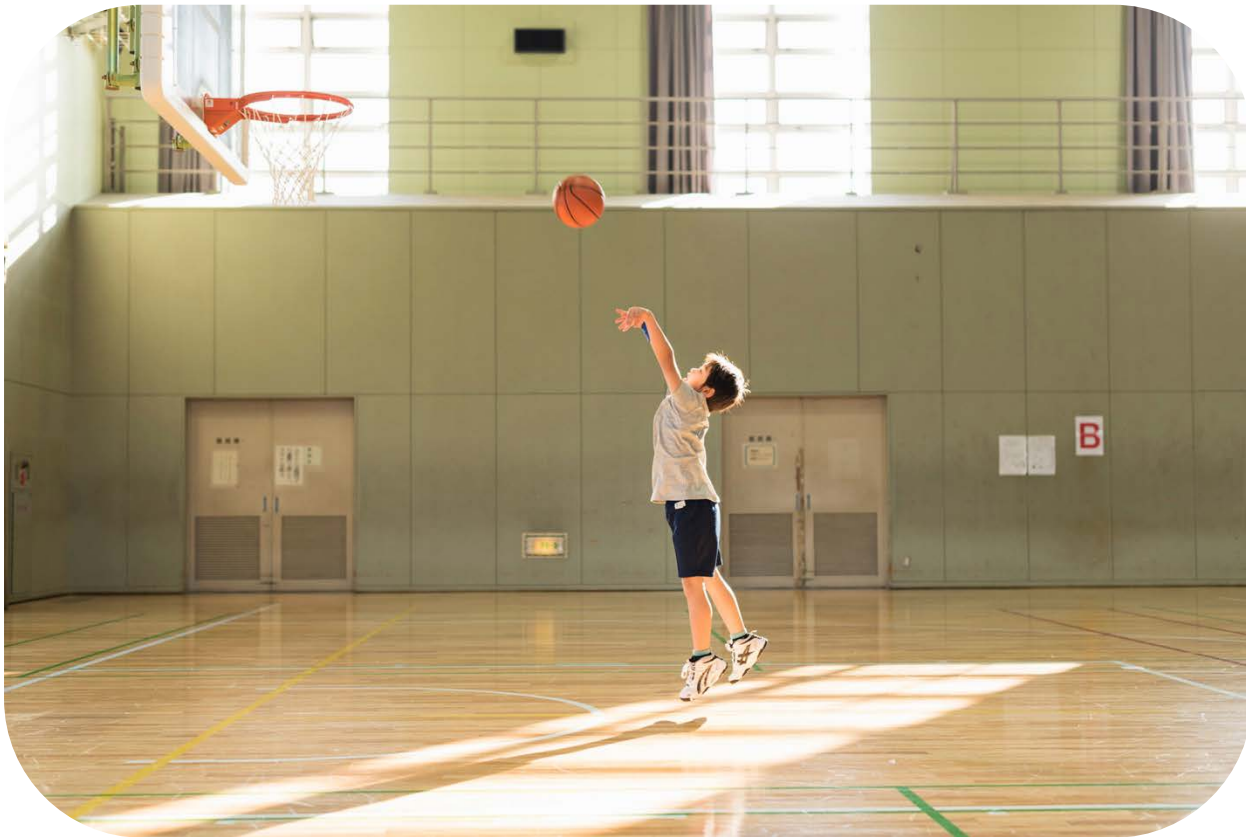


LINCOLN YOUTH VOICE SURVEY

Collected Spring/Summer 2023



Data Collected and Processed by YDN



Youth Voice Survey Results

– Final Report Supplementary Document 1 -

Summary of Results

The Youth Voice Survey indicates that the Community of Lincoln succeeds in providing the Supports & Opportunities to their young people.

Youth tend to agree that they are physically and emotionally safe, that they receive emotional support from the adults they interact with, experience positive peer relationships,, gain knowledge of their community and have chances to give back, and experience growth and progress in interesting and challenging skills.

There is an area of growth through adults offering guidance and practical support to youth, in youth input within programs, youth experiencing belonging within the community, as well as interacting with interesting skill building materials.

Based on survey responses, it may be wise to put emphasis on developing adult knowledge of youth and youth leadership opportunities in the coming months.

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About the Youth Voice Survey

This document contains a summary of your community's Youth Voice Survey results.

The survey results provide you with information about the quality of developmental experiences that people are having in your community, related to YDN's Youth Development Framework for Practice.

YDN's Long Form Survey, as modified from CYND's Youth Survey, is used in the context of an Organizational Improvement Process (OIP). The survey is used by organizations to identify strengths and to discover areas for improvement based on direct input from the people you work with. An action plan for improvement should be developed, based on the results of the Long Form survey and can include further organizational assessment with input from YDN. The action plan should be implemented over the course of several months. At the end of the implementation cycle, youth should be re-surveyed to understand if the organization improvements made a difference in the quality of people's developmental experiences to plan for further organizational improvement.

How the Youth Voice Survey Answers are Reported

In this report, you will see three kinds of summaries of young people's scores:

- (1) A single bar chart comparing the overall averages of the Supports & Opportunities* for all of the people who completed your organization's survey.
- (2) Five smaller bar charts, each comparing the overall averages of the subcomponent scores for one of the Supports & Opportunities, for all the people who completed your organization's survey.
- (3) Pie charts showing how many youth scored high (>1.5), medium (1-1.5), or low (<1) on the subcomponents of each Support & Opportunity.

*Definitions of the Five Supports & Opportunities can be found on Page vi.

