

2016 Fort Collins Point-in-Time Count

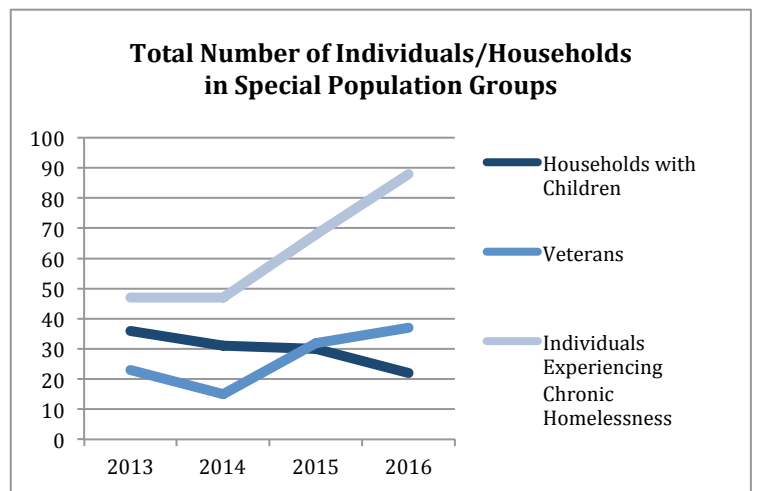
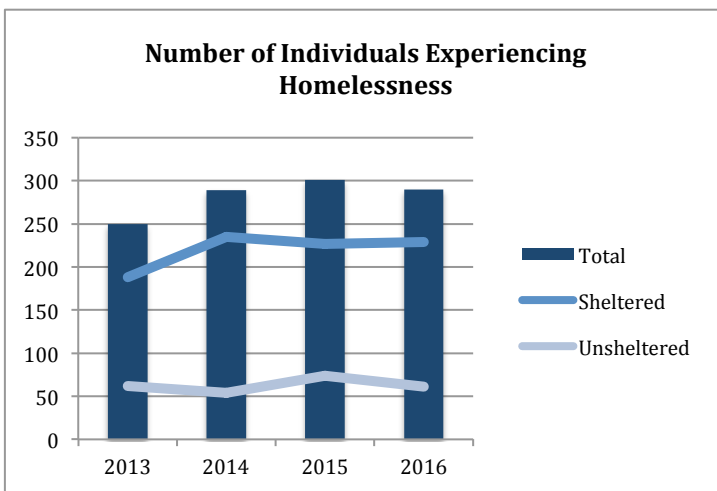
April 2016



A total of 290 individuals in 242 separate households, all staying outside in unsheltered areas, in emergency shelters, or in transitional housing, were counted on a single night in January 2016.

- 79% of individuals (229 total) were staying in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program; 21% of those surveyed (61 individuals) slept outside, in their vehicle, or in another place not meant for human habitation
- Over 12% of those counted (36 individuals) were children under the age of 18
 - 8% of respondents were youth, ages 18 – 24 (24 individuals)
 - Over 79% of respondents were adults, over the age of 25 (230 individuals)
- Almost 70% of all people surveyed were men, although this gender breakdown differed slightly by sleeping location
 - 80% of people sleeping outside, in unsheltered areas, were men
 - 64% of people staying in shelters or transitional housing were men
- 78 individuals (or around 27%) of those surveyed identified as ethnic or racial minorities
- 37 veterans were surveyed
- Almost 68% of respondents self-identified as having at least one disability, an increase from 2015 when just under 42% of respondents reported a disability
 - Qualifying disabilities can include a mental health disorder, substance use disorder, brain injury, developmental disability, post-traumatic stress disorder, HIV/AIDS, physical disability, or a chronic health condition
- 88 single individuals, 3 couples, and 3 families with children qualified as chronically homeless
 - To qualify as chronically homeless, a household must have 1) been homeless (staying in shelters or outside) for a year or more or had four or more episodes of homelessness in the past three years, with those episodes totaling a year or more; and, 2) the head of the household must have a long-term disability
 - The increase in chronic homelessness in 2016 from 2015 (68 individuals in 2015 to 88 individuals in 2016) corresponds to the increase in individuals reporting a disability

Trends from 2013 - 2016



Extrapolated Counts and Population Rates

Estimates Extrapolated from the Actual Counts Taken the Night of January 26

In addition to tabulating the actual counts already presented (i.e., the number of individuals actually surveyed the night of the Point-in-Time), extrapolated counts can provide an additional estimate of homelessness by taking into consideration populations and locations that were known to be undercounted because of survey refusals or other reasons. The actual and extrapolated counts for individuals and households and for the years 2013 - 2016 are included below.

