

# Ramsey County Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Count, January 2017

Compiled by Ramsey County Health and Wellness Administration Division on behalf of Heading Home Ramsey

## Background and Purpose of the PIT

Each January the federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Department mandates an annual count of homelessness in several settings for every Continuum of Care (CoC) in the nation. This count is intended to capture the total number of persons experiencing homelessness on a single night, and is conducted during the last 10 days of every January. Governments at all levels rely on the reported demographic and social characteristics for planning and evaluating the homeless response system for the entire community, not just government funded programs.

Ramsey County, with the assistance of the Institute for Community Alliances (ICA), completed surveys of every emergency shelter and transitional housing program, regardless of funding source, for the night of Thursday, January 26. At the same time community and government partners surveyed as many unsheltered persons feasible over a several day period. For the first time, Ramsey County added to the unsheltered surveys questions about persons temporarily living with family or friends who otherwise would be homeless, commonly known as "doubled up".

## Limitations of Counting Homeless Once Per Year

- Because CoC's conduct the complete PIT count only once a year, in January, the results are somewhat limited. Seasonal variations likely result in different demographic compositions and demand for facilities, especially considering the extreme variations of Minnesota's climate.
- Unsheltered and doubled up counts are particularly unreliable, as they are based solely on the coordination of volunteers and outreach workers, locations covered, and the willingness of individuals to respond to sensitive and invasive survey questions.
- The surveys of emergency shelters and transitional housing primarily reflect capacity for serving homeless and not necessarily the demand. Many shelters regularly meet or even exceed capacity, which can be short of the total need.

## Trends

Despite these limitations, Ramsey County has tracked shelters, transitional housing, and unsheltered for the past several years revealing trends by age and type of homeless facility.

### *Total Count*

- Not including doubled up population, the total number of homeless persons increased 6.8% from January 2016 to January 2017 (1,346 to 1,438).
- Since 2013 the total number of persons has been mostly flat overall, with an increase in the number of total households since 2014, indicating an increase in the proportion of smaller households or singles included in the count.

### *Age*

- Of the 784 in emergency shelters in 2017, 69% were age 25 and older and over one-fifth, 22% were children under 18.
- The number of persons over age 24 increased from 2016-2017: in ES 500 to 538, unsheltered from 112 to 139, and 169 to 209 in TH.

### *Unsheltered/Doubled Up*

- The unsheltered count significantly increased by 22% from 2016 to 2017 (136 to 166 persons), due to more participation, training, and identification of locations where they frequently congregate, such as food shelves, public transit, and skyways.
- Of the unsheltered, only four percent were children and 84% over age 24.
- Ramsey County's first survey of doubled-up populations reached 525 persons. Of those, 239 (46%) were under age 18 and 87 (17%) from the ages 18 through 24. However, the full-extent of doubled-up is likely larger given the limitations of surveying the entire county over a few days of the year.

### *Race*

- African Americans were 48% of total ES population, 64% of TH and 37% of the unsheltered. Whites were about 35% of ES and 24% of TH.
- In contrast, government projections estimate that in 2016 that African Americans were 12% of the county's total population and whites 69%. In other words, African Americans are four times as predominant in emergency shelters compared to the general population.

### *Sheltered Count (ES/TH)*

- Unlike the time-limited ES facilities, TH programs provide housing and support services for homeless persons for up to two years. From 2014 to 2016 the county experienced a decline from 700 to 449 persons in TH programs with a slight increase to 488 in 2017.
- Similar to ES, the TH counts primarily measure capacity and reflect policy changes in how many can be sheltered. The counts also rise or fall due to some projects changing their service type year-to-year, such from ES into TH or converting from TH to more permanent housing like rapid re-housing.

For more information on the PIT count and homelessness in Ramsey County, please contact the Heading Home Ramsey CoC staff working in Ramsey County Health and Wellness Administration Division:

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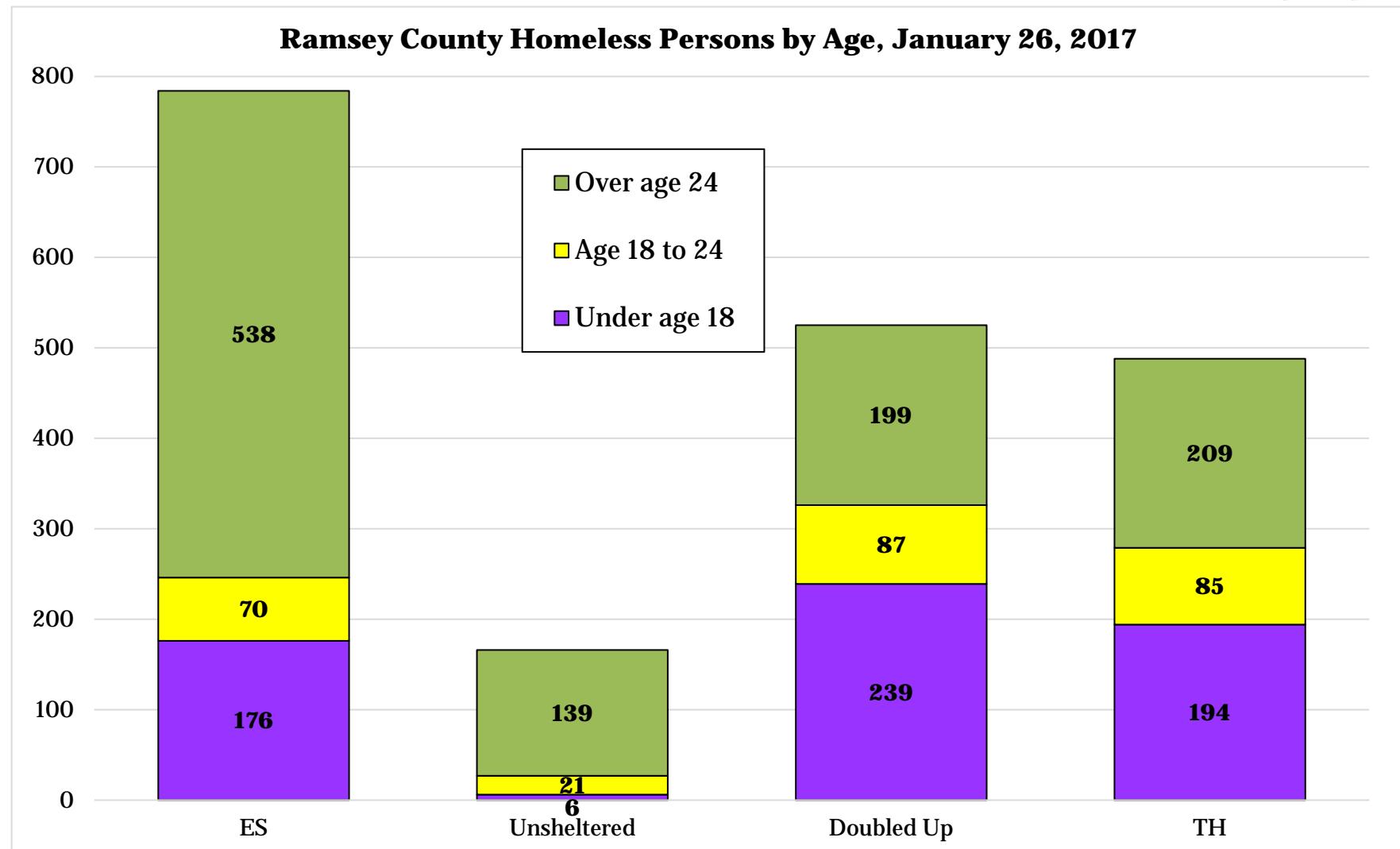
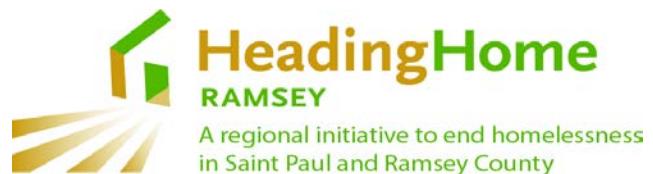
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## Point-in-Time Homeless Summary for 1/26/2017

Ramsey County CoC

**Total Homeless Persons = 1,963**

*Note: Excludes unsheltered observations*

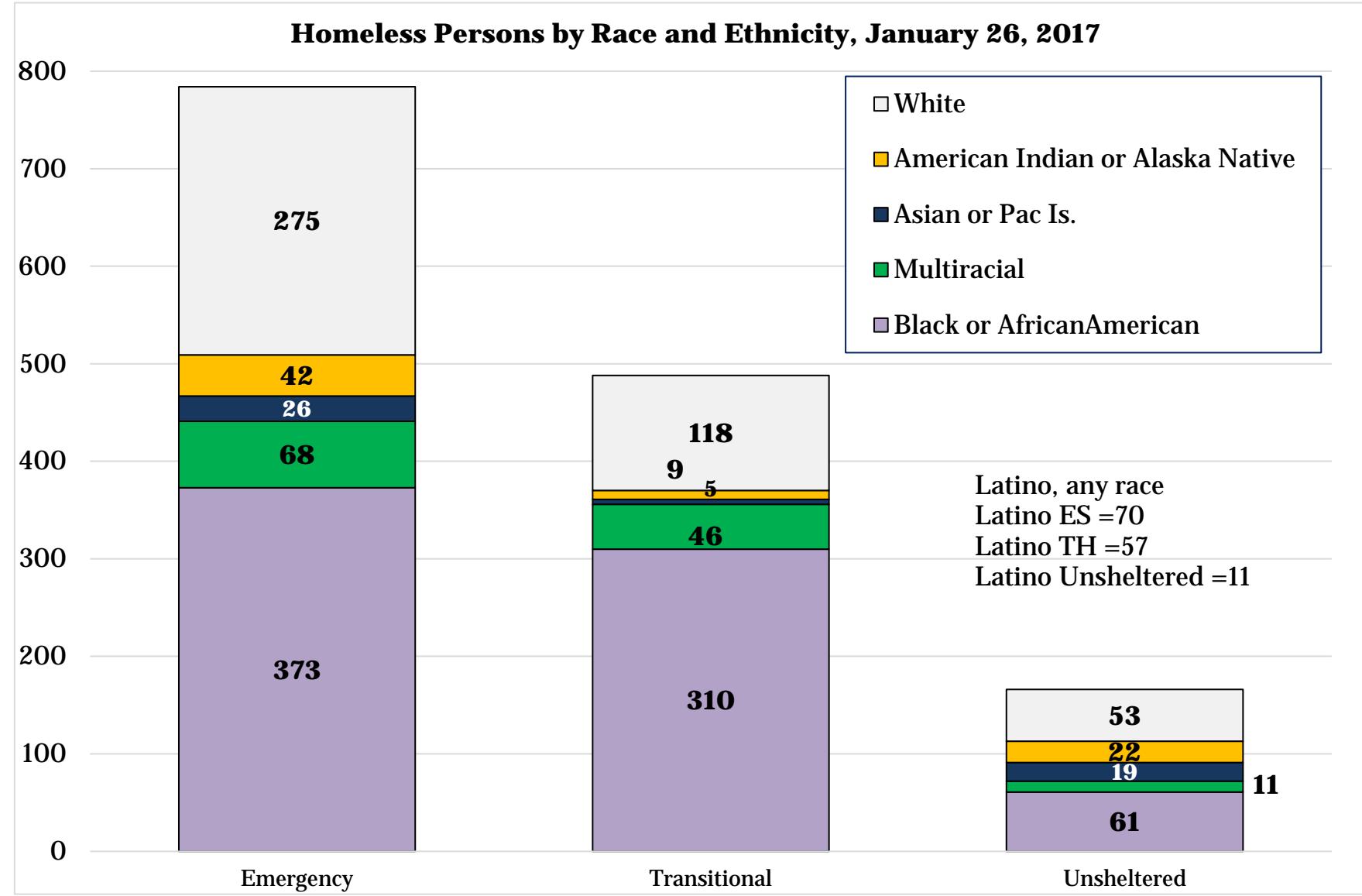


**Total Persons: 784**

**166**

**525**

**488**



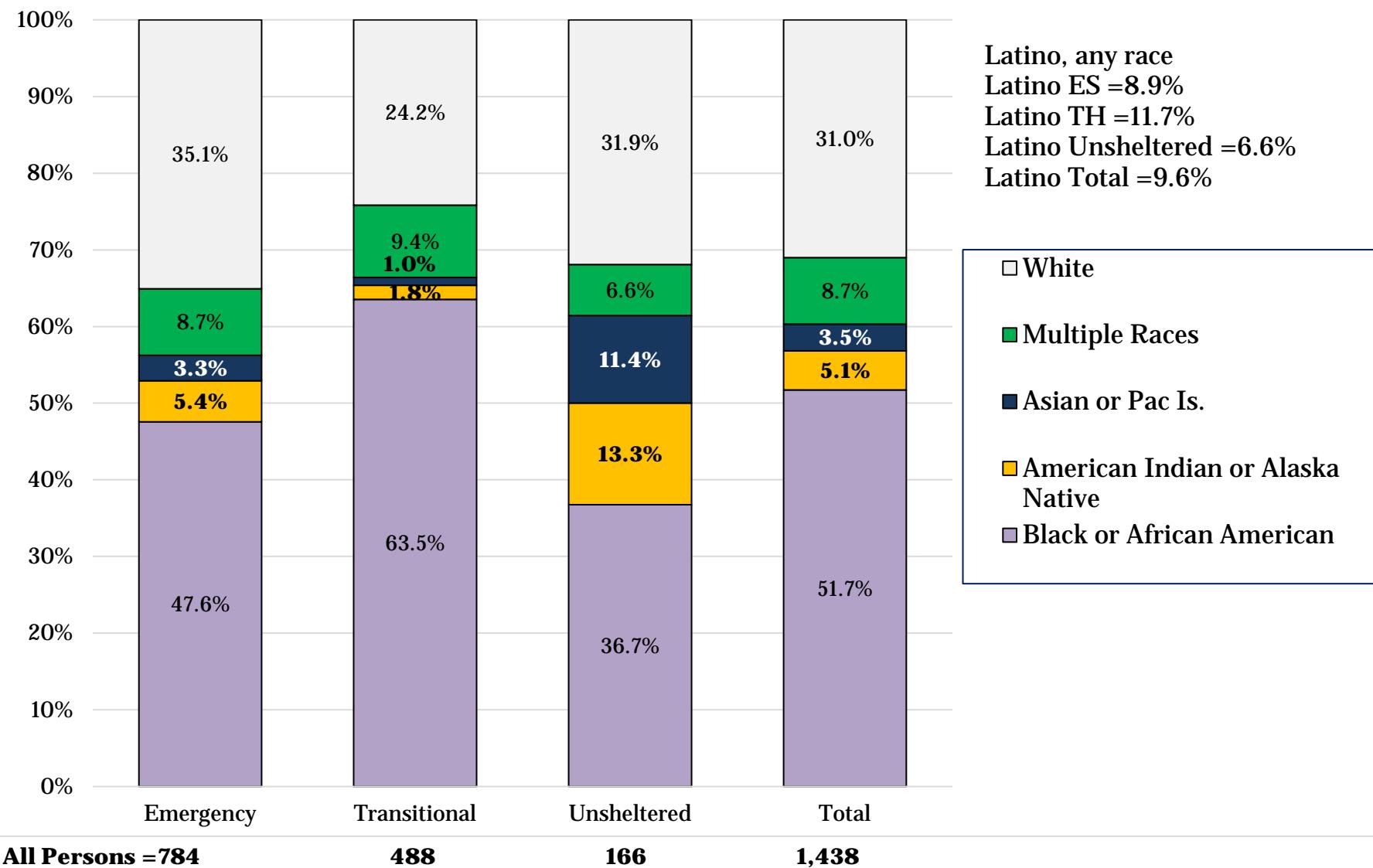
