

*Report Prepared by  
Pierce County  
Department of Community Services  
July 28, 2010*



**Pierce County**

# Pierce County Homeless Survey 2010

Summary and Detail Data from the One Night  
Survey of Homeless Individuals and families  
conducted on January 28-29, 2010

*Table of Contents*

Homeless Survey Overview	3
Homeless Count Numbers	4
Methodology	5
Purpose of Data Collection	6
Survey Response Rates	6
Total Homeless	7
Homeless Individuals	8
Homeless Seniors	8
Chronic Homeless Population	9
Homeless Families	10
Race	11
Special Needs	12
Employment / Income	13
Barriers to Obtaining/Sustaining Housing	14
Homeless Veterans	15
Unaccompanied Youth Report	16
Pierce County Housing Opportunities and Services	17
Pierce County Shelter Inventory	18
Trends	19
Chronic Goal	20
State Goal	21
Housing Trends—1996 to 2009	22
Housing Unit Production	23
HMIS	24
Annual Performance Reports Summary	25
Living Situation Prior to Entry	26
Income Before (Entry) Program	27
Income After (Exit) Program	28
Length of Time in Housing by Program Type	29
How Many Completed Program	30
Reasons for Leaving Program	31
Destination When Leaving Programs	32
Populations at Risk of Homelessness	33
2009 Pierce County Homeless Survey Form	34

According to those surveyed, in 2010, there are 1,807 homeless men, women, and children in Pierce County. Including 1,110 individuals in 333 families including 677 children under the age of 18. Singles individuals comprised of 410 males, 126 females and 18 (no gender) for a total of 554 singles. Of the singles, there are 160 chronic persons on the streets or in emergency shelter. In addition 116 individuals identified themselves as being chronically homeless before being housed in transitional housing. 57 veterans were chronically homeless.

- Homelessness decreased by 13% (-273) overall.
- There was a 16% decrease in the number of families (-65) compared to 2009.
- There was a 13% decrease in the number of persons in families (-277) compared to 2009.
- There were 10% more children in families (+29) compared to 2008.
- A 27% decrease in single population (-204).
- The unsheltered and sheltered population decreased by 13% (-74).
- A 27% decrease in chronic population (-93).
- The chronic population represents 9% (does not include transitional housing) of all homeless that were included in homeless survey.
- There was a 58% (-46) decrease in chronic veterans on streets or in shelters compared to 2009 making up 8% of the chronic homeless on the streets or in emergency shelter.
- 116 chronic homeless are housed in transitional housing programs, 24 of them are veterans.
- 9% of unsheltered and sheltered population report Alcohol and Substance abuse as issues.
- 10% of the total homeless report mental health as an issue.
- Of the single persons living in shelters or on the streets, 7% are chronic homeless
- 1,097 total households are represented ( single or families)
- Families represent 81% of those in transitional housing programs, Singles represent 89% of those on the streets.
- There was one unaccompanied youth not sheltered.

<b>2010 Homeless Count Numbers</b>							
	<b>Not Housed</b>		<b>Emergency Shelter</b>		<b>Transitional Housing</b>		<b>Total Count</b>
	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>	
<b>Total Persons*</b>	170	9.41	477	26.40	1160	64.19	1807
Total Families with Children	6	1.80	43	12.91	284	85.29	333
Total People in Families	17	1.53	151	13.60	942	84.86	1110
<b>Children</b>							
Age 0-5	6	1.94	35	11.33	268	86.73	309
Age 6-12	3	1.29	26	11.16	204	87.55	233
Age 13-18	1	0.74	24	17.78	110	81.48	135
Number of Households with Children							
Total People in Household without Children	17	11.97	32	22.54	93	65.49	142
<b>Singles</b>							
	135	24.37	294	53.07	125	22.56	554
Male	96	23.41	229	55.85	85	20.73	410
Female	29	23.02	61	48.41	36	28.57	126
Gender Not Provided	10	55.56	4	22.22	4	22.22	18
<b>Special Needs - Individuals</b>							
Substance Abuse	52	31.20	12	7.41	98	60.49	162
Physical Disability	77	44.51	46	26.59	50	28.90	173
Mental Health	68	37.78	31	17.22	81	45.00	180
Domestic Violence	15	7.98	59	31.38	114	60.64	188
AIDS/HIV	2	66.67	0	0.00	1	33.33	3
Felony Convictions*	46	40.71	23	20.35	44	38.94	113
Veterans	25	17.73	63	44.68	53	37.59	141
<b>* Chronic Homeless</b>							
Males	73	42.44	43	25.00	56	32.56	172
Females	21	22.11	14	14.74	60	63.16	95
Gender Not Provided	7	77.78	2	22.22	0	0.00	9
<b>Veterans</b>							
Males	18	32.14	14	25.00	24	42.86	56
Females	0	0.00	1	100.00	0	0.00	1
Gender Not Provided	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
<b>* Unaccompanied Youth</b>							
Males	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
Females	1	100	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
Gender Not Provided	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0

The 2010 Homeless Survey was conducted over a twenty-four hour period on January 28th and 29th, 2010. Individual information was collected for households, including month and year of birth, gender, race, and age. The majority of the data was collected at the household level. This data included whether or not anyone in the household was a veteran; how long the household had been homeless; the number of homeless episodes in the past year, and past three years; the cause of their homelessness; location of where they stayed the night of January 28th; and the sources of household income.

The template for the survey changed from prior years. Substantially more information on individual household members was collected. This year we required that individuals provide signatures for release of personal information.

Emergency shelters, transitional housing providers were asked to complete and maintain bed lists on the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Surveys from shelters and transitional housing providers were submitted if a release of information was not granted, the provider was not participating in HMIS, or if the provider served households affected by domestic violence.

The street census was conducted county-wide including Key Peninsula, Longbranch, Vaughn, Lakebay, and Home, as well as urban areas including Tacoma, Lakewood, Fife, and Puyallup. Volunteers were mobilized and sites were set up in Key Peninsula, Puyallup, and Tacoma to provide items including coats, gloves, and toiletries. Food banks and hot meal sites also participated in the process.

Approximately 50 volunteers participated in this year's Homeless Survey. Volunteers represented provider groups, private citizens, college and high school students, persons that are homeless, and former volunteers. Two safety and sensitivity trainings were conducted for the volunteers.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Definition of Homelessness:

The term "homeless" or "homeless individual or homeless person" includes:

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.

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On May 20, 2009, President Obama signed the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH Act) of 2009. The HEARTH Act amends and reauthorizes the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act with substantial changes including a change in HUD's definition of homelessness and chronic homelessness.

## Purpose of Data Collection

The goal of the 2010 Homeless Survey required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the State Department of Community Trade and Economic Development (CTED) was to identify and strengthen the planning process to meet the housing and supportive service needs of the homeless and at-risk households. There were households who were not engaged and did not participate.

## Survey Response Rates

1,305 surveys were entered. Of the 1,807 individuals who were identified as homeless, 360 heads of household filled out the survey, representing the total counted.

The data represents homeless households identified during the survey period. The data is only a snapshot of homelessness. It is important to keep in mind that the total number of individuals that are homeless fluctuates and the characteristics of homeless households may change month to month.

Most of the data was obtained from existing shelters and programs. It is likely there were individuals not located because they were living in the outlying areas of the county.

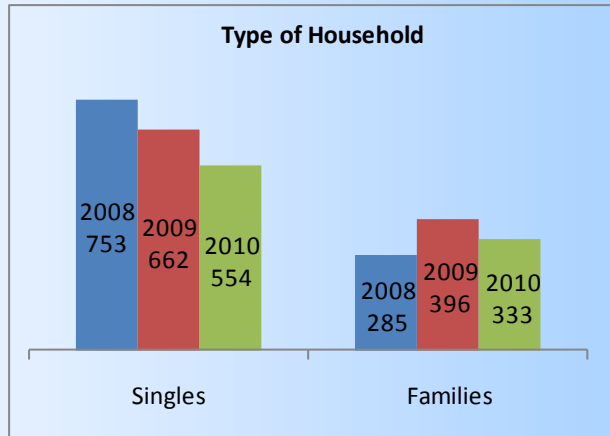
Response Rates for Duration of Homelessness

	Records	Responses	Response Rate
All Records	1,213	883	72.8%
All Homeless	942	643	68.3%
All Homeless Singles	554	359	64.8%

The Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to end Homelessness and Pierce County Community Services conducted a 24-hour survey in January 2010. 1,807 individuals met the HUD (US Department of Housing and Urban Development) definition of homelessness.

