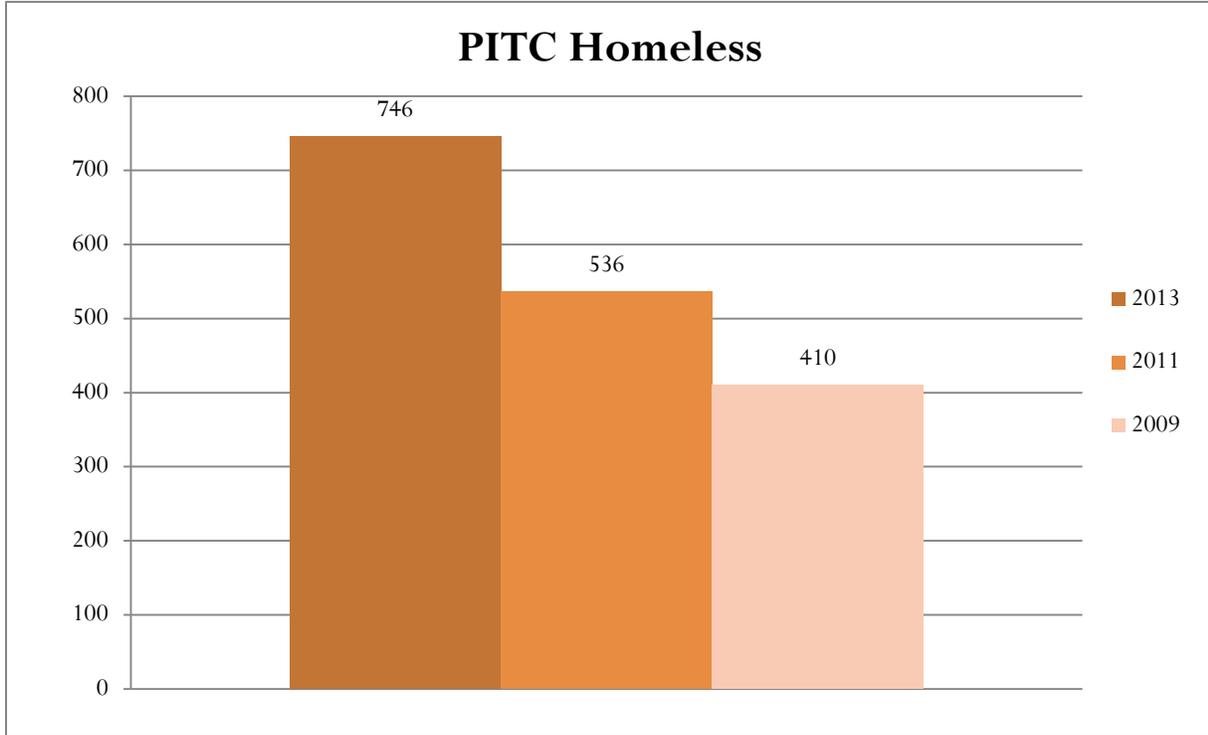


## ATLANTIC COUNTY

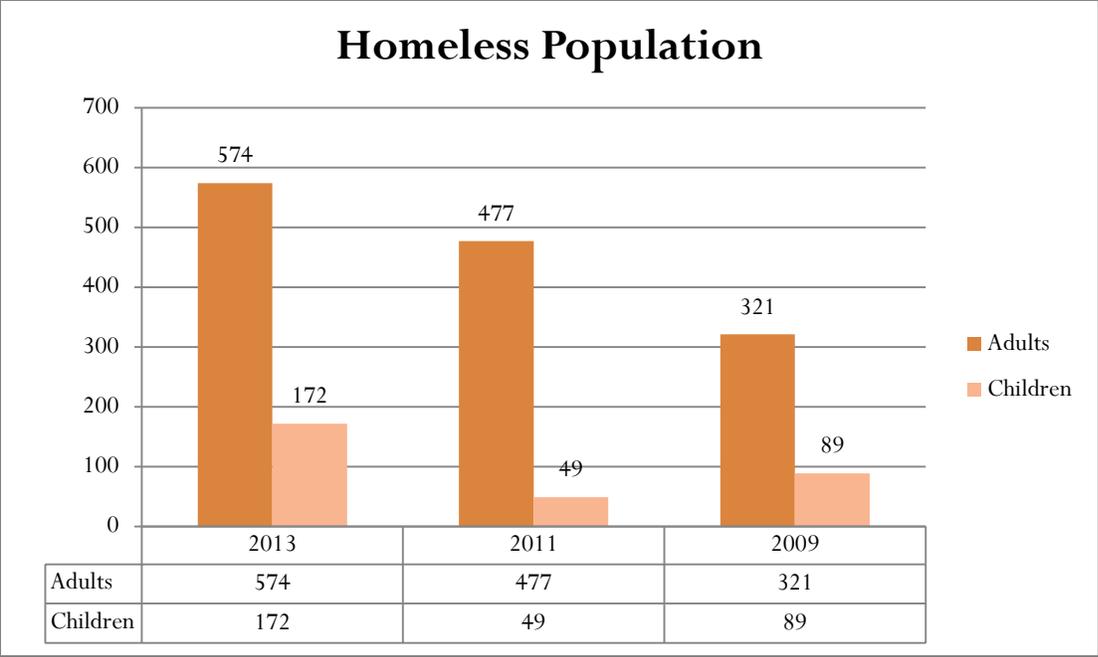
On January 30, 2013 there were 746 homeless men, women and children counted in Atlantic County according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations.



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, 1,546 adults and children are homeless in Atlantic County.*

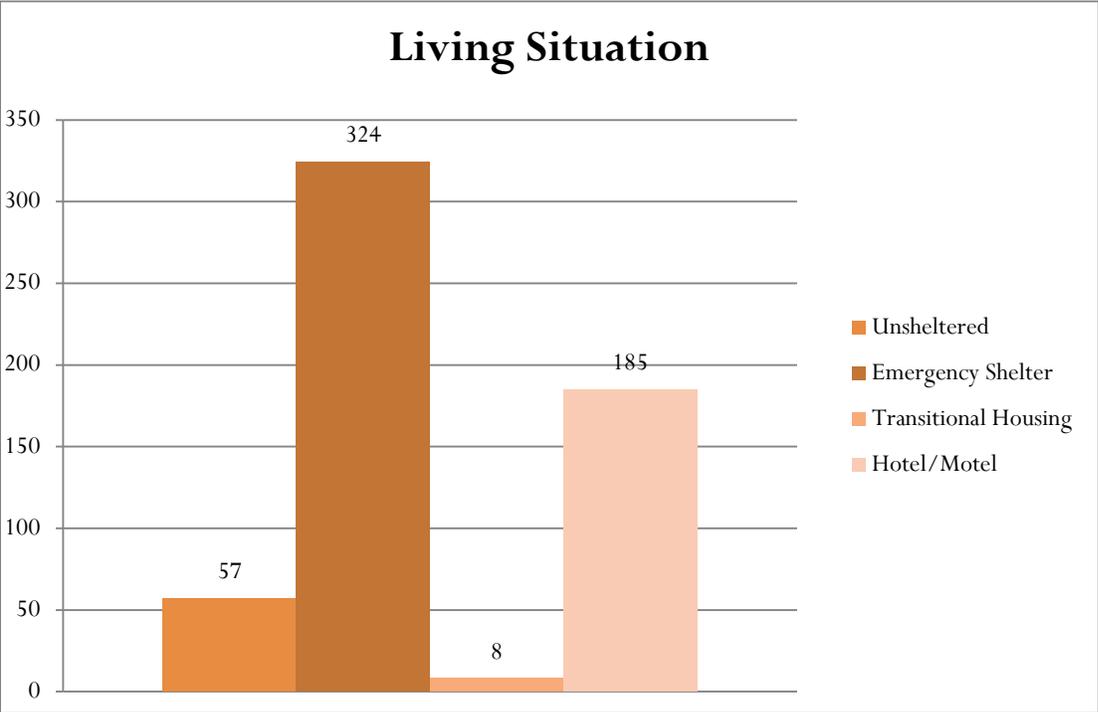
Homelessness in Atlantic County has increased over the last three full HUD count years reaching the highest level in this year's count. Of the 746 people who were homeless on the night of the count 172 of them were children. As the Homeless Population chart shows since 2009, the number of adults has been on the rise with a total increase of 44.0%. The number of children has fluctuated but saw a large increase between 2011 and 2013 totaling 71.5%.

