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HOUSING ASSOCIATES

NJ
2014
Counts!

Southern NJ CoC's 2014 Point-In-Time Count of the Homeless

January 28, 2014

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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 2014

NJ Counts 2014, 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 2014 Count reveals important demographic and other information about families and individuals who were homeless on the night of Tuesday, January 28th, 2014, 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 2014. Monarch would also like to specifically thank Bergen County for providing both Spanish and Korean translations of the 2014 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 2014 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, 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 2014 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. 2014 was not a HUD-required full count year.

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 2014 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.

This year marked the beginning of a new process for collecting survey data for New Jersey's PIT Count. The count of homeless persons who were sheltered on the night of January 28th, 2014 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 revised 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 2014 PIT Survey tool was updated to more closely mirror 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 by the fact that it is not a HUD-required full count year. This report includes comparison data from 2010 to 2014. 2010, 2012, and 2014 were not HUD required full reporting years while 2011 and 2013 were.

2. The winter of 2013 to 2014 was particularly cold, setting record low temperatures in parts of New Jersey. The night of the count, January 28, 2014, was cold enough to warrant a 'Code Blue' in many communities, which mandates that emergency warming stations or shelters be set-up for the unsheltered. While this means that many more people are able to sleep in a warm place, it may skew Point-In-Time data to show fewer unsheltered households than are actually present in communities on a regular basis.

3. 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, the numbers and percentages reported may not equal the total number of homeless respondents due to missing data. All numbers, percentages, and figures contained in this report are calculated based on the total number of actual responses, and do not represent null or missing values unless otherwise noted.

4. 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 28th, 2014 a total of 995 households, including 1,467 persons, were experiencing homelessness in Southern NJ CoC, according to the 2014 Point-In-Time Count.
- A total of 152 persons were identified as chronically homeless.
- 93 households, including 99 persons were unsheltered on the night of the count.

Total Homeless Population

On the night of January 28th, 2014, a total of 1,467 persons, in 995 households, were experiencing homelessness within Southern NJ CoC, which includes Camden, Gloucester and Cumberland Counties. This is an increase of 267 persons (26.2% from 2013). Southern NJ CoC had 11% of New Jersey's statewide homeless population in 2014.

Fig. 1. 5-Year Comparison of Total Homeless Population by Housing Situation
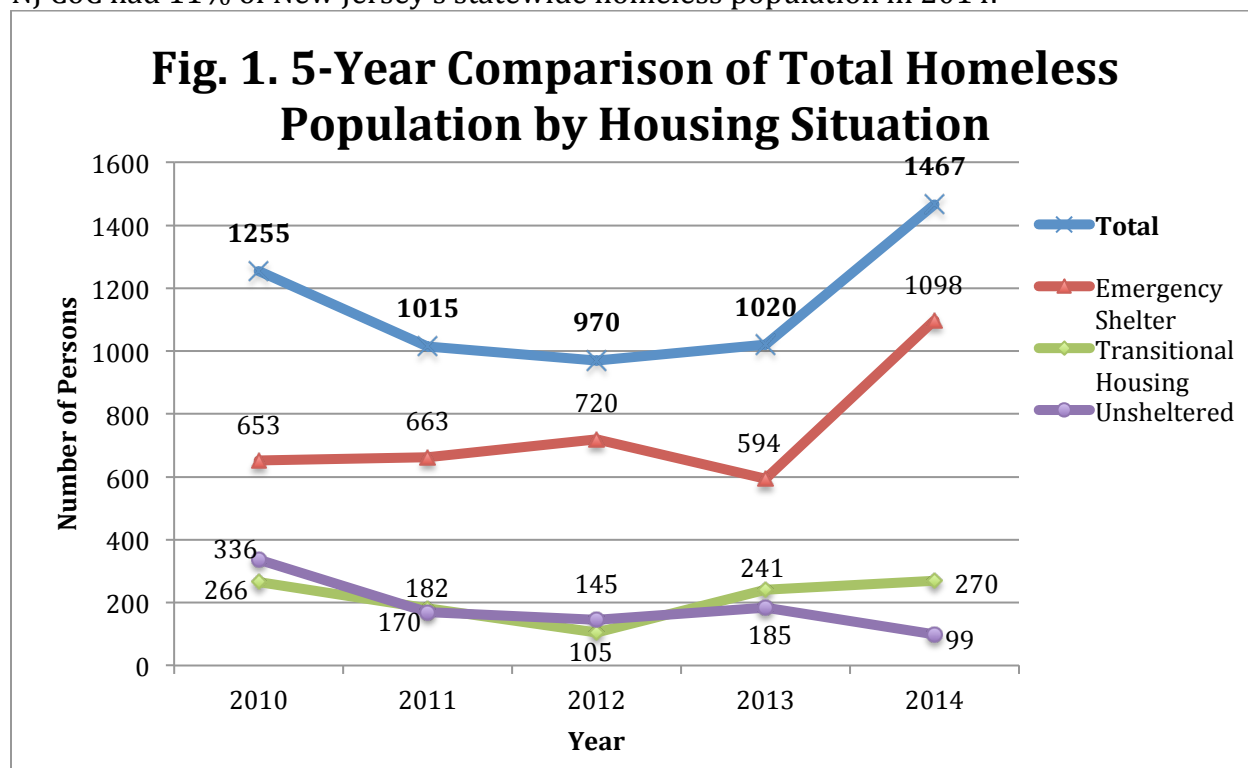
Figure 1 shows that, in 2014, 1098 homeless persons stayed in emergency shelters, 270 stayed in transitional housing, and 99 were living unsheltered on the night of the count. The number of those in emergency shelters grew by 36 persons (7.3%) in 2014. A large portion of the increase in numbers in 2014 can be attributed to the fact that clients who were receiving Temporary Rental Assistance (TRA) from the Board of Social Services were counted as homeless unlike past years. This was done in recognition that the Counties of the CoC utilize TRA as part of their homeless service system for homeless clients.

The total for transitional housing also increased, by 29 (12%). However there were 86 (46.5%) fewer unsheltered persons compared to 2013.

Figure 1 also shows that, over the past five years, the total number of homeless persons has been fluctuating in Southern NJ CoC. Since 2012, the overall number of homeless persons in Southern NJ CoC has risen by 497 persons (51%), however, it is only up by 212 persons (16.9%) over five years.

As Figure 2 shows, 16% of the homeless respondents in Southern NJ CoC in 2014 reported that their last permanent address prior to becoming homeless was outside of the 3 Counties.

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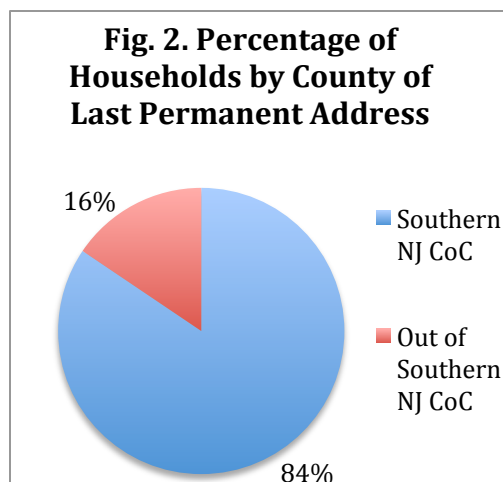
Homeless Families and Individuals

When reading the data regarding different types of homeless households, it is important for the reader to remember that, in this report, 'household' means "any group of persons who, if they were able to attain permanent housing, would choose to live together; and, shared the same sleeping arrangements on the night of the count." 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 995 homeless households counted in the Southern NJ CoC in 2014, 217 (21.8%) were families with at least one child under the age of 18 and one adult. These families included 660 persons, 409 children under age 18, and 251 adults. The average family size was 3 persons. Figure 3 shows that 199 families were staying in emergency shelter (91.7%), and 17 were in transitional housing programs for the

Fig. 3. Homeless Households by Housing Situation
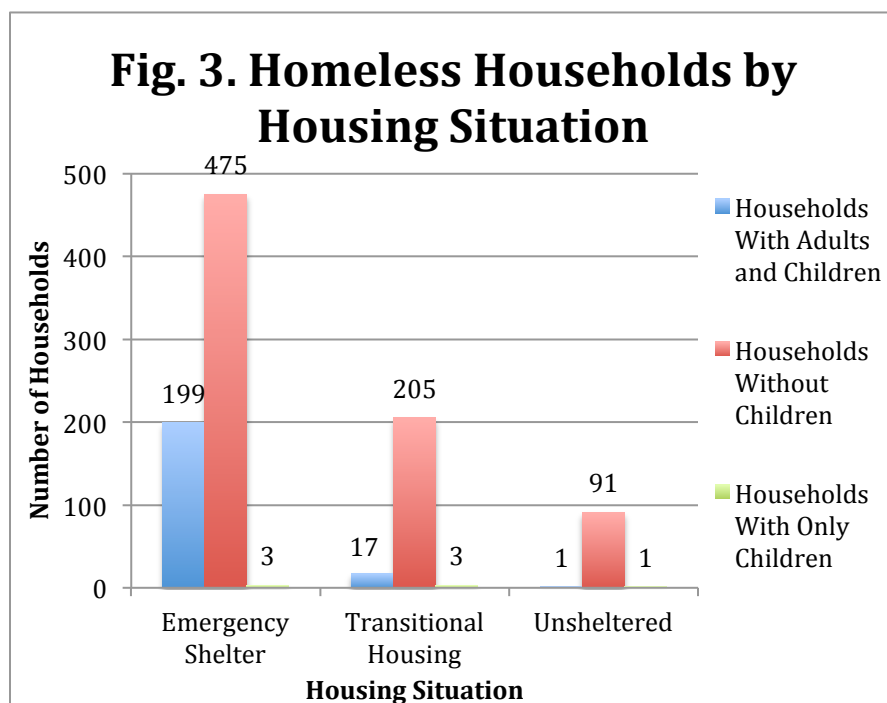
homeless (7.8%). There was 1 unsheltered family, consisting of 1 adult and 3 children. In 2014, Southern NJ CoC counted 80 more homeless families than in 2013, an increase of 58%.

77.5% (771) of the homeless households in the Southern NJ CoC were households without children under 18, and they were composed of 800 adult individuals. 475 (61.6%) of these adult-only households were staying in emergency shelters, 205 (26.6%) were in transitional housing, and 91 (11.8%) were unsheltered. Southern NJ CoC has seen the number of adult-only homeless households decrease by 205 (36.2%) since 2013.

There were 7 households with only children under 18 years old reported on the night of the count in the Southern NJ CoC in 2014. This is 1 (16.7%) more youth household than in 2013, but there were only 7 youth in these households; 30% fewer than counted in 2013.