**Total Persons:** **784**

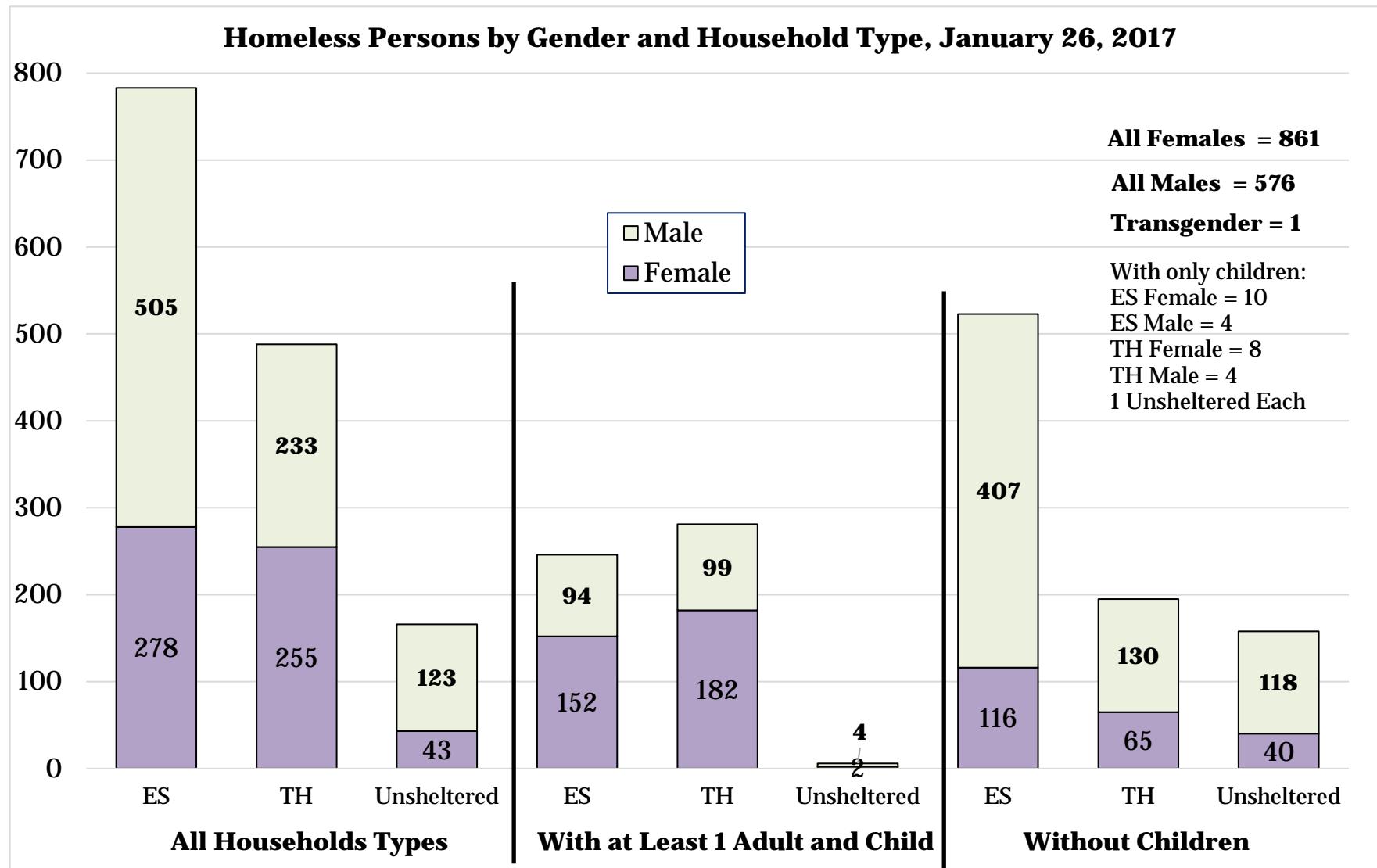
**488**

**166**

Footnote: Less than two-thirds of doubled-up recorded race. The race composition is generally similar to the total of the rest.

