



2011 Santa Clara County

# HOMELESS CENSUS & SURVEY COMPREHENSIVE REPORT



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## INTRODUCTION

Close to two million Americans experience homelessness each year.<sup>1</sup> For most, this is caused by the gap between their income and the cost of housing. Yet for many, health conditions, mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and a lack of support from family and community prevent them from obtaining permanent housing.

Biennially, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of their homeless population in order to gain a better understanding of the current homeless population and to apply for federal funding for homeless programs. The County of Santa Clara has worked in conjunction with Applied Survey Research (ASR) to conduct the 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey for adults, families, and unaccompanied children. ASR is a non-profit social research firm based in Santa Clara County and Santa Cruz County, California, with extensive experience in homeless enumeration and research.

The 2011 Santa Clara County Point-in-Time (PIT) Count was a community-wide effort conducted on January 25 and 26, 2011. The count and subsequent surveys provide information about the homeless population that is critical to program and service planning, helps to inform the allocation of resources for services to help the homeless, and offers a means of measuring the impact of homeless programs and services. In addition, it is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as part of a national effort to enumerate the homeless population.

All jurisdictions receiving federal funding to provide housing and services for the homeless through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant are required by HUD to conduct a biennial PIT count of unsheltered and sheltered homeless persons during the last ten days of January. Currently the County of Santa Clara receives \$11.3 million in Homeless Assistance Grant funding. This is a critical source of funding for the county's homeless services.

According to HUD, the PIT count must include all unsheltered homeless persons and sheltered homeless persons staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs on the date of the count. Jurisdictions report the findings of their PIT count in their annual application to HUD for federal funding to provide housing and services for the homeless. The compilation of data collected through PIT counts across the United States helps the federal government to better understand the nature and extent of homelessness nationwide.

The Homeless Census had two components: a PIT enumeration of unsheltered homeless individuals and families (those sleeping outdoors, on the street, in parks, or vehicles, etc.) and a PIT enumeration of homeless individuals and families who have temporary shelter (those staying in an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or safe havens). Due to the large size of Santa Clara County, the entire county was canvassed over a period of two days; from five deployment locations based in Cupertino, Gilroy, Palo Alto, San Jose, and Santa Clara. The count was conducted by teams of trained homeless workers and

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<sup>1</sup> The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2010). Opening doors: federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. Washington, D.C.

community volunteers. This unsheltered homeless enumeration methodology, developed by ASR in 2001, has been highlighted by HUD in the 2008 *Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People*.

The unsheltered street enumeration was divided into two separate counts: a primary count of homeless individuals and families and a secondary count which focused on unaccompanied children and youth (individuals under the age of 25). The primary count took place during the early mornings of January 25 and 26, 2011. The unaccompanied children and youth count took place on the afternoons of January 25 and 26, 2011, from approximately 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., when children and youth were more likely to be visible in the community.

In order to capture the number of homeless individuals and families staying in shelters and transitional housing programs, shelter providers in the county completed an online survey, reporting the number of homeless individuals and families who occupied their facility on the night of January 24, 2011.

In addition to the countywide homeless census, an in-depth 32-question survey was administered in the weeks following the street count to 1,014 sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals. The survey was designed to yield qualitative data about the adult homeless population in Santa Clara County. Unaccompanied homeless children and youth were given 28 additional survey questions that asked specifically about their circumstances as unaccompanied children and youth. A total of 200 unaccompanied homeless children and youth answered the survey in Santa Clara County.

The results presented in this report provide invaluable data regarding the number and characteristics of homeless persons in Santa Clara County, which can help guide countywide efforts to mitigate and end homelessness. This report focuses special attention on specific subpopulations including chronically homeless, veterans, families, and unaccompanied children and youth. These groups have been identified by the federal government as populations of particular interest in the 2011 PIT counts.

## Federal Definition of Homelessness<sup>2</sup>

In this study, HUD's definition of homelessness was used. The definition includes:

- An individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and
- An individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is:
  - » A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill), or
  - » An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or
  - » A public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

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<sup>2</sup> Title 42, Chapter 119, Subchapter I, §10302(a) of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations.

Certain homeless individuals are excluded from this definition, including: unsheltered homeless individuals who were “doubled-up” in the homes of family or friends; and sheltered homeless individuals in jails, hospitals, and rehabilitation facilities.

## Project Purpose and Goals

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan signed into law the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, providing funding for a range of services to address homelessness. Since 2005, the U.S. Congress has required that local governments receiving federal funds under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act must conduct PIT counts of their homeless populations every two years. HUD uses information from the local PIT counts, among other data sources, in the congressionally-mandated Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress (AHAR). This report is meant to inform Congress about the number of people experiencing homelessness in the United States and the effectiveness of HUD’s programs and policies in decreasing those numbers.

In order to generate accurate and useful data about the local homeless population, the County of Santa Clara and its municipal governments carry out this homeless census and survey. The 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey Project Committee identified several important project goals:

- To preserve current federal funding for homeless services and to enhance the ability to raise new funds;
- To improve the ability of policy makers and service providers to plan and implement services that meet the needs of the local homeless population;
- To measure changes in the numbers and characteristics of the homeless population since the 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey, and to track progress toward ending homelessness;
- To increase public awareness of overall homeless issues and generate support for constructive solutions; and
- To assess the status of chronic homelessness, homeless veterans, homeless families and unaccompanied homeless children and youth (without a guardian and under the age of 25).

The results of this research will assist service providers, policy makers, funders, and local, state, and federal governments to better understand and plan for the needs of the homeless population by examining current statistics in various geographical contexts. It is hoped that the 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey will help policy makers and service providers to more effectively develop services and programs to serve the county’s homeless population.

The data presented in this report provide an updated view of the homeless in Santa Clara County. Due to similarities in research methodologies, comparisons to the Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey results from 2007 and 2009 are provided where available.

## POINT-IN-TIME COUNT AND ANNUAL ESTIMATION

The Point-in-Time (PIT) street count was conducted on January 25 and 26, 2011 from approximately 5:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Census enumerators canvassed all 341 U.S. Census Tracts in the county. Shelters and institutions in the county reported their occupancies for the night of January 24, 2011. The number of homeless persons occupying emergency shelters, transitional housing, domestic violence shelters, and institutional housing were enumerated in conjunction with the street count. Special youth enumeration teams consisting of currently homeless youth, formerly homeless youth, and youth service providers enumerated unaccompanied homeless youth on the afternoons of January 25 and 26, 2011 from approximately 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The number of unaccompanied homeless children and youth were integrated into the overall census findings.<sup>3</sup>

- A total of 7,067 homeless people were counted on January 25 and 26, 2011.
  - » Of those counted, the majority (73%) were unsheltered (5,169 individuals). This included individuals counted on the streets, as well as those estimated to be living in occupied cars, vans, RVs, encampments, and abandoned buildings counted by enumeration teams.<sup>4</sup>
  - » 27% were sheltered (1,898 individuals). This included individuals occupying emergency shelters, domestic violence shelters, and transitional housing facilities.
- Persons in families made up 12% of the 2011 PIT homeless population, compared to 14% in 2009.
  - » Persons in families accounted for 1% of the unsheltered homeless population,<sup>5</sup> and 41% of the sheltered population.
- The total number of homeless individuals enumerated in shelters decreased by 205 individuals since 2009.
  - » It should be noted that changes in the shelter count do not necessarily represent a loss of inventory in the county or city capacity, but rather methodological changes to the shelter count. In 2011, HUD asked that all Point-in-Time counts focus on shelters listed on HUD eSNAPS Housing Inventory Chart required of all Continuums. Changes within those shelters may also be due to re-classification of the bed “type” that reflects a programming

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<sup>3</sup> A detailed explanation of the methodology used for the 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census, including the project limitations can be found in Appendix I. Copies of the census instruments can be found in Appendix II. For a complete list of definitions of terms used in this report, please see Appendix VII.

<sup>4</sup> Census guides and volunteers were instructed to count and detail individuals seen in encampments as individuals; encampments, buildings and vehicles were noted only when persons were suspected of being inside but not visible to enumerators. The number of individuals enumerated in cars, vans, RVs, encampments, and abandoned buildings are estimates based on empirical data from the 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey. Survey respondents who indicated that they usually stay in a car, van, RV, encampment, or abandoned building at night were asked to indicate how many people usually stay there, producing a median number of people for each of these sleeping locations. The multipliers used were: 1.51 for cars, 1.86 for vans/RVs, 3.13 for encampments, and 3.98 for abandoned buildings.

<sup>5</sup> HUD’s definition of families includes only those individuals currently living with a child under the age of 18. For the unsheltered count, a group of homeless individuals were determined to be a family if the grouping included at least one child estimated to be under the age of 18 who was accompanied by at least one adult.

or funding change for the shelter organization. This report does not attempt to analyze all longitudinal changes in homeless bed and family unit inventory nor their potential changing of funding sources. All shelter reporting is the result of agency self-reporting, HMIS comparison, and follow-up by ASR staff and the Census project committee’s county and jurisdictional representatives. This includes a thorough comparison of the current inventory to previous reports including the annual HUD eSNAPS Housing Inventory Chart required of all Continuums.

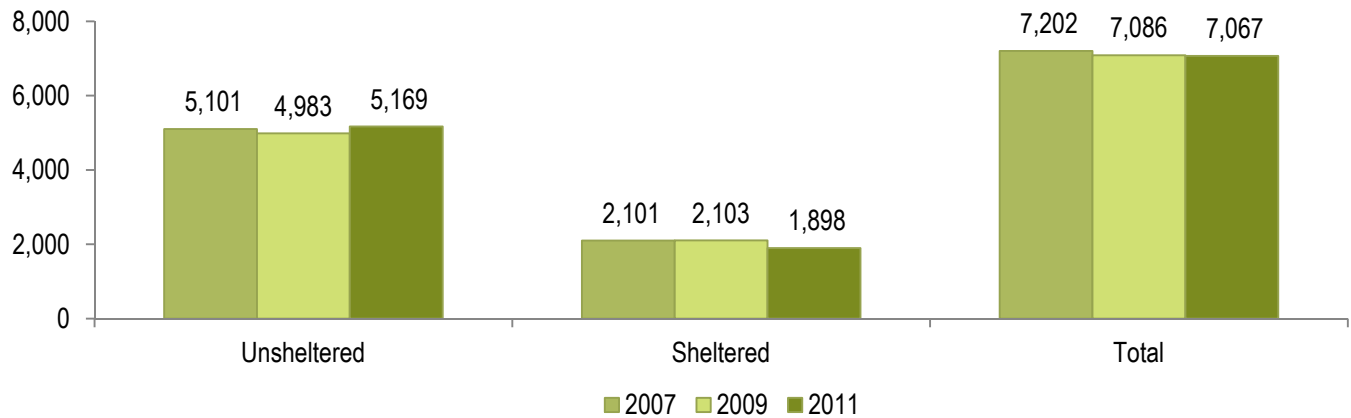
- Between 2009 and 2011 the number of homeless individuals counted in emergency shelters decreased by 178 individuals and the number of homeless individuals counted in transitional housing and safe havens decreased by 27 individuals.<sup>6</sup>

**Figure 1: Homeless Census Results (2011)**

	Single Individuals	Persons in Families	Total	% of Total
Street enumeration	5,113	56	5,169	73.1%
Shelter enumeration	1,121	777	1,898	26.9%
Emergency Shelter	721	179	900	13.6%
Transitional Housing & Safe Havens	400	598	998	13.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,234</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>7,067</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.

**Figure 2: Homeless Individuals Enumerated During the Point-in-Time Homeless Census**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.

<sup>6</sup> These changes are reflective of changes in shelter designations and listed shelters rather than capacity or usage.  
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- 39% of those included in the 2011 Point-in-Time count were men, 9% were women, and 52% were of undetermined gender.<sup>7</sup>
  - » Among the unsheltered homeless population, 38% were men, 11% were women, and 51% were of undetermined gender.
  - » Among the sheltered homeless population, 46% were men, 7% were women, and 47% were of undetermined gender.<sup>8</sup>

**Figure 3: Homeless Census Population**

Setting	Men			Women			Youth			Persons of Undetermined Gender/Age <sup>1</sup>			Total Persons			
	2009	2011	Net	2009	2011	Net	2009	2011	Net	2009	2011	Net	2009	2011	Net	% Change
<b>Unsheltered</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>1,895</b>	<b>-127</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>2,382</b>	<b>2,609</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>4,983</b>	<b>5,169</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>3.7%</b>
Single Individuals	2,009	1,880	-129	480	479	-1	46	145	99	2,382	2,609	227	4,917	5,113	196	4.0%
Persons in families	13	15	2	19	17	-2	34	24	-10	0	0	0	66	56	-10	-15.2%
<b>Sheltered</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>-57</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>-81</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>-253</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>2,103</b>	<b>1,898</b>	<b>-205</b>	<b>-9.7%</b>
Emergency Shelter	675	640	-35	148	51	-84	163	140	-23	92	69	-23	1,078	900	-178	-16.5%
Single Individuals	675	640	-35	148	51	-84	17	30	13	0	0	0	840	721	-119	-14.2%
Persons in families	NA	N/A	-	NA	N/A	-	146	110	-36	92	69	-23	238	179	-59	-24.8%
Transitional Housing and Safe Havens	242	220	-22	79	82	3	384	154	-230	320	542	222	1,025	998	-27	-2.6%
Single Individuals	242	220	-22	79	82	3	0	35	35	0	63	63	321	400	79	24.6%
Persons in families <sup>2</sup>	NA	N/A	-	NA	N/A	-	384	119	-265	320	479	159	704	598	-106	-15.1%
<b>Total Unsheltered and Sheltered</b>	<b>2,939</b>	<b>2,755</b>	<b>-184</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>-97</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>-164</b>	<b>2,794</b>	<b>3,220</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>7,086</b>	<b>7,067</b>	<b>-19</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.

<sup>1</sup> Unsheltered persons of undetermined age and gender include those estimated to reside in vehicles, abandoned buildings, and encampments.

<sup>2</sup> In both 2009 and 2011, shelters were not required to report the gender of persons in families.

<sup>7</sup> The large number of individuals of undetermined gender is the result of individuals residing in vehicles, encampments, and buildings; as well as family members residing in shelters.

<sup>8</sup> In 2011, as in 2009, shelters were not required to report the gender of residents in families, therefore the percentage of individuals of undetermined gender include not only adults but children under the age of 18.

## Jurisdictional Data

As in previous years, the 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census collected data on the geographic distribution of sheltered and unsheltered homeless families and individuals in Santa Clara County. This data allows for the assessment of program needs addressing homelessness at both the city and county levels. Data on the total number of sheltered and unsheltered families and individuals are presented in the following charts. It is important to recognize the way jurisdictional data is affected by the location of shelter facilities. Therefore, overall numbers are followed by separate sheltered and unsheltered counts.

**Figure 4: Total Unsheltered and Sheltered Homeless Census Population by Jurisdiction and Family Status**

Jurisdiction	Individuals			Persons in Families			Total Persons		
	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change
<b>Total Incorporated</b>	<b>5,413</b>	<b>5,353</b>	<b>-60</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>-177</b>	<b>6,292</b>	<b>6,055</b>	<b>-237</b>
City of Campbell	44	103	59	0	0	0	44	103	59
City of Cupertino	61	37	-24	0	12	12	61	49	-12
City of Gilroy	334	382	48	265	138	-127	599	520	-79
City of Los Altos	89	5	-84	8	0	-8	97	5	-92
Town of Los Altos Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
City of Los Gatos	20	18	-2	0	0	0	20	18	-2
City of Milpitas	70	139	69	0	0	0	70	139	69
City of Monte Sereno	4	11	7	0	0	0	4	11	7
City of Morgan Hill	96	201	105	8	10	2	104	211	107
City of Mountain View	66	26	-40	10	11	1	76	37	-39
City of Palo Alto	155	151	-4	23	0	-23	178	151	-27
City of San Jose	3,809	3,698	-111	384	336	-48	4,193	4,034	-159
City of Santa Clara	308	212	-96	166	184	18	474	396	-78
City of Saratoga	23	7	-16	0	0	0	23	7	-16
City of Sunnyvale	334	363	29	15	11	-4	349	374	25
<b>Total Unincorporated</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>209</b>
San Martin	10	170	160	112	99	-13	122	269	147
Other unincorporated areas	647	698	51	5	18	7	654	716	62
<b>Other (Confidential Locations)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,078</b>	<b>6,234</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>1,008</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>7,086</b>	<b>7,067</b>	<b>-19</b>

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.  
Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.



**Figure 5: Unsheltered Homeless Census Population by Jurisdiction and Family Status<sup>1</sup>**

Jurisdiction	Individuals			Persons in Families			Total Persons		
	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change
<b>Total Incorporated</b>	<b>4,260</b>	<b>4,245</b>	<b>-15</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>4,319</b>	<b>4,283</b>	<b>-36</b>
City of Campbell	44	103	59	0	0	0	44	103	59
City of Cupertino	18	34	16	0	0	0	18	34	16
City of Gilroy	190	262	72	3	3	0	193	265	72
City of Los Altos	89	5	-84	8	0	-8	97	5	-92
Town of Los Altos Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
City of Los Gatos	20	18	-2	0	0	0	20	18	-2
City of Milpitas	70	139	69	0	0	0	70	139	69
City of Monte Sereno	4	11	7	0	0	0	4	11	7
City of Morgan Hill	96	176	80	0	0	0	96	176	80
City of Mountain View	62	17	-45	0	0	0	62	17	-45
City of Palo Alto	105	106	1	0	0	0	105	106	1
City of San Jose	3,070	3,022	-48	42	35	-7	3,112	3,057	-55
City of Santa Clara	288	132	-156	2	0	-2	290	132	-158
City of Saratoga	23	7	-16	0	0	0	23	7	-16
City of Sunnyvale	181	213	32	4	0	-4	185	213	28
<b>Total Unincorporated</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>222</b>
San Martin	10	170	160	0	0	0	10	170	160
Other unincorporated areas	647	698	51	7	18	11	654	716	62
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,917</b>	<b>5,113</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>4,983</b>	<b>5,169</b>	<b>186</b>

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.

<sup>1</sup> "Individuals in Vehicles, Encampments, Abandoned Buildings, and Parks" is reported as a separate category because these individuals' family status could not be determined. This category includes unsheltered individuals who were enumerated in these settings during the street census.

**Figure 6: Sheltered Homeless Census Population by Jurisdiction and Family Status<sup>1</sup>**

Jurisdiction	Individuals			Persons in Families			Total Individuals		
	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change
<b>Total Incorporated</b>	<b>1,153</b>	<b>1,108</b>	<b>-45</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>-156</b>	<b>1,973</b>	<b>1,772</b>	<b>-201</b>
City of Cupertino	43	3	-40	0	12	12	43	15	-28
City of Gilroy	144	120	-24	262	135	-127	406	255	-151
City of Morgan Hill	0	25	25	8	10	2	8	35	27
City of Mountain View	4	9	5	10	11	1	14	20	6
City of Palo Alto	50	45	-5	23	0	-23	73	45	-28
City of San Jose	739	676	-63	342	301	-41	1,081	977	-104
City of Santa Clara	20	80	60	164	184	20	184	264	80
City of Sunnyvale	153	150	-3	11	11	0	164	161	-3
<b>Total Unincorporated</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>-13</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>-13</b>
San Martin	0	0	0	112	99	-13	112	99	-13
<b>Other (Confidential Locations)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>942</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>-165</b>	<b>2,103</b>	<b>1,898</b>	<b>-205</b>

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.

<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that some changes in the shelter count do not represent a loss of inventory in the county or city capacity, but rather a re-classification of the bed "type" that reflects a programming or funding change for the shelter organization. This report does not attempt to analyze all longitudinal changes in homeless bed and family unit inventory nor their potential changing funding sources. All shelter reporting is the result of agency self-reporting, HMIS comparison and follow-up by ASR staff and the Census project committee's county and jurisdictional representatives. This includes a thorough comparison of the current inventory to previous reports including the annual HUD eSNAPS Housing Inventory Chart required of all continuums.

## County-Wide Annual Estimation

A Point-in-Time (PIT) homeless enumeration has an inherent bias of not capturing homeless persons who experience short episodes of homelessness at other times of the year. More people experience homelessness annually than can be counted at any given PIT, as people cycle in and out of homelessness. Counting only the homeless person found in a January census could under-represent homelessness for other months of the year.

Therefore, based on the survey responses of the 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey, ASR used the annualization formula detailed by the Corporation for Supportive Housing to calculate an annual estimate of the number of homeless persons in Santa Clara County over the course of a year. This approach is the HUD-approved method for calculating the annual estimate of homeless persons based on the PIT count. Following is an explanation of the annualization calculation.

Three factors were used to determine the annual estimate:<sup>9</sup>

- A = The PIT count of currently homeless people (found in the street and shelter count)
- B = The number of currently homeless people who became homeless within the last 7 days; and
- C = The proportion of currently homeless people who have experienced a previous homeless episode within the past 12 months.

The equation for calculating the annual estimate:  $A + [(B*51)*(1 - C)] = \text{Annual estimate}$

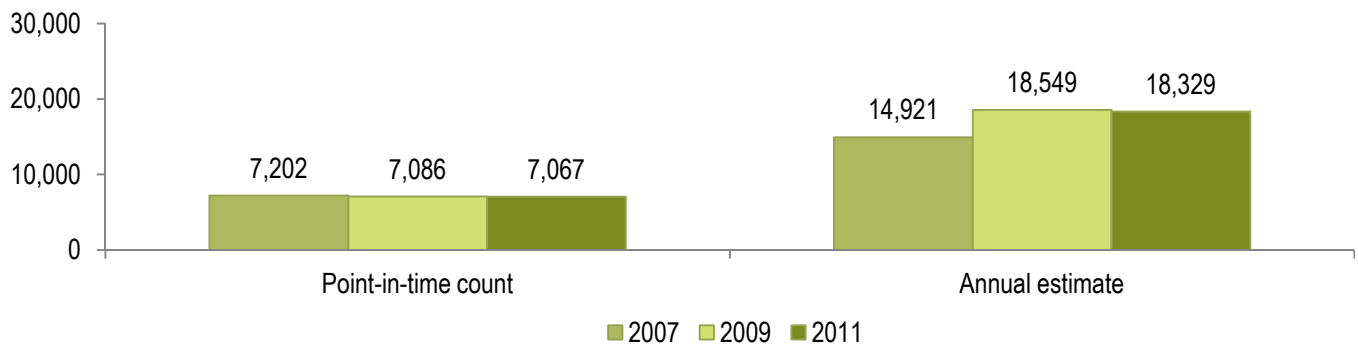
- For Santa Clara County in 2011:  $7,067 + [(338.16*51)*(1 - 0.349)] = 18,329.31 \approx 18,329$  persons

The annual estimate for the number of homeless people in Santa Clara County was 18,329 persons. This was slightly lower than the 2009 annual estimate of 18,549 persons.

Based on the 2010 U.S. Census population profile, this annual estimate of homelessness represented 1% of Santa Clara County’s total population of 1,781,642 people.<sup>10</sup>

The decrease in the annual estimate was due to a lower percentage of homeless individuals who had become homeless within the 7 days prior to the survey (variable “B”). In 2009, 5.2% of the currently homeless population became homeless in the week prior to the survey. In 2011, the percentage decreased to 4.8%, resulting in a larger “B” variable in the PIT-to-annual estimate calculations. This indicates that while more people are experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County than in 2009, they are not cycling in and out of homelessness quickly. Instead, they are experiencing homelessness for an extended period of time.

**Figure 7: Point-in-Time Count and Annual Estimate of Homelessness in Santa Clara County**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey.

Note: This chart reflects updated 2007 and 2009 annual estimates. Annualized estimates were recalculated in 2011 to reflect additional data validation steps and new understandings of annual cycles of homelessness in Santa Clara County.

<sup>9</sup> Burt, M. and C. Wilkens (March 2005). Estimating the Need: projecting from Point-in-Time to annual estimates of the number of homeless people in a community and using this information to plan for permanent supportive housing. Corporation for Supportive Housing.

<sup>10</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2010). 2010 U.S. Census. Retrieved June 2011 from [www.factfinder2.census.gov](http://www.factfinder2.census.gov).

## HOMELESS SURVEY FINDINGS

This section provides an overview of the findings generated from the 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey. Surveys were administered between January 27<sup>th</sup> and March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011, providing 1,014 completed, unique surveys. Based on a Point-in-Time estimate of 7,067 homeless persons, the 1,014 valid surveys represent a confidence interval of +/- 3% with a 95% confidence level when generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated homeless population in Santa Clara County. Due to the sensitive nature of survey questions, respondents were not required to answer every survey question. Respondents were also asked to skip questions that did not apply to them. These missing values have been intentionally omitted from the survey results. Therefore, the total number of respondents for each question (N) will not always equal the total number of surveys (1,014).<sup>11</sup>

### Demographics

In order to elicit information on the diversity of homeless residents in Santa Clara County, respondents were asked several demographic questions pertaining to their age, gender, ethnicity, and family status.

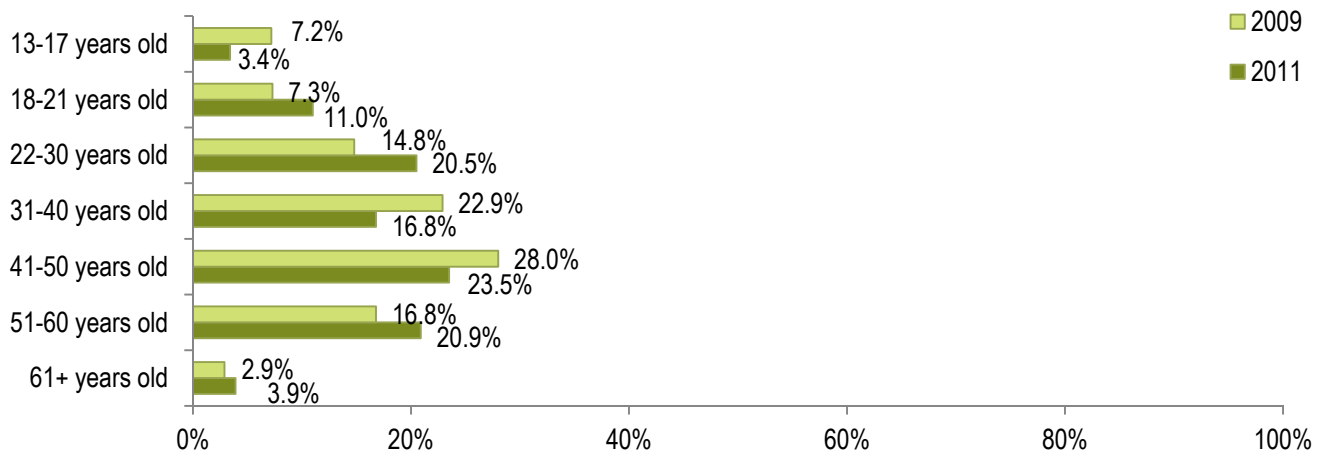
#### Gender

- 68% were male and 31% were female.

