

New Jersey Point in Time Count of the Homeless Data Report

January 27, 2010

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	4
• <i>Point in Time Count Process</i>	
• <i>Survey Data</i>	
• <i>Key Findings</i>	
Statewide Point in Time Count Report	
Homeless	8
• <i>Living Situation</i>	
• <i>Length and Episodes</i>	
• <i>County/ Continuum of Care Jurisdiction</i>	
• <i>Demographics</i>	
• <i>Homeless Subpopulations</i>	
• <i>Other Services and Needs</i>	
• <i>Financial Resources</i>	
• <i>Contributing Factors</i>	
• <i>Discharge from Mainstream Institutions</i>	
• <i>Last Permanent Address</i>	
Chronic Homeless	21
• <i>Length of Homelessness/ Episodes</i>	
• <i>Living Situation</i>	
• <i>County/ Continuum of Care Jurisdiction</i>	
• <i>Demographics</i>	
• <i>Homeless Subpopulations</i>	
• <i>Contributing Factors</i>	
• <i>Discharge from Mainstream Institutions</i>	
• <i>Last Permanent Address</i>	
Other Respondents	29
• <i>County/ Continuum of Care Jurisdiction</i>	
• <i>Living Situation</i>	
• <i>Demographics</i>	
• <i>Services and Needs</i>	
• <i>Financial Resources</i>	
• <i>Contributing Factors</i>	
• <i>Place of Residence on the Night of the Count</i>	

- *Atlantic*
- *Bergen*
- *Burlington*
- *Camden*
- *Cape May*
- *Cumberland*
- *Essex*
- *Gloucester*
- *Hudson*
- *Hunterdon*
- *Mercer*
- *Middlesex*
- *Monmouth*
- *Morris*
- *Ocean*
- *Passaic*
- *Salem*
- *Somerset*
- *Sussex*
- *Union*
- *Warren*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On January 27, 2010, there were 12,569 homeless men, women and children counted across the state of New Jersey.

On Wednesday, January 27, 2010¹, twenty-one Continuum of Care (CoC) jurisdictions in New Jersey – representing the twenty-one counties – conducted the 2010 Point in Time Count (PITC) of the homeless across the state. The goal of the Point in Time Count was to identify the number of homeless people at a given point in time and to collect demographic and other information about those who are homeless to be used to develop effective plans to address and end homelessness.

Point in Time Count Process

As part of its Continuum of Care application for homelessness funding, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requests that jurisdictions across the nation conduct a bi-annual, statistically reliable and unduplicated count of the homeless over the course of one day in the last ten (10) days in January. The count conducted last year in 2009 was the most recent HUD-statistical Point in Time Count. However, the CoC jurisdictions in NJ conduct an annual count on a voluntary basis. The NJ count utilizes a more in-depth data survey to understand the needs and experiences of people who are homeless and to improve the planning process to meet those needs.

While 2010 was not a national HUD-statistical PITC year, HUD issued new guidance prior to the date of the NJ PITC that encouraged Continuums to conduct accurate Point in Time Counts. According to that guidance, HUD's expectation is that Continuums will submit PITC data that corresponds to the data contained in their Housing Inventory Chart for the date of the PITC (a chart of all beds, occupied and unoccupied, for homeless people in the jurisdiction). As this information is weighed as part of HUD's funding process through the Continuum of Care application, many Continuums who had previously not planned to conduct a PITC in 2010 decided to conduct at least a limited count. In New Jersey, all twenty-one Continuums participated in the 2010 PITC, although not all Continuums completed a full count of all sheltered and unsheltered people who were homeless.

As in years past, the survey includes questions that correspond to the information HUD requests in the Continuum of Care application for funding, and also includes expanded information on those precariously housed, services needed by those that are homeless, and discharge practices of institutions. The survey also continues to collect the needed information to allow for an annualized estimate of homeless persons over the course of the year.

The definition of homelessness that was employed for the count is the current official U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) McKinney-Vento Act definition:

An individual is considered homeless if s/he is:

¹ The County of Mercer held their Point in Time Count of the Homeless in the 24 hour period of Tuesday, January 26, 2010.

- Sleeping in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, or abandoned or condemned buildings;
- Sleeping in an emergency shelter;
- Spending a short time (30 consecutive days or less) in a hospital or other institution, but ordinarily sleeping in the types of places mentioned above;
- Living in transitional housing for the homeless having come from streets or emergency shelters;

Further, an individual is considered to be chronically homeless if s/he is:

- An individual with a disabling condition; AND
- Homeless in excess of one year or;
- Has experienced at least four separate and distinct periods of homelessness over the past three years.

Under the McKinney Act at the time of the count, the term “homeless” or “homeless individual” does not include any individual imprisoned or otherwise detained pursuant to an Act of Congress or a state law, or individuals who are “doubled up” with family or friends in overcrowded conditions.

Survey Data

The 2010 count is the third year in which the same survey tool was used for the PITC. This report now has three years of consistent comparable data (2008, 2009 and 2010). Even though a different survey tool was used in 2007, some data from that Point In Time Count is also included in this report in order to compare two HUD statistical count years (2007 and 2009).

The report is based primarily on respondent data and data that is directly entered by homeless agencies from client information and case files. The survey data is based on all ADULT respondents². Survey respondents did not complete every question and some homeless agencies did not have full access to client information on the night of the count; because of these missing data, the numbers and percentages in the report do not always equal the number of respondents or all surveyed homeless³.

² Head of households 18 years of age and older.

³ Example of missing or inconsistent data in the 2010 count include: The Atlantic County CofC's PITC only collected certain basic information available for those staying in the main shelter in the County on the night of the count; there was inconsistency on how to count households receiving Temporary Rental Assistance (TRAs). This is not a population that is recognized as homeless according to HUD's definition in the count; however, some counties did include them in their count of the homeless under transitional housing while others did not. Some counties have included them in the past but did not this year. These factors lead to incomplete data of the homeless on a statewide basis and altered trend data over time.

Key Findings of the 2010 Point in Time Count

Homeless

- = There were 12,569 homeless men, women and children counted across the state of New Jersey as part of the 2010 PITC.
- = 8,469 adults were homeless on the night of January 27, 2010. Of the 8,469 adults, 1,410 were unsheltered and 7,059 were sheltered homeless.
- = A total of 4,100 children under the age of 18 were homeless on the night of January 27, 2010. 2,353 were six (6) years or younger and 1,747 were ages seven (7) to seventeen (17). Of the homeless children, 259 were unsheltered on the night of the count with 110 aged six (6) or younger and 149 aged seven (7) to seventeen (17).
- = A total of 2,215 families reported being homeless on the night of January 27, 2010. Of those families, 7.2% were unsheltered on the night of the count.
- = The County of Essex had the highest number of homeless with 13.8% of the total homeless population on the night of the count.
- = The largest homeless subpopulation in the 2010 count was people who are homeless with mental health issues.
- = Economic issues and eviction were in the top five (5) reported factors that led to the survey respondent's homelessness.
- = As reported by respondents, over the past three years, over 20% of the homeless had been in either a city/county jail (20.7%) or hospitalized (23.1%) for medical reasons.
- = As reported by respondents, each of the mainstream institutions (correctional and inpatient care) had a rate of discharging into homelessness of over 40%⁴.

Chronic Homeless

- = A total of 878 adults met the HUD definition of chronically homeless when counted on January 27, 2010. The chronically homeless made up approximately 10.3% of the total homeless population for NJ in 2010.
- = In 2010, the number of unsheltered chronically homeless reached its highest rate in three years and was approximately 30% of the entire chronically homeless population.

⁴ This percentage is based on respondent data and only takes into account the number of the homeless that completed the 2010 survey. It is not a reflection of the mainstream institution population as a whole. This is true for individual County reports as well.

- = The chronically homeless population overwhelming reported having mental health issues (82%) and/or substance use issues (62.6%)
- = As reported by respondents, over the past three years, over 40% of the chronically homeless had either been in a city/county jail (42.3%) or hospitalized (45.1%) for medical reasons. Also, all of the mainstream institutions (correctional and inpatient care) each had a rate of discharging into homelessness of over 50% for the chronically homeless.⁵

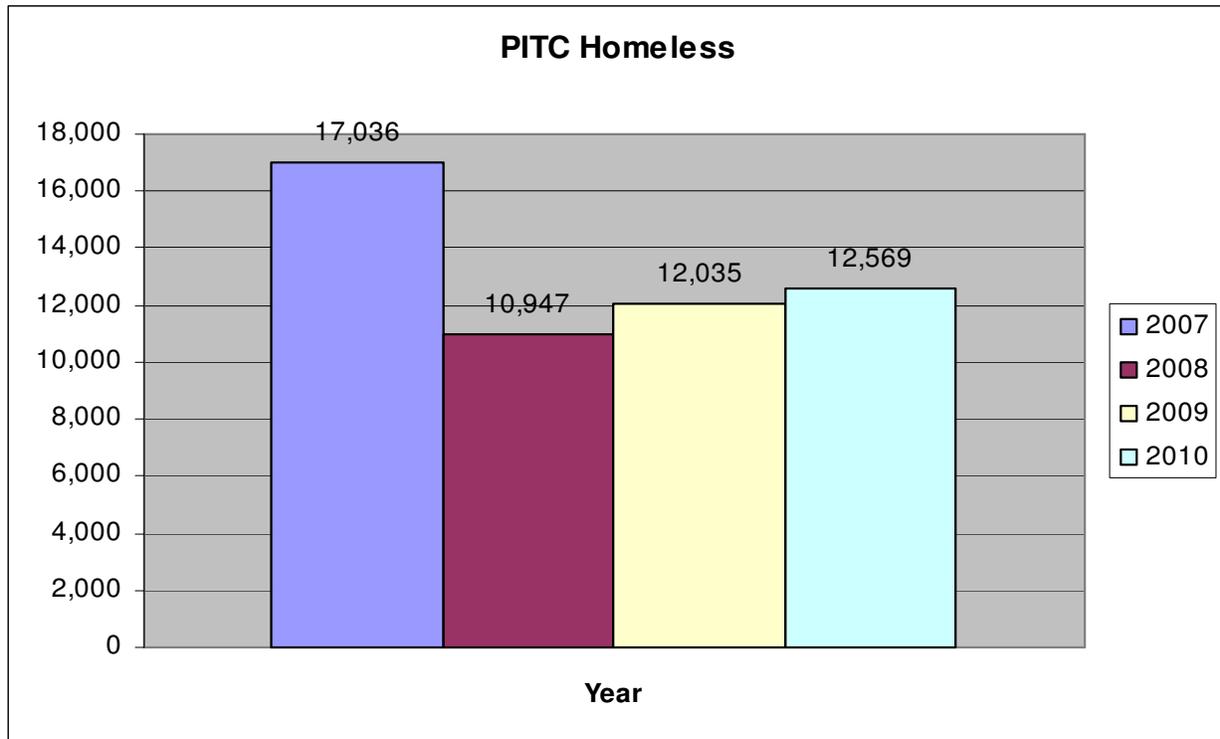
Other Respondents

- = A total number of 12,747 surveys were completed across the State of New Jersey as part of the 2010 Point in Time Count. A total of 3,017 surveys were collected from respondents that did not meet HUD's homeless definition ("Other Respondents"). This equaled an additional 4,613 men, women and children that were counted on the night of January 27, 2010.
- = On the night of the count, the majority of the "Other Respondent" population reported living in some type of permanent housing situation or living temporarily with friends or family ("doubled up").
- = The largest service needs reported by the "Other Respondent" population were housing, employment assistance and dental care.
- = The main financial resources and the factors contributing to their current housing situations reported by the "Other Respondent" population mirrored those of the homeless population overall.

