Orange County
Homeless Count & Survey Report

July 2013

Prepared for

OC Partnership

by

Focus Strategies

Sacramento, California

Megan Kurteff Schatz, MSW, MPP
Emily Halcon, MS
Tracy Bennett, Ph.D.

Acknowledgements

Focus Strategies wishes to acknowledge the work of the following people and organizations:

Orange County Board of Supervisors In addition to approving funding for the count of the homeless each deployment center was sited in one of the five Board Districts and each office sent volunteers, from staff to Supervisors themselves, to assist in the count.

Orange County Commission to End Homelessness provided leadership to and feedback on the design of the count, participated on the ground during the count, and provided input on the report. In particular, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Point-in-Time Count led by Scott Larson was committed to accuracy and thoughtful leadership from the early planning through the field work.

Orange County Community Services Department and especially Karen Roper, OCCS Director and Interim Executive Director of the Commission to End Homelessness, Julia Bidwell, Deputy Director, and Kelly Lupro, Homeless Prevention Manager who were instrumental in leading the count efforts; their commitment to ending homelessness in Orange County is evident. Robin Keeble and her team from OC Health Care Agency Outreach provided countless hours in the field, identifying hot spots during the mapping process, reaching out to homeless people before the count and troubleshooting on the morning of the count.

The "*PIT Crew*" members, a passionate group of currently and formerly homeless individuals in Orange County, shared their experiences with homelessness and organized to make the reality of homelessness clear throughout the County. Their work ethic and "can do" attitude served as an inspiration to all of us working on the Count. Focus Strategies would like to extend a special acknowledgement to m-clarity, LLC: Donna Mace for her focus on inclusion of the at-risk and currently homeless as part of the entire process and Eric Kim for his work on mapping.

OC Partnership, Orange County's coordinating organization for reducing and ending homelessness, led the 2013 Homeless Count in collaboration with community partners. OC Partnership oversaw the work of the two contract partners (Focus Strategies and m-clarity, LLC), recruited interviewers, coordinated site work and produced the sheltered count data. Focus Strategies would especially like to thank Karen Williams, Amber Killinger, and Erin DeRycke for their tireless dedication, flexibility and thoughtfulness throughout the project.

Dozens of homeless housing and service providers lent their time, talent, and resources to make both the sheltered and unsheltered counts possible. This community of providers ensures that there is hope, every day, for homeless people seeking housing and supports.

And lastly, our heartfelt thanks to the many hundreds of volunteers who gave their time to ensure that every person in Orange County counts.

Focus Strategies *assists communities and organizations to reduce and end homelessness through systems of care analysis, planning, and policy and data analysis. Research and analysis areas of expertise include systems development initiatives, systems and program evaluation, performance measurement, resource investment for maximum impact, HMIS technical assistance, and homeless counts. For questions about this report, contact Megan Kurteff Schatz, Principal, at megan@focusstrategies.net or 916-949-9619.*

Table of Contents

1. Executive Summary....4
2. Introduction to the Point-in-Time Count....9
3. Methodology and Background Information....10
4. Key Changes from Previous Counts....13
Methodological Changes....13
Changes in HUD Requirements....15
Data Quality Improvements: Explaining the Sheltered Count Decrease....16
5. Context....19
Comparison to Regional and National Data....19
Homeless Count from the Department of Education....21
6. Community Engagement and Participation....23
Volunteer Recruitment and Training....23
Consumer Involvement....24
The Morning of the Count: Logistics....25
7. Key Findings....27
Comparison of Persons by Household Type and Living Situation....29
Chronic Homelessness....32
Other Homeless Subpopulations....34
8. Demographics of Unsheltered Adults....38
9. Conclusion....42

Appendices

Appendix A: Acknowledgements....44
Appendix B: Ad Hoc Committee....45
Appendix C: Commission to End Homelessness (C2EH) Board....46
Appendix D: Service Providers....47
Appendix E: Glossary/List of Acronyms....49

Technical Appendices

Appendix F: Crosswalk between Survey Questionnaire & Results....57
Appendix G: Discussion of Household Composition....58
Appendix H: Mapping, Sampling and Data Processing Summary....60
Mapping Process & Creation of Random Sample....60
Applying Assumed Family Sizes to Tents and Vehicles....65
Establishing the "Raw" Number of Persons Counted....65
Weighting the "Raw" Count to Account for All Known Areas....66
Cleaning Survey Data....70
Applying Survey Data to Count to Determine Subpopulation Characteristics....71
Appendix I: Statistical Process 2013 Final Chart....75
Appendix J: Estimated Number of Homeless People Annually Based on Point-in-Time Count....76
Appendix K: Count Data Collection Tool and Instructions....80
Appendix L: Survey Data Collection Tool....82

List of Tables and Figures

Table 1: Homeless Population Change from 2009 to 2013....5
Figure 1: 2013 Homeless Population by Current Living Situation....5
Table 2: Homeless Population by Household Type....6
Figure 2: Sheltered Adults and Children....7
Table 3: California County Homeless Counts: 2011 to 2013....19
Figure 3: Changes in Homeless Rates in California Counties, 2011-2013....20
Table 4: Comparison of Orange County Homelessness to Homelessness Nationally....21
Table 5: Part 1 of HUDs Final Table 2013....28
Table 6: Part 2 of HUDs Final Table 2013....29
Table 7: Homeless People in Emergency Shelters by Household Type....30
Table 7a: Persons in Households with Children by Family Type....30
Table 8: Homeless People in Transitional Housing by Household Type....30
Table 9: Unsheltered Homeless People by Household Type....31
Table 10: Homeless Households by Living Situation....32
Table 11: Chronically Homeless Individuals by Current Living Situation....33

Table 12: Percent Change of *Chronically* Homeless Individuals by Current Living Situation 33
Table 13: Proportion of Chronically Homeless Families by Current Living Situation 34
Table 14: Veterans by Current Living Situation 35
Table 15: Female Veterans by Current Living Situation 35
Table 16: Severely Mentally Ill by Current Living Situation 36
Table 17: Chronic Substance Abuse by Current Living Situation 36
Table 18: Persons with HIV/AIDS by Current Living Situation 37
Table 19: Age Statistics of Unsheltered Adults 38
Table 20: Age Categories 39
Table 21: Gender 40
Table 22: Race (HUD categories) 40
Table 23: Ethnicity (HUD categories) 41
Figure 4: Observed and Reported Household Size & Type 59
Table 24: Deployment Center Compared to Total Maps 63
Table 25: Deployment of Volunteers by Area 64
Table 26: Coverage Rate by Deployment Center 67
Table 27: Process of Reaching Final Survey Dataset 71
Table 28: Number of Surveys Used for HUD Sub-populations 72
Table 29: Process of Chronically Homeless Families Results 74
Table 30: Annualization Figures 77
Table 31: Average Length of Stay 78

1. Executive Summary

On any given night in Orange County, almost 4,300 people are homeless. More than 12,700 people are homeless over the course of a year. Homeless people in Orange County are diverse: they are young and old, men and women, chronic and newly homeless, alone or in families. Despite their differences, each homeless person is in need of safe and permanent housing. The County of Orange recognizes that fully engaging in efforts to end homelessness requires a deeply involved community and accurate information. The 2013 Point-in-Time Count is a result of the commitment of County officials, service providers, volunteers, OC Partnership staff and leadership, and homeless people themselves.

By counting and interviewing homeless people throughout the County, the Point-in-Time Count provides the only population data available for the entire County on people who are literally homeless (i.e. living on the streets, in vehicles or shelters). In 2013, Orange County made a concerted effort to ensure that the population and characteristic data were congruent; doing this necessitated a change in methodology from previous counts and established the 2013 results as a new baseline. The 2013 count shows that homeless people comprise 0.14% of the total population of Orange County, continuing the downward trend from 2009 to 2011 (0.28% to 0.23%).[1] Given the size, density and income distribution in the County, this estimate is congruent with national figures and provides a reference point with which to compare 2013 data.

While the 2013 count figures represent a new baseline for Orange County, comparisons to past data are important to continue meaningful community conversations on homelessness. **Table 1** on the next page shows the changes in the homeless population in Orange County since 2009.

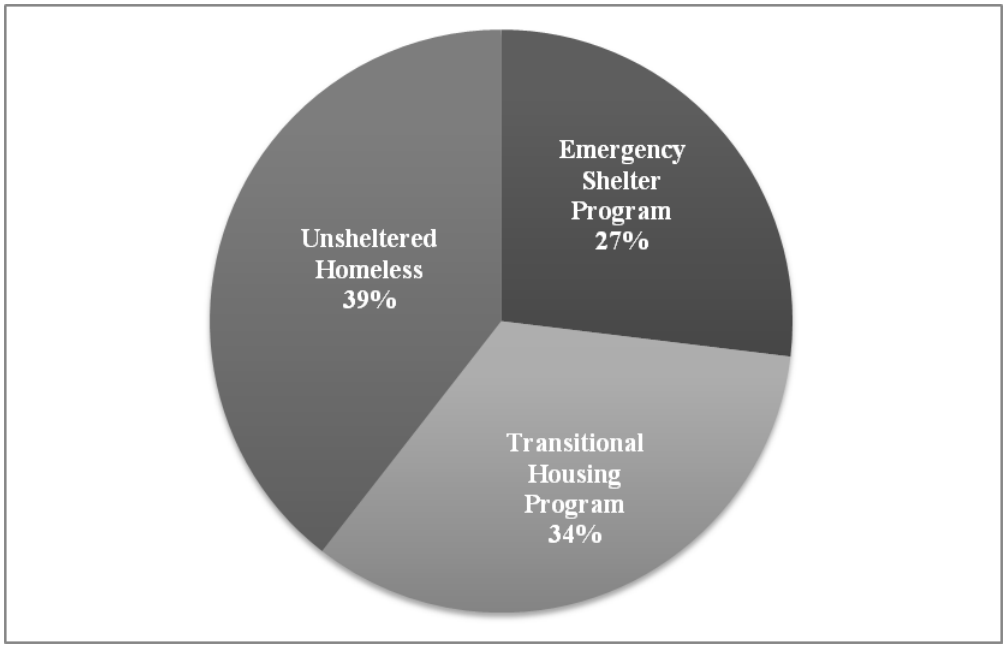
[1] California Department of Transportation. (2011). *Orange County Economic Forecast.* Retrieved June 4, 2013 from http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/eab/socio_economic_files/2011/Orange.pdf.

Table 1: Homeless Population Change from 2009 to 2013

	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total		Annualized Count
	#	%	#	%	#	% of County Population	
2009	*2,609*	*31%*	*5,724*	*69%*	*8,333*	*0.28%*	*21,479*
2011	*2,667*	*38%*	*4,272*	*62%*	*6,939*	*0.23%*	*18,325*
2013	**2,573**	**61%**	**1,678**	**39%**	**4,251**	**0.14%**	**12,707**

Of the 4,251 homeless persons counted in Orange County, approximately 40% are unsheltered and 60% are sheltered, mirroring national averages.[2] In previous years, this proportion was reversed, with over 60% of homeless people living unsheltered.

Figure 1: 2013 Homeless Population by Current Living Situation



As is the case across the country, the majority of homeless people live in adult only households. Those that do live with a minor child are almost exclusively living in a

[2] U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development. (2012). *Volume 1 of the 2012 Annual Homeless Assessment Report.* Retrieved June 4, 2013 from http://www.abtassociates.com/CMSPages/GetFile.aspx?guid=77fdb6fa-6e6b-4524-8b5a-8e68c68caca9.

sheltered situation – based on the HUD definition, there are virtually no unsheltered children in Orange County on any given day.

Table 2: Homeless Population by Household Type

	Persons in HHs without Children	Persons in HHs with Children	All Homeless Persons
TOTAL HOMELESS PERSONS	**2,698**	**1,553**	**4,251**
As % of all Homeless Persons	**63%**	**37%**	**100%**

By Living Situation	#	%	#	%	#	%
Emergency Shelter	618	22.9%	527	33.9%	1,145	26.9%
Transitional Housing	406	15.1%	1,022	65.8%	1,428	33.6%
Unsheltered	1,674	62.0%	4	0.3%	1,678	39.5%

Of the 1,553 people in households with children, approximately 58% are children and 42% are adults, including 14 unaccompanied minors. The vast majority of homeless families (those including at least one adult and one child) are sheltered in either emergency shelters or transitional housing programs.

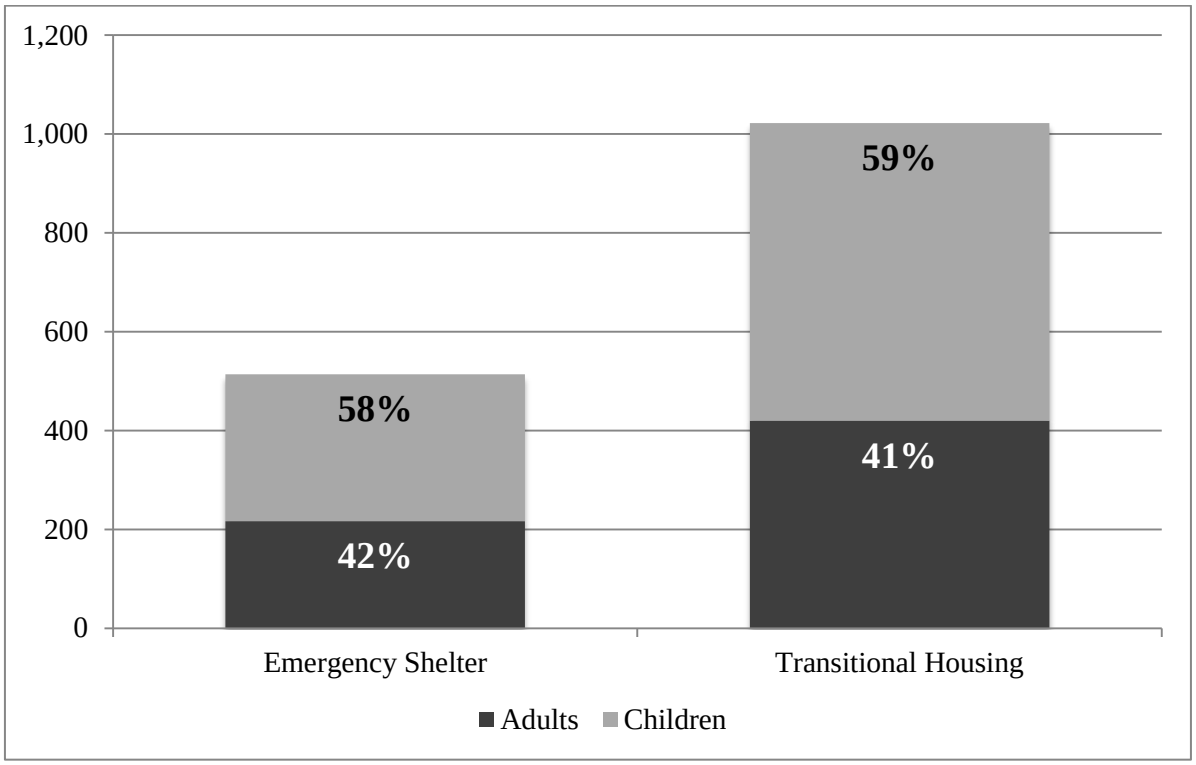
HUD's Definition of Homelessness for purposes of the PIT is:

(i) An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place ***not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings****, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground; or*

(ii) An individual or family living in a supervised ***publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements*** *(including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low income individuals)*

(Federal Register, Volume 76, Number 233; December 5, 2011)

Figure 2: Sheltered Adults and Children



In addition to providing an accurate count of the numbers of people experiencing homelessness at a given point in time, the count provides a deeper look into who is living homeless in Orange County. The results include findings that:

- 40% of homeless people in Orange County are unsheltered;
- 37% of homeless people live in a household that includes a minor child, although the vast majority of homeless children are sheltered;
- 19% of homeless individuals are chronically homeless;[3]
- 11% of homeless individuals are living with severe mental illness.