<b>2013 Homeless Breakdown</b>	
Respondents (Adults)	574
Family Members (Children)	172
<b>Total Homeless</b>	<b>746</b>



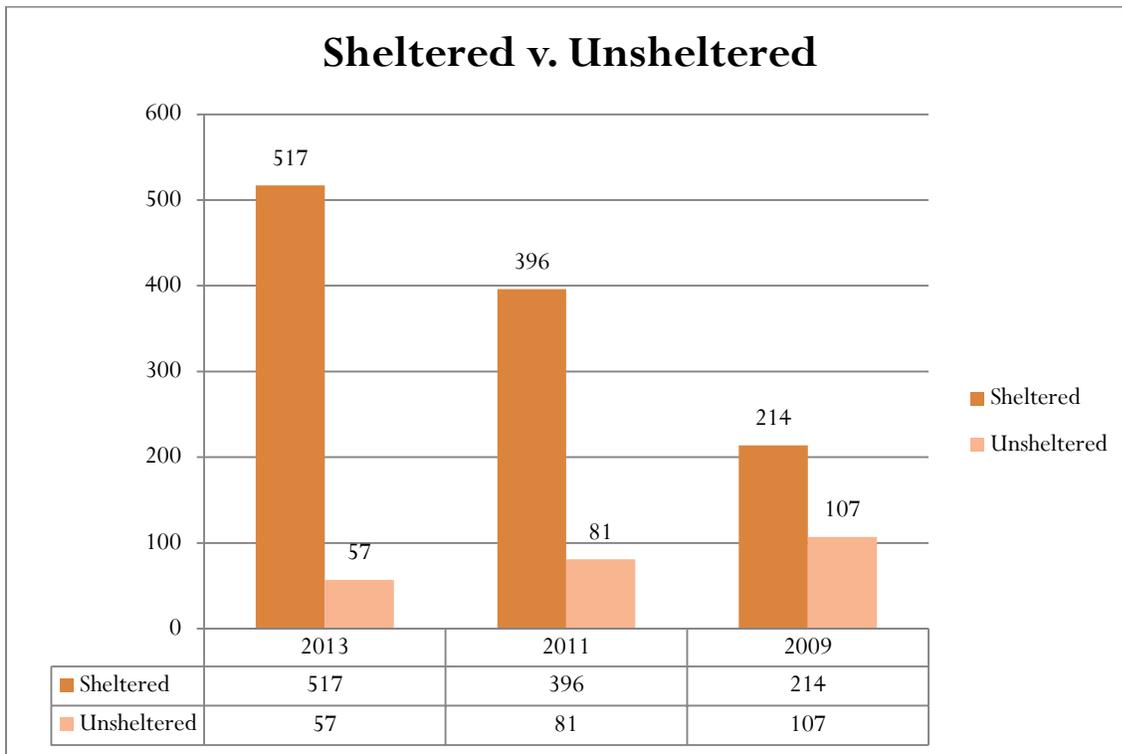
**Living Situation**

As reflected in the Living Situation chart below, 57 or 9.9% 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=324, 56.4%).



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

The number of unsheltered homeless in Atlantic County has been on the decline since 2009. In turn, the number of sheltered homeless has been on the rise with an overall increase of 58.6%.



### 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 2013 report, there is a comparison of what was reported in HMIS for Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing for the night of the count with what was reported in the same categories for the Point In Time Count. The numbers from HMIS are based on those over age 17 in emergency shelter or transitional housing on the night of the Point In Time Count.

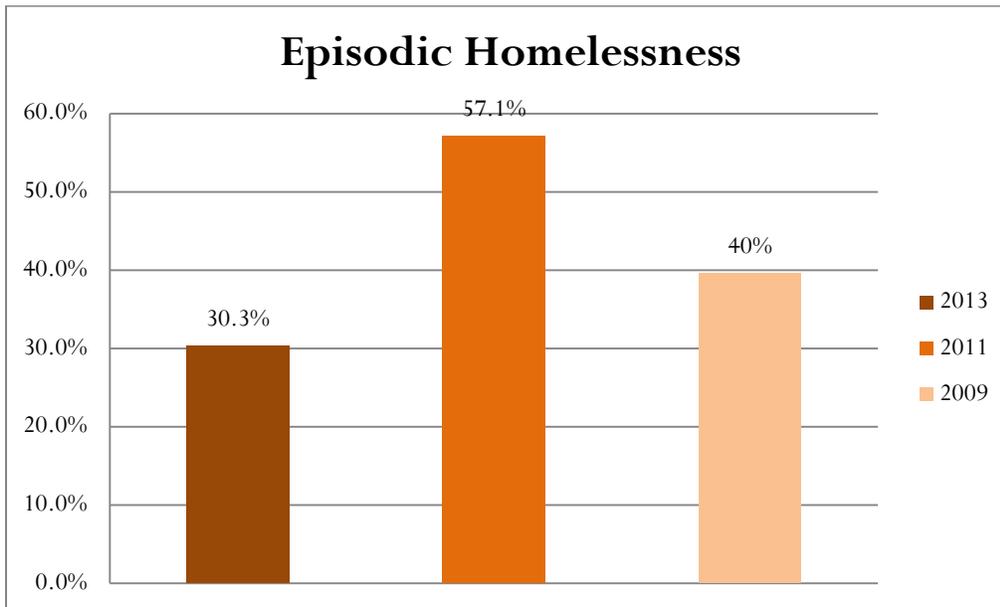
In Atlantic County, there were a total of 770 adults in emergency shelter in the HMIS on the night of the count. There was no one in transitional housing in the HMIS system on the night of the count. The emergency shelter number is higher than what was recorded as part of the count. On the night of the count 324 respondents stated that they would be in emergency shelter and 8 reported residing in transitional housing.

**Length and Episodes of Homelessness**

Of the homeless population surveyed in Atlantic County, 186 or 32.4% responded that they have been homeless for more than one year. The other timeframe that was almost equal where those homeless three (3) to six (6) months. Of those who were homeless less than one year, 17.4% reported that they had been homeless at least one other time within the past 12 months.

