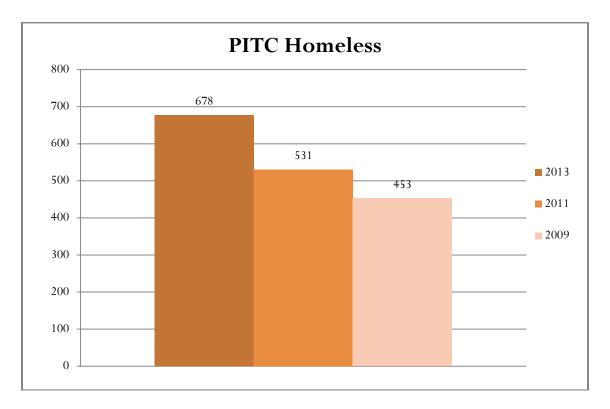
### **OCEAN COUNTY**

On January 30, 2013 there were 678 homeless men, women and children counted in Ocean County according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations. Homelessness in Ocean County has increased over the past three (3) full HUD count years reaching the highest level in 2013.

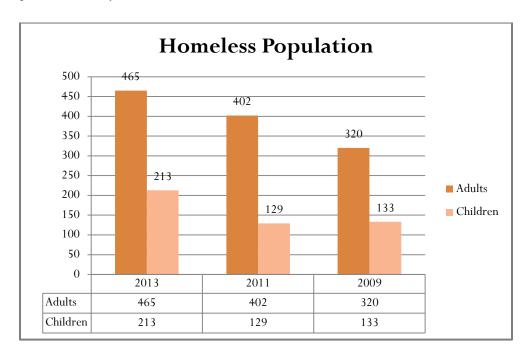


The actual number of people who are homeless over the course of the year may be two to four times greater than the number counted at one point in time. Using the statistical formula developed in the publication "Estimating the Need," it is projected that *over the course of a year*, *1,608 adults and children are homeless in Ocean County*.

Of the 678 people who were homeless on the night of the count, 213 were children as reflected in the table below.

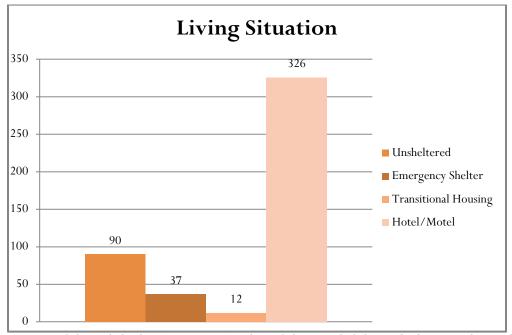
2013 Homeless Breakdown		
Respondents (Adults)	465	
Family Members (Children)	213	
Total Homeless	678	

As the chart below shows, the number of homeless adults has been on the rise since 2009 with the number of homeless children fluctuating slightly until this count year where there was an increase of 39.4% over the previous count year.



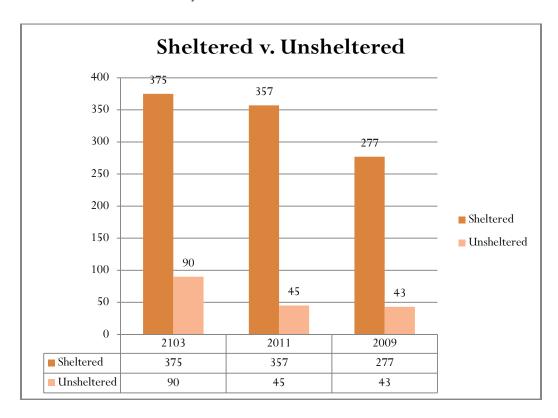
# **Living Situation**

As reflected in the Living Situation chart that follows, 90 or 19.3% of the homeless respondents were unsheltered the night of the count. The remainder of the homeless were living in sheltered situations with the largest population of the homeless in hotel/motel placement as emergency housing (n=329, 70.7%).



