

Summer Homeless Count Data

Lower Grafton County, NH

August 19-21, 2024

Methodology

- Community partners were asked to collect information on all homeless individuals that they interacted with on August 19-21, asking where they spent the night on August 19.
- LISTEN and the City of Lebanon Human Services were the lead agencies for conducting the Summer Homeless Count for Lower Grafton County.
- Approximately 25 volunteers assisted with conducting street outreach to 47 known locations for homeless encampments or homeless services.

Survey Results

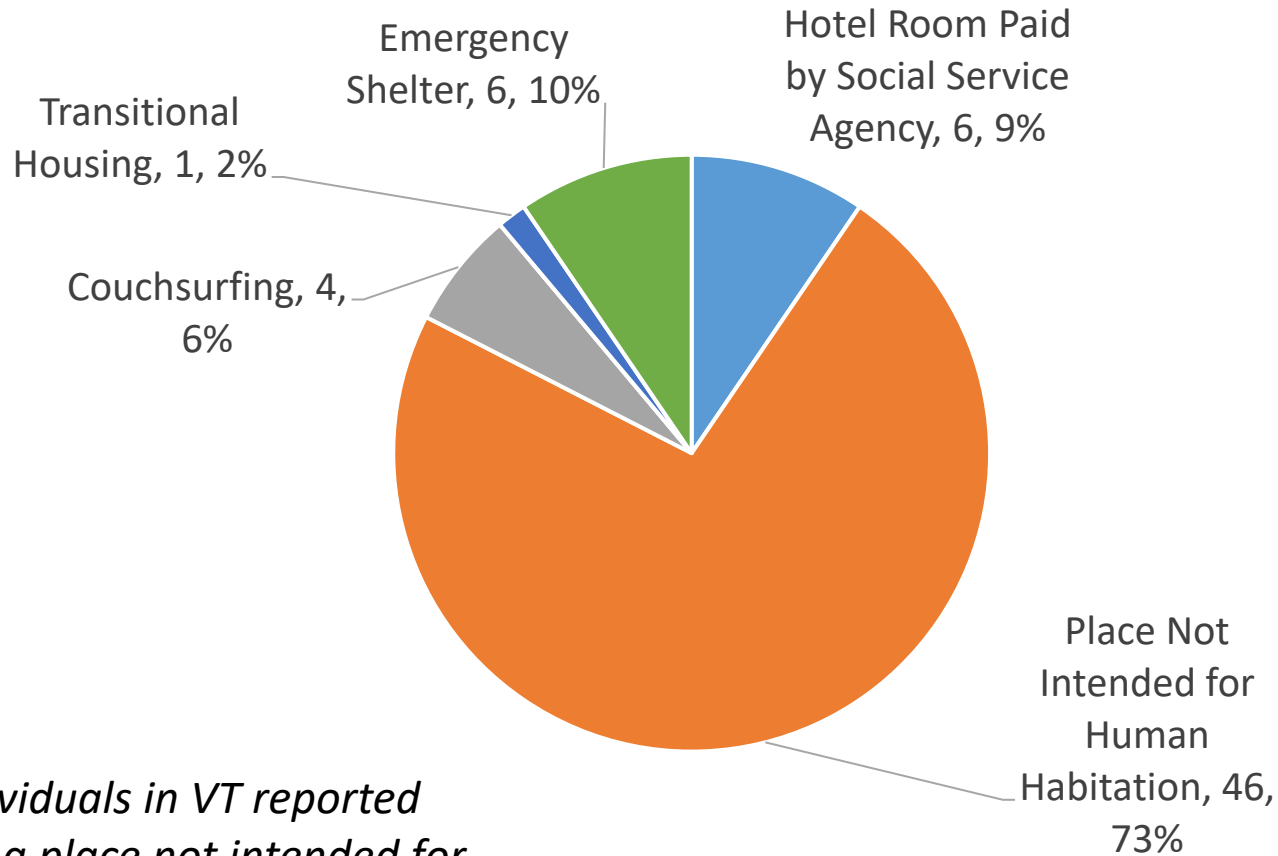
	NH	VT	Total
Unique Individuals	51	12	63
Unique Households	35	9	44

More individuals counted on both sides of the river

Many Vermonters self-reported crossing the river frequently

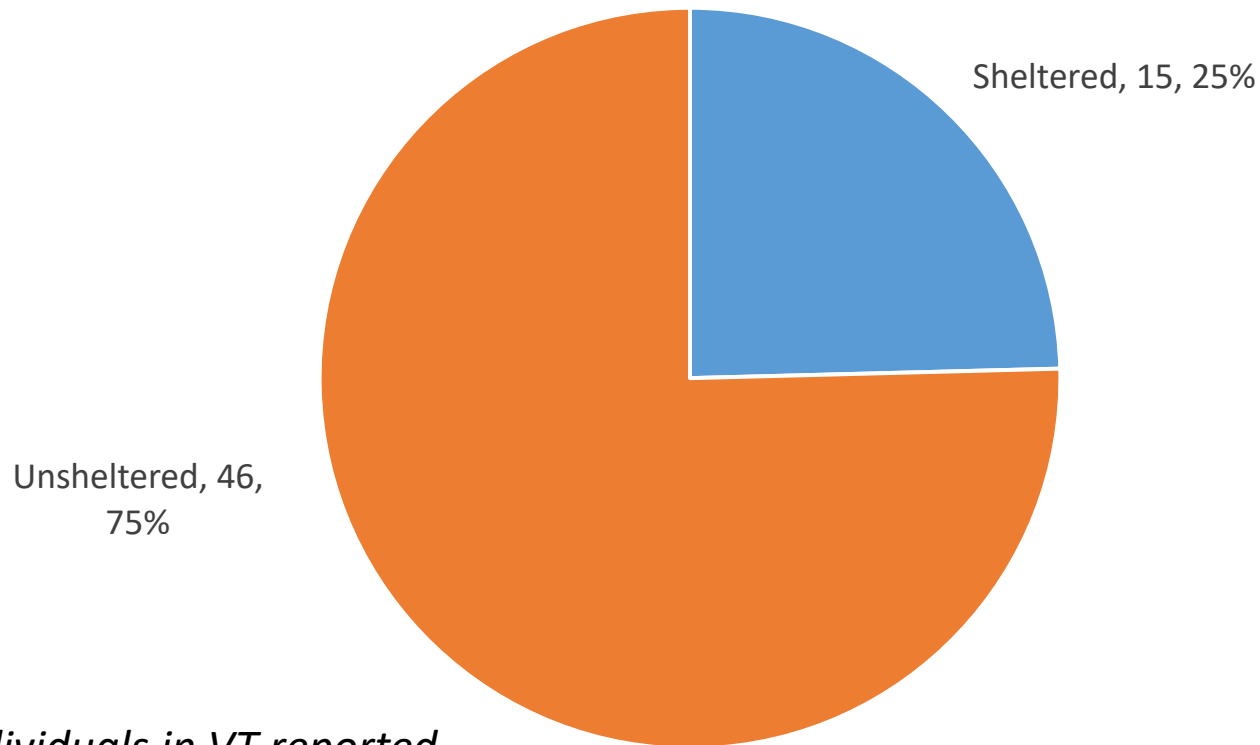
Most subsequent data includes both NH and VT

Where Did You Stay Last Night?



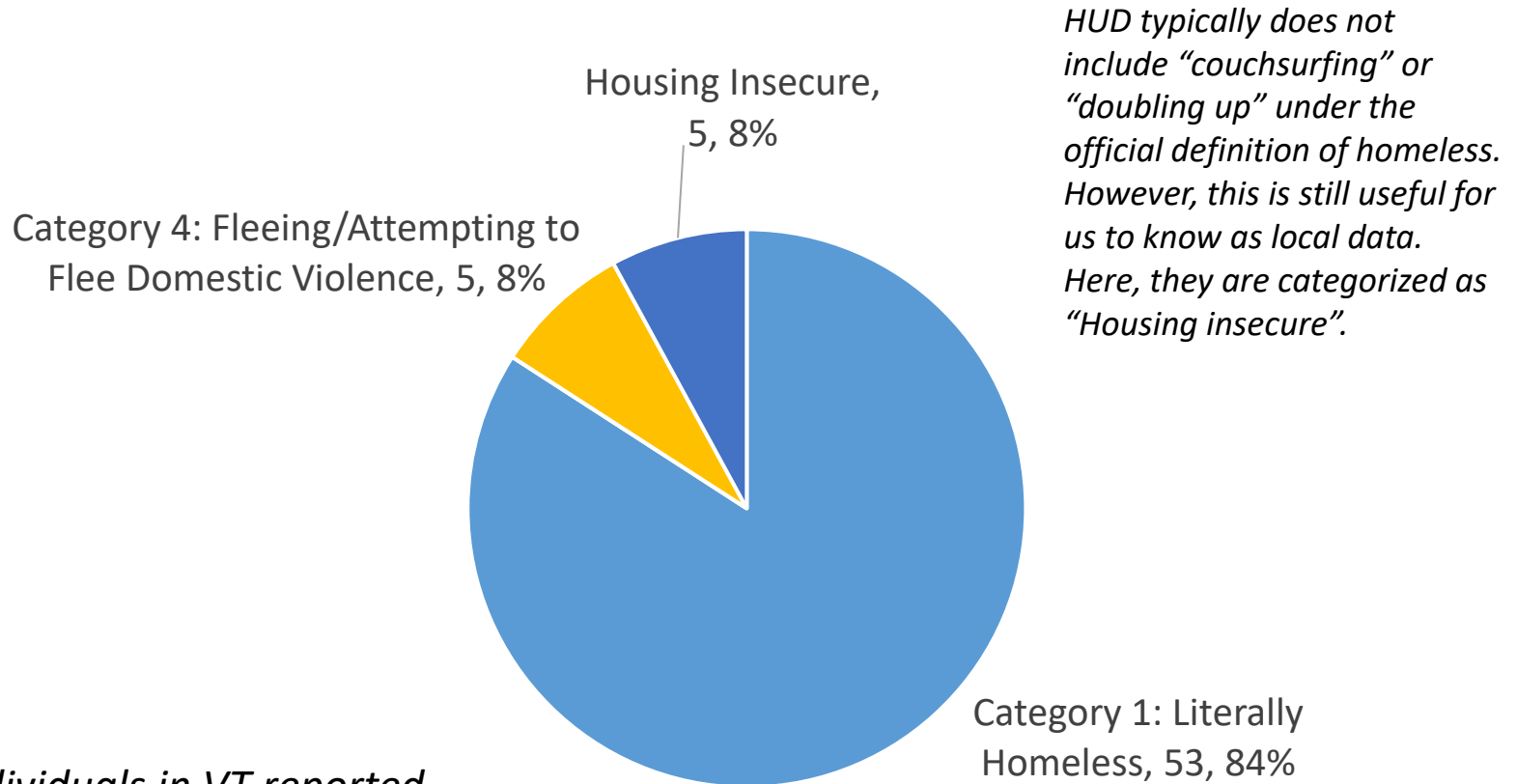
All 12 individuals in VT reported staying in a place not intended for human habitation.

Sheltered vs. Unsheltered



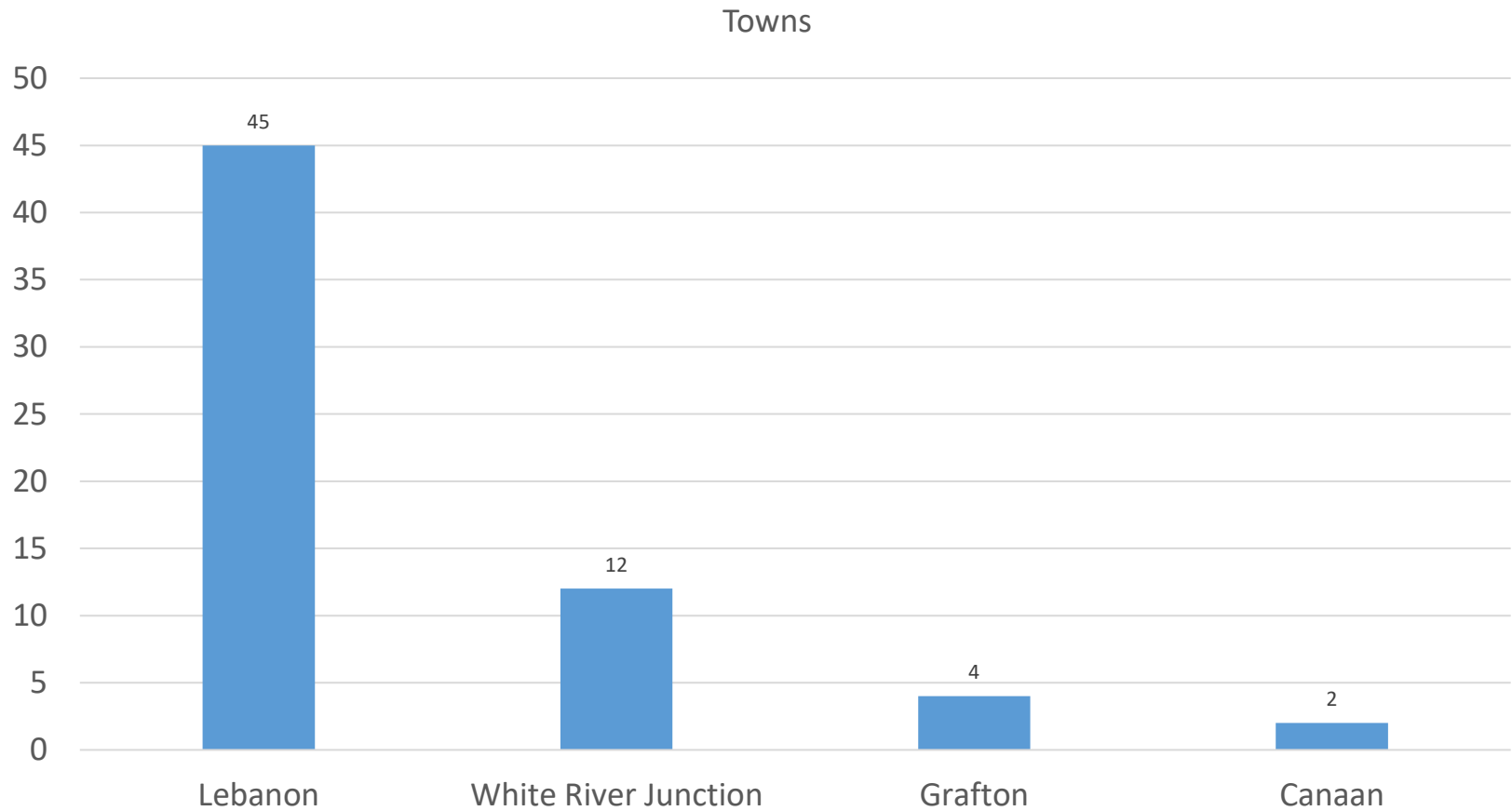
All 12 individuals in VT reported staying in a place not intended for human habitation.

HUD Definitions of Homelessness

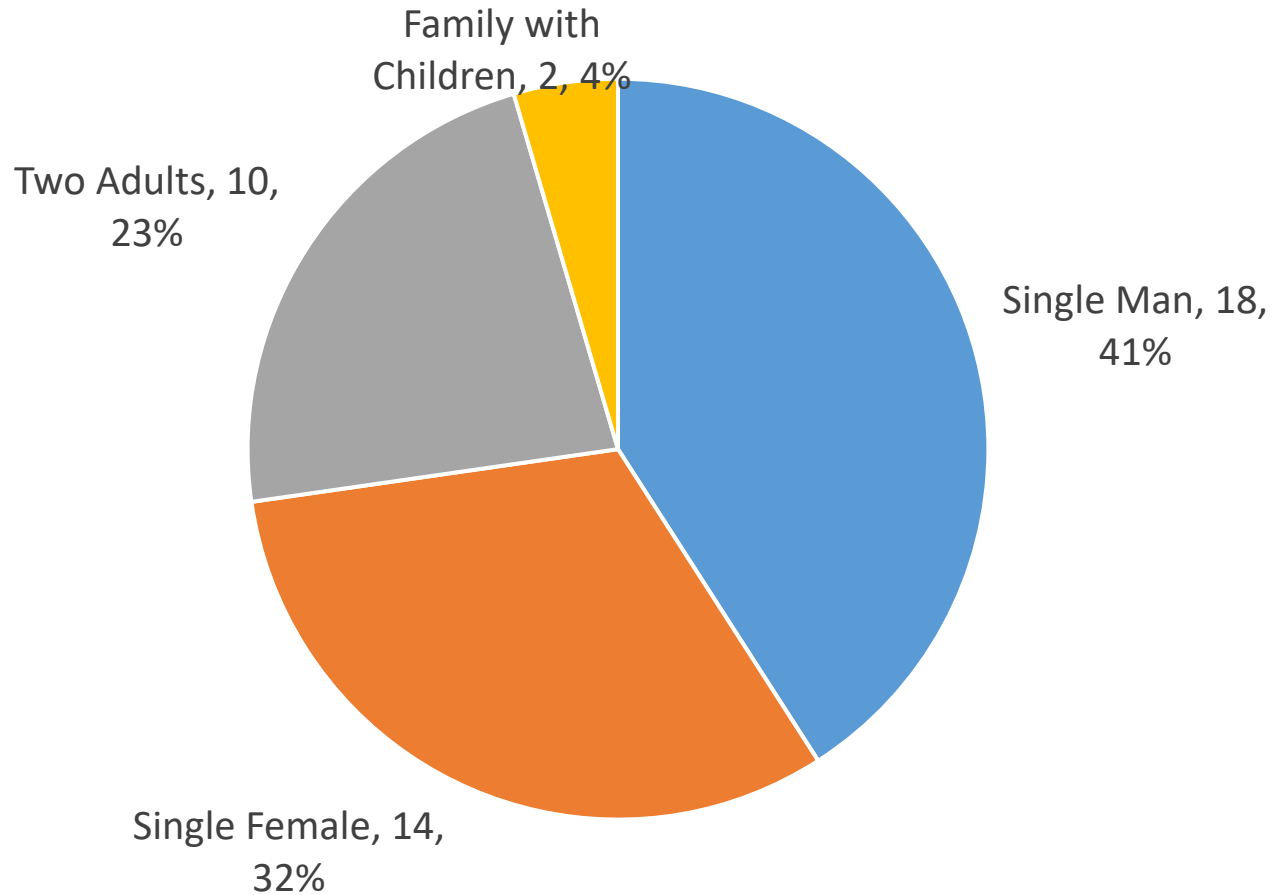


All 12 individuals in VT reported staying in a place not intended for human habitation.

