



## **2014 Point-In-Time Homeless Count and Census**

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## **MDHA 2014 Point-in-Time Homeless Count and Census Report**

### **Executive Summary**

#### **The Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance (MDHA) and Solutions to Homelessness**

MDHA is the Dallas area's public-private alliance and membership organization with the mission to prevent and end homelessness. The Alliance engages nonprofit and public service organizations, policy makers, people experiencing homelessness and the general public to make continuous progress toward its mission. Our efforts to develop housing and services have helped thousands of formerly homeless children and families and individuals recover from homelessness over the last decade.

The Alliance has been central to the development of more than 2,000 units of permanent supportive housing for homeless families with children and single adults with disabling conditions and more than 1,800 units of transitional supportive housing in the Dallas area. MDHA provided implementation planning and private sector fundraising for The Bridge, Dallas' homeless assistance center. MDHA opened The Bridge in May 2008 and operated the center until it became a separate entity in October 2011.

MDHA is the lead nonprofit agency designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to coordinate and plan local homeless services. The Alliance provides stewardship and management of approximately \$16 million in federal funds annually through the HUD-MDHA Continuum of Care for Dallas and Collin counties. The annual Point-In-Time Homeless Count is one of our responsibilities. The data-based, objective role that MDHA plays in this initiative is largely funded by local philanthropy and not taxpayer dollars.

The Alliance is committed to using data to drive continuous improvement of the Dallas area's efforts to overtake and end homelessness. The Point-In-Time Homeless Count and Census is a building block for effectively leveraging federal funds, local government resources and philanthropy.

## **Introduction and Methodology**

The annual Point-In-Time Count and Census is a community initiative to gather and analyze data on homelessness in Dallas and Collin Counties. The information is used by healthcare providers, nonprofit organizations, faith-based groups and local, state and federal governmental agencies. Separate reports are published for each of the counties. This report is the Dallas County report with information related to the entire Continuum of Care (CoC) geographical area which includes Collin County, too.

Each year, Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance (MDHA) works with local service providers to get a head count at each shelter, transitional housing site and permanent supporting housing development. Dozens of volunteers also visit outdoor encampments where homeless people live. The volunteers gather additional information from homeless people who agree to be surveyed. The information provides a snapshot of homelessness in our community on a given night. However, it does not represent everyone experiencing homelessness because many cannot be located.

MDHA appreciates the valuable support of the City of Dallas in conducting the Count. The City's Department of Housing and Community Services, the Dallas Police Department including the Crisis Intervention Team make the Annual Count possible. Heartfelt thanks to the 215 volunteers who served in a variety of roles on the night of the Count; to the staff members of the 50 participating agencies; and to the 66 data entry volunteers who helped enter 3,966 surveys this year.

MDHA appreciates the Collin County Homeless Coalition and the cities of Garland, Irving and Mesquite for conducting surveys in their geographical areas and providing the surveys to MDHA for inclusion in the HUD-required reporting of the Point-In-Time Count data.

Special thanks to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated and The Real Estate Council Foundation (TREC) for their volunteer and financial support.

## 2014 Highlights

The 2014 results and comparisons with previous counts help identify trends, successes and challenges ahead. The report includes the following findings:

- The number of chronically homeless individuals, those homeless longer than one year with a disability, totaled 413 a decrease from 2013's total of 568.
- The number of chronic homeless individuals has **decreased 65%** since 2004 when the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness was prepared.
- The number of people sleeping outdoors or in abandoned buildings has dropped **49%** from 2005 to 2014.
- The number of people living in permanent supportive housing **increased 1,197%** from 2005 to 2014. Two thousand fifty (2,050) adults and children are now living in Permanent Supportive Housing.
- The total homeless population number of **3,314** increased 11.5% in 2014 from the **2,972** counted in 2013. This number does not include those living in permanent supportive housing.
- Of homeless adults who answered surveys, **35%** reported becoming homeless within the last year.
- Veterans account for **13%** of the total homeless population living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, safe havens, on the streets, in automobiles or abandoned buildings.
- The number of homeless families increased. A total of 673 adults who responded to the surveys reported children living with them on the night of the Count. This figure has risen **60%** since 2010.
- The Count identified **10** chronically homeless families, those homeless longer than one year with a family member (adult or child) who has a disability. This a **25% increase** since 2012, the first year HUD expanded the chronically homeless definition to include families. Families experiencing homelessness can be more difficult to identify because they often stay in their cars or other places that are not as visible as living on the streets.
- The number of homeless youth, which includes runaways, unaccompanied by a parent or guardian increased to **502** in 2014. This **108%** increase is likely due to a new effort to count this population, which often remains invisible. Also, additional Dallas County school districts provided their information as of the date of the Count

## **Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance Brief Analysis**

The community has made substantial progress in reducing the number of chronically homeless individuals through coordinated services and permanent supportive housing. These efforts should remain strong while more attention is focused on families with children, veterans and unaccompanied children.

- The Dallas community has made substantial progress in moving chronically homeless single adults into permanent supportive housing. Permanent supportive housing (PSH) includes a mental health professional to help residents succeed in housing. Success in housing means fewer homeless individuals on the streets and in emergency shelters, reduced jail and criminal justice costs and reduced psychiatric and other hospitalizations.
- The decrease in chronic homelessness since 2004 can be attributed to the increased number of permanent supportive housing units for chronically homeless individuals. Chronically homeless individuals have long histories of homelessness and disabilities.
- The Dallas area developed 30 additional units of permanent supportive housing during 2013 that helped reduce chronic homelessness. These homes were funded primarily through the Continuum of Care, a collaboration of local homeless services providers that receive U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding. An alliance with the Dallas Housing Authority and NorthStar, the local behavioral healthcare system, was instrumental in adding the housing units.
- Housing option plans include additional permanent supportive housing as well as rapid re-housing units. These units will be funded, in part, by the Continuum of Care program and Emergency Solution Grant funding. Short-term transitional housing or rapid re-housing is a better solution for youth and young adults who do not qualify for permanent supportive housing. Many of them have the capacity to become gainfully employed and fully self-sufficient, once short-term problems are addressed and resolved.
- MDHA has a plan to add 1,800 units of permanent supportive housing for individuals and families by 2015. Permanent supportive housing provides services, such as, a mental health professional to help residents remain successful in housing. MDHA is working with its Homeless Policy Alliance of elected officials to gain support for the plan from local governmental entities.
- Ending homelessness among Veterans by the end of 2015 is a top priority and will require the collaboration of Veterans Affairs, the HUD-VASH program, area Public Housing Authorities and Continuum of Care housing providers.
- The most difficult to count homeless populations are families with children and youth 17 years of age and younger living on their own unaccompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Our efforts to track the unmet needs of these populations and to articulate clearer solutions need to be intensified.

## MDHA 2014 Point-in-Time Homeless Count for the Continuum of Care Part I

### Total Homeless Population

Each year the Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance conducts a Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless Count under the direction of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It is an exhaustive community endeavor which draws on the resources of local volunteers, assets of local government agencies and contributions of private associations.

MDHA has historically utilized the opportunity of this effort to expand the scope and detail of information drawn out of the survey. The survey instrument used in Dallas is designed to comply with HUD's limited data requirement, and at the same time garner other useful information for our local planning and delivery system. One byproduct of this dual utility is a complex assortment of data.

MDHA counted a total of **3,314** homeless individuals in Dallas County on January 23, 2014 living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, safe havens, on the streets or in abandoned buildings. In addition, MDHA counted **2,050** *formerly homeless* people living in permanent supportive housing. MDHA's full count, including individuals settled in permanent supportive housing, now totals **5,364**.

