



HelpHopeHome

Ending Homelessness in Southern Nevada

2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Census & Survey



Comprehensive Report

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- City of Henderson Department of Public Works & Parks and Recreation
- City of Las Vegas Administrative Services
- City of Las Vegas Office of Community Services
- City of Las Vegas Parks and Recreation Department
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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1a The Path of Homelessness in America

What causes homelessness? The answer to this question is a complex social issue with a history of stigma dating back to America's beginnings. The first formal documentation of homelessness began in the 1640s, when homelessness was viewed as a moral deficiency, a character flaw, or the punishment for insufficient religious zeal. For example, in May 1729 Philadelphia passed a law allowing citizens to deport local homeless persons. And in 1873, Civil War Veterans suffered derogatory slurs such as "bums" and "tramps" after railroad giant Jay Cooke & Company shut its doors, eliminating the main source of employment for soldiers post Civil War, thus rendering them homeless.¹

Unfortunately social stigmatization still continues to play a prominent role in the perpetuation of homelessness in America. However, a new set of contributing factors emerged in the 1980s. Homelessness as we know it today is now also the result of funding cuts, policy changes, and lack of affordable housing.

Although homelessness has held an enduring presence in America for several centuries, there is a key difference between homelessness in 1640 and homelessness in 2015: The U.S. Government. Efforts on behalf of the Federal government have transformed homelessness into a fight for equality.

On June 22, 2010, *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness* was established as the nation's first comprehensive strategy to prevent and end homelessness.² In regards to this plan, President Barack Obama stated:

"It is simply unacceptable for individuals, children, families and our nation's Veterans to be faced with homelessness in this country."

Although groundbreaking, *Opening Doors* was the result of decades of the tireless advocative efforts of both government entities and grassroots organizations alike. These efforts spurred the

¹Baker, C. *Veterans, Tramps, and the Economic Crisis of 1873*.

²United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*. 2010.

establishment of national reporting, which has been undeniably the most effective tool in the fight to end homelessness to date.

1.2 National Reporting to End Homelessness

Information is power. The data generated by national reporting informed the policy-makers who influenced the enactment of *Opening Doors*. Four forms of national data collection have played an exceptionally vital role in government decision-making.

1. Point-In-Time Count (PIT)
2. Annual Homelessness Surveys
3. Housing Inventory Count (HIC)
4. Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress (AHAR)

These data sources provide invaluable information regarding the utilization and efficacy of services dedicated to serving homeless persons and those at risk of becoming homeless. The spectrum of such services is vast, common examples include emergency shelter services, outreach services, mental health services, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing.

In addition, the data generated by these reports measure the progress of each CoC, including their efficacious utilization of government funds.

1.2a Point-in-Time Count (PIT)

Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, which is an enumeration of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations, is conducted annually over the course of one night during the last week of January, and is required of all Continuums of Care (CoC) per the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

PIT Counts are conducted by CoCs nationwide to provide unduplicated counts and statistically reliable estimates of homeless persons in sheltered and unsheltered locations in a single night.

1.2b Housing Inventory Count (HIC)

The data collected from the PIT Counts are combined with information from the Housing Inventory Count (HIC), which is also conducted annually by CoCs nationwide. The HIC is a point in time inventory of projects/programs (e.g. emergency shelters, safe havens, etc.) within a CoC. It measures the amount of beds and units available to serve persons who are experiencing homelessness.

1.2c Annual Homelessness Surveys

In addition to the PIT and HIC, each CoC nationwide conducts a comprehensive annual survey. These surveys are intended to further investigate the precursors and defining characteristics of homelessness, as well as the defining characteristics of different homeless subpopulations.

1.2d Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR)

The information that is garnered from the PIT, HIC, and surveys is then merged to articulate the causes and characteristics of homelessness on a local, state, and national level. Every year, data from these sources are channeled into the creation of the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress. The contents of the AHAR are then used to determine funding, and lend to knowledge-based creation of federal, state, and local policies.

HUD presents the AHAR to Congress annually to convey information regarding the extent and nature of homelessness in America. It provides a full continuum of information regarding homeless assistance programs and services.

The AHAR is essentially a research summary created using information collected from the following data collection systems:

- PIT Counts conducted nationwide to enumerate homeless populations and capture information about homeless populations in each state
- Housing Inventory Count (HIC) to determine the number of homeless assistance programs and beds
- Data from the HMIS

1.3 The Benefits of National Reporting

The information obtained from national reporting is crucial to identifying what resources are needed, and where these resources need to be allocated. It also governs whether jurisdictions receive the correct amount of funding to bring relief to their homeless populations.

These national reporting methods make systematic research possible, thus equipping U.S. policy-makers with the information they need to combat homelessness on a large scale. To further augment this capability, Congress enforces the requirements of the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act, which offers incentives to those CoCs that make significant progress toward the goal of ending homelessness.³

³The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act As amended by S. 896 The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009.

The benefits of this systematic research are beginning to emerge. Homelessness declined by 2 percent (or 13,344 people) between 2013 and 2014 and by 11 percent (or 72,718) since 2007. These nationwide improvements can be directly linked to the generation of quality data from the CoCs nationwide, as generated by the PIT, HIC, and AHAR.

The 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress summarizes the following findings:⁴

- In January 2014, 578,424 people were homeless on a given night. Most (69 percent) were staying in residential programs for homeless people, and the rest (31 percent) were found in unsheltered locations.
- Chronic homelessness among individuals declined by 3 percent (or 2,164) over the past year, and by 30 percent (or 36,197) between 2007 and 2014.
- Between 2013 and 2014, homelessness among veterans declined by 11 percent (or 5,846). Homelessness among veterans declined by 33 percent (or 24,117) between 2009 and 2014.
- There were 45,205 unaccompanied homeless children and youth on a single night in 2014. Most (86 percent or 38,931) were youth between the ages of 18 and 24, and 14 percent (or 6,274) were children under the age of 18.

1.4 The 2015 Southern Nevada Census & Survey Report

1.4a Summary of Methodology

The 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey project was composed of two overarching components: A PIT Count and a subsequent comprehensive 38-question survey.

The survey, which was administered during the weeks immediately following the PIT Count, was conducted to obtain in-depth information regarding the characteristics of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons in Southern Nevada.

The HUD definition for homelessness is as follows:

An individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; as well as an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations, an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.⁵

⁴ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development. *The 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress. 2014.*

⁵ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development. *24 CFR Parts 91, 582, and 583, Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing: Defining "Homeless"*

The PIT Count was a community-wide effort to enumerate the homeless population in Southern Nevada. The sheltered and unsheltered counts were conducted on January 28, 2015. According to the guidelines set forth by HUD, the PIT Count included a comprehensive enumeration of sheltered homeless persons and a census tract coverage of 72.5% to enumerate unsheltered person on the nights designated for the count. HUD defines “night” as the time between sunset and sunrise.⁶

People included in the PIT:

Sheltered Homeless:

This includes individuals and families “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)” on the night designated for the count.

Unsheltered Homeless:

This includes individuals and families “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” on the night designated for the count.

1.4b Project Purpose

In order to ensure that Southern Nevada continues to receive the federal funding necessary to serve its homeless population, SNRPC-CoH’s Regional Initiatives Office collaborated with Bitfocus Inc. to conduct the 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey. Bitfocus Inc. is an international system integration and development company specializing in the development of application infrastructure software to simplify and accelerate the development, deployment, integration, and management of software applications.

Southern Nevada and its community partners carried out this census and survey in order to obtain the data necessary to evaluate the nature and scope of homelessness in Southern Nevada. The data collected in this study will be analyzed and used to populate the HUD HIC-PIT. The results of this research will assist service providers, policy makers, funders, as well as local, state, and national government entities in order to fund and create effective and efficient services and programs for those who are homeless in Southern Nevada.

⁶ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (November 2013) Notice CPD 14-014: Notice for Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program.

1.4c Project Objectives

The primary goals of the 2015 Southern Nevada Census and Survey Project are as follows:

- Evaluate the effectiveness of current programs on a local level to provide the information necessary to improve programs that serve the Southern Nevada homeless population.
- Preserve current federal funding.
- Raise public awareness of the scope and nature of homelessness in Southern Nevada in order to generate community support.
- Compare the 2015 data to previous years, identify any trends, and track progress of the state of homelessness in Southern Nevada. It is important to note that only years 2011⁷, 2013⁸, 2014⁹, and the current year 2015 will be included in the comparisons. Up until 2013, CoCs were only required to conduct a PIT count and survey biannually. Therefore no data for the year 2012 is available.

1.4d Important Changes to 2014 Methodology

2015 HUD guidance consisted of several methodology changes compared to prior years.

1.4d.1 Youth Households

Youth households are now counted along with General Households and Veteran Households. CoCs are now required to report the total number of youth households (persons under age 25), including the race, ethnicity, and gender data for parenting youth and unaccompanied youth counted.

- Parenting youth are youth who identify as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household. Parenting youth is limited to persons in households where there is no adult parent or guardian over age 24 in the household.
- Unaccompanied youth are persons under age 25 who are not presenting or sleeping in the same place as their parent or legal guardian, including:
 - single youth;
 - youth couples
 - groups of youth presenting as a household.

For purposes of reporting in the PIT, parenting youth are distinct from unaccompanied youth.

⁷ Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

⁸ Bitfocus, Inc. (2013). 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, Nevada.

⁹ Bitfocus, Inc. (2014). 2014 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, Nevada.

1.4d.2 New Subpopulation: Chronically Homeless Veterans

CoCs are now required to report the number of sheltered and unsheltered chronically homeless veterans and chronically homeless veteran families.

1.4d.3 Expanded Transgender Category

HUD has expanded the transgender categories to *male to female transgender* and *female to male transgender* to match the 2014 HMIS Data Standards. CoCs are now required to collect and report on the number of persons that report as *transgender male to female* and *transgender female to male* (as opposed to just “transgender” as in previous years).

1.4d.4 Changes to Race Category

Persons counted under “multiple races” are now counted in at least two other race categories (as opposed to just “other” as in previous years).

1.4e Summary of Document

This document comprises the following main sections:

Executive Summary	Summary of findings from each main section of both the PIT count and the Southern Nevada Homeless Survey.
Homeless Census Findings	This section presents the key findings of the 2015 PIT Count.
Homeless Survey Findings - Homelessness Profile	This section summarizes general findings from the Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, including general information on homelessness in Nevada (demographics, geography, utilization of government assistance, etc.).
Homeless Survey Findings - Homeless Subpopulations.	This section summarizes general findings from the Southern Nevada Homeless Survey in regards to the HUD-defined homeless subpopulations (Chronically homeless, severely mentally ill adults, adults with substance abuse, adults with HIV/AIDs, and victims of domestic violence.
Homeless Survey Finding - Youth Survey Data	This section presents the key findings from the youth-specific survey administered to homeless youth in Southern Nevada. This survey contains questions that target the specific issues that are unique to youth homelessness such as gender identity, education, and access to services.
Conclusion	This section summarizes the findings of the PIT and the Southern Nevada Homeless Survey in relation to the State of Nevada.
Appendices	The series of appendices located at the end of the document provide information such as methodology, copies of the survey tools, and summaries of responses.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In collaboration with Bitfocus Inc., The Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition (SNRPC) - Committee on Homelessness (CoH) conducted the 2015 Southern Nevada Point-in-Time Homeless Census and Survey. All components of the project were conducted according to the requirements and standards of practice outlined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).¹

This project included a comprehensive enumeration, or Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, of the homeless population of Clark County, Nevada (hereafter referred to as Southern Nevada). This enumeration was conducted in the early morning of January 28, 2015. In order to optimize resource utilization, extraneous census tracts were removed from the 2015 enumeration effort. More specifically, census tracts that yielded zero enumeration in 2011, 2013, and 2014 were overlaid with data from first responder calls for homeless persons, and those census tracts that previously yielded both zero enumeration and zero first responder calls were removed from the 2015 census tract canvassing. This resulted in census tract coverage of 72.5%.

A universal and inherent shortcoming of any PIT count is its inability to capture an accurate number of homeless persons in a particular region for the given year. In many areas, levels of homelessness are in constant flux, characterized by seasonal changes as well as changes caused by unpredictable economic factors. In addition, many homeless persons experience short episodes of homelessness throughout the year, at times other than the PIT count.

Thus, the annual estimate presented at the end of this section was calculated to provide the approximate amount of homeless persons in Southern Nevada over the course of the year. This estimate compensates for these biases, and reduces the degree of underrepresentation of the true number of homeless persons at any given point in time during the year.

In the weeks immediately following the PIT Count, 922 surveys were administered to homeless persons throughout Southern Nevada. A detailed account of the methodology for the 2015 PIT Count can be found in *Appendix VI*. The 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey can be found in *Appendix II*, and the Street Census Instrument in *Appendix I*.

Both the PIT Count and the Southern Nevada Homeless Survey were designed to obtain comprehensive and targeted data, highlighting the prevalence and characteristics of the general homeless population, and specific subpopulations within the general homeless population. The

¹ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (October 2014) Notice CPD 14-014: Notice for Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program.

survey was designed to unveil additional details in regards to the scope of homelessness in Southern Nevada.

The 2015 Southern Nevada PIT Count indicates that between 2014 and 2015, the total amount of homeless persons increased from 7,443 to 7,509, respectively. The amount of unsheltered homeless persons increased from 3,494 to 3,916 respectively during this time period.

2.1 2015 Homeless Census & Survey: Summary of Findings

Figure 1: Point-in-Time Homeless Census & Annual Estimate of Homelessness Data

	2011	2013	2014	2015	2014 to 2015 Net Change	2014 to 2015 Percent Change
Unsheltered	4,241	3,034	3,494	3,916	422	12.1%
Sheltered	3,762	2,920	3,949	3,593	-356	-9.0
Total Point-in-Time Count	8,003	5,954	7,443	7,509	66	0.89%
Annual Estimate	41,865	32,421	34,744	34,397	-347	-0.01%

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV

The 2015 annual estimate for the number of homeless people in Southern Nevada was 34,397. This represents a 0.01% decrease (347 persons) from the 2014 annual estimate of 34,744 persons.

****IMPORTANT NOTE:** Beginning in 2015, the designation of unsheltered homelessness is no longer divided into two parts as in years past; there are no longer “Unsheltered - ‘hidden’ homeless” and “Unsheltered - ‘street’ homeless” designations. All comparative totals that include the “Hidden Homeless”, including the annual estimate totals, have been adjusted in this report. Therefore, it must be emphasized that the removal of the hidden homeless data significantly affected the annual estimates. **

In 2014, 1.9% of the total Nevada population (based on 2010 census data) was homeless. In 2015, this percentage decreased to 1.8% (also based on 2010 census data).

2.2 Conditions: Sheltered/Unsheltered

52.2% of homeless persons in Southern Nevada were unsheltered.

52.2% of homeless persons in Southern Nevada were unsheltered. Between 2014 and 2015, unsheltered homelessness increased by 12.1% (422 persons). When comparing the unsheltered totals to the overall homeless total relative to their year, there was a 5.2% increase since 2014. In 2014, unsheltered homeless represented 47.0% of the entire homeless population (7,443 persons). In 2015, unsheltered homeless represented 5.2% of the entire homeless population (7,509 persons).

****IMPORTANT NOTE:** It is important to emphasize the fact that, per HUD, hidden homeless were not enumerated in 2015. However, the hidden homeless were enumerated in all years prior to 2015. To accommodate this change in official requirements, the totals for 2011, 2013, and 2014 have been adjusted to remove the hidden homeless totals (which were a substantial portion of the unsheltered homeless totals) in order to maintain data comparability.**

47.8% of the persons enumerated in the PIT Count were in sheltered facilities.

- Between 2014 & 2015, sheltered homelessness decreased by 9.0% (356 persons). In Southern Nevada, in the early morning of January, 28, 2015, 15 persons were in safe havens, 859 persons were in transitional housing, and 2,719 persons were in emergency shelters (including the FAS beds from Clark County Department of Social Services).
- There was a decrease (15.7%, 426 persons) in Emergency Shelter utilization between 2014 and 2015, and an increase in Transitional Housing utilization (8.2%, 65 persons). Safe Haven utilization increased by 50.0% (10 persons) between 2014 and 2015.

2.3 Demographics

The majority of homeless individuals in Southern Nevada identified as White/Caucasian, were of male gender, and were between the ages of 51 and 60.

Gender

- 68.7% of respondents identified as *male*. 31.3% of respondents identified as *female*. No respondent identified as *transgender*.

Age

- Youth homelessness decreased between 2014 and 2015. 4.0% of respondents were between the ages of 18 and 21, this represents a 58.3% decrease from the amount of homeless persons in this category in 2014 (9.6%) in 2015, 1.2% of survey respondents were *under the age of 18*. This represents a 3.3% decrease compared to 2014. The majority (30.6%) of respondents were between the ages of 51 and 60. This amount is higher for this age group than 2014 (27.8%).

Race and Ethnicity

- The majority of respondents identified their racial group as *White/Caucasian* (48.2%), and 36.0% identified as *Black/African American*. The least amount identified as *American Indian/Alaskan Native* (2.8%).
- 16.4% of respondents identified their ethnic group as *Hispanic/Latino*. 83.6% of respondents identified their ethnic group as *Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino*.

Residency Prior to Homelessness

- The majority of survey respondents (71.4%) reported living in Southern Nevada when they most recently became homeless.

2.4 HUD-Defined Households

In 2015, there were 197 households with at least one adult and one child; homeless Veterans comprised 0.5% (1 household) of this population. There were 5,768 households without children; homeless Veterans comprised 12.0% (691 households) of this population. There were 827 households with only children (under the age of 18). There were 37 Parenting Youth Households, and there were 2,232 Unaccompanied Youth Households in 2015.

Households With At Least One Adult & One Child

- In 2015, 64.7% of the homeless population living in households with at least one adult and one child were under the age of 18, 5.4% were between the ages of 18-24, and 30.0% were over the age of 24.

Households Without Children

- In 2015, 23.8% of the homeless population living in households without children was between the ages of 18-24, and the remaining population was over the age of 24.

Households With Only Children

- In 2015, there were 832 people in one-child households. Data for multi-child households was not collected in 2015 per HUD requirements.

Youth Households

- Starting in 2015, HUD required CoCs to also collect PIT data for Parenting Youth and Unaccompanied Children. This is the first year this data was collected. In 2015, 29.7% (2,232 persons) of the entire point-in-time count total (7,509 persons) were Unaccompanied Youth (between ages 18-24) and Unaccompanied Children (under age 18).
- Out of the 41 Parenting Youths (youth parents only) enumerated, 4 were under the age of 18, and 37 were between the ages of 18 and 24. There were 63 children with these parenting youth, collectively.
- The 2,232 Unaccompanied Youth Households comprised of 825 Unaccompanied Children (under age 18) and 1,407 Unaccompanied Youth (ages 18-24).

2.5 Veterans

Definition

For the purposes of homeless services, the VA recommends two questions to determine Veteran status:

1. "Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?"
2. "Were you activated into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist?"

Therefore, for the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition for Veteran is as follows:

...persons who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

In 2010, Opening Doors outlined the national goal to end homelessness among Veterans by the end of calendar year 2015.² According to the 2014 AHAR (which is the most recent data available at the time of this report), Veteran homelessness has declined by 33.0% (or 24,837 people) nationwide since 2010. Veteran homelessness dropped by 10.0% between 2013 and 2014, or 5,846 fewer

² United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*. 2011.

homeless veterans. This was the steepest decline since Veteran homelessness fell by 12.0% from 2010 to 2011. The highest rate of decline was among the unsheltered population, which decreased by 14.0% (2,985 persons.) The number of sheltered homeless Veterans fell by 8% (2,861 persons) between 2013 and 2014.³

In Southern Nevada:

- 12.9% (119) of survey respondents were Veterans. This is less than the percentage of Veteran respondents in 2014 when 17.0% of survey respondents were Veterans.
- 47.0% (56) of the 119 Veteran respondents were *unsheltered*.
- 6.0% (7) Veterans were *female* and 94.0% (112) were *male*. There were no Veteran survey respondents who identified as *transgender*.
- The largest percentage of homeless Veterans reported they are *White/Caucasian* (58.0%) and 92.3% of Veteran respondents are *Non-Hispanic / Non-Latino*.
- 74.5% of Veteran respondents reported *Honorable Discharge*.
- 49.5% reported at least one disabling condition.

2.6 Causes, Occurrence, and Duration of Homelessness

- 53.5% survey respondents cited *job loss* as the primary cause of their homelessness, making it the primary cause of homelessness for the majority of this population. 0.4% of survey respondents cited *aging out of foster care* as their reason for homelessness.
- 53.8% of survey respondents reported that they were *homeless for the first time*, and 24.1% of survey respondents reported that they had been *homeless four or more times in the last three years*. 39.2% of the 2015 survey respondents reported that they had been *homeless for a year or more* since their last housing situation; this is one criterion included in the HUD definition of chronic homelessness.

³ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development. *The 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress*. 2014.

- The majority of survey respondents (71.4%) reported living in *Southern Nevada* when they most recently became homeless, and the majority (45.7%) of survey respondents reported that they were *renting a home or apartment* prior to becoming homeless.

2.7 Income, Employment, & Circumstances Preventing Permanent Housing

- 84.0% of survey respondents reported they were experiencing *unemployment* at the time of the survey. *No Transportation* was the leading barrier to obtaining employment (28.7%) closely followed by *No Permanent Address* (19.5%).
- 16.1% of survey respondents claimed to be receiving more than \$500 per month in government income benefits, and 48.6% reported to be receiving no money from government benefits. 73.7% of survey respondents claimed to be receiving no money from private non-government income sources, and 94.9% of survey respondents were receiving \$500 or less from private non-government income sources.
- The majority of respondents cited *No Job/No Income* (69.9%) or *Inability To Afford Rent* (45.4%) as their primary obstacle to obtaining permanent housing.

2.8 Utilization of Government Assistance & Programs

- In 2015, the most commonly used service/assistance was Free Meals (59.6%). In regards to Government assistance and programs, 51.4% of 2015 survey respondents reported receiving some sort of government benefits.
- Of the respondents receiving government assistance, 70.3% were receiving food stamps, 8.7% were receiving SSI/SSDI assistance, and 4.8% were receiving social security.

2.9 Nighttime Accommodations

- 47.8% of survey respondents reported sheltered living accommodations (emergency shelter, transitional housing, safe haven, or other shelter). The census data indicated that 905 persons of

the unsheltered (street) population was found to be living in cars/vans/RVs, abandoned buildings, encampments, and parks.

2.10 Medical

- In 2015, 23.8% of homeless respondents indicated that since they most recently became homeless, they had needed medical care but had been unable to receive it.
- From 2014 to 2015, the amount of homeless individuals reporting chronic health conditions increased from approximately 21.0% to 28.1%, representing a 7.1% increase.
- According to *Section 223 of the Social Security Act*, multiple physical and mental conditions are considered disabling to homeless individuals, preventing them from obtaining work or housing. These conditions include:
 - Physical disabilities
 - Mental illness
 - Severe depression
 - Alcohol or drug abuse
 - Chronic health problems
 - HIV/AIDS
 - Tuberculosis
 - Hepatitis C
 - Trauma
 - Developmental disabilities
- 59.8% of homeless survey respondents reported they had at least one disabling condition. 31.7% of the population surveyed have or ever had a physical disability.

2.11 Incarceration

- 5.5% of survey respondents reported they were incarcerated immediately before becoming homeless this time, and 10.7% of respondents cited incarceration as one of the top three reasons for their homelessness. 9.1% of homeless respondents indicated their criminal record was preventing them from securing permanent housing, and 10.8% indicated that their criminal record was preventing them from obtaining employment.
- The majority (76.4%) of survey respondents had spent no nights in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey. 6.6% spent more than 50 nights in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey, 13.2% of survey respondents reported spending one separate term in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey, and 1.7% of survey respondents reported spending six or more separate terms in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey.

2.12 HUD-Defined Homeless Subpopulations⁴

2.12.a Chronically Homeless Individuals

Definition:

An unaccompanied homeless adult individual (persons 18 years or older) with a disabling condition (see Appendix VII for official definition of disabling condition) who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four separate occasions of homelessness in the past three years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter/Safe Haven during that time.

- On any given night in 2015, it is estimated that approximately 455 chronically homeless individuals are present in Southern Nevada. This represents a 0.7% (3 persons) decrease since 2014 (458).
- In 2014, 17.2 % of all homeless individuals nationwide were considered chronically homeless.⁵ The estimated number of chronically homeless individuals in Southern Nevada in 2015 represents 6.1% of the total 2015 Southern Nevada point-in-time homeless population.

2.12.b Chronically Homeless Veteran Individuals

Definition:

Any individual who meets the definition for Chronically Homeless Individual and has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

- Of the chronically homeless Veteran individuals, 34.5% (10 persons) were unsheltered.

2.12c Adults with Serious Mental Illness

Definition

This subpopulation category includes persons with mental health problems that are expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.

⁴ All HUD-Defined Homeless Subpopulation definitions source: United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (October 2014) Notice CPD 14-014: Notice for Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program.

⁵ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development. The 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress. 2014.

- 50.2% survey respondents reported experiencing mental illness, depression, or PTSD, or any possible variation thereof. This is higher than that of 2014 (44.9%).

2.12d Adults with Substance Use Disorder

Definition

This category includes persons with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both) that is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.

- On any given night in 2015, it is estimated that 27.4% of the survey respondents experience alcohol or drug abuse.. This represents a 5.7% increase compared to 2014, when 21.7% of survey respondents cited problems with alcohol/drug abuse.

2.12e Co-Occurring Disorders

Definition

Although this category is not considered a HUD-defined homeless subpopulation, it is still of great concern and interest to the community and policy-makers. This category includes persons who experience substance abuse paired with mental illness, depression, PTSD, or any combination thereof, that keeps them from obtaining work or housing.

- 8.7% of survey respondents reported co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse that prevented them from obtaining work or housing.
- 12.5% of survey respondents reported co-occurring depression and substance abuse prevented that prevented them from obtaining work or housing.
- 5.3% of survey respondents reported co-occurring PTSD and substance abuse that prevented them from obtaining work or housing.

2.12f Adults With HIV/AIDS

Definition

This subpopulation category includes persons who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.

- 0.95% of the homeless population were experiencing HIV or AIDS related illnesses. This amount is higher than the amount reported in 2014 (0.83%).

2.12g Victims of Domestic Violence

Definition

This subpopulation category includes adults who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking at any point in the past.

On any given night in 2015, it is estimated that approximately 735 of homeless persons who are considered victims of domestic violence are present in Southern Nevada.

2.13 Conclusion

The 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless PIT Count identified 7,509 homeless persons in Southern Nevada. Of these persons, 47.8% (3,593 persons) were sheltered, and 52.2% (3,916 persons) were unsheltered.

Inherent difficulties are associated with any methodology that is applied to enumerating homeless persons, and these difficulties warrant careful consideration when evaluating totals such as those presented in this report. For example, many homeless persons (especially women and children) are eliminated from the total count as they typically are afraid of being located, often for safety reasons. Thus, many reside in locations that make them undetectable to enumeration teams. Even the most systematic and comprehensive methodologies fall short of gathering entirely representative numbers that reflect the true homeless population.

The same careful consideration should be applied to the analysis of the Homeless Survey data. While the extrapolation method has proven to be reliable, and is considered the standard method of estimating the subpopulation totals, it must be emphasized that this method produces estimates that vary in their representativeness of the actual sample population.

However, despite these challenges, the 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey provides both valid and useful data, creating a more comprehensive view of the nature and scope of homelessness in Southern Nevada in 2015. The fact that the same methodology, characterized by the same difficulties, (with minor adjustments resulting in no statistical significance) has been used since 2007 enables Southern Nevada to continue tracking key patterns and trends amongst their homeless population. This consistent approach continues to highlight the changing conditions of homelessness in this region, so that necessary action can be taken to improve the livelihood of these homeless persons. Through its impact on the policy-makers in Southern Nevada, this report will allow for more constructive and innovative solutions to be applied to the problem of homelessness.

Homelessness is an interpersonal issue, with varied catalysts. Likewise, the contributing factors that reduce and successfully address the issue is multi-faceted with many variables such as; employment

rates, access to physical and mental health care, housing assistance programs and community planning/growth.

3. HOMELESS CENSUS FINDINGS

The following data presents the results of the homeless census component of this report. All Continuum of Cares (CoCs) are required to conduct a Point-in-Time (PIT) Count during the last 10 days in January of each year in order to enumerate the amount of homeless persons in their communities.

The PIT Count is a core data set used by HUD to address homelessness on both a national and local level. PIT Count estimates provide snapshots of homelessness from 3 different angles:

1. Sheltered Homeless Persons & Unsheltered Homeless Persons
2. HUD-Defined Homeless Households
3. Counts of beds in Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing Programs, and Safe Havens.

Southern Nevada integrates the data that is collected from these census findings into their CoC applications for Homeless Assistance Grants. It provides elected officials for each of the jurisdictions in Southern Nevada a clear view of the Southern Nevada homeless population, and guides policy-makers in their allocation of funds for homeless services and programs.

3.1 Point-In-Time Count Procedure

This PIT Count is an enumeration of the sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons in Southern Nevada. The 2015 PIT Count was carried out in accordance with the most recent guidelines set forth by HUD.¹

3.1a Sheltered & Unsheltered Homeless

The 2015 Southern Nevada PIT Count targeted two main elements of homelessness; all homeless persons were categorized as Sheltered Homeless or Unsheltered Homeless.²

¹ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (October 2014) Notice CPD 14-014: Notice for Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program.

² It is important to note that per HUD, the designation of unsheltered homelessness is no longer divided into two parts as in years past. There are no longer "Unsheltered - 'hidden' homeless" and "Unsheltered - 'street' homeless" designations. All comparative totals that include the "Hidden Homeless" have been adjusted in this report.

It is important to first delineate the differences between a *sheltered homeless person* and an *unsheltered homeless person*. The 2015 HUD definitions of sheltered and unsheltered homeless are as follows:³

Sheltered Homeless:

This includes individuals and families “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)” on the night designated for the count.

Unsheltered Homeless:

This includes individuals and families “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” on the night designated for the count.

3.1b HUD-Defined Households

All persons enumerated were categorized according to type of household, as defined by HUD. These household categories include:

- General Households
- Veteran Households
- Youth Households

It is important to define household, individual, and family, as well as the various definitions for youth households.⁴

³United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (October 2014) Notice CPD 14-014: Notice for Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program.

⁴ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (2012) Equal Access To Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation Or Identity. Final Rule, 77 FR 5661, 5661.

Household

Household means all persons occupying a housing unit. The occupants may be a family, as defined in 24 CFR 5.403; two or more families living together; or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements, regardless of actual or perceived, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

Individuals

Individuals are people who are not part of a family during their episode of homelessness. They are homeless as single adults, unaccompanied youth, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households.

Family

Persons in households with at least one adult and one child (under 18) will be referred to as a Family.

In this document, persons in households composed of only children will be referred to as either Unaccompanied Child, Unaccompanied Youth, or Parenting Youth.

Unaccompanied Child (Under 18)

People who are not part of a family or in a multi-child household during their episode of homelessness, and who are under the age of 18.

Unaccompanied Youth

Unaccompanied youth are persons under age 25 who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian and are not a parent presenting with or sleeping in the same place as his/her child(ren). Unaccompanied youth are single youth, youth couples, and groups of youth presenting together as a household.

Parenting Youth

A youth who identifies as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household.

The 2015 Southern Nevada PIT Count of unsheltered homeless persons was conducted during the early morning hours of January 28, of 2015. In order to optimize resource utilization, extraneous census tracts were removed from the 2015 enumeration effort. Census tracts that yielded zero enumeration in 2011, 2013, and 2014 were overlaid with data from first responder calls for homeless persons, and those census tracts that previously yielded both zero enumeration and zero first responder calls were removed from the 2015 census tract canvassing. This resulted in census tract coverage of 72.5%. This method is in accordance with permission from HUD Headquarters as a statistically sound method of enumeration.

As for the sheltered enumeration, the staff at every emergency shelter, transitional housing facility, domestic violence shelter, and safe haven enumerated all homeless persons present in their facility on the night of January 28, 2015.

The homeless persons of Southern Nevada were also categorized according to HUD- defined homeless households, which are listed above. Gender, race, and ethnicity was also documented amongst all of these categories.

3.2 General Summary of Findings

A total of 7,509 homeless persons in Southern Nevada were enumerated on January 28, 2015. This is a 0.9% increase from the 2014 PIT Count.

3.2a Unsheltered Homeless

Nationwide, the amount of unsheltered homeless persons (those living in unsheltered locations such as under bridges, in cars, or in abandoned buildings, etc.) decreased 32% (or 82,368 people) between 2007 and 2014. However, between 2013 and 2014, unsheltered homeless decreased by 10.0% (19,697 persons). This 10.0% decrease is less than the decrease in homelessness in this population between 2012 and 2013, when it was 11.6%. In 2014, only slightly more than one-third of all homeless people (30.6%) were living in unsheltered locations; this percentage has decreased since 2013 when 35% of all homeless persons were unsheltered.⁵

In regards to Southern Nevada, the total unsheltered homeless population increased from 3,494 to 3,916 between 2014 and 2015, respectively. This represents a 12.1% increase when compared to the overall totals of both years. The unsheltered homeless population total includes homeless persons

⁵ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development. (2014) *The 2014 Annual Housing Assessment Report to Congress, Part 1*. October 2014.

found: in parks or on the street; in the tunnels under Clark County; in cars, vans, RVs; in encampments; and in abandoned buildings.

816 (20.8%) of the entire unsheltered homeless population counted were under the age of 18 (i.e. unsheltered unaccompanied children). This amount included 574 unsheltered unaccompanied youth enumerated by the Clark County School District. When comparing these totals to those of 2014, the total amount of unsheltered unaccompanied children increased by 9.6%. Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of unsheltered unaccompanied children enumerated by the Clark County School District increased from 388 persons to 574 persons, respectively. This represents a 48.0% increase.

It should be noted that special efforts to enumerate homeless persons residing in the tunnels of Southern Nevada were established in 2011. During preparation for the 2011 Southern Nevada PIT Count, additional specialized enumeration teams were strategically formed to target the tunnels. Similar teams were formed during preparation for the 2015 PIT Count; they consisted of formerly homeless individuals who once occupied the tunnels, and outreach workers who are familiar with the tunnels and their occupants. In 2011, 477 homeless persons were enumerated in the tunnels.⁶ In 2013 however, due to rain and risk of flooding, this enumeration was limited and only 53 homeless persons were added to the 2013 enumeration total.⁷ In both 2014 and 2015, 64 persons were counted.⁸

It is also important to note that in an effort to reduce the number of deaths for those living in the tunnels due to flooding, Southern Nevada has adopted protocols to send outreach teams into the tunnels to warn of potential flooding and encouraging persons living in tunnels to take advantage of housing services or move to higher, safer ground.

3.2b Sheltered Homeless

In 2014, 69.3% or (401,051 persons) were living in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs. This represents a 1.6% increase since 2013⁹

In regards to Southern Nevada, of the total amount of homeless persons counted in 2015, 47.8% (3,593 persons) were sheltered. To be considered sheltered, they had to be residing in an

⁶Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

⁷Bitfocus, Inc. (2013). 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, Nevada.

⁸ Bitfocus, Inc. (2014). 2014 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, Nevada.

⁹ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development. (2014) The 2014 Annual Housing Assessment Report to Congress, Part 1. October 2014. (This document provides the most recently published nationwide data available)

emergency shelter, transitional housing, or safe haven. Only homeless persons who entered the shelter on or before the date of the count, or those who exited after the date of the count, were included in the sheltered homeless count.¹⁰

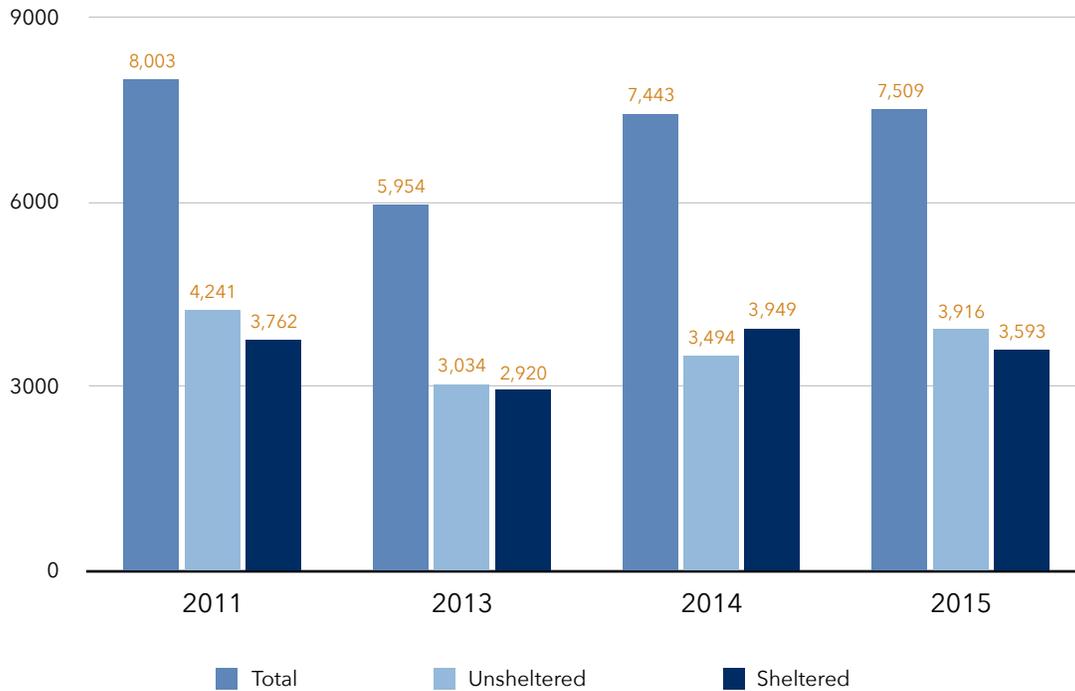
The 2015 sheltered homeless population represents a 9.0% decrease from the 2014 sheltered homeless population.

In 2015, 416 (11.6%) of the sheltered homeless persons counted were under the age of 18 (i.e. Children in all Family Units, excluding Children in One-Child Households). In 2014, 689 (17.4%) of the sheltered homeless persons counted were under the age of 18. Thus, between 2014 and 2015, the number of sheltered homeless persons under the age of 18 decreased by 273 persons, representing a 39.6% decrease.

In 2015, 628 homeless persons enumerated were persons in families (i.e. households with at least one adult and one child). This is a 42.4% decrease (463 persons) compared to 2014. These 628 persons in families comprised 196 family households. This can be compared to 2014 data, which showed that the 1,091 persons in families comprised 355 households.

¹⁰ Persons NOT included in the PIT Count are as follows: those residing in permanent supportive housing programs; those residing in programs with beds/units not dedicated for persons who are homeless (i.e. detox centers); those temporarily staying with friends; those in hospitals or jail; those staying in their own unit with assistance from a Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Provider Program.

Figure 2: Point-In-Time Count Homeless Census Population

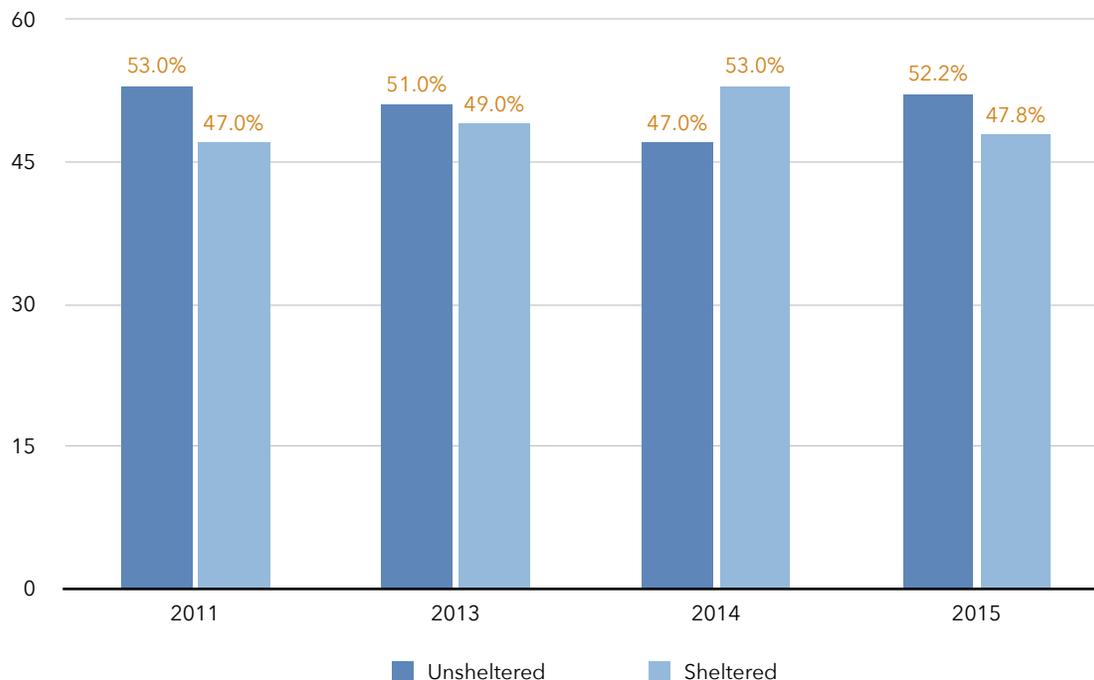


Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Figure 3: Percentage Distribution of Point-In-Time Homeless Census Population



N: 2011=8,003; 2013=5,954; 2014 = 7,443; 2015 = 7,509

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, & 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

3.2c HUD-Defined Households

In 2015, HUD required CoCs to collect and report information on the following household types for both sheltered and unsheltered persons, and for sheltered persons in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Haven projects:

For the 2015 PIT, HUD-defined households include the following:

General Households

- Households with at least one adult and one child
- Households without children
- Households with only children (under age 18)

Veteran Households

- Veteran households with at least one adult and one child
- Veteran households without children

Youth Households

- Total number of households (parenting youth households and unaccompanied youth households)
- Total number of persons (parenting youth and unaccompanied youth)

Beginning in 2014, HUD required CoCs to collect data on and report the gender, race, ethnicity, and veterans for all sheltered and unsheltered persons (i.e. all households).

The following tables summarize these findings.

3.2c1. All Households

Figure 4: Households With At Least One Adult And One Child, 2015

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
Total Number of Households	167	29	1	197
Total Number of Persons	544	84	3	631
Number of Children	353	54	1	408
Number of Young Adults (age 18-24)	24	10	0	34
Number of Adults (over age 24)	167	20	2	189
Gender (Adults and Children)				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
Female	403		1	404
Male	225		2	227
Transgender: male to female	0		0	0
Transgender: female to male	0		0	0
Ethnicity (Adults and Children)				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	515		2	517
Hispanic/Latino	113		1	114
Race (Adults and Children)				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
White	207		2	209
Black or African American	365		1	366
Asian	11		0	11
American Indian or Alaska Native	9		0	9
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	3		0	3
Multiple Races	33		0	33

ES = Emergency Shelter TH = Transitional Housing SH = Safe Haven

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: Safe Haven shelters are for individuals only, thus households with at least one adult and one child do not apply.

Figure 5: Households without Children, 2015

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Total Number of Households	1,961	746	15	3,046	5,768
Total Number of Persons	2,170	764	15	3,097	6,046
Number of Young Adults (age 18-24)	169	96	1	1,175	1,441
Number of Adults (over age 24)	2,001	668	14	1,922	4,605
Gender	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total	
Female	769		770	1,539	
Male	2,178		2,327	4,505	
Transgender: male to female	2		0	2	
Transgender: female to male	0		0	0	
Ethnicity	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total	
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	2,635		2,557	5,192	
Hispanic/Latino	314		540	854	
Race	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total	
White	1,597		1,488	3,085	
Black or African American	1,190		1,050	2,240	
Asian	73		141	214	
American Indian or Alaska Native	37		89	126	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	27		37	64	
Multiple Races	25		292	317	

ES = Emergency Shelter TH = Transitional Housing SH = Safe Haven

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: Safe Haven shelters are for individuals only, thus households with at least one adult and one child do not apply.

Figure 6: Households With Only Children (Under Age 18), 2015

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
Total Number of Households	4	7	816	827
Total Number of Persons (Under 18)	5	11	816	832
Gender	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
Female	10		490	500
Male	6		326	332
Transgender: male to female	0		0	0
Transgender: female to male	0		0	0
Ethnicity	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	12		490	502
Hispanic/Latino	4		326	330
Race	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
White	5		326	331
Black or African American	9		490	499
Asian	0		0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0		0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0		0	0
Multiple Races	8		0	8

ES = Emergency Shelter TH = Transitional Housing SH = Safe Haven

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: Safe Haven shelters are for individuals only, thus households with at least one adult and one child do not apply.

3.2c2. Veteran Households

Figure 7: Veteran Households With At Least One Adult And One Child, 2015

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
Total Number of Households	1	0	0	1
Total Number of Persons	2	0	0	2
Number of Veterans	1	0	0	1
Gender (Veterans Only)				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
Female	1		0	1
Male	0		0	0
Transgender: male to female	0		0	0
Transgender: female to male	0		0	0
Ethnicity (Veterans Only)				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	1		0	1
Hispanic/Latino	0		0	0
Race (Veterans Only)				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
White	0		0	0
Black or African American	1		0	1
Asian	0		0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0		0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0		0	0
Multiple Races	0		0	0

ES = Emergency Shelter TH = Transitional Housing SH = Safe Haven

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: Safe Haven shelters are for individuals only, thus households with at least one adult and one child do not apply.

Figure 8: Veteran Households without Children, 2015

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Total Number of Households	92	282	0	317	691
Total Number of Persons	95	282	0	322	699
Number of Veterans	92	282	0	317	691
Gender (Veterans Only)		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
Female	18		79	97	
Male	356		238	594	
Transgender: male to female	0		0	0	
Transgender: female to male	0		0	0	
Ethnicity (Veterans Only)		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	354		262	616	
Hispanic/Latino	20		55	75	
Race (Veterans Only)		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
White	228		156	384	
Black or African American	132		107	239	
Asian	1		14	15	
American Indian or Alaska Native	4		8	12	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	4		3	7	
Multiple Races	5		29	34	

ES = Emergency Shelter TH = Transitional Housing SH = Safe Haven

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: Safe Haven shelters are for individuals only, thus households with at least one adult and one child do not apply.

3.2c3. Youth Households

Figure 9: Youth Households, 2015 - General

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Total Number of Households	171	107	0	1,991	2,269
Number of Parenting Youth Households	22	15	0	0	37
Number of Unaccompanied Youth Households	149	92	0	1,991	2,232
Total Number of Persons	216	129	0	0	345
Total number of persons in parenting youth households	67	37	0	0	104
Number of Parenting Youth (youth parents only)	26	15	0	0	41
Number of Parenting Youth (under age 18)	1	3	0	0	4
Number of Parenting Youth (age 18 to 24)	25	12	0	0	37
Total Number of children with parenting youth (children under age 18 with parents under age 25)	41	22	0	0	63
Total number of unaccompanied youth	149	92	0	1,991	2,232
Number of unaccompanied children (under age 18)	5	4	0	816	825
Number of unaccompanied young adults (age 18 to 24)	144	88	0	1,175	1,407

ES = Emergency Shelter TH = Transitional Housing SH = Safe Haven

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: Safe Haven shelters are for individuals only, thus households with at least one adult and one child do not apply.

Figure 10: Youth Households, 2015 - Gender, Ethnicity, and Race

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Gender (Youth Parents and Unaccompanied Youth)					
Female	74	45	0	782	901
Male	101	62	0	1,209	1,372
Transgender: (male to female)	0	0	0	0	0
Transgender: (female to male)	0	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity (Youth Parents and Unaccompanied Youth)					
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	152	81	0	695	928
Hispanic/Latino	23	26	0	1,296	1,345
Race (Youth Parents and Unaccompanied Youth)					
White	56	37	0	891	984
Black or African-American	117	60	0	887	1064
Asian	0	3	0	34	37
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	1	0	54	57
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	3	0	14	17
Multiple Races	0	3	0	111	114

ES = Emergency Shelter TH = Transitional Housing SH = Safe Haven

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: Safe Haven shelters are for individuals only, thus households with at least one adult and one child do not apply.

Figure 11: Unsheltered Homeless: Persons In Vehicles, Vans/RVs, Abandoned Buildings, Encampments, & Parks

	2011	2013	2014	2015	2014 to 2015 Net Change	2014 to 2015 Percent Change
Persons In Cars	150	104	73	97	24	32.9%
Persons in Vans & RVs	229	199	259	115	-144	-55.6%
Persons in Abandoned Buildings	264	163	111	36	-75	-67.6%
Persons in Encampments	617	676	473	657	184	38.9%
Persons in Parks	3	34	0	0	0	0.0%
Total	1263	1176	916	905	-11	-1.2%

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015) 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV

3.3 Countywide Annual Estimation

Many homeless persons experience short episodes of homelessness at times of the year other than that of the PIT Count. Thus, the PIT Count has an inherent bias and is not representative of the homeless population in its entirety; it is possible that it under represents the prevalence of homelessness during other months of the year. Because more people are homeless than can be counted at any point in time, it is necessary to calculate an annual estimate of the number of homeless persons in Southern Nevada over the course of a year. The following is a HUD-approved method for using the PIT Count to calculate an annual estimate of homeless persons.

Three factors are used to determine the annual estimate.¹¹

1. A = The point-in-time enumeration of currently homeless people (found in the unsheltered and sheltered count)
2. B = The number of currently homeless people who became homeless within the last 7 days
3. C = The proportion of currently homeless people who have experienced a previous homeless episode within the past 12 months

The equation for calculating the annual estimate is:

$$A + [(B \times 51) \times (1 - C)] = \text{Annual Estimate}$$

For Southern Nevada in 2015: $7,509 + [(653.290 \times 51) \times (1 - 0.193)] = 34,396.446 = 34,397$ persons
 For Southern Nevada in 2014: $7,443 + [(809.862 \times 51) \times (1 - 0.339)] = 34,744.258 = 34,744$ persons
 For Southern Nevada in 2013: $7,355 + [(720.79 \times 51) \times (1 - 0.280)] = 32,421.409 = 32,421$ persons
 For Southern Nevada in 2011: $8,003 + [(1,150.704 \times 51) \times (1 - 0.423)] = 41,864.767 \approx 41,865$ persons

The 2015 annual estimate for the number of homeless people in Southern Nevada was 34,397. This represents a 0.01% decrease (347 persons) from the 2014 annual estimate of 34,744 persons.

