

Perceptions of Homelessness and Public Support for Long-term Housing with Supportive Care

Technical Report produced for:
United Way of Orange County

Additional support provided by:
University Advancement,
California State University, Fullerton

The Center for Public Policy
Justin Tucker, Director



Executive Summary

Purpose:

United Way of Orange County and the Center for Public Policy at California State University, Fullerton conducted a survey about public perceptions of homelessness and support for long-term housing with supportive care. The purpose of the survey was to identify commonly held perceptions and concerns about homelessness, and estimate the level of support for homelessness solutions including long-term housing with supportive care in Orange County. Additionally, the survey was designed to help identify how various pieces of information affect support for homelessness solutions.

Summary of Findings:

There is a significant amount of support for addressing homelessness in the Orange County.

15% of respondents identified homelessness as “our county’s most serious problem.” An additional 62.3% of respondents identified homelessness as “a very serious problem” in the county. 92.5% of respondents agreed that “something needs to be done” to address homelessness in Orange County.

69.8% of respondents indicated that they were either extremely likely or somewhat likely to support long-term housing with supportive care in Orange County. After being exposed to additional information about homelessness, over 74% of respondents stated that they were either “extremely likely” or “somewhat likely” to support long-term housing with supportive care.

When asked if they had to choose today, 57.7% of respondents would support providing long-term supportive housing in several locations throughout the county.

Almost 69% of respondents said that cities, the county, and the private sector should be involved in a coordinated effort to solve homelessness in Orange County.

Technical Report

We asked respondents a series of questions about homelessness, their perceptions of homelessness, and support for solutions. All of the following tables present the percent of respondents providing a specific answer. Beyond the summary of responses, each question was further analyzed to determine if there were differences in responses based on the respondent's residence in north or south Orange County, their household income, and race or ethnicity. The results are presented first as the overall response data for the question and then broken down by group if statistically significant differences exist between the groups. Unless noted otherwise, all results are column percentages.

Awareness

We asked respondents if they had heard anything recently about homelessness in Orange County. More than 86% of respondents responded yes.

Yes	86.89
No	13.11
Total	100

Personal knowledge

We asked respondents the following question: "Do you personally know or have known anyone who has been close to becoming homeless or who is currently homeless?" Just over 40% of respondents indicated that they did personally know someone who was either homeless or close to becoming homeless.

Yes	40.82
No	59.18
Total	100

When we look at the difference in respondents who live in north Orange County as compared to south Orange County, there is a statistically significant difference, $\chi^2(1) = 11.01$, $p < 0.01$. Respondents in north Orange County were about 14.37% more likely to know someone in that situation than respondents in south Orange County.

	South	North	Total
Yes	30.81	45.18	40.82
No	69.19	54.82	59.18
Total	100	100	100

Additionally, respondents from different household income levels had significantly different levels of personal knowledge of such an individual, $\chi^2(5) = 29.64$, $p < 0.001$. Respondents at lower income

household income levels tended to have higher levels of personal knowledge of such an individual. For example, over 55% of respondents with a household income less than \$50,000 knew such an individual, while just slightly more than 25% of respondents with a household income level between \$125,001 and \$150,000 knew such an individual. The only exception to this trend is that the respondents who made more than \$150,000, had a similar level of knowledge as the \$85,011 to \$100,000 household income group.

	Less than \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$85,000	\$85,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$125,000	\$125,001 to \$150,000	more than \$150,000	Total
Yes	55.07	38.36	34.38	28.92	25.58	32.84	40.82
No	44.93	61.64	65.63	71.08	74.42	67.16	59.18
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on racial or ethnic identification.

Impact on Homelessness

We asked respondents a series of questions to gauge their perception of how a variety of factors affected the county’s homeless population. Specifically we asked about the cost of housing, a debilitating or disabling medical condition, lifestyle choices, a catastrophic life change, poor life decisions, and drug or alcohol abuse. The results for each of these factors follows.

Cost of housing

When asked how much of an impact the cost of housing has on Orange County’s homeless population, over 72% of respondents said either “very large impact” (44%) or “large impact” (28%).

The cost of housing

No impact	4.75
Some impact	10.49
Moderate impact	11.97
Large impact	28.52
Very large impact	44.26
Total	100

When we analyze the results further, based on household income, there is a statistically significant difference in responses, $\chi^2(20) = 37.19, p < 0.001$. While there is no distinct trend of lower incomes indicating higher impact, both the \$85,001 to \$100,000 group and the \$125,001 to \$150,000 group indicated more small to moderate impacts rather than large or very large impacts expressed by the other household income groups.

	Less than \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$85,000	\$85,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$125,000	\$125,001 to \$150,000	more than \$150,000	Total
No impact	4.35	4.11	7.81	2.41	6.98	5.97	4.75
Some impact	6.28	5.48	17.19	16.87	23.26	11.94	10.49
Moderate impact	10.14	15.75	17.19	7.23	6.98	13.43	11.97
Large impact	29.47	29.45	28.13	24.1	32.56	26.87	28.52
Very large impact	49.76	45.21	29.69	49.4	30.23	41.79	44.26
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, or racial or ethnic identification.

A debilitating or disabling medical condition

When asked how much of an impact a debilitating or disabling medical condition has on Orange County’s homeless population, more than 62% of respondents indicated either “large impact” or “very large impact.” An additional 22% responded a “moderate impact.”

No impact	2.79
Some impact	12.3
Moderate impact	22.3
Large impact	37.21
Very large impact	25.41
Total	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, household income, or racial or ethnic identification.

Lifestyle choices

When asked about how much of an impact lifestyle choices has on the county’s homeless population, just over 59% indicated either “large impact” or “very large impact.” An additional 26% replied a “moderate impact”

No impact	3.11
Some impact	11.15
Moderate impact	26.72
Large impact	34.26
Very large impact	24.75
Total	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, household income, or racial or ethnic identification.

A catastrophic life change

When asked about how much of an impact a catastrophic life change has on the homeless population in Orange County, over 59% of respondents indicated a “large impact” or “very large impact.” An additional 28% indicated a “moderate impact.”

No impact	2.62
Some impact	9.84
Moderate impact	28.36
Large impact	35.74
Very large impact	23.44
Total	100

When analyzed based on location in the county, there was a statistically significant difference between respondents from north and south Orange County, $\chi^2(4) = 10.08, p=0.04$. A larger percentage (more than 5%) of respondents from north Orange County said “very large impact” while respondents from south Orange County tended to have higher percentages of “some impact,” “moderate impact,” or “large impact” than expected.

	south	north	Total
No impact	0.54	3.53	2.62
Some impact	13.51	8.24	9.84
Moderate impact	29.19	28	28.36
Large impact	37.3	35.06	35.74
Very large impact	19.46	25.18	23.44
Total	100	100	100

Were no statistically significant differences in responses based on household income, or racial or ethnic identification.

Poor life decisions

When asked about how much of an impact poor life decisions has on homelessness in the county, nearly 66% said either “large impact,” or “very large impact” An additional 20% said “moderate impact.”

No impact	3.28
Some impact	10

Moderate impact	20.82
Large impact	36.07
Very large impact	29.84
Total	100

Were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, household income, or racial or ethnic identification.

Drug or alcohol abuse

When asked about how much of an impact drug or alcohol abuse has on homelessness in the county, almost 81% said either “large impact,” or “very large impact,” with over 46% of respondents stating “very large impact.”

