Alliance for Regional Solutions

Shelter Provided to the
Homeless in
North San Diego County
Winter Shelters
2013-2014

REGIONAL TASK FORCE
ON THE **HOMELESS**

SAN DIEGO COUNTY
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Acknowledgements

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Introduction

The Alliance for Regional Solutions (ARS) collected client shelter stay data during its 2013-2014 Winter Shelter homeless services in North San Diego County. This report describes the number of clients that were sheltered, the demographic characteristics of these clients, the reason for their homelessness, the length of shelter provided to these clients, and what housing plans the clients had upon exiting the shelter program, plus a brief review of clients served during both the 2012-2013 winter season and the 2013-2014 winter season.

The ARS commissioned the Regional Task Force on the Homeless (RTFH) to analyze the 2013-2014 winter shelter data. The data was entered by winter shelter staff into a secure online database and extracted for analysis in June 2014.

Background

Each year in North San Diego County, six winter emergency shelters open up to provide shelter to the homeless during the coldest of the winter months – primarily December through April. For the 2013-14 winter months, four of the six ARS shelters operated from the first of December 2013 through the end of March 2014, one shelter began operation in late-October 2013 and ended in late-April 2014, and the sixth began in mid-December 2013 and ended in mid-April 2014.

During the 2013-14 winter season there were four stationary ARS shelters: Escondido Emergency Shelter (Haven House) in Escondido, Operation Hope in Vista, Bread of Life in Oceanside and La Posada de Guadalupe in Carlsbad. There were also two rotating ARS shelters, Interfaith Shelter Network North Coastal and Interfaith Shelter Network North Inland, with member congregations each hosting a shelter for two weeks.

A. Data Collection

Shelter staff collected information about the residents that stayed in their shelter. This information included client demographics and information such as reason for homelessness, reasons for leaving the shelter, and planned destination upon exiting. The staff members entered the data into a secure online homeless management information system (HMIS) database called ServicePoint. In June 2014 the RTFH created a data extraction report within ServicePoint and downloaded the winter shelter data into a collection of Microsoft Excel worksheets. Data represents ARS winter shelter program entries recorded in ServicePoint as of June 1, 2014.

B. Data Analysis

The RTFH imported the Microsoft Excel data into Microsoft Access for manipulation. The numbers for this report were produced directly from the Microsoft Access database although some frequencies and crosstabs analyses were performed using SPSS, a statistical package, after importing data from Microsoft Access into SPSS.

C. Limitations

Any time data is collected there can be errors in the data collection or the data entry processes. During collection, data may not be completely collected, or it may be recorded erroneously or, in cases of clients already in the data system, changes in data may not be fully updated in the database.   The error rate for data collection and data entry for this data set is largely unknown. A third limitation is that most questions primarily rely upon client self-report, which may or may not be truthful. Self-report, however, is often the only method available.

Lastly, yet importantly, these findings apply only to the persons who used these winter shelters, not to the homeless population at large in North San Diego or to all sheltered clients in San Diego. Whether or not these sheltered clients were similar to those served in other winter shelters in San Diego or to the general homeless population was not examined.

Results

A total of 438 unique individuals received shelter from the six 2013-14 North San Diego ARS Winter Shelters (see Table 1). The four large Alliance North San Diego Shelters provided shelter service to 384 unique individuals –88% of the total number served (La Posada de Guadalupe, Operation Hope, Bread of Life, and Haven House).

A. Location and Length of Service

A total of 179 ARS beds were available to temporarily house homeless individuals in the North San Diego area during the winter months (Table 1). Together these beds enabled 18,683 bed-nights to be provided to the 455 clients served (duplicated count). Program utilization (bed-nights used / bed-nights available) ranged from 53% to 108% (utilization data not shown).

The 438 unique clients stayed in the North San Diego Winter Shelters for an average of 44 nights, although the number of nights ranged from 1 to 136. About fifty-four percent (54% of the clients were sheltered for 30 nights or less, forty-six percent (46%) for more than 30 nights.

Seventeen of the 438 clients (4%) utilized more than one shelter provider during the season, and 68 of the clients (16%) exited and re-entered the North County Winter Shelter system more than once during the season (not graphed).

Table 1.   Shelter Capacity and Shelter Provided, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters

Program Name	Program Capacity			Shelter Provided	
Clients served	Number of Beds[1]	Number of Operating Nights[2]	Bed-Nights Available [3]	Bed-Nights Used [4]	Total Clients Sheltered [5]
Interfaith Shelter Network Coastal _Men, women and families_	12	181	2,172	1,892	41
Interfaith Shelter Network Inland _Men, women and families_	12	118	1,416	1,016	30
La Posada de Guadalupe _Men_	20	121	2,420	1,277	103
Operation Hope _Families and women_	45	121	5,445	4,694	71
Bread of Life _Men and women_	50	121	6,050	5,254	132
Haven House _Men and women_	40	121	4,840	4,550	78
Total	**179**	**--**	**22,343**	**18,683**	**438** [6]

[1]   Number reported by project staff.
[2]   Dates of operation reported by project staff; actual operating nights calculated based on first entry and last exit in HMIS for each program.
[3]   The number of beds times the number of operating nights.
[4]   One person staying one night is a bed-night. In one case the number of bed-nights used is greater than the number of beds available due unknown reasons.
[5]   Unduplicated per program only.
[6]   Total unduplicated count for all programs; total differs than the individual program counts added together because some clients received services from more than one program.

Graph 1
Number of Nights of Shelter per Client,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=438 clients)
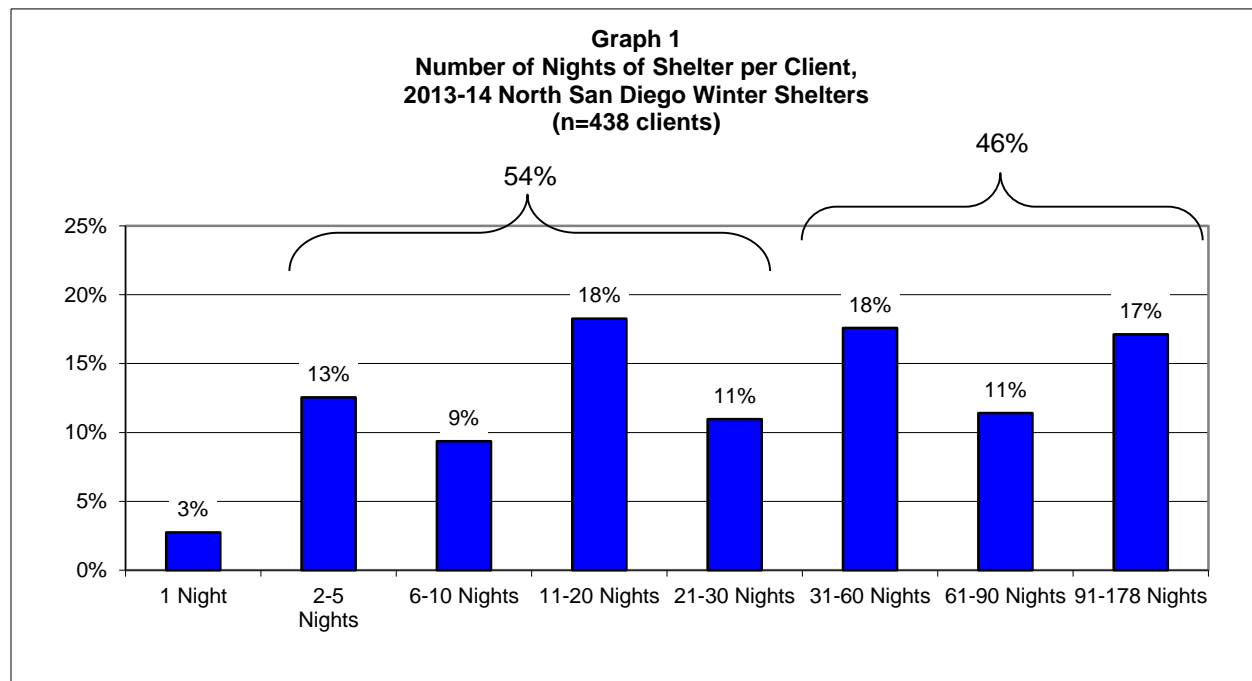
B. Demographic and Prior Living Situation Information

Demographic and prior living situation information for the clients served is presented below. *The information presented below includes only persons who responded to each question and excludes missing values or responses of Unknown, Don't Know and Refused.*

1. Information Collected from All Clients

As seen in the graphs that follow, most sheltered individuals were males and Non-Hispanic/Latino (Graphs 2 and 3). The large majority (72%) was identified as Caucasian (White) followed distantly by African-American (Graph 4).
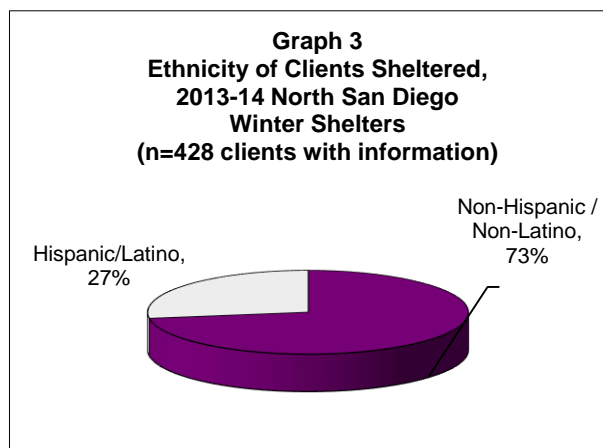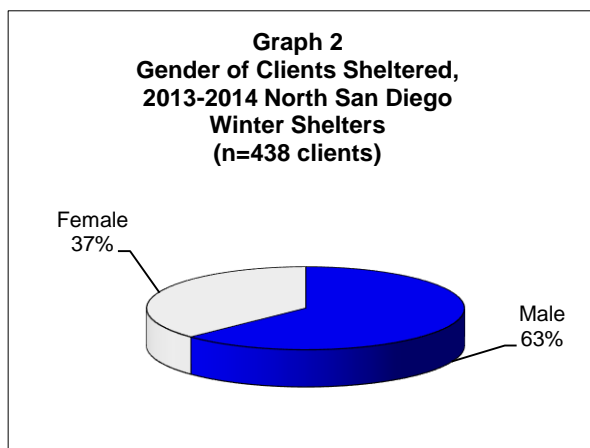
Graph 2
Gender of Clients Sheltered,
2013-2014 North San Diego
Winter Shelters
(n=438 clients)

Female 37%
Male 63%

Graph 3
Ethnicity of Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego
Winter Shelters
(n=428 clients with information)

Non-Hispanic / Non-Latino, 73%
Hispanic/Latino, 27%

. Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know" or "Refused" were not included in the total

Graph 4
Primary Race of Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=428 clients with information)

White 72%
Black/ African American 20%
American Indian/Alaskan Native 3%
Asian 1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander 4%
Other 0%
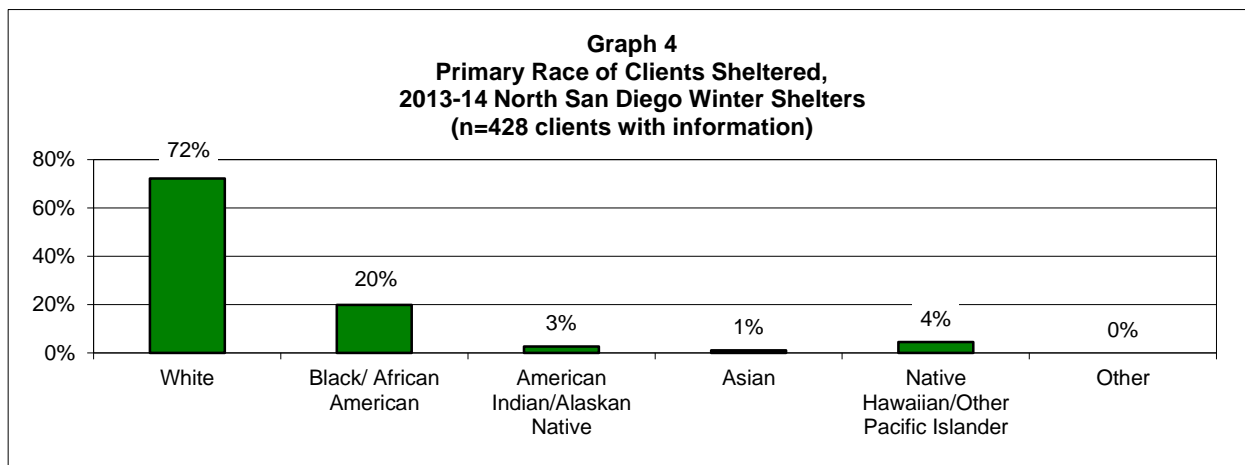
[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know" or "Refused" were not included in the total.

In total, almost one-third (33%) of clients sheltered were over the age of 50 years, and children 17 years or younger made up 15% of those served (Graph 5). The two age group categories with the greatest proportion of individuals were 41-50 years with 24%, and 51-60 years with 24% of clients sheltered.

**Graph 5
Age Group[1] of Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=438 clients)**
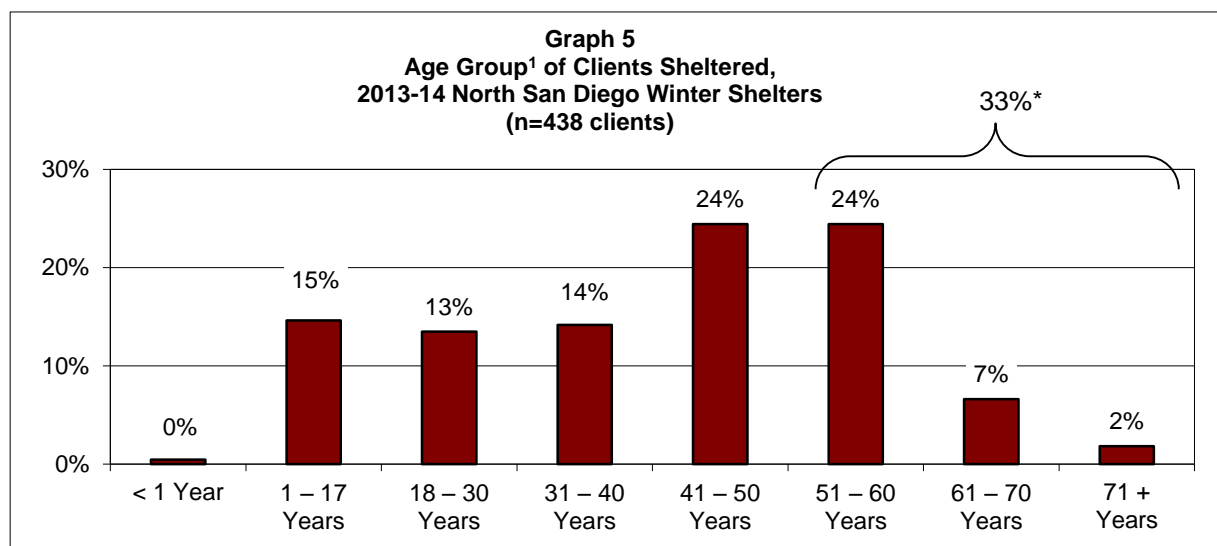
[1] Age at first program entry during the 2013-2014 shelter season.
* Percentages do not add up to 100% due to rounding; Categories over aged 50 add to 33% when adding non-rounded values.

Over one-quarter (26%) of all clients entered a shelter as a part of a family group (Graph 6). Most (71%) of the families with children were headed by a single adult female, while only 5% were headed by a single adult male (Graph 7).

