

Alliance for Regional Solutions

Shelter Provided to the Homeless in North San Diego County Winter Shelters 2015-2016



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Introduction

The Alliance for Regional Solutions (ARS) collected client shelter stay data during its 2015-2016 Winter Shelter homeless services in North San Diego County. This report describes the number of clients that were sheltered, the demographic characteristics of these clients, the reason for their homelessness, the length of shelter provided to these clients, and what housing plans the clients had upon exiting the shelter program, plus a brief review of clients served during both the 2014-2015 winter season and the 2015-2016 winter season.

The ARS commissioned the Regional Task Force on the Homeless (RTFH) to analyze the 2015-2016 winter shelter data. The data was entered by winter shelter staff into a secure online database and extracted for analysis in July 2016.

Background

Each year in North San Diego County, six winter emergency shelters open up to provide shelter to the homeless during the coldest of the winter months – primarily December through April. For the 2015-2016 winter months, two of the six ARS shelters operated from the first week of December 2015 through the end of March 2016. A third shelter began operation in the third week of October 2015 and ended in the last week of March 2016; another began at the end of November 2015 and ran through the first week of February 2016. A fifth shelter began at the beginning of November 2015 and ran through end of March 2016; Haven House started operating from the last week of December 2015 and will continue throughout the year.

A. Data Collection

Shelter staff collected information about the residents that stayed in their respective shelters. This information included client demographics and information such as reason for homelessness, reasons for leaving the shelter, and planned destination upon exiting. The staff members entered the data into a secure online homeless management information system (HMIS) database called ServicePoint. In 2016 RTFH updated a data extraction report within ServicePoint and downloaded the winter shelter data into a collection of Microsoft Excel worksheets. Data represents ARS winter shelter program entries recorded in ServicePoint as of July, 2016.

B. Data Analysis

Most of the data manipulation was done using ServicePoint's Advanced Reporting Tool (ART Reports) capabilities, which generated the final numbers used in this report. All graphs and charts were created using Microsoft Excel.

C. Limitations

Any time data is collected there can be errors in the data collection or the data entry processes. During collection, data may not be completely collected, or it may be recorded erroneously or, in cases of clients already in the data system, changes in data may not be fully updated in the database. The error rate for data collection and data entry for this data set is largely unknown. Another limitation is that most questions primarily rely upon client self-report, which may or may not be truthful. Self-report, however, is often the only method available.

Lastly, yet importantly, these findings apply only to the persons who used these winter shelters, not to the homeless population at large in North San Diego or to all sheltered clients in San Diego. Whether or not these sheltered clients were similar to those served in other winter shelters in San Diego or to the general homeless population was not examined.

Results

A total of 538 unique individuals received shelter from the six 2015-2016 North San Diego ARS Winter Shelters. The four large Alliance North San Diego Shelters provided shelter service to 479 unique clients – 89% of the total number served (La Posada de Guadalupe, Bread of Life, Haven House, and Operation Hope) (Table 1).

A. Location and Length of Service

A total of 188 ARS beds were available to temporarily house homeless individuals in the North San Diego area during the winter months (Table 1). Together these beds enabled 16,041 bed-nights to be provided to the 538 clients served. Program utilization (bed-nights used / bed-nights available) ranged from 39% to 85% (utilization data not shown).

The 538 unique clients stayed in the North San Diego Winter Shelters for an average of 30 nights, although the number of nights per client ranged from 1 to 160. Sixty percent (60%) of the clients were sheltered for 30 nights or less, forty percent (40%) for more than 30 nights (Graph 1).

Twenty-four of the 538 clients (4%) utilized more than one shelter location during the season, and 69 of the 538 clients (13%) exited and re-entered the North County Winter Shelter system more than once during the season (not graphed). Those 69 clients account for 209 separate client stays during the season.

Table 1. Shelter Capacity and Shelter Provided, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters

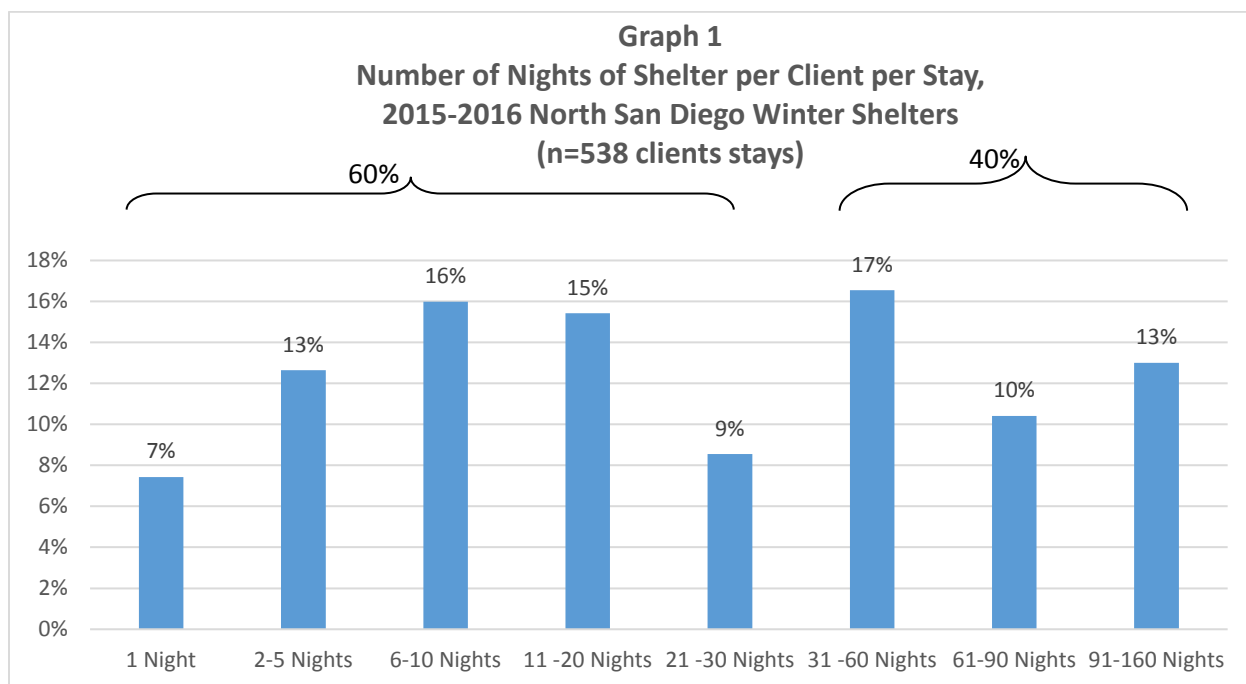
Program Name <i>Clients served</i>	Program Capacity			Shelter Provided	
	Number of Beds ¹	Number of Operating Nights ²	Bed-Nights Available ³	Bed-Nights Used ⁴	Total Clients Sheltered
Interfaith Shelter Network Coastal <i>Men, women and families</i>	12	160	1920	1288	42
Interfaith Shelter Network Inland <i>Men, women and families</i>	12	70	840	335	17
La Posada de Guadalupe <i>Men</i>	20	122	2440	1641	169
Operation Hope <i>Families and women</i>	45	151	6795	5143	103
Bread of Life <i>Men and women</i>	50	122	6100	5156	103
Haven House <i>Men and women</i>	49	130	6370	2478	104
Total	188	755	24465	16041	538

¹ Number reported by project staff.

² Dates of operation reported by project staff; operating nights were calculated based on what was reported to the RTFH during the 2015 Housing Inventory Count (HIC).

³ The number of beds times the number of operating nights.

⁴ One person staying one night is a bed-night.



¹ Clients with multiple shelter stays were combined for a cumulative total of shelter nights.

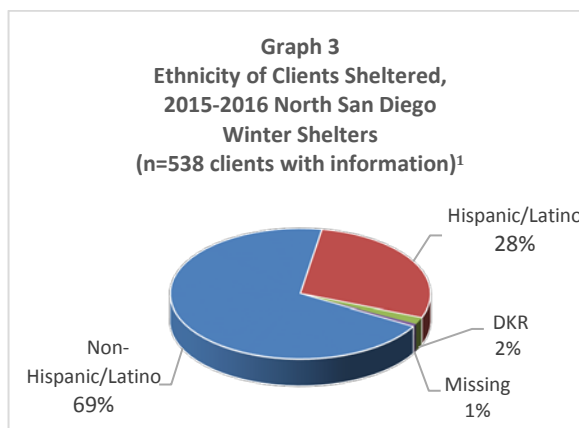
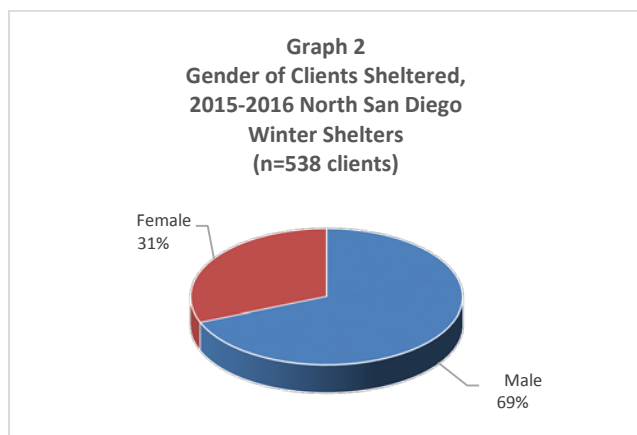
² When unrounded numbers are summed, sixty-two percent (62%) utilized the shelter for 30 nights or less, and thirty-eight percent (38%) utilized the shelter for 31 or more nights.

B. Demographic and Prior Living Situation Information

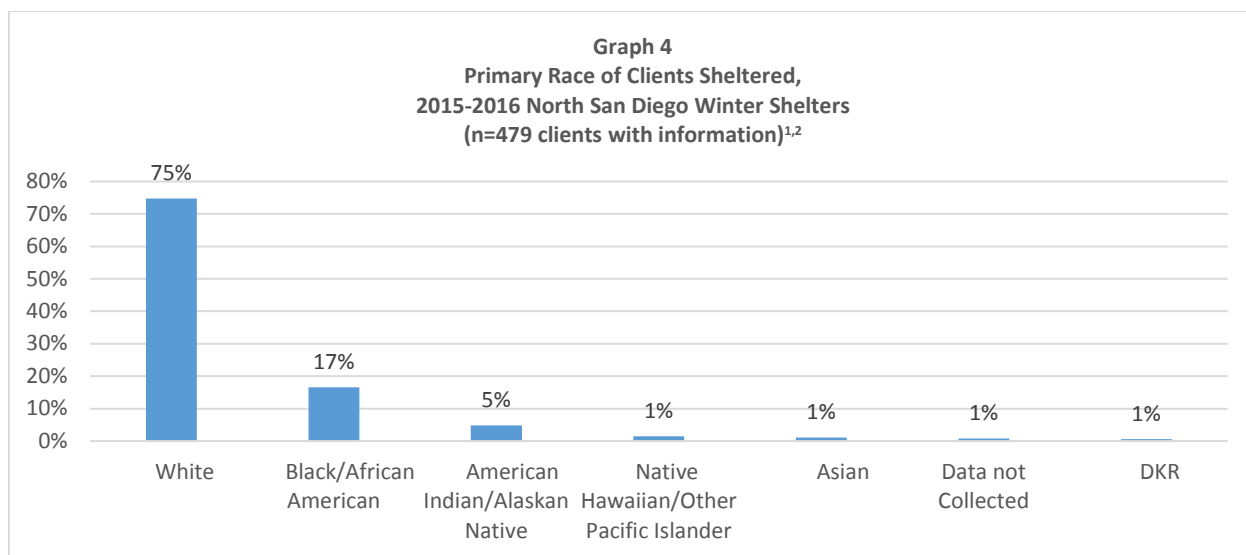
Demographic and prior living situation information for the clients served is presented below. Most data was collected on both adults and children entering the shelter.

1. Information Collected from All Clients

As seen in the graphs that follow, most sheltered individuals were males and Non-Hispanic/Latino (Graphs 2 and 3). The large majority (75%) identified as White, followed distantly by Black/African-American (17%) (Graph 4).



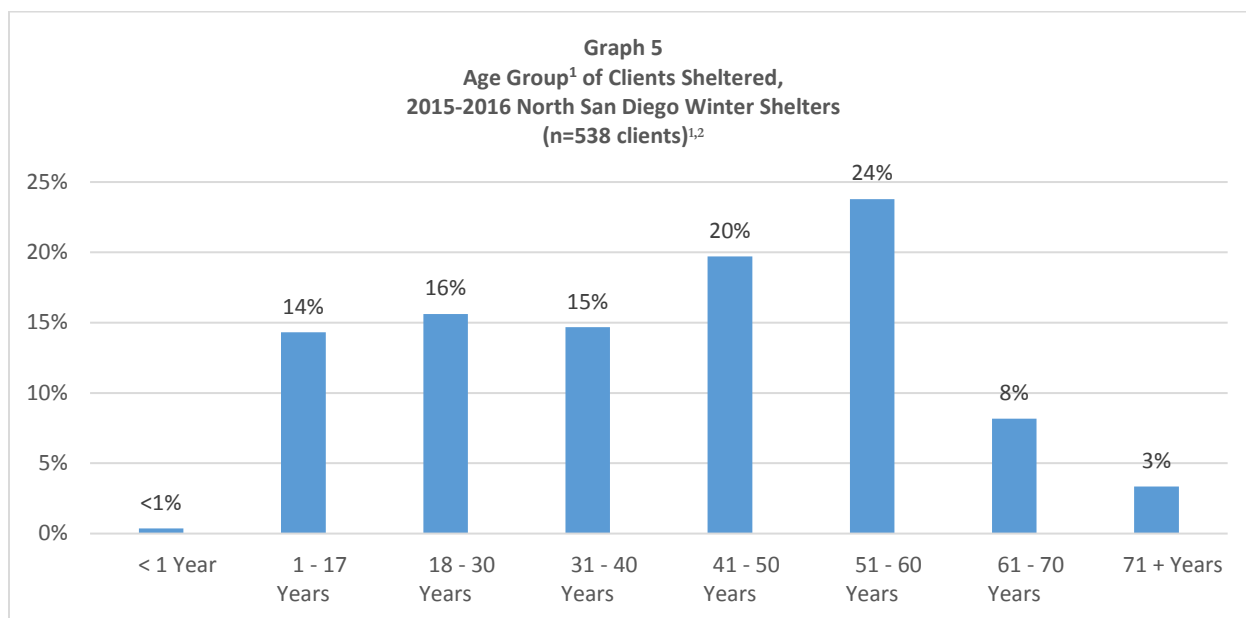
¹ Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused were collapsed into one category, "DKR".



¹ Percentages may add up to be greater than 100% due to rounding.

² Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused were collapsed into one category, "DKR".

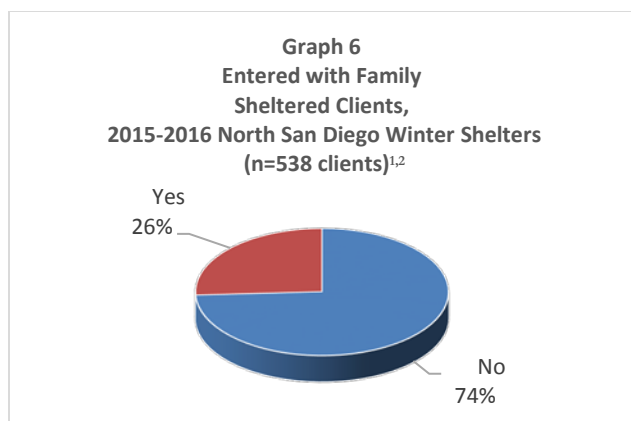
In total, over one-third (35%) of the clients sheltered were over the age of 50 years. Children (17 years or younger) made up 15% of those served (Graph 5). Fifty-one percent (51%) of the total clients sheltered were between the ages of 18 and 50.



