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HOUSING ASSOCIATES

NJ
2016
Counts!

Monmouth County's 2016 Point-In-Time Count of the Homeless

January 26, 2016

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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 2016

NJ Counts 2016, New Jersey's annual Point-In-Time (PIT) Count of the Homeless, provides a statewide snapshot of homeless households in our communities; where they find shelter, what their needs are, and what factors contribute to making them homeless. The 2016 Count reveals important demographic and other information about families and individuals who were homeless on the night of Tuesday, January 26th, 2016 and was carried out with the help of government agencies, community-based organizations, and local volunteers.

In New Jersey, each County's count is planned, coordinated, and carried out locally, and the information gathered enables each community to better allocate housing resources and services in order to prevent and end homelessness. The PIT Count is the only opportunity throughout the year for most communities to take a comprehensive look at the total homeless population, and is especially crucial in assessing the needs of the unsheltered homeless.

Acknowledgements

Monarch would like to thank all Point-In-Time Coordinators, homeless service providers, agencies, and volunteers who participated in NJ Counts 2016. Monarch would also like to specifically thank Bergen County for providing a Spanish translation of the 2016 paper survey tool.

Finally, a special acknowledgement is given to all the respondents who were willing to share personal information about themselves and their households' experiences in order to help our communities better understand and assist the homeless.

Funding for coordinating New Jersey's 2016 Point-In-Time and producing this report was provided by New Jersey's Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (NJHMFA).

This Report

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

1. Total homeless population;
2. Those experiencing chronic homelessness (families and individuals that have been homeless for a year or longer, or who have experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years in which the episodes equal at least 12 months, and have a disabled head of household); and
3. Unsheltered families and individuals;

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).

In addition to the main findings presented in the body of this report, Appendix A includes charts illustrating the responses to all survey questions that were part of the 2016 Point-In-Time Count.

II. 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 its 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 2016 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.

For the third year, 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 2016 PIT Survey tool closely mirrors information collected in HMIS so that the data was comparable for important factors such as household characteristics, income, services needed, and factors contributing to homelessness. Agencies updated all HMIS data to accurately reflect 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 2012 to 2016. 2012, 2014 and 2016 were not HUD required full reporting years while 2013 and 2015 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 will be based on the responses received, while all percentages will be 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.

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.

III. Findings for Total Homeless Population

Key Findings

- On the night of January 26th, 2016 a total of 230 households, including 344 persons, were experiencing homelessness in Monmouth County, according to the 2016 Point-In-Time Count.
- A total of 48 households, with 74 persons, were identified as chronically homeless.
- 45 unsheltered homeless persons were counted.

Total Homeless Population

On the night of January 26th, 2016, a total of 344 persons, in 230 households, were experiencing homelessness in Monmouth County, according to the 2016 Point-In-Time Count. This is a decrease of 112 persons (24.6%) and 60 households (20.7%) from 2015. Monmouth County had 3.8% of New Jersey's statewide homeless population in the 2016 PIT.

Fig. 1. 5-Year Comparison of Total Homeless Population by Housing Situation
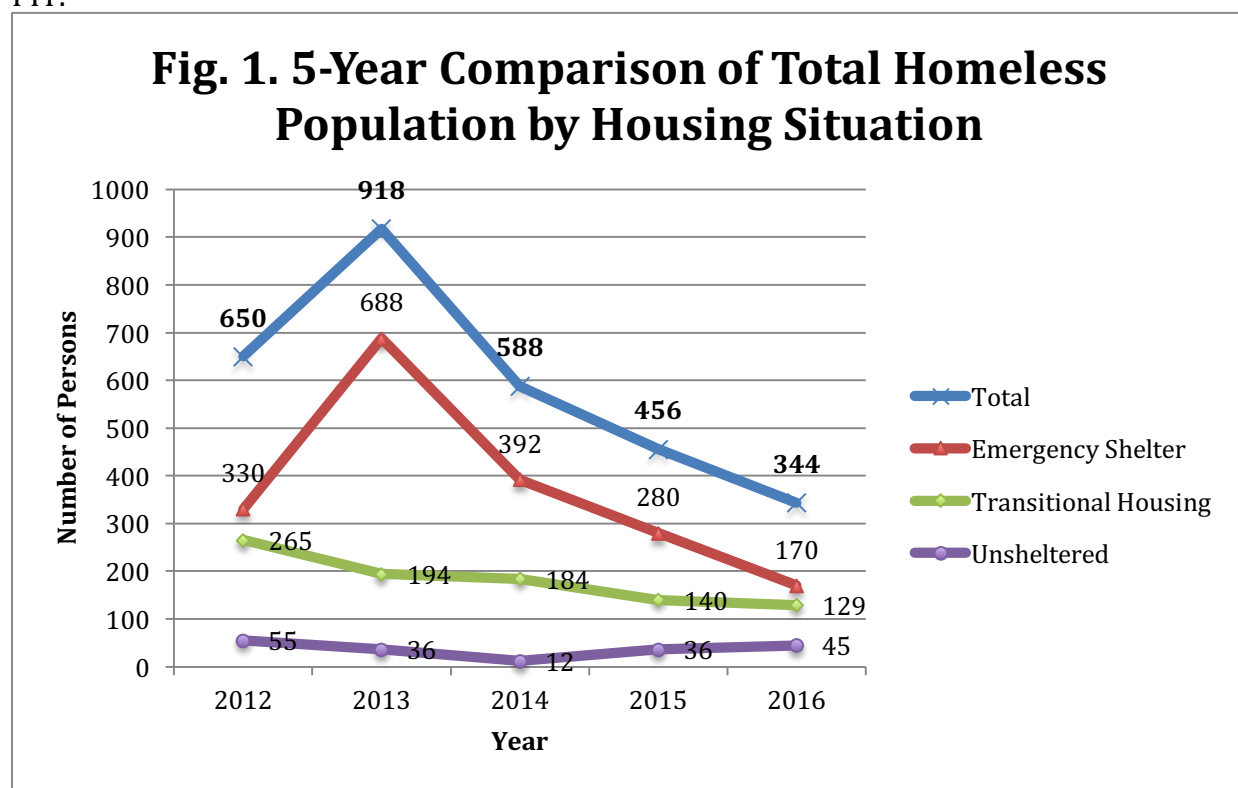
Figure 1 shows that in 2016, 170 homeless persons stayed in emergency shelters, 129 stayed in transitional housing, and 45 were living unsheltered on the night of the count. The biggest change was seen in the total number of persons counted in emergency shelters, which decreased by 39.3% (110 persons) from 2015. There was also a 7.9%decrease seen in transitional housing (11 persons). There was a 25% increase (9 persons) in the unsheltered population.

Figure 1 also shows that while there was an increase in the homeless population between 2012 and 2013, since 2013, the county has experienced a steady decline in the homeless population. The 2013 spike in the homeless population is related to the significant impact of Superstorm Sandy, which displaced a large number of families and individuals in Monmouth County, which was hit especially hard by the storm. Since the 2013 spike, Monmouth County has experienced a 62.5% decrease in the overall homeless population.

Fig. 2. Percentage of Households by County of Last Permanent Address
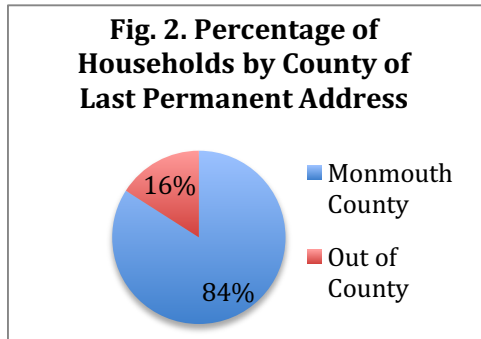

As Figure 2 shows, only 16% of homeless households in Monmouth County reported that their last permanent address prior to becoming homeless was outside of the county.

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." 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').

Of the 230 homeless households counted in Monmouth County in 2016, 57 (24.8%) were families with at least one adult and one child under the age of 18. These families included 157 persons, 92 children under age 18, and 65 adults. The average family size was 2.7 persons. Figure 3 shows that 15 families (26.3%) were staying in emergency shelters on the night of the count. 4 families (7%) were unsheltered on the night of the count. Monmouth County

Fig. 3. Homeless Households by Housing Situation

experienced an overall decrease of 34.5% (30 family households) in homeless families between 2015 and 2016. For the second year, the largest decrease was among families staying in emergency shelters where there was a 66.7% (30 family households) decrease between 2015 and 2016.
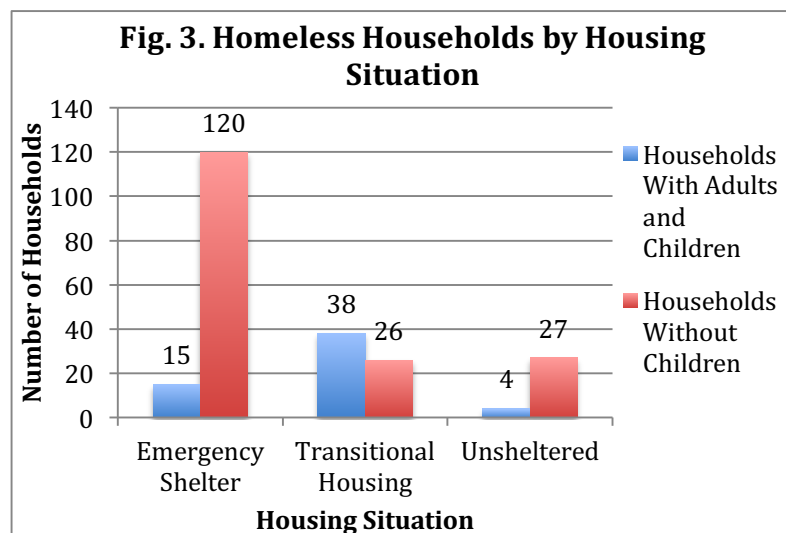
75.2% (173) of the homeless households counted in Monmouth County were households without children under 18, and were predominately composed of individual adults (161 persons). The remaining 12 households were adult only households composed of 26 adults. 115 (69.4%) of these adult-only households were staying in emergency shelters, 26 (15%) were in transitional housing, and 27 (15.6%) were unsheltered. The number of adult-only households decreased by 14.8% (30 households) from the number counted in 2015.

There were no households with only children under 18 years old reported on the night of the count in Monmouth County in 2016.

Demographics

There was a total of 28 (8.1%) homeless adults between 18 and 24 years old, 224 (65.1%) adults over age 24, and 92 (26.7%) children under 18 years old experiencing homelessness on the night of the count. The age range by housing situation as shown in Figure 4 shows a similar distribution as identified in 2015. There was an overall decrease in the total homeless population in each age range.