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

The number of unsheltered homeless in Ocean County has remained fairly consistent between 2009 and 2011 however there was a substantial increase in this count year of 5.0%. The number of sheltered homeless has been consistently on the rise with an overall increase of 26.1% since 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 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 Ocean County, there were no (0) adults in emergency shelter and 11 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 27 respondents stated that they would be in emergency shelter and 12 reported residing in transitional housing.

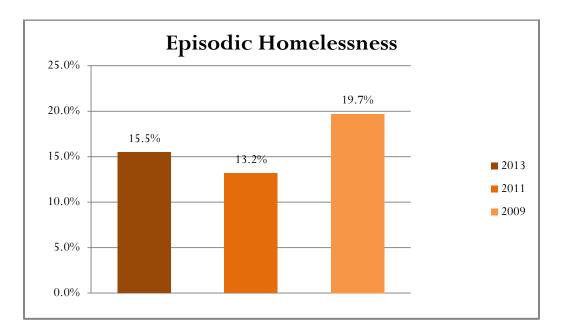
### **Length and Episodes of Homelessness**

Of the homeless population surveyed in Ocean County, the largest percentage reported being homeless between three (3) and six (6) months (28.4%). This was most closely followed by those homeless for more

than one (1) year (19.6%). Of those who were homeless less than one (1) year, 13.5% reported that they had been homeless at least one (1) other time within the past 12 months.

2013 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day to 1 week	21	4.5
8 days to 1 month	26	5.6
1 month & 1 day to 3 months	54	11.6
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	132	28.4
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	73	15.7
More than 1 year	91	19.6

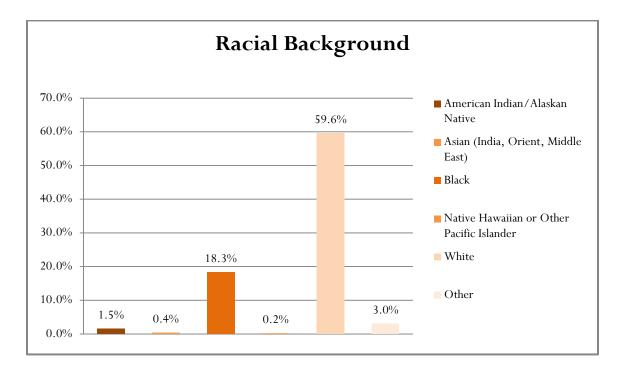
As reflected in the Episodic Homelessness chart that follows, a total of 72 or 15.5% of the total homeless population reported having at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. This number has fluctuated over the past three (3) full HUD count years, with the highest numbers being seen in 2009 as reflected in the following chart.



### **Demographics**

In 2013, of the total homeless adult population in Ocean County, 257 people or 55.3% were male, 203 or 43.7% 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. More than half of the homeless population identified their race as White (59.6%). The next largest percentage was Black (18.3%). The total percentage of the homeless population that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 7.1 %.

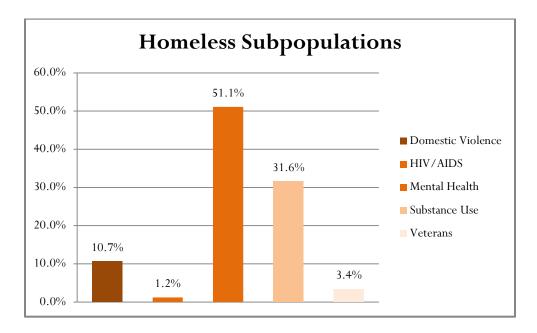


The largest percentage of homeless in Ocean County fell within the 40 to 49 year old age range, totaling 28.8%. The next largest percentage of the homeless population was between 30 and 39 years of age.