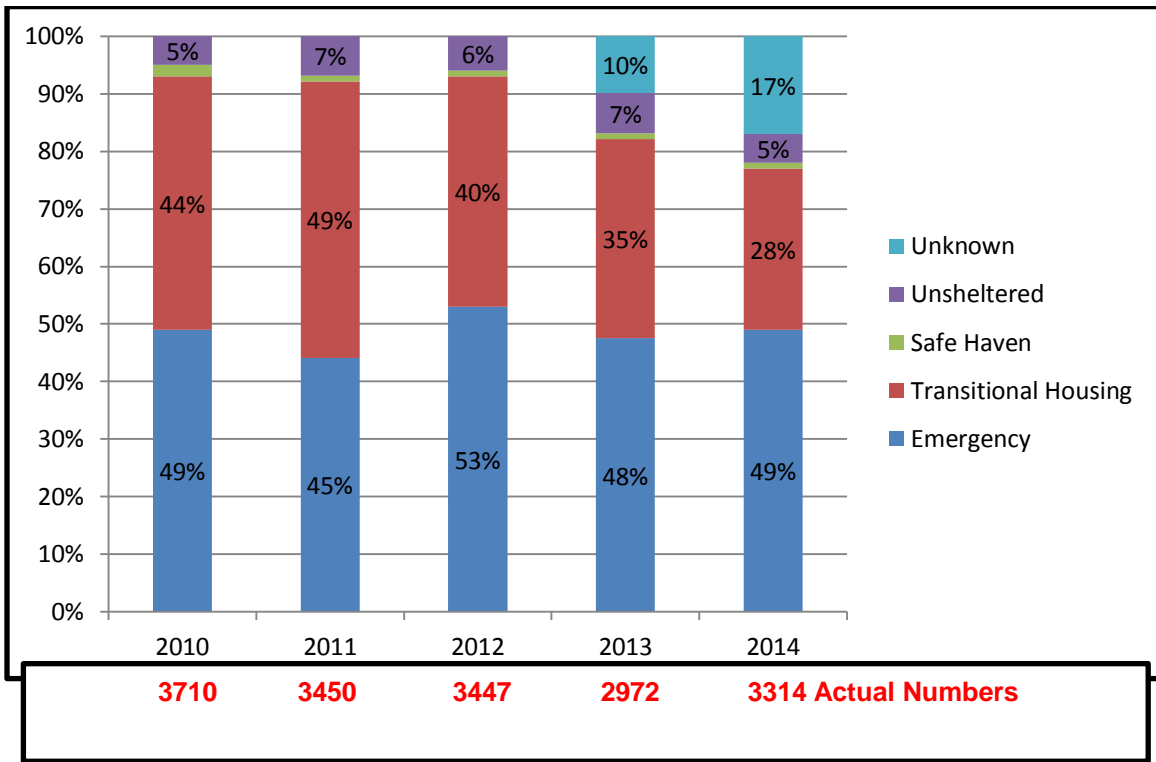
On the night of the PIT Count, the Collin County Homeless Coalition obtained surveys from **219** household units that reported a total of **357** people experiencing homelessness who were living in transitional housing, on the streets, or in automobiles.

HUD's reporting requirement is succinct and limited in scope, with a primary focus on people who have not attained housing stability. HUD does not include those who are in Permanent Supportive Housing as homeless. People who are counted as homeless under HUD's definition are those who are:

- on the street
- in abandoned buildings
- in emergency shelter
- in transitional housing

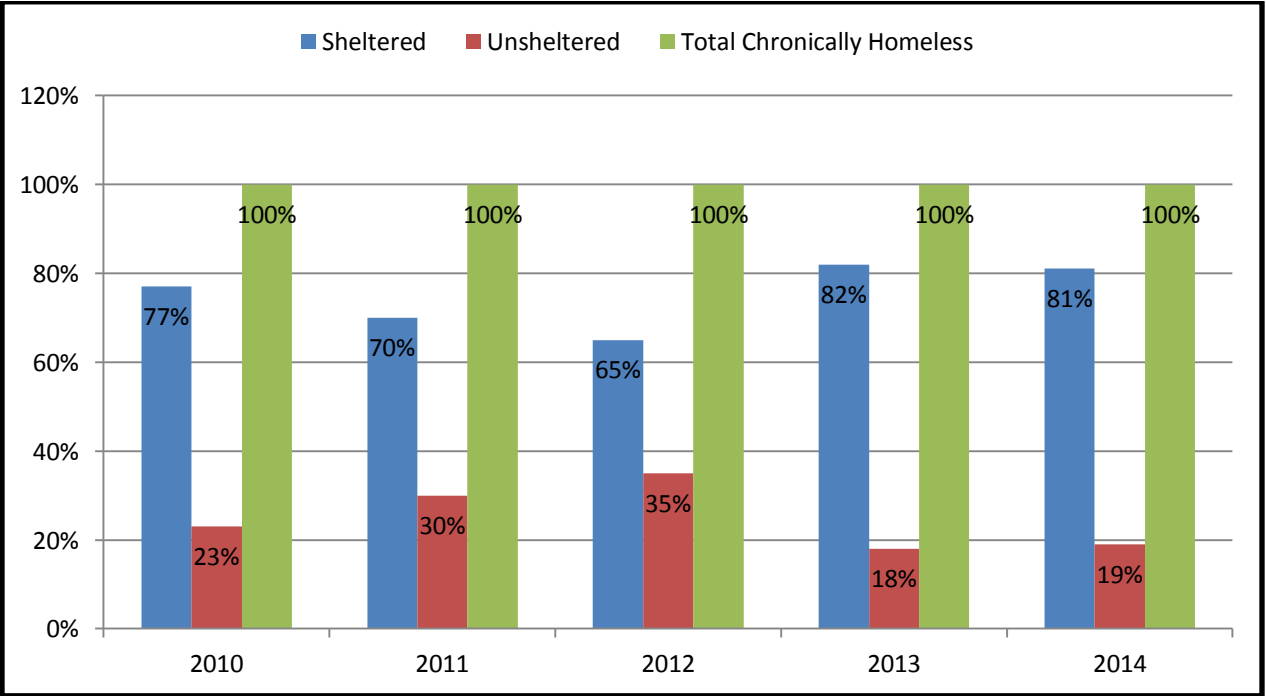
The chart on the following page demonstrates the progress being made to end homelessness in Dallas County.



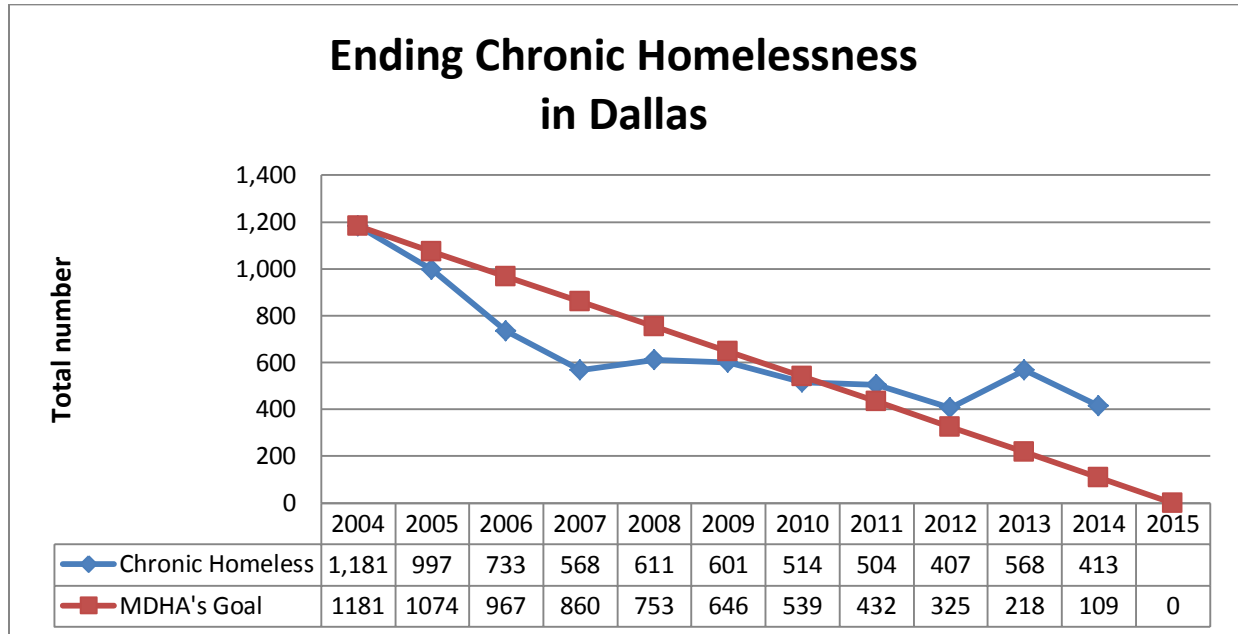


### Chronic Homeless Population

In 2014, there were 413 **chronically homeless individuals (389 single adults and 24 persons in families)** in Dallas County. The total number of persons experiencing chronic homelessness has **decreased 27%** since the last count in 2013.



Compared to those counted in 2004, the number of chronically homeless individuals has **decreased 65%**. The blue line in the chart below illustrates the progress we have made in Dallas under our goal of eliminating chronic homelessness. The red line illustrates the challenge we must meet in achieving the goal.