⁵ This percentage is based on respondent data and only takes into account the number of the chronic homeless that completed the 2010 survey. It is not a reflection of the mainstream institution population as a whole. This is true for individual County reports as well.

2010 STATEWIDE POINT IN TIME COUNT OF THE HOMELESS

On January 27, 2010 there were 12,569 homeless men, women and children counted across the state of New Jersey according to the official U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) McKinney-Vento Act definition of homelessness.



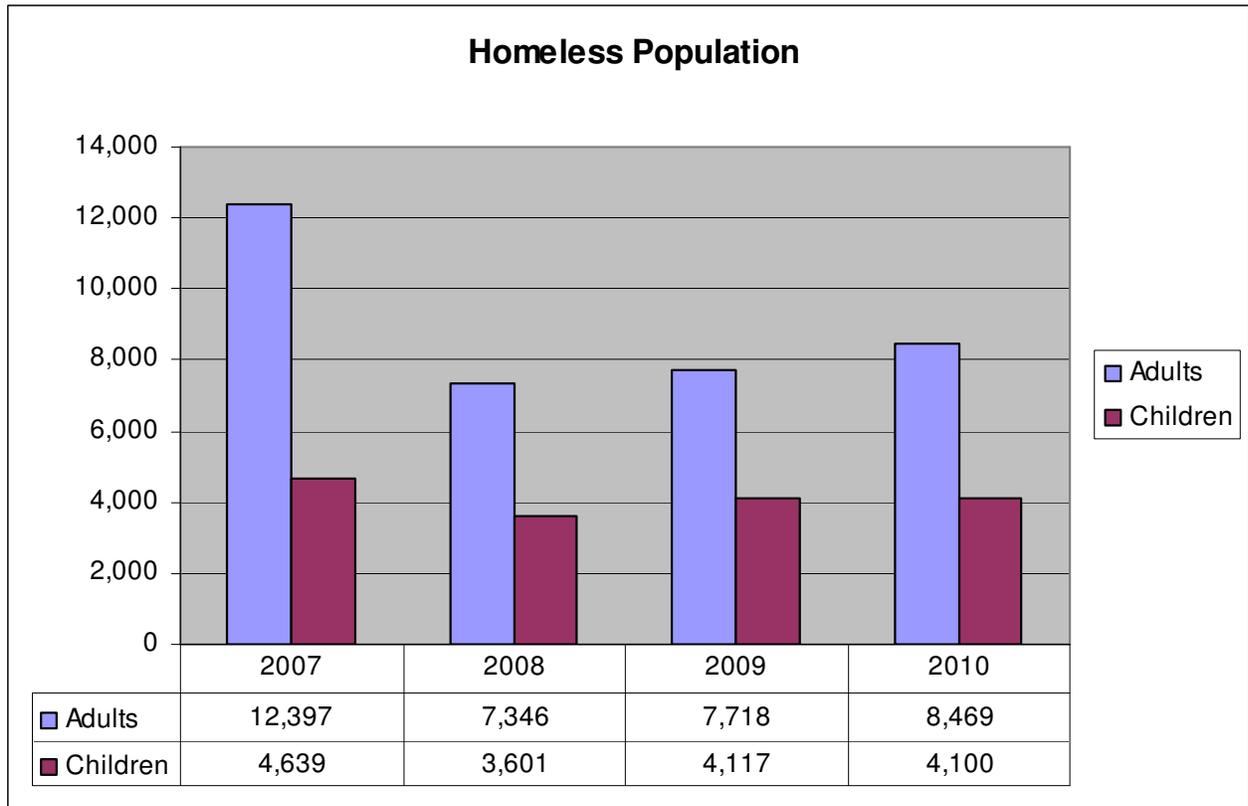
As the chart above reflects, besides the initial decrease from 2007 to 2008, over the past three years the total number of homeless men, women and children has been on the rise. Since 2008, the number of homeless has increased 14.8%.⁶

The breakdown of statewide homeless adults and children for 2010 is shown in the chart below:

2010 Homeless Breakdown	
Respondents (Adults)	8,469
Family Members (Children)	4,100
Total All Surveyed Homeless	12,569

⁶ Within the three year period the only HUD statistical count year was 2009 and that not all Continuums participated in 2008 or participated fully in the 2010 count.

The breakdown of homeless adults and children since 2007 is shown below. As the chart shows, again, after the initial drop from 2007 to 2008, the number of homeless adults has been on the rise. There was a significant increase in the number of children from 2008 to 2009 but that number remained consistent from 2009 to 2010.

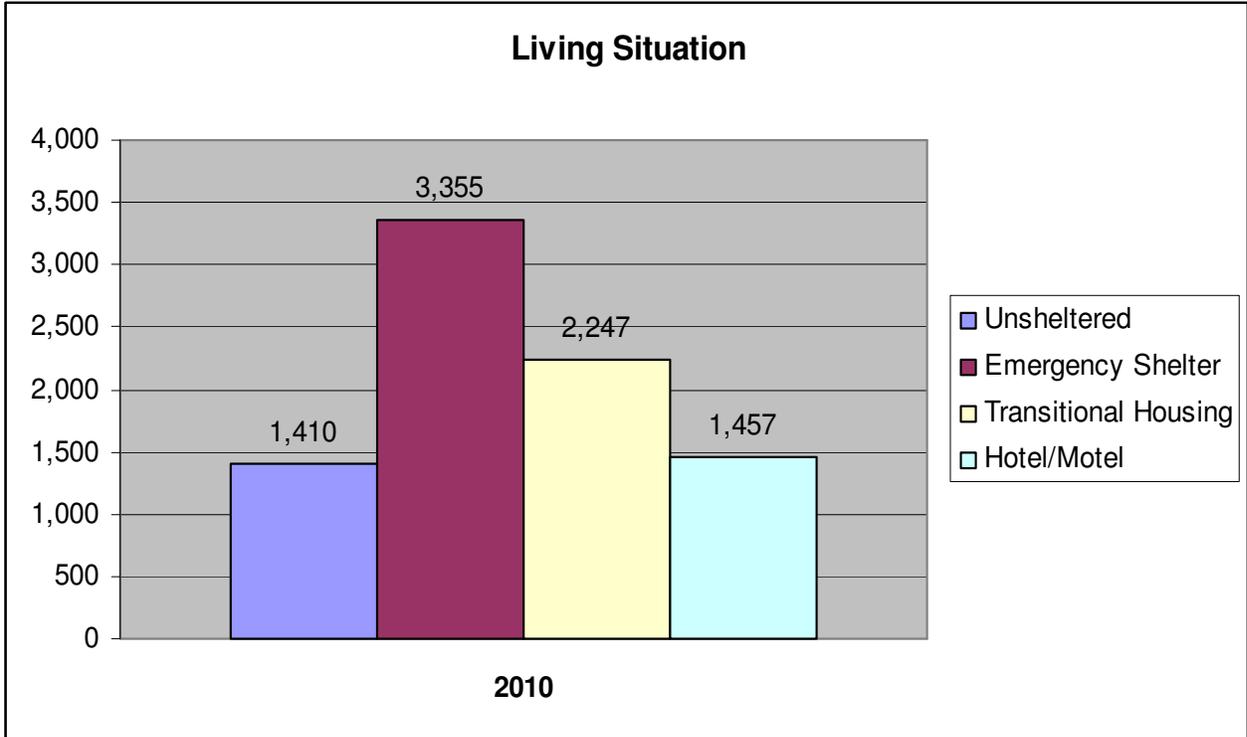


Living Situation

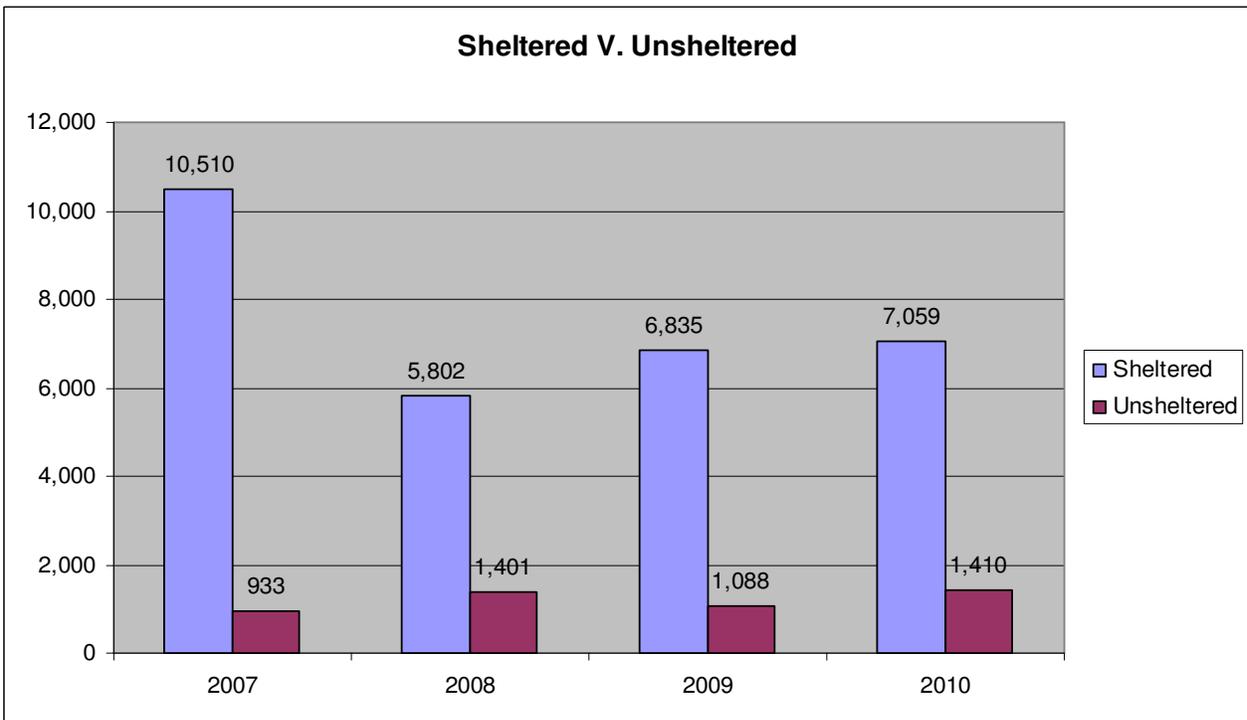
In the 2010 PITC, 1,410 or 16.6% of the homeless respondents were unsheltered the night of the count. The remaining 7,059 or 83.4% were split between emergency shelter, transitional housing and hotel/motel paid for by an agency as emergency shelter. These homeless are regarded as the sheltered homeless.

