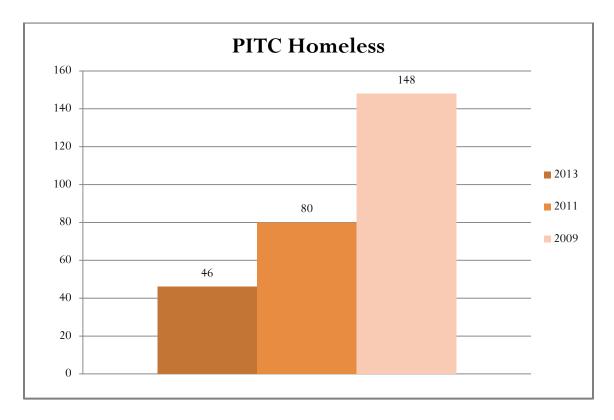
#### SALEM COUNTY

On January 30, 2013 there were 46 homeless men, women and children counted in Salem County according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations. Homelessness in Salem County has been on the decline over the past three (3) full HUD count years reaching the lowest numbers in the current count.

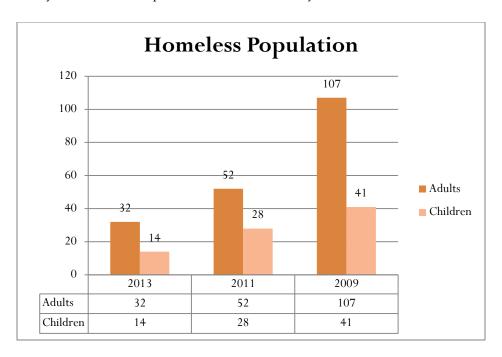


The actual number of people who are homeless over the course of the year may be two to four times greater than the number counted at one point in time. Using the statistical formula developed in the publication "Estimating the Need," it is projected that *over the course of a year*, 46 adults and children are homeless in Salem County.

Of the 46 people who were homeless on the night of the count, 14 of them were children as reflected in the table below.

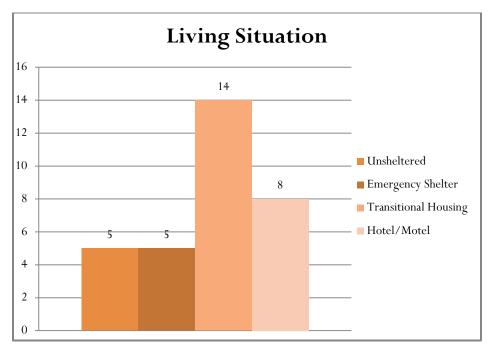
2013 Homeless Breakdown		
Respondents (Adults)	32	
Family Members (Children)	14	
Total Homeless 46		

As the chart below shows, since 2009, the number of adults and children who were homeless has been on a steady decline over the past three full HUD count years.



### **Living Situation**

As reflected in the Living Situation chart that follows, a total of five or 15.6% of the homeless in Salem County were unsheltered on the night of the count. The majority of people experiencing homelessness were in sheltered locations, with the largest percentage residing in transitional housing (n=14, 43.7%).



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

While the number of people in sheltered locations on the night of the count has decreased since 2009, the number of unsheltered has fluctuated, with the highest number being seen in the 2011 count.



### **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 for the night of the count with what was reported in the same categories for the PITC. 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.

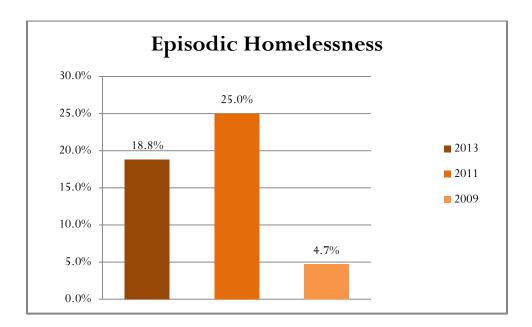
In Salem County, there were a total of six (6) adults in emergency shelter and 18 in transitional housing in HMIS on the night of the count. These numbers are slightly different than what was recorded as part of the count. On the night of the count five (5) respondents stated that they would be in emergency shelter and 14 reported residing in transitional housing.

