

2005 Homeless or At Risk Survey Analysis Individual-Homeless

The CEAS subcommittee implemented a survey to determine if gaps exist in the services provided to the homeless population of Sussex County. Surveys were completed by homeless clients in need of a particular service(s) in January 27, 2005. The following is an analysis of the 320 completed surveys.

There were four different populations that were given the survey. These populations include:

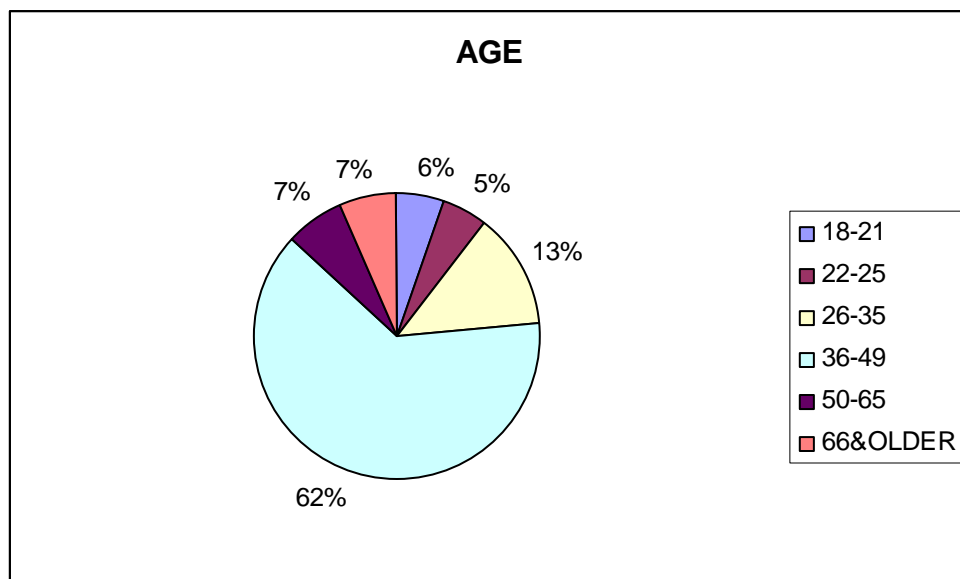
1)homeless individuals, 2)homeless families, 3)individuals at risk for being homeless, and 4)families at risk for being homeless.

1) HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS

The following breakdown is for *individuals* who were *currently homeless* at the time of the survey. 115 out of the 125 respondents stated their sex; 60 (52%) were male and 55 (48%) were female.

Age

The following pie chart is the distribution of the age of the individual homeless clients that participated in this survey. 123 out of the 125 respondents stated their ages.



Housing

Current Housing

The survey participants who listed their current housing situation are considered individual and homeless. Below is the breakdown by number and percentage of the client's current living condition. 121 of the 125 clients supplied an answer to their current housing situation.

<u>Client's Current Housing</u>		
Emergency Shelter	8	6.6%
Transitional Shelter	3	2.5%
Hotel/Motel/Apartment Voucher	89	73.6%
Lives on the Street	3	2.5%
Lives in a Vacant Building	7	5.8%
Parks/Parking Ramps/Highway System/Transp. Depot/Cars	2	1.7%
All Night Commercial Establishment	0	0%
Camp Grounds/Farm Outbuildings/Caves	9	7.4%

Previous Housing

When asked about previous housing, 111 of the 125 individual homeless clients responded. The following table details their responses.

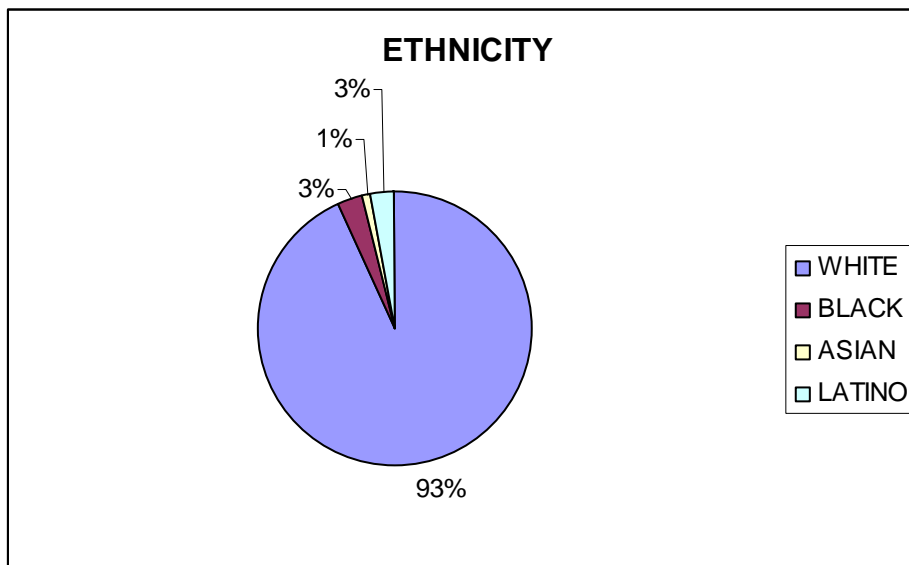
<u>Client's Previous Housing</u>		
Was evicted from permanent housing	24	21.6%
Has recently been release from a correctional facility	7	6.3%
Was recently released from the hospital or a residential program	10	9%
Lost housing for financial reasons	35	31.5%
Other	35	31.5%

31.5% of the clients marked "other" as their response. Along with answering "other", the clients were given space to expand. The list of comments is fairly exhaustive, but the following seven reasons were the most frequent "other" responses.

- Domestic Violence
- Conflict
- Damage to House
- Family Problems
- Temporary Housing
- Moved
- Parent Passed

Ethnicity

103 out of the 125 respondents to what ethnicity they were given the options of white, black(non-hispanic), Latino, Asian, American Indian, Alaskan Native, or other. The following chart is the distribution of ethnicities.



History of Homelessness

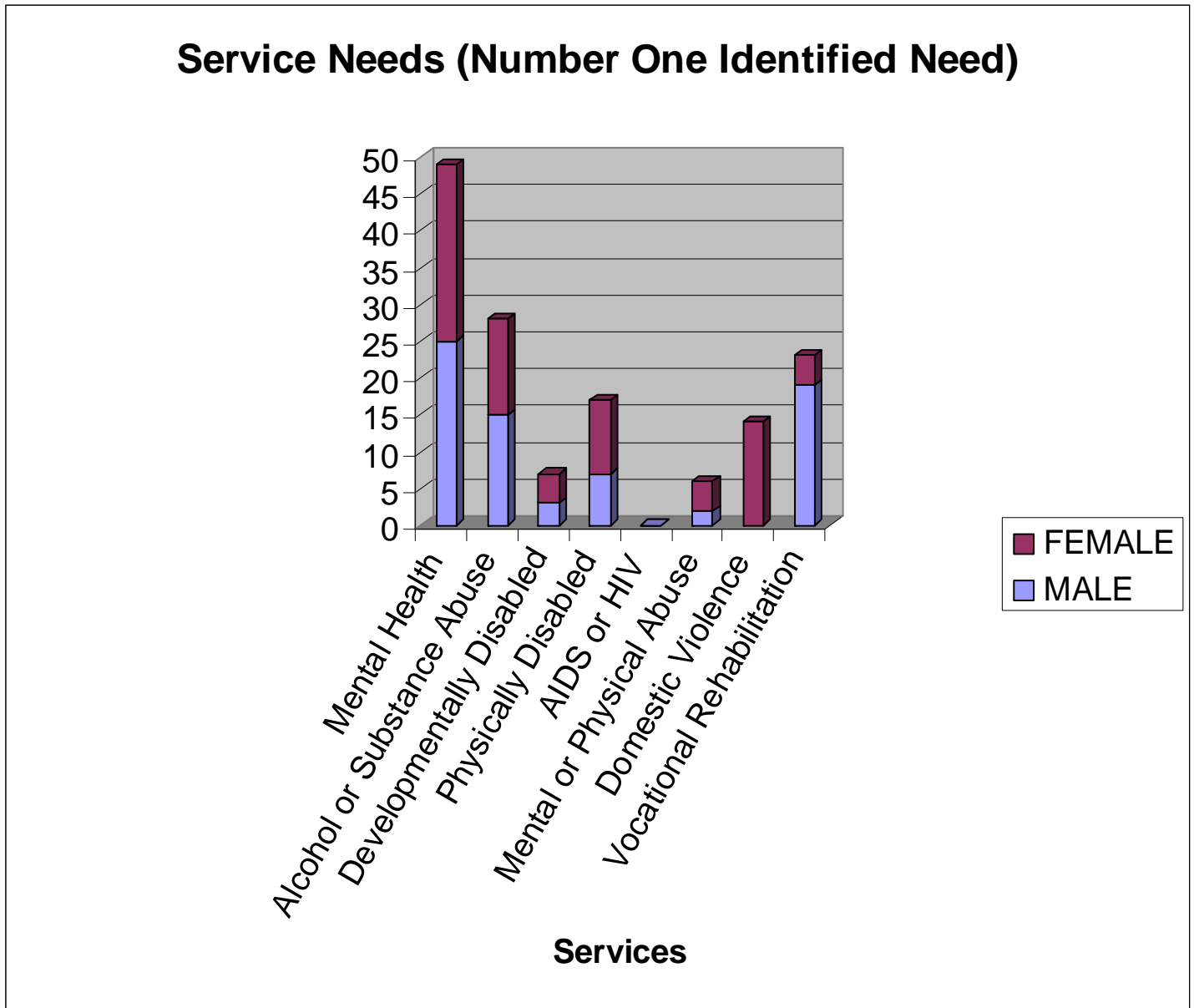
When the participants were asked if their family has a history of homelessness, 113 of the 125 responded. 43 (38%) responded "yes", 62 (55%) responded "no", and 8 (7%) responded as "unknown".

Veteran Status

105 out of the 125 participants responded to whether being a veteran. Only one respondent stated that he was a veteran.

