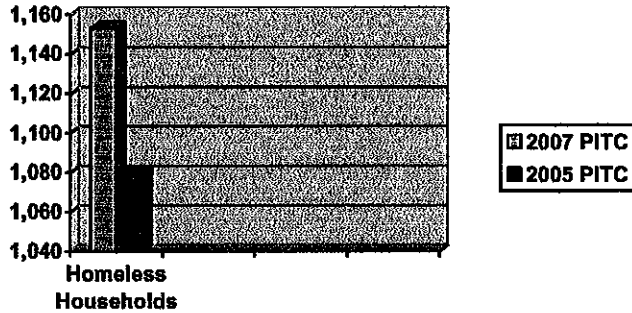


**WHO ARE THE HOMELESS IN MERCER COUNTY**

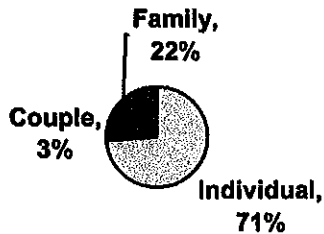
According to the 2007 Point-in-Time Count (PITC), 1,153 adults and 442 children were homeless in Mercer County on January 25, 2007. The number of homeless households in 2007 was 7% greater than the number identified in the 2005 PITC.



The 2007 PITC includes only a subset of those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in New Jersey. By its nature, a point in time count captures information only on those who are both homeless on that night and who can be identified by those administering the surveys. The actual number of people who are homeless over the course of the year may be between two to four times larger than the number counted at one point in time.

In addition, the 2007 PITC focused only on those who met the definition of homelessness adopted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Included in this definition are those who are currently living on the streets or in places not meant for human habitation, those living in emergency shelters, those living in transitional housing for the homeless and those living in hotels or motels whose stays are paid for by an outside agency. The PITC did not include individuals or families who are precariously housed, living in substandard housing, living in overcrowded housing or staying with friends or family due to the lack of their own housing. The PITC also did not include those individuals who are formerly homeless but currently living in permanent housing for the homeless.

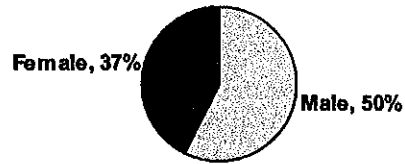
**Characteristics of PITC Respondents -- Household Status**



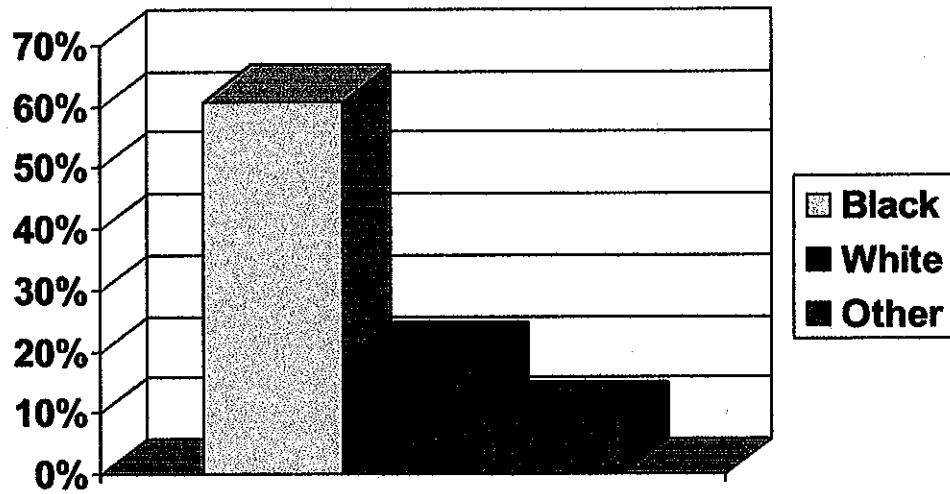
Of the 1,153 homeless adults in Mercer County on January 25, 2007, the majority were single individuals without children in their care (71%, n=826). 22% (n=256) of respondents were families with children, while 3% (n=39) were couples (married or living together). 50% (n=574) of adults were male and 37% (n=423) were female. 61% (n=709) of survey respondents were Black, 19% (n=221) were White, and 9% (n=87) were American Indian/Alaskan Native,

Asian, or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander or other. 14% (n=157) of respondents identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino.

