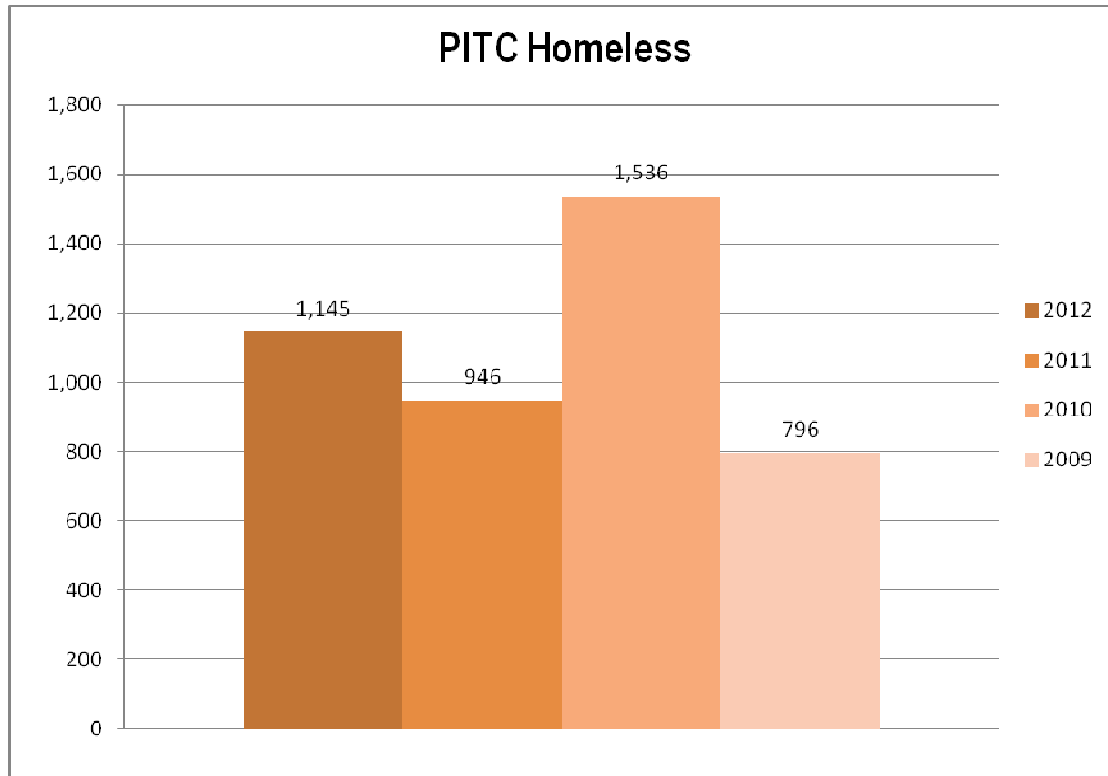


MIDDLESEX COUNTY

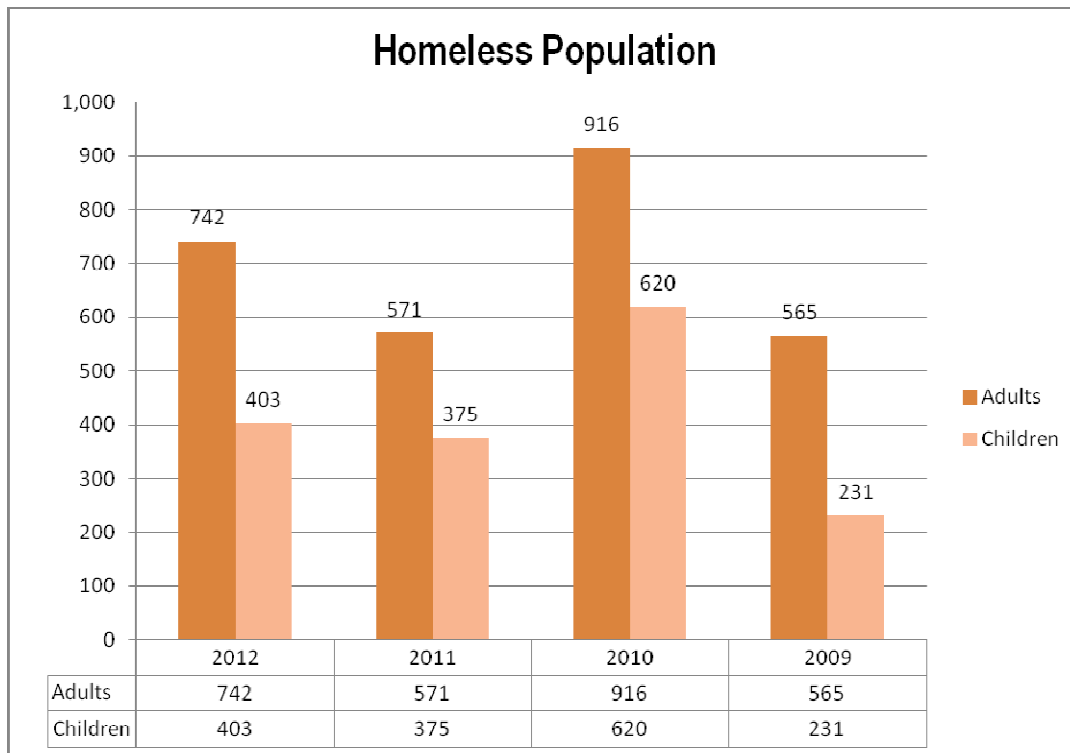
On January 25, 2012 there were 1,145 homeless men, women and children counted in Middlesex County according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations.



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, 3,308 adults and children are homeless in Middlesex County.*

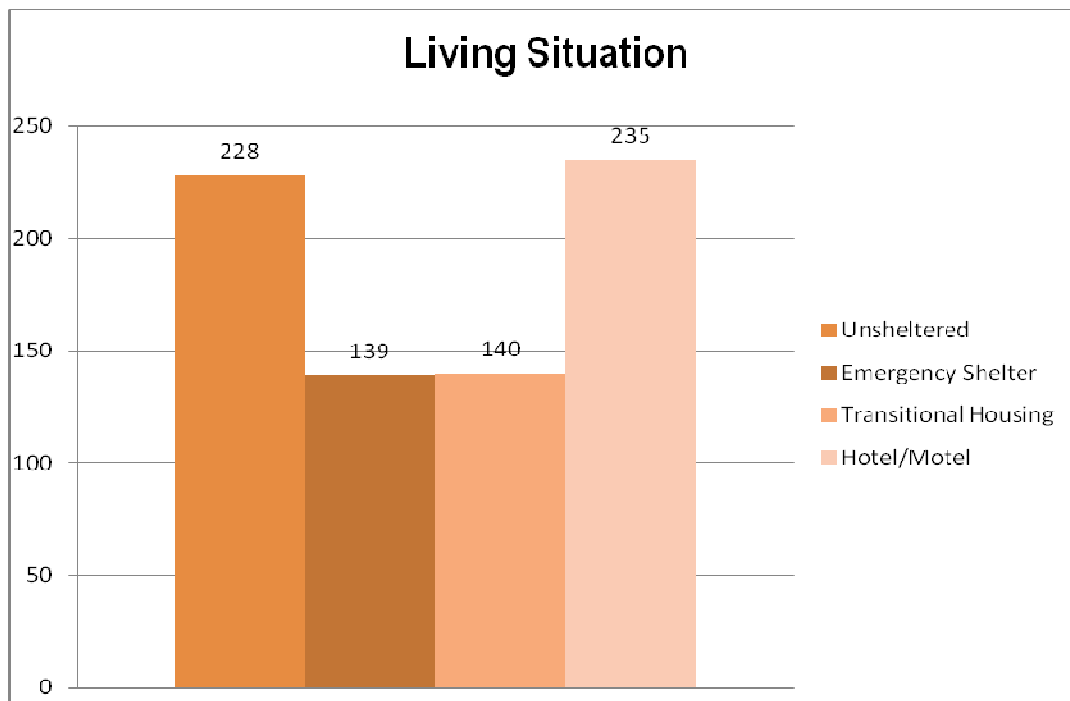
Homelessness in Middlesex County has fluctuated over the past four (4) count years with the highest numbers being seen in 2010 and 2012. Of the 1,145 people who were homeless on the night of the count 4403 of them were children. As that Homeless Population chart shows, since 2010, the number of adults and children followed the increases and decreases to the total number of homeless.

