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A large, stylized graphic of the state of New Jersey in white, set against a blue background with a repeating pattern of small white numbers. Overlaid on the map is the text "NJ 2016 Counts!" in a large, bold, brown serif font. The "NJ" is very large, with "2016" and "Counts!" positioned below it.

**NJ**  
**2016**  
**Counts!**

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## New Jersey'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 26<sup>th</sup>, 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 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 a total of 6,559 households, including 8,941 persons, were experiencing homelessness in New Jersey, according to the 2016 Point-In-Time Count.
- A total of 836 persons, in 733 households, were identified as chronically homeless.
- 1,327 households, with 1,442 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	476	5.3%	53	6.3%	116	8.0%
Bergen	296	3.3%	10	1.2%	11	0.8%
Burlington	928	10.4%	140	16.7%	15	1.0%
Camden	683	7.6%	39	4.7%	150	10.4%
Cape May	133	1.5%	8	1.0%	9	0.6%
Cumberland	140	1.6%	19	2.3%	73	5.1%
Essex	1782	19.9%	99	11.8%	443	30.7%
Gloucester	112	1.3%	9	1.1%	7	0.5%
Hudson	829	9.3%	139	16.6%	226	15.7%
Hunterdon	133	1.5%	12	1.4%	2	0.1%
Mercer	465	5.2%	20	2.4%	44	3.1%
Middlesex	457	5.1%	46	5.5%	84	5.8%
Monmouth	344	3.8%	74	8.9%	45	3.1%
Morris	410	4.6%	34	4.1%	34	2.4%
Ocean	430	4.8%	73	8.7%	54	3.7%
Passaic	432	4.8%	27	3.2%	36	2.5%
Salem	40	0.4%	1	0.1%	6	0.4%
Somerset	218	2.4%	1	0.1%	9	0.6%
Sussex	80	0.9%	8	1.0%	10	0.7%
Union	513	5.7%	19	2.3%	62	4.3%
Warren	40	0.4%	5	0.6%	6	0.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8941</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1442</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Total Homeless Population

On the night of January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016, a total of 8,941 persons, in 6,559 households, were experiencing homelessness in New Jersey, according to the 2016 Point-In-Time Count. This is a decrease of 1,270 persons (12.4%) and 882 households (11.9%) from 2015.

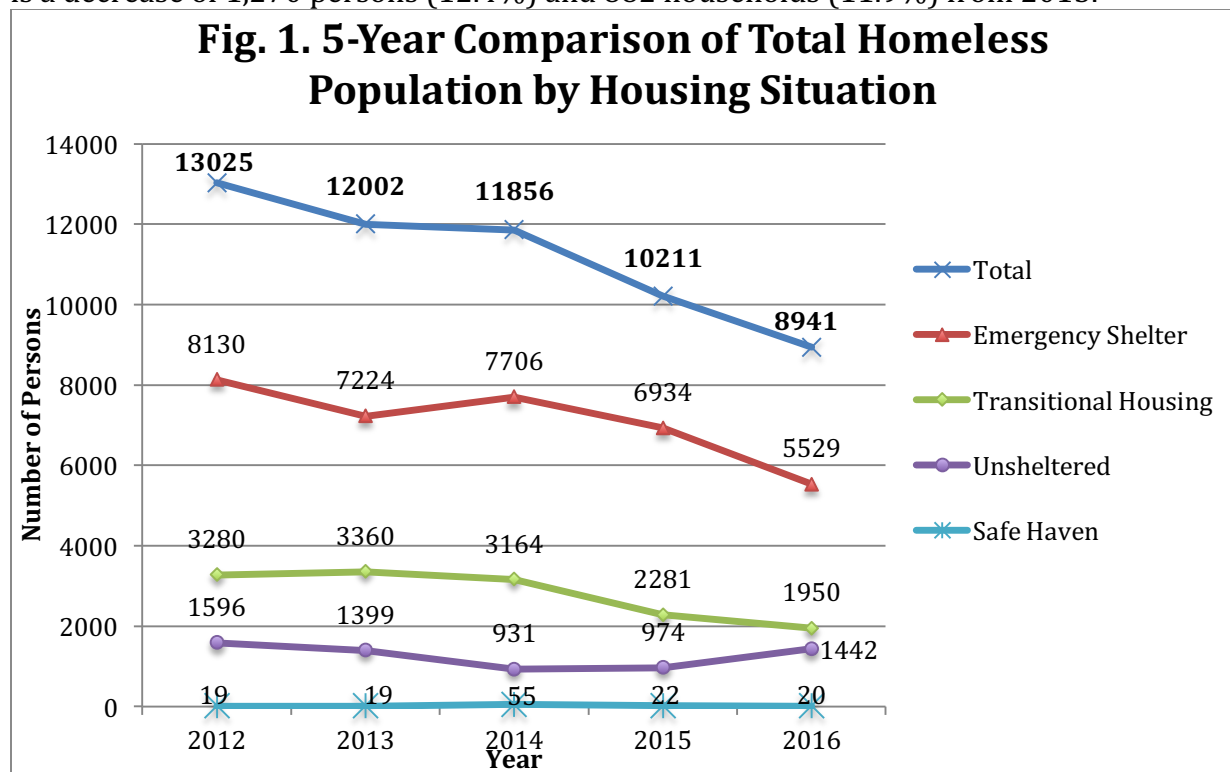
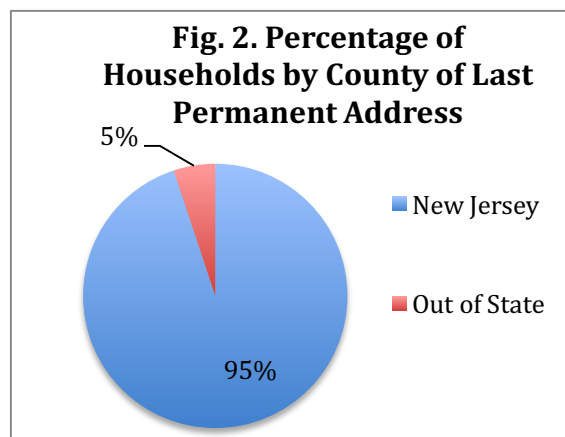


Figure 1 shows that, in 2016, 5,529 homeless persons stayed in emergency shelters, 1,950 stayed in transitional housing, 20 were in safe havens, and 1,442 were living unsheltered on the night of the count. When comparing to 2015, decreases are seen in the number of homeless persons staying in emergency shelter (1,405 persons, 20.3%), transitional housing (331 persons, 14.5%), and safe havens (2 persons, 9.1%). While this is true, there was a significant increase in the number of unsheltered persons counted in 2016 when compared to 2015 (468 persons, 48%).

Figure 1 also shows that, over the past five years, the total number of homeless persons has been consistently declining. New Jersey has seen an overall decrease of 4,084 persons, or 31.4% from 2012 to 2016. Over this 5-year period, there was a 32% decrease in persons staying in emergency shelter, a 40.5% decrease in persons staying in transitional housing, and a 9.6% decrease in unsheltered persons. There was a slight increase of 5.3% for persons staying in safe haven programs between 2012 and 2016. Between 2012 and 2016, the homeless population has decreased at an average rate of 8.8% annually.

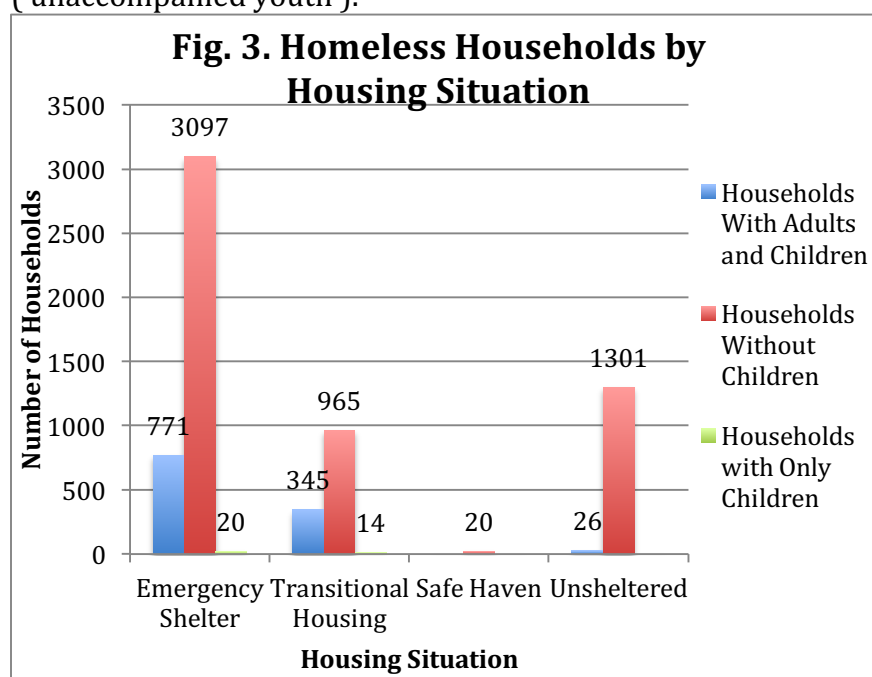




As Figure 2 shows, 5% of the homeless households in New Jersey in 2016 reported that their last permanent address prior to becoming homeless was outside of the state.

## 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 6,559 homeless households counted in New Jersey in 2016, 1,142 (17.4%) were families with at least one child under the age of 18 and one adult. This is a decrease of about 15.2% from 2015. These families included 3,394 persons, including 2,073 children under age 18 and 1,321 adults. The average family size was 3 persons. Figure 3 shows that 771 families (67.5%) were staying in

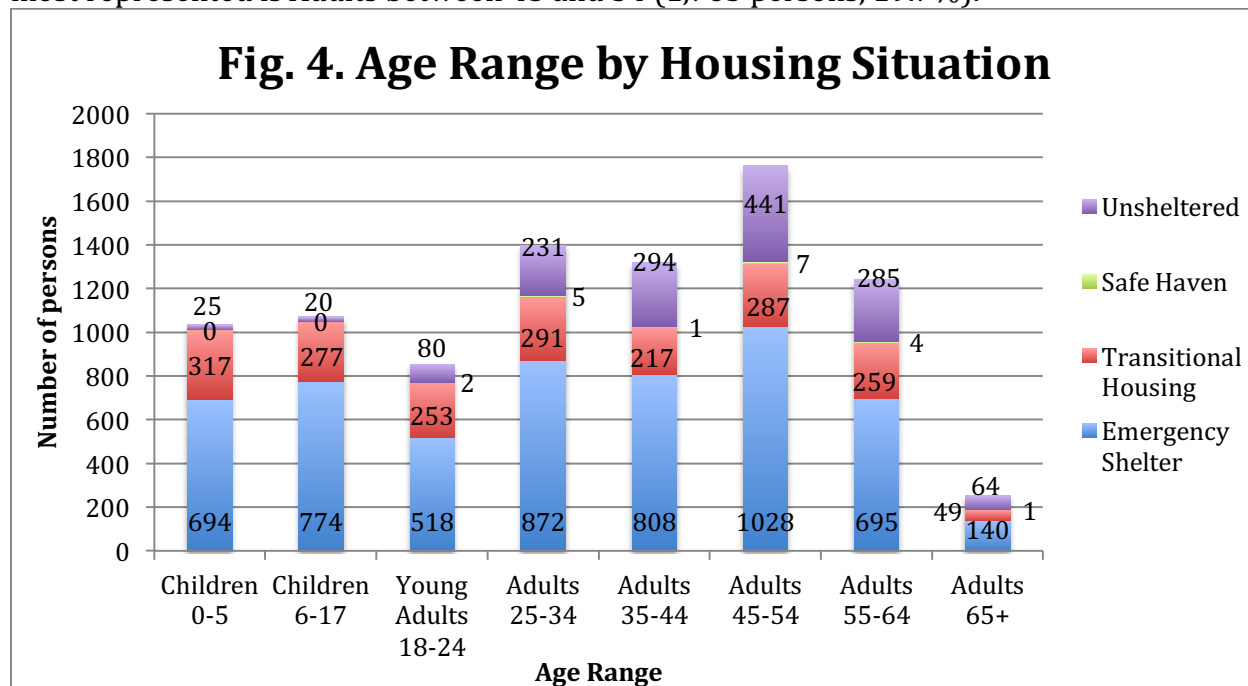
emergency shelters. There were 26 unsheltered families with adults and children, including 83 persons. This is an increase of 7 unsheltered families from 2015.

5,383 (82.1%) of the homeless households in New Jersey were households without children under 18, and they were composed of 5,512 adults. This is a decrease of about 11% from the number of adult only households in 2015. The majority of adult only households (57.5%) were staying in emergency shelters on the night of the count. 1,301 were unsheltered in 2016, an increase of 420 households (47.7%) from 2015.

As Figure 3 indicates, 34 households with only children under 18 years old were reported in 2016, a decrease a 12 households from 2015. 58.8% of these unaccompanied youth households were staying in emergency shelters. Similar to 2015, there were 0 unsheltered youth households in 2016.

