

2013 City of San Jose

# HOMELESS

P O I N T - I N - T I M E

## CENSUS & SURVEY JURISDICTIONAL REPORT



Report Produced by Applied Survey Research  
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# Acknowledgements

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## SERVICE PROVIDERS

Asian Americans for Community Involvement ▪ Bill Wilson Center ▪ City Team International ▪ Community Services Agency ▪ Community Solutions ▪ Community Technology Alliance ▪ Downtown Streets Team ▪ EHC LifeBuilders ▪ Family Supportive Housing ▪ InnVision Shelter Network ▪ Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence ▪ Salvation Army ▪ Santa Clara County Mental Health Department ▪ South County Housing ▪ Support Network for Battered Women ▪ Unity Care ▪ Valley Homeless Health Care Program ▪ West Valley Community Services

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Finally, this study would not be possible without the 178 homeless census and survey workers, 456 survey respondents, and dozens of outreach workers whose efforts are reflected throughout this report.

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## Introduction

Close to two million people experience homelessness in the United States each year.<sup>1</sup> For most, this is caused by the gap between income and the cost of housing. Yet for many, health conditions, mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and lack of social supports also prevent them from obtaining permanent housing.

Every two years, communities across the United States conduct comprehensive counts of their homeless population during the last 10 days of January in order to gain a better understanding of the individuals who are currently experiencing homelessness, and to be eligible for federal funding for homeless programs.

All jurisdictions receiving federal funding to provide housing and services for homeless individuals and families are required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to conduct a Point-in-Time Count of homeless persons. The biennial Point-in-Time Count must include all unsheltered and sheltered homeless persons in emergency shelters and transitional housing facilities on the date of the count.

The data collected through Point-in-Time Counts across the United States help the federal government to better understand the nature and extent of homelessness nationwide. All jurisdictions report the findings of their Point-in-Time Count in their annual funding application to HUD. Santa Clara County was awarded \$9.9 million in renewed federal funding for homeless services in 2013. This is a critical source of homeless services funding for the county.

The San Jose census was part of the larger Santa Clara County census effort. The count had two primary components: a Point-in-Time enumeration of unsheltered homeless individuals and families (those sleeping outdoors, on the street, in parks, or vehicles, etc.) and a Point-in-Time enumeration of homeless individuals and families who have temporary shelter (those staying in an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or using hotel/motel vouchers).

The 2013 Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort. With the support of 155 community volunteers and staff from various city and county departments, the entire region was canvassed between daybreak and noon on the mornings of January 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, but primarily on the morning of the 29<sup>th</sup>. This resulted in a visual count of unsheltered homeless individuals and families residing on the streets, in vehicles, makeshift shelters, encampments and other places not meant for human habitation. Shelters reported the number of homeless individuals and families who occupied their facilities on the evening of Jan. 29, 2013.

In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to 456 sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals in the City of San Jose. The survey used a peer-to-peer methodology and was administered by trained survey workers, who had or were experiencing homelessness.

The results of both the census and survey presented in this report provide invaluable data regarding the number and characteristics of homeless individuals and families in the City of San Jose. These data can help guide citywide efforts to mitigate and end homelessness.

It is important, however, to note that Point-in-Time Counts are generally considered to be undercounts because some individuals try to stay out of view either for safety reasons, or because they sleep in unfit structures or in isolated and abandoned areas. Similarly, families will often try to stay out of view because parents fear that Child Protective Services will try to remove their children from the family. (See Appendix 1 for more challenges and limitations). Additionally, for the purpose of this report, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) does not recognize persons living in a doubled up situation with friends or family.

### ***Federal Definition of Homelessness***

In this study, HUD's definition of homelessness for Point-in-Time Counts was used. The definition includes individuals and families:

- » living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide a temporary living arrangement, or
- » 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.<sup>2</sup>

### ***Project Purpose and Goals***

The 2013 Planning Committee identified five key project goals:

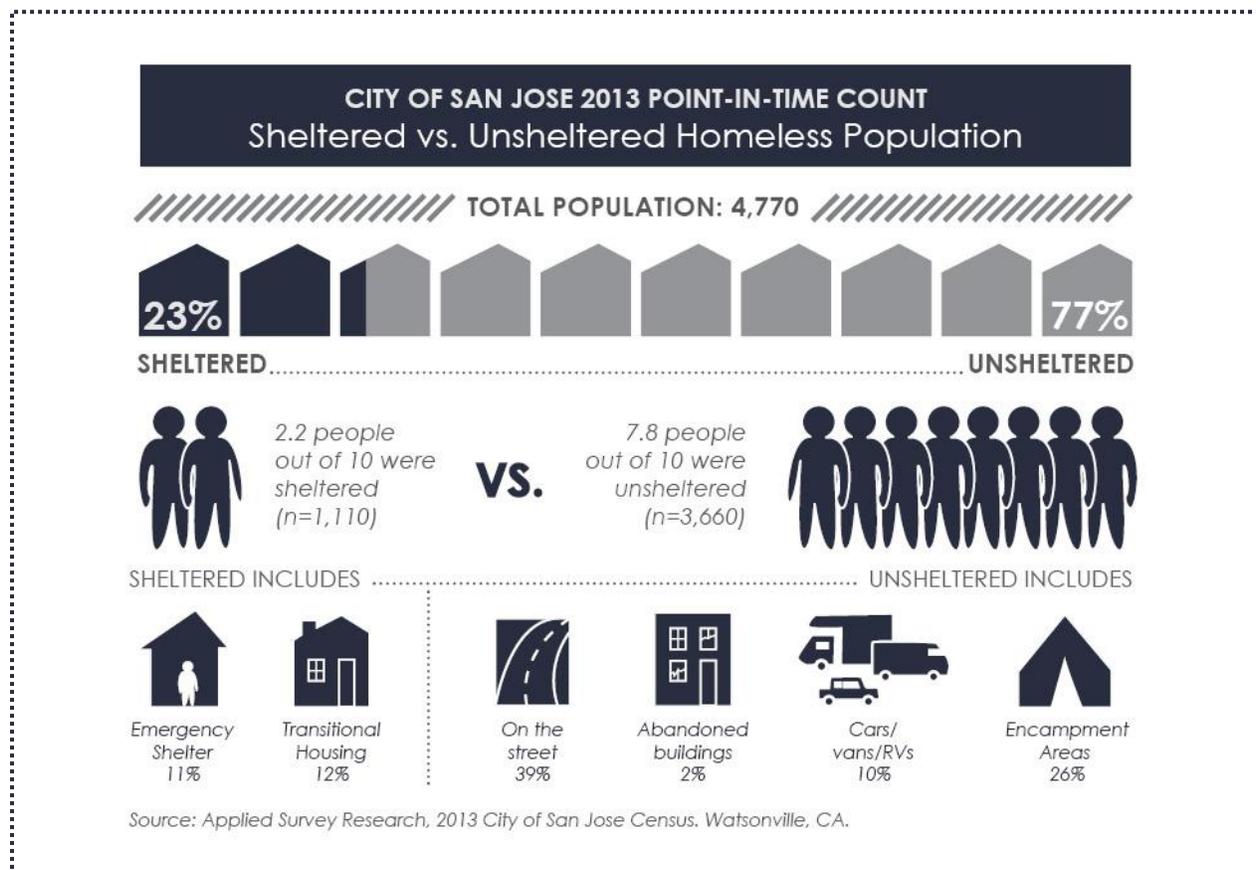
- » To preserve current federal funding for homeless services and to enhance the ability to raise new funds;
- » To improve the ability of policy makers and service providers to plan and implement services that meet the needs of the local homeless population;
- » To measure changes in the numbers and characteristics of the homeless population since the 2011 City of San Jose Homeless Count and Survey, and to track progress toward ending homelessness;
- » To assess the situation of those residing in encampment areas
- » To increase understanding of specific subpopulations including veterans, families, unaccompanied children and youth, and those who are chronically homeless

The data presented in this report provide an updated view of homelessness in the City of San Jose. It is hoped that the results of this research will assist service providers, policy makers, funders, and local, state, and federal governments to better understand and plan for the needs of individuals and families facing homelessness.

## Point-in-Time Count

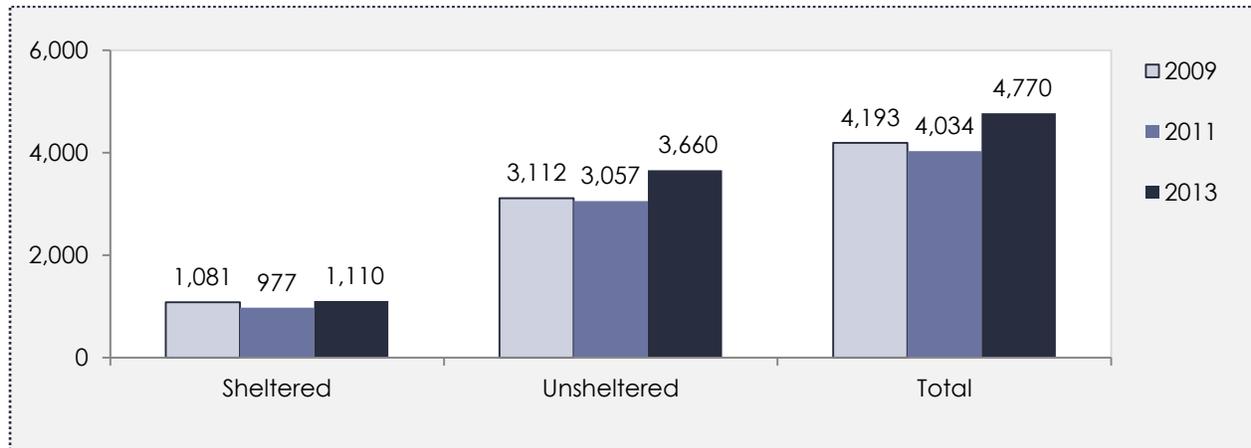
The 2013 Point-in-Time Count included an enumeration of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons living in the City of San Jose. The street count was conducted on Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013 from approximately daybreak to noon. Teams of homeless guides and housed volunteers canvassed all 177 square miles of San Jose. Individuals in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and domestic violence shelters were counted on the same day.

A total of 4,770 people were counted in the City of San Jose on the mornings of Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Approximately 76% of the population was unsheltered (including 1,230 persons who were living in encampments), while 24% resided in emergency shelters, transitional housing facilities, and safe havens.



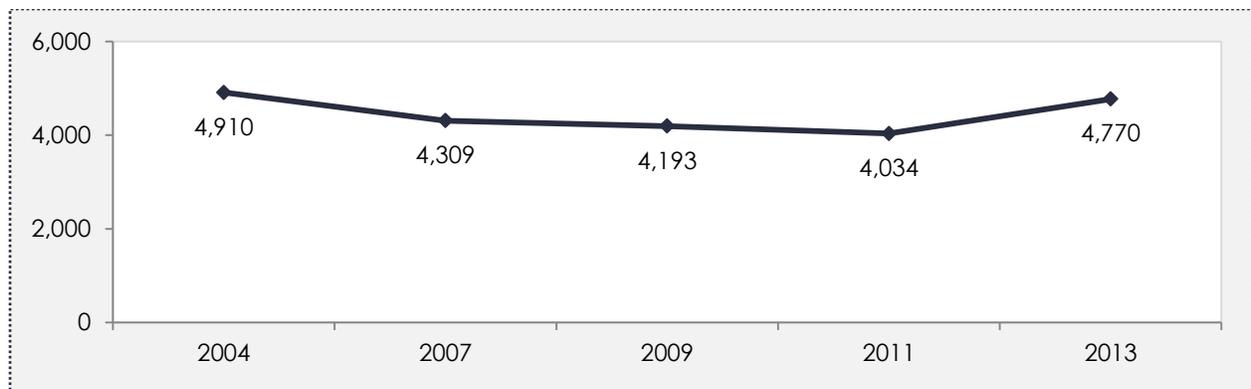
There was an 18% increase in the city’s homeless population from 4,034 in 2011 to 4,770 in 2013. The largest growth was in the unsheltered population, increasing by 603 people between 2011 and 2013. The number of people sheltered increased slightly from 977 in 2011 to 1,110 in 2013.

HOMELESS CENSUS RESULTS BY SHELTER STATUS DURING THE POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS CENSUS



Over the last nine years, there was a decrease of about 3% in the number of people experiencing homelessness in the City of San Jose, from 4,910 in 2004 to 4,770 in 2013.

CITY OF SAN JOSE HOMELESS CENSUS NINE-YEAR TREND



The majority of those counted in the 2013 Point-in-Time Count were adults 25 years or older (76%). There were 401 children under the age of 18 included in the count. Of those children, 59% were living with family members (including at least one adult), while 41% (165 children) were living on their own.

National data suggests there is a growing population of Transition Age Youth (TAY) between the ages of 18 and 24 years old who are experiencing homelessness and all communities were asked to gather data on this population in 2013. In the City of San Jose, 736 individuals ages 18-24 years, were counted during the Point-in-Time Count.<sup>3</sup>

#### HOMELESS CENSUS RESULTS BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE & AGE GROUP (2013)

	Children under 18	Adults 18-24	Adults 25+	Total
<b>Sheltered</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>1,110</b>
<i>Persons in family households</i>	210	36	126	372
<i>Persons in non-family households</i>	10	66	662	738
<b>Unsheltered</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>2,845</b>	<b>3,660</b>
<i>Persons in family households</i>	26	10	9	45
<i>Persons in non-family households</i>	155	624	2,836	3,615
<b>Total</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>3,633</b>	<b>4,770</b>
<b>Percent</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Annual Estimates

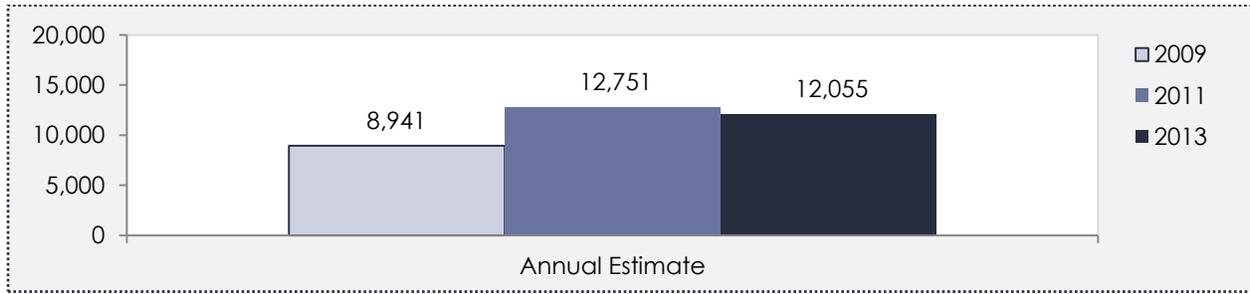
A Point-in-Time Count is a snapshot of homelessness; however, it may not adequately reflect the number of people experiencing homelessness over the course of an entire year. The following section provides additional ways of understanding the number of persons experiencing homelessness in the City of San Jose.

### Annualization of Point-in-Time Data

The Point-in-Time Count, along with survey data, can be used to estimate the number of people experiencing homelessness. This estimate was 12,055 people in 2013.

An updated annual estimate was used in 2013, based on a formula detailed by the Corporation for Supportive Housing. Prior year's data have been updated to resemble this new formula (for more information on annual estimates see Appendix 1). These updated annual estimates are based on data from the Point-in-Time Count and responses from the subsequent homeless survey. While the overall number of persons included in the Point-in-Time Count increased, the annual estimate decreased from 12,751 to 12,055 people, between 2011 and 2013. This decrease was due to a drop in the numbers of persons experiencing homelessness for brief periods of time and an increase in the number of persons who had experienced multiple periods of homelessness over the course of the year.