2012 Homeless Breakdown	
Respondents (Adults)	742
Family Members (Children)	403
Total Homeless	1,145



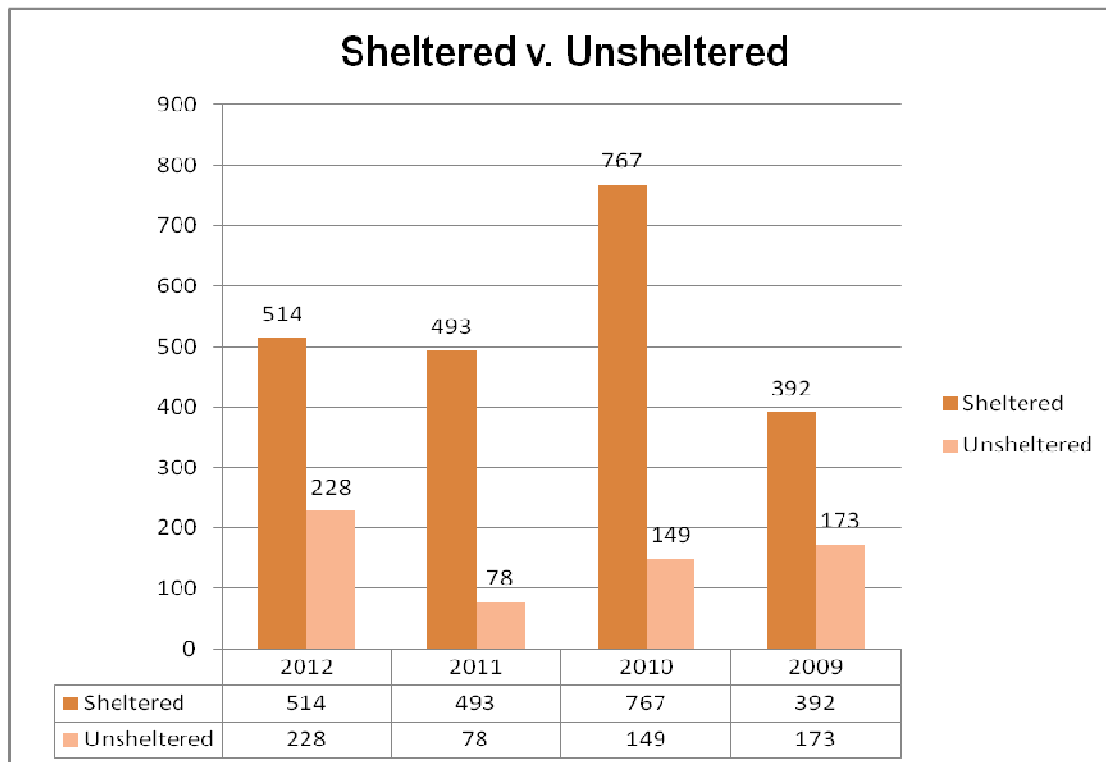
Living Situation

As reflected in the Living Situation chart below, 228 or 30.7% 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 hotel/motel placements as emergency shelter (n=235, 31.6%).



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

The number of unsheltered homeless in Middlesex County saw a significant increase from 2011 (65.7%) after being on the decline since 2009. In turn, the number of sheltered homeless has fluctuated over time and saw a slight increase from 2011 (4.0%).



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 years of age in emergency shelter or transitional housing on the night of the Point In Time Count.

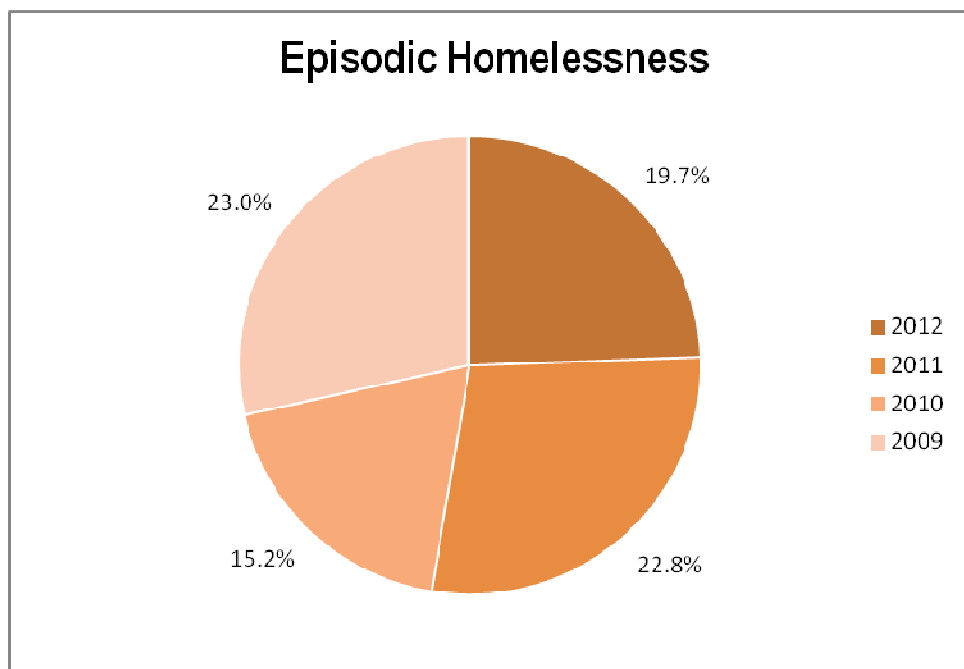
In Middlesex County, there were a total of 104 adults in emergency shelter in HMIS on the night of the count and 78 in transitional housing in HMIS on the night of the count. These numbers are lower than what was recorded as part of the count. On the night of the count 124 respondents stated that they would be in emergency shelter and 140 reported residing in transitional housing.

Length and Episodes of Homelessness

Of the homeless population surveyed in Middlesex County, 192 or 25.9% responded that they have been homeless for more than one year. Of those who were homeless less than one year, 22.9% reported that they had been homeless at least one other time within the past 12 months.

