# AdvantageServices

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#### SUBJECT: 2022 (Calendar Year) Employment Report

**MISSION:** To enhance recovery and independence for people with mental health and other life challenges by providing employment through viable businesses delivering exceptional customer service.

1/25/2023

**VISION:** Advantage Services will operate an economically viable business, providing opportunities for competitive career employment to employees with mental disabilities and to those who have other barriers to employment; by developing jobs in the community and by providing work accommodations, thereby assisting employees in attaining greater levels of self-sufficiency.

**Pledge to Community, Customer, Employee and Environment:** Advantage Services, Inc. is a triple bottom line company (Social, Financial, and Environmental). We pledge to train and work with people with barriers to employment. While providing a quality service to our customers to maintain a financially sound company. Additionally, Advantage Services, Inc. strives to reduce its corporate footprint in the environment by using recycled and green products.

**History:** Advantage Services, Inc. was incorporated in 1992 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit to provide supportive employment to people with mental health disabilities. Over the years we have adapted into a Social Enterprise model to provide supportive and permanent employment to anyone with any disability or those who are disadvantaged (homeless, coming out of Jail or prison, living below the poverty level. etc.). This social enterprise model utilizes fee for service contracts to provide these employment opportunities. In fact less than 1% of our \$2.9mil annual revenue comes from grants or donations; allowing us to be a fiscally sound company. Our only grant in 2022 came from our long-time community partner and steadfast donor <u>American Express</u>.

Advantage Services maintains a minimum of 70% of our workforce having a disability (mental or physical) and 80% living in Low to Moderate Income (LMI) levels. Advantage Services collaborates with other community non-profit partners as well as government and private companies to fulfil our mission and receive referrals for contracts and employees. Community partners include:

- American Express
- The City of Salt Lake
- The County of Salt Lake
- The State of Utah
- The Road Home
- Utah State Office of Rehabilitation
- Department of Workforce Services

- Volunteers of America
- Catholic Community Services
- Valley Behavioral Health
- Utah Transit Authority
- City Housing Authority
- Housing Connect
- Shelter the Homeless

**Employment Model:** Advantage Services uses a model of supportive to permanent employment. Most of our employees are not ready for full time employment and many are on SSI benefits due to a disability. In the case of our homeless programing many have barriers to hold part time employment. These individuals start with our "Clean Team" program working 4-15 hours a week starting at minimum wage (in 2022 111 [29%] employees started in the Clean Team). After demonstrating the ability to show up and the desire to succeed they are transitioned into other higher paying positions within the company or placed in outside employment. Of our 256 employees, a total of 383 internal positions were filled throughout 2022 as they moved up from lower paying jobs.

Advantage Services has four certified Job coaches and mentors to work with employees to help eliminate barriers. Advantage Services also coordinates with community partners to provide counseling, treatment, housing, and legal assistance. If an employee quits or is terminated Advantage Services will allow them to reapply in 90 days and most will be given another chance (in many cases several chances).

**2022 Year in Review**: 2022 was a great year even with the issues with the prolonged pandemic and all the problems that it brought for business' all around the country. Advantage Services was successful both financially and in terms of mission fulfilment. Advantage Services Finished 2022 with \$322,000 in the black and employed 256 individuals. Out of these 256 employees the following notable data was collected:

- 146 (57%) are still employed, 23 (9%) left for better employment, 76 (30%) were terminated or quit for various reasons and 11 (4%) were hired but never started their employment.
- 217 (85%) were disabled.
- 189 (74%) were formerly or currently homeless at the time of employment.
- 185 (72%) had a criminal history.
- The average age of our employees was 48 with 185 (82%) over the age of 41.
- 86 (34%) were living at the Shelter, 34 (13%) were living in Permanent Supportive Housing, 25 (10%) were living in Section 8/vouchered housing, 111 (43%) were either camping, couch surfing, living in temporary/hotel accommodations or were in regular housing.
- \$9.96/hr. was the medium wage (excluding managers and executive staff).