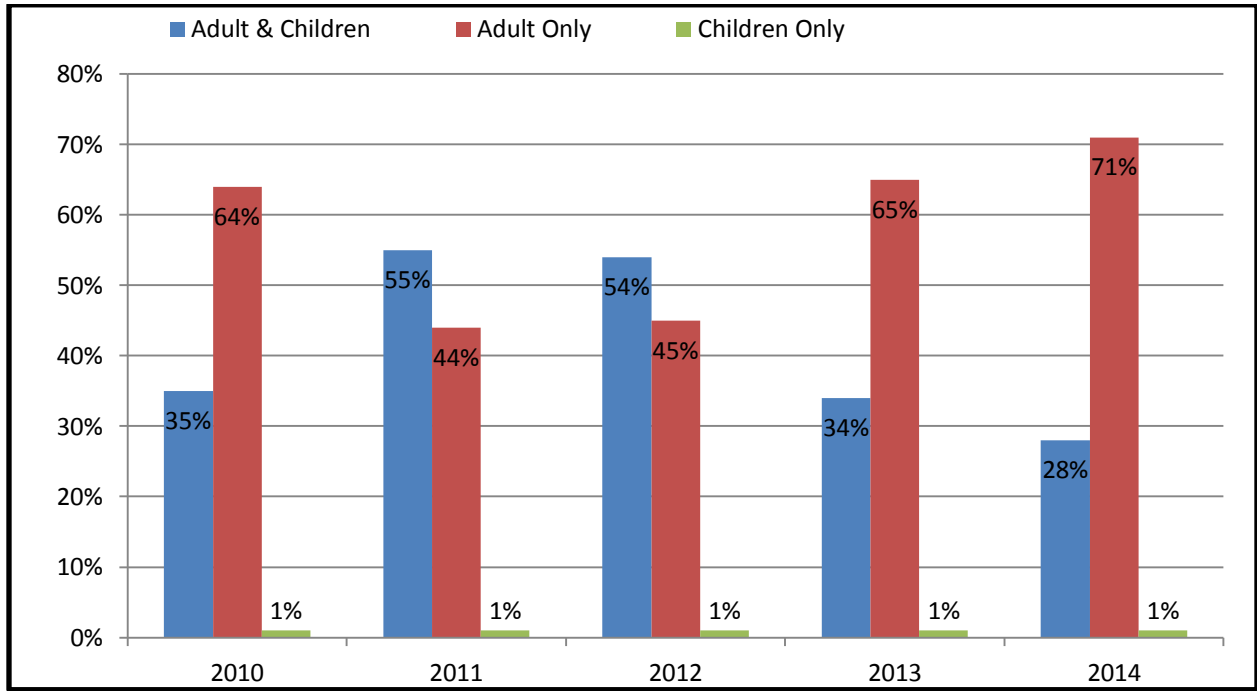


## Homeless Families

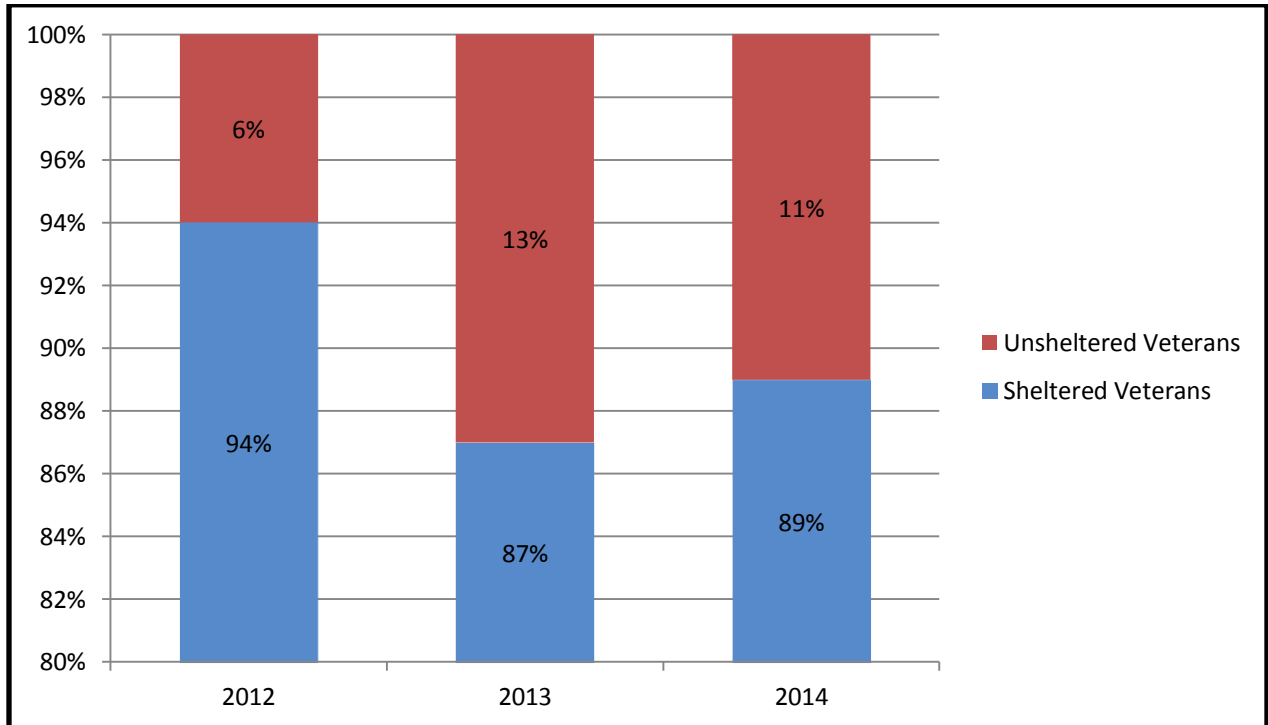
The data below offers a view of the **familial status** of the actual homeless population by grouping: single adults, those with children and unaccompanied children. Again, PSH residents are not included in this report. The increase in chronically homeless families is a call to action.

Families appear to be breaking up at the door of homelessness, thus increasing the number of homeless individuals. Trends are emerging where children are going to live with family members or in shelters for youth while the adults in the family are moving into shelters for single adults. There is a need for more emergency shelters and transitional housing programs to keep family units together regardless of the ages of their minor children.

The chart on the following page demonstrates the percentages in the types of households experiencing homeless during the past five years.

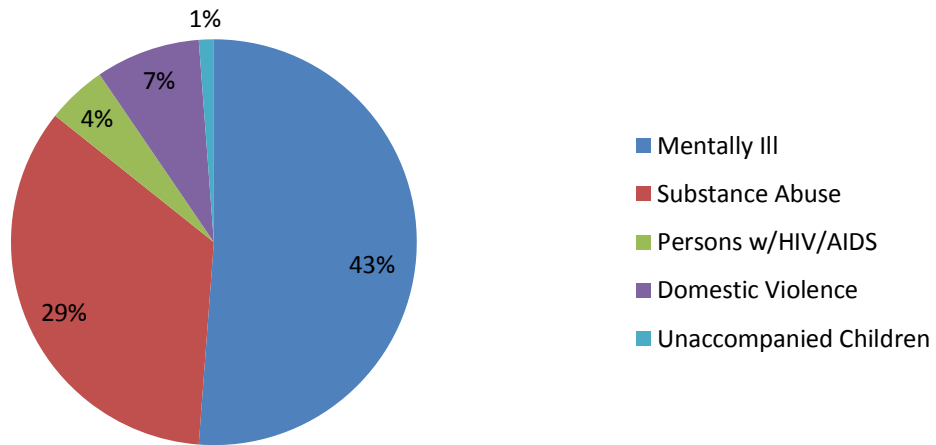


**Homeless Veterans Sheltered and Unsheltered Status**



This year's Count revealed 42 veterans living in places not meant for human habitation. However, the number of unsheltered veterans is decreasing as funding becomes available through the VASH program and other programs specifically for homeless veterans.

## Sub-Population Data within the Total Homeless Population



The chart above illustrates the prevalence of circumstances that lead to homelessness. One notable trend has been the increase in the number of persons reporting behavioral health conditions (mental illness and chronic substance abuse).

### MDHA 2014 Point-in-Time Homeless Count for Dallas County Part II

The second part of the Point-in-Time count includes information from **3,966** surveys of persons experiencing homelessness conducted by MDHA volunteers during the January 23, 2014 census. The surveys represent **5,364** individuals as some of the surveys included families with children.

The surveys were answered on a voluntary basis and are not intended to provide a statistically valid sample. However, they represent a majority of the homeless population counted on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and provide useful information to identify demographic information, trends and progress related to ending homelessness in Dallas County.

All of the information in Part II is based on the completed surveys and does not represent the entire county's homeless population.

