

**2011 Portland/ Multnomah County
Homeless Street Count
Long Form Survey
Summary of Findings**



**Presented to Portland Housing
Bureau and 211info
By Kristina Smock Consulting**

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Cover photos courtesy of Israel Bayer, Street Roots.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The point-in-time count of homelessness in Portland and Multnomah County provides a snapshot of the individuals and families experiencing homelessness on a given night in our community. Data for the point-in-time count comes from the Street Count, which captures information on people who are unsheltered (sleeping outside, in vehicles, abandoned buildings or other places not intended for human habitation), and the One Night Shelter Count, which captures information on people who are sleeping in shelters or transitional housing or receiving rent assistance or permanent supportive housing. The 2011 point-in-time count took place on Wednesday, January 26.

The Street Count long-form survey was a supplemental survey conducted in conjunction with the 2011 point-in-time count in an effort to gather more in-depth information about the background and needs of Portland/Multnomah County's unsheltered population. The survey was administered to a sample of 263 of the 1,718 Street Count respondents.

Key findings include:

- Unemployment and inability to pay rent were the most common reasons why respondents had to leave their last stable living situation.
- 80% of respondents said they have been unable to obtain housing due to lack of affordability and/or lack of income.
- 31% of respondents had no monthly income; conversely, 22% had \$600 or more in monthly income.
- The most common sources of income were recycling/ canning and panhandling.
- 9% of respondents had earned income from employment, but none had full-time employment.
- 49% of respondents are looking for work or an increase in hours; 55% of respondents said they had been unable to find employment because of the recession.
- 24% of respondents have not completed any education beyond the eighth grade; 53% of respondents have completed high school or a GED.
- In response to the question, "What services would you like but can't access?", the most common responses were help finding housing, help paying for housing, health care/ medical care, help finding a job, clothing, and help applying for benefits.
- More than a third of respondents have a mental health and/or chronic health condition.
- 19% of respondents have children under the age of 18 who are not living with them.
- 19% of respondents have pets living with them.
- Over the past six months, 48% of respondents have been in an emergency room or hospital.
- 46% of respondents have experienced physical violence or an attack since they have been homeless.
- 21% of respondents have a history of foster care.

The long-form survey findings offer useful insights, but should be interpreted with caution because the long-form respondents do not completely mirror the overall sample of Street Count respondents. Consequently, the findings cannot be generalized to the unsheltered population of Multnomah County as a whole.

METHODOLOGY

The long-form survey was conducted with a sample of 263 of the 1,718 Street Count respondents. Participation was voluntary, and respondents were given \$5 gift cards to compensate them for their time. In an effort to draw a broadly representative sample, 17 participating Street Count sites and outreach organizations¹ that serve a diverse range of populations were asked to conduct the long-form survey with a sub-set of the people they surveyed for the Street Count.

While efforts were made to maximize the representativeness of the sample, it was not logistically feasible to utilize a random sampling strategy. The long-form survey took 15 minutes to an hour to administer to each respondent, so participation was generally limited to settings and respondents for which this level of time commitment was possible. Sites were asked to randomize the people they surveyed to the extent possible, but in most cases true randomization was not realistic.

Due to these methodological limitations, a comparison of the sample's characteristics with the Street Count respondent population as a whole indicates that it is not completely representative. In particular, long-form respondents are disproportionately:

- *Individual adults:* Despite efforts to insure that the sample included a balanced distribution of all household types, none of the respondents identified themselves as families with children. Nineteen percent of respondents have children who did not sleep outside with them on the night of the count, but none identified themselves as families with children who slept outside with them.
- *Located in East County and Outer East Portland:* There was an intentional effort to over-sample in East County and Outer East Portland in an effort to increase our understanding of the unique needs of these populations. As a result of this over-sampling, 32% of long-form respondents were from East County and Outer East Portland, compared to 13% of Street Count respondents as a whole.
- *Chronically homeless and male:* Fifty-eight percent of long-form respondents were chronically homeless compared to 46% of all Street Count respondents. Seventy-eight percent of long-form respondents were male compared to 73% of all Street Count respondents.

The table below compares the characteristics of long-form respondents with the overall population of Street Count respondents:

Characteristic	Category	Street Count Respondents	Long Form Respondents
Household Type	Individual adults	74%	82%
	Couples without children	19%	17%
	Families with children	6%	0%
	Unaccompanied youth <18	1%	1%
Gender	Male	73%	78%
	Female	25%	19%
	Transgender	<1%	1%
	Unknown or "Z"	2%	2%

¹ Janus, JOIN, Outside In, Project Respond, Portland Rescue Mission, Street Roots, Central City Concern, Sisters of the Road, Downtown Chapel, SAFE, Catholic Charities Housing Transitions, Cascade AIDS Project, NAYA, Voz, Anawin, Harbor Light Day Center, St. Francis.