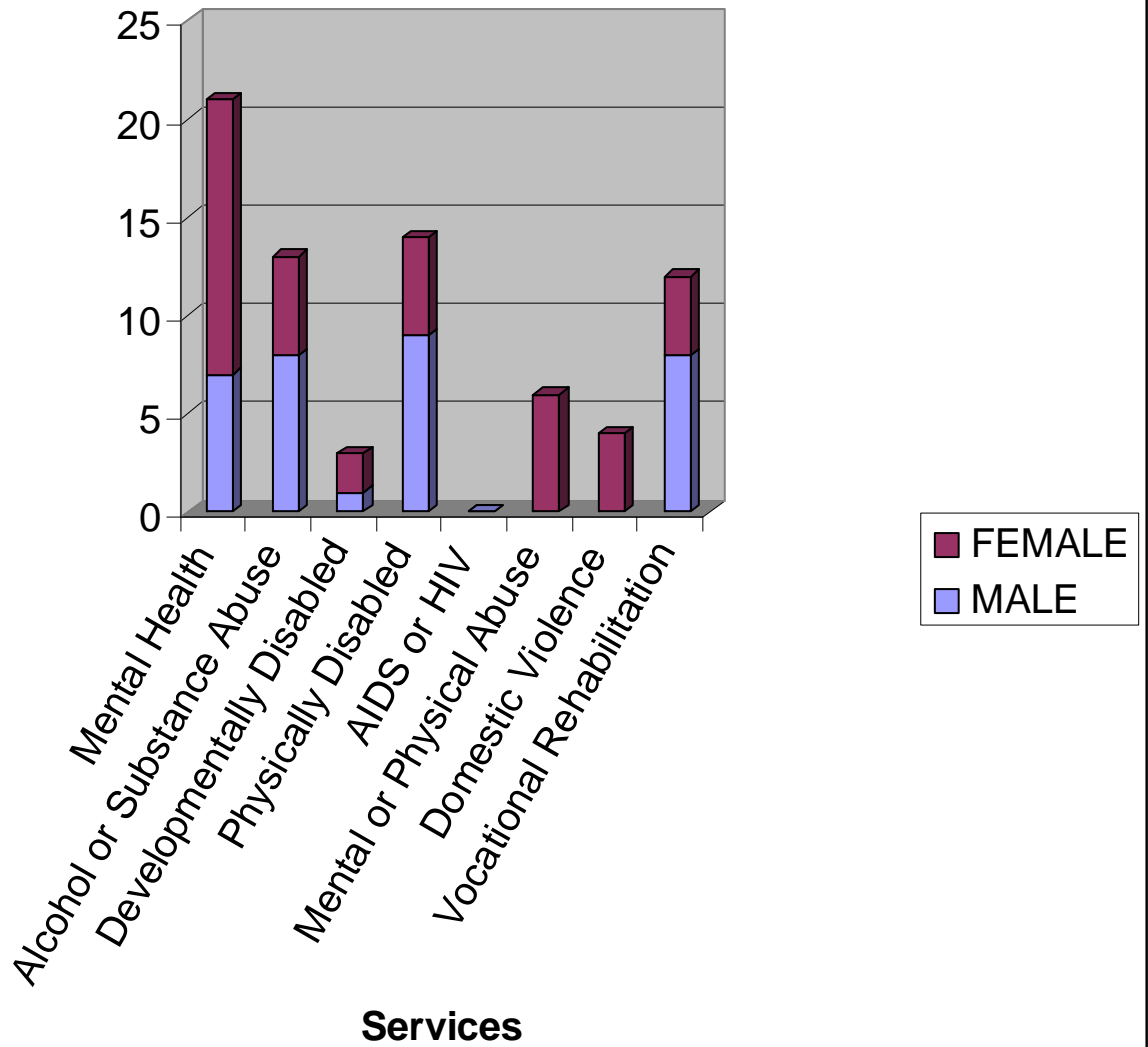
Service Needs

When the participants were asked about their particular service need(s), out of the eight given choices, the 125 respondents demonstrated a need for these services 144 times as their “number one need.” NOTE: Some respondents picked more than one service as their “number one need.” The following is chart breaking down these service needs by sex.

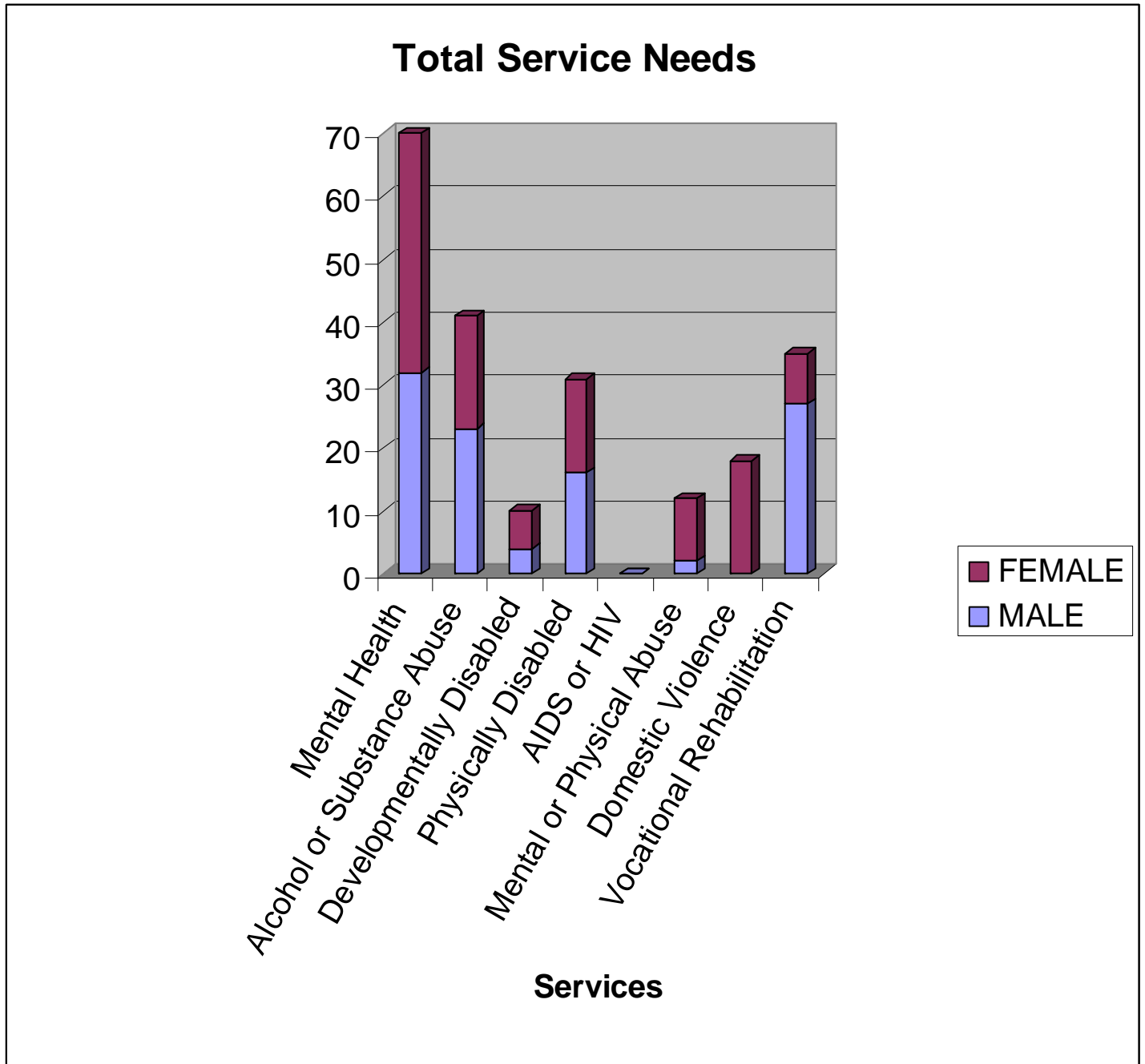


The following is a chart of the service needs other than the “number one need” the clients indicated.

Service Needs (Other than the Number One Need)

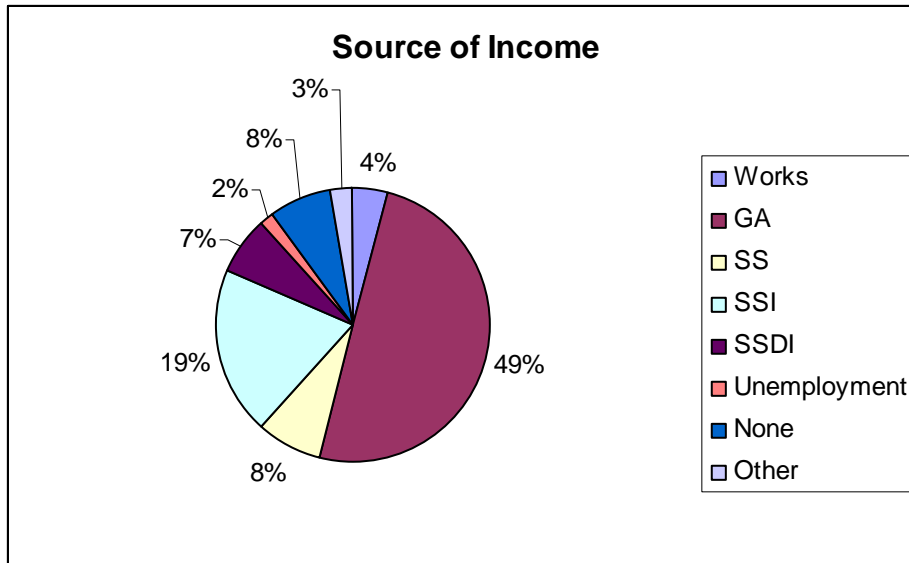


The following is a chart with the total number of service needs, both “number one needs” and other than “number one need” broken down according to sex.



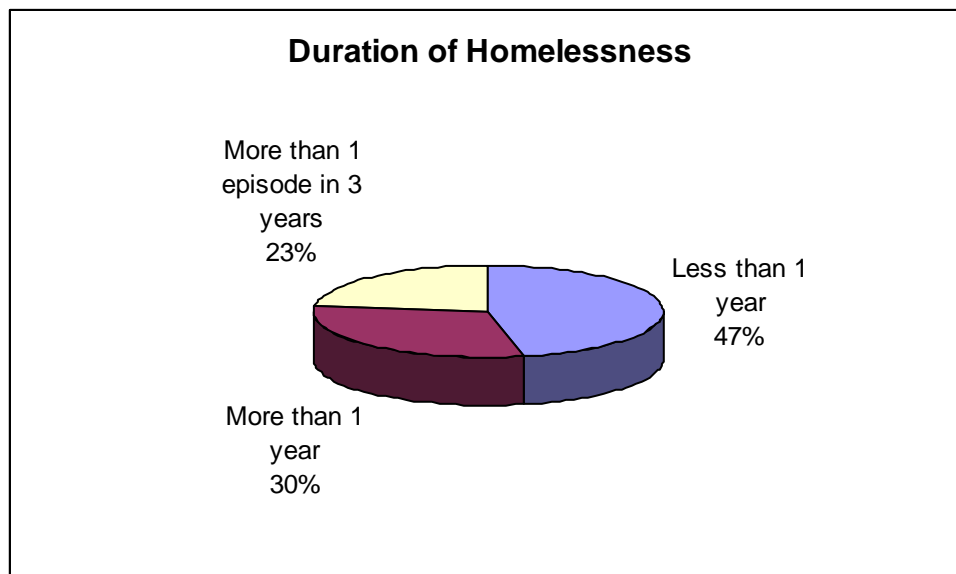
Source of Income

The clients were given nine choices regarding their income source. 119 of the 125 participants responded to the question. The following table and chart details the distribution of answers.



