

2011 POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS IN PINELLAS COUNTY

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Executive Summary

The 2011 Point-in-Time (PIT) count of homeless individuals in Pinellas County is designed to obtain an accurate census of the number of homeless individuals currently residing in the community. The street count primarily took place on Monday, January 24th, 2011 at locations around the entire County. Throughout the day, volunteer surveyors interviewed homeless and at-risk individuals, children, and families to capture a broad range of information concerning demographics, living arrangements, education, employment status, and several other key factors. Collection and analysis of these data are intended to help stakeholders to obtain resources, develop community initiatives, and understand how to best provide services to people who are homeless or are at-risk of homelessness in Pinellas County.

The count is composed of six sources: an unsheltered homeless count, a school count, a sheltered homeless count, an overnight count, a jail count, and an unsheltered family count. The unsheltered homeless count consisted of 720 adults and 65 children under the age of 18. The sheltered homeless count consisted of 2,050 individuals. The school count consisted of 2,110 students. The overnight count consisted of 464 individuals and the jail count consisted of 330 individuals. The unsheltered family count consisted of 61 adults and 87 children. The total count across these sources was 5,887. Among these, 3,661 fit the requirements to be considered to be literally homeless. The difference between these two estimates is largely attributable to the majority of children in the school data reporting that they share the housing of others. A separate count of chronically homeless individuals was conducted using data from the Housing Survey and TBIN participating shelters. A total of 155 chronically homeless individuals from the unsheltered population combined with 124 individuals from the sheltered population resulted in an estimate of 279 chronically homeless individuals in Pinellas County.

Also included is a methodology which contains the various classifications and definitions of homelessness as delineated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In addition, details regarding how the count was planned and implemented, data analysis techniques, as well as methodological barriers concerning data collection are also discussed and potential remedies are offered that may assist efforts to better understand the homeless population residing in Pinellas County going forward.

The 2011 Point in Time (PIT) Count of Homeless Individuals in Pinellas County

The 2011 Point in Time (PIT) count of homeless individuals in Pinellas County is intended to obtain an estimate of the number of homeless individuals currently residing in Pinellas County. Coordinating and deploying resources to conduct a study of this magnitude is a colossal effort and questions frequently arise about why time and energy is spent to count this hidden population. The response is that information obtained during point-in-time counting informs both the obvious: communities are required to provide this information to United States Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in their annual Continuum of Care application in order to demonstrate the need for resources; and for less visible, yet critical, reasons such as raising public awareness, assessing specific needs of the homeless, and benchmarking progress toward ending homelessness. Surveys completed by homeless individuals provide information concerning demographics, living arrangements, education, employment status, and several other key factors that are intended to inform these efforts. This report presents an analysis of the results of this year's data collection.

Method

Facets of Homelessness

Thinking about homelessness involves considering an issue that is neither static nor singular in its nature. It is not uncommon for people to experience incidences of homelessness interspersed with periods of having a stable place to stay which is why homelessness is frequently discussed in terms of episodes (defined as a separate, distinct, and sustained stay on the streets and/or in an emergency homeless shelter). In addition to the literally homeless, a continuum of housing statuses exists under the umbrella of what is counted and reported on as part of the point-in-time study. Finally, there exists a range of different experiences within the population itself such as first-time homeless and chronically homeless.

Unsheltered Homelessness

When most individuals think of the point-in-time census, the street count is likely what comes to mind as it is often considered the most visible aspect of the census and the piece designed to count those who are literally homeless and "on the street". At the time the 2011 census was conducted, individuals who met one of the following conditions were considered to be literally homeless:

- ✚ Places not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings (car, park, abandoned building, bus/train station, airport, camping ground)
- ✚ A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living arrangements (includes hotel/motels paid for by Federal, State, or local governments or charitable organizations, congregate shelters, and Transitional housing for homeless persons)
- ✚ Fleeing a Domestic Violence Situation
- ✚ Hospital or other institution, if the person was sleeping in an emergency shelter or other place not meant for habitation (cars, park, street, etc.) immediately prior to entry into the hospital or institution

Chronic Homelessness

Subpopulations are contained within this definition, one of which consists of those who meet the standards to be considered “chronically homeless”.

- ✦ An unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years is defined as “chronically homeless”
- ✦ To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation and/or in emergency shelter
- ✦ In addition, a chronically homeless person must have a disabling condition such as a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, chronic physical illness or disability; or the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions

At-Risk

The point-in-time is not limited to those currently residing on the street or in shelters. The census is also responsible for gauging the extent that individuals and families who are considered to be at-risk of becoming homeless. The array of sub-categories for this population is outlined in the matrix (see chart 1).

Chart 1: Housing Status Matrix

Classification	Definition
Housed and at imminent risk of losing housing	Are currently housed and not literally homeless, per above definition <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Are imminently losing their housing, whether temporary or permanent•Have no subsequent housing options identified AND•Lack the resources or support networks needed to retain current housing or obtain temporary or permanent housing.
Housed and at-risk of losing housing (unstably housed)	Are currently housed and not literally homeless or imminently losing their housing per above definitions. Are experiencing housing instability, but may have one or more other temporary housing options Lack the resources or support networks to retain or obtain permanent housing.

Components of the Point-In-Time Count

The Unsheltered Homeless Count

The community-based survey; which is required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to be conducted by local Continuums of Care (CoCs) during the last week of January. Many COCs, like Pinellas, chooses to conduct a count each year, however, it is only required to be completed every odd numbered year.

The Sheltered Homeless Count

The sheltered homeless count is an enumeration of sheltered homeless individuals in Pinellas County. HUD defines sheltered homeless persons as adults, children, and unaccompanied youth who, on the night of the count, are living in shelters for the homeless, including: emergency shelters, transitional housing, domestic violence shelters, residential programs for runaway/homeless youth; and any hotel, motel, or apartment voucher arrangements paid by a public or private agency because the person or family is homeless. The majority of this data is extracted from the homeless management information system (HMIS) simultaneous to the street count.

The Institution Count

The institution count is comprised of a jail count of individuals residing in jail on the night of the PIT count.

The School Count

The school count consists of those students who responded that they were homeless or “doubled up” (individuals or families who are sharing permanent housing) in a survey conducted at the beginning of each school year. Homeless students can also come to the attention of the school’s H.E.A.T specialists at any time during a school year. The homeless research team collaborates with the school’s Research and Accountability Department to obtain a count of homeless students during the January census.

The Street Count Methodology

The overall purpose of the street count is to gauge the number of people in a community who are residing in a place not meant for human habitation as outlined in the definition above. The street count is a community’s primary means for gaining knowledge about homeless persons who may not be utilizing public services, spatial information regarding where the street homeless are residing in a particular region and service gaps which may exist in the continuum of services.

Volunteer Surveyor Deployment

Pinellas County land area covers 280 square miles and the logistics of covering this expanse with available resources are challenging. For the purpose of the PIT count, the County is divided into North, Mid and South regions. Monday, January 24th was selected for the primary date of the count with minimal counting being done on subsequent days to minimize duplication. A central coordination site was selected for each region of the county and at least one staff member from each agency served as the regional coordinator (generally a member of the homeless research team) whose primary duties consisted of deploying teams of volunteer surveyors, equipped with surveys and incentives, to locations where homeless persons may be encountered. In addition, the site coordinator(s) were responsible for collecting completed surveys from volunteer teams returning to the coordination site and reviewing the surveys turned in by volunteers to ensure all questions were completed.

When volunteer surveyors arrived at the coordination site in the region where they volunteered to count, they were supplied bags which contained clip boards, survey tools, and incentives to give to survey participants. Volunteers were then deployed in teams to the designated locations in each region. Respondent incentives consisted of socks, ponchos, t-shirts and bus passes. Gift cards to Wal-Mart (valued at \$10.00) were provided as an incentive in an attempt to maximize participation of sub-populations of special interest including unaccompanied youth and homeless families.

To direct volunteer deployment, the homeless research team utilized a spreadsheet which contained information regarding locations where homeless people were found which was collected during the 2010 count. The homeless outreach teams from Directions for Mental Health, the City of Tarpon Springs, City of Pinellas Park, Family Resources,

and City of St. Petersburg played crucial roles in bringing their experience and knowledge with the homeless in their respective areas of the County in order to pinpoint locations where homeless adults, families with children, and unaccompanied youth could be found.

Volunteers and Training

Nearly 200 volunteer surveyors were recruited from across the ranks of the community. Participants included, but were not limited to interested citizens, students from area universities, formerly homeless, service provider staff, and staff from the County's Children's Services Council. Volunteers were recruited via the Pinellas County Coalition for the Homeless website, announcements distributed to service providers, and through referrals from volunteers who participated in past counts.

Survey trainings were held throughout Pinellas County during the early part of the month of January 2011. Trainings were conducted at various locations throughout the county and scheduled over a wide range of times such as lunch hours, weekends and evenings so volunteers could attend a session which was convenient. All volunteers were required to attend one of the 60 to 90 minute training sessions where definitions, interviewing protocol, surveyor safety, confidentiality, and instructions regarding each survey question were reviewed in detail.

In order to provide the greatest variety of training locations and times service providers agreed to provide the volunteer training at their sites. To facilitate this, the research team conducted a train-the-trainer session in December 2010. The purpose of training those who would be providing training the community was to ensure continuity among all of the training sessions so volunteers would be given instruction in a consistent manner which, in turn, would increase the reliability of the end surveys.

The Housing Survey

The 2011 survey was based on a design developed by Applied Survey Research (ASR). ASR has done extensive development and testing of homeless street surveys for many counties in California and instruments they have developed are considered a best practice by HUD (see appendix 1 for a copy of the survey). To prevent missing information each question had a number of options for those participants who refused to answer, offered an answer which was not an option on the survey, or did not know the answer to a particular inquiry. This was done so that, regardless of the participant response, the survey could be completely filled out.

Shelter Methodology

The methodology for the sheltered count gathers two sets of data from those providing homeless services in Pinellas County: client-level data from those entering into the HMIS and a paper agency survey asking for aggregate information on the number of clients served from all homeless service providers. These data sets are gathered following the date of the formal count and compared to find discrepancies in count numbers prior to data analysis.

Agency Survey

All homeless providers must complete a survey for each program providing services to clients on the day of the count. The survey contains details about the program as required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) known as Program-Descriptor Data Elements; aggregate counts of individuals and families served on the day of the count; aggregate counts of the number of individuals and families turned away on the day of the count; and aggregate counts of sub-populations served. For those entering directly into HMIS, the data in the submitted agency survey is compared with the total number of clients served in HMIS by the TBIN (Tampa Bay Information Network) staff. If the numbers do not match, the TBIN staff contact the provider to investigate the discrepancy. Once all the

discrepancies are resolved, the agency survey data is entered into Survey Monkey, a web-based survey tool which collects and counts the aggregate information.

