



WeALLCount

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

2016

SAN DIEGO COUNTY



REGIONAL TASK FORCE
ON THE HOMELESS
"OUR COMMUNITY, OUR HOMELESS, OUR ISSUES"

June 2016

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 19, 2016

We send greetings and thanks to all those participating in this year's Point-in-Time count of homeless men, women, and children across our country.

From her earliest days, America has been a beacon of hope for all people—no matter who they are or what their circumstances may be. Yet too often, individuals from all walks of life struggle to find the opportunity and stability our country has so proudly promised, even when it comes to some of our most basic needs.

Since launching Opening Doors in 2010, homelessness rates have sharply fallen, and our communities have made tremendous strides in reducing homelessness overall, including among America's families and the chronically homeless. Cities and towns across our Nation are expanding their involvement by partnering with the White House through initiatives such as Joining Forces and the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness. Our coordinated efforts have proven that if we work hard and work together, it is possible to end homelessness for families, youth, and people with disabilities—and for our veterans, who have given so much to keep our country safe and free.

The idea of "home" has been central to our country's character from its earliest days, and dedicated, passionate people like you, who take up the noble work of serving our most vulnerable, are helping make it a reality for all. Your commitment to putting comfort, opportunity, and security within the reach of those who need it most represents the best of America and will help us build a future free from the heartbreak of poverty.

As you continue striving to ensure everyone has a safe and stable place to call home, we wish you the best and thank you for your work.



Michelle Obama



REGIONAL TASK FORCE
ON THE HOMELESS
"OUR COMMUNITY, OUR HOMELESS, OUR ISSUES"



Table of Contents

Executive Summary-----	1
Introduction-----	3
Project Overview and Results-----	3
Methodology-----	5
Federal Definitions-----	6
Point-in-Time Count Myths-----	7
Point-in-Time Census-----	8
Regional Summary-----	8
Regional Map-----	9
Unsheltered Survey Results-----	10
Demographics-----	11
Sleeping Accommodations-----	14
Place of Residence-----	16
Disabilities-----	17
Criminal Justice System-----	18
Employment-----	19
Onset, Duration and Recurrence of Homelessness-----	20
Primary Cause of Homelessness-----	22
Identifiable Information and HMIS-----	23
Homeless Subpopulations-----	25
Chronic Homelessness-----	26
Veterans-----	28
Homeless Families-----	31
Unaccompanied and Transition-Age Youth (TAY) -----	32
City Profiles-----	34
City Totals-----	35



City of San Diego-----	36
Chula Vista-----	37
El Cajon-----	38
Encinitas-----	39
Escondido-----	40
Imperial Beach-----	41
La Mesa-----	42
Lemon Grove-----	43
National City-----	44
Oceanside-----	45
Santee-----	46
Unincorporated Areas-----	47
Vista-----	48
Conclusion-----	49
Census Tracts-----	50
Appendix A: Common Definitions and Abbreviations-----	56
Appendix B: Methodology-----	58
Acknowledgements-----	63



Executive Summary

Every year the WeALLCount, San Diego County’s Point-in-Time count (PITC) provides a snapshot of how many people are homeless on a single night in January. The findings provide communities, service providers, and policy makers with an understanding of current challenges, areas to target for limited funding for appropriate housing and services, and the ability to track overall progress.

The 2016 WeALLCount consisted of four major components:

- Unsheltered street count: physical enumeration covering 4,000 miles and 585 census tracts
- Sheltered count: utilizing and validating data from the HMIS database
- In-depth demographic survey
- Separate youth count effort

There were 8,692 persons who were homeless in San Diego County on January 29, 2016 according to the San Diego Point-in-Time Count. This represents a decrease of less than 1% region wide from 2015 (8,742).

In the week following the January 29th street count, a qualitative survey was administered to 24% (1173) of the unsheltered population in order to profile their experience and demographic information. This survey found that there was a 69% increase in the number of individuals sleeping in tents or hand-built structures.

The Regional Task Force on the Homeless worked in partnership with local governments, non-profits, faith communities, foundations and volunteers to conduct the street count, sheltered count, survey and youth count. These efforts involved more than 1,676 volunteers and 73 deployment sites across the region. The U.S Department of Veterans Affairs funded the WeALLCount in 2016.

Overall, the total homeless remained stable, but there were large deviations in the unsheltered and sheltered population

The unsheltered count increased 18.9% from 4,156 to 4,940 individuals.



The sheltered count decreased 18.2% from 4,586 to 3,752 individuals.





Important Highlights:

This year saw significant decreases in HUD defined subpopulations that our community has focused time and resources on.

Veteran homelessness decreased 16.2%.

584 veterans were counted in the sheltered count, while 573 were unsheltered. Veterans represent 13.3% of the homeless population. From 2011, veteran homelessness has decreased 29.8%.

Homeless families with youth decreased 13.6%.

Of the 545 homeless families- 469 of them were in shelters, with 76 families on the streets.

Chronic homelessness decreased 13.1%

There was a decrease in those chronically homeless from 1547 in 2015 to 1345 in 2016. This is promising, however may be influenced by the change in federal definition for chronic homelessness in the fall of 2015 (see appendix A).

Regionally, the City of San Diego had 58.6% of the homeless population, followed by North County Inland (13.3%). The City of San Diego saw an 8% decrease in their homeless numbers although they accounted for 58% of those enumerated. Among cities, the City of Oceanside had the second largest count with 7.7% of the homeless population.

Youth Count increased- improved methodology

A separate youth count effort focused on street outreach that utilized youth service providers as part of the 2016 PITC. An increase of 205 youth were counted, for a total of 830 unaccompanied homeless youth. Of these, there were 145 under the age of 18, and 685 transition aged youth (TAY) ages 18-24. During the week of the PITC, 191 homeless youth contacted 2-1-1 and identified themselves as homeless.

This report provides an in-depth look at the region's homelessness, including demographic information and city profiles where there were statistically significant sample sizes.

The goal of this report is to educate the community, elected officials, and community stakeholders on the San Diego homeless population, in hopes of improving community awareness, and to provide data for local decisions.



Introduction

On January 29th, 2016, 8,692 individuals were counted as homeless in San Diego County. The goal of this report is to educate the public, elected officials, and community stakeholders on the homeless population, in hopes of improving awareness and providing data for local decisions.

Overview of the PIT Count:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires cities and counties to conduct a biennial Point-in-Time Count of unsheltered and sheltered persons experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. While 2016 was not a mandated year for communities to conduct an unsheltered count, the San Diego community continued the tradition of conducting an annual count. The San Diego Veterans Affairs funded the count in 2016. The count is intended as a one-day snapshot of unduplicated numbers of homeless families and individuals in sheltered, unsheltered and other locations in San Diego County.

The San Diego County point-in-time count consists of a street count, a shelter count, a survey process and a youth count.

In addition to meeting HUD requirements San Diego County uses this federal mandate as an opportunity to collect information on San Diego County specific (local) questions.

In San Diego, the count occurred on January 29th from 4 a.m. to 7 a.m. and included 1,676 volunteers. Volunteers covered over 4,000 square miles encompassing 585 census tracts and counted 4,940 homeless individuals sleeping on the street, in vehicles, or in hand-built structures.

On the day of the count, data was collected from homeless service providers to determine how many people spent the night in emergency shelters, transitional houses, and safe havens. This data is verified by the Homeless Management Information System and administered by the Regional Task Force on the Homeless. A total of 3,752 individuals spent the night in homeless shelters or programs.

An in depth demographic survey was administered region wide from January 29 to February 5th, 2016. 1,173 unique surveys were collected during this time period, equaling 24% of the unsheltered group.

Results

A total of 4,940 unsheltered homeless were counted; 55.5% of the unsheltered homeless were enumerated in the City of San Diego. There was an 18.9% increase in the number of overall unsheltered homeless between 2015 and 2016.

In addition to the unsheltered homeless, there were 3,752 homeless persons that spent the night in an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or a safe haven program. The number of homeless persons staying in the shelter system decreased by 18.2% from the previous year.

Region wide there was an increase of 69% in the use of tents and hand built structures in the unsheltered population.



Demographics

It is estimated that 72% of unsheltered homeless are male and that 60% are white and 48% became homeless between the ages of 25 and 54.

Veterans made up 13.3% of the total homeless population, which equates to 573 unsheltered veterans and 584 sheltered veterans. The total number of veterans decreased by 16% from 2015 to 2016.

Characteristics

The majority of the unsheltered population reported becoming homeless while living in San Diego. It is estimated that:

- 22% of the unsheltered are considered chronically homeless as defined by HUD
- 8% report having substance abuse issues
- 14% report having a severe mental illness



Photo by Bob Ross Photography



Methodology

The 2016 Point-in-Time Count included a complete enumeration of all unsheltered and sheltered homeless persons followed by a week-long unsheltered survey process. The 2016 WeALLCount was a county-wide effort that relied on community support, including 73 deployment and interview sites that were staffed by 1,676 volunteers that were essential in collecting accurate PITC data.

The WeALLCount consists of four major components. An in-depth description of the methodology can be found in Appendix B of this report. The 2016 PITC consisted of;

- The unsheltered count
- The sheltered count
- The unsheltered survey
- The youth count effort

Unsheltered Count:

The general street count was conducted on January 29, 2016 from approximately 4 AM to 7 AM and covered 585 census tracts. This resulted in a visual count of unsheltered homeless individuals and families residing on the streets, in vehicles, makeshift shelters, encampments, and other places not meant for human habitation.

Volunteer groups of two or more were assigned a census tract at one of the 73 deployment centers across the county. Each group was then given a map of the assigned census tract. Groups mark the location on the map of where homeless persons are seen, either on the street, in a vehicle, or tent/hand-built structure. The volunteers are required to view an online training module the week of the PIT count that goes over the maps, tally sheets, safety, and other protocol.

Sheltered Count

The sheltered count is a process of identifying and verifying those individuals who were in a shelter the night of the PITC. Shelters and facilities report the number of homeless individuals and families who occupied their facilities on the same night/morning of the street count (January 29, 2016). The sheltered homeless count was verified through the utilization of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database, which is used by over 50 organizations that serve the homeless in the region. The sheltered homeless count occurs on the same day as the unsheltered count to minimize duplication.

Unsheltered Interview/Survey

In addition to physically counting the number of unsheltered homeless, volunteers interviewed approximately 24% of the estimated unsheltered homeless population. In the week following the street count, an in-depth survey was administered to 1,173 unsheltered homeless individuals of all ages. The survey gathered basic demographic details as well as information on service needs, and local questions.



This report provides data regarding the number and characteristics of people experiencing homelessness in San Diego on a single night. Specific efforts were made to survey a representative sample of all unsheltered homeless in each city and the unincorporated area of the county. This was achieved by surveying more heavily in areas with higher rates of unsheltered homeless, and surveying less heavily in areas with lower rates of unsheltered homelessness. This method of surveying allows the Regional Task Force on the Homeless (RTFH) to estimate the characteristics of the entire unsheltered population in San Diego County and make estimates on the numbers of individuals with certain characteristics.

Special attention is given to four subpopulations including persons experiencing chronic homelessness, veterans, families with children, unaccompanied children under the age of 18, and unaccompanied youth between the ages of 18-24, also known as Transition-Age-Youth (TAY). This data allows San Diego to have a more comprehensive look into our homeless population.

Youth Count

The youth count methodology is intended to improve the quality of data about homeless youth, as this population can be especially difficult for volunteers to identify. In a sustained effort to improve data on the extent of youth homelessness, San Diego conducted a dedicated youth count similar to the one conducted in 2015. While youth under the age of 25 are included in the general count efforts, traditional outreach strategies tend to undercount unsheltered homeless youth. Dedicated teams of youth service providers and trained volunteers assist with concentrated survey outreach to unaccompanied children and transition-age-youth residing on the street. The dedicated youth count methodology was altered in 2015 to better ensure unaccompanied children and transition-age-youth were not included in both the general street count and youth count. San Diego has worked to improve data on unaccompanied children and youth, though there are still challenges and limitations to this study- especially because HUD has a stricter definition of homelessness than the definition used by the Department of Education.

Federal Definitions of Homelessness for a Point-in-Time Count

During the WeALLCount, HUD's definition of homelessness for Point-in-Time counts was used.

According to HUD, a person is considered homeless only when he/she resides in one of the places described below at the time of the count.

- An unsheltered homeless person resides in: A place not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, or on the street.
- A sheltered homeless person resides 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)



Point-in-Time Count Myths

There are some common misconceptions about the data that is collected from PIT counts. These myths and responses can help communities better understand the role and uses of a point-in-time count.

The Alliance's Homeless Research Institute put together a media resource, "5 Myths about PIT Counts" to help communities better understand the role and uses of a Point-in-Time count.

Myth 1: PITCs are inaccurate because they do not count every homeless person.

PIT counts are a solid count of people experiencing homelessness in shelters, transitional housing, and on the street, in cars, in abandoned buildings, and in other places not intended for human habitation. PIT counts are conducted across the nation and provide trend data locally and nationally.

Myth 2: Other national statistics contradict PITC data.

There are several national data sources on homelessness, but they do not cover the same population over the same time period, and subsequently cannot be directly compared to the PIT count

Myth 3: PITCs are meant to provide data on everyone who is homeless.

PIT counts are intended to provide a snapshot of how many people are homeless on a given night in January.

Myth 4: Fluctuations in the PITC reflect fluctuations in the number of shelter beds, not in the number of homeless people.

The PIT counts reflect the interaction among people in beds, people unsheltered, and utilization of beds.

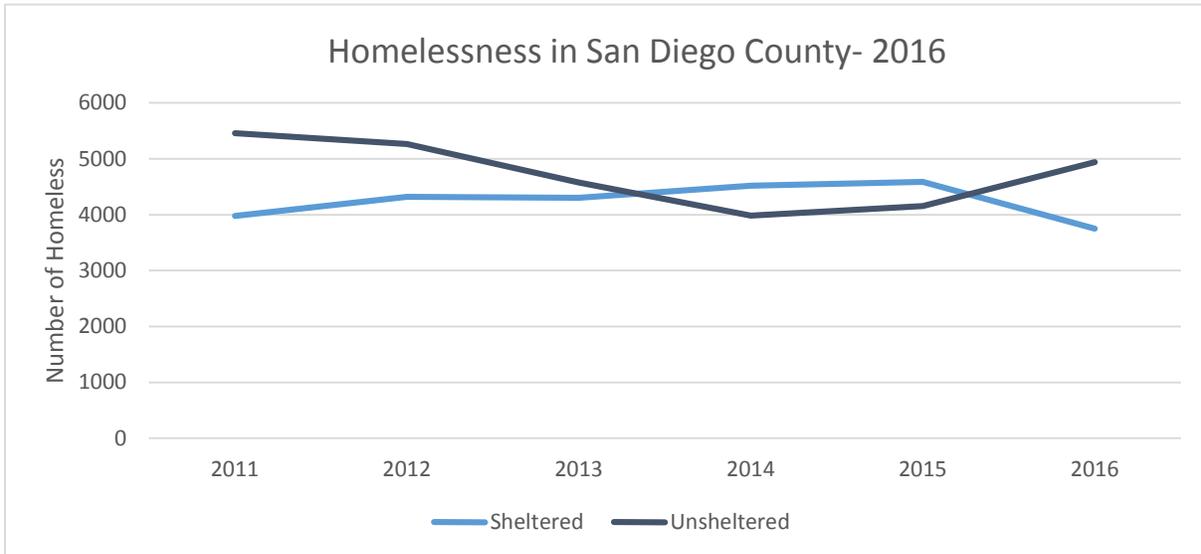
Myth 5: If the count is down, it means that there is enough affordable housing in the community.

The PIT describes how the homeless system is managing people's experience of the shortage of affordable housing – not the availability of that housing.



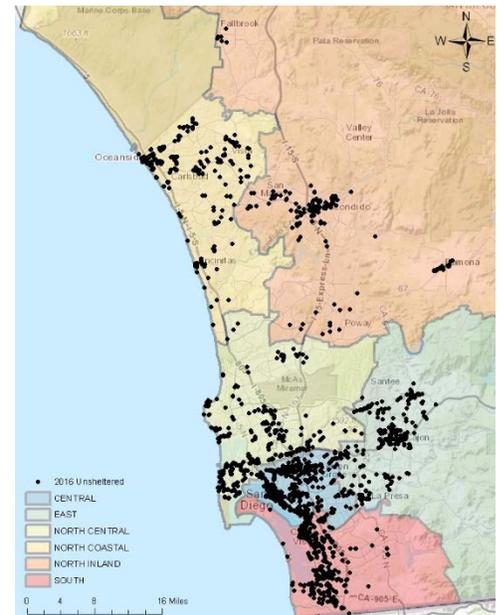
Regional Summary

County wide, there were 8,692 homeless individuals counted on January 29th. This is a .06% decrease from 2015 and a -3.6% decrease from 2011.



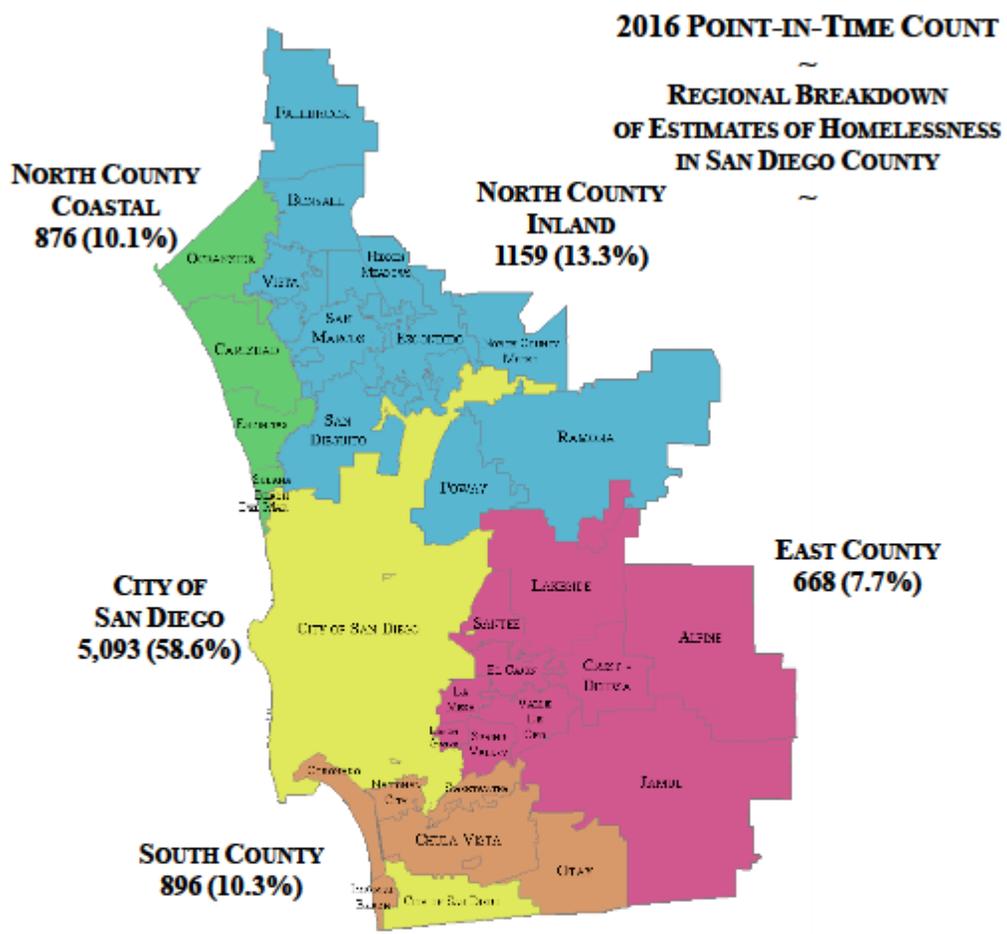
San Diego County, 2016		
	% of the Unsheltered	Total Individuals*
Chronically Homeless	22%	1087
Veteran	12%	573
Substance Abuse	8%	392
Severe Mental Illness	14%	674
Currently on Probation or Parole	14%	711
Female	27%	1356

*Based on a survey sample of 1,173.



Sheltered: 3752				Unsheltered: 4940				Total: 8692
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total
1273	52	2427	3752	2073	1847	1020	4940	8692

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.



San Diego County Regions	Homeless Persons				
	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total	% by Region	% Change
City of San Diego	2348	2745	5093	58.6%	-8%
North County Inland	721	438	1159	13.3%	+26.1%
North County Coastal	381	495	876	10.1%	+38.2%
South County	199	697	896	10.3%	+26.9%
East County	103	565	668	7.7%	-29.3%
San Diego County	3752	4940	8692	100%	

Source: San Diego Regional 2016 Point-in-Time Count

RTFHSD.org



Unsheltered Survey Results

This section provides an overview of the findings generated from the 2016 San Diego Homeless Survey. Surveys were administered to homeless individuals between January 29 and February 5, 2016. This effort resulted in 1,173 unique surveys (24% of the unsheltered population). Based on the Point-in-Time Count of 4,940 unsheltered homeless persons, with a cluster survey sampling process, these 1,173 valid surveys represent a confidence interval of +/- 3% with a 95% confidence level when generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated population of homeless individuals in San Diego.