ANNUAL ESTIMATE OF HOMELESSNESS IN THE CITY OF SAN JOSE

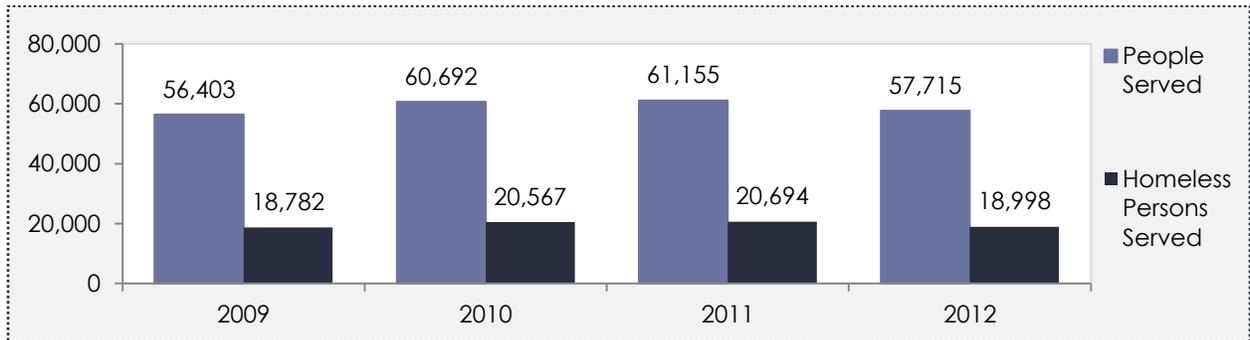


Note: The annualization formula was updated in 2013, 2009 and 2011 data have been updated to reflect this.

Help Management Information System Data

The Santa Clara County Collaborative uses a shared database, the Help Management Information System (HMIS), to collect information on those who are currently homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless. HUD has mandated Continuums of Care use an HMIS database to measure outcomes of HUD-funded programs and produce an unduplicated count of people experiencing homelessness. Data from HMIS showed nearly 58,000 people in the City of San Jose were served through HMIS participating programs in 2012. Of those served, nearly 19,000 identified themselves as homeless.

UNDULICATED COUNT OF PERSONS SERVED BY HMIS PARTNER AGENCIES



Source: Community Technology Alliance. (2013). Data Request. Personal Correspondence.

## Homeless Survey Findings

The core organizational plan for the 2013 homeless census and survey is described by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as a “blitz count,” followed by an in-person representative survey. This two-stage method includes an observational homeless census followed by a statistically solid survey sampling effort. The randomized survey sample is then used to profile and estimate the condition and characteristics of the city’s homeless population and subpopulations for the purposes of HUD reporting and local service delivery and strategic planning. The results of the “blitz” street census and the homeless shelter census, combined with the survey, are the foundational data elements for all data discussed in the following report.

This section provides an overview of the findings generated from the homeless survey in the City of San Jose. Surveys were administered to individuals experiencing homelessness after the

completion of the Point-in-Time Count, between Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup> 2013. The survey effort resulted in 456 complete and unique surveys.<sup>4</sup> Respondents were not required to answer every question. In an effort to mitigate sample bias, and faithfully represent the overall population experiencing homelessness in the City of San Jose, surveyors were recruited from multiple organizations and areas. Efforts were made to target respondents based on living accommodation, age, and geographic location.

SURVEY SAMPLE (2013)

	Census Population	Survey Population
Age 18-24	16%	25%
Age 25+	76%	73%
Families	9%	5%
Sheltered	23%	30%
Living in Encampments	26%	15%
Female	26%	25%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>4,770</b>	<b>456</b>

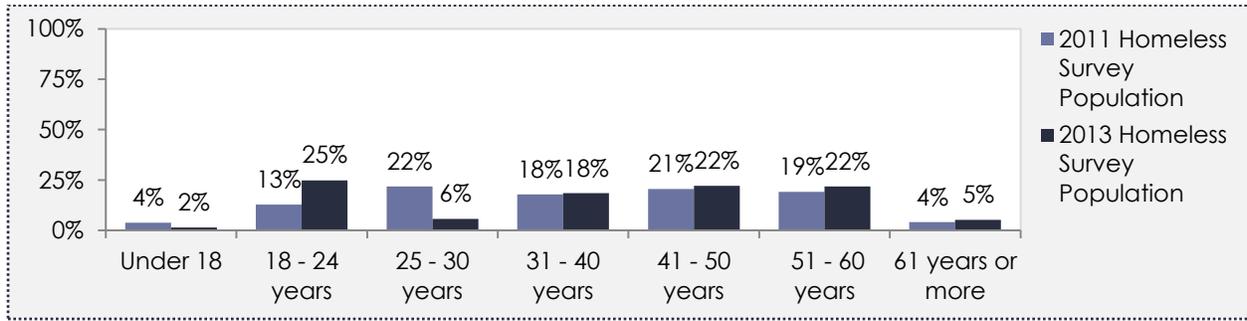
### Survey Demographics

In order to gain a more comprehensive understanding of those experiencing homelessness in the City of San Jose, respondents were asked basic demographic questions including age, gender, sexual orientation, and ethnicity.

#### Age

Targeted outreach to unaccompanied children and youth resulted in 25% of survey respondents falling within the Transitional Age Youth category of 18-24 years old. Less than 2% of survey respondents were under the age of 18. Despite targeted outreach to youth, the average age of survey respondents increased between 2011 and 2013, from 38 to 40 years old.

AGE BREAKDOWN

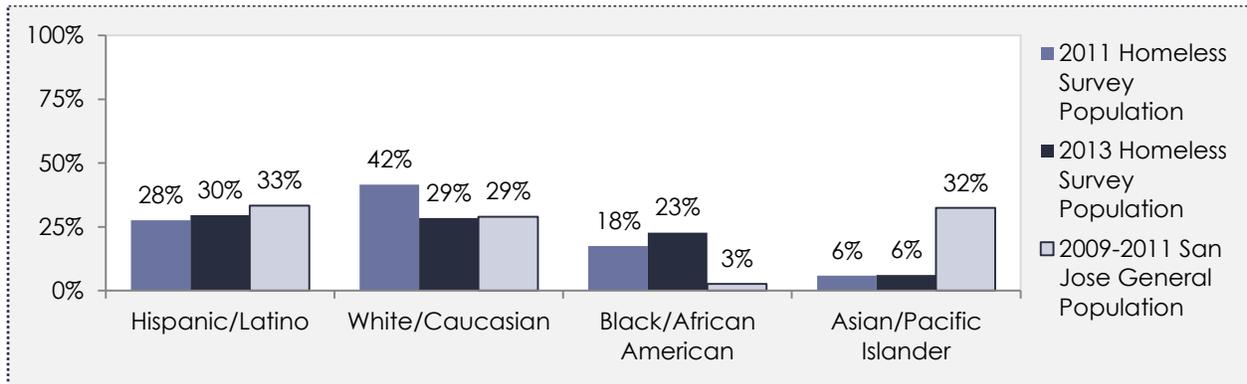


2011 n = 673; 2013 n = 450

Race/Ethnicity<sup>5</sup>

Thirty percent of survey respondents identified as Hispanic/Latino, followed by White/Caucasian (29%), and Black/African American (23%). In comparison to the overall population of San Jose, there was a disproportionately high number of Black/African Americans experiencing homelessness. Three percent of the overall population of San Jose identified as Black/African American compared to 23% of homeless survey respondents.

RACE/ETHNICITY (TOP 4 RACES/ETHNICITIES)



2011 n = 673; 2013 n = 453

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2012). ACS 3- Year Estimates 2009-2011, Demographics and Housing Estimates. Retrieved 2013 from [www.factfinder2.gov](http://www.factfinder2.gov)

Gender and Sexual Orientation

Nearly three-quarters of survey respondents identified as male (73%), while one-quarter identified as female (25%) and 2% as transgender, similar to previous years.

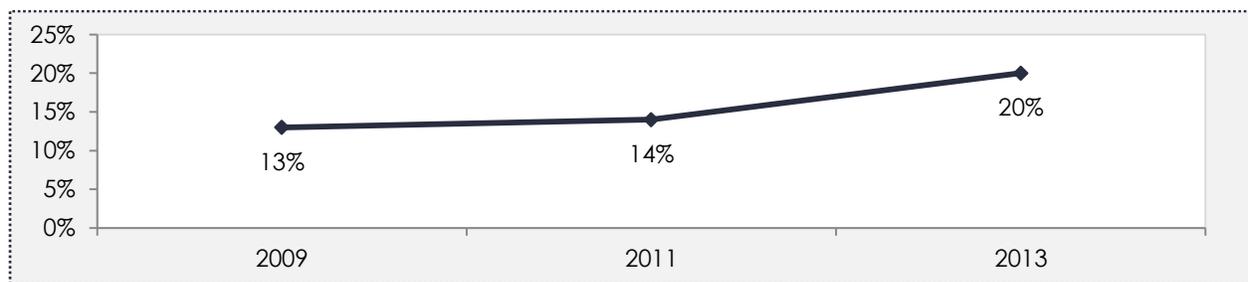
National research has shown a higher prevalence of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) individuals among those experiencing homelessness, especially among youth.<sup>6</sup> In an effort to understand the phenomena locally, respondents were asked to identify their sexual orientation for the first time in 2013. In the City of San Jose, nearly one in three (30%) homeless youth respondents under the age of 25 identified as LGBTQ, as did 7% of homeless respondents 25 years and older.<sup>7</sup>

### Transition from Foster Care

According to the Foster Care Alumni Organization, 4% of the general U.S. population has had a foster care experience<sup>8</sup>. However, researchers have repeatedly noted the connections between foster care and homelessness, as youth may not be ready for independence or have stable housing after they age out of the foster care system at 18 years old.

Twenty percent of the 2013 homeless survey respondents reported having been in the foster care system. This was higher than in 2011 (14%). Of those who reported having been in the foster care system, 35% had been in the system for one year or less, while 27% had been in the system for 10 years or more.

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO HAD EVER BEEN IN FOSTER CARE



2009 n = 521; 2011 n = 634; 2013 n = 449

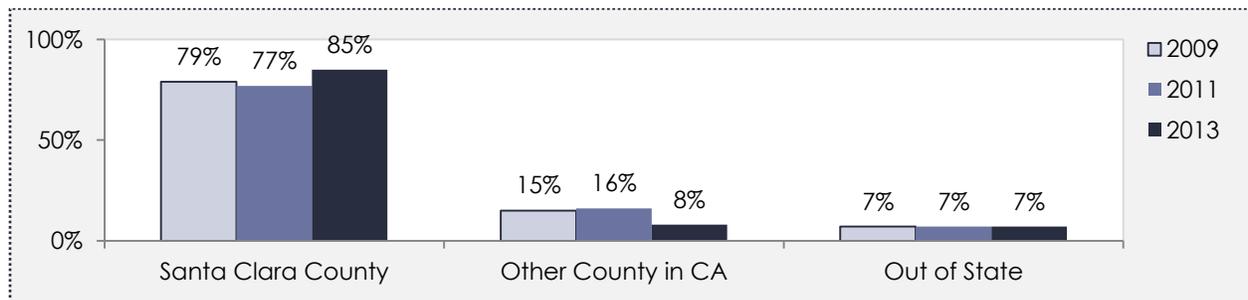
### Living Accommodations

Where individuals resided prior to experiencing homelessness, and where they have resided since, affects the way they seek services. Survey respondents were asked about both the geography and environment in which they were living prior to experiencing homelessness.

#### County Residency

Eighty-five percent of City of San Jose survey respondents reported having lived in Santa Clara County at the time they most recently became homeless, an increase from 77% in 2011. It is estimated that 71% were living in the City of San Jose at the time they lost their housing.

WHERE RESPONDENTS WERE LIVING AT THE TIME THEY MOST RECENTLY BECAME HOMELESS

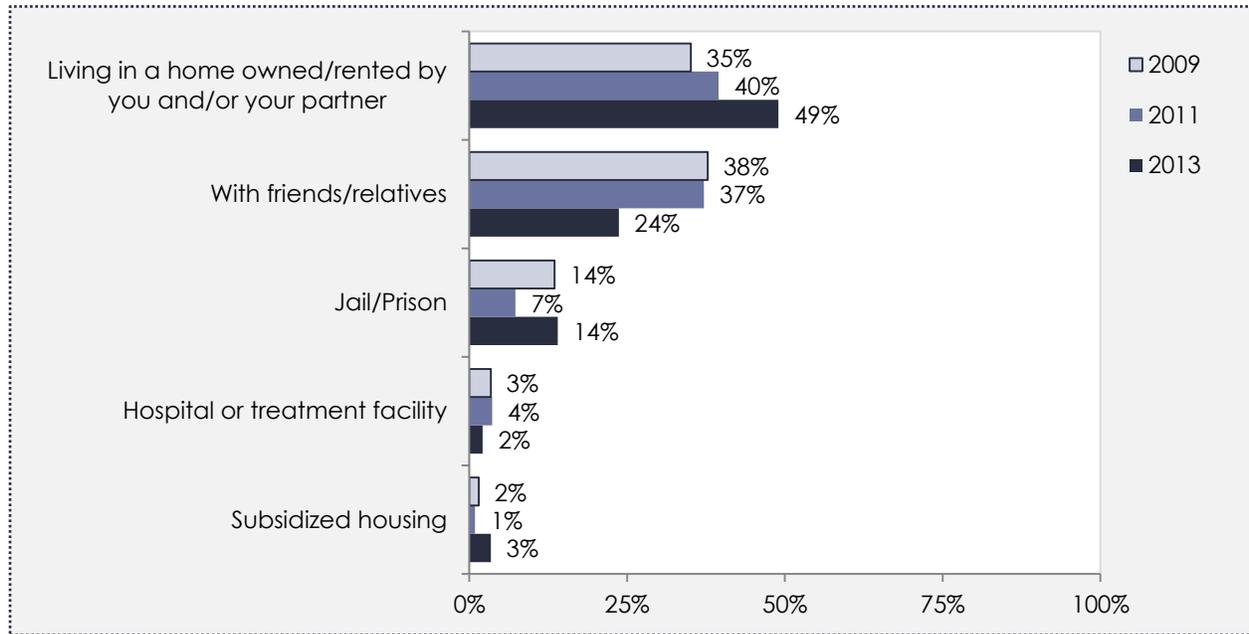


2009 n = 526; 2011 n = 674; 2013 n = 444

### Previous Living Arrangements

Nearly half (49%) of respondents reported that prior to experiencing homelessness they were living in a home that they or their partner owned or rented. Twenty-four percent of respondents reported staying with friends or family, and 14% reported they were in a jail/prison or a juvenile justice facility prior to becoming homeless.

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO BECOMING HOMELESS THIS TIME (TOP 5 RESPONSES IN 2013)

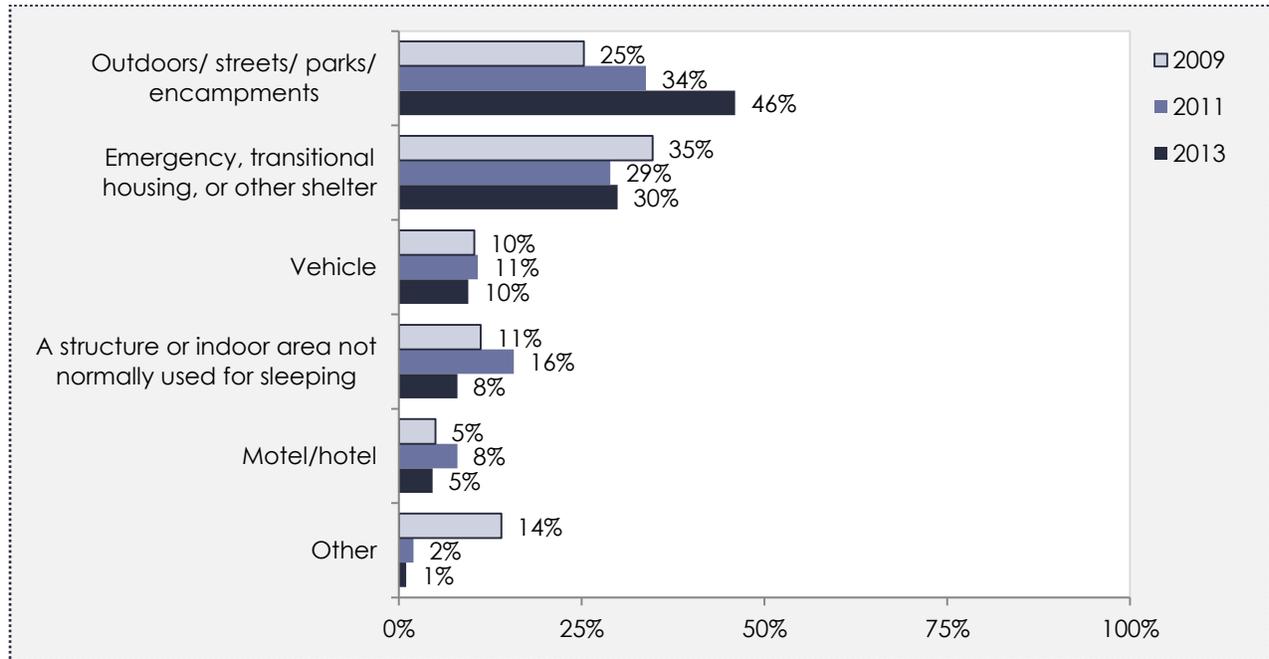


2009 n=524; 2011 n=671; 2013 n= 435

### Current Living Arrangements

Eighty-two percent of respondents reported living alone in 2013, up from 72% in 2011. More respondents reported they usually slept outdoors, on the street, in parks or encampment areas in 2013 – 46% compared to 34% in 2011. Ten percent of survey respondents reported living in vehicles and 8% lived in an indoor area not meant for sleeping, including transit centers, abandoned buildings, and interior spaces such as foyers, doorways, and hallways.