For those homeless providers who enter data directly into the HMIS, a report is run identifying by program the total number of clients who were provided a service or were already in a program on the day of the count. A general aggregate count of clients served on the day of the count is compared with the total number of clients served as noted on the Agency Survey returned to the TBIN staff. Once the HMIS client served numbers matched the number of clients served on the agency survey, a detailed client-level report for all clients who were provided a service or were already in a program on the day of the count is created with the following data fields (see chart 2):

Chart 2: Data Fields

Client ID	Ethnicity
First Name	Gender
Last Name	Veteran Status
Social Security Number	Disabling Condition
Social Security Data Quality	Prior Living Situation
Date of Birth	Zip Code of Last Permanent Address
Date of Birth Data Quality	Housing Status
Primary Race	Income and Sources
Secondary Race	Disability Information
Non-Cash Benefits	

The client-level data is exported into a spreadsheet and clients are unduplicated by sorting columns by hand and comparing: Client ID, First Name, Last Name, Social Security Number, Gender and Race. All duplicate clients are removed from the spreadsheet based on most current program or service entry date. When completed, this spreadsheet is forwarded to the analysis team. Those providers who complete an Agency Survey and who do not enter directly into HMIS, their aggregate count information is submitted to the analysis team for inclusion in the final count totals.

Data Analysis

All surveys were collected from the various administration points and forwarded to the lead HMIS agency, 211 Tampa Bay Cares. The first step was to complete the housing status question on the paper surveys based on the respondent's answer to question #14 "Where did you stay Sunday Night, January 23rd 2011". All surveys were sorted by housing status and those who qualified under "stably housed" were removed.

The second step was to take the clients coded as "literally homeless", "housed and at imminent risk", "housed and at-risk" and search for them in TBIN using their first name, last name, date of birth, and social security number as verification. The respondents which already existed in TBIN were examined using their entry/exits and shelter stays for duplication in the shelter count. All respondents who stayed in a shelter on the night of January 23rd 2011 were also removed. A number of clients were not found in TBIN. These clients were added to the system as a new client and assigned a unique client identification number.

The third step was to code the data. TBIN was used for all questions in the survey where a single answer was used. An additional excel spreadsheet was used for all questions where the respondent could select more than one answer as valid. The unique TBIN client identification number was used to merge the two data sets together. The final step was to

add to the Excel spreadsheet a final number of clients where there was not enough client identifying information to look up/enter in TBIN. These clients were assigned a unique number beginning with A001. There is no way to know however if out of these clients there was duplication in the sheltered count. The decision was made to include as unique.

Data from the school count are then compared to those in the sheltered and unsheltered databases. The school count does not include 33 students who were also present in the sheltered TBIN database. Data are then analyzed and presented separately below for the six sources of data upon which the count is based; unsheltered homeless, sheltered homeless, the school count, the jail count, the overnight count, and an unsheltered family count conducted by volunteers. The Pinellas County Housing Survey yielded data that permitted a more in-depth analysis concerning a range of subjects associated with homelessness. A detailed analysis of these data is presented in addition to counts and demographic data from other components of the count.

Results

Results are presented in bullet form for the sake of parsimony and clarity. A summary and recommendations based upon the findings are presented at the end of each section.

Total Homeless Count

Table 1: Total Homeless Count	
	N
Unsheltered	720
Unsheltered Children under 18yo	65
School Count	2110
Sheltered TBIN	1712
Sheltered non-TBIN	338
Overnight	464
Jail Count	330
Unsheltered Families Count	148
Total	5887

- The total homeless count is 5887.
- Chronically homeless and literally homeless sub-counts are included at the end of this report.

Unsheltered

All data is presented in two formats within each table. The data on the left side of each table includes 'don't know', 'refused', and 'missing' responses in the percentages. The data on the right side of each table does not contain 'missing' etc. responses and will be referenced in the bullets below each table.

Table 2: Do you have a TBIN ID card?				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	77	10.7	77	12.9
No	521	72.4	521	87.1
Don't Know	26	3.6		
Refused	96	13.3		
Total	720		598	

- The total unsheltered homeless count included 720 individuals.
- 77 individuals surveyed (12.9%) reported that they had a TBIN card.

Table 3: Gender				
	N	%	N	%
Male	565	78.5	565	78.6
Female	154	21.4	154	21.4
Don't Know	1	0.1		
Total	720		719	

- The unsheltered homeless count included 565 males (78.6%).

Table 4: Race				
	N	%	N	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	22	3.1	22	3.1
Asian	1	0.1	1	0.1
Black or African American	186	25.8	186	26
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	4	0.6	4	0.6
Other	27	3.8	27	3.8
White	475	66	475	66.4
Don't Know	1	0.1		
Refused	4	0.6		
Total	720		715	

- The unsheltered homeless count contained 475 White individuals (66.4%) and 186 Black or African-American individuals (26%).

Table 5: Ethnicity				
	N	%	N	%
Hispanic/Latino	29	4	29	4.2
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	666	92.5	666	95.8
Don't Know	1	0.1		
Refused	24	3.3		
Total	720		695	

- 29 homeless individuals (4.2%) identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino.

Table 6: Race of Hispanic/Latino Respondents				
	N	%	N	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	3.4	1	3.6
Black or African American	3	10.3	3	10.7
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	3.4	1	3.6
Other	14	48.3	14	50
White	9	31	9	32.1
Refused	1	3.4		
Total	29		28	

- 14 Hispanic/Latino individuals (50%) identified themselves as an 'Other' race.

Table 7: Are you a veteran of the U.S. armed forces?				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	118	16.4	118	16.5
No	597	82.9	597	83.5
Refused	5	0.7		
Total	720		715	

- 118 individuals (16.5%) identified themselves as veterans of the U.S. armed forces.

Table 8: What is the highest level of education you have completed?				
	N	%	N	%
Less than 6th grade	11	1.5	11	1.5
Less than High School	218	30.3	218	30.5
HSD/GED	275	38.2	275	38.5
Some College, No degree	115	16	115	16.1
AA Degree	29	4	29	4.1
BA/BS Degree	40	5.6	40	5.6
Tech or Trade Certificate	24	3.3	24	3.4
Other	3	0.4	3	0.4
Refused	5	0.7		
Total	720		715	

- There was a range of educational levels represented.
- However, a majority stated their educational level as either less than high school (N = 218) or as having a HSD/GED (N = 275).

Table 9: Were you ever in foster care?				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	85	11.8	85	11.9
No	629	87.4	629	88.1
Don't Know	1	0.1		
Refused	5	0.7		
Total	720		714	

- 85 individuals (11.9%) indicated that they had previously been in foster care.

Table 10: Are you currently experiencing any of the following?*						
	Yes		No		Refused**	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Depression	236	32.8	343	47.6	141	19.6
Physical Disability	228	31.7	375	52.1	117	16.2
Chronic health problems	181	25.1	393	54.6	146	20.3
Mental Illness	166	23.1	424	58.9	130	18.1
Alcohol Abuse	153	21.2	402	55.8	165	22.9
Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	96	13.3	458	63.6	166	23.1
Drug Abuse	62	8.6	484	67.2	174	24.2
Developmental Disability	49	6.8	494	68.6	177	24.6
AIDS/HIV related illness	11	1.5	516	71.7	193	26.8

*Aqua-colored tables represent data that are not in the TBIN database

**Many items were left blank. These were coded as 'refused'. Excluding these from the analysis would falsely inflate the prevalence estimates for each category.

- Respondents reported elevated prevalence rates across a range of disabling conditions.
- While these are not clinical diagnoses, high reported prevalence rates of Depression, Physical Disability, Chronic health problems, Mental Illness, Alcohol Abuse, and PTSD, as well as a willingness to admit to these, indicates a substantial need for help with regard to these conditions among the homeless population.

Demographic Summary

Results presented in this section indicated that 720 unsheltered homeless individuals were surveyed. A majority of these were male (78.6%), and either White (66.4%) or Black/African-American (26%). Hispanic/Latino ethnicity was endorsed by 4.2% of individuals surveyed. Half of these classified their race as 'Other'. The survey included a sizable portion of U.S. armed service veterans (16.5%) and those formerly in foster care (11.9%). While a range of educational attainment was reported, a majority of individuals reported either less than high school (30.5%) or a HSD/GED (38.5%). Homeless individuals surveyed reported experiencing a range of disabling conditions at high prevalence rates.

These results suggest that males are particularly vulnerable to experiencing homelessness in Pinellas County. Results suggest that there is a strong need to ensure that military veterans among this population are connected to veteran's benefits. There is a need for prevention services designed to minimize the risk of future homelessness among those in foster care. Results suggest that approximately 32% of homeless individuals who do not have a HSD/GED may particularly benefit from services to assist them with obtaining employment. Results suggest that high rates of disabling conditions present barriers to adaptation and employment among the homeless population. Services designed to address the mental and physical health needs of this population are strongly needed.

Living Arrangement

Table 11: Do you currently live alone without family, partner, or friends?				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	450	62.5	450	63.6
No	257	35.7	257	36.4
Refused	13	1.8		
Total	720		707	

- 450 individuals (63.6%) indicated that they currently live alone.

Table 12: Do you live with:							
		Do you currently live alone without family, partner, or friends?					
		No		Yes		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%
Spouse or Partner	Yes	93	36.2%	15	3.3%	108	15.3%
	No	164	63.8%	435	96.7%	599	84.7%
Parent/guardian	Yes	13	5.1%	3	0.7%	16	2.3%
	No	244	94.9%	447	99.3%	691	97.7%
Friends	Yes	73	28.4%	20	4.4%	93	13.2%
	No	184	71.6%	430	95.6%	614	86.8%
Other family	Yes	26	10.1%	7	1.6%	33	4.7%
	No	231	89.9%	443	98.4%	674	95.3%
Child/children	Yes	35	13.6%	3	0.7%	38	5.4%
	No	222	86.4%	447	99.3%	669	94.6%
Other	Yes	20	7.8%	2	0.4%	22	3.1%
	No	237	92.2%	448	99.6%	685	96.9%

- Despite saying they lived alone, some answered the follow-up question 14 by stating that they lived with someone.
- Additional training for surveyors can be helpful to address this in the future.
- Among those who do report living with someone, 108 (15.3%) reported living with a spouse or partner and 93 (13.2%) reported living with friends.

Living Arrangement Summary

Results indicated that 450 individuals (63.6%) report living alone without family, partner, or friends. A total of 108 (15.3%) respondents reported living with a spouse or partner.

Results suggest that lack of a support network is evident among the homeless population surveyed. High prevalence rates of mental and physical difficulties reported in the previous section may combine with these low levels of social support to heighten the risk to experience homelessness. The results highlight the need to connect these individuals to support networks.

Results also indicate that improvement in survey methodology can occur if responses to whether or not a person lives alone are tied to question 14 concerning those they live with.

Table 13: Where did you stay on Sunday night, January 23, 2011?		
	N	%
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	3	0.4
Foster care home or foster care group home	0	0
Place not meant for habitation inclusive of 'non-housing service site (outreach programs only)	434	60.3
Transitional housing for homeless persons (including homeless youth)	0	0
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	3	0.4
Substance abuse treatment facility	0	0
Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	2	0.3
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	3	0.4
Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house	62	8.6
Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house	94	13.1
Owned by client, no housing subsidy	7	1
Owned by client, with housing subsidy	1	0.1
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	73	10.1
Rental by client, with VASH housing subsidy	1	0.1
Rental by client, with other (non-VASH) housing subsidy	4	0.6
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	28	3.9
Subsidized Housing	5	0.7
Permanent housing for formerly homeless people	0	0
Safe Haven	0	0
Total	720	

- 434 individuals (60.3%) stayed in a place not meant for habitation on the night of the PIT count.
- None were staying in a foster care home, transitional housing, a substance abuse treatment facility, permanent housing for formerly homeless people or a safe haven.
- The follow-up question was not asked concerning whether those in jail, substance abuse treatment, or a psychiatric or non-psychiatric hospital were homeless at entry.

