



# 2020 Point in Time Report

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## Background

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The NorCal Continuum of Care (NorCal CoC) is a seven-county homeless consortium governed by an Executive Board. The NorCal CoC is charged by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to conduct a Point-In-Time (PIT) Count each year. This PIT Count develops important, person-specific data which helps communities to prioritize the most vulnerable and chronically homeless persons for rapid rehousing, transitional housing, or permanent housing resources.

The PIT helps HUD and local Continuum of Cares' (CoCs) to understand the number and characteristics of homeless individuals sleeping in shelters or on the street or other places not meant for human habitation. This one-night, unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless people within each CoC across the nation is reported using a standardized chart with various populations and subpopulations of homeless individuals and families. HUD requires the use of reliable methods to conduct the count and reserves the right to ask communities to verify their data. For more information on PIT Counts, please visit:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/news/2020-pit-count-announcement-and-additional-pit-count-resources/>

The annual PIT Count of the homeless provides a statewide snapshot of homeless households in our communities; where they find shelter, what their needs are, and what factors contribute to making them homeless. The 2020 PIT Count reveals important demographics and other information relating to families and individuals who were homeless on the night of January 27, 2020. The count is planned, coordinated, and carried out locally by the joint effort of government agencies, community-based organizations, and numerous local volunteers. The information gathered enables each community to better allocate housing resources and services in order to prevent and end homelessness. The PIT Count is accompanied by the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) which details the number of beds available to meet the immediate housing needs of those without homes.

The data collected also serves as a measure for how the community is resolving homelessness and provides the federal and state government information to determine funding needs and eligibility. The PIT Count produces a standard set of data, comparable and available nationwide, which HUD provides to Congress in its Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA). Information regarding the LSA can be accessed here:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/lsa/>

Nationwide PIT and HIC Count Data is available to the public on the HUD Exchange website.

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/coc-homeless-populations-and-subpopulations-reports/>

The NorCal CoC Lead Agency, Shasta County Community Action Agency, prepared this report to provide comprehensive data from the NorCal CoC region's 2020 PIT Count. The NorCal CoC region encompasses the counties of Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra and Siskiyou including all cities in those counties.



This report provides an in-depth look at the region's homelessness, including demographic information and county profiles which contain each county's snapshot of homelessness.

The goal of this report is to educate the community, elected officials, and community stakeholders on the NorCal CoC's homeless population in hopes of improving community awareness and to provide data for local decision-makers. Any questions regarding this report can be directed to:

Shasta County Community Action Agency  
1450 Court Street, Suite 108  
Redding, CA 96001

Email: [hmis@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:hmis@co.shasta.ca.us)

Information regarding the NorCal CoC can be accessed here:

[www.NorCalCoC.org](http://www.NorCalCoC.org)

## Federal Definitions of Homelessness

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HUD's definition of homelessness is utilized each year for the annual PIT Count. According to HUD, a person/household is considered homeless only when they reside in one of the places described below at the time of the PIT Count.

An unsheltered homeless person/household resides in: A place not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, or on the street.

A sheltered homeless person/household resides 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).

## Why Do We Count In January?

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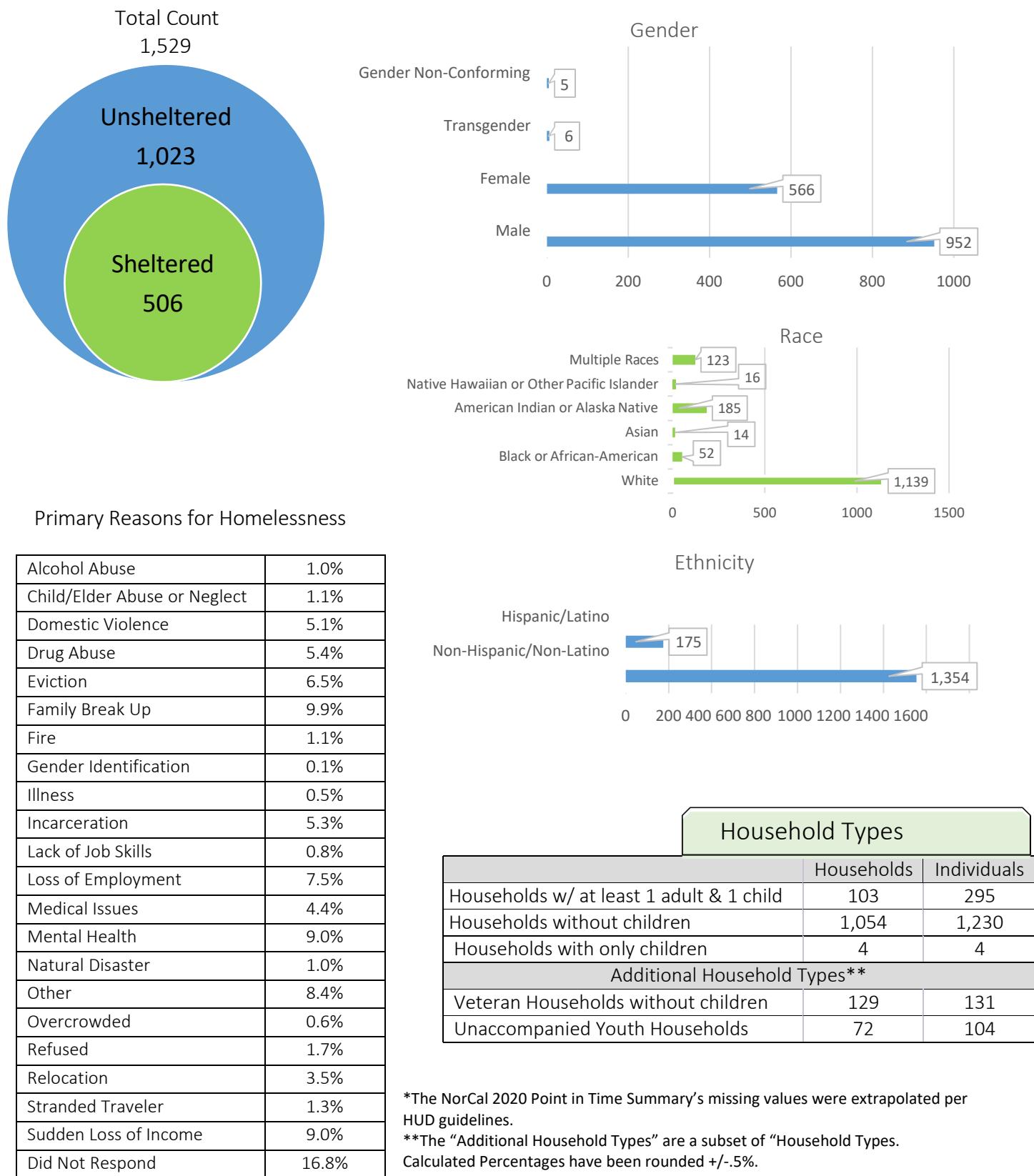
HUD requires all CoCs nationwide to complete an annual PIT Count focusing on one night during the last 10 days of January.

Counting and interviewing people sleeping in unsheltered locations during the winter months can provide a more precise count of people who are unable or unwilling to access emergency shelter or other crisis response assistance in fair weather months. By conducting the count in January, it allows CoCs sufficient time to compile data and report the information to HUD via the Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX) in advance of the annual CoC program competition. This timeframe also provides consistency with the data HUD receives from CoCs nationwide.

Conducting the count on a night when the shelters are most full provides a more accurate count. It is generally easier to count individuals in a shelter than to locate them on the street or in an environment not designed as a regular sleeping accommodation for people. HUD recognizes that a January count is not intended to represent the extent to which people may be unsheltered at other times during the year or over more than a one-night period.

*Note: To ensure the safety and comfort of those who participated, respondents were not required to complete all survey questions. Missing values are listed as "did not respond" or values were extrapolated per HUD guidelines.*