Duration of Homelessness

The participants were asked "how long has client/family been homeless" and were given the choices of less than one year, more than one year, and more than one episode in last 3 years. 120 out of the 125 responded to the question. NOTE: The client is considered to be chronically homeless if their homelessness lasts more than one year or has more than one episode in the last three years. 53% of the respondents are considered to be chronically homeless. The following chart displays the results.

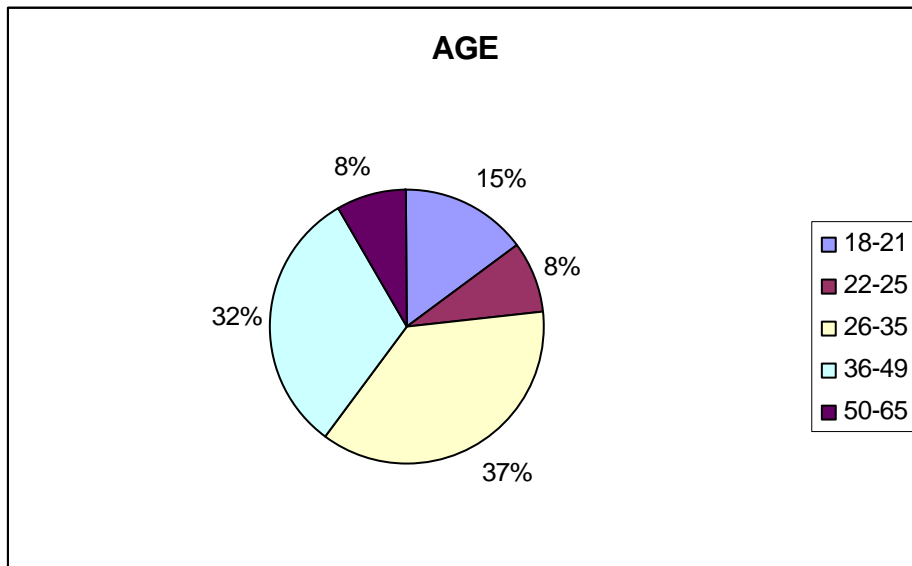


2)HOMELESS FAMILIES

The following breakdown is for *families* who were *currently homeless* at the time of the survey. 59 out of the 60 respondents stated their sex; 4 (7%) were male and 55 (93%) were female.

Age

The following pie chart is the distribution of the age of the homeless families that participated in this survey.



Housing

Current Housing

The 60 survey participants who listed their current housing situation are considered to be part of a family and homeless. Below is the breakdown by number and percentage of the client's current living condition.

<u>Client's Current Housing</u>		
Emergency Shelter	15	25%
Transitional Shelter	10	16.7%
Hotel/Motel/Apartment Voucher	35	58.3%
Lives on the Street	----	----
Lives in a Vacant Building	----	----
Parks/Parking Ramps/Highway System/Transp. Depot/Cars	----	----
All Night Commercial Establishment	----	----
Campgrounds/Farm Outbuildings/Caves	----	----

Previous Housing

When asked about previous housing, 59 out of the 60 participants responded. The following table details their responses by the total number and percentage.

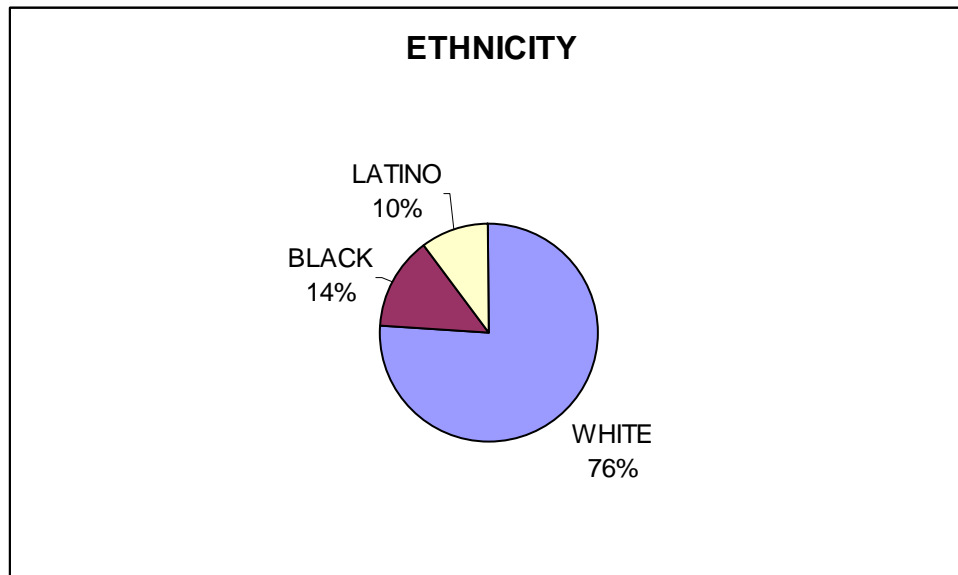
Client's Previous Housing		
Was evicted from permanent housing	15	25.4%
Has recently been released from a correctional facility	1	1.7%
Was recently from the hospital or a residential program	7	11.9%
Lost housing for financial reasons	15	25.4%
Other	21	35.6%

35.6% of the clients marked “other” as their response. Along with answering “other,” the clients were given space to expand. The following reasons were the most frequent “other” responses. Note: The majority of the “other” responses were domestic violence at 61.9%.

- Domestic Violence
- Conflict
- Damage to house
- Lost living companion

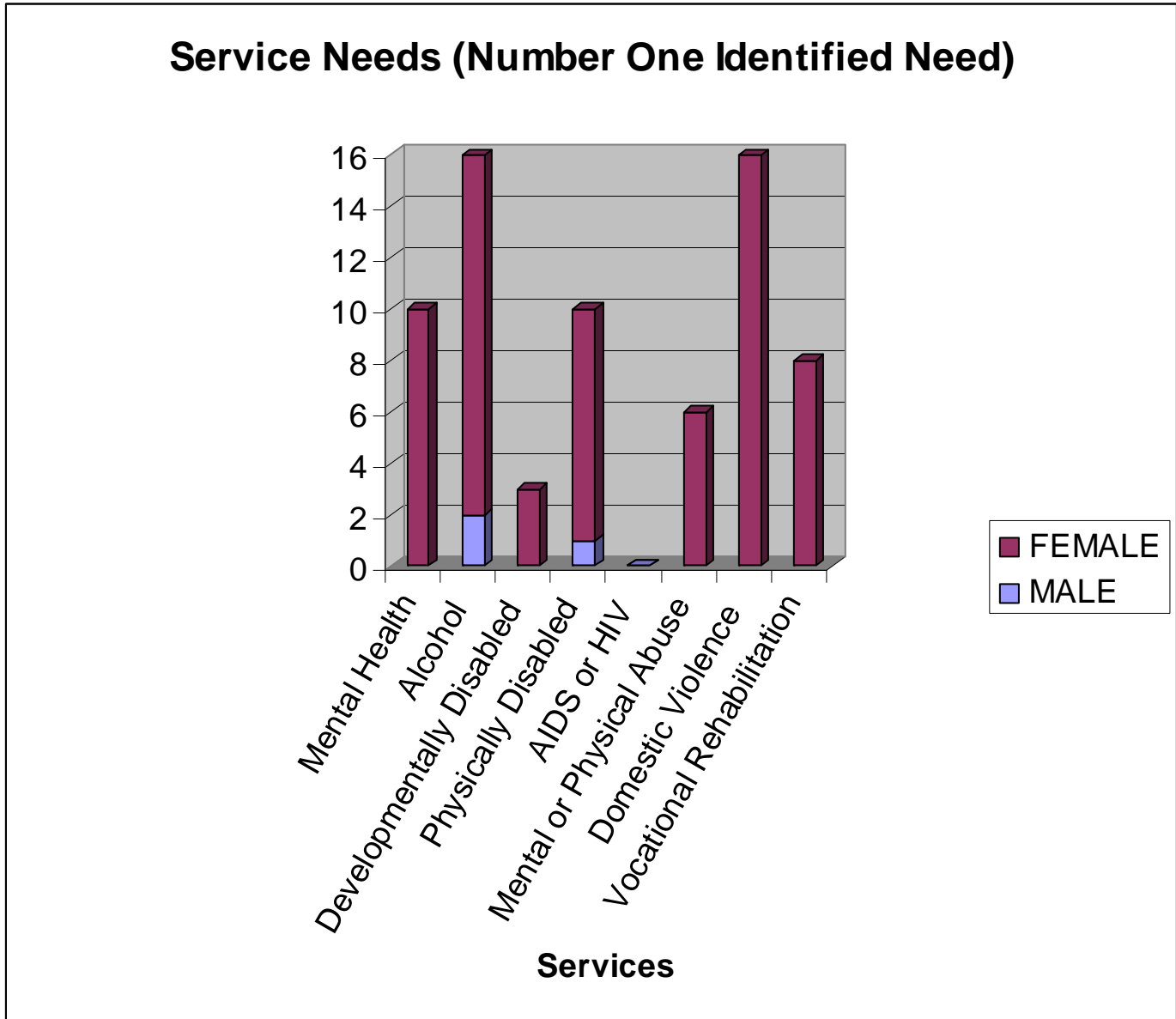
Ethnicity

58 out of 60 participants responded to what ethnicity they were given the options of white, black (non-hispanic), Latino, Asian, American Indian, Alaskan Native, or other. The following chart is the distribution of ethnicities.



