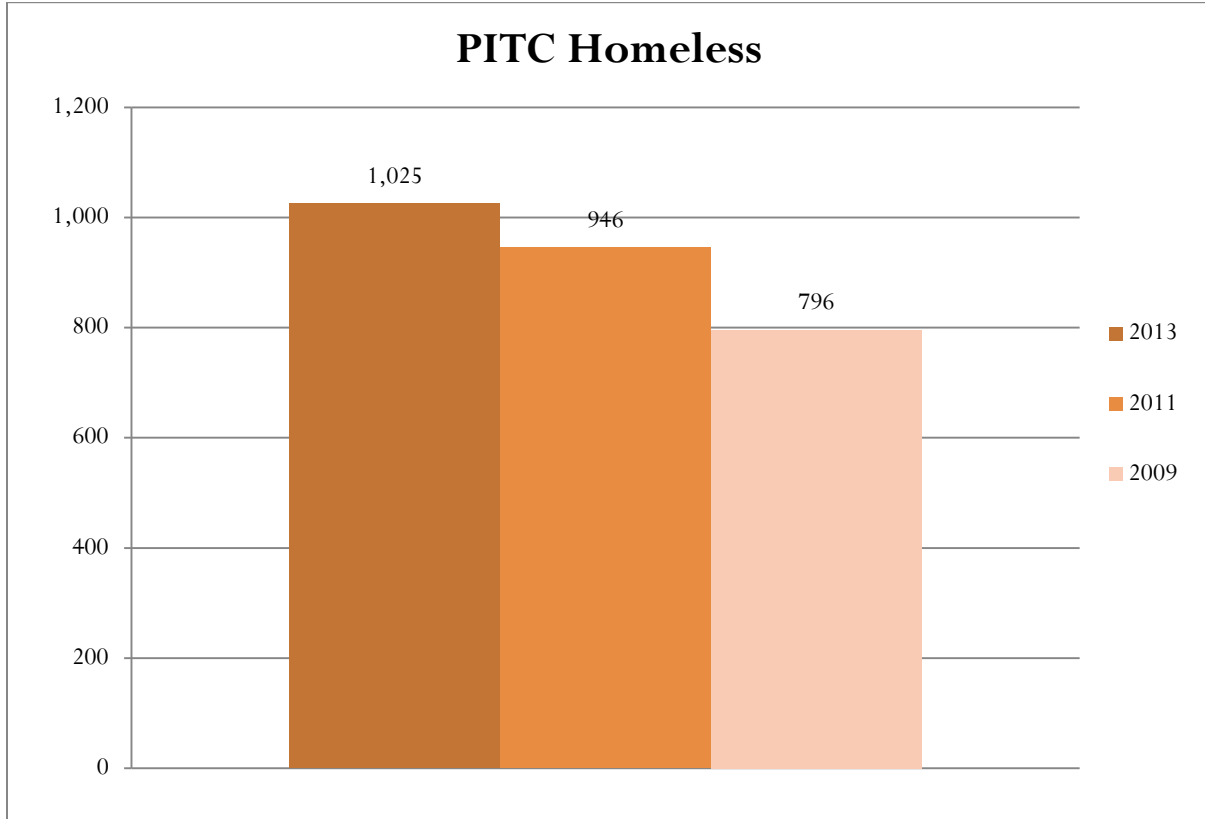


## MIDDLESEX COUNTY

On January 30, 2013 there were 1,025 homeless men, women and children counted in Middlesex County according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations. Homelessness in Middlesex County has been on the rise over the last three (3) full HUD count years with the highest numbers being seen in 2013.

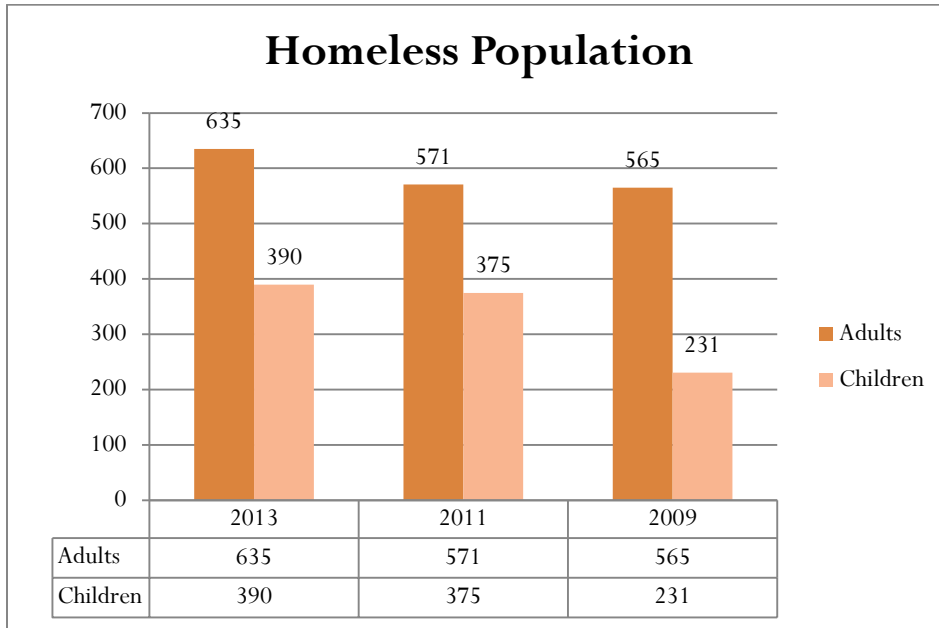


The actual number of people who are homeless over the course of the year may be two (2) to four (4) times greater than the number counted at one point in time. Using the statistical formula developed in the publication "Estimating the Need," it is projected that *over the course of a year, 1,685 adults and children are homeless in Middlesex County.*

Of the 1,025 people who were homeless on the night of the count, 390 of them were children as reflected in the table below.

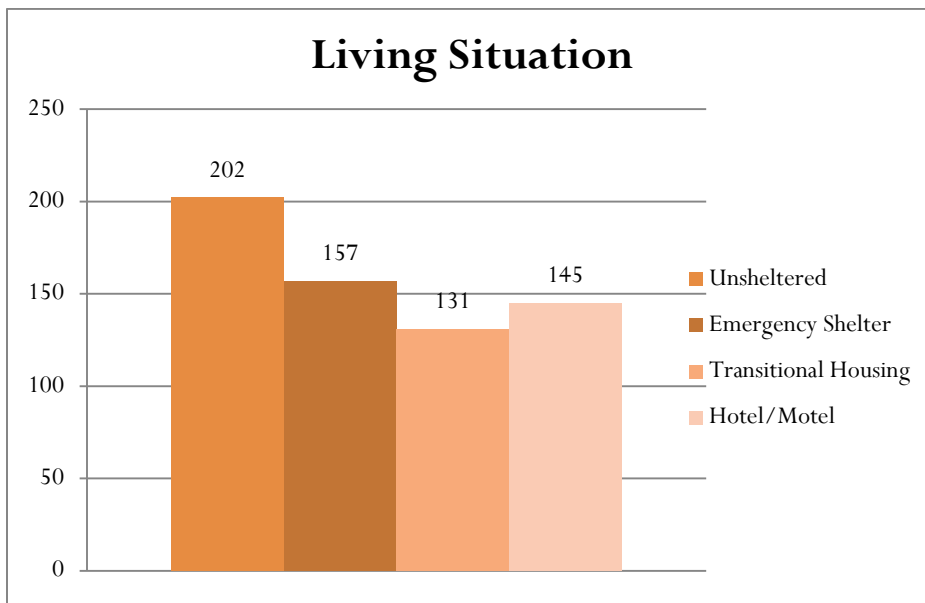
| <b>2013 Homeless Breakdown</b> |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Respondents (Adults)           | 635          |
| Family Members (Children)      | 390          |
| <b>Total Homeless</b>          | <b>1,025</b> |

As the chart below shows, since 2009 the number of homeless adults and children has been increasing. There has been a significant increase in the number of children who are homeless. The total increase for adults from 2009 to 2013 was 11.0% compared with children at 40.7%.



