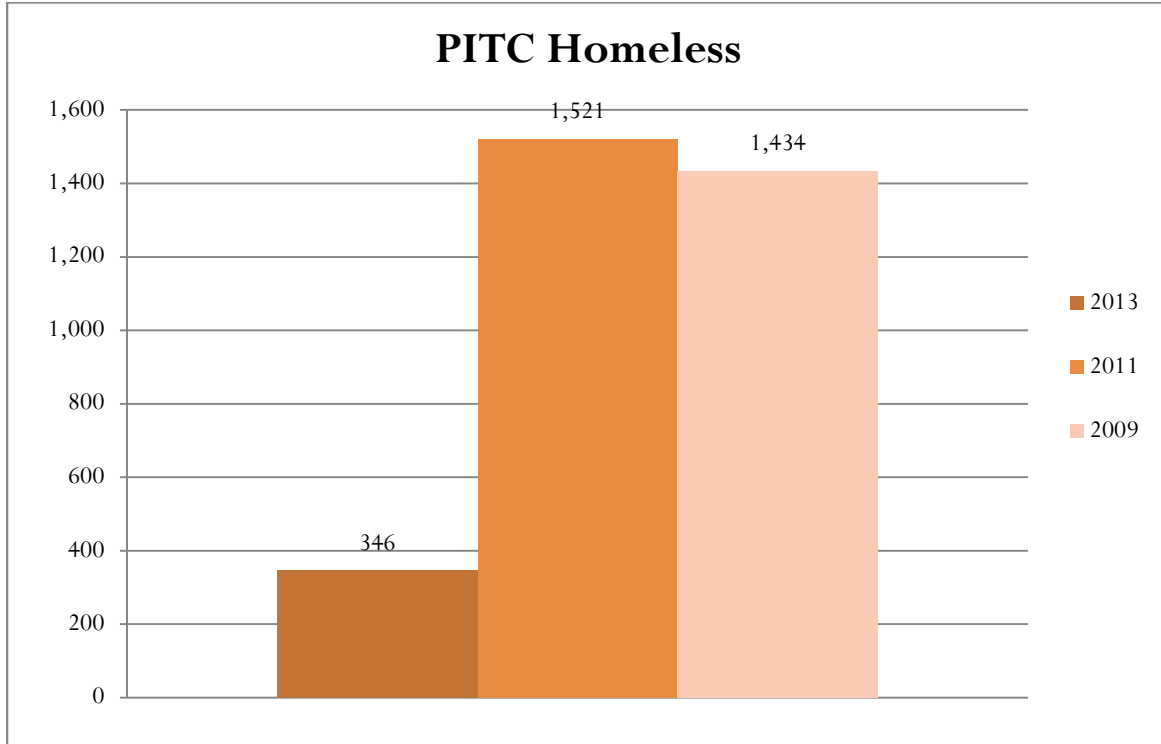


## BERGEN COUNTY

On January 30, 2013 there were 346 homeless men, women and children counted in Bergen County according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations.

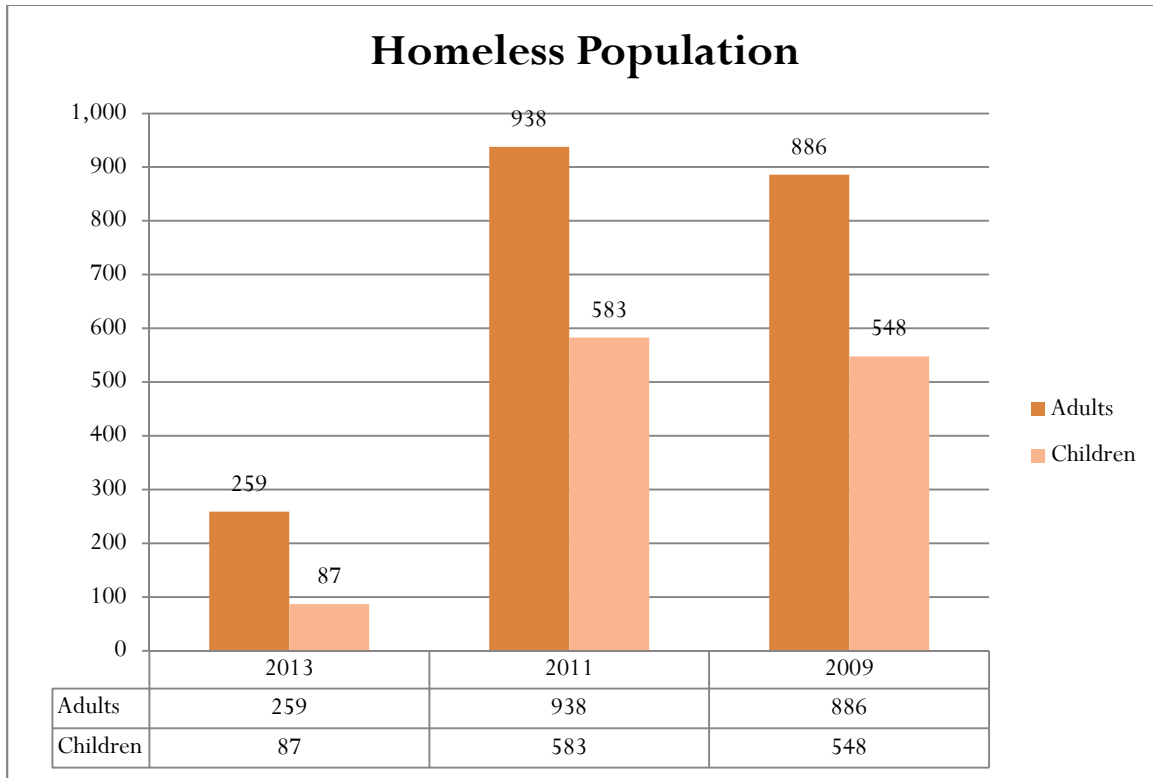


The total number of homeless in Bergen County rose slightly from the 2009 to 2011 count; however, there was a large decrease from 2011 to the current 2013 count (77.2%). The actual number of people who are homeless over the course of the year may be between two to four times larger than the number counted 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, 499 adults and children are homeless in Bergen County.*

Of the 346 people who were homeless on the night of the count 187 of them were children as outlined in the chart below.

