

**Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the  
County of Monterey, State of California**

Receives the 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties )  
Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report )

Upon motion of Supervisor Calcagno seconded by Supervisor Salinas, and carried by those members present, effective June 28, 2011, the Board hereby:

Received the 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report

I, Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 75 for the meeting on June 28 2011.

Dated: June 29, 2011

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Monterey, State of California

By Denise Hancock  
Deputy



2011 Monterey & San Benito Counties

# HOMELESS CENSUS & SURVEY COMPREHENSIVE REPORT





The considerable talents and efforts of many individuals helped to assure the success of this endeavor. Monterey County, San Benito County, The United Way and Applied Survey Research (ASR) would like to thank the donors and sponsors of this project and the many service providers who assisted in the administration of surveys, facilitated the process of homeless peer enumeration by recruiting census workers, and opened the doors of their facilities to host training sessions, deploy census workers, or distribute surveys. Monterey County, San Benito County, The United Way and ASR would also like to thank the hundreds of community volunteers who participated in the 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey efforts. Finally, all parties would like to thank the homeless census and survey workers, as well as the survey respondents, whose efforts are reflected throughout the findings of this report.

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San Benito County  
United Way Monterey County

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## Training Centers, Deployment Sites, and Survey Distribution Centers

**City Hall Rotunda**

Salinas

**First United Methodist Church**

Salinas

**Martinez Hall**

Marina

**Oldemeyer Center**

Seaside

**Salvation Army**

Seaside

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

Every two years in January, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of their homeless population, in order to gain a better understanding of the current homeless population, and to apply for federal funding for homeless programs. Monterey County and San Benito County have worked in conjunction with Applied Survey Research (ASR) to conduct the 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey for adults, families and unaccompanied children. ASR is a non-profit social research firm based in Santa Cruz County, California, with extensive experience in homeless enumeration and research.

The 2011 Monterey County and San Benito County Point-in-Time Counts were a community-wide effort, simultaneously conducted January 26, 2011. The count and subsequent surveys provide information about the homeless population that is critical to program and service planning, helps to inform the allocation of resources for services to help the homeless, and offers a means of measuring the impact of homeless programs and services.

All jurisdictions receiving federal funding to provide housing and services for the homeless through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant are required by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to conduct a biennial Point-in-Time count of unsheltered and sheltered homeless persons sometime during the last ten days of January. Currently, Monterey County receives over 1.7 million dollars in Homeless Assistance Grant money. This is a critical source of funding for homeless services. San Benito County is not currently receiving McKinney-Vento funding, this year's census and survey were part of the County's efforts to establish themselves as part of the Monterey Continuum of Care.

According to HUD, the Point-in-Time count must include all unsheltered homeless persons and sheltered homeless persons staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs on the date of the count. Jurisdictions report the findings of their Point-in-Time count in their annual application to HUD for federal funding to provide housing and services for the homeless. The compilation of data collected through Point-in-Time counts across the United States helps the federal government to better understand the nature and extent of homelessness nationwide.

The Homeless Census had two 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 motel vouchers). The entire region was canvassed over a period of 24 hours. There were four deployment locations based in Hollister, Salinas, San Juan Bautista, and Seaside. The count was conducted by teams of trained homeless workers and community volunteers. This unsheltered homeless enumeration methodology, developed by ASR in 2001, has been highlighted by the HUD's in the 2008 *Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People*.

The unsheltered street enumeration was divided into two separate counts: a primary count of homeless individuals and families and a secondary count which focused on unaccompanied children and youth

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<sup>1</sup> The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (2010). *Opening doors: federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness*. Washington, DC.  
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(children without a guardian and under the age of 25). The primary count took place during the early morning of January 26. The unaccompanied children and youth count took place in the afternoon of January 26, 2011, from approximately 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm, when children and youth were more likely to be visible in the community.

In order to capture the number of homeless individuals and families staying in shelters and transitional housing programs, shelter providers in the counties completed an online survey of homeless individuals and families who occupied their facility on the night of January 25, 2011.

In addition to the countywide homeless census, an in-depth 34 question survey was administered in the weeks following the street count to 553 sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals in Monterey County, and 42 sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals in San Benito County. The survey was designed to yield qualitative data about the adult homeless population in Monterey and San Benito Counties. Unaccompanied homeless children and youth in Monterey County took the adult survey, and also answered an additional survey that asked specifically about their circumstances as unaccompanied children and youth. A total of 51 unaccompanied homeless children and youth (ages 24 and under) answered the survey.

This report provides data on the overall homeless population in each county and brings special attention to specific subpopulations including chronically homeless, veterans, and unaccompanied children and youth. These groups have been identified by the federal government as populations of particular interest in the 2011 Point-in-Time counts.

## Federal Definition of Homelessness

In this study, HUD's definition of homelessness was used:<sup>2</sup>

- An individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and
- An individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is:
  - » A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill), or
  - » An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or
  - » A public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Certain homeless individuals are excluded from this definition, including: unsheltered homeless individuals who were "doubled-up" in the homes of family or friends; and sheltered homeless individuals in jails, hospitals, and rehabilitation facilities. However, where these data are available, we have included them in this report.

## Project Purpose and Goals

The 2011 Monterey County and San Benito County Homeless Census and Survey Project Committee identified several important project goals:

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<sup>2</sup> Title 42, Chapter 119, Subchapter I, §10302(a) of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations based on the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

- 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 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey, and to track progress toward ending homelessness.
- To increase public awareness of overall homeless issues and generate support for constructive solutions.
- To assess the status of chronically homeless, homeless veterans, homeless families, and unaccompanied homeless children (without a guardian and under the age of 18).

The data presented in this report provide an updated view of the homeless in Monterey County, comparisons to the Monterey Homeless Survey results from 2009 are presented where possible and applicable. This is the first homeless census conducted in San Benito County, the data is presented alongside an explanation of current homeless services and community challenges.

Close to two million Americans experience homelessness 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 support prevent them from obtaining permanent housing. Every other January, counties across the country conduct comprehensive counts of their homeless population, in order to gain a better understanding of the current homelessness in their community, and to apply for federal funding for homeless programs. Monterey County worked in conjunction with Applied Survey Research (ASR) to conduct the 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey for adults, families and unaccompanied children. This report places special attention on particular homeless subpopulations that have been identified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These populations include chronically homeless, veterans, families, and unaccompanied youth.

The 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census was performed using HUD's recommended practices for counting homeless individuals. This study included a comprehensive field enumeration of homeless individuals residing in Monterey County on January 26, 2011. In order to generate detailed profiles of homeless individuals in Monterey County 553 surveys of homeless individuals were conducted in the weeks following the census. Data from this representative survey sample revealed more detailed information about the population. The research design relied on self-described and self-defined responses, which is an approved method in homeless research due to the limitations in connecting homeless individuals to their clinical profiles.

**There were more individuals counted in the 2011 Homeless Census than in 2009.**

- 2,507 homeless individuals were counted during the 2011 point-in-time count.<sup>2</sup>
- It is estimated that 3,472 persons experience homelessness annually in Monterey County.
- Based on the 2007-2009 American Community Survey population profile, this annual estimate of homelessness represented approximately 1% of Monterey County's total population of 406,049 people.<sup>3</sup>

**The majority of homeless individuals in Monterey County were white, males between the ages of 30 and 50.**

**HOMELESSNESS**

1. An individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and
2. An individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is:
  - » A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations; or
  - » An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or
  - » A public or private place designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings

- Nearly two-thirds (61%) homeless respondents were male, 38% were female, and less than 1% identified as “transgender” or “other.”
- 69% of survey respondents were White/Caucasian, 37% were Hispanic/Latino, 11% were Black/African American, and 3% identified as American Indian/Alaskan Native.
- Nearly half (47%) of all respondents were between 31-50 years old.
- A majority (72%) of respondents were already living in Monterey County when they most recently became homeless.

#### More individuals were unsheltered than sheltered<sup>4</sup>

- 73% of those counted were unsheltered (1,837 individuals within the 84 census tracts<sup>5</sup>) and 27% (670 individuals) were in shelter facilities such as emergency shelters, transitional housing facilities, and motel voucher programs in Monterey County.
- 30% of survey respondents were sleeping outdoors, on the streets, in parks, or in encampments. 13% of survey respondents were sleeping in an indoor area not normally meant for sleeping.
- 14% of survey respondents slept in their vehicles.

#### MONTEREY COUNTY ENUMERATION FINDINGS

Census Components	2009	2011	2009-2011	
			Net Change	Percent Change
Street Enumeration	1,628	1,837	209	12.8%
Shelter Enumeration	732	670	-62	-8.5%
Emergency shelter enumeration <sup>1</sup>	216	182	-34	-15.7%
Transitional housing enumeration	516	488	-28	-5.4%
<b>Total Count for HUD</b>	<b>2,407</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4.2%</b>
<b>Annualized Estimate</b>	<b>3,056</b>	<b>3,472</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>13.6%</b>

Source: Harder + Company. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census. San Francisco, CA.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census. Watsonville, CA.

<sup>1</sup> This includes those who were using vouchers to stay in motels or hotels

#### 43% of respondents indicated this was the first time they had experienced homelessness.

- 59% of respondents had been homeless for a year or more since last permanent living/housing situation
- 43% of respondents in 2011 said that this was the first time that had been homeless, compared to 39% in 2009.
- 44% of survey respondents cited job loss as the primary cause of their homelessness.
- 32% indicated it had been 3 or more years since their last permanent living/housing situation.
- 26% of respondents indicated that since they most recently became homeless, they had needed medical care but were unable to receive it.

- 13% of all survey respondents indicated they were experiencing chronic health problems.

**57% of all survey respondents said they had one or more disability conditions in 2011.**

The federal government considers multiple physical and mental conditions disabling to homeless individuals, preventing them from obtaining work or housing. These conditions include substance abuse disorders, serious mental illness, developmental disabilities, cognitive impairments from physical trauma and chronic physical illness or disabilities.

- 21% of the survey population had a physical disability in 2011.
- 20% of respondents reported having a mental illness.
- 38% of survey respondents reported that they were experiencing a substance abuse problem (alcohol and/or other drugs).
- 13% reported suffering from a chronic health problem.
- 1% had HIV/AIDS in 2011.

**The majority of survey respondents (60%) indicated they were receiving some form of government assistance.**

- 50% of survey respondents receiving government assistance reported receiving food stamps.

## Chronic

**Approximately 38% (194 out of 512 respondents) were chronically homeless.**

A profile of chronically homeless individuals living in Monterey County was obtained from the homeless survey. In previous years, only unaccompanied individuals were considered chronically homeless by The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This year, HUD extended the definition of chronically homeless to include individuals residing in families.

- The percentage of chronically homeless in Monterey County was higher than the national findings reported in the 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress. The report found that 27% of all homeless individuals across the nation were chronically homeless.<sup>6</sup>
- It is estimated that on any given night, Monterey County has a chronically homeless population of approximately 1,345 persons. This represents a 22% increase from 1,100 chronically homeless individuals in 2009.
- The *percentage* of chronically homeless persons increased from 36% in 2009 to 38% in 2011.
- In Monterey County, 39 people in families were considered chronically homeless in 2011.



An individual or family residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven or in an emergency shelter that also:

- » Has been continually homeless for one year or more; or
- » Has experienced four or more episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years
- » Has an adult head of household with diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, post traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments resulting from trauma, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of 2 or more of those conditions

## Veterans

The percentage of homeless veterans remained relatively constant from 2009 to 2011.

In 2011, HUD and the Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA) agreed to use the HUD PIT count as the definitive federal estimate of veteran homelessness.

- 13% of adult survey respondents ages 18 and older indicated that they were veterans of the United States Armed Forces in 2011.
- 30% of homeless veterans reported living outside, on the street or in an encampment.
- 29% of homeless veterans reported that they were not receiving any form of government assistance.
- 42% reported depression, 29% reported chronic health problems, and 33% reported drug or alcohol abuse.

### VETERAN

Someone who has 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.

### FAMILIES

Homeless families are defined as those currently living with at least one child under the age of 18 years.

## Families and Children

National data suggest that the number of homeless families is increasing.

**251 families were counted in the 2011 homeless census.**

- 12% of all survey respondents were members of a family (currently living with a child under the age of 18 years old).
- 75% of survey respondents with children reported that they did not live with their children, thereby excluding them from the national definition of family.
- The most frequently reported cause of homelessness among families was job loss (31%).

## Unaccompanied Children and Youth

Homeless children and youth are an extremely difficult demographic to capture and federal understanding of this population is limited.

**271 unaccompanied children and youth (ages 0-24) were counted during the 2011 Point-in-Time count.**

- 97 children were under the age of 18.
- More youth were living on the street than in shelters.
- 23% of youth survey respondents reported their parents were or had previously been homeless, 58% reported their parents used drugs and/or alcohol during their childhood.
- 73% of youth survey respondents wanted to get off the streets.

### UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN

The federal government defines unaccompanied children as any person under age 18 who presents for housing or services alone.



The 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census identified 2,507 homeless individuals in Monterey County. This count, however, should be considered conservative since it is well known that even with the most thorough methodology, many homeless individuals stay in locations where they cannot be seen or counted by enumeration teams. Further, many women and families try to remain hidden for safety. The majority (73%) of those enumerated during the count were unsheltered, while 27% were sheltered. Compared to the 2009 count, the overall annualized homeless population increased by 14% (representing an increase of 484 persons).

The Homeless Survey revealed a diverse population with many different needs; however, some consistent themes emerged from the results. The survey showed that most homeless persons were 31 to 50 years old, were living in Monterey County at the time they became homeless, had been homeless for more than one year. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of survey respondents were White/Caucasian, 37% were Hispanic/Latino, 11% were Black/African American. Thirteen percent (13%) of adult respondents ages 18 and older identified themselves as veterans of the United States Armed Forces. Thirty-eight percent (38%) of survey respondents were chronically homeless.

Key causes of homelessness included economic factors such as job loss or unemployment. Forty-four percent (44%) of homeless respondents reported the loss of a job as the primary reason they became homeless. Thirty-nine percent (39%) reported that their alcohol or drug issue was the primary cause of their homelessness. A large majority (88%) of survey respondents stated that they were currently unemployed.



While the number of homeless persons in Monterey County has increased over the past two years, Homeless services providers in Monterey County strongly believe that the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) has been effectively keeping many individuals and families from becoming homeless and assisted homeless persons in obtaining stable housing. In light of the continuing economic recession, providers feel that HPRP has helped to mitigate more significant increases in homelessness, such as those seen in 2009 in Monterey County. As of March 31, 2011, 1,895 households had been assisted through the HPRP project in Monterey County.

<sup>1</sup> The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (2010). *Opening doors: federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness*. Washington, DC.

<sup>2</sup> This total excludes homeless individuals who were housed in jails, hospitals, or rehabilitation facilities as they do not meet HUD's homeless definition for the point-in-time count.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, 2011.

<sup>4</sup> It is important to note that the count is conducted in January when the Winter Shelters are opening and running, which increases the percentage of homeless individuals in shelter facilities.

<sup>5</sup> Census tracts with extremely high mileage and extremely low population densities were covered strategically by those familiar with the area rather than being completely canvassed by census teams.

<sup>6</sup> Department of Housing and Urban Development (2010). Office of Community Planning and Development, *The 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress*. Retrieved March 2011 from [www.huduser.org/publicationspdf/5thhomelessassessmentreport.pdf](http://www.huduser.org/publicationspdf/5thhomelessassessmentreport.pdf)



The Point-in-Time street count was conducted on January 26, 2011 from approximately 5:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Census enumerators canvassed all U.S. Census Tracts in Monterey County. Shelters and institutions in the county reported their occupancies for the night of January 25, 2011. The number of homeless persons occupying emergency shelters, transitional housing, domestic violence shelters, and institutional housing were enumerated in conjunction with the street count. Special youth enumeration teams consisting of currently homeless youth, formerly homeless youth, and youth service providers enumerated unaccompanied homeless youth on the afternoon of January 26, from approximately 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The number of unaccompanied homeless children and youth were integrated into the overall census findings.<sup>3</sup>

## The Point-in-Time Count in Monterey County

- A total of 2,507 homeless people were counted on January 26 in Monterey County.<sup>4</sup>
  - » Of those counted, the majority (73%) were unsheltered (1,837 individuals). This included the individuals counted on the streets, as well as those estimated to be living in the occupied cars, vans, RVs, encampments, and abandoned buildings counted by enumerators.<sup>5</sup>
  - » Over one-quarter of the population (27%) was sheltered (670 individuals). This number included persons occupying emergency shelters (including domestic violence shelters) and transitional housing facilities.<sup>6</sup>
  - » Between 2009 and 2011, the total number of homeless individuals enumerated during the homeless census increased 4% from 2,407 to 2,507.

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<sup>3</sup> A detailed explanation of the methodology used for the 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census, including the project limitations can be found in Appendix I. Copies of the census instruments can be found in Appendix II. For a complete list of definitions of terms used in this report, please see Appendix VI.

<sup>4</sup> This total excludes homeless individuals who were housed in jails, hospitals, or rehabilitation facilities as they do not meet HUD's homeless definition for the Point-in-Time count.

<sup>5</sup> The number of individuals enumerated in cars, vans, RVs, encampments, and abandoned buildings are estimates based on empirical data from the 2011 Monterey County Homeless Survey. Survey respondents who indicated that they usually stay in a car, van, RV, encampment, or abandoned building at night were asked to indicate how many people usually stay there, producing a median number of people for each of these sleeping locations. The multipliers used were: 1.51 for cars, 1.86 for vans/RVs, 3.13 for encampment structures, and 3.98 for abandoned buildings.

<sup>6</sup> It is important to note that unlike many counties in California, Monterey County does not have an emergency winter shelter.  
© Applied Survey Research, 2011

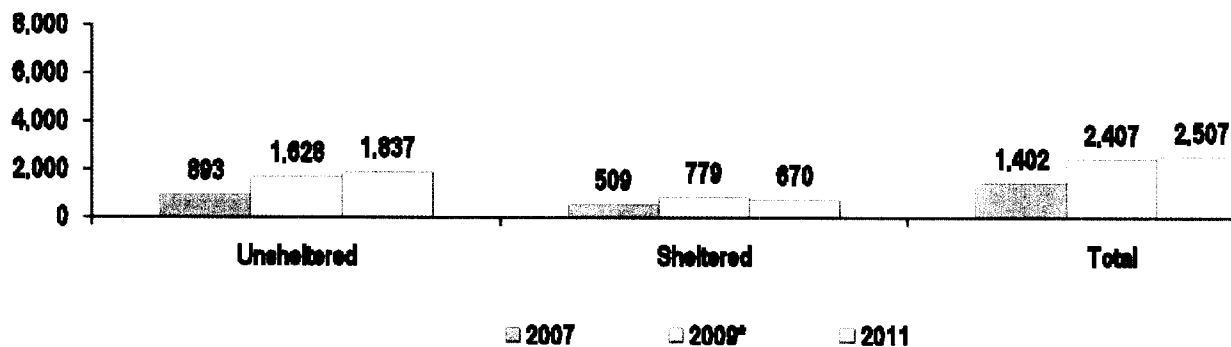
**Figure 1: Monterey County 2011 Homeless Census Results**

	Single Adults 2011	Persons in Families 2011	Family Status Unknown 2011	2011 Totals	% of Total
Street	849	154	834	1,837	73%
Emergency Shelter	141	41	0	182	7%
Transitional Housing	200	288	0	488	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,190</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

- Persons in families were 19% of the 2011 Point-in-Time homeless population, compared to 21% in 2009.
  - » Persons in families were 8% of the unsheltered homeless population,<sup>7</sup> and 46% of the sheltered population.
- The total number of homeless individuals enumerated in emergency shelters and transitional housing facilities decreased by 109 individuals since 2009.

**Figure 2: Total Number of Homeless Individuals Enumerated During the Monterey County 2011 Point-in-Time Homeless Census with Comparison Data from 2007 and 2009**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

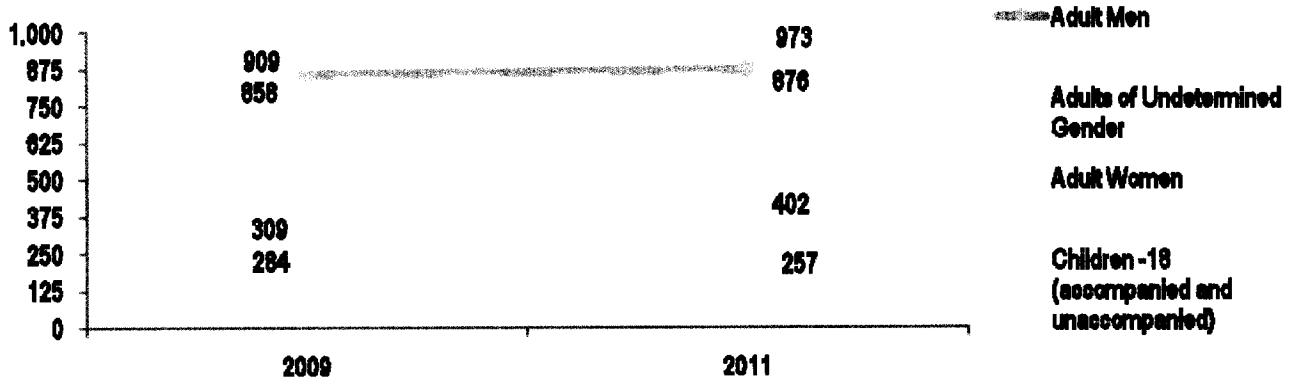
Note: Totals exclude homeless individuals who were housed in jails, hospitals, or rehabilitation facilities as they do not meet HUD's homeless definition for the Point-in-Time count.

\* 2009 Sheltered Count includes and 47 motel/hotel vouchers distributed by Shelter Plus Care II to 29 homeless individuals and 18 homeless families.

<sup>7</sup> For the unsheltered count, a group of homeless individuals were determined to be a family if the grouping included at least one child estimated to be under the age of 18 who was accompanied by at least one adult.

- Of the adult homeless population enumerated, 35% were men, 10% were women, and 39% were of undetermined gender.
- 16% of the homeless population in Monterey County were children under the age of 18 years.
  - » Among the unsheltered adult homeless population, 37% were men, 11% were women, and 52% were of undetermined gender.
  - » Among the sheltered adult homeless population, 43% were men, 8% were women, 35% were children under the age of 18 and 20% were of undetermined gender.

**Figure 3: Number of Sheltered and Unsheltered Adult Homeless Men and Women, Youth, and Other Adults of Undetermined Gender in Monterey County**



Source: Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

**Figure 4: Monterey County Homeless Census Population, 2009-2011 Comparison**

Setting	Men			Women			Children			Adults of Undetermined Gender/Age <sup>2</sup>			Total Individuals		
	2009	2011	Net	2009	2011	Net	2009	2011	Net	2009	2011	Net	2009	2011	%
Single Individuals	483	582	99	99	150	51	16	97	81	124	20	-104	722	849	18%
Persons in families	28	28	0	29	31	2	65	95	30	0	0	0	122	154	26%
Individuals in cars, vans, RVs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	410	349	-61	410	349	-15%
Individuals in encampments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	374	326	-48	374	326	-13%
Individuals in abandoned buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	159	159	0	159	-
<b>Emergency Shelter<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>140</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>-25</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>-31</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>-31%</b>
Single Individuals	140	115	16	41	26	-15	2	0	-2	29	0	-29	212	141	-34%
Persons in families	0	0	0	13	0	-13	20	25	5	18	16	-2	51	41	-20%
<b>Transitional Housing</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>-57</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>-77</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>-5%</b>
Single Individuals	142	150	8	48	50	-2	0	0	0	1	0	-1	191	200	5%
Persons in families	65	0	-65	79	0	-79	181	185	4	0	103	103	325	288	-11%
<b>Total Unsheltered &amp; Sheltered</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2,407</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>4%</b>

Source: Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

<sup>1</sup> 2009 Emergency Shelter totals include motel/hotel vouchers distributed to 18 individuals and 29 families by Shelter Plus Care II.

<sup>2</sup> In 2011 shelter providers were not required to report the gender of those residing in families.

As in previous years, the 2011 Homeless Census collected data on the geographic distribution of sheltered and unsheltered homeless families and individuals in Monterey County. This data allows for the assessment of needs and programs addressing homelessness at both the city and county level. Data on the total number of sheltered and unsheltered families and individuals are presented in the following charts. It is important to recognize the way jurisdictional data is affected by the location of shelter facilities. Therefore, the overall numbers are followed by separate sheltered and unsheltered counts.