Characteristic	Category	Street Count Respondents	Long Form Respondents
Sleeping Location	Street or sidewalk	49%	24%
	Doorway or other private property	15%	26%
	Bridge/ overpass/ railroad	12%	20%
	Vehicle (car, truck, van, camper)	9%	11%
	Woods/ open space	8%	13%
	Park	5%	3%
	Abandoned building	2%	3%
Geographic Location	SE Portland (river to 82 nd)	25%	17%
	Downtown Portland/ Old Town	22%	19%
	NW Portland	12%	13%
	SW Portland (outside downtown)	10%	4%
	Inner NE Portland (river to 33 rd)	10%	8%
	Outer East Portland (82 nd to 182 nd)	7%	10%
	East County (East of 182 nd)	6%	22%
	North Portland	6%	4%
Central NE Portland (33 rd to 82 nd)	3%	4%	
Length of homelessness	Less than 1 month	3%	2%
	1-6 months	15%	20%
	7-12 months	18%	17%
	1-2 years	18%	20%
	2-5 years	24%	20%
	5-10 years	15%	14%
	> 10 years	7%	8%
	Homeless and unsheltered in Multnomah Co. in January 2009	58%	52%
Chronically homeless	Individual adults	37%	46%
	Couples without children	7%	11%
	Families with children	1%	0%
	Unaccompanied youth <18	<1%	1%
	Total	46%	58%
Age	<18	4%	1%
	18-23	9%	11%
	24-44	41%	43%
	45-54	31%	28%
	55-69	14%	16%
	70+	<1%	<1%
Sub-populations	Disabling conditions	55%	52%
	Veterans	13%	10%
	Domestic violence	17%	14%
Race/ ethnicity	American Indian or Alaska Native	9%	11%
	Asian	1%	1%
	Black or African American	10%	6%
	Hispanic/ Latino	10%	13%
	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	2%	2%
	White	76%	81%
	Other/ Multi-racial	2%	0%

SURVEY FINDINGS

This section of the report summarizes the responses to each of the long-form survey questions. It is organized according to the order in which the questions appeared in the survey. All of the questions were multiple choice. Several questions offered space for comments or for providing more information to explain a selection of the multiple choice option of “other.” Any patterns or themes from these open-ended responses are noted in the footnotes to each question.

HOUSING

(1) Why did you not sleep in a shelter on Wednesday night? (check primary reason)

Response	#	Percent
Prefer not to sleep in shelter because: ²		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shelters are unhygienic (bed bugs, lice, scabies, disease, unclean) 	44	17%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shelters are too crowded (noisy, no privacy, stressful environment, PTSD) 	43	16%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other guests cause problems (violence, theft, drugs and alcohol, mental health issues, lack of safety) 	26	10%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shelter rules (time constraints, feels like jail, too many rules, impersonal) 	10	4%
Shelters were full	38	14%
No shelters available nearby ³	32	12%
Do not want to be separated from partner or family members	24	9%
Shelter does not allow pet/ companion animal	20	8%
Not aware of shelter options	5	2%
Substance use	4	2%
Barred or excluded from shelter	2	1%
Other	34	13%

(2) What has prevented you from obtaining housing? (check all that apply)

Response	#	Percent
Affordability/ lack of income	219	80%
Difficulty finding or applying for housing	70	27%
Criminal record	68	26%

² A total of 104 respondents selected this answer. Respondents who selected this answer were asked to write in their reasons. The bulleted list represents the main themes from their responses. Some respondents did not write in a reason, but most respondents’ answers included more than one reason, which is why the total of the bulleted list is greater than 104.

³ Respondents who gave this answer were not concentrated in any particular neighborhoods. Among respondents who provided information on their locations, the most common locations were Downtown/Old Town and Southeast Portland.

Lack of ID	68	26%
Substance use	43	16%
Issues related to health/ medical/ disability	36	14%
Eviction/ rental history	34	13%
Other ⁴	32	12%
Legal issues	30	11%
Pet/ companion animal	29	11%
Available housing does not meet my needs	24	9%
Not interested in obtaining housing	21	8%
Domestic violence	11	4%

(3) In the past two years, have any agencies helped you pay for your housing? If yes, which agency or program?

Response	#	Percent
Yes	37	14%
Agencies/ programs identified most frequently:		
JOIN	13	35%
TPI	3	8%
Central City Concern	3	8%
H.O.M.E.S	3	8%
Housing Authority of Portland	3	8%

RESOURCES

(4) What is your approximate monthly income? If it varies, what would you say your income is on an average month?

