Bergen County’s 2014 Point-In-Time Count of the Homeless

January 28, 2014
Table of Contents

I. Introduction ........................................................................................................................................... 3
   NJ Counts 2014 ...................................................................................................................................... 3
   Acknowledgements ............................................................................................................................... 3
   This Report ............................................................................................................................................ 3

II. Data Collection and Methodology ...................................................................................................... 4
   Requirements for the Count .................................................................................................................. 4
   Data Collection Methods ..................................................................................................................... 5
   Limitations ............................................................................................................................................ 5
   De-duplication ...................................................................................................................................... 6

III. Findings for Total Homeless Population .......................................................................................... 7
   Key Findings .......................................................................................................................................... 7
   Total Homeless Population .................................................................................................................. 7
   Homeless Families and Individuals .................................................................................................... 8
   Demographics ....................................................................................................................................... 9
   Disabilities ........................................................................................................................................... 10
   Victims of Domestic Violence ............................................................................................................ 10
   Veterans ............................................................................................................................................... 11
   Income and Benefits ............................................................................................................................ 11
   Length of Homelessness ...................................................................................................................... 12
   Cause of Homelessness ....................................................................................................................... 12

IV. Findings for the Chronically Homeless .............................................................................................. 13
   Total Chronically Homeless Population ............................................................................................. 14
   Families and Individuals ..................................................................................................................... 14
   Demographics ....................................................................................................................................... 15
   Disabilities ........................................................................................................................................... 16
   Subpopulations .................................................................................................................................... 16
   Income and Benefits ............................................................................................................................ 16
   Length of Homelessness ...................................................................................................................... 17
   Cause of Homelessness ....................................................................................................................... 17

V. Findings for the Unsheltered Homeless ............................................................................................... 18
   Total Unsheltered Homeless Population ............................................................................................. 18
   Families and Individuals ..................................................................................................................... 18
   Demographics ....................................................................................................................................... 19
   Disabilities ........................................................................................................................................... 19
   Subpopulations .................................................................................................................................... 19
   Income and Benefits ............................................................................................................................ 19
   Length of Homelessness ...................................................................................................................... 20
   Cause of Homelessness ....................................................................................................................... 20

VI. Appendix ............................................................................................................................................ 22

This report was prepared for
The New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency
by
Monarch Housing Associates
I. Introduction

NJ Counts 2014

NJ Counts 2014, New Jersey’s annual Point-In-Time (PIT) Count of the Homeless, provides a statewide snapshot of homeless households in our communities; where they find shelter, what their needs are, and what factors contribute to making them homeless. The 2014 Count reveals important demographic and other information about families and individuals who were homeless on the night of Tuesday, January 28th, 2014, and was carried out with the help of government agencies, community-based organizations, and local volunteers.

In New Jersey, each County’s count is planned, coordinated, and carried out locally, and the information gathered enables each community to better allocate housing resources and services in order to prevent and end homelessness. The PIT Count is the only opportunity throughout the year for most communities to take a comprehensive look at the total homeless population, and is especially crucial in assessing the needs of the unsheltered homeless.

Acknowledgements

Monarch would like to thank all Point-In-Time Coordinators, homeless service providers, agencies, and volunteers who participated in NJ Counts 2014. Monarch would also like to specifically thank Bergen County for providing both Spanish and Korean translations of the 2014 paper survey tool.

Finally, a special acknowledgement is given to all the respondents who were willing to share personal information about themselves and their households’ experiences in order to help our communities better understand and assist the homeless.

Funding for coordinating New Jersey’s 2014 Point-In-Time and producing this report was provided by New Jersey’s Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (NJHMFA).

This Report

The findings in this report are presented in the following sections:

1. Total homeless population;
2. Those experiencing chronic homelessness (families and individuals that have been homeless for a year or longer, or who have experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years, and have a disabled head of household); and
3. Unsheltered families and individuals;
The structure of this report is intended to provide not only an overall snapshot of the homeless population counted in the Point-In-Time, but also to focus attention on the homeless subpopulations that are the most in need, and those that represent federal funding priorities set forth by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

In addition to the main findings presented in the body of this report, Appendix A includes charts illustrating the responses to all survey questions that were part of the 2014 Point-In-Time Count.

