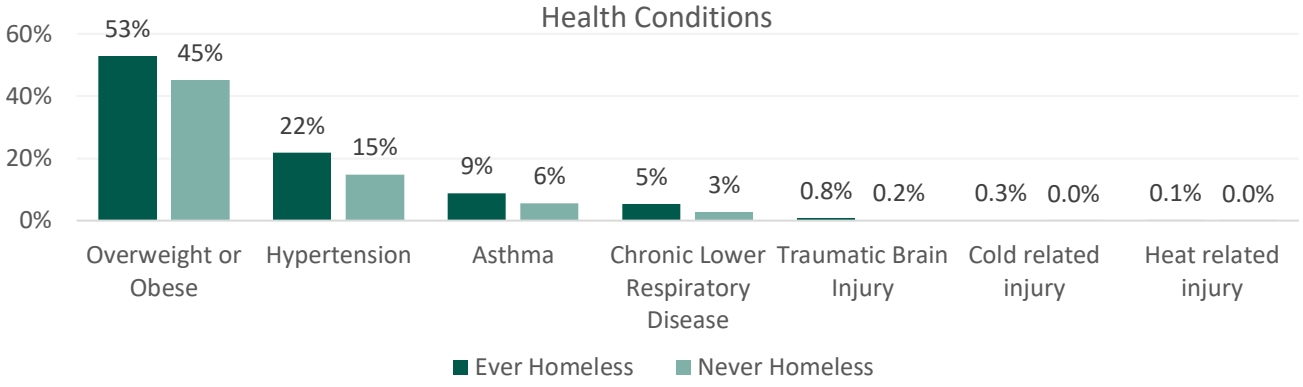
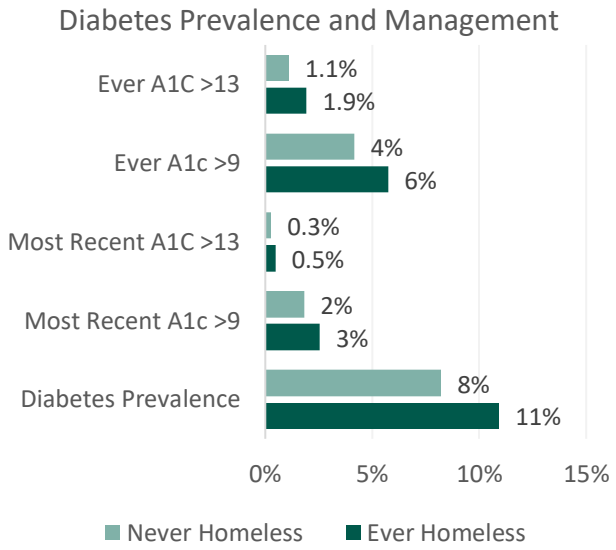
Demonstrating the Health Status of Homeless Individuals

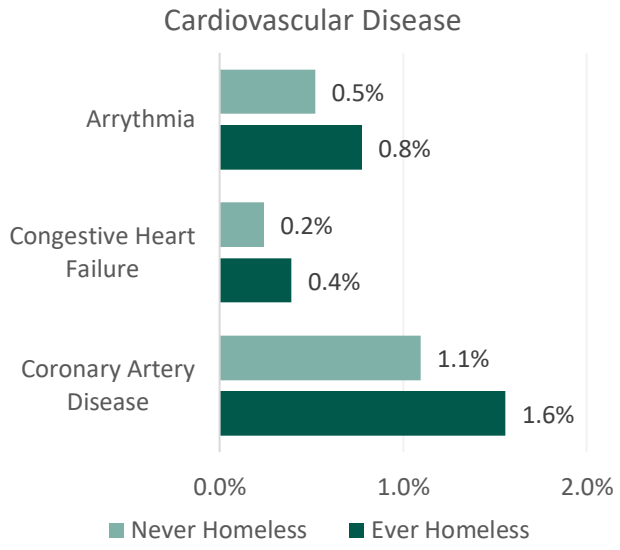
Health Conditions by Homeless Status: Ever Homeless vs. Never Homeless