Demographics

Fig. 4. Age Range by Housing Situation
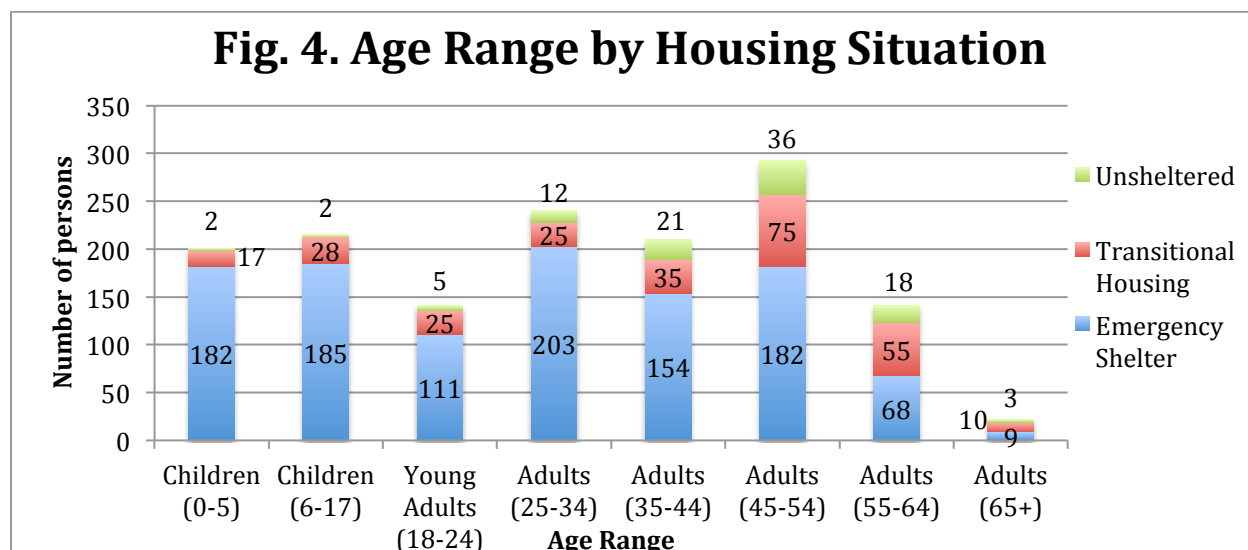
There were a total of 141 (9.6%) homeless adults between 18 and 24 years old, 906 (61.8%) adults over age 24, and 416 (28.4%) children under 18 years old experiencing homelessness on the night of the count. Figure 4 shows that the majority of homeless children who were under the age of 18 were between 6 and 17 years of age (215, 51.7%). The age range most represented is adults between 45 and 54 (293 persons, 32.3%), which accounted for 20% of the overall homeless population as well.

56.3% of homeless respondents were male, and 43.7% were female.

54.6% of respondents identified their race as Black or African-American, making that the largest racial subgroup of homeless persons reported. The next largest group self-identified as White (40.9%), followed by those identifying as Multi-Racial (1.4%), American Indian or Alaska Native (0.9%), and Asian (0.4%). With regard to ethnicity, 14.9% of respondents identified themselves as Hispanic.
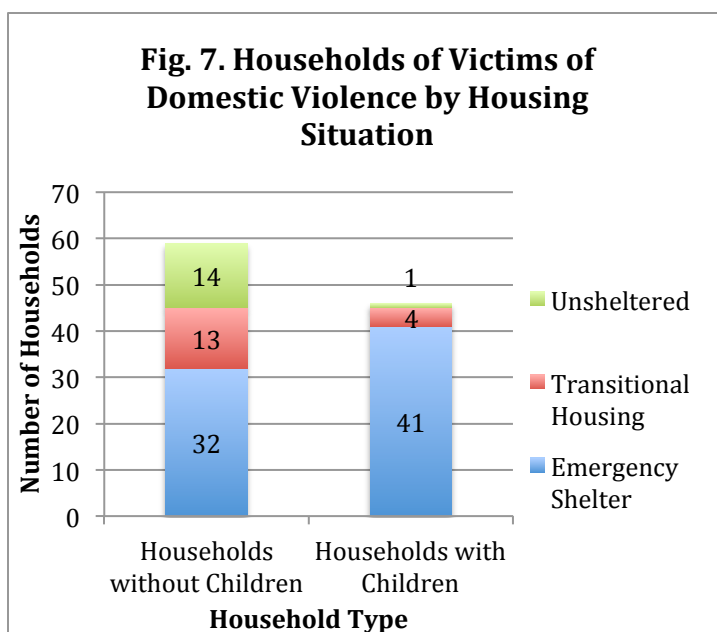
Disabilities

Figure 5 illustrates that 44% of homeless persons reported having some type of disability. 61.2% of adults 18 or older reported some type of disability compared to 7% of children. Figure 6 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.

Among disabled adults, 51.3% reported mental health issues, making this the most prevalent disability (30% of all homeless adults). More disabled homeless children reported chronic health conditions (44.8%) than any other disability.

Fig. 5. Percentage of Population with a Disability

44%

56%

■ Disabled   ■ No Disability

Fig. 6. Number of Persons by Disability Type

326
292
210
199
45
9

■ Mental Health Issue
■ Substance Abuse Disorders
■ Physical Disability
■ Developmental Disability
■ Chronic Health Condition
■ HIV/AIDS

Number of Persons
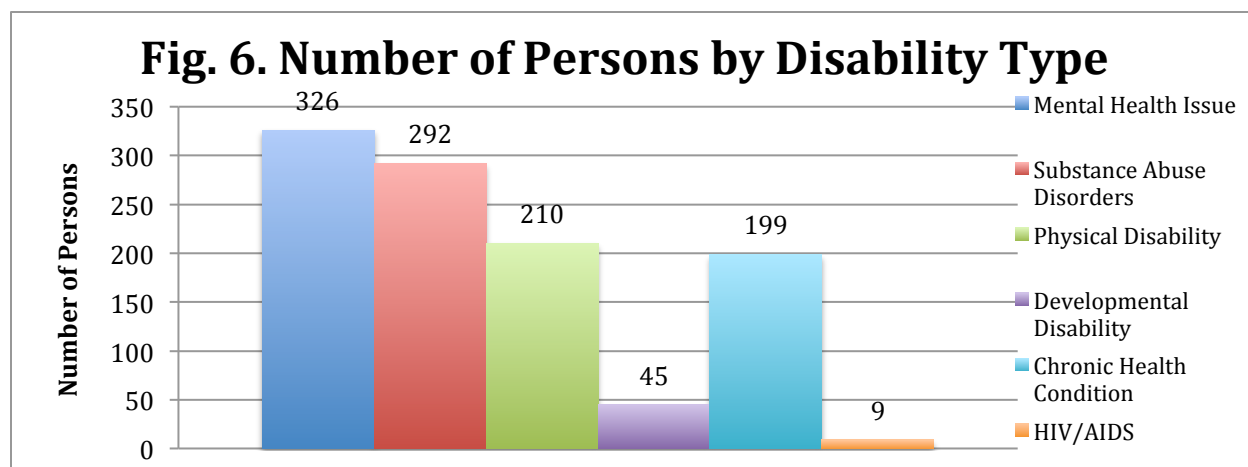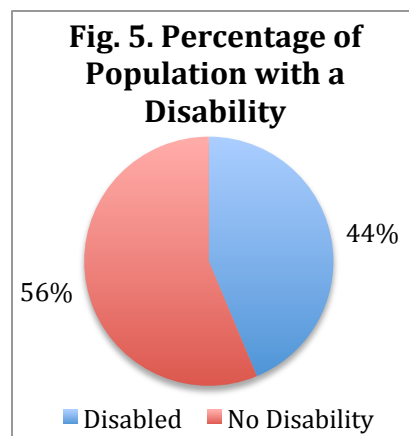
Victims of Domestic Violence

On the night of the count, in the Southern NJ CoC, 105 homeless households (10.5% of all households) reported having a victim of domestic violence. This means that a total of 199 homeless persons who were members of those households were impacted. The slim majority (56.2%) of these households were adult-only households. 46 victim families with adults and children were also counted; 1 was unsheltered, 4 were in transitional housing, and 41 in emergency shelters.

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

Number of Households

Households without Children	Households with Children
14	1
13	4
32	41

■ Unsheltered
■ Transitional Housing
■ Emergency Shelter

Household Type

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 2015. Many communities in New Jersey have also been working hard to end homelessness among our country's servicemen and women.

Fig. 8. Number of Veterans by Housing Situation
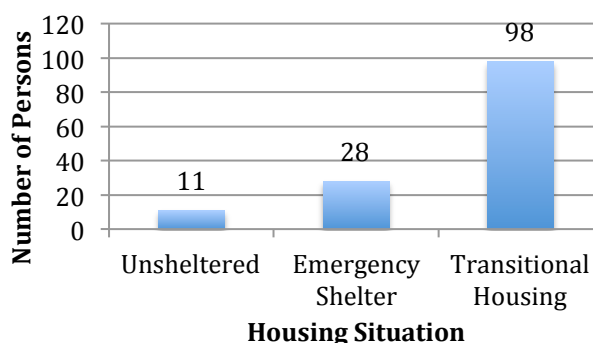
137 homeless veterans, in 137 households, were counted on the night of the count, 96 (134%) more than in 2013. 136 were in adult-only households, while 1 was in a family with adults and children. The largest contingent of homeless veterans was found to be staying in transitional housing (71.5%). In addition, 11 veterans were unsheltered (8%), and 28 were in emergency shelters (20.5%).

Veterans experiencing homelessness in the Southern NJ CoC on the night of the count were predominantly male (96.4%), and the most common racial background identified among them (88 veterans, 40.1%) was Black or African American; 46 (33.6%) identified as White. Figure 9 Illustrates the percentage of homeless veterans by age range.

Fig. 9. Percentage of Veterans by Age Range
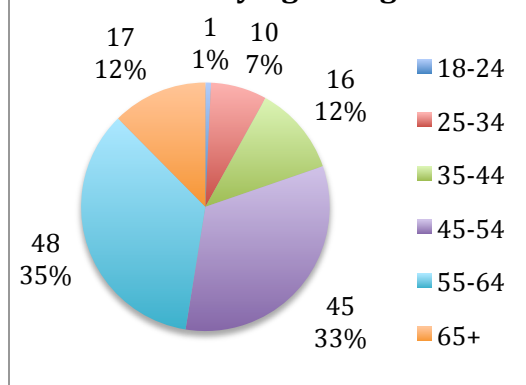
8 veterans in adult-only households reported being victims of domestic violence. 110 of the 137 veterans, 80.3%, reported having some kind of disability. The two most common disabilities among these were substance abuse disorders and mental health issues, which affected 67 (48.9%) and 56 veterans (40.9%), respectively. 47 more (34.3%) reported chronic health conditions, and 18% reported physical disabilities. 8 (5.8%) reported having a developmental disability and 1 had HIV/AIDS (0.7%). The type of service that homeless veterans sought the most was emergency shelter (83.9%).

Income and Benefits

Among all homeless households on the night of the count, 30.7% had no source of income and 2.6% reported receiving earned cash income The three most common sources of non-earned cash income among respondent households were General Assistance (GA), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and SSI with 24.1%, 20%, and 12.2% receiving each, respectively.

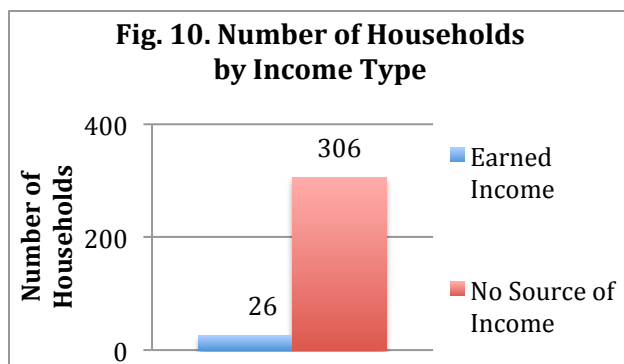**Fig. 10. Number of Households by Income Type**

Figure 11 shows the average monthly income for all homeless households by housing situation. 22.7% of respondent households reported receiving no kind of non-cash benefit on the night of the count. Food Stamps, or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), was the top reported non-cash benefit, and was received by 52% of households. 41.6% were receiving Medicaid.

