Every year, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of the local homeless populations in order to measure the prevalence of homelessness in each local Continuum of Care.

The 2018 Sonoma County Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on February 23, 2018. In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to 519 unsheltered and sheltered homeless individuals to profile their experience and characteristics.

### Census Population: Longitudinal Trend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sheltered</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>3,247</td>
<td>3,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>4,539</td>
<td>4,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>4,280</td>
<td>4,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>3,107</td>
<td>3,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2,906</td>
<td>2,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2,835</td>
<td>2,835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2,996</td>
<td>2,996</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2018 Sheltered/Unsheltered Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sheltered</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(n=1,067)  (n=1,929)

### Subpopulation Data*

- **Chronically Homeless** | 747 Individuals  
  - 15% Sheltered  
  - 85% Unsheltered
- **Veterans** | 207 Individuals  
  - 30% Sheltered  
  - 70% Unsheltered
- **Families** | 104 Families with 339 members  
  - 91% Sheltered  
  - 9% Unsheltered
- **Unaccompanied Children** | 34 Individuals  
  - 29% Sheltered  
  - 71% Unsheltered
- **TAY** | 481 Individuals  
  - 12% Sheltered  
  - 88% Unsheltered
- **Older Adults** | 409 Individuals  
  - 35% Sheltered  
  - 65% Unsheltered

### Residence Prior to Homelessness

- **Sonoma County** | 84%  
  - 4% Less than 1 year  
  - 13% 1-4 years  
  - 18% 5-9 years  
  - 65% 10 years or more

### Educational Attainment

- **of transition-age-youth survey respondents who have received a GED or graduated from high school** | 48%  
  - 28% Hispanic/Latino  
  - 72% Non-Hispanic/Latino

### Foster Care

- **of adult survey respondents who report a history of foster care** | 18%  
  - 6% Gay or Lesbian  
  - 3% Other

- **of youth survey respondents who report a history of foster care** | 24%  
  - 8% Black or African American  
  - 7% Amer Indian or Alaska Native

*Note: These data points are specific to the surveyed populations and may not reflect the entire Sonoma County population.
Duration of Current Episode of Homelessness
- 10% 30 days or less
- 34% 1-11 months
- 56% 1 year or more

Primary Event or Condition That Led to Homelessness (Top 6 Responses)
- 22% Lost job
- 17% Alcohol or Drug Use
- 15% Argument with Family/Friend
- 12% Eviction
- 11% Divorce/Separation/Breakup
- 8% Landlord Raised Rent

Obstacles to Permanent Housing (Top 4 Responses)
- 72% Can’t Afford Rent
- 54% No Job/Not Enough Income
- 31% No Housing Available
- 30% No Money for Moving Costs

History of Domestic Violence
- 34% Yes
- 54% No
- 13% Decline to State

Interest in Permanent Housing
- 90% of survey respondents said YES when asked if they would want to move into safe, affordable permanent housing if it were available

44% of survey respondents reported a disabling condition

What is a disabling condition?
A disabling condition is defined here as a physical disability, mental illness, chronic depression, alcohol or drug abuse, chronic health problems, HIV/AIDS, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), or a developmental disability.

Health Conditions
- Current health conditions affecting housing stability or employment.
  - (Note: Multiple response question, numbers will not total to 100%)
  - 35% Psychiatric or Emotional Conditions
  - 33% Drug or Alcohol Abuse
  - 28% Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
  - 27% Chronic Health Problems
  - 27% Physical Disability
  - 14% Traumatic Brain Injury
  - 3% AIDS/HIV Related

Employment
- Employment Status
  - 7% Employed Full-Time
  - 9% Employed Part-Time
  - 6% Employed Seasonal/Sporadic
  - 78% Unemployed
- If Unemployed, Currently...
  - 40% Unable to Work
  - 34% Looking for Work
  - 26% Not Looking For Work

Services and Assistance
- Services Currently Accessing (Top 6 Responses)
  - 53% Food Stamps/SNAP/WIC/CalFresh
  - 33% Emergency Shelter
  - 33% Medi-Cal/Medicare
  - 29% Bus Passes
  - 28% Health Services

Reasons for Not Receiving Any Government Assistance (Top 6 Responses)
- 48% Don’t Want
- 16% Don’t Think Eligible
- 14% Never Applied
- 12% Don’t Have ID
- 9% No Permanent Address
- 7% Paperwork Too Difficult

Services and Assistance
- Reasons for Not Receiving Any Government Assistance (Top 6 Responses)
  - 48% Don’t Want
  - 16% Don’t Think Eligible
  - 14% Never Applied
  - 12% Don’t Have ID
  - 9% No Permanent Address
  - 7% Paperwork Too Difficult
In March 2018, Sonoma County and ASR implemented a representative, telephone-based household survey to understand the impacts of the fall 2017 fires. A total of 1,191 valid surveys were conducted in this additional assessment of unstably housed and fire-affected populations.

These data are intended to assist service providers, policy makers, funders, and local and state government in gaining a better understanding of the population of individuals who are not homeless but who lack a residence of their own, how the 2017 fires affected the county at large, and planning for the future.

Sonoma County Housing

- Occupied Housing Units | 189,043
  - 40% Renter-Occupied
  - 60% Owner-Occupied
- Destroyed Housing Units | 5,297 (3% of Total)
  - 39% Renter-Occupied
  - 61% Owner-Occupied

How Housing Situations Were Impacted by the Fires

- 59% Evacuated and Allowed to Return (No Damage)
- 21% Other
- 12% Home/Apartment was Damaged by Smoke
- 8% Home/Apartment Burned
- <1% Could No Longer Afford Home/Apartment
- <1% Could No Longer Stay With Family/Friends

Temporary Housed Population

Precariously Housed | 21,482 Individuals

- 50% Lost Housing due to Non-Fire Related Causes
- 39% Lost Housing in Fires
- 11% Lost Housing due to Economic Impact of Fires

Primary Causes of Temporary Residence (Top 4 Responses)

- 37% Financial
- 30% Home/Apartment Burned
- 18% Divorce, Separation, Parents Moved, Asked to Leave
- 3% Home/Apartment Damaged by Smoke

Temporary Residents Access to Homeless Assistance by Cause

Directly Fire Related

- 78% Not Accessing Homeless Assistance

Indirect and Non-Fire Related

- 82% Not Accessing Homeless Assistance

Temporary Residents by Age and Cause

- Directly Fire Related
  - Under 18: 14%
  - 18-24: 4%
  - 25-54: 39%
  - 55+: 43%

- Indirect and Non-Fire Related
  - Under 18: 20%
  - 18-24: 15%
  - 25-54: 43%
  - 55+: 22%

Temporary Residents by Gender and Cause

Directly Fire Related

- Men: 51%
- Women: 49%

Indirect and Non-Fire Related

- Men: 46%
- Women: 47%

*Subpopulation Definitions

Chronically Homeless

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

Veterans

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

Families

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

Unaccompanied Children

Children under the age of 18 who are homeless and living without a parent or legal guardian.

Transition-Age-Youth

Young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 years old.

The complete comprehensive report includes a more detailed profile of the characteristics of those experiencing homelessness in Sonoma County. It can be found at http://www.sonoma-county.org/cdc/cdhomeless.htm