To ensure the safety and comfort of those who participated, respondents were not required to complete all survey questions. Missing values are listed as “non-response”. The WeALLCount includes a representative sample, garnering information from subpopulations that are often hidden or hard to reach. Efforts were made to target respondents based on age, accommodation and geographic location.



Survey Demographics

To gain a more comprehensive understanding of the experiences of the homeless population in San Diego County, respondents were asked basic demographic questions, including age, gender, and ethnicity.

Age of Unsheltered Homeless:

Fifty-nine percent (59%) were between the ages of 25 and 54 at the time of the survey. Fourteen percent (14%) of survey respondents were under the age of 25. One percent of unsheltered respondents were over 75 year old at the time they took the survey.

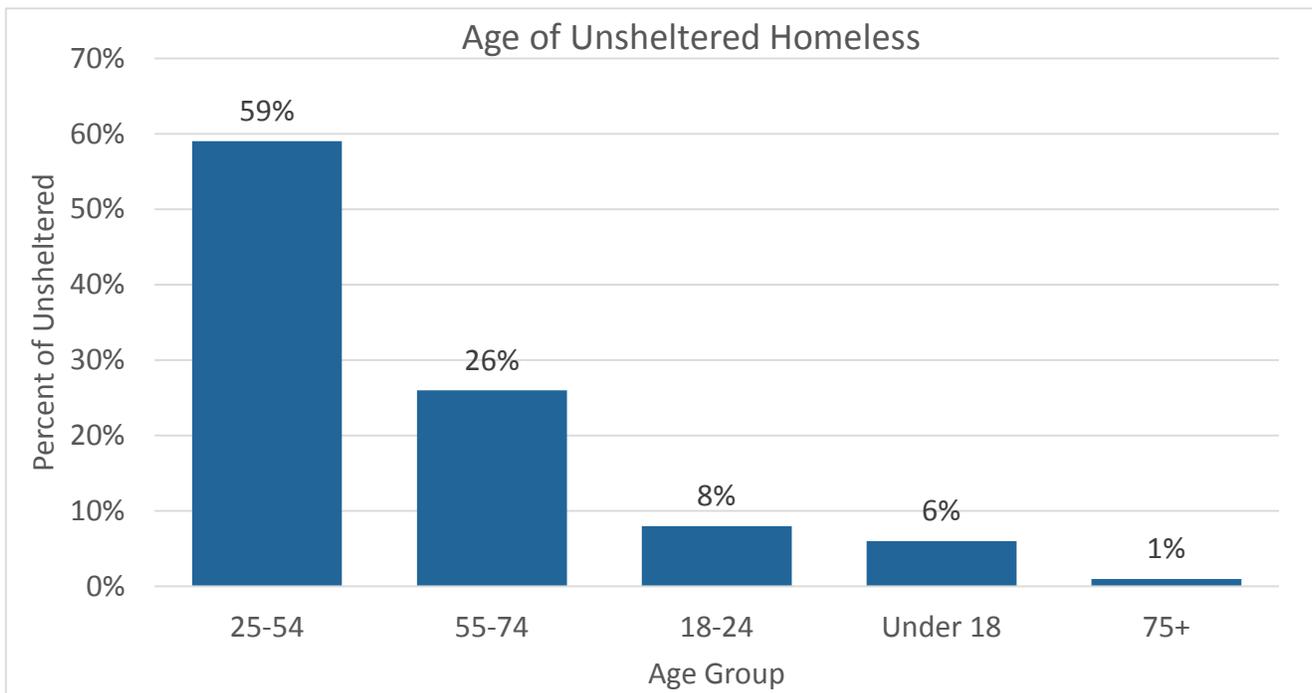


Photo by Bob Ross Photography

San Diego County, 2016		
	Estimated Total	% of Unsheltered
25-54	2,915	59%
55-74	1,285	26%
18-24	395	8%
Under 18	296	6%
75+	49	1%



Gender:

Seventy-one percent of the unsheltered population self-identified as male. Twenty-seven percent (27.4%) self-identified as female. Less than one percent of the unsheltered identified as transgender (0.7%).

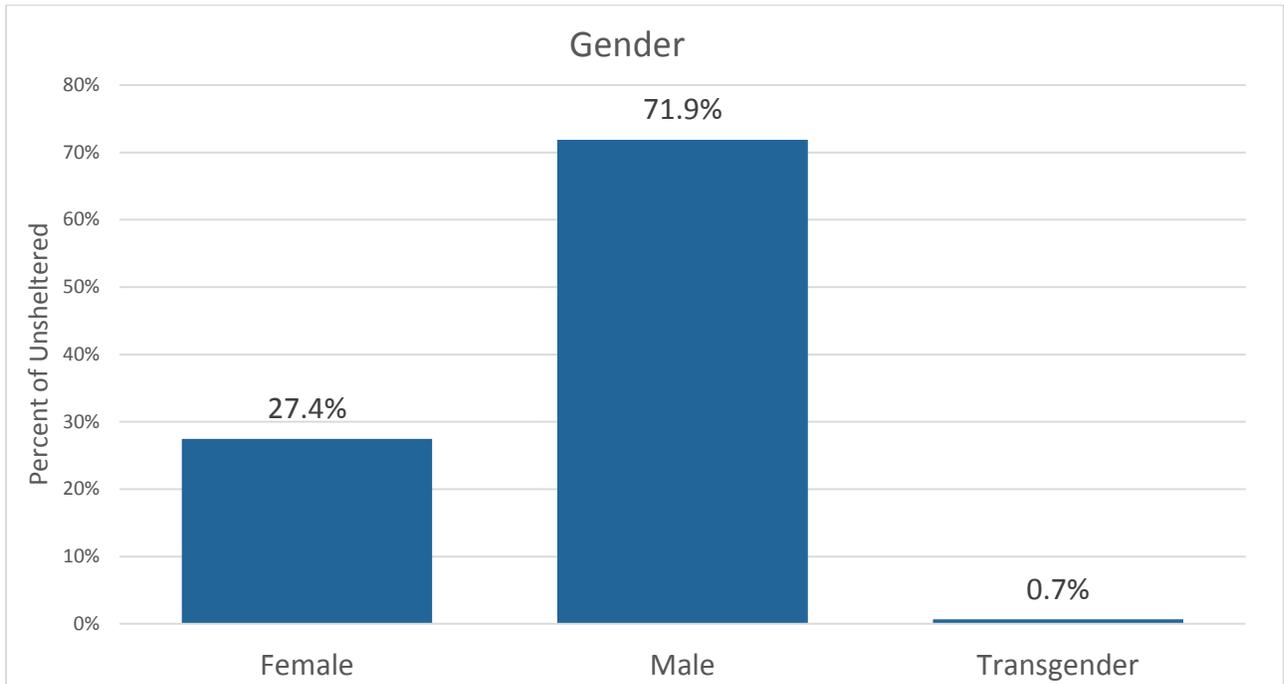


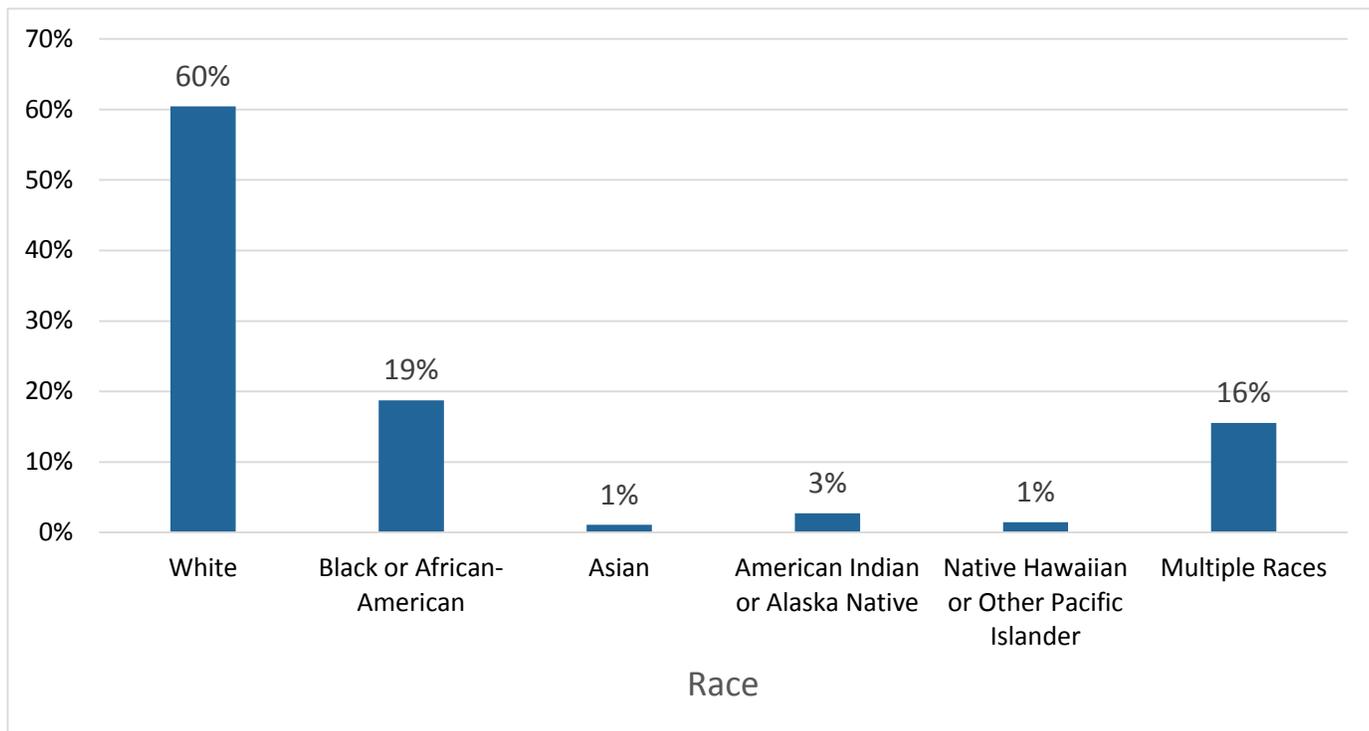
Photo by Bob Ross Photography

Gender San Diego County, 2016		
	Estimated Total	% of Unsheltered
Male	3,550	71.9%
Female	1,356	27.4%
Transgender	34	0.7%



Race and Ethnicity

60% of the unsheltered homeless population identified as white. When asked about their racial identity, differences between the general population and those experiencing homelessness were distinct. Compared to the general population of San Diego, a much higher population of the unsheltered homeless identified as Black or African-American (19% compared to 5%). A lower percentage of homeless respondents identified as Asian (1%), compared to 11% of the general population.



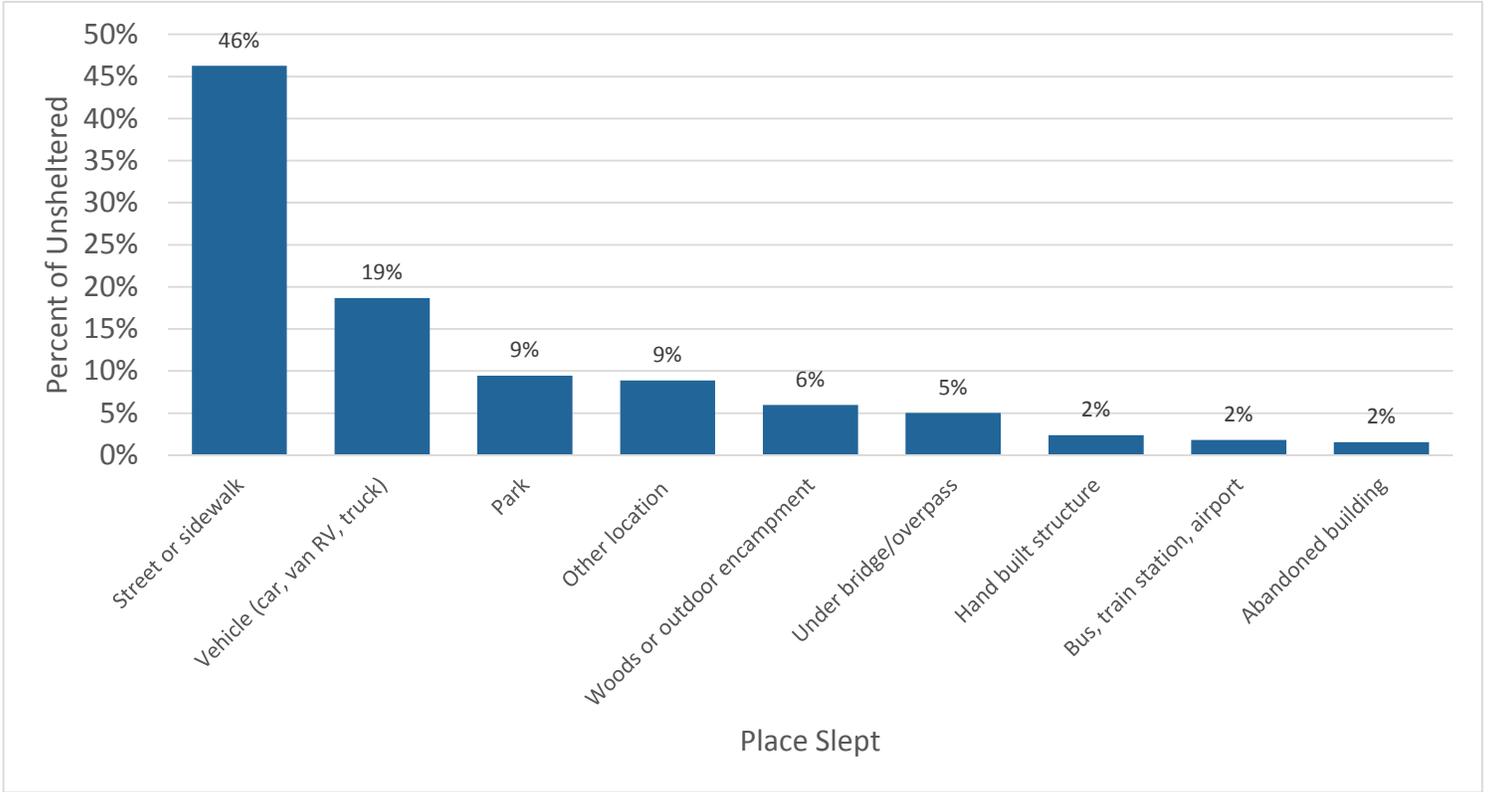
The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) gathers data on race and ethnicity in two separate questions, similar to the U.S. Census. When asked if they identified as a Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, the majority (76%) of unsheltered homeless survey respondents reported they did not identify as Hispanic or Latino. In comparison to the general population of San Diego, a slightly lower percentage of homeless respondents identified as Hispanic or Latino (24% compared to the general population of 32%).

Ethnicity of Unsheltered Homeless San Diego County, 2016		
	Estimated Total	% of Unsheltered
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	3,773	76%
Hispanic/Latino	1,167	24%



Sleeping Accommodations

Nearly half of survey respondents reported currently sleeping on a street or sidewalk in San Diego County (46%). Nineteen percent (19%) reported staying in their vehicles.



Place Slept on January 29th San Diego County, 2016		
	Estimated Total	% of Unsheltered
Street or sidewalk	2,287	46%
Vehicle (car, van RV, truck)	922	19%
Park	468	9%
Other location	438	9%
Woods or outdoor encampment	295	6%
Under bridge/overpass	249	5%
Hand built structure	118	2%
Bus, train station, airport	88	2%
Abandoned building	76	2%



Photo by Bob Ross Photography



Trends in Hand Built Structures

This year, during the point in time count, there was a sizeable increase (69%) in the number of tents and hand-built structures enumerated in the region.

Trends in Hand Built Structures- Region Wide			
	2014	2015	2016
Region Wide	365	604	1020

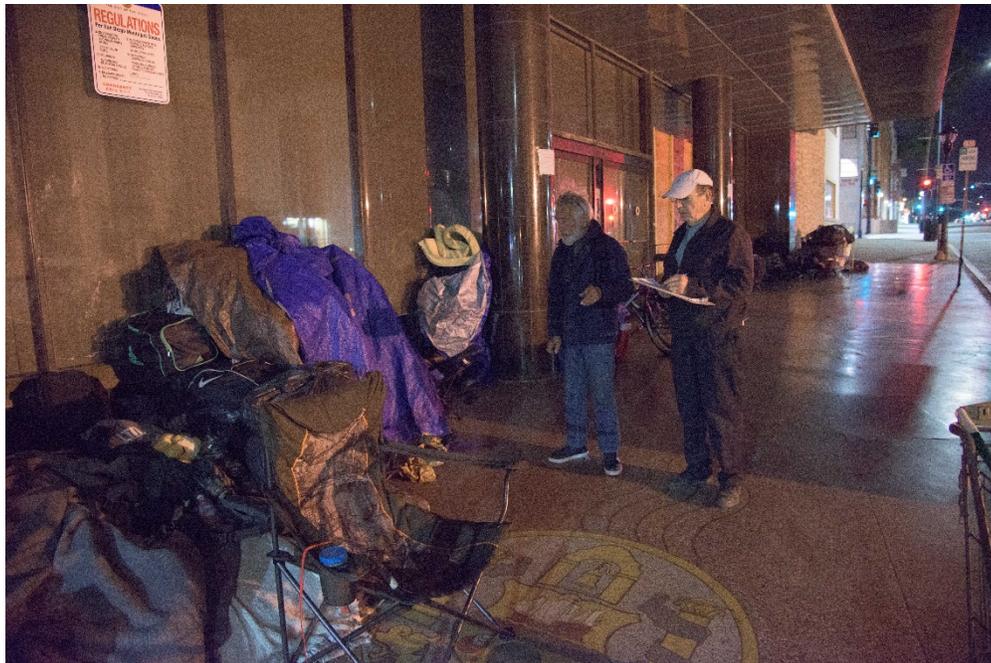
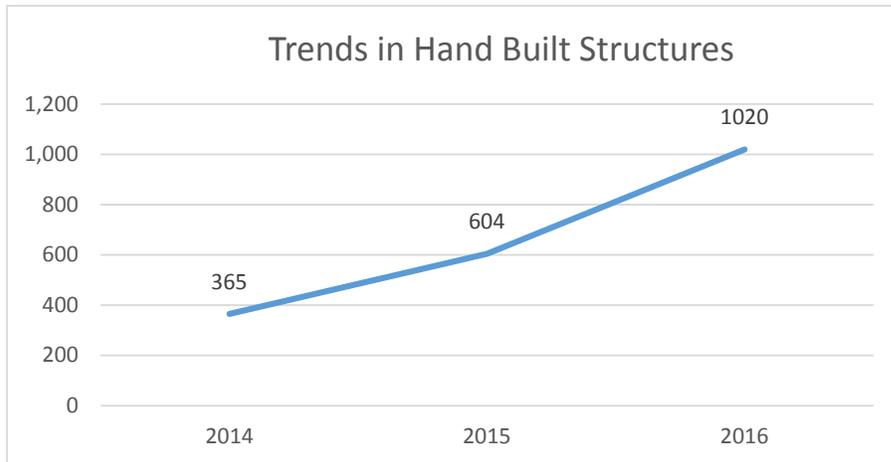


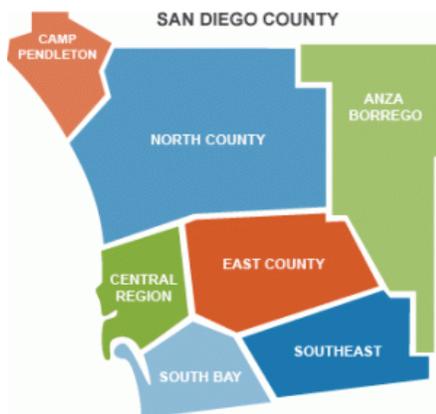
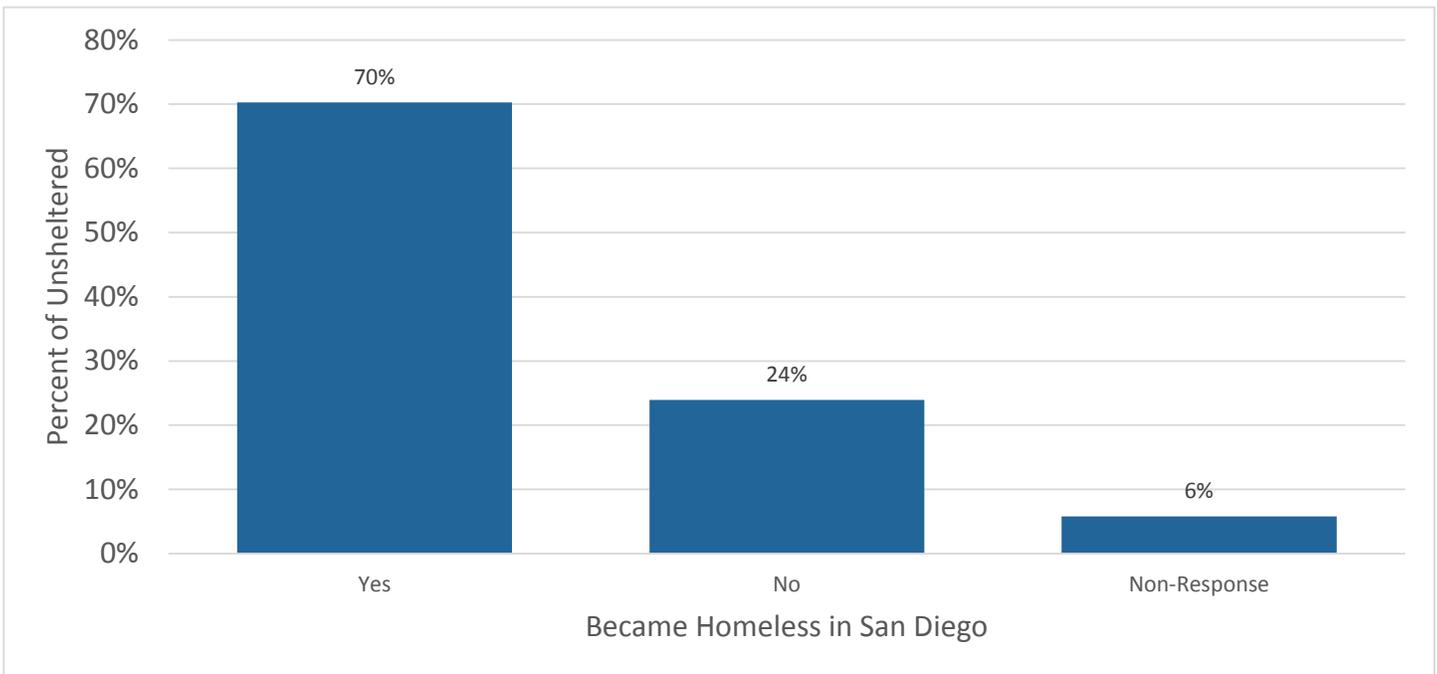
Photo by Bob Ross Photography



Place of Residence

One of the questions that is asked in many cities is whether or not people became homeless while living in the city (or the county). The survey asked unsheltered homeless individuals if they became homeless in San Diego. The majority (70%) of respondents said yes, they became homeless in San Diego.

