

Essex County Annual Homeless Assessment Report

January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012

I. Introduction

The following report provides Essex County Continuum of Care with a look at the HMIS data that was used for the 2012 Northern New Jersey Regional Homeless Assessment Report. This report includes the same categories and population breakdowns that were presented in the Regional Report and can be used for individual comparison.

Identical to the Regional Report, this report is based on unduplicated numbers in which a family is a household with at least one child age 17 or younger and at least one adult age 18 or older. Adult couples were also considered families for this report. All others were considered homeless individuals. Again identical to the Northern Regional Report, a person was considered a youth if they were between the ages of 18 – 24 and were identified as the head of household.

All percentages are based on the total number of actual responses, an answer of “don’t know” or missing data were not represented or calculated in this report.

In order for a HMIS program to be included in this report they needed to be designated in HMIS as a “homeless only” program and have a program category of emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent housing.

III. Findings for Total Population Served

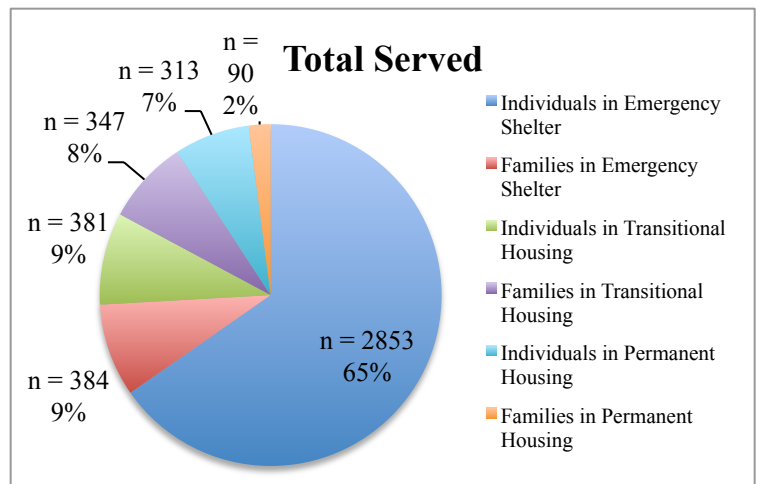
Key Findings:

- A total of 4,368 households were served in HMIS participating emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing programs during the January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012 report period
- A total of 281 individuals were identified as chronically homeless
- 18% of the total population including children and adults either served as individuals or families identified having a disability
- 26% of the total population served was between the ages of 18 and 29
- Among children served as part of a family, 54% were under the age of six
- 63% of the head of households served had obtained their high school diploma/GED or higher education
- 14% of individuals and 65% of families moved on to permanent housing upon discharge

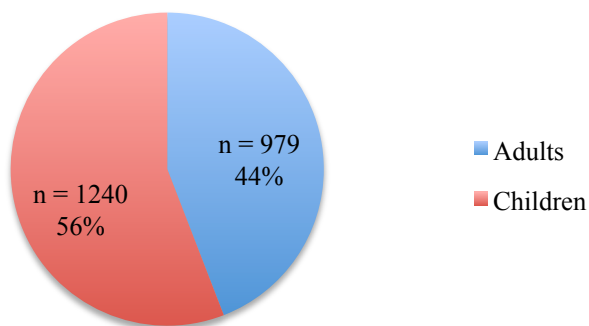
Total Homeless Population.

	Essex County	Northern New Jersey	New Jersey
Total Persons Served	5,766	13,631	25,870
Emergency Shelter	3,901	9,122	17,776
Individuals	2,853	6,520	12,163
Families	1,048	2,602	5,613
Transitional Housing	1,276	2,510	4,837
Individuals	381	746	2,072
Families	895	1,764	2,765
Permanent Housing	589	1,999	3,257
Individuals	313	1,410	2,217
Families	276	589	1,040

A total of 4,368 households involving 5,766 persons were housed in Essex County. This represents 42% of all 10,513 households as well as 42% of all 13,631 persons who were homeless throughout Northern New Jersey.