USUAL PLACE TO SLEEP AT NIGHT



2009 n = 526; 2011 n = 674; 2013 n = 452

### Individuals Living in Encampments

The current situation with individuals residing in encampments in the City of San Jose has resulted in numerous city-organized intervention strategies, ranging from social service outreach teams to encampment clean ups and sweeps.

There were 1,230 individuals counted in City encampments during the Point-in-Time Count. Individuals living in encampment areas represented the largest segment of the survey population outside of City shelters. Individuals residing in encampment areas were generally older than those in non-encampment areas; 36% of the encampment population was between the ages of 41 and 50 years old. Encampment respondents were largely male (80%) and Latino/Hispanic respondents accounted for 41% of those in encampment areas, compared to 27% in non-encampment areas. Nearly all encampment residents were living in Santa Clara County when they first became homeless (96%); all but three reported they were in the City of San Jose at that time.

Encampment residents reported longer periods of homelessness than those outside of encampment areas; 80% had been homeless for one year or more.

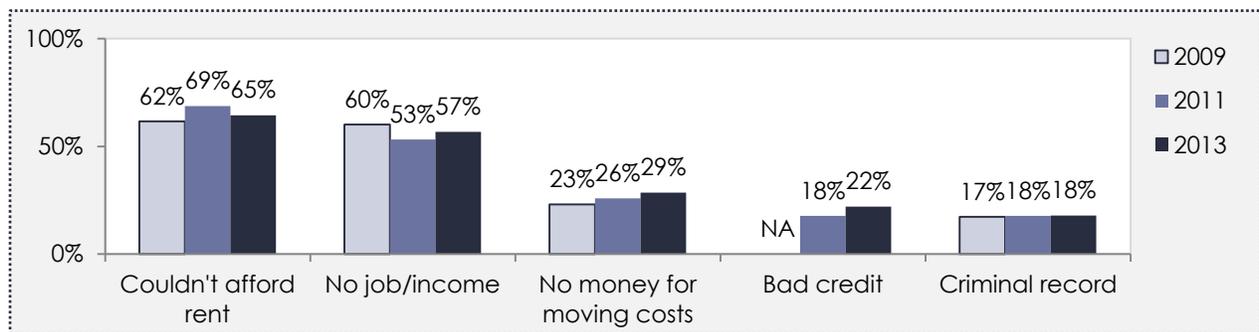
## Permanent Housing

A common misperception about individuals experiencing homelessness is that they do not want housing and prefer to live outdoors. In 2013, homeless survey respondents were asked if they would want affordable permanent housing were it available. Ninety-three percent said yes; the percentage was even higher among those in encampments, at 96%.

### Obstacles to Obtaining Permanent Housing

The most commonly cited obstacles to obtaining permanent housing were associated with income. Almost two-thirds (65%) of respondents in 2013 reported an inability to afford rent, followed by 5% reporting a lack of job or income. While survey response options have changed slightly since the start of the homeless census and survey project, these two responses have been the most frequently reported since 2004.

OBSTACLES TO SECURING PERMANENT HOUSING (TOP 5 RESPONSES IN 2013)



Multiple response question, responses will not add to 100%.

2009: 525 respondents offering 1,229 responses; 2011: 667 respondents offering 1,568 responses; 2013: 414 respondents offering 995 responses.

## Shelter Stays

### Access to Shelters

Respondents were asked if they were turned away from a shelter in the last 30 days. Twenty-four percent reported they were turned away from an emergency shelter and 5% reported being turned away from a transitional housing facility. The number of respondents who reported being turned away from each type of shelter decreased between 2011 and 2013.

Of those who were turned away from a shelter in the last month, the three most frequently reported reasons in 2013 were no beds available (62%), alcohol or drug problems (15%), and they could not follow the rules (12%).

REASONS TURNED AWAY FROM SHELTER (TOP 5 RESPONSES)

	2009	2011	2013
There were no beds available	57%	63%	62%
Alcohol/drug problems	19%	17%	14%
Couldn't follow shelter rules	8%	13%	12%
Had no identification	4%	10%	6%
Didn't accept partner/friend	6%	2%	7%

2009: 144 respondents offering 177 responses; 2011: 106 offering 144 responses; 2013: 130 respondents offering 155 responses.

**Number of Episodes of Homelessness and Duration of Homelessness**

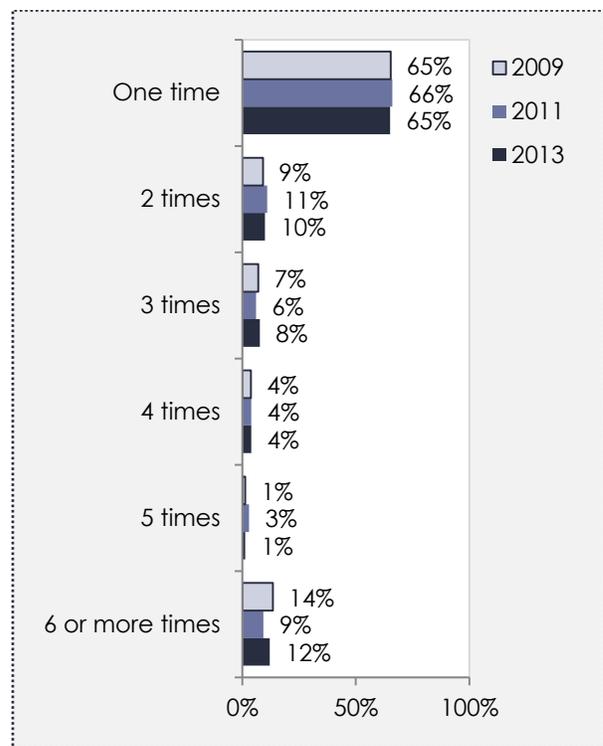
Number of Episodes of Homelessness

For many, the experience of homelessness is part of a long and recurring history of residential instability. Individuals may fall in and out of homelessness as they develop different subsistence strategies and housing opportunities.<sup>9</sup> Nearly half (49%) of 2013 survey respondents reported they were experiencing homelessness for the first time. Thirty-five percent of all 2013 respondents reported they had two or more episodes of homelessness in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Duration of Homelessness

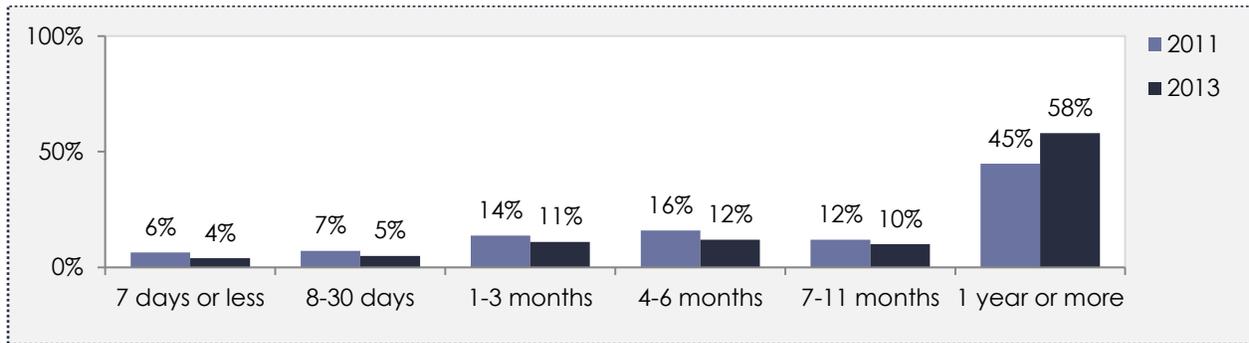
Ten percent of survey respondents reported their current period of homelessness had been one month or less. More than half (58%) reported they had been without housing for one year or more.

NUMBER OF TIMES EXPERIENCING HOMELESS IN THE LAST YEAR, INCLUDING THIS TIME



2009 n = 527; 2011 n =674; 2013 n =456

LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS THIS CURRENT TIME



2011 n =661; 2013 n =449

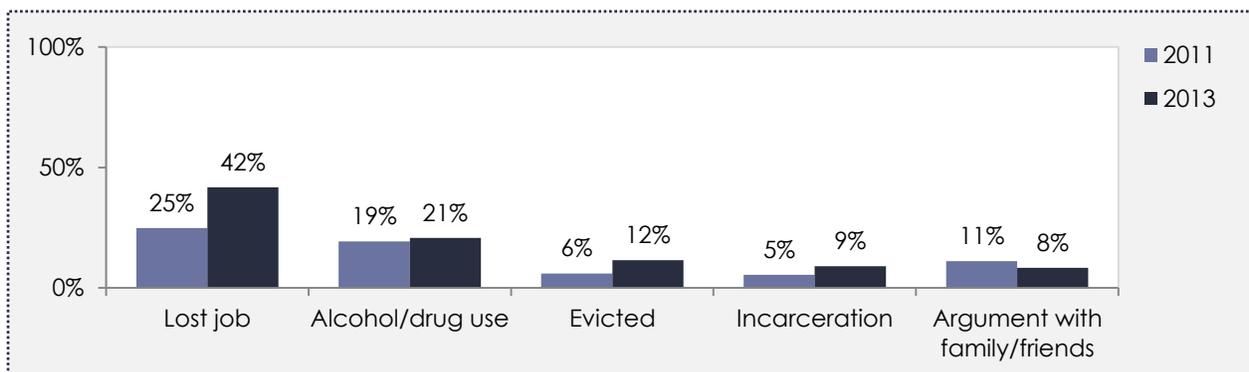
Note: This question was not asked in 2009

### Primary Causes of Homelessness

An individual’s experience with homelessness is often the result of multiple and compounding causes originating at both the individual and social level. In a struggling economy, many face financial vulnerability to homelessness.<sup>10</sup> When survey respondents were asked to identify the primary cause of their homelessness, 42% reported job loss, and 21% reported alcohol/drug use. While the percentage of those who reported these two reasons increased slightly between 2011 and 2013, it is also important to recognize that they have been the most frequently cited causes since 2004.

Nine percent of respondents reported incarceration as the primary cause of their homelessness and, while they were not one of the top five responses, 8% of survey respondents reported family/domestic violence and 4% reported probation or parole as the primary cause of their homelessness.

PRIMARY EVENT OR CONDITION THAT LED TO RESPONDENTS’ CURRENT EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS (TOP 5 RESPONSES IN 2013)



2011 N=667; 2013 N=443

Note: Response options changed in 2011, 2009 data are not comparable.

## Prevention of Homelessness

Respondents were asked to identify services that might have prevented them from experiencing homelessness. The most common responses were related to income, 47% reported the need for employment assistance, (an increase from 2011) and 33% reported rent or mortgage assistance (similar to 2011).

Twenty-two percent reported that mental health services might have prevented their homelessness in 2013, similar to 2011.

### WHAT MIGHT HAVE PREVENTED YOUR HOMELESSNESS (2013)

	2009	2011	2013
Employment assistance	41%	37%	47%
Rent/mortgage assistance	30%	34%	33%
Alcohol/drug counseling	35%	33%	24%
Mental health services	15%	20%	22%
Legal assistance	12%	16%	14%
Transportation assistance	14%	15%	14%
Case management after leaving hospital/jail/prison/juvenile justice	14%	11%	13%
Help accessing benefits	15%	18%	12%
Health insurance/services	8%	11%	6%

2009: 518 respondents offering 1,025 responses; 2011: 662 offering 1,416 responses; 2013: 442 respondents offering 841 responses.

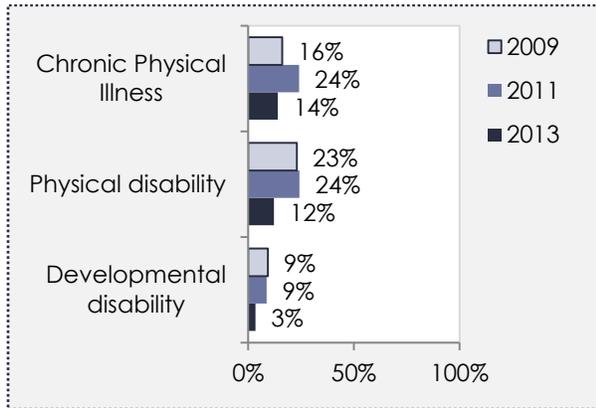
## Health

Without regular access to health care, individuals suffer preventable illness, longer hospitalizations, and a higher rate of premature death. It is estimated that those experiencing homelessness stay four days (or 36%) longer per hospital admission than non-homeless patients.<sup>11</sup> A study conducted by the National Health Care for the Homeless found that the average life expectancy for a person without permanent housing was between 42 and 52 years, more than 25 years younger than the average person in the United States.<sup>12</sup>

### Disabling Conditions

Sixty percent of survey respondents reported a disabling condition; 26% reported two or more. Fourteen percent of respondents reported a chronic health problem, including hepatitis C at 4% and HIV/AIDS at 2%. Less than 1% had tuberculosis. Sixteen percent of survey respondents experienced a physical or developmental disability.

CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING A PHYSICAL ILLNESS, PHYSICAL DISABILITY OR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY

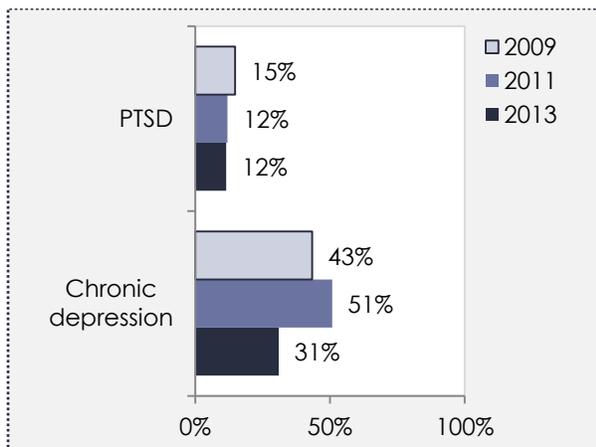


2009: n=500; 2011: n=645; 2013: n=436

Two percent of respondents reported traumatic brain injury (TBI) in 2013; 2013 was the first time respondents were asked specifically about the condition.

Forty-four percent of the homeless population in San Jose (2,062 adults) had one or more disabling mental health conditions. Nearly one third of the population (31%) reported experiencing chronic homelessness in 2013.

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO WERE CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING DEPRESSION OR PTSD



2011: n=635; 2013: n=436

Note: PTSD, chronic depression and other mental illnesses were independent variables.

Domestic/Partner Violence or Abuse

Seven percent of all respondents had experienced home/domestic violence or abuse. Among female respondents, 12% had experienced home/domestic violence or abuse, compared to 6% of male respondents. Although domestic violence is consistently underreported, these percentages for the homeless survey respondents are much higher than the general U.S. population, where 1.8% of women reported being raped, physically assaulted, or stalked in the previous 12 months.<sup>13</sup>

Access to Medical Care

Of those who needed medical care in the past year, more than one-third (38%) went without the care they needed. Twenty-seven percent of survey respondents reported they had not needed health care in the 12 months prior to the survey.