Survey Question: Did you become homeless in San Diego?



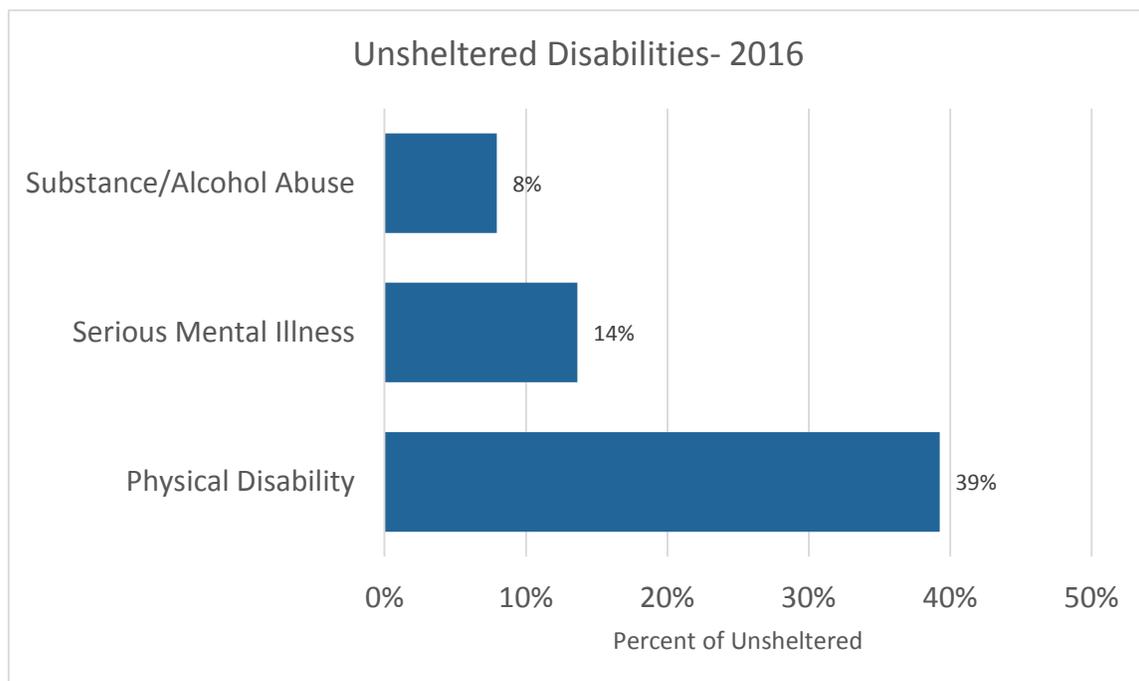
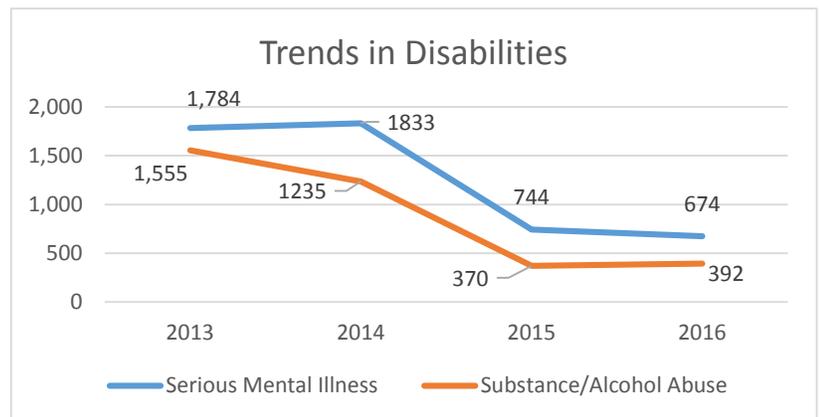
Became Homeless While Living in San Diego San Diego, 2016		
	Estimated Total	% of Unsheltered
Yes	3,470	70%
No	1,183	24%
Non-Response	286	6%



Disabilities

When asked about disabilities in the unsheltered population physical disability was the highest response rate with 39% answering yes to having one. Those suffering from a serious mental illness decreased by 9% in the unsheltered population from last year, but still represents 14% of all the unsheltered homeless individuals. In 2016, San Diego County individuals suffering from a self-reported substance use disorder increased by 6% in the unsheltered population in 2016 and represent 8% of the unsheltered population. Since 2013, substance abuse among the unsheltered has decreased by over 70%. Similarly, the self-reported instances of serious mental illness in the unsheltered have decreased 62%.

Unsheltered Homeless and Disabilities San Diego County, 2016		
	Estimated Total	% of Unsheltered
Physical Disability	1,939	39%
Serious Mental Illness	674	14%
Substance/Alcohol Abuse	392	8%





Criminal Justice System

Individuals recently released from the criminal justice system often face housing challenges that may contribute to their homelessness.

Incarceration

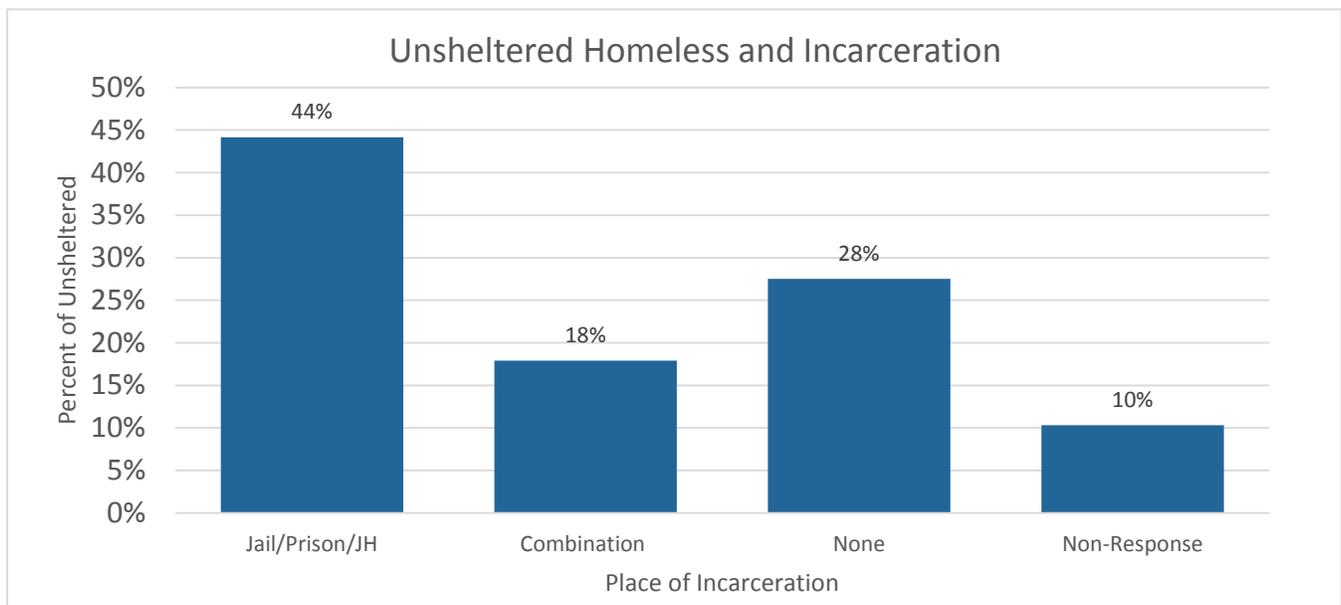
In San Diego County, fourteen percent (14%) of unsheltered survey respondents reported they were on probation or parole at the time of the survey. Almost two-thirds of the unsheltered population surveyed had been to jail, prison, or juvenile hall. Of those, 18% had been in a combination of jail, prison, and/or juvenile hall.

Previous Incarceration of Homeless Adults San Diego County, 2015		
	Estimated Total	% of Unsheltered
Jail/Prison/ JH	3063	62%
Combination	884	18%
None	1,359	28%
Non-Response	510	10%

Length of Time and Incarceration

Length of time in jail/prison/JH	Less than 1 month: 39%
How long ago last release from jail/prison/JH	5+ Years: 28%

Of those who had been to jail, prison, or juvenile hall in some form (62%), 39% of them spent less than one month incarcerated before being released.

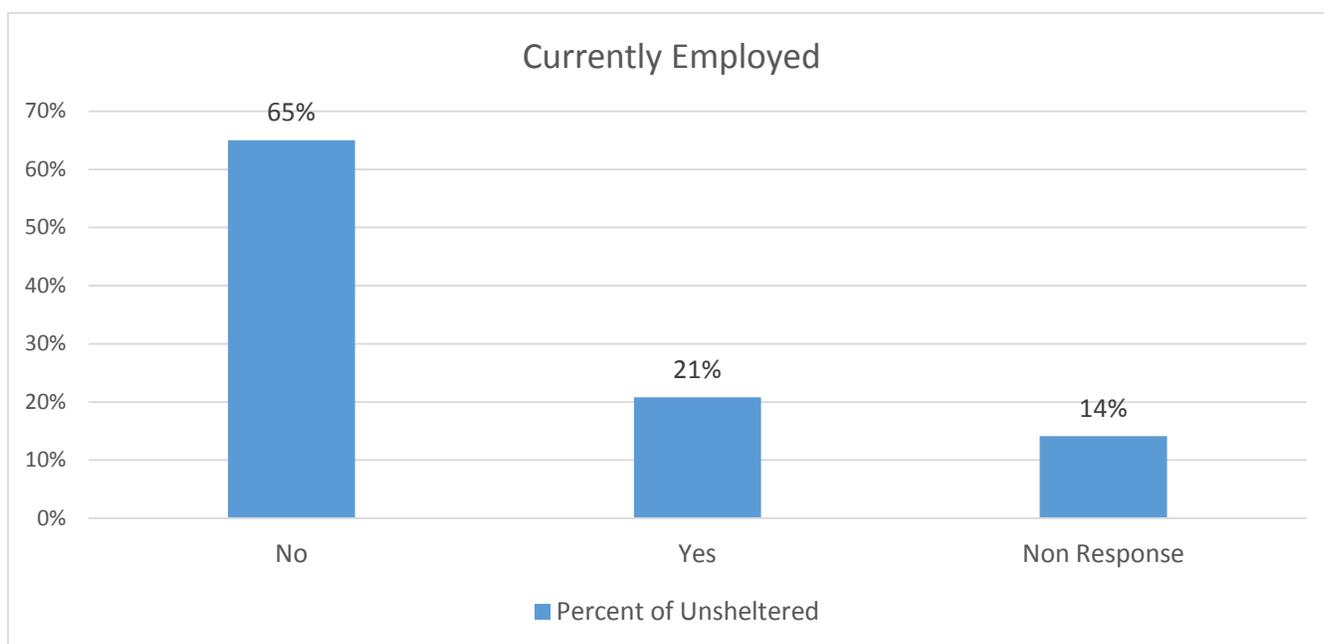




Employment

While the majority of homeless survey respondents reported being unemployed, some had part-time or fulltime work. The unemployment rate for homeless respondents was 65%. Almost twenty-one percent (20.8%) of respondents reported being employed. Of those not currently employed, 31% reported that it had been five years or longer since their last job. 13% had been unemployed for 6 months or less.

The unemployment rate in San Diego in January 2016 was at 4.7%, down from nearly 6% in 2014¹. It is also important to recognize that the unemployment rate represents only those who are unemployed and actively seeking employment. It does not represent all joblessness, nor does it address the types of available employment.



Time Since Last Employment San Diego County, 2016		
	Estimated Total	% of Unsheltered
Currently employed	320	6%
Less than 1 month	139	3%
1-6 months	484	10%
1-2 years	514	10%
2-5 years	686	14%
5+ years	1529	31%
6-12 months	354	7%
non-response	913	18%



Photo by Bob Ross Photography

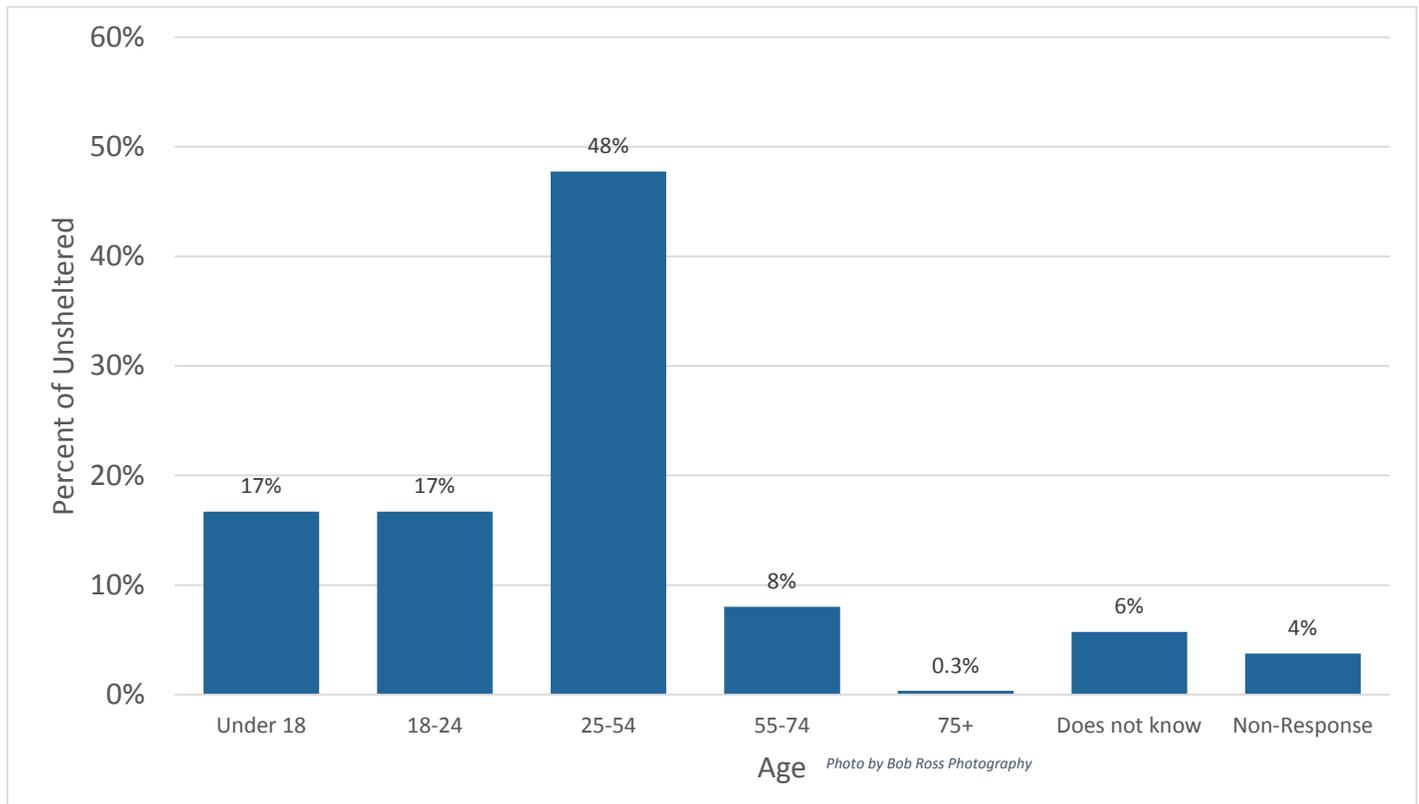
¹ Employment Development Department, California (2016)



Onset, Duration, and Recurrence of Homelessness

In an effort to better understand the experiences and age distribution of those experiencing homelessness, respondents were asked how old they were the first time they experienced homelessness. In response 48% responded that they were between the ages of 25-54, 17% reported they were under the age of 18.

Survey Question: How old were you when you first became homeless?

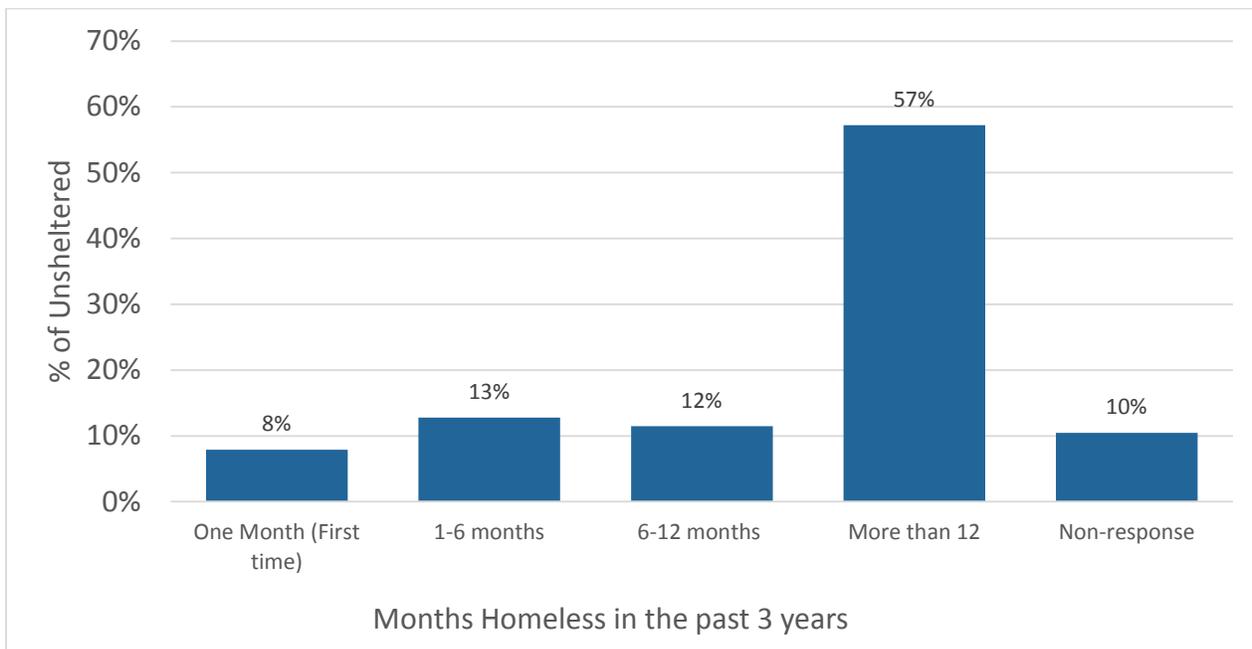


Age When First Became Homeless San Diego County, 2016		
	Estimated Total	% of Unsheltered
Under 18	196	17%
18-24	196	17%
25-54	560	48%
55-74	94	8%
75+	4	0.3%
Does not know	67	6%
Non-Response	44	4%



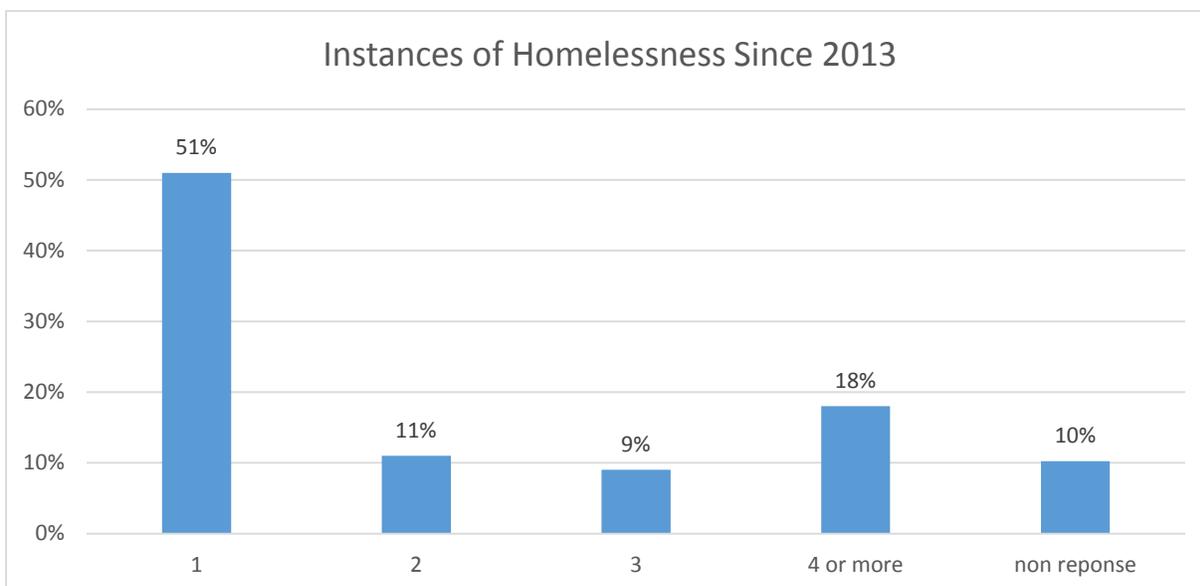
Duration of Homelessness

For many, the experience of homelessness is part of a long and recurring history of housing instability. Respondents were asked about their experiences or episodes of homelessness.



