



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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2023 ANNUAL POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT RELEASED IN STANISLAUS COUNTY

Modesto, CA.: The Stanislaus Community System of Care (CSOC) today released its 2023 Point-In-Time (PIT) homeless count, identifying 2,091 homeless persons in Stanislaus County, an increase of 234 people from last year's total count.

"Homelessness affects all of us. The PIT Count is an important resource to gauge how many people are experiencing homelessness in our communities," stated Emily Webster, Vice-Chair of CSOC. The information helps us develop support services and housing to help this population."

The PIT count is an unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that communities conduct an annual count of people experiencing homelessness who are sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Havens on one night.

Last year's count was 1,857 people, down from the previous year due to challenges including the COVID-19 pandemic and the scheduling of the count, along with fewer volunteers to perform the snapshot homeless survey. A total of 2,927 homeless people were counted in 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2023 PIT COUNT

Who are the Homeless?

- 71% of those surveyed identified as white while 63% identified as Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin (a)(o)(x) and 37% as Hispanic/Latin (a)(o)(x).
- The majority of the homeless counted were males, a total of 1,345. Females made up 731 of the count.
- The largest age group was 35-44 with a total of 501 people.
- 45% of homeless surveyed said they spent time in jail or prison; 43% said they had stayed in a hospital overnight; and 21% reported that they had been in a treatment center.
- 73% responded that they first became homeless in Stanislaus County; 62% said they had been homeless for more than 36 months in our community.
- 101 veterans made up 9% of the community sheltered population

Where are the Homeless?

- The city of Modesto, the seat of Stanislaus County, had the largest number of homeless surveyed with 1,642 people. The city of Turlock was second with 233 people.
- 55% of the count (1,142 people) came from the sheltered population - congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotel/motel voucher programs - while 45% (949 people) came from the count of people living on the streets, in parks, abandoned buildings, or in their cars.
- 40% of the Unsheltered population of 949 people told surveyors they slept on the streets or on sidewalks.

- 69% of the 1,142 Sheltered population stayed in Emergency Shelter while 19% stayed in Transitional Housing.

What are the Reasons for Becoming Homeless?

- 27% said they were asked to leave from the place they were staying.
- 26% responded there was abuse and violence in the home.
- 23% said they were unable to pay rent/mortgage.

What are the Obstacles to Accessing Services?

- 15% said they didn't have identification or documents.
- 13% said lack of transportation.
- 11% said they didn't know where to go for help.

Other Homeless Populations (Adults Only)

- 23% had a serious mental illness.
- 16% had a substance use disorder.
- 12% were survivors of domestic violence.
- 2% had HIV/AIDS.

Why is the PIT Count Important?

The annual count data is critical to determine the scope of homelessness, define existing resources, and identify any gaps in services in Stanislaus County. HUD requires communities to count the number of people experiencing homelessness every two years in each county across the United States.

The survey data is used to help determine the amount of funding available to communities to develop housing and supportive services for people moving from homelessness to being housed. The information helps service providers, policy makers, funders and local government gain a better understanding of the population currently experiencing homelessness.

Who organized the PIT Count?

The 2023 Homeless Shelter Count is organized by the Stanislaus Community System of Care (CSOC) which includes local governments, non-profits, and homeless providers. For more information, please visit www.csocstan.com.



2023 Stanislaus County Homeless Point-In-Time Count

Executive Summary

Background

Every two years, during the last ten days of January, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires communities to conduct a Point-In-Time (PIT) count of people experiencing homelessness. The goal is to measure the prevalence of homelessness in communities across the country.

The PIT count is an unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness. With the help of volunteers, the count is organized by the Stanislaus Community System of Care (CSOC) made up of local governments, non-profit organizations, and homeless providers.

HUD also requires a count of people experiencing homelessness who are sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Havens on a single night.

The count data is critical to determine the scope of homelessness, define existing resources, and identify any gaps in services in Stanislaus County.

When was the PIT Count?

The Sheltered Count was conducted on the evening of Wednesday, January 25, 2023, and the Unsheltered Count on Thursday, January 26, 2023.

The Sheltered Count is a count of individuals or families under temporary living arrangements that include congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels/motels paid for by charitable organizations or federal, state, and local government programs.