Response	#	Percent
\$0	82	31%
\$1-\$50	19	7%
\$51-\$100	21	8%
\$101-\$200	27	10%
\$201-\$300	15	6%
\$301-\$400	4	2%
\$401-\$500	7	3%
\$501-\$600	5	2%
\$601-\$700	27	10%
\$701-\$800	8	3%
\$801+	24	9%
No response	24	9%

⁴ Responses include unemployed, on waiting list, inadequate income due to debt/ medical costs/ child support.

(5) What are your sources of income? (check all that apply)

Response	#	Percent
Recycling/ canning	69	26%
Panhandling	66	25%
No sources of income	61	23%
Other sources of income ⁵	36	14%
Earned income (employment)	24	9%
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	19	7%
Social Security Disability (SSDI)	17	6%
Money from family or friends	17	6%
Unemployment insurance	7	3%
TANF/ welfare	7	3%
Drug trade	5	2%
Social Security retirement income	3	1%
Veteran's disability payment	2	1%
Veteran's pension	2	1%
Worker's compensation	1	<1%
Pension from a former job	1	<1%
Alimony or other spousal support	1	<1%
Sex trade	1	<1%
Private disability insurance	0	0%
Child support	0	0%

(6) What are your sources of non-cash benefits? (check all that apply)

Response	#	Percent
Food Stamps/ SNAP	191	73%
Medicaid/ Oregon Health Plan	38	14%
Veteran's Administration (VA) Medical Services	9	3%
Medicare health insurance program	8	3%
Other source	5	2%
Other health insurance	4	2%
WIC	0	0%
State Children's Health Insurance Program	0	0%

⁵ Most frequent responses were plasma donation, dumpster diving, SNAP cash benefits, Street Roots vendor.

EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

(7) Are you employed?

Response	#	Percent
Yes	23	9%
Type of employment:		
Full-time job	0	0%
Part-time job	5	22%
Temporary/ seasonal work	10	43%
Off the books	3	13%
Other	5	22%

If you are not employed, when was your last job?

Response	#	Percent
2011	7	3%
2010	49	20%
2009	38	16%
2008	15	6%
2007	13	5%
2006	16	7%
Prior to 2006	52	22%
Never had a job	11	5%
Other/ no response	39	16%
Are you looking for work or an increase in hours?		
Yes	129	49%

(8) What is the highest grade in school you completed?

Response	#	Percent
K-8	62	24%
High School Graduate/ GED	140	53%
College Graduate	22	8%
Post-Graduate	3	1%
Other	29	11%
No response	7	3%

SERVICES

(9) What services would you like but can't access? (check all that apply)

Response	#	Percent
Help finding housing I can afford	166	63%
Help paying for housing	166	63%
Health care/ medical care	152	58%
Help finding a job	116	44%
Clothing	95	36%
Help applying for benefits	93	35%
Food	83	32%
Job training	79	30%
Shelter	73	28%
Education/ GED	68	26%
Mental health services	65	25%
Case management	55	21%
Counseling	52	20%
Social activities and support	46	17%
Substance abuse treatment	39	15%
Other ⁶	39	15%
Family reunification	30	11%

(10) What has prevented you from accessing services? (check all that apply)

Response	#	Percent
Don't know how or where to access services	113	43%
Don't meet eligibility criteria	102	39%
Services not available	87	33%
Services not accessible	60	23%
Other ⁷	52	20%
Didn't like how I was treated by service agency	48	18%
Uncomfortable with agency rules	44	17%

⁶ Most frequent responses were ID, transportation, and dental.

⁷ Most frequent responses were lack of transportation, lack of phone, waiting lists, too many hoops, and lack of ID.

HEALTH

(11) Which, if any, of the following conditions do you have? (check all that apply)

Response	#	Percent
Mental health	98	37%
Chronic health condition	98	37%
Alcohol or drug addiction	78	30%
Other medical conditions ⁸	69	26%
Physical disability	61	23%
Cognitive/ development disability	41	16%
HIV/ AIDS	4	2%
Pregnancy	0	0%

CONNECTION TO PORTLAND/ MULTNOMAH COUNTY

(12) If not from Portland/ Multnomah County:

a. Where did you move from (city/town)?

Response	#	Percent
Portland metro region	11	4%
Other parts of Oregon	27	10%
Other parts of Pacific Northwest	50	19%
East Coast	14	5%
South	17	7%
Midwest	9	3%
West	31	12%
Mexico	10	4%
Other countries	6	2%
No response	83	32%

b. How long have you been in Multnomah County?