How the Scores Are Calculated

Each Support & Opportunity (Safety, Relationship-Building, Youth Participation/Engagement, Community Involvement, and Skill-Building) is made up of two or three subcomponents. For example, Safety has two sub-components: physical safety and emotional safety. *

There were several questions on the survey that talked about each subcomponent. For example, there are four questions that address emotional safety. See table 1

After translating the survey answer into numerical values (see explanation below), each respondent's answers to the survey questions that measured a particular subcomponent were averaged. For emotional safety, for example, each youth's answers to the four questions about that subcomponent were added together and divided by 4. (If a youth skipped one of the questions, then that youth's answers to the three questions they answered about emotional safety were added, then divided by 3.) Thus, each youth has their own score for emotional safety.

The same averaging process was used to calculate a score for each Support & Opportunity subcomponent, for every respondent. The last step was to calculate overall scores for each Support & Opportunity for each respondent, by averaging the scores for the subcomponents.

Table 1

(Do staff) enforce rules for how young people treat each other?

The staff respect me.

The program has rules for how young people treat each other.

Young people at the program follow the rules for how to treat each other.

*Cultural safety is another key component of our current understanding of what youth need to feel safe.

Survey Response Options (with Numerical Translation) *

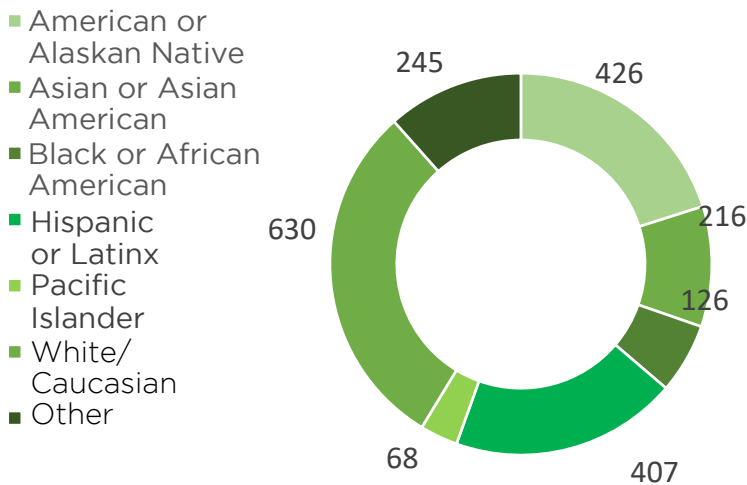
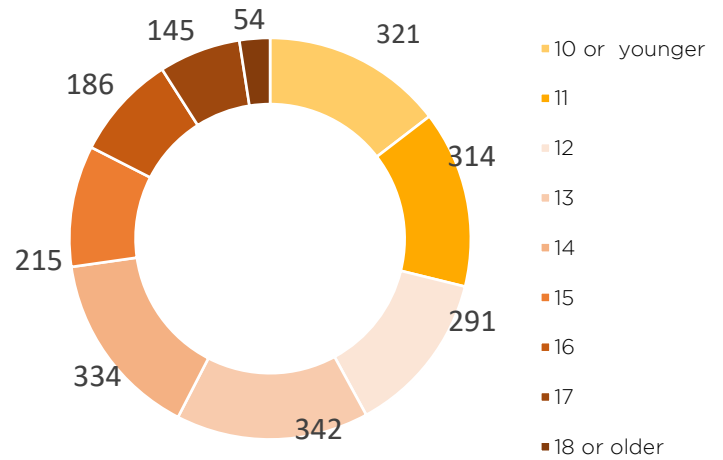
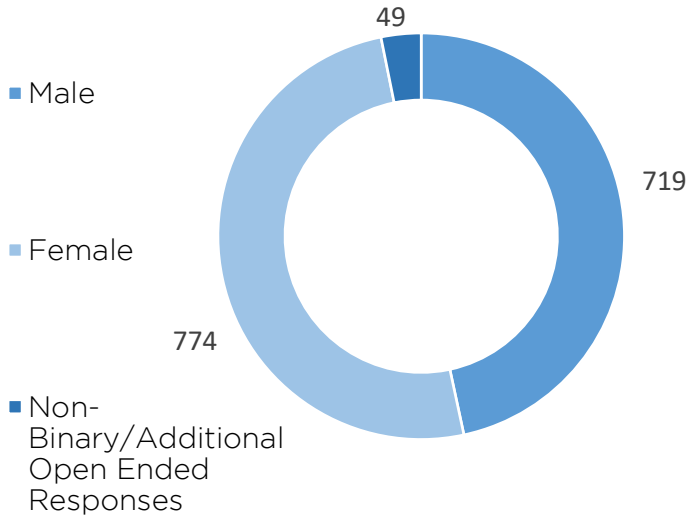
Strongly agree (2); Agree (1); Not sure (0); Disagree (-1); Strongly disagree (-2)

Yes, a lot (2); Yes, sometimes (1); Not sure (0); No (-1)

All of the time (2); Most of the time (1); Sometimes (0); Never (-1)

Very untrue (-2); Untrue (-2); A little untrue (-1); A little true (1); True (2); Very true (2)

*Some questions are "negatively coded" meaning their Strongly Agree would receive a score of (-2) and so on.



Total Number of Respondents

2,149**

** If a survey participant did not answer each question within the subcomponent they are not counted in the number of respondents for the subcomponent. For this reason, the numbers of respondents in some subcomponents may be smaller than the total number.

The Supports & Opportunities

The Supports & Opportunities are defined as follows.