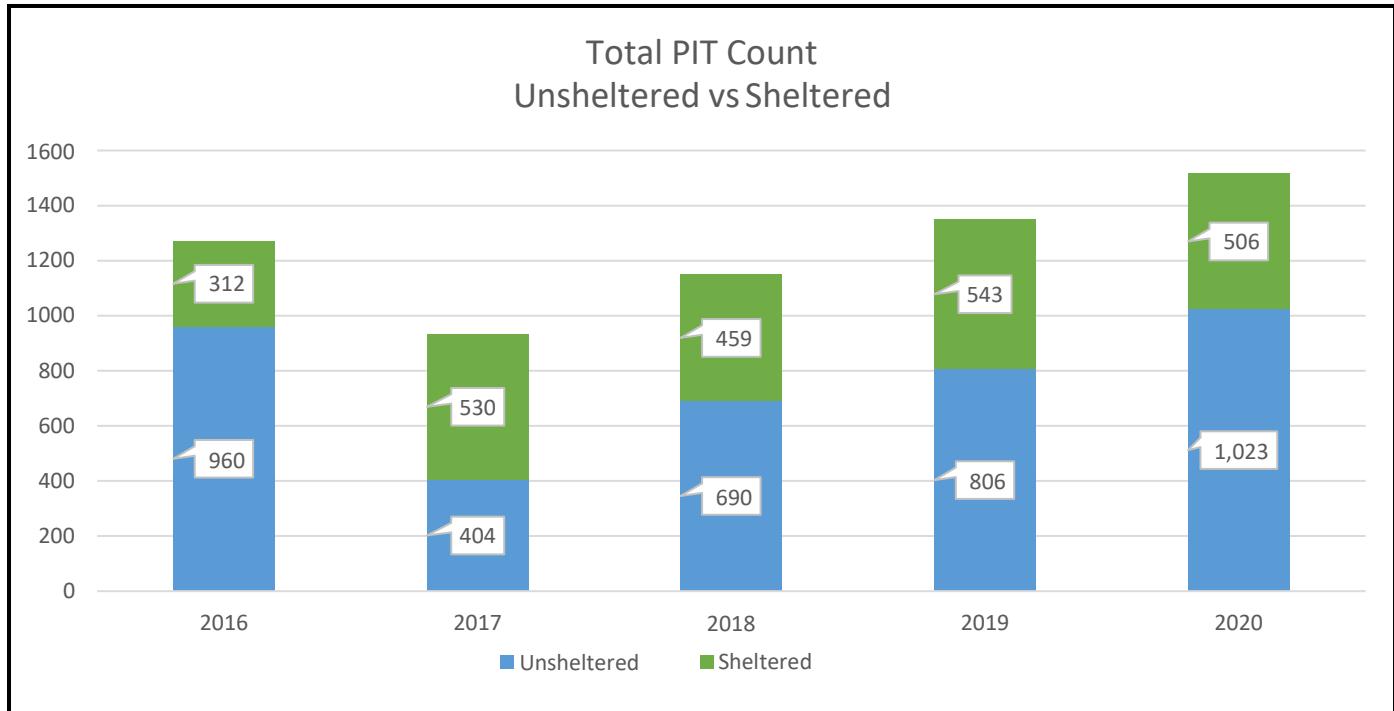
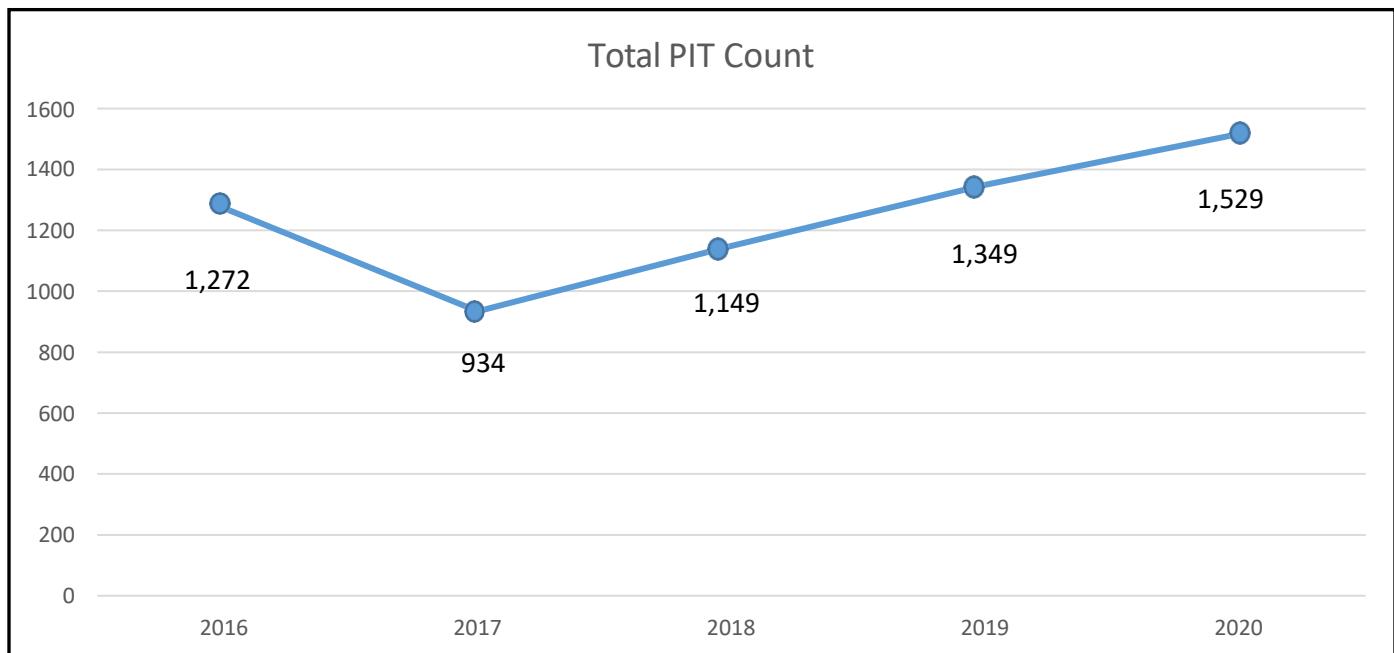
## 2020 Point in Time Summary\*



## 5 Year Summary

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NorCal CoC wide, 1,529 homeless individuals were counted between the evening of January 27th and the entire day of January 28, 2020. Due to the demographics of the NorCal CoC, surveys were completed up to 7 days after the count to include service locations.



Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

## Sheltered Data Summary

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Data is collected on individuals who are staying in shelters and transitional housing units in order to gain an accurate count of persons temporarily housed throughout the NorCal CoC region.

This effort resulted in 506 persons in the sheltered count.

This sheltered data is vital to gaining an accurate overall count of the homeless population and to understand where homeless people are receiving shelter. As per HUD guidelines, the number reported does not include homeless individuals in hospitals, residential rehabilitation facilities, jails or those sleeping on a friend or family's couch.

Throughout the region, shelters and facilities report the number of homeless individuals and families who occupied their facilities on the same day of the unsheltered enumeration effort for the night of January 27, 2020. This helps ensure individuals are not duplicated in the count.

HUD requires communities to report their bed inventory and utilization of those beds on the night of the count. The data is taken from the organizations in the NorCal CoC region that provide shelter beds. In 2020, there was a total of 625 beds available, with a total number of 506 beds being used on the day of the count. This is an 81% percent utilization rate.

### Utilization

Year	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing
2016	185	127
2017	264	266
2018	248	211
2019	338	205
2020	358	148

*Emergency shelter* means any facility, the primary purpose of which is to provide a temporary shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless and which does not require occupants to sign leases or occupancy agreements.

*Transitional Housing* means a project designed to provide housing and appropriate supportive services to homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living. The housing is short-term, typically less than 24 months. In addition to providing safe housing for those in need, other services are available to help participants become self-sufficient.

Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

## Unsheltered Survey Results

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The following section of this report provides an overview of the findings generated from the 2020 NorCal CoC Unsheltered Survey Count. Surveys were administered to homeless individuals January 28th through February 4, 2020.

This effort resulted in 1,023 persons in the unsheltered count.

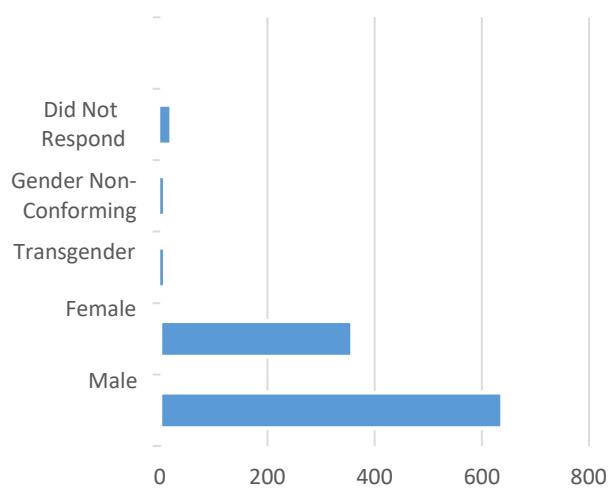
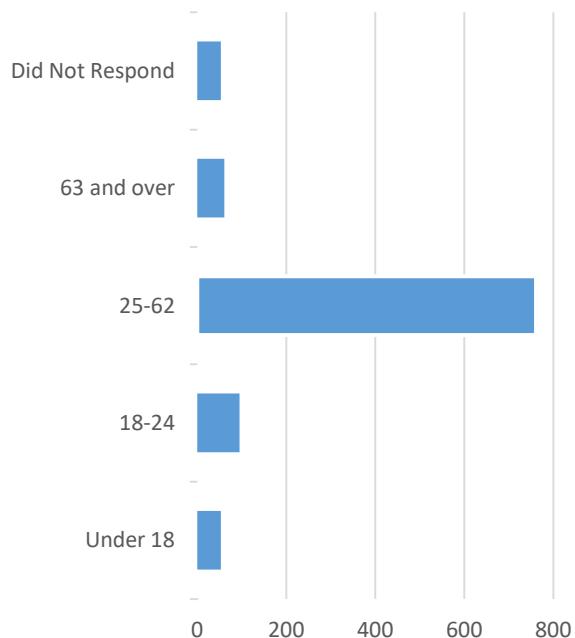
The PIT Count does not capture what homelessness looks like for every person or family. Many cycle between literal homelessness and “at-risk” of literal homelessness, such as those who are staying with friends or family, individuals that pay to stay in a hotel or are under the threat of an eviction. Per HUD guidelines, these individuals are not included in the PIT Count. Also, a snap-shot of a single night’s count does not cover an entire season or year to show the full scope of homelessness in any given community.

