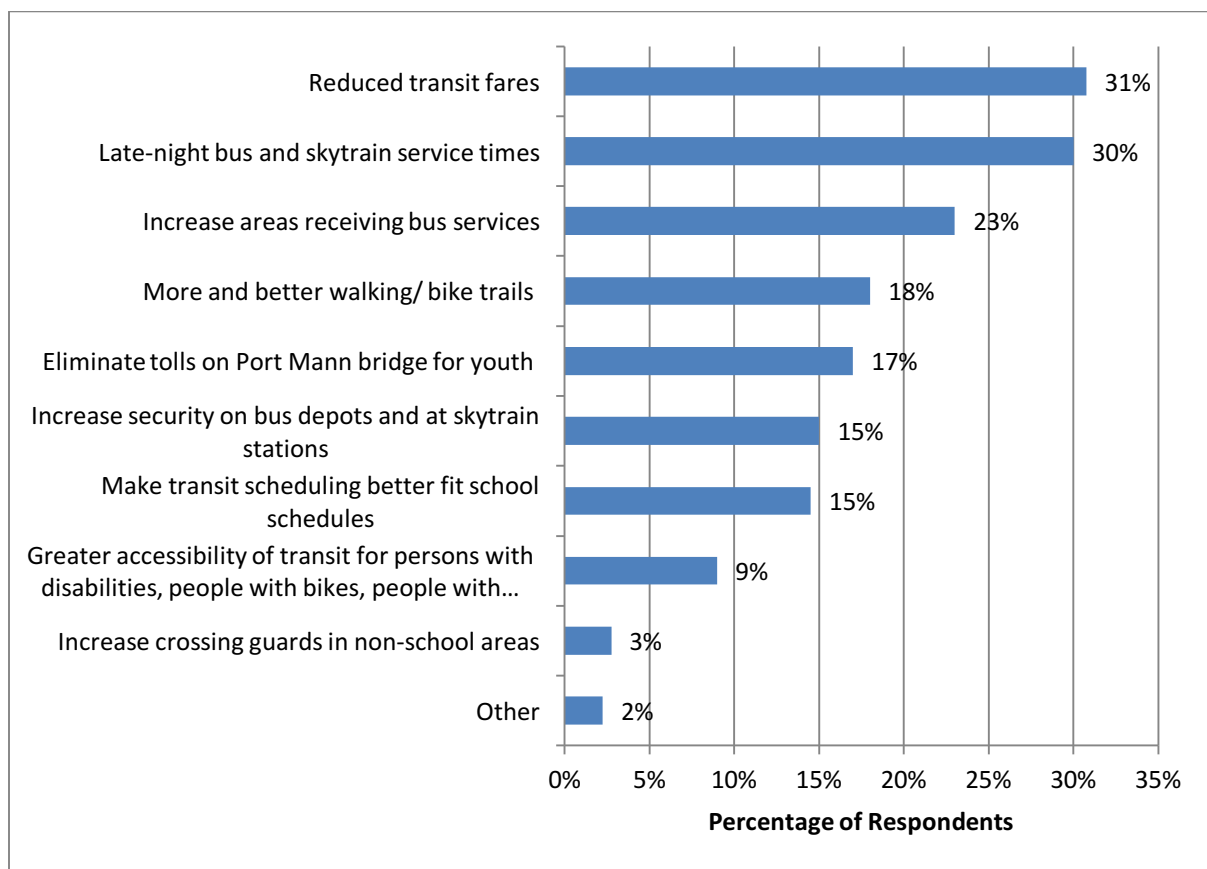


### *Other comments*

1. Bus tickets should be 1.50
2. None
3. None
4. Free Transit cards for Post-Secondary students (Kwantlen)
5. None
6. None
7. Not so successful on helping youth get around (Expensive)
8. Getting around Surrey (or more like away from Surrey as much as I can) is extremely frustrating.
9. Surrey nas not been succesful in helping youth with transportation.
10. Dedicated left turn lane
11. Dedicated left turn lane
12. Good advocacy for transit in Surrey
13. Dedicated left turn lane
14. Dedicated left turn lane
15. Dedicated left turn lane

16. Dedicated left turn lane
17. Dedicated left turn lane
18. Dedicated left turn lane
19. Dedicated left turn lane
20. Dedicated left turn lane
21. Dedicated left turn lane
22. Dedicated left turn lane
23. Dedicated left turn lane
24. Dedicated left turn lane
25. Nothing

*Figure XXIV: If you could change two things about transportation in Surrey, what would they be?*



#### *Other comments*

1. Parking for schools
2. brighter streets
3. Let people use dirtbikes to get places as its a fast and easy transportation.
4. late night buses please!

5. All of the Above
6. All of the Above
7. Bike lanes
8. Eliminate mandatory transit passes for students that DRIVE
9. Increase Road Capacity, while improving the transit system
10. I dislike your new idea for transit
11. It's Fine

## Reference Tables

*Table XLIV: Percentage of place of employment of Employed Surrey Residents over the age of 15*

Place of Work	Number of Employed Persons over 15
Surrey, CY	78265
Langley, DM	9510
Delta, DM	6510
Vancouver, CY	5310
Burnaby, CY	3400
Abbotsford, CY	3175
White Rock, CY	2785
Coquitlam, CY	2680
Langley, CY	2665
New Westminster, CY	2235
Richmond, CY	2025
Maple Ridge, DM	1520
Port Coquitlam, CY	1355
North Vancouver, DM	710
Other	3155

Source: NHS 2011

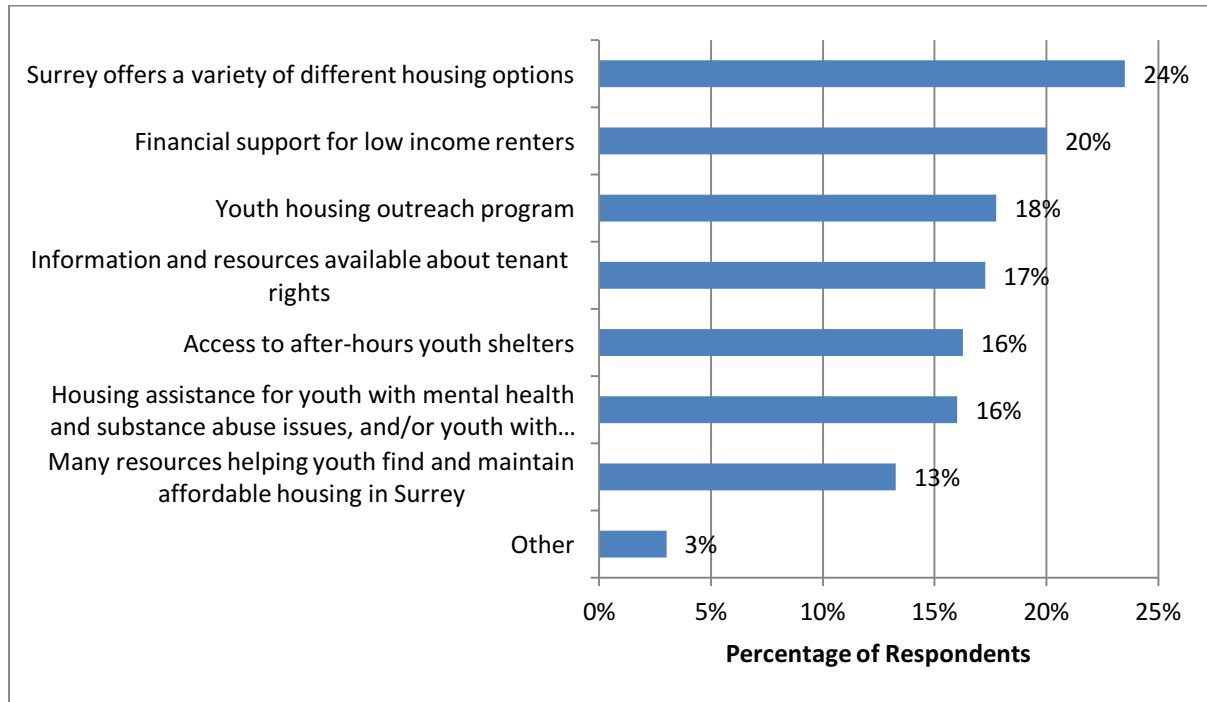
*Table XLV: Mode of Transportation to work*

Mode Of Travel to Work	2006 (%)	2008 (%)	2011 (%)
Walking	0.4	0.8	0.3
Cycling	2.6	1.7	2.6
Transit	10.9	9.6	12.8
Car	86.1	87.9	84.3

Source: City of Surrey Open Data; NHS 2011

## Housing and Homelessness

*Figure xlv: In what areas has Surrey been successful in helping youth find cheap, clean and safe spaces to live?*



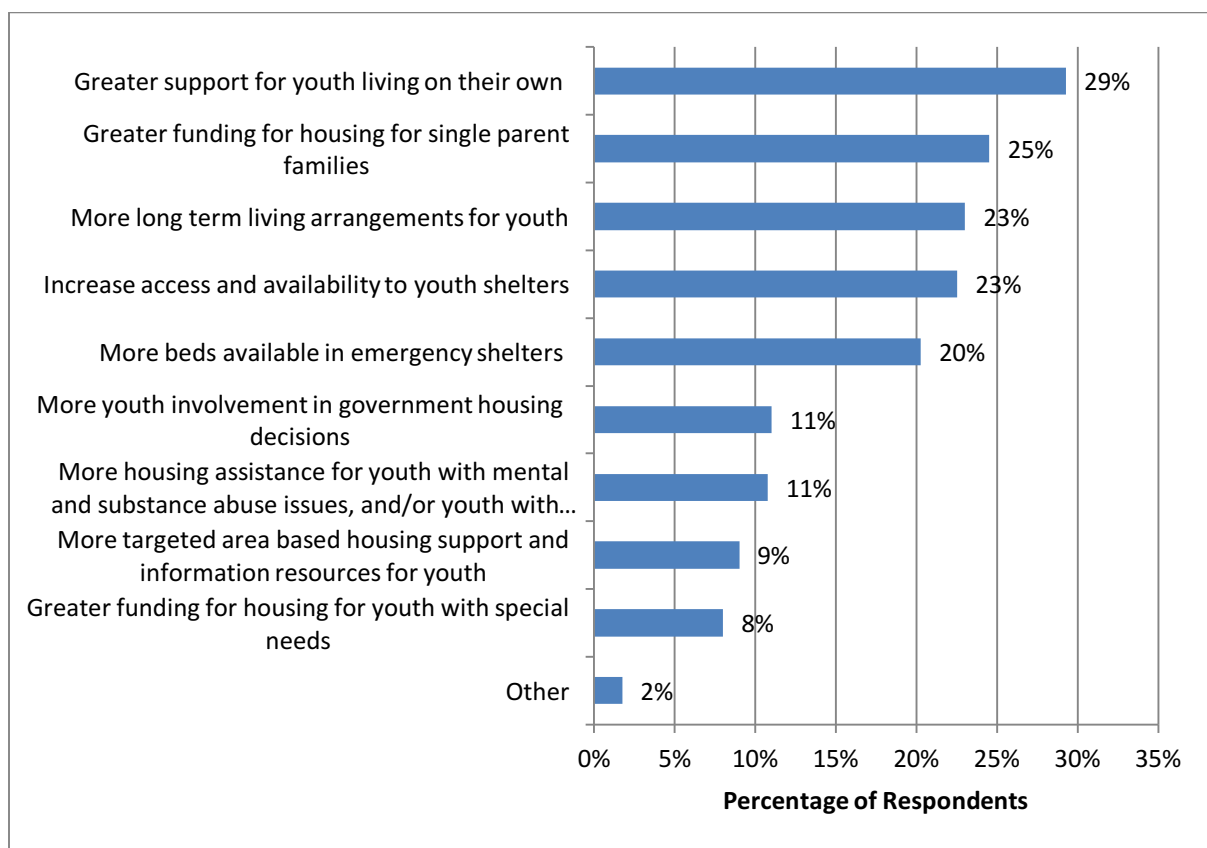
### *SUCCESS Other comments:*

- NOTHING
- Nothing
- Resources and information of living standards
- I don't see many others
- None
- Expensive
- Not at all
- I wouldn't know
- None
- Can't Answer- no exposure to be able to comment
- None of the above
- I have not come across any affordable housing in Surrey. As a someone who is interested in living on my own as soon as possible, I have come to terms with the fact that I will have to move out of the city to somewhere else when the time comes to enter the real estate market. Nevertheless, I can't say I'm disappointed

about that, since I wouldn't want to live in Surrey any longer than I have to anyways.