2013 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day - 1 week	19	3.3
8 days - 1 month	47	8.2
1 month & 1 day - 3 months	52	9.1
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	185	32.2
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	54	9.4
<b>More than 1 year</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>32.4</b>

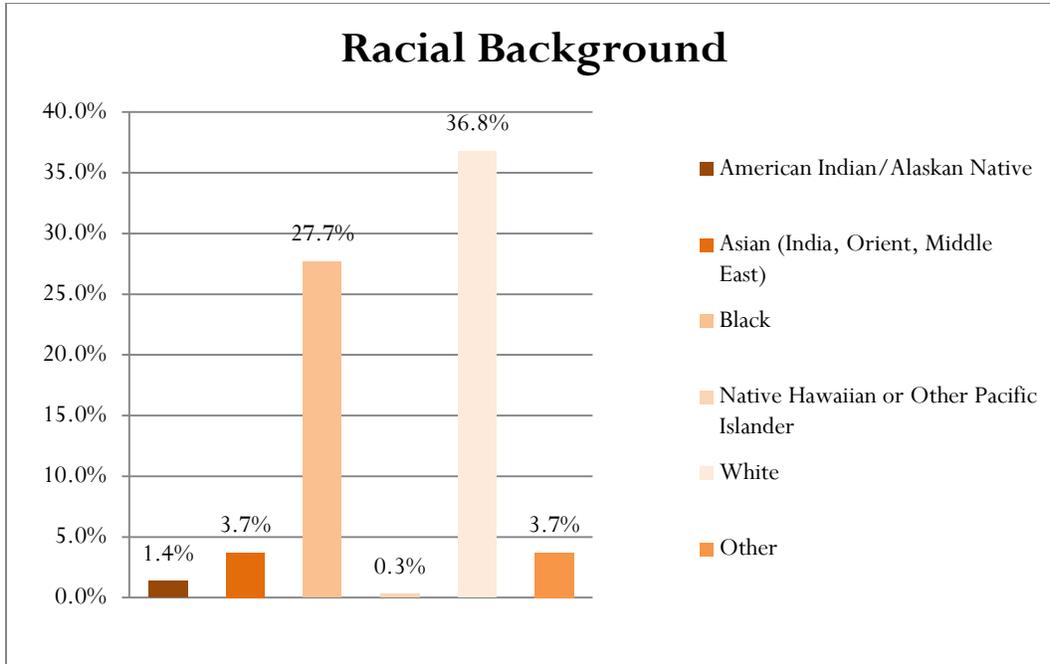
As reflected in the chart below, a total of 174 or 30.3% of the total homeless population reported having at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. Although this number has fluctuated over the last three full HUD count years, this is a significant decrease from 2011 (57.1%).



**Demographics**

In 2013, of the total homeless population in Atlantic County, 320 people or 55.7% were male, 112 or 19.5% were female and one (1) or 0.2% identified as transgender.

The Racial Background chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless persons in the 2013 count. The largest majority were White (36.8%) followed by those that defined themselves as Black (27.7%). The total percentage of the homeless population that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 10.3%.

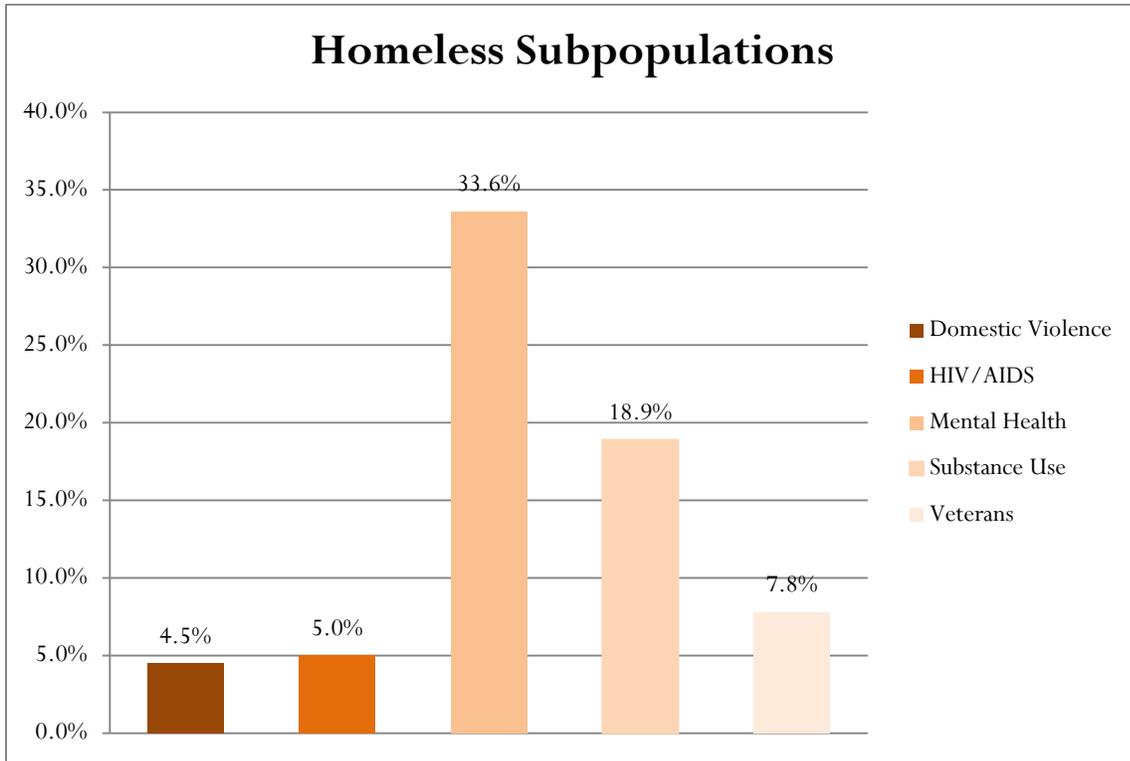


The largest percentage of the homeless in Atlantic County fell within the 50 to 59 year old age range, totaling 22%, followed by those within the 40 to 49 year old age range (15.9%).

2013 Age	#	%
18-20	27	4.7
21-24	19	3.3
25-29	37	6.4
30-39	57	9.9
40-49	91	15.9
<b>50-59</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>22.0</b>
60-64	32	5.6
65+	28	4.9

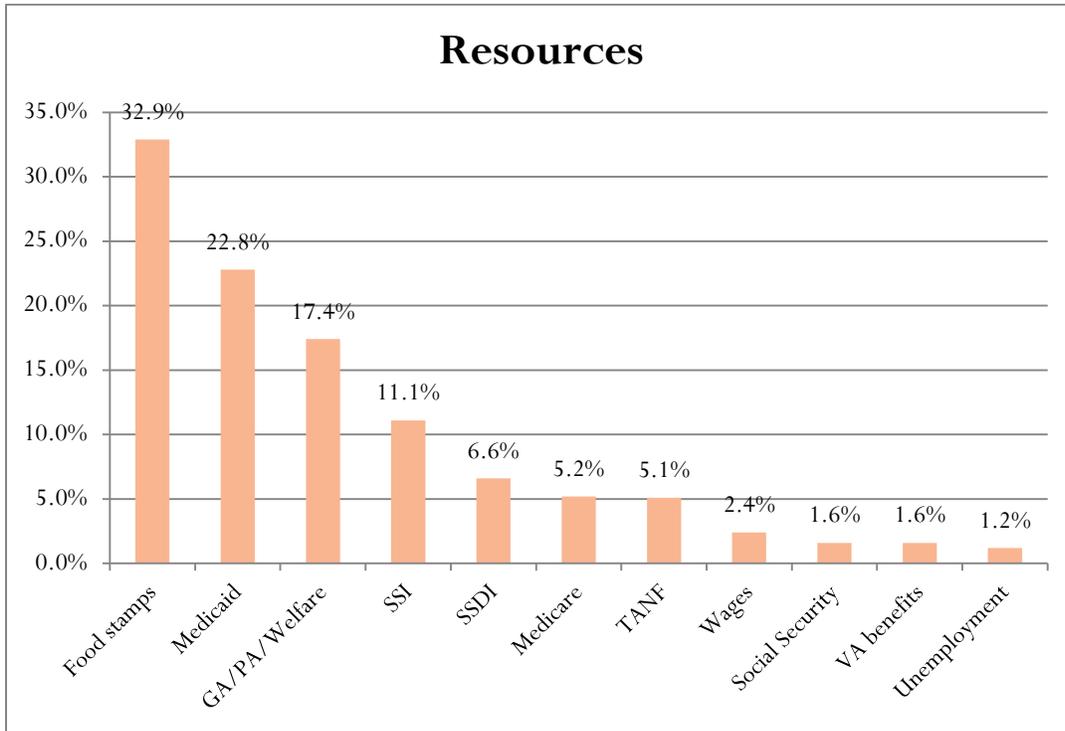
### Homeless Subpopulations

The chart below outlines the breakdown of the homeless subpopulations in Atlantic County for the 2013 count. The largest subpopulation identified were those who had mental health issues (33.6%). The number of homeless veterans equaled 7.8% (n=45).