**Graph 6
Entered with Family
Sheltered Clients,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter
Shelters
(n=438 clients)**

[1] 'Family' includes persons in multi-adult households and persons in households with children.
[2] The 'No' category includes persons entering as individuals, and includes one person whose first entry during the season was as a single adult, but subsequently entered with a child.

**Graph 7
Head of Household for
Families with Children Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter
Shelters (n=33 familes with children)**
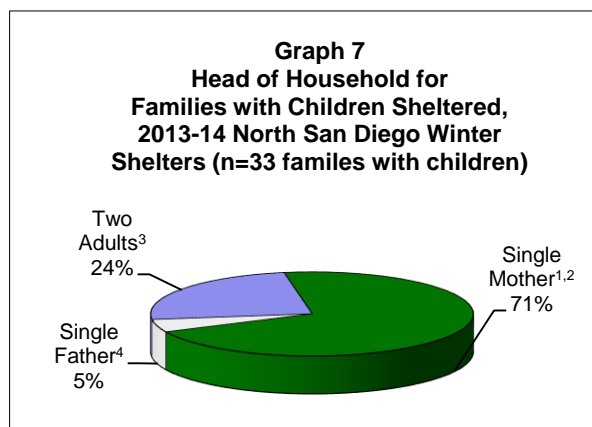
[1] One adult female per household with child(ren).
[2] One core household was two different types during the season – initially a Single Mother with children, with a subsequent entry with Two Adults. Household is counted as a Single Mother in the chart.
[3] One adult female and one adult male per household with child(ren).
[4] One adult male per household with child(ren).

Over one-quarter (27%) of the families with children were comprised of two people – an adult and a child – while 18% were made up of five or six individuals (Graph 8).

**Graph 8
Family Size of Households with Children Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters,
(n=33 families with children)**

* One core household was initially a four person household, with a subsequent entry including five members. First entry was selected here, and is included in the four person category.

2. Information Collected from Adult Clients

Some demographic information was collected only for adult clients aged 18 and older. Of adult clients with veteran status information recorded, 8% indicated prior military service (Graph 9). This is down from 10% in the previous 2012-13 season (Alliance for Regional Solutions, June 2013). While the reason for the reduction cannot be derived from existing ARS data, it could be hypothesized that the recent emphasis on housing homeless veterans is in fact showing some success.
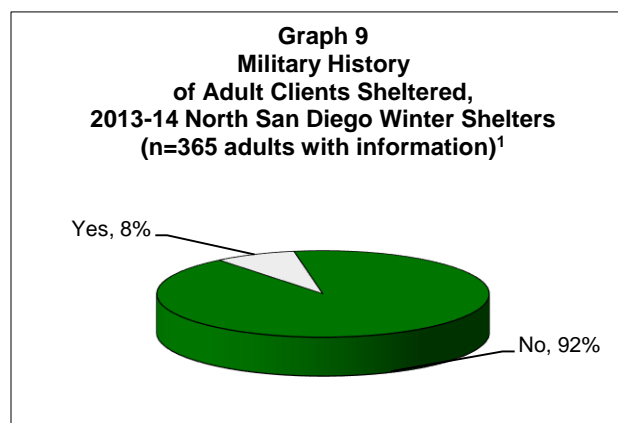
**Graph 9
Military History
of Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=365 adults with information)[1]**

Yes, 8%

No, 92%

**Graph 10
Pregnant Adult Female
Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=125 adult females with information)[1]**

Yes, 4%

No, 96%

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.

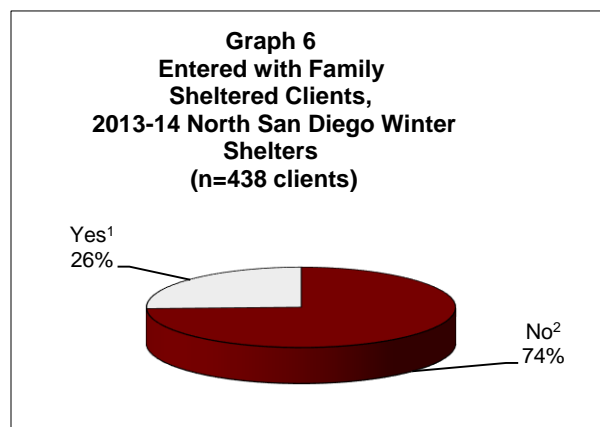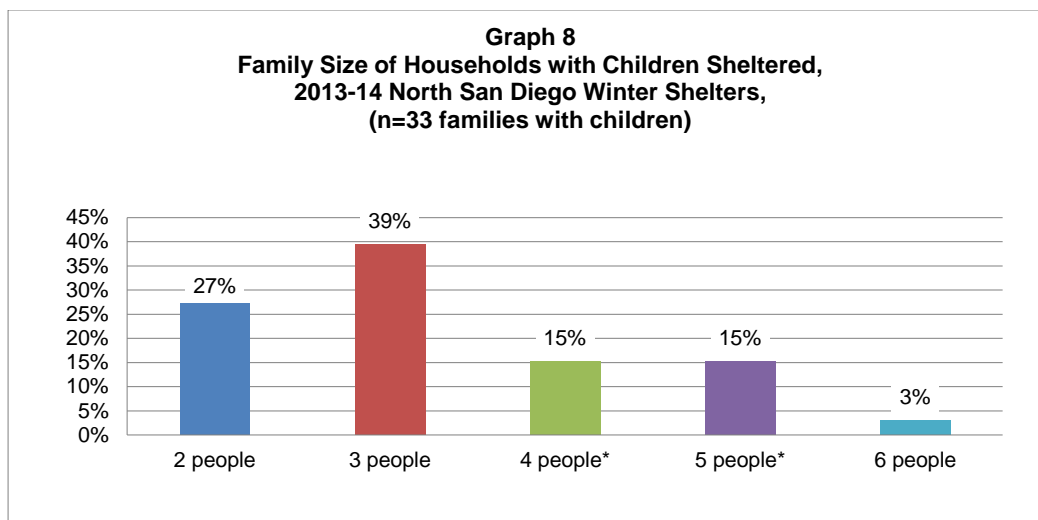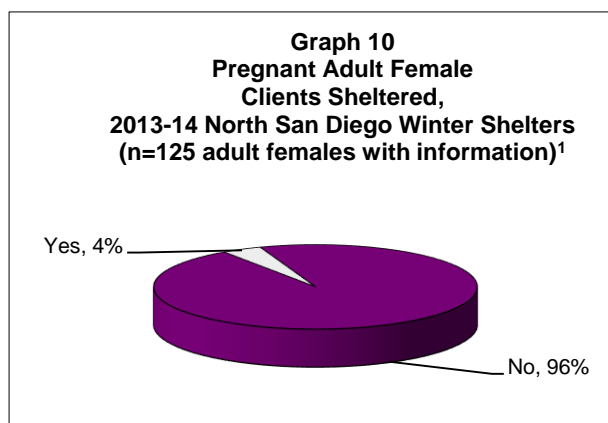[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.

Of the 125 adult female clients for whom pregnancy status was recorded, 4% were identified as pregnant (Graph 10).

Over one-half (54%) of adult clients served by the North County winter shelters were identified as single (unmarried) (Graph 11). Ten-percent (12%) were married, and 2% were co-habitating. Over one-quarter (28%) were either divorced or separated, and 4% were widowed.

Graph 11
Marital Status of Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-2014 North San Diego
Winter Shelters
(n=366 clients with information)[1]

- Single, 54%
- Married, 12%
- Co-Habitating, 2%
- Widowed, 4%
- Separated, 7%
- Divorced, 21%

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.

Sixteen percent (16%) of the adults who responded reported being a victim of domestic violence (Graph 12). When examined by gender, more than one-third (37%) of the female adults and 4% of the male adults reported being victims of domestic violence (Graph 13).

Graph 12
Domestic Violence Victim,
Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=364 adults with information)[1]

- Yes, 16%
- No, 84%

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.

Graph 13
Domestic Violence Victims by Gender,
Adult Sheltered Clients,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n= 126 females, 238 males with information)[1]
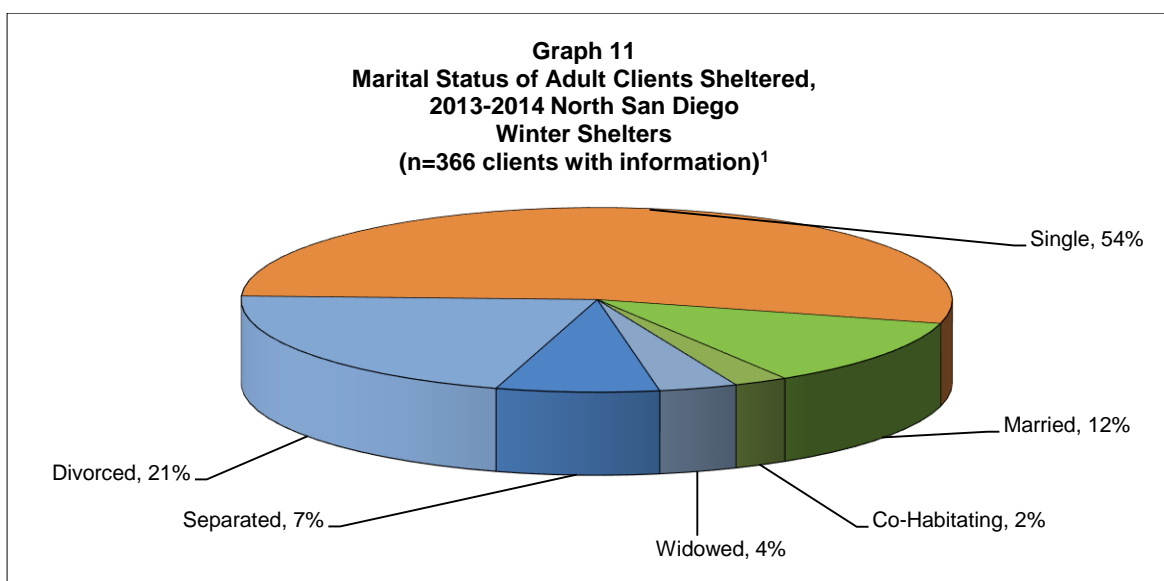
- Adult Females: 37%
- Adult Males: 4%

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
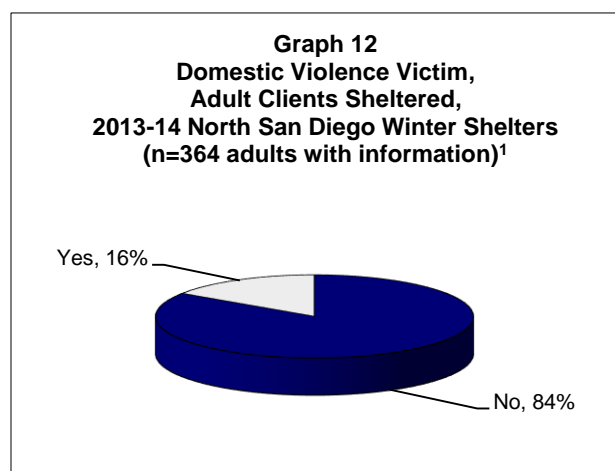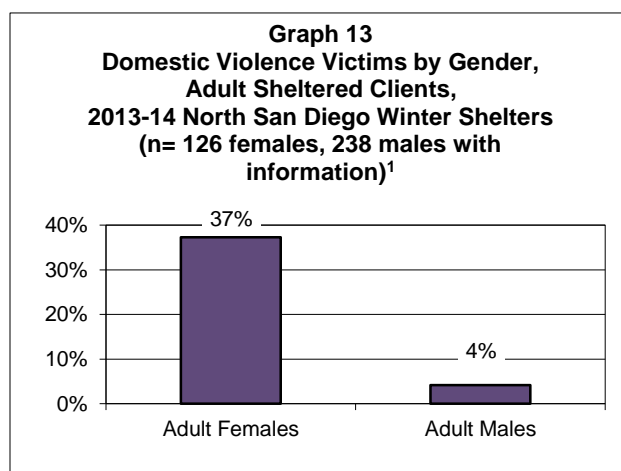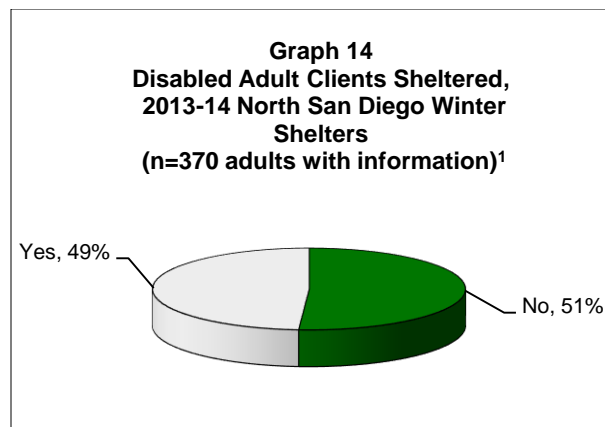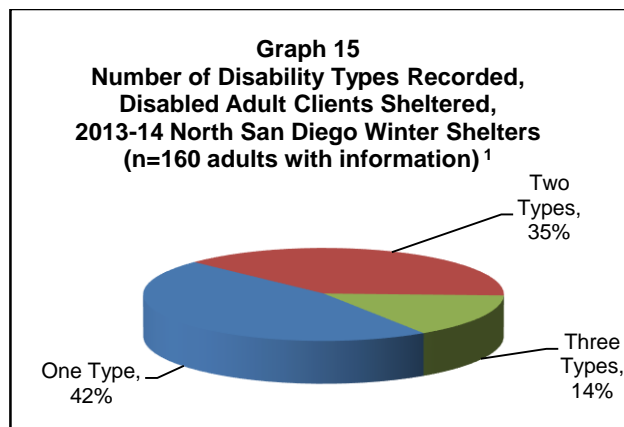
About five out of every ten adult clients (49%) reported having a disabling condition (Graph 14). Mental Health Problem was most frequent (52% of those reporting), followed by Physical/medical disability (49%), alcohol abuse (30%), drug abuse (24%), and a chronic health condition (10%) (Graph 16). Some reported a developmental disability (8%), 'other' (3%), or HIV/AIDS (1%).

Of clients with a disability type recorded, the majority (42%) reported only one type of disability while 35% reported two types, and 14% reported three disability types (Graph 15).

Graph 14
Disabled Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=370 adults with information)[1]

Yes, 49%

No, 51%

1 Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," or "Refused" were not included in the total.

Graph 15
Number of Disability Types Recorded,
Disabled Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=160 adults with information) [1]

Two Types, 35%

Three Types, 14%

One Type, 42%

1 Total unduplicated persons for whom it was recorded that 'YES' they had a disabling condition and a disability type was recorded.