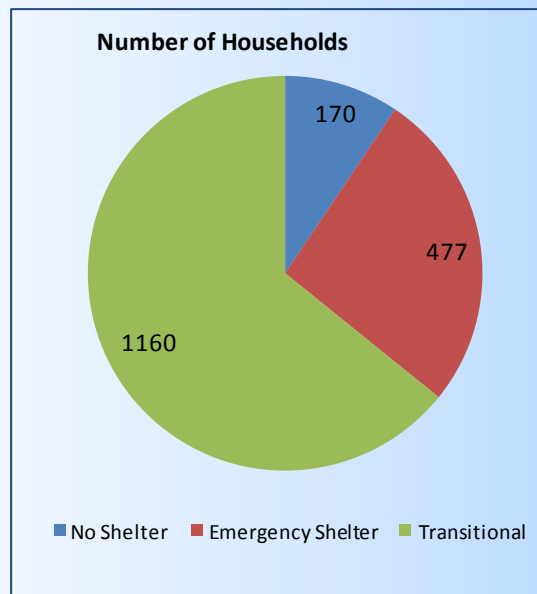
	Not Housed		Emergency Shelter		Transitional		Total Count
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
<b>Total Persons</b>	170	9.35%	477	24.74%	1160	65.91%	1807

While the 2010 survey shows a 13% decrease over the 2009 count. The emergency and transitional housing data reflects occupancy during the 24-hour period of the survey that is close to the known numbers of available beds and family units. In 2009, there were 338 families living in transitional housing, accounting for 1,122 individuals. The number of families living in transitional housing in 2010 was 284, accounting for 942 individuals. The number of families in transitional housing in 2010 decreased 16 percent over 2009. The decrease was due to lower numbers housed by private housing providers.



The number of individuals identified in the transitional housing survey decreased. 477 individuals were in emergency shelter in 2010 during the night of the survey versus 507 in 2009.

170 individuals indicated they had no housing and were on the streets, 477 individuals resided in emergency shelters, and 1,160 individuals indicated they resided in transitional housing.



# Homeless Individuals

The total number of single individuals counted was 554. The majority were residing in emergency housing when the count was conducted (294 or 53.07%). 135 individuals were not housed and 125 identified as residing in transitional housing.

There are fewer emergency, transitional, and permanent housing options for homeless individuals than for families in Pierce County. For singles with mental illness or an active drug or alcohol addiction, those options are further reduced.

No new units of housing for individuals have been developed in the last two years. Homeless housing units previously not included in past surveys have been included for 2010.

	Not Housed		Emergency Shelter		Transitional		Total Count
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
<b>Total</b>	135	24.37%	294	53.07%	125	22.56%	554

There are few options for individuals 50+ or for those that are more vulnerable. The population of single individuals aged 50 - 59 totals 161. There were two individuals identified as age 70 and above in emergency shelter and unsheltered.

Individuals 60 +							
	Not Housed		Emergency		Transitional		Total Count
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
<b>Total</b>	6	17.6%	28	82.40%	0	0.00%	34

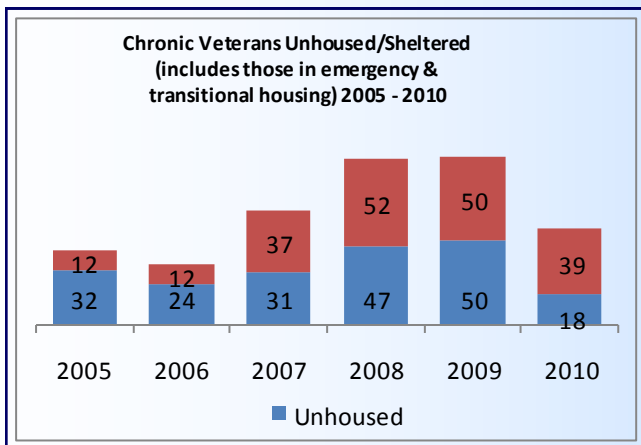
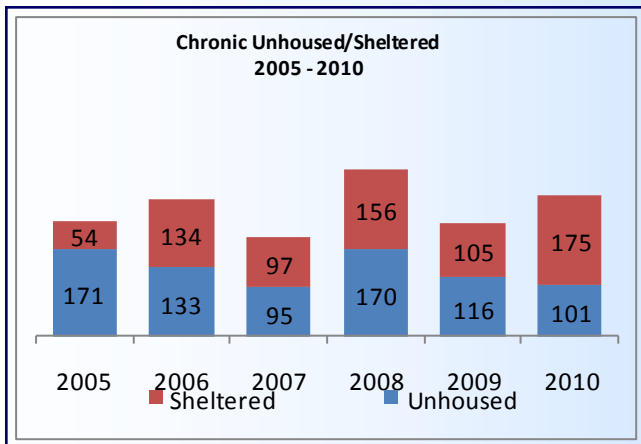
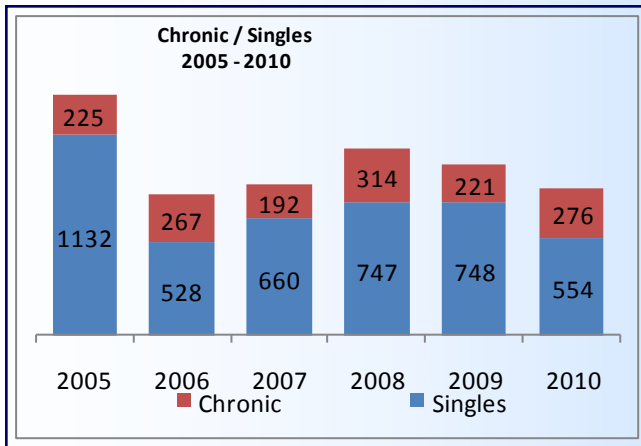
Where People Were Found		
Location	Last Lived	Stayed 1/28
Ashford	1	0
Bonney	10	0
Buckley	7	0
Eatonville	7	0
Edgewood	1	0
Fife	0	14
Fredrickson	1	0
Gig Harbor	17	7
Graham	22	0
Lakebay	3	3
Lakewood	116	6
Longbranch	0	1
Milton	4	0
Orting	12	0
Parkland	2	0
Puyallup	106	51
Roy	3	0
South Prairie	4	0
Spanaway	39	0
Steilacoom	3	0
Sumner	43	12
Tacoma	765	386
University Place	16	0
WA - Outside Pierce County	211	3
Other State	154	0
Unknown	260	1323

# Homeless Seniors

Chronically homeless is defined as an individual with a disability who has been homeless for more than one year or 4 times or more in the past 3 years. In 2008, options for the chronically homeless increased with targeted effort by the Continuum of Care, Homeless Housing Assistance funds and the City of Tacoma’s encampment initiative to provide client directed housing to the chronically homeless. However, there are no new units due to open in the next year or so for permanent supportive housing. Units for this population are in development and may not be available for the next 2 to 3 years.

The number of individuals identified as being chronically homeless and not housed or living in emergency shelters has increased from 221 in 2009, to 276 in 2010, a 19.93% increase. Veterans decreased by 22% (- 11) compared to 2009.

# Chronically Homeless Population



Total Chronic Homeless	276
Total Unsheltered Individuals	169
Total Unsheltered & Chronic	101
<b>Average Age—All Records</b>	
Male	44.5
Female	35.3
<b>Chronic Average Age</b>	
Male	46.6
Female	37.3
<b>Non-Chronic Average Age</b>	
Male	43.4
Female	34.7
<b>Chronic Average Age</b>	
Male	48.3
Female	43.5
<b>Unsheltered Chronic Sub-Population</b>	
Mentally Disabled	48
Drug/Alcohol Problems	41
Drug/Alcohol & Mental Health Problems	30
Domestic Violence Victims	11
Physically Disabled	53
Senior Citizens (age 65+)	2
Veterans	19
HIV/AIDS	1
Felony Conviction	34

# Homeless Families

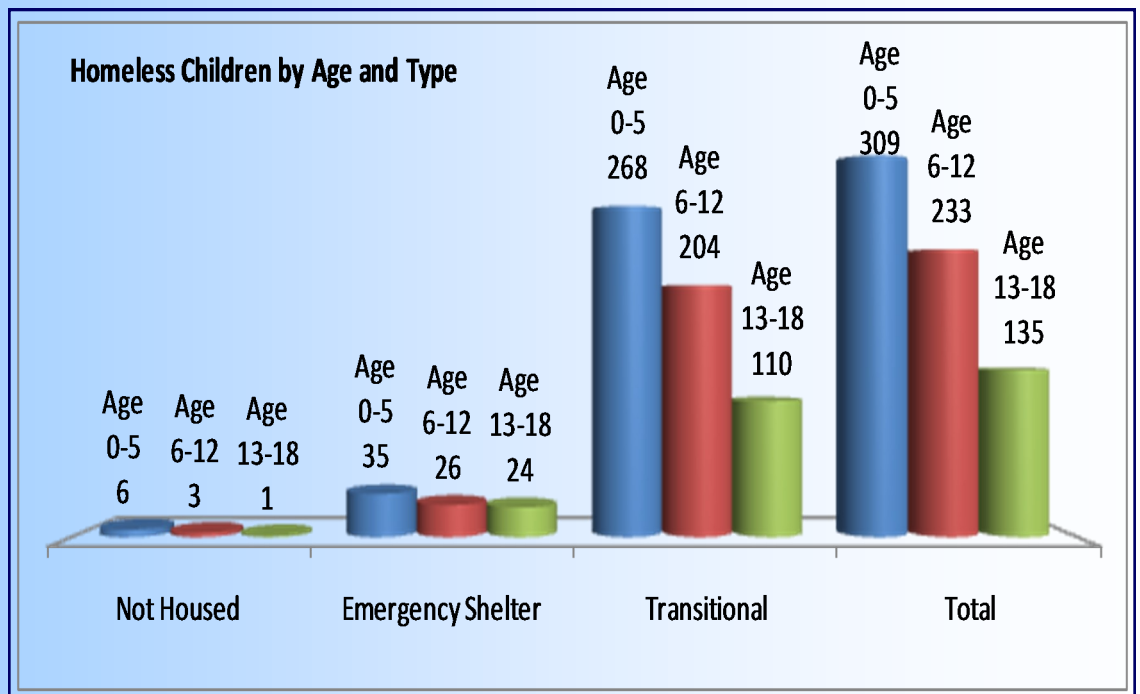
	Not Housed		Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing		Living with Family / Friends		Total Count
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
Total Families with Children	6	1.72%	43	12.36%	284	81.61%	15	4.31%	348
Total People in Families	17	1.47%	151	13.01%	942	81.21%	50	4.31%	1,160

348 families, totaling 1,160 individuals are represented in the survey. 81.61 percent (284) of families resided in transitional housing. 12.36 percent (43) were identified in emergency shelters. About 1.72% (6) of families were identified as being without shelter (in automobiles, camps, under bridges, on the streets, etc.)