Fig. 4. Age Range by Housing Situation
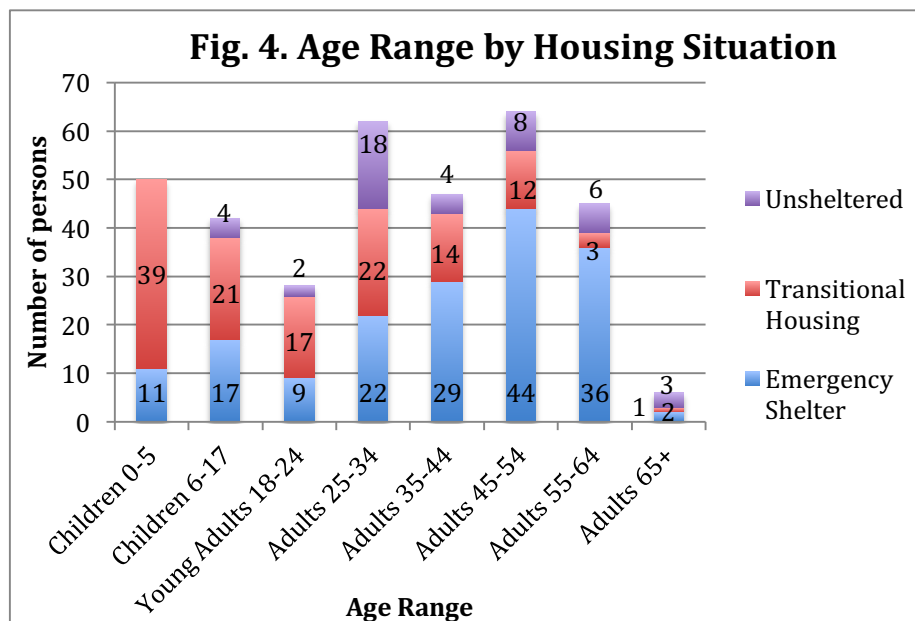
55.5% (191) of homeless persons were male, and 43.9% (151) were female.

50.6% of homeless persons identified their race as White, making that the largest racial subgroup. The next largest group identified themselves as Black or African American (42.7%), followed by those identifying as Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian (2.6%) and American Indian or Alaska Native (2%). About 2.6% of homeless persons identified themselves as multiracial. With regard to ethnicity, 17.2% of persons identified themselves as Hispanic.

Disabilities

Figure 5 illustrates that 57% of homeless persons reported having some type of disability. 72.2% (182 persons) of adults 18 or older reported some type of disability compared to 16.3% (15 persons) of children.

Fig. 5. Percentage of Population with a Disability

43%

57%

Disabled

No Disability

Fig. 6. Number of Persons by Disability Type

Number of Persons (y-axis)

- 108 — Mental Health Issue
- 83 — Substance Abuse Disorder
- 68 — Physical Disability
- 27 — Developmental Disability
- 65 — Chronic Health Condition
- 20 — HIV/AIDS
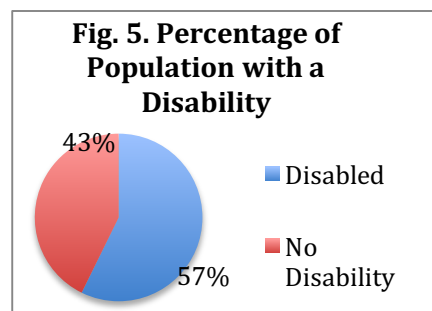
Figure 6 shows the number of the homeless persons that identified as having various disabilities. The most prevalent disabilities were mental health issues and substance abuse disorders.

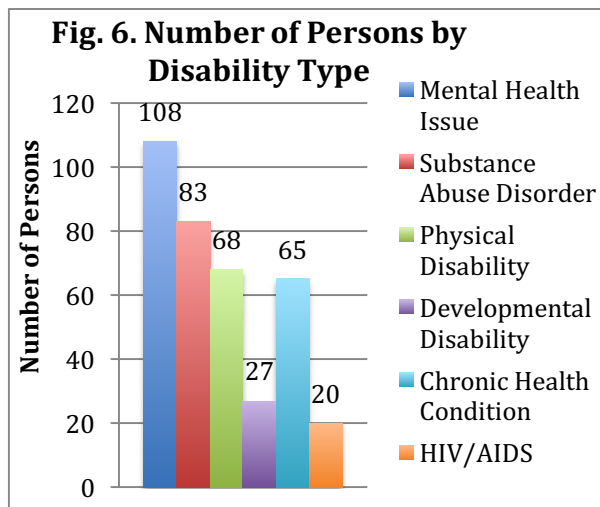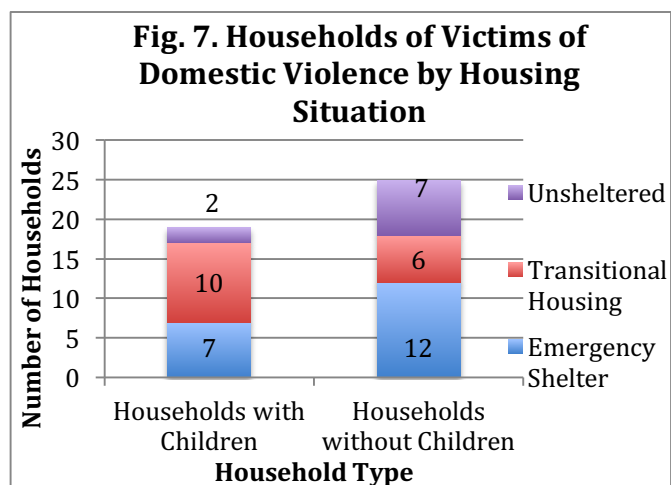Among disabled adults, 56% (102 persons) reported a mental health issue, making this the most prevalent disability; representing 40.5% of the total adult homeless population. 45% of disabled adults also reported a substance abuse disorder. Among disabled homeless children, 53.3% reported a developmental disability.

Victims of Domestic Violence

On the night of the count, in Monmouth County, 44 homeless households reported having a victim of domestic violence. Figure 7 shows that 43.2% of these households were families with children under the age of 18. The remaining 25 households were adult only households. 43.2% of all victim households were counted in emergency shelters.

Fig. 7. Households of Victims of Domestic Violence by Housing Situation

Number of Households (y-axis) vs **Household Type** (x-axis)

Households with Children:
- Emergency Shelter: 7
- Transitional Housing: 10
- Unsheltered: 2

Households without Children:
- Emergency Shelter: 12
- Transitional Housing: 6
- Unsheltered: 7

Veterans

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 by 2016. Many communities in New Jersey have also been working hard to end homelessness among our country's servicemen and women.

17 veterans in 16 households were counted in the 2016 Point in Time, 5 (45.5%) more than in 2015. 12 veterans (70.6%) were individual adults, while 5 veterans (29.4%) were members of adult-only households composed of 9 persons. 23.5% of veterans were unsheltered, while 47.1% were staying in emergency shelters

Fig. 8. Number of Veterans by Housing Situation

Number of Persons (y-axis) vs **Housing Type** (x-axis)

- Emergency Shelter: 8
- Transitional Housing: 5
- Unsheltered: 4
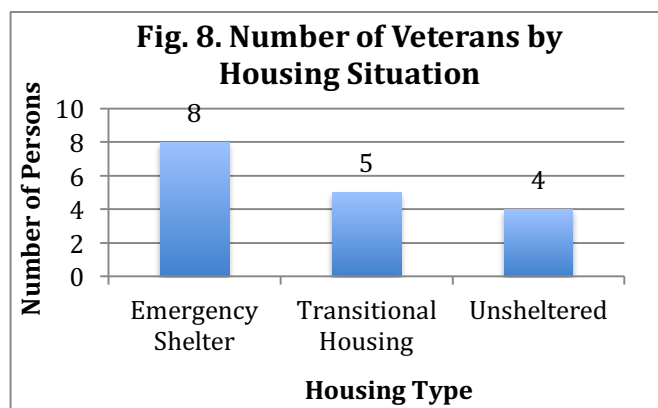
and another 29.4% were in transitional housing.

Homeless veterans in Monmouth County were 94.1% male (16 persons) and 5.9% female (1 person). The most common racial background was Black/African-American (52.9%) followed by White (47.1%). Figure 9 illustrates the age range of the identified veterans.

Fig. 9. Veterans by Age Range
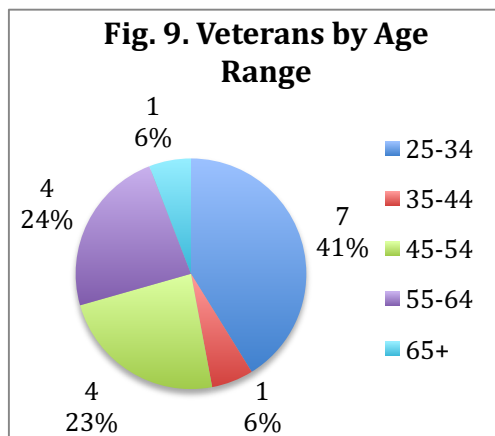
Among those identifying as veterans, 2 homeless veterans reported being a victim of domestic violence. 17 veterans (100%) reported having a disability. The most common disabilities cited were substance abuse disorders, representing 52.9% of the homeless veteran population, followed by mental health issues, physical disabilities and chronic health conditions, with each being reported by 41.2% of veterans. With regards to income, none of the veteran households reported being connected to VA pension, disability or healthcare benefits. 35% of veteran households were not connected to any source of income and 11.8% were not connected to any mainstream benefits.

Income and Benefits

Among all households experiencing homelessness on the night of the count, 23% had no source of income, while 7% reported receiving earned cash income. The three most common sources of non-earned cash income among homeless households were General Assistance (23.9%), SSI (18.3%) and TANF (15.2%).

9.1% of homeless households reported that their household was receiving no kind of non-cash benefits on the night of the count.

Fig. 10. Number of Households by Income Type

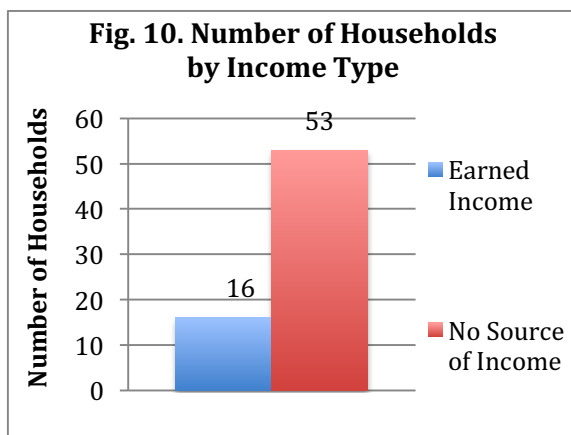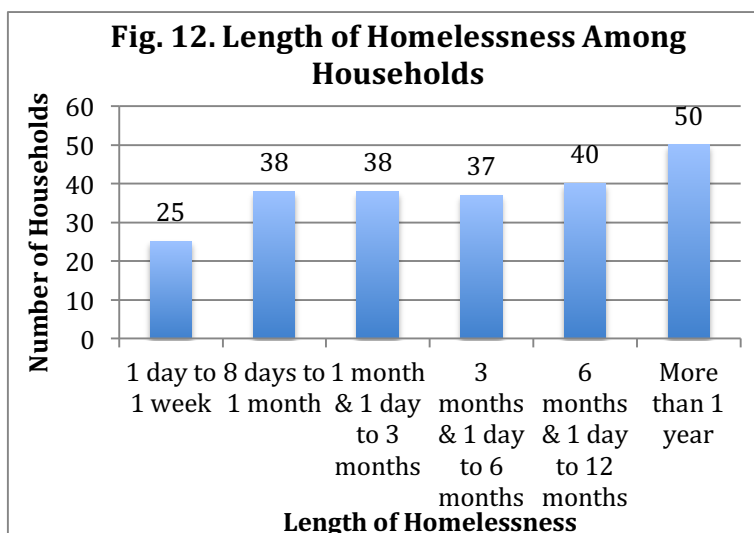Medicaid was the top reported non-cash benefit, and was received by 63% of households. 59.6% were receiving Food Stamps.

Figure 11 shows the average monthly income for all homeless households.