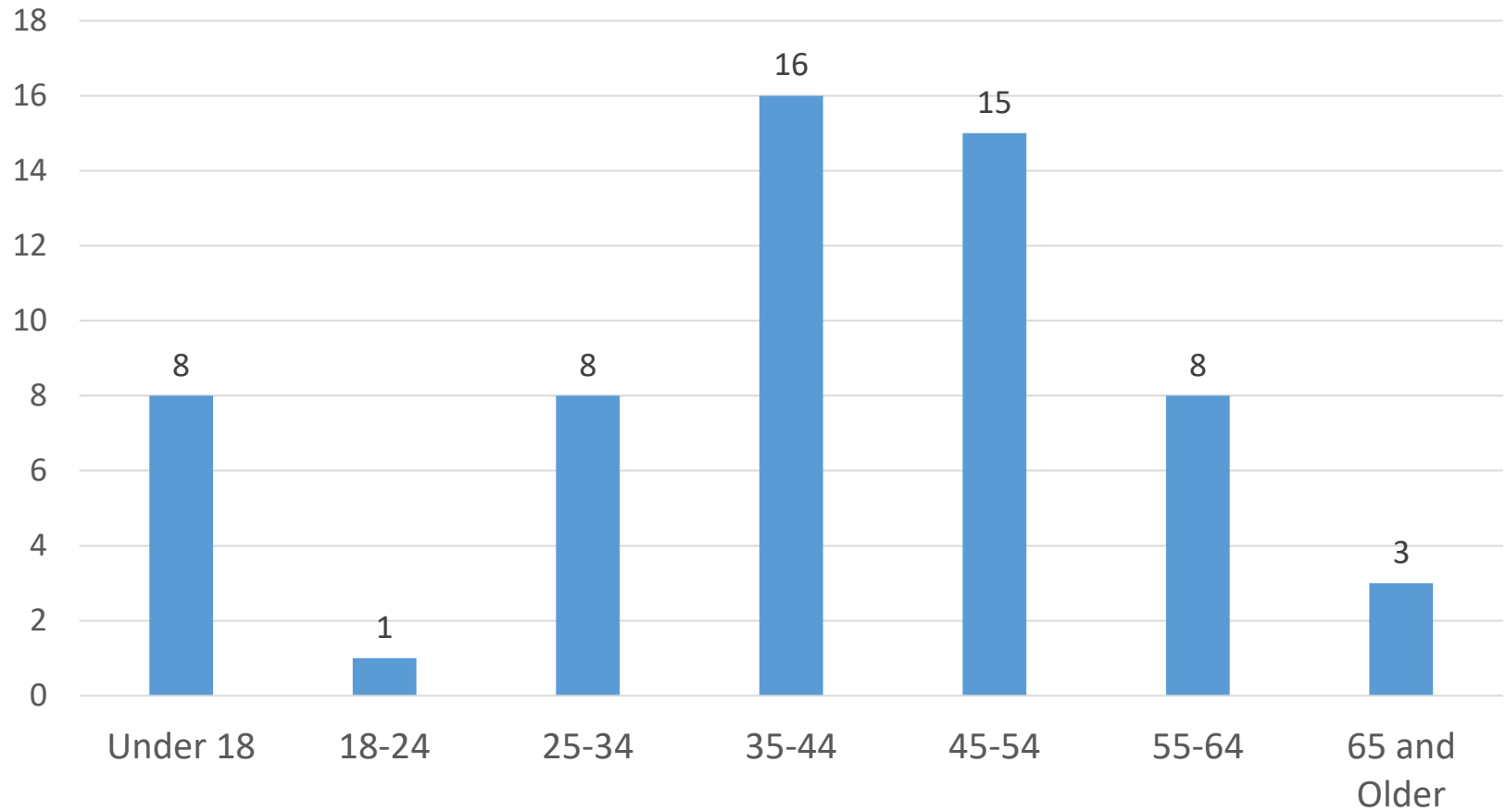
Where did you stay last night (Town)?



Household Composition

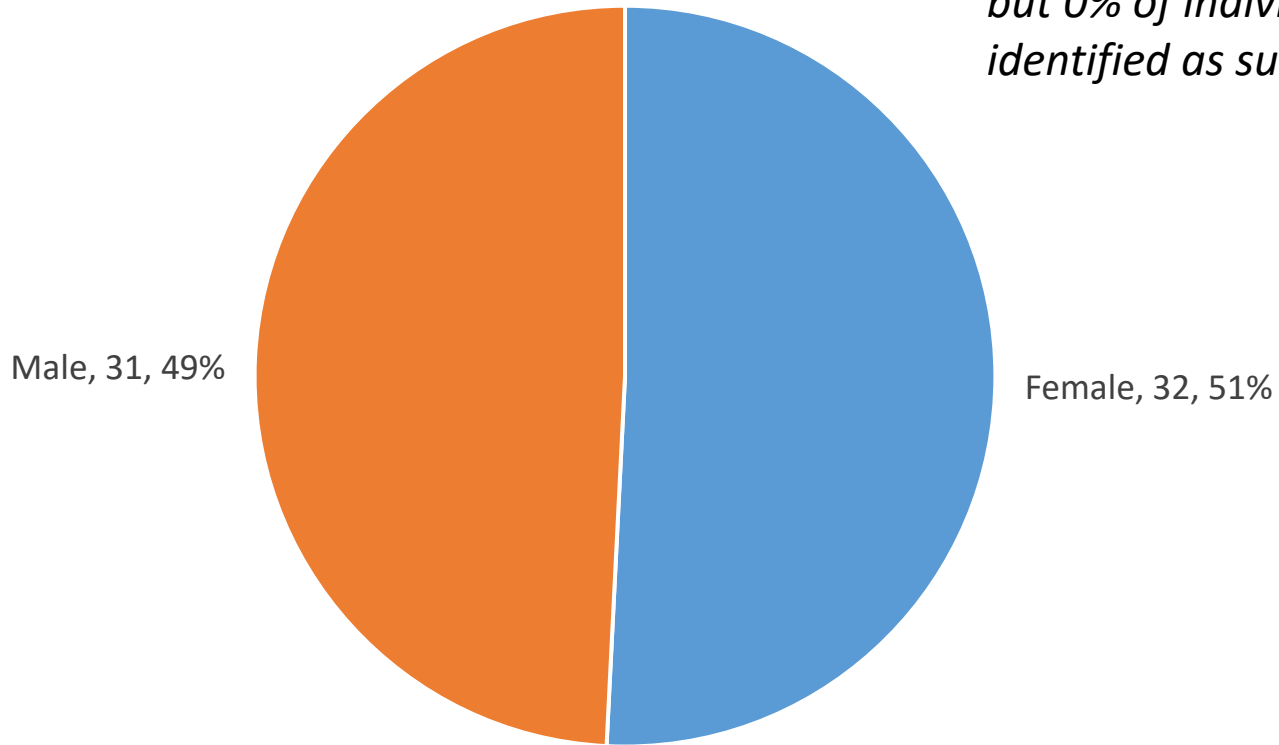


Age Range

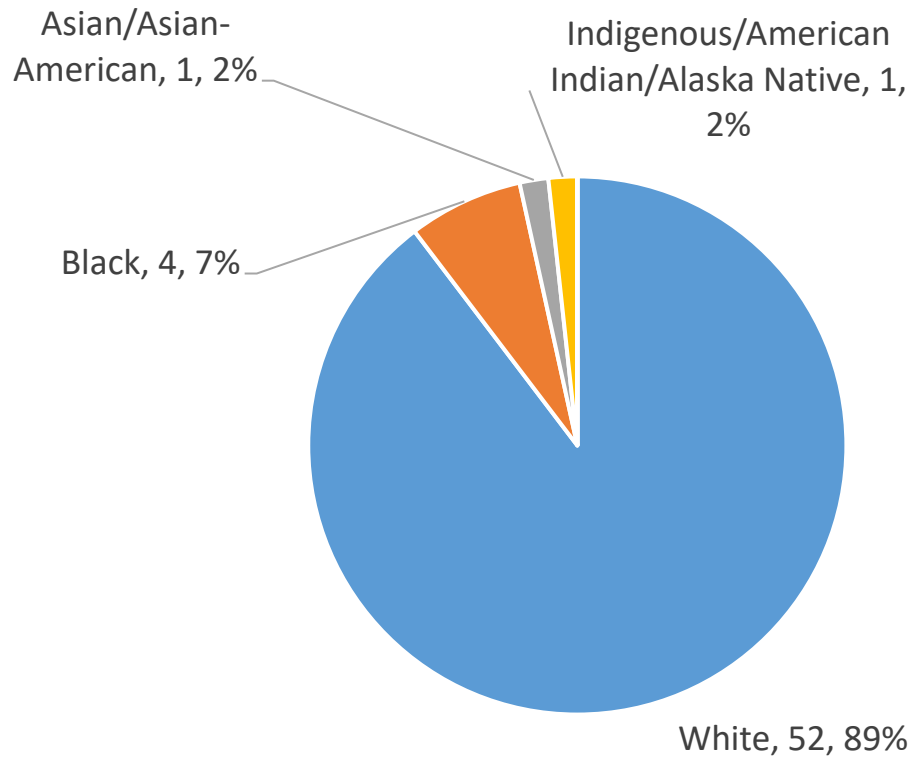


Gender

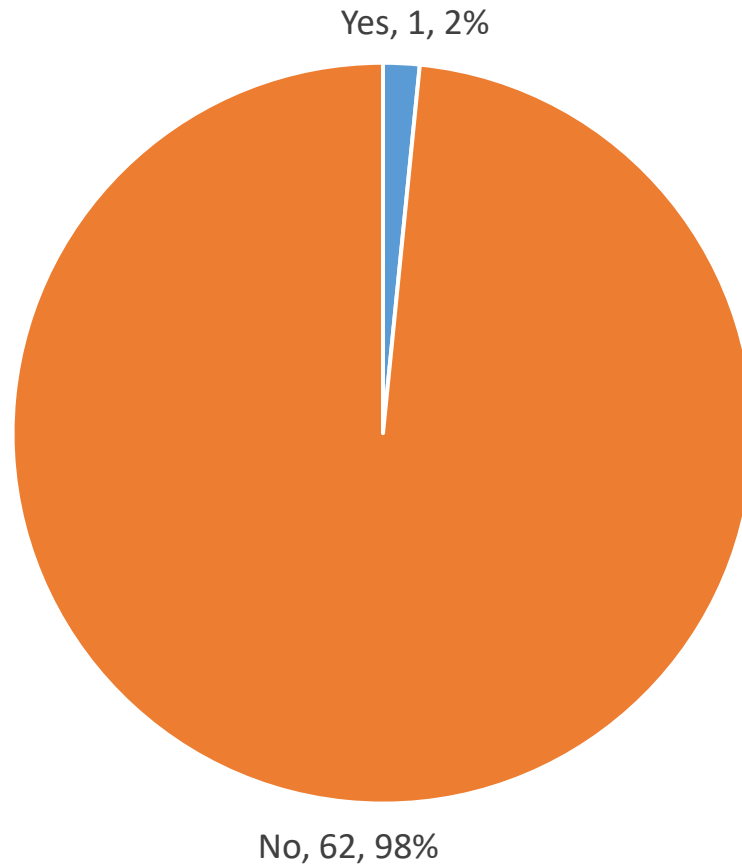
The survey included options for trans women, trans men, and gender non-conforming, but 0% of individuals identified as such.



