

# Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care

Comprehensive  
Report



Developed in Partnership with:



2019

Homeless Census



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The success of this endeavor is the result of a convergence of considerable talents and efforts of a dedicated team of individuals. Southern Nevada Homelessness CoC, Data and Systems Improvement Working Group would like to thank the generous donors and sponsors who helped to make this project possible.

In addition, we want to express our appreciation to the service providers who recruited census workers and opened their own facilities to train these census workers to assist in the homeless peer enumeration process. We are also grateful to the service providers for their help in the administration and distribution of survey. We would especially like to thank the survey respondents, who truly made this project possible, and whose efforts will enrich the findings of this report.

Southern Nevada Homelessness CoC, Data and Systems Improvement Working Group would also like to extend our gratitude to the hundreds of community volunteers who dedicated their time to participate in the homeless census and survey efforts.

### Community Partners

- AmeriCorps VISTA
- Caridad
- Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada
- City of Henderson Community Development Services
- City of Henderson Department of Public Works and Parks and Recreation
- City of Las Vegas Administrative Services
- City of Las Vegas Office of Community Services
- City of Las Vegas Parks and Recreation Department
- City of North Las Vegas Land Development and Community Services Department
- City of North Las Vegas Land Development and Community Services Department
- Clark County Parks and Recreation
- Clark County Public Communications
- Clark County Public Response Office
- Clark County Fire Department
- Clark County IT/GISMO
- Clark County School District
- Clark County Social Service
- Forging Tomorrow
- Henderson Police Department
- HELP of Southern Nevada
- Henderson Fire Department
- Las Vegas Fire and Rescue
- Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
- National Civilian Conservation Corps
- Nevada Homeless Alliance
- Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth
- North Las Vegas Fire Department
- North Las Vegas Fire Department
- North Las Vegas Police Department
- Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
- Southern Nevada Children's First
- St. Jude's Ranch for Children-Crossings
- The Salvation Army
- The Shade Tree
- The Veterans Administration
- United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

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## INTRODUCTION

The Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care (SNH CoC) in conjunction with community partners conducted the 2019 Southern Nevada Point-in-Time Homeless Census and Survey. All components of the project were conducted according to the requirements and standards of practice outlined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).\*

The project included a comprehensive enumeration, or Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, and an in depth survey of the homeless population in Clark County, Nevada (hereafter referred to as Southern Nevada).

Southern Nevada and its community partners carried out this census and survey in order to obtain the data necessary to evaluate the nature and scope of homelessness in Southern Nevada. The data collected in this study was analyzed and used to populate the HUD Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and the PIT reports. The results of this research will assist service providers, policy makers, and funders, as well as local, state, and national government entities, with funding and creating effective and efficient services and programs for those who are homeless in Southern Nevada.



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The PIT Count is an enumeration of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations, conducted annually over the course of one night during the last 10 days of January, and is required of all CoCs per the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

PIT Counts are conducted by CoCs nationwide to provide unduplicated counts and statistically reliable estimates of homeless persons in sheltered and unsheltered locations in a single night.

The 2019 Southern Nevada Homeless PIT Count identified 5,530 homeless persons in Southern Nevada. Of these persons, 40.01% (2,213 persons) were sheltered and 59.98% (3,317 persons) were unsheltered.

### 2019 Homeless Census & Survey: Summary of Findings

The 2019 Southern Nevada PIT Count indicates that between 2018 and 2019, the total number of persons experiencing homelessness decreased from 6,083 to 5,530, respectively. The number of unsheltered homeless persons decreased from 3,884 to 3,317 respectively during this time period.

Figure 1: Point-in-Time Homeless Census & Annual Estimate of Homelessness Data

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2018 – 2019 Net Change	2018 – 2019 Percent Change
Unsheltered	3,731	4,353	3,884	3,317	-567	-17.09%
Sheltered	2,477	2,137	2,199	2,213	14	00.63%
Total Point-in-Time Count	6,208	6,490	6,083	5,530	-553	-9.09%
Annual Estimate	30,016	24,987	16,641	14,114	-2,527	-15.19%

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019), 2016, 2017, 2018, & 2019 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV

The 2019 annual estimate for the number of homeless people in Southern Nevada is 14,114. This represents a 15.19% decrease (2,527 persons) from the 2018 annual estimate of 16,641 persons.

It's important to note that the HUD-approved method for determining annual estimates factors in the length of time homeless to determine annual inflow. Due to this methodology, it's entirely possible for the annual estimate to be lower than in previous years, while sections of the PIT total may be greater.

Three factors are used to determine the annual estimate:

1. A = The point-in-time enumeration of currently homeless people (found in the unsheltered and sheltered count).
2. B = The number of currently homeless people who have experienced homeless within the last 7 days.
3. 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 is:  $A + [(B \times 51) \times (1 - C)] = \text{Annual estimate}$**

### *Conditions: Sheltered/Unsheltered*

#### **59.98% of homeless persons in Southern Nevada were unsheltered.**

Between 2018 and 2019, unsheltered homelessness decreased by 17.09% (567 persons). When comparing the unsheltered totals to the overall homeless total relative to their year, there was a 3.9% decrease since 2018. In 2018, unsheltered homeless represented 63.85% of the entire homeless population (3,884 persons). In 2019, unsheltered homeless represented 59.98% of the entire homeless population (3,317 persons).

#### **40.01% of the persons enumerated in the PIT Count were in sheltered facilities.**

Between 2018 and 2019, sheltered homelessness increased by 00.63% (14 persons). In Southern Nevada, in the early morning of January, 23, 2019, 1,670 persons were in emergency shelters, 524 persons were in transitional housing, and 19 persons were in safe haven.

### *Survey Demographics*

**The majority of homeless individuals surveyed in Southern Nevada identified as White/Caucasian, and were of male gender.**

#### **Gender**

71.9% of survey respondents identified as male, 27.3% of respondents identified as female 0.9% of respondents identified as transgender; none of the respondents reported they don't identify as male, female, or transgender.

#### **Age**

In 2019, 6.8% of respondents were between the ages of 18 and 24. This represents a 4.8% increase from the number of homeless persons in this category in 2019 (2.0%).

#### **Race and Ethnicity**

- The majority of respondents identified their racial group as *White/Caucasian* (55.7%), and 33.1% identified as *Black/African American*. The fewest number of respondents identified as *Pacific Islander or Asian* (1.7%).
- 15.2% of respondents identified their ethnic group as *Hispanic/Latino*. 84.8% of respondents identified their ethnic group as *Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino*.

#### **Residency Prior to Homelessness**

The majority of survey respondents (68.9%) reported living in Clark County when they first became homeless.

### *HUD-Defined Households*

In 2019, there were 119 households with at least one adult and one child; homeless veterans comprised 1.6% (2 households) of this population. There were 4,747 households without children; homeless veterans comprised 11.5% (548 households) of this population. There were 292 households with only children (under the age of 18). There were 26 Parenting Youth Households, and there were 919 Unaccompanied Youth Households totaling 1,184 persons in 2019.

#### **Households with At Least One Adult & One Child**

- In 2019, 61.9% (212) of the homeless population living in households with at least one adult and one child were under the age of 18, 10.5% (36) were between the ages of 18-24, and 27.5% (94) were over the age of 24.

#### **Households without Children**

- In 2019, 18.01% (880) of the homeless population living in households without children were between the ages of 18-24, and the remaining population was over the age of 24.

#### **Households with Only Children**

- In 2019, there were 304 people in households with only children (under 18).

#### **Youth Households**

- In 2019, 21.41% (1,184 persons) of the entire point-in-time count total (5,530 persons) were Unaccompanied Young Adults (between ages 18-24) and Unaccompanied Children (under age 18).
- Out of the 33 Parenting Youths (youth parents only) enumerated, all were between the ages of 18 and 24. There were 34 children with these parenting youth, collectively.
- The 919 Unaccompanied Youth Households (1,184 total persons) were comprised of 304 Unaccompanied Children (under age 18) and 880 Unaccompanied Youth (ages 18-24).

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## Veterans

### Definition

For the purposes of homeless services, the VA recommends two questions to determine veteran status:

1. “Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?”
2. “Were you activated into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist?”

Therefore, for the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition for veteran is as follows:

*...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.*

### Survey and Point-in-Time Count Results

- 10.1% (557 persons) of the entire PIT Count total (5,530 persons) were veterans.
- There were only 2 households with one adult veteran and one child (0.4%) included in this total, the remaining were households without children (99.6%)
- 418 (75%) veterans were sheltered during this count, while 139 (25%) were unsheltered.
- 5.8% (20) of survey respondents were veterans. This is less than the percentage of veteran respondents in 2018 when 8.0% of survey respondents were veterans.
- The majority of homeless veterans reported they are White/Caucasian (50.1%) and 94.9% of veteran respondents are Non-Hispanic / Non-Latino.
- 55% reported at least one disabling condition.



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### *Causes, Occurrence, and Duration of Homelessness*

- 57.6% survey respondents cited job loss as the primary cause of their homelessness, making it the primary cause of homelessness for the majority of this population. 1.4% of survey respondents cited aging out of foster care as their reason for homelessness.
- 45.2% of survey respondents reported that they were homeless for the first time, and 17.9% of survey respondents reported that they had been homeless four or more times in the last three years. 55.1% of the 2019 survey respondents reported that they had been homeless for a year or more since their last housing situation; this is one criterion included in the HUD definition of chronic homelessness.
- The majority of survey respondents (68.9%) reported living in Clark County when they most recently became homeless, and the majority (55.3%) of survey respondents reported that they were renting a home or apartment prior to becoming homeless.

### *Income, Employment, & Circumstances Preventing Permanent Housing*

- 76.6% of survey respondents reported they were experiencing *unemployment* at the time of the survey.
- The majority of respondents cited No Job/no income (76.6%) or inability to afford rent (58.1%) as their primary obstacle to obtaining permanent housing.

### *Utilization of Government Assistance & Programs*

- In 2019, the most commonly used service/assistance was Free Meals (59.9%).
- Of the respondents receiving government assistance, 75.8% were receiving food stamps, 10.6% were receiving SSI/SSDI assistance, and 5.4% were receiving social security.

### *Medical*

- In 2019, 16.9% of homeless respondents indicated that since they most recently became homeless they had needed medical care but had been unable to receive it compared to 21% that felt they were unable to receive necessary medical care in 2018.
- From 2018 to 2019, the number of homeless individuals reporting chronic health conditions increased from approximately 40.5% to 42.4%.
- 44.2% reported one or more disabling conditions.

According to *Section 223 of the Social Security Act*, multiple physical and mental conditions are considered disabling to homeless individuals, preventing them from obtaining work or housing. These conditions include:

- Physical Disabilities
- Mental Illness
- Severe Depression
- Alcohol or drug abuse
- Chronic Health Problems
- HIV/AIDS
- Tuberculosis
- Hepatitis C
- Trauma
- Developmental Disabilities

### *Incarceration*

- 4.0% of survey respondents reported they were incarcerated immediately before becoming homeless this time, and 11.0% of respondents cited incarceration as one of the top three reasons for their homelessness. 4.6% of homeless respondents indicated their criminal record was preventing them from securing permanent housing, and 8.6% indicated that their criminal record was preventing them from obtaining employment.
- The majority (69.7%) of survey respondents had spent no nights in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey. 17.9% of survey respondents reported spending one separate term in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey, and 2.3% of survey respondents reported spending six or more separate terms in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey.