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

Of the adult homeless population surveyed in Salem County, 16 or 50% responded that they had been homeless in excess of one (1) year. Of those who were homeless less than one year, 12.5% reported that they had been homeless at least one other time within the past 12 months.

2013 Length of Homelessness	#	%
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	7	21.9
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	6	18.8
More than 1 year	16	50.0

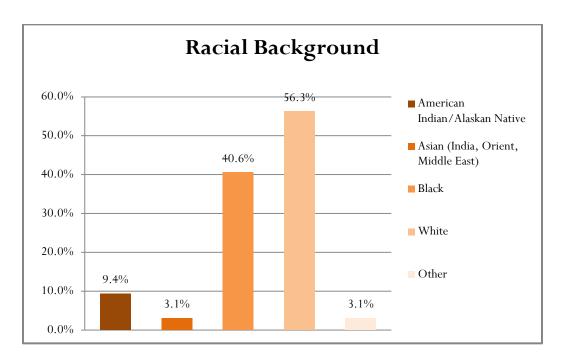
As reflected in the Episodic Homelessness chart that follows, a total of six (6) or 18.8% of the total adult homeless population reported having at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. This number has fluctuated over the past three HUD count years, with the lowest numbers being seen in 2009.



### **Demographics**

In 2013, of the total adult homeless population in Salem County, 13 people or 40.6% were male, 19 or 59.4% were female and 0% identified as transgender.

The chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless persons in the 2013 count. The largest majority defined their race as White (56.3%) closely followed by Black (40.6%). The percentage of the homeless population that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 9.4%.

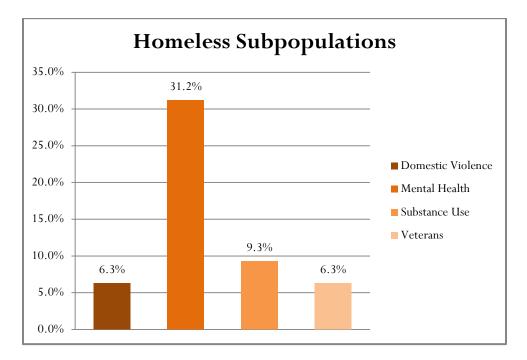


The largest percentage of homeless in Salem County fell within the 40 to 49 year old age range, totaling 28.1%, closely followed by those within the 50 to 59 year old age range (25%).

2013 Age	#	%
18-21	1	3.1
22-24	3	9.4
25-29	1	3.1
30-39	6	18.8
40-49	9	28.1
50-59	8	25.0
60-64	1	3.1
65 or older	1	3.1

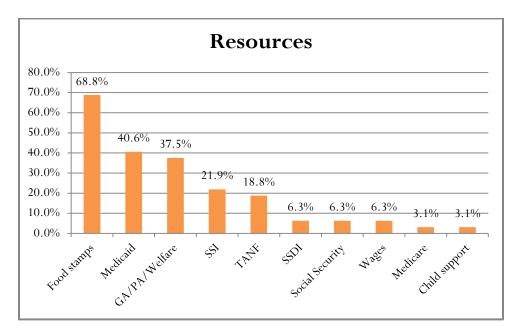
## **Homeless Subpopulations**

The chart below outlines the breakdown of the homeless subpopulations in Salem County for the 2013 count. Overwhelmingly, the largest subpopulation was the homeless who had mental health issues (31.2%). The second largest subpopulation reported was those who had substance abuse issues (9.3%).



### **Financial Resources and Income**

The three main sources of income reported by people who were homeless in Salem County on the night of the 2013 count were Food Stamps (68.8%), Medicaid (40.6%) and Welfare (37.5%). All of the respondents reported receiving some type of government benefit on the night of the count.



As part of the 2013 count, homeless respondents were asked to report a current income that provided a potential estimated yearly income. In Salem County, the largest percent of respondents stated that they had an annual income of less than \$5,000 with 31.3% reporting no income on the night of the count.