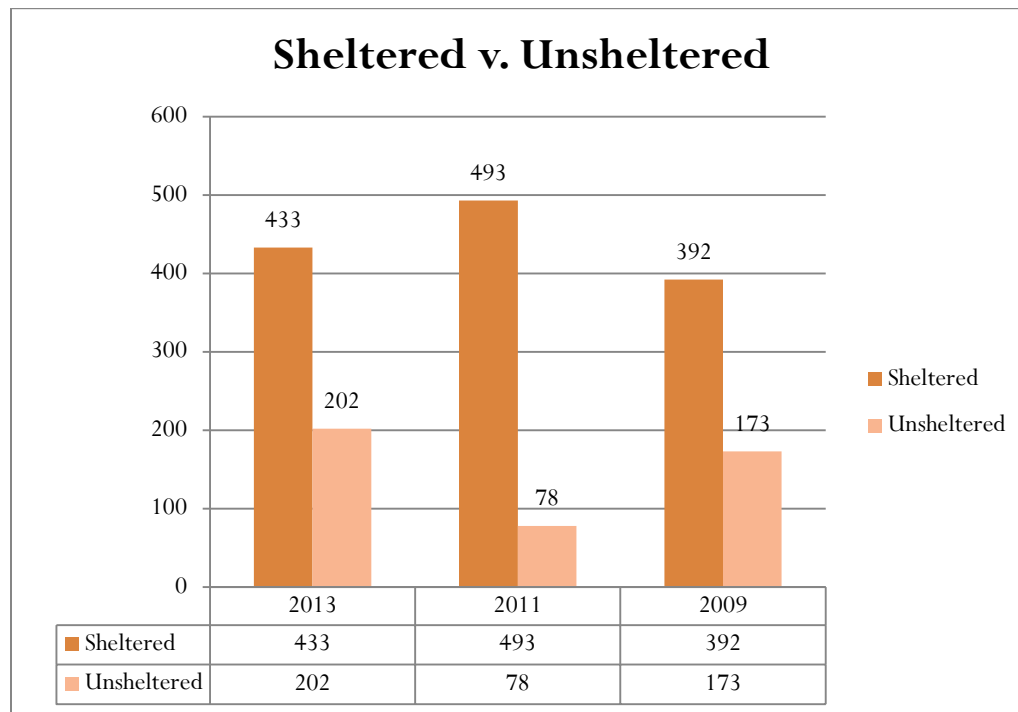
### Living Situation

As reflected in the Living Situation chart that follows, 202 or 31.8% of the homeless respondents were unsheltered the night of the count. The remainder of the homeless were living in sheltered situations with the largest percentage of the sheltered homeless residing in emergency shelters (n=157, 24.7%).



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 (61.3%) after a large decrease from 2009. In turn, the number of sheltered homeless saw a slight decline since from 2011 (12.1%) after an increase from 2009.



**Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**

HUD continually encourages CoCs to utilize HMIS to complete the sheltered count for a community. As part of this 2013 report, there is a comparison between what was reported in HMIS for emergency shelters and Transitional Housing with what was reported in the same categories for the PITC on the night of the count. The numbers from HMIS are based on those over 17 years of age in emergency shelter or transitional housing on the night of the count.

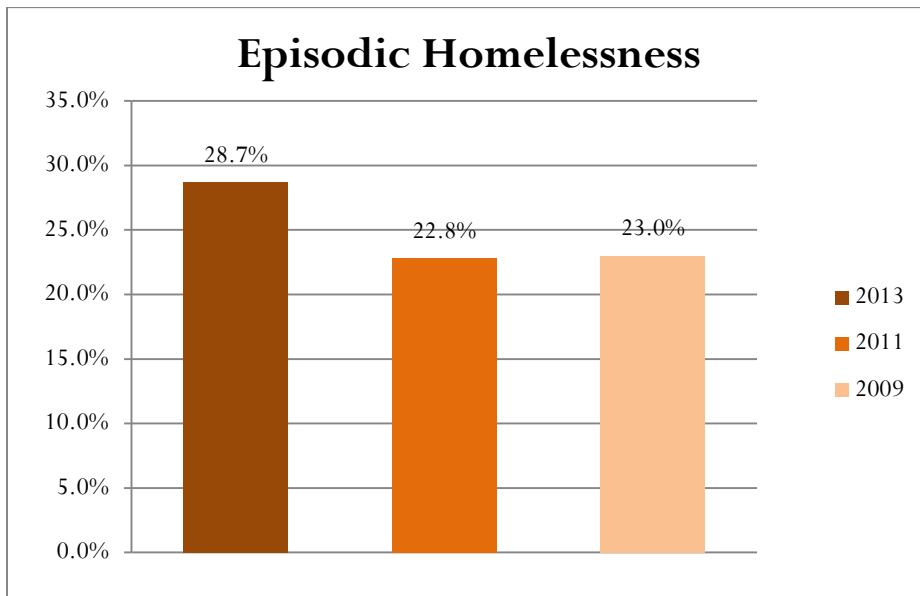
In Middlesex County, there were a total of 121 adults in emergency shelter in HMIS and 104 in transitional housing in HMIS on the night of the count. These numbers are slightly different from what was recorded as part of the count. On the night of the count 120 respondents stated that they would be in emergency shelter and 131 reported residing in transitional housing.

**Length and Episodes of Homelessness**

Of the homeless population surveyed in Middlesex County, 206 or 32.4% responded that they had been homeless in excess of one year. Of those who were homeless less than one year, 38.6% reported that they had been homeless at least one other time within the past 12 months.

| 2013 Length of Homelessness   | #          | %           |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 1 day to 1 week               | 21         | 3.3         |
| 8 days to 1 month             | 50         | 7.9         |
| 1 month & 1 day to 3 months   | 71         | 11.2        |
| 3 months & 1 day to 6 months  | 130        | 20.5        |
| 6 months & 1 day to 12 months | 144        | 22.7        |
| <b>More than 1 year</b>       | <b>206</b> | <b>32.4</b> |

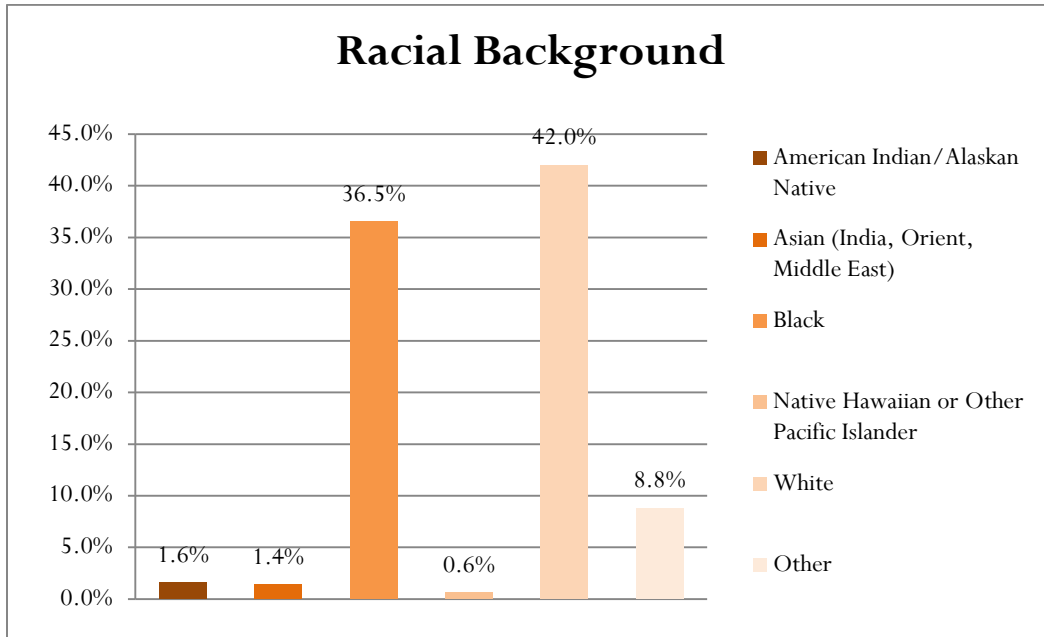
As reflected in the Episodic Homelessness chart that follows, a total of 182 or 28.7% of the total homeless population reported having at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. This number has increased for the first time over the past three (3) full HUD count years, reaching its highest numbers in the current count year.



### Demographics

In 2013, 365 people or 57.5% were male, 257 or 40.5% were female and one (1) or 0.2% identified as transgender.

The chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless persons in the 2013 count. The largest percentage defined their race as White (42%) closely followed by those that defined their race as Black (36.5%). The total percentage of the homeless population that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 30.7%.

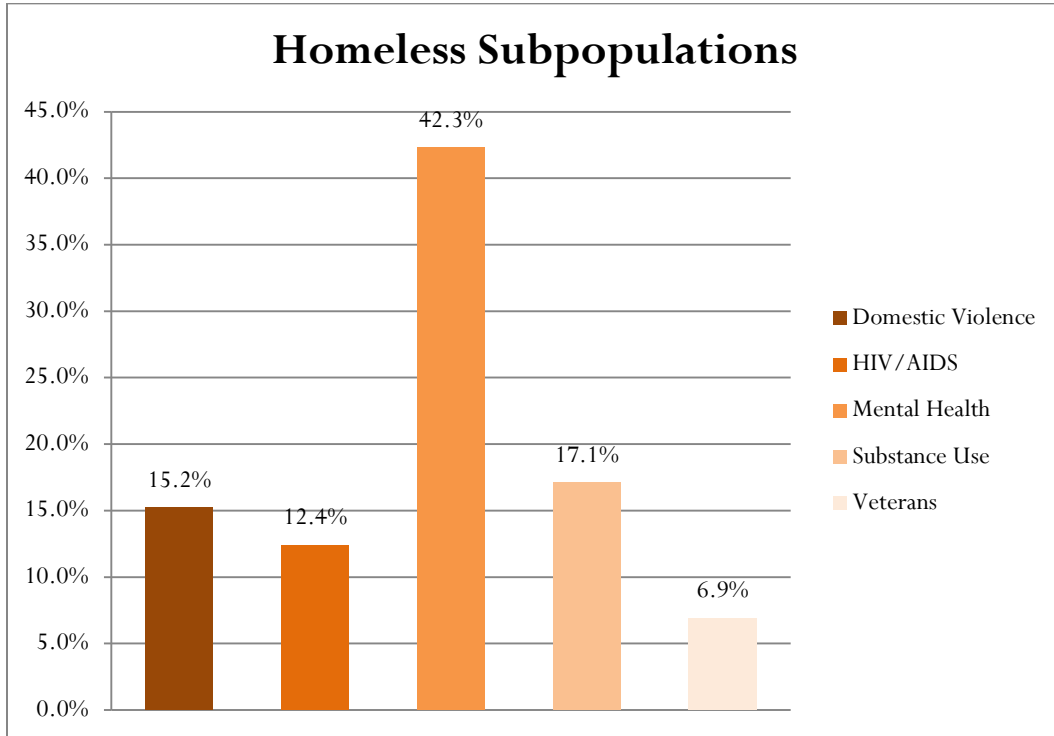


The largest percentage of the homeless population in Middlesex County fell within the 40 to 49 year old age range, totaling 21.4%. The majority of the homeless population was clustered between the ages of 30 and 59 years.