Figure 11. Average Monthly Income For Households by Housing Situation			
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered
Average for All Households	$325.47	$305.40	$297.15

Length of Homelessness

As Figure 12 shows, more than one fourth of homeless households (298 households, 30%) reported that their most recent, continuous episode of homelessness had lasted more than 1 year, making this the most common response. 188 households, or 18.9%, reported being homeless between 3 months and 1 day and 6 months.
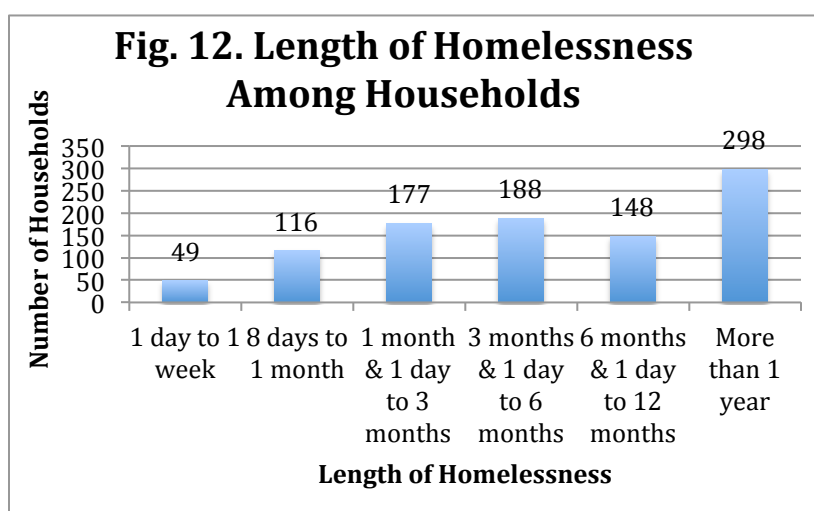
Fig. 12. Length of Homelessness Among Households

Cause of Homelessness

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more respondents attributed their homelessness to loss or reduction of job income or benefits (225 households, 22.6%) than any other cause. As Figure 13 shows, the next most common factor reported was being asked to leave a shared residence (21.9%) followed by eviction (9.1%).

When respondents were asked 'what was your residence prior to your current living situation?' more said they were staying or living with friends or family (28.5%) than any

other type of residence. 23.4% reported residing in permanent prior to their current living situation.

Fig. 13. Cause of Homelessness by Households

Number of Households (y-axis)

- Release from prison/jail: 93
- Asked to leave shared residence: 218
- Loss or reduction in job income/benefits: 225
- Drug/alcohol abuse: 105
- Relocation: 28
- Eviction: 91
- Domestic violence: 38
- Natural disaster: 6
- Illness/injury: 40
- Release from psychiatric facility: 6
- Other: 67
- Release from hospital: 8
- Foreclosure: 9

Cause of Homelessness (x-axis)

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.

In 2010, USICH established the goal of ending chronic homelessness by 2015. 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

141 households, made up of 152 persons, were chronically homeless in the Southern NJ CoC, according to the 2014 Point-In-Time Count. This is an increase of 40 persons (35.7%) from 2013. The rate of chronic homelessness as a percentage of overall homelessness decreased from 11% to 10.3%.

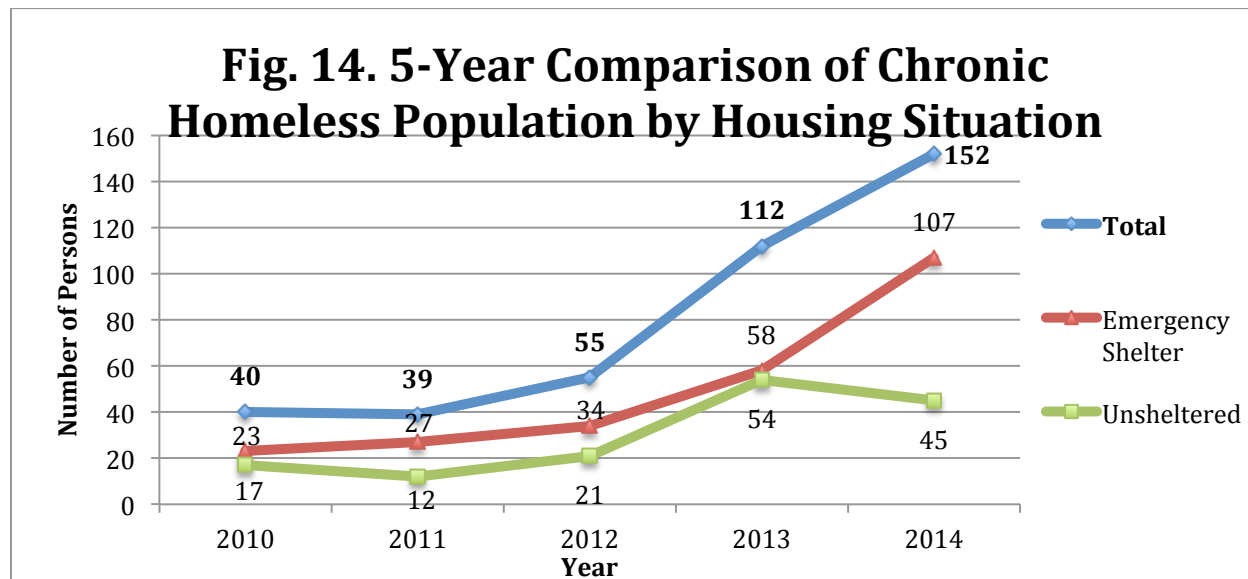Fig. 14. 5-Year Comparison of Chronic Homeless Population by Housing Situation

Figure 14 shows the number of chronically homeless respondents who were in emergency shelters or living unsheltered within Southern NJ CoC from 2010 to 2014. Over the past five years the total of chronically homeless persons has trended upward (by 112 persons, 180%), and has risen year over year since 2011. Since 2013, however, the number of unsheltered chronically homeless persons has decreased 16.7%, from 54 to 45 persons.

Families and Individuals

In the interest of giving an accurate comparison, the total number of chronically homeless households and persons in the previous section reflects all the information required for submission to HUD for this subpopulation, including the total number of chronically homeless adult individuals and the total number of persons in chronically homeless families. However, this number excludes any adults who were part of an adult-only household with a chronically homeless individual, any youth in youth-only households, and any chronically homeless person who did not give a response for their age. Therefore, the analysis below also includes data for 3 adult individuals who were part of adult-only households, bringing the total number of chronically homeless persons to 154, but keeping the number of chronically homeless households to 141.

Of the 141 chronically homeless households counted in 2014, 7 (5%) were households with at least 1 adult and 1 child. All of these families were staying in emergency shelters on the night of the count. The total of 16 chronically homeless persons, including 8 children were counted in families; the same number of persons in families that was counted in 2013.

Fig. 15. Chronically Homeless Households Type by Housing Situation

134 (95%) of the chronically homeless households were made up of only adults. There were 138 persons in these households. 45 (33.6%) of these households were living unsheltered, a decrease from 51 in 2013 (11.8% decrease). 89 (66.4%) chronically homeless adult-only households were in emergency shelters on the night of the count, an increase of 98% from 2013's number.
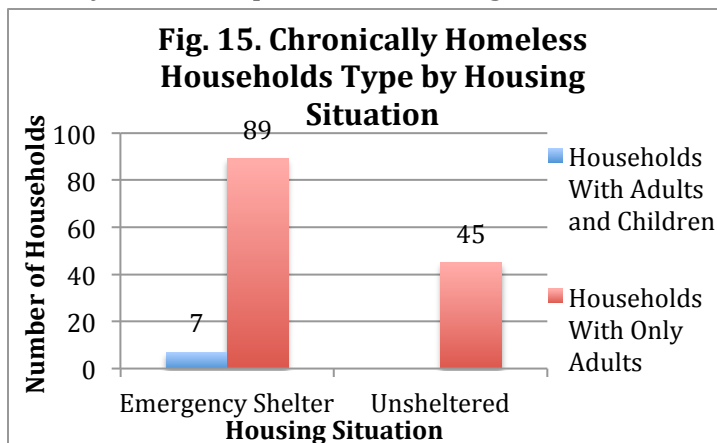
Demographics

Of the 154 total chronically homeless persons, 2 (1.3%) were between 18 and 24 years old, and 8 (5.2%) were children 17 or younger. The largest number of chronically homeless persons (55, 35.7%) in a single category fell between the ages of 45 and 54 years of age. Figure 16 shows that 3 (1.9%) chronically homeless adults were over age 65.

Fig. 16. Chronically Homeless Age Range by Housing Situation
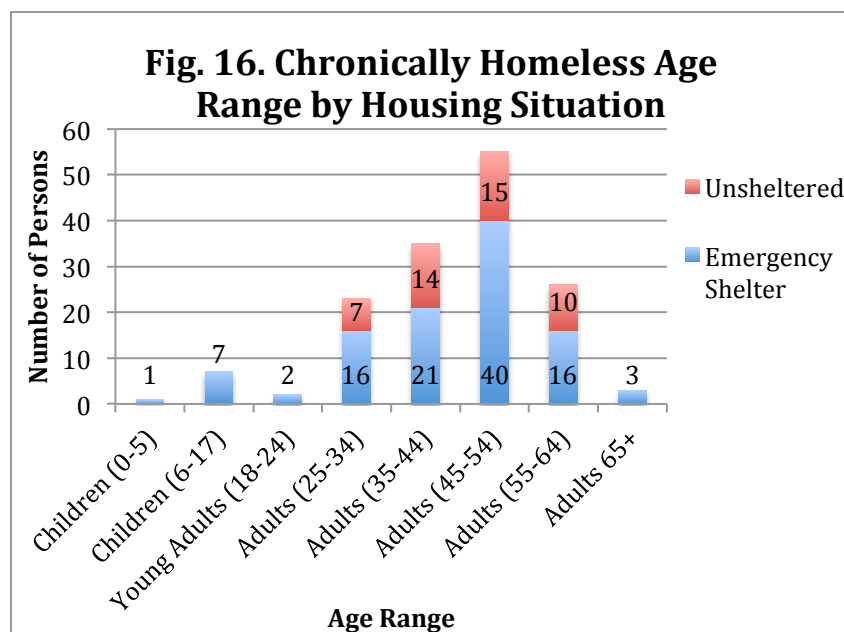
69.5% of chronically homeless respondents were male, and 30.5% were female.

The largest racial subgroup of homeless persons reported their race as Black or African-American (50.6%). The next largest group self-identified as White (41.6%), followed by persons identifying as Multi-Racial (1.9%), Asian (0.6%), and as American Indian or Alaska Native (0.6%). With regard to ethnicity, 19% of chronically homeless persons identified themselves as Hispanic.

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

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

Values shown: 74, 82, 53, 15, 47, 2
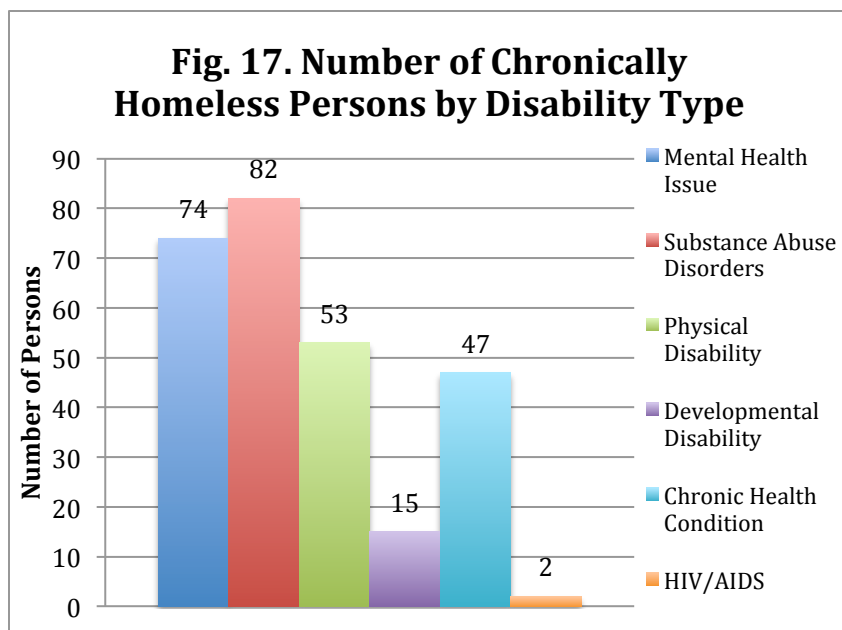
Disabilities

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 substance abuse disorders (53.2%) and mental health issues (48%). The complete numbers of reported disabilities among the chronically homeless can be seen in Figure 17.