**Lessons Learned:** Advantage Services continues to adjust our model as we provide assistance to people with barriers to employment. Some of the areas that have continued to hinder success in our employees are:

- **Drug and alcohol Addiction** this remains our top issue and as we work with these individuals, we regularly require they seek assistance/treatment prior to looking for outside employment.
- **Mental Health issues** –issues that are untreated or not properly medicated will hinder transitioning to outside employment. Also, this population is historically on SSI and most are afraid of losing benefits if they work more than part time hours.
- **Criminal backgrounds** criminal backgrounds not only hinder outside placement but housing as well. We are actively working with these individuals and support legislative efforts to address these issues.
- Lack of motivation/work ethics most of our employees have been out of the workforce for many years and sometimes it takes time to re-develop proper work ethics.
- **Thinking errors/soft skills** Life skills training is vital to the success of our employees and an area that is most underfunded in our company. Because of our business model these expenses are not in our contract proposals. So this cost has to be absorbed by the company's bottom line.

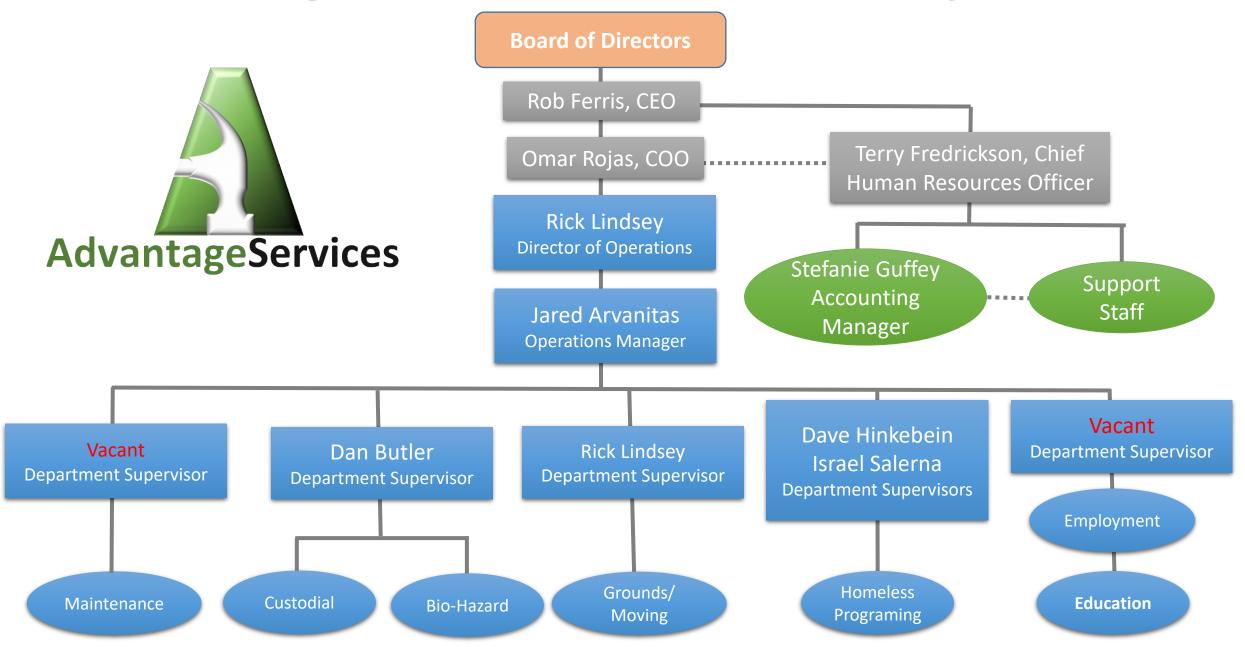
**Conclusion:** Advantage Services is a unique company not only in Utah but nationwide. Our employment data far exceeds most programs working with the homeless or those coming out of jail or prison. Our success is ultimately due to our ability to collaborate with community partners, government entities and private businesses who all share in a vision to help people who are disabled or disadvantaged. We are thankful for the partners listed above and look forward to serving our community in 2023. Below is our board president's 2022 "Year End" message with a more in depth look at our data and statistics.

Thanks Robert G Ferris, CEO rob@ASofUtah.com

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#### **Advantage Services Leadership Chart**



**Board of Directors** 

2022

#### **Board President**

Nicole Farrell, Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion @ Dyno Nobel Inc.