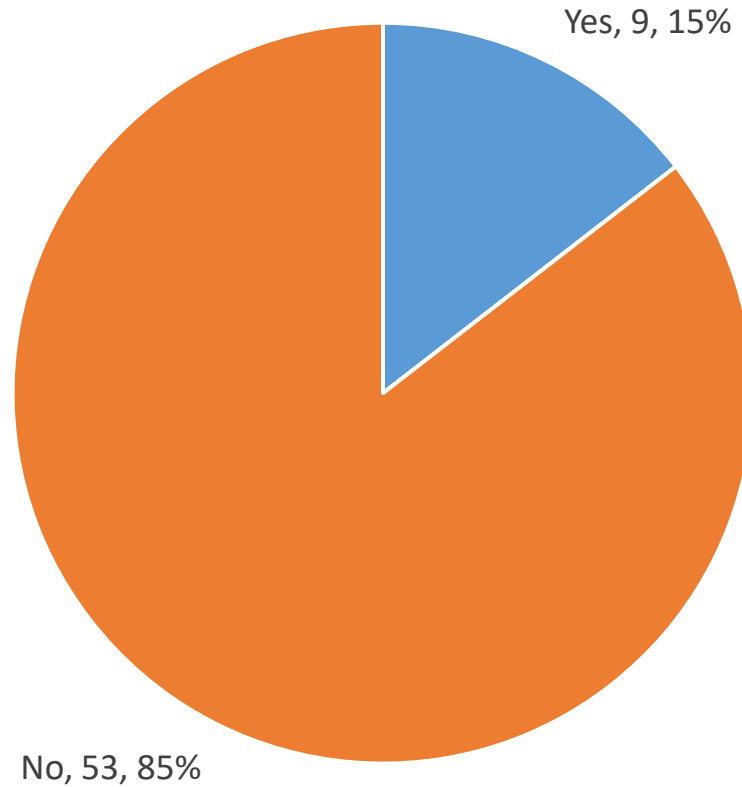
Race



Veterans



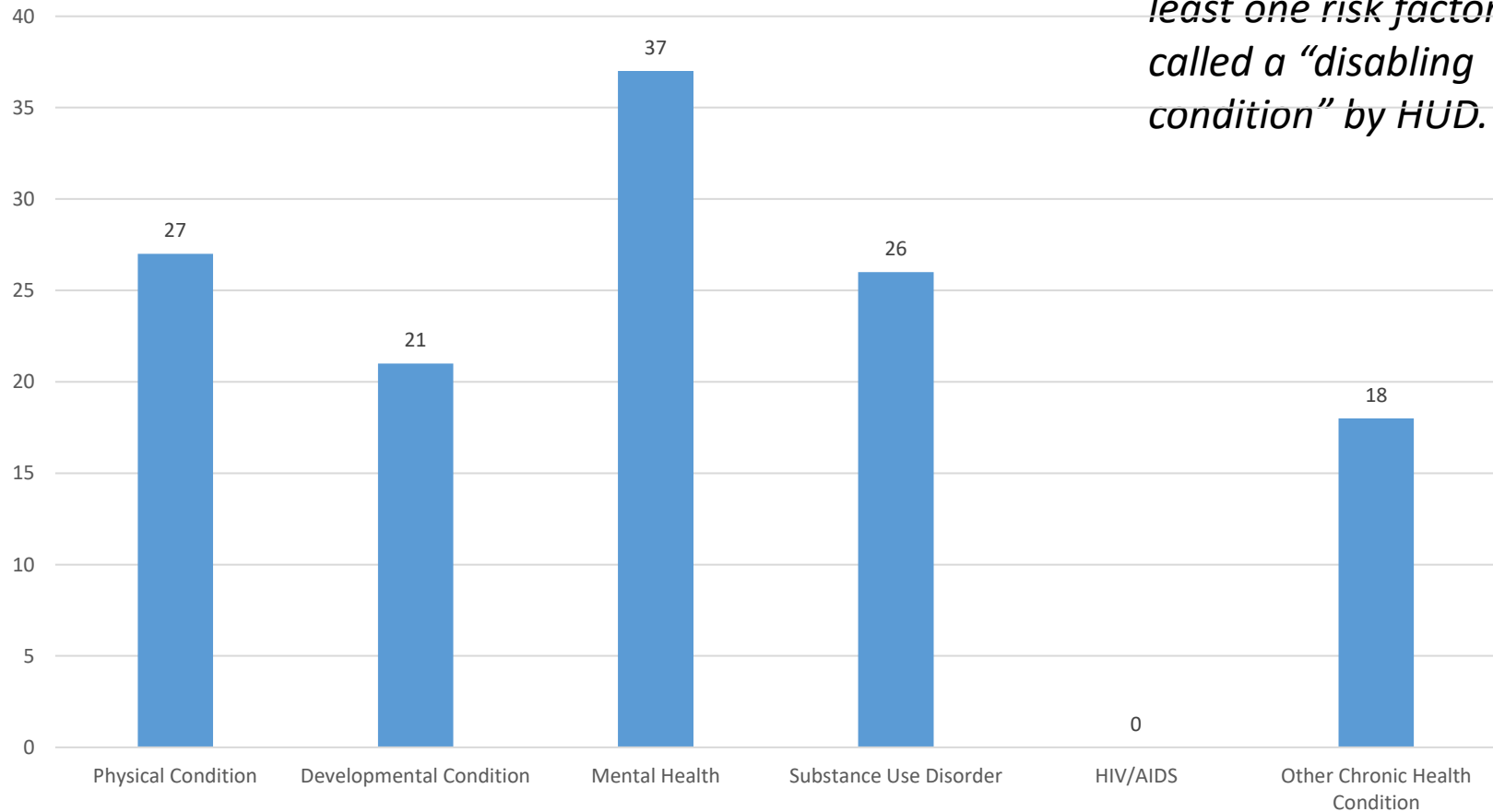
Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence



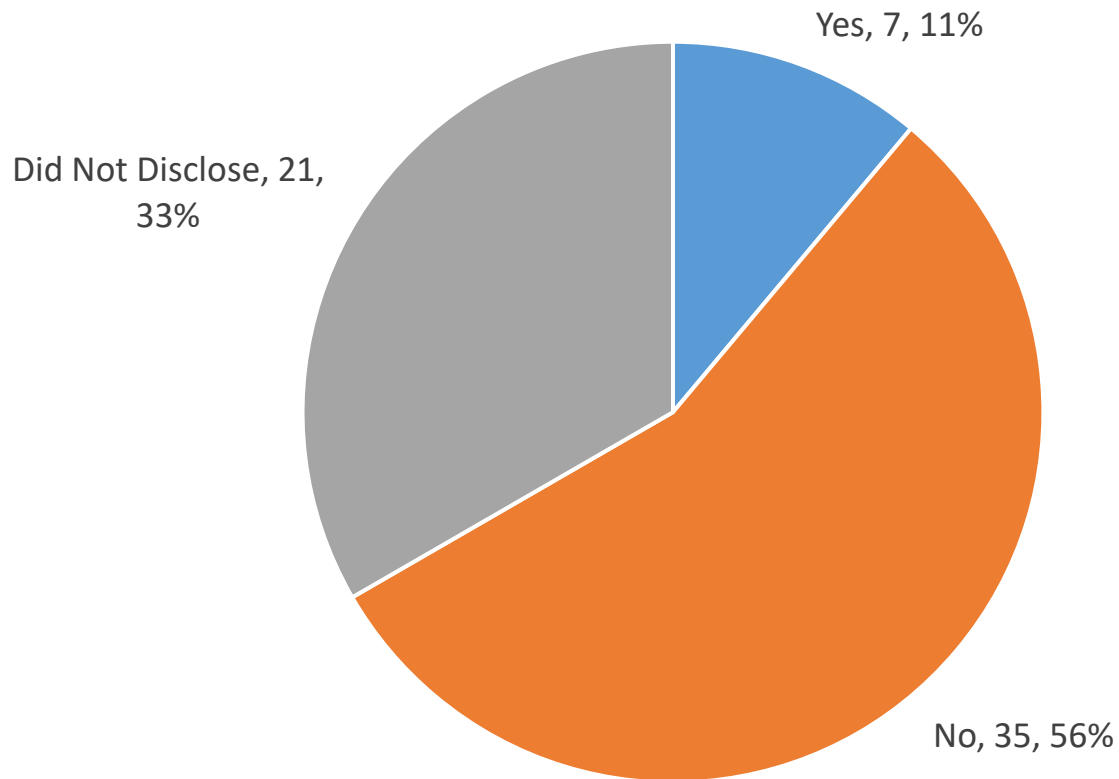
Risk Factors

Participants could identify more than one risk factor.

