

Report on the 2009 Portland/ Multnomah County Street Count of Unsheltered Persons

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Street Count provides a snapshot of those sleeping outside – on the street, in a car or abandoned building – on a given night in Portland/ Multnomah County. In combination with the One Night Shelter Count, which is conducted on the same night, it enhances our understanding of the levels of homelessness in our community and the need for services.

The 2009 Street Count collected information on individuals and families throughout Multnomah County who were homeless and sleeping outside on Wednesday night, January 28, 2009. The count identified 1,591 unduplicated individuals who met these criteria. This includes 78 individuals in families with children, 248 individuals in couples, eight unaccompanied youth under age 18, and 1,225 individual adults.

The Street Count is coordinated by the City of Portland, but the timing and parameters of the count are set by the federal government. Due to the inherent difficulties of obtaining a complete count of everyone sleeping outside in Multnomah County on a given night, the Street Count represents a rough estimate rather than a complete enumeration. An analysis of the count's methodological limitations suggests that the actual number of unsheltered persons on a given night in our community is likely higher than the number documented in this report.

The One Night Shelter Count (ONSC), conducted by Multnomah County on the same night, identified 820 individuals in emergency shelter and 27 individuals vouchered into motels. This includes 175 individuals in families with children, 16 individuals in couples, five unaccompanied youth under age 18, and 651 individual adults. Comprehensive data is not available on households who are doubled up or couch surfing, but the available data suggests that there may be more than twice as many households in that situation as are on the streets or in shelters.

The 2009 Street Count identified 153 more unsheltered homeless persons than the 2007 count, an increase of 11%. The combined sheltered and unsheltered count was 13% higher than in 2007. The increase in the sheltered count largely reflects the addition of new seasonal warming shelter beds in 2009. Without that increased capacity, the additional persons counted in the ONSC probably would have been counted in the Street Count. The increase in the unsheltered count may be partially attributable to improvements in implementation of the Street Count methodology, but much of the increase is probably due to the economic downturn.

Thirty-seven percent of Street Count respondents for whom data is available reported that they had been homeless for less than a year, including 21% who had been homeless for six months or less. Many cities across the country, including several that saw reductions in homelessness in recent years, have reported increases in their homeless populations since the recession began. Portland's increases would almost certainly have been higher without the City and County's investments in homeless services and affordable housing.

In the face of the economic recession, holding the line against further expansions in homelessness will require increased investments. The number and percentage of veterans and chronically homeless individuals with disabilities has increased at a greater rate than the rest of the homeless population. This population tends to be more expensive to house than adults without disabilities. The data also suggest that the impact of the economic downturn is only beginning to be felt on the streets. Increased demand for services such as rent assistance and food stamps indicates that more households will be at risk of homelessness in the upcoming months.

II. INTRODUCTION

The Street Count is conducted bi-annually by the City of Portland in an effort to assess the needs of people sleeping on the street, in cars, and in abandoned buildings. The count is coordinated with Multnomah County's One Night Shelter Count (ONSC). The ONSC gathers information on people in emergency shelters, vouchered into motels, and receiving transitional housing or rent assistance who would otherwise be homeless, as well as those turned away from these services. Information from both counts is used to help local government and non-profits better assess and meet the needs of people who are homeless in our community.

Street Count background

Communities that receive funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for homeless services are required to conduct a bi-annual homeless street count. The data collected from the count enables Portland/ Multnomah County to qualify for federal funding for local programs, and it also helps the City and County and their nonprofit partners to plan for the funding and services needed to meet the needs of homeless persons.

HUD requires homeless counts to occur during the last ten days of January in order to capture data when shelter use peaks due to weather (based on the premise that it is easier to count people in shelter than on the streets.) The counts are scheduled for the end of the month because that is when persons who cycle on and off the streets are most likely to be homeless, having depleted their monthly income or benefits.

The Street Count is coordinated by the City's Bureau of Housing and Community Development (BHCD). Planning for the count is led by the Outreach and Engagement Workgroup, which includes outreach workers, staff from agencies that conduct outreach, homeless services providers, employees of the Portland Police Bureau, and staff from BHCD and Multnomah County.

The 2009 count was Portland's sixth, with the first occurring in 2002. The 2009 count closely followed the methodology of the 2007 count, enabling us to make reasonably accurate comparisons between those two counts.

Sub-populations captured by the count

The Street Count focuses on persons experiencing homelessness who are *unsheltered* and sleeping in a place that is not intended for human habitation. This includes streets, sidewalks, parks, alleys, transportation depots or other parts of transportation systems, abandoned buildings, camps, vehicles, and other similar places.

Persons experiencing homelessness who are *sheltered* are captured by the County's One Night Shelter Count. Neither of the counts provides data on households who are without homes and are "couch surfing" or doubled up with friends or family for economic reasons. Unfortunately, there are no good methodologies available to collect accurate data on the number of people in that situation, though they likely represent a large segment of the overall population experiencing

homelessness throughout Multnomah County, particularly families with children. Section V of this report uses supplemental data to estimate the size of the doubled up population.

Methodology

The Street Count is conducted by agencies and programs that come into regular contact with people who are homeless and sleeping outside. Almost 200 sites were invited to participate in the 2009 count, and sixty-one returned completed survey forms. Sites participated in the count in one or more of the following ways:

- **Outreach:** Agencies that conduct outreach to people sleeping outside were encouraged to make an extra effort during the last week in January to re-connect with existing camps, visit new camps, and make contact with as many people as possible. Outreach workers filled out survey forms for anybody whom they saw sleeping outside on Wednesday night, January 28, 2009, or who said they slept or were planning to sleep outside that night.
- **Visits to sites:** Service providers and meal sites were asked to fill out a Street Count survey form for anyone coming to their site for services during the last week in January who said they slept or were planning to sleep outside on Wednesday night, January 28, 2009.
- **Data from files:** Agencies that had clients whom they knew slept outside on the night of the count could pull the information on those clients from their files and submit it electronically through Service Point (the metro region's HMIS data system) or on the survey form.
- **One-Night Shelter Count Turnaway Information:** Agencies that provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, rent assistance, or motel vouchers were asked to collect information on anybody requesting those services who was turned away on the night of the count. Households that were turned away and said that they planned to sleep outside were included in the Street Count numbers.

The 2009 Street Count survey form included basic demographic information such as age, gender, ethnicity, race, disabling conditions, and veteran status. It also asked some basic questions about the household's experience of homelessness, such as length of homelessness, where the household slept on the night of the count, household type, and chronic homelessness.

To eliminate duplication, respondents were asked to provide basic identifying information (first three letters of last name, first letter of first name, age, and gender). If identifying information was not collected, the data were included in the appendix of this report, but not in the official Street Count number. ONSC turnaway data were only included in the Street Count number if identifying information was provided.

Comparisons to 2007 methodology:

The 2009 Street Count used the same survey form and methodology as the 2007 count, in an effort to maximize consistency between the two counts and make comparisons more valid. Some improvements were made in the implementation of the methodology in 2009 that may have increased the accuracy of the 2009 count. These include:

- More communication with sites prior to the count to prepare them for the count, provide instructions, and respond to questions;
- Recruiting volunteers to assist several sites without sufficient in-house capacity to conduct the count;
- Refinement of the wording of two of the survey questions to include a transgender option in the gender question and to better delineate between street families and biological families.