#### **President Elect**

Jack McIntyre, Attorney at Law and Partner @ McIntyre and Golden

#### **Past President**

Joe Stultz, Attorney at Law York Howell and Guymon

#### Treasurer

Austin Oseguera, Utah Assistive Technology Supervisor Utah State Office of Rehabilitation

#### Secretary

Jim Jones, Reentry Case Worker- Mental Health Utah Department of Corrections

#### Trustee

Yvette Woodland, Service Area Director Department of Workforce Services

#### **Trustee**

Jennifer Dailey, State Representative State Representative District 24

#### **Trustee**

Donald Dean, Compliance Officer American Express

#### **Trustee**

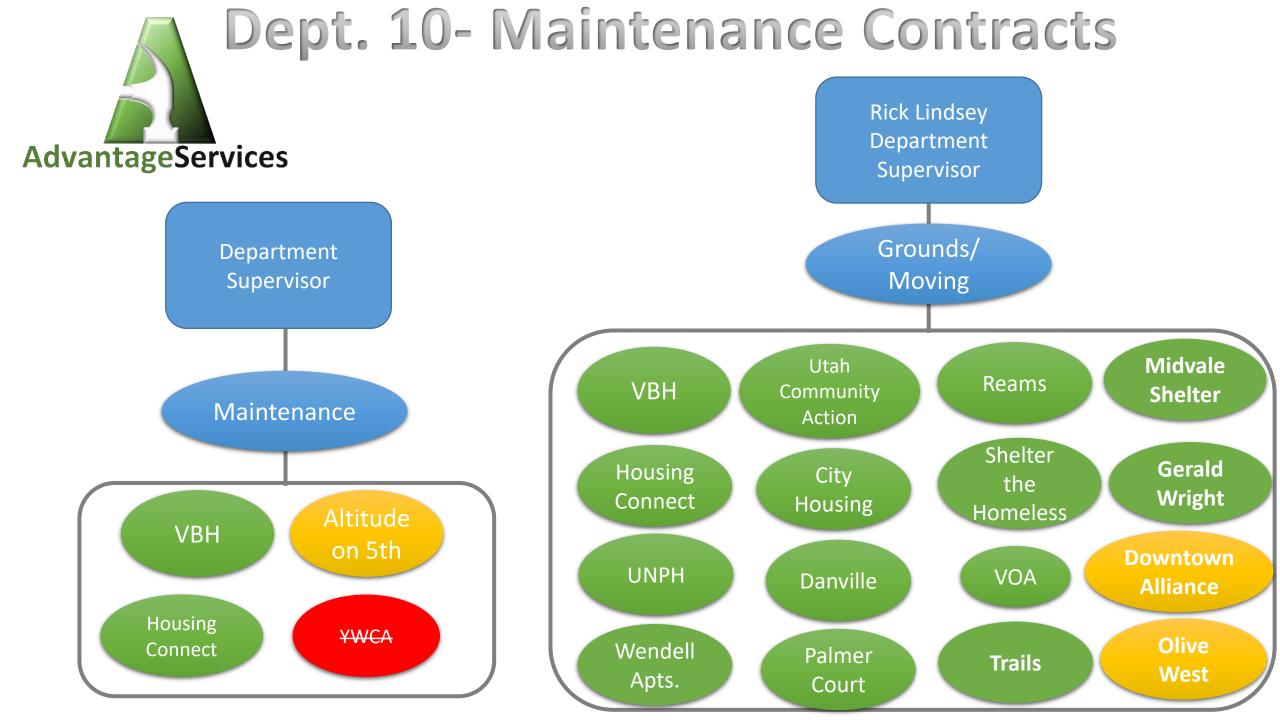
Office of Mayor Jenny Wilson Vacant

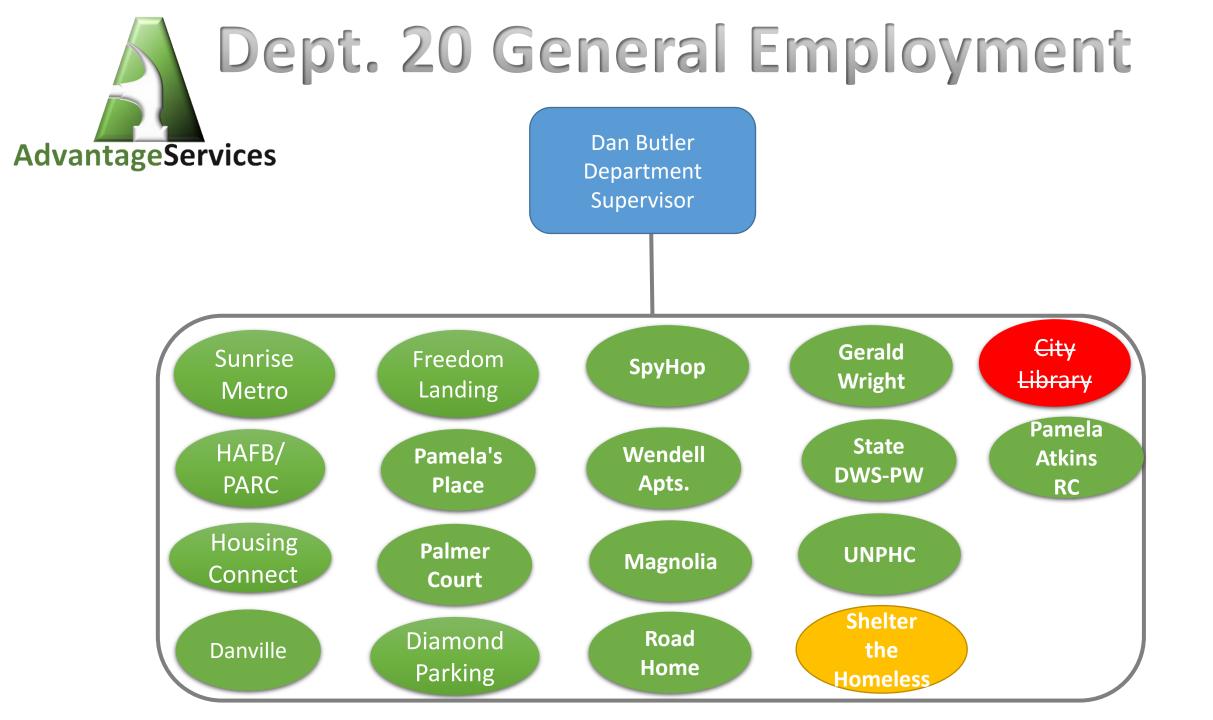
> Trustee City or State Vacant

