

**2017**

**— POINT-IN-TIME COUNT —**

**CITY OF COSTA MESA REPORT**





August 2017

On behalf of the 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC) staff, I am pleased to share your Point in Time City Report based on the Point in Time (PIT) Count & Survey conducted on the night of January 27, 2017 to the morning on January 28, 2017. As you are aware, we had a very robust PIT operation this year, with a 40% increase in volunteers (for a total of 1,184 people); a 47% increase in number of mapped areas; and 20 of the 34 Orange County cities also opting in to receive city level reports.

While conducting the PIT and submitting the results to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is a requirement in order for our community agencies to receive \$22.3 Million in funding to help house those in need, it's important to remember that it's only a snapshot of the work done in our community to solve the issue of homelessness. The PIT information reported to HUD covers the unsheltered persons counted on the morning on January 28th, plus those individuals and families who were sheltered in either Emergency Shelters or in Transitional Housing projects on the night of January 27th. The culmination of this information is found in the attached report.

What the report *does not* cover are those who are housed in Permanent Housing programs. There has been a concerted effort under way in Orange County during the past two years to focus on those in greatest need, i.e. the chronically homeless population as defined by HUD. These programs include permanent supportive housing (PSH) and rapid rehousing (RRH), as well as funding for planning and the Coordinated Entry System (CES), which matches our homeless individuals and families to PSH and RRH, as well as directing people to Emergency Shelters. With the addition of The Courtyard and Bridges at Kraemer Place, we have additional Emergency Shelter capacity that was greatly needed.

During the past two years (June 2015 – April 2017), the Orange County Continuum of Care Street Outreach Teams and service providers, via the Coordinated Entry System, have:

- connected to 908 families and 2,094 individuals for vulnerability assessments;
- diverted 78 families and 32 individuals away from homelessness;
- placed 66 families and 232 individuals in PSH/RRH programs;
- matched 179 families and 337 individuals to available PSH/RRH programs;
- helped an additional 302 families and 1,123 individuals to get the paperwork needed prior to being matched to housing (proof of disability, verification of homelessness, etc.); of this group 55% have pulled their documents together and are considered "document ready."

In addition, between October 2015 and September 2016, 1,023 persons were moved to self-sufficiency from RRH programs to permanent housing. The community has also made great strides in increasing the Permanent Supportive Housing unit capacity, meaning that individuals who have a disability (either physical or mental) are provided with housing and wrap around support services. PSH capacity growth as reported in the OC annual Housing Inventory Count **increased from 2,392 beds in 2016 to 2,663 beds in 2017.**

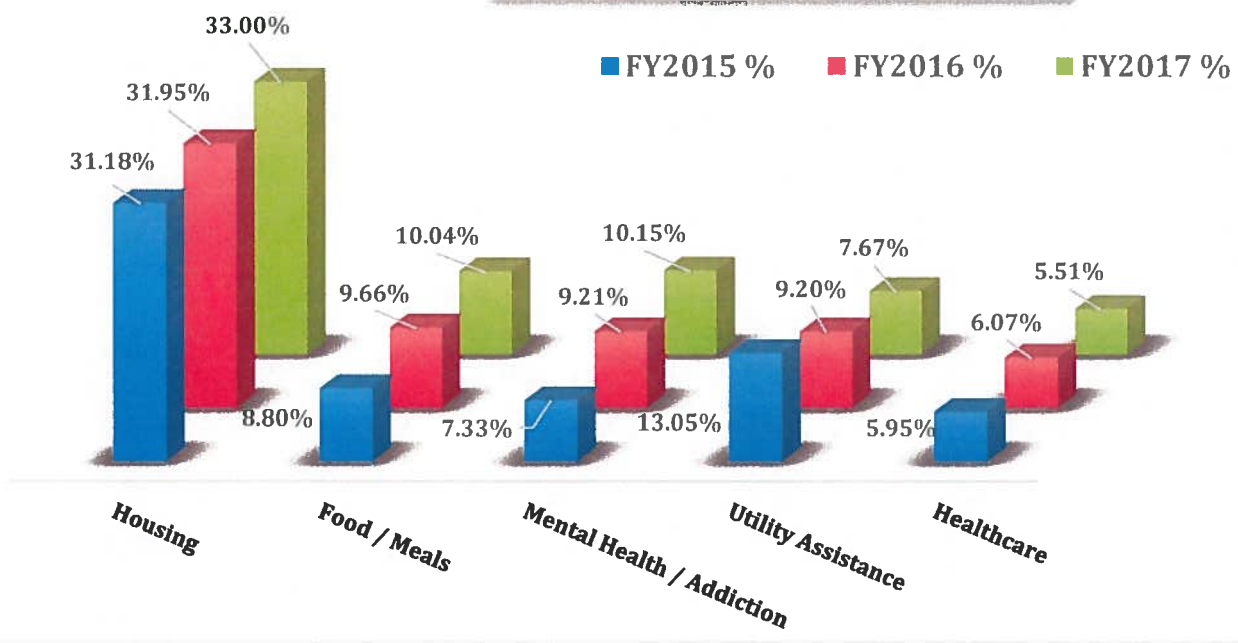
211OC has a unique vantage point at looking at the community, by sitting at the intersection of the issue of homelessness in Orange County. Part of the reason for this is that 211OC gathers data as the Homeless



Management Information System (HMIS) lead, the CES lead, and the PIT lead, as well as operating the Orange County 2-1-1 Information & Referral helpline. The 2-1-1 helpline allows us to identify how many people are looking for resources on a daily basis.