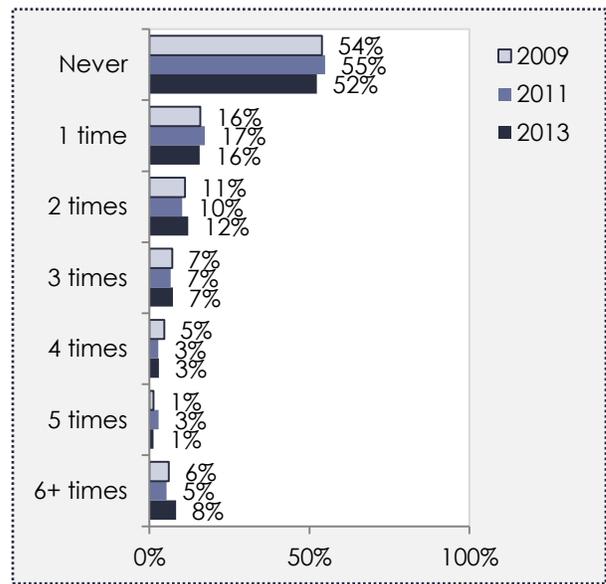
Twenty-nine percent of respondents reported accessing care through community clinics or free public health clinics, 9% through Urgent Care, and 4% accessed care through a Department of Veterans Affairs facility.

### Emergency Room Use

Forty-eight percent of respondents reported having used the emergency room (ER) one or more times in the 12 months prior to the survey. Some respondents used the emergency room one to three times (35%), while, a small percentage (8%) reported using the ER more than six times in the last year.

About half of 2013 survey respondents had not used the ER in the past 12 months, similar to previous years.

EMERGENCY ROOM USE IN PAST 12 MONTHS



2009: n=521; 2011: n=647; 2013: n=396

### Housing 1000

Housing 1000 is a local campaign in Santa Clara County to house 1,000 chronically homeless men and women by 2013. The goal is to prioritize case management services for those people that have been on the streets the longest, are suffering from chronic health issues and are vulnerable to dying on the streets. Case managers work with Housing 1000 clients to develop a housing plan.

To date, nearly 3,000 Housing 1000 Vulnerability Index surveys have been conducted in Santa Clara County to determine those who are most vulnerable. Thirty-one percent of homeless survey respondents reported they'd been interviewed by Housing 1000 Vulnerability Index survey.

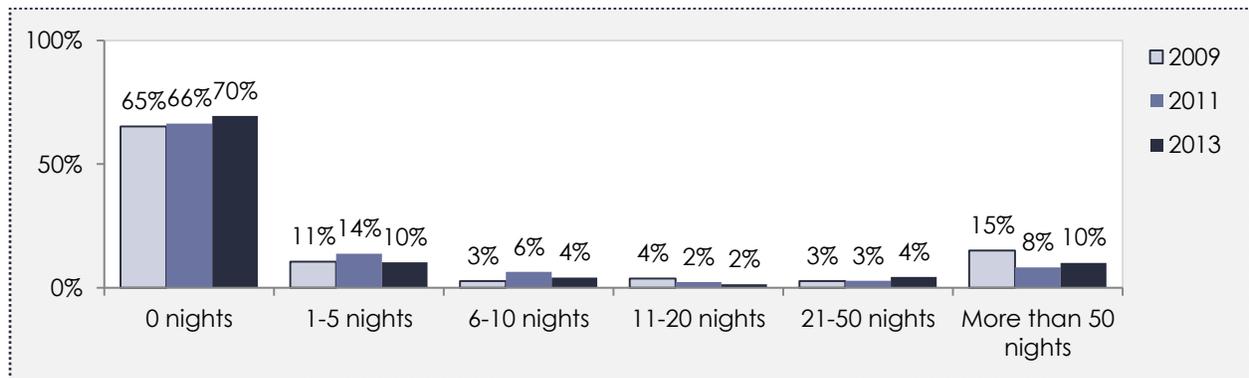
### Justice System

Many people become homeless after being discharged from the criminal justice system. Individuals who leave jail or prison face an increased risk of homelessness as well as greater barriers to employment. At the same time, those experiencing homelessness are more vulnerable to incarceration.<sup>14</sup>

### Incarceration

Thirty percent of homeless survey respondents had spent at least one night in jail or prison in the 12 months prior to the survey, less than in 2011. Ten percent of survey respondents spent five days or fewer, and 10% reported they had spent more than 50 nights incarcerated.

NUMBER OF NIGHTS RESPONDENTS REPORTED SPENDING IN JAIL OR PRISON IN THE YEAR PRIOR TO THE SURVEY



2009: n= 517; 2011: n=636; 2013: n=456

Twenty-one percent of respondents were on probation or parole at the time of the survey, similar to previous years.

For the first time in 2013, respondents were asked if they had been convicted of a 290 offense, which refers to crimes for which registration as a sex offender is required if convicted. Offenses designated under penal code 290 include a wide range of both felony and misdemeanor offenses and carry tight housing restrictions.

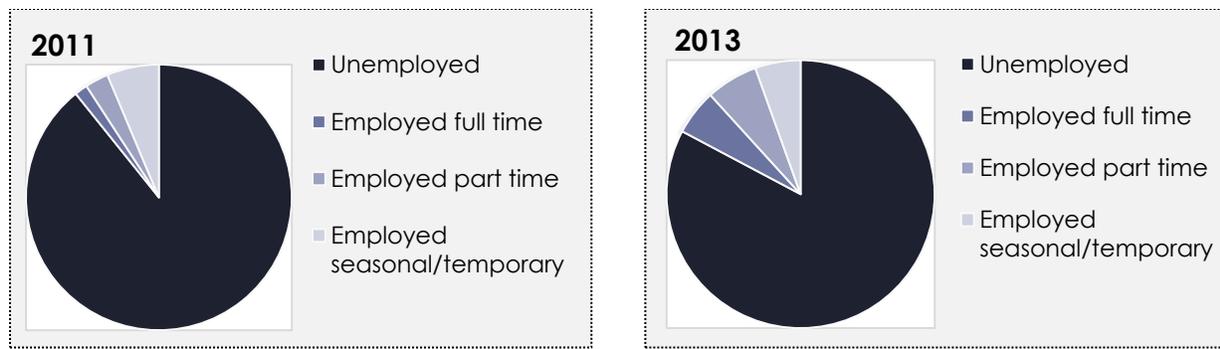
Under California's Jessica's Law, registered sex offenders are forbidden from living within 2,000 feet of a school or park where children regularly gather. In urban areas, such as San Jose, finding housing that meets these requirements can be difficult. Registered sex offenders may be prevented from seeking housing and assistance from support networks of friends or family. In 2013, 9% of survey respondents reported they had been convicted of a 290 offense.

## Employment, Income, and Government Assistance

The homeless survey asked questions about income, employment status, and the use of government assistance in order to measure how the recent economy has impacted individuals experiencing homelessness. The overall economy has improved slightly, as measured by a decrease in the unemployment rate in the City of San Jose from 8.9% in 2011 to 7.7% in 2013.<sup>15</sup>

### Employment

In 2013, homeless survey respondents in the labor force (excluding students and those who reported being retired) experienced a slight increase in employment rates from 2011, though their jobs did not enable them to obtain housing. Seventy-seven percent of homeless respondents reported being unemployed, down from 89% in 2011. Five percent of respondents were employed full-time, 6% part-time and 12% reported seasonal, temporary, or other employment.



2011: n= 632; 2013: n=1=412; retired and student respondents excluded from population

Of those who reported being unemployed in 2013, the top five primary barriers to obtaining employment included no transportation (33%), the need for education or training (31%), lack of a phone (27%), no permanent address (27%) and alcohol or drug issues (23%).

RESPONDENTS' BARRIERS TO OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT (TOP 5 RESPONSES)

	2011	2013
1	Need training (33%)	No transportation (33%)
2	No permanent address (33%)	Need education/training (31%)
3	Need clothing (29%)	No phone (27%)
4	No transportation (27%)	No permanent address (27%)
5	No jobs (25%)	Alcohol or drug use (23%)

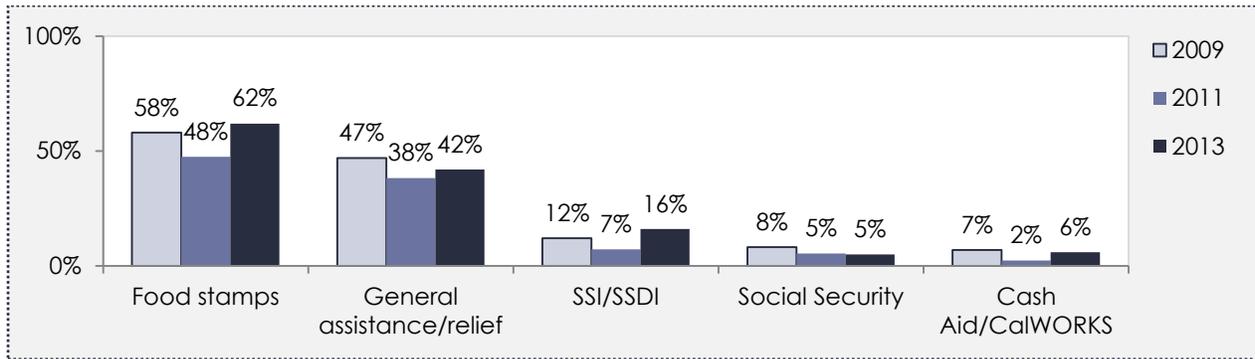
2013: Multiple response question with 394 respondents offering 912 responses

Government Assistance

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Federal Poverty Guideline for one person to be eligible for support services and programs is approximately \$11,490 per year in 2013.<sup>16,17</sup> While median income data suggest virtually all respondents would be eligible for government assistance, just 63% of respondents reported they were receiving such assistance in 2013. Of those receiving government assistance, the greatest percentage of survey respondents reported receiving CalFresh, WIC, or food stamps (62%), followed by General Assistance (42%), and SSI/SSDI (16%).

Fifty-seven percent of respondents who reported an income from government benefits reported receiving less than \$250 per month. Only 5% received more than \$1,000 a month.

OF THOSE RECEIVING SOME FORM OF GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE, TYPES OF ASSISTANCE RECEIVED (TOP 5 RESPONSE IN 2013)

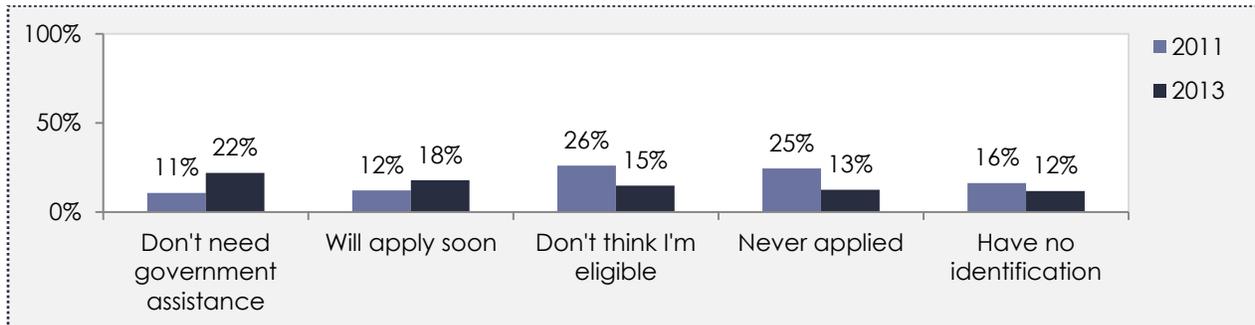


2009: 507 respondents offering 631 responses; 2011: 663 respondents offering 916 responses; 2013: 437 respondents offering 537 responses

### Reasons for Not Receiving Government Assistance

Of those who reported they were not receiving government assistance, the top two reasons were: they did not need assistance (22%) and they will apply soon (18%). The number of respondents who did not think they were eligible decreased from 26% in 2011 to 15% in 2013.

REASONS FOR NOT RECEIVING GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE (TOP 5 RESPONSES IN 2013)



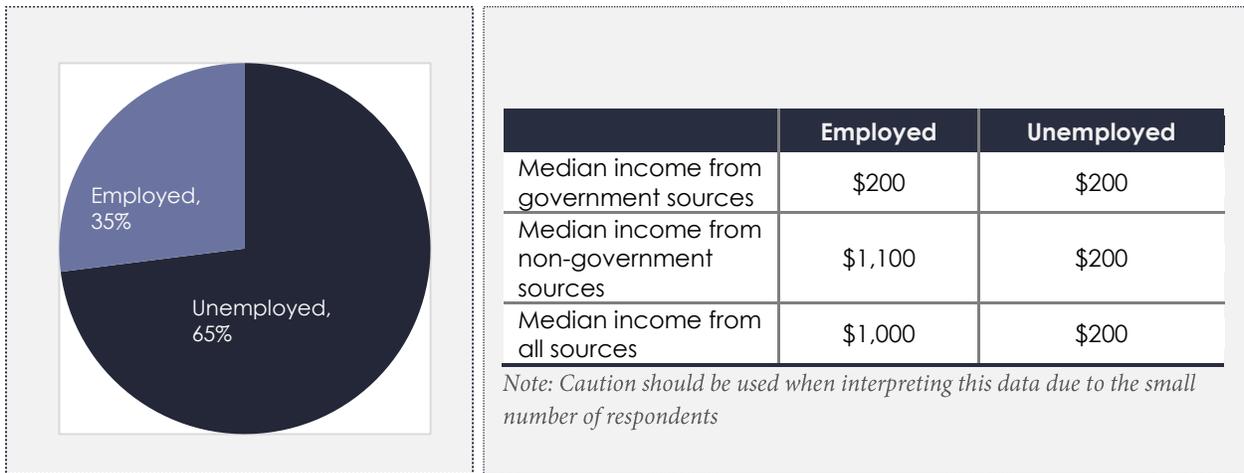
2011: 195 respondents offering 341 responses; 2013: 168 respondents offering 220 responses  
 Note: 2009 data not comparable, response options changed in 2011

### Income

While the Federal Poverty Guideline for one person to be eligible for support services and programs is approximately \$11,490 per year, it is estimated that the income necessary for a single adult to live in San Jose and to meet their basic needs without government subsidies was \$16.51 per hour or \$2,906 a month in 2011, according to the self-sufficiency standard.<sup>18</sup> While many homeless survey respondents reported they were not receiving government benefits, most respondents who reported an income reported income below the Federal Poverty Guidelines and just one out of 68 (1.5%) reported non-government earnings above the self-sufficiency rate in 2013.

Forty-six percent of respondents reported they did not receive any income from private or public sources. Overall respondents' reported monthly income was variable and largely dependent on their employment status. The median income from government sources was \$200 for both those who were employed and unemployed. The median income from non-governmental sources was \$1000 for those with employment, and \$200 for those without.

EMPLOYMENT AND MEDIAN MONTHLY INCOME, 2013



Employment status n= 317 Income n= 244

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2013). San Jose Homeless Count

Panhandling

Twenty-five percent of respondents reported that they panhandled, or asked people for spare change, in 2013. Of those who panhandled, the mean income reported was \$143.34 per month, or \$4.80 per day. However, 34% reported they earned \$20 or less a month.

# Subpopulations

In 2010, the federal government published a plan known as Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. In the plan, the federal government identified three primary subpopulations upon which to focus on in moving towards the goal of ending homelessness. Those subpopulations are families, veterans and those categorized as chronically homeless. Since that time, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) released an amendment to Opening Doors, which focuses on preventing and ending youth homelessness. The 2013 City of San Jose Homeless Census and Survey focused on gathering data for each of these HUD defined subpopulations. The following section primarily relies on data for 2011 and 2013, because some of these subpopulations were not identified as priorities for the federal government in counts prior to 2011.

