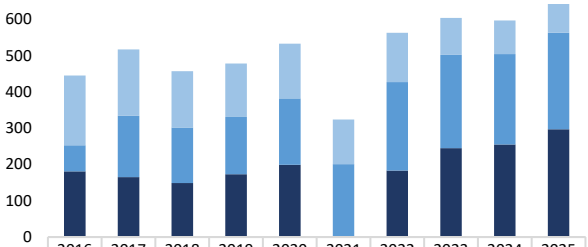
2025 Kitsap County Point in Time Count Overview – *Preliminary Data*

The "Point in Time" count is an annual survey that gathers information about people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period at the end of January. This survey provides critical information regarding the scope and nature of homelessness in our community and can impact funding for homeless housing and services. Because participating in the survey is voluntary, and relies on volunteers finding people experiencing homelessness, it is considered to be an undercount of the actual number of people experiencing homelessness. Participants are surveyed in a number of locations throughout the county including the Project Connect Resource Fairs[1], food banks/meal sites, in encampments, and on the streets.

Increasing Numbers of Unsheltered Individuals

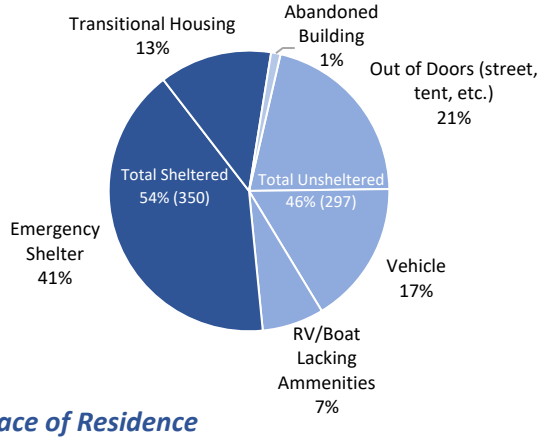
The 2025 count of 297 unsheltered individuals indicates a 16% increase from 2024 and a 19% increase from the average of 250 individuals in the prior 2 years. Note that additional shelter beds were in operation from 2021-2025. The unsheltered count was not performed in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic*.



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Transitional Housing	192	183	155	147	151	123	136	102	93	84
Emergency Shelter	72	169	153	158	183	201	244	257	249	266
Unsheltered	181	165	149	173	199	*	183	245	255	297
Sheltered Total	264	352	308	305	334	324	380	359	342	350
Total Count	445	517	457	478	533	324	563	604	597	647

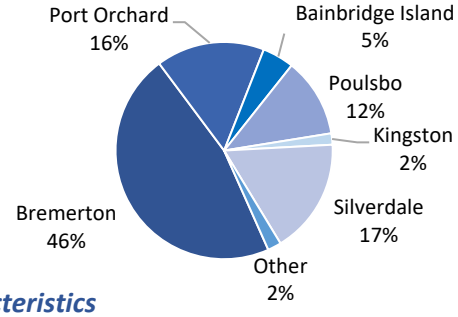
Defining Sheltered vs. Unsheltered

For the purposes of this survey, information is collected on sheltered (in emergency shelter or transitional housing) vs. unsheltered homelessness. In the 2025 count, 297 people said they were unsheltered. The majority of those who were unsheltered indicated they lived outside in places not meant for human habitation.



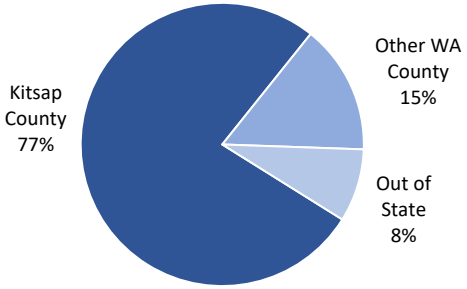
Current City

Efforts were made to survey widely across Kitsap County where households experiencing homelessness were anticipated to be encountered. Participants experiencing unsheltered homelessness (254 households, 297 individuals) were surveyed in the following locations throughout the county.



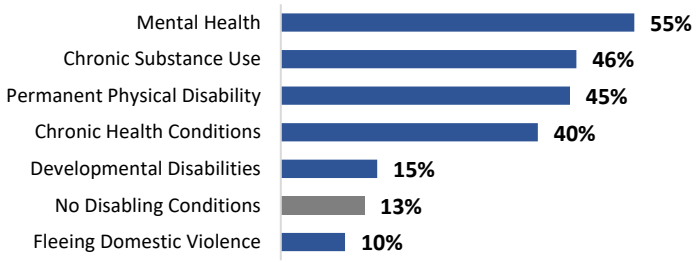
Last Place of Residence

Surveys also collected information about the last city of permanent residence, and 43% of unsheltered households provided this data. 85 (77%) of those households previously had stable housing in Kitsap County.



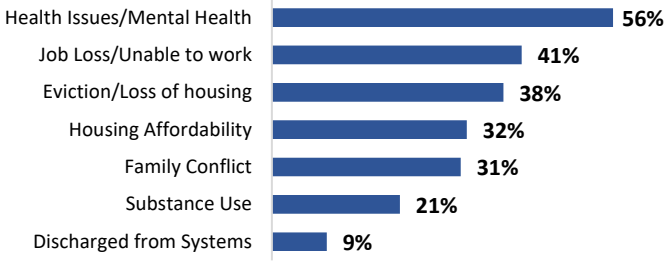
Characteristics

When asked about various personal characteristics, 164 unsheltered heads of households (65%) responded. The most common response from survey participants was that they experienced challenges related to mental health, followed by chronic substance use, permanent disability, and chronic health conditions.



Causes of Homelessness

When asked about the specific cause (or causes) of homelessness, 146 unsheltered households (57%) responded. The most common responses were health issues (disability, illness, mental health), and economic issues (loss of job, unable to work, eviction, and housing affordability)



[1] In 2025 the Project Connect Community Resource fairs were hosted at the Salvation Army in Bremerton, newlife Training & Events Center Silverdale, and at the United Methodist Church in Port Orchard.

Kitsap County Department of Human Services
Housing & Homelessness Division
345 6th St, Suite 400
Bremerton, WA 98337

Cory Derenburger, Division Specialist
360-337-7287
cderenbu@kitsap.gov
https://kcowa.us/kitsap-pit

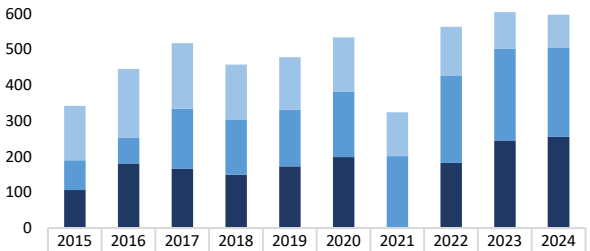
4/1/2025

2024 Kitsap County Point in Time Count Overview – *Preliminary Data*

The "Point in Time" count is an annual survey that gathers information about people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period at the end of January. This survey provides critical information regarding the scope and nature of homelessness in our community and can impact funding for homeless housing and services. Because participating in the survey is voluntary, and relies on volunteers finding people experiencing homelessness, it is considered to be an undercount of the actual number of people experiencing homelessness. Participants are surveyed in a number of locations throughout the county including the Project Connect Resource Fairs[1], food banks/meal sites, in encampments, and on the streets.

Increasing Numbers of Unsheltered Individuals

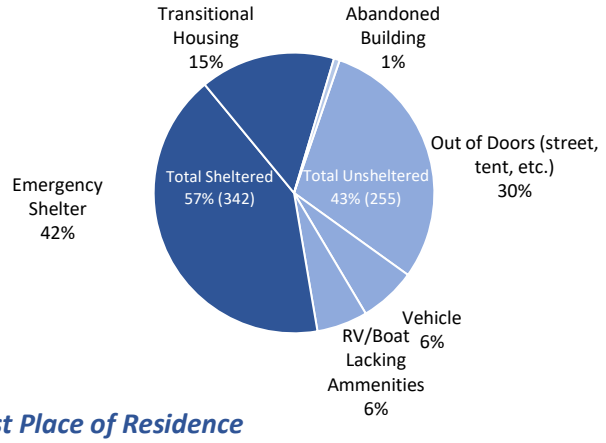
The 2024 count of 255 unsheltered individuals indicates a 4% increase from 2023 and a 19% increase from the average of 214 individuals since 2021. Note that additional shelter beds were in operation during from 2021-2024. The unsheltered count was not performed in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic*.



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Transitional Housing	152	192	183	155	147	151	123	136	102	93
Emergency Shelter	84	72	169	153	158	183	201	244	257	249
Unsheltered	106	181	165	149	173	199	*	183	245	255
Sheltered Total	236	264	352	308	305	334	324	380	359	342
Total Count	342	445	517	457	478	533	324	563	604	597

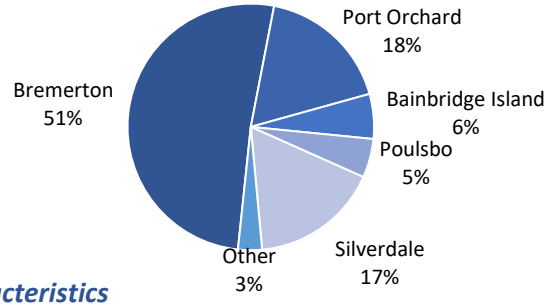
Defining Sheltered vs. Unsheltered

For the purposes of this survey, information is collected on sheltered (in emergency shelter or transitional housing) vs. unsheltered homelessness. In the 2024 count, 255 people said they were unsheltered. The majority of those who were unsheltered indicated they lived outside in places not meant for human habitation.



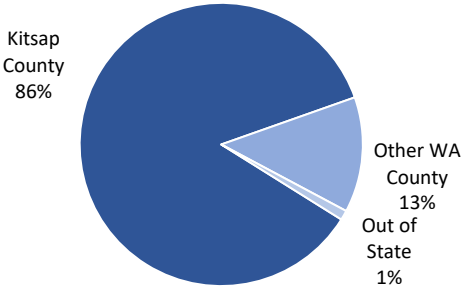
Current City

Efforts were made to survey widely across Kitsap County where households experiencing homelessness were anticipated to be encountered. Participants experiencing unsheltered homelessness (216 households, 255 individuals) were surveyed in the following locations throughout the county.



