August 8, 2023

MEETING NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE

Board Members of the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee
Director Jim Beall (District 4)
Director Rebecca Eisenberg (District 7- Committee Vice Chair)
Director Richard P. Santos (District 3 - Committee Chair)

Staff Support of the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee
Rick L. Callender, Esq., Chief Executive Officer
Melanie Richardson, Assistant Chief Executive Officer
Bhavani Yerrapotu, Acting Assistant Chief Executive Officer
Aaron Baker, Chief Operating Officer, Water Utility
Rachael Gibson, Chief of External Affairs
Rechelle Blank, Chief Operating Officer, Watersheds
Christopher Hakes, Acting Chief Operating Officer, Watersheds
Darin Taylor, Chief Financial Officer
J. Carlos Orellana, District Counsel
Brian Hopper, Senior Assistant District Counsel
Audrey Beaman, Assistant District Counsel
Jennifer Codianne, Deputy Operating Officer, Watersheds
Vincent Gin, Deputy Operating Officer, Water Supply Division
Gregory Williams, Deputy Operating Officer, Raw Water Division
Lisa Bankosh, Assistant Officer, Watershed Stewardship and Planning Division
Marta Lugo, Assistant Officer, Office of Government Relations
Kirsten Struve, Assistant Officer, Water Supply Division
Sherilyn Tran, Civic Engagement Manager, Office of Civic Engagement
Charlene Sun, Treasury and Debt Manager
John Chapman, Integrated Vegetation Manager
Jessica Collins, Watersheds Business Planning and Analysis Manager, Business
        Planning and Analysis Unit
Jay Lee, Watersheds Field Operations Unit Manager
Meenakshi Ganjoo, Program Administrator, Business Planning and Analysis Unit
William (Bill) Magleby, Senior Real Estate Agent, Real Estate Services Unit
Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Program Administrator, Office of Government Relations
Mark Bilski, Senior Management Analyst, Office of Integrated Water Management
Ryan Tregoning, Field Construction Supervisor
Ron Snyder, Field Operations Administrator

A special meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee is to be held on **Monday, August 14, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.** at Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose CA 95118.

The meeting agenda and corresponding materials can be found on our website for your convenience. https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-committees

Santa Clara Valley Water District | 5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118-3686 | (408) 265-2600 | **www.valleywater.org**

Page 1

Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Meeting

Public Join Zoom Meeting
Join Zoom Meeting:
https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/88314500886

Meeting ID: 883 1450 0886
Join by Phone:
1 (669) 900-9128, 88314500886#

Valley Water

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Meeting

Headquarters Building Boardroom
5700 Almaden Expressway
San Jose CA 95118

SPECIAL MEETING
AGENDA

Monday, August 14, 2023
1:00 PM

District Mission: Provide Silicon Valley safe, clean water for a healthy life, environment and economy.

Environmental Creek Cleanup
Committee

Director Jim Beall, (District 4)
Director Rebecca Eisenberg, (District 7, Committee Vice Chair)
Director Richard P. Santos, (District 3, Committee Chair)

During the COVID-19 restrictions, all public records relating to an open session item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body, will be available to the public through the legislative body agenda web page at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body. Santa Clara Valley Water District will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities wishing to participate in the legislative body's meeting. Please advise the Clerk of the Board Office of any special needs by calling (408) 265-2600.

Jennifer Codianne (Staff Liaison)

Glenna Brambill, (COB Liaison)
Management Analyst II
gbrambill@valleywater.org
1-408-630-2408

Note: The finalized Board Agenda, exception items and supplemental items will be posted prior to the meeting in accordance with the Brown Act.

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

SPECIAL MEETING
AGENDA

Monday, August 14, 2023	**1:00 PM**	**Headquarters Building Boardroom**
		5700 Almaden Expressway San Jose CA 95118

IMPORTANT NOTICES AND PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board of Directors/Board Committee meetings are held as a "hybrid" meetings, conducted in-person as well as by telecommunication, and is compliant with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public have an option to participate by teleconference/video conference or attend in-person. To observe and participate in the meeting by teleconference/video conference, please see the meeting link located at the top of the agenda. If attending in-person, you are required to comply with Ordinance 22-03 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT SPECIFYING RULES OF DECORUM FOR PARTICIPATION IN BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS located at https://s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/valleywater.org.if-us-west-2/f2-live/s3fs-public/Ord.pdf

In accordance with the requirements of Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a), members of the public wishing to address the Board/Committee during public comment or on any item listed on the agenda, may do so by filling out a Speaker Card and submitting it to the Clerk or using the "Raise Hand" tool located in the Zoom meeting application to identify yourself in order to speak, at the time the item is called. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board/Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Board/Committee.

•   Members of the Public may test their connection to Zoom Meetings at: https://zoom.us/test
•   Members of the Public are encouraged to review our overview on joining Valley Water Board Meetings at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TojJpYCxXm0

Valley Water, in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), requests individuals who require special accommodations to access and/or participate in Valley Water Board of Directors/Board Committee meetings to please contact the Clerk of the Board's office at (408) 630-2711, at least 3 business days before the scheduled meeting to ensure that Valley Water may assist you.

This agenda has been prepared as required by the applicable laws of the State of California, including but not limited to, Government Code Sections 54950 et. seq. and has not been prepared with a view to informing an investment decision in any of Valley Water's

bonds, notes or other obligations. Any projections, plans or other forward-looking statements included in the information in this agenda are subject to a variety of uncertainties that could cause any actual plans or results to differ materially from any such statement. The information herein is not intended to be used by investors or potential investors in considering the purchase or sale of Valley Water's bonds, notes or other obligations and investors and potential investors should rely only on information filed by Valley Water on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access System for municipal securities disclosures and Valley Water's Investor Relations website, maintained on the World Wide Web at https://emma.msrb.org/ and https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/financebudget/investor-relations, respectively.

Under the Brown Act, members of the public are not required to provide identifying information in order to attend public meetings. Through the link below, the Zoom webinar program requests entry of a name and email address, and Valley Water is unable to modify this requirement. Members of the public not wishing to provide such identifying information are encouraged to enter "Anonymous" or some other reference under name and to enter a fictional email address (e.g., attendee@valleywater.org) in lieu of their actual address. Inputting such values will not impact your ability to access the meeting through Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:
https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/88314500886
Meeting ID:883 1450 0886
Join by Phone:
1 (669) 900-9128, 88314500886#

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

   1.1. Roll Call.

2. **TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA.** *Notice to the public: Members of the public who wish to address the Board/Committee on any item not listed on the agenda may do so by filling out a Speaker Card and submitting it to the Clerk or using the "Raise Hand" tool located in the Zoom meeting application to identify yourself to speak. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board/Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Board/Committee. Speakers' comments should be limited to three minutes or as set by the Chair. The law does not permit Board/Committee action on, or extended discussion of, any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Board/Committee action is requested, the matter may be placed on a future agenda. All comments that require a response will be referred to staff for a reply in writing. The Board/Committee may take action on any item of business appearing on the posted agenda.*

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1. Approval of Minutes.   23-0799

Recommendation:	Approve the June 23, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes.
Manager:	Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments:	Attachment 1: 06232023 ECCC Draft Mins
Est. Staff Time:	5 Minutes

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

4.1. Update on Valley Water's Encampment Cleanup Operations.   23-0800

Recommendation: Receive updates and provide feedback on the following topics:
- A. Encampment cleanup schedule.
- B. Encampment cleanup costs and funding.
- C. Trash and debris programs costs and accomplishments.
- D. Recent encampment cleanup for Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures project.
- E. Fence repairs update.
- F. Cherry Ave Emergency Interim Housing Site update.
- G. Creek Safety Issues Report, Stream Stewardship Law Enforcement Update

Manager:	Jennifer Codianne, 408-630-3876
Attachments:	Attachment 1: PowerPoint Presentation
Est. Staff Time:	15 Minutes

4.2. Follow-up Presentation by Destination: Home.   23-0801

Recommendation:	Receive a follow-up presentation from Destination: Home regarding topics related to homelessness and homelessness prevention in Santa Clara County.
Manager:	Jennifer Codianne, 408-630-3876
Attachments:	Attachment 1: Memo and Report
	Attachment 2: Report
	Attachment 3: Executive Summary
	Attachment 4: Census and Survey
Est. Staff Time:	30 Minutes

4.3. Livermore Goodness Village Presentation.   23-0802

Recommendation:	Receive a presentation regarding the Goodness Village affordable tiny home program located in Livermore.
Manager:	Jennifer Codianne, 408-630-3876
Est. Staff Time:	20 Minutes

4.4. Review the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) Work Plan,   23-0803
the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests; and the
Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.

Recommendation:	Review the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation.
Manager:	Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments:	Attachment 1: 2023 ECCC Work Plan
Est. Staff Time:	5 Minutes

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.

This is an opportunity for the Clerk to review and obtain clarification on any formally moved, seconded, and approved requests and recommendations made by the Committee during the meeting.

6. ADJOURN:

6.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, October 17, 2023.

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM
Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐   No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:
Approval of Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve the June 23, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes.

SUMMARY:
A summary of Committee discussions, and details of all actions taken by the Committee, during all open and public Committee meetings, is transcribed and submitted for review and approval.

Upon Committee approval, minutes transcripts are finalized and entered into the District's historical records archives and serve as historical records of the Committee's meetings.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:
There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: 06232023, Environmental Creek Cleanup Draft Meeting Mins.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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Page 10

![Valley Water logo]

ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A special scheduled meeting of the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Meeting was held on June 23, 2023, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   Committee Chair Director Richard P. Santos called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

   1.1. **ROLL CALL**
   Committee Board Members in attendance were: Director Jim Beall (District 4), Committee Chair Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), establishing a quorum, and Committee Vice Chair, Eisenberg (District 7-arrived at 10:04 a.m.).

   Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Feliciano Aguilar, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Mark Bilski, Rechelle Blank, Glenna Brambill, Sarah Bridges, Bart Broome, Kendra Boutros, Jennifer Codianne, Rachael Gibson, Christopher Hakes, Linh Hoang, Brian Hopper, Nicholas Ingram, Candice Kwok-Smith, Emelia Lamas, Jay Lee, Bill Magleby, Caitlin McAlpine, Carlos Orellana, Melanie Richardson, and Tracy Peña.

   Guests in attendance were: Chad Bojorquez (Destination: Home), Rick Flovin (Sunnyvale Lakewood Village Neighborhood Association), Katja Irvin (Sierra Club-Loma Prieta Chapter), Charles Julien (General Manager-Maple Tree Inn), Brian Malicdem (City of Morgan Hill), and Joanne Price (Dignity Moves).

   Public in attendance were: Eric Ha, Jeffrey Hare, Deb K., Jack McGovern, Doug Muirhead, and Colleen Murphy.

2. **TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA**
   Rick Lovin of the Lakewood Village Neighborhood Association (LVNA) shared his concerns about the unhoused issues at Calabazas Creek.

   Director Rebecca Eisenberg arrived at 10:04 a.m.

3.   **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
       3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES
       It was moved by Committee Vice Chair Director Eisenberg, seconded by Director
       Jim Beall and unanimously carried, to approve the April 21, 2023, Environmental Creek
       Cleanup Committee meeting minutes as presented.

4.   **REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**
       **4.1 RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM DESTINATION: HOME REGARDING THE
       2020-2025 COMMUNITY PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS**
       Chad Bojorquez of Destination: Home reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda
       item and answered questions as needed.

       The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee discussed the following: public funding,
       potential vacant land sites, supportive housing, and interim housing sites.

       Public Comments:
       Charles Julien (General Manager at Maple Tree Inn) there are concerns of the
       encampment at the Sunnyvale East Channel as there have been several incidents with
       the unhoused and he is concerned for his hotel staff and guests and would like to know
       how Valley Water can assist with these serious issues (vandalism, trespassing, verbal
       assault, harassment of our guests, suspected criminal activity, and other issues).

       Joanne Price (Co-founder strategy and innovation with Dignity Moves) willing to assist
       with placement of the unhoused. She explained how her organization works with vacant
       properties/landowners to install tiny homes along with the other services they offer.

       Committee Chair Director Richard P. Santos stated that Jim Davis (helps Veterans) and
       Barry Swenson are also available to assist.

       The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee took no action.

       4.2 UPDATE ON VALLEY WATER'S ENCAMPMENT CLEANUP OPERATIONS
       Jennifer Codianne reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item and answered
       questions as needed.

       The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee discussed the following: porta potties,
       debris bins, recruitment to help with cleanups, grant money for approval going to Board on
       June 27th, law enforcement updates (city/county/state) and safety issues.

       The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee took no action.

       **4.3 RECEIVE THE PROPOSED VALLEY WATER PROPERTY EVALUATION
       CHECKLIST FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING TO SUPPORT UNSHELTERED
       INDIVIDUALS, WHICH PROVIDES POLICY PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE DECISIONS TO
       UTILIZE VALLEY WATER PROPERTY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING**
       Jennifer Codianne reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item and answered
       questions as needed.

The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee discussed the following: the potential site location at Guadalupe/Cherry (parcel is 2.4 acres) which was approved by the San José City Council. A joint agreement will be needed to proceed; however, Valley Water needs more information before making any decisions.

The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee took no action, however, would like to discuss this topic further at another meeting.

4.4 REVIEW 2023 ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE WORK PLAN
Glenna Brambill reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Committee would like to meet in August with the following potential agenda items confirm with staff on availability of guest speakers:
- ❖ Safety Update (SJPD, County, Parole, etc.)
- ❖ Legal Review (Gilroy Ordinance) on The Proposed Valley Water Property Evaluation Checklist
- ❖ Overview of the San Jose Project

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee took no action.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS TO THE BOARD
Glenna Brambill reported there was no formal action item for Board consideration.

6. ADJOURNMENT
6.1 ADJOURN
Committee Chair Director Richard P. Santos adjourned at 12:13 p.m. to the next special meeting on Friday, August 2023, at 10:00 a.m. date to be determined.

Submitted by:

Glenna Brambill
Board Committee Liaison
Office of the Clerk of the Board

Approved:

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Page 14

Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 23-0800

Agenda Date: 8/14/2023
Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM
Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐   No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:
Update on Valley Water's Encampment Cleanup Operations.

RECOMMENDATION:
Receive updates and provide feedback on the following topics:
   A. Encampment cleanup schedule.
   B. Encampment cleanup costs and funding.
   C. Trash and debris programs costs and accomplishments.
   D. Recent encampment cleanup for Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures project.
   E. Fence repairs update.
   F. Cherry Ave Emergency Interim Housing Site update.
   G. Creek Safety Issues Report, Stream Stewardship Law Enforcement Update

SUMMARY:
Staff will brief the Committee and provide up-to-date information on issues related to encampment cleanups:

   A. <u>Encampment Cleanup Schedule</u>: Discussion of currently scheduled encampment cleanups.

   B. <u>Encampment Cleanup Program Costs & Funding</u>: Update on Fiscal Year 2023 encampment cleanup expenditures and prior-year comparisons.

   C. <u>Trash & Debris Programs Costs & Accomplishments</u>: Update on Fiscal Year 2023 expenditures and prior-year comparisons on expenditures and cubic yards for all Valley Water trash and debris removal programs.

   D. <u>Recent Encampment Cleanups</u>: Discussion of recent cleanup along Coyote Creek from Oakland Road to Maybury Road in support of the Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures Project (CCFMMP).

   E. <u>Fence Repairs Update</u>: Regular update on Valley Water's fencing repairs on Guadalupe

Percolation Ponds along Sanchez Drive, Sunnyvale East downstream Dunholme Way.

F. <u>Cherry Ave Update</u>: Update on development of Emergency Interim Housing site located on Valley Water lands on Guadalupe River Reach 12, adjacent to Cherry Ave, San Jose.

G. <u>Creek Safety Issues Report</u>: Regular report on creek safety issues, including recent statistics from the San José Police Department's Stream Stewardship Law Enforcement Program (SSLE). Sergeant Scott Williams will be in attendance to give an update on SSLE and to answer any questions.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:
There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: PowerPoint Presentation

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Jennifer Codianne, 408-630-3876

Encampment Cleanup Update
688.31 Tons Removed May 16 – July 16

Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee
August 11, 2023

Valley Water

Encampment Cleanup Schedule

5/16 – 6/2 • Joint Abatement with CSJ in support of Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures CIP - Coyote Creek – Oakland Road to Berryessa Road	**6/5 – 6/9** • Enhanced Cleanup: Guadalupe River - Blossom Hill Road to Branham Road • Enhanced Cleanup: Guadalupe Creek – Almaden Expressway to Camden Avenue • Enhanced Cleanup: Saratoga Creek – Prospect Avenue to Bollinger Road	**6/12 – 6/15** • Joint Abatement with SC for public safety: Saratoga Creek – Forbes Way to Stevenson Boulevard, Central Park to Lawrence Expressway • Enhanced Cleanup: Coyote Creek – U/S Tully Road • Joint Abatement with CSJ for public safety: Lower Silver Creek - San Antonio Road to Hwy 680 • Enhanced Cleanup: Coyote Creek – Charcot Avenue to O'toole Avenue	**6/16 – 6/23** • Enhanced Cleanup: W. Little Llagas – D/S Cosmo Avenue • Trash Hot Spots: W. Little Llagas Creek: Llagas Road, Main Street, 2nd Street, Edes Court, Edmundson Avenue, LaCrosse Street, Spring Avenue, Cosmo Avenue, Ciolino Avenue, Chestnut Court • Enhanced Cleanup: Coyote Creek – D/S Brokaw Road E/B • Enhanced Cleanup: Los Gatos Creek – Bascom Avenue to Meridian Avenue
6/26 – 6/30 • Enhanced Cleanup: W. Branch Llagas Creek - Monterey Road to Llagas Creek Confluence • Enhanced Cleanup: Madrone Channel • Trash Hot Spots – Coyote Creek Watershed • Trash Hot Spots - Adobe/Barron Creeks Watershed	**7/3 – 7/7** • Enhanced Cleanup: Sunnyvale East – D/S El Camino Real, U/S Arques Avenue • Enhanced Cleanup: Lower Silver Creek - McKee Road to Coyote Creek Confluence • Enhanced Cleanup: Upper Penitencia Creek - Capitol Avenue to King Road	**7/10 – 7/12** • Enhanced Cleanup: Upper Penitencia Creek – Capitol Expressway to Jackson Avenue • Enhanced Cleanup: Guadalupe River – U/S Capitol Expressway to Almaden Expressway • Enhanced Cleanup: Guadalupe River – U/S Alma Avenue to Virginia Avenue	**7/13 – 7/14** • Enhanced Cleanup: Guadalupe River - Blossom Hill Road to Branham Road • Enhanced Cleanup: Guadalupe River - Blossom Hill Road to Branham Road • Trash Hot Spots: Lower Silver Creek – McKee Road, Sunset Avenue, Kammerer Avenue, Plat Arroyo, Tully Road, Lyndale Avenue

Valley Water

Encampment Cleanup Costs & Funding

	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23
Encampment Cleanup Budget	$927,131	$1,515,073	$922,107	$1,923,736	$2,406,885
Encampment Cleanup Expenditures	$968,819	$845,455	$364,895	$2,218,126	$ 2,387,441.00
Encampment Cleanup Budget Remaining	($41,688)	$669,618	$557,212	($294,390)	$19,444.00
Encampment Cleanup Budget Expended	104%	56%	40%	115%	99%

Valley Water

Encampment Impacts on Waterways

Budget Year	Encampment Cleanup (CY)	Encampment Cleanup Cost	Litter Removal (CY)	Litter Removal Cost	Trash Booms, Hot Spots, Volunteer Cleanup Efforts (CY)
Valley Water Encampment/Trash and Debris Cleanup Efforts					
FY 2013-14	9,982	$ 786,085.00	1,176	$ 130,881.00	450
FY 2014-15	17,024	$ 1,341,166.00	1,792	$ 189,675.00	419.5
FY 2015-16	11,746	$ 929,727.00	1,596	$ 198,269.00	614.5
FY 2016-17	12,698	$ 1,018,873.00	1,148	$ 144,733.00	478
FY 2017-18	16,926	$ 1,485,693.00	1,708	$ 219,078.00	731.25
FY 2018-19	11,480	$ 968,819.00	1,050	$ 512,487.00	636.78
FY 2019-20	9,534	$ 845,455.00	1,218	$ 639,570.00	295
FY 2020-21	1,526	$ 364,896.00	2,352	$ 1,264,002.00	639.2
FY 2021-22	12,152	$ 2,216,297.00	1,009	$ 967,135.00	326
FY 2022-23	10,941	$ 2,387,441.00	1,158	$ 403,594.60	873.71
Estimated Totals	114,009	$ 12,344,452.00	14,207	$ 4,669,424.60	5,463.94

Valley Water

Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures Project

Before

After

Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures Project

Before

After

Valley Water

Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures Project

Before

After

Accomplishments:
- 567.99 Tons Removed
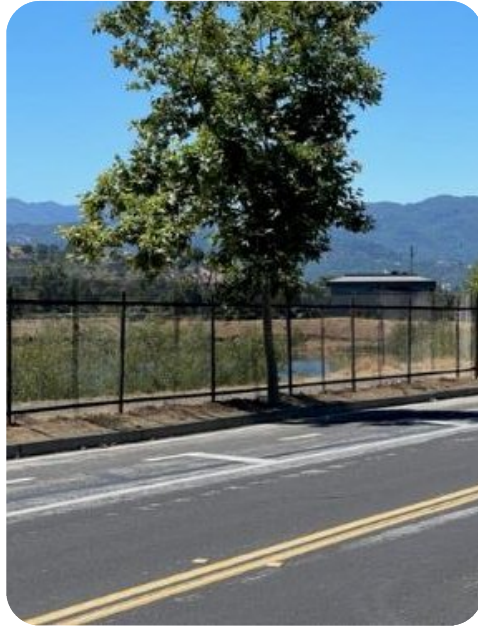- 61.33 Acres Managed

Valley Water

Floodplain at Corie Court, upstream of Oakland Road BEFORE

Floodplain at Corie Court, upstream of Oakland Road AFTER

Fence Repairs

- Fence repairs completed by Watersheds Operations and Maintenance staff.
- Fence Repair requests responded to within 1 business day.
  Work completed on average of 5 business days.
- 1,050 LF of expanded metal installed along Guadalupe Ponds/Sanchez Drive.
- 513 LF of standard chain-link fence installed.

Valley Water

Cherry Ave:
Emergency Interim Housing Site

- Approximately 100 individual units
- Full suite of services and connections
- Security and health support
- Water Resources Protection Zone

Water Resources Protection Zone
Guadalupe River (Blossom Hill Blvd to Branham Lane)

- Federally protected Water of the U.S.

- State protected Water of the State

- Valley Water permit-required mitigation

Page 28

Ecological Benefits that Need Protection

- Federal Flow Conveyance Requirements

- Maintenance of Regulated Water Quality Parameters

- Fish Habitat for Steelhead and Salmon

- Bird Habitat for Protected Migratory Birds and Raptors

- Active Mitigation for Multiple Regulatory Agencies

Groundwater Recharge Benefits

- Critical water supply infrastructure

  - Percolation ponds

  - Groundwater recharge

  - Bird habitat

Impacts to environment

- Declining ecological condition
    - Fire
    - Excavations
    - Plant and tree removal
    - Trash and debris
- Declining water quality
    - Biowaste
    - Hazardous pollutants
    - Trash and debris

Safety Issues: Coyote Creek Trail Patrol

- May 2023 Statistics: 2 arrests, 9 warrant arrests, 31 criminal citations, 0 traffic citations, 2 parking citations, 38 Impounds, 115 unhoused assistance contacts & 216 citizen contacts.

- June 2023 Statistics: 2 arrests, 11 warrant arrests, 27 criminal citations, 0 traffic citations, 0 parking citations, 21 Impounds, 112 unhoused assistance contacts & 194 citizen contacts.

Agreement for Coyote Creek Trail Patrols ended June 30, 2023

Safety Issues: Guadalupe River Trail Patrol

- May 2023 Statistics: 2 arrest, 7 warrant arrests, 27 criminal citations, 4 traffic citations, 3 parking citations, 18 Impounds, 159 unhoused assistance contacts & 72 citizen contacts.

- June 2023 Statistics: 2 arrests, 7 warrant arrests, 26 criminal citations, 2 traffic citations, 16 parking citations, 10 Impounds, 125 unhoused assistance contacts & 79 citizen contacts.

Agreement for Guadalupe River Trail Patrols ended June 30, 2023

Valley Water

Stream Stewardship Law Enforcement: (SSLE)

Agreement Number	A4250X/A4250Xa	A4403M	A4625X	A4830X
Agreement Dates	April 2019 - August 2020	October 2020 - October 2021	April 2021 - April 2022	July 2023 - July 2024
SSLE Budget	$ 400,000.00	$ 200,000.00	$ 200,000.00	$ 340,000.00
SSLE Expenditures	$ 175,722.59	$ 200,000.00	$ 148,437.62	
SSLE Budget Unspent	$ 224,277.41	$ -	$ 51,562.78	
Total Program Spend				$ 524,159.81

Valley Water

QUESTIONS

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM
Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐   No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:
Follow-up Presentation by Destination: Home.

RECOMMENDATION:
Receive a follow-up presentation from Destination: Home regarding topics related to homelessness and homelessness prevention in Santa Clara County.

SUMMARY:
At the June 23, 2023 Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) meeting, Committee members received a presentation from Destination: Home on the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness, a county-wide roadmap for addressing homelessness in Santa Clara County. The Committee requested that Destination: Home provide a follow-up presentation at the August ECCC meeting to continue the conversation and to follow up on questions posed at the June meeting. This presentation will discuss the following topics and make reference to the linked and attached materials:

1. Information about veteran homelessness:

    a. *Santa Clara County Supportive Housing System Report* (May 2023) (Attachment 1)

    b. All the Way Home (campaign to end veteran homelessness):
       https://destinationhomesv.org/all-the-way-home/ <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/JUa2CZ6NB1t75VLyUze2VZ?domain=destinationhomesv.org/>

2. Big picture needs:

    a. *The Case for Prioritizing Affordable Housing for Extremely Low-Income Households* (2022) (Attachment 2)

3. California unhoused population data:

    a. *California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness, Executive Summary*

(UCSF, June 2023) (Attachment 3)

b. Full report available here:
https://homelessness.ucsf.edu/our-impact/our-studies/california-statewide-study-people-

4. Santa Clara County unhoused population data:

a. 2023 Point-In-Time Census press release:
https://news.sccgov.org/news-release/county-santa-clara-and-city-san-jose-release-

b. The 2023 detailed survey has not been released yet but the 2022 detailed survey is available (Attachment 4)

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:
There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: Memo and Report
Attachment 2: Report
Attachment 3: Executive Summary
Attachment 4: Census and Survey

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Jennifer Codianne, 408-630-3876

County of Santa Clara

Office of Supportive Housing

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(408) 278-6400 Main
(669) 220-1444 Fax

May 8, 2023

TO: Board of Supervisors
Housing, Land Use, Environment and Transportation Committee (HLUET)
Committee

FROM: Consuelo Hernandez, Office of Supportive Housing (OSH)

SUBJECT: Supportive Housing System in Santa Clara County

The attached report highlights trends, successes, and challenges of the supportive housing system in Santa Clara County between April 2022 and March 2023. The primary function of this report is to communicate how different programs are contributing to an overall reduction in homelessness. The supportive housing system includes housing programs that fall into five main categories: Emergency Shelter (ES), Transitional Housing (TH), Rapid Rehousing (RRH), Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), and Homelessness Prevention (HP). Additionally, this report provides supplementary data focusing on the County's Veteran Housing programs.

Supportive Housing System Trends and Highlights

Appendix A highlights data on two of the five overarching targets detailed in the County's 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness (Community Plan). As shown in Chart 1, the County has housed 10,724 individuals since January 2020, 54% toward the goal of housing 20,000 people by 2025. Chart 2 depicts progress toward the County's goal of reducing the number of newly homeless individuals and families each year by 30%. Inflow for calendar year 2019 (4,757 people) is used as a baseline. Inflow for the April 2022 to March 2023 reporting period is 3,724 households, nearly meeting the five-year goal to reduce the number of households completing their first assessment (since becoming unhoused) to 3,330 households.

Appendix B provides program capacity and utilization for the five program categories outlined above plus the Safe Parking (SP) initiative. As depicted in the Program Utilization chart in Appendix B, HP (114%) and Permanent Supportive Housing programs (92%) have

Board of Supervisors: Sylvia Arenas, Cindy Chavez, Otto Lee, Susan Ellenberg, S. Joseph Simitian
County Executive: Jeffrey V. Smith

the highest utilization for the reporting period. Utilization of HP programs over 100% means that the prevention system has served more households over the past year than the annual goal and households are staying enrolled in the program for a longer period.

While capacity across programs has remained relatively stable over the past year, there are 1,228 housing units in construction or approved by the Board of Supervisors and are in the pipeline. As these units are completed and approved for occupancy, PSH and RRH capacity will increase significantly.

Appendix C illustrates key system performance measures, benchmarks for which are determined in coordination with community partners on an annual basis. A few highlights for the reporting period are provided below.

- Chart 2 provides data on exits to permanent housing destinations by housing type and period. Seventy-two percent (72%) of households exiting RRH programs exited to permanent housing for the current reporting period, nearly meeting the 75% benchmark. Thirty-eight percent (38%) of households exiting ES programs moved on to permanent housing, exceeding the County's 30% performance goal. The system-wide exits to permanent housing destinations was 32% for the April 2022 through March 2023 study period. An analysis of total exits to permanent housing destinations shows the continued challenges low-income households face in maintaining permanent housing without a subsidy. The percent of clients who exited to rental housing without an ongoing subsidy decreased from 56% in the previous annual period to 43% in the current period. Due to the lack of affordable housing in the community, many unhoused individuals and families require rental assistance to obtain and maintain stable housing.

- Chart 3 provides data on the percentage of people in Permanent Housing Programs retaining their housing in the reporting year. This primarily represents PSH programs. Across the county, this number has remained near or above the benchmark of 95% for several years. The housing retention rate was 95.5% for the current reporting period.

- Chart 4 provides data on returns to homelessness after exiting a program to a permanent housing destination two years prior. Data for the April 2022 to March 2023 period shows decreases in returns at the six-month and one-year and two year time frames compared to the 2020 period. Returns to homelessness is stable when compared to the 2021 period.

Appendix D presents data on housing placements and inflow by project type and month. The upper chart indicates the number of households that moved to permanent housing (housing placements), compared to the number of households completing their first housing

Page **2** of **4**

Page 40

Attachment 1
Page 2 of 10

assessment (inflow). Over the past one year, approximately 2,186 households have been permanently housed and 3,713 households have taken the Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) assessment for the first time (inflow). This means for every one household getting permanently housed, 1.7 households are getting assessed for their first time since becoming homeless. The inflow is classified by level of housing intervention – minimal intervention, RRH, or PSH.

The lower chart breaks down the housing placements by the type of project from which the household was receiving assistance. The higher inflow number in recent months was attributed to increased outreach related to the weather and the 2023 Point-in-Time Count, as confirmed by participating agencies. While the need remains high with 380 households becoming homeless for the first time in March 2023 as shown in the upper chart, and annual inflow increasing by 18% since March 2022, housing placements have increased by 10% over the same period with a greater proportion being families with children.