No impact	3.44
Some impact	4.43
Moderate impact	11.48
Large impact	34.1
Very large impact	46.56
Total	100

When analyzed based on location in the county, there was a statistically significant difference in responses in north county compared to south county, $\chi^2(4)=19.78$, $p<0.001$. 12.49% more north county respondents indicated “very large impact” as compared to south county respondents. Interestingly, 13.9% more south county residents said “large impact” as compared to north county respondents.

	south	north	Total
No impact	1.62	4.24	3.44
Some impact	8.11	2.82	4.43
Moderate impact	8.65	12.71	11.48
Large impact	43.78	29.88	34.1
Very large impact	37.84	50.35	46.56
Total	100	100	100

Were no statistically significant differences in responses based on household income, or racial or ethnic identification.

How big of a problem is homelessness?

We asked respondents “Compared to all the problems the county faces, which of the following statements most aligns with your perception of homelessness in Orange County?” Over 97.5% of respondents indicated it is at least a somewhat serious problem, with 62.3% saying it is a very serious problem. Over 15% of respondents said that it is the county’s most serious problem.

It's our county's most serious problem	15.25
It's a very serious problem	62.30
It's a somewhat serious problem	20.00
It's not a very serious problem	2.13
It's not something that our county should be concerned with at all	0.33
Total	100

When analyzed based on race or ethnicity, there were statistically significant differences between the groups, $\chi^2(20)=32.37, p=0.04$. Among those indicating that homelessness is the county’s most serious problem, those who identified as Hispanic were 4.5% more likely than expected to state that it is the county’s most serious problem. Hispanic respondents were also about 5.6% more likely than expected to state that “it’s a very serious problem.

	Asian	Caucasian	Hispanic	African American	Other	Native American	Total
It's our county's most serious problem	11.76	14.72	19.81	14.29	0	50	15.25
It's a very serious problem	58.82	61.17	67.92	64.29	56.25	50	62.3
It's a somewhat serious problem	23.53	21.57	12.26	19.64	31.25	0	20
It's not a very serious problem	2.94	2.28	0	1.79	12.5	0	2.13
It's not something that our county should be concerned with at all	2.94	0.25	0	0	0	0	0.33
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, or household income.

Should something be done?

When we asked respondents “how strongly would you agree with those that say something needs to be done to address homelessness in Orange County,” 68% said strongly agree and 24% said somewhat agree. These two categories comprise 92.5% of all respondents.

Strongly agree	68.03
Somewhat agree	24.43
Neither agree nor disagree	5.57
Somewhat disagree	0.82
Strongly disagree	1.15
Total	100

When analyzed based on location in the county, there was a statistically significant difference in responses in north county compared to south county, $\chi^2(4)=10.12$, $p=0.04$. North county respondents had stronger levels of agreement than south county residents.

	south	north	Total
Strongly agree	62.7	70.35	68.03
Somewhat agree	28.11	22.82	24.43
Neither agree nor disagree	8.65	4.24	5.57
Somewhat disagree	0	1.18	0.82
Strongly disagree	0.54	1.41	1.15
Total	100	100	100

There were also differences based on race or ethnicity, there were statistically significant differences between the groups, $\chi^2(20)=47.54$, $p<0.001$. Both Asian and Hispanic respondents were more likely to disagree or strongly disagree than the other groups.

	Asian	Caucasian	Hispanic	African American	Other	Native American	Total
Strongly agree	52.94	68.27	69.81	75	50	100	68.03
Somewhat agree	20.59	26.14	23.58	14.29	37.5	0	24.43
Neither agree nor disagree	23.53	4.31	3.77	7.14	6.25	0	5.57
Somewhat disagree	0	0.51	0	3.57	6.25	0	0.82
Strongly disagree	2.94	0.76	2.83	0	0	0	1.15
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on household income.

Who should have responsibility?

We asked respondents “If something were to be done about homelessness, which of the following should have primary responsibility to deal with the issues related to homelessness and homeless people in Orange County?” Almost 69% of respondents said that cities, the county, and the private sector should be involved in a coordinated effort. The choice with the next largest level of support was that the county should have responsibility at 18.5%.

Cities	8.85
County Government	18.52
the Private sector, including non-profit or advocacy groups, religious organizations, or private businesses	3.93
a combination of all of the above in a coordinated effort	68.69
Total	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, race or ethnicity, or household income.

Response to the issue?

When asked “How would you rate the community's response to the homeless issue so far?,” the largest group of respondents (39%) said “neither good nor poor.” The choice that garnered the second highest percentage of responses was “poor” at 35%.

Outstanding	2.46
Good	12.62
Neither good nor poor	39.18
Poor	35.41
Very poor	10.33
Total	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, race or ethnicity, or household income.

What do the chronically homeless need?

Respondents were given the following question and allowed to choose as many of the answers as they desired. “Which of the following do you think is needed to address the long-term needs of

chronically homeless individuals - those with debilitating or disabling conditions?” Over 80% of respondents said that the chronically homeless need more mental health facilities. More than 77% of respondents said that they needed drug or alcohol treatment facilities. The third most supported choice was “housing” at 68%. Rounding out the most supported choices was job training centers at 62%. All of the other responses had significantly less support than the aforementioned four choices.

Two of the least supported choices were “stepped up law enforcement” at 26% and “removal from the county” at 13%.

Drug / alcohol treatment facilities	77.38
Job training centers	62.30
Mental health facilities	80.16
Housing	68.03
Medical treatment in emergency rooms	34.59
Stepped up law enforcement	26.23
Removal from the county	13.28
More abuse shelters	40.49
Other:	4.92
Total	100

There were statistically significant differences in responses based on household income, $\chi^2(40)=58.30, p=0.03$. Support for drug and alcohol treatment facilities was higher than expected among respondents in the “\$125,001 to \$150,000” and “less than \$50,000” categories. Support for job training centers was highest among the “more than \$150,000” category, followed closely by respondents in the “\$50,001 to 85,000” and “less than \$50,000” categories. Support for mental health facilities was highest in the “less than \$50,000” category, followed closely by the “\$125,001 to \$150,000” category. Support for housing peaked with the “less than \$50,000” category and followed an almost linear decline as income increased, with support being nearly identical for both groups over \$125,000.

	Less than \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$85,000	\$85,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$125,000	\$125,001 to \$150,000	more than \$150,000	Total
Drug / alcohol treatment facilities	82.61	78.77	64.06	72.29	90.7	68.66	77.38
Job training centers	63.29	65.75	54.69	55.42	60.47	68.66	62.3
Mental health facilities	84.06	78.08	73.44	77.11	83.72	80.6	80.16
Housing	76.33	71.23	68.75	60.24	53.49	53.73	68.03

Medical treatment in emergency rooms	39.13	39.04	32.81	21.69	37.21	26.87	34.59
stepped up law enforcement	15.94	28.77	34.38	27.71	44.19	31.34	26.23
Removal from the county	7.25	12.33	15.63	21.69	13.95	20.9	13.28
More abuse shelters	38.16	45.89	35.94	40.96	34.88	43.28	40.49
Other:	7.25	3.42	4.69	3.61	0	5.97	4.92
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, or race or ethnicity.