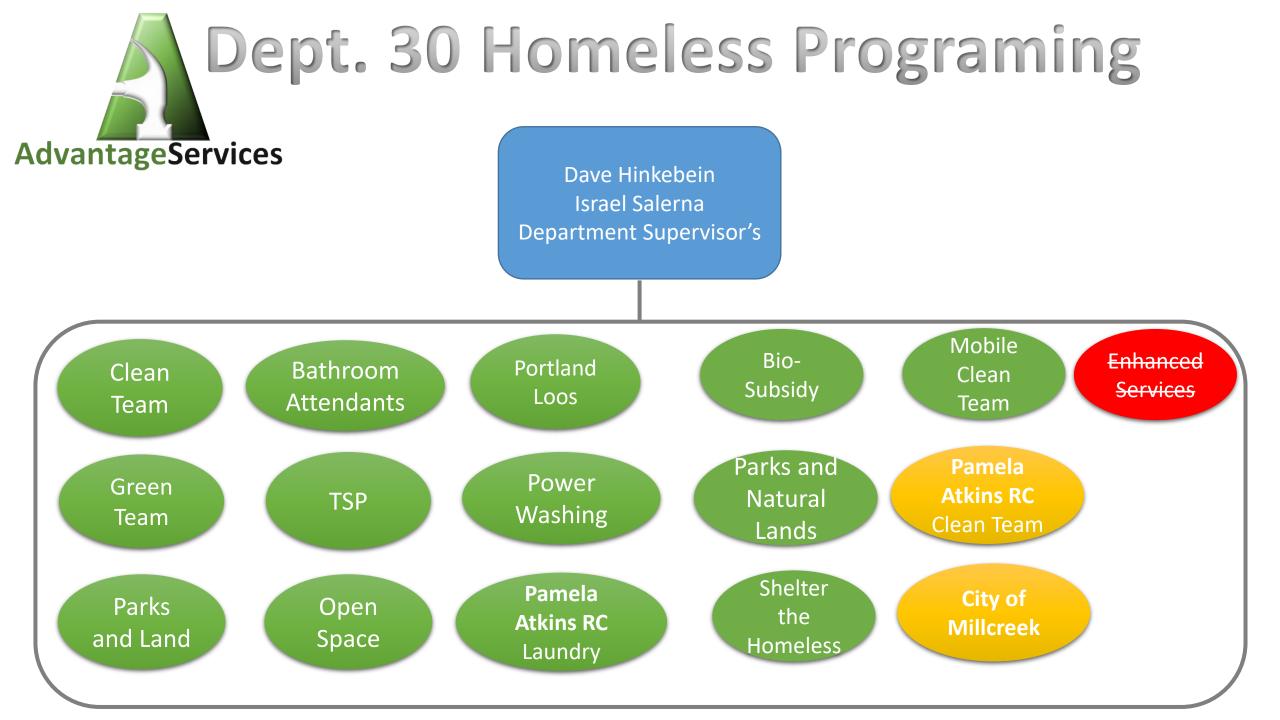
#### **Historic Company Snap-Shot** 2019 - 133 Active Employees 2019 – \$8.38 Average Pay 2020 – 156 Active Employees **2020 - \$8.50 Average Pay** 2021 – 134 Active Employees 2021 - \$8.89 Average Pay **2022 – 146 Active Employees** 2022 - \$9.96 Average Pay Current Active Employees Minus Management 2019 - 34 Contracts 2019 - 72% w/Disabilities 2020 – 41 Contracts 2020 – 74% w/Disabilities **2021 – 52 Contracts** 2021 – 77% w/Disabilities **2022 – 59 Contracts** 2022 – 83% w/Disabilities 2019 - 98% w/Barriers **2019 – 78%** Homeless/formerly 2020 – 97% w/Barriers **2020** + 65% Homeless/formerly 2021 – 97% w/Barriers **2021 – 70%** Homeless/formerly 2022 – 98% w/Barriers -**2022 – 74%** Homeless/formerly