The Unsheltered count is a count of individuals experiencing homelessness out on the streets who are unsheltered. These are people staying outdoors in streets, parks, abandoned buildings, or in their vehicles.

What are the 2023 PIT Count Findings?

The PIT count identified 1,790 households totaling 2,091 homeless individuals in Stanislaus County. Out of the 2,091 individuals, 45% (949) were unsheltered, living on the streets or in places not meant for human habitation, compared to last year's unsheltered count of 946.

The sheltered count showed 1,142 individuals in Emergency Shelter & Transitional Housing, of which 922 stayed in Emergency Shelters. This is a 32% increase (701) from the 2022 count due to the increased State and Federal funding used for hotel/motel vouchers.

The count found 220 individuals staying in Transitional Housing units, which is very consistent compared to the 210 we reported last year.

More information collected from this 2023-snapshot survey can be found on the attached Homeless Point-In-Time Count Data Summary.

The PIT Count Data and the Stanislaus County State of Emergency

On January 9, 2023, a local State of Emergency was proclaimed in Stanislaus County. Extreme weather conditions had caused widespread flooding, evacuations, and road closures across the county.

The California Office of Emergency Services Operations Center had reported that unsheltered people living in low-lying areas and riverbeds would be at significant risk.

The data indicates that these conditions pushed some of our homeless population into shelters and shelter services, something they may not have otherwise wanted to do.

The PIT Count Data and State Funding

California Assembly Bill 977, signed by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2021, mandated state homeless programs to start entering data into the Homeless Management Information System, known as HMIS, by January 1, 2023. Many of these programs provided flexible funding that community partners used for sheltering through the use of hotel or motel vouchers.

As a result, these voucher programs increased the Emergency Shelter count, which kept homeless individuals and families off the streets.

The PIT Count and Volunteers

With the Covid-19 pandemic behind us, CSOC trained 302 PIT volunteers and had a 76% participation rate for both the shelter and unsheltered count, which was a huge success, compared to the 2022 PIT count.

Last year, Stanislaus County experienced a COVID-19 transmission surge, which forced the count to be rescheduled to the end of February. As a result, CSOC had a 49% loss in volunteers that had initially registered to assist in the January count but chose not to participate in February.

What are the Next Steps?

The data has been submitted to HUD and will be shared with community stakeholders in Stanislaus County.



2023 Stanislaus County

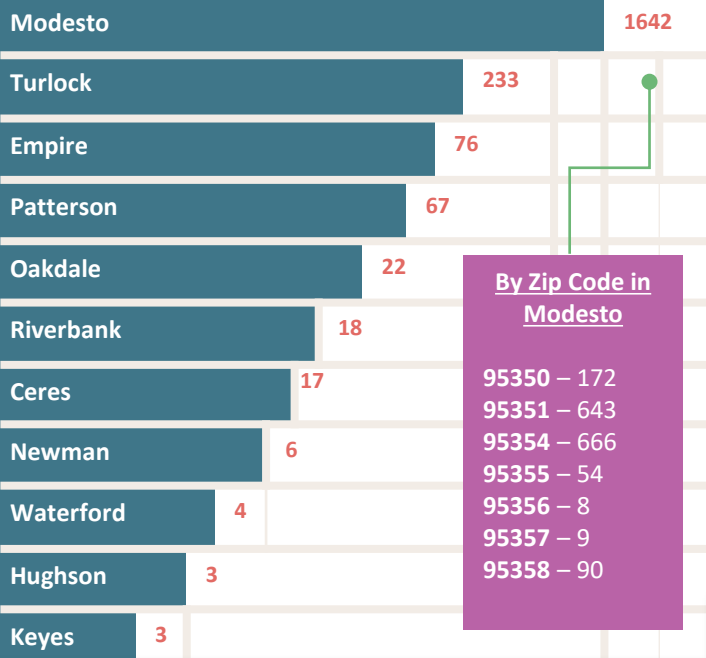
Homeless Point-in-Time Count/Executive Summary



Every two years, during the last 10 days of January, the U.S. Department of Housing & Community Development asks communities across the country to conduct a comprehensive count of people experiencing homelessness in order to measure the prevalence of homelessness in each local community. Stanislaus County conducts the count every year.