In the past two years, we have seen an **increase of 11%** in total number of people looking for some sort of assistance, with 33% of these individuals looking for **housing assistance** (whether rental assistance, affordable housing, shelters, etc.). We have also seen 10% of all calls/web searches focused on the need for **food assistance** and over 10% of the calls looking for **mental health or addiction** help. This last group has increased the greatest amount year over year.

Trends in Referrals Year over Year



All of these numbers show that there continues to be a need for help in our community. It's best to prevent people from falling into homelessness, and things like food, rental assistance and utility assistance greatly helps.

Here at 211OC, we believe that when people get linked to resources, they do better...**and when they do better, the community is stronger.**

We appreciate the participation of the whole community in the 2017 Point in Time Count & Survey, and look forward to continuing to work alongside all of you to solve the issue of homelessness in Orange County.

Sincerely,

Karen Williams  
President and CEO  
2-1-1 Orange County



## 2017 Orange County Point-In-Time Count

### Estimated Number of Unsheltered Homeless People in Costa Mesa

The 2017 Point-In-Time (PIT) Count was conducted on the night of January 28, 2017. The PIT is mandated by Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to be conducted at least every two years, and includes counting those sleeping in both sheltered (emergency shelter and transitional housing) and unsheltered locations. Orange County, and the cities within Orange County, were further interested in the geographic distribution of the people experiencing homelessness. Because the location of shelters varies throughout the County, the only information that is useful to report at a city level is people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. The full PIT report can be found at [www.211oc.org](http://www.211oc.org).

This brief report provides information for Costa Mesa on the estimated number of people who were experiencing unsheltered homelessness within the city on the morning of the 2017 Point-In-Time Count. The estimates were derived using the total unsheltered PIT count as well as census data indicating the 2016 estimated poverty population of the city<sup>1</sup> (see Appendix for a discussion of the data and assumptions used). In addition to the total number of people experiencing homelessness who were unsheltered, the table below provides additional estimates of that population in terms of age, gender, ethnicity, and race.

As the table below indicates, 3 people in families experiencing unsheltered homelessness and 100 unsheltered individuals (a total of 4.0% of the all people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the County of 2,584 individuals) are estimated to have been in Costa Mesa. Single adults were primarily: over 24 years old, male, and Caucasian. The family household had 2 adults over 24 years old and 1 child under 18 years old.

Costa Mesa			
2017 Unsheltered Numbers	Adult and Child	Adult Only	Total
<b>Households</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Persons</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>103</b>
< 18 years old	1	-	1
18-24 years old	0	4	4
> 24 years old	2	96	98
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	1	16	17
Male	2	84	86
Transgender	0	0	0
Does not Identify	0	0	0
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	2	68	70
Hispanic/Latino	1	32	33

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/SBO030212/06059>

Race			
White	3	75	78
Black or African American	0	15	15
Asian	0	3	3
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	4	4
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	1	1
Multiple Races	0	2	2

## Appendix: Data and Assumptions Used

Focus Strategies investigated several different sets of city population statistics, including poverty rate, unemployment rate, and vacancy rate, prior to selecting the most appropriate population to use for estimating city unsheltered populations. All data were available from the census (<https://factfinder.census.gov>), a reliable, valid, and widely-used source. We discovered that because published numbers for the most recent years of all the statistics are based on estimates from data collected several years ago, the resulting city estimates were nearly identical regardless of the statistic used. Poverty rate was used in these estimates. The number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness was proportionally assigned to each city based on poverty rates. Specifically, the total number of people in poverty was calculated for Orange County, and for each city, allowing Focus Strategies to apply a percentage of total poverty to each city. This percentage was then multiplied by the total number of people who were unsheltered resulting in the unsheltered count for each city.

Table 1 illustrates the proportions of the number of family and adult only households as well as the proportions of people within family and adult only households. The demographic characteristics of the people within each household type are also provided. Using the data in Table 1 as well as the City poverty rates (shown in Table 2), the estimated number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in each city was first calculated, followed by their demographic characteristics using the proportions in the table below.