II. Data Collection and Methodology

Requirements for the Count

As part of its Continuum of Care (CoC) application for homelessness funding, HUD requires that jurisdictions across the nation conduct a statistically reliable and unduplicated count of the homeless for one overnight period during the last 10 days of January. New Jersey's Continuums of Care (regional networks of organizations, agencies, and community stakeholders that plan local efforts to help the homeless) conduct an annual count of sheltered homeless persons (i.e. persons in emergency shelter, transitional housing for the homeless, and Safe Haven programs) and at least a biennial count of unsheltered homeless persons. 2014 was not a HUD-required full count year.

In their Point-In-Time Count, CoCs must count and report all individuals and families who meet the criteria in paragraph (1)(i) of the homeless definition in 24 CFR 91.5 of HUD's Homeless Definition Rule on the night designated for the count. This includes individuals and families who are:

- **Sheltered**, or “living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals),” or

- **Unsheltered**, “with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.”

Because this report focuses on those respondents who meet HUD’s definition of homeless, it does not include information about those who may be at risk of homelessness, precariously housed, or considered homeless under other federal statutes. Persons who, on the night of the count, were living doubled up with another household, living in illegal or
overcrowded units, being discharged from a jail or health facility with no subsequent residence, scheduled to be evicted, or paying for its own motel unit were not considered homeless. All survey information collected for respondents who were at risk of homelessness or precariously housed was preserved and shared with each community for local planning purposes, but is not included in this report unless otherwise noted.

Data Collection Methods

Monarch Housing Associates provided each of New Jersey’s 21 counties with in-person training, online video and print training guides, a practice online survey tool, and technical assistance to aid in the data collection process for New Jersey’s 2014 Point-In-Time Count. Point-In-Time Coordinators in each county disseminated PIT training materials and helped facilitate local planning around implementation of the PIT count in their communities.

This year marked the beginning of a new process for collecting survey data for New Jersey’s PIT Count. The count of homeless persons who were sheltered on the night of January 28th, 2014 was primarily taken from New Jersey’s Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), while the count for the unsheltered and those sheltered by non-HMIS programs was conducted using a revised Paper Survey tool, personal interviews, and agency client records. This strategy was designed in accordance with HUD guidance regarding conducting both sheltered and unsheltered Point-In-Time Counts.

The 2014 PIT Survey tool was updated to more closely mirror information collected in HMIS so that the data was comparable for important factors such as household characteristics, income, services needed, and factors contributing to homelessness. Agencies updated all HMIS data to accurately reflect the night of the count, and those with programs that were non HMIS-participating submitted information from interviews utilizing the Paper Survey tool through SurveyMonkey.

Limitations

1. HUD requires a count of sheltered homeless persons and families annually, but only a biennial count of those who are unsheltered. Even though New Jersey conducts both a sheltered and unsheltered count each year, the comprehensiveness of the unsheltered count may be influenced by the fact that it is not a HUD-required full count year. This report includes comparison data from 2010 to 2014. 2010, 2012, and 2014 were not HUD required full reporting years while 2011 and 2013 were.

2. The winter of 2013 to 2014 was particularly cold, setting record low temperatures in parts of New Jersey. The night of the count, January 28, 2014, was cold enough to warrant a ‘Code Blue’ in many communities, which mandates that emergency warming stations or shelters be set-up for the unsheltered. While this means that many more people are able to sleep in a warm place, it may skew Point-In-Time data to show fewer unsheltered households than are actually present in communities on a regular basis.
3. The information presented in this report is based on survey interviews and agency HMIS records. In some cases, survey respondents did not answer every question completely, and homeless provider agencies did not report all client information on the night of the count. For this reason, the numbers and percentages reported may not equal the total number of homeless respondents due to missing data. All numbers, percentages, and figures contained in this report are calculated based on the total number of actual responses, and do not represent null or missing values unless otherwise noted.