[3] A Chronically Homeless Individual is an unaccompanied homeless individual (living in an emergency shelter or in an unsheltered location) with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.

These figures, along with others presented in this report, are intended to help Orange County better respond to the needs of people experiencing homelessness and to inform policies impacting homeless people in the County. Several federal initiatives and requirements are calling for communities to shift from a system of homeless shelter and services to a housing crisis resolution system that results in homeless people securing stable housing as quickly as possible. These systems will include measuring performance, funding what works, and delivering the needed amount of each intervention and program type. Homeless count data about population and characteristics are key pieces of the information needed to develop and right-size a system of response.

2. Introduction to the Point-in-Time Count

Once every two years, Orange County undertakes an effort to enumerate all of the sheltered and unsheltered homeless people within the county in a given twenty-four hour period.[4] This effort, known as the Homeless Point-in-Time Count, is congressionally-mandated for all communities that receive U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding for homeless programs. HUD's requirement includes a count of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless people, as well as the incidence of certain subpopulation characteristics among the homeless population. HUD requires that the Count be conducted during the last ten days in January. This year, the Orange County Count was held on the morning of January 26, 2013.

The sheltered portion of the count is extracted from data in the County's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), operated by OC Partnership, and includes all persons who occupied a shelter or transitional housing bed on the night of the count.[5] The unsheltered portion of the count is based on a one-morning count and survey, described on the next page (Section 3, Methodology and Background Information).

In addition to this report, Focus Strategies has published a 2013 Homeless Count Key Findings & Policy Implications report highlighting the major findings of the 2013 Count and putting them in the context of local efforts in Orange County to reduce homelessness. This more detailed companion report describes the methodology used to develop the estimates of the unsheltered population and complete the necessary tables for submission to HUD, provides explanation of the analytical and statistical processes used to establish the final totals, and presents the full results.

[4] Orange County completes a sheltered count annually as part of the Housing Inventory Count process.
[5] Note that the Point-in-Time Count does not include persons in Permanent Supportive Housing beds or those beds not specifically designated for homeless persons.

3. Methodology and Background Information

The 2013 Orange County Point-in-Time (PIT) count uses a public places count with sampling methodology, which is one of only two methodologies appropriate for a jurisdiction of the size and urbanization of Orange County.[6] The public places with sampling methodology counts visibly homeless people in public places and then applies a statistical formula to account for the geography not visited on the morning of the count. This count integrated an interview with counted people to extrapolate characteristics of the unsheltered population.

Concurrent with the count, surveys were administered to counted persons (adults only) who were awake, willing, and able to participate. The survey collected additional information on where the respondent was living, demographics for the respondent and his/her family, disabilities, and the length of time that the person has been homeless.

Generally, homeless count methodologies undercount homeless people, because it is not possible to locate and count everyone (for example, people may be inside abandoned buildings, commercial buildings, or terrain too rough to cover completely on foot). Some homeless people may live and function entirely outside the knowledge of law enforcement, meal programs, or homeless services and are not likely to be counted using any methodology. An advantage to the geographic sampling methodology is that there is some information available about the extent of likely undercount. In 2006, designed study was conducted to test the accuracy of the geographic sampling methodology; they found that this approach successfully counted 85% of the total unsheltered homeless population

[6] HUD allows two methodologies for completing a Point-in-Time Count: the Public Places methodology and the Site Based Methodology. Both methodologies have strengths and weaknesses, and implementations of each can vary based on the community's approach. Details on the two methodologies and options within them can be found in HUD's Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People, https://www.onecpd.info/resources/documents/counting_unsheltered.pdf.

during the Point-in-Time count.[7]

In the methodology used for the 2013 Orange County PIT, detailed information on known sleeping locations for homeless people was collected from local stakeholders and map boundaries were drawn to capture these spots and the areas immediately surrounding them. Each area was then designated as a "hot" area or "warm" area based on the density of homeless people expected to be found. "Hot" areas were those areas likely to have at least 15 homeless people at the time of the count and compact enough to be fully covered by a team during the count timeframe. The remainder of the areas was designated "warm". Because Orange County is so large, the maps were divided among five deployment centers spread throughout the County. Each deployment center had approximately the same proportion of "hot" and "warm" areas.

On the morning of the count, trained volunteers were sent to all of the "hot" areas and to a representative sample of "warm" areas in each deployment center. In addition to the mapped locations, an additional effort was made in Orange County to count and survey homeless people along the riverbanks. A special team comprised of a homeless service provider and homeless guide biked approximately forty miles of the Santa Ana River Trail, counting and surveying homeless people camping along the riverbanks. This team took special care to not cross into any of the mapped locations.

After the count, a statistical formula was applied to the count of the "warm" sample areas to account for areas not covered. The warm totals were added to the count of the "hot spots" (including the count from the bike team). The sum is the countywide unsheltered or "street" count.

[7] *HOPE 2008: The NYC Street Survey.* (n.d.). Retrieved June 4, 2013 from http://www.nyc.gov/html/dhs/downloads/pdf/hope08_results.pdf.

Using the data from the street count, the total derived number of unsheltered individuals for 2013 is 1,678. During the count, a total of 1,369 persons and sleeping locations (e.g. tents or vehicles) were observed by volunteers. An adjustment was made to account for the expected occupancy of observed tents and vehicles, since volunteers did not tally observed numbers of people inside cars or tents.[8] An additional 309 people were added as a result of a valid statistical technique that was applied to the observed tally to generate an estimate of the total unsheltered population. This technique included an extrapolation process that added homeless people to take into account the lower density areas of the County that could not be covered.

Once the count data was finalized, the data collected in the survey was used to derive descriptive information about the unsheltered homeless population. Because subpopulation data on sheltered homeless people is collected separately in the sheltered portion of the count, only unsheltered respondent surveys collected during the fieldwork are used in analysis. The data was reviewed and used to establish the proportions of the unsheltered homeless population that meets the various subpopulation characteristics required by HUD. These proportions were then projected across the whole counted population, to compute the count of unsheltered homeless persons in each subpopulation. Detailed information about how the data was parsed and analyzed is presented in Technical Appendix H.

[8] Technical Appendix H details the assumptions used to adjust for tents and vehicles and shows the detail behind the data processing described here.

4. Key Changes from Previous Counts

Methodological differences, shifts in HUD requirements, and data quality improvements in Orange County's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) impacted both the accuracy and meaning of the 2013 count compared with previous counts. It is not possible to know how much of the change in results (from prior counts to the 2013 count) are due to the methodological and process changes and how much, if any, is due to a change in the population of homeless people. Details on each of these factors are provided below along with the conceptually known and understood impacts of these factors on the 2013 count results. If future counts use the 2013 methodology, the 2013 results are a baseline from which to compare future results.

Methodological Changes

While the 2013 count is, per HUD's categorization, the same type of methodology used in Orange County for the past several years, the 2013 count introduced some changes. The changes were prompted by leaders in Orange County and the Commission to End Homelessness in order to identify an appropriate methodology. Two primary shifts in the methodology from 2011 were made to address these issues:

1) the use of strategically drawn, unique map areas in lieu of census tracts; and
2) implementation of the survey at the same time as the count.

In previous years, Orange County census tracts were used as the basis for determining where volunteer teams would canvass and count homeless people. This strategy is consistent with the origins of this methodology, but may not be well suited to a jurisdiction as large and diverse as Orange County. Unlike this year's count, the previous methodology included three strata of areas: hot, warm and cool, and volunteer teams were deployed to all hot census tracts and proportions of both the warm and cool tracts. Persons counted in warm and cool areas were weighted to represent homeless persons in other like tracts that

were not canvassed. Because the vast majority (85%) of the County was considered "cool" (where homeless people are not likely to be found), any person counted in one of these areas was weighted up and applied to all the cool areas in the County. However, many of the areas identified as "cool" actually turned out to be much warmer than projected. In 2011, the count in some of the cool areas was more than double the count in the largest warm area. Overall 35% of people counted were counted in "cool" areas.

In 2013, the decision was made to target the majority of staff and volunteer resources to obtaining an accurate count in the hot and warm areas, which meant relying more heavily on stakeholder input about where homeless people are sleeping. This strategy means trusting stakeholder feedback that there were no homeless people staying in what would previously have been identified as cool regions. Map boundaries were drawn around "hot spots" rather than matching the boundaries of census tracts. This method makes homeless people the locus of the counted areas, including areas where homeless people congregate as central points on maps, allowing for more seamless fieldwork. This methodology, coupled with Orange County's significant increase of volunteer resources allowed for teams to be deployed to almost all of the known locations, both warm and hot.

In 2013, no teams were deployed to "cool" areas. A weakness of this strategy is that if, in fact, homeless people are staying in cool areas, then the count will inherently miss these people. The strength of this approach is the volunteers and staff for the project focused on counting and interviewing the greatest possible number of homeless people. Integrating the count and survey is labor intensive – volunteers need to stop and talk to people – and therefore the process takes time. The benefit of this approach is that the relationships between the people counted and whether they are homeless is known; also, the interviews provide data on characteristics of the homeless population that are directly linked to the people counted. While the results are valid and reliable for a homeless count, this strategy does introduce the possibility of missing people in cool areas and not having a way to statistically adjust for that reality.

The large count of homeless persons in cool areas in 2011 may have been impacted by the designation of "hot spots" and incomplete or inaccurate stakeholder input. However, it is also possible that many people counted in the cool areas in 2011 were not homeless. The people counted were weighted up to all other cool areas of the County, potentially inflating the proportion of non-homeless people included in the County-wide homeless count.

In previous counts, the survey was conducted at a later date, using homeless volunteers and outreach workers as surveyors. While surveyors were trained and encouraged to randomly select respondents, it is likely that the same people encountered during the count were not approached for survey. Since it is not known how reflective of the counted population the survey population was, it is unclear whether subpopulation data under- or over-represented certain characteristics. The separation of the survey and the count means that there cannot be confidence about whether applying the characteristics of the people surveyed to those counted is reasonably accurate. In 2013, these two processes were combined, ensuring that the persons surveyed were representative of the known unsheltered homeless population.

Changes in HUD Requirements

In 2013, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) introduced new requirements that the Point-in-Time counts report on the number of persons in each household type by age category. In previous years, only total people by household type (not age categories) were required. This new requirement necessitated the collection of more detailed information on all the people in the respondent's household, including their age and relation to the respondent.[9] This shift created a change in the methodology of collecting and recording household composition. Homeless counts in the past asked about

[9] See Question 2 of the Orange County Homeless Survey, found in Technical Appendix L for details about the questions asked.

family size, and how respondents answered those questions was used to both enumerate and define families.

In this year's count, because of the HUD change, respondents were asked a number of questions about who is in their family, how old those people are, and whether they live with the respondent part of or all of the time. Answers to these very different questions are now defining how families are understood. A discussion about the results of these changes and implications for future work are included in Technical Appendix G.

Data Quality Improvements: Explaining the Sheltered Count Decrease

As in past years, the sheltered count for Orange County is primarily derived from information input by service providers in the County's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). OC Partnership staff completes the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) that tabulates all of the available beds in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs on the night of the count and the occupancy of those beds on that night. This count of occupancy is the basis for the sheltered count. Inaccuracies in the HIC can lead to a number of sheltered count issues; a common problem is persons in non-homeless programs being included in the count. Likewise, if HMIS data is not up to date and accurate, especially in regards to exit dates, persons who have already left the system may inadvertently be included in the PIT.

Since the 2011 report, significant data quality improvements to both the HIC and the data in the HMIS have been made by OC Partnership and the service providers, resulting in more accurate reporting of sheltered homeless persons in the count. While the HIC includes all beds and units for homeless persons, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing, *only people occupying emergency shelter beds or transitional housing beds on the night of the Count are included in the sheltered count, consistent with HUD requirements.* People in other beds and units not specifically designated for homeless people are not included in the sheltered count,

although they may be included in other community definitions and discussions of homelessness.

Between 2011 and 2013, forty-seven (47) year round emergency shelter beds and thirty-seven (37) seasonal emergency shelter beds were removed from the HIC. These programs were removed either because the program was not restricted to homeless persons or the program closed due to lost funding Similarly, between 2011 and 2013, 412 transitional housing beds were removed from the HIC. The reasons for loss of transitional beds were the same as noted above, plus there were some transitional programs that converted to permanent housing (which, as noted, are not included in the PIT report). At the same time, according to the 2011 and 2013 HICs, there was an increase in PSH beds from 1,315 in to 1,483 in 2013 (168 additional beds). The number of people housed in PSH increased from 1,068 in 2011 to 1,691 in 2013, an increase of 623 people housed.

Although there has been a reduction of almost 500 total beds in the HIC between 2009 and 2013, the majority of these remained in the shelter and housing system (except for a few where the program closed due to funding changes). The main changes are that while in 2011 the people in these beds/units were being counted as homeless when they were not in fact literally homeless (per HUD's definition); in 2013 the people occupying those beds were excluded from the count. The inclusion of some of these programs in 2011 may have contributed to an "over count" of sheltered homeless people. The corrections to the HIC allow for a more accurate count of the sheltered homeless population, counting only those people in beds reserved for those who are literally homeless.

In addition to correcting the universe of programs from which people are counted for the sheltered PIT, significant efforts were made by OC Partnership and the service providers to clean the underlying HMIS data related to these programs. Most noteworthy was the effort to improve the records of program exit dates. At the time of the data collection in 2011, many clients who had actually left a program had not been exited in HMIS.

Therefore, clients who were not actually occupying an emergency shelter or transitional housing bed were included in the sheltered count. Since that time, OC Partnership has worked closely with homeless service providers to ensure that when clients exit a program, their exit date is accurately recorded in HMIS. *Due to these efforts, the 2013 sheltered count is a more accurate count of the persons actually in shelter on the night of the count.*

5. Context

The 2013 Orange County Point-in-Time count is one piece in a larger effort to understand and plan for programs to assist homeless people in Orange County. In addition to understanding methodological changes since 2011 (discussed in Section 4), it is also important to consider the national, regional and local context for the data.

Comparison to Regional and National Data

Although methodological changes may underlie the decrease in homeless people counted in Orange County in 2013, there is also data suggesting the OCP results are consistent with trends found in other California communities. Marin County, Riverside County, Santa Barbara County, San Bernardino County, San Diego County and Ventura County all had decreases in their homeless counts from 2011 to 2013. The homeless counts of counties in California, their relative percent of the overall county population and countywide income and poverty information is shown in **Table 3** below.