Response	#	Percent
0-6 months	27	10%
7-12 months	16	6%
1-2 years	18	7%
2-10 years	51	19%
10+ years	104	40%
No response	44	17%

⁸ Most frequent responses were back problems, Hepatitis C, knee problems, asthma, and arthritis.

(13) Why did you come to Portland/ Multnomah County vs. a different place? (check all that apply)

Response	#	Percent
Family/ friends/ partner	89	34%
Other	38	14%
Like it/ heard good things about it	35	13%
Employment opportunities	33	13%
From here originally	33	13%
Weather/ mild climate	21	8%
Access to services and resources	21	8%
For a specific job	20	8%
Traveling through/ don't plan to stay	14	5%

REASONS FOR HOMELESSNESS

(14) When were you last in permanent housing?

Response	#	Percent
Less than 1 month	4	2%
1-6 months	45	20%
7-12 months	40	17%
1-2 years	45	20%
2-5 years	45	20%
5-10 years	32	14%
> 10 years	18	8%

(15) What's the zip code (or street address) of your last address?

Response	#	Percent
Portland	99	38%
Other Multnomah County locations	18	7%
Other Oregon locations	35	13%
Other Pacific Northwest locations	9	3%
Other parts of U.S.	30	11%
No response/ unknown	70	27%

(16) What was the reason you had to leave your last permanent housing situation? (check all that apply)

Response	#	Percent
Unable to pay rent/ mortgage	92	35%
Other ⁹	71	27%
Unemployment	65	25%
Kicked out by family/ friends	46	17%
Had no other options	34	13%
Alcohol/ substance use	19	7%
Wanted to travel	17	6%
Moved to seek work	16	6%
Illness (self/ family member)	14	5%
Domestic violence	12	5%
Foreclosure/ sale of home I rented	11	4%
Mental or emotional disorder	11	4%
Divorce	9	3%
Discharge from prison/ jail	9	3%
Wanted to live on the streets	8	3%
Runaway	6	2%
Foreclosure of home I owned	5	2%
Child abuse	1	<1%
Fire/flood/ natural disaster	1	<1%
Manufactured park closure	1	<1%

(17) How have you been affected by the recession? (check all that apply)

Response	#	Percent
Unable to find employment	145	55%
Longer wait lists/ housing and services harder to access	88	33%
Lost job	70	27%
Fewer work hours	48	18%
Not affected by the recession	44	17%
Other ¹⁰	41	16%
Eviction	17	6%
Foreclosure	9	3%

⁹ Most frequent responses were eviction, death of family member, legal issues, and roommate issues.

¹⁰ Most frequent responses were higher cost of living, fewer resources, fewer services, and less money from cans or spare change.

HOUSEHOLD DEMOGRAPHICS

(18) Do you have any children under 18 who are not living with you?

Response	#	Percent
Yes	50	19%
Number of children	94	n/a
Where is child living?		
I lost custody	41	44%
I have custody but child is living with relatives/ family	36	38%
I don't know	9	10%
Temporary state custody	7	7%
What is the child's age?		
0-4	17	18%
5-8	21	22%
9-12	14	15%
13-16	28	30%
17-18	10	11%
No response	2	2%

PETS

(19) Do you have any pets?

Response	#	Percent
Total number of pet owners	50	19%
Total number of pets	96	n/a
Type of pet		
Dog:		
# of dog owners	50	100%
# of dogs total	72	75%
Cat:		
# of cat owners	16	32%
# of cats total	24	25%
Information about pets		
Spayed/ neutered	70	73%
Licensed	68	71%
Service/ companion animal	48	50%

PAST HISTORY

(20) **Over the past six months** (since August 2010) have you . . .

Response	#	Percent
Been in a hospital or emergency room	126	48%
Stayed in an emergency shelter	123	47%

(21) **Since you have been homeless**, have you experienced . . .

Response	#	Percent
Physical violence or attack	120	46%
Violence from partner/ spouse/ family member	28	11%
Sexual violence or assault	26	10%
Sexual exploitation/ sex trafficking	12	5%

(22) **Have you ever** . . .

Response	#	Percent
Been in foster care	56	21%

APPENDIX

FINDINGS FOR OUTER EAST PORTLAND AND EAST COUNTY RESPONDENTS

The long-form survey included an over-sample of Outer East Portland and East County respondents in an effort to strengthen our understanding of the background and needs of that population.¹¹ A total of 71 respondents slept in Outer East Portland or East County on the night of the count. This represents 27% of the total long-form sample and 32% of the long-form respondents who identified their location. Outer East and East County respondents' answers are incorporated into the body of this report but are also summarized separately in this appendix.