## Demographics

There were a total of 853 (9.5%) homeless adults between 18 and 24 years old, 5,979 (66.9%) adults over age 24, and 2,107 (23.6%) children under 18 years old experiencing homelessness on the night of the count. Figure 4 shows that similar to 2015, the age range most represented is Adults between 45 and 54 (1,763 persons, 19.7%).

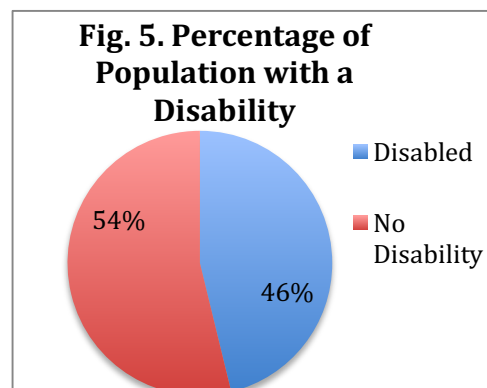


57.5% (5,144) of homeless persons were male, 41.7% (3,729) were female, and 9 (0.1%) were transgender.

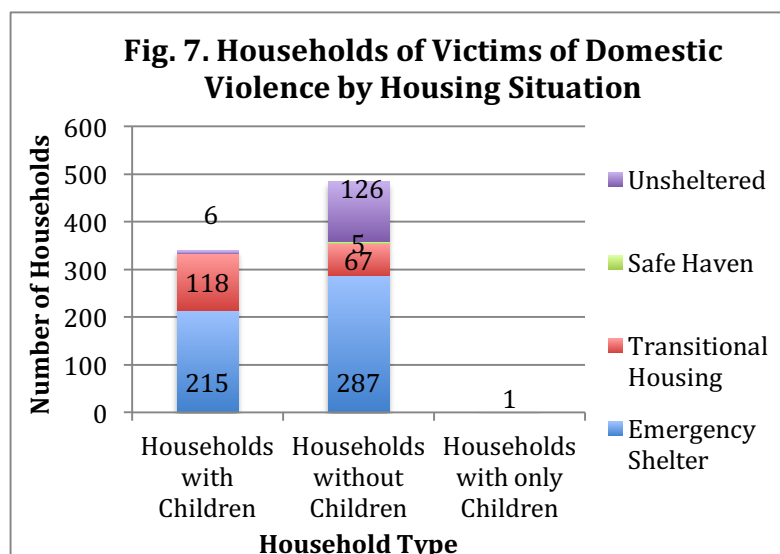
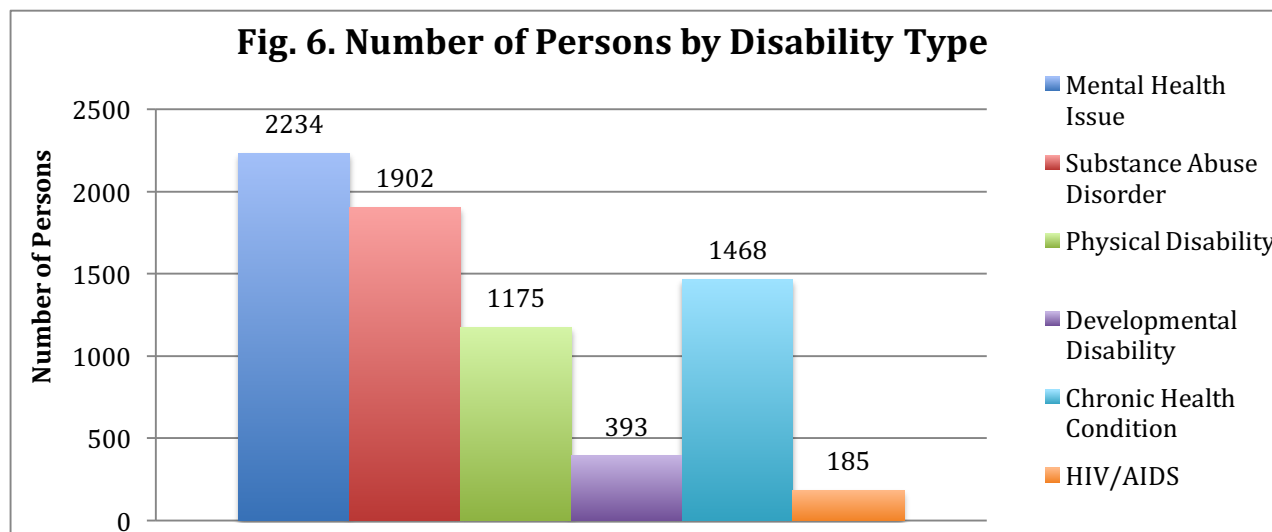
52.4% (4,686) of persons identified their race as Black or African-American, making this the largest racial subgroup of homeless persons counted. The next largest group self-identified as White (42.4%, 3,795 persons), followed by those identifying as Multi-Racial (1.6%, 144 persons). With regard to ethnicity, 19.2% of persons identified themselves as Hispanic.

## Disabilities

Figure 5 illustrates that 46% of homeless persons reported having some type of disability. 57.5% of adults 18 or older reported some type of disability compared to 9.4% 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, 54.9% reported mental health issues making this the most prevalent disability; representing 31.6% of the total adult homeless population. 48.1% of disabled adults reported a substance abuse disorder. Among disabled homeless children, 43.7% reported a developmental disability.



#### Victims of Domestic Violence

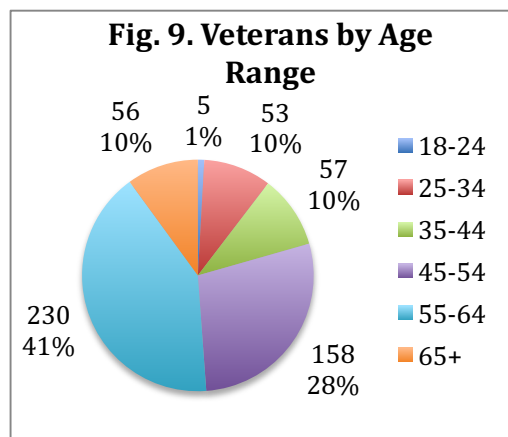
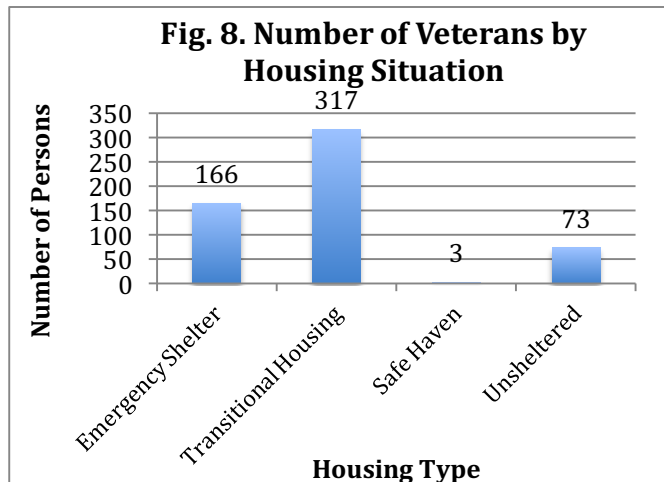
On the night of the count, in New Jersey, 825 homeless households (12.6% of all households) reported having a victim of domestic violence, this is a decrease of approximately 52 households from what was counted in 2015. The majority of these households (58.8%) were adult-only households. 339 (41.1%) of the victim households were families with at least 1 adult and 1 child and there was 1 youth

only households that reported being a victim of domestic violence. 16% of domestic violence households were unsheltered on the night of the count.

#### 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.

559 homeless veterans were counted on the night of the 2016 count, a decrease of 137 persons (19.7%) from 2015. 533 veterans (95.3%) were individual adults, 15 veterans (2.7%) were in adult only households, and 11 veterans (1.9%) were in families with children under the age of 18. The largest contingent of homeless veterans was found to be staying in transitional housing (56.7%). There were 73 unsheltered veterans, in 2016. This is a decrease of 8.8% from the 2015 count.



The large majority of veterans were male (93.2%). The most common racial background identified among homeless veterans was Black or African American (53.3%). Another 43.8% identified as White. Figure 9 illustrates the percentage of veterans by age range.

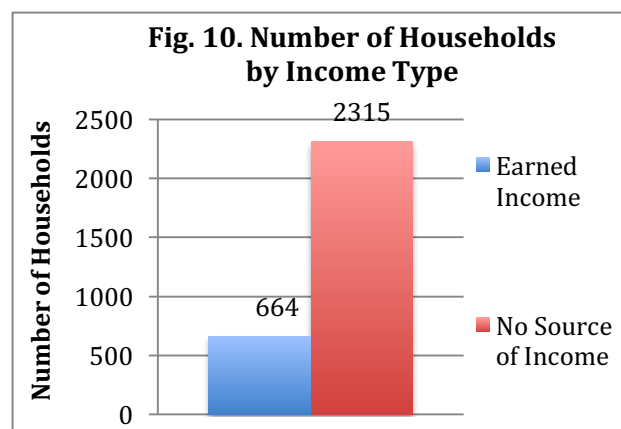
16 veterans reported being victims of domestic violence with the largest contingent (6 veteran victims, 37.5%) unsheltered on the night of the count. 420 homeless veterans (75.1%) reported having some kind of disability. The most common disabilities

reported were mental health issues (45.4%), substance abuse disorders (42.2%) and chronic health conditions (37.7%).

42.6% of veteran households reported no source of cash income. 11.1% of homeless veterans reported earned income while 4.7% reported receiving VA Pension income and 10.4% reported receiving VA Disability income. In regards to non-cash benefits, 11.6% of homeless veterans reported no connection to non-cash benefits, and nearly half (45.8%) of veteran households said they were connected to VA Medical Benefits. 15.4% of homeless veteran households indicated they would like to receive assistance with Veteran Services.

### Income and Benefits

Among all households experiencing homelessness on the night of the count, 35.3% had no source of income, and 10.1% reported having earned income. The three most common sources of income among homeless households were SSI (19.2%), General Assistance (17.9%), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), with





10.8%. Compared to 2015, the percentage of households with earned income increased by 1.7% while the percentage of those connected with cash benefits decreased – SSI (.4% decrease), TANF (.7% decrease), GA (3.1% decrease). In addition, the percentage of households with no source of income decreased by 1.3%.

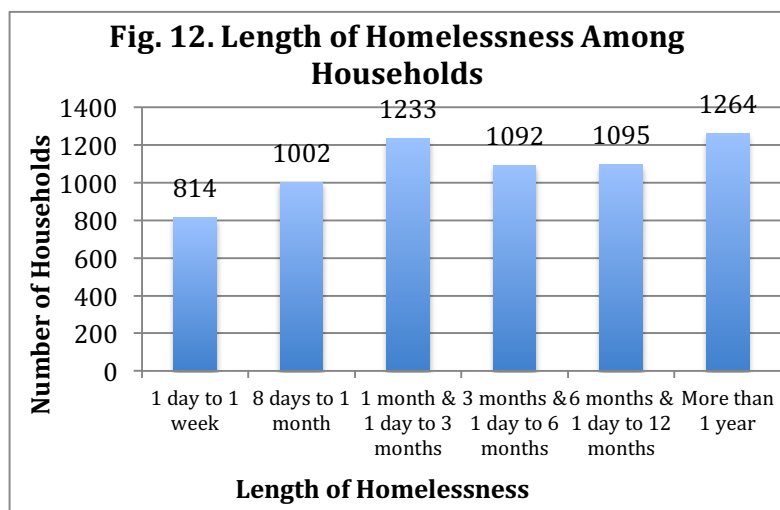
Figure 11 show the average monthly income among households in each housing situation.

<b>Figure 11. Average Monthly Income For Households by Housing Situation</b>				
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Safe Haven	Unsheltered
Average for All Households	\$427.74	\$642.08	\$365.22	\$322.56

18.7% of 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 51.6% of homeless households. Food Stamps (SNAP), was the second most reported non-cash benefit received by 49.1% of homeless households.

