

We give street children, young homeless people and sofa hoppers*
in Germany, individual, permanent viable future prospects.



Successful more than
7,000 times since 1993.

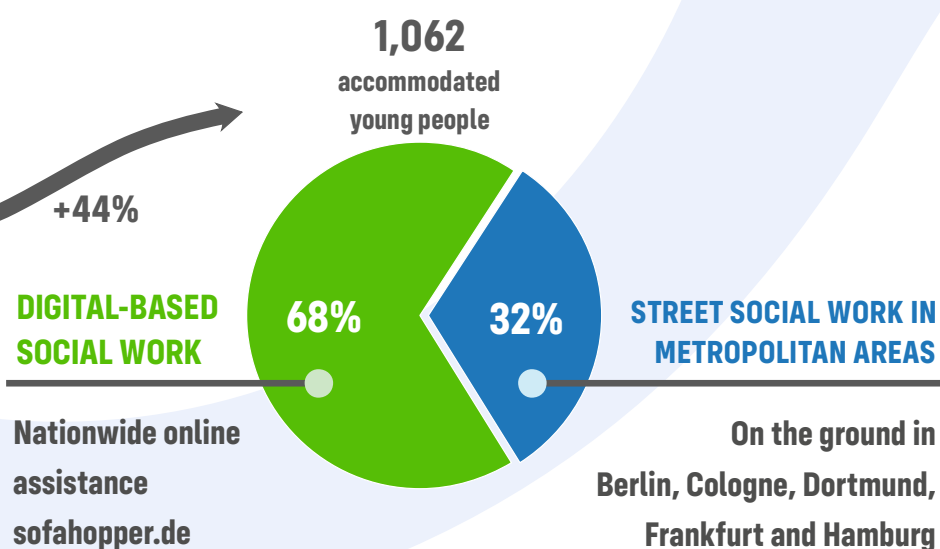
1st year of the COVID crisis:

2,474

Online requests for help



Statistics 2020



10,025
counselling
sessions

1,062
young people
accommodated

* “Sofa hoppers” are young people who are given shelter of sorts on the sofa of closer or looser acquaintances, and who do not attend school, have no vocational training place and no contact with parents or public agencies. They live in hidden homelessness and are in acute danger of ending up on the street.

Just like minor-aged street children and young homeless adults, sofa hoppers are classified as disconnected youth. The Deutsche Jugendinstitut (German Youth Institute, “DJI”) estimates the number of disconnected youth nationwide to be more than 40,000.

Gender split: The ratio of young people we support generally has an even female/male balance. Girls make up a larger number of minors due to the earlier onset of puberty. The situation is precisely the opposite among young adults. The number of young men predominates. Due to the even balance, no distinction is made in the statistics.

Note on gender: References to genders in the text imply all genders. No distinction is made for the purposes of legibility.



Off Road Kids

Your donation helps directly

Since 1993, the Off Road Kids Stiftung's (Foundation's) street workers have successfully helped more than 7,000 (!) young people get off the street or avoid getting there in the first place, and identify new long-term future prospects for them. And the number is growing daily! Off Road Kids primarily uses income from donations to finance this important and unique trans-regional street social work. Your donation rescues young people in desperation.

Donate online now:
offroadkids.de/spende

Off Road Kids Stiftung donation accounts

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Off Road Kids Stiftung will issue you with an
official donation receipt.

Many thanks!