Support for long-term housing with supportive care

One option to help solve the homelessness problem in Orange County is long-term housing with supportive care. In order to gauge the baseline level of support in the county for this option, we asked respondents “How likely would you be to support a system that provides long-term housing with supportive care for Orange County’s chronically homeless population?” 69.8% of respondents indicated that they were either extremely likely or somewhat likely to support this option. The next largest category was “unsure” with about 22% of respondents. Just over 8% of respondents indicated that they were unlikely to support long-term housing with supportive care.

Extremely likely	32.62
Somewhat likely	37.21
Unsure	21.97
Somewhat unlikely	4.26
Extremely unlikely	3.93
Total	100

There were statistically significant differences in responses from respondents in the different household income groups, $\chi^2(20)=48.81, p<0.001$. Specifically, respondents in the “less than \$50,000” household income group were over 11% more likely to say “extremely likely” than expected. The “\$50,001-\$85,000” group had about the same level of support as expected for the moderate answers, but higher levels of responses to the ‘extremely’ answers, both ‘likely’ and ‘unlikely’. Respondents in the “\$85,001 to \$100,000” household income group were almost 10% more likely to be ‘unsure’ than expected. Respondents in the “\$100,001 to \$125,000” household income group were more ‘unsure’ or ‘unlikely’ to support than expected. Respondents in the “\$125,001 to \$150,000” household income group had about 16% fewer respondents indicate “extremely likely” than expected, about 6% more

“unsure” respondents than expected, and about 7% more respondents than expected indicate either “somewhat likely” or “somewhat unlikely.” Respondents in the “more than \$150,000” household income group had about 10% fewer respondents choose “extremely likely” than expected, and around 4% more respondents choosing either “unsure” or “extremely unlikely” than expected.

	Less than \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$85,000	\$85,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$125,000	\$125,001 to \$150,000	more than \$150,000	Total
Extremely likely	43.96	34.25	21.88	26.51	16.28	22.39	32.62
Somewhat likely	36.71	36.99	37.5	33.73	44.19	38.81	37.21
Unsure	15.94	20.55	31.25	25.3	27.91	26.87	21.97
Somewhat unlikely	1.45	2.74	4.69	9.64	11.63	4.48	4.26
Extremely unlikely	1.93	5.48	4.69	4.82	0.0	7.46	3.93
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, or race or ethnicity.

Using this question as a baseline of support for long-term housing with supportive care, we asked a series of questions to identify if certain messages or pieces of information affected support for this solution.

Reducing homelessness quickly

The first in the series of questions was: “Long term housing with supportive care has been shown to be successful in significantly reducing homelessness in similar communities around the country. In one community, homelessness was cut in half in a little over three years. Knowing that, would you be more likely or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care?” The core of the question involves success at a reduction in homelessness in a short time frame.

Almost 79% of respondents indicated that they would be either “much more likely to support” or “more likely to support” long-term housing with supportive care after being exposed to this information. Just over 18% of respondents expressed no change in support, and just of 3% indicated some level of reduction in support.

Much more likely to support	36.72
More likely to support	41.97
No change in support	18.2
Less likely to support	1.15
Much less likely to support	1.97
Total	100

Respondents in different locations in the county had statistically significant differences in how they responded to the question, $\chi^2(4)=8.99$, $p=0.06$. Respondents in south Orange County were about 9% less likely to choose “much more likely to support” than respondents in north Orange County, but were around 3% more likely to choose “more likely to support” than respondents in north Orange County. There was around a 3% difference in both “no change in support” and “much less likely to support” with south Orange County respondents showing less positive change compared to north County residents.

	south	north	Total
Much more likely to support	30.81	39.29	36.72
More likely to support	44.32	40.94	41.97
No change in support	20.54	17.18	18.2
Less likely to support	0.54	1.41	1.15
Much less likely to support	3.78	1.18	1.97
Total	100	100	100

There were also statistically significant different differences among respondents of different household income groups, $\chi^2(20)=40.03$, $p<0.001$. Respondents with household incomes less than \$85,000 were more likely to express “much more likely to support” than expected. Respondents with incomes above \$85,000 were more likely to choose “more likely to support” than expected. Respondents in the “\$125,001 to \$150,000” household income group were almost 10% more likely to indicate “no change in support.”

	Less than \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$85,000	\$85,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$125,000	\$125,001 to \$150,000	more than \$150,000	Total
Much more likely to support	47.34	38.36	25	28.92	27.91	26.87	36.72
More likely to support	38.16	36.99	50	46.99	44.19	49.25	41.97
No change in support	12.56	21.92	21.88	16.87	27.91	19.4	18.2
Less likely to support	0.48	0.68	1.56	4.82	0	0	1.15
Much less likely to support	1.45	2.05	1.56	2.41	0	4.48	1.97
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

There were also statistically significant differences in responses when analyzed based on race or ethnicity, $\chi^2(20)=37.56, p=0.01$. Respondents who identified as “Asian” on average expressed, a large decreased amount of support or no change in support when provided this information. Respondents who identified as “Caucasian” had nearly the same amount of support as expected. Respondents who identified as “Hispanic” had, on average, large changes in support, with a 9% larger group of respondents choosing “more likely to support” than expected. This was accompanied by an almost 7% lower response for “much more likely to support” than expected. Respondents who identified as “African American” had more than an 11% higher level of “much more likely to support” than expected, which was accompanied by a 9% lower level of “more likely to support” than expected. It appears that “Asian” respondents were generally more negative, “Caucasian” respondents were largely unchanged, “Hispanic” respondents were more moderate in their increased support, and “African American” respondents were more enthusiastic in their positive change.

	Asian	Caucasian	Hispanic	African American	Other	Native American	Total
Much more likely to support	29.41	38.07	30.19	48.21	18.75	50.0	36.72
More likely to support	35.29	41.88	50.94	32.14	37.5	25.0	41.97
No change in support	23.53	17.77	16.98	12.5	43.75	25.0	18.2
Less likely to support	2.94	0.76	0	5.36	0	0	1.15
Much less likely to support	8.82	1.52	1.89	1.79	0	0	1.97
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Chronic homelessness

The second question in the series of “information-plus” questions pertained to focusing on the chronically homeless first. Respondents were asked: “One of those communities found success in quickly reducing homelessness by first focusing on the chronically homeless - those with disabling or chronic conditions or those dealing with drug or alcohol abuse - as opposed to those who became homeless due to financial challenges or domestic abuse. Knowing that, would you be more or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care?” Over 60% of respondents indicated a positive change in support for long-term housing with supportive care given this information. However over 31% of respondents indicating that the information would cause “no change in support.”

Much more likely to support	24.59
More likely to support	36.39
No change in support	31.48

Less likely to support	5.74
Much less likely to support	1.8
Total	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, race or ethnicity, or household income.

They don't want to be helped, or choice of lifestyle.

The third question in the series of “information-plus” question focused on the perception that homelessness was a chosen lifestyle. Respondents were asked: “Some people argue that a lot of Orange County's homeless population doesn't want to be helped and that they choose this lifestyle. Hearing that, would you be more or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care?” About 48% of respondents indicated “no change in support” for long-term housing with supportive care when presented with this information. Almost 28% of respondents increased the likelihood of support and over 24% of respondents had a decreased likelihood of support.