Table 3: California County Homeless Counts: 2011 to 2013

	2011 Population	2011 PIT Count	% of People Homeless in 2011	2013 Population	2013 PIT Count	% of People Homeless in 2013		2007-2011 Median HH Income	% of Pop. Below Poverty
Orange *	***3,043,964***	***6,939***	***0.23%***	***3,096,336***	***4,251***	***0.14%***	↓	***$75,762***	***10.9%***
Alameda	1,525,655	4,178	0.27%	1,546,108	4,264	0.28%	↑	$70,821	11.8%
Contra Costa	1,061,132	4,274	0.40%	1,079,300	3,798	0.35%	↓	$79,135	9.9%
Marin	254,114	886	0.35%	256,656	703	0.27%	↓	$89,605	7.2%
Riverside	2,226,552	4,321	0.19%	2,307,191	2,978	0.13%	↓	$58,365	14.2%
Sacramento	1,430,537	2,358	0.16%	1,460,215	2,538	0.17%	↑	$56,553	14.9%
San Bernardino	2,059,630	2,816	0.14%	2,106,217	2,321	0.11%	↓	$55,853	16.0%
San Diego	3,131,254	9,020	0.29%	3,186,188	8,900	0.28%	↓	$63,857	13.0%
San Francisco **	814,088	6,455	0.79%	826,754	6,436	0.78%	↓	$72,947	12.3%
San Mateo	725,245	1,926	0.27%	732,324	1,995	0.27%	↑	$87,633	7.0%
Santa Barbara	425,840	1,576	0.37%	430,882	1,462	0.34%	↓	$61,896	14.2%
Stanislaus	518,481	1,409	0.27%	529,660	1,201	0.23%	↓	$50,671	18.0%
Ventura	830,215	1,872	0.23%	841,591	1,715	0.20%	↓	$76,728	9.9%

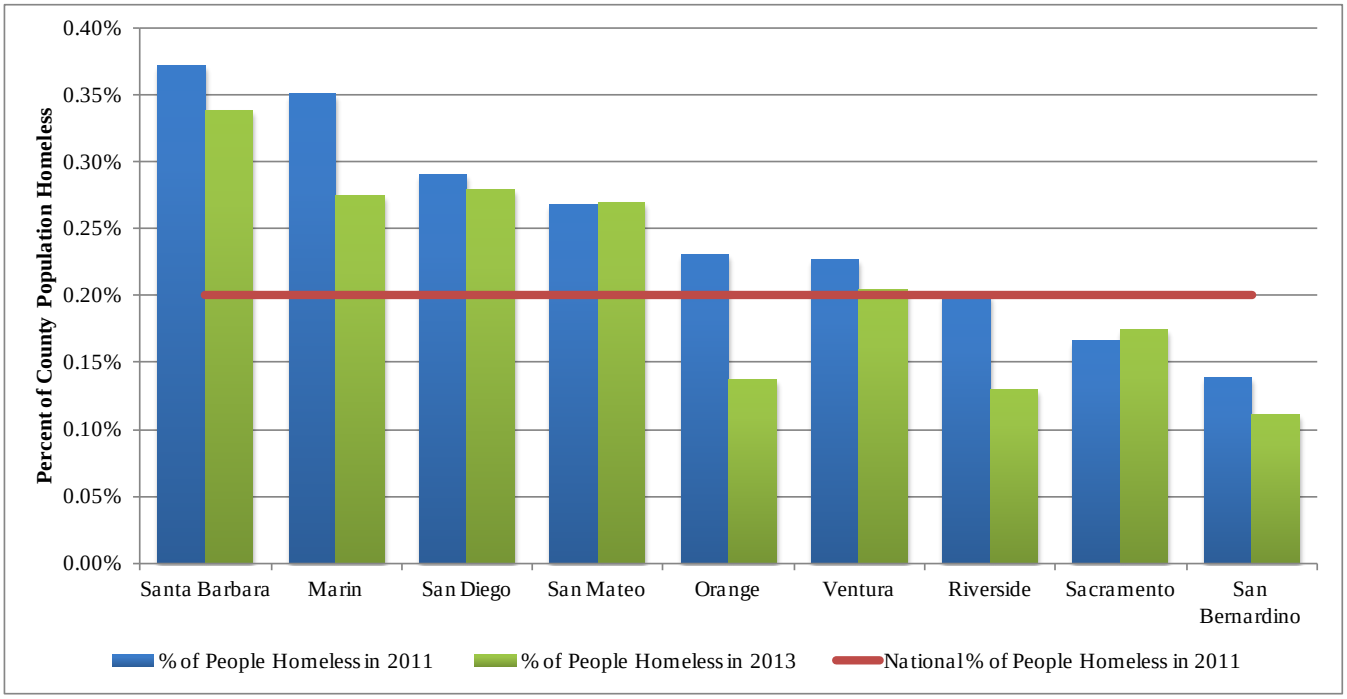
** In 2013, the Orange County count methodology changed significantly, so the change from the count in '11 to '13 is not meaningful, but it is useful to understand that findings in both 2011 and 2013 are plausible in a statewide context.*

*** Note that San Francisco's Count includes people in jails, hospitals, and rehabilitation centers.*

In general, communities with higher incomes had lower rates of homelessness in 2011 than communities with lower incomes, and this trend is holding for those communities reporting 2013 figures.

Figure 3 below shows that, like Orange County, most communities in California that reported 2013 point-in-time results have seen declines in their homeless population as a percentage of overall population since 2011.

Figure 3: Changes in Homeless Rates in California Counties, 2011-2013



In 2011, at any Point-in-Time, there were 636,017 homeless people in the United States, or 0.2% of the total population.[10] Throughout the country, the homelessness rate has varied widely from state to state and even among counties within states from as low as .08% to as high as .45% of the state population. The 2011 Orange County PIT homeless count estimated a count of homeless persons of approximately .23% of the total population while the 2013 count is .14% of the total population. Both counts fall within the national range.

Table 4: Comparison of Orange County Homelessness to Homelessness Nationally

	Percent of Population Homeless
United States, 2011	***.20%***
Orange County, 2011[11]	.23%
Orange County, 2013[12]	.14%

Homeless Count from the Department of Education

The estimates and comparisons to national and regional figures above consider only counts of homeless people as defined by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The HUD definition of homelessness for the purpose of homeless counts includes only people who are literally homeless – living unsheltered on the streets, in a vehicle or another place not fit for human habitation or in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program. Persons living in institutional settings, including jail, prison and hospitals are not considered homeless, regardless of where they were living upon entering and regardless of where they will go upon release. Also excluded from the HUD definition are persons precariously housed, such as those who are "couch surfing" or living in motels.

[10] National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2012 January). *The State of Homelessness in America 2012*. Retrieved June 4, 2013 from http://b.3cdn.net/naeh/9892745b6de8a5ef59_q2m6yc53b.pdf for the count of homeless persons in 2011 and the US Census, http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-01.pdf for the total population count in 2010.
[11] Derived from the PIT estimate from the 2011 PIT (6,939) divided by the total population per the 2010 Census (3,010,232 persons), http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06059.html.
[12] Derived from the PIT estimate from the 2013 PIT (4,251) divided by the total population per the 2012 census estimate (3,090,132), http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06059.html.

Another commonly cited count of homelessness comes from the Federal Department of Education (DOE), which requires local education agencies to develop estimates of the numbers of homeless school age children and their families. While 2013 numbers are not yet available, in 2012, the Orange County Department of Education reported a total of 28,625 school age homeless children in the community. Unlike the HUD definitions, Department of Education numbers include children who are precariously housed – including those doubled up due to economic hardship. Over 90% of the 2012 estimate was composed of precariously housed people, none of whom are included in the HUD count. While precariously housed children certainly are struggling with poverty and housing instability, they are not without housing. The actual numbers of children counted in the DOE estimates who are considered homeless per HUD's definition are 1,034 sheltered and 155 in vehicles, for a total of 1,189 children. The goal of HUD's homeless count is to quantify the number of households who are literally homeless. The DOE count aims to enumerate the children whose education is impacted by housing instability and homelessness.

The Orange County DOE 2012 count found 155 unsheltered children, which is substantially higher than the one homeless family counted in the 2013 street count. This difference is likely the result of several factors: (1) the DOE count reflects annualized rather than point in time data; and (2) national data as well as provider experience suggests that unsheltered homeless families with minor children are highly unlikely to live out in the open (e.g. on the street) and therefore more likely than single adults to be missed during the count.

Both the counts are valid approaches to understanding the needs of special populations; however, given the different goals, methods and purposes, the different data points are not comparable. The Orange County Point-in-Time homeless count purposefully limits its scope to those who are literally homeless in a single 24-hour period and for whom housing is a measurable and specific solution.

6. Community Engagement and Participation

The 2013 Orange County Point-in-Time Count (Count) was much more than an exercise in collecting and analyzing data to meet U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements. While ensuring that Orange County continues to receive federal support for homeless programs, the Count also created a unique opportunity for community engagement and education. OC Partnership recognized the impact that involvement in the Count could have on all residents – currently homeless, formerly homeless, and those who had never interacted with homeless people. Volunteers were actively recruited and offered multiple opportunities to engage in the process. The participation of the community and the impact of this participation are more thoroughly detailed below.

Volunteer Recruitment and Training

OC Partnership was the lead in identifying and recruiting volunteers for the Count. Recruitment resources included rosters of previous volunteers, people involved in providing homeless services as well as the general public. Recruitment flyers containing information on the date and time of the count and a mandatory training session along with a sign-up sheet were distributed to homeless service providers and other service organizations via email, to Orange County staff and posted on the OC Partnership website. Other recruitment efforts included presentations at faith based organizations; coverage prior to and after the Count by local radio station KSBR 88.5 FM; and coverage prior to and on the day of the Count by the OC Register. In total, 919 people signed up as volunteers through the website, including numerous homeless guides. More than 750 volunteers committed to and attended a 2+ hour training, which provided a great opportunity for educating the community on the issue of homelessness in Orange County.

A thorough public places count requires the mobilization of hundreds of trained volunteers. With the addition of the survey component with the count in 2013, training became even more important than in past years. OC Partnership worked with local service providers and OC Health Care Agency to identify over 25 staff willing to serve as volunteer trainers. Focus Strategies conducted an intensive, all day "train the trainer" session with this group, providing the materials and skills needed for this group to then train the remaining community volunteers.

In addition to the many currently or formerly homeless volunteers, hundreds of additional volunteers responded to the recruitment flyers, expressing interest in participating in the Street Count. Volunteers had a choice of many training sessions, offered by the trained volunteer trainers at different days and times to fit a variety of volunteers' schedules. The training sessions gave volunteers an overview of the reason for the count and the methods being used, instructed volunteers how to count and record persons observed, reviewed in detail the survey questionnaire and best practices for administering the survey, reviewed the agenda for the day of the count, and provided survey practice opportunities and a question and answer session. In addition to the training for the general public, over 100 currently and formerly homeless people were trained to participate in the count and act as "guides" for the volunteer teams.

Consumer Involvement

For the accuracy of the count, it was particularly important to have meaningful participation by currently and previously homeless persons. OC Partnership organized a concerted effort to recruit homeless volunteers, and, as their numbers grew and their involvement became deeper and more meaningful, they formalized their group into the "PIT Crew". The PIT Crew began with a core group of 12 homeless or recently homeless workers plus HCA outreach workers. They then recruited the additional 115 homeless guides. This group of 127 dedicated volunteers was instrumental in the planning for and implementation of the Count. They identified hot spots for the mapping team, tested and

provided feedback for draft map areas, assisted in training of volunteer counters and organized supplies for the morning of the count. Additionally, during the Count, the PIT Crew members acted as homeless guides for countless volunteers, helping teams traverse through their areas, find hidden areas where homeless people might be sleeping and providing a compassionate "face" of homelessness to volunteers who might have never encountered a homeless person. After the Count ended, the PIT Crew remained organized and active, and is now looking for other ways to ensure that the voice of the consumer is heard throughout the Orange County community.

The Morning of the Count: Logistics

On the morning of the count, volunteers were asked to assemble at their assigned deployment center by 4:00 a.m. If volunteers wanted to work with specific other volunteers, they were asked to gather together prior and proceed through the check in process together. After check in, volunteers proceeded to an area where Count staff would arrange them into teams. Based on the random deployment order of the maps as determined by the research team, Count staff would organize teams of at least three volunteers and one guide, with additional volunteers and guides added to the areas with the largest numbers of expected homeless people. Teams were provided with a Street Count packet containing a map of their assigned sample area, driving directions to the area, data collection instruments, and a reminder sheet with count protocol. Each team was to drive to their designated area, conduct the count until they were finished with their area or until 7:00 a.m., whichever came first, and return the paperwork to their deployment center.

A total of 750 volunteers showed up to participate, including the homeless guides and volunteers who remained to work in the deployment centers (but not including County and OC Partnership staff). All teams were able to get to their assigned area and complete the count within the planned timeframe of 4:00 to 7:00 a.m. Upon return to their deployment center, volunteers were offered refreshments while deployment center volunteers

collected their materials. The volunteers participated in a "de-brief" of their experience, sharing information on issues or concerns they may have encountered in the field and providing feedback to Count organizers on their experiences and ability to conduct and complete the count and survey. The paperwork used by the count teams to record information on each individual counted and their ability to cover their area was then given to the consultants and researcher to complete the data analysis.

7. Key Findings

The results of the count and survey allow for a better understanding of who is experiencing homelessness in Orange County. At its core, the count provides data as required by HUD to enumerate and describe the homeless population in the community. **Tables 5** and **6** on the next page show the Point-in-Time enumeration and population characteristics as required by HUD. **Tables 7** through **10** shows more detailed analysis of these results, comparing them between household types and housing situations for a richer discussion.

Part 1 of the HUD table (**Table 5**, next page) enumerates the Point-In-Time population, broken down by household type and by those that are sheltered and are unsheltered. Sheltered persons are those staying in an emergency shelter, transitional housing site or Safe Haven site (a specific type of program; Orange County has no designated Safe Haven programs.) the night before the unsheltered count. Data for those sheltered persons comes from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) or from surveys provided by shelters and transitional housing programs not participating in HMIS.

Table 5: Part 1 of HUDs Final Table 2013

Part 1: 2013 Homeless Populations					
	Sheltered			Unsheltered	TOTAL
Persons in Households with at least one Adult and one Child	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Number of Households	169	353	0	1	***523***
Number of Persons (Adults and Children)	514	1022	0	3	***1,539***
Number of Persons (Age 18 or under)	297	602	0	1	***900***
Number of Persons (Age 18 to 24)	46	67	0	0	***113***
Number of Persons (Over Age 24)	171	353	0	2	***526***
Persons in Households with only Children					
Number of Households	13	0	0	1	***14***
Number of One-Child Households	13	0	0	1	***14***
Number of Multi-Child Households	0	0	0	0	***0***
Number of Children in Multi-Child Households	0	0	0	0	***0***
Subtotal Households with Children	**182**	**353**	**0**	**2**	***537***
Subtotal Persons in Households with Children	**527**	**1022**	**0**	**4**	***1,553***
Persons in Households without Children					
Number of Households	614	396	0	1,642	***2,652***
Number of Persons (Adults)	618	406	0	1,674	***2,698***
Number of Persons (Age 18 to 24)	39	42	0	178	***259***
Number of Persons (Over Age 24)	579	364	0	1,496	***2,439***
All Households/All persons					
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS	***796***	***749***	***0***	***1,644***	***3,189***
TOTAL PERSONS	***1,145***	***1,428***	***0***	***1,678***	***4,251***

Part two of the HUD-required table (**Table 6** below) provides information about the number of persons in specific homeless subpopulations, again broken down by sheltered and unsheltered. Information about sheltered homeless persons is extracted from the HMIS, while subpopulation information about unsheltered persons is derived from the street Count surveys, as described in Technical Appendix H.

Table 6: Part 2 of HUDs Final Table 2013

Part 2: 2013 Homeless Subpopulations			
	Sheltered*	Unsheltered	***TOTAL***
Chronically Homeless Individuals	129	668	***797***
Chronically Homeless Families	9	1	***10***
Persons in Chronically Homeless Families	27	5	***32***
Veterans	177	269	***446***
Female Veterans	11	11	***22***
Severely Mentally Ill	104	376	***480***
Chronic Substance Abuse	233	753	***986***
Persons with HIV/AIDS	62	27	***89***

**Includes persons in emergency shelters and transitional housing, except chronically homeless individuals and families includes only persons in emergency shelters.*

Comparison of Persons by Household Type and Living Situation

Tables 7 through **10** show the distribution of homeless persons by family type in each of the three homeless living situations: emergency shelter, transitional housing and unsheltered.