| 2013 Age     | #          | %           |
|--------------|------------|-------------|
| Under 18     | 2          | 0.3         |
| 18-21        | 41         | 6.5         |
| 22-24        | 39         | 6.1         |
| 25-29        | 71         | 11.2        |
| 30-39        | 133        | 20.9        |
| <b>40-49</b> | <b>136</b> | <b>21.4</b> |
| 50-59        | 135        | 21.3        |
| 60-64        | 31         | 4.9         |
| 65 or older  | 14         | 2.2         |

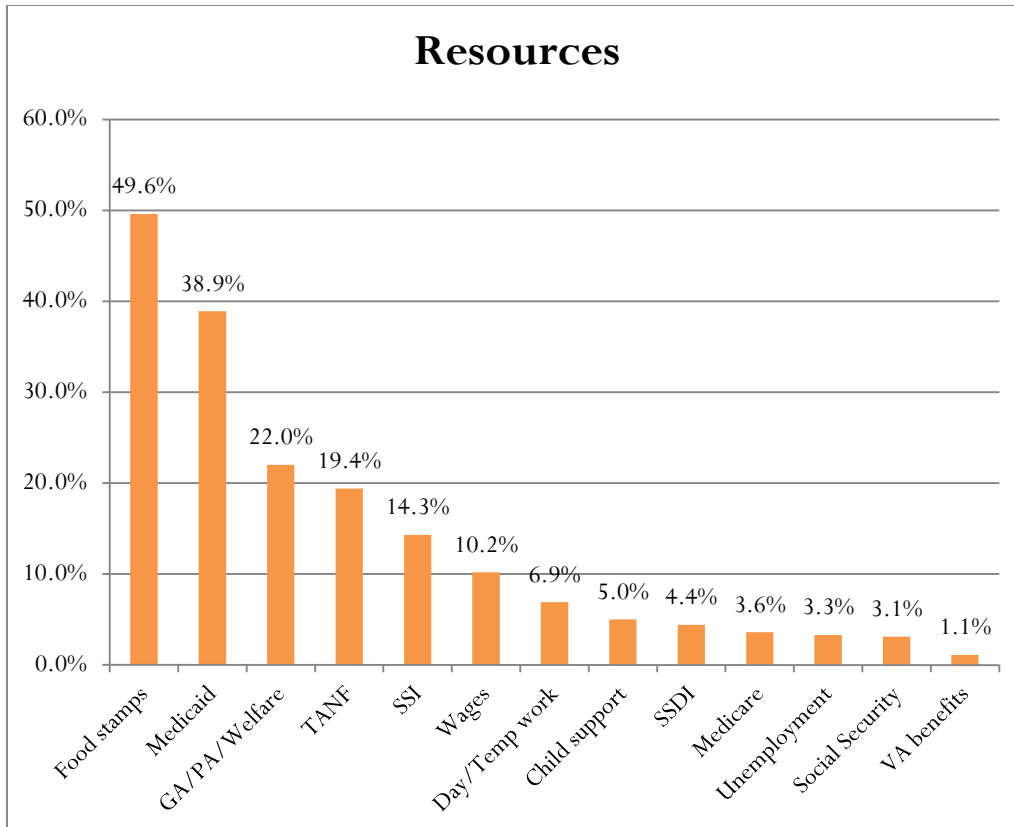
### Homeless Subpopulations

The chart below outlines the breakdown of the homeless HUD subpopulations in Middlesex County for the 2013 count. The largest subpopulation was the homeless who had mental health issues (42.3%). The number of homeless veterans equaled 6.9% (n=44).



### Financial Resources and Income

The three main sources of income reported by people who were homeless in Middlesex County on the night of the 2013 count were Food Stamps (49.6%), Medicaid (38.9%) and Welfare (22%). 7.1% of the homeless population reported receiving no form of government benefits.



As part of the 2013 count, homeless respondents were asked to report a current income that provided a potential estimated yearly income. In Middlesex County, the largest percentage of respondents stated that they had an annual income of less than \$5,000 with 25.2% reporting no income.

| 2013 Year Income       | #          | %           |
|------------------------|------------|-------------|
| No Income              | 160        | 25.2        |
| <b>\$1.00- \$4,999</b> | <b>182</b> | <b>28.7</b> |
| \$5,000- \$9,999       | 102        | 16.1        |
| \$10,000- \$14,999     | 46         | 7.2         |
| \$15,000- \$19,999     | 24         | 3.8         |
| \$20,000- \$24,999     | 12         | 1.9         |
| \$25,000- \$29,999     | 3          | 0.5         |
| \$30,000- \$34,999     | 2          | 0.3         |
| \$35,000- \$39,000     | 5          | 0.8         |

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

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

| <b>Contributing Factors to Homelessness</b>           | <b>%</b> |
|---|----------|
| Housing costs are too high                            | 41.9     |
| Lost job/can't find work                              | 38.7     |
| Eviction or at risk of Eviction                       | 31.0     |
| Relationship/family breakup or death                  | 28.7     |
| Medical problems/physical or developmental disability | 23.8     |
| Mental illness/emotional problems                     | 23.0     |
| Have work but wages are too low                       | 21.7     |
| Utility costs are too high                            | 20.6     |
| Alcohol or drug abuse problems                        | 19.5     |
| Domestic violence                                     | 16.9     |
| Incarceration   | 12.1     |
| Lost job due to lack of transportation                | 11.8     |
| Natural disaster                                      | 4.7      |
| Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure                 | 2.8      |
| House condemned                                       | 2.7      |
| Loss of child support                                 | 2.7      |

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

| <b>2013 Service Needs</b>    | <b>#</b> | <b>%</b> |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <b><i>Received</i></b>       |          |          |
| Emergency shelter            | 308      | 48.5     |
| Emergency Food               | 247      | 38.9     |
| Medical (routine healthcare) | 173      | 27.2     |
|                              |          |          |
| <b><i>Need</i></b>           |          |          |
| Housing                      | 396      | 62.4     |
| Employment assistance        | 198      | 31.2     |
| Educational training         | 146      | 23.0     |



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

| <b>Discharged Into Homelessness<br/>(Past Three Years)</b> |    |      |
|--|----|------|
| <i>Corrections</i>   | #  | %    |
| City or County Jail  | 72 | 11.3 |
| State Prison   | 40 | 6.3  |
| Juvenile Detention Center                                  | 1  | 0.2  |
|  |    |      |
| <i>Inpatient Care</i>                                      | #  | %    |
| Medical Hospital   | 60 | 9.4  |
| City/County inpatient mental health                        | 13 | 2.0  |
| Private Inpatient Substance Use                            | 11 | 1.7  |
| State inpatient mental health                              | 9  | 1.4  |

### **Last Permanent Address**

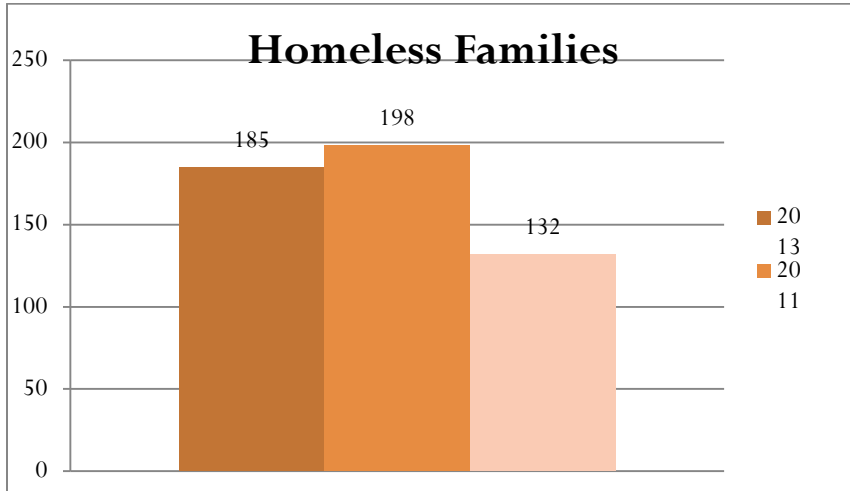
In the 2013 count, 88.9% (n=565) of the homeless respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless. In reviewing the surrounding states, 1.5% (n=10) last lived in New York, and 0.3% (n=2) last lived in Pennsylvania.