#### Age

- 44% were between 41-60 years old.
- 3% were youth under the age of 18.

**Figure 8: Survey Respondents by Age**



2009 N: 927; 2011 N: 992

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

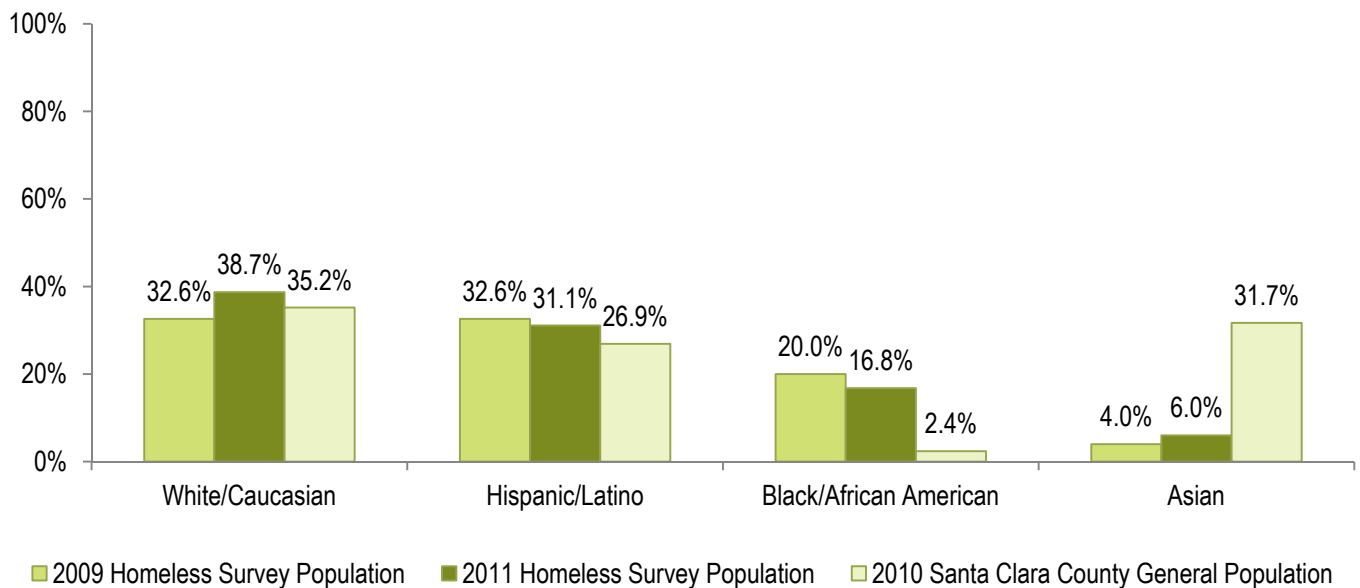
Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

<sup>11</sup> Additional information regarding the 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey can be found in the appendices, including: methodology (Appendix I), the survey instrument (Appendix III) and overall results (Appendix IV).

**Race/Ethnicity**

- 39% of homeless survey respondents identified their racial/ethnic group as White/Caucasian, followed by 31% Hispanic/Latino, and 17% Black/African American.
- 6% of homeless survey respondents were Vietnamese, Pacific Islander or Other Asian.
- 2% of homeless survey respondents were American Indian/Alaskan Native.
- 5% of homeless survey respondents were Other/Multi-ethnic.
- Compared to the overall county population, there were higher percentages of Whites/Caucasians, Hispanics/Latinos, and Blacks/African Americans in the 2011 homeless survey population, and a lower percentage of Asians.<sup>12</sup>
  - » In 2010, 35% of all Santa Clara County residents were White/Caucasian, 27% were Hispanic/Latino, 2% were Black/African American, and 32% were Asian.

**Figure 9: Respondents by Race/Ethnicity (Top 4 Races/Ethnicities)**



2009 Homeless Survey N: 936; 2011 Homeless Survey N: 1,007; 2010 General Population N: 1,781,642  
 Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.  
 U.S. Census Bureau. (2010). 2010 U.S. Census. Retrieved June 2011 from www.factfinder2.census.gov.

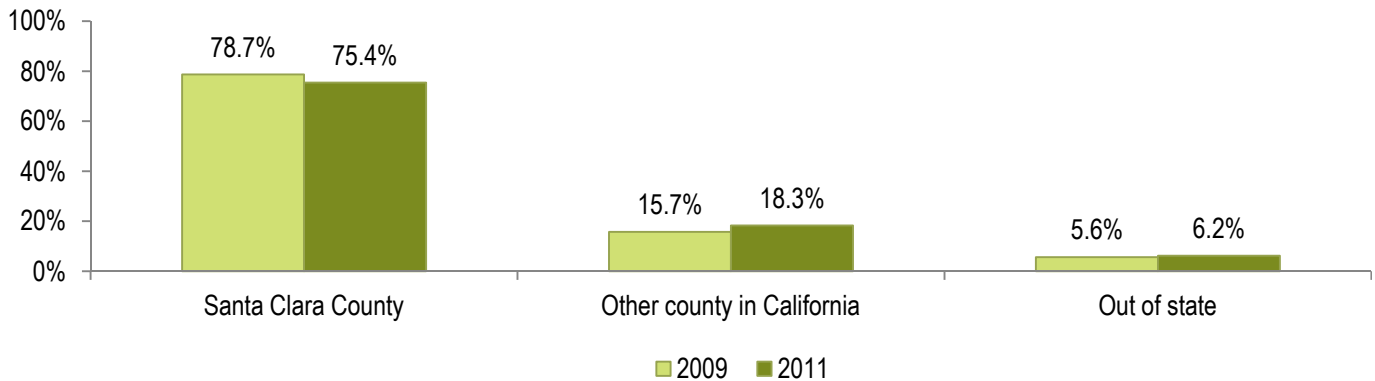
<sup>12</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2010). 2010 U.S. Census. Retrieved June 2011 from www.factfinder2.census.gov.

## Residency Prior to Experiencing Homelessness

### County Residency

- The majority of survey respondents (75%) indicated they had been living in Santa Clara County at the time they most recently became homeless.

**Figure 10: Where Respondents Were Living at the Time They Most Recently Became Homeless**



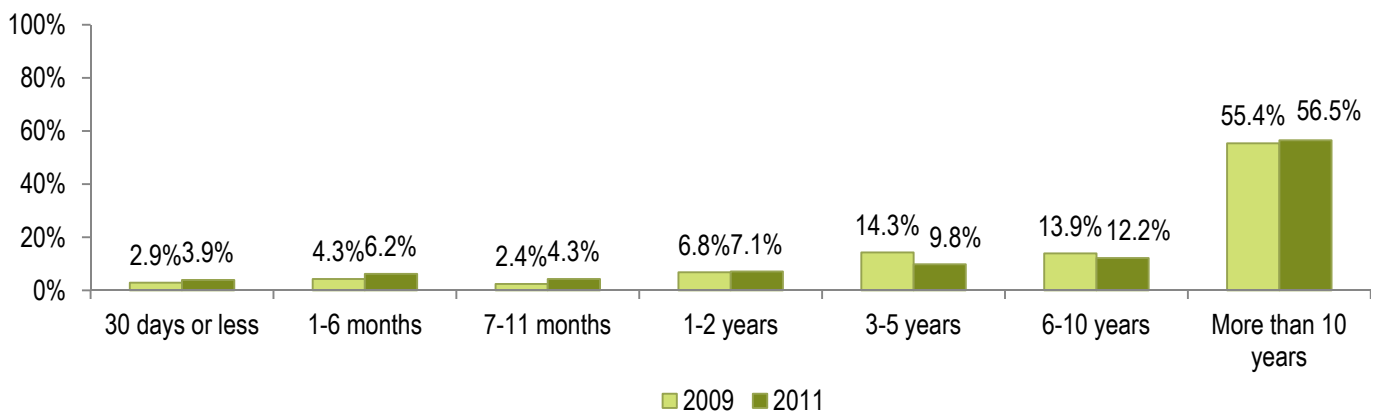
2009 N: 936; 2011 N: 1,014

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

- Of respondents who had been living in Santa Clara County at the time they most recently became homeless, 79% had been living in the county for three or more years prior to becoming homeless. This was a decrease from 84% in 2009.

**Figure 11: Of Respondents Who Were Living in Santa Clara County When They Most Recently Became Homeless, Length of Time Respondents Lived in the County Prior to Becoming Homeless**



2009 N: 736; 2011 N: 745

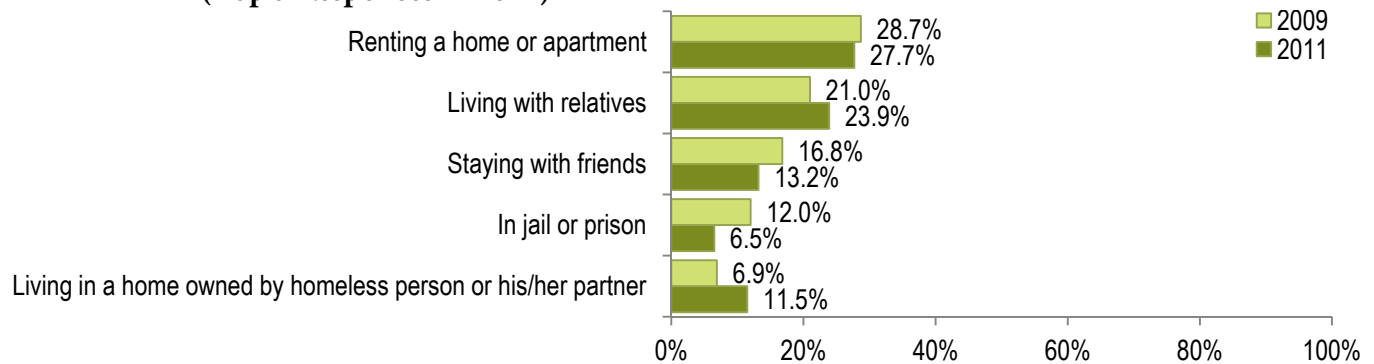
Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

### Previous Living Arrangements

- The number of individuals living in a home they or their partner owned prior to becoming homeless increased.
  - » Nearly 12% of 2011 homeless respondents indicated they or their partner owned the home they were living in prior to becoming homeless in 2011, compared to 7% in 2009.
- 24% of respondents reported living with relatives prior to becoming homeless, compared to 21% in 2009.

**Figure 12: Living Arrangements Immediately Prior to Becoming Homeless This Time (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



2009 N: 1,010; 2011 N: 933

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

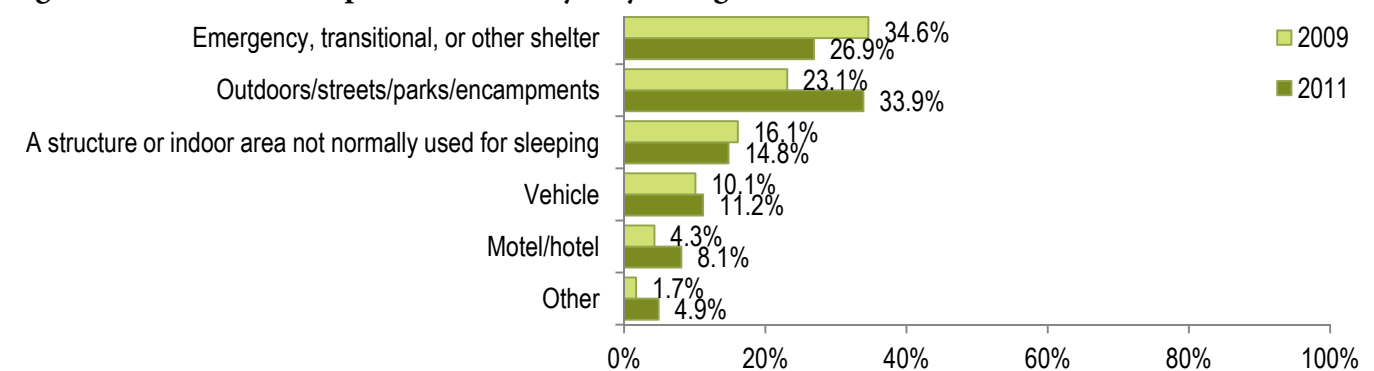
### Current Living Situation

#### Usual Nighttime Accommodations

More than one-fourth (27%) of respondents indicated that they usually stay at an emergency shelter, transitional housing facility, or other type of shelter at night. This was down from 35% in 2009.

- 15% reported living indoors in an area not normally used for sleeping.
- 11% reported living in a vehicle.

**Figure 13: Where Respondents Usually Stay at Night**



2009 N: 934; 2011 N: 1,012

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

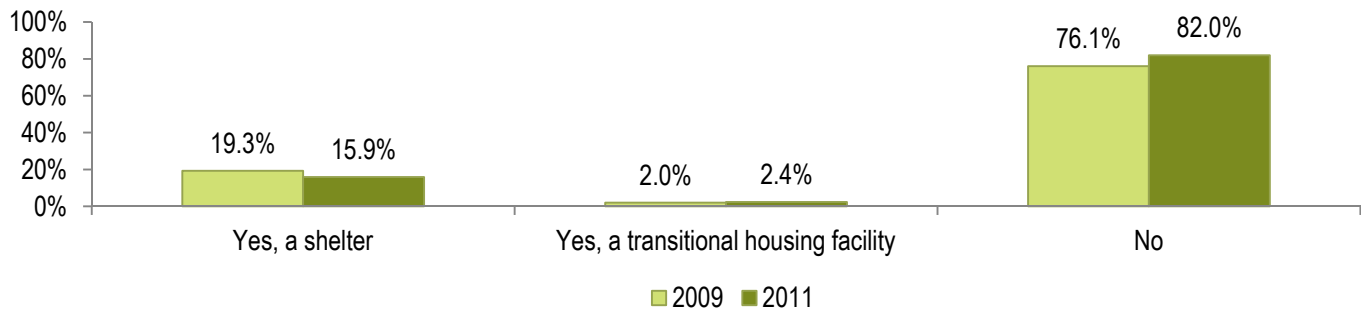


**Access to Shelters**

Fewer respondents indicated they had tried to stay at a shelter and were turned away in 2011 than in 2009.

- 18% of respondents indicated that they had tried to stay at a shelter within Santa Clara County in the 30 days prior to the survey, but had been turned away. This was down from 21% in 2009.

**Figure 14: In the Last 30 Days, Respondents Unsuccessful Attempts at Staying at a Shelter or Transitional Housing Facility in Santa Clara County**



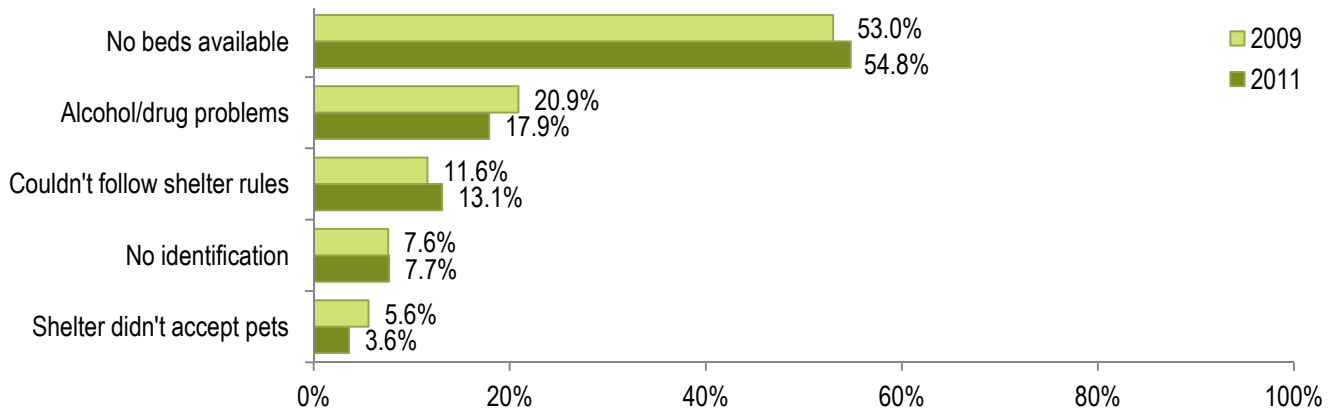
2009 N: 936; 2011 N: 823

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

- » Of those who were turned away, a lack of available beds was most commonly cited as the reason for being denied admittance to the shelter (55% in 2011).<sup>13</sup>
- » This was followed by the respondent’s alcohol/drug problems (21% in 2009 and 18% in 2011).<sup>14</sup>

**Figure 15: Of Respondents Who Tried to Stay at a Shelter in the Month Prior to the Survey, Reasons They Were Turned Away (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



Multiple response question with 215 respondents offering 279 responses in 2009 and 168 respondents offering 217 responses in 2011

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.

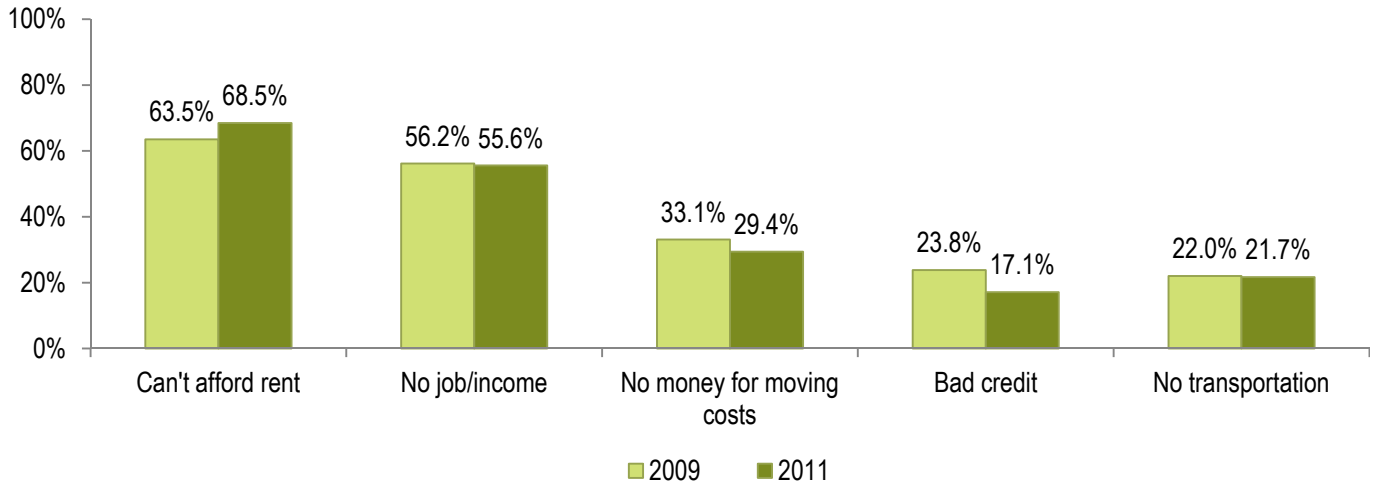
<sup>13</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

<sup>14</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

### Obstacles to Obtaining Permanent Housing

- 69% of respondents indicated that being unable to afford rent was keeping them from securing permanent housing, up from 64% in 2009.<sup>15</sup>
- 56% cited unemployment or no income as a major obstacle to obtaining housing.<sup>16</sup>

**Figure 16: Circumstances That Were Preventing Respondents From Securing Permanent Housing (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



*Multiple response question with 933 respondents offering 2,395 responses in 2009 and 999 respondents offering 2,412 responses in 2011. Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey. Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.*

### Duration and Recurrences of Homelessness

While many survey respondents were experiencing homelessness for the first time, or had been homeless for just a few months, others had been homeless repeatedly or for extended periods of time. In 2011, new questions were added to the survey to illicit more information about the cyclical nature of homelessness in Santa Clara County.

#### Duration of Homelessness

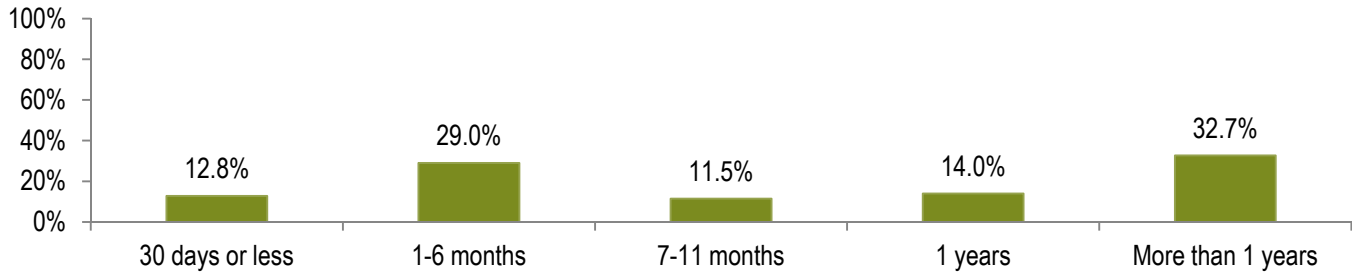
- When asked about the duration of homelessness this present time, over half of respondents (53%) had been homeless for less than one year.
  - » 47% had been homeless for a year or more.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>15</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive

<sup>16</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

<sup>17</sup> This condition is one of the components used to determine whether a person can be considered “chronically homeless” (see HUD Defined Homeless Subpopulations section).

**Figure 17: Duration of Homelessness This Current Time (2011)**



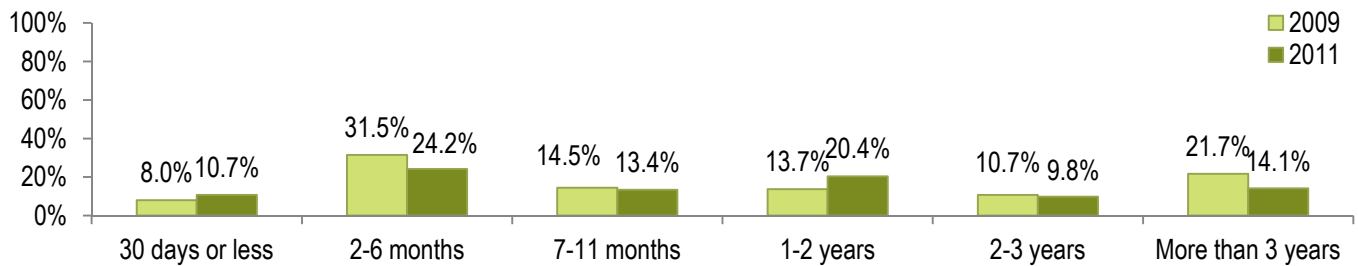
2011 N: 922

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Note: This question was not asked in 2009.

- When asked how long it had been since they were last in a permanent housing situation, more than half indicated it had been more than a year.
  - » Nearly one-quarter (24%) indicated it had been more than 2 years since they had been living in a permanent housing situation.

**Figure 18: Length of Time Since Last Permanent Housing Situation**



2009 N: 927; 2011 N: 1,001

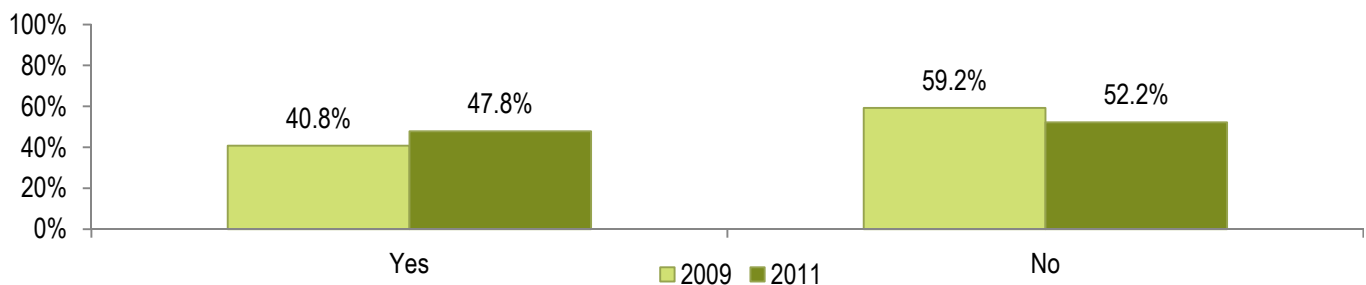
Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

**Occurrence of Homelessness**

- 48% of survey respondents were homeless for the first time in 2011, compared to 41% in 2009.
- 52% of respondents reported having experienced homelessness previously.