SLEEPING LOCATION

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Street or sidewalk	24%	9%	6%
Doorway or other private property	26%	22%	18%
Bridge/ overpass/ railroad	20%	22%	20%
Vehicle (car, truck, van, camper)	11%	17%	22%
Woods/ open space	13%	17%	27%
Park	3%	9%	2%
Abandoned building	3%	0%	4%

HOUSING

(1) Why did you not sleep in a shelter on Wednesday night? (check primary reason)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Prefer not to sleep in shelter because of unhygienic environment, crowding, lack of privacy, lack of safety, etc.	40%	43%	14%
Shelters were full	14%	17%	4%
Other	13%	4%	4%
No shelters available nearby	12%	17%	49%
Do not want to be separated from partner or family members	9%	9%	8%
Shelter does not allow pet/ companion animal	8%	9%	10%
Not aware of shelter options	2%	0%	6%
Substance use	2%	0%	4%
Barred or excluded from shelter	1%	0%	0%

¹¹ Outer East Portland respondents are those who said that they slept in the area between 82nd and 182nd Avenues on the night of the count. East County respondents are those who said they slept in the area east of 182nd Avenue.

(2) What has prevented you from obtaining housing? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Affordability/ lack of income	80%	96%	92%
Difficulty finding or applying for housing	27%	30%	37%
Criminal record	26%	35%	31%
Lack of ID	26%	39%	35%
Substance use	16%	22%	12%
Issues related to health/ medical/ disability status	14%	13%	16%
Eviction/ rental history	13%	17%	10%
Other	12%	13%	12%
Legal issues	11%	4%	14%
Pet/ companion animal	11%	13%	18%
Available housing does not meet my needs	9%	26%	6%
Not interested in obtaining housing	8%	13%	10%
Domestic violence	4%	4%	2%

(3) In the past two years, have any agencies helped you pay for your housing?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Yes	14%	17%	4%

RESOURCES

(4) What is your approximate monthly income? If it varies, what would you say your income is on an average month?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
\$0	31%	13%	35%
\$1-\$50	7%	13%	8%
\$51-\$100	8%	13%	2%
\$101-\$200	10%	26%	14%
\$201-\$300	6%	13%	8%
\$301-\$400	2%	4%	0%
\$401-\$500	3%	0%	2%
\$501-\$600	2%	0%	8%
\$601-\$700	10%	0%	4%
\$701-\$800	3%	9%	0%
\$801+	9%	9%	4%
No response	9%	0%	14%

(5) What are your sources of income? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Recycling/ canning	26%	48%	43%
Panhandling	25%	30%	27%
No sources of income	23%	9%	27%
Other sources of income	14%	13%	18%
Earned income (employment)	9%	4%	6%
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	7%	0%	4%
Social Security Disability (SSDI)	6%	13%	2%
Money from family or friends	6%	9%	6%
Unemployment insurance	3%	0%	4%
TANF/ welfare	3%	0%	2%
Drug trade	2%	4%	0%
Social Security retirement income	1%	0%	0%
Veteran's disability payment	1%	0%	0%
Veteran's pension	1%	0%	0%
Worker's compensation	<1%	0%	2%
Pension from a former job	<1%	0%	2%
Alimony or other spousal support	<1%	4%	0%
Sex trade	<1%	0%	0%
Private disability insurance	0%	0%	0%
Child support	0%	0%	0%

(6) What are your sources of non-cash benefits? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Food Stamps/ SNAP	73%	87%	69%
Medicaid/ Oregon Health Plan	14%	17%	12%
Veteran's Administration (VA) Medical Services	3%	9%	2%
Medicare health insurance program	3%	9%	0%
Other source	2%	0%	0%
Other health insurance	2%	0%	4%
WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	0%	0%	0%
State Children's Health Insurance Program	0%	0%	0%

EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

(7) Are you employed?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Yes	9%	17%	6%
• Full-time job	0%	0%	0%
• Part-time job	22%	25%	0%
• Temporary/ seasonal work	43%	0%	67%
• Off the books	13%	50%	0%
• Other	22%	25%	33%
Looking for work or an increase in hours	49%	52%	55%

(8) What is the highest grade in school you completed?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
K-8	24%	13%	31%
High School Graduate/ GED	53%	65%	49%
College Graduate	8%	0%	4%
Post-Graduate	1%	4%	0%
Other	11%	13%	12%
No response	3%	4%	4%