**Financial Resources and Income**

The three main sources of income reported by people who were homeless in Atlantic County on the night of the 2013 count were Food Stamps (32.9%), Medicaid (22.8%) and Welfare (17.4%). A total of 5.6% of the homeless population reported receiving no form of government benefit on the night of the count.



As part of the 2013 count, respondents were asked to report a current income that provided a potential estimated yearly income. In Atlantic County, the largest percent of respondents stated that they had no income. The next largest percentage was those earning less than \$5,000 a year.

2013 Year Income	#	%
<b>No Income</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>28.0</b>
\$1,000- \$4,999	123	21.4
\$5,000- \$9,999	83	14.5
\$10,000- \$14,999	26	4.5
\$15,000-\$19,999	10	1.7
\$20,000-\$24,999	2	0.3
\$25,000-\$29,999	1	0.2
Over \$30,000	1	0.2

**Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness**

The highest ranking factors that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Atlantic County were natural disaster and loss of job. Another top ranking factor for the homeless population was alcohol or drug abuse problems.

<b>Contributing Factors to Homelessness</b>	<b>%</b>
Natural disaster	26.1
Lost job/can't find work	25.8
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	20.2
Relationship/family breakup or death	15.0
Housing costs are too high	12.0
Mental illness/emotional problems	12.0
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	10.1
Incarceration	8.5
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	8.2
Have work but wages are too low	7.5
Domestic violence	5.1
Utility costs are too high	3.7
Lost job due to lack of transportation	3.3
House condemned	1.2
Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure	0.5
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 Atlantic County, the top service received was emergency shelter and the top service reported as needing was housing.

<b>2013 Service Needs</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
<b><i>Received</i></b>		
Emergency shelter	311	54.1
Emergency food or meal assistance	285	49.6
Medical (routine Healthcare)	84	14.8
<b><i>Need</i></b>		
Housing	275	47.9
Dental	105	18.2
Medical (routine Healthcare)	80	14.1

### **Discharge from Mainstream Institutions**

As part of the 2013 survey, respondents were asked if they had been discharged into homelessness from certain mainstream institutions within the past three years (since January 30, 2010). 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 were State Prison and Medical Hospitals.

<b>Discharged Into Homelessness (Past Three Years)</b>		
<i>Corrections</i>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
State Prison	32	5.6
City or County Jail	88	15.3
Juvenile Detention Center	2	0.3
<i>Inpatient Care</i>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Medical Hospital	98	17.1
City/County inpatient mental health	17	3.0
State inpatient mental health treatment	7	1.2
Private Inpatient Substance Use Institution	15	2.6

### **Last Permanent Address**

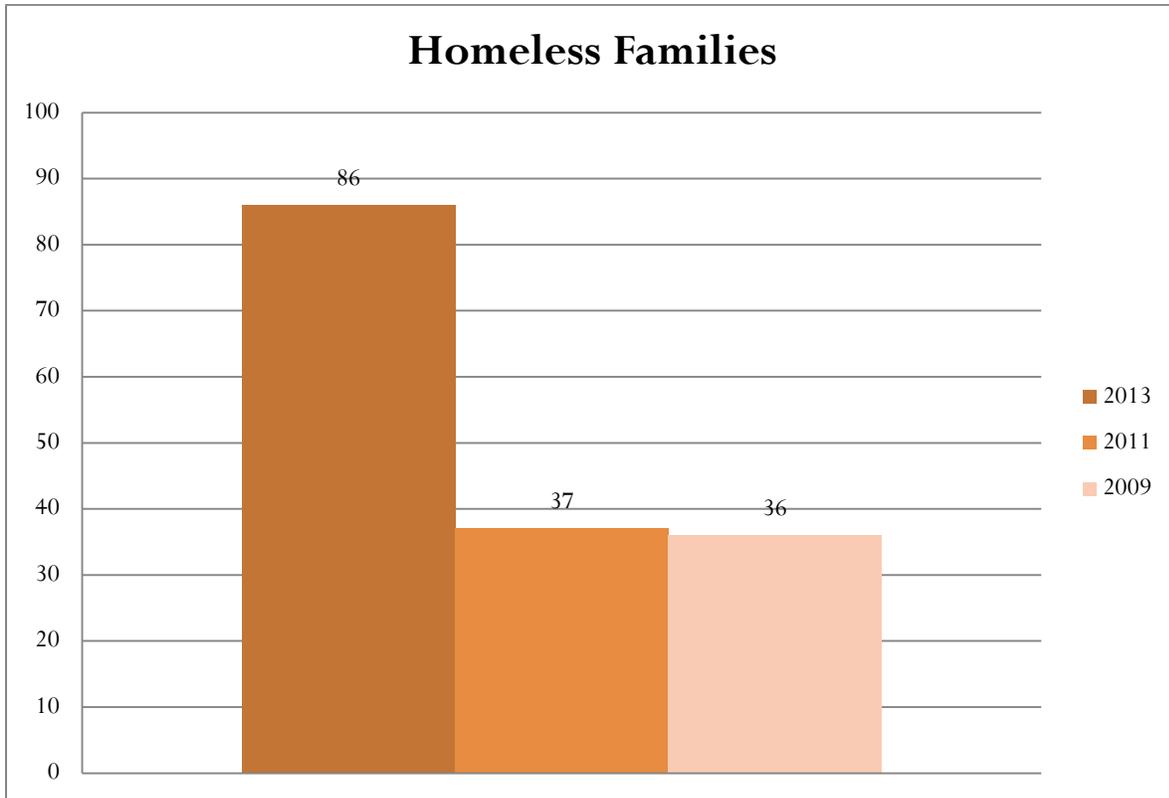
In the 2013 count, 86.9% (n=499) of the homeless respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless. In looking at the surround states, 3.3% (n=19) last lived in Pennsylvania, 2.6% (n=15) last lived in New York, and 0.5% (n=3) last lived in Delaware.

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 3% or higher). The largest number reported last living in Atlantic City.

