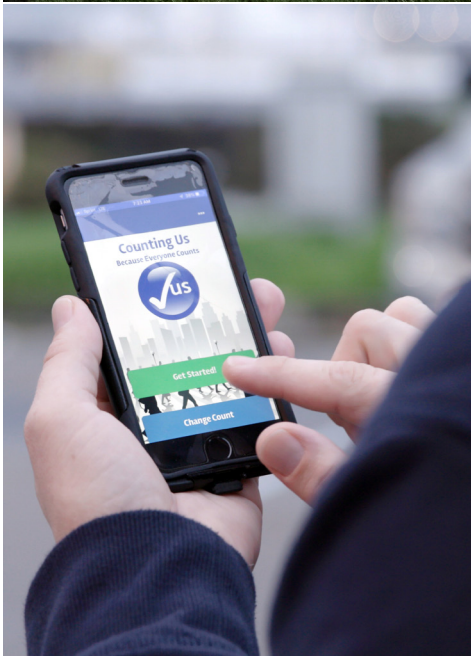
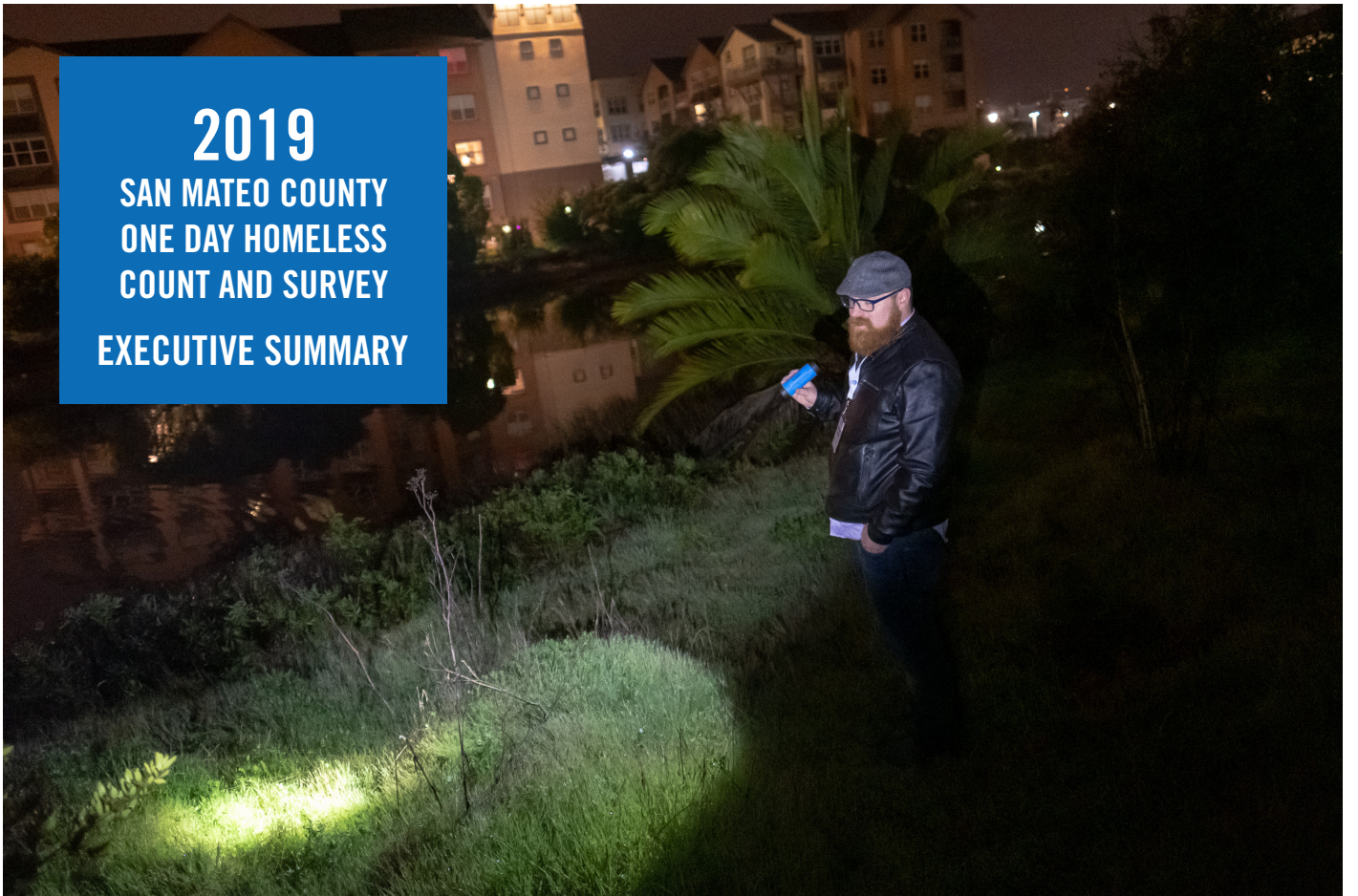