Children, age 0 – 18, living with their parent(s), accounted for 37.49% (677) of the total count, an increase of 6.49% from 2009. One female was identified as unaccompanied, under the age of 18, and on the street at the time of the survey.

With emphasis placed on the needs of chronically homeless individuals, data has been pulled to show that families can also be chronically homeless. One hundred ten families, regardless of disability, have identified as homeless for more than one year and as being homeless multiple times. In this instance, the need to address issues of chronic homelessness is also compounded with the need to address family issues.

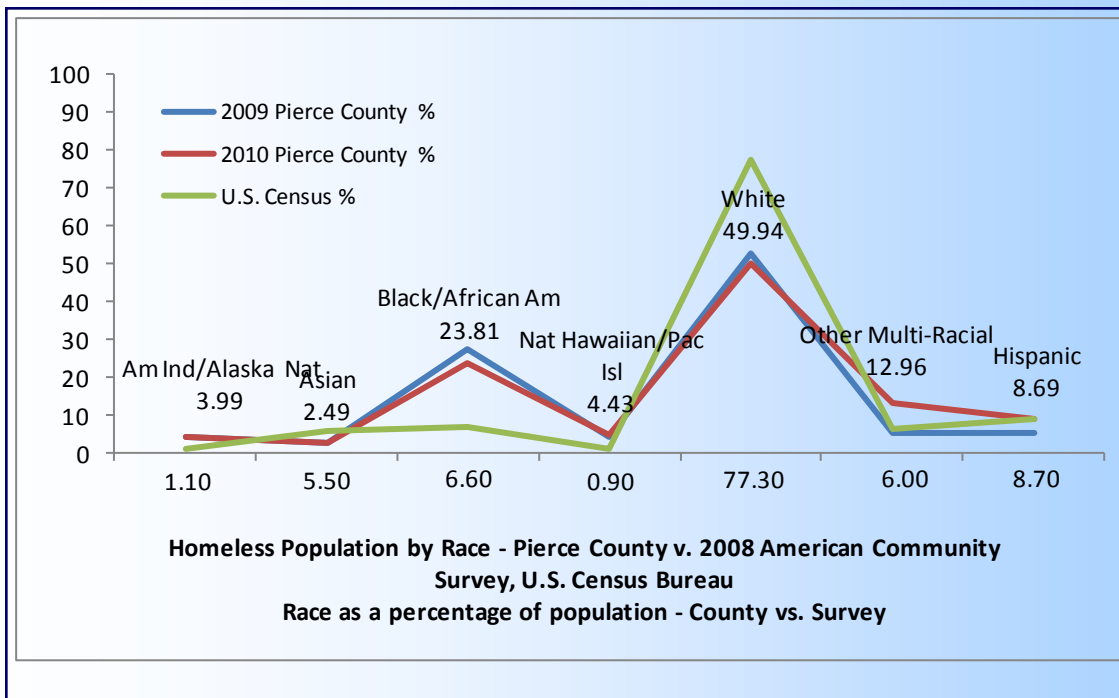
73.06% (263) of families are led by a single head of household. 62.05% (242) are female head of households. The average age of the female head of household is 32.4 years. Male head of household represents 5.28% (19) of total homeless families and their average age is 36.9. Average family size is 2.9. 26.95% (97) of families were headed by 2 parents with an average age of 37.3, and average family size of 37.3.



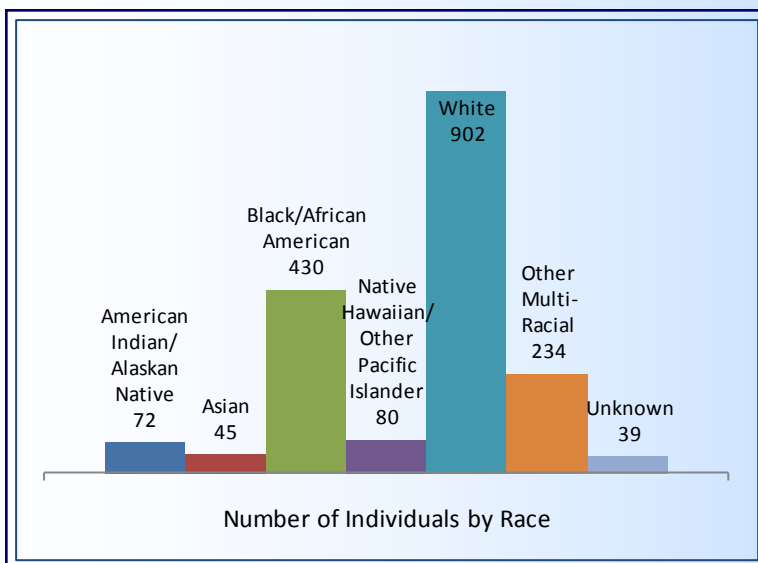
Among the population for all who identified as living in homelessness, 50% are white as compared to 7.7% of Pierce County’s overall population. Also underrepresented are the Asians who account for 2.5% of the homeless population as compared to 5.5% of the overall population.

The following groups are overrepresented in the homeless population: African Americans, 24% as compared to 6.6% of the overall population; American Indian or Alaskan Native, 4% as compared to 1.1% of the overall population; Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, 4.4% as compared to 0.9% of the overall population and multi-racial, 13% as compared to 6% of the overall population.

One hundred fifty seven or 8.7% identified themselves as being of Hispanic origin as compared to 7.8% of the total county data from 2007 American Community survey U.S. Census Bureau.



**Race**



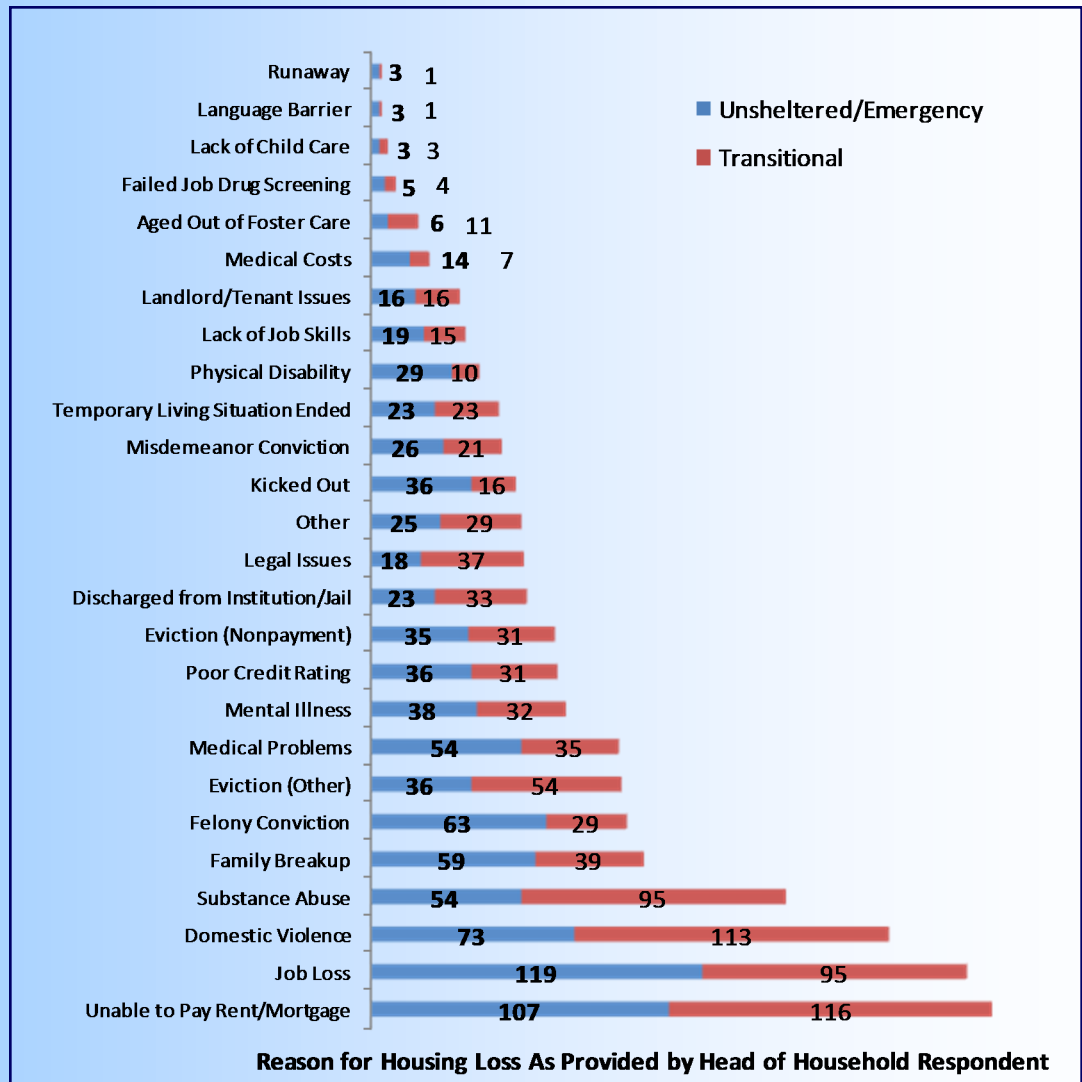
**Ethnicity**  
 8.9% of the homeless population identified as Hispanic/Latino of any race. 157 individuals were of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.