### *HUD-Defined Homeless Subpopulations\**

#### **Chronically Homeless Individuals**

##### *Definition:*

*For purposes of reporting in the PIT count, a chronically homeless person; 1) is homeless and lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; 2) has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years where the combined length of time homeless in those occasions is at least 12 months; and 3) can be diagnosed with one or more of the following conditions: substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability (as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C 15002)), post-traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments resulting from brain injury, or chronic physical illness or disability.*

- On any given night in 2019, it is estimated that Southern Nevada has approximately 622 chronically homeless individuals. This is a 23.1% (117 persons) increase since 2018 (505).
- The estimated number of chronically homeless individuals in Southern Nevada in 2019 represents 11.2% of the total 2019 Southern Nevada point-in-time homeless population.

### **Chronically Homeless Veteran Individuals**

#### **Definition:**

*Any individual who meets the definition for Chronically Homeless Individual and 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.*

- 2019 census data indicated that 5.9% of veterans experiencing homelessness on the night of the PIT count (54 persons) identified as chronically homeless.
- Of the chronically homeless veteran individuals, 37.9% (33 persons) were unsheltered.

### **Adults with Serious Mental Illness**

#### **Definition**

*This subpopulation category includes persons with mental health problems that are expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.*

- 77.6% of the survey respondents reported experiencing mental illness.
- 59.7% have experienced a life threatening event in their lifetime.

### **Adults with Substance Use Disorder**

#### **Definition**

*This category includes persons with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both) that is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.*

- 13.1% of the survey respondents reported to be currently experiencing alcohol or drug abuse at the time of the survey. This represents a decrease compared to 2018, when 38.9% of respondents cited problems with alcohol/drug abuse.

### **Adults with HIV/AIDS**

#### **Definition**

*This subpopulation category includes persons who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.*

- Of the total 2018 Southern Nevada point-in-time homeless population, 0.7% were experiencing HIV or AIDS related illnesses. This percentage is lower than the percentage reported in 2018 (1.3%).

### **Victims of Domestic Violence**

#### **Definition**

*This subpopulation category includes adults who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking at any point in the past.*

- Of the total 2019 Southern Nevada point-in-time homeless population, 6.4% were considered victims of domestic violence. This represents a 5% decrease from 2018.

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## Conclusion

The 2019 Southern Nevada Homeless PIT Count identified 5,530 homeless persons in Southern Nevada. Of these persons, 40.0% (2,213 persons) were sheltered, and 60.0% (3,317 persons) were unsheltered.

Inherent difficulties are associated with any methodology that is applied to enumerating homeless persons, and these difficulties warrant careful consideration when evaluating totals such as those presented in this report. For example, many homeless persons (especially women and children) are eliminated from the total count as they typically are afraid of being located, often for safety reasons. Thus, many reside in locations that make them undetectable to enumeration teams. Even the most systematic and comprehensive methodologies fall short of gathering entirely representative numbers that reflect the true homeless population.

Data from shelters to inform the number and demographics of individuals in shelter beds is pulled directly out of HMIS. This process relies heavily on Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing and Safe Havens to enter data into HMIS in real time in order for those individuals to be captured. It is up to these providers to verify that data is entered accurately and completely. This dependence on HMIS and real time data entry has the ability to greatly affect the data the CoC is able to obtain and how numbers are accurately reported. The SNH CoC is continuously striving to improve its processes including data collection, should an opportunity present where improvements can be made our continuum jumps at that opportunity.

The same careful consideration should be applied to the analysis of the Homeless Survey data. While the extrapolation method has proven to be reliable, and is considered the standard method of estimating the subpopulation totals, it must be emphasized that this method produces estimates that vary in their representativeness of the actual sample population.

However, despite these challenges, the 2019 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey provides both valid and useful data, creating a more comprehensive view of the nature and scope of homelessness in Southern Nevada in 2019. The fact that the same methodology (with minor adjustments), characterized by the same difficulties, has been used since 2007 enables Southern Nevada to continue tracking key patterns and trends amongst their homeless population. This consistent approach continues to highlight the changing conditions of homelessness in this region, so that necessary action can be taken to improve the livelihood of these homeless persons. Through its impact on the policy-makers in Southern Nevada, this report will allow for more constructive and innovative solutions to be applied to the problem of homelessness.

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\* United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (September 2017) Notice CPD-17-08: Notice for Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program.



# Homelessness in Southern Nevada

## 2019 Homeless Point-In-Time Count & Survey

Every year 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 Southern Nevada Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on January 23, 2019. The entire county was canvassed by teams of volunteers. In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness in order to profile their experience and characteristics.

# 5,530

Total number of persons experiencing homelessness



60%

Unsheltered

40%

Sheltered

Subpopulations

88% Single Adults

6% Families with Children

22% Unaccompanied Youth

10% Veterans

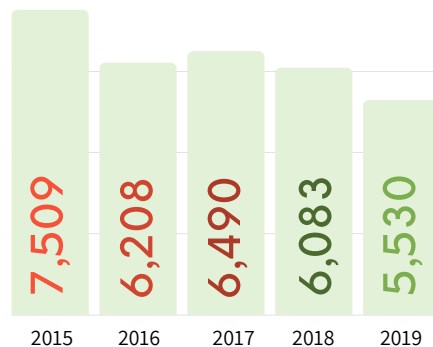
\*These groups are not mutually exclusive

# 14,114

will experience homelessness in our community at some point this year

9% decrease in the number of individuals counted during the PIT census between 2018 and 2019

Total Number of Individuals Counted During the PIT Census



## Unsheltered Survey Results

45%

Experiencing homelessness for the first time

### Top 5 Causes of Homelessness

- 1 Lost Job or Unemployment
- 2 Alcohol or Drug Abuse
- 3 Mental Health Issues
- 4 Asked to Leave Family or Friends' Home
- 5 Illness or Medical Problems

68%

Lived in Southern Nevada at the time they first experienced homelessness

## Top 5 Barriers to Housing Stability

1 Lack of Employment or Income

2 Inability to Afford Rent

3 Inability to Afford Move In Costs

4 Housing is Unavailable

5 Lack of Transportation

44%

of survey respondents self reported 1 or more disabling conditions

(Multiple response question)



Physical/Medical

67%



Mental Health

48%



Substance Abuse

13%



Developmental

4%



HIV/AIDS

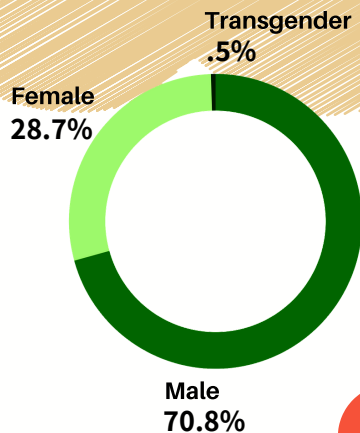
.07%

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# 2019 Southern Nevada Point-In-Time Results

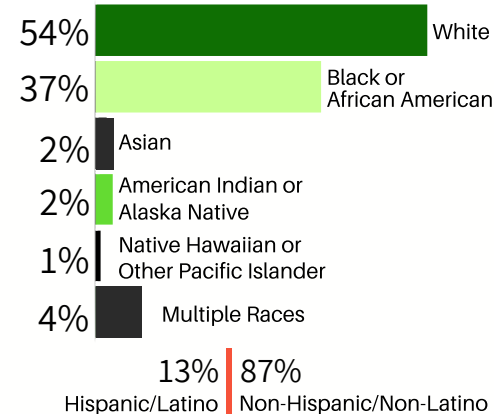
**91%**

Emergency shelters were nearly full on the night of the PIT Count.



**5,530**

People were experiencing homelessness in Southern Nevada on January 23, 2019



**60%**

**3,317**

were unsheltered

**40%**

**2,213**

were sheltered

**5%**

**284**

in tunnels

**51%**

**2,801**

on the street, outdoors, vehicles, desert, encampments

**4%**

**232**

Courtyard Resource Center

**30%**

**1,670**

in Emergency Shelter

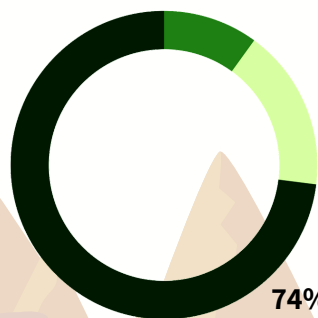
**10%**

**543**

in Transitional Housing/Safe Haven

Children (Under 18)

**9%**



Transition Aged Youth (18-24)

**17%**

**74%**  
Adults (Over 24)



**342**

individuals were in Families with Children



**1,184**

individuals were unaccompanied youth and young adults



**557**

individuals were Veterans



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# Homelessness in Southern Nevada

## Chronic Homelessness

622

ON  
ANY  
GIVEN  
NIGHT

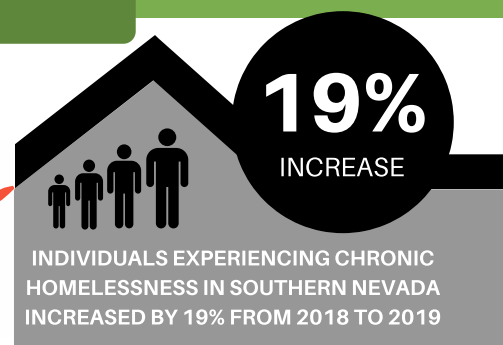
IT IS ESTIMATED  
THAT 622  
INDIVIDUALS ARE  
EXPERIENCING  
CHRONIC  
HOMELESSNESS IN  
SOUTHERN NEVADA



People who are **CHRONICALLY** homeless have **EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS** for **AT LEAST A YEAR** – or repeatedly – while struggling with a **DISABLING CONDITION** such as a serious mental illness, substance use disorder, or physical disability.

25%

of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness are unsheltered



I made a good living in the internet marketing industry and had a condo in Summerlin. Life was good. In 2016, in a matter of 6 months I lost nine of my family members; my mom, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, two of my cousins, and my dad. Then, on the day of dad's funeral my son was killed in a car accident. My entire family was gone. I guess you could say, my cheese fell off my cracker. I lost my mind, then my job, and then my home. I began using meth to cope. I became homeless and have lived on the streets for the last three years. I've been beaten, stabbed, and robbed. My dog was stolen. A few months ago, I was ready to end my own life. I was standing on an overpass, when a police officer I've come to know well, stopped me and reminded me that my life is not over yet. I checked myself into the VA hospital and got clean. I've been clean for 120 days while staying at U.S.VETS and the Salvation Army. Now, I'm getting ready to move into an apartment through the VA's HUD-VASH program. I'll never use again. My life is most definitely not over yet.

-Howard

Most  
commonly  
occurring  
disabling  
conditions



48%

Mental  
Illness  
Depression  
PTSD  
Schizophrenia



41%

Physical/  
Medical  
Cancer  
COPD  
Diabetes



4%

Substance  
Abuse  
Disorders



2%

HIV/  
AIDS



2%

Developmental  
Disorders

## Ending Chronic Homelessness

Permanent supportive housing, which pairs a housing subsidy with case management and supportive services, is a proven solution to chronic homelessness. It has been shown to not only help people experiencing chronic homelessness achieve long-term housing stability, but also improve their health and well-being.

### What Causes Chronic Homelessness?

People experiencing chronic homelessness typically have complex and long-term health conditions, such as mental illness, physical disabilities, and/or substance abuse disorders. Regardless, of what immediately caused them to lose their housing, once they become homeless, these conditions can make it difficult for them to get into housing, and they can face lengthy or repeated episodes of homelessness.

You can help by joining Built for Zero and investing funds towards more Permanent Supportive Housing for people who are chronically homeless. Investing in supportive housing saves money and lives! Learn more at <http://builtforzerosn.org/>

**Built For Zero.** | Southern Nevada



Help Hope Home

# Homelessness in Southern Nevada

## Families with Children Homelessness



These families are living in a place not meant for humans to live, such as in a car or on the street, or are staying in an emergency shelter or transitional housing

**On any given night**  
families with children are homeless in Southern Nevada on any given night.

**50%**

of homeless families surveyed in Southern Nevada reported at least one disabling condition.

