

Humboldt Housing and Homeless Coalition



Point in Time Count 2015 Report

INTRODUCTION

Every two years, the Humboldt Housing and Homeless Coalition (HHHC) conducts a Point in Time Count of the county's homeless population. The count is not a scientific survey. Additionally, these counts, conducted across the United States, are required as an unfunded mandate by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) in order to receive funding under the Continuum of Care program. The purpose of the survey is to provide the HHHC with a snapshot of homelessness in Humboldt County at a specific point in time to gain general knowledge about trends and emerging problems and understand how to align services with the needs of our community.

The HHHC has conducted five counts: in 2005, 2009, 2011, 2013, and 2015. The counts all describe the individual's or family's status on a specific night in late January that is selected by HUD. While the interviews may occur after this date, the responses are about that night, hence "Point in Time."

Community and agency volunteers, organized and overseen by the PIT Committee, conduct the count. In 2015, the Point In Time Committee organized volunteers into seven 'hubs' by location within the County and appointed two coordinators who managed volunteers in two areas of Humboldt County: north and south. In response to community concerns around low counts in previous years and exclusion of outlying areas, the Committee increased efforts in southern and outlying areas of the county to get a more complete picture of the circumstances of homeless individuals and families. Other count improvements and changes from previous years have included increased efforts to 1) reach homeless youth, 2) identify encampments, 3) coordinate efforts with local governments and community leaders, and 4) seek increased community involvement.

METHODS

The PIT Count, in which public participation is welcomed, is a volunteer effort and the surveyors are not paid for their time or mileage. Expenses such as printing, cell phones, and incentives for respondents (new pair of socks and two dollars) are paid for through the generosity of local foundations and participating agencies. Over 30 agencies and 100 trained volunteers participated in the 2015 PIT Count. The PIT Committee held weekly meetings between July 2014 and March 2015 including an organizational assessment by a professional organizer in December 2014.

Survey

The survey was voluntary and was administered to homeless individuals who were contacted by volunteers on the streets, in rural encampments, and through local agencies and service providers. Surveys were completed by either a volunteer surveyor or they were self-administered. The choice depended on volunteer resources available, level of training for volunteers, and respondent preference. The survey included questions regarding the respondent's current living situation, geographic location, length of time they have been homeless, age, gender, race/ethnicity, income, veteran status, recent discharge from institutional settings and overall physical, social, and mental health. To avoid duplicating respondents each respondent was asked whether or not they had completed the survey in the last week.

The Point in Time count provided a 'point in time' snapshot of the number of individuals or families who were homeless on the night of Tuesday, January 27, 2015. Homeless respondents were surveyed over the course of six days: January 28th to February 2nd, 2015. Survey results were collected, processed, and analyzed by the California Center for Rural Policy using SNAP Survey and Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS).

Data

Changes in data from one survey year to another could be due to various factors other than actual changes in population and demographics. Differing methods of data collection from one survey year to another affected data results. For example, collection of data at different locations, different times of the day/week/month can provide different results as locations that are highly trafficked at one time of the day/week/month may be very lightly trafficked at a different time of the day/week/month.

Survey questions changed between 2005 and 2015 which affects some data element comparisons. Some of the changes can be attributed to changing needs of the community, including the homeless population, and HHHC initiatives to align services with community needs to inform its efforts to end homelessness. Other changes are to explore areas of interest to members of the HHHC and to inform its efforts to end homelessness. In general, the surveys of 2011, 2013, and 2015 asked consistent questions but were slightly different in some instances from the 2009 survey. In these instances the data from 2009 was not included in the graphs and tables on the following pages.

In accordance with HUD requirements, participation in the survey is voluntary and participants have the right to decline to answer any specific question. As a result, only a certain percentage of those interviewed responded to any given question. In previous years, question design and formatting required surveys with blank responses be omitted from data analysis because they skewed data results. The Point in Time Committee counteracted this dilemma by changing the survey responses to mirror HUD guidelines. Response options included: Respondent Doesn't Know, Respondent Refused, and Data Not Collected. These response options greatly reduced the amount of missing data in the 2015 count.

Humboldt County is rural in nature, with a population of 134,493, and is spread over 3,573 square miles, or 37.6 persons per square mile. The low population density presents a unique challenge to our methodology of in-person, full survey taking of the whole homeless population. Thus, accurate PIT results are often contingent on how many volunteers are able to search for and survey the homeless and volunteers' rate of success in connecting with homeless populations during the survey time period allotted.

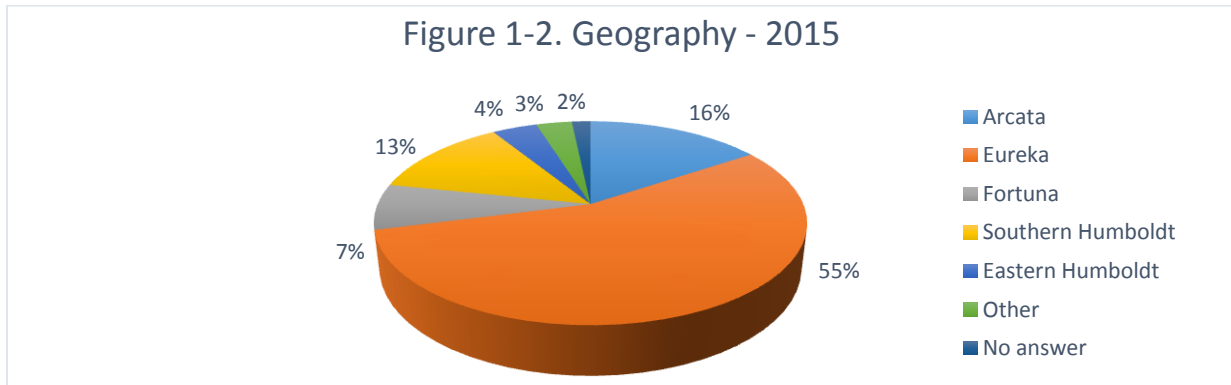
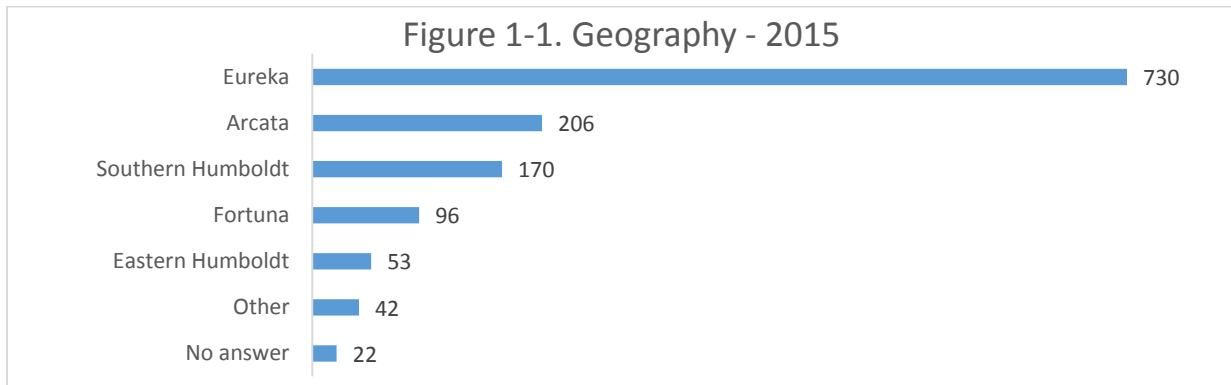
RESULTS

In 2015 the PIT Count counted and surveyed 1,319 people. In 2013, 1,054 were surveyed, in 2011, 1,626 people were surveyed, and in 2009, 1,913 people were surveyed. The variation in the number of surveys collected is not an accurate indicator of the number of homeless people living in Humboldt County because of the variation in sheltering location on any given night.

Some changes in demographics can be observed over the years between 2011 and 2015. Data from 2009 was also included in the charts below when available.

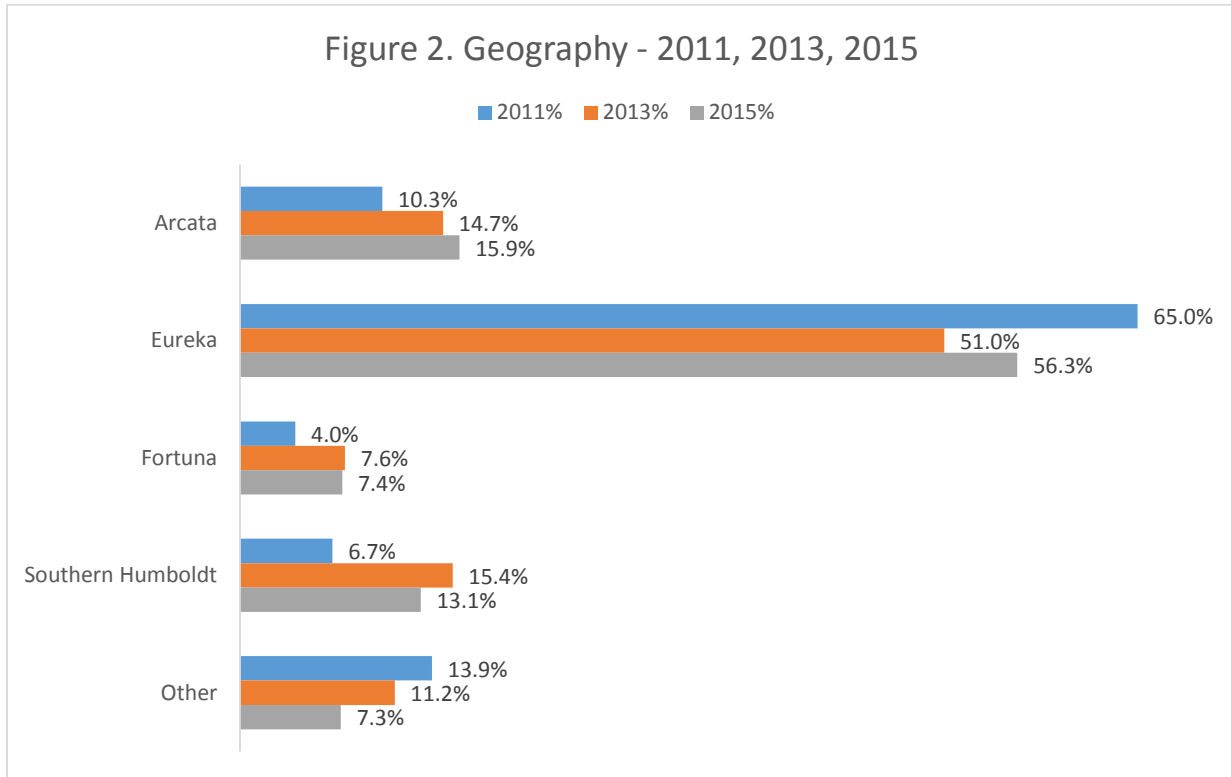
Geography

Q5. What community did you sleep in last night?



Geography	Frequency	Percent
Arcata	206	15.9%
Eureka	730	56.3%
Fortuna	96	7.4%
Southern Humboldt	170	13.1%
Eastern Humboldt	53	4.1%
Other	42	2.8%
Subtotal	1297	
Missing	22	1.7%
Total	1319	

Eureka, as in previous years, has the highest proportion of homeless people followed by Arcata, Southern Humboldt, and Fortuna.



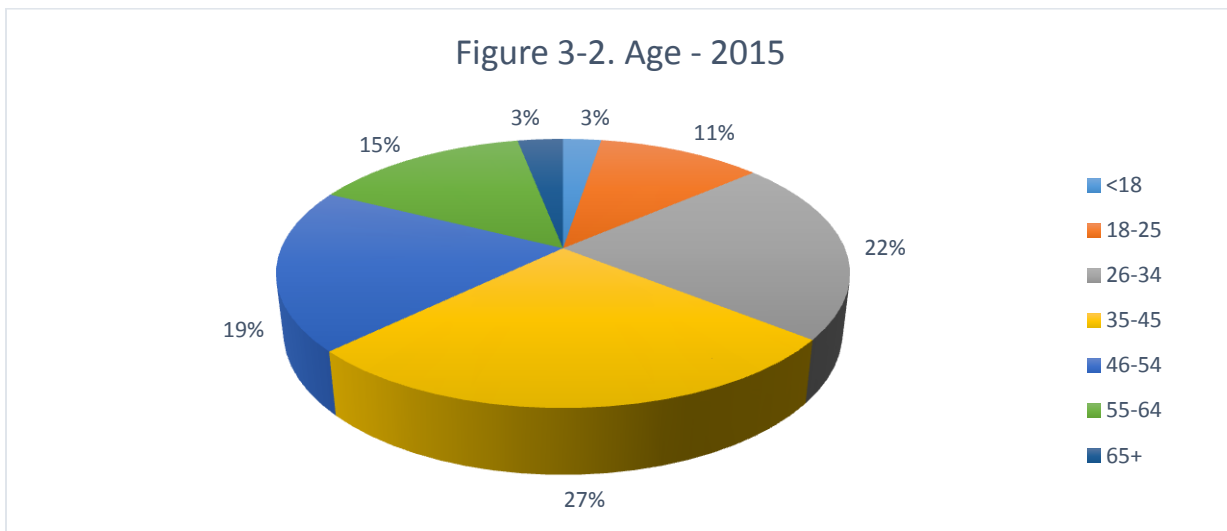
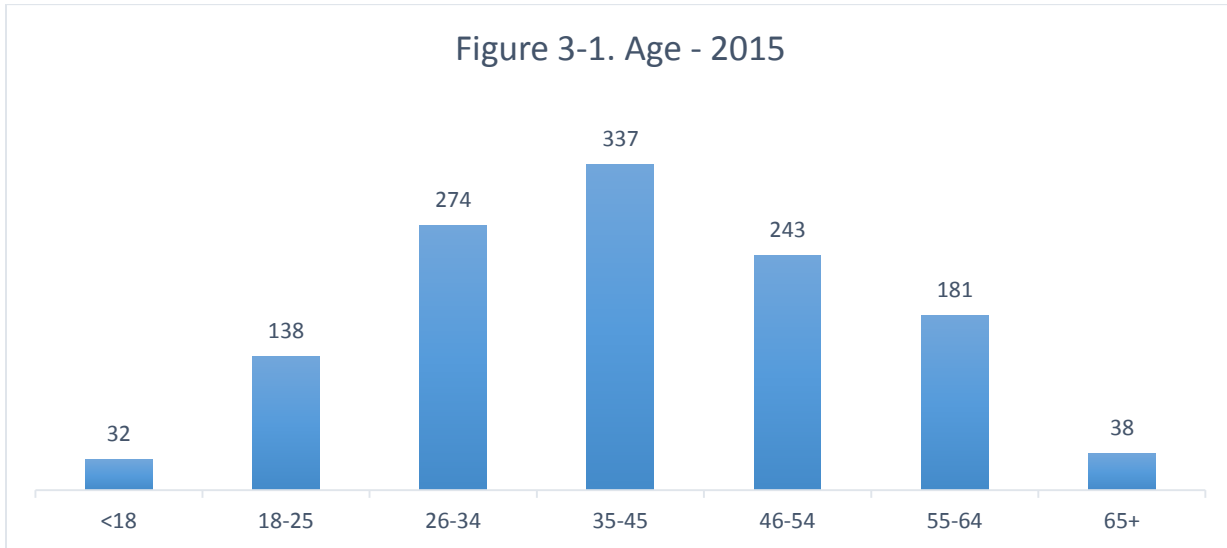
Community	2011	2011%	2013	2013%	2015	2015%
Arcata	154	10.3%	104	14.7%	206	15.9%
Eureka	970	65.0%	360	51.0%	730	56.3%
Fortuna	60	4.0%	54	7.6%	96	7.4%
Southern Humboldt	100	6.7%	109	15.4%	170	13.1%
Other	208	13.9%	79	11.2%	95	7.3%
Subtotal	1492		706		1297	
Missing	134	8.2%	348	33.0%	22	1.67%
Total	1626		1054		1319	