- My parents can barely afford housing

*Figure xlvi: If you could change two things about youth housing and homelessness in Surrey, what would they be?*



#### *OTHER comments*

- help lower income families
- more homeless shelters
- Let GabeN house us
- more shelters
- all of the above
- safe houses for youth under 16
- When restaurants are about close, don't throw out food, give to homeless



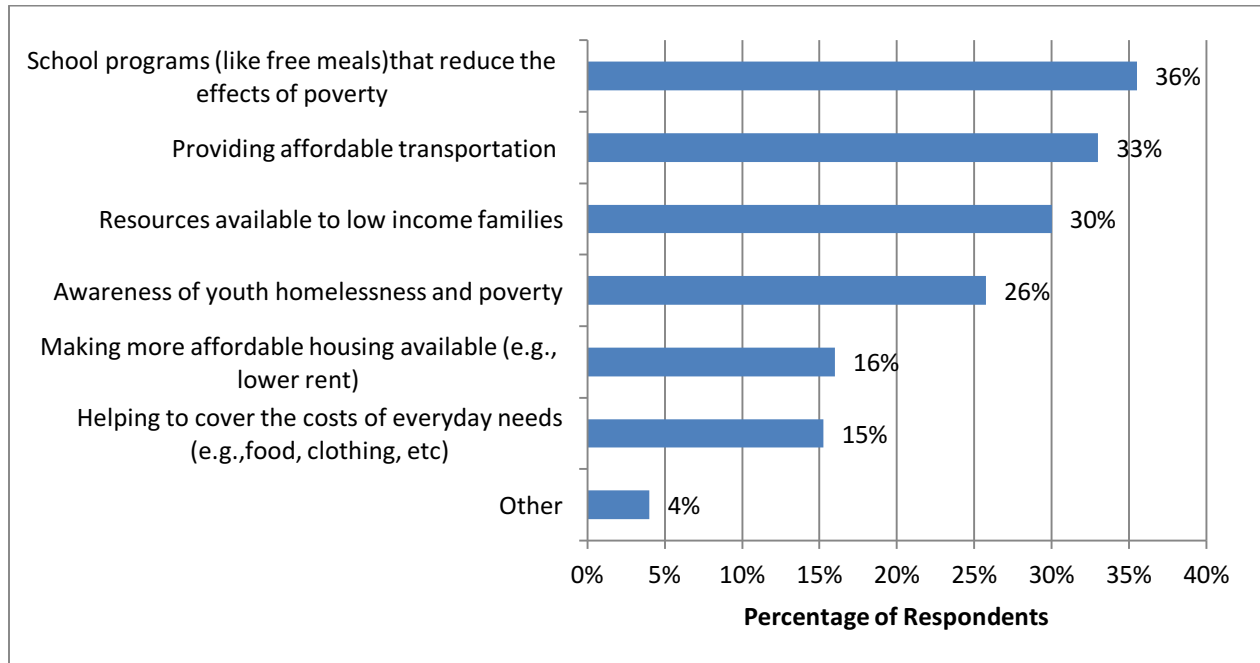
- HELP THEM
- As someone with Aspergers, I lack empathy so I don't care

*Table xlvii: Average Monthly Rent in Surrey, by Neighbourhood*

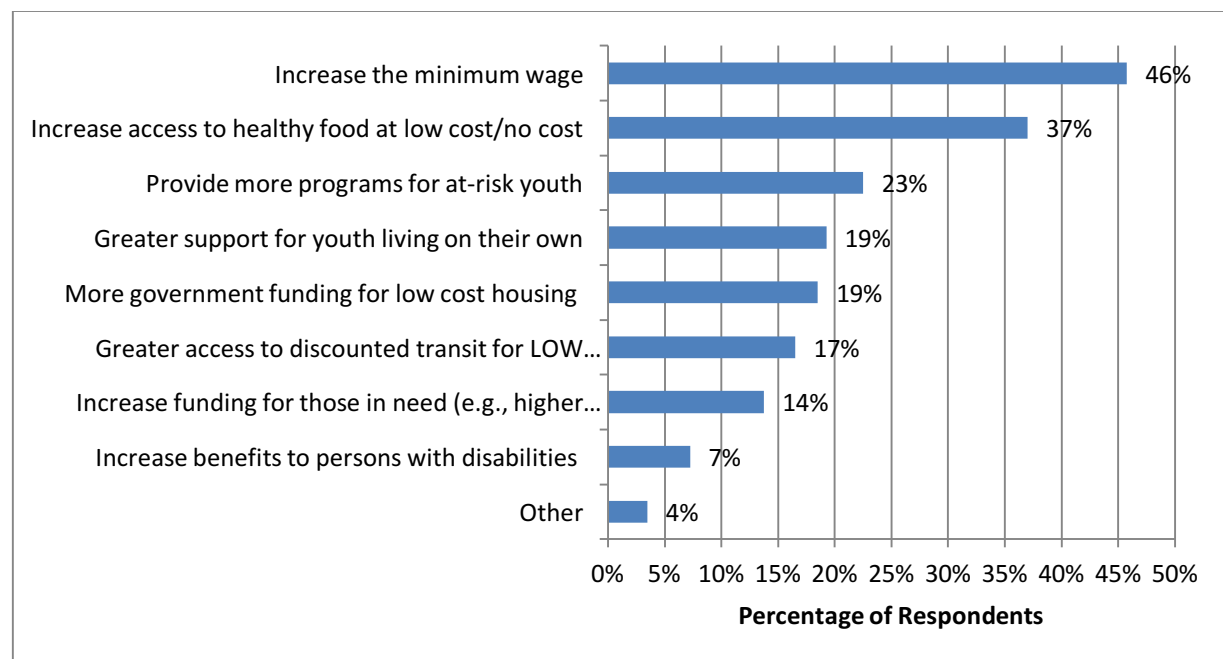
	Newton	Whalley	Fleetwood	Guildford	Cloverdale	South Surrey
<b>Average Monthly Shelter costs for rented dwellings (\$)</b>	\$795	\$849	\$898	\$910	\$1,044	\$1,189

## Making Ends Meet

*Figure xvii: In what areas has Surrey been successful in helping Surrey individuals and families meet their basic needs?*



*Figure xviii: If you could change two things to better help Surrey individuals and families meet their basic needs, what would they be?*



## Reference Tables

*Table xix: Prevalence of low income under 18 based on After-Tax LIM<sup>201</sup> (2011), by Neighbourhood*

Area	Prevalence %	Incidence
<b>BRITISH COLUMBIA</b>	19.1	75650
<b>CITY OF SURREY</b>	18.7	9890
<b>CLOVERDALE</b>	9.4	670
<b>FLEETWOOD</b>	16.5	1050
<b>GUILDFORD</b>	25.6	1660
<b>NEWTON</b>	19.1	3060
<b>SOUTH SURREY</b>	12.4	845
<b>WHALLEY</b>	24.7	2605

Source: Statistics Canada- NHS 2011, Community Profiles. Taken from City of Surrey Sustainability Dashboard.

*Table xx: Youth Surrey Food Bank Usage, January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2014*

Age	Cloverdale	Surrey	Green Timbers/Newton	Delta	Surrey & North Delta Overall
<b>10 to 12.99</b>	130	7887	106	233	8356
<b>13-15.99</b>	112	6824	80	310	7307
<b>16-17.99</b>	100	3990	44	145	4298
<b>18-18.99</b>	39	1446	5	95	1585
<b>19-20.99</b>	80	1542	17	83	1722
<b>21-29.99</b>	192	10863	121	227	11403
<b>Total</b>	653	32552	373	1093	34671

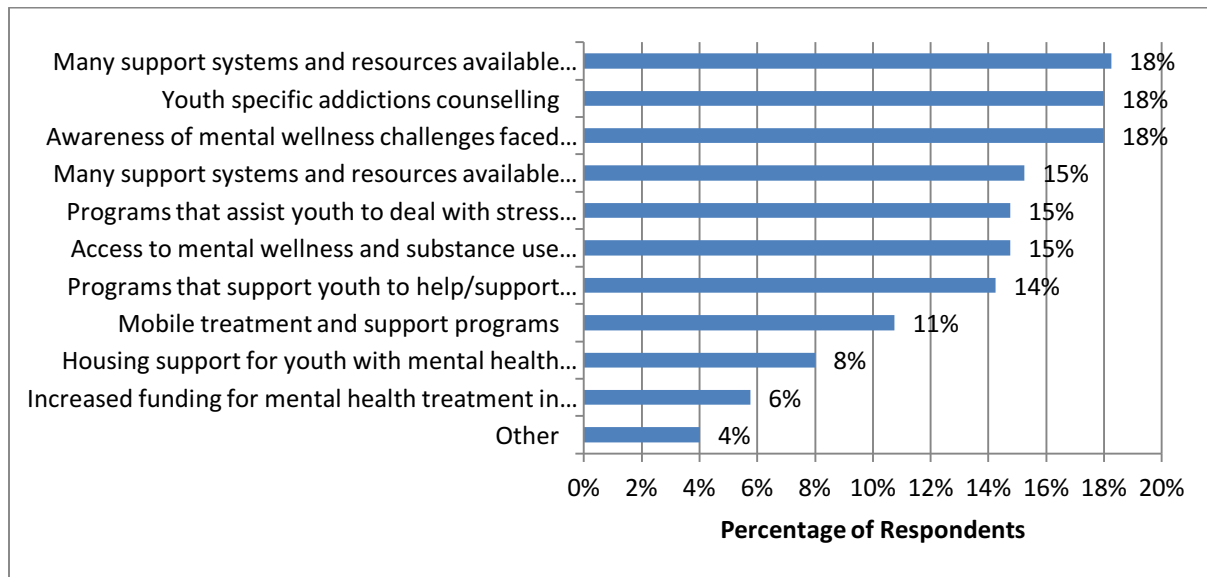
Source: Surrey Food Bank; data provided.

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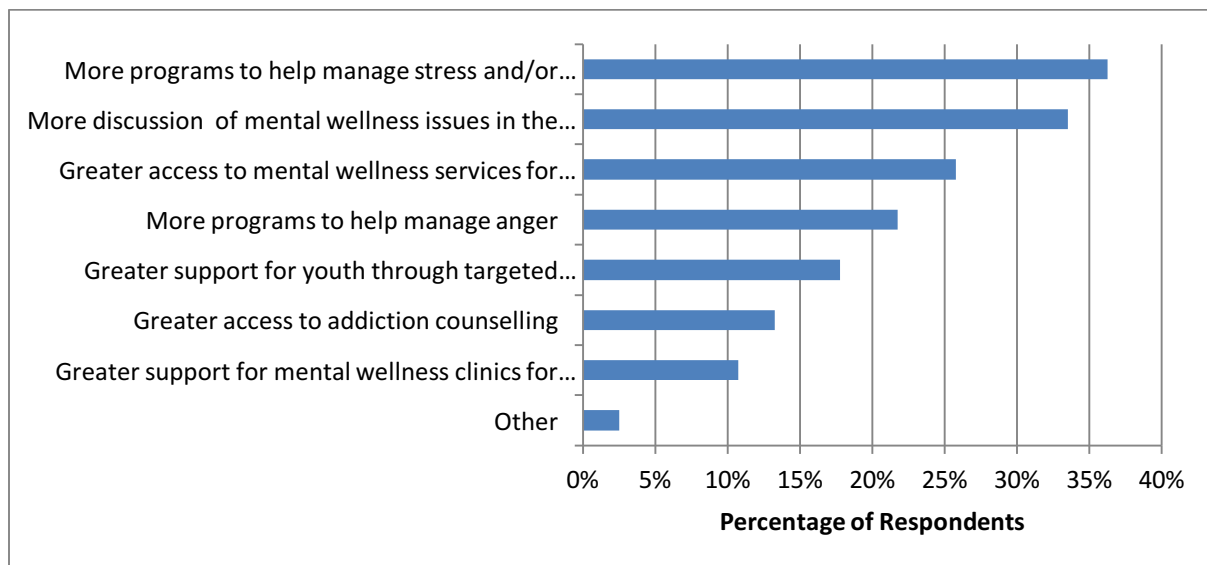
<sup>201</sup> The Low Income Measure (LIM) is a fixed percentage of median adjusted household income (adjusted= household needs are taken into account).  
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/75f0002m/2012002/lim-mfr-eng.htm>

## Mental Wellness

*Figure xxxix: In what areas has Surrey been successful in supporting your overall mental wellness?*



*Figure xL: If you could change two things to provide greater support for your overall youth mental wellness in Surrey, what would they be?*



## Reference Tables

*Table xli: Trend in perceived health, by age group*

Age	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>12 to 19</b>	70.9	74.4	84.9	82.1	64.2	79.4	78.3	83.6	70	72.6
<b>20 to 34</b>	70.1	68.9	65.1	60	72.4	69	64.9	76.1	65.7	60.7

