

**IJOH CONFERENCE SANTIAGO/CHILE, JANUARY 2025**

**POPULATION OF YOUNG ADULTS IN SÃO  
PAULO/BRAZIL EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS:  
DIVERSITY AND SUBGROUPS**

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## What will be presented

- Research findings on homeless youth aged 18 to 24 in the city of São Paulo, aimed at building a reference framework for municipal public policy modeling for this population.
- The formulation of a municipal policy for this age group results from a partnership between the São Paulo City Hall, the Institute of Global Homelessness, IGH, and the Fundação Instituto de Pesquisas Econômicas, FIPE.
- Young adults were identified as the target audience for the inclusion of São Paulo in the Vanguard Cities Program through a cooperative process among the partners, focusing on prioritizing a new program for the homeless population.

# Why young adults?

- The limited availability of public policies for young adults represents a gap to be filled, providing access to programs and resources that enable these individuals to transition to adulthood away from life on the streets.
- The municipal policy focused on “special groups” primarily emphasizes the elderly, children and adolescents, persons with disabilities, immigrants, and families.
- Reducing the time young adults spend on the streets can prevent them from becoming chronic homeless individuals, along with all the repercussions this condition entails.
- Evidence indicates a strong flow of young adults entering and exiting street life in the city of São Paulo.
- The set of events leading young people to the streets typically stems from significant family-related issues and occurrences over which they have limited ability to restructure.



# Construction of the Reference Framework: FIPE Research

- Scarce evaluation of the few programs for young adults in the city;
- Limited analysis of administrative data for this age group;
- Evidence of diversity within the group;
- International references;
- Available databases:
  - Point-in-time surveys in the city of São Paulo – censuses and sample surveys;
  - Administrative data of users of shelter services in São Paulo;
  - Administrative data of individuals approached on the streets.

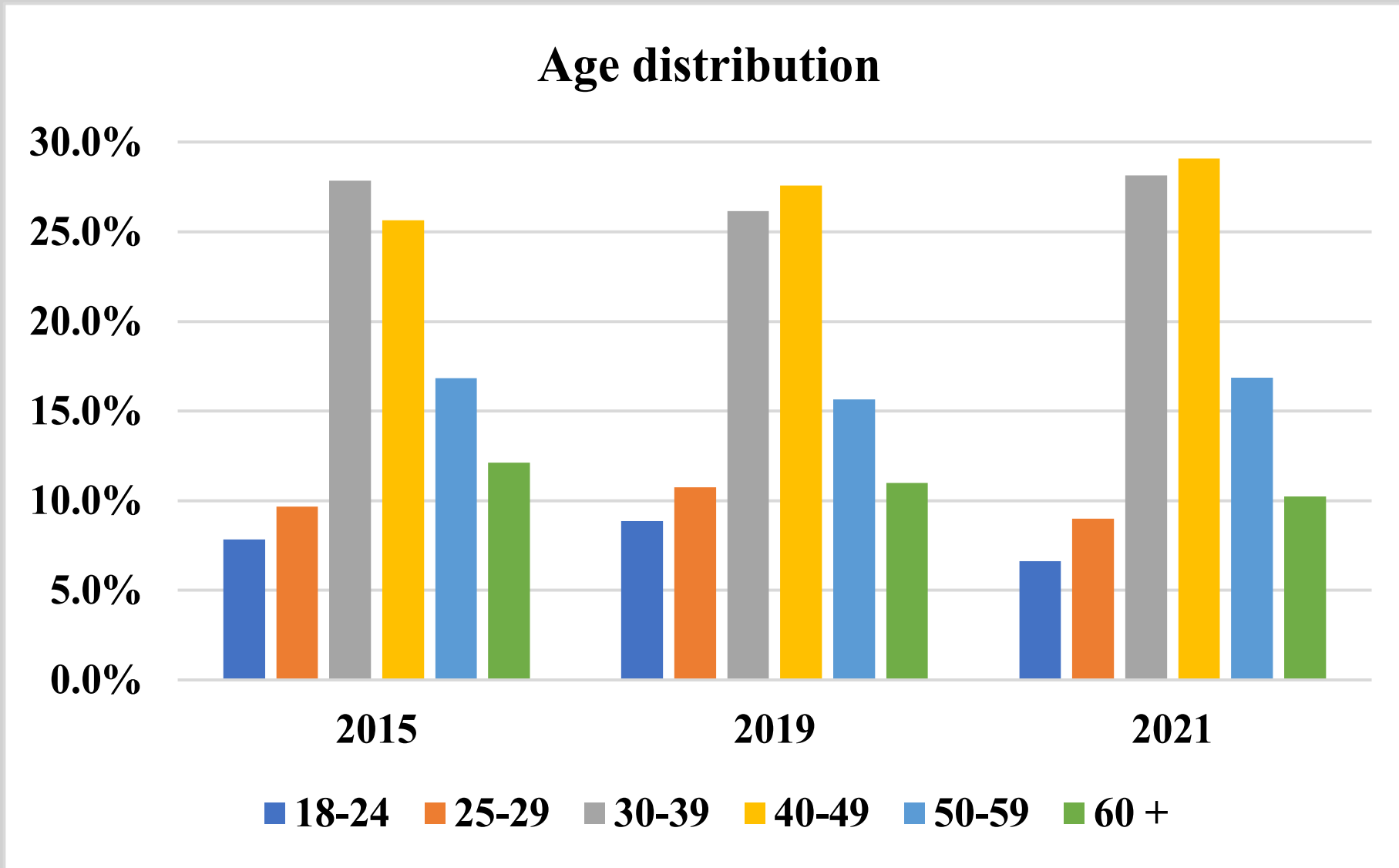
# Homeless young adults in the city of São Paulo: point in time results