The 2023 Stanislaus County Point-in-Time (PIT) Count was a community-wide effort conducted on January 26, 2023. Questionnaires were administered to unsheltered and sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness to profile their experience and characteristics. A total of 2,091 people, including children, experienced homelessness in Stanislaus County.

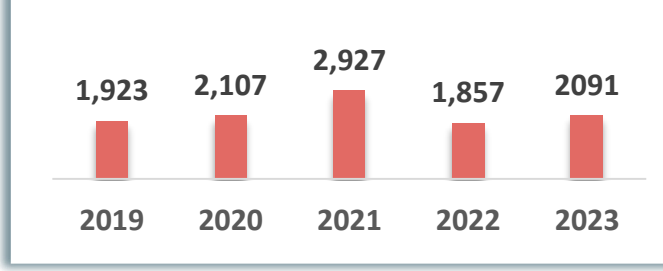
Sheltered/Unsheltered Population by City



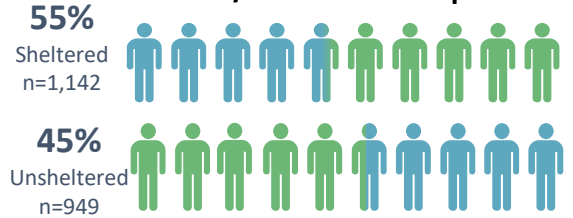
By Zip Code in Modesto

- 95350 – 172
- 95351 – 643
- 95354 – 666
- 95355 – 54
- 95356 – 8
- 95357 – 9
- 95358 – 90

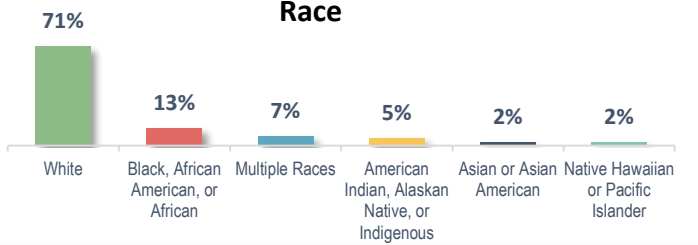
PIT Count Longitudinal Trend



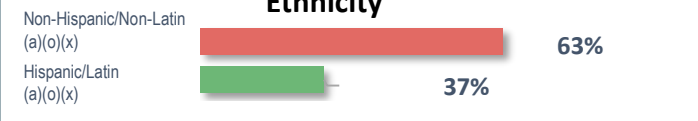
Sheltered/Unsheltered Population



Race



Ethnicity



Gender

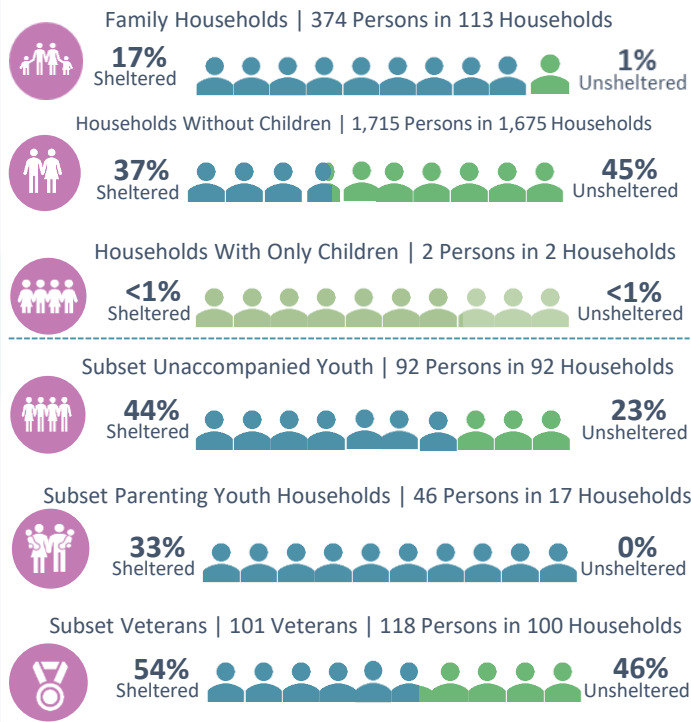
- 1345 Male
- 731 Female
- 10 Gender that is not singularly "Male" or "Female" *
- 5 Transgender