Graph 16
Disability Types Entered for Adults Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=181 adults with a Disabling Condition) [1,2]

Physical/Medical	Mental Health Problem	Alcohol Abuse*	Drug Abuse*	Chronic Health Condition	Developmental Disability	Other	HIV / AIDS	Type Not Recorded
49%	52%	30%	24%	10%	8%	3%	1%	12%
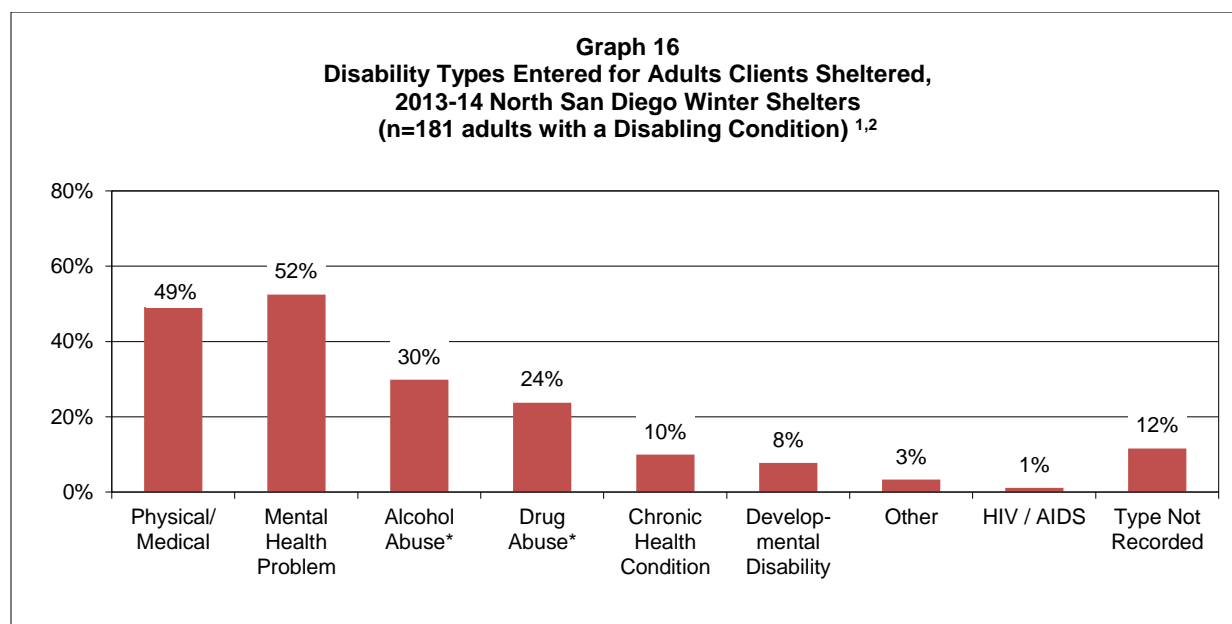
1 Percent responding to each disability type among those for whom it was recorded that 'YES' they had a disabling condition.
2 Percentages sum to greater than the number disabled and greater than 100% because clients may report more than one disability type.
* 8% reported both alcohol and drug abuse

About one in five (21%) adult clients were identified as "chronically homeless" by shelter staff (Graph 17). Generally speaking, chronic homelessness is characterized by extended or frequent homelessness (living on the streets or in emergency shelters) plus the presence of a long-term disabling condition (Graph 17, footnote 1).

This season, just about one-fifth (18%) of those client records flagged as "chronically homeless" were also flagged with the presence of a disabling condition. However, as recorded by project staff, a number of chronically homeless individuals do not a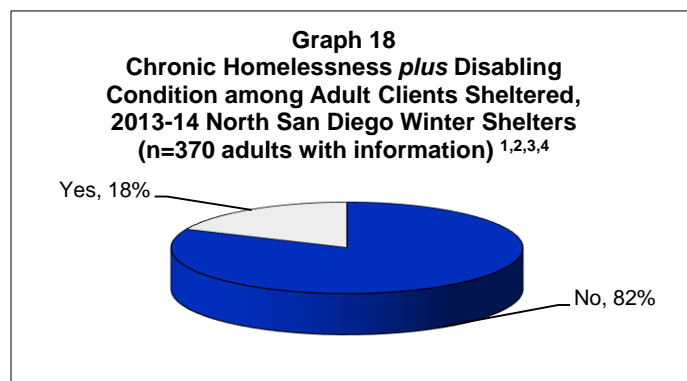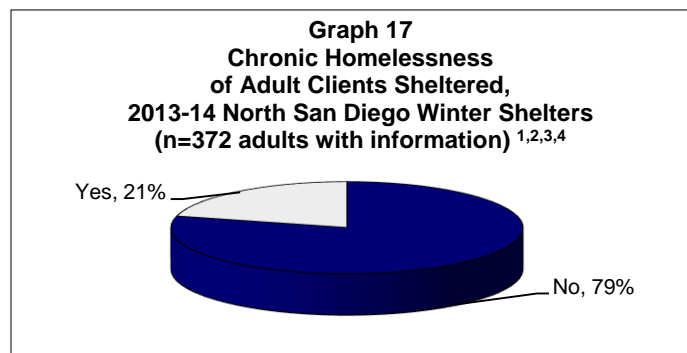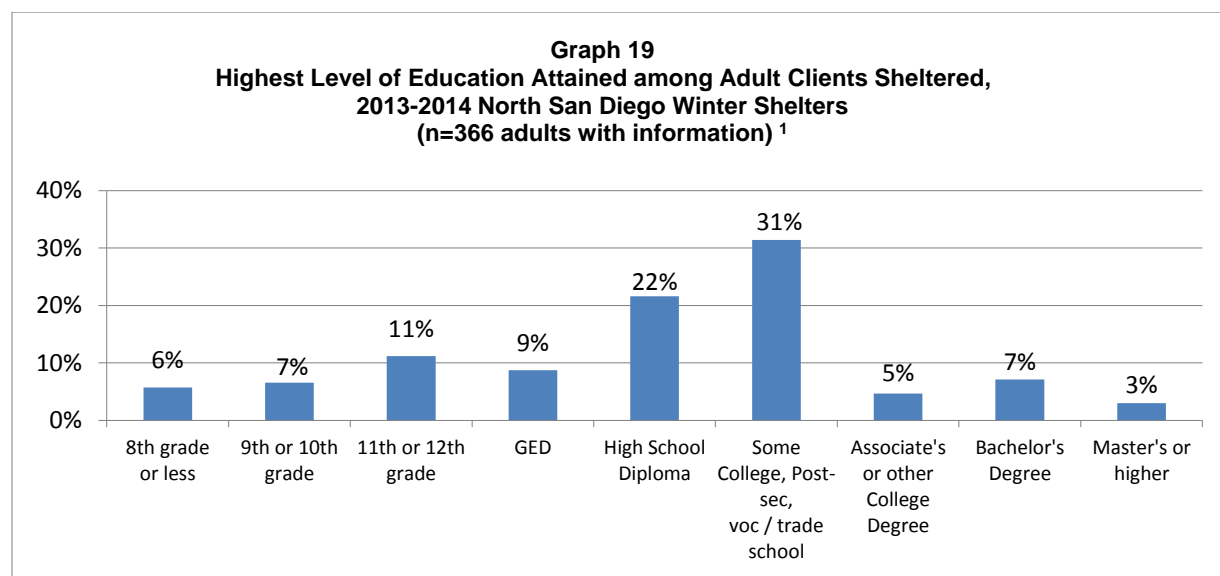ppear to meet the HUD definition due to a greater number of chronically homeless versus the number with a disabling condition. In brief, while 21% of adults were identified as chronically homeless, only 18% of adults met both the duration of homelessness required by HUD and had a disabling condition recorded in HMIS (Graph 18).

Nonetheless, information from other sources state that the chronically homeless spend a long period of time - often years - either living in shelters or on the streets or cycling between hospitals, emergency rooms, jails, prisons, and mental health and substance abuse treatment facilities. The chronically homeless have also been shown to be very expensive in terms of the public systems of care, although they may only represent a small percentage of the entire homeless population (National Alliance to End Homelessness, March 2007).

Graph 17
Chronic Homelessness
of Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=372 adults with information) [1,2,3,4]

Yes, 21%
No, 79%

Graph 18
Chronic Homelessness *plus* Disabling
Condition among Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=370 adults with information) [1,2,3,4]

Yes, 18%
No, 82%

[1] As recorded by project staff, the number and percentage of chronically homeless individuals do not appear to meet the HUD definition due to a greater number of chronically homeless versus the number with a disabling condition.

[2] HUD definition: (1) an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years, OR (2) a person in a family with children with at least one adult member meeting the previous disability & homelessness criteria outlined in (1). A disability is further defined as "a diagnosable substance abuse disorder, a serious mental illness, developmental disability, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions" and it must "limit an individual's ability to work or perform one or more activities of daily living." (US Department of Housing and Urban Development, September 2007; updated to include families, January 2011).

[3] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused," or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.

[4] In this analysis, all adults were included without consideration for family status.

Information about education levels were collected for all clients, however for this report only information about adults is described (Graph 19). Data collected by project staff show that the majority (77%) of adult clients have graduated from high school, attained a GED, or have college experience, and 10% have completed some sort of college degree (Graph 21). Only 6% have less than 9th grade education.
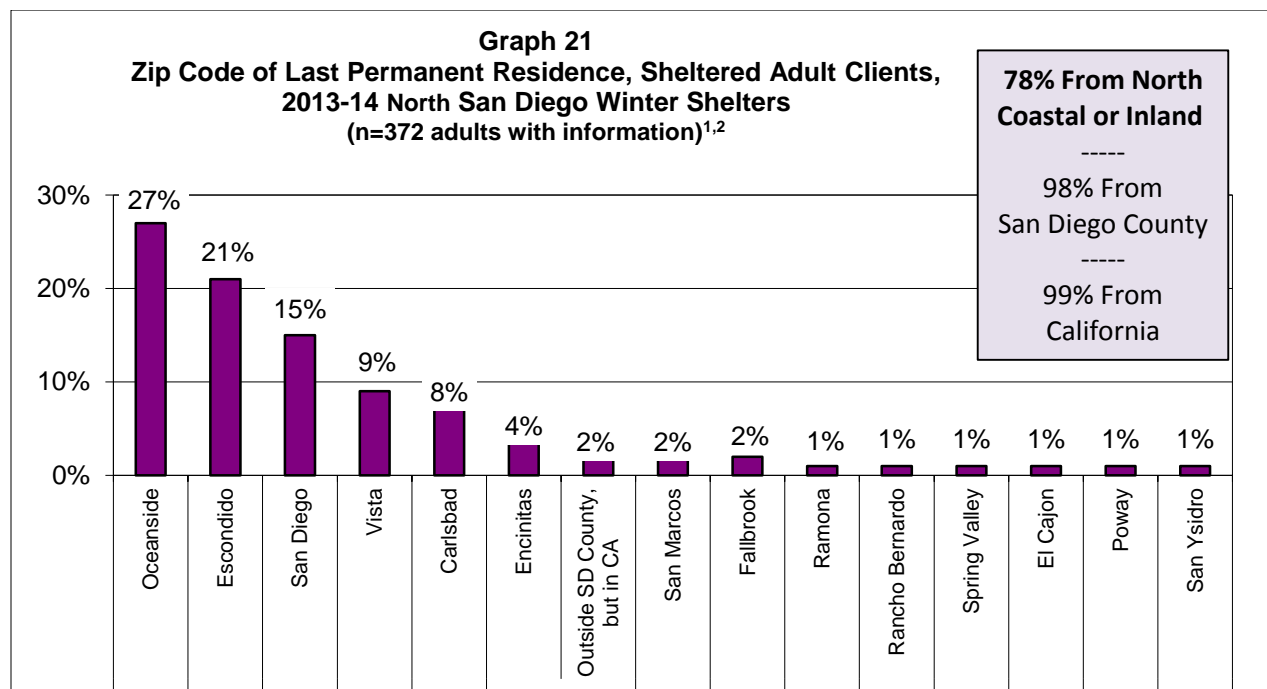
Graph 19
Highest Level of Education Attained among Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-2014 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=366 adults with information) [1]

Education Level	Percent
8th grade or less	6%
9th or 10th grade	7%
11th or 12th grade	11%
GED	9%
High School Diploma	22%
Some College, Post-sec, voc / trade school	31%
Associate's or other College Degree	5%
Bachelor's Degree	7%
Master's or higher	3%

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused," or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.

Information describing their living situation the night before entry into a shelter program was recorded for most adult clients (Graph 20). The most commonly reported living situation was a 'place not meant for human habitation' (41%) and represents locations such as on the street, in a car, in an abandoned building, in a field, under a highway overpass, or any other similar place. The next most commonly reported prior living situations were 'living with friends (10%), living in a 'rental house' (9%), and emergency shelter (8%).

Graph 20
Living Situation Prior to First Shelter Night for Sheltered Adult Clients,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=371 adults with information) [1]

Living Situation	Percent
Place Not Meant for Habitation	41%
Living With Friends	10%
Rental House/ Apartment (no subsidy)	9%
Emergency Shelter or Hotel/ Motel with Voucher	8%
Hotel/ Motel without Emergency Voucher	8%
Living With Family	7%
Other	4%
Substance Abuse Treatment Center	2%
Hospital	2%
Owned by Client (no subsidy)	2%
Transitional Housing for Homeless	2%
Permanent Housing for Formerly Homeless	2%
Psychiatric hospital or facility	1%

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," or "Refused" were not included in the total.

More than three-quarters (78%) of adult clients providing information about their zip code of last permanent residence (90 days or longer) reported living within Northern San Diego County, primarily in Oceanside (27%), Escondido (21%), and Vista (9%) (Graph 21). The large majority of all adult clients reported their location of last permanent residence as being within the state of California (99%).
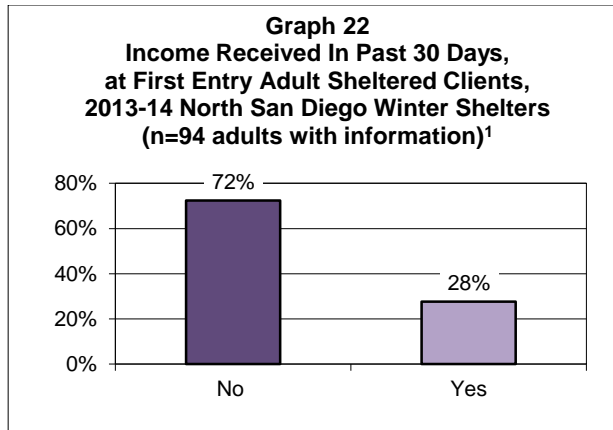
Graph 21
Zip Code of Last Permanent Residence, Sheltered Adult Clients, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=372 adults with information)[1,2]

78% From North Coastal or Inland

98% From San Diego County

99% From California

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused" or invalid zip codes were not included in the total.
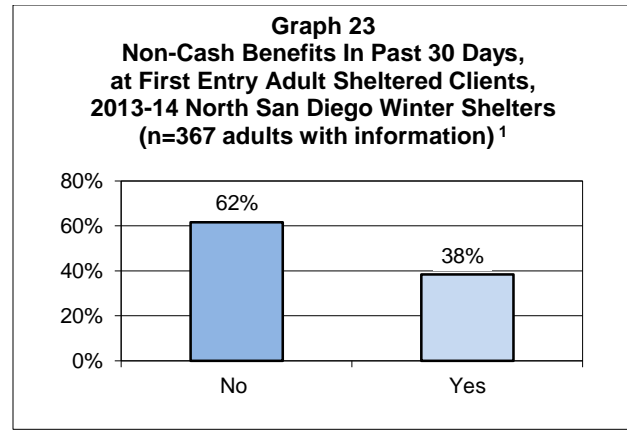[2] Not graphed (4% of the total): Alpine, Bonsall, Cardiff, Chula Vista, Dulzura, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lakeside, National City, Pauma Valley, Valley Center, Warner Springs, and outside the state of California. See Table 18 in the Appendix for the full breakdown.