- How many are they?
- Demographic characteristics;
- Diversity of factors driving young adults to the streets;

## Homeless by age group in SP censuses

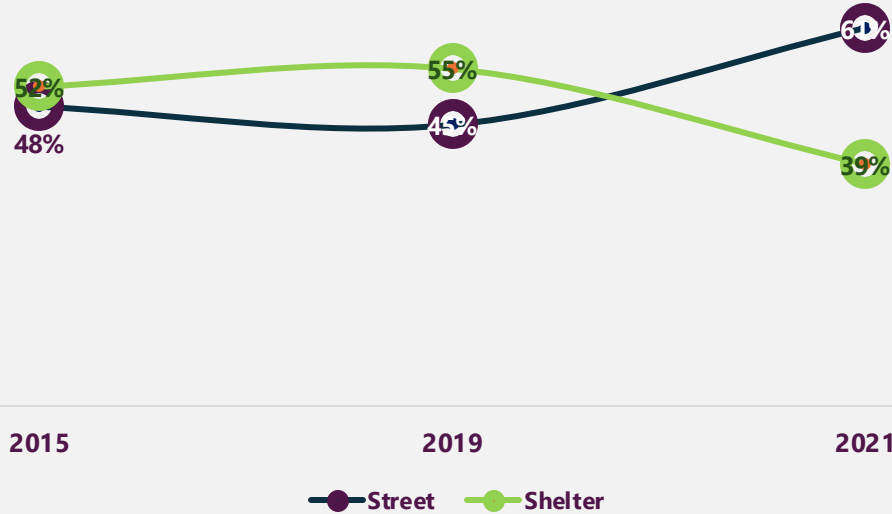
Age group	Census		
	2015	2019	2021
18-24	1,205	2,032	2,052
25-29	1,484	2,500	2,776
30-39	4,273	6,056	8,700
40-49	3,936	6,388	8,993
50-59	2,585	3,736	5,214
60 +	1,860	2,598	3,162
Total	15,343	23,310	30,897

