# SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

# 2022 HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT & SURVEY

Every two years, typically during the last 10 days of January, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of the local homeless populations in order to measure the prevalence of homelessness in each local Continuum of Care.

The 2022 Santa Cruz County Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on February 28th, 2022. In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to 333 unsheltered and sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness in order to profile their experience and characteristics.

2022 SHELTERED/ UNSHELTERED POPULATION D

> 23% SHELTERED 7% UNSHELTERED

RESIDENCE AT TIME OF **HOMELESSNESS** 



AGE<sup>0</sup>

4% **UNDER 18**  10% 18-24

86% 25+

GENDER<sup>D</sup>

66% MALE

**32% FEMALE** 

TRANSGENDER/ **GENDER NON-**

**SEXUAL ORIENTATION** 



82% STRAIGHT

12% BISEXUAL

3% LESBIAN 2% GAY

1% OTHER

RACE

TOP 4 RESPONSES

74% WHITE

**12% BLACK** 

9% MULTIPLE

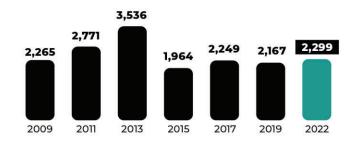
3% RACES

AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKAN NATIVE

**ETHNICITY** 

39% | IDENTIFIED AS LATINX/HISPANIC

#### CENSUS POPULATION: LONGITUDINAL TREND®



#### **EMPLOYMENT STATUS**



20% HAD SOME FORM

OF EMPLOYMENT

OF UNEMPLOYED...

**53%** 

**37%** 

WEDE LOOKING FOR WORK TO WORK

UNABLE

WFDF

WERE NOT LOOKING FOR WORK

10%

#### **FOSTER CARE**



of survey respondents have been in the foster care system.

# SPECIAL POPULATION DATA

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS



22%

**78%** Sheltered Unsheltered 921 Individuals

**VETERANS** 



7%

93% Sheltered Unsheltered

332 Individuals

**FAMILIES** 



91%

9% Sheltered Unsheltered

50 Families with 158 Members

UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AND TRANSITION-AGE YOUTH



3%

**97**%

Sheltered Unsheltered 222 Individuals

#### JUSTICE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT



of survey respondents spent one or more nights in jail/prison/juvenile hall in the past year.



on probation/parole at the start of their most recent episode of homelessness

UNSHELTERED **POPULATION** BY SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION

48% **TENT** 

38% **VEHICLE** 

STREETS

14% <1%

OUTDOORS/ ABANDONED BUILDING

#### PRIMARY CONDITION THAT **LEAD TO HOMELESSNESS+**

TOP 6 RESPONSESA

<b>37</b> %	<b>33</b> %
EVICTION	LOST JOB
9%	9%
DIVORCE/ SEPARATION/ BREAKUP	ALCOHOL/ DRUG USE
8%	6%
ILLNESS/ MEDICAL PROBLEM	LANDLORD RAISED RENT

### FIRST EPISODE OF **HOMELESSNESS**



27%

Are experiencing their first episode of homelessness

AGE AT FIRST EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS



17% **UNDER 18** 

17% 66% 18-24

25+

#### **DURATION OF CURRENT EPISODE** OF HOMELESSNESS



6% 1-30

35% 1-11 MONTHS

**59%** 1 YEAR OR MORE

**WAYS TO PREVENT** LOSING HOUSING+

TOP 4 RESPONSES△

73%

50%

45%

40%

**EMPLOYMENT** ASSISTANCE

RENT/ MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE

LANDLORD MEDIATION

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

## SELF REPORTED HEALTH+

Current health conditions that may affect the housing stability or employment of those experiencing homelessness.



DRUG OR ALCOHOL ABUSE



PHYSICAL DISABILITY



49% CHRONIC **HEALTH** CONDITION



**39**% **PSYCHIATRIC** OR EMOTIONAL CONDITIONS



**PTSD** 

HIV/ AIDS RELATED **ILLNESS** 

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

LEGAL

SERVICES

DISABLING CONDITIONS



A disabling condition is defined by HUD as a developmental disability, HIV/AIDS, or a long-term physical or mental impairment that impacts a person's ability to live independently but could be improved with stable housing.

# **GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE**



Of survey respondents reported receiving government benefits.

## REASONS FOR NOT RECEIVING ANY **GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE+** Top 6 Responses

AT LEAST ONE DISABLING CONDITION

42% 26% 26% DON'T THINK I AM DON'T WANT TURNED GOVERNMENT DOWN ASSISTANCE ELIGIBLE

25% PAPERWORK TOO DIFFICULT 17% NO ID

8% IMMIGRATION ISSUES

#### SERVICES CURRENTLY ACCESSING+ Top 6 Responses

64% 46% 46% FREE BUS HEALTH PASSES MEALS SERVICES 36% 27% 30%

MENTAL HEALTH

SERVICES

SHELTER DAY

SERVICES

## \*SUBPOPULATION DEFINITIONS

### **CHRONICALLY HOMELESS**

An individual with one or more disabling conditions or a family with a head of household with a disabling condition who:

- Has been continuously homeless for 1 year or more and/or;
- Has experienced 4 or more episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years.

## **VETERANS**

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.

### **FAMILIES**

A household with at least one adult member (persons 18 or older) and at least one child member (persons under 18).

## **UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH** YOUNG ADULTS

Youth under the age of 18 and young adults from the ages of 18 to 24 years old (TAY) who are experiencing homelessness and living without a parent or legal guardian.

- + Multiple response question, results may not add up to 100%.
- \* Only displaying top responses, all response data will be available in full report.
- Sourced from census data rather than survey data.

Note: Some percentages have been rounded so total percentage will equal 100%.

Source: Applied Survey Research, 2022, Santa Cruz County Homeless Census & Survey, Watsonville, CA.