According to the annual estimate above, and the 2010 U.S. Census population profile, homelessness makes up 1.8% of Southern Nevada’s total population of 1,951,269 people.

****IMPORTANT NOTE:** As mentioned previously, the designation of unsheltered homelessness is no longer divided into two parts as in years past; there are no longer “Unsheltered - ‘hidden’ homeless” and “Unsheltered - ‘street’ homeless” designations. All comparative totals that include the “Hidden Homeless”, including the annual estimate totals, have been adjusted in this report. Therefore, it must be emphasized that the removal of the hidden homeless data significantly affected the annual estimates.**

¹¹ Burt, M & Wilkins, C. Corporation for Supportive Housing. *Estimating The Need: Projecting From Point-In- Time To Annual Estimates Of The Number Of Homeless People In A Community And Using This Information To Plan For Permanent Supportive Housing*. 2005.

Figure 12: Point-In-Time Homeless Count & Annual Estimate of Homelessness Net Change

	2011	2013	2014	2015	2014 to 2015 Net Change	2014 to 2015 Percent Change
Point-in-Time Count	8,003	5,954	7,443	7,509	66	0.89%
Annual Estimate	41,865	32,421	34,744	34,397	-347	-0.01%
Total Population	1,951,269 (2010)	1,951,269 (2010)	1,951,269 (2010)	1,951,269 (2010)	0	0
Point-in-Time to Annual Multiplier	4.6	4.6	3.9	3.9	0	---
Percentage of Total Population	2.2%	1.7%	1.9%	1.8%	-281	---

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV

****IMPORTANT NOTE:** As mentioned previously, the designation of unsheltered homelessness is no longer divided into two parts as in years past; there are no longer “Unsheltered - ‘hidden’ homeless” and “Unsheltered - ‘street’ homeless” designations. All comparative totals that include the “Hidden Homeless”, including the annual estimate totals in the table above, have been adjusted in this report. Therefore, it must be emphasized that the removal of the hidden homeless data significantly affected the annual estimates.**

4. SURVEY FINDINGS: PROFILE OF HOMELESSNESS

This section of the 2015 Southern Nevada Census and Survey Report provides a comprehensive overview of the scope of homelessness in Southern Nevada. The information was generated from the data obtained through the 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey.

The 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey was administered during the weeks directly following the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count. A total of 922 unique surveys were completed, and there were 8 refusals. Missing values have been intentionally omitted from the survey results. Thus, the total amount of respondents for each question will not always coincide with the total number of surveys.

The following is an overview of the results. Due to the limitations in connecting homeless individuals to their clinical profiles, the surveys were designed to yield data reflecting self-described and self-defined responses.¹

4.1 Demographics

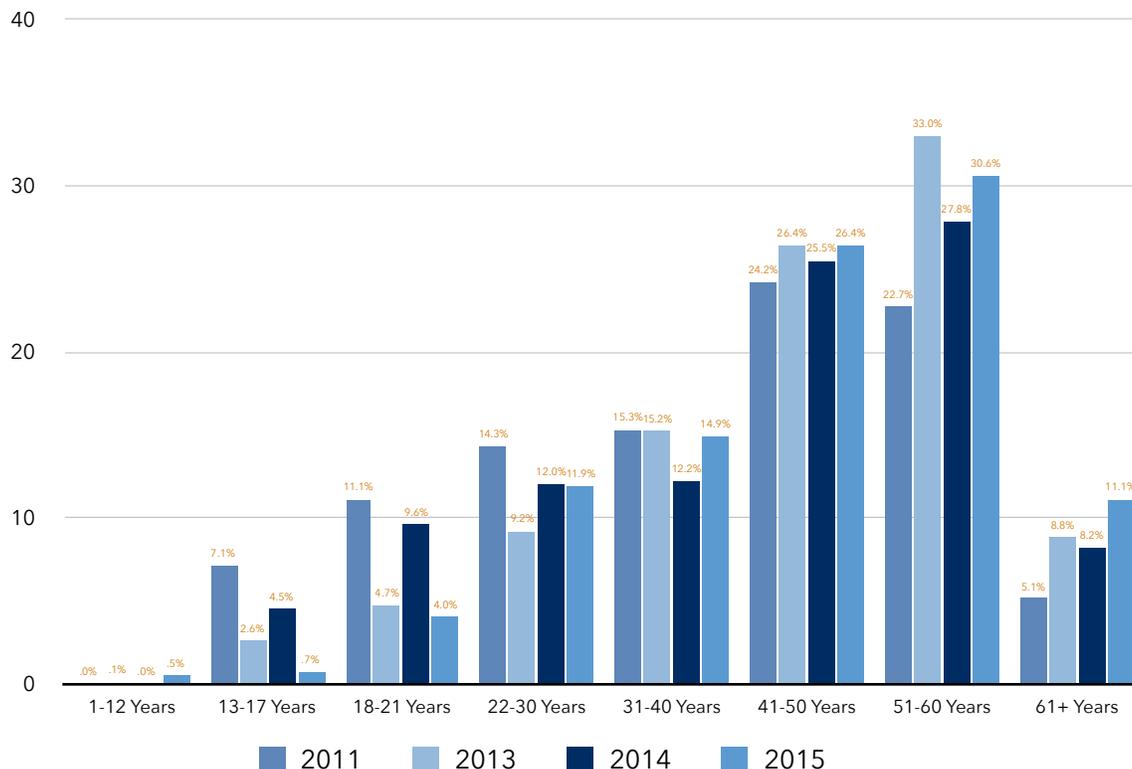
Understanding the demographics of the Southern Nevada homeless population is key to defining the specific needs of this population. This information can be used to create more effective programs, alter existing programs, and predict future challenges.

In order to obtain demographic information characterizing the homeless residents in Southern Nevada, the survey participants answered several questions pertaining to age, gender, ethnicity, race, and family status.

¹For additional information on survey methodology, please see Appendix VI

4.1a Age

Figure 13: Survey Respondents by Age, 2015



N: 2011=547; 2013= 822; 2014 = 897, 2015 = 922

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

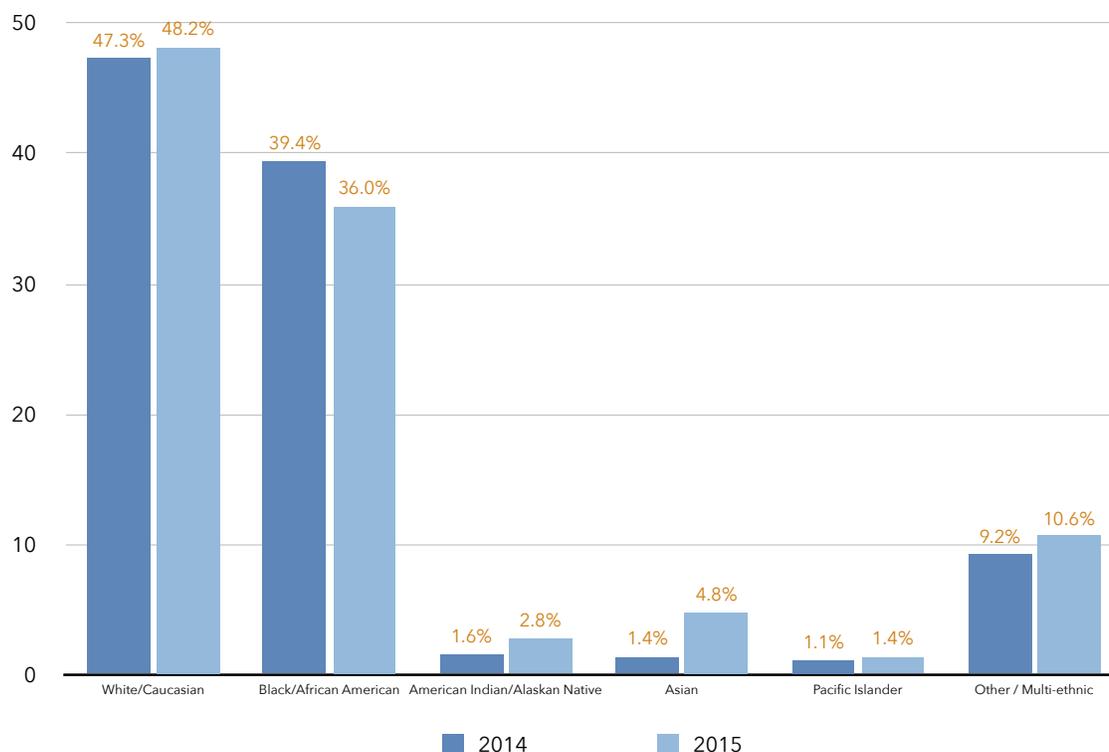
- 30.6% of respondents were between the ages of 51 and 60. This amount is higher for this age group than 2014 (27.8%).
- 1.2% of survey respondents were under the age of 18. This represents a 3.3% decrease compared to 2014.
- 4.0% of respondents were between the ages of 18 and 21. This is a more than 50 percent decrease from the amount of homeless persons in this category in 2014 (9.6%).
- 11.1% of survey respondents were over the age of 61. This is higher than 2014 when 8.2% reported belonging to this age group.

4.1b Race/Ethnicity

The most recent surveys conducted in Southern Nevada prior to 2015 (years 2013 and 2014) have shown that individual homeless persons are more likely to be White males over the age of 30. In 2013, 73.8 percent of the Southern Nevada survey respondents indicated they were of male gender, and 43.3 percent of 2013 survey respondents identified their racial/ethnic group as White/Caucasian. Similarly, 71.4 percent of the 2014 respondents identified themselves as male gender, and 47.3 percent identified themselves as White/Caucasian. In 2015, 48.2 percent of the respondents identified themselves as White/Caucasian, and 68.7 percent identified themselves as Male Gender.

It should be noted that prior to 2014, HUD required CoCs to report race, ethnicity, and gender data separately for all persons surveyed. However, per HUD, race and ethnicity data were collected using separate survey questions. However, in the 2014 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, the majority of survey respondents were not aware of the difference between 'race' and 'ethnicity', and the survey results reflect this. While 885 respondents provided a response to the race question (*Which racial group do you identify with the most?*), only 351 provided a response to the ethnicity question (*Which ethnic group do you identify with the most?*) This confusion was resolved in 2015. However, this must be taken into account when comparing data for race and ethnicity for the years 2014 and 2015.

Figure 14: Adult Respondents by Race, 2014 & 2015



N: 2014 = 885, 2015 = Multiple response question with 922 respondents offering 957 responses²
(data from 2011 and 2013 is not comparable)

Source:

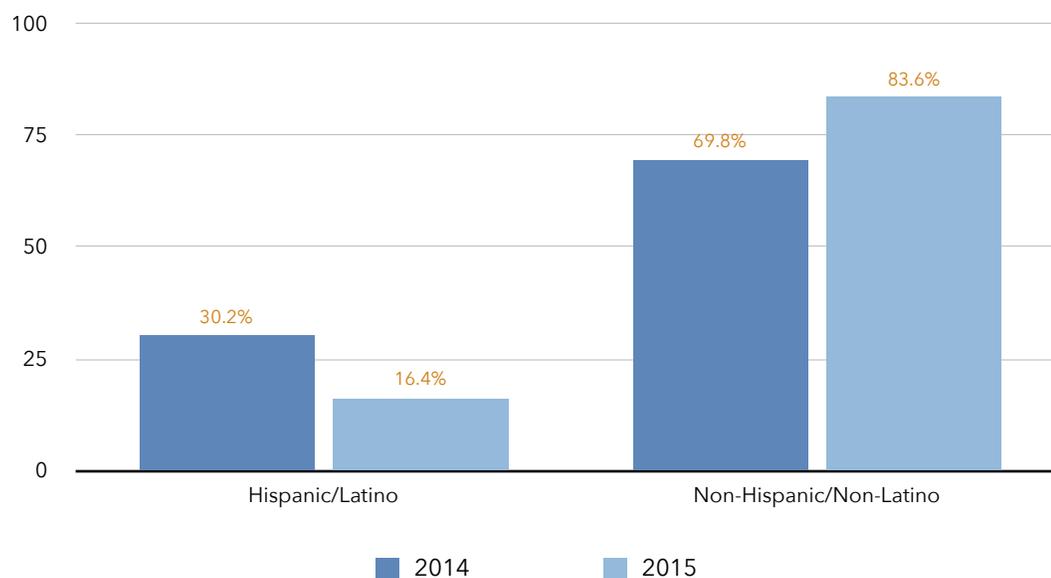
Bitfocus Inc., (2014, 2015), 2014 and 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 48.2% of survey respondents identified their racial group as *White/Caucasian*.
- 36.0% of respondents identified their racial group as *Black/African American*.
- 2.8% of respondents identified their racial group as *American Indian/Alaskan Native*.
- 6.2% of respondents identified their racial group as *Asian/Pacific Islander*.
- 10.6% of respondents identified their racial group as *Other/Multi-Ethnic*.

² In 2015, per HUD, survey respondents answering 'Other/Multi-ethnic' were required select more than one race response option, which is why the format for response totals for 2014 and 2015 differ.

Figure 15: Respondents by Ethnicity, 2014 & 2015



N: 2014 = 351; 2015 = 899

(data from 2011 and 2013 is not comparable)

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2014, 2015), 2014 and 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- 16.4% of respondents identified their ethnic group as *Hispanic/Latino*.
- 83.6% of respondents identified their ethnic group as *Non Hispanic/Latino*.

4.1c Gender

Past homeless surveys nationwide have consistently found that the majority of homeless adults are male. The 2013, 2014, and 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Surveys reflected the continuation of this trend; in 2013, 2014, and 2015 the majority of survey respondents identified as male gender.

Summary:

- 68.7% of respondents identified as *male*. This is lower than 2014 (71.4%).
- 31.3% of respondents identified as *female*. This is higher than 2014 (27.8%).
 - 5.2% of female respondents reported they were pregnant. This is lower than 2014 (7.4%).
- 0.0% of respondents identified as *transgender*. This is lower than 2014 (0.8%).

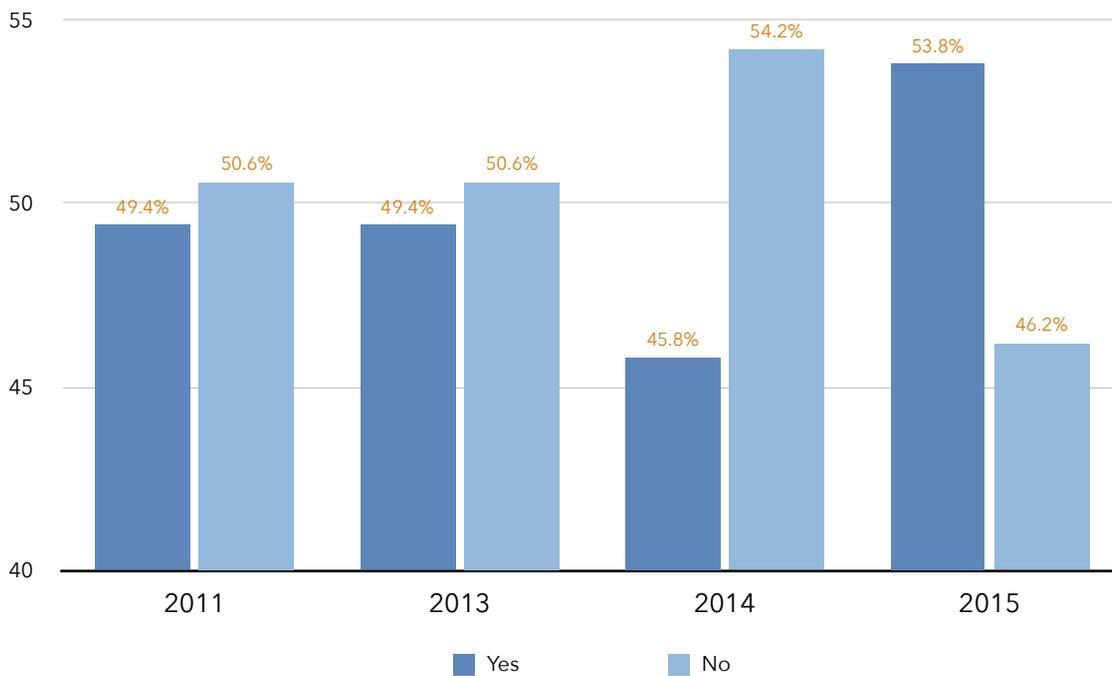
4.2 Homelessness Conditions

The following section presents a broad view of the various characteristics and causes of homelessness. This section details the duration and frequency of homelessness, living conditions, and obstacles that homeless persons face when trying to secure permanent housing. Employment and income status are also discussed in depth.

4.2a Conditions Prior to Homelessness

4.2a.1 Occurrence of Homelessness

Figure 16: Is This The First Time You've Been Homeless?



N: 2011= 547; 2013=822 ; 2014 = 936; 2015 = 913

Source:

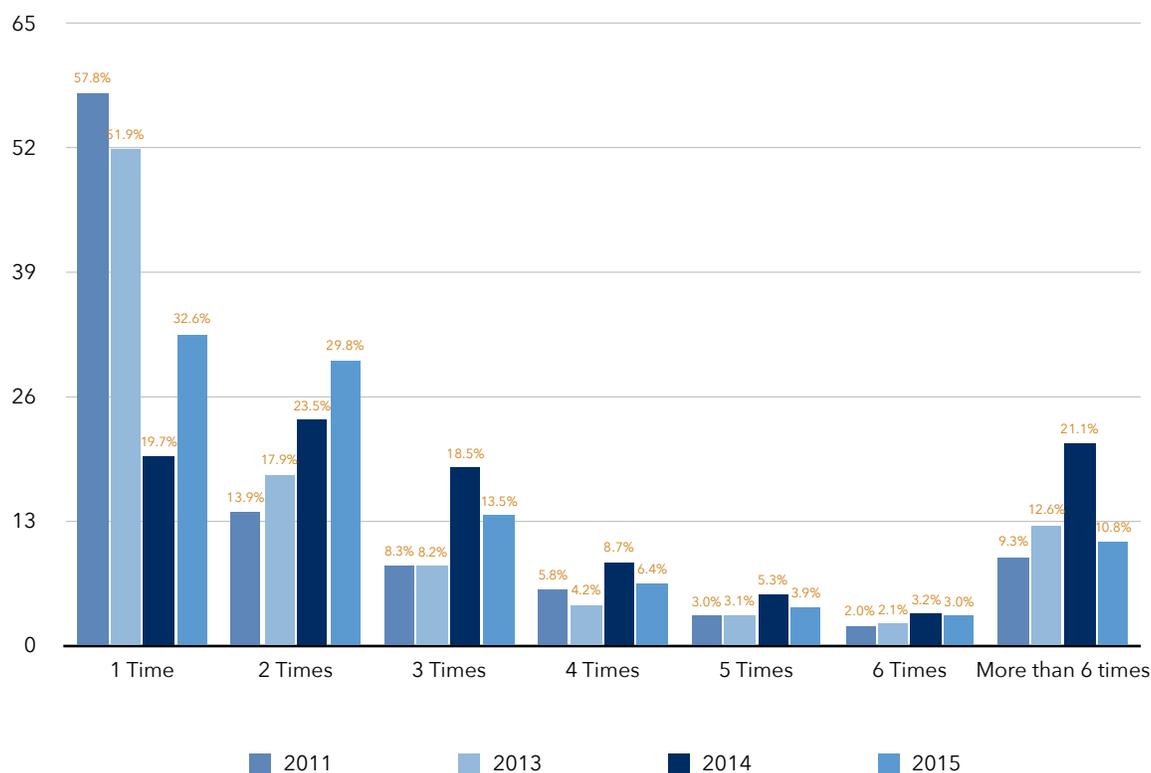
Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- More survey respondents (53.8%) reported that they were homeless for the first time than did survey respondents in 2014.

Figure 17: Number of Times Respondents Had Been Homeless in the Last 3 Years, Including This Time



N: 2011 = 547; 2013 = 619; 2014 = 493; 2015 = 362

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

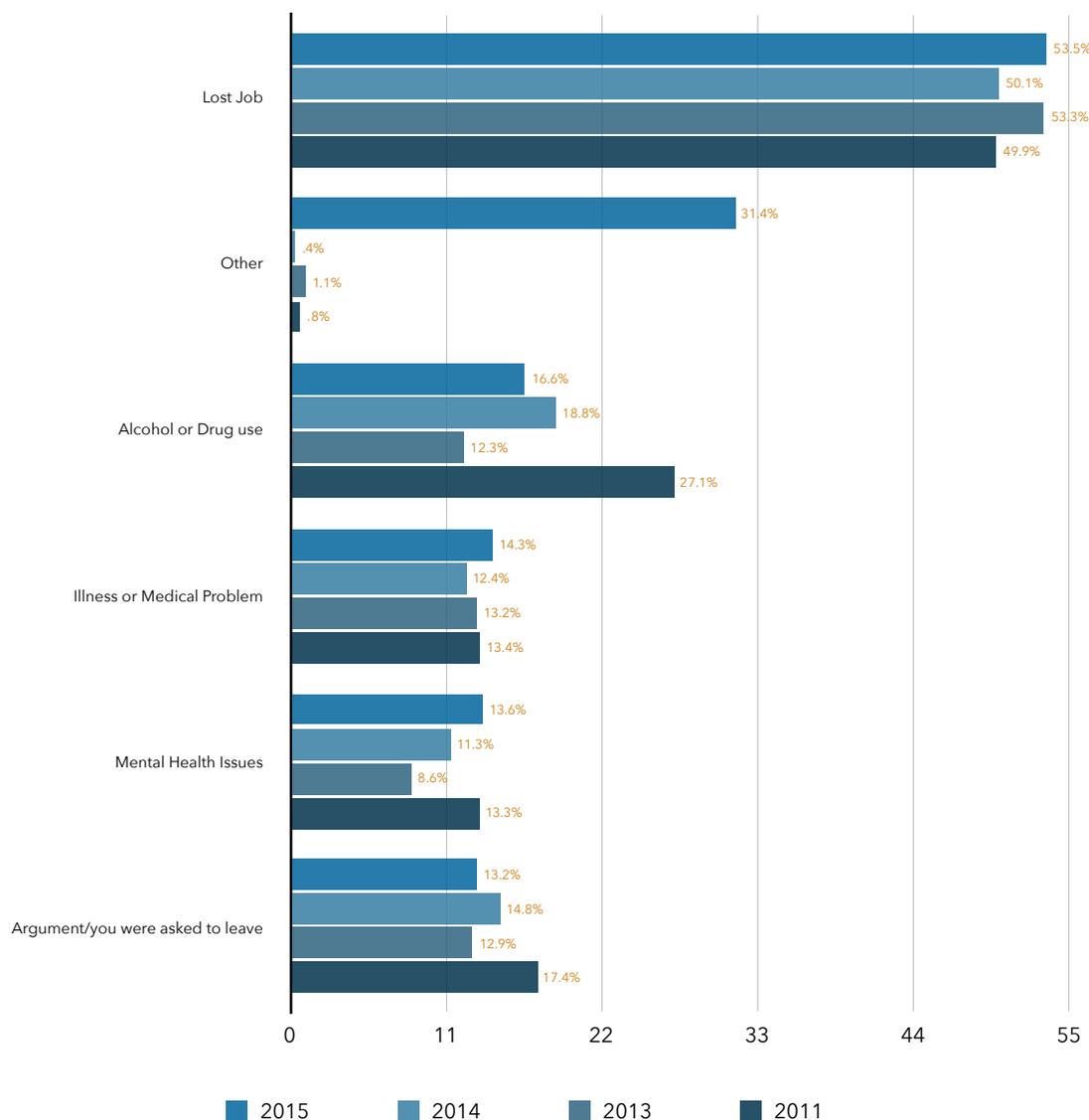
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- Between 2014 and 2015, the percentage of survey respondents who have been homeless four or more times in the last three years decreased from 38.3% to 24.1%. This is important due to the fact that this is one of the criterion that determines whether a person can be deemed chronically homeless. More details on the definition for chronic homelessness are available in the *Appendix VII - Glossary and Definition of Terms*.
- Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of survey respondents reporting six or more homeless episodes within the last three years decreased by 10.3%, which represents a more than 50 percent decrease in this category within one year.

4.2a.2 Primary Causes of Homelessness

Figure 18: Top Events That Led to Respondents' Homelessness (Top 6 Responses in 2015)



Multiple response question:

2011: 518 respondents provided 1,014 responses; 2013: 823 respondents provided 1,460 responses; 2014: 933 respondents provided 1,728 responses; 2015: 920 respondents provided 1,824 responses.

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

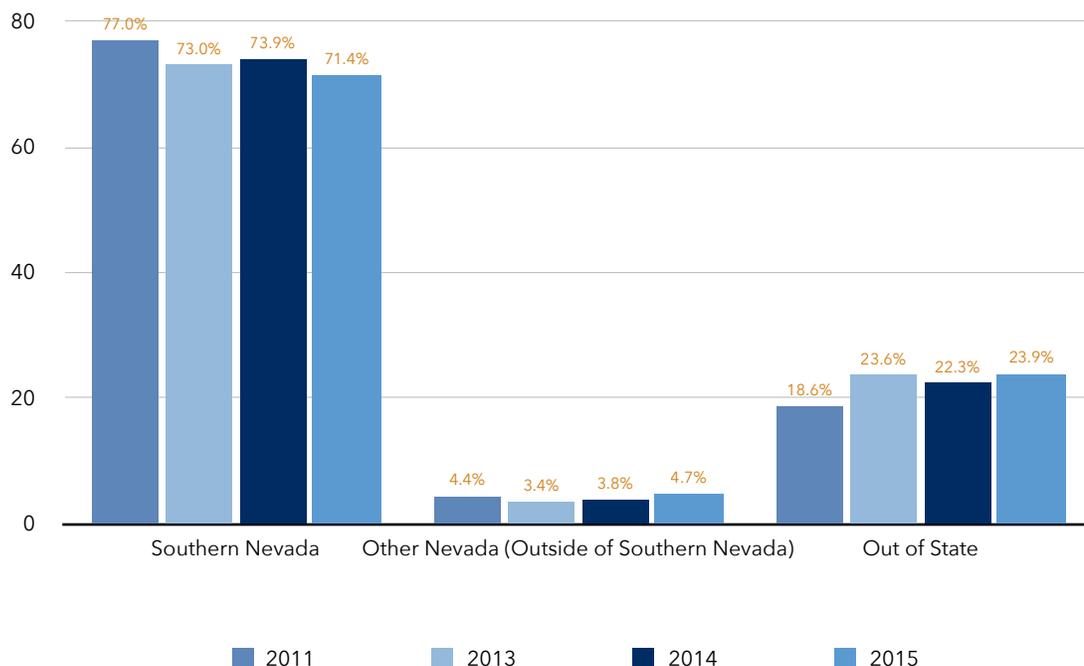
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 53.5% of 2015 survey respondents cited *Job Loss* as the primary cause of their homelessness, making it the primary cause of homelessness for the majority of this population. In 2014, *Job Loss* was also the most frequently cited primary cause of homelessness, comprising of 50.1% of respondents.
- *Other* was the second most commonly cited primary cause of homelessness in 2015 (31.4%). This is the first year that this category has been included in the Top 6 Events That Led to Respondents' Homelessness.
- *Alcohol Or Drug Use* was the third most commonly cited primary cause of homelessness in 2015 (16.6%). In 2014, it was the second most commonly cited primary cause of homelessness, comprising 18.8% of survey respondents.
- *Illness or Medical Problem* was the fourth most commonly cited cause of homelessness in 2015. Between 2014 and 2015, *Illness or Medical Problem* increased from 12.4% to 14.3% of survey responses.
- The *Mental Health Issues* category was the fifth most commonly cited cause of homelessness in 2015 (13.6%).
- 13.2% of 2015 respondents cited *Argument / Family Or Friend Asked You To Leave* as their primary reason for homelessness. This was lower than 2014 (14.8%).

4.2a.3 County of Residency Prior to Homelessness

Figure 19: Where Respondents Were Living at the Time They Most Recently Became Homeless



N: 2011= 542; 2013= 798; 2014 = 921; 2015 = 912

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

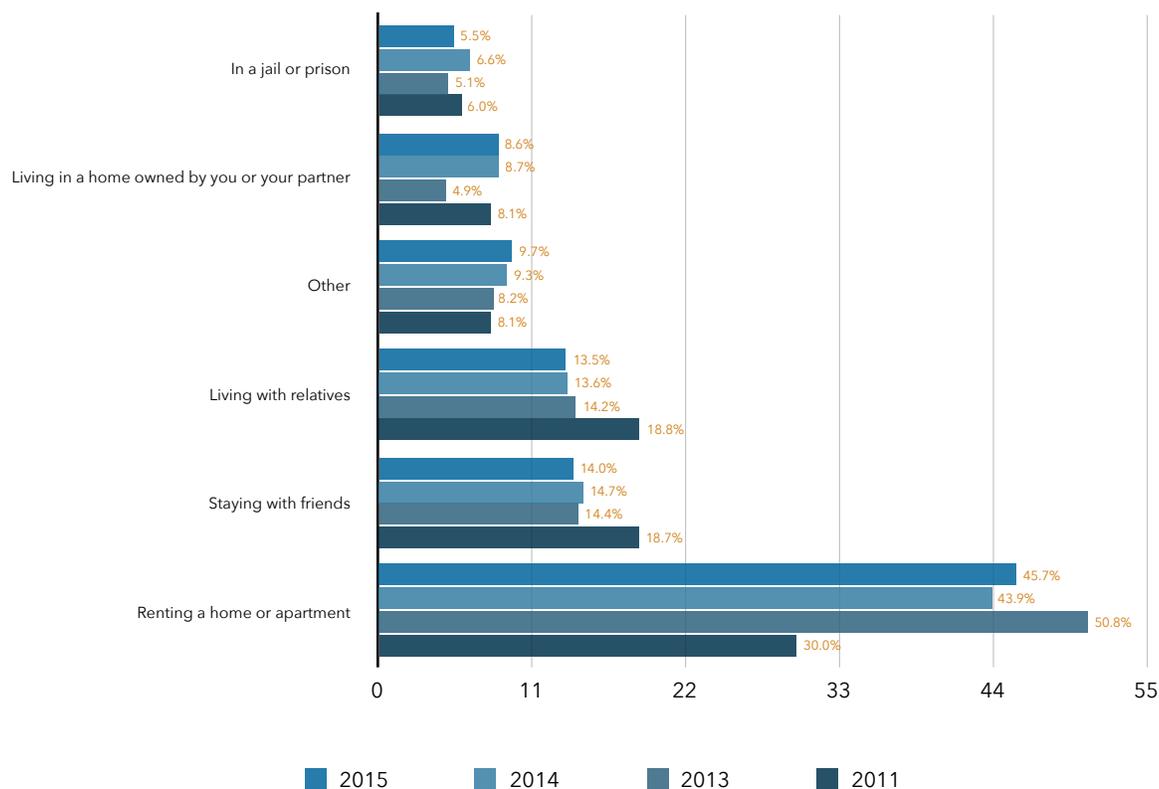
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- The majority of survey respondents (71.4%) reported living in *Southern Nevada* when they most recently became homeless.

4.2a.4 Previous Living Arrangements

Figure 20: Living Arrangements Immediately Prior to Becoming Homeless This Time (Top 6 Responses in 2015)



N: 2011= 533; 2013; 819; 2014 = 931; 2015 = 921

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

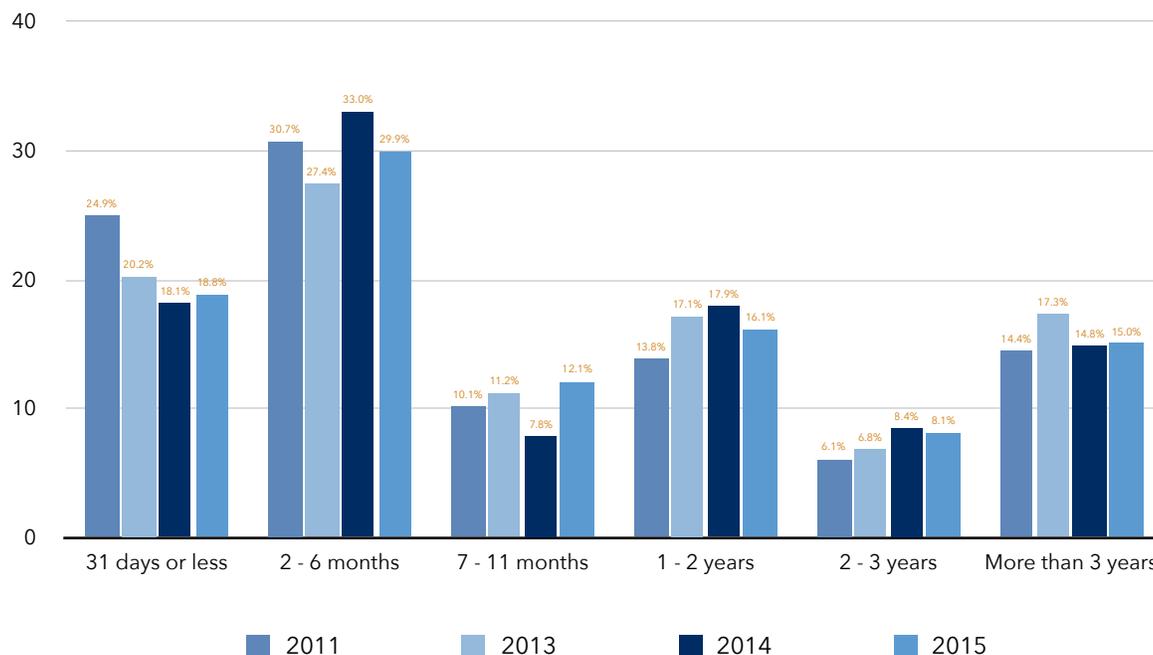
Summary:

- The majority (45.7%) of survey respondents reported that they were *renting a home or apartment* prior to becoming homeless. This is more than 2014, when 43.9% of respondents cited the same information.
- Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of survey respondents reporting that they were *in jail or prison* immediately prior to becoming homeless decreased from 6.6% to 5.5%.

4.2b Living Conditions

4.2b.1 Duration of Homelessness

Figure 21: Length of Time Since Last Permanent Housing Situation



N: 2011= 515; 2013= 810; 2014 = 927; 2015 = 915

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

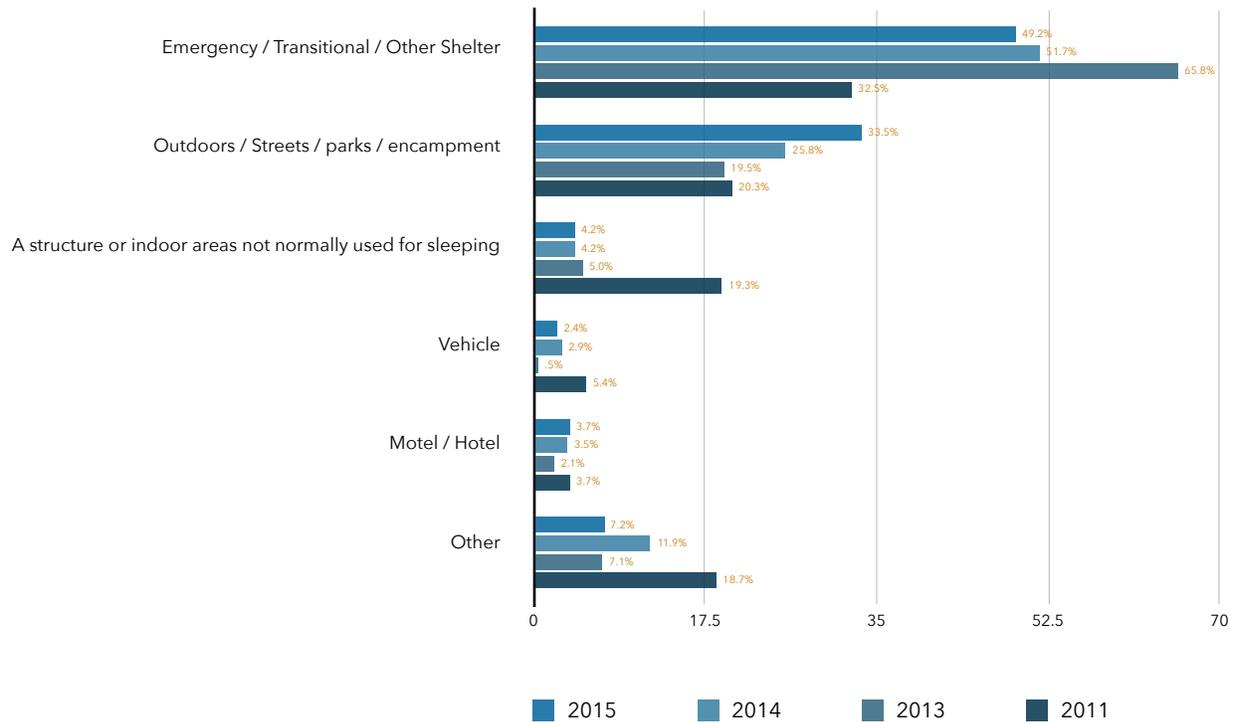
Summary:

- 39.2% of the 2015 survey respondents reported that they had been been homeless for a year or more since their last housing situation.³ This has decreased from 2014 (41.1%).
- 18.8% of 2015 survey respondents reported having been homeless for 30 days or less, which is an increase from the 18.1% recorded in 2014.
- 15.0% of 2015 survey respondents indicated they had been homeless for three years or longer. The amount of persons homeless for 3 or more years increased since 2014, when 14.8% of survey respondents qualified for this category.

³ This condition is one of the components used to determine whether a person can be considered “chronically homeless” (see Homeless Survey-Homeless Subpopulations section for more information)

4.2b.2 Typical Nighttime Accommodations

Figure 22: Where Respondents Typically Stay at Night



N: 2011= 531; 2013= 816; 2014 = 932, 2015 = 920

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

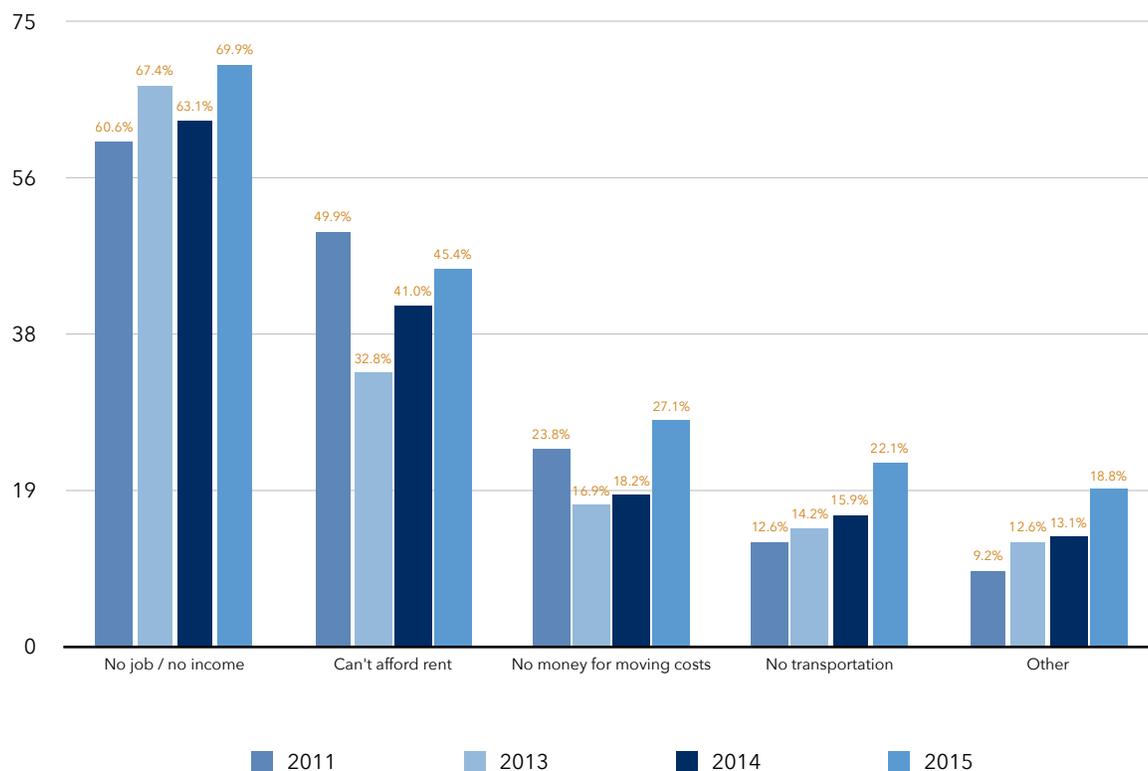
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 33.5% of survey respondents reported living outdoors (streets, parks, encampments). This is a 7.7% increase from 2014.
- 49.2% of survey respondents reported sheltered living accommodations (emergency shelter, transitional housing, other shelter). This amount is 2.5% percent lower than 2014 (51.7%).

4.2b.3 Obstacles to Obtaining Permanent Housing

Figure 23: Circumstances That Were Preventing Respondents From Securing Permanent Housing (Top 5 Responses in 2015)



Multiple response question

529 respondents provided 995 responses in 2011; 810 respondents provided 1427 responses in 2013; 930 respondents provided 1,693 responses in 2014; 919 respondents provided 2,081 responses in 2015

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: Answers not mutually exclusive

Summary:

- As with previous surveys (since 2011), *No Job/No Income* was the most commonly cited obstacle to obtaining housing in 2015 (69.9%). This amount is higher than that of 2014 (63.1%).
- 45.4% of 2015 survey respondents cited *Inability To Afford Rent* as their primary obstacle to obtaining permanent housing. This amount is higher than 2014 (41.0%).

4.2c Income & Employment

4.2c.1 Employment Status

The 2014 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines, updated periodically in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2), indicates that the official 2015 poverty level for an individual is \$11,770, or \$980 per month.⁴ Note that the poverty level has increased slightly since 2014 when it was \$973/month.⁵

This poverty level differs significantly from the self-sufficiency standard, which provides a more realistic amount for true cost of living. It is based on all major budget items faced by working adults, not just food. These basic needs include housing, child care, food, health care, transportation, taxes, and miscellaneous costs. The self-sufficiency standard, which is \$1,528 per month in Southern Nevada (\$18,338 per year), is a measure of income adequacy that calculates how much income from a single working adult is sufficient to meet their needs without government subsidies.⁶

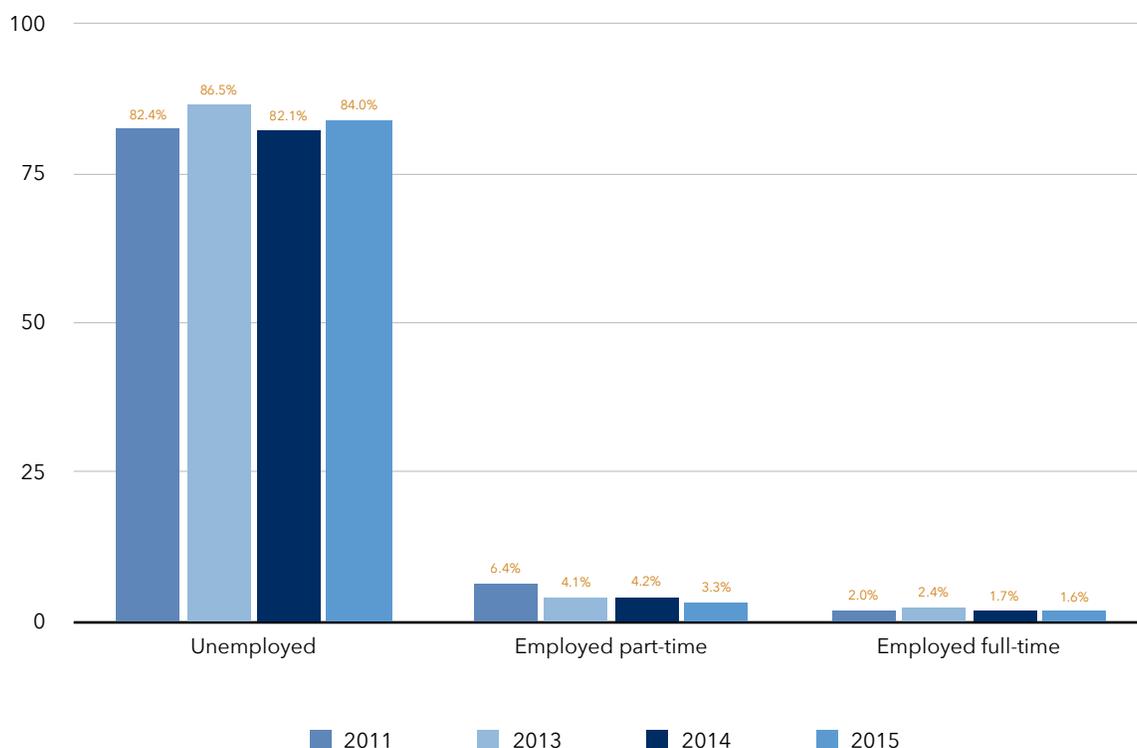
As shown in previous reports, lack of income has a substantial impact on the rate of homelessness in Southern Nevada. In previous years, utilization of government assistance has been low. This trend continued, although utilization of moderate amounts of government assistance has increased slightly since 2011.

⁴ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Federal Register*, Vol. 79 FR 3593, pp. 3593 -359426, 2014

⁵ U.S. Department of Health and Human Service. *Federal Register*, Vol. 74, 2009, pp. 4200.

⁶ Center for Women's Welfare, *Self Sufficiency Calculator*. Retrieved April 9, 2015 from: <http://www.selfsufficiencystandard.org/pubs.html>

Figure 24: Employment Status of Respondents



N: 2011= 524; 2013= 830; 2014 = 926; 2015 = 915

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 84.0% of survey respondents reported they were experiencing unemployment at the time of the survey. This amount represents an increase compared to 2014 (82.1%).

Figure 25: Respondent’s Barriers to Getting Employment (Top 10 Responses in 2015)

	2011	2013	2014	2015	2014 to 2015 Net Change
No Transportation	20.8%	24.3%	27.4%	28.7%	-1.3%
No Permanent Address	17.7%	19.9%	23.4%	19.5%	3.9%
Other	N/A	13.4%	15.5%	19.3%	-3.8%
Need Training	21.1%	13.1%	12.5%	17.5%	-5.0%
Need Clothing	13.6%	11.0%	15.3%	17.2%	-1.9%
Health Problems	15.0%	15.9%	14.2%	16.4%	-2.2%
No Jobs	29.3%	28.6%	21.3%	15.0%	6.3%
Disabled	15.0%	14.6%	13.6%	14.6%	-1.0%
No Phone	10.1%	8.7%	9.1%	14.2%	-5.1%
Need Education	18.4%	10.4%	13.1%	12.5%	.6%

Multiple response question

487 respondents provided 1,141 responses in 2011; 762 respondents provided 1,573 responses in 2013; 880 respondents with 1,907 responses in 2014; 907 respondents provided 2,093 responses in 2015

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

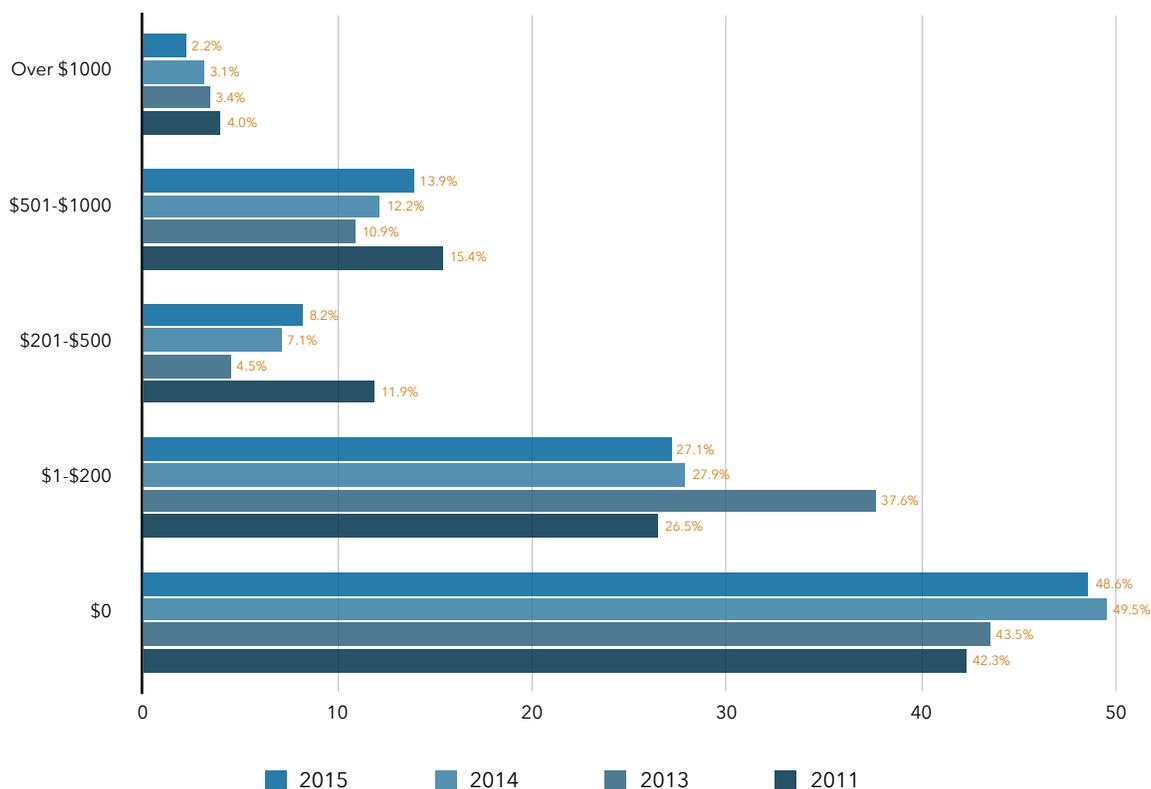
NOTE: Answers not mutually exclusive.

Summary:

- In 2015, the leading barrier to employment was *No Transportation* (28.7%). In 2014, this category was also the leading barrier to employment (27.4%). This category decreased by 1.3% between 2014 and 2015.