The chart above compares the last 3 counts of homeless people geographically. Compared to 2013, 2015 experienced an increased percentage of respondents reporting that they had stayed in Arcata or Eureka. Compared to 2013, 2015 experienced a decrease in the percentage of respondents reporting that they had stayed in Fortuna, Southern Humboldt, or Other. However 8.2% of respondents in 2011 did not answer this question, 33% of respondents in 2013 did not answer this question, and in 2015 1.7% of respondents did not answer this question.

Eureka continues to have the highest proportion of homeless people, followed by Arcata, and Southern Humboldt.

Age

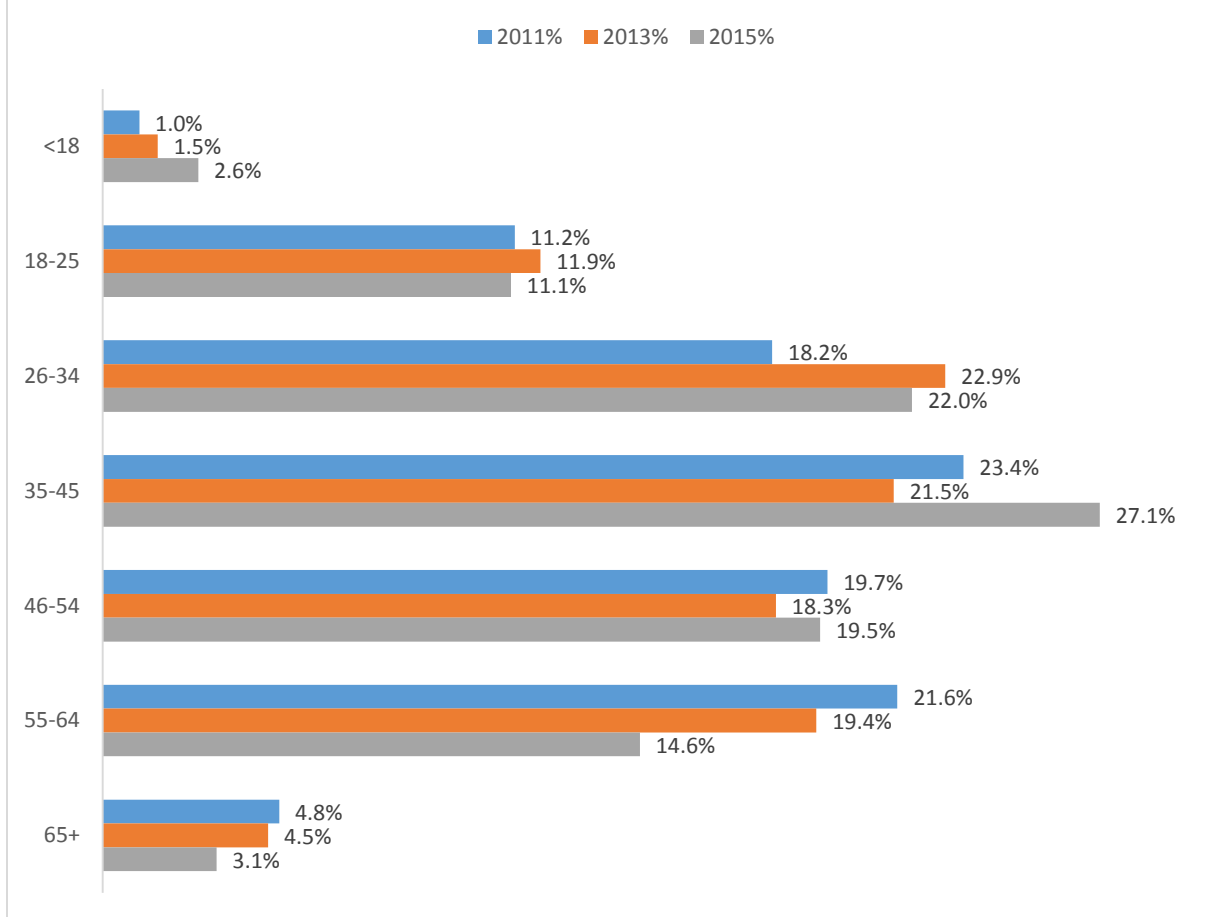
Q1. What is your age?



Age	Frequency	Percent
<18	32	2.6%
18-25	138	11.1%
26-34	274	22.0%
35-45	337	27.1%
46-54	243	19.5%
55-64	181	14.6%
65+	38	3.1%
Subtotal	1243	
Missing	76	5.8%
Total	1319	

Nearly half of respondents reported that they were between the ages of 26 and 45. Only 2.6% of respondents were under the age of 18 and only 3.1% of respondents were senior citizens.

Figure 4. Age - 2011, 2013, 2015



Age	2011	2011%	2013	2013%	2015	2015%
<18	10	1.0%	13	1.5%	32	2.6%
18-25	107	11.2%	104	11.9%	138	11.1%
26-34	173	18.2%	200	22.9%	274	22.0%
35-45	223	23.4%	188	21.5%	337	27.1%
46-54	188	19.7%	160	18.3%	243	19.5%
55-64	206	21.6%	169	19.4%	181	14.6%
65+	46	4.8%	39	4.5%	38	3.1%
Subtotal	953		873		1243	
Missing	673	41.4%	181	17.2%	76	5.8%
Total	1626		1054		1319	

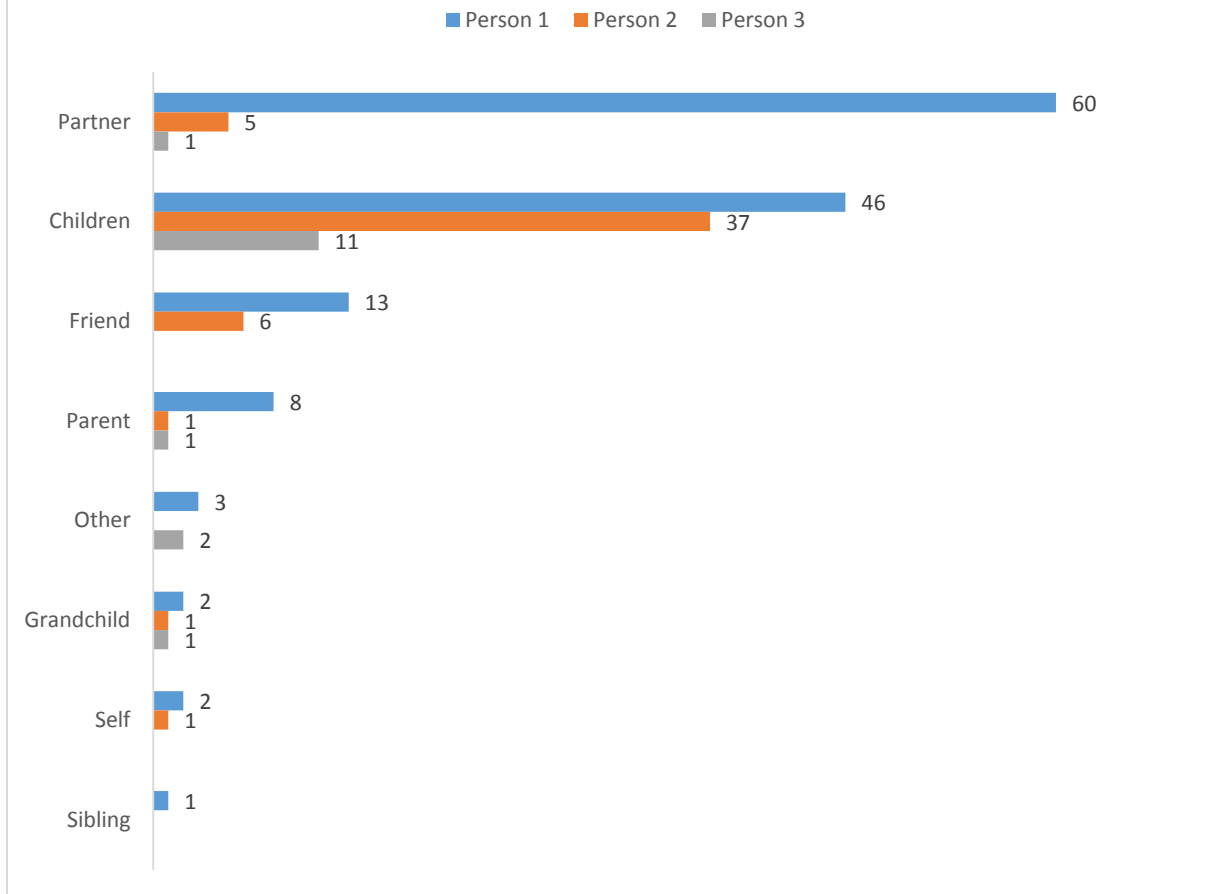
In 2011 the 35-45 age group had the highest proportion of homeless people at 23.4%.

In 2013 the 26-34 age group had the highest proportion of homeless people at 22.9%

In 2015 the 35-45 age group had the highest proportion of homeless people at 27.1%.

It appears that while the proportion of homeless senior citizens surveyed has decreased since 2011, the proportion of homeless people under the age of 18 has increased since 2011.

Figure 5. Individuals that sleep in same location as you



	Person 1	Person 1 %	Person 2	Person 2 %	Person 3	Person 3 %
Partner	60	4.5%	5	0.38%	1	0.07%
Children	46	3.5%	37	2.8%	11	0.8%
Friend	13	1.0%	6	0.45%	0	0%
Parent	8	0.6%	1	0.07%	1	0.07%
Other	3	0.23%	0	0%	2	0.15%
Grandchild	2	0.15%	1	0.07%	1	0.07%
Self	2	0.15%	1	0.07%	0	0%
Sibling	1	0.07%	0	0%	0	0%
Missing	1184	89.8%	1268	96.1%	1302	98.7%

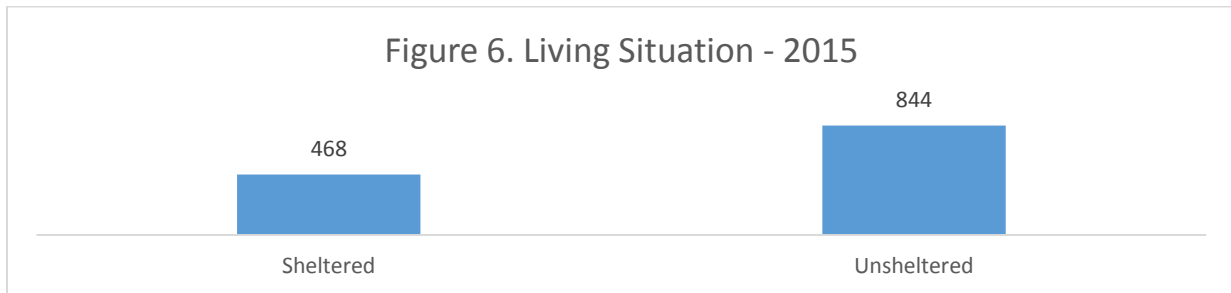
Only 10.2% of respondents reported that they had a companion with whom they sleep in the same location.

Only 3.9% of respondents reported that they had 2 companions with whom they sleep in the same location.

Only 1.3% of respondents reported that they had 3 companions with whom they sleep in the same location.