## Total Number of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homeless Persons, by Jurisdiction

**Figure 5: Total Unsheltered and Sheltered Homeless Census Population by Jurisdiction and Family Status**

Jurisdiction	Individuals			Persons in Families			Persons in Vehicles, Encampments, or Parks <sup>1</sup>			Total Persons			
	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change	Percent Change
Big Sur	1	4	3	0	0	0	20	0	-20	21	4	17	-81%
Boronda	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Carmel	2	6	4	0	0	0	6	3	-3	8	12	4	50%
Castroville	8	0	-8	0	23	23	24	0	-24	32	23	-9	-28%
Del Monte Forest	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Del Rey Oaks	-	9	-	-	0	-	-	16	-	-	25	-	-
Elkhorn	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Gonzalez	-	35	-	-	0	-	-	38	-	-	73	-	-
Greenfield	21	17	-4	14	82	68	21	0	-21	56	99	43	77%
King City	4	14	10	0	0	0	9	19	10	13	33	20	154%
Las Lomas	-	0	-	-	25	-	-	0	-	-	25	-	-
Marina	137	113	-24	238	276	38	127	54	-73	502	443	-60	-13%
Monterey City	159	266	107	8	4	-4	137	170	33	304	440	136	45%
Unincorporated Monterey County	0	25	25	0	0	0	0	98	98	0	123	-	-
Moss Landing	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Pacific Grove	5	19	14	0	0	0	4	42	38	9	61	52	58%
Pájaro	86	234	148	94	18	-76	83	28	-55	263	280	17	7%
Prunedale	0	2	2	0	0	0	27	5	-22	27	7	-20	74%
Salinas	544	370	-174	78	6	-72	107	281	174	729	657	-72	-10%
Sand City	0	34	34	0	0	0	0	37	37	0	71	71	-
Seaside	105	40	-65	48	49	1	160	40	-120	313	129	-184	-59%
Soledad	24	2	-22	0	0	0	60	0	-60	84	2	-82	-98%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,096</b>	<b>1,190</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>2,408</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>4%</b>

Source: Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

<sup>1</sup> "Individuals in Vehicles, Encampments, Abandoned Buildings, and Parks" is reported as a separate category because their family status could not be determined. This category includes unsheltered individuals who were enumerated in these settings during the street census.

**Figure 6: Unsheltered Homeless Census Population by Jurisdiction and Family Status**

Jurisdiction	Individuals			Persons in Families			Persons in Vehicles, Encampments, or Parks <sup>1</sup>			Total Persons			
	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change	Percent Change
Big Sur	1	4	3	0	0	0	20	0	-20	21	4	-17	-81%
Boronda	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Carmel Valley Village	2**	5	4	0	0	0	6	3	0	8	8	4	50%
Carmel by the Sea		1			0			3			4		
Castroville	8	0	-8	0	23	23	24	0	-24	32	23	-9	-28%
Del Monte Forest	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Del Rey Oaks	-	9	-	-	0	-	-	16	-	-	25	-	-
Elkhorn	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Gonzalez	-	35	-	-	0	-	-	38	-	-	73	-	-
Greenfield	21	17	-4	14	82	68	21	0	-21	56	99	43	77%
King City	4	14	10	0	0	0	9	19	10	13	33	20	154%
Las Lomas	-	0	-	-	25	-	-	0	-	-	25	-	-
Marina	53	22	-31	0	0	0	127	54	-73	180	76	-104	-58%
Monterey City	135	257	122	0	0	0	137	170	33	272	427	155	57%
Unincorporated Monterey County	0	25	25	0	0	0	0	98	98	0	123	123	-
Moss Landing	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Pacific Grove	5	19	14	0	0	0	4	42	38	9	61	52	58%
Pájaro	61	168	107	94	18	-76	83	28	-55	238	214	-24	-10%
Prunedale	0	2	2	0	0	0	27	5	-22	27	7	-20	-74%
Salinas	348	229	-119	14	6	-8	107	281	174	469	516	47	10%
Sand City	0	34	34	0	0	0	0	37	37	0	71	71	-
Seaside	60	6	-54	0	0	0	160	40	-120	220	46	-174	-79%
Soledad	24	2	-22	0	0	0	60	0	-60	84	2	-82	-98%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>1,629*</b>	<b>1,837</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>13%</b>

Source: Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

<sup>1</sup> "Individuals in Vehicles, Encampments, Abandoned Buildings, and Parks" is reported as a separate category because these individuals' family status could not be determined. This category includes unsheltered individuals who were enumerated in these settings during the street census.

\*unsheltered 2009 total does not equal 1,629 due to rounding.

\*\*2009 data combines Carmel Valley Village and Carmel by the Sea to form one Carmel total.



**Figure 7: Sheltered Homeless Census Population by Jurisdiction and Family Status**

Jurisdiction	Individuals			Individuals in Families			Total Population			
	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change	2009	2011	Net Change	Percent Change
Marina	84	91	56	238	276	38	322	367	45	12%
Monterey	24	9	-15	8	4	-4	32	13	-19	-59%
Pájaro	25	66	41	0	0	0	25	66	41	164%
Salinas	196	141	-55	64	0	-64	260	141	-119	-46%
Seaside	45	34	-11	48	49	-1	93	83	-10	-11%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>-29</b>	<b>732</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>-62</b>	<b>-19%</b>

Source: Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

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 the homeless person found in a January census could under-represent the experience of the homeless person in the February to May timeline.

Therefore, based on the survey responses of the 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey, ASR used the annualization formula detailed by the Corporation for Supportive Housing to calculate an annual estimate of the number of homeless persons in Monterey County over the course of a year. This approach is the HUD-approved method for calculating the annual estimate of homeless persons based on the Point-in-Time count. The following is an explanation of the annualization calculation.

Three factors were used to determine the annual estimate:<sup>8</sup>

- A = The Point-in-Time 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 7 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:  $A + [(B*51)*(1 - C)] = \text{Annual estimate}$

- For Monterey County:  $2,507 + [(45.126*51)*(1 - 0.580756)] = 3471.86 \approx 3,472$  persons

The annual estimate for the number of homeless people in Monterey County was 3,472 persons. This was a 14% increase from the 2009 annual estimate of 3,056 persons.

Based on the 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates population profile, this annual estimate of homelessness represented approximately 1% of Monterey County's total population of 406,049 people.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Burt, M. and C. Wilkins. (March, 2005). Estimating the Need: projecting from point-in-time to annual estimates of the number of homeless people in a community and using this information to plan for permanent supportive housing. Corporation for Supportive Housing.

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2011). 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates.



This section provides an overview of the findings generated from the 2011 Monterey County Homeless Survey. Surveys were administered between February 1 and March 21, 2011, providing 520 completed, unique surveys. Missing values have been intentionally omitted from the survey results. Therefore, the total number of respondents for each question will not always equal the total number of surveys.<sup>10</sup>

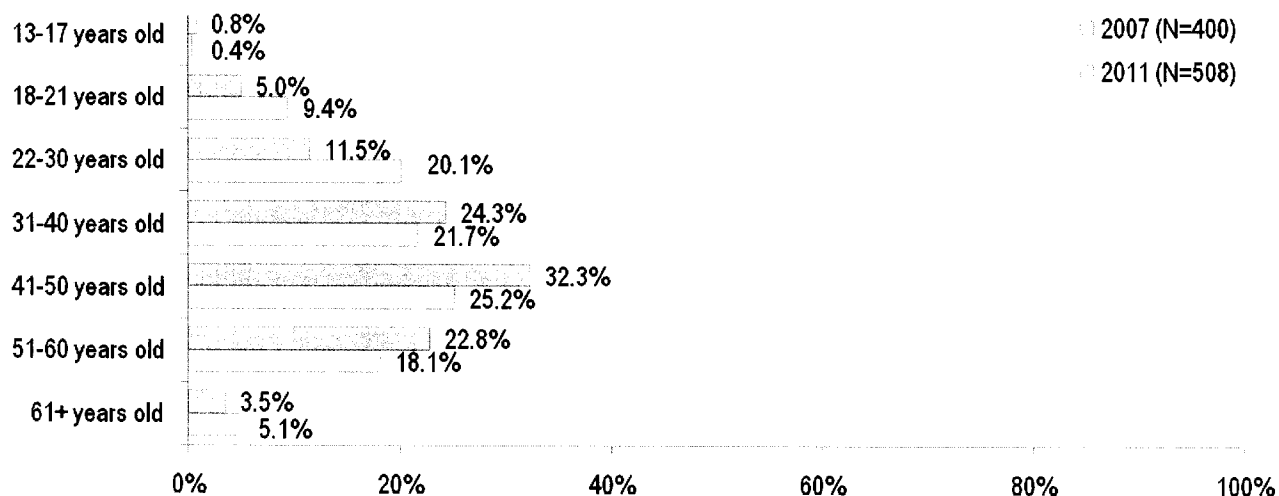
## Demographics

In order to measure the diversity of homeless residents in Monterey County, respondents were asked several demographic questions pertaining to their age, gender, ethnicity, and family status.

### Age

- 47% of all respondents were between 31 - 50 years old.
- Less than 1% of respondents were youth under the age of 18.

**Figure 8: Survey Respondents by Age**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

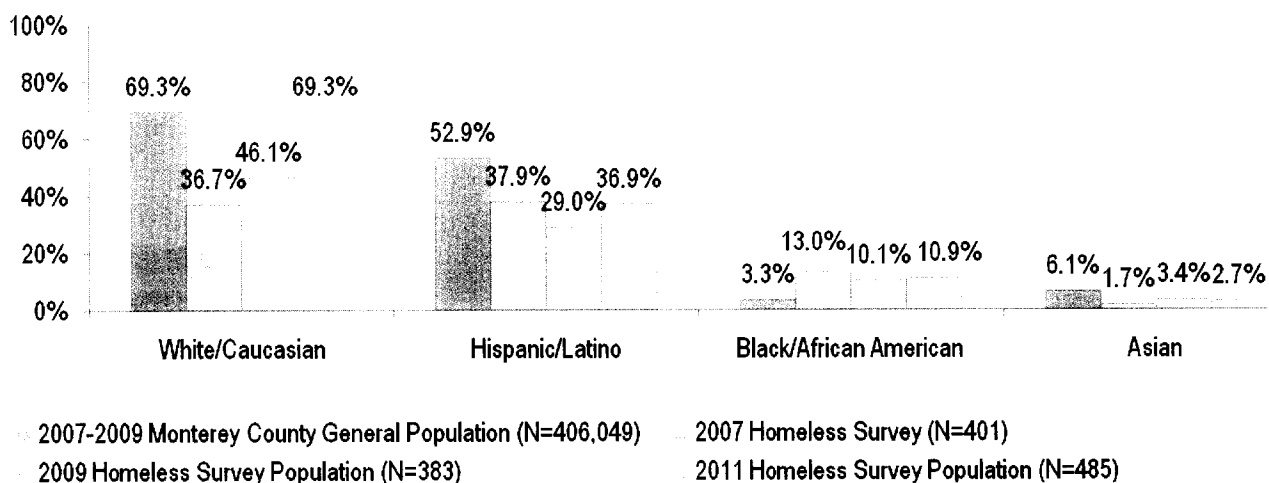
### Race/Ethnicity

- 69% of homeless survey respondents identified their racial/ethnic group as White/Caucasian.
- 11% of homeless survey respondents were Black/African American.

<sup>10</sup> Additional information regarding the Monterey County Homeless Survey can be found in the appendices, including: methodology (Appendix I), geographic distribution (Appendix I), the survey instrument (Appendix III) and overall results (Appendix IV).

- 6% of homeless survey respondents were two or more races.
- 9% of homeless survey respondents identified as Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Pacific Islander (3% respectively).
- 37% of all homeless survey respondents, of any race, identified as Hispanic/Latino.<sup>11</sup>
- Compared to the overall population, there were equal percentages of Whites/Caucasians, and higher percentages of Blacks/African Americans and American Indians/Alaska Natives.<sup>12</sup>
  - » In the overall 2007 - 2009 Monterey County population, 69% of residents were White/Caucasian, 3% were Black/African American, 53% were Hispanic/Latino, and 6% were Asian.

**Figure 9: Respondents by Race/Ethnicity (Top 4 Ethnicities)**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 U.S. Census Bureau. (2011). 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates.

## Residency Prior to Experiencing Homelessness

### County Residency

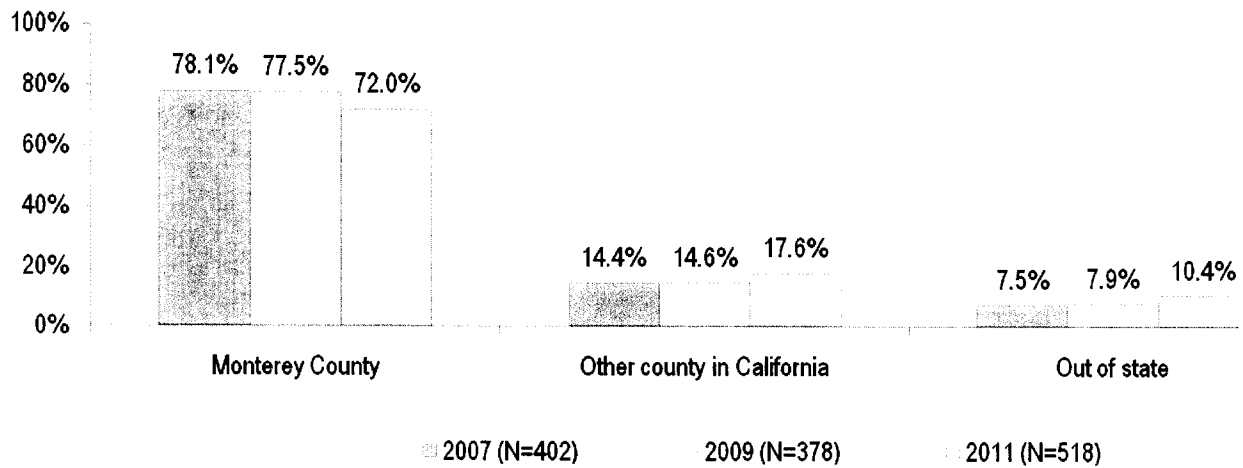
The majority of survey respondents indicated they had been living in the County at the time they most recently became homeless.

- 72% of survey respondents reported living in Monterey County when they most recently became homeless.

<sup>11</sup> Note: this response option was not mutually exclusive to racial/ethnic group identification.

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2011). 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates.

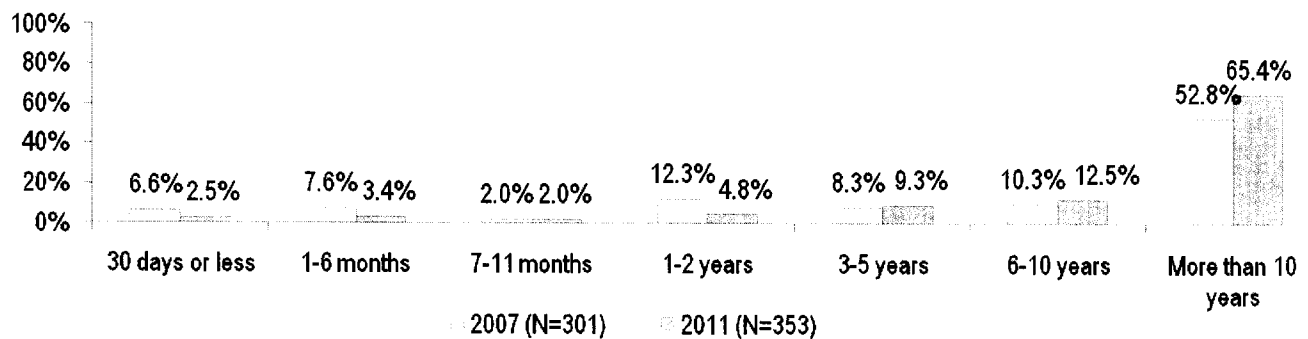
**Figure 10: Where Respondents Were Living at the Time They Most Recently Became Homeless**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

- Of respondents who had been living in the county at the time they most recently became homeless, 87% had been living in the county for 3 or more years before they became homeless.

**Figure 11: Of Respondents Who Were Living in Monterey County When They Most Recently Became Homeless, Length of Time Respondents Lived in the County Prior to Becoming Homeless**



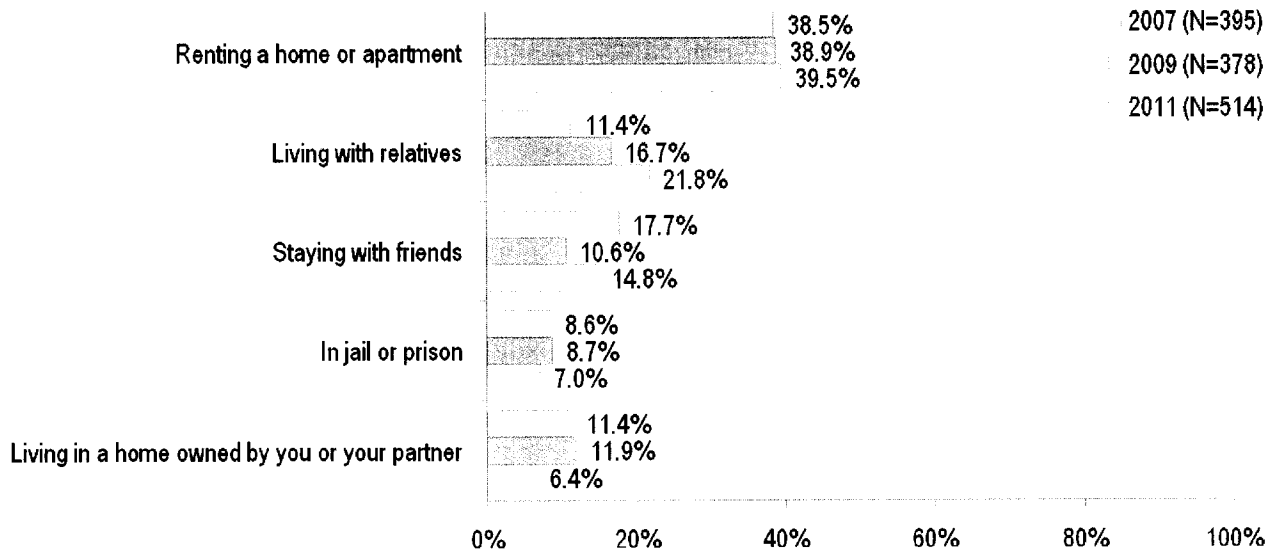
Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

**Previous Living Arrangements**

The number of individuals living with friends and family before becoming homeless has increased from 29% in 2007 to 37% in 2011.

- 40% of homeless respondents indicated they were renting a home or apartment immediately prior to becoming homeless this last time. This is compared to 39% of respondents in 2007.

**Figure 12: Living Arrangements Immediately Prior to Becoming Homeless This Time (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

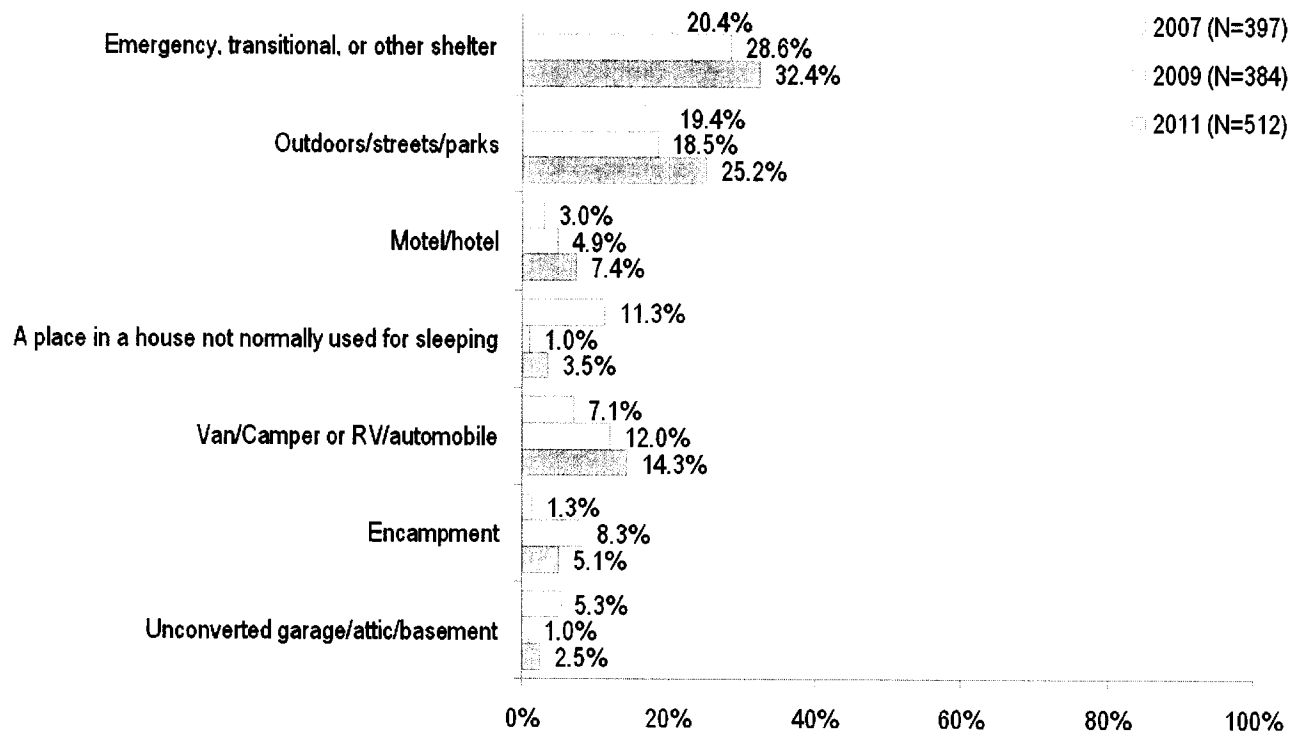
## Current Living Situation

### Usual Nighttime Accommodations

Nearly one-third (32%) of respondents indicated that they usually stay at an emergency shelter, transitional housing facility, or another type of shelter at night.

- 25% reported living outdoors in streets or parks.
- 14% reported living in a vehicle (van/camper or RV/automobile).

**Figure 13: Where Respondents Usually Stay At Night (2007, 2009 and 2011)**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

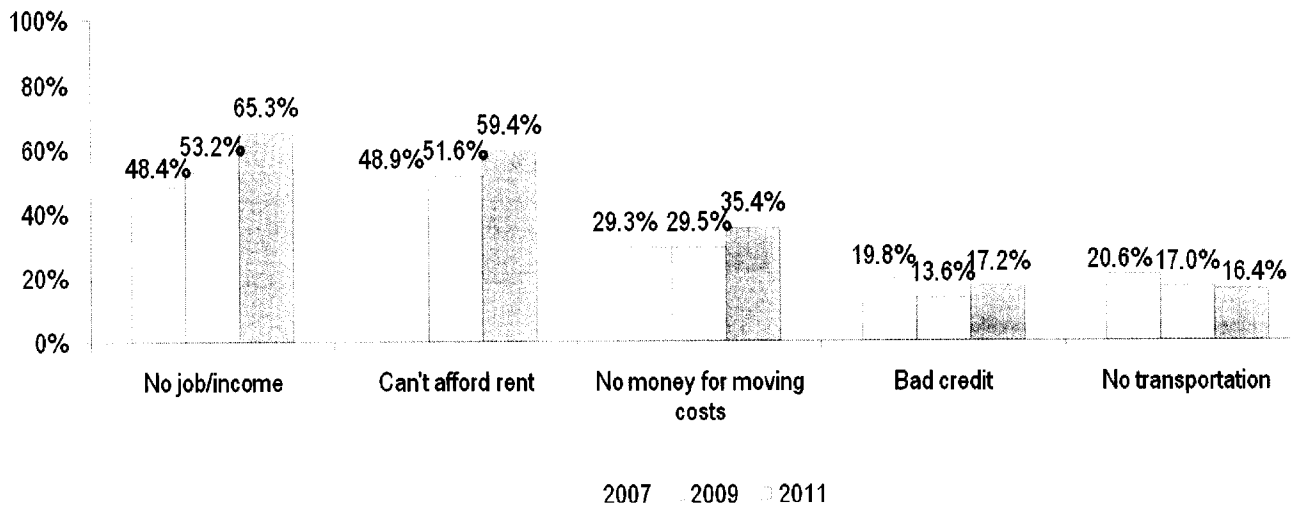
**Obstacles to Obtaining Permanent Housing**

- 65% of respondents indicated that having no job/no income was keeping them from securing permanent housing, compared to 48% in 2007.
- 14% of survey respondents indicated they had a pet; when asked directly, 31% reported their pet prevented them from obtaining housing.
- 59% cited inability to afford rent as a major obstacle to obtaining housing, and 35% lacked the money for moving costs in 2011.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>13</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.  
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**Figure 14: Circumstances That Were Preventing Respondents From Securing Permanent Housing (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



Multiple response questions with 399 respondents offering 812 responses in 2007, 376 respondents offering 786 responses in 2009, and 495 respondents offering 1,138 responses in 2011.

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

## Duration and Reoccurrences of Homelessness

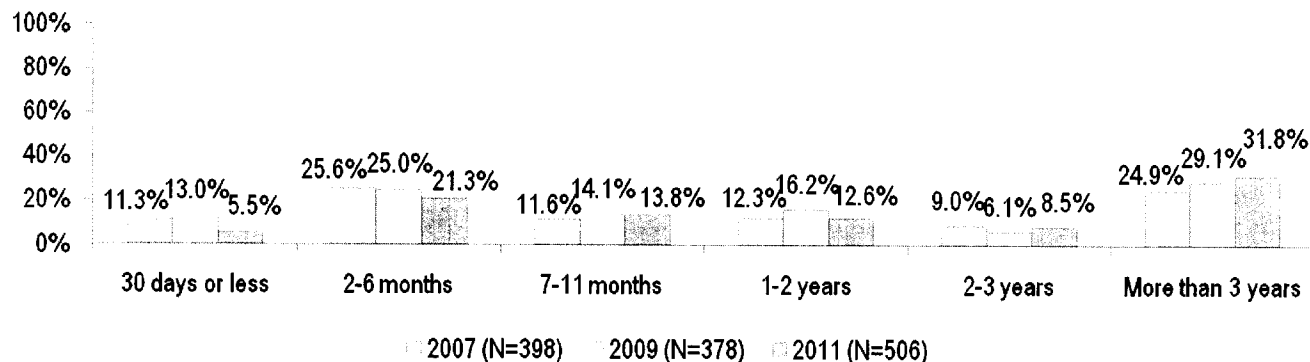
While many respondents were experiencing homelessness for the first time, or had been homeless for just a few months, others had been homeless repeatedly or for extended periods of time. Characteristics such as usual nighttime sleeping arrangements, the use of government assistance or homeless services, and causes for homelessness differed from respondent to respondent.