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xlii: Percentage of youth age 12-19 with perceived very good or excellent mental health, by region*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>S Fraser</b>	70.9	74.4	84.9	82.1	64.2	79.4	78.3	83.6	70	72.6
<b>BC</b>	71.9	77.5	75.1	80.9	73.8	75.9	79.9	74.7	69	72.2
<b>Canada</b>	76.1	77	77.5	78.7	77.4	75.3	77.3	77	75.4	73.9

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xliii: Percentage of youth age 20-34 with perceived very good or excellent mental health, by region*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>S Fraser</b>	70.1	68.9	65.1	60	72.4	69	64.9	76.1	65.7	60.7
<b>BC</b>	73.8	74.7	73.9	76	74.4	76	74	67.9	72.1	72.7
<b>Canada</b>	76.5	77	77.8	77.3	77.2	77.6	75.3	73.8	74	72.3

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

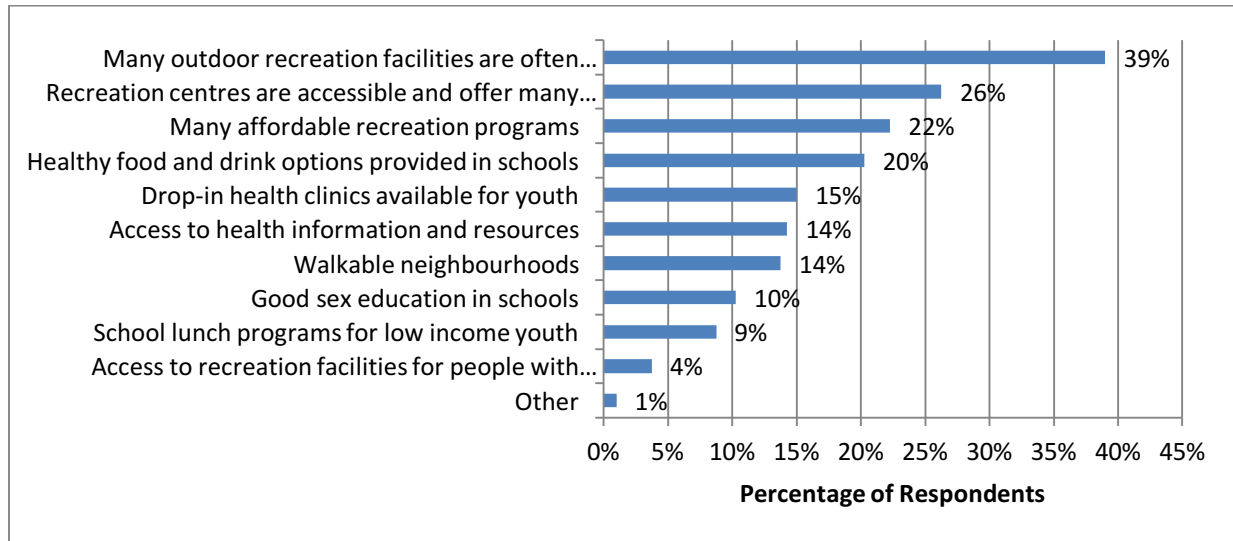
*Table xlv: Two sample T-test (Percentage of youth age 12-34 with perceived very good or excellent mental health)*

	<b>12 to 19</b>	<b>20 to 34</b>
<b>Mean</b>	76.04	67.29
<b>Variance</b>	45.15378	25.19433
<b>Observations</b>	10	10
<b>Pooled Variance</b>	35.17406	
<b>Hypothesized Mean Difference</b>	0	
<b>df</b>	18	
<b>t Stat</b>	3.298996	
<b>P(T&lt;=t) one-tail</b>	0.001995	
<b>t Critical one-tail</b>	1.734064	
<b>P(T&lt;=t) two-tail</b>	0.00399	
<b>t Critical two-tail</b>	2.100922	

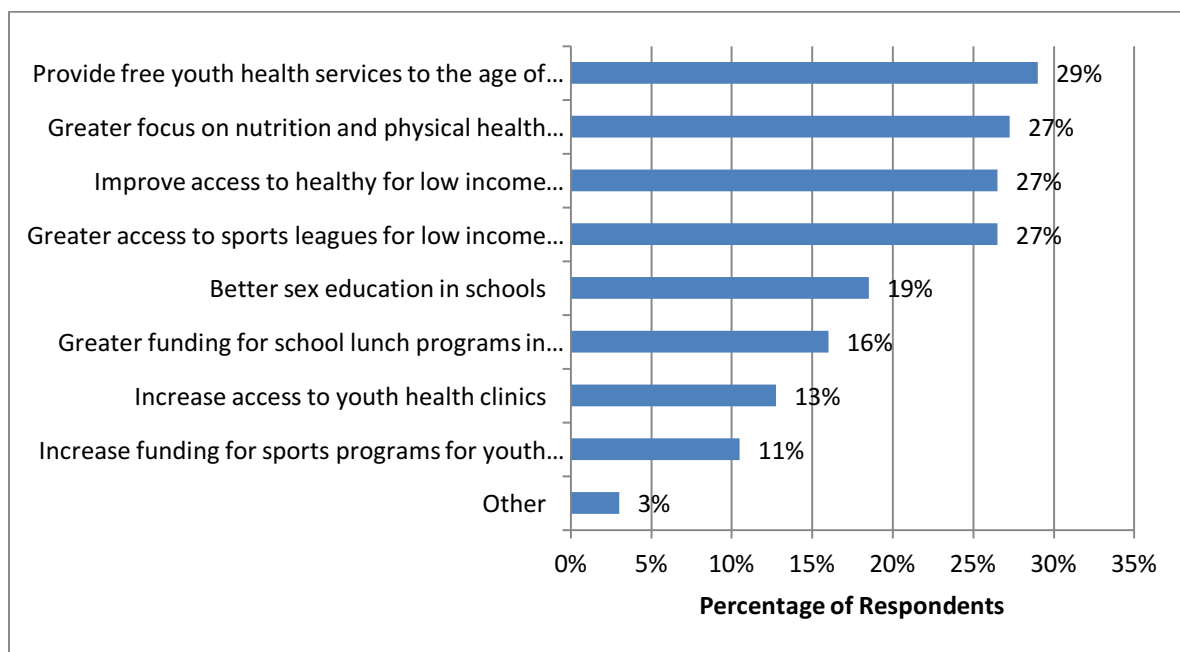
Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

## Physical Health, Fitness and Nutrition

*Figure xxi: In what areas has Surrey been successful in keeping youth active and physically healthy?*



*Figure xxii: If you could change two things to make youth more active and physically healthy in Surrey, what would they be?*



## Reference Tables

*Table xxiii: Perceived Health, good or excellent (12-19) in Percentages*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>S</b>										
<b>Fraser</b>	66.4	64.4	79	69.5	65.4	77.9	76.7	70	72.7	61.7
<b>BC</b>	69.3	66.4	70.5	66.8	68	70.9	72.4	67.7	70.8	71.3
<b>Canada</b>	67	67.5	68.7	68.7	68	67.3	68.2	69.6	68.9	69.4

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xxiv: Perceived Health, good or excellent (20-34) in Percentages*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>S</b>										
<b>Fraser</b>	70.1	68.9	65.1	60	72.4	69	64.9	76.1	65.7	60.7
<b>BC</b>	69.8	68.5	67.8	64.9	69.8	69.9	70.1	68	63.8	61.3
<b>Canada</b>	68.8	70	69.4	67.2	70.6	70.9	68.8	68.4	67.4	65.7

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xxvi: Percentage of youth with access to a regular medical doctor (age 12-19)*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>S</b>										
<b>Fraser</b>	87.2	86.9	91.1	83.8	89.6	88.5	89.3	85.5	92.8	75
<b>BC</b>	90.7	90.7	90.9	88.6	88.8	89.9	86.2	85.8	88.9	87.6
<b>Canada</b>	85.7	85.1	84.7	83.5	84.8	84.9	85.2	84.8	86	85.6

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xxvii: Percentage of youth with access to a regular medical doctor (age 20-34)*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>S</b>										
<b>Fraser</b>	81.4	77.9	82.2	77.3	77.4	76.7	83.4	76.8	79.5	65.6
<b>BC</b>	79.7	78.5	75.4	75.9	75.9	73	72.8	72.1	69.9	67.8
<b>Canada</b>	76.1	76.4	73.6	74.3	74.1	72.6	73.1	72.9	71.9	73.5

*Table xxviii: Two-Sample Assuming Equal Variances (Trends in Youth access to doctors)*

	Variable 1	Variable 2
<b>Mean</b>	86.97	77.82



<b>Variance</b>	24.58678	24.22622
<b>Observations</b>	10	10
<b>Pooled Variance</b>	24.4065	
<b>Hypothesized Mean Difference</b>	0	
<b>df</b>	18	
<b>t Stat</b>	4.141459	
<b>P(T&lt;=t) one-tail</b>	0.000307	
<b>t Critical one-tail</b>	1.734064	
<b>P(T&lt;=t) two-tail</b>	0.000613	
<b>t Critical two-tail</b>	2.100922	

*Table xxix: Percentage of youth who consume fruit and vegetables 5 times or more per day (12 to 19)*

<b>Region</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>South Fraser</b>	38.6		43.9	39.2	52.1	55.1	38.5	44.2	32.8	45.5
<b>BC</b>	41.4	45.8	46.6	50.3	47.8	49.3	43.3	41.2	38.5	41.2
<b>Canada</b>	45.3	49	48	49.3	49.2	49.3	43.8	44.8	43.6	43.6

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xxx: Percentage of youth who consume fruit and vegetables 5 times or more per day (20 to 34)*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>South Fraser</b>	37		38.2	34.2	39.8	30.1	32.5	38.4	32.4	37.4
<b>BC</b>	36.9	44.7	44	38.4	44.2	36.4	34.7	40.3	41	38.3
<b>Canada</b>	39.4	42.7	43	43.4	45.5	42.7	40.3	39.9	42.3	38.8

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xxxi: Percentage of youth who are moderately active or active (12-34)*

Age	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>12 to 19</b>	26.9	23.1	25.8	21.5	21.2	33	22.2	23.8	17.3	20.4
<b>20 to 34</b>	39.4	45.4	43.4	46.5	45.9	46.4	50	48.3	33.3	48.8

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xxxii: Trends in youth access to doctors*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>12 to 19</b>	87.2	86.9	91.1	83.8	89.6	88.5	89.3	85.5	92.8	75
<b>20-34</b>	81.4	77.9	82.2	77.3	77.4	76.7	83.4	76.8	79.5	65.6

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xxxiii: Percentage of youth who are moderately active or active (12-19)*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>South Fraser</b>	73.1	76.9	74.2	78.5	78.8	67	77.8	76.2	82.7	79.6
<b>BC</b>	74.1	74.1	73.5	72.9	75.9	75.3	72.9	76.3	79.1	78.6
<b>Canada</b>	72	71.1	70.5	69.2	71	70.6	71.9	71.3	71.2	70.4

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xxxiv: Percentage of youth who are moderately active or active (20-34)*

Region	2003	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>South Fraser</b>	60.6	54.6	56.6	53.5	54.1	53.6	50	51.7	66.7	51.2
<b>BC</b>	62	61.5	60.1	60.5	61.1	59.2	61.4	61	67.7	59.4
<b>Canada</b>	54.6	55.5	53.1	52.9	55.9	55.5	58.3	56.5	60.1	56.5

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xxxv: T-Test (Percentage of youth who are moderately active or active)*

	<b>12 to 19</b>	<b>20 to 34</b>
<b>Mean</b>	76.48	55.26
<b>Variance</b>	18.48622	25.07156
<b>Observations</b>	10	10
<b>Pooled Variance</b>	21.77889	
<b>Hypothesized Mean Difference</b>	0	
<b>df</b>	18	
<b>t Stat</b>	10.16746	
<b>P(T&lt;=t) one-tail</b>	3.46E-09	
<b>t Critical one-tail</b>	1.734064	
<b>P(T&lt;=t) two-tail</b>	6.91E-09	
<b>t Critical two-tail</b>	2.100922	

*Table xxxvi: Percentage of youth 12-19 that are inactive*

<b>Region</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>South Fraser</b>	26.9	23.1	25.8	21.5	21.2	33	22.2	23.8	17.3	20.4
<b>BC</b>	25.9	25.9	26.5	27.1	24.1	24.7	27.1	23.7	20.9	21.4
<b>Canada</b>	28	28.9	29.5	30.8	29	29.4	28.1	28.7	28.8	29.6

Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xxxvii: Percentage of youth 20-34 that are inactive*

<b>Region</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>S Fraser</b>	39.4	45.4	43.4	46.5	45.9	46.4	50	48.3	33.3	48.8
<b>BC</b>	38	38.5	39.9	39.5	38.9	40.8	38.6	39	32.3	40.6
<b>Canada</b>	45.4	44.5	46.9	47.1	44.1	44.5	41.7	43.5	39.9	43.5