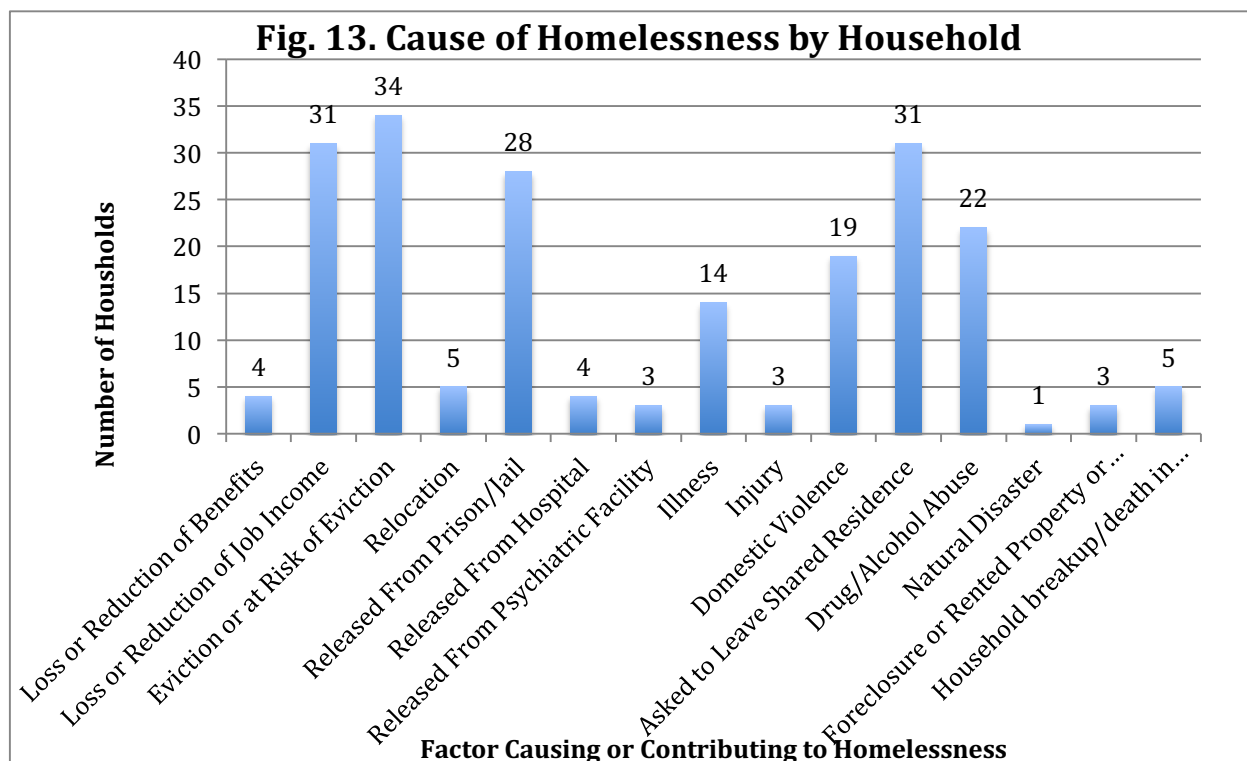| Figure 11. Average Monthly Income For Households by Housing Situation			
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered
Average for All Households	$386.18	$488.92	$156.43

Length of Homelessness

Figure 12 shows that 21.7% of homeless households (50 households) reported that their most recent, continuous episode of homelessness had lasted more than 1 year, making this the most common response. Another 17.4% of households reported being homeless for 6 – 12 months.

Fig. 12. Length of Homelessness Among Households

A bar chart titled "Fig. 12. Length of Homelessness Among Households" with Number of Households on the y-axis (0 to 60) and Length of Homelessness on the x-axis. Values: 1 day to 1 week = 25; 8 days to 1 month = 38; 1 month & 1 day to 3 months = 38; 3 months & 1 day to 6 months = 37; 6 months & 1 day to 12 months = 40; More than 1 year = 50.

Cause of Homelessness

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more households attributed their homelessness to eviction or risk of eviction (34 households, 14.8%) than any other cause. As Figure 13 shows, the next most common factors reported were loss or reduction of job income and being asked to leave a shared residence, both at 13.5%.

Fig. 13. Cause of Homelessness by Household

A bar chart titled "Fig. 13. Cause of Homelessness by Household" with Number of Households on the y-axis (0 to 40) and Factor Causing or Contributing to Homelessness on the x-axis. Values: Loss or Reduction of Benefits = 4; Loss or Reduction of Job Income = 31; Eviction or at Risk of Eviction = 34; Relocation = 5; Released From Prison/Jail = 28; Released From Hospital = 4; Released From Psychiatric Facility = 3; Illness = 14; Injury = 3; Domestic Violence = 19; Asked to Leave Shared Residence = 31; Drug/Alcohol Abuse = 22; Natural Disaster = 1; Foreclosure or Rented Property or… = 3; Household breakup/death in… = 5.

When households were asked 'what was your residence prior to your current living situation?' more said they were staying or living with friends or family (36.1%) than any other type of residence. 15.7% reported residing in permanent housing prior to their current living situation.

IV. Findings for the Chronically Homeless

Someone with a long-term disabling condition, who has been continually homeless for a year or more, or at least four times in the past three years, meets HUD's definition of chronically homeless. Any family with one adult that meets this definition is considered a chronically homeless family. This definition has been updated since the 2015 point in time, in such that in order for a household to meet the episodic definition of chronically homeless, the 4 episodes must equal at least 12 months, which may lead to a decrease in the number of households that qualify as chronically homeless.

HUD currently has a goal of ending chronic homelessness by 2017. This goal 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. Prioritization of new Continuum of Care funding opportunities has recently been giving some communities in New Jersey new resources for housing this subgroup.

Total Chronically Homeless Population

48 households, made up of 74 persons, were chronically homeless in Monmouth County, according to the 2016 Point-In-Time Count. This is a decrease of 25 persons (25.3%) from 2015. The rate of chronic homelessness as a percentage of overall homelessness is 21.5%; which is a decrease from the 29.3% in 2015.

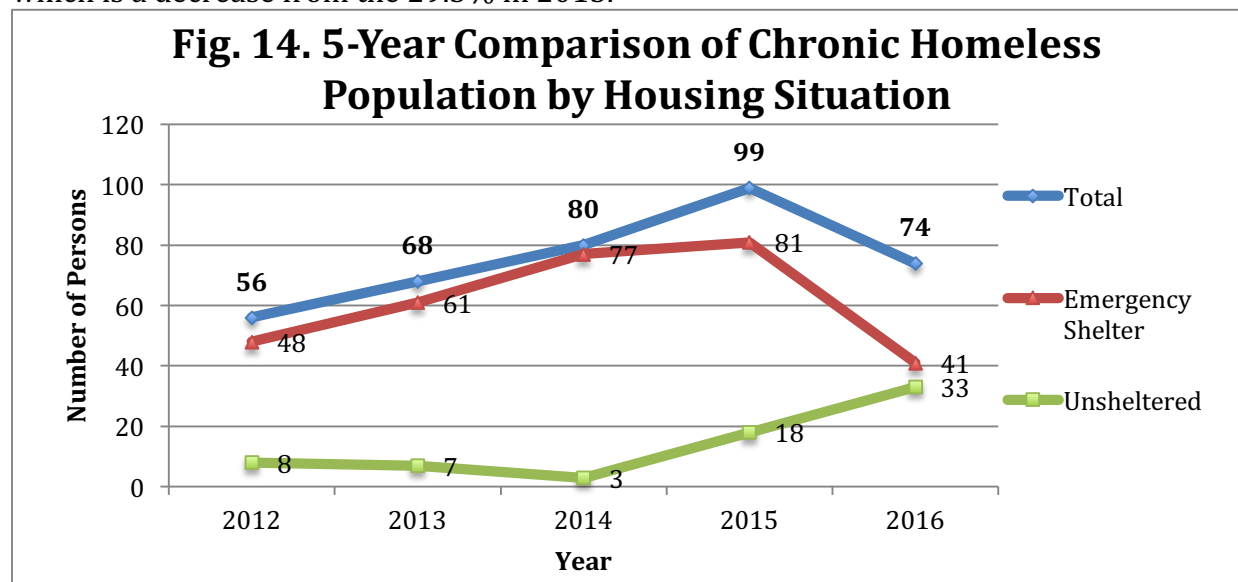Fig. 14. 5-Year Comparison of Chronic Homeless Population by Housing Situation

Figure 14 shows the number of chronically homeless persons who were in emergency shelter or living unsheltered in Monmouth County from 2012 to 2016. From 2012 to 2015, the overall number of chronically homeless persons trended upward, before falling between 2015 and 2016. Overall, there has been an increase of 18 persons (32.1%) from 2012 to 2016.

Families and Individuals

Of the 48 chronically homeless households counted in 2016, 10 (20.8%) were households with at least 1 adult and 1 child. These 10 households were composed of 25 persons, 60% of which were served in emergency shelters, while 40% were unsheltered. The other 38 households (79.2%) were adult only households, composed of 49 persons.

**Fig. 15. Chronically Homeless Households Type by Housing Situation**
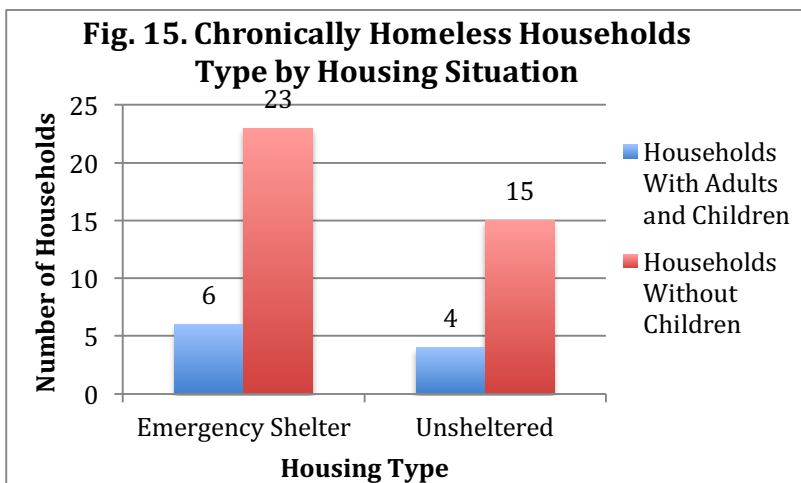
39.5% of chronically homeless households were living unsheltered, an increase of 1 household from 2015. There was a significant increase of chronically homeless unsheltered families (4 households) as compared to 0 families identified in 2015. The other 29 households (60.4%) were staying in emergency shelters on the night of the count, a decrease of 56.7% from 2015.

Demographics

Of the 74 total chronically homeless persons, 4 (5.4%) were between 18 and 24 years old, and another 13 (17.6%) were children 17 or younger. The largest number of chronically homeless persons (20, 27%) in a single category fell between the ages of 25 and 34 years of age. The number of chronically homeless between the ages of 45 and 54 decreased by 45.8% since 2015.

62.2% of chronically homeless persons were male, and 37.8% were female.