### Length of Homelessness

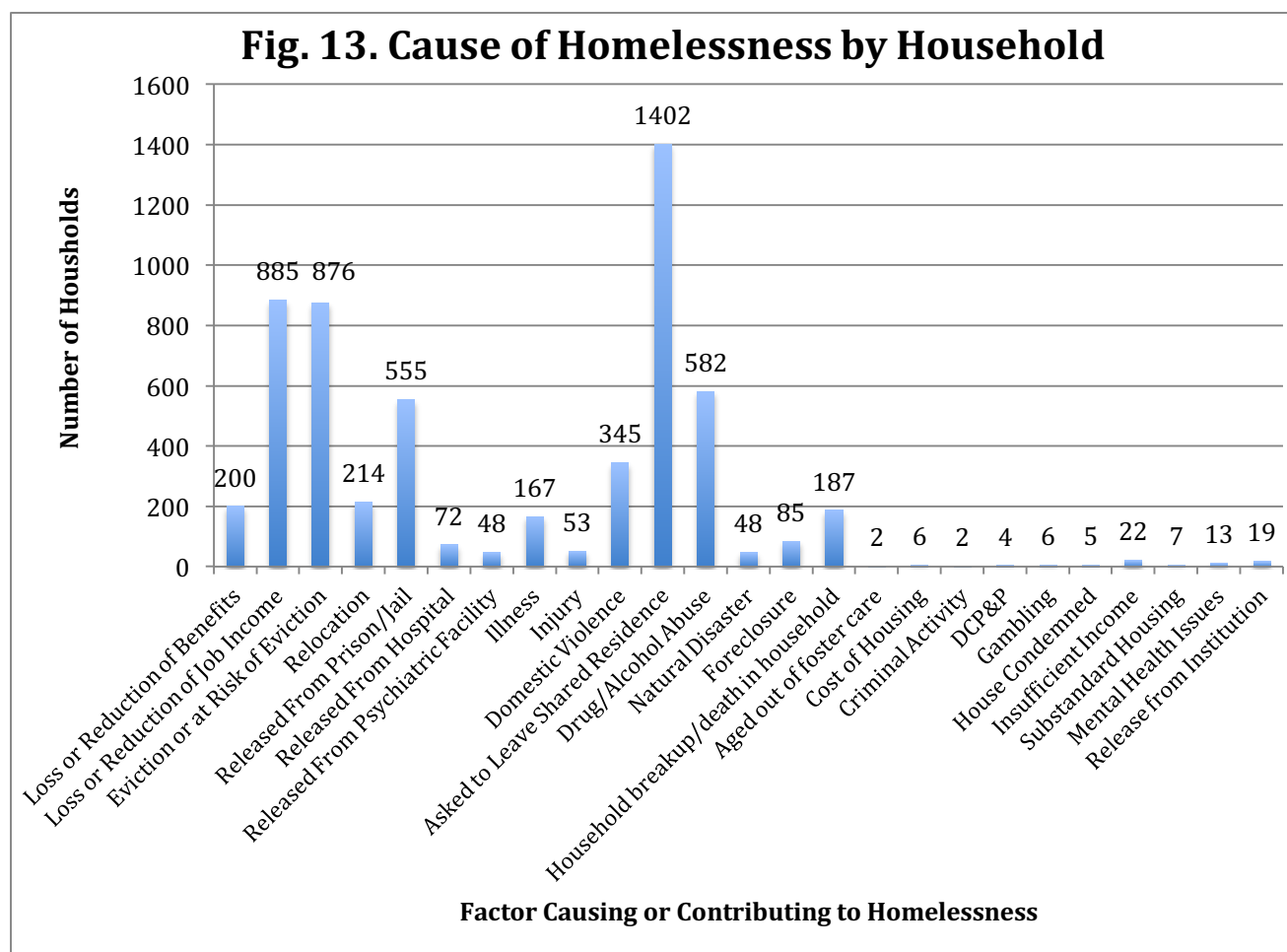
As seen in Figure 12, 19.3% of homeless households reported that their most recent, continuous episode of homelessness was more than 1 year. This was the most common response among households, followed by those who had been homeless 1 to 3 months (18.8%). In comparison to 2015, the percentage of households homeless for more than a year increased from 18% in 2015 to 19.3% in 2016.



### 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 (1,402 households, 21.4%) than any other cause. As Figure 13 shows, the next most common factor reported was a loss or reduction in their job income (13.5%) followed by eviction (13.4%).

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 (35.6%) than any other type of residence. 17% reported residing in an emergency shelter and 14.8% 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

733 households, made up of 836 persons, were chronically homeless in New Jersey, according to the 2016 Point-In-Time Count. This is a decrease of 516 households (41.3%), and 589 persons (41.3%) from 2015. The rate of chronic homelessness as a percentage of overall homelessness in New Jersey decreased from 14% in 2015 to 9.4% in 2016.

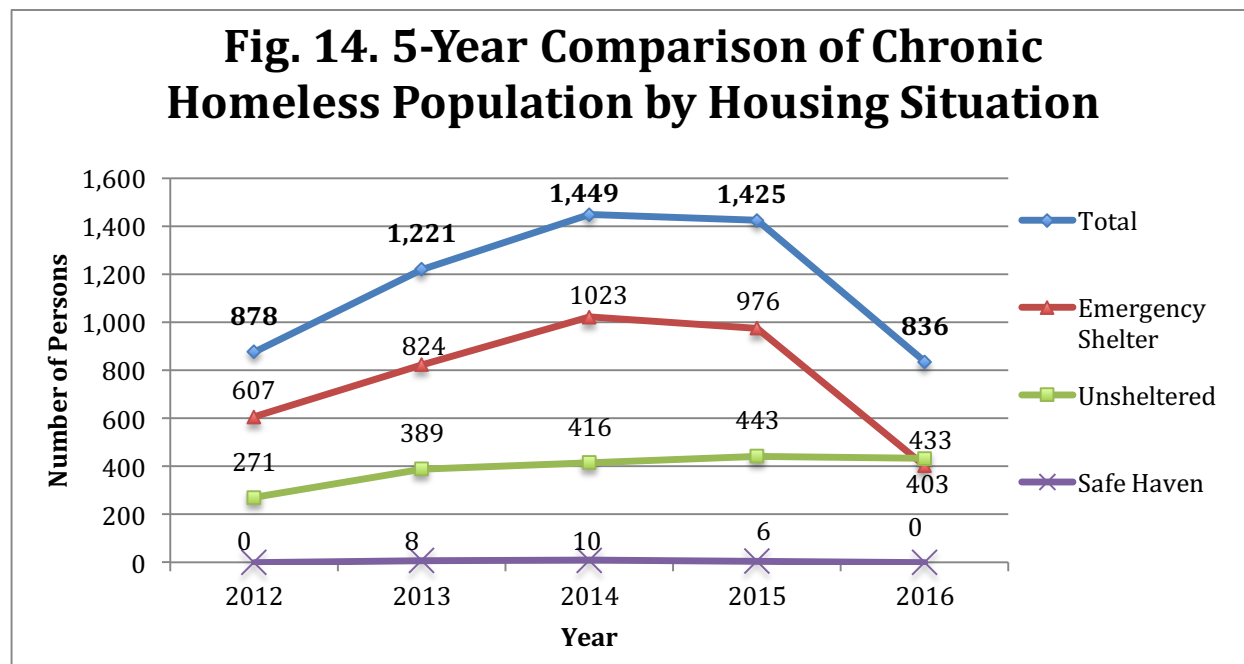
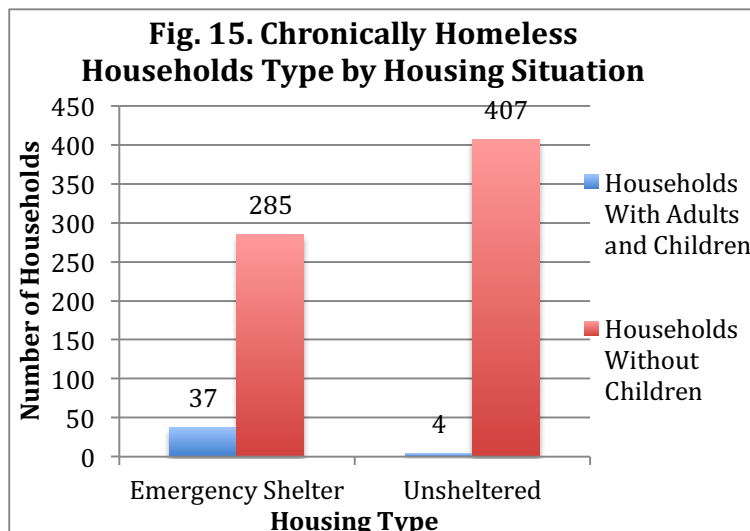


Figure 14 shows the number of chronically homeless persons who were in emergency shelters, safe havens or living unsheltered in New Jersey from 2012 to 2016. Over this 5-year period, there was a decrease in the chronically homeless population in emergency shelters (33.6%) and a significant increase in the chronically homeless population living unsheltered (59.8%). As seen in Figure 14, the total number of chronically homeless persons rose steadily from 2012 to 2014, however, since 2015 the chronic homeless population has been decreasing. From the peak of 1,449 chronically homeless persons identified in 2014, there has been a 42.3% reduction in the chronically homeless population.

## Families and Individuals

Of the 733 chronically homeless households counted in 2016, 41 (5.6%) were households with at least 1 adult and 1 child; 34 (45.3%) less than 2015. 4 unsheltered chronically homeless families were identified in 2016, 1 more than was counted in 2015.



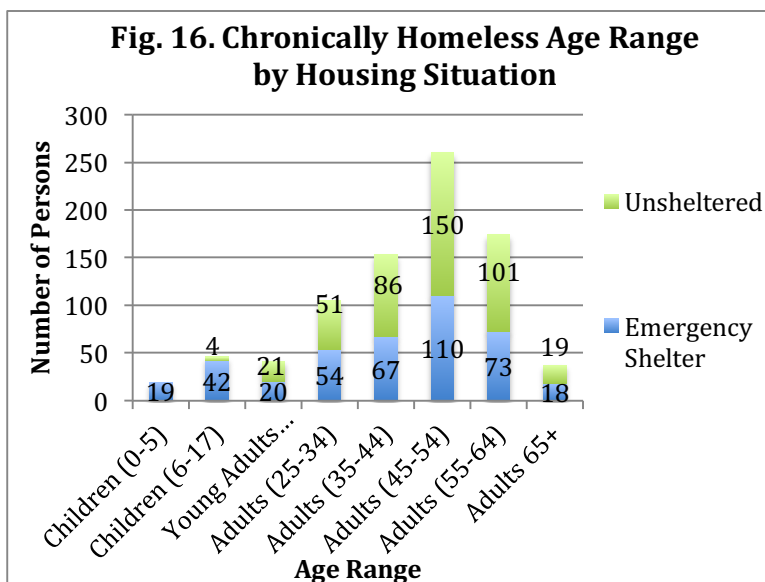
The remaining 692 chronically homeless households (94.4%) were adult-only households, composed of 718 persons. The majority of adult-only households (58.8%) were in unsheltered, while 41.2% were in emergency shelter on the night of the count.

## Demographics

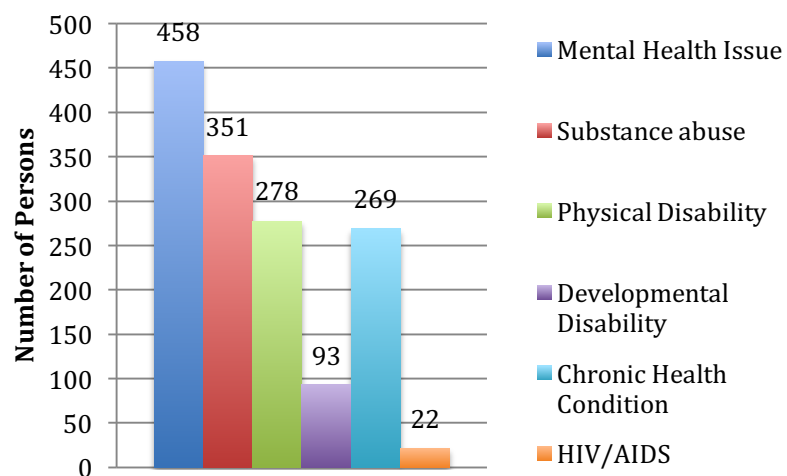
Of the 836 total chronically homeless persons, the age range with the highest concentration of chronically homeless persons was adults between 45 and 54 years old (260 persons, 31.1%). The age range distribution shown in Figure 16 shows a similar pattern as to what was found in 2015.

66.3% of chronically homeless persons were male, 33% were female and 2 were transgender.

The largest racial subgroup of chronically homeless persons reported their race as White (48.2%). The next largest group self-identified as Black or African-American (45.8%), followed by persons identifying as American Indian/Alaska Native (1.6%). With regard to ethnicity, 13.5% of chronically homeless persons identified themselves as Hispanic.



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



## 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 mental health issues (54.8%) and substance abuse disorders (42%). The chronically homeless population with mental health issues represent 11.7% of the homeless adult disabled population and 21.2% of the

homeless adult disabled population with mental health issues. Of the adults meeting the chronic homeless definition, 65.6% reported more than one disability while only 34.4% identified a single disability. 28% of chronically homeless adults (212) reported co-occurring issues with mental health and substance abuse.