- The follow-up questions for those staying with family etc. were not asked to determine if they were being evicted or forced to leave and whether they had a place and money to support them at a new place.

Table 14: PIT Housing Status		
	N	%
Literally Homeless	444	61.7
Unstably housed and at-risk of losing their housing	167	23.2
Don't Know	83	11.5
Imminently losing their housing	26	3.6
Total	720	

- 444 individuals (61.7%) were literally homeless, which accounts for the largest percentage of the population surveyed.
- The housing status of 83 individuals (11.5%) could not be determined without responses to the follow-up questions on the Housing Survey.

Table 15: Length of Stay by Location											
	One week or less		More than one week, but less than one month		One to three months		More than three months, but less than one year		One year or longer		Total
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	2	66.7	0	0	1	33.3	0	0	0	0	3
Place not meant for habitation inclusive of non-housing service site (outreach programs only)	71	17	65	15.6	84	20.1	80	19.2	117	28.1	417
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	1	33.3	0	0	1	33.3	0	0	1	33.3	3
Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	3	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house	9	14.5	15	24.2	6	9.7	11	17.7	21	33.9	62
Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house	36	40.9	15	17	15	17	14	15.9	8	9.1	88
Owned by client, no housing subsidy	0	0	1	14.3	0	0	1	14.3	5	71.4	7
Owned by client, with housing subsidy	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0	0	0	1
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	2	3	3	4.5	11	16.7	20	30.3	30	45.5	66
Rental by client, with VASH housing subsidy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100	1
Rental by client, with other (non-VASH) housing subsidy	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	25	3	75	4
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	8	28.6	12	42.9	4	14.3	2	7.1	2	7.1	28
Subsidized Housing	0	0	0	0	1	25	1	25	2	50	4
Total	133	19.3	111	16.1	124	18	130	18.9	190	27.6	688*

*32 individuals who responded 'refused' or 'don't know' with regard to duration were excluded from this analysis

- 190 individuals (27.6%) indicated that they have resided at the location on the night of the PIT count for one year or longer
- One year or longer was the most common duration for those living in a place not meant for habitation, as well as for those renting and those living with family.
- Staying with a friend or living in a hotel/motel were more likely to be for a shorter duration, with the most common duration for staying with a friend being less than one week (40.9%) and staying in a hotel/motel for less than one month (42.9%).

Present Location/Duration Summary

Results indicated that 434 individuals (60.3%) stayed in a place not meant for habitation on the night of the PIT count. Although the duration of stay varied for those living in a place not meant for habitation, the most common response was a duration of one year or longer (N = 117, 28.1%). Renting and living with family were also places where the duration of stay was most likely to be for one year or more. Staying with friends or staying at a hotel/motel was more likely to be for a shorter duration.

Not asking the follow-up questions on the Housing Survey restricted the ability to determine the housing status of those surveyed. Future administrations of the Housing Survey must ensure that these questions are asked.

Among those living in a place not meant for habitation, a sizable portion report having lived there for either more than three months (N = 80, 19.2%) or one year or longer (N = 117, 28.1%). Continued efforts to match homeless individuals with housing solutions are necessary to address issues of long-term homelessness among this population.

Frequency/Duration

Table 16: In the past 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including the present time?				
	N	%	N	%
One Time*	175	24.3	175	30.6
2 Times	84	11.7	84	14.7
3 Times	33	4.6	33	5.8
4 Times	16	2.2	16	2.8
5 Times	13	1.8	13	2.3
6 Times	5	0.7	5	0.9
More Than 6 Times**	31	4.3	31	5.4
Entire Twelve Months	215	29.9	215	37.6
Don't Know	12	1.7		
Not Applicable***	96	13.3		
Refused	40	5.6		
Total	720		572	

*reported duration of homelessness for this subgroup in Table 17

**Multiple times (sum of 2 through More than 6) = 182 (31.9%)

***location at PIT for this subgroup in Table 18

- 182 individuals (31.9%) reported that they were homeless multiple times (2 or more) in the last 12 months.
- 215 individuals (37.6%) reported that they were homeless the entire twelve months.
- While 175 individuals (30.6%) reported that they were homeless one time, results presented in the next table indicate that some of these report being homeless for more than 12 months as well.
- While 96 reported that this question was 'Not Applicable', a minority had previously reported living in a place not meant for habitation (see Table 18)

Table 17: How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent housing situation? (among those who reported being homeless one time in the past 12 months)				
	N	%	N	%
7 Days or Less	14	8	14	8.5
8-30 days	18	10.3	18	10.9
2 months	17	9.7	17	10.3
3 months	14	8	14	8.5
4 months	8	4.6	8	4.8
6 months	17	9.7	17	10.3
7 months	3	1.7	3	1.8
8 months	6	3.4	6	3.6
9 months	1	0.6	1	0.6
10 months	6	3.4	6	3.6
11 months	3	1.7	3	1.8
More than one year	17	9.7	17	10.3
More than two years	11	6.3	11	6.7
More than three years	30	17.1	30	18.2
Don't Know	1	0.6		
Not Applicable	5	2.9		
Refused	4	2.3		
Total	175		165	

- The reported duration of homeless varied widely for those reporting being homeless one time in the last 12 months. However, several of these reported being homeless for more than one year (N = 58).

Table 18: Location on January 23, 2011 among those who reported 'Not Applicable' to question 19.

	N	%
Owned by client, no housing subsidy	3	3.1
Owned by client, with housing subsidy	1	1
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	43	44.8
Rental by client, with other (non-VASH) housing subsidy	4	4.2
Rental by client, with VASH housing subsidy	1	1
Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house	23	24
Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house	8	8.3
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	7	7.3
Place not meant for habitation inclusive of non-housing service site (outreach programs only)	4	4.2
Subsidized Housing	2	2.1
Total	96	100

- When asked 'In the past 12 months how many times have you been homeless, including the present time?', 96 individuals responded 'Not Applicable'.
- Results presented above suggest that most of these individuals may be in housing situations where they do not consider themselves to be homeless by their own definition.
- Data appear to be inconsistent, though, for the 4 individuals (4.2%) who had reported that they were living in a place not meant for habitation, but then reported 'Not Applicable' when asked how many times they had been homeless.

Table 19: In the last 3 years how many times have you been homeless, including the present time?				
	N	%	N	%
One Time*	171	23.8	171	29.8
2 Times	84	11.7	84	14.6
3 Times	42	5.8	42	7.3
4 Times	27	3.8	27	4.7
5 Times	20	2.8	20	3.5
6 Times	19	2.6	19	3.3
More Than 6 Times**	39	5.4	39	6.8
Entire Twelve Months***	172	23.9	172	30
Don't Know	12	1.7		
Not Applicable*	86	11.9		
Refused	48	6.7		
Total	720		574	

* Findings for those reporting having been homeless 'One Time' and those who reported 'Not Applicable' mirrored those reported for the 12 month timeframe above

** Multiple times (sum of 2 through More than 6) = 231 (40.2%)

*** This was a typo

- 231 individuals (40.2%) reported that they were homeless multiple times (2 or more) in the last three years
- There was a typo where respondents were asked if they were homeless for the 'Entire Twelve Months' although the timeframe for this question was three years.
- As duration is asked in the next question, the 'Entire 12 months' or 'Entire 36 Months' responses can be eliminated from future surveys.

Table 20: How long have you been homeless since you last lived in a permanent housing situation?				
	N	%	N	%
7 Days or Less	26	3.6	26	4.6
8-30 days	45	6.2	45	7.9
2 months	34	4.7	34	6
3 months	33	4.6	33	5.8
4 months	22	3.1	22	3.9
5 months	7	1	7	1.2
6 months	35	4.9	35	6.2
7 months	7	1	7	1.2
8 months	15	2.1	15	2.6
9 months	4	0.6	4	0.7
10 months	8	1.1	8	1.4
11 months	10	1.4	10	1.8
More than one year*	108	15	108	19
More than two years*	62	8.6	62	10.9
More than three years*	153	21.2	153	26.9
Don't Know	18	2.5		
Not Applicable	95	13.2		
Refused	38	5.3		
Total	720		569	

*323 individuals (56.8%) reported that they last lived in a permanent housing situation more than one year ago.

- Results indicated that 323 individuals (56.8%) reported that they last lived in a permanent housing situation more than one year ago.
- This provides a cleaner assessment of duration than the 'Entire Twelve Months' options above.

Frequency/Duration Summary

Results indicated that 182 individuals (31.9%) reported they were homeless multiple times (2 or more) in the last 12 months and 231 individuals (40.2%) reported they were homeless multiple times in the last three years. A total of 323 individuals (56.8%) reported that they last lived in a permanent housing situation more than one year ago.

Among the 96 individuals who reported 'Not Applicable' to the question concerning how many times they had been homeless in the last year, many may be in housing situations where they do not perceive themselves as currently homeless. A minority of these had reported that they were living in places not meant for habitation.

In terms of methodology, providing surveyors with a clearer understanding of when the 'Not Applicable' option is warranted can be helpful. Elimination of the 'Entire Twelve Months' options can be helpful, as it is redundant with the later question concerning duration of current homelessness.

From an applied standpoint, a significant number of individuals experience homelessness multiple times across a one and three-year timeframe. More than half report that it has been over a year since they were last in a permanent housing situation. For these individuals, provision of services that prevent both relapse and duration of homelessness are necessary.

Mobility/City

Table 21: Where was the last place you had a permanent place to stay for 90 days or more?				
	N	%	N	%
Other County in Florida	79	11	79	11.9
Out of State	101	14	101	15.2
Pinellas County	483	67.1	483	72.9
Don't Know	11	1.5		
Refused	46	6.4		
Total	720		663	

- 79 individuals (11.9%) report that they last had a permanent place to stay for 90 days or more in another county in Florida, while 101 individuals (15.2) reporting having last had a permanent place to stay out of state.

Table 22: Were you homeless when you came to Pinellas County?				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	209	29	209	31.2
No	461	64	461	68.8
Don't Know	7	1		
Refused	43	6		
Total	720		670	

- 209 individuals (31.2%) reported that they were homeless when they came to Pinellas County.

Table 23: How long have you been staying in Pinellas County before becoming homeless?*				
	N	%	N	%
1 week or less	8	1.7	8	2.1
7 to 30 days	11	2.4	11	2.9
30 to 90 days	25	5.4	25	6.6
90 days to 1 year	33	7.2	33	8.7
More than 1 year	304	65.9	304	79.8
Don't know	9	2		
Not Applicable	54	11.7		
Refused	17	3.7		
Total	461		381	

*among those who were not homeless when they came to Pinellas County

- Among those who were not homeless when they came to Pinellas County, 304 (79.8%) report staying in Pinellas County for more than a year before becoming homeless.