¹ Age at first program entry during the 2015-2016 shelter season.

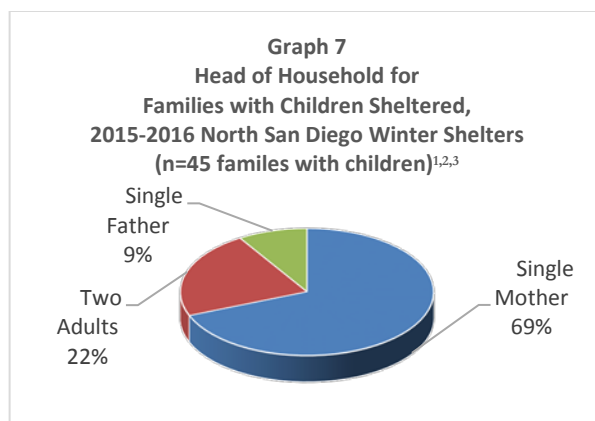
² Percentages may add up to be greater than 100% due to rounding.

About one-quarter (26%) of all clients entered a shelter as a part of a family group (Graph 6). Over two-thirds (69%) of the families with children were headed by a single adult female, while only 9% were headed by a single adult male (Graph 7).



¹ 'Family' includes persons in multi-adult households and persons in households with children.

² The 'No' category includes persons entering as individuals, and includes persons whose first entry during the season was as a single adult, but who subsequently entered with a child.

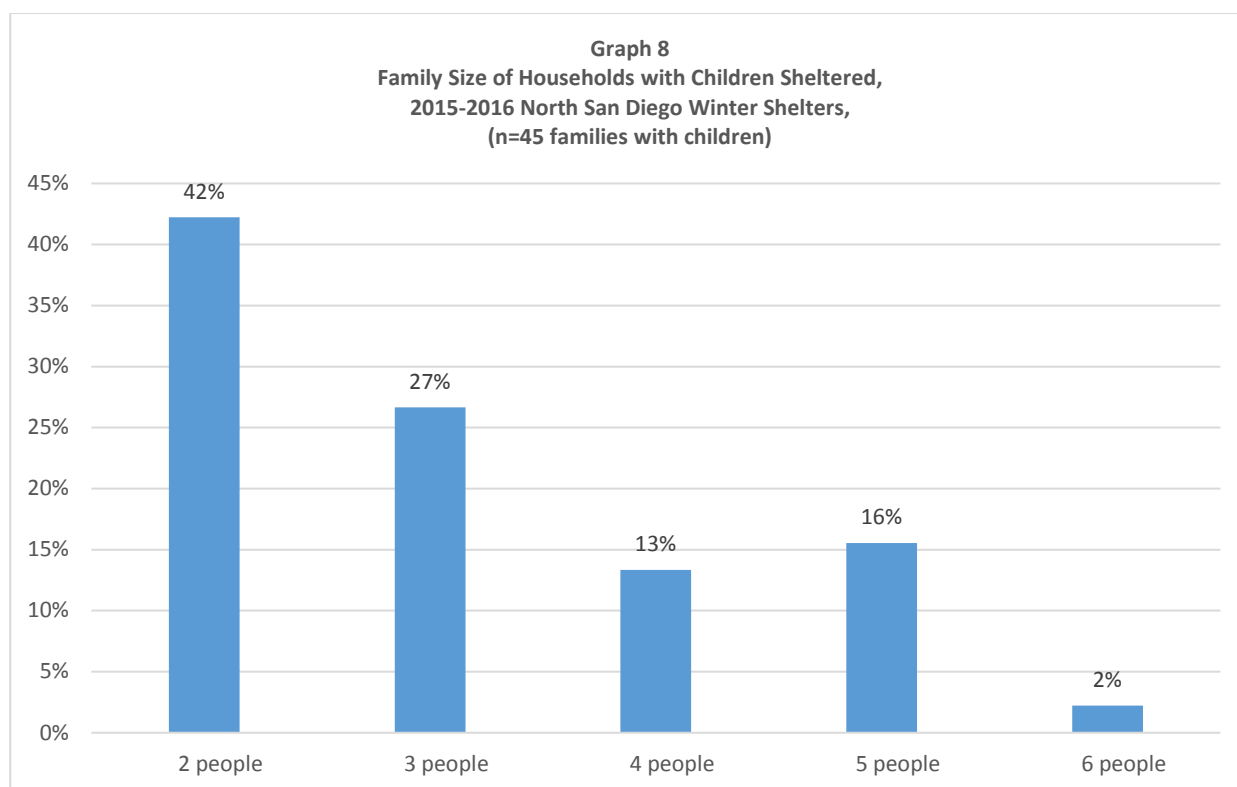


¹ One adult female per household with child(ren).

² One adult female and one adult male per household with child(ren).

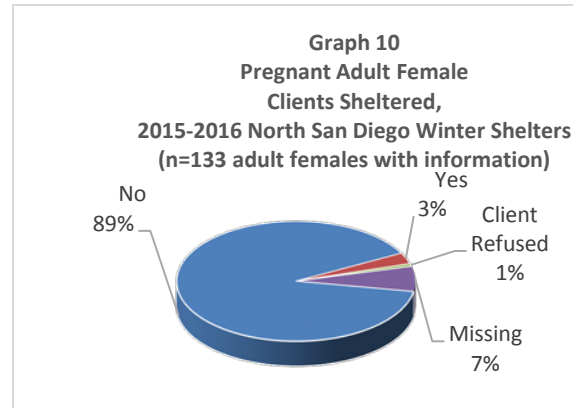
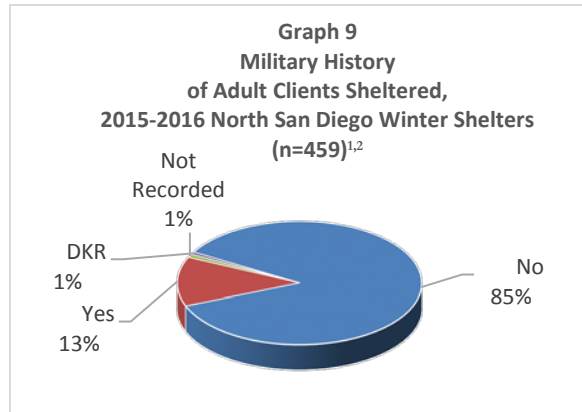
³ One adult male per household with child(ren).

Close to half (42%) of the families with children were comprised of two people – an adult and a child – while less than a quarter (18%) were made up of five or more individuals (Graph 8).



2. Information Collected from Adult Clients

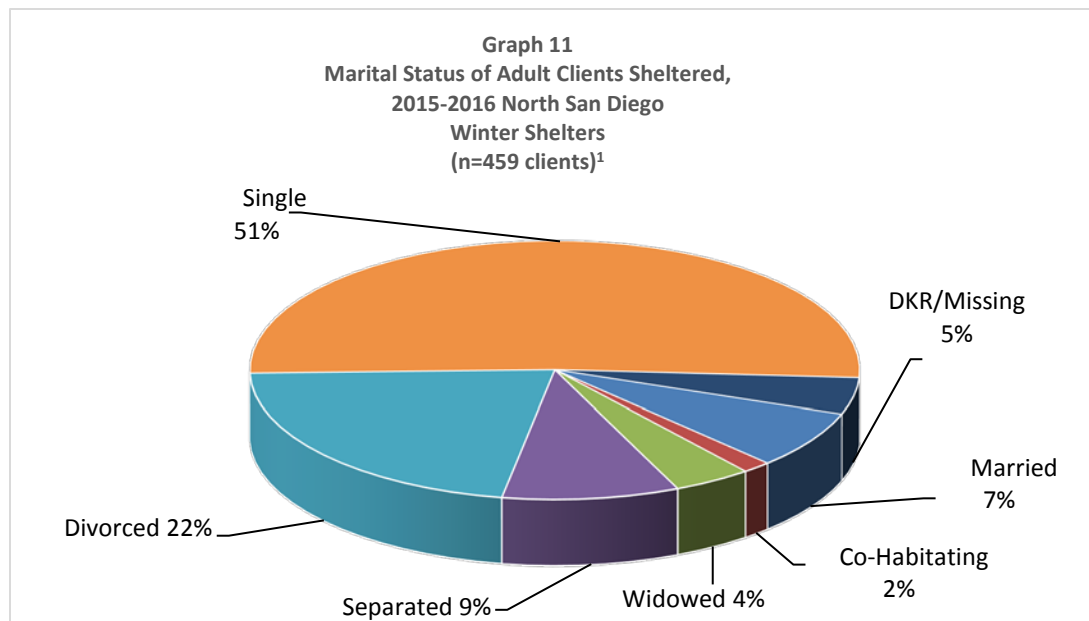
Some demographic information was collected only for adult clients aged 18 and older. Thirteen percent (13%) of adults indicated a history of military service (Graph 9). This is up from 11% in the previous 2014-2015 season (Alliance for Regional Solutions, July 2015).



¹ Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused were collapsed into one category, "DKR".

² Percentages may or may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

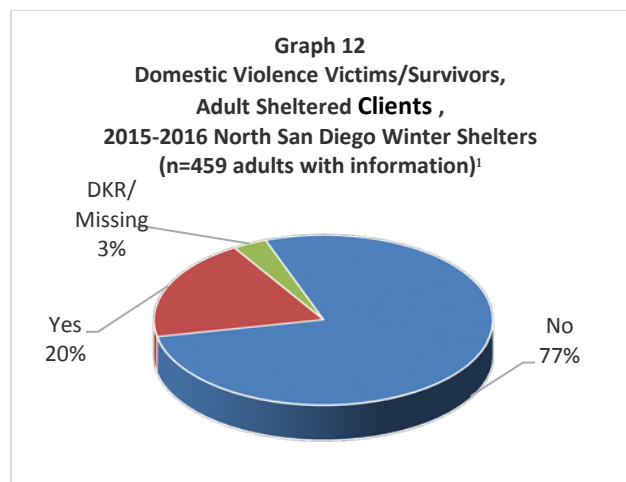
Of the 133 adult female clients for whom pregnancy status was recorded, 3% reported being pregnant at the time of entry (Graph 10). This is lower than the 5% reported in the previous 2014-2015 season (Alliance for Regional Solutions, July 2015).



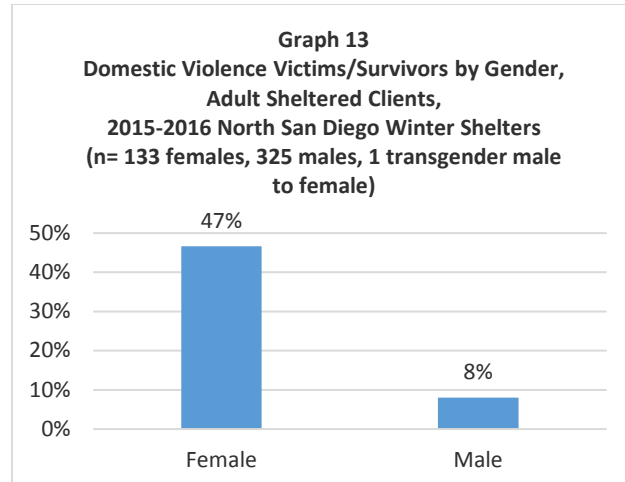
¹ Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused/Missing were collapsed into one category, "DKR/Missing".

Over one-half (51%) of adult clients served by the North County winter shelters identified as single (unmarried) (Graph 11). Seven-percent (7%) were married and 2% were co-habiting. Over one-quarter (31%) were either divorced or separated, and 4% were widowed.

Twenty percent (20%) of adults reported being domestic violence victims/survivors (Graph 12). When examined by gender, close to half (47%) of the female adults and 8% of the male adults reported being domestic violence victims/survivors (Graph 13).



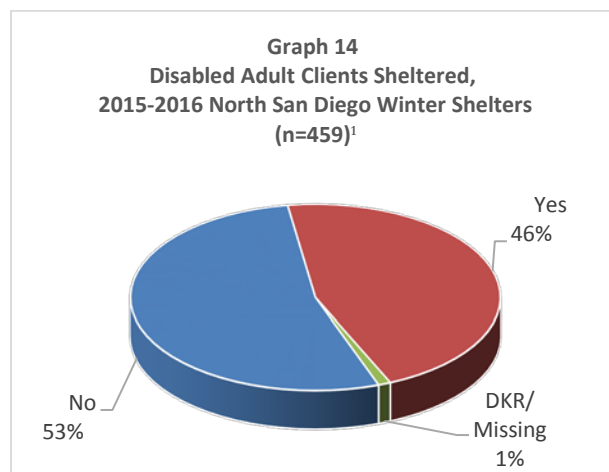
¹ Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused were collapsed into one category, "DKR".



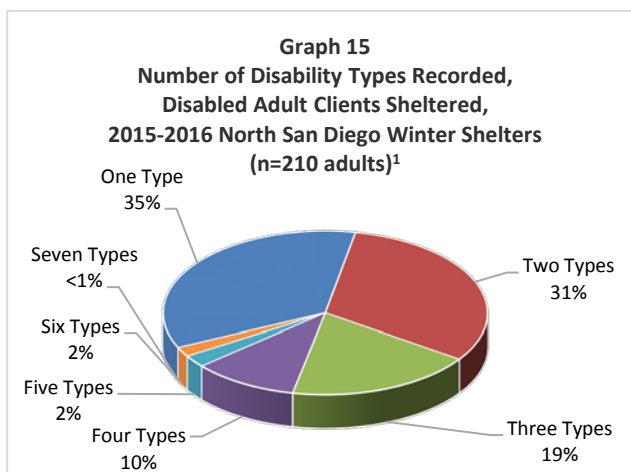
¹ One transgender male to female is not shown in the graph.

A little less than half (46%) of adults reported having a disabling condition (Graph 14). Mental health problem and physical were most frequently cited (56% each), followed by chronic health condition (46%), both alcohol and drug abuse (18%), drug abuse (17%), and alcohol abuse (16%). Few reported a developmental disability (12%) and HIV/AIDS (1%) (Graph 16).

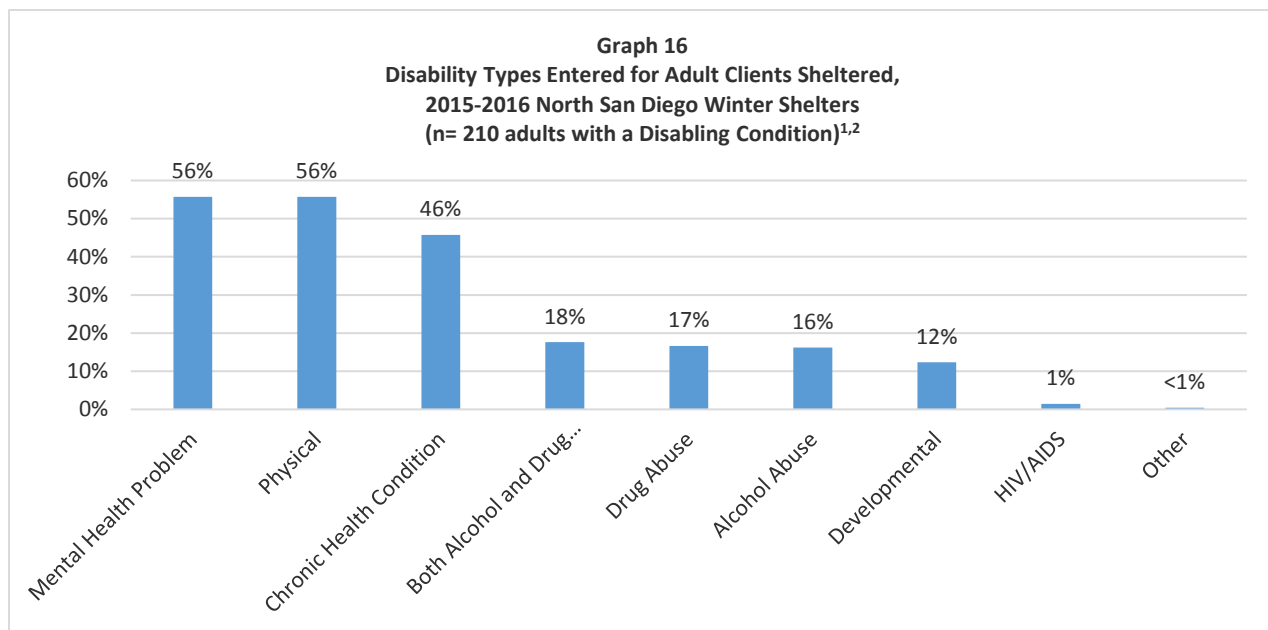
Of the adults reporting a type of disabling condition, 65% reported having two or more co-occurring conditions. Thirty-five percent (35%) reported having only one type of disability. Thirty-one percent (31%) reported having two co-occurring disabling conditions. Four percent (4%) reported having five or more disability types.



