
A National Overview of Youth Homelessness Services, Statutes, and State Government Oversight

Presentation to the Workgroup on Shelter and Supportive Services for Unaccompanied Homeless Minors

**Department of Legislative Services
Office of Policy Analysis
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Review of State-level Resources for Unaccompanied Youth

- 50 state report of statutes relating to homeless and minors
- Shows how each state handles consent to medical care, sheltering services, and ability to contract
- Identifies barriers to medical care, sheltering services, and contracting for homeless youth and minors, mentioned above



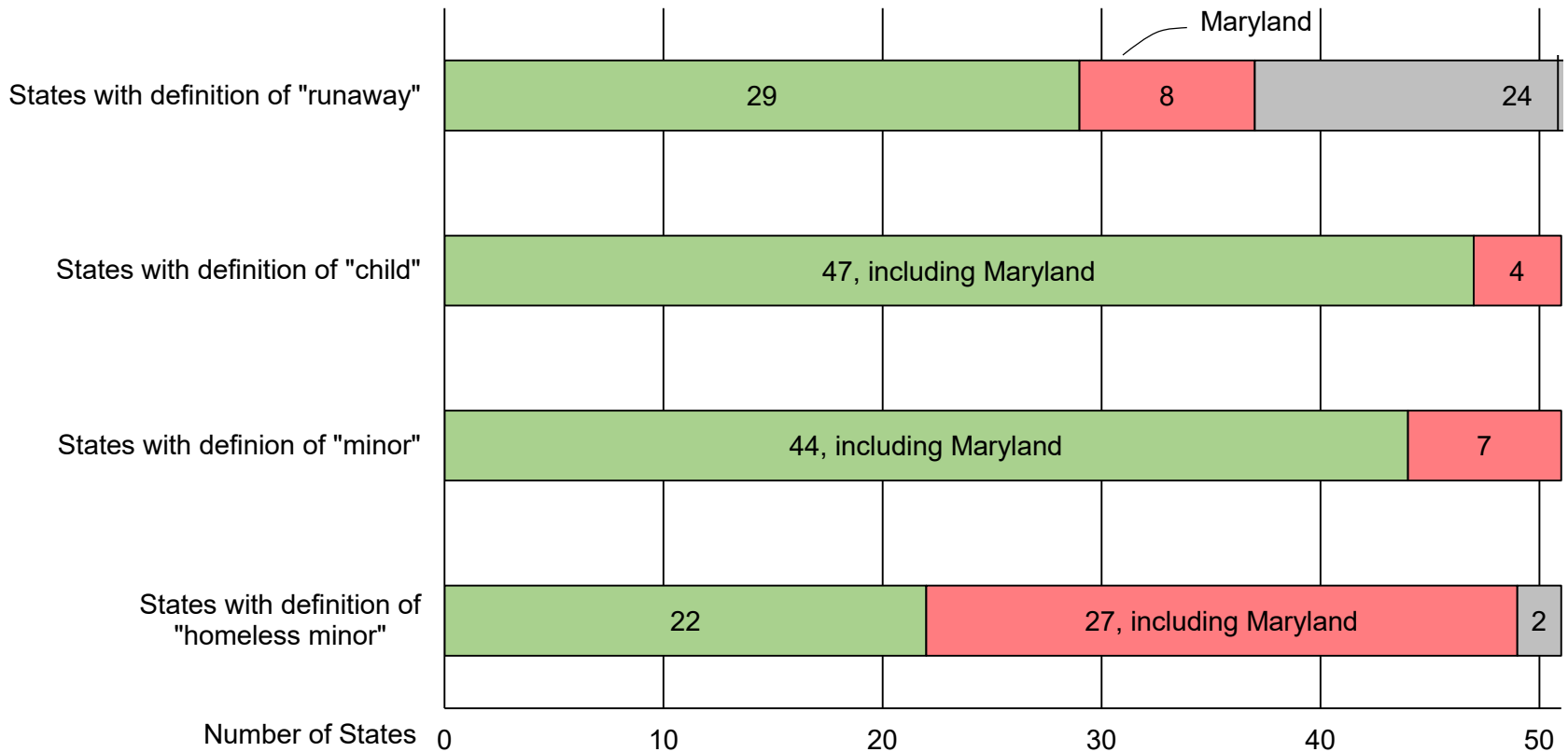
Review of State-level Resources for Unaccompanied Youth (Cont.)