Fig. 16. Chronically Homeless Age Range by Housing Situation
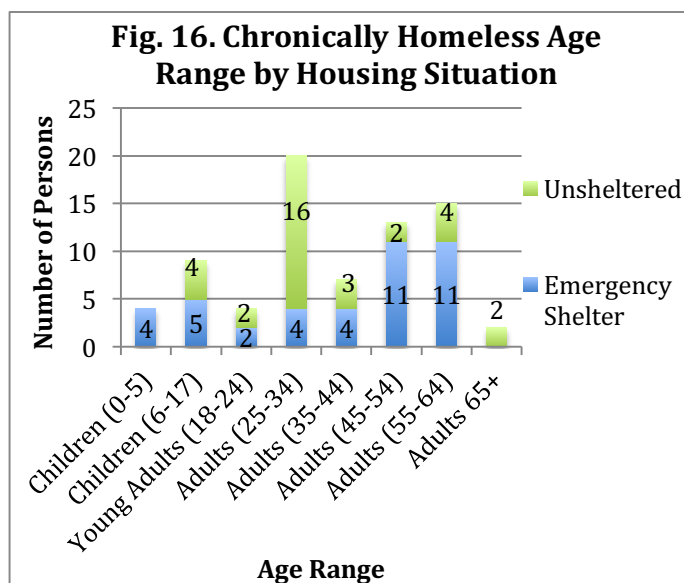
The largest racial subgroup of chronically homeless persons reported their race as White (48.6%). The next largest group self-identified as Black or African American (44.6%), followed by Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian (5.4%). 1.4% identified as Native American. With regard to ethnicity, 17.6% of chronically homeless persons identified themselves as Hispanic.

Disabilities

Fig. 17. Number of Chronically Homeless Persons by Disability Type

Number of Persons

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

33, 30, 29, 6, 19, 6
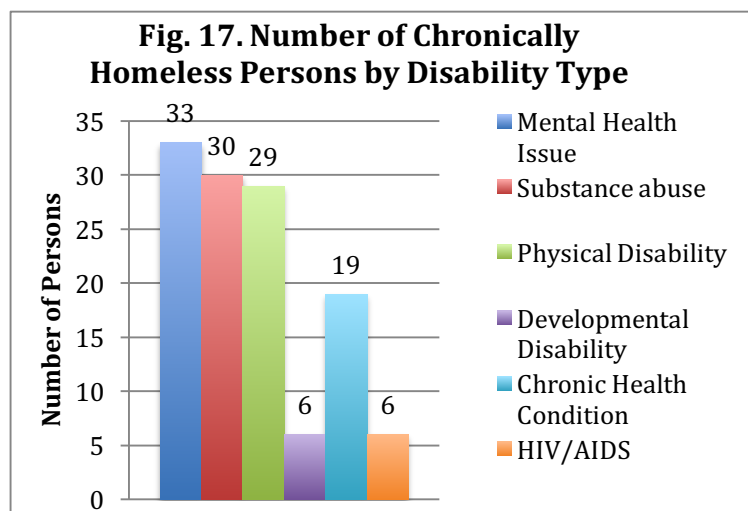
In order to meet the definition of chronically homeless, at least one adult in each household must have some kind of disability. The disabilities most commonly identified were mental health issues (44.6%) and substance abuse disorders (40.5%). The complete numbers of reported disabilities among the chronically homeless can be seen in Figure 17.
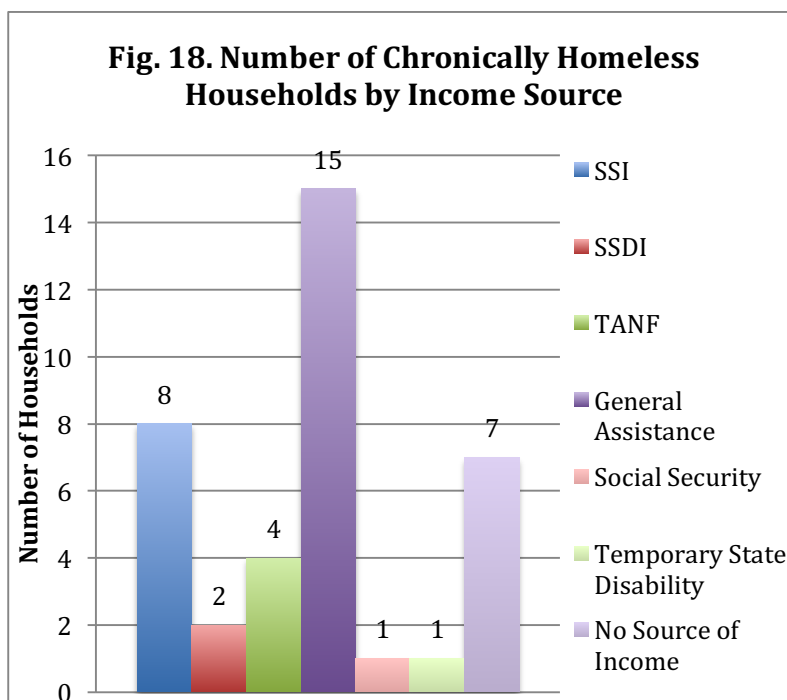
Subpopulations

On the night of the count, 21 chronically homeless households in Monmouth County reported being victims of domestic violence (42.9%). 5 (23.8%) of these households identifying as victims of domestic violence were staying in emergency shelters and 16 (76.2%) were unsheltered.

There were 7 veteran individuals identified as chronically homeless on the night of the count (9.5%).

Income and Benefits

Among all the chronically homeless households on the night of the count, 16.7% reported receiving no type of cash income. Figure 18 shows the sources of income received. The most common source of cash income among chronically homeless households was General Assistance, which was received by 31.3%. No chronically homeless households reported earned income.

Fig. 18. Number of Chronically Homeless Households by Income Source

Number of Households

- SSI
- SSDI
- TANF
- General Assistance
- Social Security
- Temporary State Disability
- No Source of Income

8, 2, 4, 15, 1, 1, 7

14.6% of chronically homeless households reported they were not receiving any type of non-cash benefit on the night of the count. Food Stamps (SNAP) and Medicaid were the top reported benefits among the chronically homeless, with 56.3% and 52.1% receiving each, respectively.

Length of Homelessness

Figure 19 shows that 35 chronically homeless households (72.9%) reported that their most recent, continuous episode of homelessness had lasted for more than 1 year. This was the most common answer.
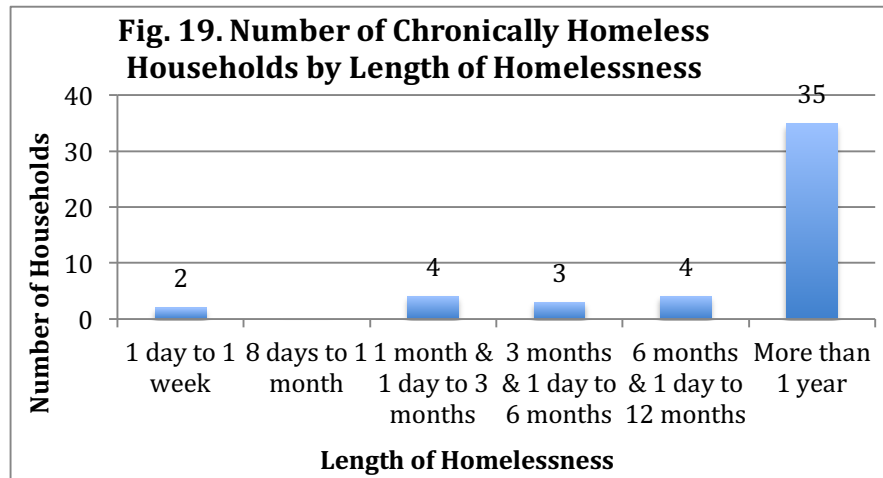
Fig. 19. Number of Chronically Homeless Households by Length of Homelessness

Cause of Homelessness

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more chronically homeless households indicated they were released from prison or jail (16.3%) than any other cause. As Figure 20 shows, the next most common factor reported was eviction or risk of eviction (14.3%).

Fig. 20. Number of Chronically Homeless Households by Cause of Homelessness
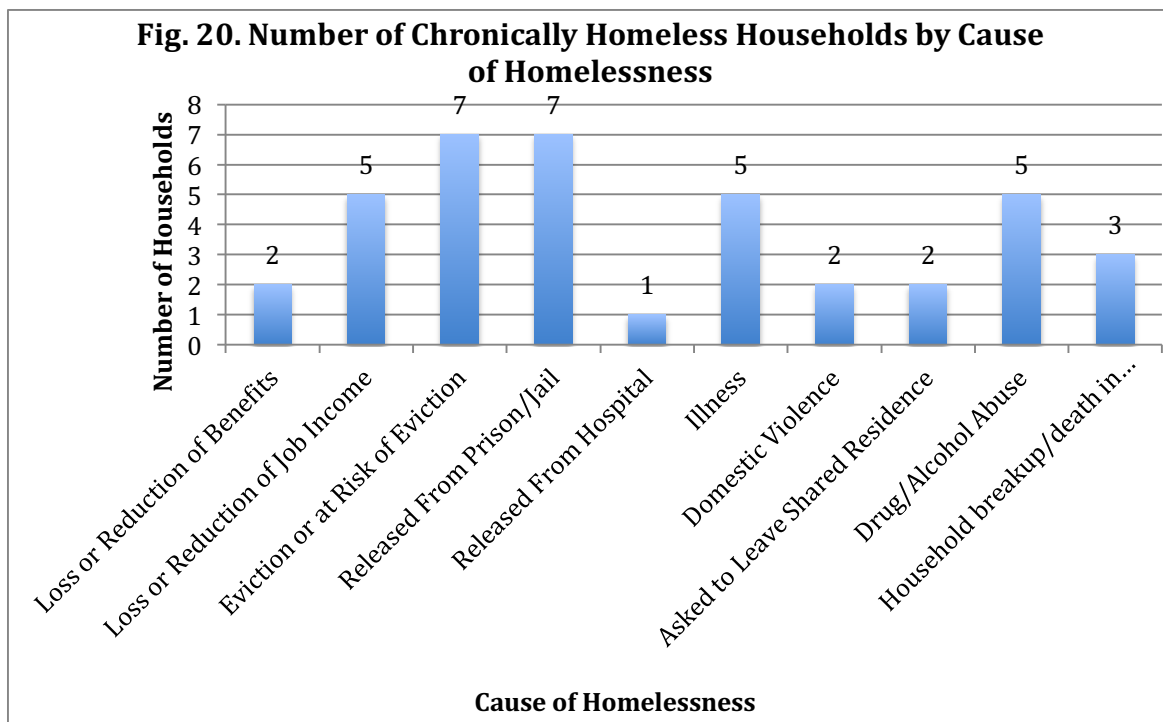
V. Findings for the Unsheltered Homeless

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.

Total Unsheltered Homeless Population

Fig. 21. 5 Year Comparison of Unsheltered Population
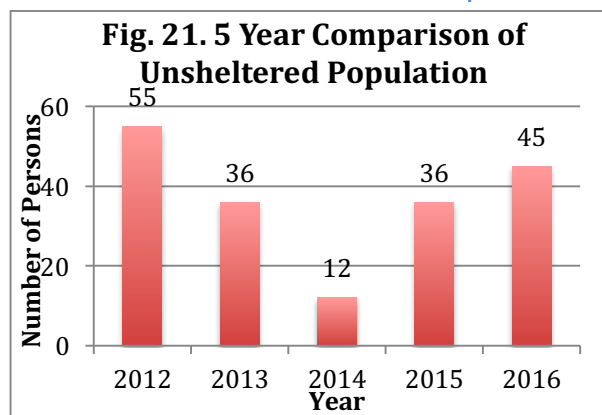
31 households, made up of 45 persons, were living unsheltered in Monmouth County, according to the 2016 Point-In-Time Count. This is a decrease of 3 households (8.8%), but an increase of 9 persons (25%) from 2015.