2012 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day - 1 week	55	7.4%
8 days - 1 month	35	4.7%
1 month & 1 day - 3 months	62	8.4%
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	128	17.3%
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	116	15.6%
More than 1 year	192	25.9%
No response	154	20.8%

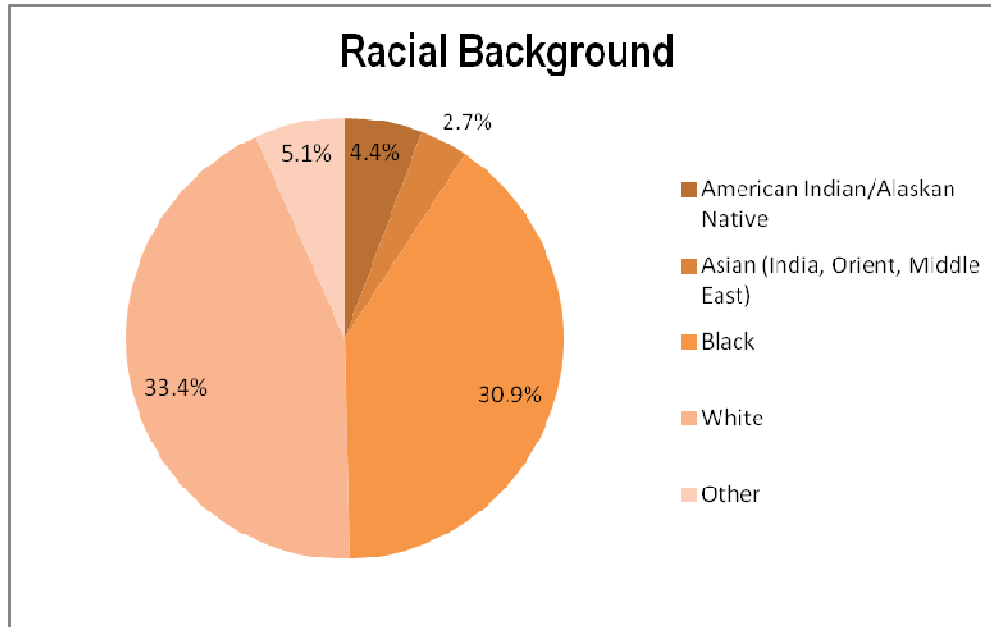
As reflected in the chart below, a total of 146 or 19.7% of the total homeless population reported having at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. This number has fluctuated over the past four count years with the largest percentage being seen in 2009.



Demographics

In 2012, of the total homeless population in Middlesex County, 399 people or 53.8% were male, 332 or 44.7% were female and one (1) or 0.1% identified as transgender.

The Racial Background chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless persons in the 2012 count. The largest percentage were White (33.4%) closely followed by Black (30.9%). The total percentage of the homeless population that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 19.5%.

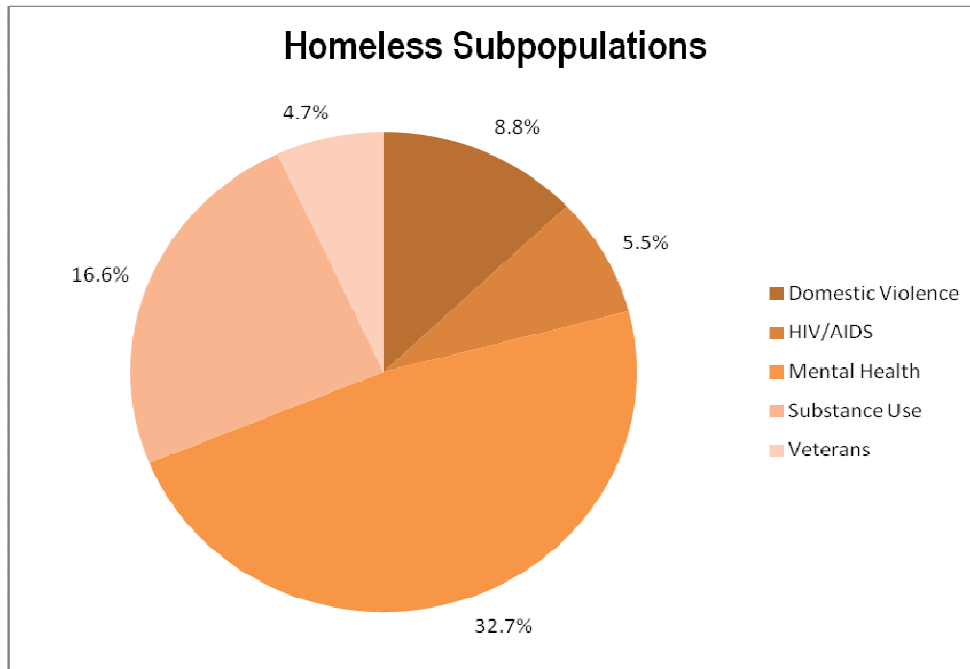


The largest percentage of homeless in Middlesex County fell within the 40 to 49 year old age range, totaling 25.6%. The majority of the homeless population was clustered between the ages of 30 and 59.

2012 Age	#	%
18-20	26	3.5%
21-24	86	11.6%
25-29	86	11.6%
30-39	140	18.9%
40-49	190	25.6%
50-59	145	19.5%
60-64	34	4.6%
65+	13	1.8%

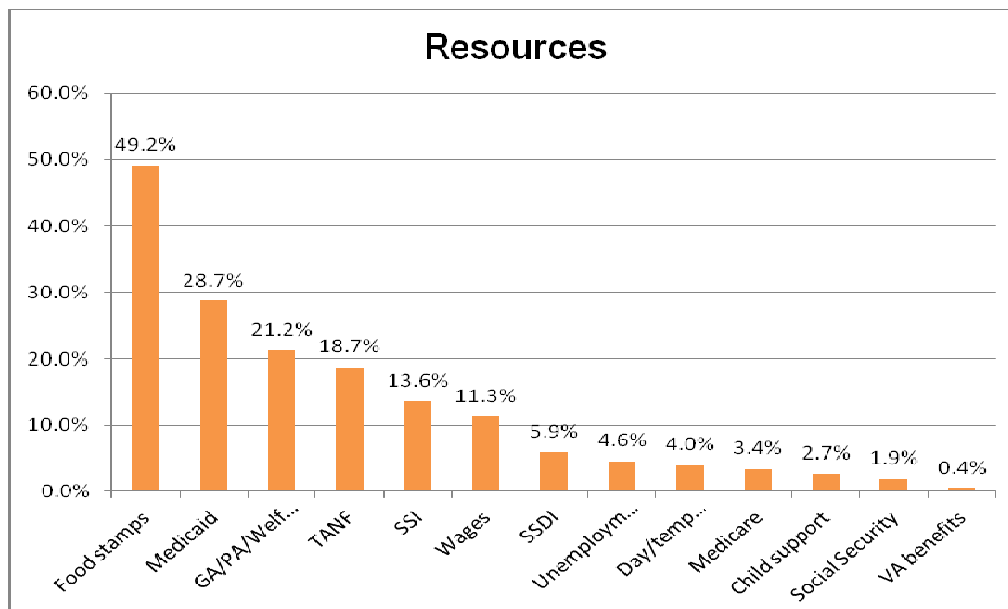
Homeless Subpopulations

The chart below outlines the breakdown of the homeless HUD subpopulations in Middlesex County for the 2012 count. The largest subpopulation was the homeless who had mental health issues (32.7%). The number of homeless who reported serving in the US military equaled 4.7% (n=35).



Financial Resources and Income

The three main sources of income reported by people who were homeless in Middlesex County on the night of the 2012 count were Food Stamps (49.2%), Medicaid (28.7%) and Welfare (21.2%). 7.7% 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 Middlesex County, the largest percent of respondents stated that they had income less than \$5,000.