*Note: To ensure the safety and comfort of those who participated, respondents were not required to complete all survey questions. All responses were self-reported by those that agreed to respond. Missing values are listed as “did not respond” or values were extrapolated per HUD guidelines.*

## Unsheltered Demographics

### Age

	% of Unsheltered	Total Persons
Under 18	5.2%	53
18-24	9.3%	95
25-62	74.4%	761
63 and over	6%	61
Did Not Respond	5.2%	53



### Gender

	% of Unsheltered	Total Persons
Male	62.4%	638
Female	35.0%	358
Transgender	.5%	5
Gender Non-Conforming	.5%	5
Did Not Respond	1.7%	17

Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

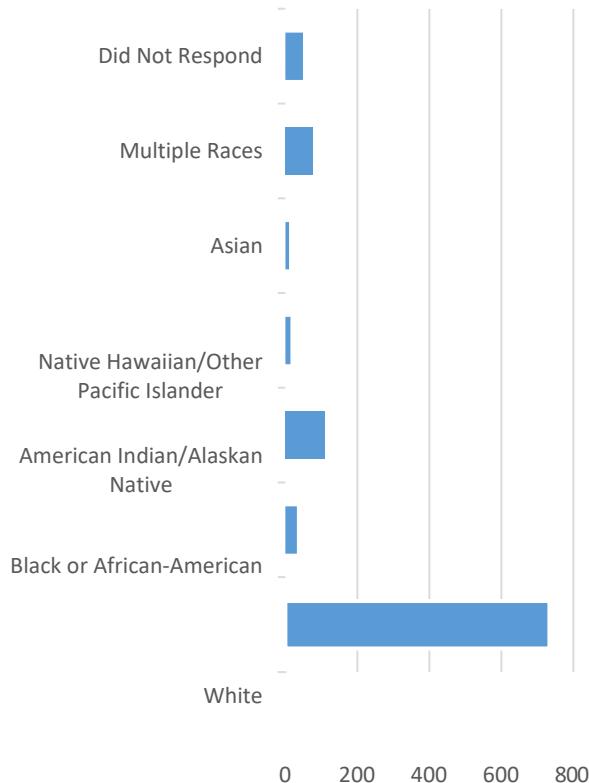
## Unsheltered Demographics

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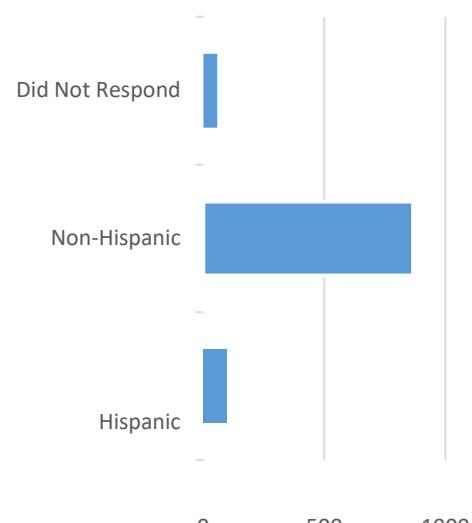
### Race and Ethnicity

	% of Unsheltered	Total Persons
White	71.7%	733
Black or African-American	3.1%	32
American Indian/Alaskan Native	10.8%	110
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1.4%	14
Asian	1.0%	10
Multiple Races	7.3%	75
Did Not Respond	4.8%	49
	% of Unsheltered	Total Persons
Hispanic	9.7%	99
Non-Hispanic	84.8%	867
Did Not Respond	5.6%	57

Race



Ethnicity

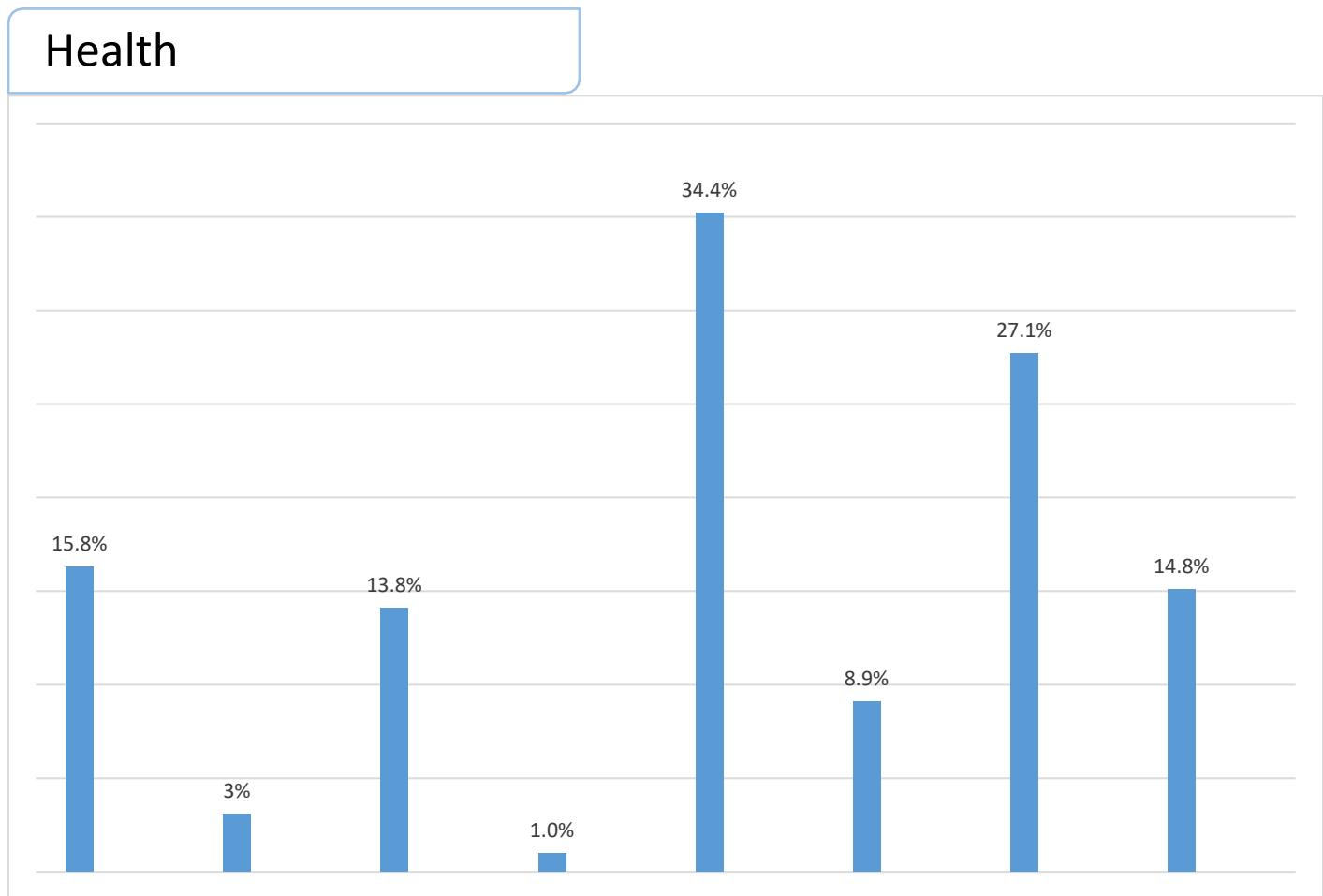


Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

## Unsheltered Health Survey

One of the greatest challenges facing unsheltered homeless individuals is to avoid illness. Every year the survey seeks to estimate the prevalence of certain health characteristics and disabilities among those experiencing homelessness. A part of the survey process was to ask respondents health questions.

*Note: To ensure the safety and comfort of those who participated, respondents were not required to complete all survey questions. This survey question allowed for each respondent to have multiple responses.*



Physical Disability	Developmental Disability	Chronic Health Condition	Living with HIV/AIDS	Mental Illness	Domestic Violence	Substance Abuse	Alcoholism
163	31	141	10	352	91	277	151

*Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.*

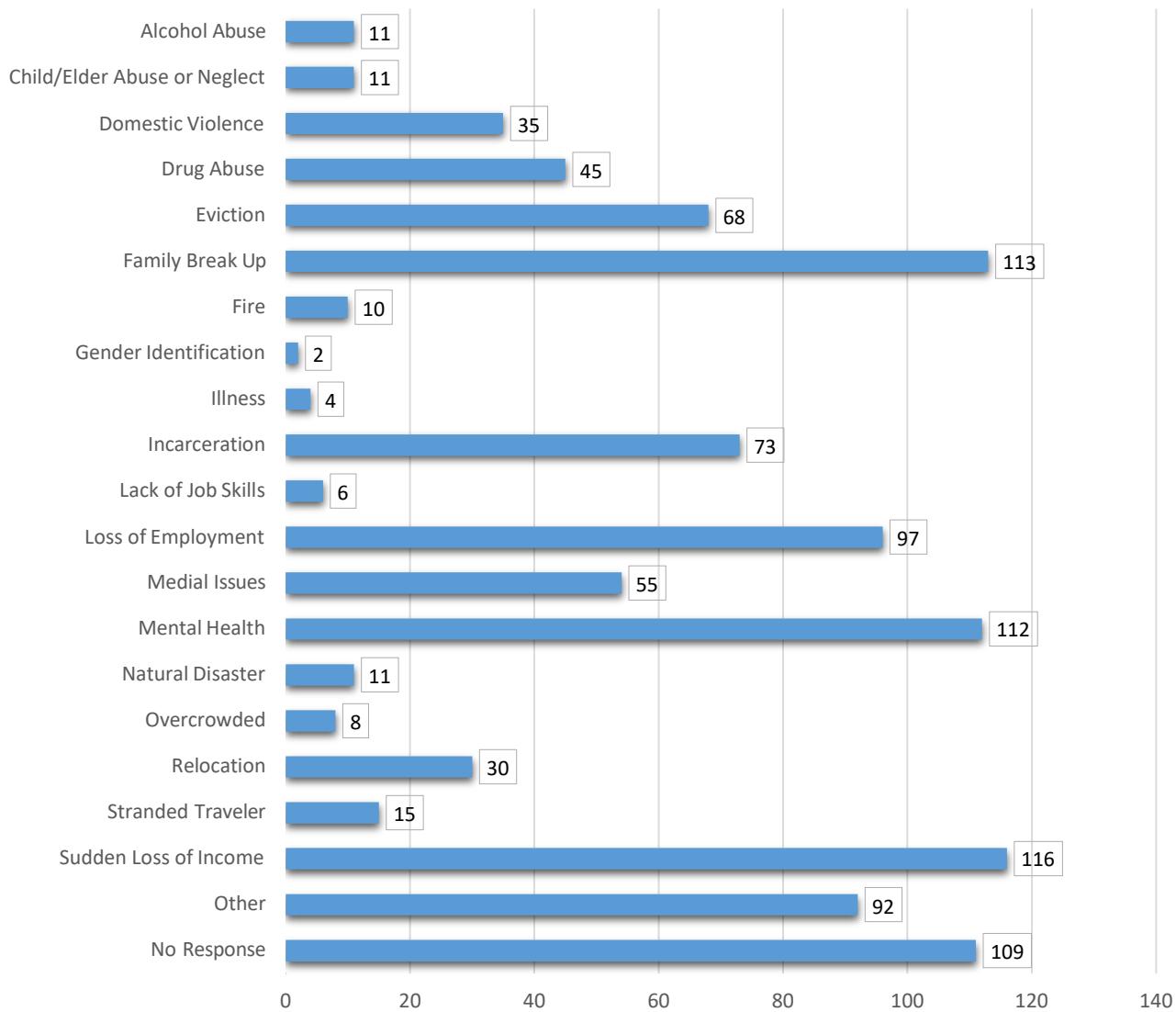
## Primary Reason for Homelessness

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The primary reason for homelessness was added this year to the 2020 Point in Time survey. This question was added to provide a better understanding of the causes of homelessness.

The top 3 reasons for homelessness are: Family Break Up, Mental Health Issues and Sudden Loss of Income.

### Primary Reason for Homelessness



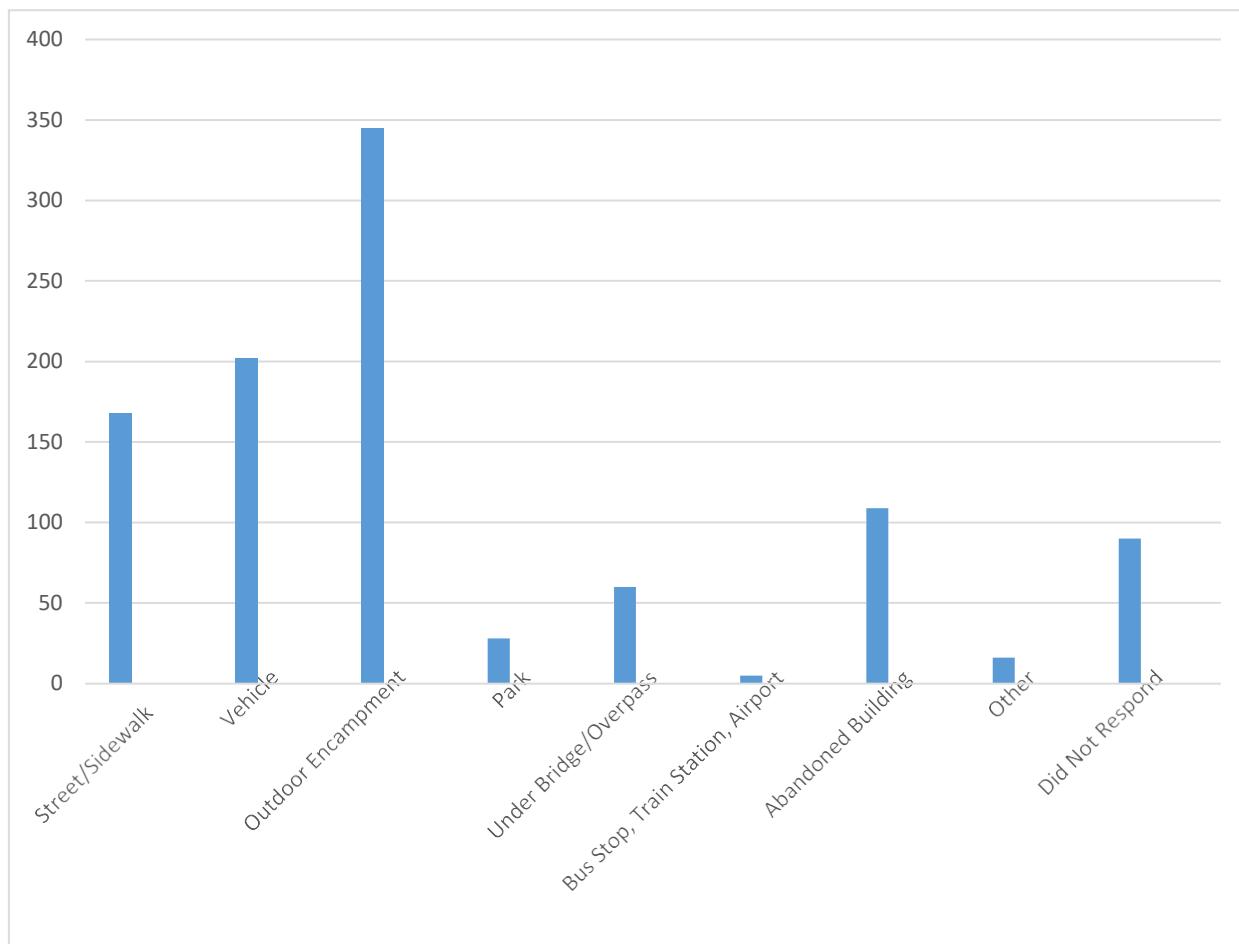
## Unsheltered Sleeping Locations

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In an effort to better understand the sleeping locations of the unsheltered population, respondents were asked to identify where they slept the night of January 27, 2020.

	% of Unsheltered	Total Persons
Street/Sidewalk	16.4%	168
Vehicle (Car, Van, Truck)	19.7%	202
Outdoor Encampment	33.7%	345
Park	2.7%	28
Under Bridge/ Overpass	5.9%	60
Bus Stop, Train Station, Airport	0.5%	5
Abandoned Building	10.7%	109
Other	1.6%	16
Did Not Respond	8.8%	90

Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

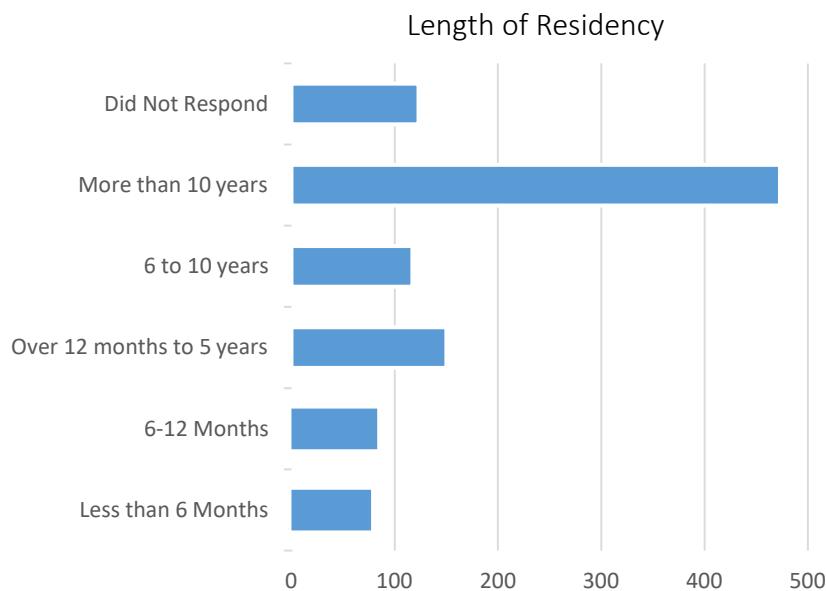


## Unsheltered Residency

Respondents were asked, "How long have you lived in this county?" This provides a better understanding of the transient nature of the homeless population.

The respondents that have been in their county of residence greater than 6 years total 57.8% of the total unsheltered. The respondents that have been in their county of residence between 1 year and 10 years total 26.2% of the total unsheltered.