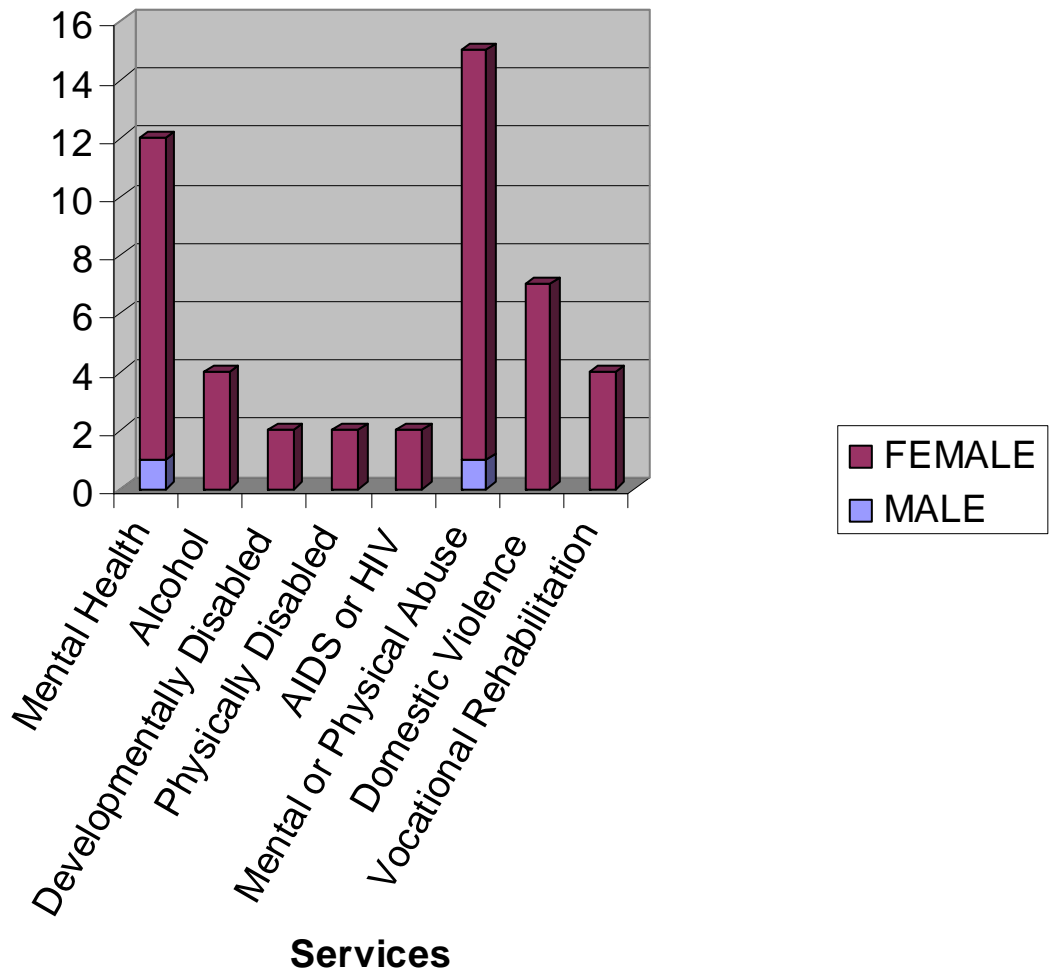
Service Needs

When the participants were asked about their particular service need(s), out of the eight given choices, the 60 respondents demonstrated a need for these services 68 times as their “number one need.” NOTE: Some respondents picked more than one service as their “number one need.” The following is a chart breaking down these service needs by sex.

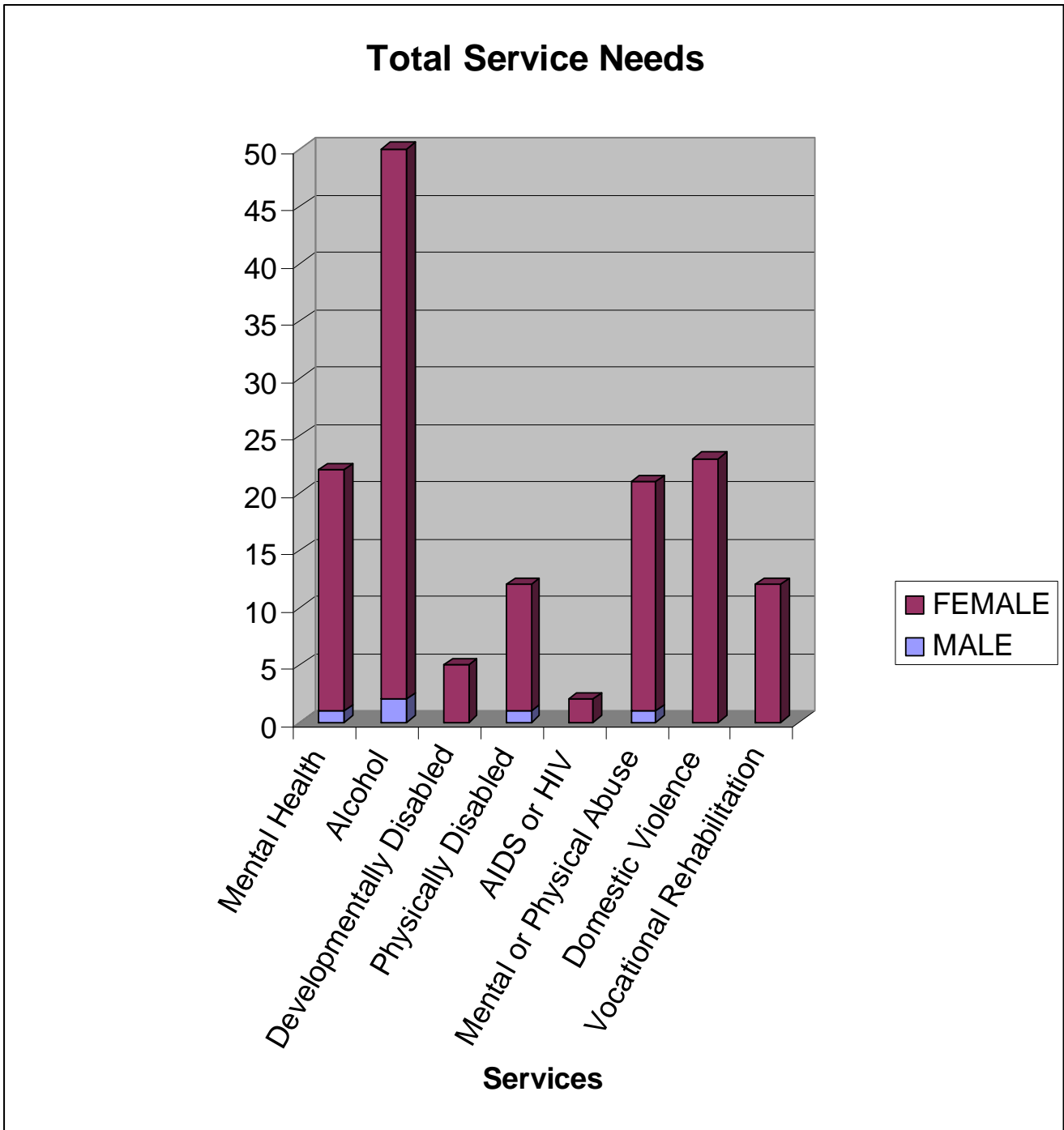


The following chart is a chart of the service needs other than the “number one need” the clients indicated broken down by sex.

Service Needs (Other than the number one need)

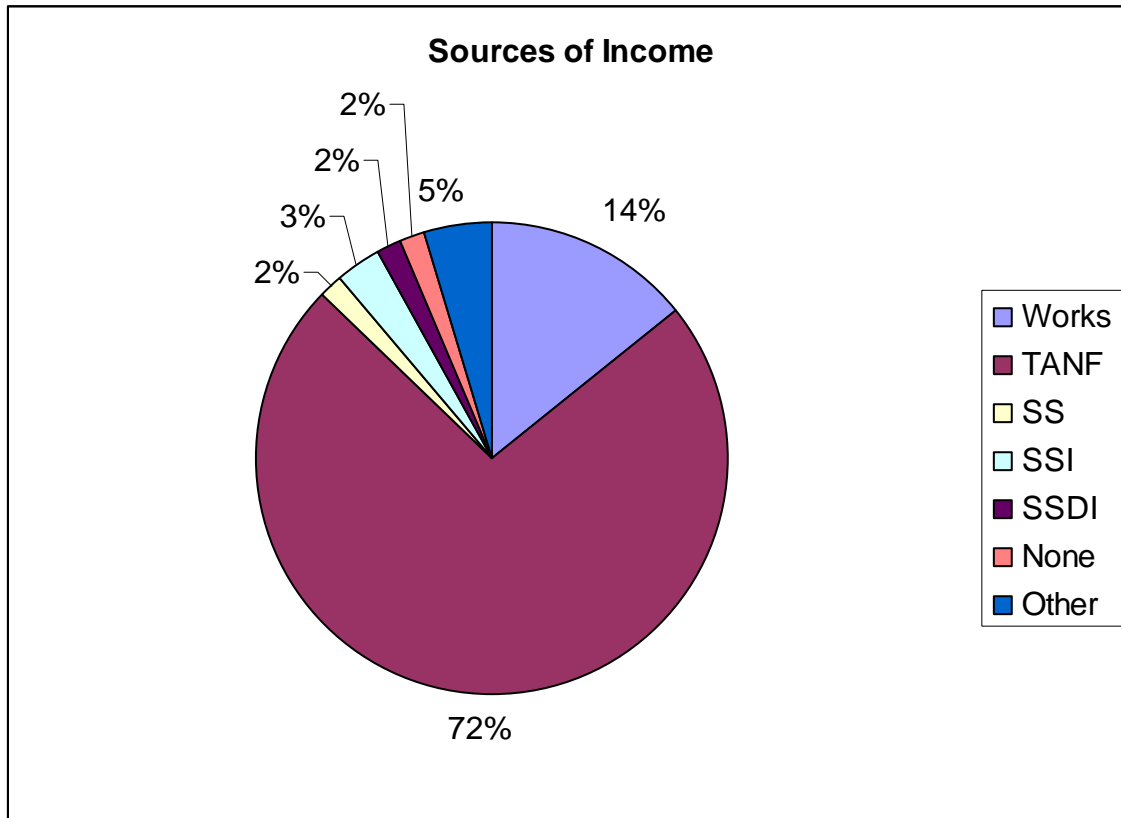


The following is a chart with the total number of service needs, both “number one needs” and other than the “number one need” broken down according to sex.



Sources of Income

The clients were given nine choices regarding their income source. All of the 60 participants responded; some gave more than one answer. The following chart details the distribution of answers.



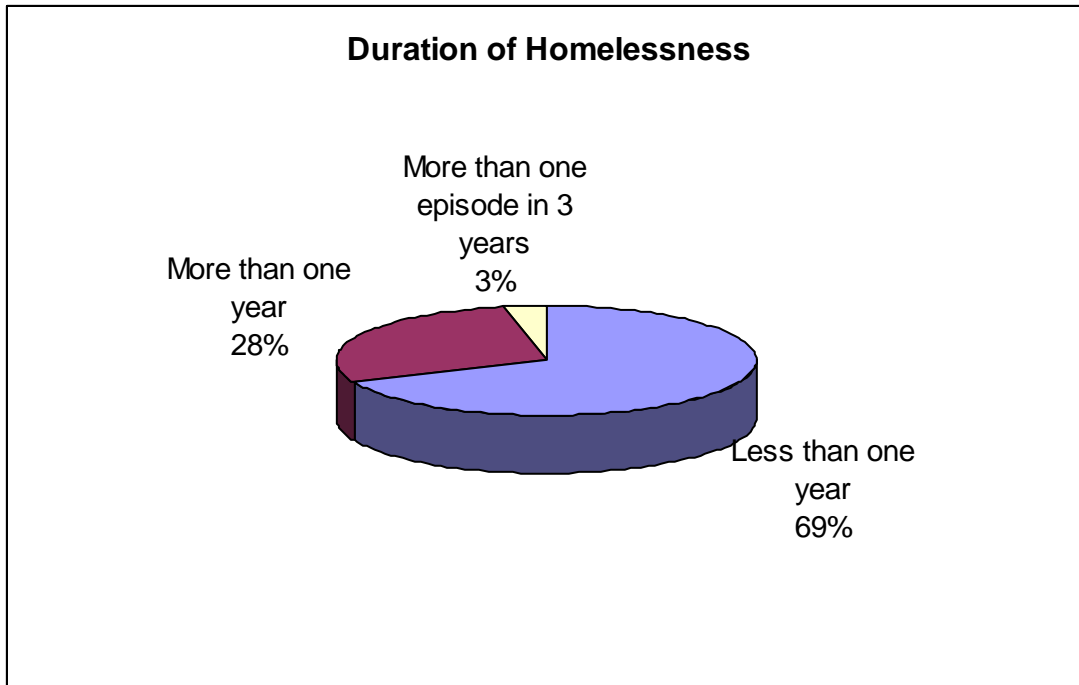
Number of Children

56 out of the 60 participants responded to the number of children they had. The following chart is the breakdown of the number of children the client stated they had living with them.