Much more likely to support	12.13
More likely to support	15.74
No change in support	48.03
Less likely to support	18.2
Much less likely to support	5.9
Total	100

There were statistically significant differences in change of support based on the respondent's location in the county, $\chi^2(4)=9.79, p=0.04$. Generally, respondents in north Orange County had a higher degree of change than respondents in south Orange County. Respondents in south Orange county had higher rates of “no change in support” and “much less likely to support” than expected. Respondents in north Orange County had small increases over what was expected in all other categories except for “no change in support” and “much less likely to support.”

	south	north	Total
Much more likely to support	8.65	13.65	12.13
More likely to support	12.97	16.94	15.74
No change in support	55.68	44.71	48.03

Less likely to support	15.14	19.53	18.2
Much less likely to support	7.57	5.18	5.9
Total	100	100	100

When analyzed based on household income, there were also statistically significant differences, $\chi^2(20)=39.51, p=0.01$. Respondents in the “less than \$50,000” household income group expressed more support and less change or reduction in support than expected. Respondents in the “\$50,001 to \$85,000” household income group tended to respond as expected. Respondents in the “\$85,001 to \$100,000” household income group tended to express increases in support or no change of support or an overall reduction in support when given this information. Respondents in the “\$100,001 to \$125,000” household income group also expressed a reduction in support, with an almost 18% difference in expectation for the “less likely to support” and “much less likely to support” categories. Respondents in the “\$125,001 to \$150,000” household income category expressed a slight (4%) increase in the “much more likely to support” category but an overall reduction in support across the other categories. Respondents in the “more than \$150,000” household income category had a nearly 12% difference in “no change in support” and a small (3%) difference in “much less likely to support” as compared to what we expected.

	Less than \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$85,000	\$85,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$125,000	\$125,001 to \$150,000	more than \$150,000	Total
Much more likely to support	17.87	12.33	4.69	6.02	16.28	5.97	12.13
More likely to support	18.84	16.44	14.06	14.46	13.95	8.96	15.74
No change in support	46.86	49.32	53.13	38.55	41.86	59.7	48.03
Less likely to support	13.53	15.75	21.88	31.33	20.93	16.42	18.2
Much less likely to support	2.9	6.16	6.25	9.64	6.98	8.96	5.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

There were also statistically significant differences when analyzed based on a respondent’s race or ethnicity, $\chi^2(20)=41.65, p<0.01$. Respondents who identified as “Asian” tended to show less support generally, with an almost 6% difference in “much less likely to support” than expected. Respondents who identified as “Caucasian” tended to express higher levels of “no change in support” of “less likely to support” than expected. Respondents who identified as “Hispanic” generally expressed much higher levels of support and lower levels of no change in support of less likely to support than we expected.

Specifically, “Hispanic” respondents had more than a 14% increase in “much more likely to support” and “more likely to support” than was expected. Respondents who identified as “African American” had very similar changes as “Hispanic” respondents, being significantly more likely to support and less likely to decrease support when presented with this information.

	Asian	Caucasian	Hispanic	African American	Other	Native American	Total
Much more likely to support	11.76	10.41	16.04	19.64	0	25	12.13
More likely to support	14.71	11.42	26.42	23.21	25	25	15.74
No change in support	44.12	50.25	45.28	37.5	56.25	50	48.03
Less likely to support	17.65	22.34	8.49	12.5	6.25	0	18.2
Much less likely to support	11.76	5.58	3.77	7.14	12.5	0	5.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Cutting spending

The fourth question in the series of “information-plus” questions was focused on an evidence-based reduction in costs to taxpayers, or in other words, how long-term housing with supportive care could cut costs. Respondents were asked: “According to a recent study from the University of California, Irvine, providing long-term housing with supportive care could save Orange County taxpayers over \$42 million per year - essentially cutting public spending on homeless services in half. Knowing that, would you be more or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care?” Over 73% of respondents were either “much more likely to support” or “more likely to support” long-term housing with supportive care when presented with this information. Less than 22% of respondents said that this information caused “no change in support.”

Much more likely to support	33.11
More likely to support	40.0
No change in support	21.8
Less likely to support	2.62
Much less likely to support	2.46
Total	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, race or ethnicity, or household income.

Veterans

The fifth question in the series of “information-plus” questions dealt with identifying many of the homeless as veterans. Respondents were asked: “Studies have shown that many of Orange County’s chronically homeless individuals are military veterans. Knowing that, would you be more or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care.” Over 73% of respondents had an increase in support, either being “much more likely to support” or “more likely to support” long-term housing with supportive care. Less than 24% said that this information caused “no change in support.”

Much more likely to support	37.54
More likely to support	35.9
No change in support	23.61
Less likely to support	1.64
Much less likely to support	1.31
Total	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, race or ethnicity, or household income.

Locations

The sixth question in the series of “information-plus” questions dealt with having long-term housing with supportive care located in the respondent’s community. Respondents were asked: “Long-term housing with supportive care for homeless individuals would likely be located in private properties throughout Orange County - in existing apartments or motels, or in newly constructed facilities. If you knew that one of these units or facilities were in your community, would you be more or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care?” While there was positive increase of around 35% of respondents choosing either “much more likely to support” or “more likely to support”, the more interesting finding was that over 43% of respondents indicated that this information would not change their level of support for long-term supportive housing. Less than 22% of respondents said that having long-term housing with supportive care in their neighborhood would decrease their level of support.

Much more likely to support	14.59
More likely to support	20.16
No change in support	43.61
Less likely to support	14.59

Much less likely to support	7.05
Total	100

There were statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, $\chi^2(4)=10.04$, $p=0.04$. Generally, respondents in north Orange County had higher than expected levels of support and respondents in south Orange County had lower levels of support given this information.

	south	north	Total
Much more likely to support	9.19	16.94	14.59
More likely to support	17.84	21.18	20.16
No change in support	46.49	42.35	43.61
Less likely to support	18.92	12.71	14.59
Much less likely to support	7.57	6.82	7.05
Total	100	100	100

When analyzed based on household income, there were also statistically significant differences between respondents, $\chi^2(20)=42.79$, $p<0.01$. With few exceptions, respondents with lower household incomes tended to be more likely to express either no change in support or an increase in support while respondents with higher household incomes tended to express less support. Some notable exceptions to this trend are respondents with household incomes in excess of \$150,000, which had an over 13% higher level of “no change in support” and a more than 9% increase in “much less likely to support” than expected. Respondents with a household income in the “125,001 to \$150,000” range had a slightly (3%) higher level of “more likely to support” than expected, but more than an 11% lower “no change in support,” and nearly an 11% lower level of support (between “less likely to support” and “much less likely to support”) than expected.

	Less than \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$85,000	\$85,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$125,000	\$125,001 to \$150,000	more than \$150,000	Total
Much more likely to support	20.77	17.12	6.25	10.84	11.63	4.48	14.59
More likely to support	21.74	22.6	18.75	19.28	23.26	10.45	20.16
No change in support	45.41	40.41	45.31	38.55	32.56	56.72	43.61
Less likely to support	7.25	15.75	21.88	24.1	20.93	11.94	14.59

Much less likely to support	4.83	4.11	7.81	7.23	11.63	16.42	7.05
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on race or ethnicity.

Concerns in your neighborhood

The seventh question in the series of “information-plus” question pertained to a range of commonly cited concerns about housing the homeless in residential neighborhoods. Respondents were asked to rate seven different items on a range of 0-100, with higher scores indicating a higher level of concern. The question was worded as follows: “If permanent supportive housing were proposed in your neighborhood, what level of concern would you have for the following:” The average scores for each of the choices is listed in the table.