2013 Age	#	%
Under 18	4	0.9
18-21	42	9.0
22-24	29	6.2
25-29	33	7.1
30-39	91	19.6
40-49	134	28.8
50-59	77	16.6
60-64	14	3.0
65 or older	7	1.5

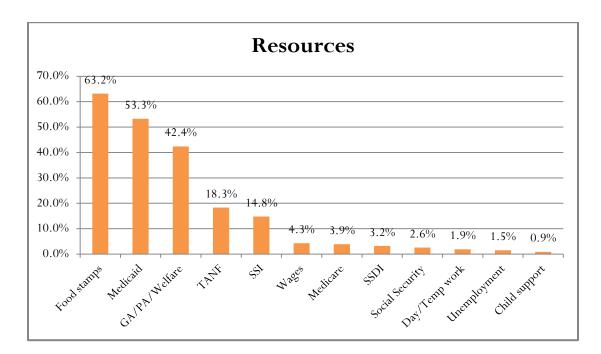
# **Homeless Subpopulations**

The chart below outlines the breakdown of the HUD homeless subpopulations in Ocean County for the 2013 count. The largest subpopulation was the homeless who had mental health issues (51.1%). The number of homeless veterans equaled 3.4% (n=16).



### **Financial Resources and Income**

The three main sources of income reported by people who were homeless in Ocean County on the night of the 2013 count were Food Stamps (63.2%), Medicaid (53.3%) and Welfare (42.4%). 2.2% of the homeless population reported receiving no form of government benefit.



As part of the 2013 count, homeless respondents were asked to report a current income that provided a potential estimated yearly income. In Ocean County, the largest percentage of respondents stated that they had an annual income of less than \$5,000 with the majority having an annual income of less than \$10,000.

2013 Year Income	#	%
No Income	73	15.7
\$1.00- \$4,999	208	44.7
\$5,000- \$9,999	119	25.6
\$10,000- \$14,999	22	4.7
\$15,000-\$19,999	4	0.9
\$20,000-\$24,999	2	0.4
\$25,000-\$29,999	3	0.6
\$30,000-\$34,999	2	0.4
Over \$35,000	2	0.4

## <u>Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness</u>

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

Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Natural disaster	38.7
Housing costs are too high	29.2
Lost job/can't find work	28.0
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	20.9
Relationship/family breakup or death	19.8
Mental illness/emotional problems	18.7
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	17.6
Utility costs are too high	16.6
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	15.3
Domestic violence	8.8
Lost job due to lack of transportation	8.8
Incarceration	6.7
Have work but wages are too low	3.2
House condemned	2.2
Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure	1.1
Loss of child support	0.9

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

2013 Service Needs	#	%
Received		
Emergency shelter	258	55.5
Emergency food	186	40.0
Medical (routine healthcare)	161	34.6
Need		
Housing	221	47.5
Emergency food	122	26.2
Transportation services	117	25.2

# **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 table 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)		
Corrections	#	%
City or County Jail	37	8.0%
State Prison	17	3.7%
Juvenile Detention Center	2	0.4%
Inpatient Care	#	%
Medical Hospital	33	7.1%
Private Inpatient Substance Use	11	2.4%
City/County inpatient mental health	5	1.1%
State inpatient mental health	2	0.4%

# <u>**Last Permanent Address**</u>

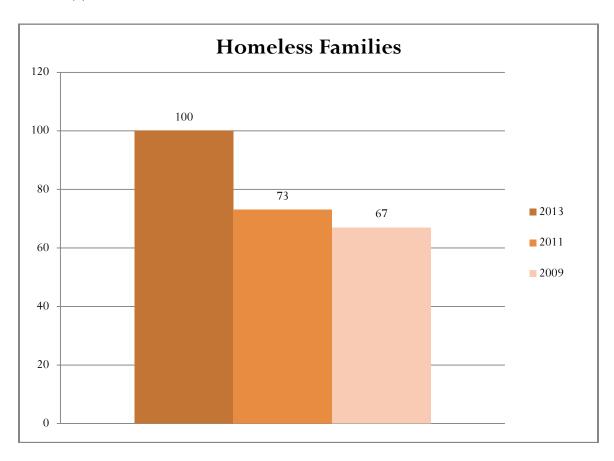
In the 2013 count, 90.3% (n=420) of the homeless respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless. In reviewing the surrounding states, 0.4% (n=2) last lived in New York and 0.2% (n=1) last lived in Pennsylvania.