Recurrence of Homelessness

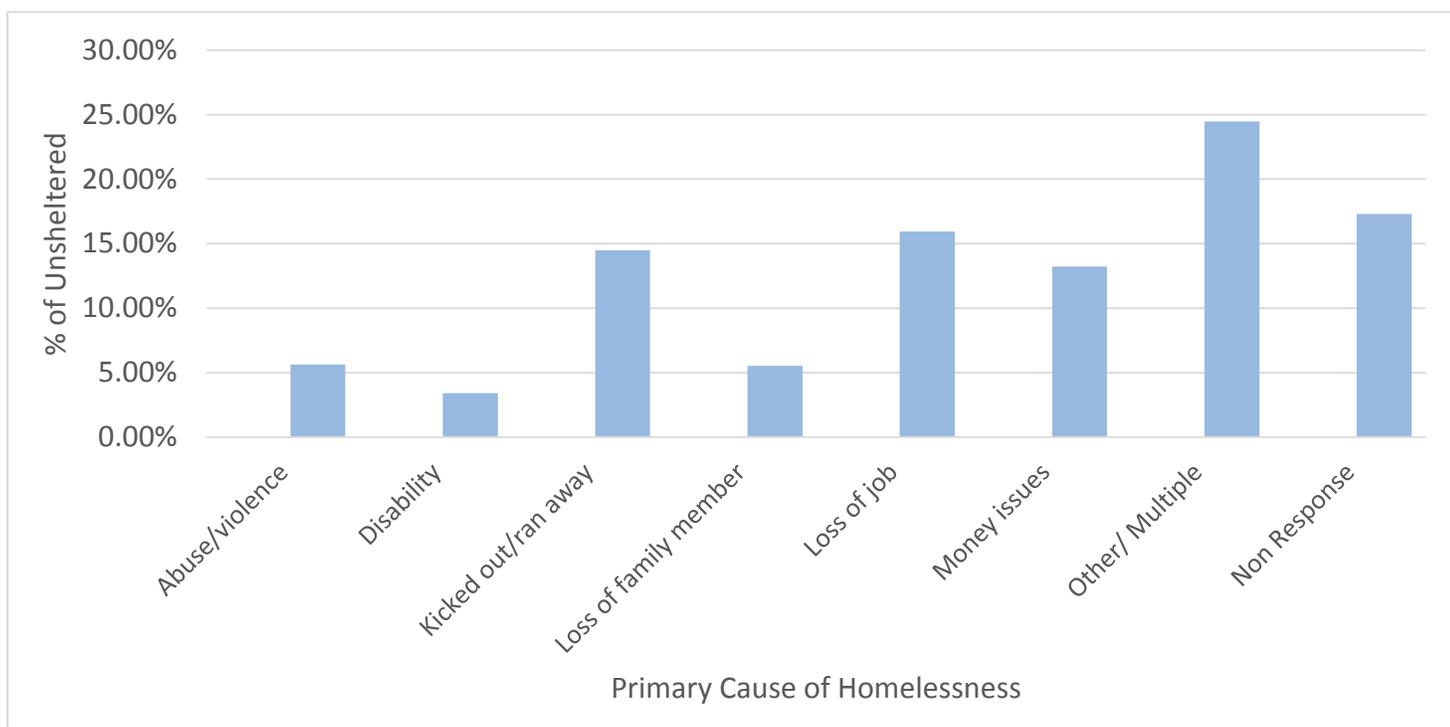
The survey also touched on the recurrence of homelessness. Fifty-one percent (51%) of the unsheltered reported that this was their first instance of homelessness, but 18% had been homeless 4 or more times in the past three years.





Primary Cause of Homelessness

The primary cause of an individual’s homelessness is not always clear. It is often the result of multiple and compounding causes. The highest response rate at 16% was those who reported job loss as the primary cause of their homelessness.



Primary Cause of Homelessness San Diego, 2016	
Cause	% of Unsheltered
Abuse/violence	6%
Disability	3%
Kicked out/ran away	14%
Loss of family member	6%
Loss of job	16%
Money issues	13%
Other/ Multiple	24%
Non Response	17%

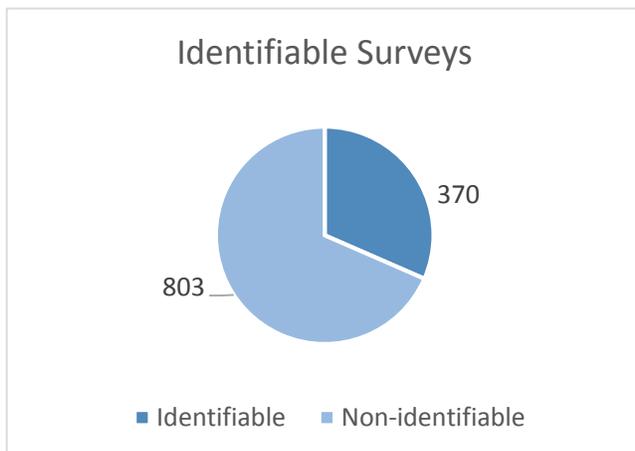


Identifiable Information and the HMIS System

The HMIS is a data collection tool designed to capture client-level information over time on the characteristics and service needs of men, women, and children experiencing homelessness. HMIS is integral in coordinating case management, tracking service progress, referring individuals and families to critical resources, measuring results, and producing accurate and timely reporting. As the system administrators, the Regional Task Force on the Homeless supports agencies and users with technical training, support, and analysis. Our region relies on data from the HMIS to make effective data driven decisions, measure program goals and coordinate services.

In an effort to gather information about the service history of unsheltered persons, those surveyed during the 2016 WeALLCount were given an opportunity to share identifiable information in the form of full name, birthday, and/or social security number. This data was entered into the HMIS system and the following results were identified:

Of the 1173 individuals surveyed, 370 provided sufficient identifiable information representing 32% of those interviewed.



370 surveys had **identifiable information**

258 were **matched** to existing clients in the HMIS database

Of these 370 individuals, 258 had a previous service history and client details in the HMIS system.

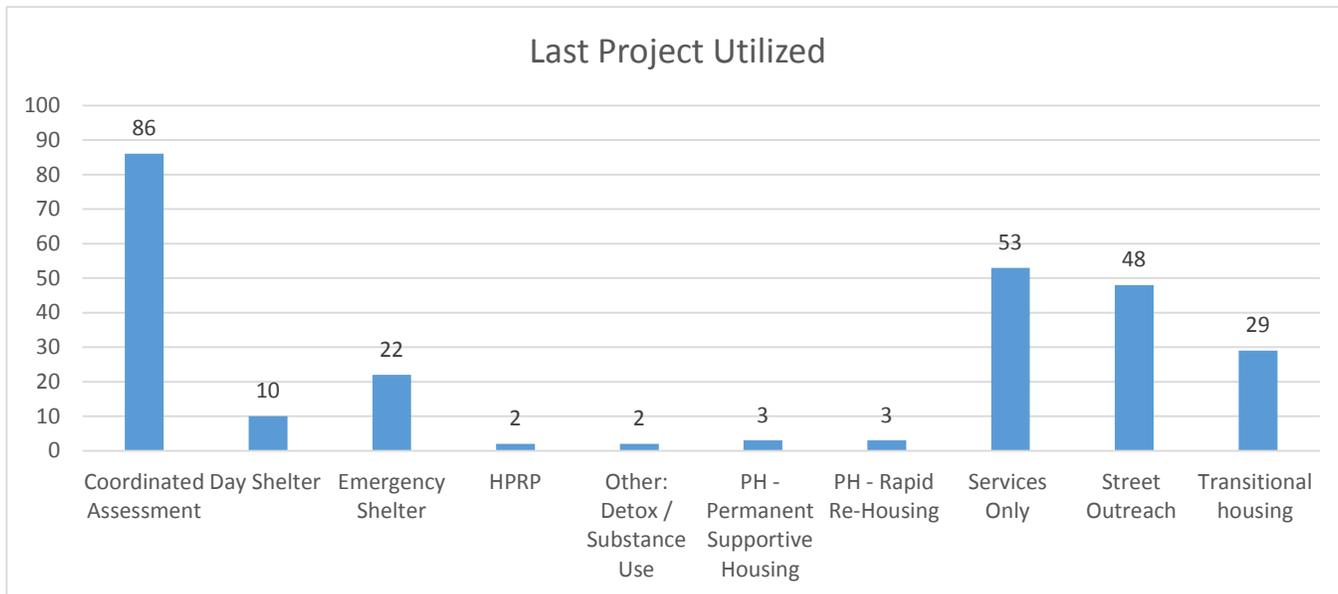
Delving deeper into the 258 in the HMIS system, 78 of them were chronically homeless according to the HUD definition.



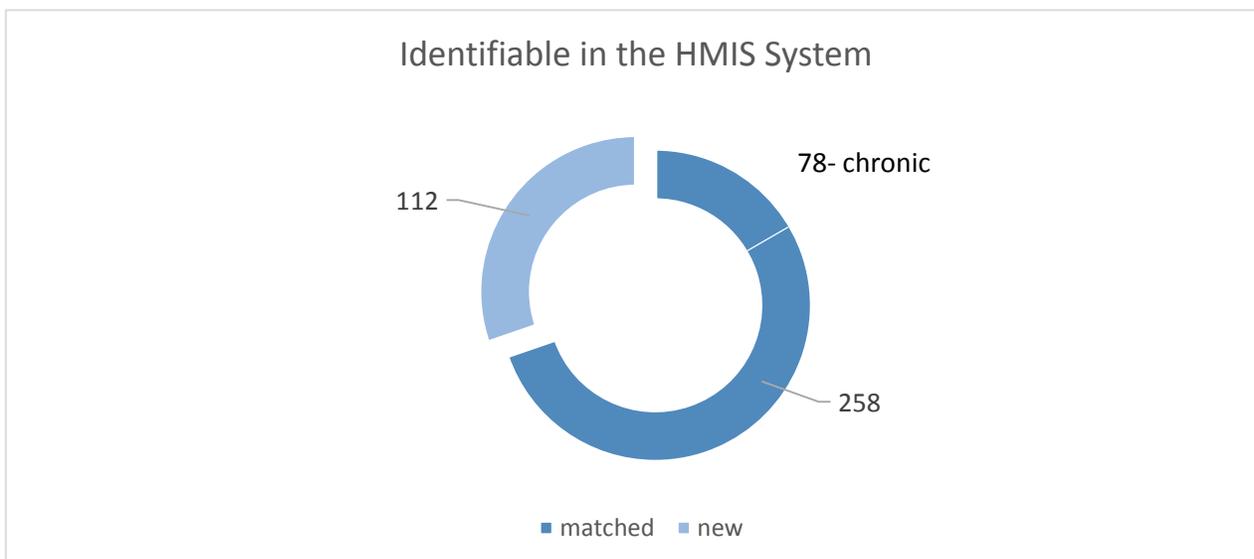
Photo by Bob Ross Photography



The following chart provides information regarding the last service transaction that was listed for those unsheltered individuals who were identifiable in the HMIS system. Eighty six (86) of the individuals had been last assessed by the regions Coordinated Assessment system, followed by 53 individuals who had last been to a services only project- such as a shower facility or food pantry.



There were 112 individuals who provided identifiable information that had no prior service transaction history in the HMIS system. This means that there was no record that they touched the shelter system or received service from another homeless service provider that uses the HMIS.





HUD Defined Subpopulations

Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness outlines national objectives and evaluative measures for ending homelessness in the United States. In order to adequately address the diversity within the population experiencing homelessness, the federal government identified four subpopulations with particular challenges or needs. The following sections look at each of these populations to identify the number of people counted during the WeALLCount on January 29, 2016 who meet the subpopulation definition and the characteristics of each group.

The subpopulations included are:

- Chronic Homeless
- Veterans
- Homeless Families
- Unaccompanied Youth



Subpopulation: Chronic Homeless

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines a chronically homeless individual as someone who has experienced homelessness for a year or longer, or who has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years and also has a diagnosed disability that prevents them from maintaining work or housing. This definition applies to individuals as well as adult household members. The chronic homeless population represents one of the most vulnerable populations on the street.

The mortality rate for those experiencing chronic homelessness is four to nine times higher than the general population². Data from communities across the country have shown that the public costs incurred for those experiencing chronic homelessness include emergency room visits, interactions with law enforcement, incarceration, and regular access to social supports and homeless services³. These combined costs are often significantly higher than the cost of providing individuals with other supportive services.

Definition Change

HUD changed the definition of who is considered chronically homeless in the fall of 2015. This new definition is less inclusive, meaning it's a possibility that some who were considered chronic last year, are not included this year due to the definition change. The technical definition can be read in Appendix A of this report.

Prevalence of Chronic Homelessness in San Diego

Those that are considered chronically homeless make up approximately 15% of the San Diego County homeless population (sheltered and unsheltered) according to the 2016 PIT data. Fifteen percent (15%) is indicative that the number of chronic homeless individuals and families in San Diego continues to decline. In 2015, 1,547 homeless individuals were chronically homeless, compared to 1,345 in 2016, a decrease of 13%.

2016 Chronic Homeless Information

Population	2015			2016			% Total Change
	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total	
Chronic homeless	298	1,249	1547	258	1087	1345	-13.1%

² U.S Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2015) Annual Update 2014

³ Cavallaro, E (2015). Ending Chronic Homelessness. National Alliance to End Homelessness



Since 2013, chronic homelessness has decreased almost 46% in San Diego County.

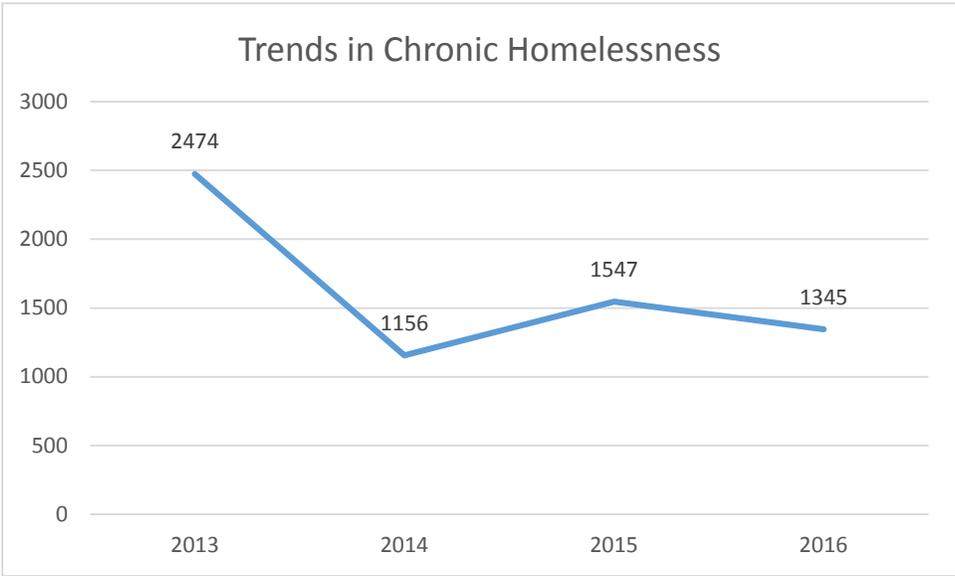


Photo by Bob Ross Photography



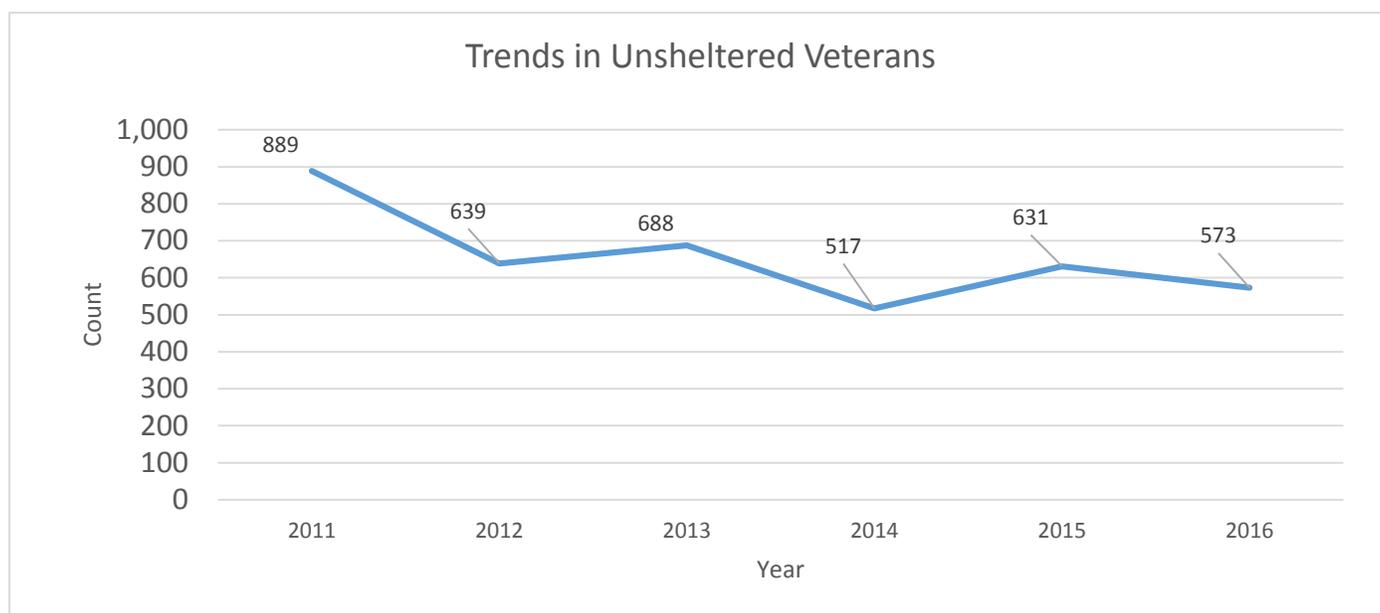
Subpopulation: Veterans

Many U.S. veterans experience conditions that place them at increased risk for homelessness. Veterans have higher rates of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), sexual assault and substance abuse than the general population. Veterans experiencing homelessness are more likely to live on the street than in shelters and often remain on the street for extended periods of time⁴. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides a broad range of benefits and services to veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. These benefits can include different forms of assistance, such as monthly cash payments to disabled veterans, health care, education, and housing benefits. In addition to these supports, the VA and HUD have partnered to provide additional housing and support services to veterans currently experiencing homelessness or in danger of becoming homeless.