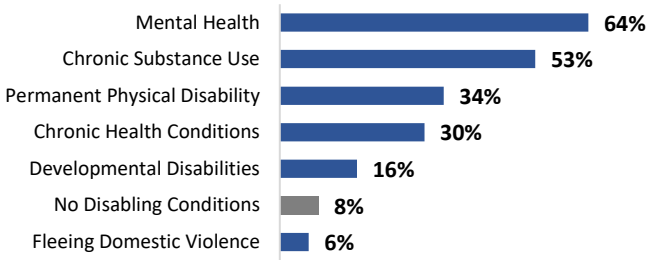
Last Place of Residence

Surveys also collected information about the last city of permanent residence, and 42% of unsheltered households provided this data. 78 (86%) of those households previously had stable housing in Kitsap County.



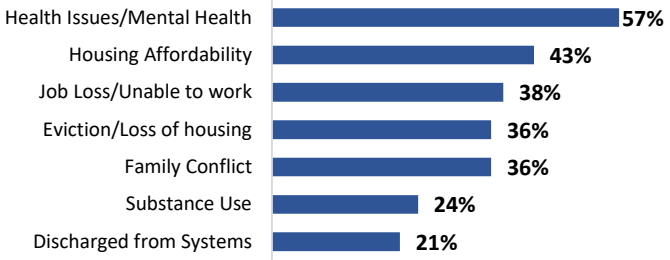
Characteristics

When asked about various personal characteristics, 165 unsheltered heads of households (76%) responded. The most common response from survey participants was that they experienced challenges related to mental health, followed by chronic substance use, permanent disability, and chronic health conditions.



Causes of Homelessness

When asked about the specific cause (or causes) of homelessness, 107 unsheltered households (50%) responded. The most common responses were health issues (disability, illness, mental health), and economic issues (loss of job, unable to work, eviction, and housing affordability)



[1] In 2024 the Project Connect Community Resource fairs were hosted at the Salvation Army in Bremerton, Gateway Fellowship Church in Poulsbo, and at the United Methodist Church in Port Orchard.

Kitsap County Department of Human Services
Housing & Homelessness Division
345 6th St, Suite 400
Bremerton, WA 98337

Cory Derenburger, Division Specialist
360-337-7287
cderenbu@kitsap.gov
https://kcowa.us/kitsap-pit

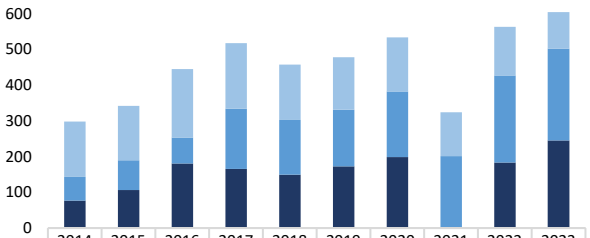
3/13/2024

2023 Kitsap County Point in Time Count Overview – *Preliminary Data*

The "Point in Time" count is an annual survey that gathers information about people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period at the end of January. This survey provides critical information regarding the scope and nature of homelessness in our community and can impact funding for homeless housing and services. Because participating in the survey is voluntary, and relies on volunteers finding people experiencing homelessness, it is considered to be an undercount of the actual number of people experiencing homelessness. Participants are surveyed in a number of locations throughout the county including the Project Connect Resource Fairs[1], food banks/meal sites, in encampments, and on the streets.

Increasing Numbers of Unsheltered Individuals

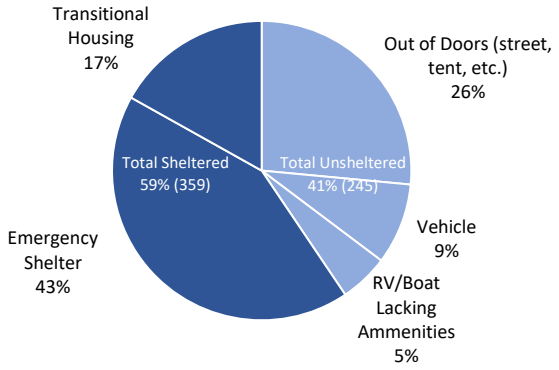
The 2023 count of 245 unsheltered individuals indicates an 34% increase from 2022 and a 23% increase from the prior highest count of 199 in the year 2020. Note that additional shelter beds were in operation during from 2021-2023. The unsheltered count was not performed in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic*.



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Transitional Housing	155	152	192	183	155	147	151	123	136	102
Emergency Shelter	66	84	72	169	153	158	183	201	244	257
Unsheltered	77	106	181	165	149	173	199	*	183	245
Sheltered Total	221	236	264	352	308	305	334	324	380	359
Total Count	298	342	445	517	457	478	533	324	563	604

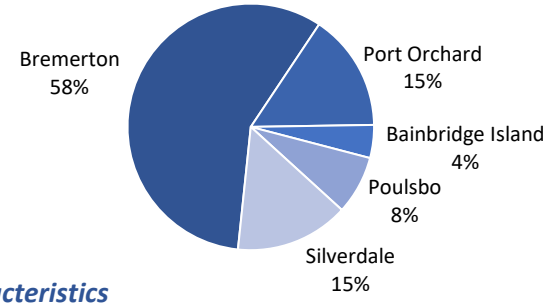
Defining Sheltered vs. Unsheltered

For the purposes of this survey, information is collected on sheltered (in emergency shelter or transitional housing) vs. unsheltered homelessness. In the 2023 count, 245 people said they were unsheltered. The majority of those who were unsheltered indicated they lived outside in places not meant for human habitation.



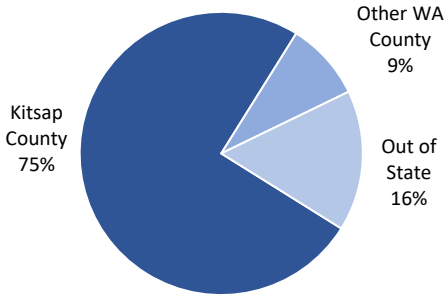
Current City

Efforts were made to survey widely across Kitsap County where households experiencing homelessness were anticipated to be encountered. Participants experiencing unsheltered homelessness (210 households, 245 individuals) were surveyed in the following locations throughout the county.



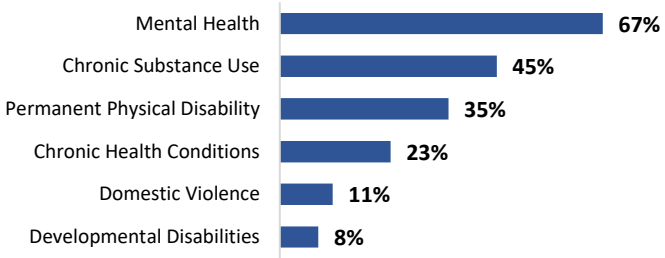
Last Place of Residence

Surveys also collected information about the last city of permanent residence, and 27% of unsheltered households provided this data. 42 (75%) of those households previously had stable housing in Kitsap County.



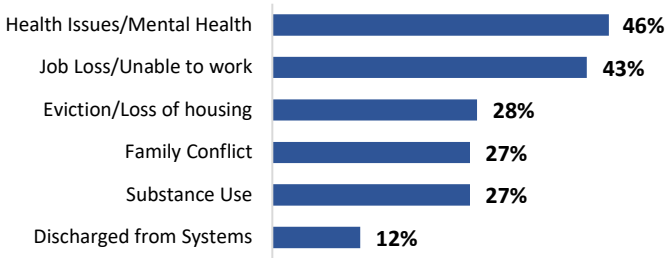
Characteristics

When asked about various personal characteristics, 142 unsheltered heads of households (68%) responded. The most common response from survey participants was that they experienced challenges related to mental health, followed by chronic substance use, permanent disability, and chronic health conditions.



Causes of Homelessness

When asked about the specific cause (or causes) of homelessness, 113 unsheltered households (54%) responded. The most common response was health issues (including mental health), economic issues (loss of job or unable to work) and housing issues (eviction or loss of housing).



[1] In 2023 the Project Connect Community Resource fairs were hosted at the Salvation Army in Bremerton, Gateway Fellowship Church in Poulsbo, and at the United Methodist Church in Port Orchard.

Kitsap County Department of Human Services
Housing & Homelessness Division
345 6th St, Suite 400
Bremerton, WA 98337

Cory Derenburger, Division Specialist
360-337-7287
cderenbu@kitsap.gov
https://kcowa.us/kitsap-pit

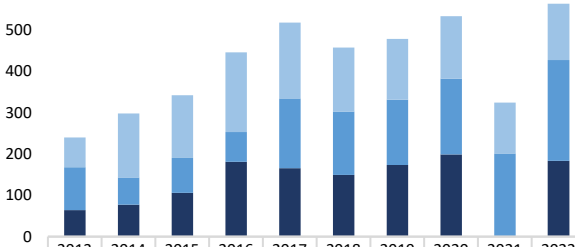
3/21/2023

2022 Kitsap County Point in Time Count Overview – *Preliminary Data*

The "Point in Time" count is an annual survey that gathers information about people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period at the end of January. This survey provides critical information regarding the scope and nature of homelessness in our community and can impact funding for homeless housing and services. Because participating in the survey is voluntary, and relies on volunteers finding people experiencing homelessness, it is considered to be an undercount of the actual number of people experiencing homelessness. Participants are surveyed in a number of locations throughout the county including food banks/meal sites, in encampments, and on the streets. In 2022, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the date of the count was moved to the end of February and Project Connect Resource fairs were not offered throughout the county, limiting surveyor reach to households experiencing homelessness.