### Percent of Homeless by Race and Ethnicity, January 26, 2017



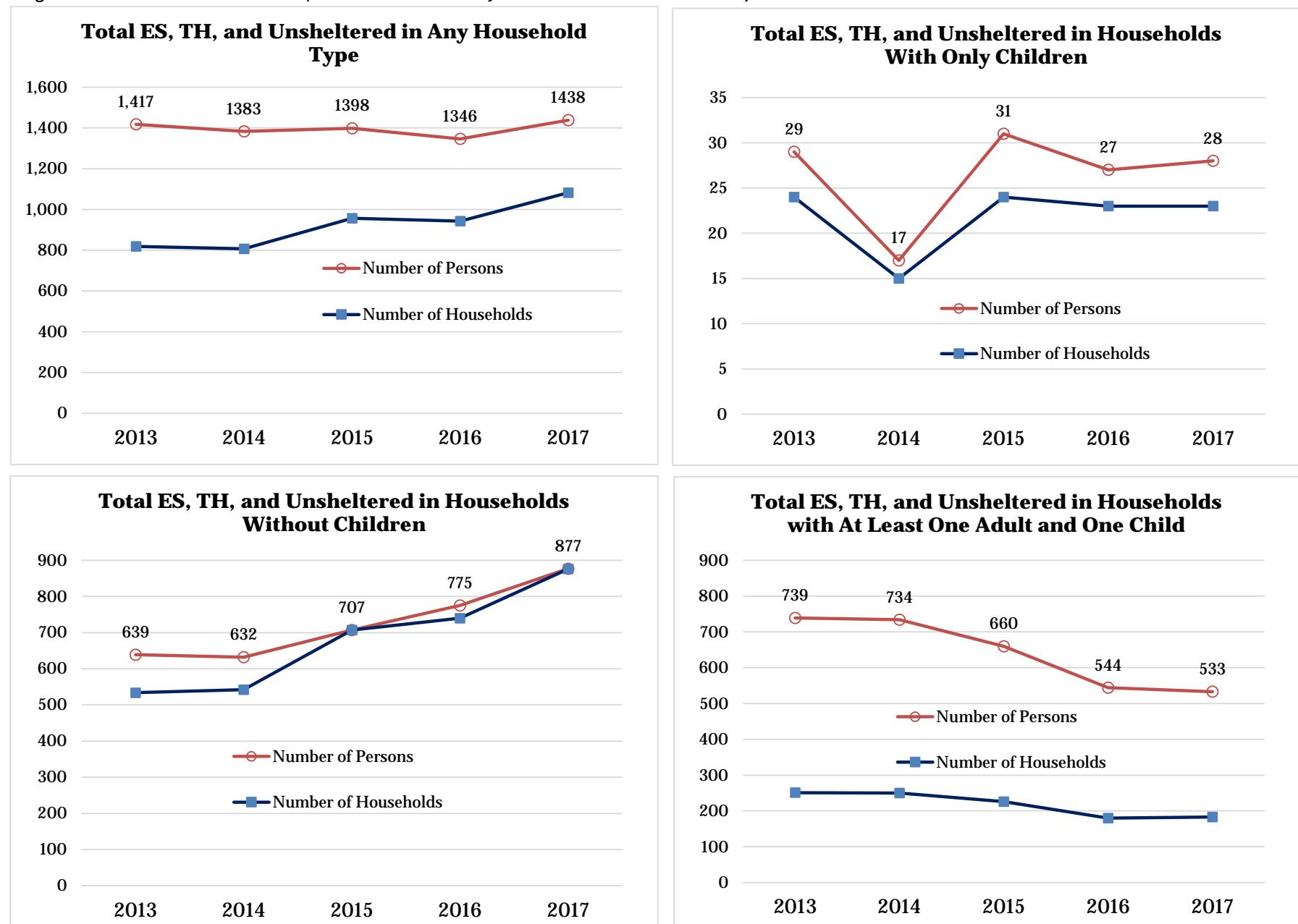


Footnote: Less than two-thirds of doubled-up recorded gender. The recorded gender composition for doubled-up was about 70% female.