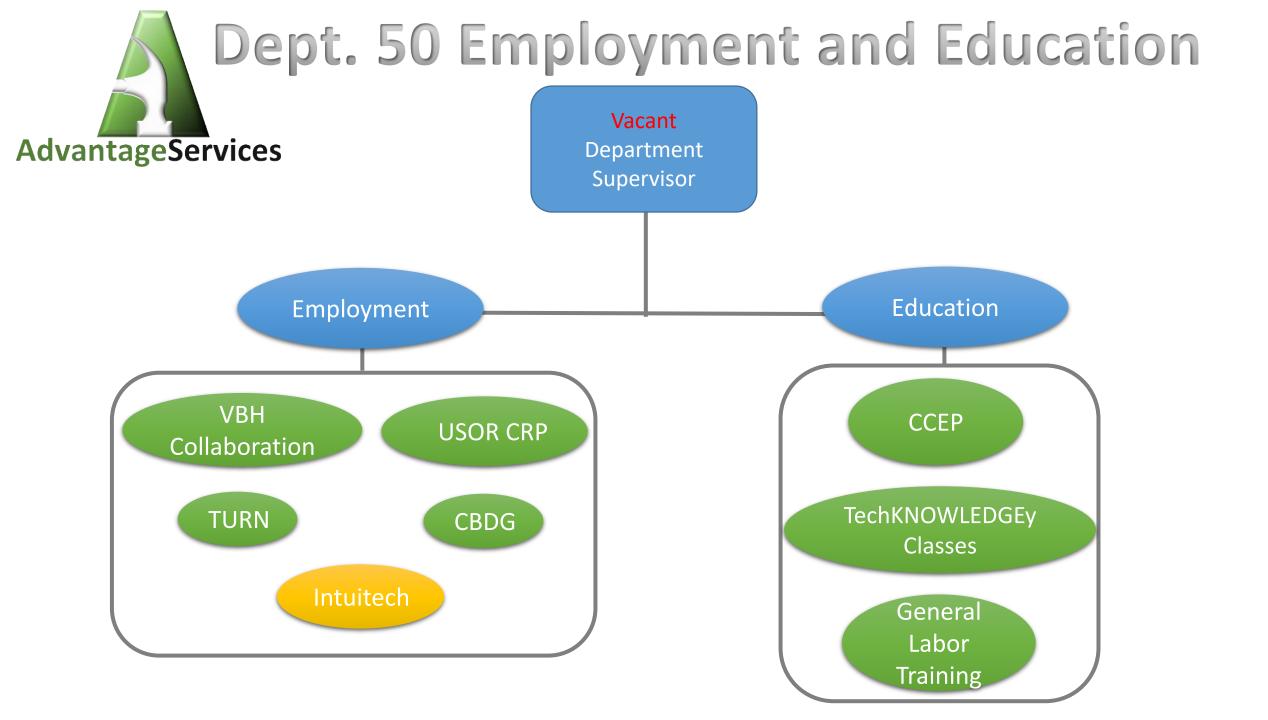
## Historic Company Snap-Shot

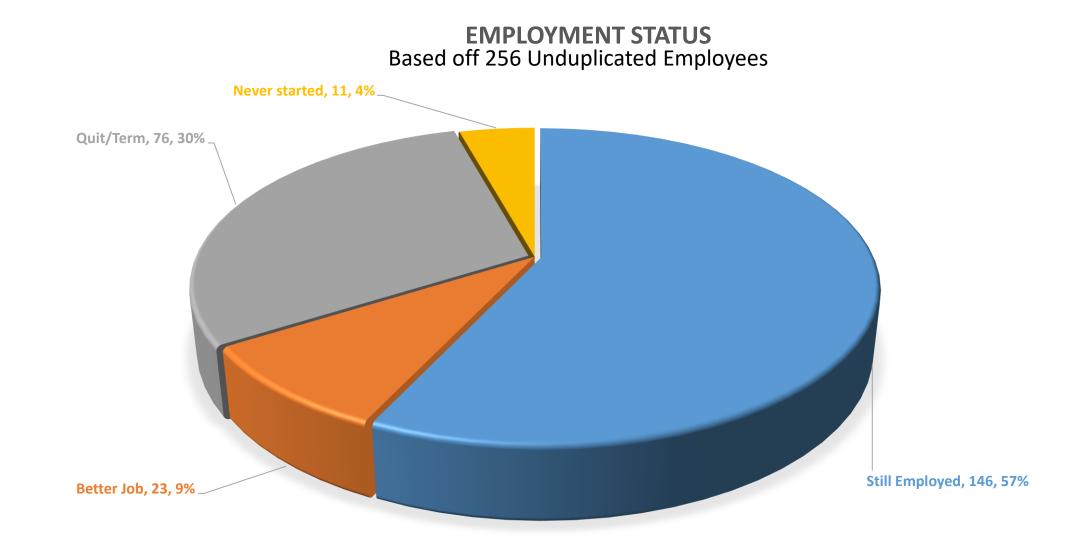
Year	Revenue	<b>Employed in Year</b>	Net Income
2014	\$3,277,026	406	-\$166,556
2015	\$2,030,001	329	-\$399,476
2016	\$1,625,415	267	-\$169,089
2017	\$1,757,677	299	\$2,500
2018	\$1,877,612	260	\$90,060
2019	\$1,967,164	312	\$11,051
2020	\$2,453,279	302	\$321,726 Includes Forgive
2021	\$2,704,478	291	\$325,463
2022	\$2,922,532	256	\$323,000