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

Town	#	%
Seaside Heights	120	25.8%
Toms River	68	14.6%
Lakewood	38	8.2%
Brick	20	4.3%

### **FAMILY HOMELESSNESS**

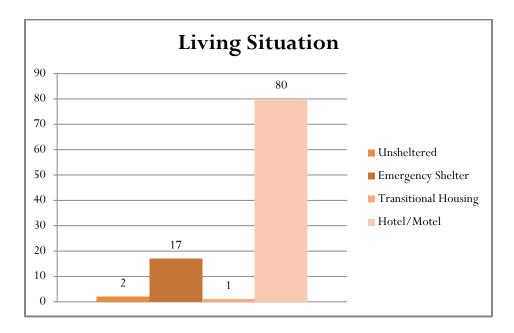
In 2013, of the 465 homeless respondents in Ocean County, 100 or 21.5% had at least one dependent child under the age of 18 with them the night of the count and are considered a homeless family. Of the total of 213 homeless children in these families, 110 were six (6) years or younger and 103 were between the ages of seven (7) and 17.



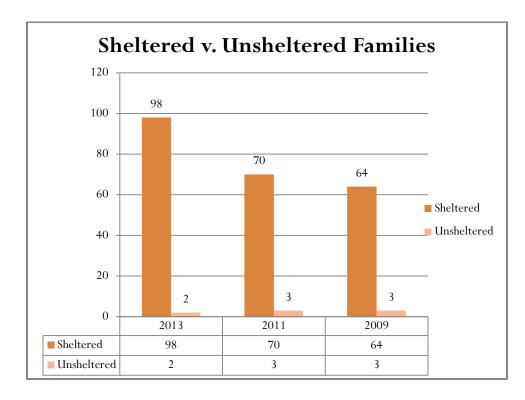
# **Living Situation**

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

The remaining 98 homeless families were in sheltered living situations that included emergency shelter, transitional housing and hotel/motel placements. The largest percentage (80.0%) of homeless families were residing in hotel/motel placement as emergency shelter on the night of the 2013 count as reflected in the Living Situation chart that follows.



The homeless families in Ocean County have primarily been in sheltered living situations over the last three (3) full HUD count years with the number of unsheltered being a small and consistent number.



# **Length of Homelessness**

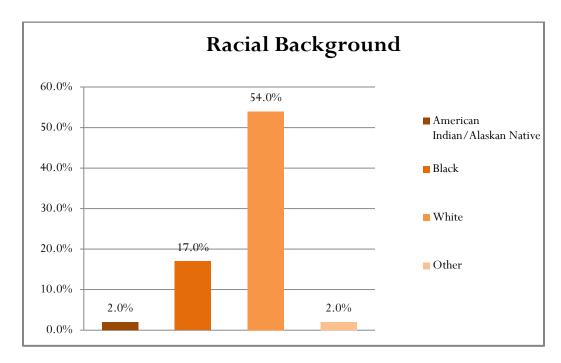
The largest percentage (37%) of homeless families had been homeless three (3) to six (6) months with the next largest percentage being homeless between one (1) to three (3) months and more than one (1) year equally.

2013 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day to 1 week	3	3.0
8 days to 1 month	7	7.0
1 month & 1 day to 3 months	14	14.0
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	37	37.0
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	7	7.0
More than 1 year	14	14.0

# **Demographics**

Of the total 100 homeless families in Ocean County, 73% (n=73) were female headed households and 27% (n=27) were male headed households.

The chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless families in the 2013 count. Over one-half of respondents defined their race as White (54%) with the next largest percentage defining their race as Black (17%). A total of 11% (n=11) defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino.