Subpopulations

On the night of the count, 20 chronically homeless persons in the Southern NJ CoC reported being victims of domestic violence (13%). 9 (45%) of these victims were staying in emergency shelters and 11 (55%) were unsheltered.

There were 18 veteran individuals identified as chronically homeless on the night of the count (11.7%).

Income and Benefits

Among 141 chronically homeless households on the night of the count, 32.6% reported receiving no type of cash income. Figure 18 shows the sources of income received. The most common source of cash income among all chronically homeless respondents was General Assistance, which was received by 23.4%. None of the households reported earned income.

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

Legend:
- SSI
- SSDI
- TANF
- General Assistance
- Private Disability Insurance
- Worker's Compensation
- Child Support
- Social Security
- Veteran's Disability
- Veteran's Pension
- No Source of Income

Values shown: 29, 9, 6, 33, 2, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 46
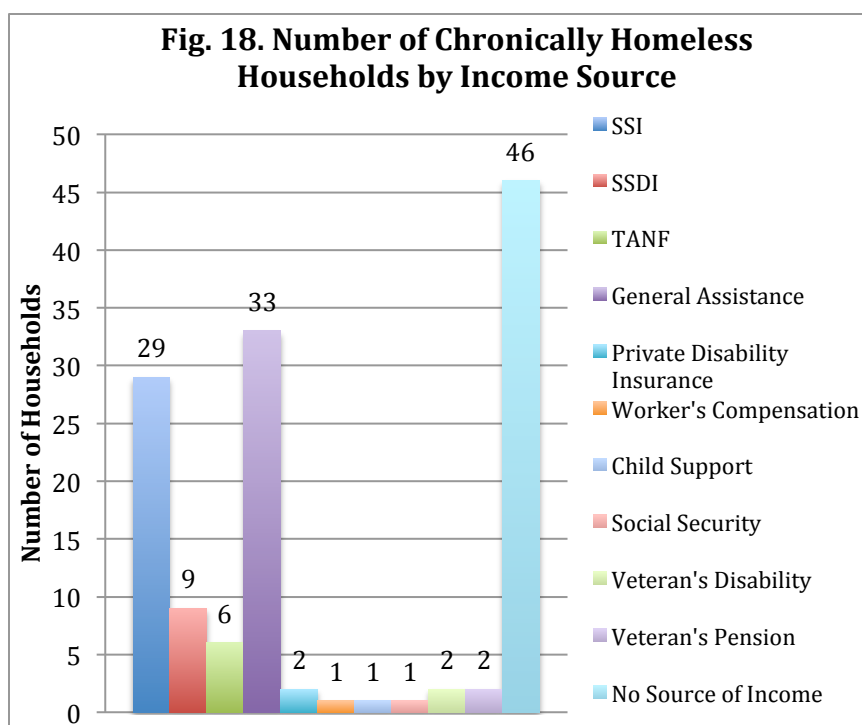
21.3% of chronically homeless persons reported they were not receiving any type of non-cash benefit on the night of the count. Food Stamps (SNAP) and Medicaid were the top benefits among this population with 39.7% and 26.9% receiving each, respectively.

Length of Homelessness

Figure 19 shows that 106 chronically homeless households (75.2%) reported that their most recent, continuous episode of homelessness had lasted for more than 1 year. This was the most common answer by far.
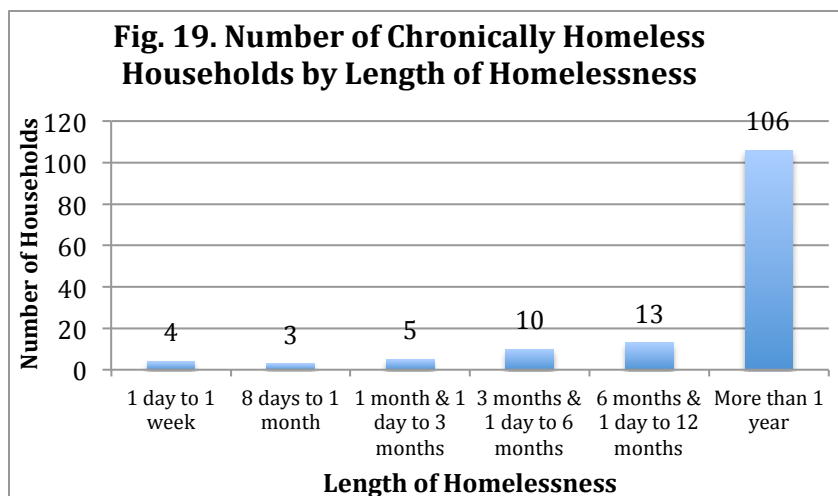
Fig. 19. Number of Chronically Homeless Households by Length of Homelessness

Cause of Homelessness

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more chronically homeless respondents cited a loss or reduction of job income or benefits (21.3%) than any other. As Figure 20 shows, other common factors reported included drug or alcohol abuse (18.4%) and being asked to leave a shared residence (15.6%).

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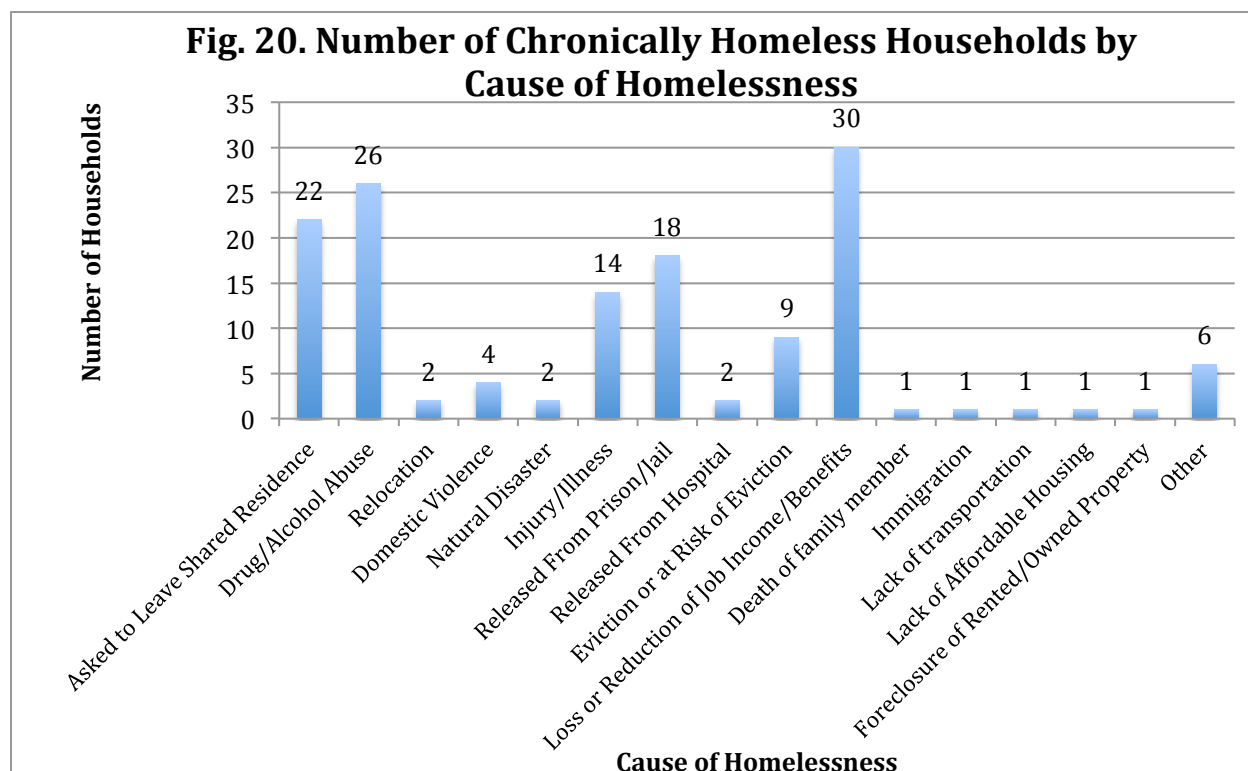
V. Findings for the Unsheltered Homeless

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

93 households, made up of 99 adult individuals, were living unsheltered within the Southern NJ CoC, according to the 2014 Point-In-Time Count. This is a decrease of 72 households (43.6%) and 86 persons (38.9%) from 2013.

Fig. 21. 5 Year Comparison of Unsheltered Population
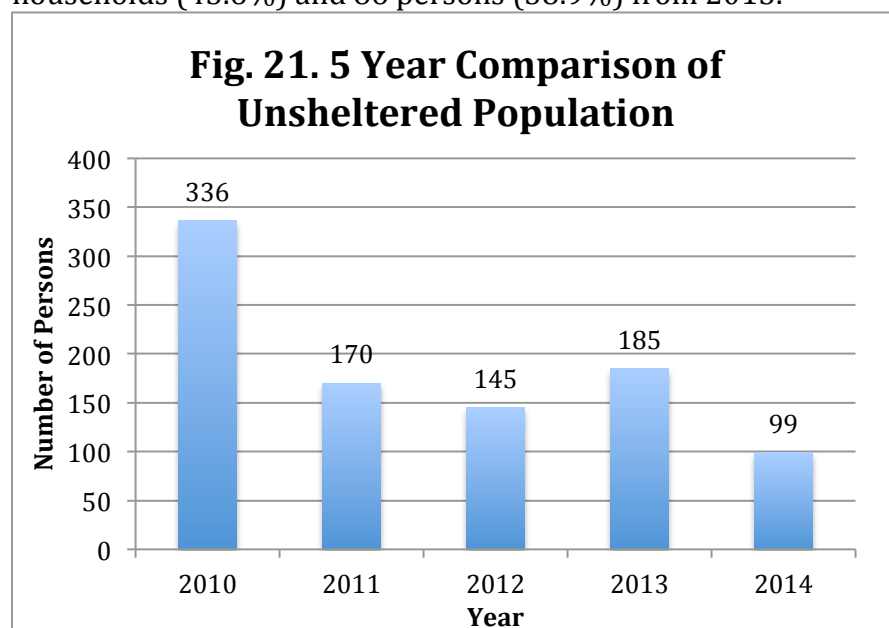
Figure 21 shows the number of unsheltered respondents from 2010 to 2014. Over the past five years, while the numbers have fluctuated, the total number of unsheltered persons has decreased overall. Since 2010, the number of unsheltered homeless persons has gone down by 70.5%, and has been declining for the past two years.

Families and Individuals

Of the 93 unsheltered households counted in 2014, 1 (1.1%) was a household with at least 1 adult and 3 children on the night of the count. This represents a drop of 90% in the number of unsheltered families and of 86.7% in the number of persons in families from 2013.

91 unsheltered households (97.8%) were adult-only households, and they included 94 persons. This is a reduction of 64 (42.3%) households from 2013.

1 youth-only household, with 1 youth, was unsheltered in 2013, up from 0 a year ago.