**Figure 19: Frequency of Respondents Who Have Experienced Homelessness Previously**



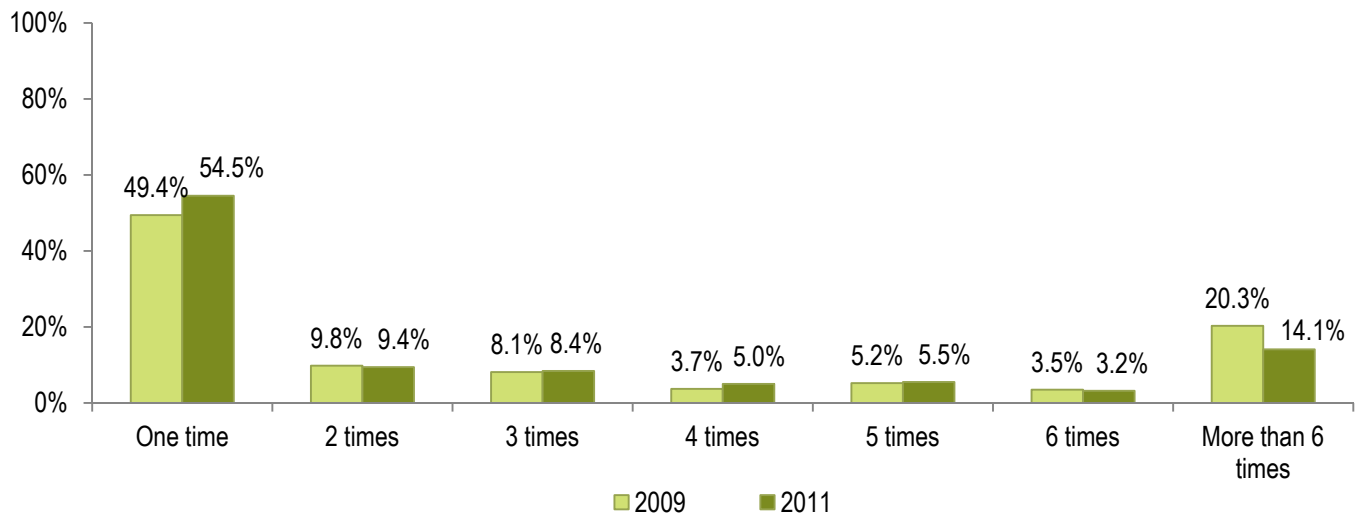
2009 N: 936; 2011 N: 1,009

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

- When asked about the occurrence of homelessness in the past 12 months, most (65%) indicated they had been homeless one time in the last 12 months. This was in comparison to 61% of respondents in 2009.
  - » Between 2009 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who have been homeless four or more times in the last three years decreased from 32% to 28%.<sup>18</sup>

**Figure 20: Number of Times Respondents Had Been Homeless in the Last 3 Years, Including This Time**



2009 N: 938; 2011 N:1,009

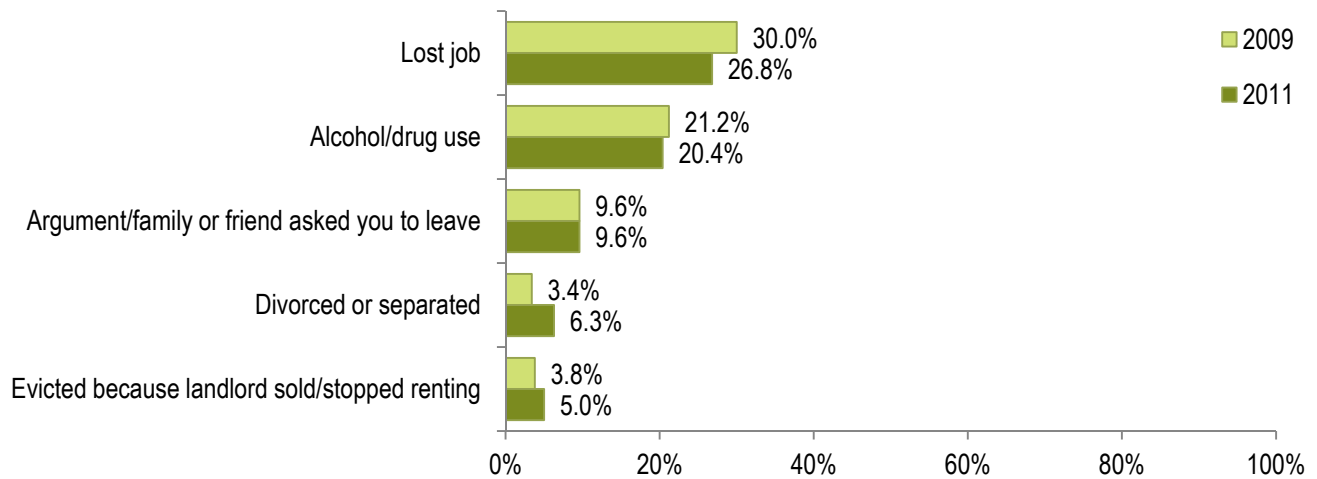
Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

### Primary Causes of Homelessness

- The most common cause of homelessness cited by respondents was job loss, 27% in 2011. This is a decrease from 30% of respondents in 2009.
  - » 20% cited alcohol or drug use as the primary cause of their homelessness, similar to 21% of 2009 respondents.
- In 2011, the percentage of respondents who reported divorce/separation as the primary cause of their homelessness increased to 6%, from 3% in 2009.
- Eviction because landlords stopped renting or sold property as the primary cause of homelessness also increased slightly from 4% in 2009 to 5% in 2011.

<sup>18</sup> This condition is one of the components used to determine whether a person can be considered “chronically homeless” (see HUD Defined Homeless Subpopulations section).

**Figure 21: Primary Event or Condition That Led to Respondents' Current Episode of Homelessness (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



2009 N: 933; 2011 N: 997

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

- When respondents were asked what might have prevented them from becoming homeless, the top response was employment assistance (39%).
  - » 35% of respondents reported rent/mortgage assistance might have prevented their homelessness.
  - » 34% reported alcohol/drug counseling.

**Figure 22: Forms of Assistance That Might Have Prevented Respondents' Homelessness**

Response	2009	2011	Net Change
Job training/employment assistance	40.4%	39.3%	-1.1
Rent/mortgage assistance	32.6%	34.5%	1.9
Alcohol/drug counseling	32.0%	33.9%	1.9
Mental health services	13.7%	18.7%	5.0
Transportation assistance	14.9%	17.4%	2.5
Help accessing benefits	18.4%	16.0%	-2.4
Legal assistance	15.3%	15.2%	-0.1
Health insurance/services	7.9%	10.2%	2.3
Case management leaving hospital/jail/prison	14.6%	9.9%	-4.7
Other	16.5%	19.4%	2.9

Multiple response question with 924 respondents offering 1,906 responses in 2009 and 995 respondents offering 2,133 responses in 2011

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.

## Employment and Income

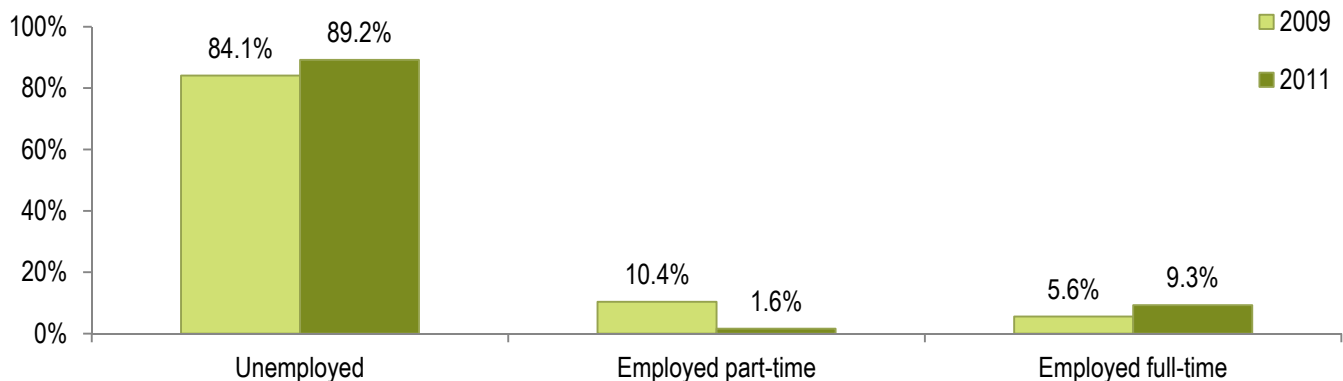
The 2011 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for one person is approximately \$10,890 per year.<sup>19</sup> However, the local self-sufficiency standard is a more realistic measure of the true cost of living. The self-sufficiency standard is a measure of income adequacy that calculates how much income working adults need to meet their family’s basic needs without subsidies. While the FPL for one person is approximately \$908 per month, the self-sufficiency standard for a single person in Santa Clara County is \$2,353 per month.<sup>20</sup>

As seen previously, a lack of income, whether from the loss of a job, or disabling condition, has a great impact on homeless persons in Santa Clara County. In 2011, some respondents were able to earn income from employment, others were receiving income from sources such as public assistance or disability benefits. However, many respondents were receiving little or no income from either government or private sources.

### Employment Status

- 89% of respondents, who did not indicate they were retired or students, reported that they were not employed at the time of the survey; this was slightly higher than 2009 (84%).
  - » 9% were employed part-time and less than 2% were employed full-time.
  - » 3% of the overall survey population indicated they were retired and 3% reported being students.

**Figure 23: Employment Status of Respondents**



2009 N: 936; 2011 N: 1,005

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

<sup>19</sup> Federal Register, Vol. 76, No. 13, January 20, 2011, pp. 3637-3638.

<sup>20</sup> Wider Opportunities for Women and Californians for Family Economic Self-Sufficiency (CFESS) and Equal Rights Advocates (2009).

- 39% of 2011 respondents cited not having a permanent address as a barrier to getting employment.
  - » Thirty-six percent (36%) cited the need for employment training.<sup>21</sup>

**Figure 24: Respondents’ Barriers to Getting Employment (Top 10 Responses in 2011)**

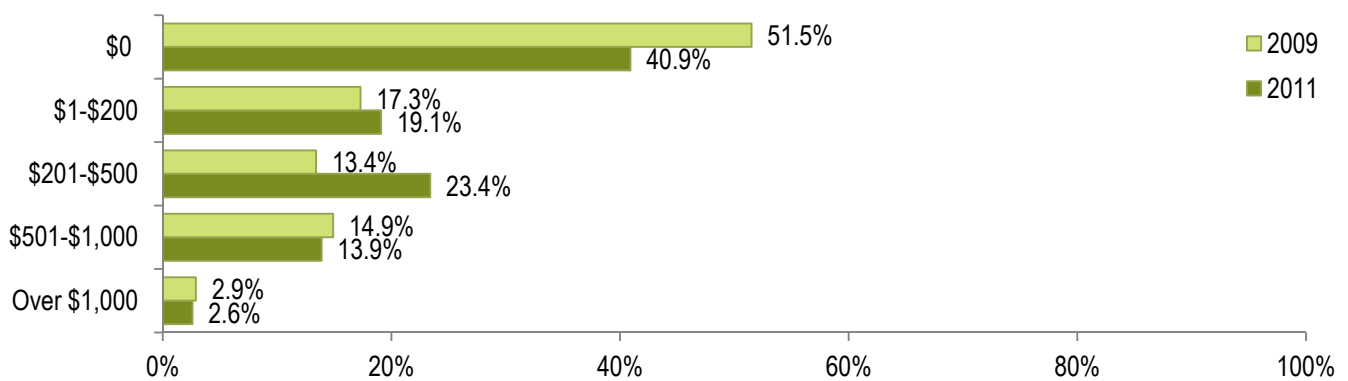
Response	2009	2011	Net Change
No permanent address	33.1%	39.0%	5.9
Need training	31.0%	35.7%	4.7
No transportation	26.6%	31.8%	5.2
Need clothing	25.8%	29.5%	3.7
No phone	29.1%	27.8%	-1.3
No jobs	30.7%	25.9%	-4.8
Need education	27.3%	25.4%	-1.9
Alcohol /drug issues	24.4%	23.9%	-0.5
Health problems	14.6%	17.8%	3.2
Criminal record	19.0%	16.0%	-3.0

Multiple response question with 783 respondents offering 2,617 responses in 2009 and 831 respondents offering 2,910 responses in 2011  
 Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.  
 Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.

**Income from Government Benefits**

- More survey respondents reported receiving some money from government assistance in 2011 (64%) than in 2009 (51%).
- More than one-third of respondents (41%) indicated that they were receiving no money from government benefits.
  - » 17% of respondents were receiving more than \$500 per months in government benefits.

**Figure 25: Total Monthly Income from All Government Benefits**



2009 N: 919; 2011 N: 994  
 Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

<sup>21</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.  
 © Applied Survey Research, 2011



### Income from Private Sources

- The percentage of respondents who indicated they were receiving non-governmental assistance decreased between 2009 and 2011.
- 46% of respondents were receiving no income from non-government sources in 2011, compared to 31% in 2009.
  - » The amount of income also decreased, 8% received more than \$500 from private sources in 2011, compared to 15% in 2009.

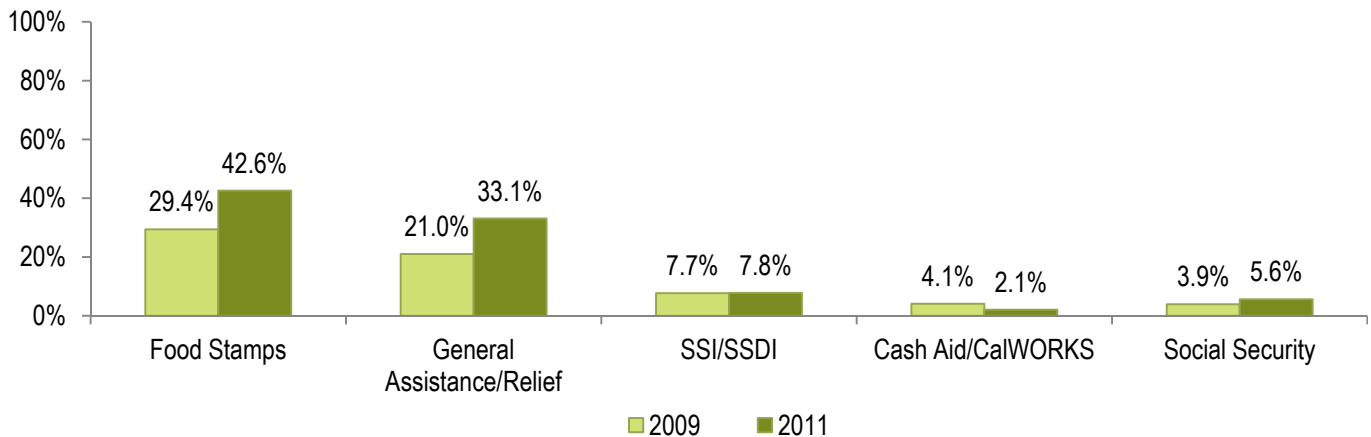
### Accessing Government Assistance and Homeless Programs

Government assistance and homeless programs work to enable the homeless community to obtain income and services.<sup>22</sup> However, many homeless people do not apply for these programs, or do not feel they qualify for aid.

#### Government Assistance

- Between 2009 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who were receiving some form of government assistance increased from 51% to 64%.<sup>23</sup>
- The percentage receiving Food Stamps increased from 29% to 43%.
- 33% were receiving General Assistance/General Relief.

**Figure 26: Types of Assistance Received (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



*Multiple response question with 895 respondents offering 1,142 responses in 2009 and 989 respondents offering 1,316 responses in 2011*

*Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.*

*Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.*

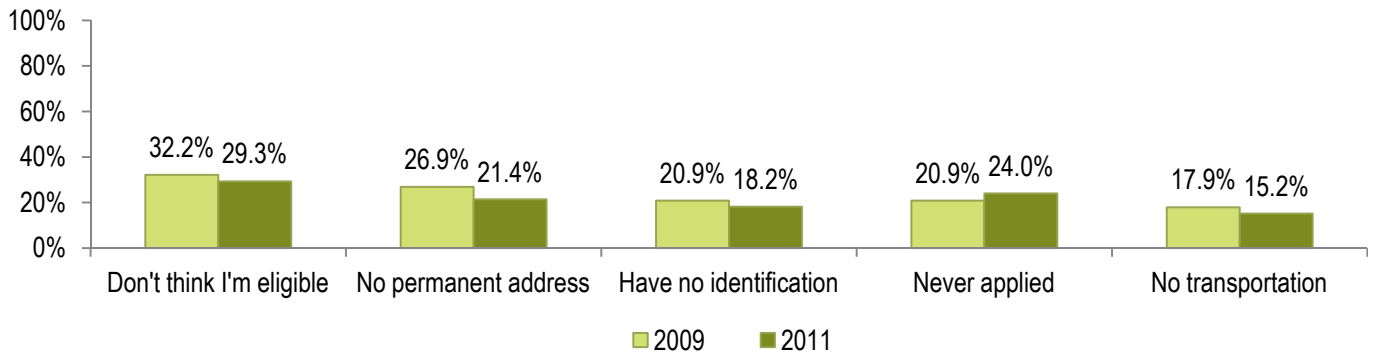
*Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.*

<sup>22</sup> For the purposes of this study, the following forms of government assistance were included: General Assistance / Relief, Food Stamps, Service-connected Veteran Disability Compensation, Non Service-connected Veteran Disability Pension, Other Veteran’s Benefits, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), Cash Aid/CalWORKS, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Work2future/Project Hope, and other government assistance.

<sup>23</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

- Of those not receiving assistance, 29% did not think they were eligible. This is compared to 32% of 2009 respondents.
- Between 2009 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who were not receiving services because they had never applied increased from 21% to 24%.

**Figure 27: Reasons for Not Receiving Government Assistance (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**

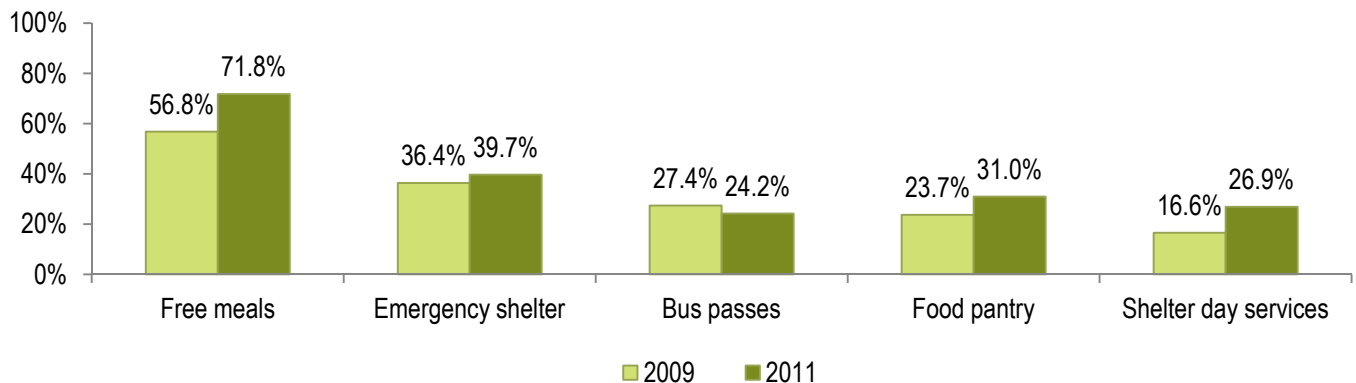


Multiple response question with 435 respondents offering 876 responses in 2009 and 341 respondents offering 630 responses in 2011  
 Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.  
 Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.

**Services and Programs**

- Between 2009 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who were utilizing any services or assistance stayed virtually the same (84% and 86%, respectively).
- 72% indicated that they received free meals and 40% were utilizing emergency shelters.<sup>24</sup>

**Figure 28: Of Those Using Services or Assistance, Types of Services or Assistance Used (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



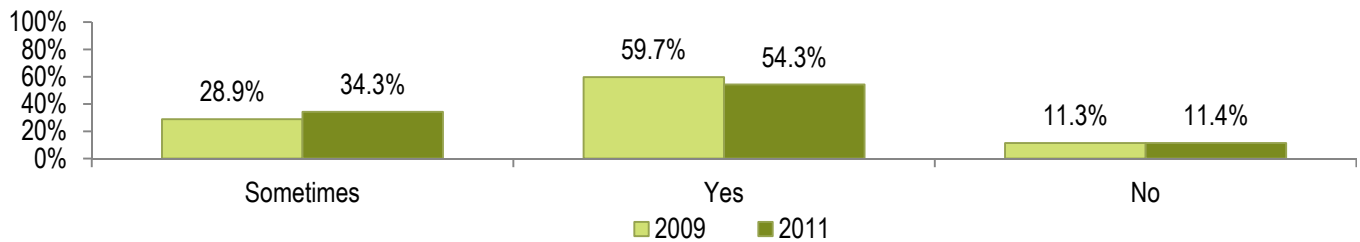
Multiple response question with 788 respondents offering 2,070 responses in 2009 and 992 respondents offering 2,688 responses in 2011  
 Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.  
 Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.

<sup>24</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.  
 © Applied Survey Research, 2011

**Access to Food**

- 11% of respondents reported that they do not usually get enough to eat on a daily basis.
  - » The percentage of respondents who indicated they usually get enough to eat decreased between 2009 and 2011, from 60% to 54%.
  - » The percentage of those who only get enough to eat sometimes, increased from 29% in 2009 to 34% in 2011.

**Figure 29: Frequency of Respondents Receiving Enough to Eat**



2009 N=934; 2011 N=991

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

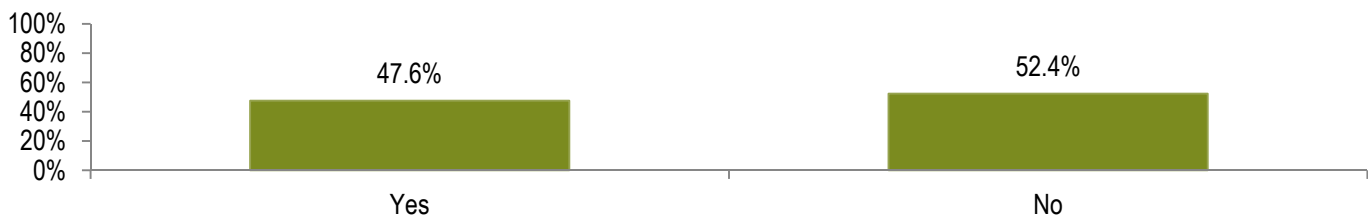
Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

**HMIS Registration**

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a software application designed to record and store client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of homeless persons. The system allows homeless assistance providers to coordinate care, manage their operations, and better serve their clients. HUD and other planners and policymakers at the federal, state, and local levels use aggregate HMIS data to obtain better information about the extent and nature of homelessness over time. With time, it is hoped that HMIS can be used to produce an unduplicated count of homeless persons, understand patterns of service use, and measure the effectiveness of homeless programs.<sup>25</sup>

- In 2011, less than half (48%) of survey respondents were registered in HMIS.
  - » 514 survey respondents were not registered in HMIS.

**Figure 30: Percentage of Respondents Who Were Registered in HMIS (2011)**



2011 N: 981

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Note: This question was not asked in 2009.

<sup>25</sup> U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2011). About HMIS. Retrieved March 2011 from <http://www.hmis.info/About.aspx>.

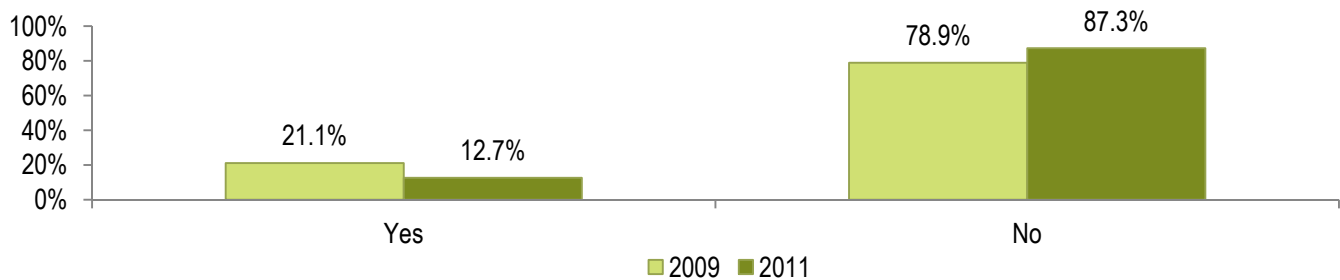
## Medical Care and Health Conditions

Access to health care is vital to general well-being. While many residents of Santa Clara County struggle with the high costs of health care, homeless residents are particularly vulnerable to many unique challenges regarding their health.

### Access to Medical Care

- The percentage of respondents who reported being unable to access needed medical care, since becoming homeless, decreased between 2009 and 2011.
  - » 13% of respondents reported being unable to access needed care, compared to 21% in 2009.

**Figure 31: Respondents Who Reported an Inability to Access Needed Health Care Since Becoming Homeless This Last Time**



2009 N: 926; 2011 N: 965

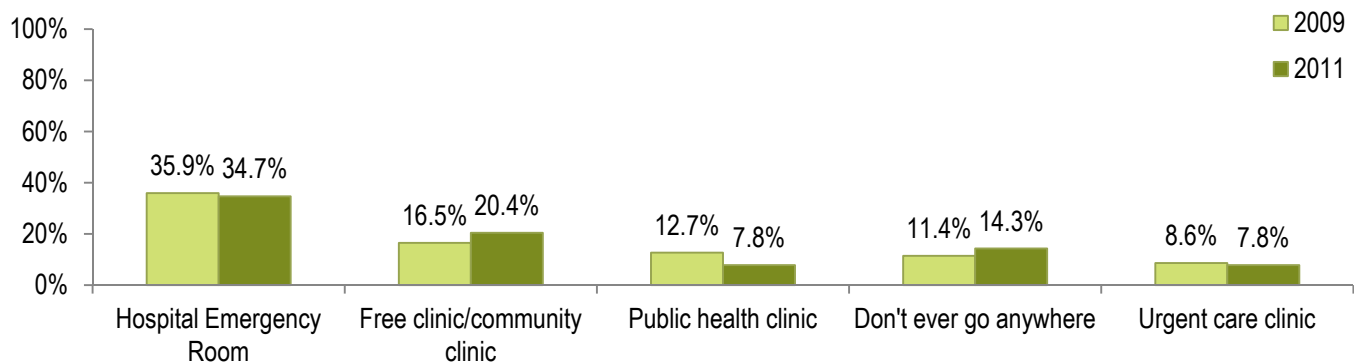
Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

### Sources of Medical Care

- Between 2009 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who used the emergency room as their usual source of medical care decreased slightly from 36% to 35%.
- The percentage of respondents who reported using free clinics/community clinics increased from 17% in 2009 to 20% in 2011.

**Figure 32: Respondents' Usual Source of Medical Care (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



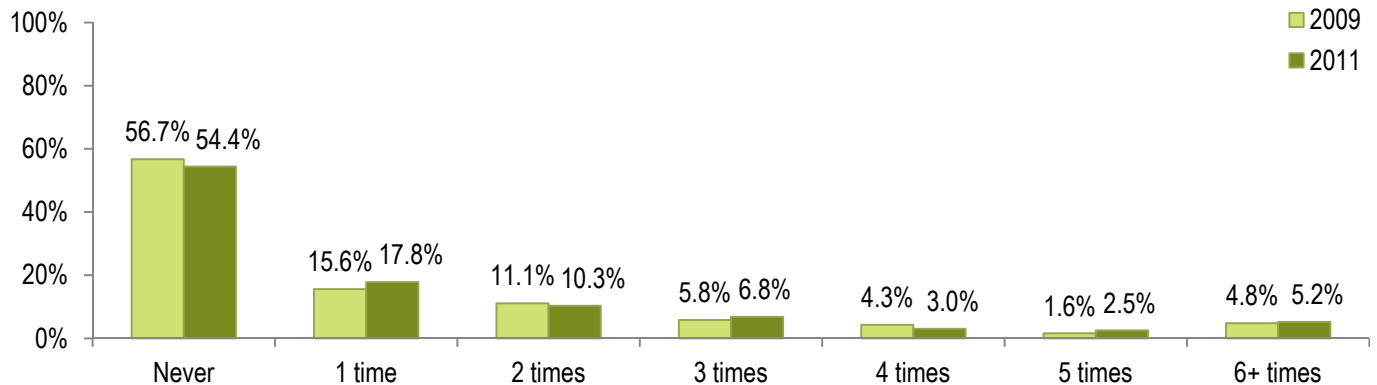
2009 N: 926; 2011 N: 996

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

- While fewer respondents reported using the emergency room as their primary source of care in 2011, 46% of respondents still indicated that they had used the emergency room for medical treatment at least once in the 12 months prior to the survey.