# Special Needs

Households were asked to identify from a list of issues what may have been a contributing factor in their current circumstances. The following charts show the reasons for homelessness. The cause of homelessness may have happened as an isolated incidence or as in many cases a combination of reasons.

One of the major barriers faced by families and individuals exiting emergency shelters and transitional housing is an insufficiency of available permanent housing that is affordable for low and very low-income households.

Improving household stability, including gaining full-time employment, does not guarantee that household income will meet the demand of today’s housing market. Section 8 rental subsidy program changes and reductions further impact these households’ ability to obtain and retain housing.



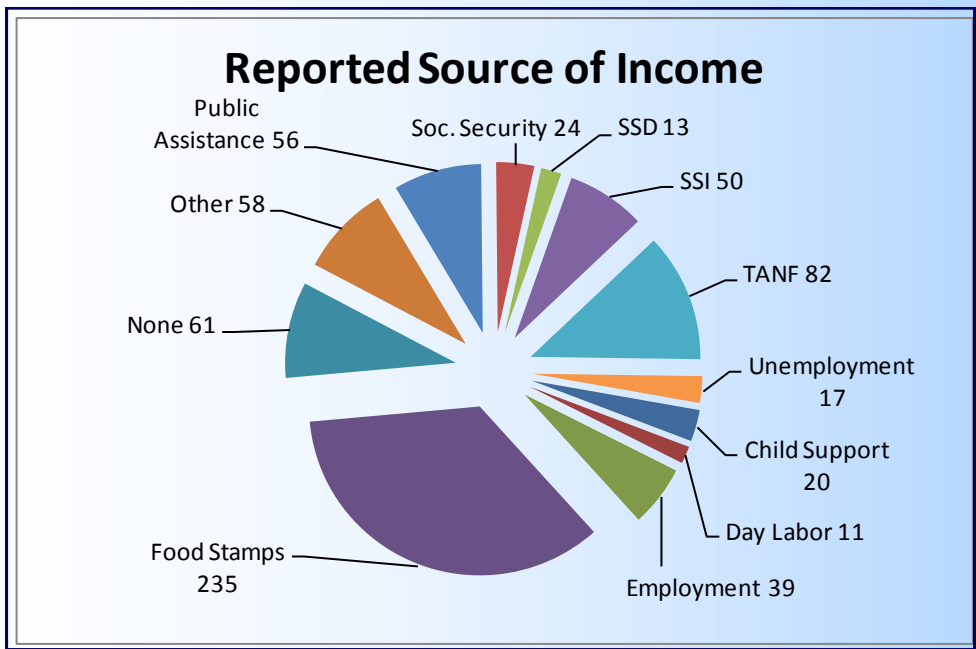
7.51%, (50) head of households reported some type of employment, 9.16% (61) had no income and 36.34% (242) relied on public assistance or benefit.

- Income source was not reported by 8.71% (58) respondents
- "Benefit" includes Unemployment Insurance, Public Assistance, Relatives or Friends; Workman's Compensation or Social Security

*Head of households reported that they lost their housing due to unemployment or lack of income.*

- 223 were unable to pay rent/mortgage
- 214 lost their job

# Employment & Income



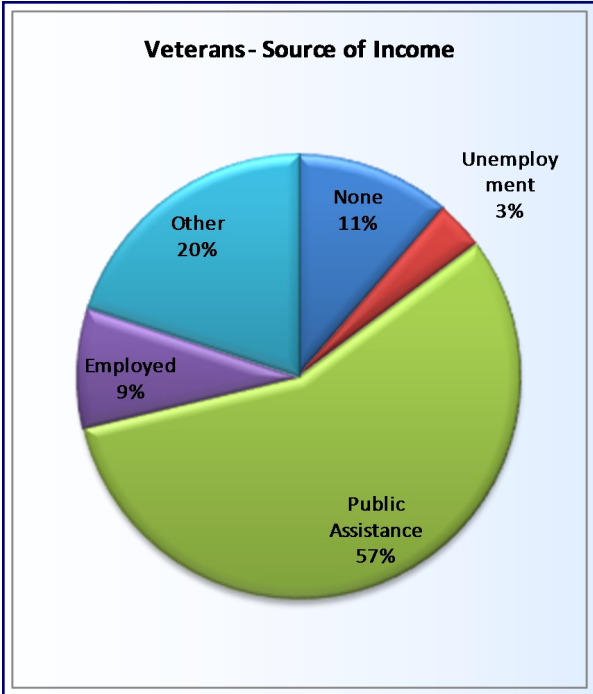
## Barriers to Obtaining / Sustaining Housing

In addition to economic barriers facing a households ability to stay housed, there is a list of disabilities and characteristics that are attributed to becoming or being homeless.

Head of households voluntarily reported that:

- 149 were affected by drugs and alcohol, including 54 unsheltered or in emergency shelter and 95 in transitional shelter
- 70 had a mental illness
- 39 had a physical disability
- 3 are affected with AIDS/HIV
- 186 reported they were victims of domestic violence
- 21 individuals have medical problems or costs associated with mental/physical disabilities or health crisis.
- Outside of economic and barriers due to disabilities, individuals identified other issues that affect their ability to secure safe and affordable housing:
- 92 individuals had a felony conviction
- 156 individuals had poor tenancy or eviction history.

	Not Housed		Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing		Total Count
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
Male	25	19.84%	56	44.44%	45	35.71%	126
Female	0	0.00%	7	46.67%	8	53.33%	15

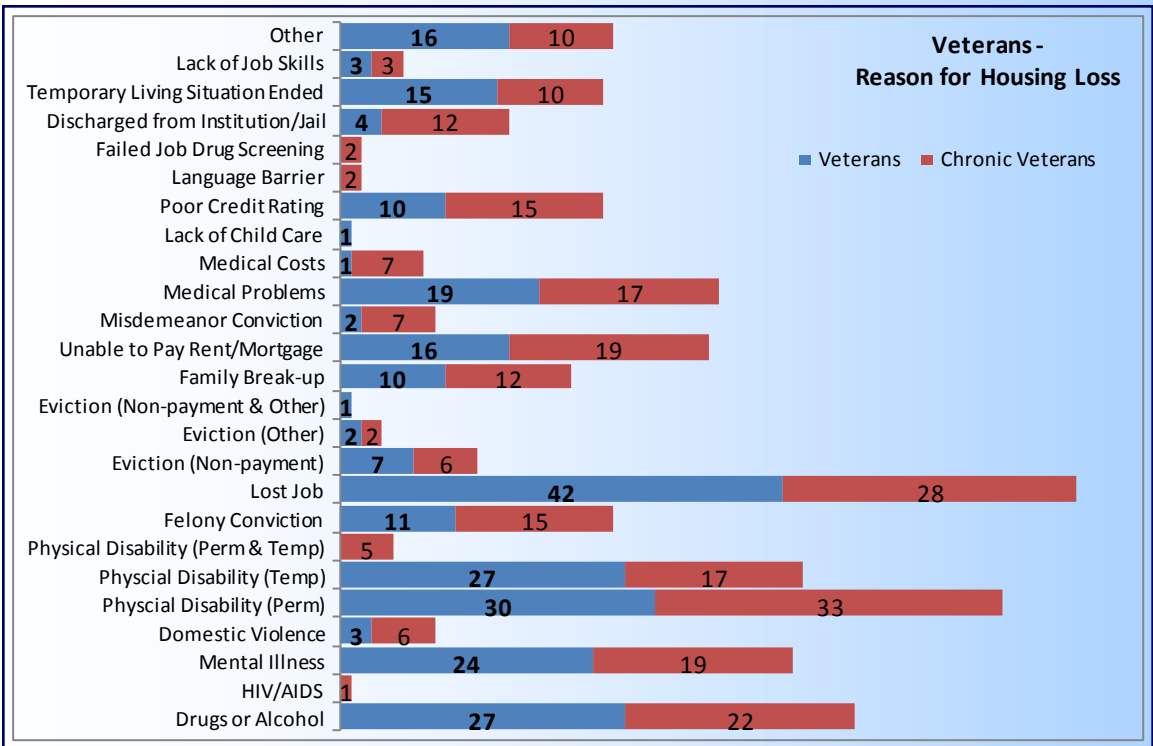


Nationally, approximately 33% of homeless men are veterans.