Figure 21 shows the number of unsheltered persons from 2012 to 2016. Between 2012 and 2014 the unsheltered population decreased by 78.2%. However, since 2014, the unsheltered population has steadily increased by 275%. Between 2012 and 2015 the average rate of change for the unsheltered count was 30.9%.

Families and Individuals

Of the 31 unsheltered households counted in 2016, 4 (12.9%) were unsheltered families with children under the age of 18.

Of the remaining 27 unsheltered households, 21 (67.8%) were individuals and 6 households (19.4%) represented adult only households comprised of 14 persons.

Fig. 22. Age Range of Unsheltered Homeless

Demographics

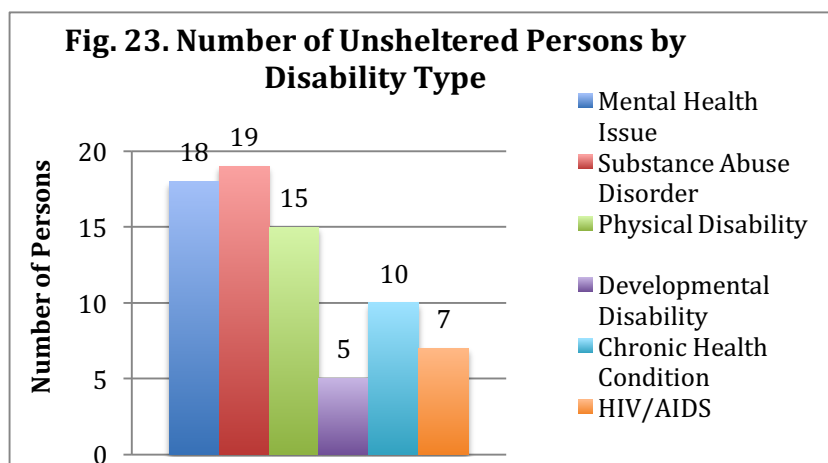The largest portion of the 45 unsheltered persons counted
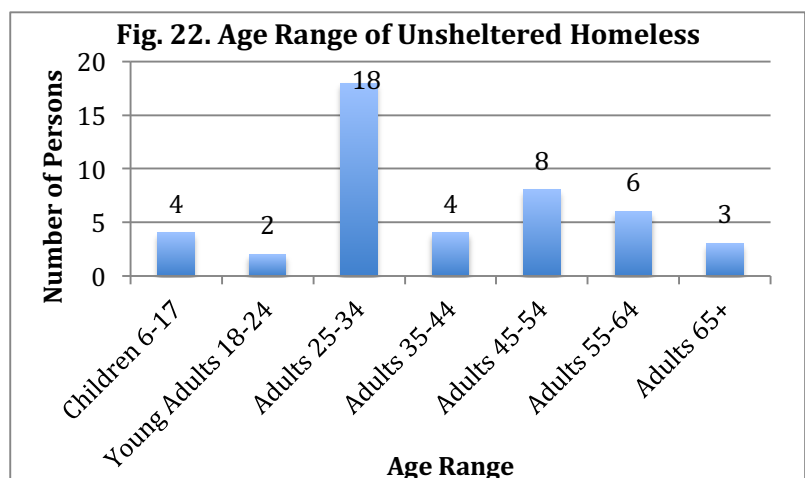
in 2016 were between the ages of 25 and 34 years old (40%). Figure 22 shows the age range of the unsheltered persons counted in 2016.

57.8% of unsheltered persons were male and 37.8% were female. 44.4% of unsheltered persons identified their race as Black or African-American. Another 40% identified their race as White, with 8.9% identifying as Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian and 2.2% American Indian/Alaska Native. 24.4% of unsheltered persons identified their ethnicity as Hispanic.

Disabilities

40 of the 45 unsheltered persons (88.9%) reported having some disability. The disabilities most commonly identified were substance abuse disorders (47.5%) and mental health issues (45%). The complete numbers of reported disabilities among the unsheltered can be seen in Figure 23.

Fig. 23. Number of Unsheltered Persons by Disability Type

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

(values: 18, 19, 15, 5, 10, 7; y-axis: Number of Persons)

Subpopulations

On the night of the count, 9 unsheltered homeless households (29%) in Monmouth County reported being victims of domestic violence.

There were 4 unsheltered veterans on the night of the count, 2 (33.3%) less than in 2015.

Income and Benefits

Among all the unsheltered households on the night of the count, 12 (38.7%) reported having no source of cash income. The average monthly income reported among unsheltered households was approximately $156.43. 9.7% of unsheltered households received SSI. The remaining sources of income were social security and temporary state disability, 3.2% respectively. Figure 24 shows the sources of income received by the unsheltered population.

Fig. 24. Number of Unsheltered Households by Income Source

(values: SSI 3, Social Security 1, Temporary State Disability 1, No Source of Income 12; y-axis: Number of Households; x-axis: Income Sources)
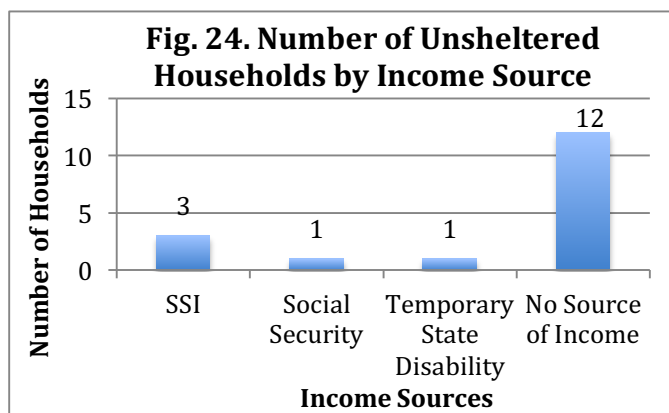
5 unsheltered households (16.1%) reported they were not receiving any type of non-cash benefit on the night of the count. Food Stamps (SNAP) and Medicaid were the reported non-cash benefits among this group, with 19.4% receiving each of these benefits, respectively.

Length of Homelessness

As shown in Figure 25, more unsheltered homeless households reported that their households' most recent, continuous episode of homelessness had lasted between 1

Fig. 25. Number of Unsheltered Households by Length of Homelessness
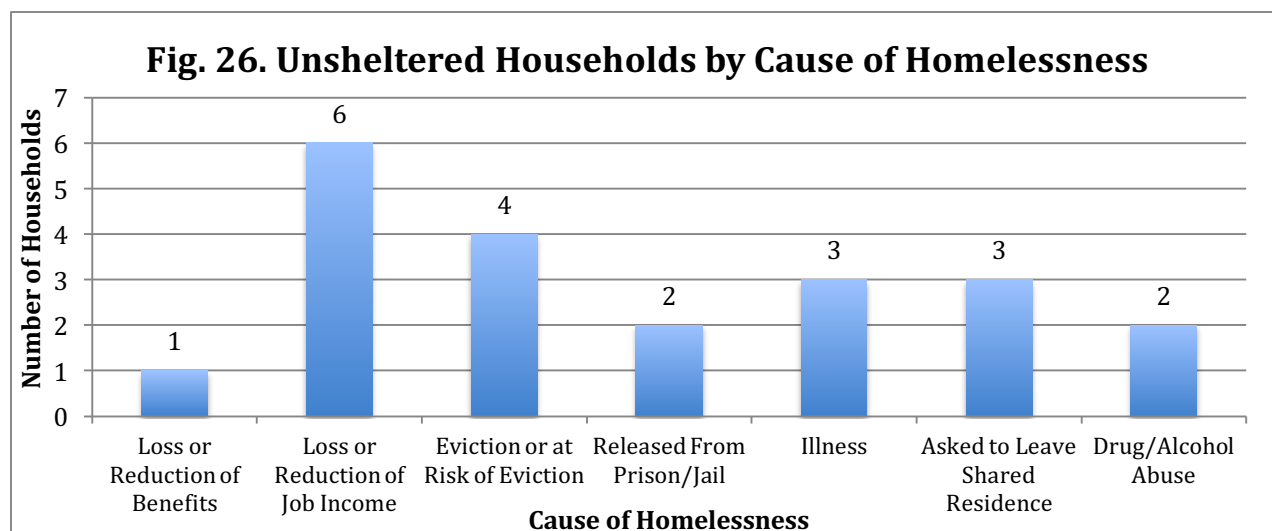
Length of Homelessness	Number of Households
1 day to 1 week	1
8 days to 1 month	0
1 month & 1 day to 3 months	10
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	5
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	5
More than 1 year	9
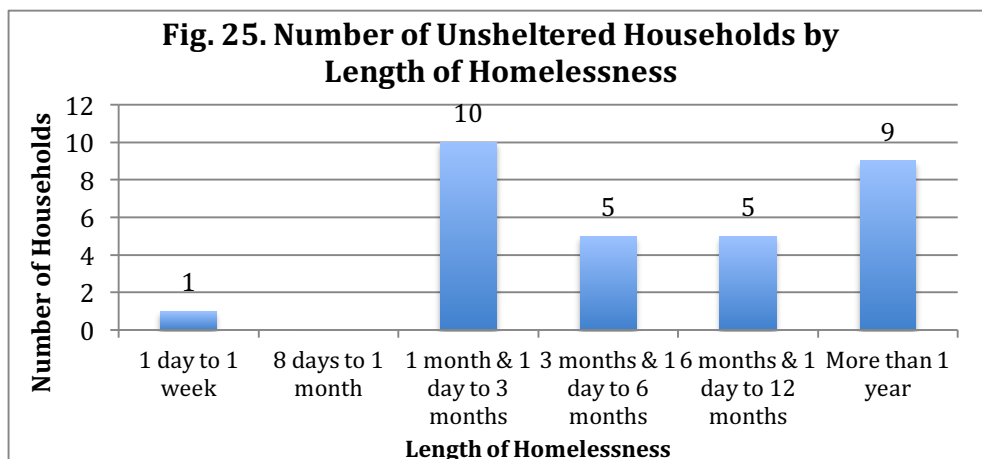
month and 3 months than any other length of time (32.3%). Another 9 households (29%) reported they had been homeless for more than a year. Based on disabling condition and length of homelessness, 73.3% of the unsheltered population meets the definition of chronic homelessness.

Cause of Homelessness

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more unsheltered households said loss or reduction of job income (19.4%) than any other factor. As Figure 26 shows, other common factors reported included eviction or at risk of eviction (12.9%), as well as illness or being asked to leave a shared residence, 9.7% respectively.

Fig. 26. Unsheltered Households by Cause of Homelessness

Cause of Homelessness	Number of Households
Loss or Reduction of Benefits	1
Loss or Reduction of Job Income	6
Eviction or at Risk of Eviction	4
Released From Prison/Jail	2
Illness	3
Asked to Leave Shared Residence	3
Drug/Alcohol Abuse	2

VI. Appendix

Where did you spend the night of Tuesday, January 26, 2016?