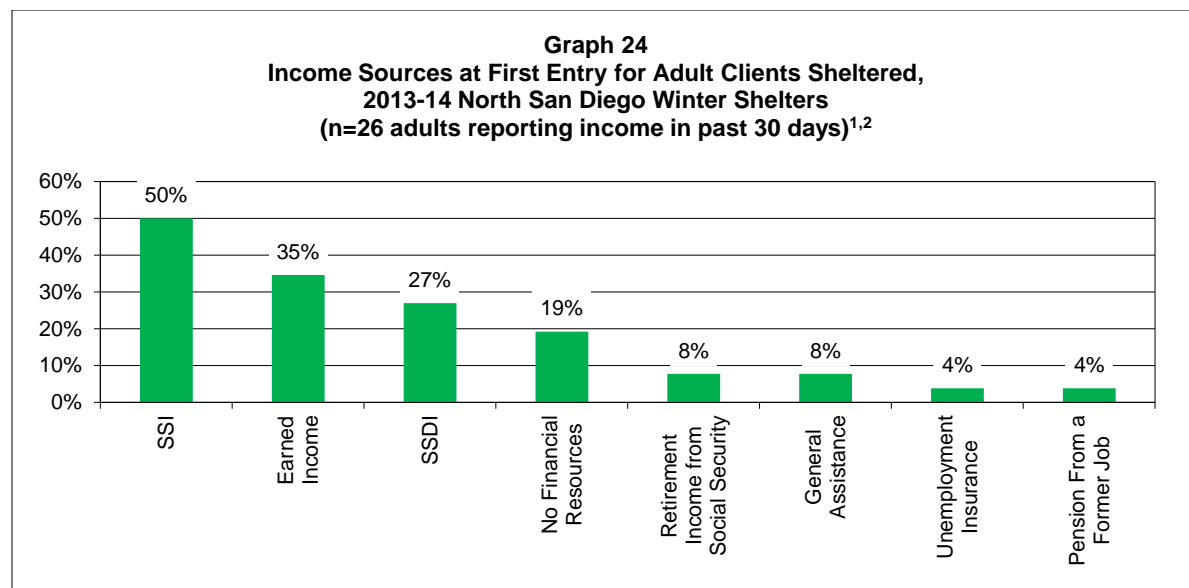## C. Income, Non-Cash Benefits, and Employment Situation

Information regarding whether or not income and/or non-cash benefits had been received within the 30 days prior to program entry was recorded for only a small proportion of adults served (25%). Of those with a response, 28% of adult clients responded 'Yes' to the question of "Income from any source in the past 30 days?" and 72% responded 'No' (Graph 22). In response to the question "Non-cash benefits received in the past 30 days?" 38% responded 'Yes' while 62% responded 'No' (Graph 23). Clients responding that they had received income most commonly noted SSI, earned income, SSDI, Social Security retirement income, and general assistance as the sources (Graph 24). Concerning non-cash benefits, 89% of those who responded 'Yes' indicated receiving food stamps, and only 11% reported another source. (Note that winter shelter income data has historically been unreliable due to limitations of the data source, and a large number with no income information.

Graph 22
Income Received In Past 30 Days,
at First Entry Adult Sheltered Clients,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=94 adults with information)[1]

[1] Percent of the total for whom information is known; missing/not recorded information not included in total.

Graph 23
Non-Cash Benefits In Past 30 Days,
at First Entry Adult Sheltered Clients,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=367 adults with information)[1]

[1] Percent of the total for whom information is known; missing/not recorded information not included in total.

Graph 24
Income Sources at First Entry for Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=26 adults reporting income in past 30 days)[1,2]

[1] Percent out of the unduplicated total number with 'Income From Any Source Within 30 Days?' response = "Yes"
[2] Unduplicated total; percentages sum to more 100% as clients could report more than one type of income.
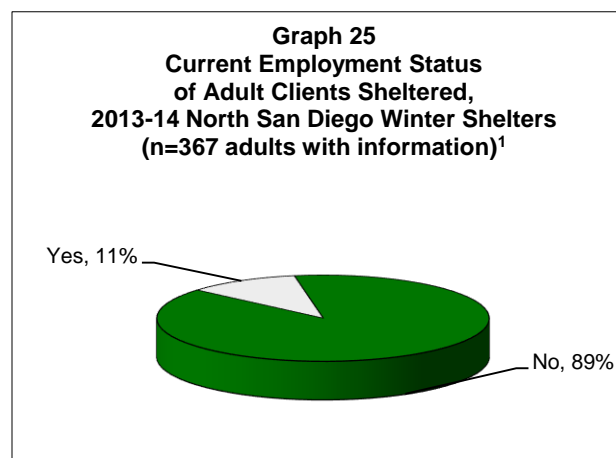
This year, the amount of income received from various income sources was recorded by staff. Among the 26 adults reporting income within the past 30 days, income amounts ranged from a minimum of $600 to a maximum of $3,117 from all sources (Table 2). The median value was $900 and the average across clients receiving income was $1,235. It should be noted that income amounts in HMIS can be misleading due to a lack of consistency in recording start and end dates, however an attempt was made to exclude very old, obviously out-dated records, such as unemployment benefits beginning prior to the fall of 2011, and counted only the most recent entry for multiple records of a single income source type.

Table 2. **Income Amount of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=26 adults with income amounts reported)**
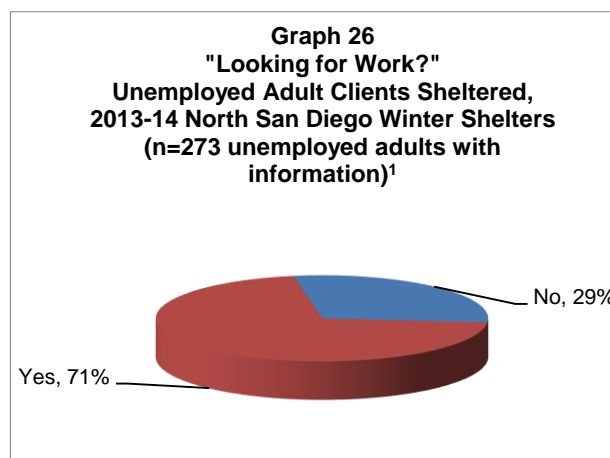
Summary of Income Amounts Reported[1]			
Minimum	**Maximum**	**Median**	**Average**
$600	$3,117	$900	$1,235

[1] Income amounts from all sources totaled for each client. If multiple entries per source exists, only the amount from the most recent income start date is included; excludes unemployment benefits with a start date prior to October 2011.

Only eleven percent (11%) adult clients reported current employment during the season (Graph 25). Of those, 57% reported having permanent work, while 43% were temporary or seasonal workers (data not graphed). Of the unemployed clients, nearly seven out of ten (71%) reported that they were looking for work (Graph 26).

Graph 25
Current Employment Status
of Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=367 adults with information)[1]

Yes, 11%

No, 89%

[1] Percent of the total for whom information is known; missing/not recorded information not included in total.

Graph 26
"Looking for Work?"
Unemployed Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=273 unemployed adults with information)[1]

No, 29%

Yes, 71%

[1] Percent of the total for whom information is known; missing/not recorded information not included in total.

D. Primary Reason for Homelessness

Among the adult clients served in the North County Winter Shelters during the 2013-2014 season, the most often cited primary reason for homelessness was unemployment at 21% (Graph 27). This rate of 21% is a decrease over the prior season's rate of unemployment reported at 30% for adults served in the North County Winter Shelters during 2012-13 (Alliance for Regional Solutions, June 2013). The third most commonly reported reason was underemployment/low income at 10%, possibly indicating that more people are being employed, but at a non-living wage. The remaining other reasons reported in 2013-14 were varied with the inability to pay rent or mortgage (17%) and Family Issues (6%).

Graph 27
Primary Reason for Homelessness of Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
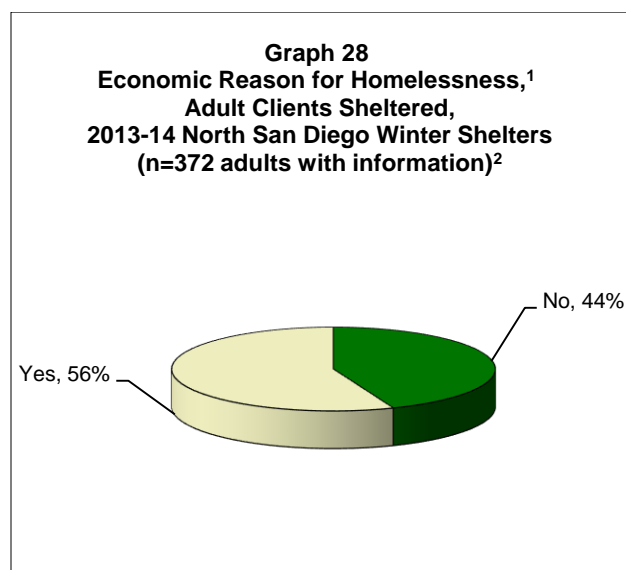**(n=372 adults with information)[1, 2]**
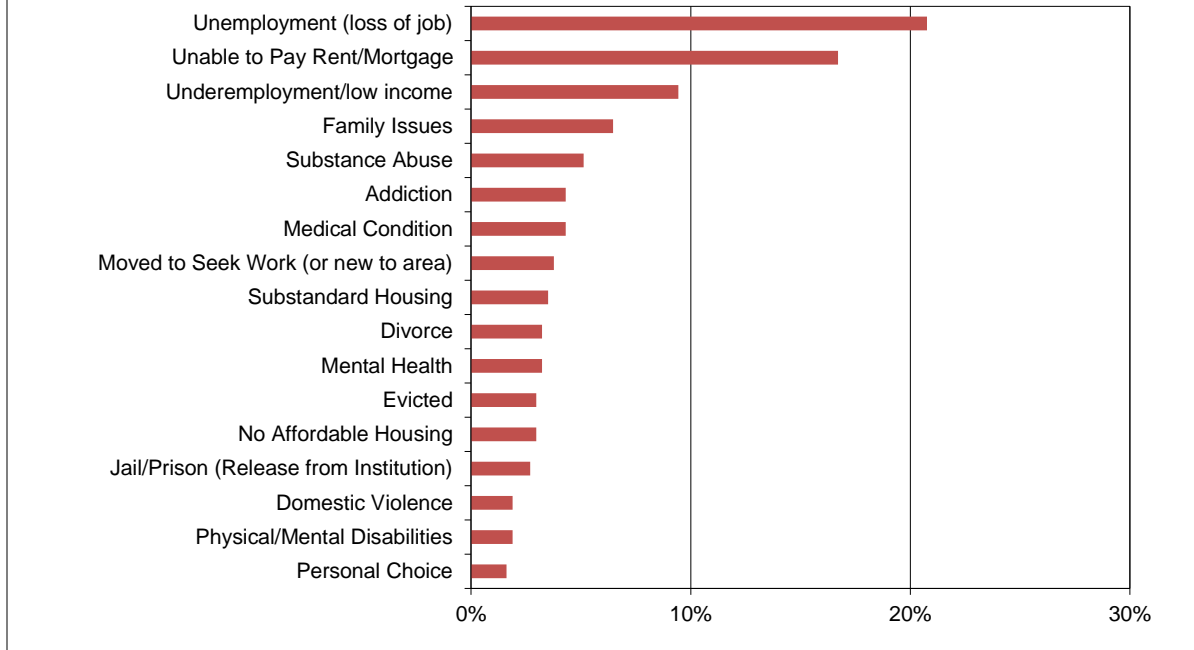
[1] Percent of the total for whom information is known; responses of "Unknown" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[2] Not graphed: Family/Personal Illness (1%), Mortgage Foreclosure (1%), Other (1%), Loss of Public Assistance (<1%), and Natural Disaster (<1%).

In order to better understand the population being served by North County winter shelters, several responses were collapsed into a proxy describing an 'economic reason' for homelessness. These responses included: *unemployment (loss of job), underemployment/low income, unable to pay rent/mortgage, no affordable housing, mortgage foreclosure, evicted, or loss of Public Assistance.* Over one-half (56%) of the adults who reported a known primary reason for homelessness cited an economic reason (Graph 28). This is a slight decrease from the prior season in which 58% cited an economic reason for homelessness (Alliance for Regional Solutions, June 2013).

When comparing adults sheltered without children, to adults sheltered as part of a family with children, those with children cited an economic reason for homelessness somewhat more frequently than the adults without children (74% versus 54% respectively) (Graph 29).

Graph 28
Economic Reason for Homelessness,[1]
Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=372 adults with information)[2]

[1] See page 14 for 'Economic Reason' response criteria.
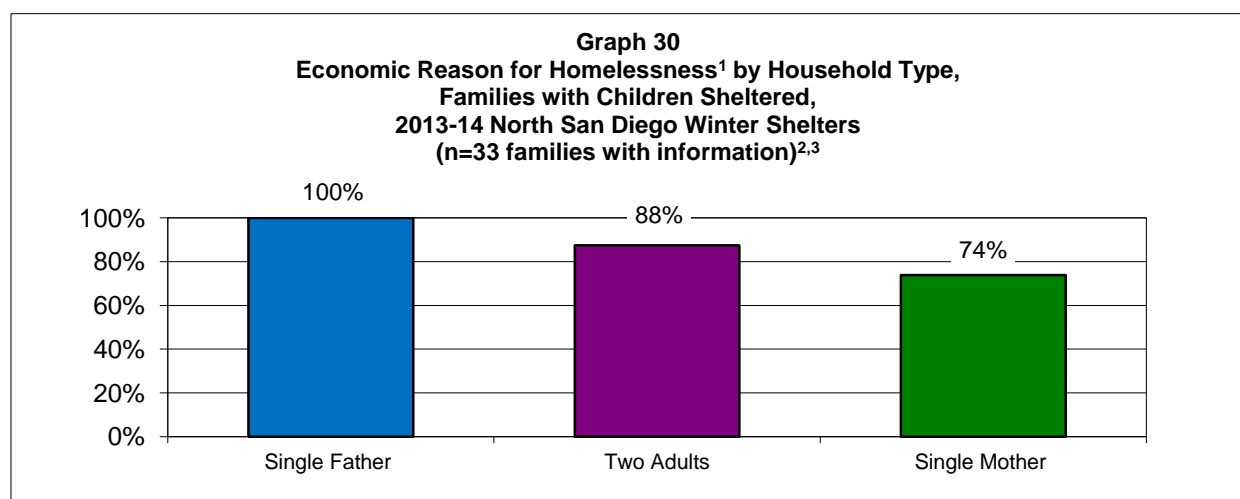[2] Total and percent of the total number with information; responses of "Unknown" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.

Graph 29
Economic Reason for Homelessness[1] by
Household Type,
Adult Clients Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=369 adults with information)[2]
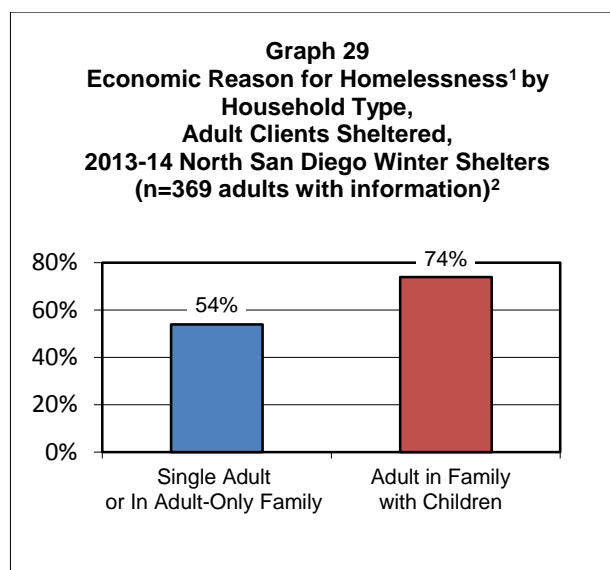
[1] See page 14 for 'Economic Reason' response criteria.
[2] Total and percent of adults with information by entry 'with at least one child' versus without accompanying child(ren); children are $\leq$ 17 years of age; missing/not recorded information and responses of "Unknown" reason for homelessness were excluded from the total.