**Figure 33: Number of Times Respondents Had Used the Emergency Room For Any Treatment in the Year Prior to the Survey**



2009 N: 928; 2011 N: 972

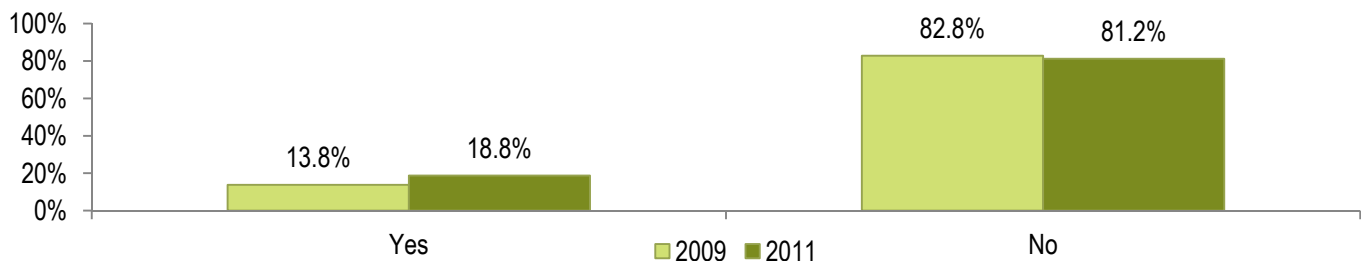
Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

### Chronic Health Problems

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the average life expectancy of Americans is 78 years. In 2005, a study released by the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, looked at homeless mortality rates in seven cities throughout the United States, Canada and Europe, and found that the average life expectancy for a person without permanent housing was between 42 and 52 years. The study also indicated that premature death often results from acute and chronic medical conditions aggravated by homeless life.<sup>26</sup>

- Between 2009 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who indicated that they were experiencing chronic health problems increased from 14% to 19%.

**Figure 34: Are You Currently Experiencing Chronic Health Problems**



2009 N: 900; 2011 N: 957

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

<sup>26</sup> O’Connell, J. (2005). Premature Mortality in Homeless Populations: a review of the literature. Retrieved January 13, 2011, from <http://www.nhchc.org/PrematureMortalityFinal.pdf>.

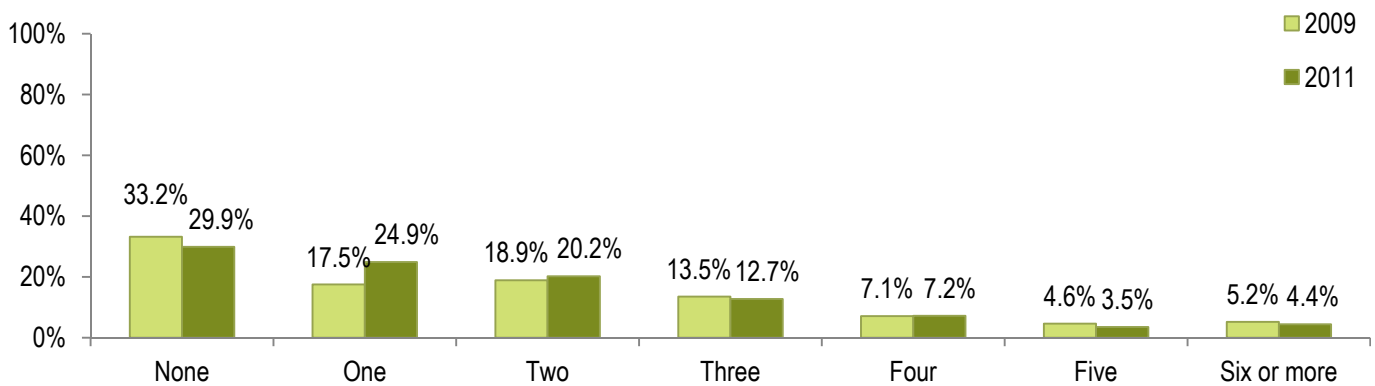
- In 2011, 5% of respondents with chronic health problems cited that their illness/medical problem or hospitalization/treatment was the primary cause of their homelessness. This was an increase from 3% in 2009.

## Disabling Conditions

For the purposes of this study, a disabling condition was defined as a physical or developmental disability, mental illness, severe depression,<sup>27</sup> Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), chronic health problems, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis C, or substance abuse.

- Between 2009 and 2011, the percentage of all survey respondents with one or more disabling condition increased from 67% to 70%.

**Figure 35: Number of Disabling Conditions Among All Homeless Respondents**



2009 N: 938; 2011 N: 1,009

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

## Mental Health

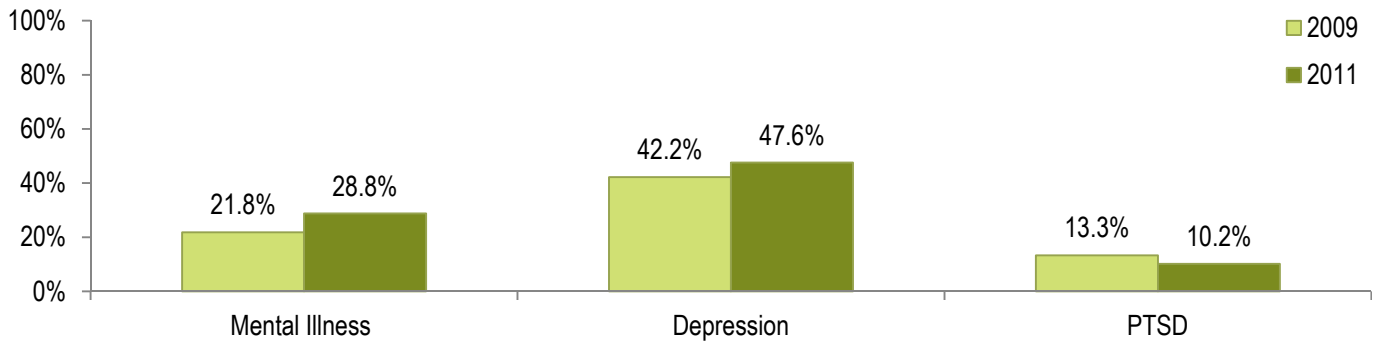
National studies have found that a disproportionate number of homeless persons suffer from some form of mental illness.<sup>28</sup> Survey respondents were asked about their mental health including mental illness, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and depression.

- 39% of the homeless population reported having at least one mental health condition.
- Between 2009 and 2011, the percentage of respondents experiencing mental illness alone increased from 22% to 29%.
- The percentage of those who reported experiencing PTSD decreased from 13% in 2009 to 10% in 2011.

<sup>27</sup> Severe depression includes those who reported experiencing depression and who felt that their depression prevents them from getting work or housing.

<sup>28</sup> National Coalition for the Homeless. (2009). Mental Illness and Homeless. Retrieved March 2011 from [http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/Mental\\_Illness.html](http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/Mental_Illness.html).

**Figure 36: Percentage of Respondents Who Were Currently Experiencing Mental Illness, Depression, and PTSD**



2009 N: Mental Illness=909; Depression=907; PTSD=907

2011 N: Mental Illness=961; Depression=971; PTSD=943

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.

- In 2011, 4% of respondents who were currently experiencing a mental health issue indicated that their mental health issues led to their homelessness; this percentage was the same in 2009.

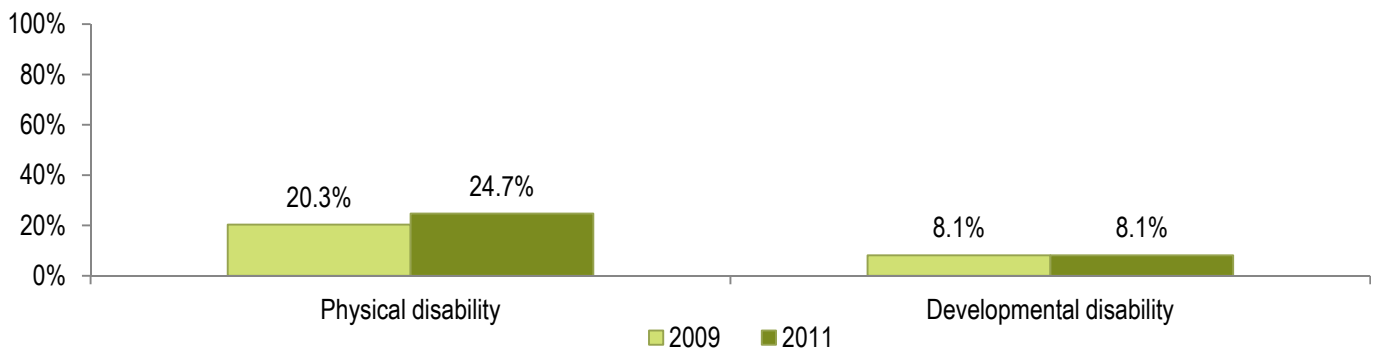
**HIV/AIDS**

- As in 2009, the percentage of respondents who were experiencing HIV/AIDS was just over 1% in 2011 of those surveyed.

**Physical and Developmental Disabilities**

- Between 2009 and 2011, the percentage of respondents with a physical disability has increased from 20% to 25% while those who reported a developmental disability remained about 8%.

**Figure 37: Percentage of Respondents Who Were Currently Experiencing a Physical or Developmental Disability**



2009 N: Physical Disability=903; Developmental Disability=904

2011 N: Physical Disability=967; Developmental Disability=952

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.



## Substance Abuse

Substance use (alcohol or drugs) was the second-most cited cause of homelessness among in Santa Clara County survey responses. Many survey respondents indicated that they were experiencing alcohol or drug abuse at the time of the survey.

- 46% of respondents reported experiencing alcohol and/or drug abuse problems in 2011, compared to 41% in 2009.
- Of respondents who reported alcohol and/or drug abuse, 20% cited the use of alcohol or drugs as the primary cause of their homelessness in 2011.

## Domestic/Partner Violence or Abuse

- The percentage of respondents who were experiencing domestic/family violence or abuse increased slightly, from 9% in 2009 to 10% in 2011.
- 15% of the female homeless population reported experiencing domestic violence, and 6% of those were living with at least one child under the age of 18.
- 8% of the male homeless population reported experiencing the domestic/partner violence.
- Of all respondents experiencing domestic violence or abuse 15% reported domestic violence as the primary cause of their homelessness.

## Incarceration

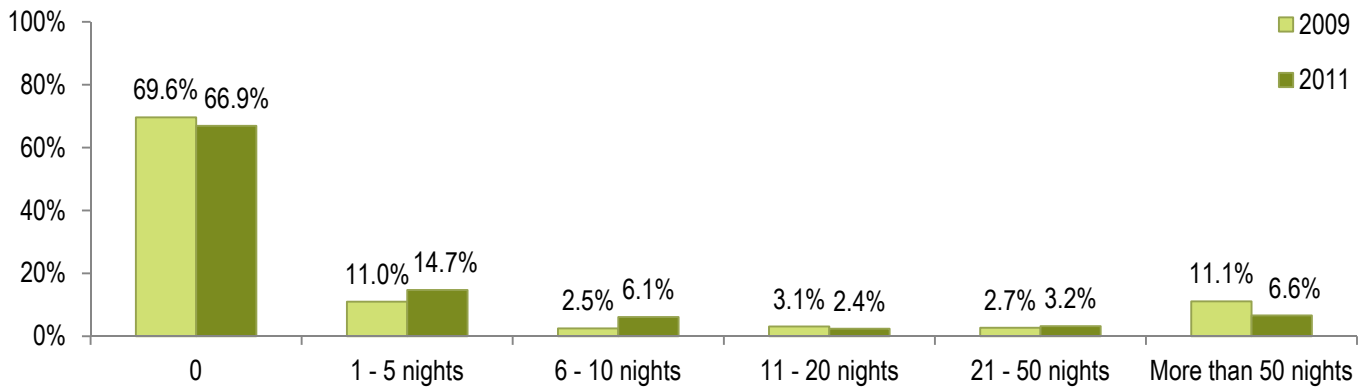
### Transition from Jail or Prison

- 7% of respondents indicated that immediately before they became homeless this time, they were in jail or prison.
  - » 4% of survey respondents cited incarceration/discharge from prison as the primary event that led to their homelessness, compared to 8% in 2009.
  - » The percentage of respondents who indicated that their criminal record was keeping them from securing permanent housing decreased from 18% in 2009 to 15% in 2011.
  - » The percentage of respondents who reported that their criminal record was keeping them from getting employment also decreased, from 19% to 15%.

### Nights in Jail or Prison

- Nearly one-third (33%) of homeless respondents reported that they had spent at least one night in jail or prison in the year prior to the survey.

**Figure 38: Number of Nights Respondents Reported Spending in Jail/Prison in the Year Prior to the Survey**



2009 N: 921; 2011 N: 963

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

### Probation or Parole

- 18% of survey respondents reported currently being on probation or parole at the time the survey was administered.
  - » 16% of respondents reported being on probation or parole when they most recently became homeless, compared to 21% in 2009.

### Foster Care

#### Transition from Foster Care

- When respondents were asked if they had ever been in foster care, 13% of respondents indicated that they had, compared to 12% in 2009.
  - » In 2011, 7% of those who reported having ever been in foster care reported aging out of foster care as the primary event or condition that led to their homelessness.

## HUD DEFINED HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS

### Chronic Homelessness

The mortality rate for chronically homeless men and women is four to nine times higher than for the general population and those experiencing long-term homelessness often incur significant public costs – through emergency room visits, run-ins with law enforcement, incarceration, and access to existing poverty and homeless programs.<sup>29</sup> In 2011, the federal government announced a 5-year plan to end chronic homelessness. The plan focuses on permanent supportive housing, reducing financial instability, and improving health and housing stability.<sup>30</sup>

HUD defines a chronically homeless person or family as an unaccompanied homeless individual (18 or older) with a disabling condition or a family with at least one adult member (18 or older), who has a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.

For the purposes of this study, a disabling condition was defined as a physical or developmental disability, mental illness, severe depression,<sup>31</sup> Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), chronic health problems, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis C, or substance abuse. Those currently living in transitional housing are not considered by HUD to be chronically homeless.

- It is estimated that on any given night in 2011, Santa Clara County has approximately 2,520 chronically homeless persons. This represents an 11% increase from 2,270 chronically homeless persons in 2009.
  - » This increase in chronically homeless individuals was primarily due to the increased percentage of respondents who had a disabling condition. Between 2009 and 2011, the percentage increased from 67% to 70%.
- The number of chronically homeless individuals represents 36% of total homeless population in 2011, compared to 32% in 2009 and 17% nationwide in 2009.
- The large majority (91%) of chronically homeless individuals were unsheltered in 2011.
- In 2011, HUD expanded the definition of chronic homelessness to include families. It is estimated that on any given night in 2011, there are 35 persons in chronically homeless families in Santa Clara County.

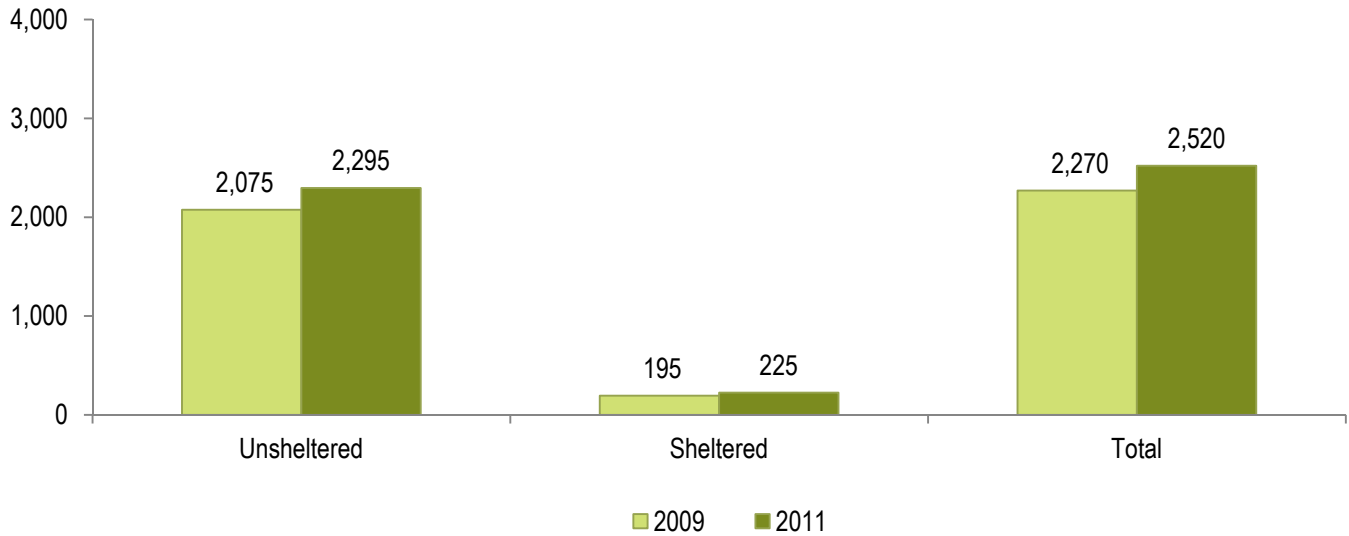
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<sup>29</sup> National Coalition for the Homeless. (2009). Mental Illness and Homeless. Retrieved March 2011 from [http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/Mental\\_Illness.html](http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/Mental_Illness.html).

<sup>30</sup> United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2011). Opening Doors: federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. Washington, D.C.

<sup>31</sup> Severe depression includes those who reported experiencing depression and who felt that their depression prevents them from getting work or housing.

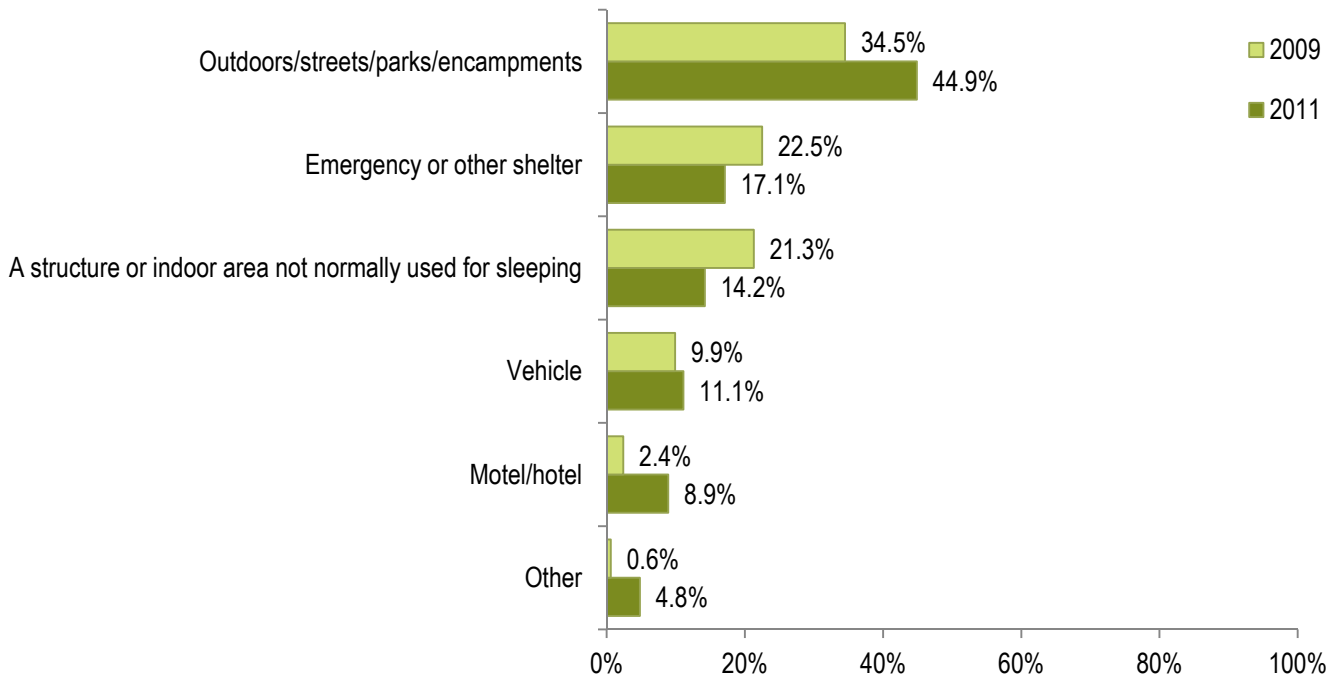
**Figure 39: Number of Chronically Homeless Persons**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey.

- The largest percentage of chronically homeless respondents (45%) indicated that they usually sleep outdoors (on the street, in parks, in creek beds, or in encampments). This percentage increased from 35% in 2009.

**Figure 40: Chronically Homeless Population’s Usual Nighttime Accommodations**

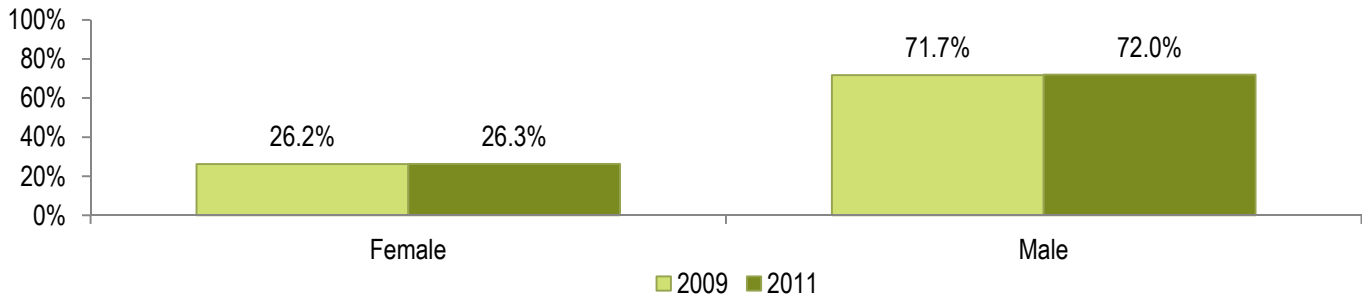


2009 N: 333; 2011 N: 414

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

- In both 2009 and 2011, the majority (72%) of chronically homeless persons were male.

**Figure 41: Chronically Homeless Population by Gender (2011)**

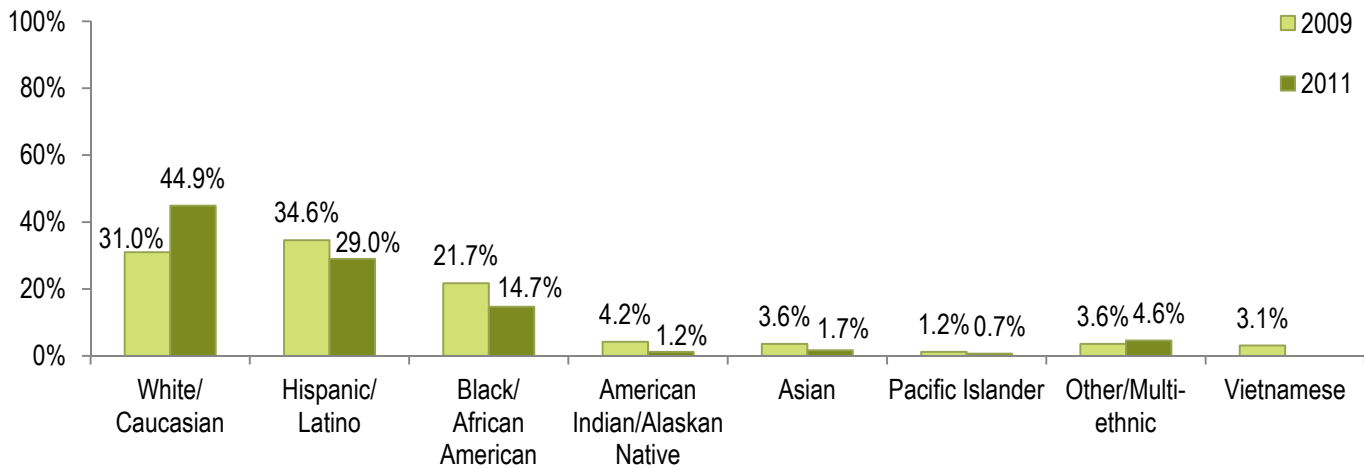


2009 N: 332; 2011 N: 414

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

- In 2011, the largest percentage of those who were chronically homeless identified as White/Caucasian (45%), followed by Hispanic/Latino (29%), and Black/African American (15%).
- The ethnic makeup of the chronically homeless population shifted between 2009 and 2011, with decreases in the Hispanic/Latino population, from 35% to 29%, and Black/African American population from 22% to 15%.

**Figure 42: Chronically Homeless Population by Race/Ethnicity**



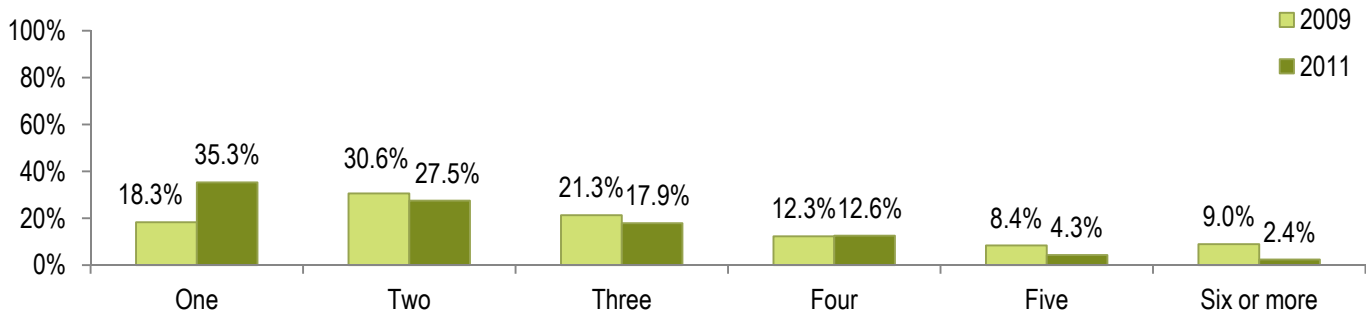
2009 N: 332; 2011 N: 414

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

- 65% of chronically homeless people had more than one disabling condition. This percentage was lower than in 2009 when 82% of chronically homeless were experiencing two or more disabling conditions.
  - » 55% of chronically homeless survey respondents report a mental illness, including PTSD or severe depression.
  - » 37% reported a physical disability and 11% reported a developmental disability.

**Figure 43: Number of Disabling Conditions Among Chronically Homeless Respondents**



2009 N: 333; 2011 N: 414

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

- 27% of chronically homeless respondents indicated that they were not receiving government assistance.
- 47% reported receiving Food Stamps.
- 11% indicated they were not using any non-governmental services or assistance.
- 76% of chronically homeless survey respondents reported using free meal services.
- 37% reported using emergency shelters and 28% reported using shelter day services.
- When asked about the primary cause of their homelessness, the greatest percentage of respondents (26%) reported drugs or alcohol use.
  - » When asked what might have prevented their homelessness, 41% indicated drug/alcohol counseling.