Fig. A.1. Total Number of Households and Persons by Housing Type
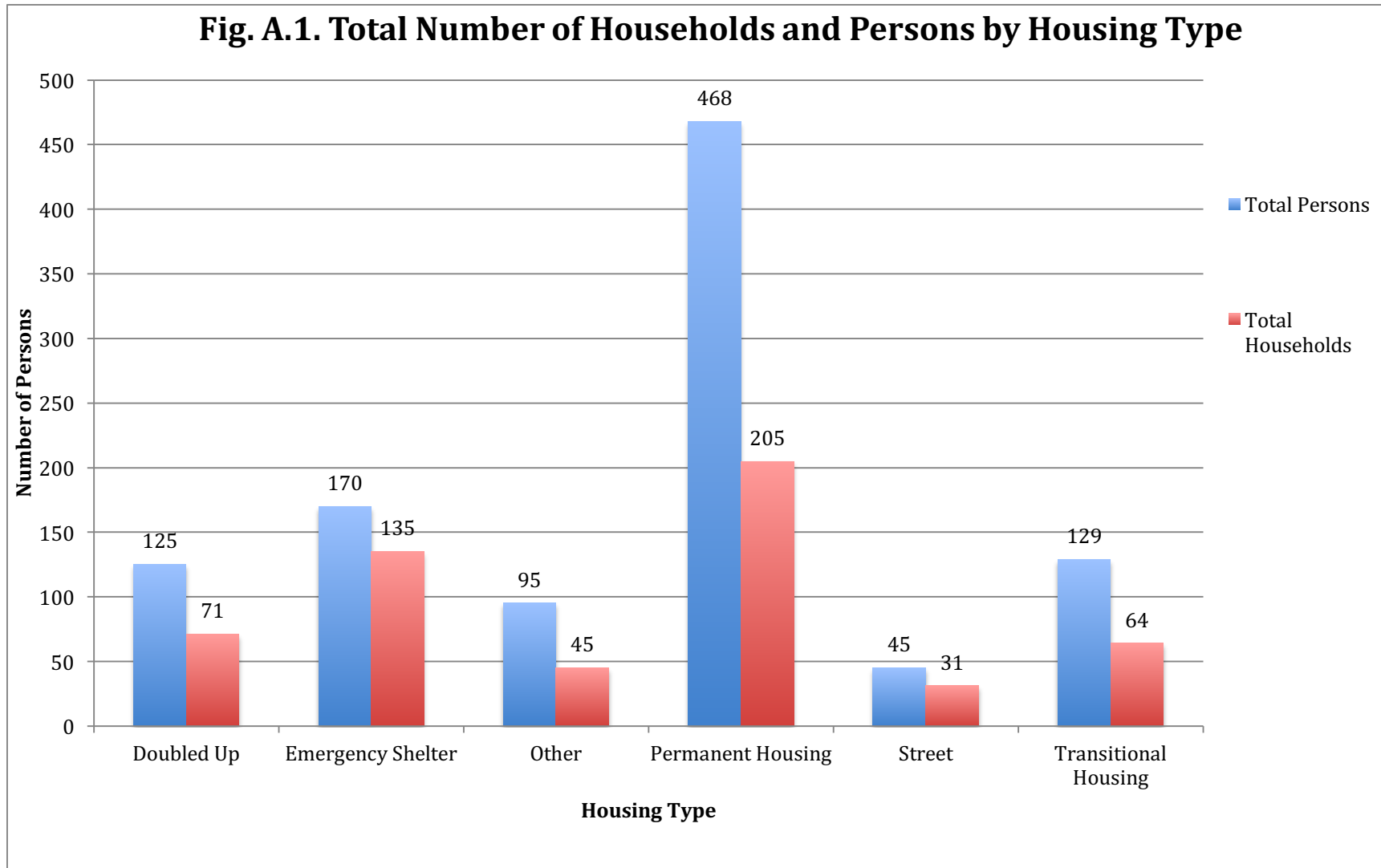
How long have you been in your current living situation?
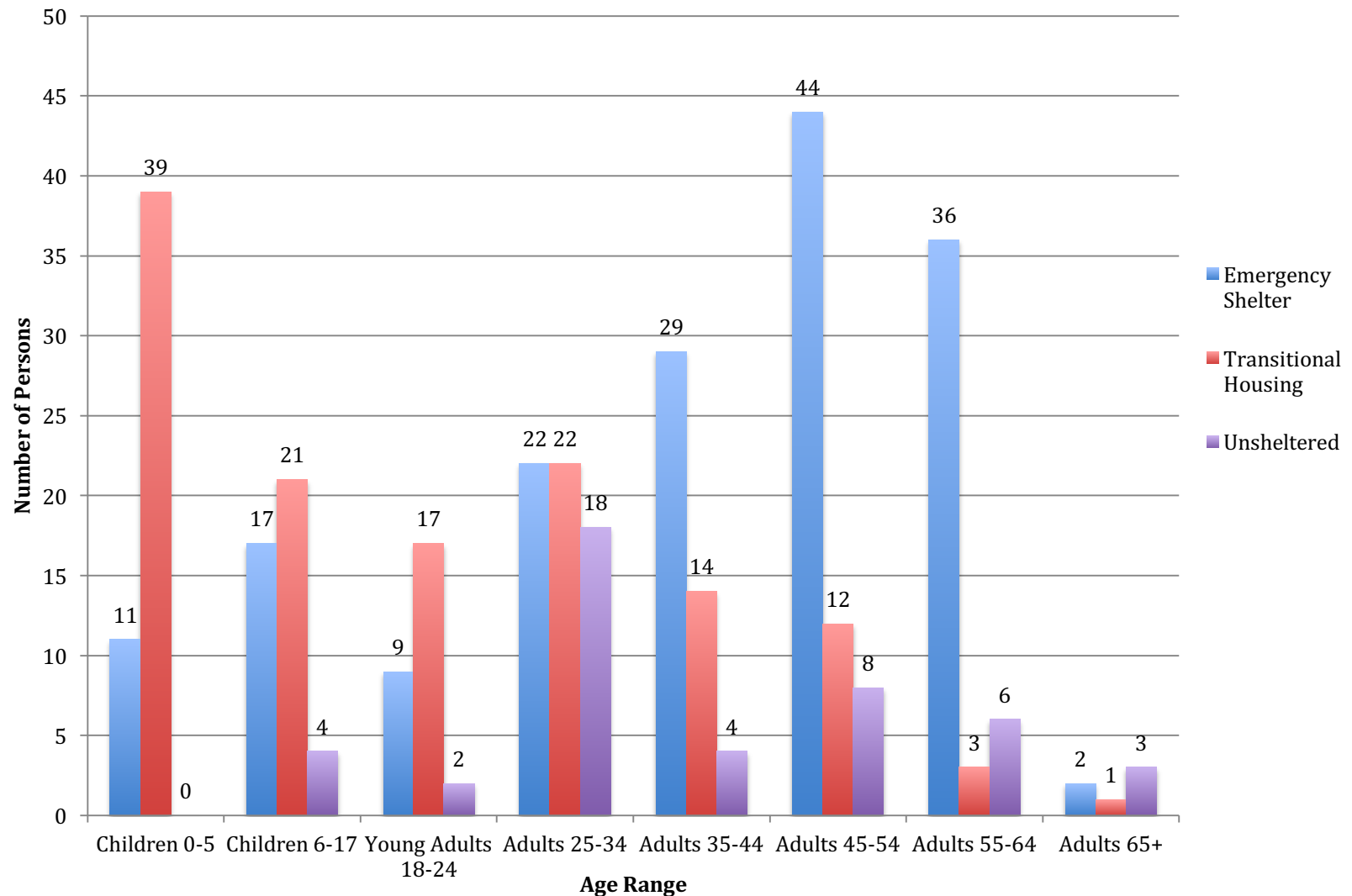

Fig. A.2. Homeless Housholds by Length of Homelessness and Housing Type
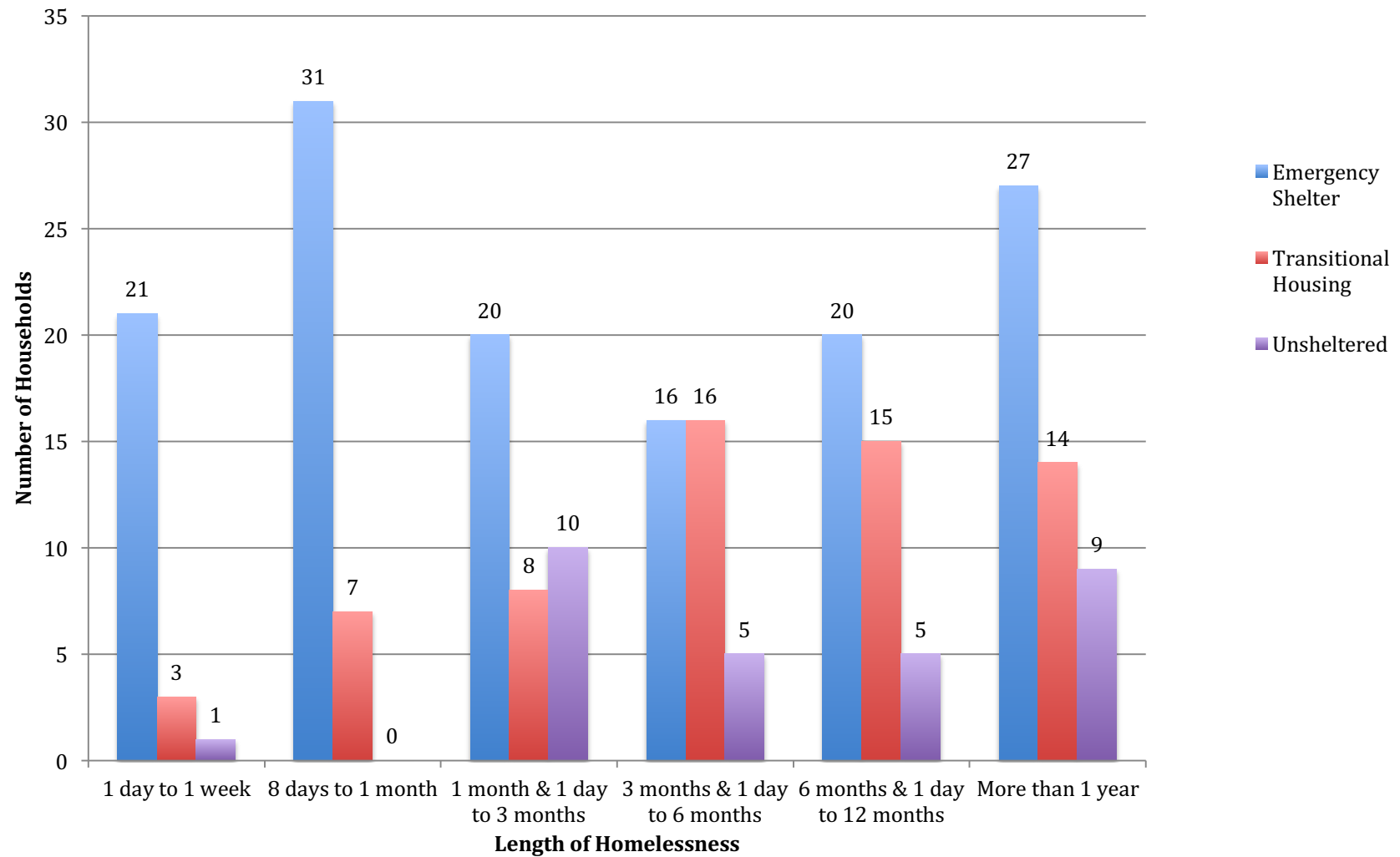
Who was homeless with you on the night of January 26th?