Of the 43 families with children sheltered, 33 households reported information describing their primary reason for homelessness. Of these, the proportion citing an economic reason for homelessness varied by family-type (from 74% among the 17 single-mother households to 88% of two-parent households, and 100% of the two single-father households); however the difference was not statistically significant (Graph 30).

Graph 30
Economic Reason for Homelessness[1] by Household Type,
Families with Children Sheltered,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=33 families with information)[2,3]

[1] See page 14 for 'Economic Reason' response criteria.
[2] Total and percent of households with children in each family type with information; missing/not recorded information and responses of "Unknown" reason for homelessness were excluded from the total.
[3] One household with children was headed by a Single Mother early in the season and later re-entered headed by Two Adults. The first entry was selected for this analysis, resulting in this household being represented in the n=25 'Single Mother' category here.

It should be noted that persons are often homeless for a variety of reasons and may or may not state the most underlying or meaningful reason for their homelessness. For instance, a person suffering from a major mental illness may indicate 'unemployment' as the reason for their homelessness when the real issue may be an inability to get treatment for their mental health or an inability to maintain regular employment due to their mental illness.

E. Reason for Leaving the Shelter and Destination

Upon preparing to leave the winter shelter, reasons for ending the shelter stay were noted by case managers (Graph 31). The most frequently reported response was that clients completed the program (23%), and the next most common reason for leaving the shelter was that clients reached the maximum time allowed in the program (15%). For 13% of clients, their reason for leaving was 'unknown/disappeared' as clients simply did not reappear for services. A combined ten percent (10%) were either non-compliant with program rules or disagreed with rules or persons.
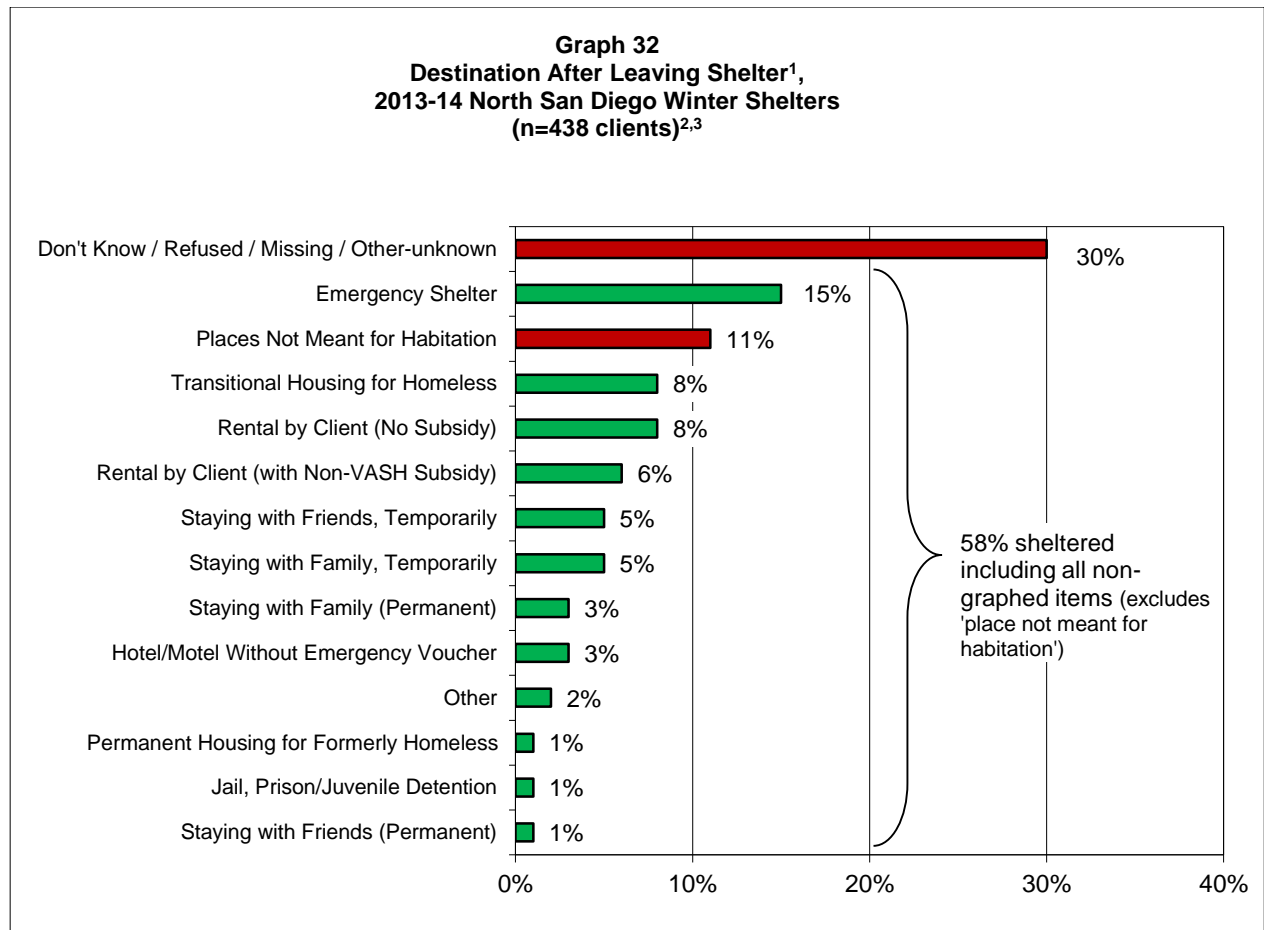
Graph 31
Reason for Leaving at Last Exit[1], Sheltered Clients,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=427 clients) [2]
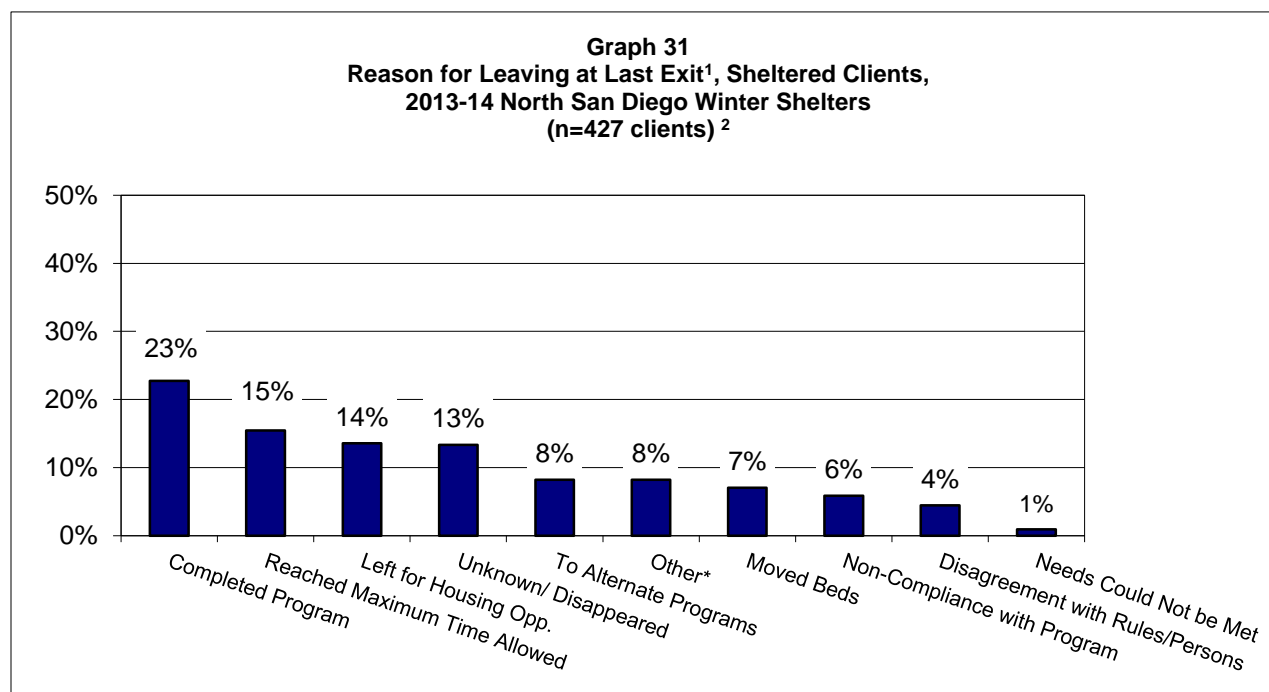
[1] Reason for leaving at last exit from North County Winter Shelters.
[2] Not graphed: Criminal Activity/Violence (<1%).
* Other reason descriptions could be categorized as follows: (1) Employed, (1) Legal, (2) Medical, (2) No Room in Shelter, (7) Non Compliance, (1) Working Late, and (21) were missing values.

It should be noted that staff were instructed to select 'Completed Program' when the client met the self-sufficiency benchmarks of having earned income, and safe, stable housing. Therefore, 'Left for Housing Opportunity' before completing the program would be selected for clients transferring to another housing program (e.g., Transitional Housing), or other housing situation, without meeting the program's self-sufficiency definition.

As reported, just under one-third (30%) of the clients did not know where they were going to go after leaving the winter shelter, or they knew but did not report this information to the case managers (Graph 32). The rest of the clients had some type of destination, most often an emergency shelter (15%), a transitional housing program (8%), or renting a room, house or apartment without subsidy (8%). Five percent (5%) were going to stay with friend on a temporary basis, and another five percent (5%) were planning to stay with family, temporarily. Eleven percent reported that they were leaving for a 'place not meant for human habitation.' In total 58% specified a place where they would go that did not include 'a place not meant for human habitation' and specifically, a combined 29% reported going into rental housing, staying with family or friends (temporarily or permanently), or moving to permanent housing for formerly homeless persons.
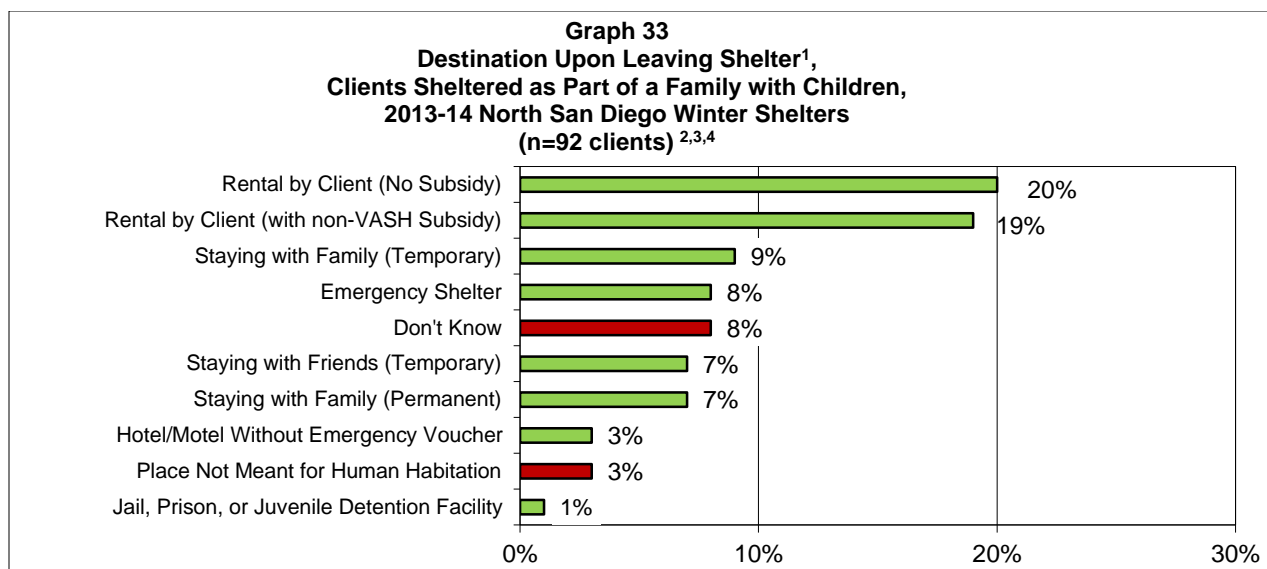
Graph 32
Destination After Leaving Shelter[1],
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=438 clients)[2,3]

Destination	Percent
Don't Know / Refused / Missing / Other-unknown	30%
Emergency Shelter	15%
Places Not Meant for Habitation	11%
Transitional Housing for Homeless	8%
Rental by Client (No Subsidy)	8%
Rental by Client (with Non-VASH Subsidy)	6%
Staying with Friends, Temporarily	5%
Staying with Family, Temporarily	5%
Staying with Family (Permanent)	3%
Hotel/Motel Without Emergency Voucher	3%
Other	2%
Permanent Housing for Formerly Homeless	1%
Jail, Prison/Juvenile Detention	1%
Staying with Friends (Permanent)	1%

58% sheltered including all non-graphed items (excludes 'place not meant for habitation')

[1] Destination upon last exit from North County Winter Shelters.
[2] Percent of the total number of clients; Includes 107 "Don't Know," 21 "Missing," and 2 "Refused"
[3] Not graphed: Safe Haven (1%), Substance Abuse/Treatment Center (1%), Mental Health Facility (<1%), Rental by Client (VASH) (<1%), and Hospital (non-psychiatric (<1%).

A closer look at the destination of clients in *families with children* showed about two-thirds of persons (62%) reported going into rental housing, staying with family or friends, or going to permanent supportive housing (Graph 33). A fairly large proportion (39%) were rented by the client with or without a subsidy. Although the exact influence is not known, it is hoped that the shelter staff helped link most clients to a safe place to stay.
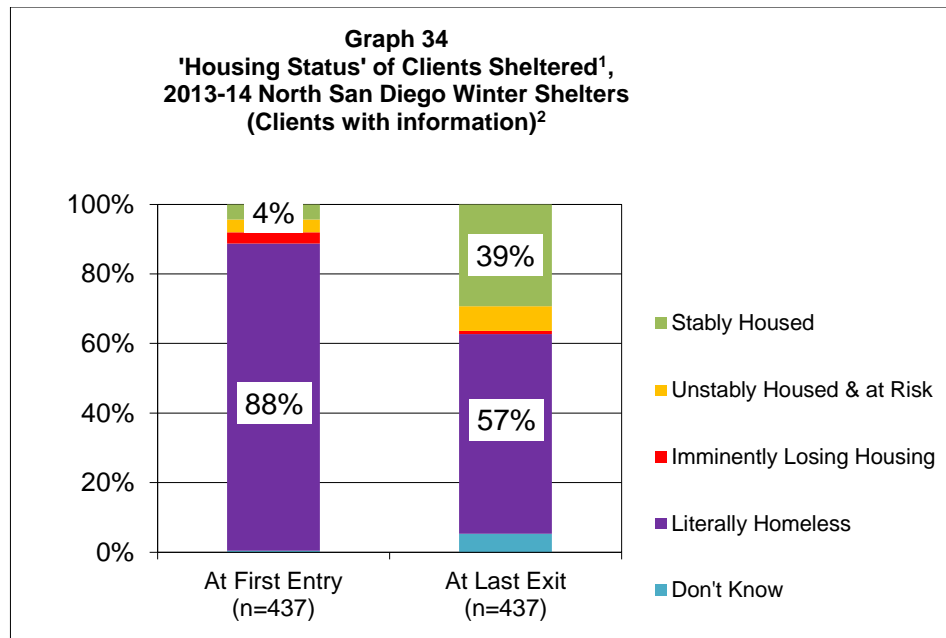
Graph 33
Destination Upon Leaving Shelter[1],
Clients Sheltered as Part of a Family with Children,
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=92 clients) [2,3,4]

Destination	Percent
Rental by Client (No Subsidy)	20%
Rental by Client (with non-VASH Subsidy)	19%
Staying with Family (Temporary)	9%
Emergency Shelter	8%
Don't Know	8%
Staying with Friends (Temporary)	7%
Staying with Family (Permanent)	7%
Hotel/Motel Without Emergency Voucher	3%
Place Not Meant for Human Habitation	3%
Jail, Prison, or Juvenile Detention Facility	1%

[1] Destination upon last exit from North County Winter Shelters.
[2] Percent of the total number of clients; Includes 9 "Don't Know."
[3] Percentages sum to other than 100% due to rounding.