Table 7 shows the distribution of persons in emergency shelters by household type. Fifty-four percent of persons staying in emergency shelters are people in households without children and 46% are people in households with children. **Table 7a** shows the breakdown of people in households with children. Of the 527 people in households with children, 98% are in households with at least one adult and 2% are unaccompanied youth.

Table 7: Homeless People in Emergency Shelters by Household Type

TOTAL HOMELESS PERSONS IN EMERGENCY SHELTER	1,145	
As a % of all homeless persons	27%	
By Household Type	**#**	**%**
Persons in households without (minor) children	618	54%
Persons in households with (minor) children	527	46%

Table 7a: Persons in Households with Children by Family Type

TOTAL HOMELESS PERSONS IN HHs WITH CHILDREN IN EMERGENCY SHELTERS	527	
As a % of all homeless persons	12%	
By Household Type	**#**	**%**
Persons in families with at least one adult	514	98%
Persons in families with only children	13	2%

Table 8 shows the breakdown of homeless persons living in transitional housing on the night of the Count. A total of 1,428 persons were in transitional housing on the day of the Count. The majority of these people (72%) were in households with children (and all were adult/child households); 28% of people in transitional housing were in households without children.

Table 8: Homeless People in Transitional Housing by Household Type

TOTAL HOMELESS PERSONS IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	1,428	
As a % of all homeless persons	34%	
Household Type	**#**	**%**
Persons in households with (minor) children	1,022	72%
Persons in households without (minor) children	406	28%

Table 9 shows the number of people in each household type among the unsheltered homeless population. There are only four people in households with children living in an unsheltered situation. One is an unaccompanied child and three are in a household with adults and children. The vast majority of the unsheltered population is adults; 99.8% of people are in households without children.

Table 9: Unsheltered Homeless People by Household Type

TOTAL UNSHELTERED HOMELESS PERSONS	**1,678**	
As a % of all homeless persons	**39%**	
Household Type	**#**	**%**
Persons in households with (minor) children	4	0.2%
Persons in households without (minor) children	1,674	99.8%

While the tables above show the number of people in different homeless situations, the tables below provide a breakdown by household. Understanding household data is essential since the solution to homelessness is creating units of housing, which correspond to households. The 4,251 homeless people counted in 2013 are in 3,189 households, including households with and without children. Approximately half of the households are unsheltered and half are sheltered. **Table 10** (next page) shows the distribution of household types by homeless living situation.

Table 10: Homeless Households by Living Situation

	Emergency Shelters		Transitional Housing		Unsheltered		Total	
TOTAL HOMELESS HOUSEHOLDS	**796**		**749**		**1,644**		**3,189**	
As % of all homeless households	**25%**		**23%**		**52%**		**100%**	
Household Type	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adult Only Households	614	77.1%	396	52.9%	1,642	99.9%	2,652	83.2%
Adult(s) & Child(ren) Households	169	21.2%	353	47.1%	1	0.1%	523	16.4%
Child Only Households	13	1.6%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	14	0.4%

Chronic Homelessness

Tables 11 through **13** examine the proportion of homeless persons and households that meet the HUD definition for chronic homelessness. A chronically homeless individual is defined as an adult with a disabling condition who has been homeless (sheltered or unsheltered) for at least twelve consecutive months OR has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.[13] Chronically homeless individuals, then, are any unaccompanied adults meeting the chronicity definitions. A chronically homeless family is composed of at least one adult (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) and one child under 18 years old in which one adult meets the disability and chronicity definition. In other words, an adult-only family (i.e. two or more adults living together) that meets the disabling condition and length/episodes of homelessness criteria is *not* considered a chronically homeless family because there are no children under 18 in the family.[14]

Table 11 shows the number of chronically homeless individuals in the sheltered and unsheltered populations. Approximately 16% of chronically homeless individuals are sheltered and 84% of are unsheltered.

[13] https://www.onecpd.info/resources/documents/DefiningChronicHomeless.pdf
[14] See page four of the FAQs publication located at http://www.hudhre.info/documents/2011PIT_FAQs.pdf for more information.

Table 11: Chronically Homeless Individuals by Current Living Situation

TOTAL CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS	797	
As % of all homeless persons	19%	
Current Living Situation	#	%
Sheltered*	129	16%
Unsheltered	668	84%

**For chronically homeless individuals and families, "sheltered" includes only people in emergency shelter programs. For all other subpopulations, "sheltered" includes people in both emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.*

While the changes to the Count methodology from 2011 to 2013 means that comparisons of numbers of people counted are not meaningful, it can be useful to look at the changes in the proportion of certain subpopulations over the past two years. **Table 12** (next page) shows that, in 2013, there were 797 chronically homeless individuals, which is approximately 24% of the total homeless population. While the 2011 Count was higher, the proportion of chronically homeless individuals in 2011 (23%) is comparable to 2013. However, there has been a shift among the chronically homeless; in 2011, only 4% were sheltered, whereas in 2013, 16% are sheltered.

Table 12: Percent Change of *Chronically* Homeless Individuals by Current Living Situation

	2011		2013		% Point Difference
TOTAL CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS	1,651		797		-5.04
As % of all homeless persons	24%		19%		
Current Living Situation	#	%	#	%	
Sheltered*	66	4%	129	16%	
Unsheltered	1,585	96%	668	84%	

** Only includes person living in emergency shelter (not transitional housing).*

Table 13 below shows that only ten chronically homeless families were counted in 2013, which is comparable to the 2011 estimation of six chronically homeless families. Nine of the 10 chronically homeless families were in emergency shelters; only one was on the street.

Table 13: Proportion of Chronically Homeless Families by Current Living Situation

TOTAL PEOPLE IN CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES	10	
As % of all homeless persons	**0.23%**	
Current Living Situation	**#**	**%**
Sheltered*	9	91%
Unsheltered	1	9%

**For all subpopulations (except chronically homeless individuals and families), "sheltered" includes people in both emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.*

Other Homeless Subpopulations

In addition to reporting on the number of people and households who are chronically homeless, HUD requires communities to examine the number of homeless veterans (including female veterans), and the numbers of homeless experiencing severe mental illness, chronic substance abuse and HIV/AIDs. **Tables 14** through **18** present the subpopulations by living situation.

Table 14 shows the housing situation of the 446 homeless veterans in Orange County. Almost 40% of the homeless veterans are sheltered (including in transitional housing), while 60% of homeless veterans live in unsheltered locations.

Table 14: Veterans by Current Living Situation

TOTAL HOMELESS VETERANS	446	
As % of all homeless adults	***13%***	
Current Living Situation	**#**	**%**
Sheltered*	177	40%
Unsheltered	269	60%

**For all subpopulations (except chronically homeless individuals and families), "sheltered" includes people in both emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.*

Among the 446 homeless veterans, 22 (approximately five percent) are female veterans. Half of the female veterans are sheltered and half are unsheltered, as shown in Table 15 below.

Table 15: Female Veterans by Current Living Situation

TOTAL HOMELESS FEMALE VETERANS	22	
As % of all homeless adults	***0.65%***	
Current Living Situation	**#**	**%**
Sheltered*	11	50%
Unsheltered	11	50%

**For all subpopulations (except chronically homeless individuals and families), "sheltered" includes people in both emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.*

Table 16 below shows that the majority of severely mentally ill homeless people are unsheltered. Roughly 78% of homeless people suffering from a mental illness are unsheltered. In contrast, emergency shelters and transitional housing programs collectively shelter about 22% of the total number of homeless people who are severely mentally ill.

Table 16: Severely Mentally Ill by Current Living Situation

TOTAL HOMELESS PERSONS WITH SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS	480	
As % of all homeless people	***11%***	
Current Living Situation	**#**	**%**
Sheltered*	104	22%
Unsheltered	376	78%

**For all subpopulations (except chronically homeless individuals and families), "sheltered" includes people in both emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.*

Table 17 shows the housing situation of the 986 homeless people with chronic substance abuse problems. 24% of those individuals live in shelters, and 76% of the individuals are unsheltered.

Table 17: Chronic Substance Abuse by Current Living Situation

TOTAL HOMELESS PERSONS WITH CSA	986	
As % of all homeless people	***23%***	
Current Living Situation	**#**	**%**
Sheltered*	233	24%
Unsheltered	753	76%

**For all subpopulations (except chronically homeless individuals and families), "sheltered" includes people in both emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.*

Table 18 shows that nearly three-fourths of homeless persons with HIV/AIDs live in either emergency shelters or transitional housing programs. The remaining 30% of the homeless with HIV/AIDs are unsheltered.

Table 18: Persons with HIV/AIDS by Current Living Situation

TOTAL HOMELESS PERSONS WITH HIV/AIDS	89	
As % of all homeless people	***2%***	
Current Living Situation	**#**	**%**
Sheltered*	62	70%
Unsheltered	27	30%

**For all subpopulations (except chronically homeless individuals and families), "sheltered" includes people in both emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.*

8. Demographics of Unsheltered Adults

Tables 19 through 23 provide demographic data on age, gender, race and ethnicity of the unsheltered population. Because only adults completed the surveys, these tables refer only to unsheltered adults.[15] However, given the very low numbers of unsheltered children found during the PIT in Orange County, these tables can be considered to be representative of the unsheltered homeless population. Statistical tests of significance were not performed on these demographic tables. The previous tables (in Section 7), which provide data required by HUD, are tested for statistical validity using confidence intervals, as shown in Technical Appendix I. The following demographic tables are provided for local use and have not been further analyzed using statistical methods.

The average (mean) age of unsheltered adults is 48.3. The youngest person interviewed was 17 and the oldest was 76. The Median and Mode provide different ways to look at age distribution; the median is the middle ranked age and the mode is the most frequently occurring age.

Table 19: Age Statistics of Unsheltered Adults

	Age Statistics
Mean (years)	48.3
Median (years)	50
Mode (years)	48
Minimum (years)	17
Maximum (years)	76

[15] Volunteers were instructed not to survey any minor children with adults encountered during the count. The one exception is unaccompanied youth, who are presumed to be emancipated if they are unsheltered without an adult. There was one such interview during the 2013 count of an unaccompanied 17 year old.

Table 20 examines respondent ages in more detail.[16] More than 90% of the unsheltered homeless people are 25 years of age or older. The age categories presented here correspond to new HUD requirements relating to data collection for the sheltered and unsheltered count. HUD is placing a policy priority on ending youth homelessness, and is particularly interested in gathering data on the numbers of "transition age youth" (those age 18 to 24) who are homeless. Prior to 2013, few communities collected data on this age group and therefore little is known about the prevalence of homelessness among this subpopulation. The 5.8% of unsheltered homeless people who are age 18-24 will become baseline against which Orange County can measure its progress in reducing youth homelessness.

Table 20: Age Categories

Age	Estimate of Unsheltered Homeless n=1,678	% of Unsheltered Homeless
17 or younger	10	0.6%
18 - 24	97	5.8%
25 or older	1550	92.4%
Unknown	20	1.2%
TOTAL	***1,678***	***100.0%***

Table 21 shows the gender breakdown of the unsheltered homeless population. Seventy percent of the unsheltered homeless are male, 20% are female and the remaining 10% are either unknown or transgendered.

[16] Technical Appendix H provides detail about how age information for the HUD tables was derived from the count, not the survey.

Table 21: Gender

Gender	Estimate of Unsheltered Homeless n=1,678	% of Unsheltered Homeless
Male	1173	69.9%
Female	332	19.8%
Transgender	15	0.9%
Unknown	158	9.4%
TOTAL	***1,678***	***100.0%***

Table 22 and 23 below show the racial and ethnic distributions of the unsheltered population. HUD considers "Hispanic" to be an ethnicity and characteristics such as "Black", "White" or "Asian" to be a race. However, 23% of respondents choose only an ethnicity and not a race, so for these respondents the survey is missing race data. The Hispanic only respondents have been removed from **Table 22** below to better show the distribution of races among the 1,290 respondents who reported a race as compared to the distribution of races among the Countywide population. Sixty-six percent of respondents identify as White/Caucasian, 9% as Black/African American and 9% as multi-racial. Other races account for almost 16% of the population.

Table 22: Race (HUD categories)

Race	Estimate of Unsheltered Homeless	% of Unsheltered Homeless	% of Countywide Population
Black/African American	117	9.1%	2.1%
White/Caucasian	857	66.4%	74.9%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	56	4.3%	1.1%
Asian	31	2.4%	18.4%
Pacific Islander	26	2.0%	0.4%
Hawaiian	15	1.2%	
Multiple Races	112	8.7%	3.1%
Other Multi-Racial	41	3.2%	0.0%
Unknown	36	2.8%	0.0%
TOTAL	***1,290***	***100.0%***	***100.0%***

Table 23 shows the distribution of Hispanic ethnicity among the unsheltered homeless population. Roughly 28% of the unsheltered homeless are Hispanic/Latino; the majority of the Hispanics identified only as Hispanic (e.g. not Hispanic Black or Hispanic White).

Table 23: Ethnicity (HUD categories)

Ethnicity	Estimate of Unsheltered Homeless n=1,678	% of Unsheltered Homeless
Hispanic/Latino	469	28.0%
Not Hispanic/Latino	1173	69.9%
Unknown	36	2.1%
TOTAL	***1,678***	***100.0%***

Demographically, homelessness in Orange County is generally comparable to national averages. While national data on the demographics of unsheltered persons is not collected (as it is not a required part of the PIT); the 2011 AHAR reports demographic trends of sheltered homeless persons. Nationally, approximately 63% of sheltered homeless are men and 37% are women; in Orange County, there are slightly more unsheltered men, and fewer women. As in Orange County, the majority of homeless people nationally identify as black or white. There are more Hispanics in Orange County's unsheltered homeless population than nationally (28% versus 16%), but Orange County overall is 34% Hispanic, as compared to 16% of the U.S. population.[17]

[17] U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development. (November 2012). *The 2011 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress.* Retrieved June 26, 2013 from https://www.onecpd.info/resources/documents/2011AHAR_FinalReport.pdf.

9. Conclusion

Per HUD's definition of homelessness, approximately 0.14% of people in Orange County experience homelessness on a nightly basis, which is consistent with national data. Although the numbers of homeless people have appeared to decline in 2013 compared to 2011 and 2009, this is most likely a reflection of changes in methodology that resulted in a more accurate count that corrected for prior over counting, rather than an actual decrease in the number of people who were homeless.

Orange County has a large (although declining) population of chronically homeless individual people and people in chronically homeless families (20% of the total homeless population), many of whom may need permanent supportive housing to achieve residential and economic stability. However, other interventions, including rapid re-housing and transition in place programs, can be cost-effective solutions for moving difficult to serve homeless people into permanent housing. With over 80% of chronically homeless individuals living unsheltered, a diversity of approaches may be appropriate to continue reducing this population.

Since the 2013 Count is a new baseline for the County, comparisons to previous Count results are not appropriate. However, in reviewing the prevalence of homeless subpopulations in Orange County with national data, Orange County's homeless population is aligned with national results:

- Approximately 40% of homeless people in Orange County are unsheltered, and 60% of homeless people are sheltered in 2013, matching the national 2011 results (2013 results are not yet available)
- Across the nation, 37% of homeless people are members of a family (at least one adult and one child); in Orange County, 36% of homeless people are in a family.