The concern with the highest average score was “increase crime in my neighborhood” with an average score of 60.4 (s=30.8). The second highest scoring concern was “decrease property values” with an average score of 56.1 (s= 31.5). The third largest concern was “it would bring the wrong type of people to my neighborhood” with an average score of 54.8 (s=33.1). The fourth largest concern was “increase costs to my city and community services” with an average score of 53.2 (s=30.1). The next largest concern was a “negative change to the ‘feel’ of my community” with an average score of 52.8 (s=32.3). The concern with the lowest average score was “increase traffic” with an average score of 39.8 (s=29.9).

	Average score	Standard deviation
"decrease property values"	56.1	31.5
"increase crime in my neighborhood"	60.4	30.8
"increase costs to my city and community services"	53.2	30.1
"negative change to 'the feel' of my community"	52.8	32.3
"increase traffic"	39.8	29.9
"it would bring in the wrong type of people to my neighborhood"	54.8	33.1
Number of respondents	610	610

There were no statistically significant differences in the responses from respondents in different locations in the county. Average scores for north and south Orange County respondents are found in the table below.

	North	South	Total
"decrease property values"	55.4	57.7	56.1
"increase crime in my neighborhood"	59.8	61.9	60.4
"increase costs to my city and community services"	53.5	52.5	53.2
"negative change to 'the feel' of my community"	51.4	56.1	52.8
"increase traffic"	39.9	39.7	39.8
"it would bring in the wrong type of people to my neighborhood"	53.8	57.0	54.8
Number of respondents	425	185	610

Statistically significant differences in the average scores for the each of the concerns were found between household income groups. Respondents with a total household income of “less than \$50,000” expressed statistically significantly lower levels of concern for all of the items in the question. Other apparent differences in levels of concern may exist among the respondents from different household income groups, but they failed to meet conventional levels of statistical significance. Concerns with a “*” at the end of a row indicate statistically significant ANOVA results. Bold face entries identify significantly different groups in post-hoc analysis (i.e. Tukey test).

	Less than \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$85,000	\$85,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$125,000	\$125,001 to \$150,000	more than \$150,000	Total	
"decrease property values"	46.3	53.0	65.3	63.2	69.8	66.5	56.1	*
"increase crime in my neighborhood"	51.7	58.6	67.4	69.1	72.4	66.3	60.4	*
"increase costs to my city and community services"	46.5	51.6	60.3	59.6	63.3	56.1	53.2	*
"negative change to 'the feel' of my community"	42.9	51.4	62.6	59.8	65.9	60.3	52.8	*
"increase traffic"	34.7	40.0	49.5	40.8	51.5	37.5	39.8	*
"it would bring in the wrong type of people to my neighborhood"	46.3	52.4	63.4	60.2	70.4	61.1	54.8	*
Number of	207	146	64	83	43	67	610	

respondents								
-------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Statistically significant differences in the average scores for the three of the concerns were found between racial and ethnic identification of respondents. The three concerns where there was a statistically significant difference between racial or ethnic identification were, “decrease property values,” “increase costs to my city and community services,” and “increase traffic.” The most frequent differences between groups exist between respondents of “Asian,” “Caucasian,” and “Hispanic” identification. Generally, respondents who identified as “Asian” had higher average levels of concern for all items, and respondents who identified as “Hispanic” generally had lower levels of concern for all of the items. Other apparent differences in levels of concern may exist among the respondents from different household income groups, but they failed to meet conventional levels of statistical significance. Concerns with a “*” at the end of a row indicate statistically significant ANOVA results. Bold face entries identify significantly different groups in post-hoc analysis (i.e. Tukey test).

	Asian	Caucasian	Hispanic	African American	Other	Native American	All groups	
"decrease property values"	68.0	57.7	48.5	53.5	53.6	41.0	56.1	*
"increase crime in my neighborhood"	67.9	61.1	55.2	63.3	59.2	34.0	60.4	
"increase costs to my city and community services"	66.8	53.3	51.7	48.5	57.6	11.5	53.2	*
"negative change to 'the feel' of my community"	59.5	53.8	49.9	50.3	47.2	35.3	52.8	
"increase traffic"	52.1	37.4	40.0	47.4	48.9	32.5	39.8	*
"it would bring in the wrong type of people to my neighborhood"	61.3	55.4	52.0	55.9	51.4	9.5	54.8	
Number of respondents	34	394	106	56	16	4	610	

Where are they from?

The eighth question in the series of “information-plus” question dealt with the competing narratives about the homeless not being from Orange County. Respondents were asked: “Some community leaders argue that Orange County's homeless individuals came here recently from out of the area, primarily because they were attracted by the nice weather or sober living homes. According to the UC Irvine study, most homeless individuals in Orange County have been here for longer than 10 years. Of these competing descriptions, which are you most inclined to believe?” Nearly 44% of respondents chose “there is an equal mix of both recent arrivals and long term residents.” There was a nearly symmetrical belief of where the homeless came from, either from within the county or from outside the county.

The homeless are primarily from outside Orange County	11.97
Slightly more of the homeless came here recently from outside Orange County	16.72
There is an equal mix of both recent arrivals and long term residents	43.93
Slight more of the homeless are long-term residents of Orange County	15.41
The homeless are primarily long-term residents of Orange County	11.97
Total	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, race or ethnicity, or household income.

Cumulative effect of “information-plus” questions

After being exposed to the series of eight “information-plus” questions, respondents were asked how likely they were to support long-term housing with supportive care. The question asked: “Now that you've thought about some of these issues, how likely are you to support Orange County providing homeless individuals with long-term housing with supportive care?” Over 74% of respondents stated that they were either “extremely likely” or “somewhat likely” to support long-term housing with supportive care. Over 16% said that they were unsure, with the remaining less than 10% of respondents unlikely to support long-term housing with supportive care.

Extremely likely	31.31
Somewhat likely	42.95
Unsure	16.23
Somewhat unlikely	5.57
Extremely unlikely	3.93
Total	100

There were statistically significant differences in support between the different household income groups, $\chi^2 (20)=42.79$, $p<0.01$. Respondents in the “less than \$50,000” household income group tended to be less unsure and more likely to support long-term housing with supportive care than all of the other groups. Respondents in the household income groups above \$100,000 tended to have lower levels of support than expected. Regardless of these differences, support for long term housing with supportive care remained above 63% across all income groups.

	Less than \$50,000	\$50,001 to	\$85,001 to	\$100,001 to	\$125,001 to	more than	Total
--	--------------------	-------------	-------------	--------------	--------------	-----------	-------

		\$85,000	\$100,000	\$125,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	
Extremely likely	42.51	31.51	23.44	19.28	20.93	25.37	31.31
Somewhat likely	41.06	41.78	42.19	44.58	53.49	43.28	42.95
Unsure	13.04	15.75	26.56	19.28	11.63	16.42	16.23
Somewhat unlikely	1.93	5.48	4.69	9.64	11.63	8.96	5.57
Extremely unlikely	1.45	5.48	3.13	7.23	2.33	5.97	3.93
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

There were also statistically significant different levels of support from respondents of different racial and ethnic identifications, $\chi^2(20)=31.63, p=0.05$. Respondents that identified as “Asian” expressed higher levels of uncertainty and lower levels of overall support than other racial or ethnic groups. Respondents that identified as “Hispanic” indicated less uncertainty and significantly higher levels of support than all other racial or ethnic groups.