<u>Number of Children</u>		
Number of Children	Number of Families with Children	Percentage
1	33	59%
2	9	16.1%
3	8	14.3%
4	4	7.1%
5	1	1.8%
6	1	1.8%

Duration of Homelessness

The participants were asked “how long has client/family been homeless” and given the choices of less than one year, more than one year, and more than one episode in the last three years. 59 out of 60 responded to the question. NOTE: The client is considered to be chronically homeless if their homelessness lasts more than one year or has more than one episode in the last three years. 31% of the respondents are considered to be chronically homeless. The following chart displays the results.



History of Homelessness

When the participants were asked if their family has a history of homelessness, 59 out of 60 responded. 14 (24%) responded “yes”, 34 (57.5%) responded “no” and 11 (18.5%) responded as “unknown”.

Veteran Status

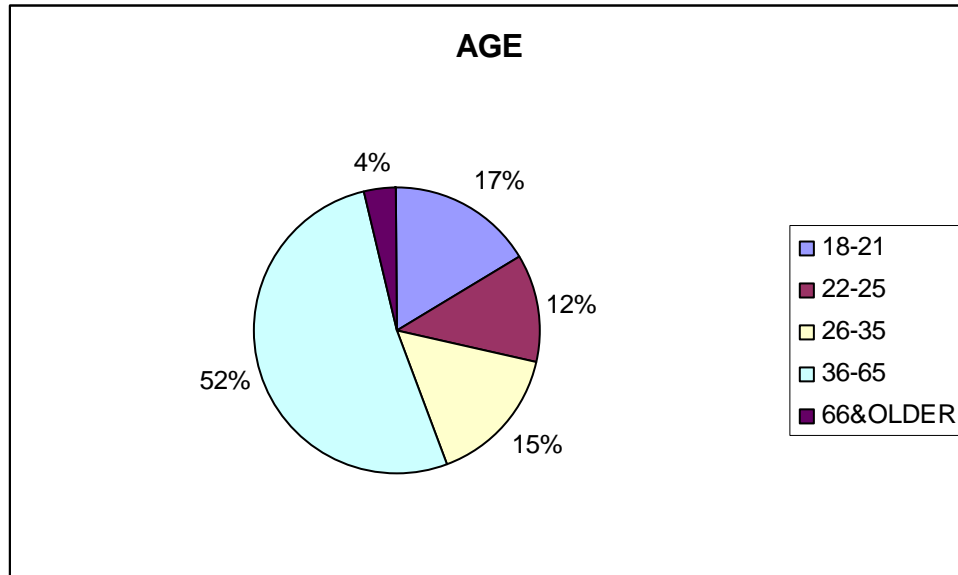
None of the participants responded as being a veteran.

3) INDIVIDUALS AT RISK

The following breakdown is for *individuals who currently had housing* at the time this survey was taken. 83 out of the 85 respondents stated their sex; 48 (58%) were male and 35 (42%) were female.

Age

The following pie chart is the distribution of the age of the individual homeless clients that participated in this survey. 84 out of the 85 respondents stated their ages. The following chart shows the distribution of ages of the participants.



Housing

Current Housing

The survey participants who listed their current housing situation are considered individual and homeless. Below is the breakdown by number and percentage of the client's current living condition. 83 of the 85 clients supplied an answer to their current housing situation.

<u>Client's Current Housing</u>		
No housing upon discharge from jail	9	10.8%
No housing upon discharge of mental health unit	5	6%
Staying with friend or relative	44	53%
Overcrowded housing	----	----
Moving from friend to friend	10	12%
Substandard housing	1	1.2%
Risk of becoming homeless within 30 days	11	13.3%
Living with abuser and have no place to go	3	3.6%

Previous Housing

When asked about previous housing, 69 out of the 85 individual clients with homes responded. The following table details their responses.

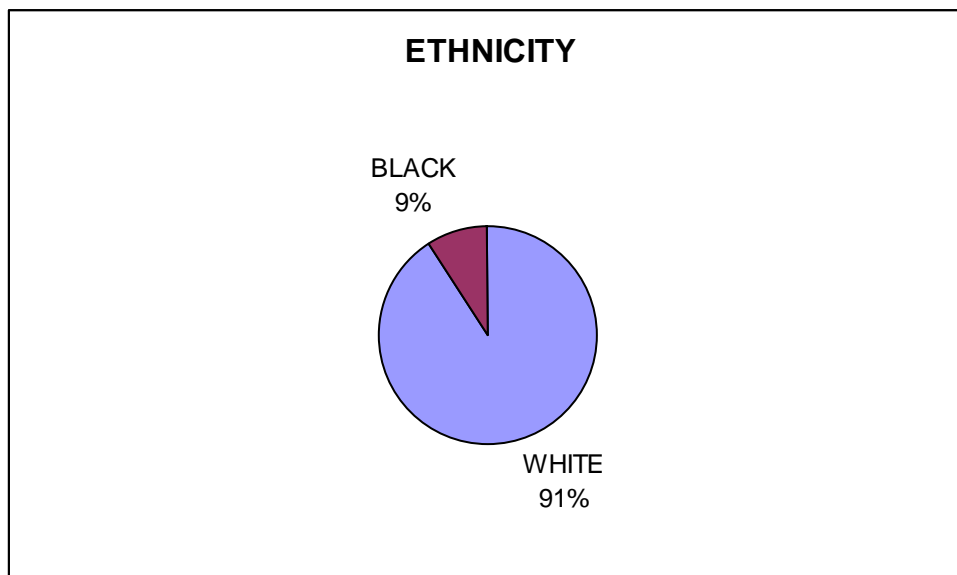
<u>Client's Previous Housing</u>		
Was evicted from permanent housing	17	24.6%
Has recently been released from a correctional facility	2	2.9%
Was recently released from the hospital or a residential program	5	7.2%
Lost Housing for financial reasons	7	10.1%
Other	38	55%

55% of the clients marked “other” as their response. Along with answering “other”, the clients were given space to expand. The list of comments is fairly exhaustive, but the following reasons were the most frequent “other” responses.

- Conflict
- Living on the streets
- Domestic violence
- Kicked out by living companion
- Moved from another state
- Unfit housing conditions

Ethnicity

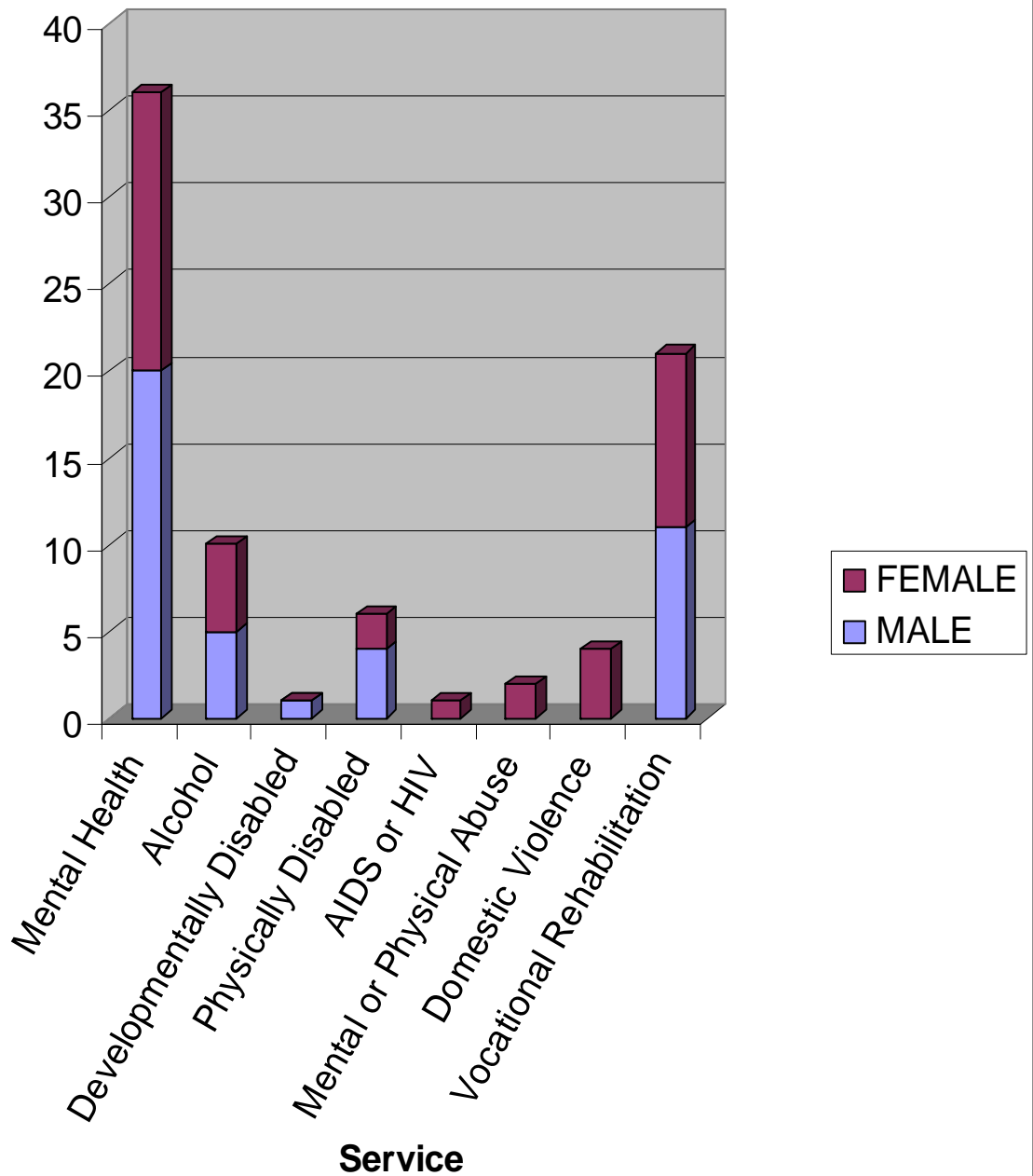
33 out of the 85 participants responded to what ethnicity they were given the options of white, black (non-hispanic), Latino, Asian, American Indian, Alaskan Native, or other. The following chart is the distribution of ethnicities.