**93%**

of homeless mothers experienced at least one trauma, according to a national study.

**81%**

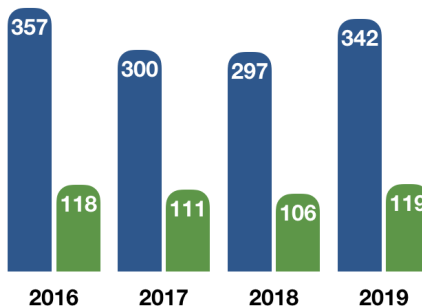
of homeless mothers experienced multiple traumatic events with violent victimization being the most common, according to a national study.



In Hawaii my husband and I worked two jobs each, but because of the cost of living we still struggled to make ends meet for our family of eight. We decided to follow my brother to Las Vegas where it is more affordable to live. Soon after moving here, I began working and learned I was pregnant. Towards the end of my pregnancy, my employer let me go due to the time I requested off to attend doctor appointments. Our baby arrived early due to the stress I was under. Soon after, our savings was quickly used up and we became homeless. We were provided with emergency shelter by Family Promise, and within a week I started a new job. We were given a month of rental assistance which helped us secure an apartment and get back on our feet. Today I work 75 hours a week between two jobs, and my husband provides care for our 7 children at home. It's difficult for him to find good-paying work due to a conviction he had in the past, and for us to afford childcare. We named our newborn girl Miracle, because despite all we faced during my pregnancy with her, we are blessed that she is healthy. We're so grateful for the help we received, that we want to do our part to give back. This Easter we hosted an egg hunt for our neighbors and gave out school supplies and candy. We want to keep doing all we can to give back, while saving up to move into a home in a safer neighborhood.

-Mary

Individuals in Households  
Households



## Leading causes

- Lost Job
- Divorce or Separated
- Asked to leave by family/friend
- Landlord sold home/stopped renting

**50%**

50% of families reported they were experiencing homelessness for the first time.

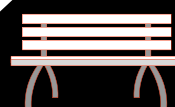
Before experiencing homelessness, 50% of families were living in a home they rented/owned and 50% were staying with friends or relatives.

At the time they became homeless, 50% of families reported they were living in Clark County.

**\$18.85**

Lack of affordable housing places low-income families at risk. For a single-earner family to afford a two-bedroom apartment at fair market rent in Nevada, they would need to earn at least \$18.85/hour.

On any given night  
**56,342**  
families with children experience homelessness in the United States.



585 families entered into homelessness

1,971 families (6,384 individuals) were permanently housed



**Ending Family Homelessness in 2018**

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Data Sources: 2019 Southern Nevada Census and Survey Data; 2018 Annual Homeless Census Report to Congress; 2019 Out of Reach Report, National Low Income Housing Coalition; National Center on Family Homelessness.





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# Homelessness in Southern Nevada

## Youth Homelessness

# 1,184

On any given night, there are 1,184 unaccompanied youth who are homeless in Southern Nevada.



I was a junior in high school when I found out my mom had become addicted to drugs. Later that year we lost our home and were in and out of weekly motels and family members' homes. The first day we were homeless I was scheduled to take my ACTs. I sat looking at the test, and thought, "What am I doing here? I don't have a future." Some nights I would have nowhere to go, so I would just ride the bus all night. During my senior year of high school I moved in with my friend and her family. At first my mom tried to stop me, but eventually she signed over guardianship. I was so happy on that day because I no longer feared that my mom and her addiction could interfere with my success. Next year, with support from the HOPE Scholars Program, I will graduate from UNLV with my Bachelors Degree. I'm applying for grad school to get my Masters Degree in Public Administration. I plan to start a nonprofit to help homeless youth. I didn't experience homelessness because of me, but I believe I experienced homelessness for me to make a difference and create change for other young people. Today I'm an advocate and have helped to pass statewide legislation to help homeless youth through my role on the Young Adults in Charge (YAC) Youth Action Board. I know this is just the beginning of the change I can make to end youth homelessness.

-Theresa

Nevada has the highest incidence rate of youth homelessness in the Nation

**82%** of homeless unaccompanied youth are unsheltered in Southern Nevada on any given night

**22%** of the total homeless population on any given night are unaccompanied youth

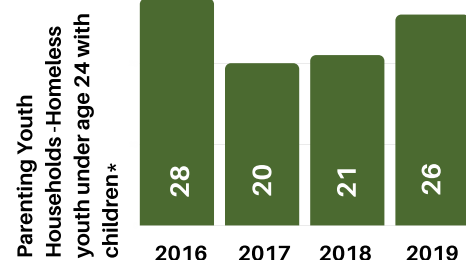
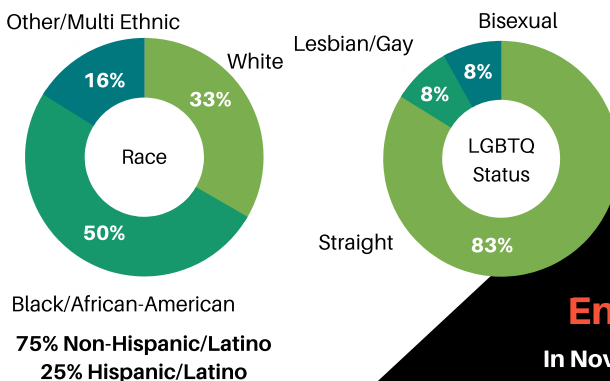
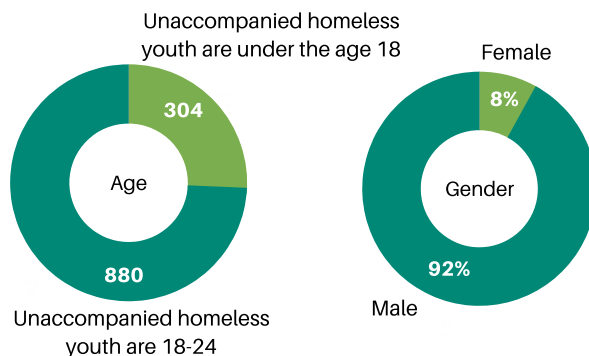
**25%** report their parent or caregiver was homeless

**17%** report they have experienced physical or emotional abuse

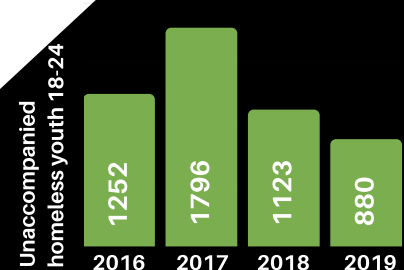
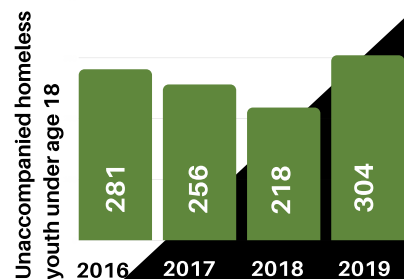
**8%** report neglect.

### Leading causes

- Kicked out of family/friends homes
- Lost job
- Family/Domestic Violence



\*this number is not reflected in the overall youth number since they are included in the family count



### Ending Youth Homelessness

In November 2018, the Southern Nevada Plan to End Youth Homelessness was released. Join the movement to end youth homelessness and put the plan into action. <https://nphy.org/themovement>

**bethemovement**  
to end youth homelessness in Southern Nevada



557 individuals self-identified as Veterans during the 2019 PIT Census

# 75%

OF HOMELESS VETERANS WERE SHELTERED DURING THE 2019 PIT CENSUS



I was born and raised here in Las Vegas. I joined the Marines to stay out of trouble, but trouble still found me. Violence changes you, ya know? It shakes you up the first time, but like anything in life, even bad things, the more you do something, the more normal it becomes. After I left the Marines, I was a carpenter for thirty-five years. But I was in and out of trouble with the law, and struggled off and on with addiction and homelessness. Sometimes, it was easier to just live out in the desert by myself. It's easy to camp for extended periods when you're a Marine. But now I'm getting to be an old man, and it's not so easy. I've had to learn to control my anger and get help for my depression. I've been sober for over a year, and am getting an apartment through the VA's HUD-VASH program. I hope my story might help some other Vets get the help they need too.

-Scott

## Leading Causes

- Landlord sold property/stopped renting
- Alcohol/Drug Use
- Lost job
- Landlord raised rent
- Divorced/Seperated
- Mental Health related issues

# 75%

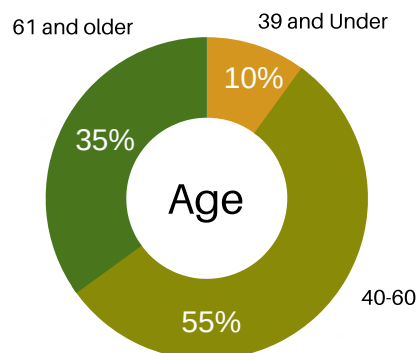
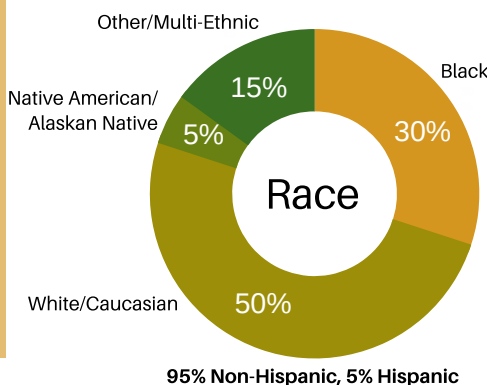
of homeless veterans surveyed report they have a disabling condition

The following **Disabling Conditions** were reported:

**45%** Physical/Medical

**18%** Mental Health

**9%** Substance Abuse



# URGENT NEED



Greatest shortage  
in the U.S.

Nevada has the greatest shortage of affordable housing for Extremely Low Income (ELI) households in the Nation.

Only **19** for  
Every **100**

Nevada has the greatest shortage among states in the Nation with only 19 available affordable units for every 100 ELI households.

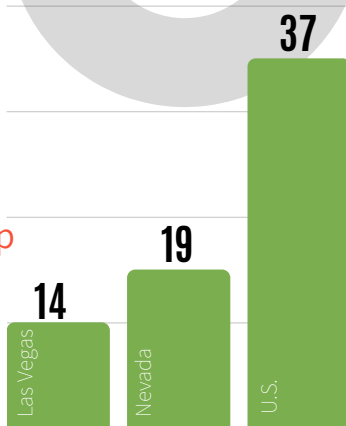
**-73,158**

the shortage of affordable and available rental homes for extremely low income renters

### ELI: Extremely Low Income

In Nevada, a family of four is considered extremely low income when earning \$24,300 or less a year.

79% of extremely low income households are severely cost burdened by rent.

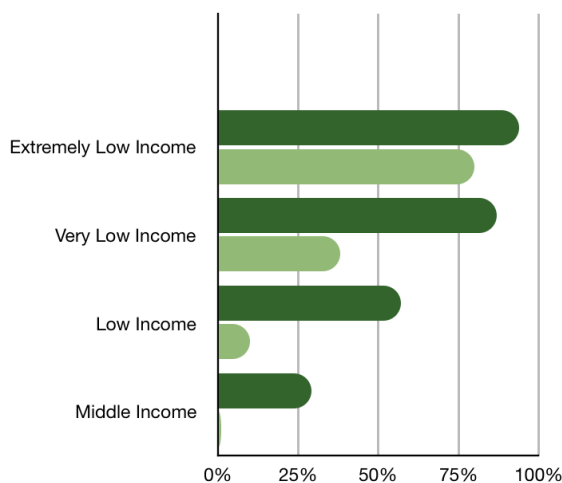


**\$18.85 per hour**  
just for rent

In Nevada, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment is \$980 per month. In order to afford this level of rent and utilities, without paying more than 30% of income on housing, a household must earn \$3,266 monthly or \$39,198 annually. Assuming a 40-hour work week at 52 weeks per year, this level of income translates to an hour housing wage of \$18.85 per hour.