### Duration of Homelessness

- Less than half (42%) of all survey respondents had been homeless for less than one year since they last lived in a permanent living situation. This is compared to 54% in 2007.
  - » 59% had been homeless for a year or more.<sup>14</sup>
  - » 13% had been homeless for one to two years.
  - » 40% had been homeless for two years or more.

<sup>14</sup> This condition is one of the components used to determine whether a person can be considered “chronically homeless” (see “Chronic Homelessness” in the HUD Defined Homeless Subpopulations section).

**Figure 15: Length of Time Since Last Permanent Housing Situation**

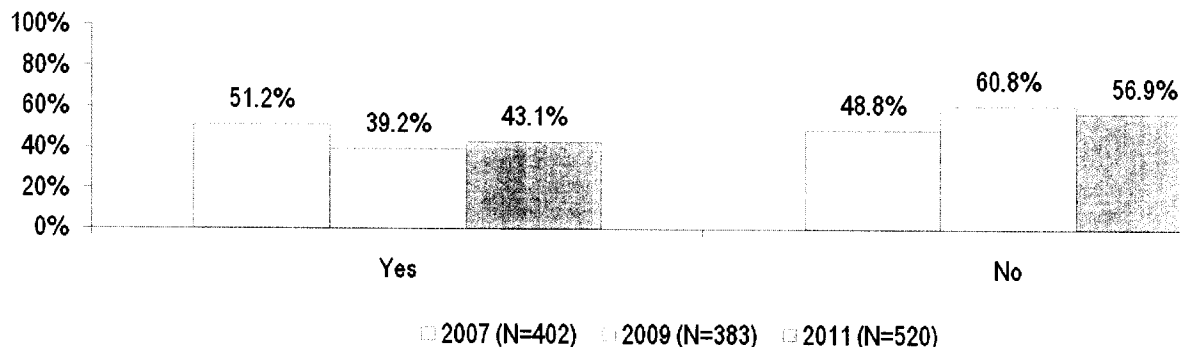


Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

**Occurrence of Homelessness**

- 43% of survey respondents were homeless for the first time in 2011.
  - » 57% of respondents reported having experienced homelessness previously, compared to 51% of respondents in 2007.

**Figure 16: Is This the First Time You Have Been Homeless?**

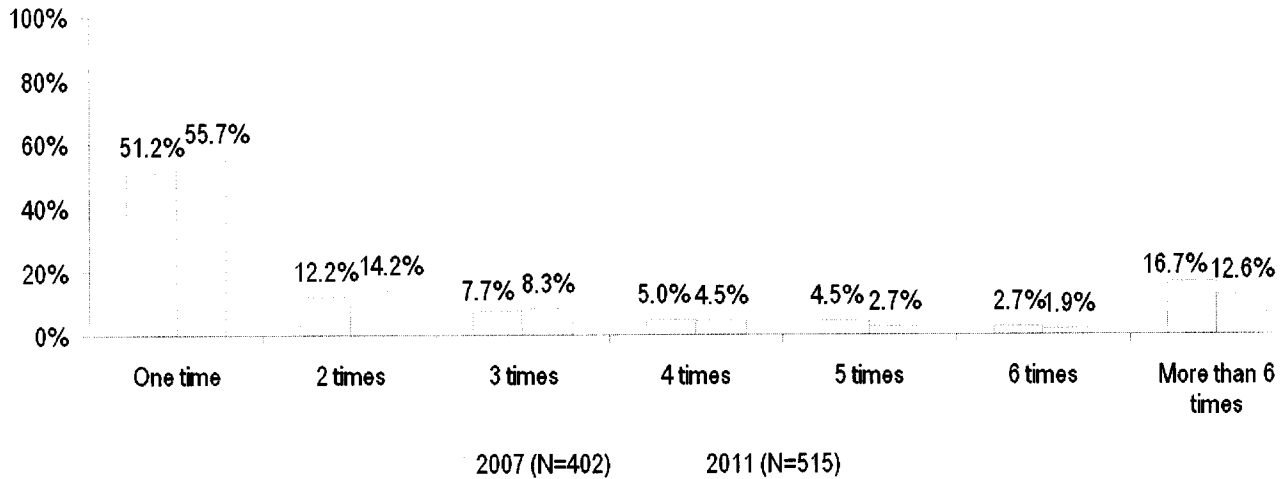


Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

- When asked about the occurrence of homelessness in the past 12 months, most (67%) indicated that they had been homeless one time in the last 12 months, compared to 62% of respondents in 2007.

- » Between 2007 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who have been homeless four or more times in the last three years decreased from 29% to 22%<sup>15</sup>.

**Figure 17: Number of Times Respondents Had Been Homeless in the Last Three Years, Including This Time**



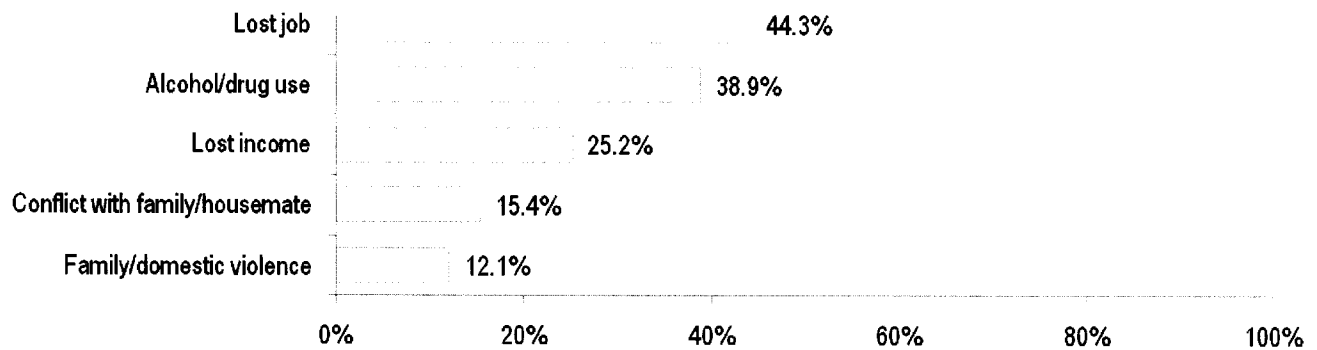
Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

### Primary Causes of Homelessness

- The most common cause of homelessness cited by respondents was job loss.
  - » 44% of 2011 respondents indicated that the loss of a job was the primary cause of their homelessness.
  - » 39% cited alcohol or drug use as the primary cause of their homelessness.

<sup>15</sup> This condition is one of the components used to determine whether a person can be considered “chronically homeless” (see “Chronic Homelessness” in the HUD Defined Homeless Subpopulations section).

**Figure 18: Primary Event or Condition That Led to Respondents' Current Episode of Homelessness (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



Multiple response questions with 512 respondents offering 977 responses in 2011.

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

## Employment and Income

The 2009 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for one person is approximately \$903 per month.<sup>16</sup> Income from government sources is excluded from this calculation because the HHS Federal Poverty Levels 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.

However, the local self-sufficiency standard is a more realistic measure of the true cost of living. The self-sufficiency standard is a measure of income adequacy that calculates how much income working adults need to meet their family's basic needs without subsidies. While the FPL for one person is approximately \$903 per month, the self-sufficiency standard for a single person in Monterey County is \$2,156 per month.<sup>17</sup>

As shown previously, a lack of income – whether from the loss of a job, being unable to find a job, or due to other reasons – has a great impact on homeless people in Monterey County. While some respondents were able to earn income from employment, others were receiving income from sources such as public assistance or disability benefits. However, many respondents were receiving little or no income from either government or private sources.

### Employment Status

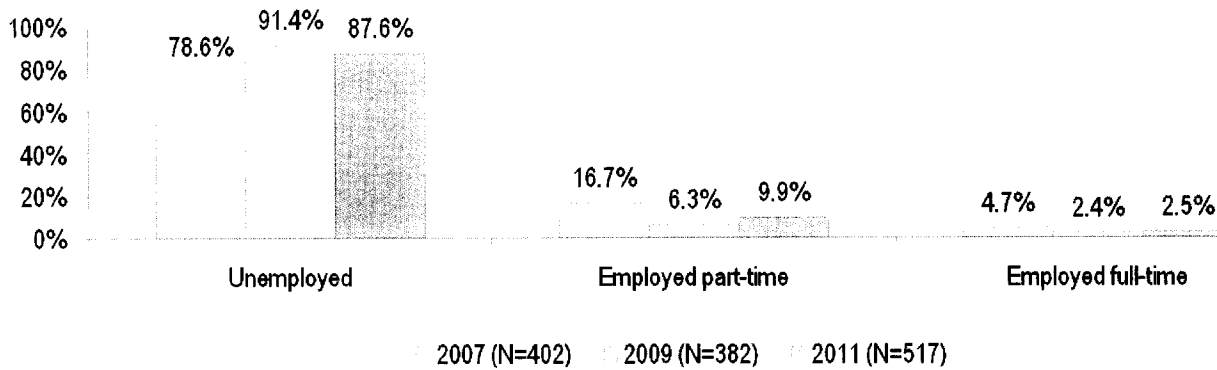
- 88% of respondents indicated that they were not employed at the time of the survey, compared to 79% in 2007.
  - » 10% of respondents were employed part-time and 3% were employed full-time in 2011.

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2009). *Federal Register*, Vol. 74, No. 14, 2009 HHS Poverty Guidelines January 23, 2009, p. 4200.

<sup>17</sup> Wider Opportunities for Women and Californians for Family Economic Self-Sufficiency (CFESS) and Equal Rights Advocates. (2009).

» In comparison, the unemployment rate for the overall population of Monterey County reached 17% during February 2011.<sup>18</sup>

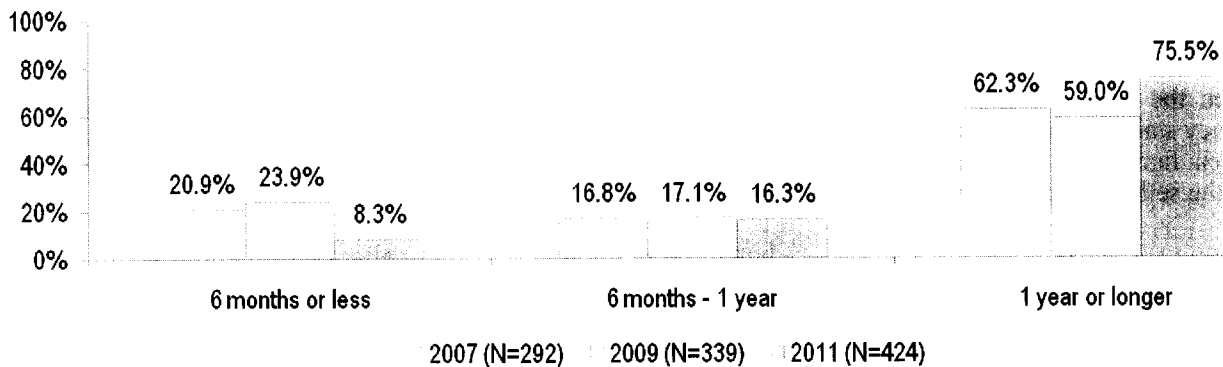
**Figure 19: Employment Status of Respondents**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

- The majority (76%) of homeless survey respondents in 2011 reported being unemployed for a year or longer.

**Figure 20: Length of Unemployment for Respondents**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

- 35% of 2011 respondents cited a lack of jobs as their main barrier to employment.
  - » Twenty-seven percent (27%) cited the need for a phone or transportation services and 26% reported a need for employment training.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>18</sup> State of California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division. (2009).  
 36 © Applied Survey Research, 2011

**Figure 21: Respondents' Barriers to Getting Employment (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**

Response	2007	2009	2011	07-11 Net Change
No jobs	21.4%	27.5%	34.7%	13.3
Alcohol/drug issue	21.1%	17.3%	27.3%	6.2
No transportation	31.2%	26.0%	26.8%	-4.4
No phone	26.3%	15.3%	26.8%	0.5
Need training	22.4%	24.9%	26.0%	3.6

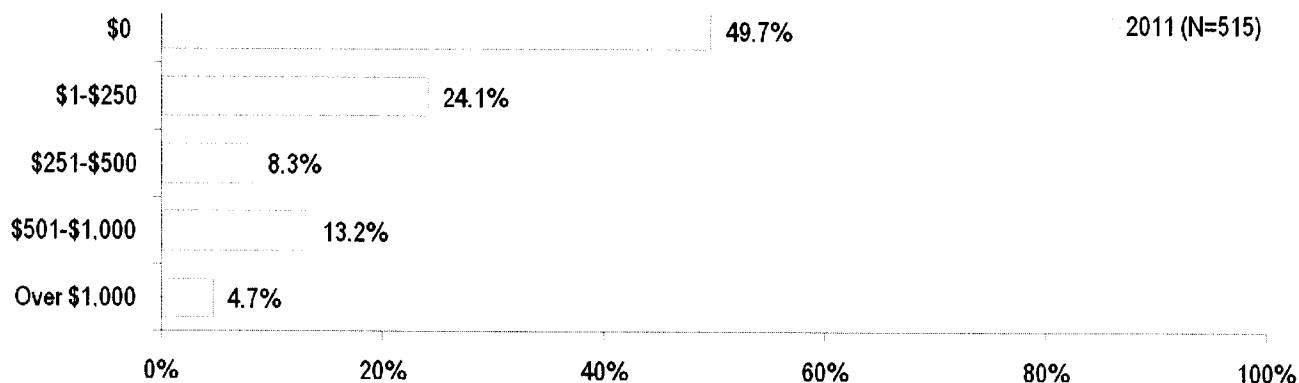
Multiple response question with 308 respondents offering 880 responses in 2007, 346 respondents offering 1,022 responses in 2009, and 447 respondents offering 1,430 responses in 2011.

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

**Income from Government Sources**

- Half of respondents (50%) indicated that they were not receiving any money from government benefits.
  - » 18% of respondents were receiving more than \$500 per month in government benefits.

**Figure 22: Total (Gross) Monthly Income from All Government Benefits**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

**Income from Private Sources**

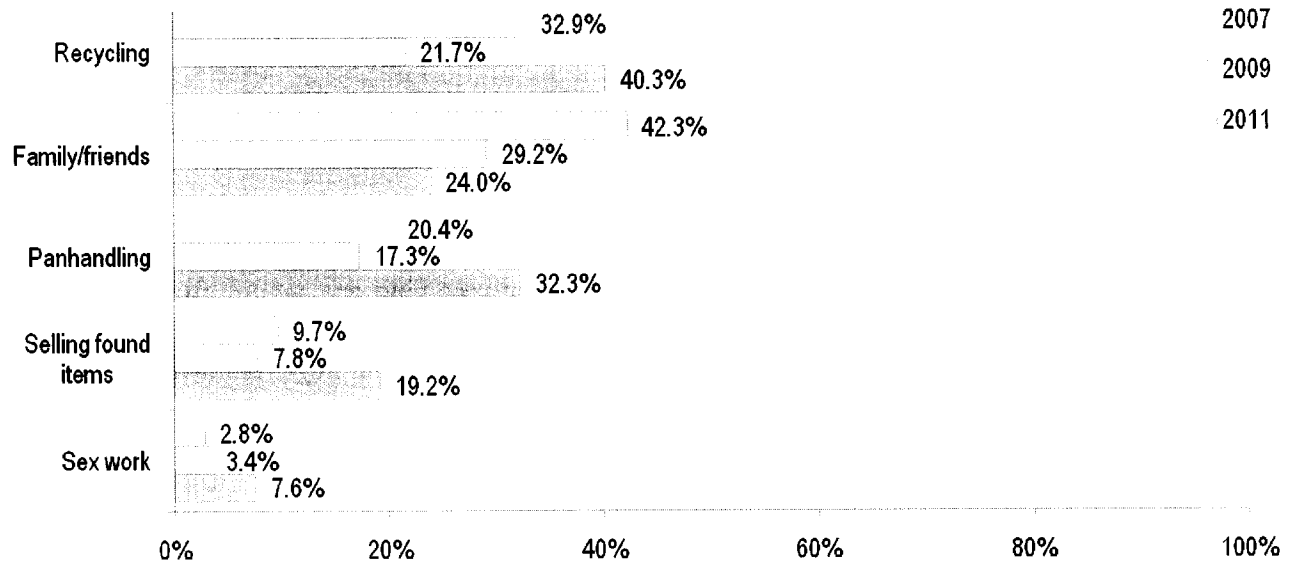
- 41% of respondents were receiving no income from private, non-Government sources, compared to 43% in 2007.
  - » 15% received more than \$500 from private sources, compared to 16% in 2007.

<sup>19</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.  
 © Applied Survey Research, 2011

**Other Sources of Income**

- From 2007 to 2011, the percentage of respondents who reported earning income from recycling increased from 33% to 40%, as did the number of persons panhandling (20% to 32%).
- The percentage of respondents who received income from their family/friends increased, from 24% to 42%, while the number of persons providing sex work (3% to 8%).<sup>20</sup>

**Figure 23: Respondents’ Sources of Private Income (Top 5 Responses)**



Multiple response question with 319 respondents offering 458 responses in 2007, 359 respondents offering 482 responses in 2009, and 437 respondents offering 676 responses in 2011.

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

**Access to Government Assistance and Homeless Programs**

Government assistance and homeless programs work to enable the homeless community to obtain income and services.<sup>21</sup> However, many homeless people do not apply for these programs, or do not feel they qualify for aid.

**Government Assistance**

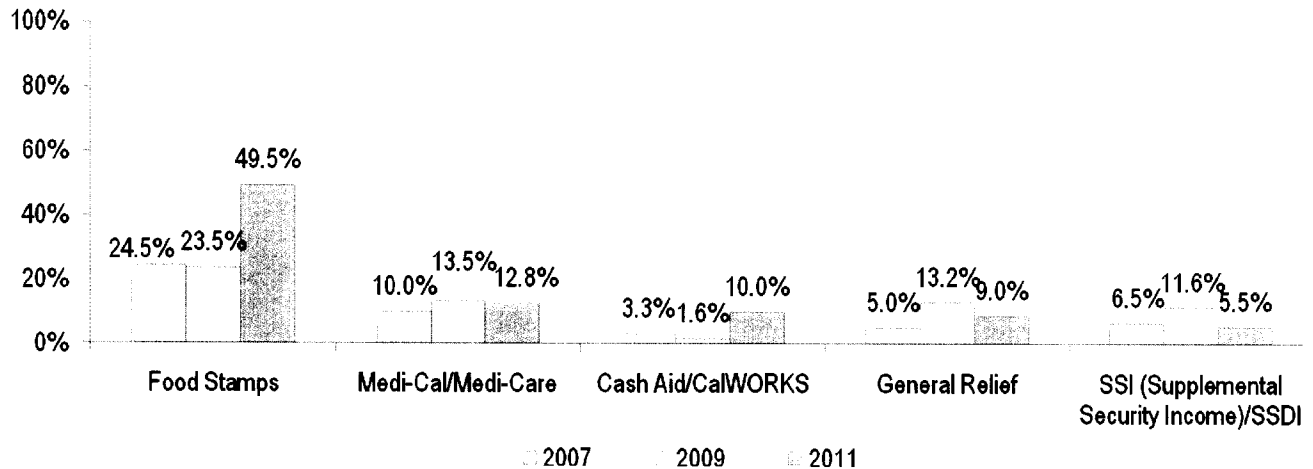
- 60% of respondents reported receiving some form of government assistance, while 40% reported not receiving any assistance.

<sup>20</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

<sup>21</sup> For the purposes of this study, the following forms of government assistance were included: Food Stamps, Medi-Cal/Medi-Care, Cash Aid/CalWORKS, General Relief, SSI (Supplemental Security Income)/SSDI, WIC, Veterans Benefits, Social Security, VA Disability Compensation, and “other” government assistance.

- Between 2007 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who were receiving some form of government assistance decreased from 54% to 40%.
  - » The percentage of respondents who were receiving Food Stamps increased from 25% to 50%, between 2007 and 2011.
  - » 13% reported receiving Medi-Cal/Medi-Care health coverage, while 10% were receiving Cash Aid/CalWORKS.<sup>22</sup>

**Figure 24: Of Those Receiving Some Form of Government Assistance, Types of Assistance Received (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



Multiple response question with 400 respondents offering 490 responses in 2007, 379 respondents offering 520 responses in 2009, and 509 respondents offering 713 responses in 2011.

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.

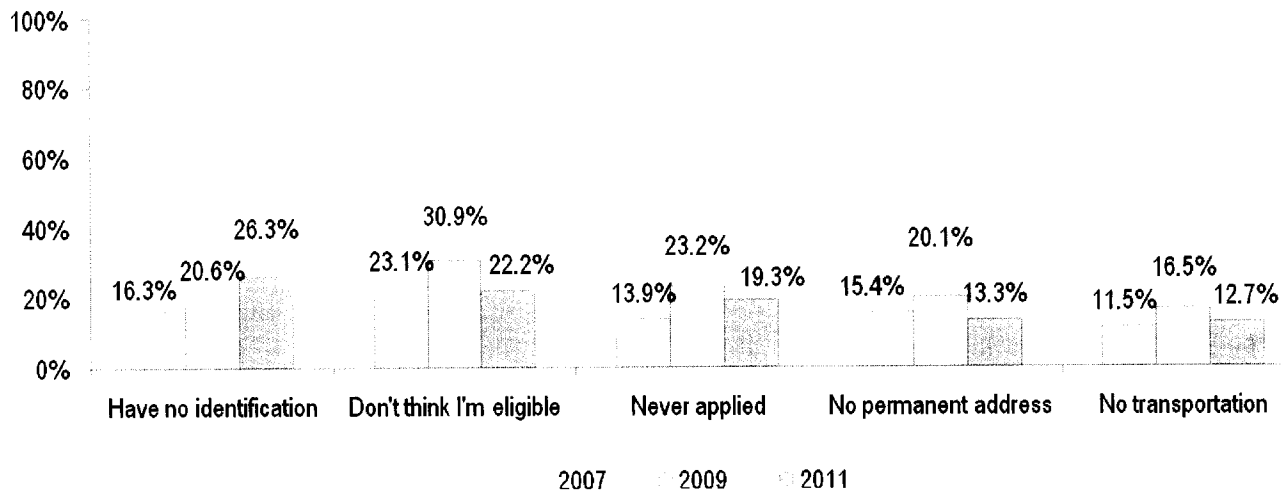
Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

- Of those not receiving assistance, 26% did not have an I.D. and 22% did not think they were eligible to receive assistance, compared to 16% and 23%, respectively, in 2007.

**Figure 25: Reasons for Not Receiving Government Assistance (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**

<sup>22</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.  
© Applied Survey Research, 2011





Multiple response question with 208 respondents offering 308 responses in 2007, 194 respondents offering 334 responses in 2009, and 316 respondents offering 469 responses in 2011.

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.

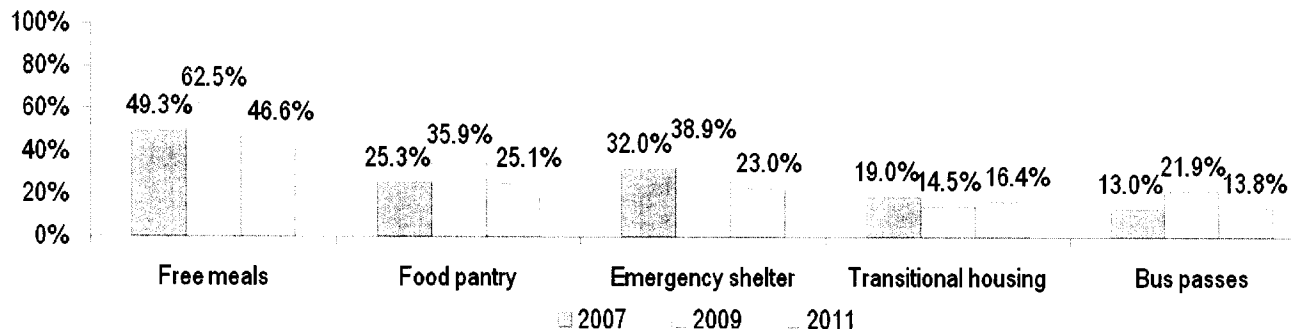
Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

### Services and Programs

- Between 2007 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who were utilizing any services or assistance decreased from 90% of respondents to 74%.
  - » 47% of respondents who were utilizing services or assistance indicated that they received free meals and 23% were utilizing emergency shelters.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>23</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

**Figure 26: Of Those Using Any Services or Assistance, Types of Services or Assistance Used (Top 5 Responses in 2011)**



Multiple response question with 400 respondents offering 947 responses in 2007, 365 respondents offering 1,384 responses in 2009, and 513 respondents offering 965 responses in 2011.