- Relevant sections include:
 - State definitions of children, minors, and homeless minors
 - At what age unaccompanied minors may consent to medical care
 - Whether minors consent to contracts
 - Which agencies manage selected aspects of homeless services



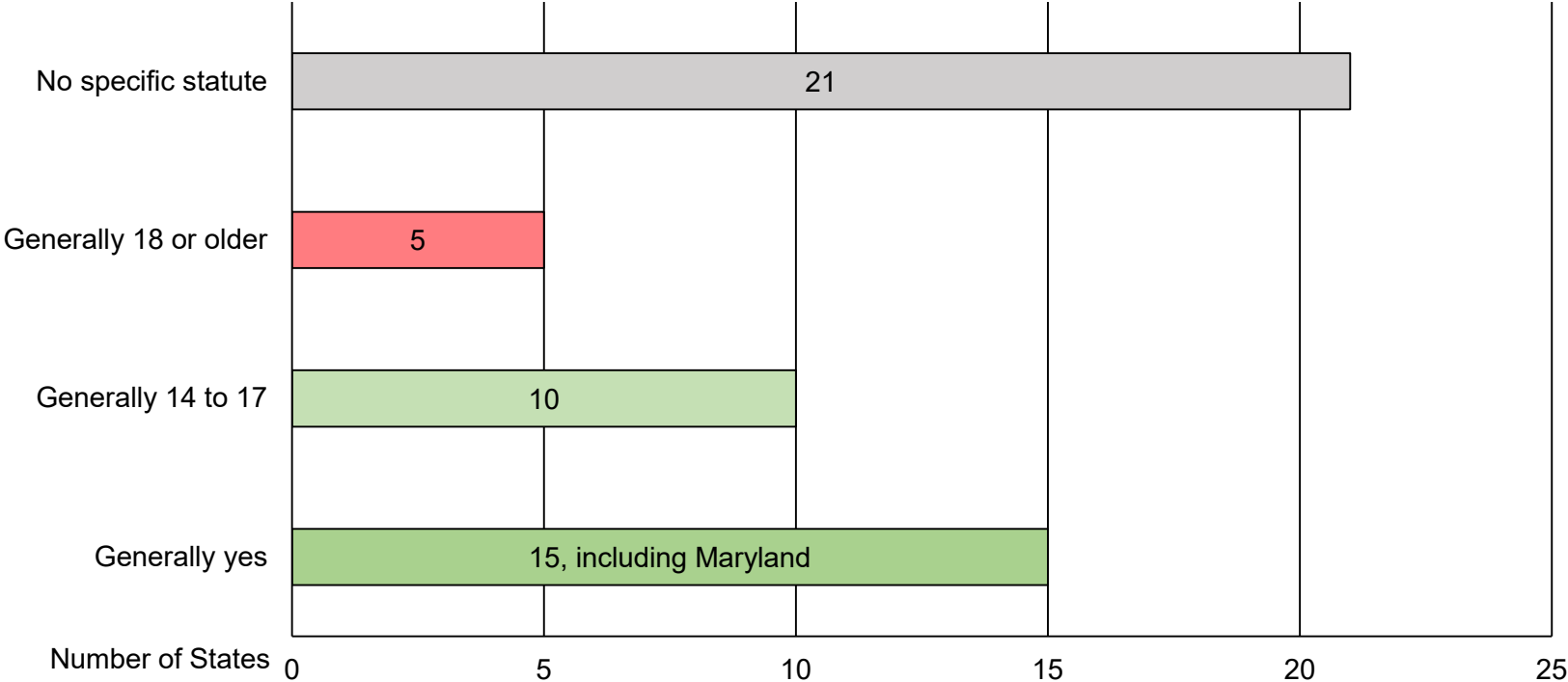
Review of Statutory Definitions

Explicit Statute Definitions Relating to Homeless Minors



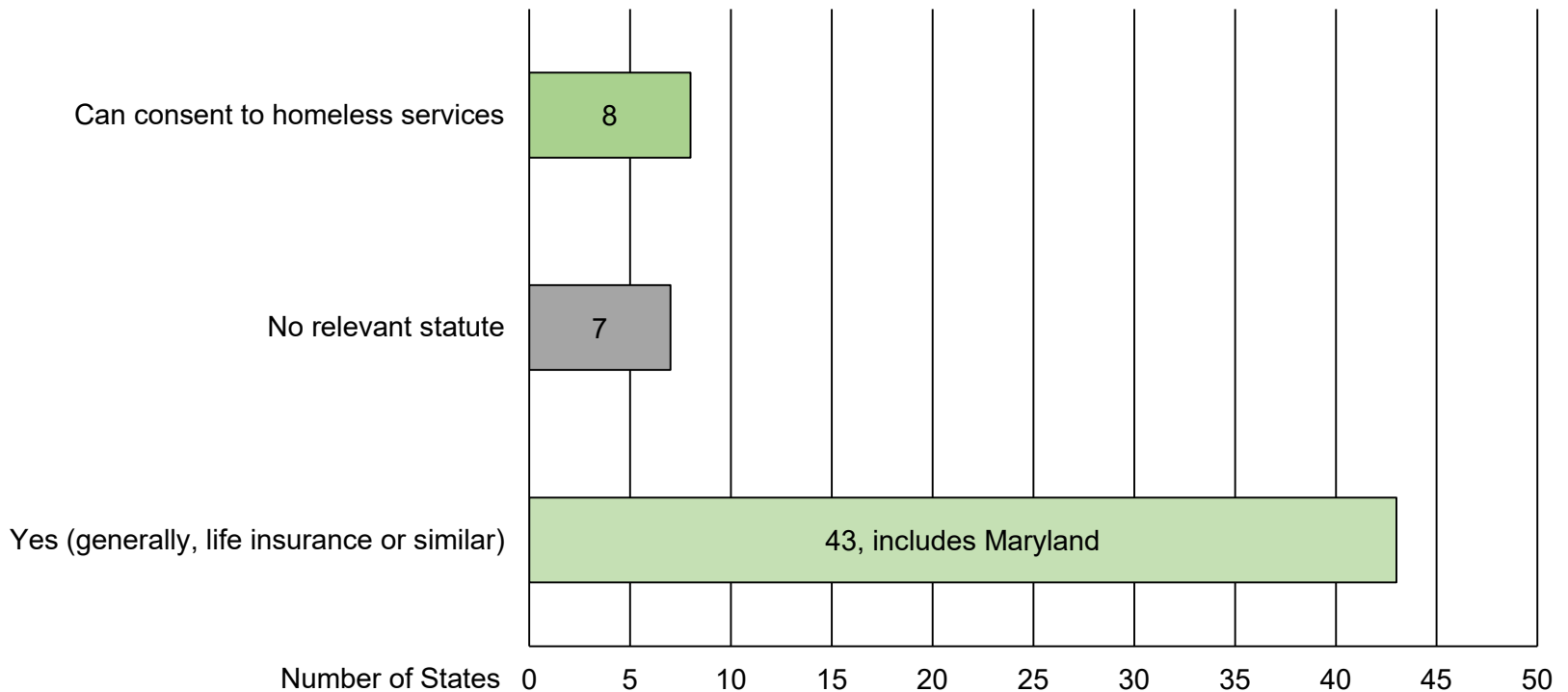
States Authorizing Unaccompanied Minors to Consent to Medical Care