An analysis of agencies who are administering the VI-SPDAT to clients for the first time shows that from March 2022 to March 2023, Bill Wilson Center has nearly doubled its percentage of first-time assessments from 6% to 11%, respectively and this increase can largely be attributed to the Here4You hotline that is managed by this agency. Fourteen new agencies that did not complete any first-time VI-SPDATs in March 2022 (such as Sunnyvale Community Services and the City of Morgan Hill) collectively completed 13% of first-time assessments in March 2023. The agencies that administer the most first-time assessments continue to be HomeFirst (26%), Bill Wilson Center (11%) and Abode (11%). The OSH will continue to monitor trends over the next several months as it relates to the number of households becoming homeless for the first time. As more housing developments are completed and additional emergency housing vouchers are utilized, the OSH expects placements into permanent housing to increase in the coming months.

Veterans Housing Programs

Appendices E, F, and G include data related to veterans served in the County's homelessness system. The County, in collaboration with the City of San José, the Housing Authority, and Destination: Home, initiated the *All the Way Home* campaign in 2015. This collaboration continues to partner with the community's consortium of service providers with the aim of ending veteran homelessness. Veterans are housed using a variety of supports and initiatives, including landlord incentives and federal programs such as the Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing Program (VASH) and the Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) program.

Highlights from the County's efforts to end homelessness for veterans include the following:

- As illustrated in Chart 1 of Appendix E, since November 2015, 2,579 veterans in Santa Clara County moved from homelessness to housing. Just over half of veterans who were housed received assistance from the VASH program, and more than 20% were supported via the SSVF program.

- Chart 2 in Appendix E indicates that veterans exited transitional housing programs into permanent housing at higher rates than the system-wide population (36% versus 27%, respectively). While exits to permanent housing were similar to the system-wide population overall and RRH programs, veterans show lower exit rates to permanent housing destinations from Emergency Shelter programs. With the closing of FEMA Covid-19 hotels/motels and many veterans transferring to traditional emergency shelter programs, an increasing number exited from these programs to unknown or homeless destinations.

- Chart 3 in Appendix E shows that overall returns to homelessness for veterans is at 18% which is the same as the overall population. Returns to homelessness after exiting from Emergency Shelter programs is highest for both veterans (27%) and for the overall population (21%).

- Chart 1 in Appendix F shows that the number of veterans placed into permanent housing consistently exceeds the number of homeless veterans seeking assistance for the first time. In the last 12 months, 127 veterans (an average of 11 per month) have sought housing assistance for the first time. During the same period, 264 veterans (an average of 20 per month) have been placed in permanent housing. This trend reflects the County's continuing robust efforts to end veteran homelessness.

- Charts 2 and 3 in Appendix F show characteristics of 154 veterans who are currently on the Community Housing Queue. Veterans who have been on the Housing Queue for more than one year make up 40% of total Veterans on the Queue and have a higher rate of substance use and sleep outdoors more frequently (based on their most recent assessment). Identifying housing opportunities for clients with severe disabilities and criminal justice backgrounds remains a challenge. For all Veterans on the Community Housing Queue, 52% reported having a mental health disorder and 43% reported a chronic health disability. Nearly half of veterans on the Queue score in the PSH level of intervention based on their most recent assessment score. Additional demographics of veterans on the Queue are shown in Appendix G.
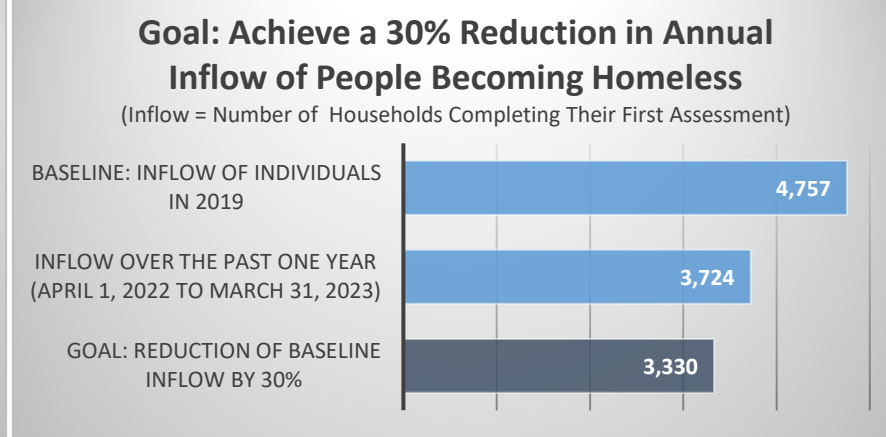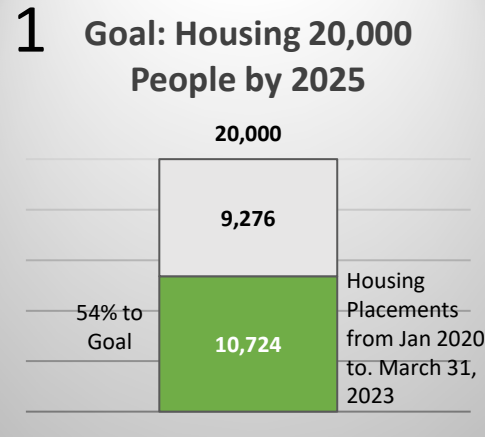
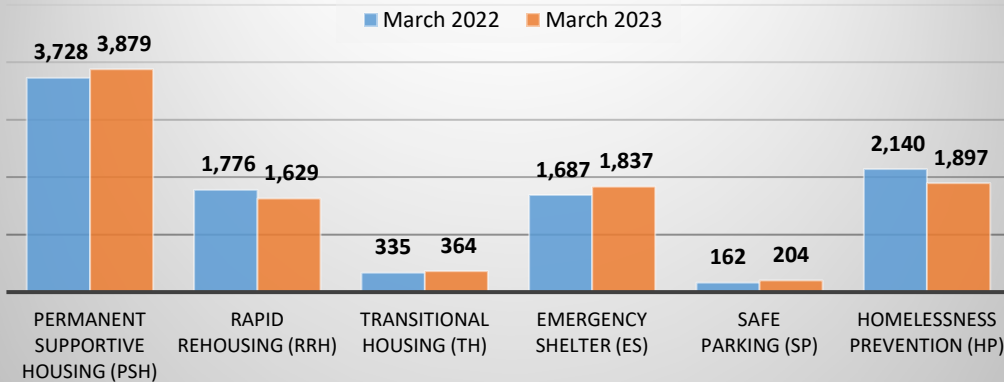**The 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness**

The county-wide plan is our roadmap for ending homelessness in Santa Clara County. The 2020-2025 plan set aggressive targets designed to reverse the current growth in homelessness and bring us one step closer to our collective goal of eliminating homelessness in our community. Appendix A highlights specific goals related to this plan.

Appendix A: Community Plan Goals

1 Goal: Housing 20,000 People by 2025

- 20,000
- 9,276
- 54% to Goal
- 10,724
- Housing Placements from Jan 2020 to. March 31, 2023

Goal: Achieve a 30% Reduction in Annual Inflow of People Becoming Homeless

(Inflow = Number of Households Completing Their First Assessment)

- BASELINE: INFLOW OF INDIVIDUALS IN 2019 — 4,757
- INFLOW OVER THE PAST ONE YEAR (APRIL 1, 2022 TO MARCH 31, 2023) — 3,724
- GOAL: REDUCTION OF BASELINE INFLOW BY 30% — 3,330

Appendix B: Capacity and Utilization as of 3/31/2023

Program Capacity (Units or Households)

■ March 2022 ■ March 2023

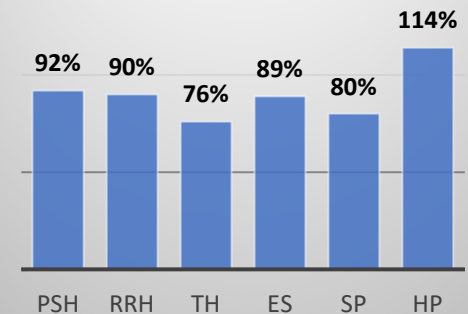| Program	March 2022	March 2023
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING (PSH)	3,728	3,879
RAPID REHOUSING (RRH)	1,776	1,629
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING (TH)	335	364
EMERGENCY SHELTER (ES)	1,687	1,837
SAFE PARKING (SP)	162	204
HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP)	2,140	1,897

Under Construction or in the Pipeline Approved by the Board

1,228 Total Housing Units (546 PSH, 496 RRH, 82 VASH, and 104 I/DD)

Program Utilization, March 2023

PSH	RRH	TH	ES	SP	HP
92%	90%	76%	89%	80%	114%

- Utilization: PSH, RRH are point-in-time utilization on March 31, 2023. TH and ES data reflects utilization for the month of March 2023, and SP and HP utilization are based on the last 12 months
- Program utilization is based on households enrolled in programs that are tracked in HMIS.
- PSH capacity includes 40 units which are Permanent Housing with services (no disability required).
- For Safe Parking programs, one parking space is the equivalent of one unit of capacity with an estimated 2.5 individuals per vehicle.

Page 43

Appendix C: System Performance Measures

1 — Total Enrollments and First Time Homelessness

- *Enrollments into ES, SH, TH, or PH Programs*
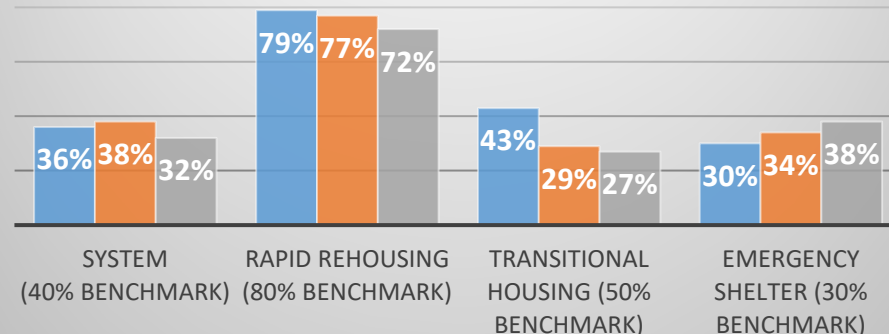- *System Entries: People Experiencing Homelessness for the First Time**

* "First Time" per HUD = no enrollments in ES, SH, TH or PH in the previous 24 months

|	4/1/2020-3/31/2021	4/1/2021-3/31/2022	4/1/2022-3/31/2023
Enrollments	7,026	7,283	9,252
First Time %	65%	61%	65%
System Entries	4,601	4,451	6,044
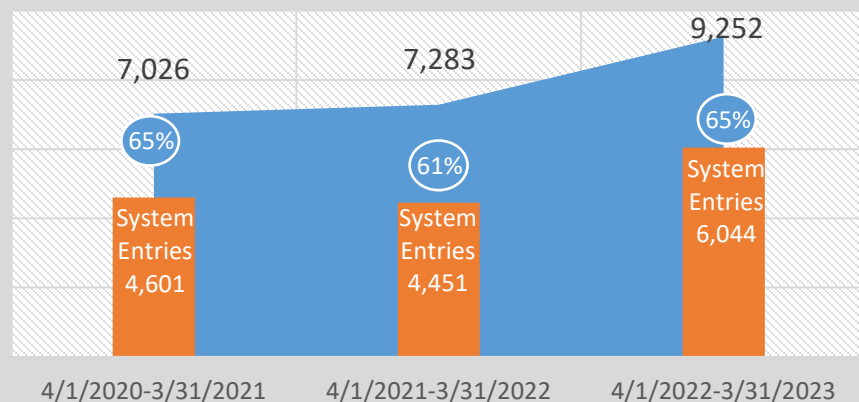
2 — Exits to Permanent Housing Destinations
Of Persons in ES, TH, and RRH who Exited a program, the Percentage of Successful Exits to Permanent Housing

Legend: 4/1/2020-3/31/2021 — 4/1/2021-3/31/2022 — 4/1/2022-3/31/2023

	4/1/2020-3/31/2021	4/1/2021-3/31/2022	4/1/2022-3/31/2023
SYSTEM (40% BENCHMARK)	36%	38%	32%
RAPID REHOUSING (80% BENCHMARK)	79%	77%	72%
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING (50% BENCHMARK)	43%	29%	27%
EMERGENCY SHELTER (30% BENCHMARK)	30%	34%	38%

3 — Permanent Housing Retention
Percentage of People in Permanent Housing Programs (excluding Rapid Rehousing) Retaining Housing during the Reporting Year (Benchmark = 98%)

4/1/2020-3/31/2021	4/1/2021-3/31/2022	4/1/2022-3/31/2023
96.1%	94.8%	95.5%
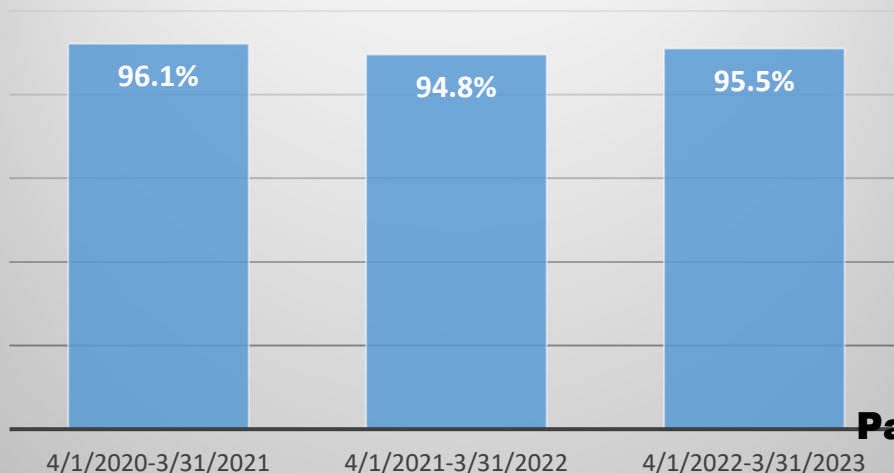
4 — Returns to Homelessness
After Exiting to Permanent Housing Destinations, the Percentage of People who Return to Homelessness within 6 Months, 1 Year, and 2 Years

Legend: <6 Months — < 1 Year — < 2 Years

	<6 Months	< 1 Year	< 2 Years
4/1/2020 - 3/31/2021	9%	15%	21%
4/1/2021 - 3/31/2022	7%	11%	18%
4/1/2022 - 3/31/2023	7%	11%	18%

Page 44

Appendix D: Housing Placements and Inflow by Month

Monthly Housing Placements vs. Homeless Inflow
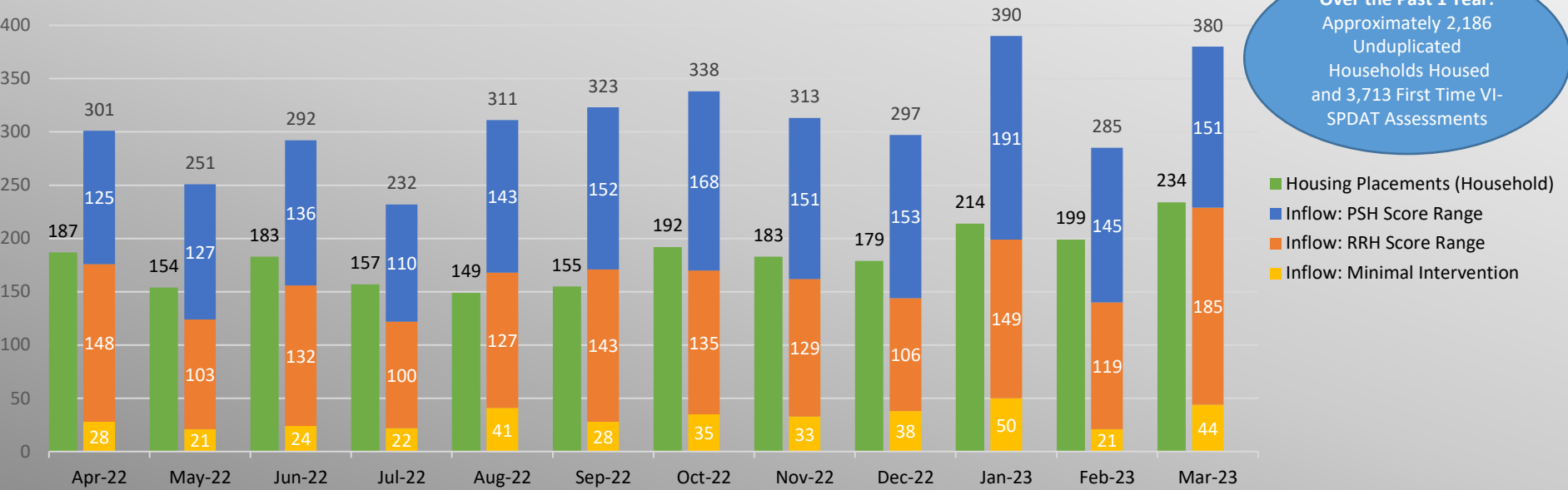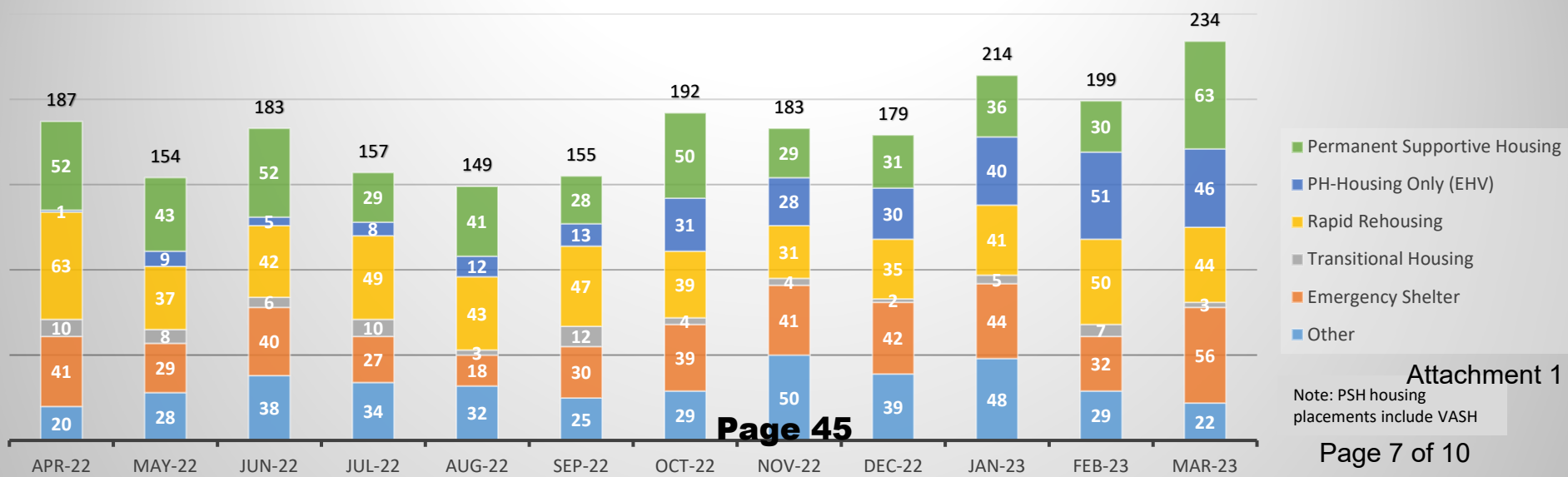
Over the Past 1 Year: Approximately 2,186 Unduplicated Households Housed and 3,713 First Time VI-SPDAT Assessments

Legend:
- Housing Placements (Household)
- Inflow: PSH Score Range
- Inflow: RRH Score Range
- Inflow: Minimal Intervention

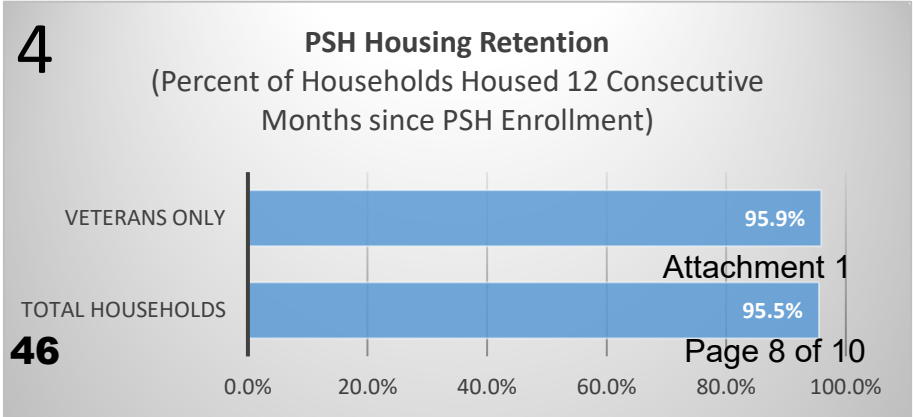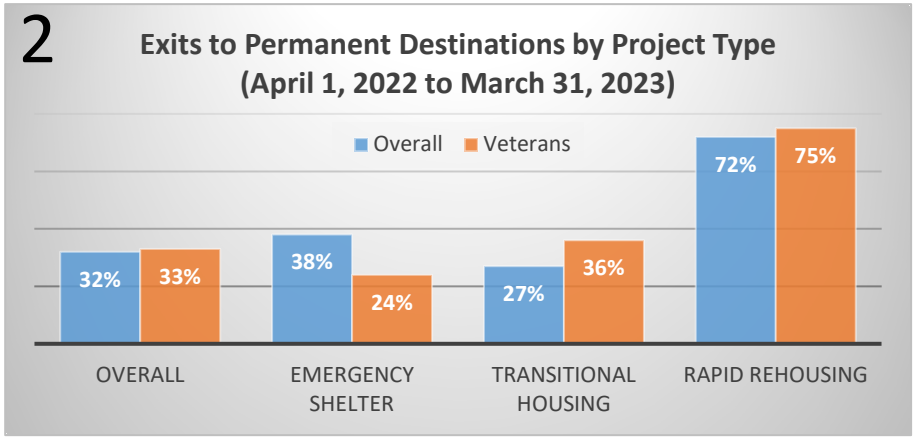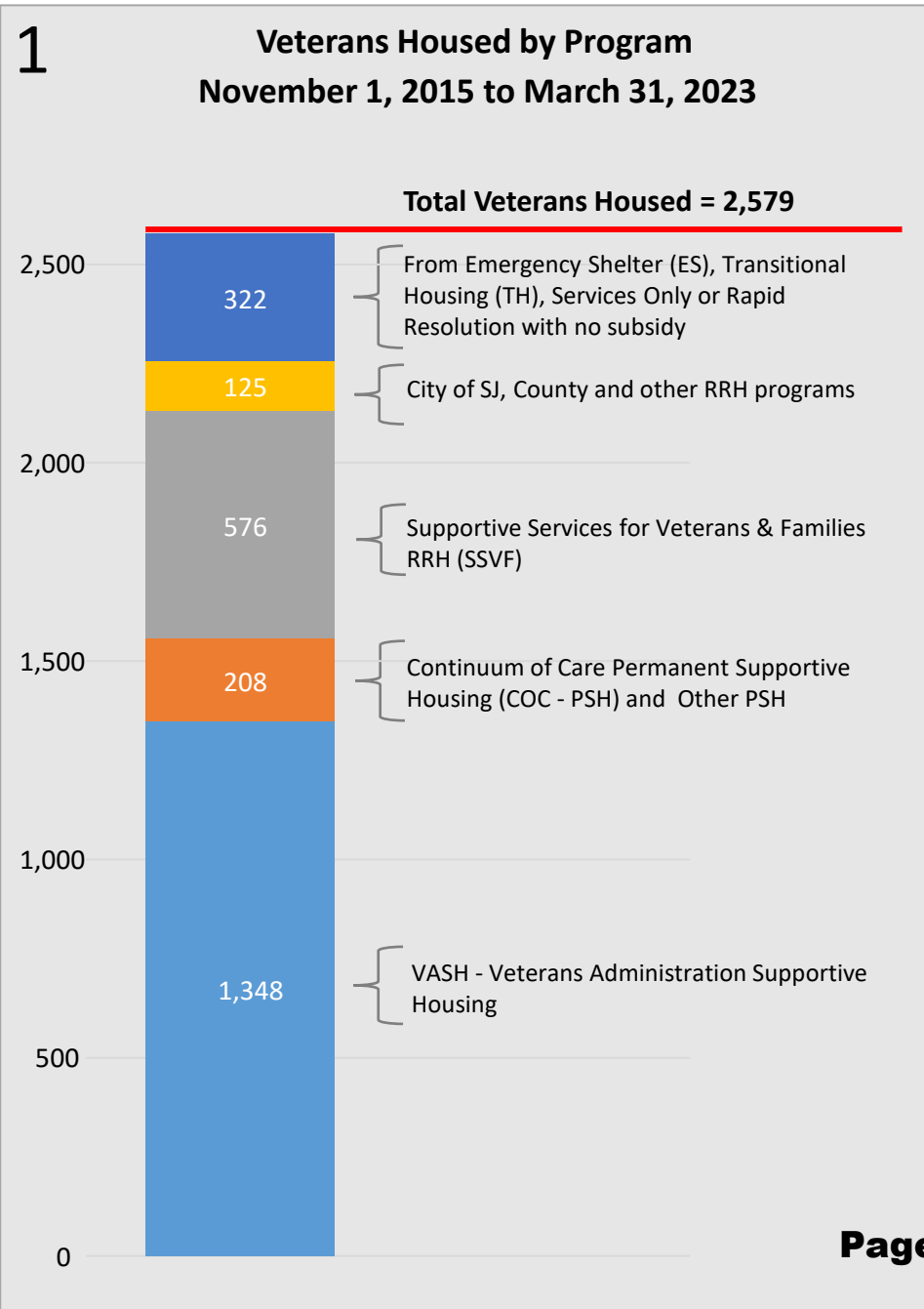| Month	Housing Placements	Inflow: Minimal Intervention	Inflow: RRH Score Range	Inflow: PSH Score Range	Total Inflow
Apr-22	187	28	148	125	301
May-22	154	21	103	127	251
Jun-22	183	24	132	136	292
Jul-22	157	22	100	110	232
Aug-22	149	41	127	143	311
Sep-22	155	28	143	152	323
Oct-22	192	35	135	168	338
Nov-22	183	33	129	151	313
Dec-22	179	38	106	153	297
Jan-23	214	50	149	191	390
Feb-23	199	21	119	145	285
Mar-23	234	44	185	151	380

Monthly Housing Placements from Project Types

Legend:
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- PH-Housing Only (EHV)
- Rapid Rehousing
- Transitional Housing
- Emergency Shelter
- Other

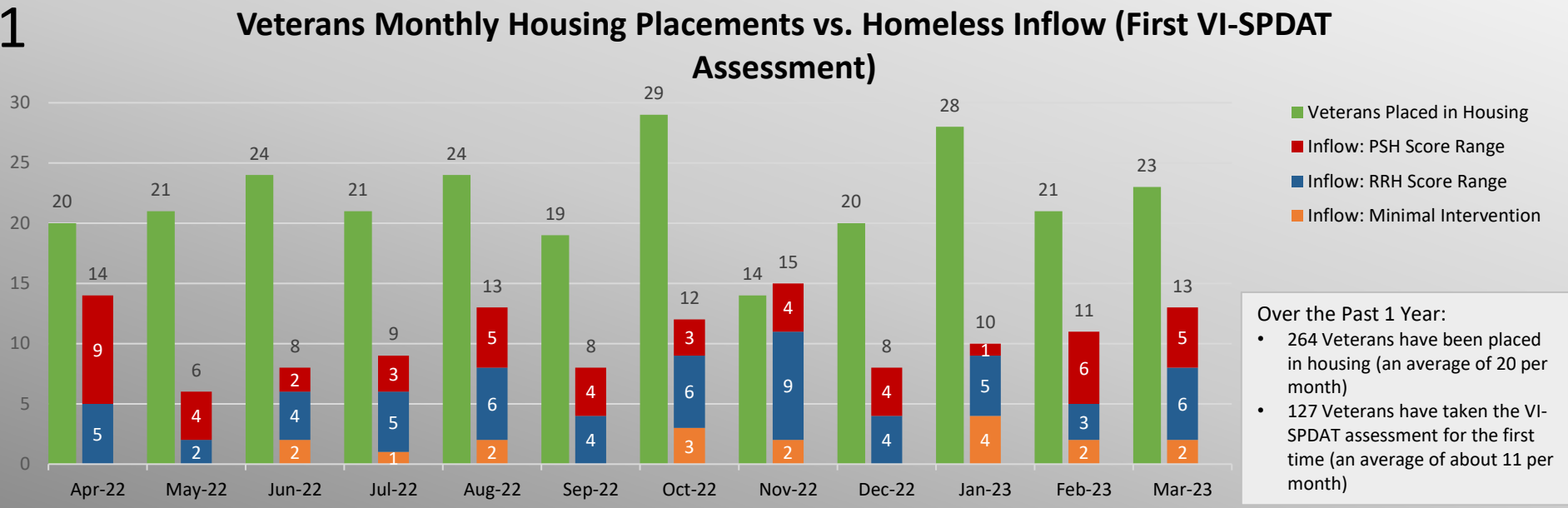| Month	Other	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Rapid Rehousing	PH-Housing Only (EHV)	Permanent Supportive Housing	Total
APR-22	20	41	10	63	1	52	187
MAY-22	28	29	8	37	9	43	154
JUN-22	38	40	6	42	5	52	183
JUL-22	34	27	10	49	8	29	157
AUG-22	32	18	3	43	12	41	149
SEP-22	25	30	12	47	13	28	155
OCT-22	29	39	4	39	31	50	192
NOV-22	50	41	4	31	28	29	183
DEC-22	39	42	2	35	30	31	179
JAN-23	48	44	5	41	40	36	214
FEB-23	29	32	7	50	51	30	199
MAR-23	22	56	3	44	46	63	234

Note: PSH housing placements include VASH

Attachment 1

Appendix E: Veteran Capacity, Enrollments, Exits and Returns to Homelessness

1 — Veterans Housed by Program
November 1, 2015 to March 31, 2023

Total Veterans Housed = 2,579

Stacked bar chart (top to bottom):
- 322 — From Emergency Shelter (ES), Transitional Housing (TH), Services Only or Rapid Resolution with no subsidy
- 125 — City of SJ, County and other RRH programs
- 576 — Supportive Services for Veterans & Families RRH (SSVF)
- 208 — Continuum of Care Permanent Supportive Housing (COC - PSH) and Other PSH
- 1,348 — VASH - Veterans Administration Supportive Housing

Y-axis: 0, 500, 1,000, 1,500, 2,000, 2,500

2 — Exits to Permanent Destinations by Project Type
(April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023)

Legend: Overall (blue), Veterans (orange)

Category	Overall	Veterans
OVERALL	32%	33%
EMERGENCY SHELTER	38%	24%
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	27%	36%
RAPID REHOUSING	72%	75%

3 — Returns to Homelessness Within 2 Years after Exiting to Permanent Housing
(Program Exits between 4/1/2020 and 3/31/2021)

Legend: Overall (blue), Veterans (orange)

Category	Overall	Veterans
OVERALL	18%	18%
EMERGENCY SHELTER	21%	27%
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	18%	15%
RAPID REHOUSING	15%	13%

