



Fact Sheet

Homelessness and Housing Instability in Alameda County

Who is Homeless in Alameda County?

Alameda Countywide Shelter and Services Survey, May 2004 Report

- As many as 16,000 people experience homelessness during the course of a year.
- 6,215 people are homeless on any given night.
- Children comprise 28% of the county's homeless population (1,755).
- Families comprise 43% of the county's homeless population (2,691).
- More urbanized areas of Oakland and Berkeley have higher percentages of adults unaccompanied by children.
- More suburban areas of Mid, South and East County have higher percentages of families with children (including single parent families).

Physical/Behavioral Health, Disabilities & Homelessness

Alameda Countywide Shelter and Services Survey, May 2004 Report

- 58% of homeless adults have one or more disabilities, including mental illness, HIV/AIDS and other physical disabilities.
- Over 30,000 people with mental illness have extremely low incomes and are at risk of homelessness in Alameda County.
- Nearly 1,000 people with mental illness are homeless on any given night, and over 30% of those are dually diagnosed with a substance abuse addiction.
- In Alameda County, there are nearly 5,000 people living with HIV/AIDS who have extremely low incomes and are at risk of becoming homeless.
- Homeless persons are more likely to rely on emergency room or urgent care facilities, require more hospitalizations and report delayed care for drug dependency and mental health problems.

Mainstream Systems & Homelessness

Alameda Countywide Shelter and Services Survey, May 2004 Report

- 20% of homeless adults in Alameda County have been in an institution such as foster care or juvenile justice prior to age 18.
- One in three homeless individuals under age 30 experienced a child welfare system placement prior to age 18.

Lack of Affordable Housing

Out of Reach 2006, National Low Income Housing Coalition and Housing California

- Alameda County is one of the top 10 *least* affordable housing markets in the U.S.
- A family earning minimum wage needs to work over 142 hours a week, 52 weeks a year to afford a modest two-bedroom apartment.
- A disabled individual earns less per month from SSI (\$812) than the fair market value of a studio apartment (\$900).
- Approximately 34,000 (6%) of Alameda County's 523,000 households are at severe risk of homelessness because they are extremely low-income renters paying more than 50% of their income on housing.

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EveryOne Home Sponsoring Agencies: County of Alameda Housing and Community Development, Behavioral Health Care Services, Public Health Office of AIDS Administration, and Social Services Agency; City of Oakland Department of Human Services, and Community and Economic Development Agency; City of Berkeley Housing Department, and Health and Human Services Department; and the Alameda Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care Council.