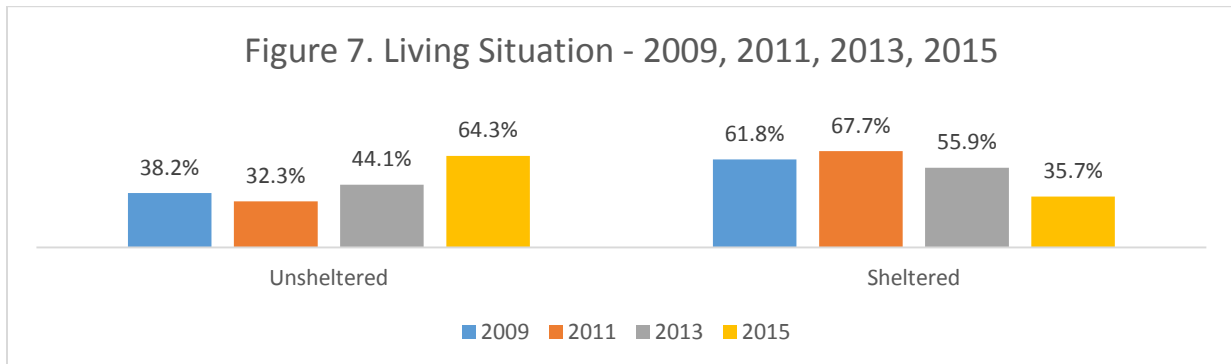
Living Situations on Night of PIT Count

Q2. Where you sheltered or unsheltered where you slept last Tuesday night, January 27, 2015?



Living Situation	Frequency	Percent
Sheltered	468	35.7%
Unsheltered	844	64.3%
Subtotal	1312	
Missing	7	0.53%
Total	1319	

Almost 2 out of 3 respondents reported that they were unsheltered on the night of interest in the survey. Unsheltered indicates that they were sleeping either in a car or on a street, outdoors, or in an abandoned building.



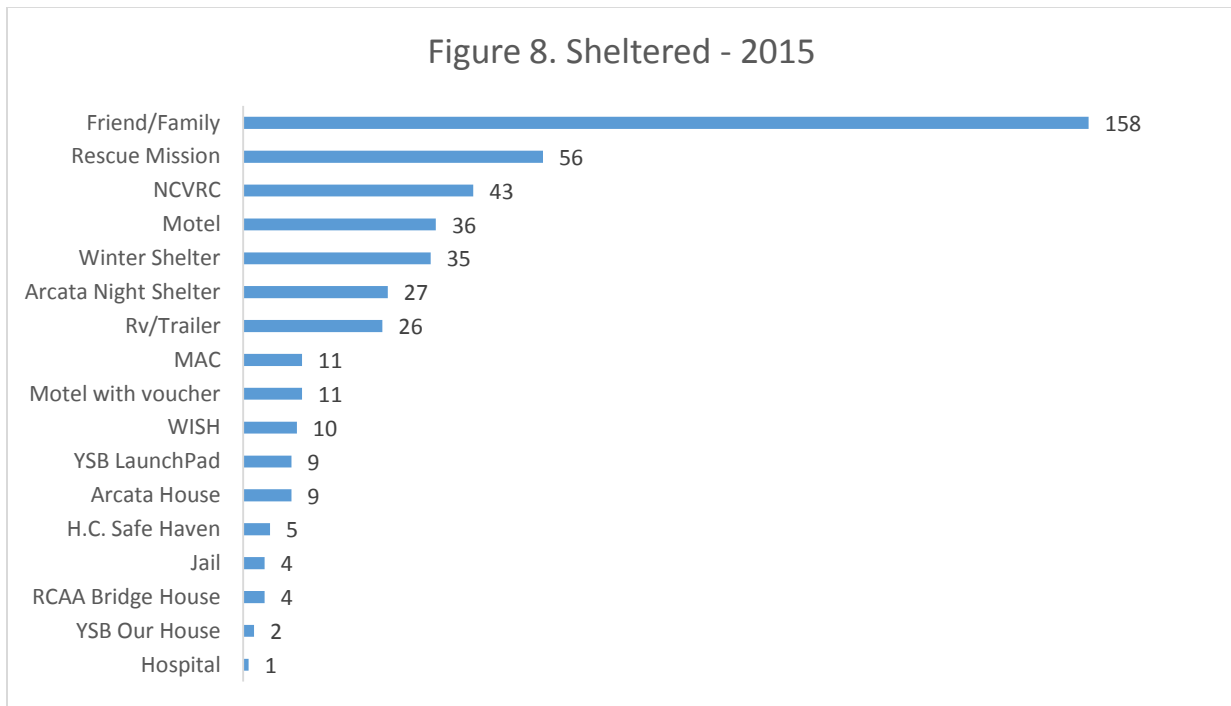
Living Situation	2009	2009%	2011	2011%	2013	2013%	2015	2015%
Sheltered	842	61.8%	1044	67.7%	580	55.9%	468	35.7%
Unsheltered	520	38.2%	499	32.3%	458	44.1%	844	64.3%
Subtotal	1362		1543		1038		1312	
Missing	551	28.8%	83	5.1%	16	1.5%	7	0.53%
Total	1913		1626		1054		1319	

The number of respondents who report being unsheltered has increased by 23.5% since 2013 and by 32% since 2011.

In 2009 the Living Situation Summary (sheltered or unsheltered) was not collected but the Living Situation Detail (sleeping where) was collected. From the Living Situation Detail the Living Situation Summary was determined and included in this chart.

Details on the living situation of ‘sheltered’ respondents are included in the graphs and tables below.

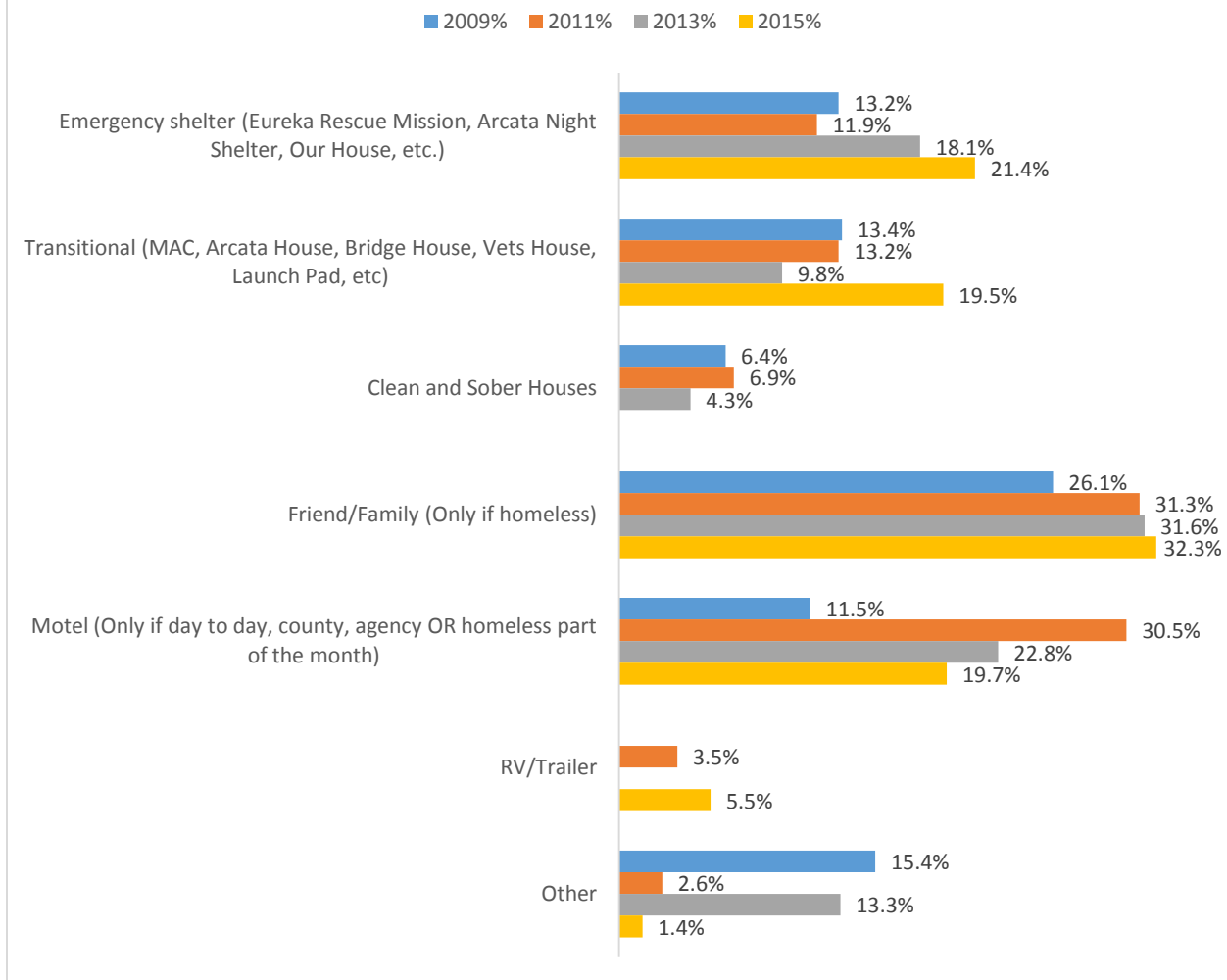
Q3. *If you were sheltered, where did you sleep last Tuesday night, January 27, 2015?*



2015 - Sheltered where (check all)	Frequency	Percent
Arcata Night Shelter	27	5.8%
Arcata House	9	1.9%
Friend/Family	134	28.6%
H.C. Safe Haven	5	1.1%
Hospital	2	0.43%
Jail	4	0.85%
MAC	11	2.4%
Motel with voucher	11	2.4%
Motel	36	7.7%
NCVRC	43	9.2%
RCAA Bridge House	4	0.85%
Rescue Mission	55	11.8%
RV/Trailer	23	4.9%
Winter Shelter	35	7.5%
WISH	5	1.1%
YSB LaunchPad	9	1.9%
YSB OurHouse	2	0.43%

Of those who reported that they were sheltered, 28.6% reported that they were sheltered at a friends or family member’s house on the night in question and 11.8% reported that they were sheltered at Rescue Mission.

Figure 9. Sheltered - 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015

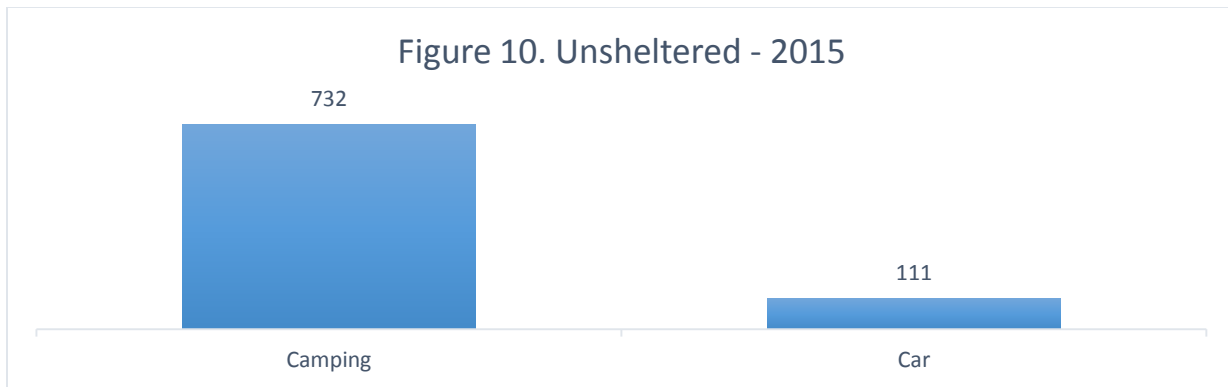


Sheltered	2009	2009%	2011	2011%	2013	2013%	2015	2015%
Emergency shelter (Eureka Rescue Mission, Arcata Night Shelter, Our House, etc.)	111	13.2%	124	11.9%	105	18.1%	89	21.4%
Transitional (MAC, Arcata House, Bridge House, Vets House, Launch Pad, etc)	113	13.4%	138	13.2%	57	9.8%	81	19.5%
Clean and Sober Houses	54	6.4%	72	6.9%	25	4.3%		
Friend/Family (Only if homeless)	220	26.1%	327	31.3%	183	31.6%	134	32.3%
Motel (Only if day to day, county, agency OR homeless part of the month)	129	1.4%	283	27.1%	109	18.8%	47	11.3%
RV/Trailer			37	3.5%			23	5.5%
Serenity Inn (2015 = winter shelter)	85	10.1%	36	3.4%	23	4.0%	35	8.4%
Other	130	15.4%	27	2.6%	77	13.3%	6	1.4%
Total	842		1044		579		415	

In order to compare where survey respondents were sheltered over the years, some of the categories from the 2015 survey were merged.

Details on the living situation of 'unsheltered' respondents are included in the graphs and tables below.