	Asian	Caucasian	Hispanic	African American	Other	Native American	Total
Extremely likely	20.59	29.95	36.79	35.71	25	75	31.31
Somewhat likely	35.29	43.65	46.23	41.07	37.5	0	42.95
Unsure	29.41	17.01	10.38	14.29	18.75	0	16.23
Somewhat unlikely	2.94	6.35	4.72	3.57	6.25	0	5.57
Extremely unlikely	11.76	3.05	1.89	5.36	12.5	25	3.93
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

There were no statistically significant differences in support based on location in the county.

Summary of “information-plus” questions

The following table presents a summary of the differences in support for the “information-plus” questions that had comparable response wording. Comparing the baseline support to the cumulative effect question, there was a large (5.8%) increase in the somewhat likely to support choice and a corresponding (5.8%) decrease in uncertainty. There was also a small (1.3%) decrease in “extremely likely” that corresponds to a 1.3% increase in “somewhat unlikely.”

Among the other “information-plus” questions, both the question pertaining to homelessness as a lifestyle choice and locating the long-term supportive housing in their communities had very high percentages of “unsure” compared to the other questions. All of the other “information-plus” questions had a positive impact on a respondent’s likelihood of support.

	Baseline support	Reducing quickly	Chronic homelessness	Lifestyle choice	Cutting spending	Veterans	Locations	Cumulative effect
Extremely likely	32.6	36.7	24.6	12.1	33.1	37.5	14.6	31.3
Somewhat likely	37.2	42.0	36.4	15.7	40.0	35.9	20.2	43.0
Unsure	22.0	18.2	31.5	48.0	21.8	23.6	43.6	16.2
Somewhat unlikely	4.3	1.2	5.7	18.2	2.6	1.6	14.6	5.6
Extremely unlikely	3.9	2.0	1.8	5.9	2.5	1.3	7.1	3.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Solutions

We asked respondents about their support for a couple of combinations to house the homeless in Orange County. The question stated: “If you had to choose today from among the following options for housing the homeless in Orange County, which would you be willing to support (select all that apply).” Respondents were able to select multiple options that they would be willing to support so the percentages in the table add to more than 100%.

The most chosen response at 57.7% of respondents, was to provide long term supportive housing in several locations throughout the county. The next most chosen response at 21.6% was to provide temporary housing at multiple locations throughout the county. The next most chosen response was to provide long-term supportive housing in one location in the county. The least most chosen at 15.4% was to provide temporary housing in one location in the county.

Providing long-term housing with supportive care in one location in the county	25.4
Providing long-term housing with supportive care in several locations throughout the county	57.7
Providing temporary housing in one location in the county	15.4

Providing temporary housing in several locations throughout the county	21.6
Other	4.9

4.9% of respondents selected the other category and provided written comments. A few of these comments appear below:

- “I will not contribute to support the homeless”
- “Long-term housing with supportive care and rules, but NOT in residential neighborhoods.”
- “Why are we making it easier for drug addicts and criminals to be homeless? We pay hundreds of dollars in taxes to live in Orange County and these people who choose to ruin their lives, do drugs, be criminals and not contribute to society??? Not on my dime. We OC residents will fight this until the end.”
- “Providing temporary housing, paid for by private and donated funding, located in an otherwise undesirable place to live. Like Blythe or somewhere people want to work to get put of. Not by the beach amongst multi million dollar neighborhoods filled with working families.”
- “Ship them to Mexico”
- “send them to L A County”
- “send them somewhere else”
- “SHIP THEM BACK WHERE THEY CAME FROM!”

There were statistically significant differences in responses between the various racial and ethnic groups, $\chi^2(20)=53.98, p<0.01$. Regardless of these differences, support for long-term housing in several locations remained above 50% for all groups except those who identified as “other.” Respondents who identified as “Asian” tended to be more supportive than expected of temporary housing in a single location and less supportive of every other option than expected. Respondents who identified as “Caucasian” had lower levels of support than expected for a single location and higher levels of support for several locations, regardless of whether long-term or temporary. Respondents who identified as “Hispanic” tended to have higher levels of support than expected for all options except for long-term supportive care in several locations throughout the county. Respondents who identified as “African American” had much higher levels of support for long-term housing in several locations than expected and comparable levels of support in all other categories.

	Asian	Caucasian	Hispanic	African American	Other	Native American	Total
Providing long-term housing with supportive care in one location in the county	11.76	22.08	40.57	25.0	31.25	50.0	25.41

Providing long-term housing with supportive care in several locations throughout the county	55.88	57.36	53.77	71.43	43.75	75.0	57.7
Providing temporary housing in one location in the county	29.41	14.21	16.04	12.5	12.5	50.0	15.41
Providing temporary housing in several locations throughout the county	17.65	22.34	20.75	12.5	31.25	100	21.64
Other	2.94	5.33	0.94	5.36	18.75	25	4.92
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Who should be responsible?

We asked respondents who should be responsible for dealing with the problem of homelessness in Orange County. Specifically they were asked: “If something were to be done about homelessness, which of the following should have primary responsibility to deal with the issues related to homelessness and homeless people in Orange County?” Over 68% of respondents indicated that they believed it should be “a combination of all of the above [city, county, and the private sector] in a coordinated effort.” This choice was selected by more than 50% more respondents than the next most chosen option, which was “county government” at 18%.

Cities	8.85
County Government	18.52
the Private sector, including non-profit or advocacy groups, religious organizations, or private businesses	3.93
a combination of all of the above in a coordinated effort	68.69
Total	100

There were no statistically significant differences in responses based on location in the county, race or ethnicity, or household income.

Appendix: Methodology

The Center for Public Policy contracted Qualtrics, an internet survey provider to administer the survey instrument and conduct the sampling procedure. As a panel aggregator, Qualtrics uses multiple ‘Grand mean’ certified sample providers to identify an appropriate sample for each survey. Information about Qualtrics’s sampling methodology can be found at

<https://success.qualtrics.com/rs/qualtrics/images/ESOMAR%2028%202014.pdf>

Qualtrics also conducts data verification processes to ensure high quality data. These verification procedures include, but are not limited to checks for straight-lining, unusually short completion times, missing answers, etc.

The Center for Public Policy established the sampling frame for Qualtrics and included the following conditions:

- 600+ respondents
- Distribution of respondents throughout locations in Orange County
 - 70% of the sample be collected from respondents in zip codes pertaining to “north” Orange County (per census estimates)
 - Zip codes in north OC: 90620 90621 90622 90623 90624 90630 90631 90632 90633 90680 90720 90721 90740 90742 90743 92605 92615 92626 92627 92628 92646 92647 92648 92649 92655 92676 92683 92684 92685 92701 92702 92703 92704 92705 92706 92707 92708 92711 92712 92728 92735 92780 92781 92782 92799 92801 92802 92803 92804 92805 92806 92807 92808 92809 92811 92812 92814 92815 92816 92817 92821 92822 92823 92825 92831 92832 92833 92834 92835 92836 92837 92838 92840 92841 92842 92843 92844 92845 92846 92850 92856 92857 92859 92861 92862 92863 92864 92865 92866 92867 92868 92869 92870 92871 92885 92886 92887 92899
 - 30% of the sample be collected from respondents in zip codes pertaining to “south” Orange County (per census estimates)
 - Zip codes in south OC: 92602 92603 92604 92606 92607 92610 92612 92614 92616 92617 92618 92619 92620 92623 92624 92625 92629 92630 92637 92650 92651 92652 92653 92654 92656 92657 92658 92659 92660 92661 92662 92663 92672 92673 92674 92675 92677 92678 92679 92688 92690 92691 92692 92693 92694 92697 92698 92609
- The sample be reflective of census estimates of race and ethnicity