2019
SAN MATEO COUNTY
ONE DAY HOMELESS
COUNT AND SURVEY
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This executive summary provides an overview of key results from the 2019 San Mateo County One Day Homeless Count and Survey (count). The San Mateo County Human Services Agency (HSA) coordinates the count in collaboration with community and County partners. The 2019 count was conducted in the early morning hours of January 31, 2019. Approximately 400 volunteers consisting of community-based providers, members of the public, City and County staff, and community expert guides, deployed by foot and car to conduct observational counts and surveys of people experiencing homelessness in each census tract in the County. The County conducts the count every two years. The results provide one source of data, among many others, to help the County and its partners assess how to best serve homeless households and assist them with returning to housing as quickly as possible. The results are also submitted to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which then compiles information about the homeless counts nationwide.

Number of People Experiencing Homelessness

The 2019 count determined that there were **1,512 people experiencing homelessness in San Mateo County on the night of January 30, 2019**, comprised of:

- **901 unsheltered** homeless people (living on streets, in cars, in recreational vehicles (RVs), in tents/encampments), and
- **611 sheltered** homeless people (in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs).

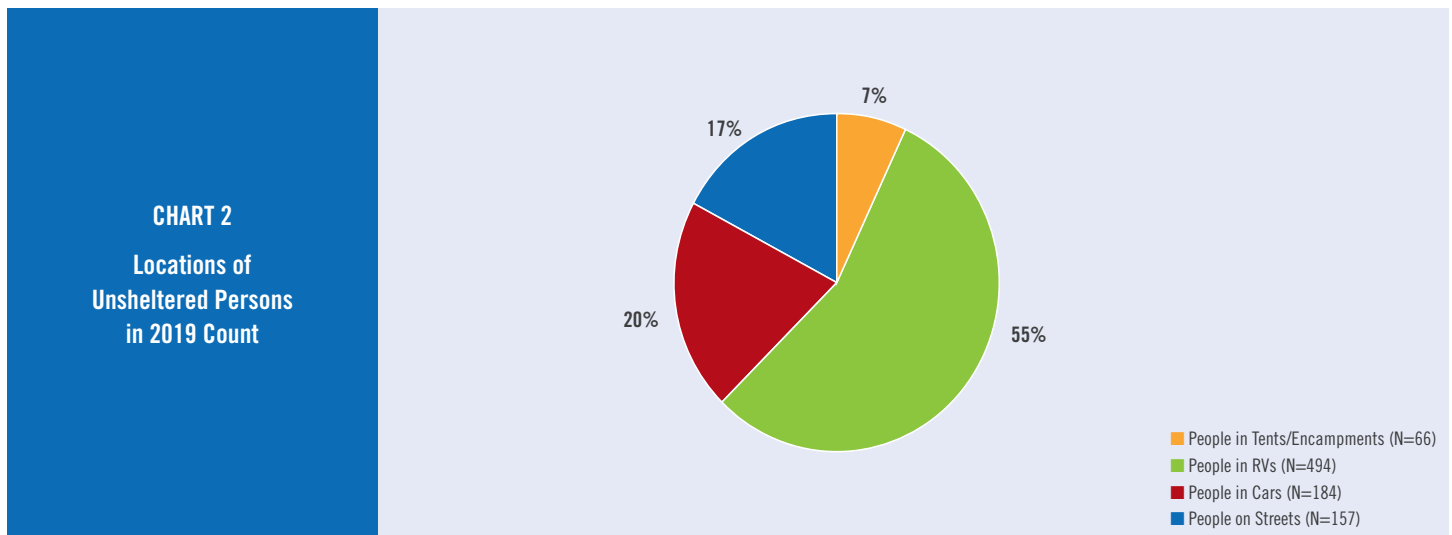
This finding of 1,512 people is higher than the 2017 and 2015 counts, but lower than the 2011 and 2013 counts. The number of people living in shelters in 2019 remains similar to the number counted in 2017. The overall increase in homelessness from 2017 to 2019 is driven primarily by a significant increase in the number of people living in RVs (127% increase). There was also an increase in the number of people sleeping on the street (24% increase). However, compared to 2017, the 2019 count found a decrease in people estimated to be sleeping in cars (7% decrease) and in tents/encampments (31% decrease).

While no unsheltered families were directly observed during the 2019 count, the number of families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness is estimated to have been 16 (in cars, tents/encampments, and/or RVs). This number represents a 16% decrease in families from the 19 families estimated to be unsheltered in the 2017 count.

