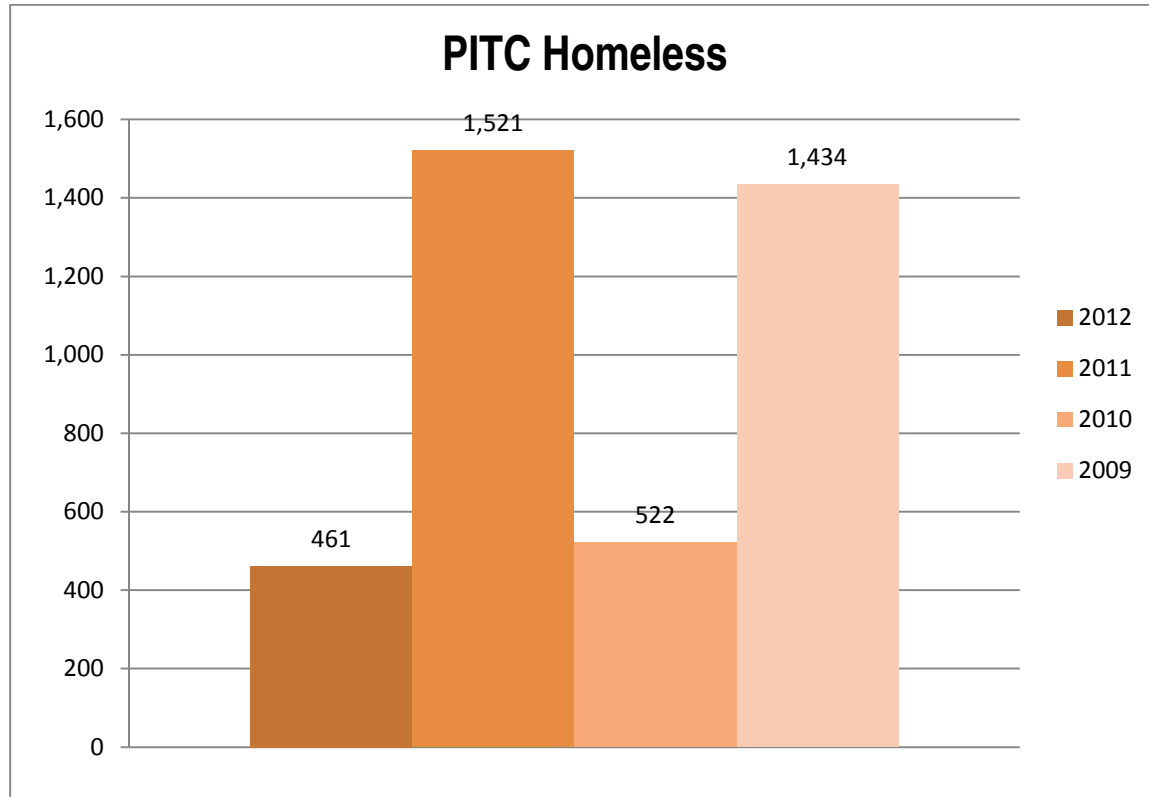


BERGEN COUNTY

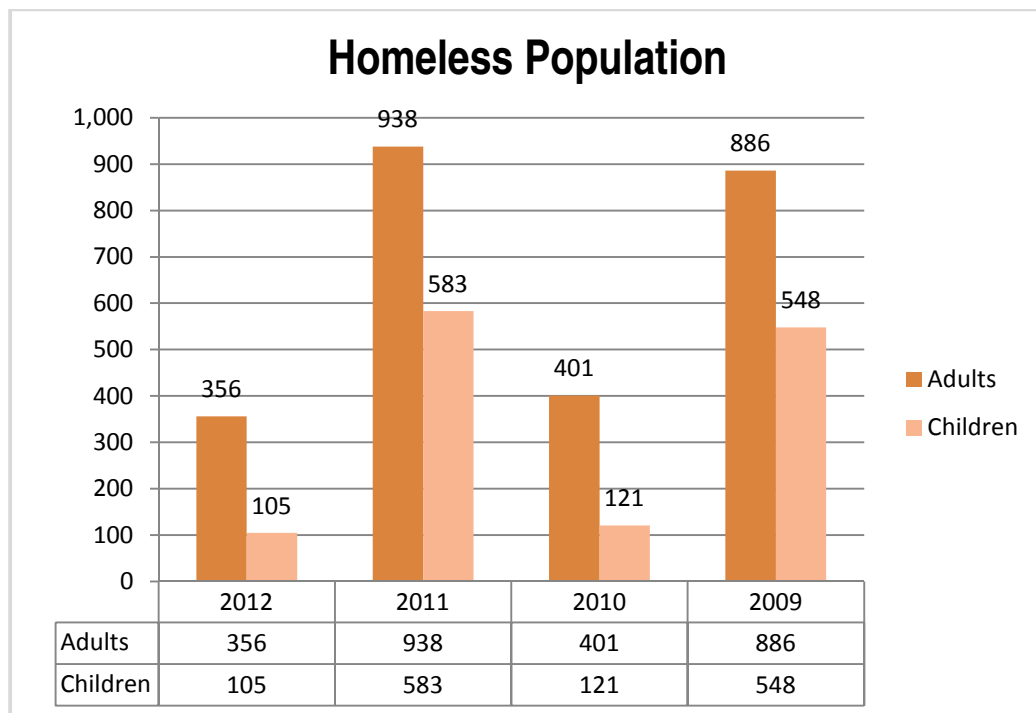
On January 25, 2012 there were 461 homeless men, women and children counted in Bergen County according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations.



The actual number of people who are homeless over the course of the year may be between two to four times larger than the number counted at one point in time. Using the statistical formula developed in the publication "Estimating the Need," it is projected that *over the course of a year, 824 adults and children are homeless in Bergen County.*

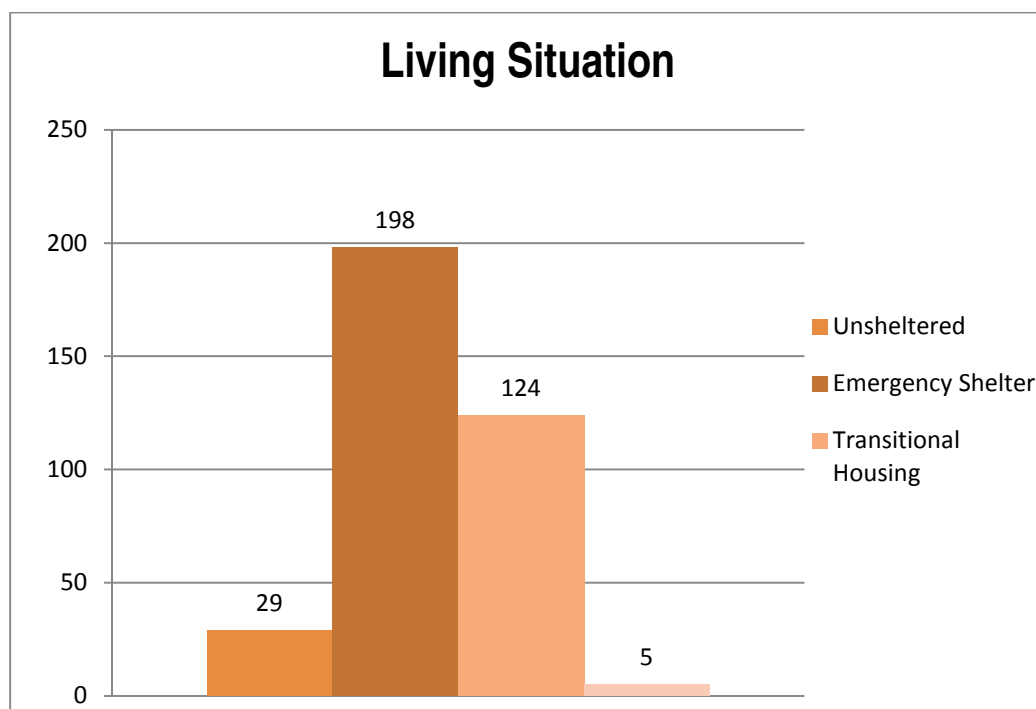
Homelessness in Bergen County has fluctuated over the past four (4) count years with the full HUD statistical count years having the highest numbers. Of the 461 people who were homeless on the night of the count 105 of them were children. As the Homeless Population chart shows, since 2009, the number of homeless adults and children followed proportionally the increases and decreases of the total homeless numbers.