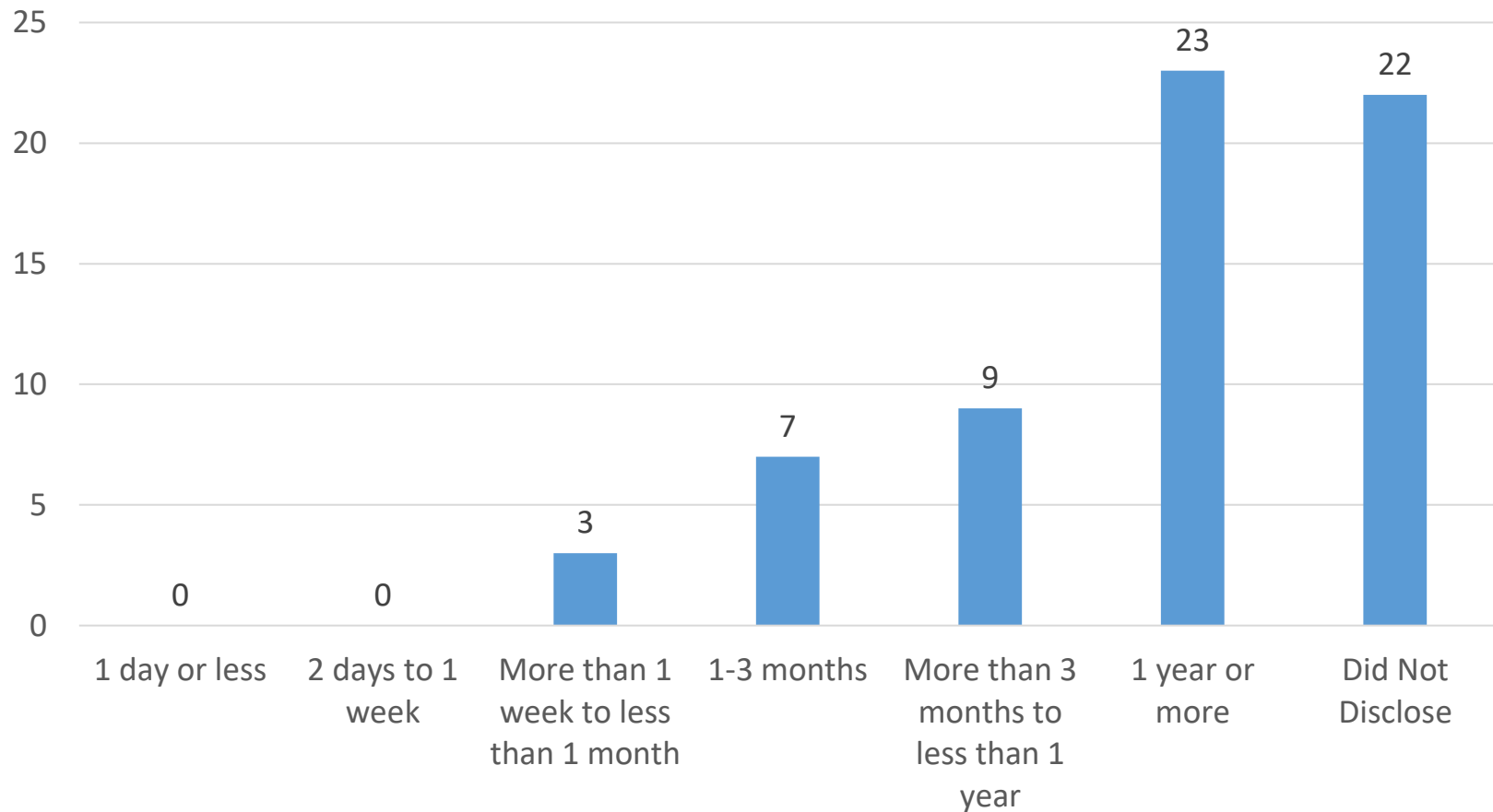
57% reported having at least one risk factor (also called a “disabling condition” by HUD).



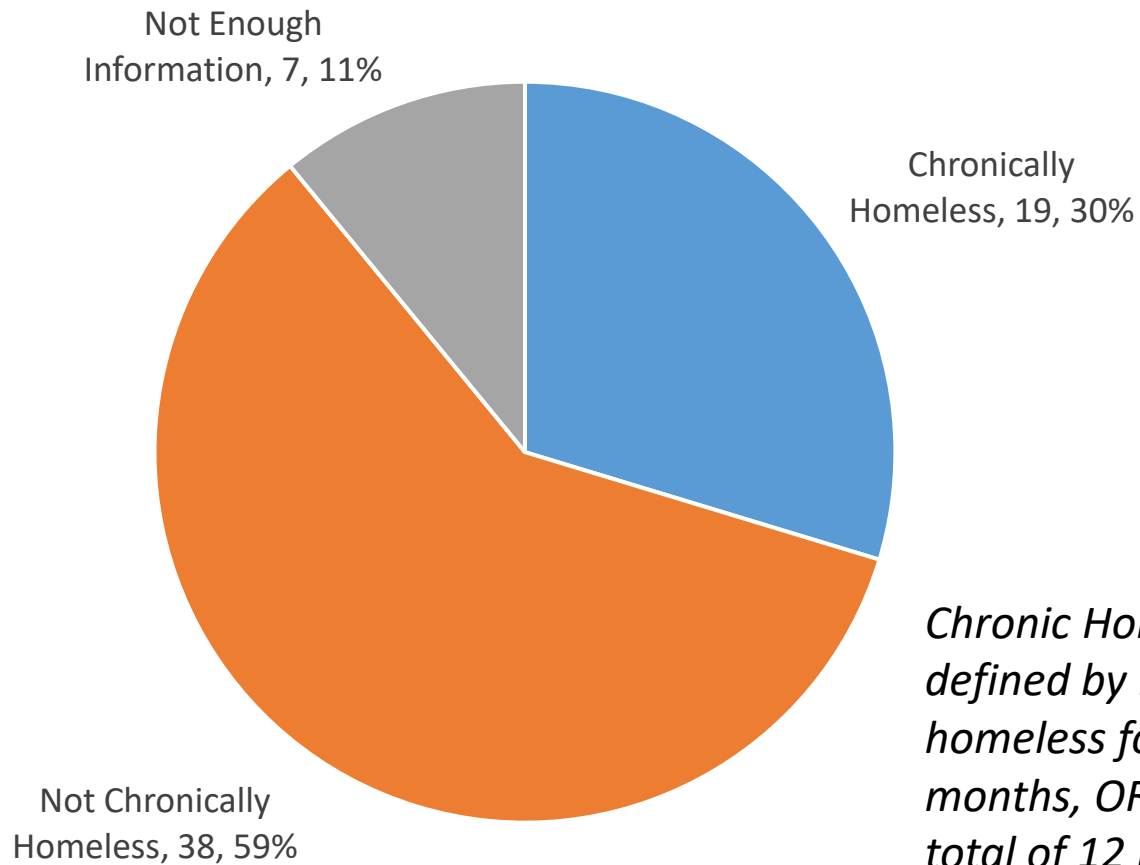
First Time Homeless?



What is the total length of homelessness you have experienced?



Chronic Homelessness

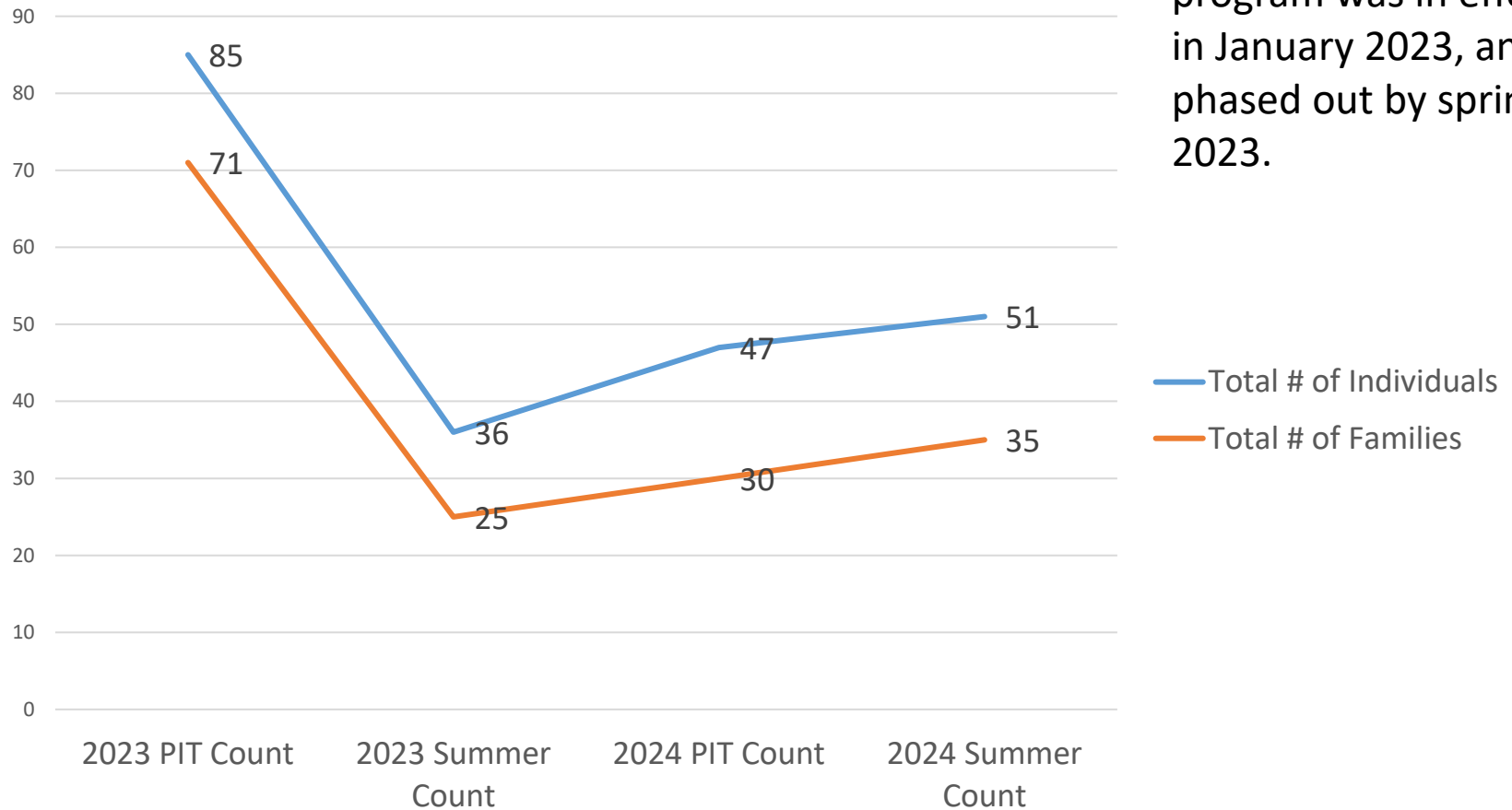


Chronic Homelessness is defined by HUD as being homeless for the past 12 months, OR a combined total of 12 months of homelessness over the past 3 years.