4.2c.2 Income - From Government Benefits

Figure 26: Total (Gross) Monthly Income From All Government Benefits



N: 2011= 516; 2013= 816; 2014 = 907; 2015 = 919

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- 16.1% of survey respondents claimed to be receiving more than \$500 per month in government benefits, which is, in general, slightly greater than previous years.
- The amount of survey respondents receiving between \$200 and \$500 per month increased by 1.1% compared to 2014.
- The amount of survey respondents (48.6%) who reported to be receiving no money from government benefits decreased by 0.9% since 2014.

4.2c.3 Income - From Private Non-Government Sources

Summary:

- 2015 data indicates homeless individuals seem to be receiving higher amounts of income from other sources (e.g. panhandling, recycling, etc.). More specifically, 73.7% of 2015 survey respondents claimed to be receiving no money from other sources. This is a 3.2% increase from 2014 (70.5%).
- 94.9% of the 2015 survey respondents were receiving \$500 or less from other sources. This is higher than 2014 (93.7%).

4.2c.4 Income - From Other Sources

NOTE: Answers not mutually exclusive

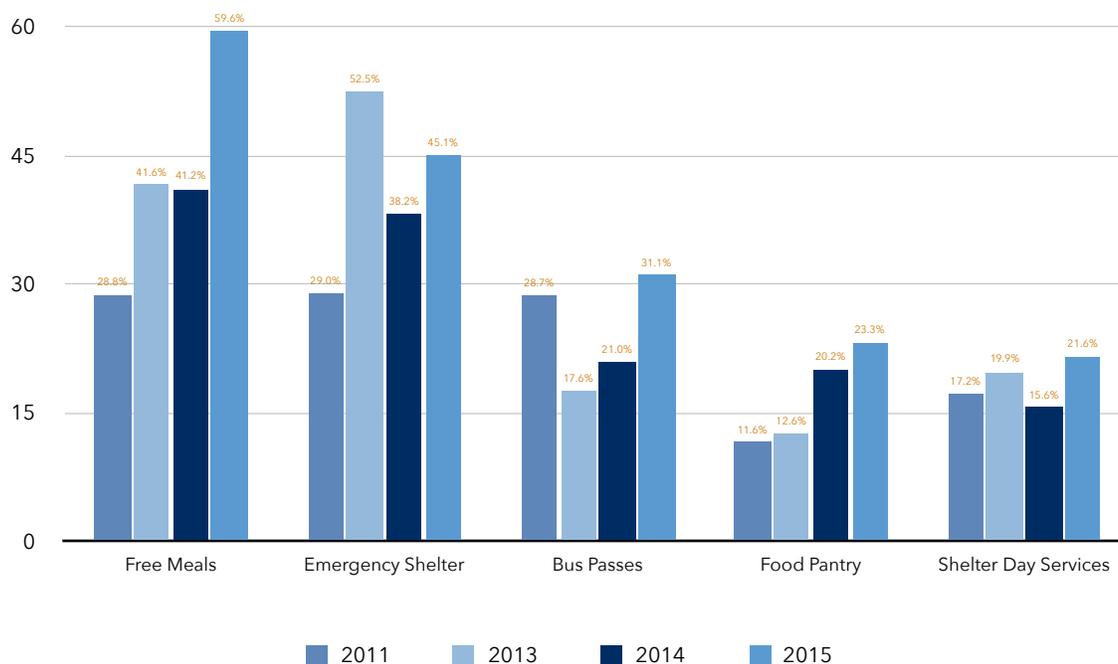
Summary:

- From 2014 to 2015, the amount of survey respondents receiving income from family and friends decreased from 33.3% to 17.2%.
- Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of income survey respondents were obtaining through recycling increased from 7.8% to 10.5%.

4.3 Utilization of Government Assistance & Homelessness Programs

4.3a Services & Programs: Type of Assistance & Barriers to Assistance

Figure 27: Of Those Using Any Services or Assistance, Types of Services or Assistance Used (Top 5 Responses in 2015)



Multiple response question.

520 respondents provided 701 responses in 2011; 831 respondents provided 1717 in 2013; 929 respondents provided 1,962 responses in 2014; 914 respondents provided 2,308 responses in 2015

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

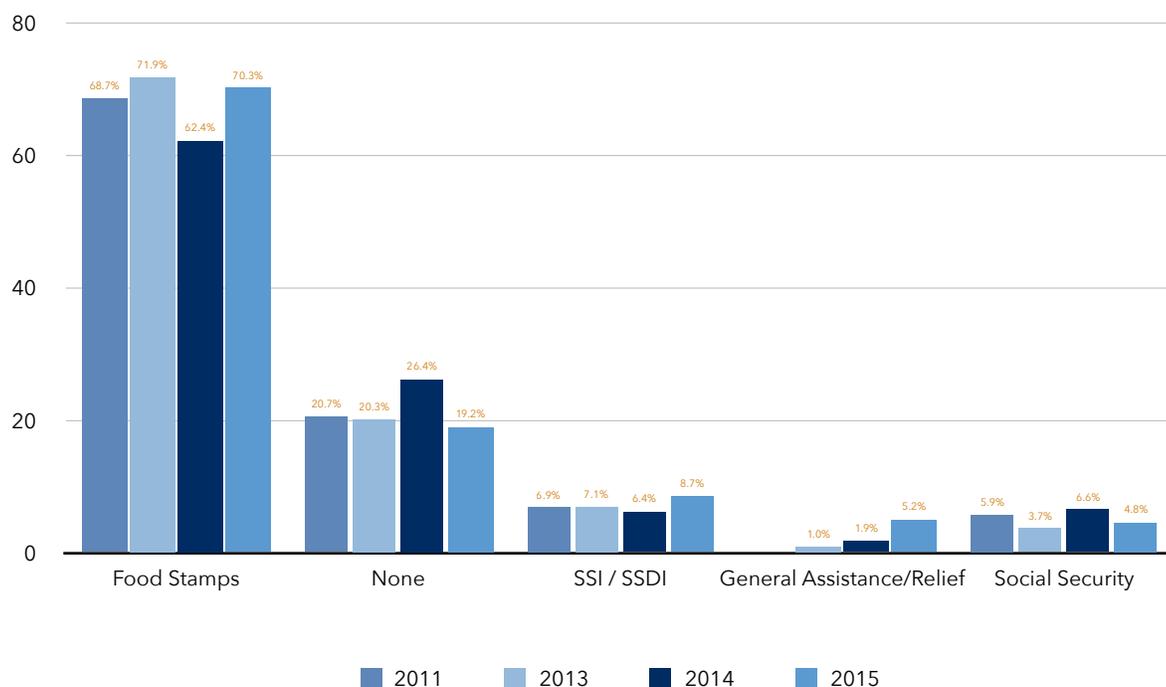
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: Answers not mutually exclusive

Summary:

- Between 2014 and 2015, utilization of *Emergency Shelters* increased by 6.9%.
- Usage of *Food Pantry* services increased by 3.1% between 2014 and 2015.
- 21.6% of 2015 survey respondents reported using *Shelter Day Services*, which is more than 2014 (15.6%).

Figure 28: Of Those Receiving Some Form of Government Assistance, Types of Assistance Received (Top 5 Responses in 2015)



Multiple response question.

510 respondents provided 1,168 responses in 2011; 807 respondents provided 927 responses in 2013; 916 respondents provided 1,097 responses in 2014; 899 respondents provided 1,105 responses in 2015;

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: Answers not mutually exclusive

Summary:

- 51.4% of 2015 survey respondents reported receiving some sort of government benefits, which is lower than 2014 (73.6%).⁷
- Between 2014 and 2015, *Social Security* benefits decreased by 1.8%.
- Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of survey respondents receiving *Food Stamps* increased from 62.4% to 70.3%.

⁷ For the purposes of this study, the following forms of government assistance were included: general assistance or general relief; food stamps; service-connected VA disability compensation; not service-connected VA pension; other veterans' benefits; social security; SSI/SSDI; TANF; WIC; Clark County Social Service housing assistance; other governmental assistance; no government assistance.]

- Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of respondents receiving *General Assistance/Relief* increased from 1.9% to 5.2%. (Data unavailable for 2011).

4.3b Aging Out of Foster Care

In 2015, 0.4% of survey respondents cited *Aging Out Of Foster Care* as their reason for homelessness. In 2014, 0.8% of respondents claimed that *Aging Out Of Foster Care* was among the top three causes of their homelessness.

4.4 Medical

Many homeless individuals, especially the chronically homeless subpopulation, suffer physical and development disability, chronic health problems, and mental illnesses such as PTSD and depression.

Although medical problems amongst homeless populations are disproportionate to that of the general population, members of this population are the least likely to find, or even have access to, health care. Homeless persons typically seek out hospital emergency rooms when in need of medical attention, but those who do seek medical care at hospitals suffer from higher incidences of untreated mental illness and/or substance abuse.⁸

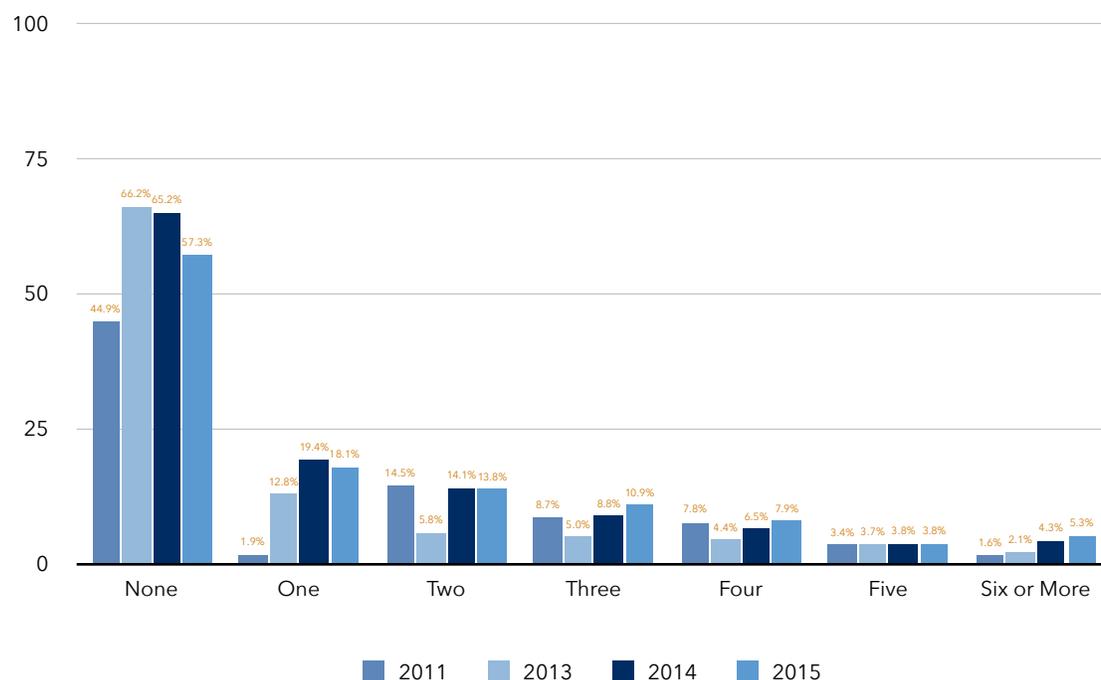
In 2014, 38.0% of the Southern Nevada survey respondents reported the hospital emergency room as their usual source of medical care compared to 12.3% that stated they utilize free/community clinics. In contrast, 36.5% of 2015 survey respondents reported the hospital emergency room as their usual source of medical care, and the utilization of free/community clinics dropped to 11.6%.

⁸ Ku, BS et al. *Factors Associated with Use of Urban Emergency Departments by the U.S. Homeless Population*. *Public Health Rep.* 2010 May-Jun; 125(3): 398-405

4.4a Health & Disability

4.4a.1 Disabling Conditions

Figure 29: Number of Disabling Conditions Among All Homeless Respondents, 2015



N: 2013= 860; 2014 = 948; 2015 = 922

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:⁹

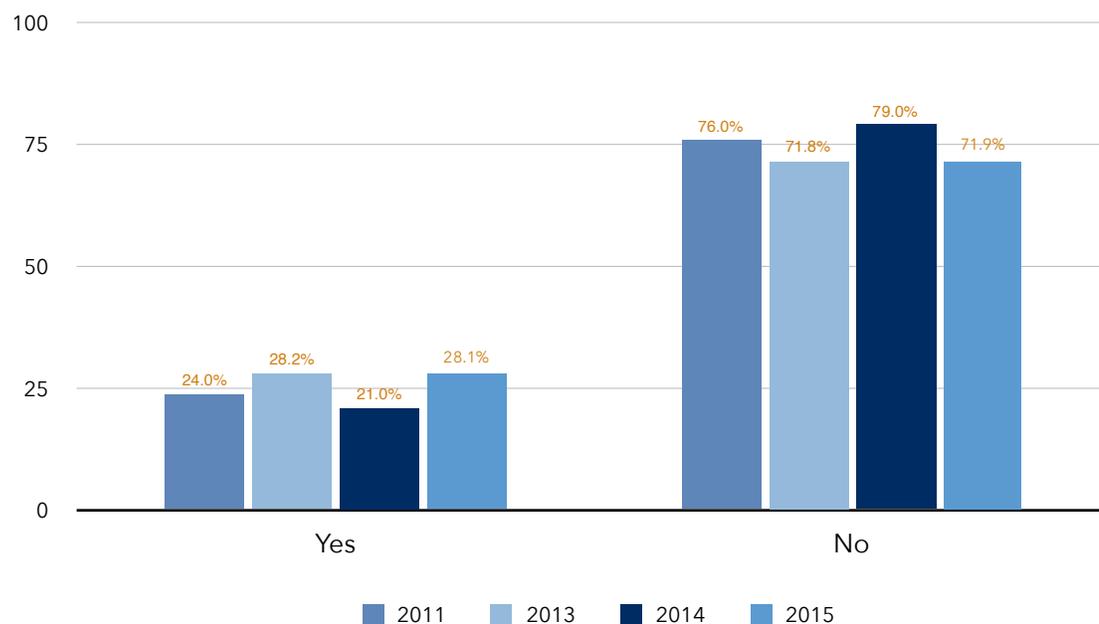
- 59.8% of survey respondents reported one or more disabling conditions. This is a 2.9% increase compared to 2014 when 56.9% of survey respondents were in this category.
- 57.3% of survey respondents reported no disabling conditions. This is a 7.9% decrease since 2014 when 65.2% of survey respondents reported no disabling conditions.

⁹ Any one of (1) a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act; (2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment, including an impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury that: which is (a) expected to be of long- continued and indefinite duration, (b) substantially impedes an individual's ability to live independently, and (c) of such a nature that such ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; (3) a developmental disability as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act; (4) the disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or any conditions arising from the etiological agency for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; or (5) a diagnosable substance abuse disorder. The survey questions that were applied to these standards included the existence of one or more of the following: physical disability, mental illness, depression, alcohol/drug abuse, domestic violence/abuse, chronic health problem, AIDS/HIV related illness, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis C, PTSD, Developmental Disability, Emphysema, Diabetes, Asthma, Cancer, Kidney disease/renal/dialysis, history of hypothermia/frostbite, liver disease/cirrhosis, heart disease/arrhythmia.

- 5.3% of survey respondents reported six or more disabling conditions. In 2014, 4.3% of survey respondents reported six or more disabling conditions.
- Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of survey respondents reporting three disabling conditions increased from 8.8% to 10.9%.

4.4a.2 Chronic Health Problems

Figure 30: Are You or Have You Ever Experienced Chronic Health Problems?



N: 2011= 494; 2013= 684, 2014 = 865, 2015 = 912

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

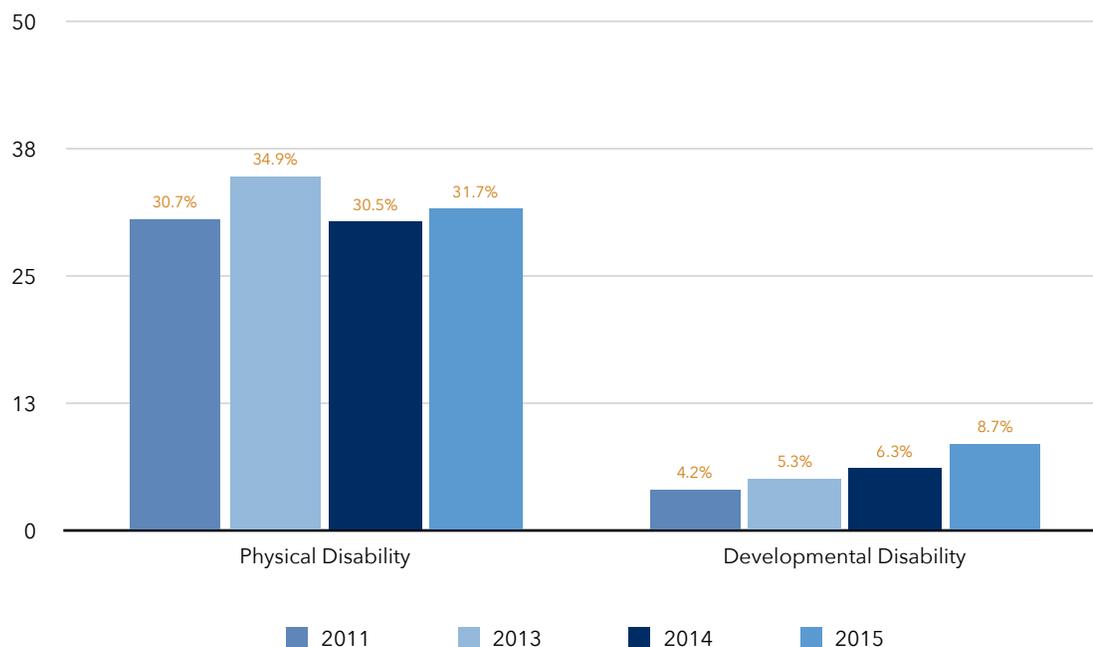
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 28.1% of survey respondents reported that they ever experienced chronic health problems. This amount is higher compared to 2014 when 21.0% of respondents indicated they ever experienced chronic health problems.
- Between 2014 and 2015, the percentage of respondents saying they ever experienced chronic health problems increased by 7.1%.

4.4a.3 Physical & Developmental Disabilities

Figure 31: Percentage of Respondents Who Currently or in the Past Experienced a Physical or Developmental Disability



2011: Physical Disability N= 505; Developmental Disability N= 485; 2013: Physical Disability N= 684; Developmental Disability N= 681; 2014: Physical Disability N = 888; Developmental Disability N = 895; 2015: Physical Disability N= 913; Developmental Disability N= 916

NOTE: Answers not mutually exclusive

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA. Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary: Physical Disabilities

- 31.7% of survey respondents indicated they were currently or had ever experienced a physical disability.
- Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of respondents reporting physical disabilities increased by 1.2%.

Summary: Developmental Disabilities

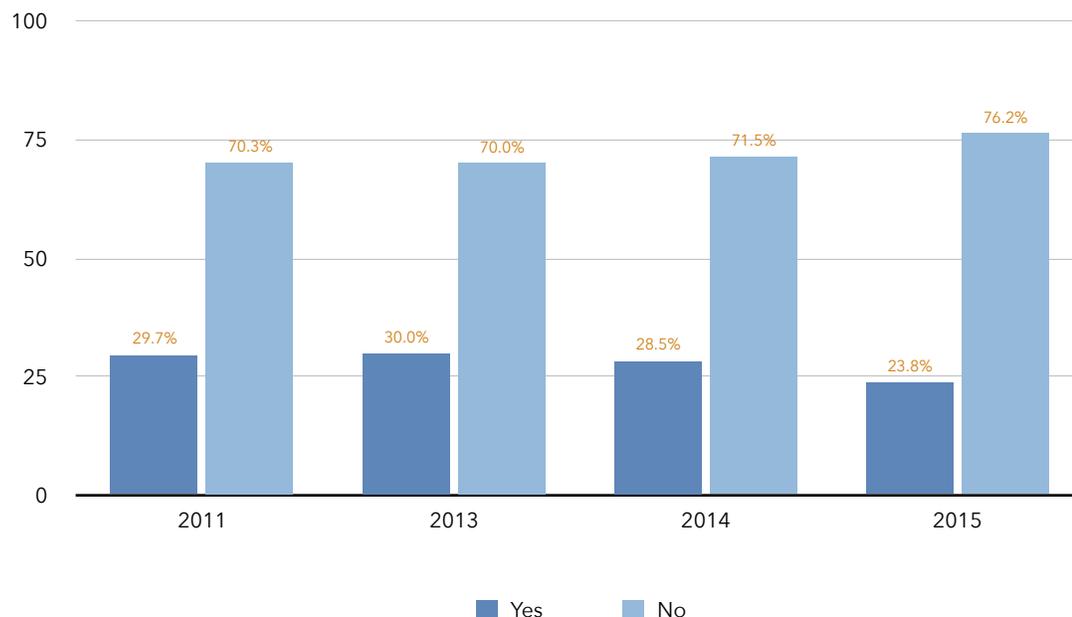
- In 2015, 8.7% of survey respondents indicated they currently or had ever experienced a developmental disability.

- Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of respondents reporting developmental disabilities increased by 2.4%.

4.4b Medical Care

4.4b.1 Access to Medical Care

Figure 32: Have You Needed Medical Care and Been Unable to Receive It Since Becoming Homeless This Last Time?



N: 2011= 489; 2013= 766, 2014 = 916, 2015 = 906

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

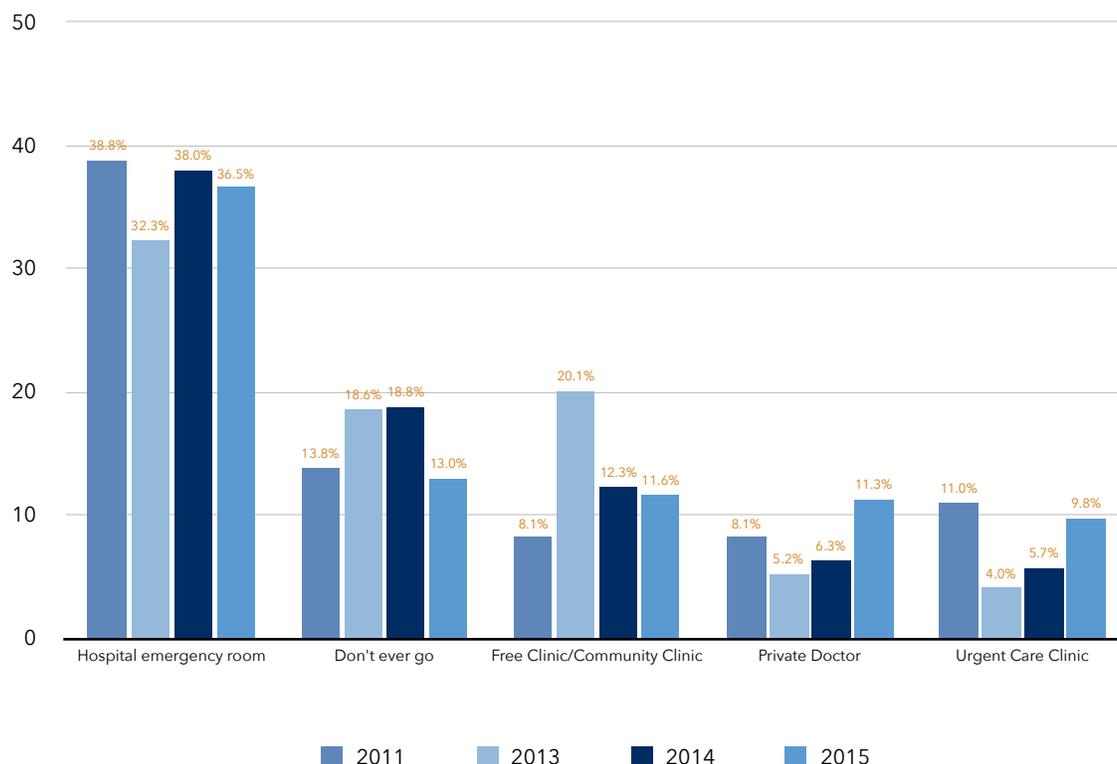
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- From 2014 to 2015, the amount of survey respondents reporting they needed medical attention but were unable to receive it decreased by 4.7%.
- 76.2% of 2015 survey respondents indicated that they have been able to receive medical care when they needed it since most recently becoming homeless. This is a 4.7% increase from 2014 when 71.5% of the respondents reported they were able to receive medical care when they needed it.

4.4b.2 Sources of Medical Care

Figure 33: Respondents' Usual Source of Medical Care (Top 5 Responses in 2015)



N: 2011 = 511; 2013 = 824; 2014 = 922, 2015 = 917

Source:

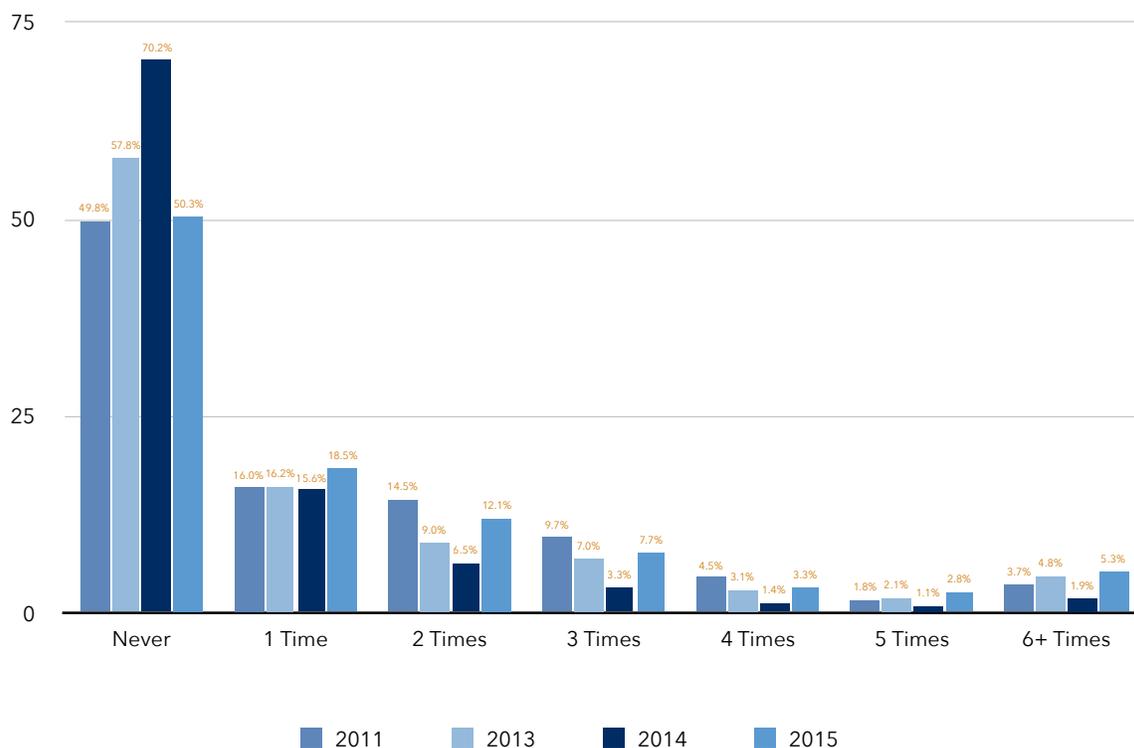
Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 36.5% of survey respondents reported using the *Hospital Emergency Room (ER)* as their usual source of medical care. This amount is less than that of 2014, when 38.0% of survey respondents indicated they used the *ER* as their usual source of medical care.
- Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of survey respondents who cited the *Free Clinic/Community Clinic* as their usual source of medical care decreased from 12.3% to 11.6%.
- 13.0% of survey respondents indicated that they did not receive any medical services. This decreased by 5.8% between 2014 and 2015.

Figure 34: Number of Times Respondents Had Used The Emergency Room For Any Treatment In The Year Prior to the Survey



N: 2011= 498; 2013= 845, 2014 = 899; 2015 = 920

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

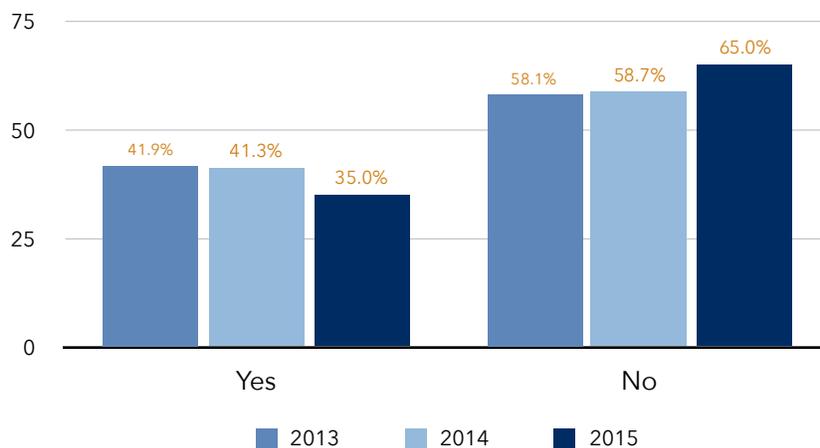
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- In 2015, 49.7% of respondents indicated that they used the ER at least once in the 12 months prior to the survey. This represents a 19.9% increase from 2014 (29.8%).
- The amount of respondents who claimed to never use the ER during the 12 months prior to the survey decreased from 70.2% in 2014 to 50.3% in 2015.
- 5.3% of survey respondents claimed to have used the ER six or more times in the 12 months prior to the survey. This amount is higher than that of 2014 (1.9%).

4.4c Current and/or past Substance Abuse Experiences

Figure 35: Have You Ever Abused Drugs/Alcohol Or Been Told You Do?



N: 2013 = 740; 2014 = 925; 2015 = 913

Source:

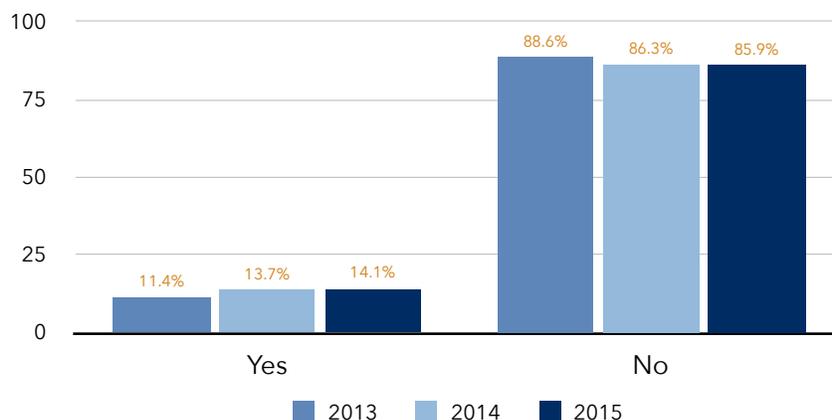
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- In 2015, 35.0% of survey respondents indicated that they had ever *Abused Drugs/Alcohol* or had been told they do. This is lower than 2014 (41.3%)

Figure 36: Have You Ever Consumed Alcohol Every Day For The Past Month?



N: 2013 = 731; 2014 = 915; 2015 = 911

Source:

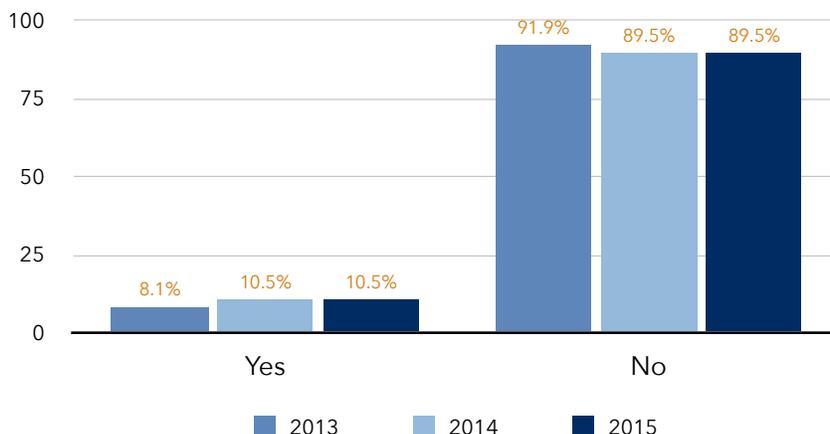
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 14.1% of survey respondents indicated that they had consumed *Alcohol* every day for the past month. This is higher than 2014 (13.7%).

Figure 37: Have You Ever Used Injection Drugs Or Shots?



N: 2013 = 731; 2014 = 912; 2015 = 915

Source:

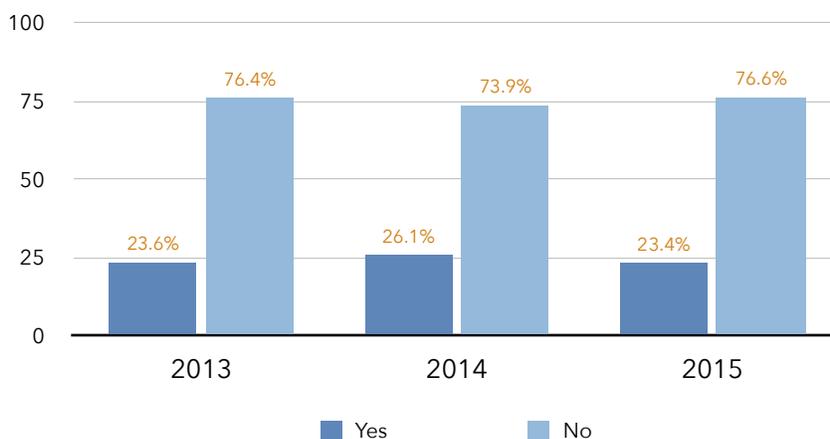
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 10.5% of survey respondents indicated that they had ever used *Injection Drugs or Shots*. This is the same as 2014.

Figure 38: Have You Ever Been Treated For Alcohol Or Drug Abuse?



N: 2013 = 712; 2014 = 909; 2015 = 913

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

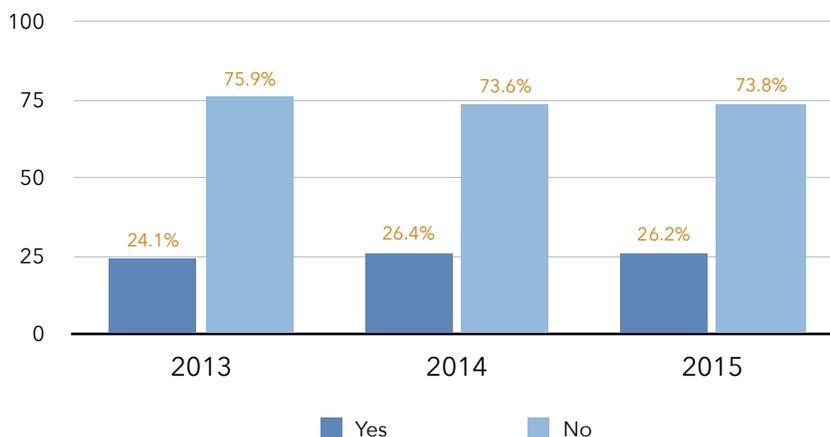
NOTE: 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 23.4% of survey respondents indicated that they had ever *Been Treated for Alcohol or Drug Abuse*. This is lower than 2014 (26.1%).

4.4d Current and/or past Mental Health Experiences

Figure 39: Are You Currently, Or Have You Ever, Received Treatment For Mental Health Issues?



N: 2013 = 734; 2014 = 914; 2015 = 920

Source:

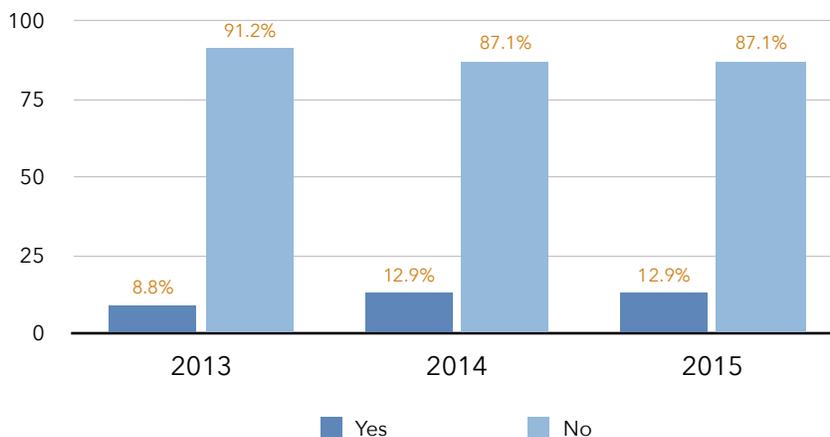
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 26.2% of survey respondents indicated that they are *Currently Receiving Treatment for Mental Health Issues, Or Have in the Past*. This is lower than 2014 (26.4%).

Figure 40: Were You Ever Taken To The Hospital Against Your Will For Mental Health Reasons?



N: 2013 = 725; 2014 = 904; 2015 = 919

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

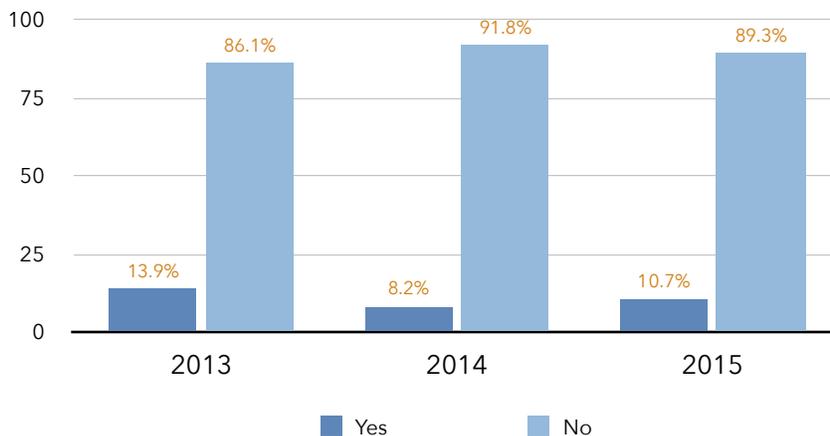
NOTE: 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 12.9% of survey respondents indicated that they had ever *Been Taken to the Hospital Against their will for Mental Health Reasons*. This is the same as 2014.

4.4e Survey Administrator Observations

Figure 41: Observation - Serious Physical Health Conditions



N: 2013 = 649; 2014 = 719; 2015 = 833

Source:

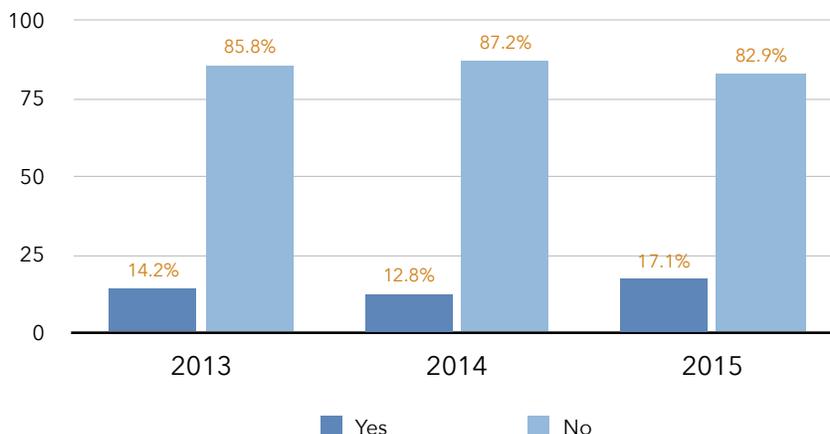
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 10.7% of respondents had *Observable Signs of Serious Physical Health Conditions*. This is higher than 2014 (8.2%).

Figure 42: Observation - Alcohol Or Drug Abuse



N: 2013 = 641; 2014 = 713; 2015 = 829

Source:

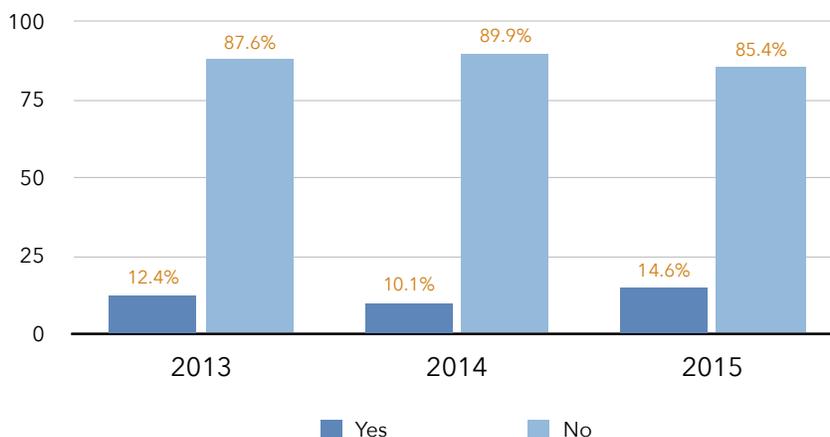
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 17.1% of respondents had *Observable Signs of Alcohol or Drug Abuse*. This is more than 2014 (12.8%).

Figure 43: Observation - Severe Persistent Mental Illness



N: 2013 = 623; 2014 = 712; 2015 = 830

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

NOTE: 2011 data is not comparable

Summary:

- 14.6% of respondents had *Observable Signs of Severe Persistent Mental Illness*. This is more than 2014 (10.1%).

4.5 Incarceration

The transition from incarceration to general society leaves many at risk for homelessness. A released prisoner has a 1-in-13 odds of becoming homeless.¹⁰ Past survey results revealed that some individuals struggle with this transition in Southern Nevada.

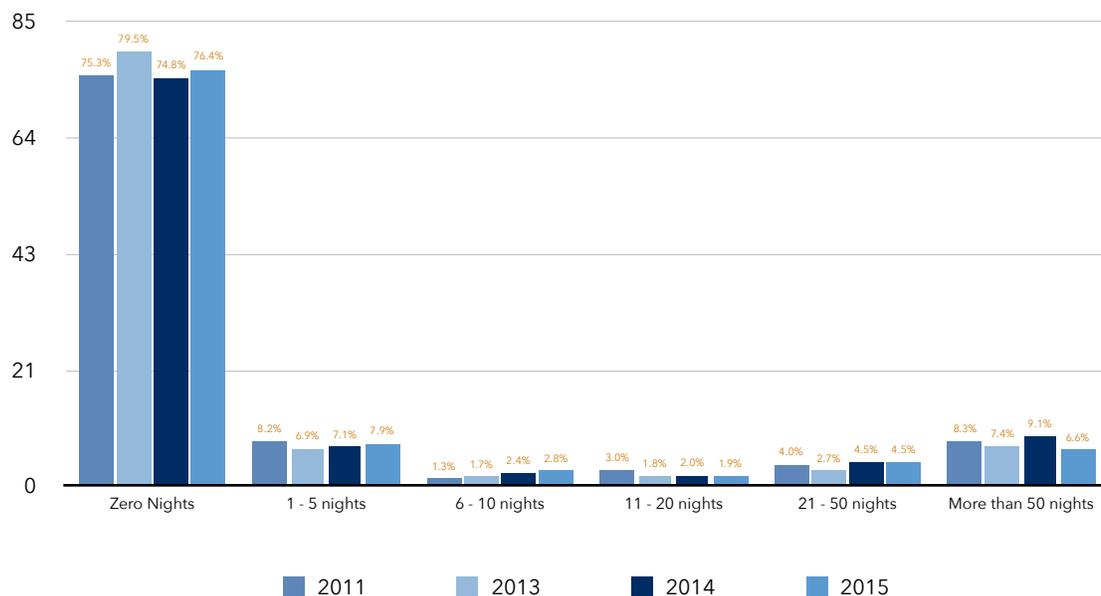
4.5a Transition from Jail or Prison

- 5.5% of survey respondents reported they were incarcerated immediately before becoming homeless this time. This is less than 2014, when 6.6% of respondents reported being incarcerated immediately before becoming homeless this time. Of those respondents who reported being incarcerated, 69.6% reported that they became homeless immediately after being released from jail or prison.
- 10.7% of respondents cited incarceration as one of the top three reasons for their homelessness. This is a decrease from 2014, when this same category was 12.0%.
- A criminal record prevents many homeless individuals from securing permanent housing and employment. Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of homeless respondents who indicated their criminal record was preventing them from securing permanent housing increased from 7.3% to 9.1%.
- However, between 2014 and 2015, the amount of homeless respondents who indicated that their criminal record was preventing them from obtaining employment decreased from 13.0% to 10.8%.

¹⁰ National Alliance to End Homelessness: *The State of Homelessness in America 2012*.

4.5b Nights in Jail or Prison

Figure 44: Number of Nights Respondents Reported Spending in Jail/Prison In The Year Prior To The Survey



N: 2011= 527; 2013= 845; 2014 = 898; 2015 = 915

Source:

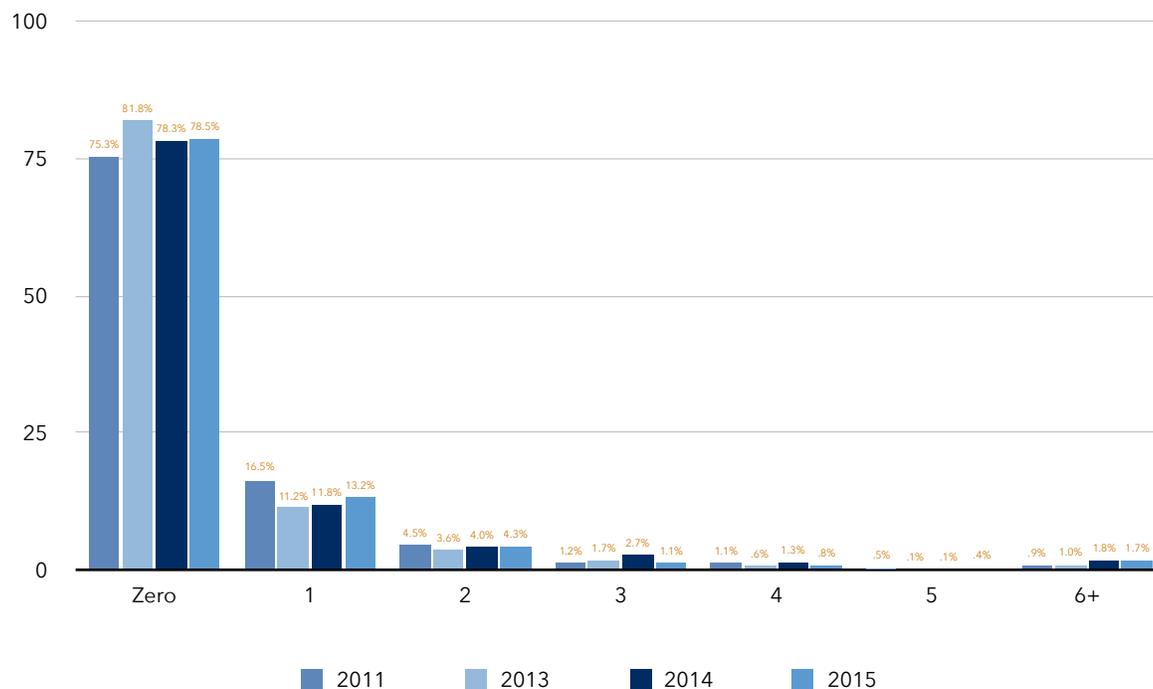
Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- The majority (76.4%) of survey respondents had spent no nights in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey. This is an increase from 2014 (74.8%).
- 7.9% spent 1-5 nights in jail or prison, and 6.6% spent more than 50 nights in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey.

Figure 45: Number of Separate Terms Respondents Reported Serving in Jail/Prison In The Year Prior To The Survey



N: 2011= 527; 2013= 619; 2014 = 899; 2015 = 917

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 78.5% of survey respondents reported spending no time in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey. This is slightly more than 2014 (78.3%).
- 13.2% of survey respondents reported spending one separate term in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey. This is higher than 2014 (11.8%).
- 1.7% of survey respondents reported spending six or more separate terms in jail or prison during the 12 months prior to the survey. This did not differ significantly from 2014 (1.8%).

4.6 Homeless Families

4.6a Homeless Families with Children: General Information

For the purposes of this report a homeless family is defined as a household consisting of at least one adult over the age of 18 with at least one child under the age of 18.

- 45.7% of survey respondents reported having children (including adult children).
 - Of these children (ages 5-17), 35.5% were reported to be in school.