San Diego has made significant efforts to identify and serve homeless veterans living in the county. Fifty percent (50%) of veterans identified in the Point-in-Count were located in shelters.

Overview: Total Veterans over Time

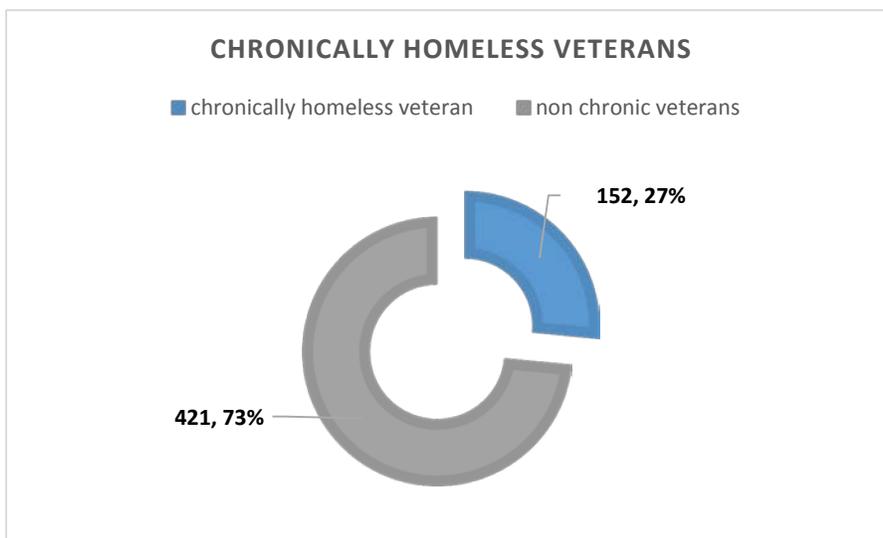
	2011	2015	2016	Change, 1-Year	Change, 5 Year
Total Homeless	1649	1381	1157	-16.2%	-29.8 %
Sheltered	756	750	584	-22.1%	-22.8%
Unsheltered	893	631	573	-9.2%	-35.8%



⁴ Department of Housing and Urban Development (2015). Annual Homeless Report to Congress



There was a 38.7% decrease in unsheltered chronically homeless veterans from 2015 to 2016.



Unsheltered Survey: Veterans

	2016	% of Unsheltered Veterans
Chronic Homeless Veterans	152	26.5
VA Medical/Health Care Services	257	44.8
Receives VA Compensation or Pension	109	19.0

*Estimates are extrapolated numbers derived from a sample of 136 veterans out of 1,109 adult surveys, and percentages are based on the adult homeless population.



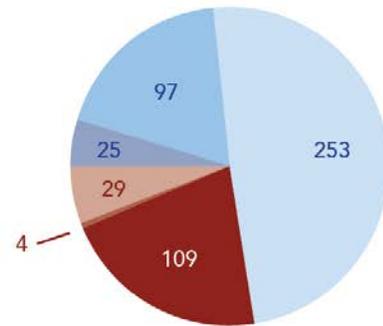
Veteran Era

In terms of military eras, 44% of unsheltered veterans entered military service from 1976-1990. The second largest group of veterans entered from 1991-2001.

Thirty-eight percent (38%) of unsheltered veterans were discharged from military service from 1976-1990.

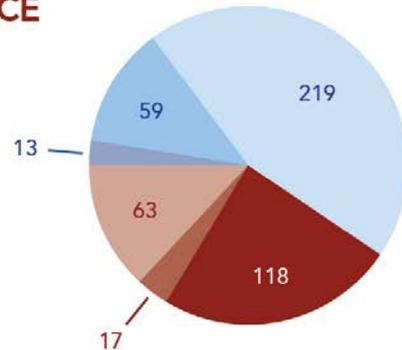
YEAR ENTERED MILITARY SERVICE

1941-1949 (WWII)	0%
1950-1963 (Korean War)	4.41%
1964-1975 (Vietnam War)	16.9%
1976-1990 (Post-Vietnam)	44.1%
1991-2001 (Persian Gulf)	19.1%
2002-2003 (Afghanistan)	0.73%
2004-2015 (Iraq)	5.1%



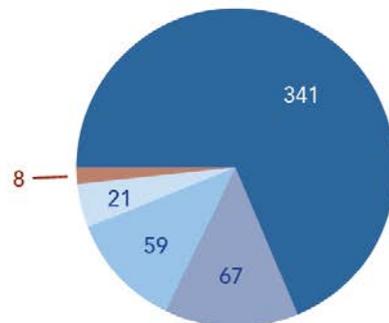
YEAR DISCHARGED FROM MILITARY SERVICE

1941-1949 (WWII)	0%
1950-1963 (Korean War)	2.2%
1964-1975 (Vietnam War)	10.3%
1976-1990 (Post-Vietnam)	38.2%
1991-2001 (Persian Gulf)	20.6%
2002-2003 (Afghanistan)	2.9%
2004-2015 (Iraq)	11%



NATURE OF DISCHARGE

Honorable	59.3%
General	11.8%
Other than honorable	10.3%
Dishonorable	3.7%
Medical	0%
Bad Conduct	1.5%





Subpopulation: Homeless Families

The 2016 WeALLCount showed a slight decrease in the number of homeless families. There were 545 families counted this year- lower than the 631 families identified during the 2015 count. Although the number of homeless families decreased by 13.6%, the number of individuals in families decreased at a lower rate (12.3%). This may imply that while there are less homeless families, the families are larger.

Eighty-six percent (86%) of families identified during the Point-in-Time Count were staying in shelters or residential facilities.

Population	2015			2016:			% Total Change
	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total	
Families	544	87	631	469	76	545	-13.6%
Individuals in families	1737	244	1981	1455	282	1737	-12.3

Key Highlights:

Total homeless families decreased by almost 14%
Total individuals in families decreased by almost 12%

Characteristics of Homeless Families with Children

A small number of homeless families with children participated in the survey process. Forty percent (40%) of survey respondents in families were Hispanic/Latino, much higher than general survey respondents (24% Hispanic). Fifty-seven percent (57%) of survey respondents were female- as opposed to the 27.4% of the general homeless population.





Subpopulations: Unaccompanied Youth (Age 24 and younger)

There are limited data available on homelessness among unaccompanied children and transition-age-youth. National estimates from 2014 showed unaccompanied children and transition-age-youth represented 8% of the homeless population⁵. Homeless youth have a harder time accessing services, including shelter, medical care, and employment. In 2012, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness amended the federal strategic plan to end homelessness to include specific strategies and supports to address the needs of unaccompanied homeless children and transition-age-youth. As part of this effort, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development placed increased interest on gathering data on unaccompanied homeless children and youth during Point-in-Time counts.

The WeALLCount methodology implemented a dedicated youth survey in 2015 to improve data on unaccompanied children and youth in San Diego County. These efforts were replicated with minor improvements in 2016. The following section provides an overview of the findings.

Number of Unaccompanied Children and Transition-Age-Youth

In 2016, 685 transition-age-youth and 145 unaccompanied children were identified in the Point-in-Time Count. This was higher than in 2015, but variation in the youth population may be a result of the increased outreach methods implemented in 2016. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of the unaccompanied youth population counted on January 29, 2016 were unsheltered.

Unaccompanied Youth: 2015 vs 2016

Population		2015			2016:			% Total Change
		Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total	
Unaccompanied Youth	Under 18	29	30	59	31	114	145	+145.8%
	18-24	244	322	566	226	459	685	+21.0%
	Total	273	352	625	257	573	830	+32.8%

Homeless youth were administered a survey similar to the one used for the general population with the exception that no identifiable information was asked of the youth. Some of the general results are listed in the following table.

⁵ U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development: Annual Homeless Assessment Report 2015



Homeless Youth Unsheltered Survey Results

	% Total
Male	72.1%
Female	27.2%
Transgender	0.7%
Mental Health Issues	22.8%
Substance Abuse	14.6%

2-1-1 and Homeless Youth Data

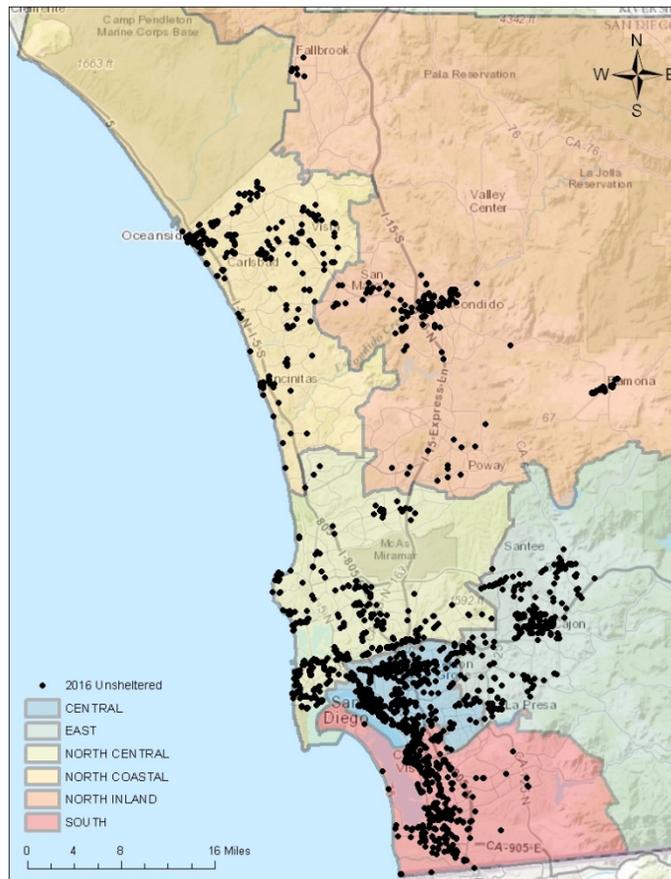
During the week of the PITC, 2-1-1 recorded the number of calls from self-identified homeless youth. This data is reported below.

	2015	2016	% calls	% change
Youth Calls	259	191	1%**	-26.3%
Under age 20	62	55	29%	-11.3%
Age 20-24	197	136	71%	-31.0%
Homeless (Self-Reported)	21	32	17%	52.4%
Female	194	133	70%	-31.4%
Basic Needs	160	98	40%	-38.8%
Housing Needs	76	58	23%	-23.7%



City Homeless Profiles

San Diego County includes over 600 census tracts and over 3.2 million residents. The following section breaks down the WeALLCount data into different cities in the region in order to take a closer look at trends on a smaller scale. These cities were profiled because of their homeless population and statistically significant survey sample size. For cities not profiled, census tracts with enumeration data are located at the end of the report.





2016 WeALLCount: City Totals

City	Sheltered				Unsheltered				Total	% of Total	Unincorporated	Sheltered		Unsheltered				%
	ES	SH	TH	Total	Indiv	V*	H*	Total				Indiv	V*	H*	Total			
San Diego City	885	44	1,419	2,348	1,224	814	707	2,745	5,093	58.6%	Alpine	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Carlsbad	67	0	0	67	16	25	0	41	108	1.2%	Bonita	8	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Chula Vista	27	0	131	158	103	251	26	380	538	6.2%	Bonsall	0	3	8	0	11	0.1%	
Coronado	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	6	6	0.1%	Casa de Oro	0	16	4	0	20	0.2%	
Del Mar	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0.0%	Crest-Dehesa	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
El Cajon	20	0	83	103	158	43	17	218	321	3.7%	Fallbrook	0	3	2	3	8	0.1%	
Encinitas	28	0	11	39	24	25	5	54	93	1.1%	Hidden Meadows	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Escondido	75	8	224	307	79	91	55	225	532	6.1%	Jamul/Dulzura	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Imperial Beach	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	12	12	0.1%	Lakeside	0	32	52	3	87	1.0%	
La Mesa	0	0	0	0	14	17	0	31	31	0.4%	NC Metro	0	2	8	2	12	0.1%	
Lemon Grove	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	12	12	0.1%	Otay	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
National City	0	0	33	33	25	207	67	299	332	3.8%	Ramona	0	29	6	26	61	0.7%	
Oceanside	60	0	215	275	254	98	40	392	667	7.7%	San Dieguito	0	0	0	3	3	0.0%	
Poway	0	0	0	0	4	6	0	10	10	0.1%	Spring Valley	0	21	106	7	134	1.5%	
San Marcos	0	0	55	55	14	27	3	44	99	1.1%	Sweetwater	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Santee	0	0	0	0	7	8	48	63	63	0.7%	TOTAL	8				336	4%	
Solana Beach	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	7	7	0.1%								
Vista	112	0	247	359	17	42	5	64	423	4.9%								
TOTAL				3,744				4,604	8,348	96.0%								

Updated on 4/27/16

*For the "Total" columns, vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

ES - Emergency Shelter

SH - Safe Haven

TH - Transitional Housing

Indiv - Individual

V - Cars/Trucks/RV/Vans

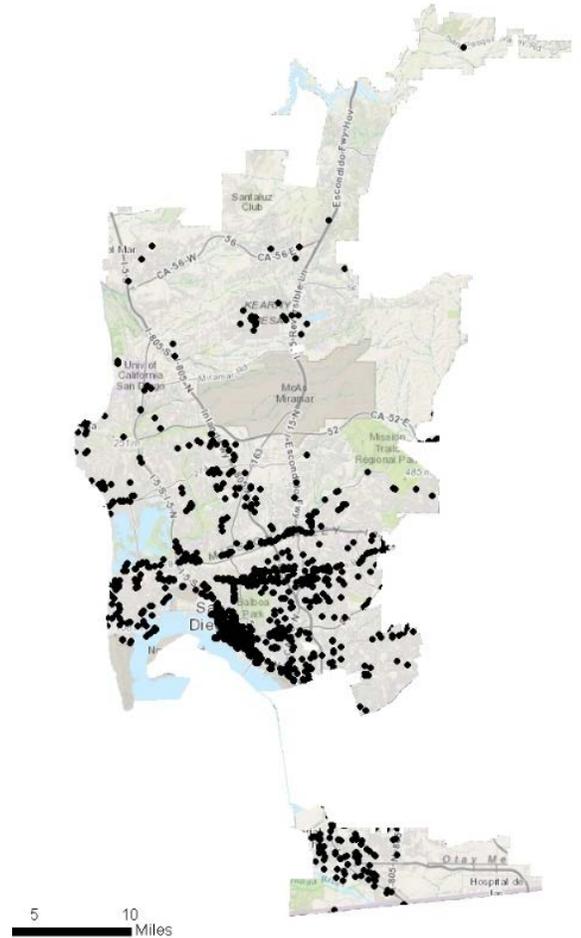
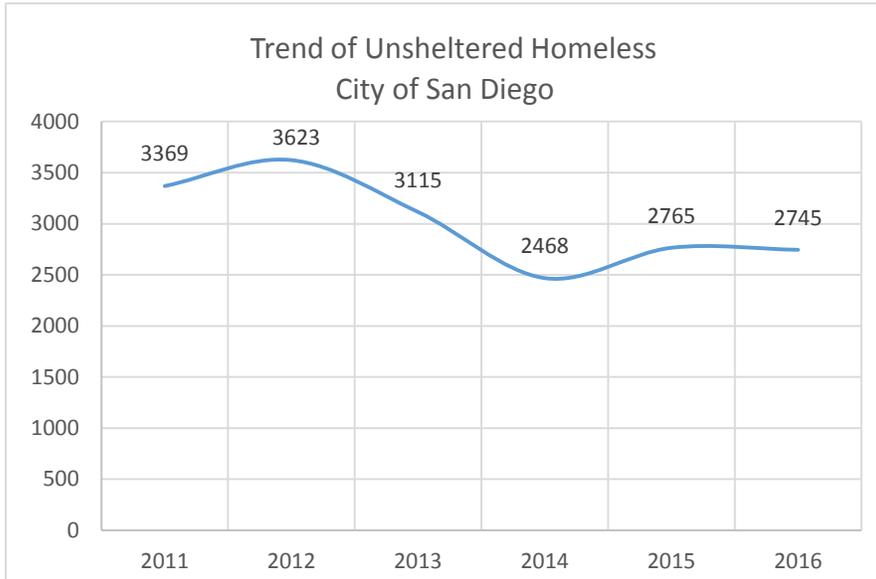
H - Hand-Built Structures / Tents

8,692 Total



City of San Diego Homeless Profile

The City of San Diego's unsheltered population decreased less than 1% (-.07%) in 2016. 14% are on probation or parole.



Unsheltered Homeless City of San Diego, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in City of San Diego	Total in City of San Diego*
Chronically Homeless	22%	592
Veteran	12%	324
Substance Abuse	8%	228
Severe Mental Illness	14%	387
Currently on Probation or Parole	14%	375
Male	72%	1987
Female	27%	735
Transgender	1%	23

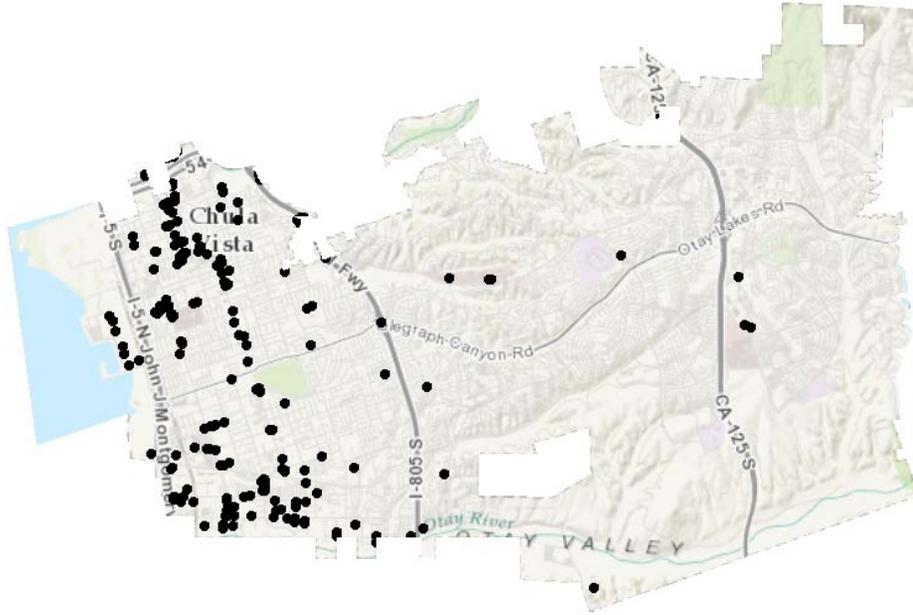
*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 710

Sheltered: 2348				Unsheltered: 2745				Total: 5093	
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
885	44	1419	2348	1224	814	707	2745	5093	59%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

City of Chula Vista Homeless Profile

The City of Chula Vista saw an 18% increase in the unsheltered population from 2015 to 2016.



Unsheltered Homeless Chula Vista, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in Chula Vista	Total in Chula Vista*
Chronically Homeless	15%	58
Veteran	11%	42
Substance Abuse	2%	6
Severe Mental Illness	6%	22
Currently on Probation or Parole	9%	35
Female	35%	132

*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 118

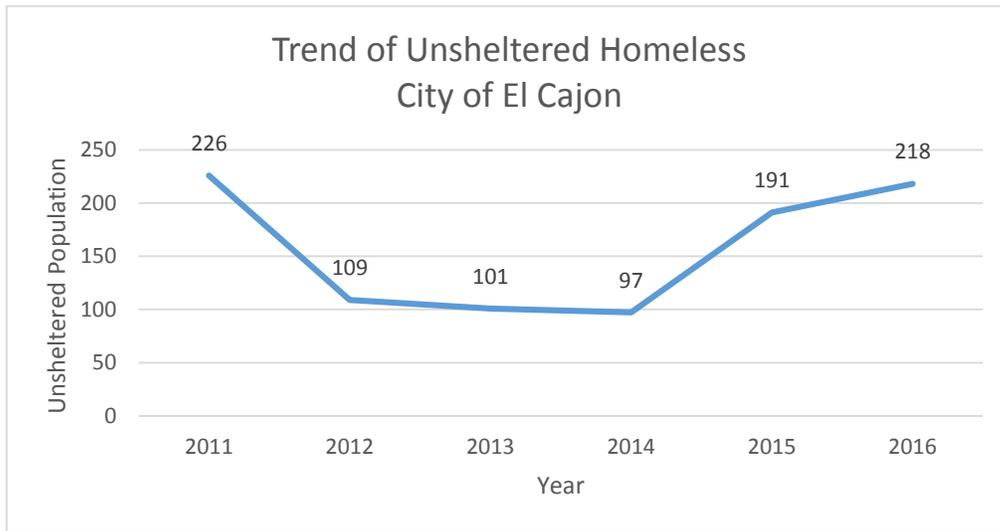


Sheltered: 158				Unsheltered: 380				Total: 538	
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
27	0	131	158	103	251	26	380	538	6%

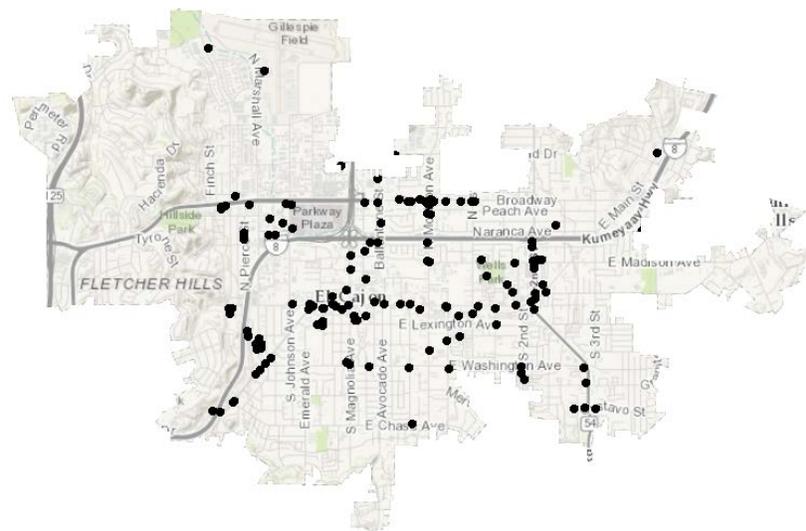
*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

City of El Cajon Homeless Profile

The City of El Cajon saw an increase of 14% in the unsheltered population, from 191 individuals to 218.