The largest percentage of the sheltered homeless reported staying in emergency shelter⁷. This percentage of the homeless population equaled 39.6% (n=3,355). This was followed by those in transitional housing with 26.5% (n=2,247), then hotel/motel stayers at 17.2% (n=1,457).

⁷ Emergency Shelter includes Domestic Violence and Youth shelters



The following chart represents a comparison of the unsheltered and sheltered homeless from 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 Point in Time counts:



After reaching the highest number in 2007, the percentage of sheltered homeless has been steadily on the rise since 2008, increasing a total of 17.8% from that year. The number of unsheltered homeless has been fluctuating since 2007 with the highest numbers in 2008 and 2010.

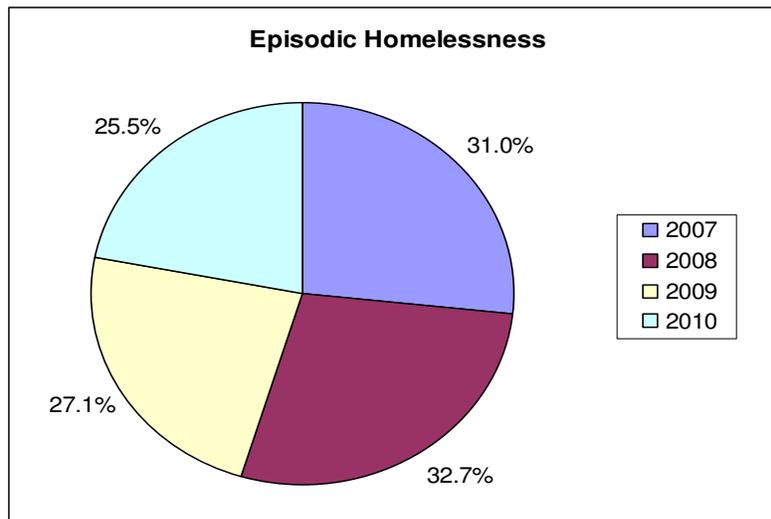
Length and Episodes of Homelessness

In the 2010 PITC, the largest portion of those who were homeless on the night of the count had been homeless for more than one year. This has consistently been the case since 2008. Among those who were homeless less than one year, approximately 25% had been homeless at least one other time within the past twelve months.

Those who were homeless six to twelve months were the next largest cohort at 19.4% (n=1,639) followed by those homeless three to six months (n=1,306, 15.4%). The smallest cohort of the homeless was the “new” homeless (those who became homeless within the last seven days before the count).

2010 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day - 1 week	452	5.3
8 days - 1 month	621	7.3
1 month & 1 day - 3 months	908	10.7
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	1306	15.4
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	1639	19.4
More than 1 year	2766	32.7
No response	777	9.2

The percentage of homeless that reported having several episodes of homelessness over time seems to be on the decline. In 2010, 2,156 or 25.5% reported being homeless at least four times in the last three years (one component of the chronic homeless definition). In 2009 the number of respondents equaled 27.1% (n=2,148) of the homeless while it was 32.7% (n=2,336) in 2008 and 31.0% (n=3,899) in 2007.



Homeless by County/Continuum of Care (CofC) Jurisdiction

All twenty-one counties/ CoC jurisdictions participated in the 2010 PITC at some level and every county had homeless persons residing in their jurisdiction on the night of January 27, 2010. Essex County had the highest number of homeless adults, with 13.8% of the statewide total, while Salem had the lowest number, with less than one percent (0.7%) of the statewide total.⁸

County	# of Homeless	Percent
Essex	1,166	13.8%
Middlesex	916	10.8%
Union	717	8.5%
Mercer	627	7.4%
Camden	587	6.9%
Hudson	558	6.6%
Atlantic	490	5.8%
Passaic	472	5.6%
Burlington	465	5.5%
Ocean	405	4.8%
Bergen	401	4.7%
Monmouth	363	4.3%
Cape May	214	2.5%
Morris	214	2.5%
Somerset	208	2.5%
Warren	170	2.0%
Cumberland	161	1.9%
Gloucester	114	1.3%
Hunterdon	101	1.2%
Sussex	64	0.8%
Salem	56	0.7%

Since 2007, of the total 21 counties/ CoC jurisdictions, there has been a shifting between some of the same counties for the highest numbers of homeless. These counties included:

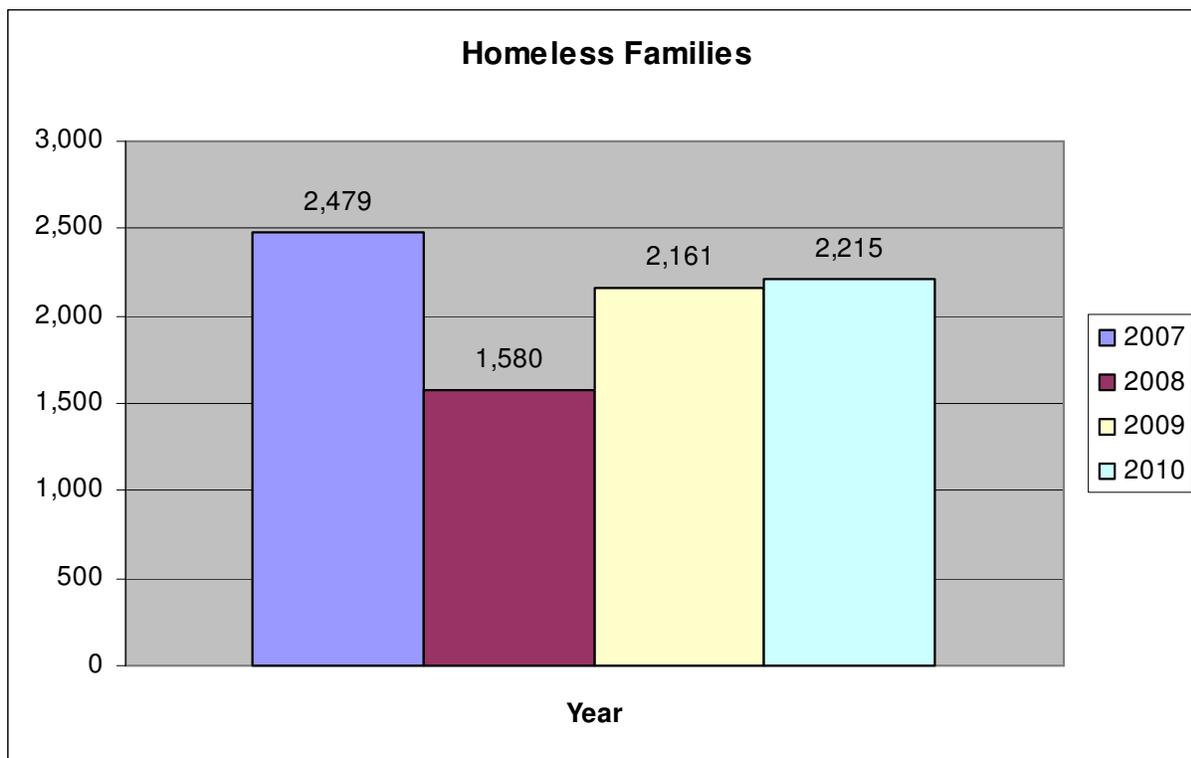
- Essex
- Middlesex
- Mercer
- Union
- Hudson
- Bergen

⁸ Salem County only counted those staying in HUD-funded sheltered programs on the night of the 2010 PITC.

Demographics

Of the 8,469 homeless respondents, 2,215 or 26.1% had at least one dependent child under 18 with them the night of the count and would be considered a homeless family. A total of 2,353 children were six years or younger and 1,747 were between the ages of 7 and 17. There were also a very small percentage of homeless families (n=6 or 0.3%) who consisted all of unaccompanied youth.⁹ The remaining 6,254 or 73.9% of the homeless populations were individuals.

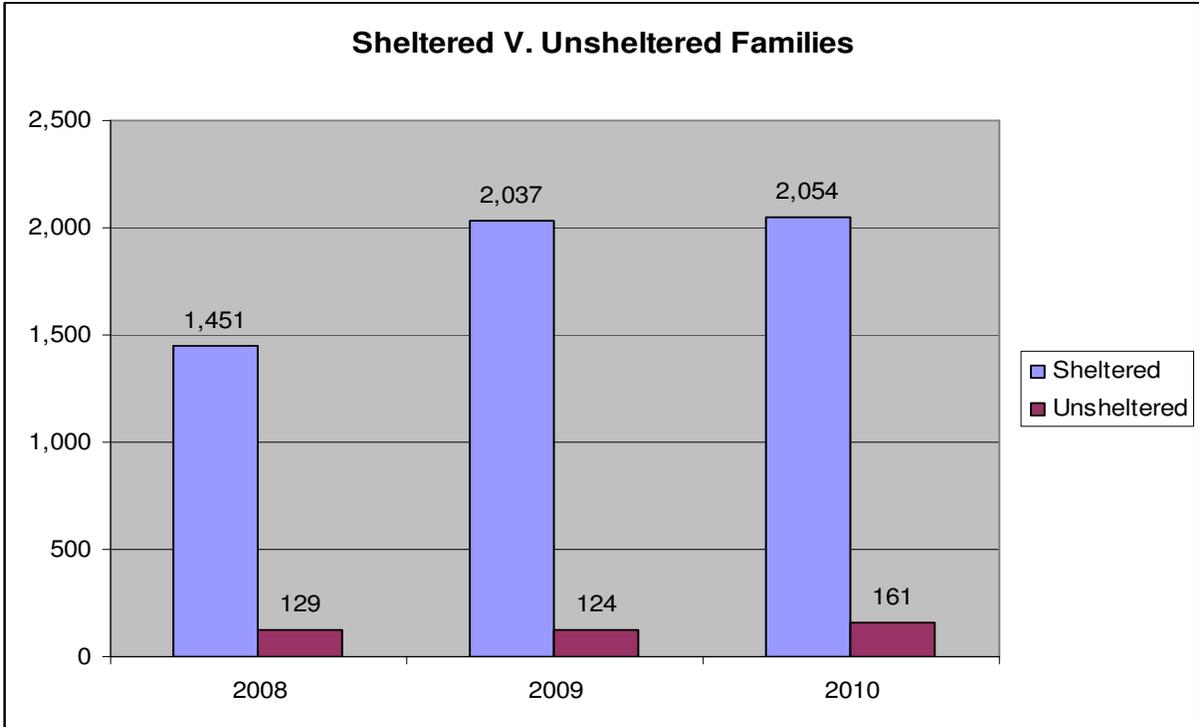
The chart below compares the number of homeless families from 2007 to 2010. As the chart shows, after a large decrease from 2007 to 2008, family homelessness has been on the rise with the largest increase occurring between 2008 and 2009 equaling a 26.8% rise in family homelessness.