Steady Numbers of Unsheltered Individuals

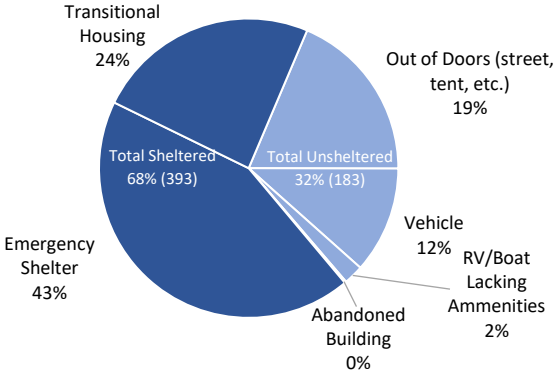
The 2022 count of 183 unsheltered individuals indicates an 8% decrease from 2020 and a 6% increase from the 4-year average of 172 individuals. Note that additional shelter beds were in operation during 2021 & 2022. The unsheltered count was not performed in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic*.



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Transitional Housing	72	155	152	192	183	155	147	151	123	136
Emergency Shelter	104	66	84	72	169	153	158	183	201	244
Unsheltered	64	77	106	181	165	149	173	199	*	183
Sheltered Total	176	221	236	264	352	308	305	334	324	380
Total Count	240	298	342	445	517	457	478	533	324	563

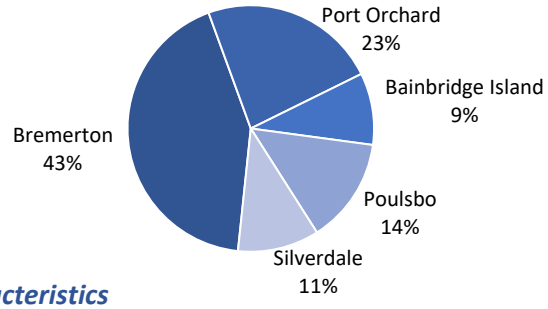
Defining Sheltered vs. Unsheltered

For the purposes of this survey, information is collected on sheltered (in emergency shelter or transitional housing) vs. unsheltered homelessness. In the 2022 count, 183 people said they were unsheltered. The majority of those who were unsheltered indicated they lived outside in places not meant for human habitation.



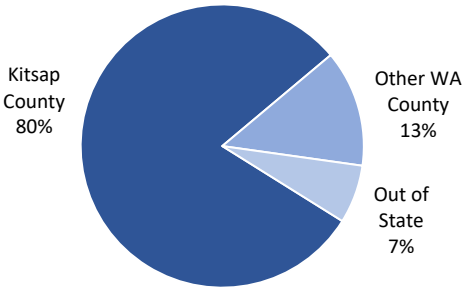
Current City

Efforts were made to survey widely across Kitsap County where households experiencing homelessness were anticipated to be encountered. Participants experiencing unsheltered homelessness (160 households, 183 individuals) were surveyed in the following locations throughout the county.



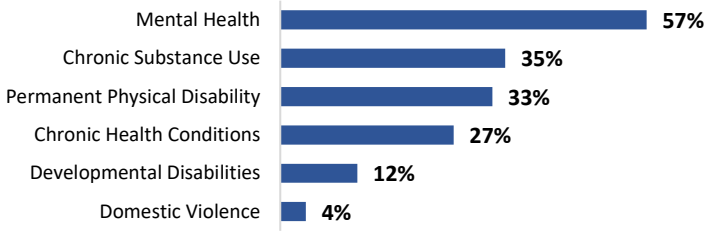
Last Place of Residence

Surveys also collected information about the last city of permanent residence, and 38% of unsheltered households provided this data. 48 (80%) of those households previously had stable housing in Kitsap County.



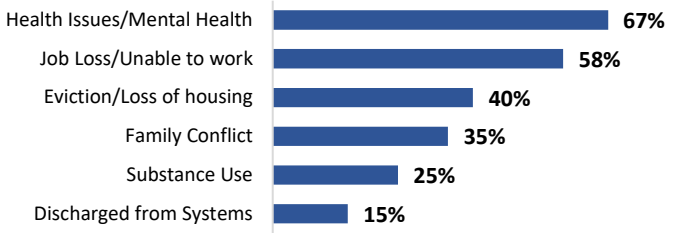
Characteristics

When asked about various personal characteristics, 113 unsheltered heads of households (71%) responded. The most common response from survey participants was that they experienced challenges related to mental health, followed by chronic substance use, permanent disability, and chronic health conditions.



Causes of Homelessness

When asked about the specific cause (or causes) of homelessness, 106 unsheltered households (66%) responded. The most common response was health issues (including mental health), economic issues (loss of job or unable to work) and housing issues (eviction or loss of housing).



Kitsap County Department of Human Services
Housing & Homelessness Division
345 6th St, Suite 400
Bremerton, WA 98337

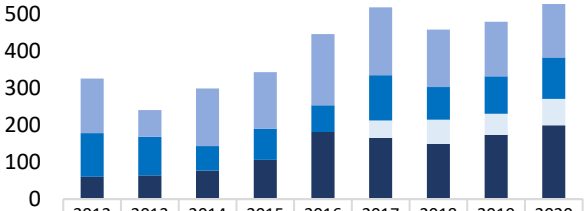
Cory Derenburger, Division Specialist 6/27/2022
360-337-7287
cderenbu@kitsap.gov
https://www.kitsapgov.com/hs/Pages/HH-Point-in-Time.aspx

2020 Kitsap County Point in Time Count Overview – *Preliminary Data*

The "Point in Time" count is an annual survey that gathers information about people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period at the end of January. This survey provides critical information regarding the scope and nature of homelessness in our community and can impact funding for homeless housing and services. Because participating in the survey is voluntary, and relies on volunteers finding people experiencing homelessness, it is considered to be an under count of the actual number of homeless. Participants are surveyed in a number of locations throughout the county including the Project Connect Resource Fairs[1], food banks/meal sites, in encampments, and on the streets.

Increasing Numbers of Unsheltered Individuals

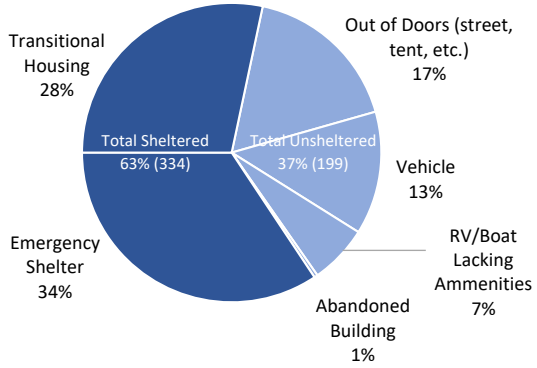
The 2020 count of 199 unsheltered individuals indicates a 15% increase from 2019 and a 19% increase from the average of 167 individuals over the prior 4 years. Since the opening of the Winter Shelter, the number of sheltered individuals has increased 27% from 264 in January 2016 to 334 in January 2020.



	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Transitional Housing	147	72	155	152	192	183	155	147	151
Emergency Shelter	118	104	66	84	72	122	88	101	112
Winter Shelter						47	65	57	71
Unsheltered	60	64	77	106	181	165	149	173	199
Sheltered Total	265	176	221	236	264	352	308	305	334
Total Count	325	240	298	342	445	517	457	478	533

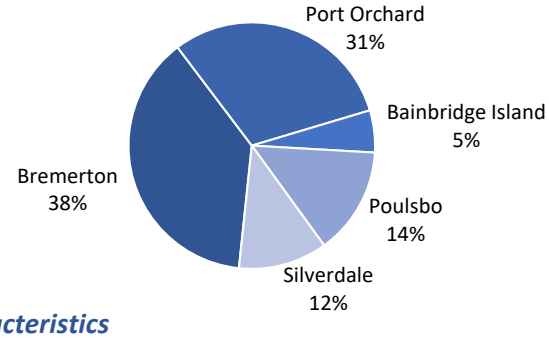
Defining Sheltered vs. Unsheltered

For the purposes of this survey, information is collected on sheltered (in emergency shelter or transitional housing) vs. unsheltered homelessness. In this year's count, 199 people said they were unsheltered. The majority of those who were unsheltered indicated they lived outside in places not meant for human habitation.



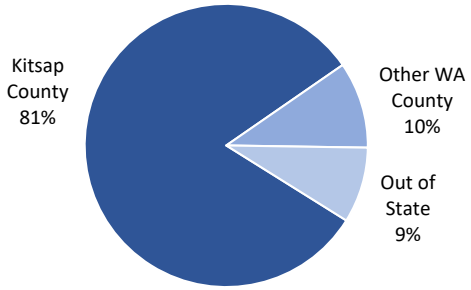
Current City

Increased efforts were made to expand the count in 2020 throughout previously under-counted areas in Kitsap County. Participants experiencing unsheltered homelessness (163 households) were surveyed in locations throughout the county.



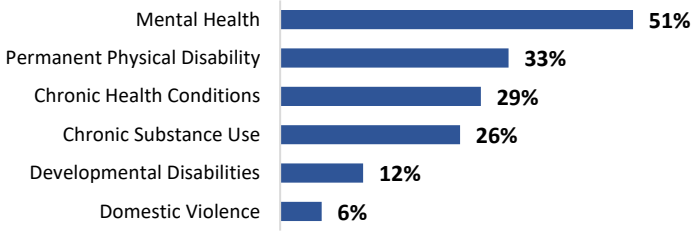
Last Place of Residence

Surveys also collected information about the last city of permanent residence, and 50% of unsheltered households provided this data. 66 (81%) of those households previously had stable housing in Kitsap County.



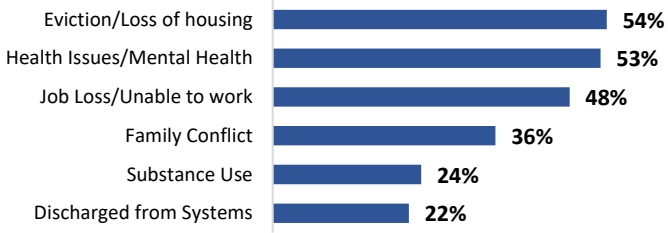
Characteristics

When asked about various personal characteristics, 129 unsheltered heads of households (79%) responded. The most common response from survey participants was that they experienced challenges related to mental health, followed by permanent disability, chronic health conditions, and chronic substance use.



Causes of Homelessness

When asked about the specific cause (or causes) of homelessness, 116 unsheltered households (71%) responded. The most common response was housing issues (eviction or loss of housing), health issues (including mental health), followed by economic issues (loss of job or unable to work).