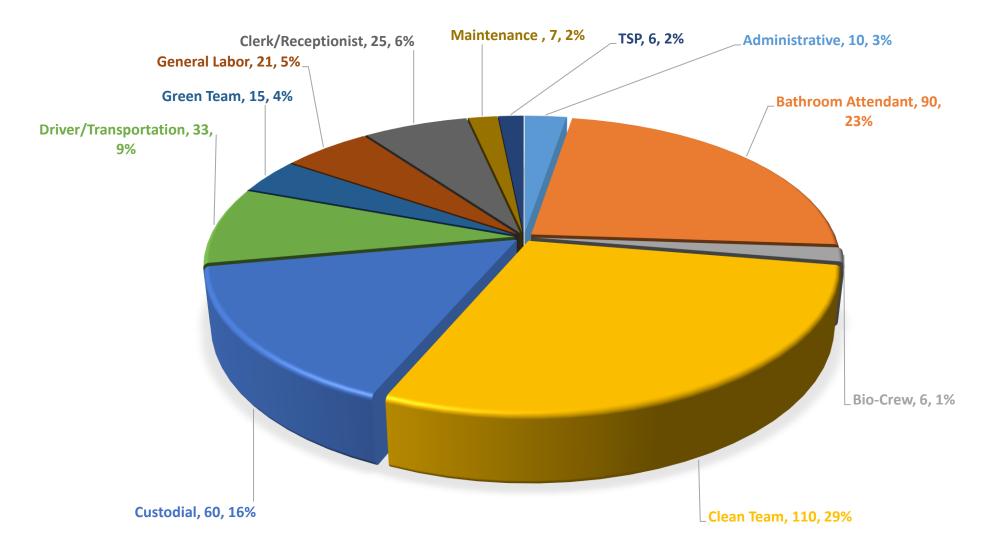




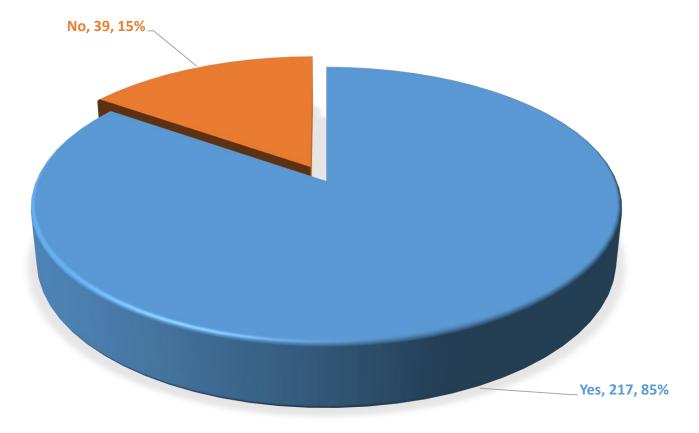




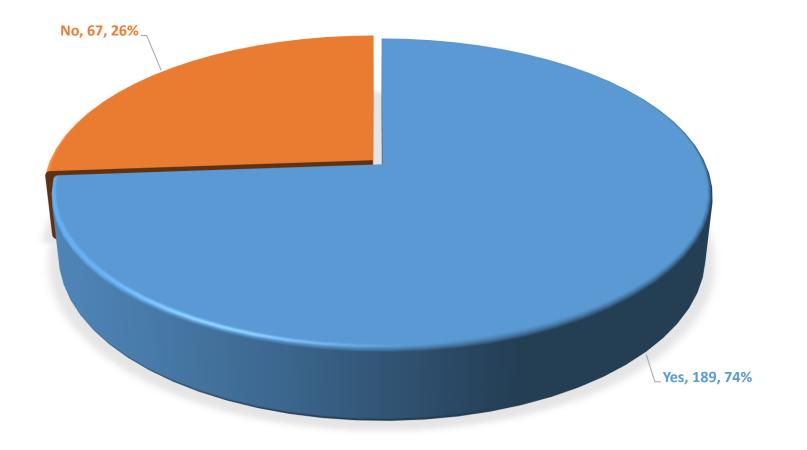
#### **383 POSITIONS FILLED BY 256 UNDUPLICATED EMPLOYEES**



