

Sonoma County
Community
Development
Commission

2022 Point in Time Homeless Count Report

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Point-in-Time Count

- Requirement to receive homeless assistance funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- Conducted annually in Sonoma County since 2015 (no Count in 2021 due to COVID-19)
- The 2020 count occurred February 25, 5:00 AM to 10:00 AM.
- The report provides a snapshot of the number and demographics of those experiencing homelessness in the County on a given night
- It allows Sonoma County to track subpopulation trends, identify potential gaps in services, and informs future planning for homeless services



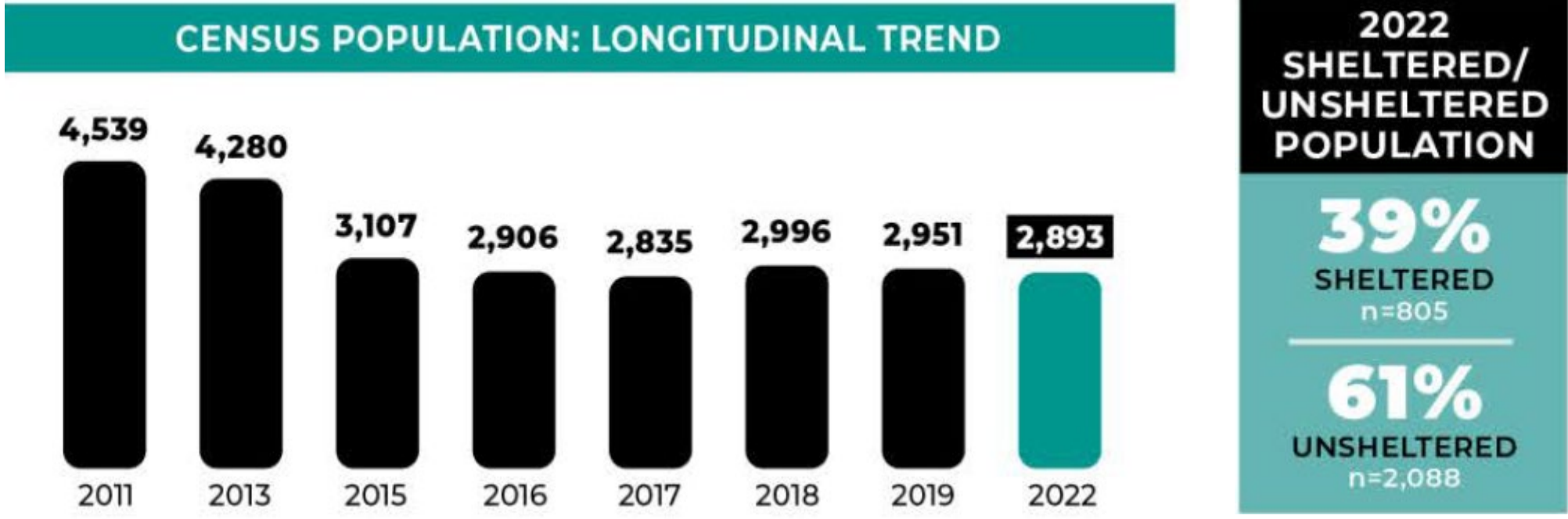
Point-in-Time Count Continued

- In 2022, the Count was conducted in a different manner due to the Omicron surge. All trainings of volunteers and paid guides experiencing homelessness was done virtually and teams were paired up in advance
- Over 400 surveys were conducted by individuals with lived experience of homelessness to glean demographic information
- Due to the virtual nature of trainings, subpopulation information in 2022 may have been less accurate due to the Count being conducted in a different manner due to COVID-19



Results

The 2022 Count resulted in a 5% increase. This is likely due to the aftermath of COVID-19 and a larger increase was mitigated by emergency Federal, State, and Local Funding in response to COVID



Subpopulations

- Key subpopulations tracked by HUD include chronically homeless, veterans, families, and youth.
- Increases were reported in all subpopulations except families which had a dramatic decrease.