Figure 46: Of Respondents With Children (Living With Them Or Not), Percentage with Children In The Following Age Groups, 2015)

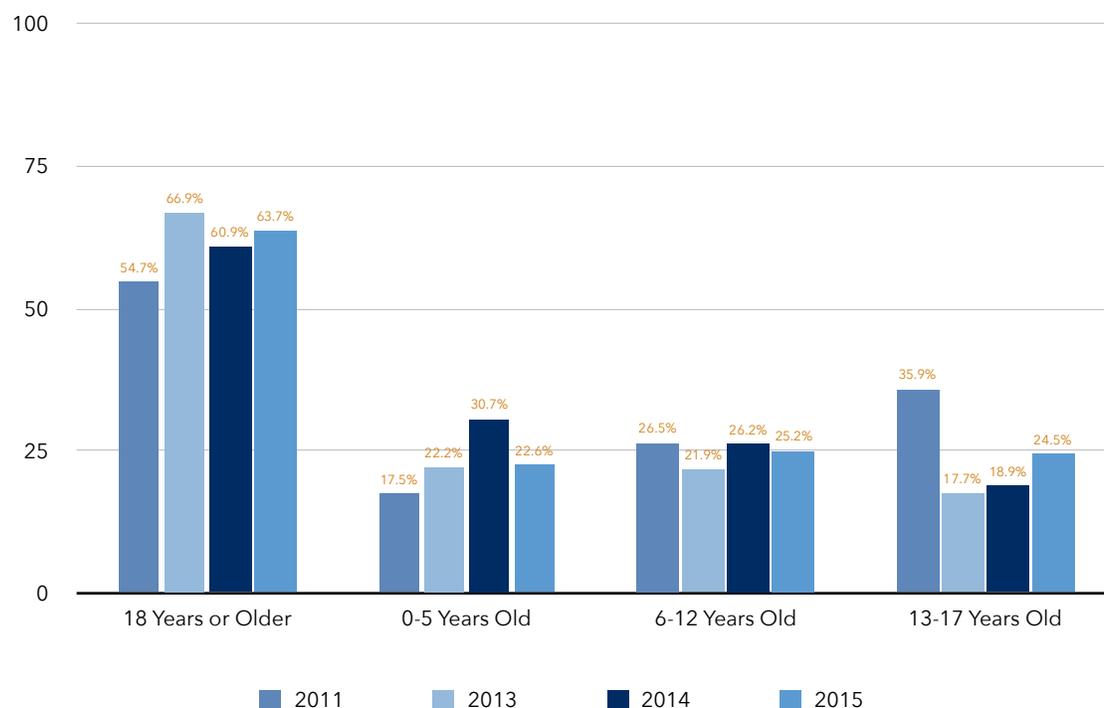
Age Group & Number of Children	2014%	2015%	2014 to 2015 Percent Change
0-5 Years Old			
1 Child	58.4%	65.3%	6.9%
2 Children	24.8%	25.3%	.5%
3 Children	8.9%	4.2%	-4.7%
4+ Children	7.9%	5.3%	-2.6%
6-12 Years Old			
1 Child	62.8%	54.7%	-8.1%
2 Children	22.1%	36.8%	14.7%
3 Children	10.5%	2.8%	-7.7%
4+ Children	4.7%	5.7%	1.0%
13-17 Years Old			
1 Child	64.5%	73.8%	9.3%
2 Children	27.4%	16.5%	-10.9%
3 Children	4.8%	5.8%	1.0%
4+ Children	3.2%	3.9%	.7%
18+ Years Old			
1 Child	35.0%	38.4%	3.4%
2 Children	30.0%	33.2%	3.2%
3 Children	16.0%	14.9%	-1.1%
4+ Children	19.0%	13.4%	-5.6%

2014 - 0-5=101; 6-12=86; 13-17=62;18+= 200 ; 2015 - 0-5=95; 6-12=106; 13-17=103; 18+= 268

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2014, 2015), 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV

Figure 47: Of Respondents With Children (Living With Them Or Not), Percentage With Children In The Following Age Groups, 2015)



N: 2011 - 0-5=88; 6-12=70; 13-17=44; 18+=126; N: 2013 - 0-5=69; 6-12=68; 13-17=55; 18+= 208; N: 2014 - 0-5=101; 6-12=86; 13-17=62; 18+= 200; N: 2015 - 0-5=95; 6-12=106; 13-17=103; 18+=268
 Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

4.6b Homeless Families with Children: Additional Information

4.6b.1 Child Education

89.9% of respondents with children claimed that their school-aged children (ages 5- 17) were enrolled in school. This is a lower amount compared to 2014, when 66.4% of respondents reported their children being in school

4.6b.2 Children Living in Foster Care or With Other Family Members

Of the respondents who claimed to have children, 8.2% claimed their children (one or more) were in foster care. This is lower than 2014 (8.9%).

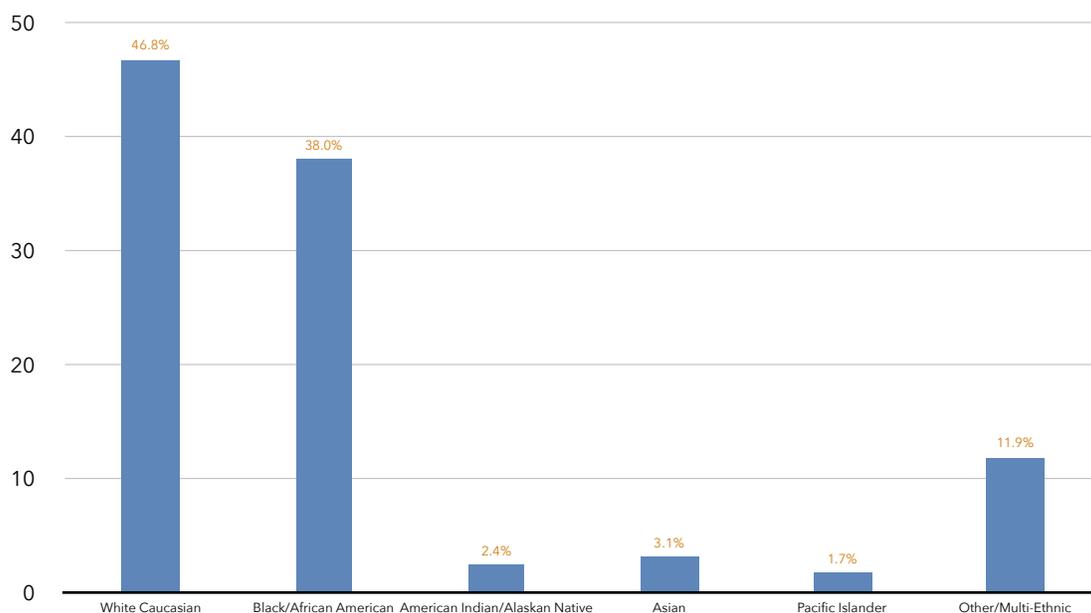
4.6c Homeless Families with Children: Demographics

4.6c.1 Individuals with Children by Gender

Of the survey respondents with children, 59.1% were *male*, 40.9% were *female*, and none were *transgender*.

4.6c.2 Individuals with Children by Race

Figure 48: Individuals with Children by Race



2015 = 421

Source:

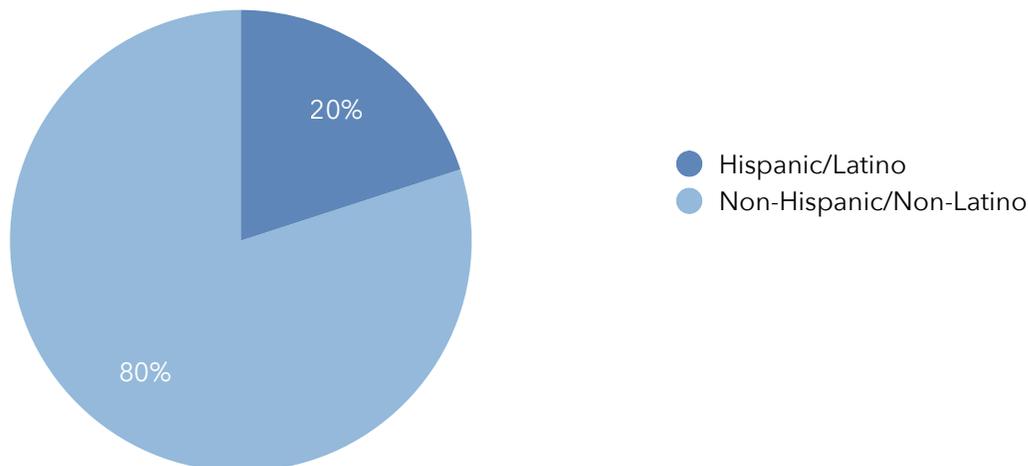
Bitfocus Inc., (2015) 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- Of the homeless individuals with children, the largest percentage reported they were *White/Caucasian* (46.8%) or *Black/African American* (38.0%).

4.6c.3 Individuals with Children by Ethnicity

Figure 49: Individuals with Children by Ethnicity



2015 = 410

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2015) 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- Of the homeless individuals with children, the largest percentage reported they were *Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino* (80%).

4.7 Unaccompanied Homeless Children

Unaccompanied children and youth who experience homelessness face far more challenges than their adult counterparts. Not only do they have more difficulty finding employment, they also have a harder time accessing services, shelter, and medical care.

Despite the fact that the unaccompanied children and youth homeless populations faces the greatest challenges, data on this population is very limited on both a local and national level. This is partly due to the fact this particular homeless subpopulation is difficult to locate and enumerate.

In attempt to overcome this challenge, Southern Nevada increased its effort to include as many unaccompanied homeless children and youth in its 2015 census and survey as possible. To do so they scheduled their street count for the afternoon as opposed to early morning hours, as afternoon is the optimal time of day to locate members of this homeless subpopulation.

They are defined as follows:

Unaccompanied Children: persons under age 18 who are not presenting or sleeping in the same place as their parent or legal guardian.

Unaccompanied Youth: persons between the ages of 18 and 24 who are not presenting or sleeping in the same place as their parent or legal guardian.

Beginning in 2015, HUD requires CoCs to report on Parenting Youth. This populations are defined as follows:

Parenting Youth: youth who identify as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household. Parenting youth is limited to persons in households where there is no adult parent or guardian over age 24 in the household.

The following sections discuss the characteristics of homelessness among unaccompanied children, unaccompanied youth, and parenting youth.

4.7a Unaccompanied Children (under 18):

4.7a.1 Demographics

- 1.3% (12 persons) survey respondents were unaccompanied homeless children and 7 of these children were unsheltered.
- There were 7 *female* (58.3%) unaccompanied children and 5 *male* (41.7%) unaccompanied children. There were no *transgender* unaccompanied children.
- The unaccompanied children were *White/Caucasian* (3 children) *Black/African American* (8 children,) *Asian* (1 child), and *Hawaiian/Pacific Islander* (1 child).
- 9 (75%) were *Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino*, and 3 (25%) were *Hispanic/Latino*. (NOTE: These responses were not mutually exclusive).

4.7a.2 Unaccompanied Children: County of Residency

- All 12 of the unaccompanied children reported living in *Nevada* when they became homeless this most recent time, and all 12 reported they were living in *Clark County*.
- 4 (33%) unaccompanied children reported *staying with friends* prior to becoming homeless, and 4 (33%) were *renting a home or apartment* immediately before becoming homeless. 3 (25%) of the unaccompanied children reported they were *staying with relatives* immediately before becoming homeless, and 1 reported other living conditions immediately before becoming homeless.

4.7a.3 Unaccompanied Children: Occurrence and Length of Homelessness

- 6 (50%) of the unaccompanied children reported that this was the *first time* they had been homeless.
- 4 (33%) of the unaccompanied children reported that it had been *7 days or less* since their last permanent housing situation at the time of the survey.
- 3 (25%) of the unaccompanied children reported that *8-31 days* had passed since their last permanent housing situation, 1 unaccompanied child reported that *3 months* had passed since their last permanent housing situation, 1 of the unaccompanied children reported that *4 months* had passed since their last permanent housing situation, and 1 of the unaccompanied children reported that *7 months* had passed since their last permanent housing situation.
- 1 of the unaccompanied children reported that it had been *1-2 years* since their last permanent housing situation, and 1 reported that it had been more than *3 years* since their last permanent housing situation.

4.7a.4 Unaccompanied Children: Mental Health & Well-Being

- 6 (50%) of the unaccompanied children reported to be currently experiencing *depression* (not disabling).

4.7a.5 Unaccompanied Children: Drug and Alcohol Abuse

- 2 (17% persons) of the unaccompanied children claim they were *abusing drugs and/or alcohol* at the time of the survey.

4.7b Unaccompanied Youth (ages 18-24):

4.7b.1 Demographics

- 7.4% (68 persons) survey respondents were unaccompanied homeless youth and 40 of these youth were *unsheltered*.

- There were 35 *female* (51%) unaccompanied youth and 33 *male* (49%) unaccompanied youth. There were no *transgender* unaccompanied youth.
- The unaccompanied youth were *White/Caucasian* (29 youth) *Black/African American* (30 youth,) *Asian* (2 youth), and *Hawaiian/Pacific Islander* (2 youth). 13 youth reported race category *Other*.
- 49 (73%) were *Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino*, and 18 (27%) were *Hispanic/Latino*. (NOTE: there were only 67 responses to this question, and these responses were not mutually exclusive).

4.7b.2 Unaccompanied Youth: County of Residency

- 52 (76.5%) of the unaccompanied youth survey respondents reported they were living in *Clark County* at the time they became homeless, 4 (5.9%) were from an *other area in Nevada* (outside of Clark County) when they became homeless, and 12 (17.6%) were living *outside of the State of Nevada* when they became homeless.
- Most unaccompanied youth (23 youth, 34.0%) were *living with relatives* prior to becoming homeless. 16 (24.0%) were *staying with friends* prior to becoming homeless, 13 (19.0%) were *renting a home or apartment*, and 7 (10.0%) were *in a jail or prison* prior to becoming homeless.
- 3 unaccompanied youth were *living in a home owned by them or a partner* prior to becoming homeless, and 6 (9.0%) reported other living situations prior to becoming homeless.

4.7b.3 Unaccompanied Youth: Occurrence and Length of Homelessness

- 40 (59.0%) of the unaccompanied youth reported that this was the *first time* they had been homeless.
- 8 (12.0%) of the unaccompanied youth reported that it had been *7 days or less* since their last permanent housing situation at the time of the survey.
- 10 (15.0%) of the unaccompanied youth reported that *8-31 days* had passed since their last permanent housing situation
- 35 (51.5%) of the unaccompanied youth surveyed reported timeframes between *2-12 months* that had passed since their last permanent housing situation.
- 9 (13.0%) of the unaccompanied youth reported that it had been *1-2 years* since their last permanent housing situation, and 5 (7.0%) reported that *2-3 years* had passed since their last permanent housing situation.
- 1 (1.5%) unaccompanied youth reported that it had been *more than 3 years* since their last permanent housing situation.

4.7b.4 Unaccompanied Youth: Mental Health & Well-Being

18 (26.5%) of the unaccompanied youth reported to be currently experiencing *depression* (not disabling).

4.7b.5 Unaccompanied Youth: Drug and Alcohol Abuse

18 (26.5%) of the unaccompanied youth claim they were *abusing drugs and/or alcohol* at the time of the survey.

4.7c Parenting Youth:

4.7c.1 Demographics

- 2.7% (25 persons) survey respondents were parenting homeless youth and 16 of these youth were *unsheltered*. 2 respondents, 1 male and 1 female were under the age of 18.
- There were 21 *female* (84%) parenting youth and 4 *male* (16%) parenting youth. There were no *transgender* parenting youth.
- The parenting youth were *White/Caucasian* (9 youth) *Black/African American* (12 youth,) and *Hawaiian/Pacific Islander* (1 youth). 6 youth reported race category *Other*.
- 18 (72%) were *Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino*, and 7 (28%) were *Hispanic/Latino*. (NOTE: These responses were not mutually exclusive).

4.7c.2 Parenting Youth: County of Residency

- 19 (76%) of the parenting youth survey respondents reported they were living in *Clark County* at the time they became homeless, and 6 (24%) were living *outside of the State of Nevada* when they became homeless.
- Most parenting youth (11 youth, 44%) were *renting a home or apartment* before becoming homeless, and 2 (8%) were *living in a home owned by them or a partner* prior to becoming homeless.
- 6 (24%) parenting youth were *staying with friends* prior to becoming homeless, and 1 (4%) was *in a jail or prison* prior to becoming homeless. 4 (16%) were *living with relatives* prior to becoming homeless.
- 1 (4%) parenting youth reported other living situations prior to becoming homeless.

4.7c.3 Parenting Youth: Occurrence and Length of Homelessness

- 10 (40%) of the parenting youth reported that this was the *first time* they had been homeless.
- 4 (16%) of the parenting youth reported that it had been *7 days or less* since their last permanent housing situation at the time of the survey.
- 4 (16%) of the parenting youth reported that *8-31 days* had passed since their last permanent housing situation
- 14 (56%) of the parenting youth surveyed reported timeframes between *2-12 months* that had passed since their last permanent housing situation.

- 1 of the parenting youth reported that it had been *1-2 years* since their last permanent housing situation, and 1 youth reported that it had been *2-3 years* since their last permanent housing situation.
- 1 parenting youth reported that it had been *more than 3 years* since their last permanent housing situation.

4.7c.4 Parenting Youth: Mental Health & Well-Being

9 (36%) of the parenting youth reported to be currently experiencing *depression* (not disabling), and 6 (24%) reported *general mental illness* (not disabling).

4.7c.5 Parenting Youth: Drug and Alcohol Abuse

8 (32%) of the parenting youth claim they were *abusing drugs and/or alcohol* at the time of the survey.

4.8 Veteran Homelessness

4.8a Definition of Veteran Homelessness

For the purposes of homeless services, the VA recommends two questions to determine veteran status:

1. *"Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?"*
2. *"Were you activated into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist?"*

Therefore, for the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition for veteran is as follows:

...persons who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty

Below is information pertaining to homeless Veterans in Southern Nevada CoC in 2015, collected through the 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey.¹¹

¹¹ Please note that this section does NOT contain information on the HUD-defined Chronically Homeless Veteran subpopulation. This population is discussed in the following **Homeless Survey Findings: Homeless Subpopulations** section of this document.

4.8b Veteran Survey Respondents: Totals

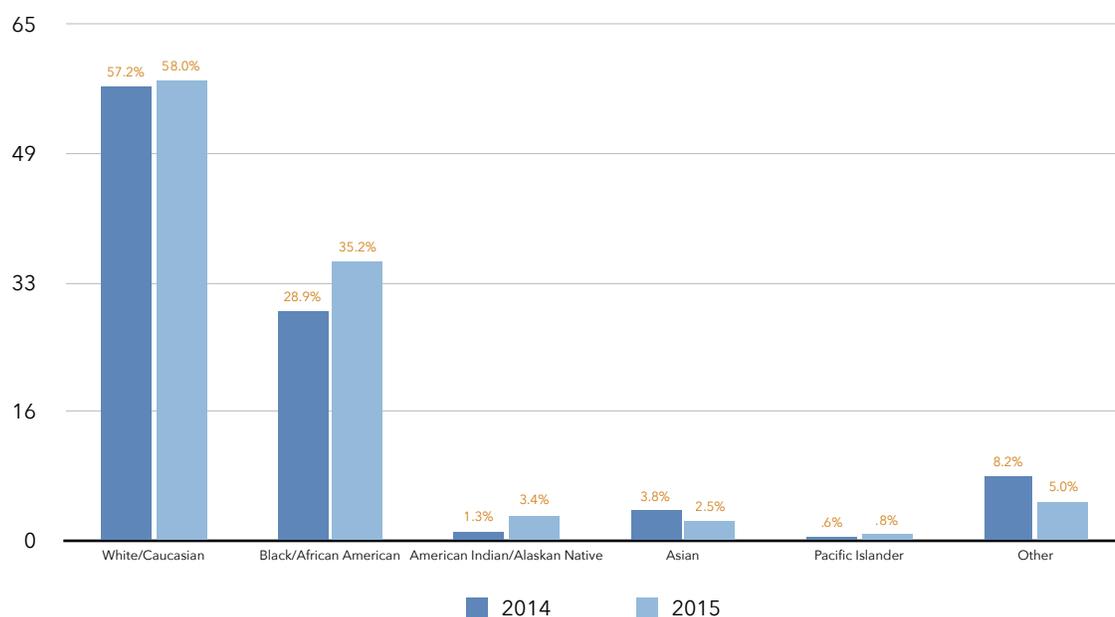
A total of 119 Veterans were surveyed. 56 (47.0%) of these 119 respondents were unsheltered.

4.8c Veteran Survey Respondents: Gender

7 (6.0%) were *female* and 112 (94.0%) were *male*. There were no Veteran survey respondents who identified as *transgender*.

4.8d Veteran Survey Respondents: Race & Ethnicity

Figure 50: Homeless Veteran Population By Race, 2015



N: 2014 = 159; 2015 = 119

Source:

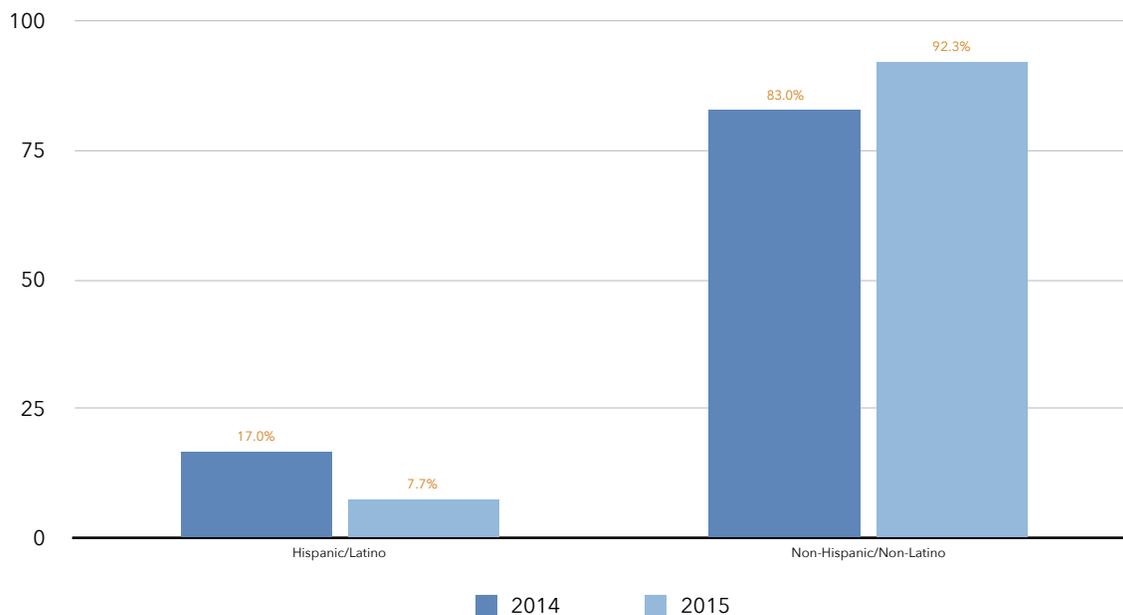
Bitfocus Inc., (2014, 2015), 2014 & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: Data not comparable to 2011 & 2013

Summary:

- The largest percentage of homeless veterans reported they are *White/Caucasian* (58.0%), followed by *Black/African American* (35.2%). Both categories were higher than 2014.
- The least amount of homeless veterans (0.8%) reported they were *Pacific Islander*. This category was the lowest in 2014 (0.6%) as well.

Figure 51: Homeless Veteran Population By Ethnicity, 2015



N: 2014 = 57; 2015 = 117

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2014, 2015), 2014 & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

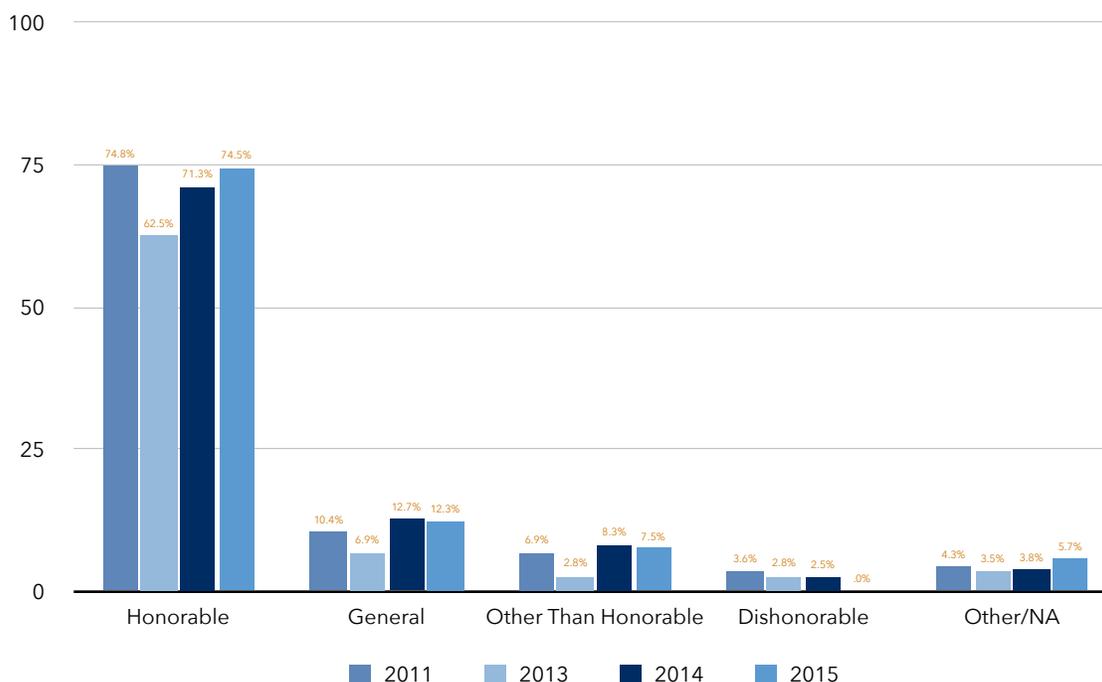
NOTE: Data not comparable to 2011 & 2013

Summary:

The largest percentage of homeless veterans (92.3%) reported they are *Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino*. This is higher than 2014 when 83.0% of respondents were *Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino*.

4.8e. Veteran Survey Respondents: Discharge Status

Figure 52: Discharge Status Of Veteran Respondents



N; 2011=79; 2013=114, 2014 = 157; 2015 =105

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

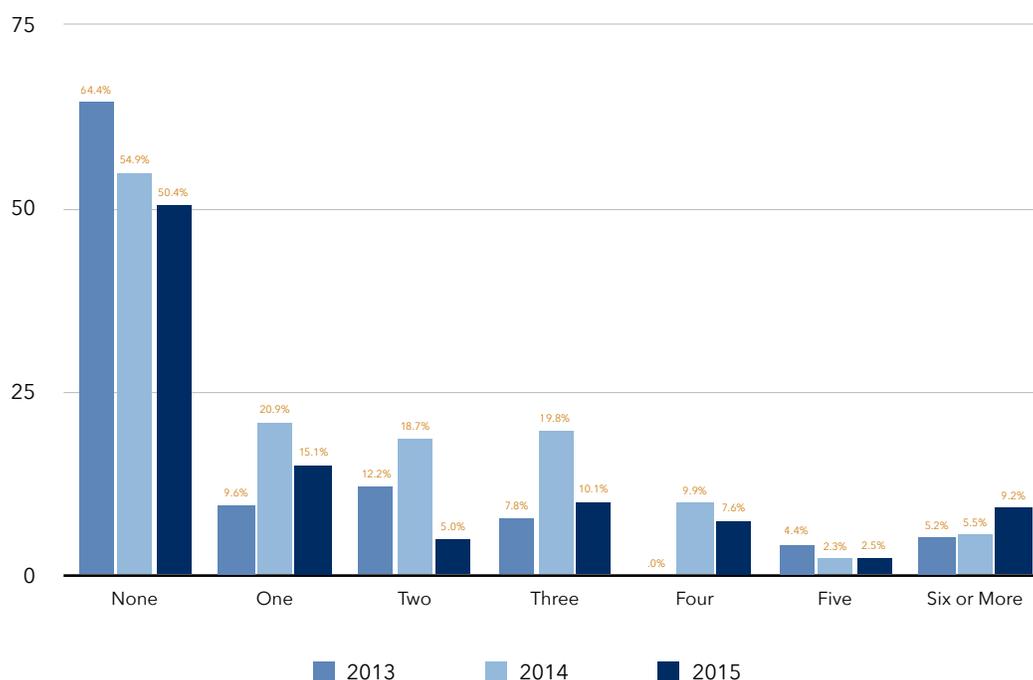
Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- In regards to discharge status of Veteran respondents, 74.5% reported *Honorable Discharge*. This is higher than 2014 (71.3%).
- No Veteran respondent reported a discharge status of *Dishonorable* in 2015. The percentages of Veteran respondents in this category has steadily decreased since 2011.
- 7.5% of Veteran respondents reported a discharge status of *Other Than Honorable*. This is noteworthy, as these Veterans do not qualify for multiple types of standard government Veteran benefits.

4.8f Veteran Survey Respondents: Disabling Conditions

Figure 53: Number Of Disabling Conditions Among Homeless Veteran Respondents



N: 2013 = 115; 2014 = 91; 2015 = 119

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- The majority (50.4%) of homeless veterans reported that they had no disabling conditions. This is lower than 2014 (54.9%).
- 5.0% of the homeless veteran population reported having two disabling conditions, which is less than the 15.1% who reported having one disabling condition.
- 29.4% of homeless veteran respondents reported having three or more disabling conditions. This is lower than 2014 (37.5%).

5. SURVEY FINDINGS: HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS

The following sections provide information regarding certain homeless subpopulations that are of particular interest to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). By identifying the specific characteristics of these subpopulations, CoCs and HUD can accurately measure progress within each subgroup as outlined in the government initiative *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*, which was implemented by the Obama Administration in 2010.¹

The following information is based upon data from both the 2015 Southern Nevada PIT Count and the data from the 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. It breaks the data into the HUD-defined homeless subpopulations and provides estimates that were calculated by applying the survey results to the PIT Count population. This process is termed **extrapolation** (for more information, see *Appendix VII Glossary and Definitions of Terms*).

It is worthy to note that in 2015, HUD defined the following subpopulations to be included:²

- Chronically Homeless Veteran Individuals
- Chronically Homeless Veteran Families
- Persons in Chronically Homeless Veteran Families

5.1 Sheltered & Unsheltered Homeless Persons

The following tables contain information regarding the conditions pertaining to each subpopulation. They are divided into sheltered and unsheltered categories.

5.1a 2015 Sheltered Homeless Definition

In addition to meeting the definition of homelessness as defined by *24 CFR 578.3 of the Homeless Definition Final Rule*, a person must meet the following criteria to be considered “sheltered homeless”:

This includes individuals and families “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)” on the night designated for the count. This includes persons residing in Safe Haven projects.

¹ United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*. 2011.

² United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. *Notice CPD 14-014 2015 HIC PIT Data Collection Notice*. 2014.

5.1b 2015 Unsheltered Homeless Definition

In addition to meeting the definition of homelessness as defined by *24 CFR 578.3 of the Homeless Definition Final Rule*, a person must meet the following criteria to be considered “unsheltered homeless”:

This includes individuals and families “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” on the night designated for the count.

Figure 54: Homeless Subpopulation Definitions³

Homeless Subpopulation	Definition
CH Individuals	An individual who: Is homeless and lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years; and can be diagnosed with one or more of the following conditions: substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability (as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C 15002)), post-traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments resulting from brain injury, or chronic physical illness or disability. NOTES: (1) Persons under the age of 18 are not counted as chronically homeless. (2) For purposes of the PIT, persons living in transitional housing at the time of the PIT count are not included in this category; (3) Persons with disabling conditions identified above must also meet the qualification identified in the term for “disability” (e.g. “is expected to be long-continuing or indefinite duration”).
CH Families	A family with an adult head of household (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) who meets all of the criteria for a chronically homeless individual, including a family whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless.
Persons in CH Families	People experiencing homelessness in families in which the head of household has a disability and has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years.
CH Veteran Individuals	Any individual who meets the definition for Chronically Homeless Individual and has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.
CH Veteran Families	A family with an adult head of household (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) who meets all of the criteria for a chronically homeless individual AND the criteria for Chronically Homeless Veteran Individual. This includes a family whose composition has fluctuated while the Veteran head of household has been homeless.
Persons in CH Veteran Families	People experiencing homelessness in families in which the head of household has a disability and has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years. The Head of Household must also have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.
Adults with Serious Mental Illness	Adults with severe and persistent mental illness or emotional impairment that seriously limits a person’s ability to live independently. Adults with SMI must also meet the qualifications identified in the term for “disability” (i.e. “is expected to be long-continuing or indefinite duration”).
Adults with Substance Use Disorder	Adults with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both). They must also meet the qualifications identified in the term for “disability” (i.e. “is expected to be long-continuing or indefinite duration”).
Adults with HIV/AIDS	Adults who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.
Victims of Domestic Violence	Adults who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

³ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. Notice CPD 14-014 2015 HIC PIT Data Collection Notice. 2014

5.1c Homeless Subpopulation Estimates

The following tables break down the homeless count data into HUD-defined subpopulations. These data are based on both the homeless 2015 PIT count and data from the subsequent homeless survey.

As mentioned before, it is important to define *household, individual, family, and a household with only children*, as used for the purposes of this report. According to HUD, a household is defined as follows:⁴

“...occupants may be a family, as defined in 24 CFR 5.403; two or more families living together; or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements, regardless of actual or perceived, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.”

Therefore, for the purposes of this report, persons in a household without children will be referred to as **Individuals**; persons in households with at least one adult and one child (under 18) will be referred to as a **Family**; and persons in households composed of only children will be referred to as **Only Children**.⁵

Figure 55: Homeless Subpopulations Estimates - Sheltered & Unsheltered Yearly Comparisons: Part 1

Homeless Subpopulation	Sheltered Estimates				Unsheltered Estimates			
	2011	2013	2014	2015	2011	2013	2014	2015
CH Individuals	113	218	36	35	1,073	310	422	420
CH Families	3	0	1	1	2	0	0	0
Persons in CH Families	NA	0	2	3	0	0	0	0
CH Veteran Individuals	NA	NA	NA	19	NA	NA	NA	10
CH Veteran Families	NA	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA	0
Persons in CH Veteran Families	NA	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA	0

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: This chart shows estimates calculated by applying the survey results to the point-in-time homeless count population.

**Sheltered” chronically homeless subpopulations include those in emergency shelters and safe havens only.

**Data for Chronically Homeless Veteran individuals/families, and persons in chronically homeless Veteran families were not collected in years prior to 2015 per HUD requirements.

***CH = Chronically Homeless

⁴ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (2012) Equal Access To Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation Or Identity. Final Rule, 77 FR 5661, 5661.

⁵ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. The 2012 Housing Inventory Count and Point-in-Time Count of Homeless Persons Data Collection Guidance

Figure 56: Homeless Subpopulations Estimates - Sheltered & Unsheltered Yearly Comparisons: Part 2

Homeless Subpopulation	Sheltered Estimates				Unsheltered Estimates			
	2011	2013	2014	2015	2011	2013	2014	2015
Adults with Serious Mental Illness	815	629	308	311	1,293	770	1,004	753
Adults with Substance Use Disorder	258	178	234	357	1,189	320	355	441
Adults with HIV/AIDS	10	10	5	12	25	40	33	59
Victims of Domestic Violence	233	332	217	251	316	290	348	484

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: This chart shows estimates calculated by applying the survey results to the point-in-time homeless count population.

* "Sheltered" chronically homeless subpopulations include those in emergency shelters and safe havens only.

Figure 57: Homeless Subpopulations Estimates -Totals, Net Change & Percent Change: Part 1

Homeless Subpopulation	Sheltered & Unsheltered Total Amounts				Net Change 2014-2015	Percent Change 2014-2015
	2011	2013	2014	2015		
CH Individuals	1,186	528	458	455	-3	-0.7%
CH Families	5	0	1	1	0	0.0%
Persons in CH Families	NA	0	2	3	1	50.0%

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: This chart shows estimates calculated by applying the survey results to the point-in-time homeless count population.

* "Sheltered" chronically homeless subpopulations include those in emergency shelters and safe havens only.

* NOTE: No prior data is available for Chronically Homeless Veteran individuals, families, and persons in Chronically Homeless Veteran families. Therefore no comparison can be made between 2014 and 2015 for these populations.

Figure 58: Homeless Subpopulations Estimates -Totals, Net Change & Percent Change: Part 2

Homeless Subpopulation	Sheltered & Unsheltered Total Amounts				Net Change 2014-2015	Percent Change 2014-2015
	2011	2013	2014	2015		
Adults with Serious Mental Illness	2,108	1,399	1,312	1,064	-248	-18.9%
Adults with Substance Use Disorder	1,447	498	589	798	209	35.5%
Adults with HIV/AIDS	35	50	38	71	33	86.8%
Victims of Domestic Violence	549	622	565	735	170	30.1%

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: This chart shows estimates calculated by applying the survey results to the point-in-time homeless count population.

* "Sheltered" chronically homeless subpopulations include those in emergency shelters and safe havens only.

** Serious Mental Illness data are estimates based on survey respondents who reported experiencing mental illness and/or severe depression.

5.2 Chronically Homeless Persons

For the purposes of this study, the HUD definition for a chronically homeless individual is an individual who:⁶

- Is homeless and lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and
- Has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years; and
- Can be diagnosed with one or more of the following conditions: substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability (as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002), post-traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments resulting from brain injury, or chronic physical illness or disability.

⁶ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (October 2014) Notice CPD 14-014: Notice for Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program

NOTES:

- Persons under the age of 18 are not counted as chronically homeless.
- For purposes of the PIT, persons living in transitional housing at the time of the PIT count should not be included in this subpopulation category.
- Persons with the disabling conditions identified above must also meet the qualifications identified in the term for “disability” (e.g., “is expected to be long-continuing or indefinite duration”).

The mortality rate for chronically homeless persons is 4 to 9 times that of the general populace. Homelessness impedes access to healthcare, making tasks such as taking medication, eating a healthy diet, and caring for injuries difficult. Due to their social isolation, many chronically homeless persons receive little, if any, medical attention.

The problem of chronic homelessness is interpersonal in nature, but also presents in the form of public cost. Research shows that the chronically homeless incur high expense through emergency room visits, incarceration, and run-ins with the law.⁷

Chronic homelessness among individuals declined by 3 percent, or by 2,164 people, between 2013 and 2014. The number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness declined by 21 percent, or 22,892 people, between 2010 and 2014.⁸ 2014 data is the most recent nationwide data to date, therefore no comparison to 2015 national data can be made.

The information in the following sections below pertains to the state of chronically homeless individuals, chronically homeless families, and people in chronically homeless families located in Southern Nevada during the time of the 2015 survey for Veteran and non-Veteran populations.

5.2a Chronically Homeless Subpopulations - Sheltered & Unsheltered

Data indicates that on any given night in 2015, Southern Nevada has approximately 455 chronically homeless individuals. This is a 0.7% (3 persons) decrease since 2014 (458).

On any given night in 2015, it can be estimated that 6.1% of Southern Nevada’s total point-in-time homeless population (7,509) is composed of chronically homeless individuals, chronically homeless families, and people in chronically homeless families. In contrast, the 99,434 people comprising the 2014 nationwide population of chronically homeless individuals, chronically homeless families, and

⁷ United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*.

⁸ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development. *The 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress*.

people in chronically homeless families, represented 17.2% of the total homeless population in 2014.⁹

As for the Veteran chronically homeless population, on any given night in 2015, it can be estimated that 0.4% (29 persons) of Southern Nevada’s total point-in-time homeless population (7,509) is composed of chronically homeless Veteran individuals. There were no chronically homeless Veteran families, and thus no people in chronically homeless Veteran families in 2015. Nationwide data on the chronically homeless Veteran population is not available as 2015 marks the first year this population was included in the HUD-defined homeless subpopulations.

The information in the tables below is based on both the data from the PIT Count and data from the homeless survey. The amounts were calculated by applying the survey results to the 2015 PIT Count population.

Figure 59a: Chronically Homeless Subpopulations - Non-Veteran

Homeless Subpopulation	2011		2013		2014		2015		2014-2015	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
CH Individuals	1,186	100%	528	100%	458	100%	455	100%	-3	-0.7%
Unsheltered	1,073	90.5%	310	58.7%	422	92.1%	420	92.3%	-2	-0.5%
Sheltered Emergency Shelter	110	9.3%	218	41.3%	33	7.2%	31	6.8%	-2	-6.1%
Sheltered Safe Haven	3	0.3%	0	0.0%	3	0.7%	4	0.9%	1	33.3%
CH Families	5	100%	0	100%	1	100%	1	100%	0	0.0%
Unsheltered	2	40.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Sheltered Emergency Shelter	3	60.0%	0	0.0%	1	100%	1	100%	0	0.0%
Sheltered Safe Haven	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
People in CH Families	0	100%	0	100%	2	100%	3	100%	1	50.0%
Unsheltered	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Sheltered Emergency Shelter	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	100%	3	100%	1	50.0%
Sheltered Safe Haven	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

⁹ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development. The 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress. 2014.

Summary:

- Of the chronically homeless individuals, 92.3% (420) were unsheltered.
- Of the chronically homeless individuals, 6.8% (31 persons) were sheltered in emergency shelters. This is a 6.1% decrease (2 persons) since 2014 when 7.2% (33 persons) were sheltered in emergency shelters.

Figure 59b: Chronically Homeless Subpopulations - Veteran

Homeless Subpopulation	2015	
	Number	Percent
CH Veteran Individuals	29	100%
Unsheltered	10	34.5%
Sheltered Emergency Shelter	19	65.5%
Sheltered Safe Haven	0	0.0%
CH Veteran Families	0	100%
Unsheltered	0	100%
Sheltered Emergency Shelter	0	0.0%
Sheltered Safe Haven	0	0.0%
People in CH Veteran Families	0	100%
Unsheltered	0	100%
Sheltered Emergency Shelter	0	0.0%
Sheltered Safe Haven	0	0.0%

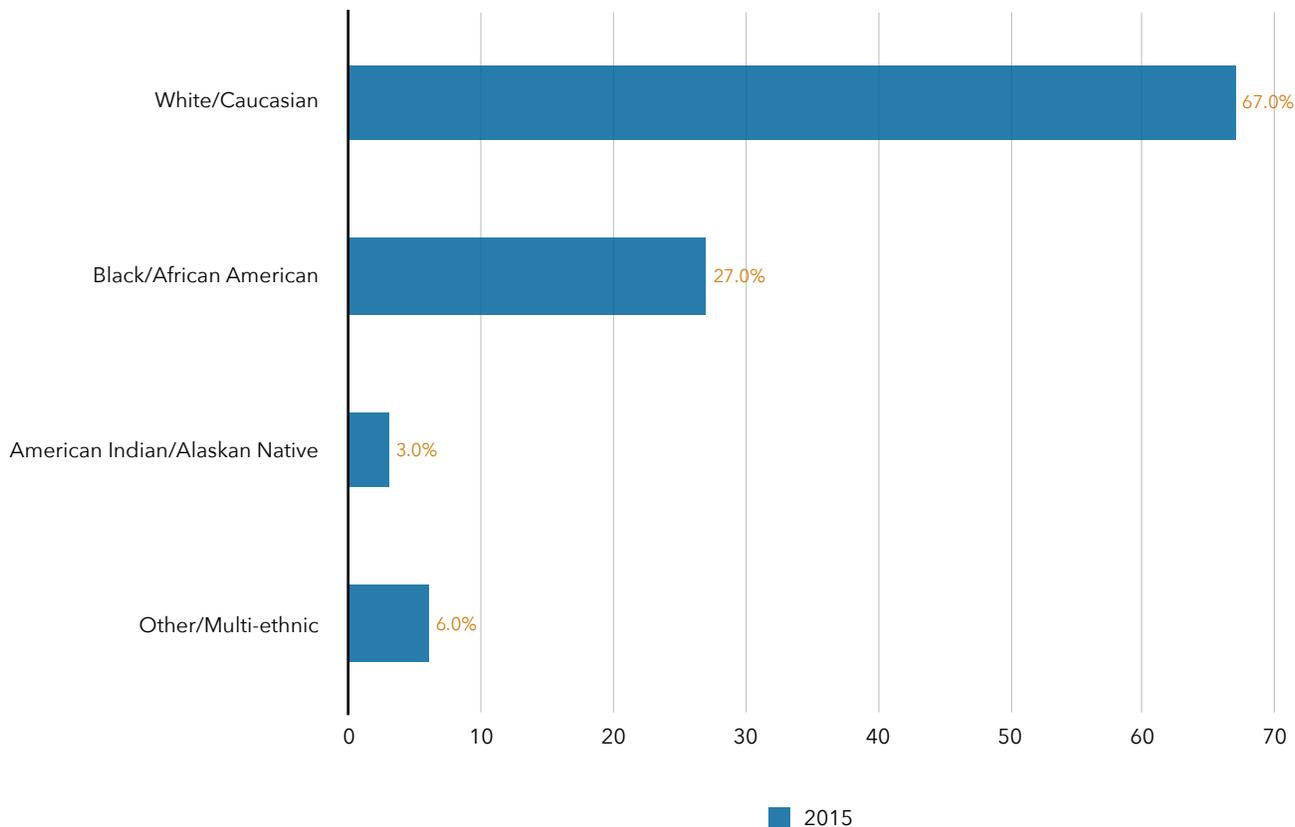
Note: Data not available for 2011, 2013, and 2014 as 2015 marks the first year this subpopulation was included in the HUD-defined homeless subpopulations.

Summary:

- Of the chronically homeless Veteran individuals, 34.5% (10 persons) were unsheltered.
- Of the chronically homeless Veteran individuals, 65.5% (19 persons) were sheltered in emergency shelters.
- There were no chronically homeless Veteran families (sheltered or unsheltered) in 2015.

5.2b Chronically Homeless Subpopulations - Race & Ethnicity

Figure 60a: Non-Veteran Chronically Homeless Population by Race (Top 4 Races)



N: 2015 = 33

Source:

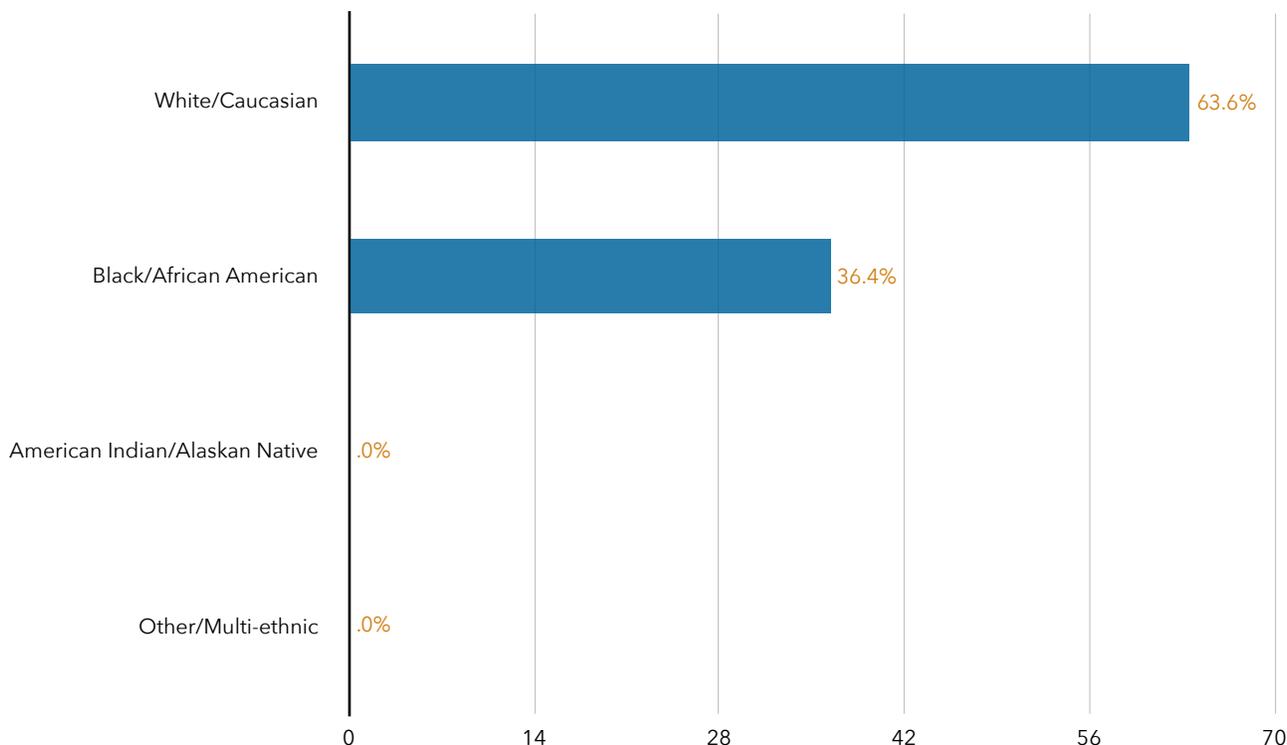
Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:¹⁰

- 67% of survey respondents who are chronically homeless individuals identified their racial/ethnic group as *White/Caucasian*.
- 27% of survey respondents who are chronically homeless individuals identified their racial/ethnic group as *Black/African American*.
- 3% of survey respondents who are chronically homeless individuals identified their racial/ethnic group as *American Indian/Alaskan Native*.
- 6% of chronically homeless individuals identified as *Other/Multi-Ethnic*.

¹⁰ Percentages based on the unextrapolated total of 922 survey respondents.

Figure 60b: Veteran Chronically Homeless Population by Race (Top 4 Races)



N: 2015 = 11

Source:

2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

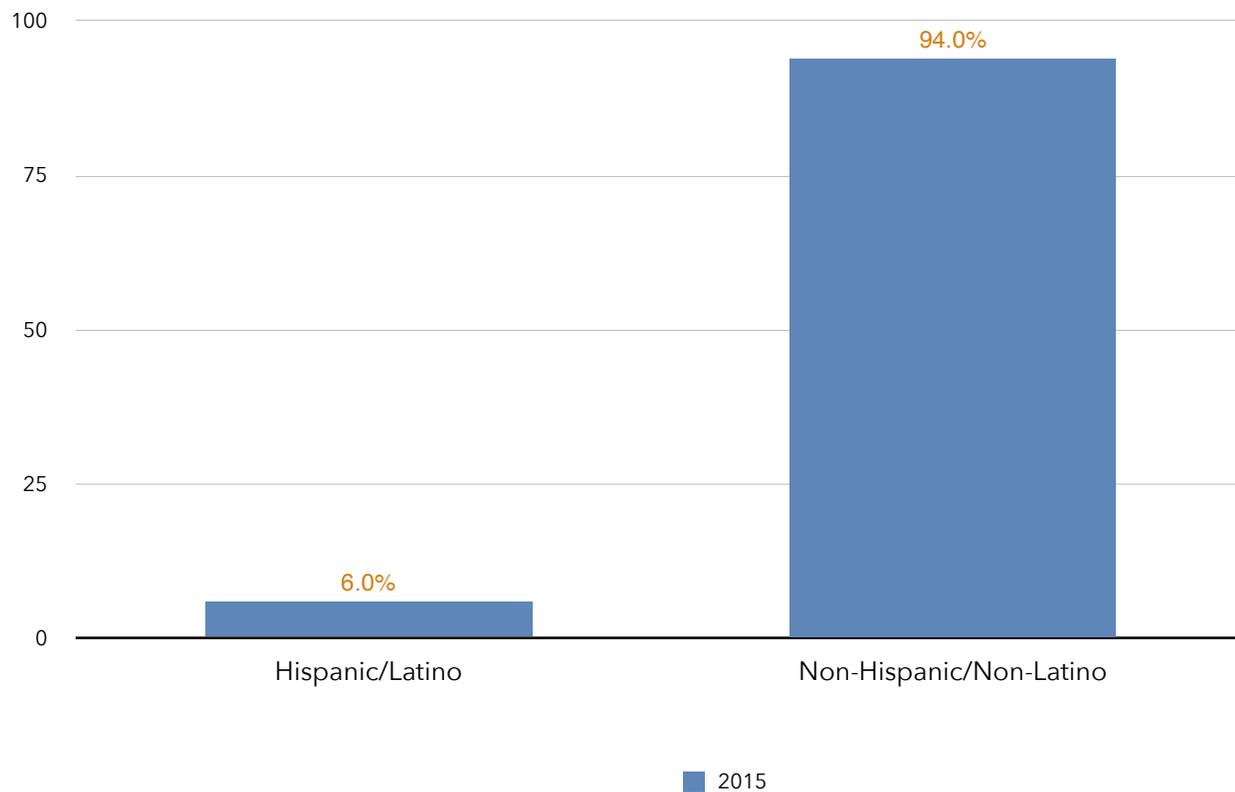
NOTE: This is a new subpopulation defined by HUD for 2015. Thus, information for previous years is unavailable

Summary:¹¹

- 63.6% of survey respondents who are chronically homeless Veteran individuals identified their racial/ethnic group as *White/Caucasian*.
- 36.4% of survey respondents who are chronically homeless Veteran individuals identified their racial/ethnic group as *Black/African American*.

