

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

2024 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT & SURVEY

Every two years, typically 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 2024 Santa Cruz County Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on January 25, 2024. In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to 395 unsheltered and sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness in order to profile their experience and characteristics.



TOTAL PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

1,850

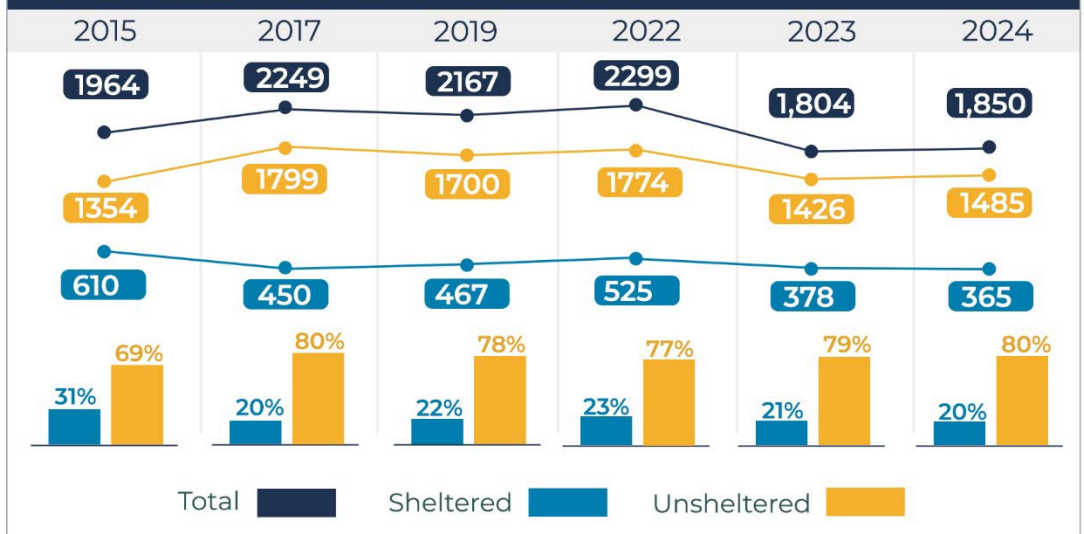


20%
Sheltered
n=365



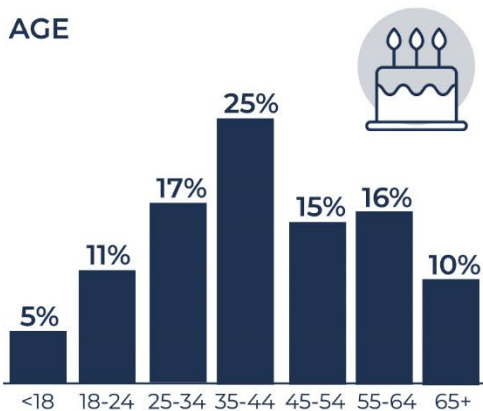
80%
Unsheltered
n=1,485

TOTAL PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

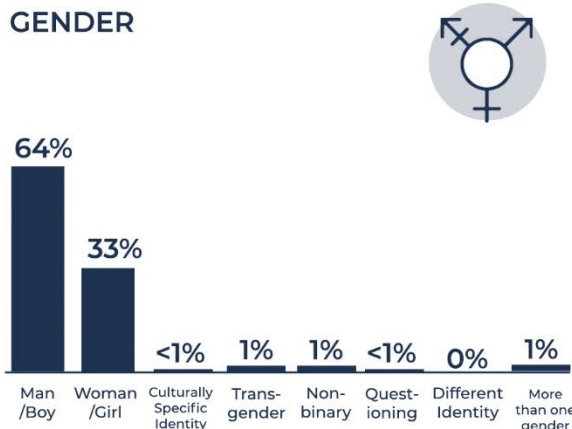


DEMOGRAPHICS

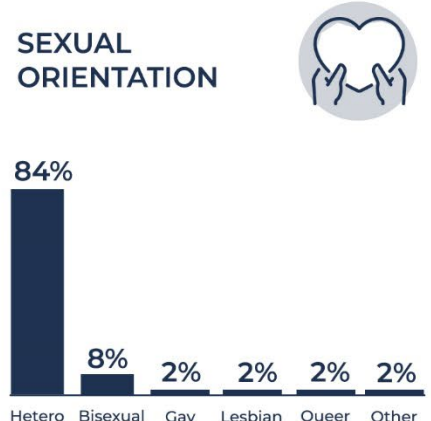
AGE



GENDER



SEXUAL ORIENTATION



RACE/ ETHNICITY

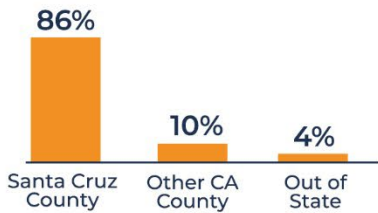


- 2%** American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous
- 2%** American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous & Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- 3%** Asian or Asian American
- 0%** Asian or Asian American & Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- 5%** Black, African American, or African
- <1%** Black, African American, or African & Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- 29%** Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- <1%** Middle Eastern or North African

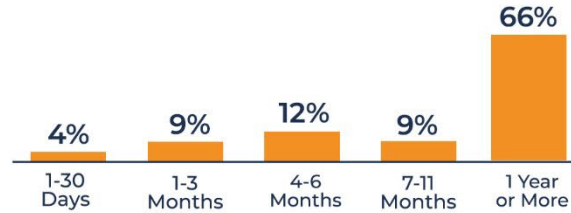