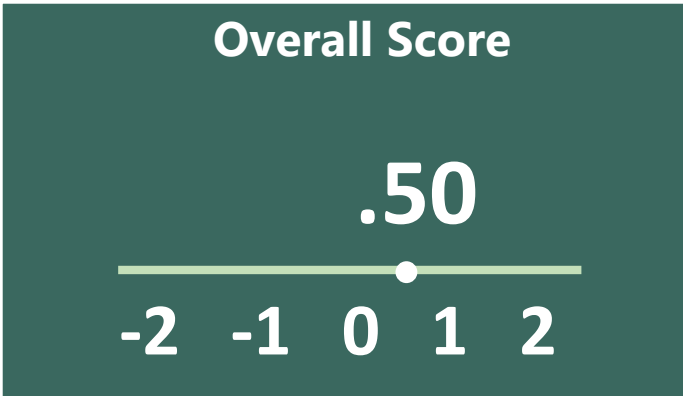
Safety, youth feel physically, culturally, and emotionally safe and free from harm and judgment, and that they will be accepted for who they are.

Relationship-Building, youth develop positive relationships with their peers and with caring, consistent adults.

Youth Participation/ Engagement, Youth are involved in a meaningful way, have roles and responsibilities for leadership, and voice and choice in decision-making that impacts the program.

Community involvement, youth have opportunities to get to know and impact their community and vice-versa.

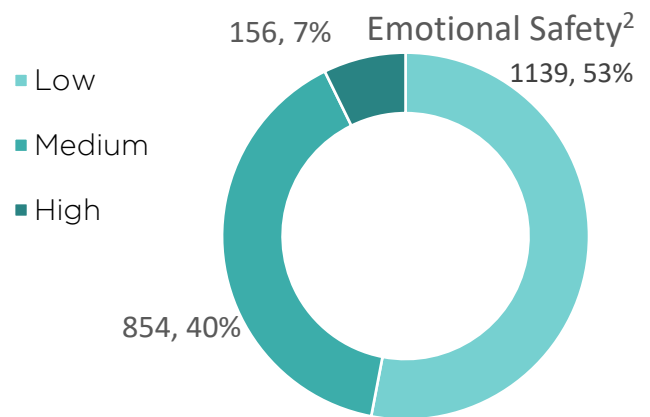
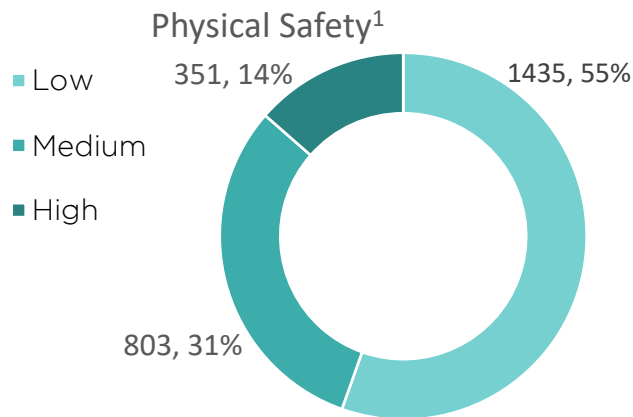
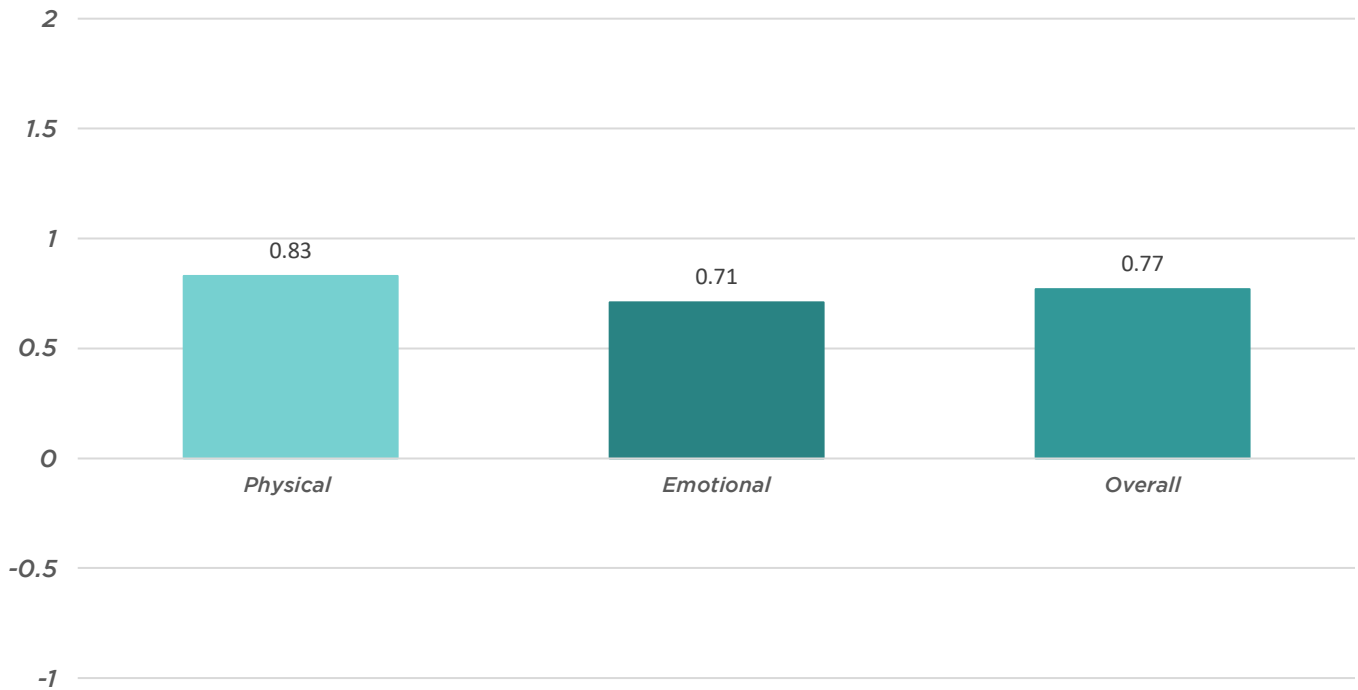
Skill-Building, relevant, challenging, and interesting skill building where youth feel engaged and experience growth and progress.