In the future, Orange County can compare these rates to 2013 national averages, and over time, to changes in the County's homeless population.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Acknowledgements

Ad Hoc Committee & Task Force
Scott Larson, Chair of Ad Hoc Committee
Barbara Jennings
Larry Haynes
Jim Palmer
Allan Roeder
David Mansdoerfer
Karen Roper
Julia Bidwell
Coleen Brown
Dr. Ed Clarke
Erin DeRycke
Rosa Durham
Emily Halcon
Mary Hale
Jeff Hernandez
Becks Heyhoe
Robin Keeble
Shawn Kelly
Amber Killinger
Eric Kim
Megan Kurteff Schatz
Jennifer Lee-Anderson
Kelly Lupro
Donna Mace
Sharon McKeag Ash
Andrea Rodas
Brenyale Toomer-Byas
Carla Vargas
Denise Voss
Karen Williams
Genevieve Williamson

PIT Crew Leaders
Steve Bagshaw
Pete F.
Ellen Glover
Ed Mankinen
Justin Owen
Anita Rivera
Christina Stephenson
Dennis Stephenson
Dale Wallace

Major Funders
OC Community Service (Major Funder)
OC Health Care Agency (Partner Funder)
Bank of America
Colette's Children's Home
Fullerton Interfaith Emergency Services
m-clarity, LLC
Orange County United Way
Precious Life Shelter
Thomas House
Wells Fargo Foundation
Wendy's / Consolidated Restaurants of CA, Inc.
World Mission Society Church of God

Major Sponsors
Albertson's
Costco
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church of Dana Point
Grandma's House of Hope
Islamic Society of Orange
KSBR 88.5 FM
Starbuck's
St. Clement's by the Sea Episcopal Church
Stater Brothers
Wendy's (Tustin location)
And many thanks to the individual contributors

Deployment Centers
The Village at 17th Street/The Olin Group
Colette's Children's Home
Orange County Rescue Mission/ The Village of Hope
Fullerton Community Center
Family Assistance Ministries

Volunteers
A special thanks to all of our volunteers, especially the Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints for their contribution of 150+ volunteers, to Michelle Wynne & Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez for their help in acknowledging the volunteers, and to Dana Pape, Kathi Chapman, Jane Rands, Gary Frazier, Mark Cazeau, Sr. and Eric Kim for all of their help on mapping.

Appendix A: Acknowledgements *(continued)*

Elected Officials
Orange County Board of Supervisors Supervisor First District - Janet Nguyen Supervisor Second District - John Moorlach Supervisor Third District - Todd Spitzer Supervisor Fourth District & Board Chairman - Shawn Nelson Supervisor Fifth District - Patricia Bates **U.S. House of Representatives** U.S. Representative Loretta Sanchez (CA-46) **California State Senate** California State Senator Lou Correa (District 34)

Appendix B: Ad Hoc Committee

Name	Affiliation
Scott Larson, Chair	HomeAid OC
Barbara Jennings	Pathways of Hope
Jim Palmer	Orange County Rescue Mission
Larry Haynes	Mercy House
Allan Roeder	City Manager's Association
David Mansdoerfer	Office of Supervisor John M.W. Moorlach
Karen Roper	Interim Executive Director, Commission to End Homelessness & Director of OC Community Services

Appendix C: Commission to End Homelessness (C2EH) Board

Appointed By	Officer	Name
Orange County Board of Supervisors	**Chair of Commission**	**John M.W. Moorlach**
OCBC		**Tom Burnham**
OC City Managers' Assn.		**Bob Dunek**
OCBC		**Bill Ford**
OC Funder's Roundtable		**Regina Fox (Sister)**
OC Funder's Roundtable		**Kim Goll**
City Selection Committee		**Tita Smith**
HomeAid OC	**Chair of Implementation Group #1**	**Larry Haynes**
City Selection Comittee		**Kathryn McCullough**
OC Fire Chief's Assn.		**Wolfgang Knabe**
HomeAid OC	**Vice-Chair of Commission**	**Barbara Jennings**
H&CD Commission	**Chair of Implementation Group #2**	**Scott Larson**
OC CEO		**Carolyn McInerney**
H&CD Commission	**Chair of Implementation Group #4**	**Jim Palmer**
OC HCA		**Mark Refowitz**
OC City Managers' Assn.	**Chair of Implementation Group #3**	**Allan Roeder**
OC Chiefs' of Police & Sheriffs' Assn.		**Vacant**
C2eH Board	**Interim Executive Director**	**Karen Roper**

Appendix D: Service Providers

Many thanks to the Orange County providers of services to the at-risk and homeless who participated in the sheltered and/or unsheltered Point in Time Count & Survey in 2013, including:

Aids Services Foundation	One Step Ministry
American Family Housing	Orange Coast Interfaith Shelter
Build Futures	Orange County Housing Authority
Build Futures	Orange County Rescue Mission
California Hispanic Commission	Orangewood Children's Foundation
Casa Teresa	Pathways of Hope
Casa Youth Shelter	Precious Life Shelter
Colette's Children's Home	Salvation Army
Community Services Program	Serving People in Need (SPIN)
Families Forward	Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange
Family Assistance Ministries	South County Outreach
Family Promise of Orange County	South County Outreach
Friendship Shelter	Southern California Drug and Alcohol
Grandma's House of Hope	Programs Inc. (SCADP)
H.O.M.E.S. Inc.	Straight Talk Inc.
HIS House	The Eli Home Inc.
Human Options	Thomas House
Illumination Foundation	Veterans First
Interval House	WISEPlace
John Henry Foundation	Women's Transitional Living Center
Laura's House	YWCA
Mercy House	

Additional Service Providers and Other Volunteers

In addition to these providers, there were numerous other service providers and organizations that rallied their troops to provide the volunteers needed on the day of the Count. Many thanks to all of these groups for their participation and effort. These volunteers included:

1st Presbyterian Anaheim	KSBR 88.5 FM
ALMMA	Lobasso Packaging
AmeriCorps VISTA	Long Beach VA
Americorps/ Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove	moveon.org
AmeriCorps/ US NAVY	O.C. Probation
AMHS/CAT	O.C.Linens
Anaheim Supportive Housing	OC Crime Lab
Anaheim United Methodist Church	OC Health Care Agency
Apollo Group	OC Public Libraries
Bank of America	OCCF
Bank of America Merrill Lynch	OCCR/OC Parks
BHS-Center of Excellence	OCDE/ACCESS
Brea United Methodist Church	Ocean Hills Church
CASA	Orange Cares
Catholic Charities	Orange County Head Start
Childrens and Families Commission	Orange County Public Defender
Children's Bureau	Orange County Public Works
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Orange County Sheriff's Department
Community United Methodist Church/HB	Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector
County of Orange	Orange County United Way
County of Orange HCA	Pinnacle Strategies
CSUF	Plaza Executive Center Inc
Curt Pringle & Associates	Project Hope Alliance
Democratic Club of West Orange County	Public Works
Department of Child Support	REACH
Districts 1,2,3,4,5 Staff	RI Consult (self)
District Attorney	Safe Families for Children
First 5 Orange County	Second Harvest Food Bank
FJC	Serving People in Need
FSS	Social Services Agency
Fullerton Faith & Community Forum	SSA
Fullerton Interfaith Ministries Assoc.	St. John's Episcopal Church
Good Shepherd Bible Study	Superior Court
Henderson House	The Olin Group
Heritage House North	The Villa
Holy Spirit Catholic Church	THINK Together
HomeAid Orange County	Unitarian Universalist Church
Huntington Beach Bail Bonds	University of California, Irvine
i hope	Usave Termite Control
Islamic Society of Orange County	USPS
J B & Associates	Vanguard University
J. Donald Henry & Associates, Inc	

Appendix E: Glossary/List of Acronyms

Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR)

Annual report to Congress on the extent and nature based on information submitted to HUD from homeless management information system (HMIS). AHAR provides in depth data reported from the Federal fiscal year (Oct. 1 – Sept. 30).

Chronically Homeless Family

A chronically homeless family is defined as a household with at least one adult and one child under the age of 18, or a minor Head of Household under the age of 18 and minimum of one child. The Head of Household must meet the definition of a chronically homeless person (see next entry).

Chronically Homeless Individual

An unaccompanied individual who:

(i) is homeless and lives or resides in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter;

(ii) has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years; and

(iii) has an adult head of household (or a minor head of household if no adult is present in the household) with a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability (as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002)), post-traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments resulting from a brain injury, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of 2 or more of those conditions.

A person who currently lives or resides in an institutional care facility, including a jail, substance abuse or mental health treatment facility, hospital or other similar facility, and has resided

there for fewer than 90 days shall be considered chronically homeless if such person met all of the requirements described above prior to entering that facility.

Chronicity

Respondent indicated being homeless (i.e. living in a shelter, on the streets, a car, or in other places not meant for habitation) for the last 12 months or having been homeless at least 4 times in the past 3 years.

Chronic Substance Abuse

This category on the PIT includes persons with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both) that is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.

Commission to End Homelessness (C2eH)

The purpose of the Commission to End Homelessness is for County government, city government, private foundations, advocacy groups, community organizations, and other interested stakeholders to work collaboratively and provide strategic leadership to promote best practices, monitor outcomes, and report results on the success of the Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

Department of Education: "Homelessness Children and Youths"

Individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; including:

(i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;

(ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;

(iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

(iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

***Note that this definition is **not** used for the Point in Time count, which is mandated to use HUD's definition*

Disability

Defined by HUD in 2011 as (1) having a disability as a defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act; (2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment which is expected to be of long---continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes an individual's ability to live independently, and of such a nature that the disability could be improved by more suitable conditions; (3) a developmental disability as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act; (4) the disease of acquired immune deficiency syndrome or any condition arising from the etiological agent for acquired immune deficiency syndrome; or (5) a diagnosable substance abuse disorder.

Domestic Violence

A family member, partner or ex-partner attempts to physically or psychologically dominate another. Includes physical violence, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, intimidation, economic deprivation, and threats of violence. Violence can be criminal and includes physical assault (hitting, pushing, shoving), sexual abuse (unwanted or forced activity), and stalking. Emotional, psychological, and financial abuse are forms of abuse and can lead to criminal domestic violence

Emergency Housing

Emergency housing is a temporary shelter with services that are designed to facilitate the transition from sleeping in places not meant for human habitation to appropriate housing for homeless individuals and families.

Emergency Shelter

In the CoC Supportive Housing Program, emergency shelters are facilities offering limited shelter stays (generally up to 90 days) which offers a safe alternative to living on the streets and which provides essential services. On a case---by---case basis, clients may remain for longer than ninety days if they require a longer period to accomplish a specific goal.

Extrapolation

A technique for estimating the total number of homeless persons in a particular category that is based on the number of unsheltered and sheltered homeless persons observed and/or interviewed during a homeless count.

HEARTH ACT (Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act)

On May 20, 2009, President Obama signed the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009. The HEARTH Act amends and reauthorizes the McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Act with substantial changes, including:

- A consolidation of HUD's competitive grant programs
- The creation of a Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program
- A change in HUD's definition of homelessness and chronic homelessness
- A simplified match requirement
- An increase in prevention resources
- An increase in emphasis on performance

The HEARTH Act also:

- Consolidates the separate homeless assistance programs carried out under Title IV of McKinney-Vento (consisting of the supporting housing program and related programs, the safe havens program, the section 8 assistance program for single-room occupancy

dwellings, and the shelter plus care program) into a single program with specific eligible activities.

- Codifies the continuum of care planning process as a required and integral local function necessary to generate the local strategies for ending homelessness.
- Establishes a federal goal of ensuring that individuals and families who become homeless return to permanent housing within 30 days.

Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)

Computerized data collection to capture client---level information on the characteristics and service needs of those experiencing homelessness. It is designed to aggregate client---level data to generate an unduplicated count of clients served within a community's system of homeless services. The HMIS can provide data on client characteristics and service utilization. HUD funded service providers for the at-risk/homeless are required to participate, as their data is provided to HUD, who then reports the information to Congress. Collecting this data is a requirement by HUD in order for the community and its service agencies to receive HUD funding for programs supporting the at-risk and homeless population.

Housing First

Housing First is an approach to ending homelessness that centers on providing people experiencing homelessness with housing as quickly as possible – and then providing services as needed. This approach has the benefit of being consistent with what most people experiencing homelessness want and seek help to achieve. Housing First programs share critical elements:

- A focus on helping individuals and families access and sustain permanent rental housing as quickly as possible without time limits;
- A variety of services delivered to promote housing stability and individual well-being on an as-needed basis; and
- A standard lease agreement to housing – as opposed to mandated therapy or services compliance.

While all Housing First programs share these critical elements, program models vary significantly depending upon the population served. For people who have experienced chronic homelessness, there is an expectation that intensive (and often specialized) services will be needed indefinitely.

Housing Inventory Count (HIC)

The HIC is designed to be an accurate reflection of a CoC's capacity to house homeless and formerly homeless persons. The HIC is a complete inventory of emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing beds available. The inventory includes all HUD funded residential programs, as well as non-HUD funded programs that provide housing, even if those programs do not actively participate in the CoC planning process.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

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

Persons with HIV/AIDS

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.

Point-in-Time Count (PIT)

Requirement of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that Continuums of Care (CoCs) across the country undertake community wide efforts to collect information on the number and characteristics of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The Point-in-Time Count must occur at least every two years during the last ten days of January.

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)

Rapid Re-housing is an approach that focuses on moving individuals and families that are homeless into appropriate housing as quickly as possible.

Severely Mentally Ill

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons with mental health problems that are expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs the person's ability to live independently.

Substance Abuse

Programs that are tailored for individuals with substance abuse issues are programs that serve individuals who have acknowledged addiction problems related to alcohol and drug use and who seek services or housing to support their sobriety.

Transitional Housing (TH)

A project that is designed to provide housing and appropriate supportive services to homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months, or a longer period approved by HUD.

Unsheltered Homeless

Survey respondents who indicated that they spent last night in the streets, a vehicle, an abandoned building, bus/train station, camping not in a designated campground, sleeping anywhere outside, or other place not meant for human habitation or stayed in friend or family's garage, backyard, porch, shed or driveway were counted as unsheltered homeless.

Veteran

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes persons who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

List of Acronyms

AHAR: Annual Homeless Assessment Report

CSA: Chronic Substance Abuse

CSH: Corporation for Supportive Housing

DC: Deployment Center

DOE: Federal Department of Education

ES: Emergency Shelter

HH: Household

HIC: Housing Inventory Count

HMIS: Homeless Management Information System

HUD: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

PIT: Point in Time

PSH: Permanent Supportive housing

RRH: Rapid Rehousing

SMI: Severely Mentally Ill

TH: Transitional Housing

Appendix F: Crosswalk between Survey Questionnaire & Results

A crosswalk is a table used to show the relationship between two sets of information by matching the related parts of one with the other. The purpose of this crosswalk is to provide information about how subpopulation data and population characteristics were calculated and determined. The right side of the crosswalk shows the survey question number and corresponding answer choice that when chosen is an indicator of the variable on the left of the crosswalk.

Variables	Survey Questions & Valid Answer Choices
Unsheltered Homeless	1.2,1.4
Respondent Age and Household Composition	2. A-G
Chronicity (for chronically homeless individuals and families)	3. 12 Months or All of it/Entire Time, 4. 4 or More Times or All of it/Entire Time
Veteran	5. Yes
Disabled	6. A-G, I (Comments were examined and a determination of disabled or not was made)
Disabled (for Chronic homeless families where respondent meets chronicity but is not disabled)	7. Yes
Substance Abuse	6. F, G

Appendix G: Discussion of Household Composition

While integrating the survey with the count ensures that the surveyed respondents are a subset of the homeless population, the survey respondents are not a random sample of those counted. The survey allows extrapolation of characteristics (such as veteran status, disabilities, etc.) that can be applied to the counted persons, but the actual number of homeless persons and households must be derived from the count, not from a subset of the population. With HUD's introduction of more detailed age requirements, new survey questions were introduced. The result is new information that suggests how homeless persons think about and account for their families is complex and worthy of additional consideration before the 2015 count.