	2013	2014	2015	2016
Actual Count - Individuals	250	289	301	290
Extrapolated Count - Individuals	298	330	351	328
	2013	2014	2015	2016
Actual Count - Households	180	217	228	242
Extrapolated Count - Households	220	252	275	280

Homelessness and Population Rates

In addition to reporting the Point-in-Time Count as raw numbers, insight can be gained from understanding homelessness as a rate of the total Fort Collins population. Population rates (for actual and extrapolated counts on both individuals and households experiencing homelessness the night of January 26, 2016) are included for 2013 - 2016.

	2013	2014	2015	2016
Fort Collins total population*	152,205	154,570	158,300	161,000
	2013	2014	2015	2016
Actual Count (Individuals)	250	289	301	290
Individuals as proportion of total population	0.16%	0.19%	0.19%	0.18%
Actual Count Rate	1.64 people per 1,000	1.87 people per 1,000	1.90 people per 1,000	1.80 people per 1,000
	2013	2014	2015	2016
Extrapolated Count (Individuals)	298	330	351	328
Individuals as proportion of total population	0.20%	0.21%	0.22%	0.20%
Extrapolated Count Rate	1.96 people per 1,000	2.13 people per 1,000	2.22 people per 1,000	2.04 people per 1,000

Supplemental Information+

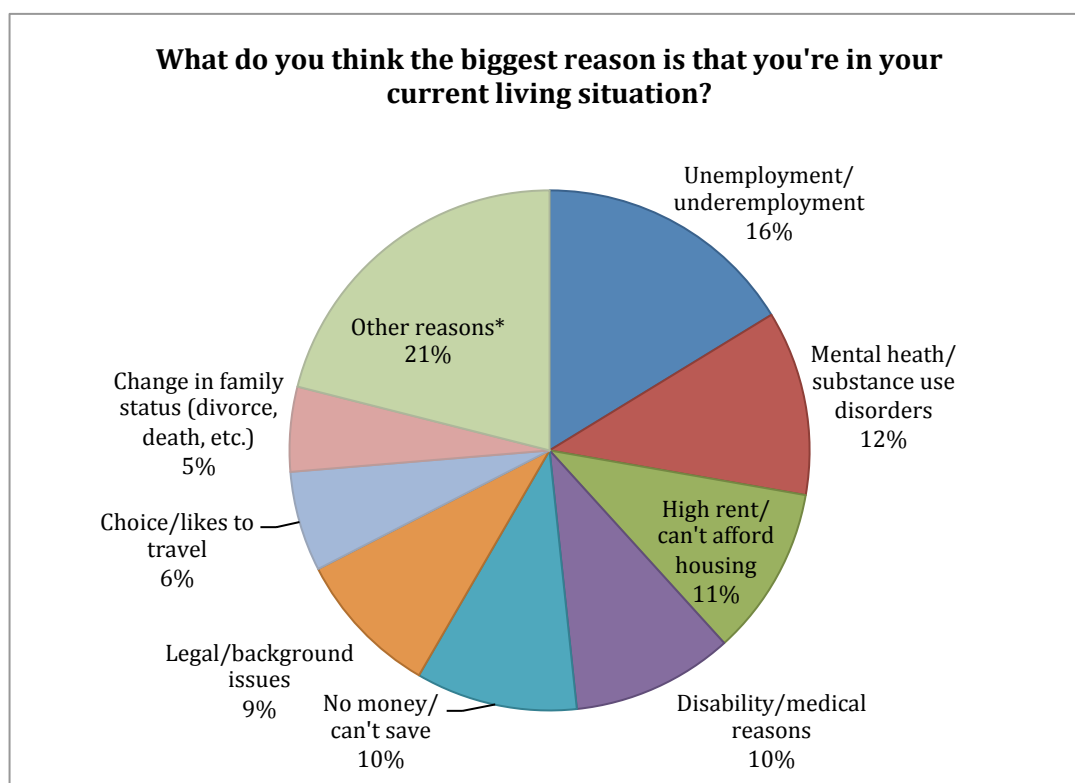
Length of Time Homeless

On the night of the Point-in-Time Count, individuals in Fort Collins were experiencing homelessness for varied amounts of time, ranging from one day to 23 years.

- The median for the length of time homeless was 150 days or five months
- The mean length of time homeless was 472 days, or over one year and three months
- Over 44% of respondents reported this was their first experience of homelessness
- Of those who are experiencing homelessness for the first time, over 72% are living with at least one disability

Reasons People are Currently Homeless

Individuals were experiencing homelessness for a variety of reasons. Overall, the most commonly-cited reasons people were experiencing homelessness were unemployment or underemployment, mental health or substance use disorders, or high, unaffordable housing costs.