## Point in Time Summary 2013-2017 for Ramsey County CoC, revised 5/23/2017

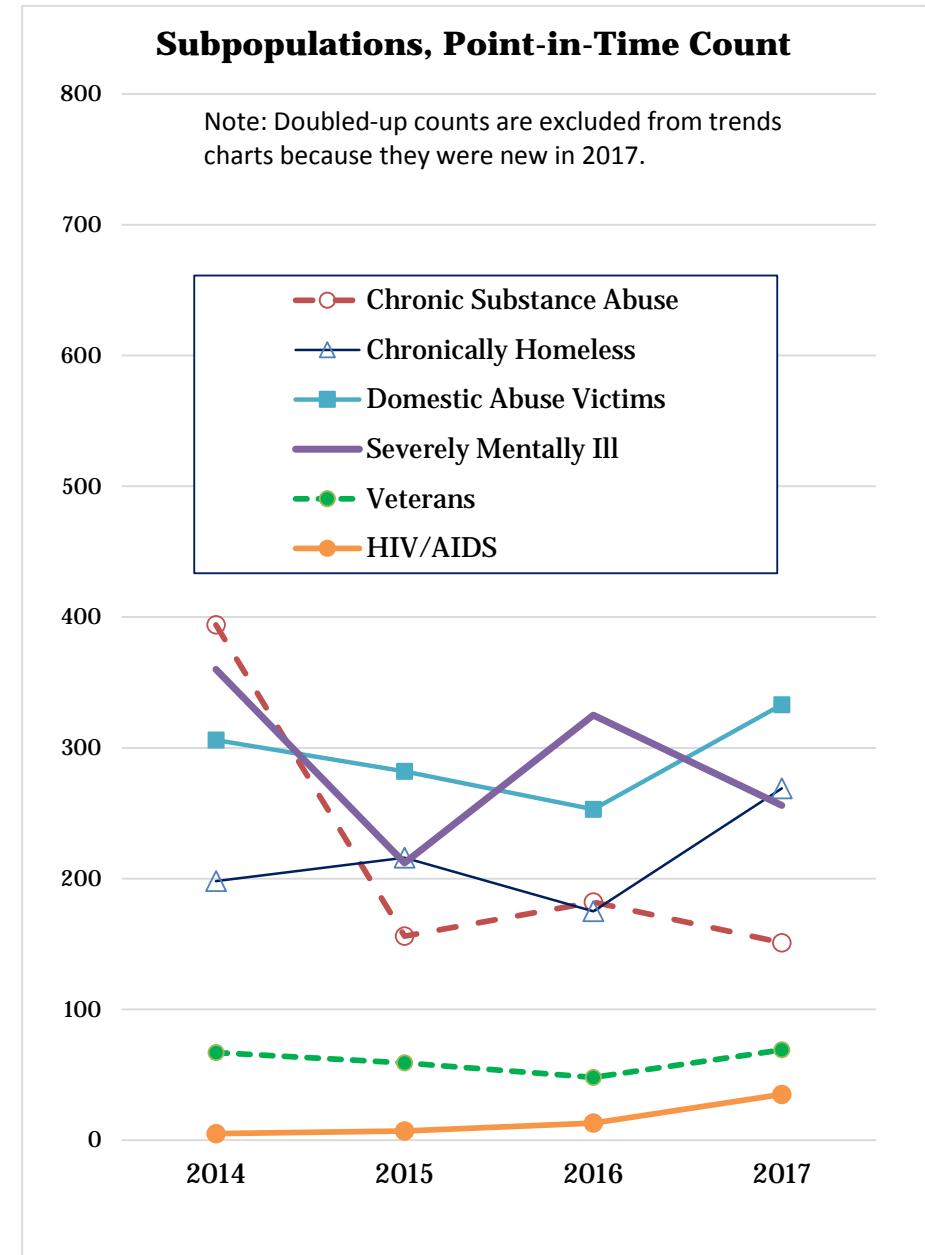
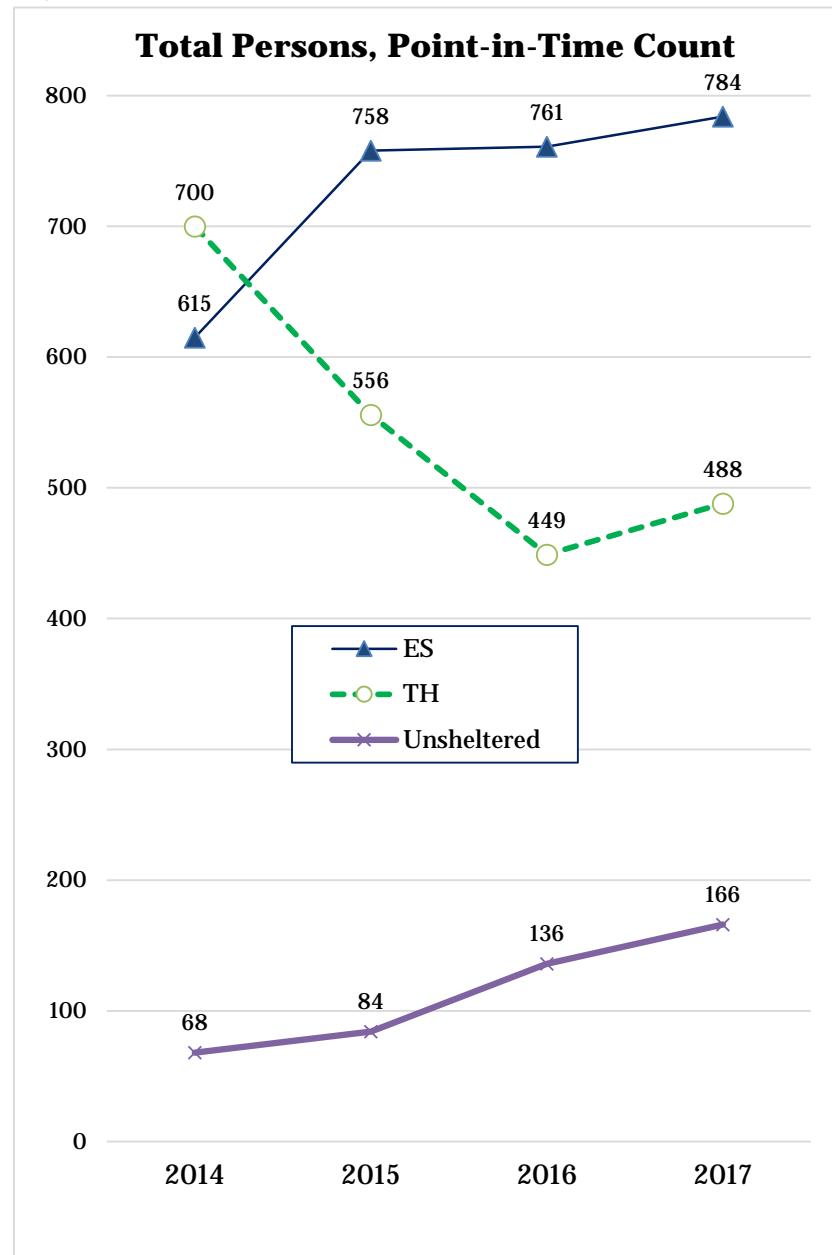
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*Note: Doubled-up counts are excluded from trends charts because they were new in 2017.*