Longitudinal Data

Homeless Individuals and Households (NH Only)

Note: COVID hotel program was in effect in January 2023, and phased out by spring 2023.



Recurring Individuals

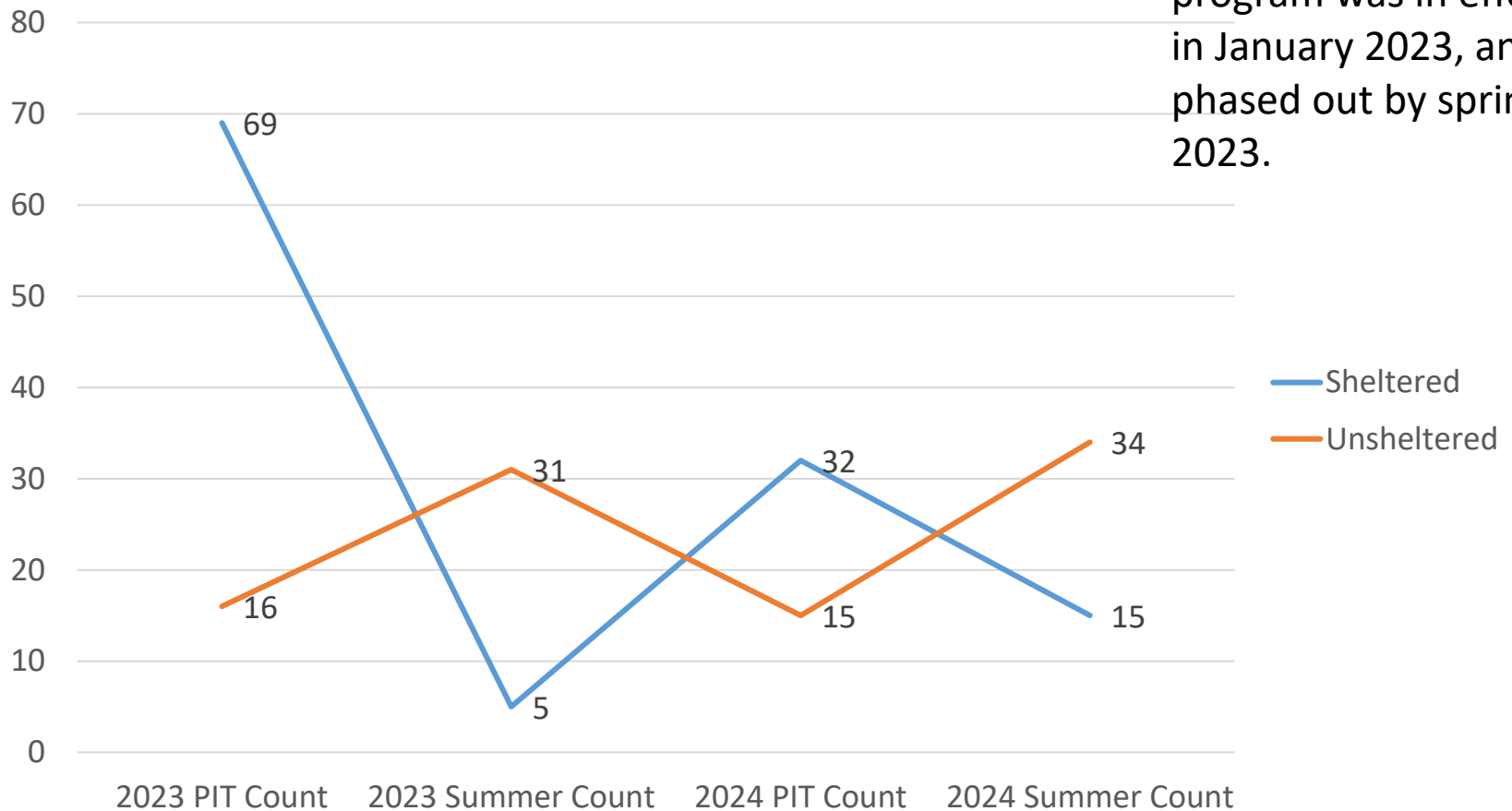
- Each individual has a unique identifier

First Initial of First Name + First Initial of Last Name + 3rd Initial of Last Name + Last 2 digits of birth year

- E.g. John Doe, born 1970 → JDE70
- **30 individuals** have been definitively identified in multiple counts (out of 186 unique individuals in the last 2 years/4 counts)
 - **10** of them reported residing in both NH and VT across different counts

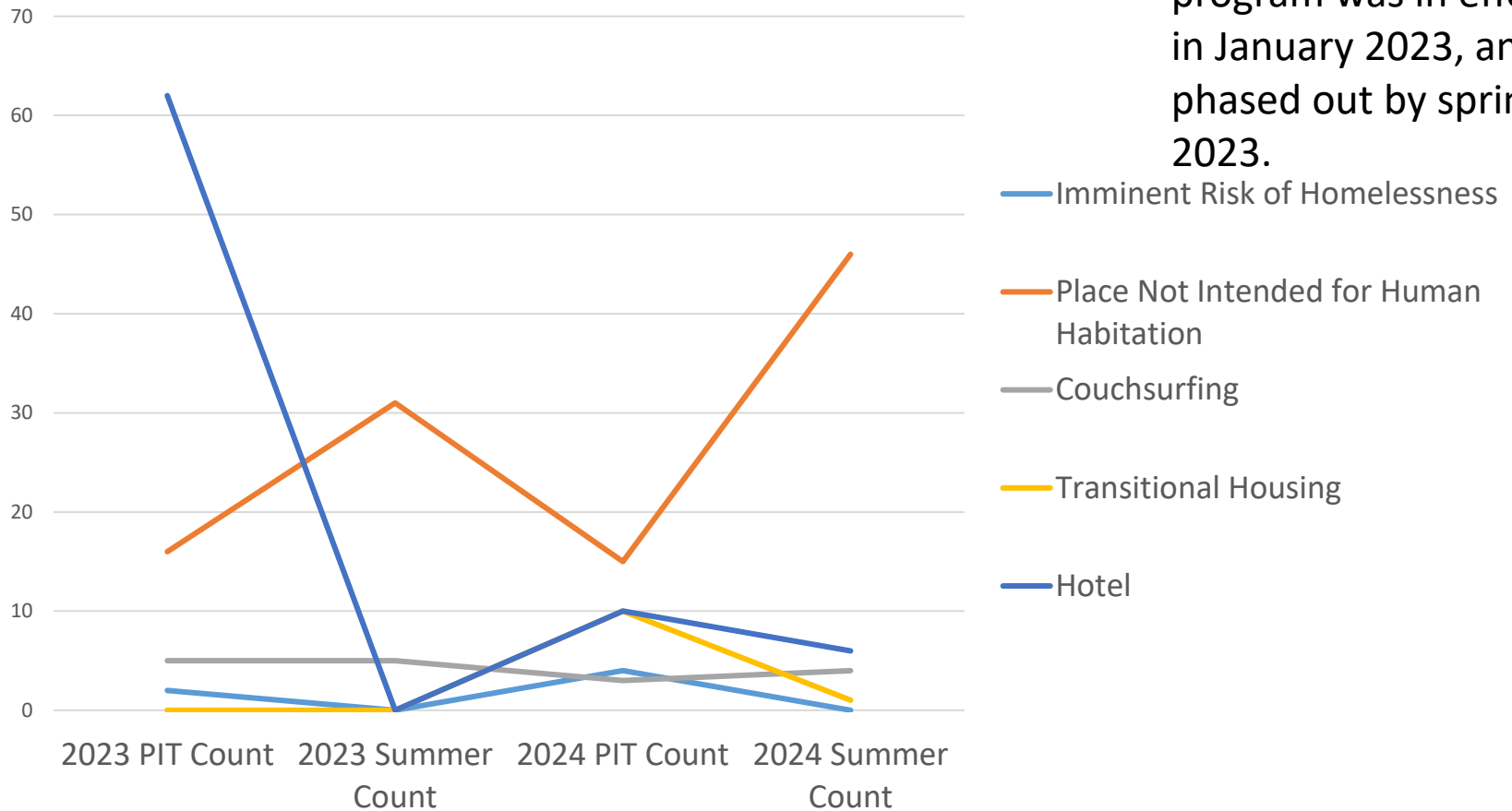
Sheltered vs. Unsheltered (NH Only)

Note: COVID hotel program was in effect in January 2023, and phased out by spring 2023.