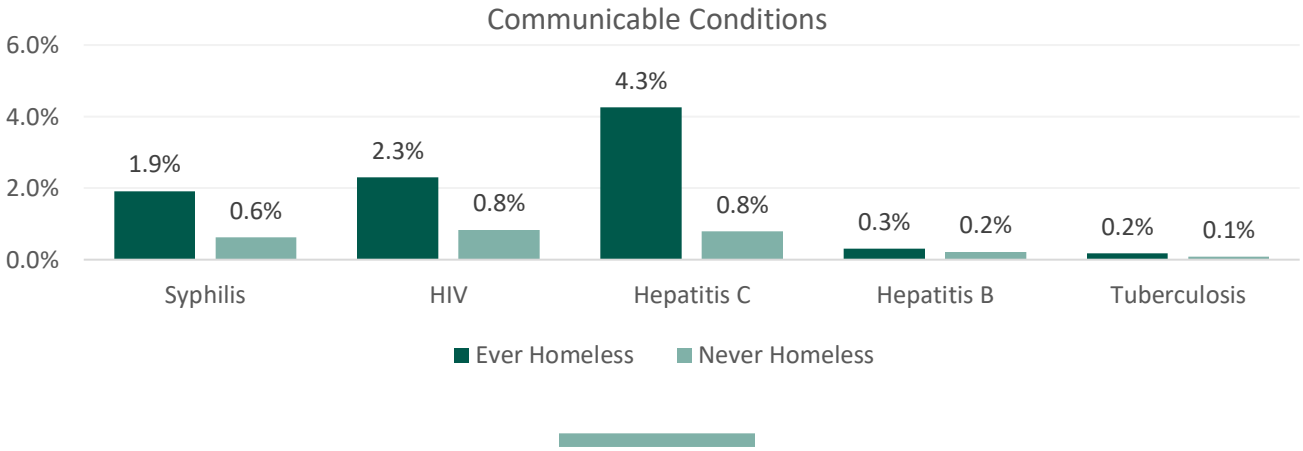
Number of Individuals	Ever Homeless	Never Homeless
10,253,076	553,189 (5.4%)	9,699,887 (94.6%)

Homeless individuals experience greater health needs compared to those who are housed. In comparing individuals who have ever been homeless and those who have never been homeless, we see that chronic conditions, including diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and cancer, are more prevalent and more difficult to manage when someone lacks housing.

