Since 2017, the RTFH has been collaborating with the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department to survey individuals residing in jail on the night of the count. This year 7 jails participated. On the night of the count, 968 inmates, representing 25% of the total jail population, were asked if they would participate in this year’s Point in Time Count Survey. Of those surveyed, 36% or 348 stated they were experiencing unsheltered homelessness the night they were incarcerated.

### 2024 Point-in-Time Count Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Homeless Profile</th>
<th>% of Unsheltered Persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Time Homeless</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of those surveyed who became homeless in San Diego County</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of those surveyed who were a former ward of child welfare or a foster care agency</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identified as Black, African American, or African</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of those surveyed who are experiencing homelessness 12 months or longer</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of those surveyed who are Transitional Age Youth (18-24)</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of those surveyed who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional Data

**Prior Living Situation Before Incarceration**

- Abandoned building: 1.1%
- Other (specify): 1.7%
- Park, beach, or riverbed: 5.7%
- Street or Sidewalk: 67.2%
- Tent/hand-built structure: 0.6%
- Under bridge/overpass: 1.1%
- Vehicle (Car, van, truck): 19.3%
- Woods or outdoor encampment: 2.9%

**History of Arrest Among Participants**

- Data not collected / Client Prefers not to answer: 9.5%
- Jail: 38.8%
- Prison: 10.6%
- Both Jail and Prison: 39.9%
- Never: 0.6%

**Previous Detention in Juvenile Hall**

- Client prefers not to answer: 42.8%
- No: 56.3%
- Yes: 0.9%

**Length of Stay When Last Incarcerated**

- 1-5 years: 10.9%
- 1-6 Months: 22.4%
- 5+ Years: 27.6%
- 6-12 Months: 13.8%
- Client doesn't know: 9.2%
- Client prefers not to answer: 1.1%
- Data not collected: 0.3%
- Less than 1 month: 0.6%
Key Findings

- Notably, there has been a **4%** increase from 2023 in the number of individuals reported as experiencing unsheltered homelessness prior to their current arrest, from **32%** to **36%**.

- Analysis of the "Prior Living Situation before Incarceration" data reveals that **19%** of those experiencing unsheltered homelessness were living in their vehicles the night they were arrested.

- In response to an increasing concern about the comprehensive backgrounds of incarcerated individuals, a new survey question was introduced focusing on past experiences with juvenile detention centers. The results were significant, indicating that **43%** of the current incarcerated population that were experiencing homelessness had previously been in juvenile detention.

- Another key question to learn more about the background of individuals surveyed: "Before your current arrest, have you ever been to jail and/or prison?" showed that **40%** of respondents had experienced both, **39%** had been in jail, and **11%** had been in prison. This reveals that a substantial majority, **89%**, had encountered jail and/or prison prior to their current incarceration.