Demographics

The largest portion of the 99 unsheltered persons counted in 2014, 36.3%, was between 45 and 54 years old, followed by those between 35 and 44 (21.2%). There were 5 unsheltered persons between 18 and 25 (5%). 3% were 65 or older.
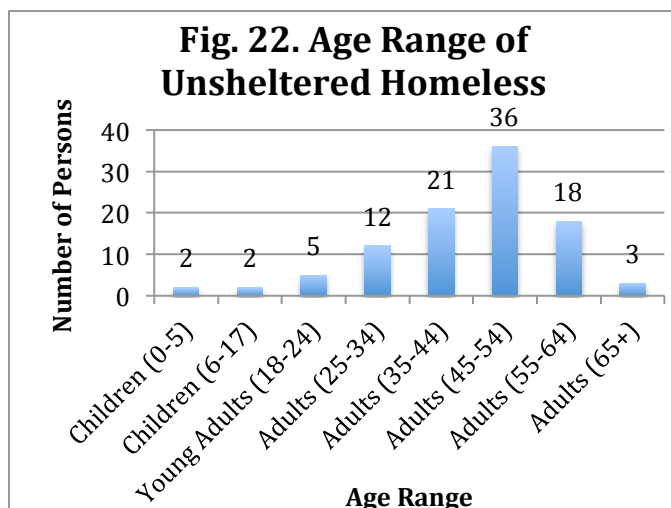
74.5% of unsheltered persons were male and 25.5% were female. 48.5% identified their race as White and 40.4% identified as Black or African-American. 5% identified as Multi-Racial. 24.2% of respondents identified their ethnicity as Hispanic.

Fig. 22. Age Range of Unsheltered Homeless

Disabilities

63 of the 99 unsheltered persons (63.6%) reported having some kind of disability. The disabilities most commonly identified were substance abuse disorders (35.5%) and mental health issues (32.3%). The complete numbers of reported disabilities among the unsheltered can be seen in Figure 23.

Fig. 23. Number of Unsheltered Persons by Disability Type
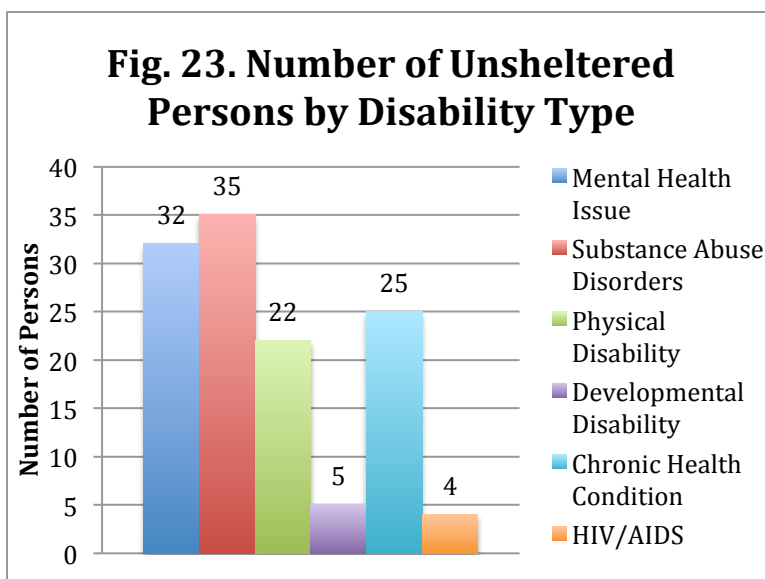
Subpopulations

On the night of the count, 15 unsheltered homeless persons in Southern NJ CoC reported being victims of domestic violence. All of these were persons in adult-only households.

There were 11 unsheltered veterans identified on the night of the count, the same number as was counted in 2013.

Income and Benefits

Among all the unsheltered households on the night of the count, 40 (43%) reported having no source of cash income. The average monthly income among unsheltered househol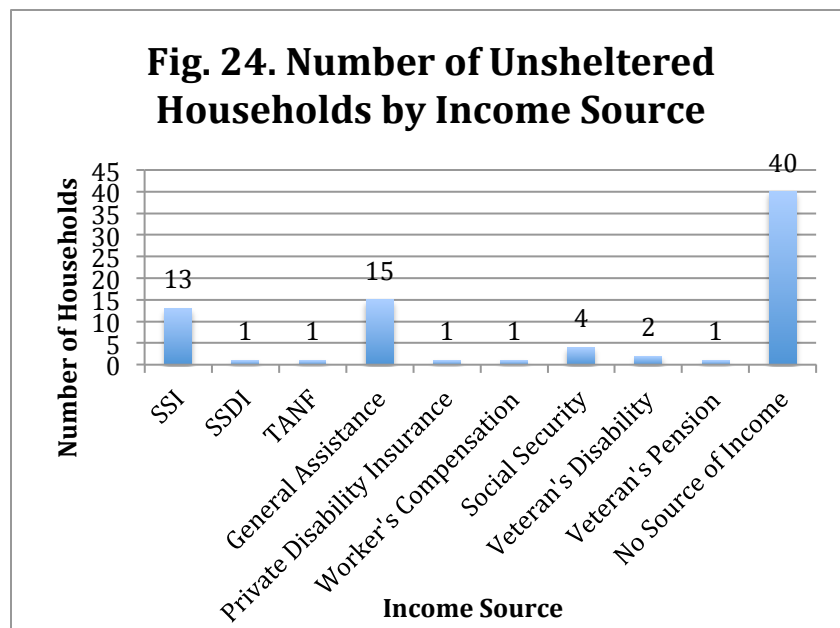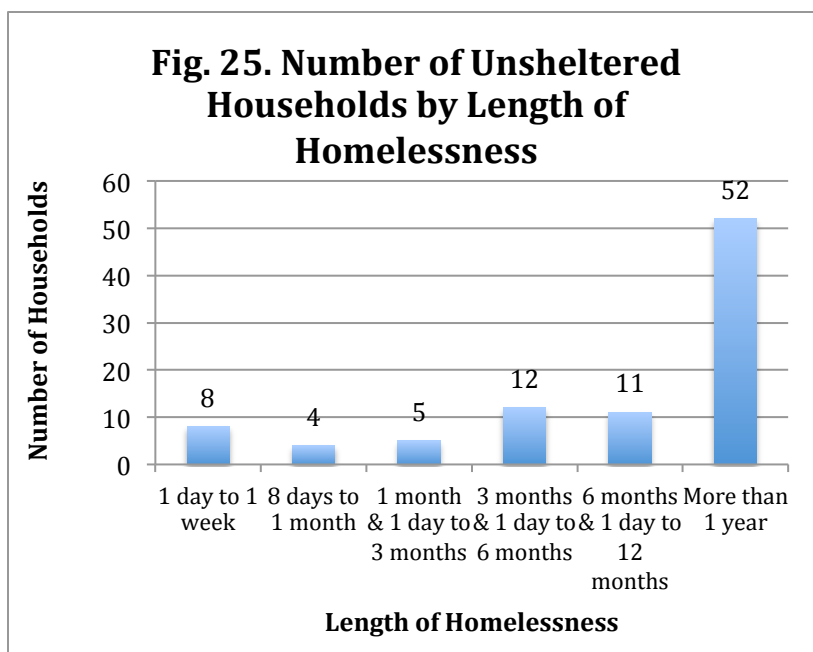ds was approximately $326. 16% of unsheltered households received General Assistance, making it the most common source of income followed by SSI (14%). Figure 24 shows all the sources of income received.

Fig. 24. Number of Unsheltered Households by Income Source

Number of Households (y-axis, 0–45)

- SSI: 13
- SSDI: 1
- TANF: 1
- General Assistance: 15
- Private Disability Insurance: 1
- Worker's Compensation: 1
- Social Security: 4
- Veteran's Disability: 2
- Veteran's Pension: 1
- No Source of Income: 40

Income Source

10 unsheltered households (10.8%) 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 non-cash benefit among this group, with 14% and 5.4% receiving each of these benefits, respectively. In addition, 4.3% reported receiving Medicare.

Length of Homelessness

As shown in Figure 25, more unsheltered homeless respondents reported that their households' most recent, continuous episode of homelessness had lasted for over a year than any other length of time (55.9%). 13% of households reported they had been homeless between 3 months and 6 months.

Fig. 25. Number of Unsheltered Households by Length of Homelessness

Number of Households (y-axis, 0–60)

- 1 day to 1 week: 8
- 8 days to 1 month: 4
- 1 month & 1 day to 3 months: 5
- 3 months & 1 day to 6 months: 12
- 6 months & 1 day to 12 months: 11
- More than 1 year: 52

Length of Homelessness

Cause of Homelessness

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more unsheltered respondents said loss or reduction of job income or benefits (25.8%) than any other factor. As Figure 26 shows, other common factors reported included being asked to leave a shared residence (18.3%), drug or alcohol abuse (16.1%) and release from prison or jail (12.9%).

Fig. 26. Unsheltered Households by Cause of Homelessness
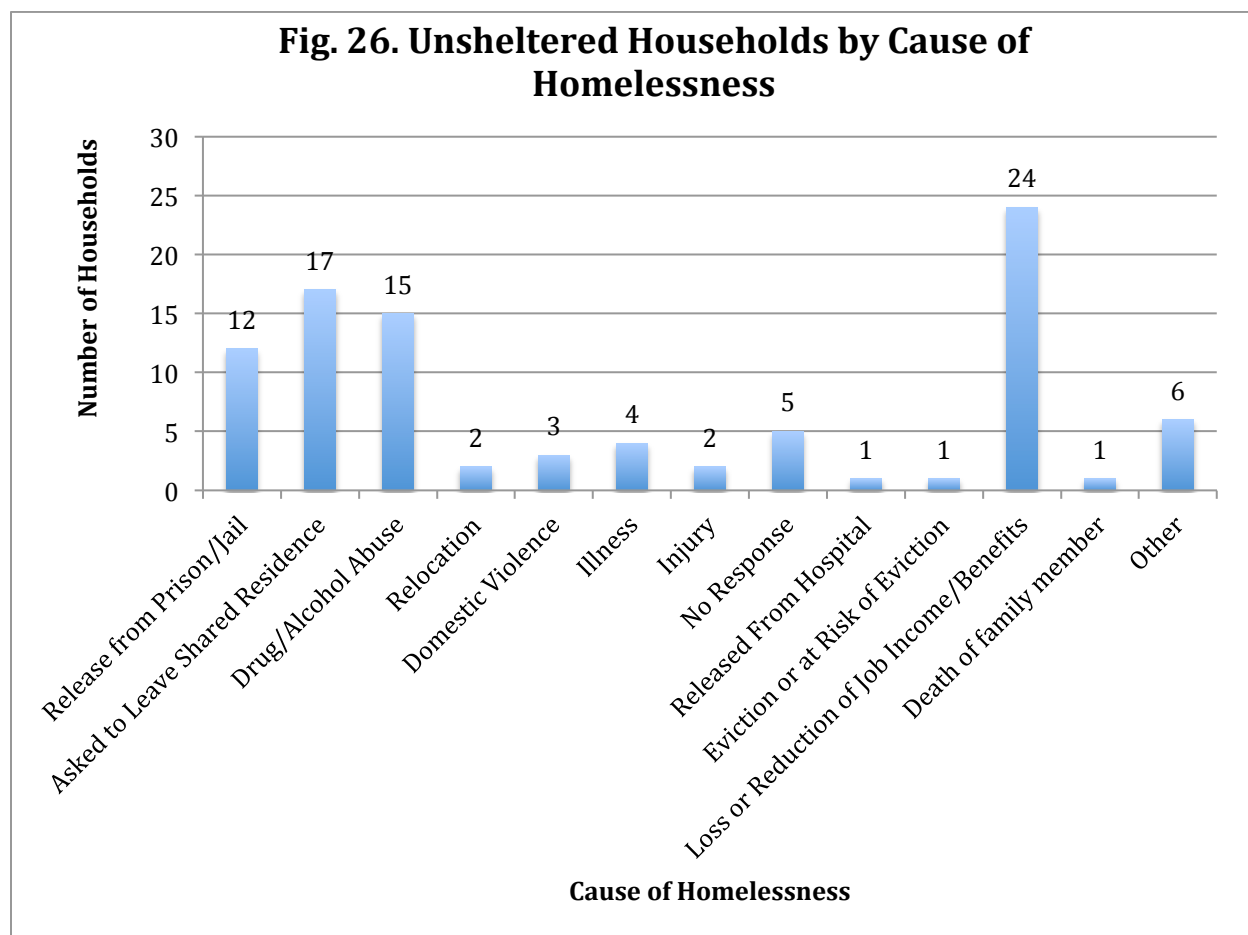
VI. Appendix

Where did you spend the night of Tuesday, January 28, 2014?