SERVICES

(9) What services would you like but can't access? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Help finding housing I can afford	63%	74%	73%
Help paying for housing	63%	78%	78%
Health care/ medical care	58%	57%	63%
Help finding a job	44%	48%	59%
Clothing	36%	39%	53%
Help applying for benefits	35%	35%	49%
Food	32%	39%	43%
Job training	30%	26%	41%
Shelter	28%	35%	51%
Education/ GED	26%	17%	39%

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Mental health services	25%	26%	24%
Case management	21%	22%	24%
Counseling	20%	26%	22%
Social activities and support	17%	30%	20%
Substance abuse treatment	15%	22%	14%
Other	15%	17%	18%
Family reunification	11%	17%	16%

(10) What has prevented you from accessing services? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Don't know how or where to access services	43%	48%	47%
Don't meet eligibility criteria	39%	43%	41%
Services not available	33%	43%	43%
Services not accessible	23%	30%	29%
Other	20%	22%	18%
Didn't like how I was treated by service agency	18%	22%	16%
Uncomfortable with agency rules	17%	17%	20%

HEALTH

(11) Which, if any, of the following conditions do you have? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Mental health	37%	43%	33%
Chronic health condition	37%	43%	41%
Alcohol or drug addiction	30%	22%	31%
Other medical conditions	26%	26%	37%
Physical disability	23%	26%	29%
Cognitive/ development disability	16%	26%	8%
HIV/ AIDS	2%	0%	0%
Pregnancy	0%	0%	0%

CONNECTION TO PORTLAND/ MULTNOMAH COUNTY

(12) If not from Portland/ Multnomah County:

a. Where did you move from (city/town)?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Portland metro region	4%	9%	8%
Other parts of Oregon	10%	4%	6%
Other parts of Pacific Northwest	19%	35%	12%
East Coast	5%	0%	0%
South	7%	9%	4%
Midwest	3%	0%	2%
West	12%	13%	16%
Mexico	4%	0%	6%
Other countries	2%	0%	0%
No response	32%	30%	45%

b. How long have you been in Multnomah County?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
0-6 months	10%	13%	0%
7-12 months	6%	0%	0%
1-2 years	7%	0%	10%
2-10 years	19%	30%	33%
10+ years	40%	26%	10%
No response	17%	35%	47%

(13) Why did you come to Portland/ Multnomah County vs. a different place? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Family/ friends/ partner	34%	30%	33%
Other	14%	13%	10%
Like it/ heard good things about it	13%	22%	18%
Employment opportunities	13%	4%	22%
From here originally	13%	22%	20%
Weather/ mild climate	8%	13%	6%
Access to services and resources	8%	0%	8%
For a specific job	8%	13%	18%
Traveling through/ don't plan to stay	5%	0%	2%

REASONS FOR HOMELESSNESS

(14) When were you last in permanent housing?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
0-6 months	22%	18%	13%
7-12 months	17%	0%	6%
1-2 years	20%	27%	22%
2+ years	42%	55%	58%

(15) What's the zip code (or street address) of your last address?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Portland	38%	65%	39%
Other Multnomah County	7%	4%	41%
Other Oregon	13%	4%	2%
Other Pacific Northwest	3%	9%	4%
Other parts of U.S.	11%	9%	8%
No response/ unknown	27%	9%	6%

(16) What was the reason you had to leave your last permanent housing situation? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Unable to pay rent/ mortgage	35%	39%	35%
Other	27%	39%	24%
Unemployment	25%	26%	35%
Kicked out by family/ friends	17%	17%	22%
Had no other options	13%	22%	27%
Alcohol/ substance use	7%	9%	6%
Wanted to travel	6%	0%	10%
Moved to seek work	6%	0%	10%
Illness (self/ family member)	5%	0%	8%
Domestic violence	5%	4%	2%
Foreclosure/ sale of home I rented	4%	4%	8%
Mental or emotional disorder	4%	0%	8%
Divorce	3%	0%	4%
Discharge from prison/ jail	3%	4%	4%
Wanted to live on the streets	3%	0%	4%
Runaway	2%	0%	4%
Foreclosure of home I owned	2%	0%	4%
Child abuse	<1%	0%	0%
Fire/flood/ natural disaster	<1%	0%	2%
Manufactured park closure	<1%	0%	2%

(17) How have you been affected by the recession? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Unable to find employment	55%	61%	51%
Longer wait lists/ housing and services harder to access	33%	26%	16%
Lost job	27%	13%	31%
Fewer work hours	18%	9%	29%
Not affected by the recession	17%	17%	14%
Other	16%	9%	31%
Eviction	6%	0%	4%
Foreclosure	3%	4%	8%

HOUSEHOLD DEMOGRAPHICS

(18) Do you have any children under 18 who are not living with you?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Yes	19%	39%	12%

PETS

(19) Do you have any pets?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Total number of pet owners	19%	30%	35%

PAST HISTORY

(20) **Over the past six months** (since August 2010) have you . . .