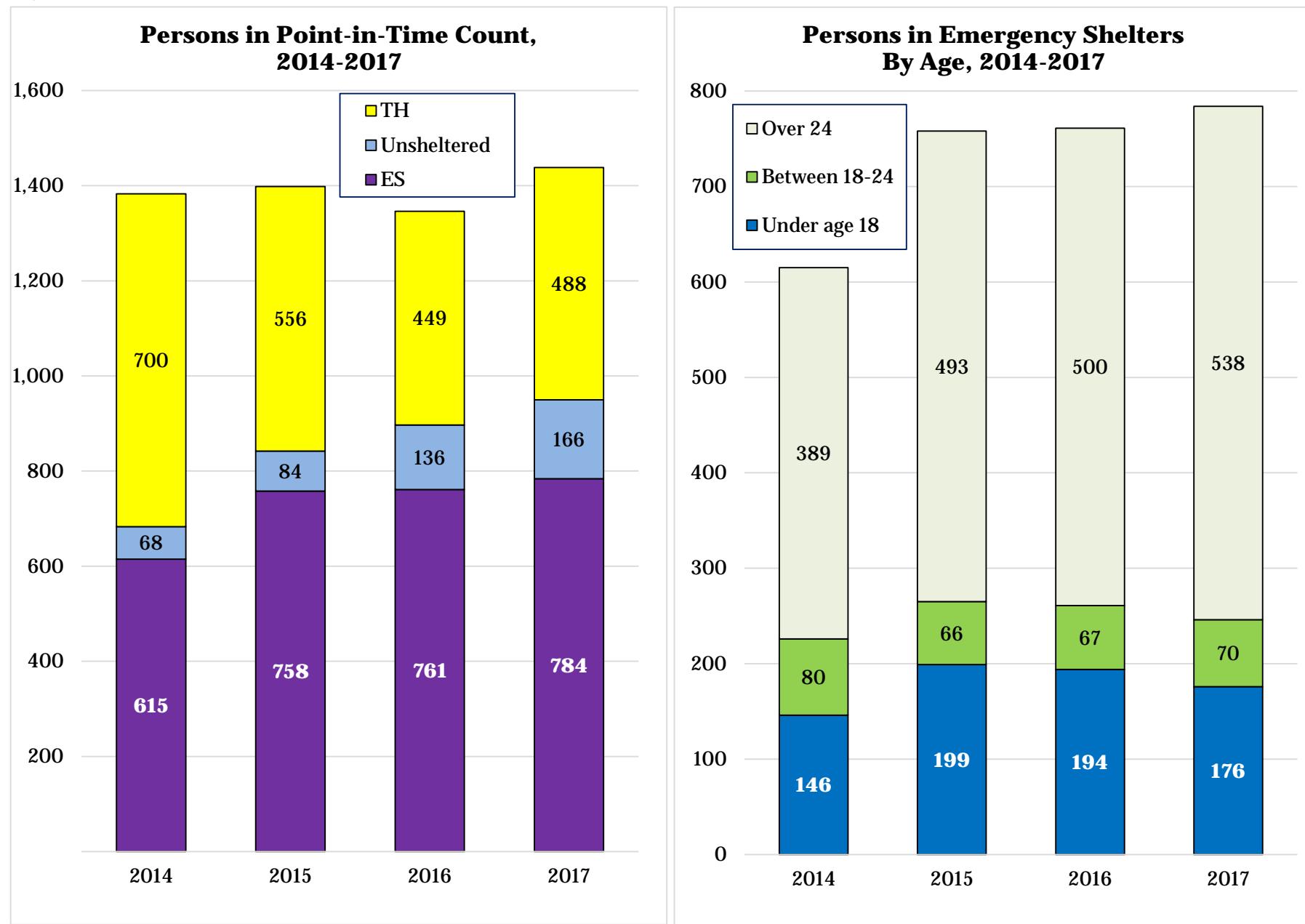
## Point in Time Summary 2013-2017 for Ramsey County CoC, revised 5/23/2017

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## Point in Time Summary 2013-2017 for Ramsey County CoC, revised 5/23/2017