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

Legend:
- Total Persons
- Total Households

Housing Type	Total Persons	Total Households
Street	99	93
Emergency Shelter	1098	677
Transitional Housing	270	225
Doubled Up	210	144
Permanent Housing	161	117
Other	94	73

Y-axis: Number of Persons/Households
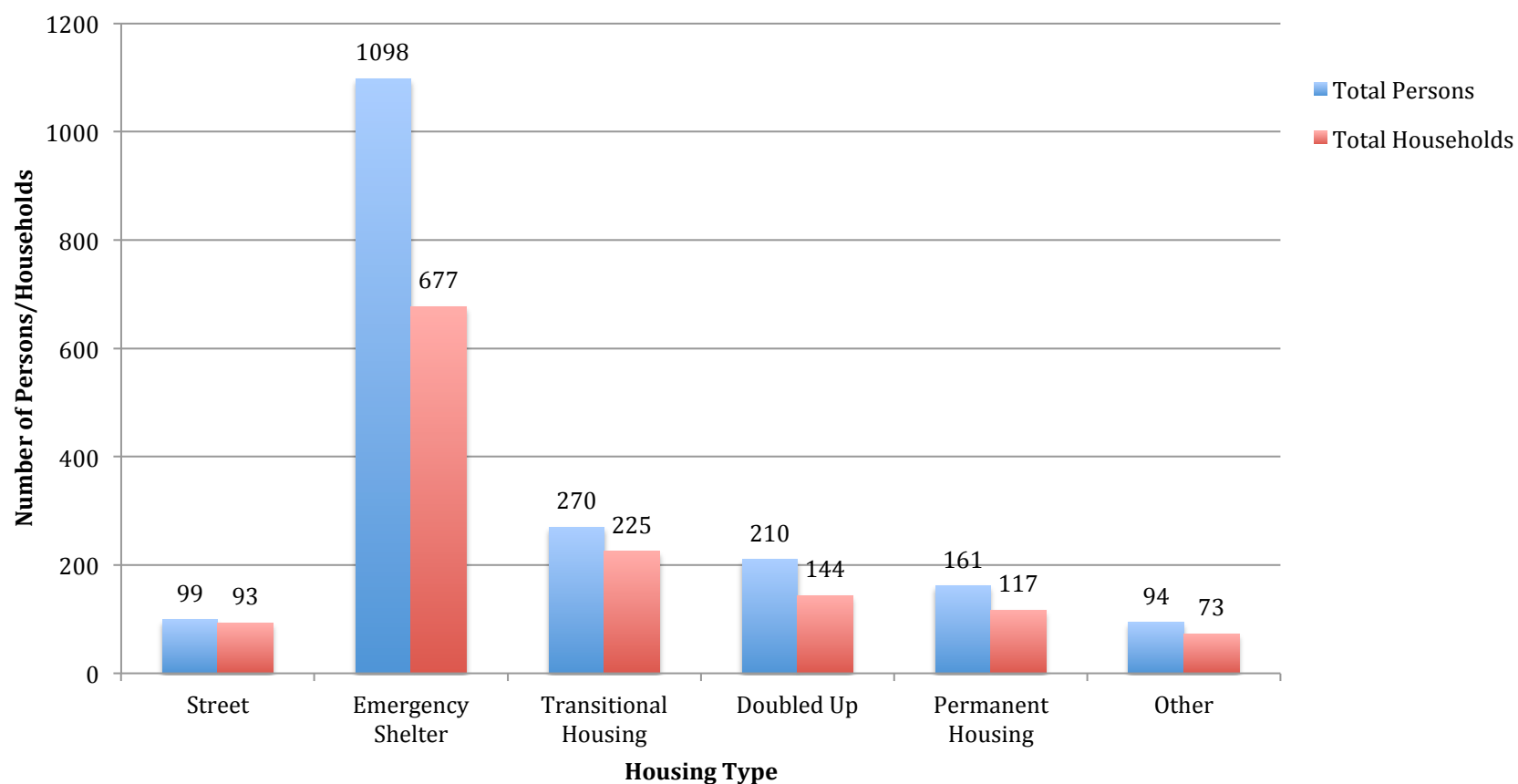
How long have you been in your current living situation?

Fig. A.2. Homeless Housholds by Length of Homelessness and Housing Type

Number of Households (y-axis), Length of Homelessness (x-axis)

Legend:
- Emergency Shelter (blue)
- Transitional Housing (red)
- Unsheltered (green)

Length of Homelessness	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered
1 day to 1 week	37	4	8
8 days to 1 month	83	29	4
1 month & 1 day to 3 months	133	39	5
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	116	60	12
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	97	40	11
More than 1 year	193	53	52

Who was homeless with you on the night of January 28th?

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

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

Number of Persons (y-axis)

Legend:
- Emergency Shelter
- Transitional Housing
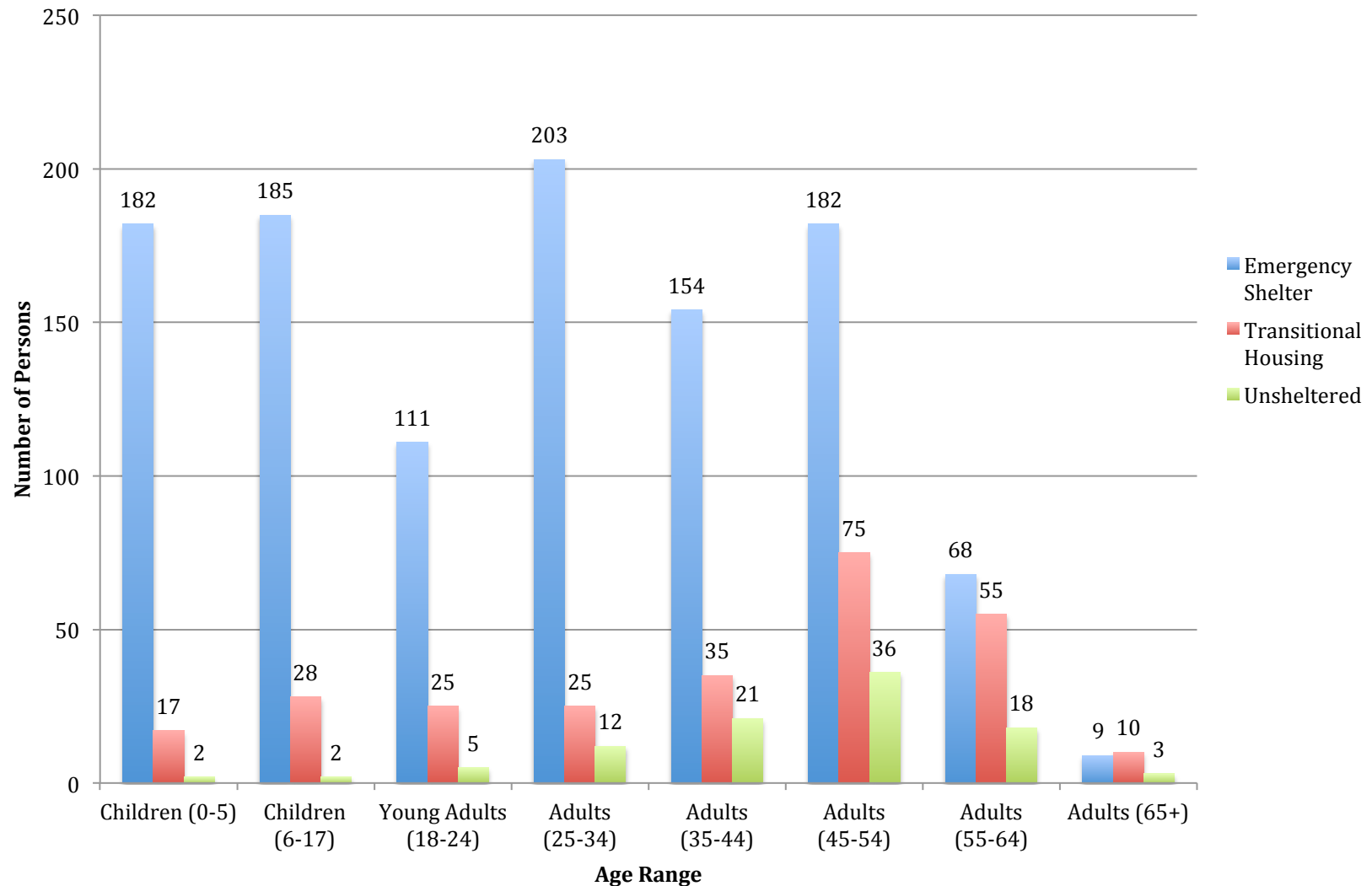- Unsheltered

Male: 559 (Emergency Shelter), 191 (Transitional Housing), 73 (Unsheltered)
Female: 535 (Emergency Shelter), 79 (Transitional Housing), 25 (Unsheltered)

Gender (x-axis): Male, Female
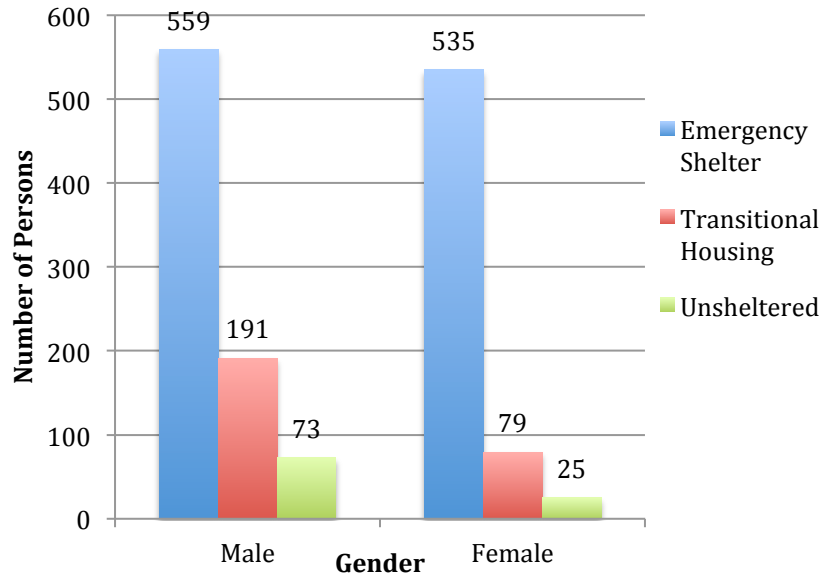
Fig. A.5. Number of Homeless Persons by Race

Number of Persons (y-axis)

- American Indian/Alaska Native: 14
- Black/African-American: 801
- Asian: 6
- White: 600
- Multi-Racial: 21

Race (x-axis)
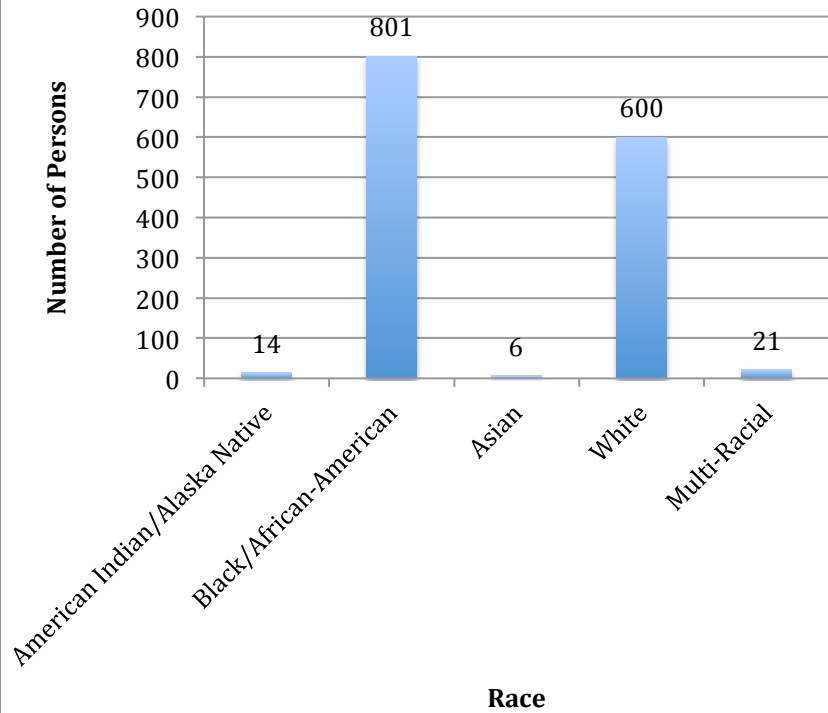
Fig. A.6. Number of Homeless Persons by Ethnicity