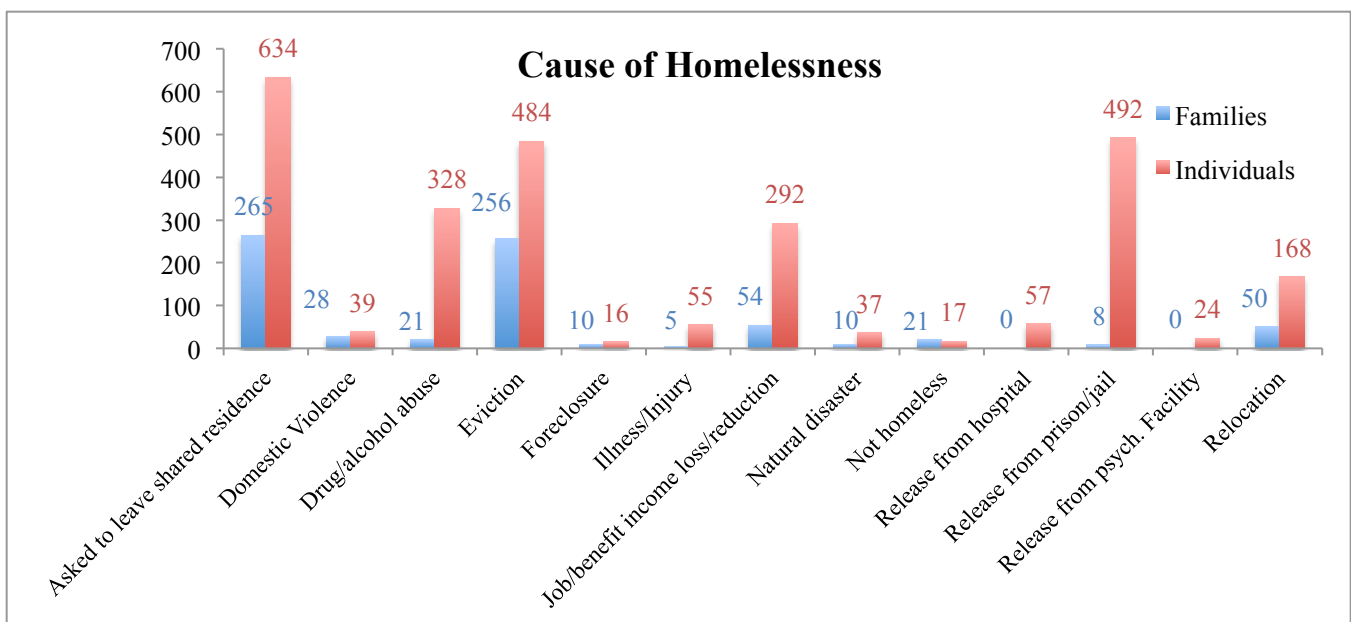


Adults vs. Children in Families

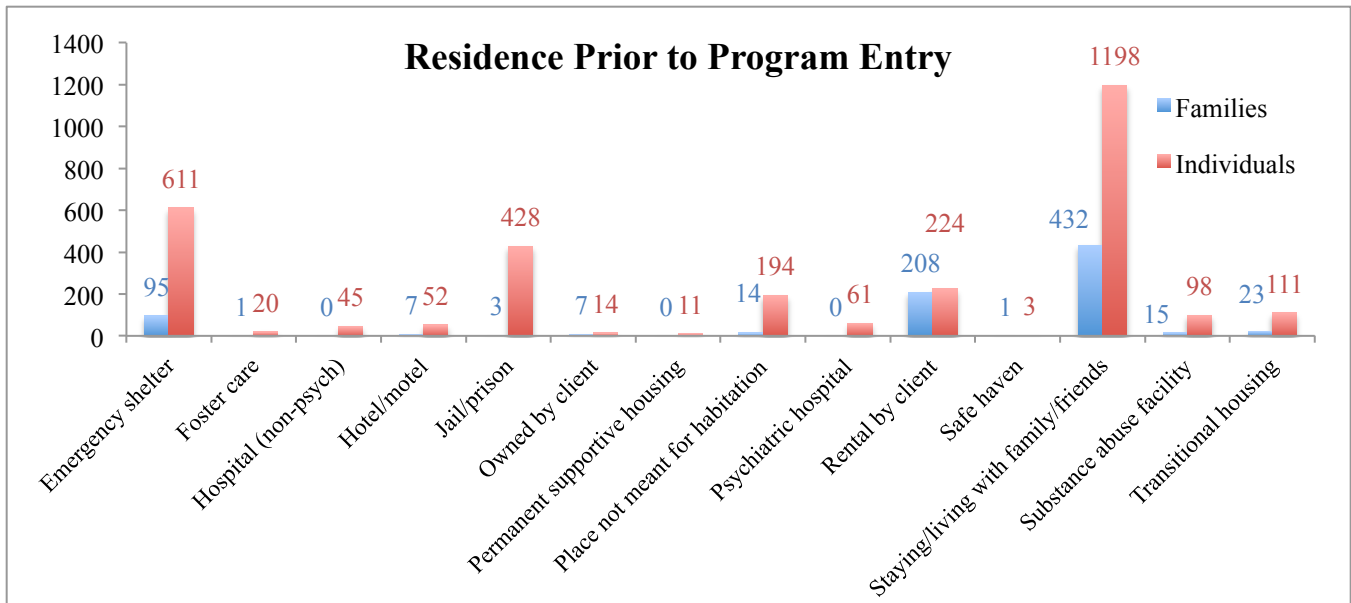


Adults vs. Children in Families. The average size of a homeless family in Essex County is 3 persons for all three program categories. The average age for children in families in emergency shelter and transitional housing is 6, while the average age for children in permanent housing is 9 years old.

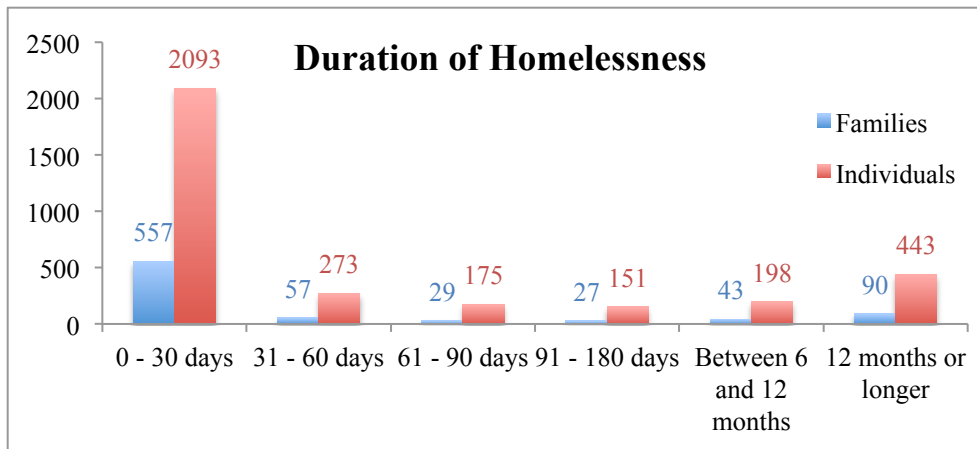
Cause of Homelessness.



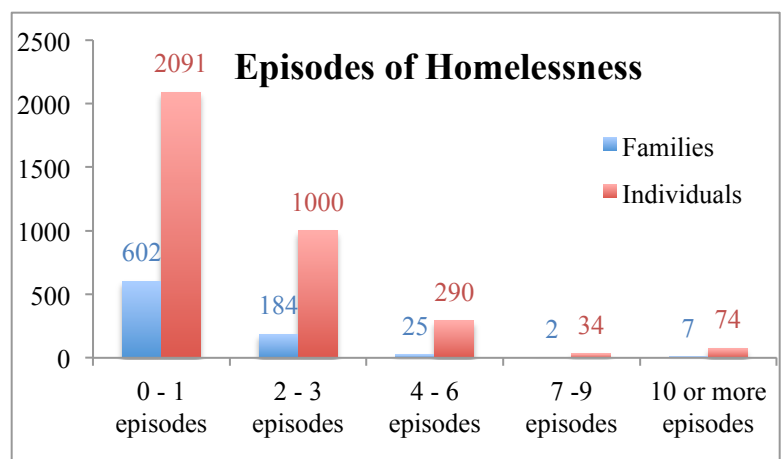
Residence Prior to Program Entry.