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

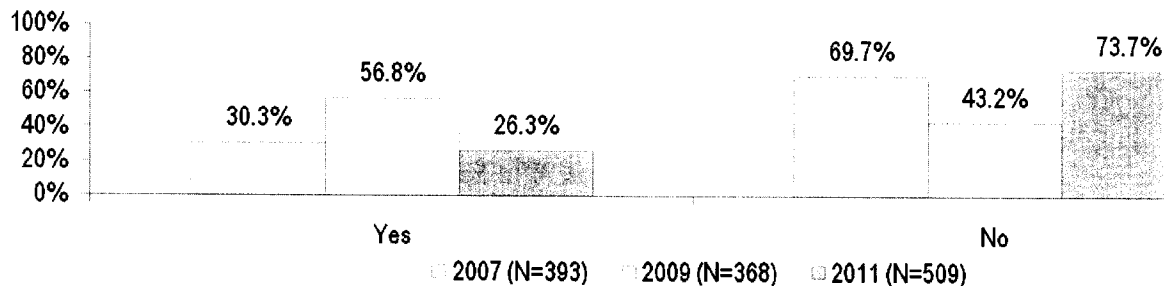
### Medical Care and Health Conditions

Access to health care is vital to general well-being. While many Monterey County residents struggle with the high costs of health care, homeless residents are particularly vulnerable to many unique challenges regarding their health.

#### Access to Medical Care

- Over 26% of homeless respondents reported that since they most recently became homeless, they needed medical care but were unable to receive it. This represented a decrease from 30% in 2007.
- Over a third (35%) of homeless survey respondents reported using hospital Emergency Rooms as their primary source of medical care and treatment in 2009.

**Figure 27: Have You Needed Health Care and Been Unable to Receive It Since Becoming Homeless This Last Time?**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA.

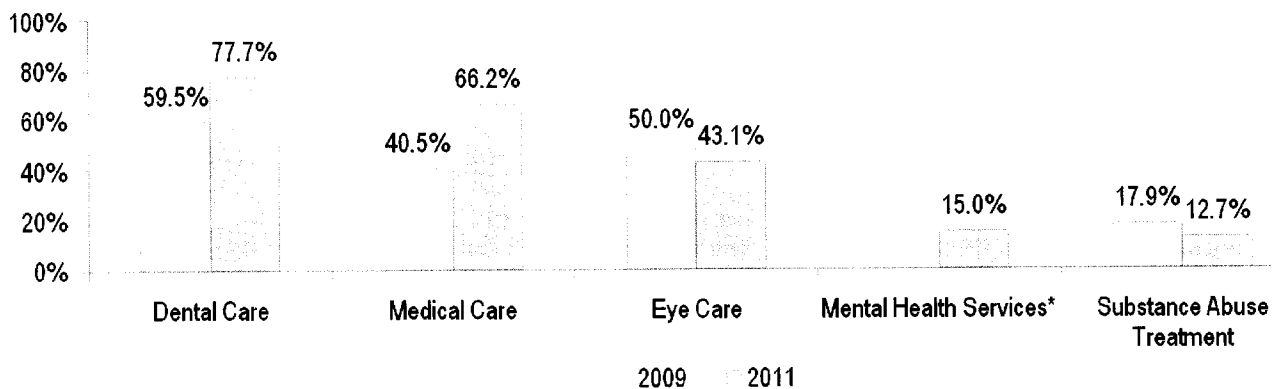
Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

### Need for Medical Services

Homeless individuals may suffer from conditions that deteriorate their overall health or exacerbate existing chronic or acute illnesses. Rates of illness and injury are two to six times higher for homeless persons than people who are housed.<sup>24</sup> Additionally, homeless persons are at higher risk for poor dentition and associated co-morbidities than are low-income people in stable housing.<sup>25</sup>

- In 2011, 78% of survey respondents indicated the need for dental care, compared to 60% in 2009.
- The needs for eye care decreased from 50% in 2009 to 43% in 2011.

**Figure 28: Respondents’ Need for Medical Services (2009 and 2011)**



*Multiple response question with 394 respondents offering 846 responses in 2011. Response details not available for 2009 data.*

*\* This question was not asked in 2009.*

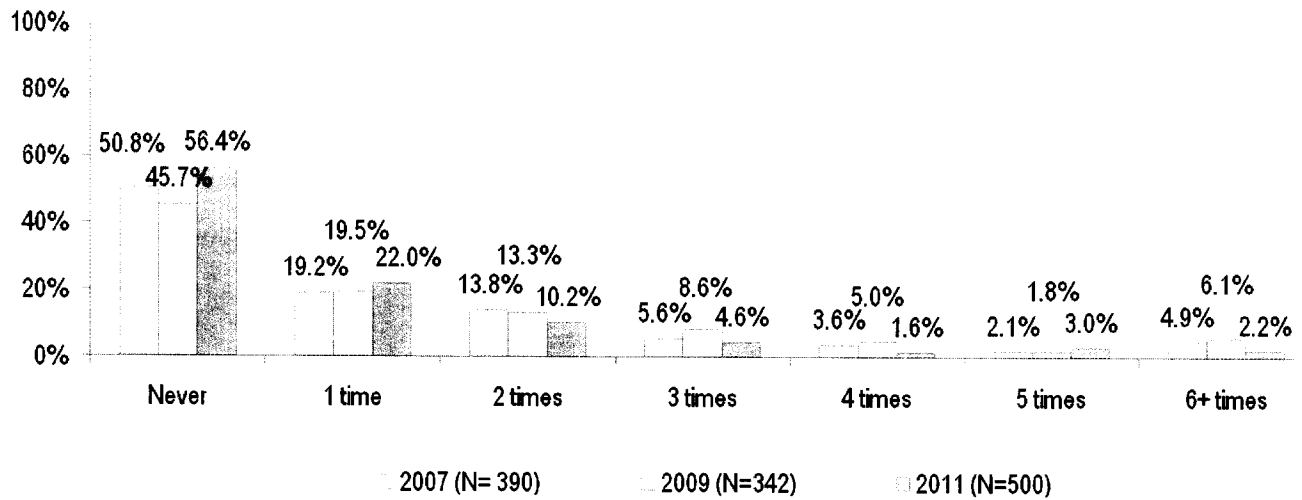
*Source: Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.*

- Between 2007 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who used the Emergency Room (ER) for medical treatment decreased from 49% to 44%.
- 56% of respondents indicated that they had never used the ER for medical treatment in the 12 months prior to the survey in 2011, compared to 51% of 2007 respondents.

<sup>24</sup> Wright, J. D. (1990). *The Health of Homeless People: evidence from the national health care for the homeless program*. In Brickner, P.W. et al. (Eds.) *Under the Safety Net: The Health and Social Welfare of the Homeless in the United States*. New York: W.W. Norton.

<sup>25</sup> National Healthcare for Homeless Council. (2011). Retrieved March 2011 from <http://www.nhchc.org/Network/HealingHands/2003/hh-0603.pdf>.

**Figure 29: Number of Times Respondents Had Used the Emergency Room For Any Treatment in the Year Prior to the Survey**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

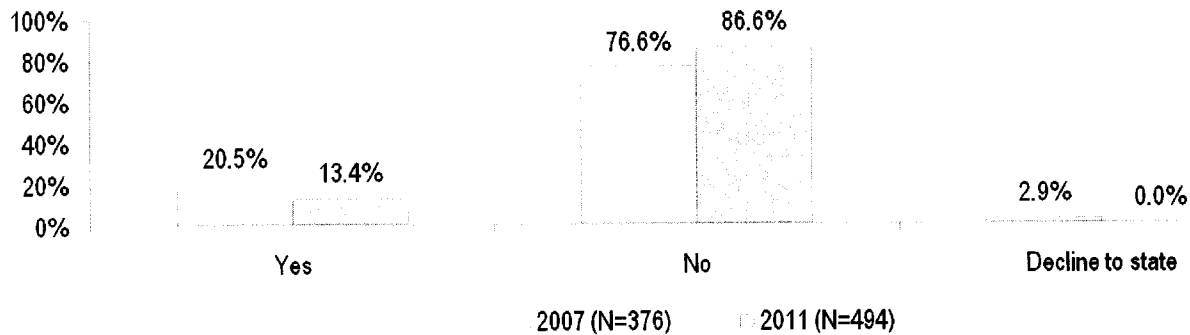
**Chronic Health Problems**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the average life expectancy of the average American is 78 years. A study of homeless mortality rates in seven cities throughout the United States, Canada and Europe, found that the average life expectancy for a person without permanent housing was between 42 and 52 years. The study also indicated that premature death often results from acute and chronic medical conditions aggravated by homeless life.<sup>26</sup>

- Between 2007 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who indicated that they were experiencing chronic health problems decreased from 21% to 13%.

<sup>26</sup> O’Connell, J. (2005). Premature Mortality in Homeless Populations: a review of the literature. Retrieved January 13, 2011 from <http://www.nhchc.org/PrematureMortalityFinal.pdf>.  
 © Applied Survey Research, 2011

**Figure 30: Are You Currently Experiencing Chronic Health Problems?**



*Note: This question was not asked in 2009*

*Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.*

*Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.*

- In 2011, 23% of respondents (15 persons) with chronic health problems cited that their illness/medical problem or hospitalization/treatment was the primary cause of their homelessness. This represents an increase from 13% (24 respondents) in 2007.
- Of the respondents with chronic health problems 56% of them said they have needed medical care and were unable to receive it.
- The highest reported need for medical services was 75% reporting a need for dental care, followed by 63% of persons in need of general medical care.

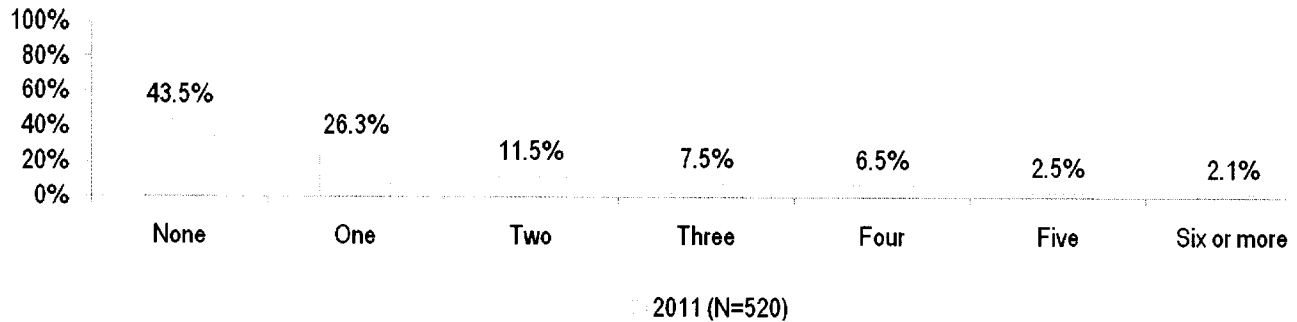
### Disabling Conditions

For the purposes of this study, a disabling condition was defined as a physical disability, mental illness, depression, alcohol or drug abuse, chronic health problem, AIDS/HIV related illness, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis C, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), or a developmental disability.

- In 2011, the percentage of all survey respondents with one or more disabling condition was 57%.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>27</sup> The existence of a disabling condition is one of the components used to determine whether a person can be considered “chronically homeless” (see HUD Defined Homeless Subpopulations section).

**Figure 31: Number of Disabling Conditions Among All Homeless Respondents**



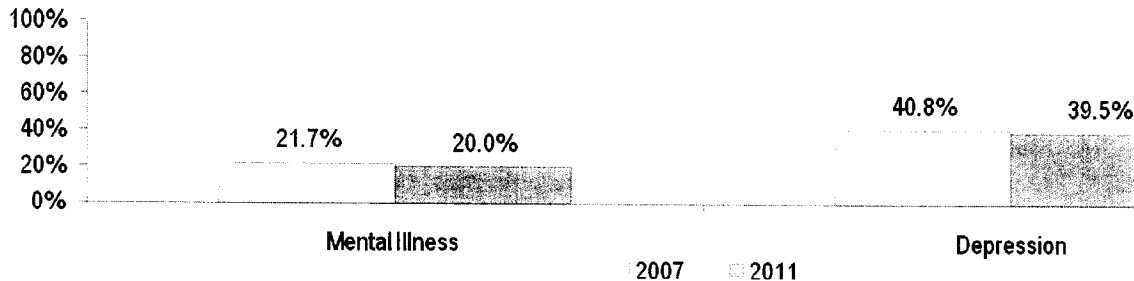
Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

**Mental Health**

National studies have found that a disproportionate number of homeless persons suffer from some form of mental illness.<sup>28</sup> Survey respondents were asked about their mental health, including mental illness and depression.

- Between 2007 and 2011, the percentage of respondents experiencing depression remained relatively stable, 41% and 40% respectively.

**Figure 32: Percentage of Respondents Who Were Currently Experiencing Mental Illness and Depression**



2007: Mental Illness N=378, Depression N=377.

2011: Mental Illness N=490, Depression N=491.

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

- In 2011, 42% of respondents who were currently experiencing a mental health issue indicated that their mental health issues led to their homelessness.

<sup>28</sup> National Coalition for the Homeless Fact Sheet. (2008). Retrieved on May 20, 2009 at [http://www.issuelab.org/research/mental\\_illness\\_and\\_homelessness\\_2008](http://www.issuelab.org/research/mental_illness_and_homelessness_2008).  
© Applied Survey Research, 2011

- In 2011, the percentage of respondents who were experiencing a mental illness who had received mental health services or medication in the past 12 months was 63%.
- 41% of respondents who were currently experiencing mental illness had been hospitalized for emotional problems in the past 12 months.

### Mental Health Services

- The majority (80%) of homeless respondents reported that they do not, or have not, received mental health services or medication for their mental health in the past 12 months.
- Of those respondents who had not received mental health services, 30% reported having trouble accessing mental health services, compared to 14% in 2009.

Cynthia Jones had a successful career in public service and office management but was laid off in 2006 due to the recession and budget cuts. Since she was only functional when she was working, the mental and physical conditions she had managed to conceal for so long began to surface and overwhelm her. She suffered from depression from traumatic abuse, addiction and several chronic, permanent illnesses. She didn't come out of her bedroom for a year and a half. In 2007 she was classified as permanently disabled and at the same time became homeless.

Feeling hopeless, alone, and with no options, Cynthia had lived in her car for nearly a year when she was referred to MCHOME. Nervously, Cynthia applied to the program and has been grateful ever since. "From the very first introductions, I felt wanted," she said. MCHOME provided her with subsidized housing, therapy sessions and groups, a support system, resources, and a two-year period in which to recover and mature.

MCHOME's goal is to move homeless adults living with mental illness off the streets of Monterey and into housing and treatment. MCHOME counselors reach out to approximately 100 homeless adults each year and evaluate them for indications of chronic homelessness and psychiatric disability, and, if they qualify, enroll them in intensive, integrated services that include housing, food, psychiatric care, and financial counseling. Working closely with the Monterey County Health Department Behavioral Health Division MCHOME helps clients get the medical services and medications they need. Counselors also work with the Department of Social Services to help clients file for benefits, such as SSI. Clients are also connected to Interim's Supported Education & Employment (SEES) and with the Department of Rehabilitation to help them find employment.

For Cynthia, MCHOME made her feel "accepted" and allowed her to trust people for the first time in her life. Cynthia received the tools she needed to get off and stay off the streets. She now has an apartment of her own, friends who care about her and says she loves her life. She credits MCHOME for her "emotional salvation."

The MCHOME project is funded by the State's Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), City of Monterey, City of Salinas, United Way of Monterey County, and private donations. There is no fee to the individual. Once they are housed, clients pay for rent and food on a sliding scale.

- Despite only 20% of homeless survey respondents reporting that they do not, or have not received mental health services, one third (33%) of respondents in 2011 indicated that they had been hospitalized for emotional problems in the last 12 months, compared to 11% in 2009.

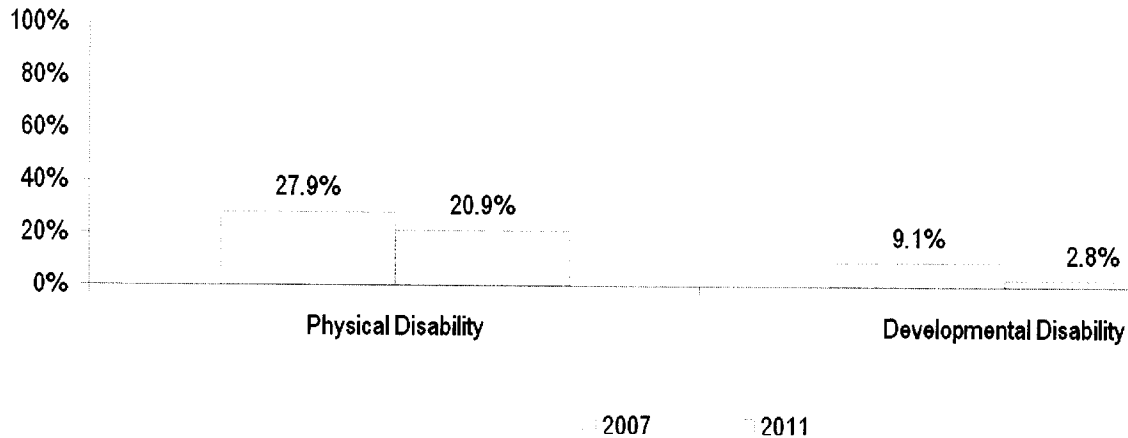
### HIV/AIDS

- Between 2009 and 2011, the number of respondents who were experiencing HIV/AIDS decreased from 9 respondents to 6.

**Physical and Developmental Disabilities**

- Between 2007 and 2011, the percentage of respondents with a physical and/or developmental disability decreased from 37% to 24%.

**Figure 33: Percentage of Respondents Who Were Currently Experiencing a Physical or Developmental Disability**



2007: Physical Disability N=387, Developmental Disability N=372.

2011: Physical Disability N=497, Developmental Disability N=492.

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

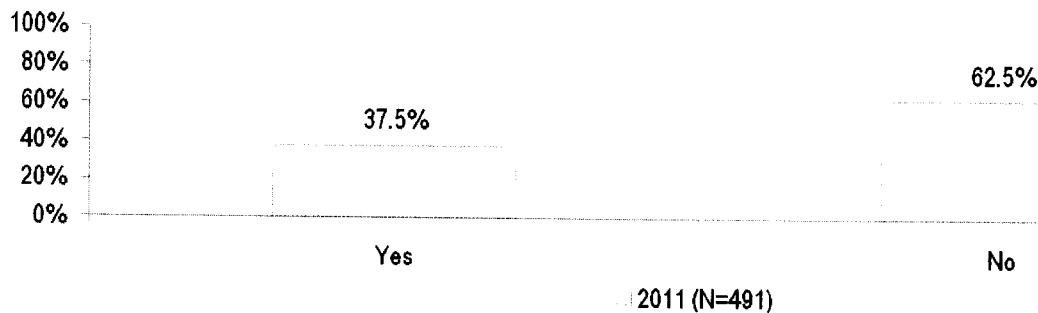
Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.

**Substance Abuse**

Substance use (alcohol or drugs) was the second-most cited cause of homelessness among the homeless survey population in Monterey County. Many survey respondents indicated that they were currently experiencing alcohol or drug abuse at the time of the survey.

- 38% of respondents experienced alcohol and/or drug abuse problems in 2011.

**Figure 34: Percentage of Respondents Who Were Currently Experiencing Alcohol or Drug Abuse**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

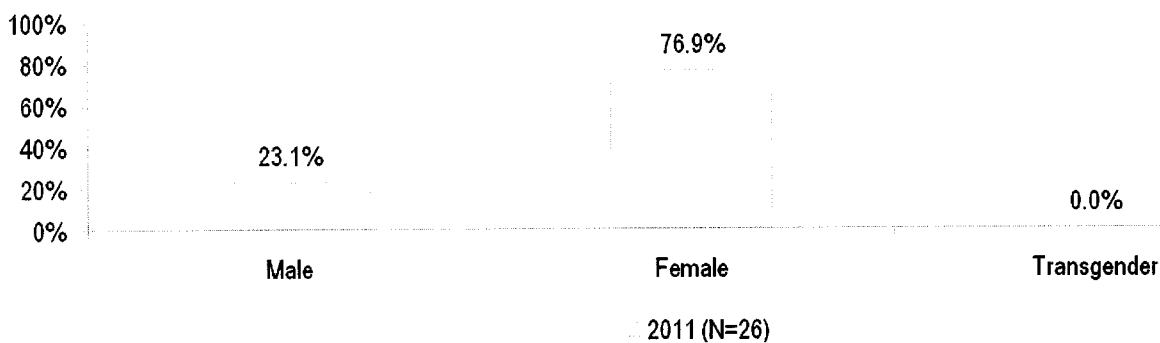


- Of respondents who were currently experiencing alcohol or drug abuse, 68% cited the use of alcohol or drugs as the primary cause of their homelessness in 2011.
- In 2011, nearly all (92%) of the respondents who were experiencing substance abuse indicated they were not receiving alcohol or drug counseling.

### Domestic/Partner Violence or Abuse

- In 2011, 5% of respondents were experiencing domestic violence or abuse at the time of the survey.
- Of those respondents who were experiencing domestic violence or abuse, 77% were female and 23% were male.

**Figure 35: Respondents Who Were Experiencing Domestic/Partner Violence or Abuse (By Gender)**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011) 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

- In 2011, the percentage of survey respondents who were experiencing domestic violence or abuse, who reported domestic/family violence as the primary cause of their homelessness was 65%.

### Incarceration

The transition from prison to society can be a difficult one. Survey results indicate that some homeless people are struggling with this issue.

#### Transition from Jail or Prison

- 7% of survey respondents indicated that immediately before they became homeless this time, they were in jail or prison.
  - » 10% of survey respondents cited incarceration as the primary event that led to their homelessness, compared to 5% in 2007.
  - » Between 2009 and 2011, the percentage of respondents who indicated that their criminal record was keeping them from securing permanent housing slightly decreased from 12% to 11%. The percentage of survey respondents who reported that their criminal record was keeping them from getting employment increased slightly from 13% to 14%.

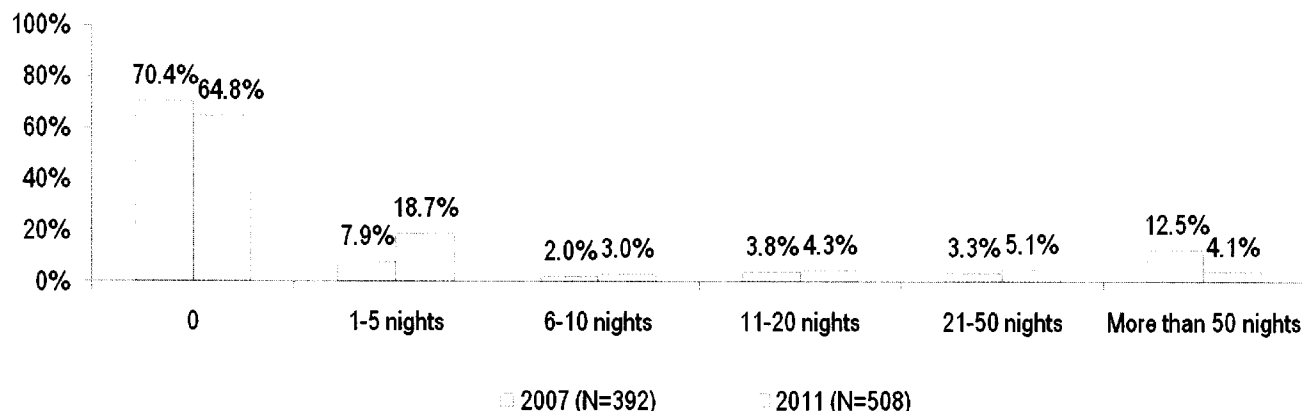
#### Nights in Jail or Prison

Though the HUD definition of homelessness for Point-in-Time counts does not include those residing in jails; the Monterey County Jail provided supplemental data for this report. The county jail reported that

on any given night about 135 homeless individuals were sheltered in the jail. Of those, 118 were male and 7 were female. The jail reports the number of homeless individuals remains relatively consistent.

- 35% of homeless survey respondents reported that they had spent at least one night in jail or prison in the year prior to the survey.

**Figure 36: Number of Nights Respondents Reported Spending in Jail/Prison in the Year Prior to the Survey**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2007). 2007 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.  
 Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

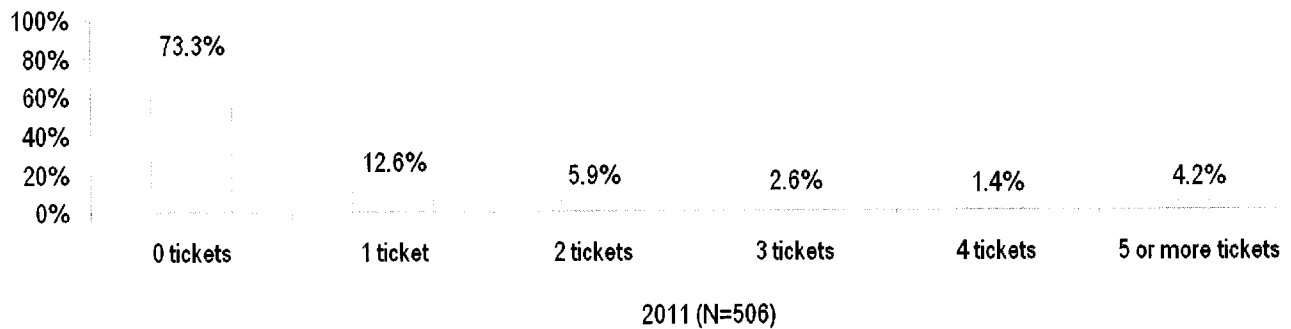
**Probation or Parole**

- 22% of survey respondents reported currently being on probation or parole at the time the survey was administered, a slight decrease from one-quarter (25%) of respondents in 2007.
  - » 21% of survey respondents reported being on probation or parole when they most recently became homeless, compared to 28% in 2007.

**Tickets**

- More than one-quarter (27%) of homeless respondents in 2011 reported that in the past 12 months they had received one or more tickets for parking violations, loitering, trespassing, or camping.