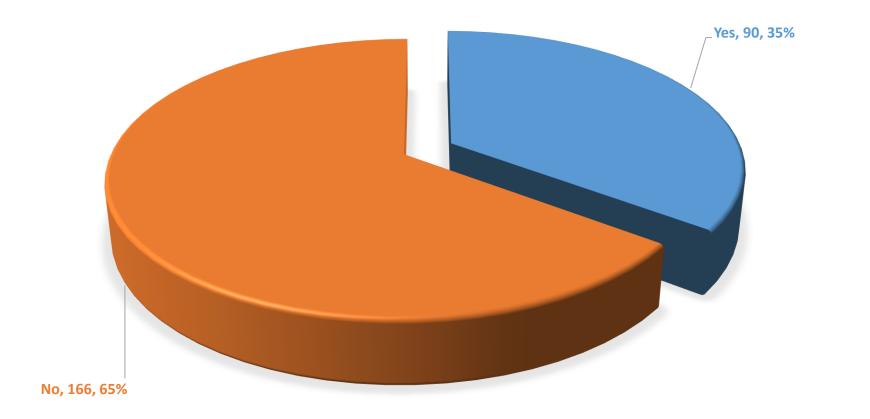




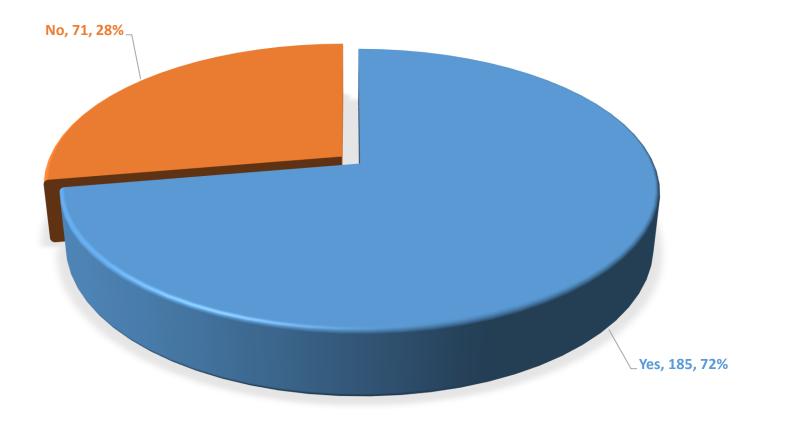
#### **FORMERLY HOMELESS**



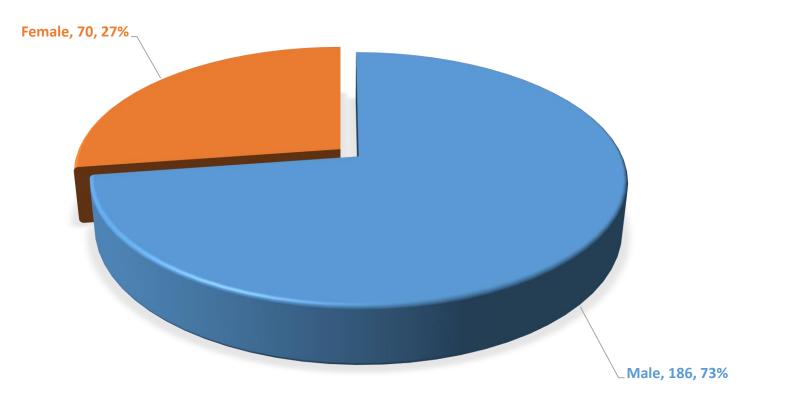
