Monarch Housing Associates

29 Alden Street, Suite 1B
Cranford, NJ 07016

908.272.5363

www.monarchhousing.org

monarch
HOUSING ASSOCIATES

NJ
2019
Counts!

Gloucester County 2019 Point-In-Time Count of the Homeless

January 22, 2019

Acknowledgements

Table of Contents

This report was prepared for
The New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency
by
Monarch Housing Associates

I. Introduction

NJ Counts 2019, New Jersey's annual Point-In-Time (PIT) Count of the Homeless, provides a statewide snapshot of households experiencing homelessness in our communities; where they find shelter, what their needs are, and what factors contribute to making them homeless. The 2019 Count reveals important demographic and other information about families and individuals experiencing homelessness on the night of Tuesday, January 22nd, 2019. These findings help to understand how to better allocate housing resources and services in order to prevent and end homelessness.

This Report

The structure of this report is intended to provide not only an overall snapshot of the counted homeless population counted in the Point-In-Time, but also to focus attention on the homeless subpopulations that are the most in need, and those that represent federal funding priorities set forth by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The findings in this report are presented in the following sections:

1. Racial Disparities among the Total Homeless Population;
2. Total homeless population;
3. Subpopulations
   a. Unsheltered
   b. Chronically Homeless
   c. Veterans
   d. Victims of Domestic Violence
   e. Youth

In addition to the main findings presented in the body of this report, Appendix B includes charts illustrating the responses to all survey questions that were part of the 2019 Point-In-Time Count. Appendix A contains information on data collection and methodology.

Definition of Terms

Household - any group of persons who, if they were able to attain permanent housing, would choose to live together; and, shared the same sleeping arrangements on the night of the count." Three different types of households are discussed below: households with adults and children under 18 ('families'), households without children ('individuals'), and households with only children under 18 ('unaccompanied youth').

Unsheltered homeless - applies to any individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.

Emergency Shelter - any facility, the primary purpose of which is to provide a temporary shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless and which does not require occupants to sign leases or occupancy agreements.

Transitional Housing - a project that is designed to provide housing and appropriate supportive services to homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months.

Safe Haven - a form of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons with severe mental illness who come primarily from the streets and have been unable or unwilling to participate in housing or supportive services. Safe Haven programs offer low barriers to program entry and low-demand services and referrals in a 24-hour residential setting to no more than 25 persons

Changes affecting the 2019 Point-in-Time Count

For 2019, a number of factors contributed to significant changes in the counted population experiencing homelessness. The factors impacting the count vary from community to community and are best described locally.

When reviewing data included in this report, it is important to keep in mind that the Point-in-Time data includes a census of all persons in sheltering programs (emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe haven programs) as well as the unsheltered population identified on the night of the count. While there is uniformity and complete coverage in data collection for those utilizing the sheltering system within communities, each county develops a local methodology to identify and engage unsheltered persons within the community. As such, the strength of the unsheltered count varies from community to community. In addition, it is generally accepted that while communities work to identify and engage all persons living unsheltered within their geographic region, the count of persons unsheltered in the community may not reflect the full population experiencing homelessness.

II. Racial Disparities in Total Homeless Population

NJ Counts 2019 provides a snapshot of the population experiencing homelessness in the state of New Jersey on a single night. The results of this report are intended to assist communities in understanding the characteristics and needs of those experiencing homelessness to improve service delivery and resource targeting to effectively end homelessness. As communities work to expand their understanding of the root causes of homelessness it is important recognize the structural forces impacting trajectories into and out of homelessness. Disparities in who experiences homelessness highlight the impact of a pervasive structural force: Systemic Racism. Acknowledging and understanding the impact of systemic racism on those experiencing homelessness is key to developing an effective system responsive to the community and strengthened in cultural understanding and awareness.

On January 22, 2019 there were 103 persons experiencing homelessness on a single night in Gloucester County. Figure R.1 illustrates the racial breakdown of the total population in Gloucester County, those living below the poverty line, and those experiencing homelessness.

Fig. R.1: Percent of Population by Race and Ethnicity
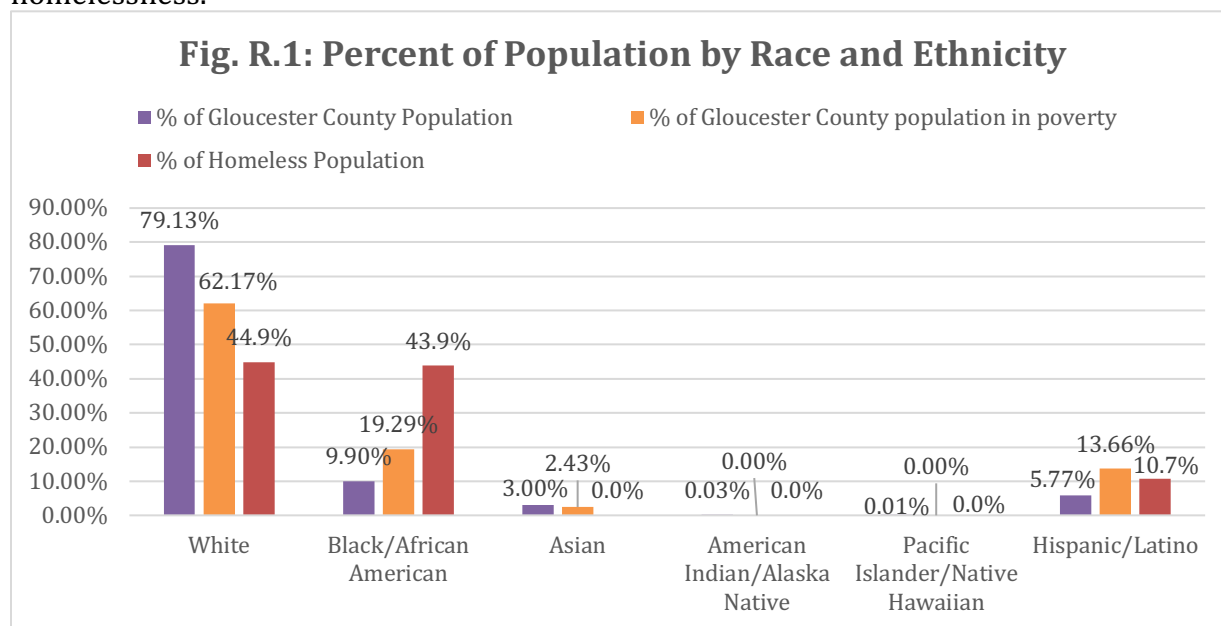
In looking at the racial breakdown of those experiencing homelessness in relation to the racial breakdown in the general population and those living in poverty, disparate impacts along racial lines become evident. According to the American Community Survey 2017 annual estimates prepared by the Census Bureau, about 291,372 people live in Gloucester County, and 7.8% (22,815 persons) of Gloucester County residents are living below the poverty line. There is a strong correlation between poverty and homelessness, however, the racial disparities evident in the counted homeless population indicate that poverty alone does not determine who will experience homelessness. Given the disparities present in the data, it is evident that systemic racism plays a significant role in factors contributing to homelessness. The data from Figure R.1 indicates the following:

- Persons identifying as Black or African American and Hispanic/Latino are overrepresented in the population experiencing homelessness. While 9.9% of the general population, persons identifying as Black or African American are 19.3% of the population in poverty and 43.9% of the counted population experiencing homelessness. Persons identifying as Hispanic/Latino are 5.8% of the total population, 13.7% of the population in poverty and 10.7% of the population counted as homeless.
- Persons identifying as Black or African American represent 45.8% of the sheltered population (staying in emergency shelter, transitional housing or safe havens) and 33.3% of the unsheltered population. Persons identifying as White non-Hispanic/Latino represent 41% of the sheltered population and 66.7% (or 10 persons) of the unsheltered population. Persons identifying as Hispanic/Latino represent 13.3% of the sheltered population and 0% of the unsheltered population.

Fig. R.2: Percent of Household Type by Race
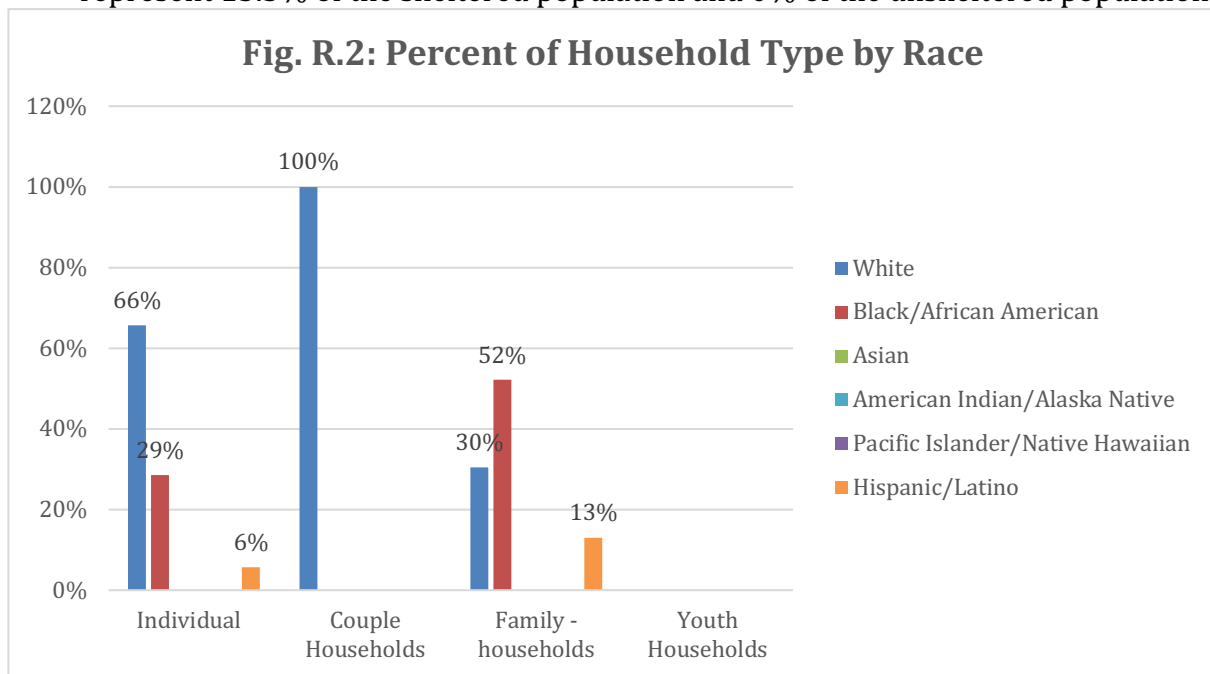
Figure R.2 illustrates the racial breakdown within each household type for those counted as experiencing homelessness.
- Persons identifying as White make up the majority of Individual and Couple household types counted, while those identifying as Black or African American make up the majority of Family households counted.
- 28% of Black or African American households and 27% of Hispanic/Latino households were families as compared to 16% of White households.

Disparities along racial and ethnic lines in the identified population experiencing homelessness are seen in a number of other areas including the following:
- 44% of persons identifying as Black or African American and 55% of persons identifying as Hispanic/Latino were under the age of 18 as compared to 20% of persons identifying as White.

- 31% of all respondents identified as Black or African American females.
- The majority of homeless persons identifying as Black or African American (16%) and Hispanic Latino (18%) reported that their prior residence before becoming homeless was living with family or friends, as compared to the majority of persons identifying as White reporting that their prior residence was permanent housing (20%).
- 34% of persons identifying as White reported receiving Medicaid as compared to 26% of persons identifying as Black or African American and 27% of persons identifying as Hispanic/Latino.
- 57% of persons identifying as White indicated a disabling condition, as compared to 30% of persons identifying as Black or African American and 36% of persons identifying as Hispanic/Latino.

Fig. R.3: Disabling Condition by Race
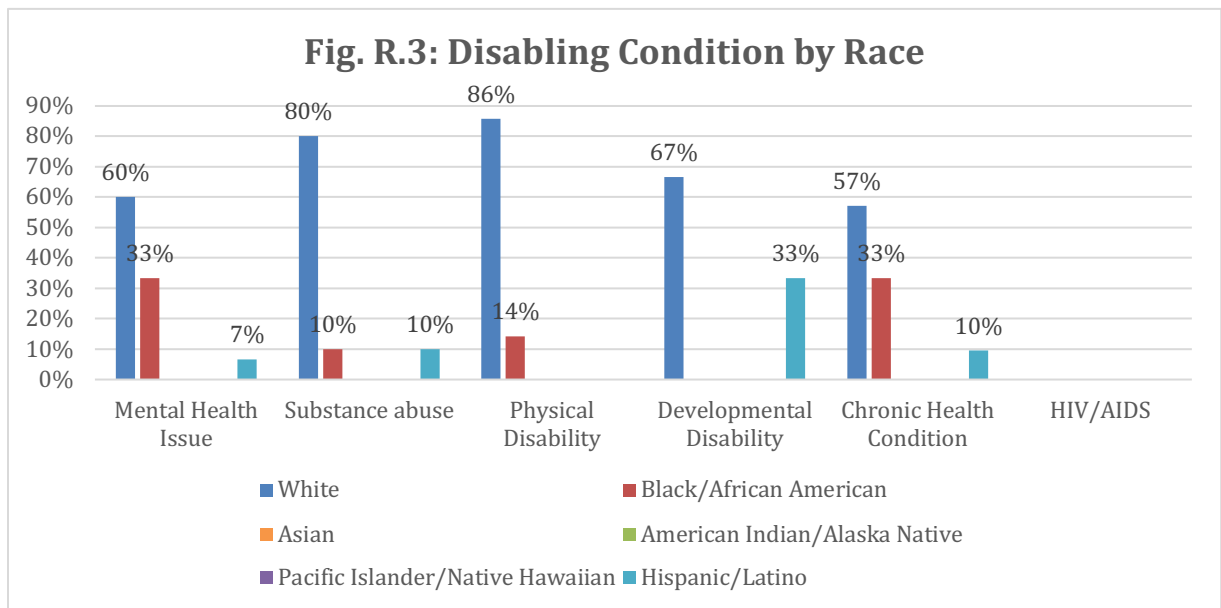
Figure R.3 illustrates the racial breakdown within each disabling condition reported.
- 41% of persons identifying as White, 23% of persons identifying as Black or African American and 18% of persons identifying as Hispanic/Latino had a mental health issue.
- 18% of persons identifying as White, 2% of persons identifying as Black or African American and 9% of persons identifying as Hispanic/Latino reported a substance abuse disorder.
- 30% of all respondents identified as White with a mental health issue (18%) or White with a chronic health condition (12%).

Disparities were seen in a number of other questions included in the PIT survey in addition to the ones reported here. Given this information, it is clear that more research is needed to fully understand the causes, correlations and impacts as it relates to racial disparities. In addition, this information highlights the need for homeless service systems to make deliberate efforts to understand and address racial disparities in order to better serve those experiencing homelessness and effectively end their homelessness.

III. Findings for Total Homeless Population

Key Findings
- On the night of January 22nd, 2019, a total of 59 households, including 103 persons, were experiencing homelessness in Gloucester County, according to the 2019 Point-In-Time Count.
- A total of 8 persons in 7 households were identified as chronically homeless.
- 15 persons in 14 households were unsheltered on the night of the count.

	Total Homeless Persons	% of Total Homeless Persons	Sheltered Homeless Persons	% of Sheltered Homeless Persons	Unsheltered Homeless Persons	% of Unsheltered Homeless Persons
Figure i. Number of Homeless Persons by Municipality and Percentage of County Total						
Municipality						
Clayton	5	6%	5	6%	0	0%
Deptford	1	1%	0	0%	1	8%
Glassboro	65	73%	63	82%	2	17%
Logan	1	1%	0	0%	1	8%
Mantua	1	1%	0	0%	1	8%
Monroe	8	9%	5	6%	3	25%
National Park	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%
West Deptford	3	3%	2	3%	1	8%
Westville	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%
Woodbury	2	2%	0	0%	2	17%
Woodbury Heights	1	1%	0	0%	1	8%
Total	**89***		**77**		**12***	

*Does not reflect total homeless persons counted as some survey responses may not have included municipality

Total Homeless Population

On the night of January 22nd, 2019, a total of 103 persons, in 59 households, were experiencing homelessness in Gloucester County, according to the 2019 Point-In-Time Count. This is a decrease of 41 persons (28%) and 12 households (17%) from the number counted in 2018.