## Survey / Sample Size

In 2014, **3,966 surveys** were completed, representing a 2% increase compared to the number of surveys completed last year, and a **total of 5,364 people**, also a 2% increase from 2013. Respondents included those residing in drug treatment centers, hospitals and permanent supportive housing who are not considered homeless by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's definition.

## Adult Population

- **4,043 Adults** were represented on the surveys.
- **Adults** made up **75%** of the total homeless population.
- **6%** reported having formerly been in foster care.

2014 - Total Adults of Known Gender			
Number / %	Adult Males	Adult Females	Total Known Gender
Number	2,423	1,593	4,016
% of Known Gender	60%	40%	100%

2014 - Total Adults of Known Race						
Number / %	Black	American Indian	Caucasian (White)	Hispanic (Latino)	Other	Total Known Race
Number	2,470	47	1,064	318	117	4,016
% of Known Race	62%	<1%	26%	8%	3%	100%

## Age of Homeless Adults

The 2014 results support that the homeless population is aging along with the mainstream national population. The largest clusters by age are in the age groups of "40-49" and "50-59." Percentage increases were found in the "60-69" age group while those 70 and older remained the same as 2013 at 1%.

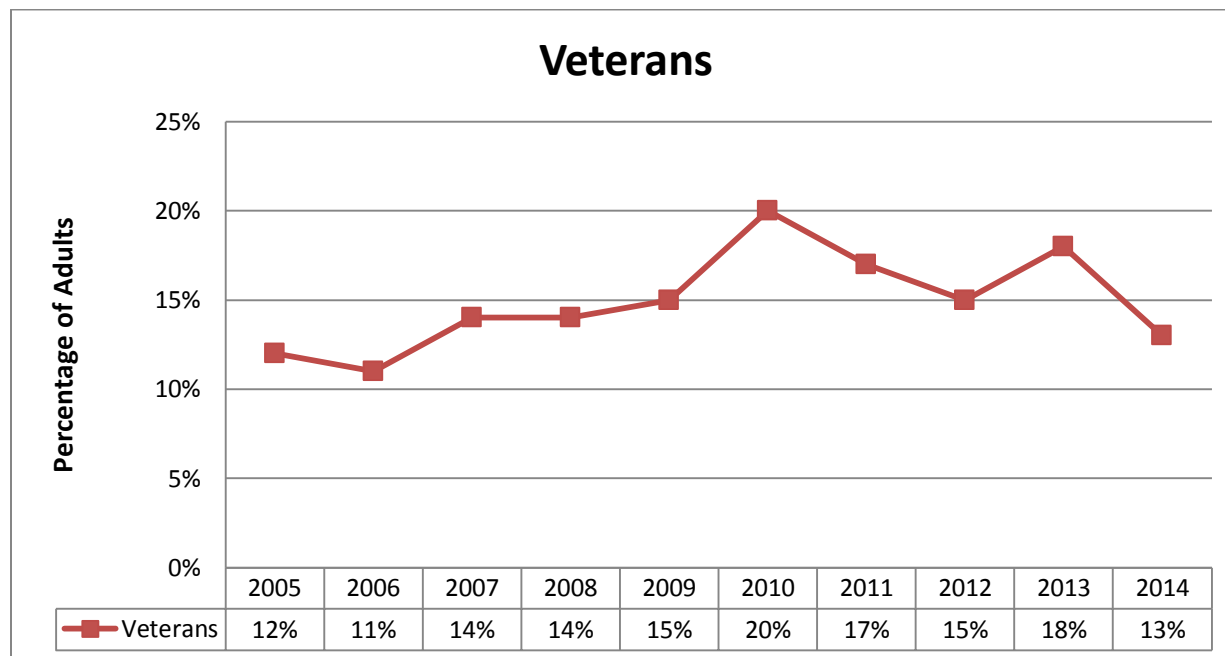
2014 - Total Adults of Known Age		
Age	Number	% of Total Known Age
18-21 Years	186	5%
22-29 Years	426	11%
30-39 Years	574	15%
40-49 Years	791	21%
50-59 Years	1,323	35%
60-69 Years	475	12%
70 + Years	42	1%
Total Known Age	3,817	100%

## Marital Status of Surveyed Homeless Population

2014 - Total Known Marital Status		
Marital Status	Number	% of Total
Divorced	928	24%
Married	145	4%
Separated	349	9%
Single	2,330	60%
Widowed	106	3%
Total Known Marital Status	3,858	100%

### Veterans

The percentage of adults surveyed who reported U.S. Veteran status decreased this year from 18% to 13%.



In 2014, 697 survey respondents reported being veterans. This number includes veterans living in Permanent Supportive Housing, drug treatment centers and hospitals. Of those, 16% was determined to be chronically homeless individuals. As the community becomes more aware of the needs of veterans, it is important to understand the Veterans population in comparison to the total homeless adult population.

## Comparison of Veteran Demographics to the Overall Homeless Population

Veterans Year	Veteran Sub-Population as a % of the Total Homeless Adult Population			
	2011	2012	2013	2014
% of Total:	17%	15%	18%	13%
Male:	23%	16%	13%	12%
Female:	3%	3%	2%	2%
Black:	10%	9%	10%	8%
Caucasian:	7%	6%	4%	4%
Hispanic:	3%	1%	<1%	<1%
Other Race / Ethnicity:	6%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Substance Abuse:	18%	23%	10%	6%
Mental Illness:	12%	22%	8%	6%
Physical Disability:	12%	22%	6%	<1%

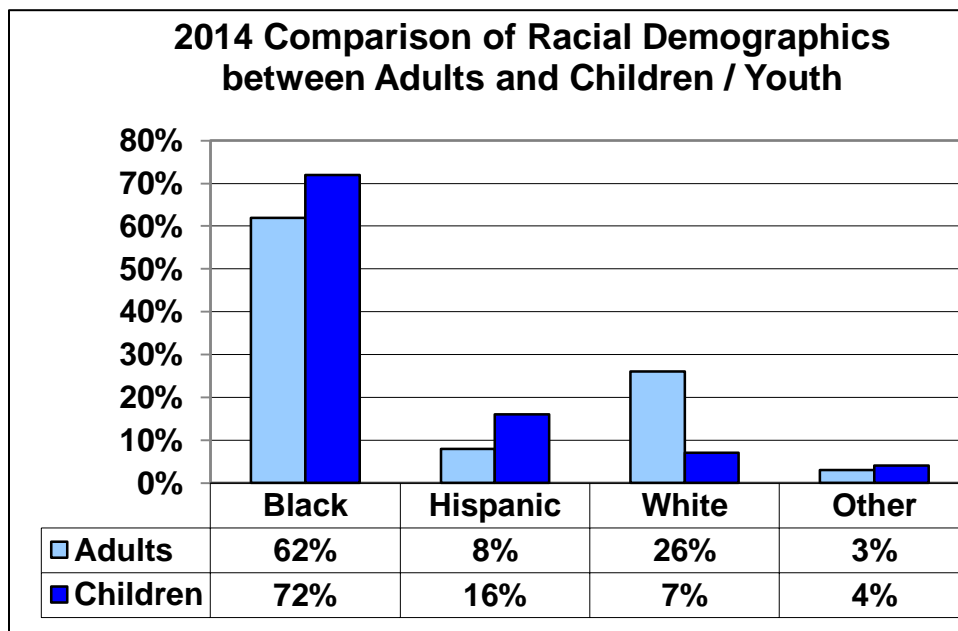
### Child / Youth Population

- **673** respondents indicated that they **had children living with them** on the night of the count which was an increase of 1.5% from 2013.
- **502 Unaccompanied Children** were discovered representing a **108% increase** from 2013 to 2014. This number increased because we added additional ISDs that were not provided in last year's number.
  - **28 of the Unaccompanied Children** were represented on surveys.
  - **122 of the Unaccompanied Children** were identified by the Dallas ISD which represented a 30% increase from 2013.
  - **0 of the Unaccompanied Children** were identified by the Duncanville ISD
  - **75 of the Unaccompanied Children** were identified by the Garland ISD
  - **171 of the Unaccompanied Children** were identified by the Grand Prairie ISD
  - **2 of the Unaccompanied Children** were identified by the Mesquite ISD which represented a 97% decrease in the Mesquite ISD from 2013.
  - **90 of the Unaccompanied Children** were identified by the Irving ISD which represented a 76% increase in Irving ISD from 2013.
  - **14 of the Unaccompanied Children** were identified by Winfree Academy Charter School.
- In 2013 and 2014, **children and youth** made up **24%** of the total homeless population.