**Table 1. 2017 Orange County Point-In-Time Count: Demographic Breakdown of Adult and Child (Family) and Adult Only Households**

Orange County Unsheltered Demographics			
2017 Unsheltered Numbers	Adult and Child	Adult Only	Total
<b>Households</b>	<b>20 (1%)</b>	<b>2,468 (99%)</b>	<b>2,488 (100%)</b>
<b>Persons</b>	<b>66 (3%)</b>	<b>2,518 (97%)</b>	<b>2,584 (100%)</b>
< 18 years old	38%	-	1%
18-24 years old	1%	4%	4%
> 24 years old	61%	96%	95%
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	45%	16%	17%
Male	55%	84%	83%
Transgender	0%	0%	0%
Does not Identify	0%	0%	0%
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	56%	68%	68%
Hispanic/Latino	44%	32%	32%

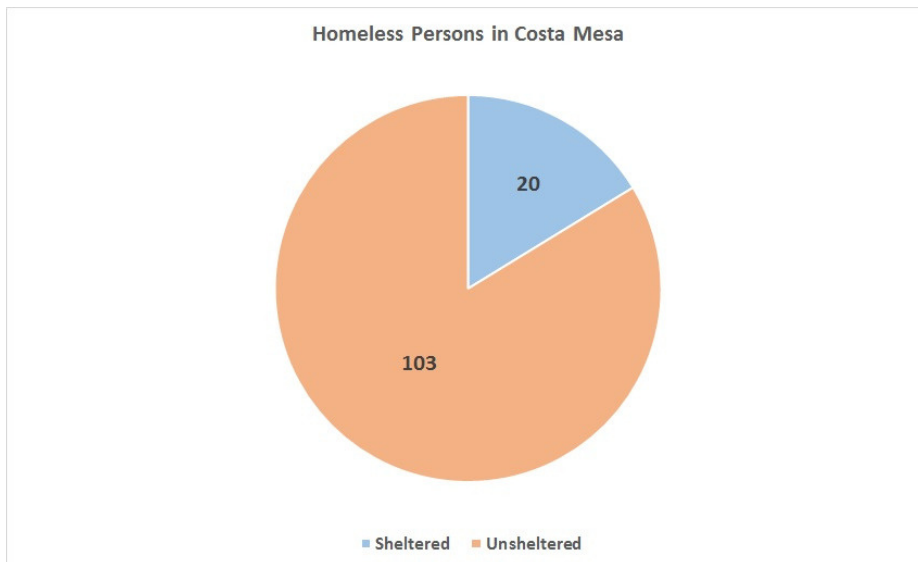
<b>Race</b>			
White	100%	75%	76%
Black or African American	0%	15%	15%
Asian	0%	3%	3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0%	4%	4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0%	1%	0%
Multiple Races	0%	2%	2%

**Table 2: Estimated Number and Percent of People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness by City**

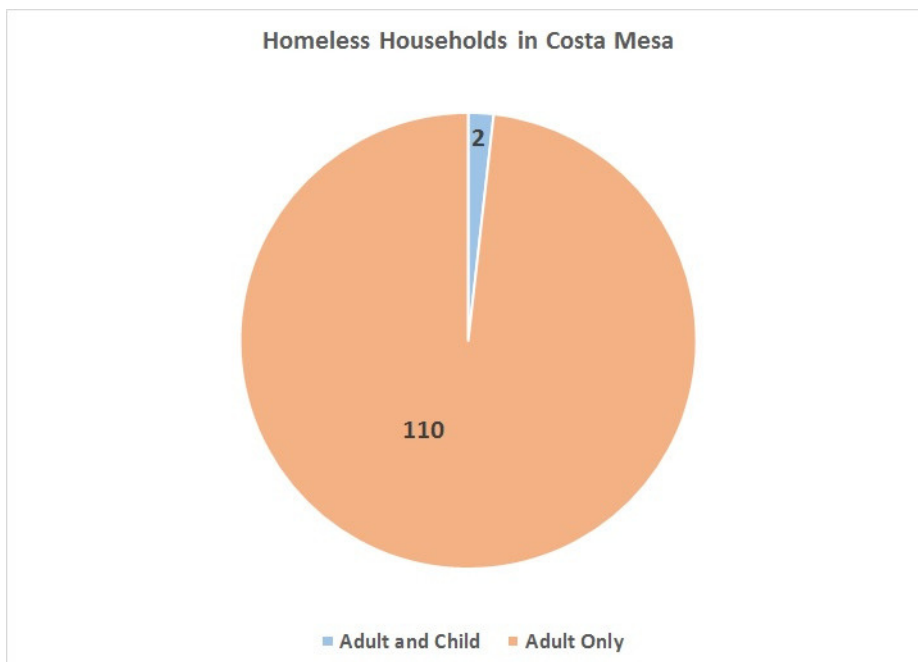
<b>City</b>	<b>City Population</b>	<b>City Poverty Rate</b>	<b>Estimated # People Who Are Unsheltered</b>	<b>Estimated % People Who Are Unsheltered</b>
Costa Mesa	113,204	14.5%	103	4.0%
County	3,172,532	13.0%	2,584	100.00%