Overall Scores for the Supports & Opportunities



Safety Subcomponents – Overall Averages



Physical Safety Measures:

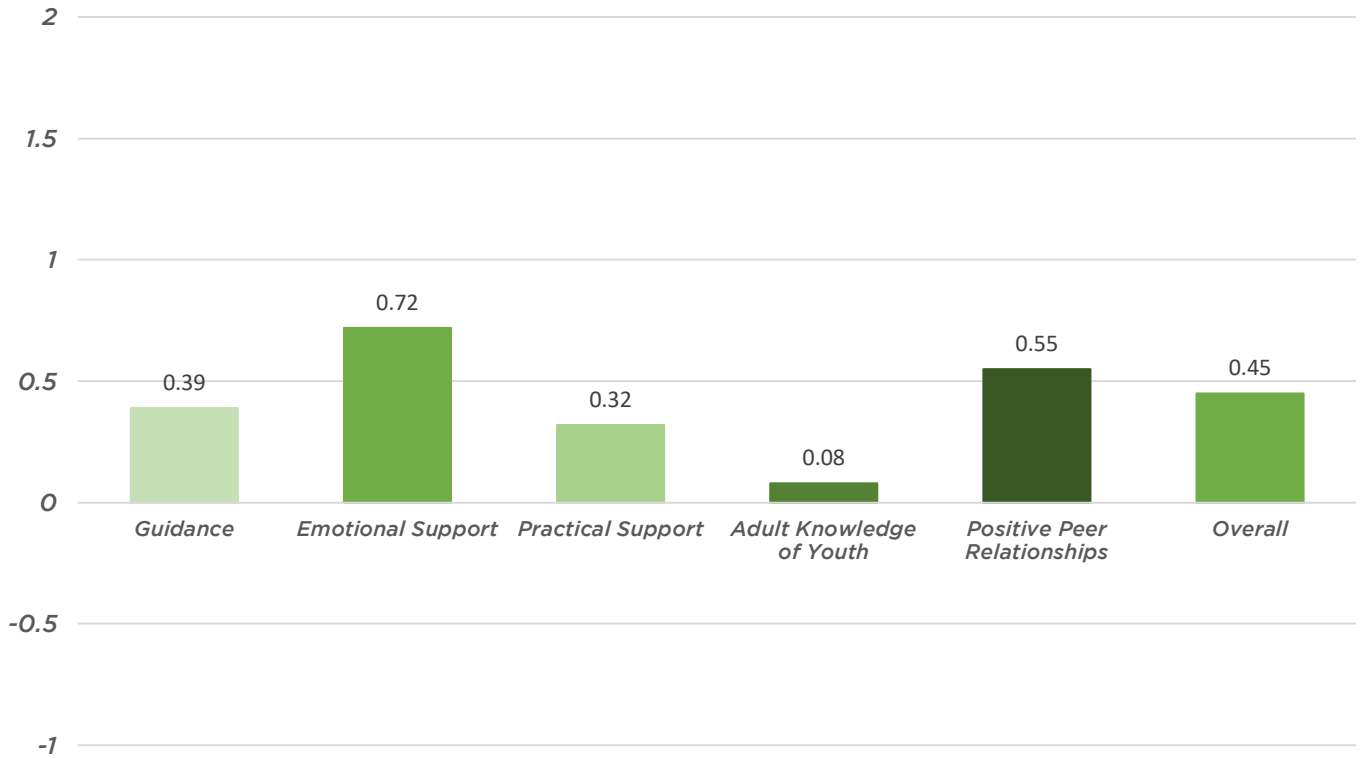
- I worry about getting beaten up at the program.
- Kids bring weapons here.
- I feel safe here.
- If someone wanted to hurt me here the staff would stop them.

Emotional Safety Measures:

- (Do staff) enforce rules for how young people treat each other?
- The staff respect me.
- The program has rules for how young people treat each other.
- Young people at the program follow the rules for how to treat each other.

1. Physical Safety respondents scoring “Neutral or Below” - 257
2. Emotional Safety respondents scoring “Neutral or Below” - 243

Relationship-Building Subcomponents – Overall Averages



Guidance Measures:

- (Do staff) say something to you if something in your life isn't going right?
- (Do staff) pay attention to what's going on in your life?

Practical Support Measures:

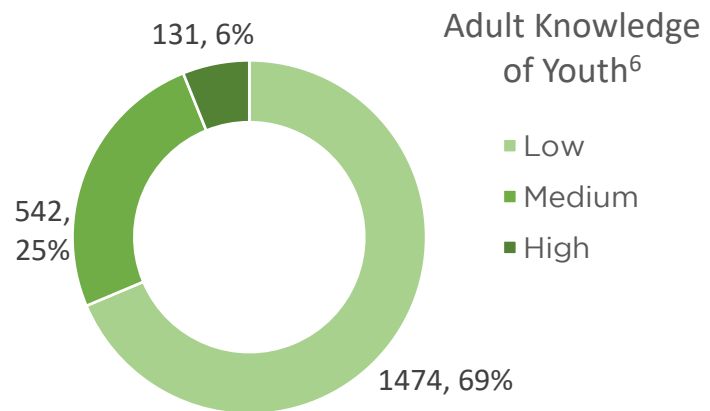
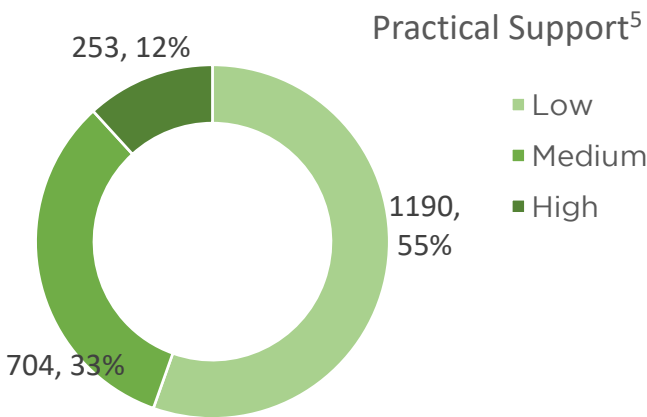
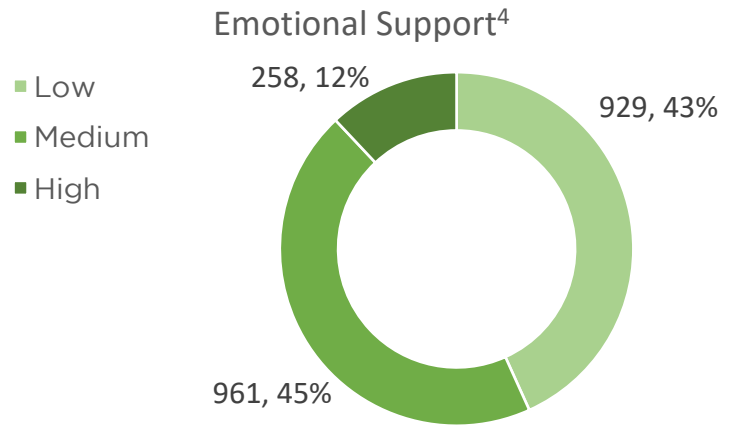
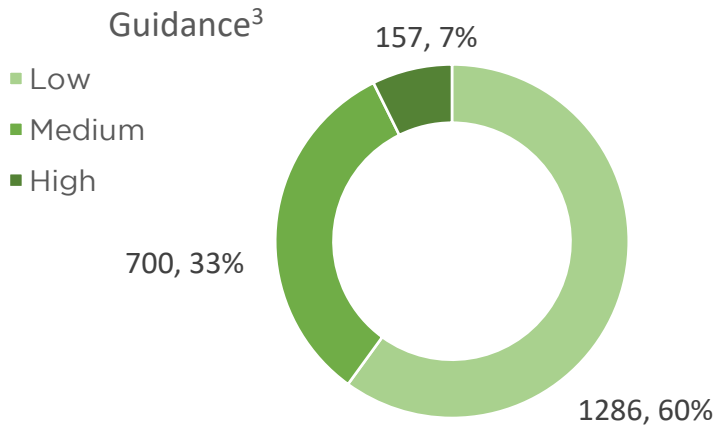
- I could go to someone who works at the program for help in a crisis.
- I could go to a staff person for help with a personal problem.

Emotional Support Measures:

- I could talk to a staff person if I was upset or mad.
- (Do staff) say something nice to you when you do something good?

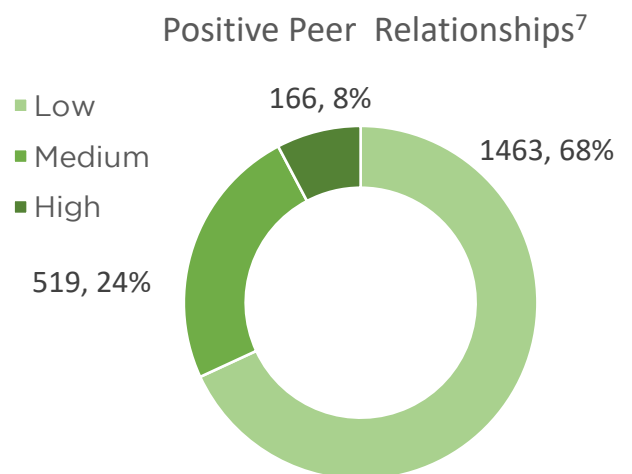
Adult Knowledge of Youth Measures:

- The staff know me well.
- The staff know what is important to me.