4 — PSH Housing Retention
(Percent of Households Housed 12 Consecutive Months since PSH Enrollment)

Category	Percent
VETERANS ONLY	95.9%
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS	95.5%

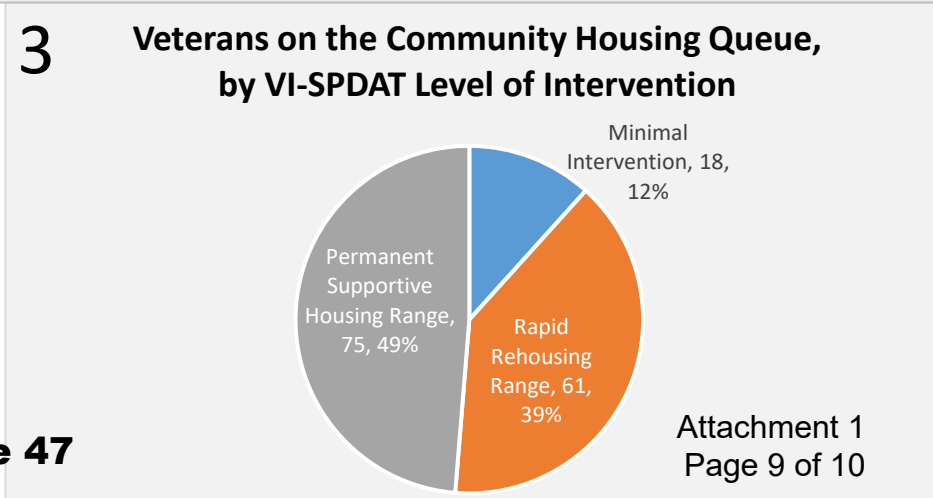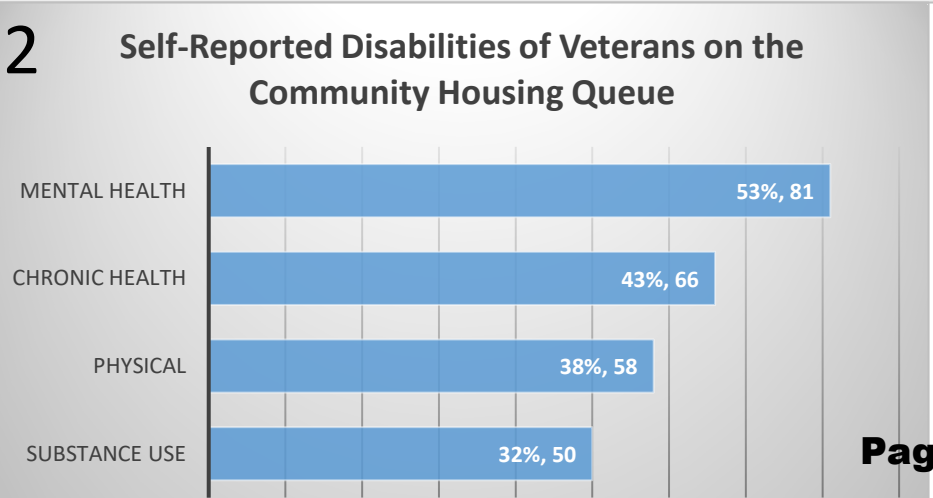X-axis: 0.0%, 20.0%, 40.0%, 60.0%, 80.0%, 100.0%

Attachment 1

Appendix F: Veteran Inflow, Housing Placement, and Veterans on the Community Queue

1

Veterans Monthly Housing Placements vs. Homeless Inflow (First VI-SPDAT Assessment)
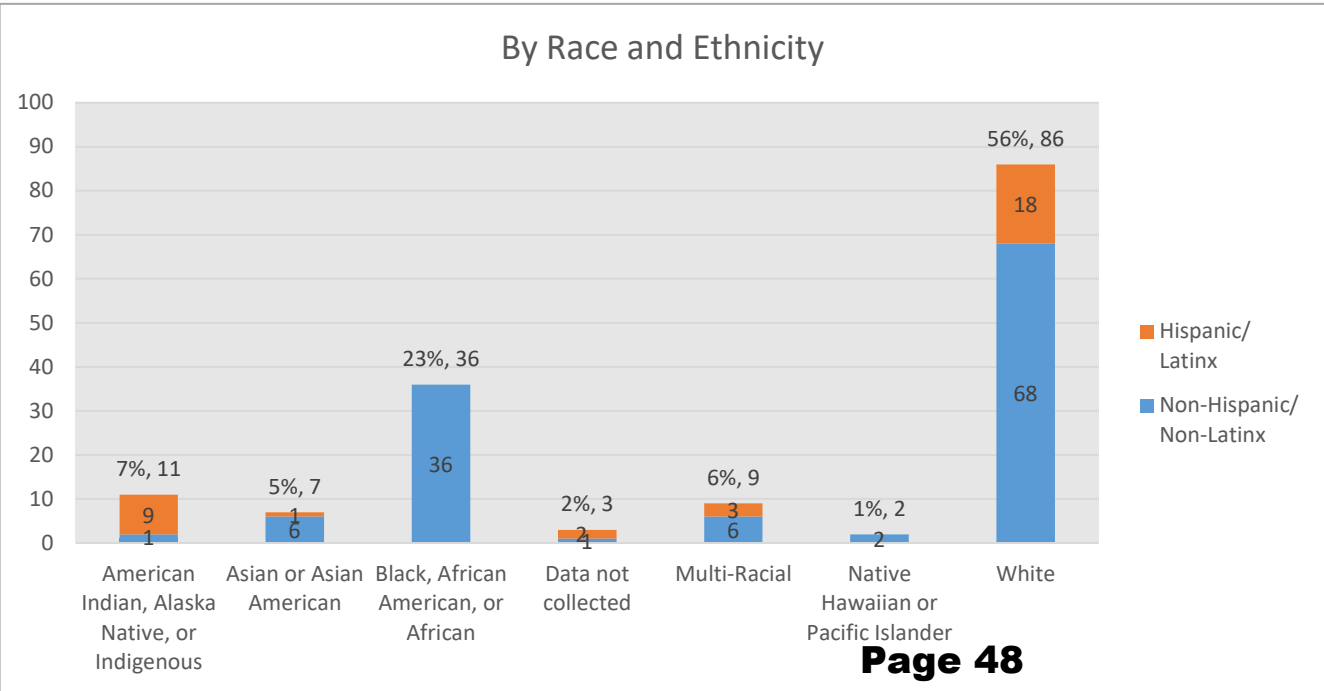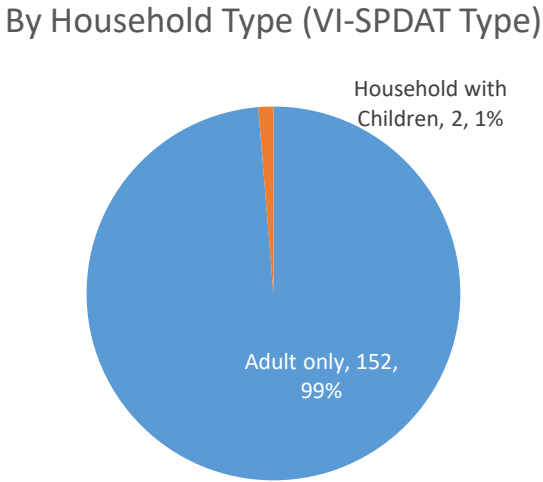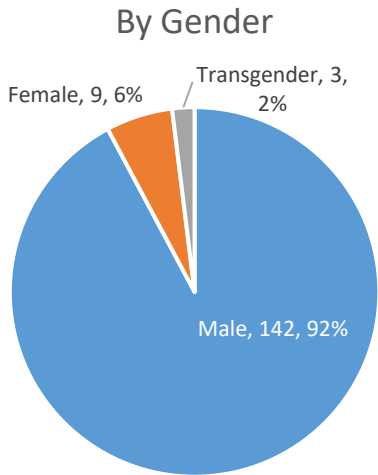

Legend:
- Veterans Placed in Housing
- Inflow: PSH Score Range
- Inflow: RRH Score Range
- Inflow: Minimal Intervention

Over the Past 1 Year:
- 264 Veterans have been placed in housing (an average of 20 per month)
- 127 Veterans have taken the VI-SPDAT assessment for the first time (an average of about 11 per month)

Characteristics of 154 Homeless Veterans Currently on the Community Housing Queue

62 out of 154 Veterans have been on the Community Housing Queue for over 1 year. Based on their most recent self-reported residence prior to a program entry:
- 56% report living in a place not meant for habitation, 27% in shelter/transitional housing/family or friends and 15% in a hospital or jail.
- The following charts show characteristics of all Veterans on the Community Housing Queue

2

Self-Reported Disabilities of Veterans on the Community Housing Queue

- MENTAL HEALTH: 53%, 81
- CHRONIC HEALTH: 43%, 66
- PHYSICAL: 38%, 58
- SUBSTANCE USE: 32%, 50

Page 47

3

Veterans on the Community Housing Queue, by VI-SPDAT Level of Intervention

- Minimal Intervention, 18, 12%
- Rapid Rehousing Range, 61, 39%
- Permanent Supportive Housing Range, 75, 49%

Attachment 1
Page 9 of 10

Appendix G: Demographics for 154 Homeless Veterans on the Community Queue, March 2023

By Age Tier

- 18 to 24: 1%, 1
- 25 to 34: 8%, 13
- 35 to 44: 14%, 22
- 45 to 54: 18%, 27
- 55 to 64: 36%, 55
- 65 or Above: 23%, 36

By Gender

- Female, 9, 6%
- Transgender, 3, 2%
- Male, 142, 92%

By Household Type (VI-SPDAT Type)

- Household with Children, 2, 1%
- Adult only, 152, 99%

By Race and Ethnicity

Legend:
- Hispanic/Latinx
- Non-Hispanic/Non-Latinx

- American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous: 7%, 11 (9 / 1)
- Asian or Asian American: 5%, 7 (1 / 6)
- Black, African American, or African: 23%, 36 (36)
- Data not collected: 2%, 3 (1)
- Multi-Racial: 6%, 9 (3 / 6)
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 1%, 2 (2)
- White: 56%, 86 (18 / 68)

By Ethnicity

- Data not collected, 1, 1%
- Hispanic/Latinx, 33, 21%
- Non-Hispanic/Non-Latinx, 120, 78%

Page 48

Attachment 1
Page 10 of 10

THE CASE FOR PRIORITIZING AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR **EXTREMELY LOW INCOME (ELI) HOUSEHOLDS**

AUGUST 2022

DESTINATION: **HOME**

INTRODUCTION

While California's historic housing crisis grows deeper every day, its impacts are not felt equally. In fact, it is **extremely low income (ELI) households** who are disproportionately impacted by the lack of affordable housing in our region - creating not only tragic results for these vulnerable residents, but serious impacts for our entire community. As we forge strategies to solve our crisis, we must take steps to prioritize the production of more affordable housing for ELI households.

Key Takeaways:

In Santa Clara County, an Extremely Low Income (ELI) four-person household **makes less than $50,550 a year**
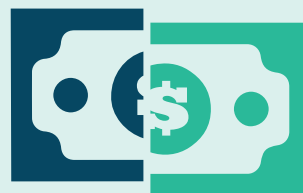
71% of ELI renter households in the San Jose metro area spend **more than 1/2 their income** on rent and utilities

Our community's greatest housing deficit is at the ELI level and this **lack of affordable housing** for lowest-income households **serves as a major cause** of our homelessness crisis

A **"market solution" simply does not exist** for producing more ELI housing in our region

THE PROFILE OF AN ELI HOUSEHOLD

Extremely low income (ELI) households represent the lowest-earning households in our community and are defined as those who make less than 30% of the area's median income.[1]

In Santa Clara County, a one-person household making less than $35,400 or a four-person household making less than $50,550 would fall in the ELI category.[2] With such low incomes in an extremely expensive region, ELI households struggle daily to cover the cost of housing and other basic needs.

ELI households also share many of the same characteristics of the most marginalized members of our community, and a report by the National Low Income Housing Coalition, titled *The Gap*, details the profile of ELI households in the U.S.[3]

- A large portion of ELI households have exited the workforce or are living on fixed incomes. In fact, 46% of ELI households include seniors and/or individuals with a disability.

- In addition, many ELI households are employed, but at extremely low wages. 37% of ELI households are in the labor force - 42% of whom work 40+ hours per week.

- Finally, minority households are far more likely to fall in the ELI category than white households: 20% of Black households, 18% of American Indian or Alaska Native households, 15% of Latino households, and 10% of Asian households are ELI renters - compared to only 6% of white non-Latino households.

Extremely Low Income Renter Households

27% Senior
37% In Labor Force
19% Disabled
10% Other
School 4%
3% Single non-disabled, non-elderly caregiver of person w/ disability or young child

40+ hours/week **42%**
20 to 39 hours/week **34%**
<20 hours/week **9%**
unemployed **15%**

Note: Mutually exclusive categories applied in the following order: senior, disabled, in labor force, enrolled in school, single adult caregiver of a child under 7 or of a household member with a disability, and other. "Senior" means householder or householder's spouse (if applicable) is at least 62 years of age. "Disabled" means householder and householder's spouse (if applicable) are younger than 62 and at least one of them has a disability. "Working hours" is usual number of hours worked by householder and householder's spouse (if applicable). "School" means householder and householder's spouse (if applicable) are enrolled in school. Fifteen percent of extremely low-income renter households include a single adult caregiver, 55% of whom usually work more than 20 hours per week. Eleven percent of extremely low-income renter householders are enrolled in school, 48% of whom usually work more than 20 hours per week. Source: NLIHC tabulation of 2020 5-Year ACS PUMS data.

National Low Income Housing Coalition, The Gap (2022), https://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/2022-04/2022Gap-Figure-9_web.jpg

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[1] In comparison, very low income (VLI) households make between 30% and 50% of the area's median income, and low income (LI) households make between 50% and 80% of the area's median income.

[2] U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development income limits for Santa Clara County as of April 2022: https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html#2022_query

[3] National Low Income Housing Coalition, The Gap (2022). https://reports.nlihc.org/sites/default/files/gap/Gap-Report_2022.pdf

ELI HOUSEHOLDS ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY THE REGION'S LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The region's affordable housing crisis touches residents of all means. However, the data reveals that our housing deficit and the resulting impacts are most severe at the ELI level.

A 2007 San Jose State University study evaluated the affordable housing need and planned production in Santa Clara County for the next 20 years. The study found the greatest affordable housing deficit, by far, at the ELI level. In fact, the researchers projected **an unmet need of 34,364 ELI housing units - 10x greater than the unmet need at any other income level.**[4]

Unfortunately, the situation has not improved since that study was released. The National Low Income Housing Coalition's 2022 report, *The Gap*, looks at the number of affordable and available rental units (both deed-restricted units and those available in the private market) at different income levels. They found that there were only 18,636 affordable and available rental units for the 58,029 ELI renter households in the San Jose metro area. This translates to only **32 affordable and available units for every 100 ELI renter households.**[5]

The lack of affordable housing also impacts ELI households far more severely than households in higher income brackets.

The Gap report found that **71% of ELI renter households in the San Jose metro area are severely cost-burdened** and spend more than 1/2 of their income on rent and utilities. These severe rent burdens place ELI households at a much greater risk for not only housing instability, but a variety of other impacts, including: poor health, reduced economic mobility, and lower cognitive development and academic achievement among children.[6]

Percent of Households Severely Rent Burdened
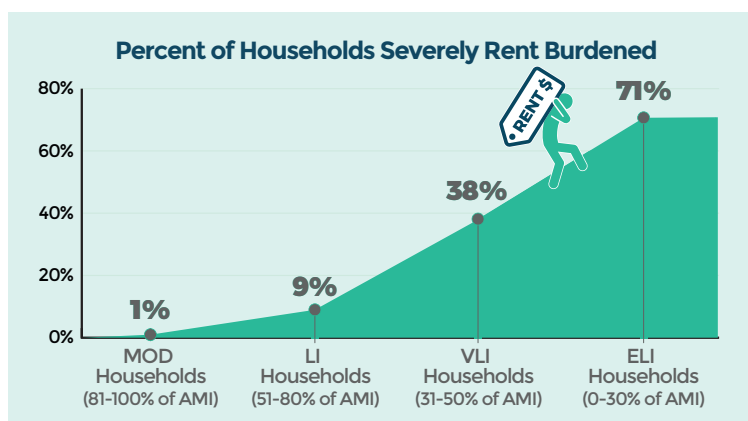
Housing Need and Funding, 2005-2024

	ELI (0-30% AMI)	VLI (31-50% AMI)	LI (51-80% AMI)	MOD (81-120% AMI)	TOTAL
Gross/Total Need	42,483	12,978	13,260	22,187	90,908
Planned Production	8,119	10,148	16,237	19,089	50,616
Unmet Need	34,364	2,830	-	3,098	40,292
Funding Gap*	$3,780,040,000	$198,100,000	$0	$154,900,000	$4,133,040,000

*The funding gap is the additional local subsidy required over the next 20 years to develop a sufficient number of affordable units to meet the unmet need. Sources: San Jose State University, The Institute for Metropolitan Studies, 2005; US Census, 2004

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[4] Shishir Mathur and Alicia Parker, Housing Silicon Valley: A 20 Year Plan to End the Affordable Housing Crisis (2007). http://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1016&context=urban_plan_pub

[5] National Low Income Housing Coalition, The Gap (2022), California data: https://reports.nlihc.org/sites/default/files/gap/Gap-Report_2022.pdf

[6] Ibid.

The Case for Prioritizing Affordable Housing for ELI Households

THE LACK OF ELI HOUSING & OUR HOMELESSNESS CRISIS

There is broad consensus among experts that the lack of affordable housing for our lowest-income households serves as a major cause of our homelessness crisis.
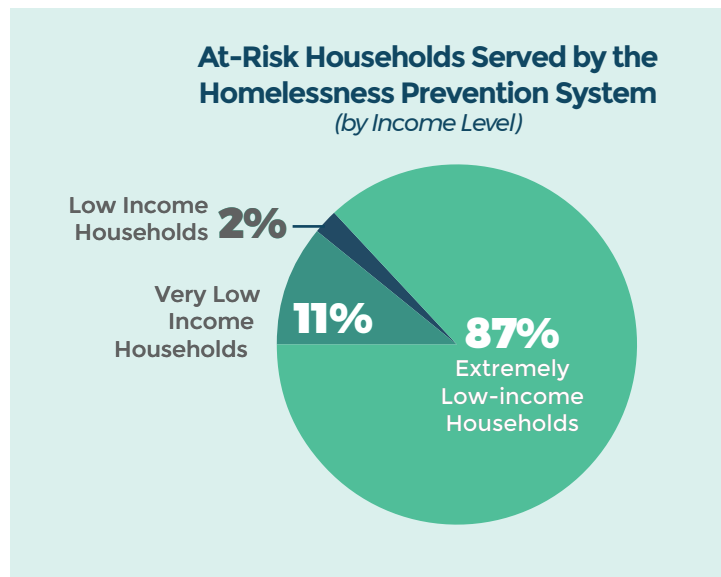
As the Bay Area Council Economic Institute noted in its 2019 report, *Bay Area Homelessness*: "For extremely low-income (ELI) households - those earning less than 30 percent of the area median income - the Bay Area's expensive housing market dramatically narrows the margin between housing insecurity and homelessness."[7]

In fact, data from the Homelessness Prevention System in Santa Clara County shows that **ELI households comprised 87% of all those assessed as being at high-risk of falling into homelessness.**[8]

At-Risk Households Served by the Homelessness Prevention System
(by Income Level)

Low Income Households **2%**

Very Low Income Households **11%**

87% Extremely Low-income Households

In contrast, higher income households have significantly more discretionary income and savings - and even those who are severely rent-burdened are less likely than similarly rent-burdened ELI households to fall behind on rent or be threatened with eviction.[9]

Furthermore, the lack of ELI housing constrains our ability to connect more homeless individuals with permanent housing, as **most households experiencing or exiting homelessness can only afford housing targeted for ELI residents.**

It's important to remember that the impacts are not limited to those who find themselves without a home. The truth is that we all suffer the consequences of the lack of ELI housing and its resulting contribution to homelessness. And nowhere is this cost more apparent than the $520 million in public safety, health care, criminal justice and other public services attributed to homelessness each year in Santa Clara County.[10]

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[7] Bay Area Council Economic Institute, Bay Area Homelessness: A Regional View of a Regional Crisis (2019). http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/files/pdf/Homelessness_Report_2019_web.pdf

[8] HMIS data for the Santa Clara County Homelessness Prevention System, through June 30, 2022.

[9] The 2015 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, Additional Forms of Homelessness and Housing Instability. https://www.hudexchange.info/onecpd/assets/File/2015-AHAR-Part-2-Additional-Forms-of-Homelessness-and-Housing-Instability.pdf

[10] Daniel Flaming, Halil Toros and Patrick Burns, Economic Roundtable, Home Not Found: Cost of Homelessness in Silicon Valley (2015). https://destinationhomesv.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/er_homenotfound_report_6.pdf

WHY DOESN'T MORE ELI HOUSING GET BUILT?

There are several barriers to producing housing for ELI households, both in the private market and when subsidized by the government.

First, the current economic climate has made it financially undesirable - and infeasible - for most private, market-rate developers to construct housing that's affordable for ELI households. The rent an ELI household can afford to pay is not only far short of what a new apartment can demand on the open market, it is typically insufficient to cover the cost of constructing, operating and maintaining the unit. A "market solution" simply does not exist for ELI households in our region.

Even worse, these same economic forces are pushing more of the existing housing stock out of reach for ELI households here in Santa Clara County. Between 2011 and 2017, the least expensive quartile of housing units saw rents increase 36% while incomes for ELI households grew only 15 percent.[11]

Sadly, the production of publicly-financed affordable housing for ELI households faces challenges as well. Compared to affordable housing at higher income levels, ELI housing requires a greater public investment because it generates less ongoing rent revenue. In addition, stigmas associated with "low-income housing" often translate to neighborhood opposition that slows or deters new ELI housing development.

These challenges have meant that ELI housing is often passed over in favor of affordable housing for higher income households. According to the Bay Area Council Economic Institute, in 2018, only 12% of the units funded using Low Income Housing Tax Credits (the country's signature source of financing for affordable housing) were for ELI households.[12]

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[11] Bay Area Council Economic Institute, Bay Area Homelessness: A Regional View of a Regional Crisis (2019). http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/files/pdf/Homelessness_Report_2019_web.pdf

[12] Bay Area Council Economic Institute, Bay Area Homelessness: A Regional View of a Regional Crisis (2019). http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/files/pdf/Homelessness_Report_2019_web.pdf

PRIORITIZING AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR ELI HOUSEHOLDS

We must take immediate action to address the enormous deficit of ELI housing in our community and the myriad of serious impacts it has caused.

In order to significantly accelerate ELI housing production, we will have to shift our policymaking lens from treating all types of affordable housing equally to properly prioritizing and incentivizing the type of housing our community most desperately needs.

Here in Santa Clara County, we've seen a few local jurisdictions take this important step:

- The County of Santa Clara's Measure A bond (approved by voters in 2016) allocated about 3/4 of its $950 million in revenues towards ELI housing, and its subsequent NOFA guidelines require that developments include a minimum percentage of ELI housing (and/or a minimum percentage of supportive housing) in order to qualify for funding.[13]

- In April 2019, the City of San Jose adopted a first-of-its-kind affordable housing investment policy that allocates 45% of its total affordable housing funds towards ELI housing production. At the time of its adoption, the new investment policy was projected to generate an additional $80 million in funding for ELI housing over the next five years.[14]

Thanks to the leadership of these jurisdictions, more than one thousand new ELI housing units are now moving their way through the local development pipeline.

But the data clearly demonstrates that we have far more work to do.

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[13] Santa Clara County Office of Supportive Housing website (updated July 23, 2019).
https://www.sccgov.org/sites/osh/HousingandCommunityDevelopment/AffordableHousingBond/Pages/home.aspx
[14] Emily DeRuy, The Mercury News, San Jose boosts affordable housing funding for poorest residents (April 10, 2019).
https://www.mercurynews.com/2019/04/09/san-jose-council-approves-converting-market-rate-housing-to-affordable-housing

DESTINATION: HOME

We need more local jurisdictions in Santa Clara County - as well as elected leaders at the State and Federal level - to similarly adopt affordable housing policies that prioritize housing for ELI households:

Policy Actions to Accelerate ELI Housing Production

LOCAL Policymakers

Local jurisdictions should dedicate a significant portion of their affordable housing funding streams towards ELI housing.

When issuing affordable housing NOFAs or RFPs to develop housing on public land, priority should be given to developments that include ELI housing units.

When upzoning sites or taking other value-enhancing land use actions, local jurisdictions should impose a higher affordable housing requirement that includes a minimum percentage of ELI units.

STATE Policymakers

To incentivize ELI housing production at the local level, the State of California should:

1. Dedicate a portion of its Low Income Housing Tax Credits to ELI units.

2. Consider a pilot program that provides matching funds to local jurisdictions that invest their own local resources into ELI housing.

Any legislation designed to speed up the development process for affordable housing projects should require or incentivize the inclusion of ELI units in order to qualify.

FEDFERAL Policymakers

Congress should increase funding to affordable housing grant programs that specifically target our lowest-income households (like the Housing Trust Fund) and set minimum ELI housing targets for existing affordable housing grant programs (like CDBG & HOME).

The Federal government should provide local Housing Authorities with:

1. Additional housing voucher allocations to meet the growing need.

2. Flexibility to expand the use of Project Based Vouchers (PBVs), which serve as a key ongoing funding mechanism for ELI housing developments.

As we work to build more affordable housing for ELI households, we should also consider actions that would increase the assistance and/or incomes of ELI households. This includes:

- Increasing the minimum wage and expanding opportunities for extremely low-income households to earn a living wage.

- Helping vulnerable families by increasing funding for Child Welfare programs, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

- Ensuring that disabled persons can meet their basic needs by increasing Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments, the State Supplementary Payment (SSP) program, the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) program, and expanding Medi-Cal Assisted Living Waiver programs.

Now's the time to take concrete steps to address the devastating impacts that our housing crisis is causing on ELI households and build the type of affordable housing that our community most desperately needs.

Executive Summary

IN CALIFORNIA, more than 171,000 people experience homelessness daily. California is home to 12% of the nation's population, 30% of the nation's homeless population, and half the nation's unsheltered population. While homelessness is a major issue for California, there are many conflicting ideas about what to do about it. To design effective programs and policies to address homelessness, we need to understand who is experiencing it, how they became homeless, what their experiences are, and what is preventing them from exiting homelessness.

To answer these questions, the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative conducted the California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness (CASPEH), the largest representative study of homelessness since the mid-1990s and the first large-scale representative study to use mixed methods (surveys and in-depth interviews). Guided by advisory boards composed of people with lived experience of homelessness and those who work on homelessness programs and policies, we selected eight counties that represent the state's diversity and recruited a representative sample of adults 18 and older experiencing homelessness throughout California. The investigators conducted the research between October 2021 and November 2022. We administered questionnaires to nearly 3,200 participants, selected intentionally to provide a representative sample, and weighted data to provide statewide estimates. To augment survey responses, we recruited 365 participants to participate in in-depth interviews. With this context, CASPEH provides evidence to shape programs and policy responses to the homelessness crisis.

Benioff Homelessness
and Housing Initiative

UCSF

University of California
San Francisco

WHO EXPERIENCES HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA

First, we explore the life experiences of study participants. Individuals with certain vulnerabilities, those with a history of trauma, and/or those from racially minoritized groups, are at higher risk of experiencing homelessness. People who experience homelessness have higher rates of mental health conditions and substance use than the general population. For many, these problems predated their first episode of homelessness.

⚑ **The homeless population is aging, and minoritized groups are overrepresented.** The median age of participants was 47 (range 18-89). Participants who report a Black (26%) or Native American or Indigenous identity (12%) were overrepresented compared to the overall California population. Thirty-five percent of participants identified as Latino/x.

⚑ **People experiencing homelessness in California are Californians.** Nine out of ten participants lost their last housing in California; 75% of participants lived in the same county as their last housing.

⚑ **Participants have been homeless for prolonged periods.** Thirty-nine percent of participants were in their first episode of homelessness. The median length of homelessness was 22 months. More than one third (36%) met federal criteria for chronic homelessness.

⚑ **Participants reported how stress and trauma over the life course preceded their experience with homelessness.** Participants reported experiences of discrimination, exposure to violence, incarceration, and other traumas prior to homelessness. These experiences interacted and compounded to increase vulnerability to homelessness.

⚑ **Physical and sexual victimization throughout the life course was common.** Nearly three quarters (72%) experienced physical violence in their lifetime; 24% experienced sexual violence. Sexual violence was more common among cis-women (43%) and transgender or nonbinary individuals (74%).

⚑ **Participants reported high lifetime rates of mental health and substance use challenges.** The majority (82%) reported a period in their life where they experienced a serious mental health condition. More than one quarter (27%) had been hospitalized for a mental health condition; 56% of these hospitalizations occurred prior to the first instance of homelessness. Nearly two thirds (65%) reported having had a period in their life in which they regularly used illicit drugs. Almost two thirds (62%) reported having had a period in their life with heavy drinking (defined as drinking at least three times a week to get drunk, or heavy intermittent drinking). More than half (57%) who ever had regular use of illicit drugs or regular heavy alcohol use had ever received treatment.

PATHWAYS TO HOMELESSNESS

Second, we sought to understand the context of participants' lives prior to their most recent episode of homelessness. High housing costs and low income left participants vulnerable to homelessness.

In the six months prior to homelessness, the median monthly household income was $960. A high proportion had been rent burdened. Approximately one in five participants (19%) entered homelessness from an institution (such as a prison or prolonged jail stay); 49% from a housing situation in which participants didn't have their name on a lease or mortgage (non-leaseholder), and 32% from a housing situation where they had their name on a lease or mortgage (leaseholder).

Participants exiting housing to homelessness reported having minimal notice. Leaseholders reported a median of 10 days notice that they were going to lose their housing, while non-leaseholders reported a median of one day.

Non-leaseholders reported lower incomes and housing costs than leaseholders. In the six months prior to homelessness, the median monthly household income for non-leaseholders was $950. Of non-leaseholders, 43% were not paying any rent; among those who reported paying anything, the median monthly rent was $450. Among non-leaseholders who paid rent, 57% were rent burdened (paying more than 30% of household income for rent). Many non-leaseholders previously had been in leaseholding arrangements, but were able to forestall homelessness by moving in with family or friends. Not only did participants lack legal rights, but they often were living in substandard and overcrowded conditions. These arrangements tended to be highly stressful, leading to conflicts.

Leaseholders had higher incomes, but higher housing costs. The median monthly household income for leaseholders in the six months prior to homelessness was $1400. The median housing costs were $700. While 10% of participants whose names were on the lease didn't pay for housing, among those who paid rent, 66% met criteria for rent burden. Sixteen percent of leaseholders had received a rental subsidy in their last housing. Those who became homeless immediately after leaving a leaseholding situation were similar in many ways to the non-leaseholders but lacked options to move to after losing their housing.