¹ Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused/Missing were collapsed into one category, "DKR/Missing".



¹ Percentages may or may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

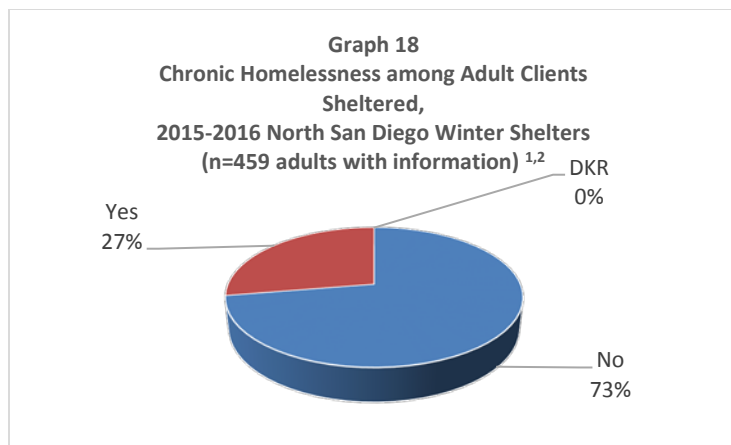


¹ Percentage of disabled adults reporting each disability type.

² Percentages may add up to be greater than 100% because clients could report more than one disability type.

Chronic homelessness is characterized by extended or frequent homelessness (living on the streets, in emergency shelters, or in a safe haven) plus the presence of a long-term disabling condition (Graph 18 footnote 3). This season, over one quarter (27%) of the adults served were chronically homeless.

Information from other sources state that the chronically homeless spend a long period of time - often years - either living in shelters or on the streets or cycling between hospitals, emergency rooms, jails, prisons, and mental health and substance abuse treatment facilities. The chronically homeless have also been shown to be very expensive in terms of costs incurred by public systems of care, although they may only represent a small percentage of the entire homeless population (National Alliance to End Homelessness, March 2007). Therefore, it is important to identify the chronically homeless among our homeless population, so proper interventions can be realized.

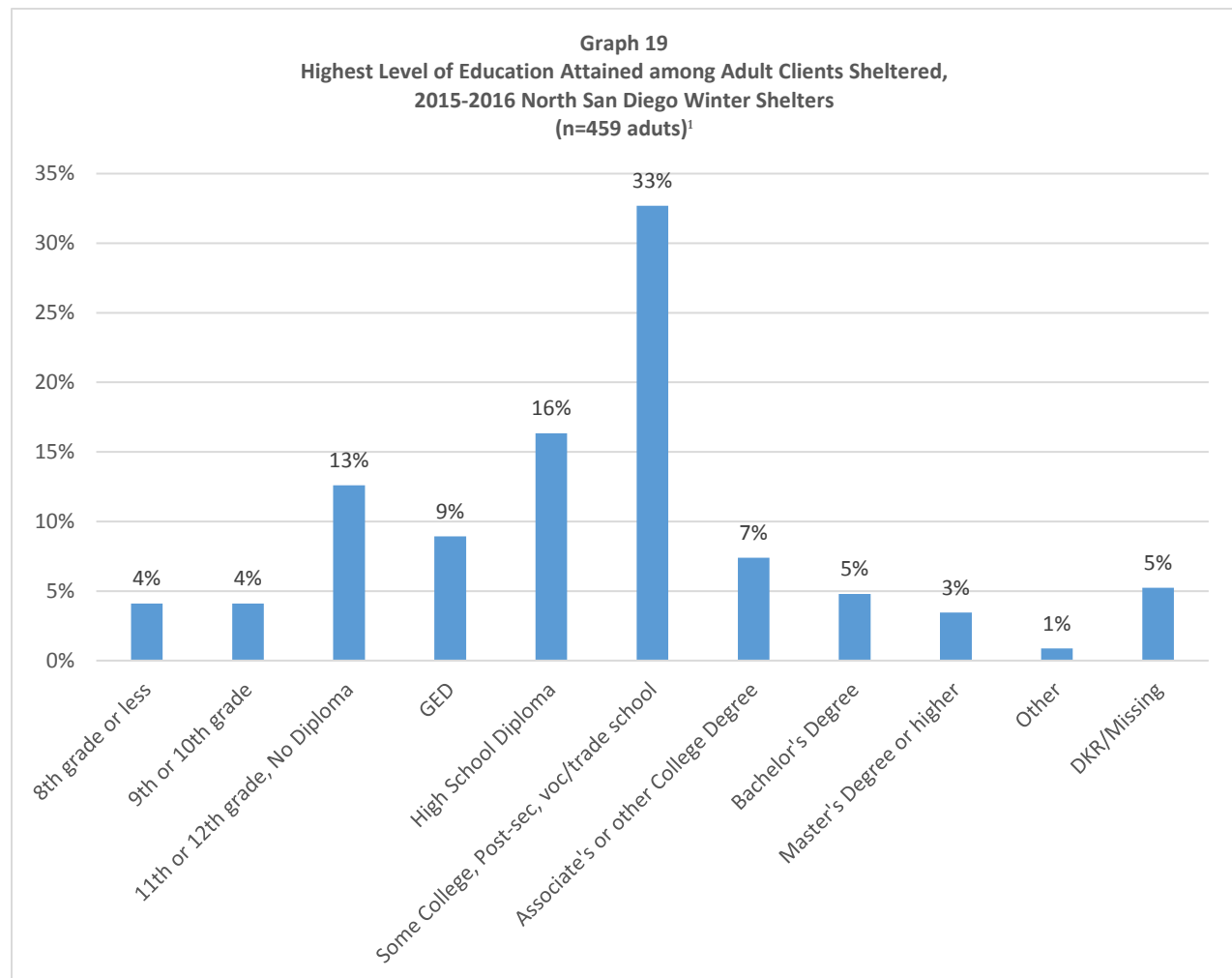


¹ In this analysis, all adults were included without consideration for family status.

² HUD Chronic Homelessness Definition: an individual (1) with a disabling condition or expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs ability to live independently of physical disability, developmental disability, chronic health condition, HIV/AIDS, mental health problem or substance abuse, and (2) who enter from streets, emergency shelter or safe haven, and (3) has been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years, OR (4) a household member of a head of household (who may be a child) or any adult in the household meeting the previous disability & homelessness criteria outlined in 1, 2 and 3. (HMIS Standard Reporting Terminology Glossary, October 2015, Version 2.2).

Information about education levels were collected for all clients, however for this report only information about adults is described (Graph 19). Data collected by project staff show that more than a half (58%) of adult clients have graduated from high school, attained a GED, or have college experience but did not acquire a

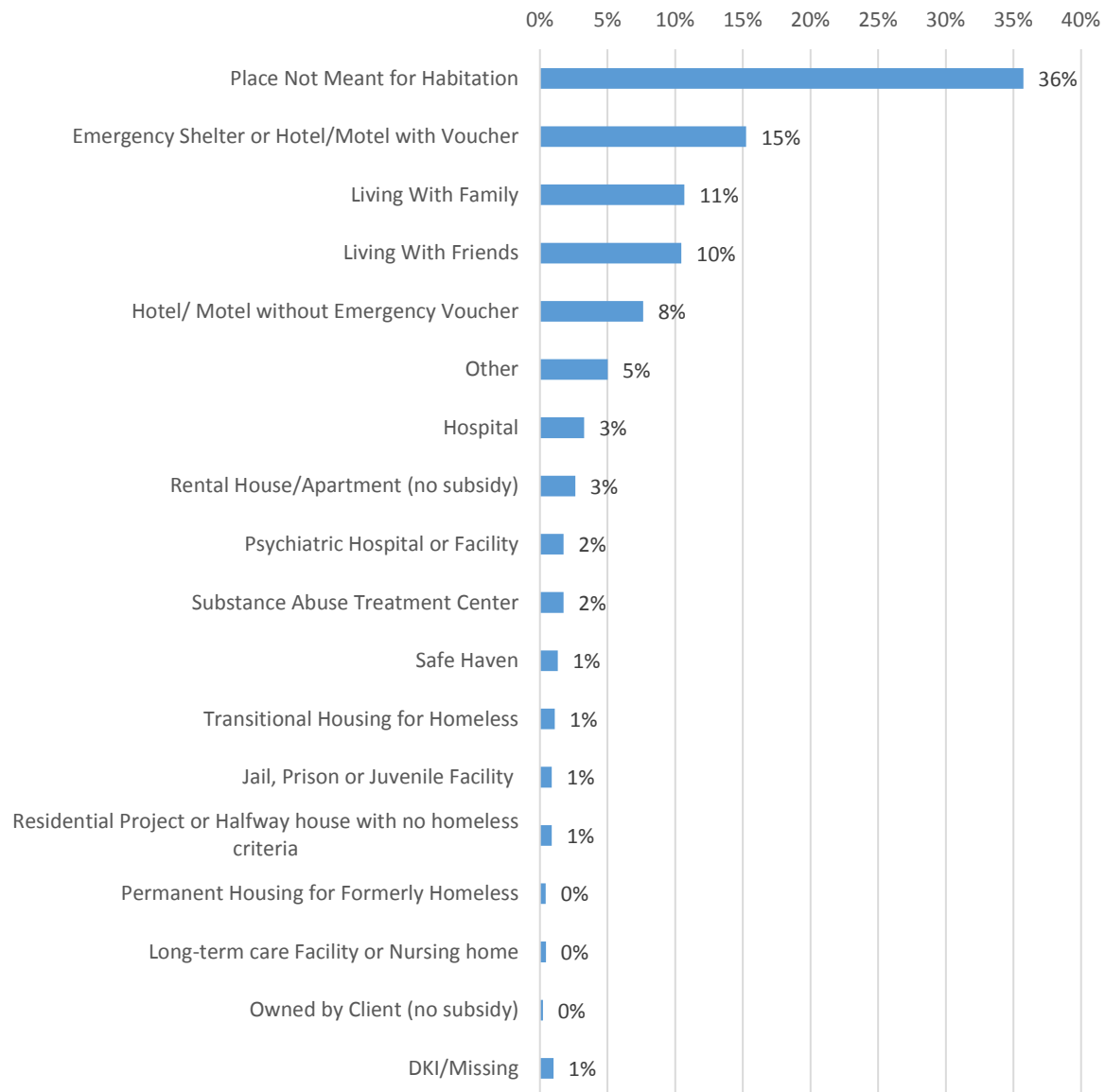
degree, and 15% have completed some sort of college degree. Seventeen percent (17%) have 9th to 12th grade completion (no diploma), and only 4% have lower than a 9th grade education level.



¹ Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused/Missing were collapsed into one category, "DKR/Missing".

Information describing clients' living situation the night before entry into a shelter program was recorded for most adult clients (Graph 20). The most commonly reported living situation was a 'place not meant for human habitation' (36%) and represents locations such as on the street, in a car, in an abandoned building, in a field, under a highway overpass, or any other similar place. The next most commonly reported prior living situations were 'hotel/motel paid for with an emergency shelter voucher' (15%), living with family (11%), and living with friends (10%).

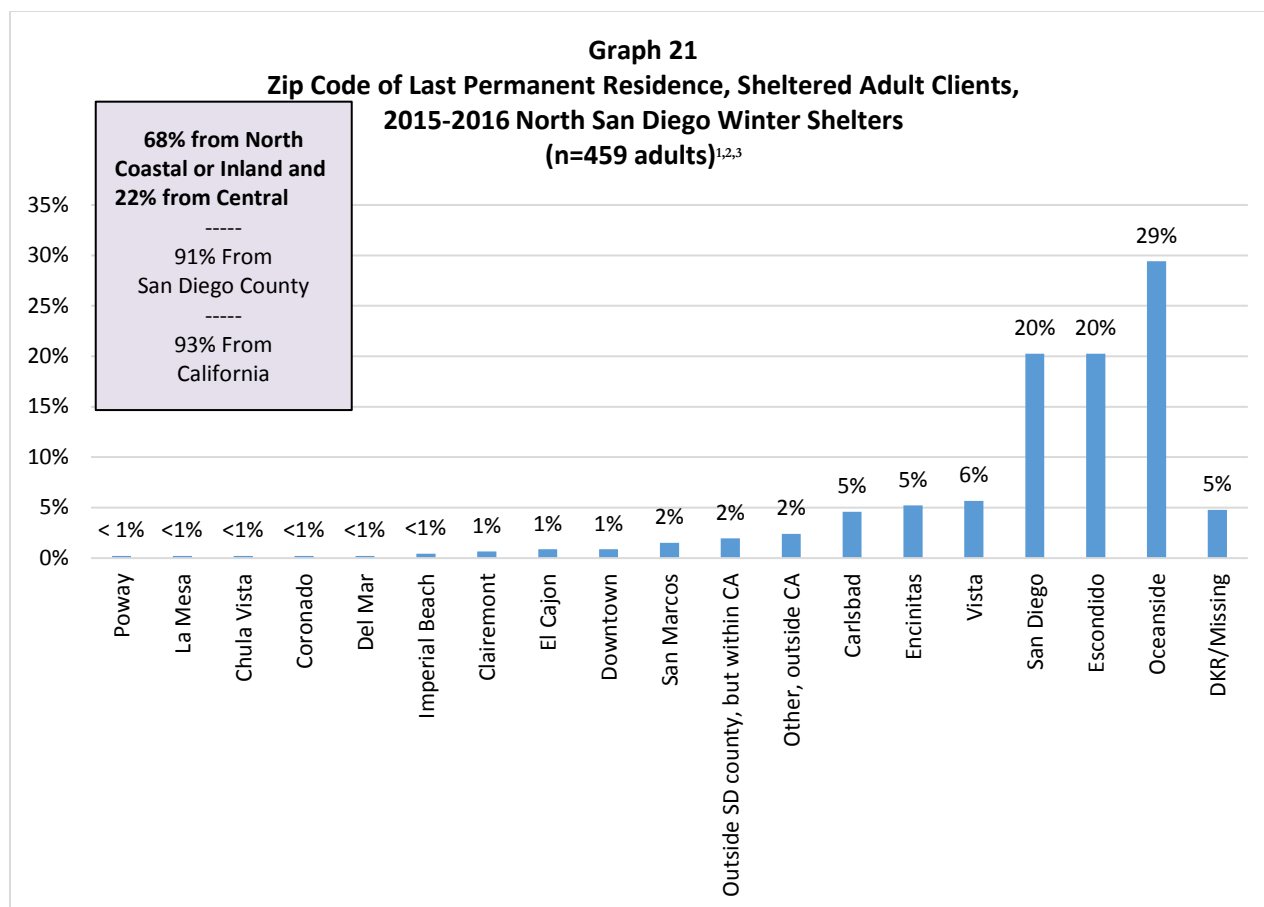
Graph 20
Living Situation Prior to First Shelter Night for Sheltered Adult Clients,
2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters
(n=459 adults)^{1,2}



¹ Percentages may add up to be greater than 100% percent due to rounding.

² Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused/Missing were collapsed into one category, "DKR/Missing".

Of adult clients providing information about their zip code of last permanent residence (90 days or longer), approximately two out of three (68%) reported living within Northern San Diego County, primarily in Oceanside (29%), Escondido (20%), Vista (6%), Carlsbad (5%), Encinitas (5%), San Marcos (2%), Del Mar (<1%), and Poway (<1%) (Graph 21). Approximately one out of five (22%) adults reported their last permanent residence in central San Diego. The vast majority (93%) of all adult clients reported their location of last permanent residence as being within the state of California.



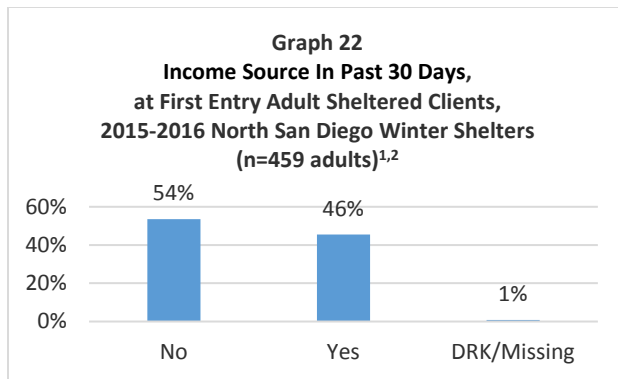
¹ Percentages may add up to be greater than 100% percent due to rounding.

² Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused/Missing were collapsed into one category, "DKR/Missing".

³ Not graphed are Fallbrook, Rancho Bernardo, Spring Valley, San Ysidro, Alpine, Bonsall, Cardiff, Dulzura, Lakeside, National City, Pauma Valley, and Warner Springs, which all had zero percent.

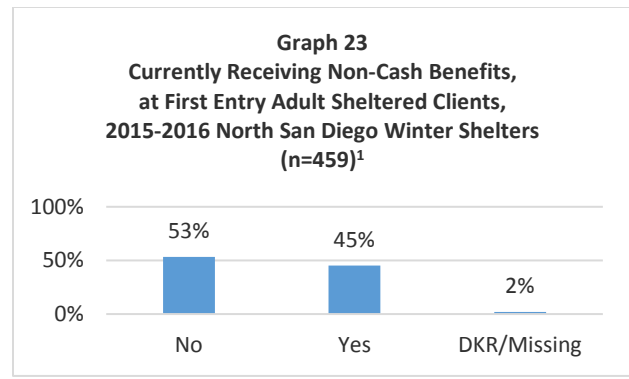
C. Income, Non-Cash Benefits, and Employment Situation

Information regarding whether or not income and/or non-cash benefits had been received was recorded for adult clients served. Forty-six percent (46%) of adult clients reported having at least one source of income, and 54% said they did not have any source of income (Graph 22). Forty-five percent (45%) of adult clients reported that they were receiving non-cash benefits, while 53% responded they were not (Graph 23). Clients with income most commonly reported earned income (48%), SSI (35%), or SSDI (21%) (Graph 24). Among clients' receiving non-cash benefits, 99% indicated receiving SNAP (food stamps). Clients could report more than one source of income or non-cash benefit (Appendix A, Table 12).

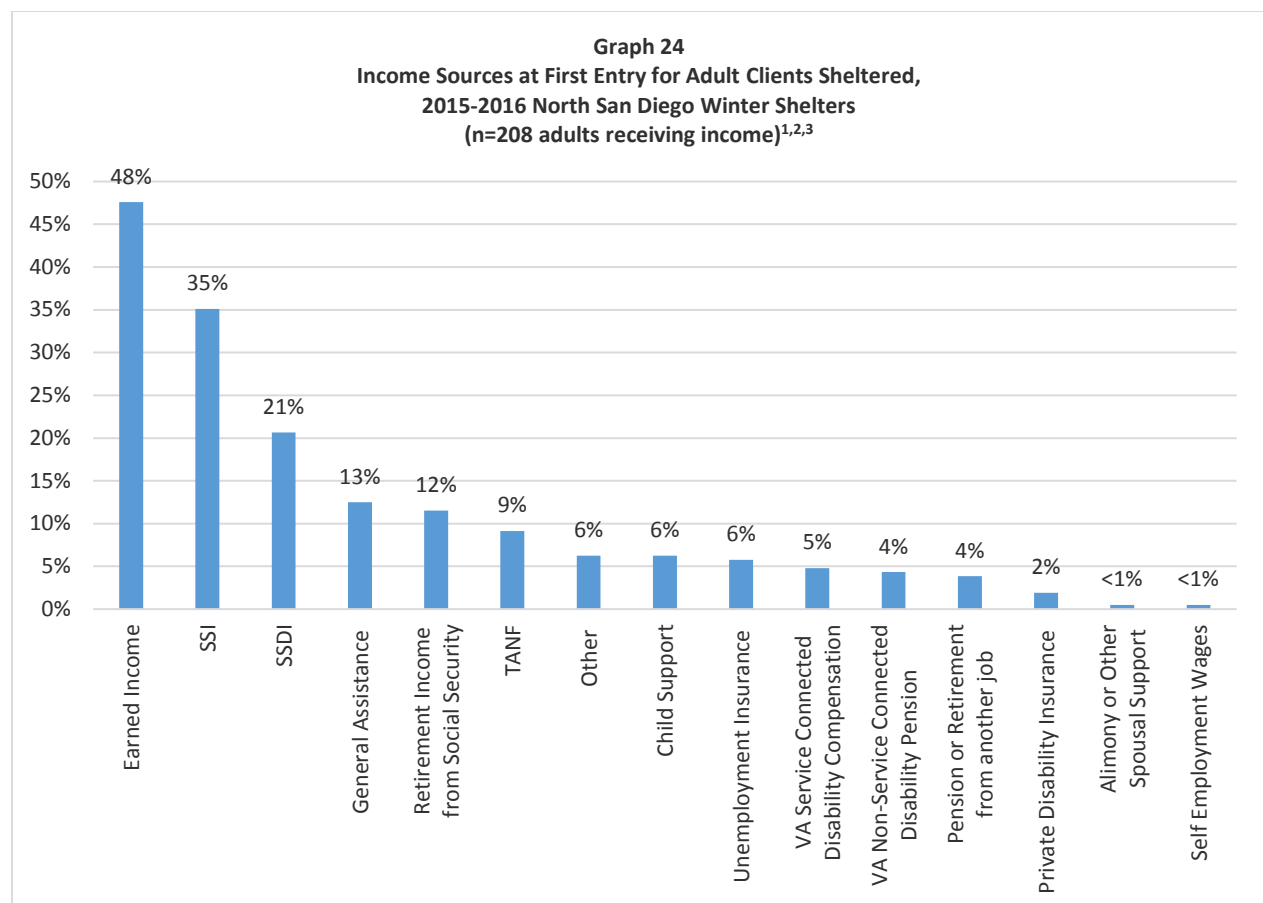


¹ Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused/Missing were collapsed into one category, "DKR/Missing".

² Percentages may add up to be more than 100% due to rounding.



¹ Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused/Missing were collapsed into one category, "DKR/Missing".



¹ Percentage of disabled adults reporting each income source.

² Percentages may add up to be greater than 100% as clients could report more than one source of income.

³ Worker's Compensation is not graphed because it is zero percent.

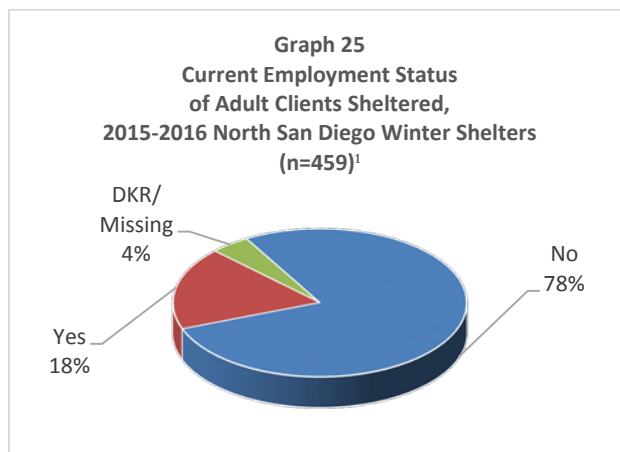
This year, the amount of income received from various income sources was recorded by staff. Among the 208 adults reporting receiving income within the date of inquiry, income amounts ranged from a minimum of \$2.00 to a maximum of \$2,258 from all sources (Table 2, footnote 1). The median value was \$147 and the average across clients receiving income was \$218.

Table 2. Income Amount of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=208 adults with income amounts reported) ¹

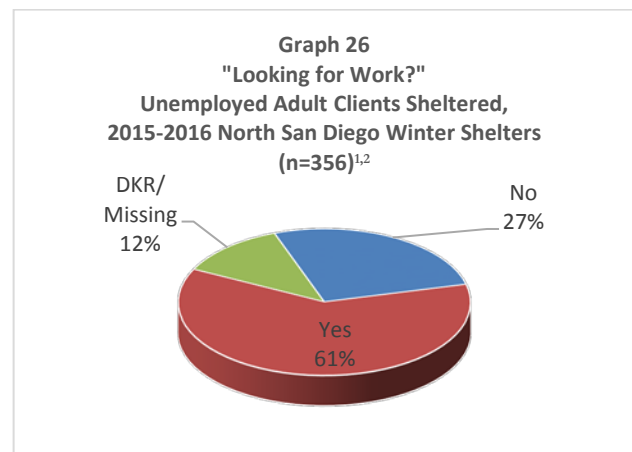
Summary of Income Amounts Reported			
Minimum	Maximum	Median	Average
\$2.00	\$2,258	\$147	\$218

¹ Income amounts from all sources totaled for each client.

Only eighteen percent (18%) of adult clients reported current employment during the season (Graph 25). Of those, 41% reported having permanent work, while 24% were temporary or seasonal workers (Appendix A, Table 14). Of the unemployed clients, three-fifths (61%) reported that they were looking for work (Graph 26).



¹ Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused/Missing were collapsed into one category, "DKR/Missing".

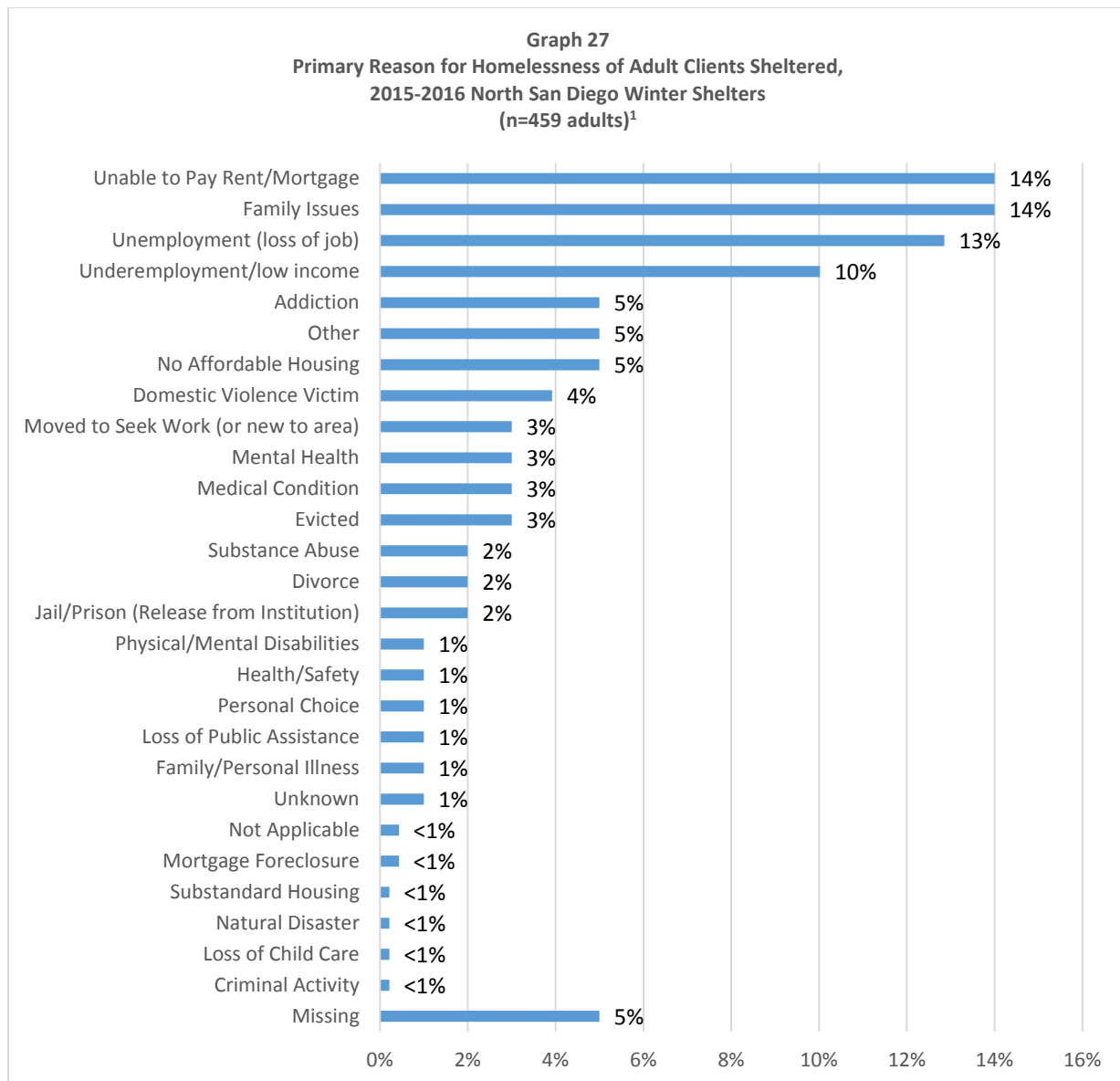


¹ Total number of clients reporting other than being currently employed.

² Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused/Missing were collapsed into one category, "DKR/Missing".

D. Primary Reason for Homelessness

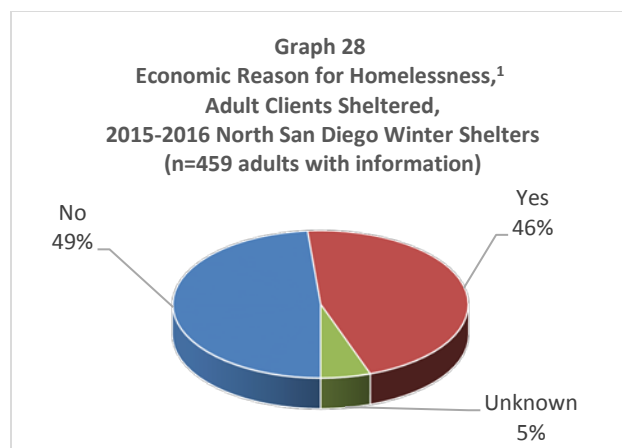
Among the adult clients served in the North County Winter Shelters during the 2015-2016 season, the most often cited primary reasons for homelessness were inability to pay rent/mortgage and family issues, which each represented 14% of adult clients (Graph 27). The third and fourth most commonly reported reasons were unemployment (loss of job) and underemployment/low income for a combined 23%. Addiction, other, and no affordable housing were the next most common reasons, at 5% each.