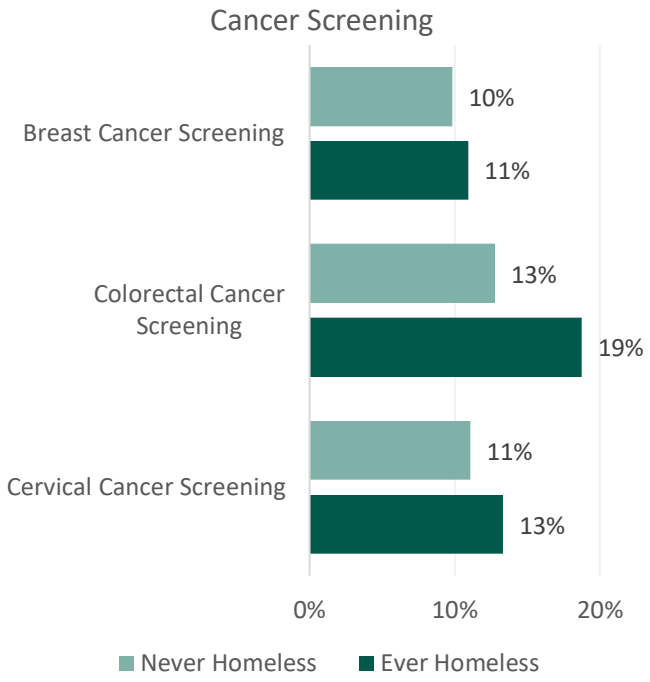


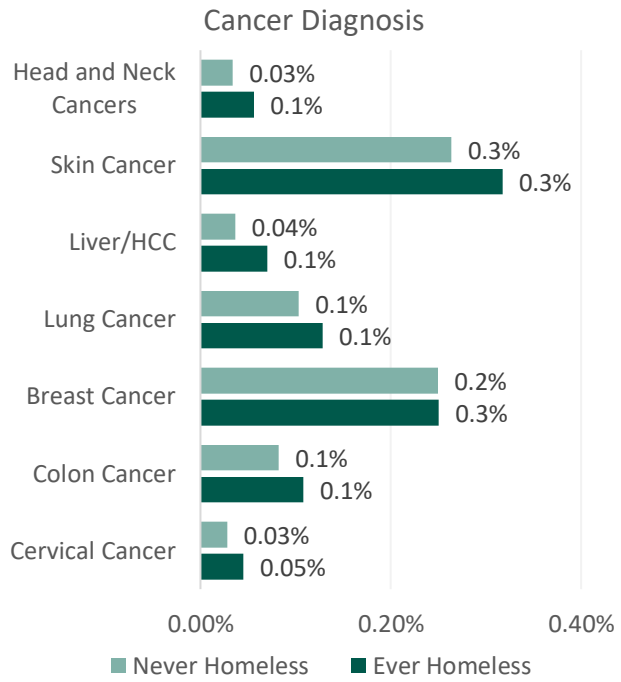




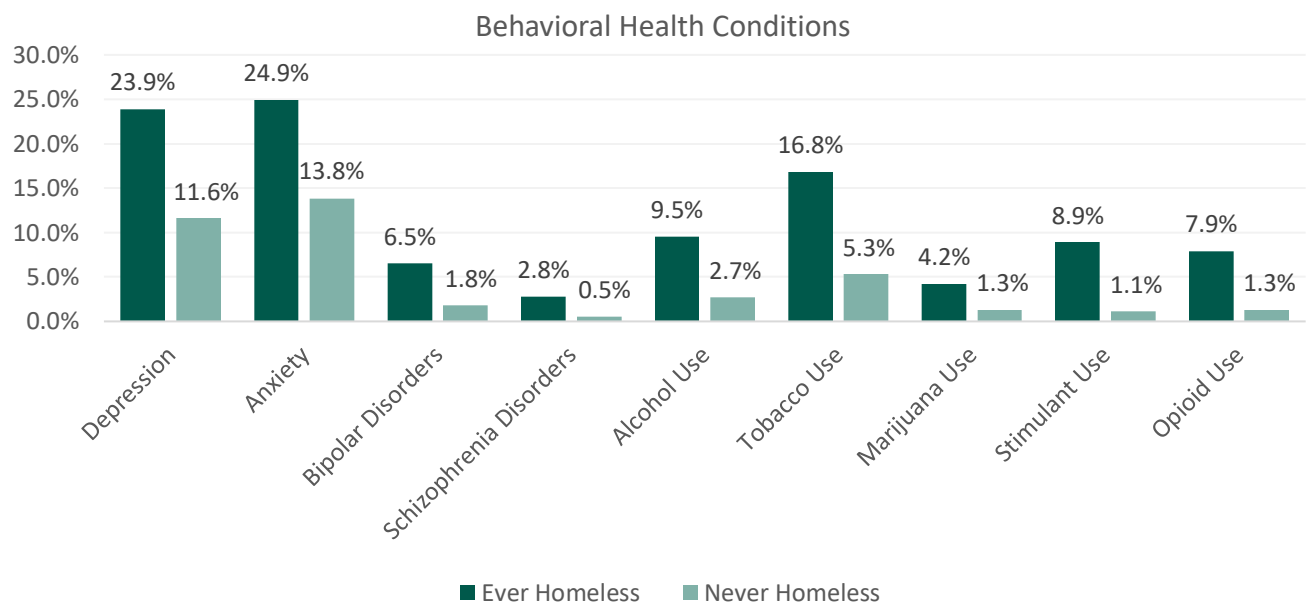


Note: Data was provided by OCHIN in aggregate from data collected via OCHIN Epic.





