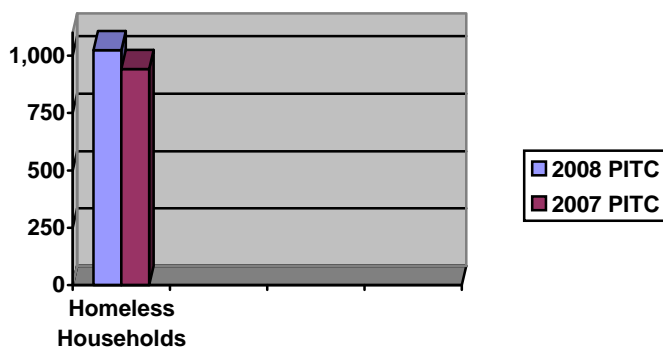


On January 29, 2008, 1,234 adult respondents in Bergen County answered the statewide Point in Time Survey, whose purpose is to gather information on residents who are homeless or precariously housed. Of the 1,234 respondents to the survey, **1,023 households indicated that they were homeless** according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's definitions of homelessness.

SECTION I: WHO ARE THE HOMELESS IN BERGEN COUNTY

According to the 2008 Point in Time Count (PITC), 1,023 adults and 604 children were homeless in Bergen County on the night of the count. The number of homeless households in 2008 was 8% greater than the number identified in the 2007 PITC.



The 2008 PITC includes only a subset of those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in New Jersey. By its nature, a point in time count captures information only on those who are both homeless on that night and who can be identified by those administering the surveys. The actual number of people who are homeless over the course of the year may be between two to four times larger than the number counted at one point in time. Using the statistical formula developed in the publication "Estimating the Need," it is projected that *over the course of a year, 2,856 adults and children are homeless in Bergen County.*¹

Respondents were considered homeless if they met the definition of homelessness adopted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Included in this definition are those who are currently living on the streets or in places not meant for human habitation, those living in emergency shelters (including domestic violence shelters and youth homeless shelters), those living in transitional housing for the homeless, and those living in hotels or motels whose stays are paid for by an outside agency. While the focus of the PITC was on those who were homeless, the survey also gathered information on respondents who indicated that they were living in permanent

¹ Burt, Martha R. and Carol Wilkins, *Estimating the Need: Projecting from Point-in-Time to Annual Estimates of the Number of Homeless People in a Community and Using this Information to Plan for Permanent Supportive Housing*, CSH, March 2005. For more information on the calculations used for this projection, please see Appendix A.

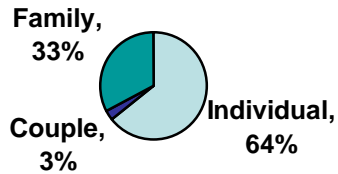
supportive housing, as well as those who were precariously housed, living in substandard housing, living in overcrowded housing, or staying with friends or family due to the lack of their own housing.

Demographic Information

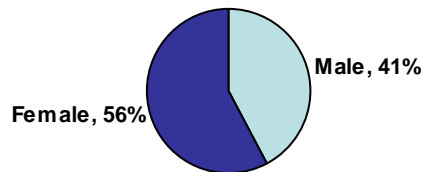
Of the 1,023 homeless adults in Bergen County on January 29, 2008, the overwhelming

majority were single individuals without children in their care (64%, n=655). 33% of respondents (n=333) were families with children, while 3% were couples (married or living together) (n=33). 41% of adults were male (n=417) and 56% were female (n=568). 57% (n=587) of survey respondents were white, 26% (n=266) of survey respondents were Black, and 5% (n=52) were American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander. 19% (n=194) of respondents identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino.