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Key figures 2020

7,000 mark shattered

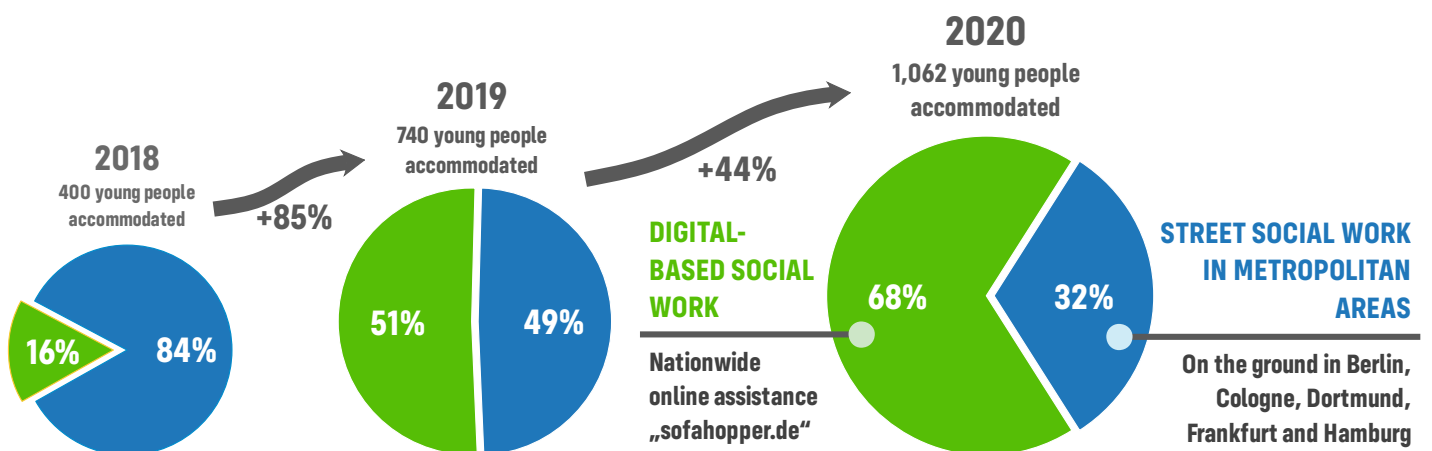
7,100 minors and young adults (up to 27 years old), that's the number successfully protected from homelessness by the Off Road Kids' social workers since 1993, and given long-term viable future prospects (relapses already deducted).

Highest number of medications ever

! ... 1,062 successful mediations in 2020 alone (+44%).

COVID driving digital-based social work

2,474 relevant requests for help received from desperate young people in 2020 through our digital-based street social work station sofahopper.de (+78%).



718 young people throughout Germany were directly placed by street social workers in 2020 via the digital-based street social work station “sofahopper.de” into new residential space or care – twice as many as in 2019!

! 2/3 of all successful accommodation placements during the first year of the COVID-19 crisis were due to our online digital-based social work (sofahopper.de)!

More and more support sessions

10,025

counselling and support sessions were conducted for all these young people in 2020. Despite the limited COVID-19 emergency services provided by the street social work stations, the number of counselling sessions increased by 9% due to the doubling of online requests for help via sofahopper.de.

337

young people, on average, were given intensive counselling and assistance by our street workers each month.

Greater demand for health counselling

8,357

very intensive consultations were conducted with street children and young homeless people on mental illness, addiction, hygiene, sexuality, pregnancy prevention and infection prevention (+28%).

Mediation time optimised further

48,580

hours of work performed by the 30 street social workers of Off Road Kids in 2020.

46

hours of work were performed, on average, for each successful mediation in 2020. That is the lowest figure ever: 30% less time expended than in 2019!

Impressive impact!

2,800 Euro

is the equivalent amount invested by the Off Road Kids Foundation in every young person until they are given long-term viable future prospects. **This benefits every single person we are able to help**, while at the same time saving the public purse at least 900,000 Euro* for every young person not dependent on social assistance (unemployment benefit, etc.) all their lives.

(* from 18 years old; average life expectancy; current monetary value; only regular payments for housing and living; excluding costs for sickness etc.)

Guiding principle

Homelessness destroys the futures of young people

The street is an extremely dangerous environment – especially for young people in critical situations. They are at risk of loneliness, neglect, infection, addiction, abuse, prostitution and criminality. The danger increases with the length of time spent living on the street, and it is unjustifiable. Every day on the street diminishes the future prospects of these young people.

- » So, homelessness has to be prevented through professional counselling – on the street and as early as possible beforehand.

Objective

Identify promising future prospects

In Germany, the Off Road Kids Foundation's social workers work together with minors and young adults threatened by, or already suffering homelessness, to identify the best-possible future prospects for each individual, and realise these with the consent of the person concerned.

Unique selling proposition

Nationwide help: Online and directly on the ground

- » The Off Road Kids Foundation is the only nationally operating aid organisation for street children, young homeless people and sofa hoppers in Germany.
- » The digital platform "sofahopper.de" is the only nationally available, digital online counselling services for disconnected youth at risk of homelessness in Germany.
- » No other aid organisation operates its own network of street social work stations in large conurbations in Germany (Berlin, Cologne, Dortmund, Frankfurt and Hamburg).
- » The Off Road Kids Foundation combines its nationwide digital-based social work with "analogue" counselling work delivered at the street social work sites: Young people living in these metropolitan areas can get counselling at the street social work stations.