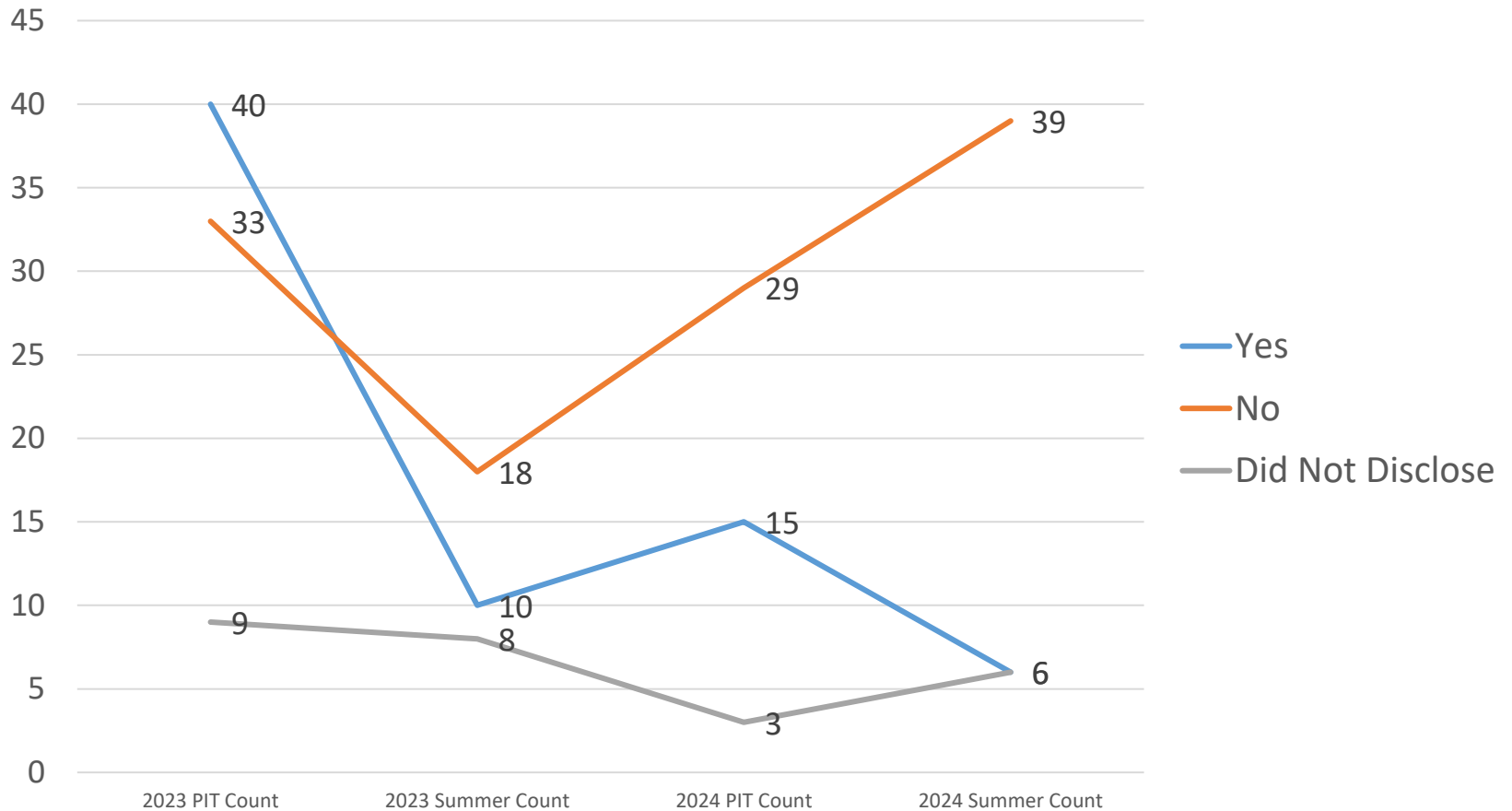


Where did you stay last night? (NH Only)

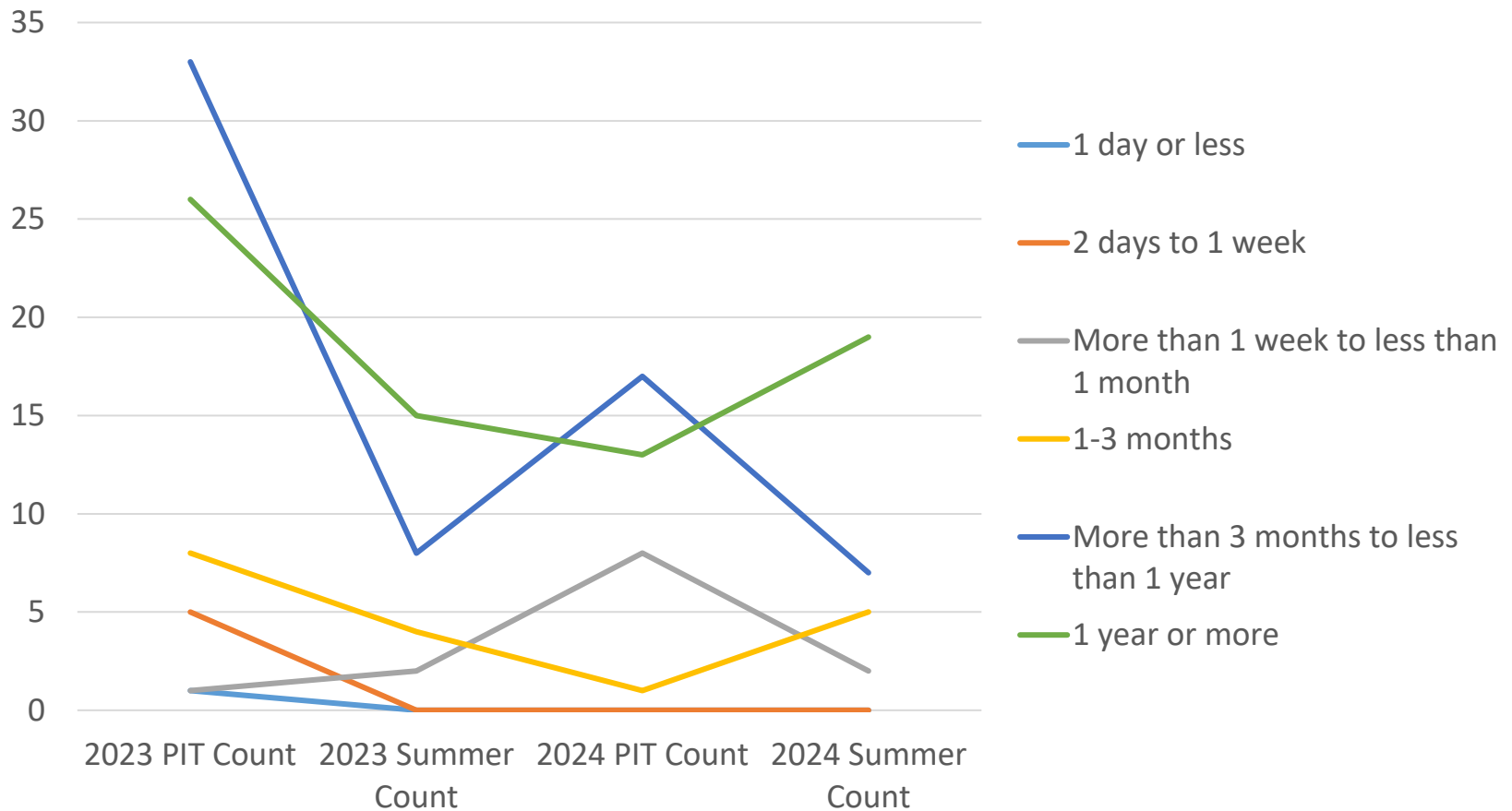
Note: COVID hotel program was in effect in January 2023, and phased out by spring 2023.



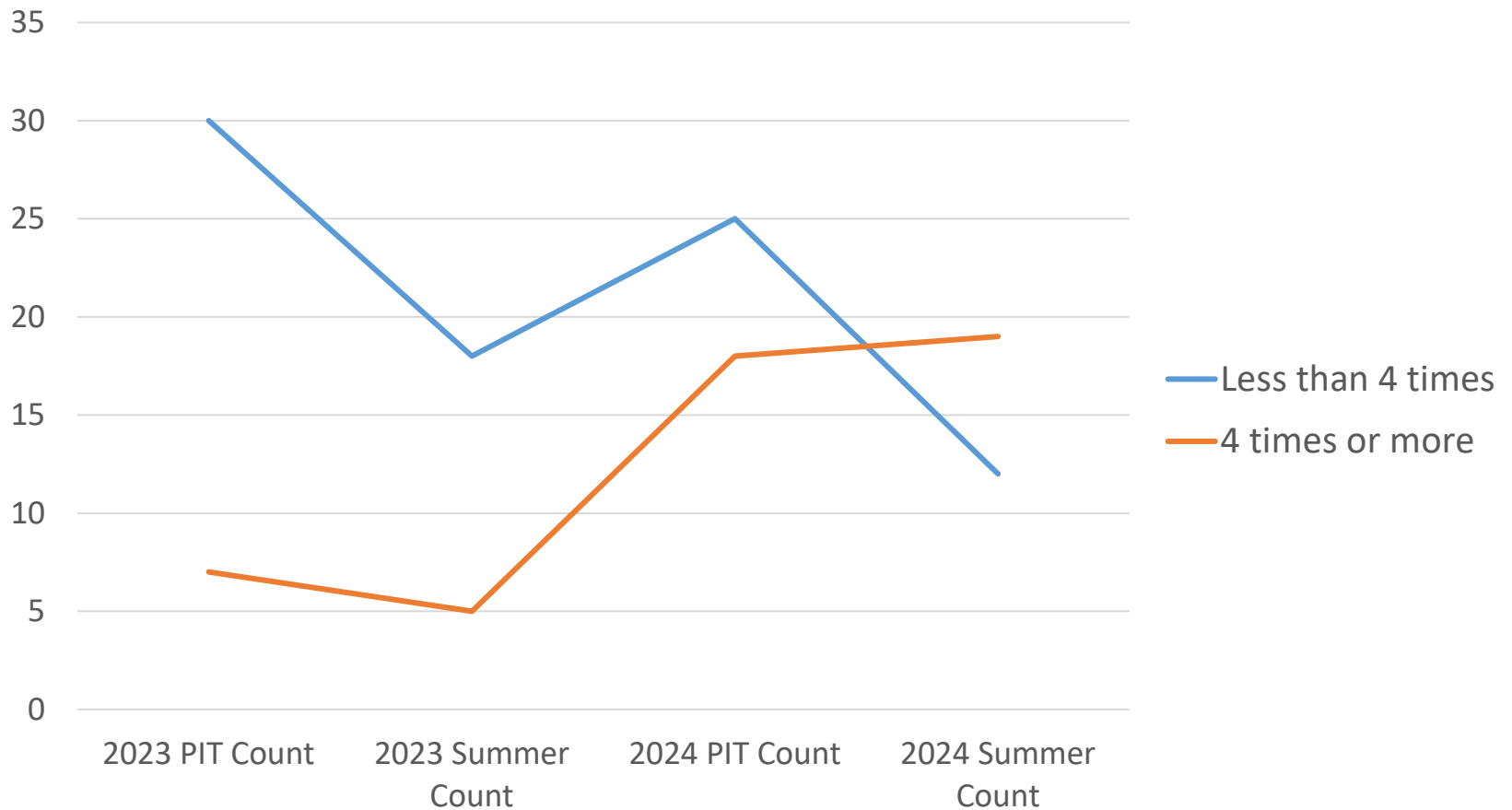
First Time Homeless? (NH Only)