2012 Homeless Breakdown	
Respondents (Adults)	356
Family Members (Children)	105
Total Homeless	461



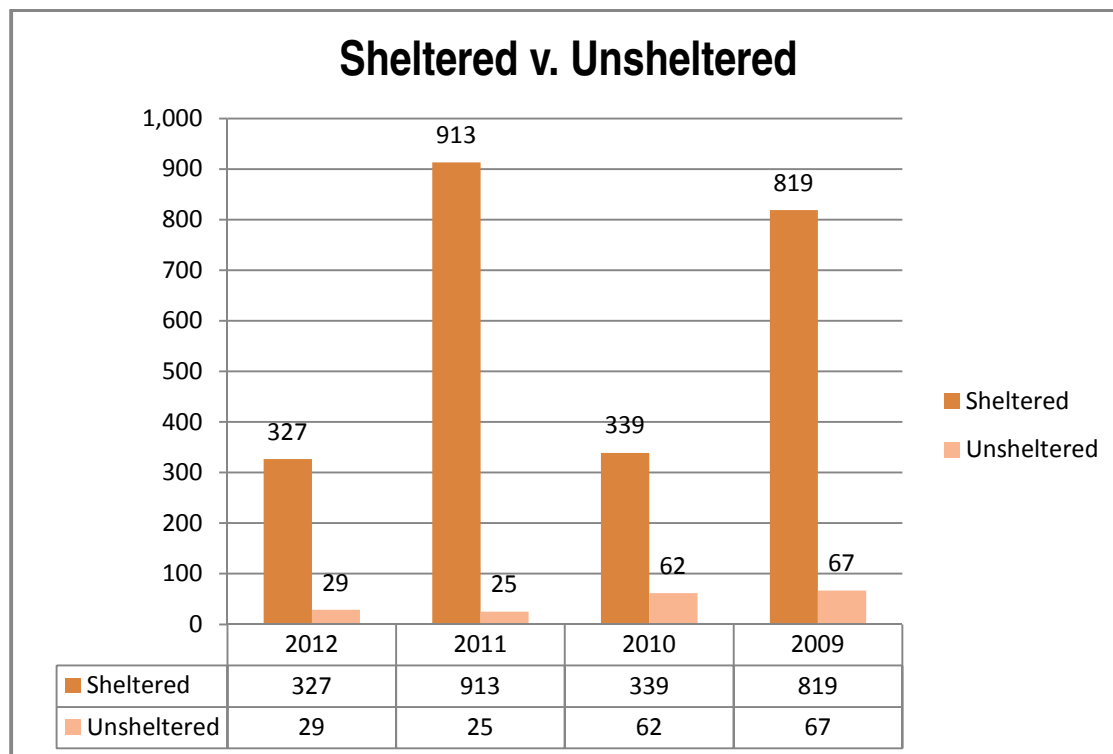
Living Situation

As reflected in the Living Situation chart below, 29 or 3.4% of the homeless respondents were unsheltered the night of the count. The remainder of the homeless were in living in sheltered situations with the largest population of the homeless residing in emergency shelter (n=198, 55.6%).



Emergency Shelter includes those in ES, Domestic Violence Shelters, Youth Shelters and Safe Havens where applicable

The number of unsheltered homeless in Bergen County was on the decline from 2009 to 2011 but then saw a slight increase in the current count. The number of sheltered homeless fluctuated in relation to the total number of homeless and was the proportionally highest in 2011.



Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

As HUD continually encourages CoCs to utilize HMIS to complete the sheltered count for a community, for the first time, as part of this 2012 report, there is a comparison of what was reported in HMIS for emergency shelters and transitional housing for the night of the count to what was reported in the same categories for the Point In Time Count. The numbers from HMIS are based on those over 17 in emergency shelter or transitional housing on the night of the Point In Time Count.

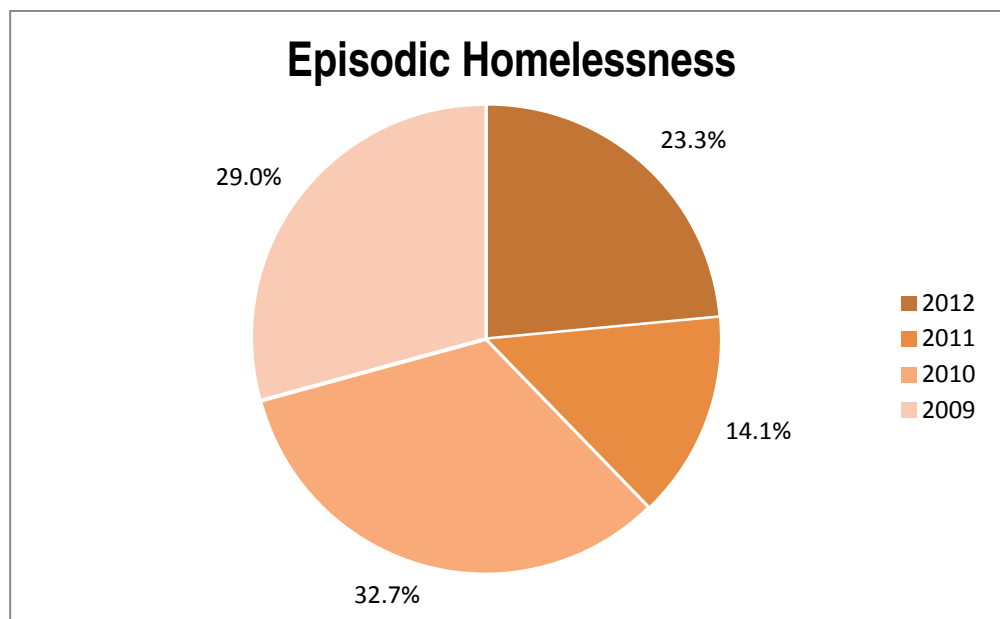
In Bergen County, there were a total of 106 adults in emergency shelter in the HMIS on the night of the count and there were 106 in transitional housing in the HMIS on the night of the count. These numbers are lower than what was recorded as part of the count. On the night of the count 183 respondents stated that they would be in emergency shelter and 124 reported residing in transitional housing.

Length and Episodes of Homelessness

Of the homeless population surveyed in Bergen County, 116 or 32.6% responded that they have been homeless for more than one year. Of those who were homeless less than one year, 28.9% reported that they had been homeless at least one other time within the past 12 months.