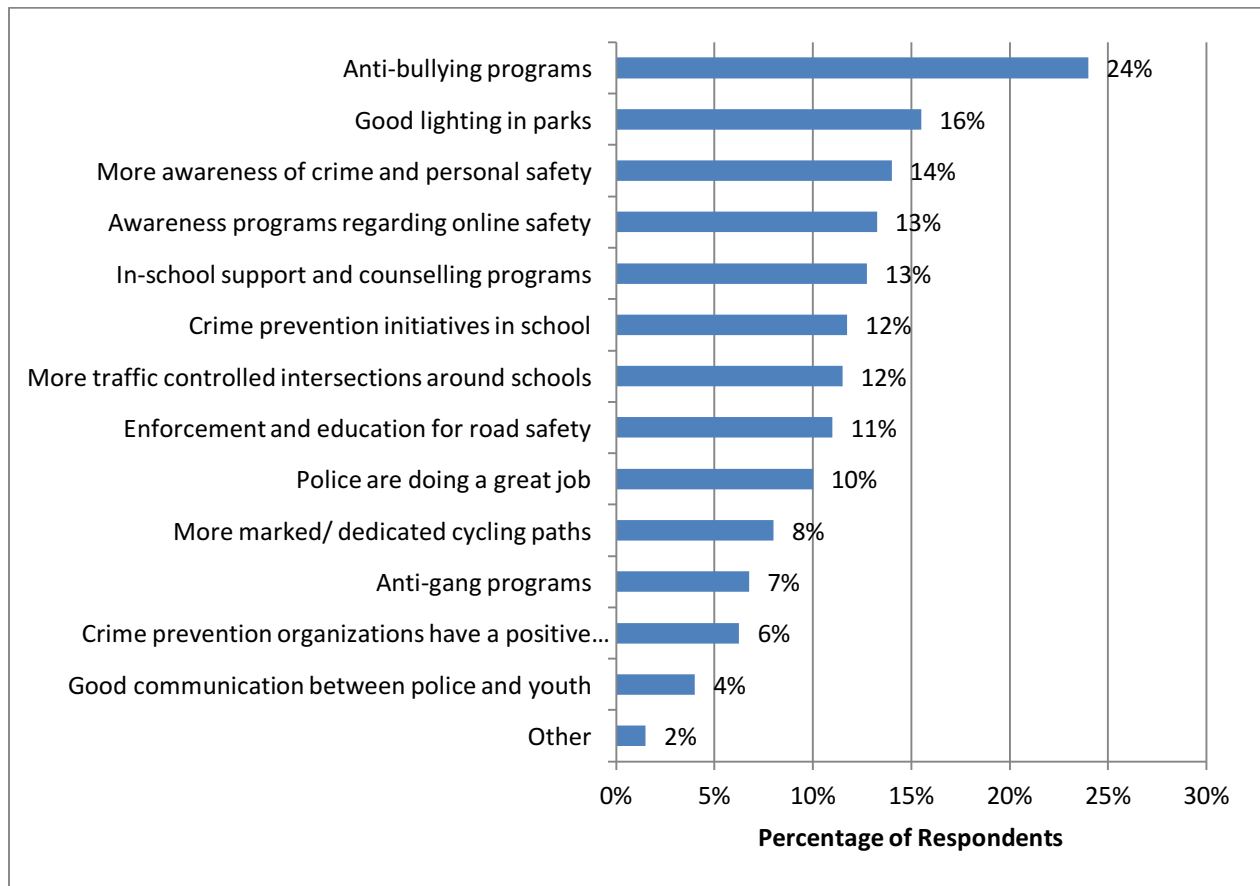
Source: Health Indicator Profile, annual estimates, by age group and sex, Canada, health regions (2013 boundaries) and peer groups, occasional

*Table xxxviii: Figure t-Test: Two-Sample Assuming Equal Variances (inactive) Percentage of youth that are inactive*

	<b>12 to 19</b>	<b>20 to 34</b>
<b>Mean</b>	23.52	44.74
<b>Variance</b>	18.48622	25.07156
<b>Observations</b>	10	10
<b>Pooled Variance</b>	21.77889	
<b>Hypothesized Mean Difference</b>	0	
<b>df</b>	18	
<b>t Stat</b>	-10.1675	
<b>P(T&lt;=t) one-tail</b>	3.46E-09	
<b>t Critical one-tail</b>	1.734064	
<b>P(T&lt;=t) two-tail</b>	6.91E-09	
<b>t Critical two-tail</b>	2.100922	

## Safety

Figure Lv : In what areas has Surrey been successful in keeping youth safe?

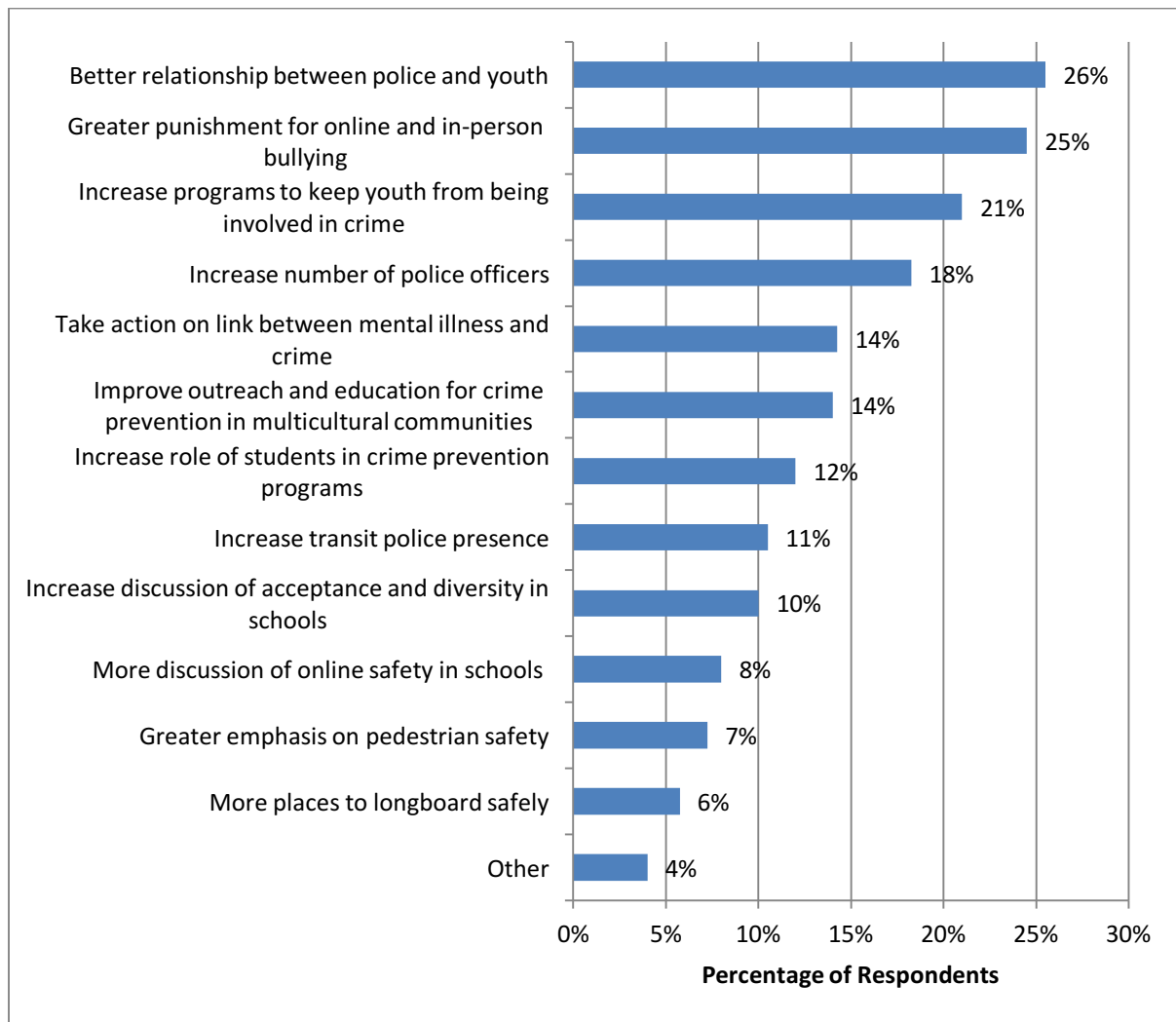


### Other Comments

- None
- ^Sarcasm the Surrey police are assholes
- I don't know
- none of the above
- None that I heard of
- I do not feel safe in Surrey at all and do not feel like I have any support from the city that will make that change.
- None
- More Marked crosswalks around schools
- More lighted crosswalks around schools
- More lighted crosswalks around schools
- More lighted crosswalks around schools
- More lighted crosswalks around schools
- More lighted crosswalks around schools

- More lighted crosswalks around schools
- More lighted crosswalks around schools
- More lighted crosswalks around schools
- More lighted crosswalks around schools
- More lighted crosswalks around schools

*Figure Lvi: If you could change two things about safety in Surrey, what would they be?*



*Other comments*

- I feel very strongly that more funding and time need to be spent on the mental health link with our crime in Surrey.
- all of the above

- cops need to punish small crime teens (robbing) rather than waiting until they get into the drug/gang
- less cops the better
- I don't know.
- Everything
- police are not doing their job
- let it go let it go
- more light
- police have to do a better job
- all of the above
- Kwantlen Park is unsafe at night, many of my friends have been mugged after 5pm even with the presence of other people
- the police are bad they are look bad police are ass holes
- BETTER SAFETY OF BEING ABLE TO GO OUTSIDE DURING NIGHT AND NOT BEING AFRAID OF
- not only safe longboarding, but actual good hills so kids stay off the streets
- maintain garbage: needles laying around
- Increase Safety for young girls and women
- Crimes in Surrey is high (hella sketchy)
- Not enough lighted crosswalks available
- It's Fine in South Surrey
- Better lighting in Parks
- Not sure what to grade this one...from personal experiences, schools don't respond to bullying (even those with "0 Tolerance" policies). Some students go to school only feeling 'physically' safe (bullies won't physically harm them, but will tease, vandalize their belongings, etc.)

## Reference Tables

*Table Lvii: Youth Charged per 100,000 pop aged 12 to 17 All Criminal Offences*

Area	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Surrey</b>	1544.63	1495.15	1530.7	1304.48	888.55	940.02	1130.89
<b>BC</b>	2241.26	2258.54	2168.33	1813.91	1652.63	1458.3	1191.25

Sources: Statistics Canada. *Table 252-0081*

*Table Lvi: Youth Charged per 100,000 pop aged 12 to 17 Violent Offences*

Area	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Surrey</b>	553.99	556.7	550.54	487.92	375.34	371.33	381.38
<b>BC</b>	664.07	628.95	620.29	539.51	489.6	455.97	371.93

Sources: Statistics Canada. *Table 252-0081*

*Table Lix: Youth Charged per 100,000 pop aged 12 to 17 Property Offences*

Area	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Surrey</b>	316.57	326.07	331.87	260.39	132.77	189.56	193.34
<b>BC</b>	682.43	720.23	605.82	491.3	445.73	372.82	300.51

Sources: Statistics Canada. *Table 252-0081*

*Table Lx: Youth Charged per 100,000 pop aged 12 to 17 Drug Offences*

Area	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Surrey</b>	128.26	156.41	105.48	101.12	94.47	98.68	161.56
<b>BC</b>	188.04	148.17	197.75	188.4	158.36	176.84	142.84

Sources: Statistics Canada. *Table 252-0081*

## School Safety

*Table LXI: Feeling Safe at School many times/most the time*

Year	Grade 7	Grade 10	Grade 12
<b>2009/2010</b>	82	70	75
<b>2010/2011</b>	86	74	74
<b>2011/2012</b>	87	77	82
<b>2012/2013</b>	86	73	75
<b>2013/2014</b>	87	74	76

Source: Ministry of Education, Surrey School District Statistics Provided

*Table LXII: Percentage of students being bullied, teased, or picked on*

Year	Grade 7	Grade 10	Grade 12
<b>2009/2010</b>	7	7	8
<b>2010/2011</b>	7	8	9
<b>2011/2012</b>	6	8	7
<b>2012/2013</b>	7	7	9
<b>2013/2014</b>	7	7	7



## Youth Space

Figure xiii: In what areas has Surrey been successful in providing fun youth spaces?