	% of Unsheltered	Total Persons
Less than 6 months	7.5%	77
6-12 Months	8.1%	83
Over 12 months to 5 years	14.7%	150
6 to 10 years	11.5%	118
More than 10 years	46.3%	474
Did Not Respond	11.8%	121



Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

## Unsheltered Reoccurrence of Homelessness

The unsheltered survey measures the duration of homelessness. This is a critical marker that indicates a person may become chronically homeless. The following questions were asked to help identify those who may be chronically homeless.

*“How long have you been homeless this time?”*

	% of Unsheltered	Total Persons
Less than 1 month	4.9%	50
1 month to 6 months	18.8%	192
Over 6 months to 1 year	20.4%	209
Over 1 year to 5 years	30.6%	313
Over 5 years	15.9%	163
Did Not Respond	9.4%	96

*“Have you been homeless at least 12 months over the last 3 years?”*

	% of Unsheltered	Total
Yes	61.7%	631
No	27.9%	285
Did Not Respond	10.5%	107

Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

## Chronic Homelessness Results

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HUD defines a chronically homeless individual as an adult (persons 18 years or older) who has a disability and:

- 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 where the combined total length of time is at least 12 months. Each period separating the occasions must include at least seven nights of living in a situation other than a place not meant for human habitation, in an emergency shelter, or in a safe haven.

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 Count, persons living in transitional housing at the time of the PIT Count are not included in this subpopulation category. The chronic homeless population represents one of the most vulnerable populations and some of the hardest to house.

### *Chronic Homelessness in NorCal CoC Region*

According to the 2020 PIT data, out of a total of 1,529 people surveyed, 28.4% percent of NorCal CoC's homeless population are considered chronically homeless.

Chronic Homelessness Summary				
Summary	2018	2019	2020	% Change from 2019
Unsheltered	324	259	376	45.2%
Sheltered*	107	62	59	-4.8%
Total	431	321	435	35.5%

Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

\*Total Sheltered includes Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing reported by respondents.

## Veterans

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Veterans are more likely than civilians to experience homelessness. Like the general homeless population, veterans are at a significantly increased risk of homelessness if they are of low socioeconomic status, have a mental health disorder, and/or a history of substance abuse.

Additionally, veterans experience a higher prevalence of traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), both of which have been found to be among the most substantial risk factors for homelessness.

Veterans face the same shortage of affordable housing options and living wage jobs as all Americans, and these factors, combined with the increased likelihood veterans will exhibit symptoms of PTSD, substance abuse, or mental illness, can compound to put veterans at a greater risk of homelessness than the general population. A total of 73 chronically homeless persons were identified as a veteran.

The 2020 PIT Count identified an overall increase of 25.2% in veteran homelessness from 2017.

Based upon the total PIT Count of 1,529, 3.2% of the sheltered population and 5.2% of the unsheltered population identified as veterans.

### Homeless Veteran Summary

	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change Since Last Year	% Change Since 2017
Unsheltered	60	68	58	80	37.9%	33.3%
Sheltered*	43	56	28	49	75.0%	14.0%
Total Homeless	103	124	86	129	50.0%	25.2%

\* Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

## Incarceration and Homelessness

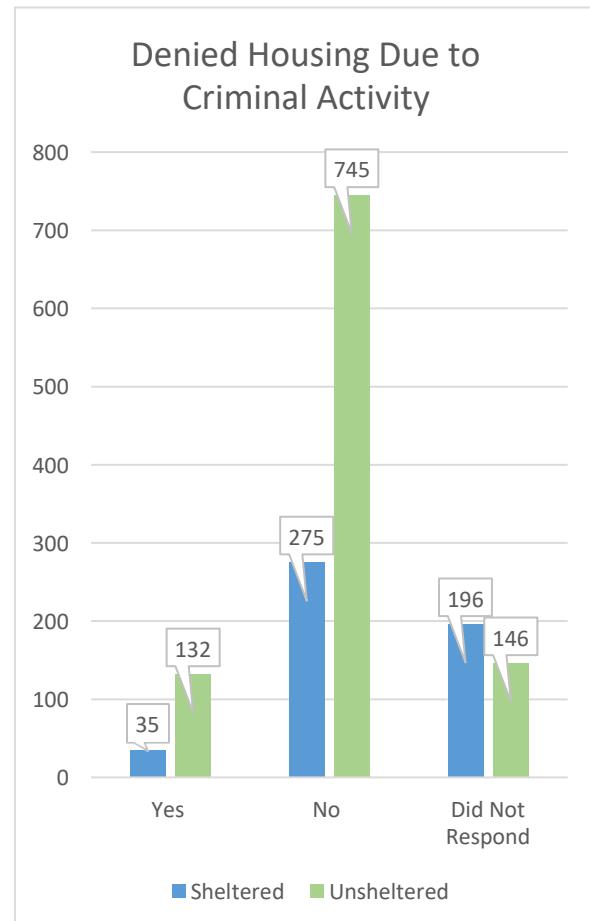
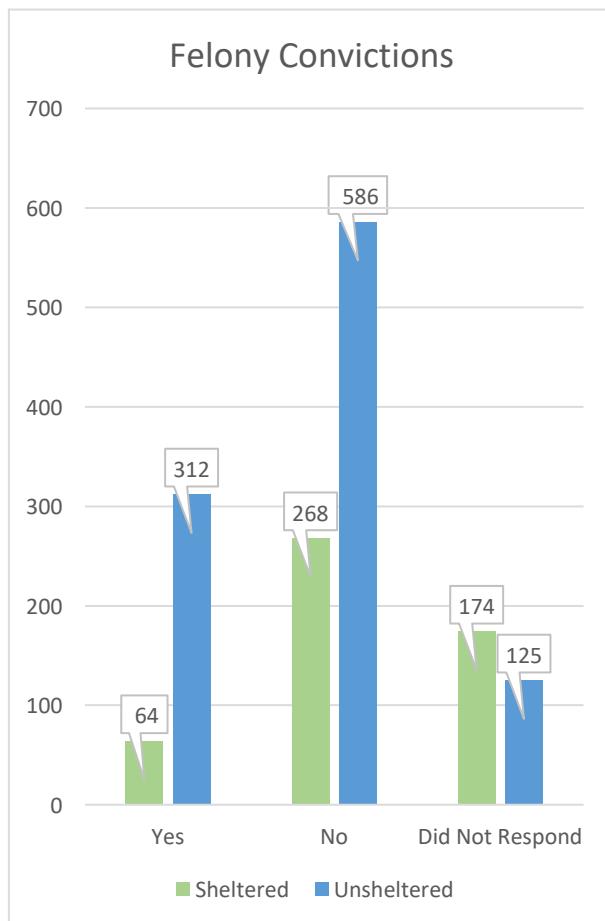
For many years, the NorCal CoC has collected data on the relationship between incarceration and homelessness with individuals who are incarcerated during the night of the PIT Count. The question asked was “Do you have a felony conviction?” In more recent years, a follow up question was added, “Have you been denied housing due to a criminal conviction?”

Many members of the community and service providers have shared anecdotal evidence suggesting a high correlation of engagement with the criminal justice system and homelessness.

Data collection at a local level allows agencies to evaluate the needs for this segment of the population by connecting the dots between the cycles of incarceration and homelessness. Individuals recently released from the criminal justice system often face housing challenges that may contribute to their homelessness.

36% of the respondents stated they have been denied housing due to their felony convictions or criminal history.

Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.



## County Profiles on Homelessness

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NorCal CoC includes 23,922 square miles and encompasses seven counties. The following section breaks down the 2020 PIT Count data by County in order to take a closer look at local trends.

Each county faces its own unique challenges with their homeless population. Two of the counties in the NorCal CoC are home to a state prison facility, while a majority of the counties are small rural counties, all with limited resources to address homelessness.

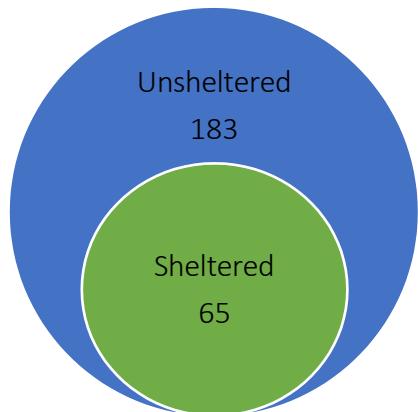
*NOTE: To ensure the safety and comfort of those who participated, respondents were not required to complete all survey questions. Missing values for each county are a result of those who did not respond.*

## Del Norte County



### Total Homeless in Del Norte County

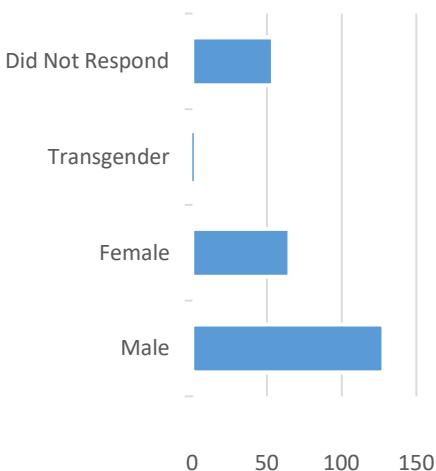
248



The total homeless count in Del Norte County represents 16.2% of the total homeless count in the NorCal CoC Region.

Homeless Profile	Total
Male	128
Female	65
Transgender	1
Did Not Respond	54

Respondents were not required to answer all survey questions.