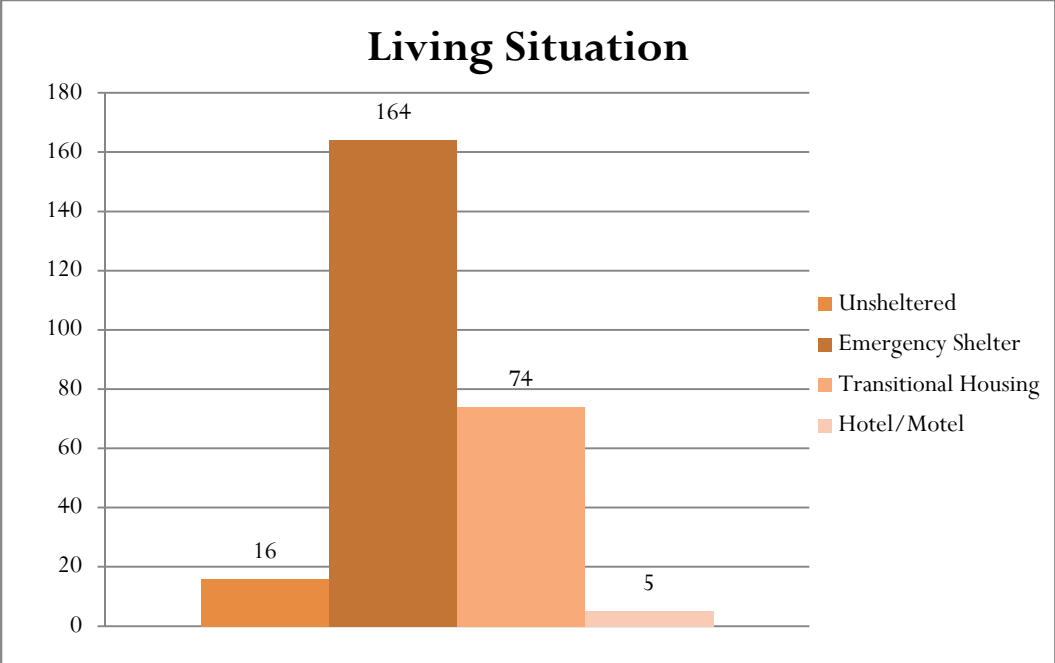
| <b>2013 Homeless Breakdown</b> |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Respondents (Adults)           | 259        |
| Family Members (Children)      | 187        |
| <b>Total Homeless</b>          | <b>346</b> |

As reflected in the chart below, over the three full HUD count years, the number of adults and children has increased and decreased proportionally with the increase and decrease of the total numbers overall.



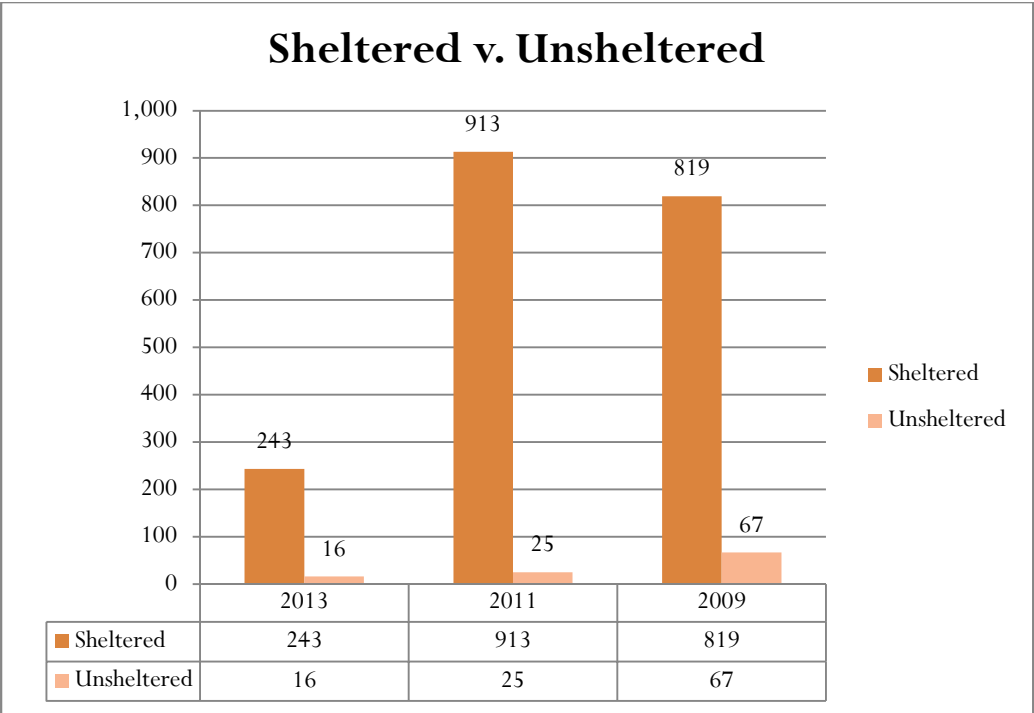
### **Living Situation**

As the Living Situation chart below details, 16 or 6.1% of the adult homeless respondents were unsheltered the night of the count. The remainder of the adult homeless were living in sheltered situations with the largest population residing in emergency shelter (n=164, 63.3%).



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

The number of unsheltered homeless in Bergen County has been on a consistent decline over the last three full HUD count years. In turn, after a slight increase in 2011, the number of sheltered homeless has overwhelmingly decreased reaching its lowest number in 2013.



### **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**

As HUD continually encourages CoCs to utilize the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to complete the sheltered count for a community, as part of the 2013 report, a comparison between 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 PITC have been included. The numbers from HMIS are based on respondents over the age of 17 in emergency shelter or transitional housing on the night of the count.

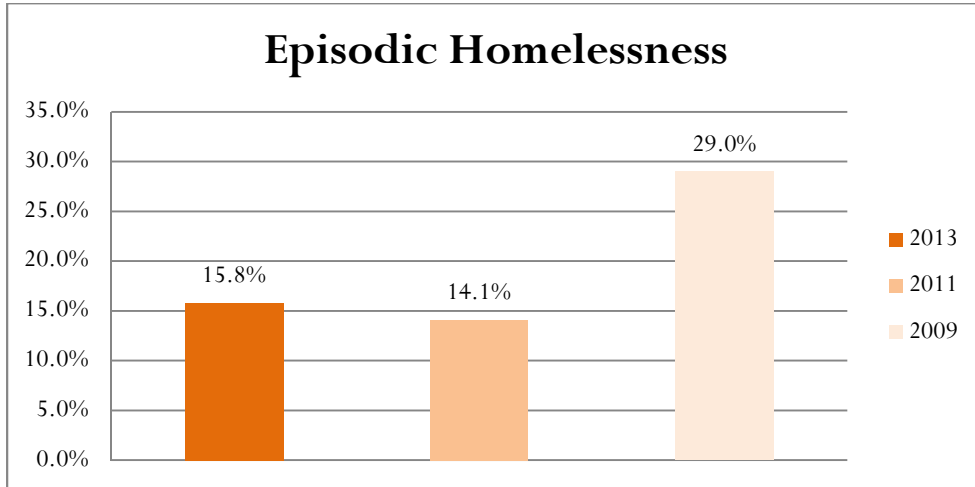
In Bergen County, there were a total of 125 adults in emergency shelter and 63 in transitional housing reported in the HMIS on the night of the count. These numbers are lower for emergency shelter and higher for transitional housing that was recorded as part of the count. On the night of the count, 154 respondents stated that they would be in emergency shelter and 74 reported residing in transitional housing.