2013 Year Income	#	%
No Income	10	31.3
\$1.00- \$4,999	11	34.4
\$5,000- \$9,999	5	15.6
\$10,000- \$14,999	1	3.1
\$15,000- \$19,999	2	6.3

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

The highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Salem County was housing costs being too high. The other top ranking factors were loss of a job/inability to find work and relationship breakdown as reflected in the Contributing Factors table that follows.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Housing costs are too high	28.1
Lost job/can't find work	25.0
Relationship/family breakup or death	25.0
Mental illness/emotional problems	21.9
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	18.8
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	15.6
Incarceration	12.5
Utility costs are too high	9.4
Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure	6.3
Have work but wages are too low	6.3
Domestic violence	3.1
House condemned	3.1
Loss of child support	3.1
Lost job due to lack of transportation	3.1

The types of services that respondents stated that they have received in the past three (3) years or were currently in need of receiving are reflected in the table below. In Salem County, the top service received was housing and the top service that was reported as being needed was housing.

2013 Service Needs	#	%
Received		
Housing	12	37.5%
Medical (routine healthcare)	9	28.1%
Medical (disability)	8	25.0%
Need		
Housing	8	25.0%
Transportation services	6	18.8%
Medical (disability)	5	15.6%

## **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, there were three (3) institutions that respondents reported being discharged into homelessness from which included city/county jail, state prison and state inpatient mental health facility.

Discharged Into Homelessness (Past Three Years)		
Corrections	#	%
City or County Jail	2	6.3%
State Prison	1	3.1%
Inpatient Care	#	%
State inpatient mental health	2	6.3%

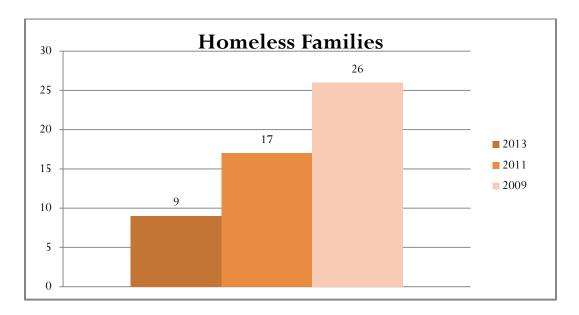
## **Last Permanent Address**

In the 2013 count, 93.8% (n=30) of the homeless 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 (rate of 5% or higher). The largest number reported last living in Penns Grove.

Town	#	%
Penns Grove	6	18.8%
Salem City	5	15.6%
Woodstown	5	15.6%
Carneys Point	5	15.6%
Pennsville	5	15.6%
Woodstown	3	9.4%
Clayton	2	6.3%

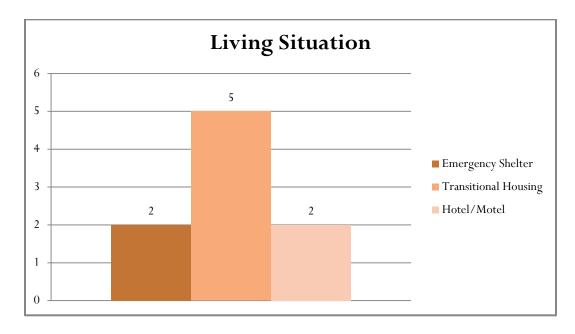
### **FAMILY HOMELESSNESS**

In 2013, of the 32 homeless respondents in Salem County, nine (9) or 28.1% had at least one (1) dependent child under the age of 18 with them the night of the count and are considered a homeless family. Of the total of 14 homeless children in these families, nine (9) were six (6) years or younger and five (5) were between the ages of seven (7) and 17.