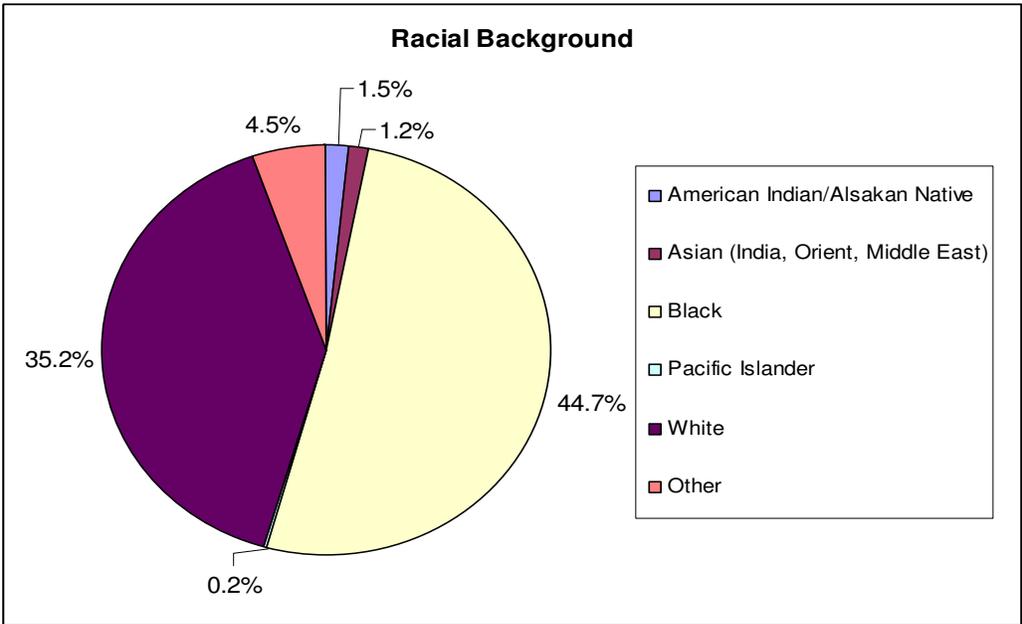
Over the past three years¹⁰, the numbers of homeless families that were unsheltered on the night of the count have been fairly consistent, falling within the six to eight percent range of total homeless families.

⁹ Family consisting of all individuals under the age of 18.

¹⁰ Unable to include 2007 data as it was not collected in a way to extract sheltered v. unsheltered homeless families.



In 2010, a total of 4,758 or 56.2% of the homeless respondents were male, 3,458 or 40.8% were female and 32 or 0.4% were transgender. A small portion of the homeless population defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino (16.7%). The following chart outlines the racial breakdown of the homeless persons in 2010. The largest portion of the homeless was Black (n=1,630) followed by White (n=1,207) with the remainder totaling less than eight percent.



In the 2010 count, the largest portion of homeless fell within the 40-49-year-old age range, totaling 26.2%. However, a majority of the total population is clustered between the ages of 30 to 59 as shown in the chart below:

Age	#	%
Under 18	36	0.4
18-20	376	4.4
21-24	733	8.7
25-29	821	9.7
30-39	1,654	19.5
40-49	2,220	26.2
50-59	1,632	19.3
60-64	271	3.2
65+	123	1.5

These results are fairly consistent with what has been found since the 2007 count. In all of those counts, the largest percentage of homeless fell within the 40-49-year-old range as well and it continually shows that the largest portion of the homeless fall between the ages of 30 and 59.

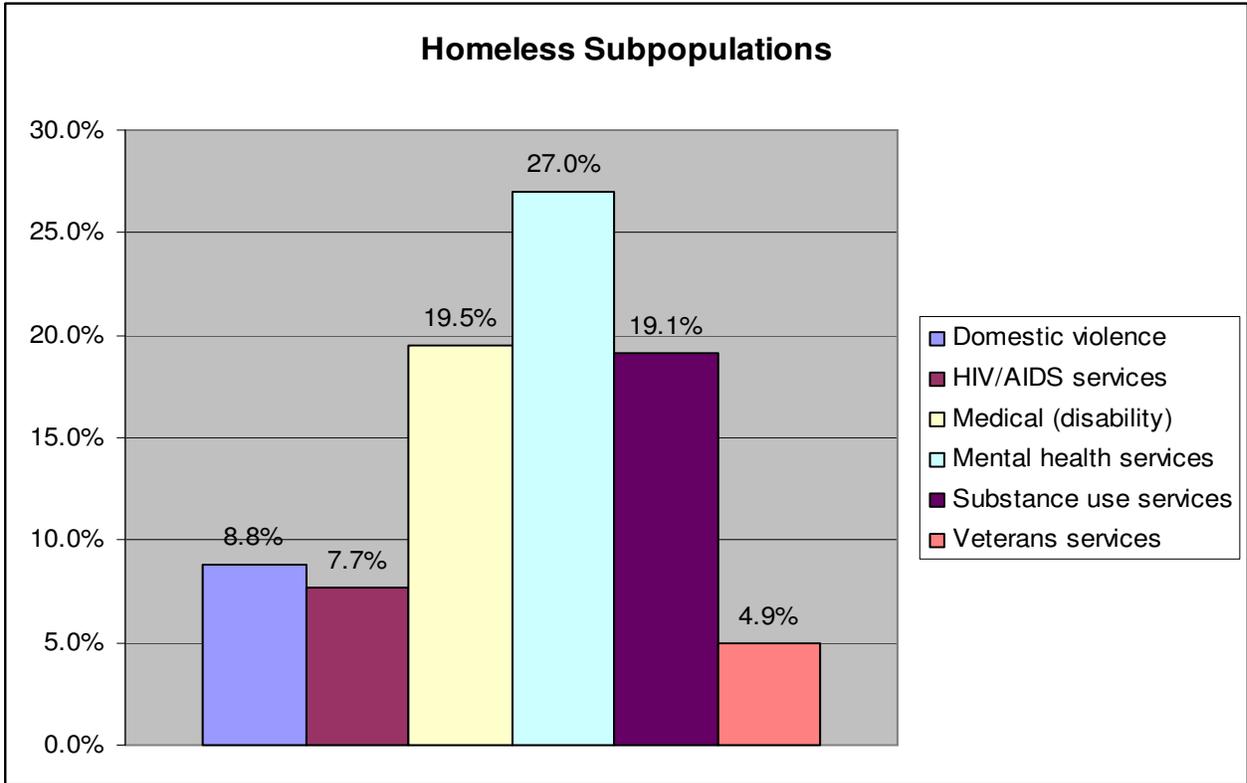
Homeless Subpopulations

In the Continuum of Care application, HUD asks that communities detail the numbers of homeless people who fall into six subpopulations. New Jersey's survey asked for the services people received or needed in order to determine these subpopulations. As in years past, the homeless subpopulations that the count focused on are:

- Domestic Violence
- HIV/AIDS
- Medical Disability
- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Veterans

The chart below outlines the breakdown of the subpopulations in the 2010 count¹¹. The numbers represented in the count are not unduplicated numbers and respondents may fall into one or more of the subpopulations. The largest subpopulation of homeless were those with a mental illness (received services = 1,386, need services = 903 or 27.0%) followed by those with a medical disability (received services = 835, need services = 817 or 19.5%) closely followed by those with substance use issues (received services = 991, need services = 626 or 19.1%). In looking at the actual numbers for those that received services, mental health and substance use are the two largest homeless subpopulations that were counted that night. The smallest subpopulation was veterans.

¹¹ Based on respondent information- individuals may report belonging to multiple subpopulations.



The survey also tried to assess if respondents were turned down for any of these services. The count showed that the following number of respondents asked for services but were turned down:

- Domestic Violence- 434 or 5.1%
- Veterans- 429 or 5.1%
- HIV/AIDS- 415 or 4.9%
- Substance Use- 396 or 4.7%
- Medical- 371 or 4.4%
- Mental Health- 357 or 4.2%

As in years past, the number of veterans counted was lower than expected and the number of those who reported serving in the US military and those who received and/or needed veterans' services is different. In 2010, a total of 643 or 7.6% of the homeless population responded that they had served in the US military. In turn, 199 of the respondents had received veterans' services, 218 responded that they were needed and as shown above, 429 said that they had been turned down for services.

Other Service Usage and Needs

As in previous years, the 2010 count looked at other areas of services received and/or needed and if respondents were turned down for services¹². The chart below shows that some of the most utilized services among the homeless include emergency shelter, emergency food and routine medical care. The services reported to be most needed were housing, employment services and dental care. Finally, immigration services, legal services and child care were the services that people reported being denied most frequently. These results are consistent with those from 2009 and 2008 count.

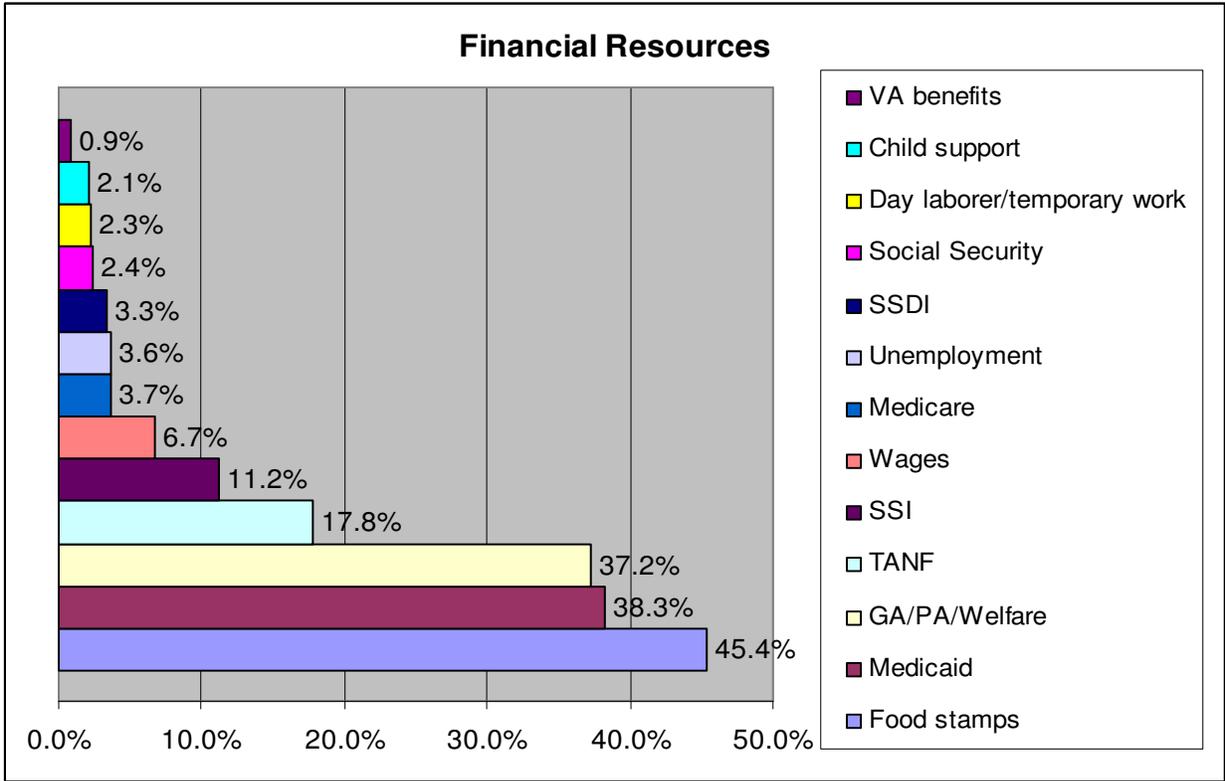
Service	Received	%	Need	%	Turned Down	%
Emergency shelter	4415	52.1%	1183	14.0%	250	3.0%
Emergency food or meal assistance	3330	39.3%	1287	15.2%	239	2.8%
Medical (routine healthcare)	2298	27.1%	1244	14.7%	245	2.9%
Housing	2266	26.8%	3359	39.7%	237	2.8%
Assistance obtaining ID	1931	22.8%	987	11.7%	323	3.8%
Transportation services	1668	19.7%	1517	17.9%	288	3.4%
Dental care	1571	18.6%	1768	20.9%	262	3.1%
Employment assistance	1192	14.1%	1854	21.9%	249	2.9%
Educational training	1125	13.3%	1576	18.6%	302	3.6%
Legal services	841	9.9%	843	10.0%	394	4.7%
Child care	741	8.7%	432	5.1%	391	4.6%
Immigration services	143	1.7%	287	3.4%	420	5.0%

Financial Resources

The 2010 count asked respondents about types of income/financial resources they were currently receiving. The information was also gathered in the 2009 and 2008 count. The three main sources of income reported on the night of the count were food stamps (n=3,844 or 45.4%), Medicaid (n=3,247 or 38.3%) and General Assistance/Welfare (n=3,153 or 37.2%). These were also the top three sources in the 2009 and 2008 counts.