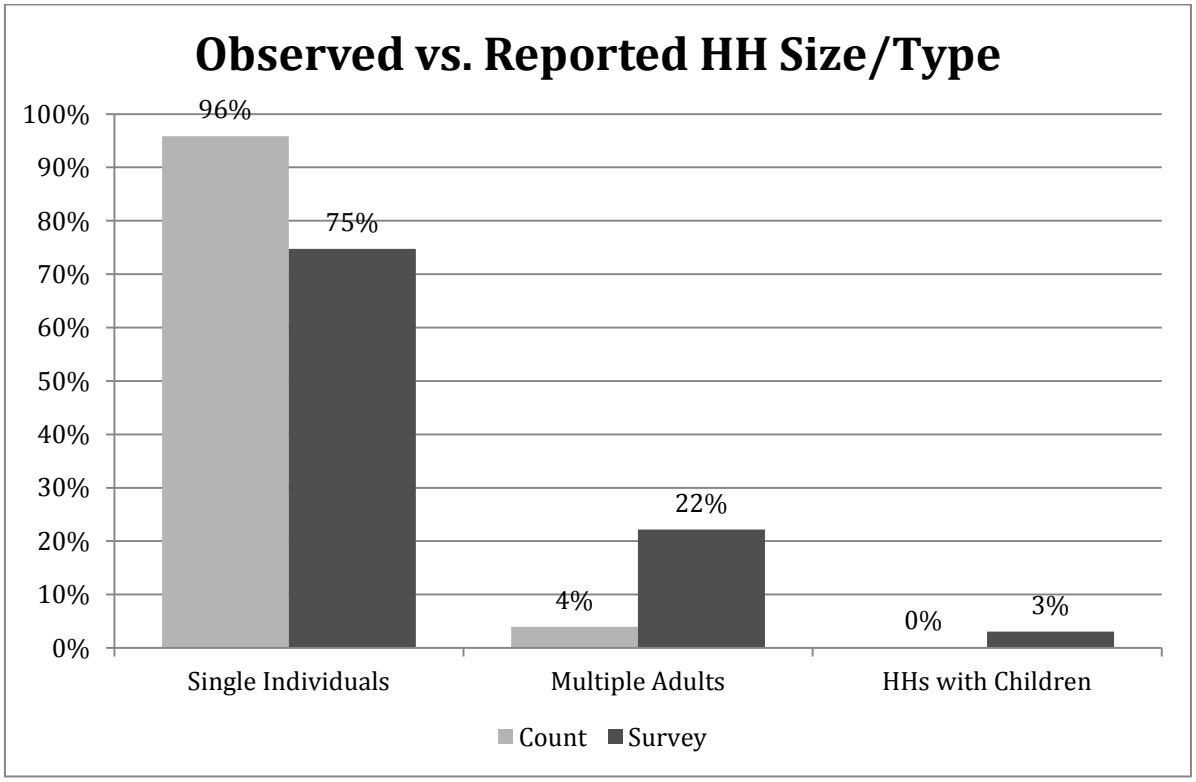
These new survey questions were developed by experienced survey researchers and field tested before the count. The expectation was that the observed family compositions would fairly closely match the self-reported compositions, but the results suggest that field-testing a mix of strategies and interviewing homeless people before the next count may yield more useful information about the actual composition of homeless families. Because the HUD requirements and the survey questions were new, the age and family type questions were also kept in the count form. In doing this, the research team was able to begin to understand differences between how volunteers observed families and how survey respondents accounted for families.

In general, count team volunteers observed primarily individuals and a very few small families and survey respondents often accounted for larger families. The possible reasons for these discrepancies include insufficient volunteer training, unclear questions and conditions during the count that made observation difficult (darkness, rain, etc.). While it is impossible to know if family types and ages captured in the count or the survey are more accurate, it may be appropriate to think more about the design of both the count tally form and survey for future counts.

The differences between observed family sizes in the count and reported family sizes in the survey are shown in **Figure 4** below. Because of these discrepancies, it was not possible to

apply the survey data on family size and composition to the count data; observed count data was used to generate these data points. Given the size of families reported by respondents, it is possible that relying on observed family composition data may lead to an undercount of people experiencing homelessness in multi-adult households and family households.

Figure 4: Observed and Reported Household Size & Type



There is inherent complexity in family composition, especially among homeless populations and it is difficult to thoroughly collect this information in brief encounters or surveys. However, the data collected in the Orange County count regarding family composition is consistent with the national and historical data on the unsheltered population. As HUD refines the data they are interested in on family homelessness and plans are made for future homeless counts, this information can be used to inform revisions to the data collection processes.

Appendix H: Mapping, Sampling and Data Processing Summary

The 2013 Homeless Point-in-Time Count for Orange County included two separate but related pieces: the street Count and the survey. In 2013, unlike in prior years, these two steps were integrated, such that the detailed survey information collected can more definitively be applied to the Count data as descriptive of the homeless persons actually counted. In prior years, when the survey and Count were de-coupled, it was much more difficult to ensure that survey respondents will be representative of the homeless population as a whole counted during the street count.

However, not all persons tallied in the Street Count are able to be surveyed and not all surveys that are begun are completed. An important piece of the methodology to establish a valid unsheltered dataset involves eliminating incomplete survey responses and those who are not truly unsheltered from the dataset. The mapping, sampling, data cleaning and data processing detailed below are vital to ensuring the validity of the data analysis. Many other efforts also contributed to the success and soundness of the data, most notably OC Partnership's concerted effort to ensure that the voices of homeless persons were included in all aspects of the process.

Mapping Process & Creation of Random Sample

The first step in ensuring a statistically reliable dataset is to ensure that the areas to be canvassed are representative of the known locations where homeless people sleep and that volunteers are deployed to these areas in a random order. Local experts were consulted to identify locations of where homeless people are known to frequent. These local experts included homeless outreach workers, homeless service providers and many recent and current homeless persons. During mapping meetings with local stakeholders, it was important to stress that a new methodology was being used, since many of the local experts had participated in a street Count in the past and were expecting that it would be done the same way. Methodological choices, like the time of day for the count, affected where on the maps the local experts were highlighting, as a certain area may have

homeless people located there in the evenings, but that same area would be deserted in the mornings.

Once all the stakeholder input was gathered, the next step was designing the borders around designated areas that would be covered by volunteer Count teams on the morning of the count. The researcher's priority was to ensure that every highlighted portion of the map was enclosed within a designated area. When deciding where to place the borders of the designated areas, the researchers took many factors into consideration:

- First, any landscape barriers were considered, such as rivers and major freeways.
- Second, local experts often identified small areas in close proximity where homeless people were likely to be. In these cases, area boundaries were drawn to encompass more than one highlighted area. This strategy was necessary to create a reasonable number of areas (if each highlighted street corner were an area, there would have been a hundred very small areas instead of a few dozen moderately sized areas). Encompassing small highlighted areas in proximity to each other meant that some areas were oddly shaped and/or difficult to cover in the given two-hour time frame.
- Third, major boulevards served as the primary locations where area borders were placed. A border was rarely placed directly through the middle of a main street, but rather slightly to the side so that the Count team would know to check *both sides* of that main street.
- Lastly, the researchers attempted to make each area a reasonable size, so that a Count team could comfortably cover their whole area in the given time period. When looking at the size of the areas on a map, it should be noted that while many of them contain numerous square miles, a large portion of the many of the areas was private and/or fenced-in property, and thus, the Count teams would not be able to cover that portion.

The primary priority throughout the mapping process is to ensure that *all* regions highlighted by the local experts were contained within the areas.

After the map boundaries were drawn, local volunteers, many of them PIT Team members, "pre-walked" the areas. The goals of the pre-walk included:

- Ensuring the area was traversable in a three hour timeframe; and
- Noting any obstacles in the area that might make it difficult or dangerous to walk (such as fencing, muddy terrain, etc.); and
- Looking for signs of homeless encampments to confirm the feedback gathered in the initial map stages; and
- Providing recommended parking and navigation directions such that the teams could locate and cover the whole area in the early morning hours.

After pre-walk map testing, adjustments to the map borders based on tester feedback were made, including, in some cases, removal or merging of map areas. The maps were further divided by geography into five areas throughout the County, each of which would have its own central "deployment center" on the morning of the count. Once the borders of the designated areas were finalized and maps were assigned to deployment centers, the researchers assigned either a high-density ("hot") or a low-density ("warm") label to each. The criteria used to assign these labels was the expected number of homeless people that would likely be found in the area during the early morning hours of the Count based on local experts' feedback.

A limited number of areas were labeled as high-density or "hot". With this type of methodology, a high-density label means that a particular area must be covered by a Count team. The low-density label, or "warm", on the other hand, means that the area will be part of the random sampling process. When assigning labels to the various areas, a general rule was applied: if expert opinion was that fifteen or more homeless people were likely to be in a particular area, then the area was designated as "hot". If an area was likely to have fewer than fifteen people, then the area was designated as "warm".

High-density ("hot") areas must be distinct from low-density ("warm") areas. The nature of homelessness in a high density area is such that there is no need to use research or statistical tools to generate a more accurate count; theoretically, high-density areas have

so many homeless people that enumerators (people conducting the fieldwork) can simply observe and count people, resulting in an accurate count for that area. Low-density areas, by contrast, are areas where it would be difficult to adequately canvass all similar terrain to generate an accurate count. Low-density areas have a small number of homeless people over a large geographic area; counting in all such areas would be logistically challenging. Research tools are applied in these cases to generate a reliable estimate for all similar areas (more about the statistical processes used in Technical Appendix I).

After assignment of hot and warm labels and assignment to one of the five deployment centers, there were 126 maps overall: 45 "hot" areas and 81 "warm" areas. These areas were divided amongst the five deployment centers, each located in an Orange County supervisorial district as follows:

Table 24: Deployment Center Compared to Total Maps

Deployment Center/ Supervisorial District	Total Maps		
	Hot	Warm	Total
1	7	14	***21***
2	13	28	***41***
3	6	13	***19***
4	12	15	***27***
5	7	11	***18***
Total	***45***	***81***	***126***

** In addition to the 126 mapped areas, a bike team was also deployed along the Santa Ana River Trail. This area was not included in the deployment center process, so is not included in this table, but is accounted for in later discussion of count observations and surveys collected.*

Next, a random sample was created in each of the five deployment centers of the 81 warm areas. The methodology relies on all of the "hot" areas being covered and at least enough

of the "warm" areas to allow for a statistically significant extrapolation of the Count to other "warm" areas not canvassed. For each deployment center, the researchers were able to establish the minimum number of "warm" areas that had to be reached to ensure statistical significance. This minimum threshold differed by deployment center based on the total number of areas assigned to the center and the expected volunteer resources for the center.

In addition to the five deployment centers, OC Partnerships arranged for a separate Count team to ride the Santa Ana Bike Trail and Count and survey homeless persons camping on the riverbanks. Creation and deployment to this area was outside of the mapping process and it was not deemed "hot" or "warm" or included in the sampling process. During the statistical process, the Count from this area was added to the weighted Count from all the other areas. On the morning of the count, volunteer teams in all five deployment centers were able to cover all of the "hot" areas and 72 of the 81 (89%) of the "warm" areas, as detailed in the table below.

Table 25: Deployment of Volunteers by Area

Deployment Center	Areas Volunteers Deployed To					
	Hot Areas		Warm Areas		Total Areas	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
1	7	100%	14	100%	21	100%
2	13	100%	20	71%	33	80%
3	6	100%	12	92%	18	95%
4	12	100%	15	100%	27	100%
5	7	100%	11	100%	18	100%
Bike	n/a		n/a		1	100%
Total	***45***	***100%***	***72***	***89%***	***118***	***93%***

Applying Assumed Family Sizes to Tents and Vehicles

Each volunteer team was instructed to count the number of homeless persons they observed on the street, in a vehicle or in a camp, but were strictly instructed to not disturb individuals being counted, especially when dealing with a vehicle or a tent. This instruction was included in both the mandatory training session as well as the text at the top of the Tally Form.

Thus, when the volunteer teams encountered a vehicle or a tent that appeared to be used as permanent habitation and they could not easily see inside to determine the number of inhabitants, they were instructed to mark the appropriate box under Location of Observation and to leave the Age Group and Gender sections blank. When the volunteers could see inside, they were instructed to fill in the Age Group and Gender sections for the individual(s) observed.

Based on past experience in homeless counts and with input from local persons working in the homeless field in Orange County, the working assumption is that, on average, there were two individuals inhabiting a car or a tent, and three individuals inhabiting an RV. Therefore, when the researchers were entering data and came across a row on a tally form that had a car, tent, or RV box marked, and the age group and gender boxes blank, then the researchers followed the above assumption. Specifically, the researchers entered *two* rows in the dataset for each car or tent (i.e., one row of data for each person assumed to be inside) and *three* rows for each RV (leaving the age group and gender columns in each row blank). If the researchers came across a row on a tally form that had a car, tent, or RV box marked, *and* had the age group, gender boxes or family indicators marked, then the researchers did not follow the assumption. They simply entered *one* row of data for each individual observed because the volunteer could see inside the vehicle or tent.

Establishing the "Raw" Number of Persons Counted

In addition to counting the number of people or tents/vehicles, the volunteer teams were also asked to estimate the age of the people observed, the gender of the people observed

and whether the person appeared to be with a family group. Family groups were identified by volunteers in the field by circling individual observations thought to be part of a family group. During data entry, researchers made diligent efforts to ensure that the data as noted by volunteers was recorded correctly – when marks on tally sheets were illegible or contradictory, researchers reviewed margin notes for additional information. These cleaning efforts allowed for the most accurate count of data as recorded in the field. However, perhaps due to the weather conditions on the morning of the count, there were many observations missing age and/or gender. Because age category is required to complete the HUD population tables, the researchers calculated an assumed age for the 40% of the observations missing age. The researchers calculated the proportion of people in each age category for the 60% of the observations *with* an observed age and applied these proportions to the observations without an age.

In total, the volunteers counted 1,618 people on the night of the PIT. Of the 1,618 people, 67 were observed to be in 32 family groups (including multiple adult groups and groups with adults and minor children); the remaining 1,551 people were observed on their own, as individuals, including one unaccompanied minor.

Weighting the "Raw" Count to Account for All Known Areas

As each of the five deployment centers had their own geographic sample, this weighting was done independently to each of the five samples. Only two of the deployment centers did not cover all of their areas and, therefore, required statistical extrapolation to estimate the actual number of homeless that could have been counted.

Once the "raw" Count of actual observations was recorded, a survey researcher applied statistical weights to the counts in the warm areas to account for areas not covered on the morning of the Count and generate the final estimates of the number of unsheltered homeless people. First, a distinction was made between the number of individuals counted in each high-density (hot) area and those counted in low-density (warm) areas. The consultants and researcher analyzed the data from the warm areas first. Across all

Deployment Centers (DC), there were 81 warm areas that had the possibility of being sampled. Of the 81 areas, volunteers covered 72, yielding a coverage rate of 89 percent. The table below shows the coverage rate by DC.