[1] In 2020 the Project Connect Community Resource fairs were hosted at the Salvation Army in Bremerton, Gateway Fellowship Church in Poulsbo, and at the Givens Center in Port Orchard.

Kitsap County Department of Human Services
Housing & Homelessness Program
345 6th St, Suite 400
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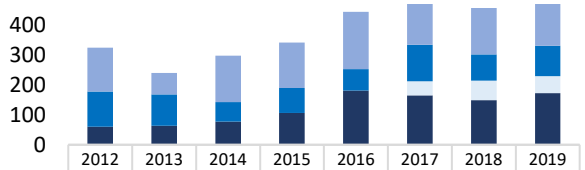
Cory Derenburger, Division Specialist 3/4/2020
360-337-7287
cderenbu@co.kitsap.wa.us
https://www.kitsapgov.com/hs/Pages/HH-Point-in-Time.aspx

2019 Kitsap County Point in Time Count Overview – *Certified Data*

The "Point in Time" count is an annual survey that gathers information about people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period at the end of January. This survey provides critical information regarding the scope and nature of homelessness in our community and can impact funding for homeless housing and services. Because participating in the survey is voluntary, and relies on volunteers finding people experiencing homelessness, it is considered to be an under count of the actual number of homeless. Participants are surveyed in a number of locations throughout the county including the Project Connect Resource Fairs[1], food banks/meal sites, in encampments, and on the streets.

Increasing Numbers of Unsheltered Individuals

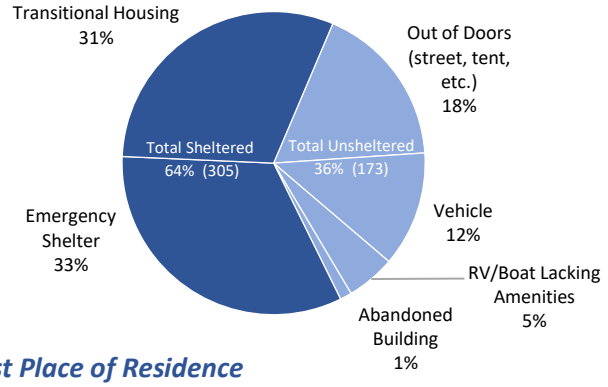
The 2019 count of 173 unsheltered individuals indicates a 16% increase from 2018 and a 5% increase from the average of 165 individuals over the prior 3 years. Since the opening of the Winter Shelter, the number of sheltered individuals has increased 16% from 264 in January 2016 to 305 in January 2019.



	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Transitional Housing	147	72	155	152	192	183	155	147
Emergency Shelter	118	104	66	84	72	122	88	101
Winter Shelter						47	65	57
Unsheltered	60	64	77	106	181	165	149	173
Sheltered Total	265	176	221	236	264	352	308	305
Total Count	325	240	298	342	445	517	457	478

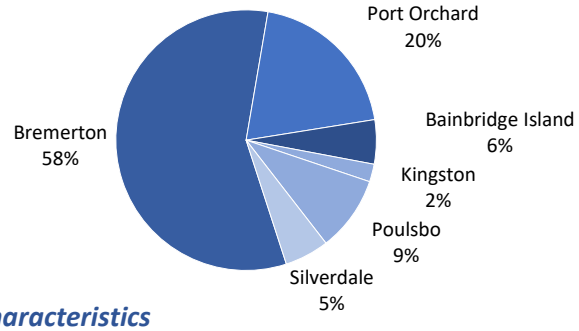
Defining Sheltered vs. Unsheltered

For the purposes of this survey, information is collected on sheltered (in emergency shelter or transitional housing) vs. unsheltered homelessness. In this year's count, 173 people said they were unsheltered. The majority of those who were unsheltered indicated they lived outside in places not meant for human habitation.



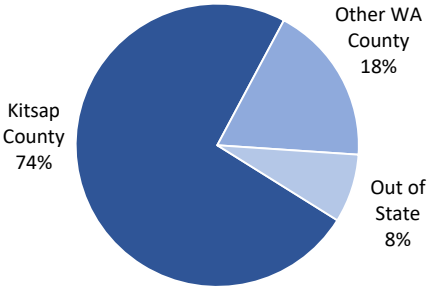
Current City

Increased efforts were made to expand the count in 2019 throughout previously under-counted areas in Kitsap County. Unsheltered participants were asked to provide their current cities of residence, and 85 households (73%) provided this data.



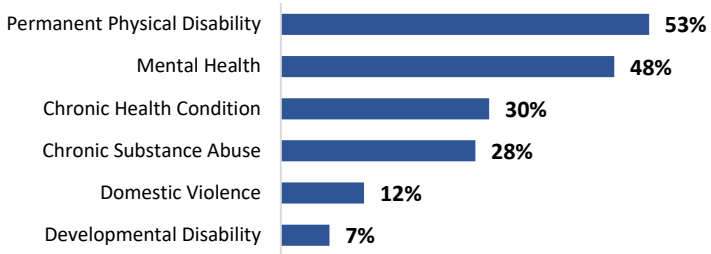
Last Place of Residence

Surveys also collected information about the last city of permanent residence, and 73% of households provided this data. 85 (74%) of those households previously had stable housing in Kitsap County.



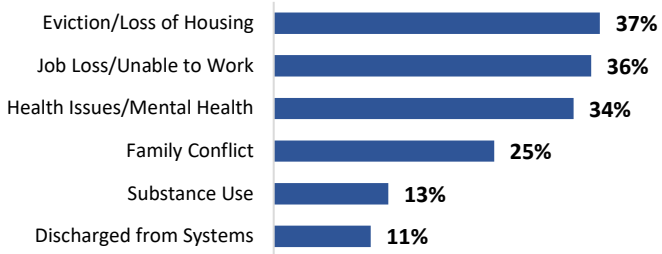
Characteristics

When asked about various personal characteristics, the most common response from survey participants was that they experienced challenges related to permanent physical disability, followed by mental illness, chronic health conditions, and chronic substance use.



Causes of Homelessness

When asked about the specific cause (or causes) of their homelessness, the most common response was housing issues (eviction or loss of housing), economic issues (loss of job or unable to work), followed by health issues (including mental health).



[1] In 2017 the Project Connect was hosted at the Salvation Army in Bremerton. In 2018 and 2019 the Project Connect was additionally offered at the Village Green Community Center in Kingston and at the Givens Center in Port Orchard.

Kitsap County Department of Human Services
Housing & Homelessness Program
345 6th St, Suite 400
Bremerton, WA 98337

Cory Derenburger, Program Specialist
360-337-7287
cderenbu@co.kitsap.wa.us
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8/2/2019

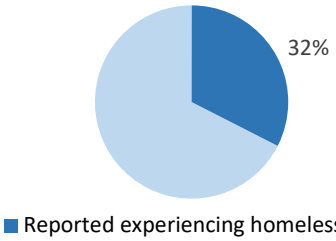
Winter 2019 Kitsap County Point in Time Count – Jail Survey

The "Point in Time" count is an annual survey that gathers information about people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period in January. Kitsap County voluntarily contacts people in the jail to collect details about homelessness within this population.

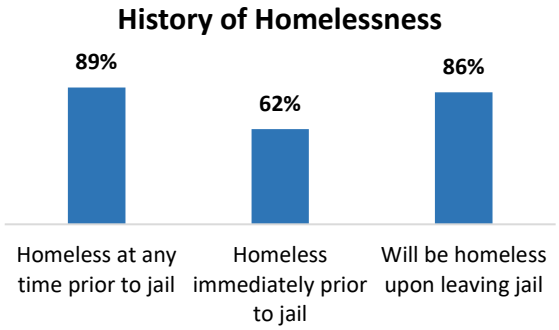
January 2019

Experience of Homelessness

This count is incomplete due to the inability to speak to everyone in the Kitsap County Jail, but represents a snapshot of the experience of homelessness for this population. Surveyors were able to ask 63% (234) of individuals in the general population of the jail if they have experienced homelessness. Of people contacted, 32% (76) of respondents reported homelessness.

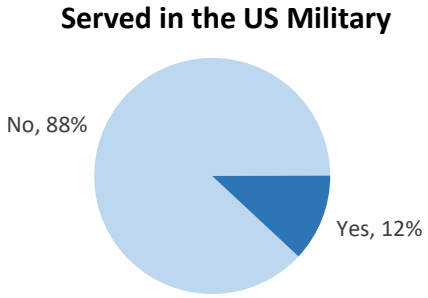


Of those 76 individuals, 89% reported being homeless at any time in their lives, 62% were homeless immediately prior to jail, and 86% expected to be homeless upon leaving jail.



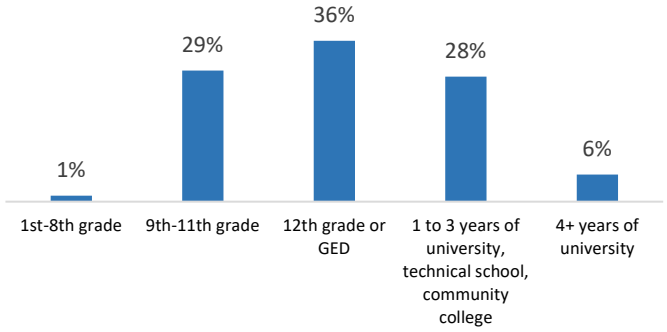
Veterans

9 (12%) survey participants reported that they are United States Veterans.



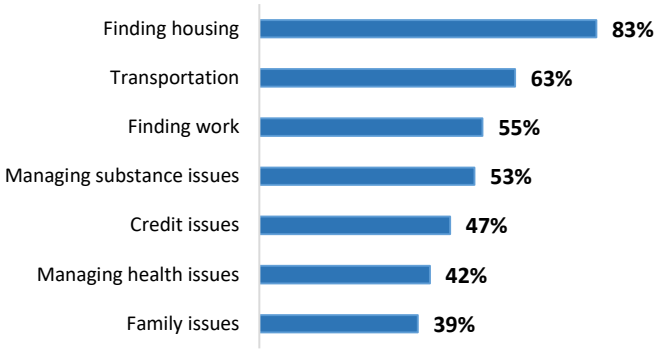
Education

Most (70%) survey participants completed at least 12th grade/GED education or higher education. 34% of participants have attended higher education and 30% of participants have completed less than 12th grade/GED education.