### Housing Cost Burden by Income Group

■ Cost Burdened ■ Severely Cost Burdened



Nevada has the worst shortage of affordable and available rental homes in the nation. For every **100** homes needed, only **19** are available Statewide. The shortage is even greater in Las Vegas with only **14** available units for every **100** affordable homes needed. The National average is **37**.

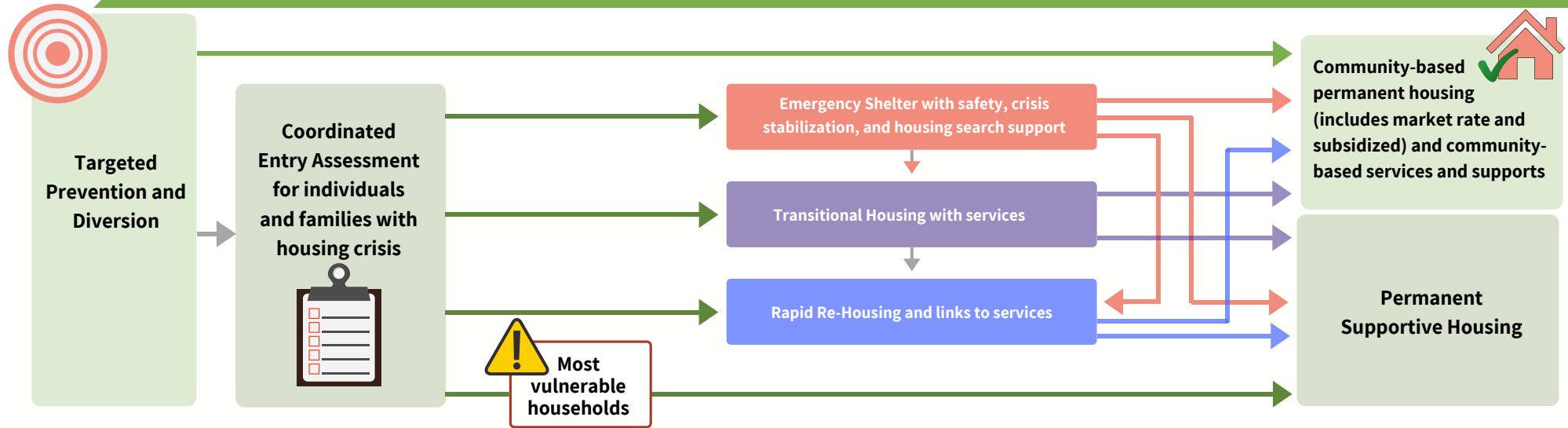
### Statewide efforts to address the crisis

In 2019 the Nevada State Legislature enacted legislation that:

- Created the Nevada Affordable Housing Tax Credit Program
- Reduces/subsidizes impact fees to lower the cost of affordable housing construction
- Establishes the Advisory Committee on Housing
- Improves data-collection efforts on affordable housing needs

More work is needed at the local, state, and federal level to build and preserve affordable housing, and to reduce the gap between low wages and high housing costs.

# Southern Nevada Homeless Response System



## Individual/Families Service Interventions

Prevention & Diversion	Outreach	Coordinated Entry	Emergency Shelter	Bridge Housing	Transitional Housing	Rapid Re-Housing	Permanent Supportive Housing
<p><b>Prevention:</b> Preventing a housed person from becoming homeless.</p> <p><b>Diversion:</b> A strategy that diverts people from entering the homeless system, such as helping them identify immediate alternative arrangements.</p>	<p>Individuals/Families are connected to emergency shelter, coordinated entry, and other appropriate services through mobile street outreach teams, events, SafePlace sites, and resource/drop-in centers.</p>	<p>Individuals/families complete an assessment at a Coordinated Entry Site to be matched to an appropriate housing program among all homeless service agencies in the system, based on their need and vulnerability.</p>	<p>Designated space to sleep that provides safe, secure, violent-free place for persons and families who would otherwise be living on the streets.</p>	<p>Provide immediate temporary housing and services for individuals and families eligible for housing programs.</p>	<p>Temporary housing with supportive services to facilitate a household's successful movement to permanent housing.</p>	<p>Provides short-or medium-term rental assistance and targeted supportive services to help individuals/families achieve and maintain housing stability as quickly as possible.</p>	<p>Pairs a housing subsidy with intensive case management and robust supportive services.</p>





Help Hope Home

# Regional Response to End Homelessness

Help Hope Home is the Southern Nevada Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC), an inter-agency regional planning body committed to ending homelessness. Through the CoC, cross-sector collaboration occurs between local governments, non-profits, public, and private industries to develop and implement the regional plan to end homelessness in Southern Nevada.



## What We're Doing

### Regional Plan



#### Help

Building a community-wide commitment to the goals of ending homelessness and the infrastructure for collaboration



#### Hope

Increasing access to and effectiveness of mainstream programs



#### Home

Providing funding to rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families. Optimizing self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness

**Help Hope Home is Southern Nevada's coordinated regional plan to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time.**

### Building the System

Goal: Make Homelessness Rare, Brief, and One-time

#### Rare

Reduce the occurrence of homelessness through effective prevention and diversion efforts

#### Brief

Reduce the length of time people experience homelessness through comprehensive outreach, low barrier emergency shelter, coordinated entry and swift connections to permanent housing

#### One-Time

Ensure people exit homelessness into permanent housing, stably and successfully

## Take Action on Our Plans to End Homelessness:

**Regional Plans:** Help Hope Home and the Southern Nevada Plan to End Youth Homelessness

**Statewide Plan:** Nevada Interagency Council on Homelessness Statewide Strategic Plan

**Federal:** Home, Together: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness

Find these plans at [HelpHopeHome.org](http://HelpHopeHome.org)

## What You Can Do



### Rent or Hire

- If you're a landlord, partner to provide housing
- If you're an employer, partner to fill jobs



### Share

- Volunteer your time at a homeless service agency
- Donate goods, services, or money to partner agencies assisting the homeless
- View a list of project ideas at [www.NevadaHomelessAlliance.org/GiveHelp](http://www.NevadaHomelessAlliance.org/GiveHelp)



### Speak Up

- Talk to your friends, family, and co-workers about homelessness. If you agree that homelessness is a crisis, get others involved
- Retweet or post stories from @HelpHopeHome
- Sign-up for action alerts from the Nevada Homeless Alliance

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## APPENDIX I: METHODOLOGY

The following summary of methodology is divided into two sections; the first section details the methodology applied to the Point-in-Time Count and the second section details the methodology applied to the Homeless Survey.

### Point in Time Count Census Methodology

The PIT Count methodology is divided into two components: Street Count and Shelter Count.\*

The Street Count is the enumeration of unsheltered homeless individuals. For the purposes of this study, the 2018 HUD definition of an unsheltered homeless individual is as follows:

*This includes individuals and families “with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground” on the night designated for the count.*

The Shelter Count is the enumeration of sheltered homeless individuals. For the purposes of this study, the 2019 HUD definition of a sheltered homeless individual is as follows:

*This includes individuals and families “living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state or local government programs for low-income individuals)” on the night designated for the count. This includes individuals residing in Safe Have projects.*

The Street Count and the Shelter Count were conducted during the same time period to minimize the potential for duplicate counting of homeless persons.

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\* United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (September 2017) Notice CPD-17-08: Notice for Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program. (Source for both sheltered homelessness and unsheltered homelessness)

*In order to generate data that is comparable to previous reports, the methodology outlined in this section closely parallels the methodology of previous years. Therefore, the information in this section is partially derived from Applied Survey Research 2014 Southern Nevada Homeless Census And Survey Appendix V: Homeless Census And Survey Methodology.*

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## Street Count Methodology

### *Research Design:*

Persons residing in the following were NOT included in the 2019 PIT Count per HUD.

- Persons residing in Permanent Supportive housing (PSH) programs, including persons housed using HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers.
- Persons residing in Rapid Re-Housing for Homeless Families Demonstration (RRHD) projects, funded in the FY2008 CoC Competition.
- Persons counted in any location not listed on the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) (e.g., staying in projects with beds/units not dedicated for persons who are homeless).
- Persons temporarily staying with family or friends (i.e., “doubled-up” or “couch surfing”).
- Persons residing in housing they rent or own (i.e., permanent housing), including persons residing in rental housing with assistance from an RRH project on the night of the count.
- Persons residing in institutions (e.g., jails, juvenile correction facilities, foster care, hospital beds, or detox centers).

### *Enumerators:*

In order to properly enumerate a homeless population of such substantial size as that of Southern Nevada, individuals with an intimate knowledge of the typical activities and location of homeless persons are imperative. Thus, it is necessary to recruit and train individuals who have or are experiencing homelessness to work as enumerators. These Navigators are an invaluable component of the street count methodology.

In order to participate in the Street Count as a Navigator, homeless individuals were required to attend a one-hour information and training session. During the week prior to the street count, training sessions were held at various locations throughout Southern Nevada.

Navigators, staff from homeless service agencies and government entities, volunteers from the community, and various staff from Southern Nevada attended the enumeration trainings. Members of the Clark County Social Service trained these teams of navigators, staff, and volunteers prior to the PIT count. Deployment captains were chosen to provide observation, guidance, and in- the-field training.

During each training session, the trainer presented techniques and methods that would be utilized to enumerate the homeless population during the street count.

Teams of at least two persons were created prior to deployment. In areas that utilized Navigators, each Homeless Navigator was grouped with at least one volunteer. This combination has been proven to be particularly effective for the Street Count, as both the Navigator and the volunteer possess unique knowledge and expertise that can be applied to working in the field.

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### *Street Count Procedure*

#### *Precautions*

Significant efforts were implemented to avoid potentially hazardous situations. A safe environment was created in all deployment centers, and law enforcement officials in each jurisdiction were notified of the pending PIT Count that was to take place in their jurisdictions.

#### *Preparation*

Using a full canvassing technique, the enumeration was conducted in the late night hours of January 22, 2019. The enumeration teams achieved 96% coverage of existing census tracts

After the teams were created, each team was provided with a census tract map outlining the particular area to which they were assigned. They were also given a review document highlighting the enumeration techniques, a tally sheet, and other supplies. Shortly before each team deployed to their assigned locations, the leaders conducted a brief review of the enumeration techniques, emphasizing the importance of not disturbing the homeless persons during the enumeration.

#### *Street Count Deployment:*

The 8,091 square mile area that comprises Southern Nevada is divided into 487 federally designated census tracts. Each team received official census maps that identified tract boundaries. In order to collect comprehensive data from each census tract, PIT organizers established numerous deployment stations throughout the valley.

The enumeration was conducted on January 23, 2018, and was divided into two sections: urban and rural. Both count deployments occurred in the late night/early morning hours. More specifically, the deployment assigned to the urban sections of Southern Nevada was deployed at 10pm pm the night of January 22nd, 2019. In order to minimize duplications, both teams collected enumeration data within a 31-hour period.

The deployment team assigned to the tunnels and rural sections of Southern Nevada was deployed at 5am on the morning of January 23, 2018. The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department utilized infrared technology to focus on the unpopulated areas of these rural sections. The Clark County Public Response Office enumerated populated areas. The early morning hours are the optimum time to obtain an accurate count of unsheltered homeless persons in these areas.

The enumeration teams included the community partners, volunteers, and jurisdictional staff. This team canvassed all accessible highways, streets, and roads in the census tracts using vehicles, or traveling by foot. The majority of workers and volunteers were transported to and from assigned census tracts via personal or agency vehicles.