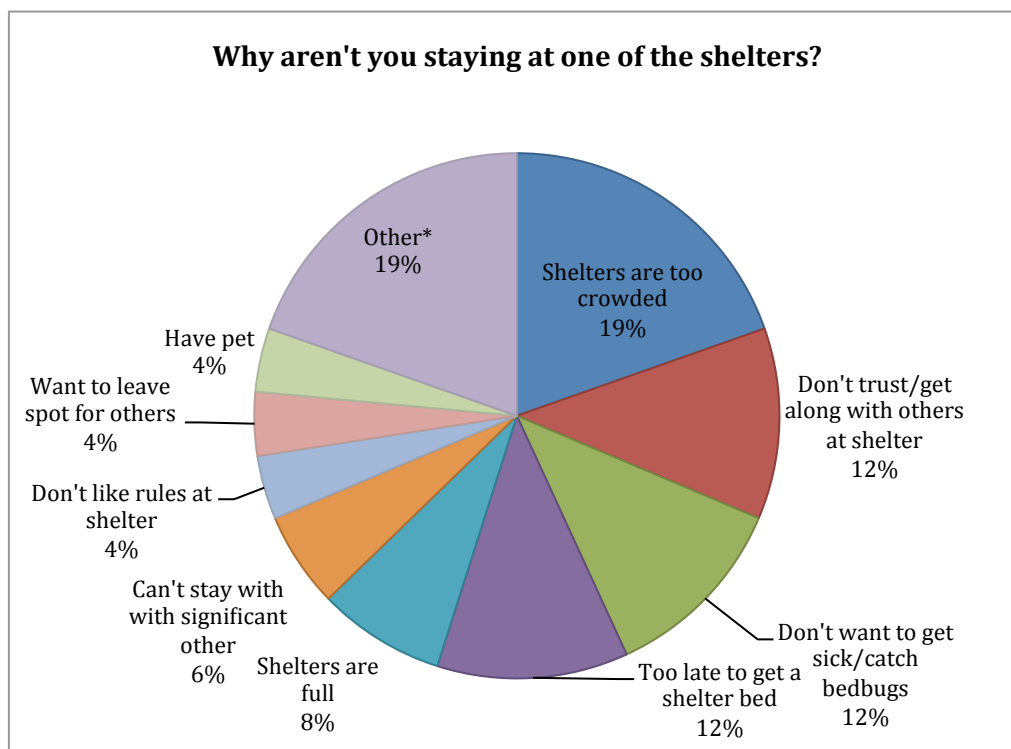


* Examples of other reasons cited include other payments (e.g., child support), discrimination, having no ID, family issues, making bad choices, listening to bad advice, having no help, or bad luck. Domestic violence also was cited infrequently as a reason for being currently homeless; however, this survey question was not asked of individuals staying at Crossroads Safehouse, a domestic violence shelter and transitional housing provider, and those individuals' responses are not included in these data.

+ Percentages provided for supplemental information are taken from the total number of responses for that question. For most households, only one respondent answered the supplemental questions. When possible and applicable the total number of respondents (n) for that question is also provided.

Reasons People Were Not Staying in Shelters

Sixty-one individuals surveyed for the Point-in-Time were staying outside, in unsheltered areas, on the night of the count. Their reasons for not staying in a shelter were varied.



* Examples of other reasons cited included previous negative experiences at shelters, feeling demoralized staying at shelters, medical or mental health reasons, and preferring a car or camping to shelters.

Prevalence of Disabilities

Over 68% of respondents (197 individuals) reported living with at least one disability, a pronounced increase from the 42% of respondents in 2015 who reported living with a disability.

Disability Type	% of Total Population Self-Reporting Disability Type	% of Chronically Homeless Population Self-Reporting Disability Type
Mental health disorder	33.8%	47.5%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	30.9%	40.8%
Physical disability	29.7%	41.4%
Substance use disorder	23.7%	32.4%
Brain injury	12.4%	19.0%
Co-occurring (mental health and substance use) disorder	11.5%	17.7%
Developmental disability	9.6%	16.0%

Last Places of Permanent Residence

Over 43% of respondents reported their last place of permanent residence (i.e., the last place they had a lease or mortgage in their name) as somewhere in Larimer County. An additional 5% of respondents last resided in Weld County. Just under 39% of respondents came from out-of-state.

The reasons for which people came to Fort Collins after becoming homeless were varied, and differed somewhat depending on whether came from out-of-state or from somewhere closer (i.e., Larimer or Weld County).