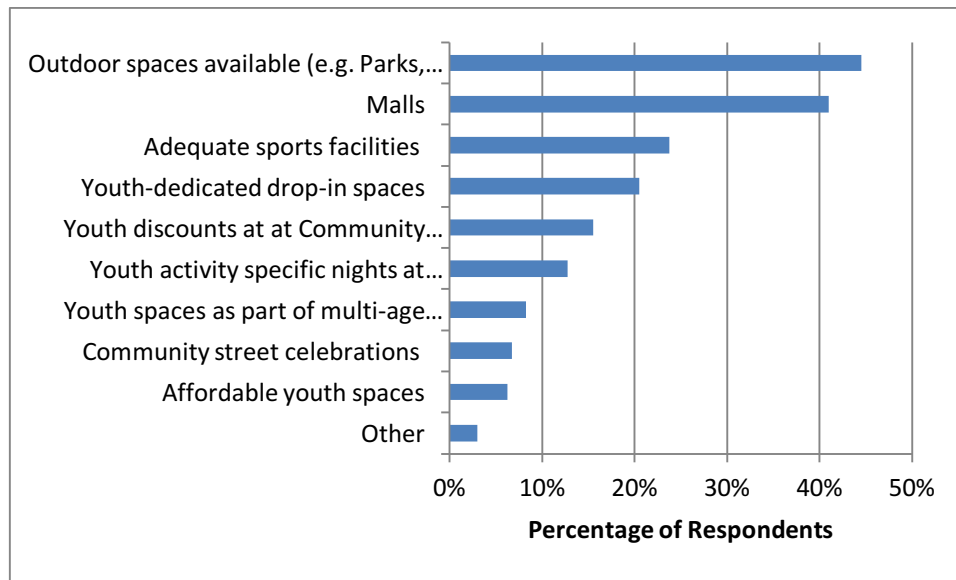
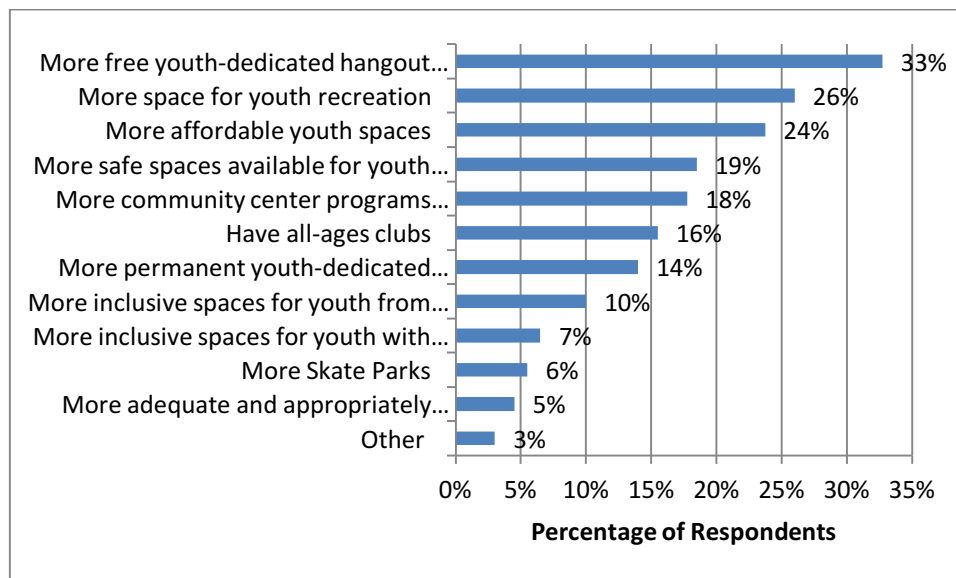
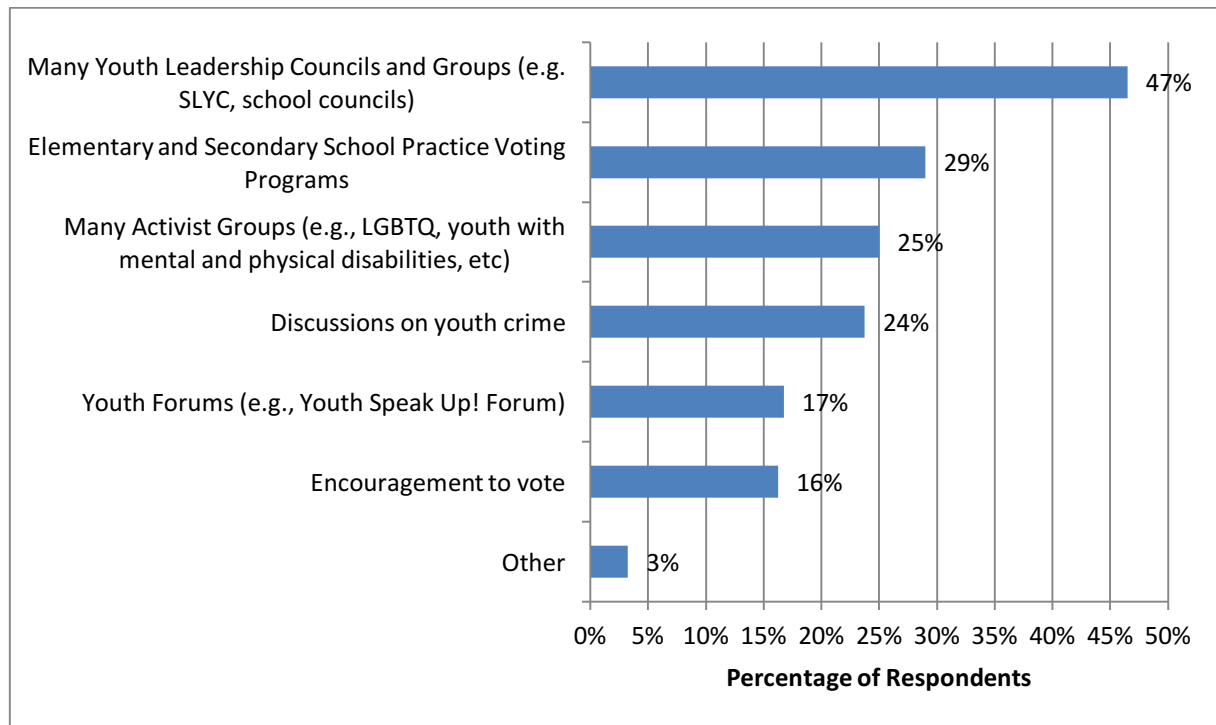


Figure xiv: If you could change two things to improve the quality and accessibility of youth spaces in Surrey, what would they be?

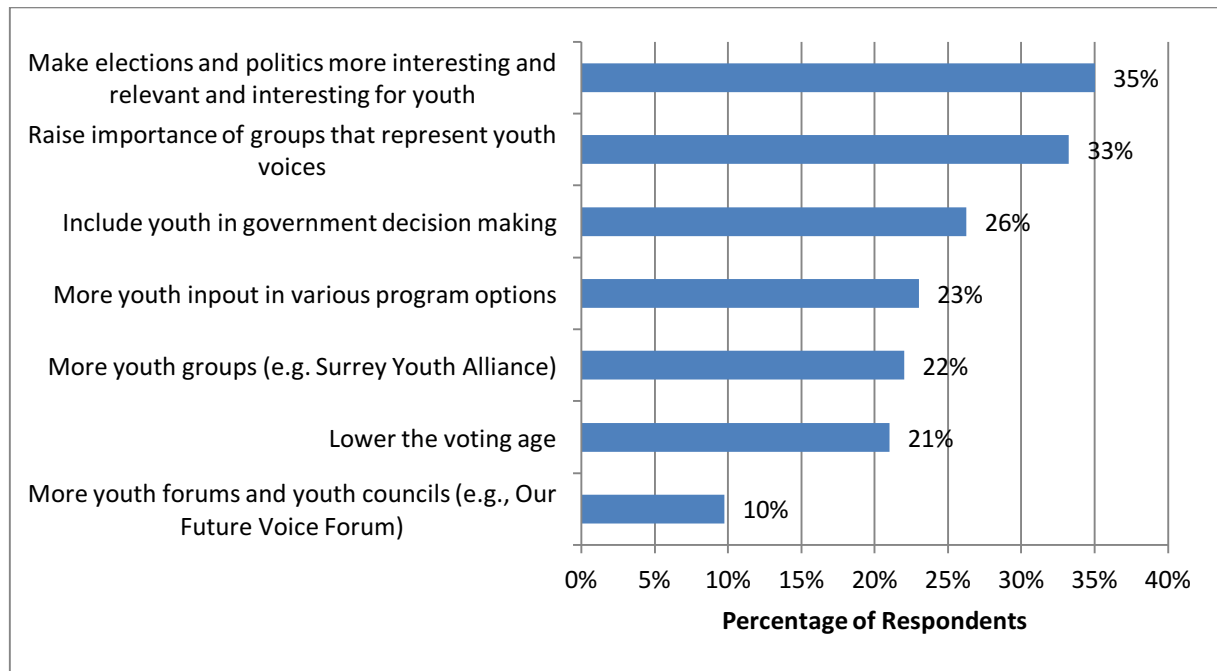


## Youth Voice

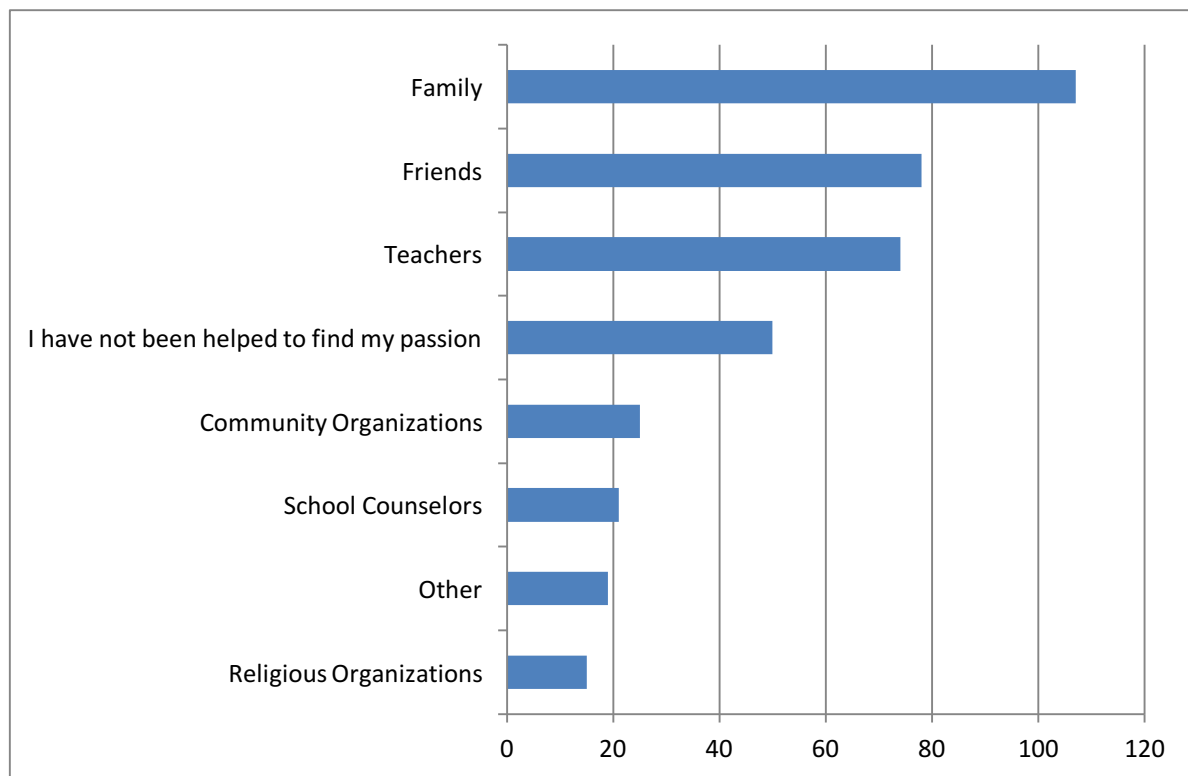
*Figure xv: In what areas has Surrey been Successful in promoting a youth voice?*



*Figure xvi: If you could change two things about how youth are able to influence decision making and local planning in Surrey, what would they be?*



## Transitions



### *PASSION- OTHER*

1. Me
2. Doctors, private counsellors, and mental health workers
3. Post secondary teachers
4. City of Surrey youth worker
5. Internet
6. Social Media Bloggers
7. Myself
8. I am 12 what do I write
9. school job boards
10. No one
11. Myself
12. Myself
13. Myself
14. nobody puck ju
15. My Family and Best Friends
16. No Person
17. Grandpa

- 18. Colleagues and Managers
- 19. Still deciding
- 20. School courses offered in the Industrial Technology field
- 21. One person my psychology teacher

*Table: Respondents who had not been helped to find their “passion”*

Area	% of "not been helped" respondents
Fleetwood	30%
Newton	22%
Guildford	14%
South Surrey	14%
Whalley	8%
Clayton Heights	6%
Other	4%
Cloverdale	2%

*Figure ...: Students who are satisfied that school is preparing them for post-secondary*

Year	Grade 10	Grade 12
2009/2010	60	47
2010/2011	61	47
2011/2012	56	49
2012/2013	61	46
2013/2014	56	40

Source: Ministry of Education; Surrey School District Data provided

*Table: Students that are satisfied school is preparing them for a job in the future*

Year	Grade 10	Grade 12
2009/2010	56	36
2010/2011	55	36
2011/2012	47	32
2012/2013	53	36
2013/2014	48	28

Source: Ministry of Education; Surrey School District Data provided

### *TRANSITIONS: In Their Own Words*

What are some of the main challenges you are currently facing or faced in high school in preparation for your transition into post-secondary or the workforce?