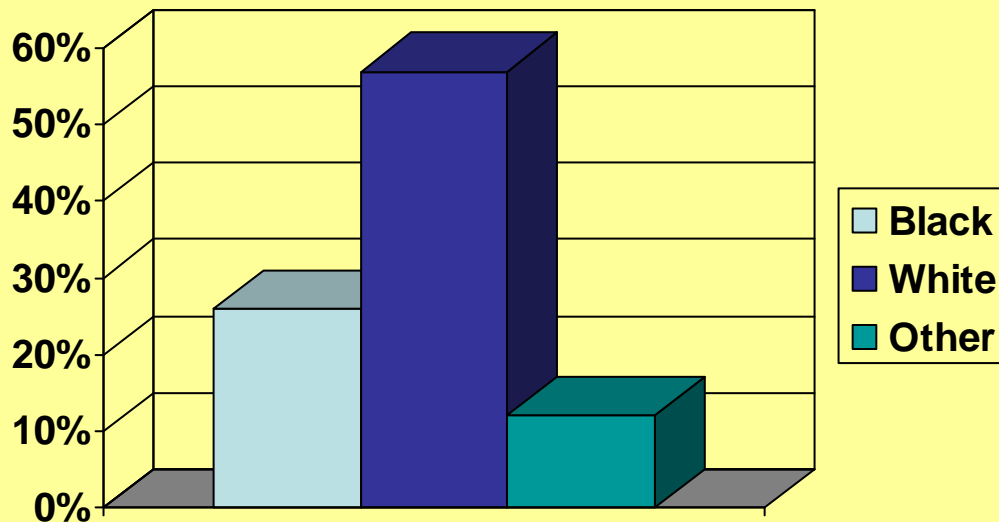
Characteristics of PITC Respondents -- Household Status



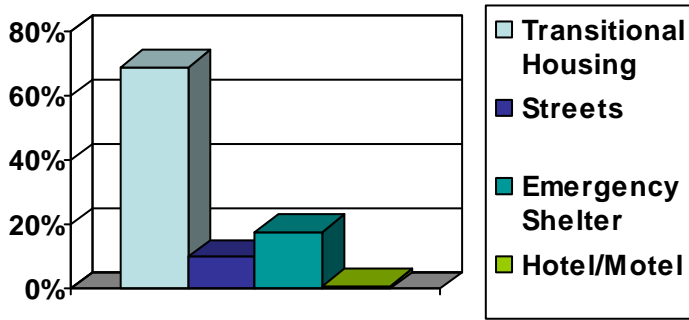
Characteristics of PITC Respondents -- Gender



Characteristics of PITC Respondents -- Race



Sleeping Accommodations on Any Given Night



CURRENT AND PAST LIVING SITUATION

Emergency shelters provided housing for 18% of homeless adults and families on the night of the PITC (n=184). 69% (n=702) of respondents stayed in transitional housing for the homeless, and 1% (n=10) were staying at motels paid for by an agency due to their lack of housing. 10% (n=108) of the homeless spent the night on the streets or in a place not meant for human habitation (such as their car, a local transportation center, or an abandoned building), or had nowhere to stay and had not determined

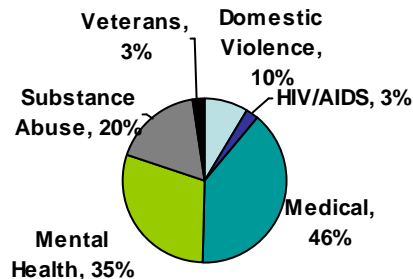
where they would spend the night.

Hackensack was named by the largest number of Bergen County respondents (20%, n=206) as the place they last lived before becoming homeless. The overwhelming majority of homeless people in Bergen County (94%, n=962) had lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless, with 4% (n=42) reporting that their last residence was outside the state. 99% (n=1013) were residents of the United States before becoming homeless.