Table 24: In what city or town do you mainly stay?				
	N	%	N	%
Bradenton	1	0.1	1	0.1
Brooksville	4	0.6	4	0.6
Clearwater	156	21.7	156	22.7
Dunedin	4	0.6	4	0.6
Gulfport	1	0.1	1	0.1
Kenneth City	1	0.1	1	0.1
Largo	27	3.8	27	3.9
Miami	1	0.1	1	0.1
Oldsmar	2	0.3	2	0.3
Palm Harbor	4	0.6	4	0.6
Pinellas Park	44	6.1	44	6.4
Safety Harbor	1	0.1	1	0.1
Sarasota	2	0.3	2	0.3
Seminole	2	0.3	2	0.3
St. Petersburg	352	48.9	352	51.3
St. Petersburg Beach	9	1.2	9	1.3
Tampa	4	0.6	4	0.6
Tarpon Springs	69	9.6	69	10.1
Treasure Island	2	0.3	2	0.3
Unknown	34	4.7		
Total	720		686	

- 352 individuals (51.3%) report living in Saint Petersburg, 156 (22.7%) in Clearwater, 69 (10.1%) in Tarpon Springs, 44 (6.4%) in Pinellas Park, and 27 (3.9%) in Largo, with less than 10 individuals in other cities.

Mobility/City Summary

Results indicated that 209 individuals (31.2%) reported being homeless when they came to Pinellas County. Among those who were not homeless when they came to Pinellas County, 304 (79.8%) report staying in Pinellas County for more than a year before becoming homeless. Most of those surveyed report living in Saint Petersburg (51.3%), Clearwater (22.7%), Tarpon Springs (10.1%), Pinellas Park (6.4%), or Largo (3.9%).

While many (N = 304) report living Pinellas County for more than a year before becoming homeless, 209 individuals reported being homeless when they came to Pinellas County. Services intended to target individuals who arrive in Pinellas County experiencing homelessness are particularly necessary

Table 25: What do you think is the reason(s) that led you to lose your permanent housing?*				
	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
Lost Job, financial problems, not enough income	416	70.9	171	29.1
Alcohol or drug problems	83	14.1	504	85.9
Criminal History/Arrest/Incarceration	76	12.9	511	87.1
Family break-up	60	10.2	527	89.8
Mental health or emotional problems	58	9.9	529	90.1
Eviction	51	8.7	536	91.3
Medical	25	4.3	562	95.7
Lost home through foreclosure	20	3.4	567	96.6
Left to escape abuse	18	3.1	569	96.9
Turned 18 and was forced to leave foster care	3	0.5	584	99.5
Running from foster care	0	0	587	100

*Among those who did not respond 'Don't Know', 'Refused', or 'Not Applicable' (N = 133) to this question

- Loss of a job, financial problems, or not enough income was the most frequently cited reason (N = 416) for loss of permanent housing
- Loss of a home through foreclosure was cited by 20 individuals. Many of the unsheltered homeless may not have had the financial resources to own a home prior to becoming homeless.
- Turning 18 and being forced to leave foster care was cited by 3 individuals. This low prevalence may suggest that initial supports to ensure that those exiting foster care do not become homeless are effective.
- Each of the other reasons was cited by between 3% and 14% of those responding to this question

Table 26: What do you feel is keeping you from getting permanent housing?*				
	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
No job/income	393	67.1	193	32.9
Can't afford rent	289	49.3	297	50.7
No money for moving costs	95	16.2	491	83.8
Criminal record	85	14.5	501	85.5
No transportation	59	10.1	527	89.9
Other	40	6.8	546	93.2
No housing availability	39	6.7	547	93.3
Bad Credit	33	5.6	553	94.4
Eviction record	22	3.8	564	96.2
Don't want to	14	2.4	572	97.6

*Among those who did not respond 'Don't Know', 'Refused', or 'Not Applicable' (N = 134) to this question

- No job or income (N =393) and inability to afford rent (N = 289) were the most commonly reported reasons believed to be keeping individuals from getting permanent housing.
- 14 individuals indicated that they did not want to have permanent housing.

Reasons for Homelessness Summary

Results indicated that finances are clearly the most commonly cited reason for homelessness among those surveyed.

While earlier findings had indicated that 85 individuals were previously in foster care, turning 18 and being forced to leave foster care was cited as a reason for homelessness by only 3 individuals. These results suggest that initial supports to prevent those exiting foster care from experiencing homelessness may be effective. However, over a longer time period, having been in foster care is a significant risk factor for homelessness.

Having 20 individuals (3.4%) lose a home through foreclosure may suggest that the pathway from foreclosure to homelessness may not be direct and/or that those who are homeless may not have previously owned their own home.

Table 27: Have you received income from any source in the last 30 days?				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	242	33.6	242	35.6
No	437	60.7	437	64.4
Don't Know	1	0.1		
Refused	40	5.6		
Total	720		679	

- 242 individuals (35.6%) reported having received income in the last 30 days.

Table 28: Income Level*		
	N	%
\$0	437	74.8
\$1-\$99	25	4.3
\$100-\$199	24	4.1
\$200-\$299	20	3.4
\$300-\$399	7	1.2
\$400-\$499	4	0.7
\$500-\$599	8	1.4
\$600-\$699	27	4.6
\$700-\$799	12	2.1
\$800-\$899	10	1.7
\$900-\$999	4	0.7
\$1000+	6	1
Total	584	

*among those who provided income data

- Of the 242 individuals who reporting having received income, 147 provided an amount
- Most of the income reported ranged between \$1-\$299 (N = 69) or \$600-\$899 (N = 49)

	ALL	Some Income
N	584	147
Mean	105.89	420.69
Median	0	300

- The mean income among all those providing data was \$105.89
- The mean income among all those providing data who reported some income was \$420.69

	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
Earned income	51	34.9	95	65.1
Social Security (SSI)	28	19.2	118	80.8
Contributions from other people (including panhandling)	17	11.6	129	88.4
Social Security (SSDI)	16	11	130	89
Self employment wages	10	6.8	136	93.2
Veterans' disability	7	4.8	139	95.2
General assistance	4	2.7	142	97.3
Unemployment Insurance**	4	2.7	142	97.3
Veterans' Pension	3	2.1	143	97.9
TANF	2	1.4	144	98.6
Child support	2	1.4	144	98.6
Private disability insurance	2	1.4	144	98.6
Unemployment Insurance**	1	0.7	145	99.3
Alimony/spousal support	0	0	146	100
Annuities Dividends/Interest	0	0	146	100
Pension from a former job	0	0	146	100
Plasma	0	0	146	100
Railroad retirement	0	0	146	100
Rental income	0	0	146	100
Retirement Disability	0	0	146	100
Workers' compensation	0	0	146	100

*for those who reported income (1 refused to provide a source)

**Unemployment Insurance was listed twice

- Among those reporting an income, the most commonly cited source was earned income (N = 51, 34.9%).
- Social Security (SSI) (N = 28, 19.2%) and (SSDI) (N = 16, 11%) were the 2nd and 4th most common sources.

Table 31: Have you received any non-cash benefits within the last 30 days?				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	353	49	353	53.2
No	311	43.2	311	46.8
Don't Know	5	0.7		
Refused	51	7.1		
Total	720		664	

- 353 individuals (53.2%) reported receiving non-cash benefits in the last 30 days.

Table 32: What was the source of the non-cash benefit?*				
	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
Food Stamps	266	75.6	86	24.4
Medicaid	55	15.6	297	84.4
Other Source	39	11.1	313	88.9
Medicare	23	6.5	329	93.5
VA Medical Services	15	4.3	337	95.7
Temporary Rental Assistance	8	2.3	344	97.7
Section 8, public housing, rental assistance	5	1.4	347	98.6
Other TANF funded services	7	2	345	98
TANF child care services	2	0.6	350	99.4
TANF transportation services	2	0.6	350	99.4
SCHIP	2	0.6	350	99.4

*Among those who reported that they did receive non-cash benefits (1 refused)

- Although not on the Housing Survey, 266 individuals wrote in Food Stamps as a non-cash benefit
- Medicaid (N = 55) was the most commonly cited source among those listed on the Housing Survey
- Although only 15 individuals reporting receiving VA Medical Services in response to this question, 45 individuals later reported that they primarily receive medical services through the VA.

- While there may have been under-reporting of non-cash benefits received, the low frequencies of reported benefits relative to the total population surveyed (N = 720) suggests that improvements can be made in the degree to which needed benefits reach the homeless population.

Income Summary

Results indicated that 242 individuals (35.6%) reported having received income in the last 30 days; of these, 147 provided an amount. Most of the income reported ranged from \$1 to \$299 (N = 69) or \$600 to \$899 (N = 49). The mean income among all those providing data was \$105.89. The mean income among all those providing data who reported some income was \$420.69. In addition, 353 individuals reported receiving non-cash benefits in the last 30 days.

The number of refusals combined with the number of individuals who did not provide an income estimate suggests that the data received may be an under-estimate of the cash and non-cash income received. This may be due to either to a hesitancy to share this information or difficulty retrieving this information from memory during a survey. Overall, these data are consistent with reports that income difficulties are a central determinant of homelessness among this population. Results also suggest that the existing homeless population can benefit from being matched with needed cash and non-cash benefits and services.

Employment

Table 33: Have you worked during the last month?				
	N	%	N	%
No	532	73.9	532	80.1
Yes	132	18.3	132	19.9
Refused	56	7.8		
Total	720		664	

- 132 individuals (19.9%) reported having worked in the last month

Table 34: Reported Income level among those who reported having worked in the last month				
	N	%	N	%
\$0	40	30.3	40	39.2
\$1-\$99	11	8.3	11	10.8
\$100-\$199	14	10.6	14	13.7
\$200-\$299	14	10.6	14	13.7
\$300-\$399	3	2.3	3	2.9
\$400-\$499	1	0.8	1	1
\$500-\$599	3	2.3	3	2.9
\$600-\$699	3	2.3	3	2.9
\$700-\$799	4	3	4	3.9
\$800-\$899	5	3.8	5	4.9
\$900-\$999	1	0.8	1	1
\$1000+	3	2.3	3	2.9
Refused	30	22.7		
Total	132		102	

- The income data does not agree with individuals' reports of having worked in the last month.
- 40 reporting receiving no income despite reporting having worked.
- 30 refused to report an income.
- Of those who reported an income, 39 reported less than \$300 and 23 reported more than \$300.

Table 35: Reported income sources among those who reported having worked in the last month				
	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
Self-employment wages	9	6.8	123	93.2
Earned income	58	43.9	74	56.1
Refused	5	3.8	127	96.2

- Responses to the income sources question do not agree with individuals' responses to the employment question.
- These data suggest questionable reliability with regard to questions concerning employment and income.

Table 36: Was this work*:				
	N	%	N	%
Temporary	109	82.6	109	84.5
Permanent	15	11.4	15	11.6
Seasonal	5	3.8	5	3.9
Refused	3	2.3		
Total	132		129	

*among those who reported having worked in the last month

- 109 individuals (84.5%) reported that their work was temporary and 5 (3.8%) reported that it was seasonal.
- 15 (11.4%) reported that their work was permanent.