4. Because the Point-In-Time Count represents only one night during the last ten days of January, it is widely accepted that the PIT will undercount the overall homeless population. Undercounting may occur due to difficulty finding those living on the street, incomplete information for people who do not agree to complete the survey, a shortage of volunteers to cover a geographic area, or homeless persons choosing not to seek housing services on the night of the count. This data should not be viewed as a comprehensive measurement of all families and individuals who experience homelessness throughout the year, but rather as a minimum number of persons who experience homelessness in New Jersey on a given night.

De-duplication

Monarch Housing Associates collected and merged all HMIS and SurveyMonkey Point-In-Time data from each community into its combined database. Monarch generated two unique identifiers, one more general and one more in-depth, based on the identifying information for each individual record. Using a formula, these unique identifiers were compared to all identifiers for other records in the database to identify potential duplicates.

All duplicates detected through comparison of unique identifiers were then de-duplicated by the following process:

1. Multiple HMIS records where all fields match – a single record was preserved, and all duplicates were removed;
2. Multiple SurveyMonkey records where all fields match – a single record was preserved, and all duplicates were removed;
3. Comparing HMIS to SurveyMonkey records where unique identifiers, disabilities, income sources, household size, and location on the night of the count all match – the HMIS record was preserved and the SurveyMonkey duplicates were removed.

Following this de-duplication of the data, communities were given preliminary data to review all identified duplicates and records with missing data. Communities were then able to update records with missing information and/or request any additional de-duplication they determined prudent. Monarch then updated and removed additional records based on community feedback prior to completing its final analysis and report.
III. Findings for Total Homeless Population

Key Findings

- On the night of January 28th, 2014 a total of 271 households, including 369 persons, were experiencing homelessness in Bergen County, according to the 2014 Point-In-Time Count.
- A total of 33 households, with 35 persons, were identified as chronically homeless.
- 33 unsheltered homeless persons were counted.

Total Homeless Population

On the night of January 28th, 2014, a total of 369 persons, in 271 households, were experiencing homelessness in Bergen County, according to the 2014 Point-In-Time Count. This is an increase of 23 persons (6.5%) and 12 households (4.6%) from 2013. Bergen County had 3% of New Jersey’s statewide homeless population in 2014.

Figure 1 shows that, in 2014, 162 homeless persons stayed in emergency shelters, 174 stayed in transitional housing, and 33 were living unsheltered on the night of the count. The total number of those counted in emergency shelters was a reduction of 36 persons.
(18%) from 2013. However, there were 44 (33.8%) more persons in transitional housing, and the number living unsheltered increased by 15 (83.3%), from 18 to 33.

Over the five-year period from 2010 to 2014, the number of homeless persons went down 29.3%. The number of persons who were unsheltered and in transitional housing went down overall as well, by 54% and 10%, respectively. The number of homeless persons in emergency shelter fell the furthest in 5 years; down 36.7%.

**Homeless Families and Individuals**

When reading the data regarding different types of homeless households, it is important for the reader to remember that, in this report, ‘household’ means “any group of persons who, if they were able to attain permanent housing, would choose to live together; and, shared the same sleeping arrangements on the night of the count.” Three different types of households are discussed below: households with adults and children under 18 (‘families’), households without children (‘individuals’), and households with only children under 18 (‘unaccompanied youth’).

Of the 271 homeless households counted in Bergen County in 2014, 53 (19.6%) were families with at least one child under the age of 18 and one adult. This represents 3 (6%) more homeless families than in 2013. These families included 151 persons, 90 children under age 18, and 61 adults. The average family size was 2.8 persons.

Figure 3 shows that 36 families (67.9) were staying in transitional housing on the night of the count. 1 family, including 2 persons, was unsheltered.
77.5% (210) of the homeless households counted in Bergen County were households without children under 18, and they were composed of 210 adult individuals. 112 (53%) of these adult-only households were staying in emergency shelters, 67 (32%) were in transitional housing, and 31 (15%) were unsheltered. Bergen County has seen the number of adult-only households increase by 1 (0.5%) since 2013.

As Figure 3 indicates, there were 8 youth only households reported in 2014, an increase of 3 from 2013. All of these households were one-child households. 5 unaccompanied youth were staying in emergency shelters, and 3 in transitional housing on the night of the count.