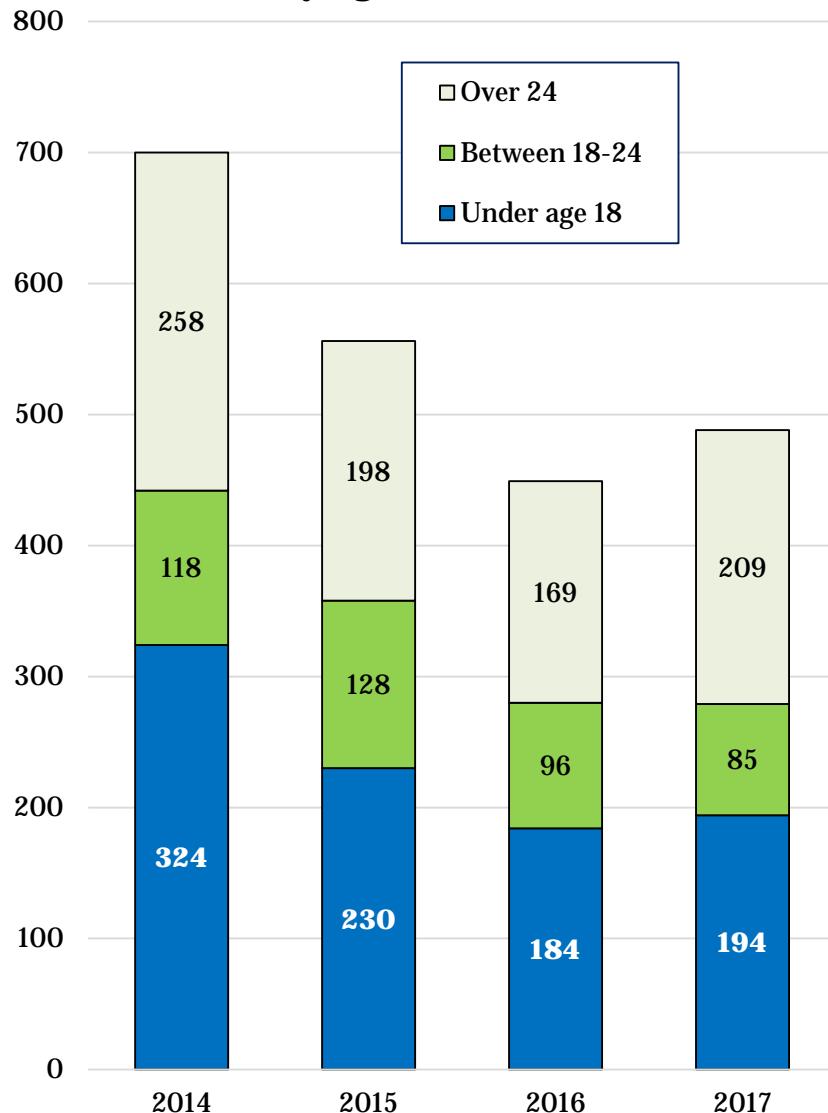
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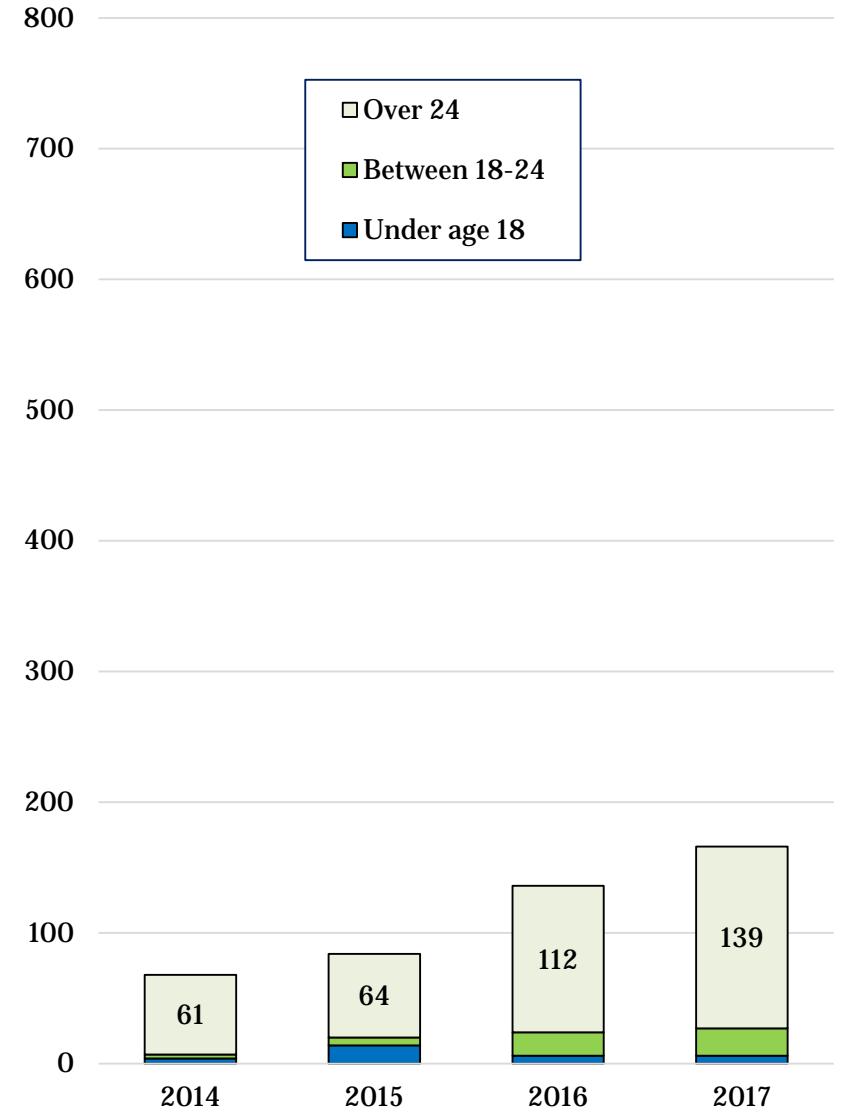
## Point in Time Summary 2013-2017 for Ramsey County CoC, revised 5/23/2017

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### Persons in Transitional Housing By Age, 2014-2016



### Persons Unsheltered By Age, 2014-2016



## Point in Time Summary 2013-2017 for Ramsey County CoC, revised 5/23/2017

### Appendix-1

#### Persons in Households with at least One Adult and One Child

	Emergency					Transitional					Doubled-up
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017
Number of Households	70	76	96	92	84	177	172	117	85	97	178
Number of Persons	226	231	296	276	246	503	497	338	259	281	363
Number under age 18	134	137	191	181	162	277	316	208	170	182	178
Number between 18-24	26	27	24	22	19	100	60	51	25	31	35
Number over 24	66	67	81	73	65	126	121	79	64	68	150

#### Persons in Households With Only Children

	Emergency					Transitional					Doubled-up
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017
Number of Households	9	9	8	12	12	8	6	15	11	9	60
Number of Persons	9	9	8	13	14	12	8	22	14	12	61

#### Persons in Households Without Children

	Emergency					Transitional					Doubled-up
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017
Number of Households	314	320	454	472	524	175	178	196	172	195	99
Number of Persons	374	375	454	472	524	212	195	196	176	195	101
Number age 18-24	40	53	42	45	51	73	58	77	71	54	52
Number over 24	344	322	412	427	473	139	137	119	105	141	49

Shaded black if 2016 to 2017 percentage change was more than 20% up or down.