2012 Yearly Income	#	%
No Income	191	25.7%
\$1.00-\$4,999	304	41.0%
\$5,000- \$9,999	100	13.5%
\$10,000-\$14,999	45	6.1%
\$15,000- \$19,999	25	3.4%
\$20,000-\$24,999	11	1.5%
\$25,000- \$29,999	4	0.5%
\$30,000- \$34,999	1	0.1%
\$35,000- \$39,000	1	0.1%
\$40,000- \$44,999	1	0.1%
\$60,000- \$69,999	1	0.1%
\$100,000 or over	1	0.1%
No Response	57	7.7%

Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness

The highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Middlesex County was loss of a job and inability to find work. Other top ranking factors included housing costs being too high and eviction.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Lost job/cannot find work	30.9%
Housing costs too high	30.5%
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	25.1%
Relationship/family breakup/death	21.0%
Mental illness/emotional problems	18.1%
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	17.1%
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	16.3%
Have work but wages are too low	14.1%
Incarceration	14.2%
Utility costs too high	13.5%
Domestic violence	11.3%
Lost job due to lack of transportation	7.8%
Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure	3.1%
Loss of child support	1.8%
House condemned	1.6%
Natural disaster	0.9%

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 Middlesex 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	443	59.7%
Emergency food or meal assistance	356	48.0%
Medical (routine healthcare)	146	19.7%

<i>Need</i>		
Housing	460	62.0%
Employment assistance	199	26.8%
Emergency shelter	159	21.4%

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 institution that had the highest numbers of respondents reporting they were discharged into homelessness was City/County Jail.

Discharged Into Homelessness (Past Three Years)		
<i>Corrections</i>	#	%
State Prison	51	6.9%
City/County Jail	86	11.6%
Juvenile Detention Center	1	0.1%
<i>Inpatient Care</i>	#	%
Hospitalized (Medical)	60	8.1%
State Inpatient Mental Health	17	2.3%
City/County Inpatient Mental Health	18	2.4%
Substance Abuse Treatment	21	2.8%

Last Permanent Address

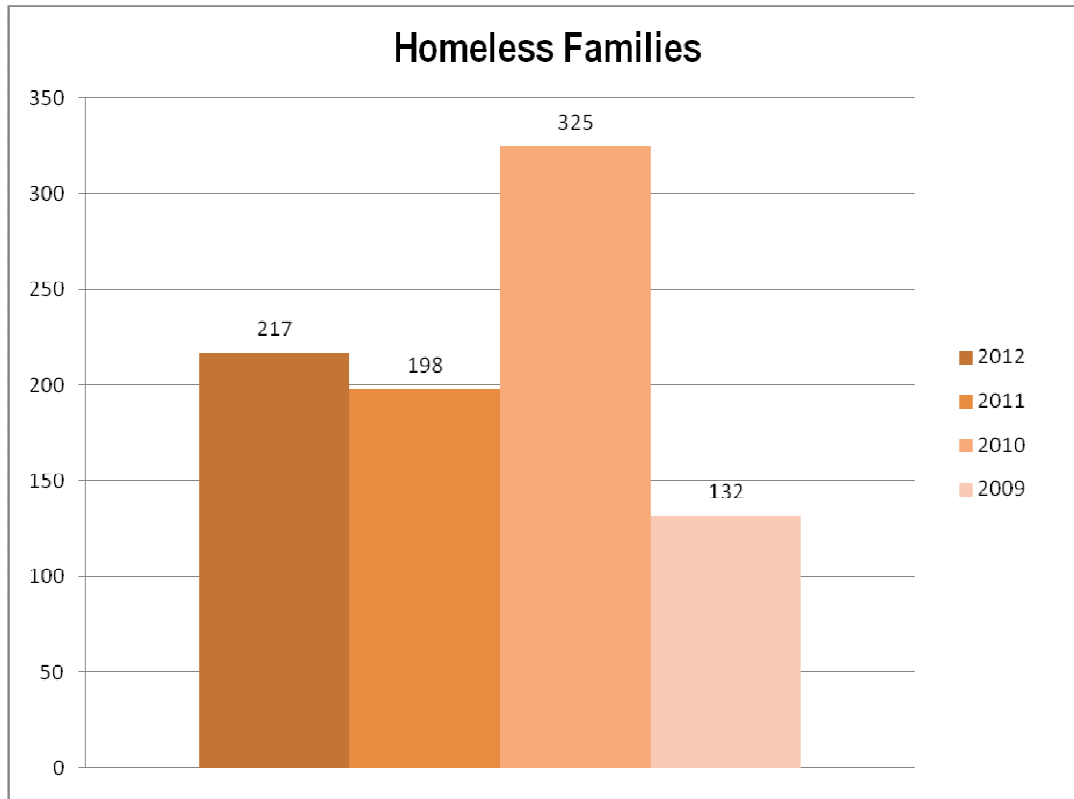
In the 2012 count, 19.8% (n=681) of the homeless respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless. In looking at the surround states, 1.2% (n=9) last lived in New York, and 1.1% (n=8) last lived in Pennsylvania.

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 largest number reported last living in New Brunswick.

Town	#	%
New Brunswick	210	28.3%
Perth Amboy	62	8.4%
Edison	44	5.9%

FAMILY HOMELESSNESS

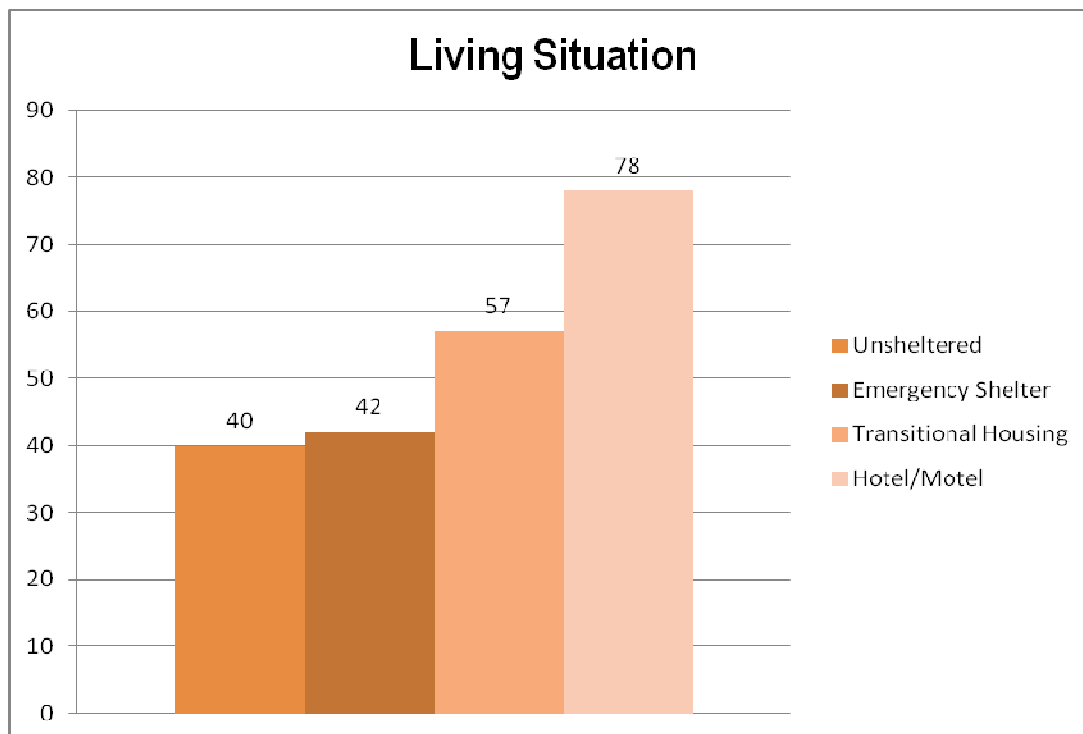
In 2012, of the 742 homeless respondents in Middlesex County, 217 or 29.2% had at least one dependent child under 18 with them the night of the count and is considered a homeless family. Of the total of 403 homeless children in these families, 227 were six years or younger and 176 were between the ages of 7 and 17.