# Age distribution

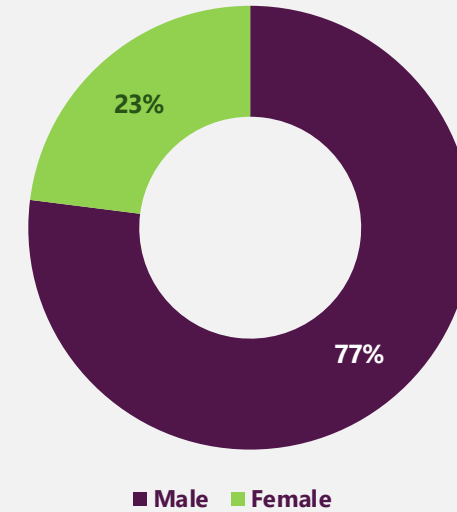


# Demographic Profile and Reasons for Homelessness (18 to 24 Years Old) – 2021 census

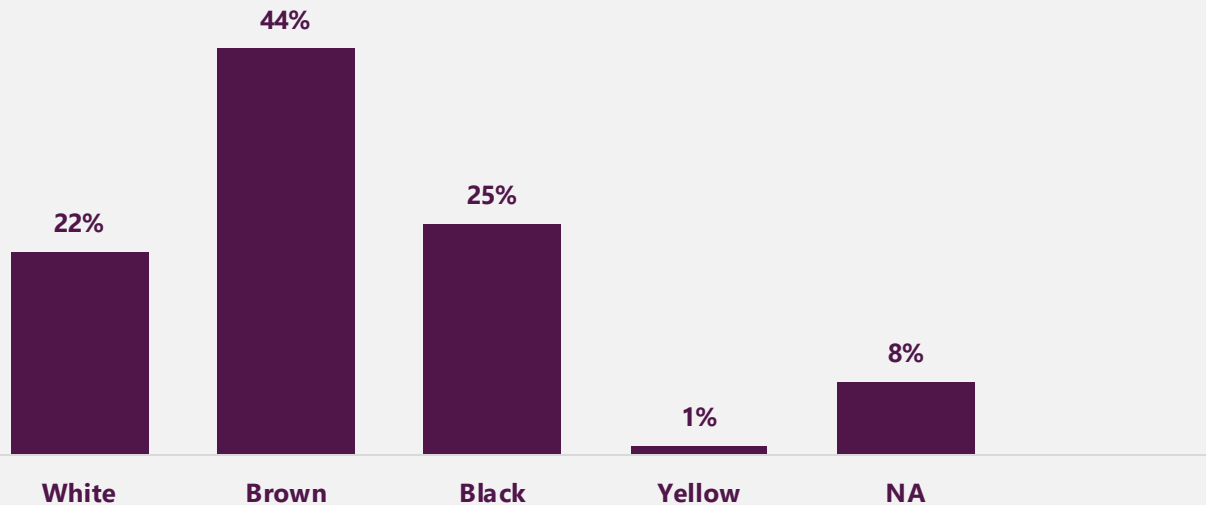
## Total Young Adults (18 to 24 Years) - Streets and Shelters



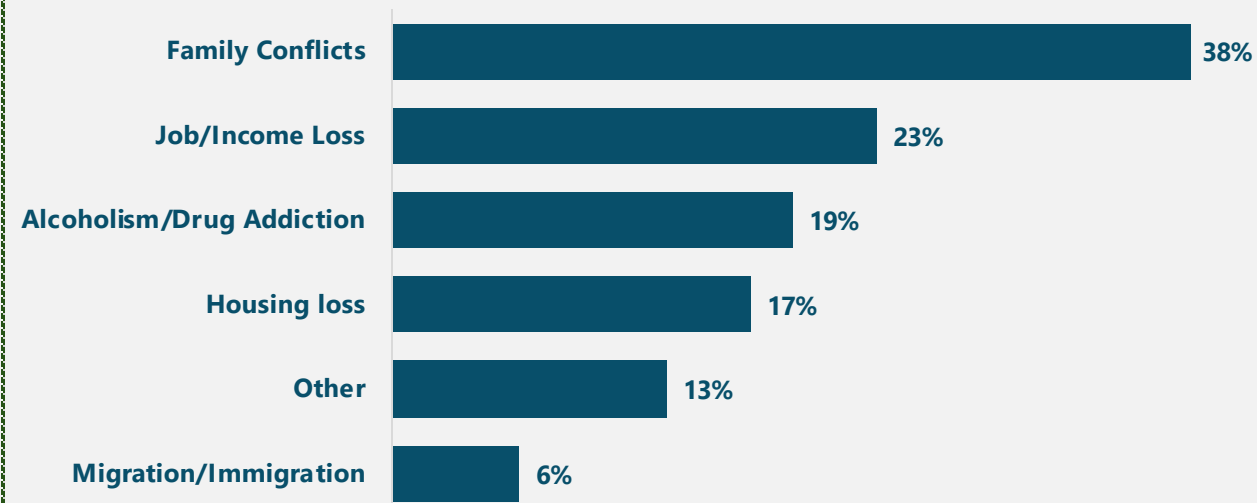
## Young Adults (18 to 24 Years) - Gender Distribution