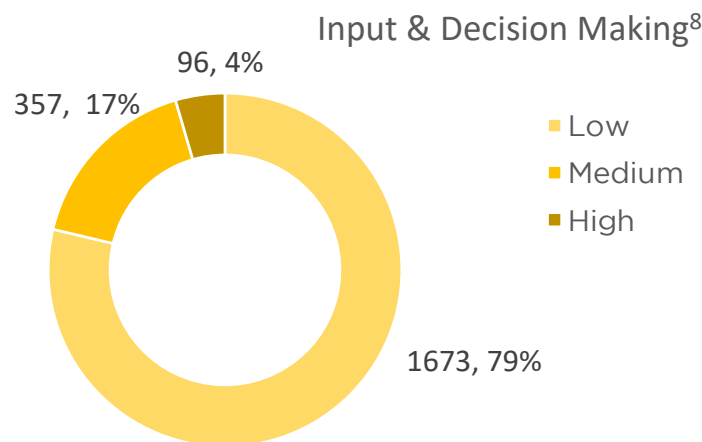
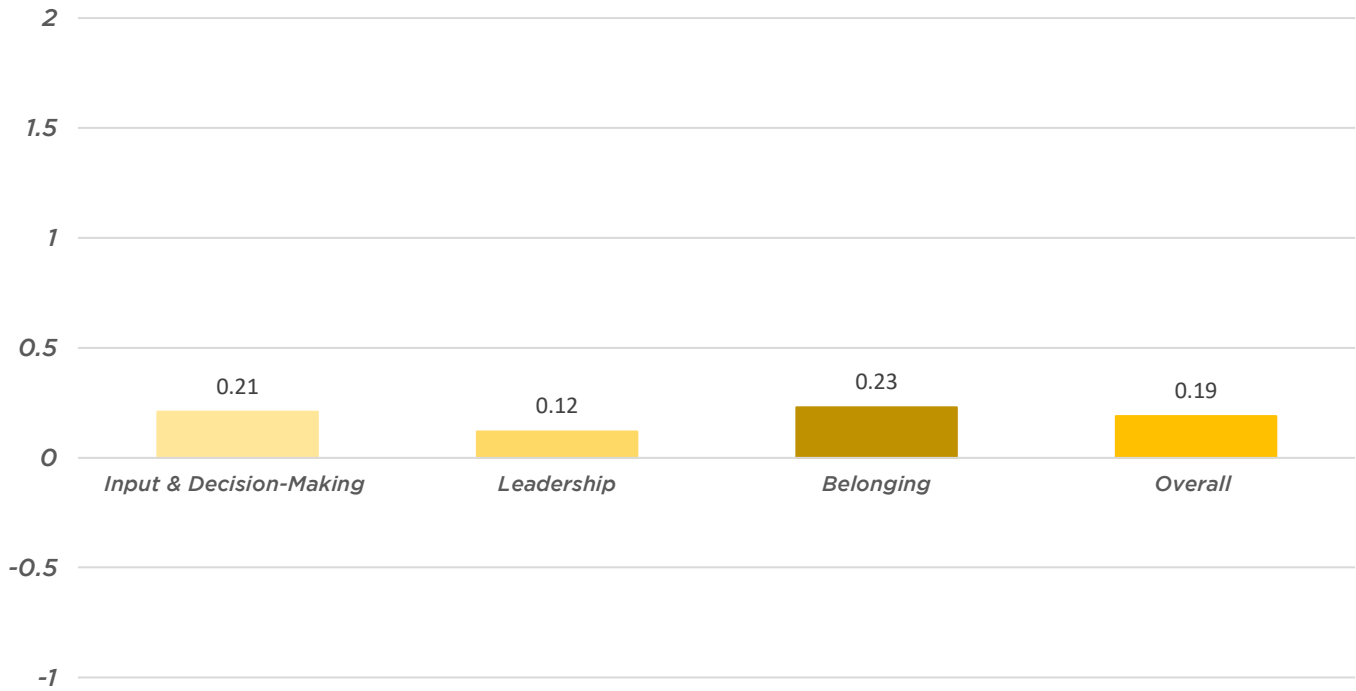
Positive Peer Relationships Measures:

- When you go to the program how often do you get to learn about young people who are different from you?
- I get to learn about young people who are different from me.
- The other kids here know me well.
- The other kids here respect me.
- Have the programs activities taught you about how to get along with young people who are different from you?

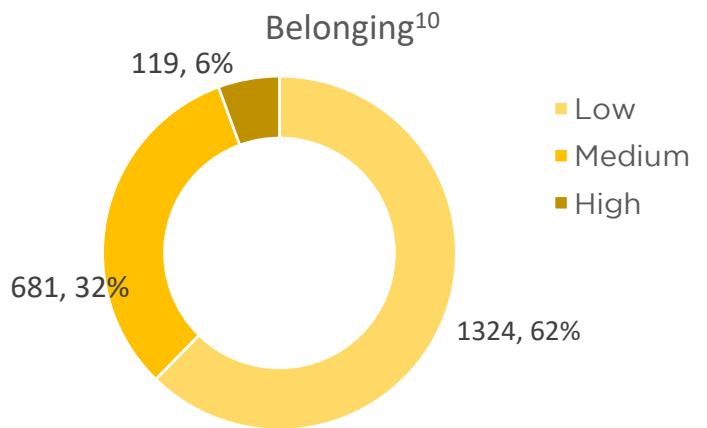
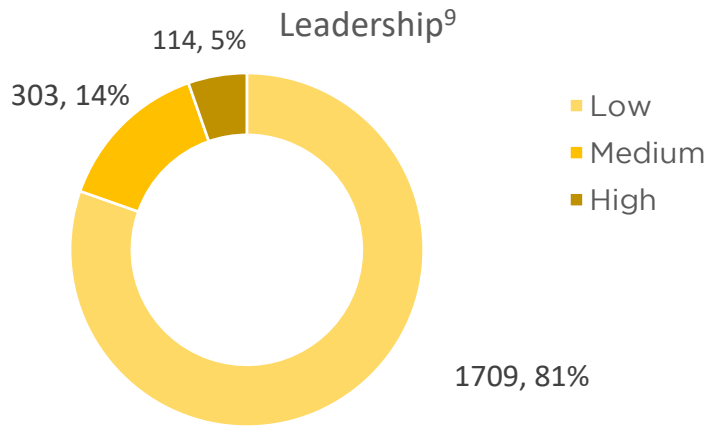


3. Guidance respondents scoring "Neutral or Below" - 517
 4. Emotional Support respondents scoring "Neutral or Below" - 288
 5. Practical Support respondents scoring "Neutral or Below" - 608
 6. Adult Knowledge respondents scoring "Neutral or Below" - 767
 7. Peer Relationship respondents scoring "Neutral or Below" - 373

Youth Participation/Engagement Subcomponents – Overall Averages



8. Input & Decision Making respondents scoring “Neutral or Below” - 498



Input & Decision-Making Measures:

- The program has rules for how we treat each other.
- When you go to the program how often do you get to decide what to do?