Current successes

COVID: Digital-based social work proves its success

- » The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic saw the nationwide, digital-based counselling service, "sofahopper.de", suddenly prove its worth as a lockdown-safe youth social work format for disconnected youth. Despite the restrictions on public accessibility to the street social work stations, the counselling activity work was transferred to home offices via "sofahopper.de". Our social workers were already equipped and familiar with the necessary infrastructure.
- » 2,474 requests for help via "sofahopper.de": Triggered by the COVID-19 lockdown in 2020, the doubling of relevant requests for help was absorbed by digital-based social work – as well the temporary quadrupling of requests for help at the start of the first lockdown. The extension of counselling hours into the evening was significant. The surge was prompted, in particular, by serious conflict caused by the sudden spatial proximity in families already under strain. The lockdowns also reduced the readiness of friends and acquaintances to (continue to) offer a sofa to the young people affected.

- » “sofahopper.de” is used by growing numbers of “sofa hoppers” temporarily given shelter by friends/acquaintances, and who are not yet completely out on the street. Offers of assistance were facilitated much faster during this early stage.
- » One particularly effective aspect was the early access to “sofahopper.de” made by young people at risk of homelessness in the conurbations serviced by all the Off Road Kids street social work stations in Berlin, Dortmund, Frankfurt, Hamburg and Cologne. These reached many more young people than before, given temporary shelter by friends/acquaintances. Offers of assistance were facilitated much more quickly during this early stage – all the more so when the young people visited the street social work stations directly to get personal counselling.
- » 1,062 young people successfully given new life prospects in 2020, sets a sad all-time record.
- » COVID-19 protection for young people at risk and for street workers: The preventative health programme, STREETWORK+, reached 2,058 young people – three times as many as in 2019. 8,357 health counselling sessions were conducted. At 10%, infectious diseases such as COVID-19 were the fourth most common subject. “Mental health” was the number one issue, at 35%. In 2020, young people not only received advice, but disinfectants and masks, too. All our social workers were trained in the area of infection prevention thanks to the continuing medical training courses long-established within Off Road Kids, and delivered by the ÄGGF (German association for medical training provided by doctors), alongside the health protection programme, STREETWORK+, developed in partnership with Bahn-BKK (health insurance fund). This meant that the work of the street social work stations could be quickly ramped up after the first lockdown.

Long-term impact

Considerably fewer young homeless people

- » With more than 7,000 young people successfully given new future prospects since 1993, Off Road Kids Stiftung has made a nationwide contribution to dissipating many of the street hang-outs of young homeless people. The dangerous attraction of these hang-outs to disconnected youth has been contained.
- » The early, professional nationwide online assistance service of “sofahopper.de” effectively stops young people falling into a life on the streets.
- » The permanent dependency of these young people on welfare and support services is hugely reduced, and their participation in society facilitated.
- » Dangerous infectious diseases, unwanted pregnancies and physical degeneration are avoided.

Great development potential

Online assistance, stabilisation and education

- » The number of emergency “calls” made via “sofahopper.de” is increasing continuously. It may well double again within a year. A limiting factor is the financing of additional staffing.
- » After young people have been given new future prospects, it is increasingly important for there to be a stabilisation process – something that also constitutes the quality assurance aspect of any professional transition support process. Limiting factors include the currently acute shortage of housing in Germany, and the financing of additional staffing.
- » A lack of school-leaving qualifications is an obstacle to integrating into the first job market. PREJOB is a pilot project organised by the Off Road Kids Foundation at its Dortmund site for enabling disconnected youth to gain the secondary school qualifications missed first time round. What makes it special is the intensive socio-pedagogic support and the individualised organisation of learning. A limiting factor is the financing of these support and education spaces.