2012 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day - 1 week	10	2.8%
8 days - 1 month	66	18.5%
1 month & 1 day - 3 months	38	10.7%
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	50	14.0%
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	67	18.8%
More than 1 year	116	32.6%
No response	9	2.5%

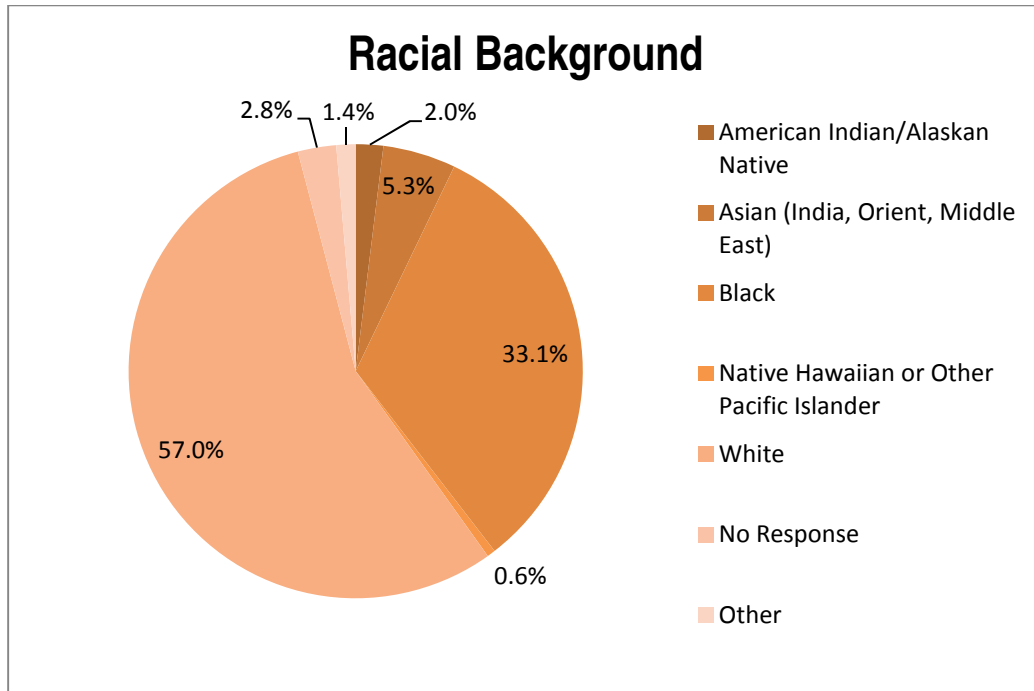
As reflected in the chart below, a total of 83 or 23.3% of the total homeless population reported having at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. The percentage has fluctuated over the past four years with the largest percent being seen in 2010 and the lowest in 2011.



Demographics

In 2012, of the total homeless population in Bergen County, 199 people or 55.9% were male and 155 or 43.5% were female.

The Racial Background chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless persons in the 2012 count. The largest majority were White (57%) most closely followed by those that defined their race as Black (33.1%). The total percentage of the homeless population that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 16.6%.

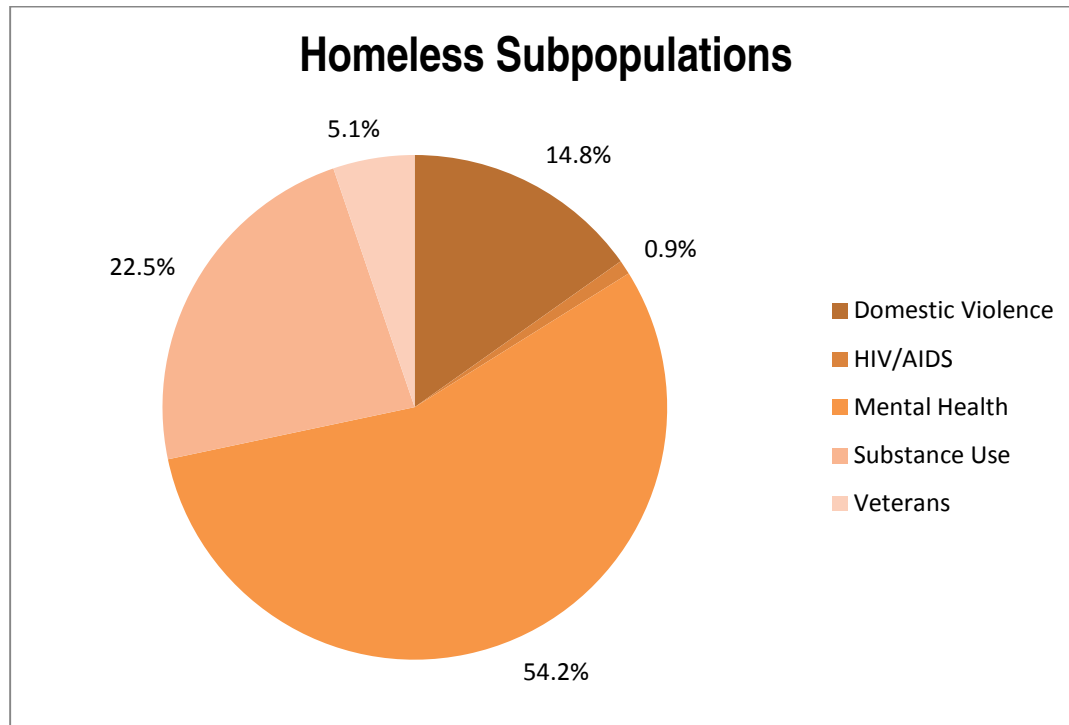


The largest percentage of homeless in Bergen County fell within the 50 to 59 year old age range, totaling 23.9%, followed by those within the 40 to 49 year old age range (20.5%) then closely followed by those between 30 and 39 years of age (19.7%).

2012 Age	#	%
Under 18	2	0.6%
18-20	22	6.2%
21-24	30	8.4%
25-29	31	8.7%
30-39	70	19.7%
40-49	73	20.5%
50-59	85	23.9%
60-64	21	5.9%
65+	10	2.8%
No response	12	3.4%

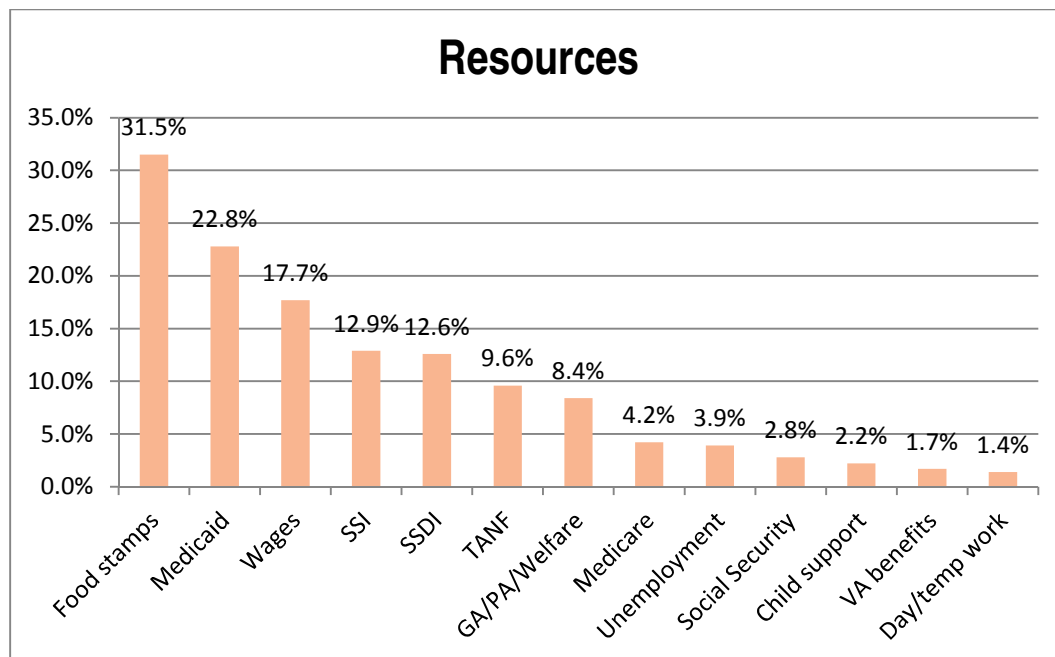
Homeless Subpopulations

The chart below outlines the breakdown of the homeless subpopulations in Bergen County for the 2012 count. Over one half of the homeless population reported having mental health issues (54.2%). The next largest subpopulation was those with substance abuse issues (22.5%). The number of homeless who reported serving in the US military equaled 5.1% (n=18).



Financial Resources and Income

The three main sources of income reported by people who were homeless in Bergen County on the night of the 2012 count were Food Stamps (31.5%), Medicaid (22.8%) and Wages (17.7%). 3.7% of the homeless population reported receiving no type of government benefit on the night of the count.