## Veterans

National data shows that only eight percent (8%) of the general U.S. population can claim veteran status, but nearly one-fifth of the nation’s homeless population is estimated to be veterans.<sup>32</sup>

In general, veterans have high rates of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury, and sexual trauma, which can lead to higher risk for homelessness. About half of homeless veterans have serious mental illness and 70% have substance abuse problems.<sup>33</sup> Half of homeless veterans have histories of involvement with the legal system. Veterans are more likely to live outdoors, unsheltered, and experience long-term, chronic homelessness.<sup>34</sup>

<sup>32</sup> National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. FAQ about homeless veterans. Retrieved January 13, 2011 from <http://www.nchv.org/background.cfm>.

<sup>33</sup> Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2010). Opening Doors: federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. Retrieved January 13, 2011 from <http://www.usich.gov/PDF/FactSheetVeterans.pdf>.

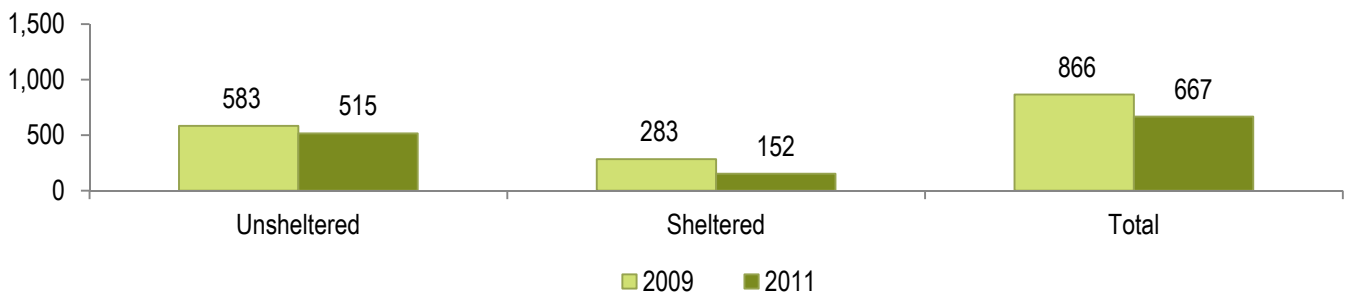
<sup>34</sup> Ibid.

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness is facilitating collaborative efforts by the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs (VA), HUD, Labor, and Housing and Human Services (HHS) to align resources for greater effectiveness by bringing together programs that would otherwise operate separately. This year was the first year the VA will use the national HUD Point-in-Time counts as the definitive count of homeless veterans. This year, the VA recommended two questions to determine Veterans Status: “Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?” and “Were you activated into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?”

**Number of Homeless Veterans**

- It is estimated that on any given night in 2011, Santa Clara County has a homeless veteran population of 667 persons. This represents about 10% of the total point-in-time homeless population.
  - » In 2009, the number of homeless veterans estimated (866) represented 12% of the total 2009 point-in-time homeless population.
  - » The majority (77%) of homeless veterans were unsheltered in 2011.

**Figure 44: Number of Homeless Veterans**

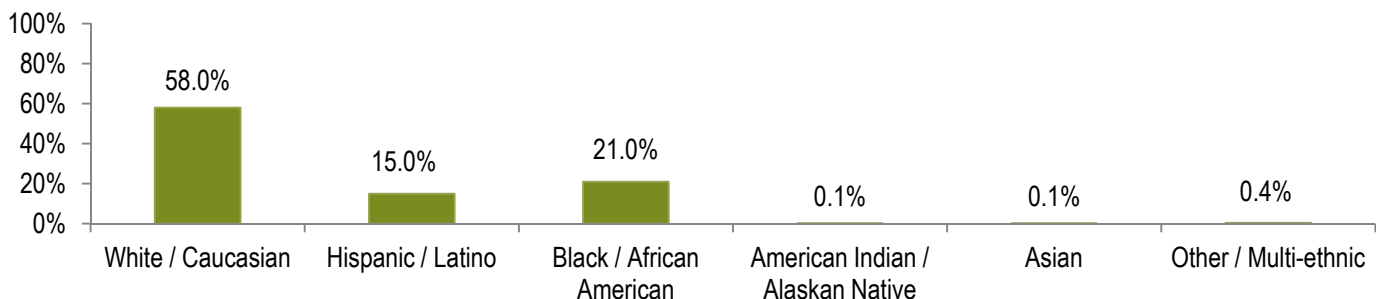


Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey.

**Demographics of Homeless Veterans**

- 98% of homeless veterans were male in 2011.
- The largest percentage of homeless veterans indicated they were White/Caucasian (58%), followed by Black/African American (21%) and Hispanic/Latino (15%).

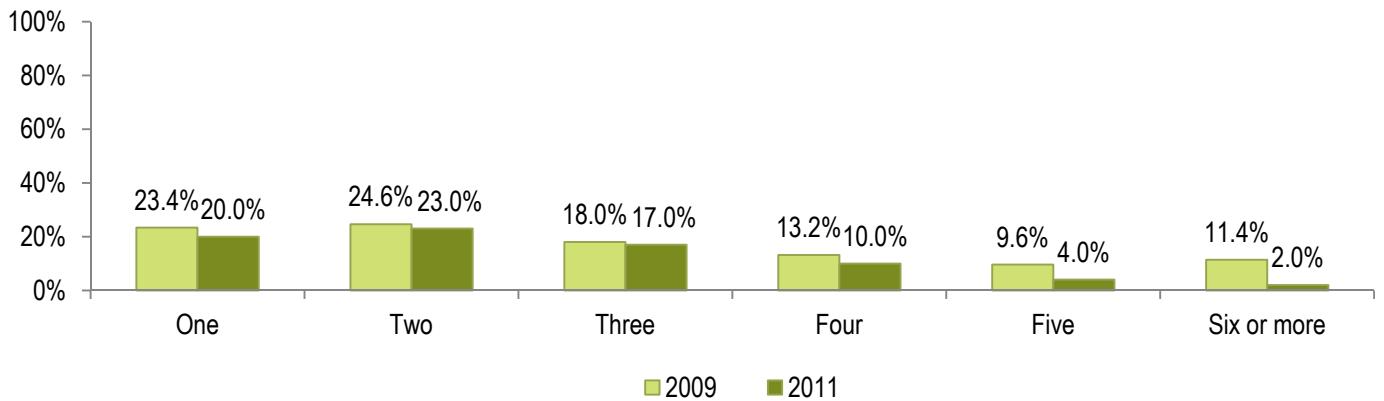
**Figure 45: Homeless Veteran Population by Ethnicity (2011)**



2011 N: 100  
 Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

- 52% of homeless veterans were chronically homeless in 2011.
- 43% of homeless veterans had one to two disabling conditions and 33% had three or more.

**Figure 46: Number of Disabling Conditions Among Homeless Veteran Respondents**



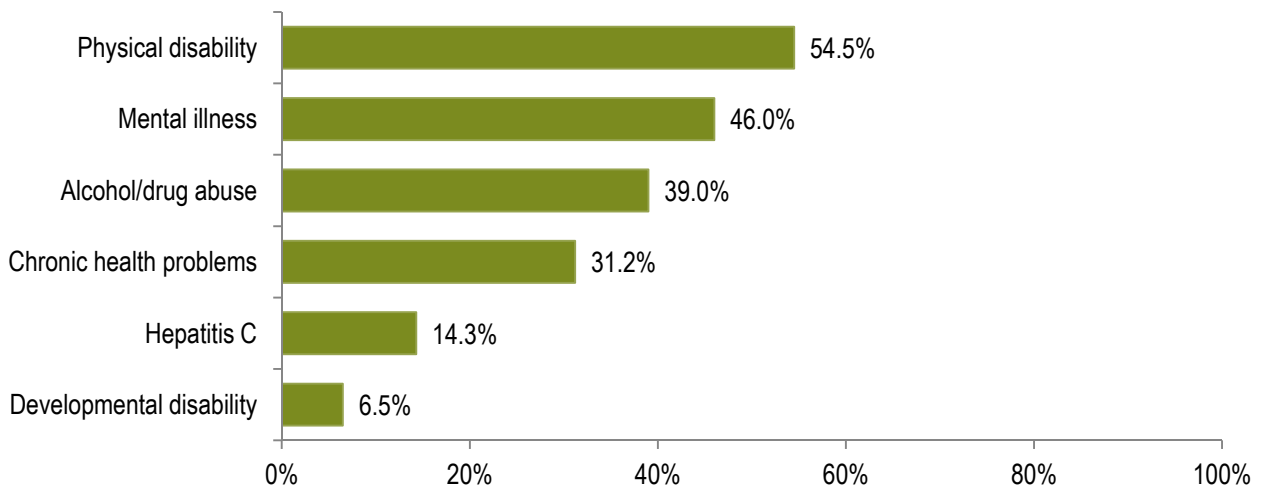
2009 N: 186; 2011 N: 100

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

- 55% of veteran survey respondents reported having a physical disability, 31% reported experiencing chronic health problems.
- 46% reported having a mental illness including PTSD or severe depression.<sup>35</sup>

**Figure 47: Percentage of Homeless Veteran Respondents Who Were Experiencing the Following Disabling Conditions (2011)**



2011 N: 77

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.

<sup>35</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.



- 20% of homeless veteran respondents cited alcohol/drug issues as the primary cause of their homelessness.
- 31% reported the loss of a job as the primary cause of their homelessness.
- 35% of homeless veteran respondents indicated that they usually slept outdoors (on the streets, in parks, or in encampments) at night, followed by 18% who usually stayed in their vehicles.
- 38% of homeless veterans indicated that they were not receiving any government assistance.
  - » The types of government assistance most commonly received by homeless veterans were Food Stamps (21%), SSI/SSDI (6%), General Assistance (25%), and Social Security (12%).<sup>36</sup>
  - » The most commonly cited services used by the homeless veterans were free meals (77%), emergency shelters (40%), shelter day services (28%), and health services (16%).<sup>37</sup> Nine percent (9%) of veteran respondents indicated that they were not using any services.

## Homeless Families

National reports reveal that one of the fastest growing segments of the homeless population is families with children. Families, single mothers, and children make up the largest group of people who are homeless in rural areas.<sup>38</sup> Children in families experiencing homelessness have high rates of acute and chronic health problems and exposure to violence. Homeless children are more likely to have emotional and behavioral problems than children with consistent living accommodations.<sup>39</sup> Homeless families are difficult to include in Point-in Time counts as they often reside in places that are difficult to find, including vehicles and public property. The difficulty in locating homeless families is reflected in the Point-in-Time count.

### Number of Homeless Families

- Between 2009 and 2011, the number of homeless persons in families decreased by 17% from 1,008 to 833 persons.

**Figure 48: Homeless Families Subpopulation**

	2009	2011	Net Change	Percent Change
<b>Persons in families</b>	<b>1,008</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>-134</b>	<b>-17.4%</b>
Unsheltered	66	56	-10	-15.2%
Sheltered	942	777	-164	-11.5%

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.

<sup>36</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

<sup>37</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

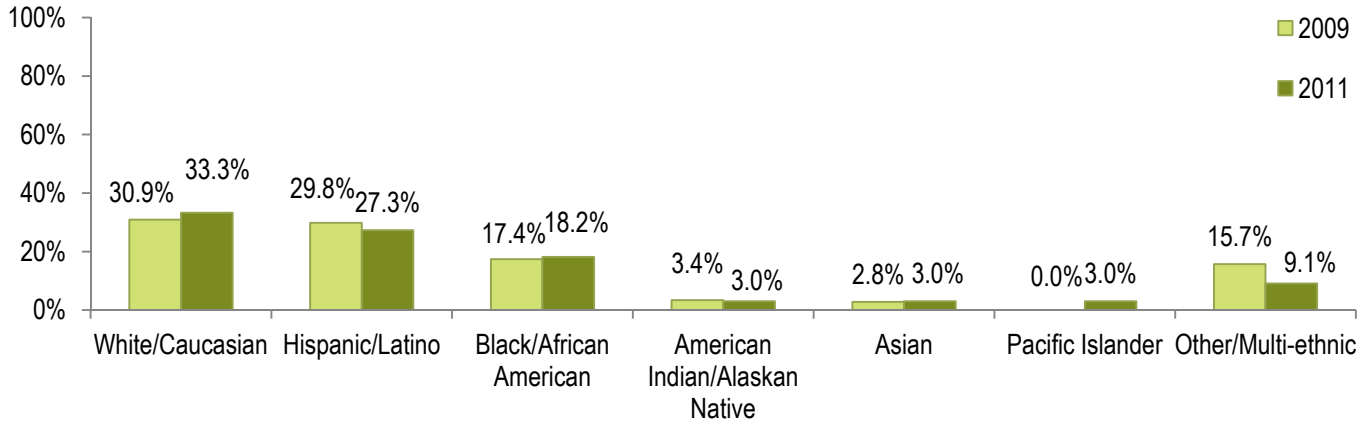
<sup>38</sup> Vissing, Y. M. (1996). Out of sight, out of mind: homeless children and families in small-town America. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky.

<sup>39</sup> United States Interagency Council on Ending Homelessness. (2010). Opening Doors: federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. Retrieved March 2011 from www.usich.gov.

### Demographics of Homeless Families

- The largest percentage of homeless individuals in families indicated they were White/Caucasian (33%), followed by Hispanic/Latino (27%), and Black/African American (18%).

**Figure 49: Homeless Individuals with Children by Ethnicity**



2009 N= 178; 2011 N=100

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

### Primary Cause of Homelessness for Homeless Families

- 33% of families reported lost of job as the primary cause of their homelessness.
- 21% reported eviction because landlord sold/stopped renting property as a primary cause of their homelessness and 12% had an argument with family or friend who asked them to leave as cause of homelessness.

### Government Assistance for Homeless Families

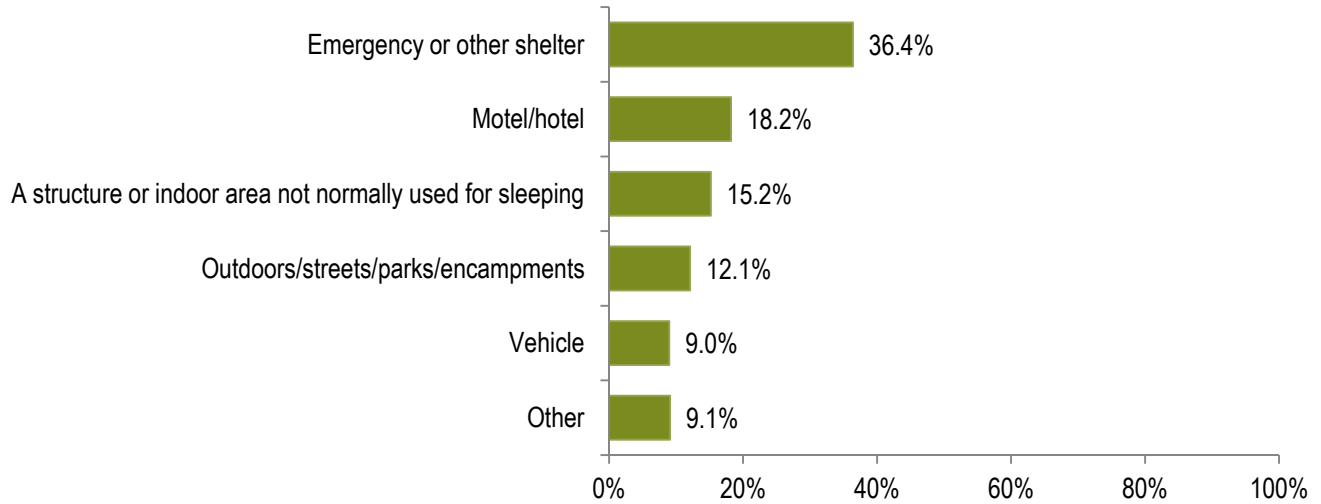
- Forms of government assistance most commonly received by homeless individuals with children were Food Stamps (70%), Cash Aid/CalWORKs (39%), and General Assistance (24%).<sup>40</sup>
- 18% of homeless parents with children indicated that they were not receiving any government assistance.

### Usual Sleeping Places of Homeless Families

- 36% of respondents with families indicated staying in some type of shelter, followed by 18% in motels, 15% a place not normally used for sleeping, 12% usually slept outdoors (on the streets, in parks, or in encampments) at night, followed by 9% who usually stayed in their vehicles.

<sup>40</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

**Figure 50: Homeless Families’ Usual Nighttime Accommodations (2011)**



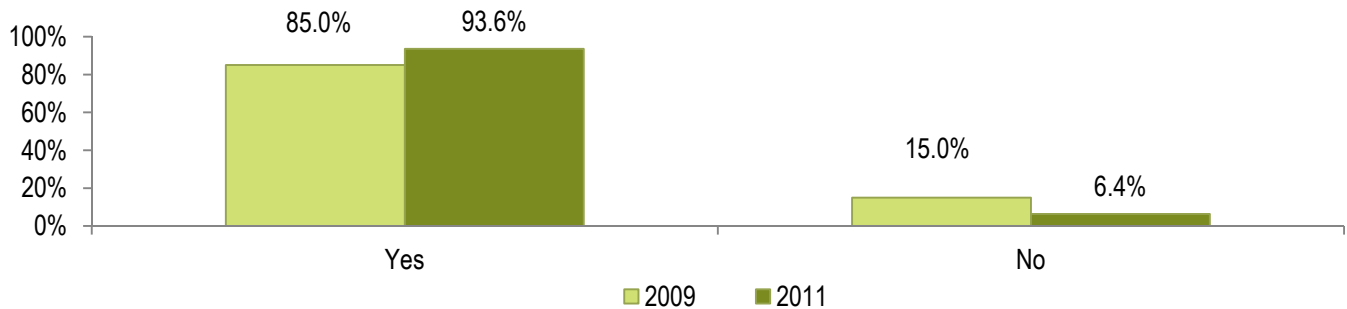
2011 N: 33

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

**Child Education**

- 94% of respondents with school-aged children (ages 6 - 17) indicated their children were in school. This was an increase from 85% in 2009.

**Figure 51: Children Attending School**



2009 N: 40; 2011 N: 28

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

**Children living in Foster Care or Other Family Members**

- 96% of respondents who reported having children were not currently living with their children.
  - » Of the respondents who indicated they had children, 4% reported that they had one or more children in foster care. This was a decrease from 15% in 2009.

## Unaccompanied Homeless Children and Youth

“Unaccompanied Children” are children under the age of 18 who are homeless and living independent of a parent or legal guardian. Homeless Youth are defined as individuals between the ages of 18 and 24 years old. Identifying and including unaccompanied homeless children and youth in the annual PIT count is challenging. Data on the population (local and national) are extremely limited. What little data are available suggest the negative effects of homelessness on children are high and those experiencing homelessness face even greater challenges than their adult counterparts. They have a harder time accessing services, including shelter, medical care, and employment.<sup>41</sup>

As in 2009, the County of Santa Clara increased their outreach to homeless youth and service providers to include unaccompanied children and youth in the 2011 homeless census and survey. A youth-focused street count took place in the afternoon of January 25 and 26, 2011, from approximately 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., when children were more likely to be visible in the community. ASR worked with local youth service providers and hired local homeless youth to assist in conducting the count based on the belief that they had particular knowledge and access to areas where homeless children and youth congregate. In addition to being counted as part of the census, unaccompanied children and youth took the basic two-page survey and answered 28 additional survey questions that asked specifically about their circumstances as unaccompanied children. The following section details results of both the youth specific count and survey.

### Number and Characteristics

- In 2011, a total of 762 unaccompanied homeless children and youth were counted in Santa Clara County. This represents 11% of the total homeless population.

**Figure 52: Unaccompanied Homeless Children and Youth by Age and Gender (2011)**

Gender	Under 18 Years	Age 18-24 Years	Total
<b>Unsheltered</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>697</b>
Male	66	371	437
Females	62	150	212
Unknown Gender	17	31	48
<b>Sheltered</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>65</b>
Male	NA	NA	0
Females	NA	NA	0
Unknown Gender	65	NA	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>762</b>

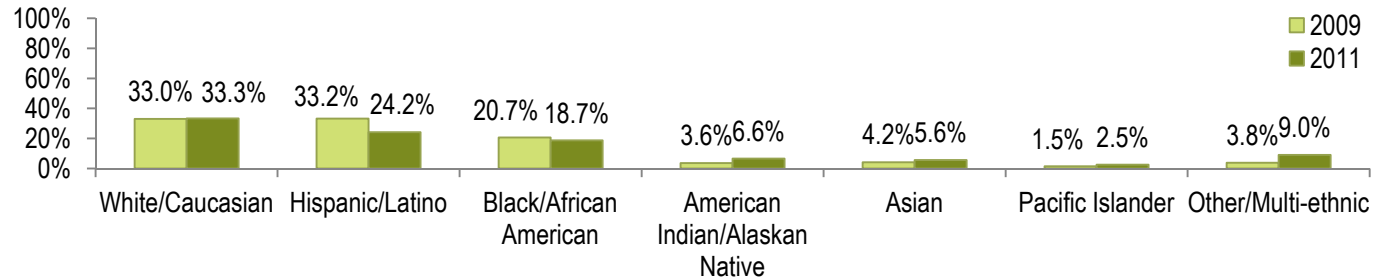
Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.

<sup>41</sup> National Coalition for the Homeless. (2011). Homeless youth fact sheet. Retrieved March 2011 from <http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/index.html>.

### Demographics

- The largest percentage of homeless children and youth under 25 indicated they were White/Caucasian (33%), followed by Hispanic/Latino (24%), and Black/African American (19%).

**Figure 53: Homeless Children and Youth Population by Ethnicity**



2009 N: 178; 2011 N: 198

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009). 2009 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

### Education and School Enrollment

- 18% reported being currently in school, and of those respondents, 52% plan on finishing school.
  - » 47% plan on going to college, and 64% have plans for their future. Yet, 71% reported planning their life day-to-day.
  - » 64% see themselves getting off the street.

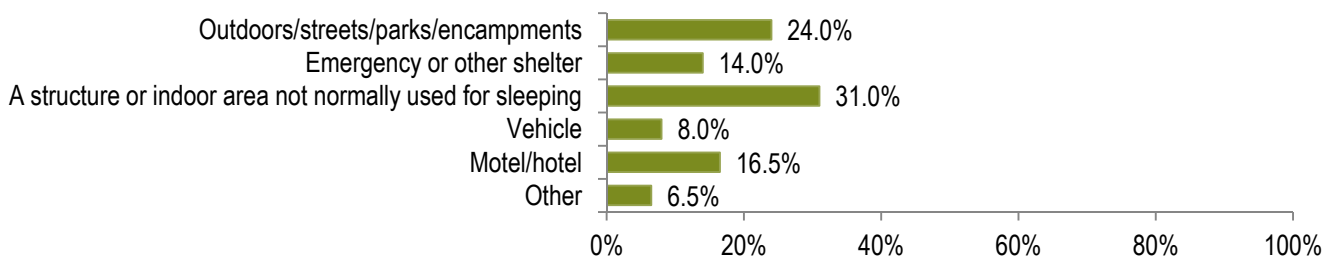
### County of Residency

- The majority (74%) of homeless children and youth survey respondents reported living in Santa Clara County when they became homeless this most recent time.
  - » 94% reported staying in the county year round.

### Usual Sleeping Places

- 31% indicated that they usually slept in a place not normally used for sleeping, followed by 24% who usually stayed outdoors, streets, parks, or in encampments.
  - » 26% did not feel safe in their current living situation.
  - » 47% reported trading sex or drugs for a place to stay.

**Figure 54: Homeless Children and Youth’s Usual Nighttime Accommodations (2011)**



2011 N: 200

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

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## Primary Cause of Homelessness

- 21% of homeless children and youth survey respondents cited losing their job, 21% cited an argument with family or a friend, and 17% reported alcohol/drug issues as the cause of their homelessness.
- 15% have or had homeless parents, pointing to the generational quality of homelessness.

## Utilization of Government Assistance

- The types of government assistance most commonly received by homeless children and youth were: Food Stamps (35%), SSI/SSDI (8%), and general assistance (25%).<sup>42</sup> However, 48% indicated that they were not receiving any form of government assistance.
- The most commonly cited services used by homeless children and youth were: free meals (49%), food pantry (22%), bus passes (19%), emergency shelters (18%), and shelter day services (11%).<sup>43</sup> Thirty-six percent (36%) indicated that they were not using any services.
- The most common reasons for not receiving government assistance were: don't think I'm eligible (33%), never applied (16%), no permanent address (14%), and have no identification (13%). An additional 13% reported not knowing where to go to get services.
- When asked what would help to get them off the streets, 57% responded support from friends or family, 36% reported drug or alcohol treatment, 57% reported job training/employment and 40% reported education.

## Social Support Networks

- 31% reported living with other individuals.
  - » 49% reported living with their street family and 23% of youth reported living with friends, 31% reported living with a significant other.
  - » 24% reported having stayed 4-10 nights with friends or family in the two weeks prior to the survey.
  - » 36% reported having an adult in the community they could trust.
  - » 59% reported knowing this person from a friend.
  - » 44% reported having interacted with police or sheriffs "never" or "rarely" since becoming homeless.

## Physical Health and Well-being

- 60% reported their general health was "good" or "very good."
  - » 11% indicated they were in poor physical health.
  - » 23% reported using a community clinic as their primary source of care.
  - » 32% reported having gone 1-3 times in the past 12 months to the emergency room.

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<sup>42</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

<sup>43</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

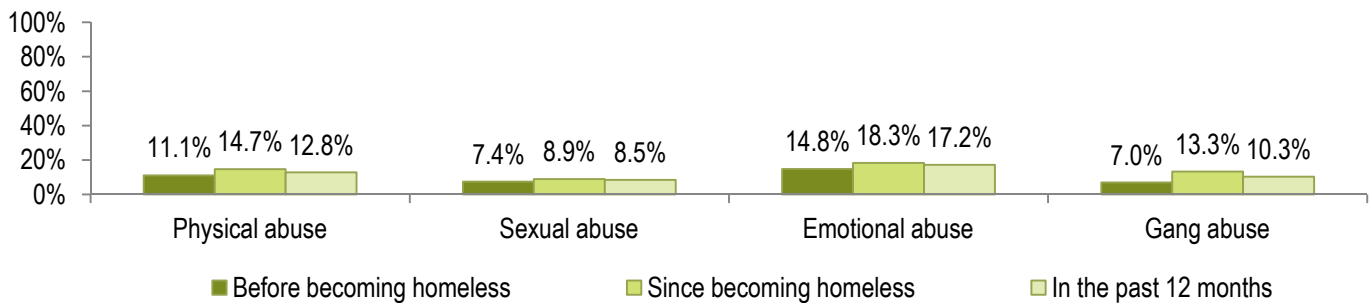
**Mental Health and Wellbeing**

- 29% reported having a mental illness including PTSD or severe depression.
  - » 13% reported suffering from depression and 29% reported having sought formal counseling services through government, church or youth programs.

**Experiences with Violence**

- 21% reported their safety had been threatened 5 or more times in the past 30 days.
  - » 17% reported feeling threatened by emotional abuse, and 13% reported feeling threatened by physical abuse “very often” or “always.”