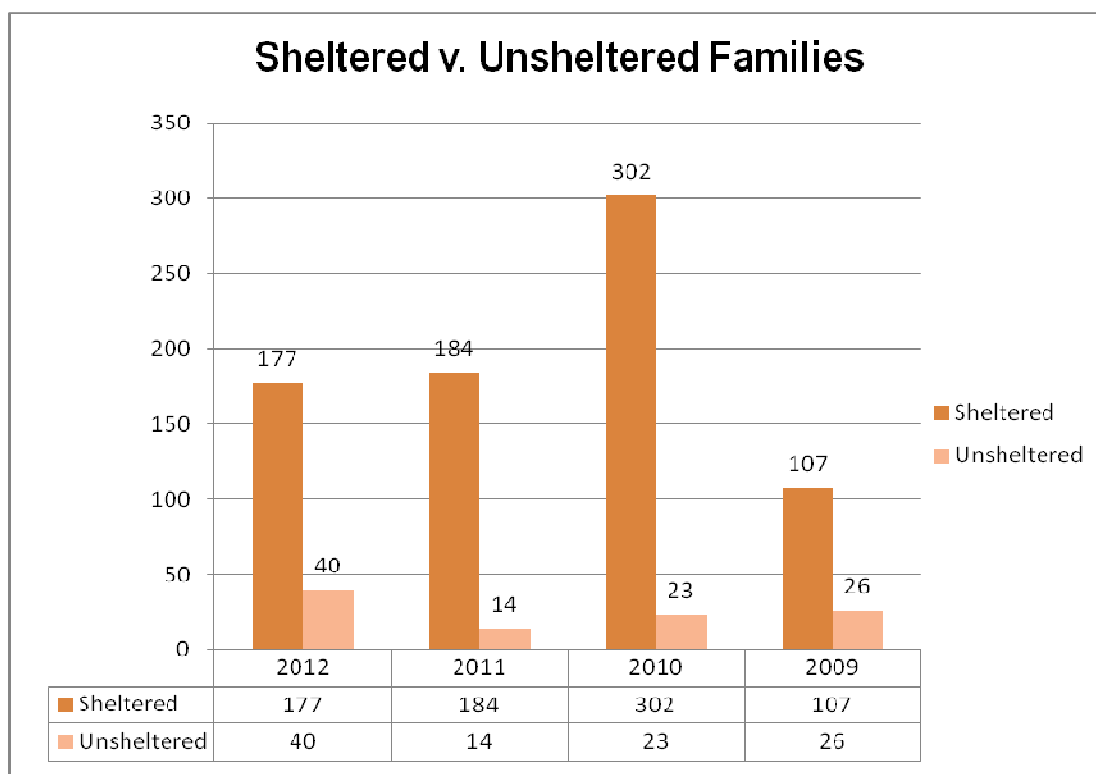
Living Situation

In Middlesex County, forty (40) homeless families were in an unsheltered living situation on the night of the count. The unsheltered homeless families had a total of 85 children with them on the night of the count.

The remaining 177 homeless families were in sheltered living situations that included emergency shelter and transitional housing. The largest percentage (35.9%) of homeless families were residing in hotel/motel placement as emergency shelter on the night of the 2012 count.



As the chart below shows, homeless families in Middlesex County have mainly been in sheltered living situations over the past four counts with the number of unsheltered reaching its highest level this count year with an increase of 65% from 2011.



Length of Homelessness

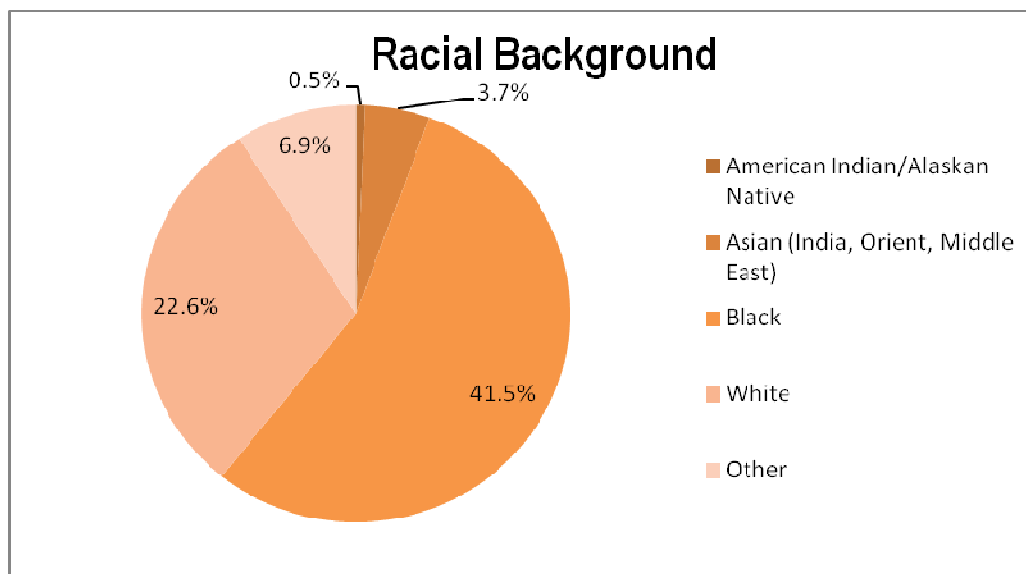
The largest percentage (20.3%) of homeless families had been homeless six (6) months to twelve (12) months. This differs from the total homeless population overall where the highest percentage were homeless more than one year.

2012 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day - 1 week	20	9.2%
8 days - 1 month	8	3.7%
1 month & 1 day - 3 months	17	7.8%
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	38	17.5%
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	44	20.3%
More than 1 year	32	14.7%
No response	58	26.7%

Demographics

Of the total 217 homeless families in Middlesex County, 86.6% (n= 188) were female headed households and 11.5% (n=25) were male headed households.

The Racial Background chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless families in the 2012 count. The largest percentage of respondents defined themselves as Black (41.5%). The next largest group was those that defined themselves as White at 22.6%. A total of 18.9% (n=41) defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino.

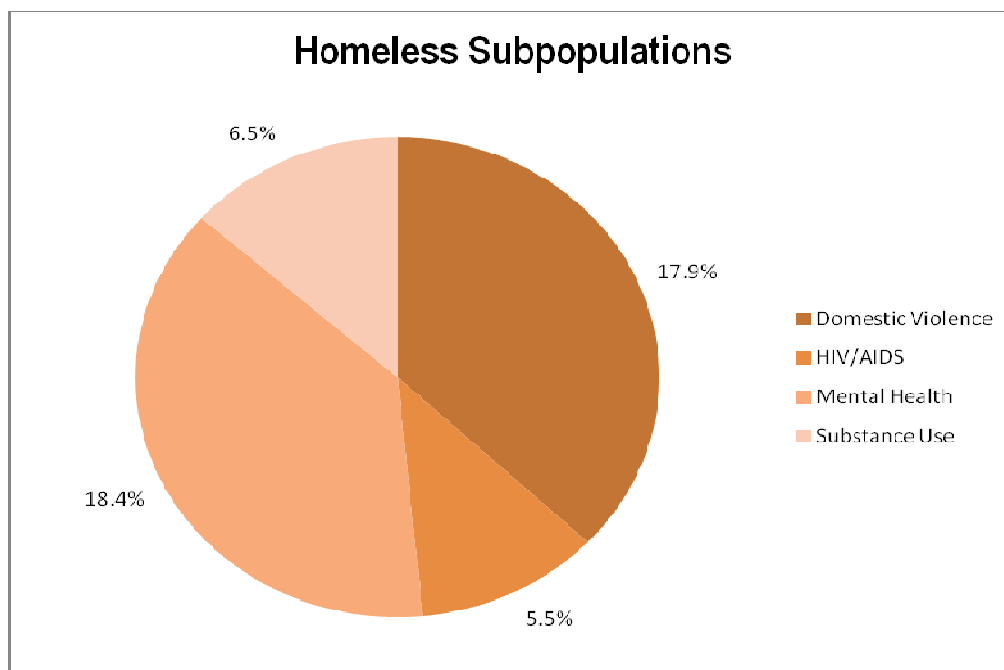


The largest percentage of homeless families in Middlesex County had a head of household that fell within the 30 to 39 year old age range. The next largest age cohort was 21 to 24 years old.