Table 37: Are you looking for work now?*				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	231	43.4	231	57.3
No	172	32.3	172	42.7
Don't Know	10	1.9		
Refused	119	22.4		
Total	532		403	

*among those who reported not being currently employed

- 231 individuals (57.3%) reported that they were currently looking for work among those who reported that they were currently unemployed.
- 119 individuals refused to answer this question.

Table 38: What do you feel is keeping you from getting employment?*				
	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
No Jobs	191	38.4	307	61.6
Disabled	141	28.3	357	71.7
Criminal Record	80	16.1	418	83.9
Health problems	76	15.3	422	84.7
No permanent address	58	11.6	440	88.4
No photo identification	55	11	443	89
Alcohol/drug issues	38	7.6	460	92.4
Mental health issues	38	7.6	460	92.4
Need clothing	35	7	463	93
Need training	35	7	463	93
Need Education	30	6	468	94
No phone	27	5.4	471	94.6
No shower facilities	20	4	478	96
No tools for trade	20	4	478	96
Don't want to work	8	1.6	490	98.4
No child care	8	1.6	490	98.4
Retired	6	1.2	492	98.8

*among those reporting they are not currently employed (N = 532) and did not respond 'Don't Know', 'Refused', or 'Not Applicable' (N = 34)

- Having no jobs available (N = 191, 38%) was the most commonly cited source preventing individuals from obtaining employment.
- However, disability (N = 141, 28.3%), criminal record (N = 80, 16.1%), health problems (N = 76, 15.3%) and each of the remaining options were all cited as impediments to obtaining employment.

Employment Summary

While 132 individuals (19.9%) reported having worked in the last month, cross-checks with other data suggested that the reliability of employment and income data is questionable. Among those who do report having employment, most report receiving less than \$300 and having temporary or seasonal employment.

While approximately half of those not employed report that they are looking for work, lack of job availability, disability and health status, criminal record and several additional factors are reported to restrict the homeless population's access to employment.

Table 39: Since you have been homeless this last time, have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	170	23.6	170	28
No	424	58.9	424	69.9
Needed Medical Care but did not seek it	13	1.8	13	2.1
Don't Know	8	1.1		
Refused	59	8.2		
Not Applicable	46	6.4		
Total	720		607	

- Since being homeless this last time, 170 individuals (28%) reported needing medical care and being unable to receive it.

Table 40: Where do you usually get medical care?				
	N	%	N	%
Hospital Emergency Room	277	38.5	277	43.6
Health Department	107	14.9	107	16.8
Community Clinic	76	10.6	76	11.9
Private Doctor	69	9.6	69	10.8
Don't Ever Go	58	8.1	58	9.1
VA Hospital / Clinic	45	6.2	45	7.1
Friends / Family	4	0.6	4	0.6
Don't Know	17	2.4		
Refused	67	9.3		
Total	720		636	

- The hospital emergency room was the most commonly cited source of medical care (N = 277, 43.6%)

Table 41: Do you feel you receive adequate medical care?				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	449	62.4	449	75.3
No	147	20.4	147	24.7
Don't Know	50	6.9		
Refused	74	10.3		
Total	720		596	

- 449 individuals (75.3%) reported that they receive adequate medical care.

Table 42: Perception of care by source				
	Do you feel you receive adequate medical care?			
	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
VA Hospital / Clinic	43	95.6	2	4.4
Private Doctor	53	81.5	12	18.5
Hospital Emergency Room	205	78.5	56	21.5
Community Clinic	51	77.3	15	22.7
Health Department	72	70.6	30	29.4
Friends / Family	2	50	2	50
Don't Ever Go	13	41.9	18	58.1

- Perceptions of care were very positive for those who receive care from the VA Hospital/Clinic (95.6% approval).
- Given that 118 individuals identified themselves as veterans of the U.S. armed forces, these data suggest that linking all veterans to VA Hospital/Clinic care would be viewed positively.
- For all other sources, perceptions of care were close to the overall approval rating of 75.3%.
- Perceptions of care were poorest for those who receive care from friends/family (50% approval) and those who don't ever go (41.9%).

Table 43: How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?				
	N	%	N	%
0	331	46	331	49
1	133	18.5	133	19.7
2	91	12.6	91	13.5
3	45	6.2	45	6.7
4	27	3.8	27	4
5	13	1.8	13	1.9
6	16	2.2	16	2.4
7	6	0.8	6	0.9
8	1	0.1	1	0.1
10+	12	1.7	12	1.8
Refused	45	6.2		
Total	720		675	

- Approximately half of those surveyed who provided an answer (51%) indicated that they had used the emergency room for treatment at least once in the preceding 12 months.

Medical Care Summary

Since being homeless this last time, 170 individuals (28%) reported needing medical care and being unable to receive it. The hospital emergency room was the most commonly cited source of medical care (N = 277, 43.6%). A majority (75.3%) reported that they receive adequate medical care. Perceptions of care were very positive for those who receive care from the VA Hospital/Clinic (95.6% approval). Perceptions of care were poorest for those who receive care from friends/family (50% approval) and those who don't ever go (41.9%).

While access to medical care is restricted and most often provided through emergency room treatment, perceptions of care are positive for those who receive care. Perceptions are particularly strong for those who receive VA care. Continued efforts are necessary to link the homeless with necessary care and to provide veterans with needed medical benefits.

Table 44: Area Survey Taken:				
	N	%	N	%
North County	258	35.8	258	39
Mid-County	77	10.7	77	11.6
South County	327	45.4	327	49.4
Unknown	58	8.1		
Total	720		662	

- Results suggest that surveys were spread across the county with 39% in North County, 11.6% In Mid County, and 49.4% in South County.

Table 45: City where completed:				
	N	%	N	%
St. Petersburg	345	47.9	345	52.4
Clearwater	190	26.4	190	28.8
Tarpon Springs	79	11	79	12
Pinellas Park	34	4.7	34	5.2
Largo	6	0.8	6	0.9
Kenneth City	2	0.3	2	0.3
Dunedin	1	0.1	1	0.2
Palm Harbor	1	0.1	1	0.2
Safety Harbor	1	0.1	1	0.2
Unknown	61	8.5		
Total	720		659	

- A majority of surveys were completed in Saint Petersburg (52.4%), Clearwater (28.8%), Tarpon Springs (12%), and Pinellas Park (5.2%)

Table 46: Survey Location	Survey Area							
	North County		Mid-County		South County		Unknown	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
CHIPS	35	13.6						
St. Nicholas	26	10.1						
RCS Food Bank	24	9.3						
Police Station	21	8.1						
Shepherd Center	21	8.1						
Grace Chapel	14	5.4						
Library 100 Osceola	7	2.7						
Myrtle & Pierce	7	2.7						
Crest Lake Park	5	1.9						
Helping Hands	5	1.9						
Human Services Cleveland Street	5	1.9						
Unknown	13	5						
Other*	75	29.1						
Pinellas Safe Harbor			13	16.9				
Haven of Rest			13	16.9				
Unknown			3	3.9				
Other*			48	62.3				
St. Vincent De Paul					52	15.9		
Williams Park					38	11.6		
Beacon House					28	8.6		
Mirror Lake					26	8		
SA One Stop Center					25	7.6		
Salvation Army					22	6.7		
ASAP Drop In					16	4.9		
Chicken Man/Mirror Lake					13	4		
Daystar Life Center					12	3.7		
Unknown					8	2.4	54	93.1
Other*					87	26.6	4	6.9
Total	258		77		327		58	

*Street or Building locations with less than 5 respondents were placed in this category

- Results presented in this table indicate the primary locations at which individuals were surveyed.
- Many individuals were surveyed at 'Other' locations that included cross streets and buildings where one or two homeless individuals were surveyed.
- The volume of locations at which individuals were surveyed highlights the difficulty of executing this survey.
- Administration of a reliable survey across so many locations from individuals who may be focused upon other things, such as having lunch or dinner, can be very difficult.

Survey Location Summary

Overall, the volume of places from which homeless individuals were surveyed suggests the impressive effort from all staff involved in executing the administration of this survey. Future administrations of this survey can benefit from closer attention to survey protocols. However, any recommendations come with a clear understanding that surveying so many people over such a large area while they are often engaged in other activities, such as having lunch, is not an easy task.

Turned away from emergency shelter

Table 47: In the past 30 days have you ever tried to stay at an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility in Pinellas County and been turned away?				
	N	%	N	%
Shelter	142	19.7	142	19.8
Transitional Housing	10	1.4	10	1.4
Shelter and Transitional Housing	5	0.7	5	0.7
No	561	77.9	561	78.1
Refused	2	0.3		
Total	720		718	

- Results indicate that 157 individuals (21.9%) reported being turned away from an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility at some point in the last 30 days.

Table 48: Why were you turned away?*				
	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
There were no beds available	84	58.7	59	41.3
Other**	31	21.7	112	78.3
Have a criminal record	13	9.1	130	90.9
Had no identification	11	7.7	132	92.3
Didn't meet work requirement	9	6.3	134	93.7
Couldn't follow shelter rules	6	4.2	137	95.8
Didn't accept partner/friend	5	3.5	138	96.5
Didn't accept pets	4	2.8	139	97.2
Alcohol/Drug problems	3	2.1	140	97.9
Didn't like religious service	2	1.4	141	98.6
Because you smoke	1	0.7	142	99.3
Because of your disability	1	0.7	142	99.3
Because of your mental illness	1	0.7	142	99.3
Didn't accept teenager/girlfriend	1	0.7	142	99.3
You were pregnant	0	0	143	100

* Among those who reported being turned away (N = 157) and did not respond 'Don't Know' or 'Refused' (N = 14)

**There was no write-in response choice for 'Other'

- 84 individuals who reported being turned away indicated that it was because there were no beds available.
- While 31 reported it was for an 'Other' reason, there was not a place to indicate what that might be.

Turned Away from Emergency Shelter Summary

Results indicate that 157 individuals (21.9%) reported being turned away from an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility at some point in the last 30 days. The most common reason for this was due to a lack of available beds. These results suggest that there may not be enough supply to meet the demand for shelter, or perhaps better coordination between shelters can ensure that each person has a bed. From these data it is not clear whether individuals who were turned away from one site were able to find shelter at another.

Table 49: How many children under the age of 18 are living with you?*		
	N	Children
1	6	6
2	10	20
3	3	9
4	6	24
6+	1	6
Total		65*

* none present in the school database

- An addendum to the Housing Survey allowed individuals to identify children under the age of 18 who were living with them. The names of these children were provided.
- Individuals indicated that 65 children were living with them.
- None of the children listed were present in the school count database.
- Further investigation would be necessary to determine why these children were not identified in the school database.

The school count consists of children identified as homeless by the Pinellas County School System. The count includes the most up-to-date information as of February 1, 2011. The school count does not include 33 students who were also present in the sheltered TBIN database. None of the adults (possible adult education) or children in the unsheltered database were present in the school database.

Table 50: Housing Status		
	N	%
Sharing the housing of other persons	1700	80.6
Living in emergency or transitional shelter	236	11.2
Living in hotels or motels	144	6.8
Awaiting foster care	21	1
Living in cars, parks, campgrounds etc	9	0.4
Total	2110	

- 1700 students were reported as sharing the housing of other persons
- 236 students were reported as living in an emergency or transitional shelter although they were not present in a TBIN participating shelter on the night of the PIT count
 - They may have been in a non-TBIN shelter where the names of individuals are not available.
 - They may not have been in a shelter on the night of the PIT count.
 - While the school database was current as of the night of the PIT count, the individual entries may have been placed well before the night of the PIT count.