1. Financial difficulties
2. Unreadiness for the rest of the world
3. stress or time management
4. Finding a post secondary education and student debt
5. long-term development of my skills such as project management, budgeting, facilitation, public speaking
6. finding financial support
7. Post-secondary education is expensive and I have limited options of where to study.
8. money, work, time and just keeping everything together
9. tuition
10. not enough work experience
11. Affordable housing on or near campus
12. Feeling left out
13. None Yet
14. Need money to pay for post-secondary
15. Getting employment, finding mentorship into career path
16. Management of time, balancing my passion and school, controlling my feelings
17. Lack of resume/ cover letter writing skills; Lack of local opportunities in science focuses jobs; High School was not as challenging as post-secondary (i.e lack of post-secondary preparation in high schools);
18. having a good job and sticking with it
19. Shitty manager underbooked not properly paid
20. Bullying
21. Bullying and Confusion with classes I need to take to get into the career I want
22. I do not know what I want to do in the future
23. i want to go abroad and nobody in school has info on that and couldnt help me
24. unable to find a job and not informed enough about post secondary
25. No basic information on how to pay taxes or find affordable homes, worry of no support or no opportunities for work or post-secondary schooling due to mental illness
26. facing anxiety and pressures due to the social pressure to persue post secondary schools, lack of stress management when finding schools, heavy work load

- increasing pressures to do well and restricting creativity when both in school and at home
27. Still don't know what I want; and if want I like will become a high-paying career
  28. dealing with cost of living.
  29. mental health issues, bullying, verbal and mental abuse, low self esteem, and just not being able to feel happy
  30. stress, anxiety
  31. Being a great all a rounder but not finding an interest in any field of study
  32. Nothing
  33. Gang violence and crime
  34. Homework stress, what job is best for me and what I want to be reaching as a young adult
  35. N/A
  36. Nothing much
  37. Being nervous is probably one of the biggest reasons for me going into Secondary schools
  38. Gym..?
  39. Im not in high school yet
  40. N/A
  41. I'm not that social
  42. Not in high school lolly
  43. Family
  44. None
  45. Falling behind on homework
  46. Trying to face the real world
  47. Concentrating on my school work in public school
  48. Its really hard to find a job
  49. No introduction to less popular careers
  50. Nothings
  51. Family and friends
  52. Bullying
  53. Not yet
  54. Developing worth ethic
  55. Registration and application
  56. Not enough jobs in my field of interest, not enough scholarships for social sciences.
  57. Want to be a doctor but have no idea about the qualifications or courses need to be taken
  58. pressure to fulfill other peoples dreams

59. The lack of support when it comes to applying to post secondary
60. Affordable housing
61. The total contrast of the two environments
62. Finding the right place to study/work as well as the space to study/work. Not enough employment or education options
63. thinking about a new part time job
64. A few subjects that are my main challenge also having no employment to support my parents for my future post secondary education.
65. I don't know much about more life to life stuff like financing. mortgages, health, etc
66. Too much homework and stress that it has given me
67. What I want to do and how, exactly, will I be able to do it.
68. Study stress and getting volunteer hours done
69. Having time to get everything done and dealing with stress
70. mental wellness and discouragement from parents
71. getting along with other
72. confidence
73. driving
74. Lack of Employment and Applying for University
75. I don't know what i want to be when I grow up
76. Teachers
77. Finding a connection between what I like and what I am good at
78. Less bullies
79. Not many people to ask or to talk to so you kind of have to figure things out on your own
80. Uneducated students
81. Nothing
82. I don't know what I want to be when I grow up
83. It's hard to get to school, not many options
84. Work
85. To get into university
86. DRRRRAAAAMMAAA
87. Really boring lessons often cause me to be distracted by other things
88. None
89. Bullying
90. public transportation ex. latenight buses up to 9:30 pm or something. or more busses so wait time for the next bus is decreased and not 30 minutes each at most bus stops.
91. too many bitches dont know who to choose



92. The main challenge I face is basically finding someone who will hire me in the workforce. Other than that, the stress of having to get good grades and participate in extra-curricular activities that may not sometimes be available in order to get into post-secondary is certainly also a challenge.
93. more opportunities to increase the chances of being accepted to a good university, like cheaper and more extra
94. knowing which courses to take in order to qualify for the job field I intend to go into. Also, which courses are beneficial to my career.
95. Getting diagnosed with Autism
96. Getting a job
97. what job to do
98. high grades, high costs, part time non conflicting work and affordable transit
99. financial support
100. Getting a job without having connections
101. indecisiveness, stress, pressure
102. drugs
103. Lack of employment opportunities
104. The major challenge that I am facing currently is that I have no clue as to what I want to do for my career. When I think I know, after a while when I ponder about it, I don't like that occupation anymore. Also, post-secondary education is very expensive so I can't afford to change my mind throughout post secondary.
105. Finishing School without failing marks
106. I felt a little bit held back at my school because there were not as many opportunities to enhance my knowledge, such as AP and IB programs. Also, more teenage co-op programs should be available for students to experience different working fields.
107. Not enough education about finances or post secondary environments and how to handle them
108. None
109. IDK
110. Grades
111. Lack of understanding of banking, mortgages and taxes, etc
112. Lack of financial understanding
113. racism(racist comments or stereotypes), respect for youth from adults
114. Obtaining academic average and volunteer hours for university acceptance
115. faver teizum

116. My main challenges transitioning into post-secondary was the limited support I had in my high school in pursuing more rigorous courseloads/academic environments.
117. Lack of Education regarding post secondary changes
118. Writing skills, mental health issues.
119. Transportation
120. lack of counselors, not really sure where to turn. funding opportunities, scholarship info.
121. the pressure to know what you should do for a career/post-secondary program before leaving high school, making friends, trying to fit in
122. There are certain life skills that I have not been taught that would be very beneficial for myself and other youth in our transition, such as learning how to manage our time and money efficiently and choosing a career path. Also the fact that education is expensive and I do not have enough time to maintain my grades as well as holding a job, which could be problematic for me in the future.
123. Idk
124. Nothing]
125. mental illness, probably exclusion at some point, mostly my mental illness caused a lot of problems for me
126. paying for post-secondary, obtaining all scholarships and paperwork from the high school
127. knowing how to transition easily into post secondary from highschool
128. The pressure of finding work right after I graduate school.
129. Not being prepared for the workload or expectations of post-secondary
130. Conciling
131. I was not as well prepared for post-secondary as I should have been. High school did not teach anything useful when it comes to entering the real world!
132. The biggest challenge is to find employers to provide work experience to Special Needs workers.
133. Not being financially stable
134. Don't know much about how to use/save my money or how a mortgage or taxes work which are things that will be essential once in the work force
135. The cost of tuition and books, not enough opportunities for employment for youth
136. I attend Kwantlen and am a single mom.. I do not have affordable child care and no care at all when he is sick causing me to miss classes due to lack of funding and optimal places for him to be watched for a low price...
137. younger teens are taken less seriously by employers
138. Over crowded high school with no immediate solution in sight

139. Getting into a good institution to further my education.
140. trying to figure out what i wanted to do and what i was good at.
141. What do I want to be?
142. Lack of information
143. I faced work experience 2 times and those experiences made me think much wiser and made me more mature on how to handle situations in a more mature way. The employers were very rude and i think that someone needs to do something about this because it has happened to many teenagers that have went on work experience. They completely take advantage of you and dont teach you anything new but make you do the same thing every day until your work experience is over. Overall work experience did make me much mature.
144. Proper teacher support and instruction, community support, and community opportunities in the area of work that I hope to one day enter.
145. Nothing
146. Career opportunity
147. Not enough opportunities for youth without a clear career goal to experience career possibilities in schools.
148. Staying safe.
149. Definitely was not prepared for the dramatic increase of workload and difficulty. Started having anxiety attacks and did not know any coping skills.
150. Being able to fund for post-secondary; Need more information on relationships
151. Figuring out how to pay rent with minimum wage while going to school; need for higher minimum wage/better knowledge of living on my own
152. That we do not have enough talks about the future
153. University applications/requirements: need more help understanding how uni works
154. Don't know what to do int the future; not prepared to support myself; greater emphasis on teaching to be independent
155. Being able to become more mature with people at school; being independant; better family system
156. Trying out different jobs as a youth (e.g., baking a cake, spend time with a police officer or a firefighter, be a nurse for a day)
157. clubs and programs; communication; more planning
158. Managing anxiety levels/ university life/ need more support
159. I don't know how to properly apply for university/ a class that teaches you how to apply for university, how to buy a house, buy a car, and pay taxes
160. Grades and getting into post secondary, need more knowledge

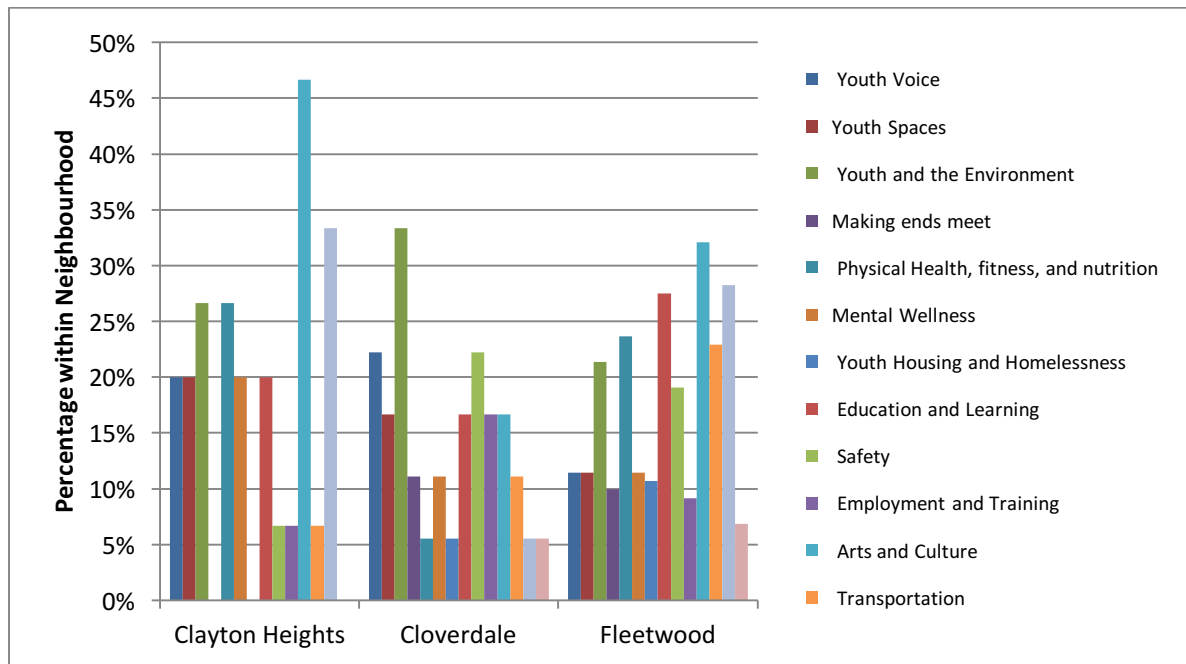
161. Lack of information on professional programs (medicine, law) considering the abundance of info on trades. More information on professional programs and pathways to medicine or law (M.D. Or J.D. Degrees).
162. We don't know how to do basic adult things (taxes)
163. Lack of Confidence; Money; job oppurtunities
164. Learning about taxes
165. No teaching on real life things (taxes, mortgages, insurance)
166. Learn more about college applications/ more classes that are actually helpful, not b.s.
167. Don't know about taxes, budgeting, anything financial/ More classes focussed on actual life skills
168. Not enough/ lack of support
169. More info about scholarships and post-secondary tuition/ just more time in preparation with school work and
170. More info about career paths/ need better role models
171. not having enough money/ need another job
172. had no meny/ need more paid work experience
173. work/ sex education
174. No support cause you dumb/ money cheap ppl
175. everything would have better prepared me for the future
176. Laziness/lack of motivation
177. Nothing
178. Being given unrealistic advice for my situation/ too cookie-cutter based resources
179. I have faced social anxiety in high school, always trying to fit in/ But after Gr. 11 I realised my true friends and starting building my identity as who I am and self aware of my self
180. School/Jobs
181. peer pressure/job training
182. Classes don't prepare for university/ better resources and school system
183. Insecurity about the future/ More job training
184. My grades being good enough/ how to get a job, how to sustain my life/ More ways how to get what you want
185. Trying to find a good job/ need better job education
186. Not knowing what to do in Iniversity /college/ being better informed
187. Transition into university/ More education on finances abd life planning and taxes
188. Some teachers want us to fail. Not helpful/ more relevant lessons