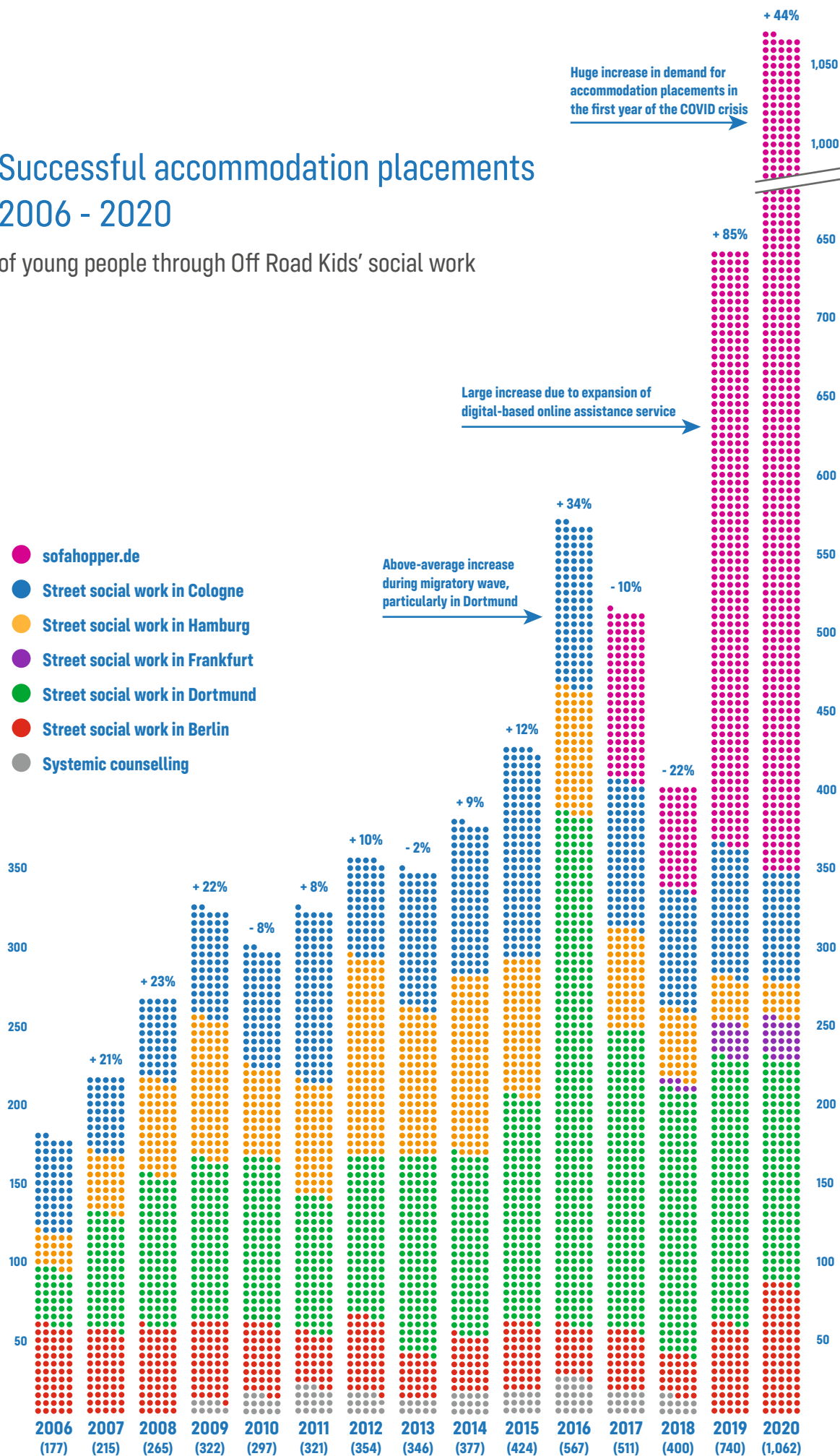
Nationwide accommodation placements 2020

of young homeless people, as well as interventions to prevent homelessness

	up to 18 yrs.	18 - 20 yrs.	over 21 yrs.	Total
STREET SOCIAL WORK in Berlin, Cologne, Dortmund, Frankfurt and Hamburg				
1. Accommodation placements resulting from local street social work (actively looking for young homeless people)				
• Street social work station - Berlin	0	28	43	71
• Street social work station - Dortmund	2	61	58	121
• Street social work station - Frankfurt	0	11	11	22
• Street social work station - Hamburg	0	1	13	14
• Street social work station - Cologne	2	15	22	39
Subtotal direct street social work	4	116	147	267
2. Accommodation placements & stabilisation cases of young people who came directly to the street social work stations				
• Street social work station - Berlin	1	2	10	13
• Street social work station - Dortmund	0	11	10	21
• Street social work station - Frankfurt	1	2	1	4
• Street social work station - Hamburg	0	0	10	10
• Street social work station - Cologne	1	10	18	29
Subtotal indirect street social work	3	25	49	77
Subtotal local social work (1+2)	7	141	196	344
Digital-based online assistance, "sofahopper.de"				
3. Nationwide accommodation placements & stabilisations via the digital-based online assistance service, "sofahopper.de"				
• through street social work station - Berlin	14	156	180	350
• through street social work station - Dortmund	10	41	52	103
• through street social work station - Frankfurt	8	73	50	131
• through street social work station - Hamburg	2	32	83	117
• through street social work station - Cologne	2	5	10	17
Subtotal "sofahopper.de"	36	307	375	718
Total accommodation placements 2020 (1 + 2 + 3)	43	448	571	1,062
... broken down according to locations:				
• Street social work station - Berlin	15	186	233	434
• Street social work station - Dortmund	12	113	120	245
• Street social work station - Frankfurt	9	86	62	157
• Street social work station - Hamburg	2	33	106	141
• Street social work station - Cologne	5	30	50	85
Total sum 2020	43	448	571	1,062
Monthly average 2020	4	37	47	89
Total accommodation placements since 1993:				7,100