The following shows a ranking of all income/financial resources that were declared by homeless respondents on the night of the count:

¹² Percent based on total homeless, count may be duplicated.



Additionally, 3.5% (n= 299) of the homeless population reported receiving no type of government benefit and 7.8% (n= 658) reported having no source of income on the night of the count.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness

The survey, as in the past, included a question on what factors the respondents felt led to their homelessness. As the chart below shows, the highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness was the loss of a job and inability to find work. This was the same for both 2009 and 2008¹³. Substance abuse issues and eviction continued to be top factors as well in 2010. Furthermore, 6.7% responded that there were “other” reasons than the ones listed on the survey that led to their homelessness. A large portion reported that they were in an overcrowding situation and/or asked to leave the place they were staying.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Lost job/cannot find work	31.3
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	24.8
Eviction	23.5
Housing costs too high	22.3
Relationship/family breakup/death	19.5

¹³ Data not available in 2007.



Mental illness/emotional problems	18.1
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	16.0
Incarceration	12.4
Domestic violence	10.5
Have work but wages are too low	9.6
Utility costs too high	8.4
Lost job due to lack of transportation	6.7
Foreclosure	2.2
Loss of child support	2.1
House condemned	1.3
Natural disaster	0.6

Discharge from Mainstream Institutions

Questions on institutional stays and discharge from mainstream institutions were again a part of the 2010 count. As with the 2009 survey, the institutional stay timeframe (when someone had been in one of the mainstream institution) was limited to the last three years (since Jan 27, 2007). The chart below outlines the stays and discharge rates for the mainstream corrections and inpatient institutions¹⁴ and as shown below, each of the mainstream institutions included in the survey discharged at least some people into homelessness, according to survey respondents.

System (In the Past Three Years)	Homeless In System		In System Discharged into Homelessness	
	#	%	#	%
<i>Corrections</i>				
State Prison	844	9.9	543	64.3
City/County Jail	1,759	20.7	999	56.7
Juvenile Detention Center	128	1.5	66	51.5
<i>Inpatient Care</i>	#	%	#	%
Hospitalized (Medical)	1,964	23.1	863	43.9
State Inpatient Mental Health	396	4.6	181	45.7
City/County Inpatient Mental Health	506	5.9	257	50.7
Substance Abuse Treatment	866	10.2	414	47.8

The systems that had the most contact with the homeless included medical hospitals and city/county jails. Furthermore, the system that had the highest rate of discharging into homelessness was the State prisons.

The last mainstream institution that information was gathered on was foster care. Of the homeless that responded, 133 stated they had been in foster care and 60 of them had been discharged into

¹⁴ Numbers may be duplicated

homelessness (45%). It was also clear that aging out of the foster care system led to homelessness for a small portion of the respondents as it was a reason stated under “other” for the factors that led to people’s homelessness.

Last Permanent Address

In the 2010 count, 85.3% (n=7,227) of respondents resided in New Jersey before becoming homeless, while 1.3% (n=113) last lived in Pennsylvania, and 1% (n=87) last lived in New York. The remaining homeless population (12.3%, n=1,042) last lived in other states.

The cities most frequently cited by respondents as the last place they resided before becoming homeless are below¹⁵. Please note that listing a city/town as last place lived does not necessarily correlate to the county where the respondent is currently residing:

Town	#	%
Newark	744	8.8%
Elizabeth	472	5.6%
Trenton	427	5.0%
Jersey City	362	4.3%
Camden	323	3.8%
Paterson	280	3.3%
New Brunswick	266	3.1%
Perth Amboy	238	2.8%
Hackensack	179	2.1%
Asbury Park	115	1.4%
East Orange	111	1.3%
Bridgeton	100	1.2%

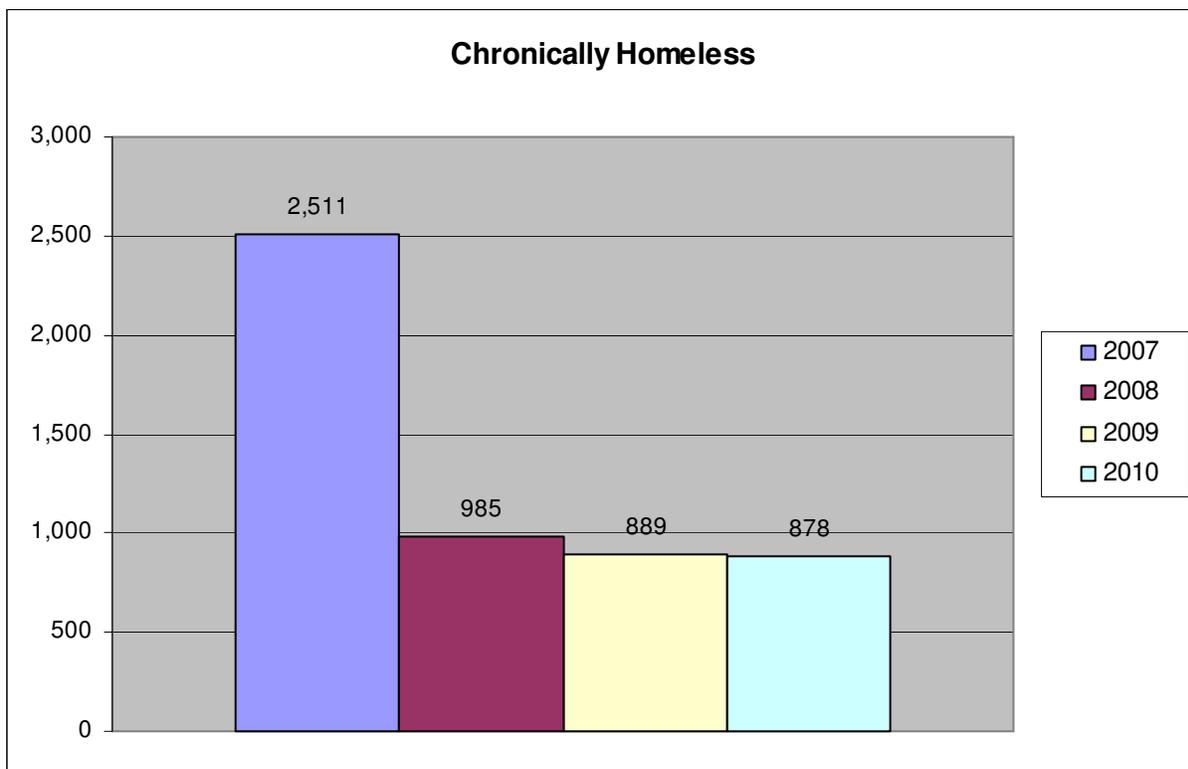
¹⁵ Those that had a rate of 1% or higher

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

According to HUD's definition, a person is considered to be chronically homeless if s/he is:

- An individual with a disabling condition; AND
- Homeless in excess of one year; OR
- Has experienced at least four separate and distinct periods of homelessness over the past three years.

On the night of January 27, 2010, there were 878 chronically homeless individuals counted in New Jersey equaling 10.3% of the total homeless population. The chart below represents the number of chronically homeless since 2007 count. The number of chronically homeless has been on the decline with the largest decrease occurring from 2007 to 2008. The total percent of homeless has been on the decline as well, as the chronically homeless accounted for 20% of the total homeless population in 2007, 13% in 2008 and 11.2% in 2009.

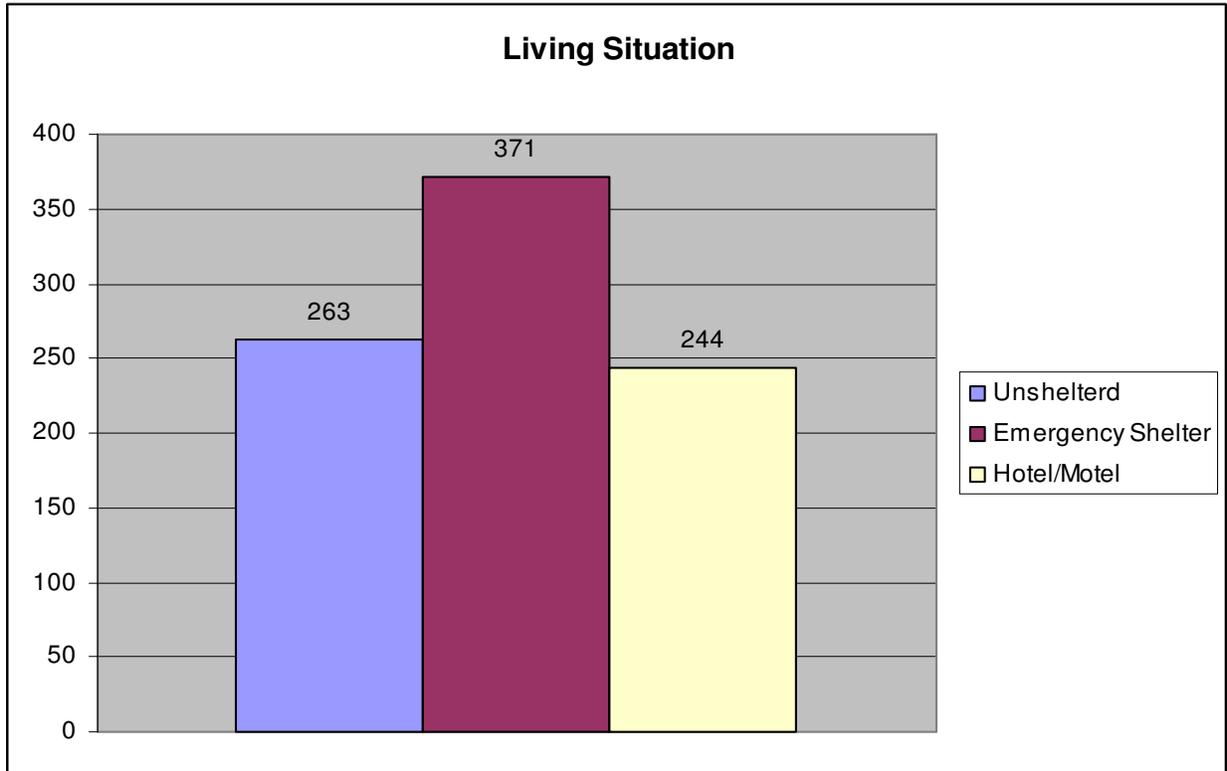


Length of Homelessness/Episodes

Of the total chronic homeless population, 643 or 73.2% reported they had been homeless for more than one year. A total of 647 or 73.7% had also reported that they had four episodes of homelessness in the past three years