The most common reason for leaving last housing was economic for leaseholders and social for non-leaseholders. Twenty-one percent of lease-holders cited a loss of income as the main reason that they lost their last housing. Among non-leaseholders, 13% noted a conflict within the household and 11% noted not wanting to impose. For leaseholders, economic considerations interacted frequently with social and health crises. For example, participants' (or household members) health crises led them to lose their job.

Participants who entered homelessness from institutional settings reported not having received transition services. Nineteen percent of participants entered homelessness from an institutional setting, such as prolonged jail and prison stays. Few reported having received services prior to having exited.

A low proportion of those who entered homelessness from housing situations had sought or received homelessness prevention services. Many participants were unaware of these services. Overall, 36% of participants had sought help to prevent homelessness, but most sought help from friends or family, rather than non-profits or government agencies.

Even if the cause of homelessness was multifactorial, participants believed financial support could have prevented it. Seventy percent believed that a monthly rental subsidy of $300-$500 would have prevented their homelessness for a sustained period; 82% believed receiving a one-time payment of $5,000-$10,000 would have prevented their homelessness; 90% believed that receiving a Housing Choice Voucher or similar option would have done so.

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EXPERIENCES DURING HOMELESSNESS

Next, we examined participants' experiences of homelessness. **Homelessness is devastating to health and well-being.** Participants' experiences were difficult and marked by significant health challenges, high use of drugs and alcohol, frequent victimization, and interactions with the criminal justice system. For the most part, participants were disconnected from the job market and services.

⚑ **Most participants were unsheltered.** More than three quarters (78%) noted that they had spent the most time while homeless in the prior six months in unsheltered settings (21% in a vehicle, 57% without a vehicle). Over the prior six months, 90% reported at least one night in an unsheltered setting. Participants who stayed in shelters reported general satisfaction with them; many who didn't expressed concerns about curfews, the need to vacate during the day, health risks, and rules. Forty-one percent of participants noted a time during this homelessness episode where they wanted shelter but were unable to access it.

⚑ **Participants reported poor health and many health challenges.** Forty-five percent of all participants reported their health as poor or fair; 60% reported a chronic disease. More than one third of all participants (34%) reported a limitation in an activity of daily living, and 22% reported a mobility limitation.

⚑ **Among women of reproductive age, pregnancy was common.** One quarter (26%) of those assigned female at birth age 18-44 years had been pregnant during this episode of homelessness; 8% reported a current pregnancy.

⚑ **Despite these health challenges, participants had poor access to healthcare.** While 83% of participants reported having health insurance (primarily Medicaid); half (52%) reported a regular non-emergency department (ED) source of care. Half (49%) had seen a health care provider outside the ED in the prior six months. Almost one quarter (23%) reported an inability to get needed healthcare in the prior six months.

⚑ **Participants had high rates of acute and emergent health service utilization.** In the prior six months, 38% reported an ED visit that didn't result in a hospitalization; 21% reported a hospitalization for a physical health concern and 5% for a mental health issue.

⚑ **Many participants had symptoms of mental health conditions; few had access to treatment.** Participants noted how the stresses of homelessness exacerbated their mental health symptoms. Two thirds (66%) noted symptoms of mental health conditions currently, including serious depression (48%), anxiety (51%), trouble concentrating or remembering (37%), and hallucinations (12%). Only 18% had received non-emergent mental health treatment recently; 9% had received any mental health counseling and 14% any medications for mental health conditions.

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Substance use, particularly methamphetamine use, was common; few received treatment. Many participants reported using drugs and alcohol to help them cope with the circumstances of homelessness. Almost one third (31%) reported regular use of methamphetamines, 3% cocaine, and 11% non-prescribed opioids. Sixteen percent reported heavy episodic drinking. Nearly one quarter (24%) noted that substance use currently caused them health, legal, or financial problems. Approximately equal proportions reported that their use of drugs had decreased, stayed the same, or increased during this homelessness episode. Six percent of participants reported receiving any current drug or alcohol treatment. Twenty percent of those who report current regular use of illicit drugs or heavy episodic alcohol use reported that they wanted treatment, but were unable to receive it.

Criminal justice involvement and experiences of violence were common. Nearly one third (30%) of participants reported a jail stay during this episode of homelessness. Participants reported that homelessness left them more vulnerable to violence. More than one third of all participants (38%) experienced either physical (36%) or sexual (10%) violence during this episode of homelessness. Cis-women (16%) and transgender or non-binary individuals (35%) were more likely to experience sexual violence.

Participants noted substantial disconnection from labor markets, but many were looking for work. Some of the disconnection may have been related to the lack of job opportunities during the pandemic, although participants did report that their age, disability, lack of transportation, and lack of housing interfered with their ability to work. Only 18% reported income from jobs (8% reported any income from formal employment and 11% from informal employment). Seventy percent reported at least a two-year gap since working 20 hours or more weekly. Of all participants, 44% were looking for employment; among those younger than 62 and without a disability, 55% were.

BARRIERS AND FACILITATORS OF RETURNS TO HOUSING

Next, we examined what prevented participants from re-entering housing. While participants faced many barriers to returning to housing, the primary one was cost. Participants overwhelmingly wanted permanent housing, but they had conflicting feelings about emergency shelter.

Nearly all participants expressed an interest in obtaining housing, but faced barriers. Nearly 9 in 10 (89%) participants noted housing costs as a barrier to re-entering permanent housing. Other barriers included lack of necessary documentation, discrimination, prior evictions, poor credit history, challenges associated with physical or behavioral health conditions, and family considerations (such as having enough space for their children).

■ **Participants were not receiving regular assistance, such as housing navigation, to help them exit homelessness.** Fewer than half (46%) had received any formal assistance to re-enter housing during their episode of homelessness. Only 26% received assistance monthly or more frequently in the prior six months. Two thirds of participants believed that their lacking assistance was a barrier in their re-entering housing.

■ **Participants believed that financial assistance would help them obtain housing and exit homelessness.** Eighty-six percent thought that a monthly subsidy of $300-$500 a month would help them re-enter housing. Ninety-five percent thought a lump-sum payment of $5,000-$10,000 would help them. Ninety-six percent thought that a Housing Choice Voucher (or similar rental subsidy) would help them re-enter housing.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on these findings, we offer policy recommendations. The full report presents more detailed recommendations; we list our top six here:

1 **Increase access to housing affordable to extremely low income households** (those making less than 30% of the Area Median Income) through (1) supporting production of housing (e.g., Low Income Housing Tax Credits, leveraging land use tools), (2) expanding availability of rental subsidies (e.g., Housing Choice Vouchers), and (3) supporting their use on the rental market (e.g., increase housing navigation services, create and enforce anti-discrimination laws).

2 **Expand targeted homelessness prevention** (e.g., financial support, legal assistance) at service settings (e.g., social service agencies, healthcare settings, domestic violence services, community organizations) for both leaseholders and non-lease holders. Expand prevention and transition services at institutional exits (jails, prisons). Expand and strengthen eviction protections.

3 **Provide robust supports to match the behavioral health needs of the population** by (1) increasing access to low barrier mental health, substance use, and harm reduction services during episodes of homelessness (including unsheltered settings) and (2) appropriately staffing permanent supportive housing with evidence-based models (e.g., pathways to housing, assertive community treatment, and intensive case management) that meet the needs of the population.

4 **Increase household incomes through evidence-based employment supports** (e.g., training, transportation) and affirmative outreach to support increasing receipt of benefits.

5 **Increase outreach and service delivery to people experiencing homelessness,** including a focus on unsheltered settings.

6 **Embed a racial equity approach in all aspects of homeless system service delivery.** Ensure that prevention activities and coordinated entry prioritization schemes address racial inequities; and that service delivery is conducted in a way that support racial equity.
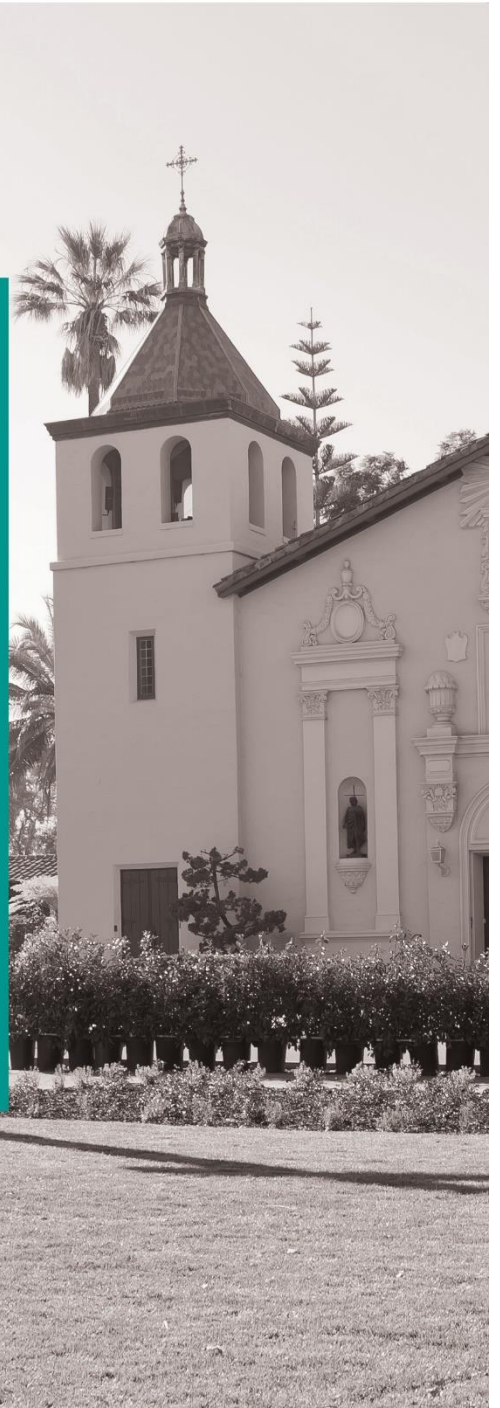
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2022

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

POINT-IN-TIME REPORT
ON HOMELESSNESS

Census and Survey Results

ASR

ABOUT THE RESEARCHER

Applied Survey Research (ASR) is a social research firm dedicated to helping people build better communities by collecting meaningful data, facilitating information-based planning, and developing custom strategies. The firm was founded on the principle that community improvement, initiative sustainability, and program success are closely tied to assessment of needs, evaluation of community goals, and development of appropriate responses.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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ASR would like to give special thanks to the individuals currently experiencing homelessness who acted as surveyors and guides during the count. Without their dedication and knowledge, the Homeless Census and Survey team would not have been able to conduct these efforts. They provided access and knowledge about the community that would have been unobtainable without their support. These individuals took time out of their day to participate in this effort and we owe them thanks.

Project Planning Committee

Kathryn Kaminski, Office of Supportive Housing. Leila Qureishi, Office of Supportive Housing. Michelle Covert, Office of Supportive Housing, Steven Tong, Office of Supportive Housing, Jazmine Wong, Office of Supportive Housing. Stephanie Jimenez, City of San José. Vanessa Beretta, City of San José.

Point-In-Time Jurisdictional Funders

- City of Campbell
- City of Cupertino
- City of Gilroy
- City of Los Altos
- Town of Los Altos Hills
- Town of Los Gatos
- City of Milpitas
- City of Monte Sereno
- City of Morgan Hill
- City of Mountain View
- City of Palo Alto
- City of San José
- City of Saratoga
- City of Santa Clara
- City of Sunnyvale
- County of Santa Clara

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- PitStop
- Destination: Home
- PATH
- Downtown Streets Team (DST)
- Santa Clara County Office of Education
- Housing Authority Santa Clara
- Sunnyvale Community Services

INTRODUCTION

Every two years, during the last ten days of January, communities across the United States conduct comprehensive counts of the local population experiencing homelessness. These biennial Point-in-Time Counts estimate the prevalence of homelessness in each community and collect information on individuals and families residing in temporary shelters and places not meant for human habitation, and ultimately help the federal government better understand the nature and extent of homelessness nationwide.

As required of all jurisdictions (Continuums of Care - CoCs) receiving federal funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide homeless services, Continuums of Care (CoC) across the country report the findings of their local Point-in-Time Count in their annual funding application to HUD. Currently, the Santa Clara County CoC receives approximately $30 million dollars annually in federal CoC funding, as well as additional funding from other sources.

Santa Clara County has partnered with ASR to conduct its Point-in-Time Count since 2007, maintaining a similar methodology across every count and thus ensuring as much consistency as possible, from one year to the next. ASR is a social research firm that has over 20 years of experience in homeless enumeration and needs assessment, having conducted homeless counts and surveys throughout California and across the nation. Their work is featured as a best practice in the HUD publication, *A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People,* as well as in the Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago publication, *Conducting a Youth Count: A Toolkit.*

PROJECT OVERVIEW AND GOALS

In order for the Homeless Census and Survey to best reflect the experience and expertise of the community, ASR held planning meetings with local community members. These community members were drawn from City and County departments, community-based service providers, and other interested stakeholders. These individuals comprised the 2022 Planning Committee and were instrumental to ensuring the 2022 Santa Clara County Homeless Point-in-Time Count and Survey reflected the needs and concerns of the community.

The 2022 Planning Committee identified several important project goals:

- Preserve current federal funding for homeless services and to enhance the ability to raise new funds;

- Improve the ability of policy makers and service providers to plan and implement services that meet the needs of the local homeless population;

- Measure changes in the numbers and characteristics of the homeless population and track the community's progress toward ending homelessness;

- Increase public awareness of overall homeless issues and generate support for constructive solutions; and

- Assess the status of specific subpopulations, including veterans, families, youth, young adults, and those who are chronically homeless.

- Maintain the health and safety of all participants, and to ensure that all appropriate Covid mitigation strategies were employed

- Gain a better understanding of the population currently experiencing homelessness

- Conduct a safe count minimizing COVID-19 risk and unnecessary social contact in alignment with the recommendations and guidance of the Santa Clara County Department of Public Health.

FEDERAL DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS FOR POINT-IN-TIME COUNTS

In this study, the HUD definition of homelessness for the Point-in-Time Count was used. This definition includes individuals and families:

- Living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement; 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.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SANTA CLARA COUNTY
2022 HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT & SURVEY

Every two years, during the last 10 days of January, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of the local homeless populations in order to measure the prevalence of homelessness in each local Continuum of Care.

The 2022 Santa Clara County Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on February 23rd and 24th, 2022. In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to 1,118 unsheltered and sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness in order to profile their experience and characteristics.
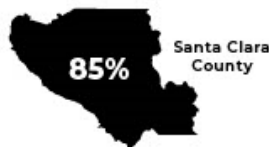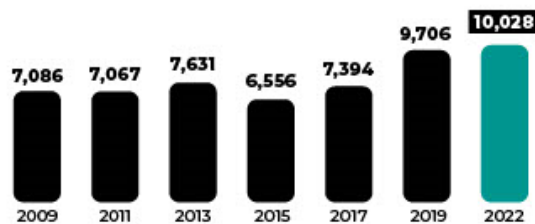
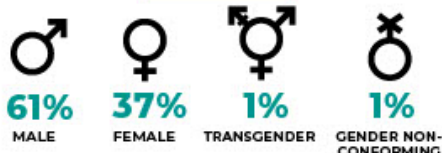**2022 SHELTERED/ UNSHELTERED POPULATION**
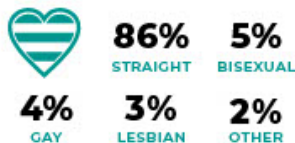- 23% SHELTERED n=2,320
- 77% UNSHELTERED n=7,708

RESIDENCE AT TIME OF HOMELESSNESS
- 85% Santa Clara County

CENSUS POPULATION: LONGITUDINAL TREND
- 2009: 7,086
- 2011: 7,067
- 2013: 7,631
- 2015: 6,556
- 2017: 7,394
- 2019: 9,706
- 2022: 10,028

LENGTH OF TIME IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY
- 5% <1 YEAR
- 14% 1-4 YEARS
- 17% 5-9 YEARS
- 63% 10+ YEARS

AGE
- 5% UNDER 18
- 12% 18-24
- 83% 25+

GENDER
- 61% MALE
- 37% FEMALE
- 1% TRANSGENDER
- 1% GENDER NON-CONFORMING

SEXUAL ORIENTATION
- 86% STRAIGHT
- 5% BISEXUAL
- 4% GAY
- 3% LESBIAN
- 2% OTHER

ETHNICITY
- 47% LATINX/HISPANIC

RACE — TOP 4 RESPONSES*
- 60% WHITE
- 14% BLACK
- 10% MULTIPLE RACES
- 7% AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE

PRIMARY CONDITION THAT LEAD TO HOMELESSNESS+
TOP 6 RESPONSES*
- 25% LOST JOB
- 20% ALCOHOL OR DRUG USE
- 16% DIVORCE/SEPARATION/BREAKUP
- 14% ARGUMENT WITH FAMILY/FRIEND
- 13% EVICTION
- 9% INCARCERATION

SUBPOPULATION DATA

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS
- 33% Sheltered | 67% Unsheltered
- 2,838 Individuals

VETERANS
- 21% Sheltered | 79% Unsheltered
- 660 Individuals

FAMILIES
- 84% Sheltered | 16% Unsheltered
- 276 Families with 898 Members

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS
- 9% Sheltered | 91% Unsheltered
- 1,155 Individuals

COVID-19
- 59% HAVE RECEIVED A COVID-19 VACCINE
- 12% SAID COVID-19 WAS RELATED TO THE CAUSE OF THEIR HOMELESSNESS

FOSTER CARE
- 16% YES
- 84% NO

JUSTICE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT
- 20% of survey respondents spent one or more nights in jail/prison in the past year.

1 | 2022 Santa Clara County Homeless Point-in-Time Count & Survey Executive Summary

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AGE AT FIRST EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS

12% 0-17 YEARS
27% 18-24 YEARS
61% 25+ YEARS

FIRST EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS

31% Are experiencing their first episode of homelessness

DURATION OF CURRENT EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS

2% 1-30 DAYS
19% 1-11 MONTHS
79% A YEAR OR MORE

INTEREST IN PERMANENT HOUSING

84% of survey respondents said yes when asked if they would accept affordable permanent housing if it became available soon.

BARRIERS TO PERMANENT HOUSING+

TOP 4 RESPONSES*

69% CAN'T AFFORD RENT
55% NO JOB/ INCOME
32% NO HOUSING AVAILABLE
28% NO MONEY FOR MOVING COSTS

SELF REPORTED HEALTH+

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

42% PSYCHIATRIC/ EMOTIONAL CONDITIONS
32% ALCOHOL & DRUG USE
36% PTSD
29% CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITION
28% PHYSICAL DISABILITY
12% TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY
2% HIV/ AIDS RELATED ILLNESS

DISABLING CONDITIONS

37% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS REPORTED HAVING AT LEAST ONE DISABLING CONDITION

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

REASONS FOR NOT RECEIVING ANY GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE+

TOP 6 RESPONSES*

33% DON'T WANT GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE
17% NO PERMANENT ADDRESS
15% NO ID
14% DON'T THINK THEY ARE ELIGIBLE
13% WAITING FOR RESPONSE
9% NEVER APPLIED

SERVICES CURRENTLY ACCESSING+

TOP 6 RESPONSES*

58% MEAL SERVICES
28% BUS PASSES
18% OUTREACH SERVICES
14% COMMUNITY DROP-IN CENTER
9% MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
7% RELIGIOUS BASED SERVICES

△SUBPOPULATION DEFINITIONS

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

An individual with one or more disabling conditions or a family with a head of household with a disabling condition who:
» Has been continuously homeless for 1 year or more and/or;
» Has experienced 4 or more episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years.

VETERANS

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

FAMILIES

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

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

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

+ Multiple response question, results may not add up to 100%.
* Only displaying top responses, all response data will be available in full report.
▫ Sourced from census data rather than survey data.
Note: Some percentages have been rounded so total percentage will equal 100%.

The complete comprehensive report includes a more detailed profile of the characteristics of those experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County is available here: https://bit.ly/2MmRg3j
Source: Applied Survey Research, 2022, Santa Clara County Homeless Census & Survey, Watsonville, CA.

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POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

The 2022 Santa Clara County Point-in-Time Homeless Count represents a complete enumeration of all sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness. It consisted of the following primary components:

- **General Street Count:** A morning count of unsheltered homeless individuals and families on February 23-24, 2022. This included those sleeping outdoors on the street; at bus and train stations; in parks, tents, and other make-shift shelters; and in vehicles and abandoned properties.

- **General Shelter Count:** A nighttime count of homeless individuals and families staying at publicly and privately operated shelters on February 23, 2022. This included those who occupied emergency shelters, transitional housing, and safe havens.

The Point-in-Time Census also included the following supplemental components:

- **Targeted Street Count of Youth and Young Adults:** An afternoon count of unsheltered unaccompanied youth and young adults under 25 years old on February 23rd, 2022.

- **Targeted COE Street Count of K-12 Students and Their Families**: A count of unsheltered homeless students and their families reported by the Santa Clara County Office of Education and their participating school districts for the night of February 23, 2022.

- **Homeless Survey:** An in-person interview of sheltered and unsheltered individuals conducted by peer and outreach staff surveyors in the weeks following the general street count. Data from the survey were used to refine the Point-in-Time Census estimates.

This section of the report provides a summary of the results of the Point-in-Time Census. For comparison, results from prior years are provided in order to better understand the shifting dynamics of homelessness over time.

For more information regarding the research methodology, please see *Appendix A: Methodology.*

NUMBER AND CHARACTERISTICS OF HOMELESS PERSONS

There were 10,028 persons experiencing homelessness during the 2022 PIT Count on February 23rd and 24th. This represents a 3% increase from 2019. The percentage of persons living on the streets decreased slightly from 2019, while the percentage of persons staying in shelters increased by 30%. This increase in persons staying in shelters is likely due to increased Covid funding allocated to shelters and increased community efforts towards increasing shelter capacity.

PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY
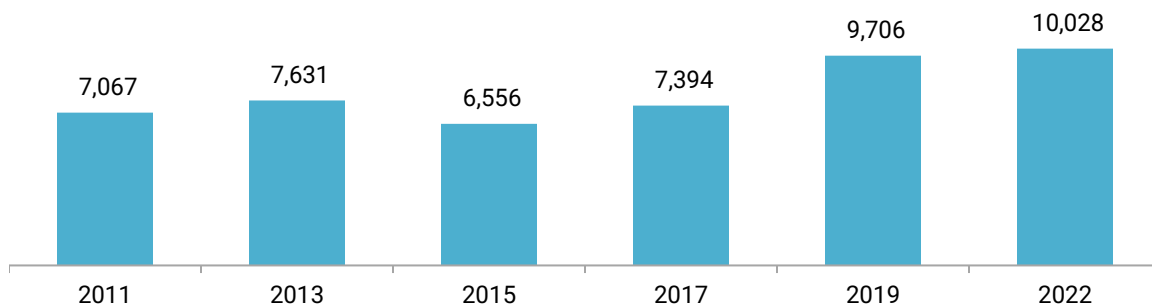
PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY SHELTER STATUS
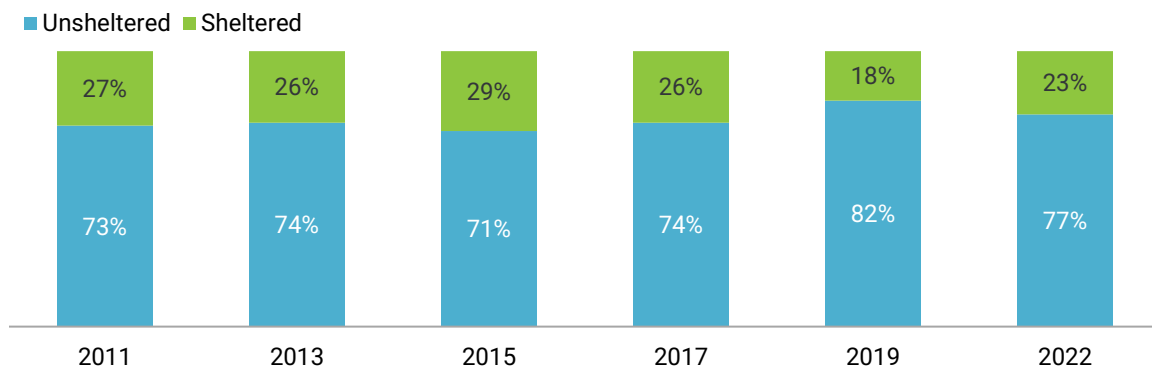
STATUS	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2022	'19-'22 % CHANGE
Sheltered	1,898	1,957	1,929	1,946	1,784	2,320	30%
Unsheltered	5,169	5,674	4,627	5,448	7,922	7,708	-3%
Total	7,067	7,631	6,556	7,394	9,706	10,028	3%

HOMELESS POPULATION BY JURISDICTION AND SHELTER STATUS

JURISDICTION	UNSHELTERED		SHELTERED		TOTAL		'19-'22 % CHANGE
	2019	2022	2019	2022	2019	2022	
Total Incorporated	7,652	7,454	1,594	2,230	9,246	9,684	5%
City of Campbell	74	216	0	0	74	216	191%
City of Cupertino	159	102	0	0	159	102	-36%
City of Gilroy	345	606	359	208	704	814	16%
City of Los Altos	76	65	0	0	76	65	-14%
City of Los Altos Hills	2	0	0	0	2	0	*
Town of Los Gatos	16	58	0	0	16	58	*
City of Milpitas	125	249	0	25	125	274	119%
City of Monte Sereno	0	0	0	0	0	0	*
City of Morgan Hill	114	60	0	0	114	60	-47%
City of Mountain View	574	206	32	140	606	346	-43%
City of Palo Alto	299	263	14	11	313	274	-12%
City of San José	5,117	4,975	980	1,675	6,097	6,650	8%
City of Santa Clara	264	375	62	65	326	440	35%
City of Saratoga	10	0	0	0	10	0	*
City of Sunnyvale	477	279	147	106	624	385	-38%
Total Unincorporated	270	254	89	27	359	281	-22%
Confidential Locations	NA	NA	101	63	101	63	-38%
Total	**7,922**	**7,708**	**1,784**	**2,320**	**9,706**	**10,028**	**3%**

Note: Percentage change was not calculated for rows with less than 50 individuals.

UNSHELTERED HOMELESS POPULATION BY SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT
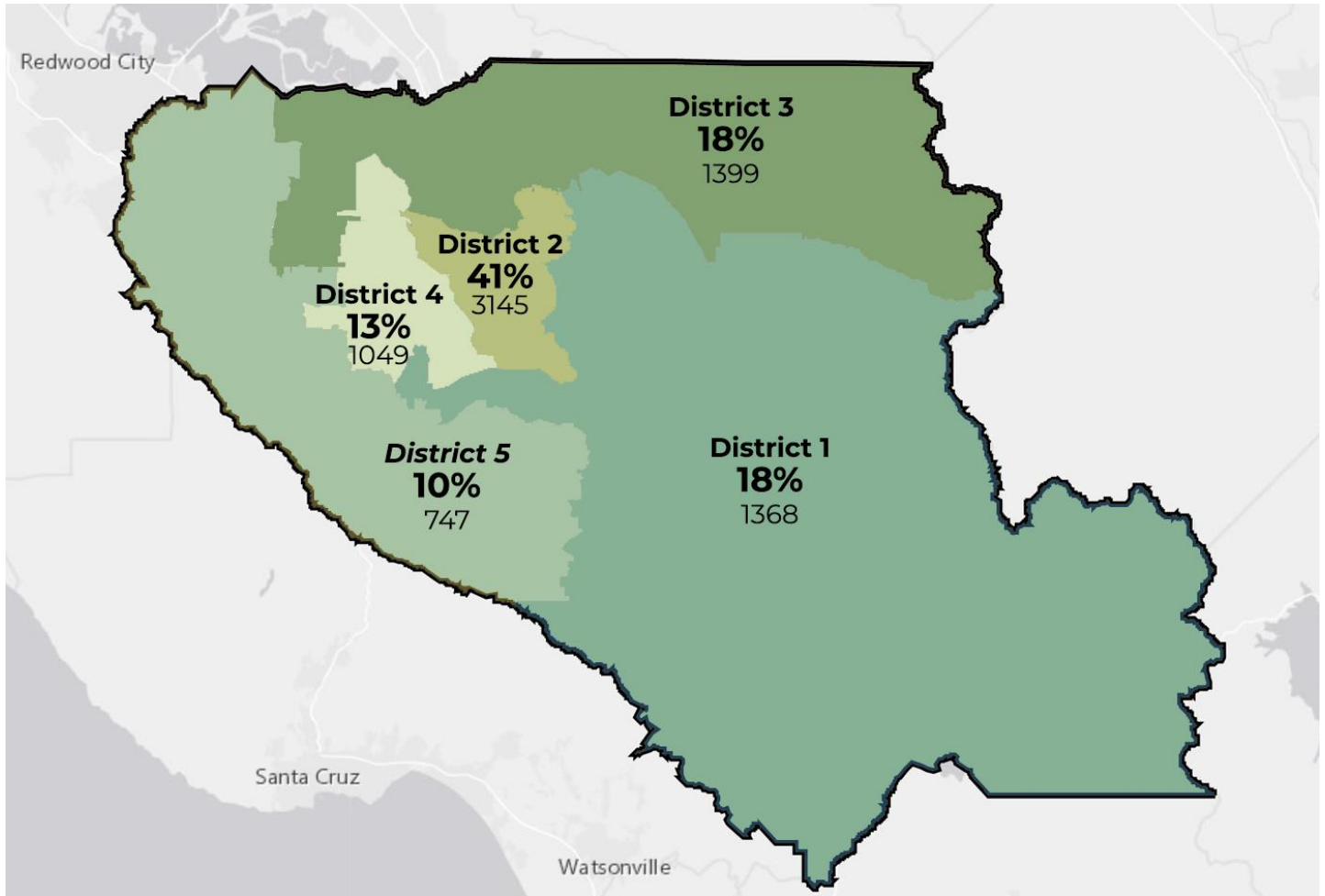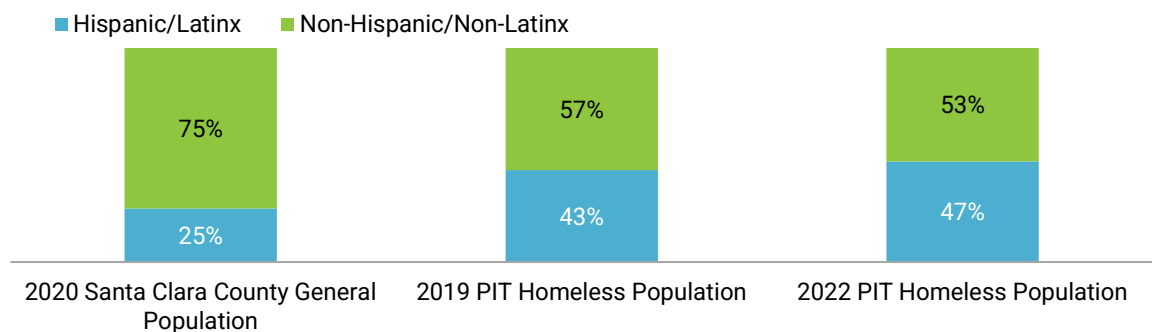
HOMELESS POPULATION BY GENDER

Legend: ■ Female ■ Male ■ Transgender ■ Gender Non-Conforming

2019
- <1%
- 2%
- 62%
- 36%
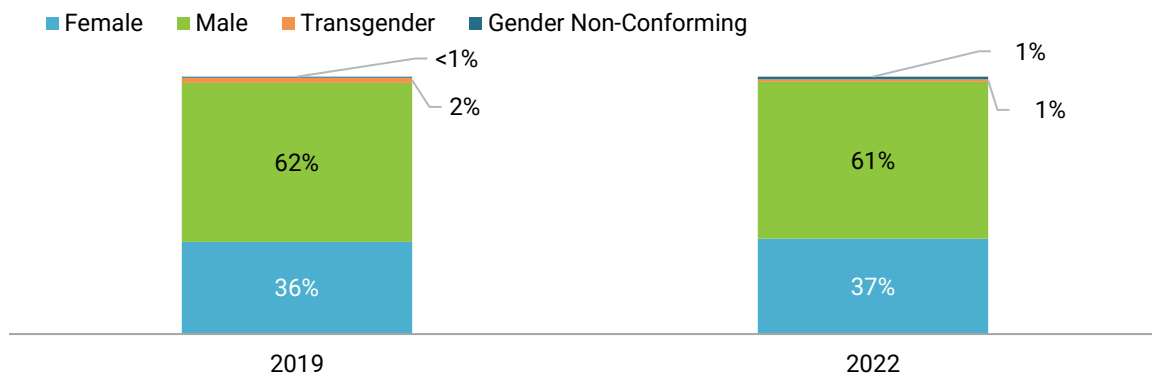
2022
- 1%
- 1%
- 61%
- 37%

	UNSHELTERED		SHELTERED		TOTAL		'19-'22 % CHANGE
	2019	2022	2019	2022	2019	2022	
Female	2,778	2,812	705	910	3,483	3,722	7%
Male	4,943	4,710	1,065	1,389	6,008	6,099	2%
Transgender	161	97	11	9	172	106	-38%
Gender Non-Conforming (Don't Identify as Male, Female, or Transgender)	40	80	3	9	43	89	107%
Total	7,922	7,708	1,784	2,317	9,706	10,028	3%

Note: Percentage change was not calculated for rows with less than 50 individuals.