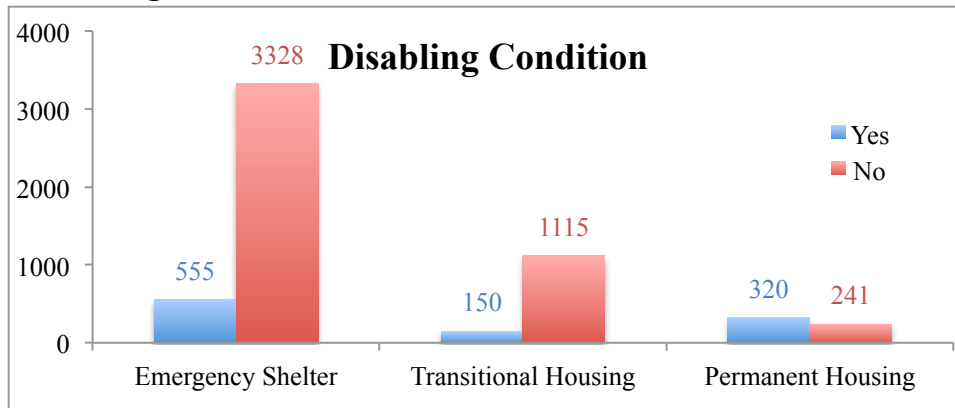
Length of Homeless Episode Prior to Program Entry.



Episodes of Homelessness and Chronic Homelessness. Out of all individuals served, a total of 281 or 8% were identified as chronically homeless.



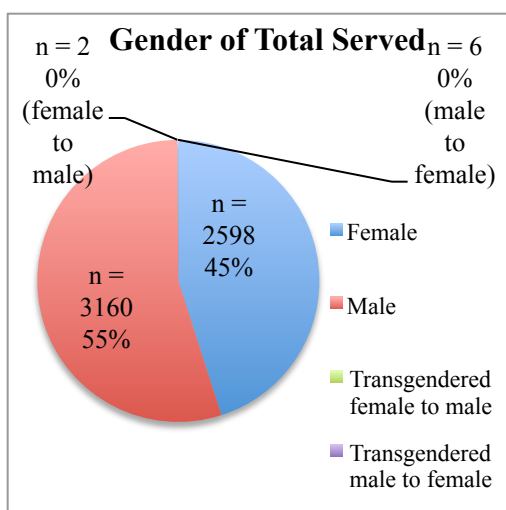
Disabling Condition.



For those whom indicated a disabling condition, the breakdown is as follows:

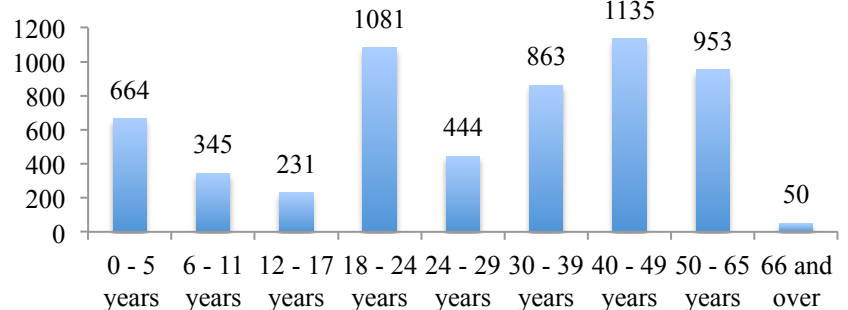
Disabling Condition	Individuals	%	Families	%
Yes	431	48%	64	47%
Yes – Chronic physical illness or disability	95	11%	24	18%
Yes – Developmental disability	15	2%	11	8%
Yes – Diagnosable substance use disorder	90	10%	12	9%
Yes – Dually diagnosed	81	9%	14	10%
Yes – Serious mental illness	177	20%	11	8%
Total	889	100%	136	100%

Gender and Age Range.



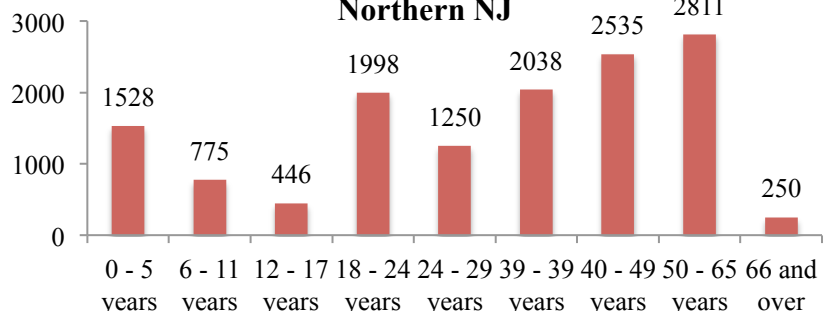
Age Range of Total Served

Essex



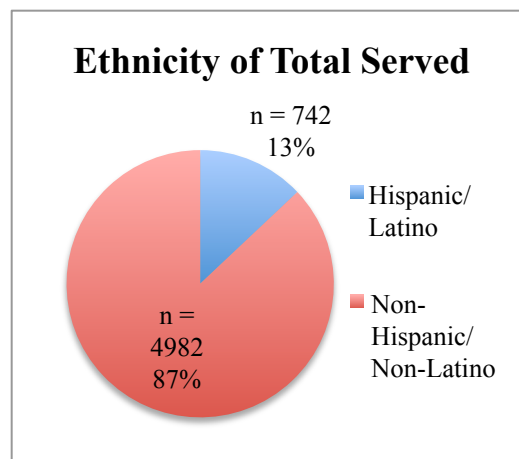
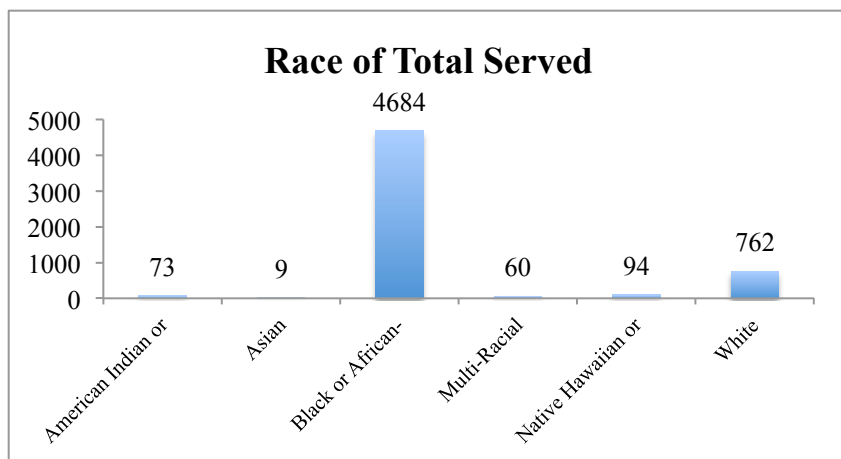
Age Range for Total Served