## Chronic Homelessness



The mortality rate for those experiencing chronic homelessness is four to nine times higher than the general population. The public costs incurred by those experiencing extended periods of homelessness include emergency room visits, interactions with law enforcement, incarceration, and regular access to existing poverty and homeless services.<sup>19</sup>

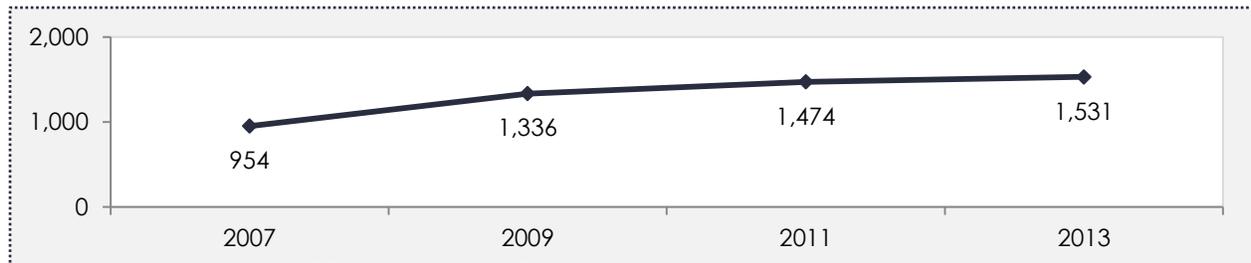
The USICH reported that 16% of the national homeless population was chronically homeless in 2012; this translates to 99,894 chronically homeless persons.<sup>20</sup> The federal strategic plan to end homelessness includes a plan to end chronic homelessness by 2015 by focusing on permanent supportive housing for those with the greatest needs and barriers to housing stability.

### Prevalence of Chronic Homelessness

The number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in the City of San Jose increased from 954 in 2007 to 1,531 in 2013.<sup>21</sup> Chronically homeless individuals represented 32% of the overall homeless population in the City of San Jose, double the national percentage.

In 2011, the definition of chronic homelessness was expanded to include families. However, there were no chronically homeless families found in the 2013 Point-in-Time Count, but there were twenty-two individuals in chronically homeless families in the 2011 count.

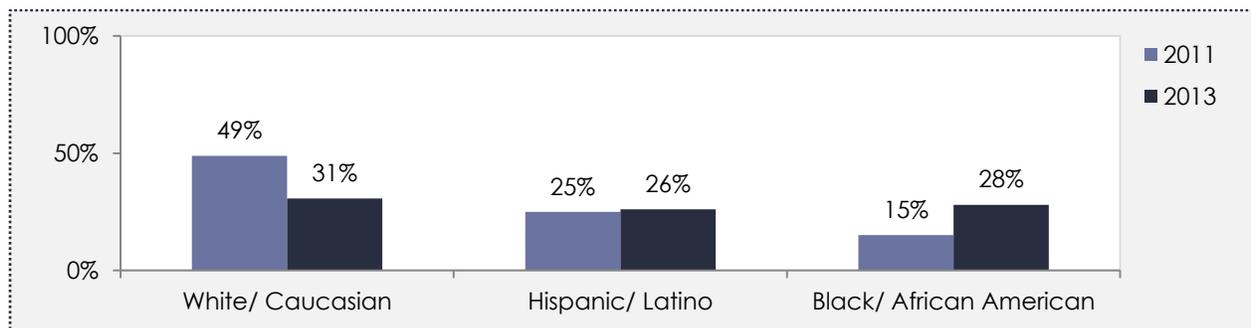
CITY OF SAN JOSE PREVALENCE OF CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS



### Demographics of Chronically Homeless Survey Respondents

There were more men (84%) in San Jose’s chronically homeless respondent population as compared to the non-chronically homeless respondent population (67% male). The average age of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness was 44 years old, compared to 38 for non-chronically homeless individuals. The percentage of chronically homeless respondents who identified as White/Caucasian decreased from 49% in 2011 to less than 31% in 2013. Conversely, the percentage of chronically homeless Black/African American respondents increased from 15% in 2011 to 28% in 2013. These findings were similar to demographic changes within the overall population.

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS POPULATION BY ETHNICITY



2011: n=280; 2013: n=150

### Usual Sleeping Places of the Chronically Homeless

Of the 1,531 individuals who were chronically homeless in the City of San Jose, 92% (1,405 individuals) were unsheltered in 2013. Thirty-two percent had been turned away from an emergency shelter or transitional housing in the last 30 days, mostly due to no beds being available (70%) and the use of alcohol or drugs (20%).

### Chronically Homeless Veterans

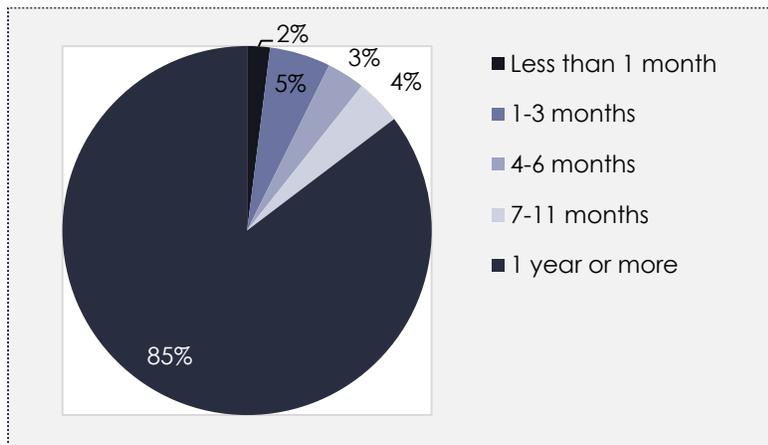
Fifteen percent of chronically homeless individuals in San Jose were veterans, which was slightly higher than the non-chronically homeless respondents (11%).

### Prior Residency and Current Period of Homelessness

The majority (87%) of chronically homeless survey respondents had been living in Santa Clara County when they most recently became homeless; this was a slightly higher percentage than among the non-chronically homeless respondents (84%). It is estimated that 75% of chronically homeless respondents were living in the City of San Jose at the time they lost their housing.

Eighty-five percent of chronically homeless respondents had been homeless for one year or more during this current period of homelessness, while 15% reported they had been homeless multiple times over the past three years. When asked about how long they had been homeless over the past three years, 41% reported they had been homeless the entire three-year period.

LENGTH OF CURRENT PERIOD OF HOMELESSNESS AMONG CHRONICALLY HOMELESS



2013: n=150

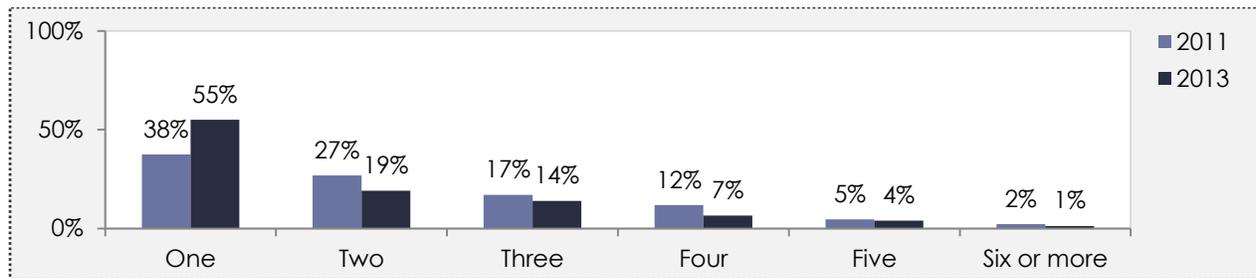
### Primary Cause and Prevention of Homelessness

The largest percentage of chronically homeless respondents cited the loss of a job (40%), followed by alcohol or drug use (29%), as the primary cause of their homelessness. The top three answers for what would have prevented their homelessness were: employment assistance (42%), mental health services (31%), and alcohol and drug counseling (30%).

### Health, Disabling Conditions, and Emergency Room Use

Under the federal definition, chronically homeless individuals have at least one or more disabling conditions. Forty-five percent of chronically homeless survey respondents reported having multiple disabling conditions. About half of chronically homeless respondents were experiencing chronic depression (51%), while 22% reported PTSD and 29% reported some other form of mental illnesses. Nineteen percent of chronically homeless respondents reported a physical disability.

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS RESPONDENTS WHO WERE EXPERIENCING ONE OR MORE DISABLING CONDITIONS

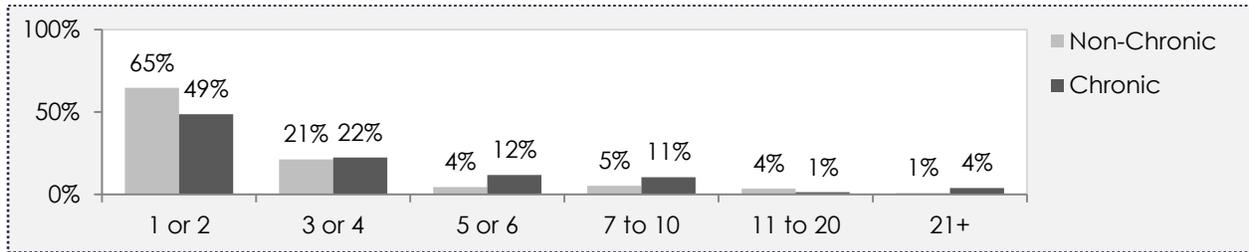


2011: n=280; 2013: n=151

Almost half (47%) of chronically homeless respondents reported they’ve needed health care since they most recently became homeless and were unable to receive it. This was higher than the number of non-chronically homeless respondents (32%) who had the same experience.

Sixty percent of chronically homeless respondents used the emergency room in the last year, as compared to 42% of non-chronically homeless respondents. Furthermore, chronically homeless individuals reported more frequent ER visits in the last year. Four percent of chronically homeless respondents used the ER 21 or more times as compared to 1% for the non-chronically homeless respondents.

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO HAD USED THE EMERGENCY ROOM IN THE PAST YEAR BY FREQUENCY (2013)



Chronic n=127; Non-Chronic n=269

Chart colors change to reflect the comparison between subpopulations rather than years.

### Unemployment

Chronically homeless respondents had higher rates of unemployment (86%) than did the general homeless respondents (66%). Chronically homeless respondents panhandled at higher percentages (40%) than did the non-chronically homeless respondents (18%).

### Incarceration

Chronically homeless respondents had higher rates of incarceration in jail or prison over the last year at 41% compared to non-chronically homeless respondents at 25%.

### Veteran Status

**CITY OF SAN JOSE 2013  
POINT-IN-TIME COUNT  
Veterans**

HUD  
DEFINITION

Veterans are persons who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

VA  
VETERAN STATUS

484

23% SHELTERED
77% UNSHELTERED

Source: Applied Survey Research, 2013 City of San Jose Census. Watsonville, CA.

Many U.S. veterans suffer from conditions that increase the likelihood of remaining homeless or prevent them from obtaining housing. Veterans have higher rates of Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury, sexual assault and substance abuse. Veterans experiencing homelessness are more likely to live on the street than in shelters and often remain on the street for extended periods of time.<sup>22</sup>

The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and the Department of Veterans Affairs reported there were 62,619 homeless veterans nationally in 2012.<sup>23</sup> In other words, 10% of all homeless individuals counted in 2012 were veterans. The federal strategic plan to end homelessness includes a plan to end veteran homelessness by 2015 by increasing access to housing and health services.

30

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## Prevalence of Veteran Homelessness

There were 484 veterans in the San Jose 2013 Point-in-Time Count, or 10% of the entire City of San Jose homeless population. The number of veterans in the 2013 count (484) was a 26% increase from 383 counted in 2011.<sup>24</sup> There were 30 female homeless veterans, representing 6% of the veteran population in 2013.

Forty-five percent of veteran homeless survey respondents identified as White/Caucasian, followed by Black/African American (24%), and Hispanic/Latino (16%). The mean age of veteran homeless survey respondents was 52. Forty-three percent of the veteran homeless respondents were considered chronically homeless at the time of the survey.

### VETERANS AND FAMILIES

Almost 4% of homeless veteran survey respondents were living in families experiencing homelessness, similar to the non-veteran homeless respondents (5%).

### Prior Residency, Current Period of Homelessness,

Eighty percent of the homeless veteran survey respondents had been living in Santa Clara County when they most recently became homeless, mostly in the City of San Jose. About half (55%) were homeless for the first time. Nearly three-quarters (74%) had been homeless for one year or longer.

### Primary Causes and Prevention of Homelessness

When asked about the primary cause of their homelessness, the largest percentage of homeless veteran survey respondents cited the loss of a job (41%), followed by alcohol or drug use (22%). When asked what might have prevented their homelessness, 46% of respondents reported employment assistance, followed by mental health services (26%), and rent or mortgage assistance (26%).

### Usual Sleeping Places for Homeless Veterans

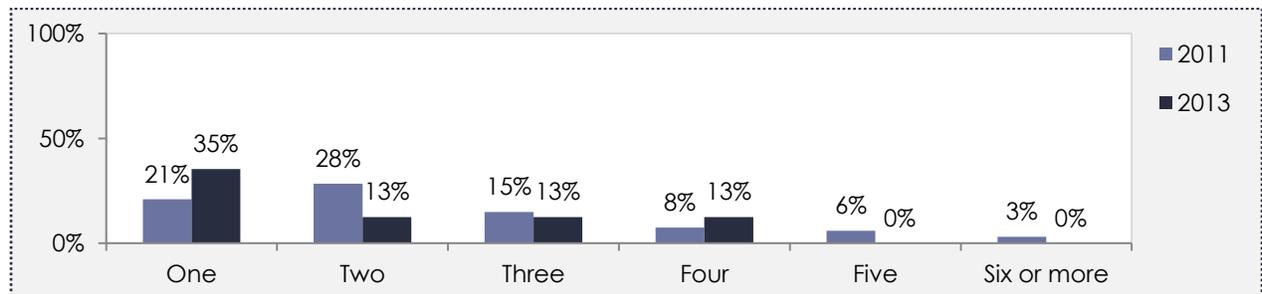
Eighty-four percent of homeless veteran respondents reported living alone. Seventy-seven percent were unsheltered. Twenty-nine percent had been turned away from an emergency shelter or transitional housing in the last 30 days, mostly due to no beds being available.

### Health, Disabling Conditions Among Homeless Veterans

Nearly three out of four (73%) homeless veteran respondents were experiencing one or more disabling conditions including PTSD (31%), physical disabilities (29%), chronic depression (29%), and other mental illnesses (17%). More than a third (39%) reported needing health care since they most recently became homeless and not being able to receive it. This was higher than the non-veteran homeless population (37%).

Individuals experiencing homelessness often lack a regular source of health care and therefore rely more heavily on the emergency room. Forty-five percent of homeless veteran respondents reported using the ER as their usual source of care, followed by 31% who used the VA as their usual source of care.

NUMBER OF DISABLING CONDITIONS AMONG HOMELESS VETERAN RESPONDENTS



2011: n=67; 2013: n=48

Note: Caution should be used when interpreting this data due to small n.

## Government Assistance for Homeless Veterans

All survey respondents were asked if they received any government assistance. Forty-two percent of homeless veteran respondents said they were receiving no assistance. Thirty percent reported they were receiving food stamps, 22% were receiving General Assistance, and 12% got Veterans Disability Compensation.

## Specific Veterans Assistance

Respondents were asked whether they received veterans' services; the three most commonly used services were health services (69%), mental health services (38%), and drop-in centers (35%).

## Homeless Families with Children



Individuals in families were enumerated in the City of San Jose in 2013. It is important to note, however, that the enumeration of homeless families is difficult as families will often try to stay out of public view for fear that their children will be removed by Child Protective Services. Additionally, homeless families will often stay with friends, or in a motel or hotel; these two populations, however, are not considered by the federal government to be under the definition of homeless so they are not included in this study.