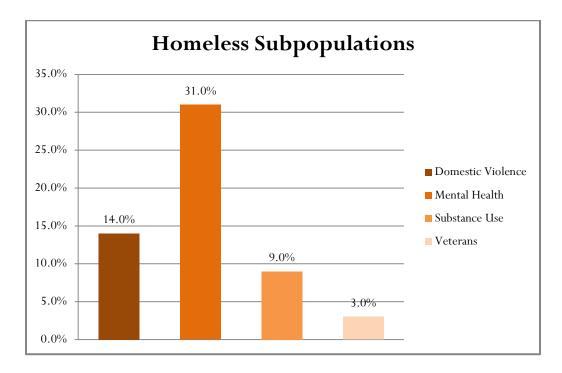


The largest percentage of homeless families in Ocean County had a head of household that fell within the 30 to 39 year old age range. The next largest percentage was between 40 and 49 years of age as reflected in the table below.

2013 Age	#	%
18-21	9	9.0%
22-24	11	11.0%
25-29	10	10.0%
30-39	38	38.0%
40-49	24	24.0%
50-59	2	2.0%
65 or older	1	1.0%

### **Homeless Family Subpopulations**

Among the HUD homeless subpopulations in the 2013 count, the largest subpopulation among homeless families was those with a head of household with mental health issues (31.0%). The next largest subpopulation was households experiencing domestic violence (14.0%).



## Financial Resources and Income

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

- Food Stamps (77%);
- TANF (74%); and
- Medicaid (64%)

All of the homeless families stated they received some type of government benefit on the night of the count. In reviewing yearly estimated income, the majority of the homeless families were earning less than \$10,000 annually.

2013 Year Income	#	%
No Income	8	8.0
\$1.00- \$4,999	31	31.0
\$5,000- \$9,999	38	38.0
\$10,000- \$14,999	13	13.0
\$15,000-\$19,999	1	1.0
\$25,000-\$29,999	3	3.0
\$30,000-\$34,999	1	1.0
Over \$35,000	1	1.0

### Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness

In 2013, the highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Ocean County was natural disaster. The other top ranking factor was loss of job/inability to find work.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness	
Natural disaster	48.0
Lost job/can't find work	31.0
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	28.0
Housing costs are too high	27.0
Relationship/family breakup or death	19.0

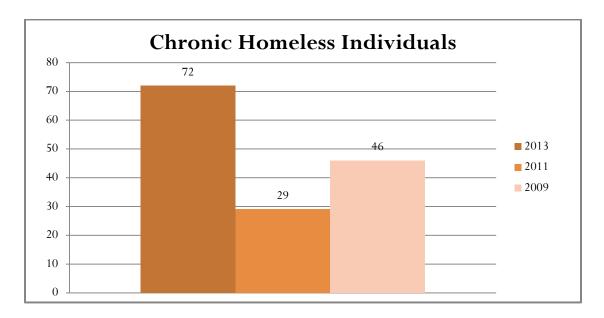
When homeless families were asked their top needs on the night of the count, the top three (3) needs included:

- Housing (50%);
- Educational Assistance (36); and
- Emergency Food (29%).

### **CHRONICALLY HOMELESS**

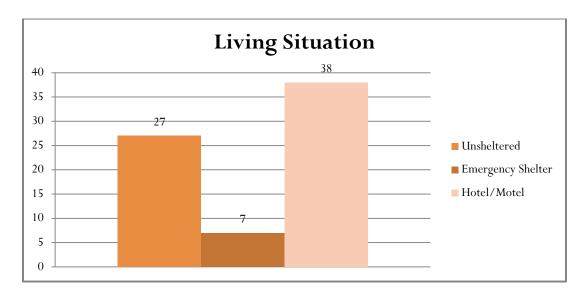
#### **INDIVIDUALS**

On the night of January 30, 2013, there were 72 chronically homeless individuals counted in Ocean County equaling 15.4% of the total adult homeless population. The number of chronically homeless individuals in Ocean County over the last three (3) full HUD count years has fluctuated with the highest numbers being seen in 2013.