## Proportion of Young Adults (18 to 24 Years) - Race/Ethnicity



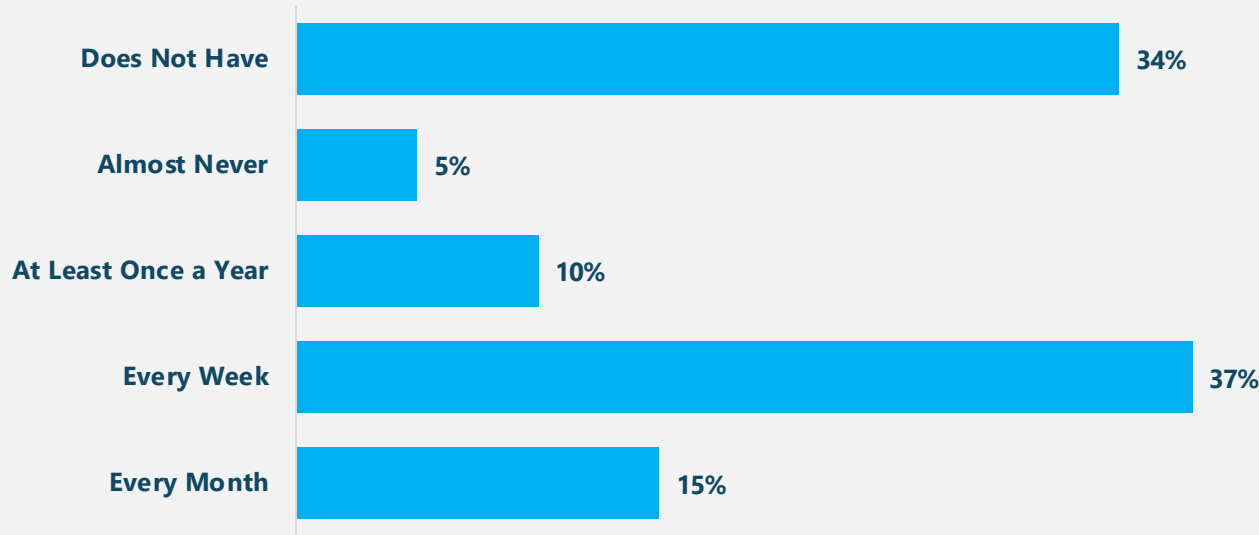
## Reasons for Homelessness - Young Adults (18 to 24 Years)