<b>2014 - Total Children / Youth of Known Gender</b>			
<b>Number / %</b>	<b>Minor Males</b>	<b>Minor Females</b>	<b>Total Known Gender</b>
Number	637	639	1276
% of Known Gender	50%	50%	100%

<b>2014 - Total Children / Youth of Known Race</b>						
<b>Number / %</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>American Indian</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total Known Race</b>
Number	903	91	195	12	55	1256
% of Known Race	72%	7%	16%	1%	4%	100%

The following table illustrates that, for the ninth year, there appears to be an over-representation of homeless Hispanic children and youth as compared to the adult homeless Hispanic population.



According to the table on the following page, the largest representation of children was in the age group of 4-6 years (22%), with the second largest age group being 1-3 (21%). The Census shows that 50% of children experiencing homelessness are age six or younger.



<b>2014 - Total Children / Youth of Known Ages</b>		
<b>Age</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% of Total Known Age</b>
< 1 Year	68	5%
1-3 Years	278	21%
4-6 Years	282	21%
7-9 Years	267	20%
10-12 Years	208	16%
13-15 Years	144	11%
16-17 Years	72	6%
<b>Total Known Age:</b>	<b>1,319</b>	<b>100%</b>

### **Dallas County Schools Information Related to Student Homelessness**

In an effort to provide a more comprehensive picture of homelessness among children in Dallas County, schools in Dallas County were requested to provide data on students experiencing homelessness. Data was received from Dallas ISD, Duncanville ISD, Garland ISD, Grand Prairie ISD, Highland Park ISD, Irving ISD, Mesquite ISD, and Winfree Academy Charter Schools.

The MDHA CoC Youth Taskforce members continue to make progress in locating youth experiencing homelessness. Taskforce member agencies support homeless student drop-in centers in the two Dallas ISD high schools with the goal of keeping the students in school so they can complete their educations and be better prepared for self-sufficiency as adults.

A small percentage of the students reporting homelessness were housed in transitional housing programs for homeless families, but the majority was living in a “doubled-up” or “sofa surfing” situation. Of the **5,291 students**, **9%** (up from 7.5% in 2013) were unaccompanied and not living with a parent or guardian.

The U.S. Department of Education uses a broader definition for homelessness than that utilized by HUD. Most notably, the Department of Education includes additional provisions for persons who:

- share the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- live in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations.<sup>1</sup>

The numbers below represent homeless children reported by participating Dallas County Schools who did not complete PIT surveys during the Count on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> *Questions and Answers on Special Education & Homelessness*. U.S. Department of Education. February, 2008. <http://www.ed.gov/policy/speced/guid/spec-ed-homelessness-q-a.doc>

<b>School All Grades</b>	<b>Total # of Homeless Children Enrolled in School</b>		
	2013	2014	% of Change
Coppell ISD	41	No Report	
Dallas ISD	1,739	2,452	+41%
Duncanville ISD	No Report	30	
Garland ISD	No Report	208	
Grand Prairie ISD	No Report	1,342	
Highland Park ISD	0	0	0%
Irving ISD	693	837	+21%
Mesquite ISD	398	375	-6%
Richardson ISD	78	No Report	
Winfrey Academy Charter Schools	No Report	47	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,949</b>	<b>5,291</b>	<b>+79%</b>

<b>School</b>	<b># of Unaccompanied Children 17 and younger enrolled in school on the day of the Count</b>		
	2013	2014	% of Change
Coppell ISD	Data Unavailable	No Report	
Dallas ISD	94	122	+30%
Duncanville ISD	No Report	0	
Garland ISD	No Report	75	
Grand Prairie ISD	No Report	171	
Highland Park ISD	0	0	0%
Irving ISD	51	90	+76%
Mesquite ISD	75	2	-97%
Richardson ISD	2	No Report	
Winfrey Academy Charter Schools	No Report	14	
<b>Total</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>+1,145%</b>

MDHA is appreciative of the Dallas County schools who take the time to respond with the information requested related to their students experiencing homelessness. It is only as we are able to more fully document the dilemma of youth homelessness will we be able to raise the awareness of the public and elected officials to resolve the problems these youth experience. The goal must be to provide them the education and support needed to prevent their becoming the next generation of the chronically homeless.

## Unaccompanied Children from Point-in-Time Count Surveys

<b>2014 – Known Ages of Children</b>		
Age	Number	% of Total Known Age
15 Years	4	14%
16 Years	8	29%
17 Years	16	57%
Total Known Age:	28	100%

<b>2014 - Known Gender of Youth</b>			
Number / %	Minor Males	Minor Females	Total Known Gender
Number	10	18	28
% of Known Gender	36%	64%	100%

<b>2014 - Known Race of Youth</b>						
Number / %	Black	White	Hispanic	American Indian	Other	Total Known Race
Number	14	8	5	0	1	28
% of Known Race	50%	28%	18%	0%	4%	100%

## Causes of Homelessness based on the Point-In-Time Count and Census Surveys

When asked to provide reasons why they were homeless, respondents provided the following information. **Everyone who completed a survey did not provide responses to this question and the table below reports only one response from each respondent. In previous years, up to three causes per respondent were reported.** Subsequently, the total number of causes and their percentages are lower in this report. Percentages are based on the number of surveys completed, not the number of respondents who answered the question.

The main cause remains "Unemployed, Lost Job."

<b>Self-Reported Cause of Homelessness</b>					
<b>Reason Homeless</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Reason Homeless</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Unemployed, Lost Job	815	21%	Release from Jail/Prison	112	3%
Not Enough Money	559	14%	Divorce	98	2%
Substance Abuse	499	13%	Physical Injury	55	1%
Family Problems	283	7%	Legal Problems	48	1%
Domestic Abuse	278	7%	Abandonment	41	1%
Other	236	6%	Aged out of Foster Care	40	1%
Mental Illness	220	6%	Disaster	37	1%
Eviction	187	5%	Foreclosure	32	1%
Medical Disability	178	4%	Sex Offender	17	<1%
Ex-Offender	139	4%	Discharge from Hospital	15	<1%

## Frequency / Duration of Homelessness

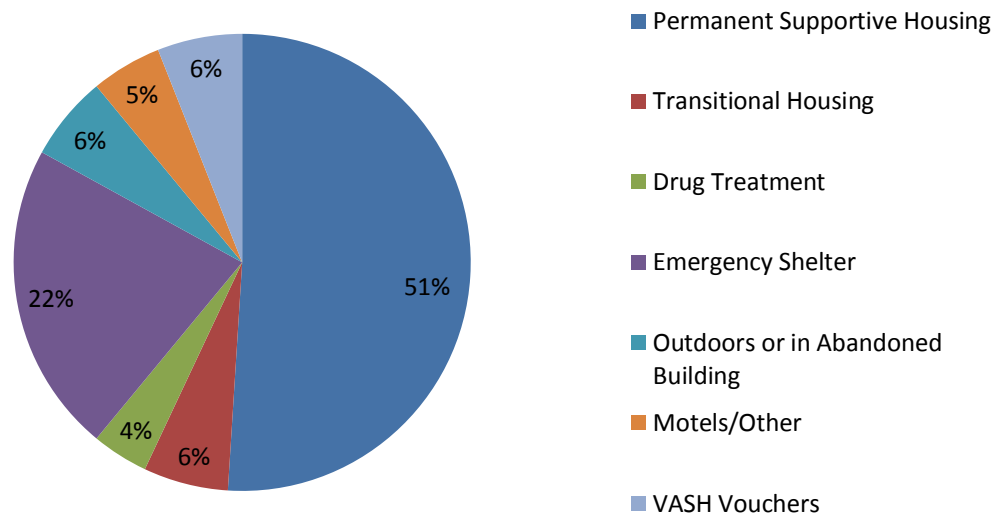
### Continuously Homeless for the Last Year

- **1,173 respondents (22%)** indicated that they had been **homeless for at least one year**, down from the 78% reported in 2013.