In partnership with CCSD, teams collected data for homeless children and youth during daylight hours. At 8am on the morning of January 23, 2019, CCSD gathered data for those children attending school. Simultaneously, teams targeted all youth not present in classrooms. These teams canvassed areas frequented by homeless youth (e.g. parks, malls, libraries, recreation centers). This co-occurring count strategy ensured little to no duplicative enumeration of homeless unaccompanied children and youth.

Each person identified as homeless within the assigned census tracts was tallied according to the following household categories outlined below.

For the purposes of this report, the following definitions were used for household, individual, family, and a household with only children:

<b>Household</b>	Occupants may be a family, as defined in 24 CFR 5.403; two or more families living together; or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements, regardless of actual or perceived, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.
<b>Individuals</b>	Persons in a household without children
<b>Family</b>	Persons in households with at least one adult (over age 18) and one child (under age 18).
<b>Only Children</b>	Persons in households composed of only children

Beginning in 2015, HUD guidance required CoCs to enumerate Youth Households. CoCs are now required to report the total number of youth households (persons under age 25), including the race, ethnicity, and gender data for parenting youth and unaccompanied youth counted.

Pertinent definitions are as follows:

<b>Parenting Youth</b>	Youth who identify as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household. Parenting youth is limited to persons in households where there is no adult parent or guardian over age 24 in the household.
<b>Unaccompanied Youth</b>	Unaccompanied youth are persons under age 25 who are not presenting or sleeping in the same place as their parent or legal guardian, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ single youth</li> <li>▪ youth couples</li> <li>▪ groups of youth presenting as a household.</li> </ul>

For purposes of reporting in the PIT, parenting youth are distinct from unaccompanied youth.

For each of the following types of households, the number of persons in each household were reported by age category (under age 18, age 18-24, over age 24).

- Total Number of Households
- Total Number of One-Child Households
- Total Number of Multi-Child Households
- Number of Children in Multi-Child Households

Once each team had completed the enumeration process, they returned to their designated deployment station and submitted their census tally forms to the deployment station captains. Deployment station captains then debriefed each deployment team, and provided any necessary clarification, explanation, and validation of data. Each team was provided time to discuss and comment on the enumeration process, providing information regarding the integrity of the 2019 enumeration effort. Reviews were conducted to check for duplicate counting, and to ensure that all accessible portions of each census tract had been enumerated. Deployment station captains, or designated staff person then entered all data from the census tally forms into the electronic PIT Module (Surveus).

### *Efforts Undertaken to Ensure Enumeration Accuracy*

#### **Accurately Determining Homeless Status By Observation**

Homeless enumeration is a difficult task, and undercounting is a prominent possibility. Despite the difficulties associated with enumerating the unsheltered homeless population of Southern Nevada, all people, vehicles, abandoned buildings, and encampments were reported to be visually observable by the enumeration teams. This observation-only method enables the PIT Count officials to claim the results of the count to be as accurate and valid as possible. The members of the enumeration teams, especially the Homeless Navigators, claimed that they had no difficulty identifying homeless individuals and differentiating them from members of the general population. Therefore, although there are no means by which the PIT Count officials can guarantee that those enumerated are indeed homeless, they can state that all possible measures were undertaken to ensure the accuracy and validity of the count.

#### **Avoiding Duplicate Counting**

Numerous precautions were implemented into the design of the PIT Count to avoid duplicate counting of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons. The count took place during a targeted timeframe when sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals are least likely to co-mingle. Additionally, volunteers and Navigators were instructed to refrain from engaging in direct contact with the enumerated homeless persons; they were instructed to maintain an observation-only approach. Also, the census and survey were at different times; administering both in tandem would have increased the amount of time each portion would take, thus increasing the likelihood of duplicate counting.

#### **Enumerating Unaccompanied Homeless Youth & Parenting Youth**

For numerous reasons, homeless youth are particularly difficult to enumerate. The homeless youth population typically refrains from co-mingling with the homeless adult population, and tends to reside in places that make enumeration difficult. To overcome these enumeration barriers, specialized youth enumeration teams were created. These teams consisted of homeless youth and formerly homeless youth. The homeless youth population was enumerated at a later time than the unsheltered homeless adults. They were enumerated from 8am to 2pm while homeless unaccompanied youth are more likely to be visible on the streets during school hours. Volunteers and Navigators were then assigned census tract locations post- facto before being included in the overall countywide enumeration results.

In addition to the above enumeration processes, the Clark County School District reported all students who reported to be homeless. Only those students who matched the HUD definition for literally homeless were included in the final count.



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## Shelter Count Methodology

### *Purpose:*

The purpose of the Shelter Count was to enumerate homeless persons who are temporarily residing in Southern Nevada shelters and transitional housing. The data obtained from this count was used to capture an overall count of homeless persons in Southern Nevada, and an appraisal of where these homeless persons seek shelter.

It is important to note that the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for Nevada was used to generate data for shelter participants participating in the HMIS. Data from shelters to inform the number and demographics of individuals in shelter beds is pulled directly out of HMIS. This process relies heavily on Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing and Safe Havens to enter data into HMIS in real time in order for those individuals to be captured. It is up to these providers to verify that data is entered accurately and completely. This dependence on HMIS and real time data entry has the ability to greatly affect the data the CoC is able to obtain and how numbers are accurately reported. The SNH CoC is continuously striving to improve its processes including data collection. At the end of the count, it is verified through Provider Program Staff that their HMIS data was complete and correct for the night, including correct exit dates for all persons who exited the provider program on or before the date of the PIT. Shelters included the following HUD defined housing category types:

## HUD-Defined Shelter Housing Types

### *Emergency Shelters*

- All emergency shelters funded by HUD ESG and/or other federal, state and local public and private sources.
- Hotel/Motel Vouchers paid for by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals
- All VA-funded HCHV/EH and HCHV/RT provider programs including VA Community Contract
- Emergency Housing (HCHV/EH) and Health Care for Homeless Veterans VA Community
- Contract Residential Treatment Program (HCHV/RT)

### *Transitional Housing*

- HUD-funded transitional housing projects renewing in 2018 CoC competition
- All transitional housing provider programs funded by HUD SHP still operating, but not renewing in 2018 CoC competition
- All transitional housing provider programs for homeless persons funded by other Federal, State, and local public and private sources that do not use the RRH model
- VA-funded transitional housing provider programs, including: VA Grant and Per Diem (prefix GPD)
- VA Compensated Work Therapy – Transitional Residence (prefix CWT/TR)

### *Safe Haven Programs*

- All Safe Haven provider programs funded by HUD
- All VA-funded Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) VA
- Community Contract Safe Haven Program (prefix HCHV/SH)

---

*Research Design & Data Collection:*

All persons who matched the following criteria were included in the Shelter Count:

- Entered on or before the date of the count
- Exited after the date of the count (or have not yet exited)

The primary task of the Shelter Count was to collect all data generated by each agency from the HMIS on the night of January 23, 2019, with the exception of domestic violence providers, who are not permitted to enter data into HMIS; these domestic violence providers sent in manual counts.

### **Persons in Tunnels**

*Persons in Tunnels*

Since 2011, special enumeration teams have been strategically formed to target the tunnels and washes in Southern Nevada. These teams consist of outreach workers who are familiar with the tunnels and their occupants, as well as formerly homeless individuals who once occupied the tunnels. In 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 such teams were formed, however, due to rain and risk of flooding, this enumeration was limited. As in 2018, weather was not an issue during the 2019 count. For 2019, 284 persons were enumerated.

### **PIT Count Census Challenges & Assumptions of Annual Estimation**

*Challenges:*

Homeless enumeration is challenging for any community; Southern Nevada, however, presents its own unique set of challenges. Homeless individuals, in general, do not want to be visible; they make concerted efforts to avoid detection. Therefore, regardless of the methodology or the amount of effort placed into the outreach, the final enumeration total will still be considered an undercount.

Although academically sound, the Southern Nevada Census effort was still subject to the innate challenges of enumerating homeless populations. The non-intrusive, point-in-time, visual homeless enumeration techniques were still hindered by inherent biases and shortcomings. Several of the challenges enumerators face are discussed below.

*Large & Diverse Community with Difficult Access:*

Southern Nevada is a large community filled with a diverse population. It is composed of large commercial districts, suburbs, and a vast amount of outlying rural counties. Most homeless persons tend to remain close to the homeless shelters and facilities, but homeless persons, especially families, can reside in the suburbs and outlying rural counties, which are difficult for enumerators to access. In general, homeless populations are composed of groups that are difficult to enumerate.

These include:

- **Chronically Homeless Individuals:** These individuals are not guaranteed access to social, health, or shelter services on a frequent or consistent basis.
- **Homeless Persons with Children:** Many parents and their children remain hidden in obscure locations in fear of having to release their children to Child Protective Services. They often stay on private property, out of sight from the enumeration teams.

- 
- Unaccompanied Homeless Children and Parenting Youth: This population tends to strive to remain hidden, and is thus less visible than homeless adults.
  - Homeless Persons Residing in Unsafe Structures: Many homeless individuals reside in buildings or locations that are unsafe for the enumerators to investigate.
  - Homeless Persons Located in Isolated Rural Areas: The rural counties of Southern Nevada are vast and make accurate enumeration exceptionally difficult.
  - Homeless Persons Residing in Cars: This segment of the homeless population tends to relocate every few days, making accurate enumeration difficult.

The conservative approach taken cannot ensure a fully accurate count, thus it is necessary to ensure accurate data. Coupled with the homeless survey, this methodology is the most comprehensive approach available.

#### *Assumptions of Annual Estimation:*

The calculations used to project the annual estimate of persons experiencing homelessness are governed by two assumptions:

1. The homeless survey responses are homogenous to the responses that would have been provided at any other point-in-time during the year and are representative of the entire Southern Nevada homeless population.
2. The results of the PIT Count are homogenous to that of a count that would have been conducted at any time during the year.

Service providers support these assumptions, stating that demand for services remains relatively stable throughout the year. They also state that the number of homeless persons that access services remains relatively stable, with the only major variations being the seasonal variations in the proportion of sheltered versus unsheltered homeless.

Policy-makers must take into account that most homeless experiences are fairly short-term (e.g. less than a year). However, the combination of the size of the survey sample (352), the statistical reliability of the projections, the unavoidable undercount inherent in any homeless census, as well as the use of a HUD-approved annualization calculation ensures that the current methodology was the most complete and accurate of all available approaches.

## Homeless Survey

### Homeless Survey Research Design

#### *Purpose*

352 persons of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness were surveyed in order to yield qualitative data to enhance understanding of the scope and characteristics of the homeless community in Southern Nevada. Through open-ended, closed-ended, and multiple response questions, the survey yielded information from the following topic areas:

- Gender
- Family status
- Military service
- Length and recurrence of homelessness
- Access to homeless services and programs

The data obtained from this survey is used for the HEARTH Act Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance funding application. The data broaden and enhance the efficacy of existing programs and services. In addition, the survey results continue to paint a picture of homelessness in Southern Nevada, measuring changes in the composition of the homeless population since 2007.

### **Homeless Survey Research Procedure**

#### *Survey Workers & Volunteers:*

Clark County Social Service trained service providers and homeless workers regarding how to conduct the survey. The training consisted of a comprehensive instruction regarding confidentiality, interviewing protocol, determining respondent eligibility, and project background information. The surveys were administered by staff and program providers that are trained to complete assessments at community coordinated entry access sites. This allowed us to ensure that we were identifying and surveying those individuals who were truly unsheltered and not in our homeless service system.

#### *Survey Sampling:*

The survey workers employed a random sampling strategy, as outlined by HUD, in order to minimize selection bias. This strategy was characterized as an “every third encounter” approach, meaning the survey workers approached every third person they considered to be eligible for the survey.