Northern NJ

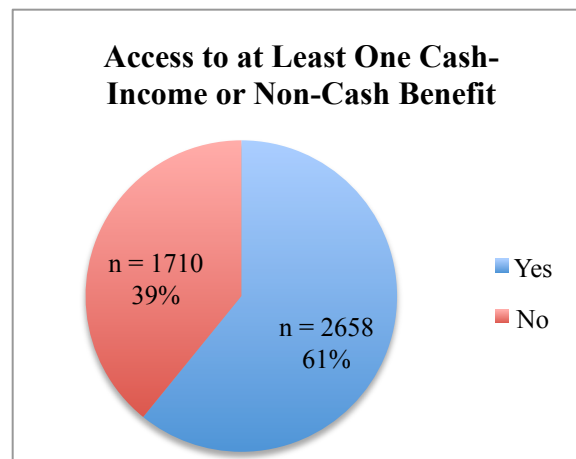
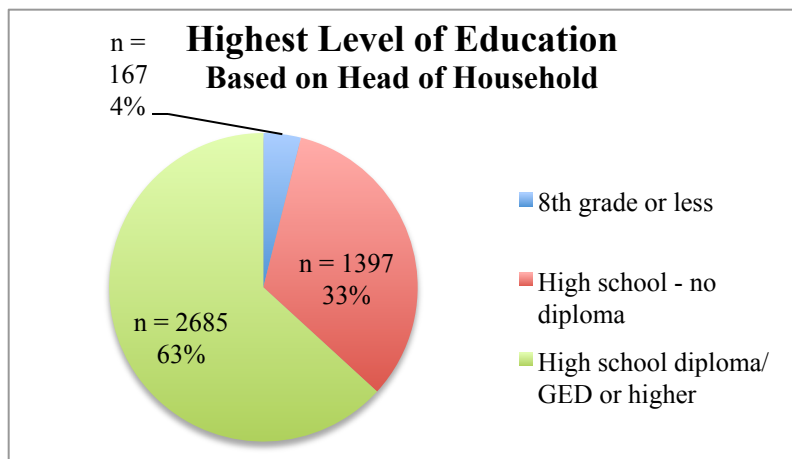


Veteran Status. A total of 255 veterans were served in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing programs. This accounted for 6% of all adults served.

Race and Ethnicity.



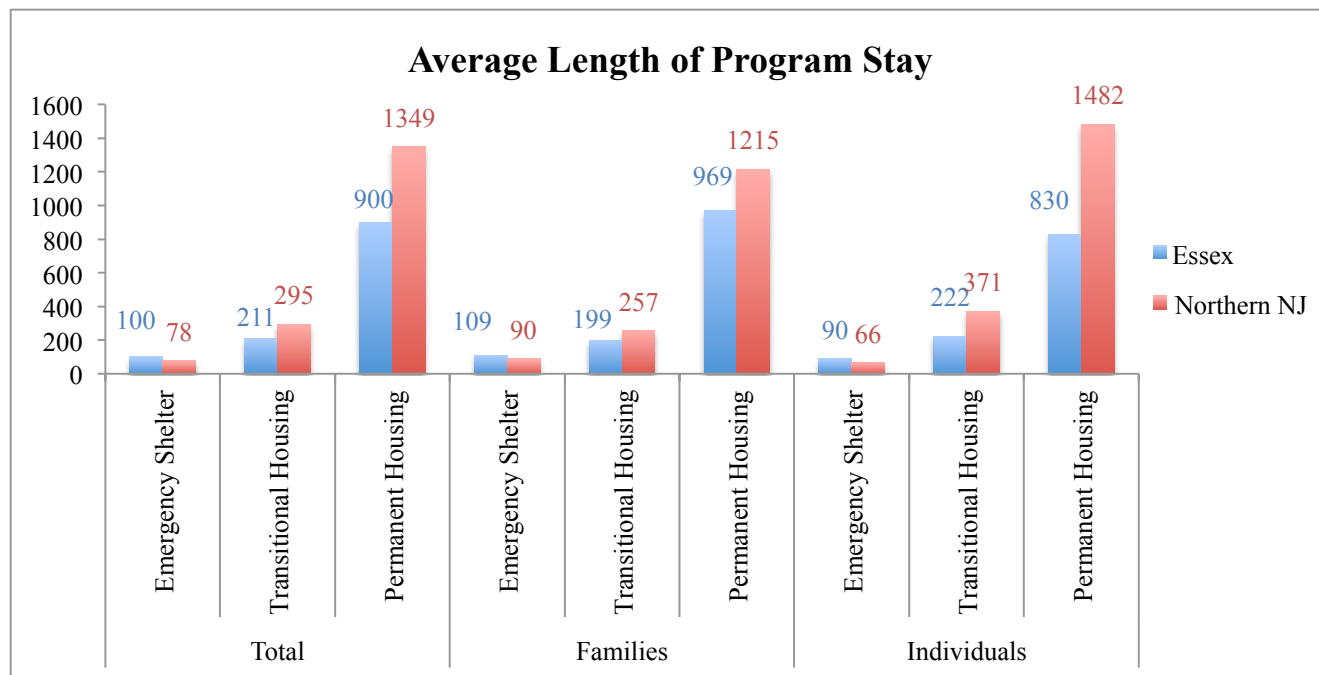
Level of Education and Access to Cash-Income/Non-Cash Benefits.