### **Length and Episodes of Homelessness**

Of the homeless population surveyed in Bergen County, the largest percentage has been homeless for one month or less (n=81, 31.3%). The next largest percentage was those homeless for more than one year (22.8%). Of those who were homeless less than one year, 23.2% reported that they had been homeless at least one other time within the past 12 months.

| <b>2013 Length of Homelessness</b> | <b>#</b>  | <b>%</b>    |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1 day - 1 week                     | 4         | 1.5         |
| <b>8 days - 1 month</b>            | <b>81</b> | <b>31.3</b> |
| 1 month & 1 day - 3 months         | 30        | 11.6        |
| 3 months & 1 day to 6 months       | 40        | 15.4        |
| 6 months & 1 day to 12 months      | 39        | 15.1        |
| More than 1 year                   | 59        | 22.8        |
| No response                        | 6         | 2.3         |

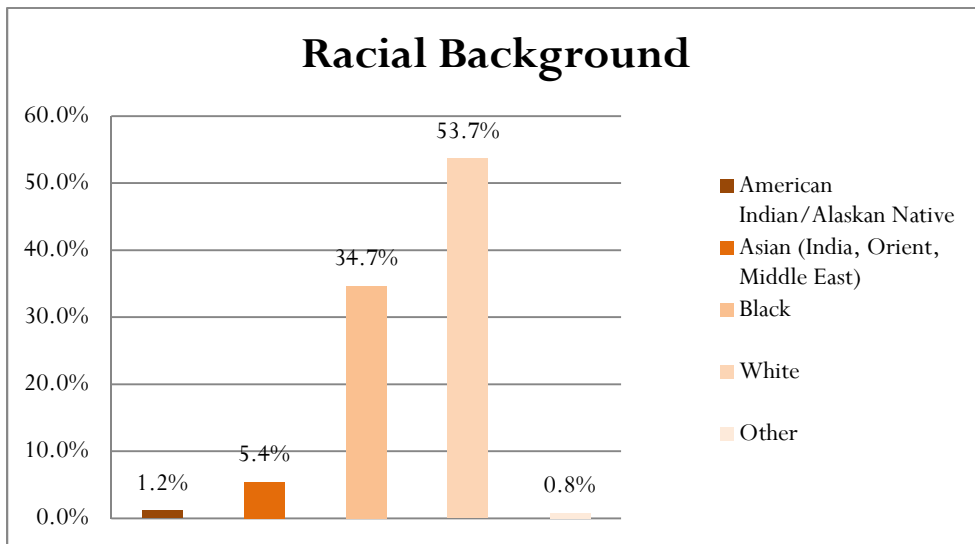
As reflected in the Episodic Homelessness chart below, a total of 41 or 15.8% of the total adult homeless population reported having at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. The percentage has been on the decline since 2009 which had the largest percentage (29.0%) over the past three full HUD count years.



### Demographics

In 2013, of the total adult homeless population in Bergen County, 137 people or 52.9% were male and 121 or 46.7% were female.

The Racial Background chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless persons in the 2013 count. The largest percentage were White (53.7%) most closely followed by those who defined their race as Black (34.7%). The total percentage of the homeless population that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 14.7%.

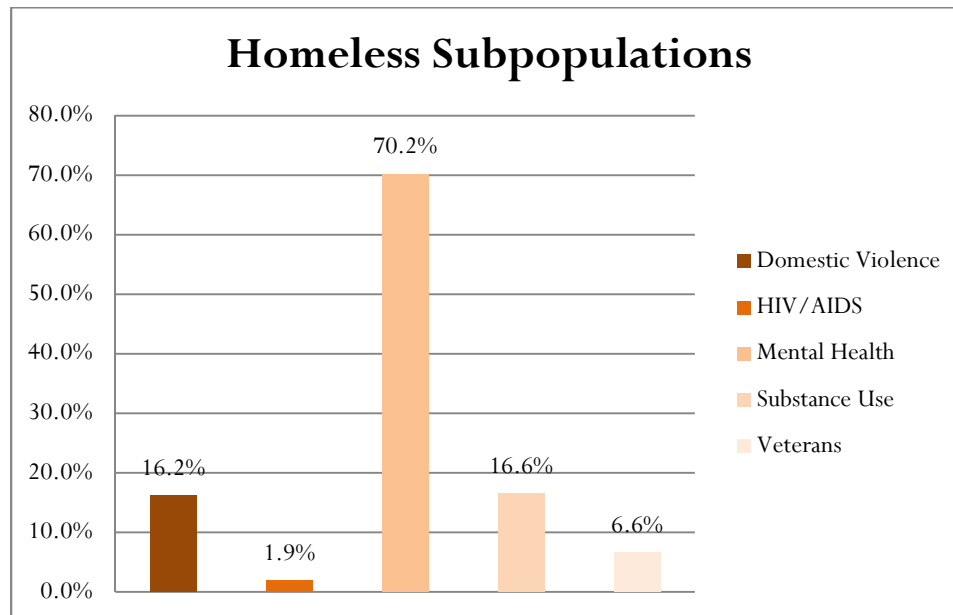


The largest percentage of adult homeless in Bergen County fell within the 50 to 59 year old age range, totaling 27.4%, followed by those within the 40 to 49 year old age range (16.6%).

| 2013 Age     | #         | %           |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| 18-20        | 23        | 8.9         |
| 21-24        | 30        | 11.6        |
| 25-29        | 33        | 12.7        |
| 30-39        | 35        | 13.5        |
| 40-49        | 43        | 16.6        |
| <b>50-59</b> | <b>71</b> | <b>27.4</b> |
| 60-64        | 13        | 5.0         |
| 65+          | 7         | 2.7         |

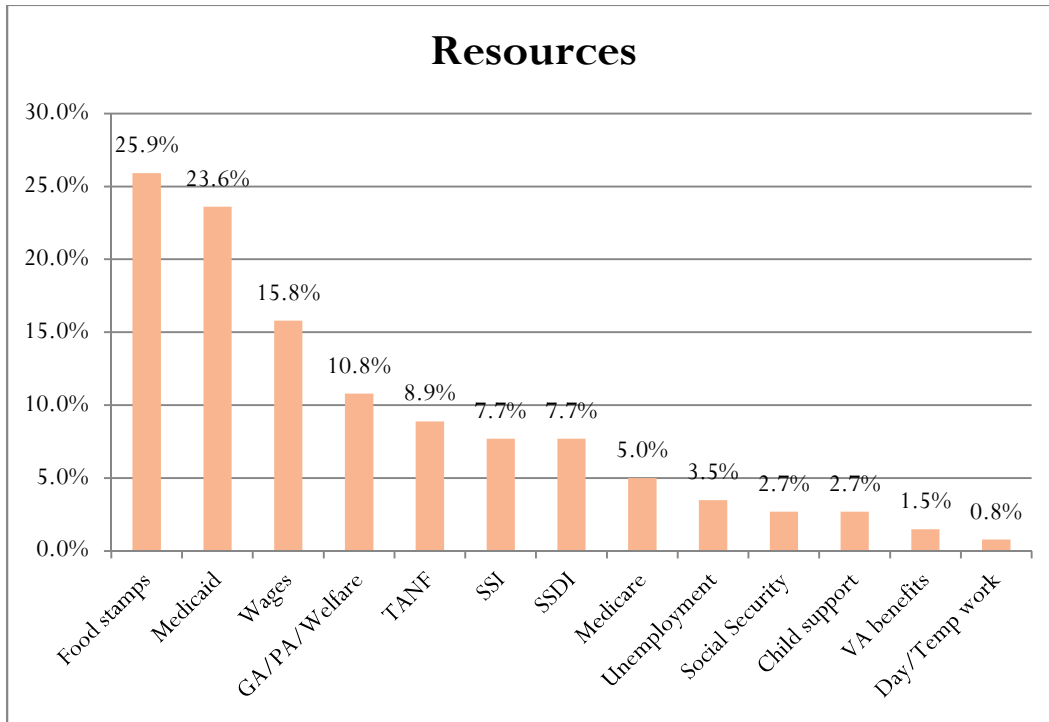
**Homeless Subpopulations**

The chart below outlines the breakdown of the homeless subpopulations in Bergen County for the 2013 count. A majority of the homeless population reported having mental health issues (70.5%). The next largest subpopulations were those with substance abuse issues and domestic violence (16.2-16.6%). The number of homeless veterans equaled 6.6% (n=17).