Last Town Lived in Before Becoming Homeless		
Hackensack	206	20%
Garfield	88	9%
Englewood	73	7%
Lodi	68	7%
Teaneck	57	6%
Palisades Park	38	4%
Fairview	35	3%
Cliffside Park	30	3%
Bergenfield	21	2%
Elmwood Park	19	2%

HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS AND CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO HOMELESSNESS

Homeless Subpopulations As Reported by Respondents



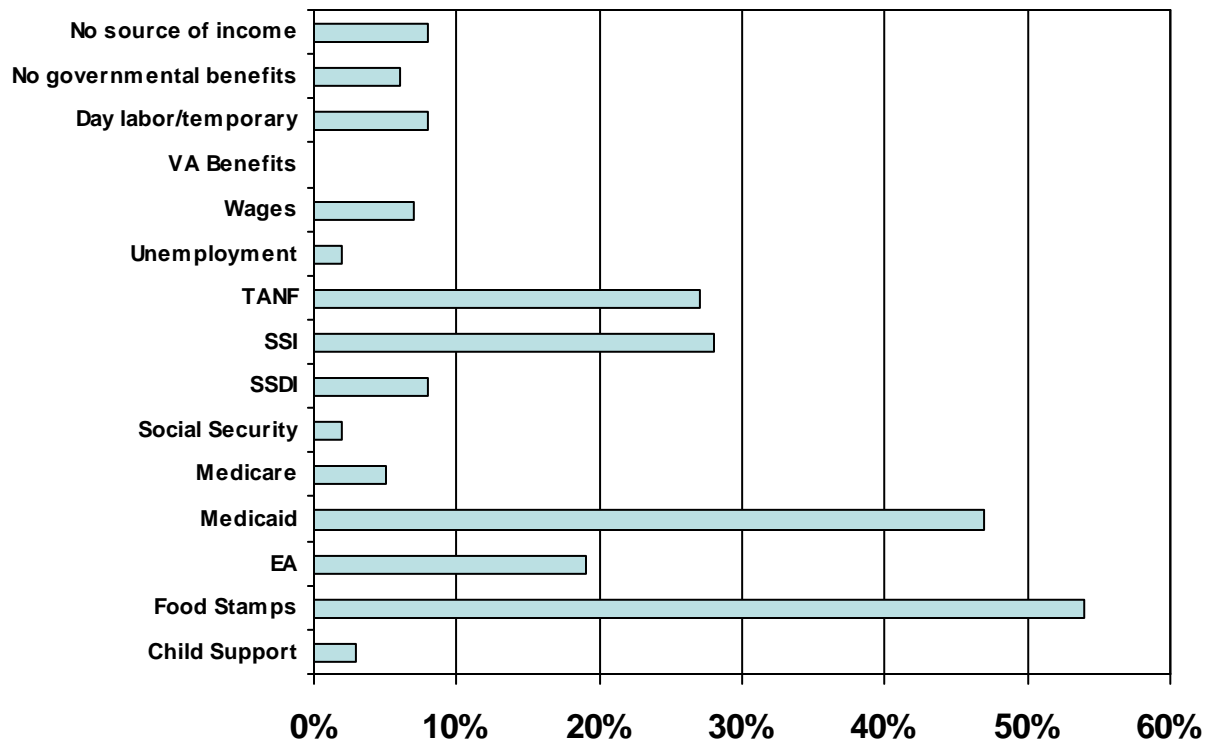
Respondents to the PITC identified a number of issues that may have contributed to their homelessness. 363, or 35%, of homeless people indicated that they had received or needed mental health services, 205, or 20%, indicated usage or need for substance abuse services, and 469, or 46%, indicated usage or a need for medical care for a disability. 10% (n=100) of homeless

people had a history as survivors of domestic violence, and 3% (n=30) were living with HIV/AIDS. 3% (n=32) of people who were homeless on the night of January 29 were veterans. (This data may be duplicated.)

The 2008 PITC survey also gathered information on respondents' service usage, service needs, and services that they had been denied. As demonstrated in the chart below, the greatest service needs indicated by respondents included a need for housing (32%), a need for employment assistance (24%), and a need for transportation (19%).