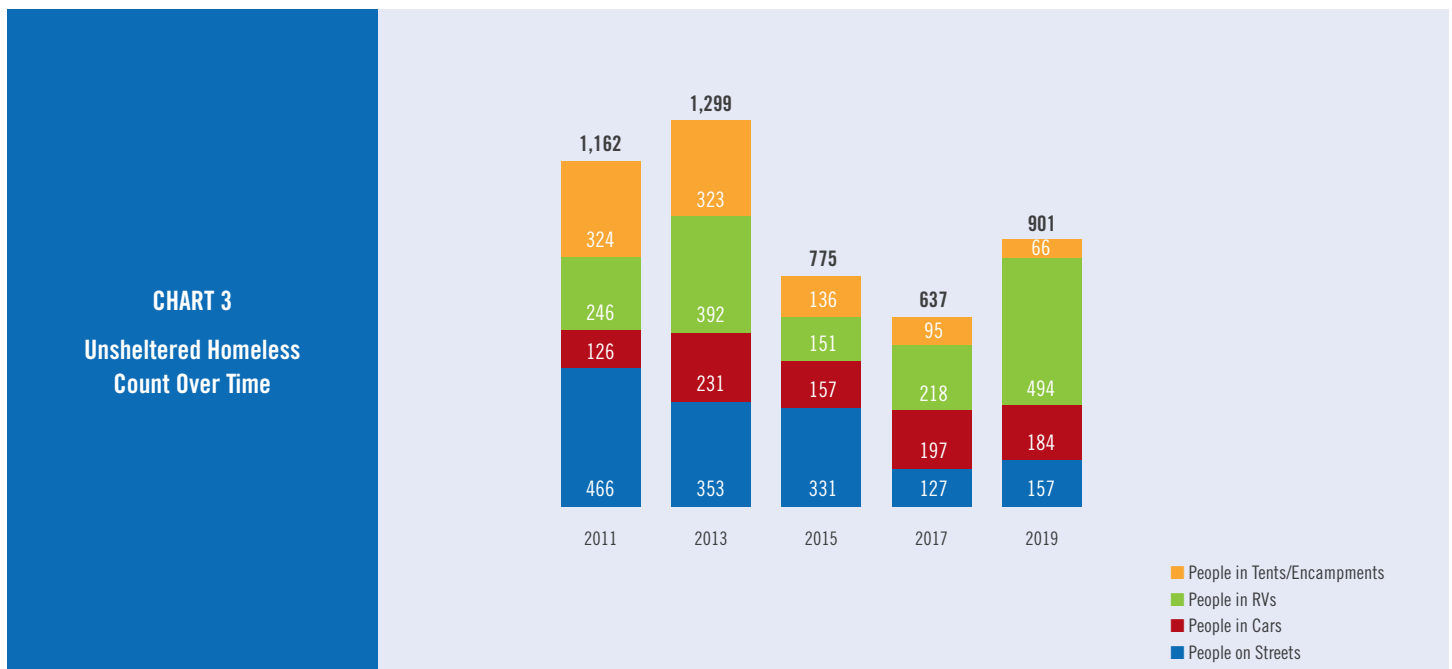
The chart below shows the number of people experiencing homelessness, including both sheltered and unsheltered, from the One Day Counts from 2011 to 2019.



The following chart illustrates the proportion of people estimated to be sleeping in each of these locations on January 30, 2019: on the street, in cars, in RVs, or in tents/encampments.



The chart below depicts the shifts over time among unsheltered sleeping situations as observed in recent counts.