Table 26: Coverage Rate by Deployment Center

	DC 1	DC 2	DC 3	DC 4	DC 5	Total
Possible Warm Areas	14	28	13	15	11	81
Covered Areas	14	20	12	15	11	72
Coverage %	***100%***	***71%***	***92%***	***100%***	***100%***	***89%***

Of particular note is that 3 of the five DCs were successful in covering 100% of the areas. Therefore, estimation techniques were only required for DC 2 and DC 3. The bike area was also not considered in this process, as the bike area was not a mapped area and not considered either "hot" or "warm". The Count tally from the bike area was later added to the total from the five deployment centers to establish the County-wide unsheltered Count estimate. [18]

Data from each warm area in each DC was then passed on to the Ph.D. researcher, who utilized statistical analysis techniques to extrapolate the data for DC 2 and DC 3. Several estimates were developed that reflected the data required on the HUD form and included the following: Households with at least one adult and one child (total number of households, total number of persons and total number of persons under 18, between 18 and 24, and over 24); Households without children (total number of households, total number of persons and total number of persons between 18 and 24, over 24 and unknown); and Households with only children (total number of households, number of one-child households, number of multi-child households and number of children in multi-child households).

[18] See the Statistical Process Table in Technical Appendix I for more detail on this process.

Regardless of the particular estimate, the same process was followed. Likewise, each DC was treated as an independent sample, and the sum of estimates across DC was used for the final HUD estimate. This process is described below using data from DC 2 as an example.

Data were extracted to reflect the total number of individuals counted in each of the warm areas by DC. Following the formula found in Thompson's work (2002[19]), the sample mean was calculated (Equation 1).

Equation 1: $$\bar{y} = \frac{1}{n}\sum y$$

In Equation 1, *n* is the number of areas sampled and *y* is the number of people in each sampled area. Using this equation, the average number of individuals found across the 20 sampled warm areas in DC 2 was 6.25. (The sample variance and the variance of the mean were also calculated, the former being required for the latter. Both the sample variance and the variance of the mean are utilized below in Equation 3.)

Equation 2 was used to calculate the estimate of individuals who would have been counted had all 28 sampling areas been observed. In equation 2, *N* represents the total number of warm areas and *y* represents the sample mean found above (i.e., 6.25 people). Using Equation 2, it was estimated that 175 individuals would have been counted in the 28 warm sampling areas.

Equation 2: $$\tau = N\bar{y}$$

The variance associated with the estimate was then calculated. The variance associated with the estimate is critical for determining the confidence intervals surrounding the estimate. Equation 3 was used to calculate the variance. In Equation 3, s^2 represents the sample variance.

[19] Thompson, S. K. (2002). Sampling: Second Edition. Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York.

Equation 3: $$\mathrm{var}(\tau) = N^2 \,\mathrm{var}(\bar{y}) = N(N-n)\frac{s^2}{n}$$

Finally, the confidence intervals for the estimate of 175 individuals were calculated. Confidence intervals represent the range of values within which one can be sufficiently sure the true value lies. So for example, the 99% confidence interval for the total number of individuals who would have been counted if all warm areas were counted in DC 2 is between 26 and 349. This means that the researchers can be 99% sure that the "true" value of the number of homeless individuals is somewhere in that range. Equation 4 was used to calculate the confidence interval. In Equation 4, *t* is the value from a standard Student's *t* distribution with *n-1* degrees of freedom.

Equation 4: $$CI = \tau \pm t\sqrt{N(N-n)\frac{s^2}{n}}$$

Once the confidence intervals were calculated for the warm areas, the results from the hot areas were added to those estimates in order to arrive at the final range of possible people, and the average of the low and high end of the range is the number that gets reported to HUD.

In our case, for DC 2, the 99% confidence intervals for the warm areas were estimated to be 26 and 349. When added to the observed Count in the hot areas for DC 2 (N=159), the result was a possible absolute low of 185 people (159 + 26) and an absolute high of 508 (159 + 349). The average of 185 and 508 is 347, the total number of people reported to HUD for DC 2.

Following the same process for DC 3 and then adding the observed counts from the remaining warm and hot areas as well as the bike area, the total number of homeless people reported to HUD is 1,678. See the final statistical processing chart in Technical Appendix I for all the details and final numbers related to the statistical weighting process.

Cleaning Survey Data

In addition to the Count tally, volunteers completed 494 surveys of persons encountered during the count. After entering the data, the research team thoroughly reviewed and cleaned the data to arrive at a set of survey information from unsheltered homeless respondents. First, the researchers removed 76 surveys from respondents who refused to participate and thus, had no data in the respondent portion of the survey. Refusal could be for multiple reasons, including language barriers, lack of time or simply lack of interest. Next, researchers removed 7 surveys that were incomplete and did not contain sufficient data to allow the researchers to ascertain the respondents' housing status. After removing these incomplete and refused surveys, there were 411 surveys with sufficient data to determine housing status with.

Of the 411 complete surveys, 23 indicated that they spent the prior night in a non-homeless living situation, including with friends/family, in an institution or in their own rental unit. Consistent with the survey instructions, these surveys were stopped as it was assumed these respondents were not homeless. The researchers removed these surveys from the subset of 411 complete surveys to arrive at the 388 surveys of homeless respondents. Because the Orange County homeless Count was conducted in the morning and many respondents were encountered after overnight shelters had closed, an additional step was included to remove surveys of homeless respondents who indicated that they had spent the prior night in an emergency shelter. Given the time of these encounters, it is expected that these people had just left the shelter, and, therefore, would be counted in the sheltered portion of the homeless count. There were 59 respondents residing in emergency shelters; removing these surveys left 329 complete surveys of unsheltered persons from which to derive population characteristics.

Table 27: Process of Reaching Final Survey Dataset

Total Surveys Returned	494	100%
Step 1: Remove Refusals	*(-76)*	*-15.4%*
Step 2: Remove Incomplete Surveys	*(-7)*	*-1.4%*
SUBTOTAL "USEABLE" SURVEYS	**411**	**83.2%**
Step 3: Remove Surveys for non-Homeless		
Housed in own unit	*(-10)*	*-2.0%*
Permanent Supportive Housing	*0*	*0.0%*
Living with Friends/Family	*(-7)*	*-1.4%*
Institutional	*(-4)*	*-0.8%*
Hotel/Motel (without a voucher)	*(-1)*	*-0.2%*
"Other" (undetermined) Housing	*(-1)*	*-0.2%*
SUBTOTAL SURVEYS OF HOMELESS RESPONDENTS	**388**	**78.5%**
Step 4: Remove Surveys for Sheltered Homeless		
Living in Shelter	(-59)	*-11.9%*
Living in Transitional Housing	0	*0.0%*
FINAL SURVEY DATASET OF UNSHELTERED HOMELESS	**329**	**66.6%**

Additional cleaning was conducted for question 2, which collected information on the respondent's age, family composition and age of family members. While surveyors were trained to prompt at each question whether the relation is someone they would live with (versus just reporting how many siblings one had, for example), the data suggests that respondents did not always make this distinction.

Applying Survey Data to Count to Determine Subpopulation Characteristics

Using the subset of surveys of unsheltered respondents, the researchers were able to calculate the proportion of survey respondents who met certain subpopulation characteristics. Characteristics explored included not only the HUD required subpopulations (chronically homeless, HIV/AIDS, veterans, etc.) but also general

demographic characteristics (age, gender, race, etc.). Because the survey was conducted concurrent with the count, the unsheltered survey respondents are a subset of all of the unsheltered persons counted. Therefore, it can be reliably assumed that the subpopulation characteristics of the survey respondents are comparable to all of the unsheltered persons counted.

To arrive at the Count of persons in each subpopulation, the researchers applied the proportion of survey respondents meeting the particular characteristics to the weighted estimate of persons counted County-wide. While there were 329 surveys of unsheltered persons available to derive these proportions, because not every respondent fully answered all questions (e.g. they may have skipped only one or two questions, but the remaining data was useable) or because some subpopulation characteristics only apply to certain respondents (e.g. a veteran by definition must be an adult), the calculated proportion was only of those surveys of eligible respondents who gave a valid answer (don't know/refused *is* valid; missing is not valid). The table below shows the number of surveys used to calculate the proportions for each HUD sub-population characteristic.

Table 28: Number of Surveys Used for HUD Sub-populations

Subpopulation	Eligible Surveys with Non-Missing Answer	
	Number	Percent with Characteristic
Chronically Homeless Individuals	329	39.8%
Chronically Homeless Families [20]	75	2.7%
Persons in Chronically Homeless Families[21]	N/A	N/A
Veterans	312	16.0%
Female Veterans	312	0.6%
Severely Mentally Ill	312	22.4%
Chronic Substance Abuse	321	44.9%
Persons with HIV/AIDS	314	1.6%

[20] The "N" for chronically homeless families represents the number of surveys from respondents with family compositions including a minor child.

[21] Because of the many inconsistencies in the survey question on family composition (Q2), family composition was derived solely from count data. See section 5, "Key Changes from Previous Counts" for more detail.

With the exception of chronically homeless families, all of the subpopulation data was a simple multiplication formula – percent of survey respondents meeting the characteristic multiplied by the total number of (weighted) persons counted. However, because the Count is primarily of individual people, this same logic incorrectly inflated the number of chronically homeless families and people in these families. As discussed in the "Key Changes from Previous Counts" section of this report, the survey question on family composition produced significantly different counts and sizes of families than were observed by volunteers on the morning of the count.

Given this discrepancy, the researchers first converted the Count from one of people to one of households. Of the estimated 1,618 persons, 1,551 were individual households and 67 people were in 32 households of more than one person. The total households counted, therefore, was 1,583, of which 2 percent (32) were households of more than one person. The 2 percent was then applied to the weighted count of 1,678, giving a total of 34 weighted family households. Using this same logic, the researchers determined that of the 329 survey respondents, 77% were individuals and 33%, or 75, were in household of more than one person. Of the 75 households, only two (2.7%) met the household composition, disability and length of time homeless characteristics to be counted as chronically homeless. Applying the proportion of surveyed chronically homeless families (2.7%) to the Count of all families (34) arrives at a Count of chronically homeless families of one. The survey data can then be used to determine the Count of people in those chronically homeless families. From the survey, there were nine people total in the two chronically homeless families, for an average household size of 4.5. Applying this average household size to the one calculated chronically homeless family in the Count creates an estimate of five people in chronically homeless families.

Table 29: Process of Chronically Homeless Families Results

a	Total "raw" observations of people	1,618
b	*# Individual People*	1,551
c	*# People in HHs of 2 or more*	67
d	Total individual HHs	1,551
e	Total HHs of 2+ people	32
f	% of multi-person HHs	2.02%

g	Total weighted Count of people	1,678
h	Total weighted individual HHs (g x (d/(d+ e)))	1,644
i	Total weighted multi-person HHs (g x (e/(d + e)))	34

j	Total unsheltered surveys	329
k	Surveys of individuals	254
l	Surveys of persons in multi-person HHs	75
m	Surveys of CH families (subset of l)	2
n	Percent of surveyed HHs that are CH (m ÷ l)	2.67%
o	Number of people in CH families	9
p	Average size of CH families (o ÷ m)	4.5

q	Count of CH families (i x n)	1
r	Count of people in CH families (p x q)	4

Appendix I: Statistical Process 2013 Final Chart

Statistical Process Chart							
Updated 03-27-13							
Category	**Total Area 1**	**Total Area 2**	**Total Area 3**	**Total Area 4**	**Total Area 5**	**Total Area bike**	***GRAND TOTAL***
Households with at least one Adult and one Child							
Number of Households	1	0	0	0	0	0	**1**
Total Number of Persons	3	0	0	0	0	0	**3**
number under 18	1	0	0	0	0	0	**1**
number 18-24	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
number over 24	1	0	0	0	0	0	**1**
unknown**	1	0	0	0	0	0	**1**
Households without Children							
Number of Households	341	342	207	448	227	77	**1,642**
Total Number of Persons	342	347	209	467	232	77	**1,674**
number 18-24	25	18	11	48	5	0	**107**
number over 24*	195	232	140	236	95	0	**898**
unknown**	122	99	74	183	132	77	**686**
Households with only Children							
Number of Households	1	0	0	0	0	0	**1**
one-child households	1	0	0	0	0	0	**1**
multi-child households	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
number of children in multi-child households	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Total							
TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	343	342	207	448	227	77	**1,644**
TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE	346	347	209	467	232	77	**1,678**
For the HUD Tables, the numbers in **bold underlined** font will be used.							

Appendix J: Estimated Number of Homeless People Annually Based on Point-in-Time Count

The Orange County shelter system is characterized by three large seasonal shelters and a number of smaller year round shelters. Because of this dynamic, the generally accepted annualization formula developed by Martha Burt and Carol Wilkins for the Corporation for Supportive Housing does not correctly capture the nuances of the shelters in Orange County. In addition to having a shelter system that is dominated by seasonal beds, Orange County also has very complete and accurate HMIS data on clients staying in most of these shelters. The CSH formula both presumes that communities do not have accurate information on stay patterns of individual clients and that all of the shelters in the system are available year round. In order to accommodate the Orange County seasonal shelter system, and use more precise data on stay patterns available in the OC Partnership HMIS has allowed for a more accurate estimation of people experiencing homelessness annually in Orange County.

The formula as proposed in the CSH guidance (insert footnote reference) must be modified in two ways:

1. For the three seasonal shelters, the average length of stay for that program will be divided into the total days that the shelter was open during the year, rather than 365. Doing this captures the true turnover which is then multiplied by the persons in that shelter on the night of the PIT to capture the total stays during the season.
2. The formula suggests dividing the number of multiple stayers during a year by the total number of persons in the shelter on the night of the PIT to calculate the proportion of clients that have multiple stays. While this is a good approximation, as OCP has actual data on the proportion of stayers over a year that is single stayers, this will be substituted for the approximation.

The adjusted formula for Orange County is:

A + ((B * 127/C) * (1-D)) + ((E * 127/F) * (1-G)) + ((H *120/I) * (1-J)) + ((K * 365/L) * (1-M))

The Armory and Family Re-Direction programs were open for the 2012 season for 127 days from December 5, 2011 to April 10, 2012. The Interim Supportive Shelter Program was open for the 2012 season for 120 days, from December 1, 2011 to March 30, 2012.

Table 30: Annualization Figures

A	PIT Count of Currently homeless	4251
B	PIT Count in The Armory	408
C	Proportion of persons in The Armory with 2+ emergency shelter stays	4.03
D	Proportion of persons in The Armory with 2+ emergency shelter stays	0.616674
E	PIT Count in Family Re-Direction	96
F	Average LOS for the Family Re-Direction	16.53
G	Proportion of persons in Family Re-Direction with 2+ stays	0.067568
H	PIT Count in Interim Supportive Shelter Program	253
I	Average LOS for Interim Supportive Shelter Program	85.14
J	Proportion of person in Interim Supportive Shelter Program with 2+ stays	0.034314
K	PIT Count of all other shelter programs	388
L	Average LOS for all other shelter programs	49.28
M	Proportion of persons in all other shelter program with 2+ stays	0.130548

And results in an annualized count of: **12,707**

Table 31: Average Length of Stay [22]

Average Length of Stay
Data used to create variables "C" and "D" in annualizing point-in-time homeless counts (see previous page).
C = 11.81
D = 3,283/1,145 = 2.9

Provider	Program	(Days) Average Length of Stay	# Stays	Total Days
Friendship Shelter-Self-Sufficiency Program	Friendship Shelter-Self-Sufficiency Program	152.24	83	12,636
Interfaith Shelter Network	Interfaith Shelter Network	97.45	29	2,826
Illumination Foundation	Interim Supportive Shelter Program	85.14	617	52,530
Precious Life Shelter	Precious Life Shelter	11.22	92	1,032
Illumination Foundation	Recuperative Care Program	13.92	177	2,464
Mercy House	Family Redirection Program	16.53	215	3,554
Collette's Children Home	FV/Emergency Housing Program	44.37	27	1,198
Friendship Shelter	SHIP/ISN (Self-Help Interfaith Program)	34.50	2	69
Grandma's House of Hope	Santa Ana ESG	28.00	1	28
Mercy House	Armory Emergency Shelter	4.03	7,933	31,991
TOTAL (weighted) AVERAGE		***11.81***	***9,176***	***108,328***

	Year Round	Armory	ISSP	FRP
Total Unduplicated count	***383***	***2147***	***612***	***148***
Total People who had more than one shelter stay	***50***	***1324***	***21***	***10***

AVERAGE YEAR ROUND LOS	***49.28***
AVERAGE ARMORY LOS	***4.03***
AVERAGE ISSP LOS	***85.14***
AVERAGE FRP LOS	***16.53***

[22] Data for this table was compiled by staff at OC Partnership from an HMIS report generated in April, 2013. The dataset included all closed emergency shelter stays that had at least one open date between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2012.