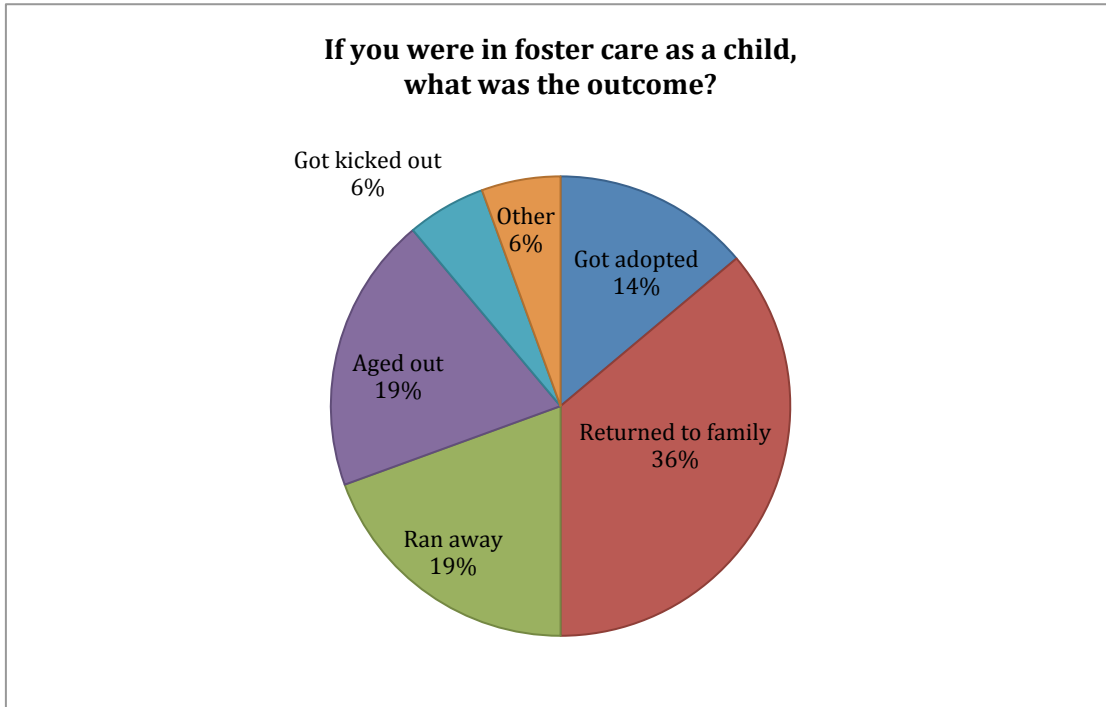
Reason for coming to Fort Collins	All respondents (n=157) citing reason		Respondents from out-of-state (n=88) citing reason		Respondents from Larimer (outside of Ft. Collins) or Weld citing reason (n=28)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Job/employment prospects	28	17.8%	20	22.7%	2	7.1%
Family/friends here	28	17.8%	17	19.3%	2	7.1%
Services/resources	16	10.2%	3	3.4%	9	32.1%
Parole/probation/court date	13	8.3%	5	5.7%	3	10.7%
Medical/health-related reasons	11	7.0%	8	9.1%	0	0.0%
From here/used to live here	9	5.7%	6	6.8%	0	0.0%
Like it here/heard it was nice	9	5.7%	7	8.0%	2	7.1%
Marijuana	5	3.2%	4	4.5%	0	0.0%
Traveling/passing through	5	3.2%	4	4.5%	0	0.0%
Other*	33	21.0%	14	15.9%	10	35.7%

* Examples of other reasons cited included getting stranded after having car issues, for safety reasons, deciding to come with no particular reason, or for multiple reasons (e.g., have family here and are looking for a job). Numbers do not add up across columns as those who have come to Fort Collins from elsewhere in the state of Colorado, outside of Larimer or Weld Counties (n=33), are not included in the table.

For those who had come to Fort Collins from out-of-state, the average length of time in Fort Collins was 17 months, with a median of six months.