In January 2012, there were 633,782 homeless people in the United States, according to the Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress; 38% of those were homeless individuals in families.<sup>25</sup>

While at the national level many homeless subpopulations have decreased in recent years, the number of individuals in families experiencing homelessness has increased by 1.4% between 2011 and 2012.<sup>26</sup>

Homelessness among families often affects families with young children; the risk of homelessness is highest among children under the age of six.<sup>27</sup> Children in families experiencing homelessness have increased incidence of illness and are more likely to have emotional and behavioral problems than children with consistent living accommodations.<sup>28</sup>

### Prevalence of Homeless Families

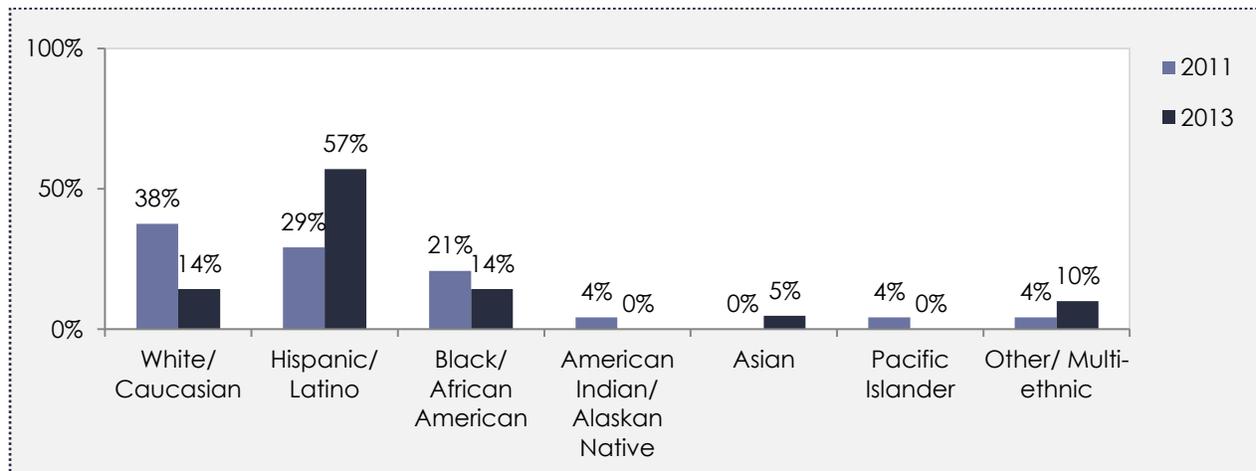
In the City of San Jose, there were 417 homeless individuals residing in families, representing 151 households in 2013 and 9% of the total homeless population. It should be noted these numbers include only those families meeting the strict definitions of both families and homelessness used by HUD. The 417 persons in families represent an increase from 336 persons in families in 2011.

Of homeless families in the City of San Jose in 2013, most were sheltered. Yet, 45 individuals in 13 households were unsheltered. This included 26 unsheltered children under the age of 18.

### Demographics of Homeless Families with Children

The majority of homeless respondents from families were female (76%). Fifty-seven percent identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino (57%), a much higher percentage than in 2011 (29%).<sup>29</sup> The mean age of the adult survey respondent with children was 35.

HOMELESS FAMILIES BY ETHNICITY



2011: n=24; 2013: n=21

Note: Caution should be used when interpreting this data due to small n.

Prior Residency and Current Period of Homelessness

Ninety-five percent of homeless respondents in families reported living in Santa Clara County at the time that they became homeless, most of them in San Jose. Seventy-five percent of respondents had lived in the county for ten years or more. For half of homeless respondents with families (52%), this was their first time experiencing homelessness. Forty percent of family respondents had been homeless for a year or more.

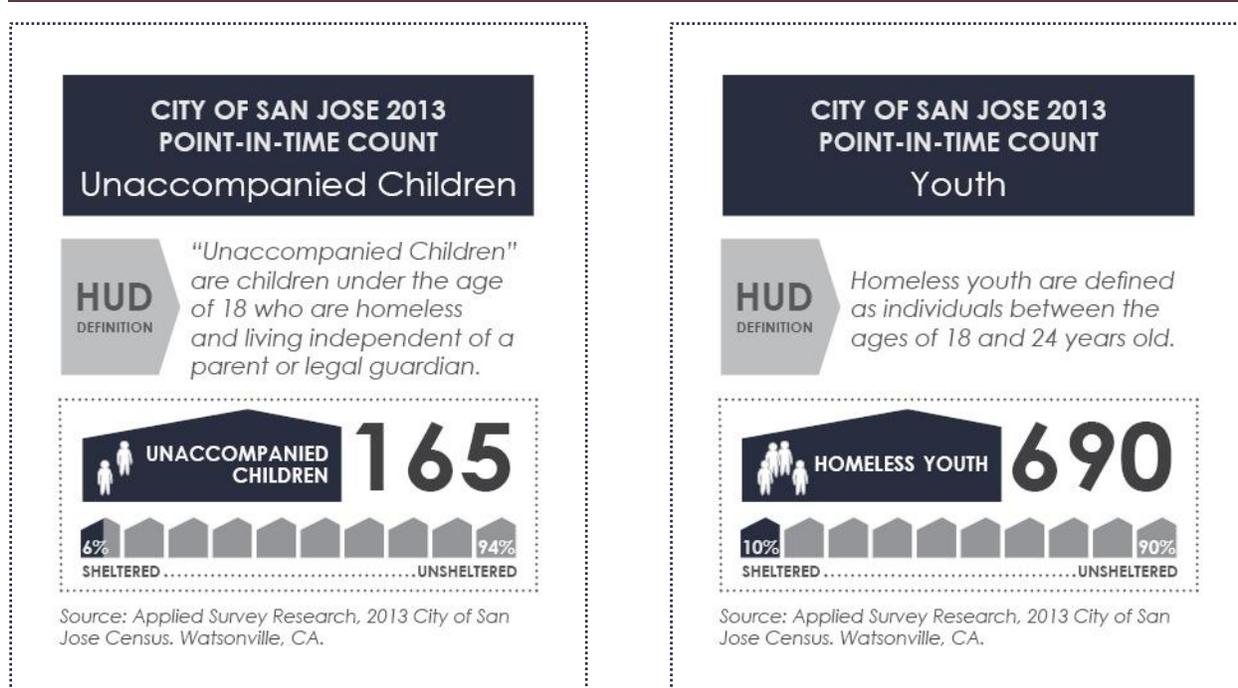
Primary Cause of Homelessness for Homeless Families with Children

The two primary causes of homelessness for families were: losing a job (55%) and domestic violence (25%). When asked what might have prevented their homelessness, 63% of respondents said rent/mortgage assistance, followed by employment assistance (53%).

Unemployment and Government Assistance for Homeless Families with Children

Sixty-three percent of homeless family respondents were unemployed, while 37% indicated that they were not receiving any forms of government assistance. The two most commonly used forms of assistance were food stamps (53%) and cash aid/CalWorks/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (32%).

## *Unaccompanied Children and Youth*



While there is little documentation of the extent of homelessness among children and youth, there is evidence to suggest a growing national subpopulation. In 2012, the USICH amended the federal strategic plan to end homelessness to include specific strategies and supports to address subpopulation. As part of this effort, the Department of Housing and Urban Development required gathering data on homeless children and youth during the 2013 Point-in-Time Count and recommended targeted youth efforts, such as those conducted by the City of San Jose.

San Jose has conducted a specialized count of children and youth since 2009. In 2013, data were gathered through homeless peers who conducted a specialized street count and survey. The following section provides an overview of the findings.<sup>30</sup>

### Prevalence of Unaccompanied Children and Youth Homelessness

There were 165 unaccompanied children under the age of 18 and 690 youth between the ages of 18 and 24 included in the Point-in-Time Count. Together these age groups represented 18% of the homeless population in the City of San Jose. Most unaccompanied children and youth were counted in the unsheltered count (91%). In 2011, 142 children under the age of 18 were counted in the City's streets and shelters, while an additional 436 youth ages 18-24 were counted on the street. In 2011, City shelters did not report the age of adults over 18

### Age and Gender

There were 132 unaccompanied homeless children and youth surveyed in San Jose for this project. Due to access and concern for minor respondents, 94% of the unaccompanied homeless children and youth survey respondents were between the ages of 18 and 24 years old. Fifty-nine percent were male, 35% were female and 5% were transgender.

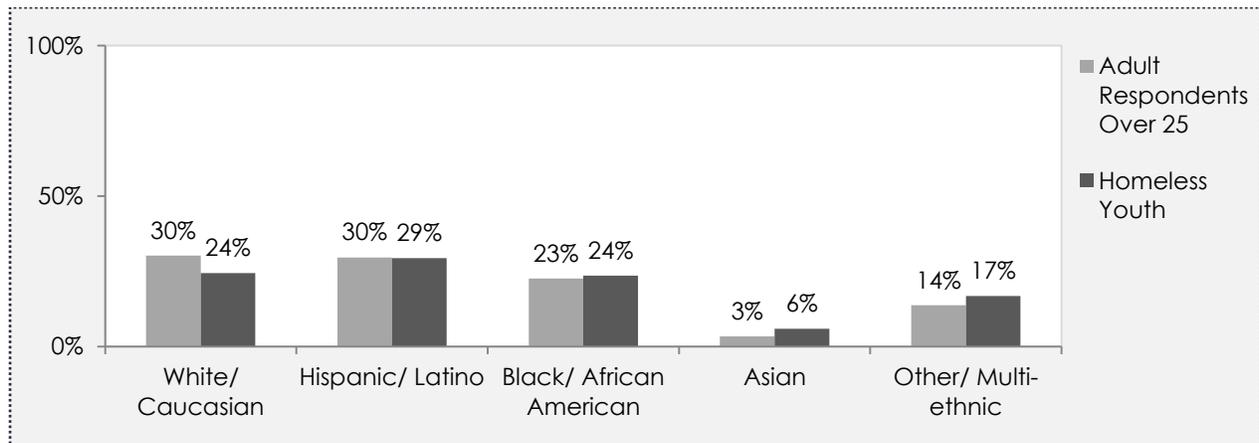
### Sexual Orientation

It has been estimated that nationally, 20% of homeless youth self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, or questioning (LGBTQ), a disproportionately higher percentage than in the general population (10%). While the majority (70%) of youth survey respondents in San Jose self-identified as straight, 30% identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual or “other.”

### Race and Ethnicity

Twenty-nine percent of unaccompanied homeless children and youth respondents were Hispanic/Latino, followed by 24% White/Caucasian and 24% Black/African American in 2013, similar to the overall homeless respondent population.

HOMELESS POPULATION BY ETHNICITY AND AGE (2013)



Adult Respondents Over 25: n=328; Homeless youth: n=119

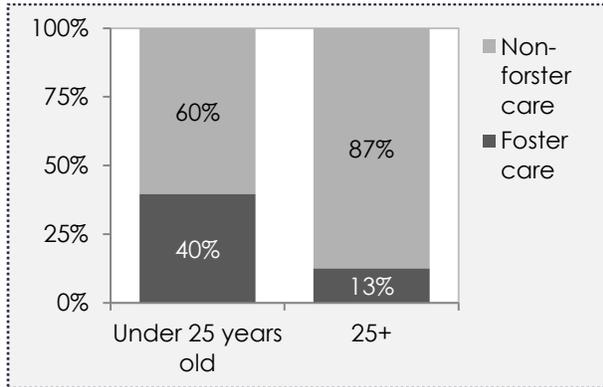
Source: Applied Survey Research. (2013). City of San Jose Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Note: Chart colors change to reflect the comparison between subpopulations rather than years.

### Household Makeup

The majority of unaccompanied children and youth were living on their own (81%). The remaining 19%, who reported living with someone else, often reported living with a spouse/significant other (10%). Two percent reported living with children of their own.

#### EXPERIENCE WITH FOSTER CARE



Under 25 n = 119; 25+ n = 325

Note: Chart colors change to reflect the comparison between subpopulations rather than years.

### Experience with Foster Care

According to the Foster Care Alumni Organization, 4% of the general U.S. population has had a foster care experience. However, 40% of the homeless children and youth survey respondents had spent time in the foster care system. This was a higher percentage than reported by the population of homeless survey respondents over the age of 25, (13%).

### Education and School Enrollment

While the majority of survey respondents were over the age of 18, more than half (52%) reported they had not completed high school. Twenty percent had attended or completed some college. When asked, 80% indicated that they would like to further their education and 17% reported they were enrolled in some form of school at the time of the survey.

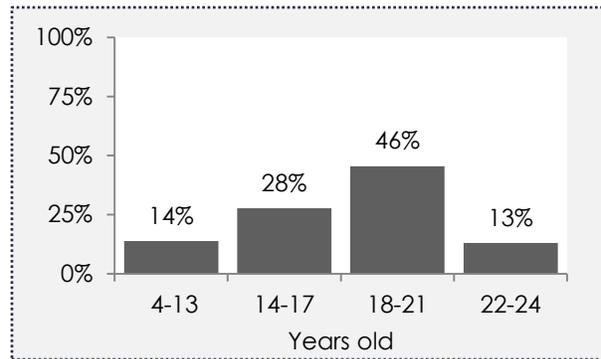
### County of Residency

The majority (76%) of unaccompanied homeless children and youth respondents were living in Santa Clara County prior to experiencing homelessness, most of them in San Jose.

### First experiences with Homelessness

Forty-five percent of homeless youth reported that they were homeless for the first time in their life. Nearly half (49%) had been homeless two, three or four times in the last three years. Thirty percent had been homeless for more than a year. When asked how old they were when they first experienced homelessness, 14% reported they had experienced homelessness prior to the age of 14 years old.

AGE AT WHICH YOUTH FIRST EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS

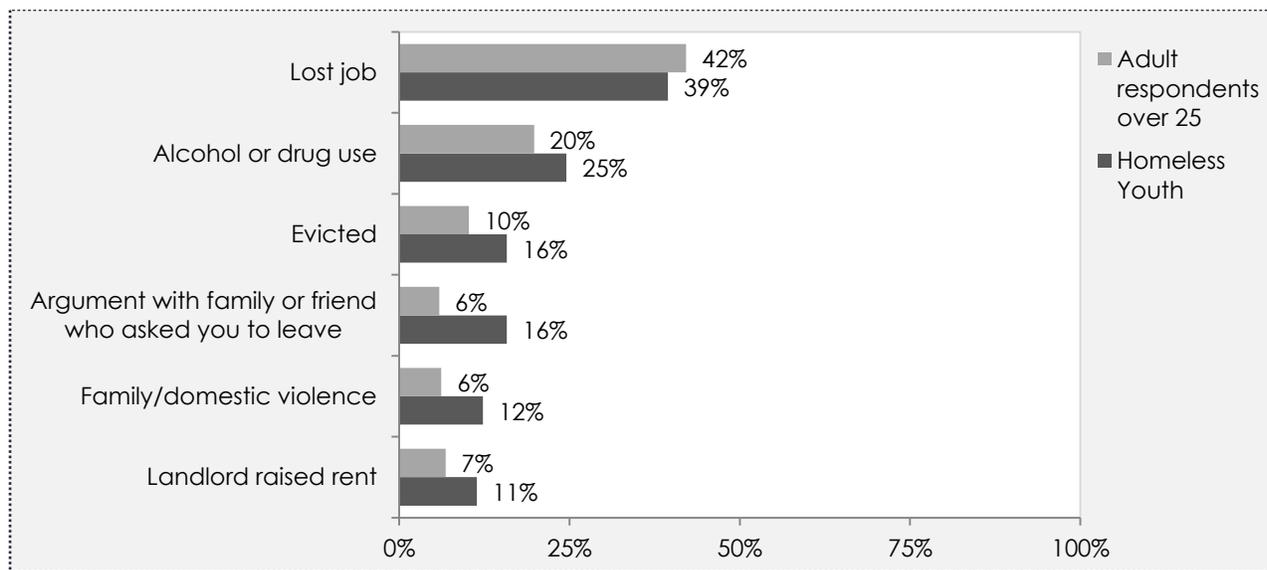


N = 123

### Primary Cause and Prevention of Homelessness

The primary cause of homelessness reported by unaccompanied homeless children and youth respondents included the loss of a job (39%), up from 20% in 2011; drugs or alcohol use (25%); an argument with a friend or family member (16%); eviction (16%); and domestic violence (12%). When asked what might have prevented their homelessness, the top four answers were employment assistance (52%), rent/mortgage assistance (40%), transportation (32%), and alcohol and drug counseling (28%). Twenty-nine percent said they tried to move back in with their parents.