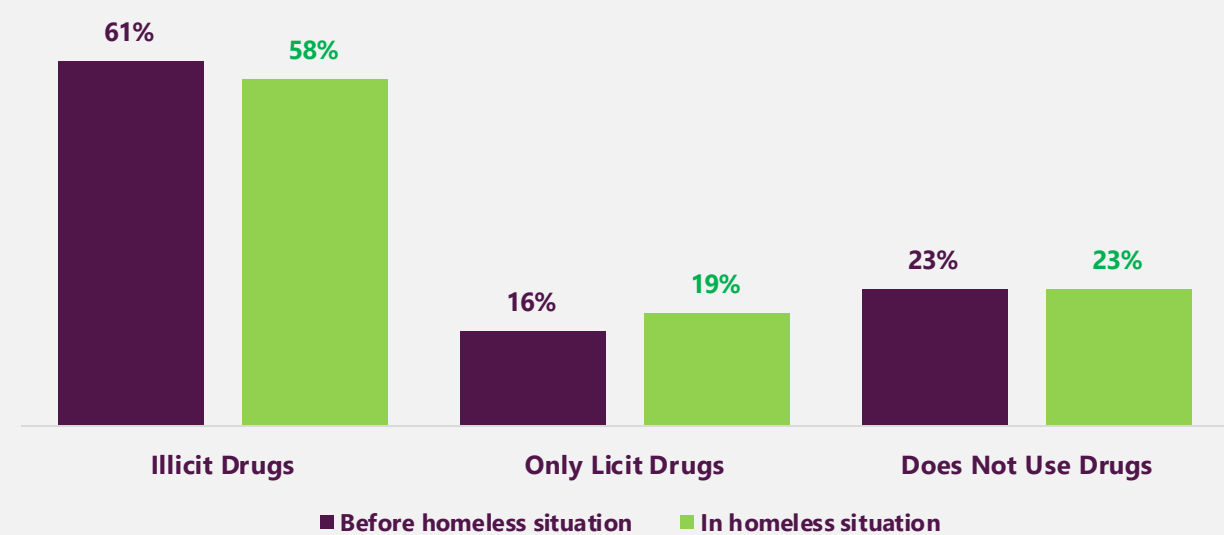


# Characterization of Young Adults, 18 to 24 Years Old, 2021 Census

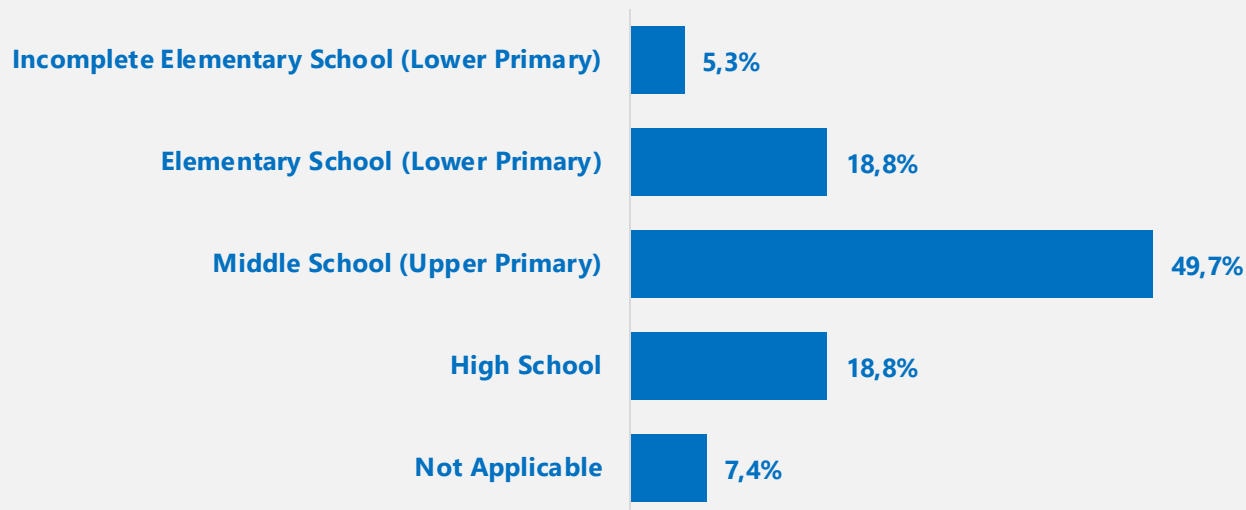
## Family Contact - Young Adults (18 to 24 Years Old)



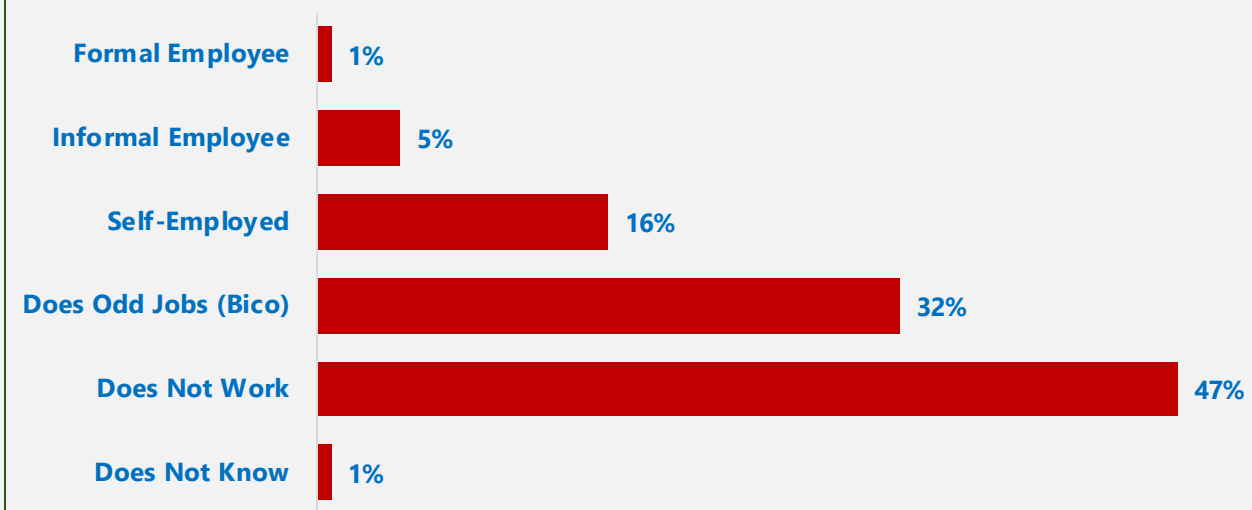
## Drug Consumption - Young Adults (18 to 24 Years Old)