## Sheltered Homeless Methodology

The charts below were prepared by 211OC and include additional information on sheltered and unsheltered homelessness in the city. Sheltered homeless population data was gathered in surveys completed by agencies that provide shelter or housing to homeless persons as a part of the annual Point in Time (PIT) and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) on the night of January 27th, 2017 to the morning of January 28th, 2017. The demographics in these tables consist of data aggregated from Transitional Housing and Emergency Shelter project types. Data were aggregated to the city level by Geo Code, a six-digit geographic code developed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Planning (HUD) which corresponds to cities and other geographic areas, and which represents the geographic area where the majority of a project's beds dedicated to homeless persons are located. Projects with a Geo Code of 069059 (Orange County) were coded to the city associated with their principal project site for aggregation.



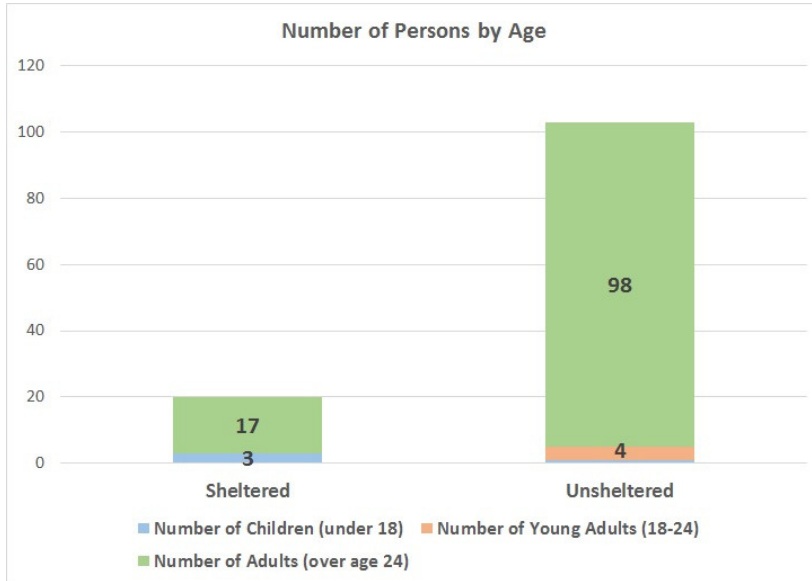
The vast majority of Costa Mesa's homeless population (84%) lives in unsheltered situations. Only 16% of the homeless population in Costa Mesa resides in Transitional Housing or Emergency Shelters.



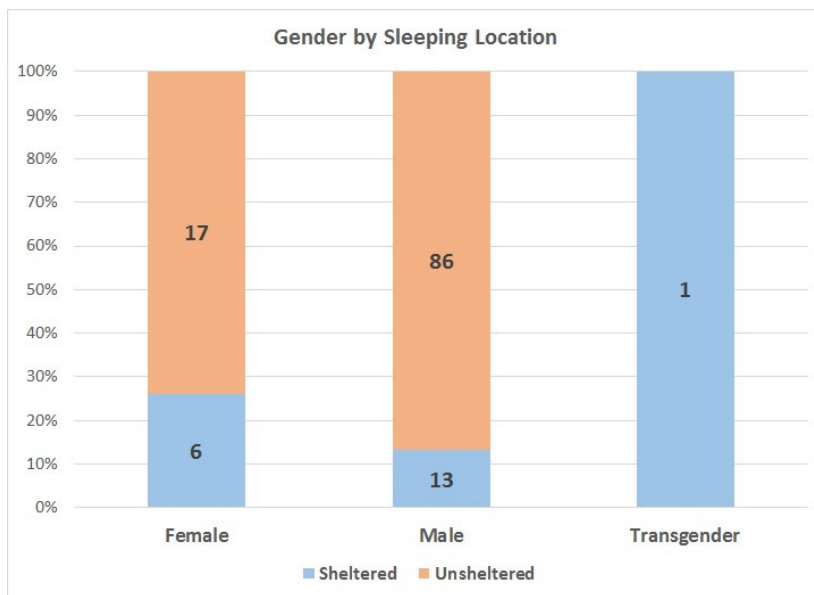
Most of Costa Mesa's homeless households (98%) are Adult Only, whereas only 2% of homeless households contain both adults and children.