**Figure 37: Number of Tickets Received by Respondents (2011)**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

## Foster Care

### Transition from Foster Care

- When respondents were asked if they had ever been in foster care, 10% of respondents indicated that they had, compared to 9% in 2007.
  - » In 2011, less than 1% of survey respondents said that aging out of foster care was the primary event that led to their homelessness.

## Chronic Homelessness

The mortality rate for chronically homeless men and women is four to nine times higher than for the general population and those experiencing long-term homelessness often incur significant public costs – through emergency room visits, run-ins with law enforcement, incarceration, and access to existing poverty and homeless programs.<sup>29</sup> In 2011, the federal government announced a 5-year plan to end chronic homelessness. The plan focuses on permanent supportive housing, reducing financial instability, and improving health and housing stability.<sup>30</sup>

HUD defines a chronically homeless person as:

An unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has been:

- Continually homeless for one year or more, or
- Has experienced four or more episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years.

For the purposes of this study, a “disabling condition” was defined as a physical disability, mental illness, depression, alcohol or drug abuse, AIDS/HIV related illness, chronic health problems, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis C, or a developmental disability. Those currently living in transitional housing are not considered by HUD to be chronically homeless.

- From 2009 to 2011, the percentage of all survey respondents who were chronically homeless increased from 36% (138 respondents) to 38% (194 respondents).
- 18% of chronically homeless individuals in Monterey County were sheltered in 2011, while the majority, 82% were unsheltered.
  - » In 2009, 27% of homeless individuals in the United States were considered chronically homeless, 58% of those were unsheltered.<sup>31</sup>
  - » The largest percentage of chronically homeless respondents (39%) indicated that they usually sleep outdoors (on the street, in parks, in creek beds, or in encampments).

The chronically homeless survey results were used to project approximately how many people are chronically homeless in Monterey County at a given point in time.

- » It is estimated that on any given night, Monterey County has a chronically homeless population of approximately 1,345 persons. This represents a 22% increase from 1,100 chronically homeless individuals in 2009.
- » It should be noted that this figure is derived from the population of homeless persons who are eligible to be considered chronically homeless by HUD; therefore the chronically homeless population includes only those homeless persons who are unaccompanied

<sup>29</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2011). Fact Sheet: Chronically Homeless. Washington, D.C. Retrieved March 2011 from <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/1623>

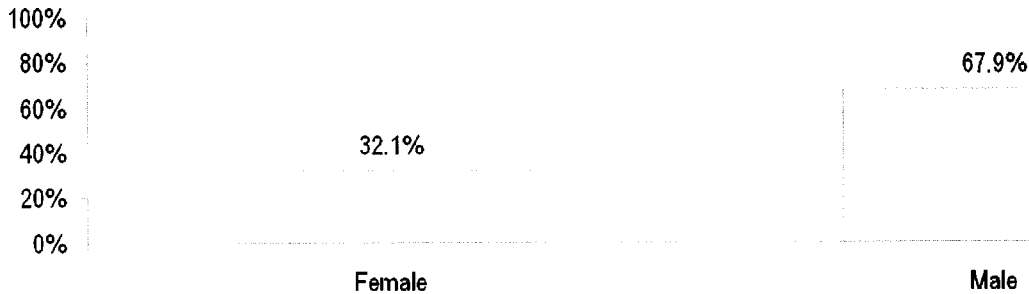
<sup>30</sup> United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2011). Opening Doors: federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. Washington, D.C.

<sup>31</sup> U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development. (2009). The Annual Assessment Report to Congress.

individuals, unsheltered or in emergency shelters, and does not include those in transitional housing, jails, hospitals, and rehabilitation facilities, or anyone in a family.

- In 2011, 68% of chronically homeless people were male.

**Figure 38: Chronically Homeless Population by Gender, 2011**



*N=196*

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

- In 2011, the largest percentage of chronically homeless people indicated they were White/Caucasian (44%), followed by Hispanic/Latino (40%) and Black/African American (5%).
- 52% of chronically homeless people had more than one disabling condition.
- 39% of chronically homeless persons were living outdoors, on the street, or in encampments.
  - » 19% had four or more disabling conditions that complicated or prevented them from maintaining work or housing.
- 50% of chronically homeless respondents indicated that they were not receiving any form of government benefits (income or non-income).
  - » 56% of chronically homeless survey respondents reported using free meal services.
  - » 36% were not using any form of community assistance or support.

## Veterans

National data shows that only eight percent of the general U.S. population can claim veteran status, but nearly one-fifth of the homeless population identify as veterans.<sup>32</sup>

In general, veterans have high rates of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury, and sexual trauma, which can lead to higher risk for homelessness. About half of homeless veterans have serious mental illness and 70 percent have substance abuse problems.<sup>33</sup> Half of homeless veterans have histories of involvement with the legal system. Veterans are more likely to live outdoors—unsheltered—and experience long-term, chronic homelessness.<sup>34</sup>

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness is facilitating collaborative efforts by the Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA), HUD, Labor, and Health and Human Services to align resources for greater effectiveness by bringing together programs that would otherwise operate separately. This year was the first year the VA will use the national HUD Point-in-Time counts as the definitive count of homeless veterans. This year, the VA recommended two questions to determine Veterans Status: "Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?" and "Were you activated into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?"

### Number of Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless Veterans

- 13% of survey respondents over the age of 18 were veterans.
  - » The percentage of survey respondents ages 18 and older who had served in the United States Armed Forces increased from 9% in 2009 to 13% in 2011.
  - » Of sheltered survey respondents ages 18 and older, 9% reported that they were veterans.

### Demographics of Homeless Veterans

- 86% of homeless veterans were male in 2011.
- The largest percentage of homeless veterans indicated they were White/Caucasian (55%), Hispanic/Latino (16%) followed by Black/African American (13%).
- Two-thirds of homeless veterans (65%) had at least one disabling condition and 58% were experiencing more than two.
- The disabling condition reported by the largest percentage of homeless veterans was depression (42%).
  - » 31% of veterans reported having a physical disability, 29% reported experiencing chronic health problems.

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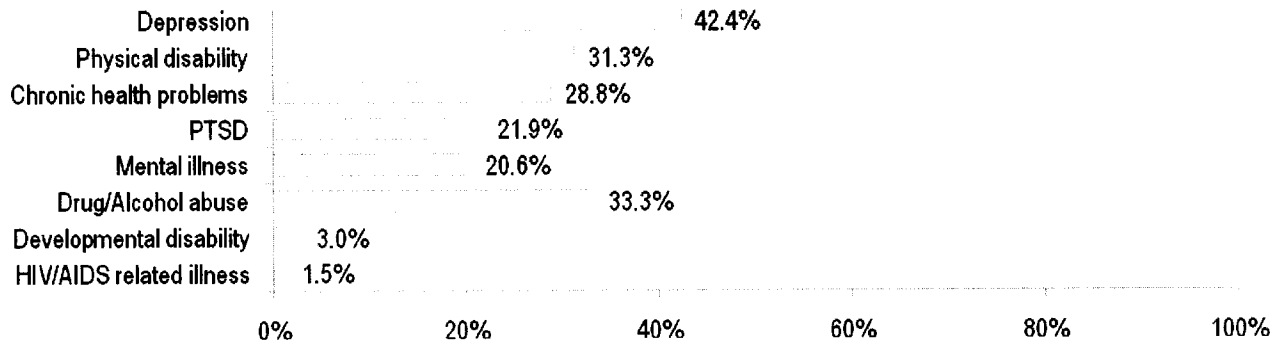
<sup>32</sup> National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. Retrieved January 13, 2011, from <http://www.nchv.org/background.cfm>.

<sup>33</sup> Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2010). Opening Doors: Federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. Retrieved January 13, 2011, from <http://www.usich.gov/PDF/FactSheetVeterans.pdf>.

<sup>34</sup> Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2010). Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. Retrieved January 13, 2011, from <http://www.usich.gov/PDF/FactSheetVeterans.pdf>.

- » 22% of respondents reported suffering from PTSD and 21% reported having a mental illness.<sup>35</sup>

**Figure 39: Percentage of Homeless Veteran Respondents Who Were Experiencing the Following Disabling Conditions (2011)**



Note: These responses were not mutually exclusive.

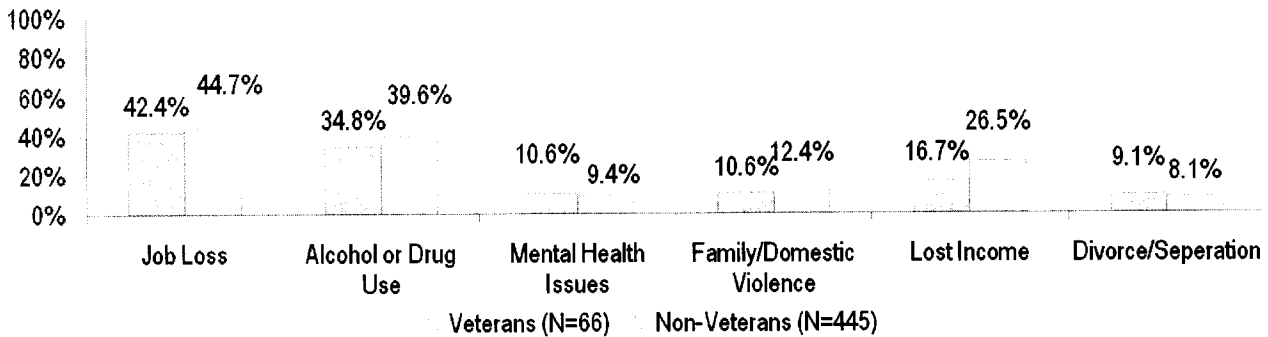
Note: Percentages are unstable due to small sample size (69 individuals)

2011: Depression N=28, Alcohol/Drug abuse N=22, Mental illness N=13, Physical disability N=21, Chronic health problems N=19, PTSD N=14, Developmental disability N=2, HIV/AIDS N=1.

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

- 42% of homeless veteran respondents cited loss of a job as the primary cause of their homelessness.
  - » 34% reported alcohol or drug use as the primary cause of their homelessness.

**Figure 40: Primary Causes of Homelessness, Veteran and Non-Veteran Comparison (2011)**



Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

- 30% of homeless veteran respondents indicated that they usually slept outdoors (on the streets, in parks, or in encampments) at night, followed by 20% who usually stayed in their vehicles.
- 29% of homeless veterans indicated that they were not receiving any government assistance.

<sup>35</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

- » The types of government assistance most commonly received by homeless veterans were Food Stamps (48%), General Assistance (14%), Medi-Cal/Medicare (6.2%), and SSI/SSDI (5%).<sup>36</sup>
- » The most commonly cited services used by the homeless veterans were free meals (43%), health services (15%), emergency shelters (11%), shelter day services (3%), and twenty-nine percent (29%) of veteran respondents indicated that they were not using any services.

Mr. John W. Lane, Jr. served in the Army at the end of the Vietnam Conflict and had a 10 year history of homelessness. A local shelter referred Mr. Lane to the HUD-VASH program, a partnership between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) developed to help end homelessness among Veterans.

Mr. Lane got help from the staff of the VA and financial support from a community agency for the deposit to get his own one-bedroom apartment in Monterey. It was the first time he had a place to call his own in many years. Mr. Lane lived on odd jobs and finally began receiving a monthly VA Pension which helped him develop a stable financial foundation. Unfortunately, behaviors related to his ongoing alcohol use caused him to be evicted from his apartment. Mr. Lane was able to enter a shelter in Menlo Park and outpatient substance use treatment groups where he examined how his alcohol use contributed to his homelessness. Finally, Mr. Lane was able to reapply for a VASH housing voucher and secured a one-bedroom apartment which he continues to maintain by staying connected with VA supports and services and working to be a "good neighbor." While the path to permanent housing is not always straight, sometimes the diversions provide the most potential for growth. The philosophy behind HUD-VASH supports chronically homeless Veterans with multiple complicating issues achieve long-term success using their strengths and resiliency to make the changes necessary to be successful.

The VA is working to end homelessness among Veterans. Specifically, in Monterey County, the VA Palo Alto Health Care System's Monterey Community Based Outpatient Clinic provides a range of services to eligible Veterans. The National Call Center for Homeless Veterans (1-877-4AID-VET) connects callers from all over the country with local VA providers who can link them with local housing resources. Weekly Housing Resource Groups are held at the Monterey Clinic, with plans to expand to community sites, to help connect Veterans with the range of housing resources from short-term emergency shelter beds to permanent housing options like HUD-VASH. In Marina, the Veterans Transition Center is a non-profit agency contracted by the VA to provide transitional housing and linkages to treatment services to eligible Veterans and their families. The HUD-VASH program which serves Mr. Lane promotes permanent housing for chronically homeless Veterans. Low-income Veterans who are eligible for HUD-VASH receive a specialized Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) to be used at the rental of their choosing. Eligible Veterans also receive intensive, ongoing case management from HUD-VASH case managers as well as other services from the Health Care System. To date, 85 HUD-VASH vouchers have been issued in Monterey County.

## Homeless Families

National reports reveal that one of the fastest growing segments of the homeless population is families with children. Families, single mothers, and children make up the largest group of people who are homeless in rural areas.<sup>37</sup> Children in families experiencing homelessness have high rates of acute and

<sup>36</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

<sup>37</sup> Vissing, Y. M. (1996). *Out of sight, out of mind: homeless children and families in small-town America*. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky.

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chronic health problems and many have been exposed to violence. Homeless children are more likely to have emotional and behavioral problems than children with consistent living accommodations.<sup>38</sup>

### Number of Homeless Families

- It is estimated that on any given night, Monterey County has a population of approximately 299 homeless families with children.
- In the 2011 Point-in-Time count 19% of those counted (483 people) were persons in families.
  - » In 2011, HUD expanded the definition of chronically homeless to include families. In Monterey County 39 persons in families feel within the definition of chronically homeless.

### Demographics of Homeless Families

- 95% of homeless families had a female head of household.
  - » The largest percentage of homeless individuals with children indicated they were White/Caucasian (41%), followed by Hispanic/Latino (39%), and Black/African American (13%).

### Primary Cause of Homelessness for Homeless Families with Children

- 31% of homeless survey respondents with children cited job loss as the primary cause of their homelessness, while 28% reported drug or alcohol use as the primary cause of their homelessness.
- An additional 28% of homeless survey respondents in families reported family/domestic violence as the primary cause of their homelessness.

### Government Assistance for Homeless Families with Children

- The types of government assistance most commonly received by homeless individuals with children were Food Stamps (79%), Medi-Cal/Medicare (69%), CALWorks/Cash Aid (59%), and WIC (25%). However, 15% of homeless parents with children indicated that they were not receiving any government assistance.<sup>39</sup>
- The most commonly cited services used by homeless families was transitional housing (71%), food pantry services (36%), 20% were using mental health services and 12% were using basic health services. Eight percent (8%) of homeless families indicated that they were not using any services.<sup>40</sup>

### Usual Sleeping Places of Homeless Individuals with Children

- 82% of surveyed families reported living in a transitional or emergency shelter.

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<sup>38</sup> U.S. Interagency Council on Ending Homelessness. (2010). Opening Doors: federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. Retrieved March 2011 from [www.usich.gov](http://www.usich.gov).

<sup>39</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

<sup>40</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.

- 5% reported living in motels or hotels, and an additional 5% reported living indoors in a place not usually meant for sleeping.

Felix has been living on or around the Pajaro levee for the past four years and while he struggles to find food and clothing, he says it wouldn't be so bad if he wasn't out there with his wife and three children. "I would manage but I have my children and my wife to take care," he said. Felix, like many of the families waiting for services, finds occasional work in the berry fields. Felix says there are many who want and need to work but find there are not a lot of job opportunities. Given the extended rainy periods Felix was expecting a "very small" paycheck this month, so while his kids were at school, a resourceful Felix was meeting the M.O.S.T. van.

Felix learned about the Mobile Outreach Services Team (M.O.S.T.) van which provides the community with food and clothing twice a week. The 44-year-old has come to rely on provisions from the M.O.S.T. van and says it is something he can count on. For Felix the food he gets from the M.O.S.T. van helps him keep his family fed when he needs it most.

M.O.S.T. is a team of skilled workers who reach out and work with the county's street homeless in an effort to help them gain access to services and/or begin the process of moving off the street. The M.O.S.T. team travels the county every day of the work week and delivers food, clothing, and basic needs. They offer information on available resources and referrals to homeless individuals throughout Monterey County.

Rebecca Skrdla, M.O.S.T. case manager, says the need is obvious and the work is life-changing for her clients. "They come in the pouring rain to get what we have for them," she said of individuals who frequent the van. She said the work is also life-changing for her recounting the time she received a heartfelt thank you from a little girl for the clothes she had brought her, all her clothes, she told Rebecca, had come from the M.O.S.T. van and she really liked them.

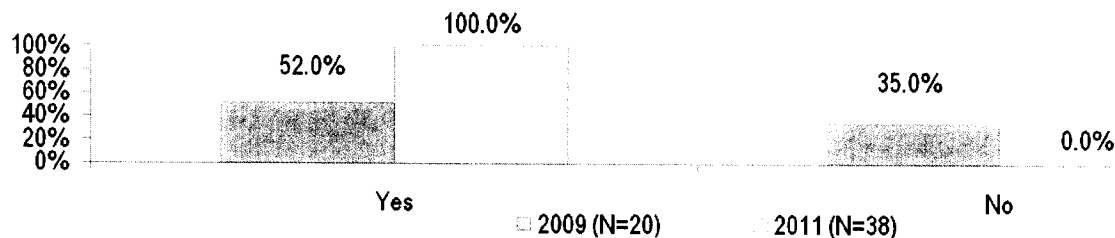
Clothes and other items delivered by the M.O.S.T. van come from individuals, churches, and thrift stores. The food comes from several local grocery stores. Rebecca said there is always a great need for deodorant for the men and hair brushes for the women. To donate to the M.O.S.T. van call 831-236-7638.

M.O.S.T. is a program of Shelter Outreach Plus, which, for 30 years, has provided a single-point of entry for people in crisis into a total continuum of care where education, recovery, and employment are viewed as key steps to a safe and self-sufficient life. Shelter Outreach Plus' other programs include Homeward Bound Transitional Housing, Family Helpline, Domestic Violence Service Center, Family Emergency Shelters, I-HELP Overnight Housing, and Men In Transition.

### Child Education

- 100% of respondents with school-aged children (ages 6 - 17) living with them indicated their children were in school. This was a positive increase from 52% in 2009.

**Figure 41: Are Your School-Aged Children (Who Are Living With You) in School?**



Source: Harder and Company Community Research. (2009). 2009 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. San Francisco, CA. Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

The 2011 Homeless Census collected secondary data on the number of homeless children and youth recorded in Monterey County by the California Department of Education (CDE). The CDE's definition of homelessness is broader and includes those children who are doubled up, precariously housed or in

danger of losing their housing. The following chart indicates the grade and number of homeless children recorded by the CDE.

**Homeless Children and Youth Enrollment Numbers (2011)**

	Pre-K and Kindergarten	1 <sup>st</sup> through 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	4 <sup>th</sup> through 6 <sup>th</sup> grade	7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade	9 <sup>th</sup> through 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Total
Carmel Unified	1	1	0	1	8	11
Gonzales Unified	2	7	9	11	6	35
King City elementary	20	79	33	13	0	145
MCOE - Alt. Ed.	0	0	0	0	12	12
MCOE - Sp. Ed.	5	5	10	0	1	21
MPUSD	53	168	110	58	74	463
Pacific Unified	0	0	0	0	1	1
Salinas Union HSD	0	0	0	81	45	126
Salinas City ESD	247	354	308	0	0	909
Santa Rita	7	23	22	4	0	56
<b>Total</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>1,924</b>

Source: Monterey County Office of Education. (2011). Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title 1 reporting. Monterey, CA.

- Of the homeless children and youth the CDE reported, 136 were living in shelters and included in our count. An additional 112 were unsheltered and may have been included in the count. However, 1,469 children and youth were precariously housed, living doubled up or staying with friends and family.<sup>41</sup>

**Children living in Foster Care or with Other Family Members**

- 74% of respondents who reported having children were not currently living with their children
  - » Of the respondents who indicated they had children, 5% reported that they had one or more children in foster care.
  - » 36% reported they had children living with friends or other family members.

**Unaccompanied Homeless Children and Youth**

“Unaccompanied Children” are children under the age of 18 who are homeless and living independent of a parent or legal guardian. Homeless Youth are defined as individuals between the ages of 18 and 24 years old. Identifying and including unaccompanied homeless children and youth in the Annual Point-in-Time Count is challenging. Data on the population both locally and national is extremely limited. What little data is available suggest the negative effects of homelessness on children are high and those experiencing homelessness face even greater challenges than their adult counterparts. They have a harder time accessing services, including shelter, medical care and employment.<sup>42</sup>

<sup>41</sup> Monterey County Office of Education. (2011). Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title 1 reporting. Monterey, CA.

<sup>42</sup> National Coalition for the Homeless. (2011). Homeless Youth Fact Sheet. Retrieved March 2011 from <http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/index.html>.

Monterey County increased their efforts to include unaccompanied children and youth in the 2011 Homeless Census and Survey. The youth focused street count took place in the afternoon of January 26, 2011, from approximately 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm, when children were more likely to be visible in the community. ASR worked with local youth service providers and hired local homeless youth to participate in the count, with the belief that they had particular knowledge and access to areas where homeless children and youth congregate. Unaccompanied children and youth who were surveyed took the basic two-page survey, as well as 28 additional survey questions that asked specifically about their circumstances as unaccompanied children. Due to the small number of unaccompanied children under the age of 18 and limited access to children by homeless surveyors, no children under the age of 18 participated in the youth survey. However, a total of 51 homeless youth under the age of 25 answered the survey. The following section details results of both the youth specific count and survey.

### **Number and Characteristics**

- 280 unaccompanied youth under the age of 25 were included in the homeless census.
  - » 9 youth were sheltered on the night of January 25, 2011.
  - » Of the 280 unaccompanied youth, 97 were under the age of 18. All unaccompanied children were counted in the unsheltered street count.

### **Demographics**

- There was a slightly higher percentage of homeless male youth (53%) than female youth (43%).
  - » The largest percentage of homeless youth indicated they were White/Caucasian (47%), followed by Hispanic/Latino (31%), and Black/African American (6%).

### **Education and School Enrollment**

- 7% of homeless youth reported being currently in school; of those respondents, 38% plan on finishing school.
  - » 37% of youth survey respondents plan on going to college.

## County of Residency

- 43% of homeless youth reported living in Monterey County when they became homeless this most recent time.
  - » 49% reported staying in the county year round.
  - » 31% reported living outside of California when they most recently became homeless.

Morgan ran away from the group home she was living in when she was 14-years-old. Now 22, she calls the streets of Monterey her home. Morgan primarily sleeps in homeless camps but sometimes stays with friends. She explained that her friends also go through "various stages" of homelessness so isn't always guaranteed that one will be able to give her a place to stay at night. Pursuing her education goals has not been easy for Morgan. Morgan met many of her current friends at the age of 13, when she started hanging out in the downtown area. Morgan was drawn to the downtown, explaining that her parents were "not around much" and were "very strict." She reflects on her early home life when talking about her early education. Morgan was homeschooled when she lived with her parents. Yet, she reports that her parents were frequently absent and she often had to teach herself. She completed her high school course work at Pacific Grove Adult Education. She currently attends Monterey Peninsula College where she is working towards completing her AS degree which she has nearly completed. She hopes to transfer to Georgetown in Washington, D.C. where some of her family members still reside. Morgan says she continues to visit with her mom but says she doesn't see her father often because he wants her to join the military, which she says, "is not what I'm about."

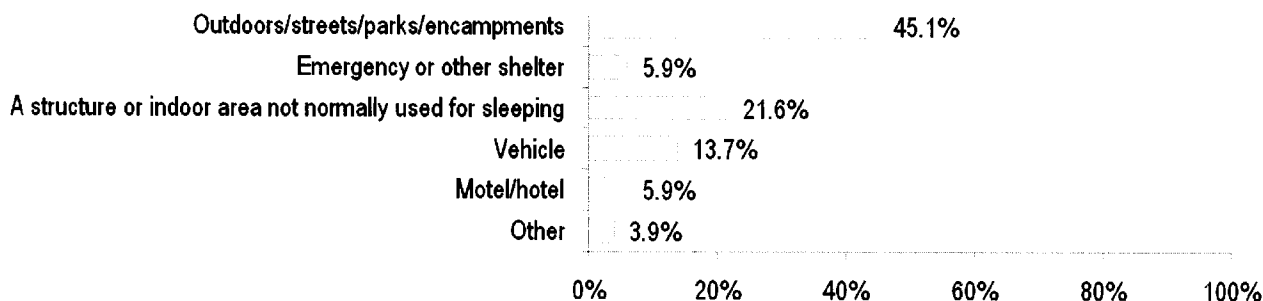
Floyd Van De Vere, Youth Service program director at Community Human Services (CHS), a local nonprofit that has provided a wide-range of services to Morgan over the past year. Floyd describes Morgan as, "a sweet girl who just wants someone to love and accept her the way she is."

For more than 20 years, CHS has been serving at-risk, runaway and homeless youth in Monterey County providing counseling, family reunification, street outreach, transitional supportive housing, and drug and alcohol intervention services. For Morgan CHS has been a place she goes to for food, clothing, and the comfort of caring people. Of the youth served by CHS, Van De Vere says, "They are survivors who have really good hearts, but are very afraid of rejection and failing." He said seeing smiling faces on homeless youth is what makes his job rewarding but admits the ultimate reward is helping, "a youth who wants off the streets get off the streets."