**Figure 55: Homeless Children and Youth’s Experiences with Violence (2011)**

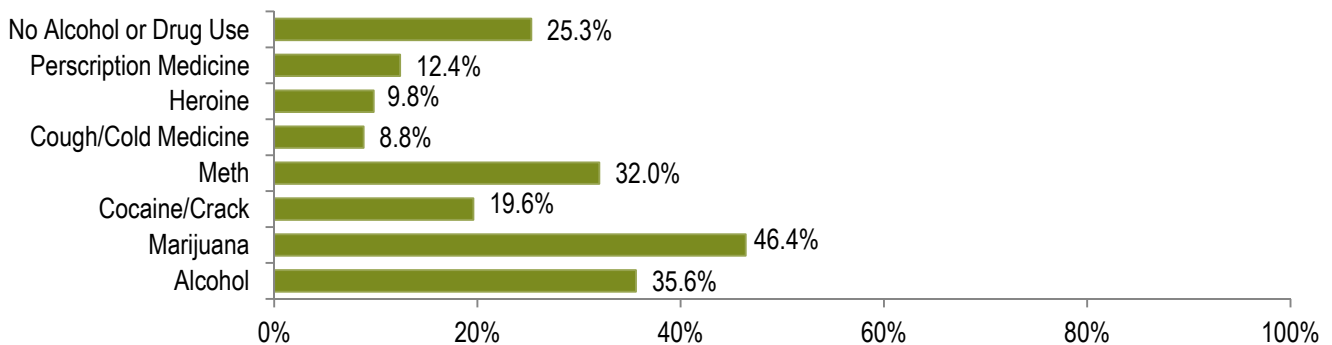


Physical abuse: Before becoming homeless N: 190; Since becoming homeless N: 190; In the past 12 months N: 187  
 Sexual abuse: Before becoming homeless N: 188; Since becoming homeless N: 190; In the past 12 months N: 188  
 Emotional abuse: Before becoming homeless N: 189; Since becoming homeless N: 191; In the past 12 months N: 186  
 Gang abuse: Before becoming homeless N: 188; Since becoming homeless N: 188; In the past 12 months N: 185  
 Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

**Drug and Alcohol Abuse**

- 35% reported alcohol or drug abuse.
- When asked about use, 46% reported marijuana was their primary drug of choice.
  - » 46% reported using drugs or alcohol to get through the day.
  - » 70% reported using drug or alcohol because they enjoyed it.

**Figure 56: Homeless Children and Youth’s Alcohol and Drug Abuse (2011)**



Multiple response question with 194 respondents offering 384 responses in 2011.  
 Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.  
 Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.

## CONCLUSION

The 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey was performed using HUD-recommended practices for counting the homeless population. This important effort provided valid and useful data regarding the homeless community in Santa Clara County. The 2011 enumeration built upon previous efforts which allowed for the compilation of comparable multi-year data on the experience of homelessness in Santa Clara County. Continued use of this methodology allows for the tracking of key indicators and gauge the changing conditions experienced by homeless individuals and families throughout the county.

It is hoped that the data presented in this report will be used by planning bodies of the County of Santa Clara, the City of San Jose, and other organizations within the county to inform additional outreach, service planning, and policy decision-making over the next two years as they continue to address homelessness. It is also hoped that this report will be disseminated to other jurisdictions and educational research institutions in order to gain feedback on the methodologies used and results obtained. By sharing and evaluating this enumeration effort and its results, the homeless support network in Santa Clara County will be better able to produce constructive and innovative solutions to a problem that clearly affects many people in the community.



## APPENDIX I: HOMELESS CENSUS AND SURVEY METHODOLOGY

### Overview

The purpose of the 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey was to produce a Point-in-Time (PIT) estimate of the number of people in Santa Clara County who experience homelessness. The results of the street count were combined with the results from the shelter count to produce the total number of homeless people in Santa Clara County. A more detailed description of the methodology used for the homeless census and survey follows.

### Components of the Homeless Count Method

The census methodology had two components:

- The street count: an enumeration of unsheltered homeless individuals.
- The shelter and institution count: an enumeration of sheltered homeless individuals.

### Street Count Methodology

#### Definition

For the purposes of this study, the HUD definition of an unsheltered homeless person was used: someone who is living on the streets, in a vehicle, encampment, abandoned building, unconverted garage, or any other place not normally used or meant for human habitation.

#### Research Design

Santa Clara County covers approximately 1,291 square miles.<sup>44</sup> The logistics for conducting a PIT street count of homeless people in a county this large and densely populated required the enumeration to take place over a two-day period. The purpose of the street count was to conduct an enumeration of unsheltered homeless people over a specific measure of time. The unsheltered and sheltered homeless counts were coordinated to occur within the same time period in order to minimize potential duplicate counting of homeless persons.

#### Volunteer and Worker Recruitment

An enumeration effort of this magnitude can only be successful with the assistance of those who possess an intimate knowledge of the activities and locations of homeless people. Therefore, the recruitment and training of homeless persons to work as enumerators was an essential part of the street count methodology. Previous research has shown that homeless people, teamed with staff members from homeless service agencies, can be part of a productive and reliable work force.

To work on the street count, prospective enumerators were required to attend a 1-hour information and training session. Training sessions were held at multiple locations throughout Santa Clara County during

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<sup>44</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2009). State and County Quick Facts.  
© Applied Survey Research, 2011

the week prior to the street count. These sessions were attended primarily by homeless persons, staff from homeless service agencies; and staff from the County of Santa Clara, the City of San Jose, and the City of Palo Alto. The techniques and methods used to identify and enumerate unsheltered homeless persons were reviewed during these training sessions.

Homeless persons who completed the required training session were paid \$10.00 on the morning they reported to work for the street count. Homeless workers were also paid \$10.00 per hour for their work on the count, and were reimbursed for any expenses (mainly transportation costs) they incurred during the hours they worked. In total, 250 homeless persons, homeless service providers, city and county workers, and community volunteers were recruited and trained. Due to illness and unforeseen circumstances, 208 guides and volunteers participated in the two day count.

**Figure 57: Street Count Homeless Guide and Volunteer Participation**

	Homeless Guides		Community Volunteers		Total	
	Number trained	Number participated	Number trained	Number participated	Number trained	Number participated
Overall (unique)	88	90	137	93	216	171
Youth	20	20	5	5	25	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>208</b>

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Census.

### Street Count Teams

On the mornings of the census, two-person teams were created to enumerate designated areas of the county for the street count. A team was ideally composed of one volunteer and one homeless person who had attended a training and information session. Given the expertise each team member brought to working in the field, the “volunteer/homeless worker” teamwork concept was especially beneficial for the street count.

Street count teams were provided with census tract maps of their assigned areas, census tally sheets, a review of the census training documents and techniques, and other supplies. Prior to deployment, volunteers and workers were provided with a reminder of how to enumerate thoroughly without disturbing homeless people or anyone else encountered during the street census. Over the two-day census period, all 341 census tracts in Santa Clara County were enumerated.

### Safety Precautions

Every effort was made to minimize potentially hazardous situations. Precautions were taken to prepare a safe environment in all deployment centers. Law enforcement districts were notified of pending street count activity in their jurisdictions. No official reports were received in regards to unsafe or at-risk situations occurring during the street census in any area of the county.

### Street Count Deployment

Since it was necessary to conduct the enumeration over a period of two days, January 25 and 26, 2011, Santa Clara County was divided into two areas: the area to the east of Highway 17 and Interstate 880 and the area to the west of these freeways. On January 25, the cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill, portions of the cities of Campbell, Los Gatos, Milpitas, San Jose, and the unincorporated areas in the eastern and

southwestern parts of the county were enumerated. The following morning, January 26, remaining portions of the cities of Campbell, Milpitas, Los Gatos, and San Jose; the cities of Cupertino, Monte Sereno, Mountain View, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Palo Alto, Saratoga, Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, and the unincorporated areas in the northwestern part of the county were enumerated.

The two-day enumeration effort was conducted between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. This early morning enumeration strategy was selected in order to avoid duplicate counting of sheltered homeless persons and to increase the visibility of the street homeless.

Volunteers and County of Santa Clara staff used personal or agency vehicles to transport homeless workers and volunteers to and from assigned census tracts (some homeless workers did provide their own transportation). All accessible streets, roads, and highways in the enumerated tracts were traveled by foot, bike, or car. Homeless persons were counted and tallied according to these observed categories:

Individuals:	Family Members:	Notations:
» Adult male	» Adult male	» Vehicles (cars, vans, RV's, campers, etc.)
» Adult female	» Adult female	» Encampments
» Unaccompanied Children (under age 18)	» Children (under age 18)	» Abandoned buildings
» Youth (age 18-24)		» Persons reported by park ranger
» Adults of undetermined gender		

Homeless enumerators were also instructed to include themselves on their tally sheets for the street count, if they were not going to be counted by a shelter or institutional census.

Upon their return, teams turned in their census tally forms and were debriefed by the deployment captains. Observational comments and the integrity of the enumeration effort were reviewed and assessed. This review was primarily done to check for double-counting (i.e., counting a family as both family members and individuals) and to verify that every accessible road within the assigned area was enumerated.

No direct contact with enumerated homeless people was made during the census enumeration. To avoid potential duplicate counting of unsheltered and sheltered homeless persons, it was imperative to enumerate during the narrow timeframe when sheltered and unsheltered homeless do not co-mingle. Administering the survey in conjunction with the census would have taken up too much of this narrow timeframe, thereby increasing the likelihood of duplication between the street and sheltered homeless counts and thus jeopardizing the accuracy of the census. Thus, observation-only enumeration strategies were employed during the census, and the survey component of this project began after the census was completed.

Unaccompanied youth tend to be difficult to enumerate in the morning census, since they do not usually co-mingle with the adult homeless population. For this reason, special youth enumeration teams consisting of homeless youth and formerly homeless youth were formed to enumerate unaccompanied homeless youth. These youth enumerators were deployed from the Bill Wilson Drop-In Center and were given a general geographical area in Santa Clara County to count rather than specific census tract maps. These teams counted between 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. when homeless youth are most likely to be visible on

the streets. They enumerated unaccompanied homeless children under age 18 and youth 18 to 24-years-old. The teams kept track of the locations where the homeless youth were sighted by recording the nearest intersection. Compared to the general street census results, the youth teams found considerably more unaccompanied homeless youth and in locations different from where unaccompanied youth were found in the morning effort. Therefore the research team felt there was little worry of duplication. The youth enumerated by these special teams were assigned census tract locations post-facto and were integrated into the overall countywide enumeration results.

Although any homeless enumeration is vulnerable to an undercount, all of the people, vehicles, encampments, and abandoned buildings tallied during the Point-in-Time street count were visually observed by enumerators. By reporting only what was observed, ASR and Santa Clara County are highly confident that the street count results are as accurate and as valid as possible. There are no means to ensure that those enumerated were actually members of the homeless population. However, when potential enumerators were polled during the training sessions, most trainees, especially homeless workers, indicated they would have no difficulty in telling the difference between an unsheltered homeless person and a member of the general public.

## **Shelter and Institution Count Methodology**

### **Goal**

The goal of the shelter count was to gain an accurate count of the number of homeless persons who were being temporarily housed in shelters and other institutions across Santa Clara County. These data were vital to gaining an accurate overall count of the homeless population and understanding where homeless persons received shelter.

### **Data Collection**

The basic approach was to identify and contact agencies that temporarily house homeless people and request that those agencies send ASR a count of the number of homeless persons housed in their programs on the night of January 24, 2011. In 2011, the participating shelters were determined by those listed on the Housing Inventory Chart reported to HUD. Participating agencies included:

- Emergency Shelters
- Transitional Housing Facilities
- Safe Havens

Shelter facilities reported their occupancies for the night prior to the first day of enumeration to Applied Survey Research (ASR) by an online survey, paper survey, or telephone call.

## **Homeless Census Challenges and Assumptions**

### **Challenges**

There are many challenges in any homeless enumeration, especially when implemented in a community as diverse and large as Santa Clara County. While homeless populations are usually concentrated around city emergency shelters and homeless service facilities, homeless individuals and families can also be

found in suburbs, commercial districts, and outlying county areas that are not easily accessed by enumerators. Homeless populations include many difficult-to-count subsets such as:

- Chronically homeless persons who may or may not access social, health, or shelter services;
- Persons living in vehicles who relocate every few days;
- Persons who have children and therefore stay “under the radar” for fear of having to turn their children over to Child Protective Services;
- Homeless youth, who tend to keep themselves less visible than homeless adults;
- Homeless people who live in isolated rural areas; and
- Homeless people who sleep in unfit structures.

### **Census Undercount**

Additional challenges included a lack of community support and participation. In 2011, the number of community members and service providers able to provide support on the days of the count affected the overall ease of this great undertaking.

For a variety of reasons, homeless persons generally do not want to be seen, and make concerted efforts to avoid detection. Regardless of how successful the outreach effort is, an undercount of the homeless population will result, especially of hard-to-reach subpopulations such as unaccompanied youth and families.

In a non-intrusive, Point-in-Time, visual homeless enumeration, the methods employed, while academically sound, have inherent biases and shortcomings. Even with the assistance of dedicated homeless service providers and currently or previously homeless census enumerators, the methodology cannot guarantee 100% accuracy. Many factors may contribute to missed opportunities, for example:

- Homeless individuals often occupy abandoned buildings and other structures unfit for human habitation.
- Homeless youth are suspected to keep a distance from the general homeless population, for their own safety.
- Homeless families with children often seek opportunities to stay on private property, rather than sleep on the streets, in vehicles, or makeshift shelters.
- It can be difficult to identify homeless persons who may be sleeping in vans, cars, or recreational vehicles.

By counting the minimum number of homeless persons on the streets at a given Point-in-Time, the homeless census methodology is conservative and therefore most likely results in an undercount of homeless persons with immigration issues, the working homeless, families, and street youth. This conservative approach is necessary to preserve the integrity of the data collected. Even though the census is most likely to be an undercount of the homeless population, the methodology employed, coupled with the homeless survey, is the most comprehensive approach available and does provide valuable data for local and federal service agencies.

## Assumptions of Annual Estimation

The calculations used to project an annual estimate of homelessness are based on two very important assumptions.

- 1) The information gathered by the homeless survey is indicative of responses that would have been given at any other time during the year and is representative of the general diversity of the study area's homeless population.
- 2) The Point-in-Time census count is reasonably indicative of a count that would have been obtained at any other time during the year.

Service providers have supported these assumptions by indicating that the demand for services stayed relatively consistent over time. Additionally, the total number of homeless accessing services does not fluctuate to a great degree, although the proportion of sheltered versus unsheltered homeless does vary with the seasons.

Estimates of the number of people who experience homelessness in a given year are important for planning purposes and HUD reporting requirements. Because many homeless experiences are relatively short-term (i.e., less than a year), it is important to account for this phenomenon when determining the annual demand for homeless services.

Given the size of the survey sample (1,014 persons), the statistical reliability of the projections, the undercount inherent in any homeless census, as well as the use of a HUD-approved annualization calculation, the project committee and ASR have determined that this methodology was the most complete and accurate of all available approaches.

## Survey Methodology

### Planning and Implementation

The survey of 1,014 homeless persons was conducted in order to yield qualitative data about the homeless community in Santa Clara County. These data were used for the McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance funding application and are important for future program development and planning. The survey elicited information such as gender, family status, military service, length and recurrence of homelessness, usual nighttime accommodations, causes of homelessness, and access to services through open-ended, closed-ended, and multiple response questions. The survey data bring greater perspective to current issues of homelessness and to the provision and delivery of services. The survey findings also provide a measure of the changes in the composition of the homeless population since 2009.

In addition to the general survey, youth under the age of 25 were given an additional 28 questions, which asked specifically about their experience as homeless children and youth. In total, 200 of the 1,014 surveys were conducted with youth. These surveys were conducted by other homeless youth workers in order to maintain the peer-to-peer protocol. The overall protocol for youth surveys was similar to the general survey; however youth under the age of 18 were asked to sign an informed consent document and were given the option of filling out surveys on their own.

Surveys were conducted by homeless workers and service provider volunteers who were trained by ASR. Training sessions led potential interviewers through a comprehensive orientation that included project background information and detailed instruction on respondent eligibility, interviewing protocol, and confidentiality. Because of confidentiality and privacy issues, service providers typically conducted the surveys administered within shelters. No self-administered surveys were accepted from individuals over the age of 18 in order to maintain a standardized and consistent protocol. Homeless workers were compensated at a rate of \$5.00 per completed survey.

It was determined that survey data would be more easily collected if an incentive gift was offered to respondents in appreciation for their time and participation. A small duffle bag was selected as an incentive to participate in the survey. These bags were easy to obtain and distribute, were thought to have wide appeal, and could be provided within the project budget. This approach enabled surveys to be conducted at anytime during the day.

### Survey Sampling

In order to select a random sample of respondents, survey workers were trained to employ a randomized “every third encounter” survey approach. Survey workers were instructed to approach the third person they encountered whom they considered to be an eligible survey respondent.<sup>45</sup> If the person declined to take the survey, the survey worker could approach the next eligible person they encountered. After completing a survey, the randomized approach was resumed.

The survey workers also maintained a record of the number of refusals. Overall, the majority (72%) of surveys were completed without receiving any refusals. Twenty-two percent (22%) of surveys had between one and three refusals. The remaining 6% had four or more refusals. The use of the randomized sampling strategy was an attempt to minimize bias in the selection of survey respondents.

Strategic attempts were made to reach individuals in various geographic locations and of various subset groups such as homeless youth, minority ethnic groups, military veterans, domestic violence victims, and families, including recruiting survey workers from these subset groups. As part of the youth homeless enumeration effort, a team of eight homeless youth were trained to administer surveys to other homeless youth.

Trained homeless interviewers administered surveys to the “street” homeless. These workers were used as interviewers because they were familiar with the conditions, challenges, and likely locations of homeless persons, and they may therefore be more likely to obtain survey question responses from the homeless respondents. This peer-to-peer approach may also encourage more candid responses by lessening the suspicion or apprehension of the respondent and helping to build rapport between the survey worker and respondent. Interviewers were asked to inquire if the homeless person had already taken the survey, and if not, if they were willing to do so, knowing there was a “thank you” gift at the completion of the survey. Workers were also asked to remain unbiased at all times, make no assumptions or prompts, keep all responses anonymous and confidential, and ask all questions, but allow respondents to skip any question they did not feel comfortable answering.

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<sup>45</sup> The survey method of systematically interviewing every  $n^{\text{th}}$  person encountered in a location is recommended by HUD in their publication, *A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People*, Second Revision, January 2008, p. 37.

Surveys were also administered in shelters and transitional housing programs. In order to assure the representation of transitional housing residents, who can be underrepresented in a street-based survey, survey quotas were created to reach individuals and heads of family households living in these programs. Eleven transitional housing facilities throughout Santa Clara County, including family- and youth-focused programs, participated in the survey effort. Typically, program staff conducted those surveys. The same survey was used in both shelter and street environments. Altogether, approximately 35% of all survey respondents were sheltered homeless, and the remaining 65% were unsheltered homeless.

Based on a Point-in-Time estimate of 7,067 homeless persons, with a randomized survey sampling process, the 1,014 valid surveys represent a confidence interval of +/- 3% with a 95% confidence level when generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated population of homeless individuals in Santa Clara County.

## **Data Collection**

Care was taken by interviewers to ensure that respondents felt comfortable regardless of the street or shelter location where the survey occurred. During the interviews, respondents were encouraged to be candid in their responses and were informed that these responses would be framed as general findings, would be kept confidential, and would not be traceable to any one individual.

Overall, the interviewers experienced excellent cooperation from respondents. This was likely influenced by the fact that nearly all of the street interviewers were homeless workers who had previously been, or were currently, fellow members of the homeless community. Another reason for interview cooperation may have been the incentive gift, which was given to respondents upon the completion of the interview.

## **Data Analysis**

### **Survey Administration Details**

- The 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey was administered by the trained survey team between February 6, 2011 and March 24, 2011.
- The majority (74%) of surveys did not have any refusals.
- The sample of valid surveys totaled 1,014.

In order to avoid potential duplication of respondents, the survey requested respondents' initials and date of birth, so that duplication could be avoided without compromising the respondents' anonymity. Upon completion of the survey effort, an extensive verification process was conducted to eliminate duplicates. This process examined respondents' date of birth, initials, gender, ethnicity, and length of homelessness, and consistencies in patterns of responses to other questions on the survey. This left 1,014 valid surveys for analysis. Due to the sensitive nature of the survey, respondents were not required to answer every survey question and respondents were asked to skip questions that were not applicable. For this reason, the number of respondents for each survey questions may not total 1, 014.

## **Survey Challenges and Limitations**

The 2011 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey did not include an equal representation of all homeless experiences. However, as mentioned previously, based on a Point-in-Time estimate of 7,067 homeless persons, the 1,014 valid surveys represent a confidence interval of +/- 3% with a 95% confidence level



when generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated homeless population in Santa Clara County. These confidences can be applied to the survey findings because the survey was randomly administered.

In self-reporting survey research, as was conducted by this survey, there is always some room for misrepresentation. Since there is no mechanism to separate truth from fiction in survey responses, it is important to make every effort to elicit the most truthful responses from interviewees. Using a peer interviewing methodology is believed to allow the respondents to be more candid with their answers, and may help reduce the uneasiness of revealing personal information. It should be noted that the responses provided for this survey are consistent based on reviews by service providers who:

- Selected reliable interviewers who had completed a comprehensive training, and
- Reviewed the surveys and ensured quality responses.

Surveys that were considered incomplete or containing false responses were not accepted, and the interviewer was not compensated.

## APPENDIX II: CENSUS INSTRUMENTS



### 2011 SANTA CLARA COUNTY HOMELESS CENSUS

<i>Street Count Tally Sheet</i>	Map #:	City:
Homeless Guide:	Deployment Center:	Date:
Volunteer #1:	Deployment Center Captain:	
Volunteer #2:	Deployment Center Phone #:	

INDIVIDUALS			
Age Group	# of Males	# of Females	# of Undetermined Gender
Under 18 years old			
18 – 24 years old			
25+ years old			

FAMILIES			
<i>A family is defined as at least one adult WITH at least one child (under 18) present.</i>			
Family Units	# of Adult Males	# of Adult Females	# of Children (under 18)
Family #1			
Family #2			
Family #3			
Family #4			
Family #5			

**USE SECTION BELOW WHEN # OF PERSONS NOT VISIBLE**

VEHICLES, BUILDINGS, & PARKS with occupants	Tally
# of CARS	
# of VANS / RVs	
# of Abandoned/Foreclosed BUILDINGS	
# of persons in PARKS reported by Park Ranger	

ENCAMPMENTS with occupants	# of tents or structures
Encampment #1	
Encampment #2	
Encampment #3	
Encampment #4	
Encampment #5	

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## YOUTH STREET COUNT TALLY SHEET

Team Member 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Cross streets and city	Male under 18	Male 18-24	Female under 18	Female 18-24	Undetermined Gender under 18	Undetermined Gender 18-24

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Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

# APPENDIX III: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

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2011 SANTA CLARA COUNTY HOMELESS COUNT SURVEY

(Office use)

REFUSALS \_\_\_\_\_
Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer's (Your) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Neighborhood or city of interview: \_\_\_\_\_

Respondent's initials: First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

**(Interviewer: Read questions & answers to the respondent)**

Shade Circles Like This--> ●

Not Like This--> ⊗

**1. What is your birth date?**  
 Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Office use) (Office use) (Office use)

**2. Which racial / ethnic group do you identify with the most? (Shade only 1)**

White/Caucasian       American Indian/Alaskan Native  
 Vietnamese  
 Black/African American       Other Asian  
 Hispanic/Latino       Pacific Islander  
 Other/Multi-ethnic

**3. How do you identify yourself?**  
 Male    Female    Transgender    Other

**4. Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?**  
 Yes    No    Don't know    Decline to state

**4a. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?**  
 Yes    No    Don't know    Decline to state

**4b. In which war theater did you serve? (Shade all that apply)**

World War II    Gulf War I    Other  
 Korea    Gulf War II    None  
 Vietnam    Afghanistan

**4c. Do you use any of the following services for Veterans?**

Health services    Drop-in centers  
 Mental health services    Housing assistance  
 Addiction treatment services    Vocational occupational or CWT services

**5. Do you live alone (by yourself)?**  
 Yes (Skip to question 6)  
 No

**5a. Do you live with: (Shade all that apply)**

Spouse or significant other    Other family member(s)  
 Child/children    Friend(s)  
 Parent or legal guardian    Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street family

**5b. If you live with a spouse, significant other or parent, do any of the following conditions prevent them from maintaining work or housing? (Shade all that apply)**

Disabling physical condition    HIV/AIDS  
 Substance addiction    Mental illness  
 Domestic violence    Developmental disability  
 Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)    None of the above

**6. Do you have any children?**  
 Yes  
 No (Skip to question 7)

**6a. Are any of your children currently living with you?**  
 Yes    No

**6b. Are your children: (Shade all that apply)**

	1	2	3	4+
<input type="radio"/> 18 years or over	How many?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> 0-5 years old	How many?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> 6-12 years old	How many?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> 13-17 years old	How many?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**6c. Are you children 5 -17 in school?**    Yes    No

**6d. Do you have any children in foster care?**  
 Yes    No

**6e. If your children are living with you, do they have health insurance?**  
 Yes    No

**7. Where do you usually stay at night, since you have been homeless? (Shade only 1)**

Outdoors/streets/parks       A place in a house not normally used for sleeping (kitchen, living room, etc.)  
 Unconverted Garage/attic/basement  
 Backyard or storage structure       Emergency shelter  
 Motel/hotel       Public facilities (train station, bus depot, transit center, etc.)  
 Automobile  
 Van  
 Camper/RV  
 Abandoned building       Transitional housing  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_       Other shelter  
 Encampment

*How many people, including yourself, usually stay there? \_\_\_\_\_*  
*About how many people sleep in each tent, tarp or structure? \_\_\_\_\_*

**8. In the last 30 days, have you ever tried to stay at an emergency shelter or a transitional housing facility in Santa Clara County and been turned away?**

Yes, a shelter  
 Yes, a transitional housing program  
 No (Skip to question 8)

**8a. Why were you turned away? (Shade all that apply)**

There were no beds available    Couldn't follow shelter rules  
 Didn't accept partner/friend    Because of your disability  
 Didn't accept teenager/children    Convicted of a 290 offense  
 Didn't accept pets    You were pregnant  
 Alcohol/drug problems    Had no identification  
 Have a criminal record    Don't know  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Is this the first time you have been homeless?**  
 Yes (Skip to question 10)  
 No

**9a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including this present time? (Shade only 1)**

One time    3 times    5 times    More than 5 times  
 2 times    4 times    6 times

**9b. In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including this present time? (Shade only 1)**

One time    3 times    5 times    More than 5 times  
 2 times    4 times    6 times