Demographics

The majority (227 persons, 61.5%) of those experiencing homelessness in Bergen County on the night of the count were adults over age 24. There were a total of 44 (11.9%) homeless young adults between 18 and 24 years old, and 98 (26.6%) children under 18 years old as well. Figure 4 shows that the majority of homeless children who were under the age of 18 were between 0 and 5 years of age (59, 60%). The age range most represented, with 60 persons and 16.3% of the total homeless population, was Adults between 25 and 34. Note that over half of the homeless persons in each age range under 34 years old were staying in transitional housing on the night of the count; the largest number of persons in this housing type was among children between 0 and 5 (41 persons, 69.5%).

49.6% (183) of homeless respondents were female, and 50.4% (186) were male.

58.3% of respondents identified their race as White, making that the largest racial subgroup of homeless persons reported. The next largest group self-identified as Black or African American (33.9%), followed by those identifying as Asian (4.4%), Multi-Racial (3.2%), and American Indian/Alaska Native (0.2%). With regard to ethnicity, 19.9% of respondents identified themselves as Hispanic.
Disabilities

Figure 5 illustrates that 56% of homeless persons reported having some type of disability. 68% of adults 18 or older reported some type of disability compared to 24.5% of children. Figure 6 shows the number of the homeless persons that identified as having various disabilities. The most prevalent disabilities were mental health issues, substance abuse disorders, and chronic health conditions.

Among disabled adults, 53.3% reported mental health issues making this the most prevalent disability; representing 41% of the total adult homeless population. 40% of disabled adults reported a substance abuse disorder. Among disabled homeless children, 45.8% reported a developmental disability, and 41.7% reported a mental health issue.

Victims of Domestic Violence

On the night of the count, in Bergen County, 71 homeless households reported having a victim of domestic violence. Figure 7 shows that the majority (59%) of these households were adult-only, individual households. 28 families with at least 1 adult and 1 child under the age of 18 were counted. 1 unaccompanied homeless youth also reported being a victim. 4 adult individuals and 9 families were in domestic violence shelters, while 39.4% of all victim households were in other emergency shelters.
Veterans

In its plan, *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) has prioritized ending homelessness among veterans by 2015. Many communities in New Jersey have also been working hard to end homelessness among our country’s servicemen and women.

18 homeless veterans were counted on the night of the count, 1 more (5.9%) than 2013. All were adult individuals. The largest contingent of homeless veterans was staying in transitional housing (50%). In addition, 7 were in emergency shelter (39%), and 2 veterans were unsheltered (11%).

Veterans experiencing homelessness in Bergen County were all male, and the most common racial background identified among them (13 veterans, 72%) was Black or African-American, while 5 (28%) identified as White. Figure 9 illustrates the percentage of homeless veterans by age range.

2 homeless veterans also reported being victims of domestic violence. 16 of the 18, 89%, reported having some kind of disability. The most common disabilities cited among these were chronic health conditions and physical disabilities; with 9 veterans (50%) reporting each disability. 8 veterans (44%) said they had a substance abuse disorder, and 7 (39%) reported mental health issues. The two types of service that homeless veterans sought most were emergency shelter (39%), mental health care (16.7%).

Income and Benefits

Among all households experiencing homelessness on the night of the count, 42.4% had no source of income, and 13.3% reported receiving some form of earned cash income. The four most common sources of cash income among homeless respondents were SSI (14%), earned income (13%),
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)(12%), and General Assistance (GA)(10%). Figure 11 shows the average monthly income for all homeless households.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure 11. Average Monthly Income For Households by Housing Situation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average for All Households</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

42.8% of respondents reported that their household was receiving no kind of non-cash benefit on the night of the count. Food Stamps, or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) was the top reported non-cash benefit, and was received by 40.6% of households. 34.3% were receiving Medicaid, and 10.3% were receiving Medicare.

Length of Homelessness

Figure 12 shows the range lengths of homeless episodes experienced on the night of the count by respondents in Bergen County. 81 households (30%) reported that their most recent, continuous episode of homelessness had lasted between 1 month and 1 day and 3 months. 75% (203) of all homeless households in Bergen County reported that they had been homeless for less than 6 months.