**Financial Resources and Income**

The three main sources of income reported by people who were homeless in Bergen County on the night of the 2013 count were Food Stamps (28.9%), Medicaid (23.6%) and Wages (15.8%). A total of 6.9% of the homeless population reported receiving no form of government benefit or assistance on the night of the count.



As part of the 2013 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 majority of homeless that reported having income earned less than \$15,000 a year as reflected in the chart below.

| 2013 Year Income   | #          | %           |
|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| <b>No Income</b>   | <b>117</b> | <b>45.2</b> |
| \$1,000- \$4,999   | 34         | 13.1        |
| \$5,000- \$9,999   | 53         | 20.5        |
| \$10,000- \$14,999 | 29         | 11.2        |
| \$15,000-\$19,999  | 9          | 3.5         |
| \$20,000-\$24,999  | 7          | 2.7         |
| \$25,000-\$29,999  | 3          | 1.2         |
| \$30,000-\$34,999  | 1          | 0.4         |
| \$35,000-\$39,000  | 1          | 0.4         |
| Over \$40,000      | 1          | 0.4         |

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

The highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Bergen County was relationship/family breakup. Other top ranking factors included loss of job and inability to find work, domestic violence and eviction.

| <b>Contributing Factors to Homelessness</b>           | <b>%</b> |
|---|----------|
| Relationship/family breakup or death                  | 22.0     |
| Lost job/can't find work                              | 19.7     |
| Domestic violence                                     | 18.9     |
| Eviction or at risk of Eviction                       | 18.5     |
| Mental illness/emotional problems                     | 14.3     |
| Alcohol or drug abuse problems                        | 13.1     |
| Housing costs are too high                            | 10.8     |
| Have work but wages are too low                       | 9.7      |
| Incarceration   | 8.1      |
| Medical problems/physical or developmental disability | 5.8      |
| Lost job due to lack of transportation                | 3.5      |
| Natural disaster                                      | 3.1      |
| Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure                 | 1.5      |
| Loss of child support                                 | 1.5      |
| Utility costs are too high                            | 1.5      |
| House condemned                                       | 0.8      |

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 food and emergency shelter and the top service need reported was housing.

| <b>2013 Service Needs</b>         | <b>#</b> | <b>%</b> |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <b><i>Received</i></b>            |          |          |
| Emergency food                    | 179      | 69.1     |
| Emergency shelter                 | 179      | 69.1     |
| Housing                           | 146      | 56.3     |
|                                   |          |          |
| <b><i>Need</i></b>                |          |          |
| Housing                           | 200      | 77.2     |
| Emergency food or meal assistance | 139      | 53.6     |
| Emergency shelter                 | 131      | 50.5     |



### **Discharge from Mainstream Institutions**

As part of the 2013 survey, homeless 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 below 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<br/>(Past Three Years)</b> |          |          |
|--|----------|----------|
| <i>Corrections</i>   | <b>#</b> | <b>%</b> |
| City or County Jail  | 36       | 13.9     |
| State Prison   | 9        | 3.5      |
| Juvenile Detention Center                                  | 6        | 2.3      |
|  |          |          |
| <i>Inpatient Care</i>                                      | <b>#</b> | <b>%</b> |
| Medical Hospital   | 23       | 8.9      |
| State inpatient mental health                              | 10       | 3.9      |
| City/County inpatient mental health                        | 10       | 3.9      |
| Private Inpatient Substance Use                            | 4        | 1.5      |

### **Last Permanent Address**

In the 2013 count, 91.1% (n=236) of the homeless respondents in Bergen County lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless. In reviewing the surrounding states, a total of 1.5% (n=4) last lived in New York.

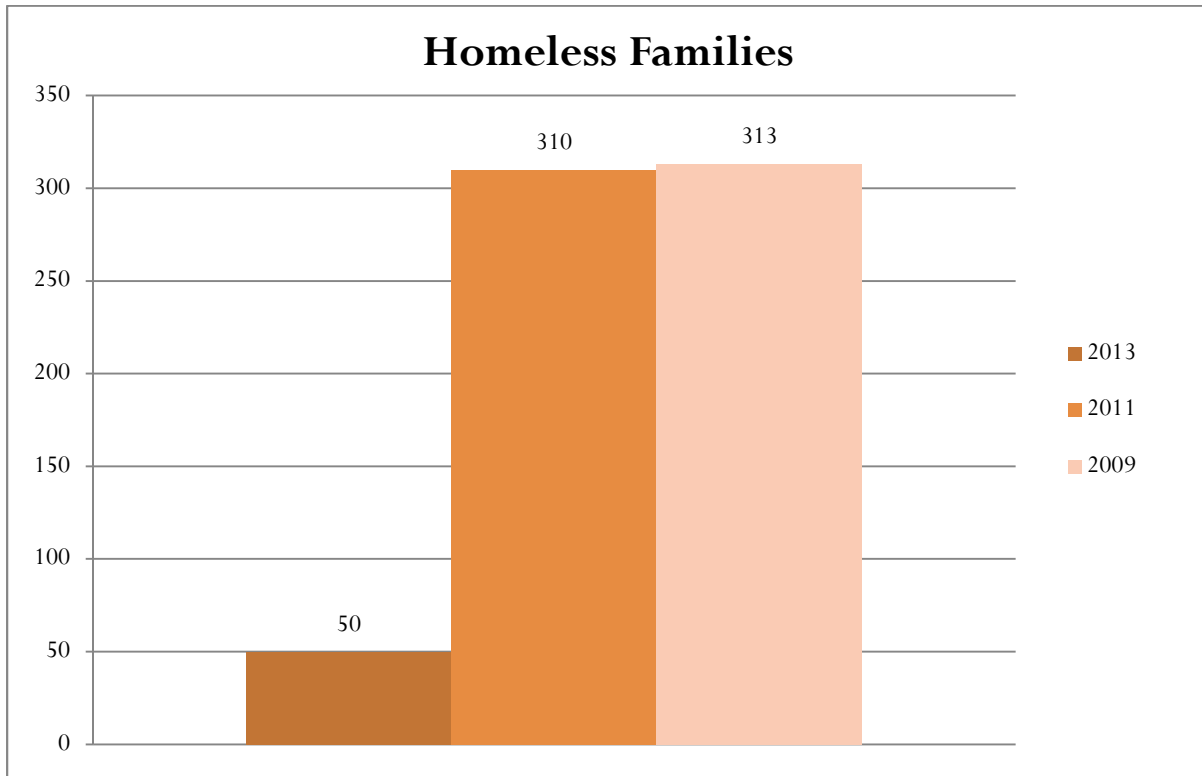
The cities /towns most frequently cited by respondents as the last place they lived before becoming homeless are below (rate of 3% or higher). The largest number reported last living in Hackensack.

| <b>Town</b> | <b>%</b> |
|-------------|----------|
| Hackensack  | 22.0     |
| Lodi        | 10.4     |
| Garfield    | 6.5      |
| Teaneck     | 6.1      |
| Englewood   | 3.8      |

## FAMILY HOMELESSNESS

In 2013, of the 259 homeless respondents in Bergen County, 50 or 19.3% had at least one dependent child under 18 with them the night of the count and identified as a homeless family. Of the total of 87 homeless children in these families, 53 (60.9%) were six years or younger and 34 (39.0%) were between the ages of 7 and 17 years.