Other CHS programs include the Family to Family program for foster youth and at-risk families, SuperKids and SuperTeens offering in-school counseling for emotionally troubled youth, and the Off Main Clinic offering methadone maintenance, counseling and detoxification.

## Usual Sleeping Places

- 45% of homeless youth respondents indicated that they usually slept outdoors (on the streets, in parks, or in encampments) at night, followed by 14% who usually stayed in their vehicles.
  - » 5% reported that they did not feel safe in their current living situation.
  - » 37% reported having moved more than 4 times in the past 3 months.
  - » 29% reported having traded sex or drugs for a place to stay.

**Figure 42: Where Do You Usually Stay at Night? (Homeless Children and Youth, 2011)**

*N*=51

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census and Survey. Watsonville, CA.

### Primary Cause of Homelessness

- One third (33%) of homeless youth survey respondents reported job loss as the primary cause of their homelessness.
- 26% of homeless youth survey respondents cited alcohol/drug issues as contributing to their homelessness.
- 23% of children and youth have or had homeless parents.

### Utilization of Government and Social Assistance

- 88% of homeless youth reported not receiving any kind of government assistance.
  - » 8% were receiving Food Stamps.
- The most commonly cited services used by homeless youth were free meals (46%), food pantries (14%), bus passes (6%), and alcohol and drug counseling (6%).<sup>43</sup> Forty-four percent (44%) of homeless youth indicated that they were not using any non-governmental services.
- 24% of homeless youth reported not using any youth specific services.
  - » The most commonly cited current needs of homeless children and youth were food (80%), dental care (51%), showers (49%), and transportation (46%).
  - » When asked what would help to get them off the streets, 76% of homeless youth responded job training/employment.

### Social Support Networks

- 51% of youth reported living with other individuals.
  - » 39% of youth reported living with a significant other and 39% reported living with their street family.

<sup>43</sup> These responses were not mutually exclusive.  
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- » 37% of youth survey respondents reported having stayed 4 or more nights with friends or family in the two weeks prior to the survey.
- 56% of homeless youth reported having 4 or more people in the group they regularly hung out with.
  - » 21% reported not having anyone to hang out with.
- 54% of homeless youth reported having an adult in the community they could trust.
  - » The majority of youth reported this person was a friend, an additional 10% knew them from work or a drop-in center.
- 58% of youth reported having interacted with police or sheriffs “Never” or “Rarely” since becoming homeless.

### **Physical Health and Wellbeing**

- 68% of youth reported their general health was good or very good.
  - » 0% of survey respondents indicated they were in poor physical health.
  - » 23% reported having spent 4 or more days in the emergency room in the past year.

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

- 30% of homeless youth survey respondents reported having a mental illness.
  - » 41% reported depression and 10% reported suffering from PTSD.
  - » 10% of youth reported having sought formal counseling services through government, church or youth programs.

### **Experiences with Violence**

- 30% of youth survey respondents reported their safety had been threatened 1 or more times in the past 30 days.

### **Drug and Alcohol Abuse**

- 42% of youth reported alcohol or drug abuse.
- 58% of youth reported their parents abused drugs or alcohol when they were children.
  - » 58% reported marijuana was their primary drug of choice.
  - » 50% reported alcohol was their primary drug of choice.
  - » 25% reported using drug or alcohol to get through the day.
  - » 81% reported using drug or alcohol because they enjoyed it.

The 2011 San Benito County Homeless Census and Survey is the first Point-in-Time conducted in San Benito County. In partnership with the Monterey County Continuum of Care, San Benito County has worked in conjunction with Applied Survey Research (ASR) to conduct the 2011 Homeless Census and Survey. As this is a pilot year for San Benito County the methodology and approach to the project differs from that of the preceding report.

The 2011 San Benito County Homeless Census was performed using the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recommended practices for counting homeless individuals. This study included a field enumeration of homeless individuals residing in San Benito County on January 26th 2011. This field enumeration differed from the Monterey County census as it was based on jurisdiction rather than individual census tracts. In order to generate basic profiles of homeless individuals in San Benito County 41 surveys of were conducted in the three weeks following the census. The San Benito County survey was based upon that of Monterey County so that these data were comparable. Data from this survey sample revealed more detailed information about the population. The research design relied on self-described and self-defined responses, which is an approved method in homeless research due to the limitations in connecting homeless individuals to their clinical profiles.

## Demographics

- 193 homeless individuals were counted during the 2011 Point-in-Time count.
- It is estimated that 401 persons experience homelessness in San Benito County on an annual basis.
- 61% of those enumerated were residing in transitional or emergency shelters on the night of January 25th 2011. The remaining 39% were unsheltered, living on the street, in vehicles or encampments.
- Many of the homeless individuals in San Benito County were white, males between the ages of 30 and 40.

## HOMELESSNESS

1. An individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and
2. An individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is:
  - » A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations; or
  - » An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or
  - » A public or private place designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings

- » More than half of homeless respondents were male (24 of 42), while 18 respondents were female.
- » The majority of survey respondents were either White/Caucasian (10 of 15), or identified as Hispanic or Latino (23 of 39). Three respondents were two or more races, one was Black/



African American, and one respondent identified as "other."

- Half (19 of 39) of all respondents were between 31 - 50 years old.

### Residency

- Most (33 of 42) respondents were already living in San Benito County when they most recently became homeless.

### Primary Causes of Homelessness

- More than half (22 of 39) of survey respondents cited job loss as the primary cause of their homelessness.
  - » 15% (6 of 39) respondents cited alcohol or drug use as the primary cause of their homelessness.

### Duration of Homelessness

- More than half (24 of 42) of respondents indicated this was the first time they had experienced homelessness
  - » Eleven respondents had been without permanent housing for twelve or more months.
  - » The majority (26 of 42) of respondents have been homeless for six months or less.
  - » Nearly half of respondents (18 of 37) indicated that since they most recently became homeless, they had needed medical care but were unable to receive it.
  - » Some respondents (3 of 40) indicated they were experiencing chronic health problems.

### Government Benefits and Assistance

- Most (all but 1) survey respondents indicated they were receiving some form of government assistance.
  - » Virtually all (38 of 39) respondents indicated that they were receiving one or more forms of government assistance.
  - » A large majority (33 of 39) respondents were receiving Food Stamp, more than half (23 of 39) were receiving Medi-Cal, and eleven (11) received Cash Aid/CalWORKS.

## Chronic

- One in five (8 of 40) homeless individuals were chronically homeless.



An individual or family residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven or in an emergency shelter that also:

- » Has been continually homeless for one year or more; or
- » Has experienced four or more episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years
- » Has an adult head of household with diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, post traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments resulting from trauma, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of 2 or more of those conditions

## Veterans

- Two of 40 survey respondents ages 18 and older indicated that they were veterans of the United States Armed Forces in 2011
  - » One out of two homeless veterans were unsheltered in 2011.



Someone who has 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 a called up to active duty.



Homeless families are defined as those currently living with at least one child under the age of 18 years.

## Families and Children

- Many respondents (13 of 42) indicated that they had at least one child under the age of 18 living with them.

Due to the small survey sample size, the above data does not meet the criteria for a minimum number of respondents to achieve stable value. However, this data does provide a rough picture of the homeless population in San Benito County.

The homeless population in San Benito County is smaller than that of Monterey County but this should not diminish the challenges faced by those confronting homelessness in San Benito County. As a pilot project, the survey and census provide valuable data for the future efforts of San Benito County and the Coalition of Homeless Service Providers. On January 25th, 2011, 61% of the homeless population in San Benito County was housed. However, the majority of those individuals were housed in the emergency winter shelter. In April when the winter shelter closes, those individuals will be forced to find other living arrangement.

National reports reveal that one of the fastest growing segments of the homeless population is families with children. Families, single mothers, and children make up the largest group of people who are homeless in rural areas.<sup>1</sup> Though the percentage is unstable, roughly 31% of homeless survey respondents met HUD's definition of family. This number is of particular importance when we consider families are one of the subpopulations that is difficult to count and is often under reported.

It is hoped that the data presented in this report will be used by planning bodies of San Benito County to inform additional outreach, service planning, and policy decision-making to extend the limited homeless services in the area to those in need.

<sup>1</sup> Vissing, Y. M. (1996). Out of sight, out of mind: Homeless children and families in small-town America. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky.



The 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey were performed using HUD-recommended practices for counting the homeless population. This important effort provided valid and useful data regarding the homeless population in Monterey County. The 2011 enumeration built upon the 2007 and 2009 efforts and continued the compilation of comparable multi-year data on the experience of homelessness in Monterey County. Continued use of this methodology will enable the tracking of key indicators and gauge the changing conditions experienced by homeless individuals and families throughout the County.

Findings from the 2011 Monterey County Homeless Census reveal an increase in the homeless population in the county from 2,407 in 2009 to 2,507 in 2011. Increased efforts to reach unaccompanied homeless children and youth led to an increase in the number homeless individuals under the age of 25 included in the 2011 count, including 97 unaccompanied homeless children. In 2011, as in 2009, the Homeless Census provided a more comprehensive view of homelessness through the inclusion of supplemental data from sources including the county jail and the Monterey County Office of Education.

Homeless Survey results suggest that the characteristics of the homeless population in Monterey County have remained relatively stable since 2009. Slight differences emerged in participants' employment status, government benefits received, locations where participants stay at night, the age of the homeless population, and the number of individuals who were experiencing homelessness for the first time.

This 2011 report also includes data from San Benito County. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is encouraging Continuum of Care coverage nationwide in order to achieve improved coordination of services, more efficient resource allocation, and regional planning to address homelessness. San Benito County will be merging with the Salinas/Monterey County Continuum of Care in 2011 and the 2011 Homeless Census and Survey will mark the start of San Benito County's inclusion in the Biannual Point-in-Time counts.

It is hoped that the data presented in this report will be used by the planning bodies of Monterey County, San Benito County and other organizations to inform additional outreach, service planning, and policy decision-making over the next two years as they continue to address homelessness. It is also hoped that this report will be disseminated to other jurisdictions and educational research institutions in order to gain feedback on the methodologies used and results obtained for the 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey. By sharing and evaluating this enumeration effort and its results, the homeless support network in Monterey and San Benito Counties will be better able to produce constructive and innovative solutions to a problem that clearly affects many people in the community.

## Overview

The purpose of the 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey was to produce a Point-in-Time estimate of the number of people in Monterey County and San Benito County who experience homelessness. The results of each counties street count were combined with the results from their shelter count to produce the total number of homeless people in each county. A more detailed description of the methodology used for the homeless census and survey follows.

### Components of the Homeless Count Method

The census methodology had two components:

- The street count – an enumeration of unsheltered homeless individuals.
- The shelter and institution count – an enumeration of sheltered homeless individuals.

## Street Count Methodology

### Definition

For the purposes of this study, the HUD definition of an unsheltered homeless person was used: someone who is either living on the streets, or in a vehicle, encampment, abandoned building, unconverted garage, or any other place not normally used or meant for human habitation.

### Research Design

Monterey County covers approximately 3,771 square miles while San Benito County is 1,389 square miles.<sup>44</sup> The logistics for conducting a Point-in-Time street count of homeless people in an area this large required significant enumeration efforts. The purpose of the early morning street count was to conduct a complete enumeration of unsheltered homeless people within the 24 hour period required by HUD. The unsheltered and sheltered homeless counts were coordinated to occur within the same time period in order to minimize potential duplicate counting of homeless persons.

### 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 people to work as enumerators was an essential part of the street count methodology. Previous research has shown that homeless people, teamed with staff members from homeless service agencies, can be part of a productive and reliable work force.

To work on the street count, prospective enumerators were required to attend a one-hour information and training session. Three training sessions were held at multiple locations throughout the county during the week prior to the street count. These sessions were attended primarily by homeless persons, staff from homeless service agencies, and staff from Monterey and San Benito Counties. The techniques and

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<sup>44</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2009). State and County Quick Facts.  
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methods used to identify and enumerate unsheltered homeless persons were reviewed during these training sessions.

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.

### **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 was ideally composed of one volunteer and one homeless person who had attended a training and information session. Given the expertise each team member brought to working in the field, the "volunteer/homeless worker" teamwork concept was especially beneficial for the street count.

Street count teams were provided with census tract maps of their assigned areas, census tally sheets, a review of the census training documents and techniques, and other supplies. Prior to deployment, volunteers and workers were provided with a reminder of how to enumerate thoroughly without disturbing homeless people or anyone else encountered during the street census. Over the course of the morning, all census tracts in Monterey County were enumerated. The approach to the pilot census in San Benito County was slightly different, focusing on counts by jurisdiction.

### **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 count in any area of the County.

### **Street Count Deployment**

Since it was necessary to conduct the enumeration within a 24 hour period, Monterey County was divided into four targeted areas: North County, South County, and Mid-County which was divided into east and west. Targeted teams conducted the census counts in North and South County so that they would not have to travel to the centralized deployment centers. For the two counties, Monterey and San Benito, there were four central deployment locations based in Hollister, Salinas, San Juan Bautista, and Seaside.

The enumeration effort was conducted between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. This early morning enumeration strategy was selected in order to avoid duplicate counting of sheltered homeless persons and to increase the visibility of the street homeless.

Volunteers and coalition staff used personal or agency vehicles to transport homeless workers and volunteers to and from assigned census tracts (although some homeless workers did provide their own transportation). All accessible streets, roads, and highways in the enumerated tracts were traveled by foot, bike, or car. Homeless persons were counted and tallied on team tally sheets (see Appendix II).

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 unsheltered and sheltered homeless persons, it was imperative to enumerate during the narrow timeframe when sheltered and unsheltered homeless do not co-mingle. Administering the survey in conjunction with the census would have taken up too much of this narrow timeframe, thereby increasing the likelihood of duplication between the street and sheltered homeless counts, and jeopardizing the accuracy of the census. Thus, observation-only enumeration strategies were employed during the census, and the survey component of this project began after the census was completed.

Additionally, because unaccompanied youth do not usually co-mingle with the adult homeless population and tend to be difficult to enumerate, special youth enumeration teams consisting of homeless youth and homeless youth service providers were formed to enumerate unaccompanied homeless youth. These youth enumerators were deployed from the Safe Place Drop-In Center and were given a general geographical area in the county to enumerate rather than specific census tract maps. These teams counted between 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. when homeless youth are most likely to be visible on the streets. They enumerated unaccompanied homeless youth under age 18 and 18 to 24-year-old homeless adults who associate in the same social circles. The teams kept track of the locations where the homeless youth were sighted by recording the nearest intersection. Compared to the general street census results, the youth teams found considerably more unaccompanied homeless youth and in locations different from where unaccompanied youth were found in the morning effort. Therefore the research team felt there was little worry of duplication. The youth enumerated by these special teams were assigned census tract locations post-facto and were integrated into the overall countywide enumeration results.

Although any homeless enumeration is vulnerable to an undercount, all of the people, vehicles, encampments, and abandoned buildings tallied during the Point-in-Time street count were visually observed by enumerators. By reporting only what was observed, ASR and Monterey County are highly confident that the street count results are as accurate and as valid as possible. There are no means to ensure that those enumerated were actually members of the homeless population. However, when potential enumerators were polled during the training sessions, most trainees, especially homeless workers, indicated they would have no difficulty in telling the difference between an unsheltered homeless person and a member of the general public.

## **Shelter and Institution Count Methodology**

### **Goal**

The goal of the shelter and institution (S&I) count was to gain an accurate count of the number of homeless persons who were being temporarily housed in shelters and other institutions across Monterey County. These data were vital to gaining an accurate overall count of the homeless population and understanding where homeless persons received shelter.

### **Data Collection**

The basic approach was to identify and contact as many agencies as possible that temporarily house homeless people and request that those agencies send ASR a count of the number of homeless persons housed in their programs on the night of January 26, 2011. The support and participation of a broad range of agencies, both public and private, was needed to complete the shelter and institution count. These agencies included:

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

Supplementary data was collected from secondary sources to include in the report. Although this data does not meet HUD requirements, it provides a greater overall picture of the homeless population in Monterey County.

## Homeless Census Challenges and Assumptions

### Challenges

There are many challenges in any homeless enumeration, especially when implemented in a region as diverse and large as Monterey and San Benito Counties. While homeless populations are usually concentrated around city emergency shelters and homeless service facilities, homeless individuals and families can also be found in suburbs, commercial districts, and outlying county areas that are not easily accessible by enumerators. Homeless populations include numerous difficult-to-enumerate subsets such as:

- Chronically homeless persons who may or may not access social, health, or shelter services,
- Persons living in vehicles who relocate every few days,
- Persons who have children and therefore stay “under the radar” for fear of having to turn their children over to Child Protective Services,
- Homeless youth, who tend to keep themselves less visible than homeless adults,
- Homeless people who live in isolated rural areas, and
- Homeless people who sleep in unfit structures.

### Census Undercount

For a variety of reasons, homeless persons generally do not want to be seen, and make concerted efforts to avoid detection. Regardless of how successful the outreach effort is, an undercount of the homeless population will result, especially of hard-to-reach subpopulations such as unaccompanied youth and families.

In a non-intrusive, Point-in-Time, visual homeless enumeration, the methods employed, while academically 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. Many factors may contribute to missed opportunities, for example:

- Homeless individuals often occupy abandoned buildings and other structures unfit for human habitation.
- Homeless youth are suspected to keep a distance from the general homeless population, for their own safety.
- Homeless families with children often seek opportunities to stay on private property, rather than sleep on the streets, in vehicles, or makeshift shelters.
- It can be difficult to identify homeless persons who may be sleeping in vans, cars, or recreational vehicles.

By counting the minimum number of homeless persons on the streets at a given Point-in-Time, the homeless census methodology is conservative and therefore most likely results in an undercount of homeless persons with immigration issues, some of the working homeless, families, and street youth. This conservative approach 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.



## Assumptions of Annual Estimation

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

- 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.
- 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. Additionally, the total number of homeless 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 (520 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 Applied Survey Research have determined that this methodology was the most complete and accurate of all available approaches.

## Survey Methodology

### Planning and Implementation

The survey of 520 homeless persons was conducted in Monterey County in order to yield qualitative data about the homeless community in Monterey County. A similar survey was conducted in San Benito County with a survey of 42 homeless persons. These data were used for the McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance funding application and are important for future program development and planning. The survey elicited information such as gender, family status, military service, length and recurrence of homelessness, usual nighttime accommodations, causes of homelessness, and access to services through open-ended, closed-ended, and multiple response questions. The survey data bring greater perspective to current issues of homelessness and to the provision and delivery of services. The survey findings also provide a measure of the changes in the composition of the homeless population since 2009.

Surveys were conducted by homeless workers and service provider volunteers who were trained by Applied Survey Research. 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 administered within shelters. No self-administered surveys were accepted in order to maintain a standardized and consistent protocol. Homeless workers were compensated at a rate of \$5.00 per completed survey.

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. A duffle bag was selected as an incentive to participate in the survey. The bags were thought to have wide appeal, and could be provided within the project budget. This approach enabled surveys to be conducted at anytime during the day. The gift proved to be a great incentive and was widely accepted among survey respondents.

## 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>45</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 subset groups such as homeless youth, minority ethnic groups, military veterans, domestic violence victims, and families, including recruiting survey workers from these subset groups. As part of the youth homeless enumeration effort, a team of fifteen homeless youth were trained to administer surveys to other homeless youth.

Trained homeless interviewers administered surveys to the “street” homeless. These workers were used as interviewers because they were familiar with the conditions, challenges, and likely locations of homeless persons, and they may therefore be more likely to obtain survey question responses from the homeless respondents. This peer-to-peer approach may also encourage more candid responses by lessening the suspicion or apprehension of the respondent and helping to build rapport between the survey worker and respondent. Interviewers were asked to inquire if the homeless person had already taken the survey, and if not, if they were willing to do so, knowing there was a “thank you” gift at the completion of the survey. Workers were also asked to remain unbiased at all times, make no assumptions or prompts, keep all responses anonymous and confidential, and ask all questions, but allow respondents to skip any question they did not feel comfortable answering.

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. Eleven transitional housing facilities throughout Monterey and San Benito Counties, including family- and youth-focused programs, participated in the survey effort. Typically, program staff conducted those surveys. The same survey was used in both shelter and street environments.

## 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. This was likely influenced by the fact that nearly all of the street interviewers were homeless workers who had previously been, or were currently, fellow members of the homeless community. Another reason for interview cooperation may have been the incentive gift, which was given to respondents upon the completion of the interview.

## Data Analysis

In order to avoid potential duplication of respondents, the survey requested respondents’ initials and date of birth, so that duplication could be avoided without compromising the respondents’ anonymity. Upon

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<sup>45</sup> The survey method of systematically interviewing every  $n^{\text{th}}$  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.  
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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 length of homelessness, and consistencies in patterns of responses to other questions on the survey.

### Survey Administration Details

- The 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Surveys were administered by the trained survey team between February 6, 2011 and March 24, 2011.
- The sample of valid surveys totaled 520 in Monterey County and 42 in San Benito County.

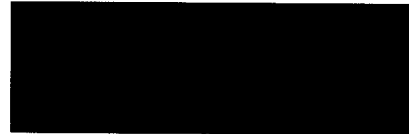
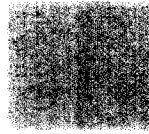
### Survey Challenges and Limitations

The 2011 Monterey County Survey did not include an equal representation of all homeless experiences. However, in Monterey County based on a Point-in-Time estimate of 2,507 homeless persons, the 520 valid surveys represent a confidence interval of +/- 1.67% with a 95% confidence level when generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated homeless population in Monterey County. These confidences can be applied to the survey findings because the survey was randomly administered. In San Benito County the population size and survey sample represent a confidence interval of +/-5.84% with a 95% confidence level, however the data does provide some picture of the county's homeless population.

In self-reporting survey research, as was conducted by this survey, there is always some room for misrepresentation. Since there is no mechanism to separate truth from fiction in survey responses, it is important to make every effort to elicit the most truthful responses from interviewees. Using a peer interviewing methodology is believed to allow the respondents to be more candid with their answers, and may help reduce the uneasiness of revealing personal information. It should be noted that the responses provided for this survey are consistent based on reviews by service providers who:

- Selected reliable interviewers who had completed a comprehensive training, and
- Reviewed the surveys and ensured quality responses.

Surveys that were considered incomplete or containing false responses were not accepted, and the interviewer was not compensated.