HOMELESS POPULATION BY HISPANIC OR LATINX ORIGIN

Legend: ■ Hispanic/Latinx ■ Non-Hispanic/Non-Latinx

2020 Santa Clara County General Population
- 75%
- 25%

2019 PIT Homeless Population
- 57%
- 43%

2022 PIT Homeless Population
- 53%
- 47%

Santa Clara County General Population: 2020 N=1,936,259; PIT Homeless Population: 2019 N=9,706; 2022 N=10,028

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HOMELESS POPULATION BY RACE

Santa Clara County General Population: 2020 N=1,936,259; PIT Homeless Population: 2019 N=9,706; 2022 N=10,028

HOMELESS SURVEY FINDINGS

This section provides an overview of the findings generated from the Homeless Survey component. In the weeks following the Point-in-Time Count, an in-depth survey was administered to collect basic demographic details as well as information on service needs and utilization. Surveys were administered between February 28 and March 25, 2022 to a randomized sample of individuals and families currently experiencing homelessness throughout the county. A survey quota was developed based on location and shelter status to help ensure a greater random distribution of survey respondents. The sampling plan employed is HUD approved and consistent with previous County PIT count efforts.

The Homeless Survey effort resulted in 959 unique, complete, and valid surveys administered. Based on a Point-in-Time Count of 10,028 homeless persons, with a randomized survey sampling process, these surveys represent a confidence interval of +/-3% with a 95% confidence level when generalizing the results of the survey to the entire Point-in-Time homeless population in Santa Clara County. In other words, if the survey were conducted again, we can be 95% certain that the results would be within 3% points of the current results. This 3% "margin of error" increases with data about sub-groups.

In order to respect respondent privacy and to ensure the safety and comfort of those who participated, respondents were not required to complete all survey questions. Therefore, any missing values were intentionally omitted from the survey results and the total number of respondents for each question will not always equal the total number of surveys conducted. Refusals and "don't know" responses were not included in percentage calculations.

For more information regarding the research methodology, please see *Appendix A: Methodology.*

Page 77

Attachment 4
Page 15 of 52

DEMOGRAPHICS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

In order to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the experiences of individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County, respondents were asked basic demographic questions including age, gender, sexual orientation, and race/ethnicity.

Forty percent of survey respondents were over the age of 50 and 12% were under the age of 25. These percentages are similar to past years and represent a spread of respondents across all age groups. Nearly two thirds (61%) of survey respondents identified as male, while 37% of respondents identified as female. Transgender and gender non-conforming respondents were 1% and less than 1%, respectively.

While there are limited data available on the number of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) individuals experiencing homelessness, nationwide data available suggest LGBTQ+ individuals experience homelessness at higher rates, especially those under the age of 25. Fourteen percent of survey respondents identified as something other than straight. Of those respondents, 25% identified as gay, 21% as lesbian, and 7% as queer.

RESPONDENTS BY AGE

AGE GROUP	2017	2019	2022
Less than 18 Years	<1%	1%	<1%
18-24 Years	7%	15%	11%
25-30 Years	7%	6%	10%
31-40 Years	16%	16%	19%
41-50 Years	27%	22%	20%
51-60 Years	34%	28%	24%
61 Years or More	9%	12%	16%

2017 N=587; 2019 N=1,359; 2022 N=942

RESPONDENTS BY GENDER

■ Male ■ Female ■ Transgender ■ Gender Non-Conforming

2022	61%	37%	1%

2022 N=10,028

DETAIL OF RESPONDENTS WITH LGBTQ+ IDENTITY

LGBTQ+ IDENTITY	2019	2022
Gay	17%	25%
Lesbian	19%	21%
Bisexual	48%	34%
Transgender	13%	1%
Queer	3%	7%
Other	14%	13%

2019 N=175 respondents offering 198 responses; 2022 N=134 respondents offering 147 responses
Note: Multiple response question. Percentages may not add up to 100.

Race/Ethnicity

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 Hispanic or Latinx, more than half (53%) of homeless survey respondents reported they did not identify as Hispanic or Latinx in 2022.

In profiling racial identity, differences between the general population and those experiencing homelessness were more pronounced. A much higher proportion of homeless survey respondents identified as Hispanic/Latinx than in the general population of Santa Clara County (47% compared to 25%).

More survey respondents identified as white (60%) in 2022 compared to the 2020 general population (32%) and the survey population from 2019 (44%). Survey respondents identifying as Black or African American continued to be overrepresented when compared to the general population, with 14% identified in 2022 compared to 2% of the general population.

RESPONDENTS BY HISPANIC OR LATINX ORIGIN
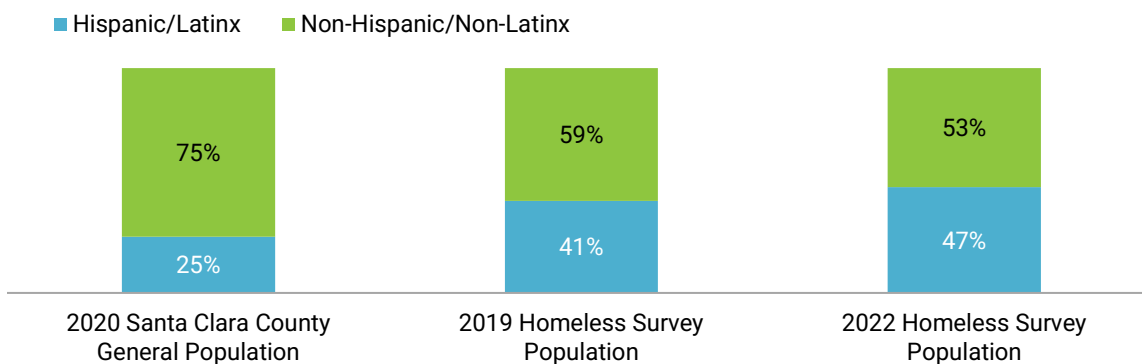
Santa Clara County General Population: 2020 N=1,936,259
Homeless Survey Population: 2019 N=1,285; 2022 N=901

RESPONDENTS BY RACE
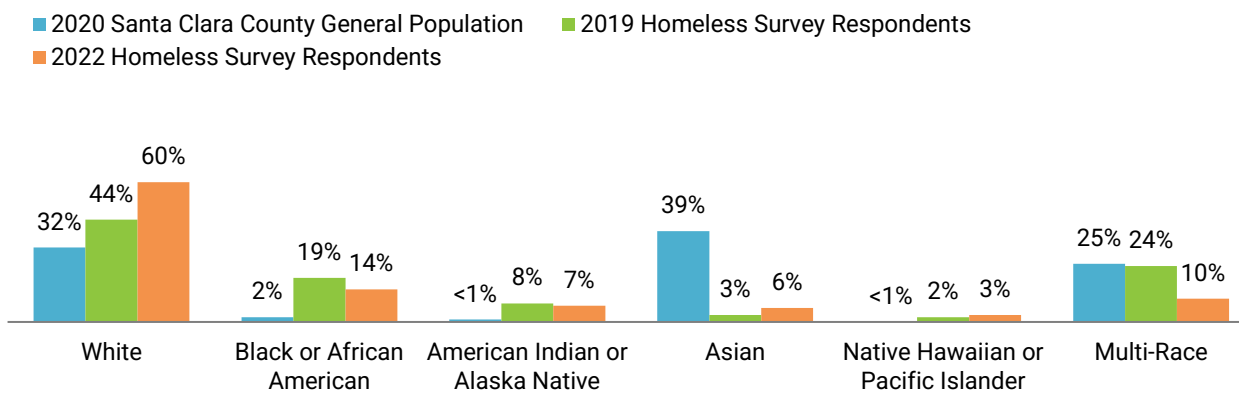
Santa Clara County General Population: 2020 N=1,936,259
Homeless Survey Population: 2019 N=1,246; 2022 N=789

History of Foster Care

Similar rates of survey respondents reported a history of foster care in 2022 as they did in 2019. Sixteen percent reported a history in 2022, while 19% reported one in 2019.

Page 79

HISTORY OF FOSTER CARE

■ Yes ■ No

2019	2022
81%	84%
19%	16%
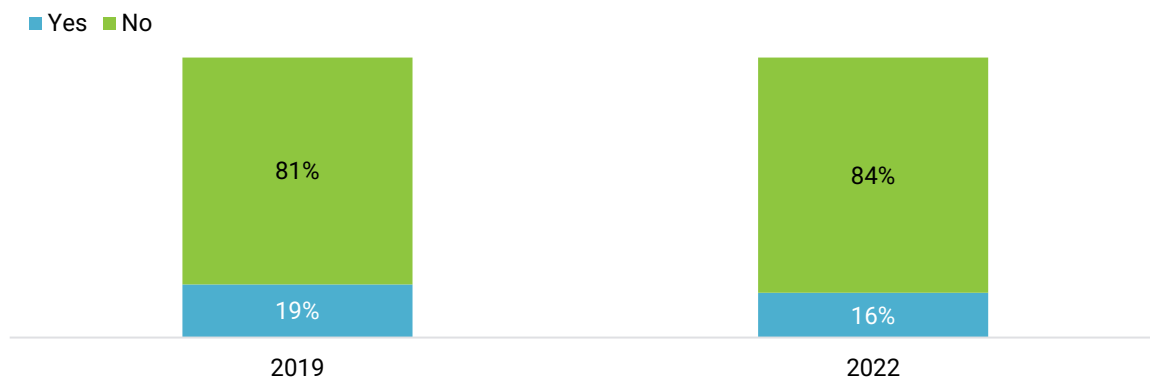
2019 N=1,314; 2022 N=938

LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS

Where individuals lived prior to experiencing homelessness and where they have lived since impact the way they seek services, as well as their ability to access support from friends or family. Previous circumstances can also point to gaps in the system of care and to opportunities for systemic improvement and homelessness prevention.

Survey respondents reported many different living accommodations prior to becoming homeless, although most lived in or around Santa Clara County with friends or family, or on their own in a home or apartment.

Place of Residence

Knowing where individuals were living prior to their housing loss informs discussions regarding how much of the homeless population is local to the region. This information can also influence changes to available safety net systems if the Continuum of Care finds increasing numbers of individuals living locally before experiencing homelessness.

The majority (85%) of respondents reported living in Santa Clara County at the most recent time they became homeless, similar to 2019 (81%). More than half of survey respondents (63%) had lived in Santa Clara County for 10 or more years, while just 5% had lived in Santa Clara for less than one year.

Ten percent (10%) of respondents reported they were living in another county in California, and 5% reported they were living out of state at the most recent time they became homeless.

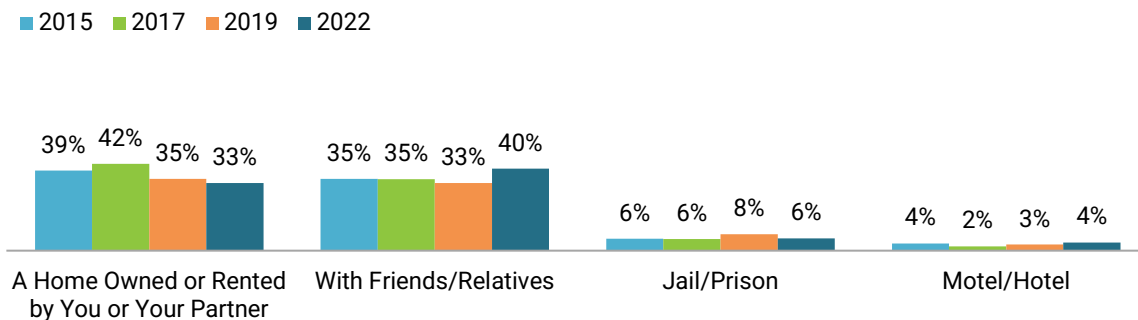## PLACE OF RESIDENCE AT THE MOST RECENT TIME EXPERIENCING HOMELESS

Santa Clara County	Other County in California	Out of State
85%	10%	5%

2022 N=962

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Prior Living Arrangements

Most survey respondents were staying in a home owned or rented by friends or family (40%) or owned or rented by themselves or their partner (33%) before they experienced homelessness. These were both similar to previous years, though the percentage of persons staying with friends or family before their current episode of homelessness increased from 33% in 2019 to 40% this year.

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS IMMEDIATELY BEFORE BECOMING HOMELESS (TOP RESPONSES IN 2022)

■ 2015 ■ 2017 ■ 2019 ■ 2022

	A Home Owned or Rented by You or Your Partner	With Friends/Relatives	Jail/Prison	Motel/Hotel
2015	39%	35%	6%	4%
2017	42%	35%	6%	2%
2019	35%	33%	8%	3%
2022	33%	40%	6%	4%

2015 N=886; 2017 N=575; 2019 N=1,311; 2022 N=933

Current Living Arrangements

While basic information on where individuals were observed during the general street count effort was collected, survey respondents were still asked about their usual nighttime accommodations. Understanding the types of places individuals experiencing homelessness are sleeping can help inform local outreach efforts.

Forty-four percent of survey respondents were living outdoors, on the streets, in parks or in tents and encampments in 2022, an increase from 34% in 2019. The percentage of respondents staying in shelters fell from 22% to 9%, while the percentage staying in vehicles continued to increase from 2017, reaching 21% in 2022.

Data on living arrangements based on the PIT count data was unavailable to due technical issues. While survey data provide data on living arrangements, this year's survey was not administered in as many shelters in the past, in part based on concerns relating to Covid. Data on persons staying in shelters should be read with caution.

DURATION AND RECURRENCE OF HOMELESSNESS

Unstable living conditions, poverty, housing scarcity, high cost of living, low wages, and many other issues often lead to individuals cycling in and out of homelessness. For many, the experience of homelessness is part of a long and recurring history of housing instability. Of those surveyed in 2022, 31% reported that their current episode of homelessness was their first time experiencing homelessness.

Respondents were also asked how old they were when they experienced homelessness for the first time. In response, 12% of respondents reported that they were under the age of 18, 27% reported they were between the ages of 18 and 24, and 61% reported they were 25 years or older. All three are similar to the results in 2019.

CURRENT EPISODE IS THE FIRST TIME EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS
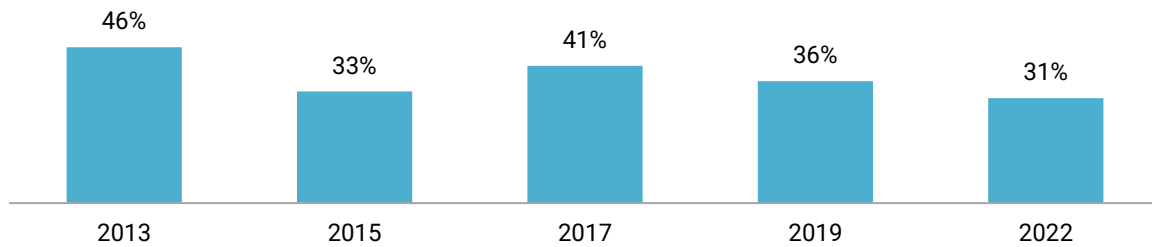
2013 N=855; 2015 N=937; 2017 N=585; 2019 N=1,304; 2022 N=967

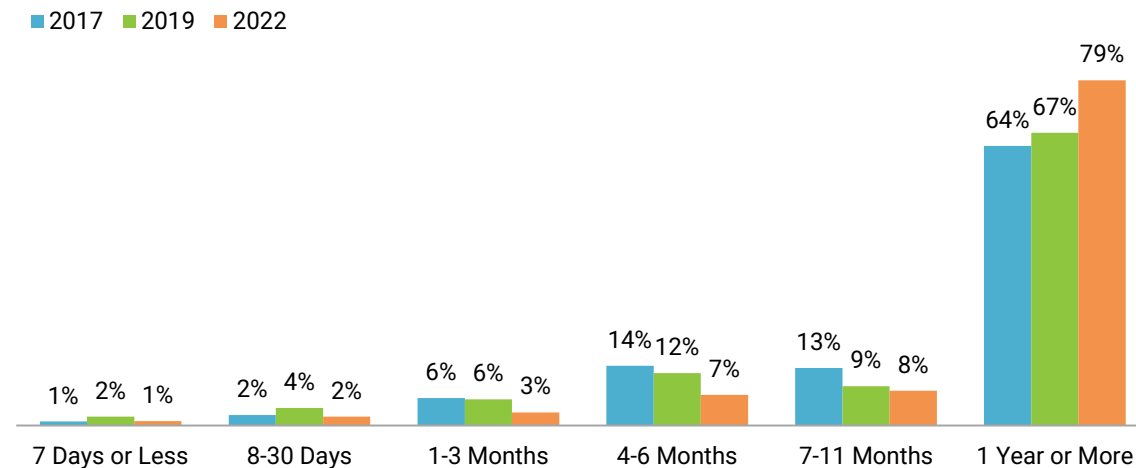## AGE WHEN EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS FOR THE FIRST TIME
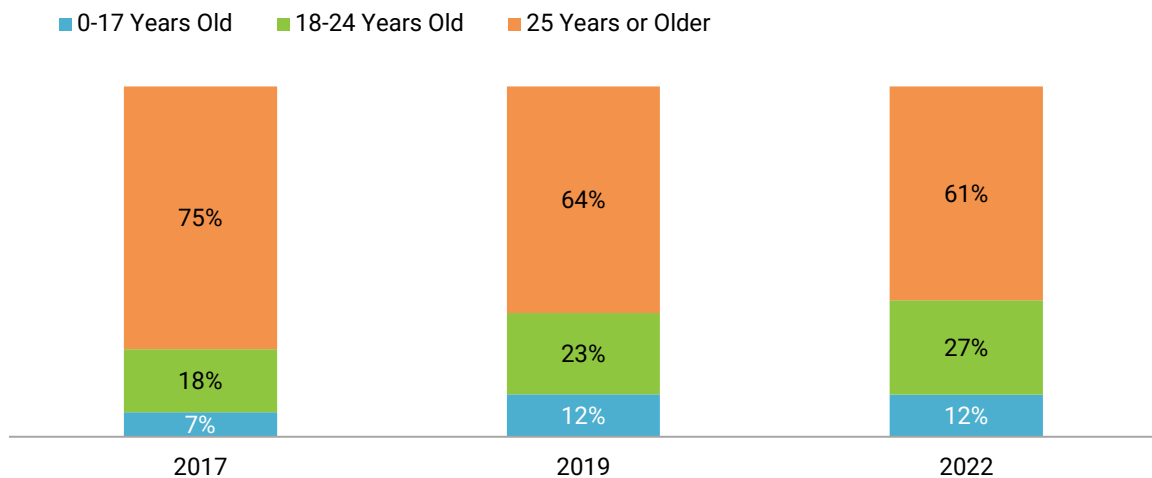
2017 N=557; 2019 N=1,325; 2022 N=964

Note: After a large increase in the youth and young adult population in 2017, there was an increased number of surveys targeted at the youth and young adult population in 2019. This may have led to the increase in numbers of individuals experiencing homelessness for the first time before turning 25.

Duration of Homelessness

When asked about the duration of their current episode of homelessness, two-thirds (79%) of survey respondents reported they had been homeless for a year or more. These findings are an increase compared to 2017 and 2019, when 64% and 67%, respectively, of respondents reported they had been homeless for a year or more.
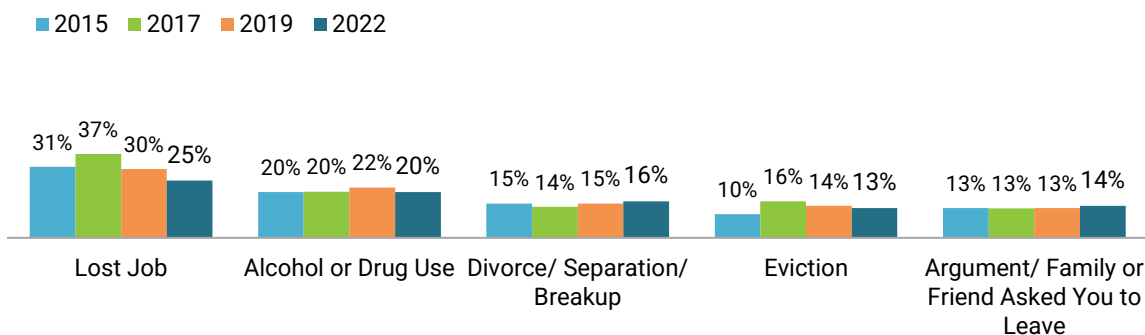
LENGTH OF CURRENT EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS

■ 2017 ■ 2019 ■ 2022

	7 Days or Less	8-30 Days	1-3 Months	4-6 Months	7-11 Months	1 Year or More
2017	1%	2%	6%	14%	13%	64%
2019	2%	4%	6%	12%	9%	67%
2022	1%	2%	3%	7%	8%	79%

2017 N=585; 2019 N=1,335; 2022 N=950

PRIMARY CAUSE OF HOMELESSNESS

The primary cause of an individual's inability to obtain or retain housing can be difficult to pinpoint, as it is often the result of multiple inter-related causes. An inability to secure adequate housing can also lead to an inability to address other basic needs, such as healthcare and adequate nutrition.
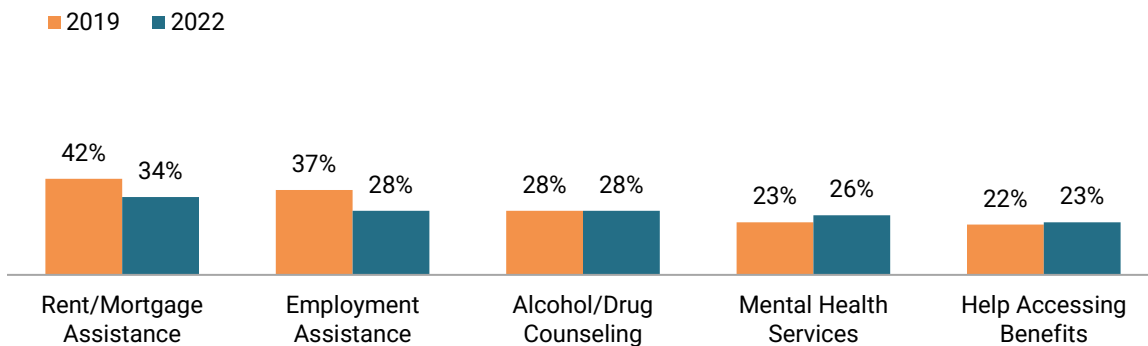
A quarter (25%) of survey respondents reported job loss as the primary cause of their homelessness, while 20% cited alcohol or drug use, 16% cited a divorce/separation, 13% cited eviction, and 14% cited an argument with—or being asked to leave by—a family member or friend. When asked what might have prevented their homelessness, survey respondents most commonly reported rent or mortgage assistance (34%), followed by employment assistance (28%).

PRIMARY CAUSE OF HOMELESSNESS (TOP RESPONSES IN 2022)

■ 2015 ■ 2017 ■ 2019 ■ 2022

	Lost Job	Alcohol or Drug Use	Divorce/ Separation/ Breakup	Eviction	Argument/ Family or Friend Asked You to Leave
2015	31%	20%	15%	10%	13%
2017	37%	20%	14%	16%	13%
2019	30%	22%	15%	14%	13%
2022	25%	20%	16%	13%	14%

2015 N=920 respondents offering 1,326 responses; 2017 N=580 respondents offering 793 responses; 2019 N=1,339 respondents offering 1,910 responses; 2022 N= 956 respondents offering 1,352 responses

Page 83

WHAT MAY HAVE PREVENTED HOMELESSNESS (TOP RESPONSES IN 2022)

■ 2019 ■ 2022

Rent/Mortgage Assistance: 42% / 34%
Employment Assistance: 37% / 28%
Alcohol/Drug Counseling: 28% / 28%
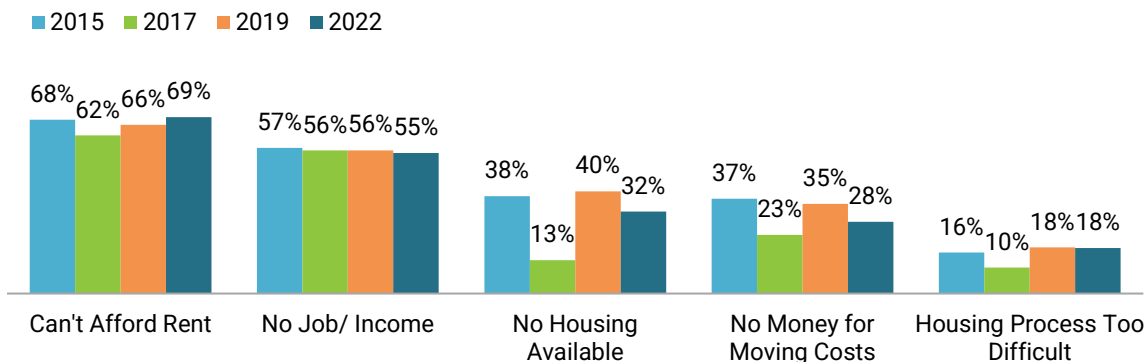Mental Health Services: 23% / 26%
Help Accessing Benefits: 22% / 23%

2017 N=567 respondents offering 943 responses; 2019 N=1,321 respondents offering 3,003 responses; 2022 N=922 respondents offering 1,885 responses

Obstacles to Obtaining Permanent Housing

Many individuals experiencing homelessness face significant barriers to obtaining permanent housing. These barriers can range from housing affordability and availability to accessing the economic and social supports (e.g., increased income, rental assistance, and case management) needed to secure and maintain permanent housing.

When asked about obstacles to obtaining permanent housing, survey respondents in 2022 gave similar responses to respondents in 2019, with almost 69% of respondents indicating an inability to afford rent as the number one concern.

OBSTACLES TO OBTAINING PERMANENT HOUSING (TOP RESPONSES IN 2022)

■ 2015 ■ 2017 ■ 2019 ■ 2022

Can't Afford Rent: 68% / 62% / 66% / 69%
No Job/ Income: 57% / 56% / 56% / 55%
No Housing Available: 38% / 13% / 40% / 32%
No Money for Moving Costs: 37% / 23% / 35% / 28%
Housing Process Too Difficult: 16% / 10% / 18% / 18%

2013 N=774 respondents offering 1,831 responses; 2015 N=896 respondents offering 3,012 responses; 2017 N=571 respondents offering 1,382; 2019 N=1,328 respondents offering 4,186 responses; 2022 N=947 respondents offering 2,755 responses.
Note: Multiple response question. Percentages may not add up to 100.

SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE

The County of Santa Clara provides services and assistance to those currently experiencing homelessness through federal, state, and local programs. However, many individuals and families do not apply for services, as many believe that they are ineligible for assistance. Connecting homeless individuals and families to these support services creates a bridge to mainstream support services and can prevent future housing instability.
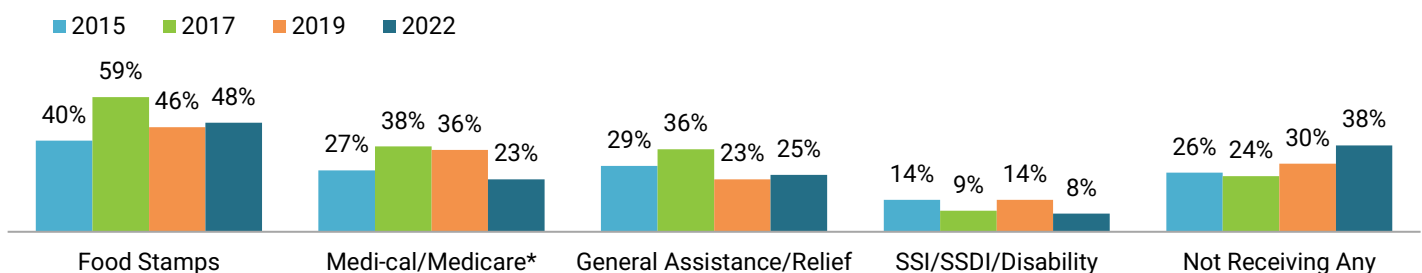
Point-in-Time Count

Government Assistance

There are various forms of government assistance available to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. However, usage of these supports is impacted by knowledge of services available, understanding of eligibility requirements, and perceived stigma of receiving governmental assistance.

There was a large increase of persons experiencing homelessness who did not receive any form of governmental assistance, moving from 30% in 2019 to 38% in 2022. However, 48% of respondents did indicate receiving food stamps, indicating that there is perhaps some confusion on if they were considered governmental assistance.

Of those who reported they were not receiving any form of government support, the greatest percentage reported they did not want government assistance (33%). Fourteen percent (14%) did not think they were eligible, a decrease from 26% in 2019. Lack of permanent address and ID both saw decreases from 2019, falling 17% and 15%, respectively, to and present an opportunity for support for those experiencing homelessness who would like to receive government services.