Service Needs

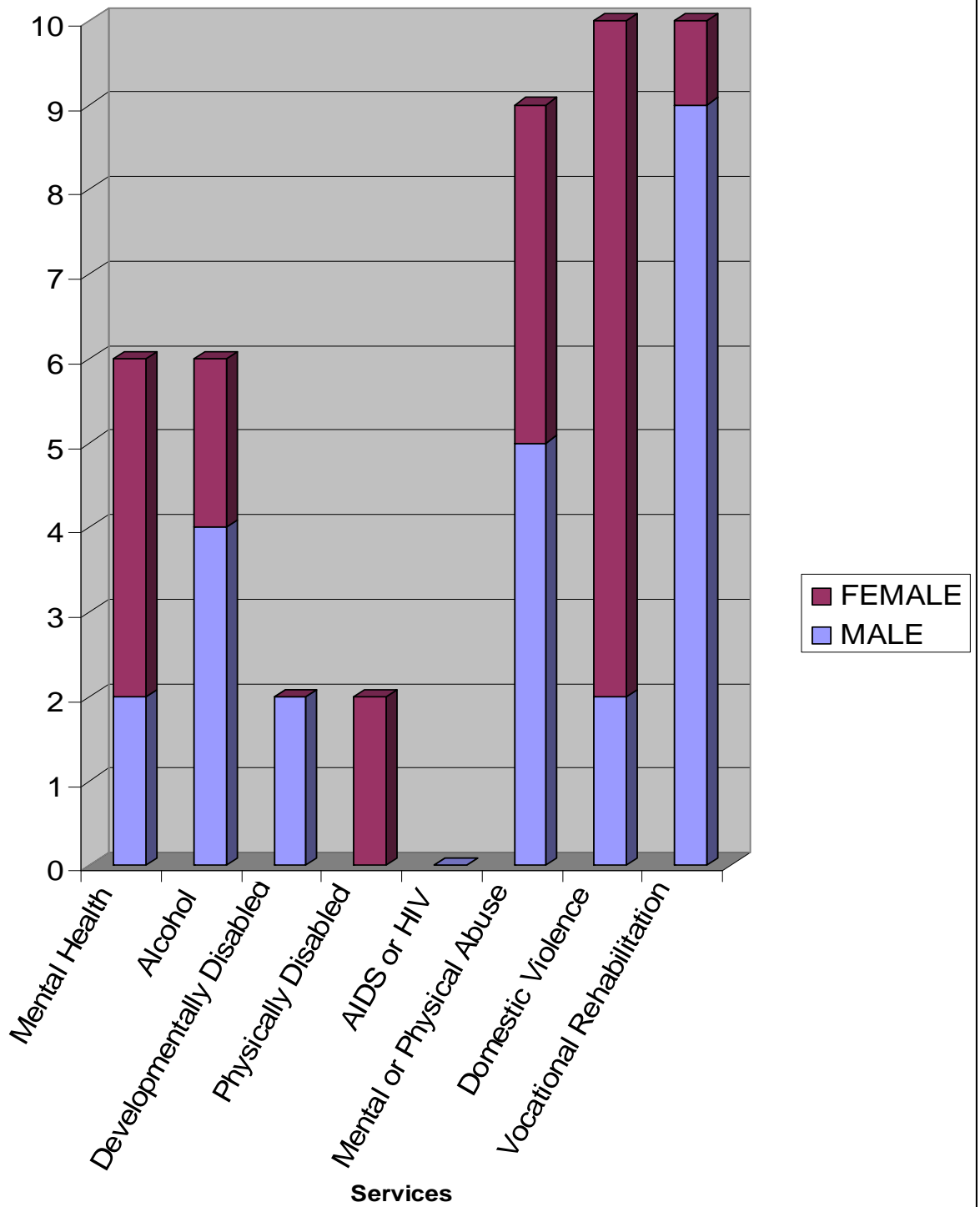
When the participants were asked about their particular service need(s), out of the eight given choices, the 85 respondents demonstrated a need for these services 68 times as their “number one need.” NOTE: Some respondents picked more than one service as their “number one need.” The following is a chart breaking down these service needs by sex.

Service Needs (Number One Identified Need)

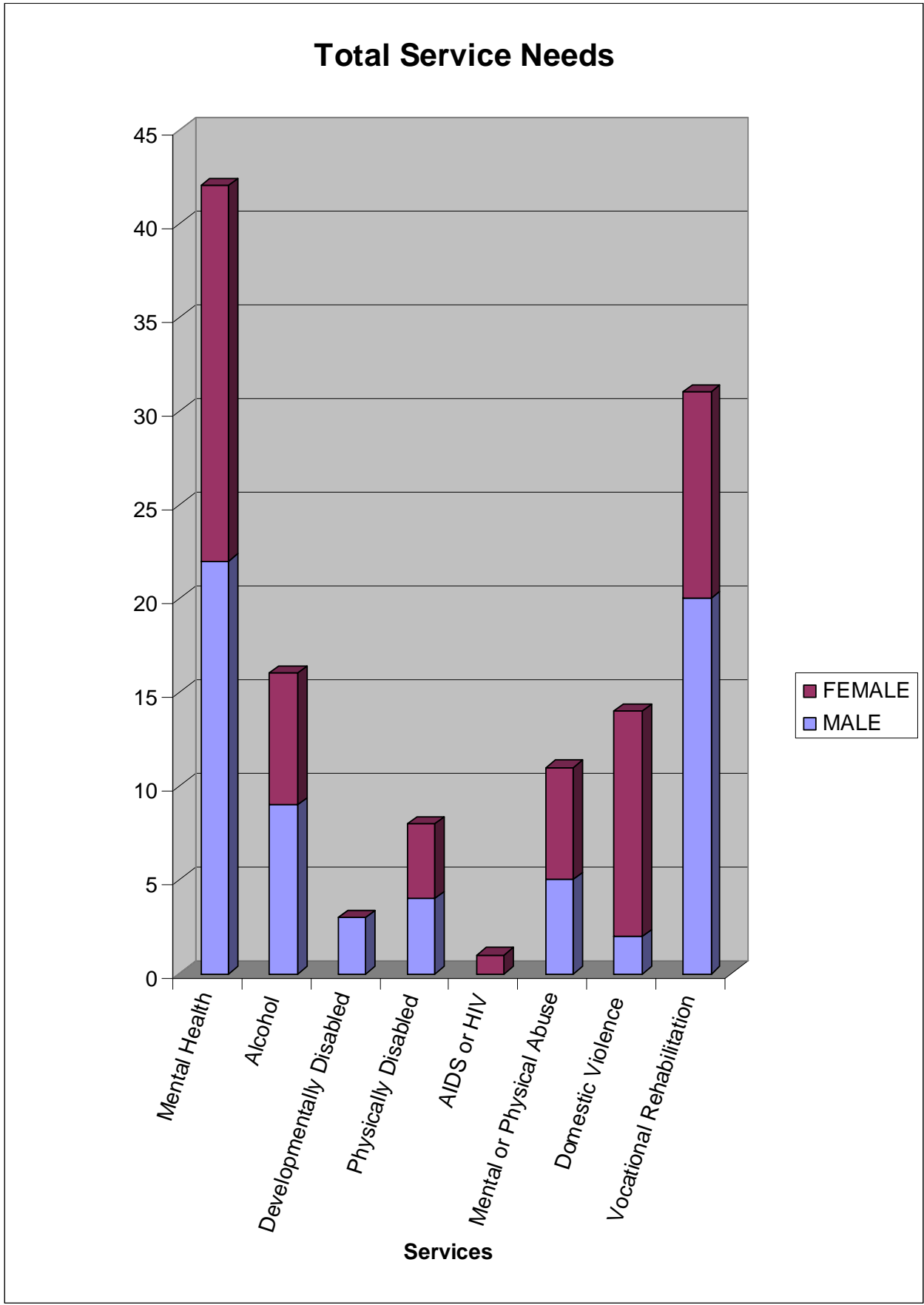


The following chart is the service needs other than the “number one need” the clients indicated.

Service Needs (Other than the number one need)

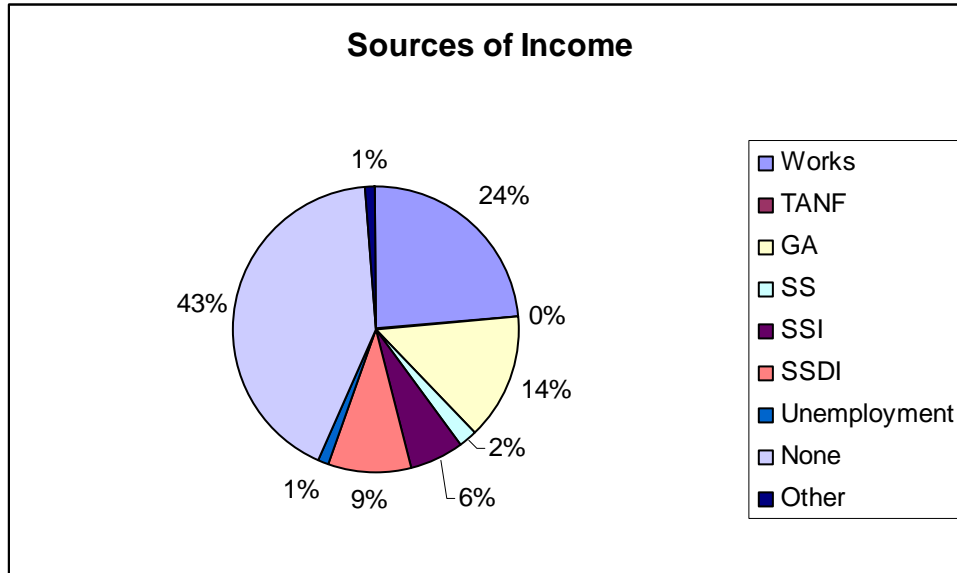


The following is a chart with the total number of service needs, both “number one needs” and other than the “number one need” broken down according to sex.



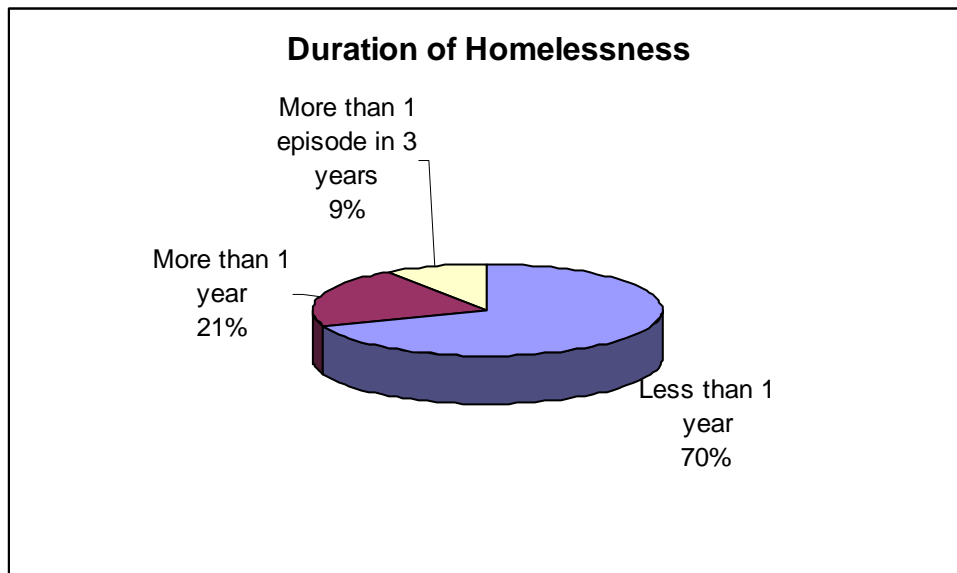
Source of Income

The clients were given nine choices regarding their income source. All 85 participants responded to the question. The following table and chart details the distribution of answers.