Table 31: Average Length of Stay (Cont.)

Number of Shelter Stays	Total Clients	Total Clients (Non-Armory)
1	1,872	1,062
2	410	66
3	253	11
4	172	4
5	121	
6	90	
7	68	
8	65	
9	34	
10	36	
11	44	
12	19	
13	26	
14	18	
15	17	
16	14	
17	9	
18	2	
19	2	
20	5	
21	2	
23	1	
24	2	
25	1	
	3,283	

Appendix K: Count Data Collection Tool and Instructions

OC Partnership Homeless Count 2013 – Unsheltered Tally Form MAP/TEAM #: _____

Names of all Volunteers in the Team: _____

_____

Use One Line Per Person, Circle Family Groups

A Family Group can be a single adult/couple with children OR two adults without children who appear to be a couple. Fill in ONE ROW for EACH individual in the family group and then circle the two or more rows that are included in that family group.

If you come across a car, tent, or RV, DO NOT attempt to count how many people are in there. Simply check the appropriate box in ONE row and move on. The researchers will account for the fact that, in many cases, it is likely that there is more than one person inside.

	Location of Observation	Age Group (If Age and/or Gender cannot be determined, then leave blank)	Gender
1	☐ Street ☐ Car ☐ Tent ☐ RV ☐ Park ☐ River/Creek Bed	☐ Child 12 or under ☐ Adult 25-64 ☐ Teen 13-17 ☐ Senior 65+ ☐ Adult 18-24	☐ M ☐ F
2	☐ Street ☐ Car ☐ Tent ☐ RV ☐ Park ☐ River/Creek Bed	☐ Child 12 or under ☐ Adult 25-64 ☐ Teen 13-17 ☐ Senior 65+ ☐ Adult 18-24	☐ M ☐ F
3	☐ Street ☐ Car ☐ Tent ☐ RV ☐ Park ☐ River/Creek Bed	☐ Child 12 or under ☐ Adult 25-64 ☐ Teen 13-17 ☐ Senior 65+ ☐ Adult 18-24	☐ M ☐ F
4	☐ Street ☐ Car ☐ Tent ☐ RV ☐ Park ☐ River/Creek Bed	☐ Child 12 or under ☐ Adult 25-64 ☐ Teen 13-17 ☐ Senior 65+ ☐ Adult 18-24	☐ M ☐ F
5	☐ Street ☐ Car ☐ Tent ☐ RV ☐ Park ☐ River/Creek Bed	☐ Child 12 or under ☐ Adult 25-64 ☐ Teen 13-17 ☐ Senior 65+ ☐ Adult 18-24	☐ M ☐ F
6	☐ Street ☐ Car ☐ Tent ☐ RV ☐ Park ☐ River/Creek Bed	☐ Child 12 or under ☐ Adult 25-64 ☐ Teen 13-17 ☐ Senior 65+ ☐ Adult 18-24	☐ M ☐ F
7	☐ Street ☐ Car ☐ Tent ☐ RV ☐ Park ☐ River/Creek Bed	☐ Child 12 or under ☐ Adult 25-64 ☐ Teen 13-17 ☐ Senior 65+ ☐ Adult 18-24	☐ M ☐ F

OC Partnership Point-in-Time Homeless Count, January 2013
INSTRUCTIONS AND PROTOCOLS FOR VOLUNTEER TEAMS

COUNT FORM INSTRUCTIONS

Team Member Names
Please fill in the names of all people in your team. PLEASE NOTE THAT NAMES WILL **NOT** BE PUBLISHED IN ANY REPORTS RESULTING FROM THIS COUNT. However, we hope to contact you to volunteer for the next count.

REMEMBER TO USE ONLY **ONE LINE PER PERSON**!

Location of Observation
Check the box that describes the location where you are counting that homeless person. Please note that if you see a car, tent, or RV that is being used for permanent habitation and you are unable to clearly see how many inhabitants there are, then just check the car, tent, or RV box and leave the age and gender sections blank. If you are able to easily observe the number of people in a car, tent or RV, account for each person separately, but be sure to check the car, tent or RV box for each individual observed.

Age Group and Gender
Please make your best guess if the age group and/or gender of the individual being counted is not clear. If the age or gender cannot be determined or if the person is part of a "default" number in a car, tent, or RV in which you cannot observe the number of occupants, then leave these sections blank.

Circling Family Groups
If you see a family group standing, sitting, or sleeping next to each other, then mark ONE ROW for EACH person and then circle the two or more rows that make up the family group. Please keep in mind a family group DOES **NOT** HAVE TO INCLUDE CHILDREN. A Family Group can be two adults.

PROTOCOLS FOR WHO TO COUNT

Do not wake up or disturb any individual being counted – Do not wake any sleeping individuals and do not ask people in cars, tents, or RVs to come out and talk with you. The exception to this rule is if law enforcement initiates communication, or if you announce yourself and the person exits their vehicle/tent. You should only announce yourself if people can see you approaching and/or if you think you might scare them as you approach. Remember that you are in their "living room" and so you want to avoid stepping right up next to their vehicle window or tent door.

Count everyone that you see – The only exceptions to this rule are: people who are clearly working (such as construction or road maintenance workers), cars that are driving by (cars and RVs that appear to be inhabited on a permanent basis must be stationary to allow for close observation by the team to determine if it should be counted), and people conducting ordinary business at 24-hr services (such as a gas station or grocery store). Count everyone else, even if you doubt they are homeless.

Tents, Vehicles (Car or RV) – If you see a tent or vehicle that appears to be permanently inhabited and you do not see people standing/sitting next to it or if you announce yourself and no one responds, then simply check the box and move to the next row (skipping age group and gender). Clues to know if there are people living inside include if the vehicle is on and running (this provides heat to the occupants) or if it is parked in a parking lot, behind a shopping center, or in an alley. If you do see people standing or sitting next to the tent or vehicle, then use one row for each individual and be sure to mark age group and gender.

Confidentiality - The count is confidential and anonymous. Please do not record any identifying information, particularly the names – or any part of a name – of the people you count, even if personal information is volunteered.

Appendix L: Survey Data Collection Tool

OC PARTNERSHIP HOMELESS COUNT SURVEY 2013

READ TO RESPONDENT:

Hello, my name is _____. I'm a volunteer with OC Partnership and I have a small gift for you [hand respondent $5 fast food gift card]. We're conducting a short survey, and if you participate, I have an additional gift for you. The survey gathers information that helps the community get funding for homeless services and housing. May we have a few minutes of your time?

We won't ask your name or other identifying information, and all of your responses are strictly confidential. Your honest response is important to help us keep the housing funds we have for Orange County. Your participation is voluntary. You may stop the interview at any time, or refuse to answer any questions that make you uncomfortable. When we are finished I have a small gift to thank you for your time. [Gift is 2 one-day bus passes]

If it's OK, I'll start the questions now. I need to read each one all the way through.

FILL OUT THIS TABLE FOR EVERYONE YOU APPROACH. DO NOT READ TO RESPONDENT.

Survey Date: 01-26-2013 Area Number:	If Interview Not Started, Why? ( )Minor child.....1 ( )Refused (Did not want to participate).....2 ( )Respondent Too Disabled.....3 ( )Language Barrier.....4 ( )Individual was Sleeping.....5 ( )In a Tent.....6 ( )In a Car.....7 ( )In a building.....8 ( )Other (fill in).....9 _____
Complete by Observation: **Gender:** **( ) Male……1** **( ) Female……2** **( ) Other/Unknown…3**	If Language Barrier, Please Guess Which Language: ( ) Spanish……1 ( ) Asian……2 ( ) Other……3 ( ) Unknown……4

1. Where did you stay last night?

READ CHOICES UNTIL RESPONDENT SAYS "YES," IF YOU CHECK A BOX IN THE TOP TABLE, MOVE TO THE NEXT PAGE.

☐	1. **Shelter** for single adults or youth or families
☐	2. The **streets, a vehicle, an abandoned building, bus/train station, camping not in a designated campground, sleeping anywhere outside**, or other place not meant for human habitation
☐	3. **Hotel, motel**, or campground paid for **with emergency shelter voucher**
☐	4. Friend or family's **garage, backyard, porch, shed, or driveway**
☐	5. **Transitional housing** for homeless adults, families or youth (where I pay rent and can live up to two years and receive services)
☐	6. Hospital, nursing facility, psychiatric hospital,or other mental health facility
☐	7. **Jail, prison** or juvenile detention facility
☐	8. **Permanent housing for formerly homeless** persons
☐	9. **Foster care** home or foster care group home
☐	10. Substance abuse **treatment facility or detox** center
☐	11. In a **friend or family member's** room, apartment, or house
☐	12. Other, Specify: _____

IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED 1-12, PLEASE GO TO THE NEXT PAGE.

☐	13. **Hotel or motel** paid for **without** emergency shelter voucher
☐	14. Room, apartment or house that you **rent** (subsidized or not)
☐	15. Apartment or house that you **own**
☐	16. REFUSED

IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED 13-16, PLEASE <u>STOP INTERVIEW NOW, THANK RESPONDENT FOR TIME, OFFER A GIFT.</u>

2. These next questions are about the people in your immediate family. We need to count every person, and we need to know an age category for everyone. By immediate family, we mean the people who live with you now some of the time or all of the time, so that if you moved to another residence, they would move with you. **PROMPT**: Remember that everything you tell us is confidential.

A	Let's start with: Yourself, one (1) person. HOW OLD ARE YOU? _____ MARK "1" BY AGE GROUP RESPONSE	___ 25 or older.....1 ___ 18 to 24.....2 ___ 17 or under.....3 DON'T KNOW.....98 REFUSED.....99
B	Do you currently live **alone** or **with others**, like a partner or other family members?	☐ Alone.....1 ☐ With other.....2 ☐ DON'T KNOW.....98 ☐ REFUSED.....99
C	So, the total number in your immediate family is: IF RESPONDENT LIVES ALONE, MARK "1"	**If 1, GO TO Q#3** _____ NUMBER ☐DON'T KNOW.....98 ☐REFUSED 99
Now we need to know the age category for everyone in your immediate family.		
D	If you live with a spouse or partner, how old is that person? MARK # BY AGE GROUP RESPONSE	☐☐ NONE.....0 ___ 25 or older.....1 ___ 18 to 24.....2 ___ 17 or under.....3 DON'T KNOW .....98 REFUSED.....99
E	Your children, or your spouse's children How many children do you and your spouse have living with you in your immediate family, some of the time or all of the time? How many children are in each age group? MARK # BY AGE GROUP RESPONSE; TOTAL SHOULD EQUAL RESPONSE ABOVE	WRITE RESPONSE FOR TOTAL CHILDREN _____ ☐☐ NONE.....0 ___ 25 or older.....1 ___ 18 to 24 .....2 ___ 17 or under.....3 DON'T KNOW 98 REFUSED 99
F	Brothers or sisters living with you How many in each age group? MARK # BY AGE GROUP RESPONSE	☐☐ NONE 0 ___ 25 or older.....1 ___ 18 to 24.....2 ___ 17 or under.....3 DON'T KNOW 98 REFUSED 99
G	Other relatives or friends living with you in your immediate family How many in each age group? MARK # BY AGE GROUP RESPONSE	☐☐ NONE 0 ___ 25 or older.....1 ___ 18 to 24.....2 ___ 17 or under.....3 DON'T KNOW 98 REFUSED 99

3. How much of the last 12 months have you been homeless? By "homeless" I mean living in a shelter, on the streets, in a car, or in other places not meant for habitation.
PROMPT: Your best estimate is fine.

MARK ONLY ONE

DAYS _____
WEEKS _____
MONTHS _____
ALL OF IT / ENTIRE TIME 12
NONE OF THE LAST 12 MONTHS 0
DON'T KNOW 98
REFUSED 99

4. How many separate times in the past 3 years have you lived in a shelter, on the streets, in a car, or in other places not meant for habitation?
PROMPT: How many separate times?

MARK ONLY ONE

This is my first time..... 1
2 to 3 times..... 2
4 times or more 4
All of it / entire time 5
NONE 0
DON'T KNOW..... 98
REFUSED 99

5. Have you ever served in the US Armed Forces, or were you ever activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist?

YES 1
NO..... 2
DON'T KNOW..... 98
REFUSED 99

READ TO RESPONDENT: Now I have some personal questions regarding your experiences with disabilities and alcohol/drug use. Please remember that all your responses are kept confidential and anonymous.

6. The next questions are about your health and any disabilities you may have. Which of these statements are true for you? **PROMPT:** Is that true for you? **MARK ALL THAT APPLY**	YES 1	NO 2	D.K. 98	REF 99
A. I am physically disabled				
B. I am developmentally disabled				
C. I am disabled by mental illness				
D. I have tested positive for HIV/AIDS				
E. I am disabled by HIV/AIDS				
F. I regularly use alcohol.				
G. I regularly use drugs.				
H. I have learning disabilities				
I. I am disabled by something else (write in comment below)				
RESPONDENT COMMENT, IF ANY _____				

7. **IF THE RESPONDENT LIVES ALONE, THEN SKIP THIS QUESTION:**

Is there another adult who lives with you who has a physical or developmental disability, a disabling mental illness, is disabled by HIV/AIDs, or regularly uses alcohol or drugs?

YES (1) NO (2) DON'T KNOW (98) REFUSED (99)

8. When you were a child, before the age of 18, were you ever placed in a foster home, a group home, or any other kind of institution? MARK ALL THAT APPLY

No, never 0
A foster home 1
A group home 2
Another kind of Institution 3
DON'T KNOW 98
REFUSED 99

9. For classification purposes, we'd like to know your racial background. Please tell me if you describe yourself as: MARK ALL THAT APPLY

Native Hawaiian ……1
Other Pacific Islander ……2
American Indian or Alaskan Native……..3
Asian ……4
Hispanic/Latino/Mexican ……..5
White ……6
Black or African American ……..7
Other ……...8
What else?_____
DON'T KNOW ……98
REFUSED ……99

10. **DO NOT READ TO RESPONDENT**

If you could not get an answer about respondent's age, please make your own best guess:

( ) Under 18 years old (17 or younger)……1
( ) 18 to 24 years……2
( ) 25 or older……3

Thank you very much. We're done with our questions. We really appreciate your help.

OFFER THE RESPONDENT THE SECOND GIFT.

For further Information:

	Karen Williams Chief Operating Officer OC Partnership 1505 E. 17th Street Suite 108 Santa Ana, CA 92705	714-288-4007 info@ocpartnership.net www.ocpartnership.net
	Kelly Lupro Homeless Prevention Division OC Community Services 1770 North Broadway Santa Ana, CA 92706	kelly.lupro@occr.ocgov.com http://occommunityservices.org/hcd/homeless
	Megan Kurteff Schatz Principal Focus Strategies 1760 Creekside Oaks Drive Suite 120 Sacramento, CA 95833	916-949-9619 Megan@focusstrategies.net www.focusstrategies.net