Unsheltered Homeless El Cajon, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in El Cajon	Total in El Cajon*
Chronically Homeless	28%	61
Veteran	9%	20
Substance Abuse	11%	25
Severe Mental Illness	18%	39
Currently on Probation or Parole	24%	51
Female	33%	71



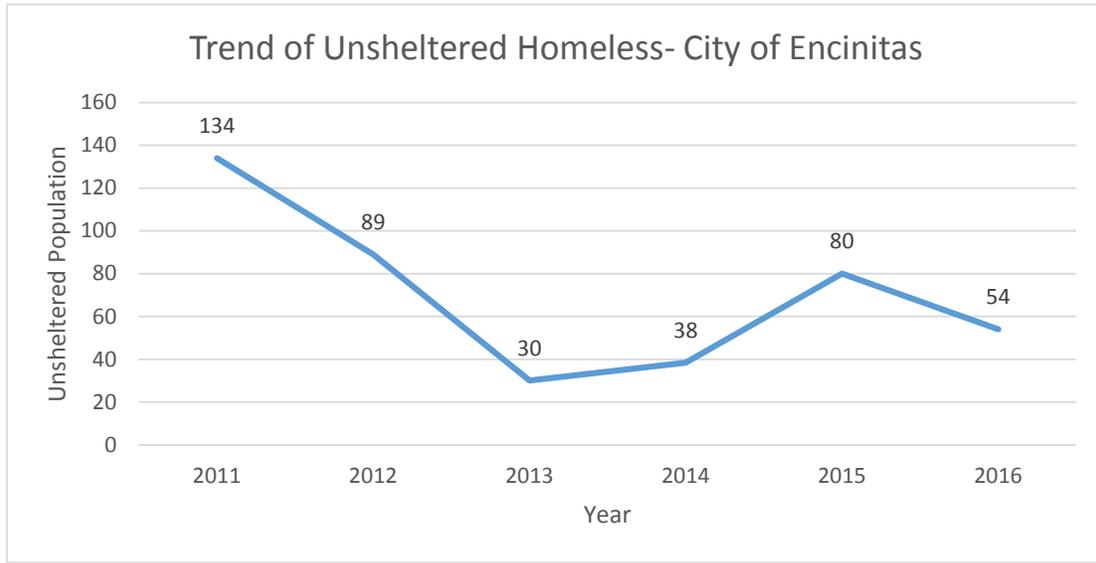
*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 89

Sheltered: 103				Unsheltered: 218				Total: 321	
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
20	0	83	103	158	43	17	218	321	3.7%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

City of Encinitas Homeless Profile

The unsheltered population in the City of Encinitas decreased 33% from 2015 to 2016.



Unsheltered Homeless Encinitas, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in Encinitas	Total in Encinitas*
Chronically Homeless	28%	15
Veteran	6%	3
Substance Abuse	6%	3
Severe Mental Illness	22%	12
Currently on Probation or Parole	17%	9
Female	17%	9

*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 18

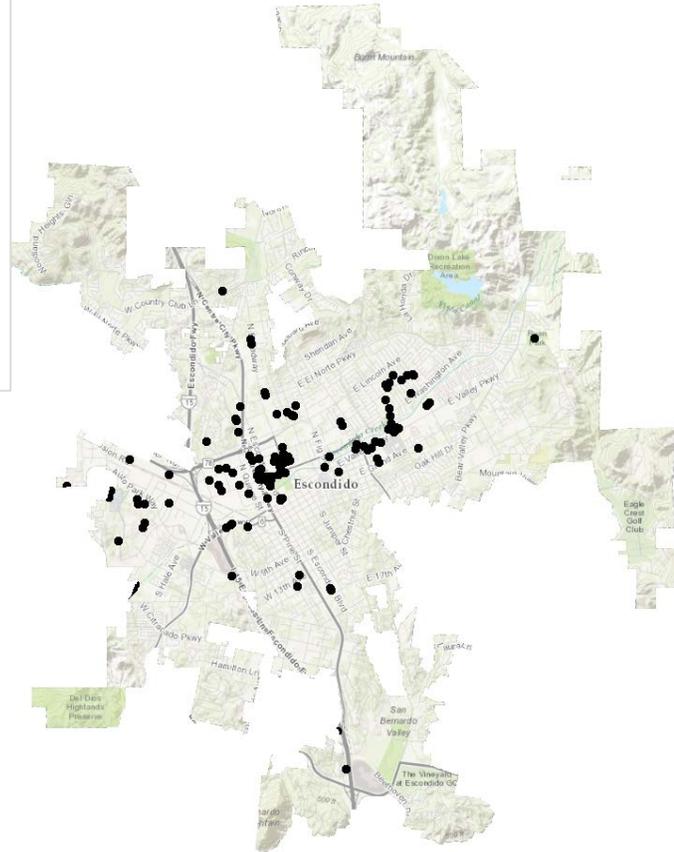


Sheltered: 39				Unsheltered: 54				Total: 93	
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
28	0	11	39	24	25	5	54	93	1%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

City of Escondido Homeless Profile

The City of Escondido saw an increase in the unsheltered homeless population- from 112 to 225 in 2016



Unsheltered Homeless Escondido, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in Escondido	Total in Escondido*
Chronically Homeless	29%	66
Veteran	29%	66
Substance Abuse	20%	44
Severe Mental Illness	22%	49
Currently on Probation or Parole	17%	38
Female	20%	44

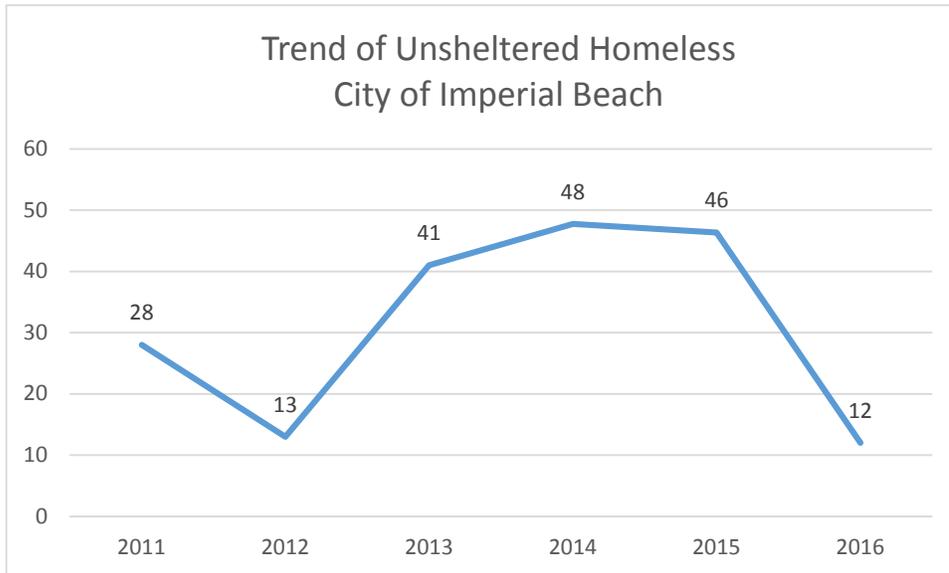
*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 41

Sheltered: 307				Unsheltered: 225				Total: 532	
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
75	8	224	307	79	91	55	225	532	6%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

City of Imperial Beach Homeless Profile

The City of Imperial Beach saw a steady decrease from 46 unsheltered individuals to 12 in 2016.



Unsheltered Homeless Imperial Beach, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in Imperial Beach	Total in Imperial Beach*
Chronically Homeless	42%	5
Veteran	17%	2
Substance Abuse	8%	1
Severe Mental Illness	8%	1
Currently on Probation or Parole	17%	2
Female	25%	3

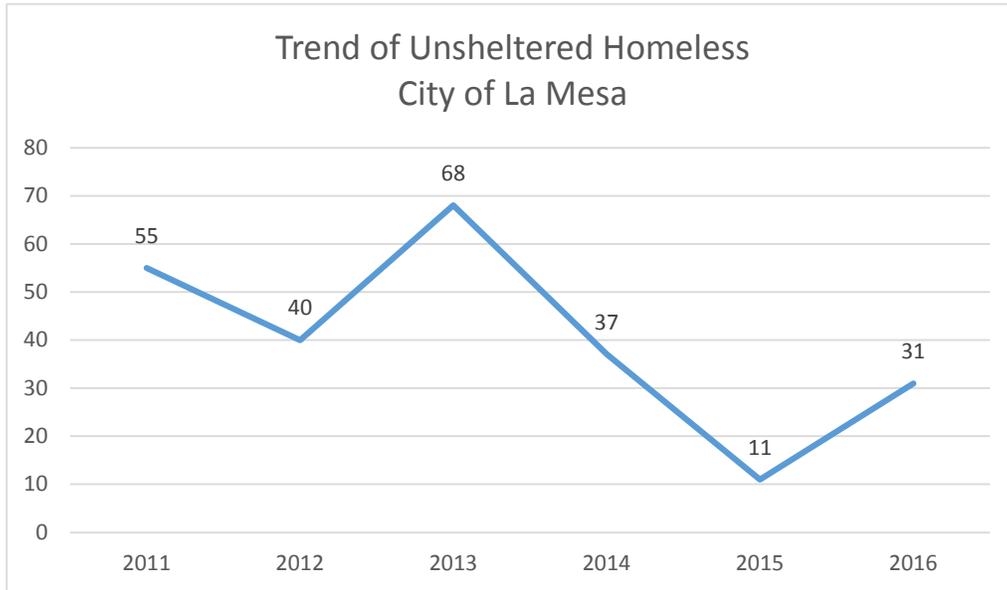
*extrapolated from a survey sample of 12

Sheltered: 0				Unsheltered: 12				Total: 12	
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
0	0	0	0	12	0	0	12	12	0.1%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

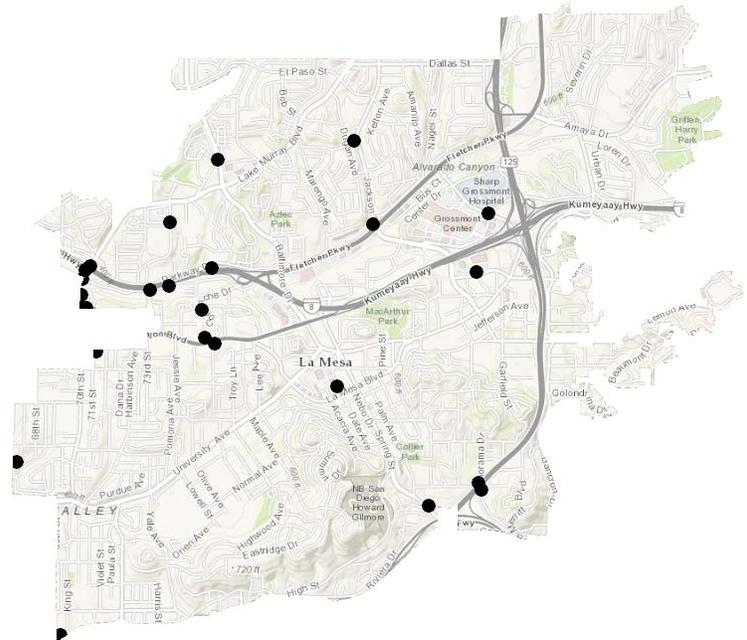
City of La Mesa Homeless Profile

The City of La Mesa saw an increase of 20 unsheltered individuals. Of the 31 unsheltered, 29% are female.



Unsheltered Homeless Las Mesa, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in La Mesa	Total in La Mesa*
Chronically Homeless	14%	4
Veteran	0%	0
Substance Abuse	14%	4
Severe Mental Illness	14%	4
Currently on Probation or Parole	14%	4
Female	29%	9

*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 10



Sheltered: 0				Unsheltered: 19				Total: 31	
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
0	0	0	0	14	17	0	31	31	0.4%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

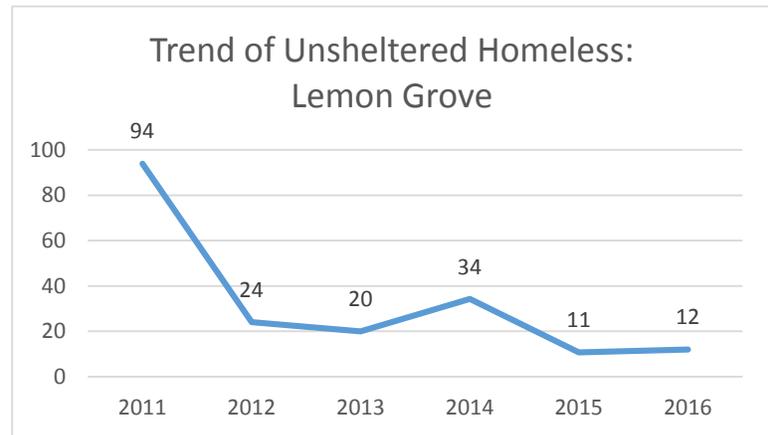
City of Lemon Grove Homeless Profile

Unsheltered homelessness in the City of Lemon Grove remained relatively flat from 2015 to 2016.



Unsheltered Homeless Lemon Grove, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in Lemon Grove	Total in Lemon Grove*
Chronically Homeless	40%	5
Veteran	8%	1
Substance Abuse	8%	1
Severe Mental Illness	8%	1
Currently on Probation or Parole	8%	1
Female	20%	2

*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 10



Sheltered: 0				Unsheltered: 12				Total: 12	
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
0	0	0	0	12	0	0	12	12	0.1%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

National City Homeless Profile

Twenty-two percent of National City's unsheltered population is female. 9% of the 392 were veterans.



Unsheltered Homeless National City, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in National City	Total in National City*
Chronically Homeless	17%	52
Veteran	9%	26
Substance Abuse	0%	0
Severe Mental Illness	4%	13
Currently on Probation or Parole	22%	65
Female	22%	65

*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 23

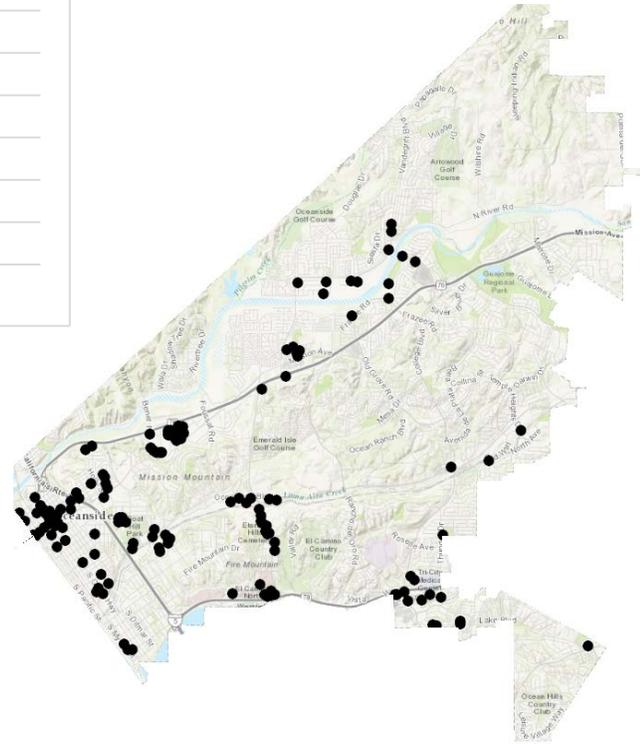
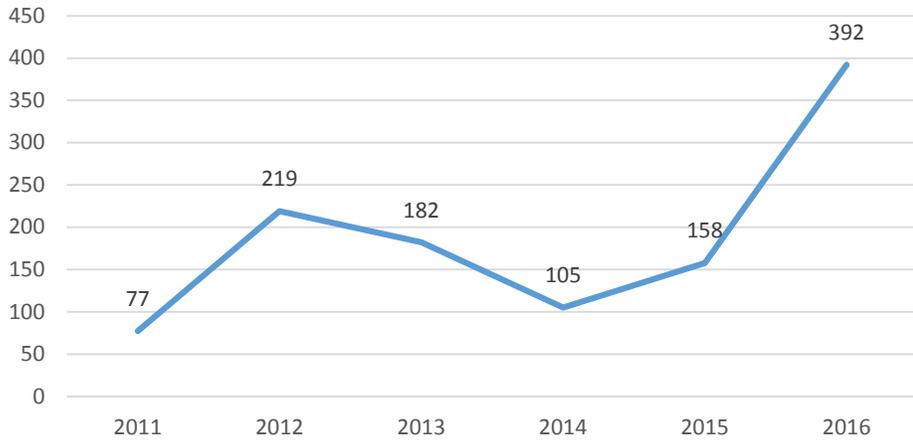
Sheltered: 16				Unsheltered: 299				Total: 332	
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
0	0	33	33	25	207	67	299	332	3.8%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

City of Oceanside Homeless Profile

The City of Oceanside had 392 unsheltered individuals and 275 sheltered individuals in the 2016 PITC.

Trend of Unsheltered Homelessness
City of Oceanside



Unsheltered Homeless
City of Oceanside, 2016

	% of unsheltered in City of Oceanside	Total in City of Oceanside
Chronically Homeless*	23%	90
Veteran*	9%	36
Substance Abuse	4%	17
Severe Mental Illness	17%	67
Currently on Probation or Parole	16%	62
Female	26%	101

*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 70

Sheltered: 275

Unsheltered: 392

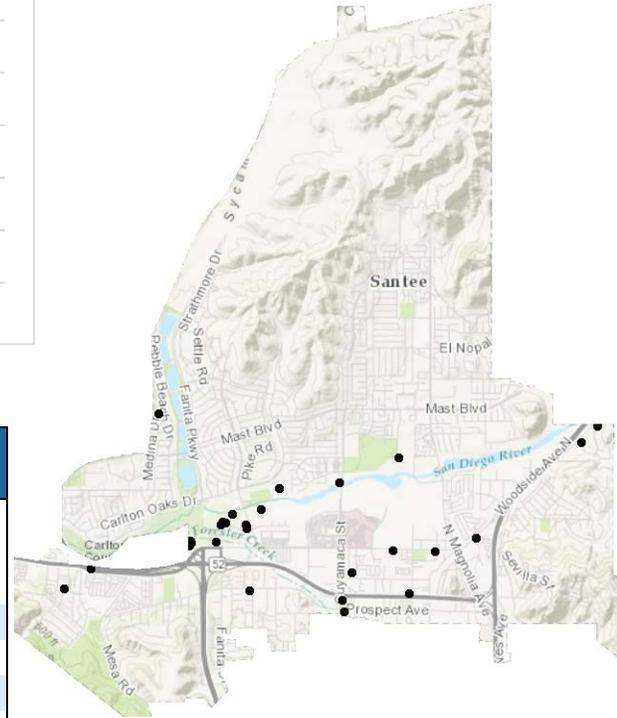
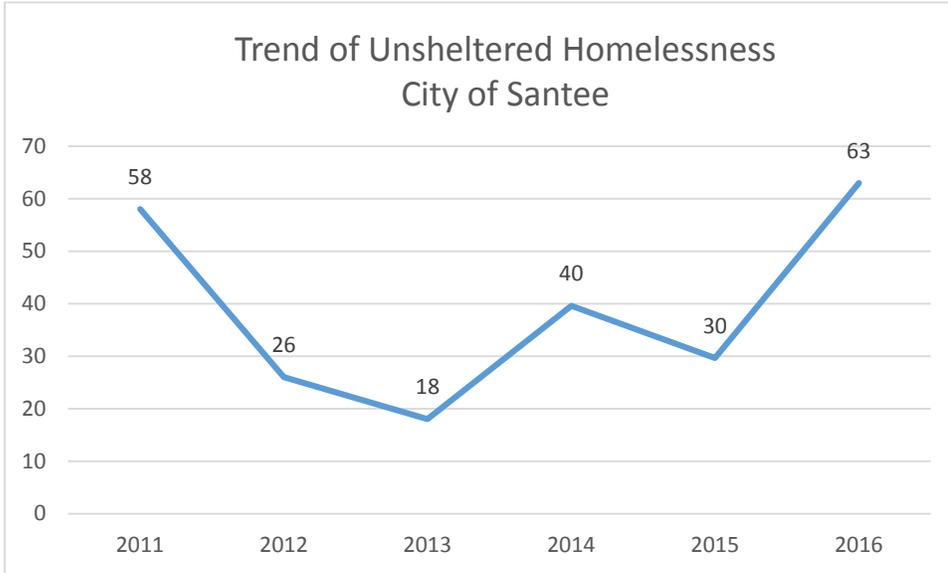
Total: 667

Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
60	0	215	275	254	98	40	392	667	7.7%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

City of Santee Homeless Profile

According to the unsheltered survey, 25% of the unsheltered in the City of Santee are chronically homeless. The unsheltered population increased from 30 individuals to 63 in 2016.