As part of the 2012 count, homeless respondents were asked to provide a current income that provided a potential estimated yearly income. In Bergen County, the largest percent of respondents stated that they had no income on the night of the count. The next largest percentage was those earning \$5,000 - \$9,999 a year.

2012 Yearly Income	#	%
No Income	121	34.0%
\$1.00-\$4,999	59	16.6%
\$5,000- \$9,999	85	23.9%
\$10,000-\$14,999	40	11.2%
\$15,000- \$19,999	19	5.3%
\$20,000-\$24,999	4	1.1%
\$25,000- \$29,999	7	2.0%
\$35,000- \$39,000	1	0.3%
\$40,000- \$44,999	1	0.3%
\$45,000- \$49,999	1	0.3%
No Response	18	5.1%

Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness

The highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Bergen County was loss of job and inability to find work. Other top ranking factors included eviction, relationship breakdown and mental health issues.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Lost job/cannot find work	26.1%
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	21.3%
Relationship/family breakup/death	20.2%
Mental illness/emotional problems	19.1%
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	18.3%
Domestic violence	16.9%
Housing costs too high	16.3%
Incarceration	11.2%
Have work but wages are too low	7.9%
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	7.6%
Utility costs too high	2.5%
House condemned	1.4%
Lost job due to lack of transportation	1.1%
Natural disaster	1.1%
Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure	0.6%
Loss of child support	0.3%

The types of services that respondents stated that they have received in the past three years or are currently needed are reflected in the chart below. In Bergen County, the top service received was emergency shelter and the top service that was reported as needed was housing.

2012 Service Needs	#	%
<i>Received</i>		
Emergency shelter	262	73.6%
Emergency food or meal assistance	244	68.5%
Medical (routine healthcare)	207	58.1%
<i>Need</i>		
Housing	129	36.2%
Employment assistance	55	15.4%
Dental	53	14.9%

Discharge from Mainstream Institutions

As part of the 2012 survey, homeless respondents were asked if they had been discharged into homelessness from certain mainstream institutions within the past three years (since January 25, 2009). The discharge information is based on the homeless population that responded to the survey and relies on self report.

As the chart shows the two institutions that had the highest numbers of respondents reporting they were discharged into homelessness from were City/County Jail and Medical Hospitals.

Discharged Into Homelessness (Past Three Years)		
<i>Corrections</i>	#	%
State Prison	7	2.0%
City/County Jail	57	16.0%
Juvenile Detention Center	0	0.0%
<i>Inpatient Care</i>	#	%
Hospitalized (Medical)	51	14.3%
State Inpatient Mental Health	13	3.7%
City/County Inpatient Mental Health	18	5.1%
Substance Abuse Treatment	9	2.5%

Last Permanent Address

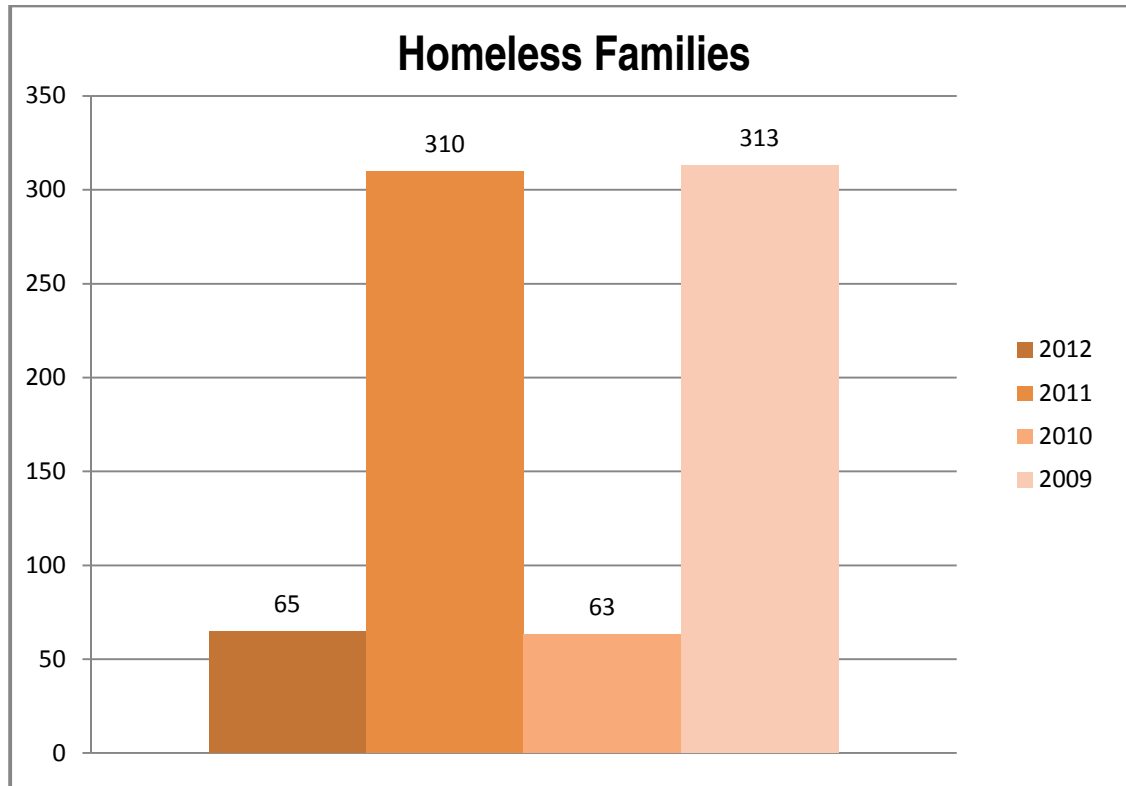
In the 2012 count, 97.8% (n=348) of the homeless respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless. In looking at the surround states, a total of 0.3% (n=1) last lived in Pennsylvania and 2.0% (n=7) last lived in New York.

The cities /towns most frequently cited by respondents as the last place they lived before becoming homeless are below (those with a rate of about 5% or higher). The largest number reported last living in Hackensack.

Town	#	%
Hackensack	83	23.3%
Englewood	21	5.9%
Teaneck	17	4.8%

FAMILY HOMELESSNESS

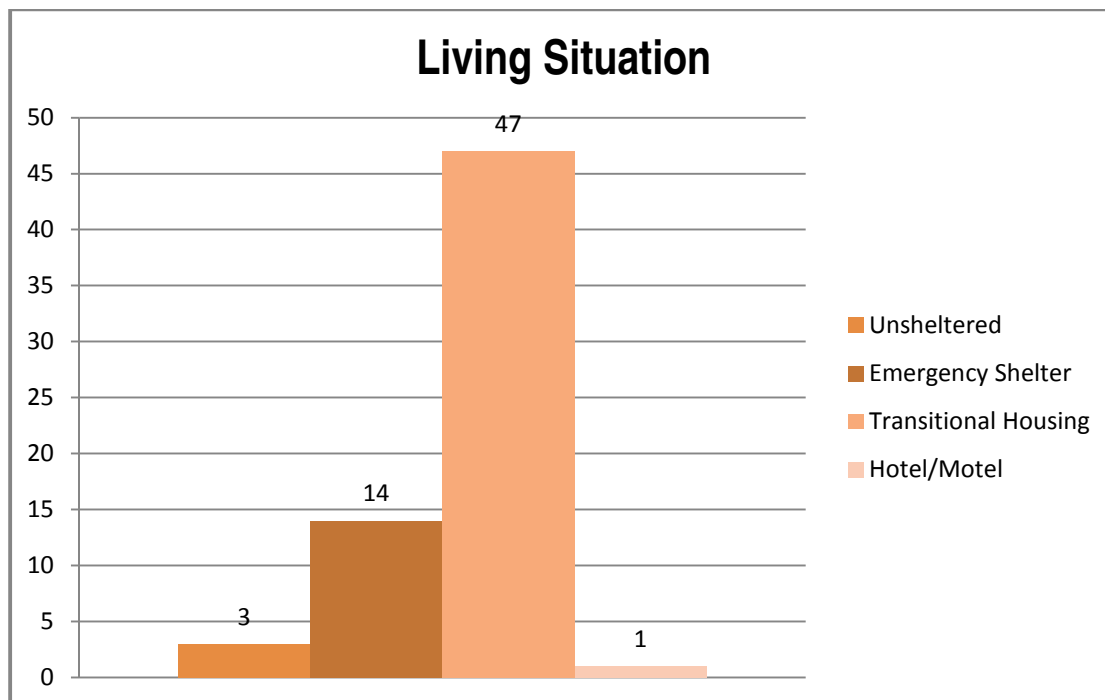
In 2012, of the 356 homeless respondents in Bergen County, 65 or 23.1% had at least one dependent child under 18 with them the night of the count and is considered a homeless family. Of the total of 105 homeless children in these families, 61 were six years or younger and 44 were between the ages of 7 and 17.