Additional Demographics	% of Total Del Norte County
Chronically Homeless	38.7%
Veteran	11.3%
Domestic Violence Victim	3.2%
Previously in Foster Care	37.9%
Felony Conviction	31.5%
Families	1.2%
Youth (18 to 24)	8.1%
Children (under 18)	0.4%

*Additional Demographics* provided are a subset of the total count and some respondents may be included in more than one subset. For example: A respondent may be a Veteran and may also be Chronically Homeless. The total is the number the respondents reported. Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

## Del Norte County

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### *Population and Household Demographics*

Del Norte County is a county in California with a population of 27,788. There are 9,420 households in the county with an average household size of 2.55 persons. 39.45% of households in Del Norte County are renters.

### *Income and Rent Overburden in Del Norte County*

The median gross income for households in Del Norte County is \$40,847 a year, or \$3,404 a month. The median rent for the county is \$808 a month.

Households who pay more than thirty percent of their gross income are considered to be Rent Overburdened. In Del Norte County, a household making less than \$2,693 a month would be considered overburdened when renting an apartment at or above the median rent. 47.63% of households who rent are overburdened in Del Norte County.

### *Area Median Income in Del Norte County*

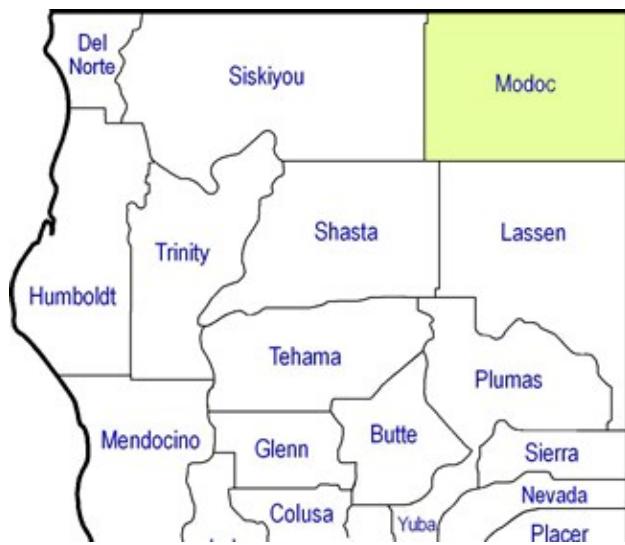
Affordable housing program eligibility is commonly determined by one's income. Each household's income is compared to the incomes of all other households in the area. This is accomplished through a statistic established by the government called the Area Median Income, most often referred to as AMI. The AMI is calculated and published each year by HUD. In Del Norte County, HUD calculates the Area Median Income for a family of four as \$57,000.

### *Fair Market Rents in Del Norte County*

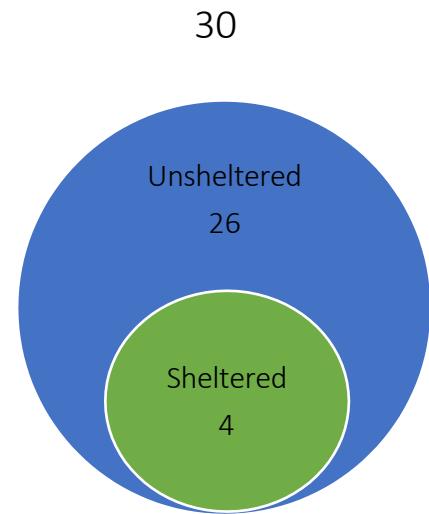
Fair Market Rents, often abbreviated as FMR, can be used to better understand the average housing costs of an area. Notably, Fair Market Rents are used to establish the payment standards for the Housing Choice Voucher Program, maximum rents in HOME financed rental projects and initial rents for Section 8 project based assistance.

Studio	One BR	Two BR	Three BR	Four BR
\$661	\$775	\$978	\$1,369	\$1,571

## Modoc County



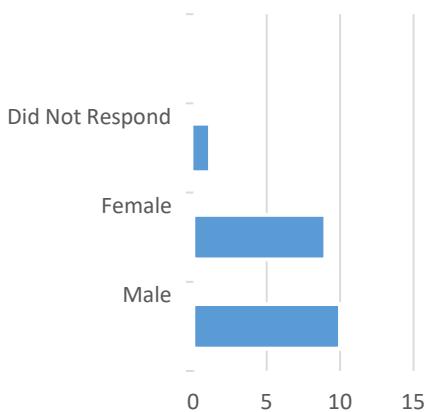
### Total Homeless in Modoc County



The total homeless count in Modoc County represents 2.0% of the total homeless count in the NorCal CoC Region.

Homeless Profile	Total
Male	10
Female	9
Did Not Respond	1

Respondents were not required to answer all survey questions.



Additional Demographics	% of Total Modoc County
Chronically Homeless	6.7%
Veteran	N/A
Domestic Violence Victim	N/A
Previously in Foster Care	10.0%
Felony Conviction	3.3%
Families	13.3%
Youth (18 to 24)	N/A
Children (under 18)	20%

*Additional Demographics* provided are a subset of the total count and some respondents may be included in more than one subset. For example: A respondent may be a Veteran and may also be Chronically Homeless. The total is the number the respondents reported. Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

## Modoc County

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### *Population and Household Demographics*

Modoc County is a county in California with a population of 9,184. There are 3,745 households in the county with an average household size of 2.32 persons. 26.11% of households in Modoc County are renters.

### *Income and Rent Overburden in Modoc County*

The median gross income for households in Modoc County is \$37,860 a year, or \$3,155 a month. The median rent for the county is \$653 a month.

Households who pay more than thirty percent of their gross income are considered to be Rent Overburdened. In Modoc County, a household making less than \$2,177 a month would be considered overburdened when renting an apartment at or above the median rent. 52.86% of households who rent are overburdened in Modoc County.

### *Area Median Income in Modoc County*

Affordable housing program eligibility is commonly determined by one's income. Each household's income is compared to the incomes of all other households in the area. This is accomplished through a statistic established by the government called the Area Median Income, most often referred to as AMI. The AMI is calculated and published each year by HUD. In Modoc County, HUD calculates the Area Median Income for a family of four as \$55,600.

### *Fair Market Rents in Modoc County*

Fair Market Rents, often abbreviated as FMR, can be used to better understand the average housing costs of an area. Notably, Fair Market Rents are used to establish the payment standards for the Housing Choice Voucher Program, maximum rents in HOME financed rental projects and initial rents for Section 8 project based assistance.

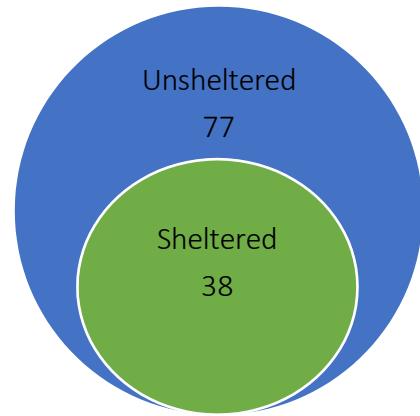
Studio	One BR	Two BR	Three BR	Four BR
\$520	\$585	\$770	\$1,062	\$1,228

## Plumas County



### Total Homeless in Plumas County

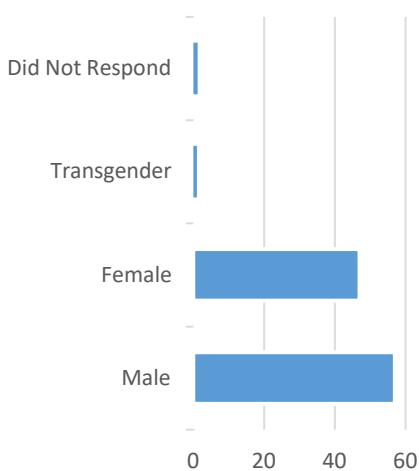
115



The total homeless count in Plumas County represents 7.5% of the total homeless count in the NorCal CoC Region.

Homeless Profile	Total
Male	57
Female	47
Transgender	1
Did Not Respond	10

Respondents were not required to answer all survey questions.



Additional Demographics	% of Total Plumas County
Chronically Homeless	22
Veteran	3
Domestic Violence Victim	9
Previously in Foster Care	13
Felony Conviction	27
Families	11
Youth (18 to 24)	6
Children (under 18)	15

*Additional Demographics* provided are a subset of the total count and some respondents may be included in more than one subset. For example: A respondent may be a Veteran and may also be Chronically Homeless. The total is the number the respondents reported. Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

## Plumas County

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### *Population and Household Demographics*

Plumas County is a county in California with a population of 18,966. There are 8,217 households in the county with an average household size of 2.26 persons. 27.69% of households in Plumas County are renters.

### *Income and Rent Overburden in Plumas County*

The median gross income for households in Plumas County is \$47,333 a year, or \$3,944 a month. The median rent for the county is \$836 a month.

Households who pay more than thirty percent of their gross income are considered to be Rent Overburdened. In Plumas County, a household making less than \$2,787 a month would be considered overburdened when renting an apartment at or above the median rent. 47.38% of households who rent are overburdened in Plumas County.

