

WHEAT RIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM



November 15, 2017

Topics for Discussion



Homelessness

Q&A

What is Homelessness?

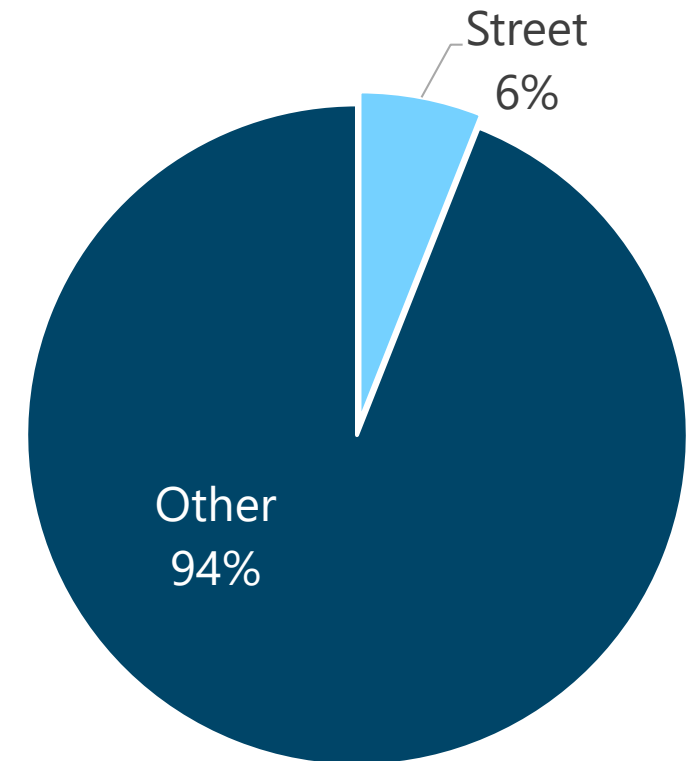
Did you know that in the Denver metro area...

- **64%** of the homeless are **families with children**
- **42%** of the homeless are **women**
- **33%** of the homeless are **working**

What is Homelessness?

Only 6% of persons experiencing homelessness stay on the street...

- **36%** stay in a vehicle
- **34%** stay with family or friends
- **14%** stay in a shelter
- **8%** stay somewhere else
- **3%** unknown/no response



What is Homelessness?

Did you know the reasons for homelessness in the Denver metro area...

- **44%** lost their job and can't find work
- **32%** can't afford housing (high housing costs)
- **28%** suffered from a family/relationship breakup
- **21%** suffer from mental illness
- **19%** suffer from substance abuse and dependency

Legalized Marijuana and Homelessness

Do people get high, become lethargic, and lose their jobs?