PRIMARY CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS (TOP 5 RESPONSES)

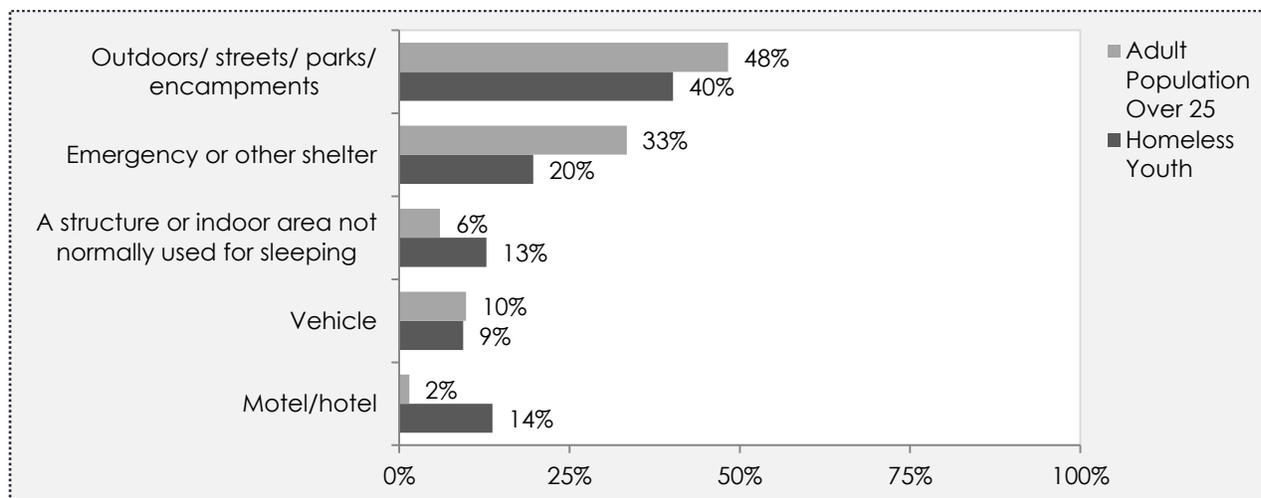


Adult Respondents Over 25: n=323; Homeless youth: n=114

## Usual Sleeping Places

Forty percent slept outside on the street or in encampment areas, and 13% lived in indoor spaces not meant for human habitation. Safety is a primary concern for homeless youth as 21% of the population indicated that they did not feel safe in their current living situation. Thirty-three percent of unaccompanied homeless children and youth respondents reported trading sex or drugs for a place to stay at night.

WHERE RESPONDENTS USUALLY STAY AT NIGHT (HOMELESS YOUTH, 2013)



Adult Respondents Over 25: n=117; Homeless youth: n=329

## Physical Health

Sixty-five percent of unaccompanied homeless children and youth respondents reported their general health was good or very good, while 35% said it was fair or poor. Twenty-one percent of unaccompanied children and youth reported being unable to receive needed care in the past year. Respondents reported that their usual sources of medical care were the emergency room (35%), community clinics (31%), and urgent care centers (12%).

Seventy-three percent of unaccompanied homeless children and youth respondents reported using drugs in 2013. Marijuana was the primary drug of choice (48%), followed by alcohol (28%), and methamphetamine (20%).

## Mental Health and Well-being

Fifty-seven percent of the unaccompanied homeless children and youth respondents described their mental health as good or very good, and 43% said it was fair or poor. In addition, 38% experienced chronic depression, 15% had PTSD and 12% were suffering from another mental illness (including bipolar disorder or schizophrenia).

### Utilization of Government Assistance and Homeless Services

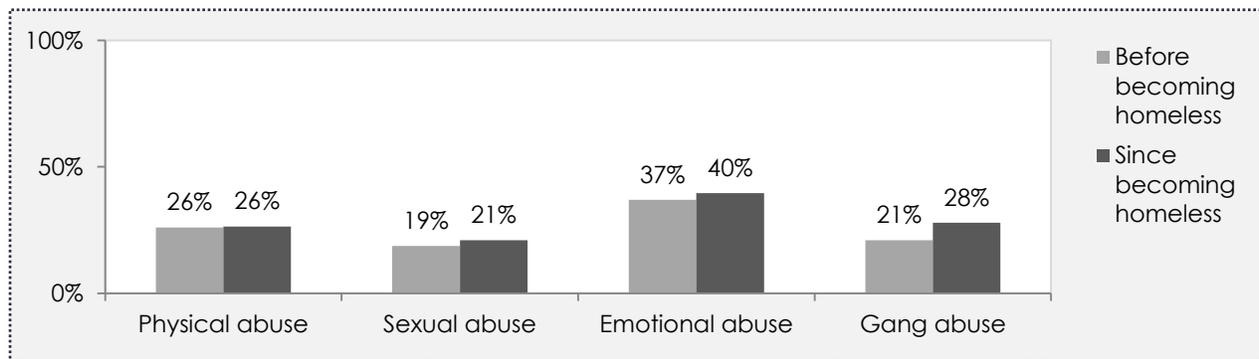
Half of unaccompanied homeless children and youth respondents (55%) indicated they used government assistance, with 37% using food stamps and 27% reporting they used General Assistance. Twenty-four percent of those not receiving assistance reported it was because they did not think they were eligible. Seventy-one percent of unaccompanied homeless children and youth respondents received youth specific homeless services within the past 12 months. When asked about current needs, the top three responses were: shelter/housing (68%), food (65%), and clothing (63%).

### Experiencing Violence

Violence and crime are major concerns facing homeless youth; 36% of respondents had been assaulted or physically attacked, 31% had been burglarized, 30% had been robbed, and 28% had been a victim of gang violence.

High percentages of unaccompanied homeless children and youth respondents reported that they experienced abuse both prior to experiencing homelessness and since. Twenty-one percent of respondents reported sexual abuse since becoming homeless, and 19% reported sexual abuse prior to becoming homeless.

UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AND YOUTH EXPERIENCES WITH ABUSE (2013)



n=129

Percent represents respondents who reported experiencing abuse “rarely,” “sometimes,” “very often” or “always.”

## Conclusion

The 2013 City of San Jose Homeless Census and Survey was a community-wide effort with two distinct phases: a). A Point-in-Time Count that showed a total of 4,770 homeless individuals counted primarily on the morning of Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> 2013; and b). a representative survey sample of 456 people conducted by trained homeless individuals between February 1<sup>st</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Point-in-Time Count shows an increase from 4,034 individuals experiencing homelessness in 2011, to 4,770 in 2013.

### Survey Demographics

The survey showed that most respondents were male (73%) and the largest percentage of respondents were between the ages of 41-50 and 51-60 (each at 22%). The City of San Jose placed a stronger focus on reaching transitional age youth in this year's Census and Survey, and this goal resulted in having 25% of survey respondents between the ages of 18-24.

Similar to the overall population, survey respondents identified as White (29%) and Hispanic/Latinos (30%), but there was a disproportionately high percentage of Black/African Americans (23%) especially when compared to the overall San Jose population at 3% Black/ African American.

Twenty percent of individuals experiencing homelessness reported having been in the foster care system. Twelve percent of women and 6% of men were currently experiencing domestic/family violence.

### Prior Housing/Current Sleeping

The vast majority of homeless individuals in San Jose (85%) had lived in Santa Clara County at the time they most recently became homeless. Almost half (46%) reported usually sleeping outdoors, on the street and in parks or encampment areas - up from 34% in 2011. The population of those living in encampments has become increasingly more visible and 1,230 were counted living in encampments during the Point-in-Time Count.

Thirty percent of respondents reported that they usually slept in an emergency shelter, transitional housing facility or other shelter and 10% slept in a vehicle.

### Length of Homelessness

Half of homeless individuals in San Jose (49%) said they were experiencing homelessness for the first time in their lives. Additionally, more than half (58%) had been without housing for a year or more.

## Primary Cause of Homelessness

Respondents identified the primary cause of their homelessness as job loss (42%), alcohol and drug use (21%) and eviction (12%).

## Health

Sixty percent of those experiencing homelessness in San Jose reported having one or more disabling conditions and almost half reported having a mental illness, usually depression. Thirty-eight percent reported that they had needed health care in the last year but did not receive it. Nearly half of homeless respondents reported having used the emergency room one or more times in the 12 months prior to the survey.

## Employment and Government Assistance

Seventy-seven percent of respondents were unemployed in 2013, down from 89% in 2011. Five percent were employed full-time, 6% part-time, and 12% reported seasonal, temporary or other employment. Only one individual earned what is called a self-sufficiency wage (the wage necessary to live in San Jose without public subsidies). Sixty-three percent of homeless respondents received some form of government assistance, usually food stamps or General Assistance.

## Subpopulations

### Chronically Homeless

There were 1,531 chronically homeless individuals identified in the homeless Point-in-Time Count, up from 1,474 in 2011.

The chronically homeless individuals differed from the non-chronically homeless individuals in many ways, including:

- » More likely to be men
- » Tended to be about six years older (an average of 44 years old as compared to 38)
- » More likely to sleep outdoors
- » Had more disabling conditions (especially chronic depression, mental illness, PTSD and physical disabilities)
- » Higher usage of the emergency room
- » Less able to access health care in the last year
- » Higher unemployment
- » Higher incarceration rates

### Veterans

There were 484 veterans identified in the Point-in-Time Count, up from 383 in 2011. Compared to homeless individuals that were not veterans, homeless veterans were:

- » More likely to be men
- » Tended to be older (with an average age of 52 years old)
- » More likely to have children
- » Experiencing longer episodes of homelessness
- » Less able to access health care when they needed it in the last year

- » Experiencing higher rates of unemployment

### Homeless Families with Children

There were 417 homeless individuals in families in the Point-in-Time Count in 2013, up from 336 persons in 2011. Compared to those who were not living in families, individuals in families were:

- » More likely to be women
- » More likely to be younger (average age of 35)
- » More likely to have lived longer in the county
- » Reporting higher rates of domestic violence as their primary reason for becoming homeless
- » More likely to stay in shelters
- » Less likely to use the emergency room as their usual source of care
- » Less likely to report chronic depression, PTSD, or mental illnesses
- » Less likely to report disabilities
- » Less likely to report problems with alcohol and drugs

### Unaccompanied Children and Youth

There were 165 unaccompanied children under 18 years old and 690 youth (18 years old to 25) identified in the Point-in-Time Count.

There were a large number of differences between the unaccompanied individuals under 25 and homeless adults over 25 years old. The unaccompanied homeless children and youth tended to be:

- » Both boys/men (59%) and girls/women (35%)
- » More likely to identify as transgendered
- » More likely to identify as LGBTQ (30%) as compared to 7% for those over the age of 25
- » More likely to have been in foster care (40% as compared to 13% for those over 25 years old)
- » More likely to sleep in a structure or indoor area not normally used for sleeping than did adults over 25
- » Less likely to use the ER as a usual place for health care
- » Less likely to use any government assistance.

Unaccompanied homeless children and youth under the age of 25 were asked about additional areas not asked of those over the age of 25, therefore comparison data are not available.

These youth specific questions showed:

- » One in three had traded sex or drugs for a place to stay at night
- » One in three reported having fair or poor physical health
- » Forty-four percent had fair or poor mental health
- » Twenty-one percent had experienced sexual abuse since becoming homeless and 19% prior to becoming homeless
- » They had experienced emotional abuse since becoming homeless (40%) and 38% before becoming homeless
- » High levels of violence including being attacked/assaulted (36%), burglarized (31%), or robbed (30%)

# Appendix I: Homeless Census & Survey Methodology

## Overview

The 2013 City of San Jose Point-in-Time (PIT) Count was part of the larger Santa Clara County Point-in-Time Count conducted on Jan. 29th and 30th using an approved research model referred to as “blitz survey” by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The results of the street count were combined with the results from the shelter count to produce the total number of homeless people in the county. A survey was administered in the weeks following the count to gather more qualitative data on the population. Data from the census and survey were collected by jurisdiction, allowing for the later analysis of only those individuals and families residing in the City of San Jose.

## Street Count Methodology

### Definition

For the purposes of this study, the HUD definition of unsheltered homeless persons was used:

- » Individuals and families 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.

## Research Design

Santa Clara County covers approximately 1,291 square miles.<sup>31</sup> The logistics for conducting a PIT street count of homeless people in a county this large and densely populated required the enumeration to take place over a two-day period. Service providers and homeless advocates offered assurances that duplication was minimal during the two-day count, based on their experience and understanding of movement within the population. The unsheltered and sheltered homeless counts were coordinated to both occur during the early morning hours. This coordination minimized the potential duplication of those counted both on the street and in shelters.

Since it was necessary to conduct the enumeration over a period of two days, Jan. 29 and 30, 2013, Santa Clara County was divided into two areas: 1) the area to the east of Highway 17 and Interstate 880; and 2) the area to the west of these freeways. On January 29, the cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill, portions of the cities of Campbell, Los Gatos, Milpitas, San Jose, and the unincorporated areas in the eastern and southwestern parts of the county were enumerated. The following morning, January 30, street teams enumerated the remaining portions of the cities of Campbell, Milpitas, Los Gatos, and San Jose; the cities of Cupertino, Monte Sereno, Mountain View, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Palo Alto, Saratoga, Sunnyvale, Santa

Clara, and the unincorporated areas in the northwestern part of the county.

### Volunteer and Worker Recruitment

An enumeration effort of this magnitude can only be successful with the assistance of those who possess an intimate knowledge of the activities and locations of homeless people. Therefore, the recruitment and training of homeless persons to work as enumerators was an essential part of the street count methodology.

To work on the street count, prospective enumerators were recruited by service provider staff and required to attend a one-hour information and training session. Training sessions were held at multiple locations throughout Santa Clara County during the week prior to the street count. These sessions were attended by homeless persons, staff from homeless service agencies, community volunteers, and staff from Santa Clara County, the City of San Jose and other jurisdictions.

Homeless persons who completed the required training session were paid \$10.00 on the morning they reported to work for the street count. Homeless workers were also paid \$10.00 per hour for their work on the count, and were reimbursed for any expenses (mainly transportation costs) they incurred during the hours they worked. In total, 175 homeless persons and 155 homeless service providers, city and county workers, and community volunteers participated in the two-day count.

### Street Count Teams

On the mornings of the census, two-person teams were created to enumerate designated areas of the county for the street count. A team ideally was composed of one volunteer and one homeless person who had attended a training and information session. Street count teams were provided with defined census tract maps of their assigned areas, census tally sheets and other supplies. Volunteers and guide were reminded of the protocol for identifying individuals visually, without intrusion, as well as how to complete the tally sheet, clearly identifying the age, gender, family status and location of each individual.

Over the two-day census period, all 341 census tracts in Santa Clara County were enumerated. The City of San Jose accounts for more than 200 of those tracts; the majority of the San Jose tracts were counted on the morning of January 29<sup>th</sup>.

### Safety Precautions

Every effort was made to minimize potentially hazardous situations. Precautions were taken to prepare a safe environment in all deployment centers. Law enforcement districts were notified of pending street count activity in their jurisdictions. No official reports were received in regards to unsafe or at-risk situations occurring during the street census in any area of the county.

## Street Count Deployment

The two-day enumeration effort was conducted between daybreak and noon. This early morning period was selected to avoid duplicate counting of sheltered homeless persons and to increase the visibility of the street homeless. Areas around emergency shelters were enumerated in the morning prior to individuals leaving the shelter when possible.

All accessible and safe streets, roads, and highways in the enumerated tracts were traveled by foot, bike, or car. Homeless enumerators were also instructed to include themselves on their tally sheets for the street count, if they were not going to be counted by a shelter or institutional census.

Upon their return, teams turned in their census tally forms and were debriefed by the deployment captains. Observational comments and the integrity of the enumeration effort were reviewed and assessed. This review was primarily done to check for double-counting (i.e., counting a family as both family members and individuals) and to verify that every accessible road within the assigned area was enumerated.

No direct contact with enumerated homeless people was made during the census enumeration. To avoid potential duplicate counting of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons, it was imperative to enumerate during the narrow time frame when sheltered and unsheltered homeless do not co-mingle.

## Targeted Street Outreach -Youth

Unaccompanied youth tend to be difficult to enumerate in the morning census, since they do not usually co-mingle with the adult homeless population. For this reason, special youth enumeration teams consisting of homeless youth and formerly homeless youth were formed to conduct the targeted count. Youth enumerators were deployed from the Bill Wilson Drop-In Center and were given a general geographical area in Santa Clara County to count rather than specific census tract maps. These teams counted between 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. when homeless youth are most likely to be visible on the streets and were assigned to specific areas to minimize duplication. They enumerated unaccompanied homeless children under 18 and youth 18 to 24 years old.