Successful accommodation placements 2006 - 2020

of young people through Off Road Kids' social work



» Notes: Comparative data is available from 2006, since the opening of the street social work stations in Dortmund, Hamburg and Cologne. The street social work station in Frankfurt opened at the end of 2018. Relapses are deducted each month.

Successful mediations according to locations

Successful mediations of runaways, street children and young homeless people

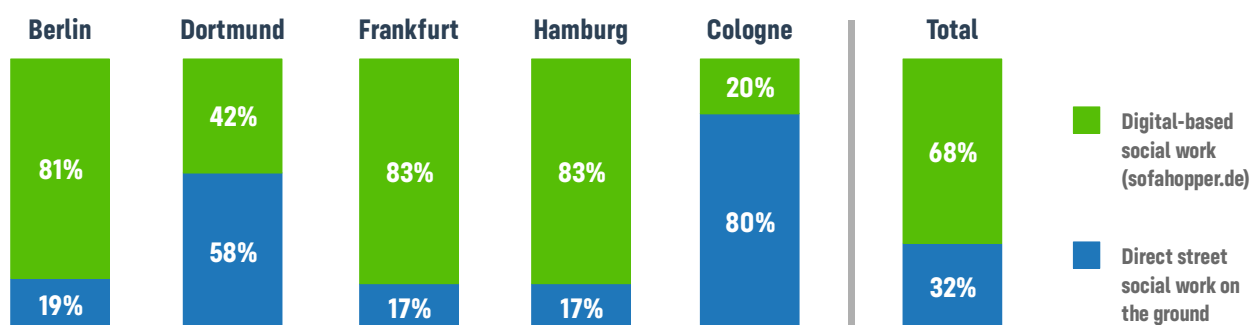
	Direct street social work					Online "sofahopper.de"						Total
	B	DO	F	HH	K	B	DO	F	HH	K	PL*	
1993-2005	722											722
2006	57	36		23	61							177
2007	54	74		38	49							215
2008	56	96		61	52							265
2009	51	102		90	70						9	322
2010	46	105		57	76						13	297
2011	34	87		72	110						18	321
2012	49	102		126	63						14	354
2013	29	126		93	88						10	346
2014	36	115		114	97						15	377
2015	44	143		88	134						15	424
2016	33	325		80	105						24	567
2017	39	191		64	94	108					15	511
2018	27	168	6	45	76	66					12	400
2019	58	169	22	29	84	301	15	28	19	15		740
2020	84	142	26	24	68	350	103	131	117	17		1.062
Total	1,419	1,981	54	1,004	1,227	825	118	159	136	32	145	7,100

* PL = parent helpline ("Elterntelefon"); counted as part of sofahopper.de since 2019.

Successful mediations 1993 - 2020 (street social work + online assistance "sofahopper.de")

Berlin	2,244	Dortmund	2,099	Frankfurt	213	Hamburg	1,140	Cologne	1,259
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Successful mediations 2020: Digital social work and on-site street social work