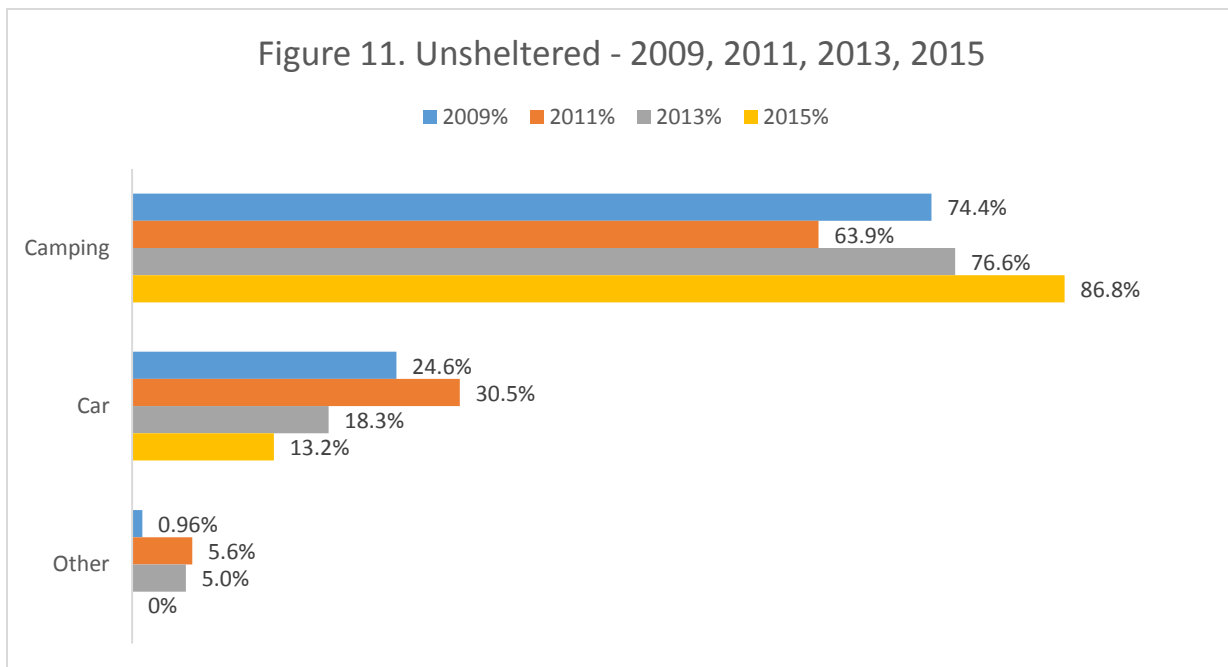
Q4. If you were unsheltered, where did you sleep last Tuesday night, January 27, 2015?



2015 - Unsheltered where? (check all)	Frequency	Percent
Camping	732	86.8%
Car	111	13.2%
Total	843	

86.8% of respondents reported that they were unsheltered camping, not in a car.

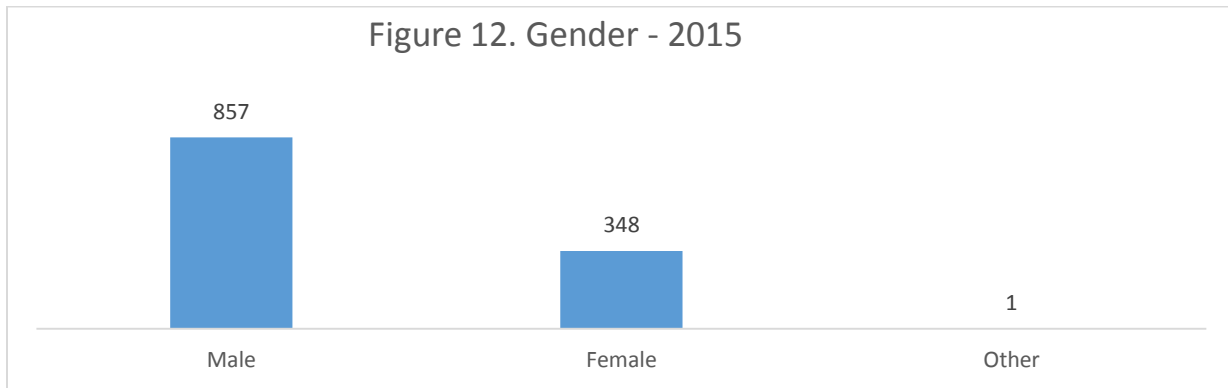
'Other' answers include: Garden shed, Dugout, and Walking around



Unsheltered	2009	2009%	2011	2011%	2013	2013%	2015	2015%
Camping	387	74.4%	319	63.9%	351	76.6%	732	86.8%
Car	128	24.6%	152	30.5%	84	18.3%	111	13.2%
Other	5	0.96%	28	5.6%	23	5.0%	0	0%
Total	520		499		458		843	

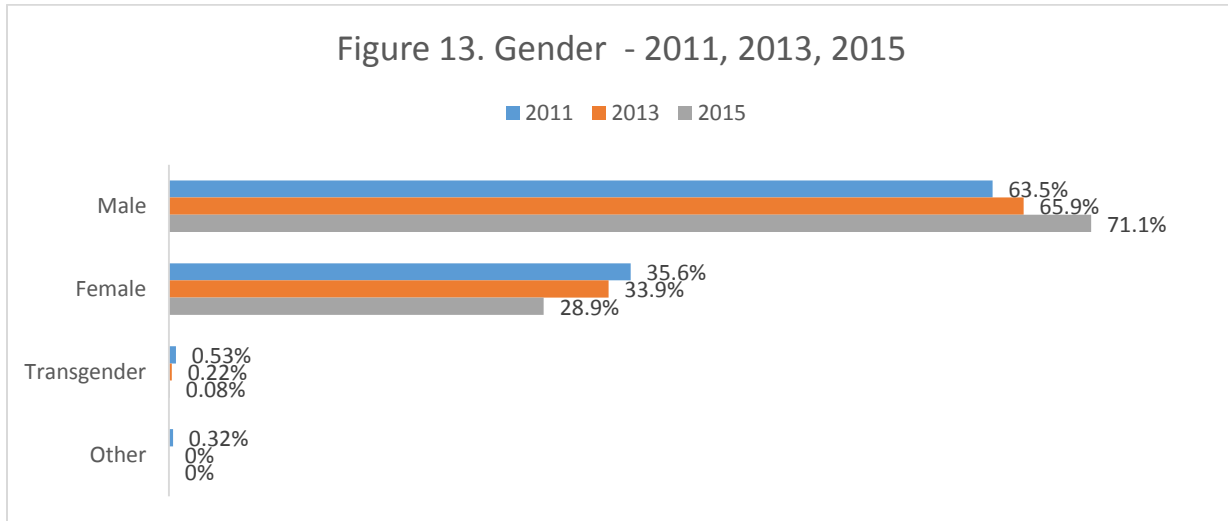
Gender, Race, and Ethnicity

Q1. What is your gender?



Gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	857	71.1%
Female	348	28.9%
Other	1	0.083%
Subtotal	1206	
Missing	113	8.6%
Total	1319	

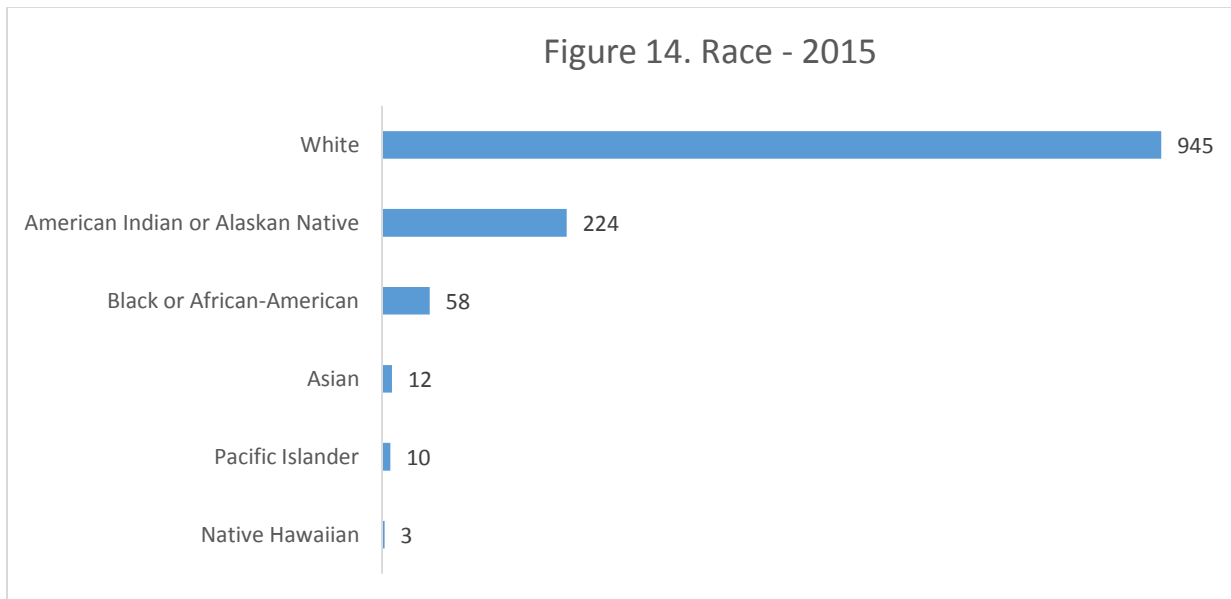
71.1% of respondents reported that they are male.



Gender	2011	2011 %	2013	2013 %	2015	2015 %
Male	604	63.5%	596	65.9%	857	71.1%
Female	339	35.6%	307	33.9%	348	28.9%
Transgender	5	0.53%	2	0.22%	1	0.083%
Other	3	0.32%	0	0%	0	0%
Subtotal	951		905		1206	
Missing	675	41.5%	149	14.1%	113	8.6%
Total	1626		1054		1319	

The number of respondents who reported that they are male increased by 5.2% since 2013.

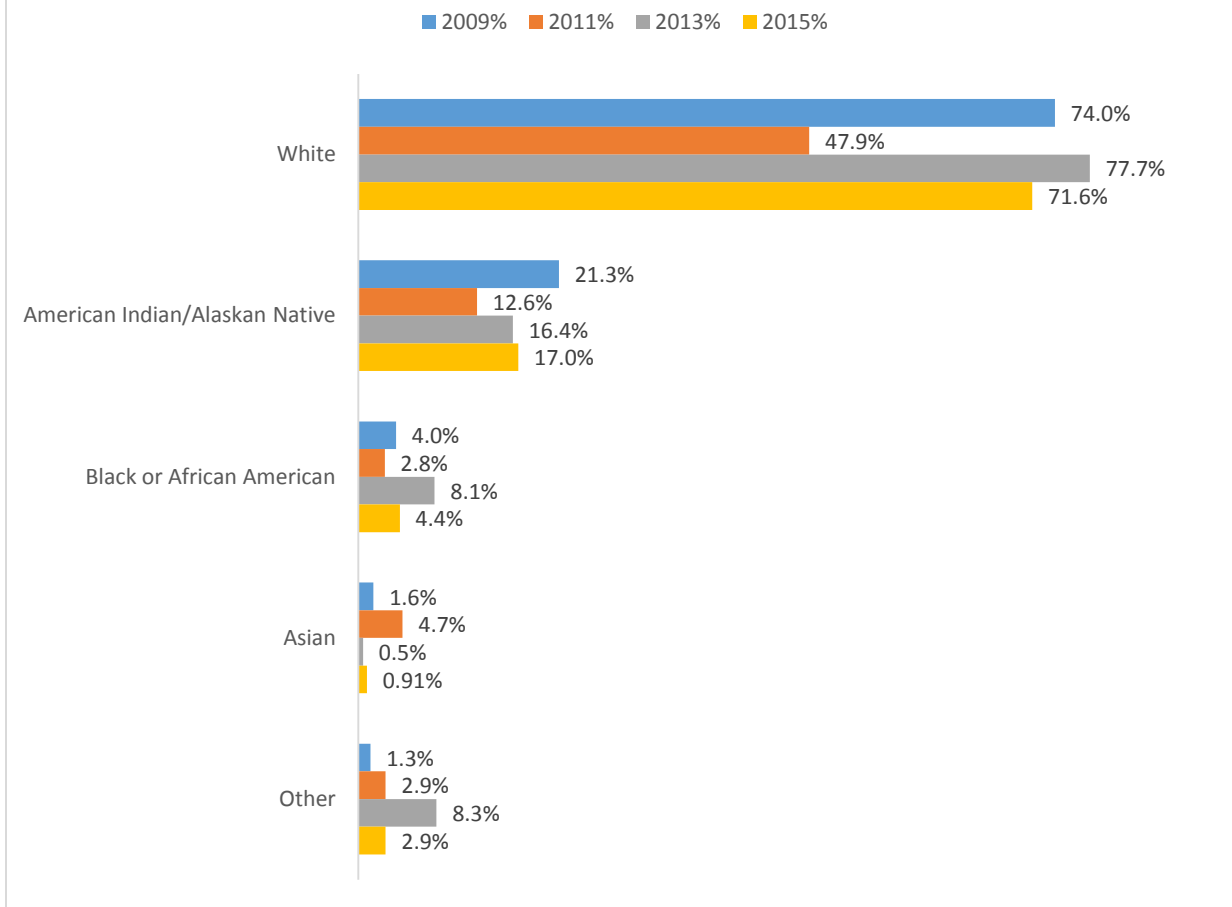
Q8. What race do you identify yourself as?



Race (check all that apply)	Frequency
White	945
American Indian or Alaskan Native	224
Black or African-American	58
Asian	12
Pacific Islander	10
Native Hawaiian	3
Respondent doesn't know	9
Respondent Refused	16
Missing	99

945 respondents marked white as part of their racial make-up, 224 respondents marked American Indian or Alaskan Native as part of their racial make-up, and 54 respondents marked Black or African-American as part of their racial make-up.

Figure 15. Race - 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015



Race (check all that apply)	2009	2009%	2011	2011%	2013	2013%	2015	2015%
White	900	74.0%	679	47.9%	683	77.7%	945	71.6%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	259	21.3%	178	12.6%	144	16.4%	224	17.0%
Black or African American	49	4.0%	39	2.8%	71	8.1%	58	4.4%
Asian	20	1.6%	67	4.7%	4	0.5%	12	0.91
Other	16	1.3%	41	2.9%	73	8.3%	38	2.9%
Missing	696	36.4%	208	19.6%	175	16.6%	99	7.5%
Total	1913		1062		1054		1319	

Of respondents who answered this question, 71.6% marked white as part of their racial make-up in 2015 compared to 77.7% in 2013, and 47.9% in 2011.