The site participation rates were higher for the 2009 count, perhaps due to these improvements. There was a 64% increase in the number of agencies returning completed surveys compared to the 2007 count. This increase offset the lack of a Project Homeless Connect event, which in 2007 collected surveys on 43 unsheltered households that were not captured at other sites.

The weather on the nights of the 2007 and 2009 counts was similar, although temperatures were lower for the 2009 count. The weather in 2007 was between 45 and 50 degrees with small amounts of rain. During the 2009 count, temperatures were between 33 and 43 degrees, with small amounts of rain.

Limitations of the Street Count data

Even though every effort was made to maximize the accuracy of the count, the Street Count data should be viewed as a rough estimate rather than a definitive number. Due to the inherent methodological limitations of trying to obtain a complete count of everyone who is unsheltered on a given night, it is likely that the count figures under-represent the number of people who are sleeping outside in Multnomah County.

The limitations of the Street Count data include:

- **Point-in-time vs. annual data:** The Street Count numbers provide a snapshot of people who are homeless at a point in time. Many more people are homeless over the course of the year. Point-in-time counts tend to over-represent people who have been homeless a long time and under-represent those whose experience of homelessness does not last very long.
- **Inherent difficulty of counting people on the streets:** Some individuals and families experiencing homelessness avoid accessing available services, and try to hide from view. They are unlikely to be counted unless they utilize meal programs or other services or are in a location familiar to outreach workers. Even when they are found, they may refuse to participate in the count because they want to preserve their privacy, don't trust service providers, or don't consider themselves "homeless".
- **Data without identifying information can not be counted:** Data for individuals who are unwilling to share key identifying information, or who were counted in circumstances where identifying information could not be obtained, cannot be included in the official count data because it can not be unduplicated.
- **The count's comprehensiveness is limited by capacity issues:** Portland's count relies primarily on professional outreach workers and service providers. It is therefore limited by the capacity of the participating organizations. It is not logistically feasible for outreach

workers to canvas every possible camp location in the county on the night of the count. And some service agencies and meal sites are unable to survey everyone entering their doors on a single night.

- **Outlying areas are under-represented:** Service providers report that outlying areas in Gresham and on the north and east sides of Portland have experienced an influx of homelessness in recent years. These areas do not have the same service infrastructure as close-in neighborhoods. While efforts were made to reach out to churches and service agencies in those areas, outlying neighborhoods may be under-represented in the count. In addition, homeless persons are less likely to be on the street in large concentrations in these neighborhoods, making them harder to find.
- **The count does not effectively capture families with children:** While a parent with dependent children may end up sleeping on the street, the children often remain with relatives or friends, so the parent is counted as a single individual. Homeless families who *are* living on the street often try to stay “under the radar” out of the fear that their children will be taken away. This means they are less likely to have contact with outreach workers or service agencies.
- **Timing of the count:** Holding the count in January (per HUD regulations) means the number of households utilizing emergency shelter is higher relative to the number on the streets than it would be if the count was conducted at a different time of year, or if it were a year-round count. In addition, service providers caution that a January count does not include homeless persons (particularly youth) who travel to warmer climates during the winter.

Even if the Street Count were able to effectively count everyone who is unsheltered in Multnomah County, it would still only provide a limited picture of our community’s homeless population. The ONSC expands this picture by gathering information on people experiencing homelessness who are sheltered on the night of the count. But some populations are missed entirely by both counts:

- People who are doubled up, couch surfing, temporarily paying for a motel room, or staying in jail or hospitals during the night of the count who are otherwise homeless are not counted because they are not considered homeless under HUD’s definition.
- People staying in emergency rooms aren’t captured in the official count numbers because hospitals’ confidentiality rules preclude sharing patients’ identifying information.
- People who cycle on and off the streets may be homeless for a portion of each month, but if they aren’t homeless on the night of the count, they are not counted. Families with children are especially likely to cycle on and off the streets, staying with friends and family or paying for motel rooms when they can.

III. SUMMARY OF 2009 STREET COUNT FINDINGS

The 2009 Street Count identified 1,591 unduplicated persons who were sleeping outside the night of January 28th. Data on 373 persons could not be unduplicated because sufficient identifying information was not provided. That data is included in the appendix.

Source	Persons
Street Count surveys (unduplicated)	1,591
Street Count surveys without identifying information	373
Total	1,964

The total unduplicated 2009 Street Count figure is 11% higher than the 2007 count. This may partially be a function of higher rates of site participation in 2009 due to more extensive coordination efforts prior to the count. It may also reflect the effects of the economic downturn.

Unsheltered homeless (unduplicated)	
2007 Street Count	1,438
2009 Street Count	1,591

Like Portland, cities across the country have identified recent increases in their homeless populations. Many of those cities had, like Portland, reported significant reductions in homelessness from 2005-2007, concurrent with the implementation of their 10-Year Plans. Data on the length of homelessness of 2009 Street Count respondents suggests much of Portland's increase in homelessness probably occurred since the start of the recession, which the National Bureau of Economic Research dates to December 2007.

Time on streets or in shelter	Percent ¹
Less than 1 month	7%
1-6 months	14%
7-12 months	16%
1-2 years	16%
2-5 years	24%
5-10 years	8%
> 10 years	14%

Thirty-seven percent of Street Count respondents for whom data was available reported that they had been homeless for less than one year. This includes 21% who reported that they had been homeless for six months or less. This suggests that much of the 11% overall increase in the 2009 count is attributable to households who became homeless since the start of the recession².

Over half of 2009 Street Count respondents for whom data on length of homelessness was available (54%) reported that they had been homeless for less than two years. This means that only 46% of those counted in 2009 may have been homeless during the 2007 count. (Data on length of homelessness is not available for previous counts, so we are unable to compare these rates with previous trends.)

¹ Percentages in this chart are based on the 766 respondents for whom data on length of homelessness was available.

² The numeric increase between the 2007 and 2009 counts was 153 persons. The total number of 2009 respondents who reported that they had been homeless less than a year was 284, of which 162 reported they had been homeless six months or less. However, data on length of homelessness was only available for about half of Street Count respondents, so the actual numbers are probably higher.

Chronically Homeless

The 2007 and 2009 counts both used HUD’s definition of “chronically homeless”: An unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three

Chronically homeless	2007	2009
Chronically homeless #s	386	554
Chronically homeless as percentage of count	27%	35%

years. Street Count respondents were asked to self-identify as having a disabling condition, and only those who met both criteria from the definition were counted.

In 2009, 554 individuals, representing 35% of the total unduplicated count, identified as chronically homeless³.

This reflects an increase of 168 people and an eight point increase in the percentage of survey respondents who identified as chronically homeless. It is a 44% increase in the total number of chronically homeless individuals compared to 2007. The percentage of respondents identified as chronically homeless in 2005 was 55%, so while we have seen an increase between 2007 and 2009, the percentage of chronically homeless is still 20 percentage points lower than at the beginning of the 10-Year Plan.

The median length of homelessness for chronically homeless individuals was 3.63 years compared to a median of 2.03 years for Street Count respondents as a whole. However, thirty-nine percent of individuals who identified as chronically homeless and who provided specific data on length of homelessness had been homeless for less than two years, which suggests that much of the increase in the chronically homeless population was among individuals who became homeless since the 2007 count.