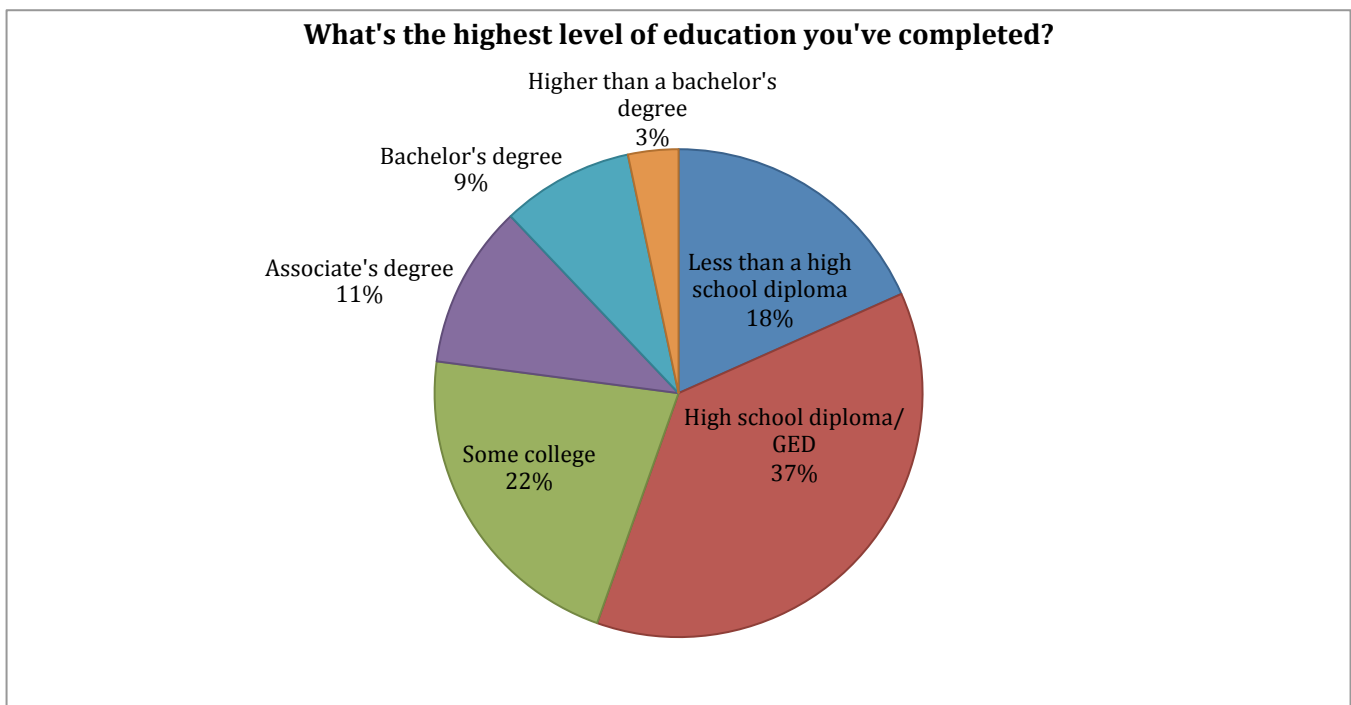
Foster Care and Homelessness

Almost 17% of respondents (37 individuals) reported having been in foster care as a child. Of those who had been in foster care, 43% were experiencing chronic homelessness at the time they were surveyed.



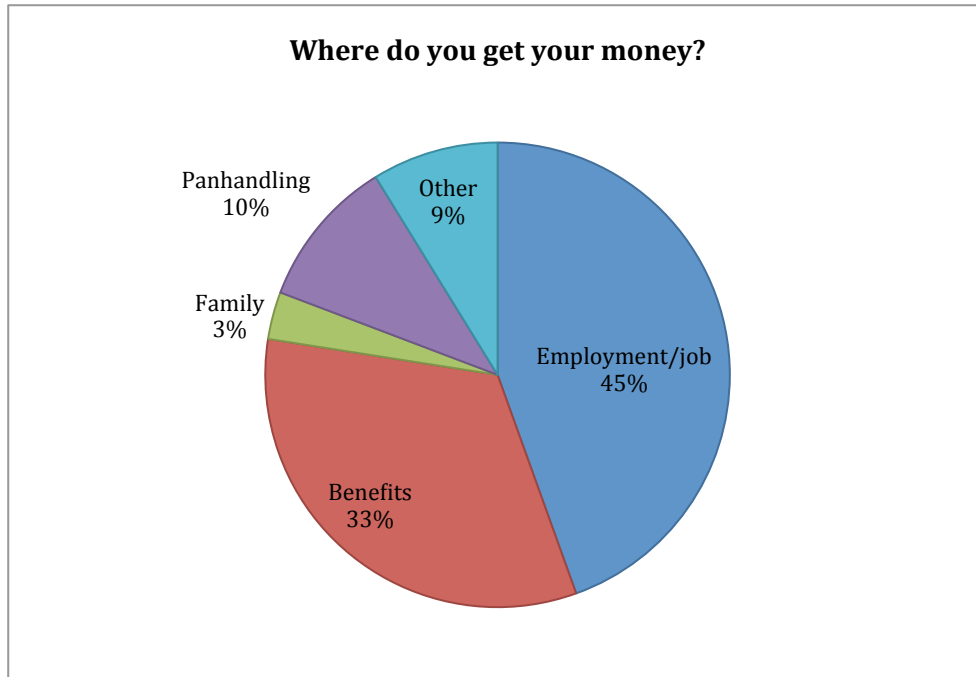
Education

Over 88% of respondents (196 individuals) had at least graduated high school, with over 12% of respondents (27 individuals) having attained a bachelor's degree or higher.