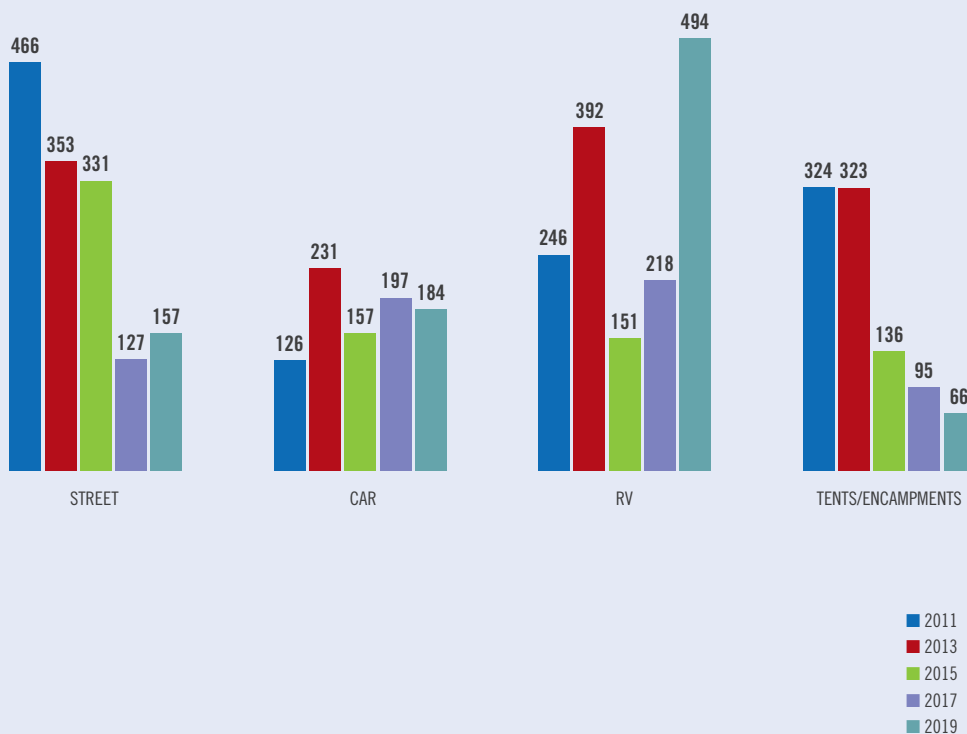


Though the number of people sleeping in shelter has varied somewhat between counts, the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness is the primary driver of fluctuations in overall homelessness numbers over time. The table and chart below show the changes in the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations across the counts.

TABLE 1
Count by Location
2011 – 2019

LOCATION	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019
UNSHeltered COUNT					
People on Streets	466	353	331	127	157
People in Cars	126	231	157	197	184
People in RVs	246	392	151	218	494
People in Tents/Encampments	324	323	136	95	66
Subtotal Unsheltered Count	1,162	1,299	775	637	901
SHELTERED COUNT					
People in Emergency Shelter	258	272	254	211	266
People in Transitional Housing	441	431	454	405	345
Subtotal Sheltered Count	699	703	708	616	611
Total	1,861	2,002	1,483	1,253	1,512

CHART 4
Unsheltered Persons
by Location Over Time



Geographic Information

The following table summarizes the geographic locations of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness reflected in the counts from 2011 to 2019.

TABLE 2
Counts by Jurisdiction

CITY	2011 COUNT	2013 COUNT	2015 COUNT	2017 COUNT	2019 COUNT
Atherton	1	0	1	0	1
Belmont	1	43	11	3	7
Brisbane	0	34	21	19	4
Burlingame	3	13	7	21	25
Colma	1	7	3	1	8
Daly City	44	27	32	17	66
East Palo Alto	385	119	95	98	107
Foster City	0	7	0	6	4
Half Moon Bay	41	114	84	43	54
Hillsborough	0	0	0	0	0
Menlo Park	72	16	27	47	27
Millbrae	1	21	8	7	9
Pacifica	95	150	63	112	116
Portola Valley	16	2	0	1	0
Redwood City	233	306	223	94	221
San Bruno	14	98	8	26	12
San Carlos	9	10	20	28	30
San Francisco International Airport	9	5	1	3	21
San Mateo	68	103	82	48	74
South San Francisco	122	172	55	33	42
Unincorporated	47	46	32	30	73
<i>Coastside</i>			22	22	60
<i>Central</i>			0	0	0
<i>North</i>			0	3	6
<i>South</i>			10	5	7
Woodside	0	6	2	0	0
Total	1,162	1,299	775	637	901

Conclusion

The overall finding from the count is that the number of people experiencing homelessness on the day of the count increased by 21% from 2017 to 2019, although the overall number of people experiencing homelessness is less than the numbers found in 2011 and 2013. The increase from 2017 was primarily driven by an increase in the number of people living in RVs. HSA and its community partners have noted this trend and have been working to ensure that the population of unsheltered people living in RVs is connected to the available safety net and homeless services. HSA is also exploring strategies to create new services specifically tailored to this population.

While overall homelessness has increased, the 2019 count found that there were decreases in some populations, including families with children, people sleeping in tents/encampments, and people sleeping in cars. HSA and its partners will continue implementation of strategies for these populations.

HSA and its partners will continue efforts to create a homeless crisis response system that identifies a housing solution for each individual and family who experiences homelessness. HSA and its partners will continue to utilize a variety of data to measure trends and progress.

Services will continue to be implemented to prevent homelessness whenever possible, and when homelessness does occur, the primary measure of success is whether people are assisted to secure housing as quickly as possible and do not return to homelessness. This is especially challenging given the extremely high costs and low vacancy rates in the housing market, however, HSA and its community partners are committed to continuing to implement strategies that have proven to be effective in reducing homelessness.

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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