### *Area Median Income in Plumas County*

Affordable housing program eligibility is commonly determined by one's income. Each household's income is compared to the incomes of all other households in the area. This is accomplished through a statistic established by the government called the Area Median Income, most often referred to as AMI. The AMI is calculated and published each year by HUD. In Plumas County, HUD calculates the Area Median Income for a family of four as \$70,700.

### *Fair Market Rents in Plumas County*

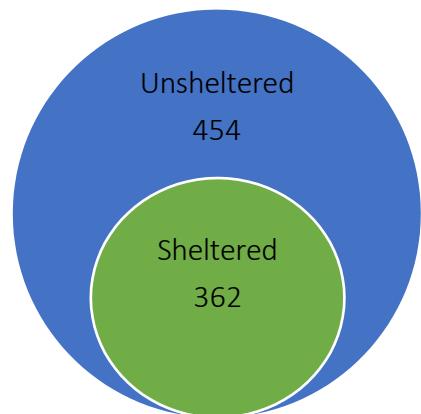
Fair Market Rents, often abbreviated as FMR, can be used to better understand the average housing costs of an area. Notably, Fair Market Rents are used to establish the payment standards for the Housing Choice Voucher Program, maximum rents in HOME financed rental projects and initial rents for Section 8 project based assistance.

Studio	One BR	Two BR	Three BR	Four BR
\$619	\$722	\$916	\$1,250	\$1,453

## Shasta County



Total Homeless in Shasta County  
816

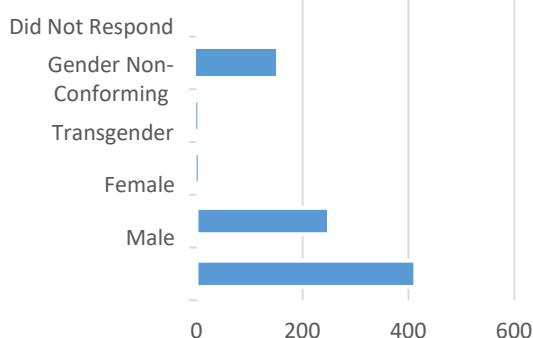


The total homeless count in Shasta County represents 53.4% of the total homeless count in the NorCal CoC Region.

Homeless Profile	Total
Male	413
Female	250
Transgender	2
Gender Non-Conforming	1
Did Not Respond	150

Respondents were not required to answer all survey questions.

Additional Demographics	% of Total Shasta County
Chronically Homeless	27.0%
Veteran	7.2%
Domestic Violence Victim	9.1%
Previously in Foster Care	18.5%
Felony Conviction	21.3%
Families	5.1%
Youth (18 to 24)	7.7%
Children (under 18)	7.2%



*Additional Demographics* provided are a subset of the total count and some respondents may be included in more than one subset. For example: A respondent may be a Veteran and may also be Chronically Homeless. The total is the number the respondents reported. Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

## Shasta County

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### *Population and Household Demographics*

Shasta County is a county in California with a population of 178,942. There are 69,375 households in the county with an average household size of 2.54 persons. 37.54% of households in Shasta County are renters.

### *Income and Rent Overburden in Shasta County*

The median gross income for households in Shasta County is \$44,620 a year, or \$3,718 a month. The median rent for the county is \$926 a month.

Households who pay more than thirty percent of their gross income are considered to be Rent Overburdened. In Shasta County, a household making less than \$3,087 a month would be considered overburdened when renting an apartment at or above the median rent. 55.94% of households who rent are overburdened in Shasta County.

### *Area Median Income in Shasta County*

Affordable housing program eligibility is commonly determined by one's income. Each household's income is compared to the incomes of all other households in the area. This is accomplished through a statistic established by the government called the Area Median Income, most often referred to as AMI. The AMI is calculated and published each year by HUD. In Shasta County, HUD calculates the Area Median Income for a family of four as \$61,900.

### *Fair Market Rents in Shasta County*

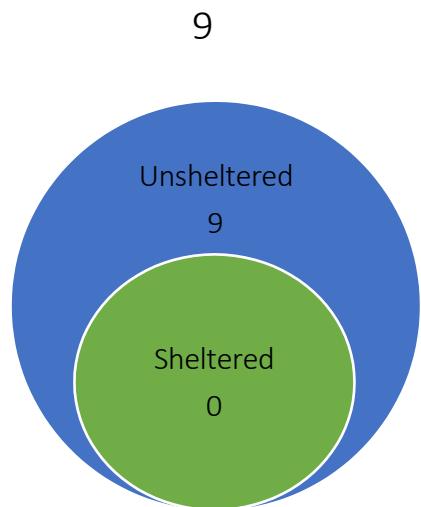
Fair Market Rents, often abbreviated as FMR, can be used to better understand the average housing costs of an area. Notably, Fair Market Rents are used to establish the payment standards for the Housing Choice Voucher Program, maximum rents in HOME financed rental projects and initial rents for Section 8 project based assistance.

Studio	One BR	Two BR	Three BR	Four BR
\$630	\$744	\$966	\$1,394	\$1,696

## Sierra County



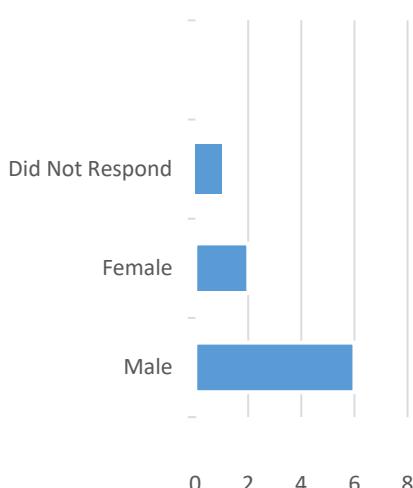
### Total Homeless in Sierra County



The total homeless count in Sierra County represents 0.6% of the total homeless count in the NorCal CoC Region.

Homeless Profile	Total
Male	6
Female	2
Did Not Respond	1

Respondents were not required to answer all survey questions.



Additional Demographics	% of Total Sierra County
Chronically Homeless	33.3%
Veteran	11.1%
Domestic Violence Victim	N/A
Previously in Foster Care	11.1%
Felony Conviction	11.1%
Families	N/A
Youth (18 to 24)	N/A
Children (under 18)	N/A

*Additional Demographics* provided are a subset of the total count and some respondents may be included in more than one subset. For example: A respondent may be a Veteran and may also be Chronically Homeless. The total is the number the respondents reported. Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- 5%.

## Sierra County

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### *Population and Household Demographics*

Sierra County is a County in California with a population of 3,021. There are 1,252 households in the county with an average household size of 2.38 persons. 21.65% of households in Sierra County are renters.

### *Income and Rent Overburden in Sierra County*

The median gross income for households in Sierra County is \$42,833 a year, or \$3,569 a month. The median rent for the county is \$938 a month.

Households who pay more than thirty percent of their gross income are considered to be Rent Overburdened. In Sierra County, a household making less than \$3,127 a month would be considered overburdened when renting an apartment at or above the median rent. 60.89% of households who rent are overburdened in Sierra County.

### *Area Median Income in Sierra County*

Affordable housing program eligibility is commonly determined by one's income. Each household's income is compared to the incomes of all other households in the area. This is accomplished through a statistic established by the government called the Area Median Income, most often referred to as AMI. The AMI is calculated and published each year by HUD. In Sierra County, HUD calculates the Area Median Income for a family of four as \$71,500.

### *Fair Market Rents in Sierra County*

Fair Market Rents, often abbreviated as FMR, can be used to better understand the average housing costs of an area. Notably, Fair Market Rents are used to establish the payment standards for the Housing Choice Voucher Program, maximum rents in HOME financed rental projects and initial rents for Section 8 project based assistance.

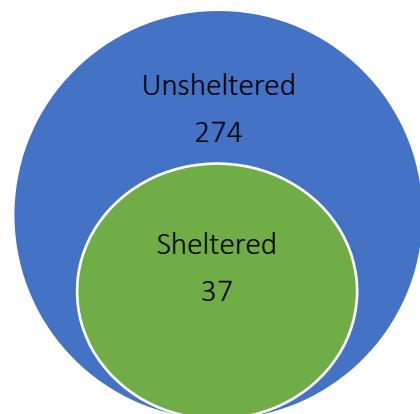
Studio	One BR	Two BR	Three BR	Four BR
\$858	\$975	\$1,270	\$1,825	\$2,026

## Siskiyou County



### Total Homeless in Siskiyou County

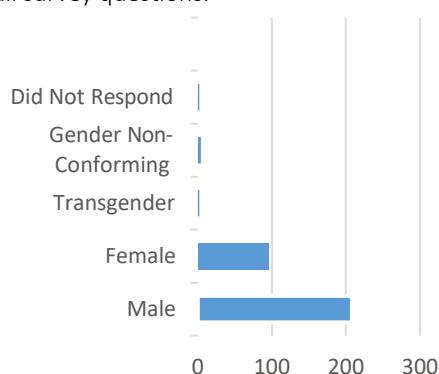
311



The total homeless count in Siskiyou County represents 20.0% of the total homeless count in the NorCal CoC Region.

Homeless Profile	Total
Male	208
Female	95
Transgender	2
Gender Non-Conforming	4
Did Not Respond	2

Respondents were not required to answer all survey questions.