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS



31% Sheltered | **69%** Unsheltered
725 Individuals

VETERANS



24% Sheltered | **76%** Unsheltered
191 Individuals

FAMILIES



97% Sheltered | **3%** Unsheltered
48 Families with 155 Members

UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN



9% Sheltered | **91%** Unsheltered
23 Individuals

TRANSITION-AGE YOUTH



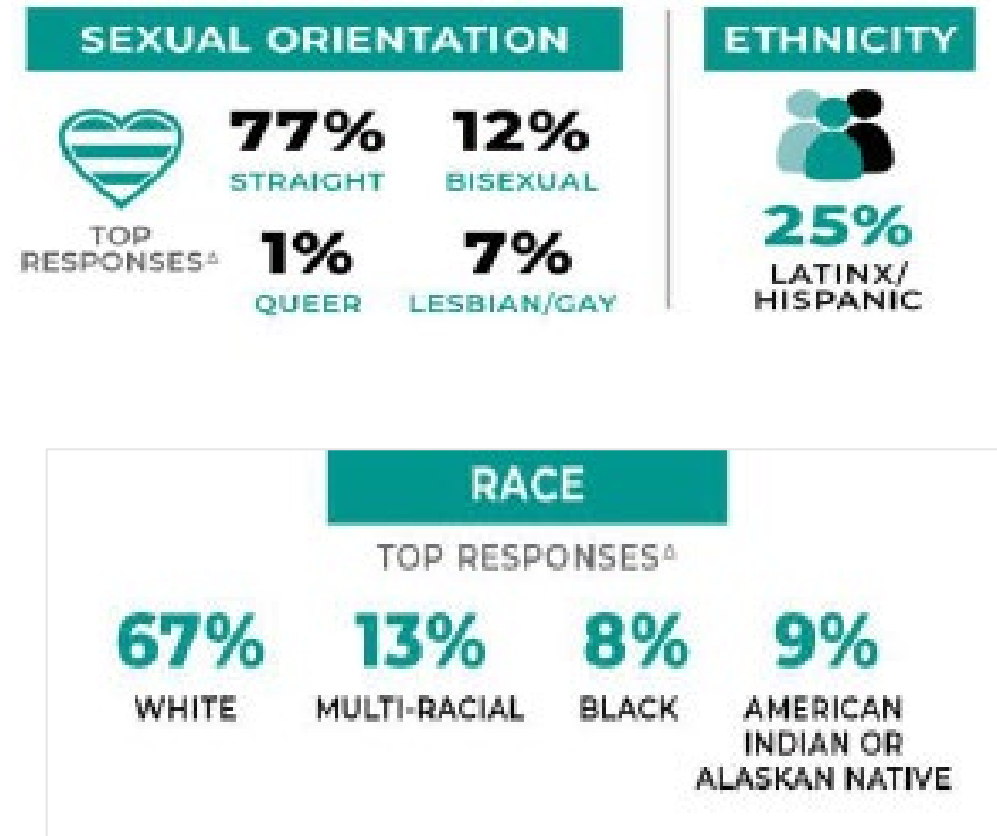
4% Sheltered | **96%** Unsheltered
498 Individuals

Demographics

Key demographic information is collected via surveys including:

- Sexual Orientation
- Ethnicity
- Race

In 2022, disparities were again seen in Black and Native American populations.



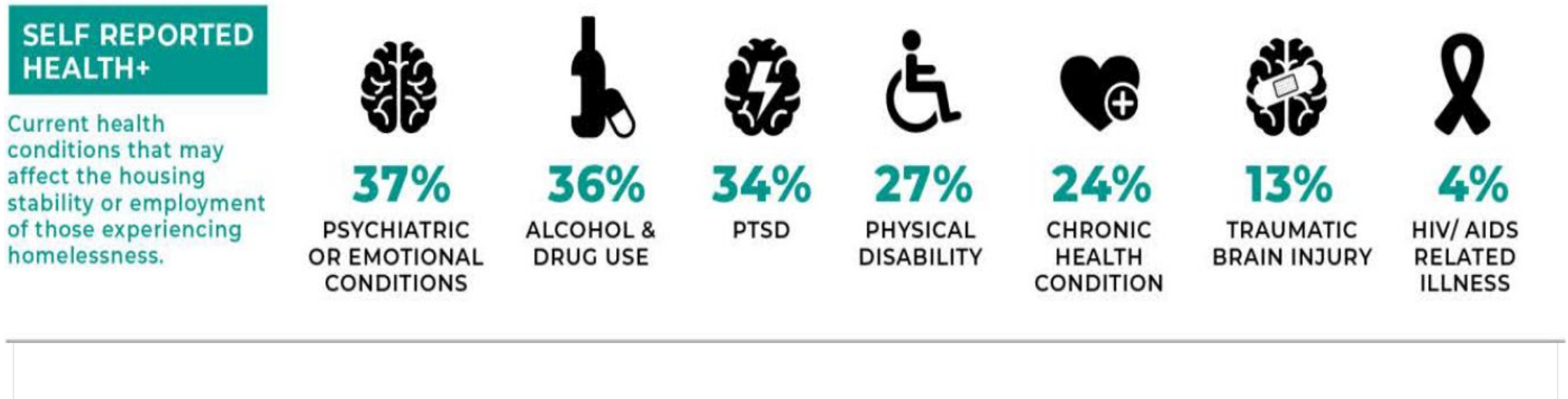
Causes of Homelessness, Obstacles, and Age/Duration