## Targeted Street Outreach – Encampments

The City of San Jose and Santa Clara County have explored numerous service and outreach initiatives related to the burgeoning growth of encampments in urban locations near waterways, public works, and other general urban open space areas. The City of San Jose, in particular, funds a homeless outreach and engagement program with Outreach Worker staff dedicated to linking encamped homeless to services and housing. These teams frequent encampments and build relationships that encourage participation in local homeless service initiatives, whether it is housing or other supportive services.

Larger encampment areas in the City of San Jose were identified prior to the census count and special teams of Outreach Workers, familiar

with these areas, were organized to count those residing in these larger encampments on the dates of the count. Targeted encampment areas were identified on general street count maps and those homeless persons residing in those encampments were counted by the Outreach Workers rather than the census street teams. The result was the most comprehensive profile of homeless encampments in San Jose that has been done to date.

## ***Shelter and Institution Count Methodology***

### **Goal**

The goal of the shelter count was to gain an accurate count of the number of individuals and families who were experiencing homelessness and those who were temporarily housed in shelters and other institutions across Santa Clara County.

### **Data Collection**

The basic approach was to identify and contact agencies that temporarily house homeless people and request that those agencies send Applied Survey Research a count of the number of homeless persons housed in their programs on the night of Jan. 29, 2013. In 2013, the participating shelters were determined by those listed on the Housing Inventory Chart reported to HUD. Participating agencies included:

- » Emergency Shelters
- » Transitional Housing Facilities
- » Safe Havens

Shelter facilities reported their occupancies for the night of January 29<sup>th</sup> to Applied Survey Research (ASR) by email, paper survey, or telephone call.

## ***Homeless Census Challenges and Assumptions***

### **Challenges**

There are many challenges in any homeless enumeration, especially when implemented in a community as diverse and large as San Jose and Santa Clara County. Homeless populations include many difficult-to-count subsets such as:

- » Persons who have children and therefore stay “under the radar” for fear of having to turn their children over to Child Protective Services;
- » Youth who tend to keep themselves less visible than homeless adults;
- » People who live in isolated rural areas;
- » Individuals and families living on private property that are unseen and inaccessible to the enumerators; and
- » People who sleep in unfit structures such as abandoned buildings and/or public areas.

### **Census Undercount**

For a variety of reasons, homeless persons generally do not want to be seen, and make concerted efforts to avoid detection. In a non-intrusive, Point-in-Time, visual homeless enumeration, the methods employed, while sound, have inherent biases and shortcomings. Even with the assistance of dedicated homeless service providers and currently or previously

homeless census enumerators, the methodology cannot guarantee 100% accuracy. Nor can one accurately assess the margin of error in the estimation efforts without significant added costs or the use of dehumanizing strategies such as homeless decoys.

The conservative census and survey approach employed by the City of San Jose is necessary to preserve the integrity of the data collected. Even though the census is most likely to be an undercount of the homeless population, the methodology employed, coupled with the homeless survey, is the most comprehensive approach available and provides valuable data for local and federal service agencies.

However, the City of San Jose and County of Santa Clara have recognized the potential undercount of homeless children and youth.

#### Efforts to Address the Undercount of Children and Youth

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) gathers data the number of children receiving services through their homeless assistance programs. However, this data employs a broader definition of homelessness in its recordkeeping. It includes youth living in shelters, single room occupancy hotels, transitional housing, the streets, cars, doubled up, and other inadequate accommodations.

SCCOE estimated that there were 2,165 homeless school-aged youth enrolled in the district during the 2011/12 school years. The largest numbers of children, in 2013, were in 2nd grade (83 children), 1st grade (82) and kindergarten (82). The number of children

decreased with age, with a total of 153 children in grades 9-12. It was estimated that 132 children would meet the definition of unsheltered for the Point-in-Time.

In 2013, efforts were made by the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) to confirm the total number of children meeting the Point-in-Time definition of homelessness on January 29th and 30<sup>th</sup>. Efforts were also made to gather data on the number of families and non-school age family member. These efforts proved more challenging than expected and participation by school districts was limited. However, inroads were made and all parties will work to improve this process in 2015.

### Annualization Methodology

A Point-in-Time (PIT) homeless enumeration has an inherent bias of not capturing homeless persons who experience short episodes of homelessness during other times of the year. More people experience homelessness annually than can be counted at any given point-in-time, as people cycle in and out of homelessness. For example, someone may be homeless between February and May, and another person may become homeless between October and January. Counting only those persons found in a January census could under-represent those experiencing homelessness in the other months of the year.

Therefore, based on the survey responses of the 2013 survey, ASR used the annualization formula detailed by the Corporation for Supportive Housing<sup>32</sup> to calculate an annual estimate of the number of homeless persons in the City of San Jose over the course of a year.

This approach is the HUD-approved method for calculating the annual estimate of homeless persons based on the PIT count. The following is an explanation of the annualization calculation.

Three factors were used to determine the annual estimate:

- » A = The PIT count of currently homeless people (found in the street and shelter count);
- » B = The number of currently homeless people who became homeless within the last seven days or who entered the county within the last seven days; and
- » C = The proportion of currently homeless people who have experienced a previous homeless episode within the past 12 months.

The equation for calculating the annual estimate:  
 $A + [(B \times 51) \times (1 - C)] = \text{Annual estimate}$

Prior to 2013, the annualization formula did not include respondents who had moved to Santa Clara County within the last seven days.

### Assumptions of Annual Estimation

The calculations used to project an annual estimate of homelessness are based on two very important assumptions.

1. The information gathered by the homeless survey is indicative of responses that would have been given at any other time during the year and is representative of the general diversity of the study area's homeless population.
2. The Point-in-Time census count is reasonably indicative of a count that would have been obtained at any other time during the year.

Service providers have supported these assumptions by indicating that the demand for services stayed relatively consistent over time. The total number of homeless individuals accessing services does not fluctuate to a great degree, although the proportion of sheltered versus unsheltered homeless does vary with the seasons.

Estimates of the number of people who experience homelessness in a given year are important for planning purposes and HUD reporting requirements. Because many homeless experiences are relatively short-term (i.e., less than a year), it is important to account for this phenomenon when determining the annual demand for homeless services.

Given the size of the survey sample (456 persons), the statistical reliability of the projections, the undercount inherent in any homeless census, as well as the use of a HUD-approved annualization calculation, the project committee and ASR have determined that this methodology was the most complete and accurate of all available approaches.

## Survey Methodology

### Planning and Implementation

The survey of 456 homeless persons was conducted in order to yield qualitative data about the homeless community in San Jose. The survey elicited information that allows for greater perspective to current issues of homelessness and to the provision and delivery of services. The survey findings help calculate demographic changes and characteristics of the homeless population between 2009 and 2013.

In addition to the general survey, youth under the age of 25 were given a third page of survey questions, which asked specifically about their experience as homeless children or youth.

About 200 surveys were conducted with youth under age 25. These surveys were conducted by other homeless youth workers in order to maintain the peer-to-peer protocol. The overall protocol for youth surveys was similar to the general survey; however youth under the age of 18 were asked to sign an informed consent document and were given the option of filling out surveys on their own.

Surveys were conducted by homeless workers and service provider volunteers who were trained by ASR. Training sessions led potential interviewers through a comprehensive orientation that included project background information and detailed instruction on respondent eligibility, interviewing protocol, and confidentiality. Because of confidentiality and privacy issues, service providers typically conducted the surveys within shelters. No self-administered surveys were accepted from individuals over the age of 18 in order to maintain a standardized and consistent protocol. Homeless workers were compensated at a rate of \$5.00 per completed survey. All surveyors were required to have their surveys go through a brief audit for completeness and clarity with a trained survey administrator.

It was determined that survey data would be more easily collected if an incentive gift was offered to respondents in appreciation for their time and participation. Socks were selected as an incentive to participate in the survey. These

socks were easy to obtain and distribute, were thought to have wide appeal, and could be provided within the project budget.

### Survey Sampling

In order to select a random sample of respondents, survey workers were trained to employ a randomized “every third encounter” survey approach. Survey workers were instructed to approach the third person they encountered whom they considered to be an eligible survey respondent.<sup>33</sup>

If the person declined to take the survey, the survey worker could approach the next eligible person they encountered. After completing a survey, the randomized approach was resumed.

Strategic attempts were made to reach individuals in various geographic locations and of various subpopulations such as homeless youth, minority ethnic groups, military veterans, domestic violence victims, and families, including recruiting survey workers from these subset groups.

Trained homeless interviewers administered surveys to the “street” homeless. Surveys were also administered in shelters and transitional housing programs. In order to assure the representation of transitional housing residents, who can be underrepresented in a street-based survey, survey quotas were created to reach individuals and heads of family households living in these programs.

Based on a Point-in-Time estimate of 4,770 homeless persons in San Jose, with a randomized survey sampling process, the 456 valid surveys

represent a confidence interval of +/-4% with a 95% confidence level when generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated population of homeless individuals in San Jose. This confidence interval becomes larger when data are analyzed by population segments or small subpopulations.

### Data Collection

Care was taken by interviewers to ensure that respondents felt comfortable regardless of the street or shelter location where the survey occurred. During the interviews, respondents were encouraged to be candid in their responses and were informed that these responses would be framed as general findings, would be kept confidential, and would not be traceable to any one individual. Overall, the interviewers experienced excellent cooperation from respondents.

### Survey Administration Details

The survey requested respondents' initials and date of birth, so that duplication could be avoided without compromising the respondents' anonymity. Upon completion of the survey effort, an extensive verification process was conducted to eliminate duplicates. This process examined respondents' date of birth, initials, gender, ethnicity, and consistencies in patterns of responses to other questions on the survey. This left 456 valid surveys for analysis. Due to the sensitive nature of the survey, respondents were not required to answer every survey question and respondents were asked to skip questions that were not applicable. For this reason, the number of respondents for each survey questions may not total 456.

### Survey Challenges and Limitation

The 2013 City of San Jose Homeless Survey did not include equal representation of all homeless experiences. However, as mentioned previously, based on a Point-in-Time estimate of 4,770 homeless persons, the 456 valid surveys represent a confidence interval of +/- 4% with a 95% confidence level when generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated homeless population in the City of San Jose.

The survey is limited by respondents' willingness to share personal experiences with surveyors. Using a peer interviewing methodology allows respondents to be more candid with their answers, and may help reduce the uneasiness of revealing personal information. Surveys that were largely incomplete or contained false responses were not accepted, though there were fewer than five such surveys found in the sample.

## Appendix II: Definitions and Abbreviations

**Chronic homelessness** is defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as an unaccompanied homeless individual or family with a head of household with a disabling condition and who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.

**Disabling condition** for the purposes of this study, is defined as a physical disability, mental illness, depression, alcohol or drug abuse, chronic health problems, HIV/AIDS, Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), or developmental disability.

**Emergency shelter** is the provision of a safe alternative to the streets. Emergency shelter is short-term, usually for 30 days or less. Domestic violence shelters are typically considered a type of emergency shelter, as they provide safe, immediate housing for victims and their children.

**Family** is defined by HUD as either an adult couple or a single adult with one or more minor child present.

**Homeless** under the category 1 definition of homelessness in the HEARTH Act, includes individuals and families living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement, or 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.

**HUD** is the abbreviation for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Sheltered homeless individuals** are those homeless individuals who are living in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs.

**Single individual** refers to an unaccompanied adult or youth.

**Transitional Age Youth (TAY)** refers to unaccompanied youth ages 18-24 years old.

**Transitional housing** facilitates the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing. It is housing in which homeless individuals may live up to 24 months and receive supportive services that enable them to live more independently. Supportive services – which help promote residential stability, increase skill level or income– may be provided by the organization managing the housing, or coordinated by that organization and provided by other public or private agencies. Transitional housing can be provided in one structure, in several structures at one site, or in multiple structures at scattered sites.

**Unaccompanied Children** refers to unaccompanied children under age 18.

**Unsheltered homeless individuals** are those homeless individuals who are living on the streets, in abandoned buildings, storage structures, vehicles, encampments, or any other place unfit for human habitation.

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2010). *Opening Doors: Federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness*. Washington, D.C.
- <sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (December 2012). *Housing Inventory Count and Point-in-Time count of Homeless Persons: Data Collection Guidance Version 1.1*.
- <sup>3</sup> For additional information on the children and youth, see HUD Subpopulations. For information regarding the methods used for gathering data on children and youth, see Appendix 1.
- <sup>4</sup> Surveys were reviewed for completeness, through survey respondents were not required to complete all questions, surveys were eliminated if surveyors felt respondents were not participating or giving candid responses.
- <sup>5</sup> Ethnicity data should be analyzed with caution due to potential survey sampling bias.
- <sup>6</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2013). *Issues LGBTQ Youth*. Retrieved on April 25, 2013 from: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/pages/lgbtq-youth>.
- <sup>7</sup> LGBTQ includes those who identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual or other
- <sup>8</sup> Pecora, P. et al.(2010). *What works in foster care? Key components of success from the Northwest Foster Care Alumni Study*. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press.
- <sup>9</sup> Uzo Anucha, P. D. (2005). *Conceptualizing Homeless Exits and Returns: The Case for a Multidimensional Response to Episodic Homelessness*. *Critical Social Work*.
- <sup>10</sup> SAMHSA. (n.d.). *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration*. Retrieved January 2013, from Homeless Resource Center: <http://homeless.samhsa.gov>
- <sup>11</sup> Hwang, S. W., et al. (2011). Hospital costs and length of stay among homeless patients admitted to medical, surgical, and psychiatric services, *Med Care*. 2011 Apr;49(4):350-4.
- <sup>12</sup> O'Connell, J.J. (2005). *Premature Mortality in Homeless Populations: A Review of the Literature*, 19 pages. Nashville: National Health Care for the Homeless Council, Inc.
- <sup>13</sup> National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2000). *Extend, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey*. Atlanta, Georgia.
- <sup>14</sup> Metraux, S. et al. (2007). *Incarceration and Homelessness*. 2007 National Symposium on Homelessness Research. Retrieved 2013 from <http://works.bepress.com/>
- <sup>15</sup> State of California Employment Development Department. (2013). *Unemployment Rates (Labor Force)*. Retrieved 2013 from <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov>
- <sup>16</sup> *Federal Register*, Vol. 78, No. 16, Jan. 24, 2013, pp. 5182-5183
- <sup>17</sup> Income from government sources is excluded from poverty guideline calculations. Health and Human Services Federal Poverty Guidelines do not consider non-cash government benefits (such as food stamps or housing subsidies) as income when determining the poverty levels for each fiscal year.
- <sup>18</sup> *Wider Opportunities for Women and Californians for Family Economic Self-Sufficiency (CFESS) and Equal Rights Advocates*. (2011).
- <sup>19</sup> U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2013). *Annual Update 2012*. Retrieved 2013 from <http://www.usich.gov/>
- <sup>20</sup> *Ibid*.
- <sup>21</sup> The number of chronically homeless individuals is based on both the visual count of homeless persons conducted on January 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> and data collected in the subsequent survey.
- <sup>22</sup> U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2013). *Opening Doors: Homelessness Among Veterans*. Retrieved 2013 from <http://www.usich.gov/>
- <sup>23</sup> USICH.. (2013). *Annual Update 2012*. Retrieved 2013 from <http://www.usich.gov/>
- <sup>24</sup> The number of veterans is based on both the visual count of homeless persons conducted on January 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> and data collected in the subsequent survey.
- <sup>25</sup> *Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress (volume 1, 2012)*.
- <sup>26</sup> *Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress (volume 1, 2012)*.
- <sup>27</sup> U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2007). *Characteristics and Dynamics of Homeless Families with Children*. Retrieved 2013 from <http://aspe.hhs.gov/>
- <sup>28</sup> U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2013). *Opening Doors*. Retrieved 2013 from <http://www.usich.gov/>
- <sup>29</sup> There were 21 surveys conducted in San Jose of homeless families with children, therefore caution should be used in interpreting these data.
- <sup>31</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2009). *State and County Quick Facts*.
- <sup>32</sup> Corporation for Supportive Housing. (2007). *Estimating Need*. Retrieved 2013 from <http://www.csh.org/resources/estimating-the-need/>
- <sup>33</sup> The survey method of systematically interviewing every *n*<sup>th</sup> person encountered in a location is recommended by HUD in their publication, *A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People*, Second Revision, January 2008, p. 37.