*Of the respondents who provided sufficient information to determine where they were living:*

- **595 (50%)** were living in **Permanent Supportive Housing** (up from 43% in 2013)
- **84 (7%)** were living in **Transitional Housing** (down from 9% in 2013)
- **53 (5%)** were living in **Drug Treatment** (up from 2% in 2013)
- **262 (22%)** were living in **Emergency Shelter** (up from 17% in 2013)
- **64 (5%)** were living **Outdoors or in Abandoned Buildings** (same as 2013)
- **63 (5%)** were living in **Motels or Other Locations** (up from 2% in 2013)
- **66 (6%)** were living with the assistance of **VASH Vouchers**

### Continuously Homeless for at the Last Year



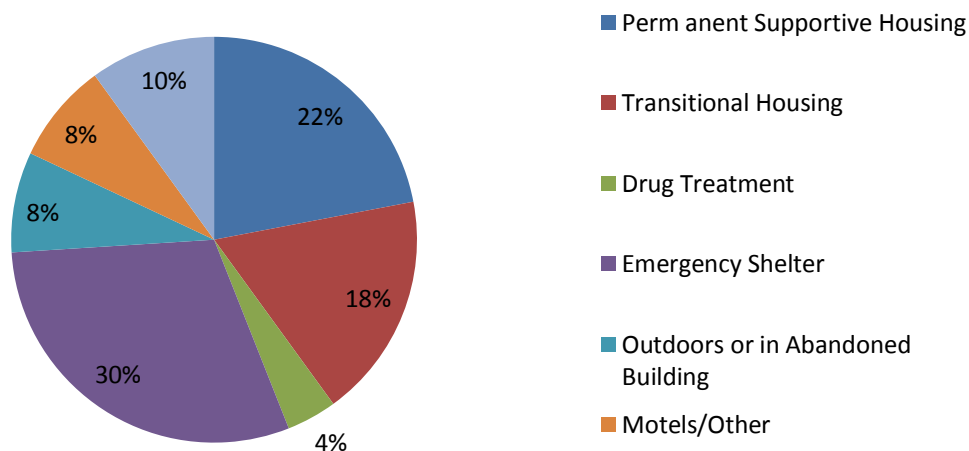
## Homeless Four or More Times within the Past Three Years

- **51 respondents (1%)** indicated that they had been **homeless four (4) or more times in the past three (3) years**, down from 7% in 2013.

*Of the respondents who provided sufficient information to determine where they were living:*

- **11 (22%)** were living in **Permanent Supportive Housing** (down from 31% in 2013)
- **9 (18%)** were living in **Transitional Housing** (up from 13% in 2013)
- **2 (4%)** were living in **Drug / Alcohol Treatment** (down from 6% in 2013)
- **15 (30%)** were living in **Emergency Shelter** (down from 33% in 2013)
- **4 (8%)** were living **Outdoors or in Abandoned Buildings** (down from 15% in 2013)
- **4 (8%)** were living in **Motels or Other Locations** (up from 2% in 2013)
- **5 (10%)** were living with the assistance of **VASH Vouchers**

### Homeless Four Or More Times Within The Past Three Years

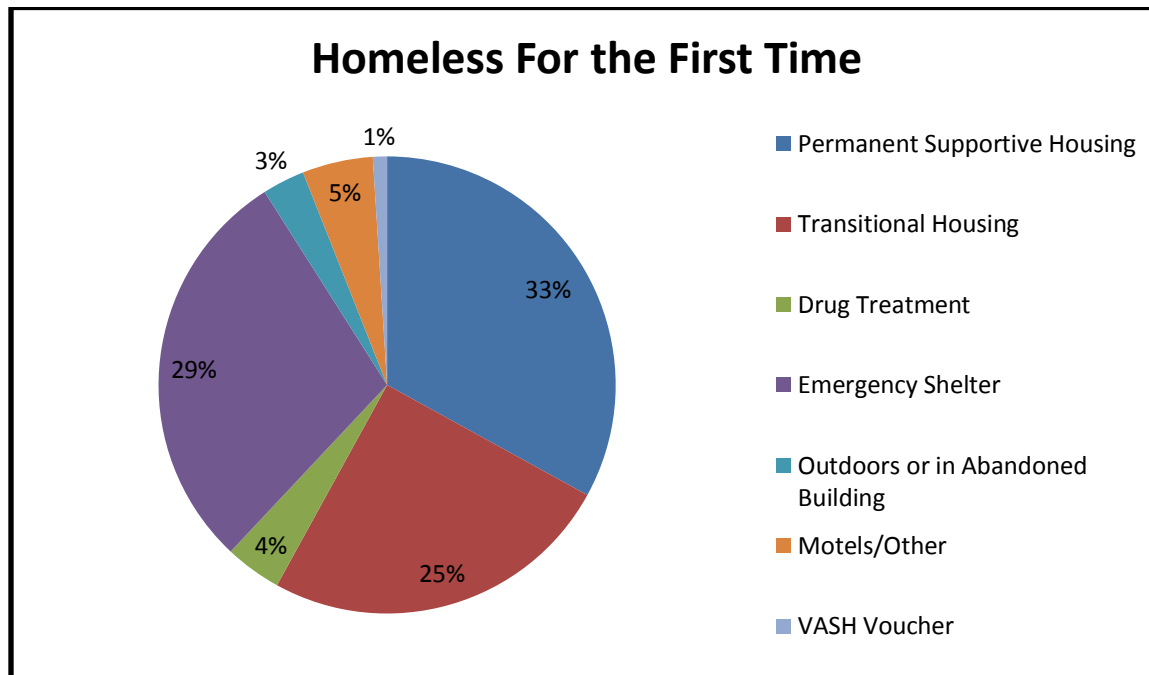


## Homeless for the First Time

- **1,884 respondents (35%)** indicated that they had become **homeless for the first time in the past 12 months**, up from 31% in 2013.

*Of the respondents who provided sufficient information to determine where they were living:*

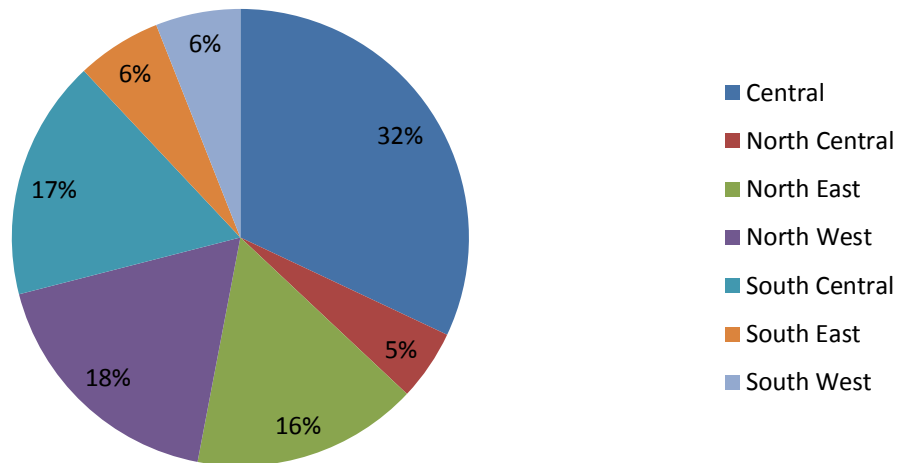
- **617 (33%)** were living in **Permanent Supportive Housing** (down from 36% in 2013)
- **468 (25%)** were living in **Transitional Housing** (up from 19% in 2013)
- **75 (4%)** were living in **Drug / Alcohol Treatment** (same as 2013)
- **544 (29%)** were living in **Emergency Shelter** (down from 34% in 2013)
- **57 (3%)** were living **Outdoors or in Abandoned Buildings** (down from 4% 2013)
- **106 (5%)** were living in **Motels or Other Locations** (up from 3% in 2013)
- **17 (1%)** were living with the assistance of **VASH Vouchers**



## City of Dallas Survey Location

As housing opportunities are created for homeless and formerly homeless populations across the city, the number of homeless individuals in the City of Dallas Central Police District has declined.

### Police District Where Survey Was Conducted



Compared to those counted in 2004, the number of homeless individuals surveyed in the city of Dallas Central Police district has **increased 10%**.

Comparison of Survey Locations		
	2005	2014
Central	54%	32%
North Central	6%	5%
North East	4%	16%
Northwest	14%	18%
South Central	0%	17%
Southeast	13%	6%
Southwest	9%	6%
Total Respondents	1,969	3,631



## Geographical Origin of Homelessness

3,680 households reported the city and state where they became homeless.