- 0%** Middle Eastern or North African & Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- 1%** Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- <1%** Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander & Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- 47%** White
- 9%** White & Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- 2%** Multi-Racial & Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- <1%** Multi-Racial (not Hispanic/Latina/e/o)

DATA PORTRAITS [□]

RESIDENCE AT THE TIME THEY BECAME HOMELESS



DURATION OF CURRENT EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS



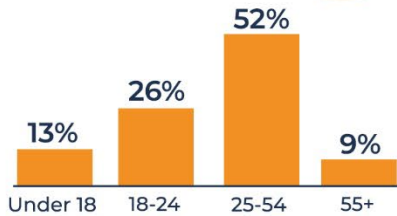
FIRST EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS



30%

of survey respondents reported their current episode of homelessness as being their first

AGE AT FIRST EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS



PRIMARY CONDITION THAT LEAD TO HOMELESSNESS*

(Top 5 Responses)



WAYS TO PREVENT LOSING HOUSING*

(Top 4 Responses)



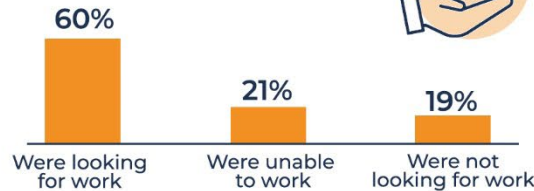
EMPLOYMENT STATUS



26%

of survey respondents had some form of employment

AMONG UNEMPLOYED RESPONDENTS



FOSTER CARE



16%

of survey respondents have foster care involvement

JUSTICE SYSTEM INVOLVED



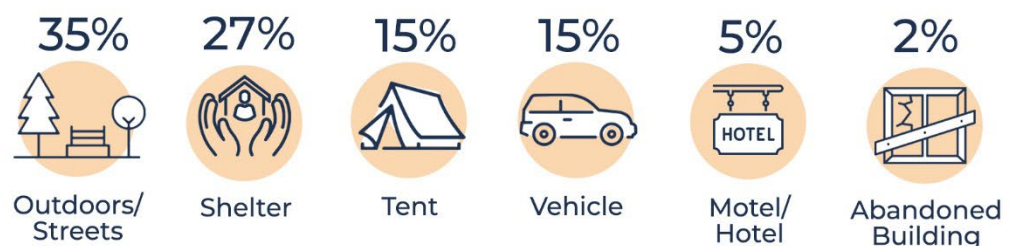
24%

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

16%

of survey respondents reported being on probation/parole at the start of their most recent episode of homelessness

SURVEY RESPONDENTS BY SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION



SELF-REPORTED HEALTH [□]

Current health conditions that may affect the housing stability or employment of those experiencing homelessness.