Living Situation

To meet HUD's chronically homeless definition, those who are chronically homeless must be living on the streets, in places not meant for human habitation or in emergency shelter. Hotels and motels paid for by an agency are deemed emergency shelter in those areas that do not have sufficient capacity in their emergency shelter system. This report breaks out those numbers apart from emergency shelter number.¹⁶

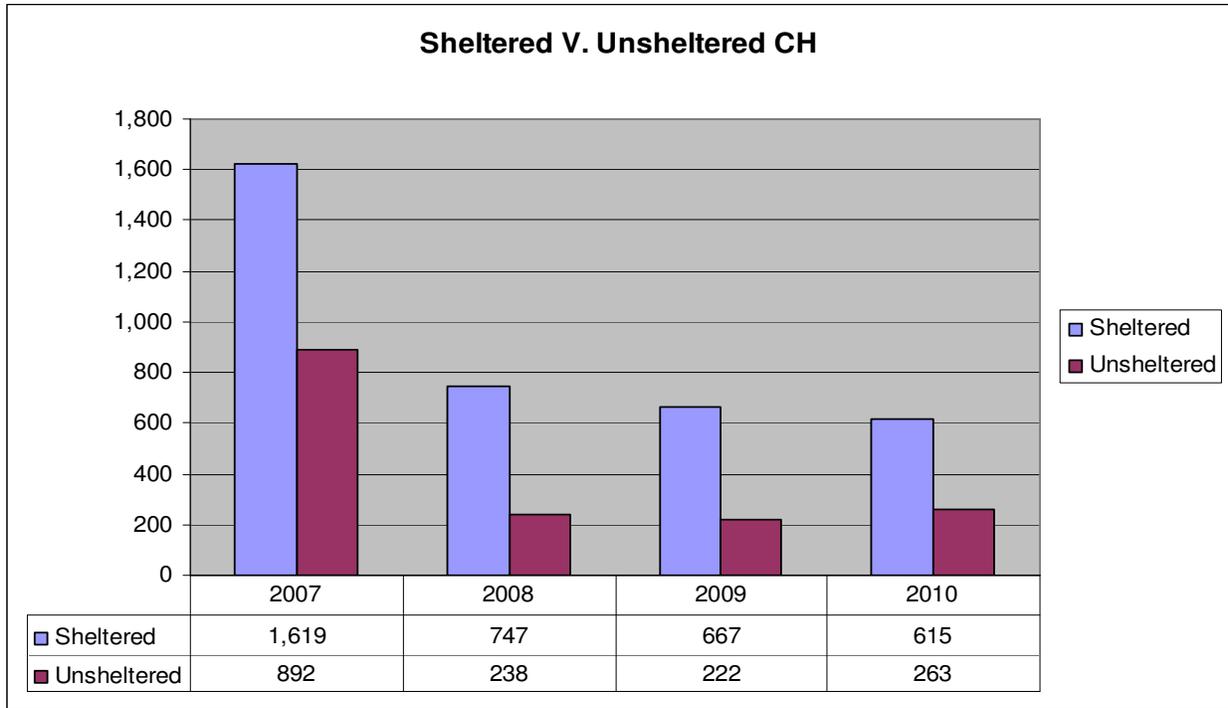


The breakdown of the living situation for the chronically homeless as reported on the night of the count shows that the largest percentage was staying in emergency shelter (42.2%), followed by those in unsheltered situations (29.9%), and then those in hotels/motels (27.7%).

In looking over the four homeless counts (2007-2010), the number of chronically homeless has declined and this is reflective of the number of sheltered chronically homeless. However, the number of unsheltered chronically homeless has fluctuated with the highest numbers seen in 2007.

According to the latest Annual Homeless Assessment Report (June 2010), nationally chronic homelessness has been on the decline as well however the drop in numbers have been seen more around the number of unsheltered chronic homeless

¹⁶ Emergency shelter number includes domestic violence and youth emergency shelters.



Chronic Homeless by County/Continuum of Care Jurisdiction

In the 2010 count, there were chronically homeless people counted in all counties/CoC jurisdictions except for Salem County¹⁷. Essex County had the highest number of people who were chronically homeless, with 13.9% of the statewide total. This ranking and number has been consistent for Essex County since 2007.

County/CoC	# of CH	%
Essex	122	13.9%
Mercer	101	11.5%
Bergen	78	8.9%
Hudson	74	8.4%
Monmouth	72	8.2%
Burlington	71	8.1%
Passaic	60	6.8%
Middlesex	52	5.9%
Ocean	52	5.9%
Morris	51	5.8%
Atlantic	41	4.7%

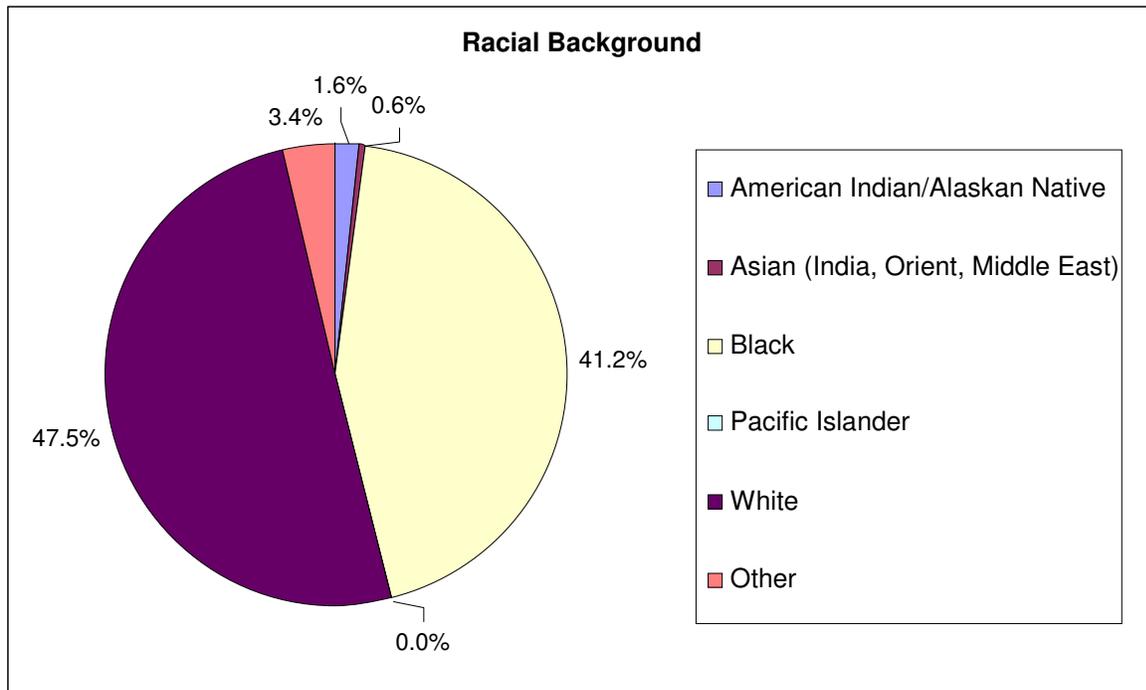
County/CoC	# of CH	%
Camden	24	2.7%
Union	20	2.3%
Hunterdon	12	1.4%
Cumberland	11	1.3%
Cape May	9	1.0%
Somerset	8	0.9%
Sussex	8	0.9%
Gloucester	7	0.8%
Warren	5	0.6%
Salem	0	0.0%

¹⁷ Salem County only completed a sheltered count of their HUD funded programs and within those programs had no homeless that met the chronically homeless definition.

Demographics

In 2010, a total of 629 or 71.6% of the chronically homeless population were male, 235 or 26.8% were female and 5 or 0.6% were transgender. Only a small percentage of the chronically homeless population defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino (12.6%).

The following chart outlines the racial breakdown of chronically homeless persons in 2010. The population was mainly split between those that identified themselves as White (47.5%) and Black (41.2%). The remaining racial groups represented less than 6%. These numbers have remained fairly consistent since 2007.



As HUD defines chronically homeless as single individuals, no family can be chronically homeless. However, of the chronic homeless population, 29.3% (n=257) reported that they did have children who were not currently living with them. Furthermore, a small percentage (2.8%) reported having their children with them at some points in the past when they were homeless.

As with the general homeless population, in 2010 the largest portion of the chronic homeless population fall within the 40-49-year-old age range, totaling 32.1%. The next largest age group included those from 50-59 (28.6%) followed by those 30-39 (17.0%). This is represented in the chart below:

Age	#	%
18-20	24	2.7
21-24	46	5.2
25-29	57	6.5
30-39	149	17.0
40-49	282	32.1
50-59	251	28.6
60-64	31	3.5
65+	21	2.4

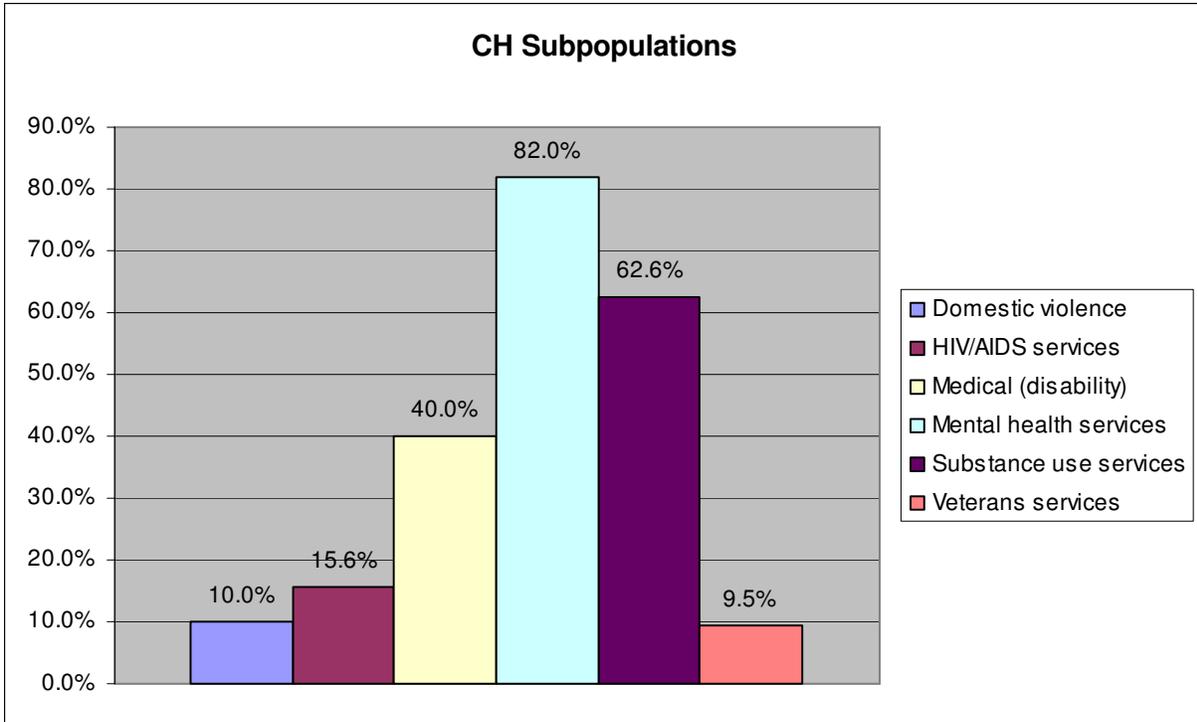
Homeless Subpopulations

As with the homeless population, the 2010 count gathered information on services received and needed to determine subpopulations of the homeless and chronically homeless. Again, the homeless subpopulations that the count focused on are:

- Domestic Violence
- HIV/AIDS
- Medical Disability
- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Veterans

The largest subpopulation of the chronically homeless were those with mental illness (received services = 352, need services = 368 or 82%) followed by those with substance use issues (received services = 279, need services = 271 or 62.6%). The smallest subpopulation was veterans.