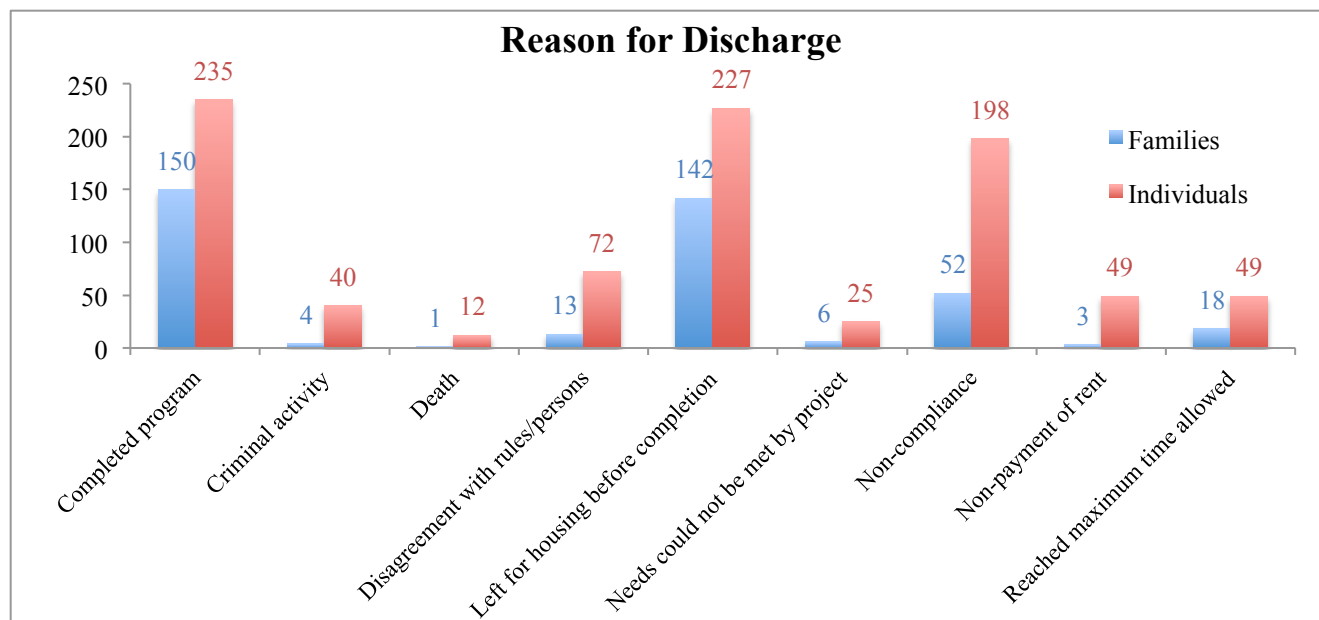
General Public Assistance was the most reported cash-income with a total of 19% of all households served receiving GA.

The most reported non-cash benefit for all households was Food Stamps with 45% of households receiving this benefit.

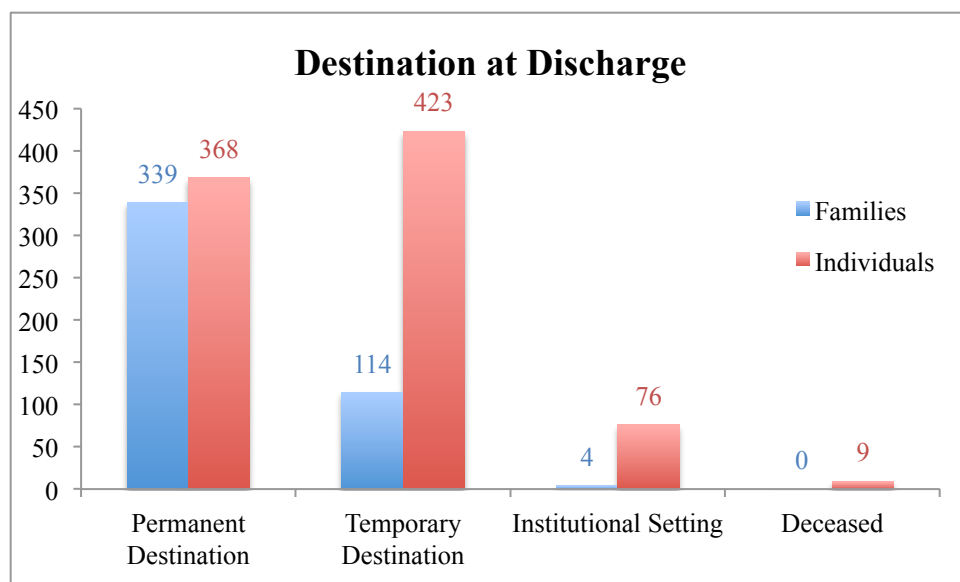
Average Length of Program Stay.



Reason and Destination at Discharge.



A total of 3,222 households were discharged during the 2012 reporting period. A permanent housing destination includes a unit owned or rented by a client, permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless person, or living with a family member or friend permanently. The most common permanent housing response was rental by client with 17% of total households moving into a rental. This rental could be with or without a subsidy. A temporary discharge destination includes an emergency shelter, hotel or motel, place not meant for habitation, staying with a family member or friend temporarily, or transitional housing for homeless persons. The most common form of temporary housing as a destination was emergency shelter, which involved 32% of the total population. An institutional destination includes hospital (psychiatric or non-psychiatric), jail or prison, or a substance abuse treatment facility. The most common institutional destination reported was jail/prison with 2% of the total discharges.



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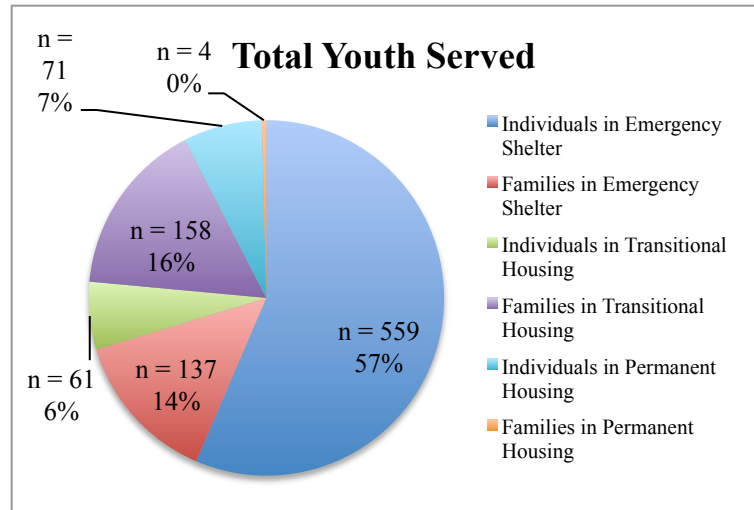
staying with a family member or friend temporarily, or transitional housing for homeless persons. The most common form of temporary housing as a destination was emergency shelter, which involved 32% of the total population. An institutional destination includes hospital (psychiatric or non-psychiatric), jail or prison, or a substance abuse treatment facility. The most common institutional destination reported was jail/prison with 2% of the total discharges.