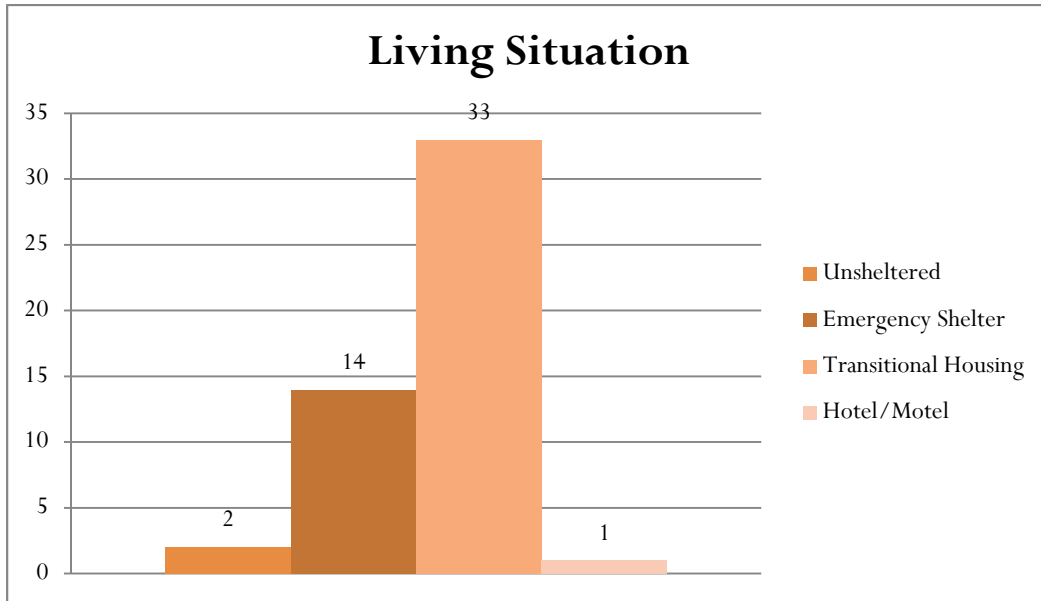
As with the total homeless population, there was a large decline in the number of homeless families from the previous full HUD count years with a total decline of 83.8% from 2011.



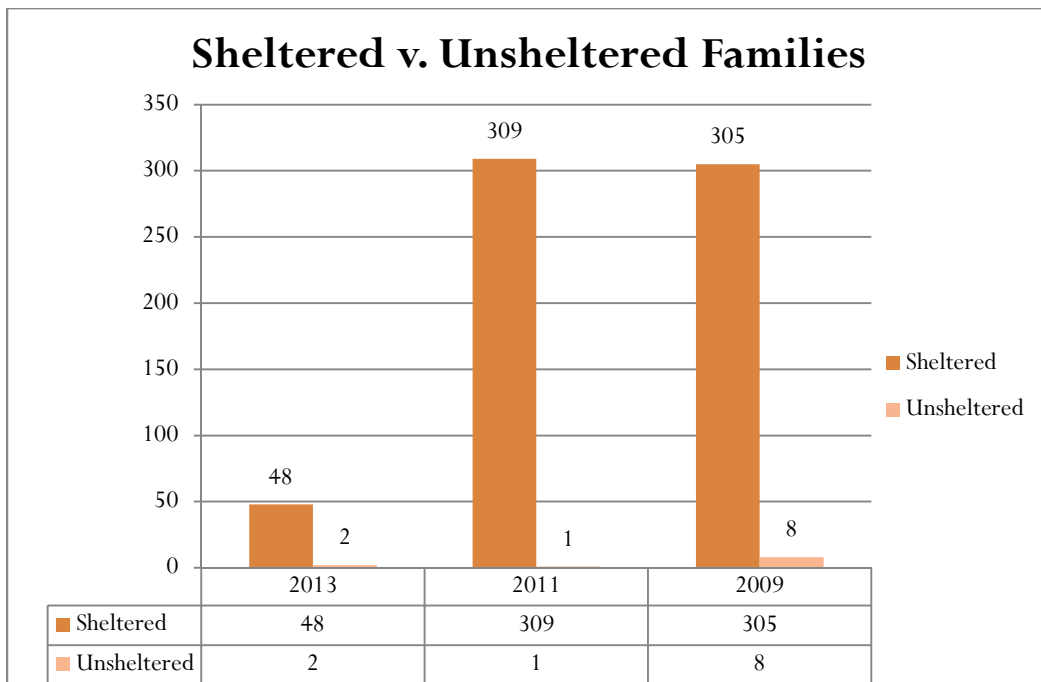
### Living Situation

In Bergen County, two (2) homeless families were in an unsheltered living situation on the night of the count. The unsheltered homeless families had a total of two (2) children with them on the night of the count.

The remaining 48 homeless families were in sheltered living situations that included emergency shelter, transitional housing and hotel or motel placements. The largest percentage (66%) of homeless families were residing in transitional housing on the night of the 2013 count as reflected in the Living Situation chart below.



Throughout all the full HUD count years, the majority of homeless families in Bergen County have been in sheltered living situations with the number of unsheltered decreasing to nominal levels in 2011 and 2013.



### Length of Homelessness

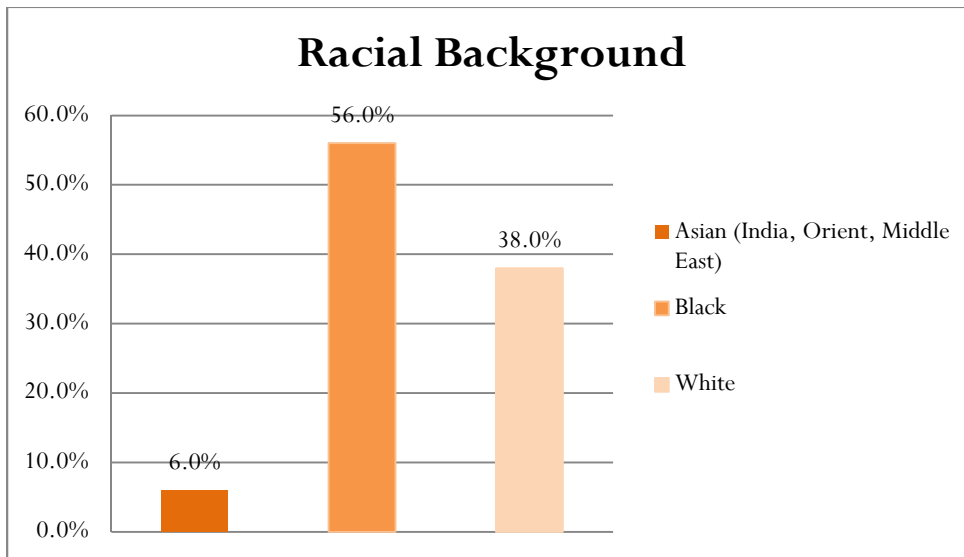
The largest percentage (26.2%) of homeless families had been homeless more than one year. This was closely followed by those homeless six (6) to 12 months. This is inconsistent with the total homeless population overall where the highest percentage was homeless less than one (1) month.

| <b>2012 Length of Homelessness</b> | <b>#</b>  | <b>%</b>    |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 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        |
| <b>More than 1 year</b>            | <b>17</b> | <b>26.2</b> |

### Demographics

Of the total 50 homeless families in Bergen County, 92% (n= 46) were female headed households and 8% (n=4) were male headed households.

The chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless families in the 2013 count. More than one half of the respondents defined themselves as Black (56.0%). The next largest group was those that defined themselves as White at 38.0%. A total of 24.0% (n=12) defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino.

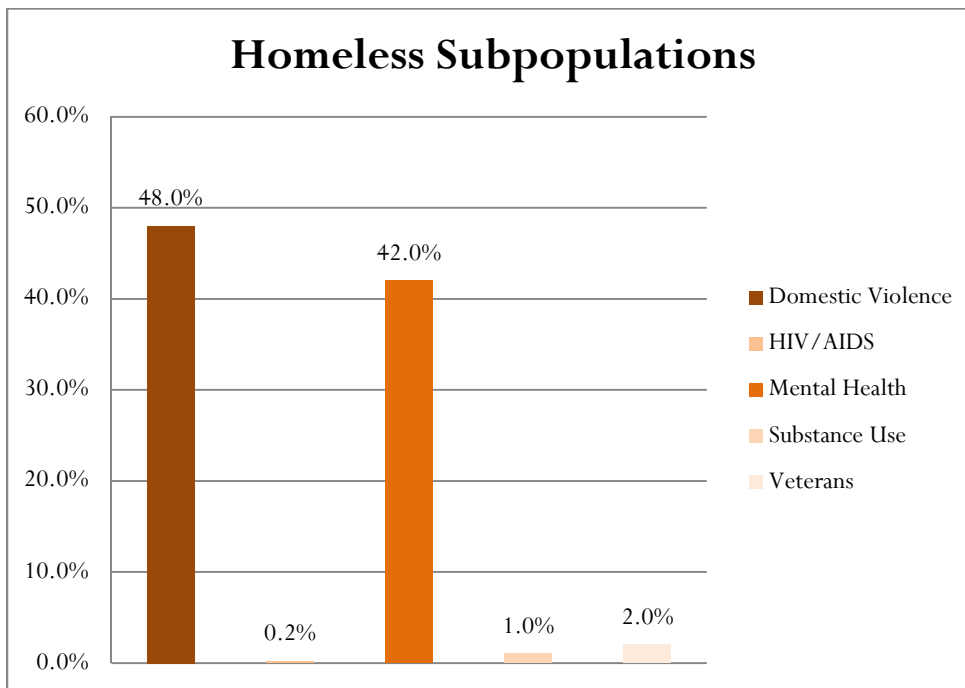


The largest percentage of homeless families in Bergen County had a head of household that fell within the 22-24 year old age range. This is closely followed by those between the age of 30 and 39 years old as reflected in the Age chart below.

| 2013 Age     | #         | %           |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| 18-21        | 2         | 4.0         |
| <b>22-24</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>28.0</b> |
| 25-29        | 11        | 22.0        |
| 30-39        | 13        | 26.0        |
| 40-49        | 6         | 12.0        |
| 50-59        | 4         | 8.0         |

**Homeless Family Subpopulations**

In Bergen County in the 2013 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.



**Financial Resources and Income**

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

- Food Stamps (70%);

- Medicaid (64%); and
- TANF (44%)

There were three (3) families that stated they did not receive any form 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.

| <b>2013 Year Income</b> | <b>#</b>  | <b>%</b>     |
|-------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| No Income               | 6         | 12.0%        |
| \$ 1.00- \$4,999        | 8         | 16.0%        |
| <b>\$5,000- \$9,999</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>48.0%</b> |
| \$ 10,000- \$14,999     | 5         | 10.0%        |
| \$ 15,000-\$19,999      | 1         | 2.0%         |
| \$20,000-\$24,999       | 3         | 6.0%         |
| \$25,000-\$29,999       | 0         | 0.0%         |
| \$30,000-\$34,999       | 1         | 2.0%         |
| \$35,000-\$39,000       | 1         | 2.0%         |
| Over \$40,0000          | 2         | 2.0%         |

**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 eviction.

| <b>Contributing Factors to Homelessness</b> | <b>%</b> |
|---|----------|
| Domestic violence                           | 54.0%    |
| Relationship/family breakup or death        | 40.0%    |
| Eviction or at risk of Eviction             | 32.0%    |
| Housing costs are too high                  | 30.0%    |
| Have work but wages are too low             | 18.0%    |

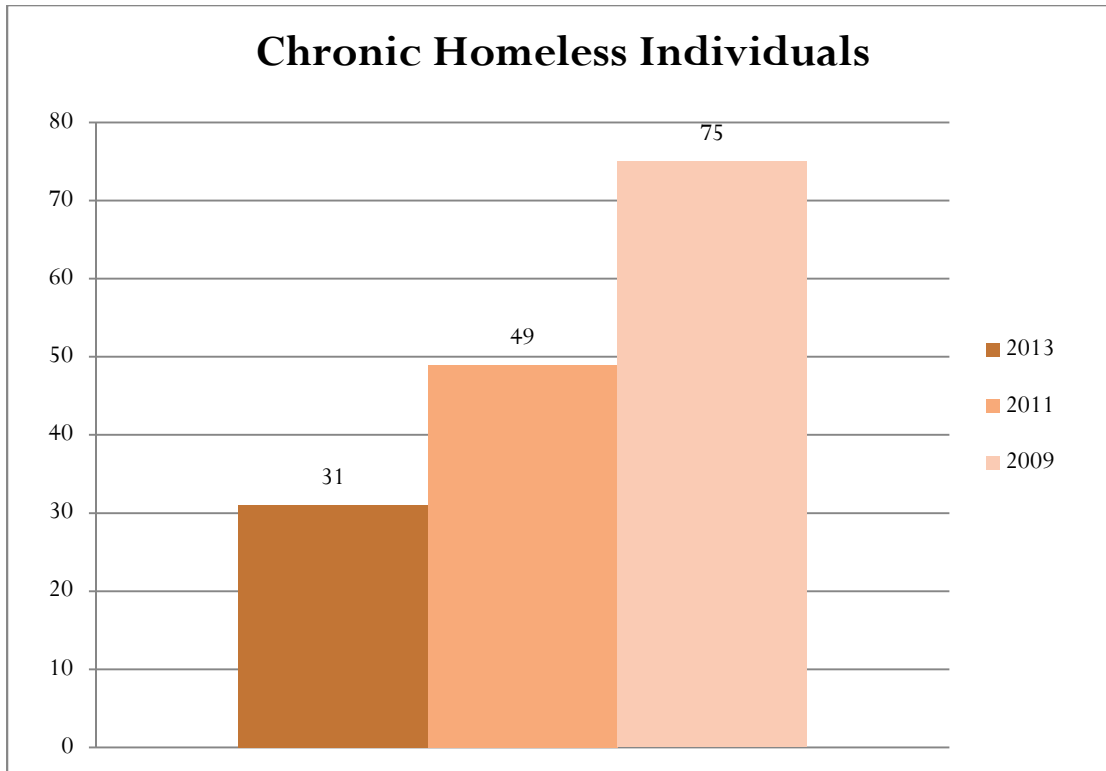
When homeless families were asked what their top needs were on the night of the count the top three needs included:

- Housing (80%);
- Employment assistance and Educational training (38%); and
- Child care (24%)

## CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

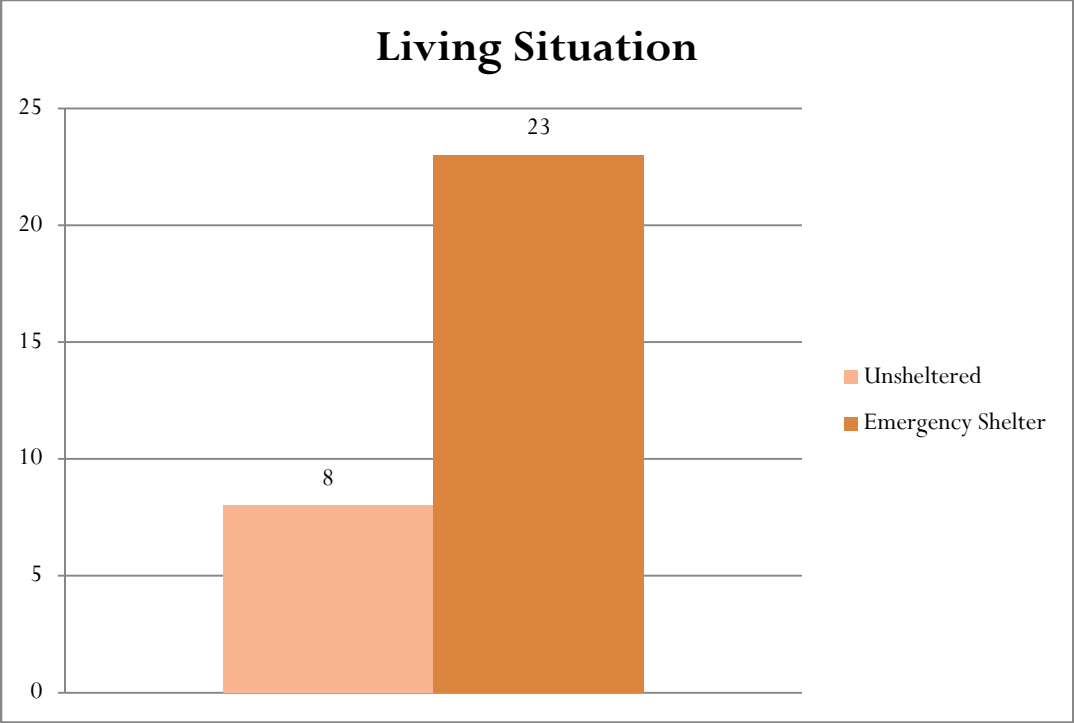
### **INDIVIDUALS**

On the night of January 30, 2013, there were 31 chronically homeless individuals counted in Bergen County equaling 11.9 % of the total homeless population. The number of chronically homeless in Bergen County has been on the decline since 2009 reaching its lowest level in 2013.



### **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 below is a breakdown of where the chronically homeless were residing on the night of the 2013 count. The largest percentage (74.1%) of the chronically homeless population in Bergen County was residing in emergency shelter on the night of the count.



Over the last three full HUD count years, the number of chronically homeless individuals in Bergen County has been on the decline proportionally for those that were in sheltered and unsheltered living situations.





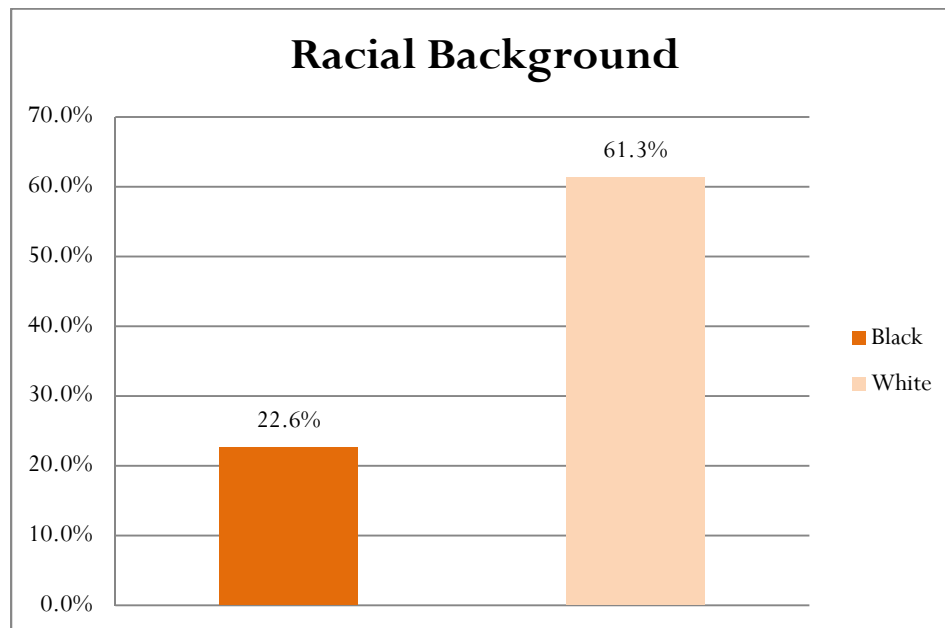
### Length of Homelessness

Of the total chronically homeless individual population in Bergen County, 67.7% (n= 21) reported they had been homeless for more than one year. Also, a total of 61.3% (n= 19) reported they had four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.

| 2013 Length of Homelessness   | #         | %           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1 day to 1 week               | 0         | 0.0         |
| 8 days to 1 month             | 1         | 3.2         |
| 1 month & 1 day to 3 months   | 3         | 9.7         |
| 3 months & 1 day to 6 months  | 3         | 9.7         |
| 6 months & 1 day to 12 months | 3         | 9.7         |
| <b>More than 1 year</b>       | <b>21</b> | <b>67.7</b> |

### Demographics

In 2013, a total of 20 or 64.5% of the chronically homeless individual population were male and 11 or 35.5% were female. As the chart below outlines, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals identified themselves as White (61.3%). The total percentage that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 16.1%.

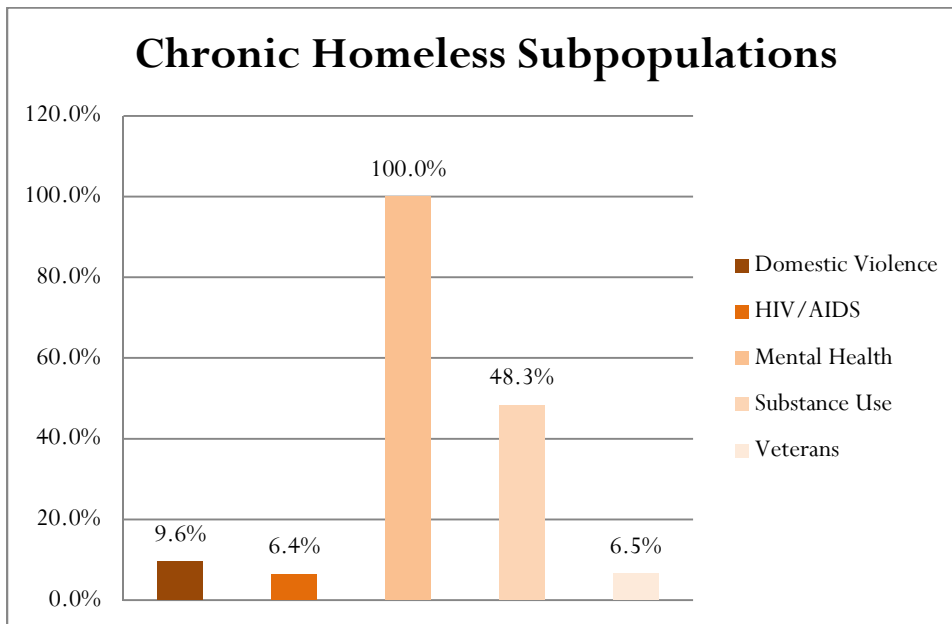


As the Age chart shows, on the night of the 2013 count in Bergen County, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals fell into the 50 to 59 year old age range (25.8%). This age group was closely followed by those between the ages of 40 and 49 years.