¹¹ Percentages based on the unextrapolated total of 922 survey respondents.

Figure 61: Non-Veteran Chronically Homeless Population by Ethnicity



N: 2015 = 33

Source:

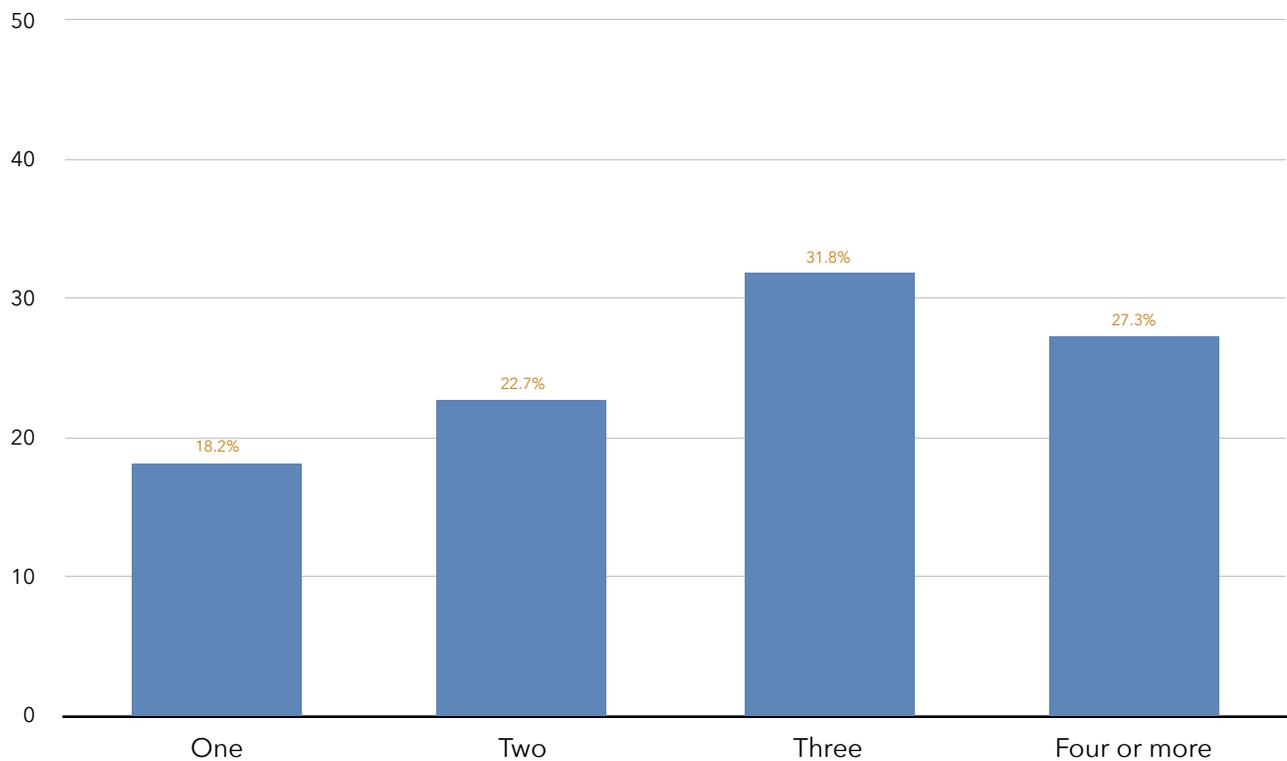
Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 6% of survey respondents who are chronically homeless identified their ethnic group as *Hispanic/Latino*.
- As for Veteran chronically homeless survey respondents, none identified their ethnic group as Hispanic/Latino (N=33).

5.2c Chronically Homeless Subpopulations - Disabling Conditions

Figure 62: Number of Disabling Conditions Among Non-Veteran Chronically Homeless Respondents



N: 2015 = 22

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- 18.2% of chronically homeless individuals reporting a disabling condition had only one disabling condition.
- 81.8% of chronically homeless individuals reporting a disabling condition reported two or more co-occurring disabling conditions.
- As for *Veteran chronically homeless respondents*, 22.2% of these respondents reported two disabling conditions, and 22.2% reported three disabling conditions.

5.3 Chronically Homeless Families

In families experiencing homelessness, the rates of health problems and exposure to violence are high. Compared to children with consistent living accommodations, children belonging to homeless families exhibit more emotional and behavioral problems.¹² Thus, quality data about this subpopulation is invaluable. However, gathering accurate information about homeless families is challenging. They tend to reside on private property, making them less visible and thus more difficult to count.

For the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition for a chronically homeless family is as follows:¹³

A family with an adult head of household (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) who meets all of the criteria for a chronically homeless individual, including a family whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless.

Summary:

- There was one sheltered chronically homeless family comprising 3 people. This family was sheltered in an emergency shelter at the time of the survey.
- There were no chronically homeless veterans (sheltered or unsheltered) counted at the time of the survey.

5.4 Adults with HIV/AIDS

For the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition of adults with HIV or AIDS is as follows:

...Adults who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.

Summary:

- 0.95% of the homeless population were experiencing HIV or AIDS related illnesses. This amount is higher than the amount reported in 2014 (0.83%).

¹² National Alliance to End Homelessness: *The State of Homelessness in America 2012*

¹³ The definition of each subpopulation was taken directly from United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. Notice CPD 14-014 2015 HIC PIT Data Collection Notice.

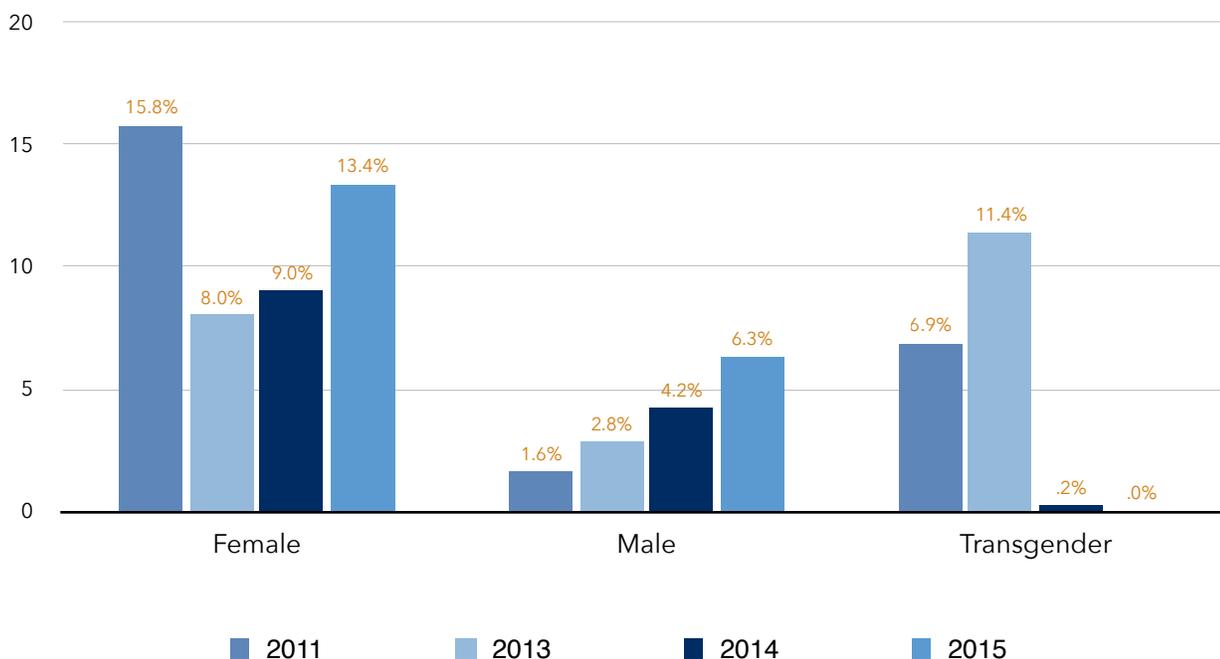
5.5 Victims of Domestic Violence

For the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition of victim of domestic/partner violence is as follows:

... adults who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

It should be noted that the definition for Victims of Domestic Violence was updated in 2014 to include dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.¹⁴

Figure 63: Respondents Who Were Experiencing Domestic/Partner Violence or Abuse (By Gender)



N: 2011= 547; 2013= 98, 2014 = 127; 2015 = 182

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 19.7% (182 persons) of survey respondents reported experiencing domestic violence or abuse.
- Of all survey respondents, 13.4% were female victims of domestic violence, and 6.3% were male victims of domestic violence. There were no transgender victims of domestic violence surveyed.

¹⁴ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (November 2013) Notice CPD-13-011: 2014 HIC and PIT of Homeless Persons Data Collection Guidance. 2014

5.6 Adults with Serious Mental Illness

Individuals suffering from serious mental illness have severe and chronic mental disorders that impair their ability to provide self-care, develop interpersonal relationships, or obtain/sustain employment and housing. For the purposes of this study, the HUD definition of serious mental illness is as follows:

Adults with a severe and persistent mental illness or emotional impairment that seriously limits a person's ability to live independently. Adults with SMI must also meet the qualifications identified in the term for "disability" (e.g., "is expected to be long-continuing or indefinite duration").

The severely mentally ill data presented below are estimates based on survey respondents who reported experiencing mental illness and/or severe depression. Per HUD's guidelines, these estimates exclude those who reported experiencing trauma.¹⁵ Severe depression includes those who reported that they were experiencing depression, and that their depression prevents them from getting work or housing.

Research consistently indicates that homelessness for these individuals often occurs directly following hospital (psychiatric) discharge. Research also indicates that a disproportionate amount of the general homeless population suffers from some form of mental illness.¹⁶

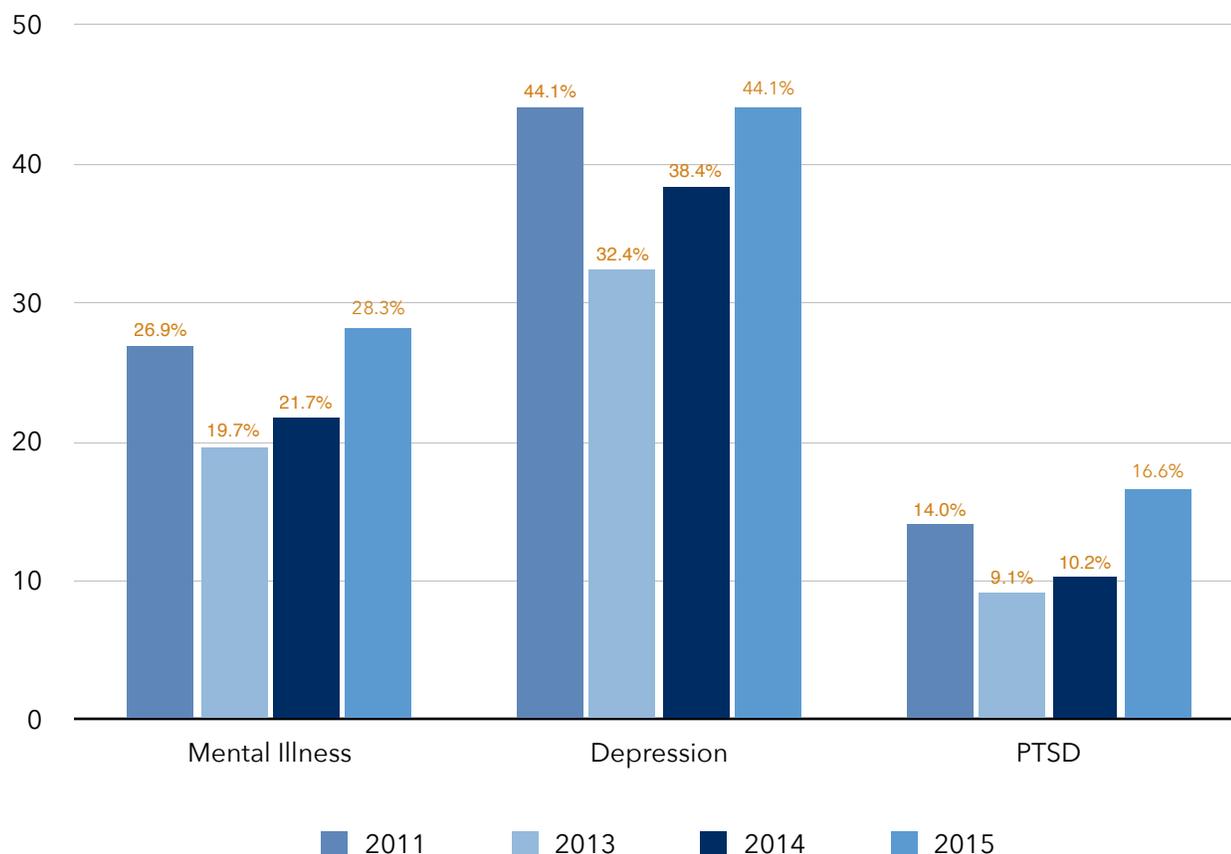
The 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey included questions inquiring about mental health status. This included questions about depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). PTSD is a disorder that can develop after one experiences a traumatic event. Among other debilitating symptoms, PTSD is characterized by intense anxiety, panic attacks, depression, flashbacks/re-experiencing, and nightmares of the traumatic event. According to the VA definition of PTSD, a traumatic event is any event that threatens one's own life or the life of someone close to them. This can include military combat, natural disasters, terrorist incidents, serious accidents, or physical/sexual assault in childhood or adulthood.¹⁷

¹⁵ John Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies. *The Severely Mentally Ill Homeless: Housing Needs and Housing Policy*. 1992.

¹⁶ National Coalition for the Homeless. *Fact Sheet*. 2009

¹⁷ US Department of Veterans Affairs & Elliot & Briere, *Trauma Symptom Checklist - 40 (TSC-40)*. 1992. [<http://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/assessment/adult-sr/tsc-40.asp>]

Figure 64: Percentage Of Respondents Who Were Currently or Ever Had Experienced Mental Illness, Depression, and PTSD



Mental Illness_N: 2011= 488; 2013= 860; 2014 = 948; 2015 = 922

Depression N: 2011= 509; 2013= 860; 2014 = 948; 2015 = 922

PTSD_N: 2011= 488; 2013= 860; 2014 = 948; ; 2015 = 922

Source:

Applied Survey Research (2011) 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA.

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

Overall, 50.2% survey respondents reported experiencing mental illness, depression, or PTSD, or any possible variation thereof. This is higher than that of 2014 (44.9%).

Mental Illness

- In 2015, 28.3% of the survey respondents claimed they were or ever had suffered from mental illness. This is higher than 2014 (21.7%).
- Of those suffering from mental illness in 2015, 54.4% reported it prevented them from getting work or obtaining housing.

Depression

- In 2015, 44.1% claimed they were or ever had suffered from depression. This is higher than 2014 (38.4%).
- Of those suffering from depression in 2015, 46.0% reported it prevented them from getting work or obtaining housing

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

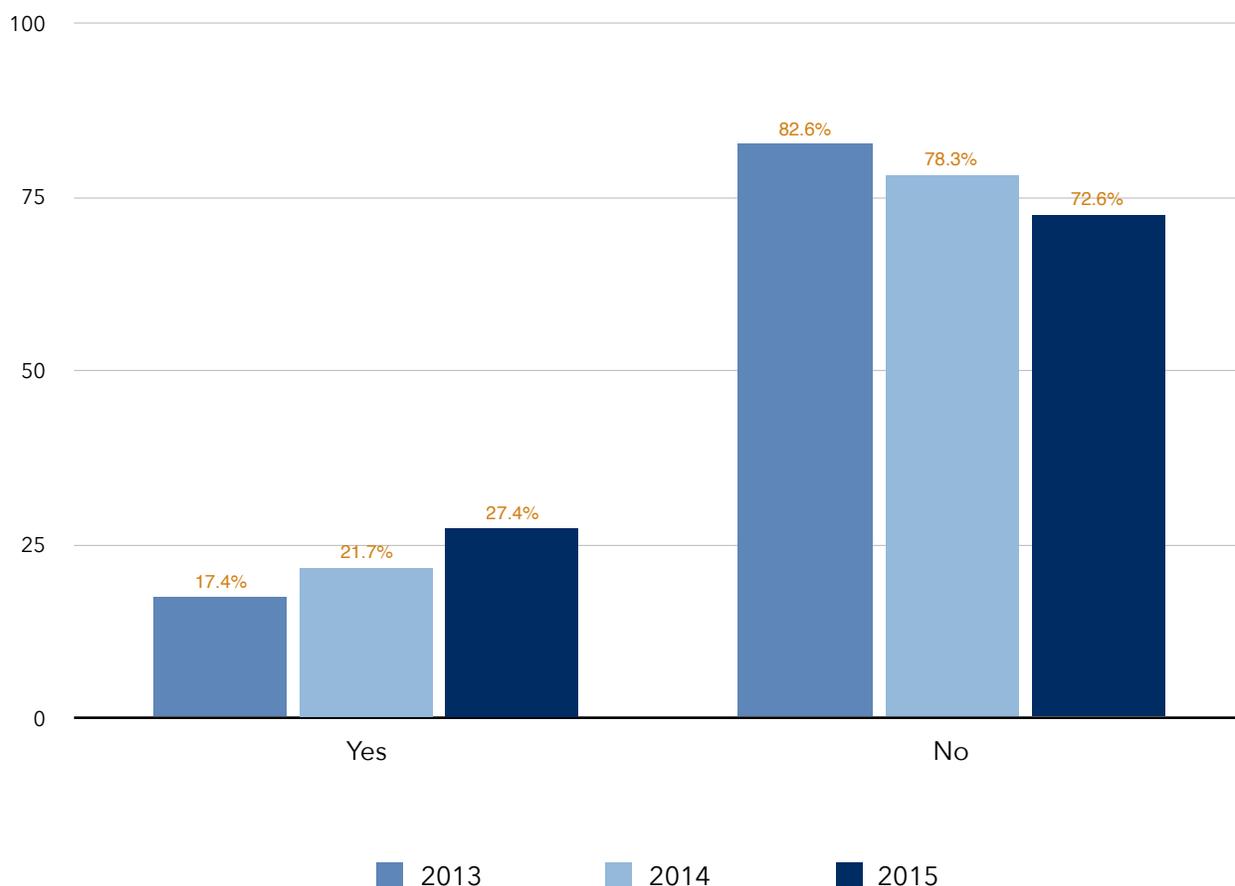
- In 2015, 16.6% claimed they were or ever had suffered from PTSD. This is higher than 2014 (10.2%).
- Of those suffering from PTSD, 55.6% reported it prevented them from getting work or obtaining housing.

5.7 Adults with Substance Use disorders

For the purposes of this report, the official HUD definition of a substance use disorder is as follows:

Adults with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both). Adults with a substance use disorder must also meet the qualifications identified in the term for “disability” (e.g., “is expected to be long-continuing or indefinite duration”).

Figure 65: Percentage of Respondents Who Were Currently Experiencing Alcohol or Drug Abuse



N: 2013= 860; 2014 = 948; 2015 = 913

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 27.4% of the survey respondents reported to be currently experiencing alcohol or drug abuse at the time of the survey. This represents a 5.7% increase compared to 2014, when 21.7% of respondents cited problems with alcohol/drug abuse.

5.7a Co-Occurring Disorders

Chronic substance abuse among the homeless population is misunderstood at both local and national levels. It is often carelessly attributed to personality and/or character flaws. In reality, however, mental illness plays a significant role in struggles with chronic substance abuse. Thus, the possibility of a co-occurring disorder is often overlooked in many cases of chronic substance abuse, especially among the homeless population.

The Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) agree that Individuals diagnosed with mental illness are twice as likely to have co-occurring problems with substance abuse.¹⁸

In 2010, 54.3% of those persons enrolled in Permanent Supportive Housing programs reported problems with both mental illness and substance abuse. However, only 24% of this population reported mental illness alone, and only 11.9% reported substance abuse alone.¹⁹ This disparity highlights the prevalence of the co-occurrence of mental illness and substance abuse in the homeless population.

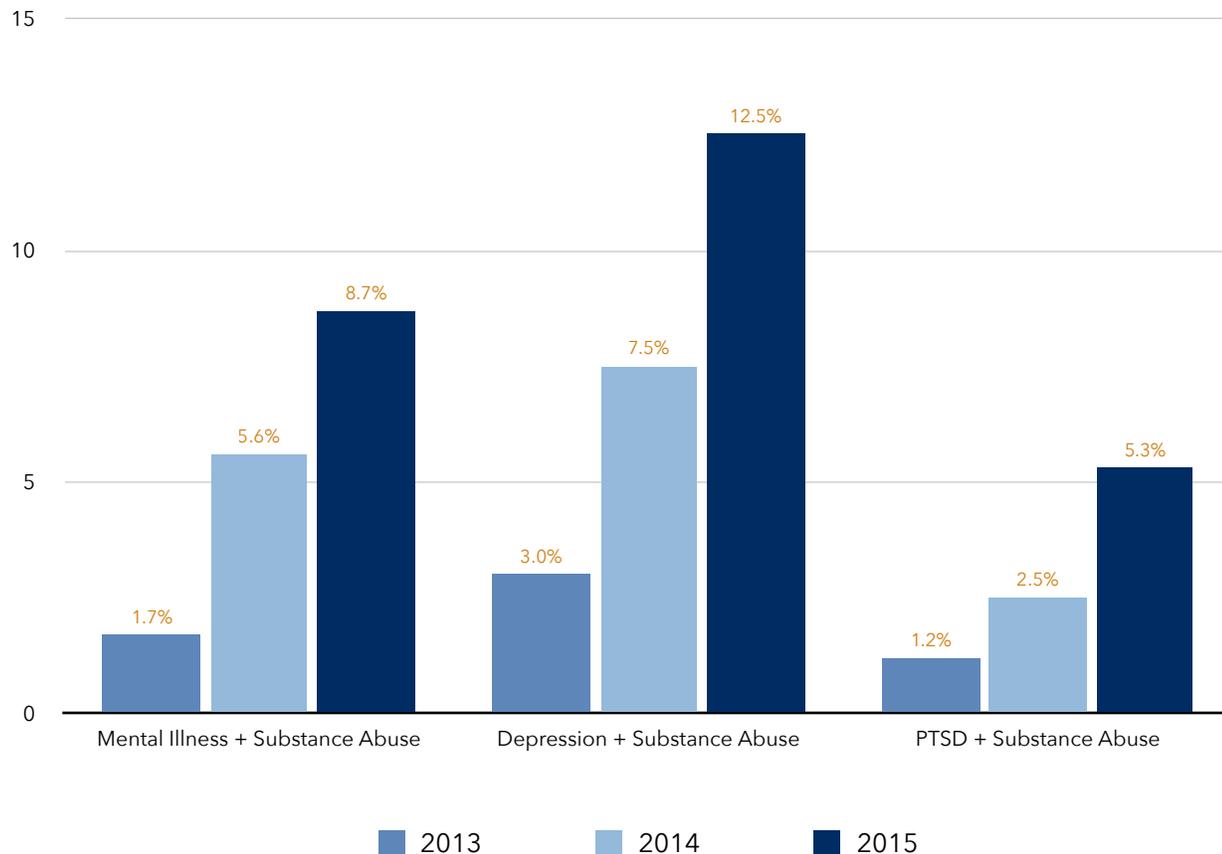
Although individuals with co-occurring disorders do not constitute a HUD-defined subpopulation in their own right, this population is of great concern and interest to both policy-makers and the general public. No previous data exists before 2013 for this population in regards to Southern Nevada; 2013 marked the beginning of data-collection for this population.

Below is 2013, 2014, and 2015 data depicting the state of co-occurring disorders in Southern Nevada.

¹⁸United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. *Employment Situation of Veterans 2011*. Press Release, 20 March 2012; "Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey."

¹⁹John Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies. *The Severely Mentally ill homeless: Housing needs and housing policy*.

Figure 66: Respondents Reporting Co-Occurring Substance Abuse with Mental Illness, Depression, or PTSD



N: 2013= 860; 2014 = 948; 2015 = 922

Source:

Bitfocus Inc., (2013, 2014, 2015), 2013, 2014, & 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

NOTE: For the purposes this figure, 'Disabling' is defined as a condition that prevents the respondent from getting work or housing.

Summary:

- 8.7% of survey respondents reported suffering from co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse and that this co-occurring disorder prevented them from obtaining work or housing.
- 12.5% of survey respondents reported suffering from co-occurring depression and substance abuse and that this co-occurring disorder prevented them from obtaining work or housing.
- 5.3% of survey respondents reported suffering from co-occurring PTSD and substance abuse and that this co-occurring disorder prevented them from obtaining work or housing.

6. Youth Homelessness

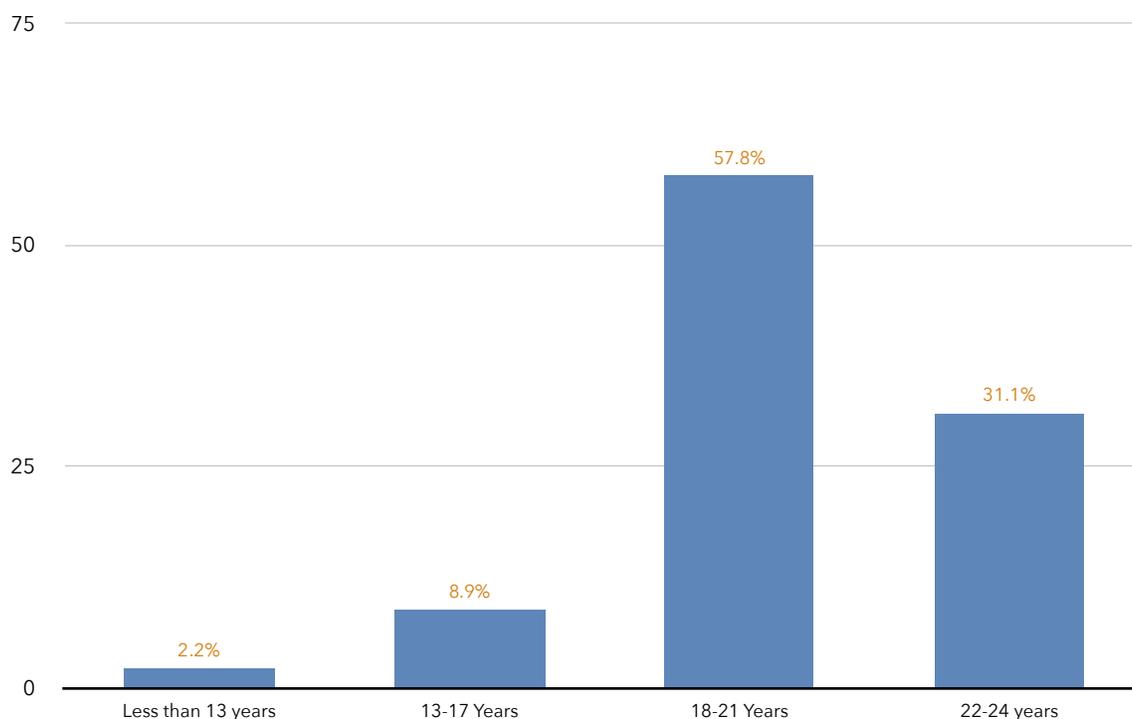
6.1 Demographics

Understanding the demographics of the Southern Nevada homeless youth population is key to defining the specific needs of this population. This information can be used to create more effective programs, alter existing programs, and predict future challenges.

In order to obtain demographic information characterizing the homeless residents in Southern Nevada, the survey participants answered several questions pertaining to age, gender, ethnicity, race, and family status.

6.1a Age

Figure 67: Survey Respondents by Age, 2015



N: 2015 = 45

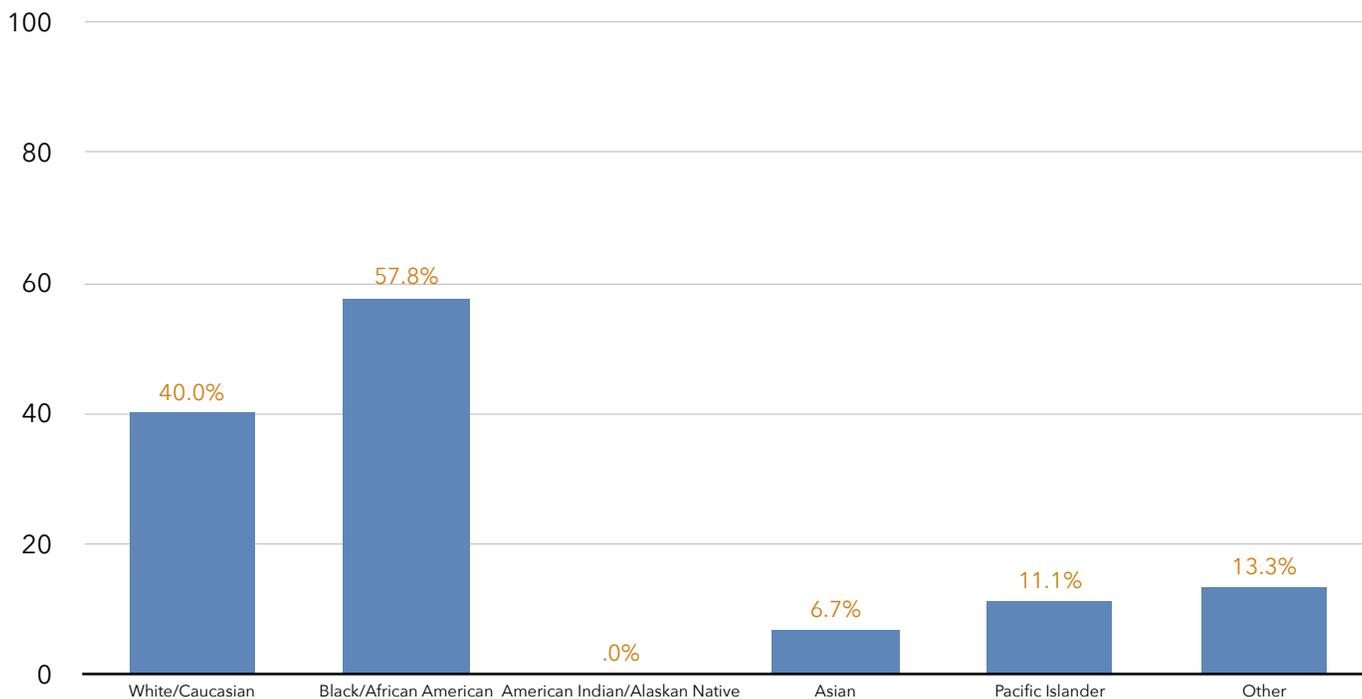
Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- 31.1% of respondents were between the ages of 22-24 years.
- 2.2% of survey respondents were under the age of 13.
- 8.9% of respondents were between the ages of 13 and 17.

6.1b Race/Ethnicity

Figure 68: Youth Respondents by Race, 2015



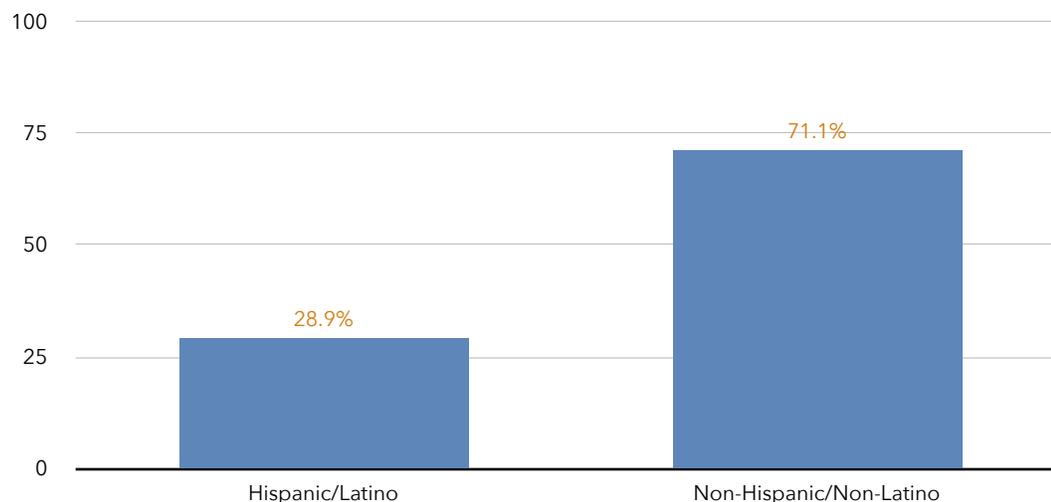
N: 2015= 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 40.0% of survey respondents identified their racial group as *White/Caucasian*.
- 57.8% of respondents identified their racial group as *Black/African American*.
- 6.7% of respondents identified their racial group as *Asian*.
- 11.1% of respondents identified their racial group as *Pacific Islander*.
- 13.3% of respondents identified their racial group as *Other*.

Figure 69: Respondents by Ethnicity, 2015



N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- 28.9% of respondents identified their ethnic group as *Hispanic/Latino*.
- 71.1% of respondents identified their ethnic group as *Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino*.

6.1c Gender

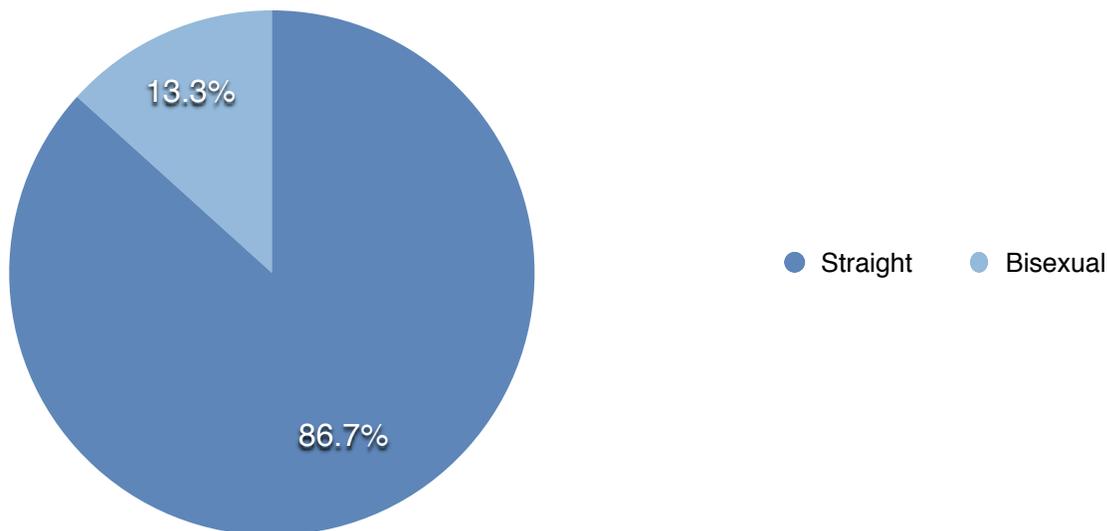
Past homeless surveys nationwide have consistently found that the majority of homeless adults are male. This trend was not reflected in the homeless youth population. In 2015, the majority (55.6%) of youth surveyed were female.

Summary:

- 44.4% of respondents identified as *Male*.
- 55.6% of respondents identified as *Female*.
 - 16.0% of female respondents reported they were pregnant.
- 0.0% of respondents identified as *transgender*.

6.1d: Sexual Orientation

Figure 70: Sexual Orientation, 2015



N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

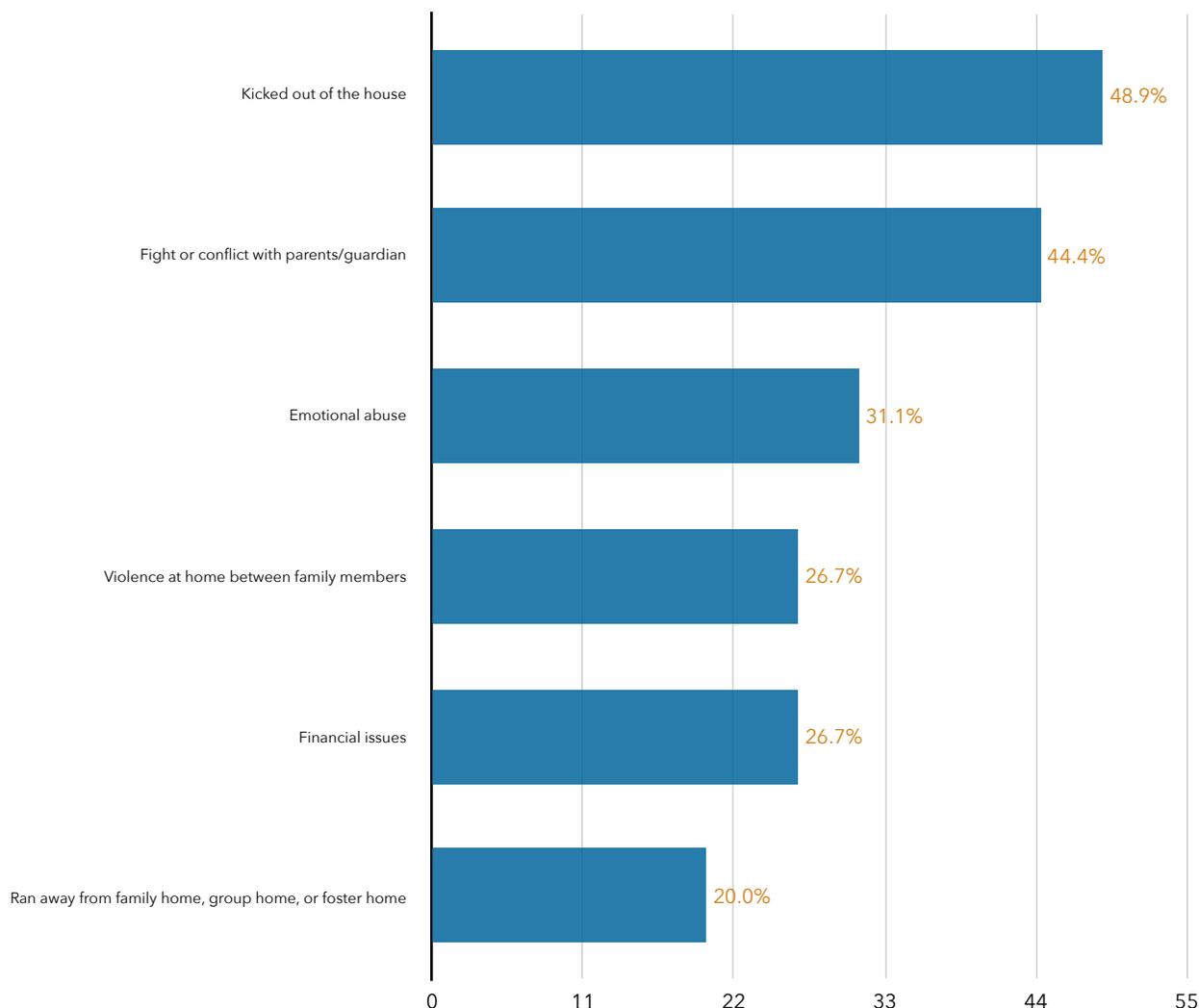
6.2 Conditions of Homelessness

The following section presents a broad view of the various characteristics and causes of homelessness. This section details the duration and frequency of homelessness, living conditions, and obstacles that homeless youth face when trying to secure permanent housing.

6.2a Conditions Prior To Becoming Homeless

6.2a.1 Primary Causes of Homelessness

Figure 71: Top Events That Led to Respondents' Homelessness (Top 6 Responses in 2015)



Multiple response question:

N: 2015: 45 respondents provided 133 responses.

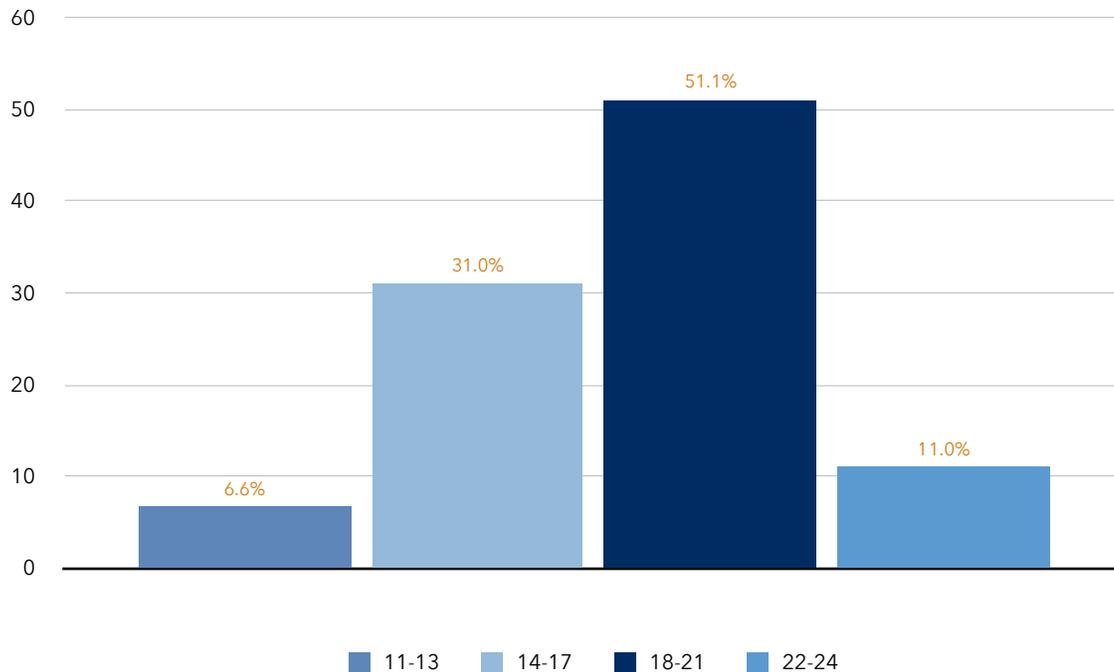
Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- 48.9% of 2015 survey respondents cited *Kicked Out of the House* as a cause of their homelessness, making it a cause of homelessness for the majority of this population.
- *Fight or Conflict with Parents/Guardian* was the second most commonly cited cause of homelessness in 2015 (44.4%).
- *Emotional Abuse* was the third most commonly cited cause of homelessness in 2015 (31.1%).
- *Violence at Home Between Family Members (26.7%)* was the fourth most commonly cited cause of homelessness in 2015.
- The *Financial Issues* category was also the a common cited cause of homelessness in 2015 (26.7%).
- 20% of respondents cited *Ran Away From Family Home, Group Home, or Foster Home* as a cause of their homelessness.

6.2a.2 Occurrence of Homelessness

Figure 72: How Old Were You When You First Experienced Homelessness?



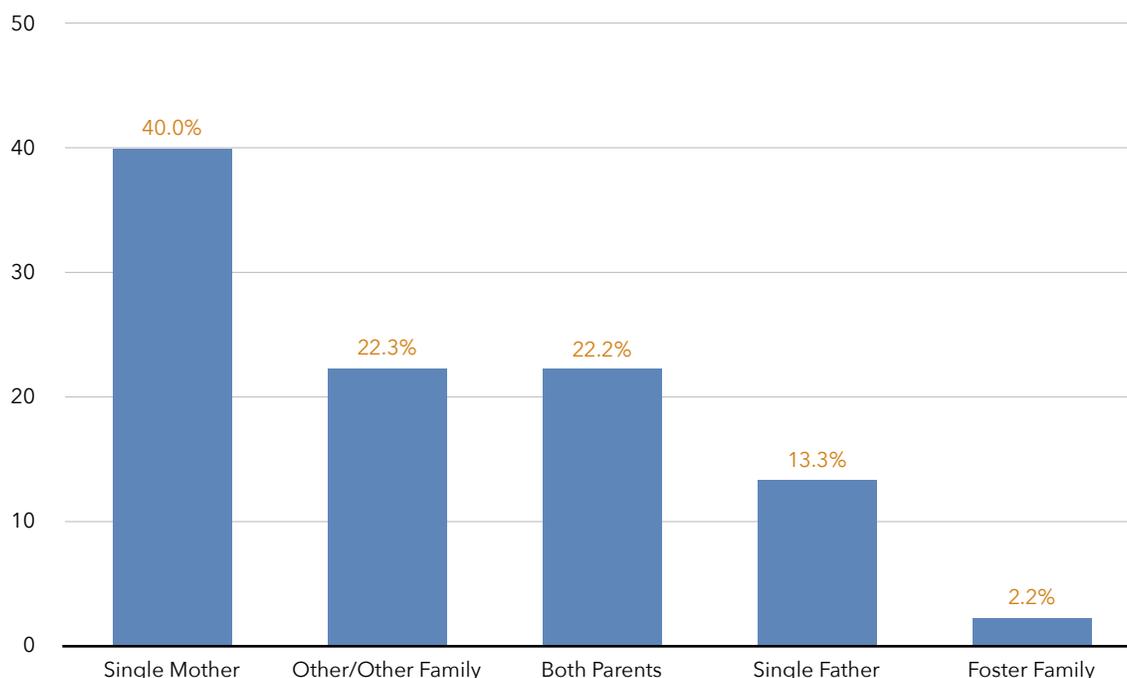
N: 2015=45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- Most survey respondents (51.1%) were between the ages of 18-21 when they first became homeless.

Figure 73: Just before becoming homeless, did you live with:



N: 2015 = 45

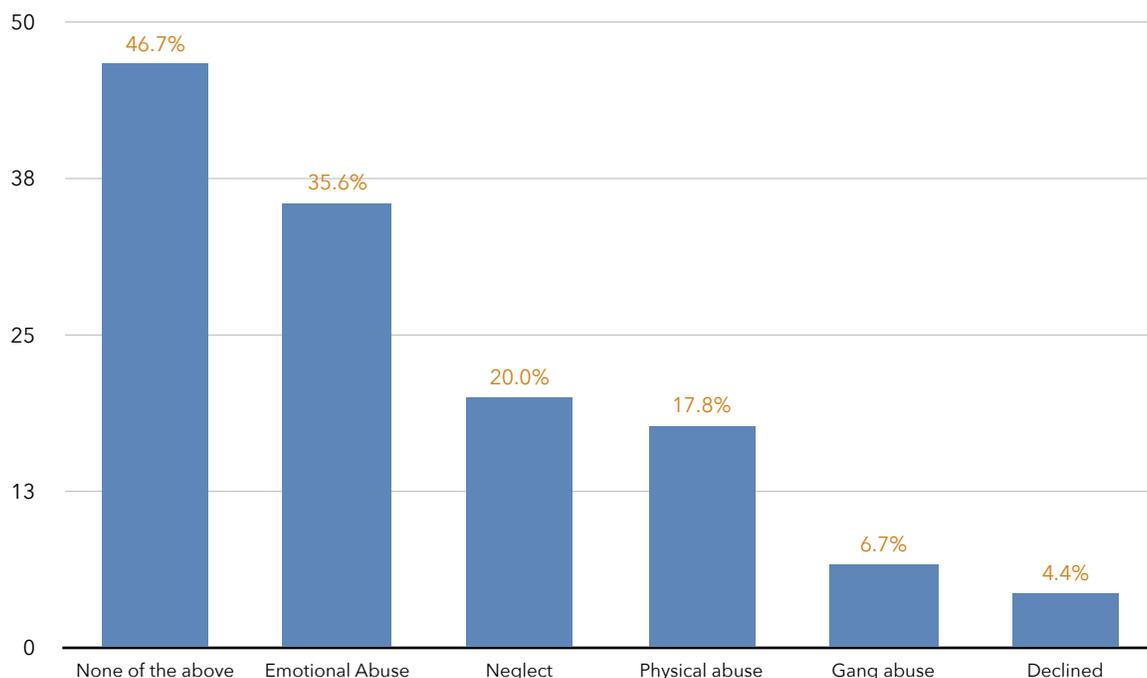
Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- In 2015, the most frequently cited family member respondents were living with prior to becoming homeless was *Single Mother* (40.0%).
- 22.2% of respondents reported that they were living with *Both Parents* prior to becoming homeless.
- 22.3% of respondents reported that they were living with *Other/Other Family Members* prior to becoming homeless.