According to data recorded by program staff in HMIS, the housing status of many clients appears to have improved following their stay in the North County Winter Shelters with 39% considered Stably Housed upon their last exit (Graph 34). Most clients (88%) were literally homeless at their first entry with only 57% literally homeless upon their last exit from the shelter programs. Nonetheless, it is apparent that winter shelters alone are not adequate to end homelessness for many individuals.
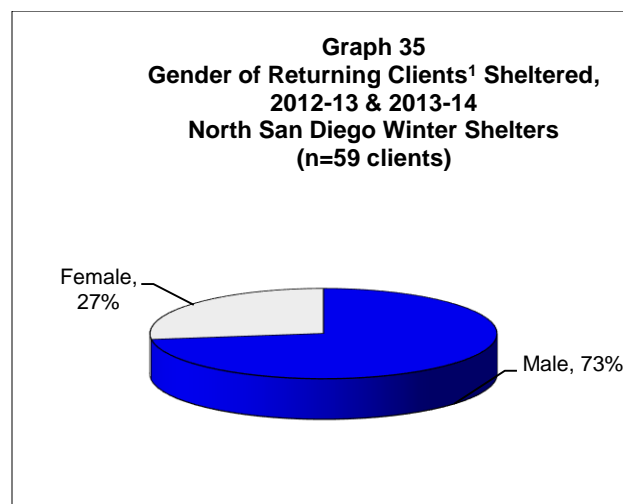
Graph 34
'Housing Status' of Clients Sheltered[1],
2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(Clients with information)[2]

Housing Status	At First Entry (n=437)	At Last Exit (n=437)
Stably Housed	4%	39%
Literally Homeless	88%	57%

Legend:
- Stably Housed
- Unstably Housed & at Risk
- Imminently Losing Housing
- Literally Homeless
- Don't Know

[1] 'Housing Status' as recorded by project staff.
[2] Percent of the total number of clients with information; Includes "Don't Know" responses, but excludes 1 not recorded at first entry, and 1 not recorded at last exit
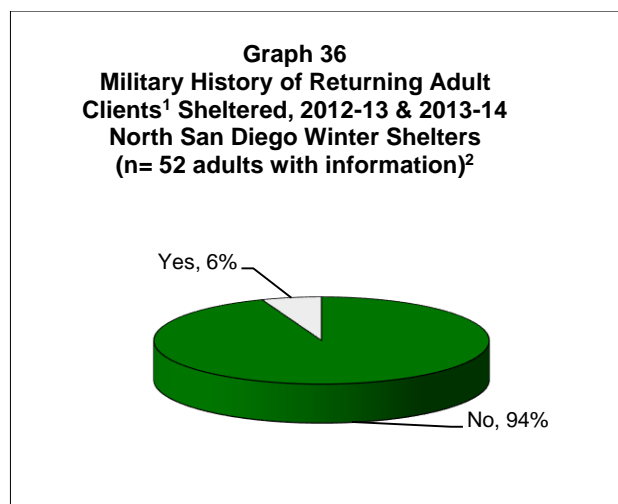
F. 2012-13 Returning Clients

To get a more complete view of those being served by North San Diego Winter Shelters, the list of clients receiving shelter service during the 2013-2014 season was compared to that from the previous 2012-2013 season. In all, 13% (59) of this season's 438 clients were also served during the prior 2012-2013 season, 52 adults and 7 children (not graphed).

Nearly three-quarters (73%) of returning clients were male (Graph 35), nearly one-third of them were aged 51-60 years (31%), and 42% were over age 50 (Graph 37). Among the adults, 6% were identified as military veterans (Graph 36).
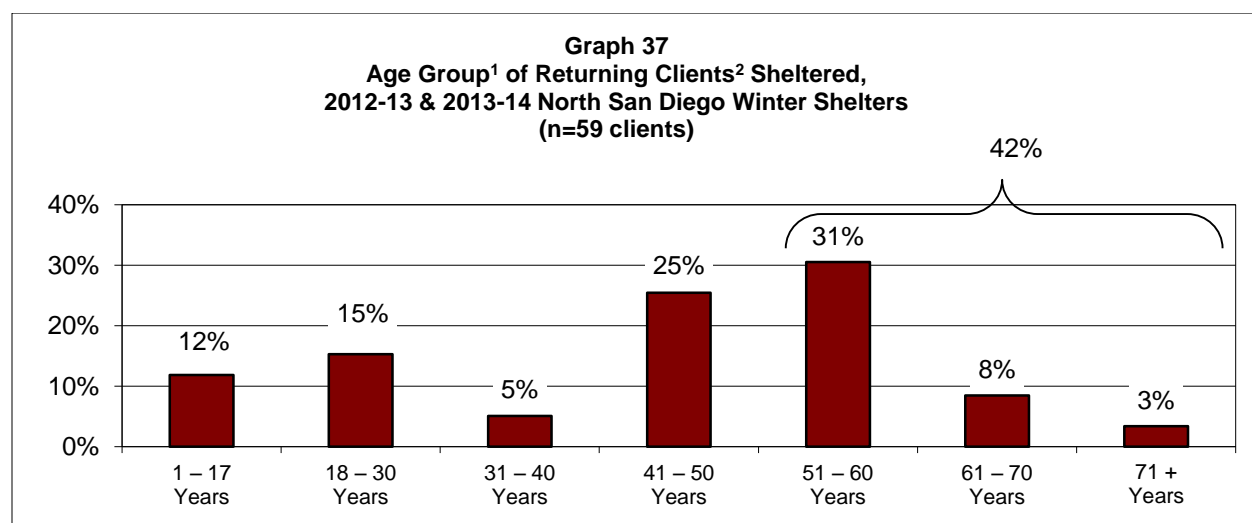
Graph 35
Gender of Returning Clients[1] Sheltered,
2012-13 & 2013-14
North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=59 clients)

Female, 27%

Male, 73%

Graph 36
Military History of Returning Adult
Clients[1] Sheltered, 2012-13 & 2013-14
North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n= 52 adults with information)[2]

Yes, 6%

No, 94%

[1] Clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2012-13 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2013-14 season.

[1] Clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2012-13 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2013-14 season.
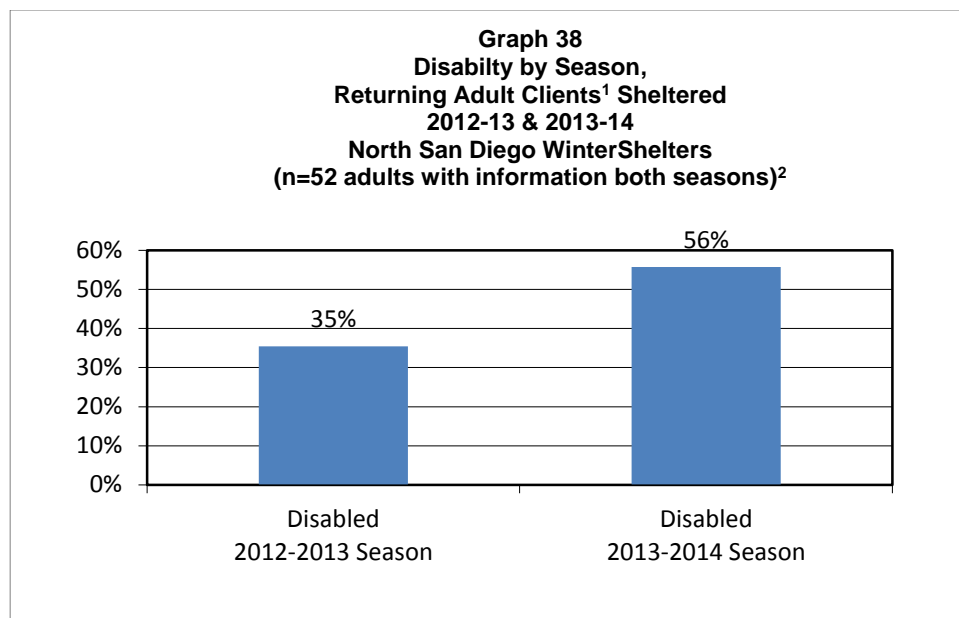[2] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," or "Refused" were not included in the total.

Graph 37
Age Group[1] of Returning Clients[2] Sheltered,
2012-13 & 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=59 clients)

Age Group	Percent
1 – 17 Years	12%
18 – 30 Years	15%
31 – 40 Years	5%
41 – 50 Years	25%
51 – 60 Years	31%
61 – 70 Years	8%
71 + Years	3%

42%

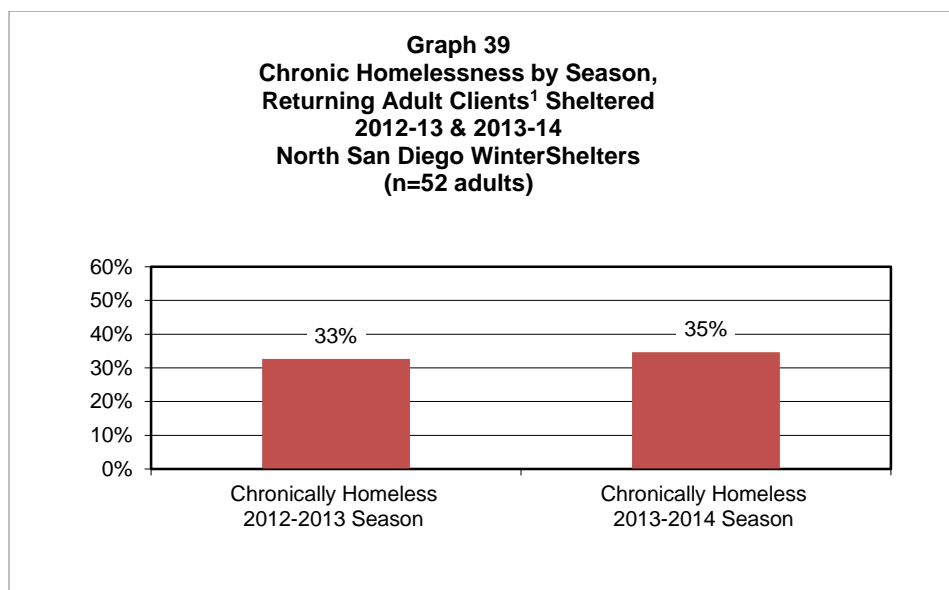[1] Age at first program entry during the 2013-14 shelter season.
[2] Clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2012-13 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2013-14 shelter season.

A disabling condition was recorded for more of the returning clients in the most recent 2013-14 season compared to the 2012-13 season (56% versus 35% respectively) (Graph 38). Additionally, a greater proportion of these clients were identified by program staff as being chronically homeless in the 2013-14 season compared to the 2012-13 season (35% versus 33% respectively) (Graph 39).

Graph 38
Disabilty by Season,
Returning Adult Clients[1] Sheltered
2012-13 & 2013-14
North San Diego WinterShelters
(n=52 adults with information both seasons)[2]

[1] Adult clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2012-13 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2013-14 season.
[2] Percent of the total number with information in both seasons; responses of "Don't Know," or "Refused" were not included in the total.

Graph 39
Chronic Homelessness by Season,
Returning Adult Clients[1] Sheltered
2012-13 & 2013-14
North San Diego WinterShelters
(n=52 adults)

[1] Adult clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2012-13 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2013-14 season.

A review of the primary reason for homelessness among returning clients showed frequent variation between reasons cited upon entry in 2012-13 compared to entry in 2013-14, but no strong trends were identified (Graph 40). The same was true for destination at last exit (Graph 41).

Graph 40
Primary Reason for Homelessness by Season,
Returning Adult Clients[1] Sheltered,
2012-13 & 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(adults with information)[2]
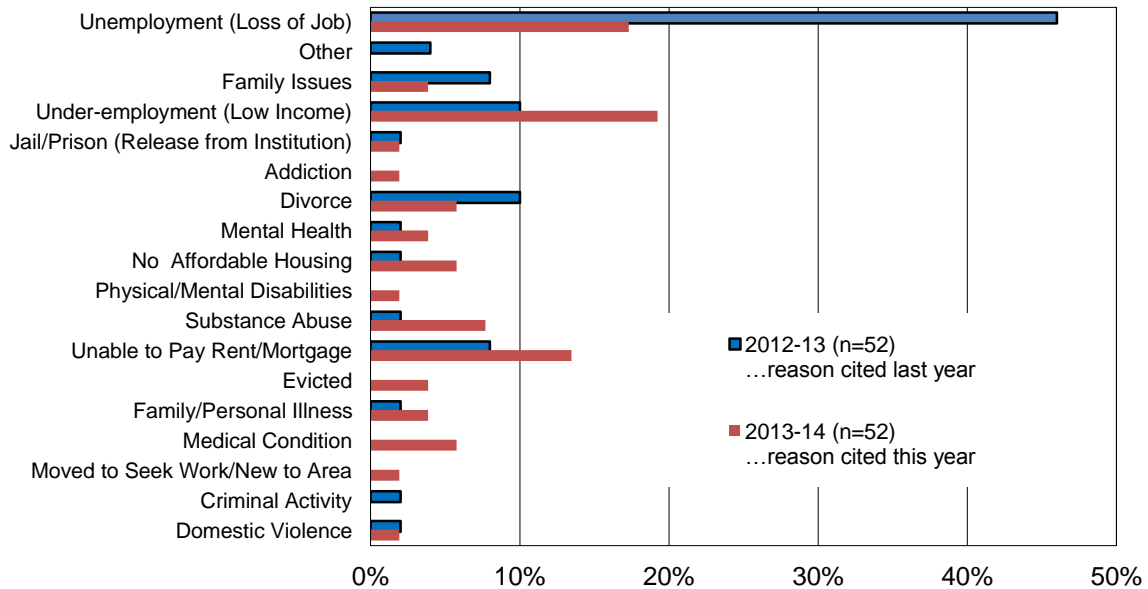
[1] Adult clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2012-13 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2013-14 season.
[2] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Unknown" were not included in the season totals.