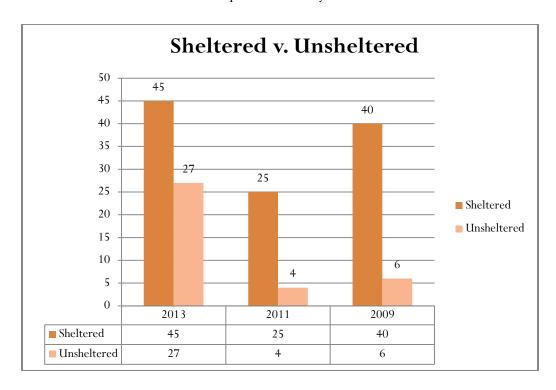


## **Living Situation**

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 that follows is a breakdown of where the chronically homeless were residing on the night of the 2013 count. The largest percentages (52.7%) were residing in hotel/motel placements as emergency shelter.



The number of both the sheltered and unsheltered chronically homeless individuals in Ocean County has fluctuated; however, the number of unsheltered chronically homeless individuals rose substantially in 2013 with an increase of 85.1% from the previous count year.



# **Length of Homelessness**

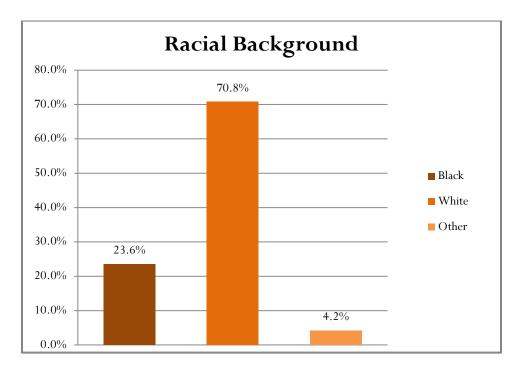
Of the total chronically homeless individuals in Ocean County, 58.3% (n= 42) reported they had been homeless in excess of one (1) year. A total of 66.7% (n= 48) reported they had four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.

2013 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day to 1 week	1	1.4
8 days to 1 month	4	5.6
1 month & 1 day to 3 months	6	8.3
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	13	18.1
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	6	8.3
More than 1 year	42	58.3

### **Demographics**

In 2013, a total of 42 or 58.3% of the chronically homeless individual population were male and 30 or 41.7% were female.

As the chart below outlines, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals identified their race as White (70.8%). The total percentage that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 2.8%.

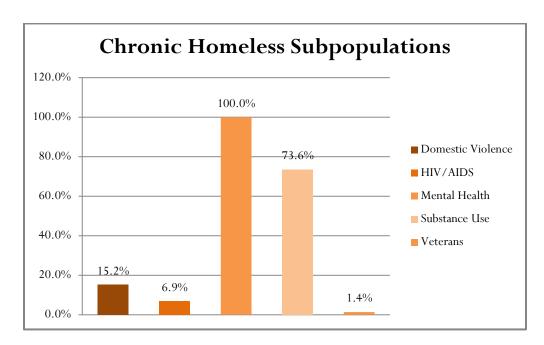


On the night of the 2013 count, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals fell into the 40 to 49 year old age range (34.7%). This age group was closely followed by those between the ages of 50 and 59 years.

2013 Age	#	%
18-21	9	12.5
22-24	4	5.6
25-29	3	4.2
30-39	8	11.1
40-49	25	34.7
50-59	17	23.6
60-64	2	2.8
65 or older	2	2.8

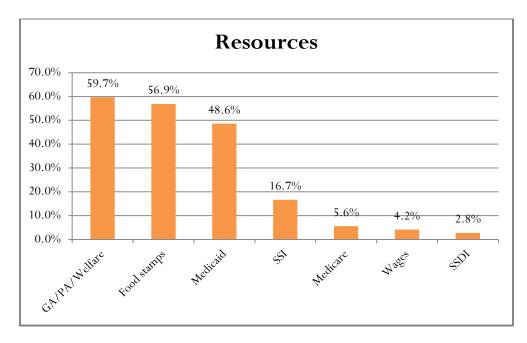
# **Chronic Homeless Subpopulations**

The chart below outlines the breakdown of the chronic homeless individual subpopulations for the 2013 count. As shown in the chart, 100% of the chronic homeless individuals reported they had mental health issues and 73.6% reported having substance use issues.