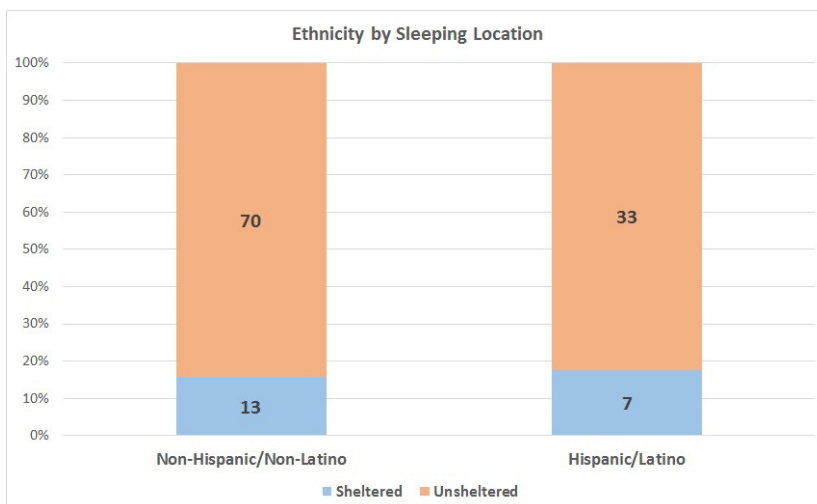




The graph shows that the vast majority (85%) of the sheltered homeless population in Costa Mesa are Adults over the age of 24, and just 15% are Children. For the unsheltered homeless population, the majority of the population (95%) is Adults over the age of 24, and only 4% are Young Adults (ages 18 – 24).

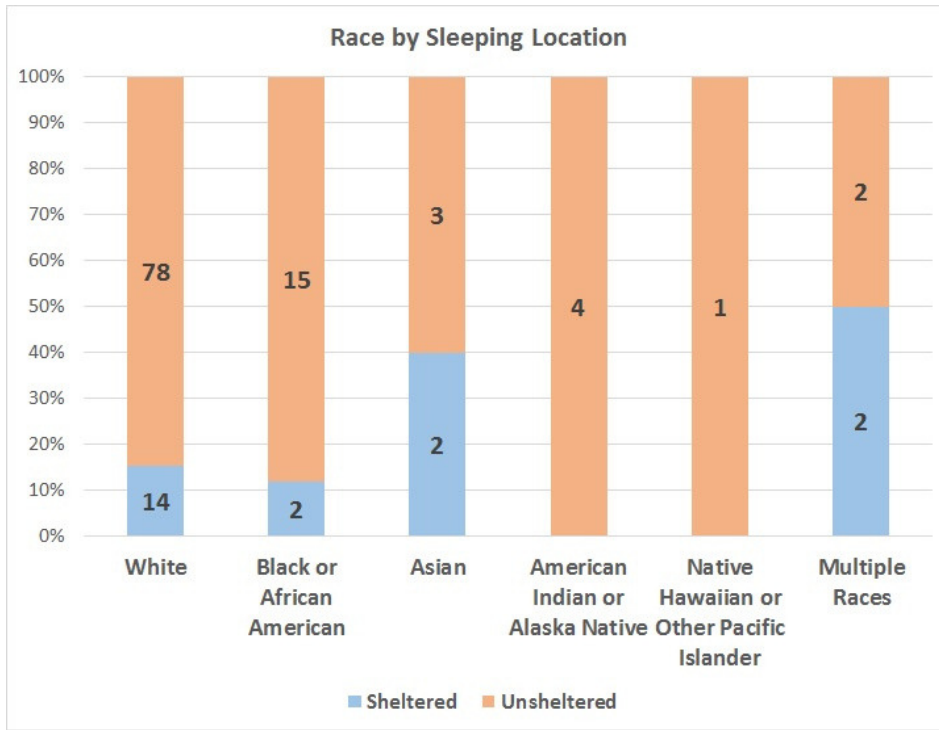


The majority (81%) of Costa Mesa’s homeless population is Male, and 87% of Males are sleeping in unsheltered conditions. Moreover, about three-quarters (74%) of the Female homeless population sleeps in unsheltered conditions, while 26% of Females reside in Emergency Shelters or Transitional Housing.