Interviewers inquired whether the homeless individual had already taken the survey. If they had not, they were then asked if they were willing to do so. Survey administrators also informed the homeless individuals of the ‘thank you’ gift that they would receive upon completion of the survey. If the homeless individual declined, the service providers were instructed to approach the next homeless individual they encountered.

To bolster the randomized sampling procedure, survey workers attempted to reach homeless individuals in a wide range of various geographical locations. Various homeless sub-populations were also targeted, including minority ethnic groups, families, veterans, etc.

In 2019, there was a point-in-time estimate of 5,530 persons experiencing homelessness. Using a random sampling technique, 352 street surveys were administered..

#### *Survey Administration & Data Collection:*

The survey workers made every effort to ensure that each survey respondent felt comfortable as they took the survey. Survey workers encouraged candid responses from the survey respondents, explaining that all responses would remain confidential and anonymous.

The survey workers were trained to remain unbiased throughout the survey, making no assumption and avoiding prompts. They were also instructed to keep all responses confidential. They were instructed to ask all of the questions on the survey, but allow the survey respondents to answer only the questions they felt comfortable answering.

Homeless Interviewers were trained to administer the surveys to the “street” homeless as they can identify with the conditions and challenges that the street homeless individuals face. These

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workers also knew the likely locations where the street homeless individuals could be found. This peer-to-peer method was particularly effective at building rapport between the homeless individual and the homeless survey workers, likely encouraging honest responses.

*Data Analysis - Elimination of Duplicate Surveys:*

A sound strategy was employed to avoid duplicate surveys. Along with documenting the respondents' initials and date of birth, the survey workers also examined gender, ethnicity, and length of homelessness in order to identify any duplicate surveys. After evaluation, it was determined that there were zero duplicate surveys, thus leaving 352 valid surveys to be analyzed.

**Survey Challenges & Limitations**

With a point-in-time estimate of 5,530 persons experiencing homelessness, 352 valid surveys, and a randomized sample, confidence can be applied to the survey. We know that those individuals who were surveyed are the greatest representation of our unsheltered population; however, we are aware this is not an equal representation as we don't believe 352 identified individuals is an adequate sample size given the estimate of persons experiencing homelessness in our community. We understand that improvements in this process can be made to ensure that we not only have an appropriate sample size of completed surveys but also have identified that the methodology used to collect those surveys is as close to being representative of those experiencing homelessness in our community as feasibly possible.

The self-reporting research technique used in this survey effort presents a range of challenges, one of which is misrepresentation. There is no way to confidently conclude that each question was answered with honesty and accuracy.

In sum, it is important to note that carefully selected and highly trained interviewers reviewed the responses of these surveys. All surveys were reviewed for quality responses, and any incomplete surveys or falsified responses were eliminated from the final results.

## APPENDIX II: SUMMARY FOR THE COC APPLICATION

The following summaries provide local jurisdictions with consolidated information to enable the completion of the application for Continuum of Care (CoC) funds. These summaries are based upon the results discussed in this report. It is important to note that any information regarding sheltered homeless populations and subpopulations reflect only those sheltered in emergency shelters (ES), transitional housing (TH), and safe havens (SH). The exception to this rule is in regards to the Chronically Homeless subpopulation (i.e. Chronically Homeless Individuals, Chronically Homeless Families, and Persons in Chronically Homeless Families); transitional housing does not apply to this subpopulation.

### Overall Homelessness, 2019

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>Total Number of Households</b>	1467	501	19	3171	5,158
<b>Total Number of Persons</b>	1670	524	19	3317	5,530
<b>Number of Children (under age 18)</b>	228	21	0	267	516
<b>Number of Young Adults (age 18-24)</b>	71	108	0	737	916
<b>Number of Adults (over age 24)</b>	1371	395	19	2313	4,098
<b>Gender (Adults and Children)</b>	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>Female</b>	537	71	7	971	1,586
<b>Male</b>	1119	452	12	2333	3,916
<b>Transgender</b>	14	1	0	13	28
<b>Don't identify as male, female, or transgender</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Ethnicity (Adults and Children)</b>	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino</b>	1458	459	15	2865	4,797
<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	212	65	4	452	733
<b>Race (Adults and Children)</b>	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>White</b>	831	242	14	1886	2,973
<b>Black or African American</b>	719	245	4	1078	2,046
<b>Asian</b>	50	4	1	71	126
<b>American Indian or Alaska Native</b>	13	9	0	109	131
<b>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</b>	13	6	0	26	45
<b>Multiple Races</b>	44	18	0	147	209
<b>Chronically Homeless</b>	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>Total Number of Persons</b>	453	0	15	154	622



## Households with At Least One Adult and One Child, 2019

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
<b>Total Number of Households</b>	100	12	7	119
<b>Total Number of Persons</b>	285	32	25	342
<b>Number of Children (under age 18)</b>	183	18	11	212
<b>Number of Young Adults (age 18-24)</b>	11	11	14	36
<b>Number of Adults (over age 24)</b>	91	3	0	94
Gender (Adults and Children)				
	ES	TH	Unsheltered	Total
<b>Female</b>	180	24	7	211
<b>Male</b>	105	8	18	131
<b>Transgender</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Don't identify as male, female, or transgender</b>	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity (Adults and Children)				
	ES	TH	Unsheltered	Total
<b>Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino</b>	222	26	22	270
<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	63	6	3	72
Race (Adults and Children)				
	ES	TH	Unsheltered	Total
<b>White</b>	83	3	14	100
<b>Black or African American</b>	178	28	8	214
<b>Asian</b>	5	0	1	6
<b>American Indian or Alaska Native</b>	0	0	1	1
<b>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</b>	5	0	0	5
<b>Multiple Races</b>	14	1	1	16
Chronically Homeless				
	ES	TH	Unsheltered	Total
<b>Total Number of Households</b>	5	0	0	5
<b>Total Number of Persons</b>	26	0	0	26

## Households without Children, 2019

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>Total Number of Households</b>	1331	486	19	2911	4747
<b>Total Number of Persons</b>	1340	489	19	3036	4884
<b>Number of Young Adults (age 18-24)</b>	60	97	0	723	880
<b>Number of Adults (over age 24)</b>	1280	392	19	2313	4004
<b>Gender</b>	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>Female</b>	332	46	7	889	1274
<b>Male</b>	994	442	12	2135	3583
<b>Transgender</b>	14	1	0	12	27
<b>Don't identify as male, female or transgender</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino</b>	1195	431	15	2625	4266
<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	145	58	4	411	618
<b>Race</b>	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>White</b>	744	238	14	1727	2723
<b>Black or African American</b>	510	215	4	990	1719
<b>Asian</b>	44	4	1	65	114
<b>American Indian or Alaska Native</b>	13	9	0	100	122
<b>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</b>	7	6	0	24	37
<b>Multiple Races</b>	22	17	0	130	169
<b>Chronically Homeless</b>	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>Total Number of Persons</b>	427	0	15	154	596

## Households with Only Children (Under Age 18), 2019

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>Total Number of Households</b>	36	3	0	253	292
<b>Total Number of Persons (Under 18)</b>	45	3	0	256	304
Gender	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Female	25	1	0	75	101
Male	20	2	0	180	202
Transgender	0	0	0	1	1
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	41	2	0	218	261
Hispanic/Latino	4	1	0	38	43
Race	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
White	4	1	0	145	150
Black or African American	31	2	0	80	113
Asian	1	0	0	5	6
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	8	8
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0	0	2	3
Multiple Races	8	0	0	16	24
Chronically Homeless	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>Total Number of Persons</b>	0	0	0	0	0

## Veteran Households with At Least One Adult And One Child, 2019

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
<b>Total Number of Households</b>	2	0	0	2
<b>Total Number of Persons</b>	5	0	0	5
<b>Total Number of Veterans</b>	2	0	0	2
<b>Gender (Veterans Only)</b>	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
<b>Female</b>	1	0	0	1
<b>Male</b>	1	0	0	1
<b>Transgender</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Don't identify as male, female, or transgender</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Ethnicity (Veterans Only)</b>	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
<b>Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino</b>	1	0	0	1
<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	1	0	0	1
<b>Race (Veterans Only)</b>	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
<b>White</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Black or African American</b>	2	0	0	2
<b>Asian</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>American Indian or Alaska Native</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Multiple Races</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Chronically Homeless</b>	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
<b>Total Number of Households</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Number of Persons</b>	0	0	0	0

## Veteran Households without Children, 2019

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Total Number of Households	123	291	1	133	548
Total Number of Persons	124	294	1	139	558
Total Number of Veterans	123	292	1	139	555
Gender (Veterans Only)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Female	15	3	0	41	59
Male	108	288	1	98	495
Transgender	0	1	0	0	1
Don't identify as male, female or transgender	0	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity (Veterans Only)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	119	264	1	120	504
Hispanic/Latino	4	28	0	19	51
Race (Veterans Only)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
White	73	142	0	79	294
Black or African American	45	131	1	45	222
Asian	2	3	0	3	8
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	4	0	5	10
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	5	0	1	8
Multiple Races	0	7	0	6	13
Chronically Homeless	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Total Number of Persons	53	0	1	0	54



## Unaccompanied Youth Households, 2019

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Total number of unaccompanied youth households	96	100	0	723	919
Total number of unaccompanied youth	105	100	0	979	1184
Number of unaccompanied youth (under age 18)	45	3	0	256	304
Number of unaccompanied youth (age 18 and 24)	60	97	0	723	880
Gender	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Female	55	29	0	2887	371
Male	47	70	0	688	805
Transgender	3	1	0	4	8
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	90	82	0	843	1015
Hispanic/Latino	15	18	0	136	169
Race	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
White	27	33	0	556	616
Black or African American	66	56	0	316	438
Asian	3	0	0	29	32
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	2	0	23	25
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0	0	8	9
Multiple Races	8	9	0	47	64
Chronically Homeless	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Total Number of Persons	2	0	0	5	7

## Parenting Youth Households, 2019

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Total number of parenting youth households	11	8	0	7	26
Total number of persons in parenting youth households	25	17	0	25	67
Total number of parenting youth	11	8	0	14	33
Number of parenting youth (under age 18)	0	0	0	0	0
Number of parenting youth (age 18 and 24)	11	8	0	14	33
Number of children with parenting youth (children under age 18 with parents under age 25)	14	9	0	11	34
Sheltered					
<b>Gender (Parents Only)</b>	<b>ES</b>	<b>TH</b>	<b>SH</b>	<b>Unsheltered</b>	<b>Total</b>
Female	11	8	0	4	23
Male	0	0	0	10	10
Transgender	0	0	0	0	0
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	0	0	0
Sheltered					
<b>Ethnicity (Parents Only)</b>	<b>ES</b>	<b>TH</b>	<b>SH</b>	<b>Unsheltered</b>	<b>Total</b>
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	8	6	0	12	26
Hispanic/Latino	3	2	0	2	7
Sheltered					
<b>Race (Parents Only)</b>	<b>ES</b>	<b>TH</b>	<b>SH</b>	<b>Unsheltered</b>	<b>Total</b>
White	4	2	0	8	14
Black or African American	7	5	0	4	16
Asian	0	0	0	1	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	1	1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	0	1	0	0	1
Sheltered					
<b>Chronically Homeless</b>	<b>ES</b>	<b>TH</b>	<b>SH</b>	<b>Unsheltered</b>	<b>Total</b>
Total Number of Households	1	0	0	0	1
Total Number of Persons	4	0	0	0	4

## Additional Subpopulations, 2019

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
<b>Adults with a Serious Mental Illness</b>	310	145	18	467	940
<b>Adults with a Substance Use Disorder</b>	161	134	16	333	644
Adults with HIV/AIDS	12	2	1	17	32
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence (optional)	161	7	1	129	298