Length of Homelessness This Time? (NH Only)



Episodes of Homelessness? (NH Only)



Household Income & Environment

Household Income & Environment

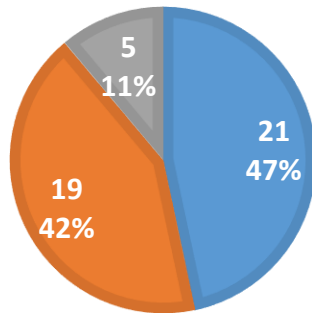
- 45 households
 - 35 staying in Lebanon/West Lebanon (or sheltered by Lebanon Human Services)
 - 1 staying outside of Grafton County (SWCS shelter)
 - 9 staying in Vermont
- Second year asking about household income
- Lebanon's DEI Commission's Environmental Justice Task Force request information on how people who are unhoused access and experience their environment
 - Were you displaced by natural/environmental disaster?
 - Has environmental exposure affected health/belongings?
 - Were you denied access to public spaces as a result of your housing status?

Household Income

All 45 Households (36 NH, 9 VT)

DOES YOUR HOUSEHOLD
HAVE AN INCOME?

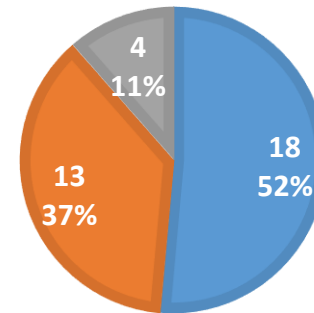
■ Yes ■ No ■ Unknown



Staying in Lebanon/West
Lebanon ONLY (n=35)

DOES YOUR HOUSEHOLD
HAVE AN INCOME?

■ Yes ■ No ■ Unknown

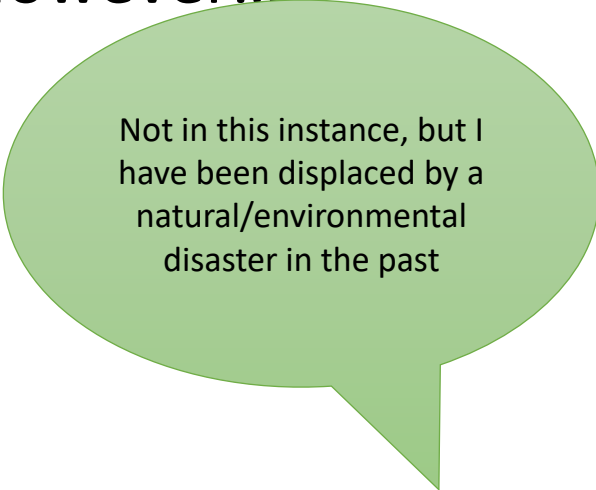


Household Income

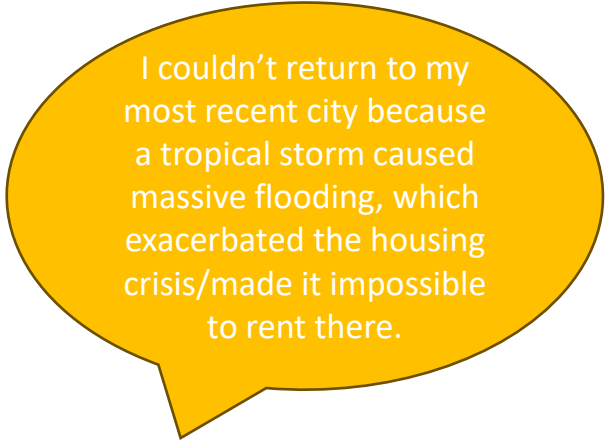
- 21 households reported at least 1 income source
- 7 households reported more than 1 income source
- 10 households reported wage-based income
- 10 households reported disability (SSI, SSDI, APTD) income
- 2 households reported Social Security retirement income
- 1 household indicated “donations” as a source of income
- Self-reported monthly household incomes ranged from \$550 (SSI) to \$2,000 (employment wages)

Environment: Displacement

- None of the unhoused community members our volunteers/staff interviewed had been displaced by a natural/environmental disaster
- However...



Not in this instance, but I have been displaced by a natural/environmental disaster in the past



I couldn't return to my most recent city because a tropical storm caused massive flooding, which exacerbated the housing crisis/made it impossible to rent there.

Environment:

Has exposure to the environment affected your health and/or belongings?

- 76%, or 34 of 45 households reported some kind of effect on health/belongings
- Only 3 households answered “no,” one in a vehicle and 2 were sheltered

“Yes, environmental exposure has affected my...”	Health	Belongings
All households (N=45)*	25	23
Camping, outside, street, place not intended for human habitation (n=23)	12	15
Vehicle (passenger car/truck, n=6)	5	3
Camper/RV (n=2)	2	1
Sheltered in motel, shelter, couch surfing (n=14)	6	3

Health & Belongings:

Camping/Outdoors/Streets/Place Not Intended for Human Habitation, n=23

“The way you feel when people look down on you”

“Skin infections due to not being able to stay clean.”

Health (yes: 12; no: 0)		Belongings (yes: 15; no: 0)	
Mental health	3	Destruction/damage due to flooding, rain, mildew	7
Circulatory/respiratory issues	3	Stolen, lost belongings	3
Skin infections, wounds, frostbite	3	Destruction/damage due to wildlife	2
Pain (back, shoulders, etc.)	3	General weathering, needing to throw things away	2
Neuropathy, foot issues	2		
Falls	1		
ER visits	1		

“Flooding ruins everything you own.”

Health & Belongings:

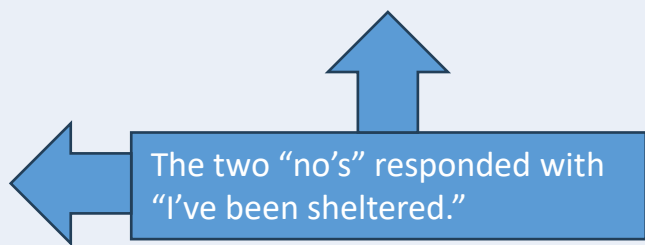
Vehicles (car, truck), n=6 and Campers/RVs, n=2

Vehicles (n=6)			
Health (yes: 5, no:1)		Belongings (yes: 3; no:1)	
Sleep	2	Destruction/damage by mildew, mold	2
Circulatory/ respiratory issues	2		
Pain	1		
Mental health	1		

RVs (n=2)	
Health (yes: 2)	Belongings (yes: 1)
Assaulted (stabbed)	Stolen, lost, weathered, damaged
Physically and emotionally drained	
Struggling to maintain healthy environment in camper without water	

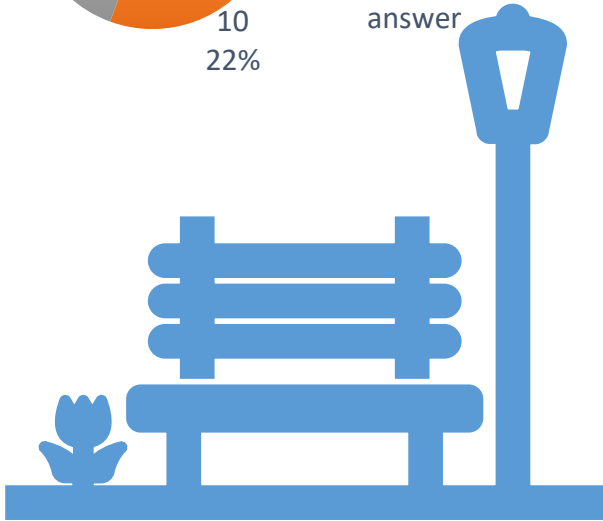
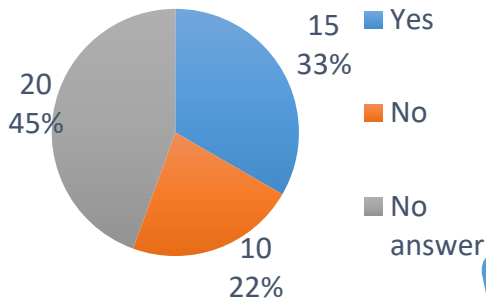
Health & Belongings:

Sheltered (motel, shelter, couch surfing*), n = 14

Health (yes=6; no=2)	Belongings (yes=3; no=2)
Motel (1)	Shelter (1)
Situation traumatizing for family	Items always get destroyed
Shelter (2)	Couch Surfing (2)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">When not sheltered in hotels or at Hixon House, health is negatively affectedDifficulty sleeping outside at times	Everything got moldy due to leak in camper*
Couch Surfing (3)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hard to care for woundsNo access to water, limited heating options, looking for places to shower*	

*An individual listed as “couch surfing” seems to have bounced between couch surfing and staying in a camper

Denied Access



Environmental Access:

Have you ever been denied access to outdoor spaces, parks, trails, etc. because of your housing status? Where, who?

- Vermont (3)
 - WRJ/Hartford (5)
 - Lyman Park (1)
 - Kilowatt Park (1)
 - Hartford Town Hall (1)
- New Hampshire
 - Lebanon (5)
 - Kilton Library (1)
 - Lebanon Rail Trail (1)
 - Colburn Park (1)
 - Enfield (1)
 - Mascoma Lake (1)
 - Victory Park, Manchester (1)
- Parking lots
 - Hospital parking lot (1)
 - Parking lot of building (1)
 - Burger King parking lot (1)