Of respondents who answered this question. 17.0% marked American Indian or Alaskan Native as part of their racial make-up in 2015 compared to 16.4% in 2013, and 12.6% in 2011.

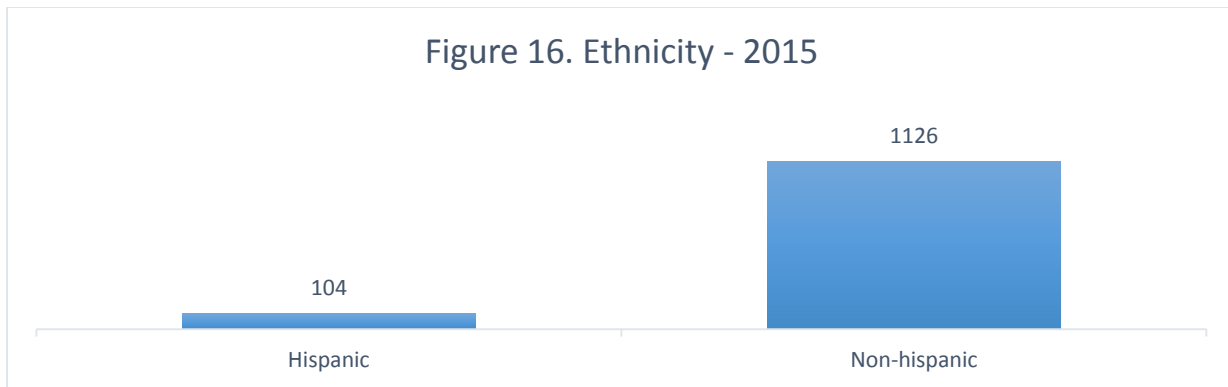
In 2009 over 35% of respondents did not answer this question.

In 2011 nearly 20% of respondents did not answer this question.

In 2013 over 16% of respondents did not answer this question.

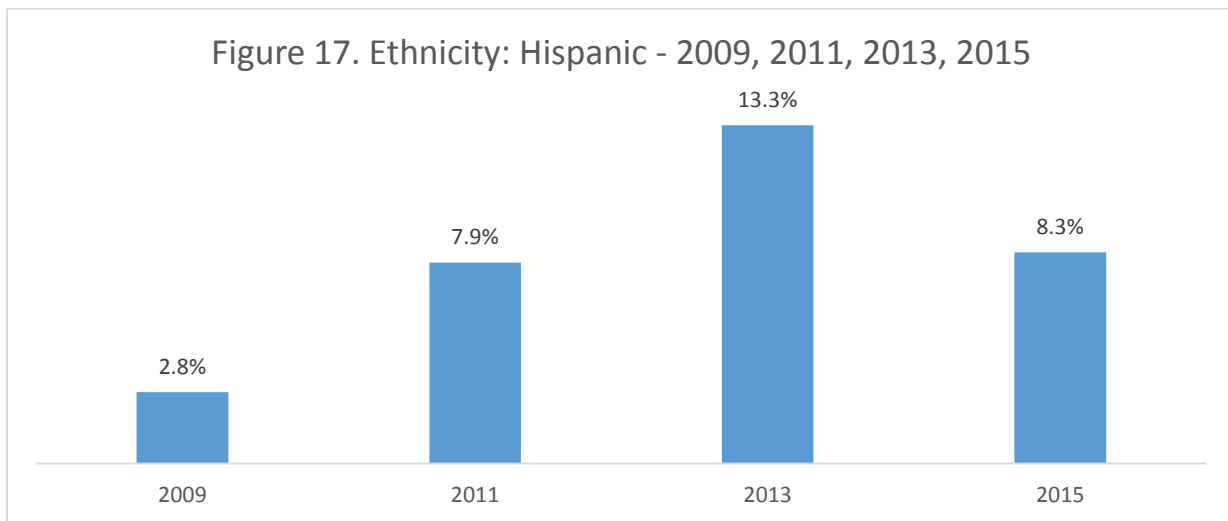
In 2015 over 7% of respondents did not answer this question.

Q7. What ethnicity do you identify yourself as?



Ethnicity	Frequency	Percent
Hispanic	104	8.3%
Non-Hispanic	1126	90.2%
Respondent refused	15	0.32%
Respondent doesn't know	4	1.2%
Subtotal	1249	
Missing	70	5.3%
Total	1319	

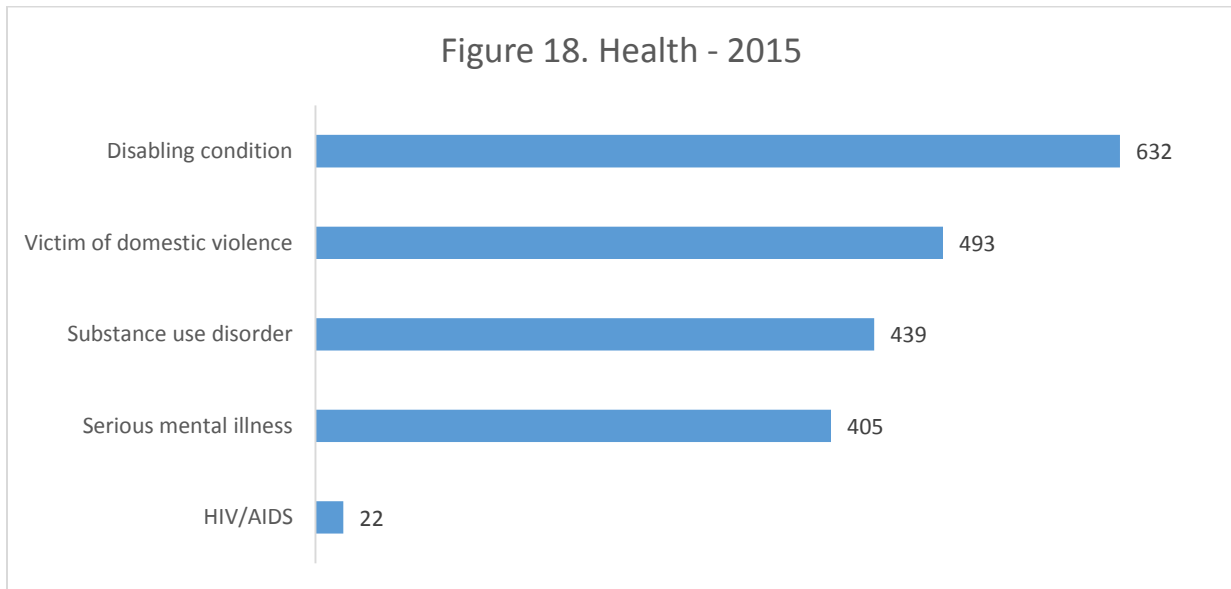
8.3% of respondents in 2015 reported that they are Hispanic.



Ethnicity	2009	2009%	2011	2011%	2013	2013%	2015	2015%
Hispanic	53	2.8%	59	7.9%	110	13.3%	104	8.3%
Non-Hispanic			633	85.1%	673	81.6%	1126	90.2%
Unknown			18	2.4%	15	1.8%	4	0.32%
Decline to answer			34	4.6%	27	3.3%	15	1.2%
Subtotal			744		825		1249	
Missing			882	54.2%	229	21.7%	70	5.3%
Total	1913		1062		1054		1319	

Health

Q16. Please answer yes, no, or don't know regarding your health conditions in the following areas.



2015 - Health (check all)	Frequency	Percent
Disabling condition	632	47.9%
Victim of domestic violence	493	37.4%
Substance use disorder	439	33.3%
Serious mental illness	405	30.7%
HIV/AIDS	22	1.67%

47.9% of respondents in 2015 reported that they have a disabling condition.

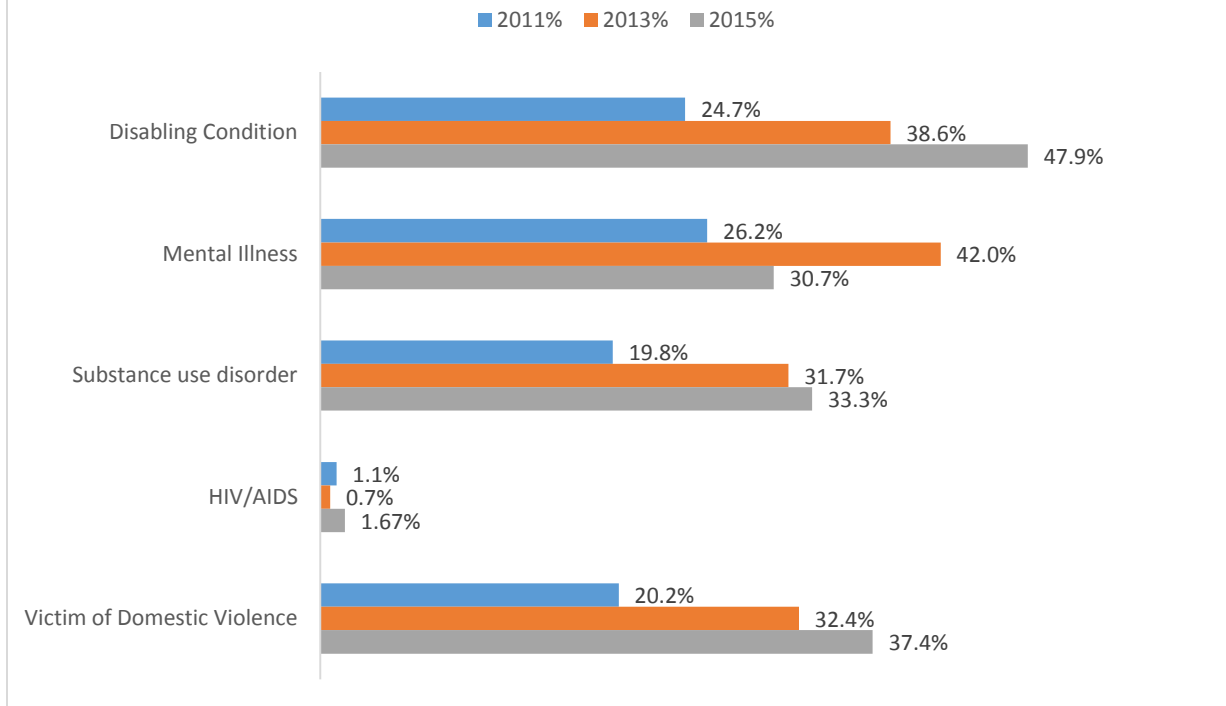
37.4% of respondents in 2015 reported that they had been a victim of domestic violence.

33.3% of respondents in 2015 reported that they have a substance use disorder.

30.7% of respondents in 2015 reported that they have a serious mental illness.

1.67% of respondents in 2015 reported that they have HIV/AIDS.

Figure 19. Health - 2011, 2013, 2015



Health	2011	2011%	2013	2013%	2015	2015%
Disabling Condition	401	24.7%	407	38.6%	632	47.9%
Mental Illness	426	26.2%	443	42.0%	405	30.7%
Substance use disorder	322	19.8%	334	31.7%	439	33.3%
HIV/AIDS	18	1.1%	7	0.66%	22	1.67%
Victim of Domestic Violence	328	20.2%	342	32.4%	493	37.4%

The percentage of respondents who reported having a disabling condition has **increased** by 9.3% since 2013.

The percentage of respondents who reported having a mental illness has **decreased** by 11.3% since 2013.

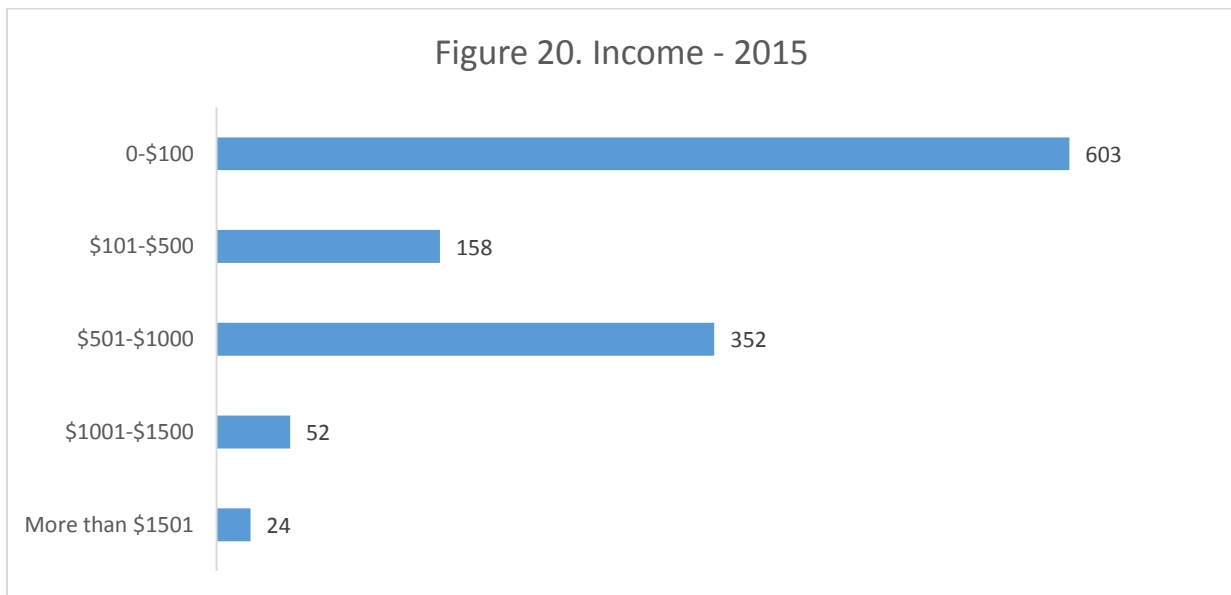
The percentage of respondents who reported having a substance use disorder has **increased** by 1.6% since 2013.