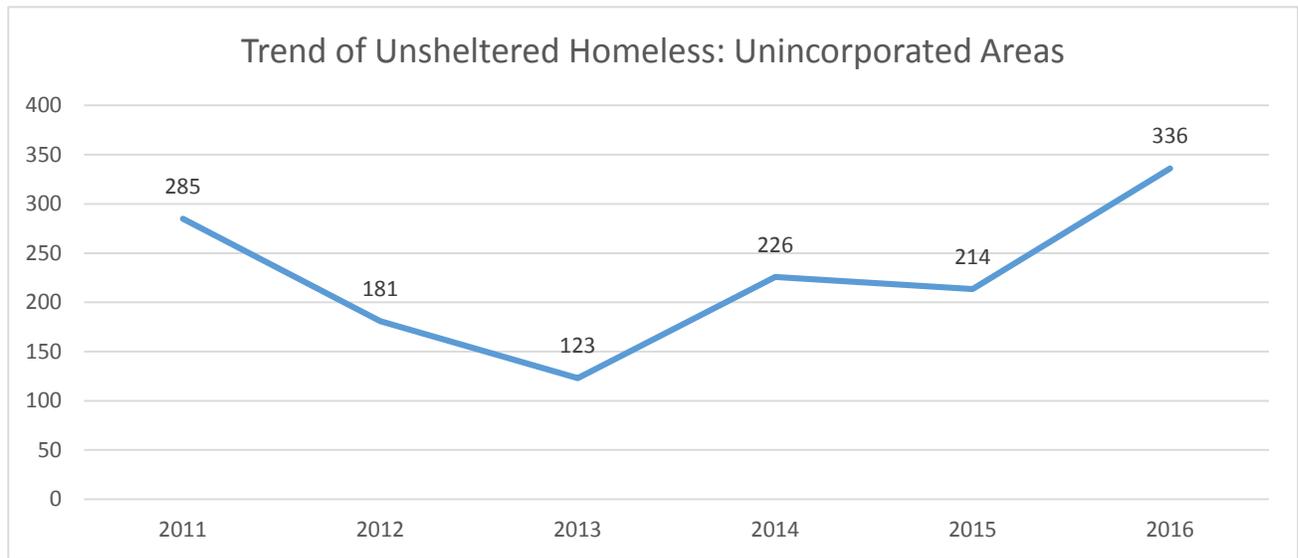
Unsheltered Homeless Santee, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in Santee	Total in Santee
Chronically Homeless	25%	16
Veteran	25%	16
Substance Abuse	13%	8
Severe Mental Illness	13%	8
Currently on Probation or Parole	0%	0
Female	13%	8

*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 10

Sheltered: 0				Unsheltered: 63				Total: 63	
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
0	0	0	0	7	8	48	63	63	0.7%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

Unincorporated Areas Homeless Profile



Unsheltered Homeless Unincorporated Area, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in Unincorporated Area	Total in Unincorporated Area*
Chronically Homeless	20%	67
Veteran	7%	22
Substance Abuse	11%	37
Severe Mental Illness	13%	45
Currently on Probation or Parole	20%	67
Female	31%	105

*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 45

Unincorporated Area Community	Sheltered Count	Unsheltered Count
Alpine	0	0
Bonita	8	0
Bonsall	0	11
Casa de Oro	0	20
Crest-Dehesa	0	0
Fallbrook	0	8
Hidden Meadows	0	0
Jamul/Dulzura	0	0
Lakeside	0	87
NC Metro	0	12
Otay	0	0
Ramona	0	61
San Dieguito	0	3
Spring Valley	0	134
Sweetwater	0	0
TOTAL	8	336

Sheltered: 8

Unsheltered: 336

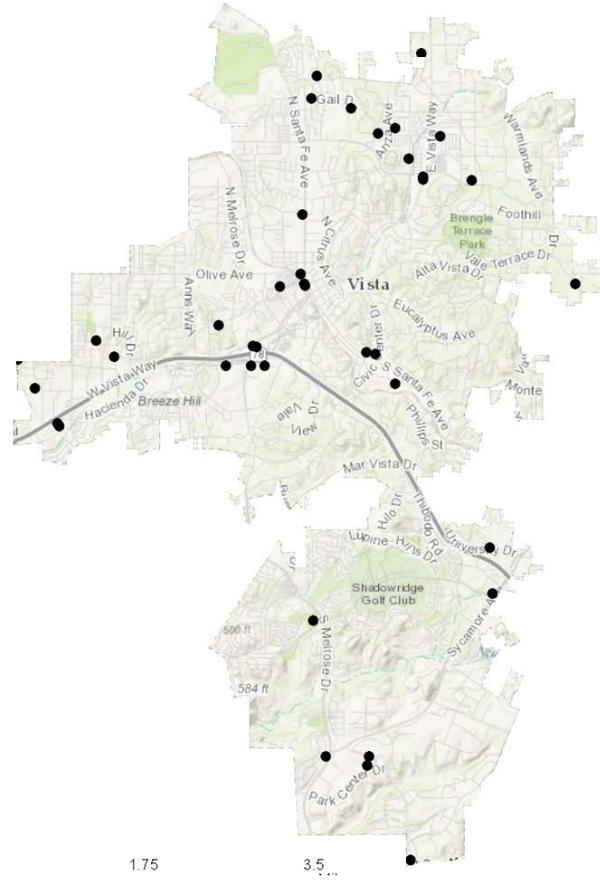
Total: 344

Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
0	0	8	8	106	186	44	336	344	4%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.

City of Vista Homeless Profile

The City of Vista saw an unsheltered increase of over 100% from 2015 to 2016. The majority of the unsheltered were female.



Unsheltered Homeless Vista, 2016		
	% of unsheltered in Vista	Total in Vista*
Chronically Homeless	10%	6
Veteran	10%	6
Substance Abuse	0%	0
Severe Mental Illness	0%	0
Currently on Probation or Parole	0%	0
Male	10%	6

*Extrapolated from a survey sample of 10

Sheltered: 359				Unsheltered: 64				Total: 423	
Emergency Shelter	Supportive Housing	Transitional Housing	Total	Individual	Vehicle*	Hand Built Structure/tent*	Total	Total	% of Total
112	0	247	359	17	42	5	64	423	5%

*Vehicles and HBS/tents were multiplied by an occupancy factor between 1.72 and 1.93.



Conclusion

The completion of the 2016 Homeless Point-in-Time Count provides required data for federal funding for the San Diego Continuum of Care (CoC).

The San Diego CoC, known as the RCCC, is a network of local homeless service providers and community leaders that collaboratively plan, organize, and deliver housing and services to meet the needs of homeless people as they move toward stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency. The allocated federal funds (more than \$17 million annually) provide much-needed resources to house and serve the local homeless population studied in this report.

The report uses the HUD definition of homelessness. There are other, more expansive, definitions of homelessness which include those who are doubled up, at risk of losing their housing or otherwise precariously housed, and it's important to acknowledge that issues of housing security extend beyond those included in the PIT Count.

The data presented in the 2016 WeALLCount Point-in-Time Count report will be used by planning bodies of the City and County of San Diego and other organizations to inform additional outreach, service planning, and policy decision-making over the next year as they continue to address homelessness.

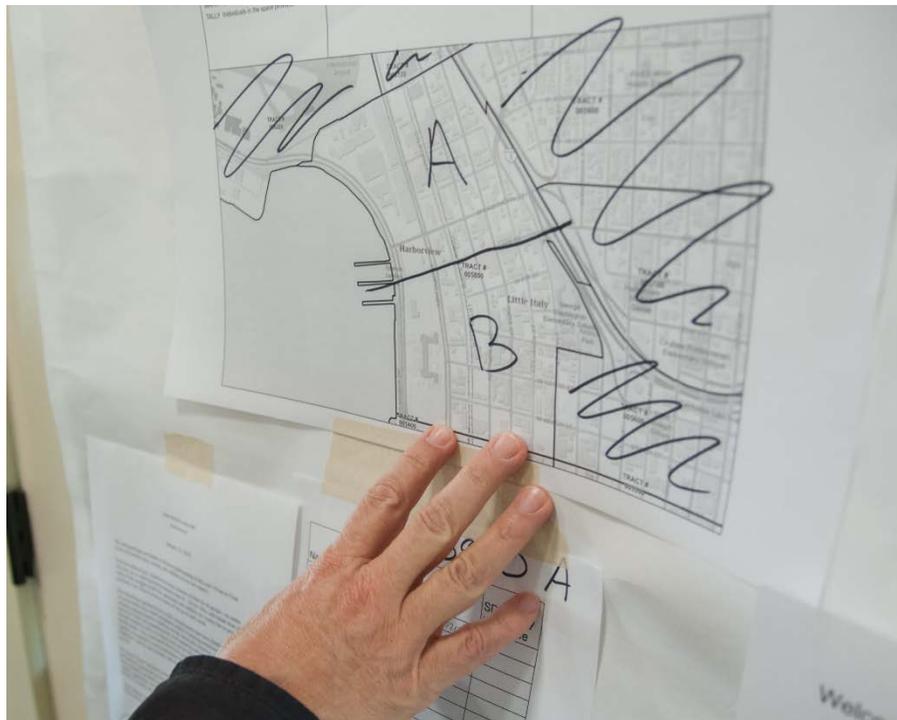


Photo by Bob Ross Photography



Census Tracts

There are 627 census tracts in San Diego County. The 2016 WeALLCount covered over 4,000 square miles representing 585 census tracts. The majority of the census tracts not covered are considered rural and are marked with UC-R (un-counted, rural) on the list.

Census Tract	2016 Community	Total	Census Tract	2016 Community	Total
1.00	San Diego	0.00	31.01	San Diego	1.93
2.01	San Diego	3.00	31.03	San Diego	0.00
2.02	San Diego	10.16	31.05	San Diego	0.00
3.00	San Diego	19.00	31.07	Spring Valley	3.44
4.00	San Diego	21.00	31.08	Spring Valley	3.00
5.00	San Diego	0.00	31.09	San Diego	1.93
6.00	San Diego	8.72	31.11	San Diego	1.00
7.00	San Diego	9.44	31.12	San Diego	0.00
8.00	San Diego	8.00	31.13	San Diego	1.93
9.00	San Diego	21.86	31.14	San Diego	1.00
10.00	San Diego	1.93	31.15	San Diego	0.00
11.00	San Diego	2.93	32.01	San Diego	35.08
12.00	San Diego	5.00	32.02	San Diego	2.93
13.00	San Diego	15.86	32.04	National City	49.44
14.00	San Diego	6.93	32.07	Sweetwater	UC/R
15.00	San Diego	6.58	32.08	San Diego	0.00
16.00	San Diego	1.00	32.09	San Diego	0.00
17.00	San Diego	26.09	32.11	San Diego	0.00
18.00	San Diego	2.72	32.12	San Diego	0.00
19.00	San Diego	4.00	32.13	San Diego	1.00
20.01	San Diego	3.86	32.14	Spring Valley	0.00
20.02	San Diego	1.00	33.01	San Diego	6.00
21.00	San Diego	3.00	33.03	San Diego	4.00
22.01	San Diego	1.00	33.04	San Diego	1.00
22.02	San Diego	18.72	33.05	San Diego	9.00
23.01	San Diego	7.86	34.01	San Diego	5.37
23.02	San Diego	23.00	34.03	San Diego	10.65
24.01	San Diego	4.00	34.04	San Diego	6.00
24.02	San Diego	21.44	35.01	San Diego	3.00
25.01	San Diego	0.00	35.02	San Diego	7.72
25.02	San Diego	6.88	36.01	San Diego	15.51
26.01	San Diego	0.00	36.02	San Diego	25.29
26.02	San Diego	10.53	36.03	San Diego	11.37
27.02	San Diego	1.00	38.00	San Diego	15.86
27.03	San Diego	5.86	39.01	San Diego	1.72
27.05	San Diego	1.00	39.02	San Diego	3.44
27.07	San Diego	6.00	40.00	San Diego	11.32
27.08	San Diego	3.65	41.00	San Diego	48.22
27.09	San Diego	5.86	42.00	San Diego	15.72
27.10	San Diego	0.00	43.00	San Diego	3.93
27.11	San Diego	1.93	44.00	San Diego	9.79
27.12	San Diego	15.51	45.01	San Diego	0.00
28.01	San Diego	1.00	46.00	San Diego	8.44
28.03	San Diego	6.00	47.00	San Diego	4.44
28.04	San Diego	1.00	48.00	San Diego	2.00
29.02	San Diego	9.65	49.00	San Diego	18.97
29.03	San Diego	4.86	50.00	San Diego	34.15
29.04	San Diego	4.86	51.00	San Diego	400.31
29.05	San Diego	6.00	52.00	San Diego	94.36
30.01	San Diego	0.00	53.00	San Diego	276.00
30.03	San Diego	0.00	54.00	San Diego	138.05
30.04	San Diego	4.86	55.00	San Diego	UC/R



Census Tract	2016 Community	Total	Census Tract	2016 Community	Total
56.00	San Diego	8.00	83.27	San Diego	1.93
57.00	San Diego	21.37	83.28	San Diego	0.00
58.00	San Diego	76.58	83.29	San Diego	3.86
59.00	San Diego	3.00	83.30	San Diego	0.00
60.00	San Diego	6.93	83.31	San Diego	0.00
61.00	San Diego	8.37	83.33	San Diego	0.00
62.00	San Diego	2.72	83.35	San Diego	0.00
63.00	San Diego	17.95	83.36	San Diego	0.00
65.00	San Diego	3.44	83.37	San Diego	1.00
66.00	San Diego	21.25	83.39	San Diego	0.00
68.01	San Diego	11.32	83.4	San Diego	0.00
68.02	San Diego	44.46	83.41	San Diego	1.93
69.00	San Diego	0.00	83.43	San Diego	0.00
70.02	San Diego	0.00	83.44	San Diego	0.00
71.00	San Diego	96.50	83.45	San Diego	0.00
72.00	San Diego	23.16	83.46	San Diego	2.93
73.01	San Diego	10.79	83.47	San Diego	0.00
73.02	San Diego	1.93	83.48	San Diego	1.72
74.00	San Diego	12.00	83.49	San Diego	13.65
75.01	San Diego	8.88	83.50	San Diego	0.00
75.02	San Diego	23.72	83.51	San Diego	2.00
76.00	San Diego	29.60	83.52	San Diego	0.00
77.01	San Diego	0.00	83.53	San Diego	0.00
77.02	San Diego	0.00	83.54	San Diego	1.93
78.00	San Diego	0.00	83.55	San Diego	1.93
79.03	San Diego	7.79	83.56	San Diego	0.00
79.05	San Diego	10.93	83.57	San Diego	0.00
79.07	San Diego	2.93	83.58	San Diego	0.00
79.08	San Diego	0.00	83.59	San Diego	5.79
79.10	San Diego	8.93	83.60	San Diego	0.00
80.02	San Diego	0.00	83.61	San Diego	0.00
80.03	San Diego	0.00	83.62	San Diego	3.86
80.06	San Diego	9.86	83.63	San Diego	0.00
81.01	San Diego	3.86	83.64	San Diego	0.00
81.02	San Diego	0.00	83.65	San Diego	0.00
82.00	San Diego	10.86	83.66	San Diego	0.00
83.01	San Diego	1.00	85.01	San Diego	3.86
83.03	San Diego	1.93	85.02	San Diego	2.00
83.05	San Diego	3.44	85.03	San Diego	0.00
83.06	San Diego	1.93	85.04	San Diego	0.00
83.07	San Diego	1.93	85.05	San Diego	16.44
83.10	San Diego	0.00	85.06	San Diego	1.00
83.11	San Diego	3.65	85.07	San Diego	0.00
83.12	San Diego	10.65	85.09	San Diego	24.09
83.13	San Diego	0.00	85.10	San Diego	4.72
83.24	San Diego	0.00	85.11	San Diego	42.46



Census Tract	2016 Community	Total	Census Tract	2016 Community	Total
85.12	San Diego	0.00	100.15	San Diego	UC/E
85.13	San Diego	0.00	101.03	San Diego	33.32
86.00	San Diego	0.00	101.04	San Diego	13.37
87.01	San Diego	1.93	101.06	San Diego	19.37
87.02	San Diego	4.86	101.07	San Diego	22.72
88.00	San Diego	9.93	101.09	San Diego	11.58
89.01	San Diego	1.72	101.10	San Diego	5.37
89.02	San Diego	46.31	101.11	San Diego	2.93
90.00	San Diego	0.00	101.12	San Diego	9.72
91.01	San Diego	5.79	102.00	Imperial Beach	4.00
91.02	San Diego	18.37	103.00	Imperial Beach	0.00
91.03	San Diego	0.00	104.01	Imperial Beach	1.00
91.04	San Diego	0.00	104.02	Imperial Beach	1.00
91.06	San Diego	28.09	105.01	Imperial Beach	3.00
91.07	San Diego	2.00	105.02	Imperial Beach	3.00
92.01	San Diego	13.65	106.01	Coronado	2.00
92.02	San Diego	0.00	108.00	Coronado	0.00
93.01	San Diego	0.00	109.00	Coronado	0.00
93.04	San Diego	57.16	110.00	Coronado	1.72
93.05	San Diego	4.93	111.00	Coronado	0.00
93.06	San Diego	1.00	113.00	Coronado	0.00
94.00	San Diego	0.00	116.01	National City	9.65
95.02	San Diego	1.93	116.02	National City	7.72
95.04	San Diego	0.00	117.00	National City	11.30
95.05	San Diego	0.00	118.01	National City	10.72
95.06	San Diego	0.00	118.02	National City	2.00
95.07	San Diego	1.93	119.02	National City	1.00
95.09	San Diego	9.65	120.02	National City	4.72
95.10	San Diego	1.93	120.03	National City	21.32
95.11	San Diego	0.00	121.01	National City	6.88
96.02	San Diego	4.00	121.02	National City	0.00
96.03	San Diego	42.17	122.00	National City	1.00
96.04	San Diego	1.93	123.02	Chula Vista	15.44
97.03	San Diego	0.00	123.03	Chula Vista	5.00
97.04	San Diego	0.00	123.04	Chula Vista	3.86
97.05	San Diego	0.00	124.01	Chula Vista	12.00
97.06	San Diego	0.00	124.02	Chula Vista	25.44
98.01	San Diego	0.00	125.01	Chula Vista	10.37
98.02	San Diego	1.93	125.02	Chula Vista	12.58
98.04	San Diego	0.00	126.00	Chula Vista	17.44
98.05	San Diego	5.79	127.00	Chula Vista	9.44
99.01	San Diego	UC/R	128.00	Chula Vista	8.79
99.02	San Diego	UC/R	129.00	Chula Vista	3.93
100.01	San Diego	5.86	130.00	Chula Vista	6.86
100.03	San Diego	1.00	131.02	Chula Vista	6.79
100.04	San Diego	UC/E	131.03	Chula Vista	7.86
100.05	San Diego	1.93	131.04	Chula Vista	5.00
100.09	San Diego	5.58	132.03	Chula Vista	8.44
100.10	San Diego	10.65	132.04	Chula Vista	30.88
100.11	San Diego	1.72	132.05	Chula Vista	55.55
100.12	San Diego	7.79	132.06	Chula Vista	28.16
100.13	San Diego	18.46	133.01	Chula Vista	1.00
100.14	San Diego	12.88			