Hours expended and support time

for prevention of homelessness among young people

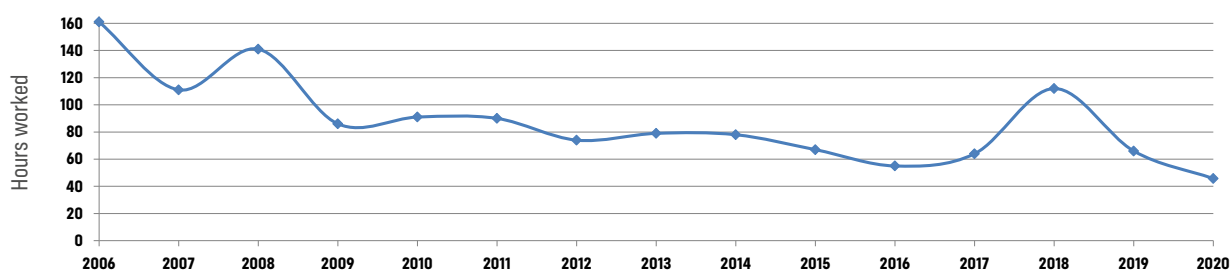
Sources of new young people in individual casework provided on the ground in the street social work stations						
	Direct street social work	sofahopper.de	Other youth	Job-centre	Other agencies	Total
2019	7	192	317	133	245	894
2020	7	262	299	79	235	882

The table shows the number of young people seeking help, who first came directly for counselling at the street social work stations – not including the young people who were exclusively given counselling online (via chat or telephone).

Intensively assisted young people each month on the ground in the street social work stations							
	Berlin	Dortmund	Frankfurt	Hamburg	Cologne	Monthly average per location	Total number per month
2019	53	101	22	46	65	71	286
2020	76	92	46	54	69	84	337

Intensive individual casework: All instances of dialogue, assistance and (post) support provided in 2020				
	up to 18 yrs.	18 - 20 yrs.	over 21 yrs.	Total
• Street social work station - Berlin	31	754	1,495	2,280
• Street social work station - Dortmund	176	965	1,275	2,416
• Street social work station - Frankfurt	58	881	954	1,893
• Street social work station - Hamburg	21	340	1,110	1,471
• Street social work station - Köln	42	734	1,189	1,965
Total number intensive support appointments	328	3,674	6,023	10,025

Support time expended per permanent accommodation placement, in hours worked (average)			
	Hours of work expended	Accommodation placements	Hours of work / placement
2020	48,580 hours	1,062	46 hours



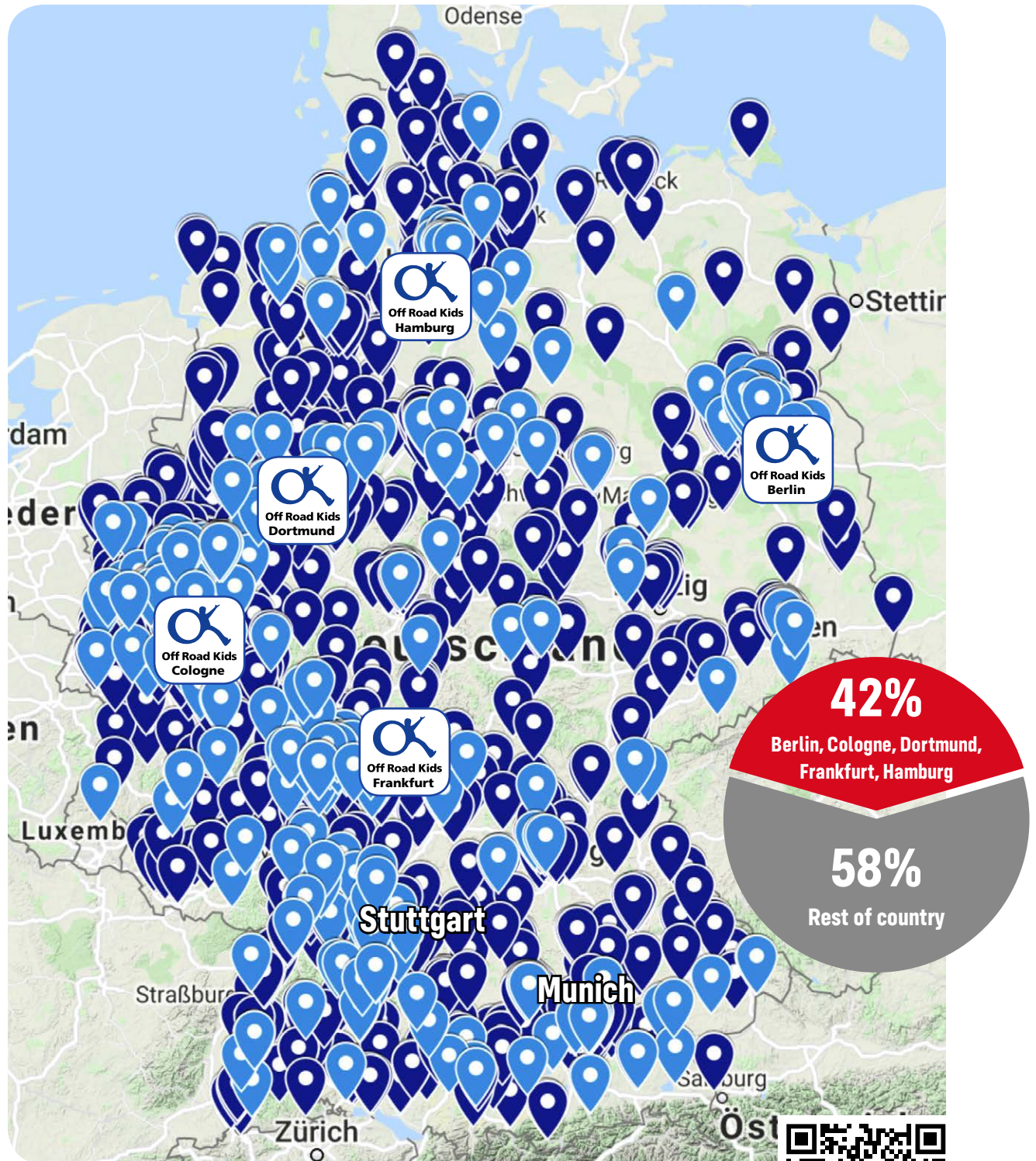
Note: In the five-year review, the average time expended per placement is approx. 70 hours.