**10. How long have you been homeless this present time? (Shade only 1)**

7 days or less    1-3 months    7-11 months  
 8-30 days    3-6 months    1 year    More than 1 year

**10a. How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent housing situation? (Shade only 1)**

7 days or less    4 months    8 months    12 months  
 8-30 days    5 months    9 months    1-2 years  
 2 months    6 months    10 months    2-3 years  
 3 months    7 months    11 months    More than 3 years

**11. Where were you living at the time you most recently became homeless? (Shade only 1)**

Santa Clara County   What city? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other County in California (Skip to question 12)  
 Out of State (Skip to question 12)

**11a. How long had you lived in Santa Clara County before becoming homeless? (Shade only 1)**

7 days or less    4 - 6 months    3 - 5 years  
 8-30 days    7 - 11 months    6 - 10 years  
 1 - 3 months    1 - 2 years    More than 10 years

**12. What might have prevented you from becoming homeless? (Shade all that apply)**

Mental health services    Help accessing benefits  
 Health insurance/services    Rent/mortgage assistance  
 Legal assistance    Employment assistance  
 Alcohol/drug counseling    Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Transportation assistance  
 Case management leaving hospital/jail/prison

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(Office use)

**13. Immediately before you became homeless, were you living? (Shade only 1)**

In a home owned by you/partner     In subsidized housing  
 In a rented home/apartment     In jail or prison  
 With friends     In a hospital  
 With relatives     In a treatment facility  
 In a motel/hotel     Other

**14. What do you think is the primary event or condition that led to your homelessness? (Shade only 1)**

Lost job     Hospitalization/ treatment prog.  
 Evicted because landlord sold/ stopped renting property     Argument with family or friend who asked you to leave  
 Lost home through foreclosure     Incarceration  
 Landlord raised rent     Aging out of foster care  
 Alcohol or drug use     Divorced or separated  
 Illness or medical problem     Natural disaster/flood etc.  
 Mental health issues     Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Family/ domestic violence     Don't know/decline to state

**15. What is keeping you from getting permanent housing? (Shade all that apply)**

Can't afford rent     No transportation  
 No job/no income     Bad credit  
 No money for moving costs (security deposit, first and/or last month rent)     Eviction record  
 No housing availability     Criminal record  
 \_\_\_\_\_     Don't want to  
 \_\_\_\_\_     Other \_\_\_\_\_

**16. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance? (Shade all that apply)**

General Assistance or General Relief  
 Food Stamps (SNAP)  
 Service-connected VA Disability Compensation  
 Not service-connected VA Disability Pension  
 Other Veteran's Benefits  
 Social Security  
 SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI  
 Cash Aid / CalWORKs  
 WIC  
 Work2Future/Project Hope  
 Other governmental assistance (State disability benefits, workers compensation, unemployment, etc.)  
*(If yes to any of these, skip to 17)*

I am not currently receiving any of these. (Continue with 16a)

**16a. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not? (Shade all that apply)**

Don't think I'm eligible     I have applied for one or more of these services, and I am currently waiting for approval  
 Have no identification     Don't know where to go  
 No permanent address     Turned down  
 No transportation     Will apply soon  
 Never applied     Don't need government assistance  
 Benefits were cut off     Paper work too difficult  
 Immigration issues     Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 I am afraid my children will be taken away from me  
 Educational benefits for veterans/GI

**17. Are you currently using any of the following services/assistance? (Shade all that apply)**

Emergency shelter     Legal assistance  
 Free meals     Health services  
 Bus passes     Mental health services  
 Job training     Food pantry  
 Alcohol/drug counseling     Employment services  
 Shelter day services     Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Transitional housing     Not using any services

**18. What is your total monthly income from all Government benefits? (County, State, Federal monies) (Shade only 1)**

Zero     \$301 - \$400     \$701 - \$800  
 \$1 - \$100     \$401 - \$500     \$801 - \$900  
 \$101 - \$200     \$501 - \$600     \$901 - \$1,000  
 \$201 - \$300     \$601 - \$700     Over \$1,000

**19. What is your total monthly income from all non-Government sources? (Job, panhandling, recycling, etc.) (Shade only 1)**

Zero     \$301 - \$400     \$701 - \$800  
 \$1 - \$100     \$401 - \$500     \$801 - \$900  
 \$101 - \$200     \$501 - \$600     \$901 - \$1,000  
 \$201 - \$300     \$601 - \$700     Over \$1,000

**20. What is your current employment status (Shade only 1)?**

Unemployed     Employed full-time  
 Retired     Employed part-time  
 Student     Day laborer/temporary employee  
 Seasonal Worker (Skip to question 21)

**20a. What is keeping you from getting employment? (Shade all that apply)**

Need education     No permanent address  
 Need training     No transportation  
 Need clothing     No tools for trade  
 No shower facilities     No work permit (No S.S. #)  
 No phone     No photo identification  
 Health problems     Don't want to work  
 Disabled     No jobs  
 Alcohol/drug issues     Retired  
 Criminal record     Spouse/partner doesn't want me to work  
 No child care     Other \_\_\_\_\_

**21. Were you ever in foster care?**  
 Yes     No

**22. Since you became homeless this last time, have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?**  
 Yes     No

**23. Where do you usually get medical care? (Shade only 1)**

Hospital emergency room     Private doctor  
 Urgent care clinic     Friends / family  
 Public health clinic     Don't ever go  
 VA Hospital/Clinic     Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Free clinic/community clinic     Don't know

**24. How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?**

\_\_\_\_\_ times   
 (Office use)

**25. How many nights, if any, have you spent in jail or prison during the last 12 months?**

\_\_\_\_\_ nights   
 (Office use)

**26. Are you currently on probation or parole?**  
 Yes     No     Decline to state

**27. Were you on probation or parole at the time you most recently became homeless?**  
 Yes     No     Decline to state

**28. Are you currently experiencing any of the following:**

	28a. Does it prevent you from getting work or housing?	
28a. Physical disability	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
28b. Mental illness	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
28c. Depression	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
28d. Alcohol/drug abuse	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
28e. Domestic/partner violence or abuse	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
28f. Chronic health problems	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
28g. AIDS/HIV related illness	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
28h. Tuberculosis	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
28i. Hepatitis C	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
28j. PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder)	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
28k. Developmental disability	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

**29. Have you accessed One-Stop (GCT or BRC) in the past 12 months?**  Yes  No

**30. Are you registered with HMIS?**  
 Yes  No

**31. Do you regularly use the internet?**  
 Yes  No

**32. Do you usually get enough to eat on a daily basis?**  
 Yes     Sometimes     No



**Encuesta de Personas Desamparadas 2011**  
**del Condado de Santa Clara**

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(Office use)

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RECHAZOS \_\_\_\_\_ (Office use) \_\_\_\_\_

Fecha de la Entrevista: \_\_\_\_\_

Nombre del Entrevistador: \_\_\_\_\_

Vicindario-lugar : \_\_\_\_\_ (Office use)

Iniciales del Entrevistado: 1 Nombre \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Nombre \_\_\_\_\_ Apellido \_\_\_\_\_

**(Entrevistador: Lea la pregunta y las opciones de respuesta al entrevistado)**

Marque los círculos así--> ●

y NO así--> ✗

**1. Cuál es su fecha de nacimiento?**

Mes \_\_\_\_\_ Día \_\_\_\_\_ Año \_\_\_\_\_

(Office use) (Office use) (Office use)

**2. A qué grupo étnico/racial considera Ud. que pertenece? (Marque sólo una respuesta)**

Blanco/Caucásico     Nativo Americano/Nativo de Alaska

Negro/Afroamericano     Vietnamita

Hispano/Latino     Asiático

Otro/Multi-étnico     Islas del Pacífico

**3. Cómo se identifica usted?**

Hombre     Mujer     Transgénero     Otro

**4. Ha prestado servicio en las Fuerzas Armadas de los U.S.?**

Sí     No     No sabe     No desea responder

**4a. Fue llamado a prestar servicio, de manera activa, como miembro de la Guardia Nacional o como reservista?**

Sí     No     No sabe     No desea responder

**4b. En cuál de estos escenarios de guerra prestó sus servicios? (Marque las que apliquen)**

II Guerra Mundial     Primera guerra del Golfo     Otra

Corea     Segunda guerra del Golfo     Ninguna

Vietnam     Afganistan

**4c. Utiliza alguno de los siguientes servicios para veteranos?**

Servicios de salud     Drop-in centers

Servicios de salud mental     Asistencia para vivienda

Tratamientos de adicción     Servicios vocacionales/ ocupacionales o CWT

**5. Vive usted solo (por su cuenta)?**

Sí (Vaya a la pregunta 6)     No

**5a. Ud. vive con: (Marque las que apliquen)**

Espos(a)/pareja     Otros miembros de la familia

Hijo/hijos     Amigo(s)

Padre o guardián legal     Otro \_\_\_\_\_

Amigos de la calle

**5b. Si usted vive con su esposo(a) o su pareja, cuál de las siguientes condiciones le impiden poder tener trabajo o una vivienda? (Marque las que apliquen)**

Discapacidad física     SIDA/HIV

Adicción a sustancias     Enfermedad mental

Violencia doméstica     Discapacidad del desarrollo

Estrés post traumático(PTSD)     Nada de lo anterior

**6. Usted tiene hijos?**

Sí     No (Vaya a la pregunta 7)

**6a. Alguno de sus hijos está viviendo actualmente con Ud.?**

Sí     No

**6b. La edad de sus hijos es: (Marque las que apliquen)**

<input type="radio"/> 18 años o más	Cuántos?	1	2	3	4+
<input type="radio"/> 0 - 5 años	Cuántos?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> 6 - 12 años	Cuántos?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> 13 - 17 años	Cuántos?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**6c. Sus hijos con edad de 5-17 años están en la escuela?**

Sí     No

**6d. Tiene hijos en foster care o albergue temporal?**

Sí     No

**6e. Si tiene hijos viviendo con Ud., tienen ellos seguro de salud?**

Sí     No

**7. Dónde se queda Ud. generalmente en las noches desde que se quedó sin hogar? (Marque sólo una respuesta)**

Al aire libre/calles/parques     Un lugar en una casa que normalmente NO se utiliza para dormir (cocina, sala, etc.)

Garaje/cómodo/sótano sin modificación     Refugio de emergencia

Patio o estructura de bodega     Lugares públicos (estación de tren/ibus, centro de tránsito, etc.)

Motel/hotel     Hogar de paso/transitorio

Vehículo/autocarro     Otro tipo de refugio

Van     Otro \_\_\_\_\_

Camper/RV     Campamento

Edificio abandonado     Cuántas personas incluyendo Ud. se quedan ahí? \_\_\_\_\_

Cuántas gente duerme en cada calle u otras estructuras? \_\_\_\_\_

**8. En los últimos 30 días ha intentado tener acceso a un refugio u hogar de paso/transición en el Condado de Orange y se le ha negado el servicio?**

Sí, un refugio     Sí, un hogar de paso/transitorio

No (Vaya a la pregunta 10)

**8a. Por qué le fue negado el servicio? (Marque las que apliquen)**

No tenían camas disponibles     No siguió las reglas del lugar

El lugar no acepta amigos/pareja     Debido a su discapacidad

No aceptan niños o jóvenes     Convicto de una ofensa tipo 290

El lugar no acepta mascotas     Estar embarazada

Problemas con alcohol/drogas     No tener identificación

Historia de crimen judicial     No sabe

Otro \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Es la primera vez que ha estado sin hogar/desamparado?**

Sí (Vaya a la pregunta 10)     No

**9a. En los últimos 12 meses cuántas veces, incluyendo ésta, ha sido una persona sin hogar? (Marque sólo una respuesta)**

Una vez     3 veces     5 veces     Más de 6 veces

2 veces     4 veces     6 veces

**9b. En los últimos 3 años cuántas veces, incluyendo ésta, ha sido una persona sin hogar? (Marque sólo una respuesta)**

Una vez     3 veces     5 veces     Más de 6 veces

2 veces     4 veces     6 veces

**10. Cuánto tiempo lleva sin hogar ésta vez? (Marque sólo una respuesta)**

7 días o menos     1-3 meses     7-11 meses

8-30 días     3-6 meses     1 año     Más de 1 año

**10a. Hace cuanto ha estado sin hogar desde la última vez que vivió en un hogar permanente? (Marque sólo una respuesta)**

7 días o menos     4 meses     8 meses     12 meses

8-30 días     5 meses     9 meses     1-2 años

2 meses     6 meses     10 meses     2-3 años

3 meses     7 meses     11 meses     Más de 3 años

**11. Dónde estaba viviendo la última vez que se convirtió en persona sin hogar? (Marque sólo una respuesta)**

Condado de Santa Clara ¿Qué ciudad? \_\_\_\_\_

Otro Condado en California (Vaya a la pregunta 12)

Fuera del estado (Vaya a la pregunta 12)

**11a. Cuánto tiempo había vivido en el Condado de Santa Clara antes de convertirse en persona sin hogar?**

7 días o menos     4 - 6 meses     3 - 5 años

8-30 días     7 - 11 meses     6 - 10 años

1 - 3 meses     1 - 2 años     Más de 10 años

**12. Qué podría haber evitado que Ud. se convirtiera en una persona sin hogar? (Marque las que apliquen)**

Servicios de Salud Mental     Ayuda accediendo a beneficios

Servicios/seguro de salud     Ayuda en renta/pago de vivienda

Asistencia legal     Ayuda consiguiendo trabajo

Consejería en alcohol/drogas     Otro \_\_\_\_\_

Apoyo en transporte

Manejo administrativo para dejar hospital/cárcel/prisión

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(Office use)

13. Inmediatamente antes de convertirse en persona sin hogar esta última vez, usted vivía... (Marque sólo una respuesta)

En un lugar suyo o de su pareja  Viviendo en un hogar subsidiado

Rentando casa/apto  En la cárcel/prisión

Viviendo con amigos  En un hospital

Viviendo con familiares  Centro de rehabilitación

En un moteli/hotel  Otro

14. ¿Cuál piensa Ud. que fue el principal evento o situación que lo llevó a su actual condición de persona sin hogar? (Marque sólo una respuesta)

Perdió el trabajo  Hospitalización/prog. tratamiento

La vivienda fue vendida o no fue rentada más  Pelea con familiar/ amigo le pidió que se fuera

Perdió su casa por falta de dinero  Haber estado en cárcel

Incremento de la renta  Edad de salida del foster care

Uso de alcohol o drogas  Se separó o divorció

Enfermo o problema médico  Desastre natural/ incendio/ inundación, etc.

Asuntos de salud mental  Otro

Violencia doméstica/familiar  No sabe / no quiere declarar

15. ¿Qué es lo que le impide poder tener un lugar para vivir de manera permanente? (Marque las que apliquen)

No puede pagar la renta  Sin transporte

Sin trabajo/ingresos  Mal crédito

Costos iniciales de renta (depósito de seguridad, pago del primer y/o último mes de renta)  Historia de desalojo

No hay disponibilidad de vivienda  Historia de crimen judicial

Otro  No desea hacerlo

16. Recibe actualmente alguna de las siguientes formas de asistencia gubernamental? (Marque las que apliquen)

General Assistance or General Relief

Estampillas de alimentos

Service-connected VA Disability Compensation

Not service-connected VA Disability Pension

Otros beneficios para veteranos

Seguro Social

SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI

Cash Aid /CalWORKS

WIC

Work2future/Project Hope

Otro tipo de asistencia del gobierno (Compensación laboral, desempleo, beneficios del Estado por incapacidad etc.)

(Si responde alguna de estas, vaya a la pregunta 17)

No recibo actualmente ninguna de estas (Si va con pags. 16a)

16a. Si no recibe ningún tipo de asistencia del gobierno, por qué no? (Marque las que apliquen)

No cree que es elegible  Ha aplicado a uno o más de estos servicios y estoy esperando la aprobación

No tiene identificación  No sabe a dónde ir

Sin dirección permanente  Se lo han negado

No tiene transporte  Va a aplicar pronto

Nunca ha aplicado  No necesita asistencia del gobierno

Beneficios fueron recortados  Papelero muy difícil

Asuntos de inmigración  Otro

Me da miedo que me quiten a mis hijos

Beneficios educativos para veteranos/GI

17. Recibe actualmente alguna de las siguientes formas de servicios/asistencia? (Marque las que apliquen)

Refugio de Emergencia  Asistencia legal

Alimentos gratis  Servicios de salud

Pases de bus  Servicios de salud mental

Entrenamiento laboral  Food pantry

Consejería alcohol/drogas  Servicios de empleo

Servicios diarios del refugio  Otro

Vivienda transitoria  No usa ninguno de éstos

18. ¿Cuál es el ingreso total mensual que recibe por parte de todas las organizaciones del Gobierno? (Condado, Estado, Federal) (Marque sólo una respuesta)

Cero  \$301 - \$400  \$701 - \$800

\$1 - \$100  \$401 - \$500  \$801 - \$900

\$101 - \$200  \$501 - \$600  \$901 - \$1,000

\$201 - \$300  \$601 - \$700  Más \$1,000

19. ¿Cuál es el ingreso total mensual que recibe por parte de otras fuentes distintas al gobierno? (Trabajo, mendigando, reciclaje, etc.) (Marque sólo una respuesta)

Cero  \$301 - \$400  \$701 - \$800

\$1 - \$100  \$401 - \$500  \$801 - \$900

\$101 - \$200  \$501 - \$600  \$901 - \$1,000

\$201 - \$300  \$601 - \$700  Más \$1,000

20. ¿Cuál es su actual condición de empleo? (Marque sólo una)

Desempleado  Empleado tiempo completo

Retirado  Empleado tiempo parcial

Estudiante  Trabajador temporal / por días (Vaya a la pregunta 21)

Trabajador por temporadas

20a. ¿Qué es lo que lo detiene para poder estar empleado? (Marque las que apliquen)

Necesita educación  No tiene dirección permanente

Necesita entrenamiento  No tiene transporte

Necesita vestuario  Sin herramientas para trabajar

No tiene lugar para bañarse  Sin permiso de trabajo (Sin S.S. #)

No tiene teléfono  Sin documento de identificación

Problemas de salud  No desea trabajar

Está discapacitado  No hay trabajos

Asuntos de alcohol/drogas  Está retirado/jubilado

Historia de crimen judicial  Esposo(a) no quiere que trabaje a sus hijos

No tiene quien le cuide  Otro

21. ¿Alguna vez estuvo en un foster care o albergue temporal?

Sí  No

22. Desde que está sin hogar esta última vez, ha necesitado atención médica y no le ha sido posible recibirla?

Sí  No

23. ¿Dónde obtiene generalmente atención médica? (Marque sólo una respuesta)

Sala de emergencia de hospital  Doctor privado

Cuidado urgente de clínica  Amigos / familiares

Clínica comunitaria  Nunca he ido

Hospital/clínica para veteranos  Otro

Servicios gratis de clínica/clínica comunitaria  No sabe

24. ¿Cuántas veces en los últimos 12 meses ha usado una sala de emergencias para cualquier tipo de tratamiento?

\_\_\_\_\_ veces (Office use)

25. ¿Cuántas noches ha pasado en la cárcel o prisión en los últimos 12 meses?

\_\_\_\_\_noches (Office use)

26. ¿Se encuentra actualmente en libertad condicional?

Sí  No  No desea responder

27. ¿Estaba en libertad condicional en el momento en que recientemente se convirtió en persona sin hogar?

Sí  No  No desea responder

28. ¿Está Ud. actualmente pasando por alguna de las siguientes?

	28a. ¿Alguna de estas le impide obtener empleo o una vivienda?		
28a. Discapacidad física	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No
28b. Enfermedad mental	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No
28c. Depresión	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No
28d. Abuso de alcohol / drogas	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No
28e. Violencia / abuso doméstico o familiar	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No
28f. Problemas crónicos de salud	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No
28g. Enfermedades asociadas al SIDA/HIV	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No
28h. Tuberculosis	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No
28i. Hepatitis C	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No
28j. Desorden de estrés post traumático(PTSD)	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No
28k. Discapacidad en el desarrollo	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Sí <input type="radio"/> No

29. ¿En los últimos 12 meses ha tenido acceso a One-Stop (GCT or BRC)?  Sí  No

30. ¿Está Ud. registrado con HMIS?  Sí  No

31. Utiliza Internet en forma regular?  Sí  No

32. En general, ¿tiene suficiente para comer todos los días?  Sí  A veces  No

0729252299 **2011 Youth Homeless Survey** (Office use)  
□ □ □ □

40. How old were you when you first experienced homelessness? \_\_\_\_\_ years

41. Before becoming homeless, did you live with:

Both parents  Friends  
 Single mom  Foster family  
 Single dad  Juvenile hall or other institution  
 Other family members  Other  
 Step parents

42. Were or are your parents homeless?  Yes  No

43. Does your age prevent you from receiving any of the following (shade all that apply)

Permanent housing  Transitional or Emergency shelter  
 Employment  Government assistance

44. Does your age affect the way you seek services? (shade all that apply)

Afraid they will contact your family  
 Afraid you will be put in Child Protective Services  
 You do not have transportation  
 Other

45. In the last 12 months have you voluntarily sought formal counseling services through a Government, church, or youth program?  
 Yes  No

46. What are your current needs?

Food  Transportation  
 Clothing  Job training/employment  
 Shower  Substance abuse treatment  
 Education  Counseling/Mental Health Care  
 Health care  Other  
 Dental care

47. How would you rate your general physical health?  
 Poor  Fair  Good  Very good

48. Do you want to get off the streets?  
 Yes  
 No (Skip to question 49)

48a. What would help you get off the streets?

Support from friends or family  
 Drug or alcohol treatment  
 Job training/employment  
 Education

49. Did any of the following contribute to your homelessness? (shade all that apply)

Emotional Abuse  Sexual identity  
 Physical Abuse  Legal issues  
 Addiction  Financial issues  
 Sexual Abuse  Fight or conflict with parents/guardians  
 Mental Health Issues  Parent/guardian moved or relocated  
 School Issues  Gang violence/activity  
 Pregnancy

50. How many people are in the group you hang out with on a regular basis? \_\_\_\_\_ people

51. How many nights in the past 2 weeks have you stayed in the homes of friends/family?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ nights

51a. Have you moved four or more times in the past 3 months?  
 Yes  No

51b. Do you stay in this County year round?  
 Yes (Skip to question 52)  
 No

51c. What is the primary reason you leave the County?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

52. Have you traded sex or drugs for a place to stay?  
 Sex  Both  
 Drugs  Neither  Other

53. If you use drugs or alcohol to get high, what are your primary drug of choice?

Marijuana  Meth/amphetamines  Alcohol  
 Cocaine/crack  Heroin  Other  
 Cough/cold medicine  Prescription medicine  
 I don't use drugs/alcohol (Skip to question 54)

53a. Why do you use drugs or alcohol? (Shade all that apply)

To fit in  I enjoy it  
 To help relate to people  Other  
 To make it through the day  
 Because everyone else does

54. Did your parents or caregivers abuse drugs or alcohol when you were younger?  Yes  No

55. Do you have an adult in the community that you trust?  
 Yes  
 No (Skip to question 56)

55a. How did you know this person?  
 School  Drop in Center  
 Work  Social Worker  
 Friend  Other

56. Are you currently in school?  Yes  No

57. Do you plan on finishing school?  Yes  No

58. Do you plan to go to college?  Yes  No

59. Do you have plans for your future?  Yes  No

60. Do you see yourself getting off the streets?  Yes  No

61. Do you usually plan your life day by day?  Yes  No

62. How safe do you feel in your current living situation?  
 Very safe  Somewhat safe  Not at all safe

63. How many times in the past 30 days has your safety been threatened?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ times

64. Since becoming homeless, how often do you feel threatened by:

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Very often	Always
Physical abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sexual abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emotional abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gang abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

65. In the past 12 months how often have you experienced:

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Very often	Always
Physical abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sexual abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emotional abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gang abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

66. Before becoming homeless, did you experience:

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Very often	Always
Physical abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sexual abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emotional abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gang abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

67. Since becoming homeless, how often do you interact with police officers/sheriff?  
 Never  Rarely  Sometimes  Very often  Always

68. Have you accessed any youth specific homeless services within the past 12 months?  
 Never  Rarely  Sometimes  Very often  Always

**INTERNAL USE**  
 Cru  Monte  SFD  Neva  
 Cia  River  Son  Ora



## APPENDIX IV: OVERALL SURVEY RESULTS

### 1. Age

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 13 years	0	0.0%
13-17 years	34	3.4%
18-21 years	109	11.0%
22-30 years	203	20.5%
31-40 years	167	16.8%
41-50 years	233	23.5%
51-60 years	207	20.9%
More than 60 years	39	3.9%
Total	992	100.0%

### 2. Which racial/ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
White/Caucasian	390	38.7%
Hispanic/Latino	313	31.1%
Black/African American	169	16.8%
Vietnamese	31	3.1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	21	2.1%
Other Asian	17	1.7%
Pacific Islander	12	1.2%
Other/Multi-ethnic	54	5.4%
Total	1,007	100.0%

### 3. How do you identify yourself?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Male	680	67.5%
Female	307	30.5%
Other	5	0.5%
Transgender	15	1.5%
Total	1,007	100.0%

**4. Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	98	10.1%
No	852	87.4%
Don't know	7	0.7%
Decline to state	18	1.8%
Total	975	100.0%

**4a. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	20	2.1%
No	903	92.6%
Don't know	12	1.2%
Decline to state	40	4.1%
Total	975	100.0%

**4b. In which war theater did you serve?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Vietnam	30	30.0%
Gulf War I	13	13.0%
Gulf War II	5	5.0%
Afghanistan	3	3.0%
World War II	2	2.0%
Korea	1	1.0%
Other	7	7.0%
None	42	42.0%

*Multiple response question with 100 respondents offering 103 responses.*

**4c. Do you use any of the following services for Veterans?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Health services	49	68.1%
Drop-in centers	30	41.7%
Mental health services	28	38.9%
Housing assistance	11	15.3%
Addiction treatment services	8	11.1%
Vocational occupational or CWT services	5	6.9%

*Multiple response question with 72 respondents offering 131 responses.*

**5. Do you live alone (by yourself)?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	745	73.8%
No	264	26.2%
Total	1,009	100.0%

**5a. Do you live with:**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Spouse or significant other	94	37.3%
Child/children	26	10.3%
Parent or legal guardian	12	4.8%
Other family member(s)	20	7.9%
Friend(s)	65	25.8%
Street family	92	36.5%

*Multiple response question with 252 respondents offering 309 responses.*

**5b. If you live with a spouse, significant other or parent, do any of the following conditions prevent them from maintaining work or housing?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Substance addiction	33	34.7%
Disabling physical condition	15	15.8%
Domestic violence	7	7.4%
Mental illness	4	4.2%
Developmental disability	3	3.2%
HIV/AIDS	1	1.1%
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	0	0.0%
None of the above	42	44.2%