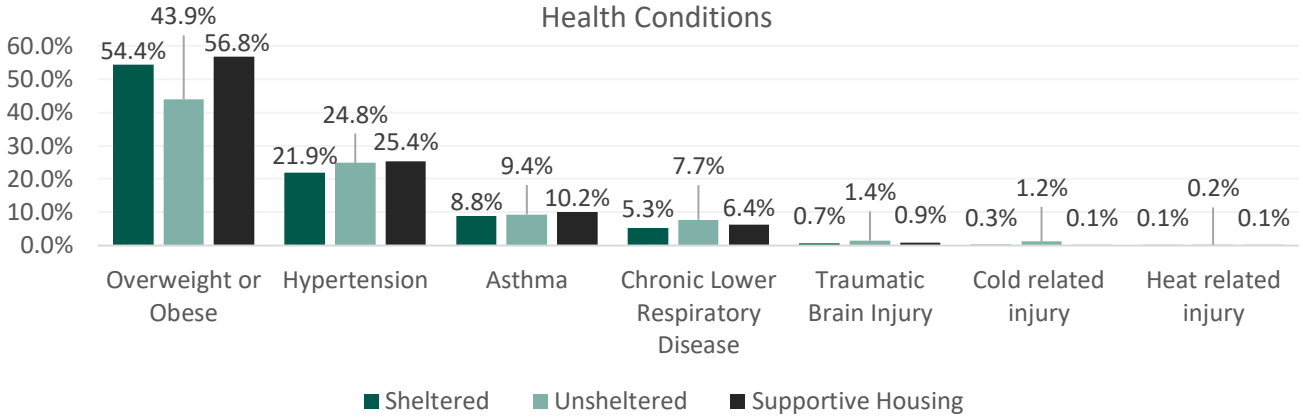
Behavioral health conditions, including depression, anxiety, and substance use, are more prevalent among people who have ever been homeless than those who have never been homeless. Higher rates of tobacco use may be associated with higher rates of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases among this population.

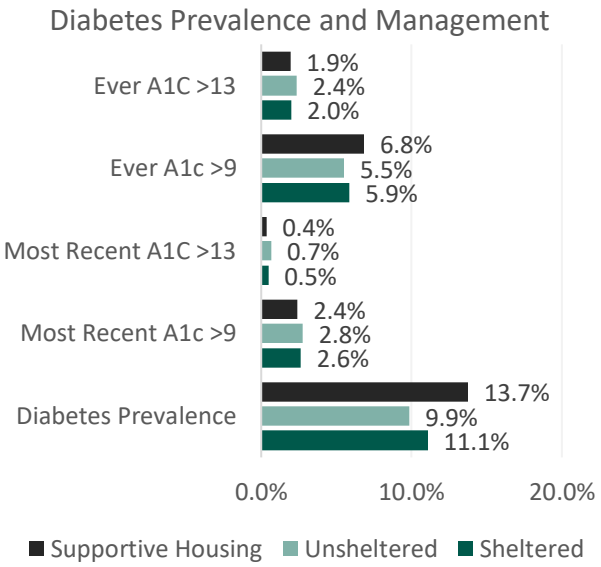


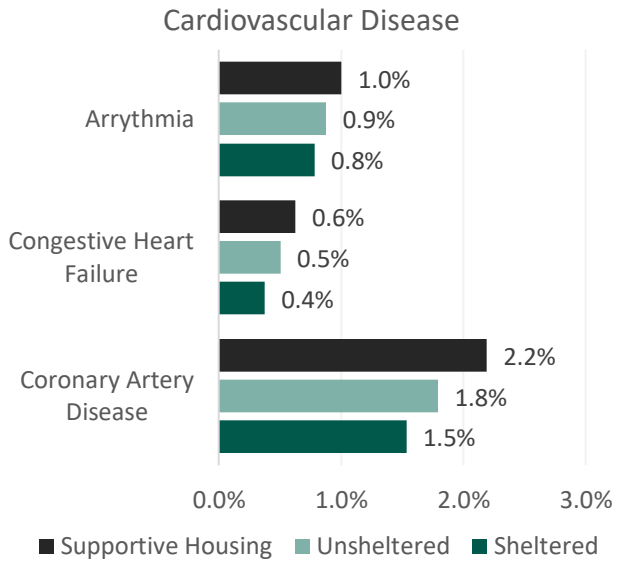
Health Conditions by Sheltered Status: Sheltered vs. Unsheltered vs. Supported Housing