## Educational Level - Young Adults (18 to 24 Years Old)



## Type of Work - Young Adults (18 to 24 Years Old)

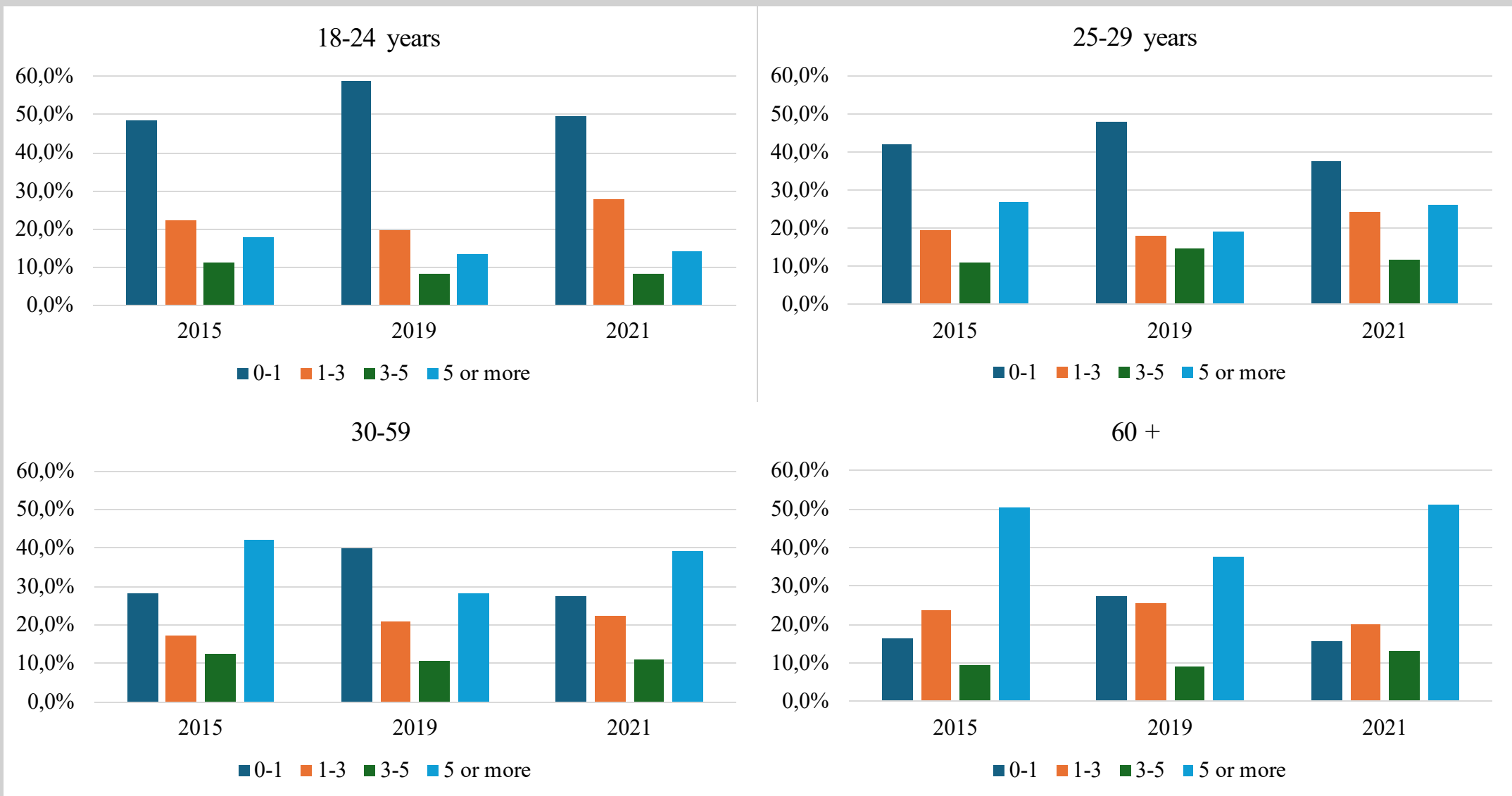




## **The main result: flow of arrivals and way out on the streets**

- Arrival on the streets: the influx of people/young adults;
- Time as homeless;
- The estimated exit from the streets of São Paulo based on the comparison between consecutive point-in-time censuses.
- The exit from streets in São Paulo city of young adults.

# Time in homelessness by age group



## Young adults presence on the streets of São Paulo

Age range in 2019	Found in		Absent	%
	2019	2021*		
18 to 24	2,032	1,022	1,011	50%
25 to 29	2,500	1,666	833	33%
30 to 49	12,444	10,001	2,443	20%
50 to 59	3,736	3,209	527	14%
60 years or more	2,598	1,625	973	37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,310</b>	<b>17,523</b>	<b>5,787</b>	<b>25%</b>