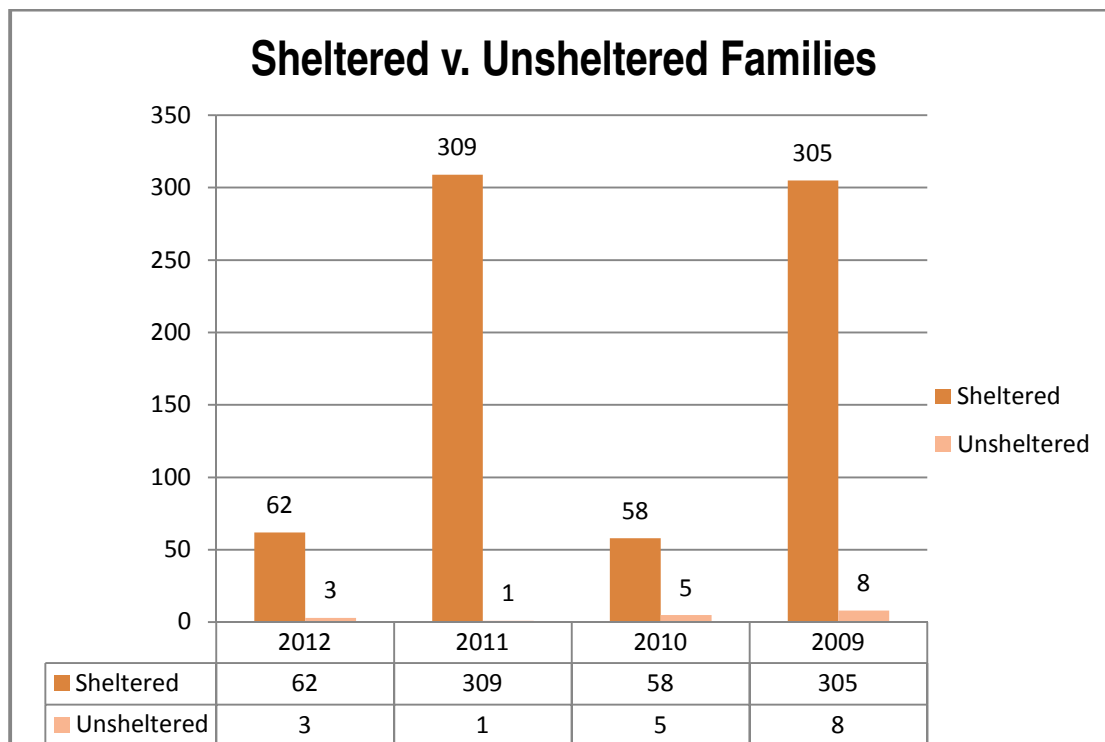
Living Situation

In Bergen County, three (3) homeless families were in an unsheltered living situation on the night of the count. The unsheltered homeless families had a total of three (3) children with them on the night of the count.

The remaining 62 homeless families were in sheltered living situations that included emergency shelter, transitional housing and hotel or motel. The largest percentage (72.3%) of homeless families were residing in transitional housing on the night of the 2012 count and are reflected in the Living Situation chart.



As the chart below shows, the majority of homeless families in Bergen County have been in sheltered living situations over the past four counts with the number of unsheltered decreasing each year until this slight increase from 2011 to 2012.



Length of Homelessness

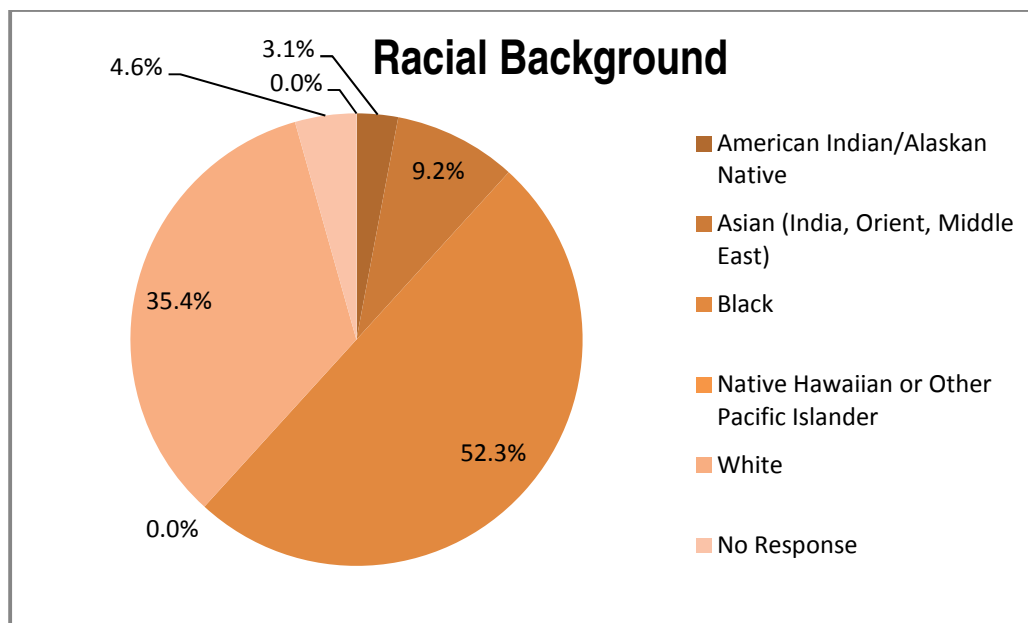
The largest percentage (26.2%) of homeless families had been homeless more than one year. This was closely followed by those homeless six (6) to 12 months. This is consistent with the total homeless population overall where the highest percentage were homeless more than one year.

2012 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day - 1 week	2	3.1%
8 days - 1 month	5	7.7%
1 month & 1 day - 3 months	11	16.9%
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	14	21.5%
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	16	24.6%
More than 1 year	17	26.2%
No response	0	0.0%

Demographics

Of the total 65 homeless families in Bergen County, 78.5% (n= 51) were female headed households and 21.5% (n=14) were male headed households.

The Racial Background chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless families in the 2012 count. More than one half of the respondents defined themselves as Black (52.3%). The next largest group was those that defined themselves as White with 35.4%. A total of 30.8% (n=20) defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino.