## 2011 MONTEREY COUNTY HOMELESS CENSUS

Master / Tally Sheet

Map #: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Deployment Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Member 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Deployment Location Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Member 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Team Captain: \_\_\_\_\_

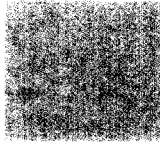
Tally INDIVIDUALS ONLY in top columns.			
# of Individual Men	# of Individual Women	# Undetermined Gender	# of Individual Youth under 18

Tally FAMILIES ONLY in lower columns. Families are defined as at least one minor child/youth (under 18 years) AND one adult male and/or adult female. If more than 6 families, use back of sheet.			
Family Units	# of Men	# of Women	Youth under 18 years old
Family 1			
Family 2			
Family 3			
Family 4			
Family 5			
Family 6			

When the Number of People are Unknown.		Additional Notes
Tally # of VEHICLES AND ENCAMPMENTS ONLY here		
# of cars with sleeping occupants		
# of Vans or RVs with electrical or water connections		
# of encampments with people		
# of persons reported by Park Ranger		
# of Abandoned Buildings with people		

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## 2011 SAN BENITO COUNTY HOMELESS CENSUS

Street/Corner Tally Sheet

Map #: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Deployment Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Member 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Deployment Location Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Member 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Team Captain: \_\_\_\_\_

Tally INDIVIDUALS ONLY in top columns.			
# of Individual Men	# of Individual Women	# Undetermined Gender	# of Individual Youth under 18

Tally FAMILIES ONLY in lower columns. Families are defined as at least one minor child/youth (under 18 years) AND one adult male and/or adult female. If more than 6 families, use back of sheet.			
Family Units	# of Men	# of Women	Youth under 18 years old
Family 1			
Family 2			
Family 3			
Family 4			
Family 5			
Family 6			

When the Number of People are Unknown, Tally # of VEHICLES AND ENCAMPMENTS ONLY here		Additional Notes
# of cars with sleeping occupants		
# of Vans or RVs with electrical or water connections		
# of encampments with people		
# of persons reported by Park Ranger		
# of Abandoned Buildings with people		

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**2011 Monterey County Homeless Survey**

(Office Use)  

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REFUSALS \_\_\_\_\_
Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer's (Your) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Neighborhood or city: \_\_\_\_\_

Respondent's Initials: First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

**Interviewer: Read question & answers to the respondent**

Shade Circles Like This--> ●

Not Like This--> ○

**1. What is your birth date?**  
 Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
(Office use)      (Office use)      (Office use)

**2. How do you identify yourself?**  
 Male    Female    Transgender    Other

**3. Do you identify as Hispanic or Latino?**  
 No    Yes *(Skip to question 4)*

**3a. Which racial / ethnic group do you identify with the most? (Shade only 1)**

<input type="radio"/> White/Caucasian	<input type="radio"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native
<input type="radio"/> Black/African American	<input type="radio"/> Asian
<input type="radio"/> 2 or more races	<input type="radio"/> Pacific Islander
	<input type="radio"/> Other

**4. Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?**  
 Yes    No    Don't know    Decline to state

**4a. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?**  
 Yes    No    Don't know    Decline to state

**5. Do you live alone (by yourself)?**  
 Yes *(Skip to question 6)*  
 No

**5a. Do you live with: (Shade all that apply)**

<input type="radio"/> Spouse or significant other	<input type="radio"/> Other family members:
<input type="radio"/> Child/children	<input type="radio"/> Friends
<input type="radio"/> Parent or legal guardian	<input type="radio"/> Other _____
<input type="radio"/> Street family	

**6. Do you have any children?**  
 Yes  
 No *(Skip to question 7)*

**6a. Are any of your children currently living with you?**  
 Yes    No

**6b. Are your children: (Shade all that apply)**

<input type="radio"/> 18 years or over	How many? <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3 <input type="radio"/> 4+
<input type="radio"/> 0 - 5 years old	How many? <input type="radio"/> 0 <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3 <input type="radio"/> 4
<input type="radio"/> 6 - 17 years old	How many? <input type="radio"/> 0 <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3 <input type="radio"/> 4

**6c. Are you children 5 - 17 in school?**    Yes    No

**6d. Do you have any children in foster care?**    Yes    No

**6e. Do you have any children living with family/friends?**    Yes    No

**7. If you live with a spouse, significant other or parent, do any of the following conditions prevent them from maintaining work or housing? (Shade all that apply)**

<input type="radio"/> Disabling physical condition	<input type="radio"/> HIV/AIDS
<input type="radio"/> Substance addiction	<input type="radio"/> Mental illness
<input type="radio"/> Domestic Violence	<input type="radio"/> Developmental Disability
<input type="radio"/> Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	<input type="radio"/> None of the above

**8. Where do you usually stay at night? (Shade only 1)**

<input type="radio"/> Outdoors/streets/parks	<input type="radio"/> A place in a house not normally used for sleeping (kitchen, living room, etc.)
<input type="radio"/> Unconverted Garage/attic/basement	<input type="radio"/> Emergency shelter
<input type="radio"/> Backyard or storage structure	<input type="radio"/> Public facilities (train station, bus depot, transit center, etc.)
<input type="radio"/> Motel/hotel	<input type="radio"/> Transitional housing
<input type="radio"/> Abandoned building	<input type="radio"/> Other shelter
<input type="radio"/> Automobile	<input type="radio"/> Other _____
<input type="radio"/> Van	
<input type="radio"/> Camper/RV	

Encampment

How many people, including yourself, usually stay there? \_\_\_\_\_

About how many people sleep in each tent/ tarp or structure? \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Is this the first time you have been homeless?**  
 Yes *(Skip to question 10)*  
 No

**9a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including this present time? (Shade only 1)**  
 1 time    3 times    5 times  
 2 times    4 times    6 times    More than 6 times

**9b. In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including this present time? (Shade only 1)**  
 1 time    3 times    5 times  
 2 times    4 times    6 times    More than 6 times

**10. How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent housing situation? (Shade only 1)**

<input type="radio"/> 7 days or less	<input type="radio"/> 4 months	<input type="radio"/> 8 months	<input type="radio"/> 12 months
<input type="radio"/> 8 - 30 days	<input type="radio"/> 5 months	<input type="radio"/> 9 months	<input type="radio"/> 1-2 years
<input type="radio"/> 2 months	<input type="radio"/> 6 months	<input type="radio"/> 10 months	<input type="radio"/> 2-3 years
<input type="radio"/> 3 months	<input type="radio"/> 7 months	<input type="radio"/> 11 months	<input type="radio"/> More than 3 years

**11. Immediately before you became homeless this last time, were you: (Shade only 1)**

<input type="radio"/> Living in a home owned by you or your partner	<input type="radio"/> In jail or prison
<input type="radio"/> Renting a home or apartment	<input type="radio"/> In a hospital
<input type="radio"/> Staying with friends	<input type="radio"/> In a treatment program
<input type="radio"/> Living with relatives	<input type="radio"/> In foster care
<input type="radio"/> Living in subsidized housing	<input type="radio"/> Other: _____

**12. What do you think are the primary events or conditions that led to your homelessness? (Shade up to 3)**

<input type="radio"/> Lost job	<input type="radio"/> Incarceration
<input type="radio"/> Landlord sold or stopped renting	<input type="radio"/> Aging out of foster care
<input type="radio"/> Landlord raised rent	<input type="radio"/> Divorce or separated
<input type="radio"/> Alcohol or drug use	<input type="radio"/> Lost home through foreclosure
<input type="radio"/> Illness or medical problem	<input type="radio"/> Lost retirement savings
<input type="radio"/> Mental health issues	<input type="radio"/> Other natural disaster/ fire/ flood
<input type="radio"/> Family/ domestic violence	<input type="radio"/> For being lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender
<input type="radio"/> Lost income	<input type="radio"/> Hospitalization/ treatment prog.
<input type="radio"/> Hospitalization/ treatment prog.	<input type="radio"/> Don't know
<input type="radio"/> Conflict with family/housemate	<input type="radio"/> Other: _____

**13. Where were you living at the time you most recently became homeless? (Shade only 1)**

<input type="radio"/> Monterey County
<input type="radio"/> Other County in California <i>(Skip to question 13b)</i>
<input type="radio"/> Out of State <i>(Skip to question 13b)</i>

**13a. How long had you lived in Monterey County before becoming homeless? (Shade only 1)**

<input type="radio"/> 7 days or less	<input type="radio"/> 4 - 6 months	<input type="radio"/> 3 - 5 years
<input type="radio"/> 8 - 30 days	<input type="radio"/> 7 - 11 months	<input type="radio"/> 6 - 10 years
<input type="radio"/> 1 - 3 months	<input type="radio"/> 1 - 2 years	<input type="radio"/> More than 10 years

*(Skip to question 14)*

**13b. What was the primary reason you came to Monterey County? (Shade only 1)**

<input type="radio"/> For a job / seeking work	<input type="radio"/> Weather / climate
<input type="radio"/> I was born or grew up here	<input type="radio"/> To access homeless services
<input type="radio"/> My family and/or friends are here	<input type="radio"/> I was forced out of my previous community
<input type="radio"/> I was traveling and got stranded	<input type="radio"/> I am just passing through
<input type="radio"/> I visited and decided to stay	<input type="radio"/> Other: _____

0138838752 (Office use)

**14. What is keeping you from getting permanent housing? (Shade all that apply)**

Can't afford rent  No transportation  
 No job/no income  Bad credit  
 No money for moving costs (security deposit, first and/or last month rent)  Eviction record  
 No housing availability  Criminal record  
 They will not accept my pet  Don't want to  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**15. Are you currently employed? (Shade only 1)**

No, unemployed  
 Yes, part time (Skip to question 16)  
 Yes, full time (Skip to question 16)

**15a. How long have you been unemployed? (Shade only 1)**

6 months or less  6 months to 1 year  1 year or longer

**15b. What is keeping you from getting employment? (Shade all that apply)**

Need education  No permanent address  
 Need training  No transportation  
 Need clothing  No tools for trade  
 No shower facilities  No work permit (No S.S.#)  
 No phone  No photo identification  
 Health problems  Don't want to work  
 Disabled  No jobs  
 Alcohol/Drug issue  Retired  
 Criminal record  Mental health issues  
 No child care  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse/partner doesn't want me to work

**16. What are your other sources of income? (Shade all that apply)**

Family / friends  Recycling  
 Pension  Selling other found items  
 Child support  Selling blood/plasma  
 Panhandling/ asking for money on the street  Sex work  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**17. Are you currently using any of the following services/assistance? (Shade all that apply)**

Emergency shelter  Shelter day services  
 Transitional housing  Legal assistance  
 Free meals  Health services  
 Food pantry  Mental health services  
 Bus passes  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Job training  Not using any services  
 Alcohol / Drug counseling

**18. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance? (Shade all that apply)**

General Relief  SSI (Supplemental Security Income)/SSDI  
 Food Stamps  Cash Aid/CalWORKS  
 Medi-Cal/Medi-Care  VA Disability Compensation  
 Veterans' Benefits  Other governmental assistance  
 WIC (State disability benefits, workers compensation, unemployment, etc.)  
 Social Security  
 I am not currently receiving any of the above

**19. If you are not receiving any government assistance or social services, why not? (Shade all that apply)**

Don't think I'm eligible  I have applied for one or more of these services, and I am currently waiting for approval  
 Have no ID  Don't know where to go  
 No permanent address  Turned down  
 No transportation  They will not accept my pet  
 Never applied  Don't need government assistance  
 Benefits were cut off  Paper work too difficult  
 Immigration issues  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I am afraid my children will be taken away from me

**20. What is your total monthly income from all Government benefits? (County, State, Federal monies) (Shade only 1)**

Zero  \$251 - \$500  \$1501 - \$2000  
 \$1 - \$150  \$501 - \$1000  Over \$2000  
 \$151 - \$250  \$1001 - \$1500

**21. What is your total monthly income from all non-Government sources? (Job, panhandling, recycling, etc.)**

Zero  \$251 - \$500  \$1501 - \$2000  
 \$1 - \$150  \$501 - \$1000  Over \$2000  
 \$151 - \$250  \$1001 - \$1500

**22. Do you have a pet?**

Yes  No (Skip to question 23)

**22a. Do they prevent you from receiving housing?**

Yes  No

**23. Do you have a working cell phone?**

Yes  No

**24. How often do you use the internet?**

At least once a week  At least once a month  
 Sometimes  Never

**25. Since becoming homeless have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?**

Yes  No

**26. Do you currently need any of these services? (Shade all that apply)**

Medical Care  Substance Abuse Treatment  
 Dental Care  Mental Health Services  Eye Care

**27. How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?**   
 \_\_\_\_\_ times (Office use)

**28. Do you or have you received mental health services or medication for your mental health in the past 12 months?**

Yes  No (Skip to question 28)

**28a. Do you have trouble accessing those services?**

Yes  No

**28b. Have you been hospitalized for emotional problems in the past 12 months?**

Yes  No

**29. Were you ever in foster care?**

Yes  No

**30. Are you currently experiencing any of the following:** Yes, Does it prevent you from getting work or housing?

30a. Physical disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30b. Mental illness	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30c. Depression	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30d. Alcohol/Drug abuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30e. Domestic partner violence or abuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30f. Chronic health problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30g. AIDS/HIV related illness	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30h. Tuberculosis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30i. Hepatitis C	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30j. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30k. Developmental disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**31. How many nights, if any, have you spent in jail or prison during the last 12 months?**   
 \_\_\_\_\_ nights (Office use)

**32. Are you currently on probation or parole?**

Yes  No

**33. Were you on probation or parole at the time you most recently became homeless?**

Yes  No

**34. How many tickets have you received for parking violations, littering, trespassing or camping in the past 12 months?**   
 \_\_\_\_\_ tickets (Office use)



REFUSALS \_\_\_\_\_ Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#924260002 **2011 San Benito County Homeless Survey** (Office use) [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Interviewer's (Your) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Neighborhood or city: \_\_\_\_\_ (Office use) [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Respondent's initials: First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

**(Interviewer: Read question & answers to the respondent)**  
Shade Circles Like This--> ●  
Not Like This--> ○

**1. What is your birth date?**  
Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
(Office use) [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

**2. How do you identify yourself?**  
 Male  Female  Transgender  Other

**3. Do you identify as Hispanic or Latino?**  
 No  Yes (Skip to question 4)

**3a. Which racial/ethnic group do you identify with the most? (Shade only 1)**  
 White/Caucasian  American Indian/Alaskan Native  
 Black/African American  Asian  
 2 or more races  Pacific Islander  
 Other

**4. Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?**  
 Yes  No  Don't know  Decline to state

**4a. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?**  
 Yes  No  Don't know  Decline to state

**5. Do you live alone (by yourself)?**  
 Yes (Skip to question 6)  No

**5a. Do you live with: (Shade all that apply)**  
 Spouse or significant other  Other family members:  
 Child/children  Friend(s)  
 Parent or legal guardian  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street family

**6. Do you have any children?**  
 Yes  No (Skip to question 7)

**6a. Are any of your children currently living with you?**  
 Yes  No

**6b. Are your children: (Shade all that apply)**

<input type="radio"/> 18 years or over	How many?	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4+
<input type="radio"/> 0 - 5 years old	How many?	<input type="radio"/> ○	<input type="radio"/> ○	<input type="radio"/> ○	<input type="radio"/> ○
<input type="radio"/> 6 - 17 years old	How many?	<input type="radio"/> ○	<input type="radio"/> ○	<input type="radio"/> ○	<input type="radio"/> ○

**6c. Are you children 5 - 17 in school?**  Yes  No

**6d. Do you have any children in foster care?**  Yes  No

**6e. Do you have any children living with family/friends?**  Yes  No

**7. If you live with a spouse, significant other, or parent, do any of the following conditions prevent them from maintaining work or housing? (Shade all that apply)**  
 Disabling physical condition  HIV/AIDS  
 Substance addiction  Mental illness  
 Domestic violence  Developmental disability  
 Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)  None of the above

**8. Where do you usually stay at night? (Shade only 1)**  
 Outdoors/streets/parks  A place in a house not normally used for sleeping (kitchen, living room, etc.)  
 Unconverted Garage/attic/basement  Emergency shelter  
 Backyard or storage structure  Public facilities (train station, bus depot, transit center, etc.)  
 Abandoned building  Transitional housing  
 Motel/hotel  Other shelter  
 Automobile  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Van  Encampment  
 Camper  
How many people, including yourself, usually stay there? \_\_\_\_\_  
How many people live there? \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Is this the first time you have been homeless?**  
 Yes (Skip to question 10)  No

**9a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including this present time? (Shade only 1)**  
 1 time  3 times  5 times  
 2 times  4 times  6 times  More than 6 times

**9b. In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including this present time? (Shade only 1)**  
 1 time  3 times  5 times  
 2 times  4 times  6 times  More than 6 times

**10. How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent housing situation? (Shade only 1)**  
 7 days or less  4 months  8 months  12 months  
 8 - 30 days  5 months  9 months  1 - 2 years  
 2 months  6 months  10 months  2 - 3 years  
 3 months  7 months  11 months  More than 3 years

**11. Immediately before you became homeless this last time, were you: (Shade only 1)**  
 Living in a home owned by you or your partner  In jail or prison  
 Renting a home or apartment  In a hospital  
 Staying with friends  In a treatment program  
 Living with relatives  In foster care  
 Living in subsidized housing  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**12. What do you think are the primary events or conditions that led to your homelessness? (Shade up to 3)**

<input type="radio"/> Lost job	<input type="radio"/> Incarceration
<input type="radio"/> Landlord sold or stopped renting	<input type="radio"/> Aging out of foster care
<input type="radio"/> Landlord raised rent	<input type="radio"/> Divorce or separated
<input type="radio"/> Alcohol or drug use	<input type="radio"/> Lost home through foreclosure
<input type="radio"/> Illness or medical problem	<input type="radio"/> Lost retirement savings
<input type="radio"/> Mental health issues	<input type="radio"/> Other natural disaster (fire, flood)
<input type="radio"/> Family/ domestic violence	<input type="radio"/> For being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender
<input type="radio"/> Lost income	<input type="radio"/> Hospitalization/ treatment prog.
<input type="radio"/> Hospitalization/ treatment prog.	<input type="radio"/> Don't know
<input type="radio"/> Conflict with family/housemate	<input type="radio"/> Other _____

**13. Where were you living at the time you most recently became homeless? (Shade only 1)**  
 San Benito County  
 Other County in California (Skip to question 13b)  
 Out of State (Skip to question 13b)

**13a. How long had you lived in San Benito County before becoming homeless? (Shade only 1)**  
 7 days or less  4 - 6 months  3 - 5 years  
 8 - 30 days  7 - 11 months  6 - 10 years  
 1 - 3 months  1 - 2 years  More than 10 years  
(Skip to question 14)

**13b. What was the primary reason you came to San Benito County? (Shade only 1)**  
 For a job / seeking work  Weather / climate  
 I was born or grew up here  To access homeless services  
 My family and/or friends are here  I was forced out of my previous community  
 I was traveling and got stranded  I am just passing through  
 I visited and decided to stay  Other \_\_\_\_\_

3722360003 (Office use)

**14. What is keeping you from getting permanent housing? (Shade all that apply)**

Can't afford rent       No transportation  
 No job/no income       Bad credit  
 No money for moving costs (security deposit, first and/or last month rent)       Eviction record  
 No housing availability       Criminal record  
 They will not accept my pet       Don't want to  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**15. Are you currently employed? (Shade only 1)**

No, unemployed  
 Yes, part time (Skip to question 14)  
 Yes, full time (Skip to question 14)

**15a. How long have you been unemployed? (Shade only 1)**

6 months or less     6 months to 1 year     1 year or longer

**15b. What is keeping you from getting employment? (Shade all that apply)**

Need education       No permanent address  
 Need training       No transportation  
 Need clothing       No tools for trade  
 No shower facilities       No work permit (No S.S. #)  
 No phone       No photo identification  
 Health problems       Don't want to work  
 Disabled       No jobs  
 Alcohol/ drug issue       Retired  
 Criminal record       Mental health issues  
 No child care       Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse/partner doesn't want me to work

**16. What are your other sources of income? (Shade all that apply)**

Family / friends       Recycling  
 Pension       Selling other found items  
 Child support       Selling blood/plasma  
 Panhandling/ asking for money on the street       Sex work  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**17. Are you currently using any of the following services/ assistance? (Shade all that apply)**

Emergency shelter       Shelter day services  
 Transitional housing       Legal assistance  
 Free meals       Health services  
 Food pantry       Mental health services  
 Bus passes       Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Job training       Not using any services  
 Alcohol / Drug counseling

**18. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance? (Shade all that apply)**

General Relief       SSI (Supplemental Security Income)/SSDI  
 Food Stamps       Cash Aid/CalWORKS  
 Medi-Cal/Med-Care       VA Disability Compensation  
 Veteran's Benefits       Other governmental assistance (State disability benefits, workers compensation, unemployment, etc.)  
 WIC  
 Social Security  
 I am not currently receiving any of the above

**19. If you are not receiving any government assistance or social services, why not? (Shade all that apply)**

Don't think I'm eligible       I have applied for one or more of these services, and I am currently waiting for approval  
 Have no ID  
 No permanent address       Don't know where to go  
 No transportation       Turned down  
 Never applied       They will not accept my pet  
 Benefits were cut off       Don't need government assistance  
 Immigration issues       Paper work too difficult  
 I am afraid my children will be taken away from me       Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**20. What is your total monthly income from all Government benefits? (County, State, Federal monies) (Shade only 1)**

Zero       \$251 - \$500       \$1501 - \$2000  
 \$1 - \$150       \$501 - \$1000       Over \$2000  
 \$151 - \$250       \$1001 - \$1500

**21. What is your total monthly income from all non-Government sources? (Job, panhandling, recycling, etc.)**

Zero       \$251 - \$500       \$1501 - \$2000  
 \$1 - \$150       \$501 - \$1000       Over \$2000  
 \$151 - \$250       \$1001 - \$1500

**22. Do you have a pet?**

Yes     No (Skip to question 23)

**22a. Do they prevent you from receiving housing?**

Yes     No

**23. Do you have a working cell phone?**

Yes     No

**24. How often do you use the internet?**

At least once a week     At least once a month  
 Sometimes     Never

**25. Since becoming homeless have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?**

Yes     No

**26. Do you currently need any of these services? (Shade all that apply)**

Medical Care     Substance Abuse Treatment  
 Dental Care     Mental Health Services     Eye Care

**27. How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?**

\_\_\_\_\_ times (Office use)

**28. Do you or have you received mental health service or medication for your mental health in the past 12 months?**

Yes     No (Skip to question 29)

**28a. Do you have trouble accessing those services?**

Yes     No

**28b. Have you been hospitalized for emotional problems in the past 12 months?**

Yes     No

**29. Were you ever in foster care?**

Yes     No

**30. Are you currently experiencing any of the following:**

	30a. Does it prevent you from getting work or housing?	
30a. Physical disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30b. Mental illness	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30c. Depression	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30d. Alcohol/Drug abuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30e. Domestic/partner violence or abuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30f. Chronic health problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30g. AIDS/HIV related illness	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30h. Tuberculosis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30i. Hepatitis C C	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30j. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30k. Developmental disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**31. How many nights, if any, have you spent in jail or prison during the last 12 months?**

\_\_\_\_\_ nights (Office use)

**32. Are you currently on probation or parole?**

Yes     No

**33. Were you on probation or parole at the time you most recently became homeless?**

Yes     No

**34. How many tickets have you received for parking violations, loitering, trespassing, or camping in the past 12 months?**

\_\_\_\_\_ tickets (Office use)



## 1. Age

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 13 years	0	0.0%
13 - 17 years	2	0.4%
18 - 21 years	48	9.4%
22 - 30 years	102	20.1%
31 - 40 years	110	21.7%
41 - 50 years	128	25.2%
51 - 60 years	92	18.1%
More than 60 years	26	5.1%
Total	508	100.0%

## 2. How do you identify yourself?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Male	318	61.2%
Female	198	38.1%
Transgender	3	0.6%
Other	1	0.2%
Total	520	100.0%

## 3. Do you identify as Hispanic or Latino?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	192	36.9%
No	328	63.1%
Total	520	100.0%

## 3a. Which racial/ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
White/Caucasian	203	69.3%
Black/African American	32	10.9%
2 or more races	17	5.8%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	10	3.4%
Pacific Islander	8	2.7%
Asian	8	2.7%
Other	15	5.1%
Total	293	100.0%

4. Have you ever served in the U. S. Armed Forces? (*Respondents ages 18 and older*)

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	68	13.2%
No	440	85.4%
Don't know	1	0.2%
Decline to state	6	1.2%
Total	515	100.0%

## 4a. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	13	2.5%
No	463	89.9%
Don't know	1	0.2%
Decline to state	38	7.4%
Total	515	100.0%

*Multiple response question with 50 respondents offering 50 responses.*

## 5. Do you live alone (by yourself)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	329	63.3%
No	191	36.7%
Total	520	100.0%

## 5a. Do you live with:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Spouse or partner	74	40.0%
Child/children	63	34.1%
Friend(s)	30	16.2%
Street family	30	16.2%
Parent or legal guardian	6	3.2%
Other family members	6	3.2%

*Multiple response question with 185 respondents offering 209 responses.*

## 6. Do you have any children

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	258	49.6%
No	262	50.4%
Total	520	100.0%

## 6a. Are any of your children currently living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	65	25.9%
No	186	74.1%
Total	251	100.0%

## 6b. Are your children?

Response	Frequency	Percent
18 years or older	124	48.4%
0-5 years old	83	32.4%
6-17 years old	108	42.2%

*Multiple response question with 256 respondents offering 315 responses*

## 6b1. How many children do you have that are 18 years or older?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One child	38	33.9%
Two children	36	32.1%
Three children	24	21.4%
Four or more children	14	12.5%
Total	112	100.0%

## 6b2. How many children do you have that are 0-5?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One child	38	51.4%
Two children	25	33.8%
Three children	11	14.9%
Four or more children	0	0.0%
Total	74	100.0%

## 6b3. How many children do you have that are 6-17?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One child	62	57.9%
Two children	29	27.1%
Three children	11	10.3%
Four or more children	5	4.7%
Total	107	100.0%

## 6c. If your children are between ages 6 and 17 and living with you, are they enrolled in school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	93	100.0%
No	0	0.0%
Total	3	100.0%

## 6d. Do you have any children in foster care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	11	4.5%
No	231	95.5%
Total	242	100.0%

## 6e. Do you have any children living with family/friends?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	88	36.4%
No	154	63.6%
Total	242	100.0%

## 7. If you live with a spouse, significant other or parent, do any of the following conditions prevent them from maintaining work or housing.

Response	Frequency	Percent
Mental illness	8	11.3%
Disabling physical condition	6	8.5%
Substance addiction	4	5.6%
Developmental disability	2	2.8%
Domestic violence	1	1.4%
HIV/AIDS	1	1.4%
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	0	0.0%
None of the above	52	73.2%

*Multiple response question with 71 respondents offering 74 responses.*

## 8. Where do you usually stay at night?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Outdoors/streets/parks	128	25.2%
Emergency shelter	87	17.0%
Automobile	21	4.1%
A place in a house not normally used for sleeping (kitchen, living room, etc.)	18	3.5%
Transitional housing	69	13.5%
Other shelter	10	2.0%
Motel/hotel	38	7.4%
Camper/RV	22	4.3%
Encampment	26	5.1%
Van	30	5.9%
Public Facilities (train station, bus depot)	4	0.8%
Unconverted garage/attic/basement	13	2.5%
Abandoned building	10	2.0%
Backyard or storage structure	20	3.9%
Other	15	2.9%
Total	512	100.0%

9. Is this the first time you have been homeless?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	224	43.1%
No	296	56.9%
Total	520	100.0%

9a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
One time	346	67.2%
2 times	72	14.0%
3 times	29	5.6%
4 times	13	2.5%
5 times	10	1.9%
6 times	5	1.0%
More than 6 times	40	7.8%
Total	515	100.0%

9b. In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
One time	287	55.7%
2 times	73	14.2%
3 times	43	8.3%
4 times	23	4.5%
5 times	14	2.7%
6 times	10	1.9%
More than 6 times	65	12.6%
Total	515	100.0%



## 10. How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent housing situation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	13	2.6%
8 -30 days	15	3.0%
2 months	30	5.9%
3 months	17	3.4%
4 months	24	4.7%
5 months	13	2.6%
6 months	24	4.7%
7 months	23	4.5%
8 months	7	1.4%
9 months	5	1.0%
10 months	19	3.8%
11 months	16	3.2%
12 months	32	6.3%
1-2 years	64	12.6%
2-3 years	43	8.5%
More than 3 years	161	31.8%
Total	506	100.0%

## 11. Immediately before you became homeless this last time, were you living:

Response	Frequency	Percent
In a rented home/apartment	203	39.9%
With relatives	112	21.8%
With friends	76	14.8%
In a home owned by you/partner	33	6.4%
In a treatment facility	13	2.5%
In jail or prison	36	7.0%
In subsidized housing	12	2.3%
In a hospital	2	0.4%
Foster care	1	0.2%
Other	26	5.1%
Total	514	100.0%

## 12. What do you think is the primary event or condition that led to your homelessness?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Lost job	227	44.3%
Alcohol or drug use	199	38.9%
Lost income	129	25.2%
Landlord sold/stopped renting or re-used property	10	2.0%
Conflict with family/housemate	79	15.4%
Mental health issues	50	9.8%
Illness or medical problem	30	5.9%
Landlord raised rent	31	6.1%
Family/domestic violence	62	12.1%
Divorced or separated	42	8.2%
Incarceration	51	10.0%
Lost home through foreclosure	15	2.9%
Hospitalization/treatment program	9	1.8%
Natural disaster/fire/flood etc.	0	0.0%
Lost retirement savings	7	1.4%
Aging out of foster care	2	0.4%
For being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender	3	0.6%
Other	15	2.9%
Don't know/decline to state	16	3.1%

Multiple response question with 512 respondents offering 977 responses.

