

How much do you know about homelessness?

The information in this questionnaire is from the latest count completed in January, 2019 by Everyone Home. The next count to be done by Everyone Home is January, 2021, with analysis expected in the spring.

1. How many people in Alameda County have been counted as being unhoused?
 - a. 500
 - b. 4,500
 - c. 8,500
 - d. 20,000

Answer: C

2. Of this number, how many are in Oakland?
 - a. 300
 - b. 3000
 - c. 4,000
 - d. 12,000

Answer: C. This number is almost double the 2017 reported number.

3. What percentage of the Oakland homeless population is African-American?
 - a. 70
 - b. 40
 - c. 10
 - d. 25

Answer: A

4. What percentage of the Alameda County homeless population is Latinx?
 - a. 88
 - b. 17
 - c. 10
 - d. 34

Answer: B

5. What percentage of the Oakland unhoused population has at least one disabling condition?
 - a. 74
 - b. 10
 - c. 27
 - d. 42

Answer: D

6. How many homeless encampments are there in Oakland?
 - a. 15
 - b. 50
 - c. 85
 - d. 140

Answer: D

7. The Oakland City Council recently passed an ordinance that will expand the areas in Oakland where encampments will be accepted and monitored:

- a. True
- b. False

Answer: B

8. When encampments are closed by OPD, what happens to the belongings of the people who have to move?

- a. They are thrown away
- b. People can take what they can and must leave the rest
- c. The City provides bags and boxes for their things and delivers them to wherever people want them delivered

Answer: A and B

9. When people are forced to move from encampments, what options have they historically been given?

- a. A bed in a congregate shelter where they cannot take belongings or use of drugs/alcohol
- b. An SRO not in very good condition with a shared bathroom and kitchen and many house rules
- c. Nothing
- d. All of the above

Answer: D

10. The main cause of homelessness in Oakland and Alameda County is economic:

- True
- False

Answer: True. Interviewed unsheltered people named a lost job (13%); eviction/foreclosure (9%); rent increase (9%); and incarceration (8%) as primary cause for them.

11. Mental health services and financial/employment supports might have prevented homelessness.

- True
- False

Answer: True. Interviewed unsheltered people gave the following answers:

1) 33% rent assistance; 2) 30% benefits/income; 3) 23% employment assistance; 4) 21% mental health services

12. What activities does Homeless Action Committee engage in?

- a. Collection of donations of clothing and outdoor supplies
- b. Distribution of the above
- c. Participation in City Council meetings where homelessness issues are addressed
- d. Calling, emailing and sending letters to Alameda County Board of Supervisors and Oakland City Council regarding above
- e. Getting support letters from KCS clergy for vital homelessness proposals
- f. Supporting the specific work of Love and Justice in the Streets, an organization started by Talya Husbands-Hankin which does things like funding temporary housing in hotels; providing meals; responding to emergencies in encampments such as fires; facilitating Homeless Advocacy Working Group meetings with City employees, homeless advocates, and unhoused residents; and organizing mass responses to City policies as they arise.
- g. All of the above

Answer: G