2016 New Jersey Point-In-Time Count Fact Sheet

NJ Counts 2016 Overall Results

• 8,941 homeless men, women and children were counted across the state of New Jersey on the night of the Point-in-Time Count.

• This was an overall decrease of 1,270 persons, or 12.4%, compared to the 2015 count.

• 836 persons, in 733 households, were identified as chronically homeless, a decrease of 589 persons, or 41.3%, compared to the 2015 count.

• 1,442 persons were unsheltered; up 48% from the 974 persons counted in 2015.

NJ Counts 2016 Key Findings

• The number of homeless persons in emergency shelter, transitional housing and safe havens decreased by 20.3%, 14.5%, and 9.1%, respectively. The overall homeless population in New Jersey has decreased at an average rate of 8.8% per year over the last 5 years.

• 1,142 (17.4%) of the 6,559 homeless households counted through NJ Counts 2016 were families with children under the age of 18. There was a 15.2% decrease in homeless families as compared to 2015.

• 34 unaccompanied youth under 18 were identified in the count. This represents a 26.1% reduction in the number of unaccompanied homeless youth households.
2016 New Jersey Point-In-Time Count Fact Sheet

- 2,107 children under the age of 18 were homeless. Of these children, 1,036 (49.2%) were five years of age or younger, and 1,071 (50.8%) were between the ages of six and seventeen. Children under the age of 18 represented 23.6% of the homeless population.

- 559 homeless veterans were identified in 2016, representing a 19.7% decrease from 2015. 73 veterans were unsheltered on the night of the count.

- 46% of homeless persons reported some type of disability. Among homeless adults over the age of 18, 57.5% reported a disability. The most prevalent disability reported was mental health issues.

- 19.3% of households reported that they had been homeless for more than one year.

- 35.3% of homeless households indicated they had no source of income while 18.7% of homeless households indicated they were not connected to any kind of non-cash mainstream benefit.

- 35.6% of homeless households indicated they were staying with friends and family immediately prior to becoming homeless.

- Top factors contributing to homelessness were: being asked to leave a shared residence (21.4%), loss or reduction of job income or benefits (13.5%), and eviction or risk of eviction (13.4%).

- Essex County had the highest percentage of the statewide homeless population (19.9%), followed by Burlington County (10.4%) and Hudson County (9.3%).

This data comes from Monarch Housing Associates’ NJ Counts 2016 Statewide Point-in-Time report available at Monarch’s website: [www.monarchhousing.org](http://www.monarchhousing.org)

For more information, contact Monarch Housing Associates:
Richard Brown – rbrown@monarchhousing.org - 908-272-5363 x225
Kate Kelly – kkelly@monarchhousing.org - 908-272-5363 x226
Jay Everett – jeverett@monarchhousing.org - 908-272-5363 x222