Leadership Measures:

- When you go to the program how often do you get to oversee be in charge of a group need?
- When you go to the program how often do you get to lead an activity?

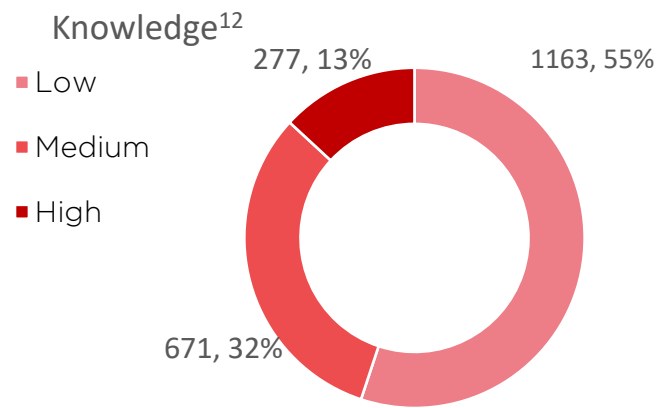
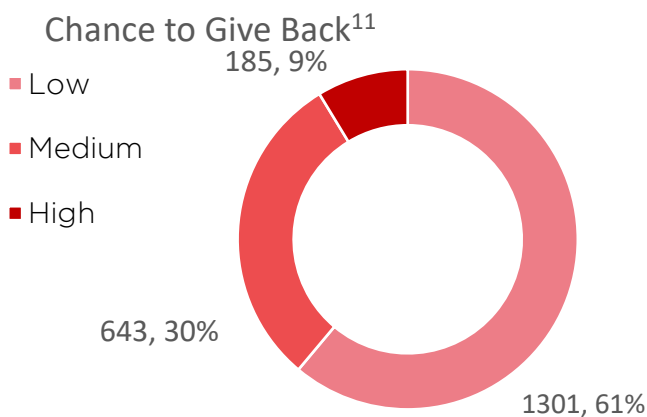
Belonging Measures:

- It seems like my ideas are important here.
- I feel like I belong in the program.

9. Leadership respondents scoring “Neutral or Below” - 619

10. Belonging respondents scoring “Neutral or Below” - 581

Community Involvement Subcomponents – Overall Averages



Chance to Give Back Measures:

- When you go to the program how often do you get to help people in your community?
- Have the programs activities taught you about ways you can make your community better?