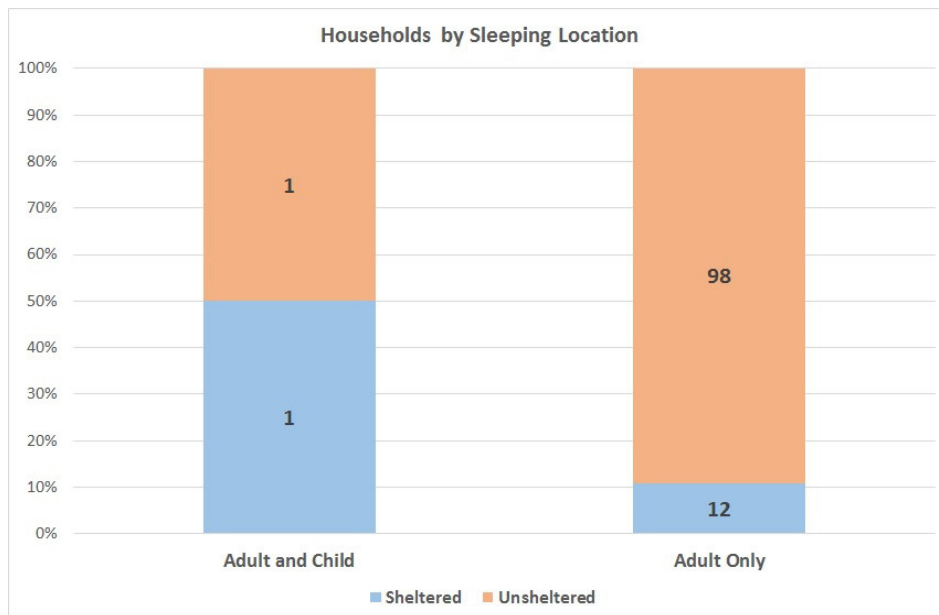


The majority (67%) of Costa Mesa’s homeless population identifies as Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino. Furthermore, there is no difference in sleeping location distribution by ethnicity. For both groups, the sheltered homeless population constitutes the majority of the homeless population, 84% for Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino and 83% for Hispanic/Latino.





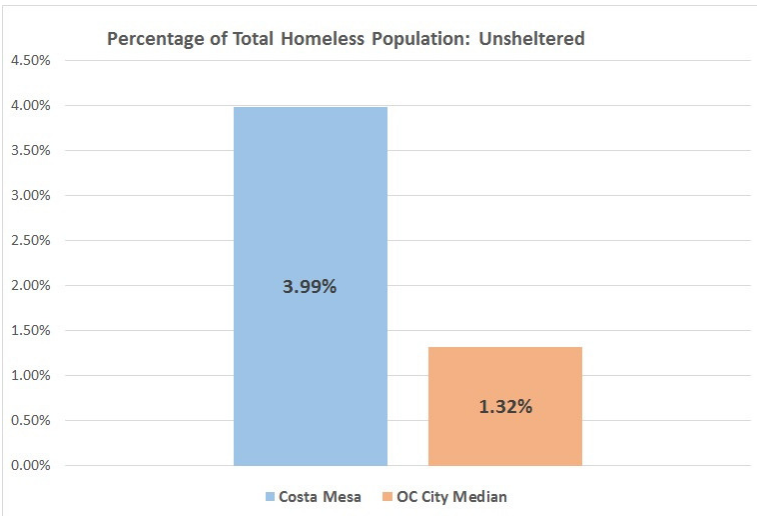
As shown on the graph, the majority (75%) of Costa Mesa’s homeless population identifies as White. Additionally, the sleeping location distribution varies significantly by race. All American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islanders individuals reside in unsheltered conditions. Half of the Multiple Races homeless population lives in shelters, and the majority of the White, Black or African American, and Asian individuals are unsheltered (85%, 88%, and 60%, respectively).



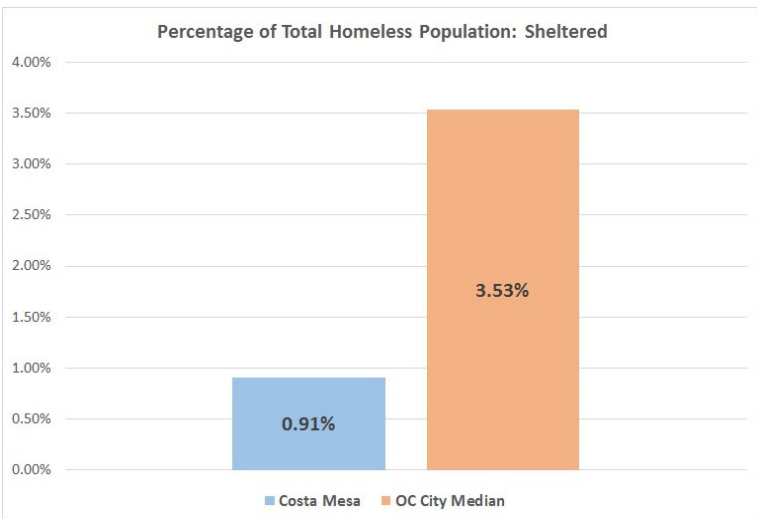
Half of Costa Mesa’s homeless households with adults and children reside in Emergency Shelters or Transitional Housing, whereas most (89%) of the Adults Only households are unsheltered.