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 New Brunswick.

| <b>Town</b>     | <b>#</b> | <b>%</b> |
|-----------------|----------|----------|
| New Brunswick   | 199      | 31.3%    |
| Perth Amboy     | 77       | 12.1%    |
| North Brunswick | 23       | 3.6%     |
| Piscataway      | 19       | 3.0%     |

## FAMILY HOMELESSNESS

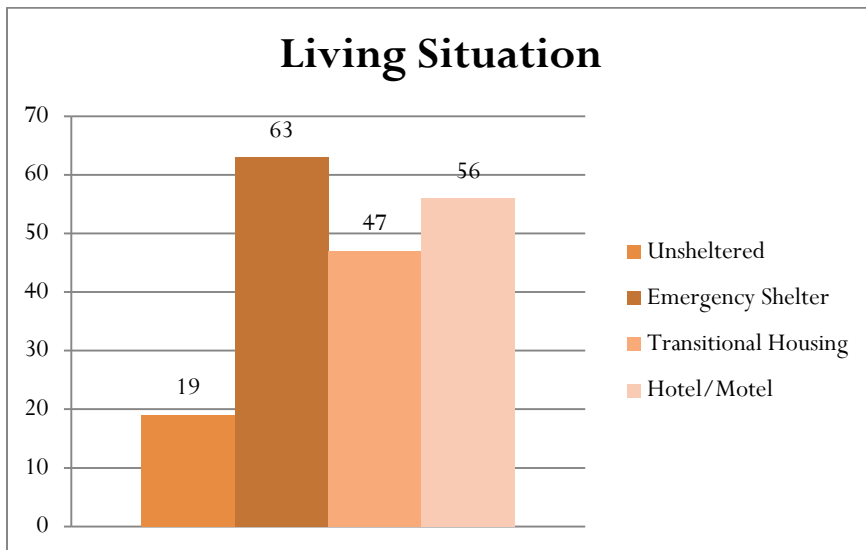
In 2013, of the 635 homeless respondents in Middlesex County, 185 or 29.1% had at least one dependent child under the age of 18 with them the night of the count and are considered a homeless family. Of the 309 homeless children in these families, 209 were six (6) years of age or younger and 181 were between the ages of seven (7) and 17.



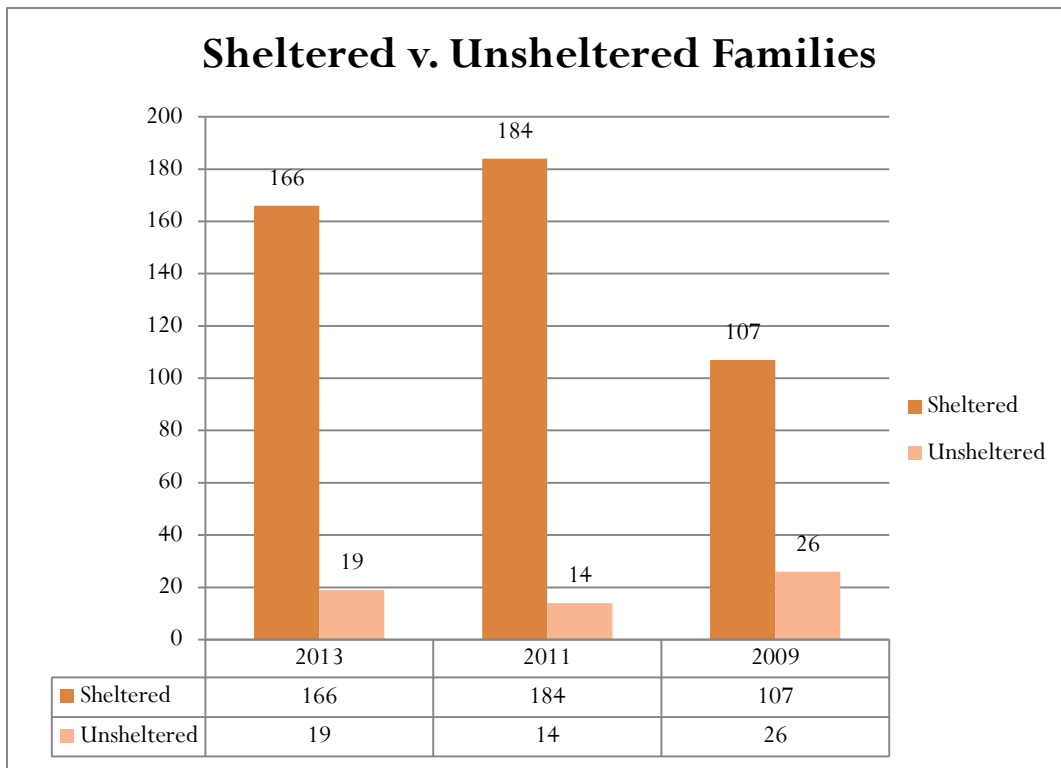
### Living Situation

In Middlesex County, 19 homeless families were in an unsheltered living situation on the night of the count. The unsheltered homeless families had a total of 41 children with them.

The remaining 166 homeless families were in sheltered living situations that included emergency shelter and transitional housing. The largest percentage (34.0%) of homeless families were residing in emergency shelters on the night of the count as reflected in the Living Situation chart that follows.



The homeless families in Middlesex County have primarily been in sheltered living situations over the past three (3) full HUD count years and are reflective of the fluctuation of the total homeless family population.



### Length of Homelessness

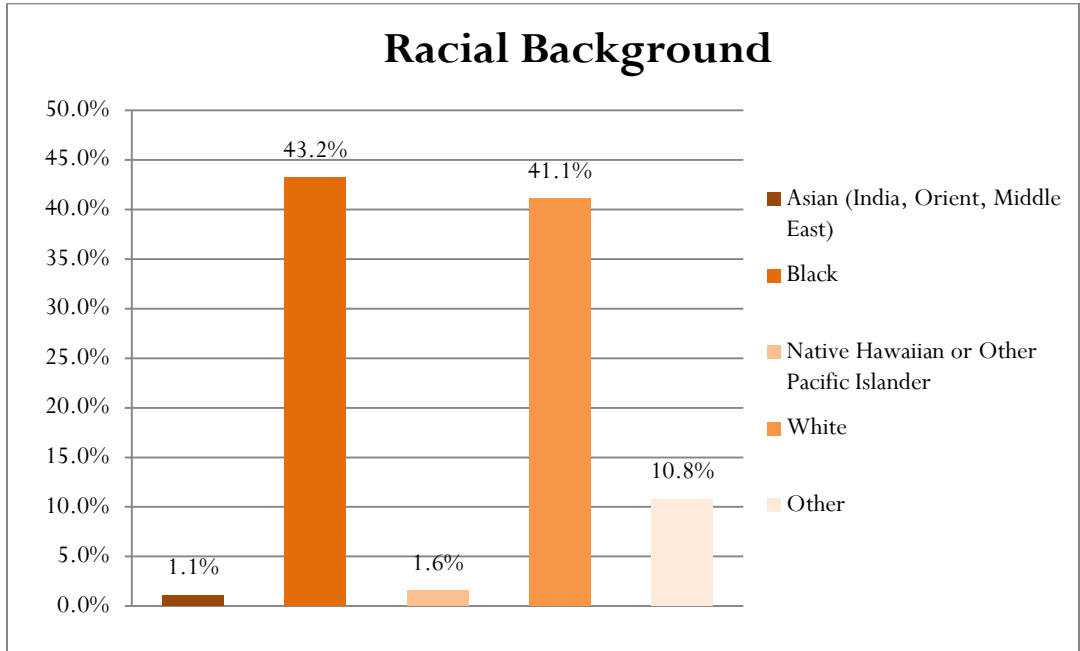
The largest percentage (31.9%) of homeless families had been homeless between six (6) and twelve months. This differs from the total homeless population overall where the highest percentage was homeless more than one year.

| 2013 Length of Homelessness              | #         | %           |
|--|-----------|-------------|
| 1 day to 1 week                          | 0         | 0.0         |
| 8 days to 1 month                        | 12        | 6.5         |
| 1 month & 1 day to 3 months              | 22        | 11.9        |
| 3 months & 1 day to 6 months             | 47        | 25.4        |
| <b>6 months &amp; 1 day to 12 months</b> | <b>59</b> | <b>31.9</b> |
| More than 1 year                         | 44        | 23.8        |

### Demographics

Of the total 185 homeless families in Middlesex County, 83.8% (n= 155) were female headed households and 14.6% (n=27) were male headed households.

The chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless families in the 2013 count. The largest percentage of respondents defined their race as Black (43.2%). The next largest group defined themselves as White at (41.1%). A total of 36.2% (n=67) defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino.