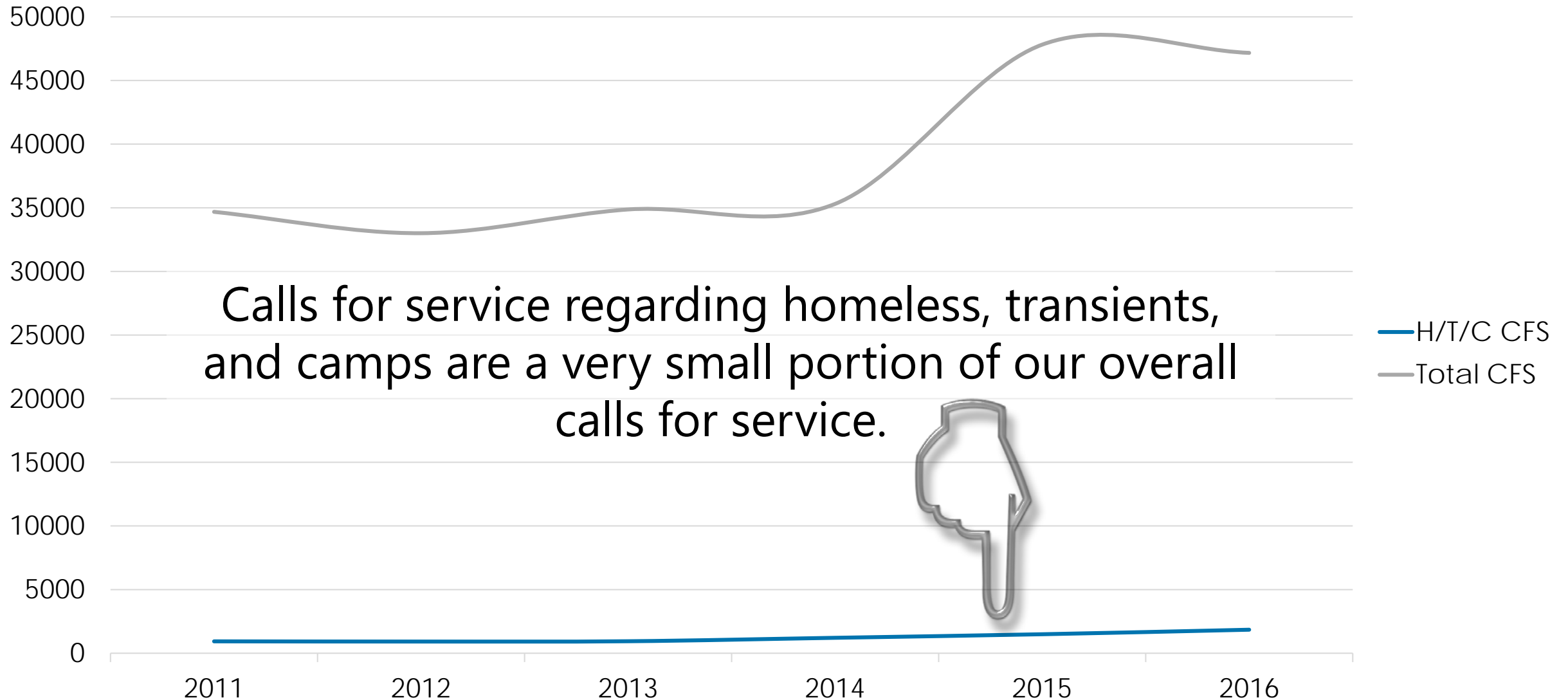
No

Do people move to Colorado to legally use marijuana to self-medicate?

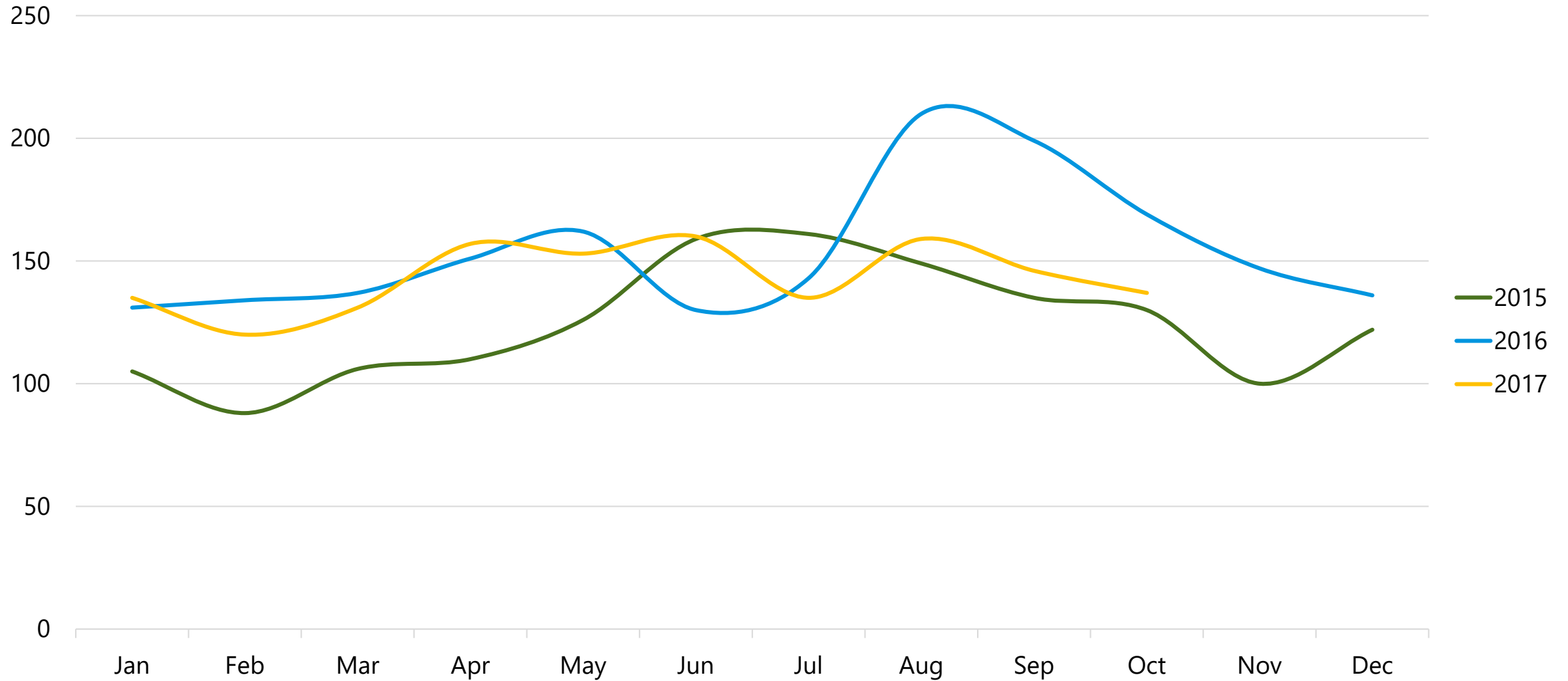
Probably



Homeless, Transient, and Camping CFS



Homeless, Transient, and Camping CFS



Homeless, Transient, and Camping CFS

In the first ten months of 2017, the top call for service locations have been:

- American Motel
- Lutheran Medical Center
- Johnson Park
- Howard Johnson
- Best Interstate Inn



Homeless, Transient, and Camping CFS

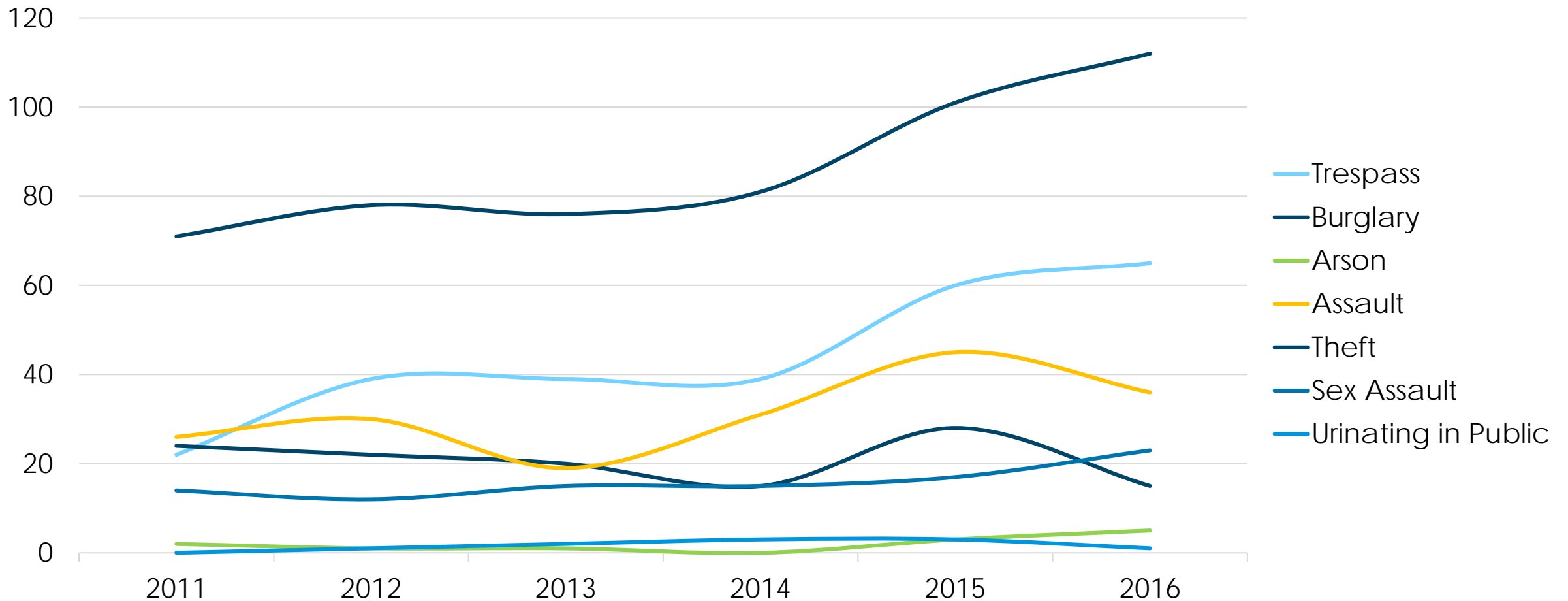
In the first ten months of 2017, the top calls for service have been:

- Unwanted Party
- Suspicious Person
- Disturbance in Progress
- Welfare Check 1
- Suspicious Incident



Homeless, Transient, and Camping CFS

Homeless, Transient, and Camping CFS with the following title codes:



Wheat Ridge Police Efforts

- Directed Patrol – Crossroads Project
- Directed Patrol – Greenbelt Project
- Greenbelt Assessments
- Meetings with CDOT
- Bags of Blessings
- Severe Weather Shelter Network

Ending Homelessness

To end homelessness, a **community-wide coordinated approach** to delivering services, housing, and programs is needed.

What is a coordinated systems approach?

- A strategic and data-driven method
- Allocation of resources, services, and programs that best suit those experiencing homelessness

How to Help

“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach him how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.” – Lao Tzu

Local Organizations for Help:

- Family Tree
- Churches
- Heading Home
- Shelters
- SWSN



QQA