While the Street Count data does not provide enough information to explain why the number and percentage of chronically homeless individuals increased from 2007 to 2009, potential explanations include:

- Increased numbers of people who have disabling conditions who are on the streets. Service providers report an increase in people with disabilities who are homeless, including those with acute and complex health and mental health problems. They attribute these increases to cuts in services and treatment, and increased rates of people who are uninsured.
- Longer bouts of homelessness due to high unemployment rates, cuts in services, and inadequate affordable and subsidized housing to meet the demand.
- Cuts in services may have made it more difficult for chronically homeless individuals who were recently housed to retain their housing, pushing them back out onto the streets.

Household composition

The Street Count respondents included 78 individuals in families with children, 248 individuals in couples, eight unaccompanied youth under age 18, and 1,225 individual adults.

³ Of those 2009 Street Count respondents who were not included in the chronically homeless figure, 700 were confirmed to not qualify as chronically homeless. The remaining 337 did not provide sufficient information to determine their status.

The number of individuals in families with children in the 2009 count was 11% higher than the number counted in 2007, but represents the same percentage of the total count.

Household Type	2007		2009	
	individuals	%	individuals	%
Families with children	70	5%	78	5%
Couples	113	8%	248	16%
Unaccompanied youth <18	4	<1%	8	1%
Individual adults	1,235	86%	1,225	77%
Other/ no data	16	1%	32	2%

The median length of homelessness among

2009 Street Count respondents was much shorter for families with children (6 months) than for other household types. The median for individuals was 24 months and for couples was 27 months.

The Street Count survey form gave respondents an opportunity to self-identify as being part of a “street family”, and distinguished street families from biological household units. These numbers were not included in the data on families. Fifty-nine unduplicated individuals said they slept outside on the night of the count with their street family. An additional 39 unduplicated individuals said they slept outside with friends.

Age

The median age of 2009 Street Count respondents was 44. Over half (58%) of respondents reported being in their mid-thirties to mid-fifties, with 27% age 34 and younger and 14% age 55 and older.

These age distributions are almost identical to the 2007 count, with a slight increase in the age 55 and older category, which was four percentage points higher as a portion of the total count in 2009 than in 2007, and a corresponding three percentage point decrease in the 45-54 category from 2007 to 2009. All other age categories differed less than two percentage points from 2007 to 2009.

Age	#	Percent
0-5	6	<1%
6-11	17	1%
12-17	21	1%
18-21	40	3%
22-24	58	4%
25-34	281	18%
35-44	442	28%
45-54	478	30%
55+	217	14%
Refused	31	2%

Youth

The relatively small number of eight unaccompanied youth under age 18 suggests that most homeless youth under age 18 are either in shelter, couch-surfing/ doubled up, or do not want to be found. Youth under 18 who are runaways may also refuse to be surveyed or may misrepresent their age because of the fear of being sent to juvenile detention or returned to foster care.

Multnomah County School Homeless Liaisons reported that most or all of the homeless students in their districts were sheltered or doubled up on the night of the count. Those who were reported as unsheltered were mostly in families.

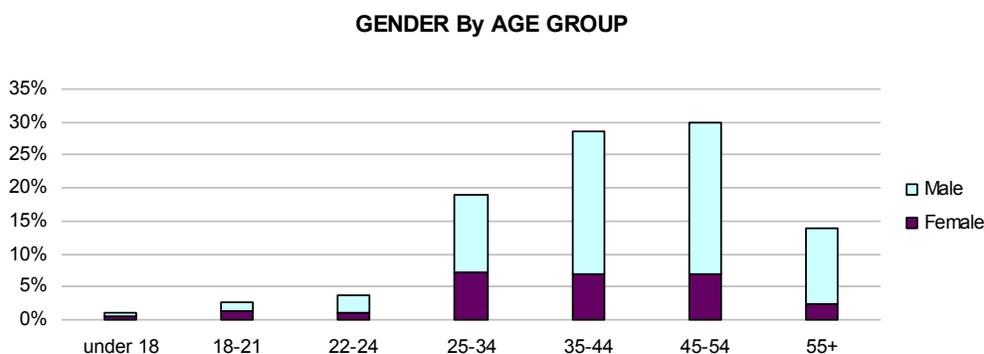
Since the homeless youth system serves young people up to age 24, it may be more accurate to include all unaccompanied young people up to age 24 in our count of unsheltered “homeless youth”. The 2009 count included 98 individuals ages 18-24, for a total count of 106 unsheltered unaccompanied youth and young people. This represents a 16% increase over 2007 numbers, which is consistent with what youth providers have reported. The Road Warrior program, which serves older youth, has had a 20% increase in participation rates at its stationary outreach sites since the 2007 count. Youth providers note that they are seeing an increase in older youth on the streets, partly because it has become harder for youth who are already homeless to find employment.

Gender

Seventy-two percent of Street Count respondents identified as male, 26% identified as female, 0.18% identified as transgendered, and 1% did not answer the question. These percentages are almost identical to the 2007 count (except for transgendered which was not an available option on the 2007 survey form.)

Gender	2007	2009
Male	74%	72%
Female	25%	26%
Transgendered	N/A	<1%

It is interesting to note that the gender imbalance tends to widen with increasing age cohorts⁴.



Disabling condition

Forty-six percent of all Street Count respondents reported having a disabling condition, which could include health problems, a physical disability, cognitive/developmental disability, substance abuse, mental health issues, or HIV/AIDS. This is consistent with the findings of the

⁴ $\chi^2 = 32.73$, $df = 6$, $p < 0.01$

October 2008 Vulnerability Index, in which 47% of respondents were identified as medically vulnerable.

Data on disabling conditions was not recorded for the 2007 count, so it is not possible to make comparisons. Anecdotally, service providers who work with homeless and very low income persons with mental health and physical health problems such as Ecumenical Ministries’ HIV Day Center and Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare report that they have seen an increase in people seeking services in the past year.

Ethnicity and Race

Most minority racial groups are over-represented in the Street Count population compared to the general population of Multnomah County and Portland⁵. The percentage of respondents identifying as Hispanic/ Latino was slightly lower in the Street Count than in the general population.

Race	Multnomah County	Portland	2009 Street Count
White/ Caucasian	82.6%	74.1%	66.8%
Black/ African American	6.0%	12.4%	11.6%
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	1.6%	0.8%	8.6%
Asian	6.4%	4.3%	0.4%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	0.1%	0.8%
Other/ Multi-racial	3.4%	8.3%	6.6%
Refused	N/A	N/A	5.2%
Ethnicity			
Hispanic/ Latino	10.0%	14.7%	9.1%

Veterans

Twelve percent of Street Count adult respondents reported that they were veterans, an increase of four percentage points as a portion of the entire Street Count population compared to 2007, and a 78% increase in total numbers.

In comparison, 10% of the adult population of Multnomah County identifies as veterans.

Veterans	2007	2009
Number of veterans	108	192
% of adults	8%	12%

⁵ Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey Demographic and Housing estimates: 2005-2007.

Fifty-five percent of veterans reported having a disabling condition. However, 24% of veterans did not respond to the disabling conditions question. Of those veterans for whom data is available, 71% had a disabling condition.