## APPENDIX III: ADULT HOMELESS SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY

1. Did another volunteer or survey worker already ask you these same questions about where you were staying on that night?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	31	8.8%
No	321	91.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>100%</b>

2. Where are you staying tonight?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Street or Sidewalk	257	73.0%
Vehicle	10	2.8%
Park	8	2.3%
Abandoned Building	7	2.0%
Bus, Train Station or Airport	1	0.3%
Under bridge or Overpass	16	4.5%
Woods or Outdoor Camp	3	0.9%
Emergency Shelter	29	8.2%
Transitional Housing	0	0.0%
Motel/Hotel Paid by Friends or Family	4	1.1%
Motel/Hotel Paid for by Agency or Church	1	0.3%
House or Apartment (Their Own or Someone Else's)	6	1.7%
Jail, Hospital or Treatment Program	0	0.0%
Other Location	10	2.8%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>100%</b>

3a. First Name or Initial

Response	Frequency	Percent
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 3b. Last Name or Initial

Response	Frequency	Percent
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 4. What is your current age?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 13 years	0	0.0%
13-17	0	0.0%
18-21	17	4.8%
22-30	26	7.4%
31- 40	65	18.5%
41-50	97	27.6%
51-60	98	27.8%
More than 60 years	49	13.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 5. Which racial group do you identify with most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
White/Caucasian	195	55.7%
Black/African American	116	33.1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	10	2.9%
Asian	6	1.7%
Pacific Islander	6	1.7%
Other	23	6.6%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>350</b>	
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>101.7%</b>

### 6. Which Ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Hispanic/Latino	53	15.2%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	296	84.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>100%</b>



7. How do you identify yourself?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Female	96	27.3%
Male	253	71.9%
Transgender	3	0.9%
Gender non-conforming	0	0.0%
Don't identify as male, female or transgender	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Which of the following best represents how you think of your sexual orientation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Straight	337	96.3%
Lesbian/Gay	2	0.6%
Bisexual	7	2.0%
Queer	1	0.3%
Questioning/Unsure	0	0.0%
Prefer not to answer	1	0.3%
Other	2	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>100%</b>

9. Have you ever served in the US Armed Forces?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	20	5.8%
No	326	94.2%
Don't know	0	0.0%
Refused	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>100%</b>

10. What is your current employment status?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Unemployed	299	86.4%
Retired	25	7.2%
Student	0	0.0%
Homemaker	0	0.0%
Employed full-time	3	0.9%
Employed part-time	14	4.0%
Self-employed	4	1.2%
Seasonal Worker	1	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>100%</b>

11. What is your highest level of education?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Middle school	17	4.9%
High school	175	50.4%
GED Prep	40	11.5%
Community College	66	19.0%
Four-year college or university	32	9.2%
Graduate School	2	0.6%
Trade/technical/vocational program	5	1.4%
None	2	0.6%
Other	8	2.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>100%</b>

12. Are you pregnant?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	3	3.3%
No	88	96.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>100%</b>

13. Tonight are you staying with:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Spouse or significant other	57	16.5%
Child/children	10	2.9%
Parent or legal guardian	4	1.2%
Street family	19	5.5%
Other family member(s)	5	1.4%
Friend(s)	16	4.6%
Self/Not staying with anyone else	232	67.1%
Other	3	3.8%
<b>Total:</b> Multiple response question with 346 respondents offering 356 responses.		

14. Do you have any children staying with you tonight?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	10	8.1%
No	114	91.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>100%</b>

14a. If so, how many children 17 years of age or younger?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0	3	21.4%
1	6	42.9%
2	1	7.1%
3	3	21.4%
4	1	7.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100%</b>

14ab. If so, how many children between the ages of 18 and 24?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0	5	38.5%
1	8	61.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>

14ac. If so, how many children 25 years of age or older?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0	5	35.7%
1	8	57.1%
2	0	0.0%
3	1	7.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100%</b>

15. How many adults (other than adult children) are between the ages of 18 and 24:

Response	Frequency	Percent
0	78	71.6%
1	19	17.4%
2	9	8.3%
3	0	0.0%
4	2	1.8%
5	1	0.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>100%</b>

16. How many adults (other than adult children) 25 years of age or older are staying with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0	30	26.1%
1	54	47.0%
2	16	13.9%
3	4	3.5%
4	5	4.3%
5	1	0.9%
6	0	0.0%
7	0	0.0%
8	2	1.7%
9	0	0.0%
10	3	2.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	157	45.2%
No	190	54.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>100%</b>

17a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One time	245	70.6%
2 times	36	10.4%
3 times	25	7.2%
4 times	10	2.9%
5 times	6	1.7%
6 times	3	0.9%
More than 6 times	22	6.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>100%</b>

17b. In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One time	203	58.5%
2 times	45	13.0%
3 times	37	10.7%
4 times	9	2.6%
5 times	9	2.6%
6 times	9	2.6%
More than 6 times	35	10.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>100%</b>

17c. In the last 3 years, what is the combined length of time homeless during the above occasion(s)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 12 months	115	33.3%
12 months or more	230	66.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>100%</b>

18. How long have you been homeless this present time?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	14	4.0%
8-31 days	26	7.5%
2 months	17	4.9%
3 months	17	4.9%
4 months	18	5.2%
5 months	13	3.7%
6 months	21	6.1%
7 months	8	2.3%
8 months	9	2.6%
9 months	4	1.2%
10 months	4	1.2%
11 months	5	1.4%
12 months	46	13.3%
1-2 years	52	15.0%
2-3 years	33	9.5%
More than 3 years	60	17.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>100%</b>

19. Where do you usually stay at night, since you have been homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Outdoors/streets/parks	244	70.3%
Uncovered garage/attic/basement	0	0.0%
Backyard or storage structure	1	0.3%
Motel/hotel	4	1.2%
Automobile	8	2.3%
Van	1	0.3%
Camper/RV	1	0.3%
Abandoned building	3	0.9%
A place in a house not normally meant for sleeping	1	0.3%
Emergency shelter	55	15.9%
Public Facilities	1	0.3%
Transitional Housing	0	0.0%
Other shelter	8	2.3%
Other	6	1.7%
Encampment	14	4.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>100%</b>



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

Response	Frequency	Percent
Living in a home owned by you or your partner	28	8.1%
Renting a home or apartment	192	55.3%
Staying with friends	36	10.4%
Living with relatives	52	15.0%
Living in subsidized housing	3	0.9%
In a jail or prison	14	4.0%
In a hospital	0	0.0%
In a mental health facility	1	0.3%
In a substance abuse treatment program	2	0.6%
In foster care	0	0.0%
Other	19	5.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>100%</b>

21. Where were you living right before you most recently became homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Clark County	239	68.9%
Other area in Nevada, outside of Clark County	13	3.7%
Out of state	95	27.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>100%</b>

22. Did you relocate to Clark County due to a disaster?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	3	2.7%
No	109	97.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>100%</b>

22a. In which state or territory did the disaster occur? \*only states/territories with a response of 'yes' shown here

Response	Frequency	Percent
California	1	25%
Michigan	1	25%
Pennsylvania	1	25%
Texas	1	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100%</b>

22b. What year did the disaster occur? \*only years with a response of 'yes' shown here

Response	Frequency	Percent
2018	2	50%
2017	0	0%
2016	0	0%
2015	0	0%
2014	0	0%
2013	0	0%
2012	0	0%
2011	0	0%
2010	0	0%
2009	0	0%
2008	0	0%
2007 or earlier	2	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100%</b>

22c. Were you homeless before being dislocated?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	1	33.3%
No	2	66.7%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3</b>	

23. Are you an immigrant, refugee, or asylum seeker?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	14	4.0%
No	332	96.0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>346</b>	

24. Are you currently fleeing an abusive home (i.e. domestic violence)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	23	6.7%
No	321	93.3%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3344</b>	

25. What do you think are the top three events or conditions that led to your homelessness?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Lost job	200	57.6%
Landlord sold /stopped renting	37	10.7%
Landlord raised rent	24	6.9%
Alcohol or drug use	71	20.5%
Incarceration	38	11.0%
Illness or medical problem	44	12.7%
Mental Health issues	55	15.9%
Argument / family or friend asked you to leave	46	13.3%
Hospitalization / treatment program	8	2.3%
Lost home I owned through foreclosure	9	2.6%
Lost home I rented due to landlord's foreclosure	5	1.4%
Didn't receive housing assistance when I left jail/prison	9	2.6%
Family / domestic violence	27	7.8%
Gambling problem	11	3.2%
Got too old for foster care	5	1.4%
Divorced or separated	27	7.8%
Natural disaster /fire /flood	2	0.6%
For being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender	0	0.0%
Other	111	32.0%
Don't Know /Decline to state	22	6.3%
<b>Total:</b> Multiple response question with 347 respondents offering 751 responses		

## APPENDIX IV: YOUTH HOMELESS SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY

1. How old were you when you first experienced homelessness?

Response	Frequency	Percent
5 or younger	0	0.0%
6	1	5.0%
7	2	10.0%
8	12	10.0%
9	0	0.0%
10	0	0.0%
11	0	0.0%
12	1	5.0
13	0	0.0%
14	2	10.0%
15	5	25.0%
16	4	20.0%
17	0	0.0%
18	1	5.0%
19	0	0.0%
20	1	5.0%
21	1	5.0%
22	1	5.0%
23	0	0.0%
24	1	5.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

2. Were you ever able to stay in a hotel or doubled up with a friend at any time during your life (i.e., couch surfing, temporarily staying with friends or family)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	18	90.0%
No	2	10.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

2a. How long have you been couch surfing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	3	15.0%
8-30 days	2	10.0%
2 months	2	10.0%
3 months	0	0.0%
4 months	0	0.0%
5 months	0	0.0%
6 months	0	0.0%
7 months	0	0.0%
8 months	1	5.0%
9 months	0	0.0%
10 months	0	0.0%
11 months	0	0.0%
12 months	0	0.0%
1-2 years	5	25.0%
2-3 years	2	10.0%
More than 3 years	1	5.0%
Not Applicable/Not couch surfing	4	20.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

3. Have you been the victim of a crime while on the streets?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	8	40.0%
No	11	55.0%
Don't Know	1	5.0%
Declined	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

4. Have you committed a crime in exchange for food or shelter while on the streets?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	2	10.0%
No	16	80.0%
Don't Know	1	5.0%
Declined	2	10.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

5. Before becoming homeless, did you experience:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Physical abuse	4	20.0%
Sexual abuse	2	10.0%
Emotional abuse	5	25.0%
Gang abuse	0	0.0%
Neglect	3	15.0%
None of the above	10	50.0%
Declined	4	20.0%
<b>Total:</b> Multiple response question with 20 respondents offering 28 responses.		

6. Did any of the following contribute to your homelessness (Check all that apply):

Response	Frequency	Percent
Ran away from family home, group home, or foster home	3	15.0%
Became pregnant or got someone pregnant	1	5.0%
Violence at home between family members	3	15.0%
Because of differences with parents about religious beliefs	0	5.0%
Kicked out of the house	8	40.0%
Aging out of foster care system	0	0.0%
Death of parents	0	0.0%
Emotional abuse	2	10.0%
Physical abuse	3	15.0%
Addiction or substance use	3	15.0%
Sexual abuse	0	0.0%
Neglect	2	10.0%
Mental health issues	2	10.0%
School issues	2	10.0%
Sexual identity	0	0.0%
Legal issues	0	0.0%
Financial issues	1	5.0%
Fight or conflict with parents/guardian	5	25.0%
Parent/guardian moved or relocated	0	0.0%
Gang violence activity	0	0.0%
Other	7	35.0%
<b>Total:</b> Multiple response question with 20 respondents offering 65 responses.		