## 13. Where were you living at the time you most recently became homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Monterey County	373	72.0%
Other county in California	91	17.6%
Out of state	54	10.4%
Total	518	100.0%

## 13a. If you had been living in Monterey County, how long had you lived in the County before becoming homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	8	2.3%
8 -30 days	1	0.3%
1-3 months	5	1.4%
4-6 months	7	2.0%
7-11 months	7	2.0%
1-2 years	17	4.8%
3-5 years	33	9.3%
6-10 years	44	12.5%
More than 10 years	231	65.4%
Total	353	100.0%

## 13b. What is the primary reason you came to Monterey County?

Response	Frequency	Percent
For a job	41	29.7%
I was born or grew up here	4	2.9%
My family/friends are here	16	11.6%
I was traveling and got stranded	21	15.2%
I visited and decided to stay	14	10.1%
To access homeless services	9	6.5%
I was forced out of my previous community	3	2.2%
I am just passing through	12	8.7%
Weather/climate	13	9.4%
Other	5	3.6%
Total	138	100.0%

## 14. What is keeping you from getting permanent housing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Can't afford rent	294	59.4%
No job/no income	323	65.3%
No money for moving costs	175	35.4%
No transportation	81	16.4%
Bad credit	85	17.2%
No housing availability	26	5.3%
Criminal record	55	11.1%
Eviction record	30	6.1%
Don't want to	48	9.7%
They will not accept my pet	11	2.2%
Other	10	2.0%

Multiple response question with 495 respondents offering 1,138 responses.

## 15. Are you currently employed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No, unemployed	453	87.6%
Yes, part-time	51	9.9%
Yes, full-time	13	2.5%
Total	517	100.0%

## 15a. How long have you been unemployed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
6 months or less	35	8.3%
6 months to 1 year	69	16.3%
1 year or longer	320	75.5%
Total	424	100.0%

## 15b. What is keeping you from getting employment?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No jobs	155	34.7%
Alcohol/drug issue	122	27.3%
No phone	120	26.8%
No transportation	120	26.8%
Need training	116	26.0%
Need clothing	110	24.6%
No permanent address	105	23.5%
Need education	101	22.6%
No shower facilities	90	20.1%
Criminal record	63	14.1%
No tools for trade	57	12.8%
Health problems	51	11.4%
No photo identification	50	11.2%
Don't want to work	44	9.8%
Disabled	40	8.9%
Mental health issues	38	8.5%
No child care	17	3.8%
No work permit (No S.S. #)	7	1.6%
Retired	7	1.6%
Spouse/partner doesn't want me to work	4	0.9%
Other	13	2.9%

Multiple response question with 447 respondents offering 1,430 responses.

## 16. What are your other sources of income

Response	Frequency	Percent
Recycling	176	40.3%
Panhandling/asking for money on the street	141	32.3%
Family/friends	105	24.0%
Selling other found items	84	19.2%
Sex work	33	7.6%
Child support	16	3.7%
Pension	10	2.3%
Selling blood/plasma	9	2.1%
Other	102	23.3%

Multiple response question with 437 respondents offering 676 responses.

## 17. Are you currently using any of the following services/assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Free meals	233	46.6%
Food pantry	129	25.1%
Emergency shelter	118	23.0%
Transitional housing	84	16.4%
Shelter day services	60	11.7%
Health services	36	7.0%
Bus passes	71	13.8%
Mental health services	44	8.6%
Alcohol/drug counseling	31	6.0%
Job training	11	2.1%
Legal assistance	5	1.0%
Other	3	0.6%
Not using any services	134	26.1%

Multiple response question with 513 respondents offering 965 responses.

## 18. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Food Stamps	232	46.3%
Medi-Cal /Medicare	65	12.8%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income)/SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance)	28	5.5%
General assistance	46	9.0%
Cash Aid/CalWORKS	51	10.0%
WIC	16	3.1%
VA disability compensation	3	0.6%
Social Security	9	1.8%
Veteran's benefits	15	2.9%
Other governmental assistance	24	4.7%
I am not currently receiving any of these	204	40.1%

Multiple response question with 509 respondents offering 713 responses.

19. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never applied	61	19.3%
Don't think I'm eligible	70	22.2%
Have no identification	83	26.3%
No permanent address	42	13.3%
Paper work too difficult	23	7.3%
Don't know where to go	9	2.8%
They will not accept my pet	4	1.3%
No transportation	40	12.7%
Don't need government assistance	34	10.8%
Immigration issues	23	7.3%
Turned down	28	8.9%
Benefits were cut off	11	3.5%
I have applied for one or more of these services, and I am currently waiting for approval	14	4.4%
I am afraid my children will be taken away from me	4	1.3%
Other	23	7.3%

*Multiple response question with 316 respondents offering 469 responses.*

20. What is your total (gross) monthly income from all non-government sources?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	208	40.6%
\$1-\$150	85	16.6%
\$151-\$250	79	15.4%
\$251-\$500	61	11.9%
\$501-\$1,000	44	8.6%
\$1,001-\$1,500	18	3.5%
\$1,501-\$2,000	11	2.1%
Over \$2,000	6	1.2%
Total	512	100.0%

21. What is your total (gross) monthly income from all Government sources?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	256	49.7%
\$1-\$150	34	6.6%
\$151-\$250	90	17.5%
\$251-\$500	43	8.3%
\$501-\$1,000	68	13.2%
\$1,001-\$1,500	17	3.3%
\$1,501-\$2,000	7	1.4%
Over \$2,000	0	0.0%

Total	515	100.0%
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## 22. Do you have a pet?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	72	13.8%
No	448	86.2%
Total	520	100.0%

## 22a. Do they prevent you from receiving housing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	22	31.4%
No	48	68.6%
Total	70	100.0%

## 23. Do you have a working cell phone?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	241	49.1%
No	250	50.9%
Total	491	100.0%

## 24. How often do you use the internet?

Response	Frequency	Percent
At least once a week	159	31.4%
At least once a month	47	9.3%
Sometimes	134	26.4%
Never	167	32.9%
Total	507	100.0%

## 25. Since becoming homeless have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	134	26.3%
No	375	73.7%
Total	509	100.0%

## 26. Do you currently need any of these services?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Dental Care	306	77.7%
Medical Care	261	66.2%
Eye Care	170	43.1%
Mental Health Services	59	15.0%
Substance Abuse Treatment	50	12.7%

*Multiple response question with 394 respondents offering 846 responses.*

27. How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Never	282	56.4%
1 time	110	22.0%
2 times	51	10.2%
3 times	23	4.6%
4 times	8	1.6%
5 times	15	3.0%
More than 5 times	11	2.2%
Total	500	100.0%

28. Do you or have you received mental health services or medication for your mental health in the past 12 months?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	104	20.0%
No	416	80.0%
Total	520	100.0%

28a. Do you have trouble accessing those services

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	30	30.3%
No	69	69.7%
Total	99	100.0%

28b. Have you been hospitalized for emotional problems in the past 12 months?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	33	33.0%
No	67	67.0%
Total	100	100.0%

29. Were you ever in foster care?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	49	10.0%
No	442	90.0%
Total	491	100.0%



30. Are you currently experiencing any of the following?

Response	Frequency	Percent
30a. Physical Disability	104	20.9%
30b. Mental Illness	98	20.0%
30c. Depression	194	39.5%
30d. Alcohol/Drug Abuse	184	37.5%
30e. Domestic/Partner Violence	26	5.3%
30f. Chronic Health Problems	66	13.4%
30g. AIDS/HIV related illness	6	1.2%
30h. Tuberculosis	12	2.4%
30i. Hepatitis C	32	6.5%
30j. PTSD	40	8.2%
30k. Developmental Disability	14	2.8%

31. How many nights, if any, have you spent in jail or prison during the last 12 months?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 nights	329	64.8%
1-5 nights	95	18.7%
6-10 nights	15	3.0%
11-20 nights	22	4.3%
21-50 nights	26	5.1%
More than 50	21	4.1%
Total	508	100.0%

32. Are you currently on probation or parole?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	114	22.3%
No	397	77.7%
Total	511	100.0%

33. Were you on probation or parole at the time you most recently became homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	106	20.7%
No	405	79.3%
Total	511	100.0%

34. How many tickets have you received for parking violations, loitering, trespassing or camping in the past 12 months?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Never	371	73.3%
1 Ticket	64	12.6%
2 Tickets	30	5.9%
3 Tickets	13	2.6%
4 Tickets	7	1.4%
5 Tickets	6	1.2%
More than 5 Tickets	15	3.0%
Total	506	100.0%

## 1. Age

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 13 years	0	0.0%
13-17 years	0	0.0%
18-21 years	6	15.4%
22-30 years	10	25.6%
31-40 years	12	30.8%
41-50 years	7	17.9%
51-60 years	4	10.3%
More than 60 years	0	0.0%
Total	39	100.0%

## 2. How do you identify yourself?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Male	24	57.1%
Female	18	42.9%
Transgender	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
Total	42	100.0%

## 3. Do you identify as Hispanic or Latino?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	23	59.0%
No	16	41.0%
Total	39	100.0%

## 3a. Which racial/ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
White/Caucasian	10	66.7%
Black/African American	1	6.7%
2 or more races	3	20.0%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0.0%
Asian	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%
Other	1	6.7%
Total	15	100.0%

## 4. Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?

Response	Frequency	Percent
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Yes	2	4.9%
No	38	92.7%
Don't know	1	2.4%
Decline to state	0	0.0%
Total	41	100.0%

4a. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	0	0.0%
No	37	94.9%
Don't know	2	5.1%
Decline to state	0	0.0%
Total	39	100.0%

5. Do you live alone (by yourself)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	16	38.1%
No	26	61.9%
Total	42	100.0%

5a. Do you live with:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Spouse or significant other	16	64.0%
Child/children	14	56.0%
Street family	4	16.0%
Parent or legal guardian	3	12.0%
Other family member(s)	2	8.0%
Friend(s)	1	4.0%
Other	0	0.0%

*Multiple response question with 25 respondents offering 40 responses.*

6. Do you have any children?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	31	73.8%
No	11	26.2%
Total	42	100.0%

## 6a. Are any of your children currently living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	15	51.7%
No	14	48.3%
Total	29	100.0%

## 6b. Are your children:

Response	Frequency	Percent
18 years or older	10	32.3%
0-5 years old	20	64.5%
6-17 years old	13	41.9%

*Multiple response question with 31 respondents offering 43 responses.*

## 6b1. How many children do you have that are 18 years or older?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One child	4	57.1%
Two children	3	42.9%
Three children	0	0.0%
Four or more children	0	0.0%
Total	7	100.0%

## 6b2. How many children do you have that are 0-5 years old?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One child	3	17.6%
Two children	10	58.8%
Three children	3	17.6%
Four or more children	1	5.9%
Total	17	100.0%

## 6b3. How many children do you have that are 6-17 years old?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One child	7	58.3%
Two children	4	33.3%
Three children	0	0.0%
Four or more children	1	8.3%
Total	12	100.0%

6c. Are you children aged 6 -17 years old in school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	12	100.0%
No	0	0.0%
Total	12	100.0%

6d. Do you have any children in foster care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	0	0.0%
No	31	100.0%
Total	31	100.0%

6e. Do you have any children living with family/friends?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	8	25.8%
No	23	74.2%
Total	31	100.0%

7. If you live with a spouse, significant other or parent, do any of the following conditions prevent them from maintaining work or housing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disabling physical condition	1	5.6%
Substance addiction	1	5.6%
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	1	5.6%
Mental illness	1	5.6%
Developmental disability	1	5.6%
Domestic violence	0	0.0%
HIV/AIDS	0	0.0%
None of the above	15	83.3%

*Multiple response question with 18 respondents offering 20 responses.*

## 8. Where do you usually stay at night?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Emergency shelter	23	57.5%
Other shelter	6	15.0%
Transitional housing	3	7.5%
Automobile	2	5.0%
A place in a house not normally used for sleeping	2	5.0%
Outdoors/streets/parks	1	2.5%
Encampment	1	2.5%
Unconverted garage/attic/basement	0	0.0%
Backyard or storage structure	0	0.0%
Abandoned building	0	0.0%
Motel/hotel	0	0.0%
Public facilities	0	0.0%
Van	0	0.0%
Camper/RV	0	0.0%
Other	2	5.0%
Total	40	100.0%

## 9. Is this the first time you have been homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	24	57.1%
No	18	42.9%
Total	42	100.0%

## 9a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1 time	28	66.7%
2 times	10	23.8%
3 times	2	4.8%
4 times	0	0.0%
5 times	0	0.0%
6 times	0	0.0%
More than 6 times	2	4.8%
Total	42	100.0%

9b. In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
1 time	25	59.5%
2 times	8	19.0%
3 times	3	7.1%
4 times	2	4.8%
5 times	0	0.0%
6 times	1	2.4%
More than 6 times	3	7.1%
Total	42	100.0%

10. How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent housing situation?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
7 days or less	4	9.5%
8 -30 days	4	9.5%
2 months	4	9.5%
3 months	6	14.3%
4 months	6	14.3%
5 months	2	4.8%
6 months	0	0.0%
7 months	3	7.1%
8 months	0	0.0%
9 months	0	0.0%
10 months	2	4.8%
11 months	0	0.0%
12 months	1	2.4%
1-2 years	5	11.9%
2-3 years	2	4.8%
More than 3 years	3	7.1%
Total	42	100.0%



## 11. Immediately before you became homeless this last time, were you:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Renting a home or apartment	16	39.0%
Living with relatives	13	31.7%
Staying with friends	9	22.0%
Living in a home owned by	1	2.4%
In a hospital	1	2.4%
Living in subsidized housing	0	0.0%
In jail or prison	0	0.0%
In a treatment program	0	0.0%
In foster care	0	0.0%
Other	1	2.4%
Total	41	100.0%

## 12. What do you think are the primary events or conditions that led to your homelessness?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Lost job	22	56.4%
Conflict with family/housemate	7	17.9%
Alcohol or drug use	6	15.4%
Lost income	6	15.4%
Family/ domestic violence	4	10.3%
Landlord raised rent	3	7.7%
Mental health issues	2	5.1%
Aging out of foster care	2	5.1%
Divorce or separated	2	5.1%
Landlord sold or stopped renting	2	5.1%
Hospitalization/treatment program	1	2.6%
Lost home through foreclosure	1	2.6%
For being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender	1	2.6%
Illness or medical problem	0	0.0%
Incarceration	0	0.0%
Other natural disaster/ fire/flood	0	0.0%
Lost retirement savings	0	0.0%
Don't know	2	5.1%
Other	6	15.4%

*Multiple response question with 39 respondents offering 67 responses.*

## 13. Where were you living at the time you most recently became homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
San Benito County	33	78.6%
Other county in California	7	16.7%
Out of State	2	4.8%
Total	42	100.0%

## 13a. How long had you lived in San Benito County before becoming homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	1	3.0%
8- 30 days	0	0.0%
1 - 3 months	2	6.1%
4 - 6 months	2	6.1%
7 - 11 months	0	0.0%
1 - 2 years	9	27.3%
3 - 5 years	7	21.2%
6 - 10 years	1	3.0%
More than 10 years	11	33.3%
Total	33	100.0%

## 13b. What was the primary reason you came to San Benito County?

Response	Frequency	Percent
For a job/seeking work	3	42.9%
My family and/or friends are here	2	28.6%
I was born or grew up here	1	14.3%
To access homeless services	1	14.3%
I was traveling and got stranded	0	0.0%
I visited and decided to stay	0	0.0%
I was forced out of my previous community	0	0.0%
I am just passing through	0	0.0%
Weather/climate	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
Total	7	100.0%

## 14. What is keeping you from getting permanent housing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No job/no income	29	72.5%
Can't afford rent	21	52.5%
No money for moving costs	18	45.0%
No housing availability	8	20.0%
Bad credit	6	15.0%
No transportation	3	7.5%
Criminal record	2	5.0%
They will not accept my pet	1	2.5%
Eviction record	0	0.0%
Don't want to	0	0.0%
Other	2	5.0%

*Multiple response question with 40 respondents offering 90 responses.*

## 15. Are you currently employed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No, unemployed	33	82.5%
Yes, part time	5	12.5%
Yes, full time	2	5.0%
Total	40	100.0%

## 15a. How long have you been unemployed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
6 months or less	13	44.8%
6 months to 1 year	3	10.3%
1 year or longer	13	44.8%
Total	29	100.0%

## 15b. What is keeping you from getting employment?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
No jobs	17	54.8%
No transportation	10	32.3%
No permanent address	8	25.8%
Need education	6	19.4%
Criminal record	4	12.9%
Need training	3	9.7%
Alcohol/drug issue	3	9.7%
No child care	3	9.7%
Need clothing	2	6.5%
No phone	2	6.5%
Health problems	2	6.5%
No tools for trade	2	6.5%
Spouse/partner doesn't want me to work	2	6.5%
Mental health issues	2	6.5%
No shower facilities	1	3.2%
Disabled	1	3.2%
No work permit (No S.S. #)	1	3.2%
Don't want to work	0	0.0%
No photo identification	0	0.0%
Retired	0	0.0%
Other	3	9.7%

Multiple response question with 31 respondents offering 72 responses.

## 16. What are your other sources of income?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Recycling	12	44.4%
Family/friends	3	11.1%
Panhandling/asking for money on the street	3	11.1%
Child support	1	3.7%
Selling other found items	1	3.7%
Pension	0	0.0%
Selling blood/plasma	0	0.0%
Sex work	0	0.0%
Other	14	51.9%

Multiple response question with 27 respondents offering 34 responses.

## 17. Are you currently using any of the following services/ assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Emergency shelter	26	66.7%
Food pantry	17	43.6%
Free meals	13	33.3%
Job training	6	15.4%
Bus passes	5	12.8%
Health services	5	12.8%
Mental health services	4	10.3%
Shelter day services	3	7.7%
Alcohol/Drug counseling	2	5.1%
Transitional housing	1	2.6%
Not using any services	1	2.6%
Legal assistance	0	0.0%
Other	6	15.4%

Multiple response question with 39 respondents offering 89 responses.

## 18. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Food Stamps	33	84.6%
Medi-Cal/Medi-Care	23	59.0%
Cash Aid/CalWORKS	11	28.2%
WIC	7	17.9%
General Relief	3	7.7%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income)/SSDI	3	7.7%
Other governmental assistance	2	5.1%
Veteran's Benefits	0	0.0%
VA Disability Compensation	0	0.0%
Social Security	0	0.0%
I am not currently receiving any of the above	1	2.6%

Multiple response question with 39 respondents offering 83 responses.

## 19. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Don't think I'm eligible	4	26.7%
Never applied	3	20.0%
Benefits were cut off	2	13.3%
I have applied for one or more of these services, and I am currently waiting for approval	2	13.3%
Turned down	2	13.3%
Have no ID	1	6.7%
No permanent address	1	6.7%
Don't know where to go	1	6.7%
Paper work too difficult	1	6.7%
No transportation	0	0.0%
They will not accept my pet	0	0.0%
Don't need government assistance	0	0.0%
Immigration issues	0	0.0%
I am afraid my children will be taken away from me	0	0.0%
Other	3	20.0%

*Multiple response question with 15 respondents offering 20 responses.*

## 20. What is your total monthly income from all Government benefits? (County, State, Federal monies)

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	9	26.5%
\$1 - \$150	4	11.8%
\$151 - \$250	6	17.6%
\$251 - \$500	4	11.8%
\$501 - \$1000	11	32.4%
\$1001 - \$1500	0	0.0%
\$1501 - \$2000	0	0.0%
Over \$2000	0	0.0%
Total	34	100.0%

21. What is your total monthly income from all non-Government sources? (Job, panhandling, recycling, etc.)

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	17	45.9%
\$1 - \$150	13	35.1%
\$151 - \$250	1	2.7%
\$251 - \$500	3	8.1%
\$501 - \$1,000	1	2.7%
\$1,001 - \$1,500	0	0.0%
\$1,501 - \$2,000	2	5.4%
Over \$2,000	0	0.0%
Total	37	100.0%

22. Do you have a pet?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	4	9.5%
No	38	90.5%
Total	42	100.0%

22a. Do they prevent you from receiving housing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	0	0.0%
No	4	100.0%
Total	4	100.0%

23. Do you have a working cell phone?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	24	64.9%
No	13	35.1%
Total	37	100.0%

24. How often do you use the internet?

Response	Frequency	Percent
At least once a week	19	50.0%
At least once a month	6	15.8%
Sometimes	5	13.2%
Never	8	21.1%
Total	38	100.0%

25. Since becoming homeless have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	18	48.6%
No	19	51.4%
Total	37	100.0%

26. Do you currently need any of these services?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Medical Care	12	44.4%
Dental Care	21	77.8%
Eye Care	14	51.9%
Substance Abuse Treatment	3	11.1%
Mental Health Services	8	29.6%

*Multiple response question with 27 respondents offering 58 responses.*

27. How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never	25	59.5%
1 time	8	19.0%
2 times	4	9.5%
3 times	2	4.8%
4 times	2	4.8%
5 times	0	0.0%
More than 5 times	1	2.4%
Total	42	100.0%

28. Do you or have you received mental health services or medication for your mental health in the past 12 months?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	8	20.0%
No	32	80.0%
Total	40	100.0%

28a. Do you have trouble accessing those services?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	2	25.0%
No	6	75.0%
Total	8	100.0%



28b. Have you been hospitalized for emotional problems in the past 12 months?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	1	12.5%
No	7	87.5%
Total	8	100.0%

29. Were you ever in foster care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	9	22.5%
No	31	77.5%
Total	40	100.0%

30. Are you currently experiencing any of the following:

	Yes	No
30a. Physical disability	12.5%	87.5%
	5	35
30b. Mental illness	5.3%	94.7%
	2	36
30c. Depression	27.5%	72.5%
	11	29
30d. Alcohol/drug abuse	12.8%	87.2%
	5	34
30e. Domestic/partner violence or abuse	0.0%	100.0%
	0	40
30f. Chronic health problems	7.5%	92.5%
	3	37
30g. AIDS/HIV related illness	0.0%	100.0%
	0	40
30h. Tuberculosis	0.0%	100.0%
	0	40
30i. Hepatitis C	0.0%	100.0%
	0	40
30j. PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder)	10.3%	89.7%
	4	35
30k. Developmental disability	7.5%	92.5%
	3	37

30a. Does it prevent you from getting work or housing?

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
a. Physical disability	40.0%	60.0%
	2	3
b. Mental illness	100.0%	0.0%
	2	0
c. Depression	50.0%	50.0%
	5	5
d. Alcohol/drug abuse	60.0%	40.0%
	3	2
e. Domestic/partner violence or abuse	0.0%	0.0%
	0	0
f. Chronic health problems	0.0%	100.0%
	0	3
g. AIDS/HIV related illness	0.0%	0.0%
	0	0
h. Tuberculosis	0.0%	0.0%
	0	0
i. Hepatitis C	0.0%	0.0%
	0	0
j. PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder)	50.0%	50.0%
	2	2
k. Developmental disability	66.7%	33.3%
	2	1

31. How many nights, if any, have you spent in jail or prison during the last 12 months?

<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
0 nights	33	82.5%
1 - 5 nights	5	12.5%
6 - 10 nights	0	0.0%
11 - 20 nights	1	2.5%
21 - 50 nights	1	2.5%
More than 50 nights	0	0.0%
Total	40	100.0%

32. Are you currently on probation or parole?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	5	12.8%
No	34	87.2%
Total	39	100.0%

33. Were you on probation or parole at the time you most recently became homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	5	12.8%
No	34	87.2%
Total	39	100.0%

34. How many tickets have your received for parking violations, loitering, trespassing or camping in the past 12 months?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never	41	97.6%
1 ticket	1	2.4%
2 tickets	0	0.0%
3 tickets	0	0.0%
4 tickets	0	0.0%
5 tickets	0	0.0%
More than 5 tickets	0	0.0%
Total	42	100.0%

**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 disabling condition 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, either in a shelter facility, or through the use of motel vouchers. 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 children present.

**Homeless persons**, according to the Stewart B. McKinney Act of 1987, are people who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and have a primary nighttime residence that is either a public or private shelter, an institution that provides temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private location that is not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

**HUD** – United States 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 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, increased skill level or income, and greater self-determination – 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 or several structures at one site, or in multiple structures at scattered sites.

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

