Every two years, during the last 10 days of January, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of the local homeless populations in order to measure the prevalence of homelessness in each local Continuum of Care.

The 2019 Santa Clara County Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on January 29th and 30th, 2019. In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to 1,335 unsheltered and sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness in order to profile their experience and characteristics.

**Census Population: Longitudinal Trend**

- 2007: 7,202
- 2009: 7,086
- 2011: 7,067
- 2013: 7,631
- 2015: 6,556
- 2017: 7,394
- 2019: 9,706

**2019 Sheltered/ Unsheltered Population**

- 18% Sheltered
  - n=1,784
- 82% Unsheltered
  - n=7,922

**Subpopulation Data**

- **Chronically Homeless** 2,470 Individuals
  - 15% Sheltered
  - 85% Unsheltered

- **Veterans** 653 Individuals
  - 32% Sheltered
  - 68% Unsheltered

- **Families** 269 Families with 921 Members
  - 76% Sheltered
  - 24% Unsheltered

- **Unaccompanied Youth & Young Adults** 1,876 Individuals
  - 5% Sheltered
  - 95% Unsheltered

**Race & Ethnicity Top Responses**

- 44% White
- 24% Multi-racial
- 19% Black
- 8% American Indian or Alaskan Native
- 43% Latinx/Hispanic

**Foster Care Involvement**

- 19% of survey respondents have been in the foster system.

**Justice System Involvement**

- 27% of survey respondents spent one or more nights in jail/prison/juvenile hall in the past year.

**Sexual Orientation**

- 87% Straight
- 6% Bisexual
- 3% Lesbian
- 2% Gay
- 2% Other

**Gender**

- 62% Male
- 36% Female
- 2% Transgender

**Age**

- 8% Under 18
- 17% 18-24
- 75% 25+

**Residence Prior to Homelessness**

- 81% Santa Clara County

**Length of Time in Santa Clara County**

- 14% < 1 Year
- 17% 1-4 Years
- 12% 5-9 Years
- 57% 10 Years+

**Current Accommodation**

- 34% Outdoors/ Streets/Parks/Encampments
- 22% Shelter
- 18% Vehicle
- 13% Structure not Meant for Habitation
- 13% Other

**Ethnicity Justice System Involvement**

- 82% of survey respondents spent one or more nights in jail/prison/juvenile hall in the past year.
**Subpopulation Definitions**

- **Chronically Homeless**
  - An individual with one or more disabling conditions or a family with a head of household with a disabling condition who:
    - Has been continuously homeless for 1 year or more and/or;
    - Has experienced 4 or more episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years.

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

- **Families**
  - A household with at least one adult member (person 18 or older) and at least one child member (persons under 18).

- **Unaccompanied Youth & Young Adults**
  - Youth under the age of 18 and young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 years old (TAY) who are experiencing homelessness and living without a parent or legal guardian.

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**Self Reported Health**

- **Disabling Conditions**
  - A disabling condition is defined by HUD as a developmental disability, HIV/AIDS, or a long-term physical or mental impairment that impacts a person’s ability to live independently, but could be improved with stable housing.

  - 45% of survey respondents reported having at least one disabling condition.

**First Episode of Homelessness**

- **Primary Event or Condition That Led to Homelessness**
  - Top 6 Responses:
    - 30% Lost Job
    - 22% Alcohol or Drug Use
    - 15% Divorce/ Separation/ Breakup
    - 14% Eviction
    - 13% Argument with Family/ Friend
    - 11% Incarceration

- **Interest in Permanent Housing**
  - 89% of survey respondents said yes when asked if they would accept affordable permanent housing if it became available soon.

**Services and Assistance**

- 70% of survey respondents reported receiving benefits.

**Obstacles to Permanent Housing**

- 66% Couldn’t Afford Rent
- 56% No Job/ Income
- 40% No Housing Available
- 35% No Money for Moving Costs

**Reasons for Not Receiving Any Government Assistance**

- Top 6 Responses:
  - 37% Don’t Want Government Assistance
  - 26% Don’t Think I’m Eligible
  - 23% No Permanent Address
  - 22% No ID
  - 14% Never Applied
  - 8% Benefits Were Cut Off

**Services Currently Accessing**

- 73% Meal Services
- 36% Bus Passes
- 25% Community Drop-In Center
- 13% Religious Based Services
- 12% Outreach Services
- 11% Job/ Employment Services

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* Multiple response question, results may not add up to 100%.

△ Only displaying top responses, all response data will be available in full report.

Φ Sourced from census data rather than survey data.

The complete comprehensive report includes a more detailed profile of the characteristics of those experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County is available here: https://bit.ly/2MmRg3