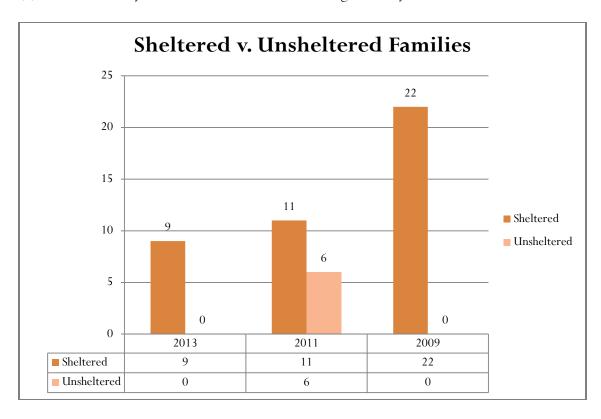


### **Living Situation**

All of the homeless families were in sheltered living situations on the night of the count with the largest percentage (55.6%) residing in transitional housing as reflected in the following chart.



The homeless families in Salem County have primarily been in sheltered living situations over the past three (3) full HUD count years with unsheltered families being seen only in 2011.



## **Length of Homelessness**

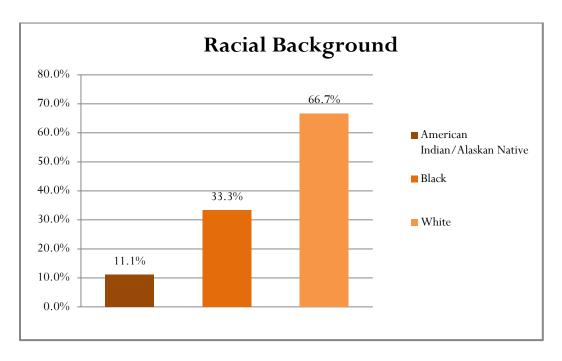
The largest percentage (66.7%) of homeless families had been homeless for more than one (1) year. This is consistent with the total homeless population overall where the highest percentage was homeless more than one (1) year.

2013 Length of Homelessness	#	%
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	2	22.2
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	1	11.1
More than 1 year	6	66.7

## **Demographics**

Of the homeless families in Salem County, 88.9% (n=8) were female headed households and 11.1% (n=1) 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 their race as White (66.7%). The next largest percentage was those that defined their race as Black at 33.3%. A total of 11.1% (n=1) defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino.

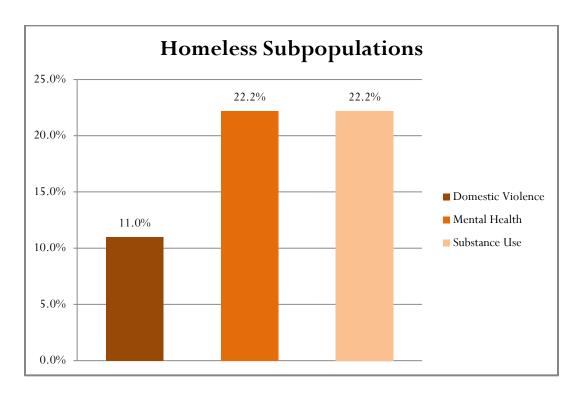


The largest percentage of homeless families in Salem County had a head of household that fell within the 30 to 39 year old age range. This is slightly younger than the total homeless population in the County as reflected in the following table.

2013 Age	#	%
18-21	1	11.1
22-24	2	22.2
30-39	3	33.3
40-49	1	11.1
50-59	2	22.2

## **Homeless Family Subpopulations**

Among the HUD homeless subpopulations in the 2013 count, the largest percentage was families that had a head of household with mental health and substance use issues (both 22.2%).



### **Financial Resources and Income**

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

- Food Stamps (100%);
- TANF (66.7%); and
- Medicaid (55.6%).

All families stated that they received some type of government benefit on the night of the count. In reviewing estimated income, the majority of the homeless families were earning less than \$5,000 annually, as reflected in the following table.

2013 Year Income	#	%
No Income	3	33.3%
\$1.00- \$4,999	5	55.6%
\$15,000-\$19,999	1	11.1%

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

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

Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Relationship/family breakup or death	44.4%
Housing costs are too high	33.3%
Lost job/can't find work	33.3%
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	22.2%
Domestic violence	11.1%

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

- Educational training (22.2%)
- Housing (22.2%); and
- Transportation Assistance (22.2%)

# **CHRONICALLY HOMELESS**

In 2013, Salem County counted no one that met the chronically homeless individual or family definition.