<b>Town</b>	<b>%</b>
Atlantic City	84.3%
Ventnor	3.4%

## FAMILY HOMELESSNESS

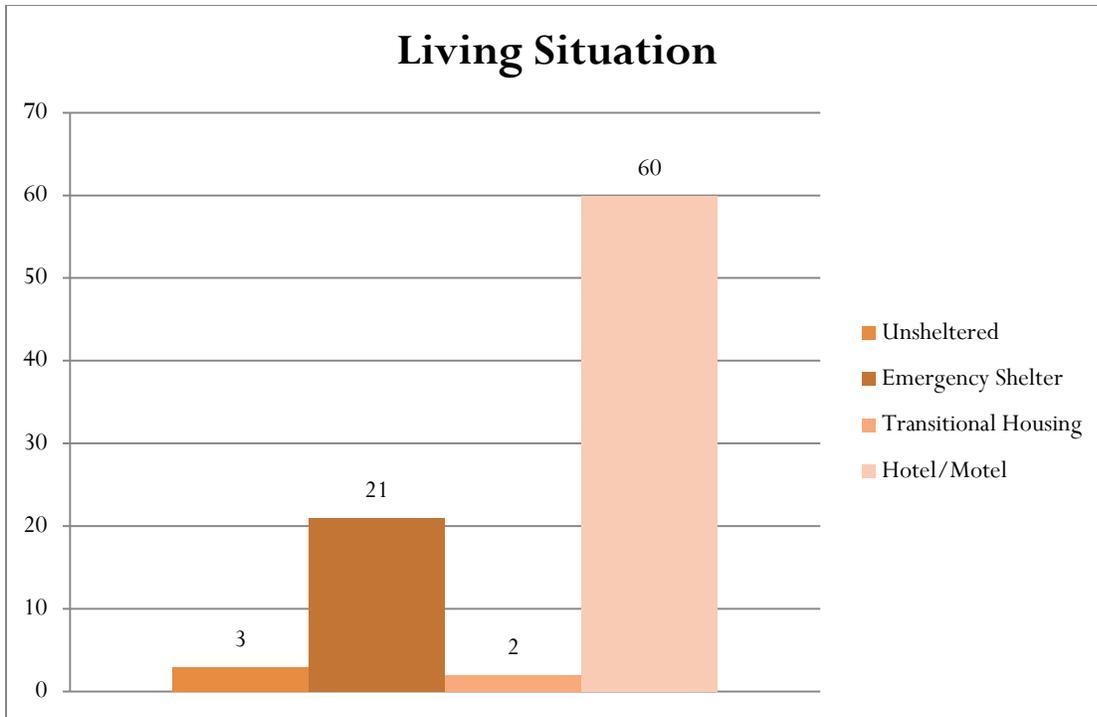
In 2013, of the 574 homeless respondents in Atlantic County, 86 or 14.9% had at least one dependent child under 18 with them the night of the count and are considered a homeless family. This represents a greater than 50% increase over the past two full HUD count years. Of the total of 172 homeless children in these families, 117 were six years or younger and 55 were between the ages of 7 and 17 years of age.



### Living Situation

In Atlantic County, three (3) homeless families (3.4%) were in unsheltered living situations on the night of the count and these families had a total of three (3) children with them on that night.

The remaining 83 homeless families were in sheltered living situations that included emergency shelter, transitional housing and hotel/motel placements as emergency shelter. The largest percentage (69.7%) of homeless families were residing in hotel/motel placements on the night of the 2013 count.



As the chart below shows, homeless families in Atlantic County have mainly been in sheltered living situations over the last three full HUD count years with the number of unsheltered decreasing each year.



### Length of Homelessness

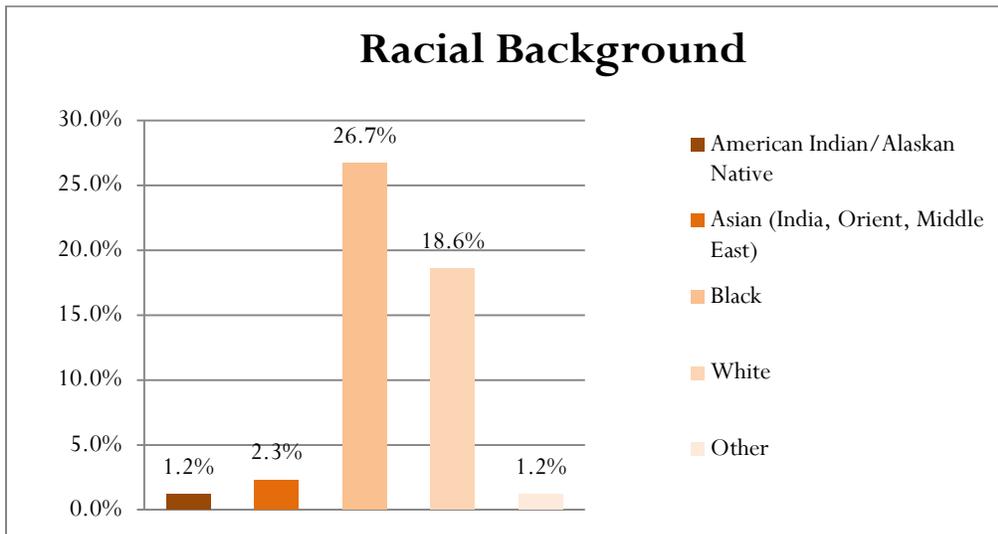
The largest percentage (57%) of families had been homeless three (3) to six (6) months. This mirrors the general homeless as a large percentage were homeless for three (3) to six (6) months outside of those homeless for more than one year.

2013 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day to 1 week	3	3.5
8 days to 1 month	7	8.1
1 month & 1 day to 3 months	9	10.5
<b>3 months &amp; 1 day to 6 months</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>57.0</b>
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	4	4.7
More than 1 year	7	8.1

### Demographics

Of the total 86 homeless families in Atlantic County, 37.2% (n= 32) were female headed households and 12.8% (n=11) were male headed households.

The Racial Background chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless families in the 2013 count. The largest percentage of respondents defined themselves as Black (26.7%). The next largest group was those that defined themselves as White at 18.6%. 9.3% (n=8) defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino.

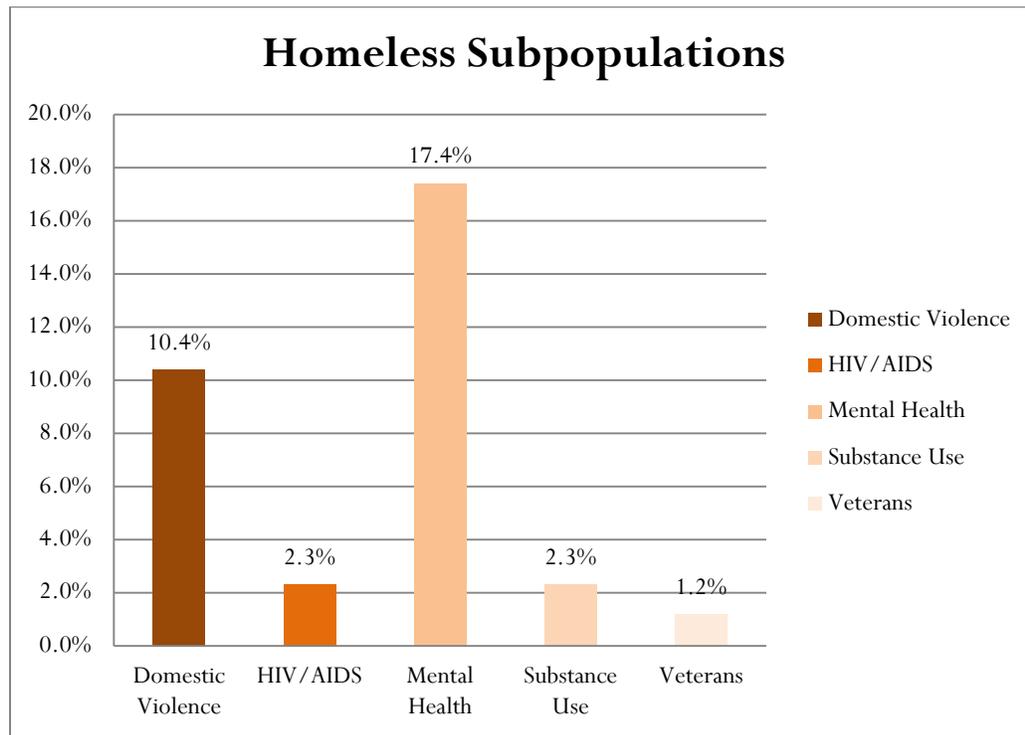


The largest percentage of homeless families in Atlantic County had a head of household that fell within the 25 to 29 year old age range. This is much younger than the total homeless population in the County.

2013 Age	#	%
18-21	6	7.0
22-24	7	8.1
<b>25-29</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14.0</b>
30-39	10	11.6
40-49	3	3.5
50-59	2	2.3
60-64	1	1.2

**Homeless Family Subpopulations**

Among the HUD homeless subpopulations in the 2013 count, in Atlantic County the largest subpopulation among homeless families were those with a head of household with mental health issues (17.4%). The next largest percentage was households experiencing domestic violence (10.4%) as reflected in the chart below.