Service	Received	Need	Denied
Domestic violence	10% (n=99)	2% (n=17)	1% (n=15)
HIV/AIDS	3% (n=26)	1% (n=7)	1% (n=10)
Medical services (disability)	39% (n=397)	9% (n=96)	1% (n=15)
Mental health	29% (n=295)	10% (n=104)	1% (n=9)
Substance use	13% (n=134)	9% (n=87)	1% (n=12)
Veterans	2% (n=17)	1% (n=12)	1% (n=11)
Medical (routine healthcare)	52% (n=532)	16% (n=166)	3% (n=34)
Dental	28% (n=288)	19% (n=196)	5% (n=52)
Legal	18% (n=187)	13% (n=132)	3% (n=35)
Immigration	6% (n=66)	8% (n=81)	3% (n=26)
Emergency shelter	41% (n=415)	11% (n=108)	2% (n=23)
Housing	53% (n=540)	32% (n=331)	3% (n=29)
Educational training	12% (n=119)	17% (n=171)	2% (n=17)
Assistance obtaining ID	5% (n=51)	14% (n=142)	2% (n=23)
Transportation	26% (n=271)	19% (n=196)	1% (n=15)
Child care	14% (n=147)	5% (n=51)	1% (n=13)
Employment assistance	19% (n=195)	24% (n=249)	2% (n=24)
Emergency food or meal assistance	33% (n=338)	13% (n=131)	2% (n=20)

Income Sources (Percentage)

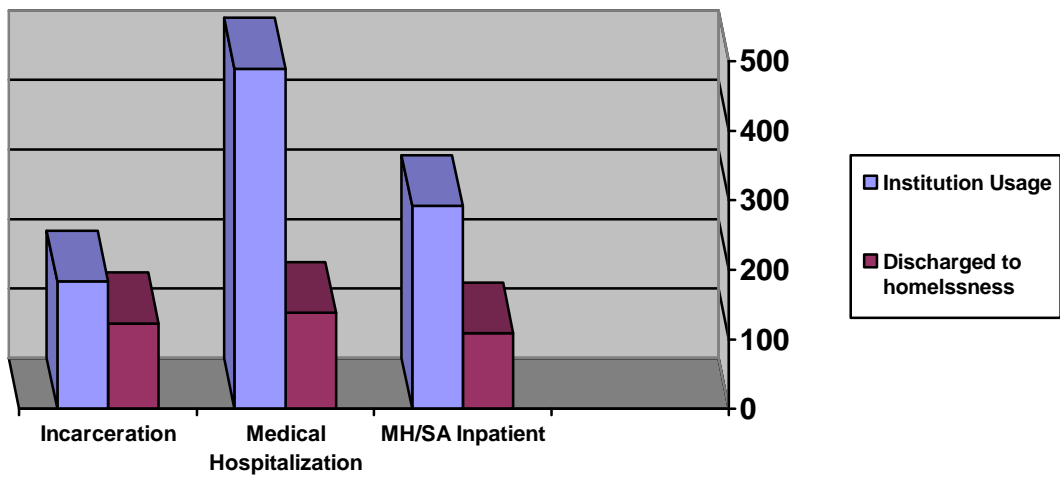
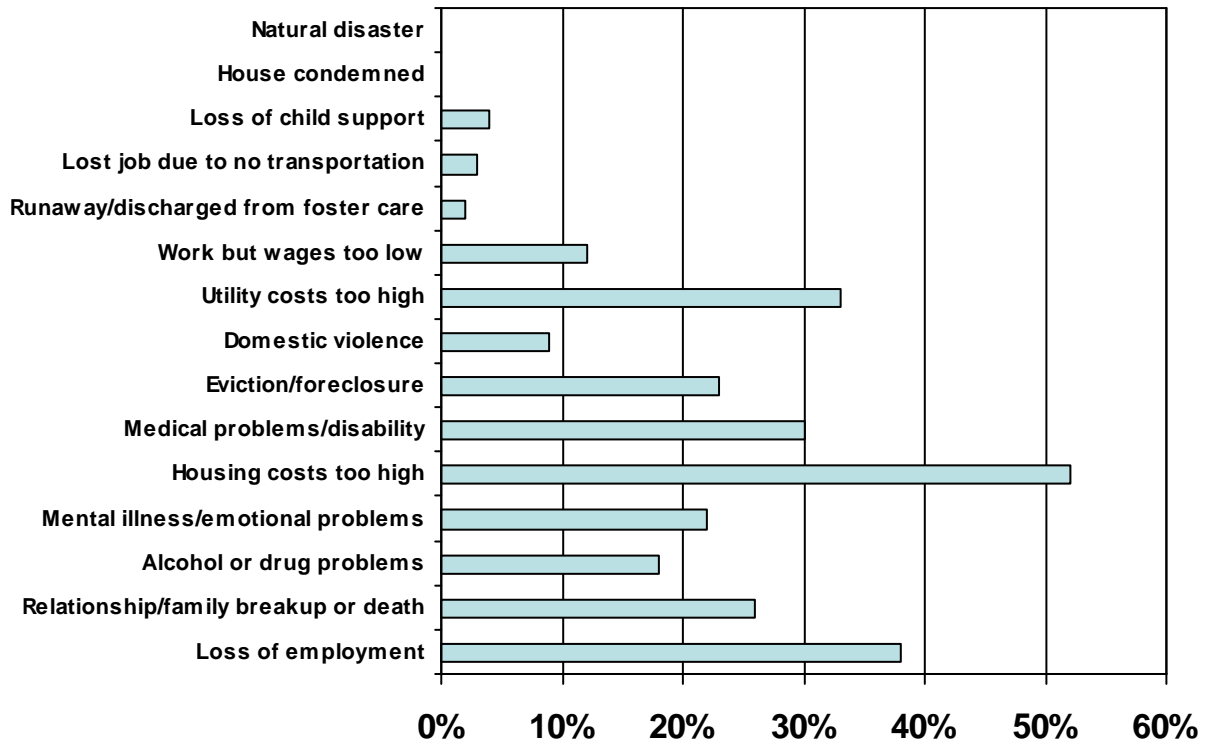