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Been in a hospital or emergency room	48%	57%	53%
Stayed in an emergency shelter	47%	35%	63%

(21) **Since you have been homeless**, have you experienced . . .

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Physical violence or attack	46%	57%	47%
Violence from partner/ spouse/ family member	11%	9%	20%
Sexual violence or assault	10%	13%	4%
Sexual exploitation/ sex trafficking	5%	0%	2%

(22) **Have you ever . . .**

Response	All Long Form Respondents	Outer East Portland Respondents	East County Respondents
Been in foster care	21%	9%	22%

FINDINGS FOR PEOPLE OF COLOR

This section compares the findings for people of color to the entire population of long-form respondents. The “people of color” category includes the 61 long-form respondents who selected American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, or Hispanic/ Latino as at least one of their answer choices in response to the question about race/ ethnicity. These respondents represent 23% of the total sample of long-form respondents and 27% of the respondents who identified their race/ ethnicity.

HOUSING

(1) Why did you not sleep in a shelter on Wednesday night? (check primary reason)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Prefer not to sleep in shelter because of unhygienic environment, crowding, lack of privacy, lack of safety, etc.	40%	33%
Shelters were full	14%	28%
Other	13%	11%
No shelters available nearby	12%	10%
Do not want to be separated from partner or family members	9%	5%
Shelter does not allow pet/ companion animal	8%	5%
Not aware of shelter options	2%	7%
Substance use	2%	0%
Barred or excluded from shelter	1%	2%

(2) What has prevented you from obtaining housing? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Affordability/ lack of income	80%	79%
Difficulty finding or applying for housing	27%	23%
Criminal record	26%	25%
Lack of ID	26%	38%
Substance use	16%	18%
Issues related to health/ medical/ disability status	14%	11%
Eviction/ rental history	13%	13%
Other	12%	13%
Legal issues	11%	16%
Pet/ companion animal	11%	8%
Available housing does not meet my needs	9%	7%
Not interested in obtaining housing	8%	8%
Domestic violence	4%	7%

(3) In the past two years, have any agencies helped you pay for your housing?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Yes	14%	11%

RESOURCES

(4) What is your approximate monthly income? If it varies, what would you say your income is on an average month?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
\$0	31%	31%
\$1-\$50	7%	5%
\$51-\$100	8%	13%
\$101-\$200	10%	8%
\$201-\$300	6%	7%
\$301-\$400	2%	3%
\$401-\$500	3%	0%
\$501-\$600	2%	5%
\$601-\$700	10%	10%
\$701-\$800	3%	2%
\$801+	9%	7%
No response	9%	13%

(5) What are your sources of income? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Recycling/ canning	26%	21%
Panhandling	25%	26%
No sources of income	23%	21%
Other sources of income	14%	7%
Earned income (employment)	9%	10%
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	7%	15%
Social Security Disability (SSDI)	6%	3%
Money from family or friends	6%	3%
Unemployment insurance	3%	2%
TANF/ welfare	3%	5%
Drug trade	2%	3%
Social Security retirement income	1%	2%
Veteran's disability payment	1%	2%
Veteran's pension	1%	0%
Worker's compensation	<1%	0%
Pension from a former job	<1%	0%
Alimony or other spousal support	<1%	0%
Sex trade	<1%	2%
Private disability insurance	0%	0%
Child support	0%	0%

(6) What are your sources of non-cash benefits? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Food Stamps/ SNAP	73%	62%
Medicaid/ Oregon Health Plan	14%	15%
Veteran's Administration (VA) Medical Services	3%	3%
Medicare health insurance program	3%	5%
Other source	2%	5%
Other health insurance	2%	2%
WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	0%	0%
State Children's Health Insurance Program	0%	0%

EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

(7) Are you employed?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Yes	9%	2%
• Full-time job	0%	0%
• Part-time job	22%	0%
• Temporary/ seasonal work	43%	2%
• Off the books	13%	0%
• Other	22%	0%
Looking for work or an increase in hours	49%	59%

(8) What is the highest grade in school you completed?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
K-8	24%	34%
High School Graduate/ GED	53%	51%
College Graduate	8%	0%
Post-Graduate	1%	2%
Other	11%	10%
No response	3%	3%