- The primary cause of homelessness in 2022 was the loss of a job and the primary obstacle was rent. Below, the age at first episode of homelessness as well as duration of current episode is displayed as well.



Health and 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.



Other Key Information

FIRST EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS

32%

of survey respondents indicated their current episode of homelessness was their first.

COVID-19

57%

OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS HAVE RECEIVED A COVID-19 VACCINE

9%

SAID COVID-19 WAS RELATED TO THE CAUSE OF THEIR HOMELESSNESS

EMPLOYMENT STATUS



HAD SOME FORM OF EMPLOYMENT

OF UNEMPLOYED...

38%

NOT LOOKING FOR WORK

37%

WERE LOOKING FOR WORK

25%

WERE UNABLE TO WORK

HISTORY OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

24%

reported they had experienced domestic violence



Jurisdictional Information

- The Count is considered a County-wide endeavor and all census tracts are covered on the morning of the Count.
- In some cases, individuals may be just over the border of one jurisdiction or in unincorporated County, which can cause fluctuations in jurisdictions.
- Individuals often move between census tracts and encampment displacement can also affect movement.



Jurisdictional Information

JURISDICTION	UNSHelterED			SHelterED			TOTAL		
	2019	2020	2022	2019	2020	2022	2019	2020	2022
North County	232	205	155	16	4	40	248	209	195
Cloverdale	52	29	23	7	4	0	59	33	23
Healdsburg	64	69	97	9	0	0	73	69	97
Town of Windsor	53	38	8	0	0	40	53	38	48
Unincorporated	63	69	27	0	0	0	63	69	27
South County	305	427	679	142	170	89	447	597	768
Cotati	44	37	79	0	0	6	44	37	85
Petaluma	138	133	214	127	163	79	265	296	293
Rohnert Park	114	241	365	15	7	4	129	248	369
Unincorporated	9	16	21	0	0	0	9	16	21
West County	271	290	62	41	37	65	312	327	127
Sebastopol	101	129	40	0	0	38	101	129	78
Unincorporated	170	191	22	41	37	27	211	228	49
Sonoma Valley	101	54	93	40	34	29	141	88	122
Sonoma	32	46	66	18	15	15	50	61	81
Unincorporated	69	8	27	22	19	14	91	27	41
Santa Rosa	1,048	726	1,099	755	798	582	1,803	1,524	1,681
Santa Rosa	954	719	1,089	707	742	569	1,661	1,461	1,658
Unincorporated	94	9	10	48	56	13	142	67	23
Total	1,957	1,702	2,088	994	1,033	805	2,951	2,745	2,893



Takeaways

- The increase in overall homelessness is likely due to COVID-19, especially given the number of individuals reporting loss of a job and high rent
- Local interventions in COVID-19 likely prevented the Count from being higher than expected (non-congregate shelter, Homekey-1 sites, Emergency Rental Assistance Program)
- Other counties have reported outliers and fluctuations in demographic and jurisdictional data
- The next Count will take place in the last week of January 2023.



Progress in 2022, 2023

- **Project Homekey-2 efforts** will add significantly to our inventory of interim housing (in Rohnert Park and Healdsburg) and permanent supportive housing (in Petaluma, at the Gold Coin in Santa Rosa, and at George's Hideaway in the River area).
- The **Caritas Center** (at Caritas Village in Santa Rosa) will significantly expand both beds and services for our chronically homeless and homeless families.
- More **funding than ever** is entering the system, to assist with both capital efforts and with funding supportive services for persons in need.
- **Better alignment and relationships** between the region's two housing authorities, between our CoC and our cities and County government, and internally to the County government's own service delivery function (i.e. consolidating homeless services within the Department of Health Services) all make reaching "Functional Zero" in homelessness a more attainable goal.
- One **unified Strategic Plan** embarked upon by the CoC Board in partnership with the County, cities, and service providers (which is set to be completed in late 2022).



Questions?

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