

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

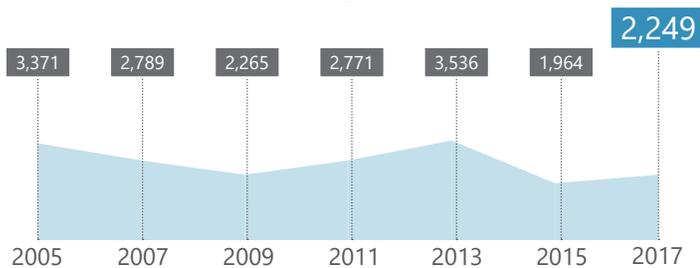
2017 HOMELESS CENSUS & SURVEY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

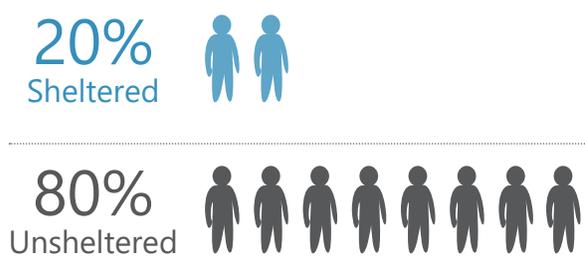
Every two years, during the last 10 days of January, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of the local homeless populations in order to measure the prevalence of homelessness in each local Continuum of Care.

The 2017 Santa Cruz County Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on January 22, 2017. In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to 459 unsheltered and sheltered homeless individuals, in order to profile their experience and characteristics.

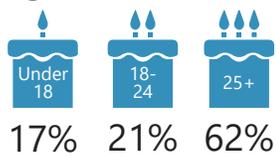
Census Population: Longitudinal Trend



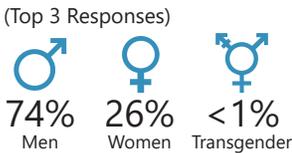
2017 Sheltered/Unsheltered Population



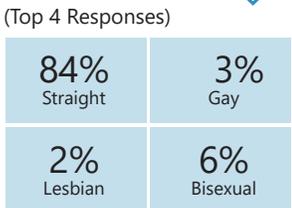
Age



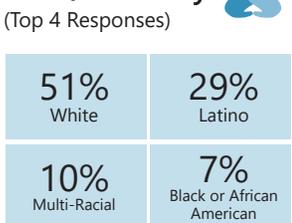
Gender



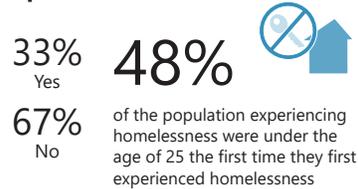
Sexual Orientation



Race/Ethnicity



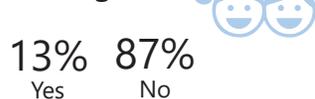
First Homelessness Episode



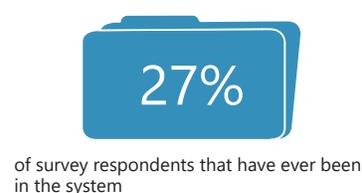
Age at First Episode of Homelessness



Parents to Children Under Age 18



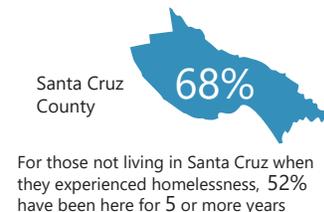
Foster Care



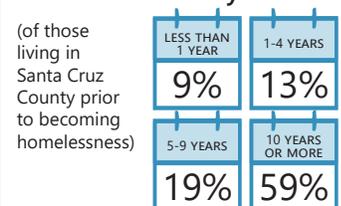
Subpopulation Data*



Residence Prior to Homelessness



Length of Time in Santa Cruz County



Duration of Current Episode of Homelessness



7%
30 days or less

31%
1-11 months

49%
1 year or more

Primary Event or Condition That Led to Homelessness

(Top 6 Responses)



25% Lost job	17% Alcohol or drug use	14% Eviction
10% Argument with a Family Member	9% Illness/medical problem	9% Family Violence

Obtaining Permanent Housing Opportunities

(Top 4 Responses)



70% Rental assistance	67% More affordable housing
49% Money for moving costs	44% Help finding an apartment

What is a disabling condition?



55%

of survey respondents reported a disabling condition

A disabling condition is defined here as a physical disability, mental illness, chronic depression, alcohol or drug abuse, chronic health problems, HIV/AIDS, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), or a developmental disability.

Health Conditions

Current health conditions affecting housing stability or employment.

(Note: Multiple response question, numbers will not total to 100%)



39%

Psychiatric or emotional conditions



32%

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder



18%

Traumatic brain injury



38%

Physical disability



31%

Chronic health problems



2%

AIDS/HIV related



38%

Drug or alcohol abuse

Employment Status



31% Employed **69%** Unemployed

If Unemployed, Currently...

43% Unable to work **43%** Looking for work **14%** Not looking for work

Government & Assistance



32%

of survey respondents reported receiving government benefits

Reasons for Not Receiving Government Assistance

(Top 4 Responses)

36% Don't think they are eligible
29% Never applied
23% Don't have ID

Services Currently Accessing

(Top 4 Responses)

64% Free meals	46% Food stamps
3% Shelter day services	38% Emergency shelter

Justice System Involvement



29%

had spent a night in jail in the previous 12 months

*Subpopulation Definitions

Chronically Homeless

An individual with a disabling condition 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 (persons 18 or older) and at least one child member (persons under 18).

Unaccompanied Children

Children under the age of 18 who are homeless and living without a parent or legal guardian.

Transition-Age Youth

Young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 years old.