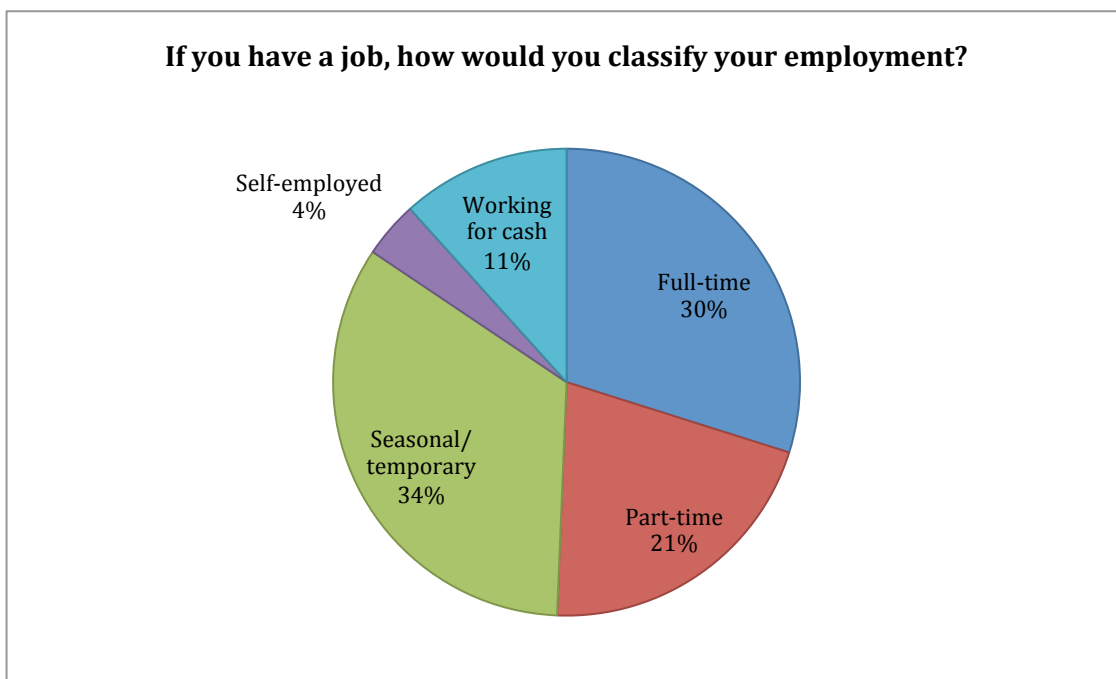


Income and Employment

Around 8% of respondents (16 individuals) reported they had no income. For those who did have income (182 individuals) at the time of the Point-in-Time, 45% were earning that income through paid employment. This is a shift from 2015 when 32% of respondents reported having no income and less than 27% reported earning income through employment.