Cause of Homelessness

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more households attributed their homelessness to being asked to leave a shared residence (44 households, 16%) than any other cause. As Figure 13 shows, the other common factors reported were eviction (15%), drug or alcohol abuse (15%), loss or reduction of job income or benefits (15%), and domestic violence (13%).

When homeless respondents were asked ‘what was your residence prior to your current living situation?’ more said they were staying or living with friends or family (28%) than any other type of residence. 24% reported residing in emergency shelter, and 19% reported residing in permanent housing prior to their current living situation.
IV. Findings for the Chronically Homeless

Someone with a long-term disabling condition, who has been continually homeless for a year or more, or at least four times in the past three years, meets HUD’s definition of chronically homeless. Any family with one adult that meets this definition is considered a chronically homeless family.

In 2010, USICH established the goal of ending chronic homelessness by 2015. This goal reflects the urgency of helping to house those persons who have not been able to remain stably housed over the course of an extended period of time. Chronically Homeless persons are among the most vulnerable homeless groups, and providing effective supportive services and case management may be required in order to help some stay in the housing they need. Prioritization of new Continuum of Care funding opportunities has recently been giving some communities in New Jersey new resources for housing this subgroup.
Total Chronically Homeless Population

33 households, made up of 35 total persons, were chronically homeless in Bergen County, according to the 2014 Point-In-Time Count. This is an increase of 2 persons (6%) from 2013. The rate of chronic homelessness as a percentage of overall homelessness remained at 9.5%; the same rate as 2013.

![Fig. 14. 5-Year Comparison of Chronic Homeless Population by Housing Situation](image)

Figure 14 shows the number of chronically homeless respondents who were in emergency shelter or living unsheltered in Bergen County from 2010 to 2014. Over the past five years, the overall number of chronically homeless persons has fallen by 41 persons, or 54%. The number of unsheltered chronically homeless persons has also gone down by 13 (56.5%).

Families and Individuals

In the interest of giving an accurate comparison, the total number of chronically homeless households and persons in the previous section reflects all the information required for submission to HUD for this subpopulation, including the total number of chronically homeless adult individuals and the total number of persons in chronically homeless families. However, this number excludes any adults who were part of an adult-only couple with a chronically homeless individual, any youth in youth-only households, or any chronically homeless respondents who did not report an age. Therefore, the analysis below includes 1 additional individual for whom no age was reported, bringing the total number of chronically homeless persons to 36, and the total number of households to 34.
Of the 34 chronically homeless households counted in 2014, only 1 (3%) was a family with at least one child under the age of 18 and one adult. This family included 3 persons. This chronically homeless family stayed in an emergency shelter on the night of the count.

There were 32 chronically homeless persons in 32 households with no children 17 or younger counted in Bergen County, making up 94% of the chronically homeless population. There were 22 (68.8%) of these individuals in emergency shelters, a decrease from 23 in 2013 (4.5% decrease). 10 (31.2%) of these chronically homeless individuals were unsheltered on the night of the count, up from 8 (25% increase) in 2013. 1 chronically homeless individual staying in an emergency shelter (3%) had an unknown age.

Demographics

Of the 36 total chronically homeless persons, 4 (11%) were between 18 and 24 years old, and just 2 (5.5%) were children 17 or younger. There were no children under 5 years old. The age ranges with the highest concentrations of chronically homeless persons were adults between 45 and 54 years old, and adults between 55 and 64 years of age, which each had 9 persons (25%). Figure 16 shows the largest number of unsheltered chronically homeless persons were between 45 and 54 years old (4 persons, 40%).

52.8% of those counted as chronically homeless were male, and 47.2% were female.

The largest racial subgroup of homeless persons reported their race as White (80.5%), and the next largest group self-identified as Black or African-American (16%).
Disabilities

In order to meet the definition of chronically homeless, at least one adult in each household must have some kind of disability. The disabilities most commonly identified were mental health issues (63.8%) and substance abuse disorders (36.1%). The complete numbers of reported disabilities among the chronically homeless can be seen in Figure 17.