Fig. 1: 5-Year Comparison of Total Homeless Population by Housing Situation
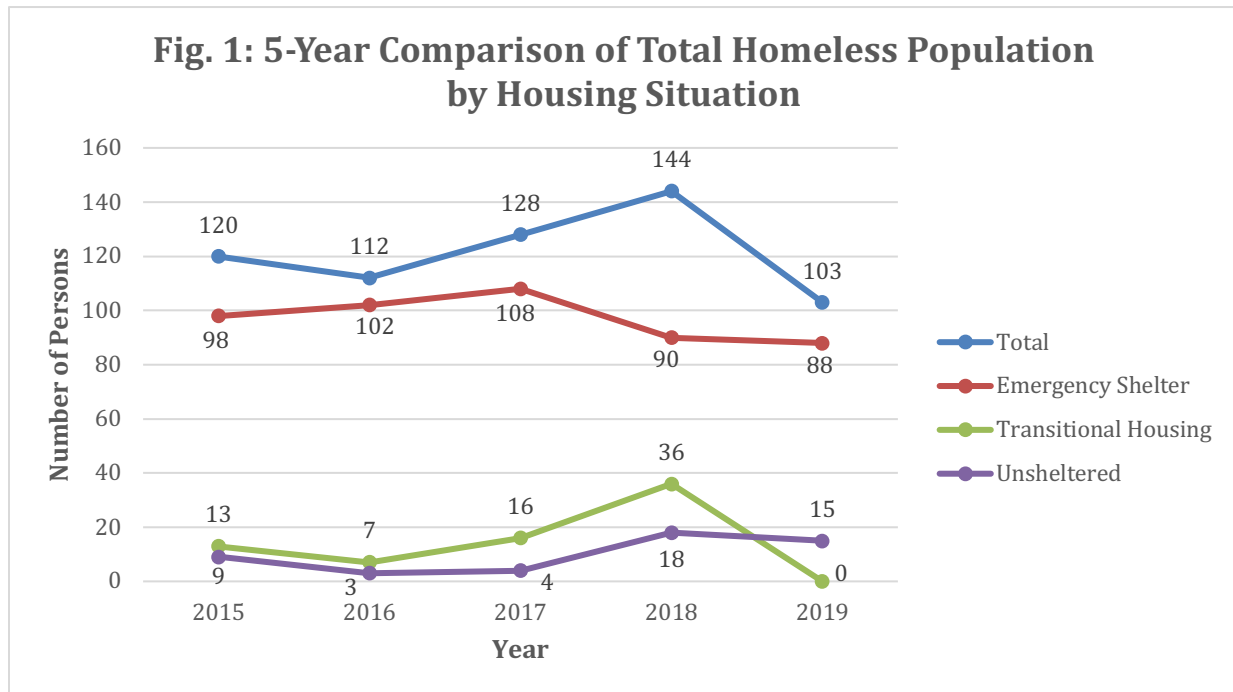
Figure 1 shows that, in 2019, 88 homeless persons stayed in emergency shelters, 0 stayed in transitional housing, and 15 were identified as unsheltered on the night of the count. When comparing to 2018, decreases are seen in the number of counted homeless persons staying in emergency shelter (2 persons, 2%), in transitional housing (36 persons, 100%) and those identified as unsheltered (3 persons, 17%).

Figure 1 also shows that, over the past five years, Gloucester County has seen an overall decrease of 17 counted persons, or 14% from 2015 to 2019. Over this 5-year period, there was a 10% decrease in persons staying in emergency shelter and 100% decrease in persons staying in transitional housing. There was a 67% increase in persons identified as unsheltered between 2015 and 2019.

As Figure 2 shows, 43% of the homeless household respondents in Gloucester County in 2019 reported that their last permanent address prior to becoming homeless was outside of the county.

Fig. 2: Percentage of Households by County of Last Permanent Address
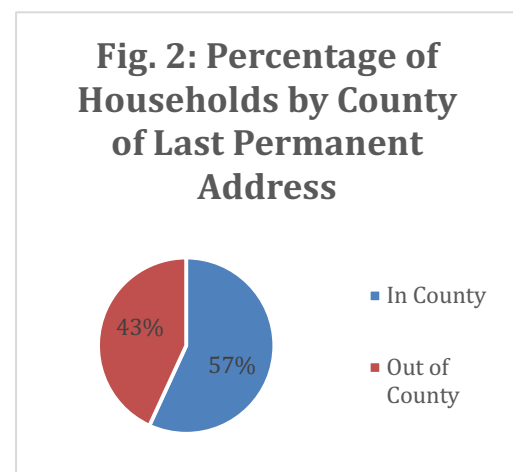
Homeless Families and Individuals

When reading the data regarding different types of homeless households, it is important for the reader to remember that, in this report, 'household' means "any group of persons who, if they were able to attain permanent housing, would choose to live together; and, shared the same sleeping arrangements on the night of the count."

Fig. 3: Homeless Households by Housing Situation
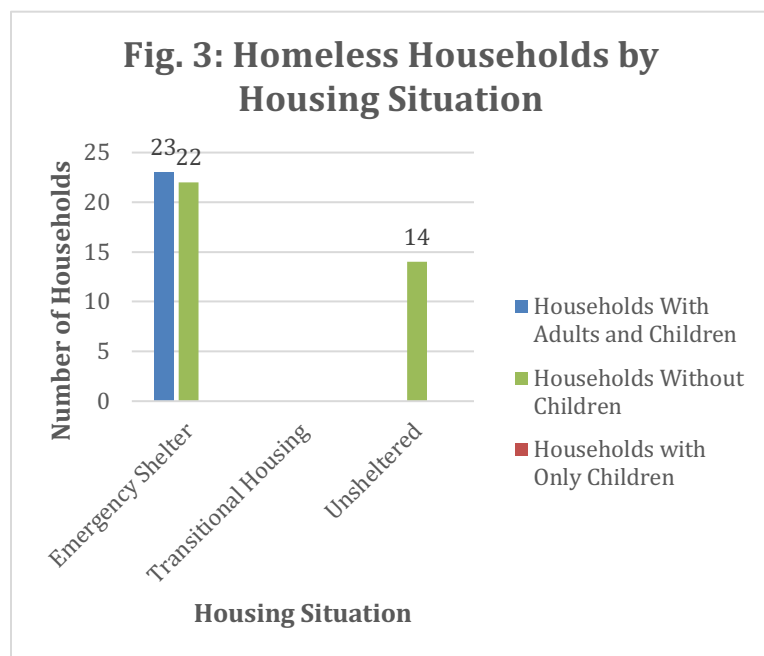
Of the 59 homeless households counted in Gloucester County in 2019, 23 (39%) were families with at least one child under the age of 18 and one adult. This is a decrease of about 32% from the number counted in 2018. These families included 66 persons, including 38 children under age 18 and 28 adults. The average family size was 2.87 persons. Figure 3 shows that 23 families (100%) were staying in emergency shelters. There were no identified unsheltered families experiencing homelessness on the night of the count.

36 (61%) of the counted homeless households in Gloucester County were households without children under 18, and they were composed of 37 adults. This is equivalent to the number of adult only households identified in 2018. The majority of adult only households (61%) were staying in emergency shelters on the night of the count. 14 adult only households were identified as unsheltered in 2019, an increase of 7 households (100%) from the number counted in 2018.

As Figure 3 indicates, there was 0 unaccompanied youth household identified in 2019. This is a decrease of 1 from the 1 unaccompanied youth household identified in 2018.

Demographics

There was a total of 10 (10%) identified homeless adults between 18 and 24 years old, 55 (53%) adults over age 24, and 38 (37%) children under 18 years old experiencing homelessness on the night of the count. Figure 4 shows that the age range most represented is Children between the ages of 0 and 5 (21 persons, 20%).

62.1% (64) of homeless persons were females, 37.9% (39) were male.

Fig. 4: Age Range by Housing Situation

Legend:
- ■ Unsheltered
- ■ Transitional Housing
- ■ Emergency Shelter

X-axis (Age Range): Children 0-5 (21); Children 6-17 (17); Young Adults 18-24 (1, 9); Adults 25-34 (3, 14); Adults 35-44 (5, 11); Adults 45-54 (2, 11); Adults 55-64 (4, 5); Adults 65+
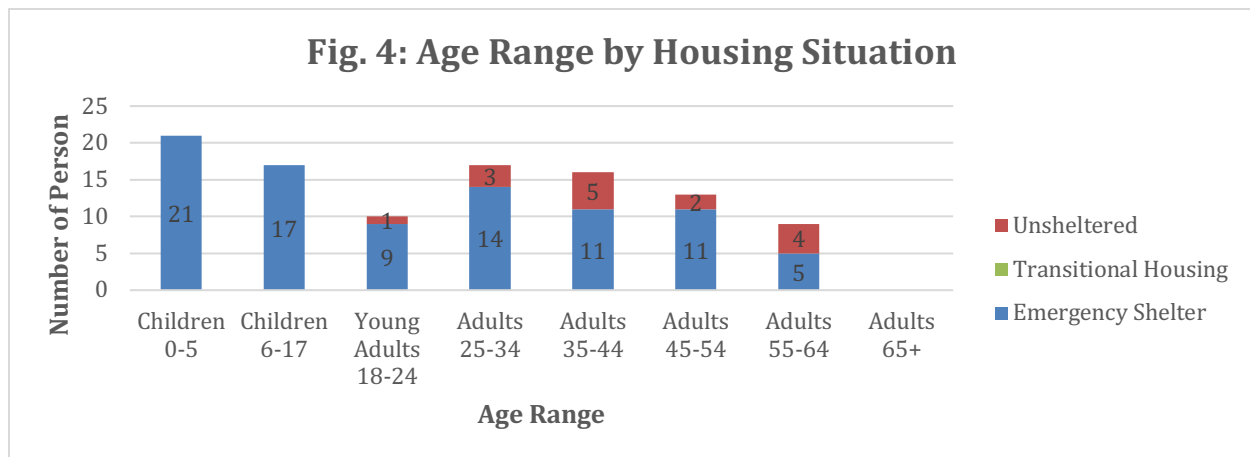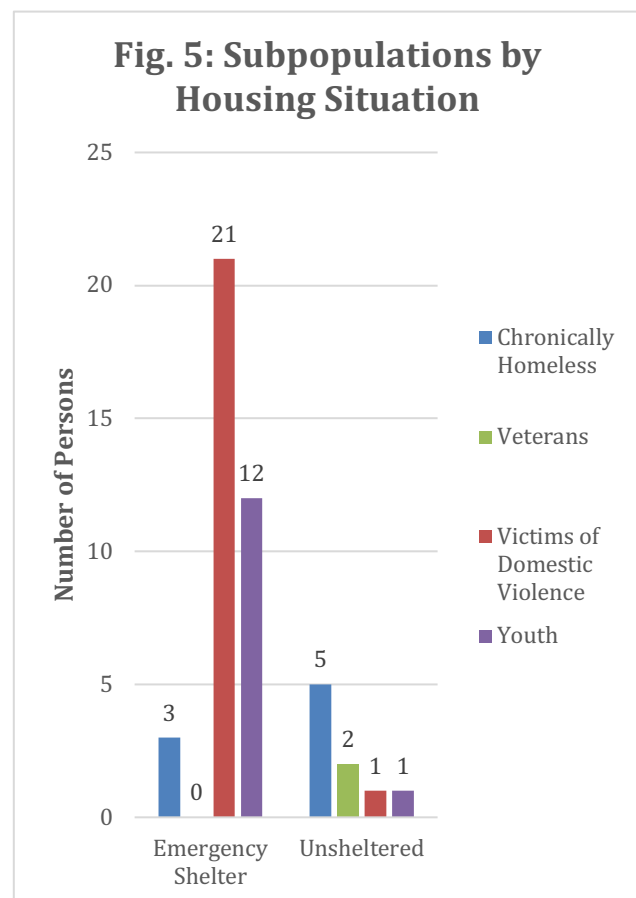
47.8% (44) of persons identified their race as White, making this the largest racial subgroup of homeless persons counted. The next largest group self-identified as Black or African American (46.7%, 43 persons). With regard to ethnicity, 10.7% of persons identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino.

Subpopulations

On the night of January 22, 2019 out of the 103 persons identified as homeless, there were a total of 8 Chronically Homeless persons, representing 7.8% of the counted homeless population. There were 2 homeless veterans representing 3.1% of the adult counted homeless population. 22 Victims of Domestic Violence were identified representing 21.4% of the total homeless population. Homeless Youth (individuals and families with heads of households 24 years old or younger) represented 12.6% of the counted homeless population with 13 persons identified.

Figure 5 illustrates the break-down of each subpopulation identified by housing type.

As seen in Figure 5 the majority of Victims of Domestic Violence and Youth were staying in emergency shelter on the night of the count, whereas the majority of Chronically Homeless persons and the two identified veterans were unsheltered.

Fig. 5: Subpopulations by Housing Situation

Legend:
- ■ Chronically Homeless
- ■ Veterans
- ■ Victims of Domestic Violence
- ■ Youth

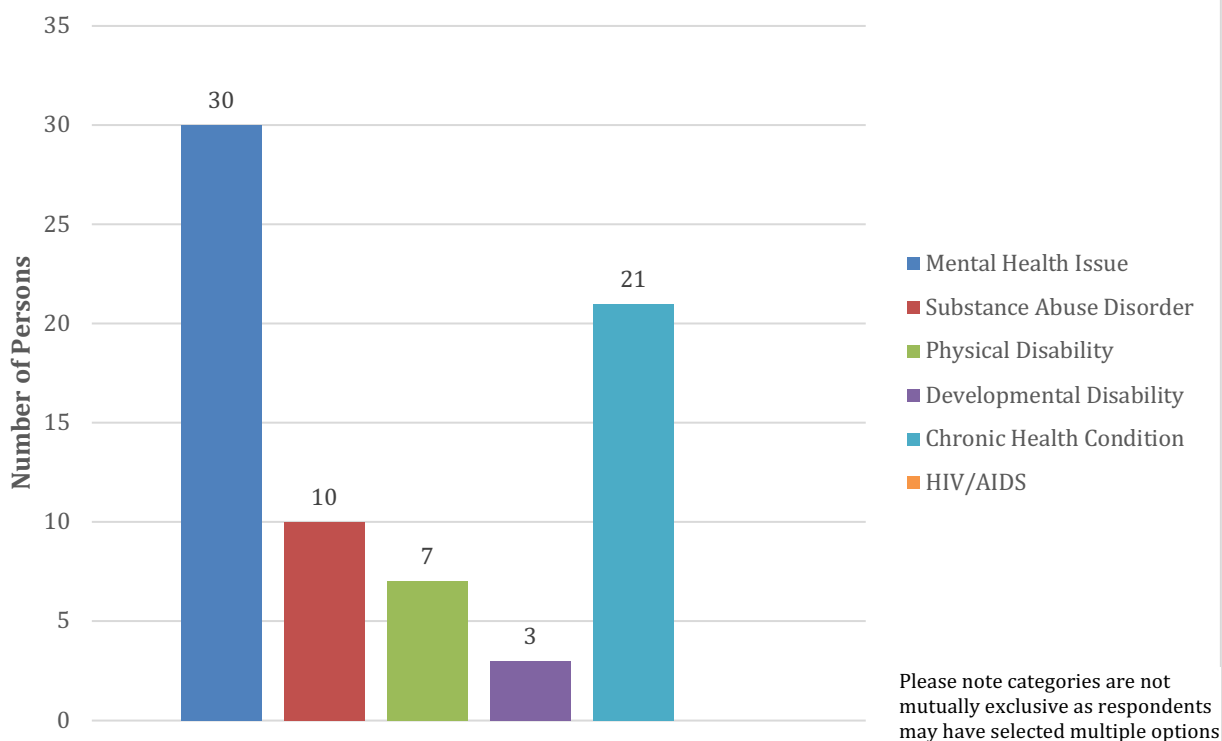Emergency Shelter: 3, 0, 21, 12; Unsheltered: 5, 2, 1, 1

Disabilities

Figure 6 illustrates that 41% of counted homeless persons reported having some type of disability. 58.5% of adults 18 or older reported some type of disability compared to 10.5% of children. Figure 7 shows the number of the counted homeless persons that identified as having various disabilities. The most common disabilities included mental health issues and chronic health conditions.

Fig. 6: Percent of Population with a Disability
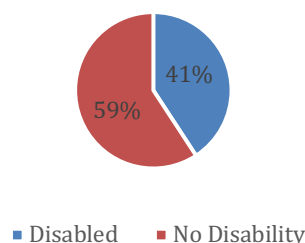
Among disabled persons, 71.4% reported mental health issues making this the most prevalent disability; representing 71.1% of the identified disabled adult counted homeless population and 29.1% of the total counted population experiencing homelessness. 52.6% of disabled adults reported a chronic health condition. Among disabled homeless children, 75% reported mental health issues and 25% reported a developmental disability and a chronic health condition.

Fig. 7: Number of Persons by Disability Type

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options

Income and Benefits

Among all identified households experiencing homelessness on the night of the count, 32.7% had no source of income, and 7.3% reported having earned income. The most common sources of income among homeless households were TANF (21.8%) and General/Public Assistance/Welfare (12.7%) followed by SSI (10.9%). Figure 8 shows the income sources reported by respondents in relation to their housing situation on the night of the count.

Fig. 8: Income by Housing Situation

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options
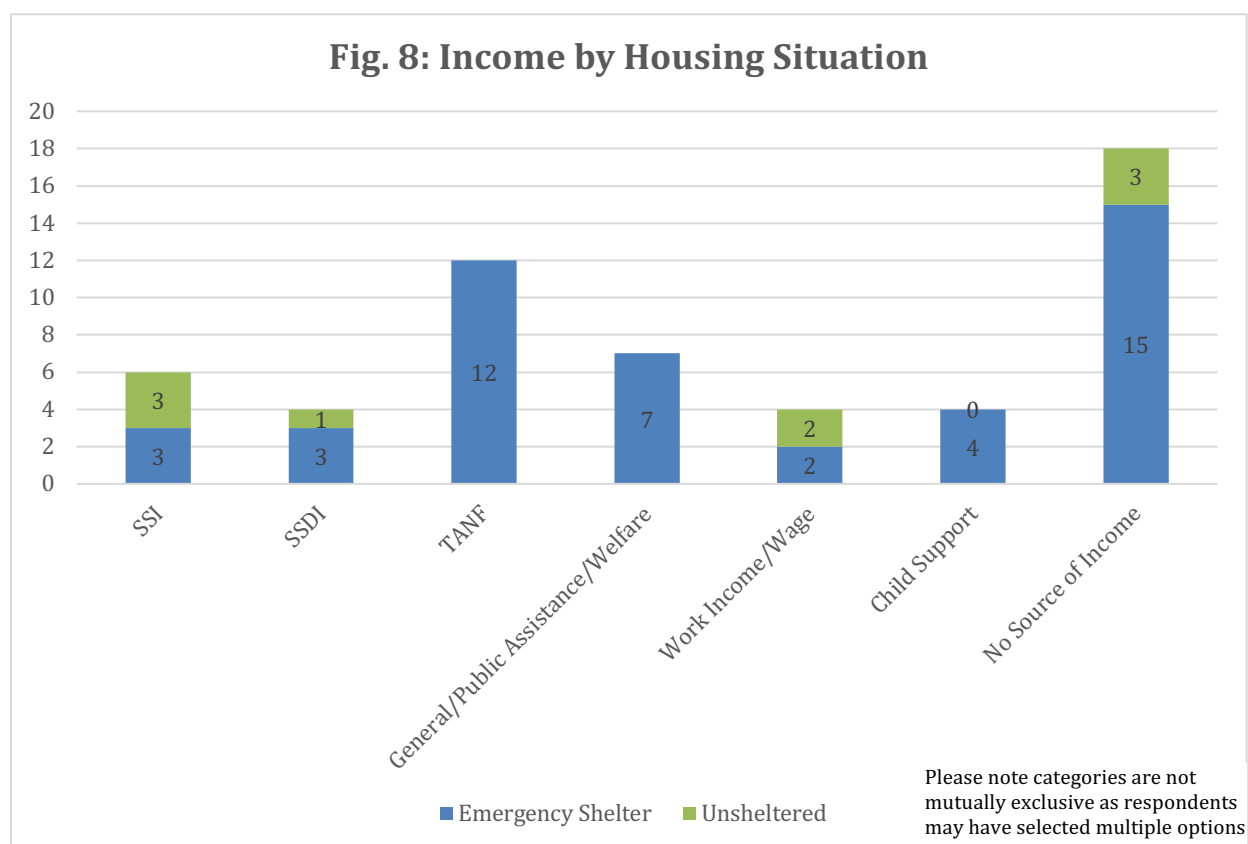
Figure 9 show the average monthly income among households in each housing situation.