IV. Findings for Youth Population

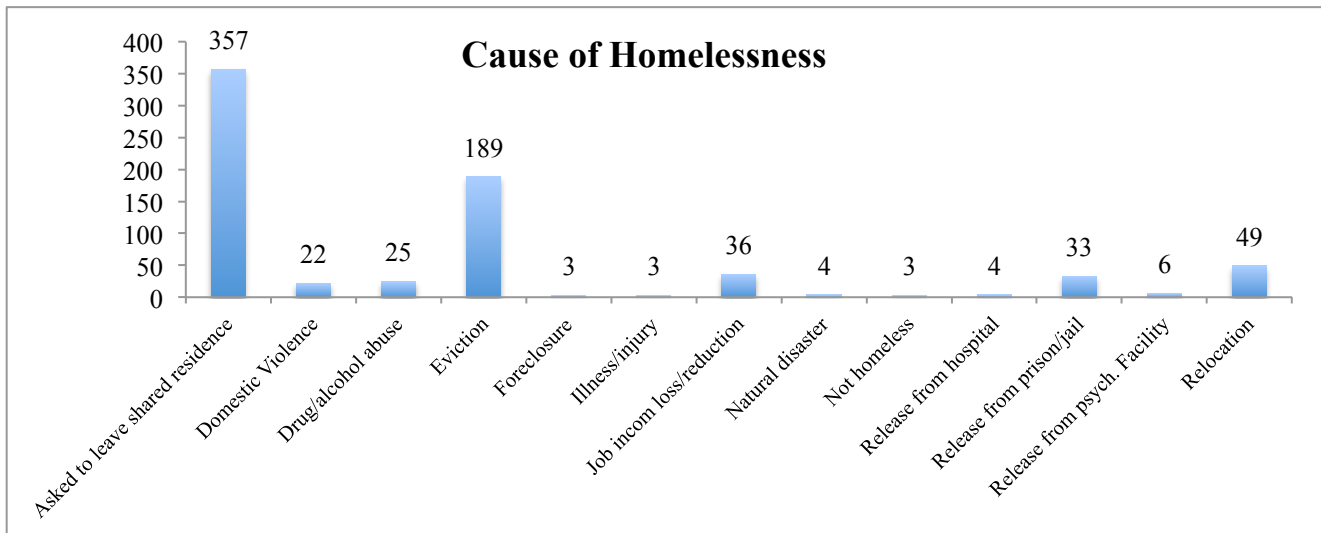
Key Findings

- A total of 990 homeless youth were served in HMIS participating emergency shelters, transitional housing, or permanent housing programs during the January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012 report period
- Youth households represented 22% of those served in emergency shelter, 30% of those served in transitional housing, and 19% of those served in permanent housing
- 63% of youth served were female which differed from the total population in which 55% were male
- Youth had shorter program stays in all three program categories when compared to the total population
- 26% of youth were discharged into permanent destinations upon exiting the program

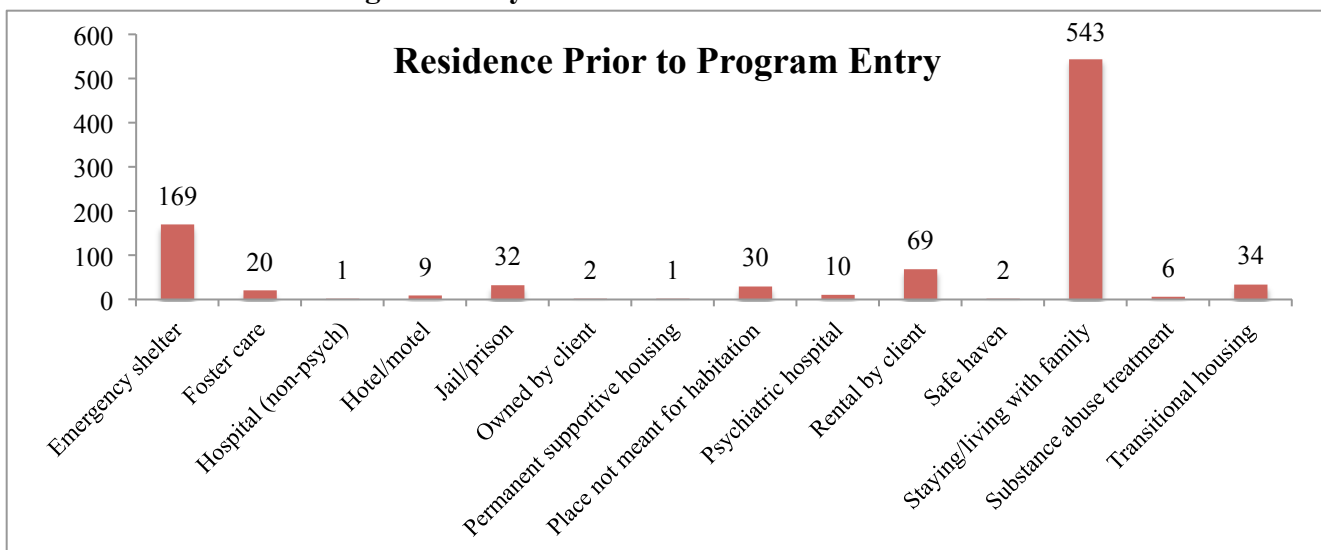
Total Served. A total of 990 youth were served as a head of household in Essex County during the January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012 reporting period. Youth households represent 22% (696) of households served in emergency shelters, 30% (219) of households served in transitional housing, and 19% (75) of households served in permanent housing. The average age of youth served was 21 in all three program categories.



Cause of Homelessness.