Fig. A.3. Number of Persons by Age Range and Housing Type

Household Characteristics – check all that apply to each person

Fig. A.4. Number of Persons by Gender and Housing Situation

Legend:
- Emergency Shelter
- Transitional Housing
- Unsheltered

Male: Emergency Shelter 110, Transitional Housing 55, Unsheltered 26
Female: Emergency Shelter 60, Transitional Housing 74, Unsheltered 17

X-axis: Gender
Y-axis: Number of Persons
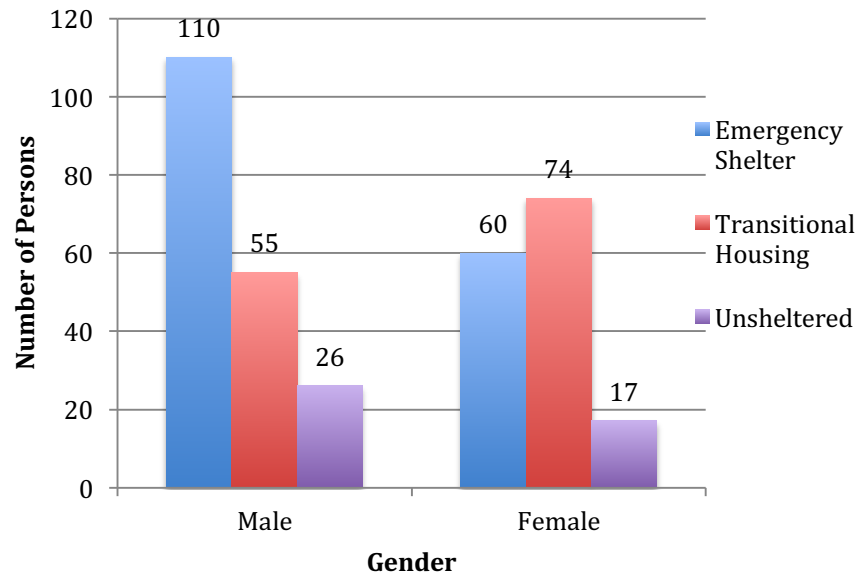
Fig. A.5. Number of Homeless Persons by Race

American Indian/Alaska Native 7
Black/African-American 147
Asian 0
Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian 10
White 174
Multi-Racial 9

X-axis: Race
Y-axis: Number of Persons

Fig. A.6. Number of Homeless Persons by Ethnicity

Hispanic 59
Non-Hispanic 259

X-axis: Ethnicity
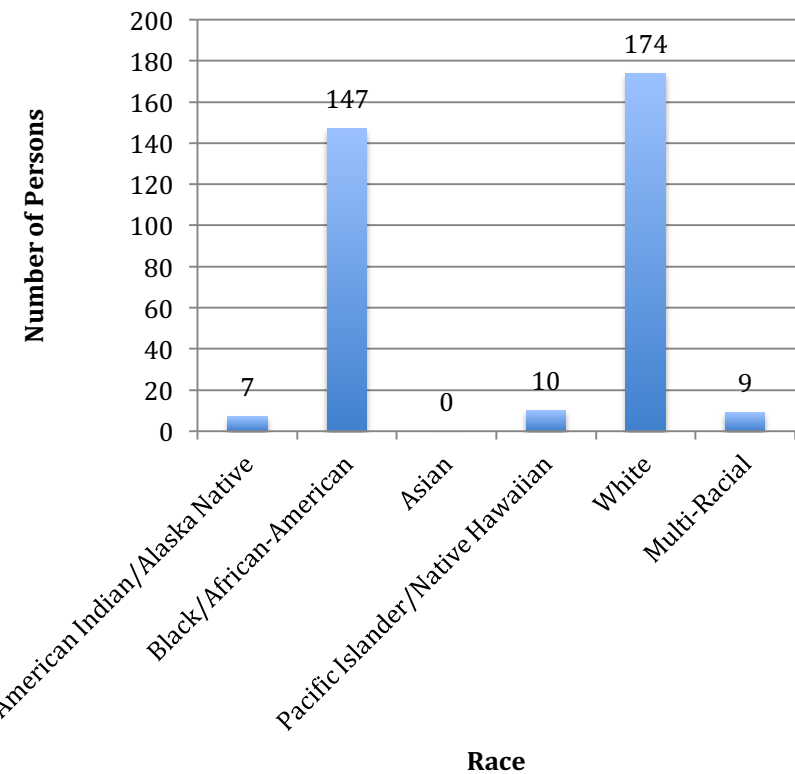Y-axis: Number of Persons
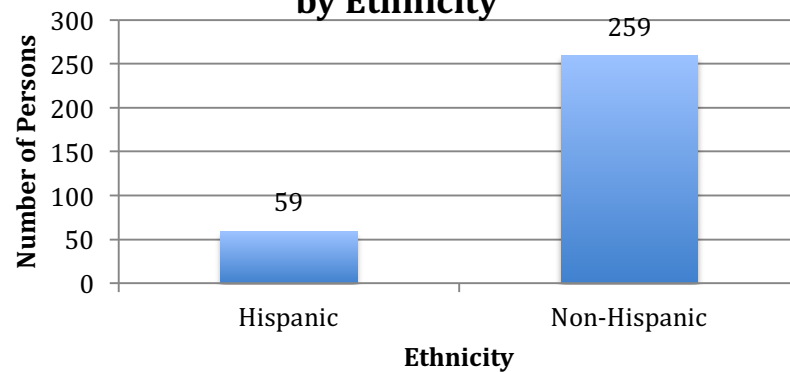
Fig. A.7. Number of Homeless Persons by Victims of Domestic Violence, Veteran Status, and Disability
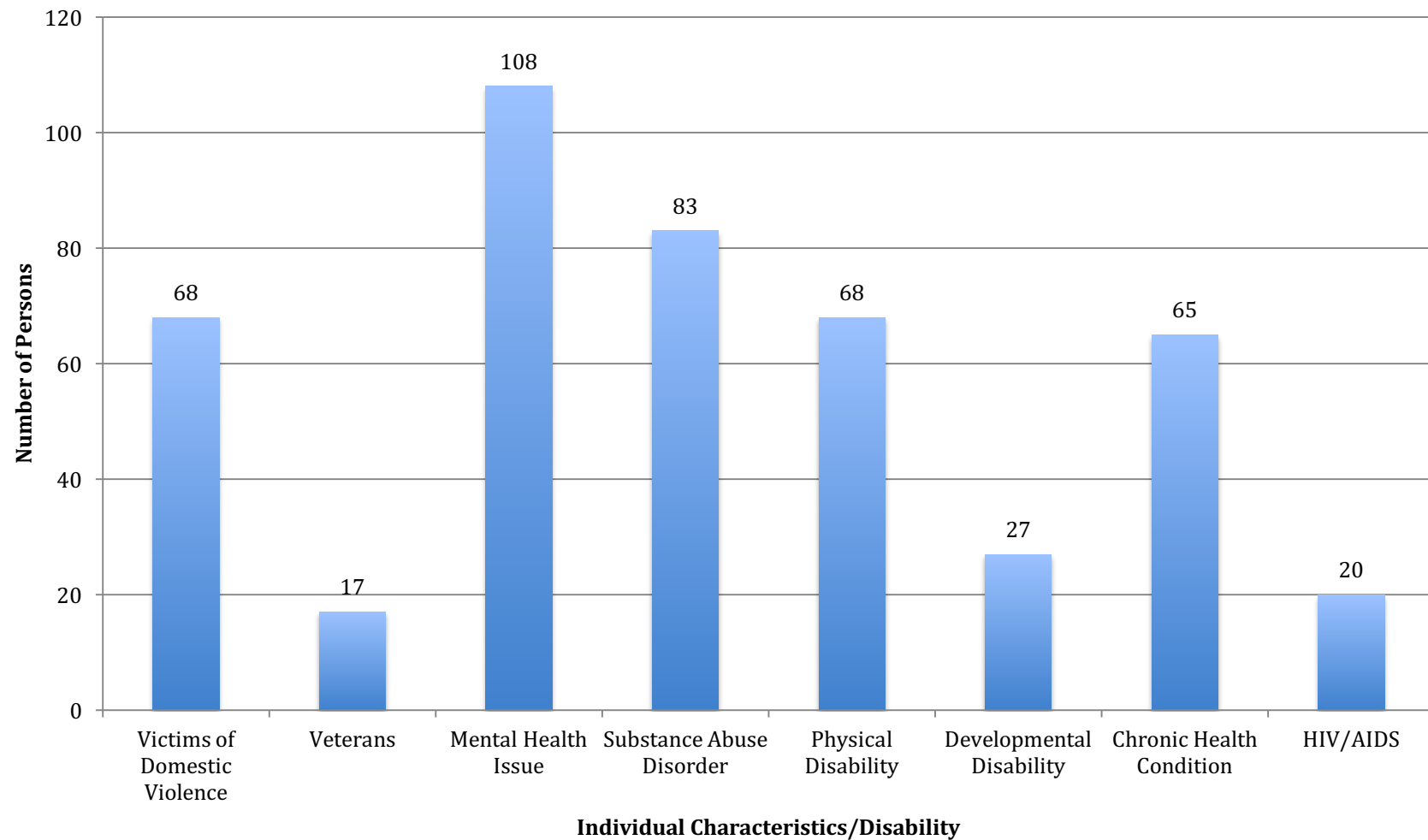
Where was your last permanent address before becoming homeless?

Fig. A.8. Number of Homeless Households by County, State or Country of Last Permanent Address	
Last Permanent Address – County/State/Country	Number of Households
Bergen County	1
Cumberland County	1
Essex County	4
Hudson County	1
Hunterdon County	1
Middlesex County	4
Monmouth County	**174**
Morris County	1
Ocean County	9
Passaic County	1
Union county	1
Warren County	1
Georgia	2
North Carolina	2
Florida	1
New York	1
Virginia	1
Arizona	1

What was your residence prior to your current living situation?

Fig. A.9. Number of Homeless Households by Prior Residence

Prior Residence	Number of Households
Emergency Shelter, or Emergency Hotel Voucher	25
Hotel/Motel Paid for Without Voucher	14
Place Not Meant for Human Habitation (On the Street, Bus,...	12
Safe Haven	4
Transitional Housing for Homeless Persons	9
Living with Family or Friends	83
Permanent Housing	36
Permanent Supportive Housing Program	3
Rooming House	7
Jail, Prison, or Juvenile Detention Facility	14
Psychiatric Hospital or Treatment Facility	8
Substance Abuse Treatment Facility/Detox	2