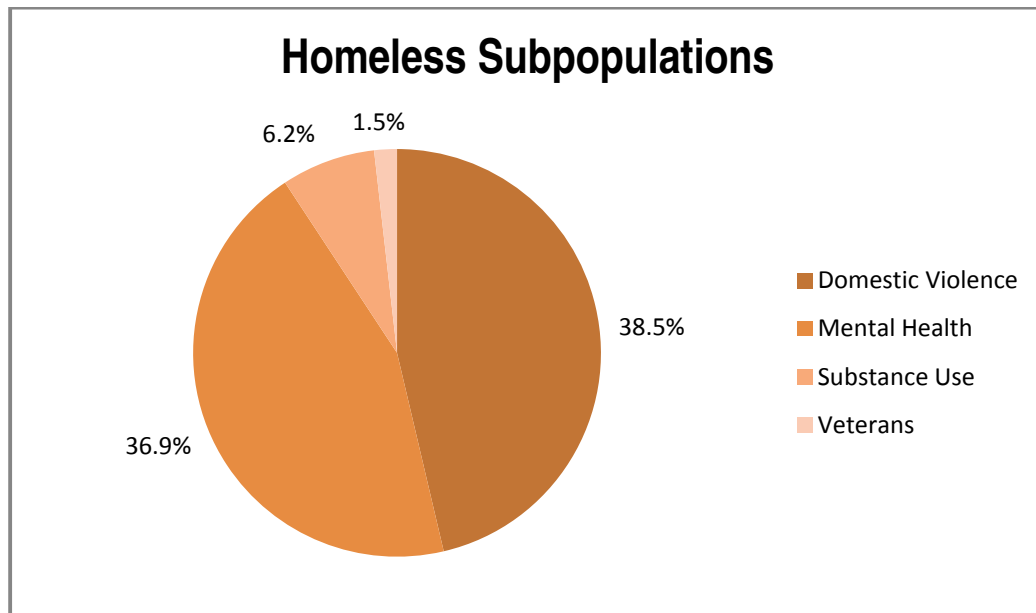


The largest percentage of homeless families in Bergen County had a head of household that fell within the 30 to 39 year old age range. This is much younger than the total homeless population in the County especially when the next largest age cohort is those between the age of 21 and 24 years old.

2012 Age	#	%
Under 18	0	0.0%
18-20	5	7.7%
21-24	14	21.5%
25-29	8	12.3%
30-39	25	38.5%
40-49	6	9.2%
50-59	5	7.7%
60-64	1	1.5%
65+	0	0.0%
No response	1	1.5%

Homeless Family Subpopulations

In Bergen County in the 2012 count, the largest subpopulation among homeless families was those with a head of household experiencing domestic violence. The next largest percentage was heads of households with mental health issues as reflected in the chart below.



Financial Resources and Income

The three main sources of income reported by homeless families in Bergen County on the night of the 2012 count were:

- Food Stamps (69.2%);
- Medicaid (66.2%); and
- TANF (46.2%)

There was only one family that stated they did not receive some type of government benefit on the night of the count. In looking at yearly income, the majority of the homeless families were earning less than \$10,000 a year.

2012 Yearly Income	#	%
No Income	5	7.7%
\$1.00-\$4,999	20	30.8%
\$5,000- \$9,999	18	27.7%
\$10,000-\$14,999	8	12.3%
\$15,000- \$19,999	6	9.2%
\$20,000-\$24,999	1	1.5%
\$25,000- \$29,999	3	4.6%
\$30,000- \$34,999	0	0.0%
\$35,000- \$39,000	1	1.5%
\$40,000- \$44,999	1	1.5%
\$45,000- \$49,999	1	1.5%
No Response	1	1.5%

Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness

The highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Bergen County was domestic violence. Other top ranking factors included relationship breakdown and high cost of housing.

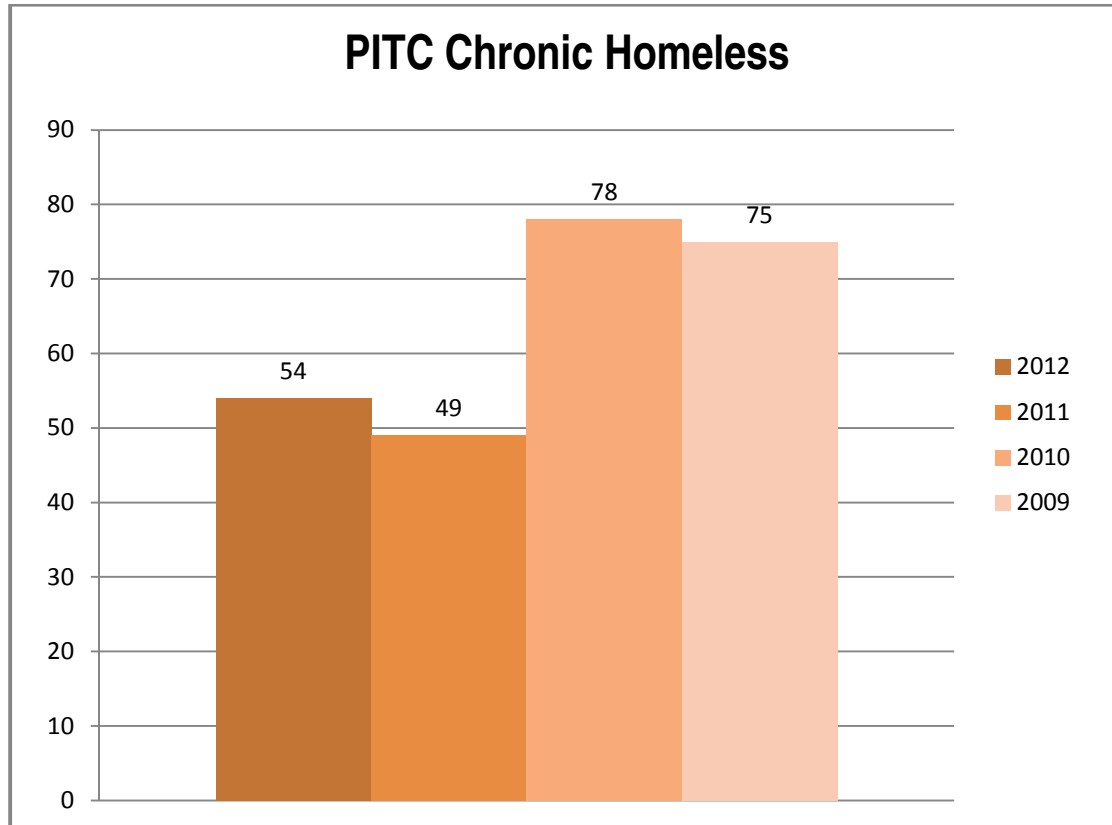
Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Domestic violence	41.5%
Relationship/family breakup/death	38.5%
Housing costs too high	35.4%
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	27.7%
Have work but wages are too low	18.5%

When homeless families were asked what their top needs were on the night of the count the top three needs included:

- Housing (66.2%);
- Employment assistance (41.5%); and
- Educational training (35.4%)

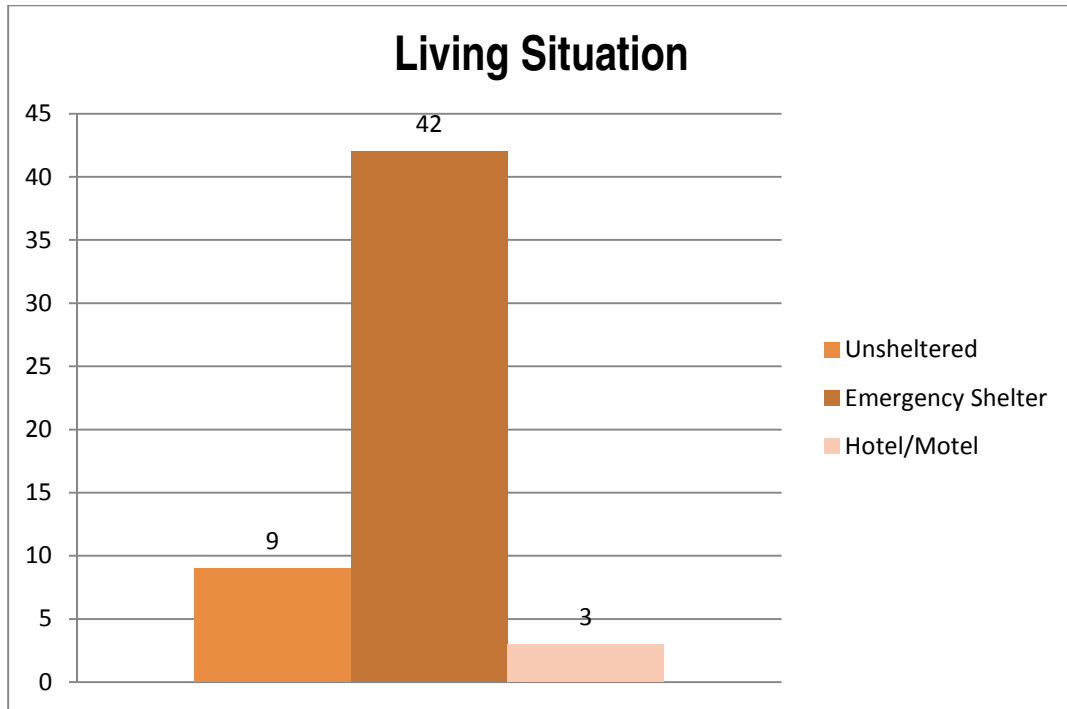
CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

