

Sonoma County

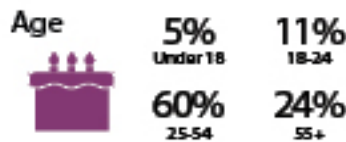
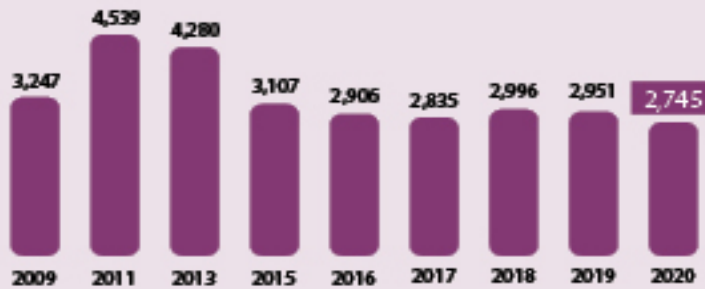
Homeless Census & Survey

2020 Executive Summary

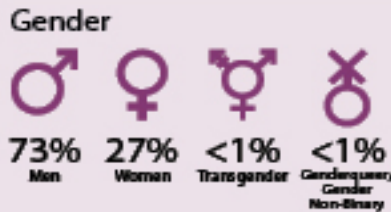
Every year in the County of Sonoma, volunteers and guides gather together to conduct a count of persons experiencing homelessness.

The 2020 Sonoma County Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on February 28th, 2020. In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to 444 unsheltered and sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness in order to profile their experience and characteristics.

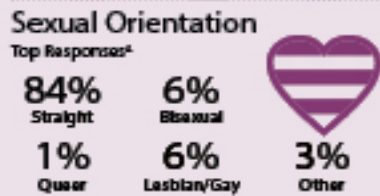
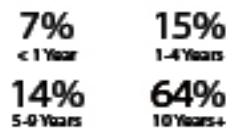
Census Population: Longitudinal Trend



Residence Prior to Homelessness



Length of Time in Sonoma County



Foster Care



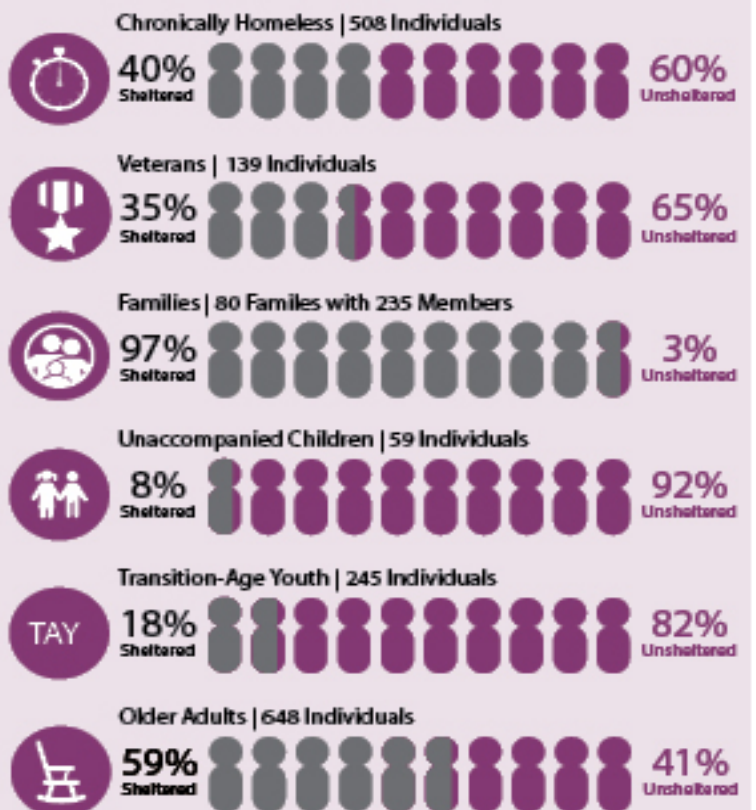
Educational Attainment

73% of transition-age youth survey respondents have received a GED or graduated from high school.

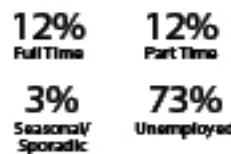
2020 Sheltered/ Unsheltered Population



Subpopulation* Data



Employment Status



If Unemployed, Currently...



First Episode of Homelessness

31% indicated their current episode of homelessness was their first.

History of Domestic Violence

39% reported they had experienced domestic violence.

Sex Trade Involvement

15% traded sex for money or a place to stay.

4% have a history of being trafficked.



Primary Event or Condition That Led to Homelessness*

Top 4 Responses*

22% Lost Job **15%** Argument with Family/Friend **16%** Alcohol or Drug Use **10%** Fire

Age at First Episode of Homelessness

17% 0-17 **31%** 18-24 **33%** 25-40 **19%** 50+



Obstacles to Permanent Housing*

Top 4 Responses*

70% Can't Afford Rent **50%** No Job/Not Enough Income **31%** No Money for Moving Costs **20%** No Housing Available

Duration of Current Episode of Homelessness

10% 30 Days or Less **21%** 1-6 Months **9%** 7-11 Months **62%** 1 Year or More



Self-Reported Health*

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



36%
Alcohol & Drug Abuse



40%
Psychiatric/Emotional Conditions



23%
Physical Disability



29%
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder



23%
Chronic Health Problems



10%
Traumatic Brain Injury



1%
HIV/AIDS Related Illness

Disabling Conditions

40% of survey respondents reported having at least one disabling condition.



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.

Interest in Permanent Housing



84% of survey respondents said they would like affordable permanent housing if it became available soon.

Government Services and Assistance

77% of survey respondents reported receiving government benefits.



Reasons for Not Receiving Any Government Assistance*

Top 6 Responses*

15% Don't Think I'm Eligible **52%** Don't Want Government Assistance **10%** No Permanent Address
7% Don't Have ID **8%** Don't know where to go **12%** Never Applied

Non-Government Services Currently Accessing*

Top 6 Responses*

53% Free Meals **35%** Bus Passes **34%** Emergency Shelter
27% Shelter Day Services **27%** Health Services **21%** Mental Health 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 & Transition-Age Youth (TAY)

Children under the age of 18 and young adults between the ages of 18 and 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%.

Δ Only displaying top responses.

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

The complete comprehensive report includes a more detailed profile of the characteristics of those experiencing homelessness in Sonoma County. It will be available in summer 2020.

Source: Applied Survey Research, 2020, Sonoma County Homeless Census & Survey, San Jose, CA.