Figure 9. Average Monthly Income for Households by Housing Situation		
	Emergency Shelter	Unsheltered
Average for All Households	$422.83	$544.18

3.4% of counted homeless households reported receiving no kind of non-cash benefit on the night of the count. Medicaid was the top reported non-cash benefit, received by 50.8% of homeless households. Food Stamps (SNAP), was the second most reported non-cash benefit received by 44.1% of homeless households.

Length of Homelessness

Figure 10 illustrates the total amount of time identified households have reported being homeless. This includes continuous episodes of homelessness as well as the total time from various episodes of homelessness over the past 3 years. As seen in Figure 10, 70.7% of identified homeless households reported their total length of homelessness was between 0 and 6 months. Within this group, 27.6% were homeless from 0 – 2 months and 43.1% were homeless between 3 and 6 months. For those with longer periods of homelessness, 15.5% of homeless households reported that their total length of homelessness was more than 1 year. In looking at those households that had lengths of homelessness exceeding one year, 4 households (6.9%) were homeless between 1 and 3 years while 5 households (8.6%) reported their total length of homelessness exceeded 3 years.

Fig. 10: Length of Homelessness Among Households
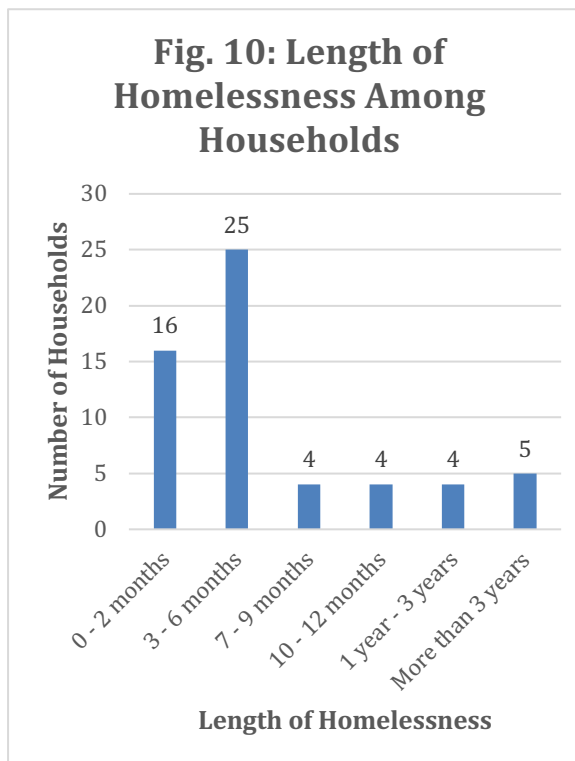
Episodes of Homelessness

There was a total of 40 households (69%) that reported experiencing one episode of homelessness. Figure 11 illustrates the total number of episodes of homelessness reported by identified households experiencing homelessness.
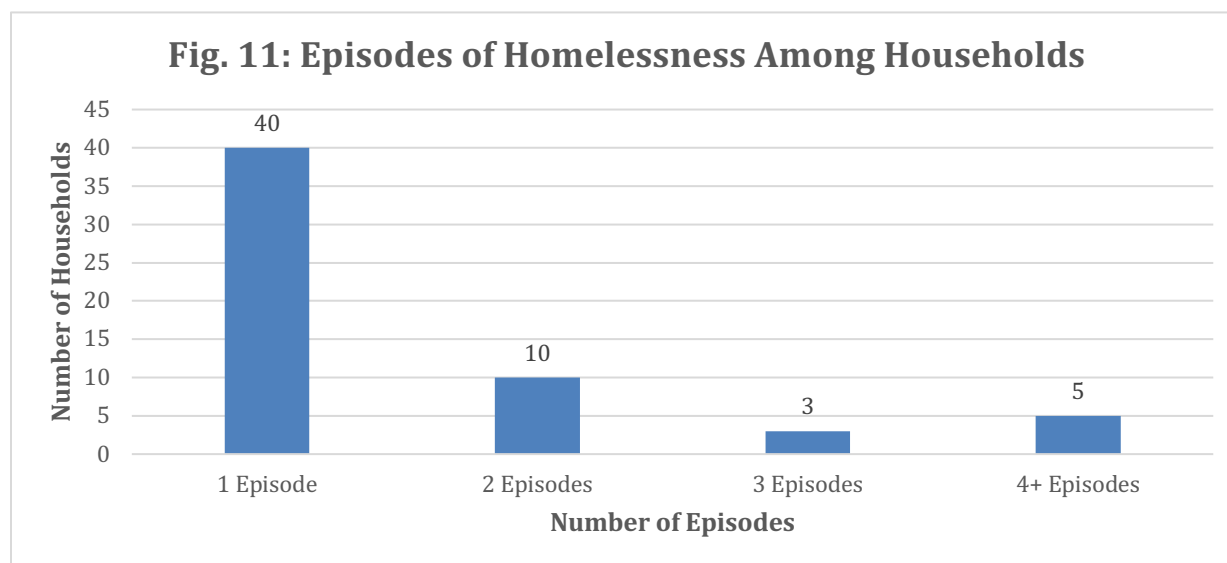
Fig. 11: Episodes of Homelessness Among Households

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more households attributed their homelessness to Domestic Violence (10 households, 20.4%) than any other cause. As Figure 12 shows, the next most common factors reported were being asked to leave a shared residence (18.4%) and eviction (18.4%).

Fig. 12: Cause of Homelessness by Household
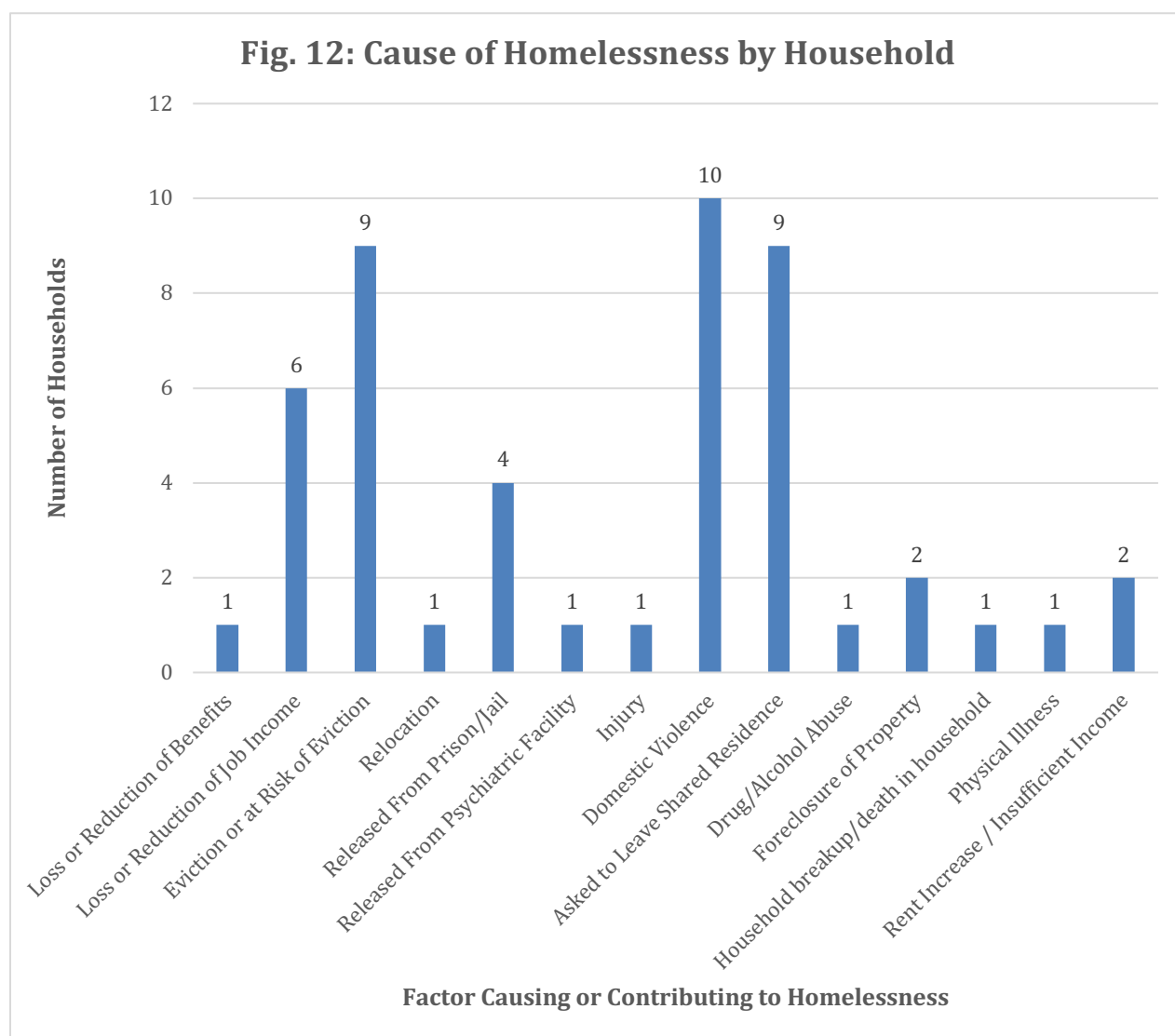
When households were asked 'what was your residence prior to your current living situation?' more reported permanent housing (28%) than any other type of residence. 24% reported living with family or friends and 22% reported that their prior residence was emergency shelter.

IV. Findings for the Chronically Homeless
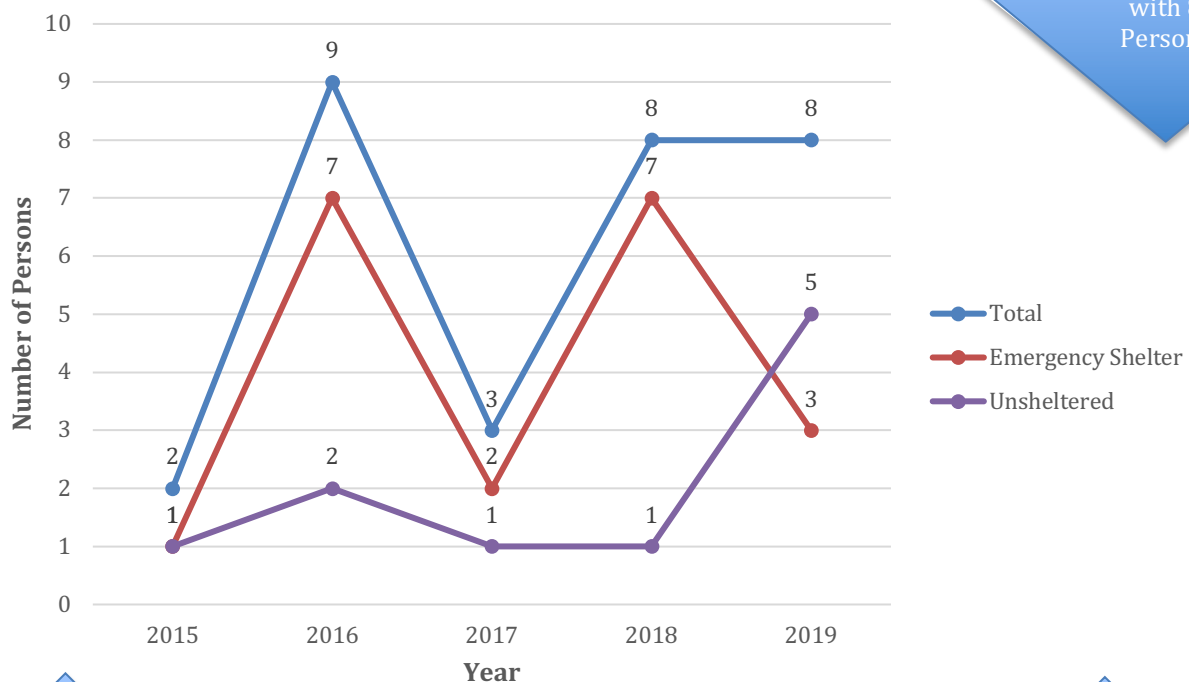
Chronically Homeless households, as defined by HUD, are persons with a long-term disabling condition, who have been continually homeless for a year or more, or at least four times in the past three years where the length of time in those episodes add up to a year or more. Any family with a head of household that meets this definition is considered a chronically homeless family.

Chronically Homeless households are one of the priority populations identified by HUD. This status as a priority population reflects the urgency of helping to house those persons who have not been able to remain stably housed over the course of an extended period of time. Chronically Homeless persons are among the most vulnerable homeless groups and providing effective supportive services and case management may be required in order to help some stay in the housing they need.

Fig. 13: 5-Year Comparison of Chronic Homeless Population by Housing Situation

7 Households with 8 Persons

6 person increase in total counted population since 2015

0% change in total counted population since 2018

57.1% decrease in sheltered chronically homeless persons since 2018

4 person increase in Identified unsheltered chronically homeless persons since 2018
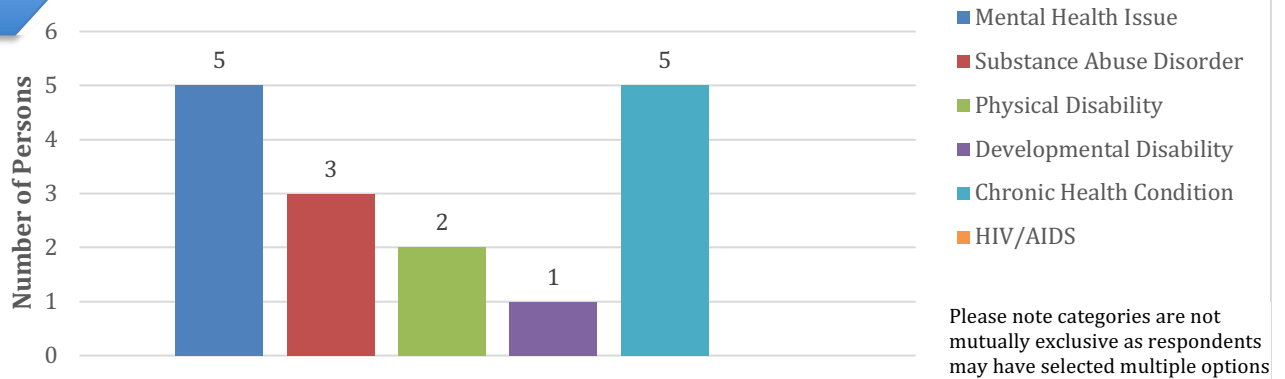
Fig. 14: Chronically Homeless Households by Housing Situation

100% adult-only households

Number of Households (y-axis: 0–5)

Emergency Shelter: 3
Unsheltered: 4

Housing Situation (x-axis)

- Households With Adults and Children
- Households Without Children
- Households with Only Children

Fig. 15: Number of Chronically Homeless Persons by Disability Type

100% identified a disability

Number of Persons (y-axis: 0–6)

Mental Health Issue: 5
Substance Abuse Disorder: 3
Physical Disability: 2
Developmental Disability: 1
Chronic Health Condition: 5

- Mental Health Issue
- Substance Abuse Disorder
- Physical Disability
- Developmental Disability
- Chronic Health Condition
- HIV/AIDS

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options

Fig. 16: Episodes of Homelessness Among Chronically Homeless Households

Number of Households (y-axis: 0–4)

1 Episode: 3
2 Episodes: 1
3 Episodes: 1
4+ Episodes: 1

Number of Episodes (x-axis)
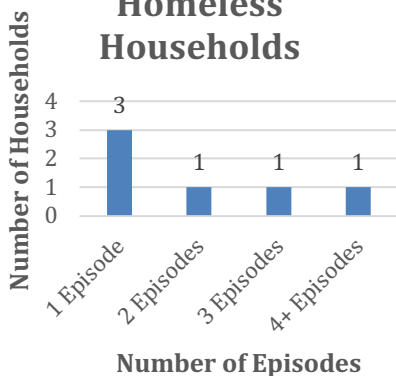
Average income for chronically homeless households is $516.00

Fig. 17: Number of Chronically Homeless Households by Income Source

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options

(y-axis: 0–3.5)

SSI: 3
SSDI: 2
No Source of Income: 1

V. Findings for the Unsheltered Homeless

HUD's definition of "unsheltered homeless" applies to any individual or family "with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground."