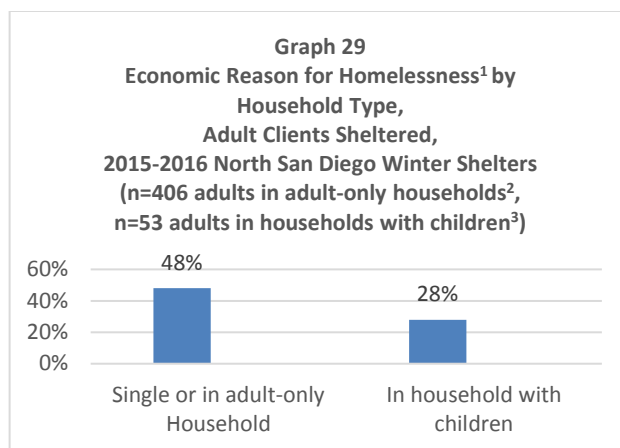
¹ Percentages may add up to be less or greater than 100% due to rounding.

In order to better understand the population being served by North County winter shelters, several responses were collapsed into a proxy describing an ‘economic reason’ for homelessness. These responses included: *unemployment (loss of job), underemployment/ low income, unable to pay rent/ mortgage, no affordable housing, mortgage foreclosure, evicted, or loss of public assistance*. Forty-six percent (46%) of the adults who reported a known primary reason for homelessness cited an economic reason (Graph 28). This is a decrease from the prior season which reported 58% as an economic reason for homelessness (Alliance for Regional Solutions, July 2015).

When comparing adults sheltered without children to adults sheltered as part of a family with children, those with children cited an economic reason for homelessness much less frequently than the adults without children (28% versus 48% respectively) (Graph 29).



¹ See the first paragraph on this page for ‘Economic Reason’ response criteria.

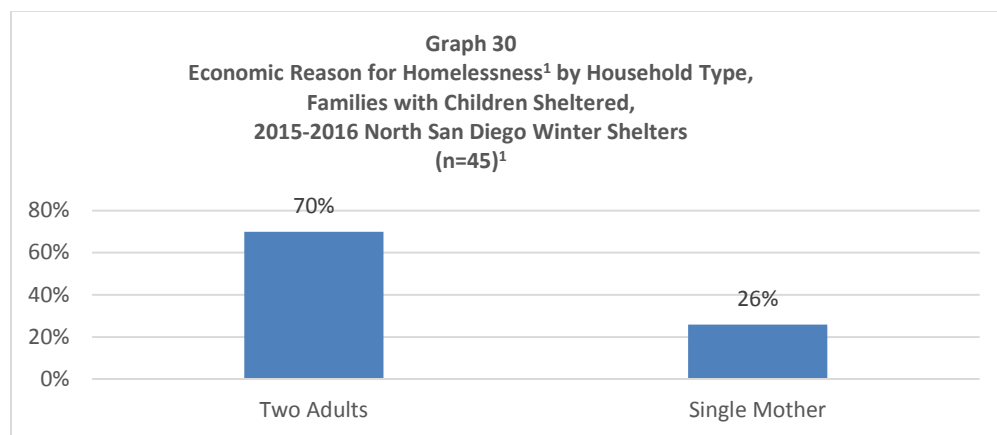


¹ See the first paragraph on this page for ‘Economic Reason’ response criteria.

² Total and percentage of adults with information at entry ‘with at least one child’ versus without accompanying child(ren); children are ≤ 17 years of age; missing/not recorded information and responses of “Unknown” reason for homelessness were excluded from the total.

³ Adults in households with children includes households with at least one adult (> 18 years of age) and one child (< 17 years of age)

Of the 45 sheltered families with children, the proportion citing an economic reason for homelessness varied by family-type, from 26% among the single-mother households to 70% of two-parent households, and none of the single-father households (Graph 30).

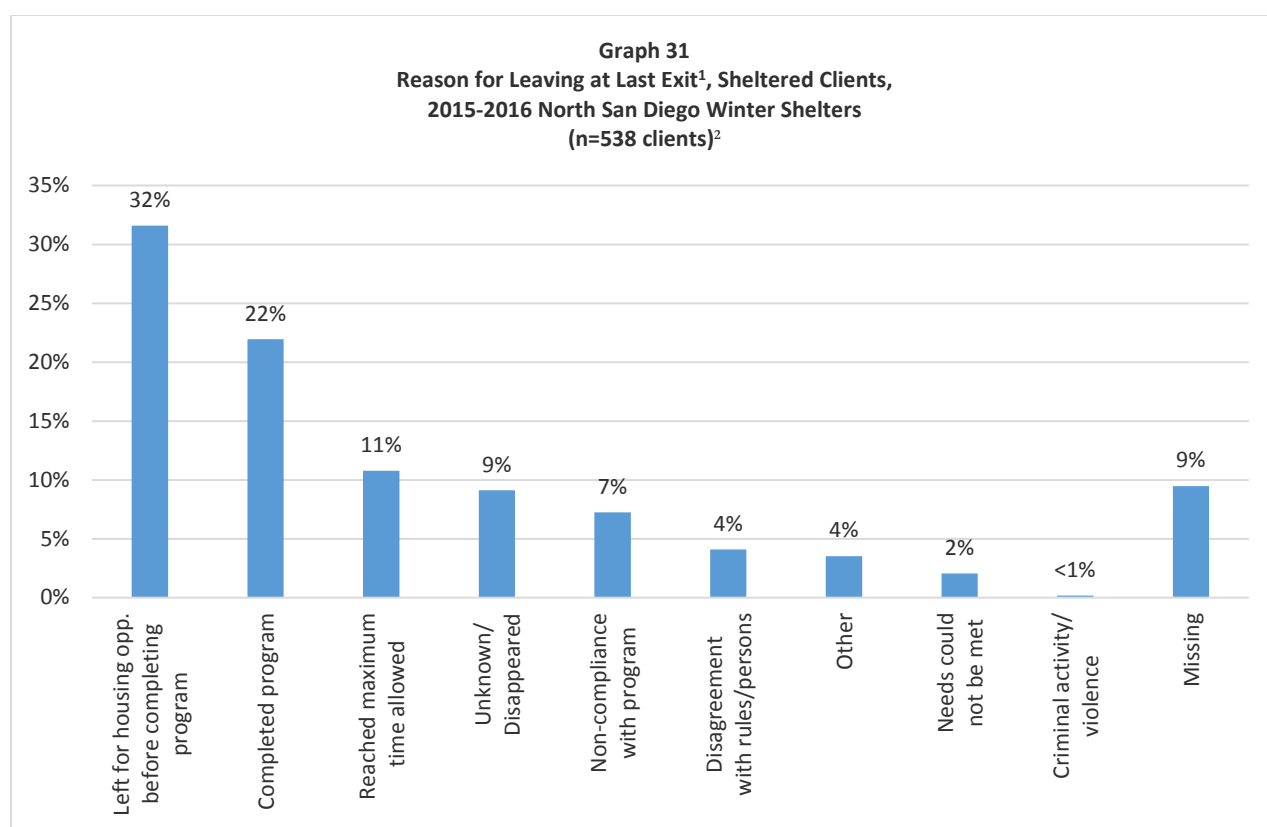


¹ See the first paragraph in this page for ‘Economic Reason’ response criteria.

It should be noted that persons are often homeless for a variety of reasons and may or may not state the most underlying or meaningful reason for their homelessness. For instance, a person suffering from a major mental illness may indicate ‘unemployment’ as the reason for their homelessness when the real issue may be an inability to get treatment for their mental health or an inability to maintain regular employment due to their mental illness.

E. Reason for Leaving the Shelter and Destination

Upon preparing to leave the winter shelter, reasons for ending the shelter stay were noted by case managers (Graph 31). The most frequently reported response was that clients left for another housing opportunity (32%) and the next two common reasons for leaving the shelter were that clients completed the program (22%) and reached maximum time allowed (11%). Nine percent (9%) of a client’s reason for leaving was unknown because the client disappeared and did not reappear for services. A combined 11% were either non-compliant with program rules or disagreed with rules or persons.

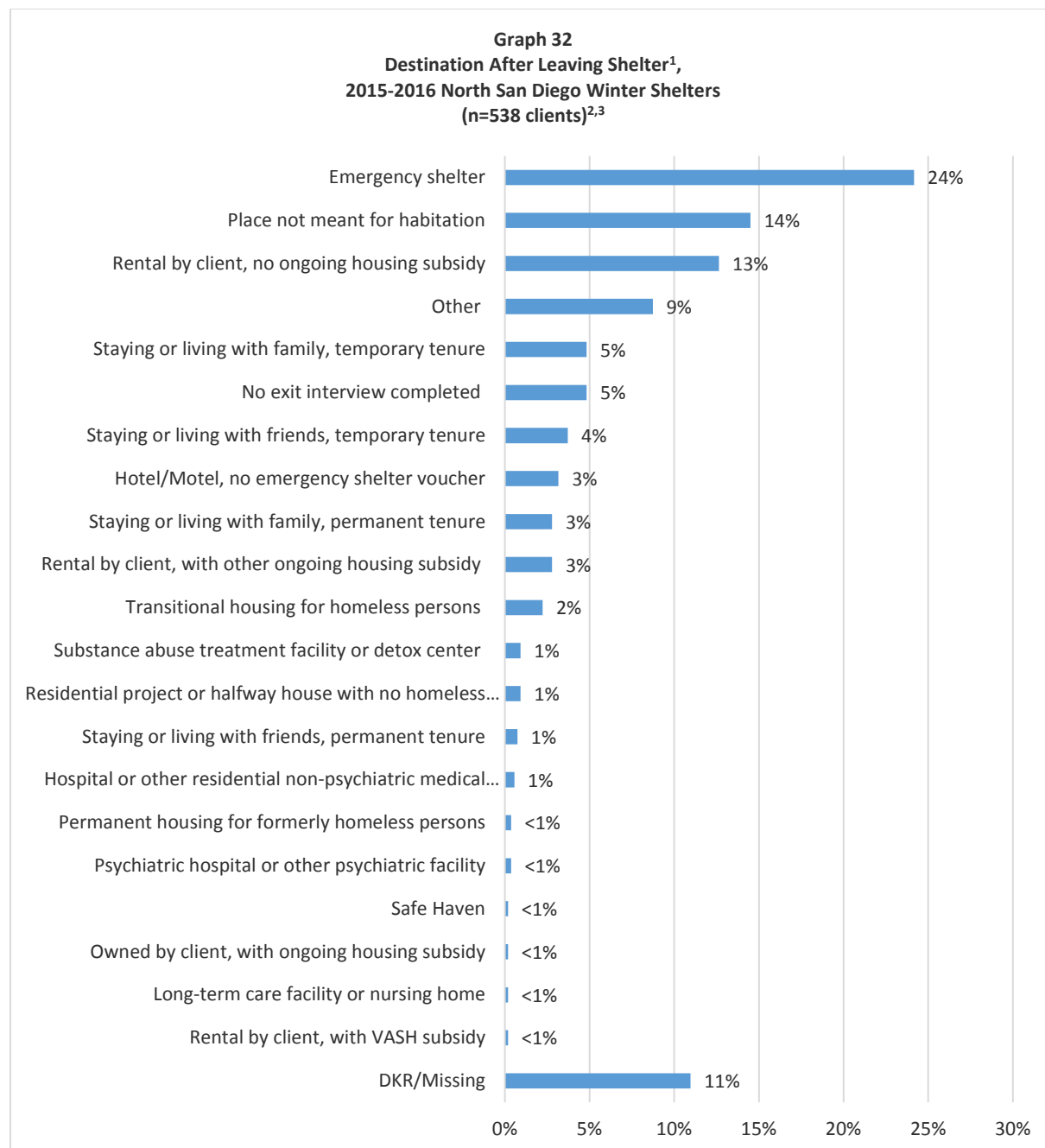


¹ Reason for leaving at last exit from North County Winter Shelters.

² Percentages may add up to or greater than 100% due to rounding.

It should be noted that staff were instructed to select ‘Completed Program’ when the client met the self-sufficiency benchmarks of having earned income, and safe, stable housing. Therefore, ‘left for housing opportunity before completing the program’ was selected for clients who transferred to another housing program (e.g., Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or another housing situation) without meeting the program’s self-sufficiency definition.

As reported, a combined 11% stated they did not know where they were going to go after leaving the winter shelter, or they knew but did not report this information to the case managers (Graph 32). The rest of the clients had some type of destination, most often another emergency shelter (24%), a place not meant for human habitation (e.g. car, outdoors) (14%), or a rental (without subsidy) (13%). Five percent (5%) were going to stay with family on a temporary basis and five percent (5%) had no exit interview completed. In total, twenty-one percent (21%) of clients specified a permanent destination: a rental with no subsidy, staying with family permanently, a rental with subsidy, staying with friends permanently, permanent housing for formerly homeless persons, an owned home with no subsidy, or rental by client with VASH subsidy).

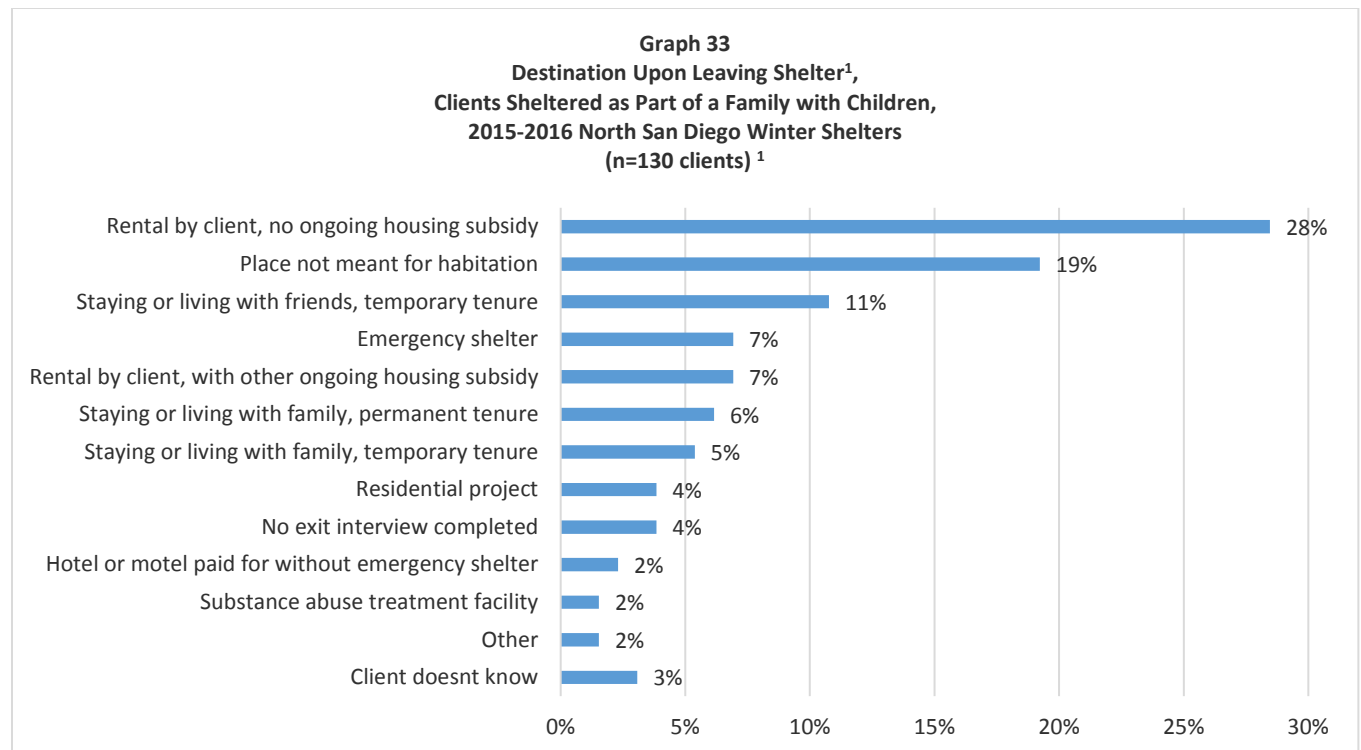


¹ Destination upon last exit from North County Winter Shelters.

² Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused were collapsed into one category.

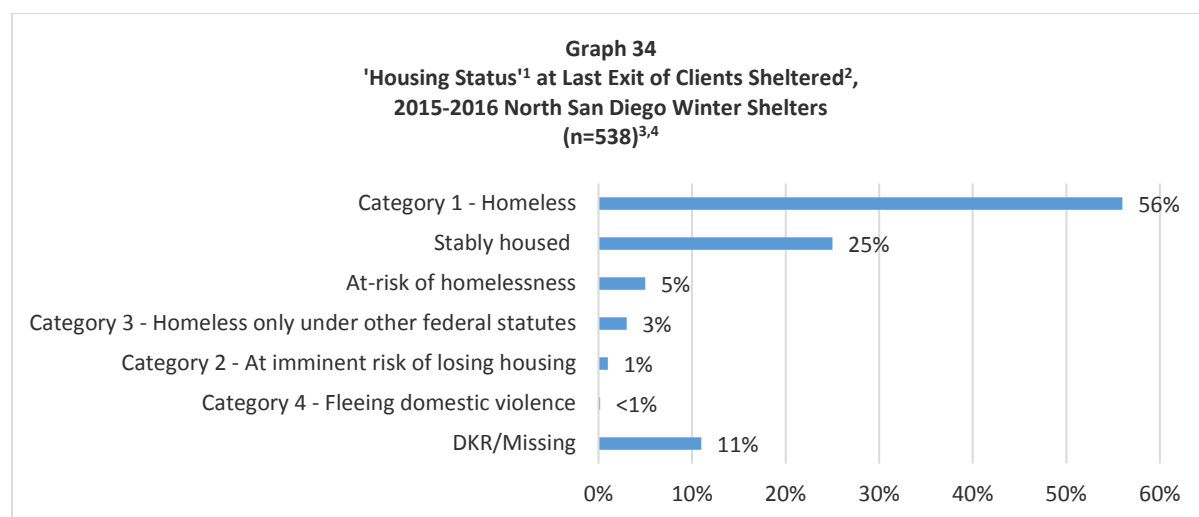
³ Percentages may add up to be greater than 100% due to rounding.

A closer look at the destination of clients in *families with children* shows 41% reported permanent destinations, going into rental housing (with or without subsidy), and staying with family permanently (Graph 33). Thirty-five (35%) of clients left for a rental by the client with or without a subsidy. Although the exact influence is unknown, it is hoped that the shelter staff helped link most clients, especially households with children, to a safe place to stay.



¹ Destination upon last exit from North County Winter Shelters.

Upon exiting their stay in the North County Winter Shelter, based on the housing status, 56% of clients were still homeless while 25% were stably housed (Graph 34). While many clients exited to housing situations, it is apparent that winter shelters alone are not enough to end homelessness for many individuals.



¹ 'Housing Status' as recorded by project staff.

² 'Housing Status' upon last exit from North County Winter Shelters.

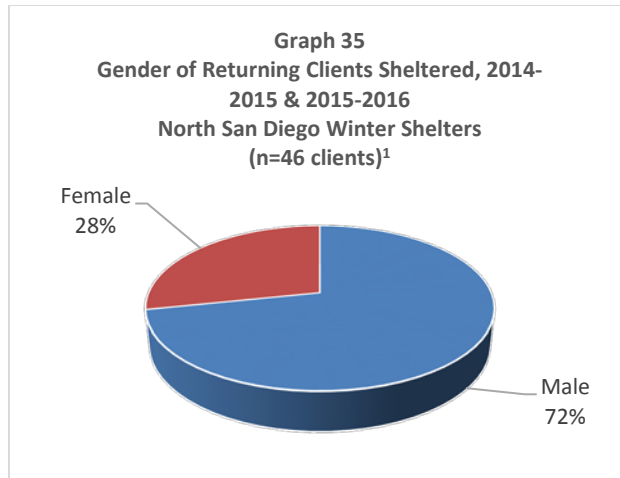
³ Response categories Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused/Data not Collected/Missing were collapsed to one category, "DKR/Missing".

⁴ Percentages may add up to be greater than 100% due to rounding.

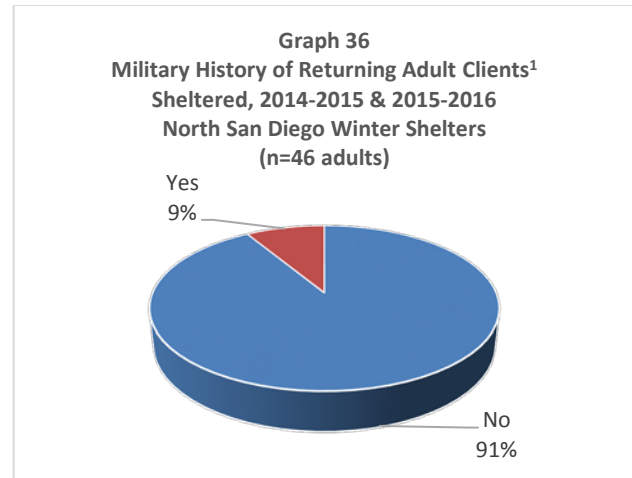
F. 2014-2015 Returning Clients

To get a more complete view of those being served by North San Diego Winter Shelters, the list of clients receiving shelter service during the 2015-2016 season was compared to that from the previous 2014-2015 season. In all, 9% of this season's 538 clients were also served during the prior 2014-2015 season, 44 adults and 2 children (Appendix B, Table 27).

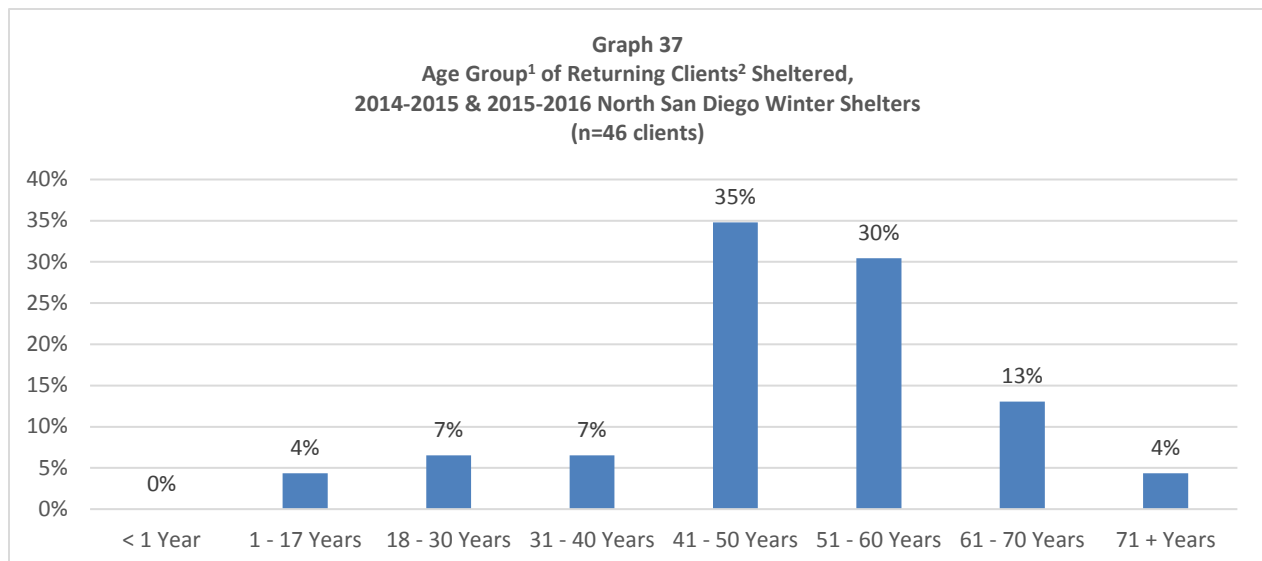
Seventy-two percent (72%) of returning clients were male (Graph 35) and close to half were over the age of 50 (47%). Four percent (4%) of returning clients were children (Graph 37). Among the adults, 9% identified as military veterans (Graph 36).



¹ Clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2014-2015 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2015-2016 season.



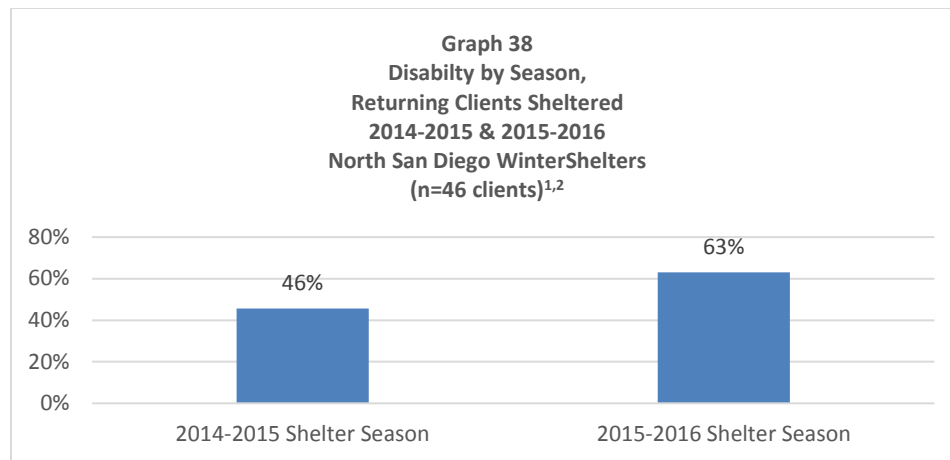
¹ Clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2014-2015 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2015-2016 season.



¹ Age at first program entry during the 2015-2016 shelter season.

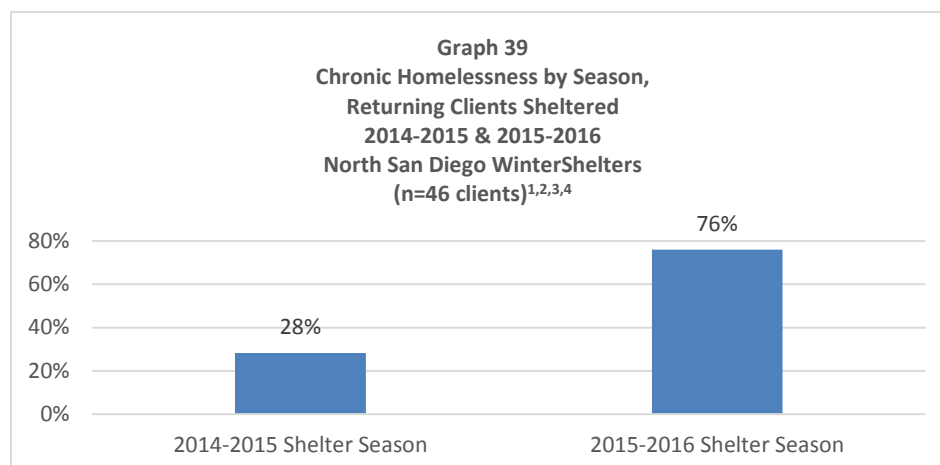
² Clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2014-2015 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2015-2016 shelter season.

There is a seventeen percent (17%) increase of clients who had a disabling condition in 2015-2016 season compared to the 2014-2015 season (63% versus 46% respectively) (Graph 38). More than 75% of these clients were identified as being chronically homeless in the 2015-2016 season compared to the 2014-2015 season (76% versus 28% respectively) (Graph 39).



¹ Adults with shelter stay(s) during the 2014-2015 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2015-2016 season.

² Forty-six percent of the returners reported having a disabling condition last year, while sixty-three percent reported having a disabling condition this year.

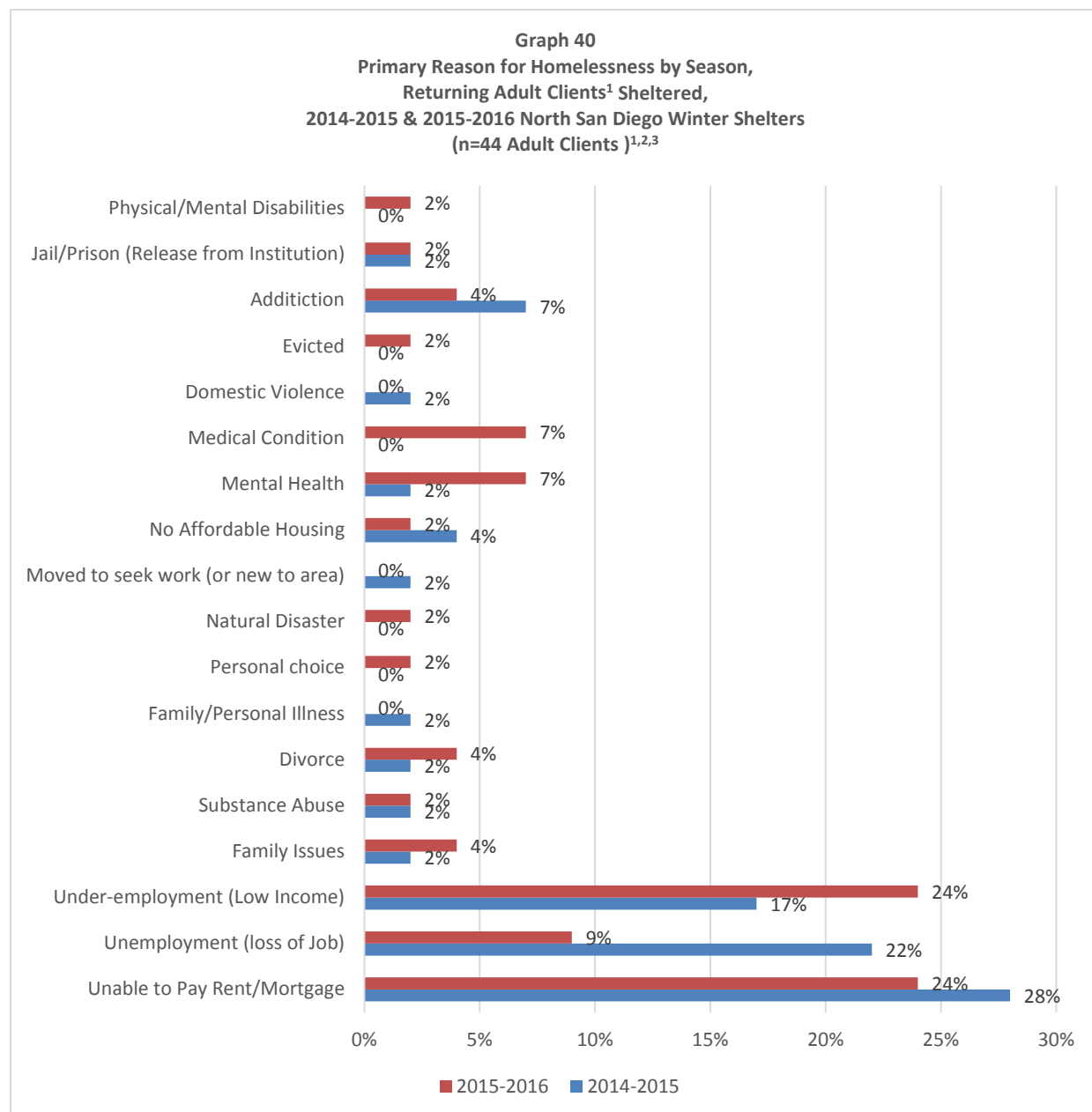


¹ Adults with shelter stay(s) during the 2014-2015 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2015-2016 season.

