

ORANGE COUNTY CIVIC CENTER HOMELESS SURVEY

INTRODUCTION

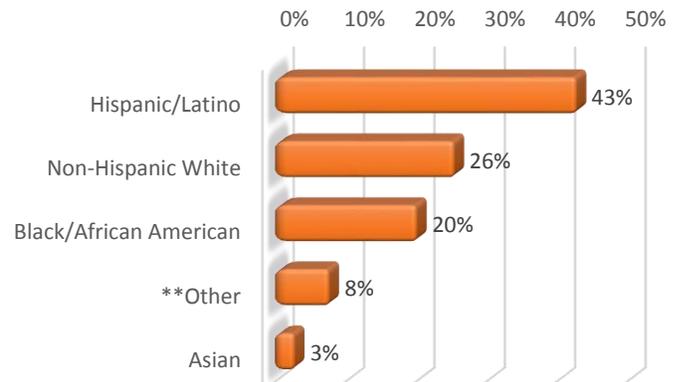
The Homeless Survey of the Civic Center area was administered on Monday, August 31, 2015. The Civic Center is comprised of the geographic area featured on the map below. A team of 27 staff and volunteers from Health Care Agency and Illumination Foundation surveyed this area from 8:30am to 8:00pm to get a snapshot of the number of homeless people in the Civic Center area, their demographic breakdown, and the needs of this population. The results of this survey depict a diverse group of individuals who are struggling with a variety of physical and behavioral health issues that have limited their ability to connect to supportive services and housing. A total of 406 Civic Center participants were counted and a total of 369 participants completed a survey.

MAP OF CIVIC CENTER AREA



Ethnicity

43% of participants surveyed were Hispanic/Latino, 26% were Non-Hispanic White, 20% were Black/African American, 3% were Asian, and 8% were other race/ethnicity

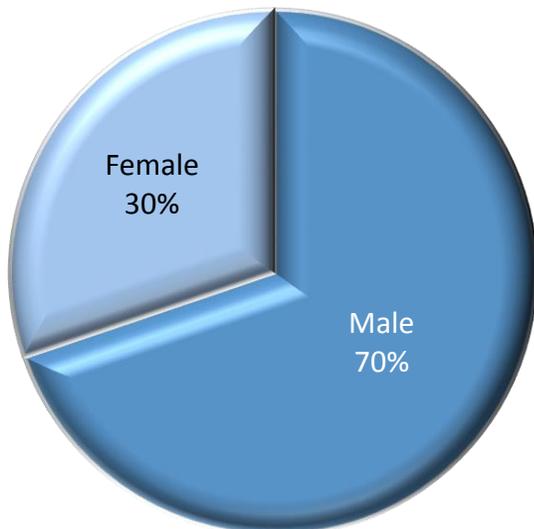


**Other: Native American, Italian, American Indian, Hawaiian, Iran, Pacific Islander, Samoan, multi-ethnicity

PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

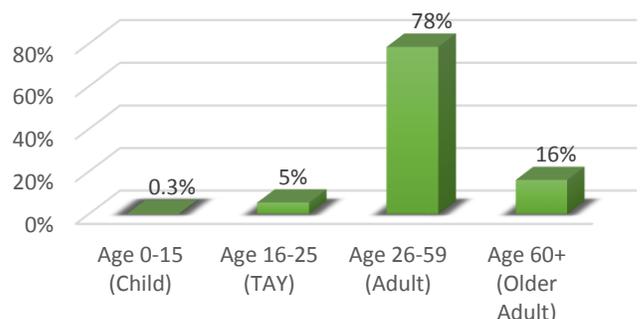
Gender

70% of participants surveyed were male and 30% were female



Age

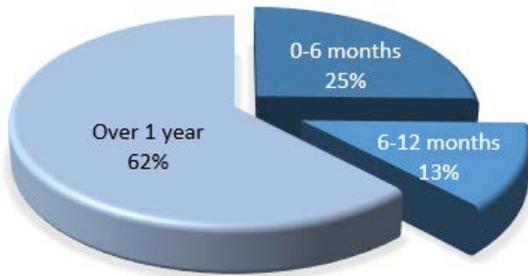
The majority of participants (78%) were adults 26-59 years of age, 16% were older adults 60+ years of age, 5% were transitional age youths 16-25 years of age, and .3% were children 0-15 years of age.



SURVEY QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

How long have you been homeless in the Civic Center?

62% of participants have been homeless in the Civic Center for over one year, 25% from 0 to 6 months, and 13% from 6 to 12 months.



Which of these answers best describes why you are homeless today?

	Total	Percent
Loss of job	191	52%
No affordable housing options	155	42%
Medical or disability challenges	99	27%
Relationship Challenges	99	27%
Mental health challenges	89	24%
Substance abuse related	59	16%
**Other	24	7%

**Other can be summarized within three broader categories: legal issues, financial issues, and lack of documentation

What prevents you from accessing services you want?

	Total	Percent
Lack transportation to get there	190	54%
Don't know what is available to me	152	43%
Need help with how to access	145	41%
System seems too complicated	120	34%
Tried before and I was not successful	105	30%
Don't have the documentation I need	104	29%
Other services are not a priority right now	44	12%
**Other	39	11%

**Other can be summarized within six broader categories: legal issues, financial issues, mental illness/substance abuse, housing, lack of employment, and medical issues.

Do you receive any of the following?

	Total	Percent
Medi-Cal	172	64%
Food Stamps/EBT	163	61%
Social Security	75	28%
General Relief	37	14%
CalWORKS	10	4%
Section 8- Rental Assistance	6	2%
**Other	4	1%

**Other: VA Disability and Veteran HUD

Survey Questions	"No"	"Yes"	Percent of "Yes"
Do you have any physical health issues that interfere with your daily living?	199	166	45%
Do you feel you have a mental health condition?	210	154	42%
Have you ever accessed substance use treatment?	241	107	31%
Have you ever accessed mental health treatment?	235	107	31%
In the past year, has drinking or drug use prevented you from doing things you want to do?	263	104	28%
Do you feel you have a substance use problem?	276	89	24%
Do you have any legal issues that you feel are barriers to accessing services?	289	76	21%
Have you ever served in the Armed Forces?	321	46	13%

What additional resources would you find most helpful?

Most participants surveyed stated that programs that could help them find housing, employment, financial assistance, transportation, health care, legal issues, basic needs (e.g., clothing, laundry), education, and help with child care would be most helpful.