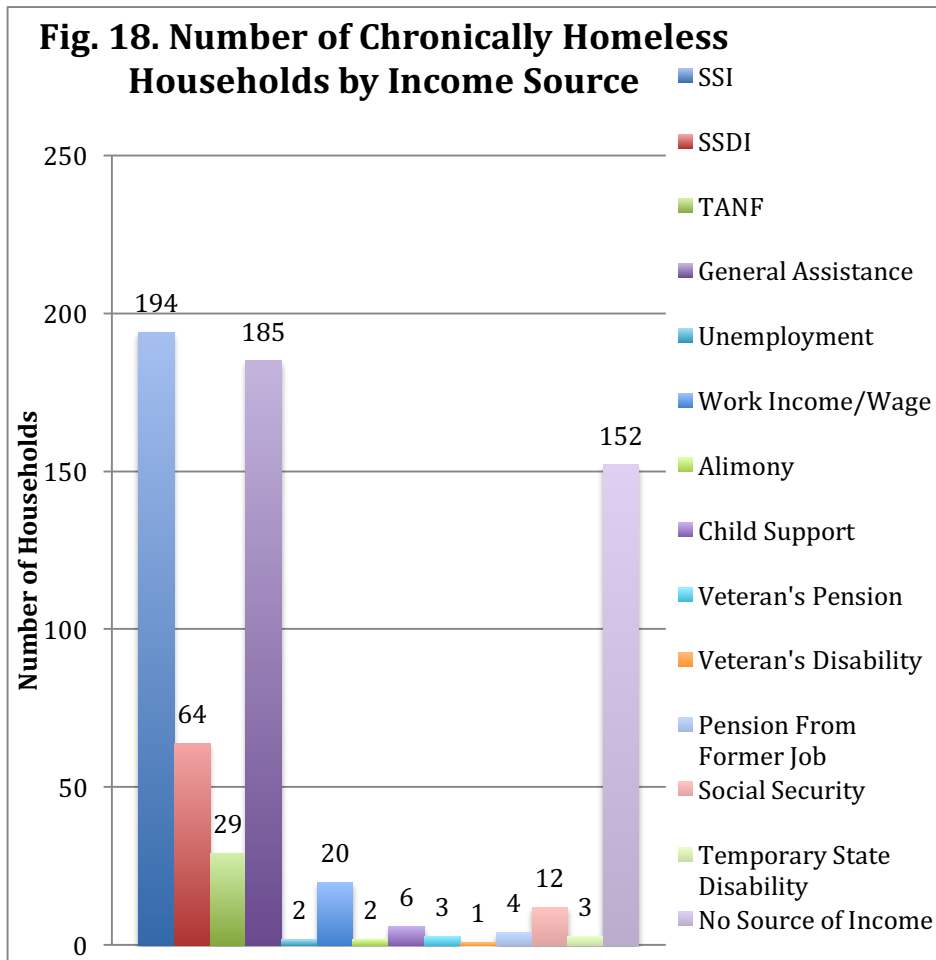
## Subpopulations

On the night of the count, 84 chronically homeless households in New Jersey reported being a victim of domestic violence (11.5%), representing a decrease of 42.5% from 2015. The majority of these households (54, 64.3%) were unsheltered while the remaining 30 (35.7%) were in emergency shelter programs.

There were 40 veterans identified as chronically homeless on the night of the count (4.8%). This represents a decrease of 68 chronically homeless veterans (62.9%) as compared to 2015. Among the chronically homeless veterans identified in 2016, 24 (60%) were unsheltered, and 16 (40%) were in emergency shelter.

## Income and Benefits

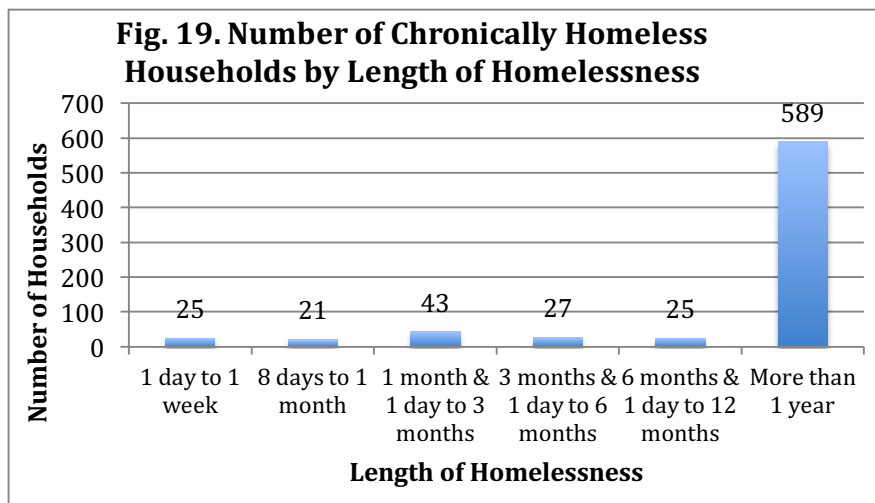
Among all the chronically homeless households on the night of the count, 20.7% reported receiving no type of cash income. Figure 18 shows the sources of income received. The most common source of cash income among all chronically homeless households was SSI, which was received by 26.5%, followed by General Assistance (25.2%). 2.7% of chronically homeless households reported having earned income.



15.3% of chronically homeless households reported they were not receiving any type of non-cash benefit on the night of the count. Food Stamps (SNAP) was the top reported non-cash benefit among this population, with 52.7% reporting receiving this benefit. 47.3% of households also reported being connected to Medicaid benefits.

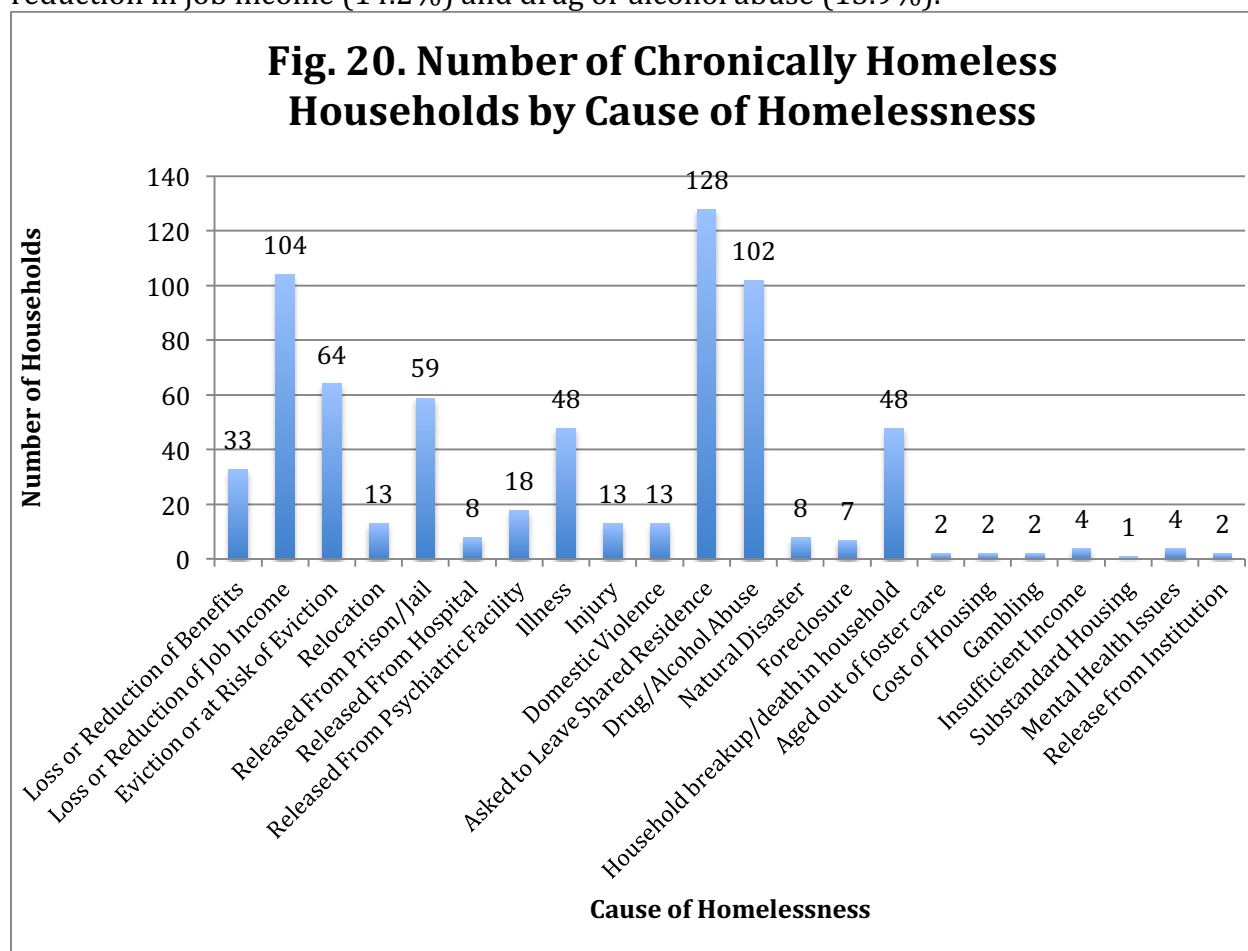
## Length of Homelessness

Figure 19 shows that similar to 2015, the majority of chronically homeless households (80.4%) reported that their most recent, continuous episode of homelessness had lasted for more than 1 year.



## Cause of Homelessness

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more chronically homeless households cited being asked to leave a shared residence (17.5%) than any other. As Figure 20 shows, the next most common factors were a loss or reduction in job income (14.2%) and drug or alcohol abuse (13.9%).



## 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

1,327 households, made up of 1,442 persons, were living unsheltered in New Jersey on the night of the 2016 Point-in-Time Count. This is an increase of 427 households (47.4%) and 468 persons (48%) from 2015. These 1,442 unsheltered persons made up 16.1% of New Jersey’s total 2016 homeless population.

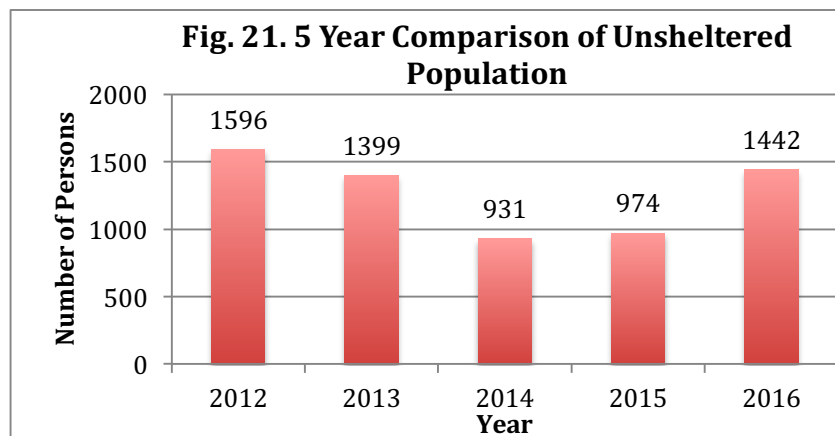


Figure 21 shows the number of unsheltered persons from 2012 to 2016. Between 2012 and 2014 the unsheltered population decreased by 41.7%, however, since 2014 the unsheltered population has steadily increased. Between 2014 and 2016 the over number of unsheltered persons in New Jersey has increased by 54.9%.

### Families and Individuals

Of the 1,327 unsheltered households counted in 2016, 26 (2%) were families with at least 1 adult and 1 child, composed of 83 persons. This is an increase of 7 families from 2015.

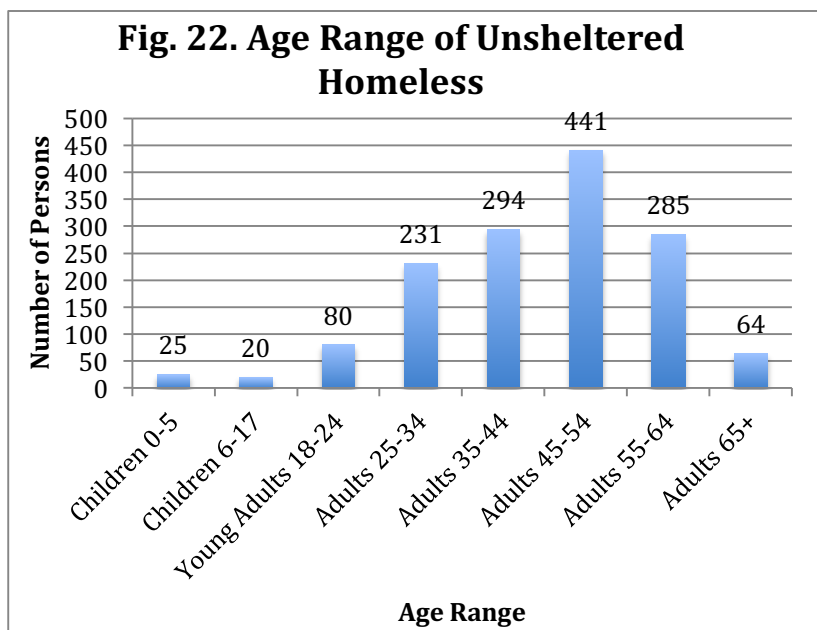
The major portion of the unsheltered population (1,301 households, 98%) were adult-only households, composed of 1,359 persons.