Unsheltered homeless individuals and families are among those with the most critical housing needs in a community. The unsheltered are especially vulnerable in the cold weather and the elements, which are in evidence at the end of January when the Count takes place. The Point-In-Time survey can play an important role in helping communities understand why some of the homeless remain unsheltered, and who is included in this group.
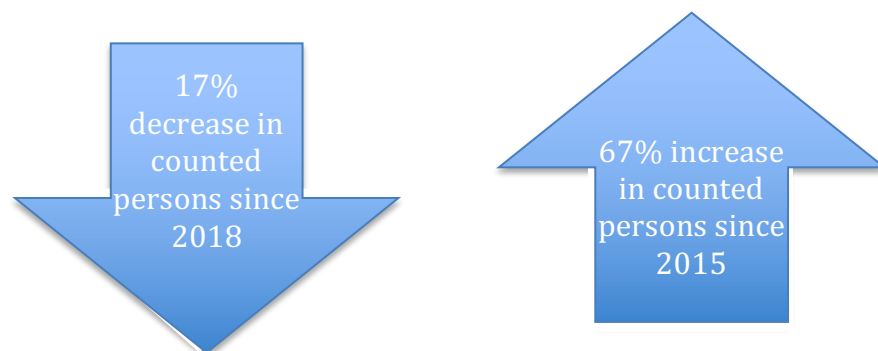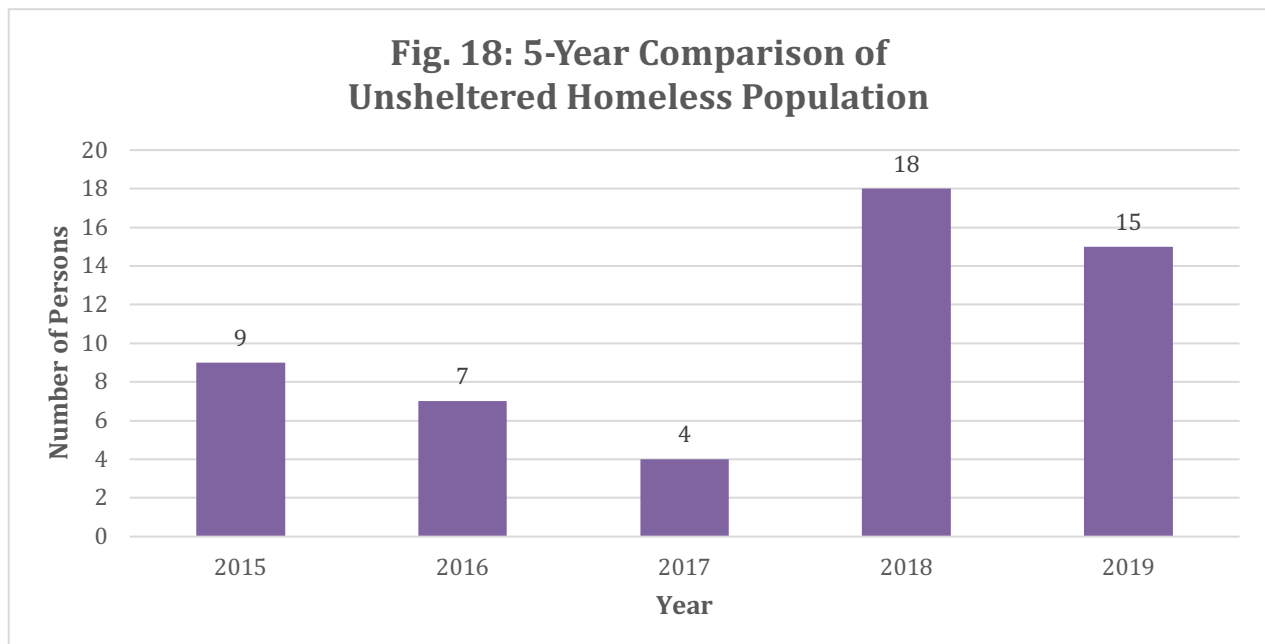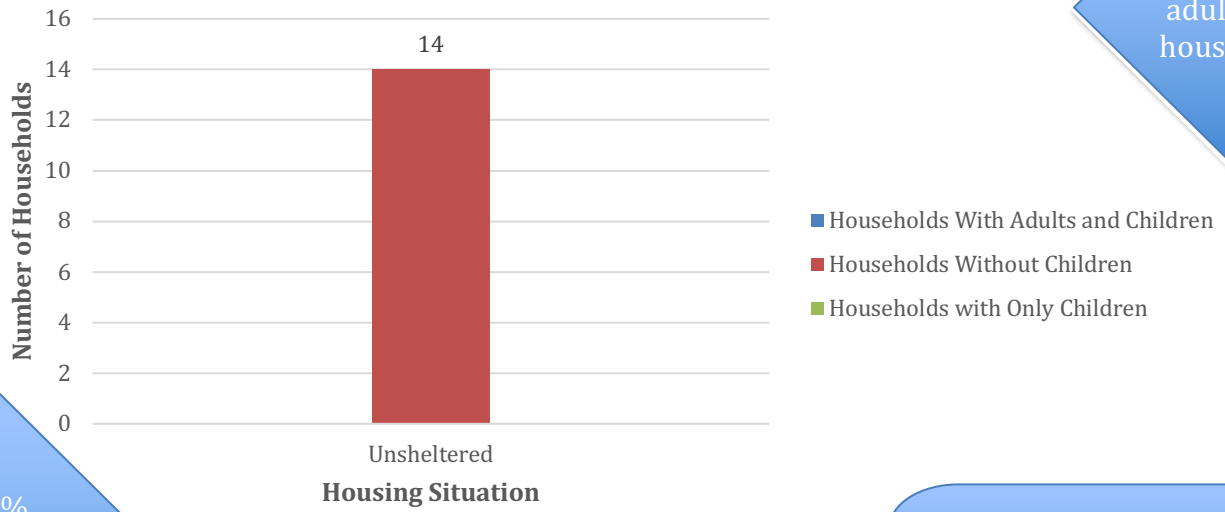

Fig. 18: 5-Year Comparison of Unsheltered Homeless Population

17% decrease in counted persons since 2018

67% increase in counted persons since 2015

Fig. 19: Unsheltered Homeless Households by Housing Situation

Number of Households (y-axis): 0 to 16

- Households With Adults and Children
- Households Without Children
- Households with Only Children

Unsheltered: 14

Housing Situation (x-axis)

100% adult-only households

66.7% male

66.7% White

Fig. 20: Unsheltered Persons by Subpopulation

Number of Persons (y-axis): 0 to 6

- Chronically Homeless: 5
- Veterans: 2
- Victims of Domestic Violence: 1
- Youth: 1

Subpopulation (x-axis)
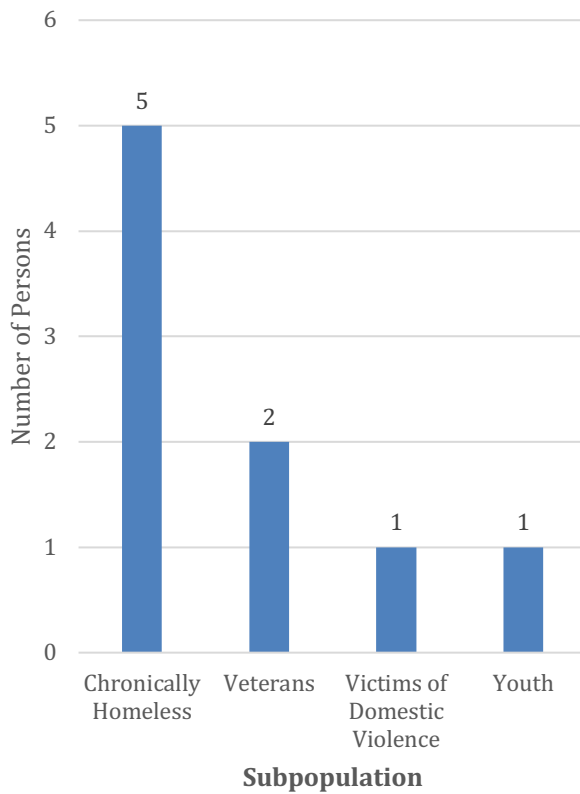
Fig. 21: Number of Unsheltered Persons by Disability Type

Number of Persons (y-axis): 0 to 6

- Mental Health Issue: 5
- Substance Abuse Disorder: 4
- Physical Disability: 1
- Developmental Disability
- Chronic Health Condition: 4
- HIV/AIDS

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options
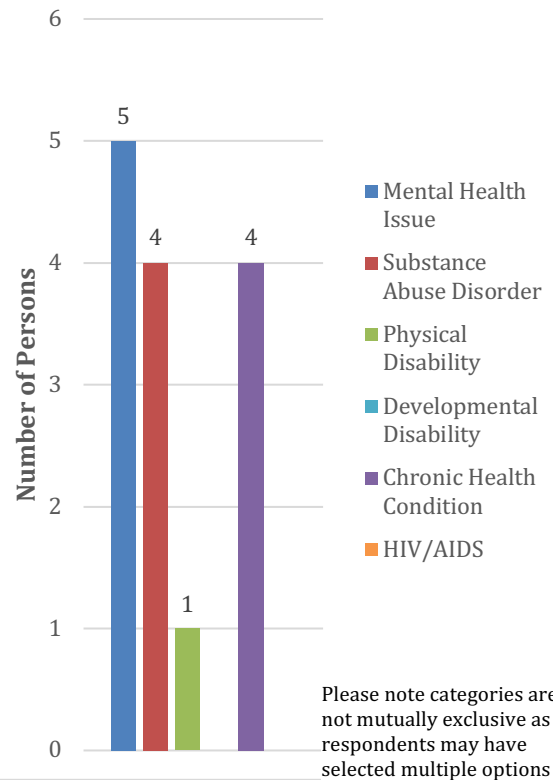
Fig. 22: Income Source of Unsheltered Households by Housing Situation

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options

Average Monthly Income is $544.18

Fig. 23: Length of Homelessness Among Unsheltered Households
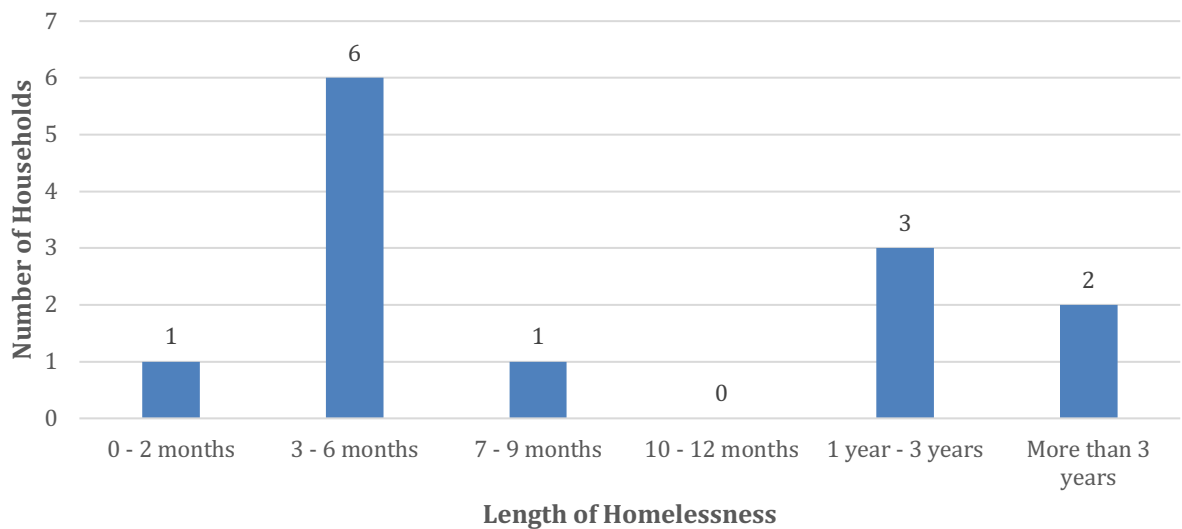
38.5% have been homeless for more than 1 year

VI. Findings for Homeless Veterans

Veterans are defined as any person of the age of 18 who has served in any branch of the Armed Forces. For the purposes of the Point-in-Time Count, the veteran definition covers any person who has served including those who may not be eligible for veteran services through the U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs. In its plan, *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) has prioritized ending homelessness among veterans. Many communities in New Jersey have also been working hard to end homelessness among our country's servicemen and women.

Fig. 24: 5-Year Comparison of Total Homeless Veteran Population by Housing Situation

Both veterans were Male

1 person increase since 2018

The 2 veterans counted in 2019 did not report any disabling conditions
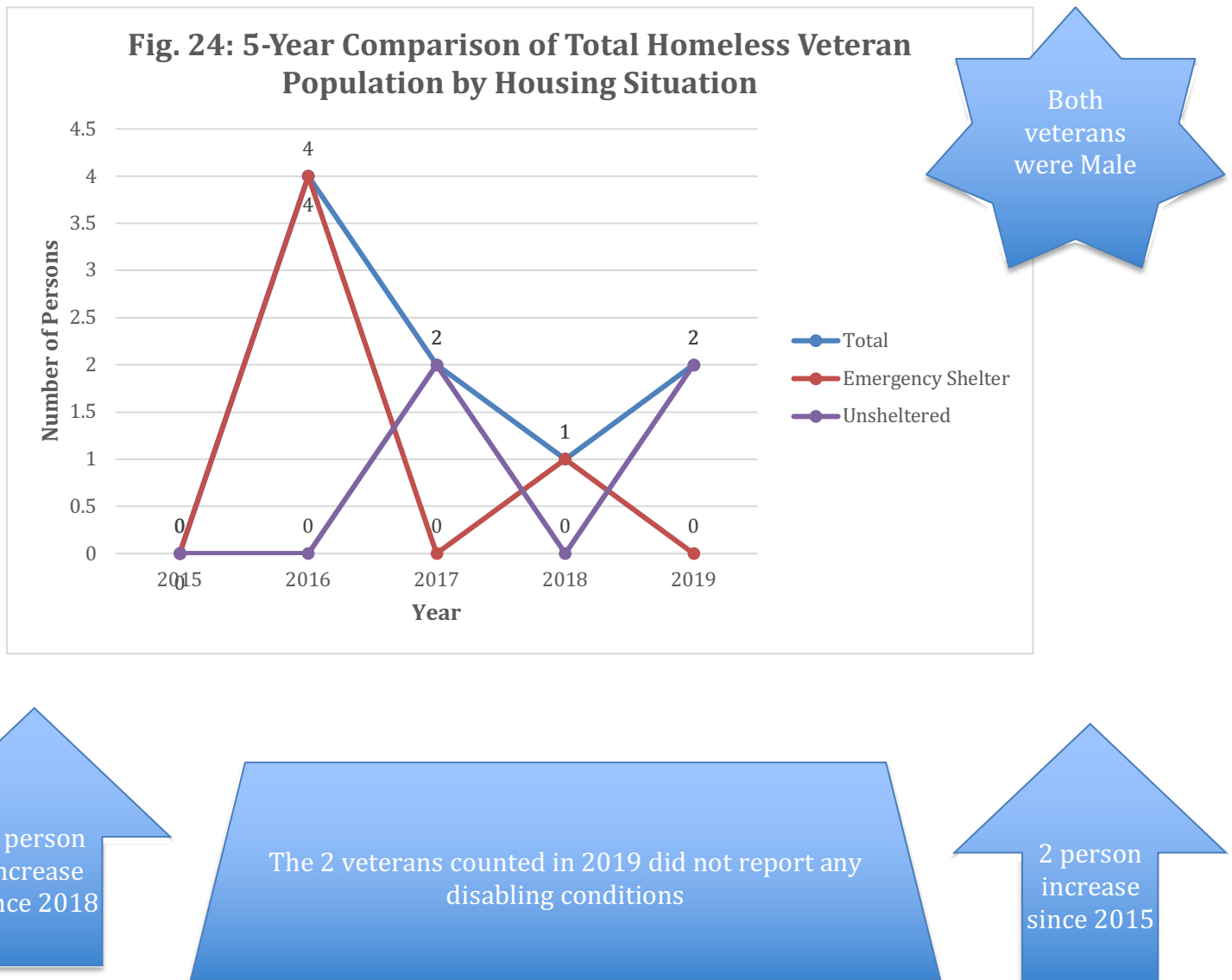
2 person increase since 2015

Fig. 25: Income by Housing Situation for Veteran Households
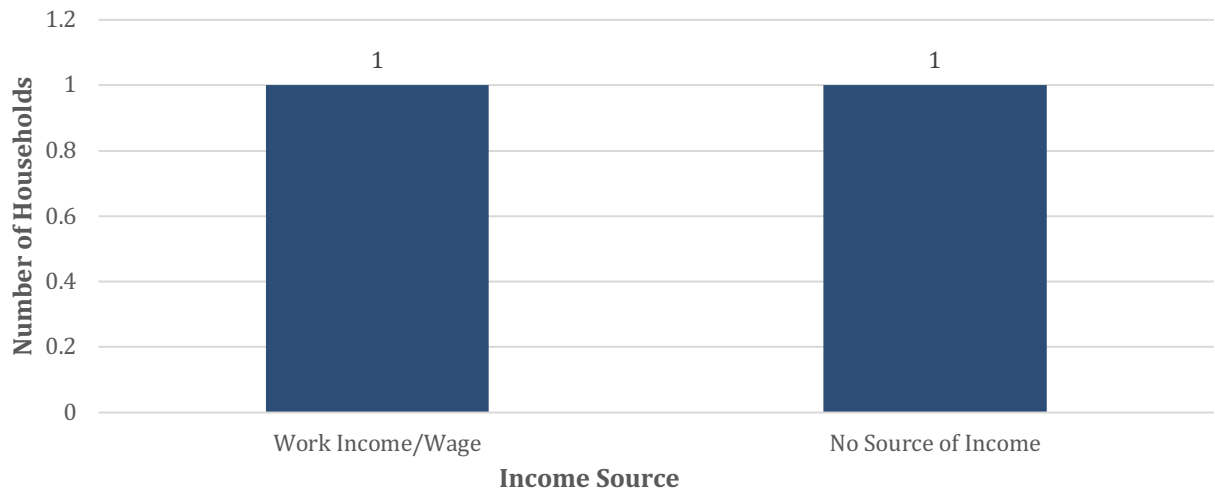

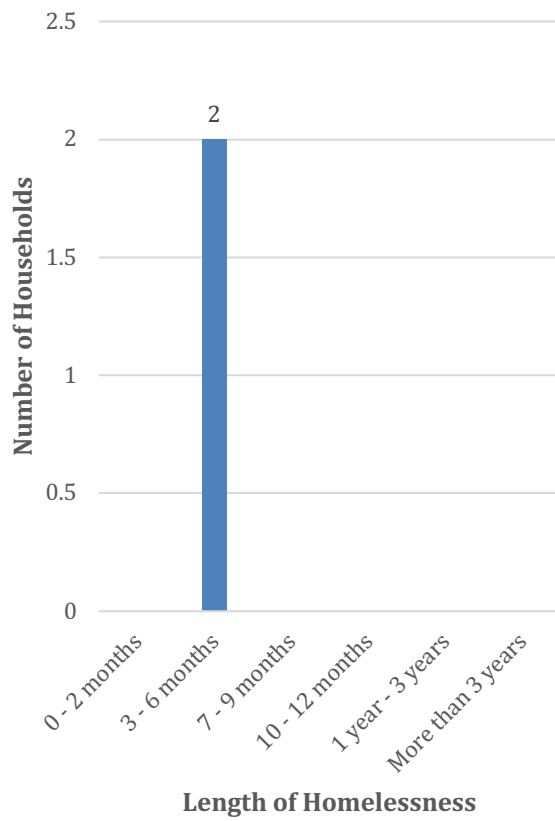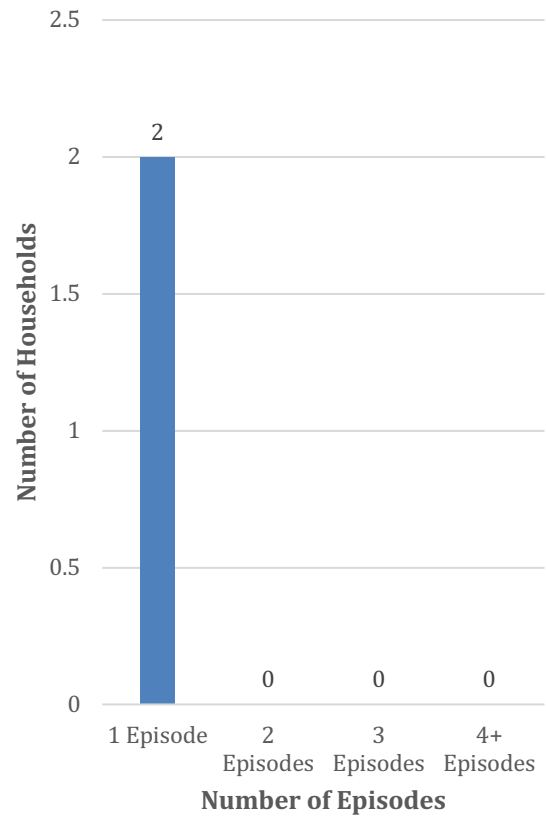**Fig. 26: Length of Homelessness Among Veteran Households**

Fig. 27: Episodes of Homelessness Among Veteran Households

VII. Findings for Homeless Youth

 Youth are defined as persons under the age of 25 who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian. This can include individual unaccompanied youth, youth only households of 2 or more youth presenting together as a household, and pregnant or parenting youth who are the legal guardians of one or more children. The United States Interagency Council has identified homeless youth as one of the priority population of focus in *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*. Many communities across New Jersey are working to better understand the scope and needs of the Youth population experiencing homelessness and are working with community partners to end youth homelessness.

Fig. 28: Number of Homeless Youth by Housing Situation
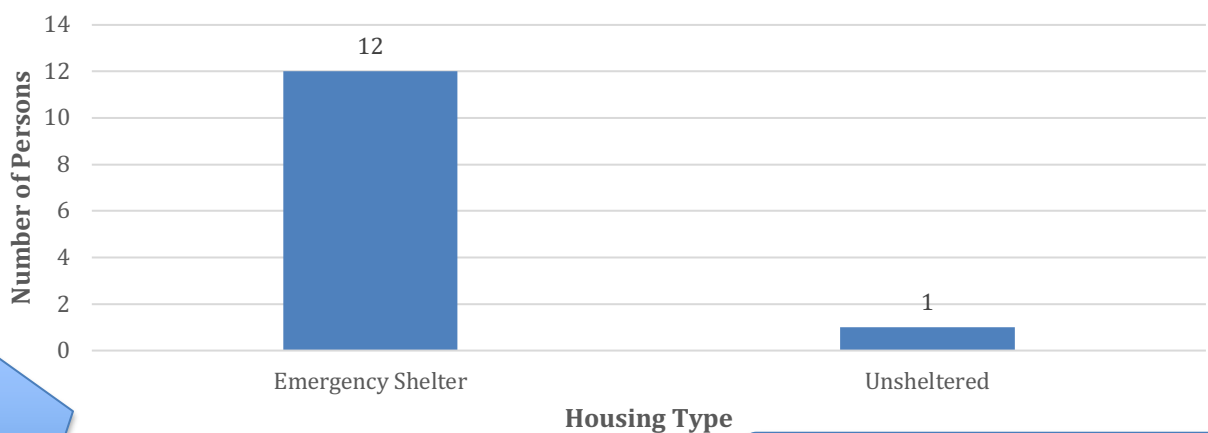
54% of persons are over 18 yrs. old

77.8% are Black or African American

Fig. 29: Homeless Youth Households by Housing Situation
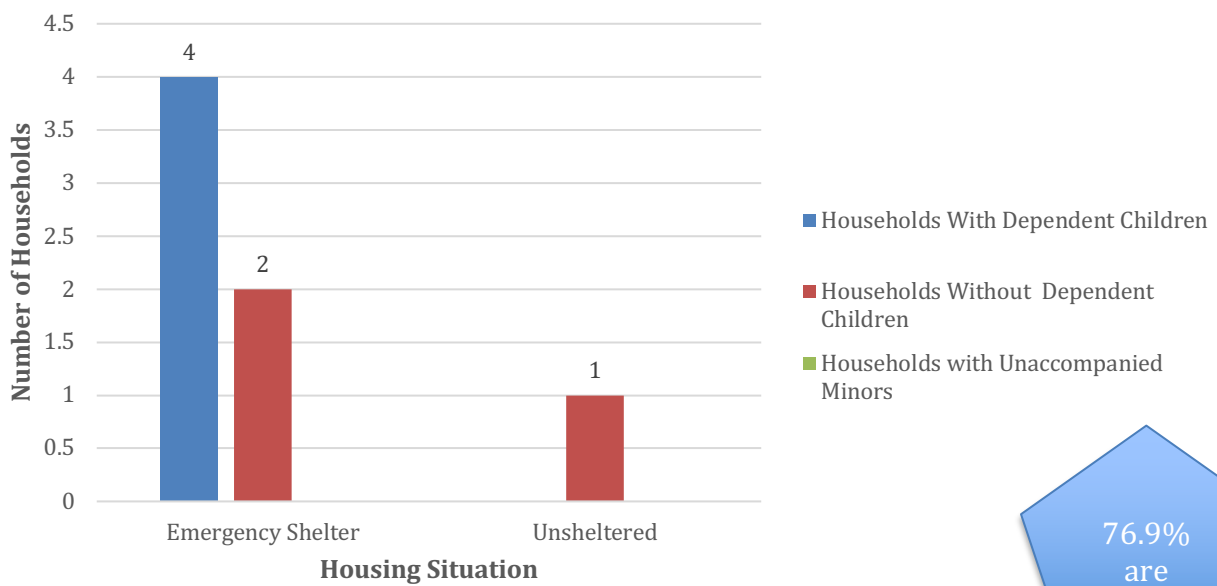
76.9% are female

7.7% of youth respondents identified a disability

Fig. 30: Number of Youth by Disability Type

Legend:
- Mental Health Issue
- Substance Abuse Disorder
- Physical Disability
- Developmental Disability
- Chronic Health Condition
- HIV/AIDS

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options
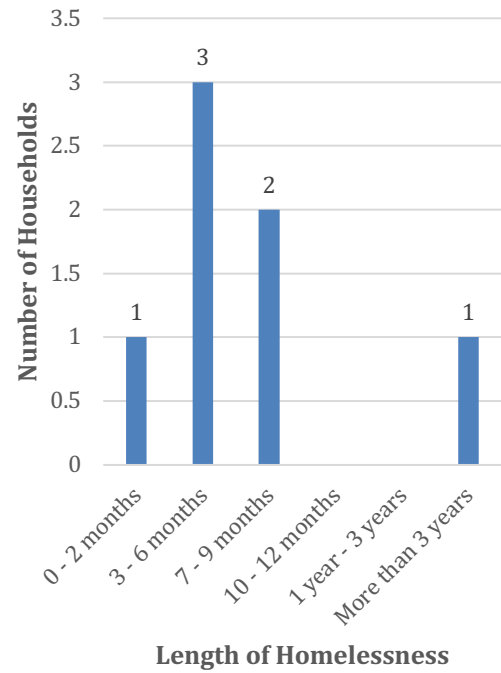
Fig. 31: Income Sources for Youth Households

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options
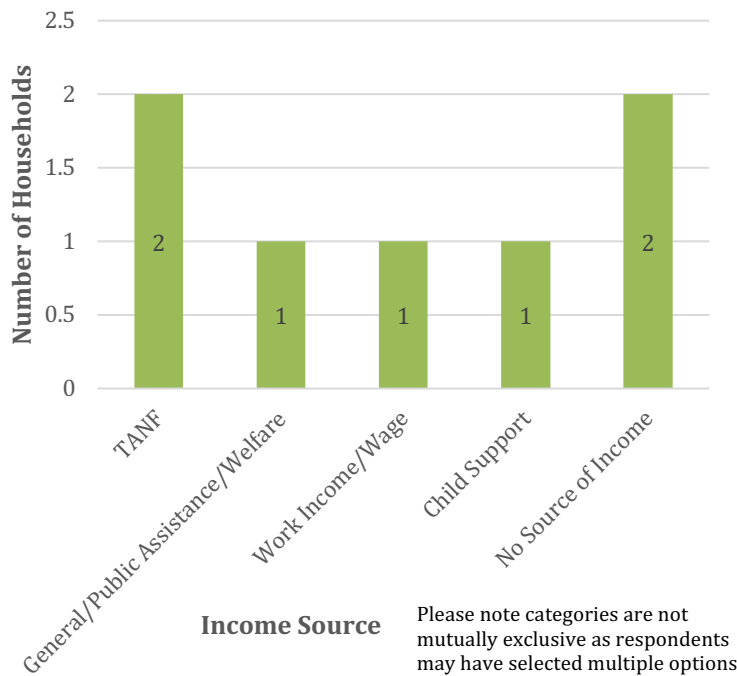
Average Monthly Income is $380.40

Fig. 32: Length of Homelessness Among Youth Households

Fig. 33: Episodes of Homelessness Among Youth Households
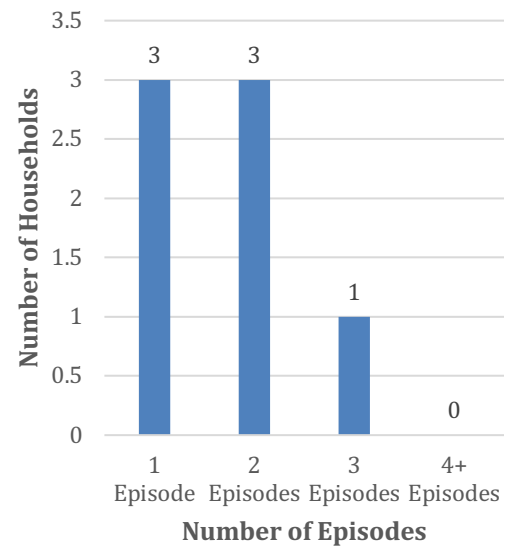
VIII. Findings for Victims of Domestic Violence

The 2019 Point in Time Count captured information for individuals and families "Fleeing" Domestic Violence. For the purposes of the Point-In-Time Count, Domestic Violence is defined as any household that is fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has taken place in their home, or has created a situation in which the individual or family is afraid to return to their home.

Fig. 34: Number of Homeless DV Victims by Housing Situation

- Emergency Shelter: 21
- Unsheltered: 1

(Y-axis: Number of Persons; X-axis: Housing Type)

Fig. 35: Homeless DV Households by Housing Situation

- Emergency Shelter: Households With Adults and Children: 5; Households Without Children: 5
- Unsheltered: Households Without Children: 1

Legend:
- ■ Households With Adults and Children
- ■ Households Without Children
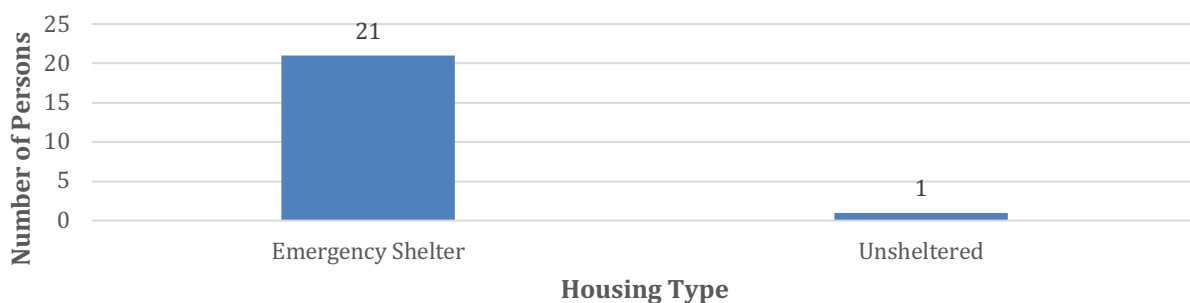- ■ Households with Only Children

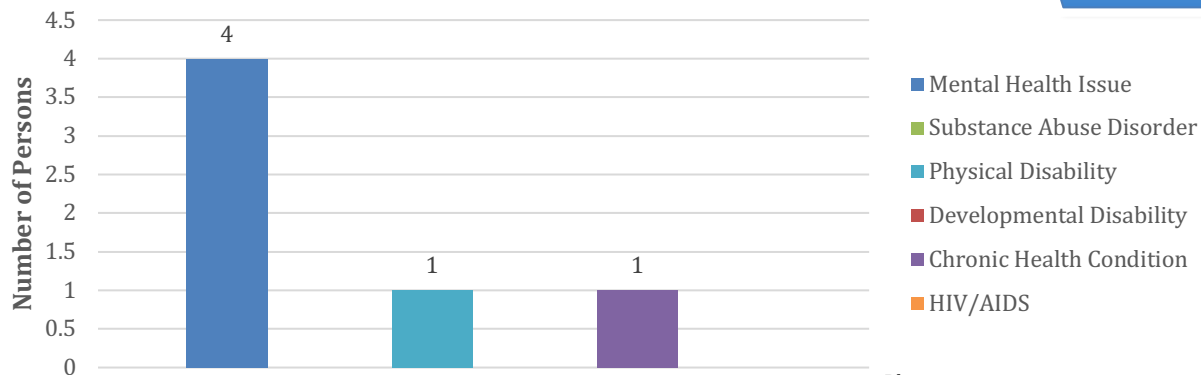(Y-axis: Number of Households; X-axis: Housing Situation)

45% are households with children

77.3% are females

25% are White; 75% are Black

18.2% were disabled

Fig. 36: Number of DV Victims by Disability Type

Y-axis: Number of Persons (0 to 4.5)

- Mental Health Issue: 4
- Physical Disability: 1
- Chronic Health Condition: 1

Legend:
- Mental Health Issue
- Substance Abuse Disorder
- Physical Disability
- Developmental Disability
- Chronic Health Condition
- HIV/AIDS

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options

Fig. 37: Income Source for DV Victim Households

Y-axis: Number of Households (0 to 4.5)
X-axis: Income Source

- TANF: 2
- General/Public Assistance/Welfare: 2
- Work Income/Wage: 2
- Child Support: 1
- No Source of Income: 4

Average Monthly Income is $321.55

Fig. 38: Length of Homelessness Among DV Victim Households

Y-axis: Number of Households (0 to 10)
X-axis: Length of Homelessness

- 0 - 2 months: 1
- 3 - 6 months: 9
- 7 - 9 months:
- 10 - 12 months: 1
- 1 year - 3 years:
- More than 3 years:

Fig. 39: Episodes of Homelessness Among DV Victim Households

Y-axis: Number of Households (0 to 10)
X-axis: Number of Episodes
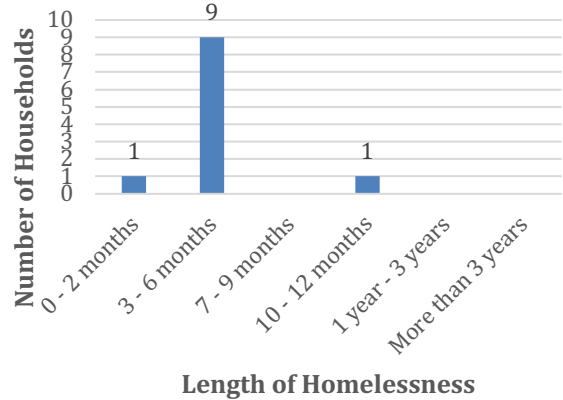
- 1 Episode: 8
- 2 Episodes: 2
- 3 Episodes: 0
- 4+ Episodes: 1
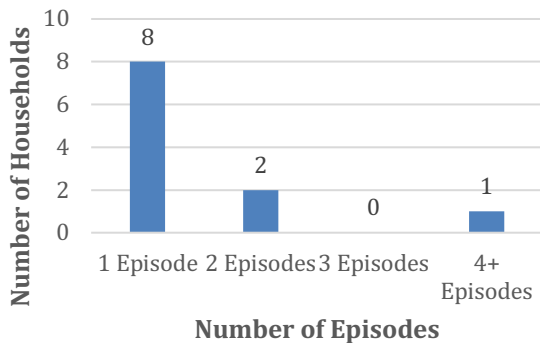
IX. Appendix A: Data Collection and Methodology

Requirements for the Count

As part of its Continuum of Care (CoC) application for homelessness funding, HUD requires that jurisdictions across the nation conduct a statistically reliable and unduplicated count of the homeless for one overnight period during the last 10 days of January. New Jersey's Continuums of Care (regional networks of organizations, agencies, and community stakeholders that plan local efforts to help the homeless) conduct an annual count of sheltered homeless persons (i.e. persons in emergency shelter, transitional housing for the homeless, and Safe Haven programs) and at least a biennial count of unsheltered homeless persons.

In their Point-In-Time Count, CoCs must count and report all individuals and families who meet the criteria in paragraph (1)(i) of the homeless definition in 24 CFR 91.5 of HUD's Homeless Definition Rule on the night designated for the count. This includes individuals and families who are:

- **Sheltered**, or "living in a supervised publicly or privately-operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals)," or

- **Unsheltered**, "with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground."

Because this report focuses on those respondents who meet HUD's definition of homeless, it does not include information about those who may be at risk of homelessness, precariously housed, or considered homeless under other federal statutes. Persons who, on the night of the count, were living doubled up with another household, living in illegal or overcrowded units, being discharged from a jail or health facility with no subsequent residence, scheduled to be evicted, or paying for their own motel unit were not considered homeless. All survey information collected for respondents who were at risk of homelessness or precariously housed was preserved and shared with each community for local planning purposes but is not included in this report unless otherwise noted.

Data Collection Methods

Monarch Housing Associates provided each of New Jersey's 21 counties with in-person training, online video and print training guides, a practice online survey tool, and technical assistance to aid in the data collection process for New Jersey's 2019 Point-In-Time Count.

Point-In-Time Coordinators in each county disseminated PIT training materials and helped facilitate local planning around implementation of the PIT count in their communities.

The count of homeless persons who were sheltered on the night of the point in time was primarily taken from New Jersey's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), while the count for the unsheltered and those sheltered by non-HMIS programs was conducted using a Paper Survey tool, personal interviews, and agency client records. This strategy was designed in accordance with HUD guidance regarding conducting both sheltered and unsheltered Point-In-Time Counts.

The 2019 PIT Survey tool closely mirrors information collected in HMIS so that the data was comparable for important factors such as duration and episodes of homelessness, household characteristics, income, services needed, and factors contributing to homelessness. Agencies updated all HMIS data to accurately reflect household information the night of the count, and those with programs that were non HMIS-participating submitted information from interviews utilizing the Paper Survey tool through SurveyMonkey.

Limitations

1. HUD requires a count of sheltered homeless persons and families annually, but only a biennial count of those who are unsheltered. Even though New Jersey conducts both a sheltered and unsheltered count each year, the comprehensiveness of the unsheltered count may be influenced during the non-HUD required full count years. This report includes comparison data from 2015 to 2019. 2014, 2016 and 2018 were not HUD required full reporting years while 2015, 2017 and 2019 were.

2. The information presented in this report is based on survey interviews and agency HMIS records. In some cases, survey respondents did not answer every question completely, and homeless provider agencies did not report all client information on the night of the count. For this reason, all charts presented in this report are based on the responses received, while all percentages are based on the total households or individuals served and may not equal 100% in each category due to possible missing data.

3. Because the Point-In-Time Count represents only one night during the last ten days of January, it is widely accepted that the PIT will undercount the overall homeless population. Undercounting may occur due to difficulty finding those living on the street, incomplete information for people who do not agree to complete the survey, a shortage of volunteers to cover a geographic area, or homeless persons choosing not to seek housing services on the night of the count. This data should not be viewed as a comprehensive measurement of all families and individuals who experience homelessness throughout the year, but rather as a minimum number of persons who experience homelessness in New Jersey on a given night.

4. The Point in Time Count represents an attempt by communities across the state of New Jersey to capture a complete census of all persons experiencing homelessness both in shelters and on the street during a single night. While the count is coordinated as a single statewide event, each county across the state develops locally appropriate methodologies for conducting the count of unsheltered persons in the community. As such, there is variation of the scope and depth of the unsheltered count from community to community. However, the sheltered count is conducted in a uniform manner across the state and each community maintains a consistent process for completing the sheltered and unsheltered count from year to year.

5. Given the nature of the Point in Time Count as a one-day count of the population experiencing homelessness, data collected on the racial and ethnic breakdown from the PIT is not fully comparable to U.S. Census Bureau data on the racial and ethnic population for the state of New Jersey. While there are limitations on comparing the PIT data, for purposes of examining racial and ethnic disparities, as a result of the single day count, a review of the sheltered population in the State of New Jersey over the course of a full year demonstrates similar trends as seen in the PIT data in which persons identifying as African American or Black, Native American and Hawaiian/Pacific Islander are over represented in the population experiencing homelessness.

De-duplication

Monarch Housing Associates collected and merged all HMIS and SurveyMonkey Point-In-Time data from each community into its combined database. Monarch generated two unique identifiers, one more general and one more in-depth, based on the identifying information for each individual record. Using a formula, these unique identifiers were compared to all identifiers for other records in the database to identify potential duplicates.
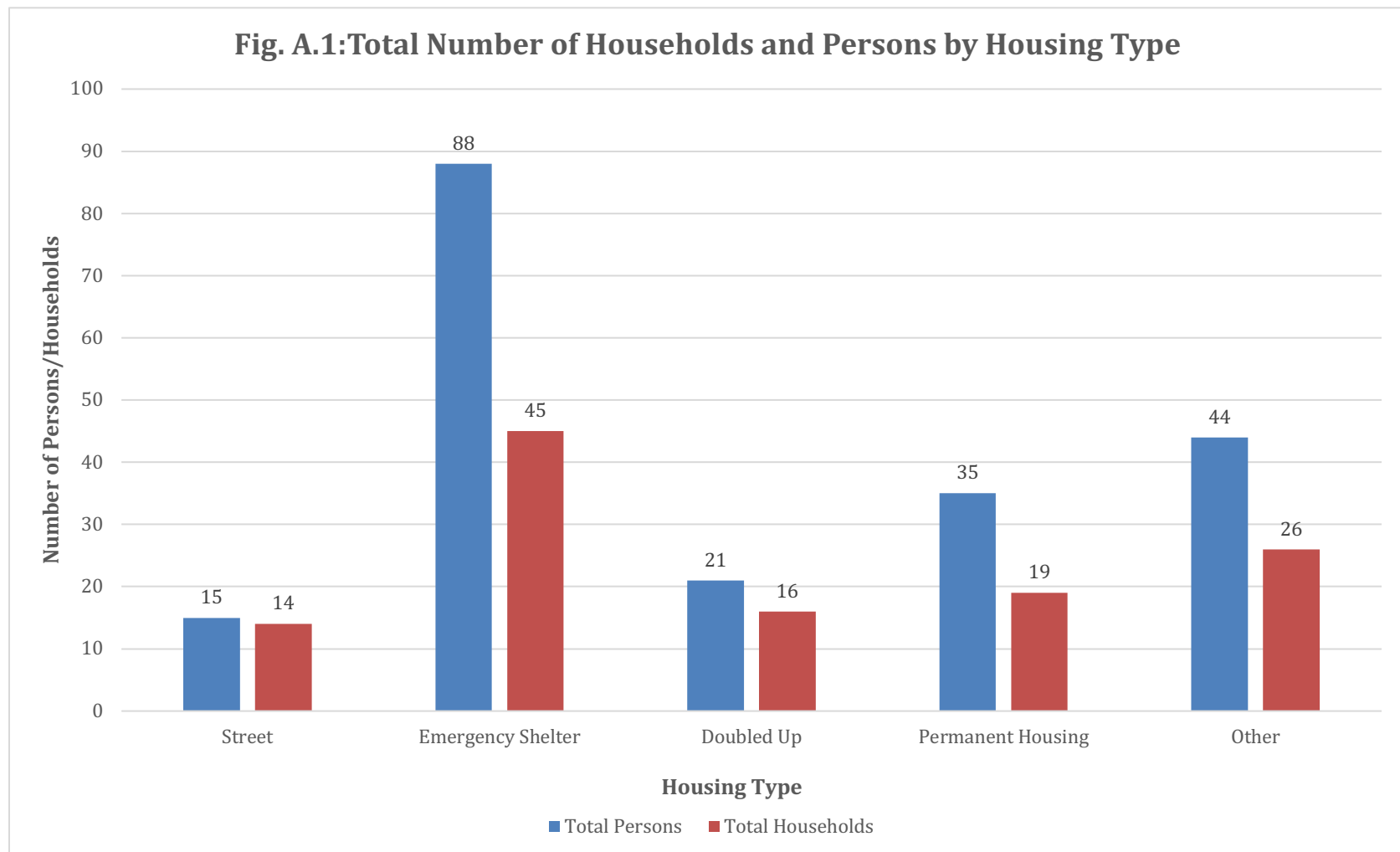
All duplicates detected through comparison of unique identifiers were then de-duplicated by the following process:
1. Multiple HMIS records where all fields match – a single record was preserved, and all duplicates were removed;
2. Multiple SurveyMonkey records where all fields match – a single record was preserved, and all duplicates were removed;
3. Comparing HMIS to SurveyMonkey records where unique identifiers, disabilities, income sources, household size, and location on the night of the count all match – the HMIS record was preserved and the SurveyMonkey duplicates were removed.

Following this de-duplication of the data, communities were given preliminary data to review all identified duplicates and records with missing data. Communities were then able to update records with missing information and/or request any additional de-duplication they determined prudent. Monarch then updated and removed additional records based on community feedback prior to completing its final analysis and report.

X. Appendix B: Survey Responses

**Where did you spend the night of January 22nd, 2019?**

Fig. A.1:Total Number of Households and Persons by Housing Type

Bar chart showing Number of Persons/Households (y-axis) by Housing Type (x-axis). Total Persons (blue) and Total Households (red):

Housing Type	Total Persons	Total Households
Street	15	14
Emergency Shelter	88	45
Doubled Up	21	16
Permanent Housing	35	19
Other	44	26

What was your location the night of the count?

| Fig. A.2: Number of Homeless Persons by Municipality on the Night of the Count	
Location Night of Count – Municipality	**Number of Persons**
Clayton	5
Deptford	1
Glassboro	65
Logan	1
Mantua	1
Monroe	8
National Park	1
West Deptford	3
Westville	1
Woodbury	2
Woodbury Heights	1
Total	**89***

*Does not reflect total homeless persons counted as some survey responses may not have included municipality
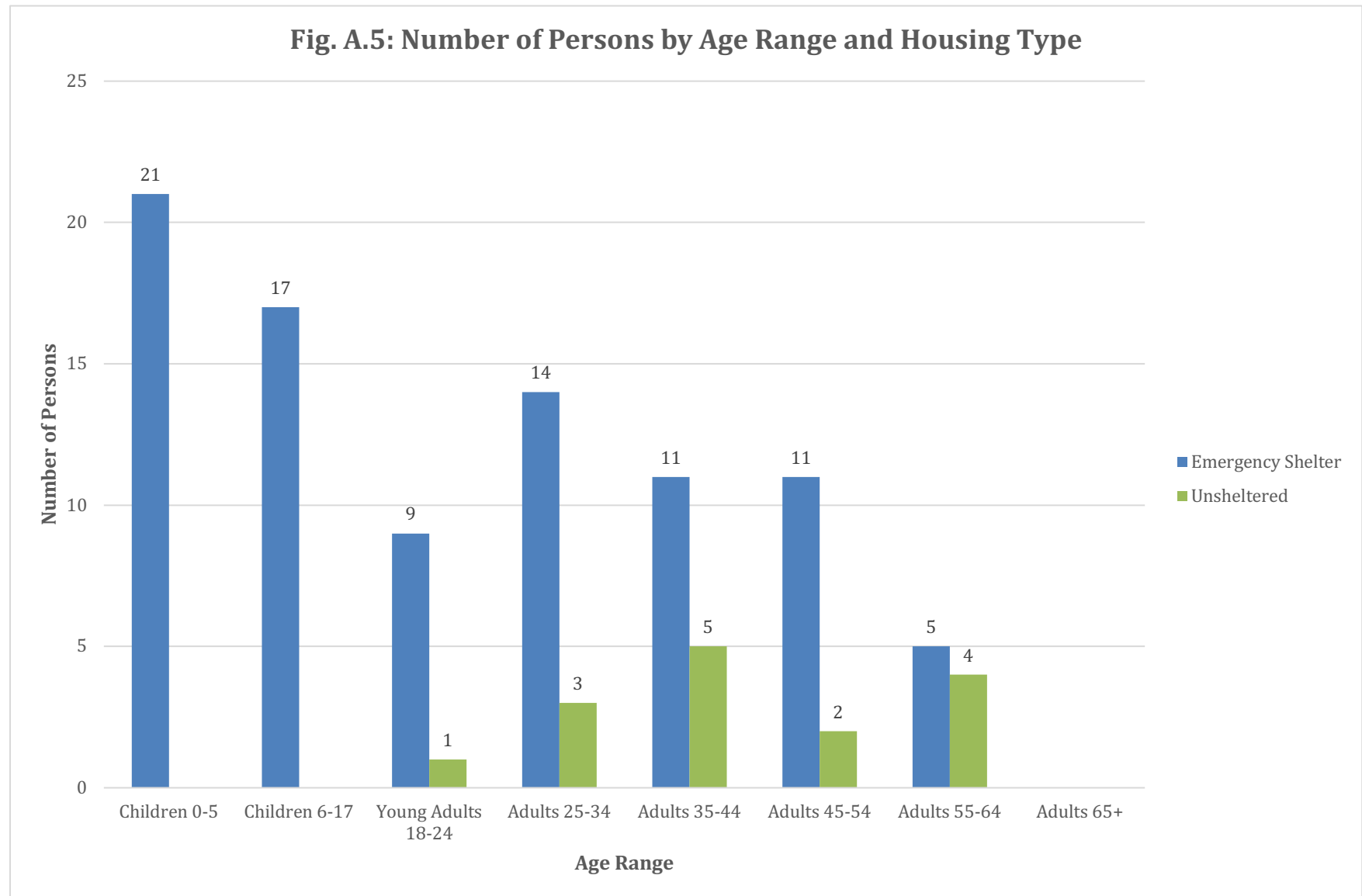
What is your total length of homelessness?

Fig. A.3: Homeless Households by Length of Homelessness and Housing Type
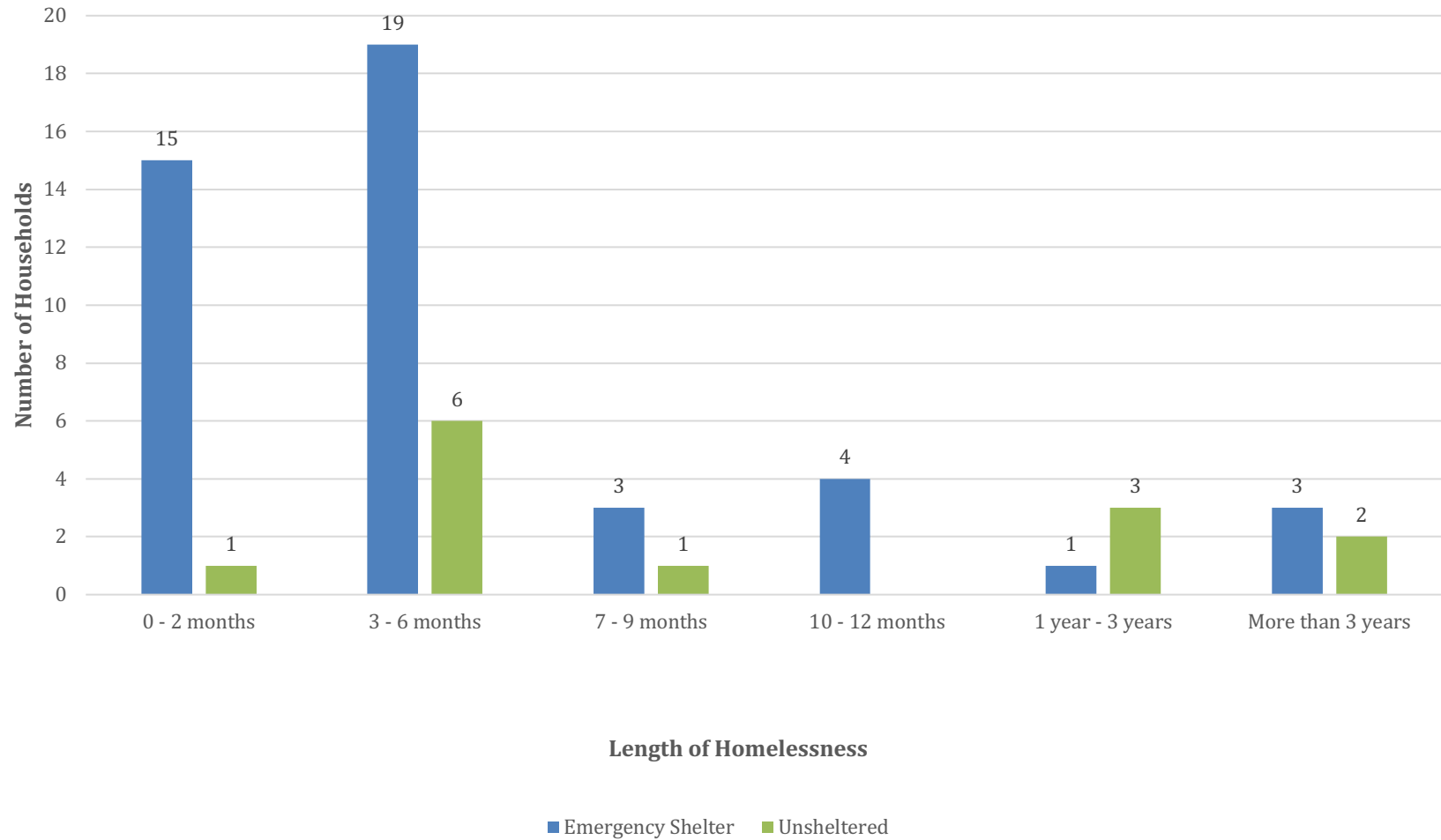
How many times have you been homeless in the past 3 years?

Fig. A.4: Homeless Househlds by Episodes of Homelessness by Housing Type
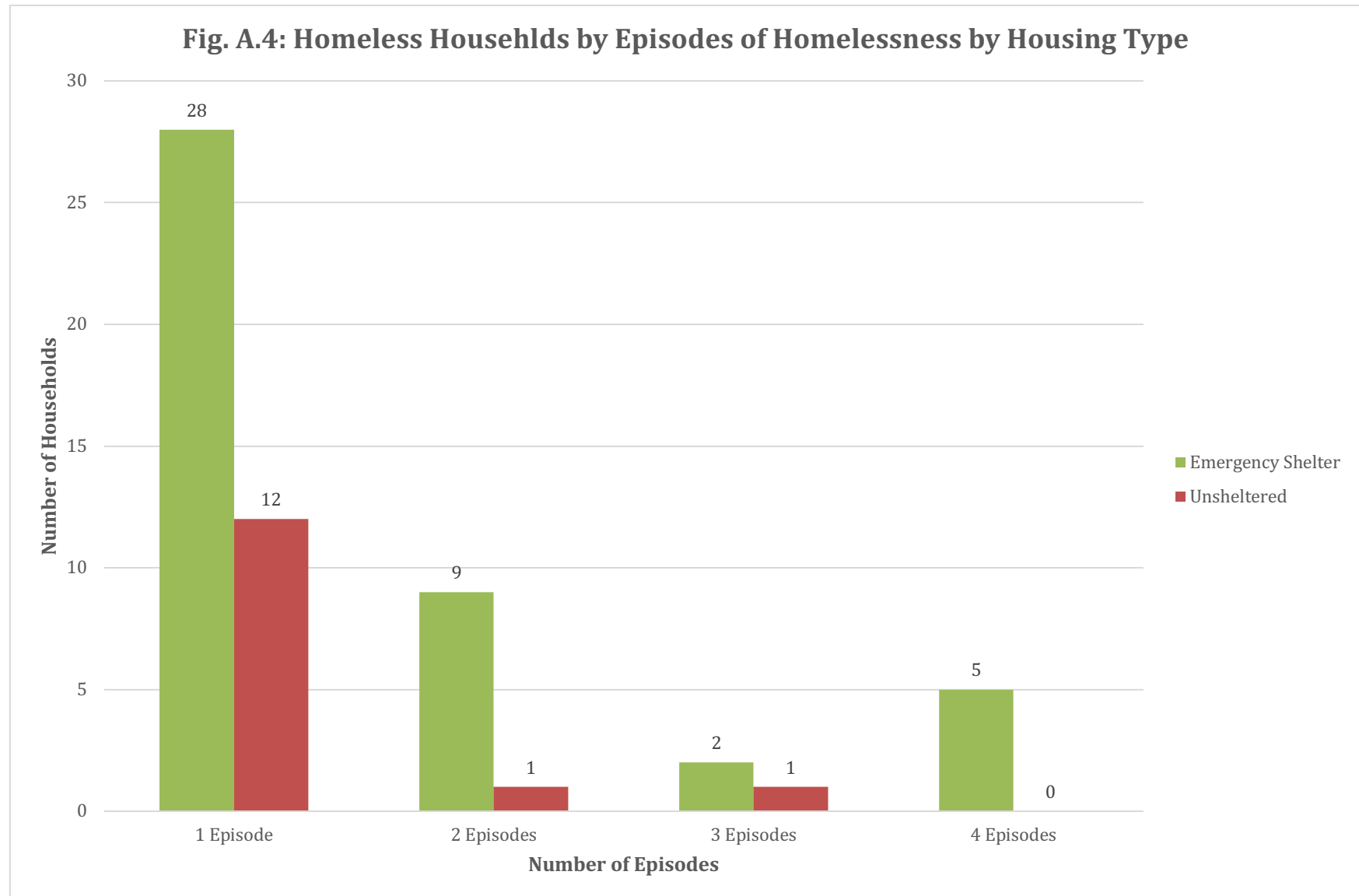
Who was homeless with you on the night of the Point in Time count?

Fig. A.5: Number of Persons by Age Range and Housing Type

Household Characteristics: Demographic Data – check all that apply to each person
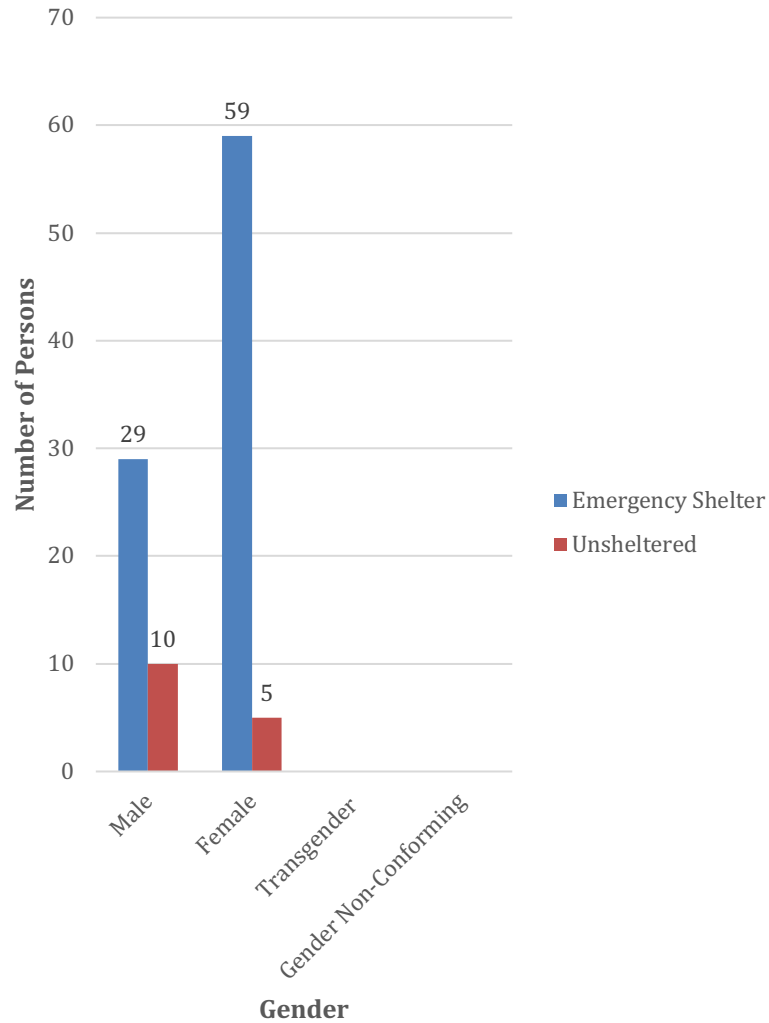

Fig. A.6: Number of Persons by Gender and Housing Type

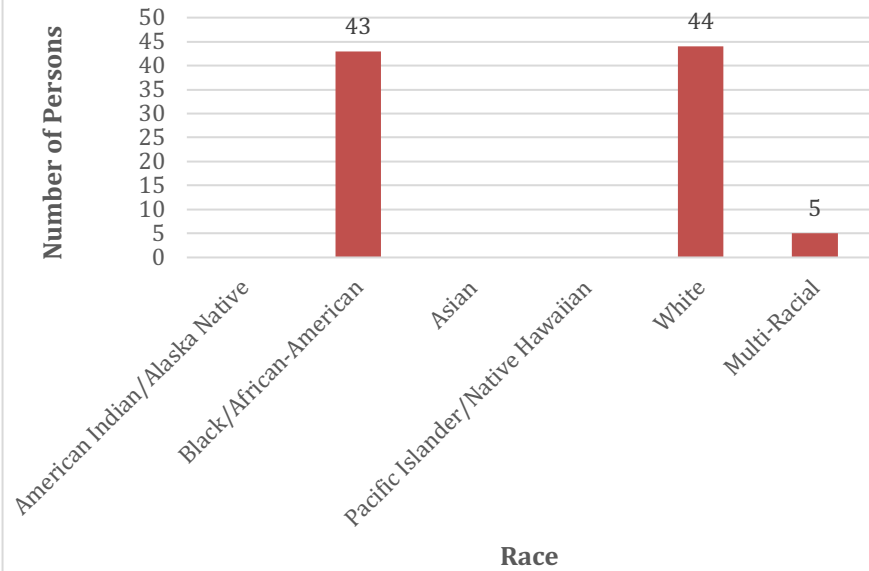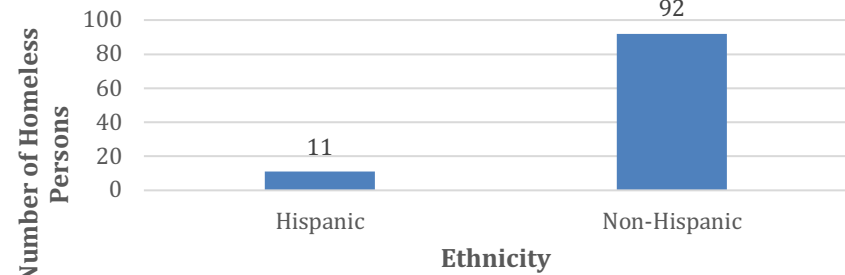Fig. A.7: Number of Persons by Race and Housing Type
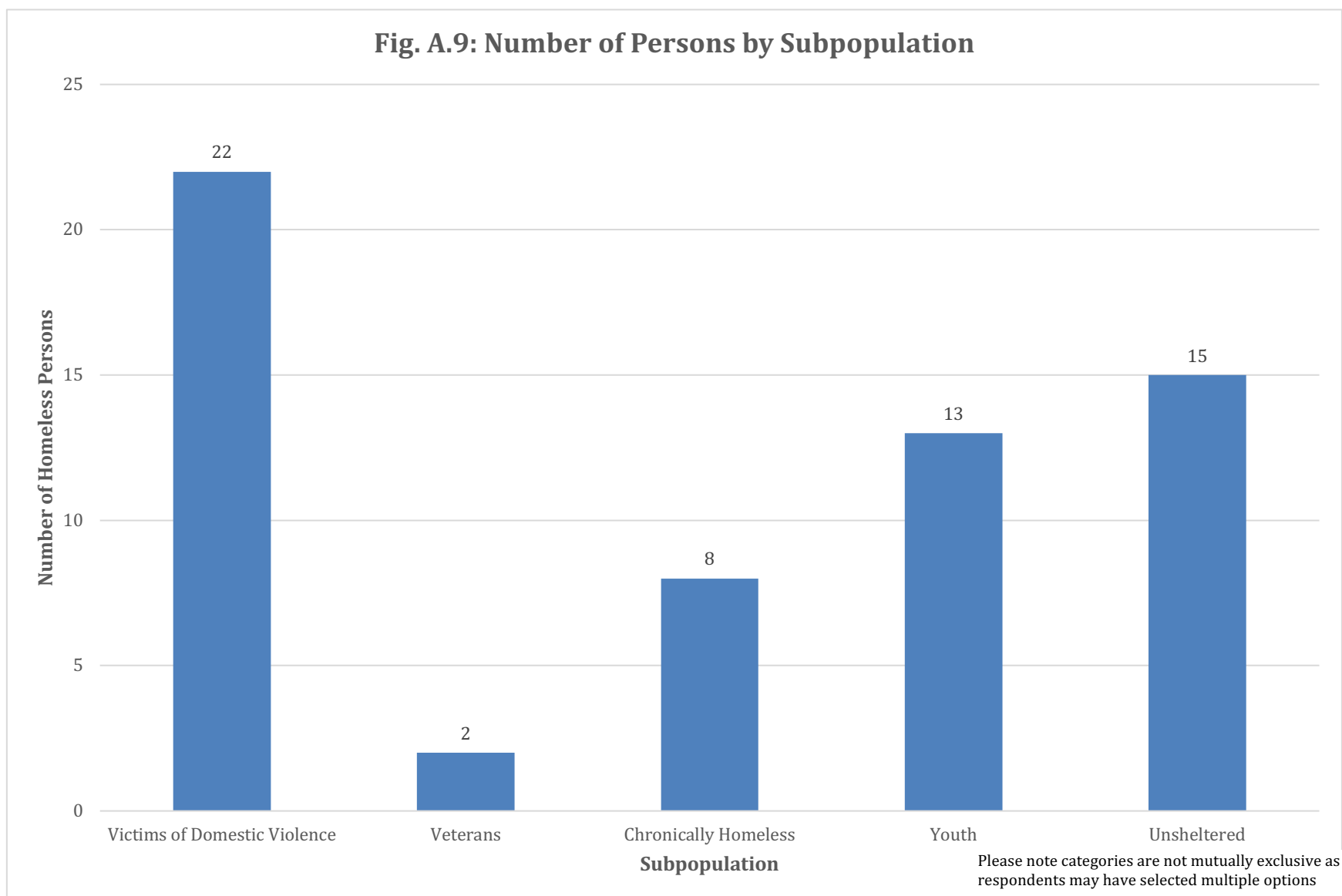

Fig. A.8: Number of Persons by Ethnicity and Housing Type

Household Characteristics: Subpopulations – check all that apply to each person

Fig. A.9: Number of Persons by Subpopulation

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options

Household Characteristics: Disabling Conditions – check all that apply to each person

Fig. A.10: Number of Persons by Disabling Condition

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options
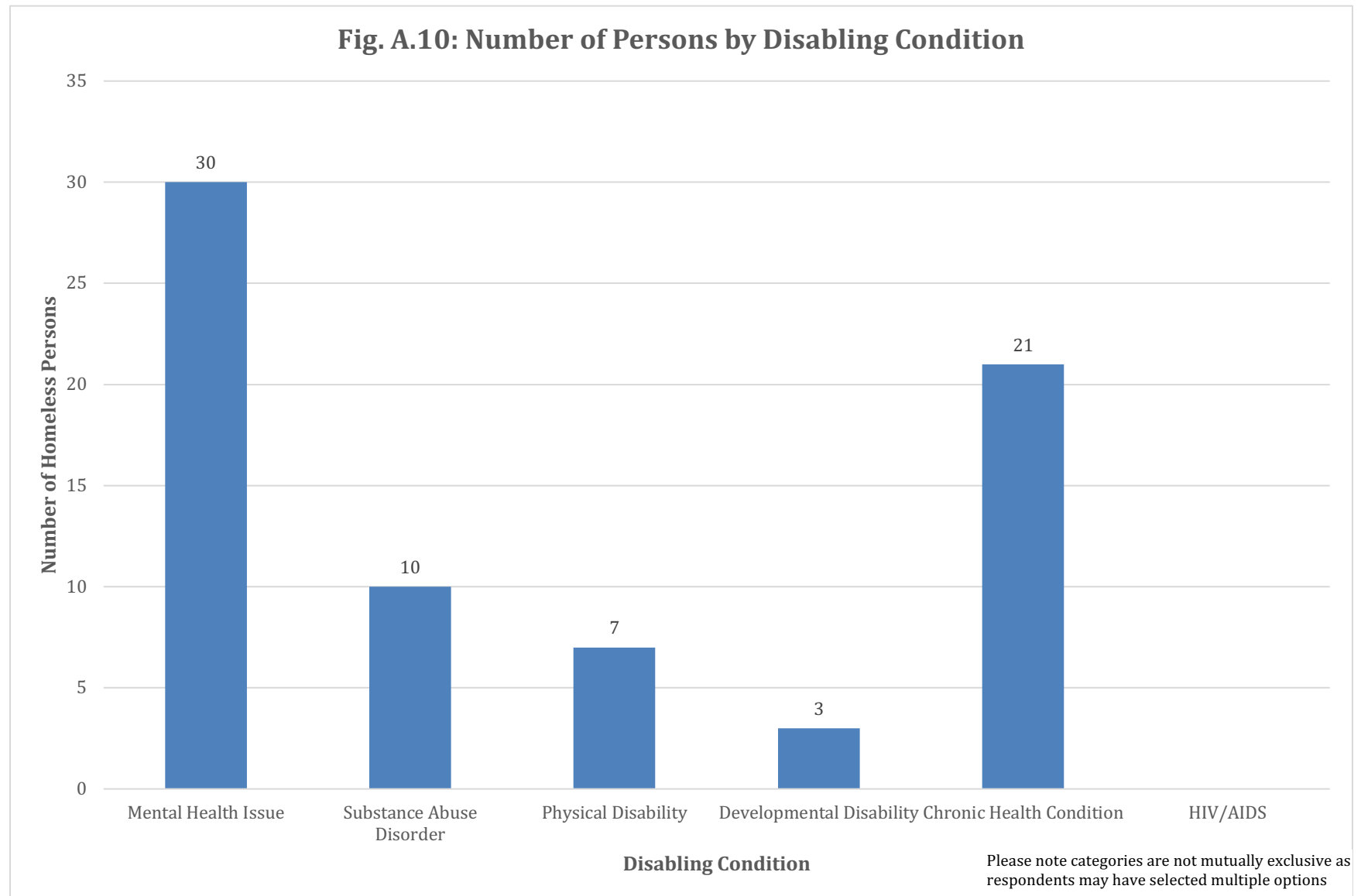
Where was your last permanent address before becoming homeless?