Subpopulations

On the night of the count, 11 chronically homeless persons in Bergen County reported being victims of domestic violence (30.5%). 10 victims (90.1%) were adult individuals, 6 of whom were staying in emergency shelters, including domestic violence shelters, and 4 who were unsheltered. 1 victim (9.9%) in a chronically homeless family was living in a domestic violence shelter.

There were no chronically homeless veterans identified on the night of the count.

Income and Benefits

Among all the chronically homeless households on the night of the count, 55.9% reported receiving no type of cash income. Figure 18 shows the sources of income received. The most common source of cash income among chronically homeless respondents was General Assistance, which was received by 23.5%. No households reported any earned income.
47% of chronically homeless households reported they were not receiving any type of non-cash benefit on the night of the count. Food Stamps (SNAP) was the top reported non-cash benefit among the chronically homeless, with 47% receiving this benefit. 20.6% reported receiving Medicaid and 14.7% reported receiving Medicare.

Length of Homelessness

Figure 19 shows that the majority of chronically homeless households (61.8%) reported their most recent, continuous episode of homelessness had lasted for less than 3 months. Of these, 10 reported being homeless less than 1 month. 4 households (11.8%) reported being homeless for more than 1 year.

Cause of Homelessness

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, 21% of chronically homeless households cited being asked to leave a shared residence and an additional 20% cited a loss job income or benefits.
V. Findings for the Unsheltered Homeless

HUD’s definition of “unsheltered homeless” applies to any individual or family “with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.”

Unsheltered homeless individuals and families are among those with the most critical housing needs in a community. The unsheltered are especially vulnerable in the cold weather and the elements, which are in evidence at the end of January when the Count takes place. The Point-In-Time survey can play an important role in helping communities understand why some of the homeless remain unsheltered, and who is included in this group.

Total Unsheltered Homeless Population

32 households, made up of 33 persons, were living unsheltered in Bergen County, according to the 2014 Point-In-Time Count. This is an increase of 16 households (100%), and 15 persons (83.3%) from 2013.

![Fig. 21. 5 Year Comparison of Unsheltered Population](image)

Figure 21 shows the number of unsheltered respondents from 2010 to 2014. Despite the increase of unsheltered persons in 2014, over the past five years the numbers have gone down overall. Since 2010, the number of unsheltered homeless persons has dropped 54.2% in Bergen County.

Families and Individuals

There was 1 unsheltered family of two, with 1 adult and 1 child, counted in 2014.

31 of the 32 unsheltered households counted were households with just 1 adult individual.
Demographics

The largest portion of the 33 unsheltered persons counted in 2014, 36%, was between 45 and 54 years old. 30% were between 55 and 64. Only 1 (3%) was a child under the age of 18.

25 of the 33 unsheltered persons were male (76%). 24 (73%) identified their race as White and 9 (27%) identified as Black or African-American. 2 (6%) of the unsheltered respondents identified as Hispanic.

Disabilities

27 of 33 unsheltered persons (82%) reported having some disability. The disability most commonly identified was mental health issues (13 persons, 39.4%). The complete numbers of reported disabilities among the unsheltered can be seen in Figure 23.

Subpopulations

On the night of the count, 7 unsheltered homeless persons (21.2%) in Bergen County reported being victims of domestic violence, 6 adult individuals, and 1 in a family household with 1 adult and 1 child.

There were 2 unsheltered veterans on the night of the count.

Income and Benefits

Among all the unsheltered respondent households on the night of the count, 8 (25%) reported having no source of cash income. The average monthly income reported among unsheltered households was approximately $829. 18.8% of unsheltered households received General Assistance (GA), making it the most common source of cash income. Figure 24 shows the sources of income received.
6 unsheltered households (18.8%) reported they were not receiving any type of non-cash benefit on the night of the count. Food Stamps (SNAP) and was the top reported non-cash benefits among this group, with 56.3% receiving this benefit. In addition, 37.5% were receiving Medicaid and 22% were receiving Medicare.