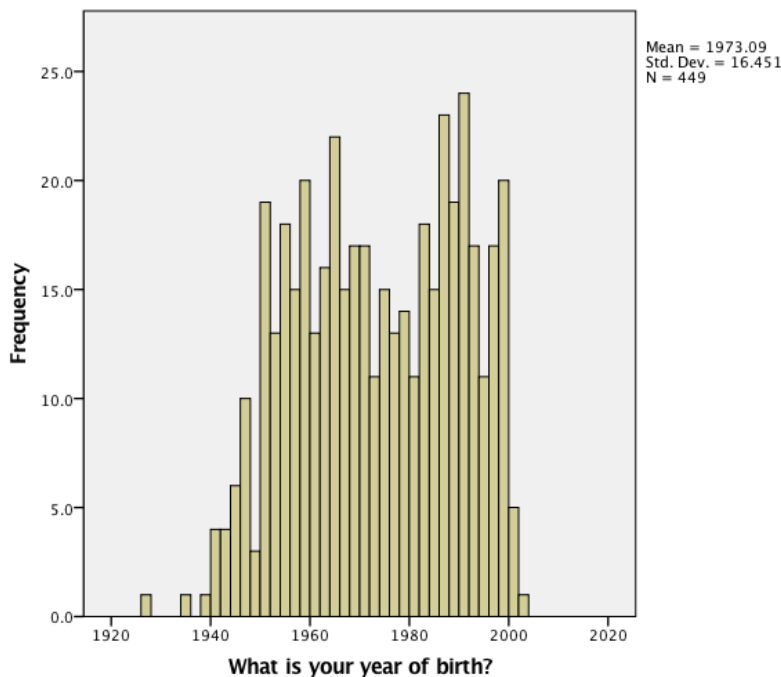
610 respondents completed the survey between 18 April 2018 until 3 May 2018. Qualtrics estimates the response rate (invitations sent / number of surveys started) to be around 10%, which is typical for most online panels.

Sample Demographics

In order to ensure that the results were reflective of the population preferences in Orange county, we analyzed the sample demographics. The following tables summarize the composition of the sample.

The sample was composed of 610 respondents. 50.82% of the sample was female and 49.18% of the sample was male.

Respondents were asked their year of birth to avoid some of the problems associated with asking respondents about their age. The mean year of birth was 1973 ($s=16.45$), which would make the average respondent about 45 years old. The youngest respondent was born in 2003 (age = 18) and the oldest was born in 1927 (age = 91). The median year of birth was 1973 (age = 45), with the middle 50% of respondents having been born between 1959 (age = 59) and 1988 (age = 30). A histogram of year of birth appears below.



The sampling design attempted to reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of Orange County. The final sample of respondents had a comparable racial and ethnic composition to the US census estimates. These numbers do not total to 100% in the US Census or in the UWOC stated identity columns because of multiracial, ethnic identification, and other factors. When comparing the respondent stated identity, the survey undersampled “Asian American” and “Hispanic/Latinx” and oversampled “African American,” “Native American,” “other,” and “Caucasian.” The UWOC Sample analysis identifier column is provided as information and was used to run the analyses in the survey. This composition does total to 100%.

Race / Ethnicity	Census	UWOC Sample (stated identity)	UWOC Sample (analysis Identifier)
African American	2.10%	9.30%	9.2%
Asian American	20.40%	6.10%	5.6%
Hispanic / Latinx	34.40%	17.40%	17.4%
Native American	1.10%	2.50%	2.6%
other	3.40%	4.40%	0.7%
Caucasian	72.60%	77.90%	64.6%

While not in the sampling design, the sample was compared to census estimates of education level post hoc. The survey sample tended to oversample respondents with higher levels of education (i.e. some college or higher) and undersample respondents with lower levels of education (i.e high school equivalents or lower), as compared to US Census estimates.

Education	Census	UWOC Sample
< 9th	8.70%	1.64%
9 - 12 (no diploma)	6.80%	
HS grad equiv	17.40%	11.97%
some college	20.90%	27.21%
Associates	7.80%	8.36%
Bachelors	24.80%	33.61%
Graduate degree	13.70%	17.22%

Household income was also not part of the sampling design, but was compared to US Census estimates post hoc. The sample was largely representative of the “less than \$50,000,” but oversampled the two groups that comprised the range of \$100-150k as well as the \$50-85k group. The sample also contained slightly fewer respondents in the \$85-100k range and the >\$150k range.

Household Income	Census	UWOC Sample
< 50k	32.20%	33.93%
50-85k	16.00%	23.93%
85-100k	12.90%	10.49%
100-125k	17.70%	13.61%
125-150k		7.05%
150k +	21.20%	10.98%

Pertaining to home ownership and tenure in Orange County, 50% of the respondents owned their home and 50% rented their home. When asked about how long they had lived in their current home respondents, the median resident had lived in their home between 5 to 10 years, with 50% of the respondents having lived between 1 to 20 years in their home. Table is in percentages.

less than 1 year	13
1 to 5 years	31.1
5 to 10 years	15.6
10 to 15 years	9.7
15 to 20 years	9.7
more than 20 years	21
Total	100

When asked about how long they had lived in Orange County, the median respondent had lived more than 20 years in Orange County. Table is in percentages.

less than 1 year	3.6
1 to 5 years	11.6
5 to 10 years	9.3
10 to 15 years	7.5
15 to 20 years	11.5
more than 20 years	56.4

APPENDIX: SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Q23 Study Title: Perceptions of Homelessness in Orange County **Protocol Number:** HSR #17-18-453 You are being asked to take part in a research study carried out by Orange County United Way and by Dr. Justin Tucker at the Center for Public Policy at California State University, Fullerton. This consent form explains the research study and your part in it if you decide to join the study. Please read the form carefully, taking as much time as you need. This research study will consist of conducting a 10-minute anonymous survey about perceptions of homelessness in Orange County. Neither Dr. Tucker nor anyone else will be able to link the data to you individually. The survey is voluntary, you can choose to not answer any question, and you may withdraw from participating at any time. There are no direct benefits or risks to you from participating in this survey. We anticipate that the results will be distributed publicly and are designed to help inform citizens and policy makers in the county. If you have questions about the survey, you are welcome to contact the Director of the Center for Public Policy, Dr. Justin Tucker, at justintucker@fullerton.edu or (657) 278-3521. Dr. Tucker will retain the study data for a minimum of 3 years on a password-protected computer. If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, or would like to report a concern or complaint about this study, please contact the Institutional Review Board at (657) 278-7719, or email irb@fullerton.edu.

Proceeding with this survey means that:

- You understand the information given to you in this form
- You have been able to ask the researcher questions and state any concerns
- The researcher has responded to your questions and concerns
- You believe you understand the research study and the potential benefits and risks that are involved.

Q9 What is your sex?

Male (1)

Female (2)

Q7 Choose one or more races that you consider yourself to be:

White (1)

Black or African American (2)

American Indian or Alaska Native (3)

Asian (4)

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (5)

Other (6) _____

Q5 Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino or none of these?