² HUD Chronic Homelessness Definition: an individual (1) with a disabling condition or expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs ability to live independently of physical disability, developmental disability, chronic health condition, HIV/AIDS, mental health problem, substance abuse, and (2) who enter from streets, emergency shelter or safe haven, and (3) has been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years, OR (4) a household member of a head of household (who may be a child) or any adult in the household meeting the previous disability & homelessness criteria outlined in 1, 2 and 3. (HMIS Standard Reporting Terminology Glossary, October 2015, Version 2.2).

³ Twenty-eight percent (28%) of the returners were chronically homeless last year, while 76% of the returners classified as chronically homeless this year.

A review of the primary reason for homelessness among returning clients showed very little variation between reasons cited upon entry in 2014-2015 compared to entry in 2015-2016 (Graph 40). Most clients in the 2014-2015 season and 2015-2016 season cited the primary reason for homelessness as the inability to pay rent or mortgage (24% and 28% respectively). The top three primary reasons for homelessness in both seasons for returners was inability to pay rent/mortgage, unemployment, and underemployment/low income. Two percent (2%) cited eviction and physical/mental disabilities as the primary reason, compared to none in the last season. Four percent (4%) cited family issues and divorce as the primary reason, compared to 2% last season.

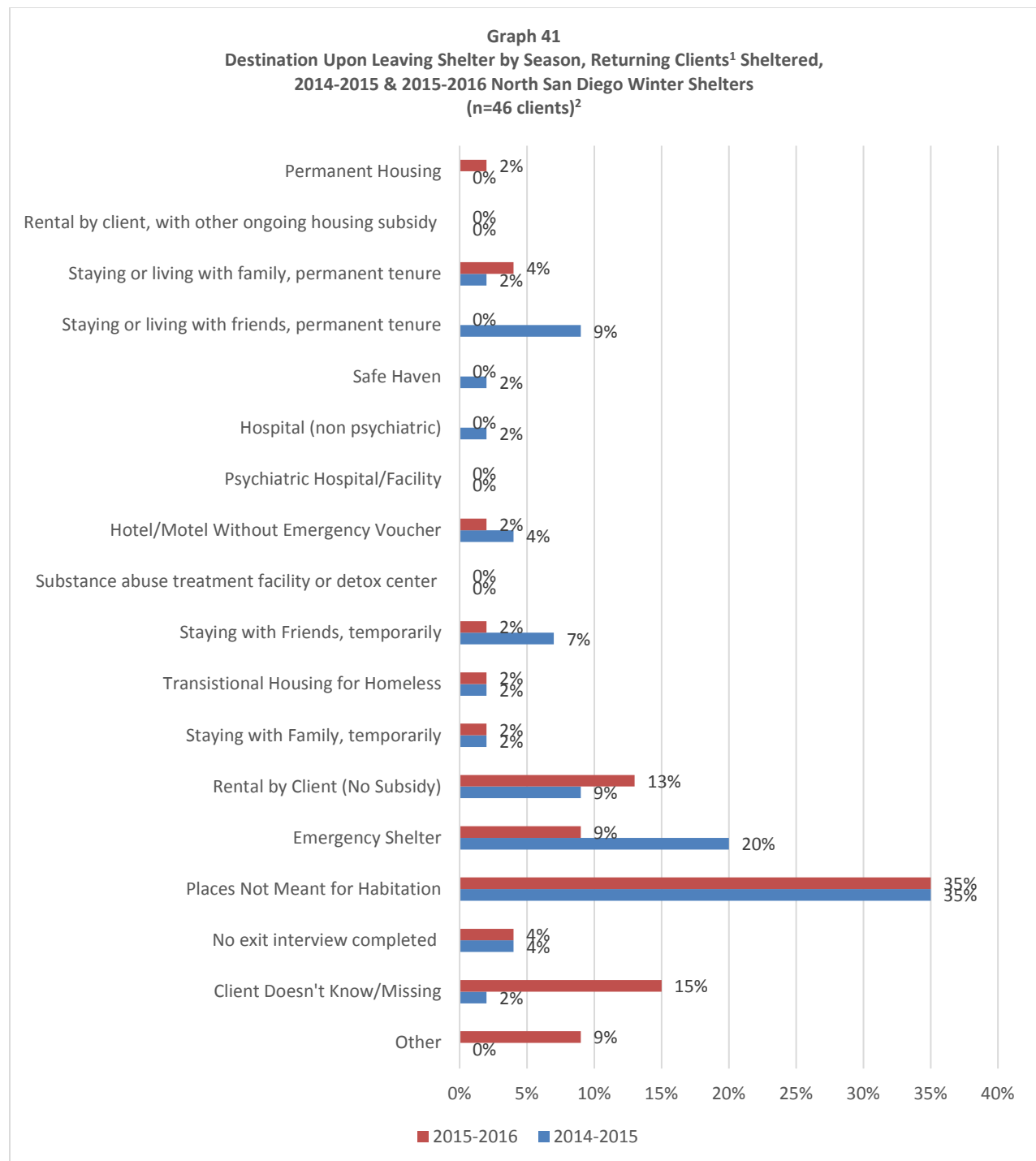


¹ Adult clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2014-2015 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2015-2016 season.

² Percentages may add up to be greater than or less than 100% due to rounding.

³ The difference in the number of clients in graph 39 and graph 40 is because two children are not counted in graph 40.

There was variation in responses for destination after exiting the shelter (Graph 41). The same percentage of the returning clients (35%) this season and last season exited to a place not meant for human habitation. Twenty percent (20%) of the returned clients exited to live in emergency shelter last season and 9% in this season. Nine percent (9%) of the clients who returned this year exited to live with friends (permanent tenure) last season, however, none exited to that destination this season. Four percent (4%) more clients exited to a rental without a subsidy this year compared to last year (13% and 9%, respectively).



¹ Clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2014-2015 season returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2015-2016 season.

² Destination upon last exit from North County Winter Shelters.

Summary

The North San Diego ARS Winter Shelters provided shelter service to 538 unique individuals during the 2015-2016 winter shelter season, most of whom also reported that their most recent permanent residence was in the North San Diego County area. Shelter recipients were more often white than any other race, more often male, more often non-Hispanic, and more often not part of a family. The most commonly sheltered age group was 51-60 years, with almost three out of every eight clients being 51 years or older. Many clients reported having at least one disabling condition, such as mental illness, physical disability, or alcohol and/or drug abuse among others. In addition, nearly half of the women reported being a domestic violence victim/survivor. An inability to pay rent/mortgage, family issues, and underemployment ranked highly as adult clients' primary reasons for homelessness.

Most of the sheltered clients reported leaving the program for housing or another opportunity that included housing (such as emergency shelter or transitional housing), even if temporary in nature. Given that these winter shelters are emergency in nature with limited periods of operation, and often serve clients for very short times, these results show that two out of five (40%) of the clients exit with a plan and have accomplished some goals that may help prevent homelessness in the future.

The large majority of clients (91%) served in the 2015-2016 season had not been served at a North San Diego ARS Winter Shelter the prior year, and almost three-quarters of the adults (76%) are not chronically homeless. This suggests that the winter shelters and associated services meet an important need – assisting the newly homeless, not just the long term, repeat homeless client. Similarly, this finding also implies that the persons who needed these shelters in the previous year were either not in the area, or did not need the service in the current year. Among the 9% of clients served in the 2015-2016 season that has been sheltered the previous year in the North San Diego ARS Winter shelter system, clients were most often male, adult, and not part of a family. One-half of returning clients were over the age of 50. Returning clients were more likely to have been identified as chronically homeless persons in the second season compared to the prior year. Further research such as tracking clients after exit would be necessary to correctly analyze potential trends over time.

References

National Alliance to End Homelessness, “Chronic Homelessness Brief” (March 2007), <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/1060> accessed 5-2-09.

US Department of Housing and Urban Development, “HMIS Standard Reporting Terminology Glossary” (October 2015), version 2.2.

Alliance for Regional Solutions, “Services Provided to the Homeless in North County Winter Shelters 2013-2014”, (July 2014).

US Department of Housing and Urban Development, “2014 HMIS Data Standards DATA MANUAL” (September 2015), version 3.1.

Appendix A – Data Tables

A. 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelter Clients

Table 1. Demographic Characteristics of Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=538 clients)

Demographic Characteristic	Number	Percent ¹
Gender		
Male	167	31%
Female	370	69%
Transgender male to female	1	< 1%
Primary Race		
White	402	75%
Black/ African American	89	17%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	26	5%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	8	1%
Asian	6	1%
Don't Know/Refused	3	1%
Missing	4	1%
Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic/Latino	373	69%
Hispanic/Latino	152	28%
Don't Know/Refused	9	2%
Missing	4	1%
Age Group		
< 1 Year	2	< 1%
1 – 17 Years	77	14%
18 – 30 Years	84	16%
31 – 40 Years	79	15%
41 – 50 Years	106	20%
51 – 60 Years	128	24%
61 – 70 Years	44	8%
71 + Years	18	3%
Don't Know/Refused	0	-
Missing	0	-
Age - Adult versus Child		
Adult (18+ years)	459	85%
Child (1-17 years)	79	15%
Don't Know/Refused	0	-
Not Recorded	0	-
Entered with Family²		
No	399	74%
Yes	139	26%
Total	538	

¹ Percentages may add up to be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

² Family is defined as two or more persons entering the shelter together.

Table 2. Characteristics of Families with Children Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=45 families) ¹

Head of Household	Number	Percent²
Single Mother ²	31	69%
Two Adults ³	10	22%
Single Father ⁴	4	9%
Family Size	Number	Percent
2 people	19	42%
3 people	12	27%
4 people	6	13%
5 people	7	16%
6 people	1	2%
8 people	-	-
Total⁷	45	

¹ Family is defined as two or more persons entering the shelter together.

² One adult female per household with child(ren).

³ One adult female and one adult male per household with child(ren).

⁴ One adult male per household with child(ren).

Table 3. Marital Status of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

Family Size	Number	Percent
Married	33	7%
Co-Habiting	7	2%
Widowed	19	4%
Separated	43	9%
Divorced	100	22%
Single	236	51%
Client doesn't know/Client refused/Missing	21	5%
Total	459	

Table 4. Demographic Characteristics of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

Demographic Characteristic	Number	Percent ¹
Chronically Homeless²		
No	333	73%
Yes	126	27%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	0	-
Missing	0	-
Military Veteran		
No	393	86%
Yes	59	13%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	3	< 1%
Missing	4	< 1%
Domestic Violence Victim/Survivor		
No	355	77%
Yes	89	19%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	14	3%
Missing	1	< 1%
If Female, Domestic Violence Victim/Survivor (n=133 adult females)		
No	71	53%
Yes	62	47%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	0	-
Missing	0	-
If Male, Domestic Violence Victim/Survivor (n=326 adult males)		
No	285	87%
Yes	26	8%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	12	4%
Missing	3	1%
If Female, Pregnant? (n=133 adult females)		
No	119	89%
Yes	4	3%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	1	1%
Missing	9	7%
Disabled (Has a Disabling Condition)		
No	244	53%
Yes	210	46%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	1	< 1%
Missing	4	1%
Total	459	

¹ Percentages may add up to be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

² HUD Chronic Homelessness Definition: an individual (1) with a disabling condition or expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs ability to live independently of physical disability, developmental disability, chronic health condition, HIV/AIDS, mental health problem, substance abuse, and (2) who enter from streets, emergency shelter or safe haven, and (3) has been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years, OR (4) a household member of a head of household (who may be a child) or any adult in the household meeting the previous disability & homelessness criteria outlined in 1, 2 and 3. (HMIS Standard Reporting Terminology Glossary, October 2015, Version 2.2).

Table 5. Disability Type of Disabled Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=210 adults with a disabling condition) ¹

Disability Type Entered	Number	Percent²
Mental Health Problem	117	56%
Physical	117	56%
Chronic Health Condition	96	46%
Both Alcohol and Drug Abuse	37	18%
Drug Abuse	35	17%
Alcohol Abuse	34	16%
Developmental Disability	26	12%
HIV / AIDS	3	1%
Other	1	< 1%
Total³	466	

¹ Total unduplicated persons who responded 'YES' they had a disabling condition.

² Percentage responding to each disability type among those who responded.

³ Total number is greater than the number of adults with a disabling condition (n=210) because clients could chose more than one disability type.

Table 6. Number of Disability Types Recorded for Disabled Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=210 adults with a disabling condition)

Number of Disability Types per Client	Number	Percent²
One Type	73	35%
Two Types	66	31%
Three Types	39	19%
Four Types	22	10%
Five Types	5	2%
Six Types	4	2%
Seven Types	1	< 1%
Total¹	210	

¹ Total unduplicated persons who responded 'YES' they had a disabling condition and specified at least one disability type.

² Percentages may or may not add up to be 100% due to rounding.

Table 7. Highest Education Level Attained by Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

Education Level	Number	Percent	Collapsed Percent ²
Master's Degree or higher	16	3%	3%
Bachelor's Degree	22	5%	5%
College Degree	8	2%	7%
Associate's Degree	26	5%	
Some College	121	26%	
Post-secondary school	5	1%	
Some vocation/trade school	3	< 1%	33%
Vocational/Trade school graduate	5	1%	
Technical school certification	13	3%	
High School Diploma	75	16%	16%
GED	41	9%	9%
12th grade, No diploma	37	8%	13%
11th grade	21	5%	
10th grade	14	3%	4%
9th grade	5	1%	
7th grade or 8th grade	6	1%	
5th grade or 6th grade	7	1%	3%
Nursery school to 4th grade	5	<1%	
Other	4	<1%	1%
No school completed	1	< 1%	
Client doesn't know/Client refused	3	1%	1%
Missing	21	6%	< 1%
Total¹	408		

¹ Total number may not add up to total number of adults (n=459) and total percentage may or may not add up to 100% due to clients having two or more project entries and the response category differed between project entries.

² Percentages may add up to be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table 8. Income Received as of Date of First Entry of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

Income Received	Number	Percent ²
No	246	54%
Yes	208	45%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	3	< 1%
Missing	2	< 1%
Total	459	

Table 9. Income Source Received as of Date of First Entry of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=208 adults receiving income from any source)

Income Type Entered	Number	Percent
Earned Income	99	48%
SSI	73	35%
SSDI	43	21%
General Assistance	26	13%
Retirement Income from Social Security	24	12%
TANF	19	9%
Other	13	6%
Child support	13	6%
Unemployment	12	6%
VA Service Connected Disability Compensation	10	5%
VA Non-Service Connected Disability Pension	9	4%
Pension or Retirement from another job	8	4%
Private Disability Insurance	4	2%
Alimony or Other Spousal Support Insurance	1	<1%
Self-employment wages	1	<1%
Total¹	419	

¹ Total number sums to greater than the number of adults answering (n=208) and total percent sums to greater than 100 because clients could choose more than one income source.

Table 10. Income Amount of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=208 adults with income amounts reported) ¹

Summary of Income Amounts Reported			
Minimum	Maximum	Median	Average
\$2.00	\$2,258	\$147	\$218

¹ Income amounts from all sources totaled.

Table 11. Non-Cash Benefit Received as of Date of First Entry of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

Non Cash Benefit Received	Number	Percent ¹
No	245	53%
Yes	208	45%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	3	1%
Missing	3	1%
Total	459	

¹ Percentages may or may not add up to be 100% due to rounding.

Table 12. Non-Cash Benefits as of Date of First Entry of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=208 adults receiving non-cash benefit from any source)

Non Cash Benefits Entered	Number	Percent
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (Food Stamps)	206	99%
TANF Child Care Services	2	< 1%
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC	1	< 1%
Other Source	1	< 1%
Temporary rental assistance	1	< 1%
TANF Transportation Services	-	-
Other TANF-Funded Services	-	-
No Benefit Listed	-	-
Section 8, Public Housing or rental assistance	-	-
Total¹	211	

¹ Total number sums to greater than the number of adults answering (n=208) and total percent sums to greater than 100 because clients could choose more than one source of non-cash benefits.