### **Financial Resources and Income**

The three main sources of income reported by homeless families in Atlantic County on the night of the 2013 count were:

- TANF (30.2%);
- Food Stamps (23.3%); and
- Medicaid (10.5%)

Only one family stated they did not receive some form of government benefit. In reviewing yearly income, almost all of the homeless families were earning less than \$10,000 a year.

<b>2013 Year Income</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
No Income	5	5.8
<b>\$1.00- \$4,999</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>22.1</b>
\$5,000- \$9,999	18	20.9
\$15,000-\$19,999	1	1.2

### **Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness**

The highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Atlantic County was natural disaster. The other top ranking factor was loss of job.

<b>Contributing Factors to Homelessness</b>	<b>%</b>
Natural disaster	47.7
Lost job/ can't find work	11.6
Domestic violence	9.3
Have work but wages are too low	8.1
Mental illness/Emotional problems	7.0

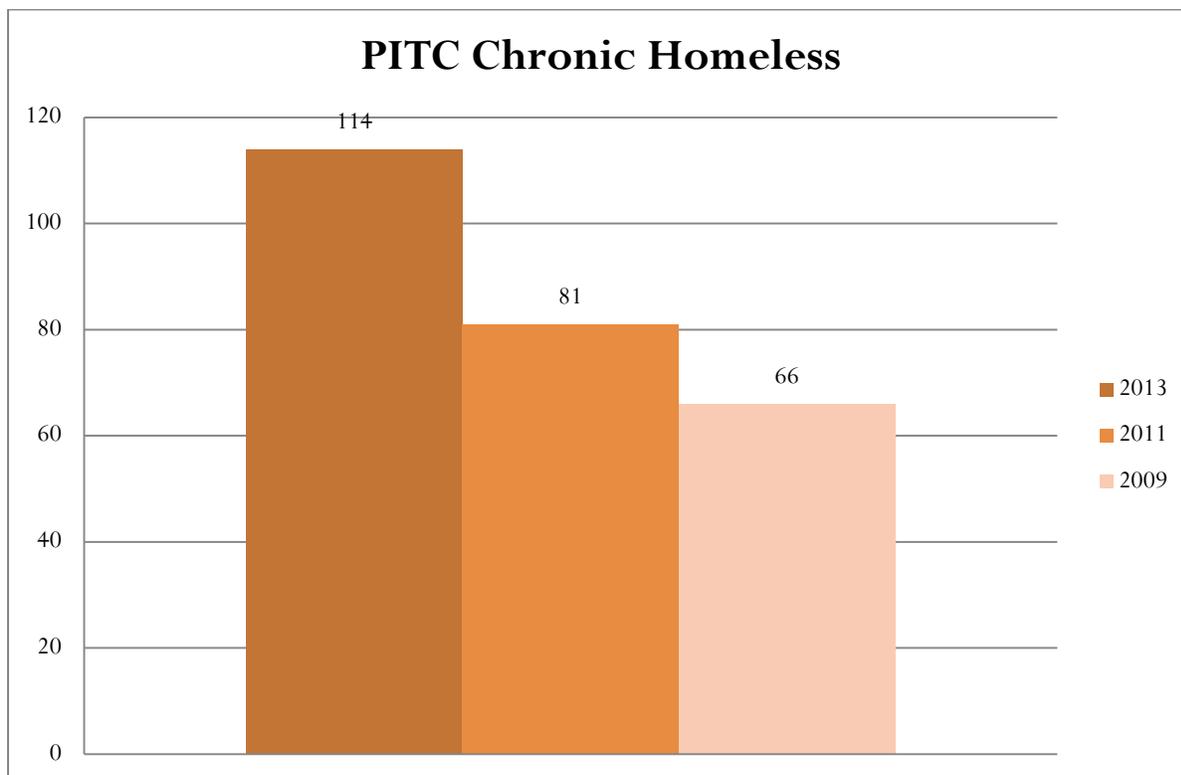
When families were asked what their top needs were on the night of the count the top three needs included:

- Housing (11.6%);
- Emergency food or meal assistance (11.6%); and
- Emergency shelter (9.3%)

## CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

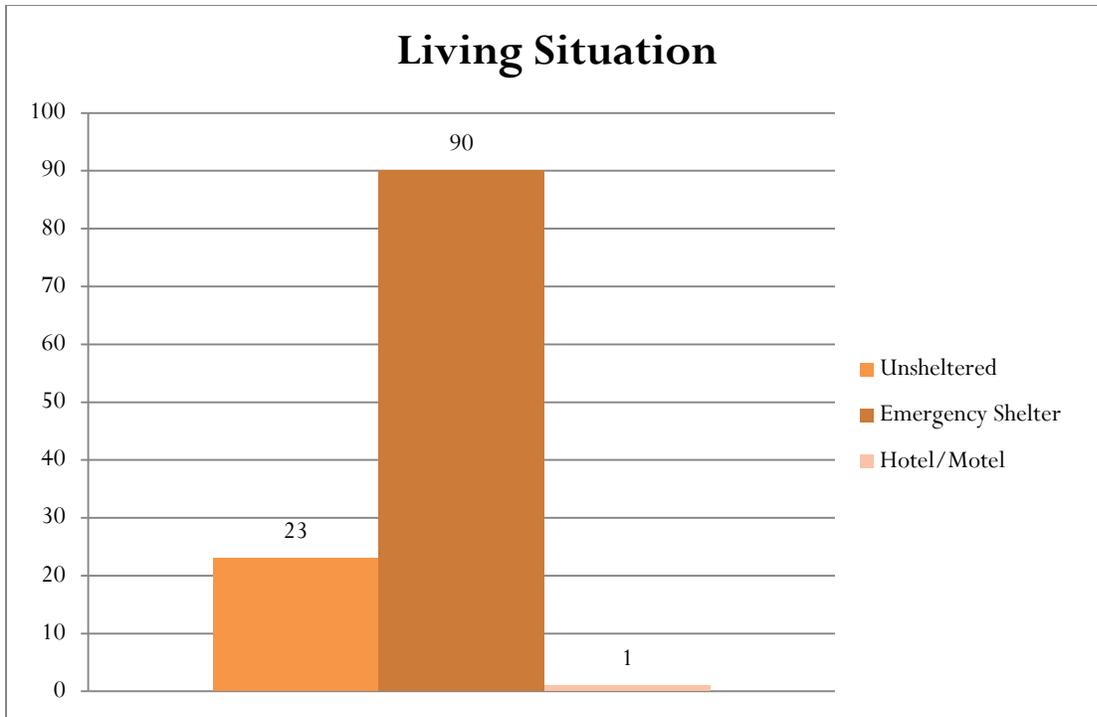
### **INDIVIDUALS**

On the night of January 30, 2013, there were 114 chronically homeless individuals counted in Atlantic County equaling 19.8% of the total homeless population. The number of chronically homeless in Atlantic County has been consistently on the rise since 2009 (increasing by 42.1%) reaching its highest level in the current count year.