RECEIVING GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE (TOP RESPONSES IN 2022)

Legend: ■ 2015 ■ 2017 ■ 2019 ■ 2022

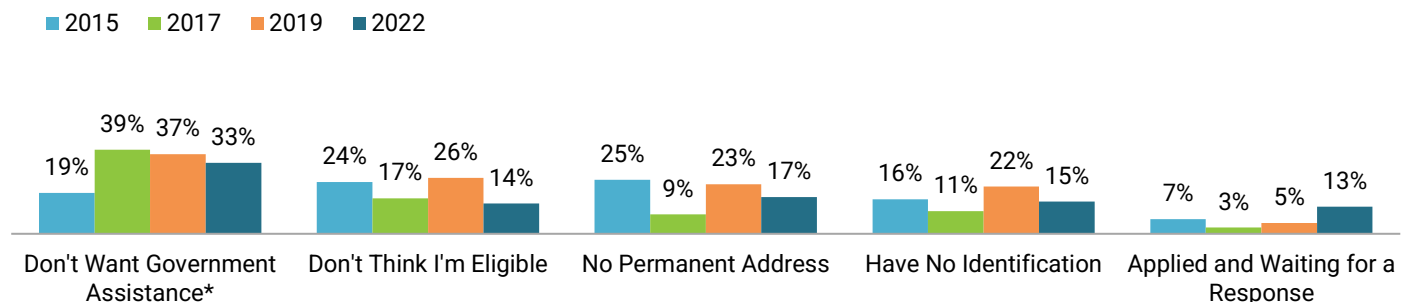|	2015	2017	2019	2022
Food Stamps	40%	59%	46%	48%
Medi-cal/Medicare*	27%	38%	36%	23%
General Assistance/Relief	29%	36%	23%	25%
SSI/SSDI/Disability	14%	9%	14%	8%
Not Receiving Any	26%	24%	30%	38%

2015 N=883 respondents offering 1,363 responses; 2017 N=557 respondents offering 1,011 responses; 2019 N=1,274 respondents offering 2,065 responses; 2022 N= 925 respondents offering 1,641 responses
Note: Multiple response question. Percentages may not add up to 100.
* Medi-Cal/Medicare was added as a response option in 2015.

REASONS NOT RECEIVING GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE (TOP RESPONSES IN 2022)

Legend: ■ 2015 ■ 2017 ■ 2019 ■ 2022

	2015	2017	2019	2022
Don't Want Government Assistance*	19%	39%	37%	33%
Don't Think I'm Eligible	24%	17%	26%	14%
No Permanent Address	25%	9%	23%	17%
Have No Identification	16%	11%	22%	15%
Applied and Waiting for a Response	7%	3%	5%	13%

2015 N=206 respondents offering 335 responses; 2017 N=133 respondents offering 164 responses; 2019 N=394 respondents offering 655 responses; 2022 N= 596 respondents offering 827 responses
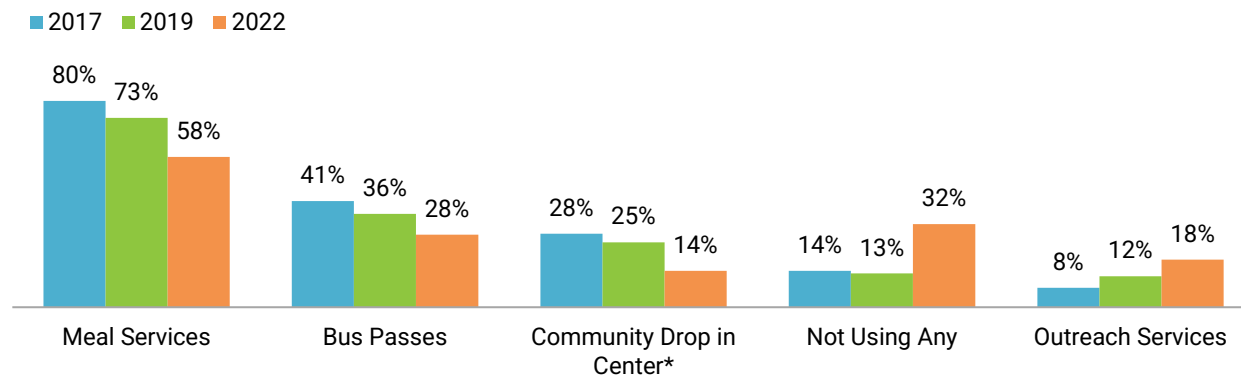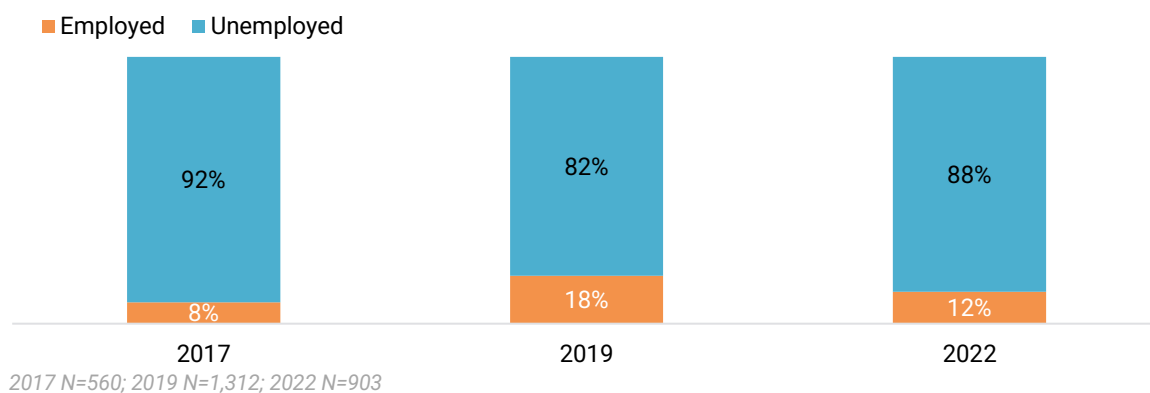Note: Multiple response question. Percentages may not add up to 100.
*In 2013 the response option changed from "do not need" to "do not want," which was an option in 2011.

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Page 85

Attachment 4
Page 23 of 52

Services and Programs

In addition to government assistance, there are numerous community-based services and programs made available to individuals experiencing homelessness. These services range from day shelters and meal programs to job training and healthcare.

A majority (68%) of survey respondents in 2022 reported they were accessing other services and assistance beyond government assistance, lower than in 2019 when it was 87%. The most frequently cited types of assistance respondents reported accessing were meal services (58%), bus passes (28%), and community drop in centers (14%). However, all three continued a downward trend of usage from 2017.

RECEIVING OTHER SERVICES OR ASSISTANCE (TOP RESPONSES IN 2022)

2017 N=570 respondents offering 1,247 responses; 2019 N=1,310 respondents offering 2,705 responses; 2022 N=928 respondents offering 1,689 responses
Note: Multiple response question. Percentages may not add up to 100.
Note: * Community drop in center response were added in 2017.

EMPLOYMENT

The unemployment rate in Santa Clara County in February 2022 was at 3%. It is 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.

The unemployment rate among homeless survey respondents was 88%, a slight increase from 82% in 2019. Forty-one percent (41%) of unemployed respondents indicated that they were currently looking for work, 28% indicated they were not, and 31% indicated they were currently unable to work.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

■ Employed   ■ Unemployed

	2017	2019	2022
Unemployed	92%	82%	88%
Employed	8%	18%	12%

2017 N=560; 2019 N=1,312; 2022 N=903

UNEMPLOYED BY WORK STATUS

■ Unable to Work   ■ Looking for Work   ■ Not Looking for Work

	2017	2019	2022
Not Looking for Work	22%	27%	28%
Looking for Work	55%	47%	41%
Unable to Work	23%	26%	31%

2017 N=560; 2019 N=1,312; 2022 N=716

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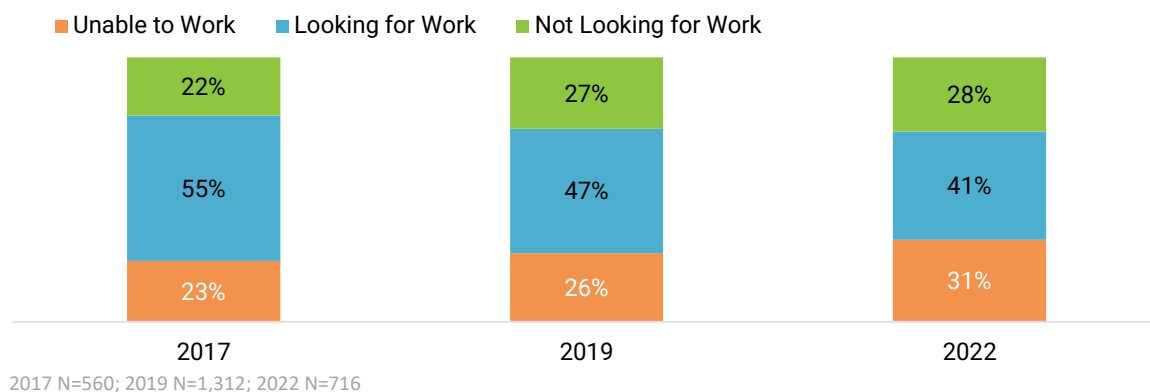
HEALTH

Survey respondents reported suffering from psychiatric or emotional conditions as the most common health condition, at the same percentage (42%) they did in 2019. Respondents suffering from drug or alcohol abuse went down slightly to 32%, while respondents indicated slight increases in the rates of PTSD, physical disability, TBI, and chronic health problems.

## HEALTH CONDITIONS

- % Yes Respondents for Health Condition
- % Respondents Who Say Condition Affects Housing, Employment, or Independent Living Status

Condition	% Yes	% Affects
Psyciatric/Emotional Conditions	42%	63%
PTSD	36%	58%
Drug/Alcohol Abuse	32%	73%
Chronic Health Condition	30%	59%
A Physical Disability	28%	63%
Traumatic Brain Injury	12%	71%
A Developmental Disability	11%	44%
HIV/AIDS	3%	50%
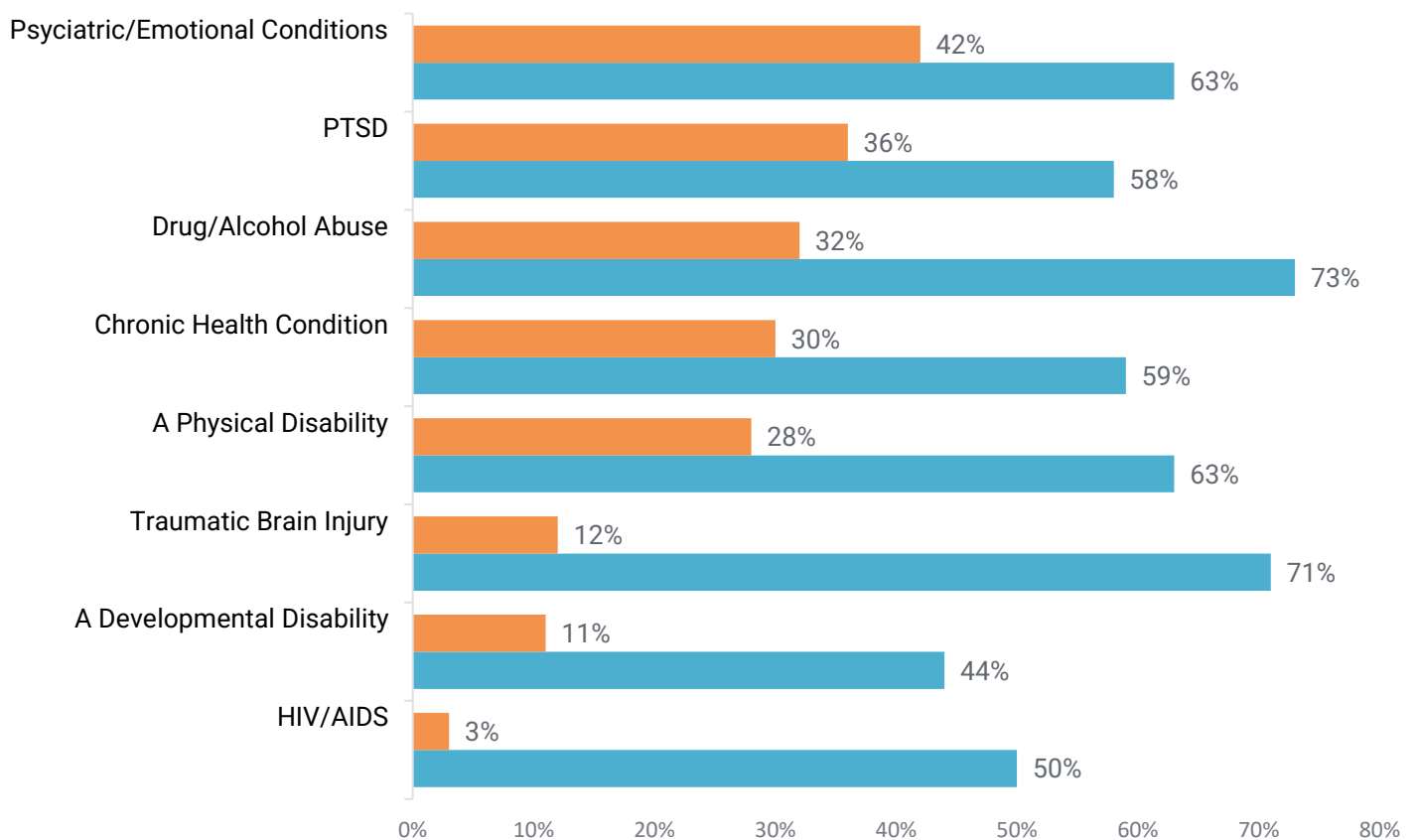
HEALTH CONDITION = 856 - 904 RESPONDENT; DISABLING CONDITION = 18 - 307 RESPONDENT

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Page 88

COVID 19

When asked about their Covid 19 vaccination status, 59% of survey respondents indicated that they had received at least one dose.

- Yes - Received at least 1 vaccine

- No - Had not received any vaccine

41%

59%
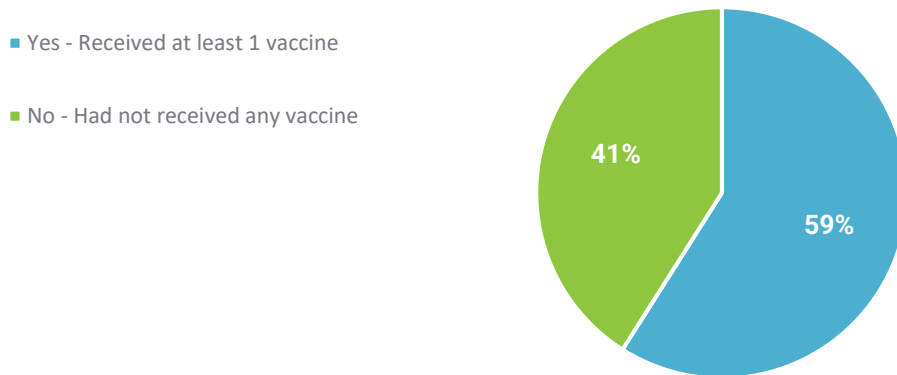
2022 N=932

DOMESTIC/PARTNER VIOLENCE OR ABUSE

Histories of domestic violence and partner abuse are prevalent among individuals experiencing homelessness and can be the primary cause of homelessness for many. Survivors often lack the financial resources required for housing, as their employment history or dependable income may be limited.

Eight percent (8%) of all survey respondents reported currently experiencing domestic/partner violence or abuse, a slight increase from 6% in 2019. When asked about experiences of *ever* being physically, emotionally or sexually abused by a relative or another person they have stayed with (spouse, partner, sibling, parent) in their lifetime, 25% indicated that they had.

CURRENTLY BEING PHYSICALLY, EMOTIONALLY OR SEXUALLY ABUSED

2017	2019	2022
3%	6%	8%
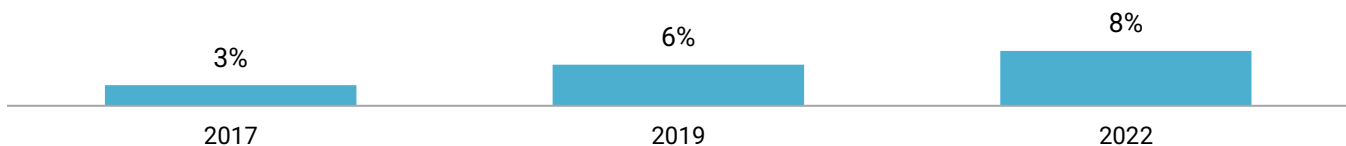
2017 N=532; 2019 N=1,236; 2022 N=898

HISTORY OF BEING PHYSICALLY, EMOTIONALLY OR SEXUALLY ABUSED

2017 N=575; 2019 N=1,359; 2022 N=935
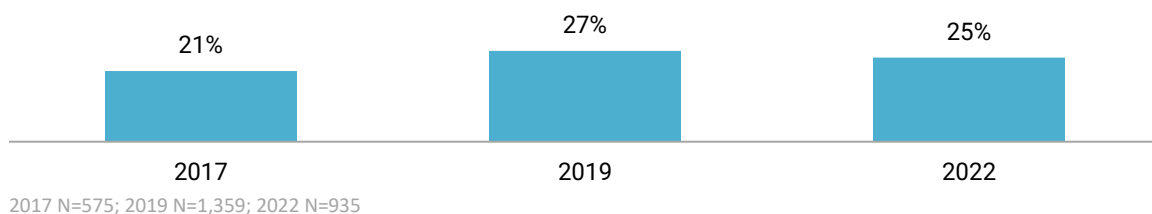
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Homelessness and incarceration are often related. Persons without stable housing are at greater risk of criminal justice system involvement, particularly those with mental health issues, veterans, and youth and young adults.

INCARCERATION

One-fifth (20%) of survey respondents indicated they had spent a night in jail in the 12 months previous to taking the survey. Eleven percent indicated that they were on probation or parole.

SPENT A NIGHT IN JAIL OR PRISON IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS

2017 N=573; 2019 N=1,277; 2022 N=908

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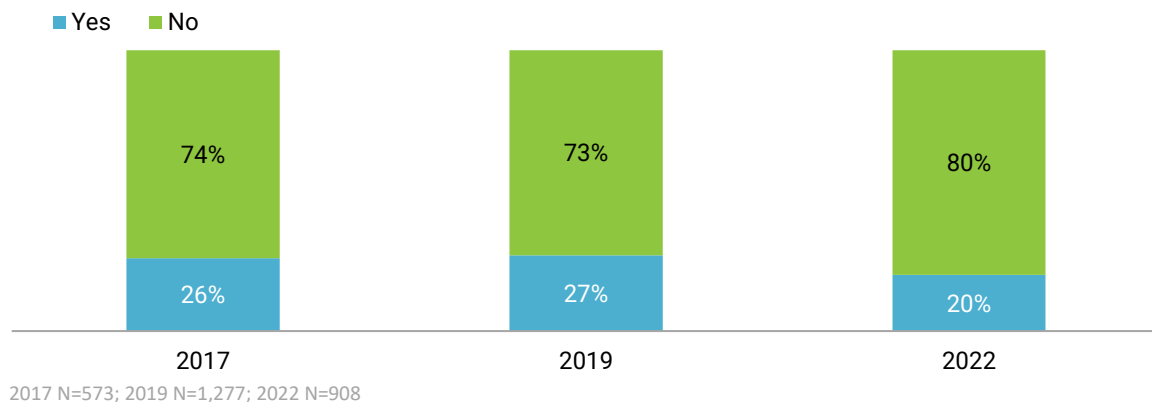
SELECT POPULATIONS

Home, Together: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness outlines national objectives and evaluative measures for ending homelessness among all populations in the United States. In order to adequately address the diversity within the population experiencing homelessness, the federal government identifies four subpopulations with particular challenges or needs, including:

- Chronically homeless individuals with disabilities;
- Veterans experiencing homelessness;
- Families with children experiencing homelessness
- Youth and young adults.

These subpopulations represent important reportable indicators for measuring local progress toward ending homelessness. The following sections examine each of these four subpopulations.

SELECT POPULATIONS AS A PERCENTAGE OF OVERALL POPULATION

N=10,028

Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness	Veterans Experiencing Homelessness	Families Experiencing Homelessness	Youth and Young Adults Experiencing Homelessness
28%	7%	9%	9%
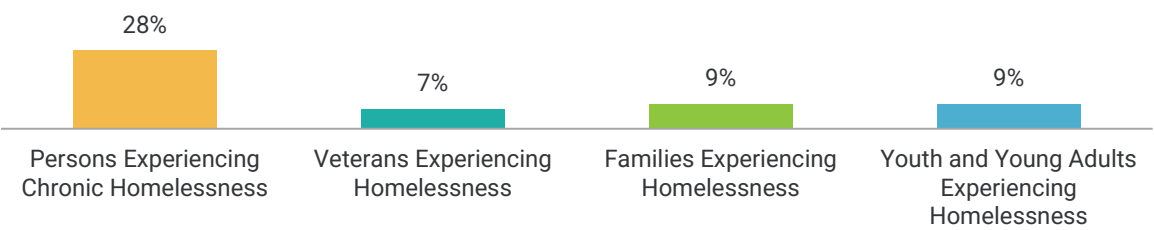
CHRONICALLY HOMELESS PERSONS

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 totaling 12 months in the last three years—and also has a disabling condition that prevents them from maintaining work or housing. This definition applies to individuals as well as heads of household who meet the definition and their families. Individuals experiencing chronic homelessness were those who self-reported meeting the above conditions, as well as those who were identified during the shelter count.

ESTIMATES OF PERSONS EXPERIENCING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

The estimate of individuals in Santa Clara County experiencing chronic homelessness in 2022 has continued to rise since 2017. There were a total of 2,838 individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in 2022, representing 28% of the overall Point-in-Time homeless population in Santa Clara County. The percentage of chronically homeless persons who were sheltered increased from 15% to 33% between 2019 and 2022.

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS POPULATION WITH TREND

2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2022
2,520	2,518	2,169	2,097	2,470	2,838
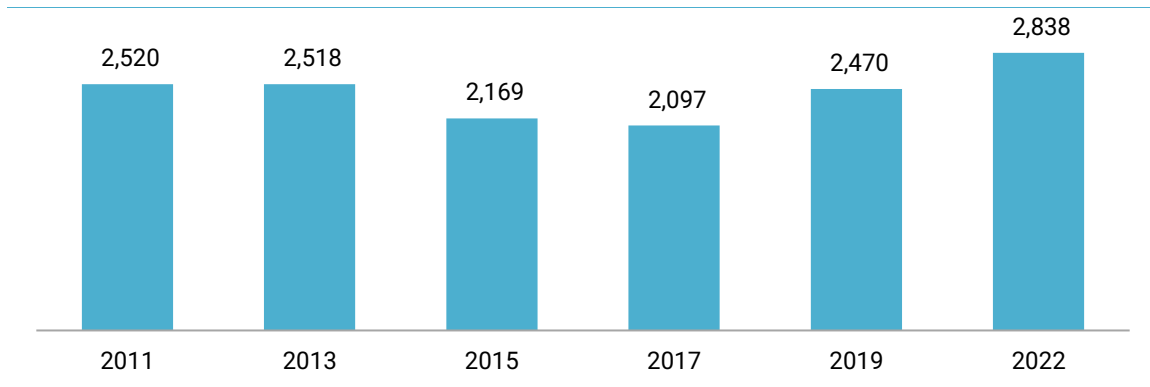
Note: HUD defines a chronically homeless individual as someone who has experienced homelessness for a year or longer—or who has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness totaling 12 months in the last three years—and also has a disabling condition that prevents them from maintaining work or housing.
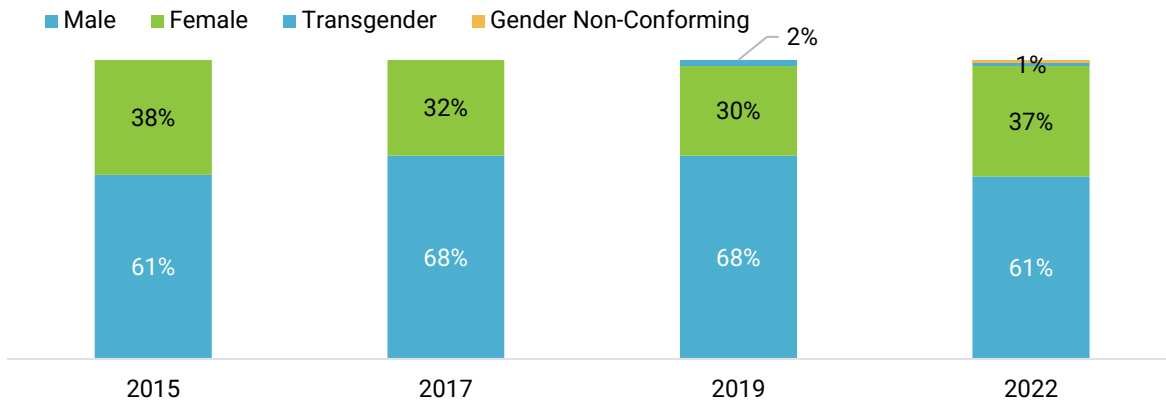
CHRONICALLY HOMELESS POPULATION BY SHELTER STATUS

■ Unsheltered   ■ Sheltered

	2015	2017	2019	2022
Sheltered	8%	14%	15%	33%
Unsheltered	92%	86%	85%	67%

2015 N=2,169; 2017 N=2,097; 2019 N=2,470; 2022 N=2,838

Demographics of Chronically Homeless Survey Respondents

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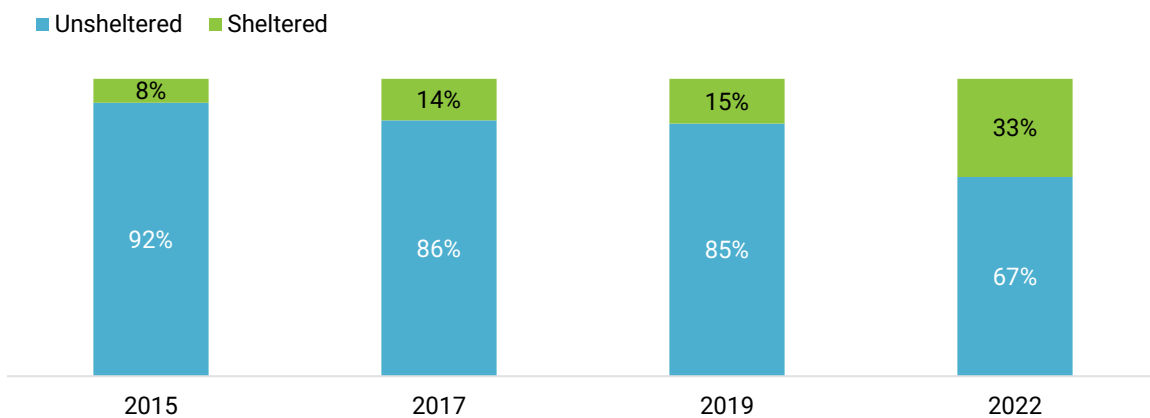
The race and gender of chronically homeless persons in 2022 remained relatively similar to 2019. In 2022, 61% of chronically homeless persons identified as male, compared to 68% in 2019. Persons identified as female rose from 30% in 2019 to 37% in 2022.

Chronically homeless persons in 2022 identified their race at similar percentages to those non-chronically homeless persons. In 2022, 63% of chronically homeless persons identified as white, similar to the 60% of those who were not chronically homeless. There was a large difference in amongst ethnic identification, where 57% of chronically homeless persons identified as Hispanic/Latinx compared to 49% of non-chronically homeless persons.

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS POPULATION BY GENDER

Legend: Male, Female, Transgender, Gender Non-Conforming

Year	Male	Female	Transgender
2015	61%	38%	
2017	68%	32%	
2019	68%	30%	2%
2022	61%	37%	1%

2015 N=2,169; 2017 N=2,097; 2019 N=2,470; 2022 N=2,838
Note: Values less than 1% are not shown. Percentages may not add up to 100.
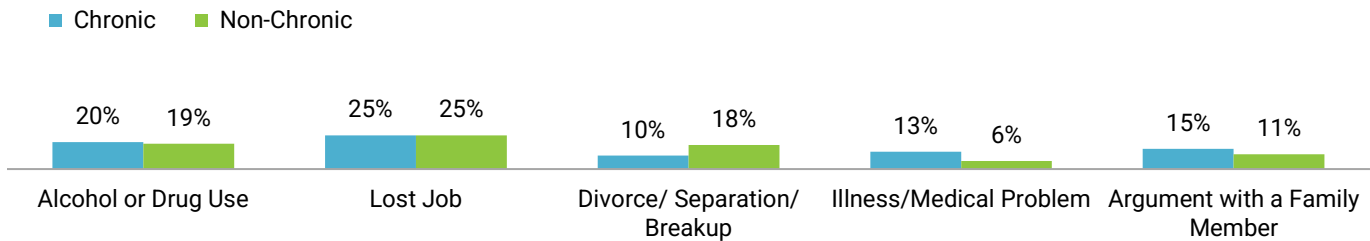
CHRONICALLY HOMELESS POPULATION BY RACE

Legend: Chronic, Non-Chronic

Race	Chronic	Non-Chronic
White	60%	63%
Black or African American	20%	15%
American Indian or Alaska Native	12%	12%
Asian	6%	7%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1%	4%
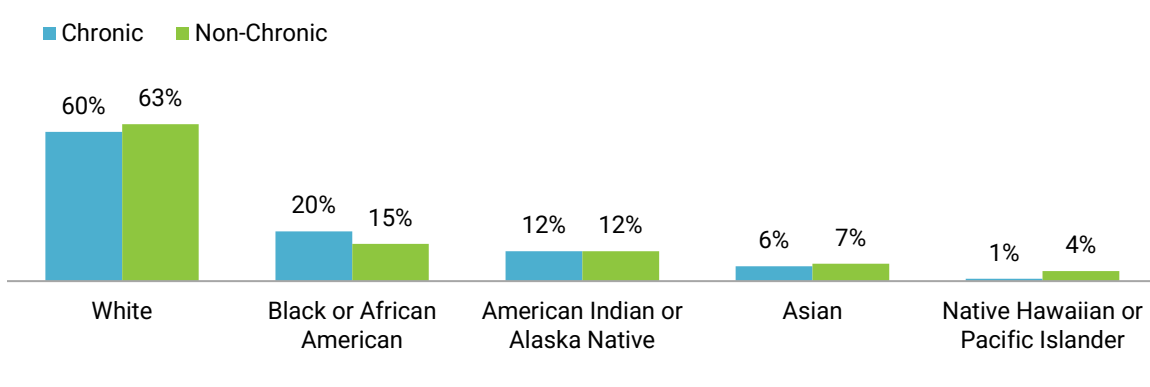
Chronic N=211; Non-Chronic N=662

Primary Cause of Homelessness Among Chronically Homelessness Respondents

When compared to their non-chronically homeless peers, persons experiencing chronic homelessness identified their primary cause of homelessness at roughly the same rates. The loss of a job was the most common response, at 25% for both groups. The largest difference between the two was illness or medical problem, where 13% of chronically homeless persons identified it as the primary cause of their homelessness compared to 6% of the non-chronically homeless persons.

