Every two years in January, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of their homeless populations to gain a better understanding of the individuals who are currently experiencing homelessness and to apply for federal funding for homeless programs.

The 2015 Santa Clara County Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on January 27 and 28, 2015. In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to 952 unsheltered and sheltered homeless individuals, in order to profile their experiences and characteristics.

**HOMELESS CENSUS ELEVEN-YEAR TREND**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>7,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>7,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>7,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>7,067</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>7,631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6,556</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SHELTERED INCLUDES:**
- Emergency Shelter: 7,646 (12%)
- Transitional Housing: 7,202 (17%)
- Safe Haven: 7,086 (>1%)

**UNSHELTERED INCLUDES:**
- On the Street: 7,067 (30%)
- Abandoned Buildings: 7,631 (4%)
- Cars/Vans/RVs: 6,556 (23%)
- Encampment Areas: 7,646 (14%)

**AGE**
- Under 18: 1% (12%)
- 18-24: 12% (36%)
- 25+: 87% (1%)

**GENDER**
- Men: 63%
- Women: 36%
- Transgender: 1%

**RACE/ETHNICITY (TOP 4 RESPONSES)**
- White: 32%
- Latino: 39%
- Black or African American: 16%
- Multi-racial: 8%

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (currently experiencing)**
- 4%

**FOSTER CARE**
- (respondents who have ever been in the system): 16%

**FIRST TIME HOMELESSNESS**
- Yes (33%)
- No (67%)

**DURATION OF HOMELESSNESS**
- 30 days or less: 7%
- 1-11 months: 30%
- 1 year or more: 63%

**OBSTACLES TO OBTAINING PERMANENT HOUSING**
- Couldn’t afford rent: 68%
- No job/income: 57%
- No money for moving costs: 37%
- No housing available: 38%

51% of those experiencing homelessness for the first time had been homeless for one year or more.

93% of survey respondents said YES when asked if they would want affordable permanent housing were it available.
**What is a health condition?**

A health condition is defined here as a physical disability, mental illness, chronic depression, alcohol or drug abuse, chronic health problems, HIV/AIDS, Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), or a developmental disability.

**65% of survey respondents reported a health condition.**

**HEALTH CONDITIONS**
- Drug or alcohol abuse (38%)
- Psychiatric or emotional conditions (39%)
- Physical disability (30%)
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) (25%)
- Chronic health problems (22%)
- Traumatic brain injury (12%)
- AIDS/HIV related (1%)

Note: Multiple response question; numbers will not total 100%.

**65% of survey respondents reported a health condition.**

**INCARCERATION**
- 30% spent at least 1 or more nights in jail or prison in the past 12 months.

**INCOME**
- is the amount that 56% of respondents reported as their total monthly income.

**PREVENTION**
- 34% responded that employment assistance might have prevented them from becoming homeless.

**SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE**
- 75% of respondents reported receiving government benefits.
- 25% reported NOT receiving any government benefits.

**SUBPOPULATION DATA**

**CHRONICALLY HOMELESS**
- 2,169 Individuals
  - 8% Sheltered
  - 92% Unsheltered
  - 13 Families with 38 Family Members

**VETERANS**
- 683 Individuals
  - 37% Sheltered
  - 63% Unsheltered
  - 20 Families with 44 Family Members
  - (20 Veterans, 24 Non-veterans)

**FAMILIES**
- 266 Families with 908 Family Members
  - 94% Sheltered
  - 6% Unsheltered

**UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN**
- 59 Individuals
  - 31% Sheltered
  - 69% Unsheltered

**TRANSITION-AGE YOUTH**
- 824 Individuals
  - 10% Sheltered
  - 90% Unsheltered

**PARENTING TRANSITION-AGE YOUTH**
- 40 Individuals
  - 85% Sheltered
  - 15% Unsheltered

**INCARCERATION**
- 30%

**INCOME**
- $449

**PREVENTION**
- 34%

**SUMMARY**

These data provide a snapshot of those experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County on January 27 and 28, 2015. It provides a basic estimation of the number and characteristics of those experiencing homelessness on any given night in order to inform future service planning and provisioning efforts.