The majority of people who were homeless (92%, n=940) reported that they received some form of income. Food stamps were the single most frequent source of income for respondents (54%, n=552). 47% (n=483) of respondents received Medicaid, and 28% (n=289) received SSI. 146, or 14% of people who were homeless on the night of the 2007 PITC count were employed.

When asked what factors contributed to their homelessness, the most common factors included unaffordable housing costs (52%), loss of employment (38%), unaffordable utility costs (33%), and medical issues such as physical/developmental disabilities (30%).

18% (n=183) of respondents indicated that they had been incarcerated, and of that group, 67% (n=123) had been discharged into homelessness. 48% (n=489) indicated that they had been hospitalized or required emergency room or acute medical care, and of that group, 28% (n=138) had been discharged into homelessness. 29% (n=292) had received inpatient care in a mental health or substance use facility, and of that group, 37% (n=109) indicated that they had been discharged into homelessness.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness (by percentage)



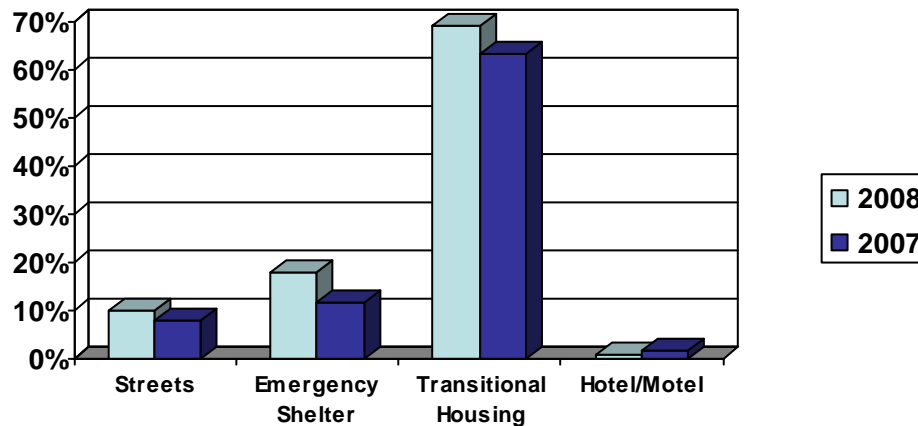
6% (n=60) of homeless respondents were in foster care as children. 73% (n=742) had photo ID. 40% (n=406) indicated that they had a car or other adequate means of transportation.