Unaccompanied Minors' Ability to Consent to Medical Care



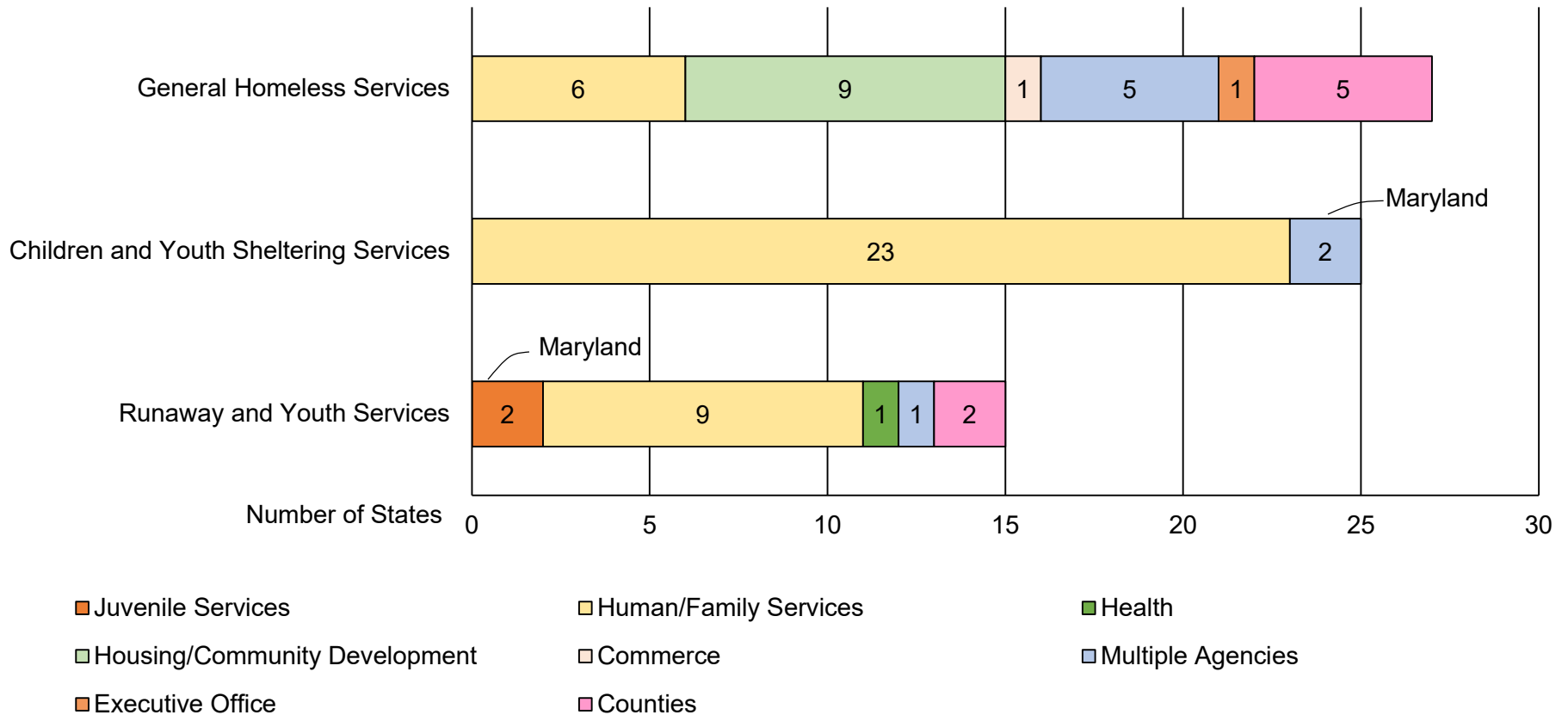
Ability for Minors to Consent to Contracts

Minors' Ability to Consent to Contracts



How Each State Manages Homeless Services

State Agencies/Departments Managing Related Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Services



States With Robust Unaccompanied Youth Homeless Services

- Missouri
 - Oversight generally divided between counties and state Department of Social Services (DSS)
 - Counties fund youth homeless shelters, DSS licenses the shelters
 - Unaccompanied youth may consent to shelter, but they must generally be 16 years of age or older
- Oregon
 - Department of Human Services (DHS) coordinates statewide delivery of services to runaway and homeless youth
 - Oregon Housing and Community Services Department oversees funding for homeless services
 - Unaccompanied youth may consent to shelter, with exceptions

States With Robust Unaccompanied Youth Homeless Services (Cont.)

- Hawaii
 - DHS administers and operates homeless shelters
 - DHS also works with counties in identifying emergency shelters
 - Homeless minors may generally consent to shelter