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

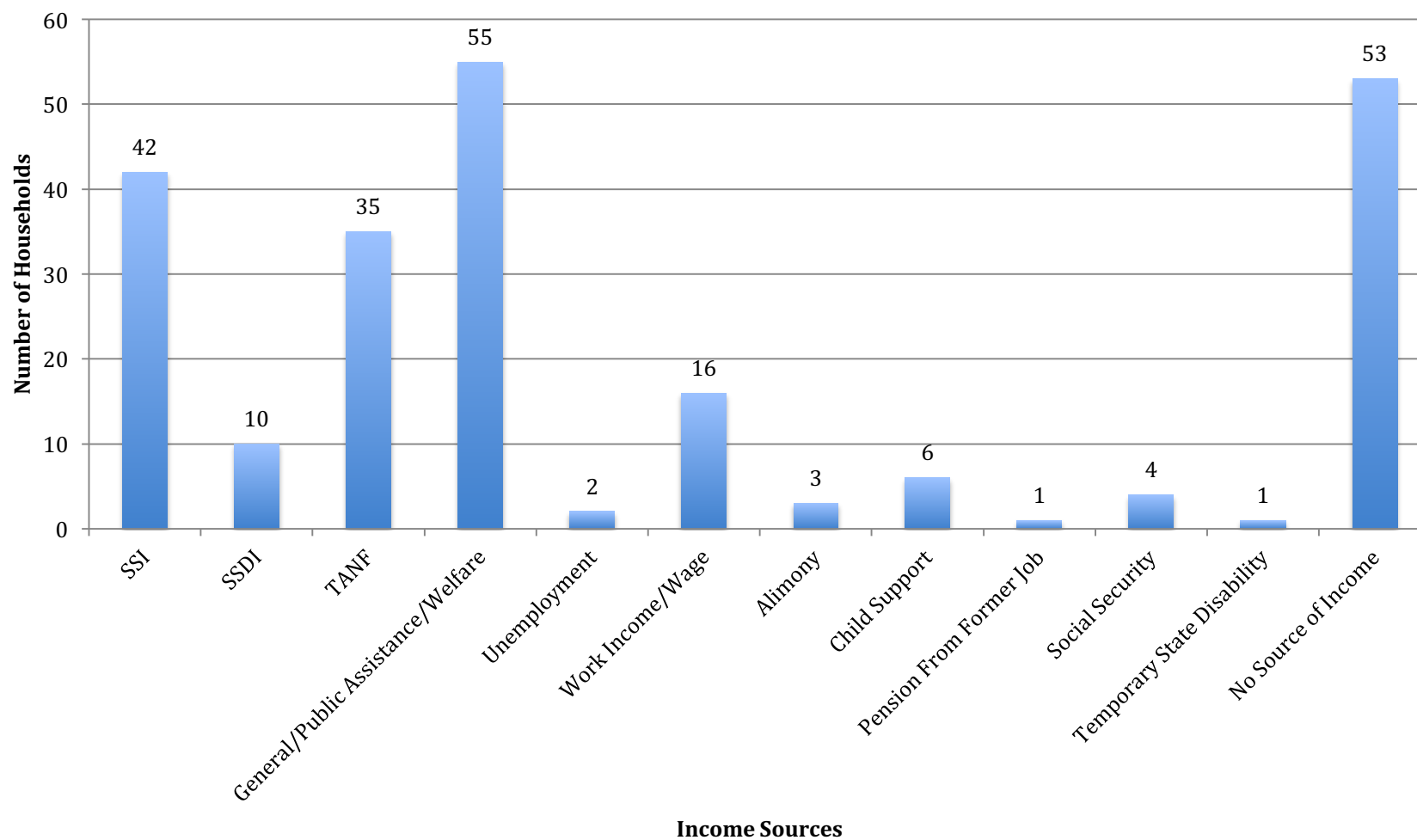## Fig. A. 10. Number of Households by Source of Cash Income

Fig. A. 11. Number of Households by Sources of Non-Cash Benefits

Chart: Number of Households (y-axis) by Non-Cash Benefits (x-axis)

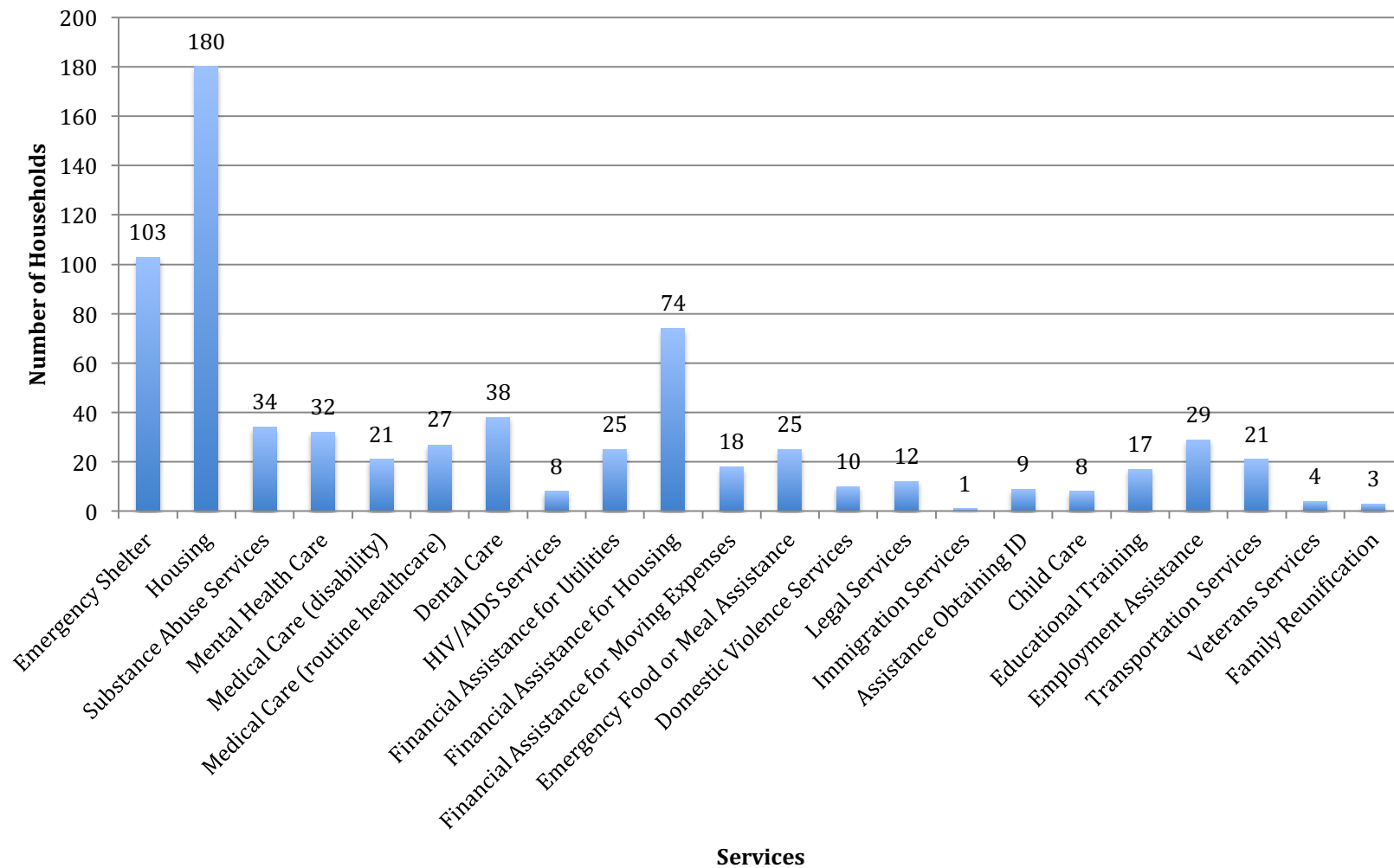| Non-Cash Benefit	Number of Households
Food Stamps/SNAP	137
Medicaid	145
Medicare	8
State Children's Health Insurance/FamilyCare	9
VA Benefits	1
WIC/Special Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children	12
TANF Child Care	23
TANF Transportation	23
Other TANF-Funded Service	6
Section 8/Public Housing/Ongoing Rental Assistance	2
Receiving NO governmental benefits	21

What is your monthly household income?

Fig. A.12. Number of Homeless Households by Monthly Income Range
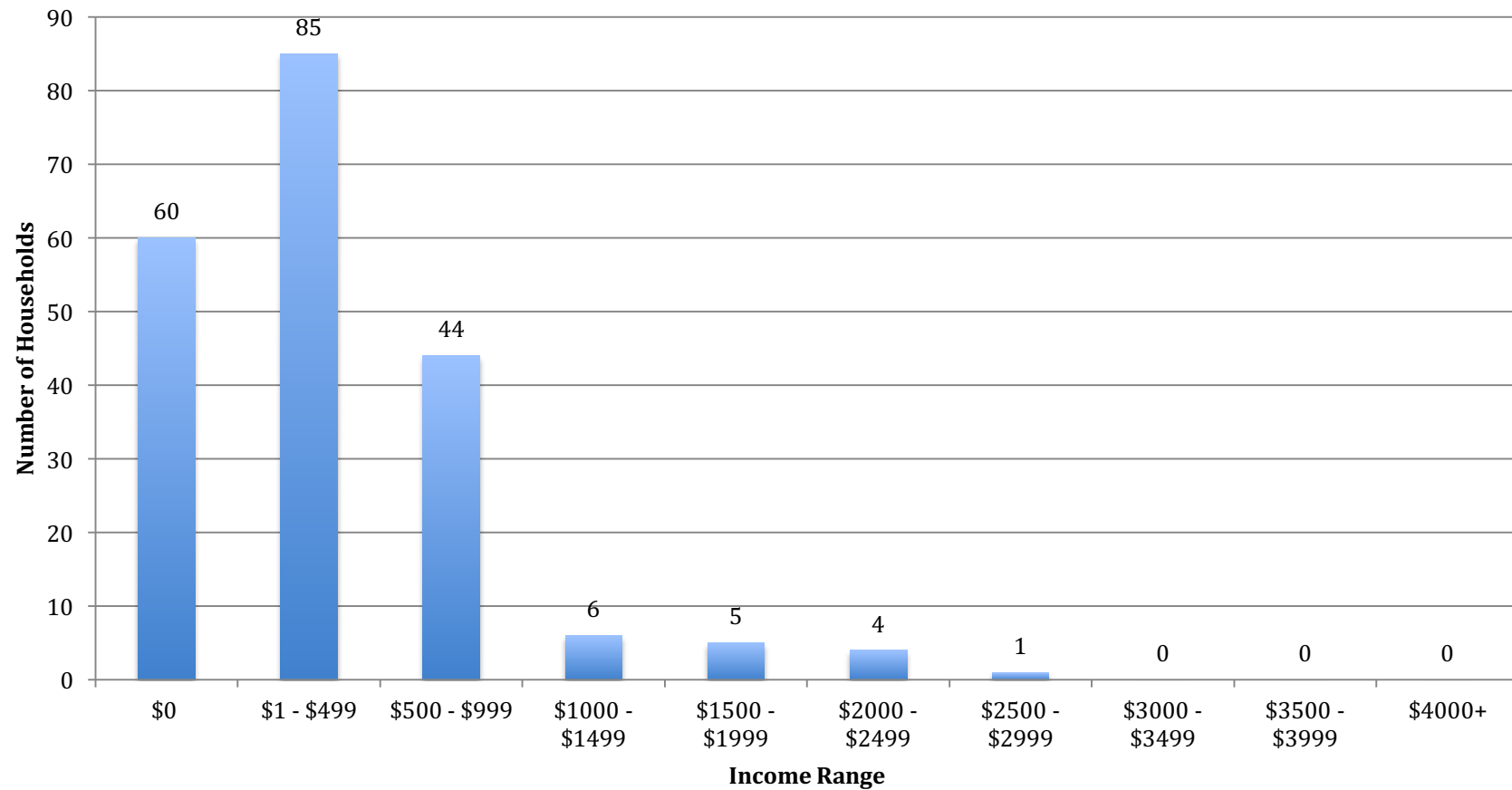
Would you, or anyone in your household, like to receive any of the following services?

Fig. A.13. Number of Homeless Households by Services Needed

Chart: Number of Households (y-axis, 0–200) by Services (x-axis)

- Emergency Shelter: 103
- Housing: 180
- Substance Abuse Services: 34
- Mental Health Care: 32
- Medical Care (disability): 21
- Medical Care (routine healthcare): 27
- Dental Care: 38
- HIV/AIDS Services: 8
- Financial Assistance for Utilities: 25
- Financial Assistance for Housing: 74
- Financial Assistance for Moving Expenses: 18
- Emergency Food or Meal Assistance: 25
- Domestic Violence Services: 10
- Legal Services: 12
- Immigration Services: 1
- Assistance Obtaining ID: 9
- Child Care: 8
- Educational Training: 17
- Employment Assistance: 29
- Transportation Services: 21
- Veterans Services: 4
- Family Reunification: 3

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

Fig. A.14. Number of Households by Cause of Homelessness