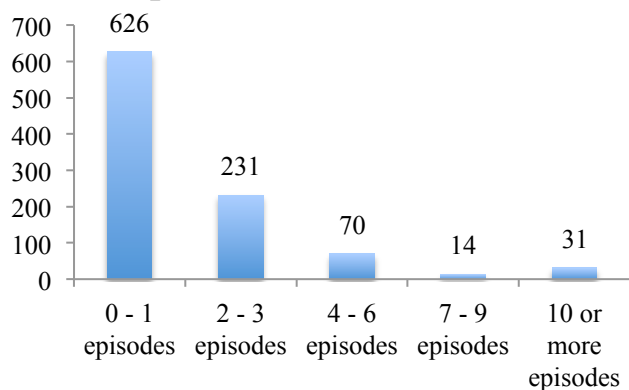


Residence Prior to Program Entry.

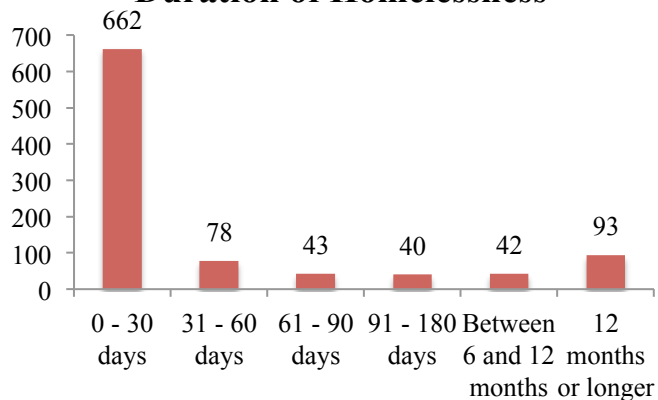


Episodes and Duration of Homelessness and Chronic Homelessness. A total of 31 homeless youth were identified as chronically homeless during this reporting period. This number represents 11% of the total number of individuals identified as chronically homeless.

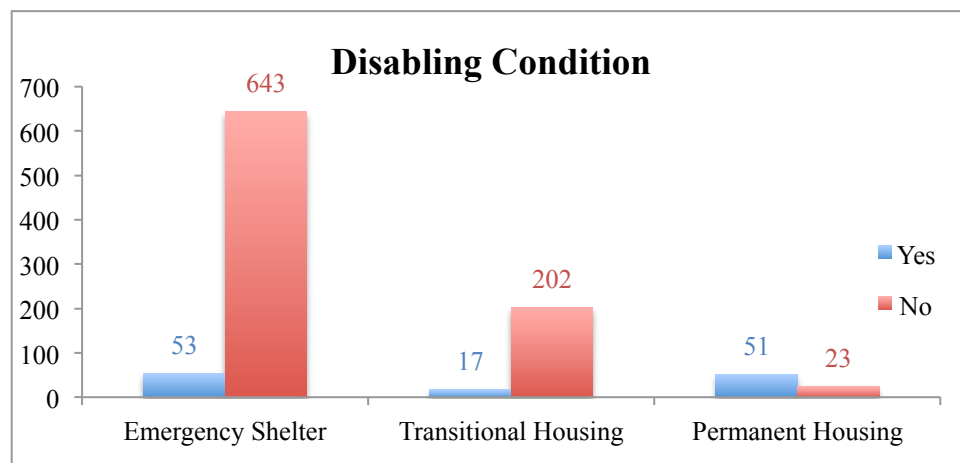
Episodes of Homelessness



Duration of Homelessness



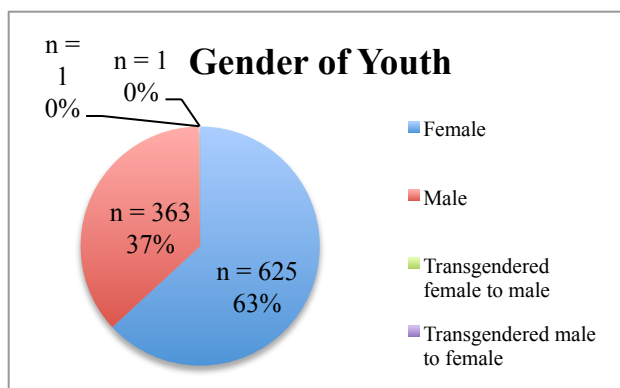
Disabling Condition.



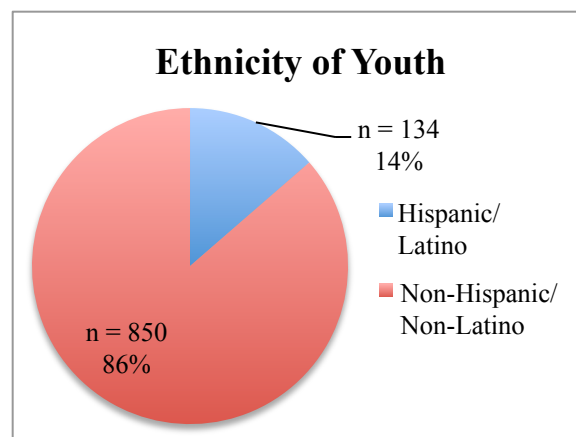
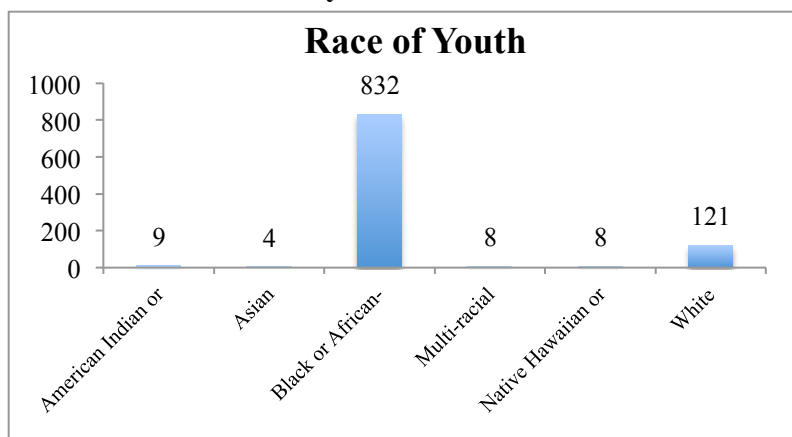
For those indicating a disabling condition, the breakdown is as follows:

Disabling Condition	Youth	%
Yes	95	79%
Yes – Chronic physical illness or disability	4	3%
Yes – Developmental disability	4	3%
Yes – Diagnosable substance use disorder	3	2%
Yes – Dually diagnosed	4	3%
Yes – Serious mental illness	11	9%
Total	121	100%