In the 2010 count, the total number of chronic homeless that responded that they had served in the US military was 92 or 10.5%. However, 31 or 3.5% responded that they have received veterans' services, 52 or 5.9% needed services and 47 or 5.3% were turned down for veterans services.



Contributing Factors to Homelessness

The factors that chronically homeless respondents reported led to their homelessness differ slightly from the general homeless population. In 2010, the two top ranking factors were substance abuse and mental illness/emotional problems with more than 55% of the chronically homeless population attributing their homelessness to substance abuse issues and more than 47% attributing their homelessness to mental illness/emotional problems.¹⁸ Some of the top factors that were similar to the general homeless population were loss of job/inability to find work and eviction.

Factor	%
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	55.7
Mental illness/emotional problems	47.6
Lost job/cannot find work	33.9
Eviction	25.6
Relationship/family breakup/death	23.2
Incarceration	23.1
Housing costs too high	22.3
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	22.2
Domestic violence	10.4
Lost job due to lack of transportation	9.0

¹⁸ Numbers may be duplicated count.

Have work but wages are too low	8.1
Utility costs too high	7.3
Foreclosure	1.8
House condemned	1.6
Loss of child support	1.4
Natural disaster	1.0

Discharge from Mainstream Institutions

The chart below outlines the stays and discharge rates for chronically homeless people in the mainstream corrections and inpatient institutions.¹⁹ The systems that had the most contact with the chronically homeless included medical hospitals and city/county jails. Furthermore, all systems had a very high rate of discharging chronic homeless back into homelessness with the highest being city/county jails at a rate of 75%²⁰.

System (In the Past Three Years)	CH In System		In System Discharged into Homelessness	
	#	%	#	%
<i>Corrections</i>				
State Prison	153	17.4%	113	73.8%
City/County Jail	372	42.3%	279	75%
Juvenile Detention Center	30	3.4%	15	50%
<i>Inpatient Care</i>	#	%	#	%
Hospitalized (Medical)	396	45.1%	255	64.3%
State Inpatient Mental Health	110	12.5%	60	54.5%
City/County Inpatient Mental Health	169	19.2%	96	56.8%
Substance Abuse Treatment	234	26.6%	133	56.8%

Last Permanent Address

In the 2010 count, 90.0% (n=791) of the chronically homeless respondents stated that their last permanent address was in New Jersey, while 1.9% (n=17) last lived in Pennsylvania and 0.7% (n=7) last lived in New York. The remaining homeless population (7.1%, n=63) last lived in other states.

The cities most frequently cited by respondents as their last permanent address are below²¹. Please note that listing a city/town as last placed lived does not necessarily correlate to the county where the respondent is currently residing:

¹⁹ Numbers may be duplicated

²⁰ This percentage is based on respondent data and only takes into account the number of the chronic homeless that completed the 2010 survey. It is not a reflection of the mainstream institution population as a whole.

²¹ The towns that had a rate of 1% or higher

Town	%
Trenton	7.1%
Jersey City	4.9%
Hackensack	4.8%
Paterson	3.8%
Asbury Park	3.2%
New Brunswick	3.0%
Toms River	1.9%
Camden	1.8%
Mount Holly	1.7%
Atlantic City	1.6%
Elizabeth	1.6%
Irvington	1.6%
Lakewood	1.4%
Morristown	1.4%
Dover	1.3%
Hoboken	1.1%

OTHER RESPONDENTS

On January 27, 2010, 3,017 adults and 1,596 children were counted who did not meet HUD's definition of homelessness.²² While the PITC focuses on people who are homeless, it also gathered information on formerly homeless people living in permanent supportive housing, as well as those who requested services (for example, at a Project Homeless Connect event) who were living in other forms of housing including those temporarily living with friends or family ("doubled up"), paying for rooms in motels because they could not afford housing, and other non-homeless situations.

Information on this population has been included in NJ's PITC since 2008²³. The chart below shows the breakdown of adults and children on the night of the count for all three years as comparison. Over the past three years, the number of "Other Respondents" has fluctuated but has seen a decrease overall from 2008.

Other Respondents Breakdown			
	2010	2009	2008
Respondents (Adults)	3,017	2,802	3,586
Family Members (Children)	1,596	1,544	2,209
Total	4,613	4,346	5,795

County/Continuum of Care Jurisdiction

For some Counties/CoC jurisdictions "Other Respondents" were a larger percent of the total number of respondents while for others, the percentage was minor. As the chart below shows, two jurisdictions (Cumberland and Sussex) had numbers totaling more than 50% of the total respondents surveyed and only four jurisdictions had less than 10%.

County 2010	Other Respondents	Total Respondents	% of Total
Cumberland	211	391	54.0%
Sussex	126	234	53.8%
Monmouth	294	740	39.7%
Hudson	339	922	36.8%
Mercer	348	1,033	33.7%
Morris	211	649	32.5%
Gloucester	68	215	31.6%
Camden	221	850	26.0%
Bergen	249	1,150	21.7%
Ocean	109	525	20.8%

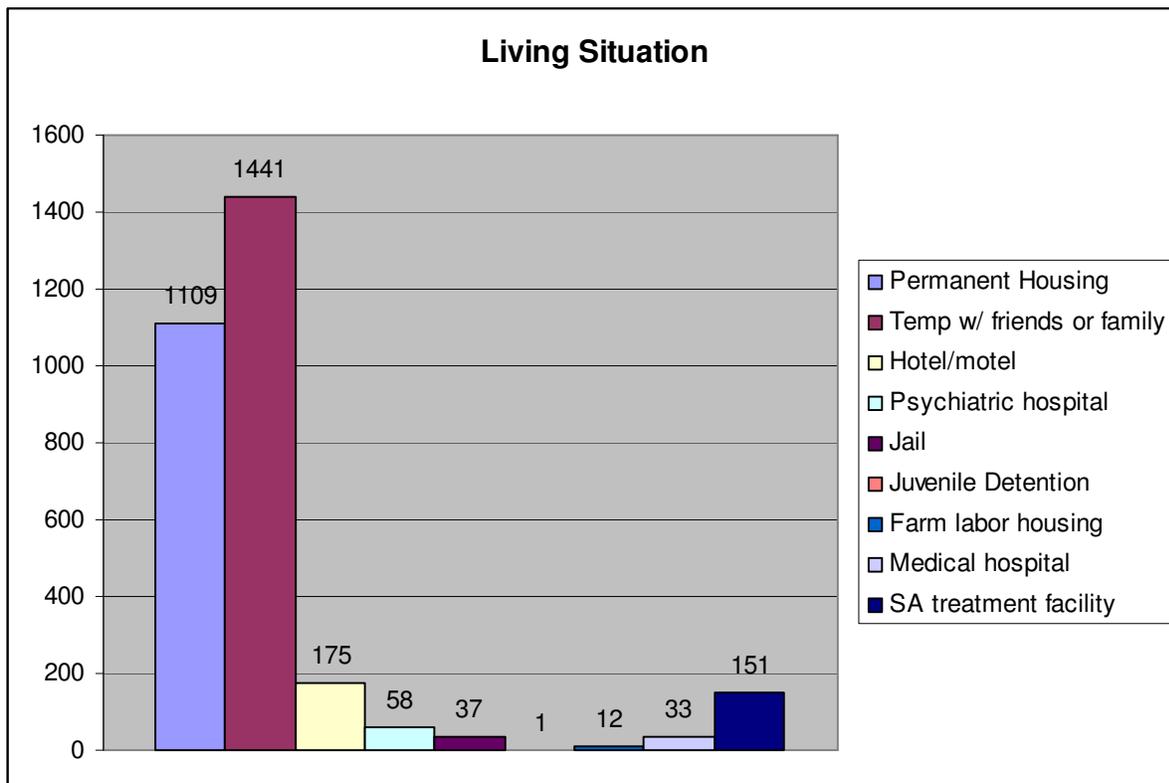
²² This number includes only households that responded that they were in distinct housing situations on the night of the count. This number does not include those that reported they were in "other" non- HUD homeless situations or those that gave a No Response answer.

²³ Information not collected in 2007.

Essex	302	1,527	19.8%
Somerset	47	264	17.8%
Warren	40	232	17.2%
Passaic	98	604	16.2%
Middlesex	169	1,107	15.3%
Burlington	72	587	12.3%
Cape May	28	252	11.1%
Hunterdon	11	112	9.8%
Atlantic	46	540	8.5%
Union	28	753	3.7%
Salem	0	56	0.0%

Living Situation

The 2010 count again gathered information on several living situations that did not meet HUD’s definition of homeless. These include permanent housing (supportive housing and other forms), temporarily with friends and family (“doubled up”), hotel/motel paid by the respondents, inpatient facility (medical, psychiatric, substance abuse), correctional facility (jail, juvenile detention) and farm labor housing.