There were no unsheltered youth only households in New Jersey in 2016.

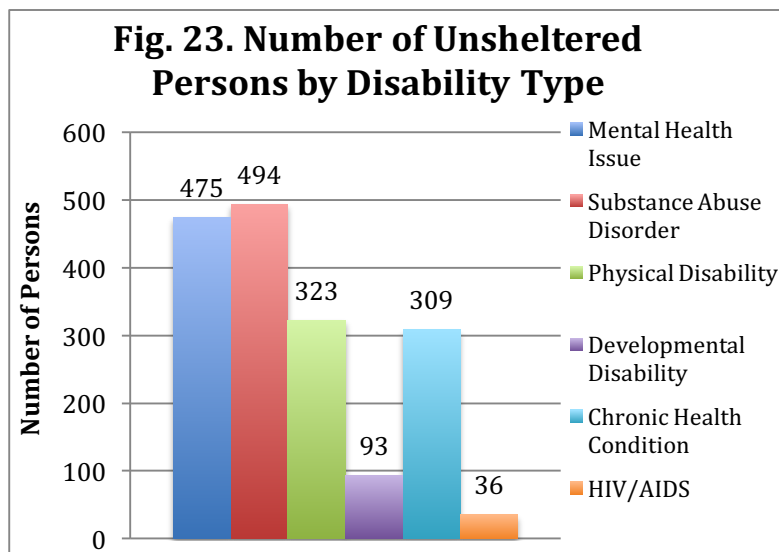
## Demographics

Similar to 2015, the largest portion of the 1,442 unsheltered persons counted in 2016, 30.6%, was between 45 and 54 years old as Figure 22 illustrates.

Most unsheltered persons were male (70.9%), while 26.8% were female, and .3% (4 persons) were transgender. 50.8% of unsheltered persons identified their race as Black or African-American and 39.2% identified as White. With regards to ethnicity, 17.3% of unsheltered persons identified as Hispanic.



## Disabilities



916 of the 1,442 unsheltered persons (63.5%) reported having some kind of disability. The disabilities most commonly identified were substance abuse disorders (53.9%) and mental health issues (51.9%). The complete numbers of reported disabilities among the unsheltered can be seen in Figure 23. 25.9% of those reporting a disabling condition indicated they had co-occurring issues of mental health and substance abuse.

## Subpopulations

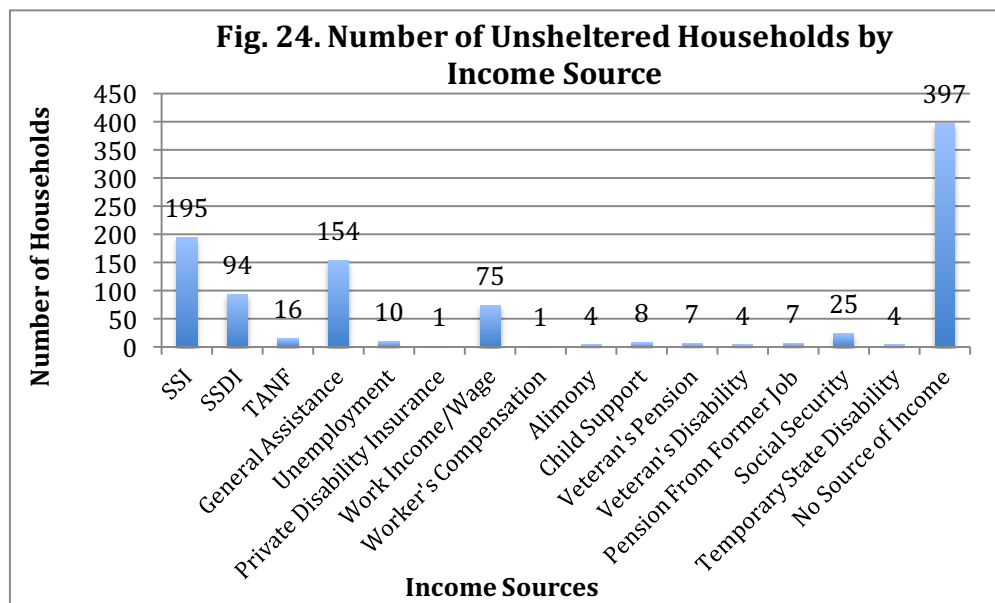
On the night of the count, 134 unsheltered persons in New Jersey reported being a victim of domestic violence (9.3%), an increase of 44 from 2015. 117 (87.3%) of these were single adults, 9 (6.7%) were in adult only households, and the remaining 6% were in families with at least 1 adult and 1 child.

There were 73 unsheltered veteran households identified on the nights of the count, 7 less than 2015, representing 5.2% of the unsheltered adult population.



## Income and Benefits

Among all the unsheltered households on the nights of the count, 397 (29.9%) reported having no source of cash income. The average monthly income among unsheltered

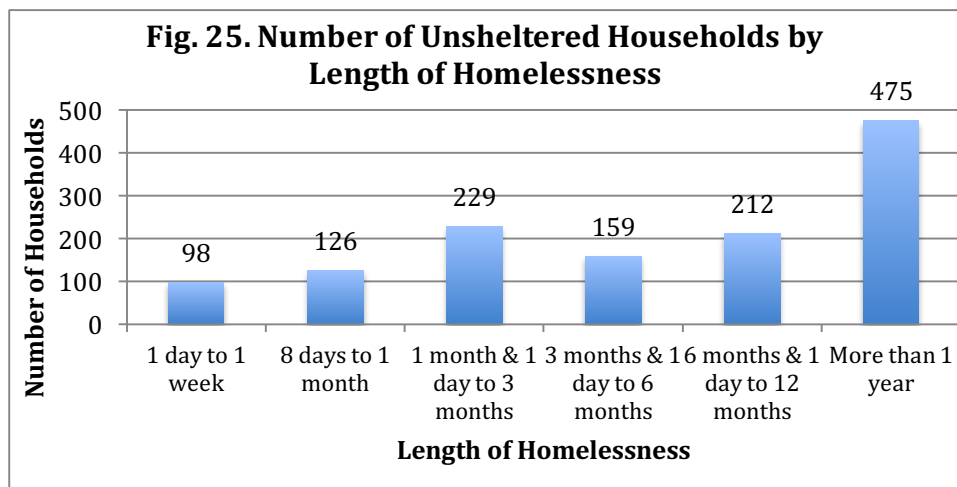


households was approximately \$323, an increase of \$46 from the average income reported in 2015. 14.7% of unsheltered households received SSI, making it the most common source of income. Figure 24 shows all of the sources of income received.

312 unsheltered households (23.5%) 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 benefits among this group, with 28.9% and 23.1% receiving each of these benefits, respectively.

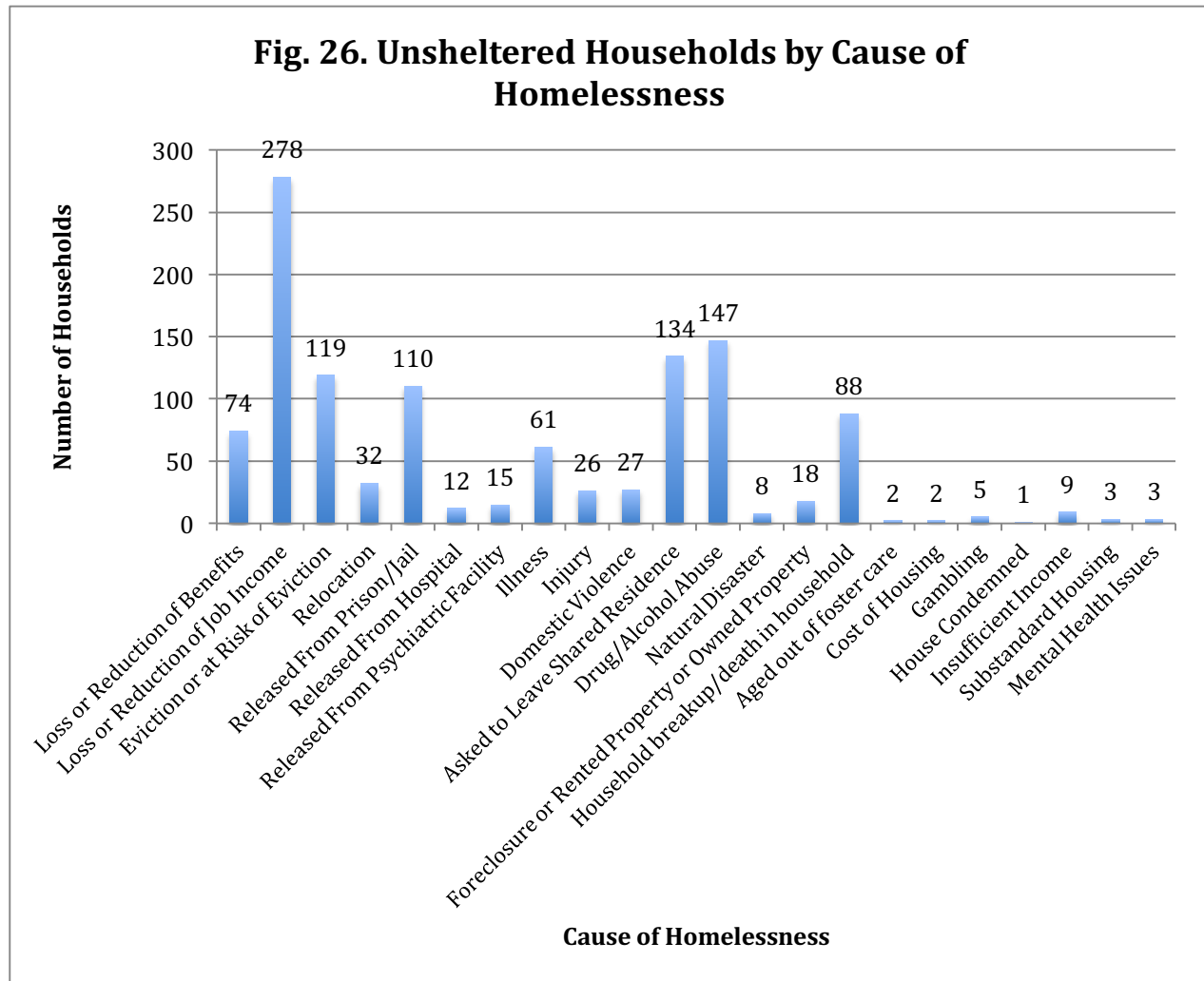
## Length of Homelessness

As shown in Figure 25, similar to 2015, more unsheltered homeless households reported that their most recent, continuous episode of homelessness had lasted for over a year than any other length of time (35.8%). Another 16% of households reported they had been homeless between 6 months and 1 year. This means that 51.8% of unsheltered households had been living on the streets for more than 6 months.



## Cause of Homelessness

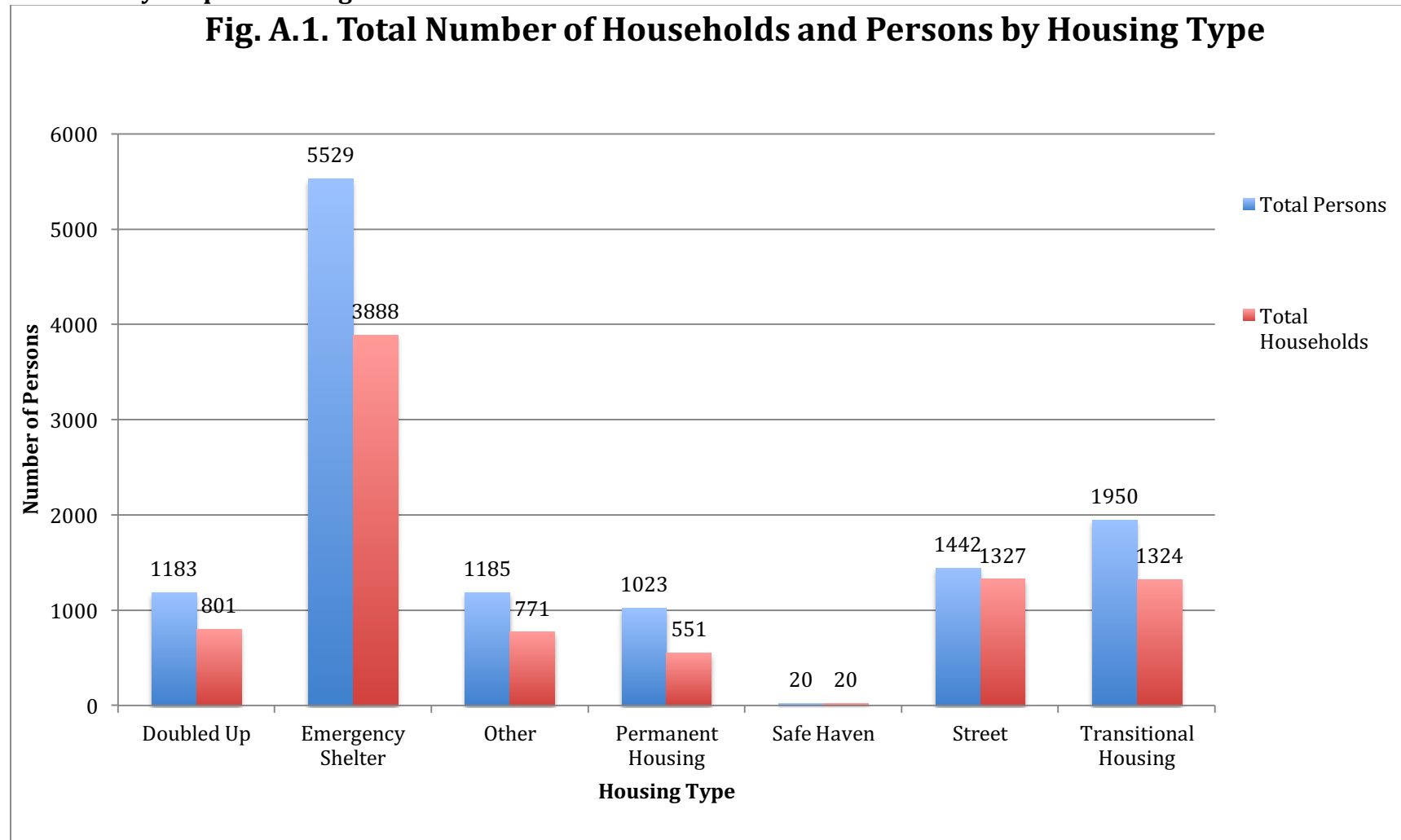
When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more unsheltered households said loss or reduction of job income (20.9%) than any other factor. Figure 26 give the full list of responses provided by unsheltered households.