Twenty-six percent of veterans for whom information on length of homelessness is available reported that they had been homeless less than one year. In contrast, 19% reported that they had been homeless more than 10 years, and 10% had been homeless 5-10 years. Fifteen percent of respondents who identified as chronically homeless were veterans. Seventy-one percent of veterans for whom age information is available reported they were age 45 and older.

While the Street Count data can not explain why the number and percentage of homeless veterans increased from 2007 to 2009, potential explanations include:

- Veterans returning from the current wars with mental health issues or other disabilities.
- Reductions in services available to veterans due to the economy, funding cuts, and an overburdened Veterans Administration.
- The current wars may be reactivating the post-traumatic stress disorders of veterans from previous wars, putting them at greater risk of homelessness.
- Veterans who have been dishonorably discharged do not have full access to veteran benefits.
- National Guard veterans do not have ongoing access to full veteran benefits and services.

Domestic violence

Nine percent of respondents reported that they had been affected by domestic violence, compared to 12% in 2007. However, 47% of respondents did not provide a response to this question. Out of those who responded to this question, 17% reported they had been affected by domestic violence.

Domestic violence	2007	2009
Individuals affected by domestic violence	168	144
% of Street Count respondents	12%	9%

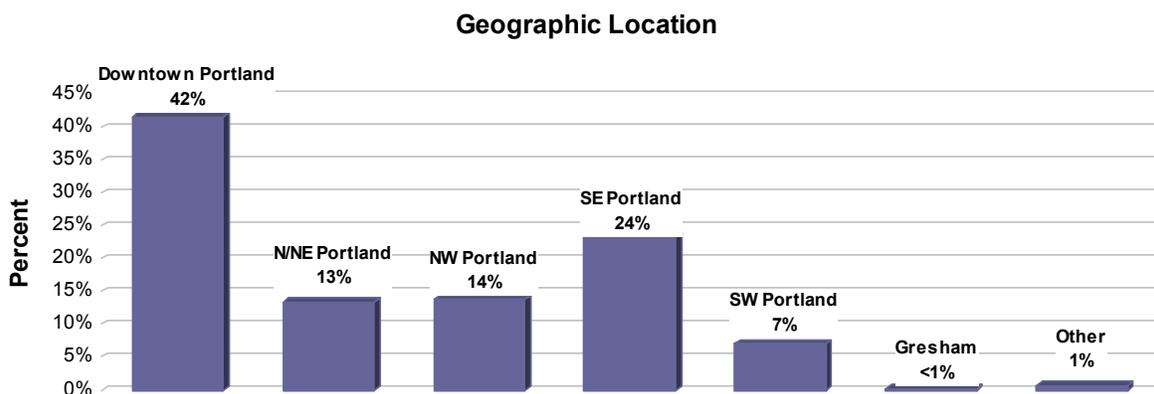
Sleeping location

Most respondents (83%) reported that they slept on the street, followed by 6% who slept in a vehicle, 2% in an abandoned building, 2% who reported that they “camped” and 1% who slept in the woods. These distributions are almost identical to the 2007 count.

Sleeping location	2007	2009
Street	85%	83%
Vehicle	6%	6%
Abandoned building	1%	2%
Camp	3%	2%
Woods/ forest	<1%	1%
Other/ unknown	4%	7%

Geographic Location

Information on geographic location was available for 778 of those surveyed. Outreach workers noted the location where homeless persons were sleeping the night of the count. For persons surveyed at service agency sites, the location information may reflect where they were sleeping and/or their location when they were surveyed.



Downtown was defined to include the area inside the I-405 loop, including Old Town. North/Northeast and Southeast were defined to include the east side of Portland up to the Gresham line. Outreach workers and service providers report that the homeless population has shifted from its traditional location downtown into outlying areas in Outer East and North Portland, including Gresham. While efforts were made to capture these areas in the count, most homeless services are still concentrated downtown and in close-in neighborhoods, and homeless camps in outlying areas are spread further apart and harder to find. Because the count methodology relies on service providers and outreach workers to collect the data, the count probably over-represents the percentage of the overall homeless population that is located downtown and in close-in neighborhoods.

Comparisons to Vulnerability Index:

The Street Count findings are generally consistent with the findings of the October 2008 Vulnerability Index. The Vulnerability Index (VI) surveyed 646 homeless persons in Portland using an in-depth questionnaire that focused on key medical risk indicators. The VI used volunteer surveyors to canvas the downtown area of Portland on three consecutive early mornings.

Forty-seven percent of VI respondents were identified as medically vulnerable, which is consistent with the 46% of Street Count respondents who reported a disabling condition. The average length of homelessness for VI respondents was five years vs. 4.3 years for Street Count respondents. (The median length of homelessness for Street Count respondents was 2.03 years; median data is not available for VI respondents.) The average age was 44 for Street Count respondents, 42 for VI respondents. Seventy-seven percent of VI respondents were male, vs. 72% of Street Count respondents. A higher percentage of VI respondents identified as veterans (22% vs. 12% of Street Count respondents), a pattern which helps to support the overall Street Count finding that the homeless veteran population has increased since 2007.

IV. SHELTERED POPULATION

As noted earlier, the Street Count data is limited to individuals and families who were homeless and *unsheltered* on the night of the count. Information on the number of persons experiencing homelessness who were *sheltered* on the night of the count is available from the One Night Shelter Count (ONSC.) The ONSC is conducted by Multnomah County annually during the last week in January. In 2009 it was conducted on the same night as the Street Count.

The 2009 ONSC identified 820 persons in emergency shelter and 27 persons who were vouchered into hotels or motels on January 28, 2009. This includes 175 individuals in families with children, 16 individuals in couples, five unaccompanied youth under age 18, and 651 individual adults. In contrast, the 2007 ONSC identified 674 persons in emergency shelter and 37 persons who were vouchered into hotels or motels.

The ONSC is primarily a survey of our community's service capacity, rather than an indication of need. Shelter beds in Multnomah County are typically full in January, so the ONSC provides a count of the number of emergency shelter beds available in a given year, as well as the resources available for hotel/motel vouchers.

The increase in emergency shelter numbers from 2007 to 2009 reflects an expansion of the system's bed capacity as well as fluctuations in agency participation rates in the ONSC from year to year. In 2008-09, two new seasonal warming shelters were added to the system, increasing the shelter bed capacity by 130 beds. Some additional women's shelter beds were also added to the system between the 2007 and 2009 counts. While the vast majority of local shelter providers participate in the ONSC each year, inconsistent participation rates among a handful of programs may explain some of the variations in the total numbers from year to year.

The addition of the seasonal warming shelters resulted in a reduction in voucher use from 2007 to 2009, since homeless households (especially families) who accessed the warming shelters would have been candidates for vouchers in previous years.

V. DOUBLED UP AND COUCH SURFING ESTIMATES

Both the Street Count and One Night Shelter Count are guided by HUD's definition of homelessness, which only includes households who are "literally homeless" – sleeping outside, in shelters, or vouchered into motels. A far larger number of households in our community are without homes, living doubled up with friends or relatives or "couch surfing" due to economic reasons.