Table 51: Grade Level		
	N	%
PK	36	1.7
KG	289	13.7
1	228	10.8
2	228	10.8
3	233	11
4	180	8.5
5	202	9.6
6	140	6.6
7	145	6.9
8	150	7.1
9	66	3.1
10	63	3
11	81	3.8
12	47	2.2
Adult Ed	22	1
Total	2110	

- Higher concentrations of students were present at the earlier grade levels.
- 22 students were in adult education.

Table 52: Gender				
	Homeless		District	
	N	%	N	%
Female	1051	49.8	49586	48.8
Male	1059	50.2	52115	51.2
Total	2110		101702	

- The gender distribution was even and representative of the district as a whole.

Table 53: Race/Ethnicity						
	Homeless				District	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Black, non-Hispanic	618	29.3	618	29.3	19048	18.7
White, non-Hispanic	1015	48.1	1015	48.2	63756	62.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	91	4.3	91	4.3	4323	4.3
Hispanic	231	10.9	231	11	9056	8.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	10	0.5	10	0.5	389	0.4
Multiracial	142	6.7	142	6.7	5086	5
Missing	3	0.1			44	0
Total	2110		2107		101702	

- There was a lower representation of White, non-Hispanic students (N = 1015, 48.2%) and a higher representation of Black, non-Hispanic students (N = 618, 29.3%) relative to the district as a whole.
- There was also a slightly higher representation of Hispanic (N = 231, 11%) and Multiracial (N = 142, 6.7%) students relative to the district as a whole.

Table 54: Lunch Status						
	Homeless				District	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Eligible for Free Lunch	1876	88.9	1876	89	45087	44.3
Eligible for Reduced Lunch	86	4.1	86	4.1	7051	6.9
Applied Not Eligible	36	1.7	36	1.7	3415	3.4
Did Not Apply	109	5.2	109	5.2	46094	45.3
Missing	3	0.1			55	0.1
Total	2110		2107		101702	

- Homeless students were much more likely to be eligible for free lunch relative to the district as a whole.

Table 55: Primary Exceptionality		
	N	%
Specific Learning Disabled	94	4.5
Speech Impaired	68	3.2
Emotional/Behavioral Disabled	63	3
Gifted	51	2.4
Language Impaired	50	2.4
Intellectual Disability	24	1.1
Developmentally Delayed	19	0.9
Other Health Impaired	18	0.9
Autism Spectrum Disorder	11	0.5
Established Conditions	6	0.3
Deaf or Hard Of Hearing	4	0.2
Orthopedically Impaired	3	0.1
Visually Impaired	2	0.1
Occupational Therapy	1	0
Dual-Sensory Impaired	1	0
Not Applicable	1695	80.3
Total	2110	

- Primary exceptionality rates were not elevated among the homeless population.

Table 56: Entry Code				
	N	%	N	%
In District Previous Year	1175	55.7	1175	55.7
From Public School Out of District	318	15.1	318	15.1
From Other School Same District	307	14.5	307	14.6
Entering PK or KG First Time	208	9.9	208	9.9
From Out of Country	26	1.2	26	1.2
Private School Transfer	19	0.9	19	0.9
Original Entry of Adult	18	0.9	18	0.9
Reenter Same School Grade Change	14	0.7	14	0.7
From Home School	13	0.6	13	0.6
Reentry of Adult	6	0.3	6	0.3
Unexpected Reentry Same District	4	0.2	4	0.2
Missing	2	0.1		
Total	2110		2108	

- 318 students (15.1%) were from a public school out of district and 26 students (1.2%) arrived from another country.

Table 57: City				
	N	%	N	%
Belleair	1	0	1	0
Belleair Beach	2	0.1	2	0.1
Belleair Bluffs	2	0.1	2	0.1
Clearwater	415	19.7	415	19.7
Crystal Beach	2	0.1	2	0.1
Dunedin	62	2.9	62	2.9
Gulfport	7	0.3	7	0.3
Holiday	2	0.1	2	0.1
Indian Rocks Beach	5	0.2	5	0.2
Kenneth City	17	0.8	17	0.8
Largo	271	12.8	271	12.9
Madeira Beach	6	0.3	6	0.3
Oldsmar	38	1.8	38	1.8
Palm Harbor	56	2.7	56	2.7
Pinellas Park	164	7.8	164	7.8
Redington Beach	2	0.1	2	0.1
Ruskin	1	0	1	0
Safety Harbor	14	0.7	14	0.7
Saint Petersburg	896	42.5	896	42.6
Seminole	97	4.6	97	4.6
Spring Hill	3	0.1	3	0.1
Tarpon Springs	35	1.7	35	1.7
Treasure Island	4	0.2	4	0.2
Missing	8	0.4		
Total	2110		2102	

- The highest percentages of homeless students were in Saint Petersburg (N = 896, 42.6%), Clearwater (N = 415, 19.7%), and Largo (N = 271, 12.9%).

The school count consisted of 2110 students, 1700 of which (80.6%) were reported to be sharing the housing of other persons. While the gender distribution was even and excessive rates of primary exceptionality were not present, homeless students were much more likely to be Black, non-Hispanic and to receive free lunch relative to students in the district as a whole. A subset of 318 students (15.1%) had arrived from another school out of district and 26 students (1.2%) had arrived from another country. The highest percentages of homeless students were concentrated in the major cities of Saint Petersburg, Clearwater, and Largo.

The methodology for the school count differs from the sheltered and unsheltered counts. Students are not counted at one point in time (e.g. January 23, 2011). This can lead to an overestimate of the number of homeless children at any given time. Students in the school count are also most likely to be sharing the housing of other individuals, which makes them less likely to be identified in the sheltered and unsheltered populations. As a result, the highest number of “homeless” individuals in the count comes from the school data. However, the methodology is different. Efforts to sample the student population at one ‘Point in Time’ that assesses housing status on the same metric used in the sheltered and unsheltered counts would provide a clearer estimate of homelessness in the school population.

Sheltered TBIN Count

A count of sheltered homeless individuals was obtained via a survey of homeless shelters concerning the number of individuals served on January 23, 2011. Data reported in this section were obtained from 58 shelters participating in the Tampa Bay Information Network (TBIN).

Demographics

	N	%	N	%
Female	476	27.8	476	28.6
Male	1187	69.3	1187	71.3
Transgender	1	0.1	1	0.1
Missing	48	2.8		
Total	1712		1664	

- 1187 individuals (71.3%) in the sheltered homeless count were male.
- This mirrors the unsheltered homeless count where 78.6% were male.

	N	%	N	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	14	0.8	14	0.8
Asian	10	0.6	10	0.6
Black or African American	481	28.1	481	28.9
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	5	0.3	5	0.3
Other	30	1.8	30	1.8
Other / Multi-Racial	11	0.6	11	0.7
White	1111	64.9	1111	66.8
Don't Know	4	0.2		
Refused	3	0.2		
Missing	43	2.5		
Total	1712		1662	

- 1111 individuals (66.8%) were White and 481 (28.9%) were Black or African-American.
- This mirrors the unsheltered homeless count where 66.4% were White and 26% were Black or African-American.

Table 60: Ethnicity				
	N	%	N	%
Hispanic/Latino	105	6.1	105	6.5
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	1519	88.7	1519	93.5
Don't Know	32	1.9		
Refused	1	0.1		
Missing	55	3.2		
Total	1712		1624	

- 105 individuals (6.5%) identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino.
- This is higher than the 4.2% in the unsheltered homeless count.

Table 61: Race of Hispanic/Latino Respondents				
	N	%	N	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	1.9	2	1.9
Black or African American	14	13.3	14	13.6
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	1	1	1
Other	18	17.1	18	17.5
Other Multi-Racial	5	4.8	5	4.9
White	63	60	63	61.2
Don't Know	2	1.9		
Total	105		103	

- Among Hispanic/Latino individuals, 63 (61.2%) identified themselves as White, 14 (13.6%) as Black or African-American, and 18 (17.5%) as Other.
- This contrasts with the unsheltered homeless count where 32.1% identified themselves as White, 10.7% as Black or African-American, and 50% as Other.

Table 62: Are you a veteran of the U.S. armed forces?				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	374	21.8	374	22.9
No	1258	73.5	1258	77.1
Don't Know	24	1.4		
Refused	1	0.1		
Missing	55	3.2		
Total	1712		1632	

- 374 individuals (22.9%) identified themselves as a veteran of the U.S. armed forces.
- 16.5% of unsheltered homeless individuals identified themselves as veterans.
- Availability of services and supports provided to veterans may account for the somewhat higher percentage that access emergency housing.

Table 63: Disabled Status				
	N	%	N	%
Yes	599	35	599	37.4
No	1001	58.5	1001	62.6
Don't Know	54	3.2		
Missing	58	3.4		
Total	1712		1600	

- 599 sheltered homeless individuals (37.4%) identified themselves as disabled.
- 31.7% of unsheltered homeless individuals had identified themselves as physically disabled.

Demographics Summary

The sheltered population surveyed was 71.3% male. Racial status was 66.8% White and 28.9% Black or African-American. These data mirrored the unsheltered homeless population. A higher percentage of the sheltered homeless population identified themselves as veterans (22.9%) relative to the unsheltered homeless population (16.5%). Disability was reported by 37.4% of sheltered homeless individuals surveyed.

Consistency of gender and racial data across sheltered and unsheltered surveys supports the reliability of these demographics. A higher percentage of veterans in shelters relative to the unsheltered population may suggest that veterans are more likely to be able to access supports in times of need. During their time in a shelter, veterans can be linked with VA medical services and other supports available to them. High rates of disability also highlight the challenges faced by this population and the need to link individuals with supports available to them at the point of contact when they enter designated resources such as shelters.

Table 64: Location				
	N	%	N	%
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	374	21.8	374	22.9
Foster care home or foster care group home	2	0.1	2	0.1
Place not meant for habitation inclusive of 'non-housing service site (outreach programs only)	480	28	480	29.4
On the Street	37	2.2	37	2.3
Transitional housing for homeless persons (including homeless youth)	81	4.7	81	5
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	52	3	52	3.2
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	62	3.6	62	3.8
Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	29	1.7	29	1.8
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	26	1.5	26	1.6
Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house	142	8.3	142	8.7
Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house	118	6.9	118	7.2
Owned by client, no housing subsidy	8	0.5	8	0.5
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	84	4.9	84	5.1
Rental by client, with other (non-VASH) housing subsidy	5	0.3	5	0.3
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	63	3.7	63	3.9
Subsidized Housing	4	0.2	4	0.2
Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons (such as SHP, S+C, or SRO Mod Rehab)	4	0.2	4	0.2
Safe Haven	23	1.3	23	1.4
Domestic Violence Situation	2	0.1	2	0.1
Other	39	2.3	39	2.4
Don't Know	27	1.6		
Missing	50	2.9		
Total	1712		1635	

- A place not meant for habitation (N = 480, 29.4%) and an emergency shelter (N = 374, 22.9%) were the most commonly cited housing locations among those surveyed.