- Of those surveyed, 141 individuals have identified as being a veteran (8%).
- Of those surveyed, 33 were identified as chronically homeless on the streets, and in emergency shelters, and 24 were in transitional housing.
- Chronically Homeless Veterans make up 21% of the chronically homeless population that was surveyed.

National Survey of Homeless Assistance Providers and Clients (U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness & Urban Institute, 1999)

# Homeless Veterans



## Unaccompanied Youth Report

The majority of unaccompanied youth (youth who are not living with a parent or guardian) do not meet HUD's definition of homelessness. In Pierce County, most unaccompanied youth are living with family or friends. According to HUD's definition of homelessness, couch surfing or being doubled up does not constitute homelessness. Also, due to issues of legal liability, shelters and transitional housing programs that are not licensed foster care facilities do not accept individuals under the age of 18 who are not accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

The following data was collected from Clover Park, Sumner, and Tacoma school districts. This data is not included in the survey numbers. Clover Park, Sumner, and Tacoma school districts reported 91 unaccompanied youth between the ages of 14 and 21. One unaccompanied youth was identified to be unsheltered, living in their vehicle. School districts reported the majority of unaccompanied youth (546) were living with friends or family. Twenty-one youth aged 5 - 17 were identified in other shelter.

Outside of the school district reports 75 households, aged 18–22 were identified through the street and shelter surveys. One youth under the age of 18 was unaccompanied and unsheltered. Sixty-four of the households were identified as homeless and were living on the streets or in shelters. Five single individuals were unsheltered. Fifteen individuals were in emergency shelter, and fifteen individuals were living in transitional housing. Of the single young adults living in transitional housing, eight were housed with the Independent Youth Housing Program through Pierce County Alliance and four were housed with Youth Resources.

In addition to the single households, there were 29 family households that included one or more infants and were headed by single females between the ages of 18–22. Twenty-six of these family households were living in transitional housing and three of these were in emergency shelter.

***The Independent Youth Housing Program (IYHP) is a pilot program (funded by the Washington State Community, Trade and Economic Department through June 30, 2011) that provides rental assistance and case management to eligible youth aging out of the state foster care system.***

***These funds are intended to assist in meeting the state goal of ensuring that all such youth avoid experiencing homelessness by having access to decent, appropriate, and affordable homes in a healthy, safe environment.***

***Youth Resources offers emergency and transitional housing up to 24 months. To be eligible, youth must be homeless, between the ages of 18 and 21, alcohol and drug free, and a student of the Bethel School District.***

AIDS Housing Association
Another Chance for Women
Associated Ministries
Camp Fire Boys and Girls
Catholic Community Services
City of Tacoma
CLEAR
Comprehensive Mental Health
Exodus Housing
Fair Housing Center of WA.
Guadalupe House
Greater Lakes Mental Health
Good Samaritan
Got Jesus? Ministries
Helping Hand House
Hospitality Kitchen
Intercommunity Mercy Housing
Korean Women's Association
LASA
Martin Luther King HDA
MDC
Nativity House
Network Tacoma
New Phoebe House Association
NW Legal Services
PC AIDS Foundation
PC Housing Authority
PC Veterans Bureau
Pierce County Community Services
Salvation Army
Shared Housing
South Sound Outreach
Step by Step Family Support Center
TACID
Tacoma Housing Authority
Tacoma Rescue Mission
TPC Health Department
UW Parent Child Assistance
Veterans Administration
VIEW
WA Dept. Social & Health Services
WWEE
Youth Resources
YWCA Pierce County

Within Pierce County there are 43 non-profit community based agencies providing housing opportunities and services to homeless individuals and families. Services are targeted to certain geographic areas or are spread county-wide. Some agencies focus on families and others on sub-populations with special needs such as domestic violence victims and those living with AIDS/HIV.

Services cover the areas of prevention, outreach, housing, and housing support services. Activities could include:

- Alcohol and drug services
- Case management
- Mental health services
- Childcare
- Education
- Employment
- Health services
- Housing
- HIV/AIDS services
- Information and referral services
- Legal services
- Life skills
- Outreach
- Transportation

## Pierce County Housing Opportunities and Services

# Pierce County Shelter Inventory

Each year Pierce County Community Services surveys known housing providers to confirm the number of beds and units available to the community. The actual number of beds and units may be more than the amount shown due to unknown, smaller providers of housing.

	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing		Permanent Housing	
	Beds	Units	Beds	Units	Beds	Units
Families With Children	151	56	1,119	419	157	45
Individuals	309		173		269	
TOTAL Beds	360		1,292		426	
118 permanent beds are specifically for individuals who are chronically homeless.						

The homeless survey is a snapshot. It is not and never has been an actual representation of the real number of homeless in the community. At best, it can be considered today's estimate of a continually moving target. Those identified as chronic, singles, families and total homeless have all fluctuated due in part to the changing methodology over the years and due to the number of homeless. Nine surveys have been conducted since 1996 and have provided different sets of numbers.

Since the beginning of the homeless one-night survey process, we have averaged:

1,687 total homeless with a low of 1,138 (2003) and a high of 2,083 (2009)

285 un-sheltered on the street with a low of 285 (2010) and a high of 724 (2005)

470 in emergency shelters with a low of 421 (2003) and a high of 524 (2005).

Based on the above survey numbers, this year's results show an average number of homeless and a below average number on the streets and shelters. The current challenges include ending chronic homelessness within the next five years as identified in The Road Home (Ending Chronic Homelessness Plan) and reducing the overall homeless population by 50% as identified in State Law 2163 in the next seven years. As of this date our community is falling behind in meeting the goals for both areas as shown in the following charts.

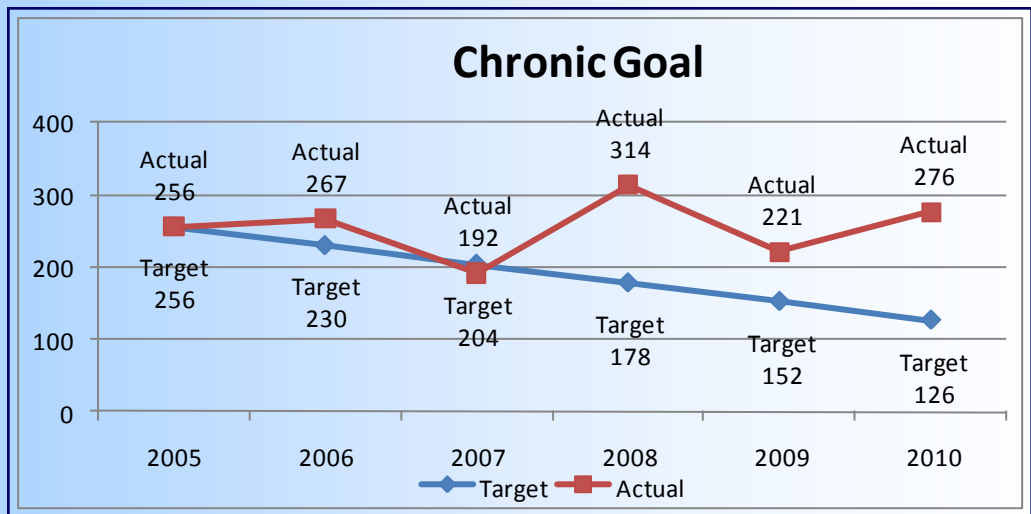
## Trends

**Chronic Goal**

“The Road Home: Ending Chronic Homelessness—A Ten Year Plan for Pierce County” was inspired by a request from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Interagency Council on Homelessness for communities across the nation to focus on the issue of chronic homelessness. The request came at a time when the Pierce County community was dealing with the consequences of chronic homelessness on the streets of its largest metropolitan area and review of a Homeless Survey indicated tremendous gaps in housing and services.

The goal of the Road Home is to eliminate chronic homelessness.

The target numbers represent the annual decrease in the number of chronically homeless individuals who are on the streets and in emergency shelters. The actual numbers fluctuate greatly with no known reasoning. Some explanation for past growth include a population aging in place, not being housed, and more reach the threshold for identification as chronic.



