Stanislaus
Community System of Care

2021 ANNUAL POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT RELEASED IN STANISLAUS COUNTY
Community snapshot impacted by COVID-19
to still assist with funding and priorities

Modesto, CA.: The Stanislaus Community System of Care (CSOC) today released its 2021 Point-In-Time (PIT) homeless count identifying 2,927 homeless persons in Stanislaus County, a record since homeless service providers began conducting the snapshot survey back in 2005. The tally is up by 820 people from last year when 2,107 homeless people were counted.

"The PIT count provides us with vitally important information for our communities", stated Jason Conway, Chair of the CSOC. "It gives us a foundation to develop support services and housing for the homeless."

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

Why an Increase from Last Year?

Several factors contributed to the 28% increase in people experiencing homelessness in Stanislaus County. They include the following:

- More clients were unsheltered the night of the count as shelter bed capacity was down 48% due to CDC mandated social distancing requirements.
- Client enrollment in the Stanislaus County Coordinated Entry System increased 32% compared to 2020 as a result of increased community outreach efforts.
- CDC guidance not to disturb encampments and people sleeping outdoors to mitigate the spread and transmission of COVID.

The PIT Count and COVID-19 Impact

This year's unsheltered homeless count was different from years past due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The unsheltered PIT count scheduled for January 28, 2021 was cancelled out of concern for the health of survey volunteers and people experiencing homelessness.

Instead, data for the count was obtained from the county's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database and the Housing Inventory Count survey, a count of homeless individuals sheltered by community agencies.

On January 13, 2021, HUD approved the county's request to use existing information from the HMIS homeless database for the unsheltered count. The approval came after the Stanislaus County Community System of Care (CSOC), in consultation with the Stanislaus County Public Health Department, voted to request the exception on December 17, 2020.

During the pandemic, HUD granted flexibility to counties to use HMIS data from Continuums of Care that consistently collect and update their database of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness in real time.

The sheltered point-in-time bed count (Housing Inventory Count) went on as scheduled on January 27, 2021. All agencies that provided emergency shelter, transitional housing, and rapid re-housing counted the number of homeless individuals in their care. Community Services Agency Housing and Homeless department staff worked with agencies to ensure an accurate count.

Data from both this sheltered count and the HMIS were used to identify the total number of homeless individuals in Stanislaus County.

Please see data highlights in the Executive Summary on the next page.

Why is the PIT Count Important?

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

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

Who organized the PIT count?

The 2021 Homeless Shelter Count is organized by the Stanislaus Community System of Care (CSOC) which includes local governments, non-profits, and homeless providers. For more information, please visit www.csocstan.com.