On the night of January 25, 2012, there were 54 chronically homeless individuals counted in Bergen County equaling 4.9 % of the total homeless population. The number of chronically homeless in Bergen County saw a slight increase from 2011 (9.2%).

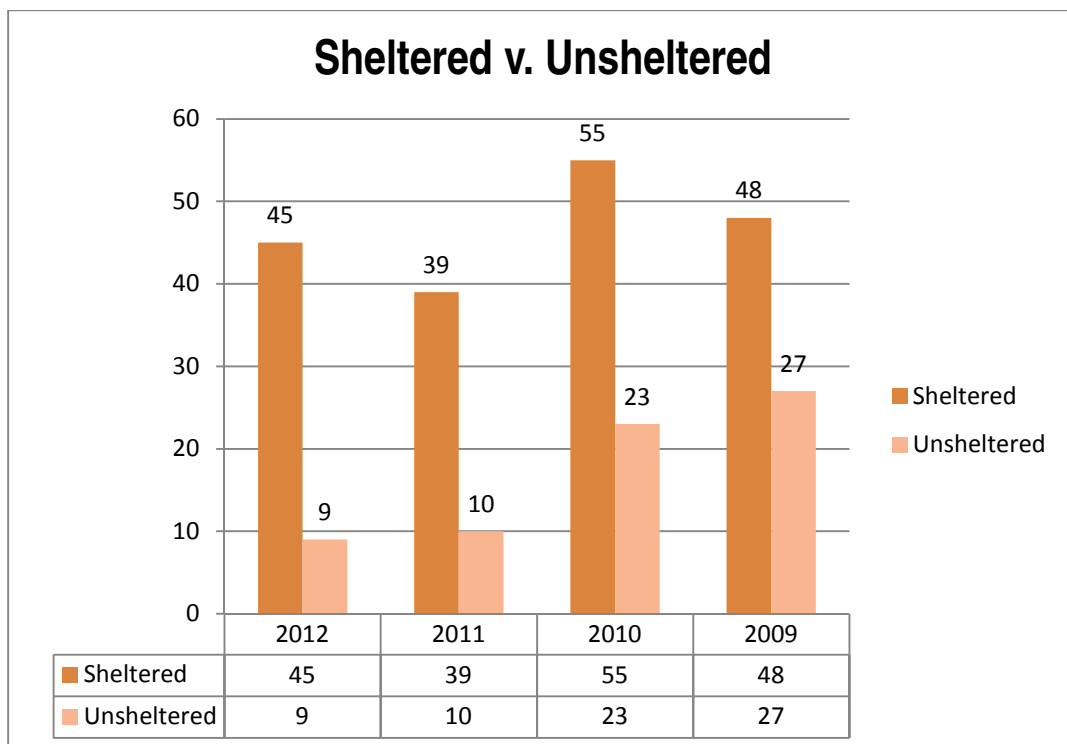


Living Situation

As defined, homeless living situations for the chronically homeless can only include those living on the street, in places not meant for human habitation or emergency shelter. The Living Situation chart is a breakdown of where the chronically homeless were residing on the night of the 2012 count. The largest percentage (77.8%) of the chronically homeless population in Bergen County was residing in emergency shelter on the night of the count.



Over the four (4) count years, the number chronically homeless individuals in Bergen County has fluctuated however, the number of unsheltered chronically homeless has been on the decline since 2009. The number of sheltered chronically homeless individuals has followed more of the fluctuated pattern of the total chronically homeless population.



Length of Homelessness

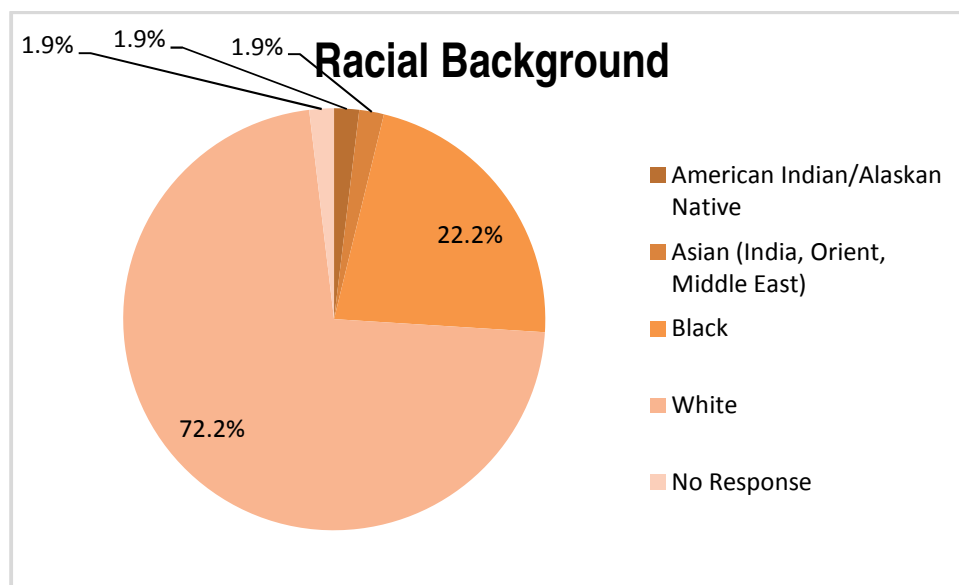
Of the total chronically homeless individual population in Bergen County, 59.3% (n= 32) reported they had been homeless for more than one year. Also, a total of 74.1% (n= 40) reported they had four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.

2012 Length of Homelessness	#	%
8 days - 1 month	4	7.4%
1 month & 1 day - 3 months	4	7.4%
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	4	7.4%
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	9	16.7%
More than 1 year	32	59.3%
No response	1	1.9%

Demographics

In 2012, a total of 38 or 70.4% of the chronically homeless individual population was male and 16 or 29.6% was female.

As the Racial Background chart outlines, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals identified themselves as White (72.2%) with the next largest percentage being those who identified themselves as Black (22.2%). The total percentage that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 5.6%.