The percentage of respondents who reported having HIV/AIDS has **increased** by 0.97% since 2013.

The percentage of respondents who reported being a victim of domestic violence has **increased** by 5% since 2013.

Income

Q13. What is your total monthly income?



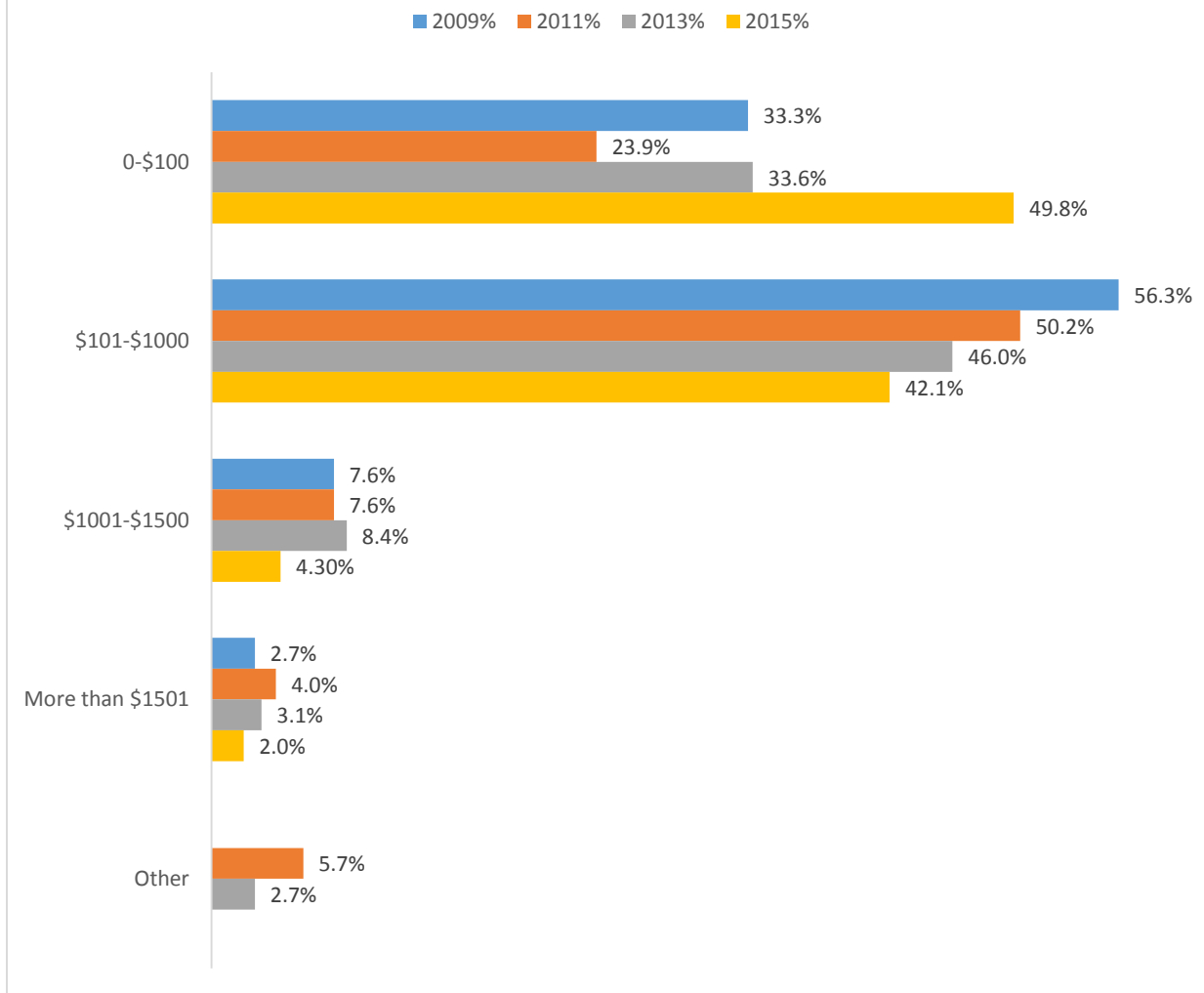
2015 - Income	Frequency	Percent
0-\$100	603	49.8%
\$101-\$500	158	13.0%
\$501-\$1000	352	29.1%
\$1001-\$1500	52	4.3%
More than \$1501	24	2.0%
Respondent doesn't know	11	0.91%
Respondent refused	11	0.91%
Subtotal	1211	
Missing	108	8.2%
Total	1319	

91.9% of respondents who answered this question reported a monthly income of \$1000 or less.

49.8% of respondents reported their total monthly income is between \$0 and \$100.

29.1% of respondents reported that their total monthly income is between \$501 and \$1000.

Figure 21. Income - 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015



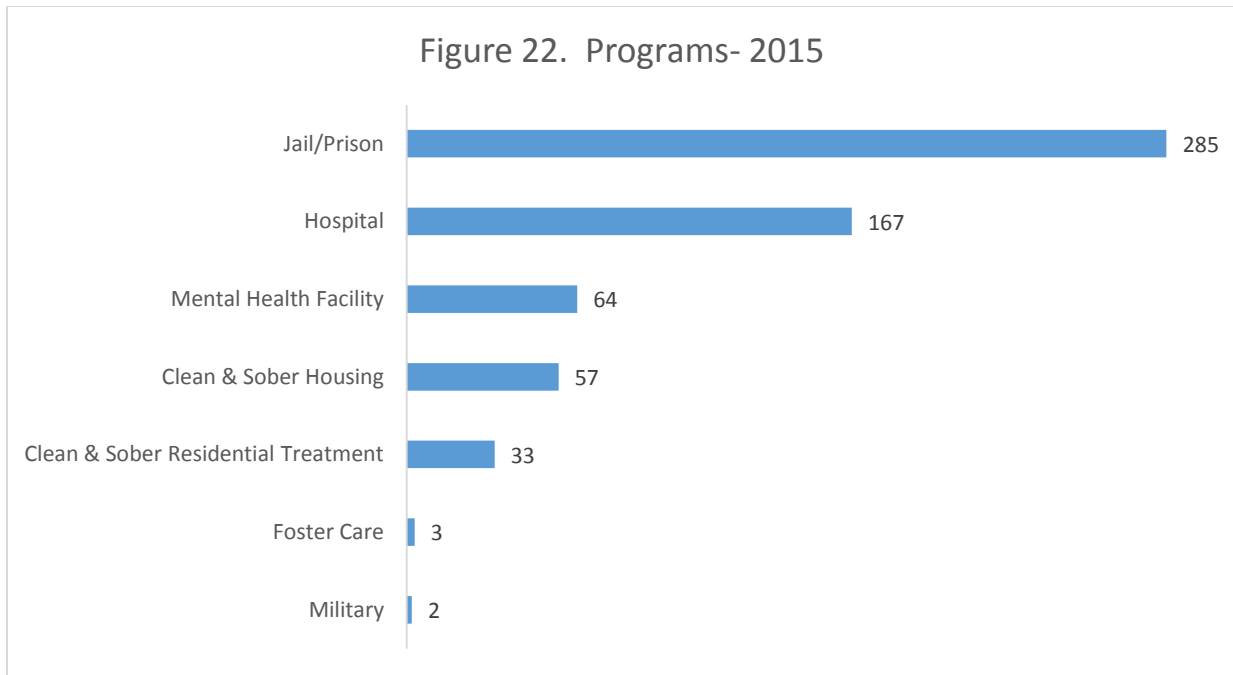
Income	2009	2009%	2011	2011%	2013	2013%	2015	2015%
0-\$100	367	33.3%	205	23.9%	301	33.6%	603	49.8%
\$101-\$1000	620	56.3%	431	50.2%	412	46.0%	510	42.1%
\$1001-\$1500	84	7.6%	65	7.6%	75	8.4%	52	4.3%
More than \$1501	30	2.7%	34	4.0%	28	3.1%	24	2.0%
Respondent doesn't know			22	2.6%	11	1.2%	11	0.91%
Respondent refused			52	6.1%	45	5.0%	11	0.91%
Other			49	5.7%	24	2.7%		
Subtotal	1101		858		896		1211	
Missing	812	42.4%	768	47.2%	158	15.0%	108	8.2%
Total	1913		1626		1054		1319	

Respondents who reported having a monthly income between 0 and 100 dollars has increased by 16.2% since 2013.

Respondents who reported having a monthly income between 101 and 1000 dollars has decreased by 3.9% since 2013.

Discharge from Institutions

Q15. In the past 6 months, have you been discharged from any of these programs?

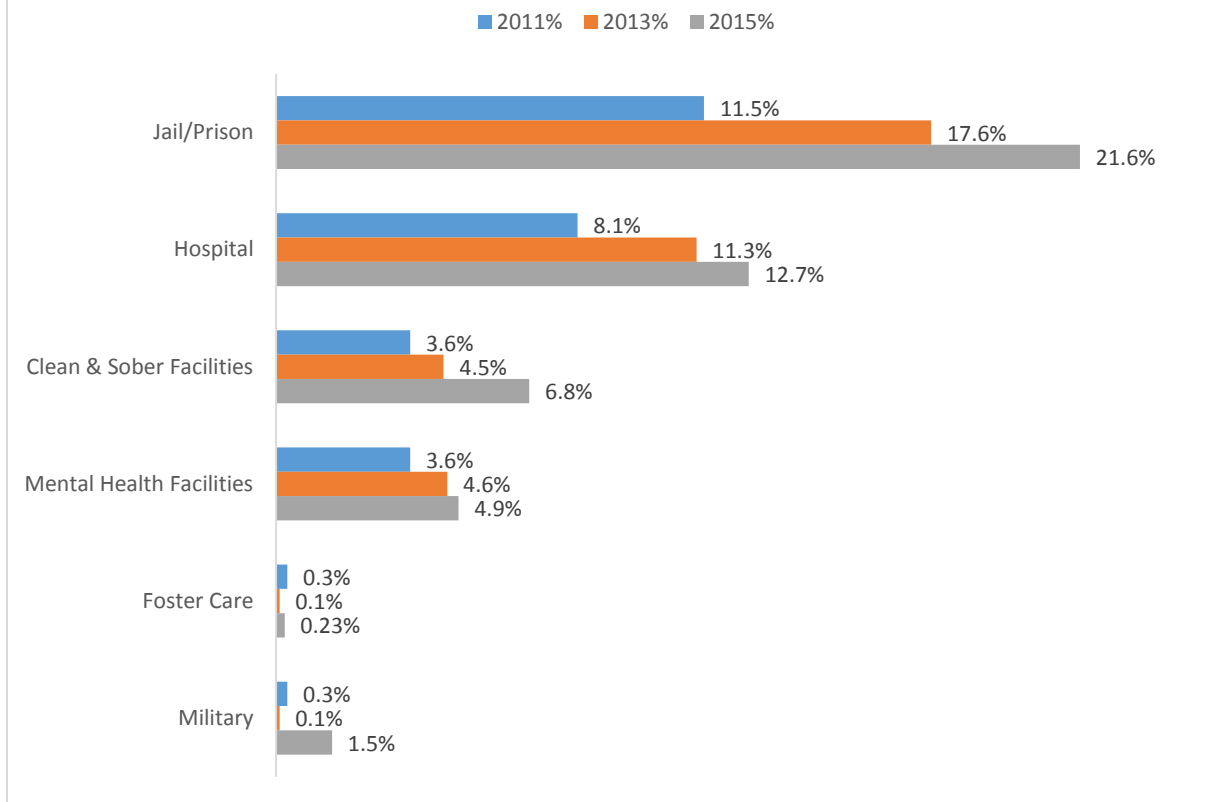


Institutions (Check all)	Frequency
Jail/Prison	285
Hospital	167
Mental Health Facility	64
Clean & Sober Housing	57
Clean & Sober Residential Treatment	33
Foster Care	3
Military	2
Respondent Refused	21
Respondent doesn't know	40

21.6% of respondents reported that they had been discharged from Jail/Prison in the last 6 months.

12.7% of respondents reported that they had been discharged from the hospital in the last 6 months.

Figure 23. Programs - 2011, 2013, 2015



Programs in Last 6 Months	2011	2011%	2013	2013%	2015	2015%
Jail/Prison	187	11.5%	185	17.6%	285	21.6%
Hospital	132	8.1%	119	11.3%	167	12.7%
Clean & Sober Facilities	59	3.6%	47	4.5%	90	6.8%
Mental Health Facilities	58	3.6%	49	4.6%	64	4.9%
Foster Care	5	0.3%	1	0.09%	3	0.23%
Military	5	0.3%	1	0.09%	2	1.5%
Unknown	45	2.8%	22	2.1%	40	3.0%
Declined	75	4.6%	32	3.0%	21	1.6%
Total	1626		1054		1319	

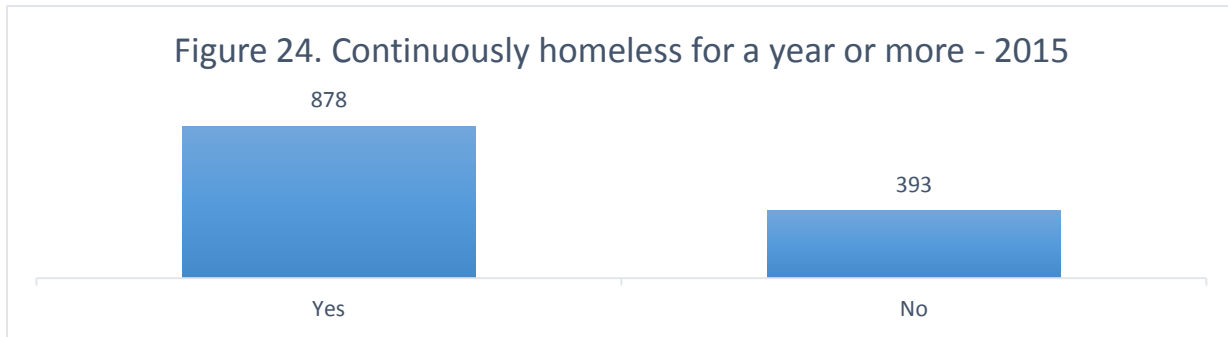
The percentage of respondents who reported having been released from jail in the last 6 months increased 10.1% since 2011.