## VI. Appendix

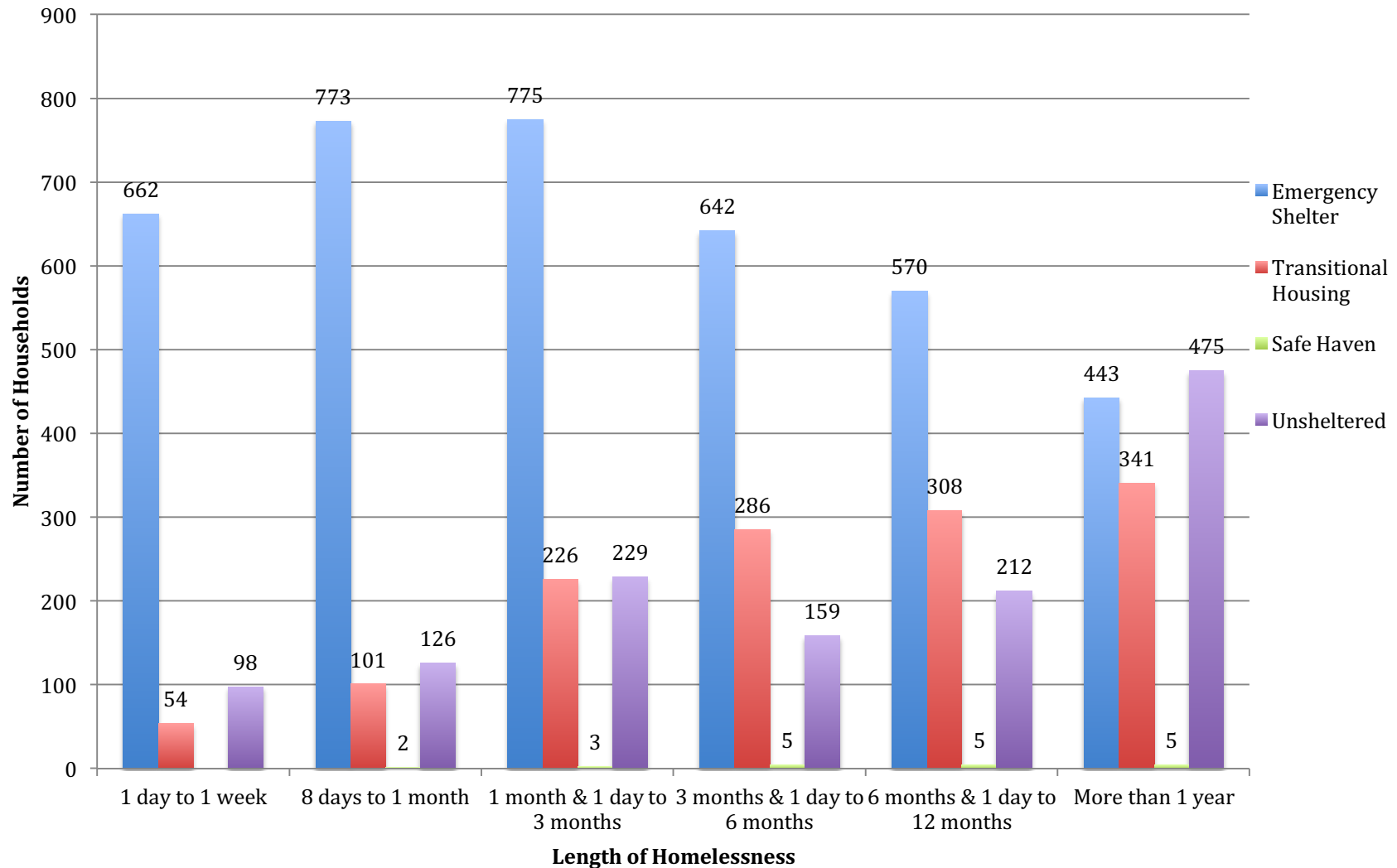
Where did you spend the night of the Point in Time?

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



How long have you been in your current living situation?

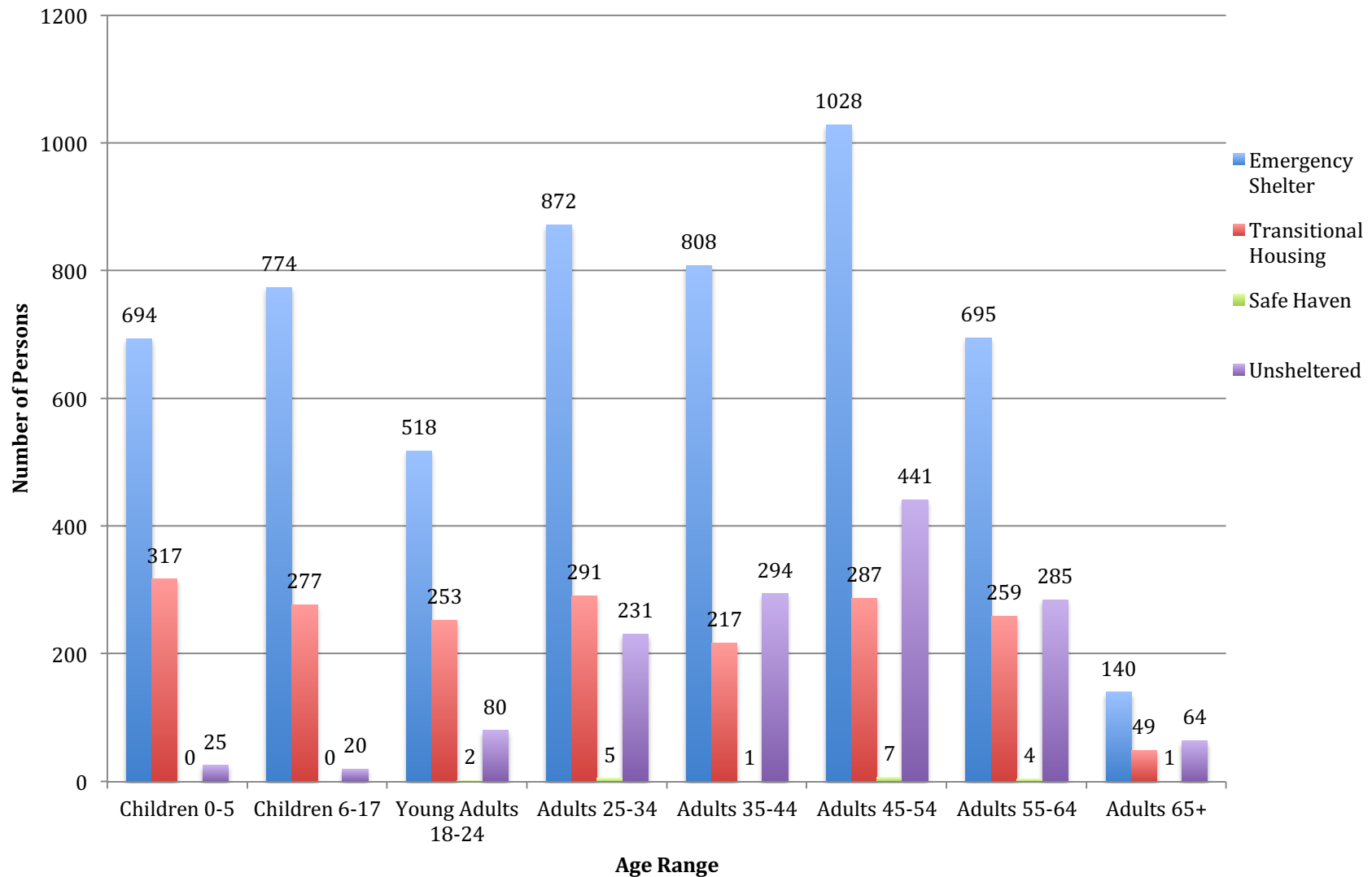
**Fig. A.2. Homeless Households by Length of Homelessness and Housing Type**



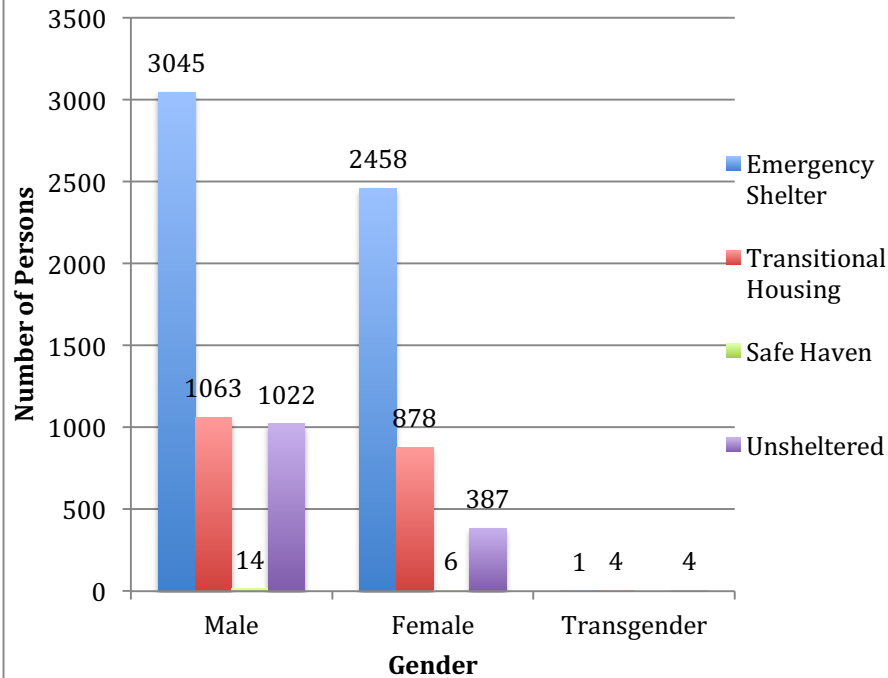


Who was homeless with you on the night of the Point in Time count?