189. I Don't know what to do/ learning more about real life stuff like mortgages and taxes, not b.s. Math
190. Homework
191. Finding a university for film nearby and handling my parents
192. Getting good grades
193. Getting good grades
194. Scholarship/ money issues
195. Mental Health; Tuition; lack of experience
196. Education
197. Getting prepared for high school from elementary
198. Time Management
199. I didn't study
200. Work-study schedule
201. Work Schedules
202. Not being challenged in High School
203. The application/ registration process is not straight forward, very confusing

# APPENDIX C: Survey Data

Graphs: Areas to Celebrate and Areas to Improve

Figure 4: Areas to Celebrate by Neighbourhood (excluding Others and Unknown)



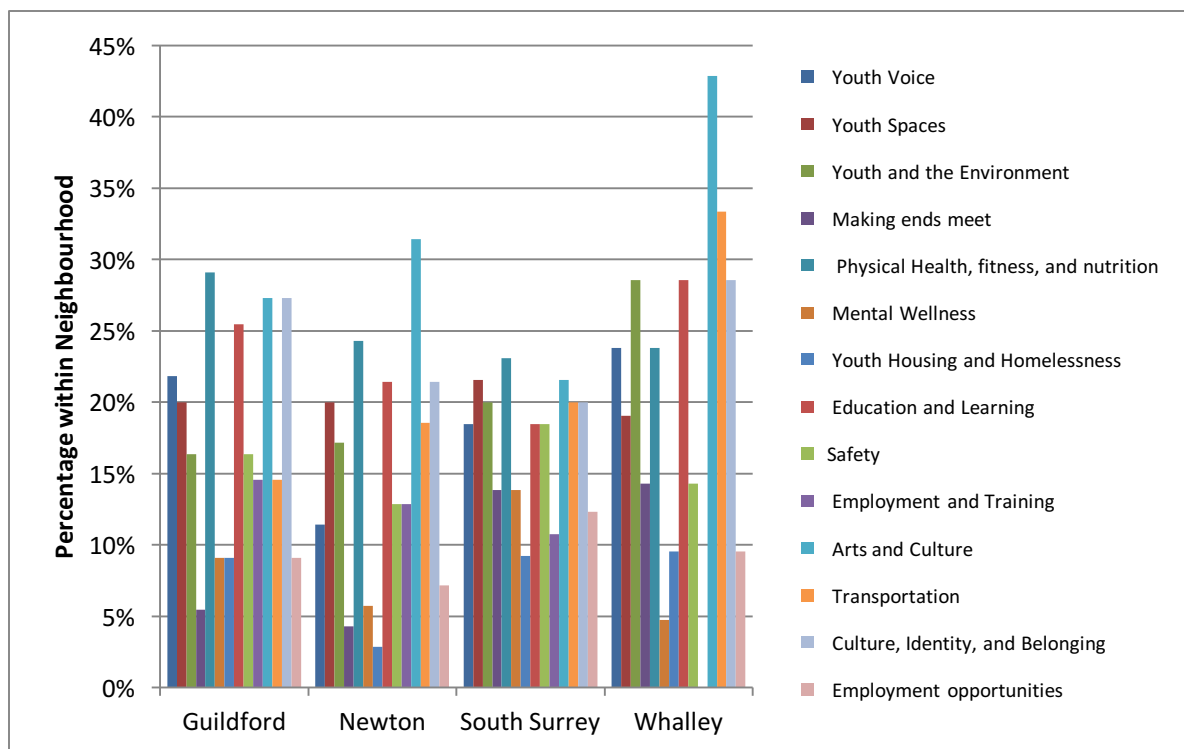
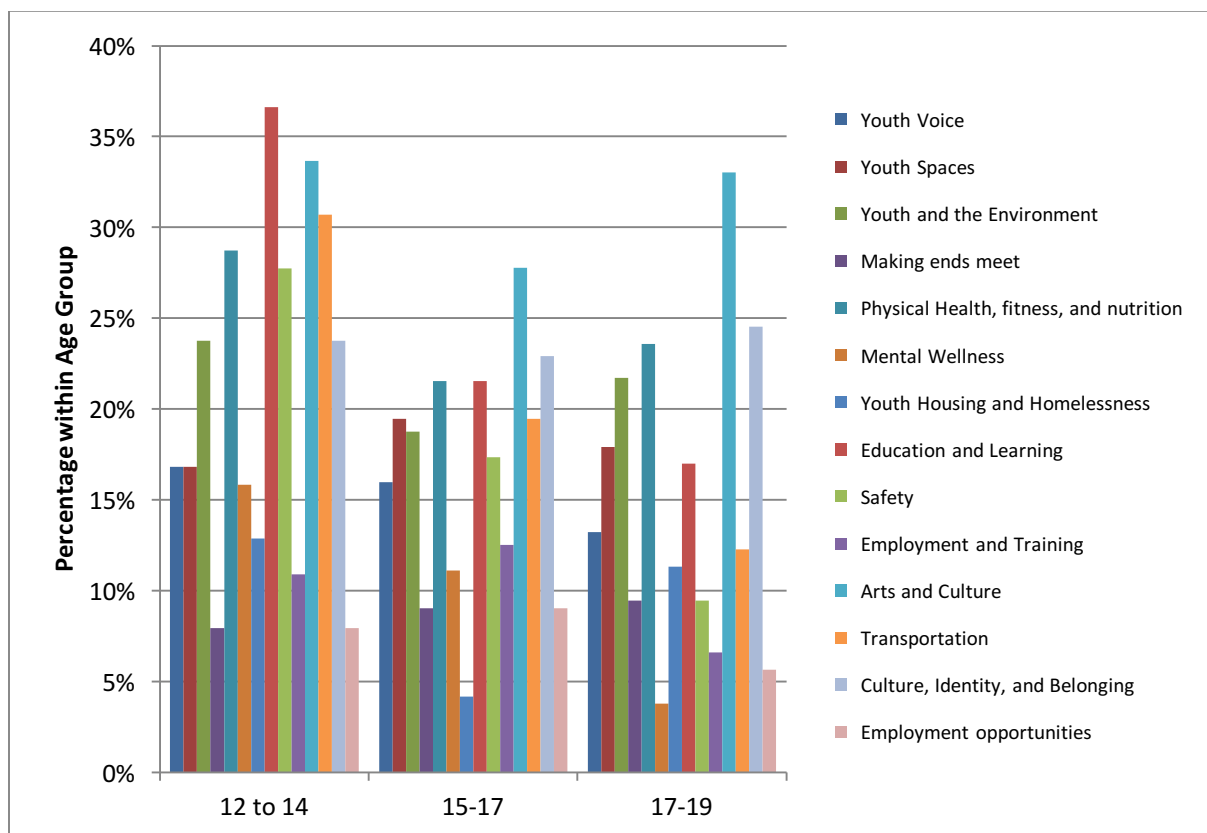


Figure 5: Areas to celebrate by Age (12-19)



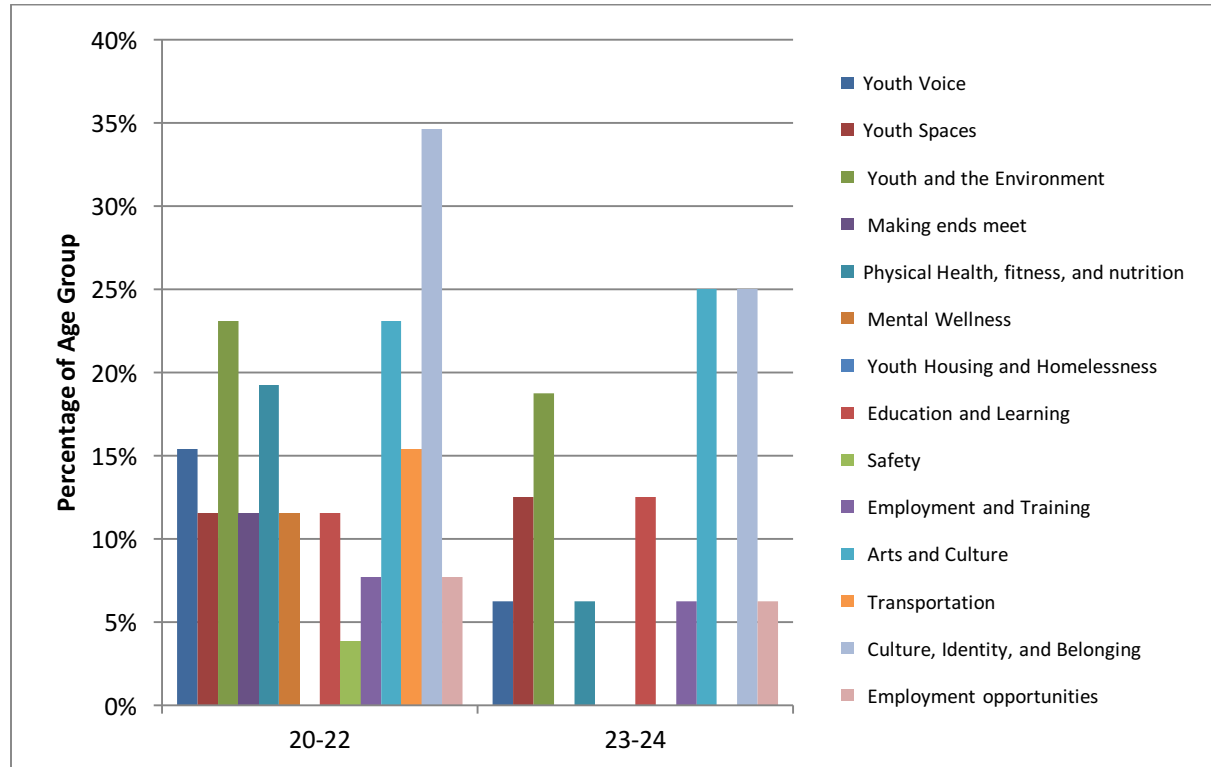




Figure 1: Areas that need Attention by Age group (12-19)