\*: Only those with 2 or more years of

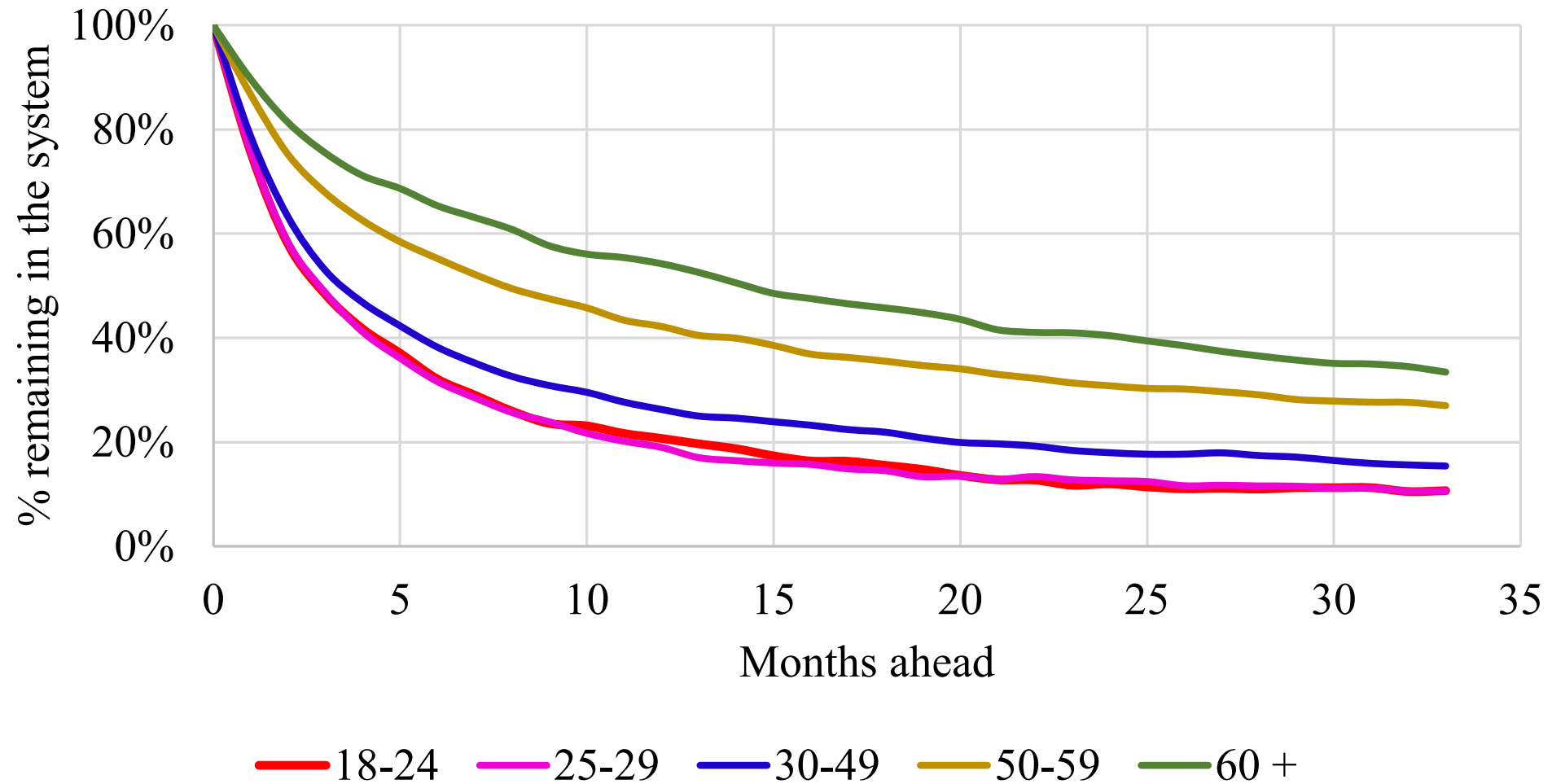


## Administrative data results

Each person using the shelter system receives an identification number that is used whenever they access services aimed at the homeless population.

- The shelter system: 18,063 vacancies distributed by 11,445 for adults, 1,924 for families, 2,398 for the elderly, 120 for young adults and the remainder for other groups;
- Qualified exit from the system: returning to family life, securing housing, returning to the place of origin, or entering the labor market.
- Cohorts: exit from the shelter system by age groups;
- Characteristics of young people who exit the shelter system.

# People who used the shelter system, or who were approached on the street after the initial registration, by age group



Were considered those who registered for the first time in March 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021.

