San Francisco Youth Homeless Count & Survey
2019 Executive Summary

Every two years, during the last 10 days of January, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of the local homeless populations in order to measure the prevalence of homelessness in each local Continuum of Care.

The 2019 City and County of San Francisco Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on January 24, 2019. While the entire county was canvassed by teams of volunteers, teams led by young people with lived experience of homelessness conducted a supplemental count of youth under the age of 25. In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to 184 unsheltered and sheltered unaccompanied youth in order to profile their experience and characteristics.

### 2015-19 Homeless Youth Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
<th>Sheltered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1,473</td>
<td>1,274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1,145</td>
<td>1,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1,274</td>
<td>1,145</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2019 Sheltered/ Unsheltered Youth Population

- **18%** Sheltered
  - n=201
- **82%** Unsheltered
  - n=944

### Race/ Ethnicity

- **41%** Multiracial
- **29%** Black
- **23%** White
- **27%** Latina
- **68%** Non-Latina
- **5%** Don't Know/ Refuse

### LGBTQ+ Status

- **46%** Yes
- **54%** No

### Gender

- **48%** Male
- **40%** Female
- **8%** Transgender
- **4%** Genderqueer/ Gender Non-Binary

### Foster Care

- **29%** of survey respondents have been in the foster system.

### Experience with Violence in the Past Year

- **57%** Robbed or Burglarized
- **40%** Assaulted/ Physically Attacked
- **31%** Victim of Any Other Crime

### Primary Cause of Homelessness*

- **20%** Argument with Family/Friend
- **15%** Lost Job
- **13%** Alcohol/ Drug Use
- **9%** Mental Health Issues
- **9%** Family/ Domestic Violence

### 2019 Total Sheltered/ Unsheltered Population by District

**HOUSEHOLD BREAKDOWN**

- Unaccompanied Age 18-24: 1,091 Individuals
  - **17%** Sheltered
  - **83%** Unsheltered
- Unaccompanied Under 18: 54 Individuals
  - **24%** Sheltered
  - **76%** Unsheltered

*Top 5 Responses

**CONFIDENTIAL/ SCATTERED SITE** 6
## Contributing Causes to Youth Homelessness
Top 5 Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emotional Abuse</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Issues</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Issues</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Issues</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Abuse</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## First Episode of Homelessness
36% of survey respondents reported currently experiencing homelessness for the first time.

##duration of Current Episode of Homelessness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 Days or Less</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-11 Months</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Year or More</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Self-Reported Health*
Current health conditions that may affect the housing stability or employment of those experiencing homelessness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatric/Emotional Conditions</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol &amp; Drug Use</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Disability</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Health Problems</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traumatic Brain Injury</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS Related Illness</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

##Disabling Conditions
41% of survey respondents reported that at least one of their health conditions was disabling.

## Residence Prior to Homelessness
San Francisco: 48%

## Education & Employment
58% of survey respondents were either currently in school or employed.

## Juvenile Justice System Involvement
24% of survey respondents reported involvement in the justice system before age 18.

## Services & Assistance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Stamps/SNAP/WIC/CalFresh</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MediCal/Medicare</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA/CAAP/CAPI</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSI/SSDI</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Benefits Currently Accessing*
Top 5 Responses

##Obstacles to Permanent Housing*
Top 5 Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obstacle</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Can’t Afford Rent</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Job/Income</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Housing Available</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Process too Difficult</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Money for Moving Costs</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Contributing Causes to Youth Homelessness

- Emotional Abuse
- Financial Issues
- Physical Issues
- Mental Health Issues
- Sexual Abuse

## Education & Employment
58% of survey respondents were either currently in school or employed.

## Services & Assistance
- Food Stamps/SNAP/WIC/CalFresh: 32%
- MediCal/Medicare: 20%
- GA/CAAP/CAPI: 17%
- SSI/SSDI: 4%
- Social Security: 2%
- Unemployment: 2%

## Obstacles to Permanent Housing*

- Can’t Afford Rent: 48%
- No Job/Income: 35%
- No Housing Available: 20%
- Housing Process too Difficult: 18%
- No Money for Moving Costs: 12%

## Subpopulation Definitions

- **Chronically Homeless**
  - An individual with one or more disabling conditions or a family with a head of household with a disabling condition who:
    - Has been continuously homeless for 1 year or more and/or;
    - Has experienced 4 or more episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years.

- **Veterans**
  - Persons who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

- **Families**
  - A household with at least one adult member (persons 18 or older) and at least one child member (persons under 18).

- **Unaccompanied Youth & Young Adults**
  - Youth under the age of 18 and young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 years old who are experiencing homelessness and living without a parent or legal guardian.

*Multiple response question, results may not add up to 100%.

Only displaying top responses, all response data are available in the full report.

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