Graph 41
Destination Upon Leaving Shelter by Season, Returning Clients[1] Sheltered,
2012-13 & 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=59 clients)[2]
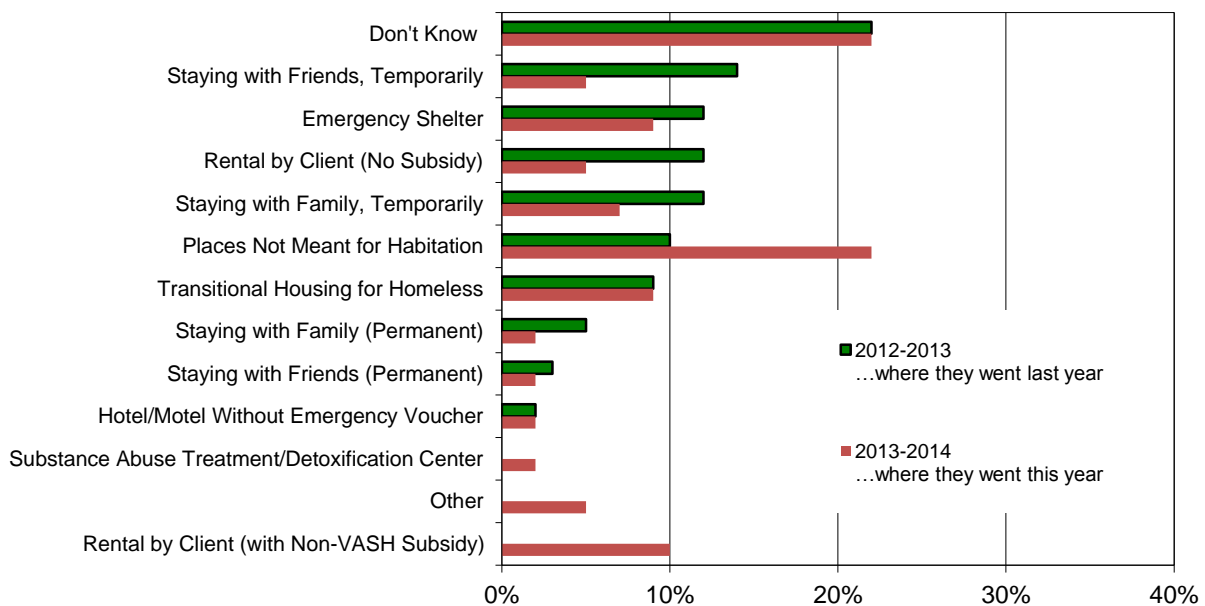
[1] Adult clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2012-13 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2013-14 season.
[2] Destination upon last exit from North County Winter Shelters.

Summary

The North San Diego ARS Winter Shelters provided shelter service to 438 unique individuals during the 2013-14 winter shelter season, most of whom also reported that their most recent permanent residence was in the North San Diego County area. Most often, shelter recipients were male, Non-Hispanic, Caucasian, and not part of a family. The most commonly sheltered age groups were 41-50 and 51-60 years. Many reported disabilities such as physical disability, mental illness, alcohol abuse, and drug abuse among others. In addition, more than one-third of the women reported being a domestic violence victim. Both disabilities and domestic violence have been linked to homelessness (Burt, December 1999 and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, February 2007). Unemployment and underemployment continues to rank highly as adult clients' primary reason for homelessness.

Most of the sheltered clients reported leaving the program for housing or another opportunity that included housing (such as emergency shelter or transitional housing), even if temporary in nature. Given that these winter shelters are emergency in nature with limited periods of operation, and often serve clients for very short times, these results show that more than half of the clients exit with a plan and have accomplished some goals that may help prevent homelessness in the future.

The large majority of clients (87%) served in the 2013-2014 season had not been served at a North San Diego ARS Winter Shelter the prior year, suggesting that the winter shelters and associated services meet an important need – assisting the newly homeless, not just the long term, repeat homeless client. Similarly, this finding also implies that the persons who needed these shelters in the previous year were either not in the area, or did not need the service in the current year. Among the 13% of clients served in the 2013-14 season that has been sheltered the previous year in the North San Diego ARS Winter shelter system, most were male adults, not part of a family, and just under one-half were over the age of 50 years. Returning clients were more likely to have been identified as chronically homeless persons in the second season compared to the prior year. Further research such as tracking clients after exit would be necessary to correctly analyze potential trends over time.

References

Burt, M.R., et. al. "Homelessness: Programs and the People they Serve: Findings of the National Survey of Homeless Assistance Providers and Clients" (December 1999), http://www.urban.org/publications/310291.html accessed 4/30/09, pg. 30-31.

National Alliance to End Homelessness, "Chronic Homelessness Brief" (March 2007), http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/1060 accessed 5-2-09.

US Department of Housing and Urban Development, "HUD's Homeless Assistance Programs, Defining Chronic Homelessness: A technical Guide for HUD Programs" (September 2007), http://www.hudhre.info/documents/DefiningChronicHomeless.pdf accessed 5-17-12, pg 3-4.

Alliance for Regional Solutions, "Services Provided to the Homeless in North County Winter Shelters 2012-2013", (June 2012).

Appendix A – Data Tables

A. 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelter Clients

Table 1. Demographic Characteristics of Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=438 clients)

Demographic Characteristic	Number	Percent [1]
Gender		
Male	275	63%
Female	163	37%
Primary Race		
White	309	72%
Black/ African American	85	20%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	11	3%
Asian	4	1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	19	4%
Other	0	0%
Don't Know/Refused[2]	10	--
Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic/Latino	311	73%
Hispanic/Latino	117	27%
Don't Know/Refused[3]	10	--
Age Group		
< 1 Year	2	0%
1 – 17 Years	64	15%
18 – 30 Years	59	13%
31 – 40 Years	62	14%
41 – 50 Years	107	24%
51 – 60 Years	107	24%
61 – 70 Years	29	7%
71 + Years	8	2%
Not Recorded	0	--
Age - Adult versus Child		
Adult (18+ years)	372	85%
Child (1-17 years)	66	15%
Not Recorded	0	--
Entered with Family		
No	326	74%
Yes	112	26%
Total	**438**	**100%**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[2] Race responses include 2 Don't Know and 8 Refused.
[3] Ethnicity responses include 7 "Don't Know" 3 Refused.

Table 2. Characteristics of Families with Children Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=33 families)

Head of Household	Number	Percent
Single Mother[1]	23	70%
Two Adults[2]	8	24%
Single Father[3]	2	6%

Family Size	Number	Percent
2 people	9	27%
3 people	13	39%
4 people	5	15%
5 people	5	15%
6 people	1	3%
Total	**33**	**--**

[1] One adult female per household with child(ren).
[2] One adult female and one adult male per household with child(ren).
[3] One adult male per household with child(ren).

Table 3. Marital Status of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=372 adults)

Family Size	Number	Percent[1]
Married	44	12%
Co-Habitating	9	2%
Widowed	13	4%
Separated	27	7%
Divorced	77	21%
Single	196	54%
Unknown/Not Recorded[2]	6	--
Total	**372**	**--**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[2] Responses include 2 'Unknown,' and 4 not recorded.

Table 4. **Demographic Characteristics of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=372 adults)**

Demographic Characteristic	Number	Percent [1]
Chronically Homeless[2] – as recorded in HMIS		
No	294	79%
Yes	78	21%
Not Recorded	0	--
Chronically Homeless[2] – *plus* Disabling Condition = 'Yes'		
No	302	82%
Yes	68	18%
Don't Know/Refused/Not Recorded	2	--
Military Veteran		
No	336	92%
Yes	29	8%
Don't Know/Refused/Not Recorded[3]	7	--
Domestic Violence Victim		
No	307	84%
Yes	57	16%
Don't Know/Refused/Not Recorded[4]	8	--
If Female, Domestic Violence Victim (n=128 Females)		
No	79	63%
Yes	47	37%
Don't Know/Refused/Not Recorded[5]	2	--
If Male, Domestic Violence Victim (n=244 adult males)		
No	228	96%
Yes	10	4%
Don't Know/Refused[6]	6	--
If Female, Pregnant? (n=128 adult females)		
No	120	96%
Yes	5	4%
Don't Know/Refused/Not Recorded[7]	3	--
Disabled (Has a Disabling Condition)		
No	189	51%
Yes	181	49%
Don't Know/Refused/Not Recorded[8]	2	--
Total	**372**	**100%**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.

[2] HUD definition: (1) an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years, OR (2) a person in a family with children with at least one adult member meeting the previous disability & homelessness criteria outlined in (1). A disability is further defined as "a diagnosable substance abuse disorder, a serious mental illness, developmental disability, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions" and it must "limit an individual's ability to work or perform one or more activities of daily living." (US Department of Housing and Urban Development, September 2007; updated to include families, January 2011).

[3] Veteran responses include 7 "Don't know."

[4] Domestic Violence responses include 5 "Don't know," and 3 "Refused."

[5] Female Domestic Violence responses include 1 "Don't know" and 1 not recorded.

[6] Male Domestic Violence responses include 4 "Don't know," and 2 "Refused."

[7] Is Pregnant responses include 1 "Don't Know" and 2 not recorded.

[8] Disabled responses include 1 "Don't know," 1 "Refused" and 4 not recorded.

Table 5. Disability Type of Disabled Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=181 adults with a disabling condition)

Disability Type Entered	Number	Percent [1]
Physical/Medical	89	49%
Mental Health Problem	95	52%
Alcohol Abuse	54	30%
Drug Abuse	43	24%
Chronic Health Condition	18	10%
Developmental Disability	14	8%
Other	6	3%
HIV / AIDS	2	1%
Type Not Recorded	21	12%
Total [2, 3]	**181**	**--**

[1] Percent responding to each disability type among those who responded.
[2] Total unduplicated persons who responded 'YES' they had a disabling condition.
[3] Total sums to greater than the number disabled and greater than 100% because clients could chose more than one disability type.

Table 6. Number of Disability Types Recorded for Disabled Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=181 adults with a disabling condition)

Number of Disability Types per Client	Number	Percent [1]
One Type	67	42%
Two Types	56	35%
Three Types	22	14%
Four Types	14	8%
Five Types	1	<1%
Type Not Recorded	21	--
Total [2]	**181**	**--**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[2] Total unduplicated persons who responded 'YES' they had a disabling condition.

Table 7.   Highest Education Level Attained by Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=404)

Education Level	Number	Percent [1,2]	Collapsed Percent
Master's Degree or higher	11	3%	3%
Bachelor's Degree	26	7%	7%
College Degree	5	1%	5%
Associate's Degree	12	3%	
Some College	96	26%	31%
Post-secondary school	2	1%	
Some vocation/trade school	17	5%	
High School Diploma	79	22%	22%
GED	32	9%	9%
12th grade, No diploma	23	6%	11%
11th grade	18	5%	
10th grade	13	4%	7%
9th grade	11	3%	
7th grade or 8th grade	9	2%	6%
5th grade or 6th grade	3	1%	
Nursery school to 4th grade	9	2%	
Don't Know / Refused / Not Recorded	6	--	--
Total	**372**	**--**	**--**

[1]   Percent of the total number with information; responses missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[2]   Percentages do not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table 8.   Income Received from Any Source in the Past 30 Days at First Entry of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=372 adults)

Income Received	Number	Percent [1]
No	68	72%
Yes	26	28%
Don't Know/Refused/Not Recorded	278	--
Total	**372**	**--**

[1]   Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[2]   Responses include 1 "Don't know" and 277 not recorded.

Table 9.   Income Source at First Entry of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=26 adults receiving income in past 30 days)

Income Type Entered	Number	Percent [1]
SSI	13	50%
Earned Income	9	35%
SSDI	7	27%
No Financial Resources	5	19%
Retirement Income from Social Security	2	8%
General Assistance	2	8%
Unemployment Insurance	1	4%
Pension From a Former Job	1	4%
Total [2,3]	**26**	**--**

[1]   Percent reporting each income type.
[2]   Total unduplicated persons responding "Yes" to 'Income received in past 30 days'.
[3]   Total sums to greater than the number receiving income and greater than 100% because clients could report more than one type of income.

Table 10.   Income Amount of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=26 adults with income amounts reported)

Summary of Income Amounts Reported[1]			
Minimum	**Maximum**	**Median**	**Average**
$600	$3,117	$900	$1,235

[1]   Income amounts from all sources totaled. Includes only the amount from the most recent income start date if multiple entries per source exists; excludes unemployment benefits with a start date prior to October 2011.

Table 11.   Non Cash Benefit Received in the Past 30 Days at First Entry of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=372 adults)

Non Cash Benefit Received	Number	Percent [1]
No	226	62%
Yes	141	38%
Don't Know / Refused / Not Recorded [2]	5	--
Total	**372**	**--**

[1]   Percent of the total number with information; responses missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[2]   Responses include 5 "Don't know".

Table 12. Non Cash Benefits in Past 30 Days at First Entry of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=157 adults)

Non Cash Benefits Entered	Number	Percent
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (Food Stamps)	140	89%
MEDICAID	6	4%
Other Source	3	2%
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC	2	1%
No Benefit Listed	2	1%
MEDICARE	1	<1%
Other TANF-Funded Services	1	<1%
Section 8, Public Housing or rental assistance	1	<1%
Veteran's Administration (VA) Medical Services	1	<1%
Total [1,2]	**157**	**--**

[1] Total unduplicated persons responding "Yes" to 'Non cash benefit received in past 30 days'.
[2] Total could sum to greater than the number receiving benefit and greater than 100% because clients could report more than one type of non cash benefit, however none did.

Table 13. Employment Status of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=372 adults)

Currently Employed	Number	Percent [1]
No	327	89%
Yes	40	11%
Not Recorded	5	--
Total	**372**	**--**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses missing/not recorded were not included in the total.

Table 14. Employment Tenure of Employed Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=40 adults)

Employment Tenure	Number	Percent [1]
Temporary	9	39%
Seasonal	1	4%
Permanent	13	57%
Not Recorded	17	--
Total	**40**	**--**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses missing/not recorded were not included in the total.

Table 15. Employment Search of Unemployed Adult Clients Sheltered, 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=327 adults)

Looking for Work	Number	Percent [1]
No	80	29%
Yes	193	71%
Don't Know / Refused / Not Recorded	54	--
Total	**327**	**--**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses missing/not recorded were not included in the total.

Table 16. Living Situation the Night Before the First North County Winter Shelter Stay, Adult Clients Sheltered in the 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=372 adults)

Prior Living Situation	Number	Percent [1]
Place Not Meant for Habitation	152	41%
Living With Family	25	7%
Emergency Shelter or Hotel/ Motel with Voucher	28	8%
Living With Friends	36	10%
Rental House/ Apartment (no subsidy)	32	9%
Owned by Client (no subsidy)	7	2%
Other	15	4%
Hotel/ Motel without Emergency Voucher	28	8%
Substance Abuse Treatment Center	9	2%
Psychiatric hospital or facility	5	1%
Hospital	9	2%
Jail, Prison or Juvenile Facility	5	1%
Transitional Housing for Homeless	7	2%
Safe Haven	2	1%
Owned by Client (with subsidy)	2	<1%
Permanent Housing for Formerly Homeless	7	<1%
Rental House/ Apartment with VASH Subsidy	2	<1%
Don't Know /Not Recorded	1	--
Total	**372**	**100%**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know" or "Refused" were not included in the total.

Table 17. San Diego (SD) Region of Last Permanent Residence (based on Zip Code Provided by Client), Adult Clients Sheltered in the 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=372 adults)

Region	Number	Percent [1,2]
North Coastal SD County	152	49%
North Inland SD County	90	29%
Central SD County	46	15%
East SD County	9	3%
South SD County	6	2%
Outside SD County, but in CA	7	2%
Outside California	1	0%
Don't Know / Not Recorded [3]	61	--
Total	**372**	**--**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[2] Percentages do not sum to 100% due to rounding.
[3] Includes 4 "Don't Know," and 57 not recorded.