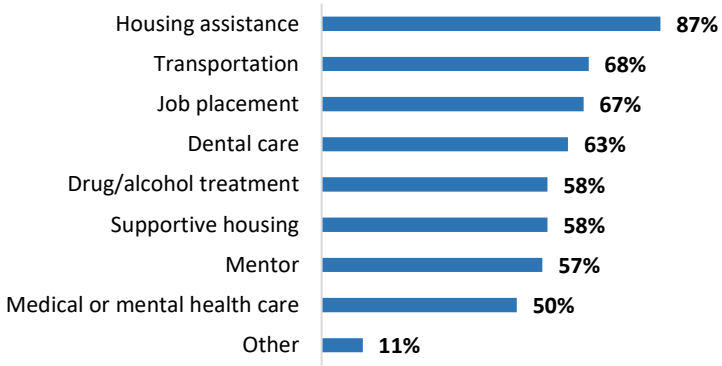
Challenges When Leaving Jail

Of those anticipating homelessness upon release, 83% said finding housing would be a challenge when leaving jail, 63% expect to face transportation issues, 55% indicated challenges finding work, and 53% managing issues with drugs/alcohol.



Services Needed After Jail

Survey participants were asked to choose the services they would most need upon exiting jail. The highest number of responses (87%) was for Housing Assistance and Transportation Assistance (68%).



Kitsap County Department of Human Services
Housing & Homelessness Program
345 6th St, Suite 400
Bremerton, WA 98337

Cory Derenburger, Program Specialist
360-337-7287
cderenbu@co.kitsap.wa.us
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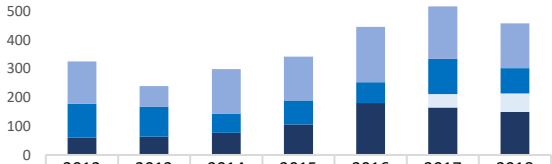
8/5/2019

2018 Kitsap County Point in Time Count Overview – *Certified Data*

The "Point in Time" count is an annual survey that gathers information about people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period at the end of January. This survey provides critical information regarding the scope and nature of homelessness in our community and can impact funding for homeless housing and services. Because participating in the survey is voluntary, and relies on volunteers finding people experiencing homelessness, it is considered to be an under count of the actual number of homeless. Participants are surveyed in a number of locations throughout the county including the Project Connect Resource Fairs[1], food banks/meal sites, and on the streets[2].

Decreasing Numbers of Unsheltered Individuals

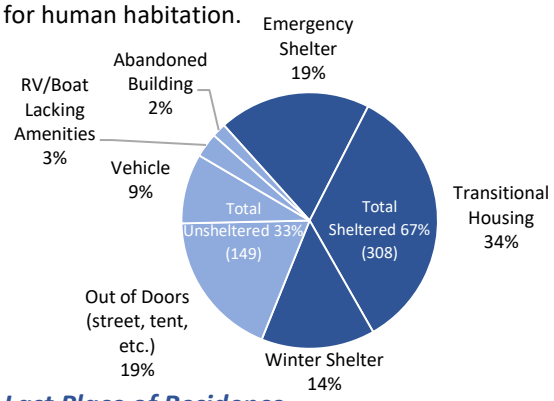
The 2018 count of 149 unsheltered individuals indicates a 18% decreased from the high of 181 in January 2016. Since the opening of the Winter Shelter, the number of sheltered individuals has increased 17% from 264 in January 2016 to 308 in January 2018.



	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Transitional Housing	147	72	155	152	192	183	155
Emergency Shelter	118	104	66	84	72	122	88
Winter Shelter						47	65
Unsheltered	60	64	77	106	181	165	149
Sheltered Total	265	176	221	236	264	352	308
Total Count	325	240	298	342	445	517	457

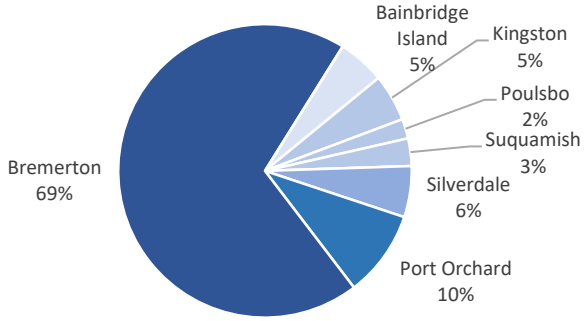
Defining Sheltered vs. Unsheltered

For the purposes of this survey, information is collected on sheltered (in emergency shelter or transitional housing) vs. unsheltered homelessness. In this year's count, 149 people said they were unsheltered. The majority of those who were unsheltered indicated they lived outside in places not meant for human habitation.



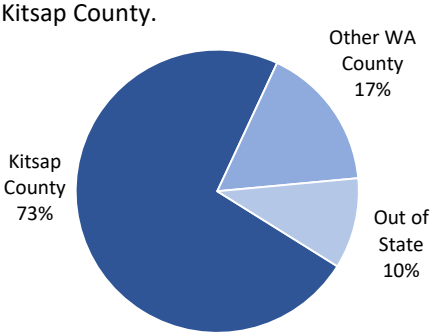
Current City

Increased efforts were made to expand the count in 2018 throughout previously under-counted areas in Kitsap County. Participants were asked to provide their current cities of residence, and 231 (57%) provided this data.



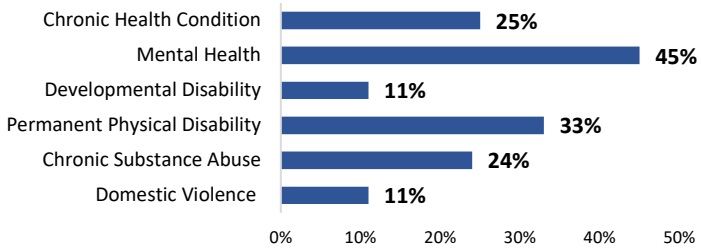
Last Place of Residence

Surveys also collected information about the last city of permanent residence, and 47% of households provided this data. 141 (73%) of those households previously had stable housing in Kitsap County.



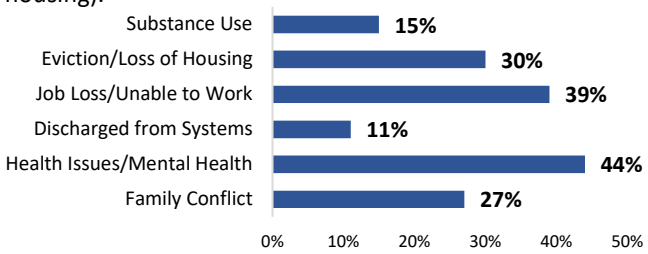
Characteristics

When asked to categorize needs other than housing, the most common response from survey participants was that they experienced challenges related to mental illness, followed by permanent disability, chronic health condition, and chronic substance use.



Causes of Homelessness

When asked the specific cause (or causes) of homelessness, the most common response was health issues (including mental health), followed by economic issues (loss of job or unable to work) and housing issues (eviction or loss of housing).



[1] In 2017 the Project Connect was hosted at the Salvation Army in Bremerton. In 2018 the Project Connect was additionally offered at the Village Green Community Center in Kingston and at the Christian Life Center in Port Orchard.

[2] In 2017 Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Program began organizing outreach efforts to survey for the Point-in-Time Count, which likely resulted in more unsheltered surveys completed across the county.

Kitsap County Department of Human Services
Housing & Homelessness Program
345 6th St, Suite 400
Bremerton, WA 98337

Cory Derenburger, Program Specialist
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cderenbu@co.kitsap.wa.us
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9/21/2018

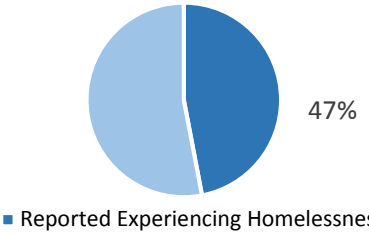
Winter 2018 Kitsap County Point in Time Count – Jail Survey

The "Point in Time" count is an annual survey that gathers information about people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period in January. Kitsap County voluntarily contacts people in the jail to collect details about homelessness within this population.

January 2018

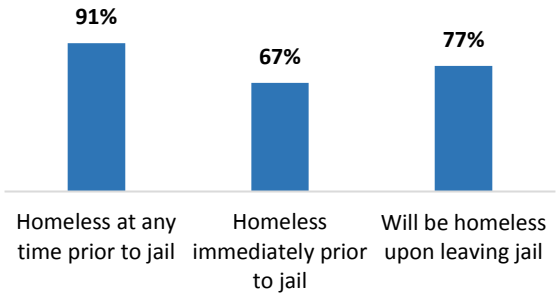
Experience of Homelessness

This count is incomplete due to the inability to speak to everyone in the Kitsap County Jail, but represents a snapshot of the experience of homelessness for this population. Surveyors were able to ask 60% of people (269) in the jail if they have experienced homelessness. Of people contacted, 47% (127) of respondents reported prior experience with homelessness.



Of those 127 individuals, 91% reported being homeless at any time in their lives, 67% were homeless immediately prior to jail, and 77% expected to be homeless upon leaving jail.

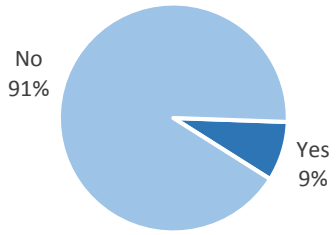
History of Homelessness



Veterans

12 (9%) survey participants reported that they are United States Veterans.