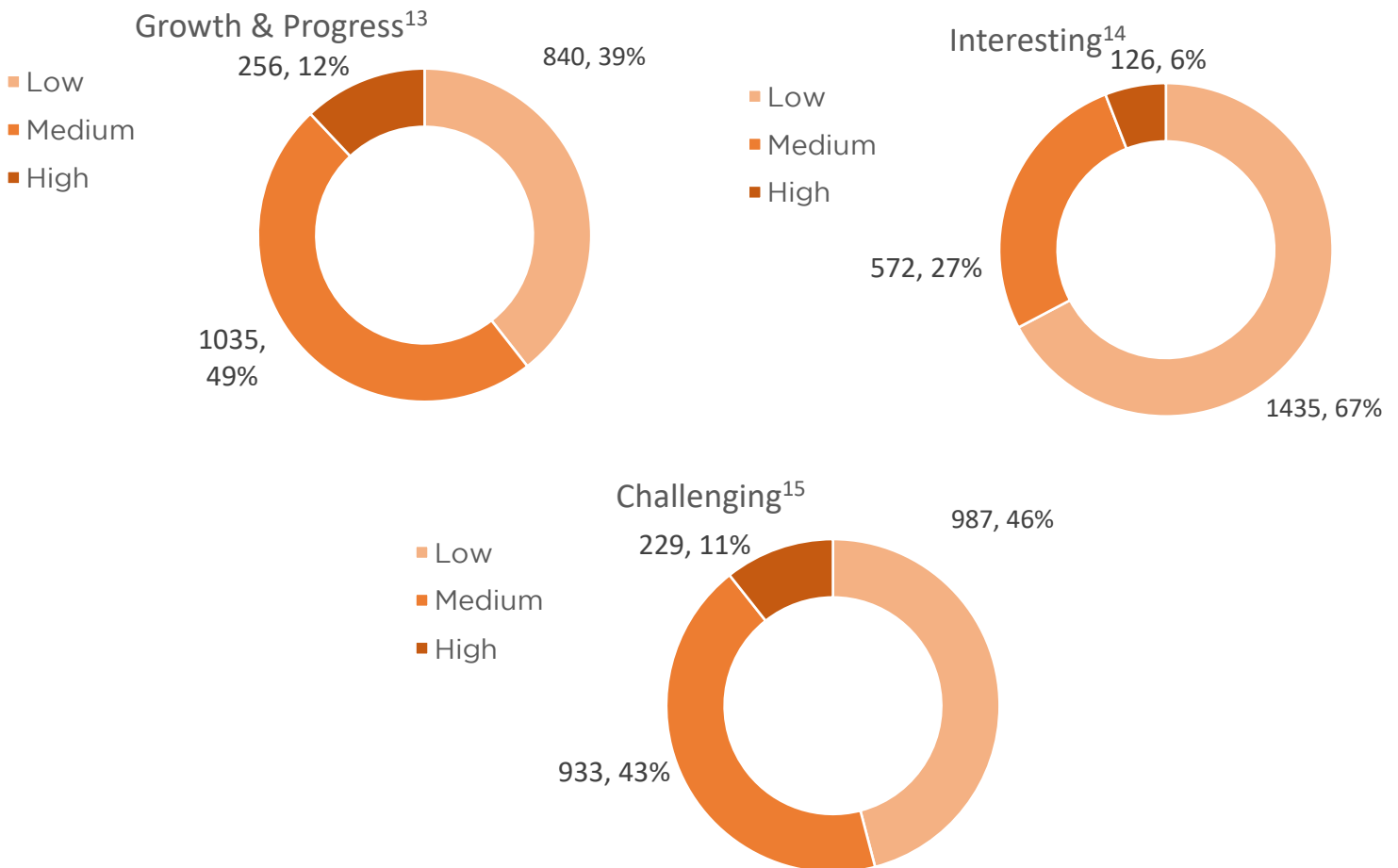
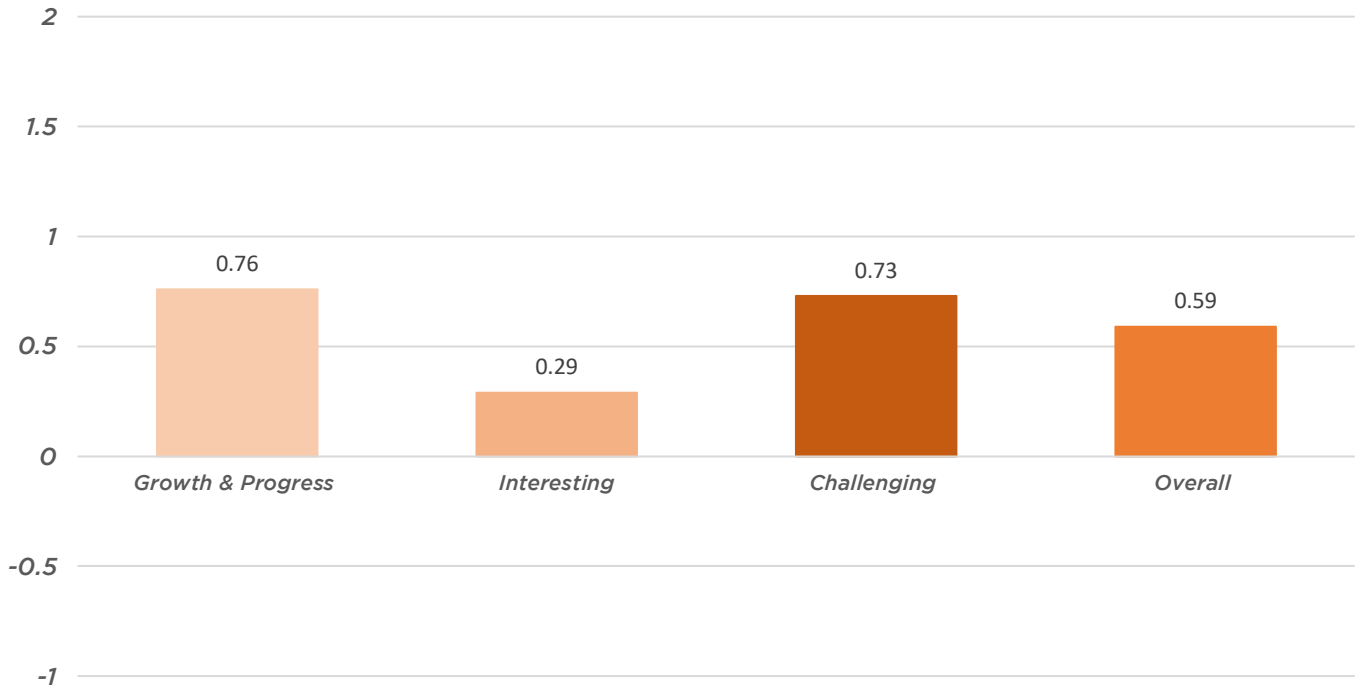
Knowledge Measures:

- Have the programs activities taught you about what’s going on in your community?
- Have the programs activities taught you about how to find what you need in your community?
- Have the programs activities taught you about youth activities in your community?

11. Chance to Give Back respondents scoring “Neutral or Below” - 458

12. Knowledge of the Community respondents scoring “Neutral or Below” - 529

Skill-Building Subcomponents – Overall Averages



13. Growth & Progress respondents scoring “Neutral or Below” - 265

14. Interesting respondents scoring “Neutral or Below” - 670

15. Challenging respondents scoring “Neutral or Below” - 268

Growth & Progress Measures:

- Have the programs' activities taught you to do something new?
- At the program I get better at something I care about.

Interesting Measures:

- The activities at the program are boring.
- When you go to the program how often do you get to do new things?

Challenging Measures:

- (Do staff) challenge you to be your best?
- I do things here that I didn't think I could do.

5 Things You Can Do Now Based on the Results of Your Survey

1. Make sure that each young person has one adult who knows them well. Young people need to have a positive relationship with an adult if they are to get the most out of the program.
2. Involve young people in serving on formal decision-making bodies. With experiences and support, they can also serve as youth representatives on the organization's Board of Directors. However, the place to begin is not with young people, but with the adults within the organization.
3. Train youth in group decision-making skills: A good place to start is to train your young people in the process of group decision making. Group decision-making skills can be put to use immediately... Make sure adult staff have skills for leading brainstorming sessions and facilitating group decision-making before you start.
4. Provide opportunities for young people to help others. Everyone feels more involved when they have responsibilities to those around them and are able to use what they know to help others. Allow youth to share responsibilities for the proper care and maintenance of their program assets.
5. Increase independent access to diverse learning materials. Within your program, provide access to learning materials that young people can independently access. This allows young people to pursue their own interests or engage in their own inquiry without the need for adult-led structure.

5 Things You Can Do Now

For more ideas for program improvement ask a YDN team member for the full "5 Things You Can Do Now" Info-sheet!