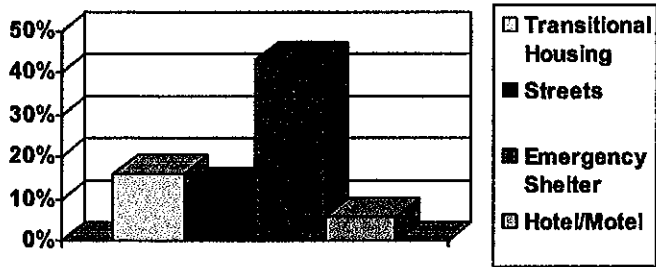
### Characteristics of PITC Respondents -- Gender



### Characteristics of PITC Respondents -- Race



**Sleeping Accommodations on Any Given Night**



**CURRENT AND PAST LIVING SITUATION**

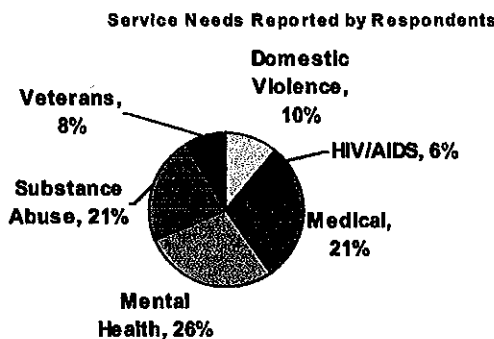
43% (n=495) of homeless households spent the night of the PITC in emergency shelters. 16% (n=179) of respondents were living in transitional housing for the homeless, and 13% (n=149) were sleeping on the streets or in a place not meant for human habitation (such as a car, a local transportation center, or an abandoned building) on the night of the count. 6% (n=70) of homeless households were staying in motels paid for by an outside agency due to their homeless status.

Trenton was named by the largest number of Mercer County respondents (68%, n=788) as the place they last lived before becoming homeless, followed by Hamilton (3%, n=33). The overwhelming majority of homeless people in Mercer County (89%, n=1,027) had lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless, with 7% (n=82) reporting that their last residence was outside the state. 96% (n=1,103) were residents of the United States before becoming homeless.

Last Town Lived in Before Becoming Homeless		
Trenton	788	68.34%
Hamilton	33	2.86%
Ewing	16	1.39%
New Brunswick	11	0.95%
New York City	11	0.95%
Burlington	10	0.87%
Camden	10	0.87%
Newark	8	0.69%
Philadelphia	9	0.78%
Bordentown	8	0.69%

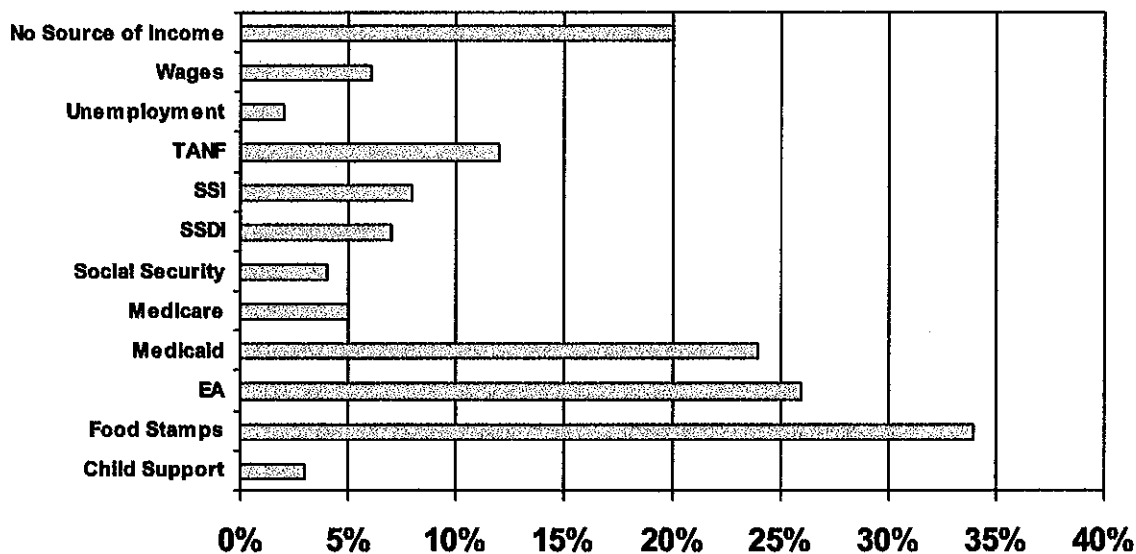
**HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS**

Respondents to the PITC identified a number of issues that may have contributed to their homelessness. 26% (n=301) of homeless people indicated that they would benefit from mental health services, 21% (n=239) indicated a desire for substance abuse services, and 21% (n=240) indicated a need for medical care. 10% (n=110) of homeless people had a history as survivors of domestic violence, and 6% (n=71) were living with HIV/AIDS. 8% (n=88) of people who were homeless on the night of January 25 were veterans.