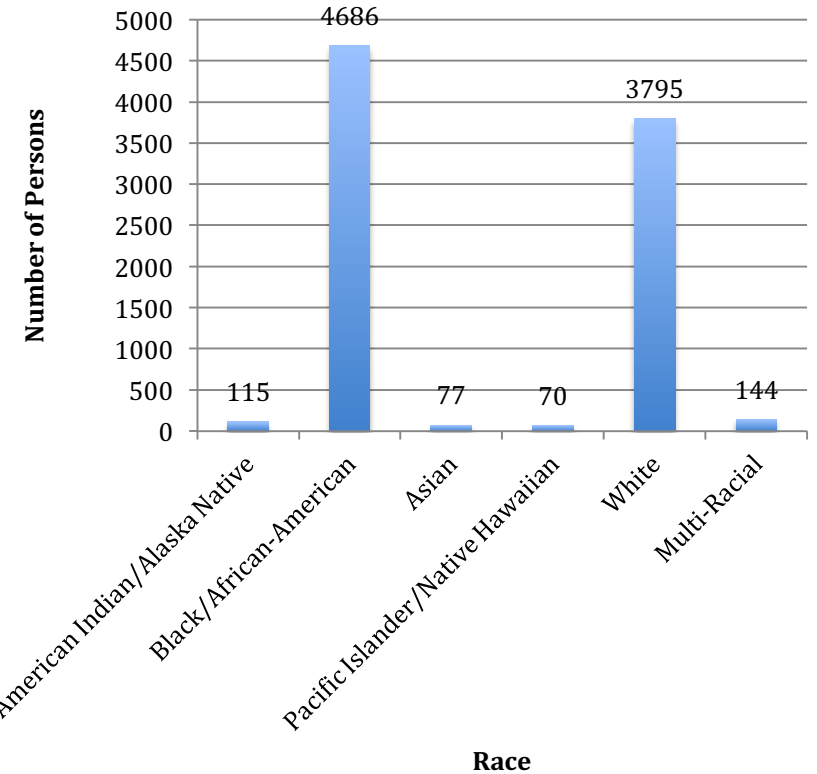
**Fig. A.3. Number of Persons by Age Range and Housing Type**



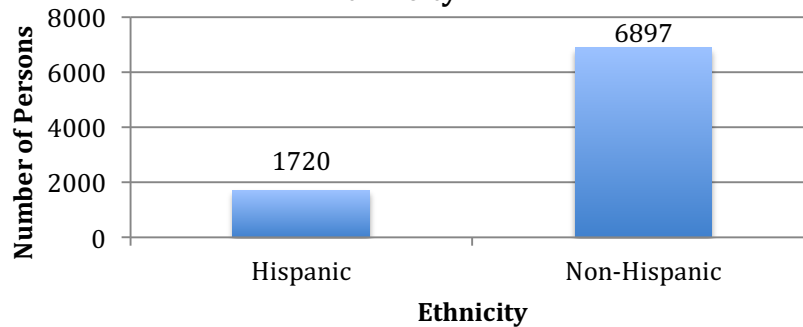
**Fig. A.4. Number of Persons by Gender and Housing Situation**



**Fig. A.5. Number of Homeless Persons by Race**

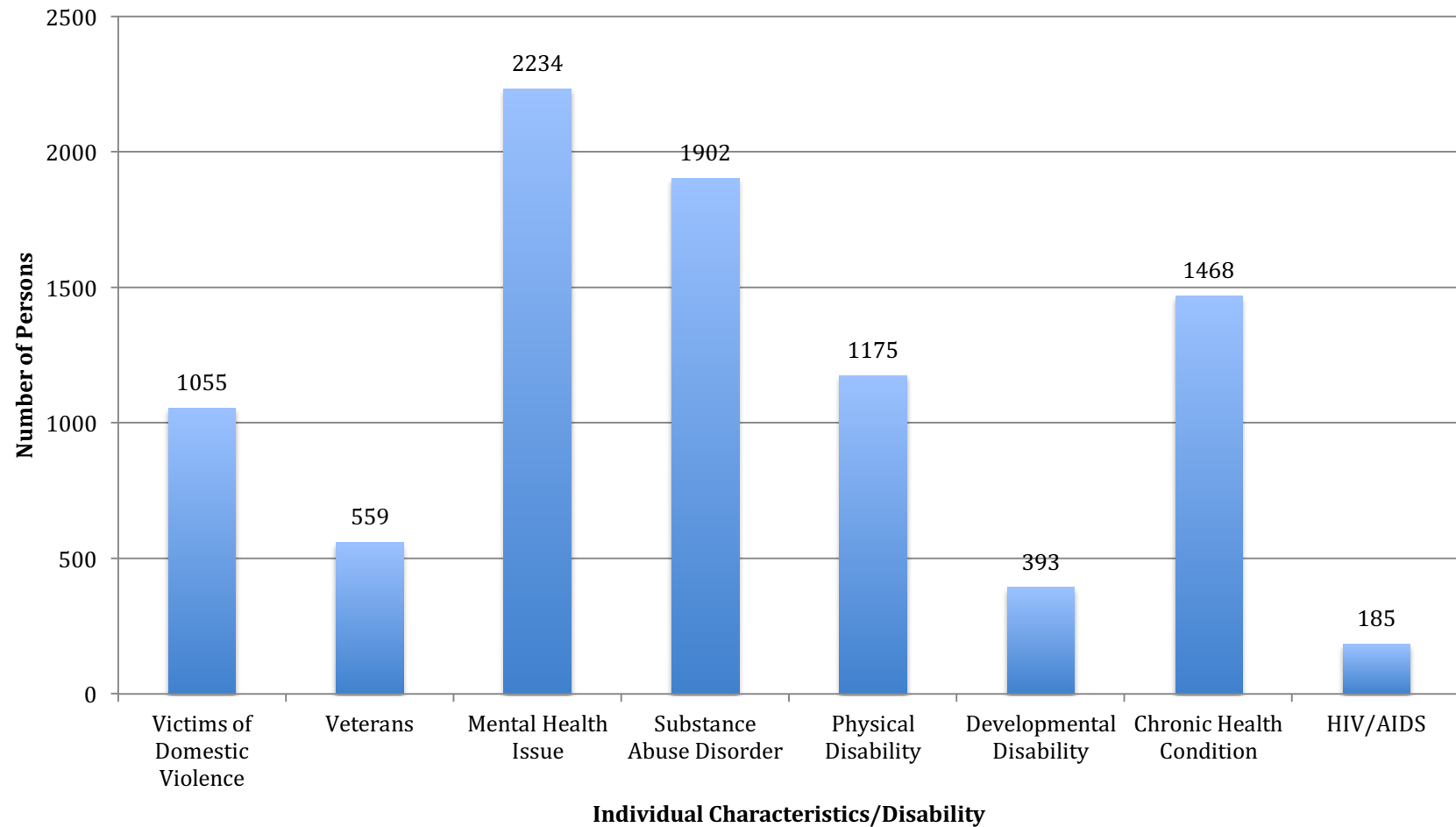


**Fig. A.6. Number of Homeless Persons by Ethnicity**



Household Characteristics – check all that apply to each person

**Fig. A.7. Number of Homeless Persons by Victims of Domestic Violence, Veteran Status, and Disability**

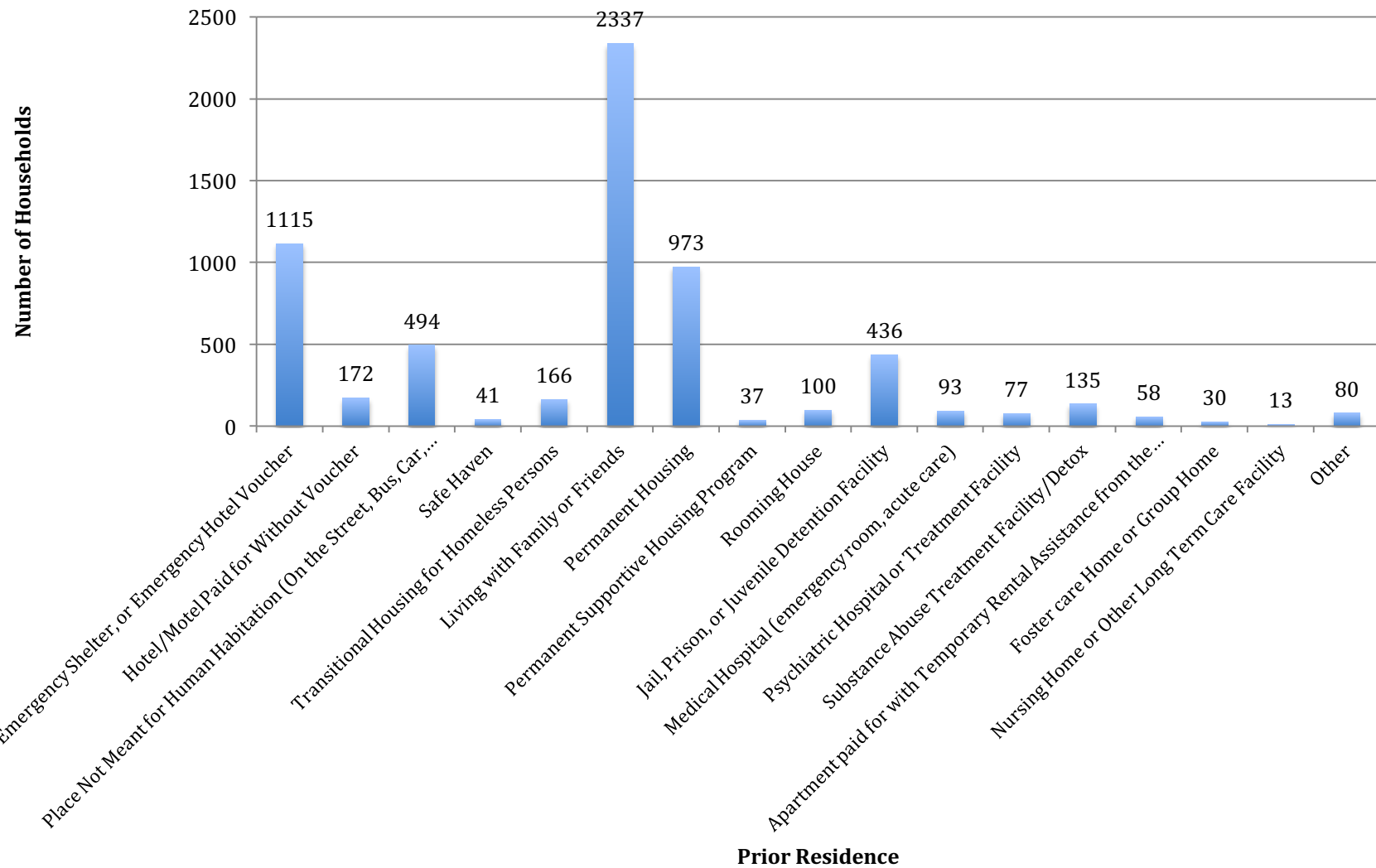


## Where was your last permanent address before becoming homeless?

<b>Fig. A.8. Number of Homeless Households by State or Country of Last Permanent Address</b>	
<b>Last Permanent Address – State/Country</b>	<b>Number of Households</b>
Arizona	5
California	2
Colorado	2
Connecticut	5
Delaware	5
Florida	31
Georgia	8
Hawaii	1
Illinois	3
Indiana	2
Maine	2
Maryland	6
Massachusetts	6
Michigan	6
Missouri	1
Nevada	2
New Hampshire	1
<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>5458</b>
New York	64
North Carolina	14
Ohio	4
Oklahoma	2
Pennsylvania	79
South Carolina	11
Tennessee	1
Texas	8
Utah	1
Virginia	5
Washington	1
West Virginia	3
Brazil	2
Poland	1
Mexico	1
Puerto Rico	7

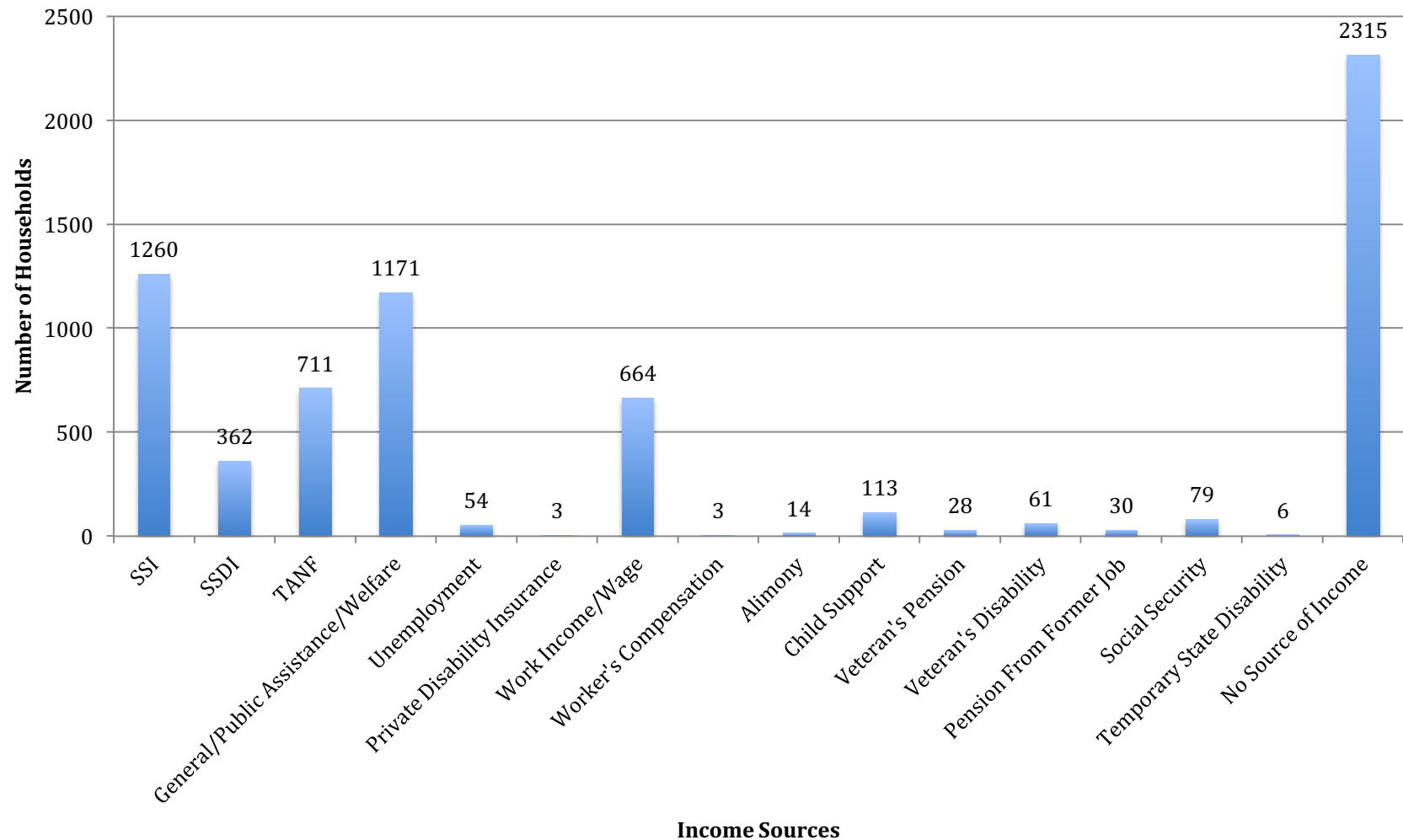
What was your residence prior to your current living situation?