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER



46%

of survey respondents report having a substance use disorder

PSYCHIATRIC OR EMOTIONAL CONDITIONS



37%

of survey respondents report having a psychiatric or emotional condition

PTSD



33%

of survey respondents report having Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

PHYSICAL DISABILITY



29%

of survey respondents report having a physical disability

CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITION



28%

of survey respondents report having a chronic health condition

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY



13%

of survey respondents report having had a TBI

HIV/AIDS RELATED ILLNESS



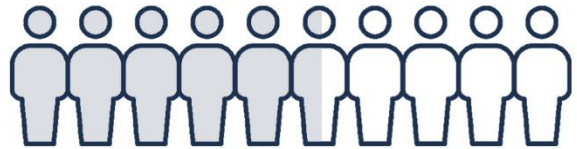
4%

of survey respondents report having an HIV/AIDS related illness

DISABLING CONDITION

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

55%



of survey respondents report having at least one disabling condition

GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE [□]



72%

of survey respondents reported receiving government benefits.

SERVICES CURRENTLY ACCESSING* (TOP 6 RESPONSES)

53%



Food Stamps

37%



Medi-Cal/Medicare

19%



Social Security

10%



Disability

5%



CalWorks

28%



None

REASONS FOR NOT RECEIVING GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE* (TOP 5 RESPONSES)

25%

Don't want government assistance

20%

Don't think I'm eligible

18%



No ID

17%



No Permanent Address

15%



Immigration issues

SPECIAL POPULATIONS

Total ■ Sheltered ■ Unsheltered ■

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS



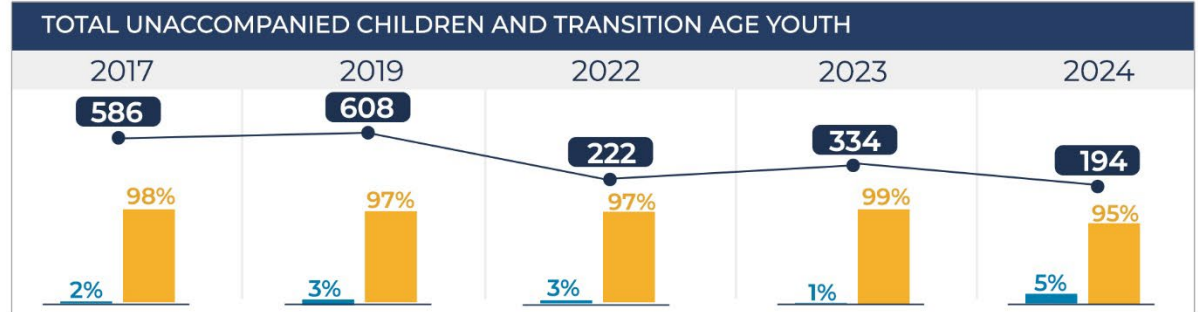
VETERANS



FAMILIES



UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN + TAY



SUBPOPULATION DEFINITIONS

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

An individual with one or more disabling conditions, or a family with a head of household with a disabling condition, who:

- Has been continuously homeless for one year or more and/or;
- Has experienced four or more episodes totaling 12 months or more of homelessness within the past three years

VETERANS

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

FAMILIES

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

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH YOUNG ADULTS

Youth under the age of 18 and young adults from the ages of 18 to 24 years old (TAY) who are experiencing homelessness and living without a parent or legal guardian.

□ Source: 2024 Santa Cruz County Homeless Survey, N=395

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

Note: Some percentages have been rounded so total percentage will equal 100%.