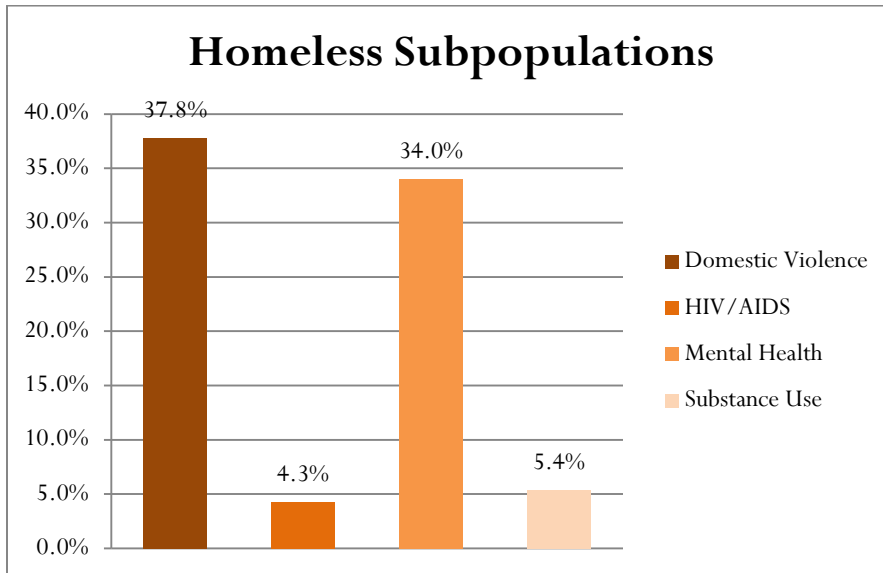


The largest percentage of homeless families in Middlesex County had a head of household that fell within the 30 to 39 year old age range. The next largest age cohort was 25 to 29 years of age as reflected in the table below.

| 2013 Age     | #            | %         |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Under 18     | 1.1%         | 2         |
| 18-21        | 7.6%         | 14        |
| 22-24        | 12.4%        | 23        |
| 25-29        | 21.6%        | 40        |
| <b>30-39</b> | <b>28.1%</b> | <b>52</b> |
| 40-49        | 19.5%        | 36        |
| 50-59        | 4.9%         | 9         |
| 60-64        | 0.5%         | 1         |

### Homeless Family Subpopulations

Among the HUD homeless subpopulations in the 2013 count, the largest subpopulation among homeless families was a head of household experiencing domestic violence (37.8%). The next largest percentage was households with mental health issues (34.0%) 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 2013 count were:

- Food Stamps (71.9%);
- Medicaid (59.5%); and
- TANF (58.9%).

2.2% of families stated they did not receive some form of government benefit on the night of the count. In reviewing yearly income, the majority of the homeless families had annual incomes of less than \$10,000.

| 2013 Year Income        | #         | %           |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| No Income               | 20        | 10.8        |
| \$1,000- \$4,999        | 32        | 17.3        |
| <b>\$5,000- \$9,999</b> | <b>33</b> | <b>17.8</b> |
| \$10,000- \$14,999      | 12        | 6.5         |
| \$15,000-\$19,999       | 8         | 4.3         |
| \$20,000-\$24,999       | 7         | 3.8         |
| \$25,000-\$29,999       | 2         | 1.1         |
| Over \$30,000           | 4         | 2.1         |

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

The highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Middlesex County was housing costs too high. The other top ranking factor was eviction.

| <b>Contributing Factors to Homelessness</b>            | <b>%</b> |
|--|----------|
| Housing costs are too high                             | 51.4     |
| Eviction or at risk of Eviction                        | 48.6     |
| Lost job/can't find work                               | 45.4     |
| Domestic violence/Relationship/family breakup or death | 41.1     |
| Utility costs are too high                             | 34.1     |

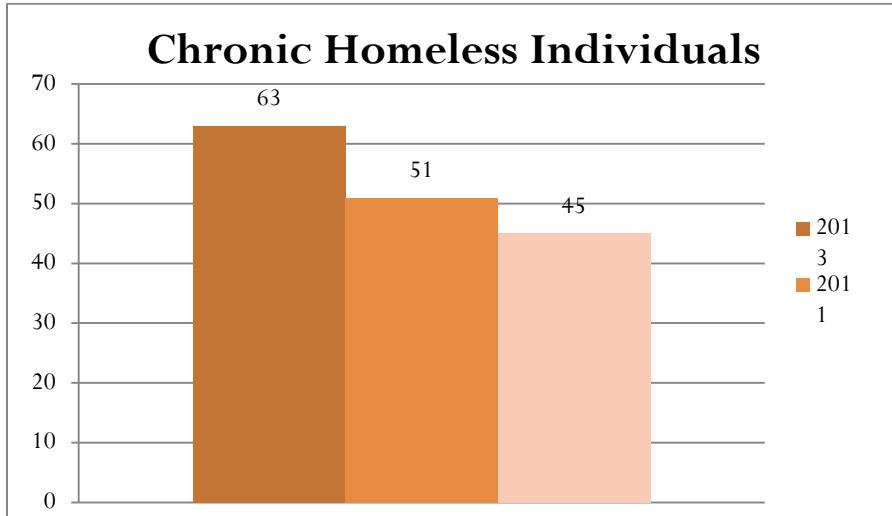
When homeless families were asked their top needs on the night of the count, the top three needs included:

- Housing (53.5%);
- Employment assistance (41%); and
- Childcare (35.6%).

## CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

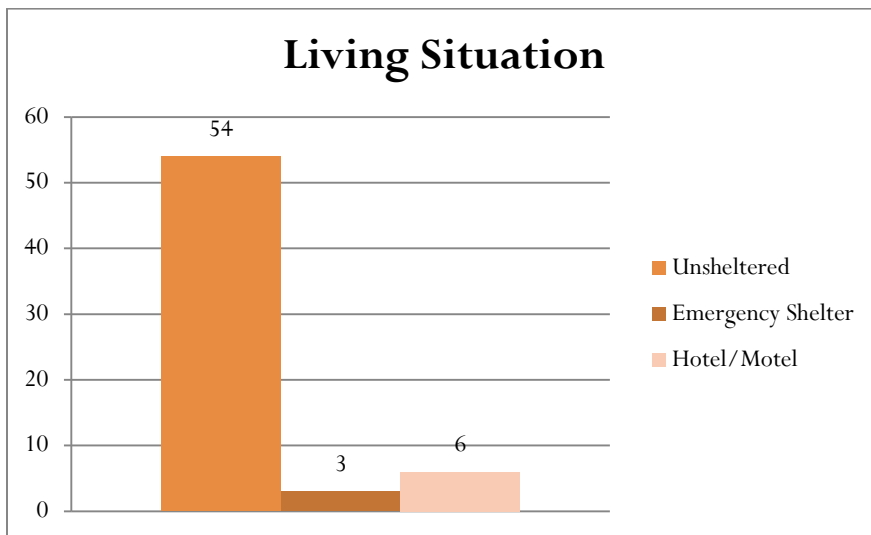
### INDIVIDUALS

On the night of January 30, 2013, there were 63 chronically homeless individuals counted in Middlesex County equaling 9.9% of the total homeless population. The number of chronically homeless individuals in Middlesex County has been rising with an overall increase of 34.9% since 2009.

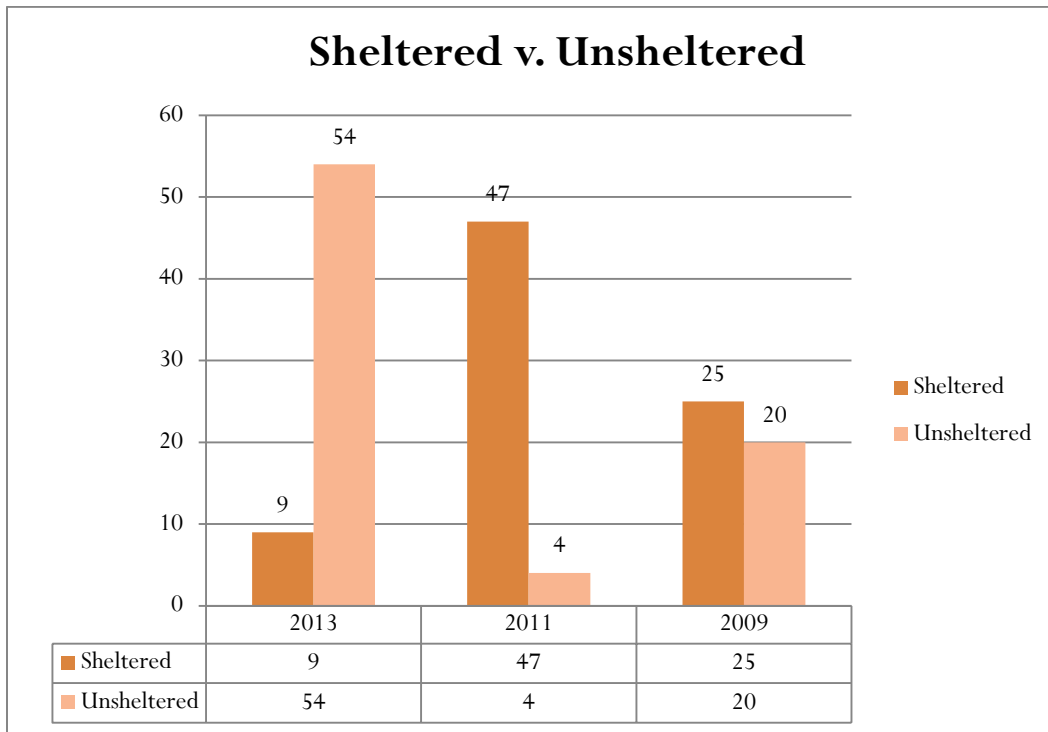


### Living Situation

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 following Living Situation chart is a breakdown of where the chronically homeless were residing on the night of the 2013 count. The largest percentage (85.7%) of the chronically homeless population in Middlesex County was in an unsheltered living situation.