*While on average the number of chronically homeless has not changed, since 2005, the number of beds available for chronic homeless has increased by 80 for a total of 118 beds.*

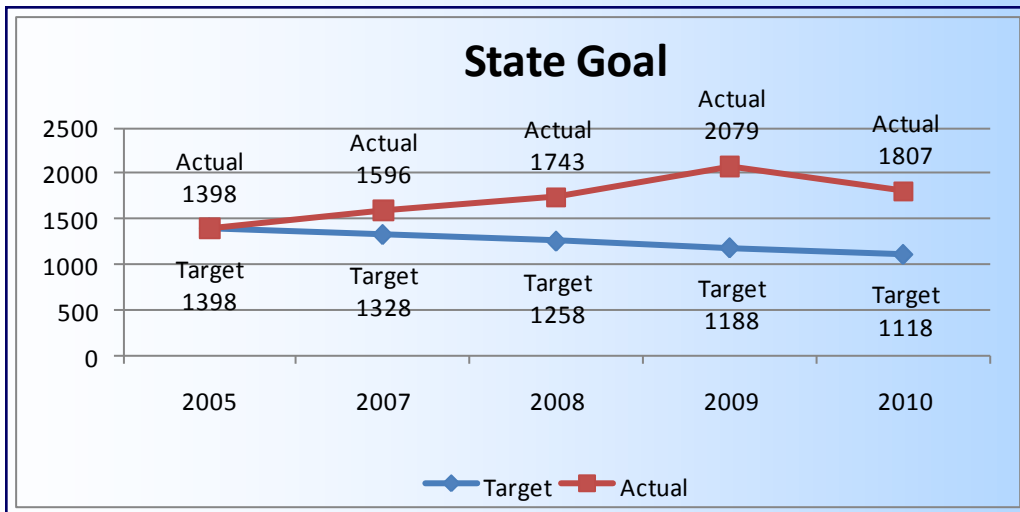
*Most of these beds were created in partnership between the city of Tacoma, Pierce County, Multicare, and Franciscan Foundation to address the encampments in Tacoma.*

*Currently there are 96 beds in production with an unknown availability date.*

In 2005, the state of Washington passed legislation requiring the reduction of individuals experiencing homelessness by 50% by July 2015. Pierce County responded by creating a companion piece to the previously published “The Road Home: Ending Chronic Homelessness—A Ten Year Plan for Pierce County.” The draft was the county’s plan to address the legislation known as the Homeless Housing and Assistance Act. The Pierce County Homeless Housing Plan has been updated in 2008.

The target numbers represent the annual decrease of individuals that are homeless. The actual numbers represent the individuals surveyed on the streets, in emergency shelters, and in transitional housing. The number of available emergency beds remains the same and is a known commodity. However, the number of transitional housing units continues to fluctuate as new beds/units come online and previously unknown organizations with housing are included in the survey data.

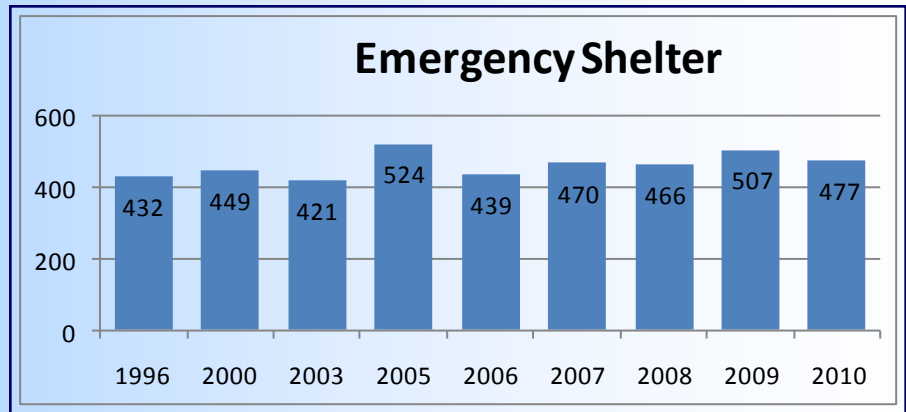
While we see an increase in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness, the increase is likely to be in transitional housing. Although these households are housed up to 24 months, they are still considered homeless yet housed.



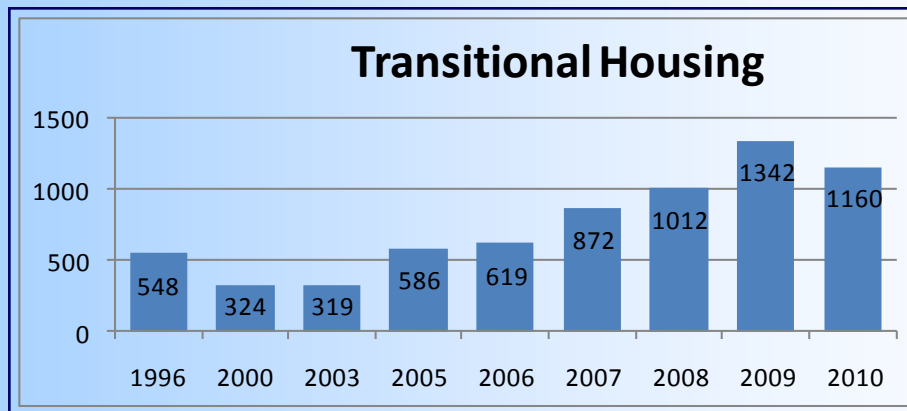
State Goal

**Housing Trends - 1996 to 2010**

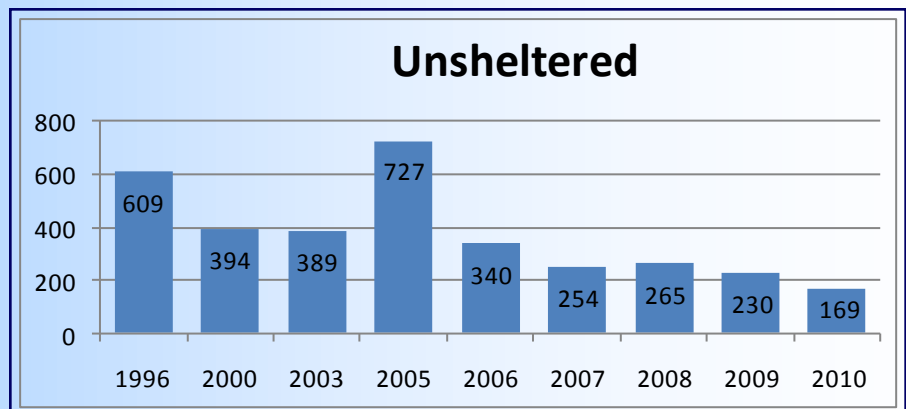
The number of available emergency shelter beds has not increased in the past 10 years. The slight increases we see can be due to the overflow or seasonal capacity of the shelters during periods of cold weather.



While the number is increasing, it may be a reflection of how community resources have been targeted over the past decade, when families were identified as Pierce County's largest and fastest growing subset.



The number has decreased since its high of 727 in 2005. This could be due to the fact that individuals are finding housing in permanent housing units or units for chronically homeless. The population on the streets are highly mobile and some may have left the area.



There is a countywide need of 30,000 units of affordable housing. Affordable housing units with appropriate supportive services for those with disabilities are crucial to any effort to end homelessness. At our current rate of production (approximately 100 new units per year on the average). It will take us 170 years to reach the goal. We currently have 18,319 publicly funded beds/units available for all populations as described below.

- 360 Emergency Shelter Beds for homeless individuals and families
- 426 units of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families
- 592 Transitional Housing Units with Services for homeless individuals and families
- 10,762 units of low income housing serving all populations (non-homeless)
- 6,100 Housing Choice Voucher's (Section 8)

<b>2009 - 2010 Units Coming On Line</b>	<b>Planned</b>	<b>Developed</b>	<b>Online</b>	<b>Total</b>
Chronic	80	0	16	96
Singles	0	0	0	0
Family Emergency	15	0	0	15
Family Transitional	11	0	46	57
Family Permanent	0	0	50	50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>218</b>

<b>2009 - 2010 Housing Unit Projection</b>						
<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Chronic</b>	<b>Single Home</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Transitional</b>	<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Total</b>
Spanaway Commons (Completed)	16					16
Garfield (Planned)	30					30
HS (Planned)	50					50
HGAP - MDC, Exodus Housing, CCS (Online)				45		45
Catholic Community Services (St. Leo's) (Online)			50			50
Tacoma Rescue Mission (Planned)					15	15
Tacoma Rescue Mission (Planned)					11	11
Joseph Foundation (Online)				1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>218</b>

## Housing Unit Production

## Homeless Information Management System (HMIS)

In an effort to fully understand the issue of homelessness, Federal and State agencies that fund homeless programs require local jurisdictions to implement a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) which is used to collect and analyze information about homeless persons and families, and the services they use. Pierce County has chosen to use the ServicePoint web-based system provided by Bowman Internet Systems of Shreveport, Louisiana. The HMIS database will assist us as we guide our efforts and document our progress of reducing homelessness.

Since May 2004, all homeless housing and service providers receiving funding from Pierce County and the City of Tacoma have been required to participate and enter data into the HMIS system. Over the past five years there have been over 7,000 persons entered into the system by 18 agencies providing data for 65 programs that provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities. In an effort to protect victims of domestic violence, programs that serve this special need population are not entering data into the database system.

