

30.

Observation: One should not conclude from this that the desire for centers closer to home would necessarily bring greater satisfaction to these dropouts had they been in centers closer to home. While 44 percent of those who felt the centers were too far away would prefer a closer center, an equal number (43%) of those who felt the centers were too close would prefer one further away. The balance favoring closer centers results from the fact that four times as many dropouts feel they went to a center far away as feel they went to one close to home. If the proportions between the two groups were equal (instead of 4 to 1) the overall results would be 36 percent in favor of closer centers and 35 percent in favor of centers further away, hardly a definitive margin.

For a majority of the youth, the trip to the center was the first time they had been that far away from home for more than a few days: