monarch
HOUSING ASSOCIATES

NJ
2019
Counts!

New Jersey 2019 Point-In-Time Count of the Homeless

January 22, 2019

Acknowledgements

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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 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.

While there was an overall decrease in the number of persons identified as homeless in the 2019 Point in Time Count as compared to the 2018 count, the change in persons identified varied from County to County. A large portion of the decrease in the statewide count is attributable to significant decreases in a few communities and is not reflective of a consistent statewide trend.

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 so as 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 8,864 persons experiencing homelessness on a single night in the State of New Jersey. Figure R.1 illustrates the racial breakdown of the total population in New Jersey, those living below the poverty line, and those experiencing homelessness.

Fig. R.1: Percent of Population by Race and Ethnicity
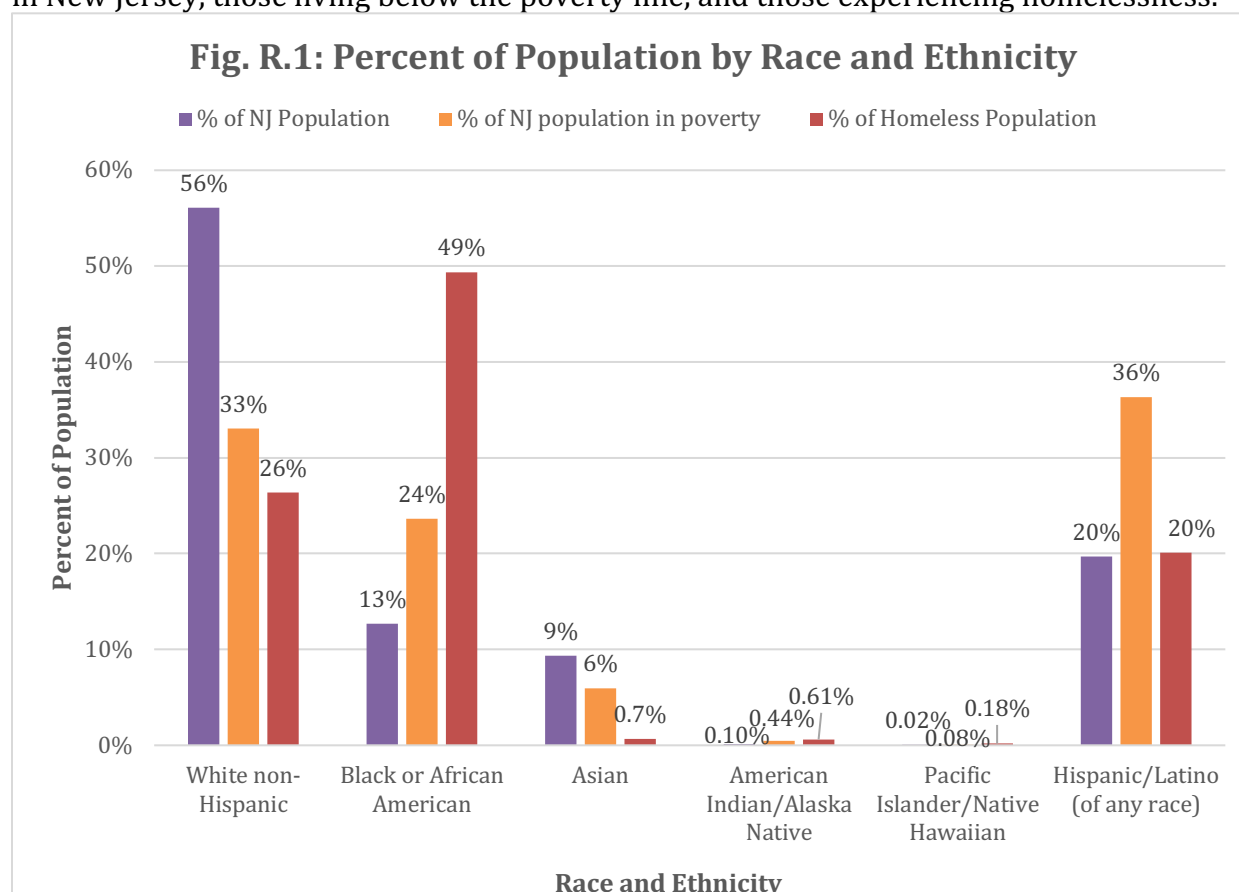
In looking at the racial breakdown of those experiencing homelessness in relation to the racial breakdown in the general population and those living in poverty, disparate impacts along racial lines become evident. According to the American Community Survey 2017 annual estimates prepared by the Census Bureau, about 8,960,161 people live in the state of

New Jersey, and 10.5% (938,252 persons) of New Jersey residents are living below the poverty line. There is a strong correlation between poverty and homelessness, however, the racial disparities evident in the 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 are overrepresented in the population experiencing homelessness and living below the poverty level. While 13% of the general population, persons identifying as Black or African American are 24% of the population in poverty and 49.4% of the population experiencing homelessness.
- Persons identifying as Asian have the lowest rates of homelessness making up 9% of the state population, 6% of the population living below the poverty level, and .7% of the population experiencing homelessness.
- Persons identifying as Black or African American represent 51.5% of the sheltered population (staying in emergency shelter, transitional housing or safe havens) and 49.4% of the unsheltered population. Persons identifying as White and not Hispanic/Latino represent 26.5% of the sheltered population and 31.2% of the unsheltered population. Persons identifying as Hispanic/Latino represent 20.4% of the sheltered population and 18.2% of the unsheltered population.

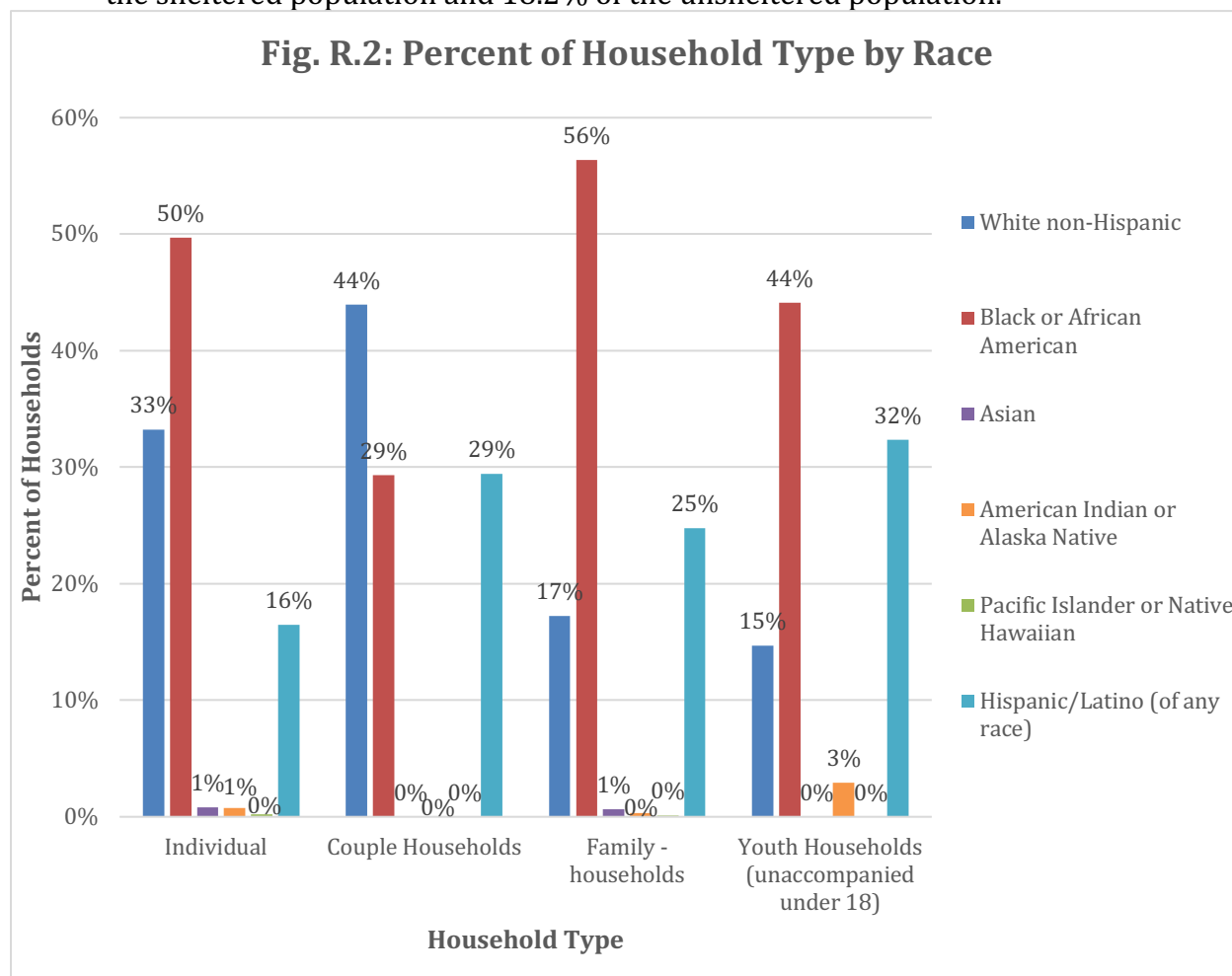Fig. R.2: Percent of Household Type by Race

Figure R.2 illustrates the racial breakdown within each household type for those experiencing homelessness.

- While persons identifying as White make up 27% of those experiencing homelessness, they make up 44% of adult only households with more than one adult.
- Persons identifying as African American make up 51% of those experiencing homelessness, and 56% of homeless households with at least one adult and one child under the age of 18.
- Persons identifying as African American make up the majority of unaccompanied youth households at 44%.

Disparities along racial and ethnic lines in the population experiencing homelessness are seen in a number of other areas including the following:

- African Americans represent 58% of the population experiencing homelessness between the ages of 18 – 24.
- 50% of persons identifying as transgender were White.
- When asked to identify their residence prior to their current homeless situation, permanent housing was the top reported prior residence by persons identifying as White (17%) and Asian (23%), permanent housing(13%) and emergency shelter (13%) were the top reported prior residences among persons identifying as Hispanic/Latino, emergency shelter (14%) and living with family or friends (14%) were the top reported prior residences among persons identifying as Black or African American, living with family or friends was the top reported prior residence by persons identifying as Native American/Alaska Native(24%), rooming house was the top reported prior residence by persons identifying as Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (19%).
- When asked to identify their sources of income, of those reporting "No Source of Income", 48% identified as Black or African American, 32% identified as White, and 19% identified as Hispanic/Latino
- When asked to identify their primary cause of homelessness, being asked to leave a shared residence was the top reported cause by persons identifying as Black or African American (16%), Asian (16%), and Hispanic/Latino (11%), being asked to leave a shared residence (13%) and loss or reduction of job income (13%) were the top reported causes by persons identifying as Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, drug/alchohol abuse was the top reported cause by persons identifying as White (13%) and Native American/Alaska Native (13%).

Figure R.3 illustrates the racial breakdown within each disabling condition reported.

Fig. R.3: Disabling Condition by Race
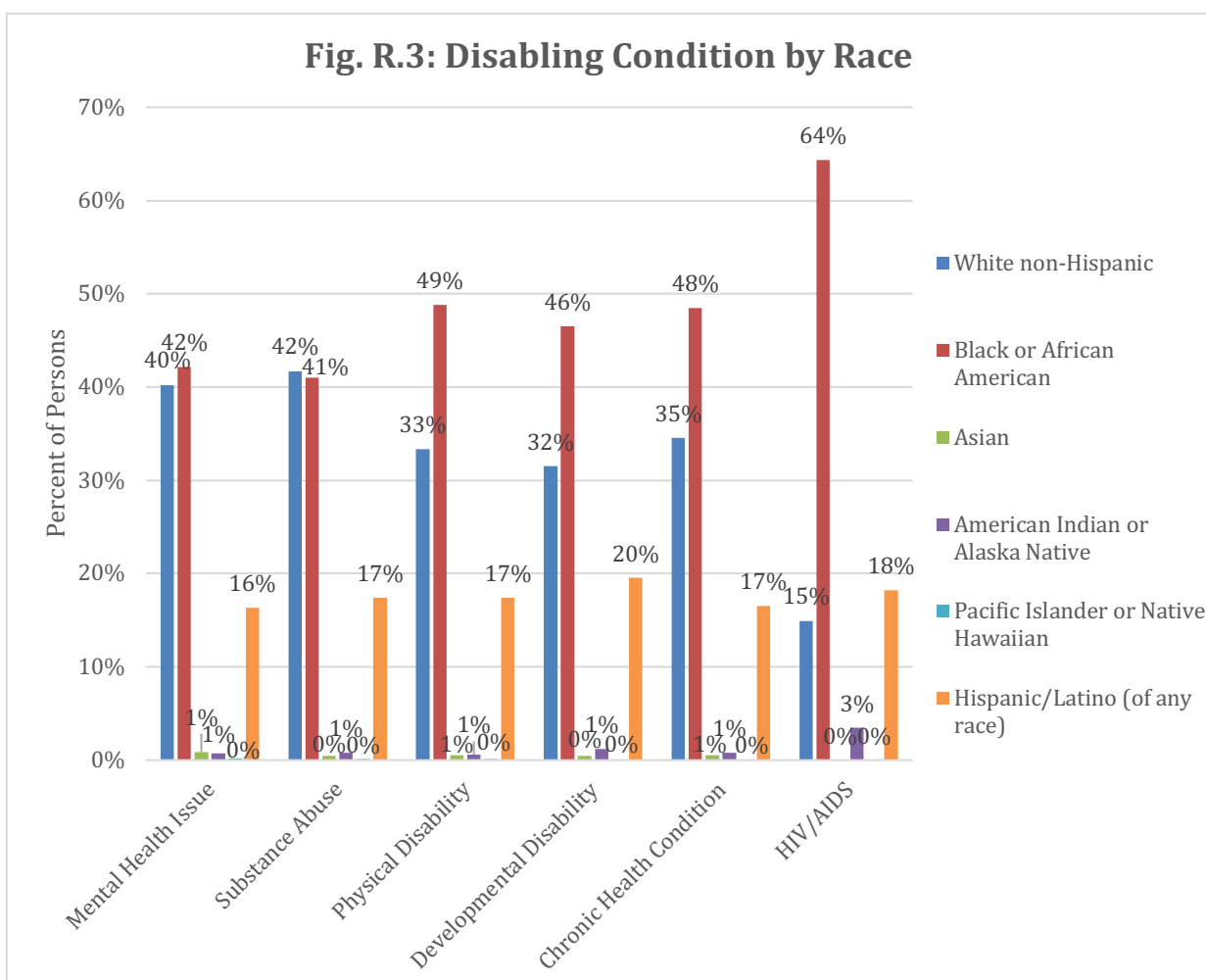
- Among those identifying as White, 70% identified a disabling condition as compared to 44% of those identify as Black or African American.
- Among those identifying a substance abuse issue, 42% identified as White, followed by 41% identifying as African Americans.
- Among persons living with HIV/AIDS, the majority (64%) identified as Black or African American.
- The majority of persons identifying a mental health issue, physical disability, developmental disability, chronic health condition or HIV/AIDS were African American.

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 6,748 households, including 8,864 persons, were experiencing homelessness in New Jersey, according to the 2019 Point-In-Time Count.
- A total of 1,462 persons, in 1,351 households, were identified as chronically homeless.
- 1,413 households, with 1,482 persons were unsheltered on the night of the count.

Figure i. Number of Homeless Persons by County and Percentage of State Total						
County	Total Homeless Persons	% of Total Homeless Persons	Chronic Homeless Persons	% of Chronic Homeless Persons	Unsheltered Homeless Persons	% of Unsheltered Homeless Persons
Atlantic	357	4%	73	5%	96	6%
Bergen	271	3%	11	1%	4	0%
Burlington	518	6%	79	5%	23	2%
Camden	603	7%	170	12%	161	11%
Cape May	90	1%	24	2%	10	1%
Cumberland	183	2%	28	2%	33	2%
Essex	2,235	25%	271	19%	338	23%
Gloucester	103	1%	8	1%	15	1%
Hudson	890	10%	226	15%	267	18%
Hunterdon	173	2%	28	2%	9	1%
Mercer	448	5%	70	5%	84	6%
Middlesex	620	7%	131	9%	135	9%
Monmouth	360	4%	58	4%	54	4%
Morris	388	4%	65	4%	42	3%
Ocean	305	3%	38	3%	30	2%
Passaic	391	4%	93	6%	117	8%
Salem	29	0%	1	0%	0	0%
Somerset	301	3%	7	0%	6	0%
Sussex	87	1%	4	0%	10	1%
Union	438	5%	68	5%	39	3%
Warren	74	1%	9	1%	9	1%
Total	8,864	100%	1,462	100%	1,482	100%

Total Homeless Population

On the night of January 22nd, 2019, a total of 8,864 persons, in 6,748 households, were experiencing homelessness in New Jersey, according to the 2019 Point-In-Time Count. This is a decrease of 439 persons (5%) and 234 households (3%) from 2018.

Fig. 1: 5-Year Comparison of Total Homeless Population by Housing Situation
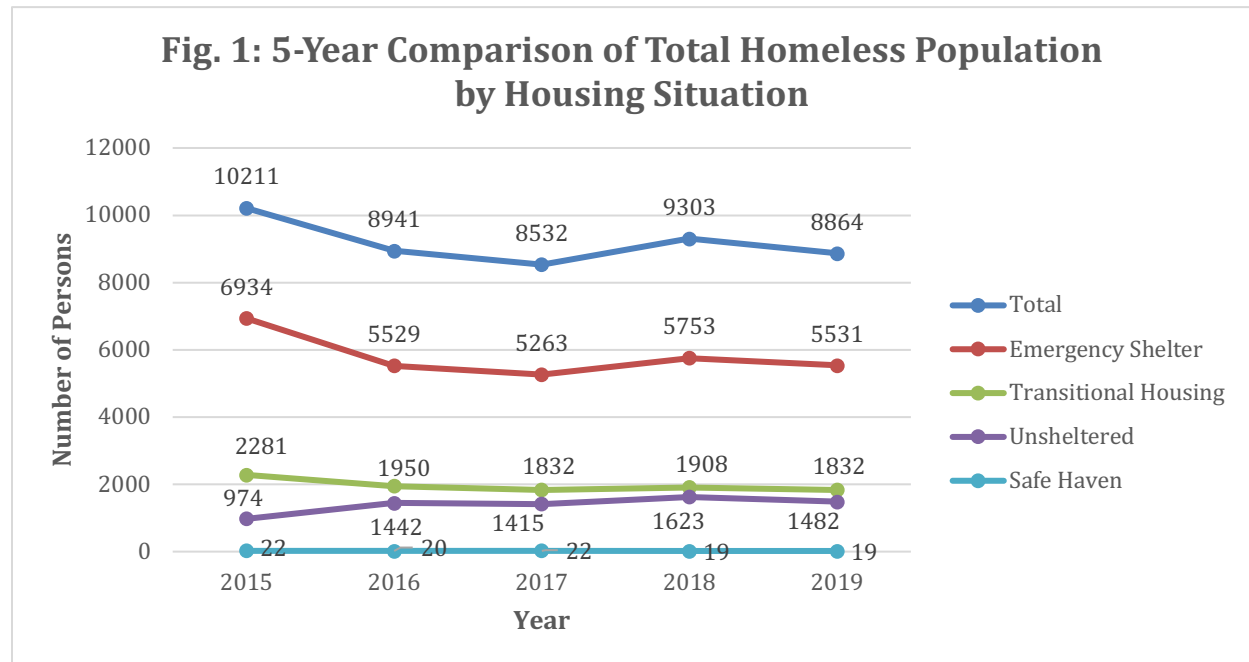
Figure 1 shows that, in 2019, 5,531 homeless persons stayed in emergency shelters, 1,832 stayed in transitional housing, 19 were in safe havens, and 1,482 were identified as unsheltered on the night of the count. When comparing to 2018, decreases are seen in the number of homeless respondents staying in emergency shelter (222 persons, 4%), transitional housing (76 persons, 4%), and those identified as unsheltered (141 persons, 9%). The number of persons in safe havens stayed the same at 19 in 2018 and 2019.

Figure 1 also shows that, over the past five years, New Jersey has seen an overall decrease of 1,347 identified persons (13%) from 2015 to 2019. Over this 5-year period, there was a 20% decrease in persons staying in emergency shelter, a 20% decrease in persons staying in transitional housing, and a 14% decrease in persons staying in safe havens. There was a 52% increase in identified unsheltered persons between 2015 and 2019.

As Figure 2 shows, 5% of the homeless household respondents in New Jersey in 2019 reported that their last permanent address prior to becoming homeless was outside of the state.

Fig. 2 Percent of Households by Location of Last Permanent Address
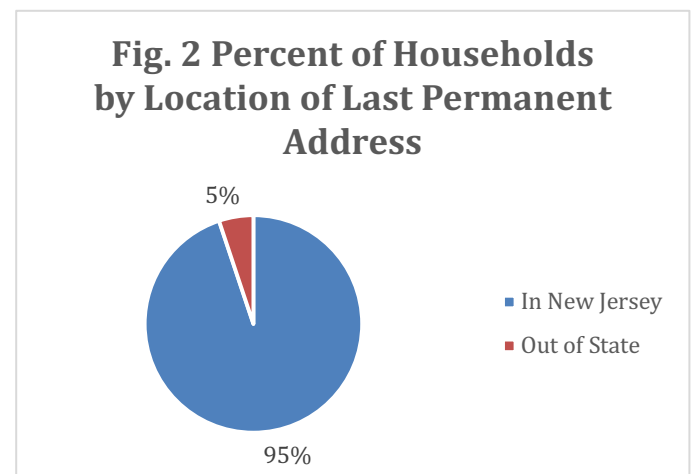
Homeless Families and Individuals

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
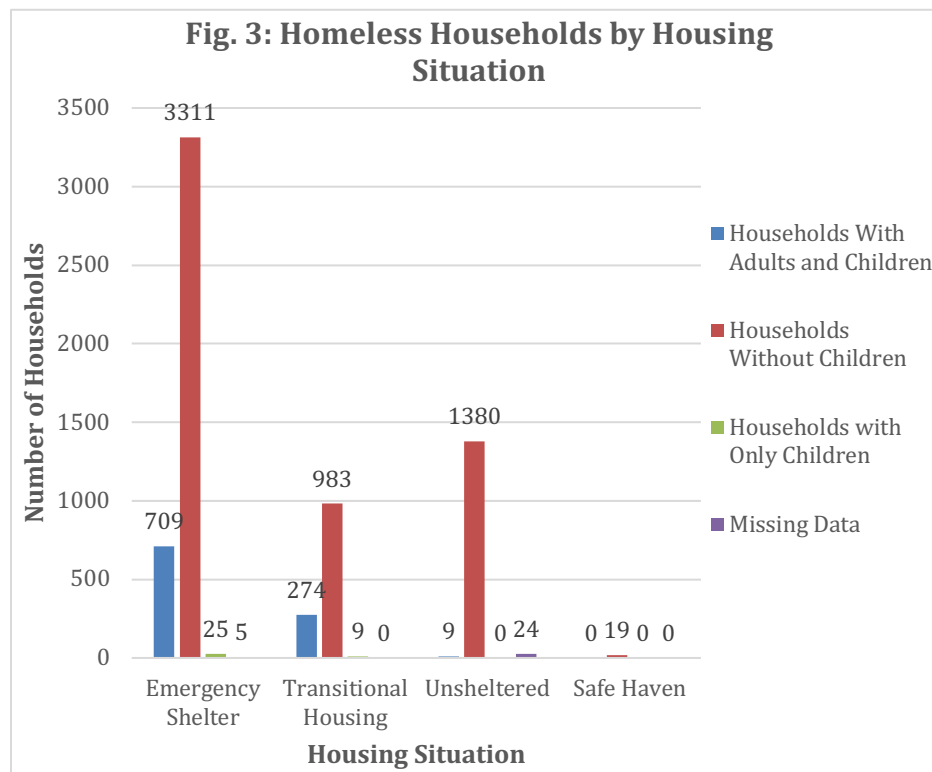
Of the 6,748 homeless households counted in New Jersey in 2019, 992 (15%) were families with at least one child under the age of 18 and one adult. This is a decrease of about 6% from the number counted in 2018. These families included 2,964 persons, including 1,795 children under age 18 and 1,169 adults. The average family size was 2.99 persons. Figure 3 shows that 709 families (71%) were staying in emergency shelters. There were 9 unsheltered families with children under the age of 18. This is a decrease of 4 identified unsheltered families (31%) from 2018.

5,697 (85%) of the identified homeless households in New Jersey were households without children under 18, and they were composed of 5,835 adults. This is a decrease of 3% from the number of adult only households identified in 2018. The majority of adult only households (58%) were staying in emergency shelters on the night of the count. 1,383 adult only households were unsheltered in 2019, a decrease of 147 households (10%) from the number counted in 2018.

As Figure 3 indicates, 34 households with only children under 18 years old were reported in 2019, a decrease of 1 household (3%) from 2018. 74% of unaccompanied youth households were staying in emergency shelters. In 2019, 0 unsheltered unaccompanied youth were identified as compared to the 3 unsheltered unaccompanied youth households identified in 2018.

Demographics

There were a total of 715 (8%) identified homeless adults between 18 and 24 years old, 6,281 (71%) adults over age 24, and 1,831 (20%) children under 18 years old experiencing homelessness on the night of the count. Figure 4 shows that the age range most represented is Adults between 45 and 54 (1,557 persons, 18%).


Fig. 4: Age Range by Housing Situation
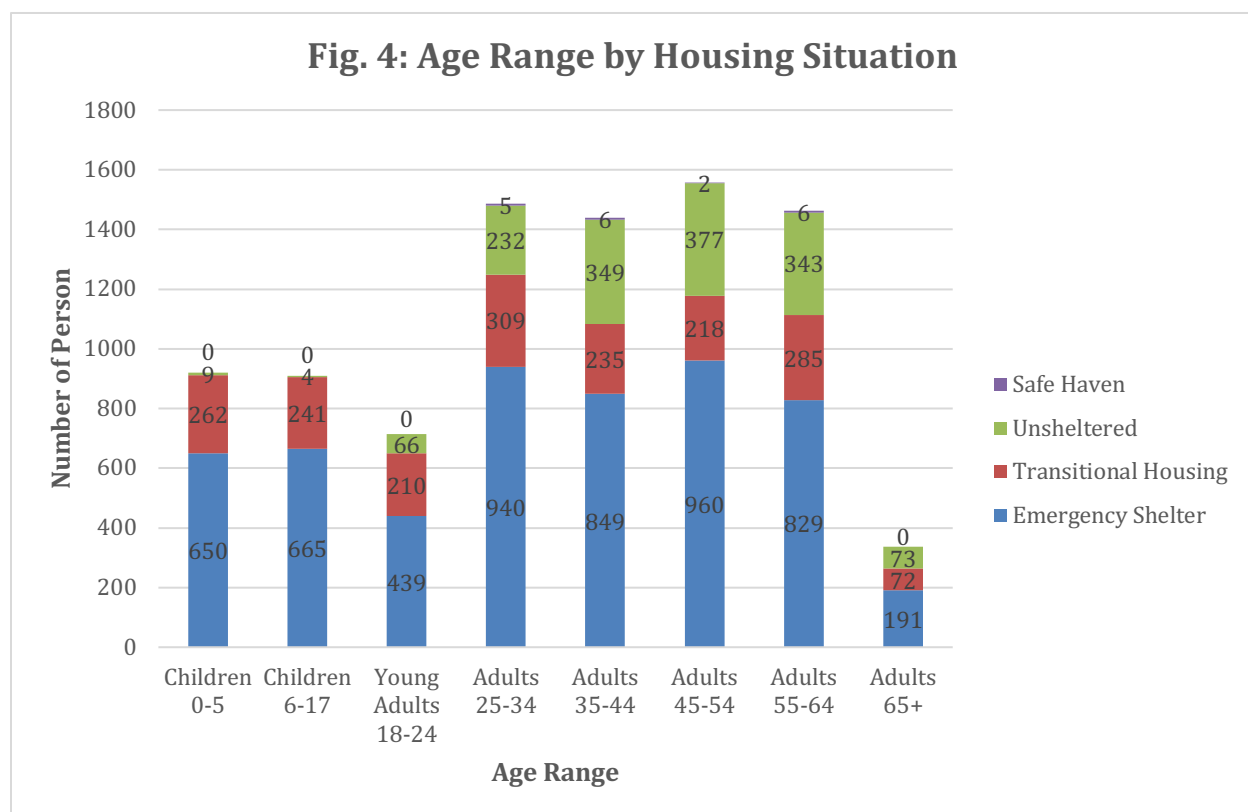
59.4% (5,229) of homeless persons were male, 40.4% (3,562) were female, 17 (0.2%) were transgender, and 2 persons (>0.1%) were gender non-conforming.

49.4% (4,376) of persons identified their race as Black or African-American, making this the largest racial subgroup of homeless persons counted. The next largest group self-identified as White (26.4%, 2,338 persons), followed by those identifying as Multi-Racial (1.9%, 125 persons). With regard to ethnicity, 20.2% of persons identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino.

Subpopulations

On the night of January 22, 2019 out of the 8,864 persons identified as homeless, there were a total of 1,462 Chronically Homeless persons, representing 16.5% of the counted homeless population. There were 551 homeless veterans representing 7.9% of the adult counted homeless population. 801 Victims of Domestic Violence were identified representing 9% of the total counted homeless population. Homeless Youth (individuals and families with heads of households 24 years old or younger) represented 10.3% of the counted homeless population with 917 persons identified. Figure 5 illustrates the break-down of each subpopulation identified by housing type.

Fig. 5: Subpopulations by Housing Situation
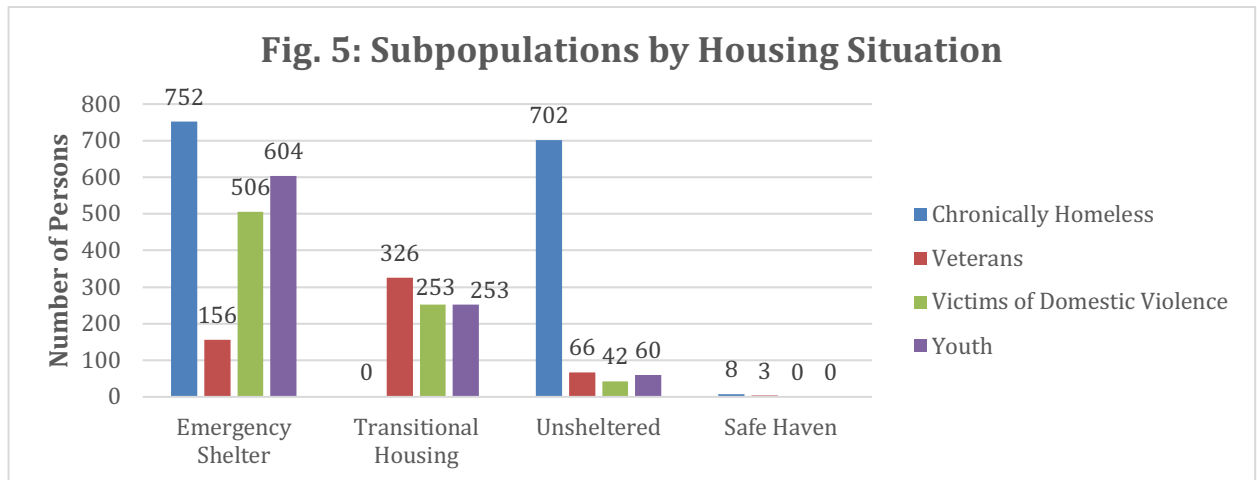
As illustrated in Figure 5 the majority of Chronically Homeless persons were in emergency shelters or unsheltered on the night of the count. The majority of Victims of Domestic Violence and Youth were in emergency shelters and the majority of Veterans were in transitional housing programs.

Disabilities

Figure 6 illustrates that 51% of homeless persons reported having some type of disability. 61.2% of adults 18 or older reported some type of disability compared to 10.7% of children. Figure 7 shows the number of the homeless persons that identified as having various disabilities. The most common disabilities included mental health issues and substance abuse disorders.
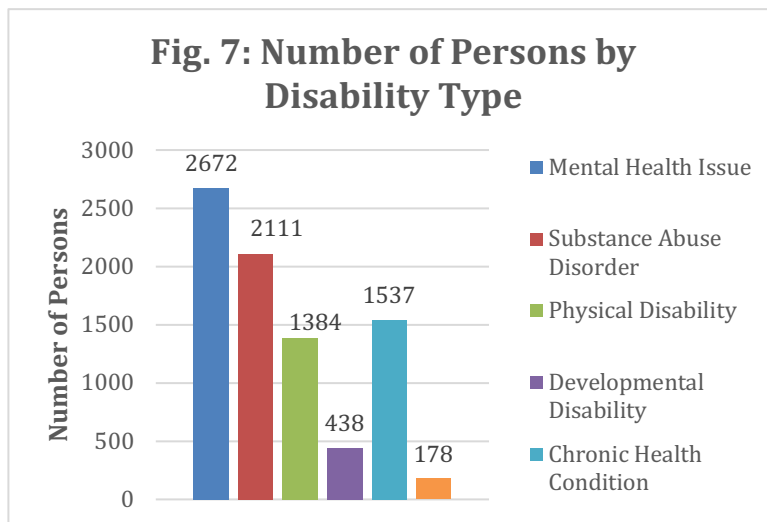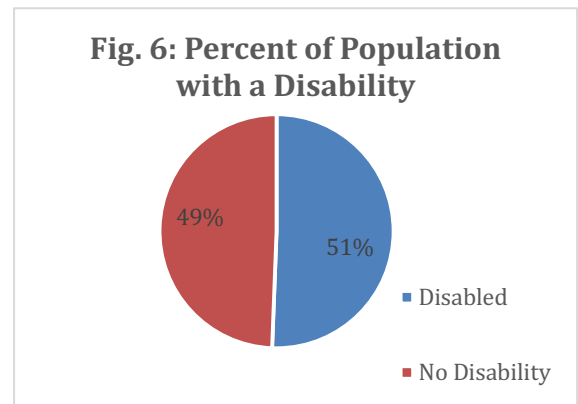
Fig. 6: Percent of Population with a Disability

Fig. 7: Number of Persons by Disability Type

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

Among disabled persons, 59.6% reported mental health issues making this the most prevalent disability; representing 60.5% of the disabled adult homeless population and 30.1% of the total identified population experiencing homelessness. 48.8% of disabled adults reported a substance abuse disorder. Among disabled homeless children, 44.4% reported a developmental

disability and another 40.3% reported mental health issues.

Income and Benefits

Among all households experiencing homelessness on the night of the count, 40.6% had no source of income, and 12.8% reported having earned income. The most common sources of income among homeless households were SSI (15%) and Earned Income (12.8%) followed by General Assistance (12.1%). Figure 8 shows the income sources reported by respondents in relation to their housing situation on the night of the count.
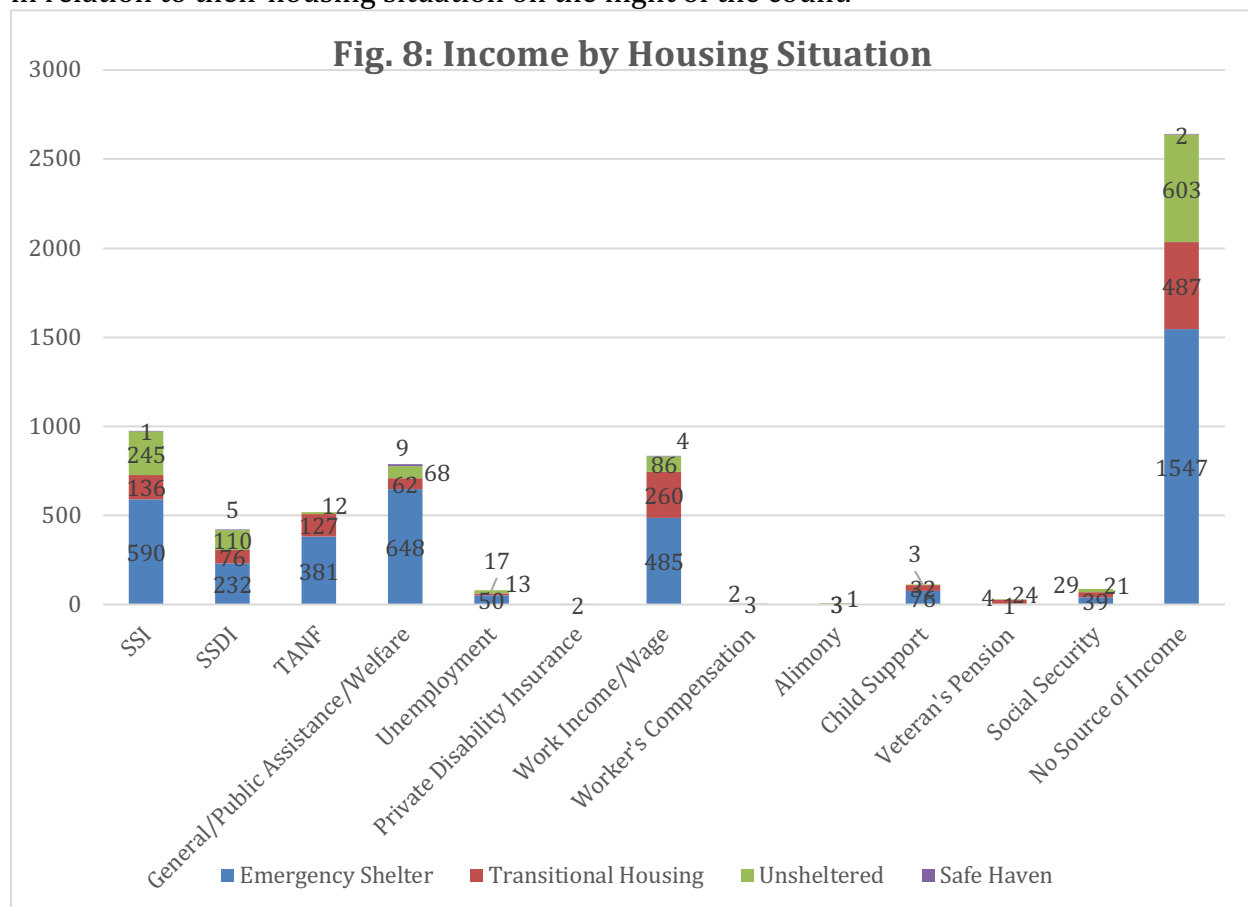
Fig. 8: Income by Housing Situation

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	Transitional Housing	Safe Haven	Unsheltered
Average for All Households	$641.25	$962.81	$574.28	$335.43

7% 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 51.2% of homeless households. Food Stamps (SNAP), was the second most reported non-cash benefit received by 39.5% of identified 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, 45.4% of identified homeless

Fig. 10: Length of Homelessness Among Households
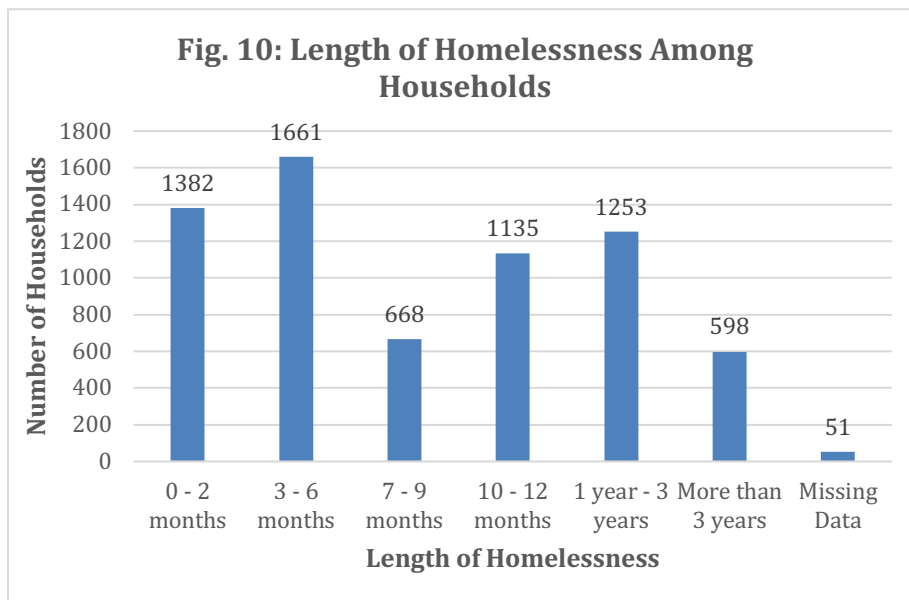
households reported their total length of homelessness was between 0 and 6 months. Within this group, 20.6% were homeless from 0 – 2 months and 24.8% were homeless between 3 and 6 months. For those with longer periods of homelessness, 27.6% of homeless households reported that their total length of homelessness was more than 1 year. In looking at those households that had lengths of homelessness exceeding one year, 1,253 households (18.7%) were homeless between 1 and 3 years while 598 households (8.9%) reported their total length of homelessness exceeded 3 years.

Episodes of Homelessness

There were a total of 4,643 households (68.8%) 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
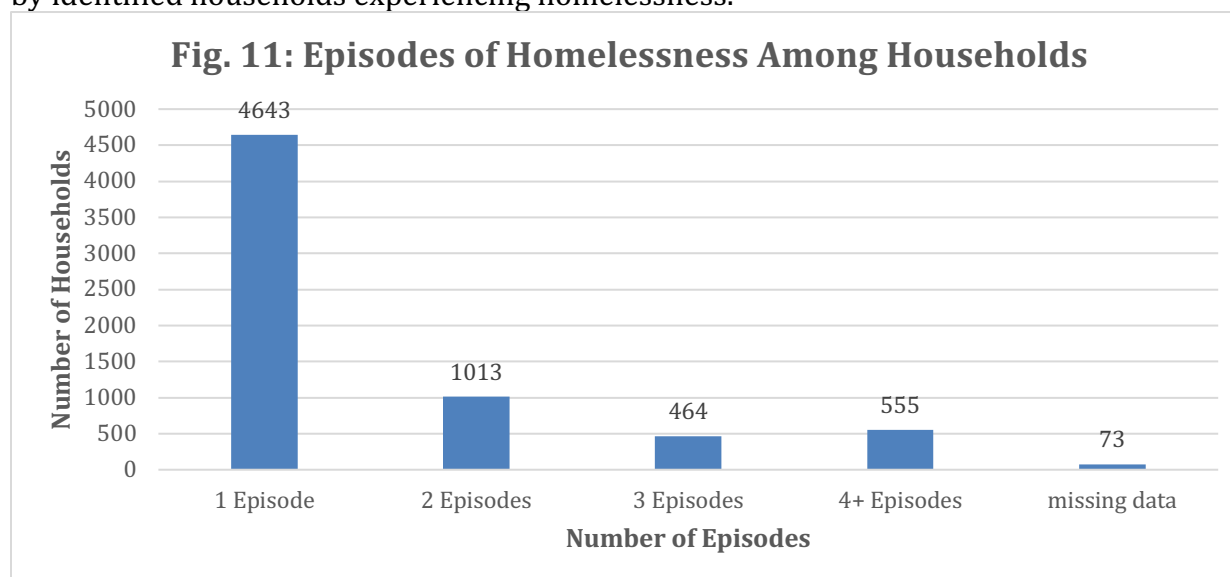
Cause of Homelessness

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more households attributed their homelessness to being asked to leave a shared residence (1,230 households, 18.2%) than any other cause. As Figure 12 shows, the next most common factor reported was loss or reduction of job income (13.6%) followed by eviction (11.8%).

Fig. 12: Cause of Homelessness by Household
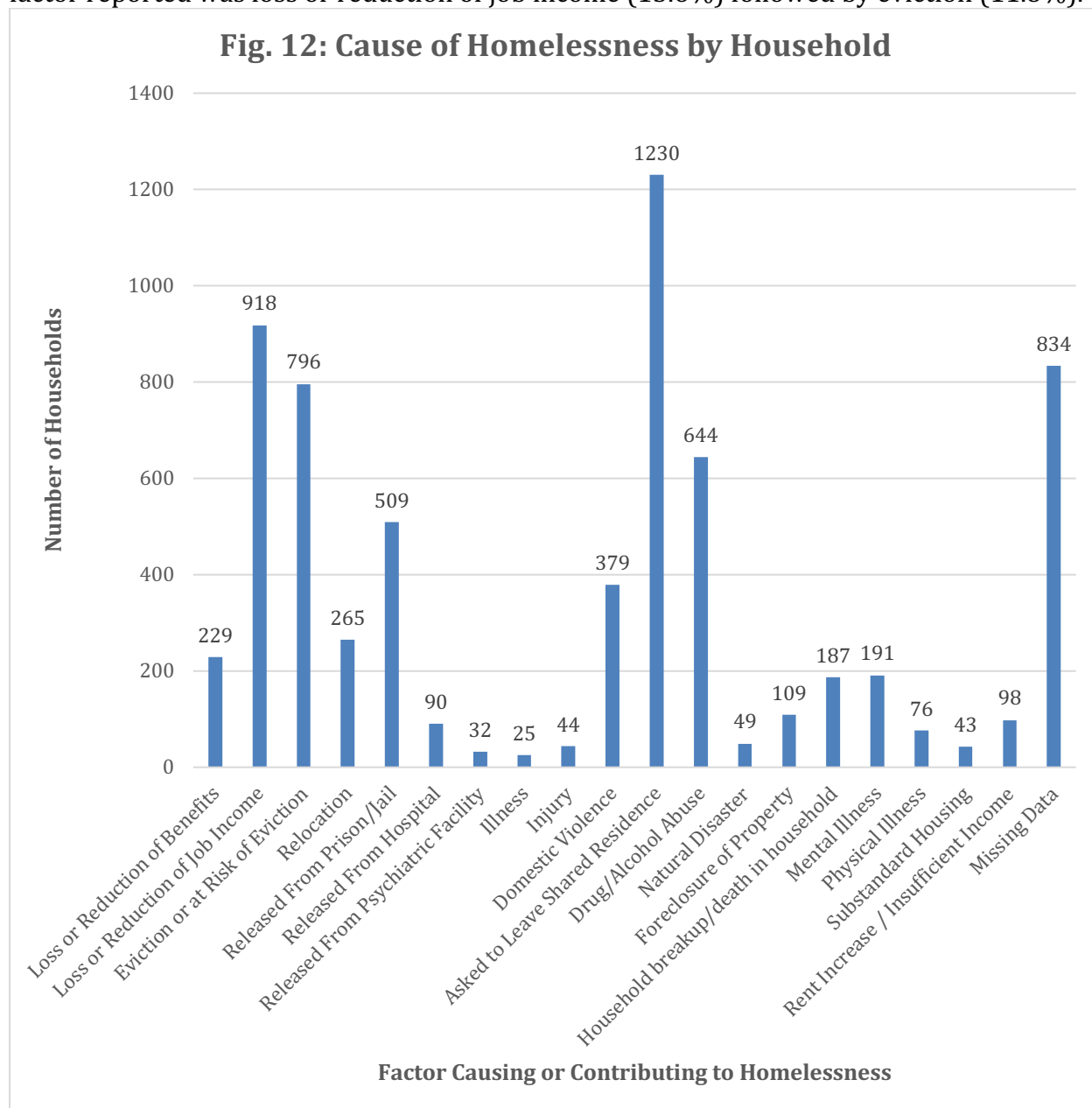
When households were asked 'what was your residence prior to your current living situation?' more said they were in permanent housing (21.4%) than any other type of residence. 20.8% reported residing in an emergency shelter and 17.9% reported staying with friends or family prior to their current living situation.

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

1,351 Households with 1,462 Persons

13.5% increase in total counted persons since 2018

2.6% increase in total counted persons since 2015

6.4% decrease in identified unsheltered persons since 2018

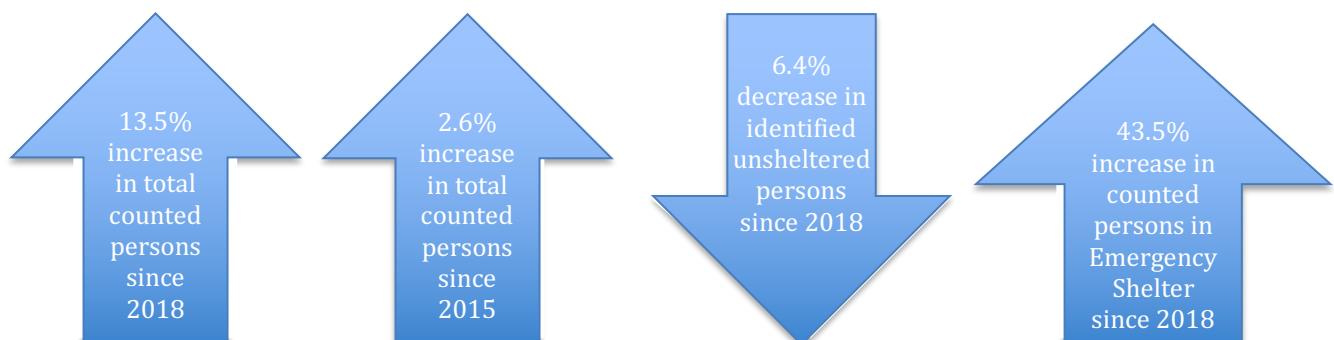43.5% increase in counted persons in Emergency Shelter since 2018
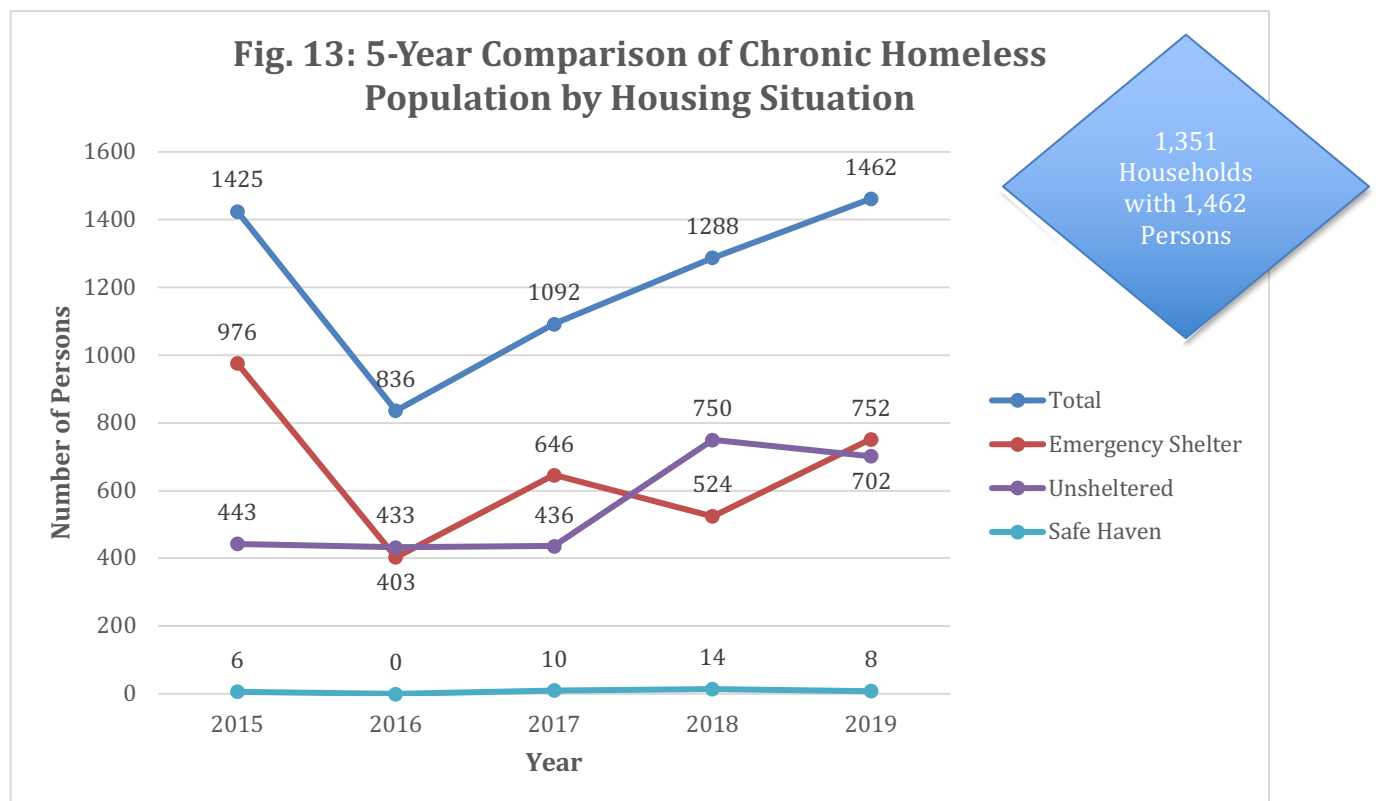
Fig. 14: Chronically Homeless Households by Housing Situation

97.6% Adult Individuals

Number of Households (y-axis)
Housing Situation (x-axis)

Housing Situation	Households With Adults and Children	Households Without Children	Households with Only Children	Missing Data
Emergency Shelter	32	631	0	1
Unsheltered	1	673	0	5
Safe Haven	0	8	0	0

Fig. 15: Number of Chronically Homeless Persons by Disability Type
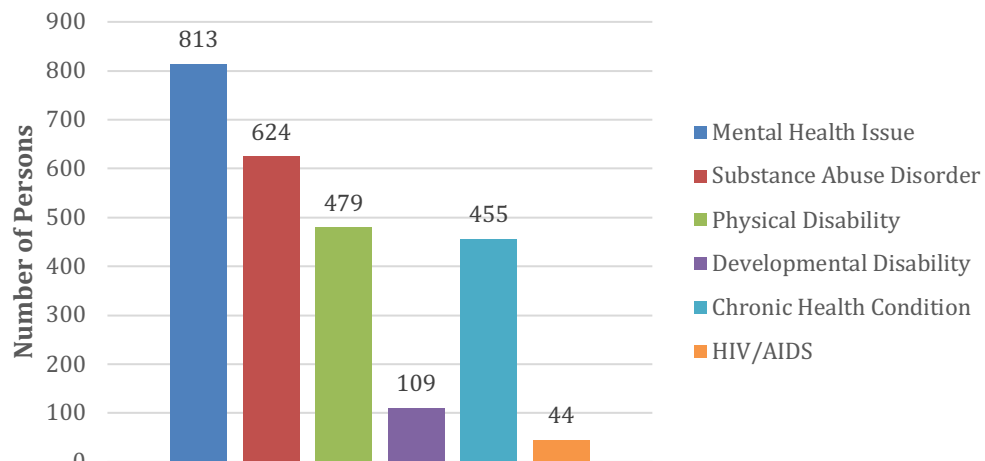
64% identified multiple disabilities

Number of Persons (y-axis)

Disability Type	Number of Persons
Mental Health Issue	813
Substance Abuse Disorder	624
Physical Disability	479
Developmental Disability	109
Chronic Health Condition	455
HIV/AIDS	44

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)
Number of Episodes (x-axis)

Number of Episodes	Number of Households
1 Episode	792
2 Episodes	184
3 Episodes	132
4+ Episodes	205
Missing Data	38

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

Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options
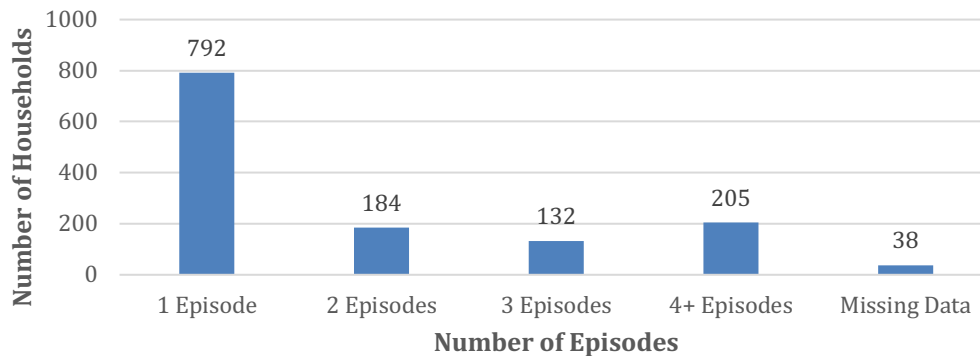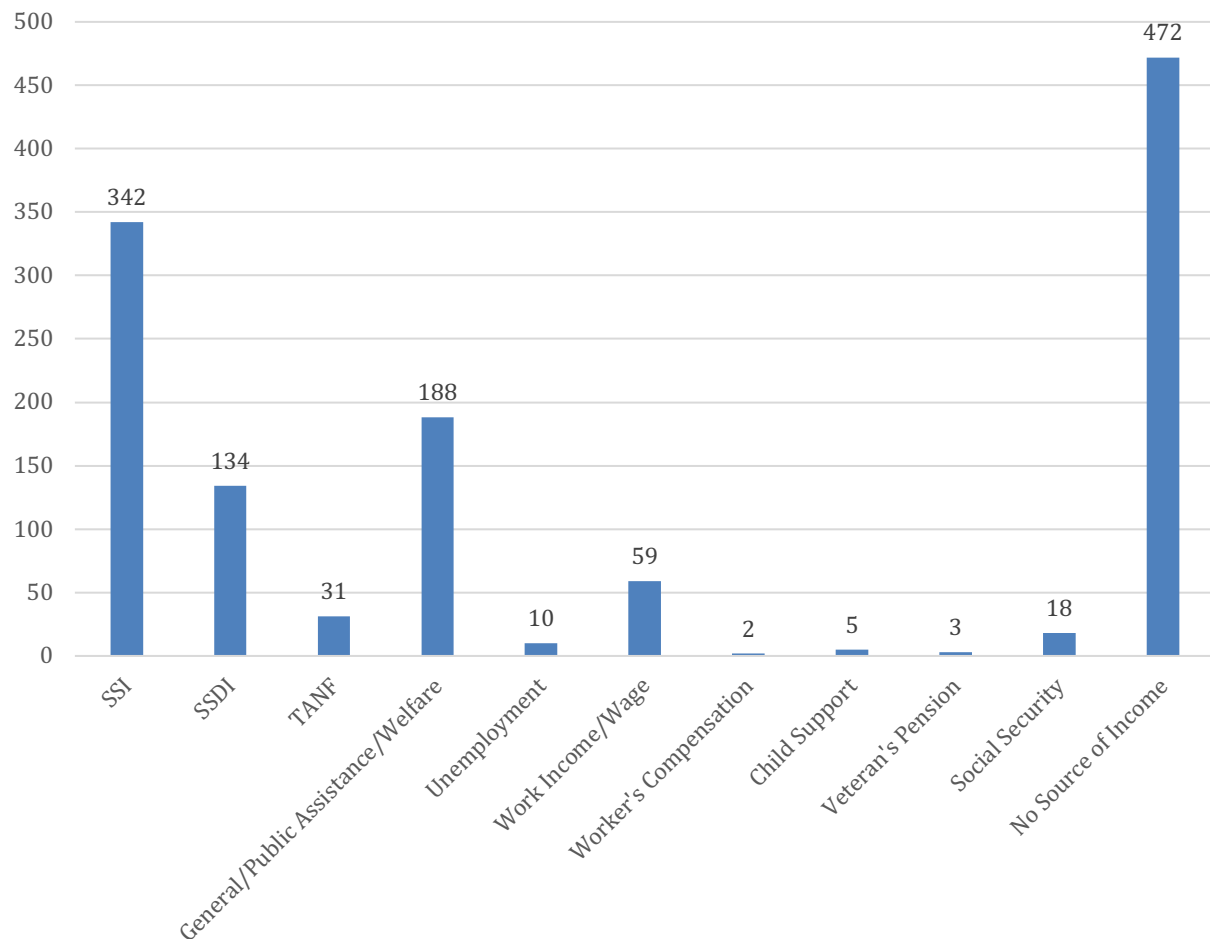
Average income for identified chronically homeless households is $417.96

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 Total Homeless Population by Housing Situation

[Bar chart showing Number of Persons by Year:
2015: 974
2016: 1442
2017: 1415
2018: 1623
2019: 1482]

9% decrease in counted households since 2018
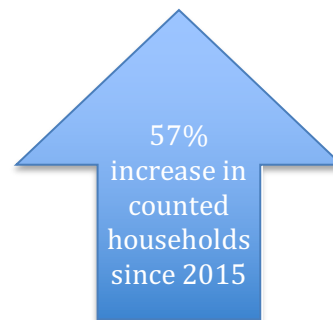
57% increase in counted households since 2015
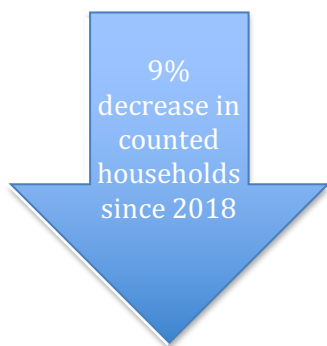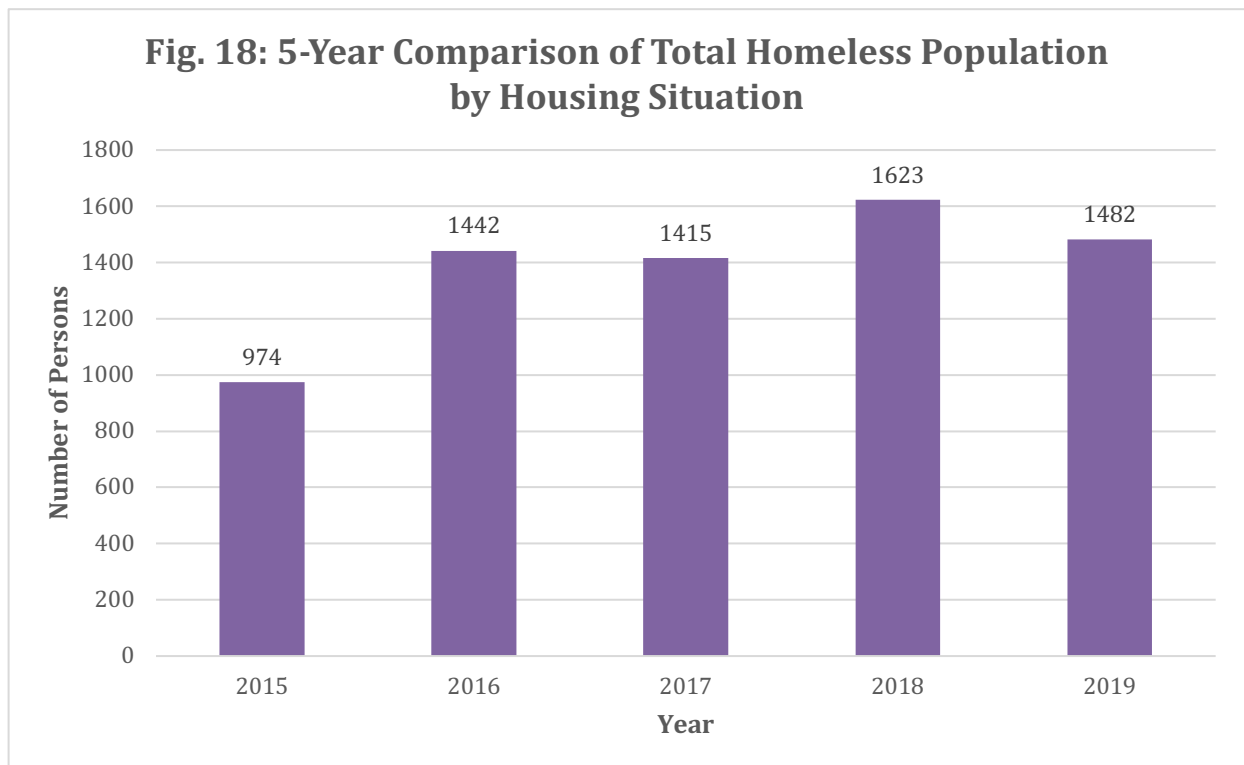
Fig. 19: Unsheltered Homeless Households by Housing Situation
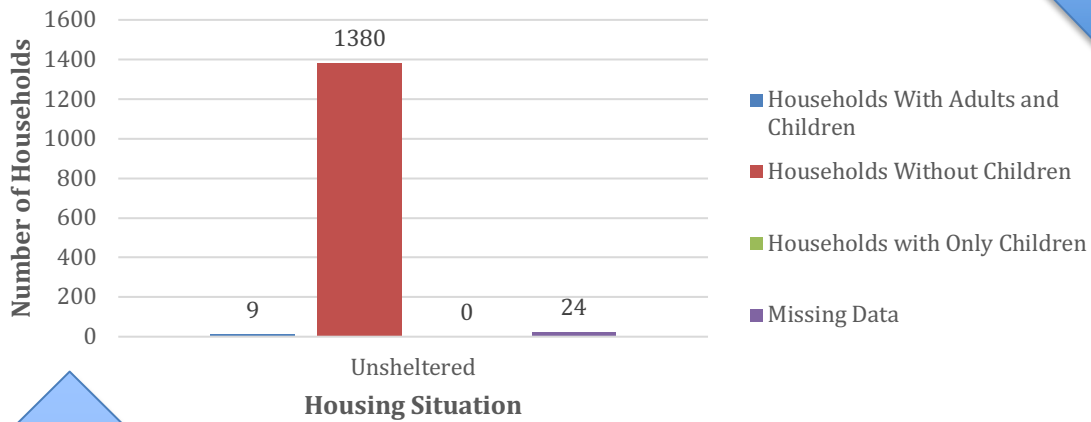
99.4% Adult Individuals

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

73.4% male

59.5% African American

70% reported a disability

Fig. 20: Unsheltered Persons by Subpopulation

Fig. 21: Number of Unsheltered Persons by Disability Type

- 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. 22: Income Source of Unsheltered Households by Housing Situation
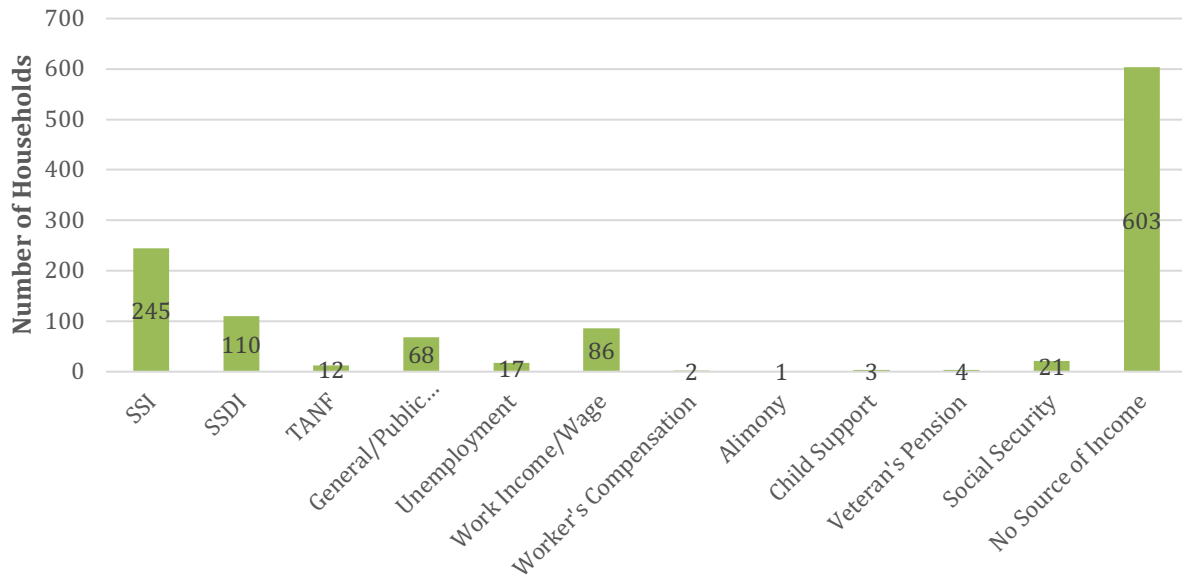
Number of Households (y-axis, 0 to 700)

- SSI: 245
- SSDI: 110
- TANF: 12
- General/Public...: 68
- Unemployment: 17
- Work Income/Wage: 86
- Worker's Compensation: 2
- Alimony: 1
- Child Support: 3
- Veteran's Pension: 4
- Social Security: 21
- No Source of Income: 603

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

Average Monthly Income is $335.43

Fig. 23: Length of Homelessness Among Unsheltered Households

Number of Households (y-axis, 0 to 500)

- 0 - 2 months: 131
- 3 - 6 months: 179
- 7 - 9 months: 81
- 10 - 12 months: 197
- 1 year - 3 years: 437
- More than 3 years: 360
- Missing Data: 28

Length of Homelessness

57.5% 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

Year	Total	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Safe Haven
2015	738	315	336	85	2
2016	556	166	317	73	3
2017	583	164	330	89	0
2018	567	150	329	86	2
2019	551	156	326	66	3

3% decrease since 2018

20.7% decrease since 2015

Fig. 25: Number of Veteran Persons by Disability Type

Disability Type	Number of Persons
Mental Health Issue	277
Substance Abuse Disorder	277
Physical Disability	141
Developmental Disability	22
Chronic Health Condition	196
HIV/AIDS	20

81.3% of counted homeless veterans identified a disability

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

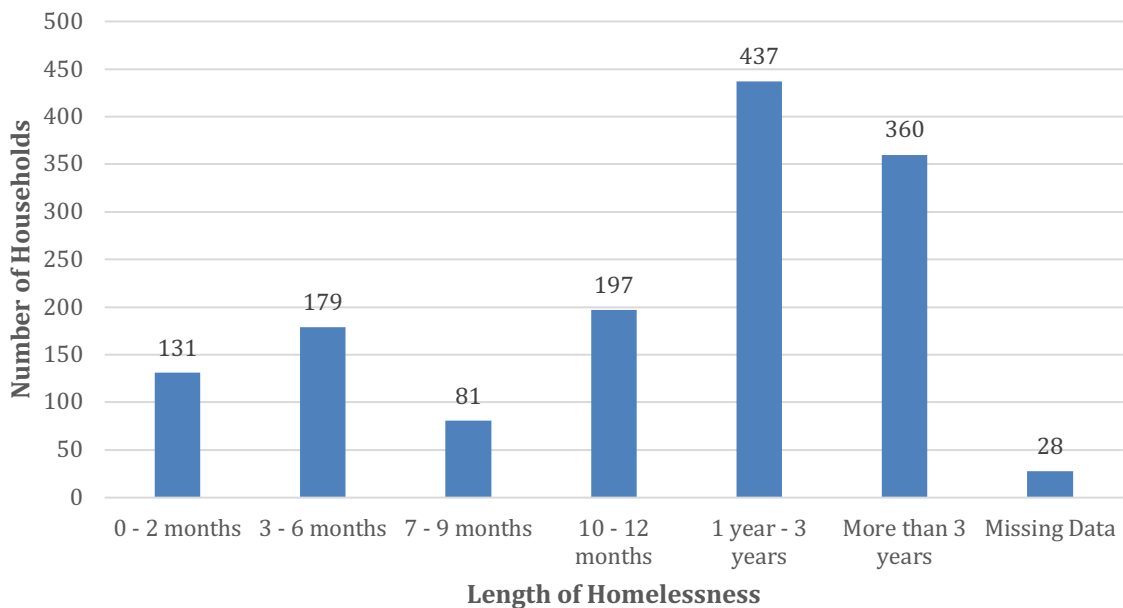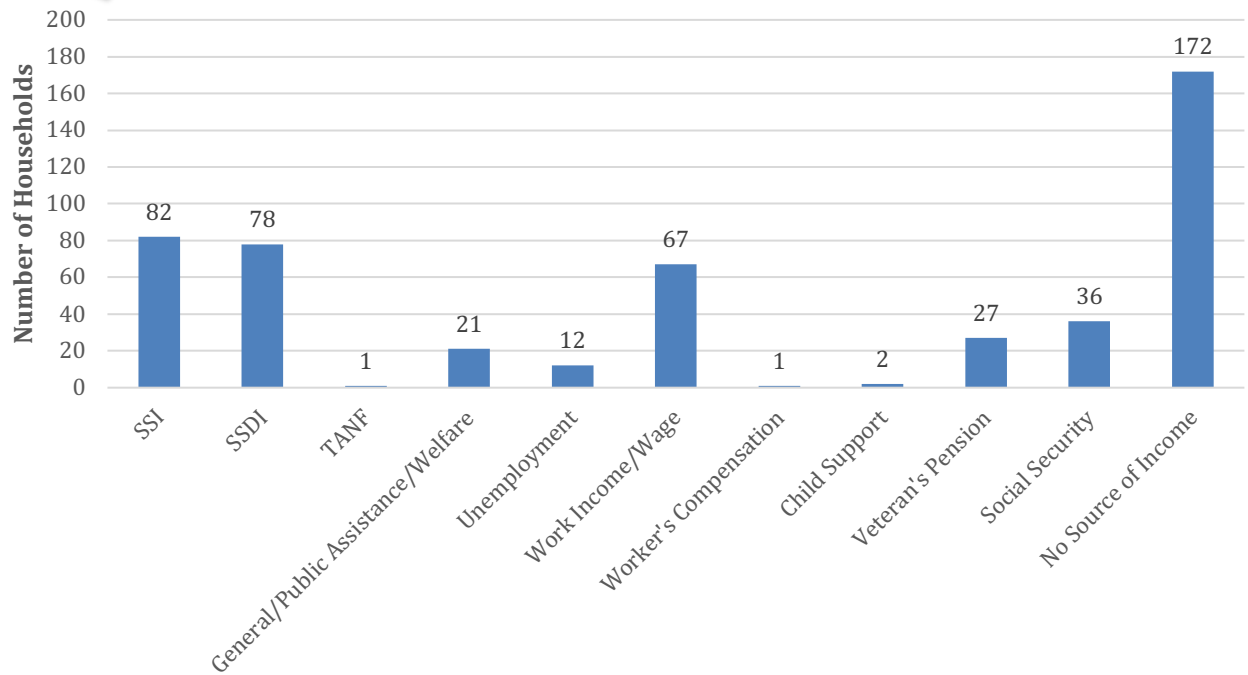## Fig. 26: Income by Housing Situation for Veteran Households

Number of Households

Category	Value
SSI	82
SSDI	78
TANF	1
General/Public Assistance/Welfare	21
Unemployment	12
Work Income/Wage	67
Worker's Compensation	1
Child Support	2
Veteran's Pension	27
Social Security	36
No Source of Income	172

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

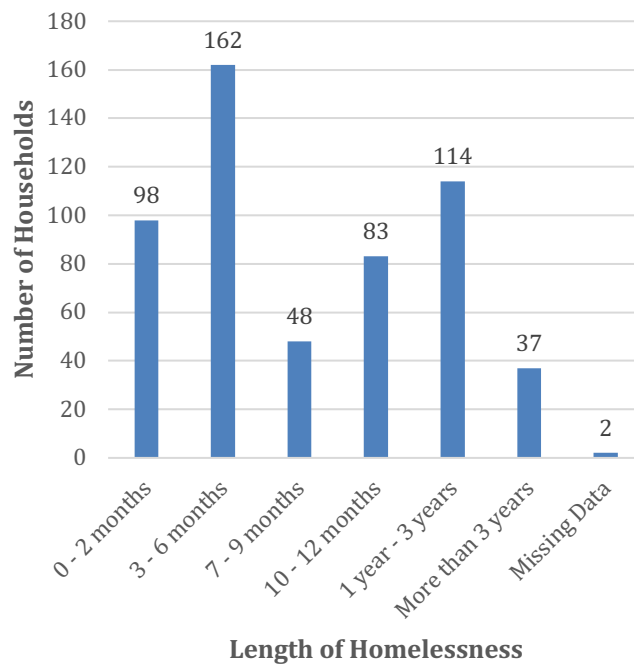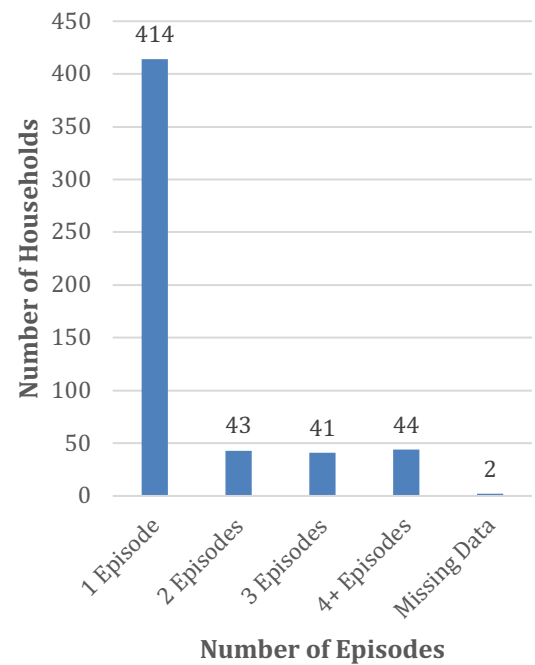## Fig. 27: Length of Homelessness Among Veteran Households

Number of Households

Length of Homelessness	Value
0 - 2 months	98
3 - 6 months	162
7 - 9 months	48
10 - 12 months	83
1 year - 3 years	114
More than 3 years	37
Missing Data	2

Fig. 28: Episodes of Homelessness Among Veteran Households

Number of Households

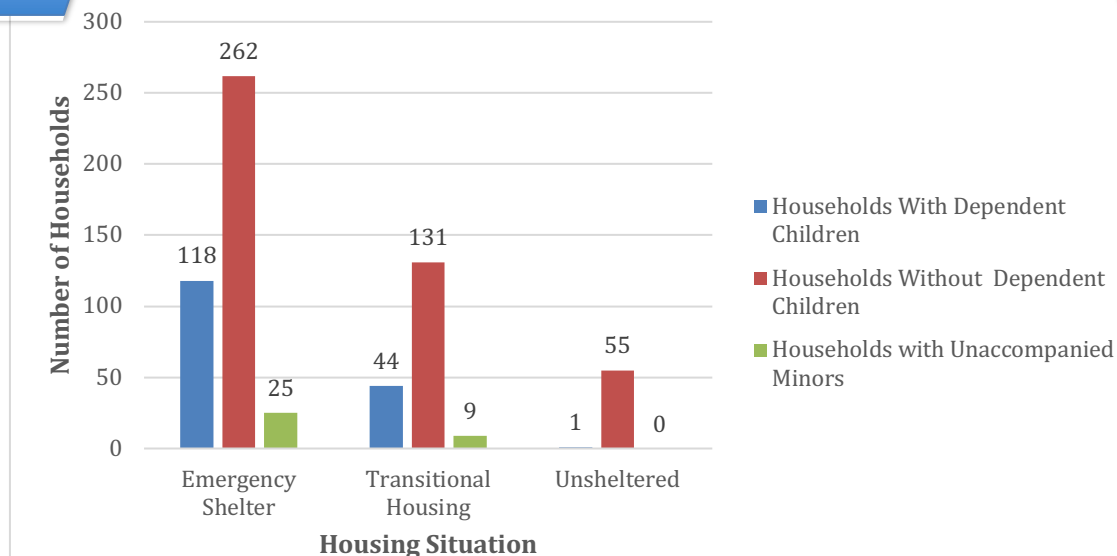| Number of Episodes	Value
1 Episode	414
2 Episodes	43
3 Episodes	41
4+ Episodes	44
Missing Data	2

VII. Finding 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.
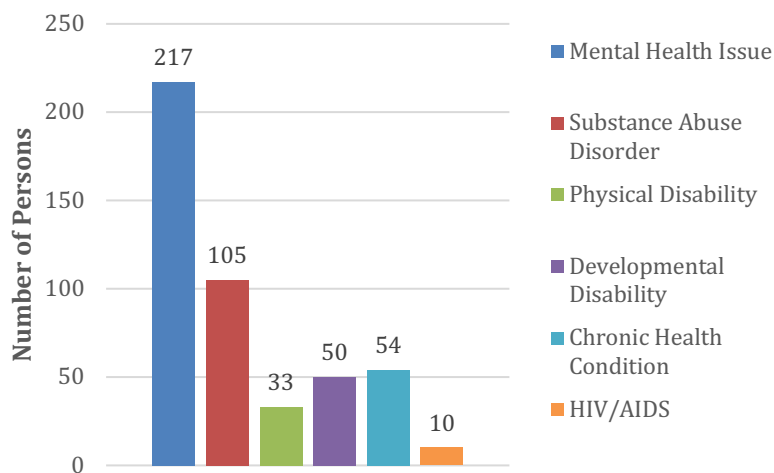
Fig. 29: Number of Homeless Youth by Housing Situation

Housing Type	Number of Persons
Emergency Shelter	604
Transitional Housing	253
Unsheltered	60
Safe Haven	0

55.2% are female
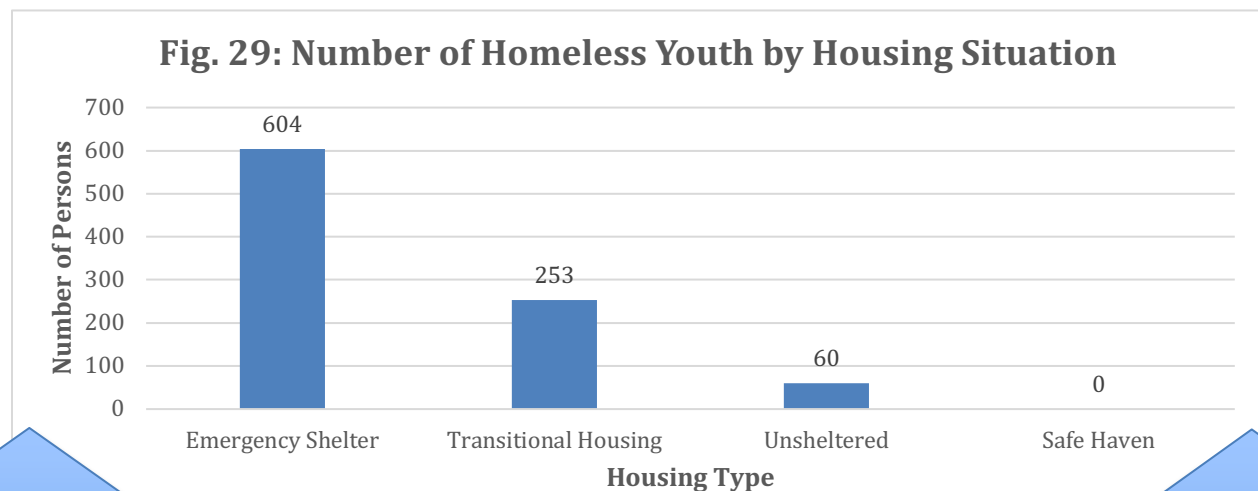
69% of persons are 18 - 24 yrs. old

Fig. 30: Homeless Youth Households by Housing Situation

Housing Situation	Households With Dependent Children	Households Without Dependent Children	Households with Unaccompanied Minors
Emergency Shelter	118	262	25
Transitional Housing	44	131	9
Unsheltered	1	55	0

78% are African American

Fig. 31: Number of Youth by Disability Type

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

32.3% of youth respondents identified a disability

Fig. 32: Income Sources for Youth Households
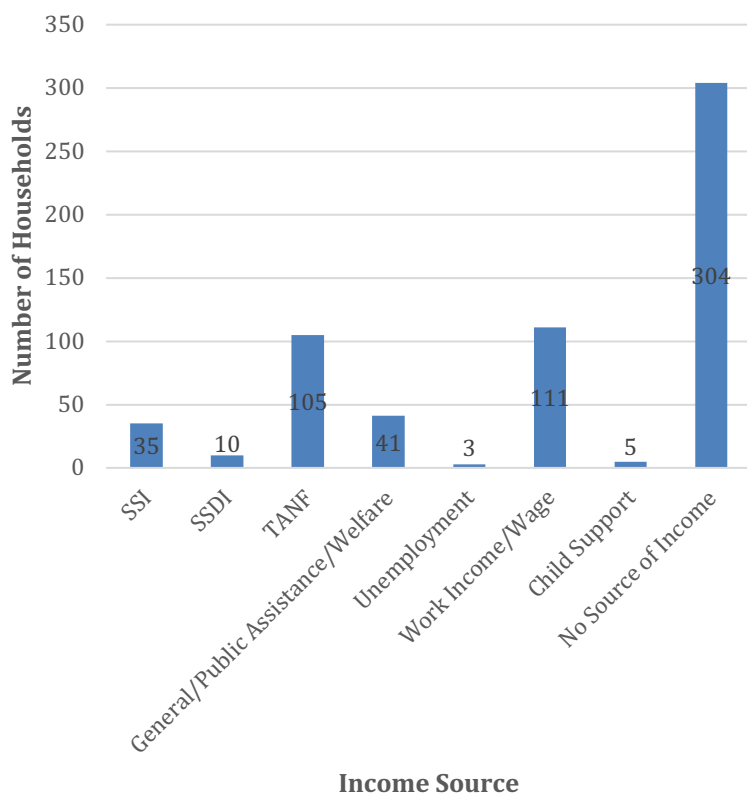
Average Monthly Income is $493.19

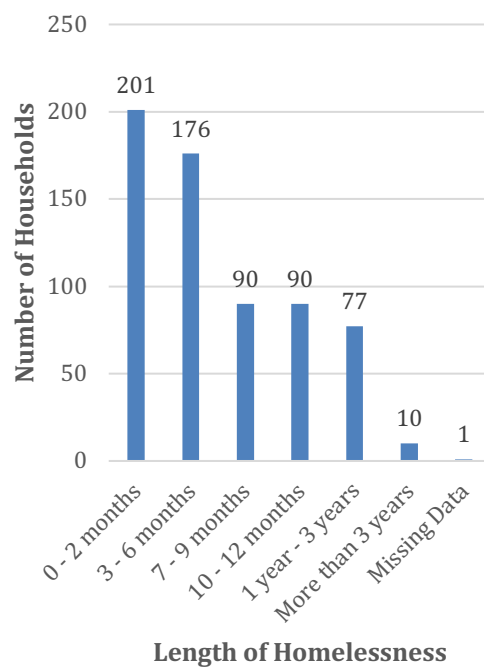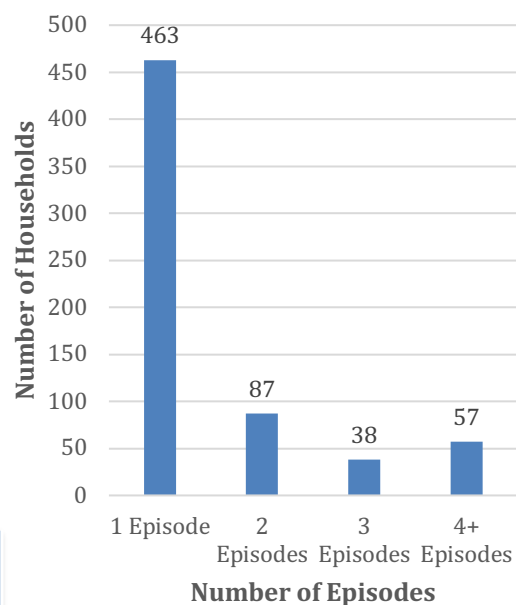**Fig. 33: Length of Homelessness Among Youth Households**

Fig. 34: 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.

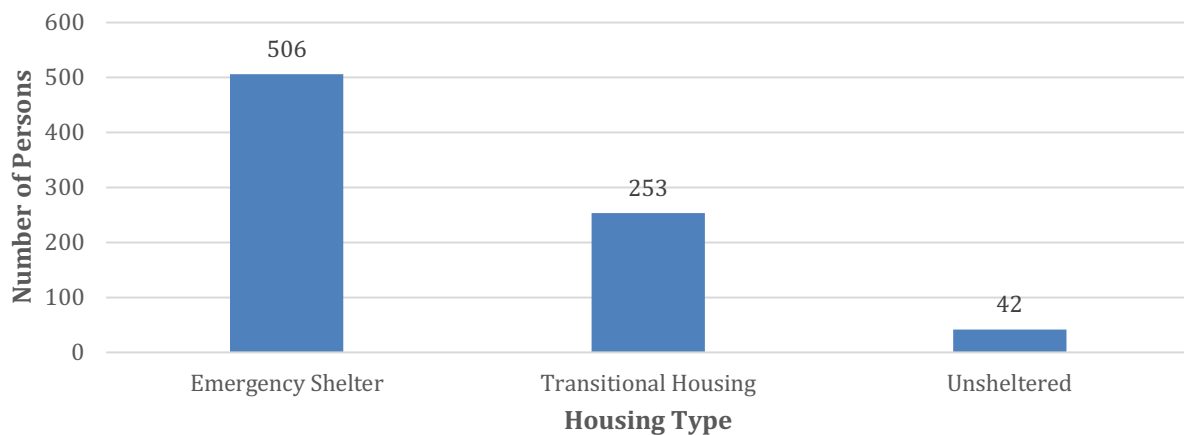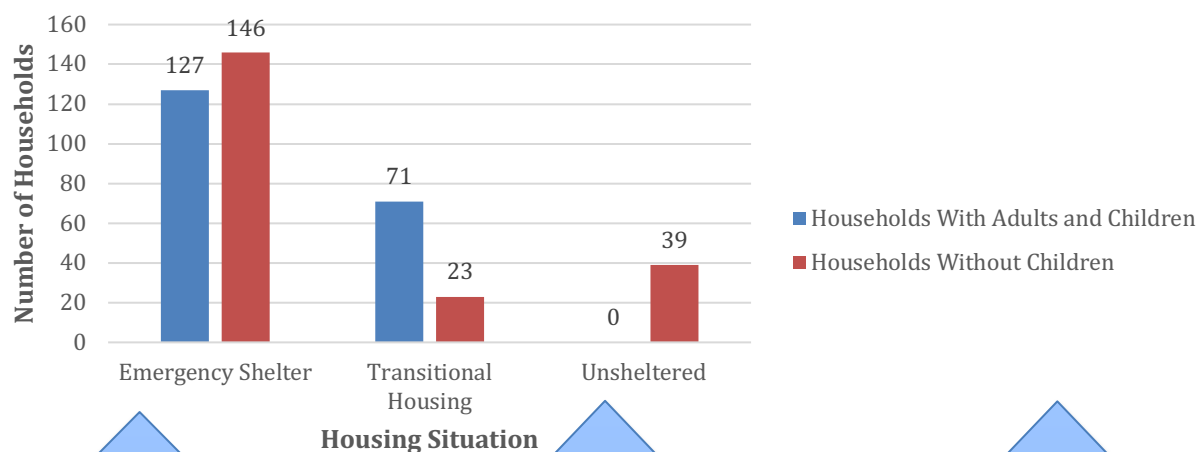**Fig. 35: Number of Homeless DV Victims by Housing Situation**

Emergency Shelter: 506
Transitional Housing: 253
Unsheltered: 42

Y-axis: Number of Persons
X-axis: Housing Type

Fig. 36: Homeless DV Households by Housing Situation

Emergency Shelter: Households With Adults and Children 127, Households Without Children 146
Transitional Housing: Households With Adults and Children 71, Households Without Children 23
Unsheltered: Households With Adults and Children 0, Households Without Children 39

Y-axis: Number of Households
X-axis: Housing Situation
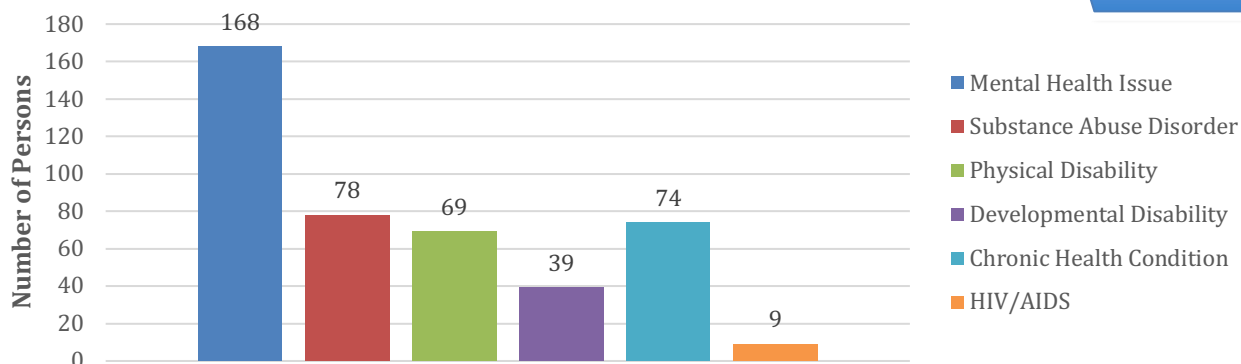
- Households With Adults and Children
- Households Without Children

49% are households with children

71.6% are females

57% are African American

Fig. 37: Number of DV Victims by Disability Type

29.3% were disabled

Mental Health Issue: 168
Substance Abuse Disorder: 78
Physical Disability: 69
Developmental Disability: 39
Chronic Health Condition: 74
HIV/AIDS: 9

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

Fig. 38: Income Source for DV Victim Households

SSI: 42
SSDI: 12
TANF: 75
General/Public...: 43
Unemployment: 10
Work Income/Wage: 82
Alimony: 3
Child Support: 35
Social Security: 2
No Source of Income: 95
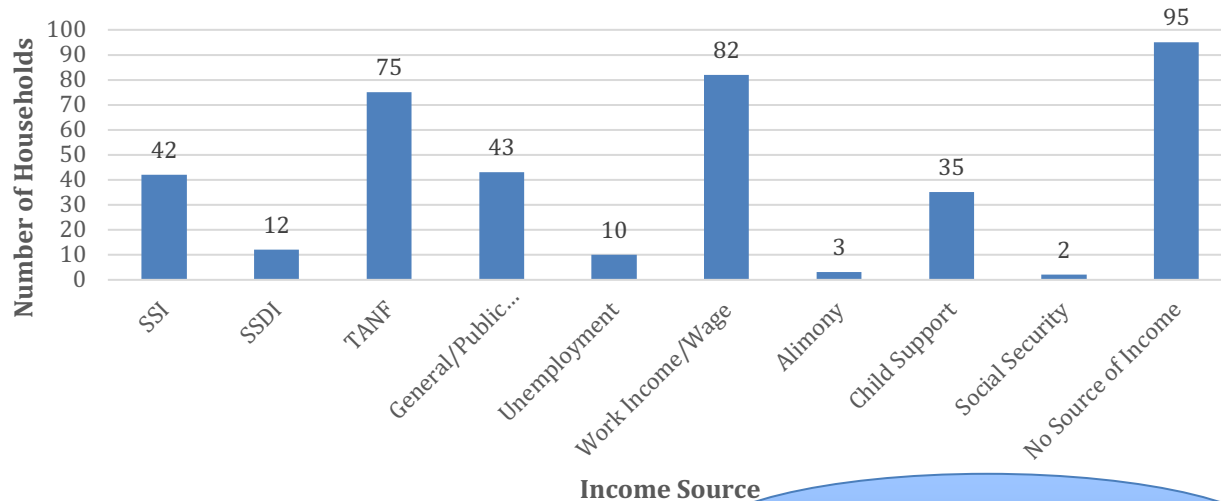
Average Monthly Income is $641.39

Fig. 39: Length of Homelessness Among DV Victim Households

0 - 2 months: 118
3 - 6 months: 110
7 - 9 months: 46
10 - 12 months: 47
1 year - 3 years: 53
More than 3 years: 14
Missing Data: 18

Fig. 40: Episodes of Homelessness Among DV Victim Households

1 Episode: 274
2 Episodes: 66
3 Episodes: 24
4+ Episodes: 22
Missing Data: 20
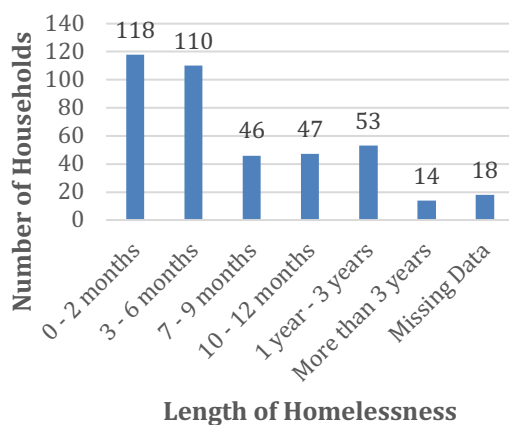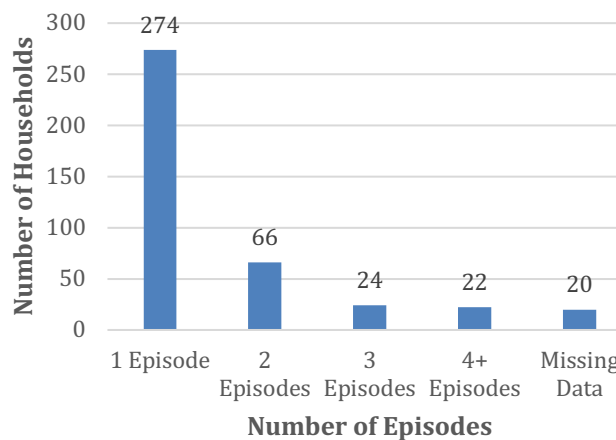
IX. Appendix A: Data Collection and Methodology

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
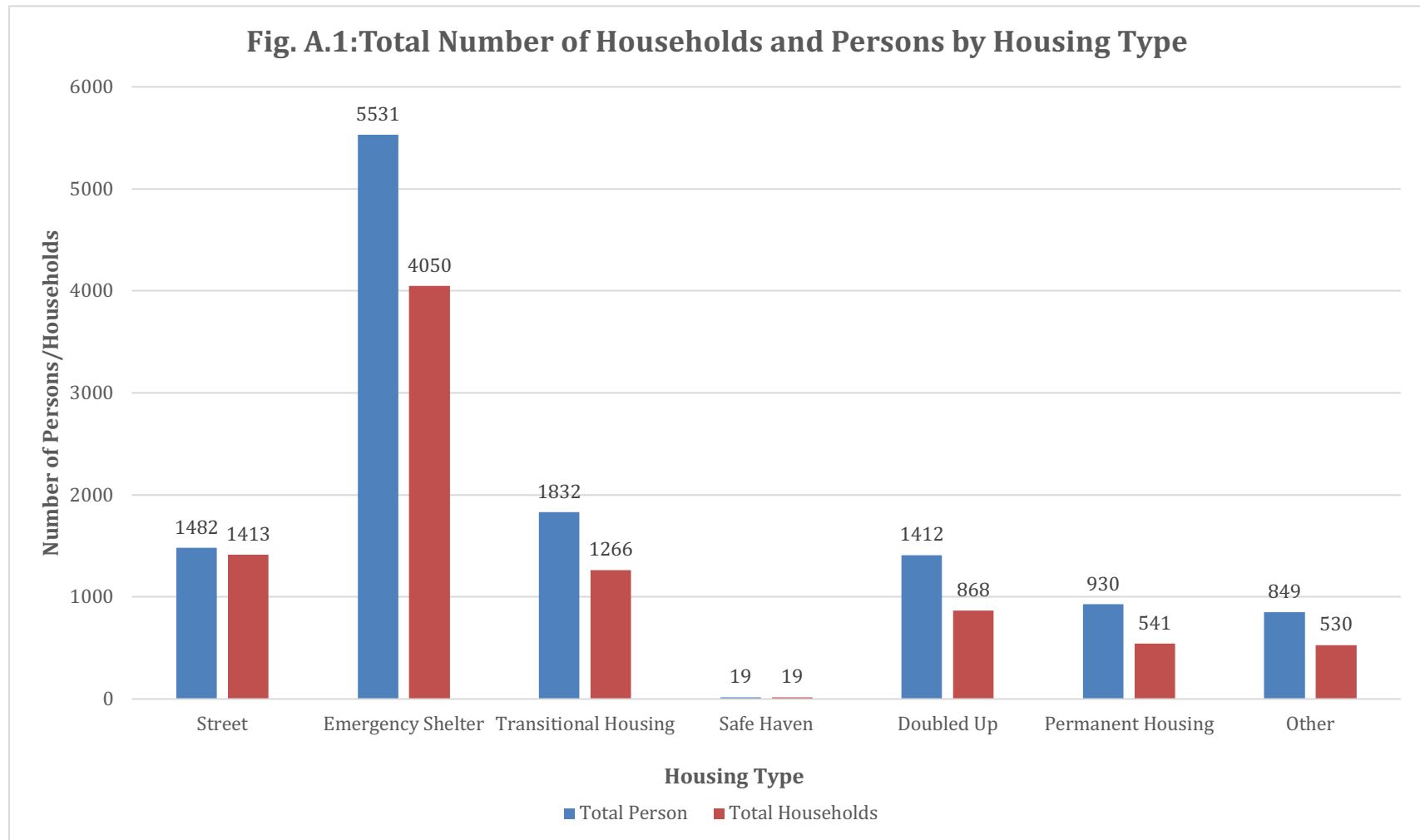
What was your location the night of the count?

Fig. A.2: Number of Homeless Persons by Municipality on the Night of the Count	
Location Night of Count – Municipality	**Number of Persons**
Atlantic	357
Bergen	271
Burlington	518
Camden	603
Cape May	90
Cumberland	183
Essex	2,235
Gloucester	103
Hudson	890
Hunterdon	173
Mercer	448
Middlesex	620
Monmouth	360
Morris	388
Ocean	305
Passaic	391
Salem	29
Somerset	301
Sussex	87
Union	438
Warren	74

What is your total length of homelessness?

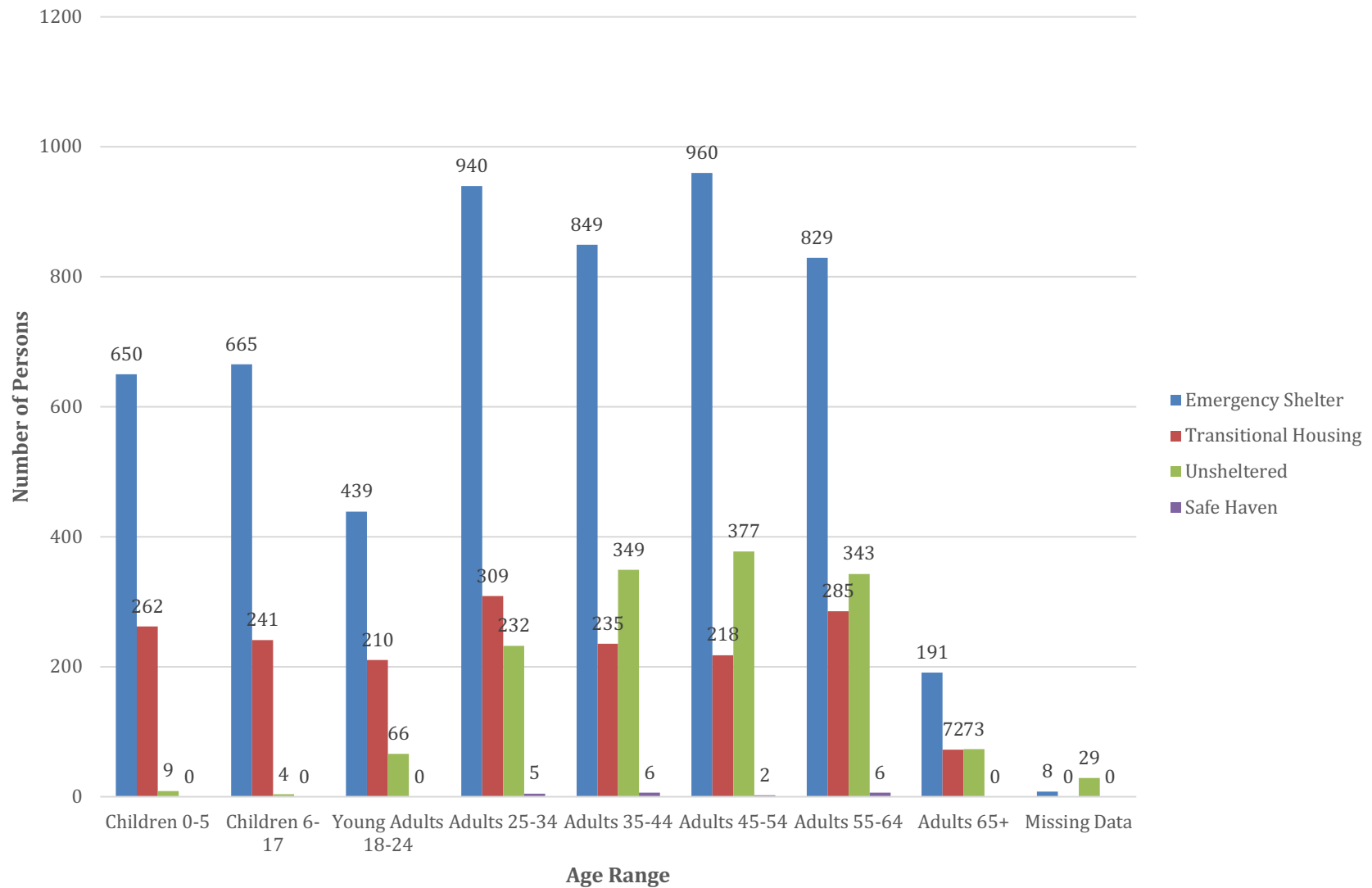Fig. A.3: Homeless Households by Length of Homelessness and Housing Type
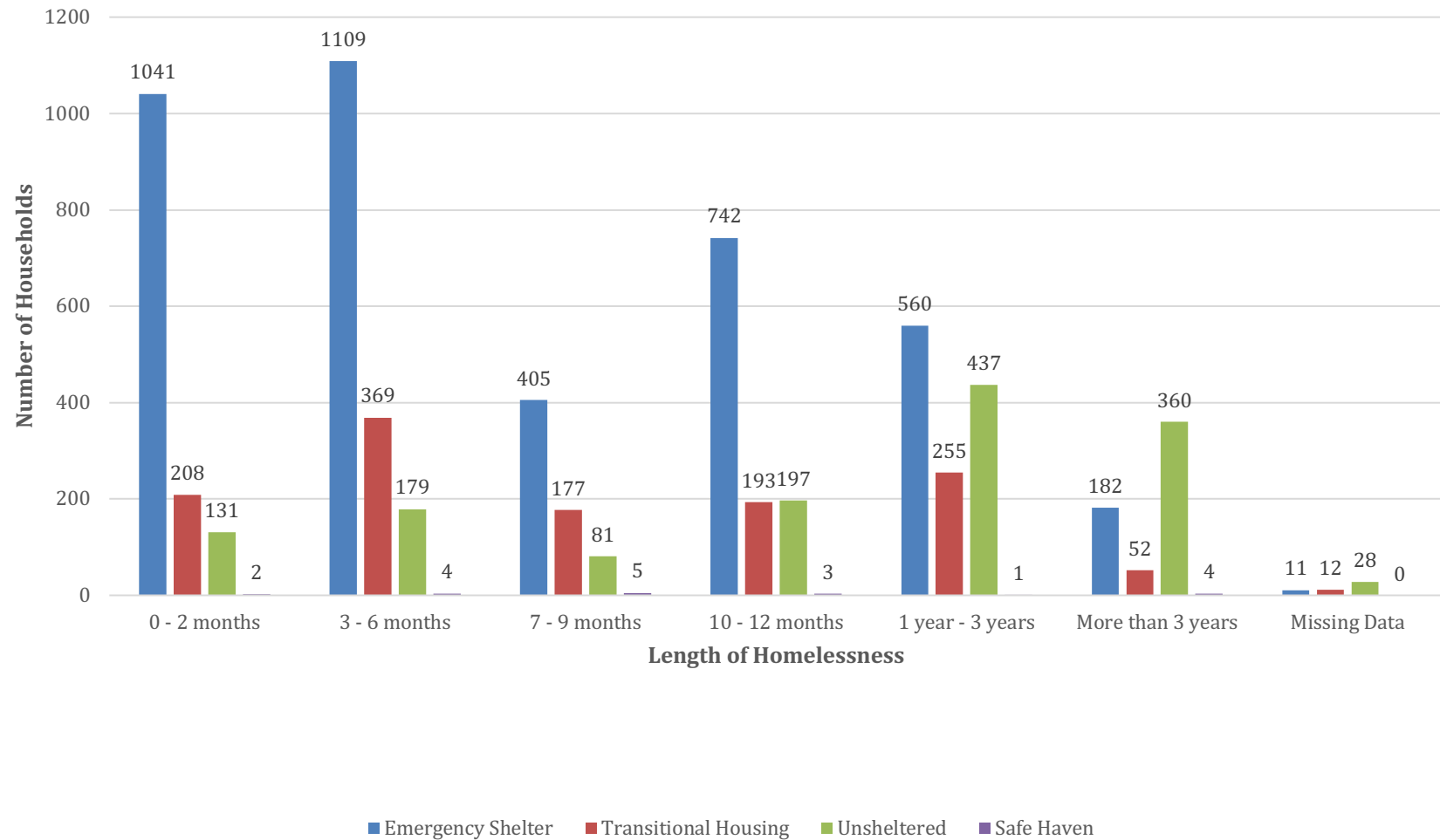
How many times have you been homeless in the past 3 years?

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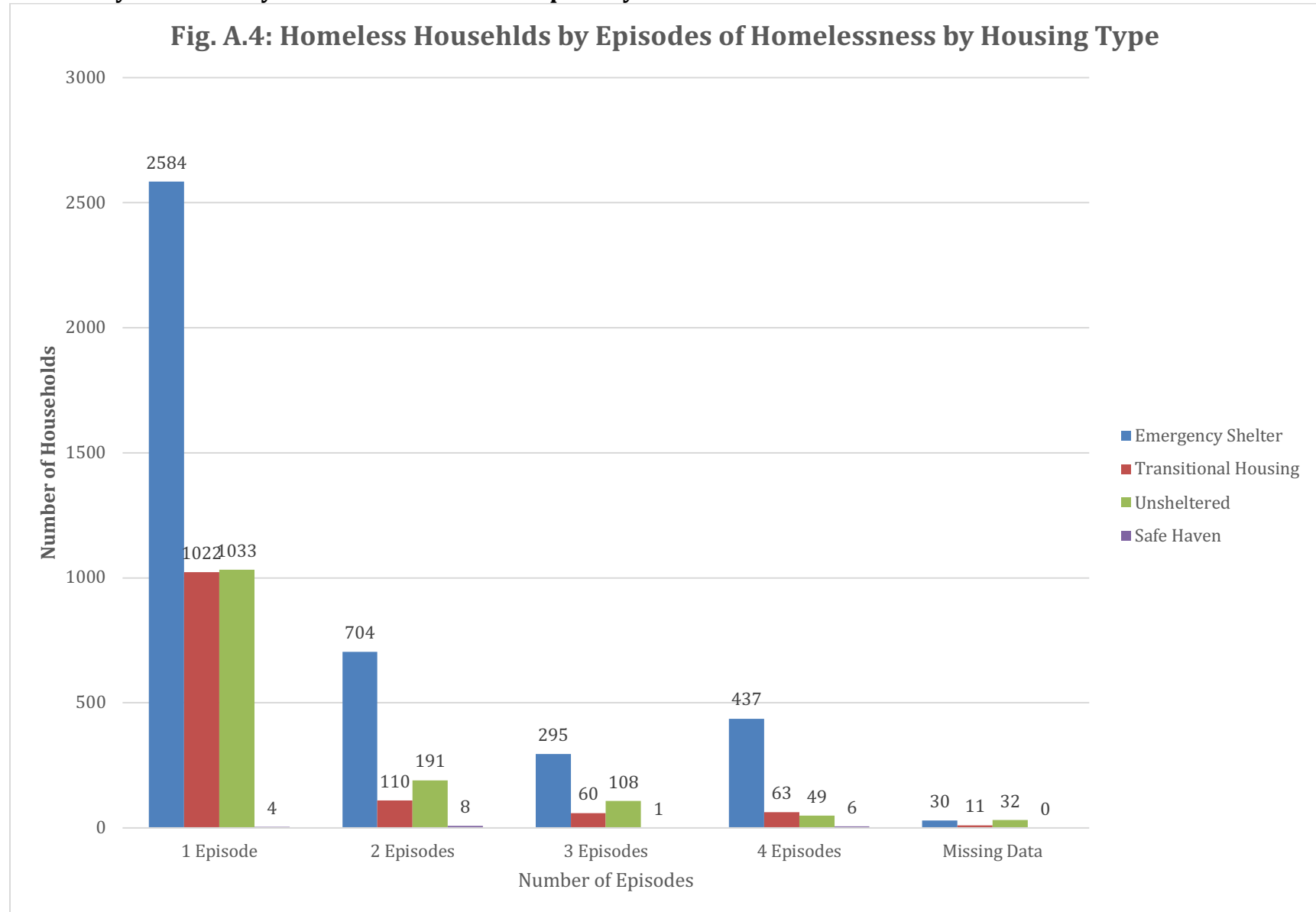
Who was homeless with you on the night of the Point in Time count?

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

Household Characteristics: Demographic Data – check all that apply to each person
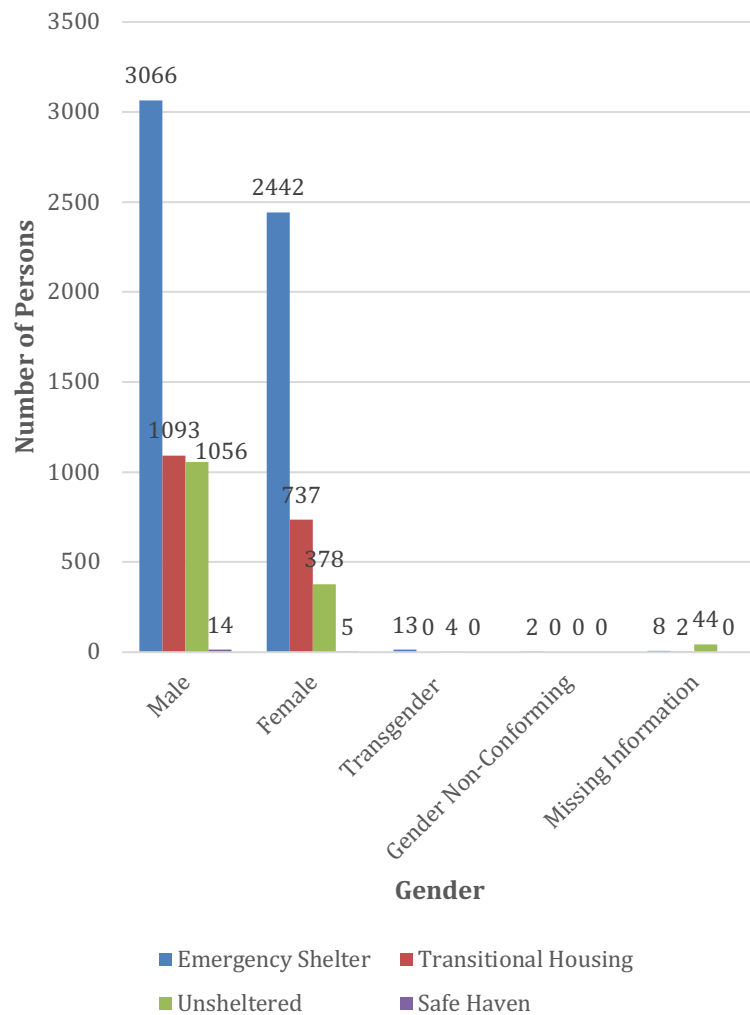
Fig. A.6: Number of Persons by Gender and Housing Type
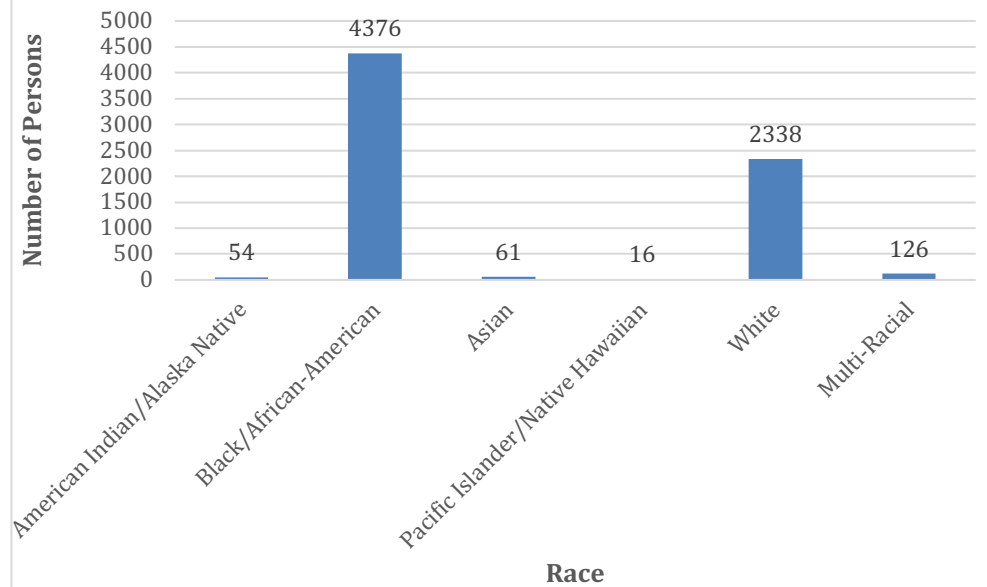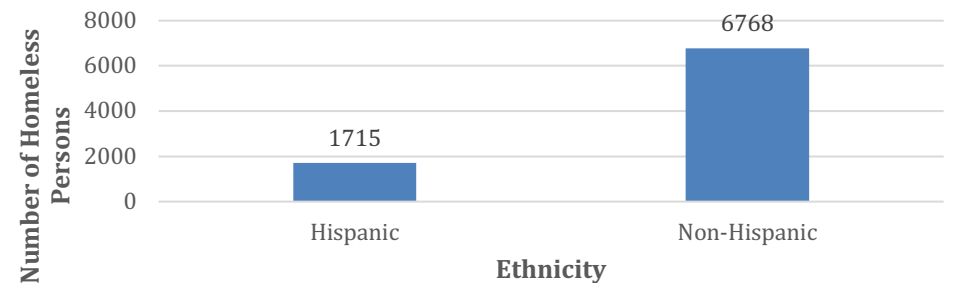

Figure A.6 shows Number of Persons on the y-axis (0 to 3500) by Gender: Male, Female, Transgender, Gender Non-Conforming, Missing Information.

- Male: Emergency Shelter 3066, Transitional Housing 1093, Unsheltered 1056, Safe Haven 14
- Female: Emergency Shelter 2442, Transitional Housing 737, Unsheltered 378, Safe Haven 5
- Transgender: 13 0 4 0
- Gender Non-Conforming: 2 0 0 0
- Missing Information: 8 2 44 0

Legend: Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Unsheltered, Safe Haven

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

Number of Persons by Race:
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 54
- Black/African-American: 4376
- Asian: 61
- Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian: 16
- White: 2338
- Multi-Racial: 126

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

Number of Homeless Persons by Ethnicity:
- Hispanic: 1715
- Non-Hispanic: 6768

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

Fig. A.9: Number of Persons by Subpopulation
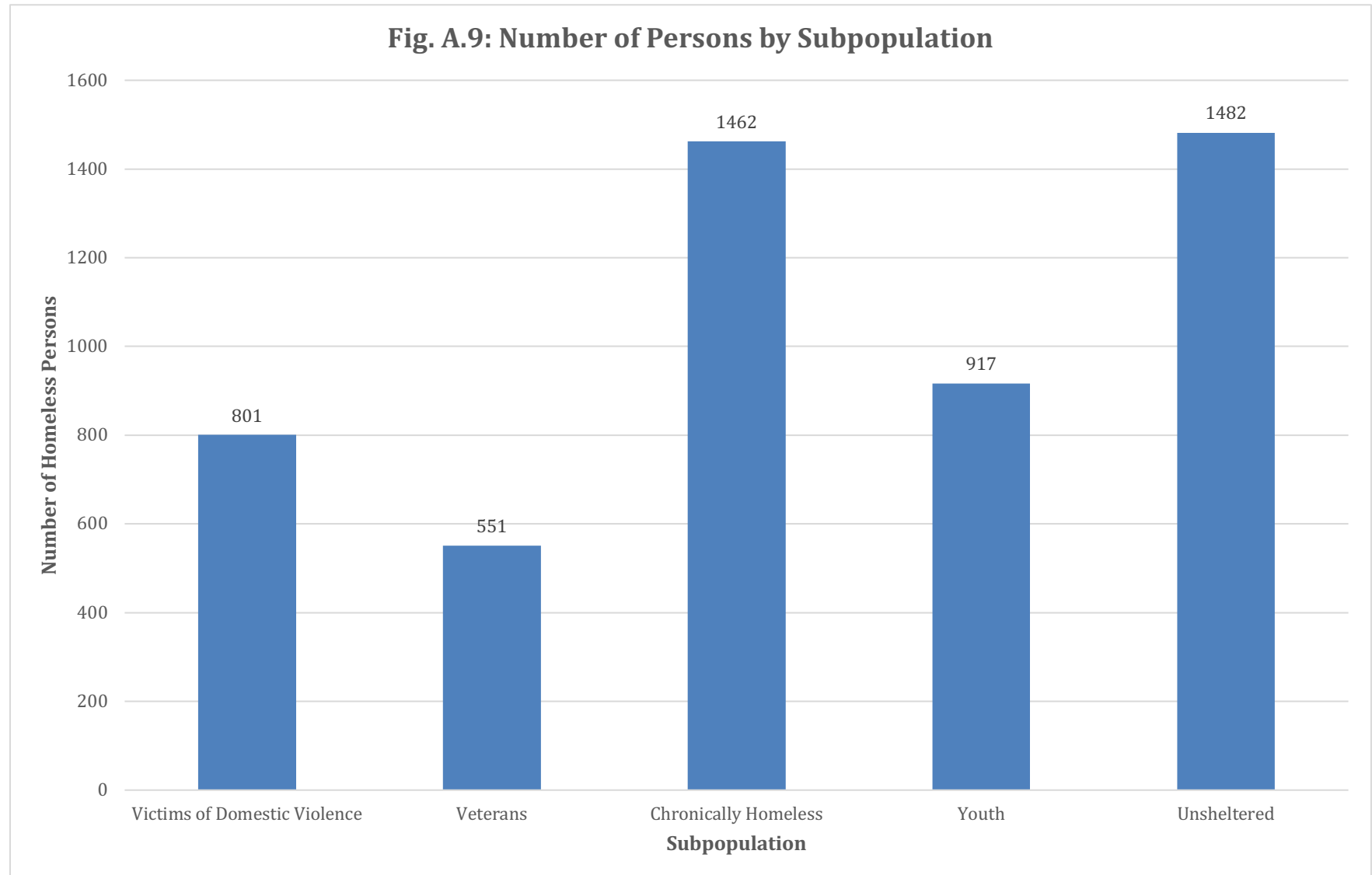
Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may be included in multiple categories

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

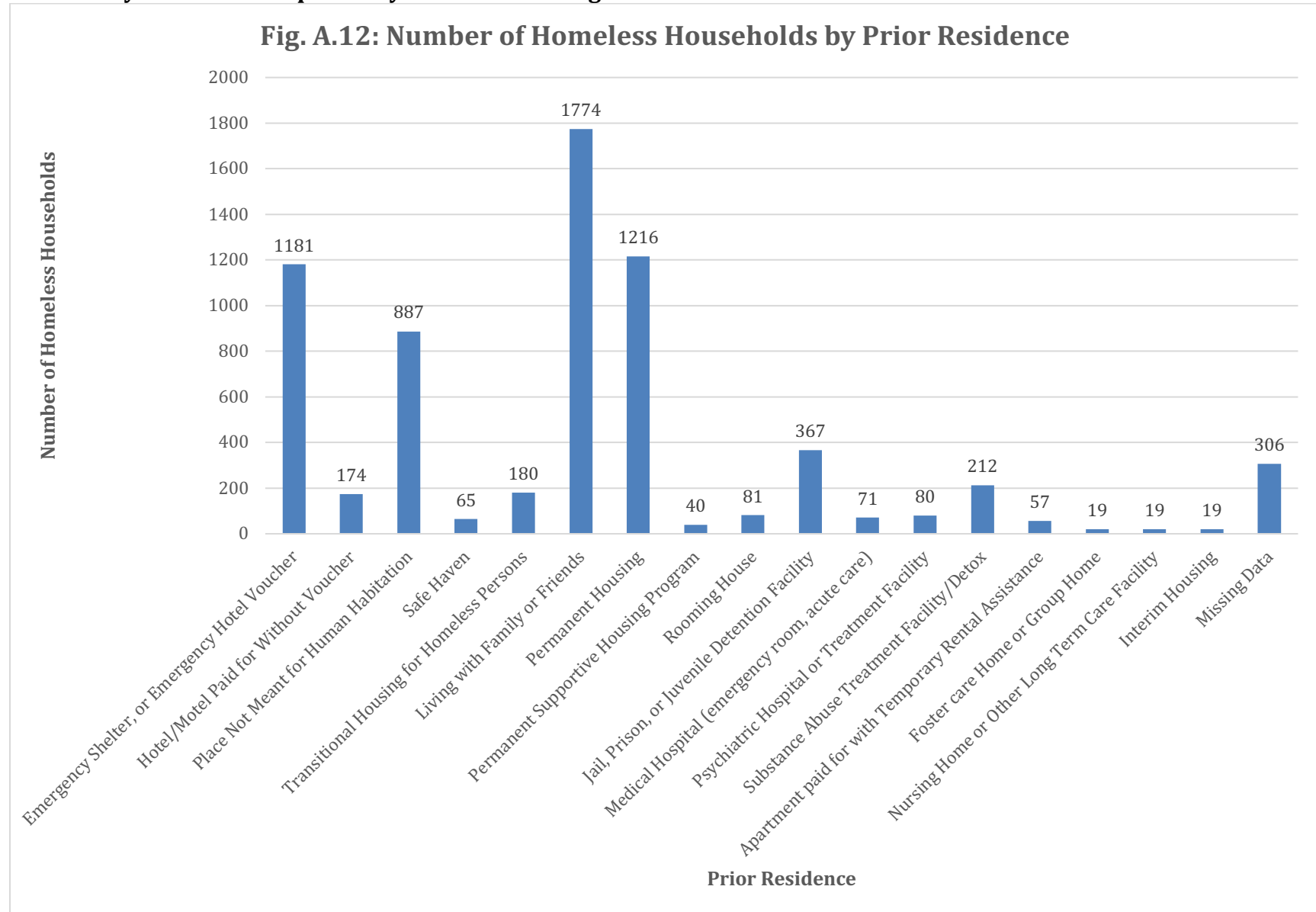## Fig. A.10: Number of Persons by Disabling Condition
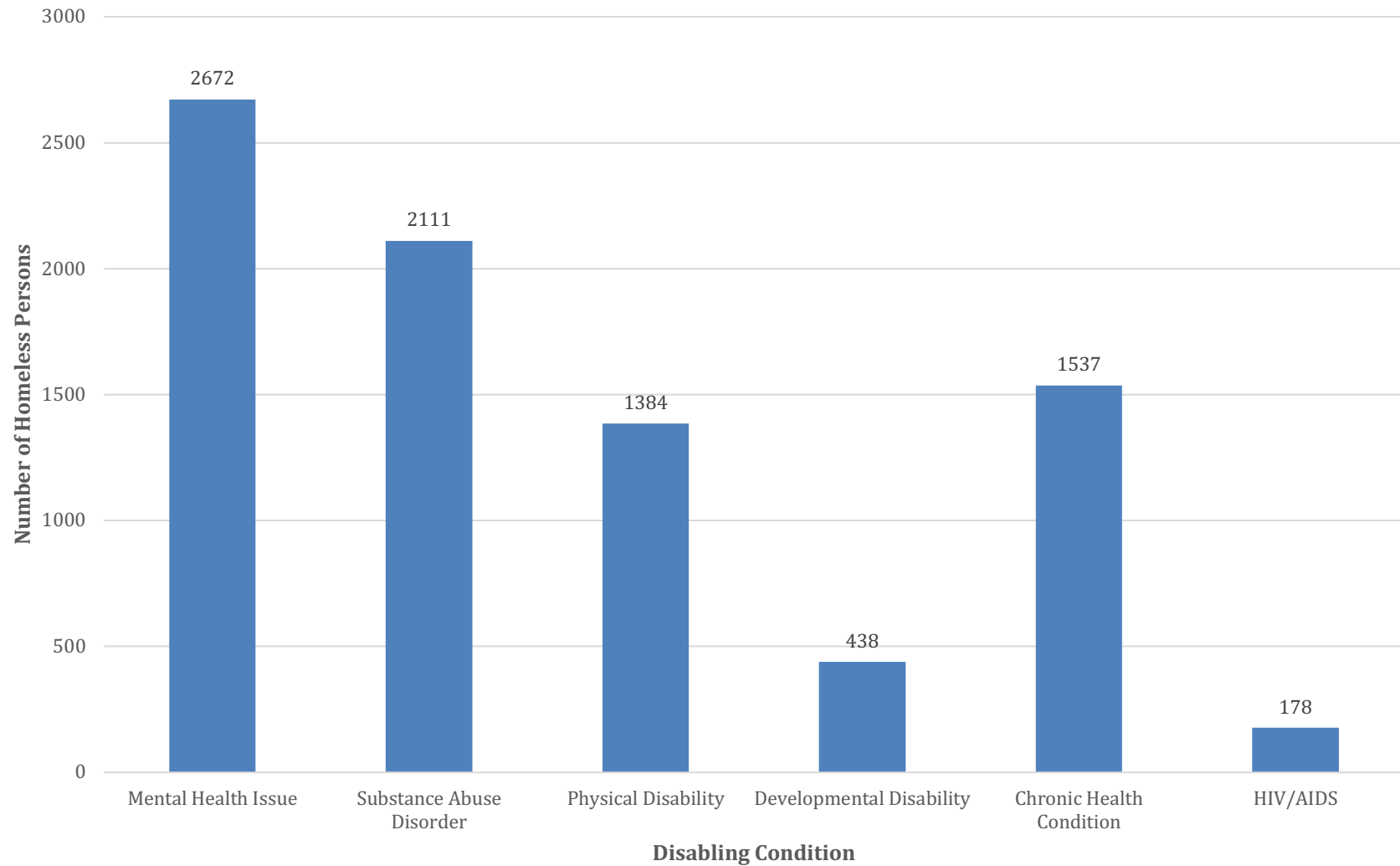
Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options

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	234
Bergen County	195
Burlington County	326
Camden County	401
Cape May County	69
Cumberland County	178
Essex County	1144
Gloucester County	83
Hudson County	699
Hunterdon County	55
Mercer County	261
Middlesex County	376
Monmouth County	241
Morris County	204
Ocean County	189
Passaic County	260
Salem County	14
Somerset County	94
Sussex County	48
Union County	325
Warren County	58
Arkansas	2
California	9
Colorado	3
Connecticut	4
Delaware	4
Florida	23
Georgia	17
Idaho	1
Illinois	3
Indiana	1
Kansas	1
Kentucky	1
Louisiana	2
Maine	1
Maryland	3
Massachusetts	5
Michigan	1
Missouri	4

Nevada	1
New York	70
North Carolina	26
Ohio	3
Oklahoma	1
Pennsylvania	65
South Carolina	6
Tennessee	4
Texas	12
Virginia	9
Washington	1
West Virginia	1
Puerto Rico	4
Missing Data	1006

What was your residence prior to your current living situation?

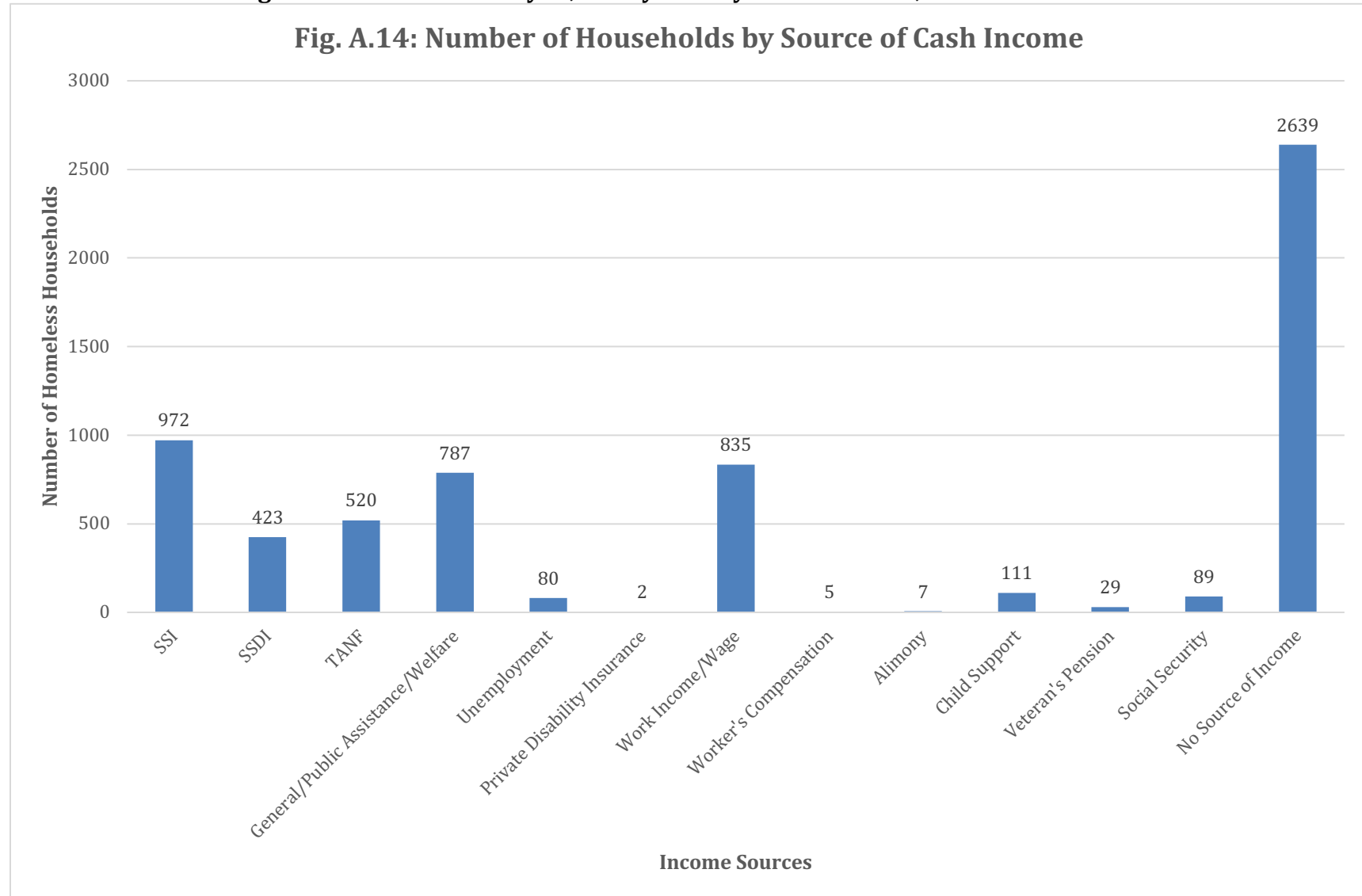Fig. A.12: Number of Homeless Households by Prior Residence

What was the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, your current living situation?

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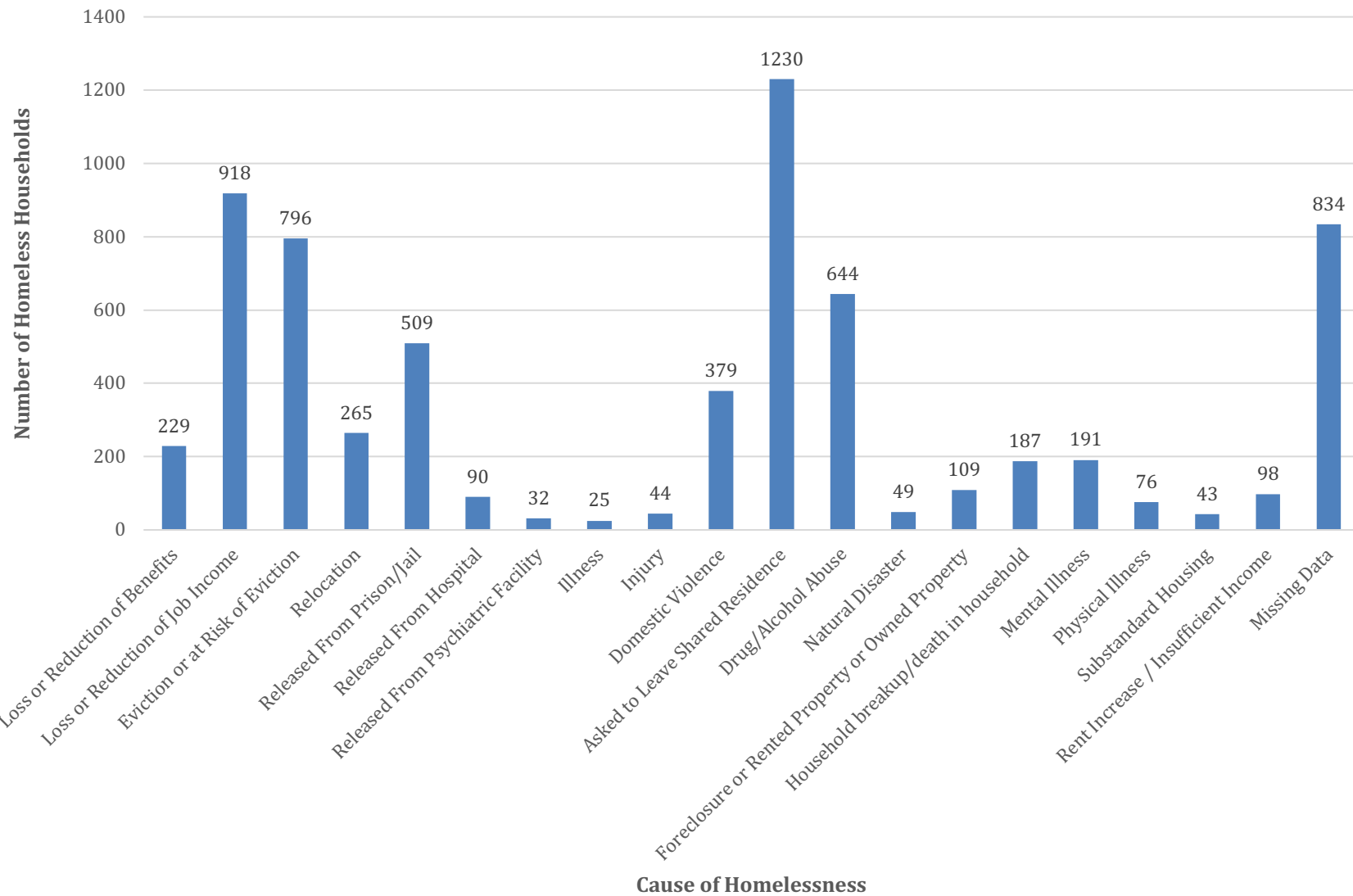
Which of the following sources of income do you, or anyone in your household, receive?

Fig. A.14: Number of Households by Source of Cash Income

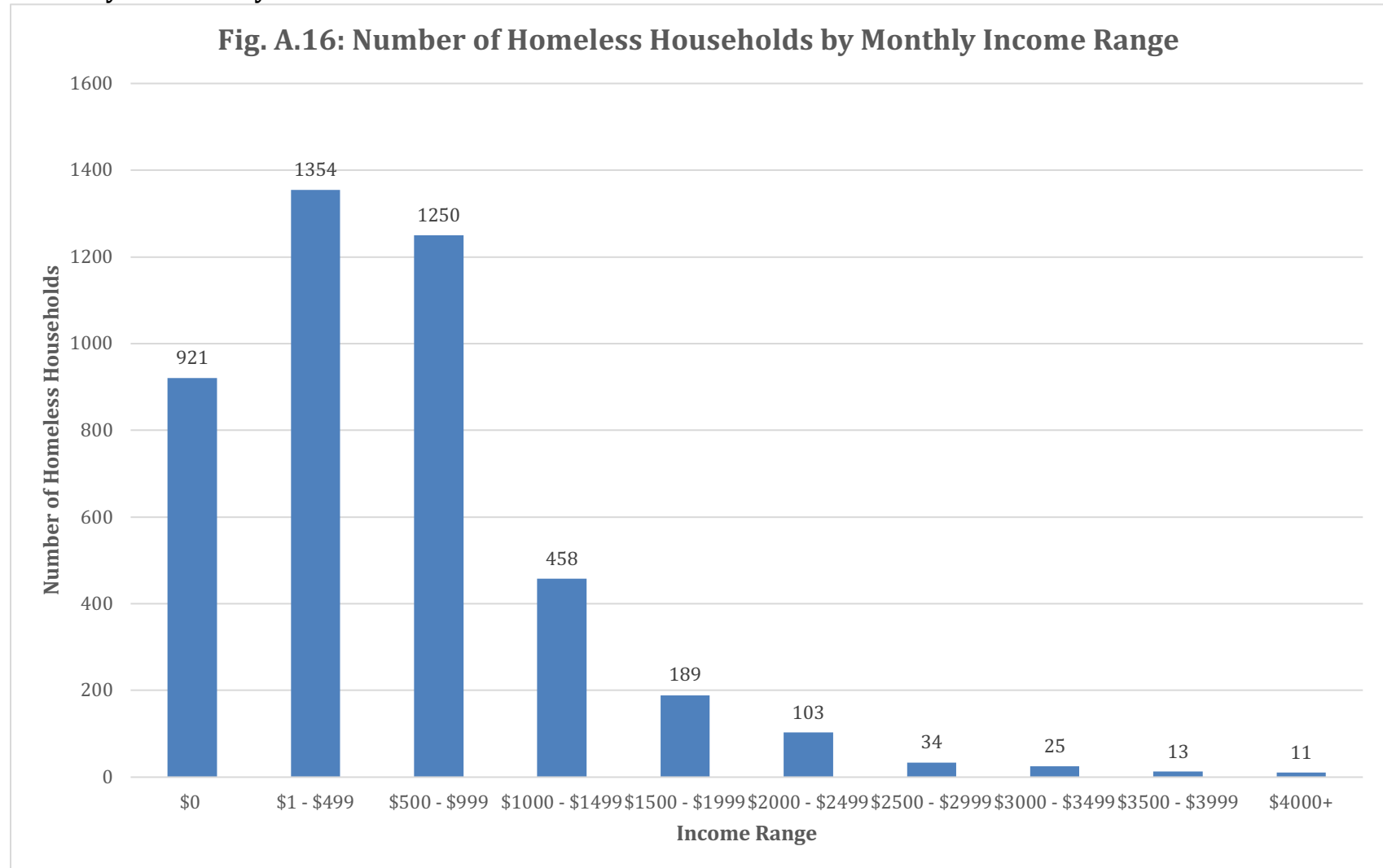Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options

Which of the following sources of non-cash benefits do you, or anyone in your household, receive?

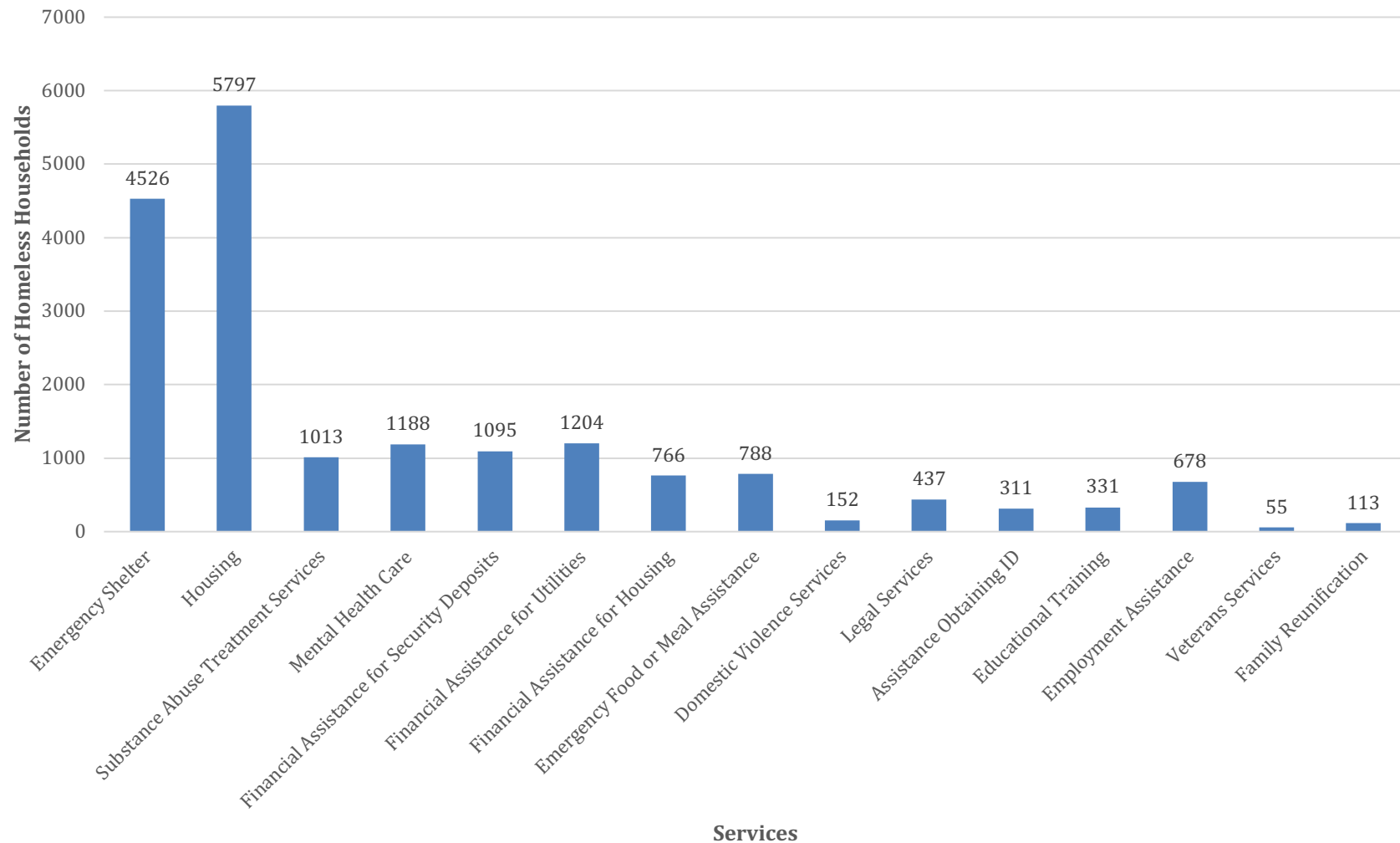Fig. A.15: Number of Households by Sources fo Non-Cash Benefits
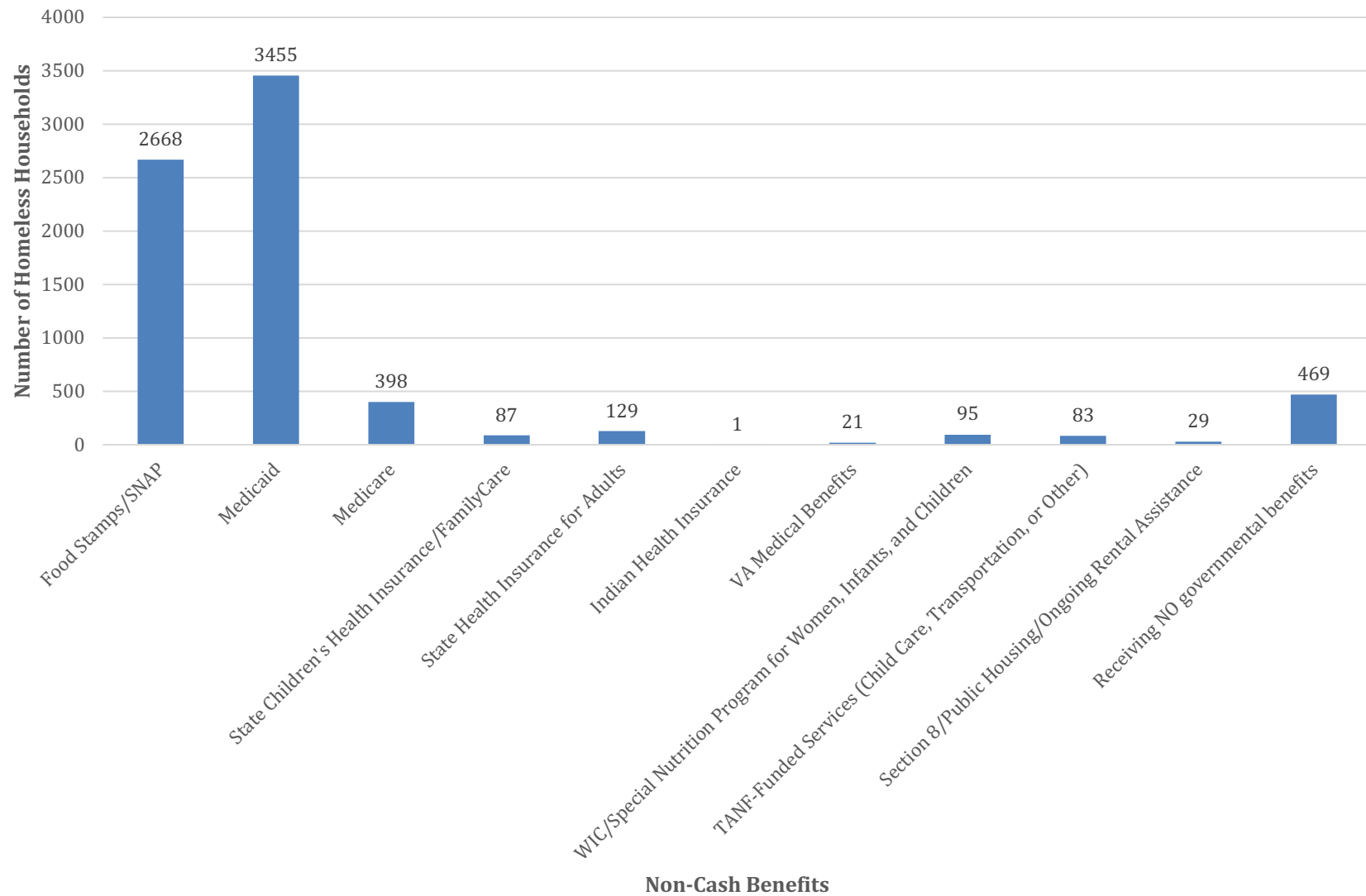
Please note categories are not mutually exclusive as respondents may have selected multiple options

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