Additional Demographics	% of Total Siskiyou County
Chronically Homeless	29.6%
Veteran	7.7%
Domestic Violence Victim	15.1%
Pre	17.7%
Felony Conviction	30.5%
Families	7.7%
Youth (18 to 24)	10.3%
Children (under 18)	10.3%

*Additional Demographics* provided are a subset of the total count and some respondents may be included in more than one subset. For example: A respondent may be a Veteran and may also be Chronically Homeless. The total is the number the respondents reported. Note: Calculated Percentages have been rounded +/- .5%.

## Siskiyou County

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### *Population and Household Demographics*

Siskiyou County is a county in California with a population of 43,895. There are 19,133 households in the county with an average household size of 2.26 persons. 36.24% of households in Siskiyou County are renters.

### *Income and Rent Overburden in Siskiyou County*

The median gross income for households in Siskiyou County is \$37,170 a year, or \$3,098 a month. The median rent for the county is \$806 a month.

Households who pay more than thirty percent of their gross income are considered to be Rent Overburdened. In Siskiyou County, a household making less than \$2,687 a month would be considered overburdened when renting an apartment at or above the median rent. 53.69% of households who rent are overburdened in Siskiyou County.

### *Area Median Income in Siskiyou County*

Affordable housing program eligibility is commonly determined by one's income. Each household's income is compared to the incomes of all other households in the area. This is accomplished through a statistic established by the government called the Area Median Income, most often referred to as AMI. The AMI is calculated and published each year by HUD. In Siskiyou County, HUD calculates the Area Median Income for a family of four as \$52,000.

### *Fair Market Rents in Siskiyou County*

Fair Market Rents, often abbreviated as FMR, can be used to better understand the average housing costs of an area. Notably, Fair Market Rents are used to establish the payment standards for the Housing Choice Voucher Program, maximum rents in HOME financed rental projects and initial rents for Section 8 project based assistance.

Studio	One BR	Two BR	Three BR	Four BR
\$591	\$650	\$856	\$1,218	\$1,344

## Methodology

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The NorCal Executive Board approved the Point in Time Methodology as required by HUD. A combination of HUD approved methods were used to create the most accurate count for the one-night count.

The NorCal CoC uses a census style approach to count unsheltered individuals. This approach provides a direct and complete count of all people and their characteristics. Local homeless service providers and advocates are active and valued partners in the planning and implementation of PIT Count represented in this report, as well as previous PIT Counts. The planning team invited the public and law enforcement partners for their input on a number of aspects related to the PIT Count. Examples of this includes known locations of the homeless community, survey wording, additional data collected, and volunteer recruitment. For the sheltered target population, the counting approach utilized a random sample.

The survey contained HUD required questions and local questions. The local questions came from community organizations that had specific areas of concern. The subsequent, in-depth qualitative survey was used to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the experiences and demographics of those counted in the counties. Survey coordinators worked to ensure a representative sample of respondents, garnering information from subpopulations that are often hidden or hard to reach. As volunteers encountered unsheltered homeless persons, they were instructed to use HUD's Observational Tool if respondents declined to participate in the survey. Missing values are listed in this report as "did not respond" or values were extrapolated using HUD's extrapolation tool.

Please note, PIT Count data for Lassen County is not included in this report as their count occurred on a separate day in January.

### Extrapolation

The HUD Extrapolation Tool was used on portions of this report and in the final submission to HUD. The tool assists the CoC in extrapolation of gender, ethnicity and race information within each household category for people whom the CoC was not able to collect this information. This tool may be used for extrapolation if reliable data exists for 80 percent or more of the clients. Extrapolation is needed to ensure the number of homeless individuals are not underestimated as a result of unreported data during the time of the count.

### Volunteer Recruitment and Training

Many individuals who live and/or work in each county supported NorCal CoC's effort to count the local homeless population. To participate in the count, all volunteers were required to attend a training in the weeks preceding the survey process. Volunteers used paper surveys and were trained on basics such as etiquette, safety and how to administer the survey. Volunteers canvassed routes in each county. In many instances, teams received maps which identified the area to be canvassed which clearly showed the boundaries of the counting area.

### Data Quality

The NorCal Lead Agency (Lead Agency), Shasta County Housing and Community Action Agency, oversaw the Point in Time data collection with the assistance of trained staff and volunteers. Due to number of volunteers conducting surveys and completing the data entry, an audit of each survey was completed by the Lead Agency. The audit included evaluating the surveys for data quality, checking the data entry for completeness, and using data logic checks to identify duplicate clients. During the data quality review, it was determined some uses of the observation tool were not in alignment with HUD guidelines. In those instances, the data was not included in this report.

### Summary of Excluded Data

Number of Individuals and Reason for Removal	
Data Quality Issues	29
Duplicate Clients	1
Individuals Identified as Not Homeless	65

## Appendix A: Definitions and Abbreviations

### [Annual Homeless Assessment Report \(AHAR\)](#)

HUD's annual report to Congress on the nature and extent of homelessness nationwide. The report details yearly homelessness counts, demographics, trends, and service usage; reports are compared and contrasted to data collected for previous years, helping to determine if homelessness is increasing or decreasing.

### [Bed Utilization](#)

An indicator of whether shelter beds are occupied on a particular night or over a period of time.

### [Chronically Homeless Individual](#)

A homeless adult individual (persons 18 years or older) with a disability who:

- Has been continuously homeless for a year or more

(OR)

- Has had at least four separate occasions of homelessness in the past three years where the combined total length of time is at least 12 months. Each period separating the occasions must include at least seven nights of living in a situation other than a place not meant for human habitation, in an emergency shelter, or in a safe haven.

### [Continuum of Care \(CoC\)](#)

The primary decision-making entity defined in the funding application to HUD as the official body representing a community plan to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the specific needs of people who are homeless as they move to stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency.

### [Coordinated Entry System](#)

A centralized or coordinated process designed to coordinate program participant intake assessment and provision of referrals. A centralized or coordinated assessment system covers the geographic area, is easily accessed by individuals and families seeking housing or services, is well advertised, and includes a comprehensive and standardized assessment tool.

### [Disabling Condition](#)

For the purposes of this study, a disabling condition is defined as physical disability, mental illness, depression, alcohol or drug abuse, chronic health problems, HIV/AIDS, Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), or a developmental disability that impacts a person's ability to get housing and/or remaining housed.

### [Emergency Shelter \(ES\)](#)

A homeless program that is intended to provide short-term support and emergency housing to homeless individuals. Individuals who are staying in an Emergency Shelter are still considered literally homeless. Emergency shelter may take the form of a congregate shelter, motel voucher, or domestic violence shelter.

### [Family](#)

Defined as a household with at least one adult and one child under 18.

### **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**

The information system designated by the CoC to process Protected Personal Information (PPI) and other data in order to create an unduplicated accounting of homelessness within the CoC. An HMIS may provide other functions beyond unduplicated accounting.

### **Housing Inventory Count (HIC)**

The Point-in-Time inventory of provider programs within the CoC that provide beds and units dedicated to serve persons who are homeless. It should reflect the number of beds and units available on the night designated for the count that are dedicated to serve persons who are homeless, per the HUD homeless definition.

### **Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

A federal organization aiming to increase homeownership, support community development, and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination

### **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)**

Long-term, community-based housing that has supportive services for homeless persons with disabilities. This type of supportive housing enables the special-needs populations to live as independently as possible in a permanent setting. Permanent housing can be provided in one structure or in several structures and at one site or in multiple structures at scattered sites.

### **Point-in-Time (PIT)**

A snapshot of the homeless population taken on a given day. Since 2005, HUD requires all CoC applicants to complete this count every other year in the last week of January. This count includes a street count in addition to a count of all clients in emergency and transitional beds.

### **Rapid Re-Housing**

Housing relocation and stabilization services and short-and/or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to help individuals or families living in shelters or in places not meant for human habitation move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. Eligible costs also include utilities, rental application fees, security deposits and last month's rent.

### **Sheltered Homeless**

Sheltered homeless individuals are those who are living in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs.

### **Single Individual**

Refers to an unaccompanied adult or youth.

### **Transitional Age Youth**

Also known as TAY, refers to an unaccompanied youth aged 18-24 years.

### **Unaccompanied Children**

Refers to children under the age of 18 who do not have a parent or guardian present.

### **Unsheltered Homeless**

Homeless individuals unaccompanied by a child under the age of 18 who are living on the streets or in abandoned buildings, storage structures, vehicles, encampments, or any other place unfit for human habitation.

## Data Sources

Statistical data on each county was gathered from the following sources:

<https://affordablehousingonline.com>

<https://www.rentdata.org>

<https://en.wikipedia.org>

## Acknowledgements

The NorCal Continuum of Care would like to thank the many individuals and agencies who contributed to the 2020 Point-In-Time Count. The participation of community volunteers and partner agencies is critical to the NorCal CoC's PIT success. Countless community volunteers, City and County employees, and local community-based organizations assisted with the count, from the initial planning to the publication of this report. It is impossible to name every person involved, but their support was inspiring and invaluable to this process.

[Del Norte County – Lead Organizer: Carmen Fong Chavez](#)

[Shasta County – Lead Organizer: Amber Middleton](#)

[Sierra County – Lead Organizer: Laurie March](#)

[Siskiyou County – Lead Organizer: Ed Pecis](#)

[Modoc County – Lead Organizer: Diane G. Fogle](#)

[Plumas County – Lead Organizer: Cathy Rahmeyer](#)