The percentage of respondents who reported having been released from the hospital in the last 6 months increased 4.6% since 2011.

The percentage of respondents who reported having been released from clean and sober facilities in the last 6 months increased 3.2% since 2011.

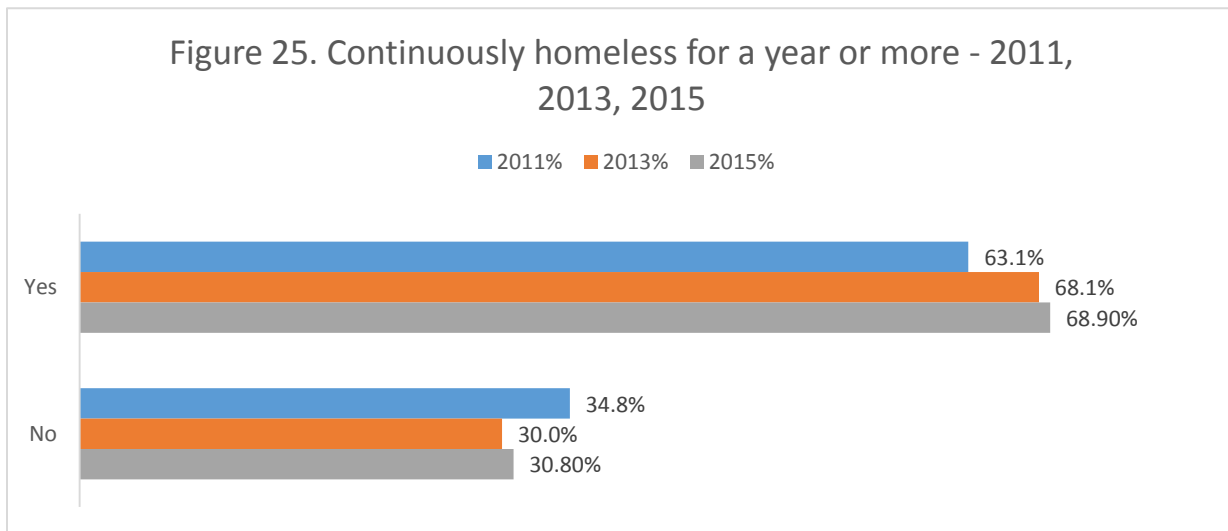
The percentage of respondents who reported having been released from mental health facilities in the last 6 months increased 1.3% since 2011.

Q9a. Have you been continuously homeless for a year or more?



Continuously Homeless for a year or more	2015	2015 %
Yes	878	68.9%
No	393	30.8%
Unknown	1	0.078%
Decline to answer	3	0.24%
Subtotal	1275	
Missing	44	3.3%
Total	1319	

Nearly 69% of respondents reported that they have been consistently homeless for more than a year.



Continuously Homeless for a year or more	2011	2011 %	2013	2013 %	2015	2015 %
Yes	562	63.1%	620	68.1%	878	68.9%
No	310	34.8%	273	30.0%	393	30.8%
Unknown	10	1.1%	11	1.2%	1	0.078%
Decline to answer	9	1.0%	6	0.66%	3	0.24%
Subtotal	891		910		1275	
Missing	735	45.2%	144	13.7%	44	
Total	1626		1054		1319	

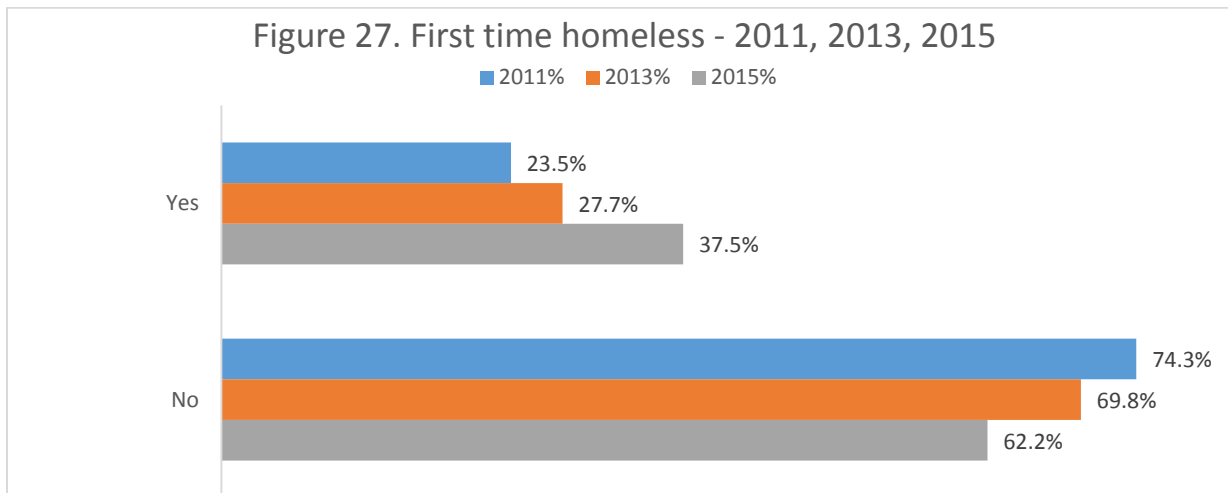
The percentage of respondents who report being homeless for a year or more has been fairly consistent since 2011.

Q9b. Is this your first time being homeless?



First Time Homeless	2015	2015%
Yes	435	37.5%
No	722	62.2%
Unknown	2	0.17%
Decline to answer	2	0.17%
Subtotal	1161	
Missing	158	12.0%
Total	1319	

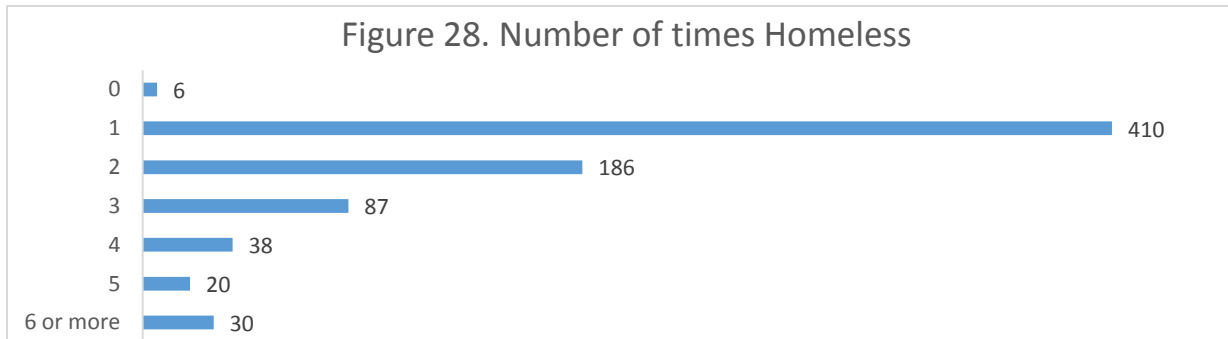
37.5% of respondents reported that this was their first time being homeless.



First Time Homeless	2011	2011 %	2013	2013 %	2015	2015 %
Yes	210	23.5%	249	27.7%	435	37.5%
No	663	74.3%	628	69.8%	722	62.2%
Unknown	6	0.67%	9	1.0%	2	0.17%
Decline to answer	13	1.46%	14	1.56%	2	0.17%
Subtotal	892		900		1161	
Missing	734	45.1%	154	14.6%	158	12.0%
Total	1626		1054		1319	

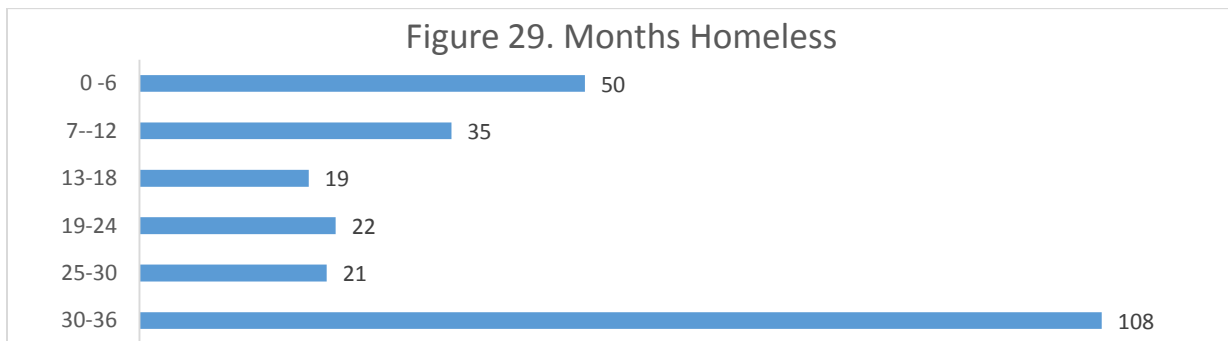
The number of respondents reporting that this was their first time being homeless increased by 9.8% between 2013 and 2015.

Q10. Number of times homeless in the past 3 years?



Number of Times Homeless	Frequency	Percent
0	6	0.45%
1	410	31.1%
2	186	14.1
3	87	6.6%
4	38	2.9%
5	20	1.5%
6 or more	30	2.27%
Invalid Answer	86	6.5%
Missing	456	34.6%
Total	1319	

Q11. If homeless 4 or more times, total number of months homeless in the past 3 years?

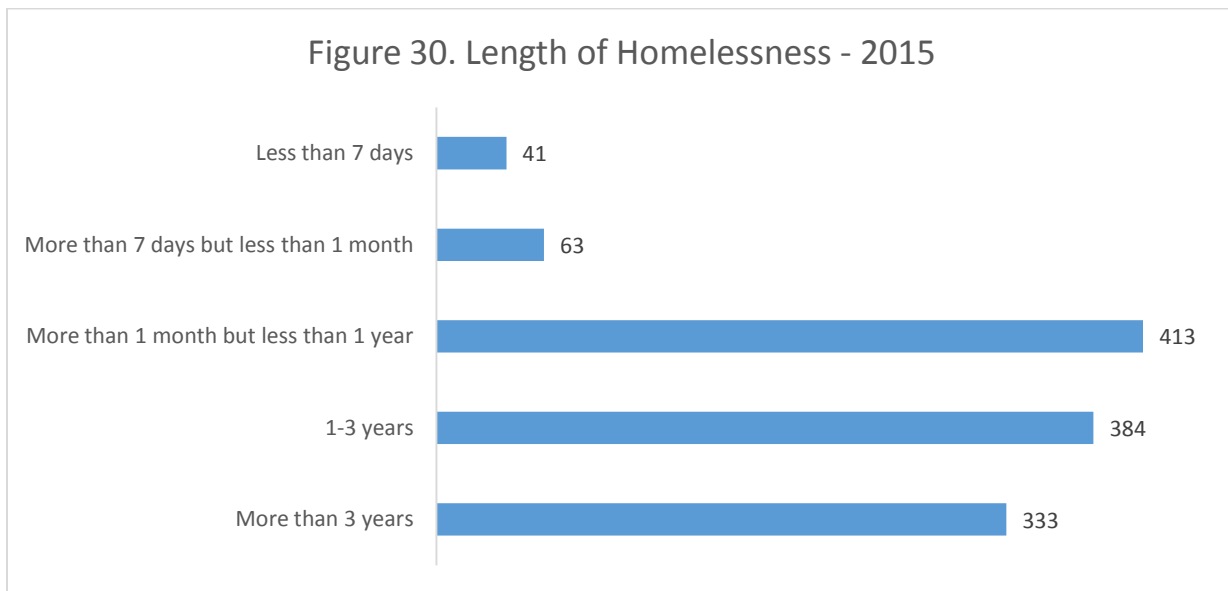


Months Homeless	Frequency	Percent
0-6	50	3.8%
7-12	35	2.7%
13-18	19	1.4%
19-24	22	1.7%
25-30	21	1.6%
30-36	108	8.2%
Invalid	18	1.4%
Missing	1046	79.3%
Total	1319	

8.2% of respondents who answered this question reported being homeless for 30 to 36 months out of the last 3 years.