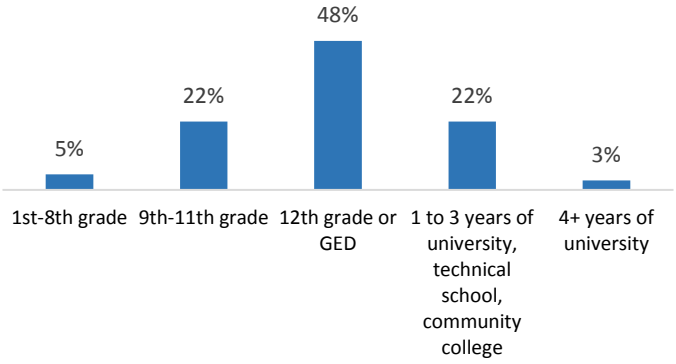
Served in the US Military



Education

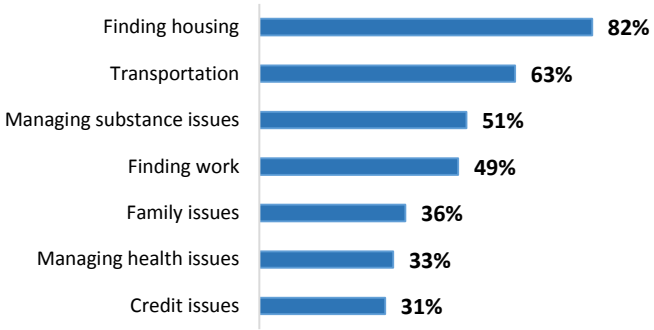
Most (73%) survey participants completed at least 12th grade/GED education or higher education. 25% of participants have attended higher education and 27% of participants have completed less than 12th grade/GED education.

Highest Level of Education Completed



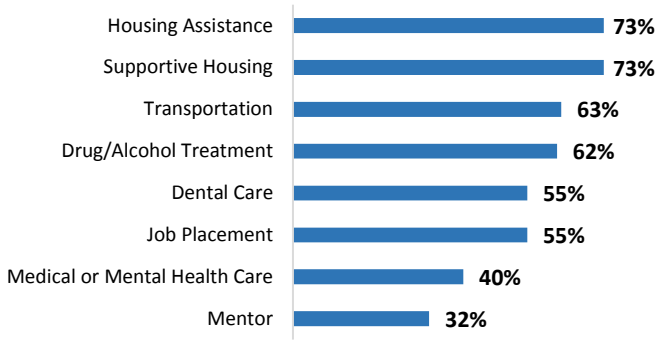
Challenges When Leaving Jail

Of those anticipating homelessness upon release, 82% said finding housing would be a challenge when leaving jail, 63% expect to face transportation issues, 51% indicated challenges managing issues with drugs/alcohol, and 49% anticipate difficulty finding work.



Services Needed After Jail

Survey participants were asked to choose the services they would most need upon exiting jail. The highest number of responses (73%) was for Housing Assistance and Supportive Housing (73%).



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360-337-7287
cderenbu@co.kitsap.wa.us
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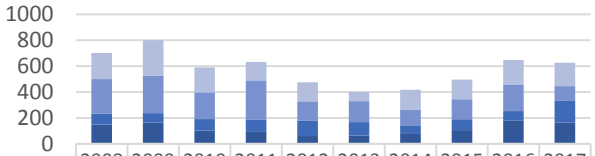
5/24/2018

2017 Kitsap County Point in Time Count Overview – *Certified Data*

The "Point in Time" count is an annual survey that gathers information about people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period at the end of January. This survey provides critical information regarding the scope and nature of homelessness in our community and can impact funding for homeless housing and services.

Consistent Numbers of Unstably Housed Individuals

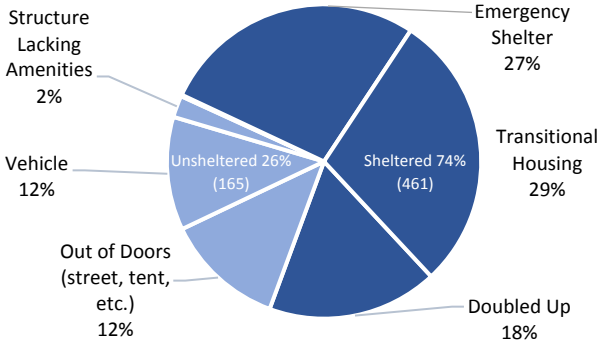
The 2017 count shows consistent numbers of sheltered individuals (466 in 2016 vs 461 in 2017). The number of unsheltered individuals decreased 9% from in 2017, but is still 42% over the average of 116 for the past 10 years.



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Transitional Housing	201	273	192	143	147	72	155	152	192	180
Doubled Up	266	290	207	305	151	162	119	154	202	110
Emergency Shelter	84	73	88	92	118	104	66	84	72	171
Unsheltered	150	164	103	93	60	64	77	106	181	165
Sheltered Total	**551**	**568**	**589**	**540**	**416**	**300**	**340**	**390**	**466**	**461**
Total Count	**701**	**800**	**590**	**633**	**476**	**402**	**417**	**496**	**647**	**626**

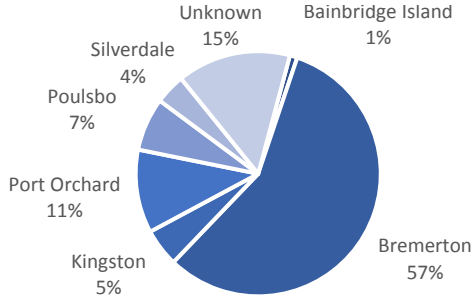
What does unsheltered mean?

For the purposes of this survey, information is collected on sheltered (emergency shelter, transitional housing, doubled up) vs. unsheltered homelessness. In this year's count, 165 people said they were unsheltered. The majority of those who were unsheltered indicated they lived outside in places not meant for human habitation.



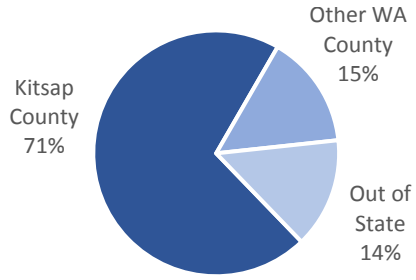
Current City

Increased efforts were made to expand the count in 2017 throughout previously under-counted areas in Kitsap County. Participants were asked to provide their current cities of residence.



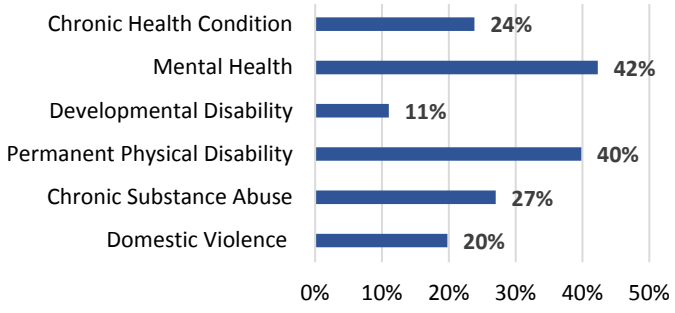
Last Place of Residence

Surveys also collected information about the last city of permanent residence, and 76% of participants provided this data. 151 (71%) of those participants previously had stable housing in Kitsap County.



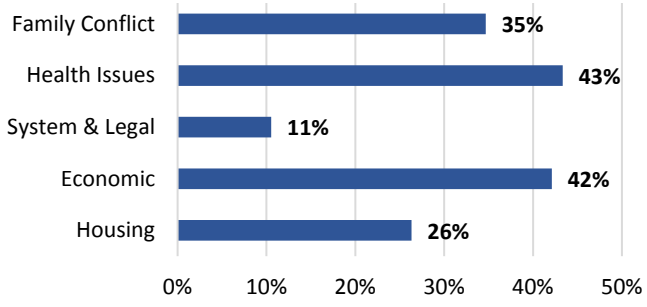
Characteristics

When asked to categorize needs other than housing, the most common response from survey participants was that they experienced challenges related to mental illness, followed by permanent disability and chronic substance use.



Causes of Homelessness

When asked the specific cause (or causes) of homelessness, the most common response was health issues (including mental health), followed by economic reasons and family conflict.



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Bremerton, WA 98337

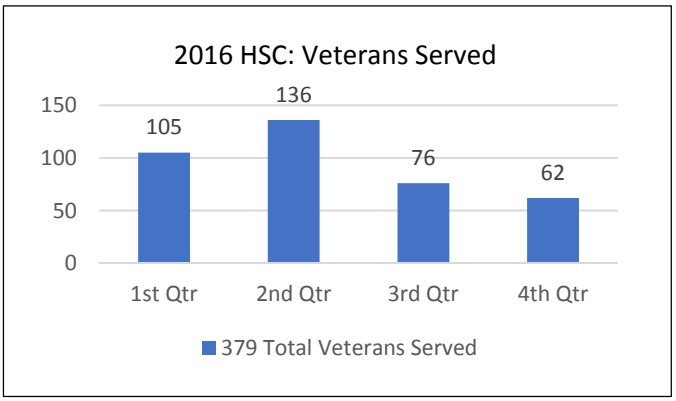
Cory Derenburger, Program Specialist 9/26/2017
360-337-7287
cderenbu@co.kitsap.wa.us
http://www.kitsapgov.com/hs/housing/ReportsAndData.htm