Table 65: Housing Status				
	N	%	N	%
Imminently losing their housing	147	8.6	147	9.3
Literally Homeless	1318	77	1318	83.7
Stably housed	18	1.1	18	1.1
Unstably housed and at-risk of losing their housing	91	5.3	91	5.8
Don't Know	8	0.5		
Missing	130	7.6		
Total	1712		1574	

- 1318 individuals (83.7%) were classified as literally homeless.
- While 18 (1.1%) were classified as stably housed, this was the result of data entry error according to TBIN staff.

Table 66: Length of Stay by Location											
	One week or less		More than one week, but less than one month		One to three months		More than three months, but less than one year		One year or longer		Total
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	59	16.5	101	28.2	107	29.9	51	14.2	40	11.2	358
Foster care home or foster care group home	1	50	0	0	1	50	0	0	0	0	2
Place not meant for habitation inclusive of non-housing service site (outreach programs only)	84	18.6	91	20.2	77	17.1	92	20.4	107	23.7	451
On the Street	5	15.2	5	15.2	6	18.2	8	24.2	9	27.3	33
Transitional housing for homeless persons (including homeless youth)	3	3.9	2	2.6	22	28.6	27	35.1	23	29.9	77
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	3	6.5	4	8.7	15	32.6	7	15.2	17	37	46
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	3	5.1	11	18.6	21	35.6	20	33.9	4	6.8	59
Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	10	35.7	13	46.4	4	14.3	0	0	1	3.6	28
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	5	22.7	9	40.9	5	22.7	1	4.5	2	9.1	22
Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house	19	13.7	28	20.1	36	25.9	29	20.9	27	19.4	139
Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house	23	20.7	30	27	28	25.2	13	11.7	17	15.3	111
Owned by client, no housing subsidy	2	25	0	0	0	0	1	12.5	5	62.5	8
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	2	2.5	7	8.6	8	9.9	32	39.5	32	39.5	81
Rental by client, with other (non-VASH) housing subsidy	0	0	1	25	0	0	2	50	1	25	4
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	13	21	33	53.2	13	21	2	3.2	1	1.6	62
Subsidized Housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	100	4
Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons (such as SHP, S+C, or SRO Mod Rehab)	0	0	0	0	1	33.3	1	33.3	1	33.3	3
Safe Haven	2	9.1	0	0	7	31.8	7	31.8	6	27.3	22
Domestic Violence Situation	0	0	2	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Other	4	11.8	8	23.5	4	11.8	6	17.6	12	35.3	34
Total	238	15.4	345	22.3	355	23	299	19.3	309	20	1546

- Duration of time spent at a place not meant for habitation varied almost equally across timeframes, whereas the unsheltered homeless were most likely to report that they stayed in a place not meant for habitation for a year or longer.

- Attendance at an emergency shelter can be utilized as a time to provide supports to ensure that individuals do not return to the unsheltered homeless population where they may stay for a year or longer.
- As was the case with the unsheltered homeless, living in a hotel or staying with a friend was most likely to be a shorter-term solution.

Table 67: Zip Code			
	City	N	%
33603	Tampa	5	0.3
33701	Saint Petersburg	156	9.1
33702	Saint Petersburg	20	1.2
33703	Saint Petersburg	11	0.6
33704	Saint Petersburg	10	0.6
33705	Saint Petersburg	125	7.3
33706	Saint Petersburg	13	0.8
33707	Saint Petersburg	19	1.1
33708	Saint Petersburg	11	0.6
33709	Saint Petersburg	37	2.2
33710	Saint Petersburg	21	1.2
33711	Saint Petersburg	31	1.8
33712	Saint Petersburg	61	3.6
33713	Saint Petersburg	95	5.5
33714	Saint Petersburg	25	1.5
33744	Bay Pines	27	1.6
33755	Clearwater	109	6.4
33756	Clearwater	79	4.6
33759	Clearwater	12	0.7
33760	Clearwater	42	2.5
33761	Clearwater	7	0.4
33762	Clearwater	7	0.4
33764	Clearwater	11	0.6
33765	Clearwater	14	0.8
33770	Largo	42	2.5
33771	Largo	31	1.8
33773	Largo	10	0.6

33774	Largo	12	0.7
33777	Largo	8	0.5
33778	Largo	8	0.5
33780	Pinellas Park	7	0.4
33781	Pinellas Park	43	2.5
33782	Pinellas Park	7	0.4
34205	Bradenton	6	0.4
34652	New Port Richey	6	0.4
34677	Oldsmar	7	0.4
34683	Palm Harbor	6	0.4
34689	Tarpon Springs	11	0.6
34698	Dunedin	21	1.2
Other		539	31.5
Total		1712	

- Sheltered homeless individuals were most likely to report residing in Saint Petersburg, Clearwater, or Largo.

Location/Duration/Residence Summary

Results indicated that 480 individuals (29.4%) reported a place not meant for habitation as their residence. 1318 individuals were classified as literally homeless. Clearly, time spent at a homeless shelter for these individuals is an important contact point to ensure that they do not return to places not meant for habitation. This can also be important contact point to ensure that veterans are receiving benefits to which they are entitled and all individuals receive the supports they need to address the disability, employment and other factors contributing to their homelessness.

Table 68: Income Level*		
	N	%
\$0	855	70.7
\$1-\$99	9	0.7
\$100-\$199	28	2.3
\$200-\$299	24	2
\$300-\$399	20	1.7
\$400-\$499	18	1.5
\$500-\$599	22	1.8
\$600-\$699	74	6.1
\$700-\$799	23	1.9
\$800-\$899	20	1.7
\$900-\$999	36	3
\$1000+	80	6.6
Total	1209	

*Among those who reported an income level

- 855 individuals (70.7%) reported having no current income.
- 74.8% of unsheltered homeless individuals had reported having no current income.

Table 69: Mean/Median Income		
	ALL	Some Income
N	1208	353
Mean	\$219.75	\$752.02
Median	\$0	\$674

*eliminated one outlier reporting \$16,000 in monthly income

- The mean income among those who had received income was \$752.02.
- This was higher than the mean of \$420.69 reported by the unsheltered homeless.
- Many of the unsheltered homeless had reported incomes under \$300, which differed from the sheltered homeless who were more likely to report incomes at higher levels.
- The median of \$674 among the sheltered homeless also indicates that this population is more likely to receive needed government assistance, as this likely represents social security income.

Sheltered homeless individuals reported higher mean income and also appeared more likely to access financial supports, including government benefits and employment assistance. The ability to access financial supports among the sheltered homeless reinforces the importance of linking unsheltered homeless individuals with these supports at the point of contact with shelter services.

Sheltered Non-TBIN Count

An additional 20 shelters also provided a count of individuals served on the night of January 23, 2011. These data are provided below.

Table 70: Sheltered Count from Non-TBIN Providers N = 20			
	Homeless Individuals	Homeless Families with Children	Total
Emergency	83	27	130*
Transitional	144	64	188*
Permanent Supportive	20	0	20
Seasonal / Overflow	0	0	
Total	247	91	338

*These subtotals did not add up correctly in the .pdf provided

- These 20 shelters reported a total of 338 individuals served on the night of January 23, 2011.
- This information was provided via a document where the subtotals did not add up correctly. However, the total number of 338 individuals served was confirmed.

Overnight Count

A count of literally homeless individuals is conducted on the night of January 23, 2011 by volunteers in out-of-the-way places where they were less likely to be surveyed in the unsheltered homeless count. Only gender and city is recorded for this count. By not including the names of those counted, we cannot be sure those counted are not duplicated in other counts.

Location	N
Clearwater	41
Dunedin	18
Gulfport	14
Largo	28
North County Beaches	35
Oldsmar	19
Pinellas Park	42
Safety Harbor	16
Saint Petersburg	92
South County Beaches	39
South Pasadena	13
Tarpon Springs	31
Unincorporated North County	39
Unincorporated South County/Lealman/Kenneth City	37
TOTAL	464

- A total of 464 individuals were included in the overnight count.
- Saint Petersburg had the highest count with 92, followed by Pinellas Park (42) and Clearwater (41).

Gender	N	%	N	%
Female	96	20.7	96	21
Male	362	78	362	79
Missing	6	1.3		
Total	464		458	

- A majority of those counted were male (79%), which is consistent with data from the sheltered and unsheltered counts.

Jail Count

A count of individuals present in jail on the night of January 23, 2011 is conducted. These are individuals who entered either as literally homeless or with shelter addresses. Gender is the only demographic information provided for this count. There were 3 individuals in the unsheltered homeless count who stated that they were in jail on the night of January 23, 2011. These may be replicated in the jail count. Without names included in the jail count, we cannot be sure.

	N	%
Female	49	14.8
Male	281	85.2
Total	330	

- The jail count included 330 individuals.
- The majority (85.2%) of those in the count were male.

Unsheltered Families Count

A count of literally homeless families was conducted by volunteers. No demographics or other survey information were provided in accord with this count. Better integration with other data may be necessary to assure that those included in this count are not replicated from other sources.

Family Members	N
Adults	61
Children	87
Total	148*

*42 Total Families

- The Unsheltered Family count included a total of 148 individuals.
- The count included 42 families with 61 adults and 87 children.

Chronic Homelessness Count

The definition of chronic homelessness consists of:

- To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation and/or in emergency shelter
- An unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years is defined as “chronically homeless”
- In addition, a chronically homeless person must have a disabling condition such as a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, chronic physical illness or disability; or the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions

Data from the Housing Survey of Unsheltered homeless individuals and data from homeless shelters participating in the TBIN both permit assessment of an estimate of chronic homelessness.

Table 75: Chronic Unsheltered Homeless Count			
	Yes	No	Total
Living in places not meant for habitation	437	283	720
Living alone	322	115	437
Homeless 4x in past 3yrs or continuously for 12mo	213	109	322
Reported having a disability	155	58	213
Total Chronic Unsheltered Homeless Population			155

- 437 individuals completing the unsheltered homeless Housing Survey were living in a place not meant for habitation.
- Of these, 322 individuals stated that they were unaccompanied (i.e. living alone).
- Of these, 213 reported that they were either continuously homeless for the past 12 months or homeless on 4 or more occasions in the past three years.
- Of these, 155 reported having a disabling condition.

Table 76: Chronic Sheltered Homeless Count			
	Yes	No	Total
Sheltered Homeless in TBIN database	1712	338	2050
Reported as having a disability	599	1113	1712
Reported as homeless for 12 months or more	124	475	599
Total Chronic Sheltered Homeless Population			124

- 1712 of the 2050 individuals were residing in homeless shelters participating in the TBIN
- Of these, 599 reported having a disabling condition.
- Of these, 124 reported being homeless for 12 months or more.

Table 77: Total Chronic Homeless Count	
	N
Chronic Unsheltered Homeless Count	155
Chronic Sheltered Homeless Count	124
Total	279

- The total chronic homeless count from the unsheltered and sheltered data was 279.
- Data were insufficient to determine whether those in the overnight, jail, unsheltered family, or non-TBIN shelter data were chronically homeless.

Literally Homeless Count

The final count of homeless individuals consists of those who are considered to be literally homeless across sources.