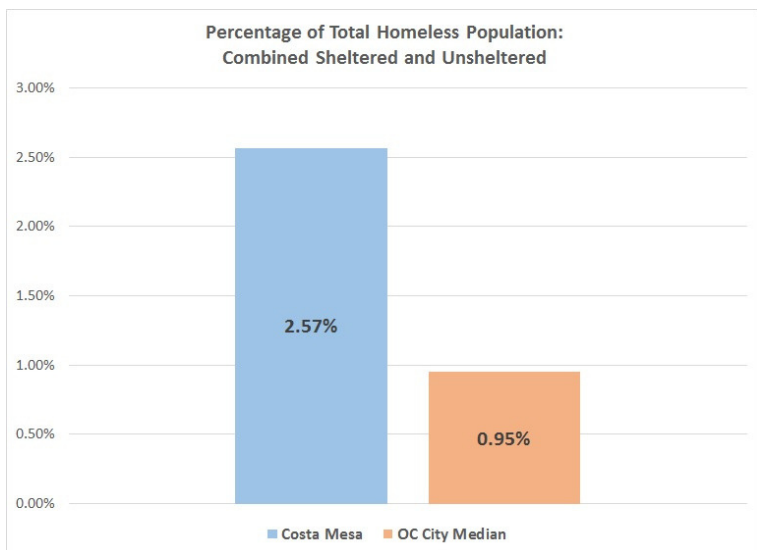
The following three graphs compare Costa Mesa’s percentage of the Orange County homeless population with the median percentage of the homeless population for all cities in the county.



Costa Mesa’s contribution to Orange County’s unsheltered homeless population (3.99%) is about three times higher than the median percentage for all Orange County cities (1.32%).



Costa Mesa’s contribution to the sheltered homeless population in Orange County (0.91%) is about a fourth of the median percentage for all the cities in the county (3.53%).



According to the graph, the total (combined sheltered and unsheltered) percentage of Orange County’s homeless population that resides in Costa Mesa (2.57%) is higher than the median for all the cities in the county (0.95%).



Costa Mesa - Sheltered PIT			
	Adult and Child	Adult Only	Total
Total number of households	1	12	13
Total number of persons	4	16	20
Number of Children (under 18)	3		3
Number of Young Adults (18-24)	0	0	0
Number of Adults (over age 24)	1	16	17
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	3	3	6
Male	1	12	13
Transgender	0	1	1
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	0
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	0	13	13
Hispanic/Latino	4	3	7
<b>Race</b>			
White	4	10	14
Black or African American	0	2	2
Asian	0	2	2
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Multiple Races	0	2	2

Costa Mesa - Unsheltered PIT			
	Adult and Child	Adult Only	Total
Total number of households	1	98	99
Total number of persons	3	100	103
Number of Children (under 18)	1		1
Number of Young Adults (18-24)	0	4	4
Number of Adults (over age 24)	2	96	98
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	1	16	17
Male	2	84	86
Transgender	0	0	0
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	0
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	2	68	70
Hispanic/Latino	1	32	33
<b>Race</b>			
White	3	75	78
Black or African American	0	15	15
Asian	0	3	3
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	4	4
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	1	1

Multiple Races	0	2	2
<b>Persons by Age</b>	<b>Sheltered</b>	<b>Unsheltered</b>	
Number of Children (under 18)	3	1	
Number of Young Adults (18-24)	0	4	
Number of Adults (over age 24)	17	98	
<b>Gender</b>	<b>Sheltered</b>	<b>Unsheltered</b>	
Female	6	17	
Male	13	86	
Transgender	1	0	
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	
<b>Costa Mesa Homeless</b>	<b>Sheltered</b>	<b>Unsheltered</b>	
Number of Persons	20	103	
<b>Race</b>	<b>Sheltered</b>	<b>Unsheltered</b>	
White	14	78	
Black or African American	2	15	
Asian	2	3	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	4	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	1	
Multiple Races	2	2	
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Sheltered</b>	<b>Unsheltered</b>	
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	13	70	
Hispanic/Latino	7	33	
<b>Household Type</b>	<b>Sheltered</b>	<b>Unsheltered</b>	
Adult and Child	1	1	
Adult Only	12	98	
	<b>Number of Households</b>		
Adult and Child	2		
Adult Only	110		
<b>Homeless Population by City</b>	<b>Percent (%) of Total Unsheltered Population</b>	<b>Percent (%) of total Sheltered Population</b>	<b>Percent (%) of Total Homeless Population</b>
OC City Median	1.32%	3.53%	0.95%
Costa Mesa	3.99%	0.91%	2.57%

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## **Glossary/List of Acronyms**

### **Chronically Homeless Family**

A chronically homeless family is defined as a household with at least one adult and one child under the age of 18, or a minor Head of Household under the age of 18 and minimum of one child. The Head of Household must meet the definition of a chronically homeless person (see next entry).

### **Chronically Homeless Individual**

An unaccompanied individual who:

(i) is homeless and lives or resides in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter;

(ii) has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years where total time homeless sums to at least 1 year; and

(iii) has an adult head of household (or a minor head of household if no adult is present in the household) with a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability (as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002)), post-traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments resulting from a brain injury, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of 2 or more of those conditions, which prevent them from holding a job or living in stable housing.

A person who currently lives or resides in an institutional care facility, including a jail, substance abuse or mental health treatment facility, hospital or other similar facility, and has resided there for fewer than 90 days shall be considered chronically homeless if such person met all of the requirements described above prior to entering that facility.