*Multiple response question with 95 respondents offering 105 responses.*

**6. Do you have any children?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	381	37.8%
No	628	62.2%
Total	1,009	100.0%

**6a. Are any of your children currently living with you?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	34	8.9%
No	347	91.1%
Total	381	100.0%

**6b. Are your children:**

Response	Frequency	Percent
18 years or older	207	55.1%
0-5 years old	75	19.9%
6-12 years old	91	24.2%
13-17 years old	80	21.3%

*Multiple response question with 376 respondents offering 453 responses.*

**6b1. How many children do you have that are 18 years or older?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
One child	59	31.2%
Two children	79	41.8%
Three children	34	18.0%
Four or more children	17	9.0%
Total	189	100.0%

**6b2. How many children do you have that are 0-5 years old?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
One child	54	73.0%
Two children	18	24.3%
Three children	2	2.7%
Four or more children	0	0.0%
Total	74	100.0%

**6b3. How many children do you have that are 6-12 years old?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
One child	44	49.4%
Two children	37	41.6%
Three children	6	6.7%
Four or more children	2	2.2%
Total	89	100.0%

**6b4. How many children do you have that are 13-17 years old?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
One child	45	56.3%
Two children	24	30.0%
Three children	8	10.0%
Four or more children	3	3.8%
Total	80	100.0%

**6c. Are your children ages 6 -17 years old in school?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	117	93.6%
No	8	6.4%
Total	125	100.0%

**6d. Do you have any children in foster care?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	54	14.2%
No	327	85.8%
Total	381	100.0%

**6e. If your children are living with you, do they have health insurance?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	23	67.6%
No	11	32.4%
Total	34	100.0%

**7. Where do you usually stay at night, since you have been homeless?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Outdoors/streets/parks	302	29.8%
Emergency shelter	120	11.9%
Transitional housing	83	8.2%
Motel/hotel	82	8.1%
Other shelter	70	6.9%
A place in a house not normally used for sleeping	63	6.2%
Automobile	45	4.4%
Encampment	42	4.2%
Camper/RV	38	3.8%
Van	30	3.0%
Public facilities	24	2.4%
Unconverted garage/attic/basement	23	2.3%
Abandoned building	21	2.1%
Backyard or storage structure	19	1.9%
Other	50	4.9%
Total	1,012	100.0%

**8. In the last 30 days, have you ever tried to stay at an emergency shelter or a transitional housing facility in Santa Clara County and been turned away?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes, a shelter	160	15.9%
Yes, a transitional housing program	24	2.4%
No	823	82.0%

*Multiple response question with 1,004 respondents offering 1,007 responses.*

**8a. Why were you turned away?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
There were no beds available	92	54.8%
Alcohol/drug problems	30	17.9%
Couldn't follow shelter rules	22	13.1%
Had no identification	13	7.7%
Didn't accept pets	6	3.6%
Didn't accept partner/friend	5	3.0%
Because of your disability	5	3.0%
Have a criminal record	5	3.0%
Didn't accept teenager/children	3	1.8%
You were pregnant	2	1.2%
Convicted of a 290 offense	1	0.6%
Don't know	7	4.2%
Other	26	15.5%

*Multiple response question with 168 respondents offering 217 responses.*

**9. Is this the first time you have been homeless?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	482	47.8%
No	527	52.2%
Total	1,009	100.0%

**9a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
One time	657	65.1%
2 times	112	11.1%
3 times	71	7.0%
4 times	34	3.4%
5 times	30	3.0%
6 times	22	2.2%
More than 6 times	83	8.2%
Total	1,009	100.0%

**9b. In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
One time	550	54.5%
2 times	95	9.4%
3 times	85	8.4%
4 times	50	5.0%
5 times	55	5.5%
6 times	32	3.2%
More than 6 times	142	14.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,009</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**10. How long have you been homeless this present time?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
7 days or less	61	6.1%
8-30 days	66	6.7%
1-3 months	138	13.9%
4-6 months	150	15.1%
7-11 months	114	11.5%
1 year	139	14.0%
More than 1 year	324	32.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**10a. How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent housing situation?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
7 days or less	53	5.3%
8 -30 days	54	5.4%
2 months	45	4.5%
3 months	73	7.3%
4 months	41	4.1%
5 months	34	3.4%
6 months	49	4.9%
7 months	38	3.8%
8 months	15	1.5%
9 months	31	3.1%
10 months	25	2.5%
11 months	25	2.5%
12 months	75	7.5%
1-2 years	204	20.4%
2-3 years	98	9.8%
More than 3 years	141	14.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,001</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**11. Where were you living at the time you most recently became homeless?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Santa Clara County	765	75.4%
Other county in California	186	18.3%
Out of state	63	6.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



**11.1 What city in Santa Clara County were your living in prior to becoming homeless?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
San Jose	428	73.0%
Gilroy	28	4.8%
Palo Alto	22	3.8%
Sunnyvale	29	4.9%
Santa Clara	18	3.1%
Campbell	15	2.6%
Mountain View	13	2.2%
Milpitas	9	1.5%
Morgan Hill	9	1.5%
Los Gatos	6	1.0%
San Martin	4	0.7%
Cupertino	2	0.3%
Los Altos	2	0.3%
Saratoga	1	0.2%
Total	586	100.0%

**11a. How long had you lived in Santa Clara County before becoming homeless?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
7 days or less	14	1.9%
8- 30 days	15	2.0%
1 - 3 months	23	3.1%
4 - 6 months	23	3.1%
7 - 11 months	32	4.3%
1 - 2 years	53	7.1%
3 - 5 years	73	9.8%
6 - 10 years	91	12.2%
More than 10 years	421	56.5%
Total	745	100.0%

**12. What might have prevented you from becoming homeless?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Employment assistance	391	39.3%
Rent/mortgage assistance	343	34.5%
Alcohol/drug counseling	337	33.9%
Mental health services	186	18.7%
Transportation assistance	173	17.4%
Help accessing benefits	159	16.0%
Legal assistance	151	15.2%
Health insurance/services	101	10.2%
Case management leaving hospital/jail/prison	99	9.9%
Other	193	19.4%

*Multiple response question with 995 respondents offering 2,133 responses.*

**13. Immediately before you became homeless, were you living:**

Response	Frequency	Percent
In a rented home/apartment	278	27.7%
With relatives	240	23.9%
With friends	133	13.2%
In a home owned by you/partner	115	11.5%
In jail or prison	65	6.5%
In a motel/hotel	54	5.4%
In a treatment facility	20	2.0%
In subsidized housing	15	1.5%
In a hospital	8	0.8%
Other	76	7.6%
Total	1,004	100.0%

**14. What do you think is the primary event or condition that led to your homelessness?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Lost job	267	26.8%
Alcohol or drug use	203	20.4%
Argument with family or friend who asked you leave	96	9.6%
Divorced or separated	63	6.3%
Evicted because landlord sold/stopped renting property	50	5.0%
Incarceration	42	4.2%
Mental health issues	41	4.1%
Don't know/decline to state	38	3.8%
Illness or medical problem	30	3.0%
Landlord raised rent	29	2.9%
Family/domestic violence	29	2.9%
Aging out of foster care	10	1.0%
Lost home through foreclosure	9	0.9%
Hospitalization/treatment prog.	8	0.8%
Natural disaster/fire/flood etc.	2	0.2%
Other	80	8.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**15. What is keeping you from getting permanent housing?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Can't afford rent	684	68.5%
No job/no income	555	55.6%
No money for moving costs	294	29.4%
No transportation	217	21.7%
Bad credit	171	17.1%
Criminal record	150	15.0%
No housing availability	121	12.1%
Don't want to	79	7.9%
Eviction record	57	5.7%
Other	84	8.4%

*Multiple response question with 999 respondents offering 2,412 responses.*

**16. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Food Stamps (SNAP)	421	42.6%
I am not currently receiving any of these	353	35.7%
General Assistance or General Relief	327	33.1%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income)/SSDI	77	7.8%
Social Security	55	5.6%
Cash Aid/CalWORKs	21	2.1%
Service-connected VA Disability Compensation	12	1.2%
WIC	12	1.2%
Other Veteran's Benefits	10	1.0%
Work2future/Project Hope	8	0.8%
Not service-connected VA Disability Pension	4	0.4%
Other governmental assistance	16	1.6%

*Multiple response question with 989 respondents offering 1,316 responses.*

**16a. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Don't think I'm eligible	100	29.3%
Never applied	82	24.0%
No permanent address	73	21.4%
Have no identification	62	18.2%
No transportation	52	15.2%
Don't need government assistance	47	13.8%
Don't know where to go	35	10.3%
Will apply soon	34	10.0%
Benefits were cut off	33	9.7%
Paper work too difficult	26	7.6%
Turned down	21	6.2%
Immigration issues	20	5.9%
I have applied for one or more of these services, and I am currently waiting for approval	15	4.4%
I am afraid my children will be taken away from me	2	0.6%
Educational benefits for veterans/GI	0	0.0%
Other	28	8.2%

*Multiple response question with 341 respondents offering 630 responses.*

**17. Are you currently using any of the following services/assistance?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Free meals	712	71.8%
Emergency shelter	394	39.7%
Food pantry	308	31.0%
Shelter day services	267	26.9%
Bus passes	240	24.2%
Health services	153	15.4%
Mental health services	107	10.8%
Alcohol/drug counseling	94	9.5%
Employment services	70	7.1%
Job training	66	6.7%
Legal assistance	55	5.5%
Transitional housing	32	3.2%
Other	53	5.3%
Not using any services	137	13.8%

*Multiple response question with 992 respondents offering 2,688 responses.*

**18. What is your total monthly income from all Government benefits? (County, state, federal monies)**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	407	40.9%
\$1 - \$100	19	1.9%
\$101 - \$200	171	17.2%
\$201 - \$300	94	9.5%
\$301 - \$400	96	9.7%
\$401 - \$500	43	4.3%
\$501 - \$600	25	2.5%
\$601 - \$700	22	2.2%
\$701 - \$800	21	2.1%
\$801 - \$900	55	5.5%
\$901 - \$1,000	15	1.5%
Over \$1,000	26	2.6%
Total	994	100.0%

**19. What is your total monthly income from all non-Government sources? (Job, panhandling, recycling, etc.)**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	456	46.2%
\$1 - \$100	121	12.3%
\$101 - \$200	126	12.8%
\$201 - \$300	95	9.6%
\$301 - \$400	67	6.8%
\$401 - \$500	41	4.2%
\$501 - \$600	15	1.5%
\$601 - \$700	15	1.5%
\$701 - \$800	14	1.4%
\$801 - \$900	19	1.9%
\$901 - \$1,000	7	0.7%
Over \$1,000	11	1.1%
Total	987	100.0%

**20. What is your current employment status?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Unemployed	847	84.3%
Day laborer/temporary employee	58	5.8%
Retired	28	2.8%
Employed part-time	27	2.7%
Student	27	2.7%
Employed full-time	15	1.5%
Seasonal Worker	3	0.3%
Total	1,005	100.0%

**20a. What is keeping you from getting employment?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
No permanent address	331	37.1%
Need training	307	34.4%
No transportation	268	30.0%
Need clothing	252	28.2%
No phone	239	26.8%
No jobs	222	24.9%
Need education	220	24.6%
Alcohol /drug issues	201	22.5%
Health problems	151	16.9%
Criminal record	136	15.2%
No shower facilities	130	14.6%
No tools for trade	120	13.4%
No photo identification	116	13.0%
Disabled	79	8.8%
Don't want to work	71	8.0%
No work permit (No S.S. #)	41	4.6%
Spouse/partner doesn't want me to work	27	3.0%
Retired	24	2.7%
No child care	6	0.7%
Other	88	9.9%

*Multiple response question with 893 respondents offering 3,029 responses.*

**21. Were you ever in foster care?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	123	12.7%
No	842	87.3%
Total	965	100.0%

**22. Since you became homeless this last time, have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	154	15.7%
No	828	84.3%
Total	982	100.0%

**23. Where do you usually get medical care?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Hospital emergency room	346	34.7%
Free clinic/community clinic	203	20.4%
Don't ever go	142	14.3%
Urgent care clinic	78	7.8%
Public health clinic	78	7.8%
VA Hospital/Clinic	58	5.8%
Private doctor	16	1.6%
Friends/family	9	0.9%
Other	25	2.5%
Don't know	41	4.1%
Total	996	100.0%

**24. How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never	529	54.4%
1 time	173	17.8%
2 times	100	10.3%
3 times	66	6.8%
4 times	29	3.0%
5 times	24	2.5%
More than 5 times	51	5.2%
Total	972	100.0%

**25. How many nights, if any, have you spent in jail or prison during the last 12 months?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 nights	644	66.9%
1 - 5 nights	142	14.7%
6 - 10 nights	59	6.1%
11 - 20 nights	23	2.4%
21 - 50 nights	31	3.2%
More than 50 nights	64	6.6%
Total	963	100.0%



**26. Are you currently on probation or parole?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	178	18.0%
No	704	71.1%
Decline to state	108	10.9%
Total	990	100.0%

**27. Were you on probation or parole at the time you most recently became homeless?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	161	16.2%
No	722	72.6%
Decline to state	112	11.3%
Total	995	100.0%

**28. Are you currently experiencing any of the following:**

Response	Yes	No	Total
28a. Physical disability	24.7%	75.3%	100.0%
	239	728	967
28b. Mental illness	28.8%	71.2%	100.0%
	277	684	961
28c. Depression	47.6%	52.4%	100.0%
	462	509	971
28d. Alcohol/drug abuse	45.7%	54.3%	100.0%
	438	520	958
28e. Domestic/partner violence or abuse	10.4%	89.6%	100.0%
	99	856	955
28f. Chronic health problems	18.8%	81.2%	100.0%
	180	777	957
28g. AIDS/HIV related illness	2.2%	97.8%	100.0%
	21	924	945
28h. Tuberculosis	2.1%	97.9%	100.0%
	20	920	940
28i. Hepatitis C	6.4%	93.6%	100.0%
	60	883	943
28j. PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder)	10.2%	89.8%	100.0%
	96	847	943
28k. Developmental disability	8.1%	91.9%	100.0%
	77	875	952

**28a. Does it prevent you from getting work or housing?**

Response	Yes	No	Total
a. Physical disability	68.5% 139	31.5% 64	100.0% 203
b. Mental illness	73.2% 161	26.8% 59	100.0% 220
c. Depression	51.6% 213	48.4% 200	100.0% 413
d. Alcohol/drug abuse	62.2% 245	37.8% 149	100.0% 394
e. Domestic/partner violence or abuse	39.0% 30	61.0% 47	100.0% 77
f. Chronic health problems	67.5% 104	32.5% 50	100.0% 154
g. AIDS/HIV related illness	43.8% 7	56.3% 9	100.0% 16
h. Tuberculosis	43.8% 7	56.3% 9	100.0% 16
i. Hepatitis C	39.3% 22	60.7% 34	100.0% 56
j. PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder)	64.2% 52	35.8% 29	100.0% 81
k. Developmental disability	64.5% 40	35.5% 22	100.0% 62

**29. Have you accessed One-Stop (GCT or BRC) in the past 12 months?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	347	35.4%
No	634	64.6%
Total	981	100.0%

**30. Are you registered with HMIS?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	467	47.6%
No	514	52.4%
Total	981	100.0%

**31. Do you regularly use the Internet?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	444	45.3%
No	536	54.7%
Total	980	100.0%

**32. Do you usually get enough to eat on a daily basis?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	538	54.3%
Sometimes	340	34.3%
No	113	11.4%
Total	991	100.0%

## APPENDIX V: YOUTH SURVEY ADDENDUM RESULTS

### 40. How old were you when you first experienced homelessness?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 10 years old	12	6.3%
11 - 13 years old	14	7.3%
14 - 15 years old	33	17.3%
16 years old	17	8.9%
17 years old	22	11.5%
18 years old	31	16.2%
19 years old	21	11.0%
20 years old	17	8.9%
21 - 26 years old	24	12.6%
Total	191	100.0%

### 41. Before becoming homeless, did you live with:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Both parents	45	22.4%
Friends	34	16.9%
Single mom	32	15.9%
Other family members	22	10.9%
Single dad	18	9.0%
Foster family	14	7.0%
Juvenile hall or other institution	5	2.5%
Step parents	5	2.5%
Other	26	12.9%
Total	201	100.0%

### 42. Were or are your parents homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	28	14.7%
No	162	85.3%
Total	190	100.0%

**43. Does your age prevent you from receiving any of the following?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Employment	43	57.3%
Permanent housing	40	53.3%
Government assistance	33	44.0%
Transitional or emergency shelter	25	33.3%

*Multiple response question with 75 respondents offering 141 responses.*

**44. Does your age affect the way you seek services?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
You do not have transportation	42	31.3%
Afraid they will contact your family	23	17.2%
Afraid you will be put in Child Protective Services	22	16.4%
Other	79	59.0%

*Multiple response question with 134 respondents offering 166 responses.*

**45. In the last 12 months have you voluntarily sought formal counseling services through a Government, church, or youth program?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	59	29.6%
No	140	70.4%
Total	199	100.0%

**46. What are your current needs?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Food	116	57.1%
Clothing	107	52.7%
Job training/employment	100	49.3%
Transportation	93	45.8%
Shower	84	41.4%
Health care	83	40.9%
Dental care	78	38.4%
Education	70	34.5%
Substance abuse treatment	50	24.6%
Counseling/Mental health care	39	19.2%
Other	59	29.1%

*Multiple response question with 203 respondents offering 879 responses.*

**47. How would you rate your general physical health?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Poor	21	10.4%
Fair	57	28.4%
Good	80	39.8%
Very good	43	21.4%
Total	201	100.0%

**48. Do you want to get off the streets?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	166	81.0%
No	39	19.0%
Total	205	100.0%

**48a. What would help you get off the streets?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Support from friends or family	94	58.4%
Job training/employment	91	56.5%
Education	65	40.4%
Drug or alcohol treatment	55	34.2%

*Multiple response question with 161 respondents offering 305 responses.*

**49. Did any of the following contribute to your homelessness?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Financial issues	77	41.2%
Fight or conflict with parents/guardians	69	36.9%
Addiction	61	32.6%
Emotional abuse	44	23.5%
School issues	44	23.5%
Mental health issues	34	18.2%
Legal issues	34	18.2%
Physical abuse	28	15.0%
Parent/guardian moved or relocated	28	15.0%
Gang violence/activity	21	11.2%
Sexual abuse	17	9.1%
Pregnancy	13	7.0%
Sexual identity	10	5.3%

*Multiple response question with 187 respondents offering 480 responses.*

**50. How many people are in the group you hang out with on a regular basis?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 people	41	19.9%
1 people	11	5.3%
2 people	28	13.6%
3 people	27	13.1%
4 people	32	15.5%
5 - 6 people	29	14.1%
7 - 10 people	28	13.6%
More than 10 people	10	4.9%
Total	206	100.0%

**51. How many nights in the past 2 weeks have you stayed in the homes of friends/family?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 nights	89	43.2%
1 night	12	5.8%
2 nights	14	6.8%
3 nights	11	5.3%
4 - 5 nights	21	10.2%
6 - 10 nights	27	13.1%
11 - 14 nights	32	15.5%
Total	206	100.0%

**51a. Have you moved four or more times in the past 3 months?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	67	34.2%
No	129	65.8%
Total	196	100.0%

**51b. Do you stay in this county year round?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	185	93.0%
No	14	7.0%
Total	199	100.0%

**52. Have you traded sex or drugs for a place to stay?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Sex	18	9.0%
Drugs	26	12.9%
Both	49	24.4%
Neither	96	47.8%
Other	12	6.0%
Total	201	100.0%

**53. If you use drugs or alcohol to get high, what are your primary drug of choice?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Marijuana	93	46.7%
Alcohol	70	35.2%
Meth/amphetamines	62	31.2%
Cocaine/ crack	38	19.1%
Prescription medicine	24	12.1%
Heroin	19	9.5%
Cough/cold medicine	17	8.5%
Other	16	8.0%
I don't use drugs/alcohol	56	28.1%

*Multiple response question with 199 respondents offering 395 responses.*

**53a. Why do you use drugs or alcohol?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
To fit in	21	14.2%
To help relate to people	22	14.9%
To make it through the day	67	45.3%
Because everyone else does	24	16.2%
I enjoy it	104	70.3%
Other	28	18.9%

*Multiple response question with 148 respondents offering 266 responses.*

**54. Did your parents or caregivers abuse drugs or alcohol when you were younger?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	75	40.1%
No	112	59.9%
Total	187	100.0%



**55. Do you have an adult in the community that you trust?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	71	35.1%
No	131	64.9%
Total	202	100.0%

**55a. How did you know this person?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Friend	41	59.4%
Drop-in center	14	20.3%
Work	7	10.1%
School	5	7.2%
Social worker	2	2.9%
Other	13	18.8%

*Multiple response question with 69 respondents offering 82 responses.*

**56. Are you currently in school?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	36	17.9%
No	165	82.1%
Total	201	100.0%

**57. Do you plan on finishing school?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	105	52.8%
No	94	47.2%
Total	199	100.0%

**58. Do you plan to go to college?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	95	47.7%
No	104	52.3%
Total	199	100.0%

**59. Do you have plans for your future?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	127	64.5%
No	70	35.5%
Total	197	100.0%

**60. Do you see yourself getting off the streets?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	129	64.8%
No	70	35.2%
Total	199	100.0%

**61. Do you usually plan your life day by day?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	139	70.9%
No	57	29.1%
Total	196	100.0%

**62. How safe do you feel in your current living situation?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very safe	50	25.5%
Somewhat safe	97	49.5%
Not at all safe	49	25.0%
Total	196	100.0%

**63. How many times in the past 30 days has your safety been threatened?**

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 times	100	48.5%
1 time	21	10.2%
2 times	21	10.2%
3 times	10	4.9%
4 times	10	4.9%
5 times	13	6.3%
6 - 10 times	13	6.3%
11 - 20 times	10	4.9%
More than 20 times	8	3.9%
Total	206	100.0%

**64. Since becoming homeless, how often do you feel threaten by:**

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Very often	Always
Physical abuse	20.5% 40	20.0% 39	7.7% 15	6.7% 13	100.0% 195
Sexual abuse	16.4% 32	10.8% 21	4.6% 9	4.1% 8	100.0% 195
Emotional abuse	21.9% 43	13.3% 26	8.7% 17	9.2% 18	100.0% 196
Gang abuse	16.5% 32	16.0% 31	6.7% 13	7.2% 14	100.0% 194

**65. In the past 12 months how often have you experienced:**

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Very often	Always
Physical abuse	21.5% 41	18.8% 36	6.8% 13	5.8% 11	100.0% 191
Sexual abuse	16.1% 31	9.3% 18	4.1% 8	4.1% 8	100.0% 193
Emotional abuse	19.4% 37	15.7% 30	4.7% 9	12.0% 23	100.0% 191
Gang abuse	18.3% 35	16.2% 31	4.7% 9	6.3% 12	100.0% 191

**66. Before becoming homeless, did you experience:**

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Very often	Always
Physical abuse	24.5% 48	7.7% 15	5.6% 11	5.6% 11	100.0% 196
Sexual abuse	13.0% 25	6.2% 12	2.6% 5	4.7% 9	100.0% 193
Emotional abuse	17.0% 33	10.3% 20	5.7% 11	8.8% 17	100.0% 194
Gang abuse	18.9% 36	8.4% 16	2.1% 4	5.3% 10	100.0% 190

**67. Since becoming homeless, how often do you interact with police officers/sheriff?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Never	40	20.3%
Rarely	47	23.9%
Sometimes	57	28.9%
Very often	36	18.3%
Always	17	8.6%
Total	197	100.0%

**68. Have you accessed any youth specific homeless services within the past 12 months?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Never	82	41.6%
Rarely	39	19.8%
Sometimes	45	22.8%
Very often	19	9.6%
Always	12	6.1%
Total	197	100.0%

## APPENDIX VI: SUMMARY FOR THE CONTINUUM OF CARE APPLICATION

The purpose of the following summaries is to provide local jurisdictions with consolidated information to facilitate the completion of the application for Continuum of Care (CoC) funds. The following summaries are based directly upon the results discussed in the body of the report. Please note that the information on the sheltered homeless populations and subpopulations contained in the tables below reflects only those people counted in emergency shelters and transitional housing. Under the HUD definition of homelessness, those housed in jails, hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, or who are living “doubled-up” in a house, do not qualify as homeless.

### Homeless Subpopulations

The following table further breaks down the census data into subpopulations. These data are based on both the homeless census and data from the homeless survey. The results in the following chart are estimates, calculated by applying the survey results to the Point-in-Time homeless census population.

Part 2: Homeless Subpopulations	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
1. Chronically homeless <sup>1</sup>			
a. Chronically homeless individuals	225	2,295	2,520
b. Chronically homeless families	0	35	35
2. Severely mentally ill	595	1,760	2,355
3. Chronic substance abuse	624	2,365	2,989
4. Veterans	152	515	667
5. Persons with HIV/AIDS	18	130	148
6. Victims of domestic violence	150	525	675
7. Unaccompanied children (Under 18 years of age) <sup>2</sup>	65	145	210

<sup>1</sup> The “sheltered” chronically homeless subpopulation includes persons in emergency shelters only.

<sup>2</sup> The number of unaccompanied children is based on Point-in-Time census data rather than a calculation based on survey results.

## APPENDIX VII: DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

**Chronic homelessness** is defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as "an unaccompanied homeless individual (18 or older) with a disabling condition or a family with at least one adult member (18 or older) who has a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years."

**Disabling condition**, for the purposes of this study, was defined as a physical or developmental disability, mental illness, severe depression, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), chronic health problems, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis C, or substance abuse.

**Emergency shelter** is the provision of a safe alternative to the streets, either in a shelter facility, or through the use of motel vouchers. Emergency shelter is short-term, usually for 30 days or less. Domestic violence shelters are typically considered a type of emergency shelter, as they provide safe, immediate housing for victims and their children.

**Family** is defined by HUD as either an adult couple or a single adult with one or more minor children present.

**Homeless persons**, according to the Stewart B. McKinney Act of 1987, are people who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and have a primary nighttime residence that is either a public or private shelter; an institution that provides temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or a public or private location that is not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

**HUD** is an abbreviation for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Sheltered homeless individuals** are those homeless individuals who are living in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs.

**Single individual** refers to an unaccompanied adult or youth.

**Transitional housing** facilitates the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing. It is housing in which homeless individuals may live up to 24 months and receive supportive services that enable them to live more independently. Supportive services – which help promote residential stability, increased skill level or income, and greater self-determination – may be provided by the organization managing the housing, or coordinated by that organization and provided by other public or private agencies. Transitional housing can be provided in one structure or several structures at one site, or in multiple structures at scattered sites.

**Unsheltered homeless persons** are those homeless persons who are living on the streets, in abandoned buildings, storage structures, vehicles, encampments, or any other place unfit for human habitation.

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**HOMELESS CENSUS & SURVEY**



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