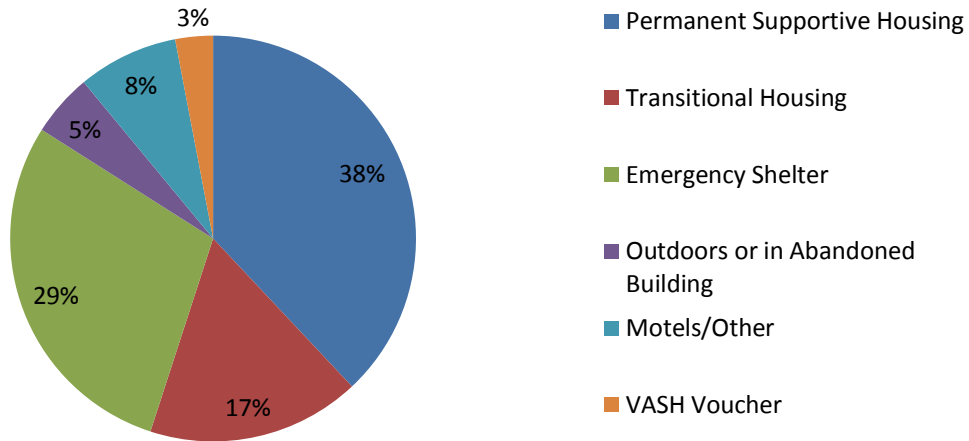
- **2,949 households** became homeless in Dallas, TX.
- **174 households** became homeless in Dallas County (not including Dallas, TX).
- **308 households** became homeless outside of Dallas County, but within the State of Texas.

A total of **249 households** moved to Dallas after becoming homeless elsewhere. The chart below shows the number of households who became homeless in another state.

Original State of Homelessness								
State	# of House-holds	% of total	State	# of House-holds	% of total	State	# of House-holds	% of total
Alabama	2	1%	Louisiana	39	16%	Ohio	7	3%
Arkansas	12	5%	Maryland	2	1%	Oklahoma	19	8%
Arizona	8	3%	Massachusetts	2	1%	Philadelphia	7	3%
California	24	10%	Michigan	7	3%	Rhode Island	2	1%
Colorado	4	2%	Minnesota	1	<1%	South Carolina	3	1%
Florida	18	7%	Mississippi	3	1%	South Dakota	1	<1%
Georgia	9	4%	Missouri	9	4%	Tennessee	15	6%
Indiana	3	1%	Nevada	7	3%	Virginia	4	2%
Illinois	9	4%	New England	2	1%	Washington, DC	2	<1%
Iowa	3	1%	New Jersey	2	1%	Washington	6	2%
Kansas	4	2%	New York	4	2%	Wisconsin	5	2%
Kentucky	2	1%	North Carolina	3	1%	<b>Total</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Sleep Location Night Previous to Count

### Known Results Where Respondents Had Slept the Night Before



Percentages in permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs decreased for the first time in almost ten years as a result of the increase in those experiencing homelessness for the first time and fewer new units of permanent supportive housing created during 2013 than in previous years.

Dallas has successfully increased the numbers of persons who have achieved housing placement each year since the 2004 implementation of the Dallas 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. A comparison of 2005 figures to 2014 shows a:

- **32% decrease** in those sleeping **Outdoors or in Abandoned Buildings**
- **60% increase** in those sleeping in **Emergency Shelters**
- **146% increase** in those sleeping in **Transitional Housing (TH)**
- **1,197% increase** in those sleeping in **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)**

## Chronic Homeless Population

As stated previously in this report, the number of chronically homeless individuals in Dallas County has decreased 5% from 2013.

## Comparison of Chronic Homeless to the Overall Homeless Population

Below is a comparison of selected demographics in the total homeless population and the chronic homeless population:

Characteristic	Total Homeless Population				Chronic Homeless Population			
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2011	2012	2013	2014
Male:	64%	59%	45%	58%	82%	78%	65%	68%
Female:	36%	41%	55%	42%	18%	22%	35%	32%
Black:	56%	59%	64%	64%	53%	61%	57%	65%
Caucasian:	31%	30%	24%	28%	34%	33%	32%	30%
Hispanic:	8%	7%	4%	10%	7%	3%	7%	6%
Other Race/Ethnicity:	5%	4%	8%	5%	6%	3%	4%	4%
Substance Abuse:	38%	42%	31%	22%	57%	61%	46%	46%
Mental Illness:	38%	42%	36%	33%	49%	62%	53%	63%

## Population Characteristics

Respondents completed a personal profile that applied to them and/or their spouses.

Below are responses from the adults and the unaccompanied children.

Population Characteristics					
Category	Number	% of Total*	Category	Number	% of Total*
Employed (Working right now)	915	22%	Substance Abuse	1,168	29%
Unemployed (No job at all)	2,751	68%	Mental Illness	1,765	43%
Ex-Offender	984	24%	HIV/AIDS	152	4%
On Parole	124	3%	Domestic Violence	278	7%
On Probation	266	6%	No Schooling Complete	1,030	25%
Veteran	697	17%	High School Diploma/GED	2,030	50%
Disabled	2,614	64%	Post-Secondary School	661	16%
Chronic Illness	707	17%	Ever Been in Foster Care	287	7%

\*These percentages were gathered based on the total number of adults and unaccompanied children represented on the surveys. However, not everyone who completed a survey provided answers to the questions in this section.

The percentage of respondents indicating *Unemployed, (No job at all)* decreased in 2014 from 78%

However, it should be noted that over 24% of the population reported are ex-offenders, which presents a significant barrier to both employment and sustainable housing.

The percentage of adults who are reporting Veteran status decreased 3% this year.

## Benefits / Services Still Needed

Respondents were asked to indicate which benefits and / or services they needed at the time the survey was completed. Below are the surveyed responses:

The top five benefits requested remain the same as in previous years although they reposition in top priority each year.

*\* These percentages were gathered based on the total number of surveys. However, not everyone who completed a survey provided answers to the questions in this section. In addition, not everyone who completed a survey qualifies to receive all of these services for themselves or other members of their household*

<b>Benefits and Services Still Needed</b>						
<b>Benefit/Service</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% of Total</b>		<b>Benefit/Service</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Bus Pass	1192	30%		Phone/Voicemail	283	7%
Dental Care	1155	29%		Laundry Facility	279	7%
Job Placement	1065	27%		Emergency Shelter	262	7%
Permanent Housing (for Not Disabled)	902	23%		Social Security Card	241	6%
Transportation	815	21%		Storage	233	6%
Medical Care	697	18%		SSI (Social Security Income)	227	6%
Job Training	672	17%		Life Skills	217	5%
Food Stamps	562	14%		GED	208	5%
Clothing	550	14%		Interviewing Skills	206	5%
Permanent Supportive Housing (for Disabled)	498	13%		Child Care	188	5%
Birth Certificate	441	11%		Child Support	173	4%
Education Options	423	11%		Shower	161	4%
Hygiene Supplies	361	9%		Unemployment Benefits	117	3%
Emergency Food	355	9%		Tutoring	99	2%
Transitional Housing	339	9%		VA Disability	95	2%
Mental Health Care	333	8%		TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)	86	2%
Picture ID	324	8%		English Class	48	1%
Legal Aid	319	8%		VA Healthcare	42	1%
SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance)	305	8%		WIC (Nutrition for Women, Infants, and Children)	22	1%
Emotional Support	301	8%		Worker's Compensation	20	1%
Case Management	298	8%				

## Benefits Being Received

Respondents were asked to indicate which benefits they were currently receiving at the time of the survey. Below are the responses, based on the number of surveys received.

Benefits Being Received		
Benefit	Number	% of Total*
SNAP (Food Stamps)	2,091	39%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income)	536	10%
SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance)	322	6%
WIC (Women, Infants & Children)	268	5%
TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families)	130	2%
Social Security (62+)		
Unemployment Insurance	15	<1%
Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)	17	<1%
Pension From a Former Job	13	<1%
Other Sources	161	3%

\* These percentages were gathered based on the total number of surveys. However, not everyone who completed a survey provided answers to the questions in this section. In addition, not everyone who completed a survey qualifies to receive all of these services for themselves or other members of their household.

## Glossary of Terms

**Chronic Substance Abuse** – 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.

**Chronically Homeless Individual** - An unaccompanied homeless adult individual (persons 18 years or older) with a disabling condition (see definition below) who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter/Safe Haven during that time. Persons under the age of 18 are not counted as chronically homeless.

**Chronically Homeless Family** – A household with at least one member with a disabling condition (see definition below) and who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter/Safe Haven during that time.

**Disabling Condition** – Any one of (1) a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act; (2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment which is (a) expected to be of long continued and indefinite duration, (b) substantially impedes an individual's ability to live independently, and (c) of such a nature that such ability could be improved by more suitable housing 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 immunodeficiency syndrome or any conditions arising from the etiological agency for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; or (5) a diagnosable substance abuse disorder.

**Persons with HIV/AIDS** – Includes persons who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.

**Severely Mentally Ill** – 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.

**Unaccompanied Child (under 18)** – Includes persons under the age of 18 with a household size of one.

**Veteran** – 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.

**Victims of Domestic Violence** – Includes persons who have been victims of domestic violence at any point in the past.

## Acknowledgements

Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their assistance in making the 2014 Dallas Homeless Count and Census a success.