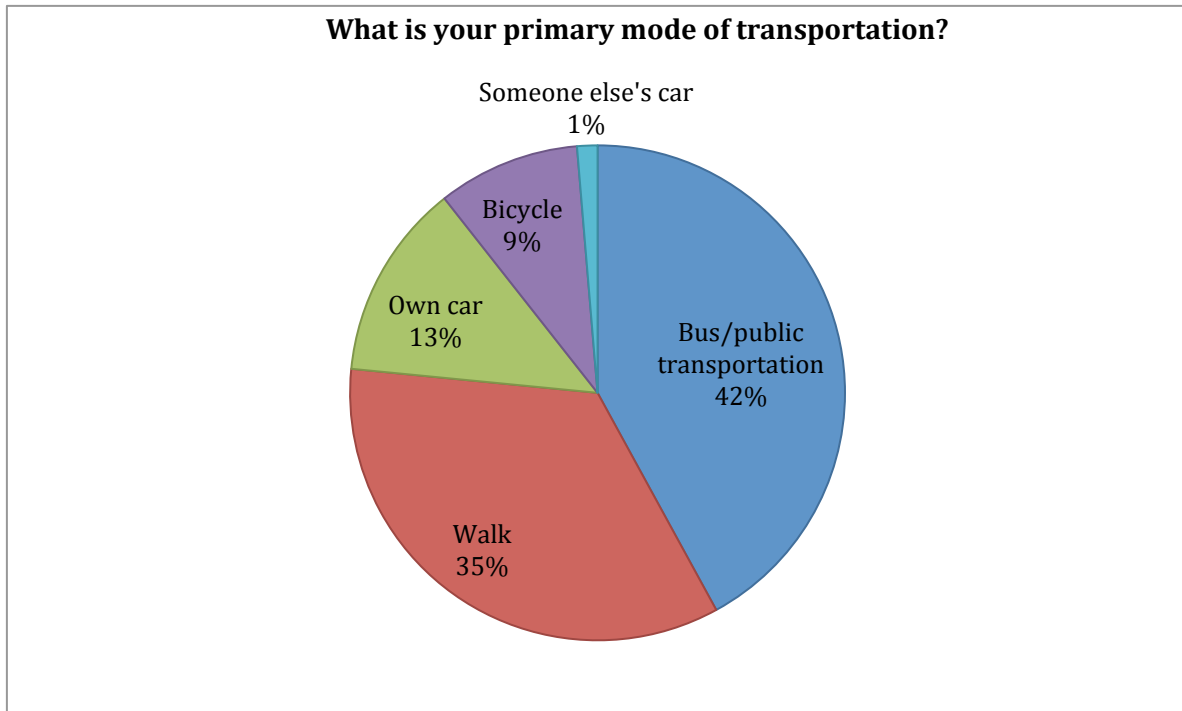


Of those who provided additional information on their employment (77 individuals), almost 30% were working full-time. Over 54% of respondents were working only part-time or in a temporary job.

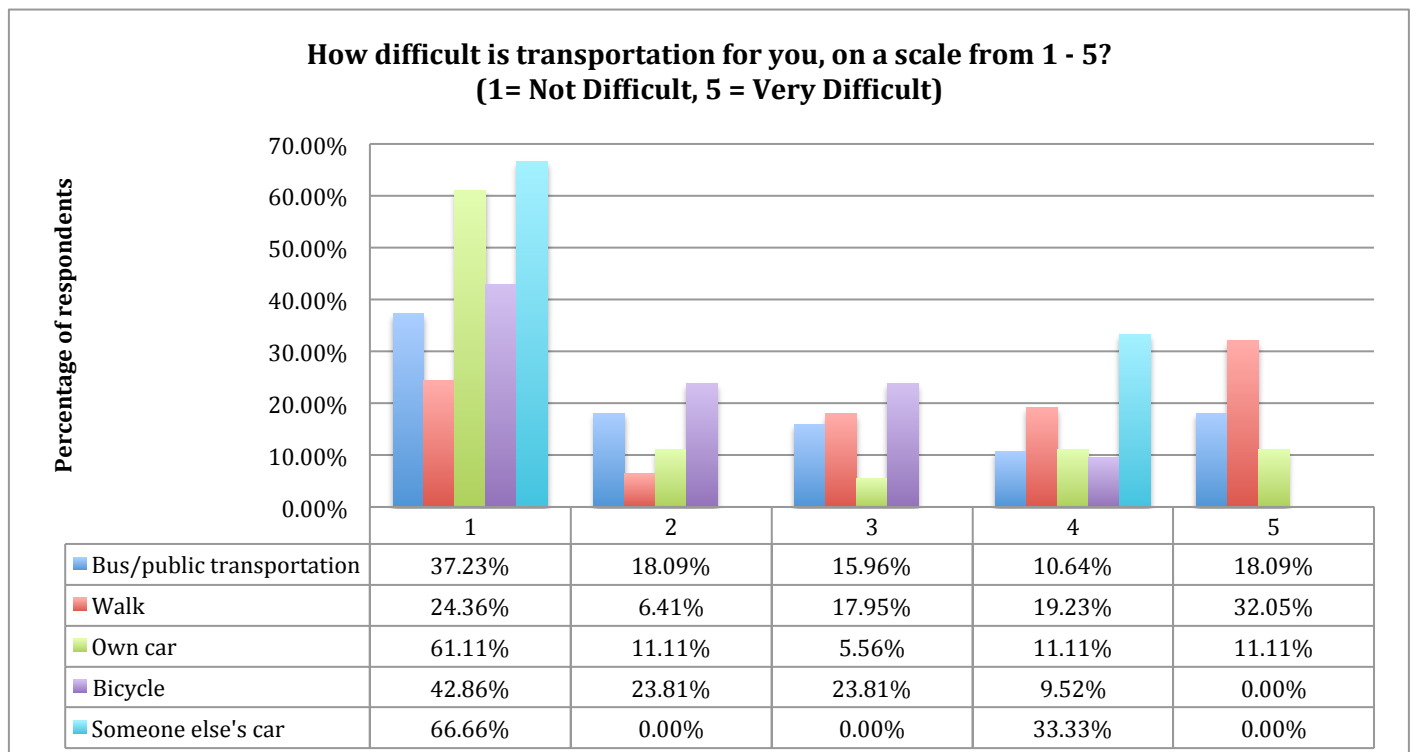


Transportation

For the first time in 2016, survey respondents were asked about the primary form of transportation they used and the difficulty of getting around. Over three-quarters of respondents relied on public transportation or walking as their primary modes of transportation.