There is no accurate methodology for enumerating how many households in our community are in this situation, but existing research suggests the size of the doubled up population is considerably larger than the size of the "literally homeless" population. The National Alliance to End Homelessness recently conducted a national study that estimates that including persons who are doubled up in our overall count of homelessness would increase the size of the homeless population by a factor of five. Two local sources of data on sub-sets of the homeless population indicate that the number of households who are doubled up is more than twice the number of households sleeping outside and in emergency shelters:

The Department of Human Services reported that 6,122 of the households in Multnomah County receiving food stamps on the day of the count identified themselves as homeless. This figure is based on self-reports and includes households who were sheltered, unsheltered, and doubled up. If this figure included all of the sheltered and unsheltered households counted in both the Street Count and ONSC (a conservative assumption), the number of households who are doubled up would be 2.5 times the number in emergency shelter, vouchered into motels, or sleeping outside.

The 2007-2008 annual school count for Multnomah County includes students who are doubled up, sheltered, and unsheltered. The data provides a good indication of the proportion of homeless students in each category. For the 07-08 school year, the Multnomah County total was 2,756 students:

- Sheltered: 433 (16%)
- Motel: 215 (8%)
- Unsheltered: 135 (5%)
- Shared housing: 1973 (72%)

This suggests that for homeless families with school-age children, the number of families experiencing homelessness last year that were doubled up was more than two and a half times the number that were in shelter, motels, or unsheltered.

[Note: The specific figures in the annual school count cannot be directly compared to the Street Count and ONSC data because they are annual totals rather than point-in time figures. The Coalition for Homeless Families used the school count data to create an estimate of 2,348 homeless families with 4,695 homeless children in Multnomah County last year. These figures are very rough approximations based on extrapolating the school count data to include families who have school-age children, preschoolers, and children not in school.⁶]

The Clackamas County Homeless Count includes a count of the doubled up population in addition to a count of those meeting HUD's definition of homelessness. Final data from the 2009 Clackamas count is not yet available, but data from the 2007 count indicates that the number of *households* who were doubled up was 2.2 times the number who were sleeping outside, in their cars, or in emergency shelters or transitional housing. Of all the *individuals* counted in 2007, the number who were doubled up was 6.5 times the number who met HUD's definition of homelessness.

The data from these local and national studies suggests the number of *households* who were doubled up in Multnomah County on the night of the 2009 count was more than twice the number of households identified in both the Street Count and ONSC, and the number of *individuals* who were doubled up may be four to six times the number of individuals identified in the 2009 counts. Applying these rough estimates to both the Street Count and ONSC data yields a ballpark figure of 4,464 households representing 12,190 individuals doubled up on the night of the count.

⁶ The school count figure of 2,759 was increased by 50% to include 0-5 year olds and by 20% to include out of school youth. The estimated number of families was calculated based on one parent per two children.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

The number of unsheltered persons counted during the 2009 Street Count in Portland/Multnomah County was 11% higher than the number counted in 2007. Thirty-seven percent of those counted had been homeless for less than a year, including 21% who had been homeless for six months or less. Thirty-five percent of respondents were chronically homeless.

These patterns are consistent with what has been in happening in cities around the country: “Today the economic crisis is making it difficult for communities to keep up with the increased demand for homeless services. Cities across the nation that were once reporting declines in homelessness are reporting increases and requests for emergency assistance, particularly among families” (Metropolitan Housing and Communities Center, 2009).

National data suggest that the situation in our community would probably be much worse without the City and County’s continued investment in the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. The National Alliance to End Homelessness estimates that nationally the number of households experiencing homelessness each year will increase by approximately 35% a year over the next two years. Some cities with successful homelessness prevention and re-housing initiatives have already started to see increases of this magnitude (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2009).

Since the 2007 Street Count, the 10-Year Plan has successfully housed 3,471 households in permanent housing, many of them directly from the streets:

Persons moved into permanent housing	Jan-Dec 2007	Jan-Dec 2008	Total since 2007 count	Total since start of 10YP
Chronically Homeless	534	515	1,049	1,923
Homeless families	815	285	1,100	1,795
Other homeless households (individual adults or couples)	663	659	1,322	2,348

These investments may have helped to hold the line against dramatic increases in homelessness, but local data also suggest that we are likely to see more significant increases in homelessness in the near future if the economy does not turn around soon. In the past six months, 211*info*, a regional resource and referral hotline, has seen an increase in requests for emergency assistance, rent assistance, and food stamps in Multnomah County compared to the same period last year, but not an increase in requests for shelter. This suggests that more households are at economic risk of homelessness, even if they are not yet literally homeless. From September 2008 through February 2009:

- Requests for shelter were comparable to requests for shelter from the same period in 07-08
- Requests for rent assistance were up by 29%
- Requests for energy assistance were up by 40%
- Requests for food stamps were up by 74%

This data is supported by anecdotal evidence from service providers. JOIN, Transition Projects, and Catholic Charities have experienced an increase in requests for rental assistance and eviction

prevention assistance. Agencies that provide meals and other essential services to very low income people, including Ecumenical Ministries' HIV Day Center, Loaves and Fishes, and Sisters of the Road, report an increase in the number of clients accessing their services or the frequency with which clients are returning for services. Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare and the Multnomah County mobile medical clinic report that they are seeing increased numbers of people with medical and mental health problems who are unemployed and have recently lost their health insurance. And organizations such as Street Roots and New Avenues for Youth report that they have seen increased numbers of people who are seeking help for the first time.

For those who experience homelessness, entering the shelter system or ending up on the streets occurs after a long and challenging process. Most people find themselves there after all other options have been exhausted. The recent increase in demand for rent assistance, food and medical assistance, and emergency services suggests that we may see an increase in homeless households in upcoming months.

VII. APPENDIX

CONTENTS:

- (1) Acknowledgements**
- (2) Additional Street Count Data on Unidentified Homeless Persons**
- (3) Definitions**
- (4) Street Count Site Participation**
- (5) Recent Trends in Homelessness**
- (6) Street Count Survey Form**
- (7) References**

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The Street Count would not have been possible without the contributions of the Outreach and Engagement Workgroup and the many agencies and volunteers who conducted the count.

Outreach and Engagement Workgroup Participants

Corina Alexander, Jim Delaney, Shelley Dixon, Sgt. Matt Engen, Nic Granum, Emerin Hatfield, Marc Jolin, Dennis Lundberg, DeAnna Negrete, Mary Anne Plumb, Cmdr. Mike Reese, Neal Sand, Bill Sinnott, Corinne Teed, Steve Trujillo, Larry Turner.

Participating Street Count Agencies

211info, Better People, Blanchet House, Can We Help, Cascade AIDS Project, Cascadia, Catholic Charities, Central City Concern, Chiers/ Hooper Detox, CODA Alpha Treatment, Community Transition School, Corbett School District, Council for Prostitution Alternatives, David Douglas School District, Downtown Chapel, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, First Baptist Church, Fish Emergency Services, Janus Youth Programs, JOIN, Julia West House, Loaves and Fishes, Macdonald Center, Manna Ministries, Multnomah County Jail, Multnomah County Health Department, NARA, NAYA, New Avenues for Youth, Oregon Law Center, Our Peaceful Place, Outside In, P:ear, Parkrose School District, Portland Adventist Community Services, Portland Impact, Portland Police Bureau, Portland Police Service Coordination Team, Portland Rescue Mission, Portland School District, Portland Women's Crisis Line, Potluck in the Park, Project Respond, Reynolds School District, Road Warrior, Roosevelt High School, Rose Haven, Rosewood Family Health Center, Salvation Army, Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center, Sisters of the Road, Snow Cap, Southeast Works, St. Francis Dining Hall, St. Mark's Lutheran, Street Roots, Sunnyside Methodist Church Meal Program, Transition Projects, Transitional Youth, Trinity Cathedral Food Pantry, Voz Day Labor Center, West Burnside Chiropractic Clinic, Westside Health Clinic, William Temple House.