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



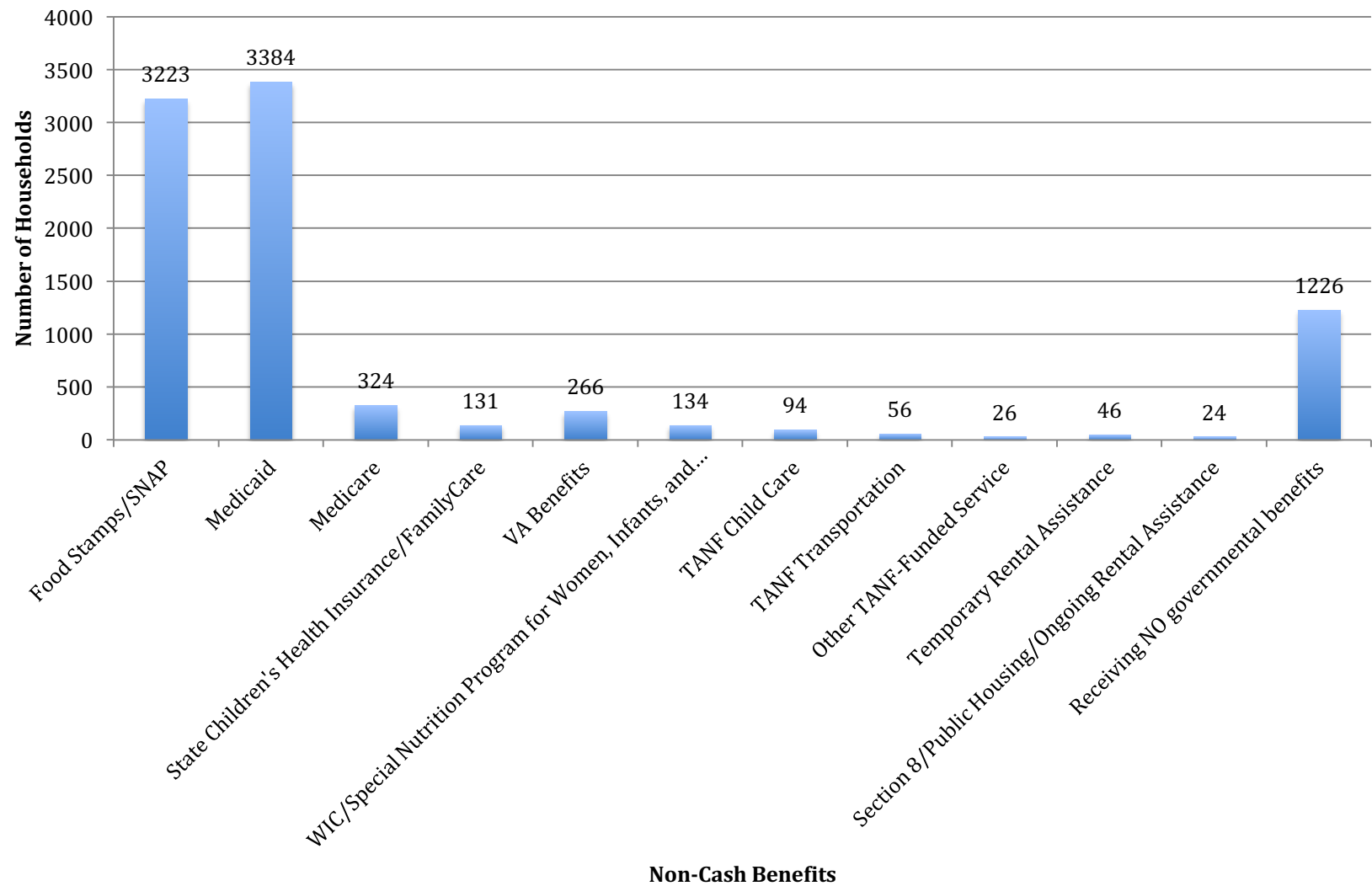
Which of the following sources of income or non-cash benefits do you, or anyone in your household, receive?

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



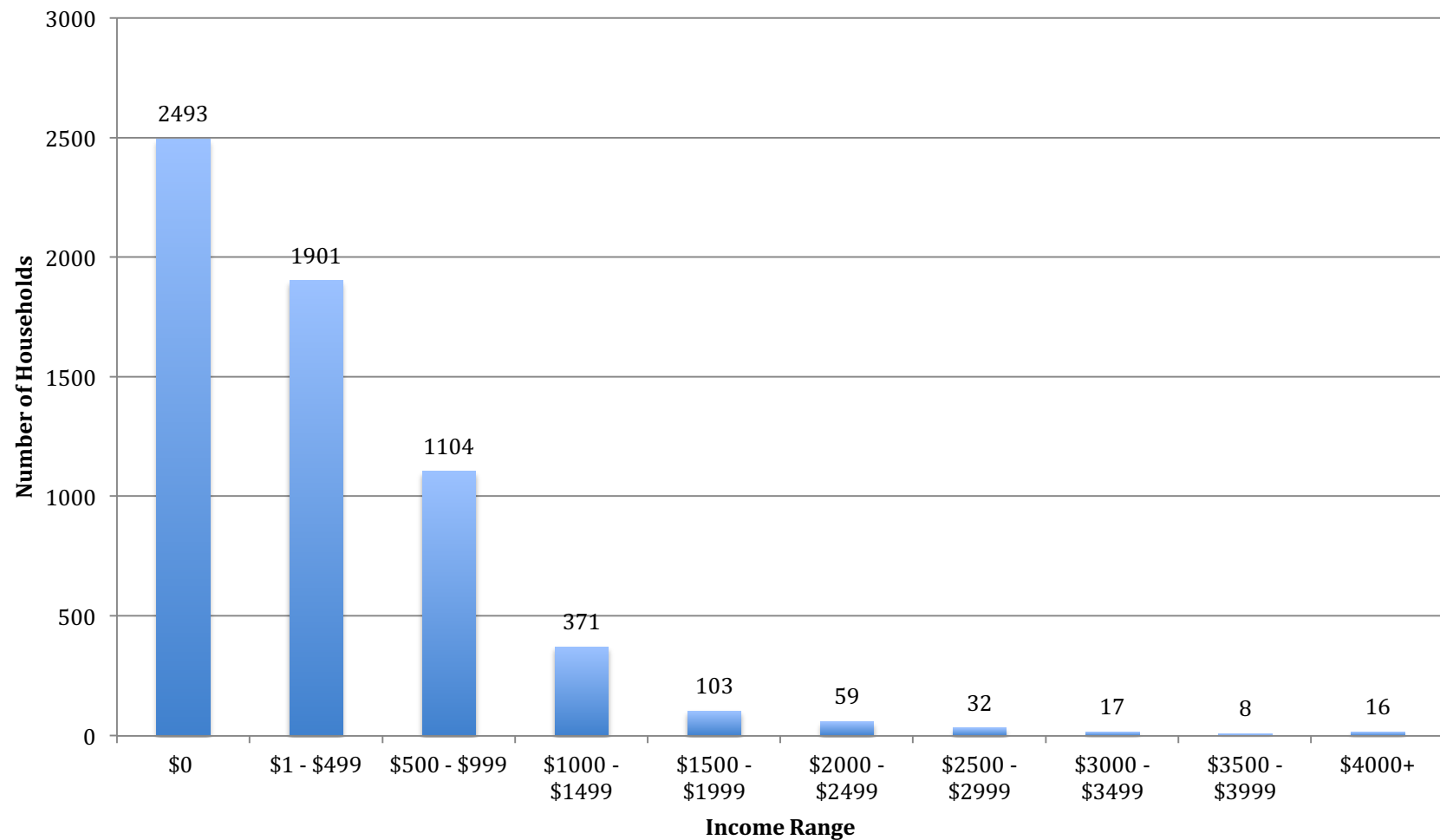


**Fig. A. 11. Number of Households by Sources of Non-Cash Benefits**



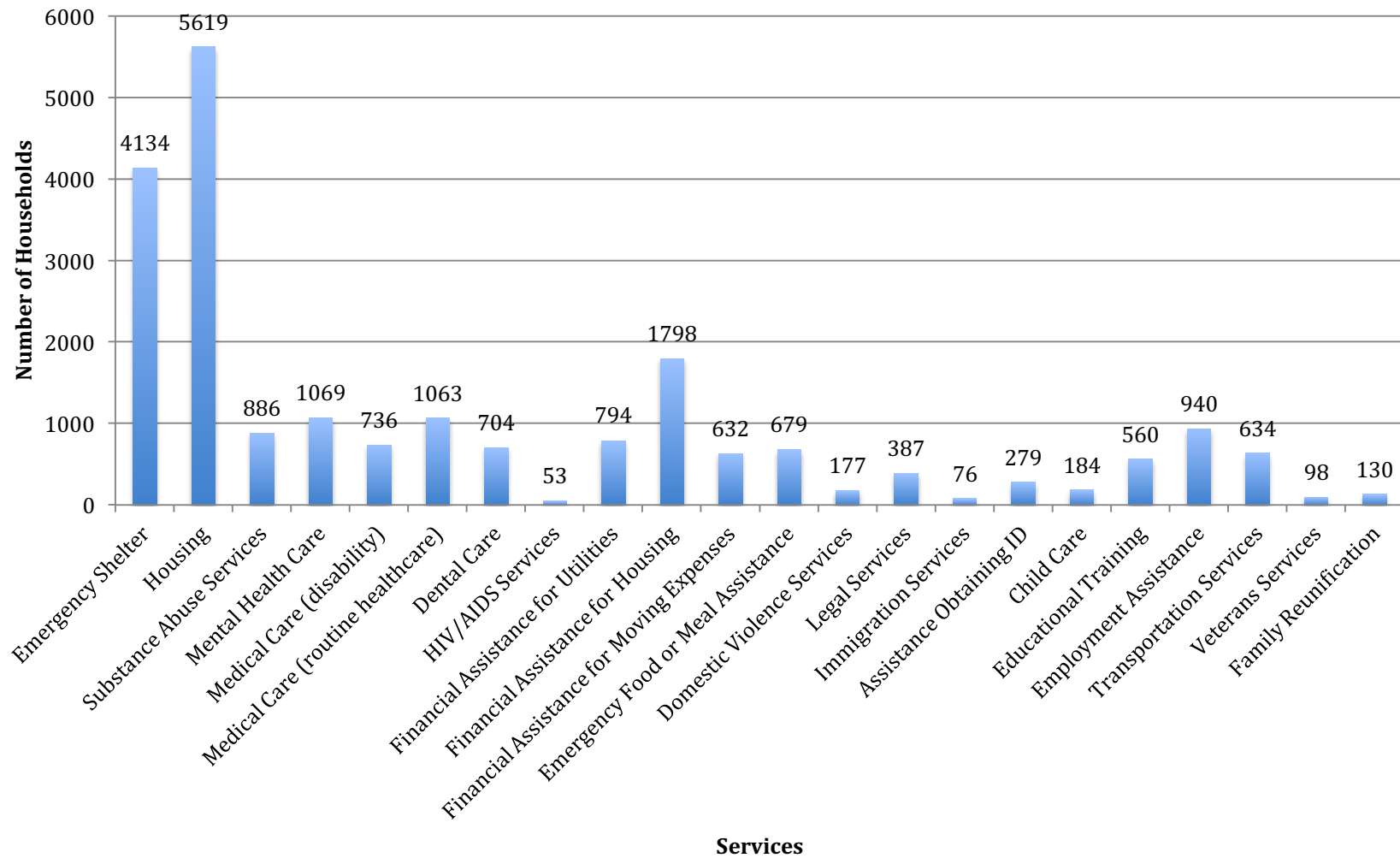
What is your monthly household income?

**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**