Over the last three (3) full HUD count years, the number of both the sheltered and unsheltered chronically homeless individuals in Middlesex County has fluctuated greatly with a large increase in unsheltered chronically homeless individuals from 2011 to 2013 (92.5%) and a large decline of those in sheltered living situations (80.8%) over the same timeframe.



### **Length of Homelessness**

Of the total number of chronically homeless individuals in Middlesex County, 76.2% (n= 48) reported they had been homeless in excess of one year. 79.4% (n=50) reported they had four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.

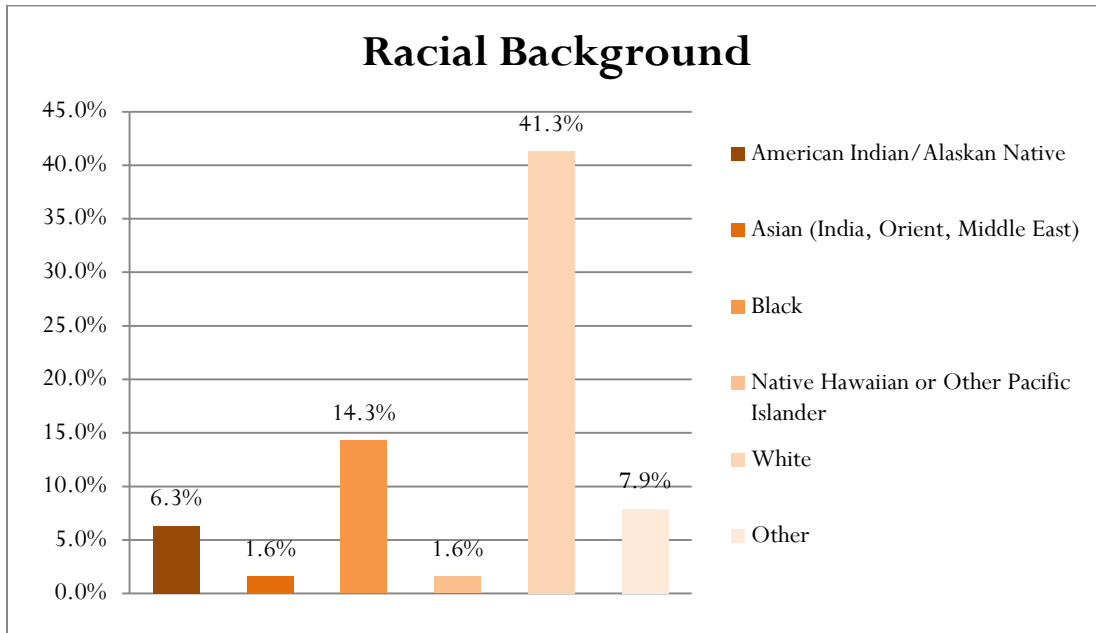
| <b>2013 Length of Homelessness</b> | <b>#</b>  | <b>%</b>    |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1 day to 1 week                    | 4         | 6.3         |
| 8 days to 1 month                  | 1         | 1.6         |
| 1 month & 1 day to 3 months        | 4         | 6.3         |
| 3 months & 1 day to 6 months       | 1         | 1.6         |
| 6 months & 1 day to 12 months      | 5         | 7.9         |
| <b>More than 1 year</b>            | <b>48</b> | <b>76.2</b> |



**Demographics**

In 2013, a total of 49 or 77.8% of the chronically homeless individual population was male and 14 or 22.2% was female.

As the chart below outlines, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals identified their race as White (41.3%) with the next largest percentage being those who identified themselves as Black (14.3%). The total percentage that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 46%.

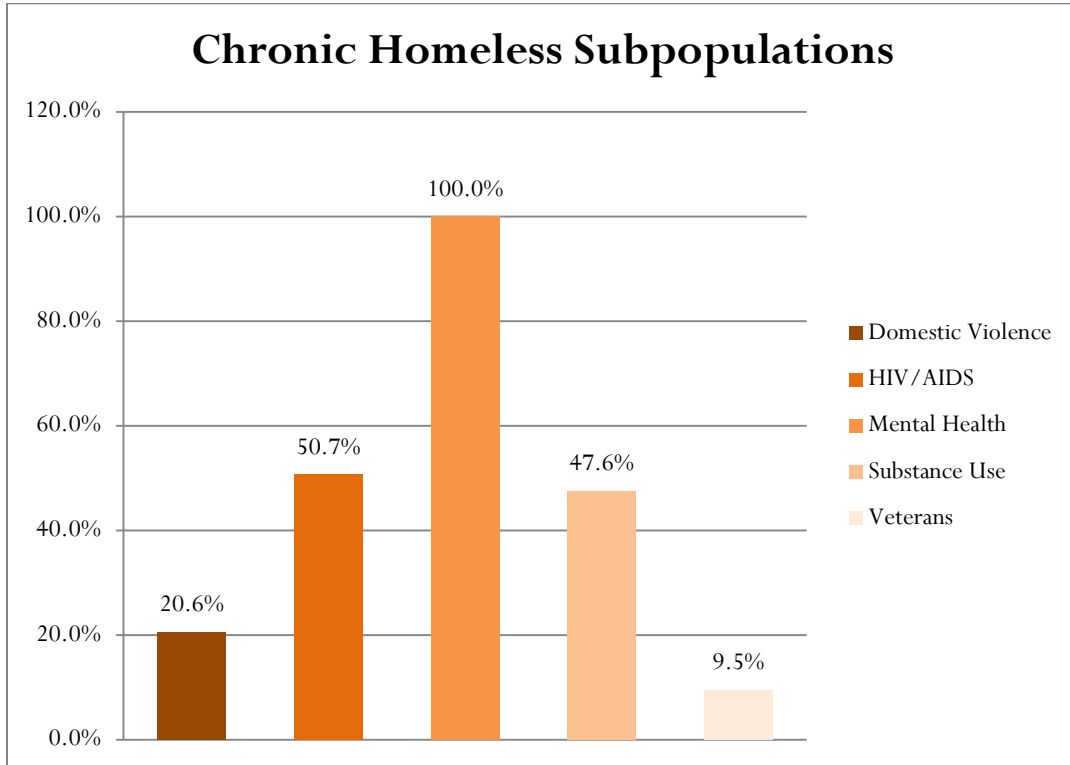


On the night of the 2013 count, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals fell into the 50 to 59 year old age range (31.7%). This age group was closely followed by those between the ages of 40 and 49 years.

| 2013 Age     | #         | %           |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| 18-21        | 4         | 6.3         |
| 22-24        | 3         | 4.8         |
| 25-29        | 4         | 6.3         |
| 30-39        | 13        | 20.6        |
| 40-49        | 16        | 25.4        |
| <b>50-59</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>31.7</b> |
| 60-64        | 1         | 1.6         |

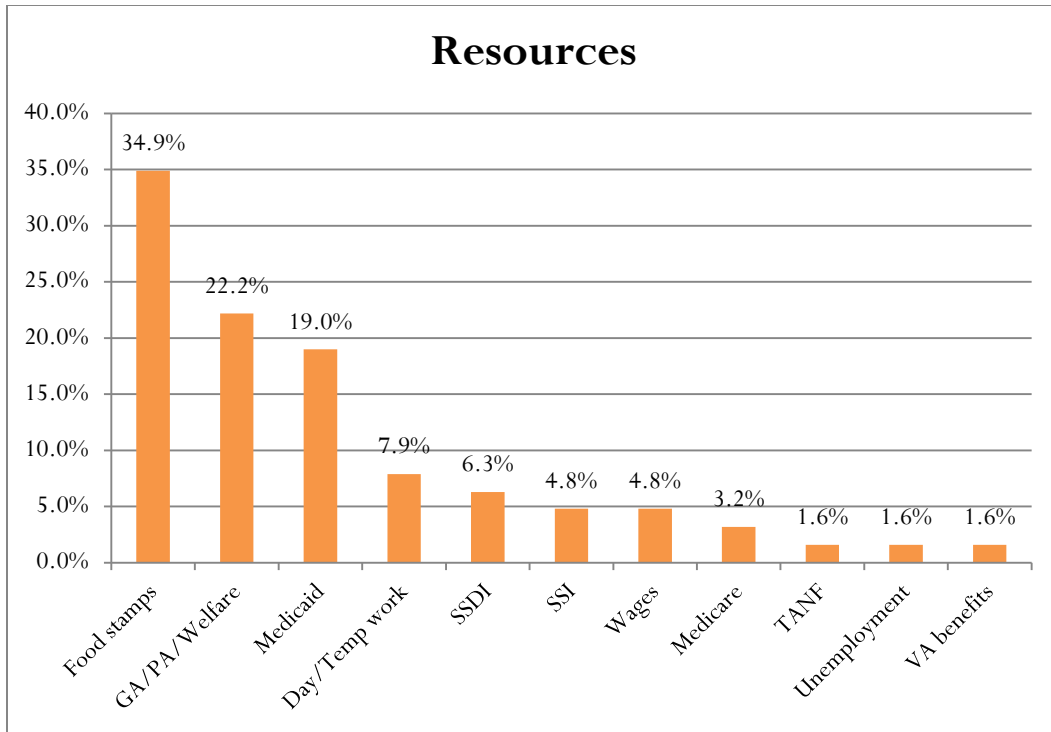
### **Chronic Homeless Subpopulations**

The chart below outlines the breakdown of the chronic homeless individual HUD subpopulations for the 2013 count. As shown in the chart, 100% of the chronic homeless individuals reported they had mental health issues and 50.7% reported having HIV/AIDS.