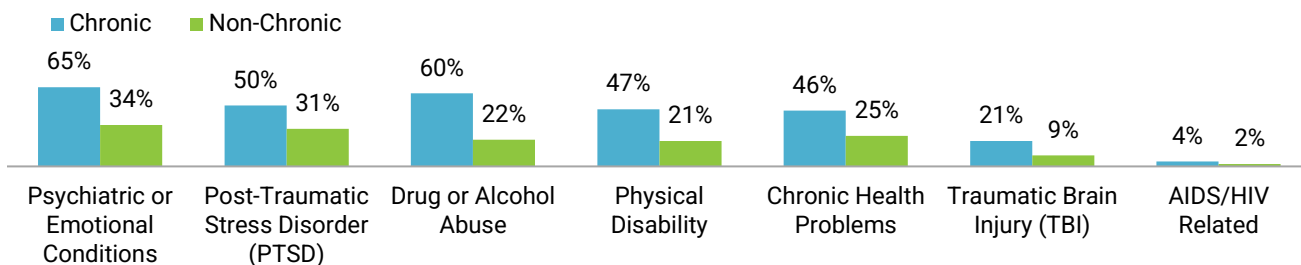# PRIMARY CAUSE OF CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS (TOP RESPONSES)

■ Chronic ■ Non-Chronic

	Alcohol or Drug Use	Lost Job	Divorce/ Separation/ Breakup	Illness/Medical Problem	Argument with a Family Member
Chronic	20%	25%	10%	13%	15%
Non-Chronic	19%	25%	18%	6%	11%

Chronic N=240 respondents offering 343 responses; Non-Chronic N=716 respondents offering 1,009 responses

Health Conditions Among Chronically Homeless Respondents

To meet the definition of chronic homelessness, an individual must be experiencing at least one disabling condition. In general, higher rates of health conditions were reported among those who were chronically homeless compared to their non-chronically homeless counterparts. The most common health condition for chronically homeless persons to experience was psychiatric or emotional conditions, where 65% of chronically homeless persons indicated they were suffering from that condition. Drug or alcohol abuse was the second most common (60%), followed by PTSD (50%), physical disability (47%), and chronic health problems (46%).

HEALTH CONDITIONS

■ Chronic ■ Non-Chronic

	Psychiatric or Emotional Conditions	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	Drug or Alcohol Abuse	Physical Disability	Chronic Health Problems	Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)	AIDS/HIV Related
Chronic	65%	50%	60%	47%	46%	21%	4%
Non-Chronic	34%	31%	22%	21%	25%	9%	2%

Chronic N=232-234; Non-Chronic N=661-682

Access to Services Among Chronically Homeless Respondents

Chronically homeless respondents reported using non-governmental assistance at similar rates to non-chronically homeless persons. In terms of government assistance, over one-quarter (27%) of chronically homeless respondents reported they were not receiving any assistance.

Of chronically homeless respondents who were not receiving any form of government assistance, 25% reported that they did not want government assistance and 15% reported they didn't think they were eligible, a decrease from 38% in 2019.

Incarceration Among Chronically Homeless Respondents

A slightly higher percentage of chronically homeless respondents reported having spent one or more nights in jail or prison in the 12 months prior to the survey (22%), compared to those who were not chronically homeless (19%). There was slightly more of a gap when respondents were asked if they were on probation or parole (16% and 9%, respectively).
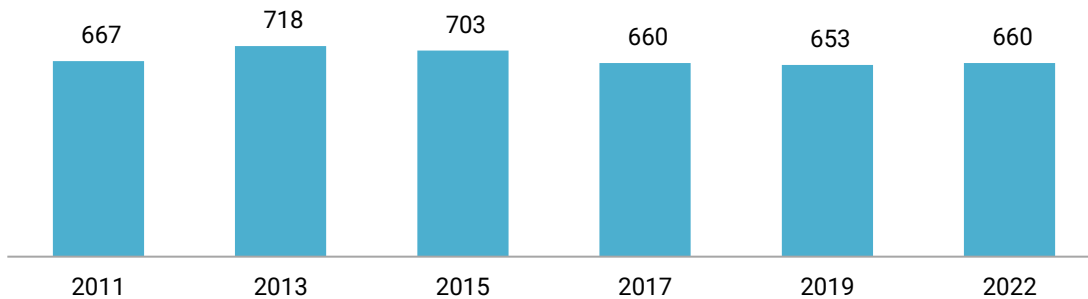
VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Many U.S. veterans experience conditions that place them at increased risk for homelessness. Nationwide, veterans are at risk for higher rates of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), sexual assault, and substance abuse. Veterans experiencing homelessness are more likely to live on the street than in shelters, and often remain on the street for extended periods of time.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs provides a broad range of benefits and services to veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. These benefits can involve different forms of financial assistance, including monthly cash payments to disabled veterans, health care, education, and housing benefits. In addition to these supports, the VA and HUD partner to provide additional housing and support services to veterans currently experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homeless.

Estimates of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness

The number of veterans experiencing homelessness was very similar to previous years, with 660 veterans identified in 2022. Veterans represented 7% of the overall homeless population, the same percentage as in 2019. There was a decrease in the percentage of veterans who were sheltered, falling from 32% in 2019 to 21% in 2022.

VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Source: Applied Survey Research. (2009-2022). Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey.

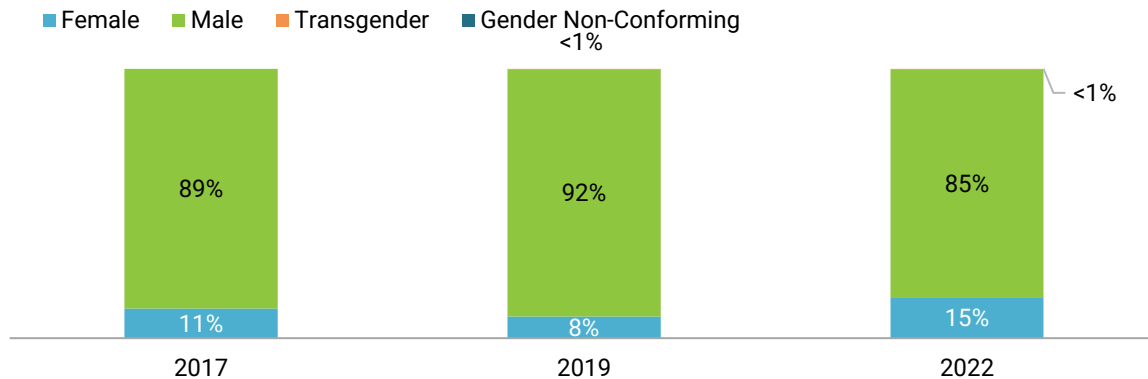### VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY SHELTER STATUS
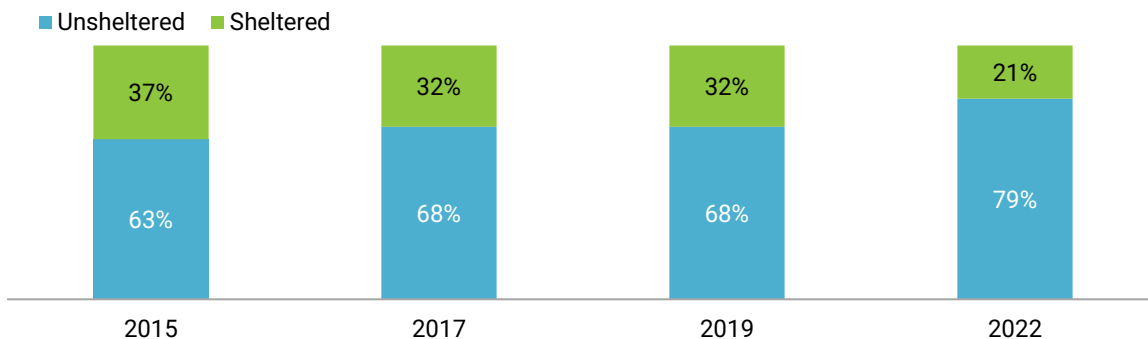
2015 N=703; 2017 N=660; 2019 N=653; 2022 N=660
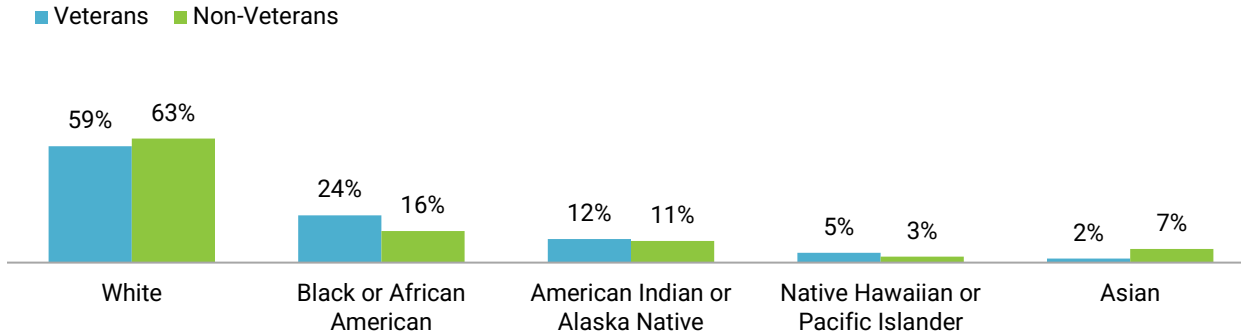
Demographics of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness

There was a slight increase in the percentage of veterans who identified as female in 2022, rising from 8% in 2019 to 15% in 2022. When compared to non-veteran homeless persons, there were more veterans who identified as Black or African American in 2022 (24% compared to 16%). Forty-one percent of veterans identified as Hispanic/Latinx, similar to the non-veteran percentage (45%).

VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY GENDER

Legend: Female | Male | Transgender | Gender Non-Conforming

Year	Male	Female	Other
2017	89%	11%	
2019	92%	8%	<1%
2022	85%	15%	<1%

2017 N=660; 2019 N=653; 2022 N=642

VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY RACE

Legend: Veterans | Non-Veterans

Race	Veterans	Non-Veterans
White	59%	63%
Black or African American	24%	16%
American Indian or Alaska Native	12%	11%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	5%	3%
Asian	2%	7%

Veterans N=63; Non-Veterans N=808

VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY ETHNICITY

Legend: Hispanic/Latinx | Non-Hispanic/Latinx

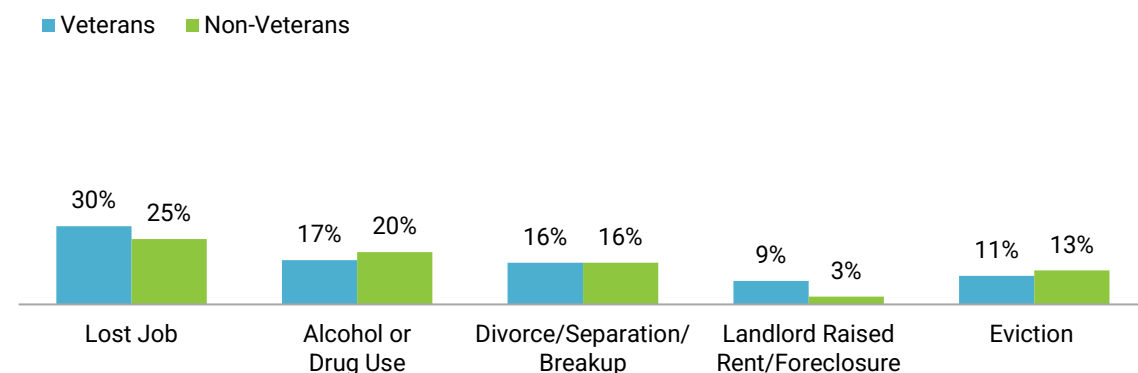| Hispanic/Latinx	Non-Hispanic/Latinx
41%	59%

Veterans N=58; Non-Veterans N=841

Primary Cause of Homelessness Among Veterans Experiencing Homelessness

The primary cause of homelessness amongst veterans experiencing homelessness was the loss of a job, followed by alcohol or drug abuse. Both of these were also similar to the rates at which non-veterans indicated their primary cause of homelessness.

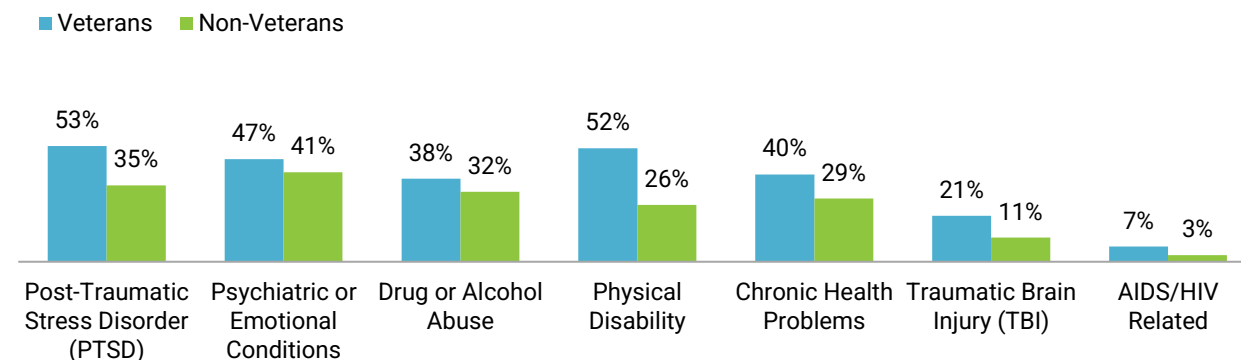### PRIMARY CAUSE OF VETERAN HOMELESSNESS (TOP RESPONSES)

■ Veterans ■ Non-Veterans

	Lost Job	Alcohol or Drug Use	Divorce/Separation/Breakup	Landlord Raised Rent/Foreclosure	Eviction
Veterans	30%	17%	16%	9%	11%
Non-Veterans	25%	20%	16%	3%	13%

Veterans N=64 respondents offering 89 responses; Non-Veterans N=890 respondents offering 1,259 responses

Health Conditions Among Veterans Experiencing Homelessness

Veterans experiencing homelessness suffered from health conditions at a greater rate than non-veterans. Veterans indicated suffering from PTSD more often than the non-veteran population (53% to 35%). Physical disability was also a common condition experienced by veterans, with 52% percent indicating they suffered from it, also much greater than the non-veteran population (26%).

HEALTH CONDITIONS

■ Veterans ■ Non-Veterans

	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	Psychiatric or Emotional Conditions	Drug or Alcohol Abuse	Physical Disability	Chronic Health Problems	Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)	AIDS/HIV Related
Veterans	53%	47%	38%	52%	40%	21%	7%
Non-Veterans	35%	41%	32%	26%	29%	11%	3%

Veterans N=60-62; Non-Veterans N=843-850

Page 97

GOVERNMENT BENEFITS – TOP 5

■ Veterans   ■ Non-Veterans

	Not receiving any form of government assistance	Any VA Disability Compensation	Food Stamps /SNAP/WIC/CalFresh	Medi-Cal/Medicare	Other Veteran Benefits (GI, Health)	General Assistance (GA/CAAP)
Veterans	25%	33%	27%	27%	19%	16%
Non-Veterans	38%	0%	51%	23%	0%	25%
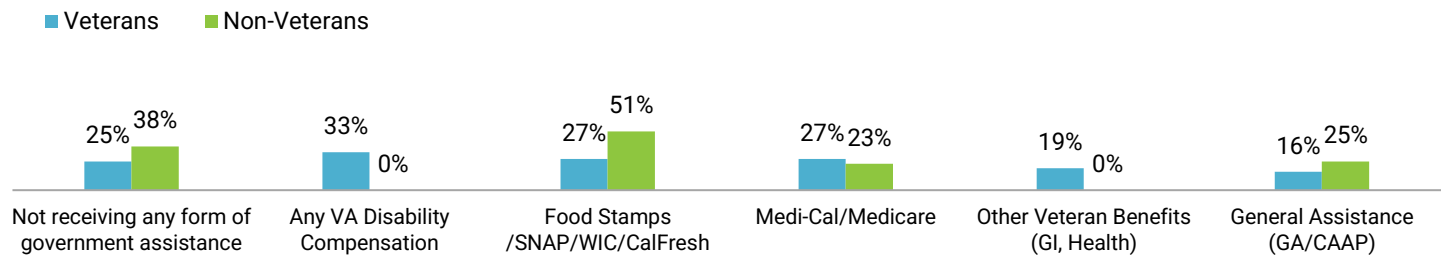
Veteran N=64 respondents offering 131 responses; Non-Veteran N=857 respondents offering 1,504 responses

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Very few families experiencing homelessness are unsheltered using the narrow HUD PIT count definition of homelessness, as public shelters serve 90% of homeless families in the United States; this is a significantly higher proportion of the population compared to other select populations, including youth and young adults.

Nationally, the majority of homeless families are households headed by single women and families with children under the age of six.[1] Children in families experiencing homelessness have increased incidence of illness and are more likely to have emotional and behavioral problems than children with stable living accommodations.[2]

Estimates of Families Experiencing Homelessness

There were a total of 276 families consisting of 898 individual family members experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County in 2022. Families experiencing homelessness represented 9% of the Point-in-Time homeless population, the same as in 2019.[3] The majority (84%) of families experiencing homelessness were sheltered, while the remaining 16% were unsheltered, a decrease from 26% in 2019.
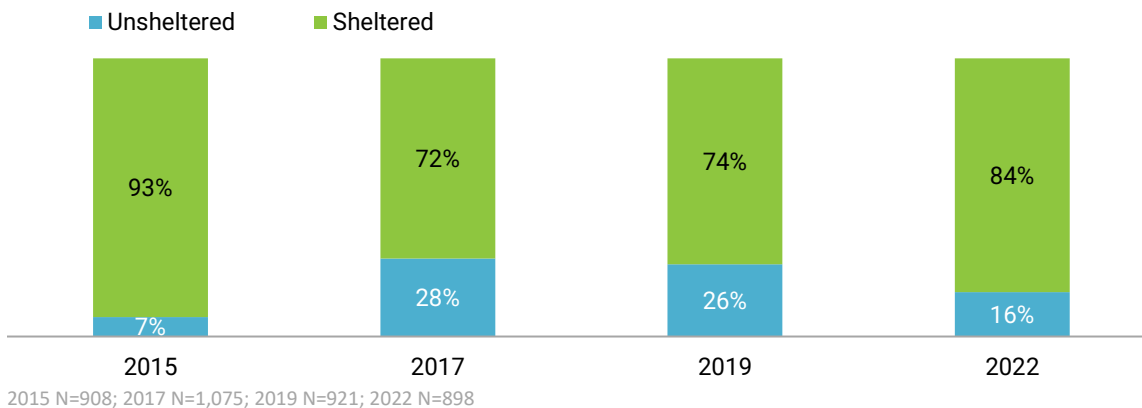
FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

■ Families   ■ Individual Family Members

	2015	2017	2019	2022
Families	266	294	269	276
Individual Family Members	908	1,075	921	898

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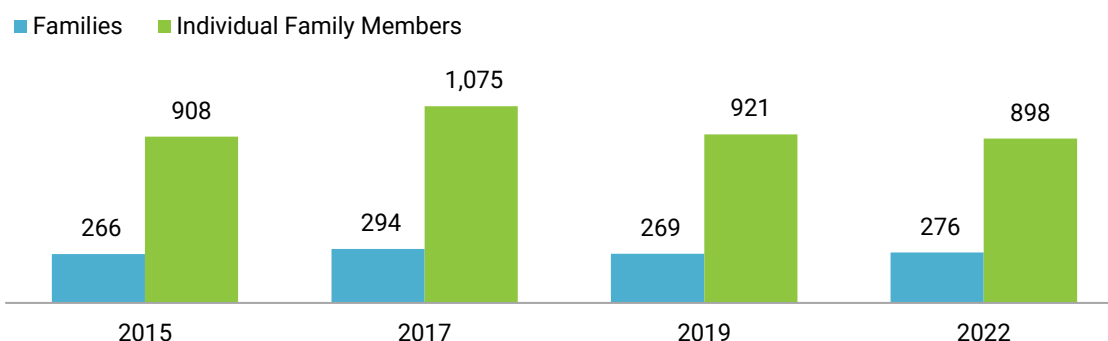
[1] U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2007). Characteristics and Dynamics of Homeless Families with Children. Retrieved 2015 from http://aspe.hhs.gov/

[2] U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. (2015). Opening Doors. Retrieved 2015 from http://www.usich.gov/

[3] There is a significant population of homeless families in "double-up" situations. These families may or may not fall within the HUD PIT count definition of homelessness and could not be identified due to their typical location on private property.
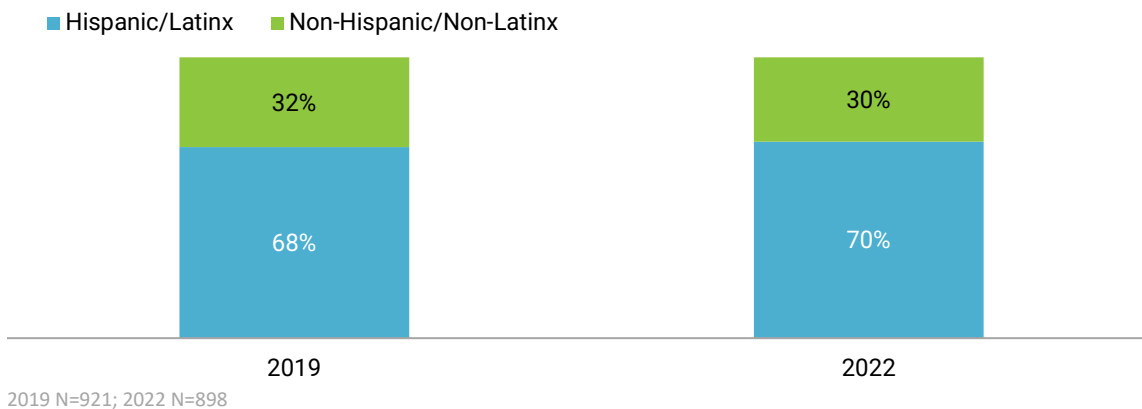
FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY SHELTER STATUS

■ Unsheltered ■ Sheltered

| 2015 | 2017 | 2019 | 2022 |
| 93% / 7% | 72% / 28% | 74% / 26% | 84% / 16% |

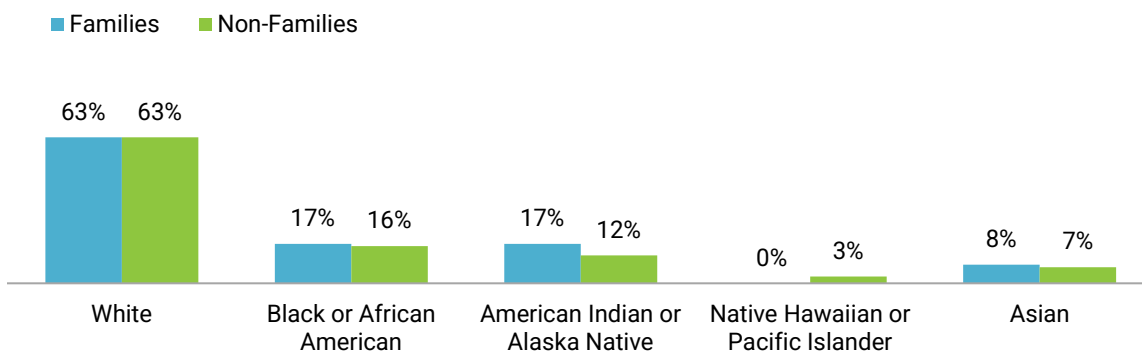2015 N=908; 2017 N=1,075; 2019 N=921; 2022 N=898

Demographics of Families Experiencing Homelessness

Female family members accounted for 56% of families experiencing homelessness, while males accounted for 44%. Further, more than two-thirds (70%) identified as being of Hispanic/Latinx origin, and 63% identified as White.

FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY HISPANIC/LATINX ORIGIN

■ Hispanic/Latinx ■ Non-Hispanic/Non-Latinx

| 2019 | 2022 |
| 32% / 68% | 30% / 70% |

2019 N=921; 2022 N=898

FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY RACE

■ Families ■ Non-Families

	White	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Asian
Families	63%	17%	17%	0%	8%
Non-Families	63%	16%	12%	3%	7%

Family N=24; Non-Family N=849

Page 99

Attachment 4
Page 37 of 52

Experience of Violence Among Families Experiencing Homelessness

Survey respondents in families experiencing homelessness were much more likely to indicate past and/or current experiences with domestic violence. Forty-two percent of family respondents indicated experiencing violence in the past, up from 25% in 2019. While 17% indicated they were currently experiencing domestic violence, up from 8% in 2019.

PAST/CURRENT EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE AMONG
FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

■ Past Violence (Physical, Emotional, or Sexual)   ■ Current Domestic Violence

2019 N=53; 2022 N=24
Note: Due to the small number of respondents, caution is advised when interpreting this data.

Primary Cause of Homelessness Among Families Experiencing Homelessness

The primary cause of homelessness for survey respondents in families was the loss of a job (20%). While persons not in families experiencing homelessness indicated the primary cause of their homelessness was alcohol or drug use at a rate of 20%, no person in families experiencing homelessness indicated that was the case.

PRIMARY CAUSE OF HOMELESSNESS (TOP RESPONSES)

■ Families   ■ Non-Families
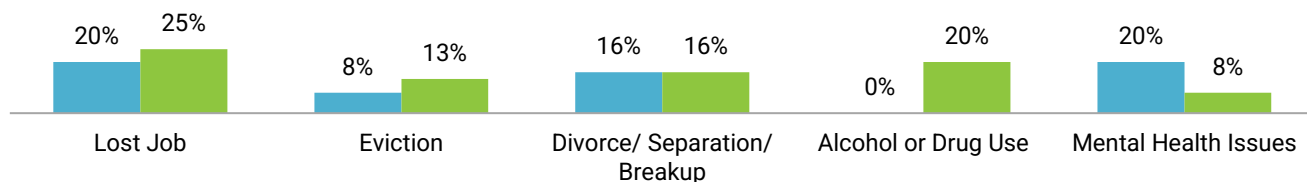
Families N=25 respondents offering 30 responses; Non-Families N=931 respondents offering 1,322 responses

Health Conditions Among Families Experiencing Homelessness

Generally speaking, respondents in families indicated experiencing health conditions less frequently than non-family persons. The most common health condition experienced by persons in families was psychiatric or emotional conditions (38%), followed by a tie between PTSD and drug or alcohol abuse (33%).

HEALTH CONDITIONS

■ Families   ■ Non-Families

	Psychiatric or Emotional Conditions	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	Drug or Alcohol Abuse	Physical Disability	Chronic Health Problems	Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)	AIDS/HIV Related
Families	38%	33%	33%	21%	35%	9%	13%
Non-Families	42%	36%	32%	28%	30%	12%	3%
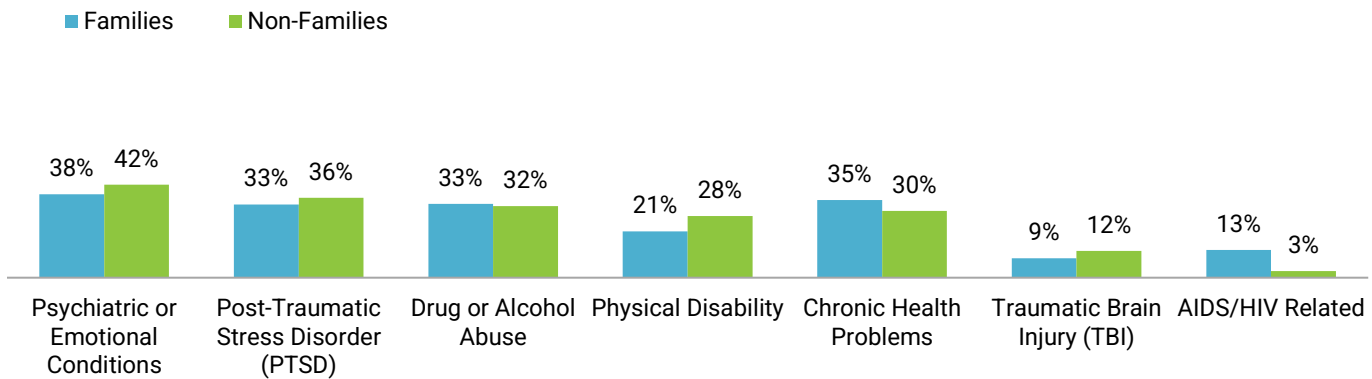
Families N=25; Non-Families N=878-951
Note: Multiple response question, percentages may not add up to 100%

Recurrence and Length of Homelessness Among Families Experiencing Homelessness

A third (36%) of family respondents reported experiencing homelessness for the first time, compared to 23% of non-family survey respondents. Sixty percent (60%) of families had been experiencing homelessness for one year or longer, compared to 75% of non-family respondents. In terms of where they were living prior to becoming homeless, slightly under half (46%) reported they were living in a home owned/rented by them or a partner compared to 55% of the general survey population.

Government Assistance Among Families Experiencing Homelessness

Sixty-five percent (65%) of family members indicated they were receiving some form of government assistance. Over half (52%) were receiving food stamps, and 23% were receiving Medi-Cal/MediCare.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

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 youth and young adults. As part of this effort, HUD placed increased focus on gathering data on youth and young adults during the Point-in-Time Count.
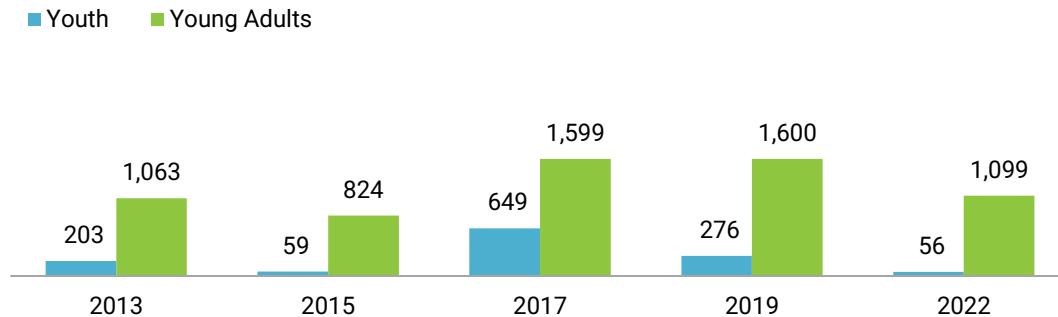
Estimates of Youth and Young Adults Experiencing Homelessness

A separate youth count effort was put in place, relying on knowledge gathered from youth currently experiencing homelessness as well as their participation in the count itself in order. This is considered a national best practice approach and is very useful in more densely populated communities where there is a large unsheltered youth culture.

In 2022, the general shelter and street count, combined with the targeted youth count, identified 1,155 youth and young adults experiencing homelessness. This represents a 38% decrease since 2019.