At the time the 2011 census was conducted, individuals who met one of the following conditions were considered to be literally homeless:

- Places not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings (car, park, abandoned building, bus/train station, airport, camping ground)
- A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living arrangements (includes hotel/motels paid for by Federal, State, or local governments or charitable organizations, congregate shelters, and Transitional housing for homeless persons)
- Fleeing a Domestic Violence Situation
- Hospital or other institution, if the person was sleeping in an emergency shelter or other place not meant for habitation (cars, park, street, etc.) immediately prior to entry into the hospital or institution

According to this definition, the total count of literally homeless individuals in Pinellas County is 3661.

Literally Homeless Count	
Source	N
Unsheltered	444
Sheltered	2030
School	245
Overnight	464
Jail	330
Unsheltered Families	148
Total	3661

- 444 unsheltered individuals reported living in places not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings.
- All individuals in the sheltered count are literally homeless by this definition, except for 20 in permanent supportive housing.
- 245 children in the school count reported living in places not meant for habitation
- All individuals in the overnight, jail, and unsheltered families counts are assumed to be literally homeless.

Age Distribution

Results presented below include a summary of homeless individuals by age across sources.

Table 79: Total Homeless Count by Age					
	under 18	18-60	60+	Missing	Total
Unsheltered	0	640	66	14	720
Unsheltered Children under 18yo	65				65
School Count	2026	70	0	14	2110
Sheltered TBIN	164	1370	120	58	1712
Sheltered non-TBIN	37			301	338
Law Enforcement Count				464	464
Jail Count				330	330
Friends of Families Count	87			61	148
Total	2379	2080	186	1242	5887

- None of the unsheltered population surveyed were under the age of 18.
- Incomplete data made it difficult to provide an exact count of individuals by age.

Conclusions/Recommendations

Methodology

Upon conclusion of the study, the research team was able to determine that there were a number of areas where the methods of the homeless point-in-time count had improved when compared to counts implemented in previous years.

The survey itself, for example, is now grounded in HUD accepted best practices and at this time it appears the only changes made will be those mandated by HUD in upcoming years. This stability will allow for consistent reporting and the establishment of performance benchmarks. Like most research, however, there were a number of areas which require continued work is required to maximize the accuracy of the census.

Volunteer Outreach

Volunteer outreach, training, and deployment are all areas where the research team recommends strengthening. In regard to volunteer outreach, feedback indicated that many citizens and agency staff who would have liked to have had the opportunity to participate did not hear about volunteering for the point-in-time through the traditional channels of the Pinellas Coalition for the Homeless website, flyers, or personal referrals. Some volunteers shared that they had recruited other surveyors via their own postings on social media (i.e., Facebook and Twitter).

Volunteer Deployment

The success of the street count portion of the point-in-time count hinges on recruiting a sufficient number of volunteer surveyors to adequately cover Pinellas County, which is large and densely populated. In addition to a sufficient number of volunteers, it is also critical to know when during the count they can be deployed and what locations have the greatest number of literally homeless that need to be counted. While the web-based volunteer sign-up provided information on the number of volunteers and what types of locations they would be willing to survey, it is suggested that volunteer registration include the time of day the participant is willing to conduct surveys.

In addition to a sufficient number of volunteers, it is critical to have intelligence on the locations where homeless gather. While much of this information is gleaned from the outreach teams, consideration may want to be given to recruiting those who recently experienced a homeless episode or those who are currently homeless to be better able to determine locations where homeless congregate, similar to “snowball” sampling. This method has potential for locating not only homeless adults, but also homeless families and unaccompanied children. Other communities have recruited homeless individuals to serve as “guides” for survey teams. While these approaches may contribute a great deal to building a solid methodological foundation for the volunteer street count, counting the homeless who are not on the street or in cars remains a challenge.

“Doubled-up” Homeless Individuals

However, it is recommended that procedures for more effectively assessing “doubled-up” individuals and families be developed. It is commonly thought that many people who ordinarily would have their own place to stay are residing with friends and family members in lieu of shelters or the streets. Another local community’s approach was to advertise a call-in number for those who wanted to report that they were currently residing with others in a “doubled-up” situation.

Training

The training experience was another fact of the point-in-time methodology where a number of lessons were learned which can inform future studies. Specifically in regard to the train-the-trainer approach and more focus on specific questions from the survey which appeared to offer some difficulty for volunteer surveyors. The purpose of the train-the-trainer was to increase the pool of individuals able to provide volunteer training for the point-in-time survey while maintaining reliability. However, feedback from surveyors indicated that consistency among the trainings may not have been maintained. It is recommended that if this approach is going to be continued that the train-the-trainer method be improved.

Assuring Data Accuracy

Regional site coordination is also an area that has some recommendations for improvement. The work of the site coordinators included equipping the volunteers with supplies, deploying teams to locations, and reviewing returned surveys for completeness. It is this last aspect that was found to be the primary area needing improvement due to the fact that many surveys were returned with extensive amounts of missing information. It is recommended that the number of sites or staffing for existing sites be reviewed to prevent this outcome.

Overall, while there are a number of points in the methodology where recommendations for improvements were made, it appears that each suggestion is implementable considering the resources available to the point-in-time survey partners who work each year to accurately count the number of vulnerable homeless and at-risk members of the community.

Results

This report is intended as much as a reference as it is a summary of findings. The conclusions below are those that were particularly salient. However, data and descriptions in this report that are not referenced in these conclusions may be useful when considering a specific issue or intervention.

Unsheltered Homeless

The total Pinellas County homeless count for 2011 was 5887. Of these, 720 were unsheltered homeless individuals. An addendum to the survey identified an additional 65 homeless children under the age of 18. A wealth of data from the Housing Survey provided valuable information concerning this population. Results suggest that being male and having previously been in foster care are risk factors for homelessness. The homeless population also includes a sizable portion of U.S. armed services veterans.

Results suggest that individuals do not exit foster care and move directly into a homeless situation. However, a longer-term risk remains. Efforts to ameliorate this longer term risk via prevention can be helpful.

Results suggest that veterans who receive medical services are very pleased with these services. However, many of the unsheltered homeless veterans report not receiving these services. Further efforts to match veterans with medical benefits will likely be very helpful.

The primary means of receiving medical care for this population is the emergency room. Overall, those who receive care are satisfied with it. Those who are unsatisfied are those who do not receive any care. These results suggest that from a satisfaction standpoint, matching the homeless with medical services is important regardless of location. However, economically the emergency room may not be the most efficient means of service provision.

While the primary reason cited for homelessness is lack of a job or money, unsheltered homeless individuals report experiencing a range of physical and mental health conditions that may impede their ability to obtain employment. Physical and mental health treatment may be a necessary initial step toward obtaining employment for those surveyed. Matching these individuals with necessary physical and mental health treatment remains a priority.

209 individuals reported being homeless when they came to Pinellas County. Efforts to match homeless individuals with necessary services upon arrival can be a key toward avoiding difficulties associated with long-term unsheltered homelessness.

The Housing Survey was administered by volunteers at hundreds of locations across a very large county. Their efforts were impressive. There were difficulties from a methodological standpoint that are understandable given the challenge of this endeavor. Any efforts to correct these for future administrations will be helpful. Chief among these is the need to ask the necessary follow-up questions for those who report residing in jail or with a friend etc. to determine their actual housing status. Many of those surveyed were classified as 'don't know' because we did not ask the follow-up questions.

There were also methodological difficulties noted with regard to agreement between items (e.g. living alone but then stating they lived with a family member; having a job but reporting \$0 income, etc.). Improved training and regional site coordination as discussed above may improve data accuracy.

School Count

The school count consisted of 2110 students, 1700 of which (80.6%) were reported to be sharing the housing of other persons. While the gender distribution was even and excessive rates of primary exceptionality were not present, homeless students were much more likely to Black, non-Hispanic and to receive free lunch relative to the district as a whole. A subset of 318 students (15.1%) had arrived from another school out of district and 26 students (1.2%) had arrived from another country.

The chief issue with regard to the school count is methodology. The methodology for the school count differs from the sheltered and unsheltered counts. Students are not counted at one point in time (e.g. January 23, 2011). This can lead to an overestimate of the number of homeless children at any given time. As a result, the highest number of “homeless” individuals in the count comes from the school data. Efforts to sample the student population at one Point In Time that assesses housing status on the same metric used in the sheltered and unsheltered counts would provide a clearer estimate of homelessness in the school population.

Sheltered Homeless

The sheltered count consists of 1,712 individuals from 58 TBIN participating shelters and 338 individuals from 20 non-participating shelters. The gender and racial makeup of sheltered homeless individuals was consistent with that of unsheltered homeless individuals, which provided an assessment of data reliability.

Individuals in shelters were more likely to be veterans and also more likely to be earning higher incomes. They also appeared more likely to be receiving financial benefits. Differences in income levels between the sheltered and unsheltered homeless appeared to suggest the benefits of being connected to necessary supports.

Both sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals report experiencing challenges associated with disability and financial concerns. Homeless individuals need a point of contact where their needs can be identified and necessary services provided. It appears that those in shelters may have been more able to access those supports, whether via the shelters or elsewhere. These differences suggest that establishing a point of contact to identify needs and provide necessary services is an essential step toward preventing difficulties associated with long-term homelessness.

Overnight, Jail, and Unsheltered Family Counts

Overnight, jail, and unsheltered family counts each provide a useful additional means of accessing the homeless population of Pinellas County. The chief concern with these data is replication, particularly with regard to the overnight count. Establishing a means whereby these counts can be cross-checked for duplication with the sheltered count and particularly the unsheltered count may be useful.

Literally Homeless and Chronically Homeless

The count of literally homeless individuals in Pinellas County for this year was 3,661. The difference between this count and the total count of 5,887 is largely attributable to the majority of children in the school count reporting sharing the housing of others.

The count of chronic homeless individuals in Pinellas County for this year was 279. This was only a fraction of the total count of 5887. This discrepancy highlights the strengths and weaknesses evident in the data contained in this report.

While further work is necessary, data suggest that the homeless population has accessed medical, financial, and housing supports to help them in their time of need. These are necessary to prevent chronic homelessness. The lower percentage of chronic homeless individuals is partly attributable to the supports available to prevent this outcome.

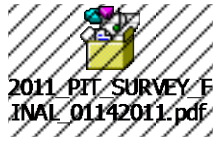
However, the assessment of chronic homeless individuals is also attributable to methodological difficulties. Data did not allow us to assess chronic homelessness among the school, overnight, jail, unsheltered family, and non-TBIN participating shelter counts. These combine to deflate the estimate of chronic homelessness relative to the overall count. In addition, missing data, refusals and lack of identical questions posed to unsheltered and sheltered homeless individuals also deflate the chronic homeless estimate and add a degree of unreliability to these data.

Overall, results derived from this year's efforts can lead to improved methodology, survey administration, and provision of services to advance the efforts of all those working tirelessly to provide assistance to those experiencing homelessness in Pinellas County.

The Homeless Research Team would like to extend a special thank you to the community partners whose assistance made the 2011 Point-in-Time count successful:

Pinellas County Schools
Pinellas County Planning Department
211 Tampa Bay Cares
JWB Children's Services Council of Pinellas

ATTACHMENT 1



2011 PIT SURVEY F
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