6.2a.3 Experiences Prior to Becoming Homeless

Figure 74: Prior to Becoming Homeless, Experienced:



Multiple response question

45 respondents provided 59 responses in 2015

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

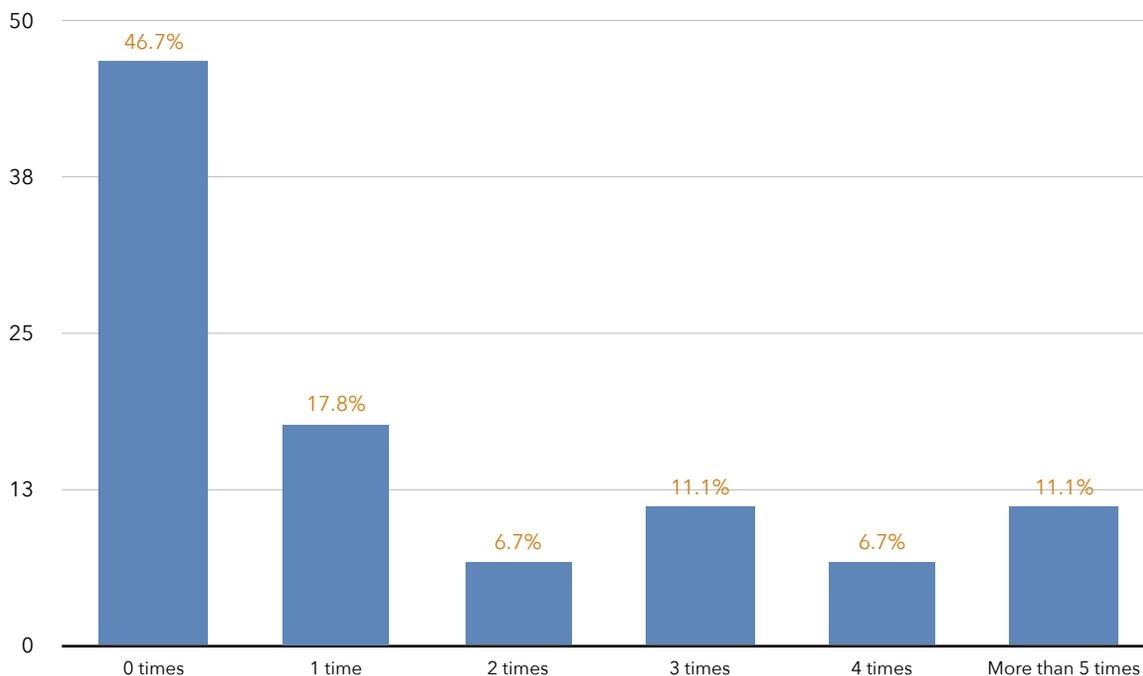
- *Emotional Abuse* was the most commonly cited experience prior to becoming homeless (35.6%).
- 20% of survey respondents reported *Neglect*, and 17.8% of survey respondents reported *Physical Abuse* prior to becoming homeless.

6.2a.5 Arrest, Probation, & Incarceration

73.3% of survey respondents stated that they had never been involved with the justice system before they were 18 (as a minor).¹ 97.7% of survey respondents had never been on parole, and 65.9% had never been on probation.

¹ This includes jail, juvenile hall, camp programs, probation, detention, etc.

Figure 75: How Many Times Have You Been Arrested?



N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

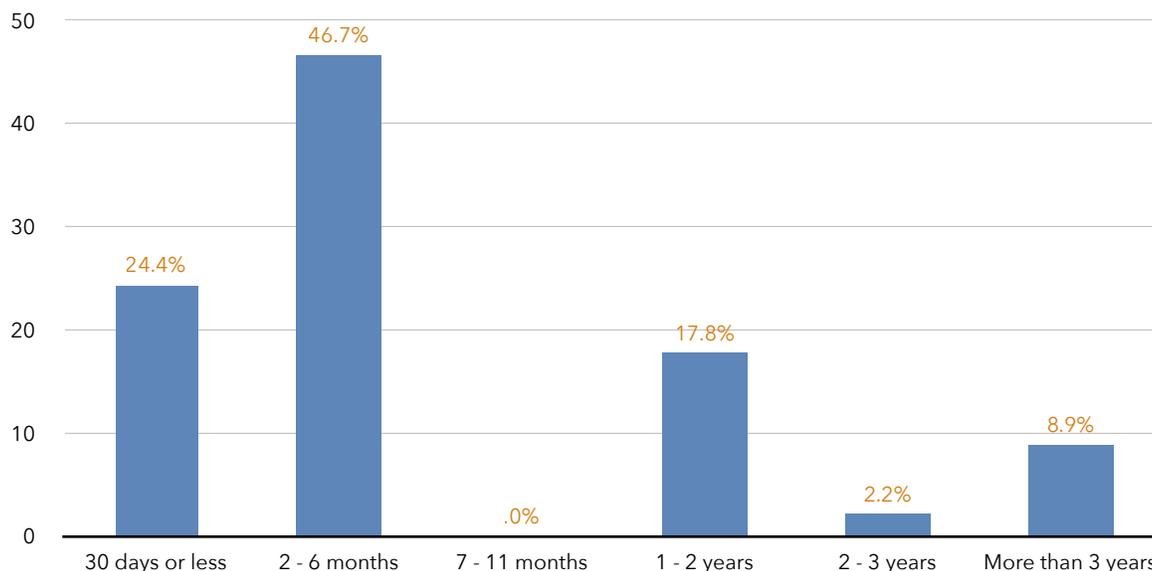
Summary:

- Most survey respondents (46.7%) had *never been arrested*.
- 17.8% of survey respondents had been arrested *once*.
- 11.1% of survey respondents had been arrested *more than five times*.

6.2b Current Conditions of Homelessness

6.2b.1 Duration of Homelessness

Figure 76: Total Length of Time Homeless/Without Home/Regular Place to Stay or Sleep



N: 2015 = 45

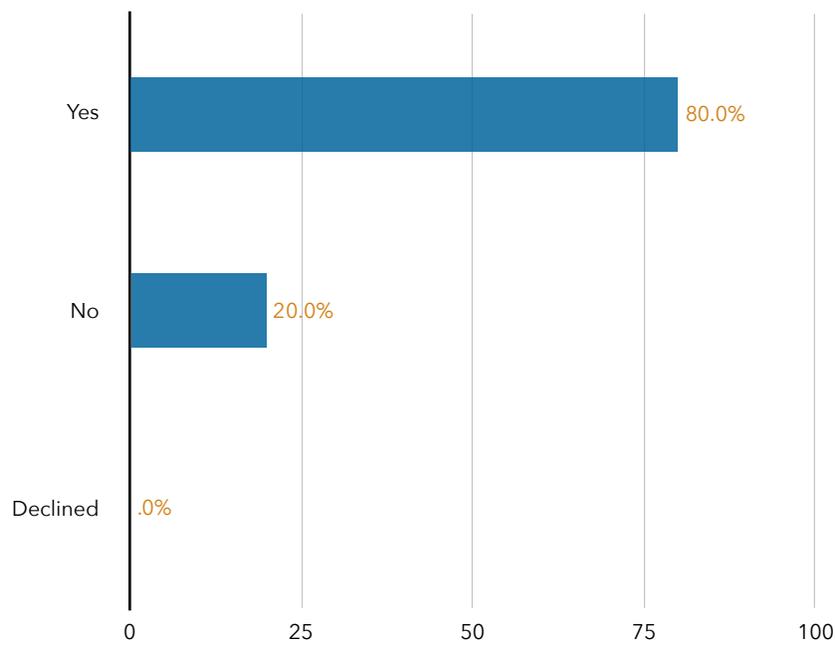
Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- 28.9% of the survey respondents reported that they had been without a home, or a regular place to stay/sleep, or been homeless for over a year in their entire lives.
- 24.4% of 2015 survey respondents reported that they had been without a home, ore a regular place to stay/sleep, or been homeless for 30 days or less in their entire lives.
- 8.9% of survey respondents indicated that they had been without a home, or a regular place to stay/sleep, or been homeless for three years or longer in their entire lives.

6.2b.2 Typical Nighttime Accommodations

Figure 77: Ever Able to Stay in a Motel or Doubled Up With a Friend at Any Time During Life



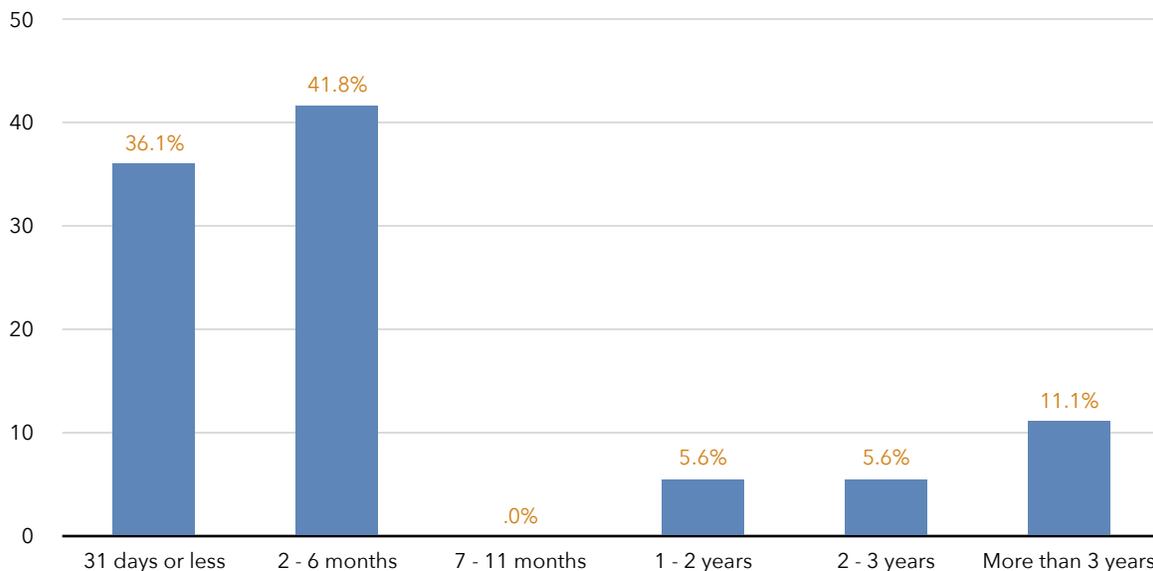
N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- 80.0% of survey respondents reported that they were ever able to stay in a motel or doubled up with a friend at any time during their lives.
- 20.0% of survey respondents reported that they were not ever able to stay in a motel or doubled up with a friend at any time during their lives.

Figure 78: How Long Have You Been Couch Surfing?



N: 2015 = 36

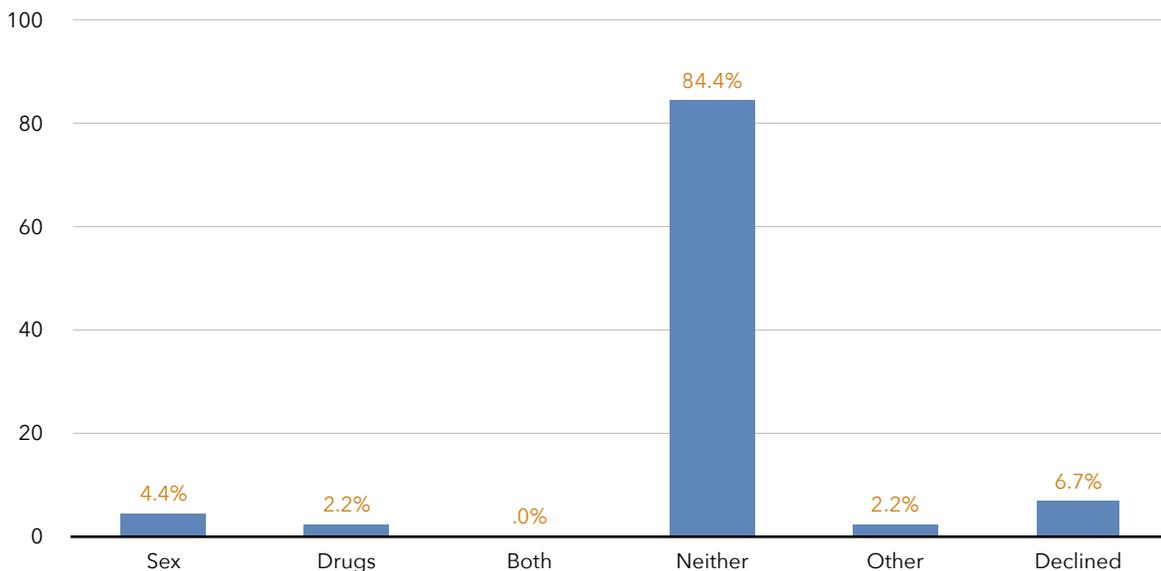
Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- The majority (41.8%) of survey respondents had been couch surfing for 2-6 months at the time of the survey.
- 36.1% had been couch surfing for 31 days or less, and 11.1% had been couch surfing for more than 3 years at the time of the survey.

6.2b.3 Adverse Experiences While Being Homeless

Figure 79: Have You Traded Sex or Drugs for a Place to Stay?



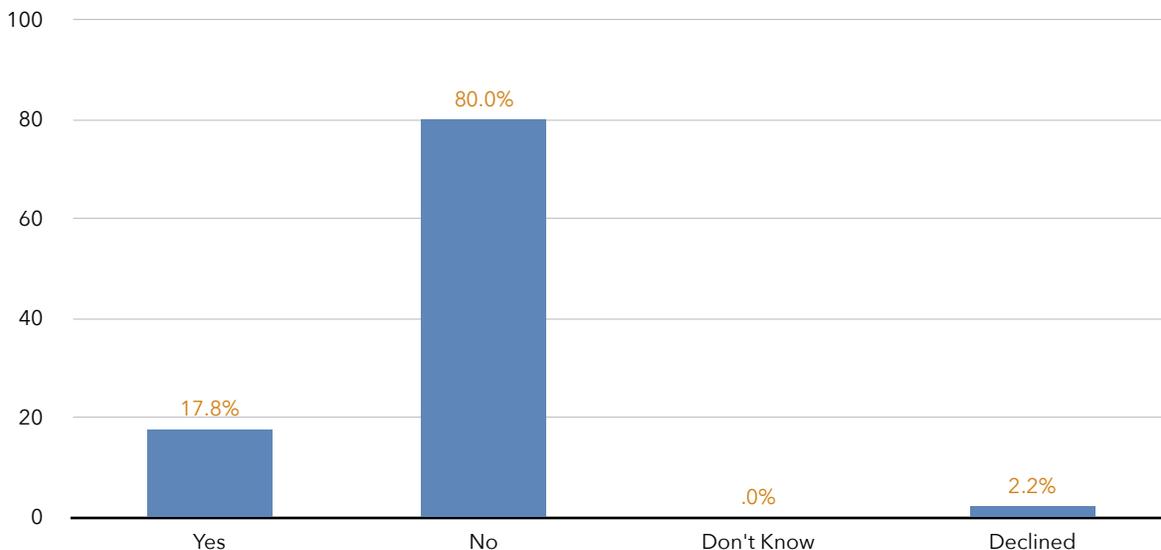
N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- The overwhelming majority (84.4%) of survey respondents reported not exchanging either sex or drugs for a place to stay.
- 4.4% of survey respondents reported exchanging sex for a place to stay, and 2.2% reported exchanging drugs for a place to stay.

Figure 80: Have You Committed A Crime in Exchange for Food or Shelter While On The Streets?



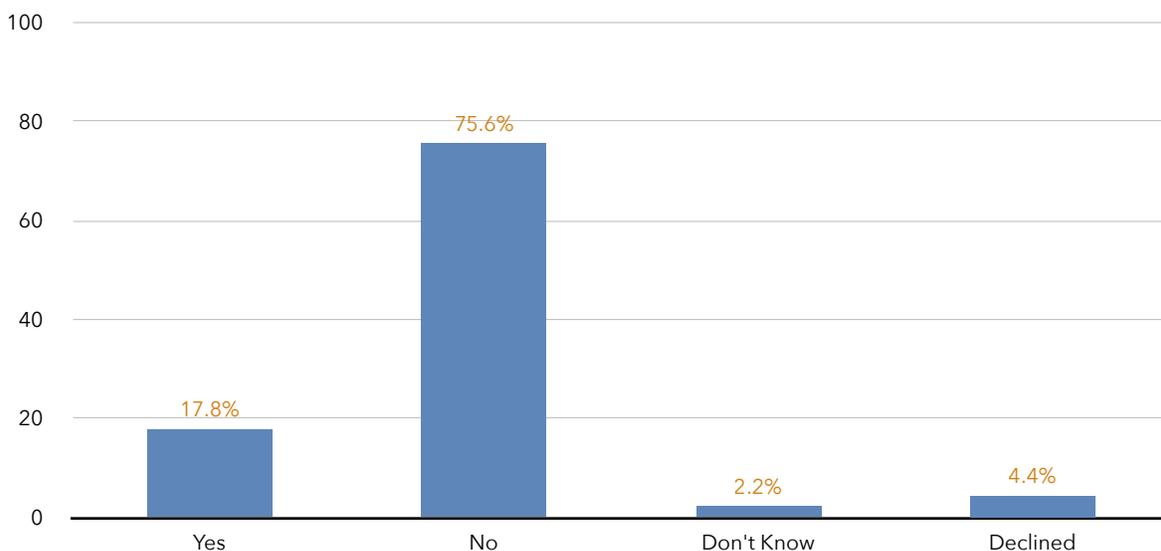
N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- The majority (80.0%) of survey respondents reported that they had not committed a crime in exchange for food or shelter while experiencing homelessness.

Figure 81: Have You Been a Victim of Crime While On The Streets?



N: 2015 = 45

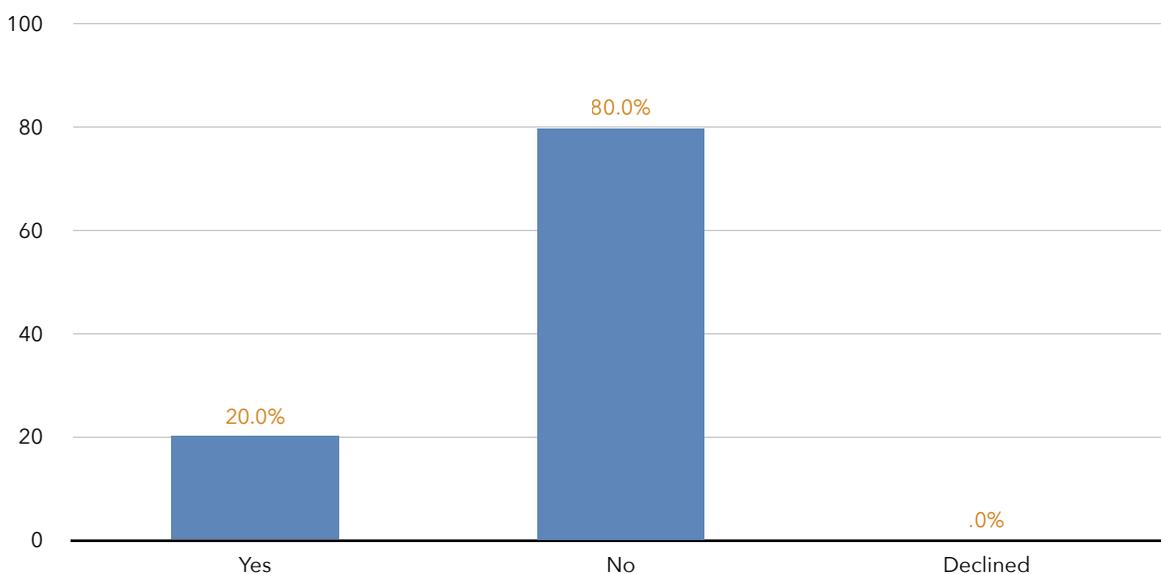
Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- Most survey respondents (75.6%) reported that they had not been the victim of crime while experiencing homelessness.

6.2b.4 Mental and Behavioral Health

Figure 82: Have You Ever Attempted Suicide?



N: 2015 = 45

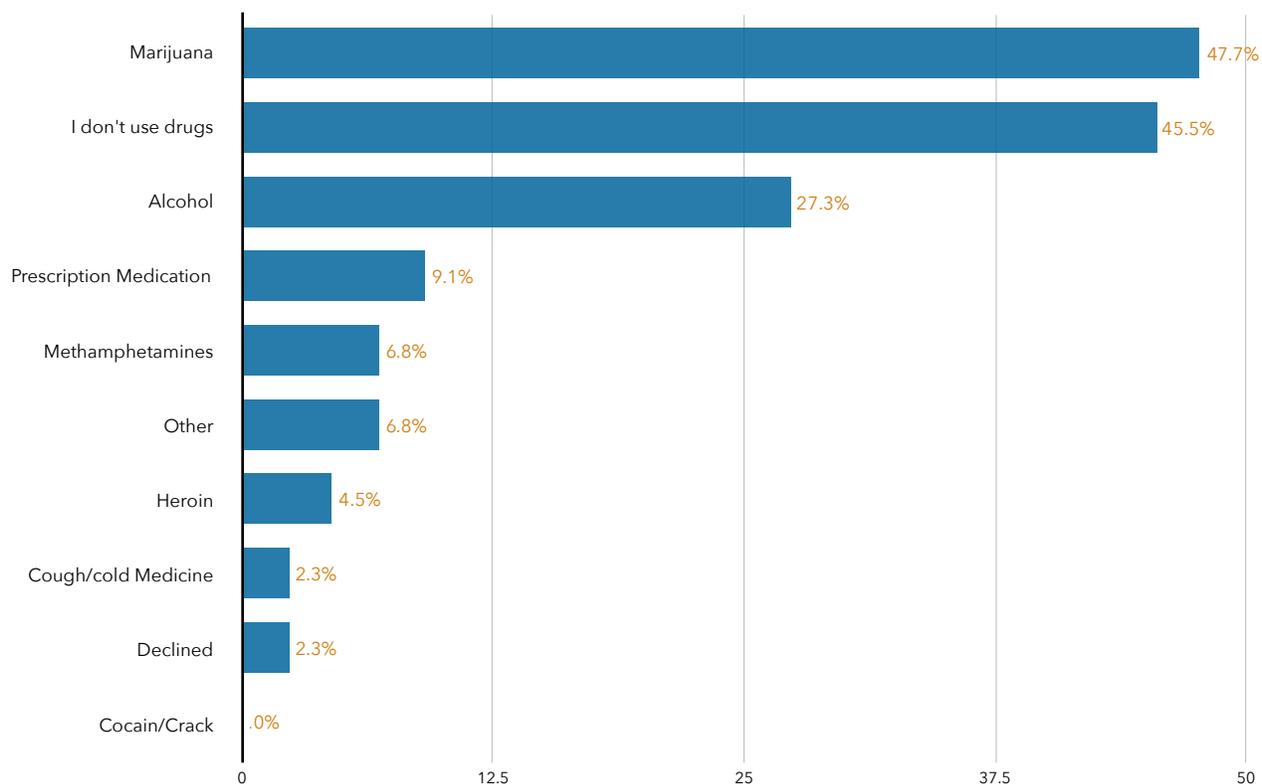
Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- Most survey respondents (80%) had never attempted suicide at the time of the survey.
- 20% of survey respondents stated they had ever attempted suicide in the past.

6.2b.5 Drugs and Alcohol

Figure 83: If You Use Drugs, What Are Your Primary Drugs of Choice?

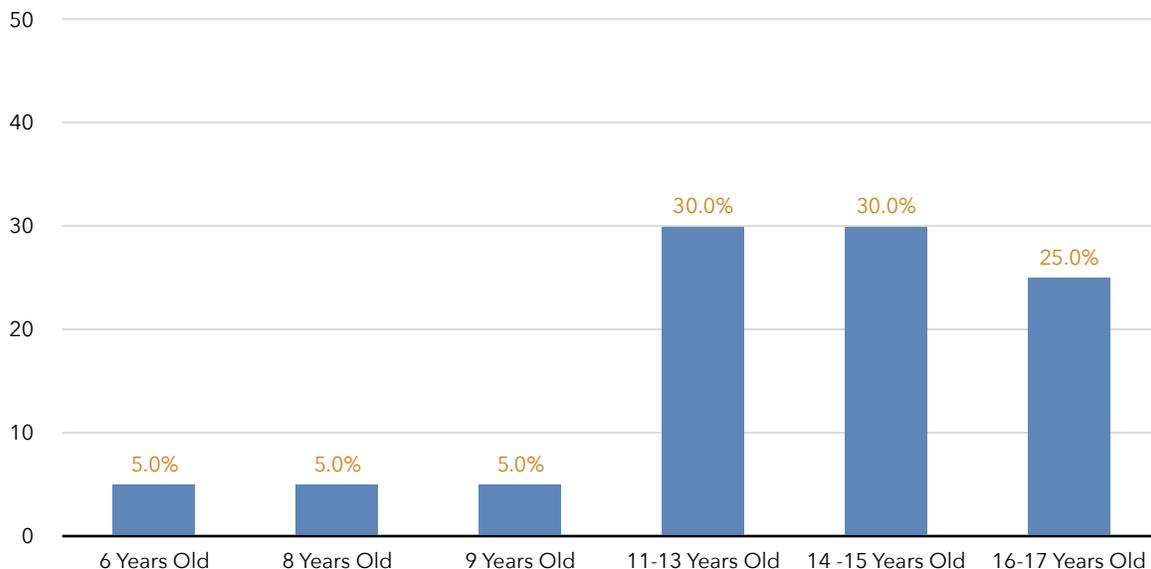


N: Multiple response question with 44 respondents offering 67 responses in 2015
 Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- Marijuana (47.7%) and Alcohol (27.3%) were the most commonly used drugs reported by respondents.
- 45.5% of survey respondents reported not using drugs at the time of the survey.
- 6.8% of survey respondents reported using Methamphetamines.

Figure 84: How Old Were You When You First Tried Marijuana?



N: 2015 = 20

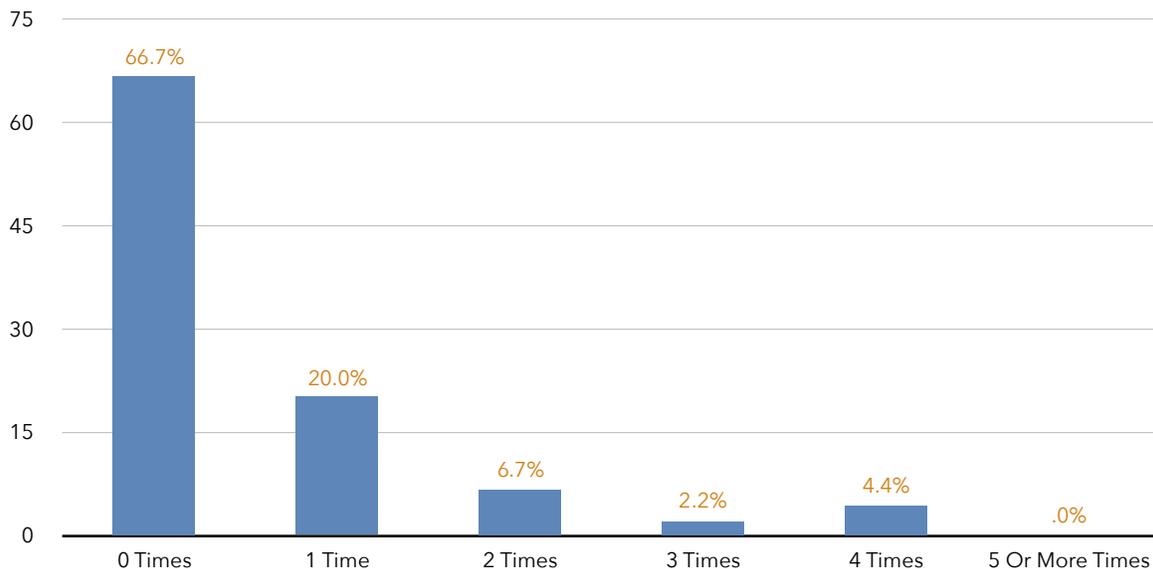
Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- Most survey respondents were between the ages of 11-13 years of age (30.0%) or 14-15 years of age (30.0%) when they first tried Marijuana.
- 25.0% of survey respondents were between the ages of 16-17 years old when they first tried Marijuana.

6.2b.6 Children and Dependents

Figure 85: How many times in your life have you ever been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant? (include a current pregnancy, if any)



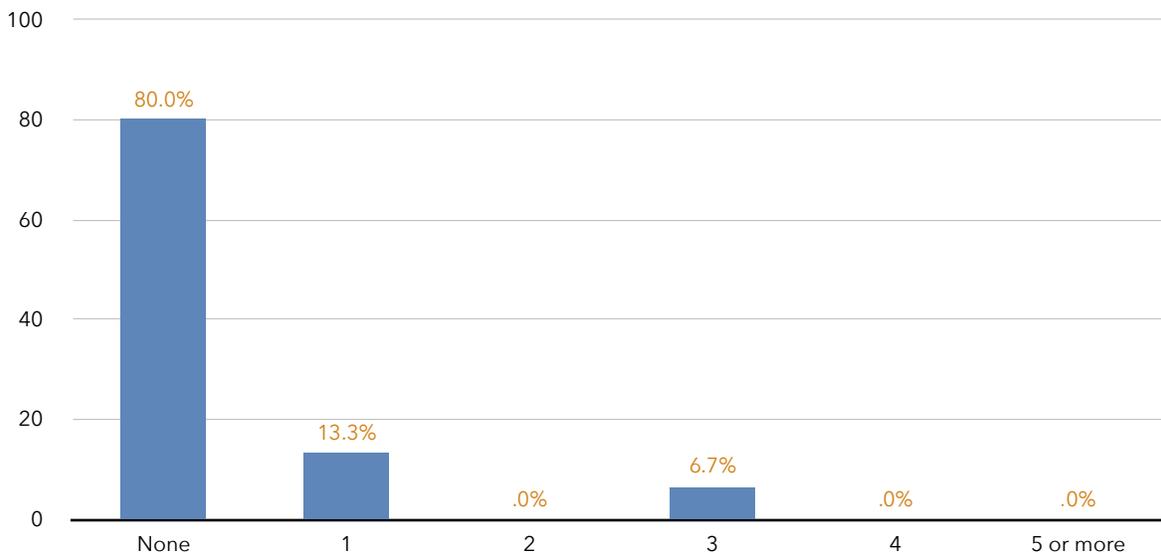
N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- The majority of survey respondents (66.7%) had never been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant.
- 20.0% of respondents had been pregnant one time, or had gotten someone pregnant one time at the time of the survey.

Figure 86: How Many Biological Children Have You Had?



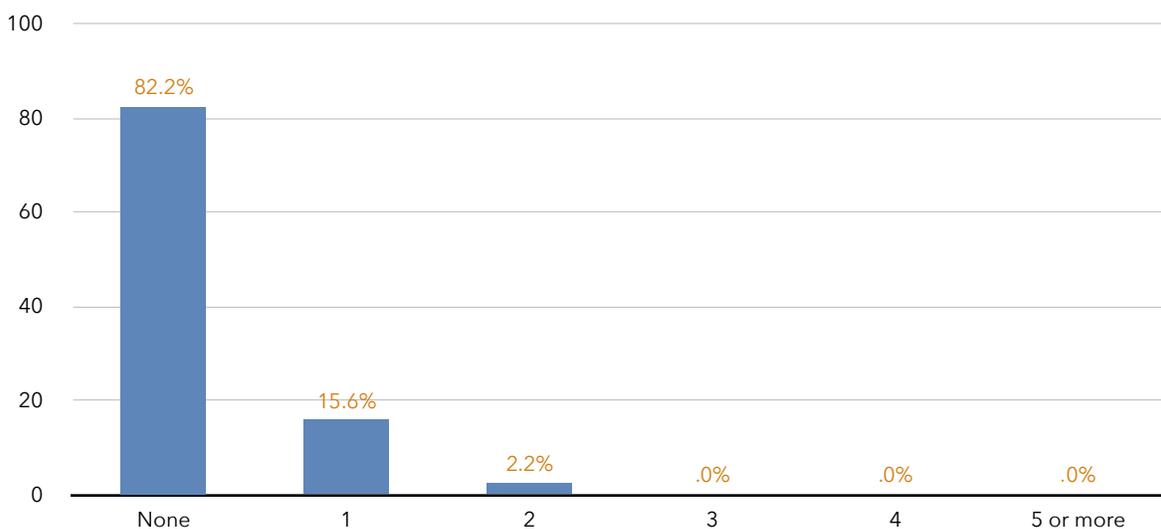
N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- Most (80.0%) of survey respondents have had no biological children.
- 13.3% of survey respondents have had 1 biological child, and 6.7% have had 3 biological children.

Figure 87: How Many Children Do You Currently Have Custody Of?



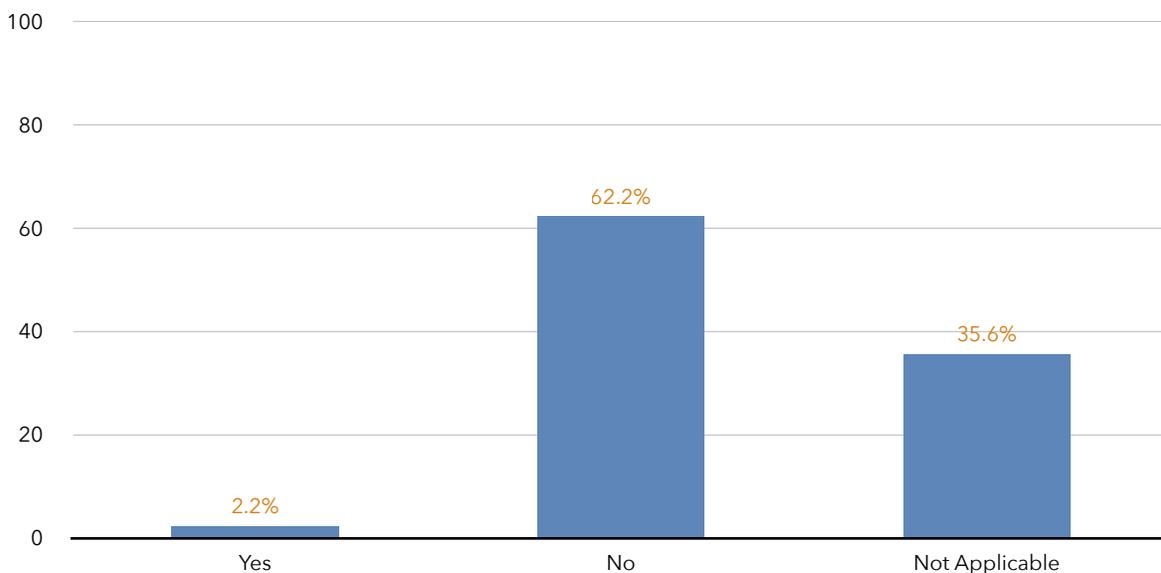
N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

Summary:

- 82.2% of survey respondents do not currently have custody of any children.
- 15.6% of survey respondents had custody of 1 child, and 2.2% of survey respondents had custody of 2 children at the time of the survey.

Figure 88: Have you Ever Had a Child Removed From Your Care or Taken Away (by CPS, DCFS)?



N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas. NV.

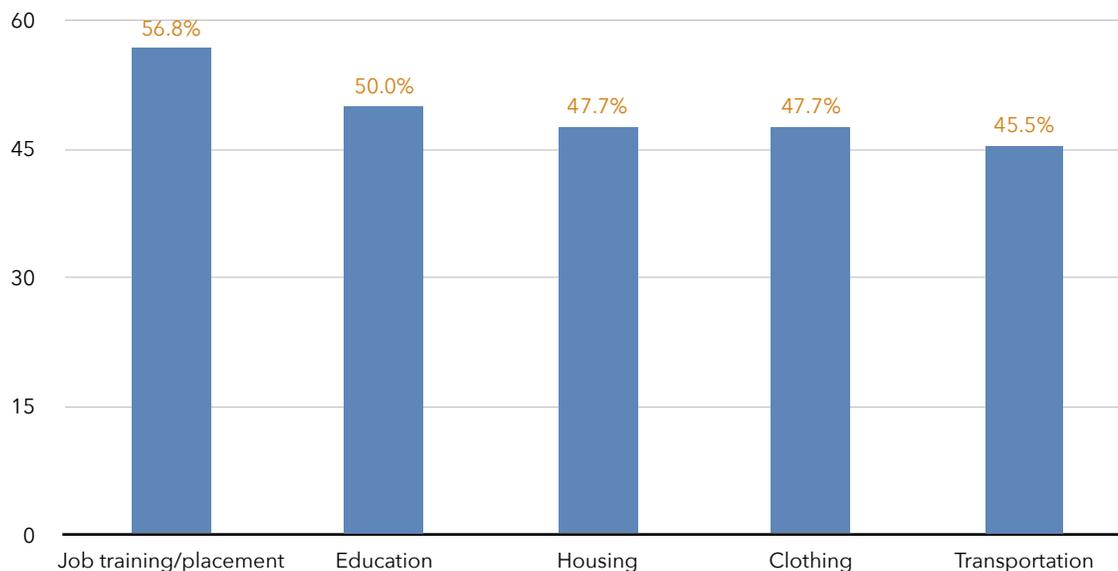
Summary:

- 62.2% of survey respondents stated that CPS/DCFS had never removed a child from their care.

6.3 Current Needs and Support

6.3a Current Service Needs

Figure 89: Current Needs (Top 5 Responses)



Multiple response question.

44 respondents provided 188 responses in 2015

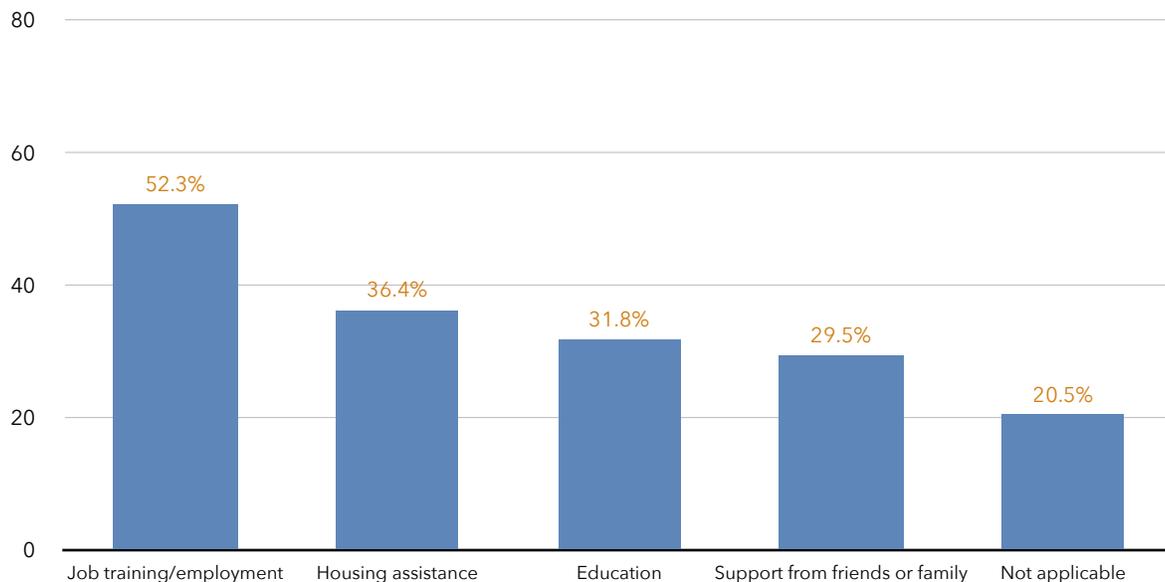
Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- The most commonly cited service need was *Job training/placement* (56.8%).
- 50.0% of all respondents cited *Education* needs. 47.7% of all respondents cited *Housing* needs. Similarly, 47.7% of all respondents cited *Clothing* needs.
- 45.5% of respondents cited *Transportation* needs.

Figure 90: Assistance Identified as Helpful to Prevent Homelessness (Top 5 Responses)

The following service types were identified by respondents as services that could help them "get off the streets":



Multiple response question.

44 respondents provided 84 responses in 2015;

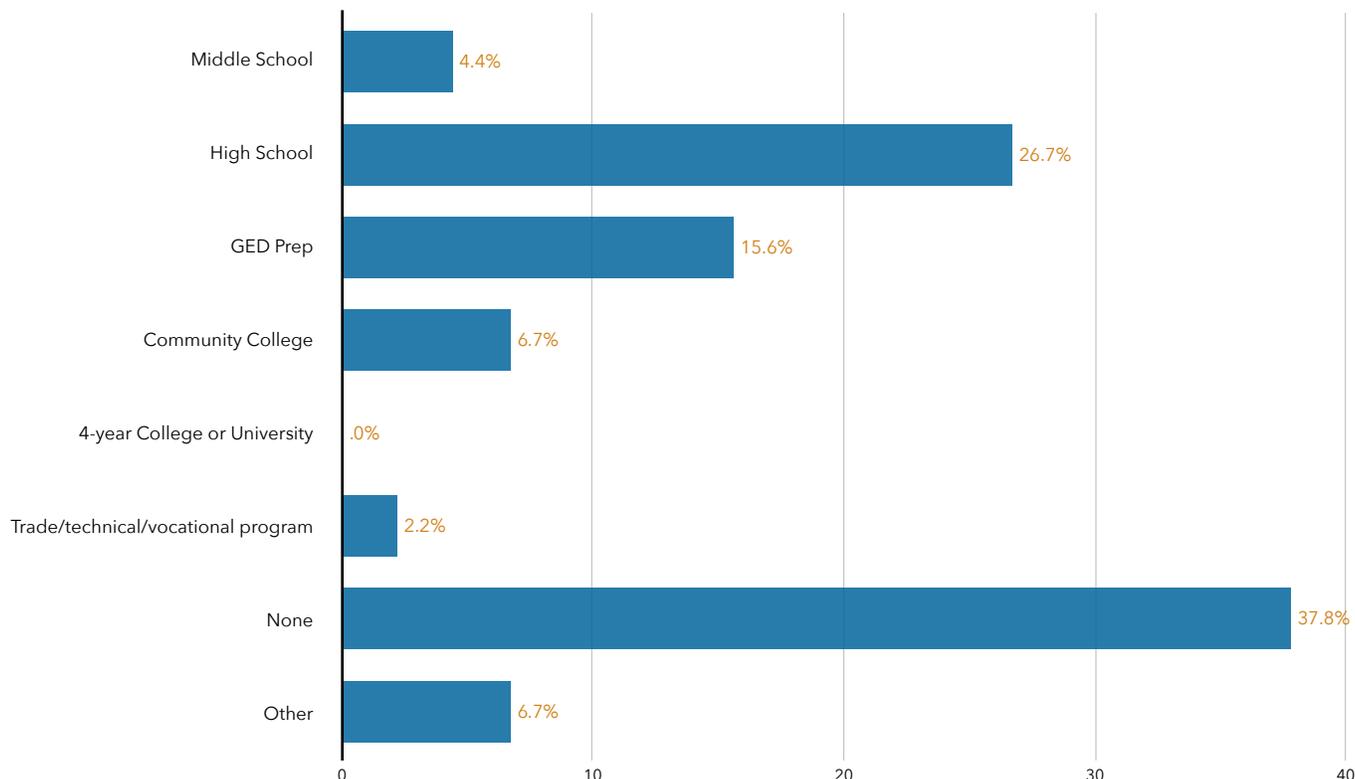
Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- *Job training/employment* was the most commonly cited service that would help respondents get off the streets (52.3%)
- 36.4% of respondents cited *Housing assistance* as a service category that would help them get off the streets. 31.8% of respondents cited *Education* as helpful to getting them off the streets.
- 29.5% of respondents cited *Support from friends or family* as helpful to getting them off the streets.

6.3b Educational Situation and Needs

Figure 91: Are You Currently In Any Kind Of Educational Program?



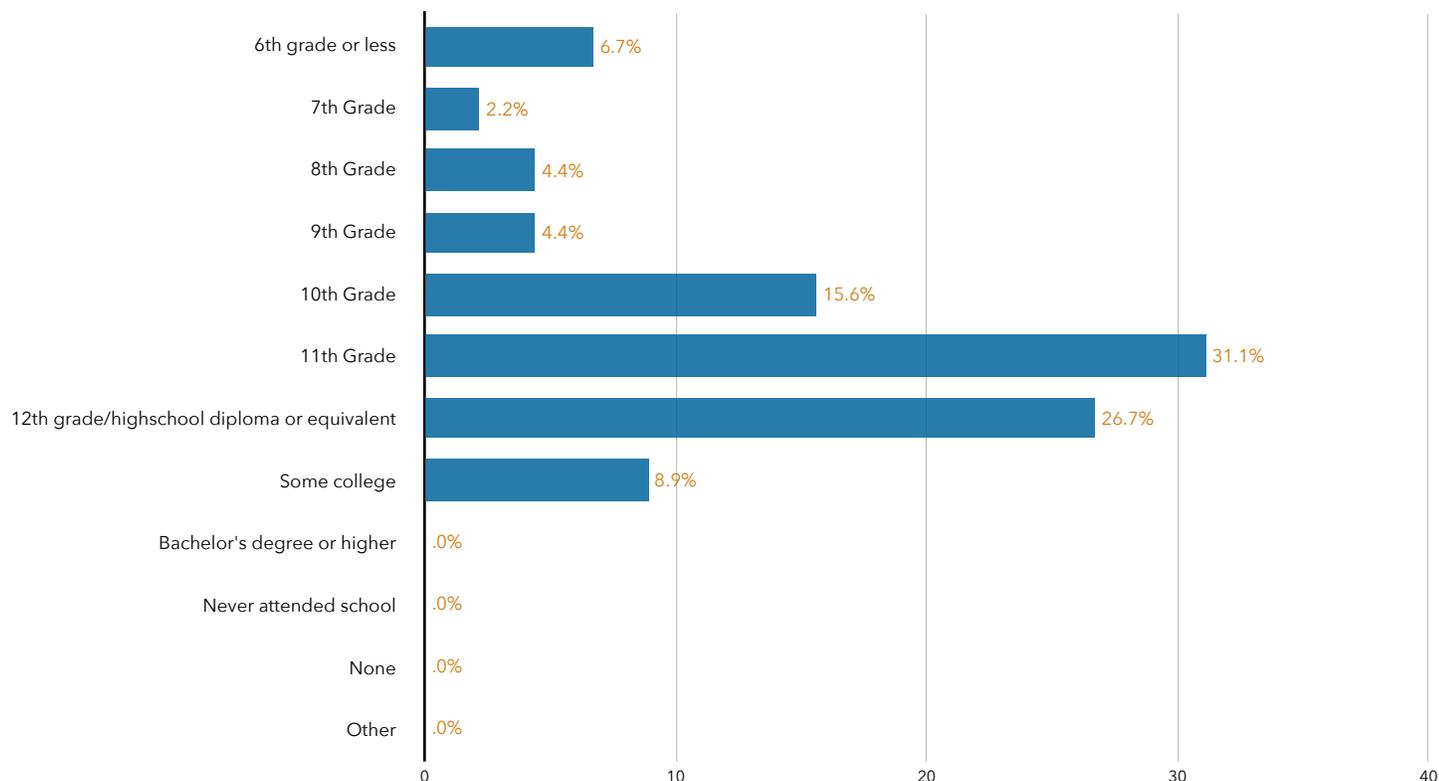
N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- Most (37.8%) of survey respondents reported that they were not currently in any educational program at the time of the survey.
- 26.7% of survey respondents were in *high school* at the time of the survey, and 15.6% were in a *GED Prep program*.

Figure 92: What is the Highest Grade You Have Completed?



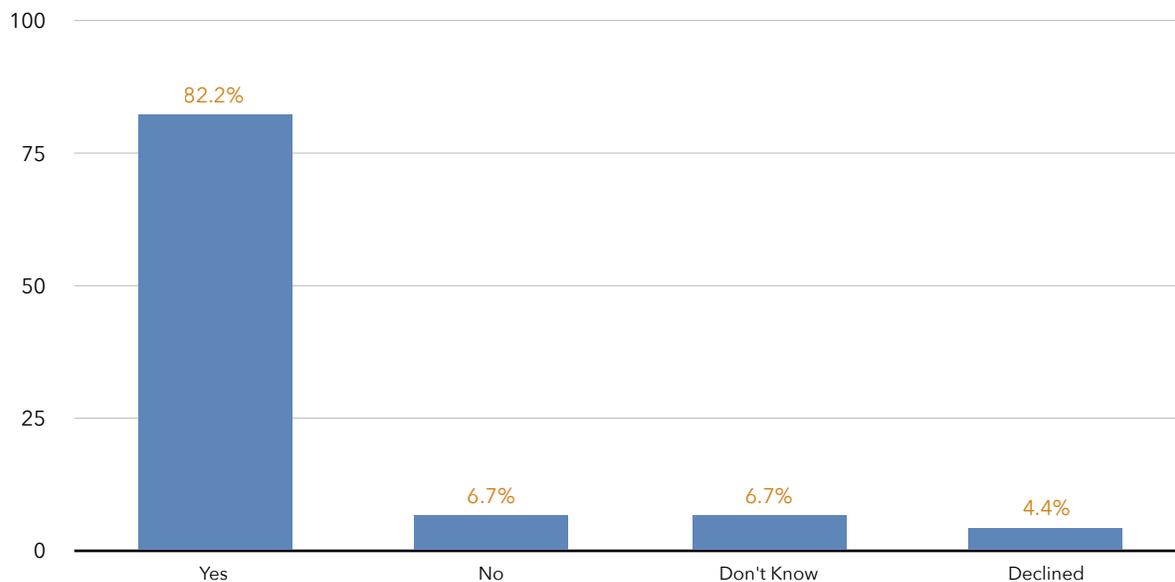
N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- Most respondents had reached the 11th grade (31.1%), and 26.7% of survey respondents had finished 12th grade or earned their diploma/equivalent.
- 6.7% of survey respondents had reached only 6th grade.
- 8.9% of survey respondents had some college experience, none had a bachelor's degree.
- All survey respondents had attended some amount of school.

Figure 93: Would You Be Interested In Receiving Educational Services If They Were Available To You?



N: 2015 = 45

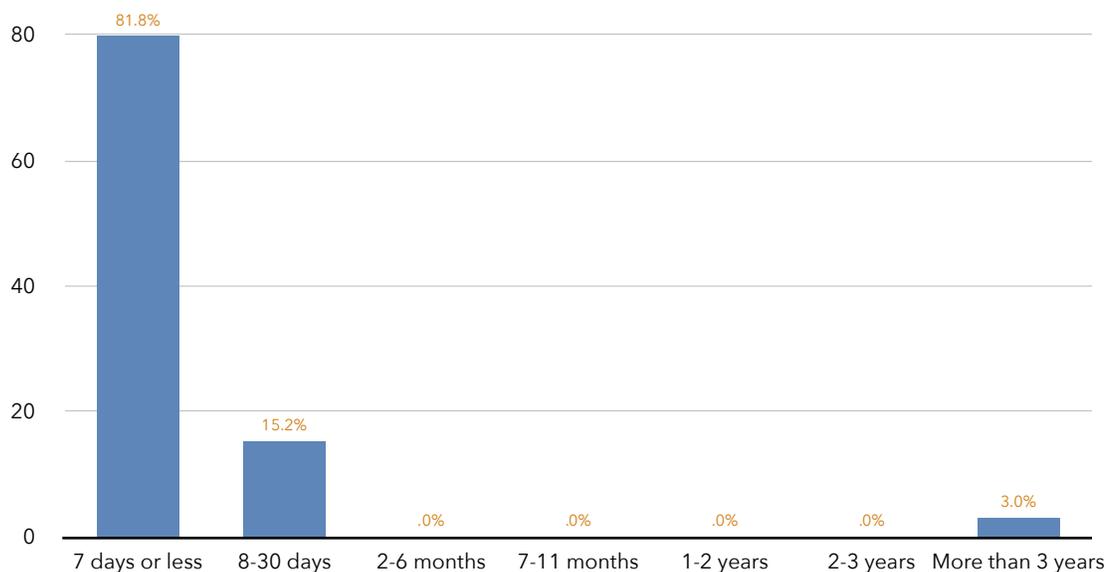
Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- Most survey respondents (82.2%) would be interested in receiving educational services if they were available.