Length of Homelessness

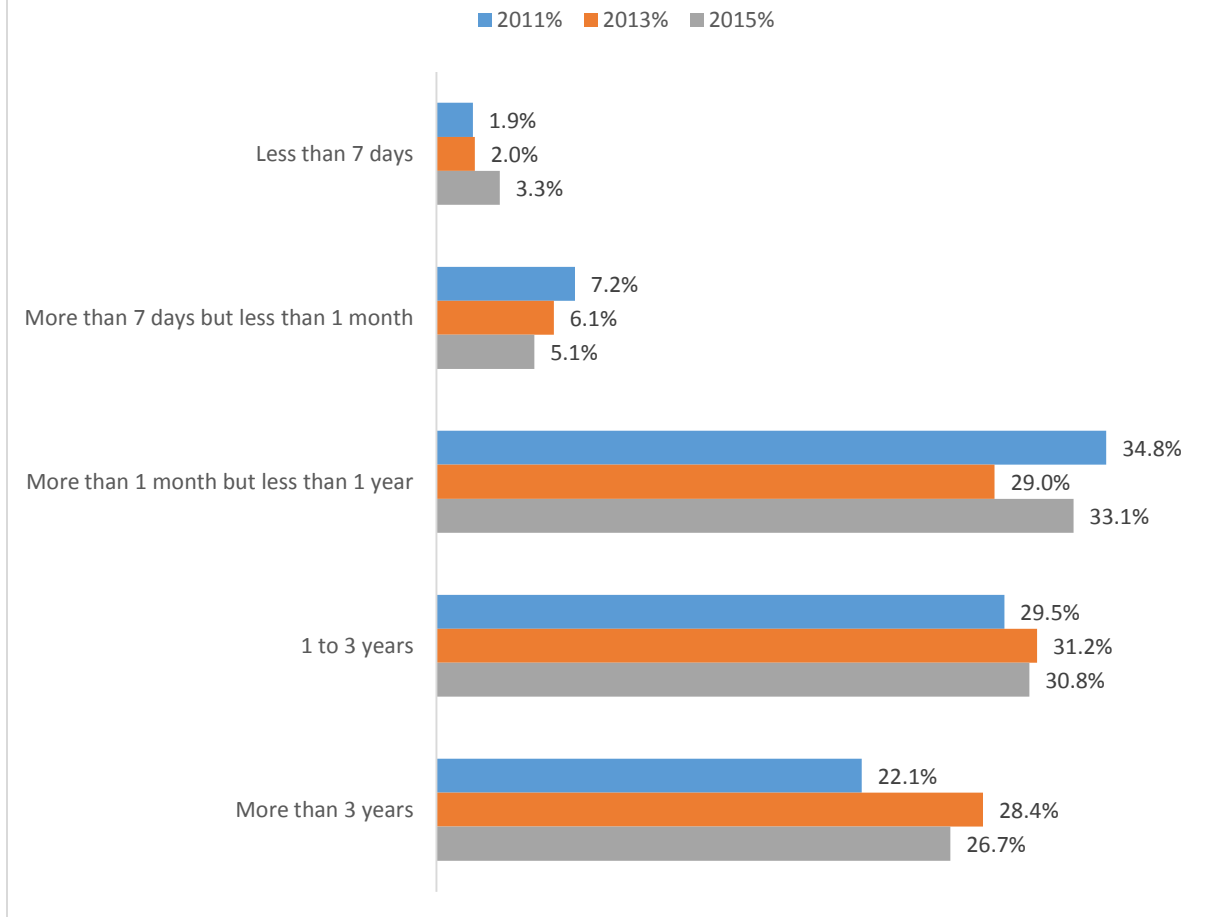
Q12. How long have you been homeless this time?



Length of Homelessness	Frequency	Percent
Less than 7 days	41	3.3%
More than 7 days but less than 1 month	63	5.1%
More than 1 month but less than 1 year	413	33.1%
1-3 years	384	30.8%
More than 3 years	333	26.7%
Respondent Doesn't know	7	0.56%
Respondent Refused	5	0.40%
Subtotal	1246	
Missing	73	5.5%
Total	1319	

More than 1 in 4 (26.7%) respondents reported that they had been homeless for more than 3 years. Over 3 out of 10 (30.8%) respondents reported that they had been homeless between 1 and 3 years. Almost 1 in 3 (33.1%) respondents reported that they had been homeless for more than 1 month but less than 1 year.

Figure 31. Length of homelessness - 2011, 2013, 2015



How long homeless	2011	2011 %	2013	2013 %	2015	2015 %
Less than 7 days	17	1.9%	18	2.0%	41	3.3%
More than 7 days but less than 1 month	65	7.2%	55	6.1%	63	5.1%
More than 1 month but less than 1 year	316	34.8%	261	29.0%	413	33.1%
1 to 3 years	268	29.5%	281	31.2%	384	30.8%
More than 3 years	200	22.1%	256	28.4%	333	26.7%
Unknown	23	2.5%	16	1.78%	7	0.56%
Decline to answer	18	2.0%	13	1.4%	5	0.40%
Subtotal	907		900		1246	
Missing	719	44.2%	154	14.6%	73	5.5%
Total	1626		1054		1319	

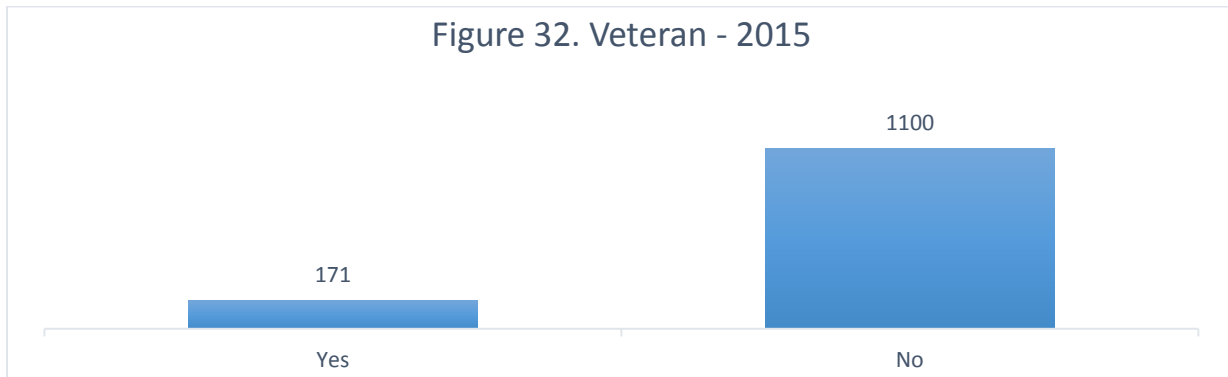
The percentage of respondents who reported that they have been homeless more than 1 month but less than one year has increased 4.1% since 2013.

The percentage of respondents who reported that they have been homeless between 1 and 3 years has decreased 0.4% since 2013.

The percentage of respondents who reported that they have been homeless more than 3 years has decreased 1.7% since 2013.

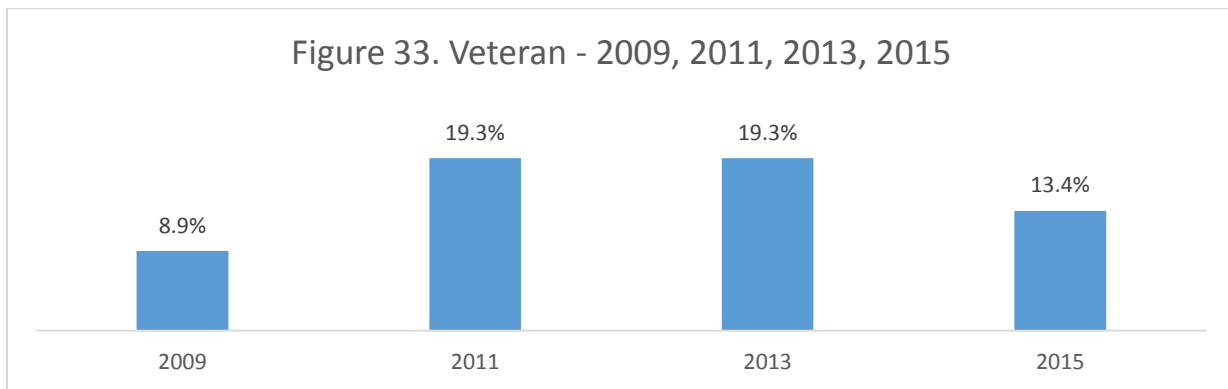
Veteran Status

Q6. Have you ever served in the U.S. Military?



Veteran Status	Frequency	Percent
Yes	171	13.4%
No	1100	8.6%
Respondent doesn't know	1	0.078%
Respondent refused	4	0.31%
Subtotal	1276	
Missing	43	3.26%
Total	1319	

13.4% of respondents reported that they had served in the US military.



Veteran	2009	2009 %	2011	2011 %	2013	2013 %	2015	2015 %
Yes	170	8.9%	174	19.3%	176	19.3%	171	13.4%
No			715	79.4%	727	79.8%	1100	8.6%
Unknown			2	0.22%	1	0.11%	1	0.078%
Decline to answer			10	1.11%	7	0.77%	4	0.31%
Subtotal			901		911		1276	
Missing			725	44.6%	143	13.6%	43	3.26%
Total	1913		1626		1054		1319	

The percent of respondents reporting that they have served in the US military has decreased by 5.9% since 2013. However, the raw number of veterans counted has remained around 170 since 2009.

SCHOOL REPORT

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Action (PL100-77) and amendments of the subsequent HEARTH Act contain many requirements for local educational agencies (LEA) when it comes to educating students that are experiencing homelessness. Schools must designate a staff member to be liaison for homeless families and children to assure that their special needs are met.

The Humboldt County Office of Education has a Homeless Education Coordinator that works with school liaisons. School liaisons were polled by the Homeless Education Coordinator to get a count of homeless children enrolled at each school site.

For districts that responded, a total of 548 students were considered homeless on the night of January 27, 2015. In 2013 the estimated total number of homeless students was 632.

CONCLUSION

As in previous years, data collected during the PIT Count of 2015 raises questions that are not answered in the data set. It is tempting to look at what appears to be a positive trend, such as the decline in the number of veterans that are homeless, and conclude that the HHC initiative toward Permanent Supportive Housing strategies are being realized. However when using a point in time survey, where not every homeless person in the county is sampled and no realistic total of homeless people can be estimated, concrete conclusions cannot be made.

Although the count cannot provide definitive conclusions it is a useful tool in pointing to issues that need further research and providing clarity on how to align community services with community need.

The HHHC would like to thank the many individuals and organizations that helped with the 2015 PIT Count. We are also grateful to First 5 of Humboldt County, the North Coast Grant Making Partnership, and St. Joseph Health System, and the North Coast Co-op for contributing funds to support expenses related to the count.

Humboldt County 2015 PIT Count Committee

North Coast Veterans Resource Center
Arcata House Partnership
Department of Health & Human Services
Redwood Community Action Agency
California Center for Rural Policy
Redwood Teen Challenge
Humboldt County Office of Education
At-large community members (2)

Humboldt County 2015 Hub Locations

North Coast Veteran's Resource Center – Command Center
W.I.S.H Southern Humboldt – District 1
Fortuna Adventist Community Services – District 2
Arcata House Partnership – District 3
Betty Chin Day Center – District 4
Redwood Teen Challenge – District 4
McKinleyville Family Resource Center– District 5

Appendix A

2015 Homeless Person Point-In-Time (PIT) Survey

PIT Night: January 27, 2015

Survey ID # (leave blank):

Survey Location:

Date Survey Completed (MM/DD/YYYY):

Have you been interviewed for this survey this week? (If yes, END interview)

- Yes No Decline to complete survey

1. Please provide the age, relationship, and gender for the individuals you consider to be a part of your household (i.e. sleeping in same location, etc).

	DOB	Age	Relationship	Gender
Self	<input type="text"/>			
Person 1	<input type="text"/>			
Person 2	<input type="text"/>			
Person 3	<input type="text"/>			

2. Were you sheltered or unsheltered where you slept last Tuesday night, January 27, 2015?

- Sheltered (Go to Question 3) Unsheltered (Go to Question 4)

3. If you were sheltered, where did you sleep last Tuesday night, January 27, 2015?

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MAC | <input type="checkbox"/> Arcata House | <input type="checkbox"/> Crossroads/AOD Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Jail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arcata Night Shelter | <input type="checkbox"/> RCAA Bridge House | <input type="checkbox"/> HDVS | <input type="checkbox"/> Motel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> YSB Our House | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend/Family | <input type="checkbox"/> H.C. Safe Haven | <input type="checkbox"/> WISH |
| <input type="checkbox"/> YSB LaunchPad | <input type="checkbox"/> Rescue Mission | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Shelter | <input type="checkbox"/> RV/Trailer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NCVRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Motel with voucher | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital | |

Other:

4. If you were unsheltered, where did you sleep last Tuesday night, January 27, 2015?

- Camping (street, abandoned building, outdoors, etc.) Car

Other:

5. What community did you sleep in last night?

Name of Nearest Town/Community/Zip Code

6. Have you ever served in the U.S. Military?

- Yes No Respondent Doesn't Know Respondent Refused Data not collected

7. What ethnicity do you identify yourself as?

- Non-Hispanic Hispanic Respondent Doesn't Know Respondent Refused Data not collected

8. What race do you identify yourself as?

- Black or African-American
 American Indian or Alaska Native
 Asian Native Hawaiian
 Pacific Islander White
 Respondent Doesn't Know
 Respondent Refused Data not collected

Other:

9. Please check the response that applies to you for each question.

	Yes	No	Don't Know	Refused	Data not collected
A. Have you been continuously homeless for a year or more?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Is this your first time being homeless? (If yes, skip to Q12)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Number of times homeless in the past 3 years?

11. If 4 or more times, total number of months homeless in the past 3 years?

12. How long have you been homeless this time?

- Less than 7 days
 More than 1 month but less than 1 year
 More than 3 years
 Respondent Refused
 More than 7 days but less than 1 month
 1-3 years
 Respondent Doesn't Know
 Data not collected

13. What is your total monthly income?

- 0-100/month
 501-1000/month
 More than 1501/month
 Respondent Refused
 101-500/month
 1001-1500/month
 Respondent Doesn't Know
 Data Not Collected

14. What is the source of your monthly income?

15. In the past six months, have you been discharged from any of these programs/facilities to the streets (please check all that apply):

- Jail/Prison
 Mental Health Facility
 Clean & Sober Residential Treatment
 Respondent Refused
 Hospital
 Foster Care
 Respondent Doesn't Know
 Data Not Collected
 Clean & Sober Housing
 Military

Other

16. Please check the response that applies to you for each question.

	Yes	No	Don't Know	Refused	Data not collected
Do you have a disabling condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a serious mental illness?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a substance use disorder?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have HIV/AIDS?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you ever been a victim of domestic violence?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

17. Other Comments/Notes