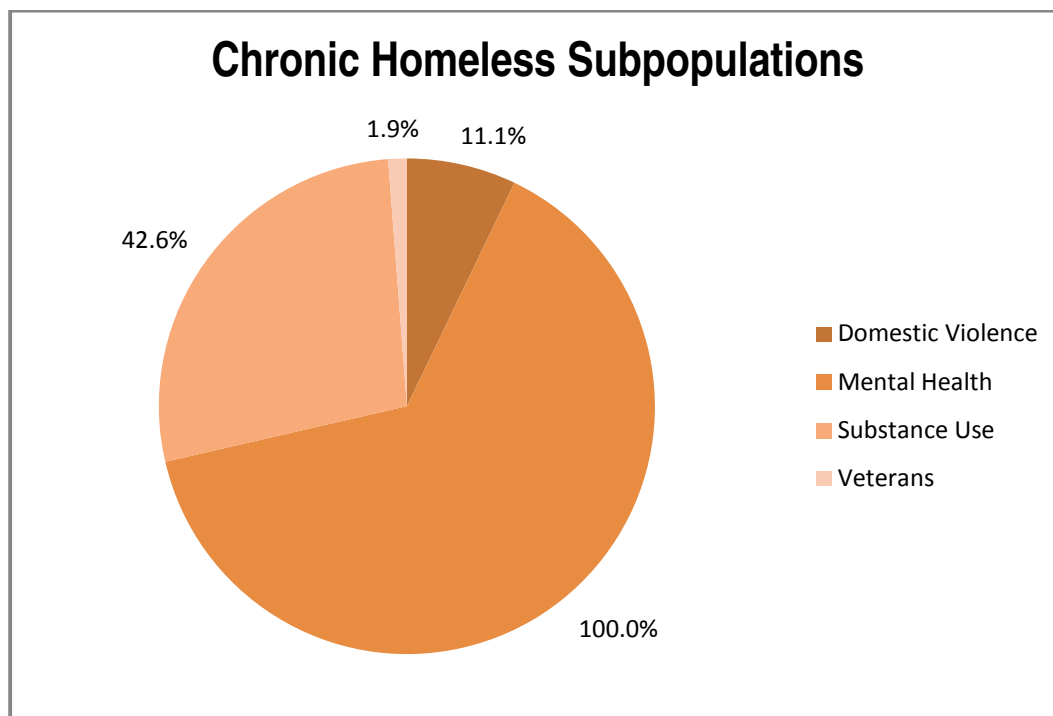


As the Age chart shows, on the night of the 2012 count in Bergen County, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals fell into the 40 to 49 year old age range (27.8%). This age group was closely followed by those between the ages of 50 and 59 years.

2012 Age	#	%
18-20	1	1.9%
21-24	5	9.3%
25-29	8	14.8%
30-39	6	11.1%
40-49	15	27.8%
50-59	14	25.9%
60-64	1	1.9%
No response	4	7.4%

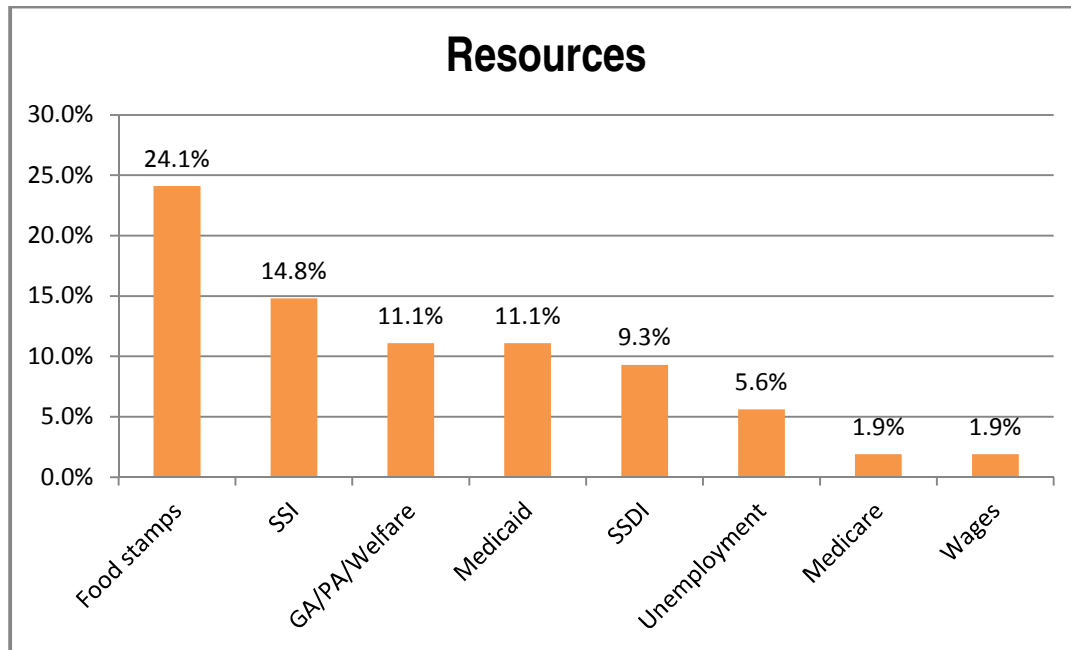
Chronic Homeless Subpopulations

The Chronic Homeless Subpopulations chart below outlines the breakdown of the chronically homeless individual subpopulations for the 2012 count. As shown in the chart, all of the chronically homeless individuals reported they had mental health issues and 42.6% reported having substance use issues.



Financial Resources

The three main sources of income reported by chronically homeless individuals in Bergen County on the night of the 2012 count were Food Stamps (24.1%), SSI (14.8%) and Welfare (11.1%). Additionally, 9.3% of the homeless population reported receiving no type of government benefit on the night of the count.



As reflected in the Income chart below, the largest percentage (50%) of chronically individuals reported having no income on the night of the count. As with the total homeless population, the majority had a projected yearly income of less than \$10,000.

2012 Yearly Income	#	%
No Income	27	50.0%
\$1.00-\$4,999	7	13.0%
\$5,000- \$9,999	13	24.1%
\$10,000-\$14,999	1	1.9%
No Response	6	11.1%

Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness

The highest ranking factor that chronically homeless individual respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Bergen County was mental health issues. Other top ranking factors included loss of job/inability to find work and substance abuse issues.

2012 Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Mental illness/emotional problems	38.9%
Lost job/cannot find work	35.2%
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	29.6%
Relationship/family breakup/death	14.8%
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	13.0%
Incarceration	11.1%
Domestic violence	7.4%
Housing costs too high	5.6%
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	5.6%
Have work but wages are too low	1.9%
Lost job due to lack of transportation	1.9%
Utility costs too high	1.9%

The types of services that respondents stated that they have received in the past three years or are currently needed are reflected in the chart below. In Bergen County, the top service received by the chronically homeless individual population was emergency food or meals and emergency shelter and the top service that was reported as needed was housing.

2012 Service Needs	#	%
<i>Received</i>		
Emergency food or meal assistance	42	77.8%
Emergency shelter	42	77.8%
Medical (routine healthcare)	34	63.0%

<i>Need</i>		
Housing	20	37.0%
Dental	11	20.4%
Emergency food or meal assistance	8	14.8%

Discharge from Mainstream Institutions

As part of the 2012 survey, chronically homeless individual respondents were asked if they had been discharged into homelessness from certain mainstream institutions within the past three years (since January 25, 2009). The discharge information is based on the chronically homeless individual population that responded to the survey and relies on self report.

As the chart shows the two institutions that had the highest numbers of respondents reporting they were discharged into homelessness were City/County Jail and City/County Inpatient Mental Health.

Discharged Into Homelessness (Past Three Years)		
<i>Corrections</i>	#	%
State Prison	2	3.7%
City/County Jail	15	27.8%
Juvenile Detention Center	0	0.0%
<i>Inpatient Care</i>	#	%
Hospitalized (Medical)	11	20.4%
State Inpatient Mental Health	4	7.4%
City/County Inpatient Mental Health	8	14.8%
Substance Abuse Treatment	0	0.0%

Last Permanent Address

In the 2012 count, 96.3% (n=52) of the chronically homeless individual respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless. In looking at the surround states, 1.9% (n=1) last lived in New York.

The cities /towns most frequently cited by respondents as the last place they lived before becoming homeless are below (those with a rate of 5% or higher). The only town with a significant number was Hackensack.

Town	#	%
Hackensack	13	24.1%
Garfield	3	5.6%
Paterson	3	5.6%
Ridgefield Park	3	5.6%

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES

In 2012, Bergen County counted no one that met the chronically homeless family definition.