SOFAHOPPER.de

Digital-based online assistance service

Nationwide distribution of relevant inquiries via "sofahopper.de" 2017 - 2020

(a total of 4,244 requests for help)

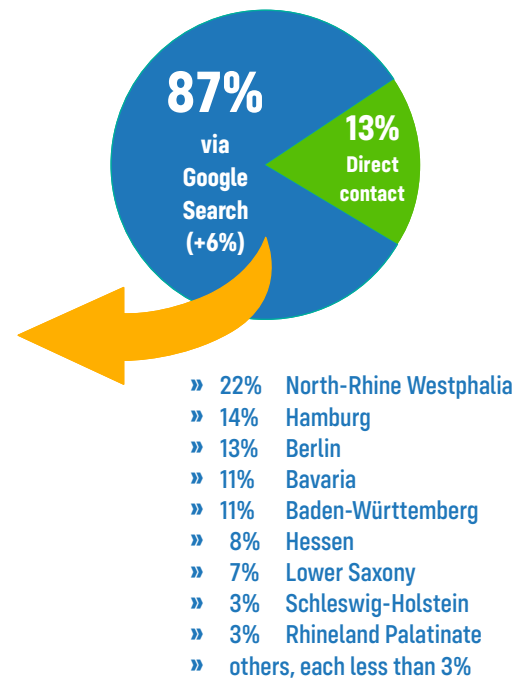


This map can also always be opened online as a Google Map (QR code on right):

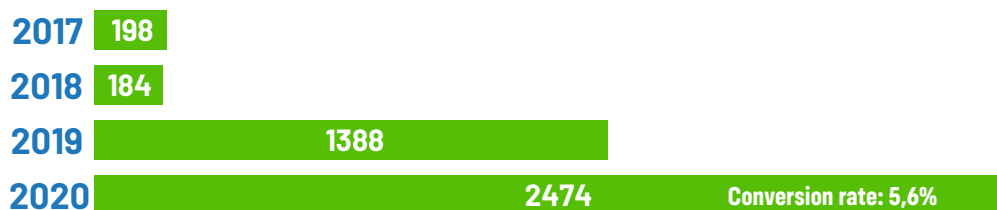
» <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1gDPdmfPBxKlQ-UxsA9JZPYf118ET396A&usp=sharing>

(Light-blue markings: requests in 2020)

Range of the "sofahopper.de" website (actual visits)