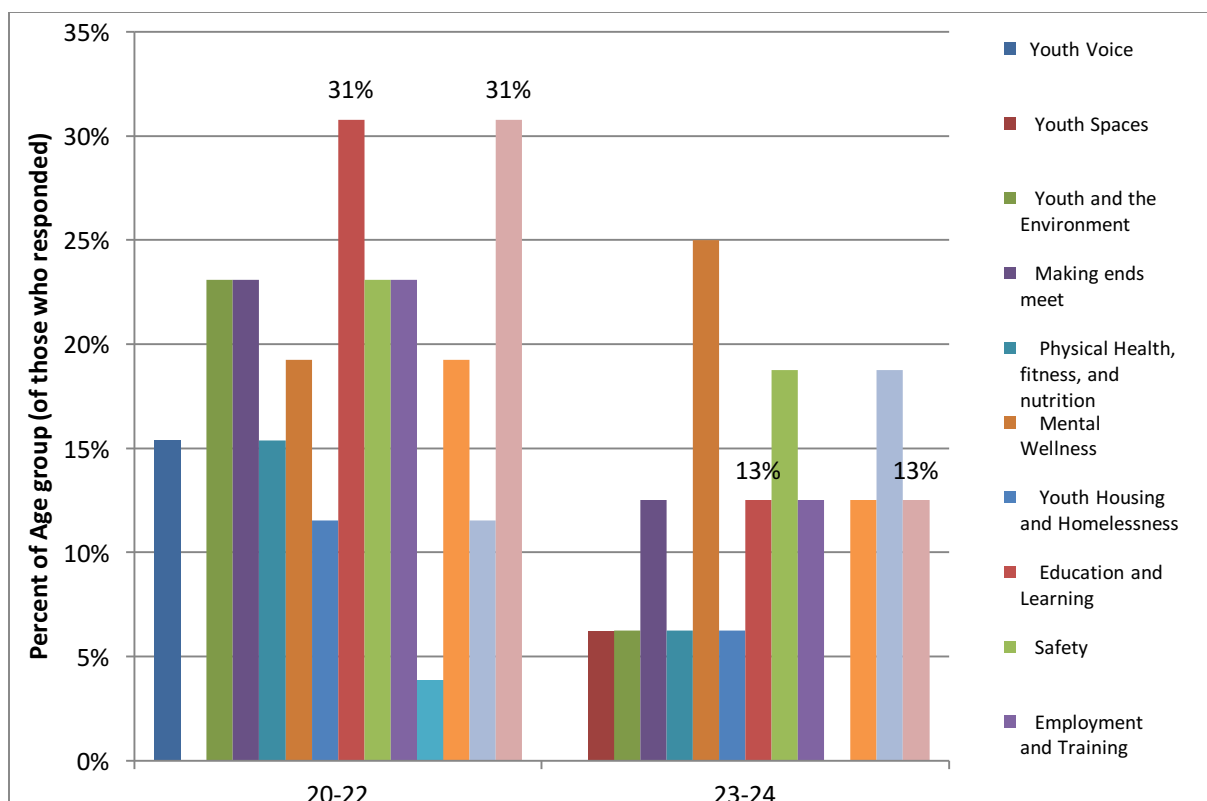
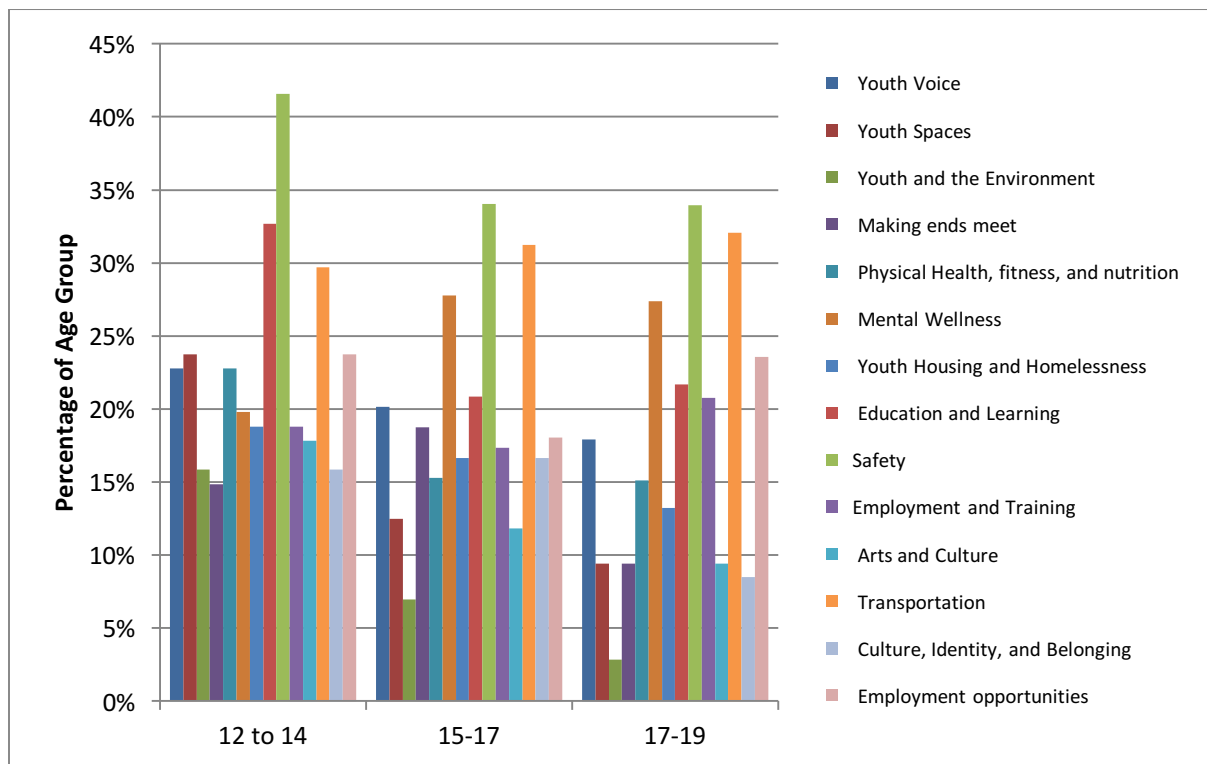
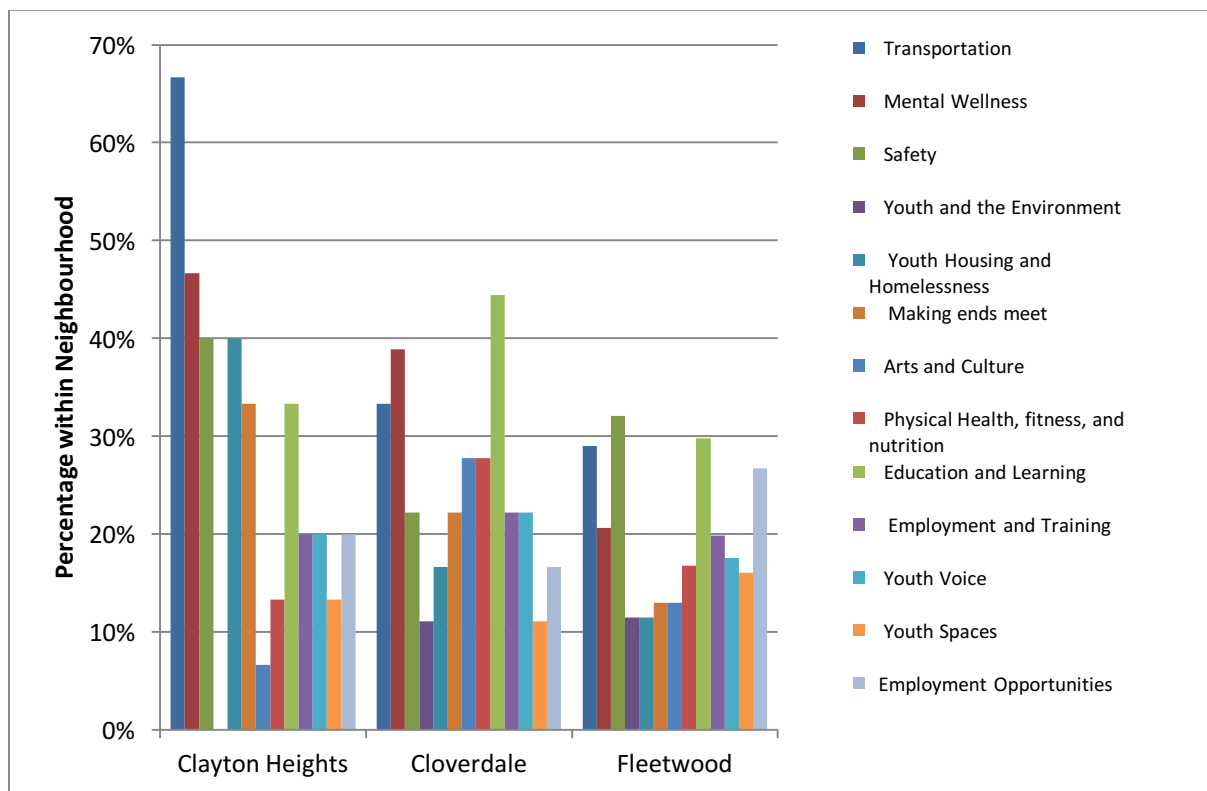
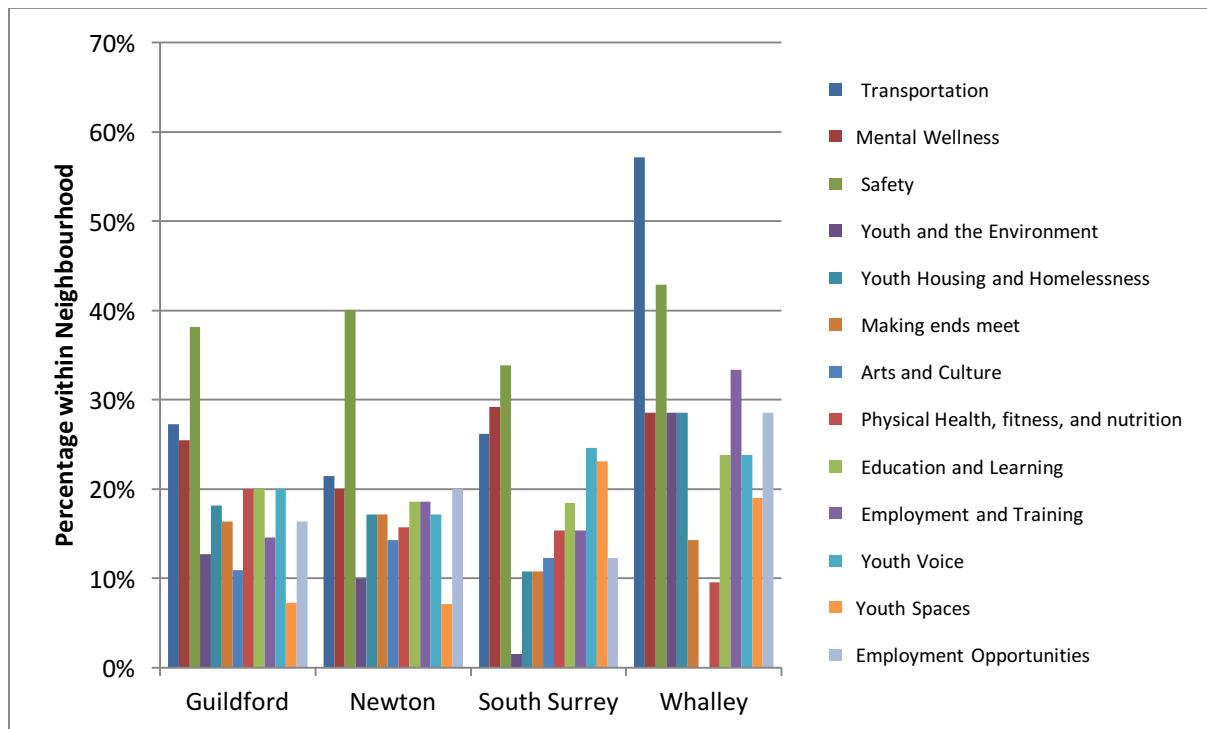


Figure 3: Areas that need attention by Neighbourhood



# Appendix D: Survey Grading System and Grades Given

IMPORTANT: Since grading was voluntary, the number of respondents for each grading section will in most cases not equal the total number of respondents in the Youth Vital Signs.

## Grading System

Each Grade was given a numerical representation:

A= 5
A/B= 4.5,
B= 4
B/C= 3.5
C= 3
C/D= 2.5
D=2
D/F= 1.5
F=1

The numbers where then averaged.

### Arts and Culture (3.0 OR C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	31
A/B	1
B	110
B/C	0
C	106
C/D	1
D	26
D/F	1
F	10
Other	0

## Culture, Identity, and Belonging (3.2 OR C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	24
A/B	0
B	108
B/C	1
C	100
C/D	0
D	29
D/F	4
F	8
Other	2

## Education and Learning (3.4 OR C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	28
A/B	0
B	137
B/C	0
C	83
C/D	0
D	35
D/F	2
F	21
Other	1

## Employment and Training (3.2 OR C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	12
A/B	0
B	117
B/C	0
C	103
C/D	0
D	42
D/F	0
F	14
Other	0

## Environment (3.4 OR C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	28
A/B	4
B	142
B/C	1
C	117
C/D	0
D	48
D/F	2
F	12
Other	5



### Getting Around (3.4 OR C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	20
A/B	1
B	115
B/C	0
C	80
C/D	1
D	41
D/F	7
F	18
Other	1

## Housing and Homelessness (2.9 or D+)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	13
A/B	0
B	71
B/C	1
C	132
C/D	1
D	55
D/F	7
F	29
Other	1

## Making Ends Meet (3.0 or C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	16
A/B	0
B	83
B/C	0
C	145
C/D	0
D	74
D/F	0
F	27
Other	7

## Mental Wellness (3.0 or C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	15
A/B	0
B	84
B/C	0
C	132
C/D	0
D	63
D/F	0
F	22
Other	3

### Physical Health, Fitness, and Nutrition (3.3 OR C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	29
A/B	0
B	120
B/C	0
C	130
C/D	0
D	46
D/F	0
F	12
Other	3

## Safety (3.0 OR C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	20
A/B	0
B	75
B/C	1
C	108
C/D	0
D	52
D/F	6
F	33
Other	1

### Youth Space (3.4 OR C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	29
A/B	1
B	175
B/C	2
C	112
C/D	0
D	35
D/F	1
F	18
Other	2

## Youth Voice (3.0 OR C)

Grade	Number of Respondents
A	15
A/B	0
B	98
B/C	1
C	154
C/D	2
D	83
D/F	3
F	24
Other	5