Number of Persons (y-axis)

- Hispanic: 167
- Non-Hispanic: 730

Ethnicity (x-axis)
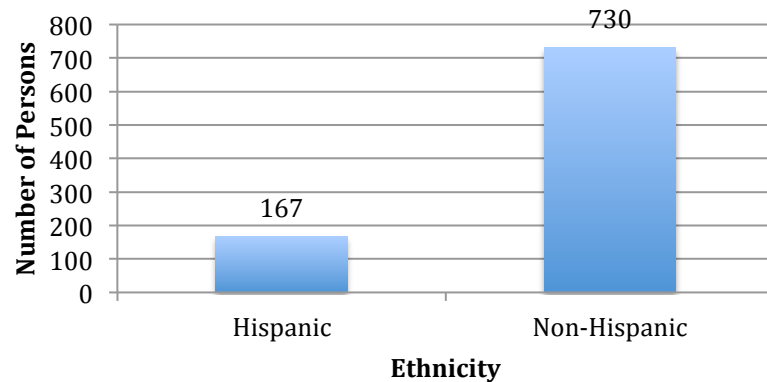
Household Characteristics – check all that apply to each person

Fig. A.7. Number of Homeless Persons by Victim of Domestic Violence, Veteran Status, and Disability
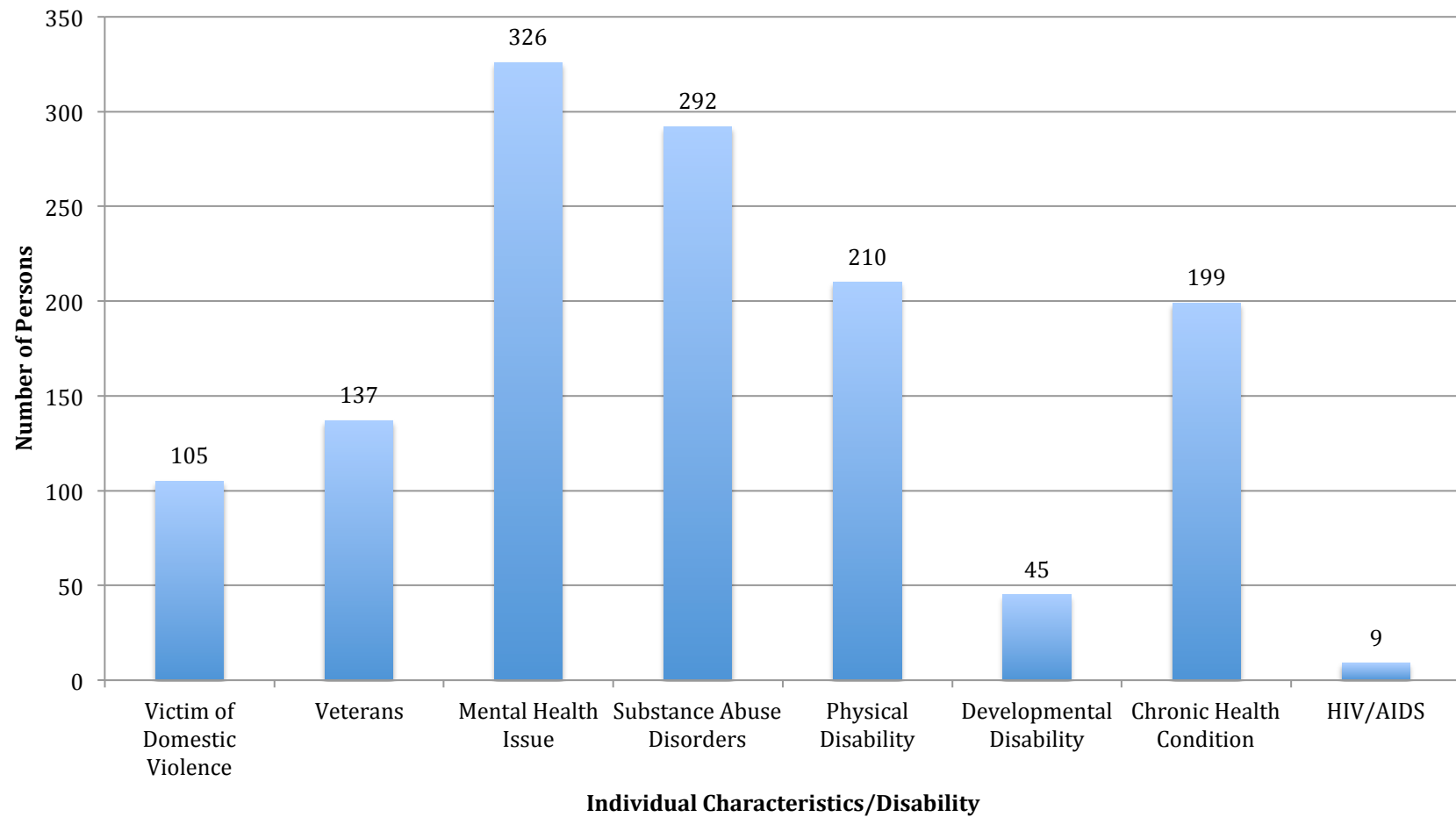
Where was your last permanent address before becoming homeless?

Fig. A.8. Number of Homeless Households by County or State of Last Permanent Address	
Last Permanent Address – County/State	Number of Households
Atlantic County	6
Bergen County	1
Burlington County	19
California	1
Camden County	**378**
Cape May County	2
Cumberland County	**154**
Delaware	2
Florida	5
Gloucester County	**266**
Hudson County	1
Hunterdon County	1
Iraq	3
Mercer County	6
Michigan	1
Middlesex County	78
Monmouth County	1
N/A	3
New York	4
Ocean County	2
Passaic County	1
Pennsylvania	7
Salem County	4
Turkey	1
Wisconsin	1

What was your residence prior to your current living situation?

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

Number of Households (y-axis)

Prior Residence (x-axis)

Prior Residence	Number of Households
Jail/prison	68
Emergency shelter	191
Substance abuse treatment facility	24
Staying/living with family/friends	284
Place not meant for habitation	45
Hospital	12
Psychiatric hospital	5
Transitional housing program	28
Other	14
Foster care	1
Hotel/motel paid by client	31
Permanent housing	233
Safe haven	18
Apt paid with Temporary Rental Assistance through Board of Soc. Services	10

Which of the following sources of income or non-cash benefits do you, or anyone in your household, receive?
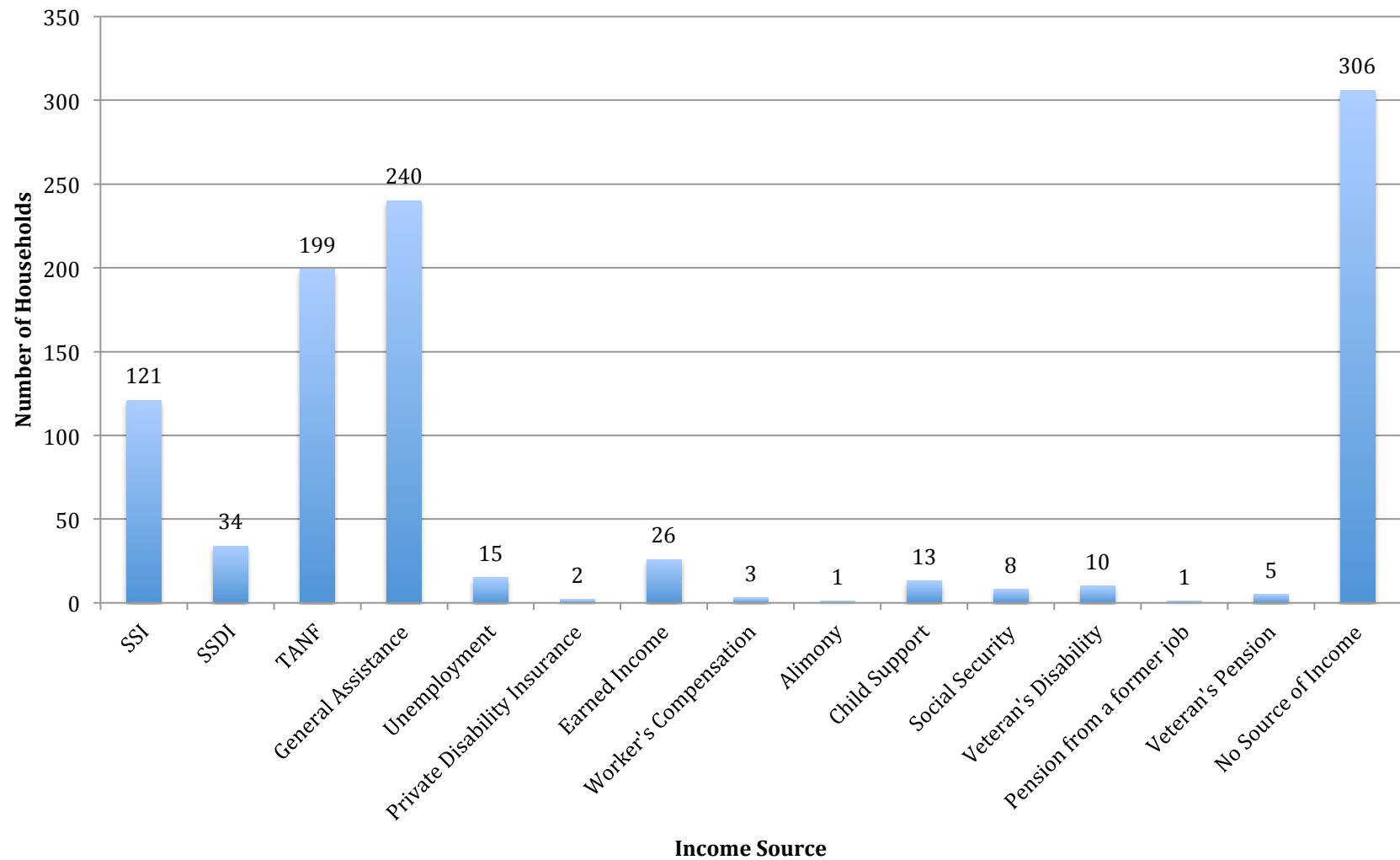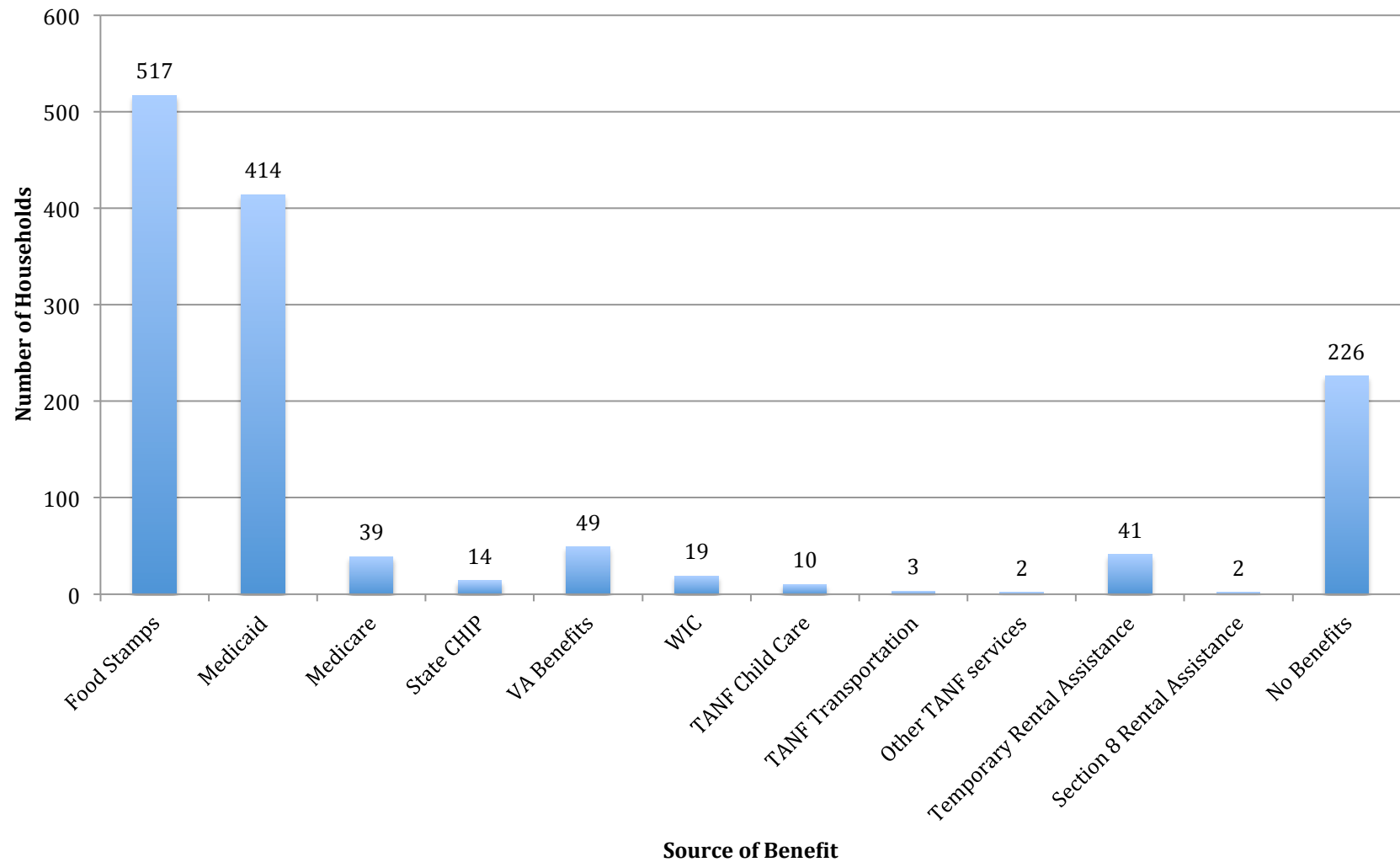
Fig. A. 10. Number of Households by Source of Cash Income