### Organizations Providing Resources and Planning Assistance

**City of Dallas** – event support through preparation of materials, meeting space, and volunteers

**Community Dental Care** – donated toothpaste for delivery to the outdoor homeless participating in the survey

**Dallas Police Department** – provision of 32 officers to escort survey volunteers and training assistance for the volunteers plus identification of encampments and organizational support from the **Crisis Intervention Team**

**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated** – provision of over 15 women to survey homeless clients and perform data entry

**Metrocare Services** – assistance with the identification of encampment locations and surveying of remote areas during the Count

**Texas Real Estate Council Foundation** – underwriting of the event through financial support and volunteers

**The Stew Pot Volunteers under the leadership of Jean Jones** – preparation of 200 “thank you” bags for distribution to those unsheltered the night of the Count

### A Special Thank You to Those in Our Community Experiencing Homelessness

We especially want to thank those citizens experiencing homelessness who were willing to share their personal experiences so a better understanding of the challenges they face daily can be gained and whose stories remind us that these numbers and statistics represent a human condition that must be remedied.



### 50 Agencies Participated in the Count

ABC Behavioral Healthcare	Dallas Life	Irving ISD	Promise House
AIDS Services of Dallas	Duncanville ISD	LifeNet Community Behavioral Healthcare	Salvation Army
Austin Street Centre	Exodus Ministries	Magdalen House	Shared Housing
Bridges Safe House	Family Gateway	Mesquite ISD	Soul's Harbor
Brighter Tomorrows	Family Promise of Irving	Metrocare Services	The Bridge
CitySquare	Garland ISD	Mosaic Family Services	The Family Place
City of Dallas	Genesis Women's Center	Mount Hebron Urban Community Housing	The Stewpot
City of Garland	Good Samaritans of Garland	New Beginning Center	Turtle Creek Recovery Center
City of Irving	Grand Prairie ISD	Nexus Recovery Center	Under 1 Roof
City of Mesquite	Green Oaks Hospital	Operation Relief Center	Union Gospel Mission
Dallas County	Homeward Bound	Our Friend's Place	Veterans Affairs
Dallas Housing Authority	Housing Crisis Center	Parkland Hospital	Vogel Alcove
Dallas ISD	Interfaith Housing Coalition		

## 215 Community Volunteers Conducted the Census Survey

A.T. Guynn	Deborah Suderman	Jim Barron	Marilyn Hayes	Sarena Carter
Aaron Bidne	Dedra Medford	Jo Guidice	Marissa Gonzalez	Scott Griggs
Adam Medrano	Delhi Ekambo	Joan Brinkley	Marissa Miller	Sean Bellomy
Alexis Sanchez	Deloris Washington	Joel Price	Marquette Stevenson	Sesh Menta
Amena Alens	Derek Smith	John Sherburn	Marsha Dickens	Shahrukh Syed
Amy Grissom	Diedra Green	Jonathan Grance	Mary Benefiel	Shahrzad Rizvi
Andrew Carroll	Dometric Blaylard	Jose Cabrera-Puentes	Mary Cortes	Shane Trawick
Angela Epperson	Dorothy Ferrell	Josh Kirby	Mary Gutierrez	Sharon Bradley
Angelina Caudillo	Doug Fox	Josh Tomko	Mary Jo Babcock	Sharon Davis
Angie Lutts	Drew Bowen	Julia Black	Mary Laube	Sharon Myers
Anita Green	Edd Eason	Kaitlyn West	Mary Valdez	Shaye Fox
Ann Hayes	Elizabeth Hart	Kara Lisa Danter	Mary-Jane Brezette	Sheila Gilliam
Antwon Wimbish	Eric Gary	Karen Sales	Melva Bazan	Sheri Crandall
Ariel Gutierrez	Eric Lockley	Kassidy Birdsong	Melinda Tiger	Shirley Birch
Ashley Postell	Ericka Graham	Katie Osinde	Michael Katz	Sonya Coleman
Barbara Martinez	Ericka Sanders	Katrim Tucker	Michaela Klose	Stephanie Dickerson
Billy Greer	Ereka Campbell	Kathy Lee Mauk	Mike Edwards	Stephen Pogue
Blanca Garcia	Faten Fattah	Kelley Price	Mike Itashiki	Synthia Franklin
Brenda Matzke	Fynla Kuniyil	Kelly Wierzbinski	Miller Sylvan	Tabitha Terrell
Brian Smith	Gabrielle Harris	Kendall Putnam	Mittee Kleinfgen	Ta'Letha Little
Bridgett Bennett-Zeno	Gina Presley	Khadija Muntwanamba	Molly Van Ort	Tamara Royal
Britton Banowsky	Greg Brinkley	Kim Higgins	Natasha Hancock	Tami Davis
Brooke Etie	Hazim Kuniyil	Kim Maxwell	Naya Pope	Tanisha Livingston
Bruce Gadd	Henrietta Martin	Kim Sparks	Neda Hassani	Tania Mejia
Cameron Cariffe	Hope Stedman	Krystal Lotspeich	Neidra Covington	Tanya Reagan
Candace Bradley	Idalia Soria	Lacy Burgess	Phillip Booker	Ted Landown
Carolyn Bradley	Irene Morse	Lana Hansen	Phyllis Goode	Teresa House-Hatfield
Carrie Nixon	Jackie Baker	Lauran Goldberg	Prajakti "PJ" Rao	Tiffany Rippa
Charlotte Banks	Jackie Culberson	Lauren Gaitlin	QuaTarsha Echols	Tonie Ward
Charlotte Roney	Jacquelin Maldonado	Lauren Weittenhiller	R.L. Bruno	Tony Harvey
Chester J. Goode	James Dickens	LaVerne Brown	Reagan O'Brien	Tony Ramirez
Chris Oliver	James McClinton	Lawrence Norman	Regina Coleman	Tonya Derrick
Christy Deevers	James Pippin	Linda Jones	Renna Camel	Tricia Kinsman-Ash
Christy Polito	Jana Rogers	Lisa Barnett	Rick Callahan	Trina Johnson
Claudia Lemmon	Janet Smith	Lisa Ciminelli	Robert Torres	Val Armstrong
Clyde Lacy	Jason Burke	Lisa Parker	Robin Minick	Valencia Hooper
Daniel Gray	Jeannine Jiral	Lolita Fuller	Ronda Gallimore	Vanessa Nunez
Daniel Henry	Jeff Mundy	Lolita Morgan	Ryan Bellomy	Vicki Ebner
Danny Edwards	Jerry Allen	Lorenzo Ramos	Salih Shaikh	Vickie Fierova
Danny Wesley	Jesse Aguilera	Lori Herrera	Sam Gadd	Victoria Corcoran
David Ash	Jesse Holmes	Maria Chagollan	Sammy Gonzalez	William "Bill" Vandivort III
David Wall	Jessica D'Jouza	Maria Isabel Camacho	Sandy Moseley	Rebecca Barton
Deanna Adams	Jessica Higgins	Marie Krebs	Sarah Allen	Sgt. Frank Pontillo

**66 Volunteers for Data Entry (many on multiple days)**

Adriana Yepez	Gina Norman	Meera Rao-Bette
Alicia Shaw-Ray	Helena Davidson	Megan Jones
Anthony Collins	Jackie Burns-Torrance	Misti R. Crowsey
Antoinette Springgs	Jane Hackney	Myra Wilson
Bashie Howard	Janell Petroff	Pamela Mahomes
Blanca Garcia	Jasmine Africawala	Patsy Quinn
Brittany Meredith	Jeannine Jiral	Prajakti "PJ" Rao
Carole J. Mayo	Jeff Brandt	Rebecca Peterson
Cassandra Lott	Jeremy Lewis	Rev. Dr. LaVerne Reed
Catrina Kamau	Julie Adkins	Robert Torres
Cheryl Daniels	Kara Lister Danter	Sarena Carter
Connie Wilson	Katrena Dawson	Seema Gandhi
Danielle Tooker	Kelsi Jones	Shannon Phillips
Diddy-Nus Masila	Kiara Cabrera	Sharon Bradley
Dometric Blaylark	Kira Casimir	Sheryl Madison
Dominique Edwards	Kirstene Jackson	Stacey Ollar
Dustin Perkins	Laura Roland	Tamara Royal
Elton Taylor	Lori Davidson	Thalia Matherson
Ericka Hightower	Louwanna Carson	Vickie Fierova
Faron Bradley	Mamie Liew	Yen Le
Flora Deluna	Marcie Hines	Yolanda Phelps
Gayle Gordon	Mary Hall	Zandra Ellis

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