Age

- Under 18 231
- 18-24 113
- 25-34 355
- 35-44 501
- 45-54 401
- 55-64 357
- Over age 64 133

* (e.g., non-binary, genderfluid, agender, culturally specific gender)

Household Breakdown

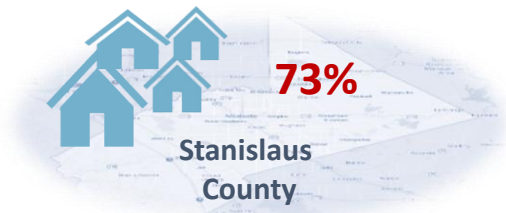


1760 = Actual response counts are based solely on clients interviewed and responses given.
 1871 = Clients Unsheltered and in Emergency Shelter, does not include those in Transitional Housing
 1530 = Adults Only

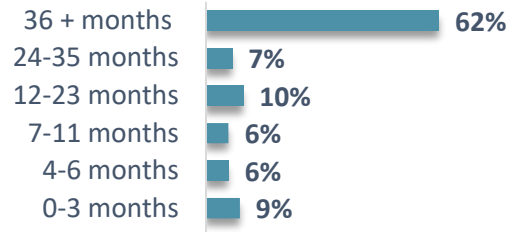
Reasons for Becoming Homeless *Top 6*



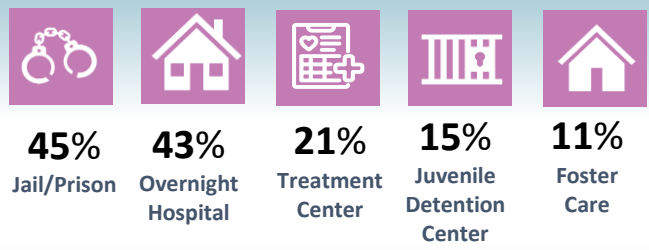
First Became Homeless



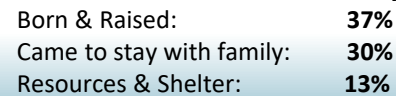
How Long Homeless in our Community



Have Ever Been In.... *Top 5 Responses n=1,760*

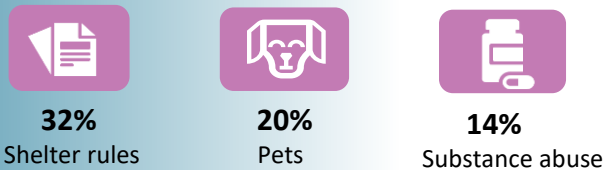


Reasons Came to Community



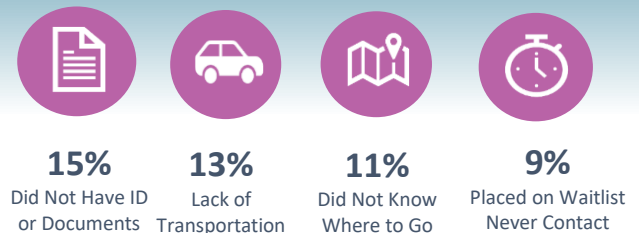
Reasons Declined Shelter Services

n = 277



Obstacles Accessing Services

Top 4 Responses n=1,760

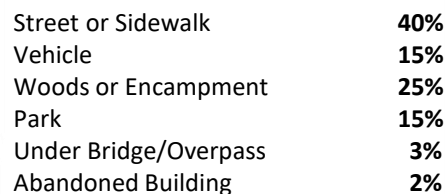


Income and Benefits

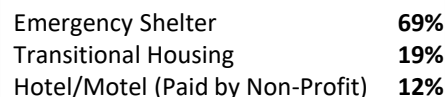
74% Receive Social Services (CalFresh, TANF, etc.)
 6% Other Income (Employment, VA, Pension)

Count of sleeping Location

949 Unsheltered



1142 Sheltered



Chronically Homeless Population

n=1871

31%

573 Emergency Shelter/Unsheltered



Other Homeless Populations

Adults Only n = 1,530