COMPARISON OF 2008 AND 2007 PITC DATA

The 2008 PITC survey gathered significantly more information about respondents than the 2007 survey, including gathering information from those whose answers indicated that they were not homeless by HUD's definition (including the precariously housed, those "doubled up" or living temporarily with family or friends, etc.).

In 2008, the number of homeless households was 8% higher than the number reported in 2007 (n=1023 vs. n=941). While the number of homeless households has increased, the characteristics of those people who are homeless have remained largely the same. In Bergen County, transitional housing continued to be the largest housing resource for homeless households, with 69% of homeless people residing in transitional housing in 2008 and 63% in 2007. In both years, respondents indicated high levels of usage of and need for of the medical care, mental health and substance abuse programs.

Sleeping Accomodations 2008 vs. 2007



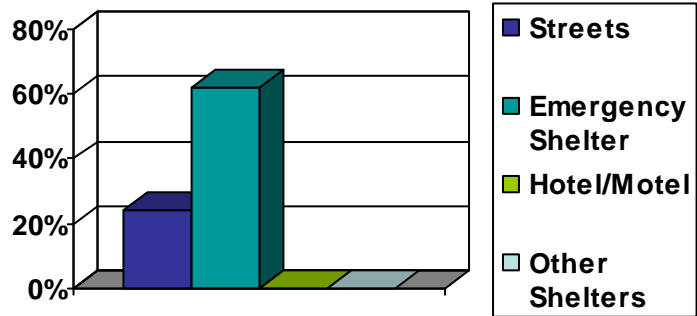
SECTION 2: CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

A subset of the homeless population is those who are chronically homeless. According to HUD, a chronically homeless citizen is an unaccompanied adult with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four homeless episodes in the past three years.

According to the 2008 PITC, 58 individuals were chronically homeless on the night of the count. This represents 6% of the total adult homeless population in Bergen County on that night.

62% (n=36) of the chronically homeless were living in emergency shelters, 24% (n=14) were spending the night on the streets or in places not meant for human habitation, 14% (n=8) had nowhere to stay and did not know where they would spend the night.

Sleeping Accommodations on Any Given Night

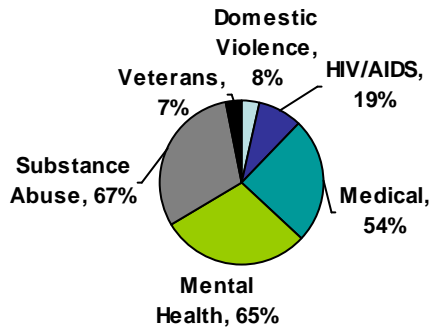


Demographics

64% (n=37) of the chronically homeless population was white and 19% (n=11) was African American. 7% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander. 9% (n=5) were Hispanic/Latino. 66%, or 38, individuals were male and 22%, or 13, were female. While chronically homeless people are individuals unaccompanied by children on the night in question, 40% (n=23) indicated that they did have children who were either adults or not in their care. 17% (n=10) spent time in foster care as children.

71% of people who were chronically homeless had been homeless for one year or more (n=41). 84% (n=49) had been homeless at least four times in the last three years.