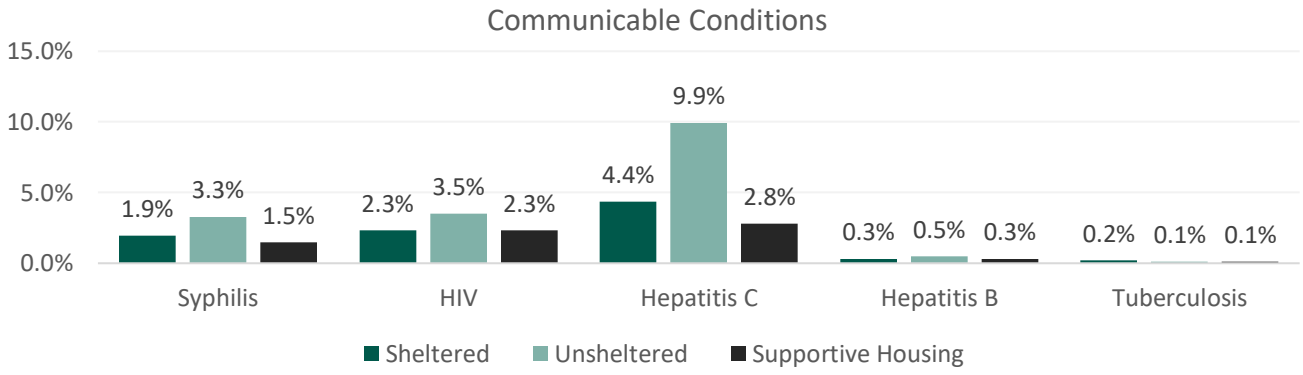
Sheltered	Unsheltered	Supportive Housing
445,696	83,197	69,739

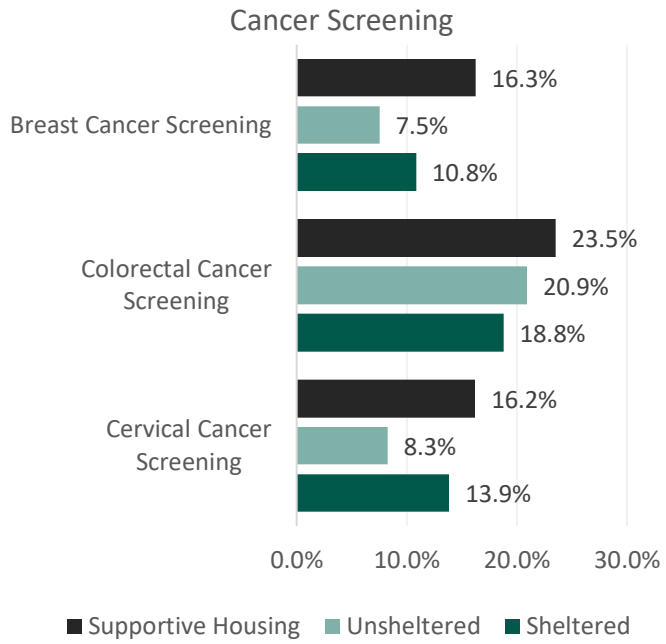
People who are unsheltered have a higher rate of conditions that are environmentally influenced, like cold and heat related injury, respiratory disease, and traumatic brain injury than those who are sheltered, but lower rates of obesity. Those who are homeless have a higher likelihood of uncontrolled diabetes than those who are formerly homeless and in housing. Unsheltered people also have higher rates of communicable diseases.