2012 Age	#	%
18-20	9	4.1%
21-24	51	23.5%
25-29	43	19.8%
30-39	61	28.1%
40-49	37	17.1%
50-59	8	3.7%
60-64	3	1.4%
No response	5	2.3%

Homeless Family Subpopulations

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



Financial Resources and Income

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

- Food Stamps (72.8%);
- TANF (59.4%); and
- Medicaid (41.5%)

Only 1.4% of families 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 \$5,000 a year.

2012 Yearly Income	#	%
No Income	23	10.6%
\$1.00-\$4,999	98	45.2%
\$5,000- \$9,999	30	13.8%
\$10,000-\$14,999	10	4.6%
\$15,000- \$19,999	11	5.1%
\$20,000-\$24,999	8	3.7%
\$25,000- \$29,999	2	0.9%
\$30,000- \$34,999	0	0.0%
\$35,000- \$39,000	1	0.5%
\$40,000- \$44,999	1	0.5%
\$50,000+	1	0.5%
No Response	32	14.7%

Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness

The highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Middlesex County was eviction. Other top ranking factors included housing costs too high and relationship breakdown.

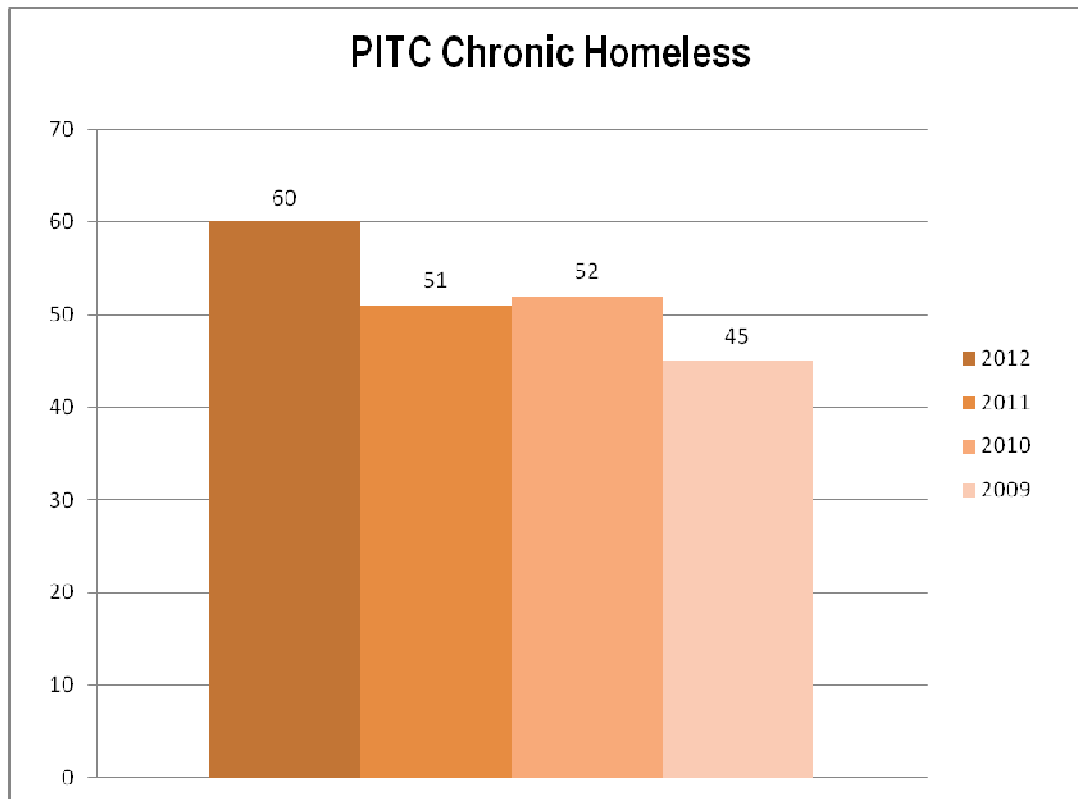
Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	36.4%
Housing costs too high	32.3%
Relationship/family breakup/death	26.7%
Lost job/cannot find work	25.8%
Domestic violence	21.7%

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

- Housing (68.2%);
- Employment assistance (27.2%); and
- Childcare (16.1%)

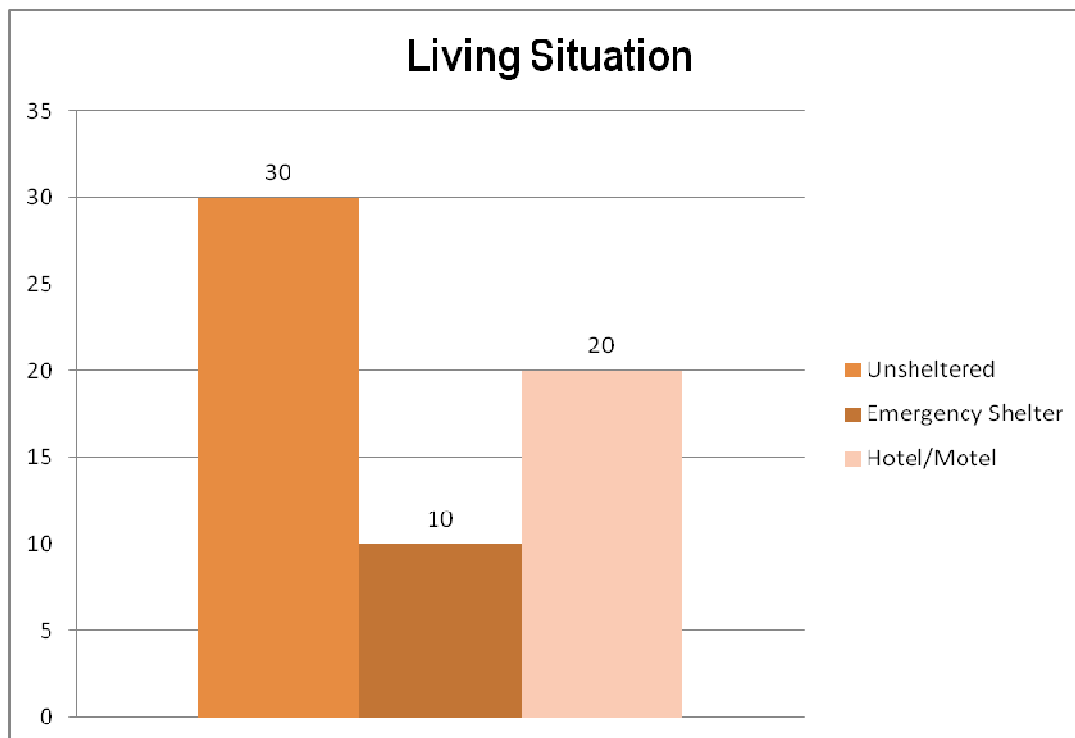
CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

On the night of January 25, 2012, there were 60 chronically homeless individuals counted in Middlesex County equaling 8.0% of the total homeless population. The number of chronically homeless in Middlesex County has been on the rise since 2009 with an overall increase of 25%.