Table 13. Employment Status of Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

Currently Employed	Number	Percent ¹
No	356	78%
Yes	83	18%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	1	< 1%
Missing	19	4%
Total	459	

¹ Percentages may add up to be greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table 14. Employment Tenure of Employed Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=83 adults currently employed) ¹

Employment Tenure	Number	Percent
Temporary	16	19%
Seasonal	4	5%
Permanent	34	41%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	3	4%
Missing	26	31%
Total	83	

¹ Total clients represent those who responded 'YES' currently employed.

Table 15. Employment Search of Unemployed Adult Clients Sheltered, 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=356 adults not currently employed) ¹

Looking for Work	Number	Percent
No	95	27%
Yes	218	61%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	8	2%
Missing	35	10%
Total	356	

¹ Total clients represent those who responded other than 'YES' currently employed.

Table 16. Living Situation the Night Before the First North County Winter Shelter Stay, Adult Clients Sheltered in the 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

Prior Living Situation	Number	Percent
Place Not Meant for Habitation	164	36%
Emergency Shelter or Hotel/Motel with Voucher	70	15%
Living With Family	49	11%
Living With Friends	48	10%
Hotel/ Motel without Emergency Voucher	35	8%
Other	23	5%
Hospital	15	3%
Rental House/Apartment (no subsidy)	12	3%
Psychiatric hospital or facility	8	2%
Substance Abuse Treatment Center	8	2%
Safe Haven	6	1%
Transitional Housing for Homeless	5	1%
Jail, Prison or Juvenile Facility	4	1%
Residential project or halfway house with no homeless criteria	3	1%
Long-term care facility or nursing home	2	< 1%
Permanent Housing for Formerly Homeless	2	< 1%
Owned by Client (no subsidy)	1	< 1%
Client Doesn't Know/Not Recorded	4	1%
Total	459	

Table 17. San Diego (SD) Region of Last Permanent Residence (based on Zip Code Provided by Client), Adult Clients Sheltered in the 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

Region	Number	Percent
North Coastal SD County	207	45%
North Inland SD County	101	22%
Central SD County	100	22%
East SD County	5	1%
South SD County	4	1%
Outside SD County, but in CA	9	2%
Outside California	11	2%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	22	5%
Total¹	459	

¹ Percentages may add up to be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table 18. City of Last Permanent Residence (based on Zip Code Provided by Client), Adult Clients Sheltered in the 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

San Diego Region	Community	Number	Percent¹
North Coastal	Oceanside	135	29%
North Inland	Escondido	93	20%
Central	San Diego	93	20%
North Coastal	Vista	26	6%
North Coastal	Encinitas	24	5%
North Coastal	Carlsbad	21	5%
Other without CA	Other, outside CA	11	2%
Other within CA	Outside SD County, but in CA	9	2%
North Inland	San Marcos	7	2%
Central	Downtown	4	1%
East	El Cajon	4	1%
Central	Clairemont	3	1%
South	Imperial Beach	2	<1%
North Coastal	Del Mar	1	<1%
South	Coronado	1	<1%
South	Chula Vista	1	<1%
East	La Mesa	1	<1%
North Inland	Poway	1	<1%
East	Spring Valley	0	-
East	Alpine	0	-
East	Lakeside	0	-
North Inland	Fallbrook	0	-
North Inland	Rancho Bernardo	0	-
North Inland	Bonsall	0	-
North Inland	Pauma Valley	0	-
North Inland	Warner Springs	0	-
South	San Ysidro	0	-
South	Dulzura	0	-
South	National City	0	-
North Coastal	Cardiff	0	-
East	Spring Valley	0	-
East	Alpine	0	-
	Client doesn't know/Client refused/ Missing	22	5%
Total		459	

¹ Percentages may add up to be greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table 19. Client-Reported Primary Reason for Homelessness, First Shelter Stay in North County Winter Shelters, Clients Sheltered in the 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

Reason for Homelessness	Number	Percent¹
Unable to Pay Rent/Mortgage	66	14%
Family Issues	63	14%
Unemployment (loss of job)	59	13%
Underemployment/low income	46	10%
Addiction	25	5%
Other	22	5%
No Affordable Housing	21	5%
Domestic Violence Victim/Survivor	18	4%
Moved to Seek Work (or new to area)	15	3%
Evicted	13	3%
Medical Condition	13	3%
Mental Health	13	3%
Divorce	10	2%
Substance Abuse	10	2%
Jail/Prison (Release from Institution)	7	2%
Health/Safety	6	1%
Physical/Mental Disabilities	6	1%
Personal Choice	5	1%
Family/Personal Illness	4	1%
Loss of Public Assistance	4	1%
Unknown	3	1%
Mortgage Foreclosure	2	<1%
Not Applicable	2	<1%
Criminal Activity	1	<1%
Loss of Child Care	1	<1%
Unknown	22	5%
Total	459	

¹ Percentages may add up to be less or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table 20. Client-Reported Economic Reason for Homelessness, First Shelter Stay in North County Winter Shelters, Clients Sheltered in the 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

Economic Reason for Homelessness¹	Number	Percent
No	223	49%
Yes	211	46%
Unknown	22	5%
Total	459	

¹ Economic reason for homelessness defined as: unemployment (loss of job), underemployment/low income, unable to pay rent/mortgage, no affordable housing, mortgage foreclosure, evicted, or loss of Public Assistance.

Table 21. Client-Reported Economic Reason for Homelessness by Presentation With vs Without Children, First Shelter Stay in North County Winter Shelters, Clients Sheltered in the 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=459 adults)

	Single or In Adult-Only Family (n=406 adult clients in families without children)		In Family with Children (n=53 adult clients in families with children)	
	Number	Percent¹	Number	Percent²
Economic Reason for Homelessness ³	196	48%	15	28%

¹ Percentages of the total number of adult clients with information presenting without children.

² Percentages of the total number of adult clients with information entering a program with at least one family member 17 years old or younger.

Table 22. Client-Reported Economic Reason for Homelessness by Family Type, First Shelter Stay in North County Winter Shelters, Clients Sheltered in the 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=45 families with children)

Family Type	Sample Size¹	Economic Reason, Any Family Member	
		Number	Percent²
Single Father	4	0	-
Two Adults	10	7	70%
Single Mother	31	8	26%
Total	45	15	

¹ Total number may not add up to total number of families (n=45) due to clients having two or more project entries and the head of household designation differed between project entries.

² Percentages calculated out of the total number of families in each family type.

Table 23. Reason for Leaving Shelter, Last Shelter Visit, Clients Sheltered in the 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=538 clients)¹

Reason for Leaving Shelter	Number	Percent ²
Left for housing opp. before completing program	170	32%
Completed program	118	22%
Reached maximum time allowed	58	11%
Unknown/Disappeared	49	9%
Non-compliance with program	39	7%
Disagreement with rules/persons	22	4%
Other	19	4%
Needs could not be met	11	2%
Criminal activity/violence	1	<1%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	0	-
Missing	51	9%
Total	538	

¹ Reason for leaving at last exit from North County Winter Shelters.

² Percentages may add up to be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table 24. Destination When Leaving Shelter, Last Shelter Visit, Clients Sheltered in the 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=538 clients)¹

Destination After Leaving Shelter	Number	Percent
Emergency shelter	130	24%
Place not meant for habitation	78	14%
Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	68	13%
Other	47	9%
Staying or living with family, temporary tenure	26	5%
No exit interview completed	26	5%
Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure	20	4%
Hotel/Motel, no emergency shelter voucher	17	3%
Staying or living with family, permanent tenure	15	3%
Rental by client, with other ongoing housing subsidy	15	3%
Transitional housing for homeless persons	12	2%
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	5	1%
Residential project or halfway house with no homeless criteria	5	1%
Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure	4	1%
Hospital or other residential non-psychiatric medical facility	3	1%
Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons	2	<1%
Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	2	<1%
Safe Haven	1	<1%
Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy	1	<1%
Long-term care facility or nursing home	1	<1%
Client doesn't know/Client refused/Other unknown	7	1%
Missing	52	10%
Total	538	

¹ Reason for leaving at last exit from North County Winter Shelters.

Table 25. Destination of Persons in Families with Children When Leaving Shelter, Last Shelter Visit, Clients Sheltered in the 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=130 clients sheltered as part of a family with children)¹

Destination After Leaving Shelter²	Number	Percent³
Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	37	28%
Place not meant for habitation	25	19%
Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure	14	11%
Rental by client, with other ongoing housing subsidy	9	7%
Emergency shelter	9	7%
Staying or living with family, permanent tenure	8	6%
Staying or living with family, temporary tenure	7	5%
No exit interview completed	5	4%
Residential project	5	4%
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter	2	2%
Other	2	2%
Substance abuse	2	2%
Total	130	100%

¹ Reason for leaving at last exit from North County Winter Shelters.

² Other destinations had zero client exits and were not charted.

³ Percentages may add up to be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table 26. Housing Status at last exit, Clients Sheltered in the 2015-2016 North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=538 clients)

Housing Status¹	Number	Percent²
Category 1 - Homeless	299	56%
Category 2 - At imminent risk of losing housing	7	1%
Category 3 - Homeless only under other federal statutes	18	3%
Category 4 - Fleeing domestic violence	1	< 1%
At-risk of homelessness	25	5%
Stably housed	133	25%
Client doesn't know/Client refused/Data not collected	14	3%
Missing	41	8%
Total	538	

¹ 'Housing Status' as recorded by project staff.

² Percentages may add up to be greater than 100% due to rounding.

B. 2014-2015 North San Diego Winter Shelter Returning Clients

Clients Sheltered During both 2014-2015 & 2015-2016 Seasons

Table 27. Demographic Characteristics of Returning Clients Sheltered 2014-2015 & 2015-2016 Seasons, North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=46 clients)

Demographic Characteristic	Number	Percent
Gender		
Male	33	72%
Female	13	28%
Age Group¹		
< 1 Year	0	0%
1 – 17 Years	2	4%
18 – 30 Years	3	7%
31 – 40 Years	3	7%
41 – 50 Years	16	35%
51 – 60 Years	14	30%
61 – 70 Years	6	13%
71 + Years	2	4%
Total	46	
Military Veteran (n=46 adult clients)		
No	42	91%
Yes	4	9%
Total	46	

¹ Age at first entry during the 2015-2016 shelter season.

Table 28. Disability Status by Season of Returning Adult Clients Sheltered 2014-2015 & 2015-2016 Shelter Seasons, North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=46 adults)

Disabled (Has a Disabling Condition)	Number	Percent
2014-2015 Shelter Season		
No	25	54%
Yes	21	46%
Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused	0	-
Missing	0	-
2015-2016 Shelter Season		
No	17	37%
Yes	29	63%
Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused	0	-
Missing	0	-
Total	46	

Table 29. Chronic Homelessness by Season of Returning Adult Clients Sheltered 2014-2015 & 2015-2016 Shelter Seasons, North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=46 adults)

Chronically Homeless¹	Number	Percent
2014-2015 Shelter Season		
No	33	72%
Yes	13	28%
2015-2016 Shelter Season		
No	11	24%
Yes	35	76%
Total	46	

¹ HUD Chronic Homelessness Definition: an individual (1) with a disabling condition or expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs ability to live independently of physical disability, developmental disability, chronic health condition, HIV/AIDS, mental health problem, substance abuse, and (2) who enter from streets, emergency shelter or safe haven, and (3) has been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years, OR (4) a household member of a head of household (who may be a child) or any adult in the household meeting the previous disability & homelessness criteria outlined in 1, 2 and 3. (HMIS Standard Reporting Terminology Glossary, October 2015, Version 2.2).

Table 30. Client-Reported Primary Reason for Homelessness, First Shelter Stay per Season in North County Winter Shelters, Returning Adult Clients Sheltered 2014-2015 & 2015-2016 Shelter Seasons, North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=44 adults)

Reason for Homelessness	2014-2015		2015-2016	
	Number	Percent¹	Number	Percent²
Unable to Pay Rent/Mortgage	13	28%	11	24%
Unemployment (Loss of Job)	10	22%	4	9%
Under-employment (Low Income)	8	17%	11	24%
Addiction	3	7%	2	4%
No Affordable Housing	2	4%	1	2%
Family Issues	1	2%	2	4%
Substance Abuse	1	2%	1	2%
Divorce	1	2%	2	4%
Family/Personal Illness	1	2%	0	0%
Moved to seek work (or new to area)	1	2%	0	0%
Domestic Violence	1	2%	0	0%
Jail/Prison (Release from Institution)	1	2%	1	2%
Personal choice	0	0%	1	2%
Natural Disaster	0	0%	1	2%
Medical Condition	0	0%	3	7%
Evicted	0	0%	1	2%
Physical/Mental Disabilities	0	0%	1	2%
Total	44		45	

¹ Percentage of the total number of clients; first shelter stay of the 2014-2015 season.

² Percentage of the total number of clients; first shelter stay of the 2015-2016 season.

Table 31. Destination When Leaving Shelter, Last Shelter Visit each Season, Returning Clients Sheltered 2014-2015 & 2015-2016 Shelter Seasons, North San Diego Winter Shelters (n=46 clients)

Destination After Leaving Shelter Each Season	2014-2015¹		2015-2016²	
	Number	Percent³	Number	Percent⁴
Place Not Meant for Habitation	16	35%	16	35%
Emergency shelter	9	20%	4	9%
Rental by Client (No Subsidy)	4	9%	6	13%
Staying with friends, permanent tenure	4	9%	0	0%
Staying with Friends, Temporarily	3	7%	1	2%
Hotel/Motel w/o Emergency Voucher	2	4%	1	2%
No exit interview completed	2	4%	2	4%
Staying with Family (Temporary)	1	2%	1	2%
Transitional Housing for Homeless	1	2%	1	2%
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	1	2%	0	0%
Safe Haven	1	2%	0	0%
Staying with family, permanent tenure	1	2%	2	4%
Other	0	0%	4	9%
Permanent Housing	0	0%	1	2%
Client doesn't know/Client refused	1	2%	1	2%
Missing	0	0%	6	13%
Total	46		46	

¹ Destination upon leaving at last exit 2014-2015 season from North County Winter Shelters.

² Destination upon leaving at last exit 2015-2016 season from North County Winter Shelters.

³ Percentage of the total number of clients; 2014-2015 season.

⁴ Percentage of the total number of clients; 2015-2016 season.

Appendix B – Recommendations

The ARS North County Winter Shelters did an impressive job at consistently collecting data at both program entry and program exit. The amount of missing data is very low, which shows great care in both completing the intake/assessment forms and performing the data entry into ServicePoint. We offer the following recommendations if feasible:

- Improve data collection and data entry by:
 - Continuing to make sure all client entry and exit information are entered promptly throughout the season rather than post program closure;
 - Reviewing the entire data entry screen after saving the entry record to ensure data responses are stored in the database properly;
 - Working with RTFH staff to learn when it is appropriate to add income end-dates, both for one-time income sources, as well as when an income amount changes for a given source;
 - Continuing to ensure that staff who collect and/or record “chronically homeless” responses are aware of the new HUD definition and trained to collect and record disability status when appropriate;
 - Ensuring that staff are aware that the responses of ‘Don’t know’, and ‘Refused’ are from the client’s perspective, not from staff’s perspective (‘client doesn’t know’ and ‘client refused to respond’);
 - Have the RTFH review intake/assessment forms prior to the beginning of services for the next program year;
 - Administer these forms to every adult client;
- Utilize a ServicePoint report that program staff can run, print and use themselves to look for any missing clients, missing exit dates or other missing responses and make necessary corrections as soon as possible.
- Consider performing rigorous analysis assessing changes in client profiles of those served over time or comparing returning clients to non-returning clients.
- Consider adding analysis of services provided during clients’ program stays.
- Continue to congratulate those who collect and enter the data for making this type of analysis possible.