7. Were/are your parents or primary caregivers homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	5	25.0%
No	12	60.0%
Don't Know	1	5.0%
Declined	2	10.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Just before becoming homeless, did you live with:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Both Parents	6	25.0%
Single Mother	4	40.0%
Single Father	2	5.0%
A Step Parent	0	5.0%
Other Family Members	1	10.0%
Foster Family	0	5.0%
Juvenile Hall or detention	0	0.0%
Group home or other group settings	0	5.0%
Friends	2	10.0%
Other	5	25.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

9. When was the last time you were in contact with your parent(s) or primary caregiver?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Unknown	5	25.0%
7 days or less	7	35.0%
8-30 days	2	10.0%
2 months	0	0.0%
3 months	0	0.0%
4 months	2	10.0%
5 months	1	5.0%
6 months	0	0.0%
7 months	0	0.0%
8 months	1	5.0%
9 months	0	0.0%
10 months	0	0.0%
11 months	0	0.0%
12 months	0	0.0%
1-2 years	2	10.0%
2-3 years	0	0.0%
More than 3 years	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

10. Does your age prevent you from receiving any of the following (Check all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent
Permanent housing	0	0.0%
Transitional housing	0	0.0%
Government assistance	1	10.0%
Employment	0	0.0%
Other	9	90%
<b>Total:</b> Multiple response question with 10 respondents offering 10 responses.		

11. Do any of the following prevent you from seeking services (Check all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent
Afraid that your parents will be contacted	0	0.0%
Afraid you will be put in Child Protective Services	0	0.0%
Don't trust anyone	3	18.8%
You don't have transportation	7	43.8%
Other	8	50.0%
<b>Total:</b> Multiple response question with 16 respondents offering 18 responses.		

12. If you use drugs, what are your primary drugs of choice (Check all that apply):

Response	Frequency	Percent
Alcohol	1	10.0%
Marijuana	15	35.0%
Methamphetamines	3	15.0%
Cocaine/crack	0	0.0%
Cough/cold medicine	0	0.0%
Heroin	1	0.0%
Prescription medicine	0	5.0%
I don't use drugs	3	25.0%
Other	0	0.0%
Declined	2	15.0%
<b>Total:</b> Multiple response question with 20 respondents offering 25 responses.		

13. Are you \*currently\* in any kind of educational program now?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Middle school	1	5.0%
High school	2	10.0%
GED Prep	1	5.0%
Community College	1	5.0%
Four-year college or university	0	0.0%
Trade/technical/vocational program	1	5.0%
None	13	65.0%
Other	1	5.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

14. Currently, is there at least one adult in your life, to whom you can go for advice or emotional support?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	12	60.0%
No	8	40.0%
Declined	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

15. Were you ever involved with the justice system before you were 18 (as a minor)? This includes jail, juvenile hall, camp programs, probation, parole, detention, etc?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	9	45.0%
No	11	55.0%
Declined	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

16. Have you ever been involved with the justice system since you turned 18 (as an adult)? This includes, jail, juvenile hall, camp programs, probation, parole, detention, etc?

Response	Frequency	Percent
N/A Under 18	0	0.0%
Yes	8	40.0%
No	11	55.0%
Declined	1	5.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

17. Have you ever had a child removed from your care or taken away (by CPS, DCFS)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	3	15.0%
No	11	55.0%
Not applicable	6	30.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

18. Have you ever been in foster care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	5	25.0%
No	12	60.0%
Not applicable	3	15.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

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## APPENDIX V: GLOSSARY

### **Adults with HIV/AIDS**

Adults who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.

### **Adults with Serious Mental Illness**

Adults with severe and persistent mental illness or emotional impairment that are expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and seriously limits a person's ability to live independently. Adults with SMI must also meet the qualifications identified in the term for "disability" (i.e. "is expected to be long-continuing or indefinite duration").

### **Adults with Substance Use Disorders**

Adults with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both). They must also meet the qualifications identified in the term for "disability" (i.e. "is expected to be long-continuing or indefinite duration").

### **Annual Estimate**

An estimated number of homeless persons in a given CoC over the course of a year. This estimate is calculated in order to compensate for the bias created by the inability to include persons who experience short episodes of homelessness throughout the year, at times other than the PIT count. This reduces the degree of underrepresentation of the true number of homeless persons at any given point in time during the year.

### **Annual Homeless Assessment Report AHAR**

Annual Report responding to a congressional directive that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provide an annual report to Congress on the extent and nature of homelessness. The AHAR provides the results of local counts of people homeless on a single night in January, as well as estimates of the number, characteristics, and service patterns of all people who used residential programs for homeless people. It also provides national estimates on the use of the full continuum of homeless assistance programs—from homelessness prevention to homeless residential services to permanent supportive housing.

### **Chronic Substance Use/Abuse**

This category on the PIT includes persons with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both) that is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.

### **Chronically Homeless Family**

A family with children with an adult head of household (or if there is no adult in the family with children, a minor head of household) who meets all of the criteria for a chronically homeless individual, including a family with children whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless. Note: (1) For the purposes of reporting, a chronically homeless family with children must consist of at least one child under the age of 18.



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**Chronically Homeless Individual**

An individual who:

- 1) is homeless and lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and
- 2) has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years where the combined length of time homeless in those occasions is at least 12 months; and
- 3) has a disability.

**Chronically Homeless Parenting Children/Youth**

Parenting youth, including those under 18 and age 18-24 ("minor heads of households" per the definition of a chronically homeless family with children) are counted as a chronically homeless family with children.

**Chronically Homeless Unaccompanied Children/Youth**

Unaccompanied youth who are chronically homeless are counted as a chronically homeless individual, including unaccompanied youth who are under 18 and unaccompanied youth age 18-24.

**Chronically Homeless Veteran Families**

A family with an adult head of household (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) who meets all of the criteria for a chronically homeless individual AND the criteria for Chronically Homeless Veteran Individual. This includes a family whose composition has fluctuated while the veteran head of household has been homeless.

**Chronically Homeless Veteran Individuals**

Any individual who meets the definition for Chronically Homeless Individual and 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.

**Continuums of Care (CoC)**

A collaborative funding and planning approach that helps communities plan for and provide, as necessary, a full range of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing and other service resources to address the various needs of homeless persons. HUD also refers to the group of service providers involved in the decision-making processes as the "Continuum of Care." They are responsible for coordinating the full range of homeless services in a geographic area, which may cover a city, county, metropolitan area, or entire state.

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### **Disabling Condition**

Any one of

- 1) a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act;
- 2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment, including an impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury which is (a) expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration, (b) substantially impedes an individual's ability to live independently, and (c) of such a nature that such ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions;
- 3) a developmental disability as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act;
- 4) the disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or any conditions arising from the etiological agent for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; or
- 5) a diagnosable substance abuse disorder. For the purposes of this study, disabling condition is further specified as any of the following: physical disability, mental illness, severe depression, alcohol or drug abuse, chronic health problems, HIV/ AIDS, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis C, trauma, or a developmental disability.

### **Emergency Shelter**

Designated space to sleep that provides safe, secure, violent-free place for persons and families who would otherwise be living on the streets.

### **Episode of Homelessness (HUD Definition)**

A separate, distinct, and sustained stay on the streets and/or in an emergency homeless shelter.

### **Extrapolation**

A technique for estimating the total number of unsheltered persons in your community based on the number of unsheltered persons that you have been able to observe and/or interview from your statistically reliable sample.

### **Family**

HUD defined household with at least one adult (18 or older) and one child (under 18).

### **Homeless Individual**

According to the McKinney Act, 42, U.S.C § 11301, et seq. a homeless individual is a person who "lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence; and... has a primary night time residency that is: (A) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations... (B) An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or (C) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

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**Homeless Management Information Software (HMIS)**

An HMIS is a computerized data collection application designed to capture client-level information over time on the characteristics and service needs of men, women, and children experiencing homelessness, while also protecting client confidentiality. It is designed to aggregate client-level data to generate an unduplicated count of clients served within a community's system of homeless services. An HMIS may also cover a statewide or regional area, and include several CoCs. The HMIS can provide data on client characteristics and service utilization.

**Homelessness (HUD Definition)**

An individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; as well an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations; an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

**Household**

Household means all persons occupying a housing unit. The occupants may be a family, as defined in 24 CFR 5.403; two or more families living together; or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements, regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

**Households with Only Children**

HUD defines Households with only children as household configurations composed of more than one person under the age of 18. This includes unaccompanied children, adolescent parents, groups composed of adolescent siblings, and any other type of household configuration that is composed of only children.

**Individual**

Persons in a household without children. They are homeless as single adults, unaccompanied youth, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households.

**Parenting Youth**

A youth who identifies as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household.

**Permanent Supportive Housing**

Pairs a housing subsidy with intensive case management and robust supportive services.

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**Persons in Chronically Homeless Families**

People experiencing homelessness in families in which the head of household has a disability and has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years cumulatively totaling 12 months.

**Persons in Chronically Homeless Veteran Families**

People experiencing homelessness in families in which the head of household has a disability and has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years. The Head of Household must also 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.

**Persons in Families**

People who are homeless as part of households that have at least one adult and one child.

**Persons with HIV/AIDS**

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons who have been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS.

**Point-in-Time Count (PIT)**

A core data set used by HUD to address homelessness on both a national and local level. PIT Count estimates provide snapshots of homelessness from 3 different angles:

1. Sheltered Homeless Persons & Unsheltered Homeless Persons
2. HUD-Defined Homeless Households
3. Counts of beds in Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing Programs, and Safe Havens.

**Protected Personal Information (PPI)**

Information about a client: (1) whose identity is apparent from the information or can reasonably be ascertained from the information; or (2) whose identity can, taking into account any methods reasonably likely to be used, be learned by linking the information with other available information or by otherwise manipulating the information.

**Rapid Re-housing**

Housing model designed to provide short-or medium-term rental assistance and targeted supportive services to help individuals/families achieve and maintain housing stability as quickly as possible.

**Safe Haven**

A form of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons with severe mental illness and other debilitating behavioral conditions who are on the street and have been unable or unwilling to participate in housing or supportive services.

**Severe Depression**

Individuals who reported experiencing depression and who reported that their depression prevents them from getting work or housing.

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**Sheltered Homeless Persons**

Homeless persons who are living in an emergency shelter, transitional housing or safe haven programs. This includes individuals and families “living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals)” on the night designated for the PIT count.

**Single Individual or Person**

An unaccompanied person of any age not in families.

**Transitional Housing**

Temporary housing with supportive services to facilitate a household's successful movement to permanent housing.

**Unaccompanied Child (Under 18)**

Minors (under 18) not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, including those living in inadequate housing such as shelters, cars, or on the streets. Also includes those who have been denied housing by their families and school-aged unwed mothers who have no housing of their own, and present for services alone.

**Unaccompanied Youth**

Unaccompanied youth are persons under age 25 who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian and are not a parent presenting with or sleeping in the same place as his/her child(ren).

Unaccompanied youth are single youth, youth couples, and groups of youth presenting together as a household.

**Unsheltered Homeless Persons**

An individual or family who "lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence; and has a primary night time residency that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. This includes individuals and families with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, van, RV, encampment park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, camping ground or other areas not meant for human habitation.

**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

Established in 1965, HUD's mission is to increase homeownership, support community development, and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination. To fulfill this mission, HUD will embrace high standards of ethics, management and accountability and forge new partnerships — particularly with faith-based and community organizations — that leverage resources and improve HUD's ability to be effective on the community level.

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**Veteran**

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes 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.

**Victim Service Provider**

A private nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to provide services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. This term includes rape crisis centers, battered women's shelters, domestic violence transitional housing programs, and other programs. Domestic Violence client data is not entered into the HMIS.

**Victims of Domestic Violence**

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes adults who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking at any point in the past.

**Youth**

Persons under age 25, including children under age 18 and young adults ages 18 to 24.