6.3c Structure and Components of Social Support System

Figure 94: Last Time Respondents Were in Contact with Parent(s) or Primary Caregiver(s)



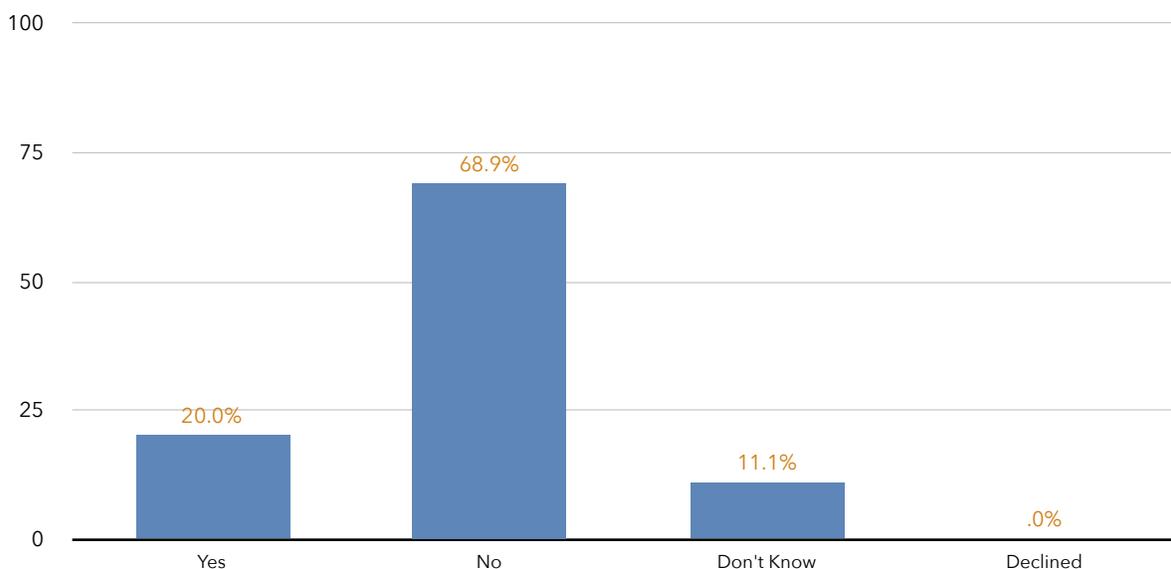
N: 2015 = 33

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- The majority of survey respondents (81.8%) last had contact with their parent(s) or primary caregiver(s) *7 days or less* before they were surveyed.
- 15.2% of respondents last had contact with their parent(s) or primary caregiver(s) *8-30 days* before they were surveyed.
- 3% of respondents last had contact with their parent(s) or primary caregiver(s) *more than 3 years* before they were surveyed.

Figure 95: Were/Are Your Parent(s) or Primary Caregiver(s) Homeless?



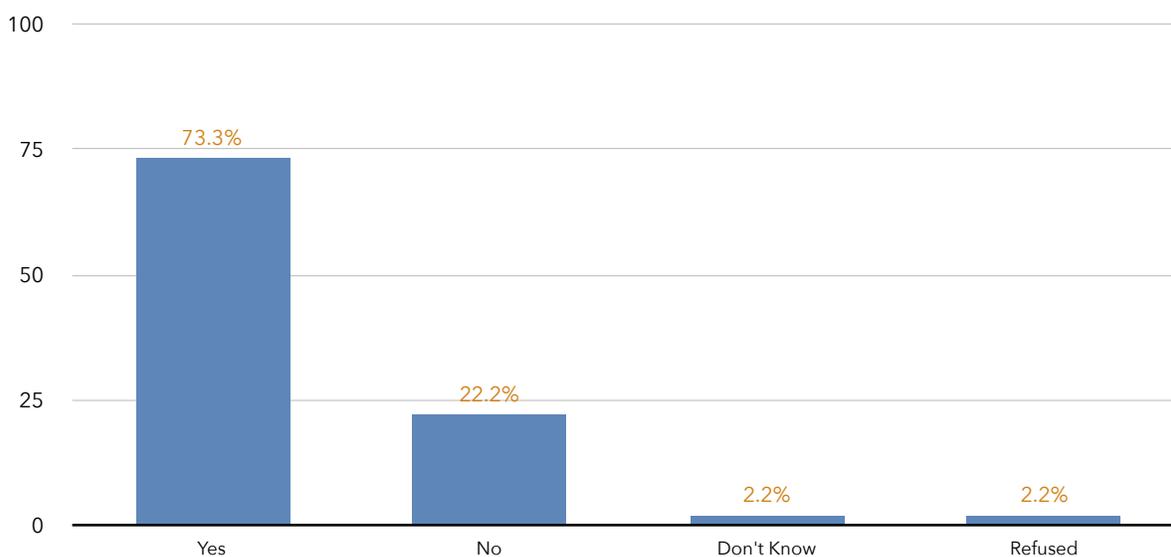
N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- The majority (68.9%) of survey respondents reported that their parent(s) or primary caregiver(s) were not ever homeless, or were not homeless at the time of the survey.

Figure 96: Do You Have Contact With Your Parent(s) or Primary Caregiver(s)?



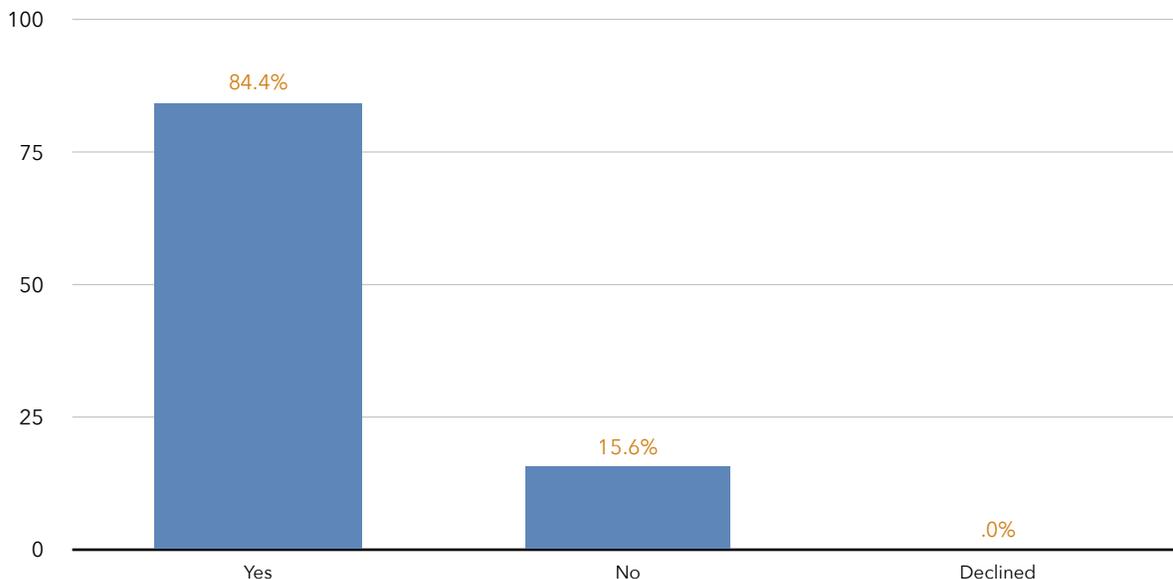
N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- The majority of respondents (73.3%) were still in contact with their parent(s) or primary caregiver(s).

Figure 97 Part 1: Currently Is There At Least One Adult in Your Life to Whom You Can Go For Advice or Emotional Support?



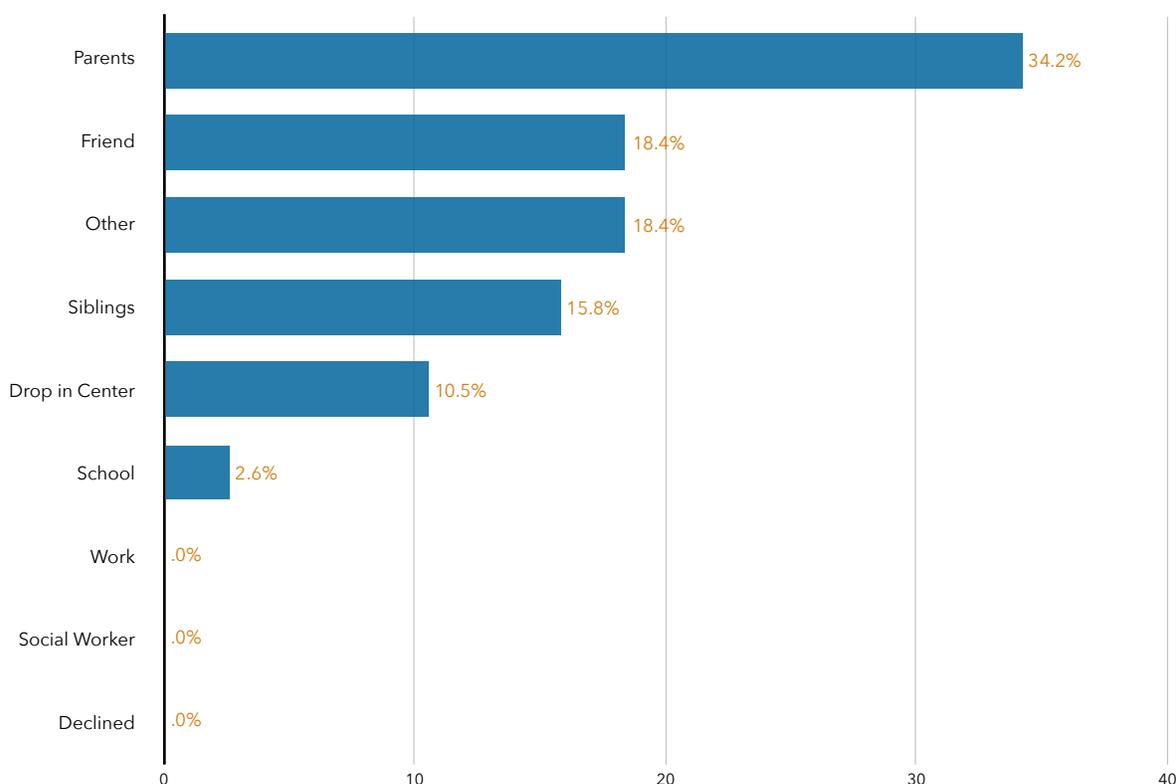
N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- The majority of survey respondents (84.4%) reported that they had an adult to whom they could go for advice and emotional support.

Figure 97 Part 2: How Do You Know This Person?



N: 2015 = 38

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

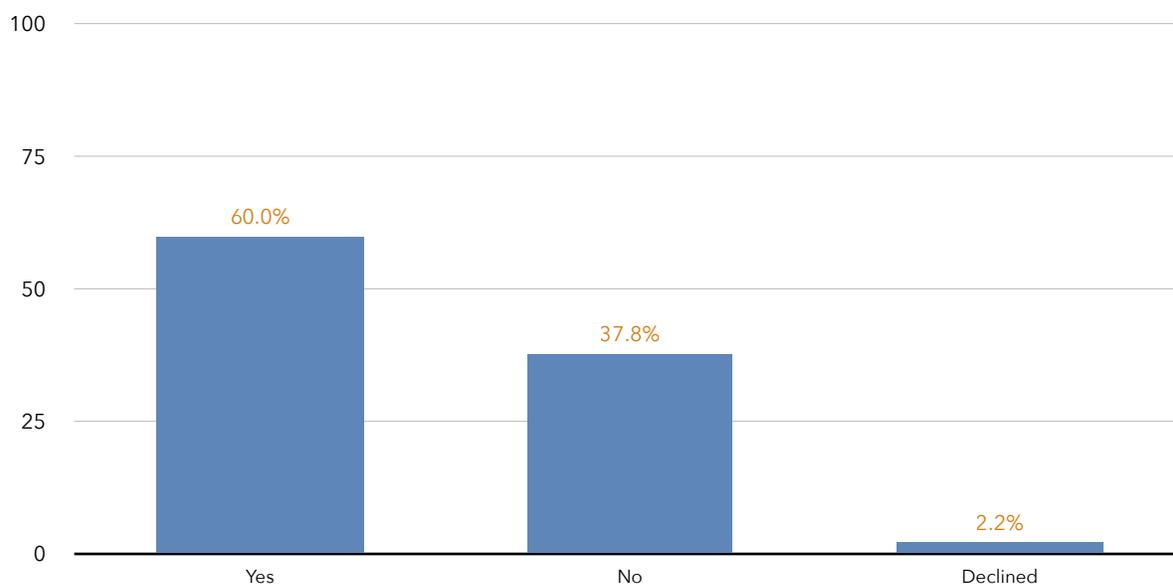
Summary:

- Most survey respondents (34.2%) reported that their parent was the individual to whom they could go to for advice and emotional support, followed by friends and other persons (both 18.4%), and siblings (15.8%).
- 10.5% of survey respondents found their supportive adult at a drop-in center, and 2.6% reported their supportive adult was at their school.

6.4 Service Utilization

6.4a Type of Assistance Utilized

Figure 98: Have You Ever Voluntarily Sought Formal Counseling Services Through a Government, Church, or Youth Program?



N: 2015 = 45

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

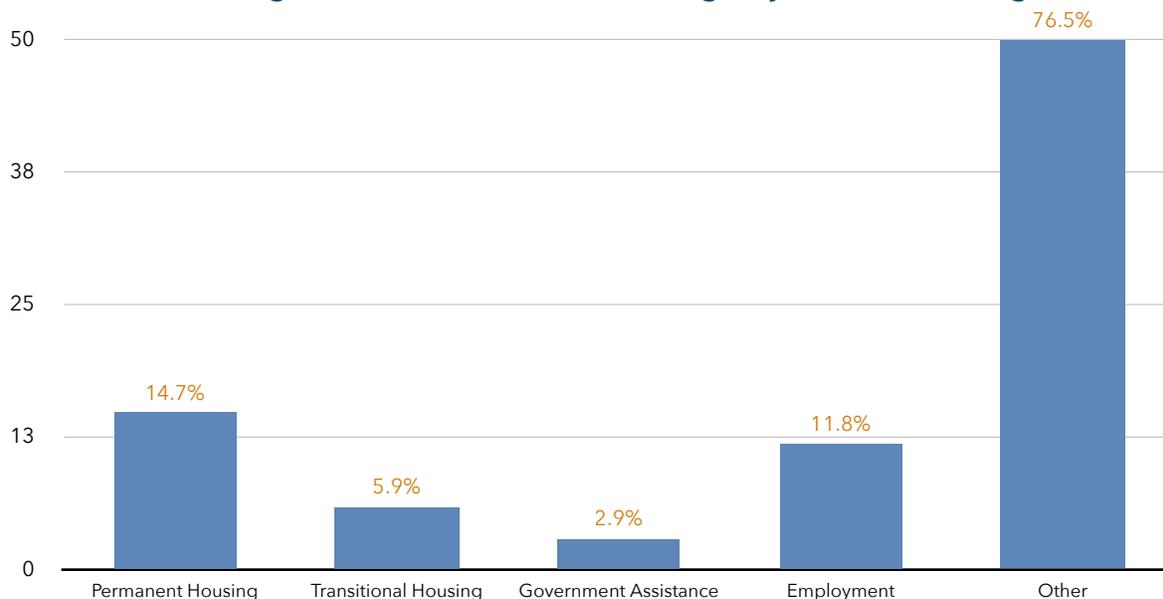
- 60% of survey respondents had voluntarily sought formal counseling services through a government, church, or youth program at some point in their past.

6.4b Barriers to Assistance

6.4b.1 Factors Preventing Respondents from Seeking Services

In 2015, the majority of respondents (66.7%) cited *Other* as a primary factor preventing them from seeking services. 25.6% reported *Don't trust anyone* as a primary reason, and 20.5% cited *Don't have transportation* as a reason. 7.7% cited *Afraid that their parents will be contacted* as a primary reason. 2.6% cited *Afraid they will be put in Child Protective Services* as a primary reason.

Figure 99: Does Your Age Prevent You From Receiving Any of the Following?



Multiple response question.

34 respondents provided 38 responses in 2015;

Source: Bitfocus Inc., (2015), 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, NV.

Summary:

- 23.5% of survey respondents reported that their age prevented them from receiving *permanent housing, transitional housing, or government assistance*.
- 11.8% of survey respondents reported that their age prevented them from obtaining *employment*, and 76.5% stated their age prevented them from receiving *other services or goals*.

7. CONCLUSION

The information collected in the 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report is of both local and nationwide importance. On a local level, this report will offer providers and agencies the information they need to apply for the necessary funding to alter and improve existing services. In general, this information will enhance the homeless services available to those in need within the Southern Nevada region. It also raises community awareness regarding the scope and characteristics of homelessness in Southern Nevada.

On a national level, the data provided in this report will be merged with the confluence of other data provided by communities across the nation. This information will help to build the next Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), which is to be presented to Congress to assist policy-makers in their funding decisions. The AHAR is used to provide nationwide estimates of homelessness, including information about the demographic characteristics of homeless persons, service-use patterns, and the capacity to house homeless persons. Therefore, important decisions will be based upon the 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report, and other reports like it.

The Southern Nevada Point-in-Time (PIT) Count took place on January 28, 2015. The results of any Point-in-Time Count, including that of Southern Nevada, must be regarded in a conservative manner, as they may not represent the true number of homeless individuals and families. Even the most comprehensive methodology cannot account for those homeless individuals who remain hidden or not visible to enumeration teams (e.g. women and children). Despite these challenges, the 2015 PIT Count was able to identify 7,509 homeless persons in Southern Nevada. 47.8% of those enumerated were sheltered, while 52.2% were unsheltered.

Between January 2013 and January 2014, homelessness declined by 2 percent (or 13,344 people), and by 11 percent (or 72,718) since 2007. The overall decline was driven by the 19,697 fewer people homeless in unsheltered locations (a 10% decline between 2013 and 2014). The number of sheltered homeless people (emergency shelter or transitional housing programs) increased by 6,353 more people, or about 2 percent between 2013 and 2014. Chronic homelessness among individuals declined by 3 percent, or by 2,164 people, between 2013 and 2014, and declined by 21 percent, or 22,892 people, between 2010 and 2014. Veteran homelessness dropped by 11 percent between 2013 and 2014, or 5,846 fewer homeless veterans. This was the steepest decline since veteran homelessness fell by 12 percent from 2010 to 2011. The highest rate of decline was among the unsheltered homeless veteran population, which decreased by 14 percent (2,985 persons). The number of sheltered homeless Veterans fell by 8 percent (2,861 persons) between 2013 and 2014.

Between 2009 and 2014, homelessness among veterans declined by 33 percent (or 24,117 persons). At the time of this report, the national homeless data for 2015 has not been published.¹

Regarding Southern Nevada, the amount of homeless persons enumerated in the 2015 PIT Count represents a 0.9% (66 persons) increase from the 2014 Southern Nevada PIT Count.

“ ... the amount of homeless persons enumerated in the 2015 PIT Count represents a **0.9% (66 persons) increase** from the 2014 Southern Nevada PIT Count.”

In order to optimize resource utilization, extraneous census tracts were removed from the 2015 enumeration effort. More specifically, census tracts that yielded zero enumeration in 2011, 2013, and 2014 were overlaid with data from first responder calls for homeless persons, and those census tracts that previously yielded both zero enumeration and zero first responder calls were removed from the 2015 census tract canvassing. This resulted in census tract coverage of 72.5%.

It is important to note that the 2014 PIT count encountered unexpected challenges to conduct a full canvassing of Southern Nevada (as was conducted in 2015). However, with the 72.5% coverage and utilizing the HUD approved extrapolation of like census tract data, HUD still considered the 2014 count to hold the validity and reliability of a full canvassing. Therefore, because 2015 used the same full canvassing methodology as 2014 and previous years, any comparisons made between the data collected in 2011, 2013, 2014, and now 2015 can be viewed as valid and reliable.

Homelessness is an interpersonal issue, with varied catalysts. Likewise, the contributing factors that reduce and successfully address the issue is multi-faceted with many variables such as; employment rates, access to physical and mental health care, housing assistance programs and community planning/growth. The full list of contributing factors is explored in the Help Hope Home Plan to End Homelessness Implementation Plan 2013 5-year update.

¹ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development. *The 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress. 2014*

APPENDIX I: STREET CENSUS INSTRUMENT





2015 Clark County Homeless Census

Street County Tally Sheet Map #: City:

Team Member 1:	Deployment Center:	Date:
Team Member 2:	Deployment Center Captain:	
Team Member 3:	Deployment Center Phone #:	

INDIVIDUALS			
	Under 18 Age	18-24 Age	25+ Age
Male			
Female			
Undetermined Gender			

HOUSEHOLDS (2+ Family / Household Members)									
	Male			Female			Undetermined Gender		
	< 18	18-24	25+	< 18	18-24	25+	< 18	18-24	25+
Household Unit #1									
Household Unit #2									
Household Unit #3									
Household Unit #4									
Household Unit #5									

Note: If more than 5 households, use back of tally sheet.

USE SECTION BELOW WHEN # OF PERSONS NOT VISIBLE

VEHICLES, BUILDINGS, & PARKS	Tally
# of CARS with occupants	
# of VANS with occupants	
# of RVs with occupants	
# of Abandoned/Foreclosed BUILDINGS with occupants	
# of people in PARKS reported by Park Ranger	

ENCAMPMENTS with Occupants	# of tents or structures
Encampment #1	
Encampment #2	
Encampment #3	
Encampment #4	
Encampment #5	

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	HOUSEHOLDS								
	Male			Female			Undetermined Gender		
	< 18	18-24	25+	< 18	18-24	25+	< 18	18-24	25+
Household Unit #6									
Household Unit #7									
Household Unit #8									
Household Unit #9									
Household Unit #10									
Household Unit #11									
Household Unit #12									
Household Unit #13									
Household Unit #14									
Household Unit #15									
Household Unit #16									
Household Unit #17									
Household Unit #18									
Household Unit #19									
Household Unit #20									
Household Unit #21									
Household Unit #22									
Household Unit #23									
Household Unit #24									
Household Unit #25									
Household Unit #26									
Household Unit #27									
Household Unit #28									
Household Unit #29									
Household Unit #30									

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APPENDIX II: HOMELESS SURVEY INSTRUMENT

2015 CLARK COUNTY HOMELESS SURVEY

(Office use)

REFUSALS: _____ INTERVIEW DATE: _____

Interviewer's (Your) Name: _____

Neighborhood or city of interview: _____

Respondent's Full Name: _____

Respondent's Signature: _____

INTERVIEWER: Read question & answers to the respondent.

SHADE CIRCLES LIKE THIS → ●

BLACK PEN ONLY

NOT LIKE THIS → ⊗

1. VI: What is your birth date?
 Month _____ Day _____ Year _____
- 2a. Which racial AND ethnic group do you identify with most? (Shade all that apply)

<input type="radio"/> White/Caucasian	<input type="radio"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native
<input type="radio"/> Black/African American	<input type="radio"/> Asian
<input type="radio"/> Hispanic/Latino	<input type="radio"/> Pacific Islander
<input type="radio"/> Other	<input type="radio"/> Other
- 2b. Hispanic/Latino Non Hispanic/Latino
3. How do you identify yourself?
 Female Male
 Are you pregnant? Yes No
 Transgender Male to Female
 Transgender Female to Male
4. Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?
 Yes No Don't Know Decline to state
- 4b. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?
 Yes No Don't Know Decline to state
- 4c. What is your discharge status?
 Honorable Other than Honorable Other
 General Dishonorable N/A
- 4d. In which war theater did you serve? (Shade all that apply)
 World War II Gulf War I Other
 Korea Gulf War II None
 Vietnam Afghanistan Iraq
5. Are you alone tonight?
 Yes (Skip to question 6) No
- 5a. Tonight are you staying with: (Shade all that apply)
 Spouse or significant other Other family member(s)
 Child/children Friend(s)
 Parent or legal guardian Other _____
 Street family
6. Do you have any children?
 Yes No (Skip to question 7)
- 6a. Are any of your children currently living with you?
 Yes No
- 6b. Are your children: (Shade all that apply)

	1	2	3	4+
<input type="radio"/> 18 years or over How many?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> 0-5 years old How many?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> 6-12 years old How many?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> 13-17 years old How many?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
- 6c. Are your children ages 5-17 in school? Yes No
- 6d. Do you have any children in foster care?
 Yes No
- 6e. For persons in households with at least one parent/guardian and one child:

How many children do you have under 18	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How many adults aged 18-24	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How many adults over age 24	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
- 6f. Persons in household without children:

How many adults ages 18-24	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How many adults over age 24	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Is this the first time you have been homeless?
 Yes (Skip to question 8) No
- 7a. VI: In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including this present time? (Shade only 1)
 One time 3 times 5 times More than 6 times
 2 times 4 times 6 times
- 7b. In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including this present time? (Shade only 1)
 One time 3 times 5 times More than 6 times
 2 times 4 times 6 times
8. VI: How long have you been homeless this present time? (Shade only 1)
 7 days or less 1-3 months 7-11 months
 8-30 days 3-6 months 1 year More than 1 year
- 8a. How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent housing situation? (Shade only 1)
 7 days or less 4 months 8 months 12 months
 8-30 days 5 months 9 months 1-2 years
 2 months 6 months 10 months 2-3 years
 3 months 7 months 11 months More than 3 years
9. Where do you usually stay at night, since you have been homeless? (Shade only 1)

<input type="radio"/> Outdoors/streets/parks	<input type="radio"/> A place in a house not normally used for sleeping (kitchen, living room, etc.)
<input type="radio"/> Uncovered Garage/attic/basement	<input type="radio"/> Emergency Shelter
<input type="radio"/> Backyard or storage structure	<input type="radio"/> Public Facilities
<input type="radio"/> Motel/hotel	<input type="radio"/> Transitional Housing
<input type="radio"/> Automobile	<input type="radio"/> Other Shelter
<input type="radio"/> Van	<input type="radio"/> Other
<input type="radio"/> Camper/RV	<input type="radio"/> Encampment
<input type="radio"/> Abandoned building	<i>About how many people sleep in each tent, tarp or structure?</i>
<i>How many people, including yourself, usually stay here?</i>	
10. Immediately before you became homeless this last time, were you: (Shade only 1)

<input type="radio"/> Living in a home owned by you or your partner	<input type="radio"/> In jail or prison
<input type="radio"/> Renting a home or apartment	<input type="radio"/> In a hospital
<input type="radio"/> Staying with friends	<input type="radio"/> In a mental health facility
<input type="radio"/> Living with relatives	<input type="radio"/> In a substance abuse treatment program
<input type="radio"/> Living in subsidized housing	<input type="radio"/> In foster care
<input type="radio"/> Other	<input type="radio"/> Other
11. Where were you living right before you most recently became homeless (Shade only 1)

<input type="radio"/> Clark County	<input type="radio"/> Out of State
<input type="radio"/> Other area in Nevada, outside of Clark County	
12. What is keeping you from getting permanent housing? (Shade all that apply)

<input type="radio"/> can't afford rent	<input type="radio"/> Bad credit
<input type="radio"/> No job / no income	<input type="radio"/> Eviction record
<input type="radio"/> No money for moving costs	<input type="radio"/> Criminal record
<input type="radio"/> No housing available	<input type="radio"/> In jail or prison
<input type="radio"/> No transportation	<input type="radio"/> Other _____
13. What do you think are the top three events or conditions that led to your homelessness? (Shade up to 3)

<input type="radio"/> Lost Job	<input type="radio"/> Family/domestic violence
<input type="radio"/> Landlord sold/stopped renting	<input type="radio"/> Gambling problem
<input type="radio"/> Landlord raised rent	<input type="radio"/> Got too old for foster care
<input type="radio"/> Alcohol or drug use	<input type="radio"/> Divorced or separated
<input type="radio"/> Incarceration	<input type="radio"/> Natural disaster/fire/flood
<input type="radio"/> Illness or medical problem	<input type="radio"/> For being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender
<input type="radio"/> Mental health issues	<input type="radio"/> Other _____
<input type="radio"/> Argument/family or friend asked you to leave	<input type="radio"/> Don't know / decline to state

(Office use)

14. Are you currently using any of the following services/assistance? (Shade all that apply)

<input type="radio"/> Emergency Shelter	<input type="radio"/> Shelter day services
<input type="radio"/> Transitional Housing	<input type="radio"/> Legal assistance
<input type="radio"/> Free meals	<input type="radio"/> Health services
<input type="radio"/> Food Pantry	<input type="radio"/> Mental health services
<input type="radio"/> Bus passes	<input type="radio"/> Other _____
<input type="radio"/> Job training	<input type="radio"/> Not using any services
<input type="radio"/> Alcohol / Drug counseling	

15. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance? (Shade all that apply)

General Assistance or General Relief
 Food Stamps
 Service-connected VA Disability Compensation
 Not service-connected VA Disability Pension
 Other Veteran's Benefits
 Social Security
 SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI
 TANF
 WIC
 Clark County Social Service housing assistance
 Other governmental assistance (State disability benefits, workers compensation, unemployment, etc)
 (If yes to any of these, go to 16)
 I am not currently receiving any of these
 (Continue with question 15a)

16. What is your total monthly income from all Government benefits? (County, State, Federal monies) (Shade only 1)

<input type="radio"/> Zero	<input type="radio"/> \$301 - \$400	<input type="radio"/> \$701 - \$800
<input type="radio"/> \$1 - \$100	<input type="radio"/> \$401 - \$500	<input type="radio"/> \$801 - \$900
<input type="radio"/> \$101 - \$200	<input type="radio"/> \$501 - \$600	<input type="radio"/> \$901 - \$1,000
<input type="radio"/> \$201 - \$300	<input type="radio"/> \$601 - \$700	<input type="radio"/> Over \$1,000

17. What is your current employment status? (Shade only 1)

<input type="radio"/> Unemployed	<input type="radio"/> Employed full-time
<input type="radio"/> Retired	<input type="radio"/> Employed part-time
<input type="radio"/> Student	<input type="radio"/> Self-employed (Skip to question 18)
<input type="radio"/> Homemaker	<input type="radio"/> Seasonal Worker

17a. What is keeping you from getting employment? (Shade all that apply)

<input type="radio"/> Need education	<input type="radio"/> No permanent address
<input type="radio"/> Need training	<input type="radio"/> No transportation
<input type="radio"/> Need clothing	<input type="radio"/> No tools for trade
<input type="radio"/> No shower facilities	<input type="radio"/> No work permit (No SS #)
<input type="radio"/> No phone	<input type="radio"/> No photo identification
<input type="radio"/> Health problems	<input type="radio"/> Don't want to work
<input type="radio"/> Disabled	<input type="radio"/> No jobs
<input type="radio"/> Criminal record	<input type="radio"/> Retired
<input type="radio"/> Alcohol / drug issue	<input type="radio"/> Spouse/partner doesn't want me to work
<input type="radio"/> No child care	<input type="radio"/> Other _____

18. What are your other sources of income? (Shade all that apply)

<input type="radio"/> Family / Friends	<input type="radio"/> Selling other found items
<input type="radio"/> Pension	<input type="radio"/> Selling blood / plasma
<input type="radio"/> Child support	<input type="radio"/> Gambling
<input type="radio"/> Recycling	<input type="radio"/> Other _____
<input type="radio"/> Sex work	

19. What is your total monthly income from all non-Government sources? (Job, panhandling, recycling, etc) (Shade only 1)

<input type="radio"/> Zero	<input type="radio"/> \$301 - \$400	<input type="radio"/> \$701 - \$800
<input type="radio"/> \$1 - \$100	<input type="radio"/> \$401 - \$500	<input type="radio"/> \$801 - \$900
<input type="radio"/> \$101 - \$200	<input type="radio"/> \$501 - \$600	<input type="radio"/> \$901 - \$1,000
<input type="radio"/> \$201 - \$300	<input type="radio"/> \$601 - \$700	<input type="radio"/> Over \$1,000

20. Where do you usually get medical care? (Shade only 1)

<input type="radio"/> Hospital emergency room	<input type="radio"/> Private doctor
<input type="radio"/> Urgent care clinic	<input type="radio"/> Friend / family
<input type="radio"/> Public health clinic	<input type="radio"/> Don't ever go
<input type="radio"/> Veteran Affairs clinic	<input type="radio"/> Other _____
<input type="radio"/> Free clinic / community clinic	

21. Since you became homeless this last time, have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?
 Yes No

22. VI: How many times in the last 3 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment? (Office use)

23. How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment? (Office use)

24. VI: How many times in the last 12 months have you been hospitalized as an inpatient? (Office use)

25. How many nights in the last 12 months have you spent in jail or prison, if any? (Office use)

26. How many separate terms have you served in jail/prison in the last 12 months?
 Zero (Skip to question 26)
 1 2 3 4 5 6+ (Ask 26a and 26b)

26a. How long were you in jail/prison in the last 12 months? (Office use)

26b. Did you become homeless immediately after you were released from jail/prison?
 Yes No

	27aa. Does it prevent you from getting work or housing?	
27. VI: Are you experiencing now or in the past any of the following:	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27a. Physical Disability	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27b. Mental illness	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27c. Depression	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27d. Alcohol/drug abuse	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27e. Domestic violence/abuse	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27f. Chronic health problem	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27g. AIDS/HIV related illness	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27h. Tuberculosis	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27i. Hepatitis C	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27j. PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder)	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27k. Developmental Disability	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27l. Emphysema	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27m. Diabetes	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27n. Traumatic brain injury	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27o. Cancer	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27p. Kidney disease/end stage renal disease or dialysis	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27q. History of hypothermia, frostbite, or immersion foot	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27r. Liver disease, cirrhosis, or end-stage liver disease	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
27s. Heart disease, arrhythmia, or irregular heartbeat	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

28. VI: Have you ever abused drugs/alcohol, or been told you do? Yes No

29. VI: Have you ever consumed alcohol everyday for the past month? Yes No

30. VI: Have you ever used injection drugs or shots? Yes No

31. VI: Have you ever been treated for drug or alcohol abuse? Yes No

32. VI: Are you currently or have you ever received treatment for mental health issues? Yes No

33. VI: Were you ever taken to the hospital against your will for mental health reasons? Yes No

DO NOT ASK: Surveyor, do you observe signs or symptoms of:

34. VI: Serious physical health conditions Yes No

35. VI: Alcohol or drug abuse Yes No

36. VI: Severe persistent mental illness Yes No

37. Do you have a pet?
 No
 Yes, Number: 1 2 3 4 5 6+
 What Kind: Dog Cat Reptile Other _____

38. Were you ever in foster care? Yes No

APPENDIX III: HOMELESS SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY

1. Age

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 13 years	5	0.5%
13-17	6	0.7%
18-21	37	4.0%
22-30	110	11.9%
31- 40	137	14.9%
41-50	243	26.4%
51-60	282	30.6%
More than 60 years	102	11.1%
Total	922	100%

2. Which racial group do you identify with the most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
White/Caucasian	444	48.2%
Black/African American	332	36.0%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	26	2.8%
Asian	44	4.8%
Pacific Islander	13	1.4%
Other/Multi-Ethnic	98	10.6%
Total: Multiple response question with 922 respondents offering 957 responses.		

2b. Which ethnic group do you identify with?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Hispanic/Latino	147	16.4%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	752	83.6%
Total	899	100%

3. How do you identify yourself?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Female	289	31.3%
Male	633	68.7%
Transgender male to female	0	0.0%
Transgender female to male	0	0.0%
Total	922	100%

3a. Are you pregnant?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	15	5.2%
No	276	94.8%
Total	291	100%

4. Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	116	12.6%
No	792	86.4%
Don't Know	4	0.4%
Declined to State	5	0.5%
Total	917	100%

4b. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	29	3.2%
No	862	95.6%
Don't Know	7	0.8%
Declined to State	4	0.4%
Total	902	100%

4c. What is your discharge status?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Honorable	79	74.5%
General	13	12.3%
Other than honorable	8	7.5%
Dishonorable	0	0.0%
Other	4	3.8%
N/A	2	1.9%
Total	106	100%

4d. In which war theater did you serve?

Response	Frequency	Percent
World War II	0	0.0%
Korea	1	1.0%
Vietnam	20	19.4%
Gulf War I	8	7.8%
Gulf War II	1	1.0%
Afghanistan	3	2.9%
Iraq	6	5.8%
Other	13	12.6%
None	55	53.4%
Total: Multiple response question with 103 respondents offering 107 responses.		

5. Are you alone tonight?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	692	75.7%
No	222	24.3%
Total	914	100%

5a. Tonight are you staying with:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Spouse or significant other	69	34.7%
Child/children	35	17.6%
Parent or legal guardian	7	3.5%
Street family	17	8.5%
Other family member(s)	6	3.0%
Friend(s)	35	17.6%
Other	42	21.1%
Total: Multiple response question with 199 respondents offering 211 responses.		

6. Do you have any children?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	423	46.2%
No	493	53.8%
Total	916	100%

6a. Are any of your children currently living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	66	17.0%
No	323	83.0%
Total	389	100%

6b. Are your children:

Response	Frequency	Percent
18 years or older	268	63.7%
0-5 years old	95	22.6%
6-12 years old	106	25.2%
13-17 years old	103	24.5%
Total: Multiple response question with 421 respondents offering 572 responses		

6ba. How many children do you have that are 18 years or older?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	103	25.2%
2	89	21.8%
3	40	9.8%
4+	37	9.1%
None	139	34.1%
Total	408	100%

6bb. How many children do you have that are 0-5 years old?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	63	15.9%
2	24	6.0%
3	4	1.0%
4+	5	1.3%
None	301	75.8%
Total	397	100%

6bc. How many children do you have that are 6-12 years old?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	58	14.6%
2	40	10.1%
3	3	0.8%
4+	6	1.5%
None	291	73.1%
Total	398	100%

6bd. How many children do you have that are 13-17 years old?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	76	19.3%
2	18	4.6%
3	6	1.5%
4+	4	1.0%
None	290	73.6%
Total	394	100%

6c. Are your children ages 5 - 17 in school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	134	89.9%
No	15	10.1%
Total	149	100%

6d. Do you have any children in foster care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	30	8.2%
No	337	91.8%
Total	367	100%

6ea. [Families] How many children do you have under 18?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	19	30.2%
2	16	25.4%
3	7	11.1%
4+	6	9.5%
None	15	23.8%
Total	63	100%

6eb. [Families] How many adults aged 18-24?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	19	29.7%
2	3	4.7%
3	1	1.6%
4+	1	1.6%
None	40	62.5%
Total	64	100%

6ec. [Families] How many adults over age 24?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	8	12.5%
2	2	3.1%
3	2	3.1%
4+	1	1.6%
None	51	79.7%
Total	64	100%

6fa. [Adults Only Households] How many adults ages 18-24?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	55	17.3%
2	28	8.8%
3	13	4.1%
4+	10	3.1%
None	212	66.7%
Total	318	100%

6fb. [Adults Only Households] How many adults over age 24?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	59	18.6%
2	46	14.5%
3	23	7.3%
4+	19	6.0%
None	170	53.6%
Total	317	100%

7. Is this the first time you have been homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	491	53.8%
No	422	46.2%
Total	913	100%

7a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One time	191	51.8%
2 times	87	23.6%
3 times	40	10.8%
4 times	15	4.1%
5 times	9	2.4%
6 times	2	0.5%
More than 6 times	25	6.8%
Total	369	100%

7b. In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including this present time?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One time	118	32.6%
2 times	108	29.8%
3 times	49	13.5%
4 times	23	6.4%
5 times	14	3.9%
6 times	11	3.0%
More than 6 times	39	10.8%
Total	362	100%

8. How long have you been homeless this present time?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	80	8.7%
8-30 days	89	9.7%
1-3 months	176	19.2%
4-6 months	153	16.6%
7-11 months	90	9.8%
1 year	73	7.9%
More than 1 year	258	28.1%
Total	919	100%

8a. How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent housing situation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	74	8.1%
8-31 days	98	10.7%
2 months	59	6.4%
3 months	73	8.0%
4 months	49	5.4%
5 months	32	3.5%
6 months	60	6.6%
7 months	57	6.2%
8 months	23	2.5%
9 months	10	1.1%
10 months	4	0.4%
11 months	17	1.9%
12 months	36	3.9%
1-2 years	112	12.2%
2-3 years	74	8.1%
More than 3 years	137	15.0%
Total	915	100%

9. Where do you usually stay at night, since you have been homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Outdoors/streets/parks	284	30.9%
Uncovered garage/attic/basement	3	0.3%
Backyard or storage structure	9	1.0%
Motel/hotel	34	3.7%
Automobile	12	1.3%
Van	7	0.8%
Camper/RV	3	0.3%
Abandoned building	10	1.1%
A place in a house not normally meant for sleeping	8	0.9%
Emergency shelter	298	32.4%
Public Facilities	8	0.9%
Transitional Housing	87	9.5%
Other shelter	67	7.3%
Other	66	7.2%
Encampment	24	2.6%
Total	920	100%

10. Immediately before you became homeless this last time, were you:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Living in a home owned by you or your partner	79	8.6%
Renting a home or apartment	421	45.7%
Staying with friends	129	14.0%
Living with relatives	124	13.5%
Living in subsidized housing	11	1.2%
In a jail or prison	51	5.5%
In a hospital	5	0.5%
In a mental health facility	7	0.8%
In a substance abuse treatment program	4	0.4%
In foster care	1	0.1%
Other	89	9.7%
Total	921	100%

11. Where were you living right before you most recently became homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Clark County	651	71.4%
Other area in Nevada, outside of Clark County	43	4.7%
Out of state	218	23.9%
Total	912	100%

12. What is keeping you from getting permanent housing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Can't afford rent	417	45.4%
No job / no income	642	69.9%
No money for moving costs	249	27.1%
No housing available	87	9.5%
No transportation	203	22.1%
Bad credit	122	13.3%
Eviction record	62	6.7%
Criminal record	84	9.1%
In jail or prison	42	4.6%
Other	173	18.8%
Total: Multiple response question with 919 respondents offering 2,081 responses.		

13. What do you think are the top three events or conditions that led to your homelessness?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Lost job	492	53.5%
Landlord sold / stopped renting	40	4.3%
Landlord raised rent	36	3.9%
Alcohol or drug use	153	16.6%
Incarceration	98	10.7%
Illness or medical problem	132	14.3%
Mental Health issues	125	13.6%
Argument / family or friend asked you to leave	121	13.2%
Hospitalization / treatment program	46	5.0%
Lost home I owned through foreclosure	26	2.8%
Lost home I rented due to landlord's foreclosure	15	1.6%
Didn't receive housing assistance when I left jail/prison	30	3.3%
Family / domestic violence	113	12.3%
Gambling problem	30	3.3%
Got too old for foster care	4	0.4%
Divorced or separated	38	4.1%
Natural disaster / fire / flood	4	0.4%
For being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender	4	0.4%
Other	289	31.4%
Don't Know / Decline to state	28	3.0%
Total: Multiple response question with 920 respondents offering 1,824 responses.		

14. Are you currently using any of the following services/assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Emergency Shelter	412	45.1%
Transitional Housing	141	15.4%
Free meals	545	59.6%
Food Pantry	213	23.3%
Bus Passes	284	31.1%
Job training	77	8.4%
Alcohol / Drug counseling	41	4.5%
Shelter day services	197	21.6%
Legal assistance	32	3.5%
Health services	139	15.2%
Mental health services	106	11.6%
Other	68	7.4%
Not using any services	53	5.8%
Total: Multiple response question with 914 respondents offering 2,308 responses		

15. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of Government assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
General Assistance or General Relief	47	5.2%
Food Stamps	632	70.3%
Service-connected VA Disability Compensation	6	0.7%
Not service-connected VA Pension	7	0.8%
Other Veteran’s Benefits	10	1.1%
Social Security	43	4.8%
SSI / SSDI	78	8.7%
TANF	21	2.3%
WIC	18	2.0%
Clark County Social Service housing assistance	40	4.4%
Other governmental assistance	30	3.3%
I am not currently receiving any of these	173	19.2%
Total: Multiple response question with 899 respondents offering 1,105 responses.		

16. What is your total monthly income from all Government benefits?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	447	48.6%
\$1 - \$100	31	3.4%
\$101 - \$200	218	23.7%
\$201 - \$300	27	2.9%
\$301 - \$400	39	4.2%
\$401 - \$500	10	1.1%
\$501 - \$600	30	3.3%
\$601 - \$700	19	2.1%
\$701 - \$800	42	4.6%
\$801 - \$900	24	2.6%
\$901 - \$1,000	12	1.3%
Over \$1,000	20	2.2%
Total	919	100%

17. What is your current employment status?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Unemployed	769	84.0%
Retired	45	4.9%
Student	31	3.4%
Homemaker	2	0.2%
Employed full-time	15	1.6%
Employed part-time	30	3.3%
Self-employed	12	1.3%
Seasonal worker	11	1.2%
Total	915	100%

17a. What is keeping you from getting employment?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Need education	113	12.5%
Need training	159	17.5%
Need clothing	156	17.2%
No shower facilities	88	9.7%
No phone	129	14.2%
Health problems	149	16.4%
Disabled	132	14.6%
Criminal record	98	10.8%
Alcohol / drug issue	74	8.2%
No child care	23	2.5%
No permanent address	177	19.5%
No transportation	260	28.7%
No tools for trade	38	4.2%
No work permit (No SS#)	28	3.1%
No photo identification	104	11.5%
Don't want to work	15	1.7%
No jobs	136	15.0%
Retired	35	3.9%
Spouse / partner doesn't want me to work	4	0.4%
Other	175	19.3%
Total: Multiple response question with 907 respondents offering 2,093 responses.		