Fig. A.11. Number of Homeless Households by State or Country of Last Permanent Address	
Last Permanent Address – State/Country	**Number of Households**
Atlantic County	1
Burlington County	1
Camden County	15
Cape May County	1
Cumberland County	1
Gloucester County	**29**
Mercer County	1
California	1
Texas	1

What was your residence prior to your current living situation?

Fig. A.12: Number of Homeless Households by Prior Residence
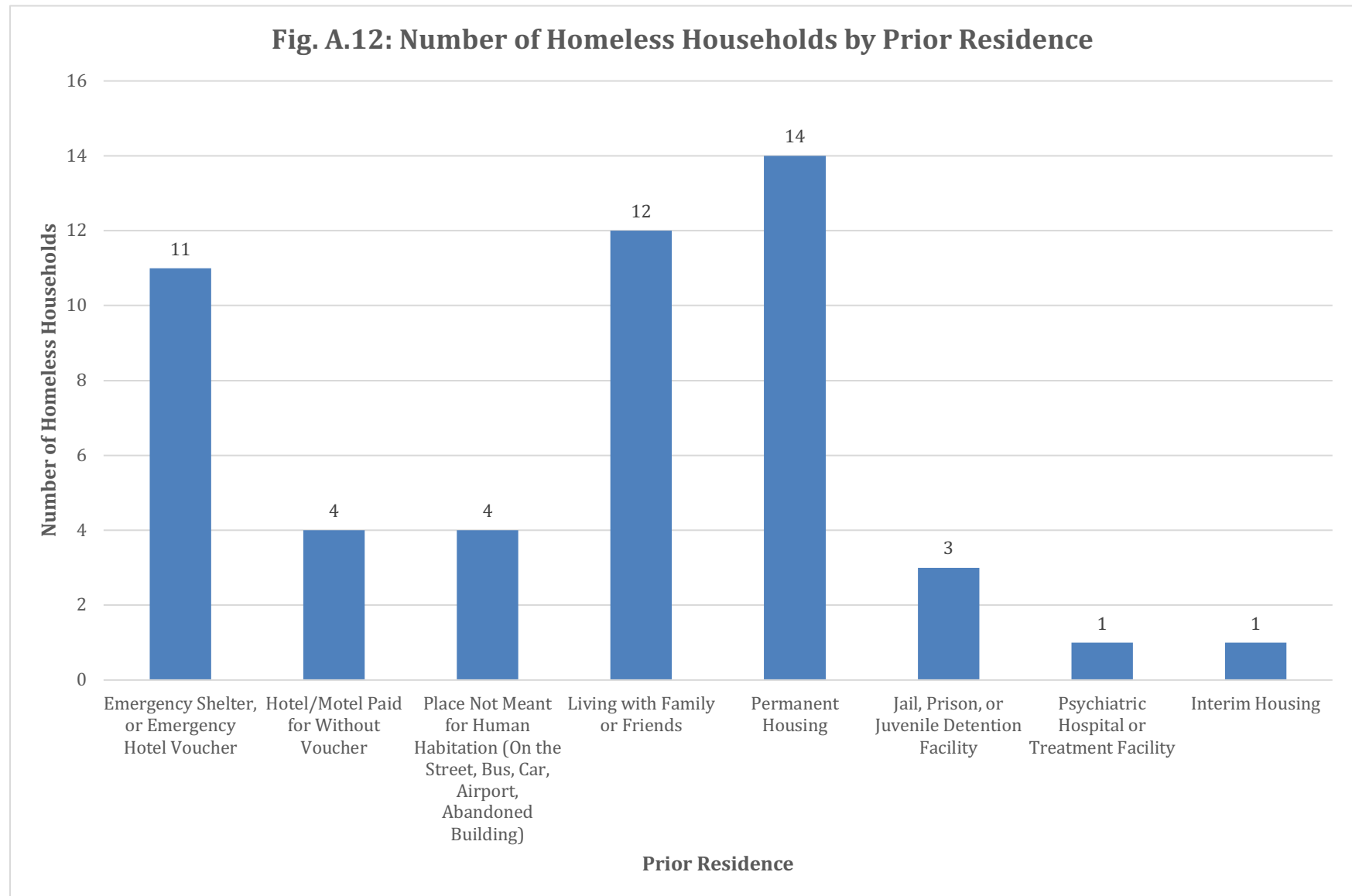
What was the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, your current living situation?

Fig. A.13: Number of Households by Cause of Homelessness
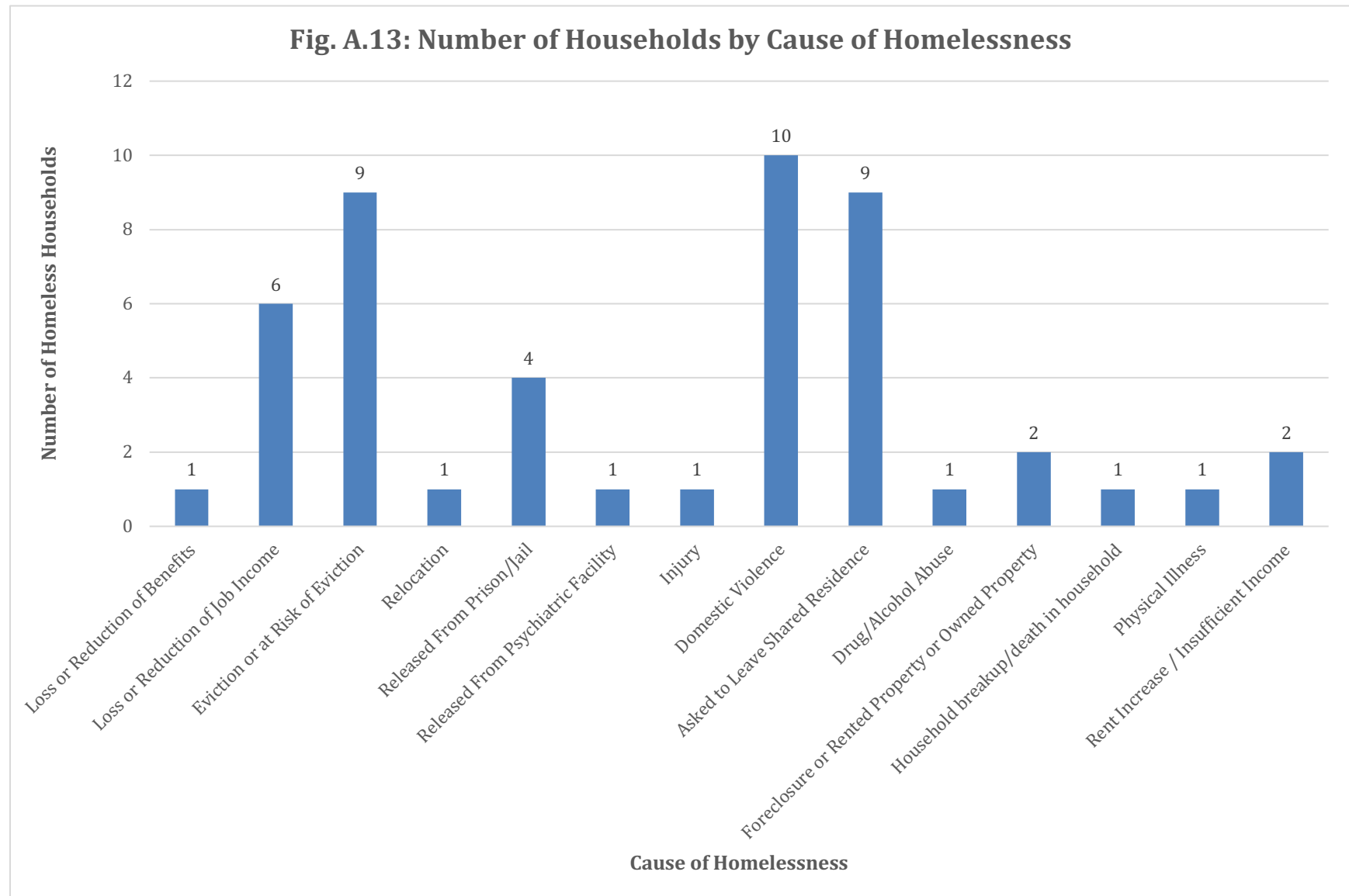
Which of the following sources of income do you, or anyone in your household, receive?

Fig. A.14: Number of Households by Source of Cash Income
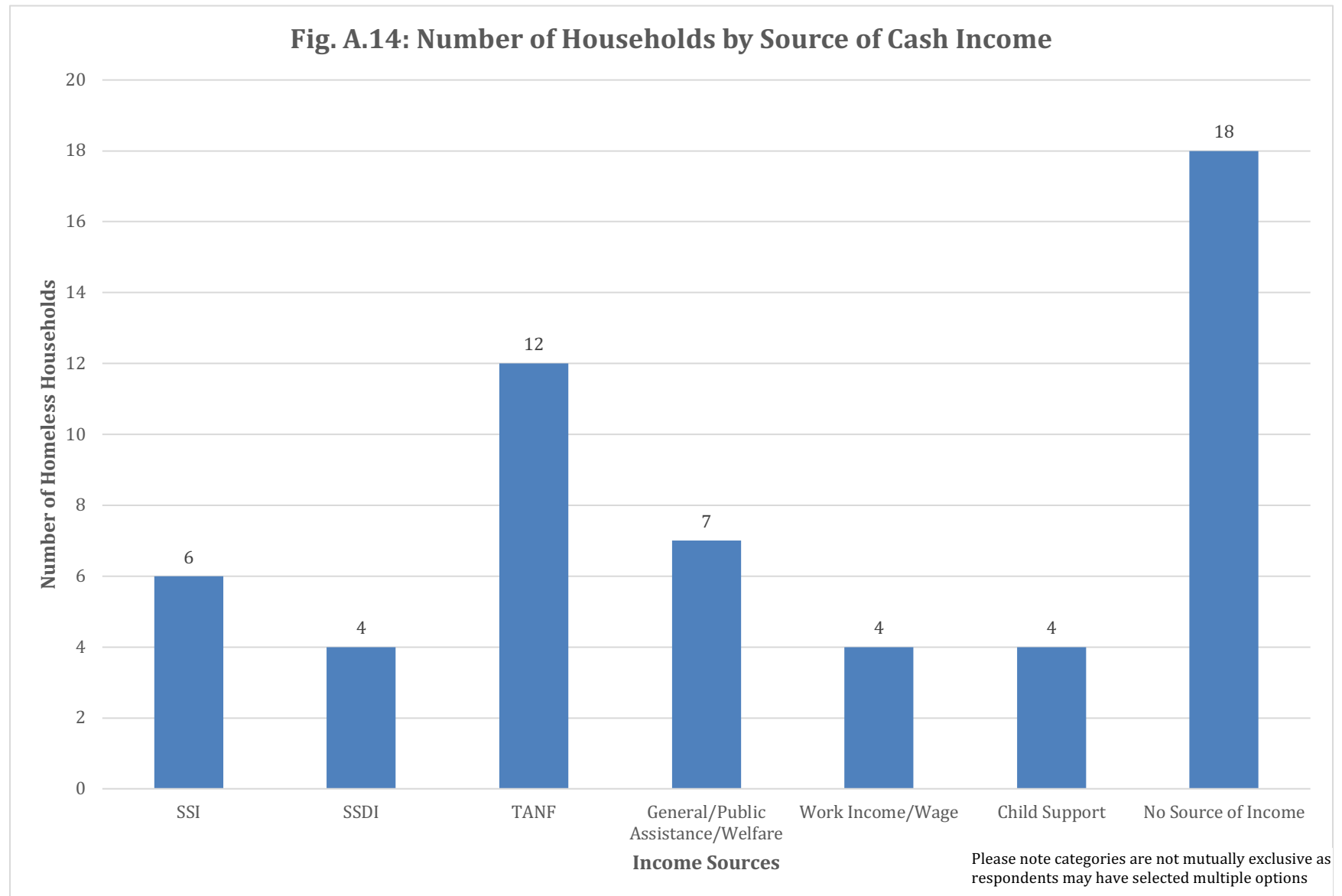
Which of the following sources of non-cash benefits do you, or anyone in your household, receive?

Fig. A.15: Number of Households by Sources fo Non-Cash Benefits

Bar chart — Y-axis: Number of Homeless Households (0 to 35), X-axis: Non-Cash Benefits

- Food Stamps/SNAP: 26
- Medicaid: 30
- Medicare: 2
- State Children's Health Insurance/FamilyCare: 4
- State Health Insurance for Adults: 2
- VA Medical Benefits: 1
- WIC/Special Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children: 4
- TANF-Funded Services (Child Care, Transportation, or Other): 2
- Receiving NO governmental benefits: 2

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options

What is your monthly household income?

Fig. A.16: Number of Homeless Households by Monthly Income Range
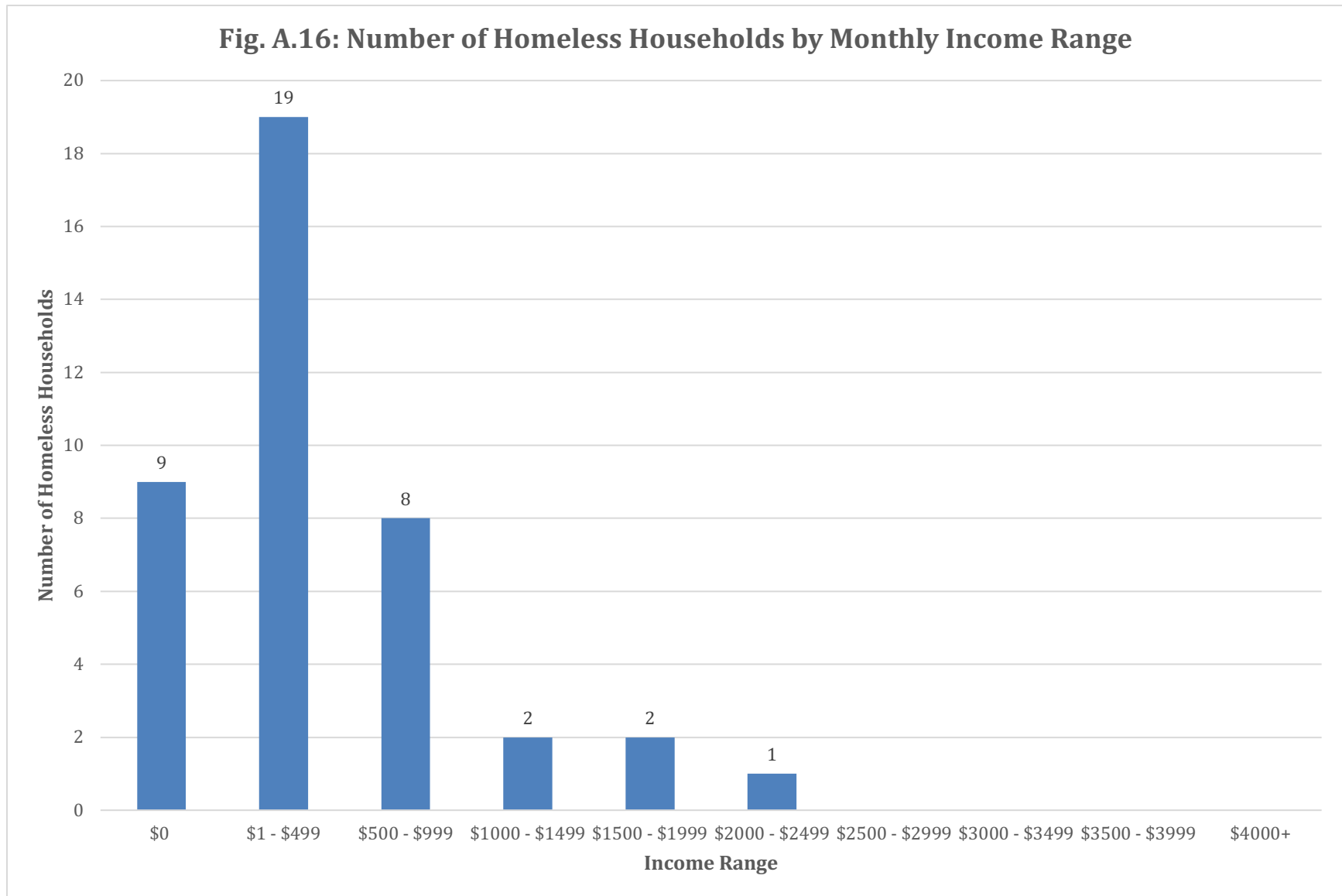
Would you, or anyone in your household, like to receive any of the following services?

Fig. A.17: Number of Homeless Households by Services Needed

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options