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2021 STANISLAUS COUNTY

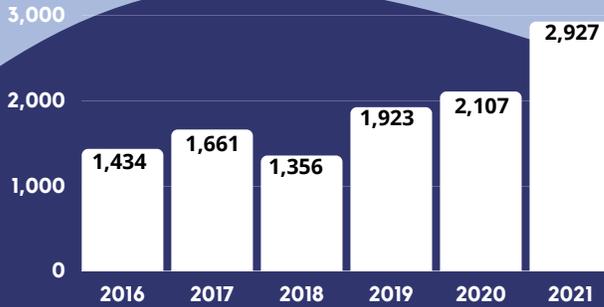## HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Every two years, during the last 10 days of January, the U.S. Department of Housing & Community Development (HUD) requires communities across the country to conduct a comprehensive count of people experiencing homelessness. The goal is to measure the prevalence of homelessness in each local community.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic changed everything in 2021. With a state regional stay-at-home order in place, county high transmission rates, and direction from the Health Services Agency Public Health department, community leaders cancelled the Unsheltered Point-in-Time (PIT) count to protect the health of survey volunteers.
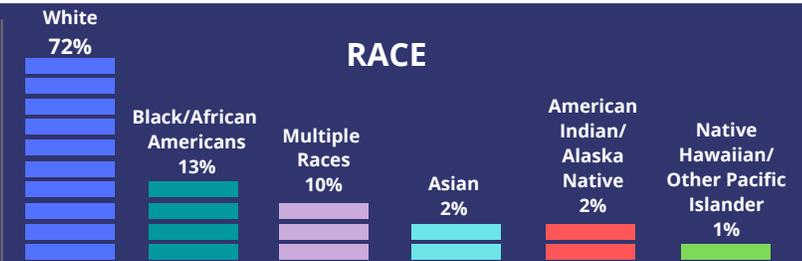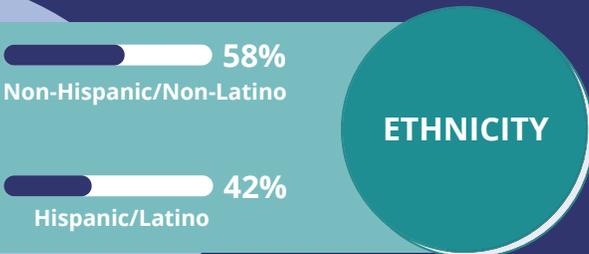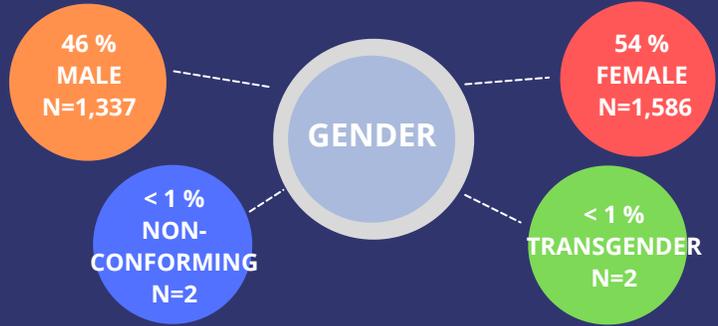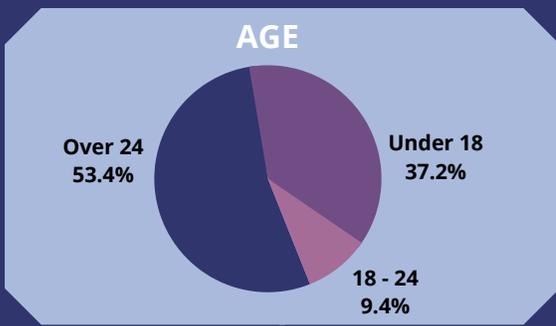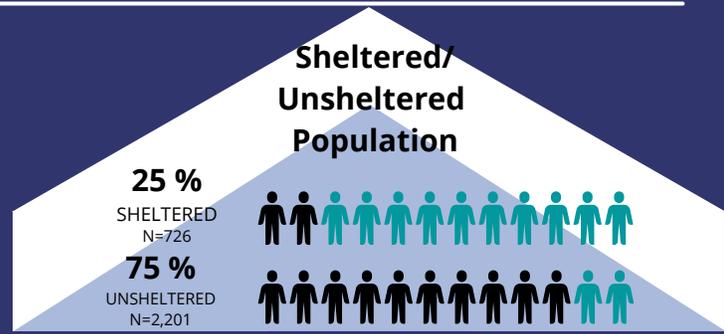
In its place, on January 13, 2021, HUD approved an exception for Stanislaus County to use existing homeless data from the county HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) for the count. Housing and homeless shelter providers use this data collection method to obtain more accurate weekly reports of the number of homeless clients served in their communities.

This data contains information from sheltered and unsheltered counts. It also includes information from the Housing Inventory Count, a yearly bed count.

The 2021 PIT count found that 2,927 people experienced homelessness in Stanislaus County, an increase of 820 people from the 2020 count.

PIT COUNT LONGITUDINAL TREND

Year	Count
2016	1,434
2017	1,661
2018	1,356
2019	1,923
2020	2,107
2021	2,927

Unsheltered vs Sheltered

	Sheltered	Unsheltered
Total Households	517	1,071
Total Persons	726	2,201

Sheltered/Unsheltered Population

25 % SHELTERED N=726

75 % UNSHELTERED N=2,201

AGE

- Over 24: 53.4%
- Under 18: 37.2%
- 18 - 24: 9.4%

GENDER

- **46 % MALE** N=1,337
- **54 % FEMALE** N=1,586
- **< 1 % NON-CONFORMING** N=2
- **< 1 % TRANSGENDER** N=2

ETHNICITY

- **58%** Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino
- **42%** Hispanic/Latino

RACE

- White 72%
- Black/African Americans 13%
- Multiple Races 10%
- Asian 2%
- American Indian/Alaska Native 2%
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander 1%

HOUSEHOLD BREAKDOWN

FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS
459 UNSHELTERED
102 SHELTERED

HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONLY CHILDREN
0 UNSHELTERED
2 SHELTERED

PARENTING YOUTH HOUSEHOLDS
77 UNSHELTERED
8 SHELTERED

HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN
612 UNSHELTERED
413 SHELTERED

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH
85 UNSHELTERED
23 SHELTERED

VETERANS
28 UNSHELTERED
43 SHELTERED