18. What are your other sources of income?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Family / Friends	111	17.2%
Pension	12	1.9%
Child support	10	1.5%
Recycling	68	10.5%
Sex work	9	1.4%
Selling other found items	16	2.5%
Selling blood / plasma	69	10.7%
Gambling	23	3.6%
Other	389	60.2%
Total: Multiple response question with 646 respondents offering 707 responses		

19. What is your total monthly income from all non-Government sources (job, panhandling, recycling, etc)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	677	73.7%
\$1 - \$100	98	10.7%
\$101 - \$200	56	6.1%
\$201 - \$300	26	2.8%
\$301 - \$400	8	0.9%
\$401 - \$500	6	0.7%
\$501 - \$600	7	0.8%
\$601 - \$700	6	0.7%
\$701 - \$800	8	0.9%
\$801 - \$900	9	1.0%
\$901 - \$1,000	2	0.2%
Over \$1,000	15	1.6%
Total	918	100%

20. Where do you usually get medical care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Hospital emergency room	335	36.5%
Urgent care clinic	90	9.8%
Public health clinic	54	5.9%
Veteran Affairs clinic	51	5.6%
Free clinic / community clinic	106	11.6%
Private Doctor	104	11.3%
Friend / Family	5	0.5%
Don't ever go	119	13.0%
Other	53	5.8%
Total	917	100%

21. Since you became homeless this last time, have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	216	23.8%
No	690	76.2%
Total	906	100%

22. How many times in the last 3 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never	571	62.2%
1 time	172	18.7%
2 times	87	9.5%
3 times	38	4.1%
4 times	12	1.3%
5 times	12	1.3%
More than 5 times	26	2.8%
Total	918	100%

23. How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never	463	50.3%
1 time	170	18.5%
2 times	111	12.1%
3 times	71	7.7%
4 times	30	3.3%
5 times	26	2.8%
More than 5 times	49	5.3%
Total	920	100%

24. How many times in the last 12 months have you been hospitalized as an inpatient?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never	647	70.4%
1 time	151	16.4%
2 times	62	6.7%
3 times	26	2.8%
4 times	11	1.2%
5 times	10	1.1%
More than 5 times	12	1.3%
Total	919	100%

25. How many nights in the last 12 months have you spent in jail or prison, if any?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 nights	699	76.4%
1-5 nights	72	7.9%
6-10 nights	26	2.8%
11-20 nights	17	1.9%
21-50 nights	41	4.5%
More than 50 nights	60	6.6%
Total	915	100%

26. How many separate terms have you served in jail/prison in the last 12 months?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 terms	720	78.5%
1 term	121	13.2%
2 terms	39	4.3%
3 terms	10	1.1%
4 terms	7	0.8%
5 terms	4	0.4%
6+ Terms	16	1.7%
Total	917	100%

26a. How long were you in jail/prison in the last 12 months?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1 month or less	91	55.2%
2 months	13	7.9%
3 months	11	6.7%
4 months	8	4.8%
5 months	2	1.2%
6 months	10	6.1%
7 months	0	0.0%
8 months	4	2.4%
9 months	1	0.6%
10 months	2	1.2%
11 months	0	0.0%
12 months	4	2.4%
1-2 years	8	4.8%
2-3 years	3	1.8%
More than 3 years	8	4.8%
Total	165	100%

26b. Did you become homeless immediately after you were released from jail/prison?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	117	69.6%
No	51	30.4%
Total	168	100%

27. Are you experiencing now or in the past any of the following:

Response	Yes	No	Total
27a. Physical Disability	31.7% 289	68.3% 624	100% 913
27b. Mental Illness	28.5% 261	71.5% 654	100% 915
27c. Depression	44.4% 407	55.6% 509	100% 916
27d. Alcohol/drug abuse	27.7% 253	72.3% 660	100% 913
27e. Domestic violence/abuse	20.6% 188	79.4% 726	100% 914
27f. Chronic health problem	28.1% 256	71.9% 656	100% 912
27g. AIDS/HIV related illness	1.5% 14	98.5% 897	100% 911
27h. Tuberculosis	2.9% 26	97.1% 874	100% 900
27i. Hepatitis C	4.8% 44	95.2% 873	100% 917
27j. PTSD	16.8% 153	83.2% 760	100% 913
27k. Developmental Disability	8.7% 80	91.3% 836	100% 916
27l. Emphysema	4.2% 38	95.8% 875	100% 913
27m. Diabetes	7.9% 72	92.1% 843	100% 915
27n. Traumatic Brain Injury	5.8% 53	94.2% 862	100% 915
27o. Cancer	3.5% 32	96.5% 882	100% 914
27p. Kidney disease/renal/dialysis	2.3% 21	97.7% 890	100% 911
27q. History of hypothermia/frostbite	4.3% 39	95.7% 876	100% 915
27r. Liver disease/cirrhosis	4.7% 43	95.3% 865	100% 908
27s. Heart disease/arrhythmia	10.2% 93	89.8% 823	100% 916

27. Does it prevent you from getting work or housing?

Response	Yes	No	Total
27a. Physical Disability	73.2% 180	26.8% 66	100% 246
27b. Mental Illness	64.3% 142	35.7% 79	100% 221
27c. Depression	53.9% 187	46.1% 160	100% 347
27d. Alcohol/drug abuse	56% 126	44% 99	100% 225
27e. Domestic violence/abuse	47.9% 80	52.1% 87	100% 167
27f. Chronic health problem	73% 165	27% 61	100% 226
27g. AIDS/HIV related illness	50% 4	50% 4	100% 8
27h. Tuberculosis	40% 4	60% 6	100% 10
27i. Hepatitis C	43.6% 17	56.4% 22	100% 39
27j. PTSD	63.4% 85	36.6% 49	100% 134
27k. Developmental Disability	59.4% 38	40.6% 26	100% 64
27l. Emphysema	43.8% 14	56.3% 18	100% 32
27m. Diabetes	40.7% 24	59.3% 35	100% 59
27n. Traumatic Brain Injury	56.6% 30	43.4% 23	100% 53
27o. Cancer	45.5% 10	54.5% 12	100% 22
27p. Kidney disease/renal/dialysis	47.1% 8	52.9% 9	100% 17
27q. History of hypothermia/frostbite	25.7% 9	74.3% 26	100% 35
27r. Liver disease/cirrhosis	42.4% 14	57.6% 19	100% 33
27s. Heart disease/arrhythmia	41.3% 33	58.8% 47	100% 80

28. Have you ever abused drugs / alcohol, or been told you do?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	320	35.0%
No	593	65.0%
Total	913	100%

29. Have you ever consumed alcohol every day for the past month?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	128	14.1%
No	783	85.9%
Total	911	100%

30. Have you ever used injection drugs or shots?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	96	10.5%
No	819	89.5%
Total	915	100%

31. Have you ever been treated for drug or alcohol abuse?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	214	23.4%
No	699	76.6%
Total	913	100%

32. Are you currently or have you ever received treatment for mental health issues?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	241	26.2%
No	679	73.8%
Total	920	100%

33. Were you ever taken to the hospital against your will for mental health reasons?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	119	12.9%
No	800	87.1%
Total	919	100%

34. OBSERVED: Serious physical health conditions?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	89	10.7%
No	744	89.3%
Total	833	100%

35. OBSERVED: Alcohol or drug abuse?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	142	17.1%
No	687	82.9%
Total	829	100%

36. OBSERVED: Severe persistent mental illness?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	121	14.6%
No	709	85.4%
Total	830	100%

37. Do you have a pet?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	84	9.2%
No	834	90.8%
Total	918	100%

37a. What kind of pet?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Dog	65	84.4%
Cat	17	22.1%
Reptile	1	1.3%
Other	2	2.6%
Total: Multiple response question with 77 respondents offering 85 responses		

38. Were you ever in foster care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	104	11.4%
No	810	88.6%
Total	914	100%

APPENDIX IV: HOMELESS YOUTH SURVEY RESULTS

1. What is your birth date?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 13 years	1	2.2%
13-17 years	4	8.9%
18-21 years	26	57.8%
22-30 years	14	31.1%
31-40 years	0	0.0%
41-50 years	0	0.0%
51-60 years	0	0.0%
More than 60 years	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

2. How do you identify yourself?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Female	25	55.6%
Male	20	44.4%
Transgender Male to Female	0	0.0%
Transgender Female to Male	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

3. Are you pregnant?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	4	16.0%
No	21	84.0%
Total	25	100%

4. Which Racial group do you identify with most? (Check all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent
White/Caucasion	18	40.0%
Black/African American	26	57.8%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0.0%
Asian	3	6.7%
Pacific Islander	5	11.1%
Other	6	13.3%
Total: Multiple response question with 45 respondents offering 58 responses.		

5. Which Ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Hispanic/Latino	13	28.9%
Non Hispanic/Non Latino	32	71.1%
Total	45	100%

6. Which of the following best represents how you think of your sexual orientation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Straight	39	86.7%
Lesbian, Gay	0	0.0%
Bisexual	6	13.3%
Queer	0	0.0%
Questioning/Unsure	0	0.0%
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

7. How old were you when you first experienced homelessness?

Response	Frequency	Percent
11	1	2.2%
12	1	2.2%
13	1	2.2%
14	2	4.4%
15	4	8.9%
16	2	4.4%
17	6	13.3%
18	16	35.6%
19	6	13.3%
21	1	2.2%
22	2	4.4%
23	2	4.4%
24	1	2.2%
Total	45	100%

8. In thinking about your whole life, how long in total have you been without a home, or a regular place to stay/sleep, or been homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	6	13.3%
8-30 days	5	11.1%
2 months	7	15.6%
3 months	2	4.4%
4 months	4	8.9%
5 months	3	6.7%
6 months	5	11.1%
7 months	0	0.0%
8 months	0	0.0%
9 months	0	0.0%
10 months	0	0.0%
11 months	0	0.0%
12 months	0	0.0%
1-2 years	8	17.8%
2-3 years	1	2.2%
More than 3 years	4	8.9%
Total	45	100%

9. Were you ever able to stay in a motel or doubled up with a friend at any time during your life (i.e., couch surfing, temporarily staying with friends or family)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	36	80.0%
No	9	20.0%
Declined	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

10. How long have you been couch surfing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	8	22.2%
8-30 days	5	13.9%
2 months	5	13.9%
3 months	6	16.7%
4 months	1	2.8%
5 months	1	2.8%
6 months	2	5.6%
7 months	0	0.0%
8 months	0	0.0%
9 months	0	0.0%
10 months	0	0.0%
11 months	0	0.0%
12 months	0	0.0%
1-2 years	2	5.6%
2-3 years	2	5.6%
More than 3 years	4	11.1%
Total	36	100%

11. Have you traded sex or drugs for a place to stay?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Sex	2	4.4%
Drugs	1	2.2%
Both	0	0.0%
Neither	38	84.4%
Other	1	2.2%
Declined	3	6.7%
Total	45	100%

12. Have you been the victim of a crime while on the streets?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	8	17.8%
No	34	75.6%
Don't Know	1	2.2%
Declined	2	4.4%
Total	45	100%

13. Have you committed a crime in exchange for food or shelter while on the streets?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	8	17.8%
No	36	80.0%
Don't Know	0	0.0%
Declined	1	2.2%
Total	45	100%

14. Before becoming homeless, did you experience:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Physical abuse	8	17.8%
Sexual abuse	0	0.0%
Emotional abuse	16	35.6%
Gang abuse	3	6.7%
Neglect	9	20.0%
None of the above	21	46.7%
Declined	2	4.4%
Total: Multiple response question with 45 respondents offering 59 responses		

15. Did any of the following contribute to your homelessness (Check all that apply):

Response	Frequency	Percent
Ran away from family home, group home, or foster home	9	20.0%
Became pregnant or got someone pregnant	2	4.4%
Violence at home between family members	12	26.7%
Because of differences with parents about religious beliefs	3	6.7%
Kicked out of the house	22	48.9%
Aging out of foster care system	1	2.2%
Death of parents	1	2.2%
Emotional abuse	14	31.1%
Physical abuse	5	11.1%
Addiction or substance use	3	6.7%
Sexual abuse	0	0.0%
Neglect	6	13.3%
Mental health issues	3	6.7%
School issues	4	8.9%
Sexual identity	1	2.2%
Legal issues	2	4.4%
Financial issues	12	26.7%
Fight or conflict with parents/guardian	20	44.4%
Parent/guardian moved or relocated	4	8.9%
Gang violence activity	2	4.4%
Other	7	15.6%
Total: Multiple response question with 45 respondents offering 133 responses		

16. Were/are your parents or primary caregivers homeless?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	9	20.0%
No	31	68.9%
Don't Know	5	11.1%
Declined	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

17. Just before becoming homeless, did you live with:

Response	Frequency	Percent
Both Parents	10	22.2%
Single Mother	18	40.0%
Single Father	6	13.3%
A Step Parent	0	0.0%
Other Family Members	3	6.7%
Foster Family	1	2.2%
Juvenile Hall or detention	0	0.0%
Group home or other group settings	0	0.0%
Other	7	15.6%
Total	45	100%

18. Do you have contact with your parent(s) or primary caregiver?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	33	73.3%
No	10	22.2%
Don't Know	1	2.2%
Refused	1	2.2%
Total	45	100%

19. Does your age prevent you from receiving any of the following (Check all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent
Permanent housing	5	14.7%
Transitional housing	2	5.9%
Government assistance	1	2.9%
Employment	4	11.8%
Other	26	76.5%
Total: Multiple response question with 34 respondents offering 38 responses		

20. When was the last time you were in contact with your parent(s) or primary caregiver?

Response	Frequency	Percent
7 days or less	27	81.8%
8-30 days	5	15.2%
2 months	0	0.0%
3 months	0	0.0%
4 months	0	0.0%
5 months	0	0.0%
6 months	0	0.0%
7 months	0	0.0%
8 months	0	0.0%
9 months	0	0.0%
10 months	0	0.0%
11 months	0	0.0%
12 months	0	0.0%
1-2 years	0	0.0%
2-3 years	0	0.0%
More than 3 years	1	3.0%
Total	33	100%

21. Do any of the following prevent you from seeking services (Check all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent
Afraid that your parents will be contacted	3	7.7%
Afraid you will be put in Child Protective Services	1	2.6%
Don't trust anyone	10	25.6%
You don't have transportation	8	20.5%
Other	26	66.7%
Total: Multiple response question with 39 respondents offering 48 responses		

22. What are your current needs (Check all that apply):

Response	Frequency	Percent
Housing	21	47.7%
Food	15	34.1%
Clothing	21	47.7%
Shower	7	15.9%
Education	22	50.0%
Health care	15	34.1%
Dental care	18	40.9%
Transportation	20	45.5%
Job training/placement	25	56.8%
Substance abuse treatment	4	9.1%
Counseling/mental health care	13	29.5%
Other	7	15.9%
Total: Multiple response question with 44 respondents offering 188 responses		

23. What would help you get off the streets (Check all that apply):

Response	Frequency	Percent
Housing assistance	16	36.4%
Support from friends or family	13	29.5%
Treatment for drugs or alcohol	2	4.5%
Treatment for mental health issues	3	6.8%
Job training/employment	23	52.3%
Education	14	31.8%
Not applicable	9	20.5%
Other	4	9.1%
Total: Multiple response question with 44 respondents offering 84 responses		

24. Have you ever voluntarily sought formal counseling services through a government, church, or youth program?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	27	60.0%
No	17	37.8%
Declined	1	2.2%
Total	45	100%

25. Have you ever attempted suicide?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	9	20.0%
No	36	80.0%
Declined	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

26. If you use drugs, what are your primary drugs of choice (Check all that apply):

Response	Frequency	Percent
Alcohol	12	27.3%
Marijuana	21	47.7%
Methamphetamines	3	6.8%
Cocaine/crack	0	0.0%
Cough/cold medicine	1	2.3%
Heroin	2	4.5%
Prescription medicine	4	9.1%
I don't use drugs	20	45.5%
Other	3	6.8%
Declined	1	2.3%
Total: Multiple response question with 44 respondents offering 67 responses.		

27. How old were you when you first tried Marijuana?

Response	Frequency	Percent
6	1	5.0%
8	1	5.0%
9	1	5.0%
11	1	5.0%
12	1	5.0%
13	4	20.0%
14	2	10.0%
15	4	20.0%
16	3	15.0%
17	2	10.0%
Total	20	100%

28. Are you *currently* in any kind of educational program now?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Middle school	2	4.4%
High school	12	26.7%
GED Prep	7	15.6%
Community College	3	6.7%
Four-year college or university	0	0.0%
Trade/technical/vocational program	1	2.2%
None	17	37.8%
Other	3	6.7%
Total	45	100%

29. What is the highest grade you have completed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
6th grade or less	3	6.7%
7th grade	1	2.2%
8th grade	2	4.4%
9th grade	2	4.4%
10th grade	7	15.6%
11th grade	14	31.1%
12th grade/High school diploma or equivalent	12	26.7%
Some college	4	8.9%
Bachelor's degree or higher	0	0.0%
Never attended school	0	0.0%
None	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

30. Would you be interested in receiving educational services if they were available to you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	37	82.2%
No	3	6.7%
Don't Know	3	6.7%
Declined	2	4.4%
Total	45	100%

31. Currently is there at least one adult in your life, to whom you can go for advice or emotional support?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	38	84.4%
No	7	15.6%
Declined	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

32. How do you know this person?

Response	Frequency	Percent
School	1	2.6%
Work	0	0.0%
Friend	7	18.4%
Drop in center	4	10.5%
Social worker	0	0.0%
Parents	13	34.2%
Siblings	6	15.8%
Declined	0	0.0%
Other	7	18.4%
Total	38	100%

33. Were you ever involved with the justice system before you were 18 (as a minor)? This includes jail, juvenile hall, camp programs, probation, detention, etc?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	12	26.7%
No	33	73.3%
Declined	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

34. How many times have you been arrested?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 times	21	46.7%
1 time	8	17.8%
2 times	3	6.7%
3 times	5	11.1%
4 times	3	6.7%
More than 5 times	5	11.1%
Total	45	100%

35. Have you ever been on parole?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	1	2.3%
No	43	97.7%
Declined	0	0.0%
Total	44	100%

36. Have you ever been on probation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	15	34.1%
No	29	65.9%
Declined	0	0.0%
Total	44	100%

37. How many times in your life have you ever been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant? (include a current pregnancy, if any)

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 times	30	66.7%
1 time	9	20.0%
2 times	3	6.7%
3 times	1	2.2%
4 times	2	4.4%
5 or more times	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

38. How many biological children have you had?

Response	Frequency	Percent
None	36	80.0%
1	6	13.3%
2	0	0.0%
3	3	6.7%
4	0	0.0%
5 or more	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

39. How many children do you currently have custody of?

Response	Frequency	Percent
None	37	82.2%
1	7	15.6%
2	1	2.2%
3	0	0.0%
4	0	0.0%
5 or more	0	0.0%
Total	45	100%

40. Have you ever had a child removed from your care or taken away (by CPS, DCFS)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	1	2.2%
No	28	62.2%
Not applicable	16	35.6%
Total	45	100%

APPENDIX V: SUMMARY FOR THE COC APPLICATION

The following summaries provide local jurisdictions with consolidated information to enable the completion of the application for Continuum of Care (CoC) funds. These summaries are based upon the results discussed in this report. It is important to note that any information regarding sheltered homeless populations and subpopulations reflect only those sheltered in emergency shelters (ES), transitional housing (TH), and safe havens (SH). The exception to this rule is in regards to the Chronically Homeless subpopulation (i.e. Chronically Homeless Individuals, Chronically Homeless Families, and Persons in Chronically Homeless Families); transitional housing does not apply to this subpopulation.

This section comprises the following:

Part 1. Household Data

General Homeless Population

Homeless Veteran Population

Homeless Youth Population

Part 2: Homeless Subpopulations

Chronically Homeless Subpopulations

Other Homeless Subpopulations

Part 1. Household Data

The following table details the results of the 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey for all Households (General Homeless Population, Homeless Veteran Population, Homeless Youth Population). Each category presents sheltered and unsheltered status.

General Homeless Population

Part 1: Household Data	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
General Homeless Population - Household Data					
1.) Households With At Least One Adult and One Child					
1a.) Number of Households	167	29		1	197
1b.) Total Number of Persons (adults & children)	544	84		3	631
1c.) Number of Persons (under age 18)	353	54		1	408
1d.) Number of Persons (age 18-24)	24	10		0	34
1e.) Number of Persons (over age 24)	167	20		2	189
2.) Households With Only Children (under age 18)					
2a.) Total Number of Households	4	7		816	827
2b.) Total Number of Persons	5	11		816	832
3.) Households Without Children					
3a.) Number of Households	1,961	746	15	3,046	5,768
3b.) Number of Persons (adults)	2,170	764	15	3,097	6,046
3c.) Number of Persons (age 18-24)	169	96	1	1,175	1,441
3d.) Number of Persons (over age 24)	2,001	668	14	1,922	4,605
Total Households and Persons					
Total Households (Lines: 1a + 2a + 3a)	2,132	782	15	3,863	6,792
Total Persons (Lines: 1b + 2b + 3b)	2,719	859	15	3,916	7,509

Number of households without dependent children is an estimate based on survey results

Part 1: Household Data	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
General Homeless Population - Demographics					
6.) Gender					
6a.) Female	959	218	5	1,261	2,443
6b.) Male	1,758	641	10	2,655	5,064
6c.) Transgender Male to Female	2	0	0	0	2
6d.) Transgender Female to Male	0	0	0	0	0
7.) Ethnicity					
7a.) Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	2,388	760	14	3,049	6,211
7b.) Hispanic/Latino	331	99	1	867	1,298
8.) Race					
8a.) White	1,295	503	11	1,816	3,625
8b.) Black or African American	1,240	320	4	1,541	3,105
8c.) Asian	84	0	0	141	225
8d.) American Indian or Alaskan Native	35	12	0	89	136
8e.) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	16	14	0	37	67
8f.) Multiple Races	49	10	0	292	351

Homeless Veteran Population

Part 1: Household Data	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Homeless Veteran Population - Household Data					
9.) Households With At Least One Adult and One Child					
9a.) Number of Households	1	0		0	1
9b.) Total Number of Persons (adults & children)	2	0		0	2
9c.) Total Number of Veterans	1	0		0	1
10.) Households Without Children					
10a.) Number of Households	92	282	0	317	691
10b.) Number of Persons (adults)	95	282	0	322	699
10c.) Total Number of Veterans	92	282	0	317	691
Veteran Total Households and Persons					
Total Households (Lines: 9a + 10a)	93	282	0	317	692
Total Persons (Lines: 9b + 10b)	97	282	0	322	701

Part 1: Household Data	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Homeless Veteran Population - Demographics					
11.) Gender					
11a.) Female	7	12	0	79	98
11b.) Male	86	270	0	238	594
11c.) Transgender Male to Female	0	0	0	0	0
11d.) Transgender Female to Male	0	0	0	0	0
12.) Ethnicity					
12a.) Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	90	265	0	262	617
12b.) Hispanic/Latino	3	17	0	55	75
13.) Race					
13a.) White	53	175	0	156	384
13b.) Black or African American	37	96	0	107	240
13c.) Asian	1	0	0	14	15
13d.) American Indian or Alaskan Native	0	4	0	8	12
13e.) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	3	0	3	7
13f.) Multiple Races	1	4	0	29	34

Homeless Youth Population

Part 1: Household Data	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
Homeless Youth Population - Household Data					
15.) Total Number of Households					
15a.) Number of Parenting Youth Households	22	15	0	0	37
15b.) Total Number of Unaccompanied Youth Households	149	92	0	1991	2,232
16.) Total Number of Persons					
16a.) Total Number of Persons in Parenting Youth Households	67	37	0	0	104
16a.1) Number of Parenting Youth (youth parents only)	26	15	0	0	41
16a.1a.) Number of Parenting Youth (under age 18)	1	3	0	0	4
16a.1b.) Number of Parenting Youth (age 18-24)	25	12	0	0	37
16b.1.) Number of Children With Parenting Youth	41	22	0	0	63
Total Number of Unaccompanied Youth					
Number of Unaccompanied Children (under age 18)	5	4	0	816	825
Number of Unaccompanied Youth (age 18-24)	144	88	0	1,175	1,407

Part 1: Household Data Homeless Youth Population - Demographics (Youth Parents and Unaccompanied Youth Only)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
17.) Gender					
17a.) Female	74	45	0	782	901
17b.) Male	101	62	0	1,209	1,372
17c.) Transgender Male to Female	0	0	0	0	0
17d.) Transgender Female to Male	0	0	0	0	0
18.) Ethnicity					
18a.) Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	152	81	0	695	928
18b.) Hispanic/Latino	23	26	0	1,296	1,345
19.) Race					
19a.) White	56	37	0	891	984
19b.) Black or African American	117	60	0	887	1,064
19c.) Asian	0	3	0	34	37
19d.) American Indian or Alaskan Native	2	1	0	54	57
19e.) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	3	0	14	17
19f.) Multiple Races	0	3	0	111	114

Part 2: Homeless Subpopulations

The following table further breaks down the homeless count data into subpopulations. These data are based on both the homeless count and data from the homeless survey. The data presented in the following chart is based on estimates calculated by applying the 2015 Homeless Survey results to the 2015 Point-In-Time homeless count population.

Chronically Homeless Subpopulations

Part 2: Homeless Subpopulations	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
1. Chronically Homeless Subpopulations					
1a. Chronically Homeless Individuals	31	0	4	420	455
1b. Chronically Homeless Families	1	0	0	0	1
1c. Persons in Chronically Homeless Families	3	0	0	0	3
1d. Chronically Homeless Veteran Individuals	19	0	0	10	29
1e. Chronically Homeless Veteran Families	0	0	0	0	0
1f. Persons in Chronically Homeless Veteran Families	0	0	0	0	0

Other Homeless Subpopulations

Part 2: Homeless Subpopulations	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH	SH		
2. Other Homeless Subpopulations					
2a.) Adults with Serious Mental Illness	119	177	15	753	1,064
2b.) Adults with Substance Use Disorder	104	238	15	441	798
2c.) Adults with HIV/AIDS	8	4	0	59	71
2d.) Victims of Domestic Violence	154	94	3	484	735

APPENDIX VI: METHODOLOGY

1. Overview

The purpose of the 2015 Southern Nevada Homeless Census and Survey was twofold: to produce a point-in-time estimate of the number of homeless persons present in Southern Nevada, and to broaden the scope of understanding regarding the experience and characteristics of homelessness in Southern Nevada through a survey.

The ultimate goal of both the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count and the Homeless Survey was to obtain valuable data to be utilized by policy-makers to improve homeless services and programs on both a local and national level.

The following summary of methodology is divided into two sections; the first section details the methodology applied to the Point-in-Time Count and the second section details the methodology applied to the Homeless Survey.

2. Point in Time Count Census Methodology

The PIT Count methodology is divided into two components: Street Count and Shelter Count.¹

The Street Count is the enumeration of unsheltered homeless individuals. For the purposes of this study, the 2015 HUD definition of an unsheltered homeless individual is as follows:

This includes individuals and families "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" on the night designated for the count.

The Shelter Count is the enumeration of sheltered homeless individuals. For the purposes of this study, the 2015 HUD definition of a sheltered homeless individual is as follows:

This includes individuals and families "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

¹ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (October 2014) Notice CPD 14-014: Notice for Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program. (Source for both sheltered homelessness and unsheltered homelessness)

organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals)" on the night designated for the count.

The Street Count and the Shelter Count were conducted during the same time period to minimize the potential for duplicate counting of homeless persons.¹

2.1 Street Count Methodology

2.1a Research Design:

Persons residing in the following were NOT included in the 2015 PIT Count per HUD.

- Persons residing in PSH programs, including persons housed using HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers.
- Persons residing in RRHD projects, funded in the FY2008 CoC Competition.
- Persons counted in any location not listed on the HIC (e.g., staying in projects with beds/units not dedicated for persons who are homeless).
- Persons temporarily staying with family or friends (i.e., "doubled-up" or "couch surfing").
- Persons residing in housing they rent or own (i.e., permanent housing), including persons residing in rental housing with assistance from an RRH project on the night of the count.
- Persons residing in institutions (e.g., jails, juvenile correction facilities, foster care, hospital beds, or detox centers).

2.1b Enumerators:

In order to properly enumerate a homeless population of such substantial size as that of Southern Nevada, individuals with an intimate knowledge of the typical activities and location of homeless persons are imperative. Thus, it is necessary to recruit and train homeless individuals to work as enumerators. These homeless workers are an invaluable component of the street count methodology.

In order to participate in the Street Count as a Homeless Guide, homeless individuals were required to attend a one-hour information and training session. During the week prior to the street count, training sessions were held at various locations throughout Southern Nevada.

Homeless individuals, staff from homeless service agencies, and various staff from Southern Nevada attended the enumeration trainings. Members of the SNRPC-CoH Regional Initiatives Office trained these teams of volunteers prior to the PIT count. Team captains were chosen to provide observation, guidance, and in-the-field training.

¹In order to generate data that is comparable to previous reports, the methodology outlined in this section closely parallels the methodology of previous years. Therefore, the information in this section is partially derived from: Applied Survey Research 2014 Southern Nevada Homeless Census And Survey Appendix VI: Homeless Census And Survey Methodology.

During each training session, trainers presented techniques and methods that would be utilized to enumerate the homeless population during the street count.

Two-person teams were created on the morning of the Street Count. To create the teams, volunteers were paired and, in areas that utilized Homeless Guides, each Homeless Guide was paired with a volunteer. This combination has been proven to be particularly effective for the Street Count, as both the Homeless Guide and the volunteer possess unique knowledge and expertise that can be applied to working in the field.

2.1c Street Count Procedure

Precautions

Significant efforts were implemented to avoid potentially hazardous situations. A safe environment was created in all deployment centers, and law enforcement officials in each district were notified of the pending PIT Count that was to take place in their jurisdictions.

Preparation:

Using a full canvassing technique, this enumeration was conducted in the early morning of January 28, 2015. The enumeration teams achieved 72.5% coverage of existing census tracts.

After the teams were created, each team was provided with a census tract map outlining the particular area to which they were assigned. They were also given a review document highlighting the enumeration techniques, a tally sheet, and other supplies. Shortly before each team deployed to their assigned locations, the leaders conducted a brief review of the enumeration techniques, emphasizing the importance of not disturbing the homeless persons during the enumeration.

Street Count Deployment:

The 8,091 square mile area that comprises Southern Nevada is divided into 487 federally designated census tracts. Each team received official census maps that identified tract boundaries, and each team was assigned to enumerate no more than two tracts. In order to collect comprehensive data from each census tract, PIT organizers established numerous deployment stations throughout the valley.

The enumeration was conducted on January 28, 2015, and was divided into two sections: urban and rural. Both count deployments occurred in the early morning hours. More specifically, the deployment assigned to the urban sections of Southern Nevada was deployed at 12:00 am on the morning of January 28, 2015. In order to minimize duplications, both teams collected enumeration data within a 31-hour period.

The deployment team assigned to the rural sections of Southern Nevada was deployed at 5:00 am on the morning of January 28, 2015. Police and fire departments utilized infrared technology to focus on the unpopulated areas of these rural sections.

The early morning hours are the optimum time to obtain an accurate count of unsheltered homeless persons. This is the time street homeless persons are most visible, thus reducing the risk of duplicate counting.

The enumeration teams included the community partners, volunteers, and jurisdictional staff. This team canvassed all accessible highways, streets, and roads in the census tracts using vehicles, bikes, or traveling by foot. Although several homeless workers provided their own modes of transportation, the majority of workers and volunteers were transported to and from assigned census tracts via personal or agency vehicles.

In partnership with CCSD, teams collected data for homeless children and youth during daylight hours. At 10:00 a.m. on the morning of January 28, 2015, CCSD gathered data for those children attending school. Simultaneously, teams targeted all youth not present in classrooms. These teams canvassed areas frequented by the homeless youth population (e.g. parks, malls, libraries, recreation centers). This co-occurring count strategy ensured little to no duplicative enumeration of homeless children and youth.

Each person identified as homeless within the assigned census tracts was tallied according to the following household categories outlined below.

For the purposes of this report, the following definitions were used for household, individual, family, and a household with only children:

- *Individuals*: Persons in a household without children
- *Family*: Persons in households with at least one adult and one child (under 18)
- *Only Children*: Persons in households composed of only children

Household	Occupants may be a family, as defined in 24 CFR 5.403; two or more families living together; or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements, regardless of actual or perceived, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.
Individuals	Persons in a household without children
Family	Persons in households with at least one adult and one child (under 18)
Only Children	Persons in households composed of only children

2015 HUD guidance required CoCs to enumerate Youth Households. CoCs are now required to report the total number of youth households (persons under age 25), including the race, ethnicity, and gender data for parenting youth and unaccompanied youth counted.

Pertinent definitions are as follows:

Parenting Youth	Youth who identify as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household. Parenting youth is limited to persons in households where there is no adult parent or guardian over age 24 in the household.
Unaccompanied Youth	Unaccompanied youth are persons under age 25 who are not presenting or sleeping in the same place as their parent or legal guardian, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • single youth • youth couples • groups of youth presenting as a household.

For purposes of reporting in the PIT, parenting youth are distinct from unaccompanied youth.

For each of the following types of households, the number of persons in each household were reported by age category (under age 18, age 18-24, over age 24).

- Total Number of Households
- Total Number of One-Child Households
- Total Number of Multi-Child Households
 - Number of Children in Multi-Child Households

Gender, race, and ethnicity data was also collected for each type of household. 2014 marked the first year that Veterans and Veteran families were included in this household data, and 2015 marked the first year that Youth Households were included in the PIT as a separate category.

Once each team had completed the enumeration process, they returned to their designated deployment station and submitted their census tally forms to the deployment station captains. Deployment station captains then debriefed each deployment team, and provided any necessary clarification, explanation, and validation of data. Each team was provided time to discuss and comment on the enumeration process, providing information regarding the integrity of the 2015 enumeration effort. Reviews were conducted to check for duplicate counting, and to ensure that all accessible portions of each census tract had been enumerated.

Efforts Undertaken to Ensure Enumeration Accuracy

Accurately Determining Homeless Status By Observation

Homeless enumeration is a difficult task, and undercounting is a prominent possibility. Despite the difficulties associated with enumerating the unsheltered homeless population of Southern Nevada, all people, vehicles, abandoned buildings, and encampments were reported to be visually observable by the enumeration teams. This observation-only method enables the PIT Count officials to claim the results of the count to be as accurate and valid as possible. The members of the enumeration teams, especially the homeless guides, claimed that they had no difficulty identifying homeless individuals and differentiating them from members of the general population. Therefore, although there are no means by which the PIT Count officials can guarantee that those enumerated are indeed homeless, they can state that all possible measures were undertaken to ensure the accuracy and validity of the count.

Avoiding Duplicate Counting

Numerous precautions were implemented into the design of the PIT Count to avoid duplicate counting of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons. The count took place during a targeted timeframe when sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals are least likely to co-mingle. Additionally, volunteers and homeless workers were instructed to refrain from engaging in direct contact with the enumerated homeless persons; they were instructed to maintain an observation-only approach. Also, the census and survey were at different times; administering both in tandem would have increased the amount of time each portion would take, thus increasing the likelihood of duplicate counting.

Enumerating Unaccompanied Homeless Youth & Parenting Youth

For numerous reasons, homeless youth are particularly difficult to enumerate. The homeless youth population typically refrains from co-mingling with the homeless adult population, and tend to reside in places that make enumeration difficult. To overcome these enumeration barriers, specialized youth enumeration teams were created. These teams consisted of homeless youth and formerly homeless youth. The homeless youth population was enumerated at a later time than the unsheltered homeless adults. They were enumerated from 11:00am to 2:00pm due to the fact that this is the time that homeless unaccompanied youth are most likely to be visible on the streets. Homeless youth under the age of 18 and those between the ages of 18 and 24 typically associate in the same social circles, making it possible to enumerate both groups. All locations were recorded according to the nearest intersection. They were then assigned census tract locations post-facto before being included in the overall countywide enumeration results.

In addition to the above enumeration processes, the Clark County School District, which updated its housing inventory during the same timeframe as the census, reported all students who reported to be homeless. Only those students who matched the HUD definition for literally homeless were included in the final count.

2.2 Shelter Count Methodology

2.2a Purpose:

The purpose of the Shelter Count was to enumerate homeless persons who are temporarily residing in Southern Nevada shelters and transitional housing. The data obtained from this count was used to capture an overall count of homeless persons in Southern Nevada, and an appraisal of where these homeless persons seek shelter.

It is important to note that the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for Nevada and the PIT Module (Survey) was also used to generate data for provider programs with 100 percent of their beds participating in the HMIS. It was verified through Provider Program Staff that their HMIS data was complete and correct for the night of the PIT Count, including correct exit dates for all persons who exited the provider program on or before the date of the PIT.

Shelters included the following HUD defined housing category types:

HUD-Defined Shelter Housing Types

Emergency Shelters

- All emergency shelters funded by HUD ESG and/or other federal, state and local public and private sources.
- Hotel/Motel Vouchers paid for by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals
- All VA-funded HCHV/EH and HCHV/RT provider programs including VA Community Contract Emergency Housing (prefix HCHV/EH) and Health Care for Homeless Veterans VA Community Contract Residential Treatment Program (prefix HCHV/RT)

Transitional Housing

- HUD-funded transitional housing projects renewing in 2014 CoC competition
- All transitional housing provider programs funded by HUD SHP still operating, but not renewing in 2013 CoC competition
- All transitional housing provider programs for homeless persons funded by other Federal, State, and local public and private sources that do not use the RRH model
- HUD-funded Rapid Re-Housing Demonstration (RRHD) provider programs
- VA-funded transitional housing provider programs, including:
 - VA Grant and Per Diem (prefix GPD)
 - VA Compensated Work Therapy - Transitional Residence (prefix CWT/TR)

Safe Haven Programs

- All Safe Haven provider programs funded by HUD SHP
- All VA-funded Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) VA
- Community Contract Safe Haven Program (prefix HCHV/SH)

2.2b Research Design & Data Collection:

All persons who matched the following criteria were included in the Shelter Count:

- Entered on or before the date of the count
- Exited after the date of the count (or have not yet exited)

The participation of a broad range of Southern Nevada homeless agencies was necessary to make the Shelter Count possible. These shelters included emergency shelters, safe havens, and agencies

that provide vouchers for homeless persons to stay in motels or hotels, and transitional housing programs.

The primary task of the Shelter Count was to collect all data generated by each agency from the HMIS on the night of January 28, 2015, with the exception of domestic violence providers, who are not permitted to enter data into HMIS; these domestic violence providers sent in manual counts.

2.3 Persons in Tunnels and Hidden Homeless Count

2.3a Persons In Tunnels

Beginning in 2011, special enumeration teams have been strategically formed to target the tunnels in Southern Nevada. These teams consist of outreach workers who are familiar with the tunnels and their occupants, as well as formerly homeless individuals who once occupied the tunnels. In 2011, 477 homeless persons were enumerated in the tunnels.¹ In 2013, similar teams were formed, however, due to rain and risk of flooding, this enumeration was limited; 53 homeless persons were added to the 2013 enumeration total.² In 2014 and 2015, similar conditions were present and 64 persons were enumerated in each of these years.

2.3b Hidden Homeless Count

In previous years, Applied Analysis conducted a telephone survey of the general population of Southern Nevada in order to locate the “hidden” homeless of Southern Nevada (those residing in unsheltered locations on private property (i.e. vehicles, unconverted garages, etc.). In 2015, however, HUD required CoCs to NOT enumerate “hidden” homeless. The totals have been adjusted to accommodate this change in order to allow for accurate comparison between 2015 data and the data from 2011, 2013, and 2014.

2.4 PIT Count Census Challenges & Assumptions Of Annual Estimation

2.4a Challenges:

Homeless enumeration is challenging for any community; Southern Nevada, however, presents its own unique set of challenges. Homeless individuals, in general, do not want to be visible; they make concerted efforts to avoid detection. Therefore, regardless of the methodology or the amount of effort placed into the outreach, the final enumeration amount will still be considered an undercount.

Although academically-sound, the Southern Nevada Census effort was still subject to the innate challenges of enumerating homeless populations. The non-intrusive, point-in-time, visual homeless enumeration techniques were still hindered by inherent biases and shortcomings.

¹ Applied Survey Research. (2011). 2011 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey. Watsonville, CA

² Bitfocus, Inc. (2013). 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Survey, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Several of the challenges enumerators face are discussed below.

2.4a.1 Large & Diverse Community With Difficult Access:

Southern Nevada is a large community filled with a diverse population. It is composed of large commercial districts, suburbs, and a vast amount of outlying rural counties. Most homeless persons tend to remain close to the homeless shelters and facilities, but homeless persons, especially families, can reside in the suburb and outlying rural counties, which are difficult for enumerators to access. In general, homeless populations are composed of groups that are difficult to enumerate. These include:

- **Chronically Homeless Individuals:** These individuals are not guaranteed access to social, health, or shelter services on a frequent or consistent basis.
- **Homeless Persons with Children:** Many parents and their children remain hidden in obscure locations in fear of having to release their children to Child Protective Services. They often stay on private property, out of sight from the enumeration teams.
- **Unaccompanied Homeless Children and Parenting Youth:** This population tends to strive to remain hidden, and is thus less visible than homeless adults.
- **Homeless Persons Residing in Unsafe Structures:** Many homeless individuals reside in buildings or locations that are unsafe for the enumerators to investigate.
- **Homeless Persons Located in Isolated Rural Areas:** The rural counties of Southern Nevada are vast and make accurate enumeration exceptionally difficult.
- **Homeless Persons Residing in Cars:** This segment of the homeless population tends to relocate every few days, making accurate enumeration difficult.

Despite the fact that the conservative approach taken cannot ensure a fully accurate count, it is necessary to ensure accurate data. Coupled with the homeless survey, this methodology is the most comprehensive approach available.

2.4a.2 Assumptions Of Annual Estimation:

The calculations used to project the annual estimate of homeless persons are governed by two assumptions:

1. The homeless survey responses are homogenous to the responses that would have been provided at any other point-in-time during the year and are representative of the entire Southern Nevada homeless population.
2. The results of the PIT Count are homogenous to that of a count that would have been conducted at any time during the year.

Service providers support these assumptions, stating that demand for services remains relatively stable throughout the year. They also state that the amount of homeless persons that access services

remains relatively stable, with the only major variations being the seasonal variations in the proportion of sheltered versus unsheltered homeless.

Policy-makers must take into account that most homeless experiences are fairly short-term (e.g. less than a year). However, Bitfocus Inc. is confident that the combination of the size of the survey sample (922), the statistical reliability of the projections, the unavoidable undercount inherent in any homeless census, as well as the use of a HUD-approved annualization calculation ensures that the current methodology was the most complete and accurate of all available approaches.

3. Homeless Survey

3.1 Homeless Survey Research Design

3.1a Purpose

922 homeless persons were surveyed in order to yield qualitative data to enhance understanding of the scope and characteristics of the homeless community in Southern Nevada. Through open-ended, closed-ended, and multiple response questions, the survey yielded information from the following topic areas:

- Gender
- Family status
- Military service
- Length and recurrence of homelessness
- Access to homeless services and programs

The data obtained from this survey is used for the McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance funding application. The data broaden and enhance the efficacy of existing programs and services. In addition the survey results continue to paint a picture of homelessness in Southern Nevada, measuring changes in the composition of the homeless population since 2007.

3.2 Homeless Survey Research Procedure

3.2a Survey Workers & Volunteers:

The SNRPC-CoH Regional Initiatives Office trained service providers and homeless workers regarding how to conduct the survey. The training consisted of a comprehensive instruction regarding confidentiality, interviewing protocol, determining respondent eligibility, and project background information. The surveys were administered within the shelters, and due to confidentiality issues, service providers administered the surveys.

3.2b Survey Sampling:

The survey workers employed a random sampling strategy, as outlined by HUD, in order to minimize selection bias. This strategy was characterized as an “every third encounter” approach, meaning the survey workers approached every third person they considered to be eligible for the survey.

Interviewers inquired whether the homeless individual had already taken the survey. If they had not, they were then asked if they were willing to do so. Survey administrators also informed the homeless individuals of the ‘thank you’ gift that they would receive upon completion of the survey. If the homeless individual declined, the service providers were instructed to approach the next homeless individual they encountered. They were instructed to document the number of refusals, however, the majority (99.1%) of homeless individuals approached agreed to take the survey (there were 8 refusals). It is important to note that although this refusal rate is low, it is possible that those individuals who refused to take the survey could have provided significantly different responses than the homeless individuals who agreed to take the survey.

To bolster the randomized sampling procedure, survey workers attempted to reach homeless individuals in a wide range of various geographical locations. Various homeless sub-populations were also targeted, including minority ethnic groups, families, military veterans, etc. In order to reach the homeless youth, the survey officials trained a team of homeless youth to administer the survey to fellow homeless youth.

In 2015, there was a point-in-time estimate of 7,509 homeless individuals. Using random sampling technique, 922 surveys were administered. When generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated population of homeless individuals in Southern Nevada, this amount represents a Confidence Level of 95% with a 3.02 Confidence Interval.

3.2c Survey Administration & Data Collection:

The survey workers made every effort to ensure that each survey respondent felt comfortable as they took the survey. Survey workers encouraged candid responses from the survey respondents, explaining that all responses would remain confidential and anonymous.

The survey workers were trained to remain unbiased throughout the survey, making no assumption and avoiding prompts. They were also instructed to keep all responses confidential. They were instructed to ask all of the questions on the survey, but allow the survey respondents answer only the questions they felt comfortable answering.

3.2d Street Homeless:

Homeless interviewers were trained to administer the surveys to the “street” homeless as they can identify with the conditions and challenges that the street homeless individuals face. These workers also knew the likely locations where the street homeless individuals could be found. This peer-to-

peer method was particularly effective at building rapport between the homeless individual and the homeless survey workers, likely encouraging honest responses.

3.2e Shelters & Transitional Housing:

13 emergency shelters, 14 transitional housing facilities, and 1 safe haven located in Southern Nevada participated in the survey administration. Program staff conducted these surveys and the same survey was used in both the street and shelter environments. In order to avoid underrepresentation of transitional housing residents, survey workers created survey quotas that targeted individuals and heads of households residing in these programs.

3.2f Data Analysis - Elimination of Duplicate Surveys:

A sound strategy was employed to avoid duplicate surveys. Along with documenting the respondents' initials and date of birth, the survey workers also examined gender, ethnicity, and length of homeless in order to identify any duplicate surveys. After evaluation, it was determined that there were zero duplicate surveys, thus leaving 922 valid surveys to be analyzed.

A total of 922 surveys were administered, with a 0.9% refusal rate. There were no duplicate surveys administered. Although available, zero surveys were conducted in Spanish.

3.2 Survey Challenges & Limitations

With a point-in-time estimate of 7,509 homeless persons, 922 valid surveys, and a randomized sample, the surveys represent a confidence interval of $\pm 3.02\%$ with a 95% confidence level; the identified confidences can be applied to the survey findings despite the fact that an equal representation of all homeless experiences is not feasible.

The self-reporting research technique used in this survey effort presents a range of challenges, one of which being misrepresentation. There is no way to confidently conclude that each question was answered with honesty and accuracy. The peer-to-peer technique utilized in this survey effort was particularly effective at reducing the risk of misrepresentation and biases. Respondents were more comfortable offering candid answers to a peer, and were more willing to reveal personal information.

In sum, it is important to note that carefully selected and highly trained interviewers reviewed the responses of these surveys. All surveys were reviewed for quality responses, and any incomplete surveys or falsified responses were eliminated from the final results.

APPENDIX VII: GLOSSARY

Annual Estimate

An estimated amount of homeless persons in a given CoC over the course of a year. This estimate is calculated in order to compensate for the bias created by the inability to include persons who experience short episodes of homelessness throughout the year, at times other than the PIT count. This reduces the degree of underrepresentation of the true number of homeless persons at any given point in time during the year.

Annual Homeless Assessment Report AHAR

Annual Report responding to a congressional directive that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provide an annual report to Congress on the extent and nature of homelessness. The AHAR provides the results of local counts of people homeless on a single night in January, as well as estimates of the number, characteristics, and service patterns of all people who used residential programs for homeless people. It also provides national estimates on the use of the full continuum of homeless assistance programs—from homelessness prevention to homeless residential services to permanent supportive housing.

Chronic Substance Use/Abuse

This category on the PIT includes persons with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both) that is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.

Chronically Homeless Individual

An unaccompanied homeless adult individual (persons 18 years or older) with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter/Safe Haven during that time. For purposes of the PIT, persons living in transitional housing at the time of the PIT count should not be included in this category.

Chronically Homeless Family

A family with an adult head of household (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) who meets all of the criteria for a chronically homeless individual, including a family whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless. For purposes of the PIT, persons living in transitional housing at the time of the PIT count should not be included in

this subpopulation category; the subpopulation count should include all members of the household, including children.

Continuums of Care (CoC)

A collaborative funding and planning approach that helps communities plan for and provide, as necessary, a full range of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing and other service resources to address the various needs of homeless persons. HUD also refers to the group of service providers involved in the decision-making processes as the "Continuum of Care." They are responsible for coordinating the full range of homeless services in a geographic area, which may cover a city, county, metropolitan area, or entire state.

Contributory HMIS Program

A program that contributes Protected Personal Information (PPI) or other client-level data to an HMIS.

Disabling Condition

Any one of (1) a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act; (2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment, including an impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury which is (a) expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration, (b) substantially impedes an individual's ability to live independently, and (c) of such a nature that such ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; (3) a developmental disability as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act; (4) the disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or any conditions arising from the etiological agent for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; or (5) a diagnosable substance abuse disorder. For the purposes of this study, disabling condition is further specified as any of the following: physical disability, mental illness, severe depression, alcohol or drug abuse, chronic health problems, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis C, trauma, or a developmental disability.

Emergency Shelter

Short-term provision of shelter that can be proffered either through a shelter facility or motel vouchers. This temporary assistance is usually provided for 30 days or less. An example of an emergency shelter is a domestic violence shelter, which offers immediate housing and safety for victims of domestic violence and their families.

Episode of Homelessness (HUD Definition)

A separate, distinct, and sustained stay on the streets and/or in an emergency homeless shelter.

Extrapolation

A technique for estimating the total number of unsheltered persons in your community based on the number of unsheltered persons that you have been able to observe and/or interview from your statistically reliable sample

Family

HUD defined household with at least one adult (18 or older) and one child (under 18).

HMIS

An HMIS is a computerized data collection application designed to capture client-level information over time on the characteristics and service needs of men, women, and children experiencing homelessness, while also protecting client confidentiality. It is designed to aggregate client-level data to generate an unduplicated count of clients served within a community's system of homeless services. An HMIS may also cover a statewide or regional area, and include several CoCs. The HMIS can provide data on client characteristics and service utilization. HMIS is an eligible budget activity and also an SHP component that allows applicants to request SHP assistance for dedicated or shared projects.

Homelessness (HUD Definition)

An individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; as well an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations; an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Individual

Persons in a household without children. They are homeless as single adults, unaccompanied youth, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households.

Homeless Individual

According to the McKinney Act, 42, U.S.C § 11301, et seq. a homeless individual is a person who "lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence; and... has a primary night time residency that is: (A) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations... (B) An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or (C) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Household

Occupants may be a family, as defined in 24 CFR 5.403; two or more families living together; or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements, regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

Households With Only Children

HUD defines Households With Only Children as household configurations composed of more than one person under the age of 18. This includes unaccompanied children, adolescent parents, groups composed of adolescent siblings, and any other type of household configuration that is composed of only children.

Only Children

Persons in households composed of only children.

Parenting Youth

A youth who identifies as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household.

Persons in Families

People who are homeless as part of households that have at least one adult and one child.

Persons with HIV/AIDS

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.

Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent housing in which supportive services are provided to assist homeless persons with disability to live independently.

PIT

Point-in-Time.

Protected Personal Information (PPI)

Information about a client: (1) whose identity is apparent from the information or can reasonably be ascertained from the information; or (2) whose identity can, taking into account any methods reasonably likely to be used, be learned by linking the information with other available information or by otherwise manipulating the information.

Safe Haven

A form of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons with severe mental illness and other debilitating behavioral conditions who are on the street and have been unable or unwilling to participate in housing or supportive services.

Severe Depression

Individuals who reported experiencing depression and who reported that their depression prevents them from getting work or housing.

Adults with Serious Mental Illness

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons with mental health problems that are expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.

Rapid Re-housing

Housing model designed to provide temporary housing assistance to people experiencing homelessness, moving them quickly out of homelessness and into permanent housing.

Sheltered Homeless Persons

Homeless persons who are living in an emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.

Single Individual or Person

An unaccompanied person of any age not in families.

Transitional Housing

A project that is designed to provide housing and appropriate supportive services to homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months, or a longer period approved by HUD. For purposes of the HOME program, there is no HUD-approved time period for moving to independent living.

Unaccompanied Child (Under 18)

Minors (under 18) not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, including those living in inadequate housing such as shelters, cars, or on the streets. Also includes those who have been denied housing by their families and school-aged unwed mothers who have no housing of their own, and present for services alone.

Unaccompanied Youth

Unaccompanied youth are persons under age 25 who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian and are not a parent presenting with or sleeping in the same place as his/her child(ren). Unaccompanied youth are single youth, youth couples, and groups of youth presenting together as a household.

Unsheltered Homeless Persons

An individual or family who "lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence; and has a primary night time residency that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. This includes individuals and families 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 - Street Homeless Persons

Unsheltered homeless persons who do not reside in shelters, but instead reside in locations such as unoccupied cars, vans, RVs, encampments, and abandoned buildings, or other areas not meant for human habitation.

Unsheltered - Hidden Homeless Persons

The estimated amount of unsheltered homeless persons generated from a general population telephone survey. These persons reside outside of shelters, in places not meant for human inhabitation that are not visible to enumerators.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Established in 1965, HUD's mission is to increase homeownership, support community development, and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination. To fulfill this mission, HUD will embrace high standards of ethics, management and accountability and forge new partnerships – particularly with faith-based and community organizations – that leverage resources and improve HUD's ability to be effective on the community level.

Veteran

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

Victims of Domestic Violence

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes adults who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking at any point in the past.

Victim Service Provider

A private nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to provide services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. This term includes rape crisis centers, battered women's shelters, domestic violence transitional housing programs, and other programs.

Youth

Persons under age 25, including children under age 18 and young adults ages 18 to 24.



HelpHopeHome

Ending Homelessness in Southern Nevada



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