Duration of Homelessness

The participants were asked “how long has client/family been homeless” and given the choices of less than one year, more than one year, and more than one episode in last three years. All of the participants responded to the question. NOTE: The client is considered to be chronically homeless if their homelessness lasts more than one year or has more than one episode in the last three years. 30% of the respondents are considered to be chronically homeless. The following chart displays the results.



History of Homelessness

When the participants were asked if their family has a history of homelessness, all of the participants responded. 21 (25%) responded “yes”, 40 (47.5%) responded “no” and 23 (27.5%) responded as “unknown.”

Veteran Status

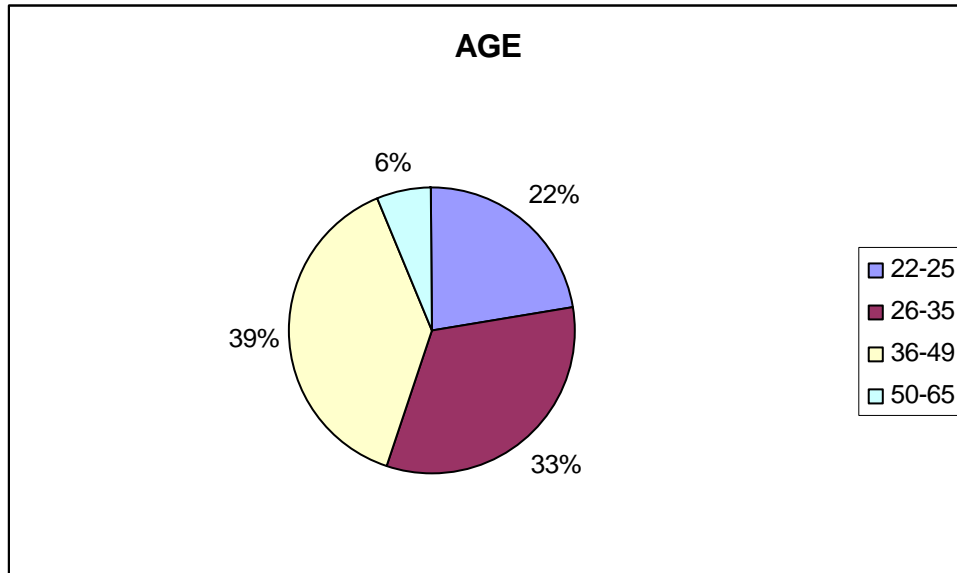
2 out of the 85 participants responded that they were a veteran.

4) FAMILIES AT RISK

The following breakdown is for *families* who *currently had housing* at the time this survey was taken. 48 out of the 49 respondents stated their sex; 4 (8%) were male and 44 (92%) were female.

Age

The following pie chart is the distribution of the age of the families with homes that participated in this survey. The 49 respondents stated their ages.



Housing

Current Housing

The 49 survey participants who listed their current housing situation are considered a family and have homes. Below is the breakdown by number and percentage of the client's current living condition.

<u>Client's Current Housing</u>		
No housing upon discharge from jail	1	2%
No housing upon discharge of mental health unit	----	----
Staying with friend or relative	20	40.8%
Overcrowded housing	1	2%
Moving from friend to friend	3	6.1%
Substandard housing	2	4.1%
Risk of becoming homeless within 30 days	16	32.7%
Living with abuser and have no place to go	6	12.2%

Previous Housing

When asked about previous housing, 38 out of 49 families with homes responded. The following table details their responses.

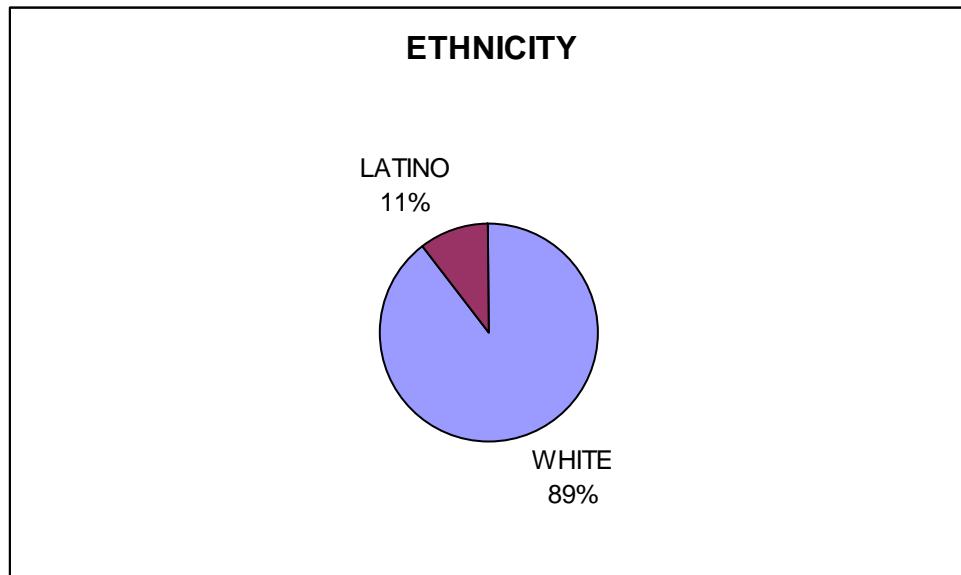
Client's Previous Housing		
Was evicted from permanent housing	13	34.2%
Has recently been released from a correctional facility	1	2.6%
Was recently released from the hospital or a residential program	----	----
Lost Housing for financial reasons	8	21.1%
Other	16	42.1%

42.1% of the clients marked “other” as their response. Along with answering “other”, the clients were given space to expand. The following three reasons were the most frequent “other” responses.

- Domestic Violence
- Conflict
- Death of living companion

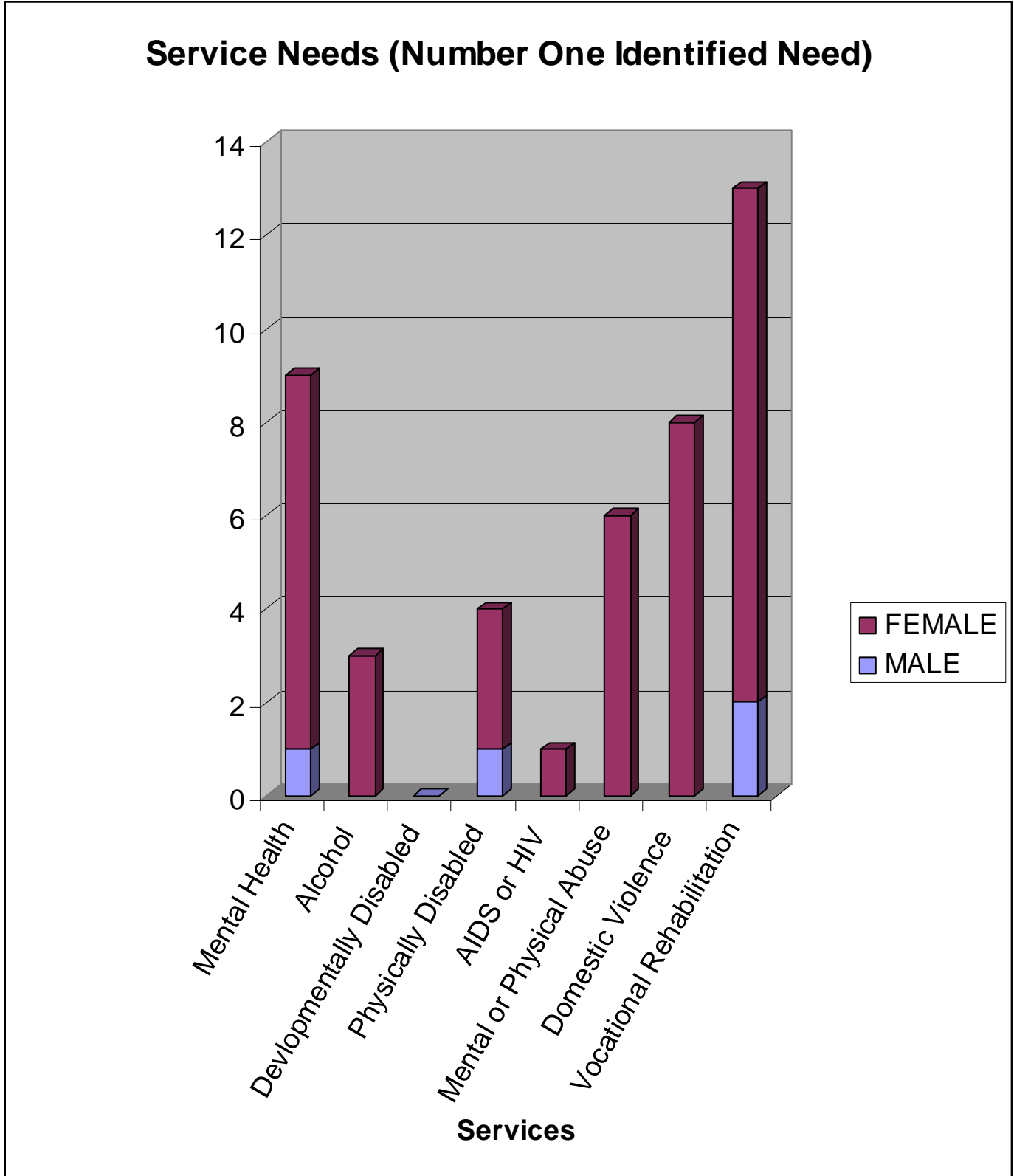
Ethnicity

19 out of the 49 participants responded to what ethnicity they were given the options of white, black (non-hispanic), Latino, Asian, American Indian, Alaskan Native, or other. The following chart is the distribution of ethnicities.