### **Financial Resources**

The three main sources of income reported by chronically homeless individuals in Middlesex County on the night of the 2013 count were Food Stamps (34.9%), Welfare (22.2%) and Medicaid (19%). 17.5% of the homeless population reported receiving no form of government benefit on the night of the count.



As reflected in the table below, the largest percentage (41.3%) of chronically homeless individuals reported having no income on the night of the count. A majority of the population for the County had an estimated annual income of less than \$5,000.

| 2013 Year Income   | #         | %            |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------|
| <b>No Income</b>   | <b>26</b> | <b>41.3%</b> |
| \$1,000- \$4,999   | 17        | 27.0%        |
| \$5,000- \$9,999   | 7         | 11.1%        |
| \$10,000- \$14,999 | 2         | 3.2%         |
| \$15,000-\$19,999  | 2         | 3.2%         |
| \$20,000-\$24,999  | 2         | 3.2%         |
| Over \$30,000      | 2         | 3.2%         |

### **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 housing costs too high. Other top ranking factors included substance abuse problems and loss of job/inability to find work.

| <b>2013 Contributing Factors to Homelessness</b>      | <b>%</b> |
|---|----------|
| Housing costs are too high                            | 71.4     |
| Alcohol or drug abuse problems                        | 49.2     |
| Lost job/can't find work                              | 47.6     |
| Have work but wages are too low                       | 42.9     |
| Medical problems/physical or developmental disability | 42.9     |
| Mental illness/emotional problems                     | 42.9     |
| Eviction or at risk of Eviction                       | 36.5     |
| Relationship/family breakup or death                  | 36.5     |
| Utility costs are too high                            | 33.3     |
| Lost job due to lack of transportation                | 28.6     |
| Incarceration   | 20.6     |
| Domestic violence                                     | 17.5     |
| House condemned                                       | 9.5      |
| Natural disaster                                      | 9.5      |
| Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure                 | 6.3      |
| Loss of child support                                 | 6.3      |

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

| <b>2013 Service Needs</b>    | <b>#</b> | <b>%</b> |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <b><i>Received</i></b>       |          |          |
| Emergency food               | 32       | 50.8     |
| Emergency shelter            | 21       | 33.3     |
| Medical (routine healthcare) | 19       | 30.2     |
|                              |          |          |
| <b><i>Need</i></b>           |          |          |
| Housing                      | 44       | 69.8     |
| Emergency shelter            | 36       | 57.1     |
| Dental care                  | 35       | 55.6     |

### **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 Hospital.

| <b>Discharged Into Homelessness<br/>(Past Three Years)</b> |    |      |
|--|----|------|
| <i>Corrections</i>   | #  | %    |
| City or County Jail  | 17 | 27.0 |
| State Prison   | 7  | 11.1 |
| <i>Inpatient Care</i>                                      |    |      |
| Medical Hospital   | 16 | 25.4 |
| State inpatient mental health                              | 3  | 4.8  |
| Private Inpatient Substance Use                            | 3  | 4.8  |
| City/County Inpatient mental health                        | 2  | 3.2  |

**Last Permanent Address**

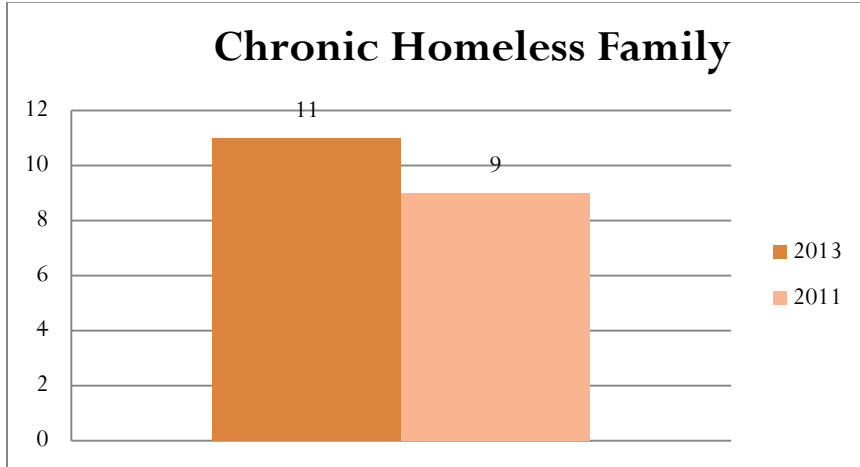
In the 2013 count, 90.4% (n=57) of the chronically homeless individual respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless. In reviewing the surrounding states, 1.5% (n=1) last lived in Pennsylvania and 1.5% (n=1) last lived in New York.

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

| <b>Town</b>   | #  | %     |
|---------------|----|-------|
| New Brunswick | 26 | 41.3% |
| Perth Amboy   | 10 | 15.9% |
| Piscataway    | 3  | 4.8%  |

### CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES

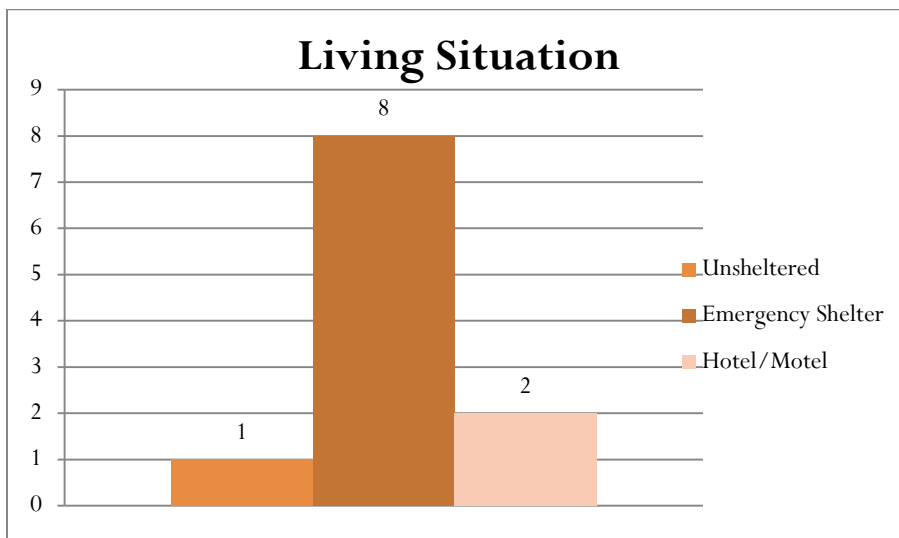
In Middlesex County, a total of 11 families met the chronic homeless definition and could be considered a chronically homeless family. This represents 1.7% of the total homeless population and 5.9% of the total family homeless population. These families had a total of 26 children with them.