**CURRENTLY HOMELESS** 

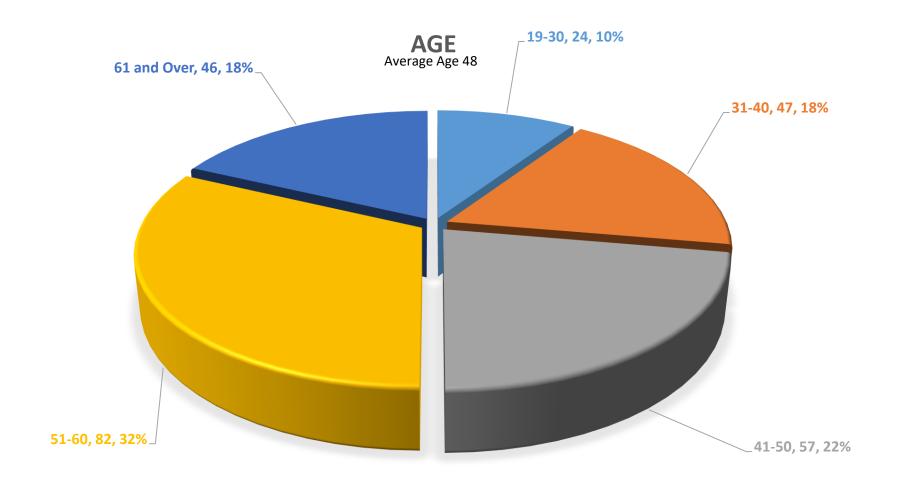


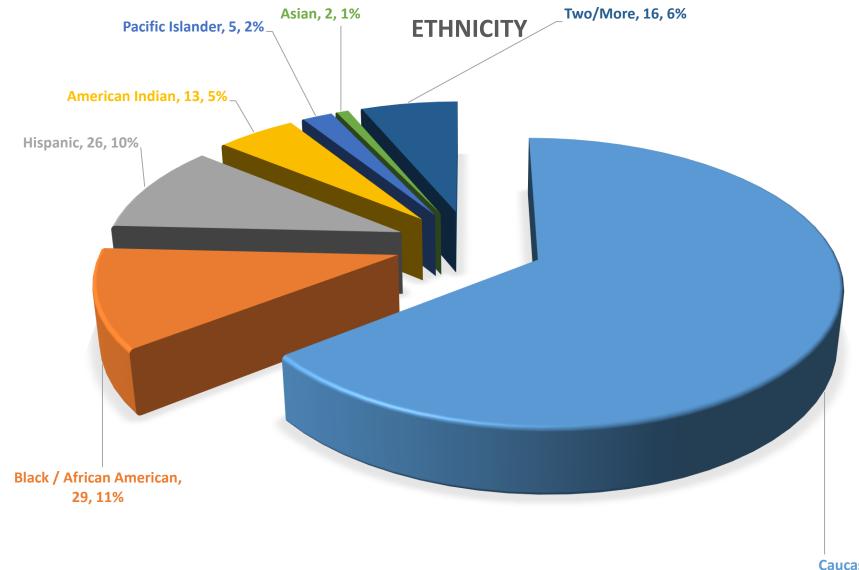
**CRIMINAL HISTORY** 











Caucasian, 165, 65%