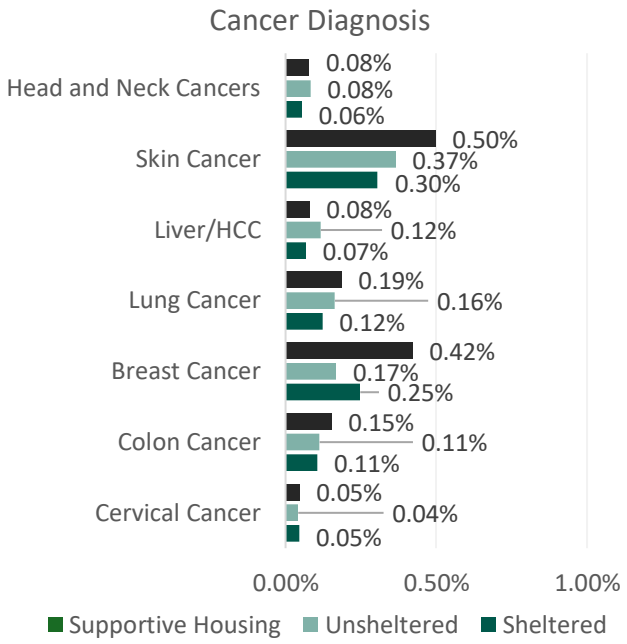




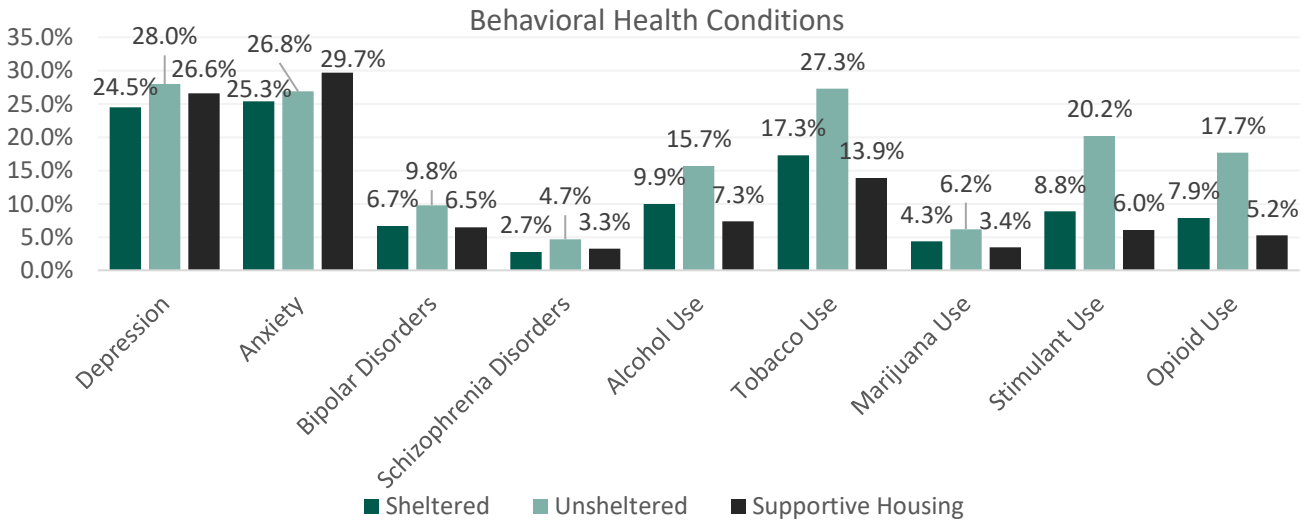








Homeless individuals have higher rates of substance use than those who are sheltered, and slightly higher rates of some mental health conditions. People who are housed have slightly higher rates of anxiety than those who are unhoused.



Data Source

The data featured in this Fact Sheet come from OCHIN, Inc. OCHIN is a nonprofit leader in health care innovation and a trusted partner to a growing national provider network. OCHIN's aim is to provide knowledge solutions that help achieve well-being and good health for everyone. There are over 300 OCHIN Epic members in over 40 states who leverage OCHINs health information technology, workforce, and operational solutions.

Acknowledgements

NHCHC acknowledges OCHIN, Inc and Dr. Wyatt Bensken, Research Investigator at OCHIN, for completing the data aggregation for this project.

HRSA Disclaimer

This publication was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling $1,788,315 with 0% percentage financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit HRSA.gov.