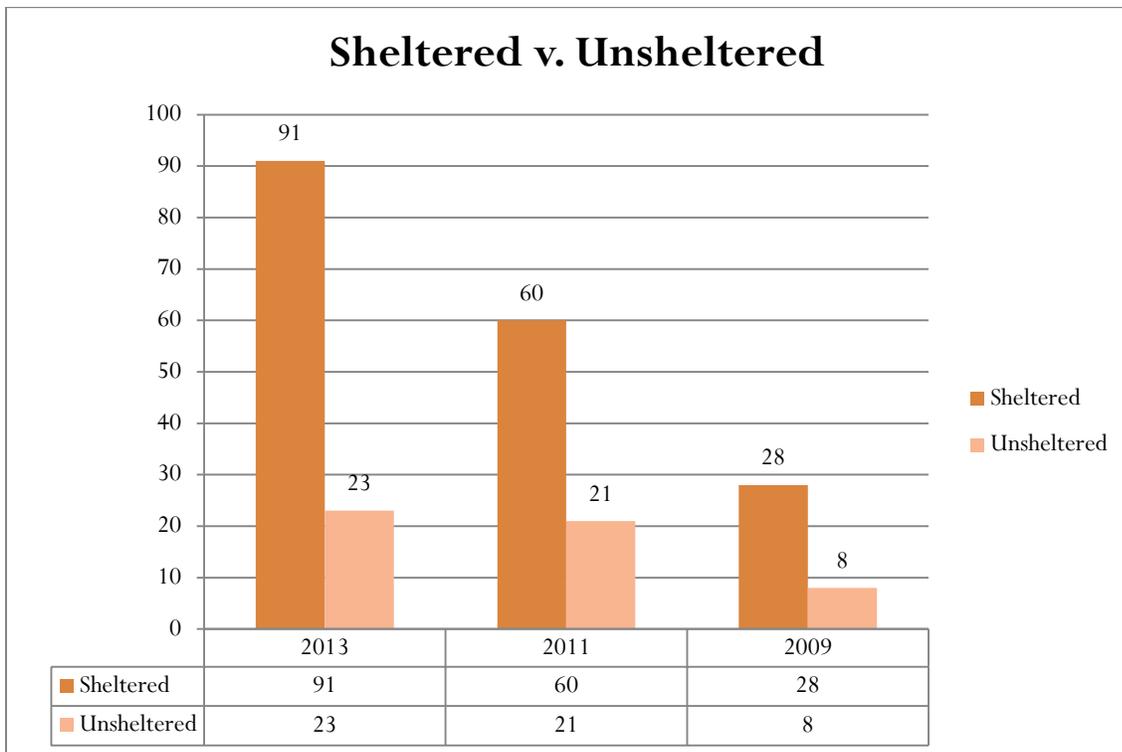


### **Living Situation**

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 2013 count. The largest percentage (78.9%) of the chronically homeless population in Atlantic County was residing in emergency shelter on the night of the count.



Over the last three full HUD count years, the number of both the sheltered and unsheltered chronically homeless individuals in Atlantic County has increased reaching its highest levels in 2013.



### Length of Homelessness

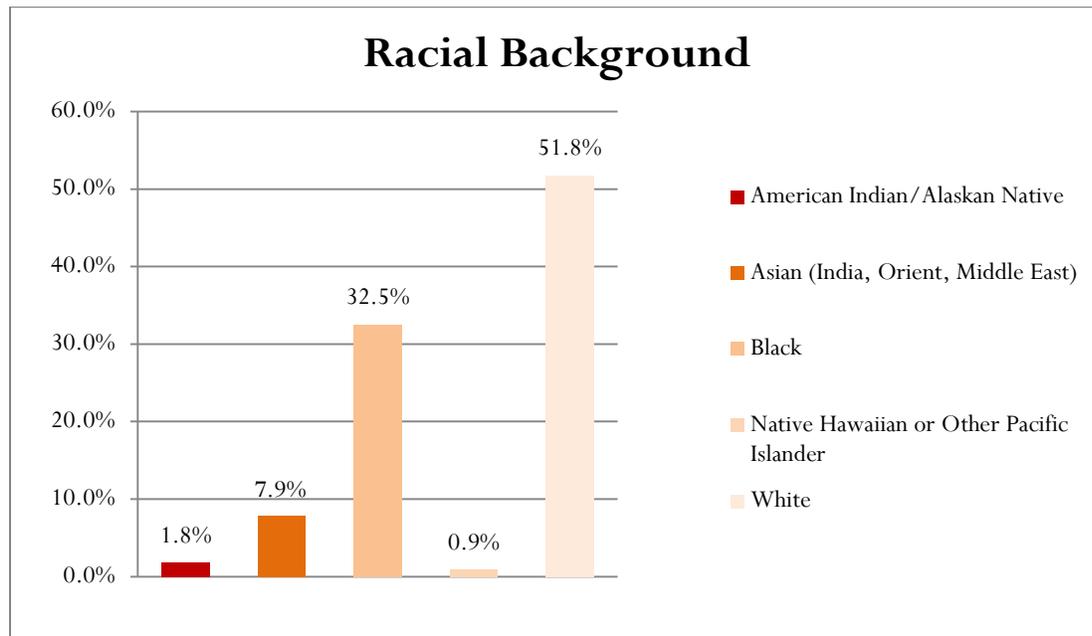
Of the total chronically homeless individuals in Atlantic County, 77.2% (n= 88) reported they had been homeless for more than one year. Also, a total of 74.6% (n= 85) reported they had four (4) episodes of homelessness within the past three (3) years.

2013 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day to 1 week	2	1.8
8 days to 1 month	2	1.8
1 month & 1 day to 3 months	7	6.1
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	7	6.1
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	7	6.1
<b>More than 1 year</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>77.2</b>

### Demographics

In 2013, a total of 77 or 67.5% of the chronically homeless individual population was male and 36 or 31.6% was female.

As the Racial Background chart outlines, over one half of the chronically homeless individuals identified themselves as White (51.8%) with the next largest percentage being those who identified themselves as Black (32.5%). The total percentage that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 11.4%.

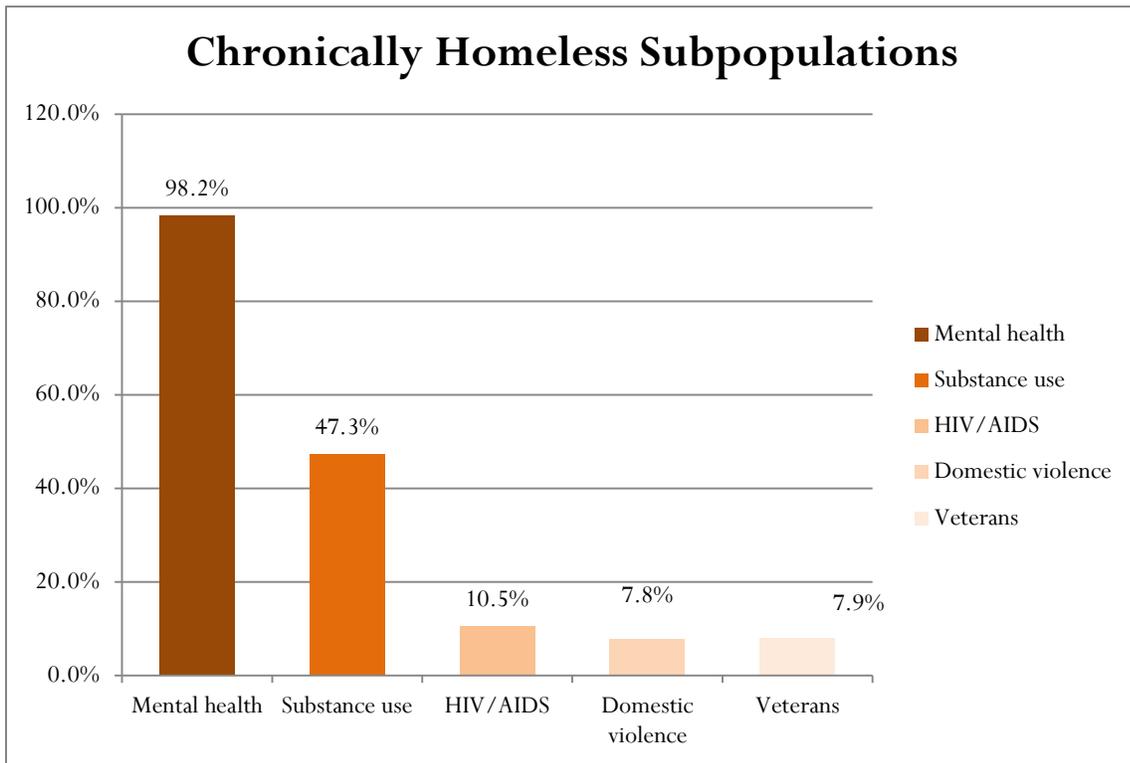


As the chart shows, on the night of the 2013 count in Atlantic County, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals fell into the 50 to 59 year old age range (32.4%). This age group was closely followed by those between the ages of 40 and 49 years.