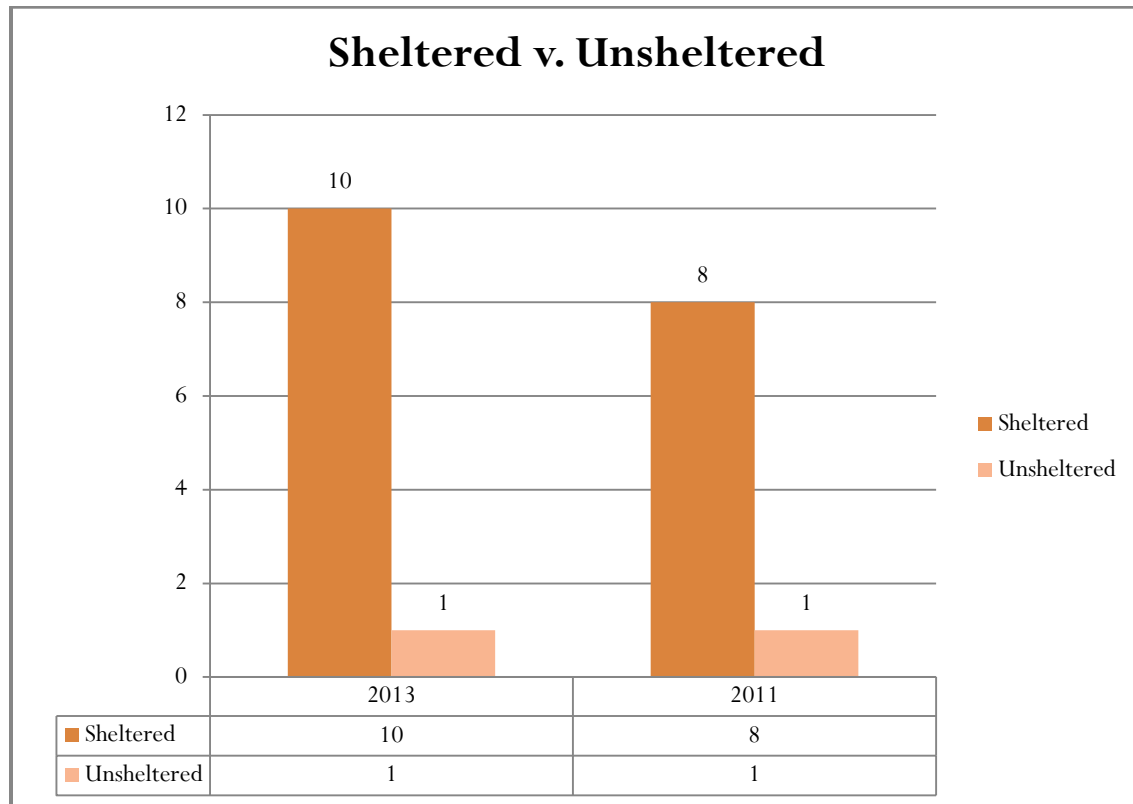
Adding the chronically homeless families to the chronically homeless individuals gives Middlesex County a total chronically homeless population of 100 men, women and children on the night of the 2013 count.

### Living Situation

The breakdown of living situations for chronically homeless families is reflected in the Living Situation chart that follows. On the night of the count, there was one (1) chronically homeless family with two (2) children in an unsheltered living situation. The largest percentage of chronically homeless families was residing in emergency shelter (72.2%).



Although the numbers are small, the chart below shows that chronically homeless families in Middlesex County primarily reside in sheltered living situations with one (1) chronically homeless family reported as unsheltered over the past two (2) full HUD count years.



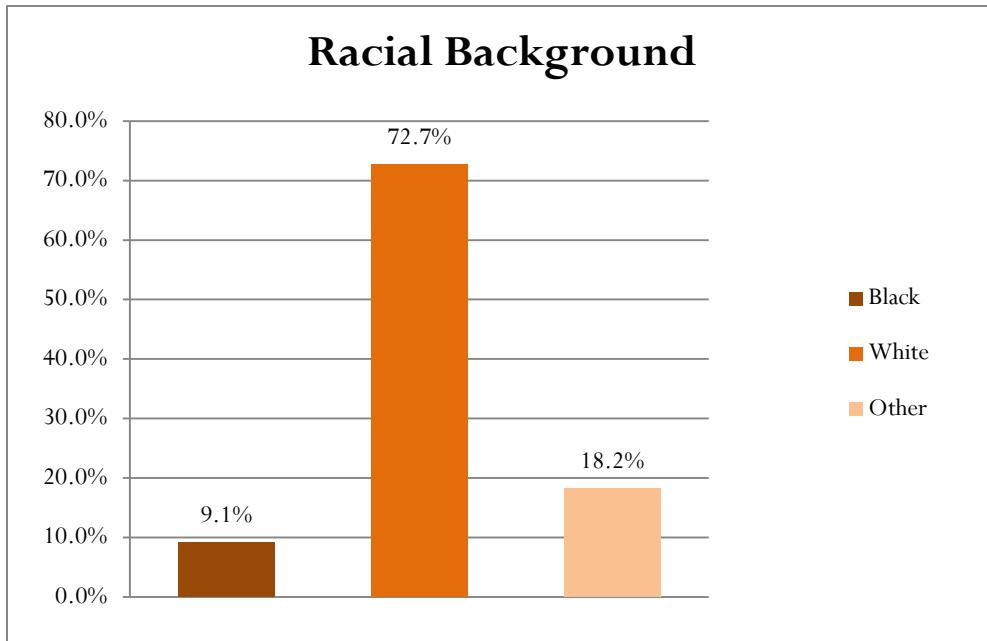
**Length of Homelessness**

72.7% (n=8) reported that they had been homeless in excess of one (1) year and 72.7% (n= 8) reported that they had been homeless four (4) times in the past three (3) years.

**Demographics**

In 2013, two (2) or 18.2% of the chronically homeless families were male headed households and eight (8) or 72.7% were female headed households.

The chart below outlines the racial breakdown of the chronically homeless families in Middlesex County. The largest percentage (72.7%) define themselves as White, 9.1% define themselves as Black.



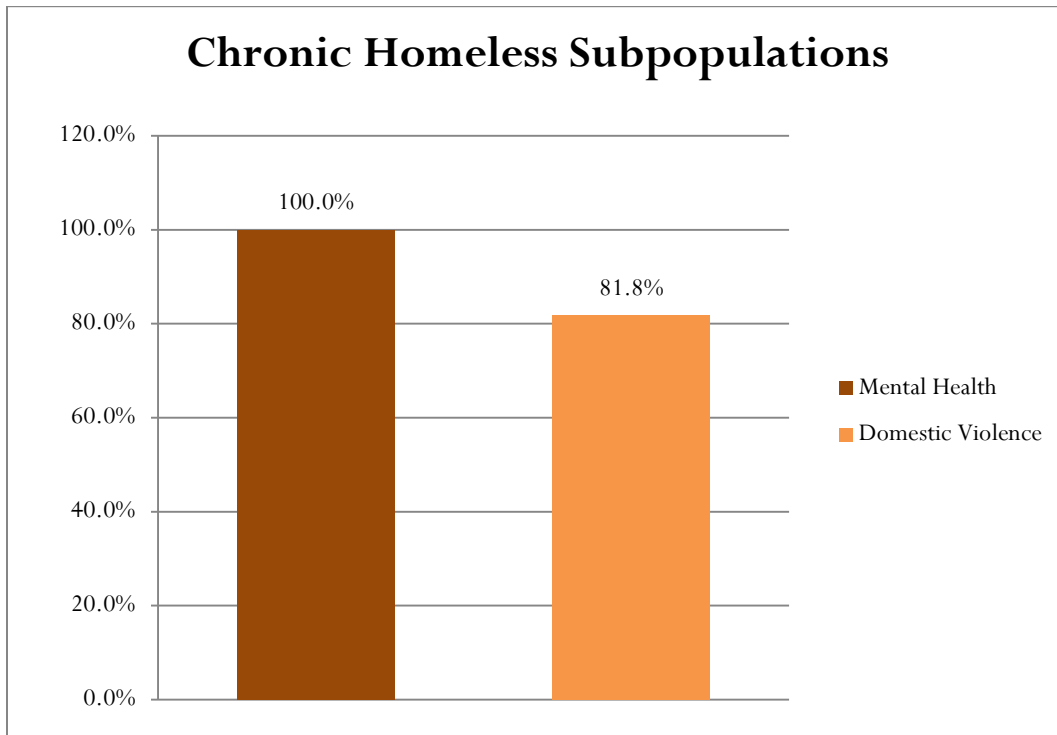
The largest percentage (45.5%) of chronically homeless families had a head of household between 30 to 39 years of age. The remainder were dispersed almost evenly throughout the other age groups as reflected in the table below.

| Age          | #        | %           |
|--------------|----------|-------------|
| 18-21        | 1        | 9.1         |
| 25-29        | 2        | 18.2        |
| <b>30-39</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>45.5</b> |
| 40-49        | 1        | 9.1         |
| 50-59        | 2        | 18.2        |



### **Chronic Homeless Family Subpopulations**

In Middlesex County, 100% of chronically homeless families reported having mental health issues and 81.8% reported having substance abuse issues as represented in the chart below.



### **Financial Resources and Income**

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

- Food Stamps (81.8%);
- Medicaid (81.8%); and
- TANF (72.7%).

Of the 11 respondents, four (4) reported receiving some form of income on the night of the count in which the projected annual incomes vary from those earning less than \$5,000 a year to annual income in the amount of \$35,000.

### **Contributing Factors to Homelessness**

The Contributing Factors table that follows includes the top factors, as reported by respondents in Middlesex County, which led their family to become homeless. The largest percentage (81.8%) reported the top factor as domestic violence. Other high ranking factors included eviction, low wages, and loss of job or inability to find work.

| <b>Contributing Factors to Homelessness</b> | <b>%</b> |
|---|----------|
| Domestic violence                           | 81.8     |
| Eviction or at risk of Eviction             | 72.7     |
| Have work but wages are too low             | 72.7     |
| Lost Job/Can't find work                    | 72.7     |
| Housing costs are too high                  | 63.6     |

The top three services that chronically homeless families reported needing on the night of the count were:

- Child care
- Educational training; and
- Employment assistance