Table 18. City of Last Permanent Residence (based on Zip Code Provided by Client), Adult Clients Sheltered in the 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=372 adults)

San Diego Region	Community	Number	Percent [1]
North Coastal	Oceanside	85	27%
North Inland	Escondido	64	21%
Central	San Diego	46	15%
North Coastal	Vista	29	9%
North Coastal	Carlsbad	25	8%
North Coastal	Encinitas	12	4%
	Outside SD County, but in CA	7	2%
North Inland	San Marcos	7	2%
North Inland	Fallbrook	5	2%
North Inland	Ramona	4	1%
North Inland	Rancho Bernardo	4	1%
East	Spring Valley	4	1%
East	El Cajon	2	1%
North Inland	Poway	2	1%
South	San Ysidro	2	1%
East	Alpine	1	<1%
	Outside CA	1	<1%
North Inland	Bonsall	1	<1%
North Coastal	Cardiff	1	<1%
South	Chula Vista	1	<1%
South	Delzura	1	<1%
South	Imperial Beach	1	<1%
East	La Mesa	1	<1%
East	Lakeside	1	<1%
South	National City	1	<1%
North Inland	Pauma Valley	1	<1%
North Inland	Valley Center	1	<1%
North Inland	Warner Springs	1	<1%
--	Don't Know /Not Recorded[2]	61	--
Total		**372**	**100%**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," or missing/not recorded/not valid were not included in the total.
[2] Includes 4 "Don't Know" and 57 not recorded or not valid.

Table 19. Client-Reported Primary Reason for Homelessness, First Shelter Stay in North County Winter Shelters, Clients Sheltered in the 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=372 adults)

Reason for Homelessness	Number	Percent [1]
Unemployment (loss of job)	77	21%
Unable to Pay Rent/Mortgage	62	17%
Underemployment/low income	35	9%
Family Issues	24	7%
Substance Abuse	19	5%
Addiction	16	4%
Medical Condition	16	4%
Moved to Seek Work (or new to area)	14	4%
Substandard Housing	13	4%
Divorce	12	3%
Mental Health	12	3%
No Affordable Housing	11	3%
Evicted	11	3%
Jail/Prison (Release from Institution)	10	3%
Domestic Violence	7	2%
Physical/Mental Disabilities	7	2%
Personal Choice	6	2%
Other	5	1%
Family/Personal Illness	5	1%
Mortgage Foreclosure	5	1%
Loss of Public Assistance	1	0%
Natural Disaster	1	0%
Unknown/Not Recorded	3	--
Total	**372**	**100%**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Unknown" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[2] Includes 2 'Unknown,' and 1 not recorded.

Table 20. Client-Reported Economic Reason for Homelessness, First Shelter Stay in North County Winter Shelters, Clients Sheltered in the 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=372 adults)

Economic Reason for Homelessness[1]	Number	Percent [2]
No	154	41%
Yes	215	58%
Unknown[3]	3	--
Total	**372**	**100%**

[1] Economic reason for homelessness defined as: unemployment (loss of job), underemployment/low income, unable to pay rent/mortgage, no affordable housing, mortgage foreclosure, evicted, or loss of Public Assistance.
[2] Percent of the total number of clients with information; responses of "Unknown" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[3] Includes 3 'Unknown.'

Table 21. **Client-Reported Economic Reason for Homelessness by Presentation With vs Without Children, First Shelter Stay in North County Winter Shelters, Clients Sheltered in the 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=369 adults with information)**

	Single or In Adult-Only Family (n=326 adult clients)		In Family with Children (n=43 adult clients)		
	Number	Percent [1]	Number	Percent [2]	
Economic Reason for Homelessness [3]	181	56%	34	79%	

[1] Percent of the total number of adult clients with information presenting without children; clients with 'unknown' or missing/not recorded reasons were not included in the total.

[2] Percent of the total number of adult clients with information entering a program with at least one family member 17 years old or younger; clients with 'unknown' or missing/not recorded reasons were not included in the total.

[3] Economic reason for homelessness defined as: unemployment (loss of job), underemployment/low income, unable to pay rent/mortgage, no affordable housing, mortgage foreclosure, evicted or loss of Public Assistance.

Table 22. **Client-Reported Economic Reason for Homelessness by Family Type, First Shelter Stay in North County Winter Shelters, Clients Sheltered in the 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=33 families with children)**

Family Type	Sample Size[2]	Economic Reason,[1] Any Family Member	
		Number	Percent [3]
Single Father [4]	2	2	100%
Two Adults [5,6]	8	7	88%
Single Mother [6,7]	23	17	74%
Total [8]	**33**	**26**	**79%**

[1] Economic reason for homelessness defined as: unemployment (loss of job), underemployment/low income, unable to pay rent/mortgage, no affordable housing, mortgage foreclosure, evicted, or loss of Public Assistance.

[2] Number family types with information recorded.

[3] Percent calculated out of the total number of families with information in each family type; families with only 'unknown' or missing/not recorded reasons were not included in the total.

[4] One adult male per household with child(ren).

[5] One adult female and one adult male per household with child(ren).

[6] One household could have been counted in either the Single Mother or Two Adult category due to a later entry with an additional family member; The first entry of the household (Single Mother) was selected.

[7] One adult female per household with child(ren).

[8] Total number and percent of all families with information in each family type; families with only 'unknown' or missing/not recorded reasons were not included in the total.

Table 23. Reason for Leaving Shelter, Last Shelter Visit, Clients Sheltered in the 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=427 clients)

Reason for Leaving Shelter	Number [1]	Percent
Completed Program	97	22%
Reached Maximum Time Allowed	66	16%
Left for Housing Opp.	58	13%
Unknown/Disappeared	57	13%
To Alternate Programs	35	8%
Other[2]	35	8%
Moved Beds	30	7%
Non-Compliance with Program	25	6%
Disagreement with Rules/Persons	19	4%
Needs Could Not be Met	4	1%
Criminal Activity / Violence	1	<1%
Total	**427**	**100%**

[1] Reason for leaving at last exit from North County Winter Shelters.
[2] Other reason descriptions could be categorized as follows: (1) Employed, (1) Legal, (2) Medical, (2) No Room in Shelter, (7) Non Compliance, (1) Working Late, and (21) were missing values.

Table 24. Destination When Leaving Shelter, Last Shelter Visit, Clients Sheltered in the 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=438 clients)

Destination After Leaving Shelter	Number [1]	Percent [2]
Don't Know / Refused / Missing / Other-unknown	130	30%
Emergency Shelter	66	15%
Places Not Meant for Habitation	46	11%
Transitional Housing for Homeless	37	8%
Rental by Client (No Subsidy)	36	8%
Rental by Client (with Non-VASH Subsidy)	27	6%
Staying with Friends, Temporarily	21	5%
Staying with Family, Temporarily	23	5%
Staying with Family (Permanent)	12	3%
Hotel/Motel Without Emergency Voucher	12	3%
Other	7	2%
Permanent Housing for Formerly Homeless	6	1%
Jail, Prison/Juvenile Detention	3	1%
Staying with Friends (Permanent)	3	1%
Safe Haven	2	<1%
Substance Abuse Treatment / Detoxification Center	2	<1%
Mental Health Facility	2	<1%
Rental by Client (VASH)	2	<1%
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	1	<1%
Total	**438**	**100%**

[1] Destination upon leaving at last exit from North County Winter Shelters
[2] Percent of the total number of clients; Includes 107 "Don't Know", 21 "Missing", and 2 "Refused."

Table 25. Destination of Persons in Families with Children When Leaving Shelter, Last Shelter Visit, Clients Sheltered in the 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=108 clients sheltered as part of a family with children)

Destination After Leaving Shelter	Number [1]	Percent [2]
Rental by Client (No Subsidy)	22	20%
Rental by Client (with non-VASH Subsidy)	20	19%
Staying with Family (Temporary)	10	9%
Emergency Shelter	9	8%
Don't Know	9	8%
Staying with Friends (Temporary)	8	7%
Staying with Family (Permanent)	7	7%
Hotel/Motel Without Emergency Voucher	3	3%
Place Not Meant for Human Habitation	3	3%
Jail, Prison, or Juvenile Detention Facility	1	1%
Total	**92**	**100%**

[1] Destination upon leaving at last exit from North County Winter Shelters
[2] Percent of the total number of clients; Includes 9 "Don't Know" and 16 "Missing".

Table 26. Housing Status, Clients Sheltered in the 2013-14 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=438 clients)

	At First Entry		At Last Exit	
Housing Status [1]	Number	Percent [2]	Number	Percent [2]
Literally Homeless	386	88%	251	57%
Imminently Losing Housing	14	3%	4	1%
Unstably Housed & at Risk	16	4%	31	7%
Stably Housed	19	4%	128	29%
Don't Know	2	<1%	23	5%
Refused	1	<1%	1	<1%
Total	**438**	**--**	**438**	**--**

[1] 'Housing Status' as recorded by project staff
[2] Percent of the total number with information; missing/not recorded responses were not included in the total.

B. 2012-13 North San Diego Winter Shelter Returning Clients
Clients Sheltered During Both 2012-13 & 2013-14 Seasons

Table 27. Demographic Characteristics of Returning Clients Sheltered 2012-13 & 2013-14 Seasons, North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=59 clients)

Demographic Characteristic	Number	Percent [1]
Gender		
Male	43	73%
Female	16	27%
Age Group [2]		
< 1 Year	0	0%
1 – 17 Years	7	12%
18 – 30 Years	9	15%
31 – 40 Years	3	5%
41 – 50 Years	15	25%
51 – 60 Years	18	31%
61 – 70 Years	5	9%
71 + Years	2	3%
Not Recorded	0	--
Total	**59**	**100%**
Military Veteran (Adult Clients)		
No	49	94%
Yes	3	6%
Total	**52**	**100%**

[1] Percent of the total number with information; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[2] Age at first entry during the 2013-14 shelter season.

Table 28. Disability Status by Season of Returning Adult Clients Sheltered 2012-13 & 2013-14 Shelter Seasons, North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=52 adult clients)

Disabled (Has a Disabling Condition)	Number	Percent [1]
2012-2013 Shelter Season		
No	31	65%
Yes	17	35%
Not Comparable [2]	4	
2013-2014 Shelter Season		
No	23	44%
Yes	29	56%
Total	**52**	**100%**

[1] Percent of the total number with information in both seasons; responses of "Don't Know," "Refused" or missing/not recorded were not included in the total.
[2] Not comparable due to lack of information in one or both seasons; 2012-13 includes 3 "Don't Know" and 1 "Refused."

Table 29. Chronic Homelessness by Season of Returning Adult Clients Sheltered 2012-13 & 2013-14 Shelter Seasons, North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=52 adult clients)

Chronically Homeless [1,2]	Number	Percent
2012-2013 Shelter Season		
No	35	67%
Yes	17	33%
2013-2014 Shelter Season		
No	34	65%
Yes	18	35%
Total	**52**	**100%**

[1] HUD definition: (1) an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years, OR (2) a person in a family with children with at least one adult member meeting the previous disability & homelessness criteria outlined in (1). A disability is further defined as "a diagnosable substance abuse disorder, a serious mental illness, developmental disability, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions" and it must "limit an individual's ability to work or perform one or more activities of daily living." (US Department of Housing and Urban Development, September 2007; updated to include families, January 2011).

[2] The number and percentage of chronically homeless individuals do not appear to meet the HUD definition of chronically homeless due to a greater number of persons who did not meet the duration of homelessness as required by HUD versus the number who did meet the duration requirement and had a disabling condition.

Table 30. Client-Reported Primary Reason for Homelessness, First Shelter Stay per Season in North County Winter Shelters, Returning Adult Clients Sheltered 2012-13 & 2013-2014 Shelter Seasons, North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=52 adults)

Reason for Homelessness	2012-13		2013-14	
	Number	Percent [1]	Number	Percent [1]
Unemployment (Loss of Job)	23	44%	9	17%
Other	2	4%	0	0%
Family Issues	4	8%	2	4%
Under-employment (Low Income)	5	10%	10	19%
Jail/Prison (Release from Institution)	1	2%	1	2%
Addiction	0	0%	1	2%
Divorce	5	10%	3	6%
Mental Health	1	2%	2	4%
No Affordable Housing	1	2%	3	6%
Physical/Mental Disabilities	0	0%	1	2%
Substance Abuse	1	2%	4	8%
Unable to Pay Rent/Mortgage	4	8%	7	14%
Evicted	0	0%	2	4%
Family/Personal Illness	1	2%	2	4%
Medical Condition	0	0%	3	6%
Moved to Seek Work/New to Area	0	0%	1	2%
Domestic Violence	1	2%	0	0%
Mortgage Foreclosure	1	2%	1	2%
Personal Choice	1	2%	0	0%
Unknown or Not Recorded	1	2%	0	0%
Total	**52**	**100%**	**52**	**100%**

[1] Percent of the total number of adult clients with information; responses of "Unknown" were included in the total.

Table 31. Destination When Leaving Shelter, Last Shelter Visit each Season, Returning Clients Sheltered 2012-13 & 2013-14 Shelter Seasons, North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=59 clients)

Destination After Leaving Shelter Each Season	2012-13		2013-14	
	Number [1]	Percent [2]	Number [3]	Percent [4]
Don't Know	13	22%	13	22%
Places Not Meant for Habitation	6	10%	13	22%
Emergency Shelter	7	12%	5	9%
Rental by Client (No Subsidy)	7	12%	3	5%
Staying with Family (Permanent)	3	5%	1	2%
Transitional Housing for Homeless	5	9%	5	9%
Staying with Friends, Temporarily	8	14%	3	5%
Substance Abuse Treatment/Detoxification Center	0	0%	1	2%
Hotel/Motel Without Emergency Voucher	1	2%	1	2%
Other	0	0%	3	5%
Psychiatric Hospital/Facility	0	0%	0	0%
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	0	0%	0	0%
Staying with Family, Temporarily	7	12%	4	7%
Staying with Friends (Permanent)	2	3%	1	2%
Rental by Client (with Non-VASH Subsidy)	0	0%	6	10%
Total	**59**	**100%**	**59**	**100%**

[1] Destination upon leaving at last exit 2012-13 season from North County Winter Shelters.
[2] Percent of the total number of clients; 2012-13 season includes 13 "Don't Know."
[3] Destination upon leaving at last exit 2013-14 season from North County Winter Shelters.
[4] Percent of the total number of clients; 2013-14 season includes 13 "Don't Know."

Appendix B – Recommendations

The ARS North County Winter Shelters did an impressive job at consistently collecting data at both program entry and program exit. The amount of missing data is very low, which shows great care in both completing the intake/assessment forms and performing the data entry into ServicePoint. We offer the following recommendations if feasible:

- Improve data collection and data entry by:

  o Continuing to make sure all client entry and exit information are entered promptly throughout the season rather than post program closure;

  o Reviewing the entire data entry screen after saving the entry record to ensure data responses are stored in the database properly;

  o Working with RTFH staff to learn when it is appropriate to add income end-dates, both for one-time income sources, as well as when an income amount changes for a given source;

  o Continuing to ensure that staff who collect and/or record "chronically homeless" responses are aware of the HUD definition and trained to collect and record disability status when appropriate;

  o Ensuring that staff are aware that the responses of 'Don't know', and 'Refused' are from the client's perspective, not from staff's perspective ('client doesn't know' and 'client refused to respond');

  o Have the RTFH review intake/assessment forms prior to the beginning of services for the next program year;

  o Administer these forms to every adult client;

- Utilize a ServicePoint report that program staff can run, print and use themselves to look for any missing clients, missing exit dates or other missing responses and make necessary corrections as soon as possible.

- Consider performing rigorous analysis assessing changes in client profiles of those served over time or comparing returning clients to non-returning clients.

- Consider adding analysis of services provided during clients' program stays.

- Continue to congratulate those who collect and enter the data for making this type of analysis possible.