Street Count Volunteers

Sandy Bacharach, Curtis Betz, Michael Boyer, Alletta Brenner, Jane Carlin, Paula Casner, Nathan Curry, Maggie Dolan, Eric Elspas, Ken Finney, Kevin Fraczek, Molly Franks, Mitch Frister, Marisa Gholson, Sarah Green, Ana Hilde, Jeff Holiman, Megan Jensen, Reva Kesser, John and Sharon Leary, Paul Lewis, Mary Li, Robert Marino, Yolanda Martinez, Julie Mertes, Katie Nolan, Rebecca Potasnik, Josephine Ramirez, Jenny Reid, Barbara Shaw, Mark Smith, Frances Spisak, Jeremy Steenstrup.

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Julie Osburn, Tiffany Kingery, Mary Li.

City of Portland, Bureau of Housing and Community Development

Street Count Intern: Caitlin Burke

Staff: Hunter Belgard, Ryan Deibert, Sally Erickson, Dove Hotz, Wendy Smith, Ben Yeager.

For more information about Portland's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness: Please contact Ryan Deibert, Homeless Program Coordinator, City of Portland, Bureau of Housing and Community Development, 503-823-2368, ryan.deibert@ci.portland.or.us.

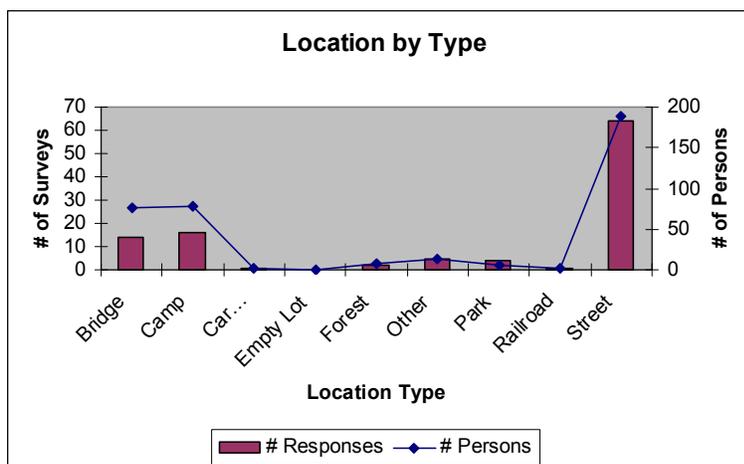
For more information about this report: Please contact Kris Smock, Kristina Smock Consulting, Kristina_Smock@yahoo.com, 503-235-2492.

ADDITIONAL STREET COUNT DATA ON UNIDENTIFIED HOMELESS PERSONS

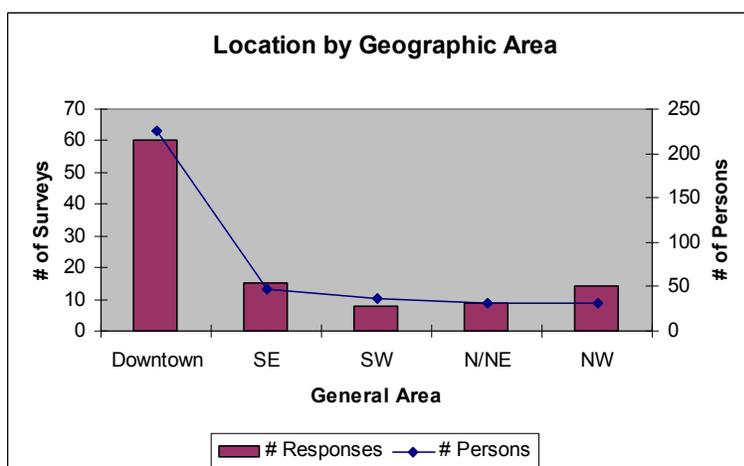
The 2009 Street Count data only includes information collected on persons who provided basic identifying information (first three letters of last name, first letter of first name, age, and gender), making it possible to verify that their data was not duplicated. An additional 373 individuals were documented during the Street Count who did not provide identifying information. This includes persons whom outreach workers did not wish to disturb while sleeping, who were camped in sites that outreach workers could not enter, or who were seen camping out but refused to participate in the survey. It also includes individuals who verified that they were homeless and unsheltered on the night of the count but were not willing to share their identifying information.

Survey forms that did not include identifying information but appeared to represent clear duplicates (e.g. counts of camps at the same location by different outreach workers within several hours of one another) were eliminated. Due to the lack of identifying information, it is impossible to know what portion of the remaining 373 individuals might be duplicates.

The charts below summarize the information collected on those 373 individuals.



Fifty percent of the unidentified persons were sleeping on the street. The rest were primarily sleeping under bridges (21%) or in camps (21%), with smaller percentages sleeping in the forest (2%), parks (1%) and railroads (1%).



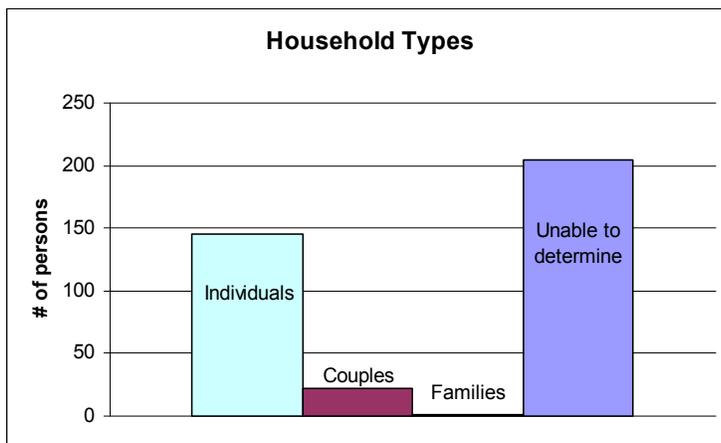
The majority (60%) were located in downtown Portland (defined as the area inside the I-405 loop, including Old Town/ Chinatown.) The rest were distributed fairly evenly between southeast (13%), southwest (10%), north/ northeast (8%) and northwest (8%).

Gender	Number	Percent
Female	33	9%
Male	137	37%
Unable to Determine	203	54%

In most cases, outreach workers were unable to determine the gender of the unidentified homeless persons. Of the 170 individuals for whom gender information was available, 19% were identified as female and 81% were identified as male.

Age	Number	Percent
<18	2	1%
18-24	16	4%
25-55	137	37%
55+	14	4%
Unable to Determine	204	55%

Outreach workers were unable to determine the age of more than half of the unidentified persons. Of those for whom age could be determined, the vast majority (81%) were identified as adults between the ages of 25 to 55.