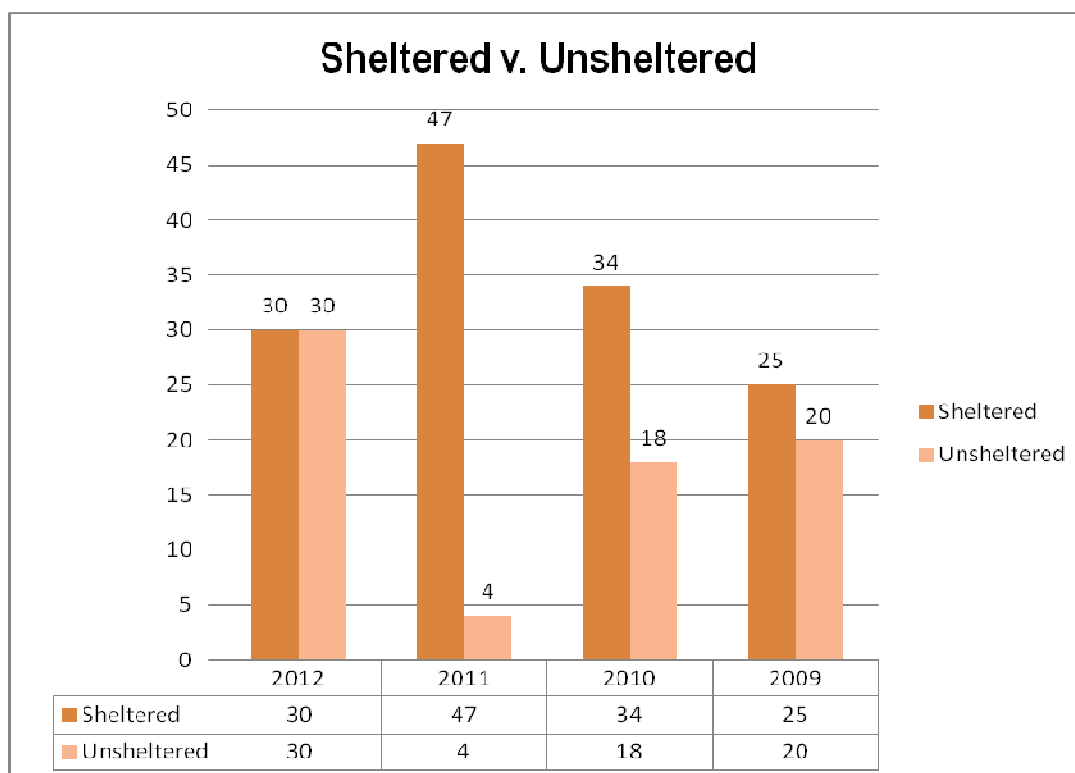


Living Situation

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 (50%) of the chronically homeless population in Middlesex County was in an unsheltered living situation on the night of the count.



Over the four (4) count years, the number of both the sheltered and unsheltered chronically homeless individuals in Middlesex County has fluctuated however, the number of unsheltered chronically homeless individuals were on the decline until the current count and the sheltered chronically homeless was on the rise until the current year.



Length of Homelessness

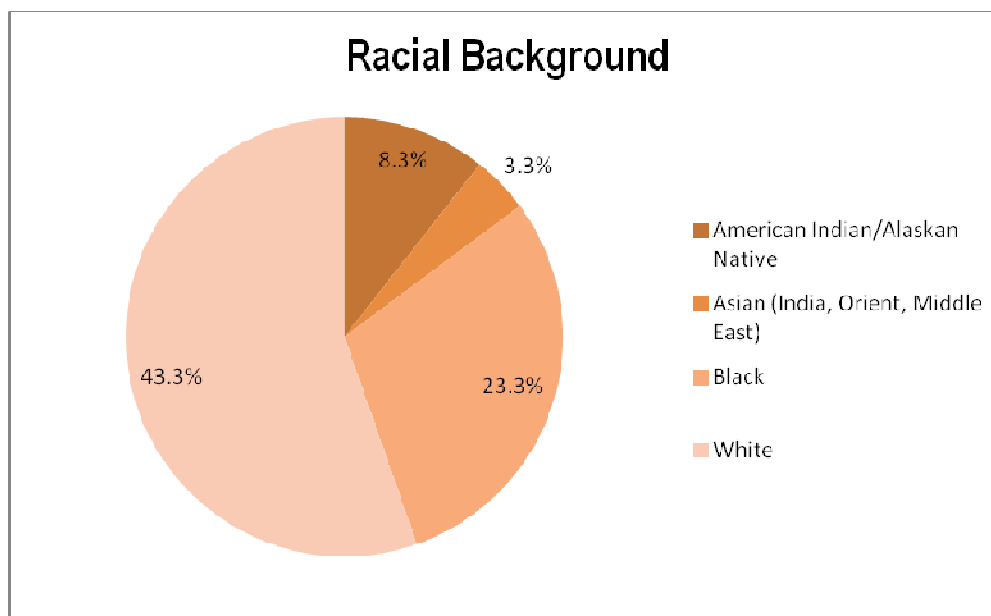
Of the total number of chronically homeless individuals in Middlesex County, 83.3% (n= 50) reported they had been homeless for more than one year. Also, a total of 63.3% (n=38) reported they had four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.

2012 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day - 1 week	1	1.7%
8 days - 1 month	1	1.7%
1 month & 1 day - 3 months	2	3.3%
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	3	5.0%
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	3	5.0%
More than 1 year	50	83.3%

Demographics

In 2012, a total of 45 or 75% of the chronically homeless individual population was male and 14 or 23.3% was female.

As the Racial Background chart outlines, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals identified themselves as White (43.3%) with the next largest percentage being those who identified themselves as Black (23.3%). The total percentage that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 16.7%.

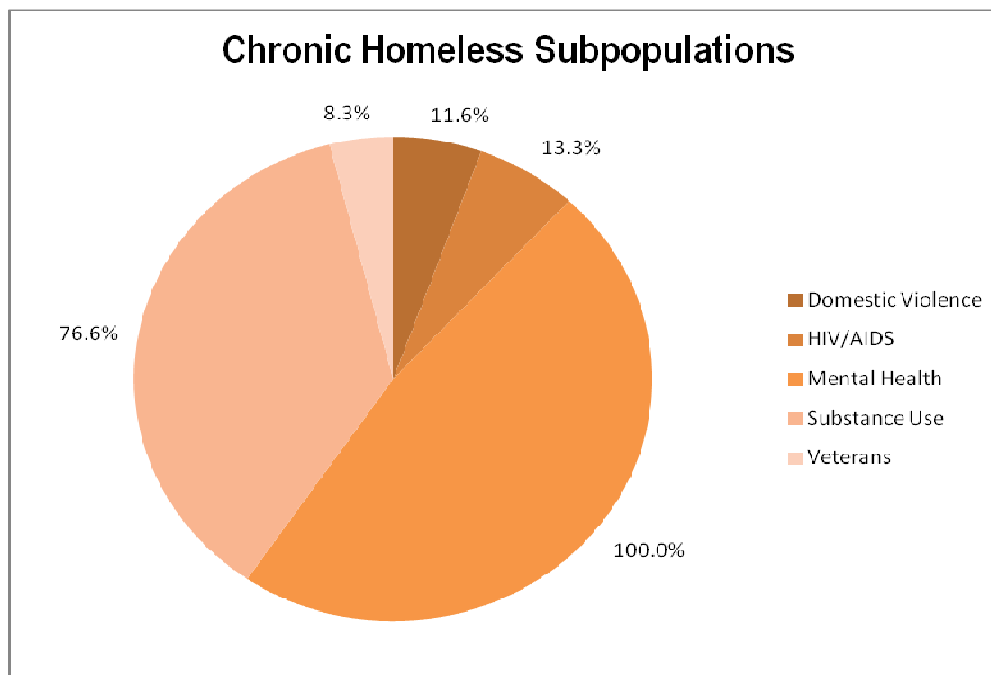


As the Age chart shows, on the night of the 2012 count in Middlesex County, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals fell into the 40 to 49 year old age range (38.3%). This age group was closely followed by those between the ages of 50 and 59 years.