2013 Age	#	%
18-21	6	5.3
22-24	4	3.5
25-29	5	4.4
30-39	15	13.2
40-49	26	22.8
<b>50-59</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>34.2</b>
60-64	8	7.0
65 or older	9	7.9
No Response	2	1.8

### **Chronic Homeless Subpopulations**

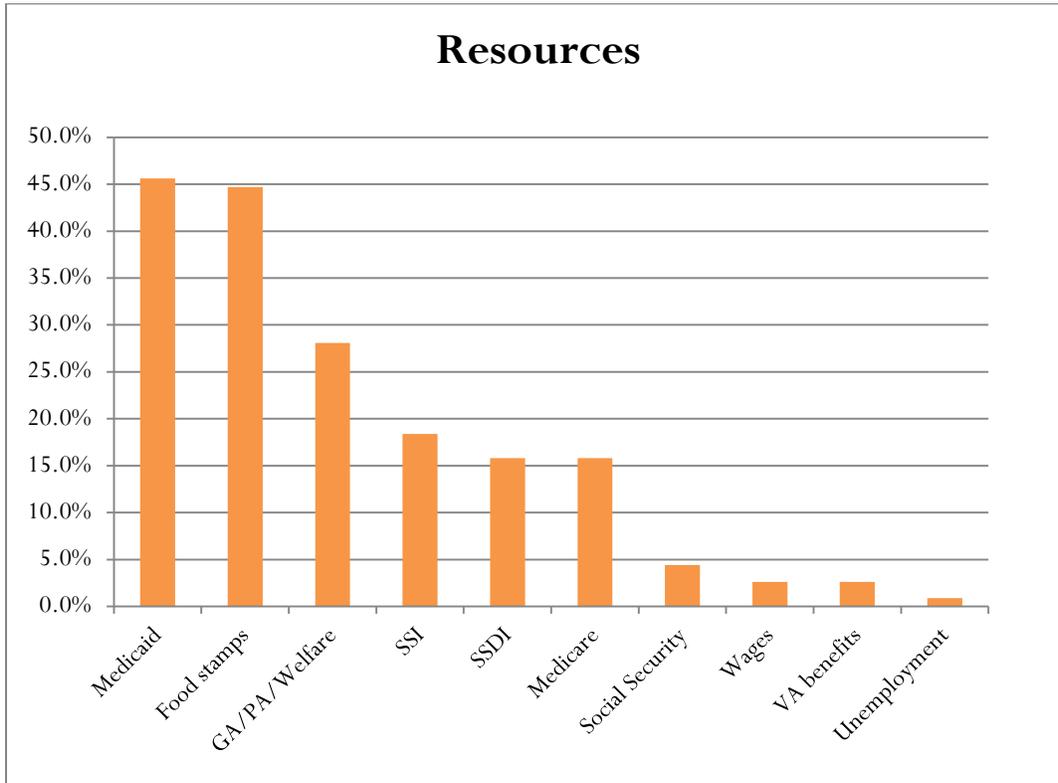
The Chronic Homeless Subpopulations chart below outlines the breakdown of the chronic homeless individual subpopulations for the 2013 count. As shown in the chart, 98.2% of the chronic homeless individuals reported they had mental health issues and 47.3% reported having substance use issues.



**Financial Resources**

The three main sources of income reported by people who were chronically homeless in Atlantic County on the night of the 2013 count were Medicaid (45.6%), Food Stamps (44.7%) and Welfare (28.1%).

Additionally, 6.1% of the chronically homeless population reported receiving no form of government benefit on the night of the count.



As reflected in the Income chart below, as with the total homeless population, the majority had a projected yearly income of less than \$10,000.

2013 Year Income	#	%
No Income	31	27.2
\$1,000- \$4,999	30	26.3
\$5,000- \$9,999	31	27.2
\$10,000- \$14,999	9	7.9
\$15,000-\$19,999	4	3.5
Over \$20,000	1	0.9

### **Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness**

The highest ranking factor that chronically homeless individual respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Atlantic County was alcohol or drug abuse problems. Other top ranking factors included mental health issues and loss of job.

<b>2013 Contributing Factors to Homelessness</b>	<b>%</b>
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	41.2
Mental illness/emotional problems	36.0
Lost job/can't find work	29.8
Relationship/family breakup or death	27.2
Housing costs are too high	19.3
Incarceration	16.7
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	16.7
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	7.9
Domestic violence	7.0
Have work but wages are too low	5.3
Utility costs are too high	5.3
House condemned	3.5
Lost job due to lack of transportation	2.6
Natural disaster	1.8
Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure	0.9

The types of services that respondents stated they have received in the past three years or are currently needed are reflected in the chart below. In Atlantic 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.

<b>2013 Service Needs</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Received</b>		
Emergency Shelter	93	81.5
Emergency Food	90	78.9
Medical (routine healthcare)	35	30.7
<b>Need</b>		
Housing	85	74.5
Dental Care	33	28.9
Medical (routine healthcare)	21	18.4

### **Discharge from Mainstream Institutions**

As part of the 2013 survey, the respondents were asked if they had been discharged into homelessness from certain mainstream institutions within the past three years (since January 30, 2010). 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 Medical Hospitals.

<b>Discharged Into Homelessness (Past Three Years)</b>		
<i>Corrections</i>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
City or County Jail	40	35.1
State Prison	5	4.4
<i>Inpatient Care</i>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Medical Hospital	42	36.8
City/County inpatient mental health	8	7.0
State Inpatient mental health	2	1.8
Private Inpatient Substance Use	4	3.5
Foster Care	1	0.9

### **Last Permanent Address**

In the 2013 count, 79.8% (n=91) of the chronically homeless individual respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless. In reviewing the surrounding states, 5.2% (n=6) last lived in New York and 2.6% (n=3) last lived in Pennsylvania. The only town that reported a significant number of chronically homeless individuals for previous permanent address was Atlantic City (35.9%).

## **CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES**

In Atlantic County, a total of two (2) families met the chronic homeless definition and could be considered a chronically homeless family. This is a decrease from 2011 when there were seven (7). This is 0.3% of the total homeless population and 2.3% of the total family homeless population. These families had a total of eight (8) children with them on the night of the count.

Adding the families to the individuals gives Atlantic County a total chronically homeless population of 124 men, women and children on the night of the 2013 count.

### **Living Situation and Length of Homelessness**

On the night of the count both families were living in emergency shelter and both families had been homeless for more than one year.

### **Demographics**

Of the chronically homeless families in the 2013 count, one had a female head of household and one had a male head of household. Both families defined their race as black. One family had a head of household that was between the ages of 30 and 39 while the other family had a head of household between the age of 60 and 64.

### **Chronic Homeless Family Subpopulations**

In Atlantic County, at least one of the chronically homeless families was a part of each HUD homeless subpopulations which includes mental illness, substance abuse, domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, and domestic violence. One family responded that they are a veteran.

### **Financial Resources and Income**

The three main sources of income reported by the chronically homeless families were TANF, Medicaid, and Food Stamps and their estimated yearly income was less than \$10,000 a year.

### **Contributing Factors to Homelessness**

The main contributing factors to homelessness as reported by the chronically homeless families were:

- Mental illness and
- Domestic violence