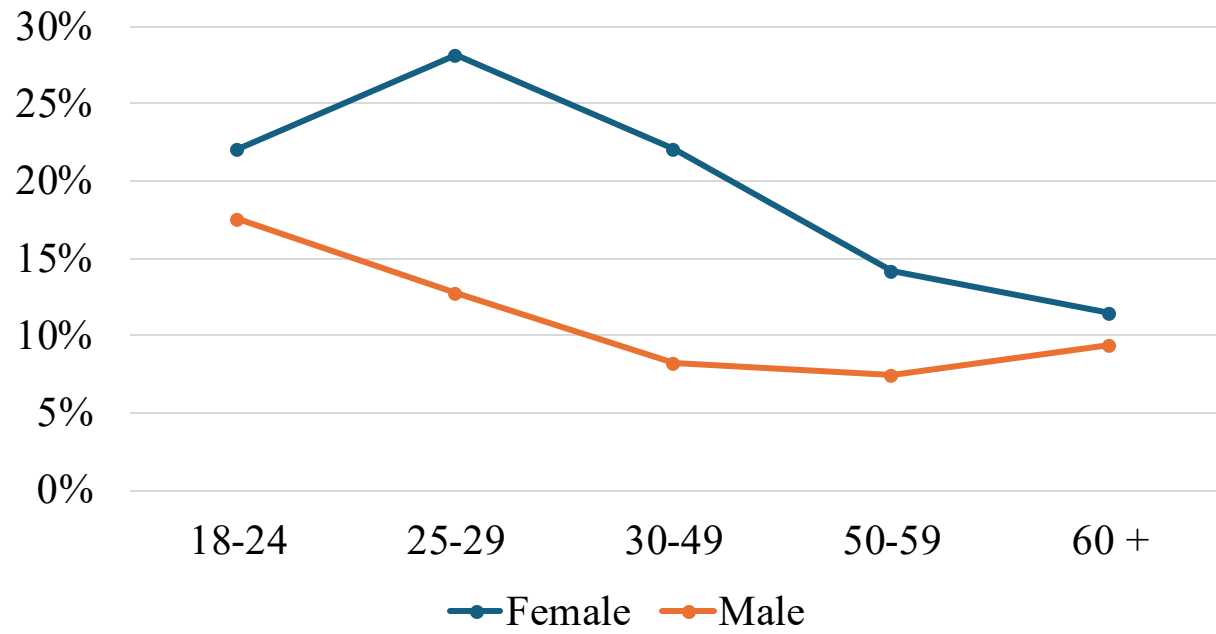
# Methodology

The evaluation involves identifying the IDs whose first registration occurs in the reference month. This group constitutes the cohort for that month. The cohort is monitored in subsequent months to determine whether they spend at least one night (either as a registered user or as a guest) in the city's shelters.

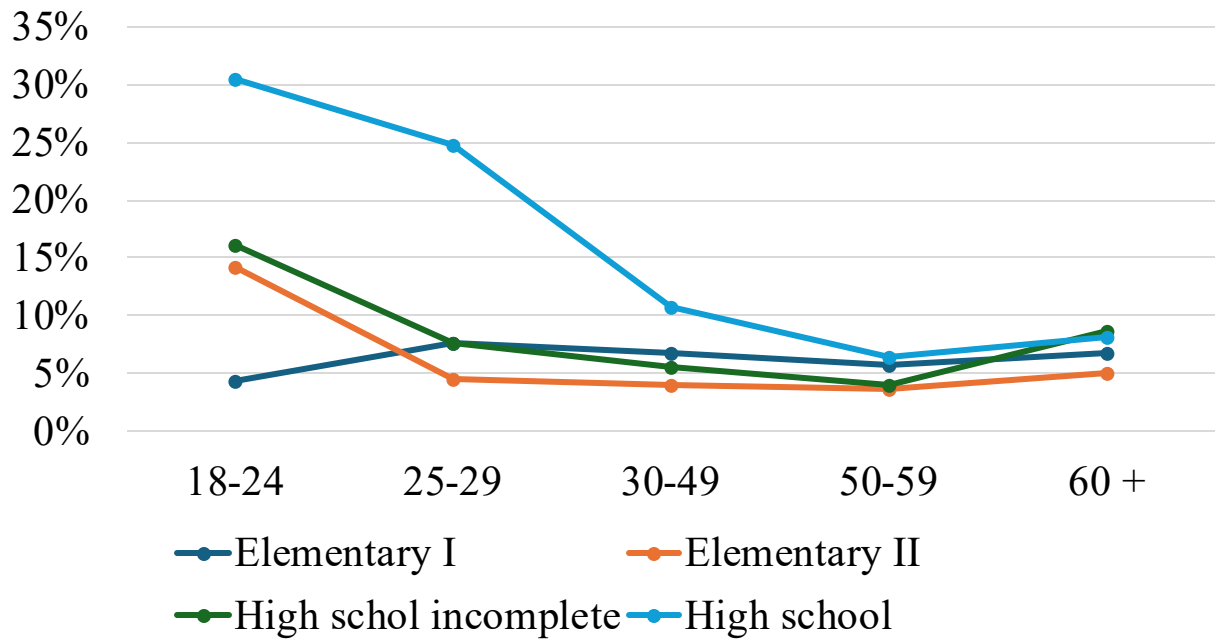


# People who stopped using the shelter system, and who were not approached on the street two years after a qualified exit

### by age group and sex



### by age group and education level





# Final remarks

- The homeless population in São Paulo city is not static; the dynamics is still poorly understood and recognized; a flow of entry and exit from the streets was identified for all age groups;
- The group of young adults has a higher likelihood of exiting homelessness condition in São Paulo city.
- The population of homeless youth in São Paulo is not homogeneous.
- Public policies should include programs to reduce influx and increase exits from homelessness; policies, so far, are predominantly assistance-based;
- The program being designed for young adults defines two key areas of focus. First, housing first; second, a permanent support team for the young individuals enrolled in the program.

Thank you