**Length of Homelessness**

As shown in Figure 25, more unsheltered homeless respondents (12, 37.5%) reported their households’ most recent, continuous episode of homelessness had lasted between 8 days and 1 month than any other length of time. 22% of households reported being homeless between 1 month and 1 day and 3 months. 5 households (15.6%) also reported being homeless for more than 1 year.

**Cause of Homelessness**

When asked to share the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, their homelessness, more unsheltered households said loss or reduction of job income or benefits (34.4%) than any other factor. Below, Figure 26 shows another common factor cited was eviction (15.6%).
Fig. 26. Unsheltered Households by Cause of Homelessness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of Homelessness</th>
<th>Number of Households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illness</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug/Alcohol Abuse</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss or Reduction of Job Income</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asked to Leave Shared Residence</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relocation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eviction or at Risk of Eviction</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Released From Hospital</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Released From Prison/Jail</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death of family member</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEW JERSEY’S 2014 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT | 21
VI. Appendix

Where did you spend the night of Tuesday, January 28, 2014?

**Fig. A.1. Total Number of Households and Persons by Housing Type**
How long have you been in your current living situation?

Fig. A.2. Homeless Households by Length of Homelessness and Housing Type
Who was homeless with you on the night of January 28th?

Fig. A.3. Number of Persons by Age Range and Housing Type
Household Characteristics – check all that apply to each person

Fig. A.7. Number of Homeless Persons by Victim of Domestic Violence, Veteran Status, and Disability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual Characteristics/Disabilities</th>
<th>Number of Persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victim of Domestic Violence</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Issue</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance Abuse Disorders</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Disability</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Disability</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Health Condition</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Where was your last permanent address before becoming homeless?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Permanent Address – County/State</th>
<th>Number of Households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bergen County</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumberland County</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essex County</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson County</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunterdon County</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercer County</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middlesex County</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monmouth County</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris County</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean County</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passaic County</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset County</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sussex County</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union County</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What was your residence prior to your current living situation?

![Fig. A.9. Number of Homeless Households by Prior Residence](chart)

**Fig. A.9. Number of Homeless Households by Prior Residence**

- Permanent housing: 52 households
- Emergency shelter: 65 households
- Staying/living with friends/family: 76 households
- Foster care: 4 households
- Psychiatric hospital: 9 households
- Hospital (non-psychiatric): 11 households
- Substance abuse treatment facility: 16 households
- Place not meant for human habitation: 14 households
- Hotel/motel paid for by client: 6 households
- Jail/prison: 7 households
- Transitional Housing for homeless: 8 households
- Other: 1 household
Which of the following sources of income or non-cash benefits do you, or anyone in your household, receive?

![Bar chart showing the number of households by source of cash income, with the following sources and their respective numbers: SSI (37), SSDI (18), TANF (33), General Assistance (26), Unemployment (6), Earned Income (36), Alimony (2), Child Support (13), Social Security (3), Veteran's Disability (1), No Source of Income (115).]
Fig. A. 11. Number of Households by Sources of Non-Cash Benefits
What is your monthly household income?

Fig. A.12. Number of Homeless Households by Monthly Income Range

- $0: 109 households
- $1 - $499: 53 households
- $500 - $999: 54 households
- $1000 - $1499: 35 households
- $1500 - $1999: 5 households
- $2000 - $2499: 3 households
- $2500 - $2999: 1 household
- $3000 - $3499: 1 household
- $3500 - $3999: 2 households
- $4000+: 0 households
Would you, or anyone in your household, like to receive any of the following services?

**Fig. A.13. Number of Homeless Households by Services Needed**

![Bar chart showing the number of homeless households by services needed](image)
What was the primary factor that contributed to, or caused, your current living situation?

Fig. A.14. Number of Households by Cause of Homelessness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of Homelessness</th>
<th>Number of Households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illness / Injury</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug / Alcohol Abuse</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic violence</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asked to leave shared residence</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eviction</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relocation</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Released from hospital</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Released from psychiatric facility</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Release from prison / jail</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death of family member</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost or Reduction of Job, Income / Benefit</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>