### **Chronicity**

Respondent indicated being homeless (i.e. living in a shelter, on the streets, a car, or in other places not meant for habitation) for the last 12 months or having been homeless at least 4 times in the past 3 years with a total time homeless of at least 1 year across all homeless episodes.

### **Chronic Substance Abuse**

This category on the PIT includes adults 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.



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## **Commission to End Homelessness (C2eH)**

The purpose of the Commission to End Homelessness is for County government, city government, private foundations, advocacy groups, community organizations, and other interested stakeholders to work collaboratively and provide strategic leadership to promote best practices, monitor outcomes, and report results on the success of the Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

## **Coordinated Entry**

Coordinated Entry is designed to coordinate program participant intake assessment and provision of referral. A centralized or coordinated entry system covers the geographic area, is easily accessed by individuals and families seeking housing or services, is well advertised, and includes comprehensive and standardized assessment tool.

## **Disability**

Defined by HUD in 2011 as (1) having a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act; (2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment which is expected to be of long---continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes an individual's ability to live independently, and of such a nature that the disability could be improved by more suitable 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 immune deficiency syndrome or any condition arising from the etiological agent for acquired immune deficiency syndrome; or (5) a diagnosable substance abuse disorder.

## **Domestic Violence**

A family member, partner or ex-partner attempts to physically or psychologically dominate another. Includes physical violence, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, intimidation, economic deprivation, and threats of violence. Violence can be criminal and includes physical assault (hitting, pushing, shoving), sexual abuse (unwanted or forced activity), and stalking. Emotional, psychological, and financial abuse are forms of abuse and can lead to criminal domestic violence

## **Emergency Shelter**

In the CoC Supportive Housing Program, emergency shelters are facilities offering limited shelter stays (generally up to 90 days) which offers a safe alternative to living on the streets and which provides essential services. On a case---by--case basis, clients may remain for longer than ninety days if they require a longer period to accomplish a specific goal.

## **Extrapolation**

A technique for estimating the total number of homeless persons in a particular category that is based on the number of unsheltered and sheltered homeless persons observed and/or interviewed during a homeless count.



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**Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)**

Computerized data collection to capture client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of those experiencing homelessness. It is designed to aggregate client-level data to generate an unduplicated count of clients served within a community’s system of homeless services. The HMIS can provide data on client characteristics and service utilization. HUD funded service providers for the at-risk/homeless are required to participate, as their data is provided to HUD, who then reports the information to Congress. Collecting this data is a requirement by HUD in order for the community and its service agencies to receive HUD funding for programs supporting the at-risk and homeless population.

**Housing Inventory Chart (HIC)**

The HIC is designed to be an accurate reflection of a CoC’s capacity to house homeless and formerly homeless persons. The HIC is a complete inventory of emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing beds available. The inventory includes all HUD funded residential programs, as well as non-HUD funded programs that provide housing, even if those programs do not actively participate in the CoC planning process.

**Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)**

Long-term, community-based housing that has supportive services for homeless persons with disabilities. This type of housing enables the special needs populations to live independently as possible. Permanent housing can be provided in one structure or in several structures at one site or in multiple structures at scattered sites.

**Persons with HIV/AIDS**

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes adults who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.

**Point-in-Time Count & Survey (PIT)**

Requirement of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that Continuums of Cares (CoCs) across the country undertake community wide efforts to collect information on the number and characteristics of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The Point-in-Time Count must occur at least every two years during the last ten days of January.

**Proposition 47**

A ballot initiative passed by California voters to reduce certain felonies to misdemeanors allowing people serving for these crimes to petition for a reduced sentence. More information can be found at: [www.cdcr.ca.gov/news/prop47.html](http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/news/prop47.html).

**Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)**

Rapid Re-housing is an approach that focuses on moving individuals and families that are homeless into appropriate housing as quickly as possible.





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### **Severely Mentally Ill**

This subpopulation category of the PIT includes adults 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.

### **Substance Abuse Programs**

Programs that are tailored for individuals with substance abuse issues are programs that serve individuals who have acknowledged addiction problems related to alcohol and drug use and who seek services or housing to support their sobriety.

### **Transitional Housing (TH)**

A project that is designed to provide housing and appropriate supportive services to homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months as defined by HUD.

### **Unsheltered Homeless**

Survey respondents who indicated that they spent last night in the streets, a vehicle, an abandoned building, bus/train station, camping not in a designated campground, sleeping anywhere outside, or other place not meant for human habitation or stayed in friend or family’s garage, backyard, porch, shed or driveway were counted as unsheltered homeless.

### **Veteran**

This subpopulation category of the PIT 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.





Find additional reports, including the full Point in Time Count report, by visiting:  
[www.211oc.org](http://www.211oc.org)

For related inquiries, contact Kristin Jefferson at (714) 589 - 2351