The majority (91%) of these youth and young adults were unsheltered. In 2022, the youth and young adult subpopulation represented slightly more than one tenth (12%) of the overall homeless population in Santa Clara County.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

■ Youth   ■ Young Adults

Note: In 2019, methodology in calculating the numbers of youth and young adults experiencing homelessness changed. For comparative purposes, the 2017 data was recalculated and displayed in this chart. For further information regarding the methodology change, please see Appendix A.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY SHELTER STATUS

■ Unsheltered   ■ Sheltered
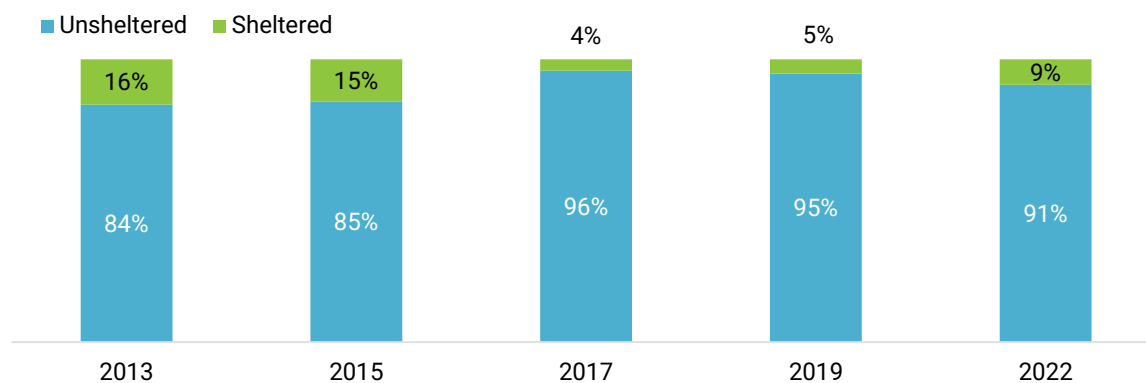
2013 N=1,266; 2015 N=883; 2017 N=2,530; 2019 N=1,876; 2022 N=1,155

Demographics of Youth And Young Adults Experiencing Homelessness

Over half (51%) of youth and young adults identified as male. Nearly half (52%) identified as being of Hispanic/Latinx origin. Sixty eight percent identified as White and 17% identified as Black/African American.

Gathering data on gender identity and sexual orientation on hard to find populations like youth and young adults can pose difficulties. Past years have made every effort to be as representative as possible, but caution should still be used when interpreting past data around gender identity and sexual orientation. In 2022, 13% of youth survey respondents identified as LGBTQ+, similar to the 13% of adults respondents.

Primary Cause of Homelessness Among Youth and Young Adults

The most common cause of homelessness amongst youth and young adults was alcohol and drug abuse, at 33%, and it also represented the largest gap between the cause of homelessness amongst adults over the age of 25 (18%).

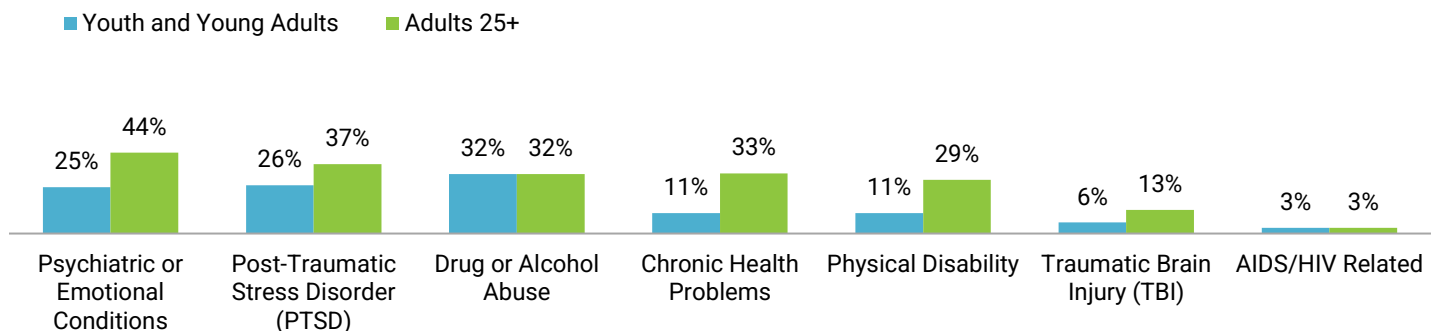## PRIMARY CAUSE OF HOMELESSNESS (TOP RESPONSES)

■ Youth and Young Adults   ■ Adults 25+

	Lost Job	Alcohol or Drug Use	Argument with Family/Friend	Eviction	Family Violence
Youth and Young Adults	17%	33%	28%	13%	13%
Adults 25+	26%	18%	13%	13%	5%
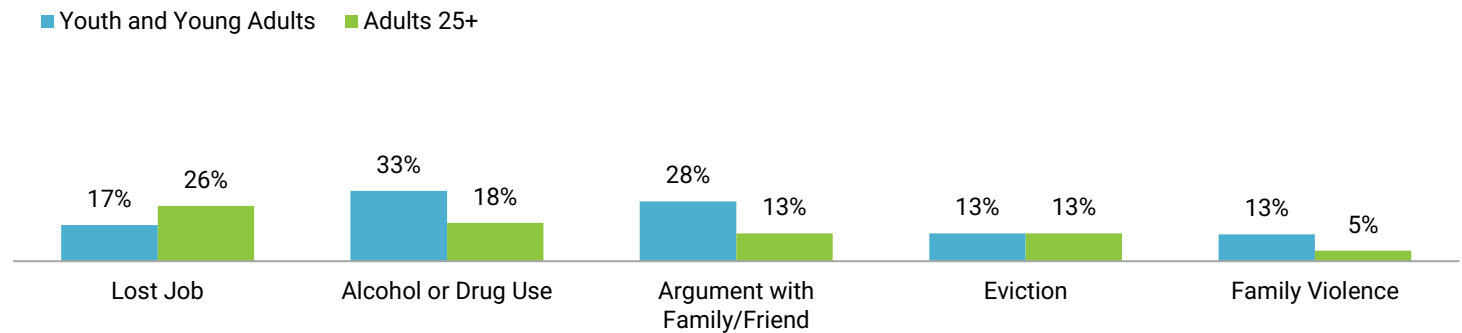
Unaccompanied Children/Youth N=103 respondents offering 164 responses; Adults N=853 respondents offering 1,188 responses

Health Conditions Among Youth and Young Adults Experiencing Homelessness

Similar to families, unaccompanied youth and young adults experienced health conditions less often than did their adult peers. The most common health condition experienced by youth and young adults experiencing homelessness was drug alcohol abuse (32%) followed by PTSD (26%).

HEALTH CONDITIONS

■ Youth and Young Adults   ■ Adults 25+

	Psychiatric or Emotional Conditions	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	Drug or Alcohol Abuse	Chronic Health Problems	Physical Disability	Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)	AIDS/HIV Related
Youth and Young Adults	25%	26%	32%	11%	11%	6%	3%
Adults 25+	44%	37%	32%	33%	29%	13%	3%

Unaccompanied Children/Youth N=95-97; Adults N=

Foster Care Among Youth and Young Adults Experiencing Homelessness

Nationally, it is estimated that at least one-third of foster youth experience homelessness after exiting care.[4] In the state of California, many foster youth are eligible to receive extended care benefits as they transition into adulthood, up until their 21st birthday. Implemented since 2012, the aim of extended foster care is to assist foster youth with the transition to independence and prevent them from experiencing homelessness.

Twenty-four (24%) of youth and young adult respondents reported they had been in the foster care system, representing a decrease from 42% in 2019.

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[4] Dworsky, A;, Napolitano, L.; and Courtney, M. (2013). Homelessness During the Transition From Foster Care to Adulthood. Congressional Research Services, Am J Public Health. 2013 December; 103(Suppl 2): S318−S323. Retrieved 2018 from 10.2105/AJPH.2013.301455.

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Page 103

HISTORY OF FOSTER CARE

■ Yes ■ No

	2017	2019	2022
No	61%	58%	76%
Yes	39%	42%	24%
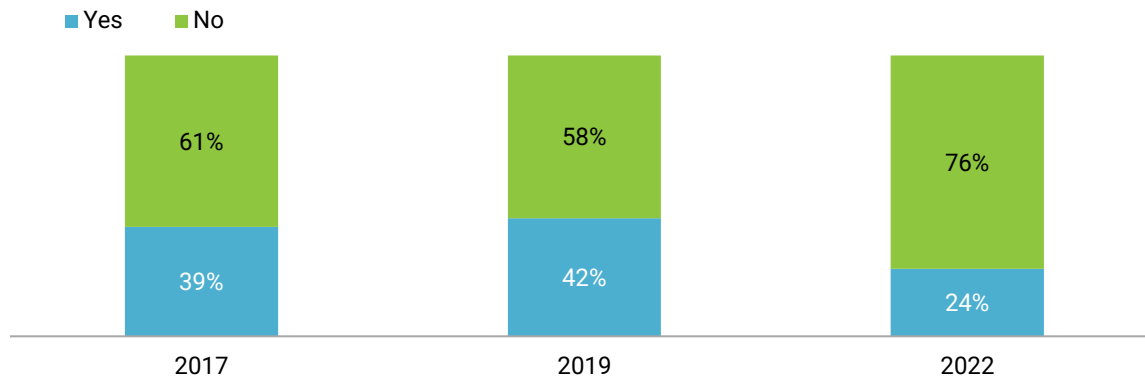
2017 N=113; 2019 N=209; 2022 N=105

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better communities

CONCLUSION

The 2022 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey was performed using HUD-recommended practices for counting and surveying the homeless population. Despite a Covid-caused delay from 2021 to 2022, and a further, shorter delay from January to February, homeless service providers, outreach staff, and lived experience persons all came together in February 2022 to go across the county and participate in the PIT count. Data summarized in this report provide many valuable insights about the unique and diverse experiences of homelessness in Santa Clara County. A few data highlights include:

- The Point-in-Time Homeless Count identified a total of 10,028 persons experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County in 2022, an increase of 3% from the count conducted in 2019.

- Slightly more than three-quarters (77%) of persons experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County were unsheltered, living in places not intended for human habitation. This represents a drop from 82% in 2019.

- Slightly less than one-third (31%) of homeless survey respondents indicated they were experiencing homelessness for the first time, and 67% had been homeless for one year or longer.

- Twelve percent (12%) of homeless survey respondents said their episode of homelessness was caused by COVID-19. More than half (59%) of respondents indicated they had received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

- When asked what might have prevented them from becoming homeless, the top answers among survey respondents were rent/mortgage assistance (reported by 34% of respondents), followed by employment assistance (28%), and alcohol/drug counseling (28%).

- The biggest obstacles to obtaining permanent housing were the affordability of rent (69%), a lack of a job/income (55%), and a lack of available housing (31%).

- Homeless survey respondents also reported having these health conditions: a psychiatric or emotional condition (42%); PTSD (36%); and drug/alcohol abuse (31%).

- The estimated counts of the four HUD-identified subpopulations in Santa Clara County were: chronically homeless individuals with one or more disabling condition (2,838 persons), homeless veterans (660), members of homeless families with children (898), and youth and young adults (1,155).

In summary, the 2022 Santa Clara County Homeless Count and Survey provides valid and useful data that help create a more comprehensive profile of those experiencing homelessness. Data presented in this report fulfill federal reporting requirements for the CoC and will continue to inform outreach, service planning, and policy decision-making by local planning bodies over the year to come. Trend data presented should be viewed in the context of a 3 year change from 2019 to 2022 rather than the more typical interval of 2 years. Also, it is critical to remember the 2022 PIT count was conducted in the shadow of COVID-19 including an Omicron surge period that affected outreach and logistics very significantly. Also, very noteworthy in 2022 was the use of the smart phone app field tools on PIT day for observation documentation and the effort in pre-planning where all routes were pre-assigned prior to count day.

There are still many challenges to overcome in achieving the goal of eliminating homelessness in Santa Clara County and helping homeless individuals and families access necessary services and support. The dissemination and evaluation of this effort will help the CoC and all Santa Clara County stakeholders continue to produce and refine constructive and innovative solutions to end homelessness and make it a rare, brief, and one-time occurrence. Through innovative and effective housing programs and services, Santa Clara County remains committed to moving homeless persons into permanent housing.

APPENDIX A: METHODOLOGY

Overview

The 2022 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey was performed using HUD-recommended practices and using HUD's definition of homelessness. The primary purpose was to produce a point-in-time estimate of individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County, a region which covers approximately 1,312 square miles. The results of several components were combined to produce the total estimated number of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night. A detailed description of these components follows.

Components of the Homeless Census & Survey

The methodology used in the 2022 Point-in-Time Census and Survey had five components:

1) **General Street Count:** A morning count of unsheltered homeless individuals and families on February 23-24, 2022. This occurred from approximately 5:00 AM to 10:00 AM and included those sleeping outdoors on the street; at bus and train stations; in parks, tents, and other makeshift shelters; and in vehicles and abandoned properties. In order to canvass all areas within Santa Clara County, the general street count was spread over two days with Interstate 880 serving as the dividing line between day 1 and day 2. The general street count was designed to take place before shelter occupants were released. In areas with shelters, the immediate area surrounding the shelter was prioritized to eliminate potential double counting of individuals.

2) **General Shelter Count:** A nighttime count of individuals and families experiencing homelessness staying at publicly and privately-operated shelters on February 23, 2022. This included those who occupied emergency shelters, transitional housing, and safe havens. All shelter data were gathered either from Santa Clara County's Homeless Management Information System or directly from the shelter.

3) **Targeted Street Count of Youth and Young Adults:** An afternoon count of unsheltered youth and young adults on February 23, 2022. This occurred from approximately 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM and was led by special youth teams who canvassed specific areas where youth and young adults were known to congregate. Upon completion, data from this targeted count was carefully reviewed against the results from the general street count to ensure that any possible duplicate counts were removed.

4) **Targeted COE Street Count of Students and Their Families:** A count of previously-identified unsheltered homeless students and their families conducted by the Santa Clara County Office of Education for the night of February 23, 2022 in conjunction with participating school districts. Demographic and geographic detail from the COE count was then compared to census data to check for possible duplication, however, no duplicates were found.

5) **Homeless Survey:** An in-person interview with 959 unique sheltered and unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness conducted by peer surveyors between February 28 and March 28, 2022. Data from the survey were used to refine the Point-in-Time Census estimates and then used to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the demographics and experiences of homeless individuals.

The Planning Process

To ensure the success and integrity of the count, many county and community agencies collaborated on community outreach, volunteer recruitment, logistical plans, methodological decisions, and interagency coordination efforts. ASR provided technical assistance for these aspects of the planning process. ASR has over 22 years of experience conducting homeless counts and surveys throughout California and across the nation. Their work is featured as a best practice in the HUD publication, *A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People*, as well as in the Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago publication, *Conducting a Youth Count: A Toolkit*.

Community Involvement

Local homeless and housing service providers and advocates were valued partners in the planning and implementation of this count. Due to COVID-19 and the public health risks, the organizing team made the decision, supported by the County Public Health office to limit participation levels in the count by the public and by persons currently experiencing homelessness out of COVID-19 transmission concerns. As a result of significant expansion of outreach services by jurisdictional and local community organizations, the organizing team felt that appropriate, safe and thorough outreach could be achieved by using outreach staff as the primary enumerators in the field. Some lived experience persons could be integrated by outreach staff as in previous PIT count efforts, but this would be selective and subject to compliance with public health requirements.

STREET COUNT METHODOLOGY

Definition

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 stations, airport, or camping ground.

Methodological Improvements

The 2022 street count methodology followed an established, HUD approved approach commonly called a blitz method followed by a sample survey. Very significantly, a change was made in the use of GPS enabled smartphones in data collection. An ESRI Survey 123 application was developed and customized by ASR to conform to HUD data collection requirements and as a tool to verify the compliance with the COVID-19 safety precautions established by the planning team. Also, improvements were made in pre-planning efforts to deploy count teams virtually, wherever possible, thereby avoiding the need for centralized deployment centers where COVID-19 transmission risks would be greater. Outreach organizations, program staff, county, and city staff along with selected community members were able to select areas for enumeration from an interactive GIS planning map tool that enabled planning for complete coverage of the County with prioritization of high-density homeless routes to outreach staff and personnel with direct service experience.

Volunteer and Guide Recruitment

As noted above, there was a planned effort to reduce the number of persons directly involved in field work and outreach in the 2022 PIT count due to COVID-19 safety concerns. In 2022, over 250 outreach workers, community volunteers and homeless guides participated in the general street count.

Outreach and program staff did limited recruitment of persons with lived experience to act as guides in order to conduct the count in 2022. Homeless guides were paid $20 for online training as well as $20 per hour worked on the days of the count.

In order to participate in the count, all volunteers and guides were requested to view a 20-minute training video before the count. Training covered all aspects of the count including:

- Definition of homelessness,
- How to identify homeless individuals,
- How to safely and respectfully conduct the count, how to use the smart phone app and also access the smartphone app training video,
- How to use the route maps to ensure the entirety of the assigned area was covered,
- Tips to identify vehicles, and other tips to help ensure an accurate and safe count.

Safety Precautions

Every effort was made to minimize potentially hazardous situations. Law enforcement agencies were notified of pending street count activity in their jurisdictions. In census tracts with a high concentration of homeless encampments, specialized teams with knowledge of those encampments were identified and assigned to those areas. Enumeration teams were advised to take every safety precaution possible, including bringing flashlights and maintaining a respectful distance from those they were counting.

Logistics of Enumeration

On the morning of the street count, teams of two or more persons deployed to enumerate designated areas of the county for the street count. Each team was composed of any combination of outreach workers, lived experience guides, program staff and service experienced community volunteers. Each team had a lead and prior to the count were provided with their assigned census tract maps, smart phone access information and training, field observation tips and guidelines, including vehicle identification criteria. Teams were all assigned a unique team number and were instructed to text a central PIT count dispatch center to confirm they were enroute and on task for enumeration of their route assignment.

All accessible streets, roads, parks, and highways in the enumerated tracts were traversed by foot or car. The Santa Clara County Survey 123 smartphone app was used to record the number of homeless persons observed in addition to basic demographic and location information. Dispatch center volunteers also verified that at least one person on each team had a cell phone available for their use during the count and recorded the number on the volunteer deployment assignment sheet. Teams were asked to cover the entirety of their assigned areas.

To ensure that the privacy of individuals experiencing homelessness was respected and that safety concerns were kept as a priority for enumeration teams, teams were asked to conduct observation-only counts and to not have any contact with individuals experiencing homelessness. When they encountered a structure or vehicle that they believed to be inhabited, they had the option to indicate that it was inhabited but that they didn't know the number or the demographic detail (age and gender) of its residents. In order to determine the number of residents of these dwelling types, ASR uses the survey data from over 450 pre-count "place" survey respondents who indicated they stayed in the named dwelling type. Demographic detail for those inhabitants is gathered from count data.

Santa Clara County Office of Education Count

In the days following the street count, representatives from seven school districts called households known to have recently experienced homelessness to ascertain where they stayed on the night of count. This is a significant effort, as many school districts have hundreds of calls to make to ensure that families counted fit the HUD definition of homelessness and were, in fact, experiencing homelessness on the night(s) of the count.

Participation from school districts was not as extensive in 2019 when compared to 2017 and may have had an impact on the number of unsheltered families that were identified in this year's count. In 2022, 9 districts participated in the COE count. Once data were gathered, they were then compared to count data to check for duplication. Using demographic and geographic detail, families were cross-checked for duplication and any duplicates are removed.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT STREET COUNT METHODOLOGY

Goal

The goal of the 2022 youth and young adult count was to include accurate representation of youth and young adults under the age of 25 in the Point-in-Time Count. Many youth and young adults experiencing homelessness do not use homeless services, are unrecognizable to adult street count volunteers, and may be in unsheltered locations that are difficult to find. Therefore, traditional street count efforts are not as effective in reaching youth.

Research Design

As in all years, planning for the 2022 youth and young adult count included homeless youth service providers and youth and young adults with lived experience of homelessness. Local service providers identified locations where youth and young adults experiencing homelessness were known to congregate and recruited youth and young adults currently experiencing homelessness with knowledge of where to locate homeless youth to serve as guides for the count. Late afternoon and early evening were the ideal times recommended by advocates to conduct the youth count.

The Bill Wilson Center took the lead on recruiting 16 youth to work as peer enumerators in addition to 8 youth service provider staff members who accompanied and transported the youth around the county.

Youth workers were paid $20 per hour for their time, including time spent in training prior to the count. Youth and service provider staff members were trained on where and how to identify homeless youth as well as how to record the data.

Data Collection

It was determined that homeless youth would be more prominent on the street during daylight hours rather than in the early morning dawn timeframe when the general count was conducted. Youth worked in teams of two to four, with teams coordinated and supervised by street outreach workers.

HUD and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness recognize that youth do not commonly comingle with homeless adults and are not easily identified by non-youth. For this reason, these agencies accept and recommend that communities count youth at times when they can be seen rather than during traditional enumeration times.

Street Count De-Duplication

Data from the supplemental youth count and general street count were compared and de-duplicated by assessing location, gender, and age. In total, 2 persons under the age of 25 were identified as duplicates and removed from the data set.

SHELTER COUNT METHODOLOGY

Goal

The goal of the shelter count is to gain an accurate count of persons temporarily housed in shelters across Santa Clara County. These data are vital to gaining an accurate overall count of the homeless population and understanding where persons experiencing homelessness receive shelter.

Definition

For the purposes of this study, the HUD definition of sheltered homelessness for Point-in-Time Counts was used. This definition includes individuals and families living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement.

Research Design

All shelter data were gathered either directly from the shelter or from Santa Clara County's Homeless Management Information System.

Data Collection

To collect data on individuals staying in shelters, ASR worked with BitFocus, the HMIS system administrators for Santa Clara County. BitFocus collected data on all emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, domestic violence shelters, and Safe Havens operating in the county. Data was collected on household status, age, gender, race and ethnicity, veteran status, chronic status, and whether individuals had certain health conditions. There were a small, limited number of shelters that do not participate in the HMIS system. To gather their data, ASR collected the same data using a web-based system of reporting.

CHALLENGES

There are many challenges in any homeless enumeration, especially when implemented in a community as large and diverse as Santa Clara County. 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.

For a variety of reasons, some homeless persons do not wish to be seen and make concerted efforts to avoid detection. Regardless of how successful outreach efforts are, an undercount of the homeless population will likely result, especially of hard-to-reach subpopulations such as families and youth.

The COVID-19 pandemic was an especially challenging issue faced by the PIT Count planning committee for a number of reasons, not the least of which was the Omicron variant surge that peaked in the last two weeks of January 2022 and which necessitated a delay to the end of February. The inability to better integrate persons with lived experience as route guides was a challenge, though mitigated by an increased use of outreach staff.

The methods employed in a non-intrusive visual homeless enumeration, while academically sound, have inherent biases and shortcomings. Even with the assistance of dedicated homeless service providers, the 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 in makeshift shelters.

Even though the Point-in-Time Count is most likely to be an undercount of the homeless population, the methodology employed—coupled with the homeless survey—is the most comprehensive approach available.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Planning and Implementation

The data collected through the survey are used for the McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance funding application and are important for future program development PIT and planning. The survey elicited information such as gender, family status, military service, duration and recurrence of homelessness, nighttime accommodations, causes of homelessness, and access to services through open-ended, closed-ended, and multiple response questions. The survey data bring greater perspective to current issues of homelessness and to the provision and delivery of services.

Surveys were conducted by peer survey workers with lived homeless experience. Training sessions were facilitated by ASR, Santa Clara County staff, and community partners. Potential interviewers were led through a comprehensive orientation that included project background information as well as detailed instruction on respondent eligibility, interviewing protocol, and confidentiality. Peer survey workers were compensated at a rate of $10 per completed survey.

It was determined that survey data would be more easily obtained if an incentive gift was offered to respondents in appreciation for their time and participation. Socks and gift cards were provided as an incentive for participating in the 2022 homeless survey. The socks and gift cards were easy to distribute, had wide appeal, and could be provided within the project budget. The incentives proved to be widely accepted among survey respondents.

Survey Sampling

Based on a Point-in-Time Count estimate of 10,028 homeless persons, with a randomized survey sampling process, the 959 valid surveys represented a confidence interval of +/-3% with a 95% confidence level when generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated population of individuals experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County.

The 2022 survey was administered in shelters, transitional housing facilities, and on the street. In order to ensure the representation of transitional housing residents, who can be underrepresented in a street-based survey, survey quotas were created to reach individuals and heads of family households living in these programs.

Strategic attempts were also made to reach individuals in various geographic locations and of various subset groups such as homeless youth, minority ethnic groups, military veterans, domestic violence survivors, and families. Quotas used for geographic locations, youth and young adults, as well as shelter status. For other subpopulations (veterans, ethnic groups, and domestic violence survivors) peer-to-peer surveyors from those groups were recruited and asked to survey their peers. Empirical data that can be used as the basis for sampling is limited to narrow age categories, geography, and shelter type and status. Further details that would enable better profiling of subpopulation characteristics, such as gender identity and sexual orientation, race and ethnicity, veteran status, and various health conditions are not available for sample planning and are broadly informed by previous PIT count results.

During the survey administrator training process and during surveyor trainings, every attempt was made to recruit a diverse group of capable surveyors who represented a broad range of experiences and backgrounds in order to reduce implicit bias, though full elimination of bias is beyond the scope of this effort. Since 2009, the ASR survey methodology has prioritized a peer-to-peer approach to data collection by increasing the number of currently homeless surveyors.

In order to increase randomization of sample respondents, survey workers were trained to employ an "every third encounter" survey approach. Survey workers were instructed to approach every third person they considered to be an eligible survey respondent. If the person declined to take the survey, the survey worker could approach the next eligible person they encountered. After completing a survey, the randomized approach was resumed.

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 single individual to ensure privacy.

Data Analysis

The survey requested respondents' initials and date of birth so that duplication could be avoided without compromising the respondents' anonymity. Upon completion of the survey effort, an extensive verification process was conducted to eliminate potential duplicates. This process examined respondents' date of birth, initials, gender, ethnicity, length of homelessness, and consistencies in patterns of responses to other survey questions. Outlier surveys were further examined and eliminated if they were thought to be inauthentic.

Survey Challenges and Limitations

The 2022 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey did not include an equal representation of all homeless experiences. The smaller the subpopulation is, the harder it can be to ensure that it receives full exposure during the survey process. For example, finding families experiencing homelessness presents a challenge and can lead to underrepresentation in the survey results. The same applies to youth and young adults, though care is taken to ensure that youth surveyors are involved, to increase the response rate of youth survey respondents. Locating and surveying individuals who identify as transgender, who have a sexual orientation other than straight, who are experiencing specific health conditions such as AIDS and TBI, and others can pose difficulties and their experiences may not be fully represented in this process.

There may be some variance in the data that individuals experiencing homelessness self-reported. However, using a peer interviewing methodology is believed to allow the respondents to be more candid with their answers and may help reduce the uneasiness of revealing personal information. Further, service providers and county staff members recommended individuals who would be the best suited to conducting interviews and these individuals received comprehensive training about how to conduct interviews. Service providers and county staff also reviewed the surveys to ensure quality responses. Surveys that were considered incomplete or containing false responses were not accepted.

APPENDIX B: DEFINITIONS & ABBREVIATIONS

COE – The County Office of Education

Chronic homelessness – Defined by HUD as an unaccompanied individual or head of a family household with a disabling condition who has either continuously experienced homelessness for a year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness totaling 12 months in the past three years.

Disabling condition – Defined by HUD as a physical, mental, or emotional impairment, including an impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, Post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury that is expected to be long-term and impacts the individual's ability to live independently; a developmental disability; or HIV/AIDS.

Emergency shelter – 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 180 days or fewer. Domestic violence shelters are typically considered a type of emergency shelter, as they provide safe, immediate housing for survivors and their children.

Family – A household with at least one adult and one child under the age of 18.

Homeless – Under the Category 1 definition of homelessness in the 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 – Abbreviation for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sheltered homeless individuals – Individuals who are living in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs.

Single individual – An unaccompanied adult over the age of 18.

Transitional housing – 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 youth – Children under the age of 18 who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian and are not a parent presenting with or sleeping in the same place as their own child(ren).

Unsheltered homeless individuals – Individuals who are living on the streets, in abandoned buildings, storage structures, vehicles, encampments, or any other place unfit for human habitation.

Youth and Young Adults – Young people between the ages of 0-17 (youth) and 18-24 years old (young adults) who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian and are not a parent presenting with or sleeping in the same place as their own child(ren).

APPENDIX C: FIGURE SOURCES

All Point in Time Count Data: The figure source is ASR, Santa Clara County Homeless Count and Survey, for the years varying from 2005 to 2022.

All Homeless Survey Findings: The figure source is ASR, Santa Clara County Homeless Count and Survey, for the years varying from 2005 to 2022.

 All Subpopulation Data: The figure source is ASR, Santa Clara County Homeless Count and Survey, for the years varying from 2005 to 2022.

All Census Data: U.S. Census Bureau. (January 2020). American Community Survey 2020 1-Year Estimates, Table DP05: ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates. Retrieved from http://factfinder2.census.gov

File No.: 23-0802

Agenda Date: 8/14/2023
Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM
Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐   No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:
Livermore Goodness Village Presentation.

RECOMMENDATION:
Receive a presentation regarding the Goodness Village affordable tiny home program located in Livermore.

SUMMARY:
The Environmental Creek Committee Chair has requested a presentation on Goodness Village, an affordable tiny home program located in Livermore that provides people who were formerly unhoused a safe and supportive community in which to live independently, heal, and thrive. More information can be found on the web: https://gvlivermore.org/. A representative from Seeds of Hope Silicon Valley will be on hand to present the Goodness Village program to the Committee.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:
There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:
None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Jennifer Codianne, 408-630-3876

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Page 116

Santa Clara Valley Water District

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM
Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐   No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:
Review the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests; and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.

RECOMMENDATION:
Review the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation.

SUMMARY:
The attached Work Plan outlines the approved topics for discussion to be able to prepare policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation. The work plan is agendized at each meeting as accomplishments are updated and to review additional work plan assignments by the Board.

BACKGROUND:
Governance Process Policy-8:

The District Act provides for the creation of advisory boards, committees, or commissions by resolution to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Accordingly, the Board has established Advisory Committees, which bring respective expertise and community interest, to advise the Board, when requested, in a capacity as defined: prepare Board policy alternatives and provide comment on activities in the implementation of the District's mission for Board consideration. In keeping with the Board's broader focus, Advisory Committees will not direct the implementation of District programs and projects, other than to receive information and provide comment.

Further, in accordance with Governance Process Policy-3, when requested by the Board, the Advisory Committees may help the Board produce the link between the District and the public through information sharing to the communities they represent.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:
There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: ECCC 2023 Work Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

2023 ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Category												
Updates on Valley Water's Encampment Cleanup Operations	X	X		X		X		X		X		
Creek Safety Issues Report	X	X		X		X				X		
SCC Community Plan to End Homelessness presentation by Destination: Home						X		X				
Update on Fencing Issues and Repairs		X		X						X		
Proposed Clean Camps, Clean Creeks Program	X											
Discussion of the Proposed Property Evaluation Checklist						X		X				
Portable Toilet Facilities		X					RECESS MONTH NO MEETING					
Livermore Goodness Village Presentation								X				
SCC Community Plan to End Homelessness presentation by CSJ												
Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services of CSJ on Trails Master Plan										X		
Conservation Corps Presentation												
Standing Items:												
Election of Officers		X										
Approval of Minutes	X	X		X		X		X		X		
Review of Committee Work Plan	X	X		X		X		X		X		

LEGEND: Blue strikes *(new items)*; Red strikes *(deleted text)*

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