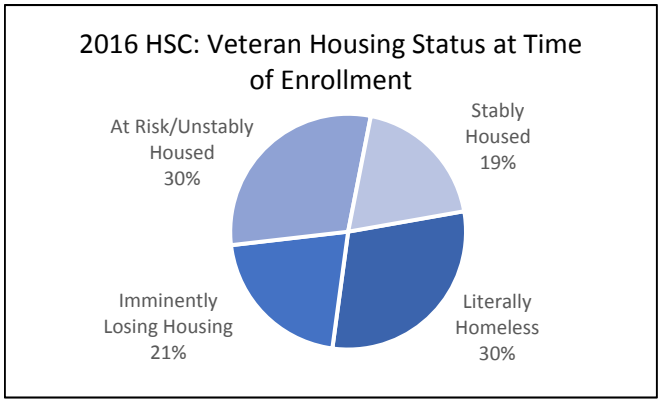
Veteran Homelessness in Kitsap County

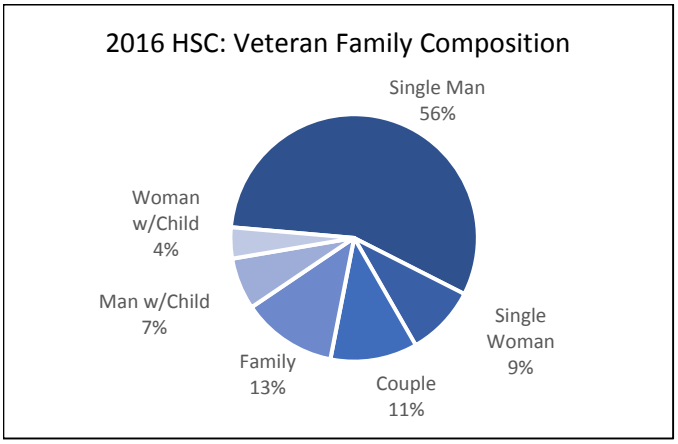
Updated: September 2017

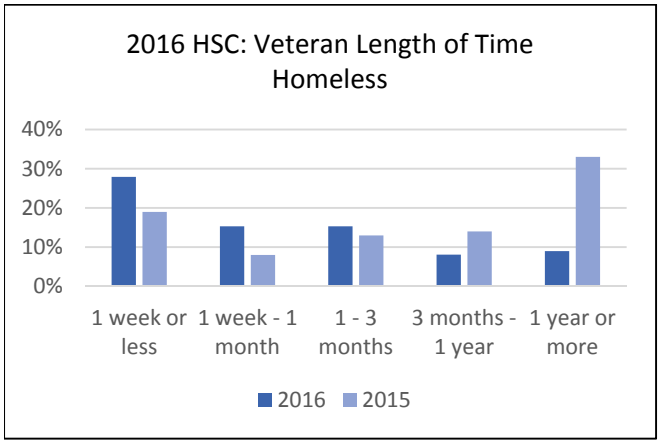
Housing Solutions Center Served 379 Veteran Households in 2016

The Housing Solutions Center (HSC), Kitsap's coordinated entry program for all people needing housing assistance, served an average of 95 veteran households each quarter in 2016. 56% were single men. 30% were literally homeless (unsheltered) and 21% were imminently losing housing. 9% of those who were unsheltered had been homeless for a year or more, down from 33% in 2015.





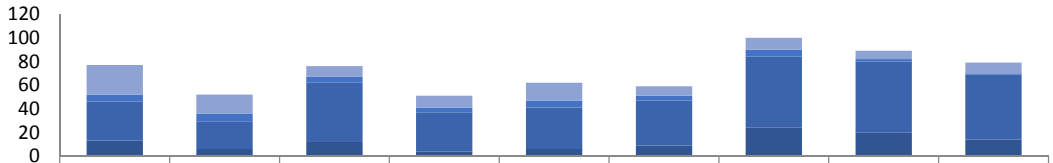




Veterans Surveyed in the Homeless Point In Time Count

The "Point in Time" count is an annual survey that gathers information about people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period in early January and provides critical information regarding the scope and nature of homelessness in our community. During the 2017 count, 100 total homeless veterans were counted. Of those, 21 were unsheltered, living in places not meant for human habitation (outside, vehicle, building lacking one or more basic amenities). *Certified Data*

Kitsap Point in Time Count of Homeless Persons: Veterans



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Summer 2017
Doubled Up	25	16	9	10	15	8	10	7	9
Emergency Shelter	6	7	5	4	6	4	6	2	1
Transitional Housing	33	23	50	33	35	38	60	60	55
Unsheltered	13	6	12	4	6	9	24	20	14
Total	77	52	76	51	62	59	100	89	79

What We Are Doing to Help Homeless Veterans

Homes for All Who Served (HAWS) Initiative

Homes for All Who Served is lead through a collaborative effort of federal, state, and local veteran housing and services providers, with the goal of ending veteran homelessness as soon as possible.

Between July 2015 and September 2017, the *Homes for All Who Served* initiative has assisted **160 veteran households** out of homelessness and onto the path to self-sufficiency. In addition, another 200 veterans have been connected with critical services, such as legal assistance, food, and housing. Additional homeless veterans have been identified and are also being assisted.

HAWS Initiative Projects:

- Developing a Plan to End Veteran Homelessness in Kitsap.
- Outreach to veterans on the By Name List to offer housing and services.
- Improving the accuracy of the veterans counted in the annual Point In Time Count, which is the basis for award of additional HUD Veterans Assistance Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers administered through the Housing Authorities.
- Creating a list of veteran services available in Kitsap and distributing it widely.
- Outreach to landlords requesting their commitment of units for homeless veterans.
- Continuing to align and increase resources to better serve homeless veterans.

Veterans Housing Options Group (VHOG)

A result of the HAWS initiative, each Monday from 1pm – 2pm at Kitsap Community Resources, federal, state, and local veteran housing and service providers hold a Veterans Housing Options Group – an open house for any veterans who need housing assistance. No appointment necessary. The VHOG has helped an average of **10 veterans per week** get connected services with since its inception in October 2015.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)

The SSVF program provides short-term rental assistance and flexible funding to overcome barriers to housing for veteran households. Between July 2015 and September 2017, it assisted **205 veteran households** with connection to permanent stable housing. The program is managed by the Metropolitan Development Council and Catholic Community Services.

Stand Down for Veterans

Stand Downs are services fairs that connect veterans with many local social services and housing programs. They are sponsored by the Kitsap Area Veterans Alliance and the Kitsap County Veterans Program. Stand Downs are generally scheduled for April and October. For more information: http://www.kitsapgov.com/hs/veterans/VA.htm

What You Can Do to Help Homeless Veterans

- **Refer any veterans experiencing homelessness** or housing instability to the Housing Solutions Center: 360-473-2035 or to the Veterans Housing Options Group (information above).
- If you are a landlord or property manager, **commit housing units to veterans in need.** For more information, contact the Landlord Liaison Program, 360-473-2136.

Kitsap County Department of Human Services
Housing and Homelessness Program
345 6th Street, Suite 400
Bremerton, WA 98337
Kirsten Jewell, Coordinator
360-337-7286
kjewell@co.kitsap.wa.us
http://www.kitsapgov.com/hs/housing/housing_grant.htm

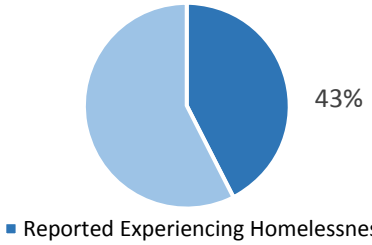
- Volunteer with your group to **prepare a dinner at the Benedict House**, an emergency shelter for men that hosts many veterans. 360-277-6136.
- **Donate mini-toiletries, outdoor gear, or tube socks** to the Salvation Army, who provides them to unsheltered veterans, 360-373-5550.
- **More ideas:** http://www.kitsapgov.com/hs/housing/housing_grant.htm

Summer 2017 Kitsap County Point in Time Count – Jail Survey

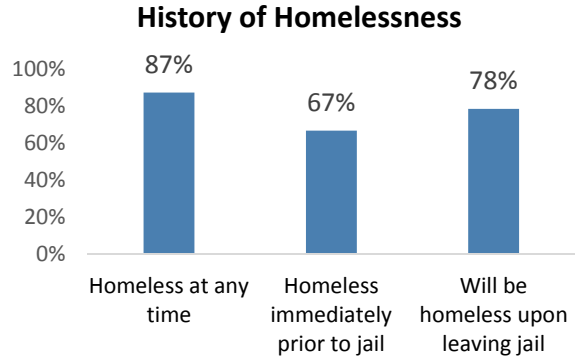
July 2017

Experience of Homelessness

This count is incomplete due to the inability to speak to everyone in the Kitsap County Jail, but represents a snapshot of the experience of homelessness for this population. During the summer 2017 count, an estimated 240 people were contacted, and 102 (43%) of those contacted indicated previous or anticipated experience with homelessness.

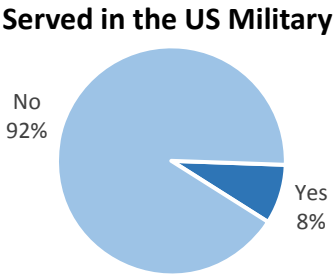


Of those 102 individuals, 87% reported being homeless at any time in their lives, 67% were homeless immediately prior to jail, and 78% expected to be homeless upon leaving jail.



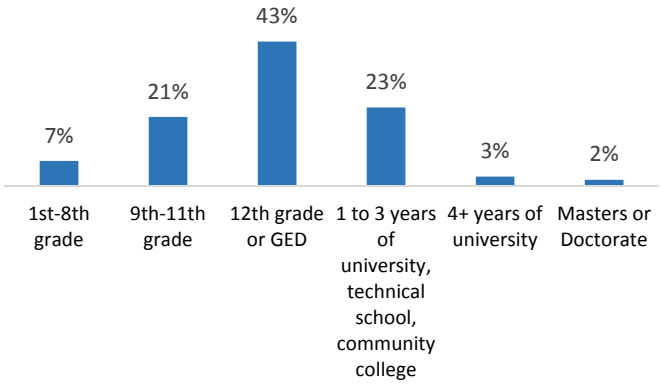
Veterans

9 survey participants reported that they are United States Veterans.



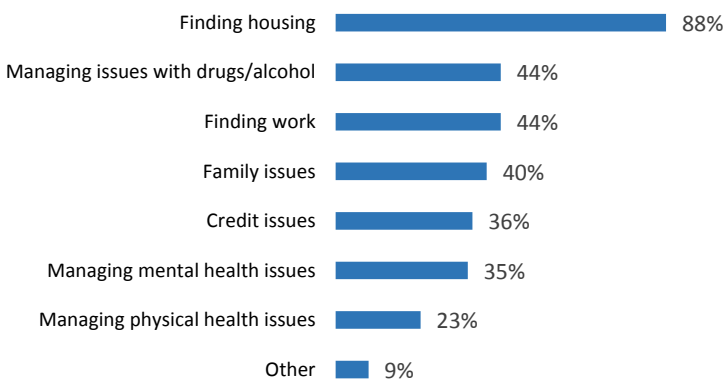
Education

Most (71%) survey participants completed at least 12th grade/GED education or higher education. 28% of participants have attended higher education and 29% of participants have completed less than 12th grade/GED education.