In most cases (55%), outreach workers were unable to determine whether unidentified persons were sleeping outside alone or in a household unit. For those whose household type was able to be determined, the vast majority (39%) were identified as single individuals, 6% were identified as couples, and one household was identified as a family with children.

DEFINITIONS

The Street Count is required to use HUD's definition of a homeless person, which is articulated in the federal McKinney-Vento Act as: (1) an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and (2) an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is – (a) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill); (b) an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or (c) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

In the guidelines for HUD's Continuum of Care funding, HUD further defines these categories as follows: "A person is considered homeless only when he/she resides in one of the three places described below: 1. places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned buildings; 2. an emergency shelter; or 3. transitional housing for homeless persons."

HUD's guidelines for enumerating homeless persons set forth the following criteria for who should be counted within each of these categories:

- **Unsheltered Homeless:** Individuals and families who are homeless and sleeping outside, in vehicles, in abandoned buildings, or other places not intended for human habitation. This includes streets, sidewalks, parks, alleys, transportation depots or other parts of transportation systems, all-night commercial establishments (e.g. movie theaters, laundromats, restaurants), abandoned buildings, farm outbuildings, caves, campgrounds, vehicles, and similar places.
- **Sheltered Homeless:** All adults, children, and unaccompanied youth residing in emergency shelters and transitional housing, including domestic violence shelters, residential programs for runaway/homeless youth, and any hotel/motel/apartment voucher arrangements paid by a public/private agency because the person is homeless.

Doubled up and couch surfing:

HUD's definition of homelessness specifically excludes people without homes who are doubled up for economic reasons with friends and relatives. The exclusion of the doubled up population from HUD's definition has been contested by some advocacy groups. Other definitions of homelessness, including some used by the federal government, do include this population. For example, the definition of homelessness used by the U.S. Department of Education includes the categories from the HUD definition, plus also includes, "children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations."

Chronically homeless:

HUD defines "chronically homeless" as an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. A disabling condition is defined as a diagnosable substance abuse disorder, serious mental illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions. By definition, people in families experiencing homelessness are excluded from this classification, though some families experience similar durations of homelessness and disabling conditions.

STREET COUNT SITE PARTICIPATION

The Street Count is conducted by agencies and organizations across Multnomah County that come into regular contact with persons experiencing homelessness. These include agencies that provide services to homeless people, outreach organizations, schools, the police, and agencies providing a wide range of services to low-income households (e.g. meal programs, food pantries, medical clinics, substance abuse treatment facilities, information and referral, workforce development agencies, etc.) In an effort to maximize consistency, the 2009 count used the same basic site list as was used in 2007. Several new sites were added to the 2007 list in an effort to better capture key geographic areas that have experienced an influx of homelessness in recent years.

The 2007 site list was updated through phone calls and e-mails to all 2007 contacts. Information about the count was e-mailed to almost 200 sites, with an invitation to participate. Of these sites, 114 confirmed their willingness to participate. These sites received regular e-mail updates and a packet of materials that included instructions, frequently asked questions, survey forms in English and Spanish, and a postage-paid return envelope. Sites were also invited to participate in a one-hour training session prior to the count. Each site received a follow up phone call or e-mail prior to the count to confirm that they received the packets and to answer any final questions.

Sixty-one sites returned completed Street Count survey forms. An additional 19 sites followed up to verify that they had conducted the count at their sites but did not encounter any homeless persons who had slept outside on the night of the count. This site participation rate is significantly higher than the participation rate in 2007.

The chart on the following page compares the survey return rates for each site. In order to make comparisons between 2007 and 2009 more logical, the chart lists sites by agency rather than by individual site locations. (Some agencies with multiple departments or programs represent more than one street count site.) The chart shows that 28 agencies returned completed Street Count surveys in 2007, compared to 46 in 2009.

[Note: The chart reflects the number of survey forms returned by the sites. Each form represents a household or a camp, so these figures do not provide an indication of the number of individuals counted by each organization. The chart includes all forms submitted, before duplicates or ineligible surveys were removed.]

The higher rate of site participation can largely be attributed to a more extensive effort to communicate with sites prior to the 2009 count. Sites received more frequent and direct communication prior to the 2009 count. In addition, some sites with limited staffing capacity were better able to participate in the 2009 count because the City helped them to recruit volunteers to conduct the count at their sites. The City e-mailed all sites offering to assist them in recruiting volunteers, and 11 sites took advantage of this option.

Street Count Surveys Returned by Agency (Prior to Processing)

Agency Name	# surveys returned 2007 (duplicated)	# surveys returned 2009 (duplicated)
211info	0	1
Better People	0	4
Blanchet House	0	116
Can We Help	36	62
Cascadia	25	21
Catholic Charities	0	1
Central City Concern	19	30
Coalition for Homeless Families (5 agencies)	50	0
CODA Alpha Treatment	0	5
Community Transition School	14	0
Downtown Chapel	25	27
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon	0	8
Emergency Rooms/ hospitals	9	0
First Baptist Church	0	20
Fish Emergency Services	0	3
Janus Youth Programs	169	104
JOIN	978	998
Julia West House	0	38
Loaves and Fishes	0	3
Macdonald Center	23	15
Mt. Scott Presbyterian Church Dinner	0	14
Multnomah County CBS Team	56	no longer exists
Multnomah County Sheriff	8	9
Multnomah County Health Department	10	6
My Father's House	10	0
NARA	27	2
NAYA	0	37
New Avenues (includes Road Warrior)	64	20
Our Peaceful Place	0	8
Outside In (includes Road Warrior)	39	67
P:ear	8	2
Parkrose School District	0	1
Portland Homeless Connect	190	no event in 2009
Portland Police Bureau	63	99
Portland Rescue Mission	0	25
Portland School District	0	5
Portland Women's Crisis Line	0	3
Potluck in the Park	0	3
Reynolds School District	0	2
Rosewood Family Health Center	0	1
Salvation Army	1	0
Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center	0	1
Sisters of the Road	0	17
Snow Cap	0	3
St Francis Dining Hall	0	17
Street Roots	20	9
Sunnyside Methodist Church Dinner	0	22
Transition Projects	0	15
Trinity Cathedral	0	13
Voz Day Labor Center	0	15
West Burnside Chiropractic Clinic	0	2
Westside Health Clinic	15	51
William Temple House	0	7
One Night Shelter Count Turnaways	63	33 ⁷
TOTAL (raw duplicated figure)	1922	1965

⁷ Submitted by Cascade AIDS Project (2), Catholic Charities (5), Human Solutions (2), Raphael House (1), West Women's Shelter (2), NAYA (1), Transition Projects (19), and JOIN (1).

RECENT TRENDS IN HOMELESSNESS

Service providers and outreach organizations who participated in the Street Count were asked in April 2009 whether they have seen changes in patterns of homelessness or demand for their services due to the economic recession. The following quotes reflect the overall themes that came out in participants' responses.