#### Total Households and Persons

	Emergency					Transitional					Doubled-up
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017
Number of Households	393	405	558	576	620	360	356	328	268	301	337
Number of Persons	609	615	758	761	784	727	700	556	449	488	525
Number under age 18	143	146	199	194	176	289	324	230	184	194	239
Number between 18-24	66	80	66	67	70	173	118	128	96	85	87
Number over 24	400	389	493	500	538	265	258	198	169	209	199

Shaded black if 2016 to 2017 percentage change was more than 20% up or down.

## Point in Time Summary 2013-2017 for Ramsey County CoC, revised 5/23/2017

### Appendix-2

#### Persons in Households with at least One Adult and One Child

	Unsheltered					ES, TH, Unsheltered Total					Grand Total
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
Number of Households	4	2	13	3	2	251	250	226	180	183	361
Number of Persons	10	6	26	9	6	739	734	660	544	533	896
Number under age 18	4	4	13	6	4	415	453	412	357	348	526
Number between 18-24	2	0	4	0	1	128	87	79	47	51	86
Number over 24	4	2	9	3	1	196	190	169	140	134	284

#### Persons in Households With Only Children

	Unsheltered					ES, TH, Unsheltered Total					Grand Total
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
Number of Households	7	0	1	0	2	24	15	24	23	23	83
Number of Persons	8	0	1	0	2	29	17	31	27	28	89

#### Persons in Households Without Children

	Unsheltered					ES, TH, Unsheltered Total					Grand Total
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
Number of Households	45	44	57	96	157	534	542	707	740	876	975
Number of Persons	53	62	57	127	158	639	632	707	775	877	978
Number age 18-24	21	3	2	18	20	134	114	121	134	125	177
Number over 24	32	59	55	109	138	515	518	586	641	752	801

#### Total Households and Persons

	Unsheltered					ES, TH, Unsheltered Total					Grand Total
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
Number of Households	56	46	71	99	161	819	807	957	943	1082	1419
Number of Persons	71	68	84	136	166	1,417	1383	1398	1346	1438	1963
Number under age 18	12	4	14	6	6	444	470	443	384	376	615
Number between 18-24	23	3	6	18	21	262	201	200	181	176	263
Number over 24	36	61	64	112	139	711	708	755	781	886	1085

Shaded black if 2016 to 2017 percentage change was more than 20% up or down.

## Point in Time Summary 2013-2017 for Ramsey County CoC, revised 5/23/2017

### Appendix-3

#### SUB-POPULATIONS

Population	SHELTERED					UNSHELTERED					
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
Chronically Homeless*	Individuals	148	154	164	151	163	52	44	52	24	106
Homeless*	Families	25	13	17	9	9	1	0	6	2	1
	# in Families	74	49	53	28	28	4	0	12	7	2
Veterans		48	62	52	47	59	6	5	7	1	10
Severely Mentally Ill		164	331	173	257	153	41	29	39	68	103
Chronic Substance Abuse		215	371	136	160	83	38	23	20	22	68
HIV/AIDS		17	5	7	12	34	2	0	0	1	1
Domestic Abuse Victims		230	296	263	237	248	13	10	19	16	85

\*The sheltered chronically homeless are only counted in emergency shelters.

Sub-Population	SHELTERED and UNSHELTERED TOTAL					DOUBLED-UP		GRAND TOTAL	
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017
Chronically Homeless	Individuals	200	198	216	175	269	76		345
Homeless	Families	26	13	23	11	10	61		71
	# in Families	78	49	65	35	30	29		59
Veterans		54	67	59	48	69	2		71
Severely Mentally Ill		205	360	212	325	256	66		322
Chronic Substance Abuse		253	394	156	182	151	23		174
HIV/AIDS		19	5	7	13	35	1		36
Domestic Abuse Victims		243	306	282	253	333	62		395

Shaded black if 2016 to 2017 percentage change was more than 20% up or down.

Prepared by Ramsey County Health & Wellness Administration, Research & Evaluation, 5/23/2017

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## Point in Time Comparisons 2017, Continuums of Care (CoC) in Minnesota

### Appendix-4

CoC	2017					2017				
	Emergency Shelter				Percent Of Minn.	Transitional Housing				Percent Of Minn.
	2014	2015	2016	2017		2014	2015	2016	2017	
SMAC	254	274	251	323	8.9%	383	121	160	111	3.8%
Hennepin	2,510	1,733	1,657	1,657	45.8%	1,011	1,359	1,229	1,102	37.5%
<b>Ramsey</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>21.7%</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>16.6%</b>
Metro Total	3,476	2,765	2,669	2,764	76.4%	2,114	2,036	1,838	1,701	57.8%
Central	235	297	289	260	7.2%	265	194	213	373	12.7%
Northwest	159	112	92	86	2.4%	121	127	162	199	6.8%
St. Louis County	116	135	202	137	3.8%	189	187	165	175	5.9%
Southeast	222	217	210	167	4.6%	236	212	199	328	11.1%
Southwest	52	62	64	60	1.7%	128	48	53	40	1.4%
West Central	145	153	131	125	3.5%	58	81	68	87	3.0%
Total	4,414	3,764	3,700	3,618	100.0%	3,168	2,941	2,752	2,942	100.0%
CoC	2017					2017				
	Unsheltered				Percent Of Minn.	Total ES, TH, and Unsheltered in MN				Percent Of Minn.
	2014	2015	2016	2017	Of Minn.	2014	2015	2016	2017	Of Minn.
SMAC	98	180	207	110	9.9%	735	575	618	544	7.1%
Hennepin	210	123	170	298	26.9%	3,731	3,215	3,056	3,057	39.9%
<b>Ramsey</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>15.0%</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,397</b>	<b>1,346</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>18.8%</b>
Metro Total	376	386	513	574	51.8%	5,966	5,187	5,020	5,039	65.7%
Northeast	134	23	17	41	3.7%	200	68	77	99	1.3%
Northwest	19	15	2	3	0.3%	299	254	256	288	3.8%
St. Louis County	124	164	158	193	17.4%	429	486	525	505	6.6%
Southeast	24	22	14	57	5.1%	482	451	423	552	7.2%
Southwest	0	15	6	8	0.7%	180	125	123	108	1.4%
West Central	11	8	12	3	0.3%	214	242	211	215	2.8%
Total	795	841	889	1,108	100.0%	8,377	7,546	7,341	7,668	100.0%

Compiled by ICA, HMIS System Administrator for Minnesota