Respondents were asked to assess the difficulty they had with transportation on a 5-point Likert scale, with 1 corresponding to “Not Difficult” and 5 corresponding to “Very Difficult.” The difficulty of transportation differed depending on the form of transportation.



Domestic Violence

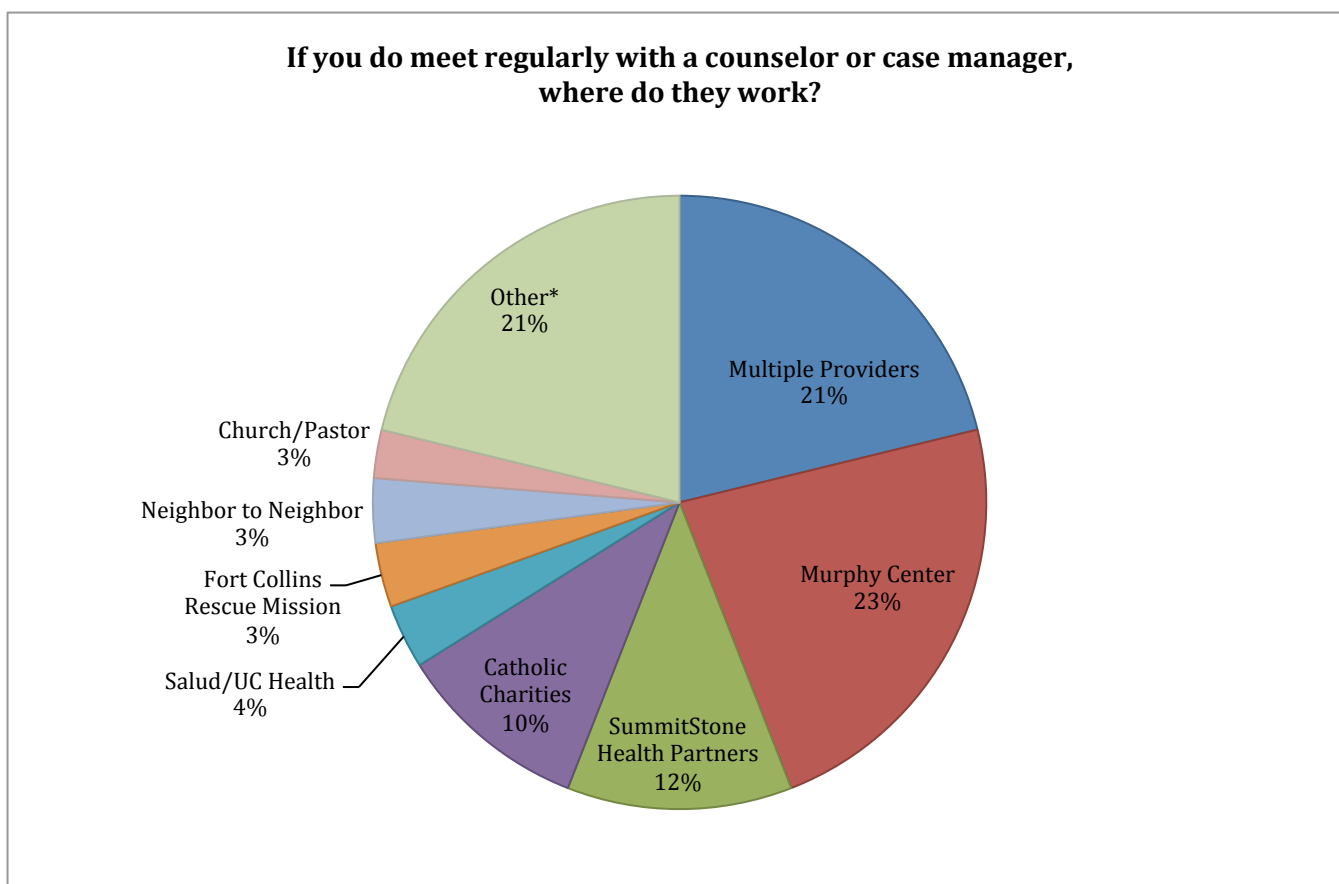
Almost 47% of respondents (281 individuals) are victims of domestic violence. Among women only, over 77% of respondents were survivors of a domestic violence situation.

Pets

Around 6% of respondents (13 individuals) had pets living with them, most being dogs. It was not asked whether the animals were service animals or companion pets. Among those with pets, nine individuals slept in shelters the night of the Point-in-Time and four stayed outside, in unsheltered areas.

Connections in the Community

Over 42% of respondents (86 individuals) reported they were not connected to and did not meet regularly with any resource specialist, case manager, or counselor in the community.



* Examples of other providers people were connected with include the VA, Homeless Gear, Department of Human Services, the Workforce Center, or a private counselor.