“It’s hard to say if it’s directly due to the economic recession, but we definitely have a higher demand – particularly at the end of the month. . . . We are seeing people who we haven’t seen in months back in again. In our volunteer base, we are seeing more people interested in volunteering because they can’t find jobs.” (Sisters of the Road)

“As a mental health worker, I have seen an increase in persons seeking hospitalizations and mental health services. I am seeing more individuals that have lost insurance benefits and have experienced an increase in stressors (e.g. loss of job, housing, etc.) Project Respond crisis reports increased calls. More suicidal ideation is being reported at local ERs in people newly homeless/jobless.” (Project Respond)

“Increased demand for eviction prevention; more families in jeopardy, and more families seeking placement help.” (JOIN)

“Lots of new faces and people who you wouldn’t traditionally think of as being homeless (middle and born middle class) hitting the streets.” (Street Roots)

“In terms of street outreach we really have not seen a big change of young people on the street. I think the more obvious trend is of the youth that are already homeless and engaged in our services are struggling in finding employment which is prolonging their homelessness.” (New Avenues for Youth)

“Clients who used to come in a couple times a week are now coming in five days a week; [we are] seeing [the] same people more often. Some clients [are] utilizing [the] program more frequently – most likely due to the recession.” (Loaves and Fishes)

“We have not seen an impact on the homeless population due to the recession.” (Portland Police Bureau)

“Due to layoffs from employers or cut backs in jobs, more people are seeking rent assistance in the form of eviction prevention. The wait between unemployment benefits actually arriving causes a hardship on low income wage earners setting them back in their financial responsibilities. Waiting lists are longer, more people uninsured due to layoffs becoming medically vulnerable.” (Transition Projects, Inc.)

Portland/Gresham/Multnomah County Homeless Person Street Count ♦ January 25-31, 2009

Agency: _____

Date _____

NW SE SW GRESHAM

Volunteer Name: _____

Location Description: _____

N/NE DWNTWN OTHER

Instructions: When approaching a homeless person, use this script to begin a conversation, and then proceed with the questions
*Hi, I'm a volunteer helping to count the number of people who slept outside the night of Wed. Jan 28th 2009. The information we collect is confidential and will help the community plan for the kinds of housing and services that people need. I have some questions to ask you if that's okay? **If yes, complete survey***

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1) Are you experiencing homelessness? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>2) Have you been continuously homeless for a year or more, or had at least 4 episodes of homelessness in the past three years? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>3) How long have you been living on the streets or in shelters? ___ Yrs ___ Mos</p> <p>4) Where did you/will you sleep Wed. night Jan. 28th (check one)
 <input type="checkbox"/> On the Street <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> Abandoned building <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> | <p>5) Who slept outside with you? <input type="checkbox"/> Just myself <input type="checkbox"/> My partner/spouse and me
 <input type="checkbox"/> My children (under 18) and me <input type="checkbox"/> My partner/spouse, children (<18) and me
 <input type="checkbox"/> My street family and me <input type="checkbox"/> My biological parent(s)/sibling(s) and me
 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>6) Have you or your household experienced domestic violence in the past year?
 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> |
|--|---|

Please fill in the chart below for all people in your household (including children) staying with you, including yourself:

	First 3 letters of LAST NAME	First letter FIRST NAME	AGE	How do you define your GENDER?	VETERAN	Do you have any of the following DISABLING CONDITIONS (Just Y/N, you do not need to disclose which condition): Health, Physical, Cognitive/developmental, Substance abuse, Mental Health, HIV/AIDS	Are you HISPANIC/LATINO?
INDIVIDUAL 1	_____	___		<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> Trans (F-M) <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Trans (M-F)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No answer	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
RACE: (Select all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pac.Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Multi Racial <input type="checkbox"/> No Answer <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____							
FOR INDIVIDUALS UNDER AGE 18: Grade Level in School <input type="checkbox"/> K-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6-8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9-12 Is child attending school? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no							
INDIVIDUAL 2	_____	___		<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> Trans (F-M) <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Trans (M-F)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No answer	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
RACE: (Select all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pac.Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Multi Racial <input type="checkbox"/> No Answer <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____							
FOR INDIVIDUALS UNDER AGE 18: Grade Level in School <input type="checkbox"/> K-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6-8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9-12 Is child attending school? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no							
INDIVIDUAL 3	_____	___		<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> Trans (F-M) <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Trans (M-F)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No answer	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
RACE: (Select all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pac.Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Multi Racial <input type="checkbox"/> No Answer <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____							
FOR INDIVIDUALS UNDER AGE 18: Grade Level in School <input type="checkbox"/> K-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6-8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9-12 Is child attending school? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no							
INDIVIDUAL 4	_____	___		<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> Trans (F-M) <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Trans (M-F)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No answer	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
RACE: (Select all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pac.Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Multi Racial <input type="checkbox"/> No Answer <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____							
FOR INDIVIDUALS UNDER AGE 18: Grade Level in School <input type="checkbox"/> K-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6-8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9-12 Is child attending school? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no							
INDIVIDUAL 5	_____	___		<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> Trans (F-M) <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Trans (M-F)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No answer	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
RACE: (Select all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pac.Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Multi Racial <input type="checkbox"/> No Answer <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____							
FOR INDIVIDUALS UNDER AGE 18: Grade Level in School <input type="checkbox"/> K-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6-8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9-12 Is child attending school? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no							

Street Count Instructions

- 1) Identify yourself/agency and let individuals know that you are taking a homeless count and that the information/data is confidential.

Complete one survey form per household or individual.

- 2) **Ask participant if they are currently experiencing homelessness and sleeping outside.** If yes, complete survey...

- Use side A if you are able to collect initials, gender, age etc. for someone sleeping outside on Wednesday, January 28th
- Use side B (this side) if you cannot collect details, but this person/group is sleeping outside on January 28th.

Helpful Tips:

- This survey may be administered during the week of January 25-31, keeping in mind we want to know whereabouts on the night of Wednesday, January 28th

Agency coordinators:

- Please collect all forms completed by your staff and volunteers and return them to BHCD (421 SW 6th, Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97204; Fax: 503-823-2387) **no later than February 2nd**.
- Questions? Call 503-823-3491 or 503-823-2368.

Thank you for helping with the '09 Street Count!

Use the form below if you are unable to enter a site, cannot conduct a survey, or wish not to disturb someone sleeping outside, in a car or abandoned building on Wed. night January 28, 2009.

DO NOT COMPLETE THIS SIDE IF YOU HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED SIDE A

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> NW | <input type="radio"/> N/NE |
| <input type="radio"/> SE | <input type="radio"/> SW |
| <input type="radio"/> GRESHAM | |
| <input type="radio"/> DOWNTOWN | |
| <input type="radio"/> OTHER | |

1. Date _____ Time _____

2. Location Description
(e.g. closest intersection): _____

3. Type of location (please check all that apply)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Camp | <input type="radio"/> Forest/woods |
| <input type="radio"/> Empty lot | <input type="radio"/> Street |
| <input type="radio"/> By Railroad | <input type="radio"/> Car/Truck/Van/Camper |
| <input type="radio"/> By/under bridge | <input type="radio"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Park | |

4. Total number of people who appear to be experiencing homelessness at this location: _____

5. Total number of people who appear to be experiencing homelessness who are:

6. # Males # Females # Unable to determine

7. # Under 18 # 18-24 # 25-55 # 55+ # Unable to determine

8. # Individuals # Couples # Families # Unable to determine

Volunteer Name _____

REFERENCES

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