| 2013 Age     | #        | %           |
|--------------|----------|-------------|
| 22-24        | 4        | 12.9        |
| 25-29        | 5        | 16.1        |
| 30-39        | 4        | 12.9        |
| 40-49        | 7        | 22.6        |
| <b>50-59</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>25.8</b> |
| 60-64        | 0        | 0.0         |
| 65 or older  | 1        | 3.2         |

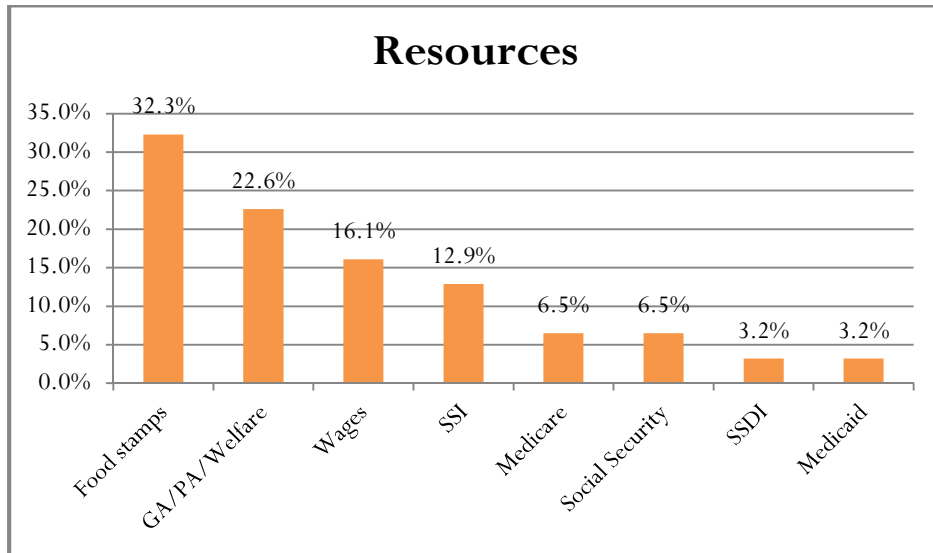
### **Chronic Homeless Subpopulations**

The breakdown of the chronically homeless individual subpopulations for the 2013 count is shown below. All of the chronically homeless individuals reported they had mental health issues and 48.3% 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 count were Food Stamps (32.3%), Welfare (22.6%) and Wages (16.1%). Additionally, 29% of the homeless population reported receiving no form of government benefit on the night of the count.



Over one half (51.6%) of chronically homeless individuals reported having no income on the night of the count. As the chart reflects, no one had an estimated income of over \$25,000 a year.

| 2013 Year Income   | #         | %           |
|--------------------|-----------|-------------|
| <b>No Income</b>   | <b>16</b> | <b>51.6</b> |
| \$1,000- \$4,999   | 3         | 9.7         |
| \$5,000- \$9,999   | 5         | 16.1        |
| \$10,000- \$14,999 | 4         | 12.9        |
| \$15,000-\$19,999  | 2         | 6.5         |
| \$20,000-\$24,999  | 1         | 3.2         |

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

The highest ranking factors that chronically homeless individual respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Bergen County were alcohol or drug abuse problems and mental health issues. Another significant factor was incarceration.

| <b>2013 Contributing Factors to Homelessness</b>      | <b>%</b> |
|---|----------|
| Alcohol or drug abuse problems                        | 38.7     |
| Mental illness/emotional problems                     | 32.3     |
| Incarceration   | 25.8     |
| Lost job/can't find work                              | 19.4     |
| Eviction or at risk of Eviction                       | 16.1     |
| Have work but wages are too low                       | 12.9     |
| Housing costs are too high                            | 12.9     |
| Relationship/family breakup or death                  | 12.9     |
| Domestic violence                                     | 9.7      |
| Medical problems/physical or developmental disability | 9.7      |
| Natural disaster                                      | 6.5      |
| Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure                 | 3.2      |
| House condemned                                       | 3.2      |
| Loss of child support                                 | 3.2      |
| Lost job due to lack of transportation                | 3.2      |
| Utility costs are too high                            | 3.2      |

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.

| <b>2013 Service Needs</b>         | <b>#</b> | <b>%</b> |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <b><i>Received</i></b>            |          |          |
| Emergency food                    | 17       | 54.8     |
| Emergency shelter                 | 17       | 54.8     |
| Housing                           | 14       | 45.1     |
|                                   |          |          |
| <b><i>Need</i></b>                |          |          |
| Housing                           | 24       | 77.4     |
| Emergency shelter                 | 20       | 64.5     |
| Emergency food or meal assistance | 19       | 61.2     |

### **Discharge from Mainstream Institutions**

As part of the 2013 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 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 details, 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.

| <b>Discharged Into Homelessness<br/>(Past Three Years)</b> |          |          |
|--|----------|----------|
| <i>Corrections</i>   | <b>#</b> | <b>%</b> |
| City or County Jail  | 10       | 32.3     |
| State Prison   | 3        | 9.7      |
| Juvenile Detention Center                                  | 1        | 3.2      |
|  |          |          |
| <i>Inpatient Care</i>                                      | <b>#</b> | <b>%</b> |
| City/County inpatient mental health                        | 5        | 16.1     |
| Medical Hospital   | 4        | 12.9     |
| State inpatient mental health                              | 3        | 9.7      |
| Private Inpatient Substance Use                            | 1        | 3.2      |

### **Last Permanent Address**

In the 2013 count, 90.3% (n=28) of the chronically homeless individual respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless. In reviewing the surround states, 3.2% (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 (rate of 3% or higher). The town with the largest percentage was Hackensack.

| <b>Town</b>       | <b>%</b> |
|-------------------|----------|
| Hackensack        | 22.5     |
| Hasbrouck Heights | 12.9     |
| Teaneck           | 9.6      |

## **CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES**

In Bergen County, there was one (1) family that met the chronic homeless definition and could be considered a chronically homeless family. It is the same as 2011 when there was one (1) as well. This is 0.3% of the total homeless population and 3.2% of the total family homeless population. The family had one (1) child with them on the night of the count.

Adding the families to the individuals gives Atlantic County a total chronically homeless population of 33 men, women and children on the night of the 2013 count.

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

On the night of the count, the family was in an unsheltered living situation.

### **Demographics**

The family had a head of household that was male, defined their race as black and the head of household between the ages of 30 and 39.

### **Chronic Homeless Family Subpopulations**

In Bergen County, the chronic homeless family was a part of the mental illness and substance abuse HUD homeless subpopulations.

### **Financial Resources and Income**

The sources of income reported by the chronically homeless family were Food Stamps and SSI and the estimated yearly income was between \$5,000 and \$10,000 a year.

### **Contributing Factors to Homelessness**

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

- Mental illness;
- Alcohol and drug abuse; and
- Domestic violence