Bar chart — Number of Households (y-axis, 0 to 350) by Income Source (x-axis):

Income Source	Number of Households
SSI	121
SSDI	34
TANF	199
General Assistance	240
Unemployment	15
Private Disability Insurance	2
Earned Income	26
Worker's Compensation	3
Alimony	1
Child Support	13
Social Security	8
Veteran's Disability	10
Pension from a former job	1
Veteran's Pension	5
No Source of Income	306

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

Bar chart showing Number of Households by Source of Benefit:
- Food Stamps: 517
- Medicaid: 414
- Medicare: 39
- State CHIP: 14
- VA Benefits: 49
- WIC: 19
- TANF Child Care: 10
- TANF Transportation: 3
- Other TANF services: 2
- Temporary Rental Assistance: 41
- Section 8 Rental Assistance: 2
- No Benefits: 226

X-axis: Source of Benefit
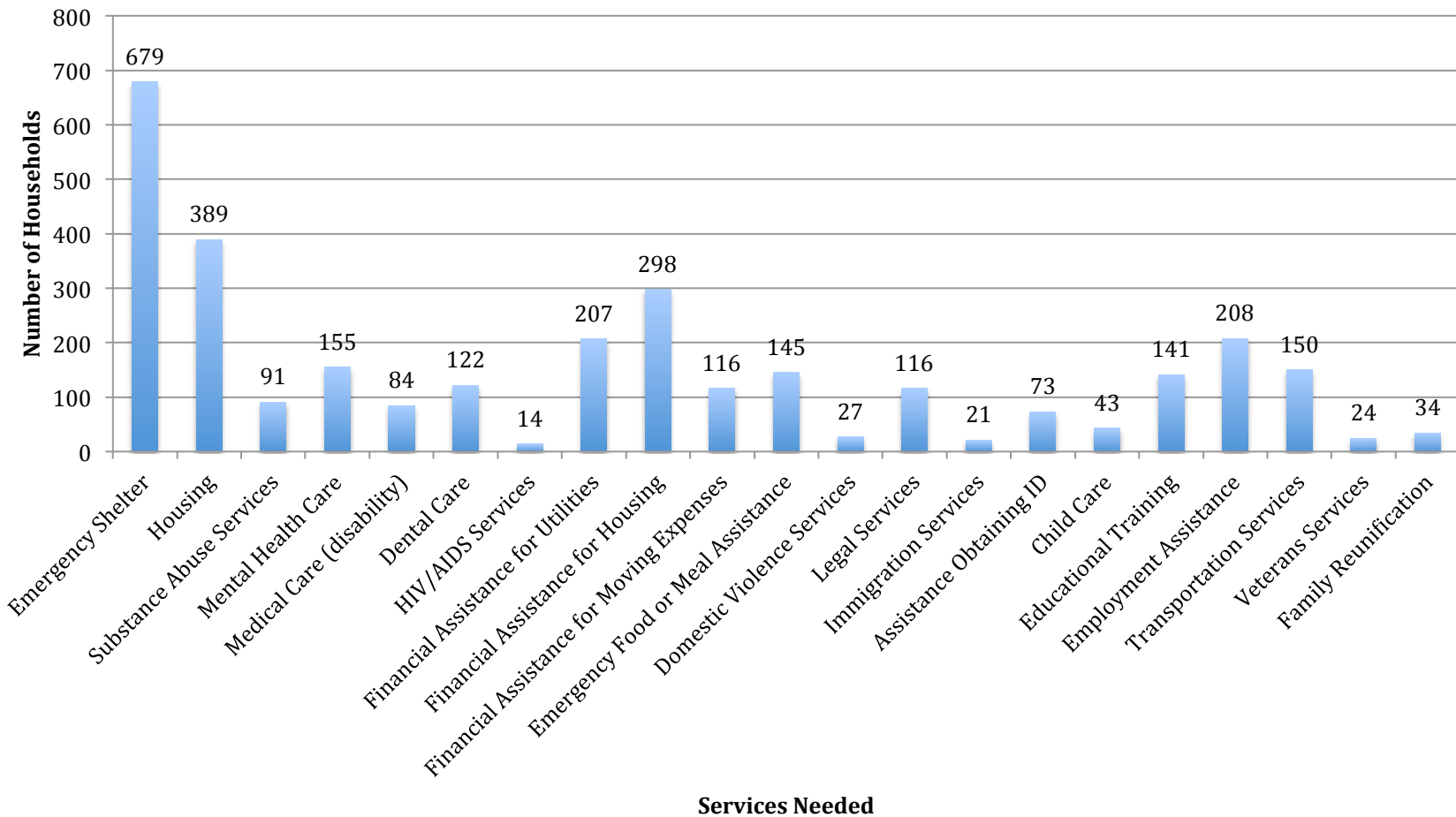Y-axis: Number of Households

What is your monthly household income?

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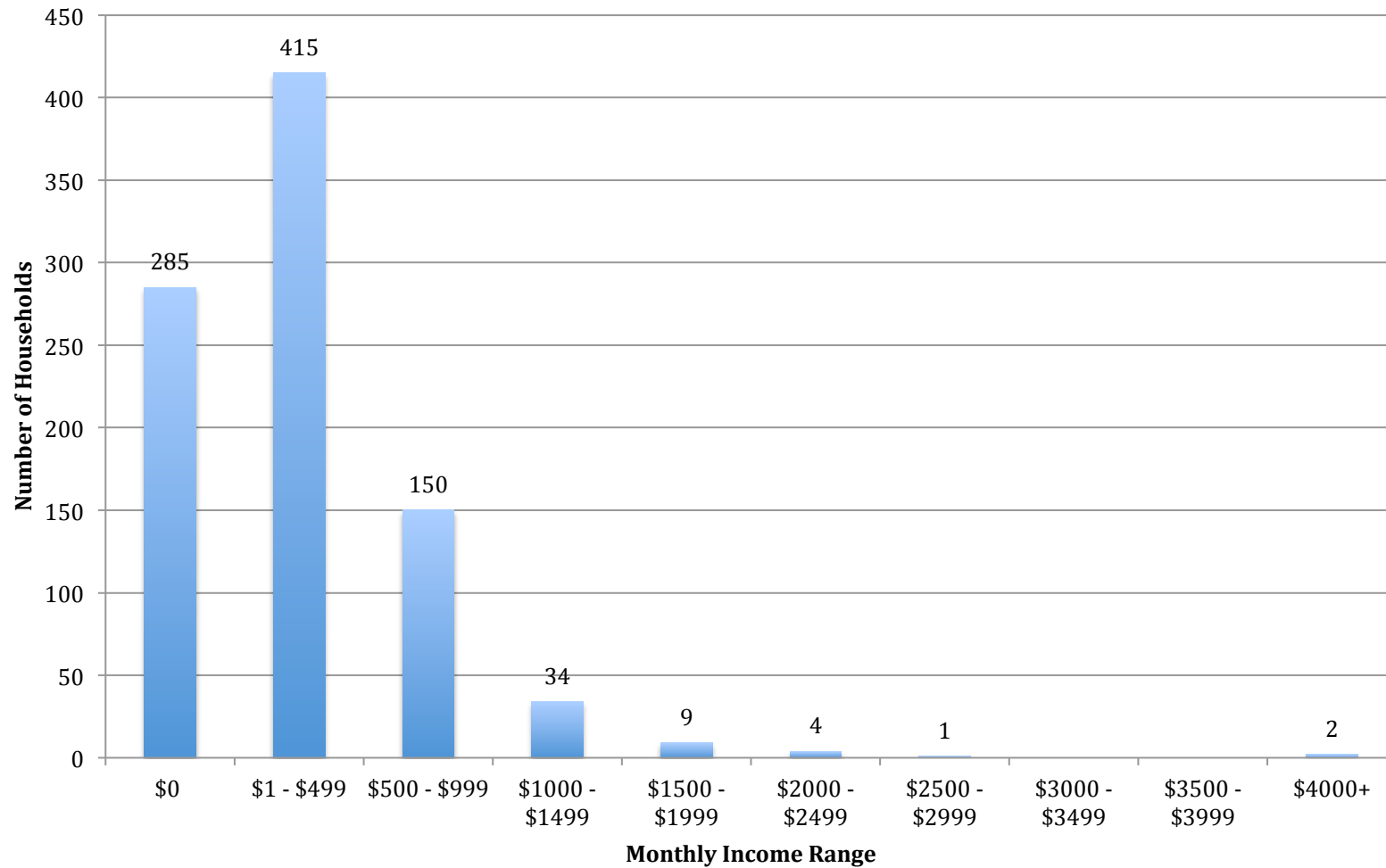
Would you, or anyone in your household, like to receive any of the following services?

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

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

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