2012 Age	#	%
21-24	1	1.7%
25-29	4	6.7%
30-39	6	10.0%
40-49	23	38.3%
50-59	18	30.0%
60-64	5	8.3%
65+	1	1.7%
No response	2	3.3%

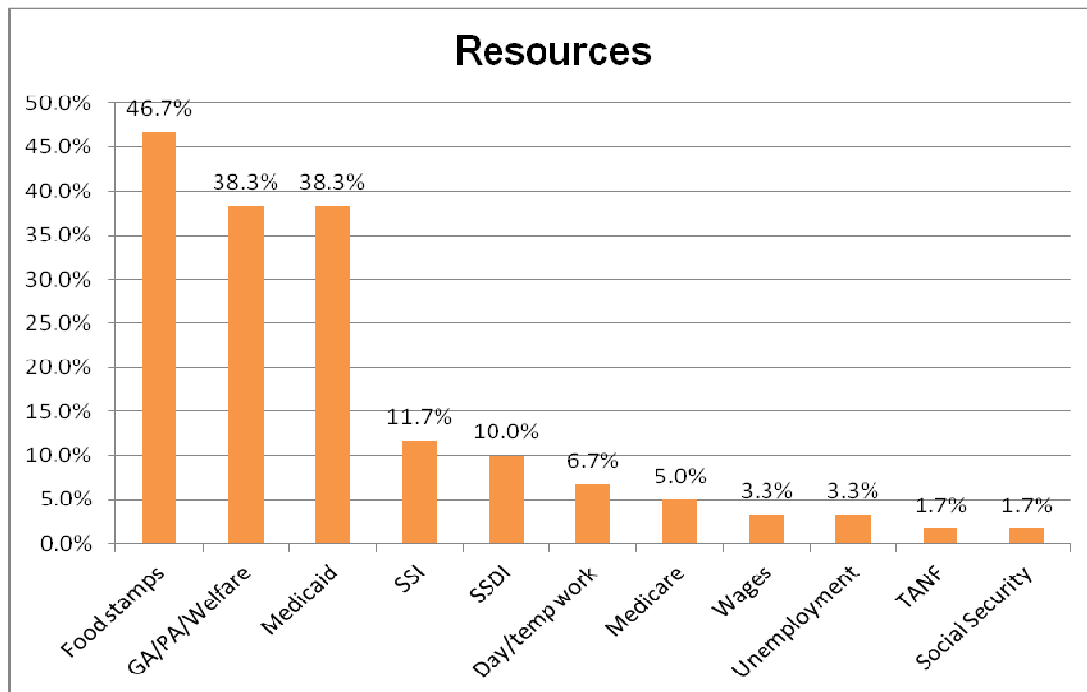
Chronic Homeless Subpopulations

The Chronic Homeless Subpopulations chart below outlines the breakdown of the chronic homeless individual HUD subpopulations for the 2012 count. As shown in the chart, 100% of the chronic homeless individuals reported they had mental health issues and 76.6% reported having substance use issues.



Financial Resources

The three main sources of income reported by people who were homeless in Middlesex County on the night of the 2012 count were Food Stamps (46.7%), Welfare (38.3%) and Medicaid (38.3%). 8.3% 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 (43.3%) of chronically homeless individuals reported having income less than \$5,000. This mirrors the total homeless population for the County.

2012 Yearly Income	#	%
No Income	18	30.0%
\$1.00-\$4,999	26	43.3%
\$5,000- \$9,999	7	11.7%
\$10,000-\$14,999	5	8.3%
\$30,000- \$34,999	1	1.7%
No Response	3	5.0%

Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness

The highest ranking factor that chronically homeless individual respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Middlesex County was mental health issues. Other top ranking factor included substance abuse problems.

2012 Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Mental illness/emotional problems	55.0%
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	45.0%
Housing costs too high	33.3%
Lost job/cannot find work	33.3%
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	33.3%
Relationship/family breakup/death	33.3%
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	26.7%
Utility costs too high	23.3%
Have work but wages are too low	20.0%
Incarceration	16.7%
Lost job due to lack of transportation	16.7%
Domestic violence	11.7%
Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure	3.3%
House condemned	1.7%

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 Middlesex County, the top service received by the chronically homeless individual population was emergency shelter and the top service that was reported as needed was housing services.

2012 Service Needs	#	%
<i>Received</i>		
Emergency shelter	38	63.3%
Emergency food or meal assistance	33	55.0%
Medical (routine healthcare)	18	30.0%

<i>Need</i>		
Housing	38	63.3%
Emergency food or meal assistance	25	41.7%
Medical (routine healthcare)	24	40.0%

Discharge from Mainstream Institutions

As part of the 2012 survey, the 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 Medical Hospitals and City/County Jail.

Discharged Into Homelessness (Past Three Years)		
<i>Corrections</i>	#	%
State Prison	4	6.7%
City/County Jail	11	18.3%
Juvenile Detention Center	0	0.0%
<i>Inpatient Care</i>	#	%
Hospitalized (Medical)	12	20.0%
State Inpatient Mental Health	2	3.3%
City/County Inpatient Mental Health	6	10.0%
Substance Abuse Treatment	7	11.7%

Last Permanent Address

In the 2012 count, 93.3% (n=56) of the chronically homeless individual respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless.

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 New Brunswick.

Town	#	%
New Brunswick	22	36.7%
Perth Amboy	4	6.7%
Edison	3	5.0%
Piscataway	3	5.0%

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES

The 2011 count was the first year that HUD requested information on chronically homeless families as the definition of chronically homeless was changed with the 2010 NOFA. The information is based on responses by the head of household and as it is only the second year of reporting this data, there is not significant comparable data.

In Middlesex County, there was only one (1) family that met the chronic homeless definition and could be considered a chronically homeless family. This is a large decrease from 2011 when the County had a total of nine (9) families that met the definition.

The one family equals 0.1% of the total homeless population and 0.4% of the total family homeless population. This family had a total of two (2) children with them on the night of the count.

Adding the families to the individuals gives Middlesex County a total chronically homeless population of 63 men, women and children on the night of the 2012 count.

Living Situation and Length of Homelessness

On the night of the count the family was in a sheltered homeless living situation and was residing in a hotel/motel placement as emergency shelter. The family had been homeless more than one year and had four (4) episodes of homeless over that past three (3) years (since January 25, 2009).

Demographics

In 2012, the chronically homeless family was a female headed household that defined their race as Black. The head of household was between 40 and 49 years old.

Chronic Homeless Family Subpopulations

In Middlesex County, the chronically homeless family was part of the mental illness HUD subpopulation.

Financial Resources and Income

The sources of income reported by the chronically homeless family included TANF, Medicaid and Food Stamps.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness

The main contributing factors to homelessness as reported by the chronically homeless family were loss of job and inability to find work and relationship breakdown.