The majority of people who were homeless (80%, n=920) reported that they

**Income Sources (Percentage)**

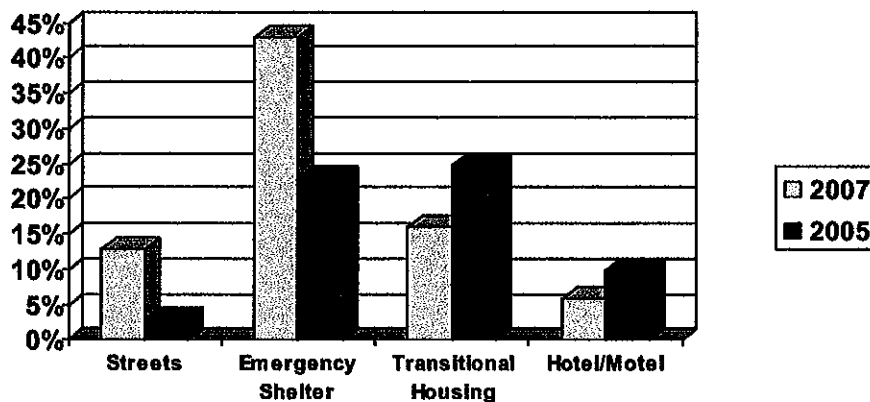


received some form of income. Food stamps (34%, n=387) were the single greatest source of income for respondents, followed by EA/Public Assistance/Welfare (26%, n=301) and Medicaid (24%, n=275). 14% (n=176) of respondents received SSI or SSDI. 6% (n=65) of people who were homeless on the night of the 2007 PITC count were employed.

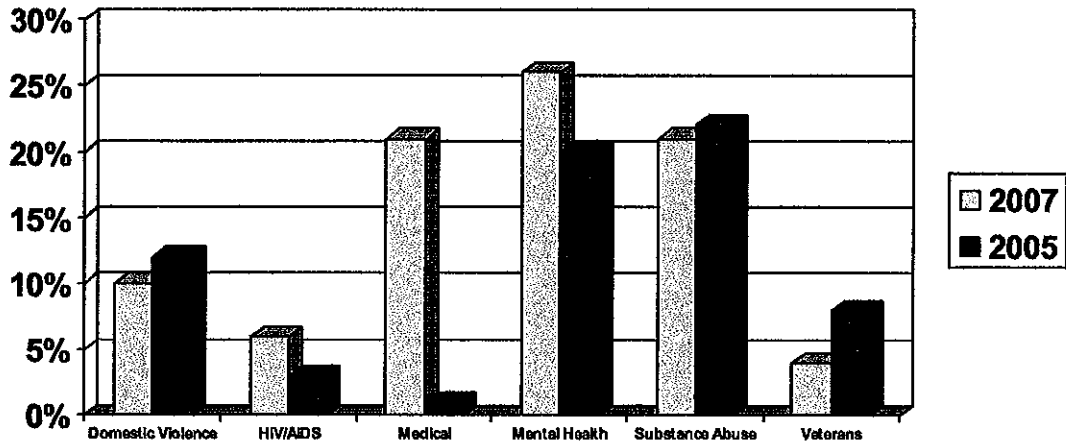
**COMPARISON OF 2007 AND 2005 PITC DATA**

In 2007, the number of homeless households identified in the PITC was 7% greater than the number identified in 2005. From 2005 to 2007, there was an increase in people sleeping in emergency shelters (43% in 2007 vs. 23% in 2005) and on the streets (13% in 2007 vs. 3% in 2005). In 2007, there was an increase in homeless people requesting mental health (26% vs. 20%).

**Sleeping Accomodations 2007 vs. 2005**



### Respondent Service Needs 2007 vs. 2005



### CHRONICALLY HOMELESS\*\*

HUD defines a chronic homeless citizen as an unaccompanied adult with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four homeless episodes in the last three years.

### Characteristics of the Chronic Homeless

<b>Total Chronic Homeless</b>	<b>188</b>	
Chronic Homeless, Unsheltered	67	36%
Chronic Homeless, Sheltered	121	64%

### **Chronically Homeless Percentage of Total Homeless Population**

Mercer County Homeless Count	1153
Chronic Homeless Percentage	16%

### **Gender, Chronic Homeless**

Male	140	74%
Female	48	26%

### **Median Age, Chronic Homeless**

Median	48
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### **Subpopulations, Chronic Homeless**

Mental Illness	54	29%
Substance Abuse	69	37%
Dually Diagnosis	65	35%

### **Race, Chronic Homeless**

Black	67%
White	21%
Other	12%

<b>Chronic Homeless Definition Met</b>	
Homeless in excess of one year	63%
Homeless 4 times over last 3 years	88%
<b>History of Foster Care</b>	37%

**\*\*All data in this report is generated solely on data that was generated from the 2007 Point-in-Time survey. Any discrepancies in data are due to the absence of questions on the survey being completed.**