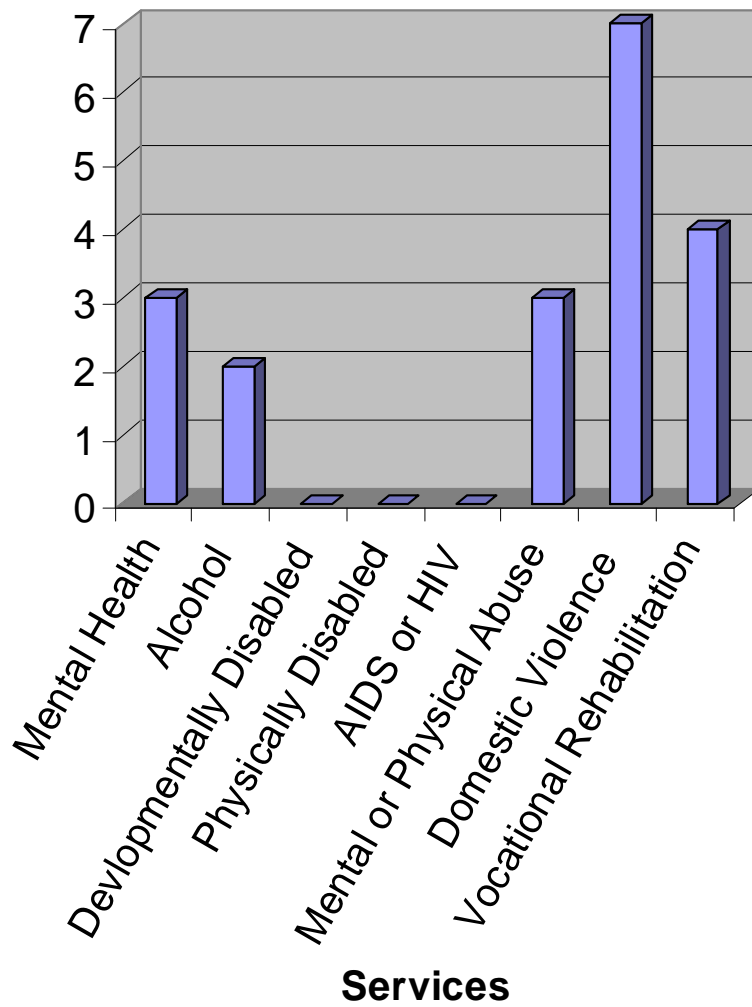
Service Needs

When the participants were asked about their particular service need(s), out of the eight given choices, the 49 respondents demonstrated a need for these services 40 times as their “number one need.” NOTE: Some respondents picked more than one service as their “number one need.” The following is a chart breaking down these service needs by sex.

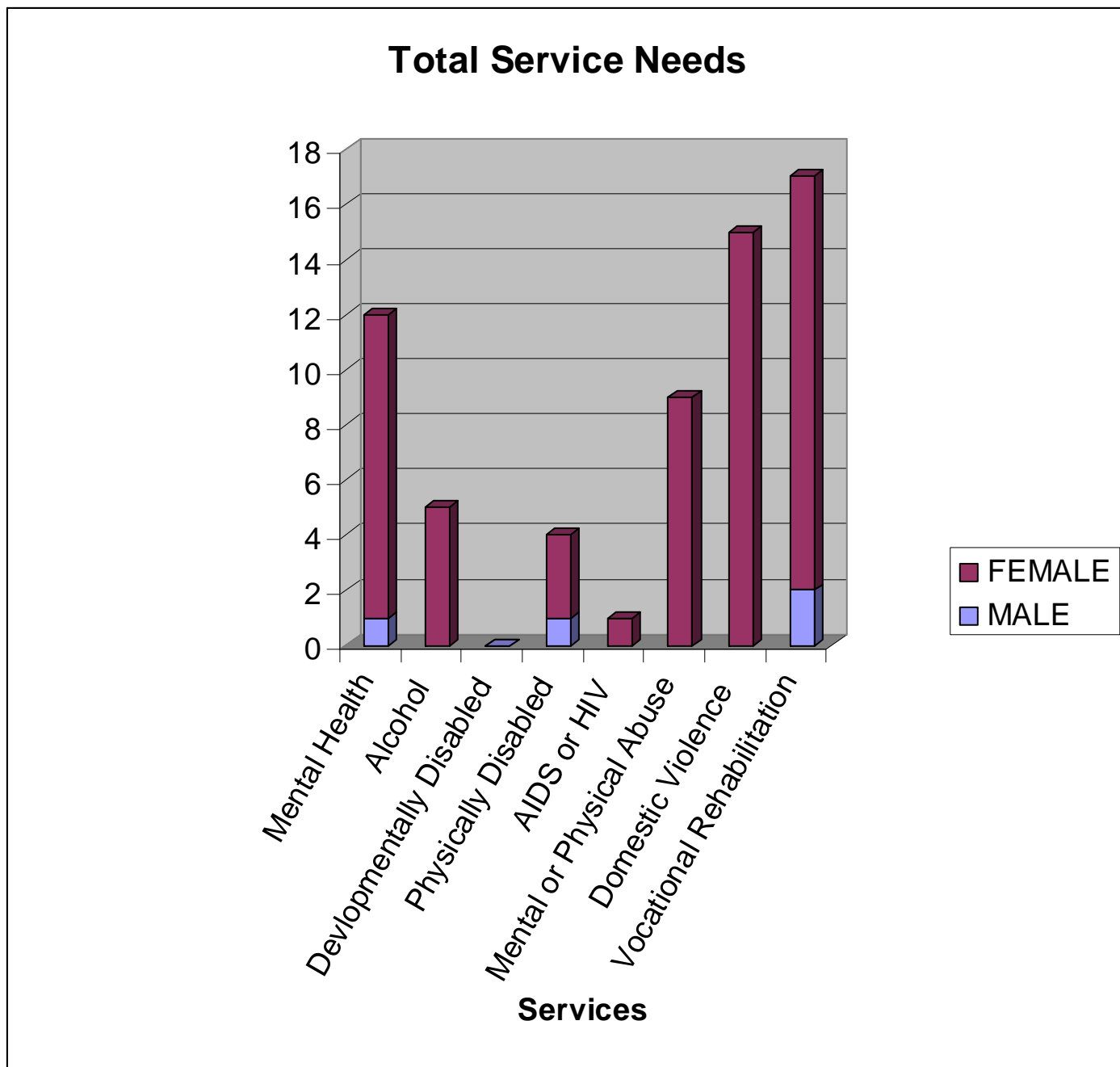


The following is a chart of the service needs other than the “number one need” the female clients indicated. NOTE: None of the male clients indicated a secondary need.

Service Needs (Other than the Number One Need)

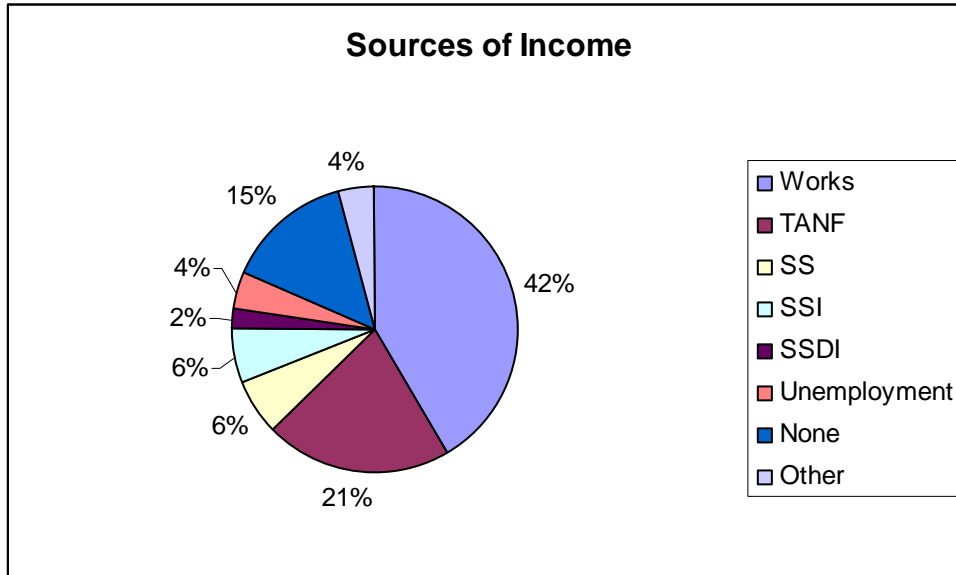


The following is a chart with the total number of service needs, both “number one needs” and other than the “number one need” broken down according to sex.



Source of Income

The clients were given nine choices regarding their income source. 48 of the 49 participants responded to the question. The following table and chart details the distribution of answer.



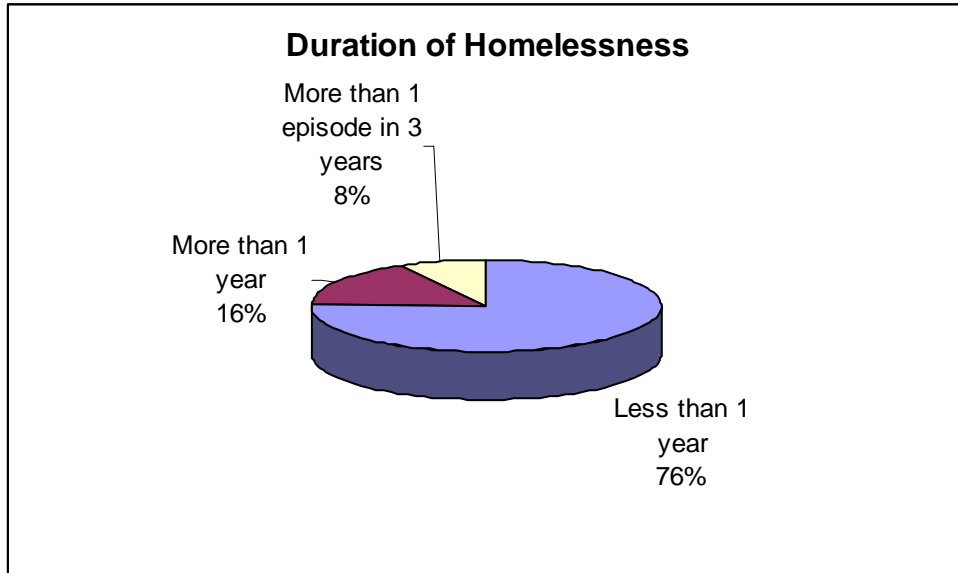
Number of Children

47 out of the 49 participants responded to the number of children they had. The following chart is the breakdown of the number of children the client stated they had living with them.

<u>Number of Children</u>		
Number of Children	Number of Families with Children	Percentage
1	21	44.7%
2	13	27.7%
3	10	21.3%
4	2	4.3%
5	----	----
6	1	2.1%

Duration of Homelessness

The participants were asked “how long has client/family been homeless” and given the choices of less than one year, more than one year, and more than one episode in last three years. All of the participants responded to the question. NOTE: The client is considered to be chronically homeless if their homelessness lasts more than one year or has more than one episode in the last three years. 24% of the respondents are considered to be chronically homeless. The following chart displays the results.



History of Homelessness

When the participants were asked if their family has a history of homelessness, all of the participants responded. 9 (18%) responded “yes”, 36 (74%) responded “no”, and 4 (8%) responded “unknown.”

Veteran Status

None of the participants responded to being a veteran.