### **Financial Resources**

The three main sources of income reported by people who were homeless in Ocean County on the night of the 2013 count were Welfare (59.7%), Food Stamps (56.9%) and Medicaid (48.6%). 5.6% of the chronically homeless individual population reported receiving no form of government benefit on the night of the count.



As reflected in the table below, the largest percentage (55.6%) of chronically homeless individuals reported income of less than \$5,000 annually with 20.8% reporting no income,

2013 Year Income	#	%
No Income	15	20.8
\$1.00- \$4,999	40	55.6
\$5,000- \$9,999	12	16.7
\$10,000- \$14,999	1	1.4

# <u>Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness</u>

The highest ranking factor that chronically homeless individual respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Ocean County was mental health issues. Other top ranking factors included substance abuse problems and housing costs being too high.

2013 Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Mental illness/emotional problems	48.6
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	41.7
Housing costs are too high	40.3
Natural disaster	34.7
Relationship/family breakup or death	30.6
Lost job/can't find work	27.8
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	26.4
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	22.2
Utility costs are too high	19.4
Domestic violence	12.5
Lost job due to lack of transportation	9.7
Incarceration	6.9
Have work but wages are too low	5.6
House condemned	5.6
Loss of child support	2.8

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 chart below. The top service received by the chronically homeless individual population was emergency shelter and the top service that was reported as being needed was housing.

2013 Service Needs	#	%
Received		
Emergency shelter	41	56.9
Medical (routine healthcare)	34	47.2
Transportation services	33	45.8
Need		
Housing	40	55.6
Transportation services	27	37.5
Dental care	19	26.4

## **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 institution that had the highest numbers of respondents reporting they were discharged into homelessness was Medical Hospitals.

Discharged Into Homelessness (Past Three Years)		
Corrections	#	%
City or County Jail	7	9.7
State Prison	3	4.2
Juvenile Detention Center	1	1.4
Inpatient Care	#	%
Medical Hospital	17	23.6
City/County inpatient mental health	3	4.2
Private Inpatient Substance Use	3	4.2

# **Last Permanent Address**

In the 2013 count, 98.6% (n=71) 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 town that had the largest numbers was Seaside Heights.

Town	#	%
Seaside Heights	17	23.6
Toms River	12	16.7
Lakewood	11	15.3
Brick	4	5.6
Point Pleasant	3	4.2

### **CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES**

In Ocean County, there were four (4) families that met the chronic homeless definition and could be considered a chronically homeless family. These families equal 0.8% of the total homeless population and 0.4% of the total family homeless population. These families had a total of 14 children with them.

Adding the families to the individuals gives Ocean County a total chronically homeless population of 90 men, women and children on the night of the 2013 count.

### <u>Living Situation and Length of Homelessness</u>

On the night of the count, chronically homeless families were in sheltered homeless living situations that included hotel/motel placements and emergency shelter. All of the chronically homeless families had been homeless in excess of one (1) year and 25% had four (4) episodes of homeless over the past three (3) years (since January 30 2010).

## **Demographics**

In 2013, all of the chronically homeless families households were female headed and 75% defined their race as White. The majority of head of households were between 30 and 39 years of age.

### **Chronic Homeless Family Subpopulations**

In Ocean County, the chronically homeless families were part of the mental illness and domestic violence HUD subpopulations.

### **Financial Resources and Income**

Resources reported by the chronically homeless families included TANF, Food Stamps, Medicaid and Welfare. The majority reported an annual income of less than \$5,000.

### **Contributing Factors to Homelessness**

The main contributing factors to homelessness as reported by the chronically homeless families were relationship breakdown, domestic violence and housing costs being too high.