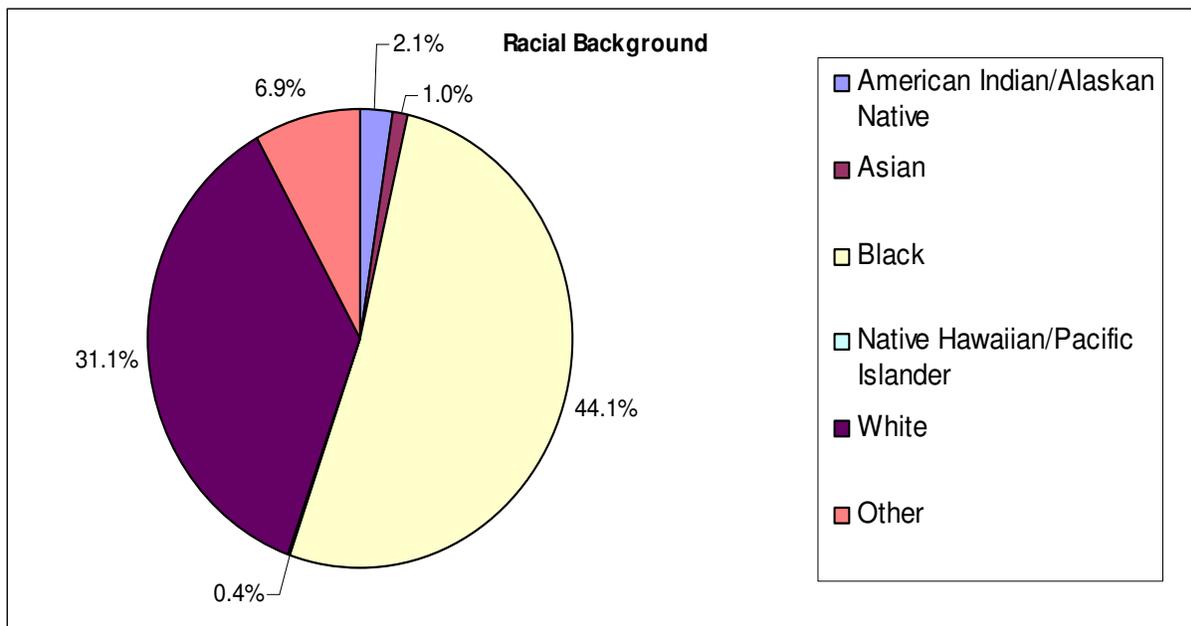


The largest percent (47.8%) of “Other Respondents” were living “doubled up” with friends or family followed by those who reported living in some form of permanent housing (36.8%). The remaining 15.4% were primarily in inpatient facilities and hotel/motels they were paying for themselves.

Demographics

In 2010, “Other Respondents” included those that were part of a family (had at least one dependent child in their care that night). Of the total 3,017 “Other Respondent” households, 898 or 29.7% were family households. Of the children counted, 782 or 48.9% were six years old or younger and 814 or 51.0% were ages seven to seventeen. The majority of the family households were living either in permanent housing (n=418) or temporarily with friends or family (n=409).

A total of 1,619 or 53.7% of “Other Respondents” were male, 1,262 or 41.8% were female and 26 or 0.9% were transgender. A quarter (25.1%) defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino.



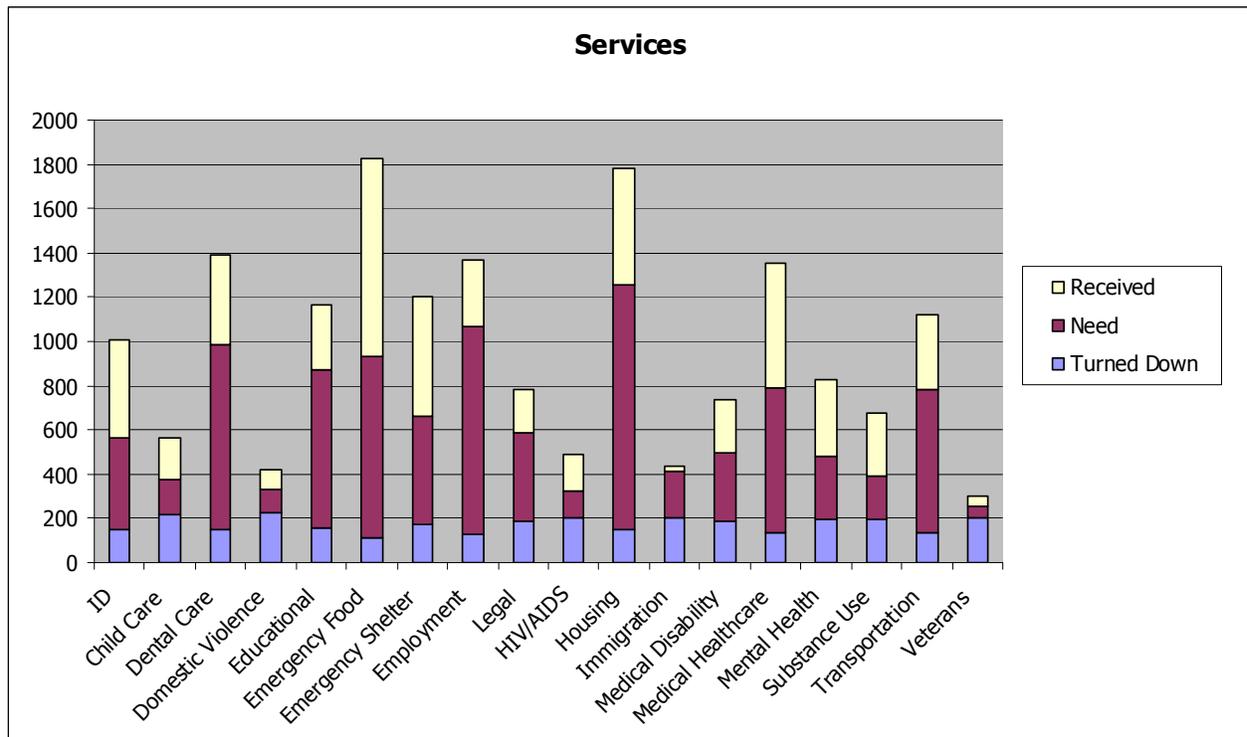
The chart above shows the racial breakdown of the “Other Respondents” in 2010 count. The largest majority were Black (44.1 %) followed by White (31.1%) with the next closest being Other at 6.9%.

In terms of age, the “Other Respondents” were reflective of the count as a whole. In 2010, the largest portion of “Other Respondents” fell within the 40-49-year-old age range, totaling 26.6%. The remaining were clustered around that age range with the next highest group being those who were 30-39 and then those who were 50-59 as the chart below shows.

Age	#	%
Under 18	17	0.6
18-20	97	3.2
21-24	256	8.5
25-29	317	10.5
30-39	607	20.1
40-49	802	26.6
50-59	574	19.0
60-64	106	3.5
65+	100	3.3

Service Usage and Needs

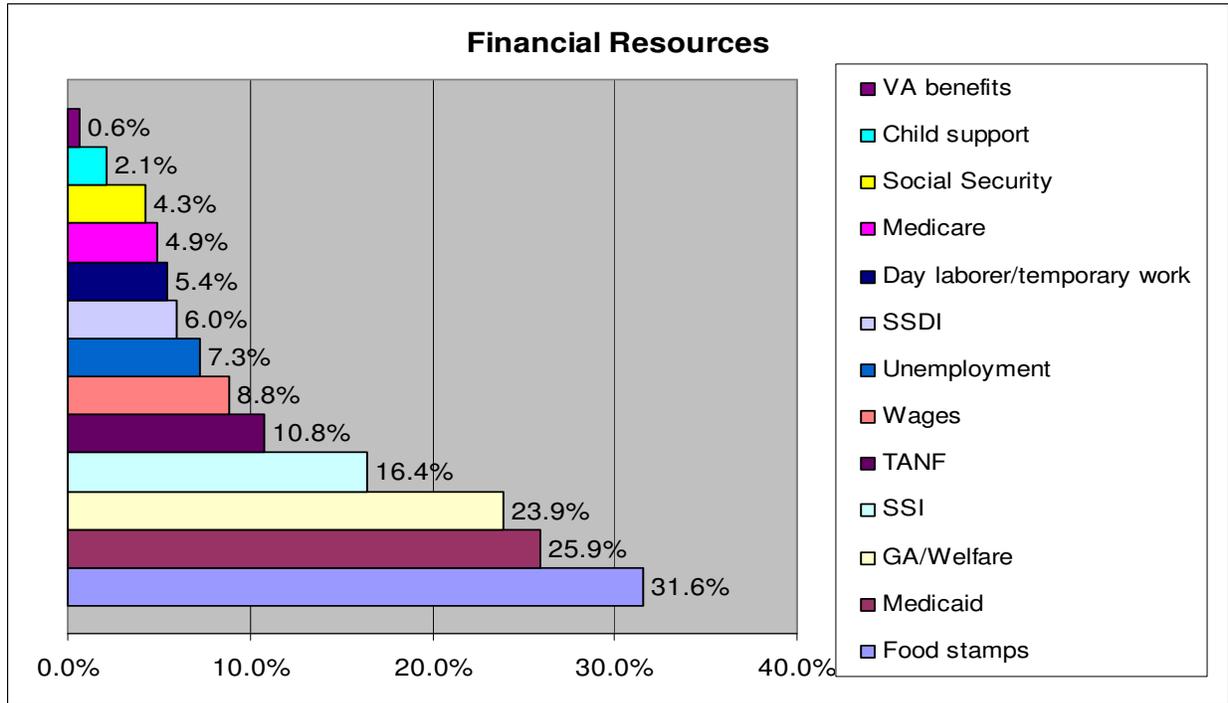
As in past counts, the survey also took into account service needs for “Other Respondents” as there is an assumption that these households have a level of service need that is not being met. The following chart outlines information gathered on services received, needed or turned down that “Other Respondents” reported on the night of the 2010 count²⁴. Some of the most utilized services include emergency food assistance (n=898), routine medical care (n=569) and obtaining ID (n=540). The services reported to be most needed were housing (n=1,103), employment assistance (n=939) and dental care (n=835). Domestic Violence (n=225) and child care (n=218) were the services most likely to have been requested but denied.



²⁴ Not an unduplicated count.

Financial Resources

The 2010 count also looked at the types of income/financial resources “Other Respondents” were currently receiving. The three main sources of income reported on the night of the count were food stamps (n=954), Medicaid (n=782) and General Assistance/Welfare (n= 721). The following chart shows all income/financial resources that were declared on the night of the count:



Furthermore, 198 or 6.8% stated they were receiving no type of government assistance and 284 or 9.4% of the respondents stated they currently had no source of income.

Contributing Factors

The highest ranking factor that “Other Respondents” stated contributed to their current living situation was the loss of a job and inability to find work. The top reasons in 2010 are similar to the homeless population but were also the same for 2009 and 2008.

Factor	%
Lost job/cannot find work	33.1
Housing costs too high	22.2
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	21.9
Relationship/family breakup/death	17.7
Eviction	15.6
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	15.5

Have work but wages are too low	14.1
Mental illness/emotional problems	13.1
Incarceration	10.1
Utility costs too high	9.1
Domestic violence	8.1
Lost job due to lack of transportation	7.6
Foreclosure	2.2
Loss of child support	1.8
House condemned	1.6

Residing the Night of the Count

The cities most frequently cited by respondents as the place they would be sleeping on the night of the 2010 count are below²⁵. The highest number of respondents reported that they would be staying in the City of Trenton on the night of the count.

Trenton	320	10.6%
Jersey City	267	8.8%
Newark	186	6.2%
Freehold	153	5.1%
Camden	144	4.8%
Morristown	118	3.9%
Bridgeton	95	3.1%
Paterson	89	2.9%
New Brunswick	85	2.8%
Hackensack	84	2.8%
Asbury Park	66	2.2%
East Orange	66	2.2%
Vineland	57	1.9%
Millville	51	1.7%
Lakewood	48	1.6%
Perth Amboy	45	1.5%
Atlantic City	43	1.4%
Irvington	35	1.2%
Paramus	34	1.1%

²⁵ Those towns that are at a rate of 1% or higher.