SERVICES

(9) What services would you like but can't access? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Help finding housing I can afford	63%	64%
Help paying for housing	63%	64%
Health care/ medical care	58%	62%
Help finding a job	44%	54%
Clothing	36%	48%
Help applying for benefits	35%	48%
Food	32%	38%
Job training	30%	43%
Shelter	28%	38%
Education/ GED	26%	34%
Mental health services	25%	25%

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Case management	21%	23%
Counseling	20%	31%
Social activities and support	17%	28%
Substance abuse treatment	15%	21%
Other	15%	13%
Family reunification	11%	21%

(10) What has prevented you from accessing services? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Don't know how or where to access services	43%	49%
Don't meet eligibility criteria	39%	31%
Services not available	33%	31%
Services not accessible	23%	18%
Other	20%	18%
Didn't like how I was treated by service agency	18%	18%
Uncomfortable with agency rules	17%	13%

HEALTH

(11) Which, if any, of the following conditions do you have? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Mental health	37%	34%
Chronic health condition	37%	46%
Alcohol or drug addiction	30%	41%
Other medical conditions	26%	20%
Physical disability	23%	25%
Cognitive/ development disability	16%	16%
HIV/ AIDS	2%	0%
Pregnancy	0%	0%

CONNECTION TO PORTLAND/ MULTNOMAH COUNTY

(12) If not from Portland/ Multnomah County:

a. Where did you move from (city/town)?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Portland metro region	4%	0%
Other parts of Oregon	10%	15%
Other parts of Pacific Northwest	19%	21%
East Coast	5%	5%
South	7%	3%
Midwest	3%	0%
West	12%	11%
Mexico	4%	16%
Other countries	2%	3%
No response	32%	26%

b. How long have you been in Multnomah County?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
0-6 months	10%	11%
7-12 months	6%	5%
1-2 years	7%	16%
2-10 years	19%	20%
10+ years	40%	23%
No response	17%	25%

(13) Why did you come to Portland/ Multnomah County vs. a different place? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Family/ friends/ partner	34%	48%
Other	14%	16%
Like it/ heard good things about it	13%	23%
Employment opportunities	13%	20%
From here originally	13%	7%
Weather/ mild climate	8%	10%
Access to services and resources	8%	7%
For a specific job	8%	16%
Traveling through/ don't plan to stay	5%	7%

REASONS FOR HOMELESSNESS

(14) When were you last in permanent housing?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
0-6 months	22%	25%
7-12 months	17%	8%
1-2 years	20%	25%
2+ years	42%	43%

(15) What's the zip code (or street address) of your last address?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Portland	38%	46%
Other Multnomah County	7%	11%
Other Oregon	13%	5%
Other Pacific Northwest	3%	8%
Other parts of U.S.	11%	5%
No response	27%	25%

(16) What was the reason you had to leave your last permanent housing situation? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Unable to pay rent/ mortgage	35%	33%
Other	27%	26%
Unemployment	25%	30%
Kicked out by family/ friends	17%	16%
Had no other options	13%	7%
Alcohol/ substance use	7%	10%
Wanted to travel	6%	3%
Moved to seek work	6%	11%
Illness (self/ family member)	5%	2%
Domestic violence	5%	5%
Foreclosure/ sale of home I rented	4%	3%
Mental or emotional disorder	4%	3%
Divorce	3%	3%
Discharge from prison/ jail	3%	3%
Wanted to live on the streets	3%	3%
Runaway	2%	5%
Foreclosure of home I owned	2%	2%
Child abuse	<1%	0%
Fire/flood/ natural disaster	<1%	0%
Manufactured park closure	<1%	0%

(17) How have you been affected by the recession? (check all that apply)

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Unable to find employment	55%	52%
Longer wait lists/ housing and services harder to access	33%	36%
Lost job	27%	36%
Fewer work hours	18%	25%
Not affected by the recession	17%	13%
Other	16%	10%
Eviction	6%	3%
Foreclosure	3%	0%

HOUSEHOLD DEMOGRAPHICS

(18) Do you have any children under 18 who are not living with you?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Yes	19%	21%

PETS

(19) Do you have any pets?

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Total number of pet owners	19%	11%

PAST HISTORY

(20) **Over the past six months** (since August 2010) have you . . .

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Been in a hospital or emergency room	48%	49%
Stayed in an emergency shelter	47%	49%

(21) **Since you have been homeless**, have you experienced . . .

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Physical violence or attack	46%	44%
Violence from partner/ spouse/ family member	11%	8%
Sexual violence or assault	10%	10%
Sexual exploitation/ sex trafficking	5%	7%

(22) **Have you ever . . .**

Response	All Long Form Respondents	People of Color
Been in foster care	21%	21%