Census Tract	2016 Community	Total	Census Tract	2016 Community	Total
133.02	Chula Vista	1.93	145.00	La Mesa	1.93
133.03	Chula Vista	1.93	146.01	La Mesa	1.93
133.06	Chula Vista	0.00	146.02	La Mesa	0.00
133.07	Chula Vista	3.65	147.00	La Mesa	3.93
133.08	Chula Vista	63.69	148.03	La Mesa	2.00
133.09	Chula Vista	1.93	148.04	La Mesa	1.93
133.10	Chula Vista	5.79	148.05	La Mesa	3.93
133.11	Chula Vista	UC/R	148.06	La Mesa	10.79
133.12	Chula Vista	1.00	149.01	La Mesa	2.00
133.13	Chula Vista	1.00	149.02	La Mesa	1.93
133.14	Chula Vista	UC/E	150.00	La Mesa	1.00
134.01	Chula Vista	14.72	151.00	La Mesa	0.00
134.09	Chula Vista	UC/E	152.00	Valle de Oro	0.00
134.10	Sweetwater	UC/E	153.01	El Cajon	2.00
134.11	Chula Vista	0.00	153.02	El Cajon	0.00
134.12	Chula Vista	0.00	154.03	Valle de Oro	0.00
134.14	Chula Vista	0.00	154.04	Valle de Oro	11.00
134.15	Chula Vista	1.72	154.05	Valle de Oro	1.93
134.16	Chula Vista	0.00	154.06	Valle de Oro	0.00
134.17	Chula Vista	1.72	155.01	Crest-Dehesa	0.00
134.18	Chula Vista	0.00	155.02	Crest-Dehesa	0.00
134.19	Chula Vista	0.00	156.01	El Cajon	1.00
134.20	Chula Vista	5.79	156.02	El Cajon	0.00
134.21	Chula Vista	0.00	157.01	El Cajon	18.86
135.03	Spring Valley	2.00	157.03	El Cajon	7.93
135.04	Spring Valley	UC/E	157.04	El Cajon	7.00
135.05	Spring Valley	21.23	158.01	El Cajon	14.79
135.06	Valle de Oro	3.93	158.02	El Cajon	14.81
136.01	Valle de Oro	UC/E	159.01	El Cajon	17.72
136.04	Valle de Oro	0.00	159.02	El Cajon	4.00
136.05	Valle de Oro	UC/E	160	El Cajon	23.39
136.06	Valle de Oro	3.00	161	El Cajon	18.93
137.01	Valle de Oro	0.00	162.01	El Cajon	0.00
137.02	Spring Valley	3.65	162.02	El Cajon	22.65
138.01	Spring Valley	4.93	163.01	El Cajon	23.79
138.02	Spring Valley	0.00	163.02	El Cajon	29.93
139.03	Spring Valley	3.86	164.01	El Cajon	3.86
139.05	Spring Valley	0.00	164.02	El Cajon	7.00
139.06	Spring Valley	5.79	165.02	Lakeside	1.00
139.07	Spring Valley	5.79	165.03	Lakeside	0.00
139.08	Spring Valley	80.34	170.35	San Diego	0.00
139.09	Spring Valley	0.00	170.36	San Diego	0.00
140.01	Lemon Grove	2.00	170.37	San Diego	1.93
140.02	Lemon Grove	0.00	170.39	San Diego	0.00
141.01	Lemon Grove	2.00	170.40	Poway	0.00
141.02	San Diego	12.00	170.41	Poway	0.00
142.00	Lemon Grove	3.00	170.42	San Diego	3.65
143.00	Lemon Grove	0.00	170.43	San Diego	1.00
144.00	Lemon Grove	5.00	170.44	San Diego	0.00



Census Tract	2016 Community	Total	Census Tract	2016 Community	Total
170.45	San Diego	0.00	190.02	Rainbow	UC/R
170.46	San Diego	0.00	191.01	Pala-Pauma	UC/R
170.47	San Diego	0.00	191.03	Valley Center	UC/R
170.48	Poway	1.00	191.05	Hidden Meadow	UC/R
170.49	Poway	0.00	191.06	Valley Center	UC/R
170.50	Poway	3.86	191.07	Pala-Pauma	UC/R
170.51	San Diego	0.00	192.03	Bonsall	3.93
170.52	San Diego	0.00	192.05	Vista	9.65
170.53	Poway	0.00	192.06	Vista	2.93
170.54	Poway	3.00	192.07	Bonsall	6.79
170.55	San Diego	0.00	192.08	San Marcos	0.00
170.56	San Diego	0.00	193.01	Oceanside	0.00
171.04	Encinitas	0.00	193.02	Oceanside	0.00
171.06	San Dieguito	0.00	193.03	Oceanside	0.00
171.07	Encinitas	0.00	194.03	Oceanside	2.00
171.08	Encinitas	1.00	194.04	Vista	1.00
171.09	Carlsbad	1.93	194.05	Vista	3.86
171.10	Carlsbad	0.00	194.06	Vista	1.93
172.00	Del Mar	1.00	195.01	Vista	3.00
173.03	Solana Beach	1.93	195.02	Vista	0.00
173.04	Solana Beach	2.93	195.03	Vista	3.00
173.05	Solana Beach	0.00	196.01	Vista	0.00
173.06	Solana Beach	1.93	196.02	Vista	4.86
174.01	Encinitas	0.00	197.01	Vista	5.79
174.03	Encinitas	1.00	197.02	Vista	4.93
174.04	Encinitas	1.93	198.03	Oceanside	3.72
175.01	Encinitas	23.72	198.04	Carlsbad	0.00
175.02	Encinitas	4.86	198.05	Vista	16.88
176.01	Encinitas	12.02	198.06	Carlsbad	4.00
186.01	Oceanside	UC/R	198.08	Oceanside	0.00
186.03	Oceanside	223.76	198.09	Oceanside	1.00
186.08	Oceanside	0.00	199.02	NC Metro	2.00
186.09	Oceanside	0.00	199.03	NC Metro	5.58
186.10	Oceanside	4.00	202.14	Escondido	54.39
186.11	Oceanside	0.00	203.04	Escondido	0.00
186.12	Oceanside	0.00	203.05	Escondido	0.00
186.13	Oceanside	0.00	203.06	San Marcos	1.00
186.14	Oceanside	0.00	203.07	Escondido	54.75
187	Pendleton/DeLuz	UC/R	203.08	Escondido	8.09
188.01	Fallbrook	UC/R	203.09	Escondido	0.00
188.02	Bonsall	UC/R	204.01	San Dieguito	3.44
188.03	Bonsall	UC/R	204.03	Escondido	0.00
189.03	Fallbrook	1.72	204.04	Escondido	1.00
189.04	Fallbrook	0.00	204.05	Escondido	2.00
189.05	Fallbrook	5.65	205.00	Escondido	10.79
189.06	Fallbrook	1.00	206.01	Escondido	0.00
190.01	Pendleton/DeLuz	UC/R	206.02	Escondido	0.00



Census Tract	2016 Community	Total
207.05	NC Metro	0.00
207.06	Escondido	0.00
207.07	Escondido	2.00
207.08	Escondido	0.00
207.09	NC Metro	3.86
207.10	San Diego	0.00
208.01	Ramona	0.00
208.05	Ramona	0.00
208.06	Ramona	46.66
208.07	Ramona	0.00
208.09	Ramona	13.93
208.10	Ramona	0.00
208.11	Ramona	UC/R
209.02	Cuyamaca	UC/R
209.03	Palomar Mountain	UC/R
209.04	Julian	UC/R
210	Borrego Springs	UC/R
211	Potrero	UC/R
212.02	Descanso	UC/R
212.04	Crest-Dehesa	UC/R
212.05	Alpine	UC/R
212.06	Alpine	UC/R
213.02	Alpine	UC/R
213.03	Jamul/Dulzura	UC/R
213.04	Jamul/Dulzura	UC/R
214.00	San Diego	29.09
215.00	San Diego	0.00
216.00	Coronado	1.93
218.00	Coronado	0.00
219.00	National City	170.91
220.00	National City	1.93
221.00	Carlsbad	0.00



Appendix A: Common Definitions and Abbreviations

- **Chronic homelessness:** is defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, (1) A “homeless individual with a disability,” as defined in section 401(9) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act who: (i) Lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and (ii) Has been homeless continuously for at least 12 months or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years, as long as the combined occasions equal at least 12 months and each break in homelessness separating the occasions included at least 7 consecutive nights of not living as described in paragraph (1)(i). Stays in institutional care facilities for fewer than 90 days will not constitute as a break in homelessness, but rather such stays are included in the 12-month total, as long as the individual was living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency shelter immediately before entering the institutional care facility; (2) An individual who has been residing in an institutional care facility, including a jail, substance abuse or mental health treatment facility, hospital, or other similar facility, for fewer than 90 days and met all of the criteria in paragraph (1) of this definition, before entering that facility; or (3) 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 in paragraph (1) or (2) of this definition, including a family whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless
- **Disabling condition,** for the purposes of this study, is defined as a physical disability, mental illness, depression, alcohol or drug abuse, chronic health problems, HIV/AIDS, Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), or a developmental disability.
- **Emergency shelter** is the provision of a safe alternative to the streets, either in a shelter facility, or through the use of stabilization rooms. Emergency shelter is short-term, usually for 90 days or fewer. Domestic violence shelters are typically considered a type of emergency shelter, as they provide safe, immediate housing for victims and their children.
- **Family** is defined as a household with at least one adult and one child under 18.
- Homeless under the **category 1 definition** of homelessness in the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act, includes individuals and families living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements, or 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.



- **HUD** is the abbreviation for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- **Sheltered homeless individuals** are those homeless individuals who are living in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs.
- **Single individual** refers to an unaccompanied adult or youth.
- **Transitional-Age-Youth (TAY)** refers to an unaccompanied youth aged 18-24 years.
- **Transitional housing** facilitates the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing. It is housing in which homeless individuals may live up to 24 months and receive supportive services that enable them to live more independently. Supportive services – which help promote residential stability, increased skill level or income, and greater self-determination – may be provided by the organization managing the housing, or coordinated by that organization and provided by other public or private agencies. Transitional housing can be provided in one structure or several structures at one site, or in multiple structures at scattered sites.
- **Unaccompanied children** refers to children under the age of 18 who do not have a parent or guardian present.
- **Unsheltered homeless individuals** are those homeless individuals who are living on the streets, in abandoned buildings, storage structures, vehicles, encampments, or any other place unfit for human habitation.



Appendix B: Methodology

Purpose

The purpose of the 2016 San Diego Homeless Point-in-Time Count & Survey was to produce a point-in-time estimate of people who experience homelessness in San Diego County during one night in January. San Diego County is a region which covers approximately 4,500 square miles. The results of the street count were combined with the results from the shelter count to produce the total estimated number of persons experiencing homelessness in the county on a given night. The subsequent, in-depth qualitative survey was used to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the experiences and demographics of those counted among the unsheltered.

Components of the WeALLCount

The Point-in-Time Count methodology has 4 primary components:

- The general street count between the hours of 4 AM to 7AM – an enumeration of unsheltered homeless individuals on the streets, in tents and hand built structures, and in vehicles.
- The shelter count for the night of the street count – an enumeration of sheltered homeless individuals. The unsheltered and sheltered homeless counts were coordinated to occur within the same time period in order to minimize potential duplicate counting of homeless persons.
- Demographic Survey
- Youth Count

The methodology used for the 2016 homeless count is described by HUD as a “blitz count” in that it is conducted by numerous people over a very short period of time in an effort to avoid duplicate enumeration. The result is an observation based count of individuals (including those in vehicles and tents) who appear to be homeless. The count is followed by a face-to-face representative survey. The survey sample is then used to profile and estimate the condition and characteristics of San Diego’s homeless population and subpopulations for the purposes of HUD reporting and local service delivery and strategic planning.

The Planning Process

To ensure the success of the count, many community agencies collaborated in community outreach, volunteer recruitment, logistical planning, methodological decision-making, and interagency coordination efforts.

Community Involvement

Local homeless service providers and advocates have been active and valued partners in the planning and implementation of this and previous homeless counts. The planning team invited public input on a number of aspects of the count, such as deployment sites, survey wording, and volunteer recruitment.

Dr. Sue Lindsay and the Institute of Public Health was invited to comment on the methodology, and subsequently endorsed it.



General Street Count Methodology

For the purposes of this study, the HUD definition of unsheltered homeless persons was used:

- An individual or family 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.

Methodological Improvements

The 2016 street count followed a mature, HUD approved methodology used in previous counts, with the continuation of a dedicated youth outreach that began in 2015. Until 2015 all areas of San Diego were fully canvassed by community volunteers and service providers, with no additional outreach by youth. In 2015, the dedicated youth outreach helped to develop a clearer picture of the extent of youth homelessness. Changes were made to the youth count in 2015, to improve these efforts and those changes are detailed in the youth count section.

Volunteer Recruitment and Training

Many individuals who live and/or work in San Diego turned out to support San Diego's effort to enumerate the local homeless population. More than 500 community volunteers and county staff registered to participate in the 2016 count. Volunteers signed up using the online platform VolunteerHUB to give coordinators the ability to track registrations and disseminate information. In order to participate in the count, all volunteers were required to view a brief online training video in the week preceding the PITC. Survey volunteers were required to attend either a webinar or in-person training in the weeks preceding the survey process. Count and interview site coordinators were given training materials to ensure volunteers had the training information. Volunteers also received printed instructions detailing how to count unsheltered homeless persons, and the survey had built-in reminders to the surveyors, such as a script on how to approach someone on the street.

Overview Safety Precautions

Every effort was made to minimize potentially hazardous situations for volunteers involved in the PITC. Parks considered too big or too densely wooded to inspect safely and accurately in the dark were enumerated by teams with a later start time. However, the majority of census tracts were deemed safe and were counted by volunteers on the early morning of the count. Law enforcement were notified of pending street count activity in their jurisdictions. Additional safety measures for the volunteers included the deployment of experienced HOT outreach workers with teams enumerating high density or risky areas such as riverbeds. Volunteers were briefed on safety in the training and encouraged to bring flashlights for the early hours. There were no official reports received in regards to unsafe or at-risk situations occurring during the street count in any area of San Diego County.

Street Count Deployment "Count" Sites

To achieve complete coverage of San Diego County within the 4 am to 7am window, the coordinators identified deployment sites in all 5 regions of the county: City of San Diego Central, North County Coastal, North County Inland, East County, and South County (Bay). Volunteers selected their count site at the time of registration, based on familiarity with the area or convenience- until the site was at capacity. Capacity was determined based on the number of census tracts to be covered. To facilitate the



timely deployment of volunteers, the planning team divided up the census tracts assigned them to the count site closest or most central to the coverage area.

Logistics of Counting

Volunteers canvassed routes of approximately 6 to 30 blocks (or 1 census tract) in teams of at least two volunteers. Walking teams canvassed routes in commercial areas and other locations known to include sizable homeless populations, while driving teams counted more sparsely populated and residential areas by a combination of driving and walking. Each team received a map, which identified the area to be canvassed and clearly showed the boundaries of the counting area. Count site volunteers provided each team with tally sheets to record the number of homeless persons observed. Count site volunteers also verified that at least one person on each team had a cell phone available for use during the count and recorded the number on the volunteer deployment log sheet. In certain high density neighborhoods, HOT teams accompanied volunteers as they counted.

Analyzing Count Data

The Count data was verified with the volunteer teams by count site coordinators, and submitted the same day to the project coordinators. The coordinators, through a series of checks, inputted this data into a database of individuals, vehicles, and hand built structures by census tract.

Shelter and Institution Count Methodology

Goal

The goal of the shelter and institution count was to gain an accurate count of persons temporarily housed in shelters and other institutions across San Diego County. This data is vital to gaining an accurate overall count of the homeless population and understanding where homeless persons received shelter. The HMIS database is used to conduct the shelter count on the night of the PITC- January 29, 2016.

Definition of a sheltered homeless individual:

- An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements 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

HUD does not include counts of homeless individuals in hospitals, residential rehabilitation facilities, and jails in the reportable numbers for the Point-in-Time Count.

Planning Challenges

There are many challenges in any homeless enumeration, especially when implemented by volunteers in a community as large and diverse as San Diego. Point-in-Time Counts are “snapshots” that quantify the size of the homeless population at a given point during the year. Hence, the count may not be representative of fluctuations and compositional changes in the homeless population seasonally or over time. While the risk of an undercount is much greater, it is also important to recognize that the count is conducted over the span of a few hours and people may be counted twice as they travel from one location of the city to another.



Point-in-Time Undercount

The PITC is meant to be a snapshot of homelessness in San Diego County. Even with the assistance of dedicated homeless service providers the PITC methodology cannot guarantee 100% accuracy. Many factors may contribute to missed opportunities, for example:

- It is difficult to identify homeless persons who may be sleeping in vans, cars, recreational vehicles, abandoned buildings or structures unfit for human habitation.
- Homeless families with children often seek opportunities to stay on private property, rather than sleep on the streets, in vehicles, or makeshift shelters.

Survey Methodology

To ensure the safety and comfort of those who participated, respondents were not required to complete all survey questions. Survey coordinators worked to ensure a representative sample of respondents, garnering information from subpopulations that are often hidden or hard to reach. Efforts were made to target respondents based on living accommodation, age, and neighborhood.

The survey was a collection of HUD required questions and local questions. The local questions used came from community organizations that had specific questions- such as probation or parole. A community forum will be held in the summer to determine local questions for next year's survey process.

Survey Administration Details

- The 2016 San Diego Homeless Survey was administered by trained volunteers between January 29 and February 5, 2016.
- In all, the survey team collected 1,173 unique surveys.

This number exceeds the planning team's recommendation for approximately 1,000 surveys for 2016 based on the unsheltered population in 2015.

Data Collection

Care was taken by interviewers to ensure that respondents felt comfortable regardless of the street or shelter location where the survey occurred. During the interviews, respondents were encouraged to be candid in their responses and were informed that these responses would be framed as general findings, would be kept confidential, and would not be traceable to any one individual.

Data Analysis

To avoid potential duplication of respondents, the survey requested respondents' initials and date of birth, so that de-duplication could be accomplished without compromising the respondents' anonymity. Upon completion of the survey effort, an extensive verification process was conducted to eliminate duplicates. This process examined respondents' date of birth, initials, gender, ethnicity, and length of homelessness, and consistencies in patterns of responses to other questions on the survey.



The survey data was inputted into a program using Service Point, the HMIS database. This allowed coordinators to run reports and analyze the data for publication and HUD purposes.

2016 Youth Count Methodology

Overview:

The 2016 youth count was structured more like the general PIT count. Regional Champions were identified by the County of San Diego. Use of the Regional Champions allowed project coordinators to delegate site research and recruitment of additional volunteers to these individuals. The methodology in 2015 was more event based- using service oriented events to count youth. The 2016 methodology moved away from the event focus and focused on outreach to hot spot areas. The methodology included creation of an online survey tool that was administered by 2-1-1 for any youth who identified as homeless and agreed to take the survey on the phone. This method was more successful than 2015- although the youth count is still believed to be an undercount.

Objectives:

- a) Advertise the count: Posters were distributed to the service providers and regional champions. Youth were engaged in each region to identify hot spot areas.
- b) Create an online survey: The RTFH used SurveyGizmo to create an online survey that matched the one that volunteer workers were administering
- c) Test the survey: youth at the Golden Hill TAY Academy provided valuable input into our survey. The survey was kept as close to the HUD general population survey for data entry and analysis purposes. Youth provided input on how to train volunteers, and wording.
- d) Find youth over a 7 day survey period: Survey volunteers departed from different locations on different days and times in order to canvass a wide area. This method helps to capture potential differences in patterns

Outcomes:

- a) The Regional Champions strategy worked well because they know their areas and the youth population best.
- b) There was some difficulty getting surveys for eligible youth due to strict HUD requirements.
- c) The strategy encountered some difficulty at transit locations based on a perception that volunteers were soliciting.
- d) Future counts could benefit from more volunteers next year because some service providers did not have enough manpower to staff the survey shifts.

Increase efforts to engage more youth in the count next year. They may be aware of more hot spots than outreach workers.



Acknowledgements

The Regional Task Force on the Homeless would like to thank the many individuals and agencies who contributed to the 2016 WeALLCount. The participation of community volunteers and partner agencies is critical to the success of the count. Over 2,000 community volunteers, City and County employees, and local community-based organizations assisted with all aspects of the count, from the initial planning meetings, to the night of the count, to the publication of this report. It is impossible to name every person involved, but their support was inspiring and invaluable to this process.

In particular, we would like to express particular appreciation the following individuals and organizations for their time and effort:

The Regional Continuum of Care
The County of San Diego Board of Supervisors
County Employee Volunteers
San Diego County Public Libraries- Jose Aponte, Executive Director
U.S Department of Veteran Affairs

2016 WeALLCount Coordinators:

Megan Black
Regional Task Force on the Homeless

Kelsey Kaline
Regional Task Force on the Homeless

Thank You

2016 WeALLCount Funder

U.S Department of Veteran Affairs



Save the Date!
2017 WeALLCount
Friday, January 27, 2017