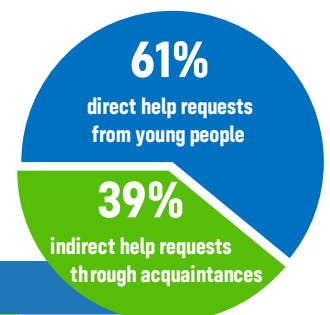


Relevant help requests resulting from website visits



Direct and indirect help requests

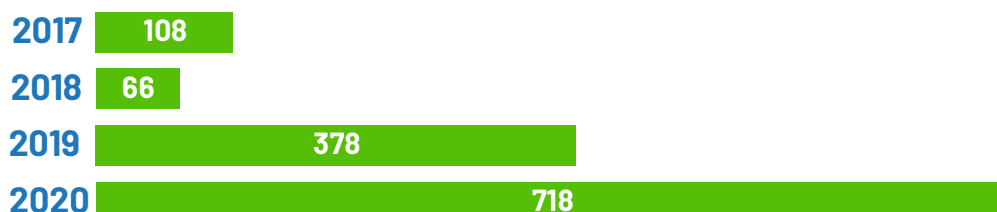
Origin of relevant help requests 2020						
	Young people up to 18 yrs.	Young adults 18 - 20 yrs.	Young adults 21 - 27 yrs.	via "hosts"	via other persons	Total
2020	81	631	799	4	959	2,474



Primary motivations for help requests



Successful placements following requests via "sofahopper.de"



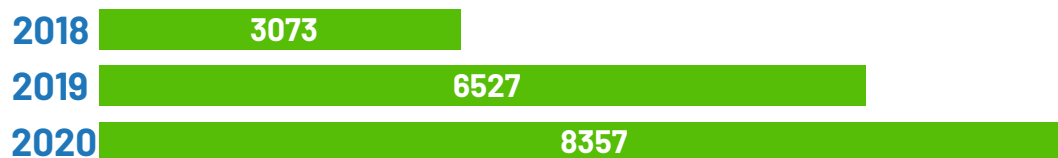
Preventive health

Contacts to young people 2020

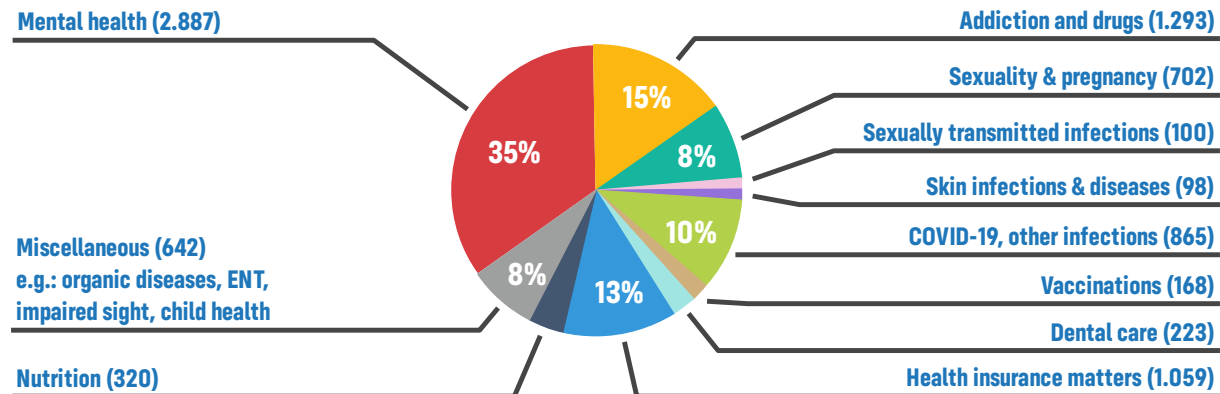
**Contacts to young people at risk of becoming homeless,
with whom health-related discussions were conducted:**
(1,078 individuals: 90% from the street scene, 10% via sofahopper.de)

2,058

Number of discussion sessions on individual health-related matters



Health-related matters discussed 2020



Escorted visits to appointments with doctors, clinics and medical departments 2020

- 64** Visits to GP and specialist physicians
- 45** Escorted visits to psychiatric facilities
- 30** Escorted visits to public health agencies
- 36** Escorted visits to health insurers
- 37** Other escorted visits (incl. addiction counselling, pregnancy counselling, STI tests)

212
health-related
escorted visits

We would like to thank all the friends and supporters of the Off Road Kids Stiftung - and those who will assist us in the future - for their tremendous commitment to supporting our efforts on behalf of street children and young homeless people in Germany.



Would you like to know more?

Concepts, statistics, and further information available on our extensive website

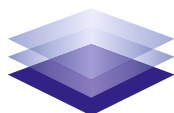
["www.offroadkids.de"](http://www.offroadkids.de).

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Initiative
Transparente
Zivilgesellschaft





Off Road Kids

We use your donations to help street children, young homeless people, and young people in desperate situations, who have no family support.



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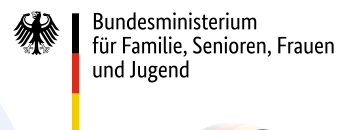
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