Data Collected from HMIS on January 28, 2010				
	Individual Beds	Family		Total Beds
		Beds	Units	
Emergency Shelter	190	73	26	263
Transitional Housing	96	715	265	811

All HUD funded agencies must complete an Annual Performance Report (APR) for Supportive Housing Programs funded programs. This data is from reports filed from 2005-2009.

Transitional Housing Definition: Housing and Services provided for individuals and families for a maximum of 2 years.

Permanent Housing definition: Housing and Services provided for individuals with disabilities with no time limit or service restrictions.

Data is compiled on an annual basis from APR's submitted through thirteen agencies that provide nine permanent housing programs and sixteen transitional housing programs.

APR data is provided to congress by HUD and provides information on overall performance and indicates trends in our local programs.

## **Annual Performance Reports Summary**

## Living Situation Prior to Entry

Agencies were asked to answer the following questions in the APR.

How many participants slept in the following placed in the week prior to entering the project? For each participant, choose one place. If a participant came from an institution (psychiatric facility, substance abuse treatment facility, hospital, or jail), but was there less than 30 days and was living on the street or in emergency shelter before entering the treatment facility, he/she should be counted in either the street or shelter category, as appropriate.

	Street	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Psychiatric Facility	Abuse Treatment Facility	Hospital	Jail/Prison	Domestic Violence Situation	Living w/ Friends or Relatives	Rental Housing	Other
<b>2005</b>											
Permanent	46.55%	18.97%	3.45%	5.17%	3.45%	1.72%	0%	3.45%	12.07%	0%	5.17%
Transitional	6.67%	55.83%	10.00%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1.67%	15.83%	0.83%	9.17%
All	19.66%	43.82%	7.87%	1.69%	0.56%	0.56%	0%	2.25%	14.61%	0.56%	7.87%
<b>2006</b>											
Permanent	59.79%	17.53%	3.09%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8.25%	7.22%	3.09%	1.03%
Transitional	3.97%	70.86%	9.27%	0%	1.99%	0%	0%	0.66%	9.93%	1.32%	1.99%
All	25.81%	50%	6.85%	0%	1.21%	0%	0%	3.63%	8.87%	2.02%	1.61%
<b>2007</b>											
Permanent	60.34%	12.07%	8.62%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3.45%	0%	3.45%	12.07%
Transitional	14.86%	54.86%	10.29%	0%	1.71%	0%	0%	1.14%	9.14%	1.71%	6.29%
All	26.18%	44.21%	9.87%	0%	1.29%	0%	0%	1.72%	6.87%	2.15%	7.73%
<b>2008</b>											
Permanent	54.55%	18.18%	3.64%	0%	3.64%	1.82%	0%	3.64%	10.91%	3.64%	0%
Transitional	15.48%	50.60%	6.55%	0%	5.36%	0%	0%	4.17%	9.52%	2.98%	5.36%
All	25.11%	42.60%	5.83%	0%	4.93%	0.45%	0%	4.04%	9.87%	3.14%	4.04%
<b>2009</b>											
Permanent	55.17%	18.97%	12.07%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1.72%	12.07%	0%	0%
Transitional	13.38%	40.85%	3.52%	0%	1.41%	0%	0%	7.04%	14.79%	2.11%	16.90%
All	25.50%	34.50%	6.00%	0%	1.00%	0%	0%	5.50%	14.00%	1.50%	12.00%

Of those participants who left during the operating year, how many participants were at each monthly income level? Monthly income at entry refers to the participant's monthly income on the day he/she entered the program (i.e., on the program entry date or as close as possible to that day). Income received before entering the program or income received during the program stay is not included.

## Income Before Program (Entry)

	No Income	\$1—\$150	\$151—\$250	\$251— \$500	\$501— \$1,000	\$1,001— 1,500	\$1,501— \$2,000	\$2,000 +
<b>2005</b>								
Permanent	14.75%	0%	4.92%	45.90%	31.15%	3.28%	0%	0%
Transitional	15.79%	0%	1.50%	42.11%	33.83%	6.02%	0.75%	0%
All Programs	15.46%	0%	2.58%	43.30%	32.99%	5.15%	0.52%	0%
<b>2006</b>								
Permanent	15.25%	0%	6.78%	27.12%	50.85%	0%	0%	0%
Transitional	16.43%	0%	2.86%	40.71%	31.43%	3.57%	5%	0%
All Programs	16.08%	0%	4.02%	36.68%	37.19%	2.51%	3.52%	0%
<b>2007</b>								
Permanent	21.15%	0%	1.92%	42.31%	26.92%	7.69%	0%	0%
Transitional	20.61%	0%	1.21%	31.52%	35.76%	10.30%	0.61%	0%
All Programs	20.74%	0%	1.38%	34.10%	33.64%	9.68%	0.46%	0%
<b>2008</b>								
Permanent	5.45%	1.82%	0%	43.64%	36.36%	10.91%	1.82%	0%
Transitional	16.58%	0%	1.07%	30.48%	40.11%	6.42%	2.67%	2.67%
All Programs	14.05%	0.41%	0.83%	33.47%	39.26%	7.44%	2.48%	2.07%
<b>2009</b>								
Permanent	16.07%	0%	0%	42.86%	32.14%	7.14%	1.79%	0%
Transitional	11.36%	0.76%	1.52%	40.15%	37.12%	6.82%	2.27%	0%
All Programs	12.77%	0.53%	1.06%	40.96%	35.64%	6.91%	2.13%	0%

## Income After Program (Exit)

Of those participants who left during the operating year, how many participants were at each monthly income level? Monthly income at exit refers to the participant's monthly income on the day he/she left the program (i.e., on the program exit date or as close as possible to that day). Income received during the program stay is not included.

	No In- come	\$1–\$150	\$151– \$250	\$251– \$500	\$501– \$1,000	\$1,001– 1,500	\$1,501– \$2,000	\$2,000 +
<b>2005</b>								
Permanent	6.15%	0%	0%	53.85%	33.85%	4.62%	0%	1.54%
Transitional	6.77%	0.75%	0%	34.59%	31.58%	13.53%	7.52%	5.26%
All Programs	6.57%	0.51%	0%	40.91%	32.32%	10.61%	5.05%	4.04%
<b>2006</b>								
Permanent	15.25%	0%	1.68%	18.64%	62.71%	0%	1.69%	0%
Transitional	5%	0.71%	8.57%	37.14%	24.29%	8.57%	12.14%	3.57%
All Programs	8.04%	0.50%	6.53%	31.66%	35.68%	6.03%	9.05%	2.51%
<b>2007</b>								
Permanent	19.23%	0%	0%	30.77%	42.31%	5.77%	1.92%	0%
Transitional	12.12%	0%	0.61%	27.27%	35.76%	15.15%	6.67%	2.42%
All Programs	13.82%	0%	0.46%	28.11%	37.33%	12.90%	5.53%	1.84%
<b>2008</b>								
Permanent	7.27%	0%	0%	29.09%	50.91%	9.09%	1.82%	1.82%
Transitional	5.85%	0%	6.91%	18.62%	39.89%	11.70%	11.17%	5.85%
All Programs	6.17%	0%	5.35%	20.99%	42.39%	11.11%	9.05%	4.94%
<b>2009</b>								
Permanent	3.51%	0%	1.75%	24.56%	45.61%	15.79%	7.02%	1.75%
Transitional	7.69%	0%	0%	26.92%	40.77%	13.08%	3.08%	8.46%
All Programs	6.42%	0%	0.53%	26.20%	42.25%	13.90%	4.28%	6.42%

Of those participants who left during the operating year, how many were in the project for the following lengths of time? Compute each participant's length of stay using the participant's program entry date and program exit date. If the participant has only one program exit date during the operating year, calculate length of stay by subtracting the program entry date from the program exit date. If the participant has multiple program exit dates during the operating year, calculate the length of stay for each program stay and add them together to produce a cumulative length of stay. Each participant should be associated with only one length of stay category.

	0–6 Months	7–12 Months	13–23 Months	2 Years or More
<b>2005</b>				
Permanent	32.31%	23.08%	24.62%	20.00%
Transitional	28.57%	40.60%	24.06%	6.77%
All Programs	29.80%	34.85%	24.24%	11.11%
<b>2006</b>				
Permanent	44.44%	17.46%	17.46%	20.63%
Transitional	31.54%	41.61%	26.17%	0.67%
All Programs	35.38%	34.43%	23.58%	6.60%
<b>2007</b>				
Permanent	23.08%	23.08%	26.92%	26.92%
Transitional	41.72%	24.54%	30.67%	3.07%
All Programs	37.21%	24.19%	29.77%	8.84%
<b>2008</b>				
Permanent	14.55%	10.91%	41.82%	32.73%
Transitional	28.19%	29.26%	40.96%	1.60%
All Programs	25.10%	25.10%	41.15%	8.64%
<b>2009</b>				
Permanent	9.26%	25.93%	24.07%	40.74%
Transitional	35.61%	28.03%	31.82%	4.55%
All Programs	27.96%	27.42%	29.57%	15.05%

## Length of Time in Housing by Program Type

## How Many Completed Program

Of those participants who left the project during the operating year, how many left for the following reasons? If a participant left for multiple reasons, include only the primary reason.