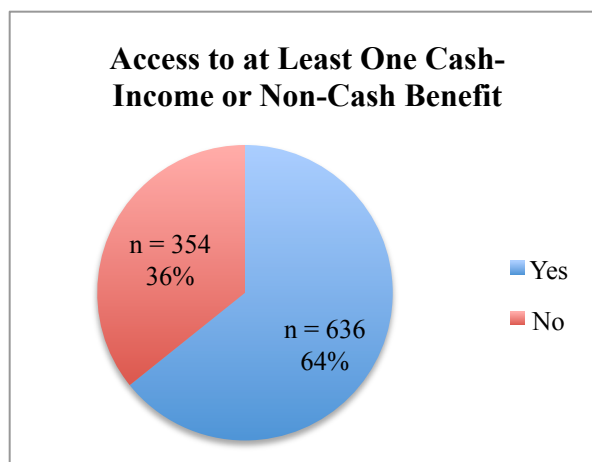
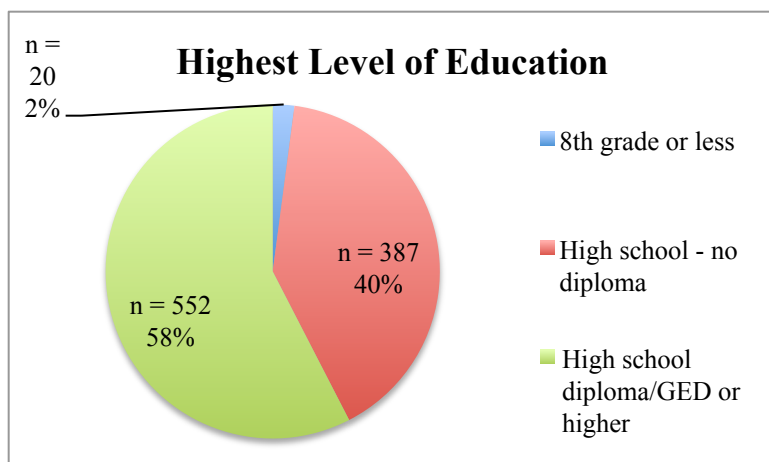
Gender and Veterans Served. A total of 6 youth served throughout Essex County identified themselves as a veteran. This accounts for 2% of the total veterans served.



Race and Ethnicity.

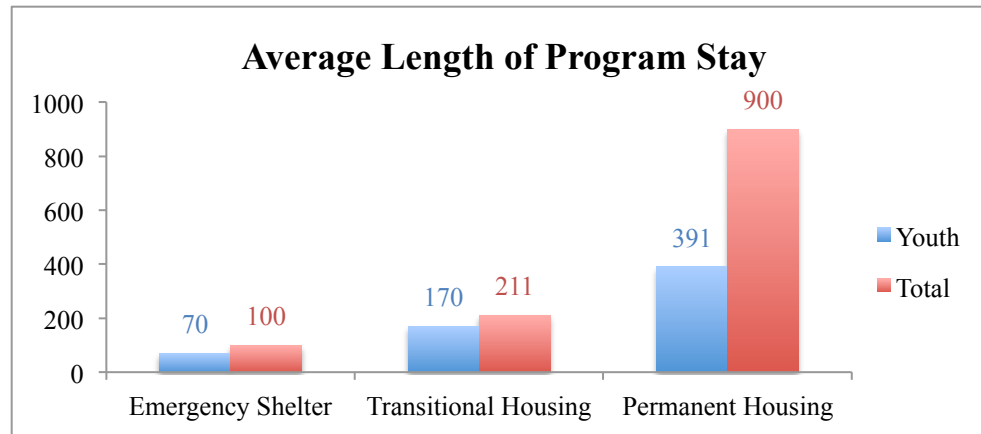


Level of Education and Cash-Income Sources/Non-Cash Benefits.

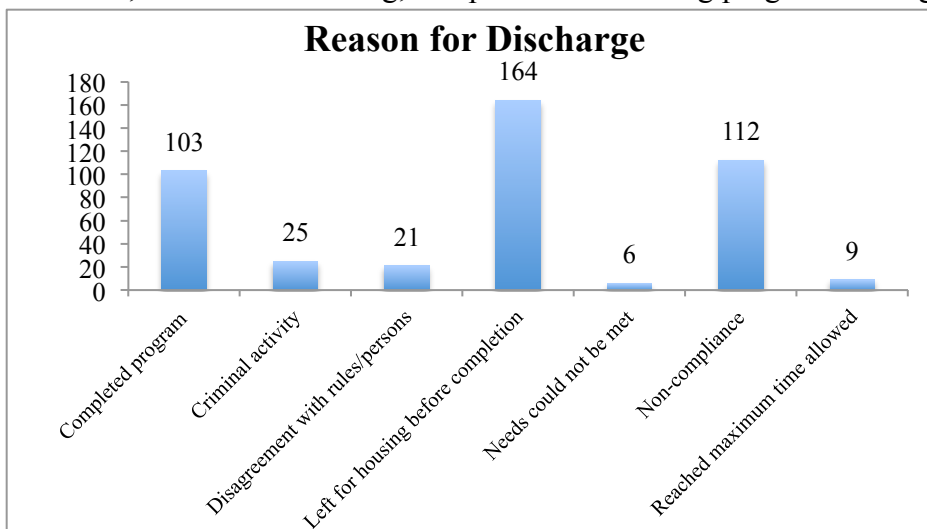


The most commonly reported cash-income for youth was TANF with 26% of the youth served receiving TANF.

The most commonly reported non-cash benefit by youth was Food Stamps with 43% of the youth population receiving this benefit.

Average Length of Program Stay.

Reason and Destination at Discharge. A total of 774 youth were discharged from emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing programs during the 2012 reporting period.



A permanent housing destination includes a unit owned or rented by a client, permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless, or living with a family member or friend permanently. The most common permanent destination at discharge was a rental by client which accounted for 20% of the total responses. A temporary

discharge destination includes an emergency shelter, hotel or motel, place not meant for habitation, staying with a family member or friend temporarily, or transitional housing for the homeless. The most common temporary destination was staying with family/friends temporarily, which accounted for 17% of the responses. An institutional destination includes hospital (psychiatric or non-psychiatric), jail or prison, or a substance abuse treatment facility. The most commonly reported institutional destination was jail or prison with 1% of the total discharges.