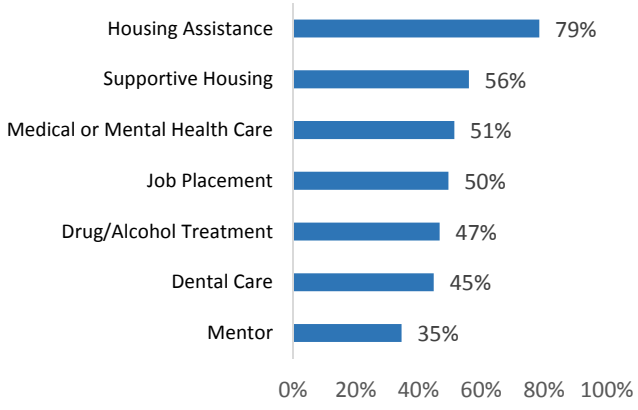
Challenges When Leaving Jail

Of those anticipating homelessness upon release, 88% said finding housing would be a challenge when leaving jail, while 44% indicated managing issues with drugs/alcohol, and 44% said finding work.



Services Needed After Jail

Survey participants were asked to choose the services they would most need upon exiting jail. The highest number of responses (79%) was for Housing Assistance, followed by Supportive Housing (56%).



Kitsap County Department of Human Services
Housing & Homelessness Program
345 6th St, Suite 400
Bremerton, WA 98337

Cory Derenburger, Program Specialist 8/30/2017
360-337-7287
cderenbu@co.kitsap.wa.us
http://www.kitsapgov.com/hs/housing/ReportsAndData.htm

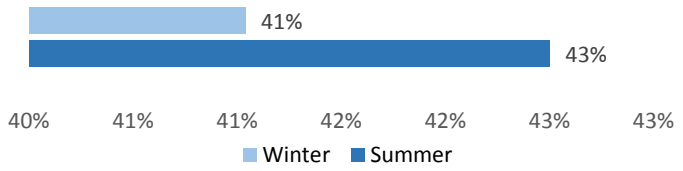
2017 Kitsap County Winter and Summer Point in Time Count Comparisons – Jail Survey

July 2017

Experience of Homelessness

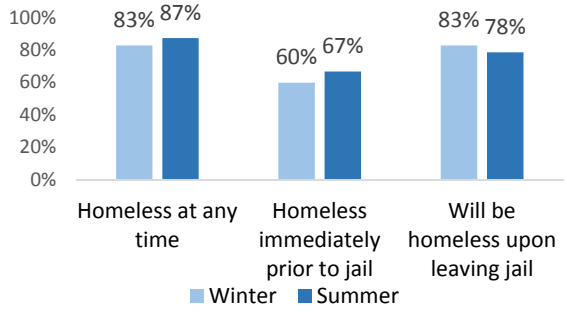
During the January 2017 count, an estimated 212 people were contacted, and 87 (41%) of those surveyed indicated previous or anticipated experience with homelessness. During the July count, an estimated 240 people were contacted, and 107 (43%) of those surveyed indicated previous or anticipated experience with homelessness.

Reported Experiencing Homelessness



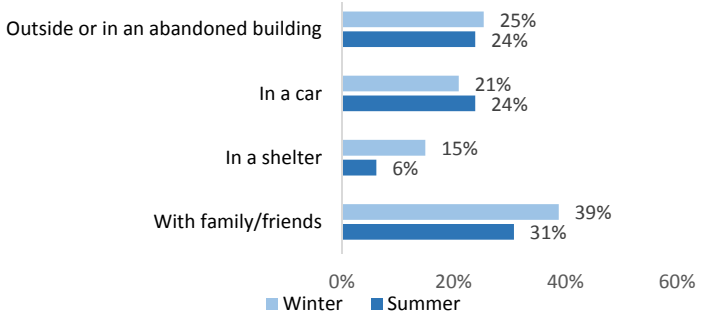
Of participants surveyed 83-87% have experienced homelessness in the past, 60-67% were homeless prior to entering jail, and 78-83% anticipate being homeless when leaving jail.

History of Homelessness



Sleep Location Prior to Jail

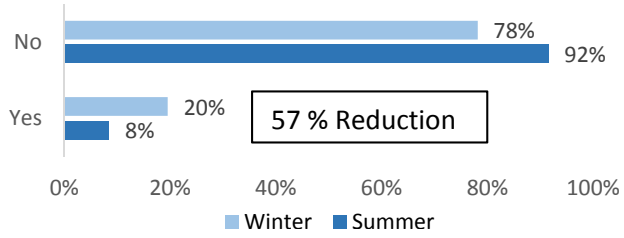
For participants that were homeless immediately prior to entering jail, 3% more reported staying in a car or vehicle during the summer than during the winter. In the summer 9% fewer reported staying in a shelter, 8% fewer were staying with friends/family, and 1% less were staying outside or in abandoned buildings.



Veterans

Compared to January, 57% fewer survey participants reported being United States Veterans.

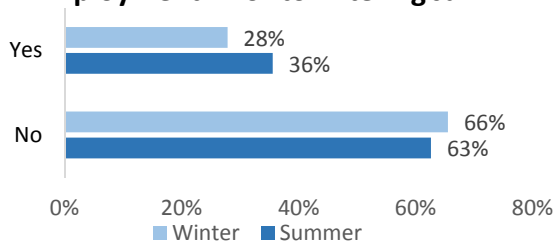
Veteran Status



Employment

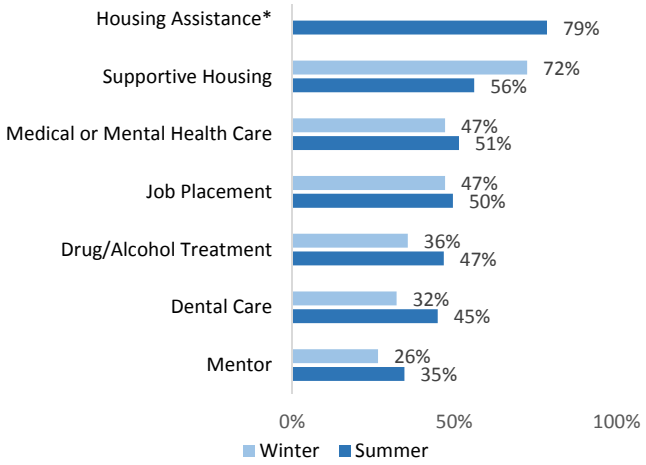
During the summer 8% more survey participants reported having been employed immediately before jail than winter participants.

Employment Prior to Entering Jail



Services Needed After Jail

Survey participants were asked to choose the services they would most need upon exiting jail. During summer 16% fewer respondents reported needing Supportive Housing. 13% more reported Dental Care, 11% more need Drug/Alcohol Treatment, and 9% more reported needing assistance from a mentor.



*Housing Assistance added in summer survey.

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345 6th St, Suite 400
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Cory Derenburger, Program Specialist
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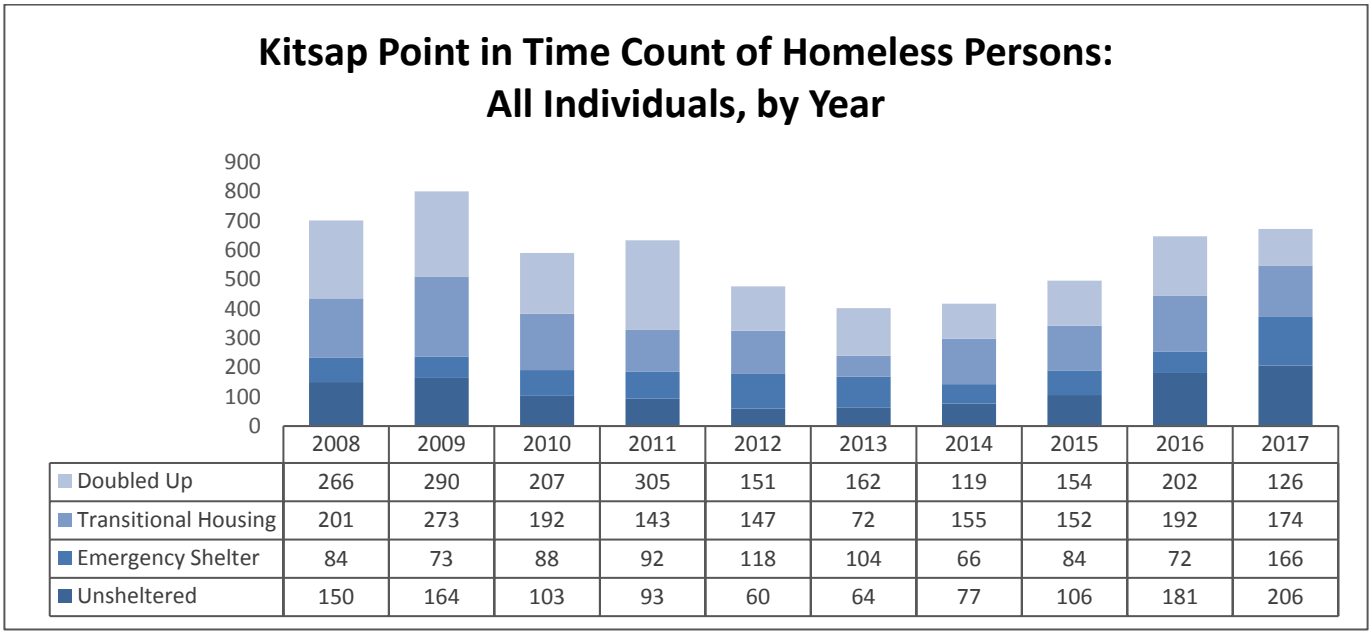
8/30/2017

Homelessness in Kitsap County:
Point In Time Count 2008 - 2017

Over one 24-hour period each January, voluntary surveys are conducted of people experiencing homelessness. The Point in Time Count is considered to be a minimum number of people experiencing homelessness on THAT DAY, since not all are found and/or participate in the survey.

PRELIMINARY 2017 RESULTS



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Doubled Up	266	290	207	305	151	162	119	154	202	126
Transitional Housing	201	273	192	143	147	72	155	152	192	174
Emergency Shelter	84	73	88	92	118	104	66	84	72	166
Unsheltered	150	164	103	93	60	64	77	106	181	206