	Completed Program	Left Before Completing Program	Non-Compliance
<b>2005</b>			
Permanent	32.31%	36.92%	3.08%
Transitional	38.35%	28.57%	17.29%
All Programs	36.36%	31.31%	12.63%
<b>2006</b>			
Permanent	13.79%	15.52%	18.97%
Transitional	25.71%	30%	26.43%
All Programs	22.22%	25.76%	24.24%
<b>2007</b>			
Permanent	21.15%	21.15%	17.31%
Transitional	27.27%	20.61%	21.21%
All Programs	25.81%	20.74%	20.28%
<b>2008</b>			
Permanent	32.73%	14.55%	18.18%
Transitional	40.43%	18.62%	20.74%
All Programs	38.68%	17.70%	20.16%
<b>2009</b>			
Permanent	16.67%	18.52%	20.37%
Transitional	16.67%	33.33%	18.18%
All Programs	16.67%	29.03%	18.82%

Of those participants who left the project during the operating year, how many left for the following reasons? If a participant left for multiple reasons, include only the primary reason.

	Non-Payment of Rent	Non-Compliance	Criminal Activity / Violence	Maximum Time Reached	Needs Not Met	Disagree w/ Rules/ Persons	Death	Other	Unknown
<b>2005</b>									
Permanent	3.08%	3.08%	15.38%	0%	0%	1.54%	1.54%	3.08%	3.08%
Transitional	3.01%	17.29%	4.51%	0%	3.01%	1.50%	0%	3.76%	0%
All Programs	3.03%	12.63%	8.08%	0%	2.02%	1.52%	0.51%	3.54%	1.01%
<b>2006</b>									
Permanent	0%	18.97%	15.52%	0%	3.45%	3.45%	3.45%	22.41%	3.45%
Transitional	2.14%	26.43%	2.14%	0%	2.14%	2.86%	0%	6.43%	2.14%
All Programs	1.52%	24.24%	6.06%	0%	2.53%	3.03%	1.01%	11.11%	2.53%
<b>2007</b>									
Permanent	0%	17.31%	13.46%	0%	1.92%	5.77%	1.92%	15.38%	1.92%
Transitional	1.21%	21.21%	5.54%	0.61%	1.82%	7.27%	0%	6.06%	8.48%
All Programs	0.92%	20.28%	7.37%	0.46%	1.84%	6.91%	0.46%	8.29%	6.91%
<b>2008</b>									
Permanent	3.64%	18.18%	12.73%	0%	3.64%	1.82%	1.82%	7.27%	3.64%
Transitional	2.13%	20.74%	2.13%	0.53%	1.06%	5.32%	0.53%	4.79%	3.72%
All Programs	2.47%	20.16%	4.53%	0.41%	1.65%	4.53%	0.82%	5.35%	3.70%
<b>2009</b>									
Permanent	7.41%	20.37%	11.11%	0%	5.56%	1.85%	9.26%	7.41%	1.85%
Transitional	3.03%	18.18%	7.58%	0%	3.03%	8.33%	0.76%	9.09%	0%
All Programs	4.30%	18.82%	8.60%	0%	3.76%	6.45%	3.23%	8.60%	0.54%

## Reasons for Leaving Program

## Destination When Leaving Programs

Of those participants who left during the operating year, how many left for the following destination?

	Permanent Housing	Permanent—Family or Friends	Non-Permanent Housing
<b>2005</b>			
Permanent	46.15%	20.00%	33.85%
Transitional	59.40%	22.56%	18.05%
All Programs	55.05%	21.72%	23.23%
<b>2006</b>			
Permanent	36.21%	1.72%	41.38%
Transitional	58.57%	10.71%	8.57%
All Programs	52.02%	8.08%	18.18%
<b>2007</b>			
Permanent	36.54%	1.92%	48.08%
Transitional	48.48%	9.70%	27.27%
All Programs	45.62%	7.83%	32.26%
<b>2008</b>			
Permanent	43.64%	1.82%	41.82%
Transitional	58.51%	11.17%	18.09%
All Programs	55.14%	9.05%	23.46%
<b>2009</b>			
Permanent	42.59%	9.26%	48.15%
Transitional	49.24%	16.67%	34.09%
All Programs	47.31%	14.52%	38.17%

## **Populations at Risk of Homelessness**

Each year in Pierce County an average of 2,600 households are legally evicted from their rental units. Some of these households most likely end up homeless.

In Pierce County, 11.3% of the population is in poverty. The majority of those households are cost burdened (paying more than 30% of their income towards housing expenses) leaving them at high risk of homelessness.

**Pierce County Homeless Survey 2010 Thursday, January 28, 2010**

Sample script: Hi, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ a volunteer helping with the Pierce County Point in Time Street Survey. The information we get 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.

- 1. Where did you stay the night of Thursday, January 28, 2010 (check one)?**
- Emergency Shelter: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Transitional Housing: \_\_\_\_\_
  - On the Street, camping  Jail
  - Vehicle or car  Hotel or motel
  - Inside: in an abandoned/unused building  Temporarily living with family or friends  Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Permanent Supportive Housing: \_\_\_\_\_
- ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ OR CITY/TOWN \_\_\_\_\_

- 2. How long have you been homeless?**  Less than one year  More than one year (continuously)
- At least 4 times in the past 3 years (not continuously) If so, how many times? \_\_\_\_\_

- 3. Who is in the family/household with you?** # in household: \_\_\_\_\_  Just myself  My children and me  My partner and me
- My partner, my children and me  Unaccompanied Youth (under 18)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

INITIALS FIRST & LAST NAME	DEMOGRAPHICS				VET STATUS				DISABILITIES											
	Birthdate mm/dd/yy	Male Female	Race	Hispanic Y/N	VET Y/N	✓ Rec. Veterans	Benefits	Highest Level of Education	Employed Y/N	Physical	Mental	Health	Substance Abuse	Develop. Mental	Dental	HIV/AIDS	Visual	Learning	Other	
4a	4b	4c	4d	4e	4f	4g	4h	4i	4j	4k	4l	4m	4n	4o	4p	4q	4r			

- 5. Mark "C" situations caused homeless; "B" situations - barriers to housing; "CB" - both**
- |   |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aged out of system/foster care | <input type="checkbox"/> Job Loss               | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Illness                   | <input type="checkbox"/> None          | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Convicted of a felony          | <input type="checkbox"/> Kicked Out             | <input type="checkbox"/> Physically disabled              | <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support | <input type="checkbox"/> SSI             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Convicted of misdemeanor       | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of child care     | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor credit rating               | <input type="checkbox"/> Day Labor Job | <input type="checkbox"/> SSD             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discharged institution/jail    | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of job skills     | <input type="checkbox"/> Runaway                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment    | <input type="checkbox"/> TANF            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence              | <input type="checkbox"/> Landlord/tenant issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Substance Abuse                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Stamps   | <input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evicted non-payment            | <input type="checkbox"/> Language barrier       | <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary living situation ended | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Asst.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Workers comp.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evicted other reasons          | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal issues           | <input type="checkbox"/> Unable pay rent/mortgage         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:        |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Failed job drug screening      | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical costs          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                           |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family break-up                | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical problems       |   |  |  |

- 6. Source(s) household income (✓ all that apply)**
- Social Security
- SSI
- SSD
- TANF
- Unemployment
- Workers comp.
- Other:

- 7. What is the zip code and town where you last permanently lived in a home for six months or more?** Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. RELEASE OF INFORMATION FROM PARTICIPANT: SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_
- Thank you for completing this survey. Your responses will help us improve services to individuals that are homeless.**

**2010 Pierce County Homeless Survey Form**

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## Notes

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Pierce County

We would like to thank the following organizations that provided valuable staff and volunteer time.

Pierce County • City of Lakewood • City of Tacoma • Clover Park School District • Pierce County • Pierce County Housing Authority • Tacoma Housing Authority • Tacoma School District • Veteran's Administration • Associated Ministries • Catholic Community Services SW • Comprehensive Mental Health • Eatonville Family Agency • Exodus Housing • Friday Night Feed • Greater Lakes Mental Health Care • Helping Hand House • Hospitality Kitchen • Korean Women's Association • Lakebay Community Church • Lakewood Area Shelter Association • Martin Luther King Housing Development Association • Metropolitan Development Council • Nativity House • Network Tacoma • New Phoebe House Association • Open Hearth Ministries • Parent Child Assistance Program • Pierce County Alliance • Puyallup Armory Thursday Night Dinner • Puyallup Church of the Nazarene • Salvation Army • Shared Housing • Southsound Outreach Services • St. Francis House • Tacoma Rescue Mission • VIEW • Washington Women's Employment & Education • Youth Resources • YWCA • Washington State Department of Commerce • Puyallup Freezing Nights • Franciscan Health System • Key Peninsula Community Services • Sumner School District

Thank you to Catholic Community Services, Phoenix Housing Network for providing the location and staff support during the Survey.

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An electronic version of this document is available at:  
[www.co.pierce.wa.us/xml/abtus/ourorg/comsvcs/housing](http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/xml/abtus/ourorg/comsvcs/housing)

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