Yes (1)

None of these (2)

End of Block: Screening

Start of Block: Default Question Block



Q37 What is your year of birth?

Q3 What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

- Less than high school (1)
 - High school graduate (2)
 - Some college (3)
 - 2 year degree (4)
 - 4 year degree (5)
 - Professional degree (6)
 - Doctorate (7)
-

Q14 Do you own or rent your home?

- Own (1)
 - Rent (2)
-

Q16 About how long have you lived in your current home?

- less than 1 year (1)
 - 1 to 5 years (2)
 - 5 to 10 years (3)
 - 10 to 15 years (4)
 - 15 to 20 years (5)
 - more than 20 years (6)
-



Q1 What is your approximate annual household income before taxes?

- Less than \$50,000 (1)
- \$50,001 to \$85,000 (2)
- \$85,001 to \$100,000 (3)
- \$100,001 to \$125,000 (4)
- \$125,001 to \$150,000 (5)
- more than \$150,000 (6)

Page Break

Q15 About how long have you lived in Orange County?

- less than 1 year (1)
 - 1 to 5 years (2)
 - 5 to 10 years (3)
 - 10 to 15 years (4)
 - 15 to 20 years (5)
 - more than 20 years (6)
-

Q17 Have you heard anything recently about homelessness in Orange County?

- Yes (1)
 - No (2)
-

Q19 Do you personally know or have known anyone who has been close to becoming homeless or who is currently homeless?

- Yes (1)
 - No (2)
-

Q26 Please rate each of the following in terms of how much of an impact they have on Orange County's homeless population.

	No impact (1)	Some impact (2)	Moderate impact (3)	Large impact (4)	Very large impact (5)
The cost of housing (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A debilitating or disabling medical condition (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lifestyle choices (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A catastrophic life change (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poor life decisions (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drug or alcohol abuse (6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q20 Compared to all the problems the county faces, which of the following statements most aligns with your perception of homelessness in Orange County?

- It's our county's most serious problem (1)
- It's a very serious problem (2)
- It's a somewhat serious problem (3)
- It's not a very serious problem (4)
- It's not something that our county should be concerned with at all (5)

Q27 How strongly would you agree with those that say something needs to be done to address homelessness in Orange County

- Strongly agree (11)
 - Somewhat agree (12)
 - Neither agree nor disagree (13)
 - Somewhat disagree (14)
 - Strongly disagree (15)
-

Q18 If something were to be done about homelessness, which of the following should have primary responsibility to deal with the issues related to homelessness and homeless people in Orange County?

- Cities (1)
 - County Government (2)
 - the Private sector, including non-profit or advocacy groups, religious organizations, or private businesses (3)
 - a combination of all of the above in a coordinated effort (4)
-

Q22 How would you rate the community's response to the homeless issue so far?

- Outstanding (1)
 - Good (2)
 - Neither good nor poor (3)
 - Poor (4)
 - Very poor (5)
-

Q22 Which of the following do you think is needed to address the long-term needs of chronically homeless individuals - those with debilitating or disabling conditions - (check all that apply)

- Drug / alcohol treatment facilities (1)
 - Job training centers (2)
 - Mental health facilities (3)
 - Housing (4)
 - Medical treatment in emergency rooms (5)
 - stepped up law enforcement (6)
 - Removal from the county (7)
 - More abuse shelters (8)
 - Other: (9) _____
-

Q21 How likely would you be to support a system that provides long-term housing with supportive care for Orange County's chronically homeless population?

- Extremely likely (1)
 - Somewhat likely (2)
 - Unsure (3)
 - Somewhat unlikely (4)
 - Extremely unlikely (5)
-

Q26 Long term housing with supportive care has been shown to be successful in significantly reducing homelessness in similar communities around the country. In one community,

homelessness was cut in half in a little over three years. Knowing that, would you be more likely or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care?

- Much more likely to support (1)
 - More likely to support (2)
 - No change in support (3)
 - Less likely to support (4)
 - Much less likely to support (5)
-

Q28 One of those communities found success in quickly reducing homelessness by first focusing on the chronically homeless - those with disabling or chronic conditions or those dealing with drug or alcohol abuse - as opposed to those who became homeless due to financial challenges or domestic abuse. Knowing that, would you be more or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care.

- Much more likely to support (1)
 - More likely to support (2)
 - No change in support (3)
 - Less likely to support (4)
 - Much less likely to support (5)
-

Q29 Some people argue that a lot of Orange County's homeless population doesn't want to be helped and that they choose this lifestyle. Hearing that, would you be more or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care?

- Much more likely to support (1)
 - More likely to support (2)
 - No change in support (3)
 - Less likely to support (4)
 - Much less likely to support (5)
-

Q28 According to a recent study from the University of California, Irvine, providing long-term housing with supportive care could save Orange County taxpayers over \$42 million per year - essentially cutting public spending on homeless services in half. Knowing that, would you be more or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care.

- Much more likely to support (1)
 - More likely to support (2)
 - No change in support (3)
 - Less likely to support (4)
 - Much less likely to support (5)
-

Q30 Studies have shown that many of Orange County's chronically homeless individuals are military veterans. Knowing that, would you be more or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care.

- Much more likely to support (1)
 - More likely to support (2)
 - No change in support (3)
 - Less likely to support (4)
 - Much less likely to support (5)
-

Q31 Long-term housing with supportive care for homeless individuals would likely be located in private properties throughout Orange County - in existing apartments or motels, or in newly constructed facilities. If you knew that one of these units or facilities were in your community, would you be more or less likely to support long-term housing with supportive care.

- Much more likely to support (1)
 - More likely to support (2)
 - No change in support (3)
 - Less likely to support (4)
 - Much less likely to support (5)
-

Q25 If permanent supportive housing were proposed in your neighborhood, what level of concern would you have for the following (higher scores indicate higher levels of concern).

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

decrease property values ()	
increase crime in my neighborhood ()	
increase costs to my city and community services ()	
negative change to 'the feel' of my community ()	
increase traffic ()	
it would bring in the wrong type of people to my neighborhood ()	

Q27 Some community leaders argue that Orange County's homeless individuals came here recently from out of the area, primarily because they were attracted by the nice weather or sober living homes. According to the UC Irvine study, most homeless individuals in Orange County have been here for longer than 10 years. Of these competing descriptions, which are you most inclined to believe?

- The homeless are primarily from outside Orange County (1)
- Slightly more of the homeless came here recently from outside Orange County (2)
- There is an equal mix of both recent arrivals and long term residents (3)
- Slight more of the homeless are long-term residents of Orange County (4)
- The homeless are primarily long-term residents of Orange County (5)

Q32 Now that you've thought about some of these issues, how likely are you to support Orange County providing homeless individuals with long-term housing with supportive care?

- Extremely likely (1)
 - Somewhat likely (2)
 - Unsure (3)
 - Somewhat unlikely (4)
 - Extremely unlikely (5)
-

Q33 If you had to choose today from among the following options for housing the homeless in Orange County, which would you be willing to support (select all that apply).

- Providing long-term housing with supportive care in one location in the county (1)
 - Providing long-term housing with supportive care in several locations throughout the county (2)
 - Providing temporary housing in one location in the county (3)
 - Providing temporary housing in several locations throughout the county (4)
 - Other (5) _____
-

Q24 Your opinions are important to us. Thank you for participating in this survey.

End of Block: Default Question Block