Homeless Subpopulations As Reported by Respondents



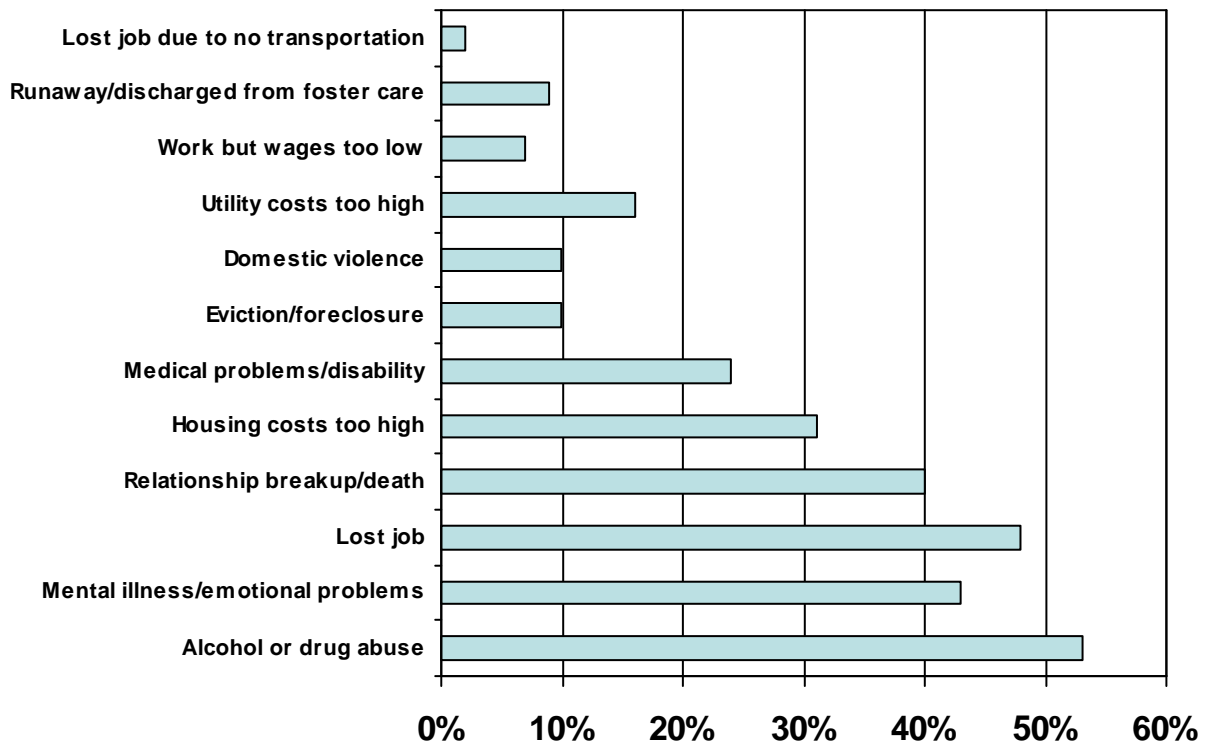
Among the chronically homeless population, 55% (n=32) reported usage of and 10% (n=6) a need for mental health services, 53% (n=31) reported usage of and 14% (n=8) a need for substance use services, 43% (n=25) reported usage of and 21% (n=12) a need for medical services for a disability, 5% (n=3) reported usage of and 3% (n=2) need for domestic violence services, 16% (n=9) reported usage of and 3% (n=2) a need for HIV/AIDS services, and 7% (n=4) were veterans.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness

28% (n=16) of chronically homeless people had no form of income. Of those who received income, 24% (n=14) received food stamps, 19% (n=11) received Emergency Assistance/General Assistance/Welfare, 19% (n=11) received Medicaid, and 15% (n=9) were employed.

When asked to name factors that contributed to their homelessness, 53% (n=31) reported alcohol or drug abuse problems, 48% (n=28) reported the loss of a job, 43% (n=37) reported mental health issues or emotional problems, and 40% (n=23) reported a family or relationship breakup or death.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness (by percentage)



62% (n=36) of chronically homeless citizens reported a history of incarceration. Of those individuals, 67% (n=24) said they had been discharged from jail or prison into homelessness. 78% (n=45) reported a history of medical hospitalizations, and of those individuals, 62% (n=28) reported being discharged into homelessness. 67% (n=39) reported a history of mental health or substance use inpatient treatment, and of those individuals, 51% (n=20) reported discharge into homelessness.

