

July 2009

# The 2008 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress

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U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of Community Planning and Development





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## FOREWORD

I am pleased to submit the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) 2008 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress. This report is the fourth in a series of annual reports about homelessness in the United States. The report breaks new ground by being the first report to provide year-to-year trend information that explores changes in the patterns of homelessness over time.

The 2008 AHAR focuses on two types of national estimates of homelessness. Point-in-time estimates provide the total number of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single-night in January. These estimates are based on local community counts of homeless persons, and the report compares point-in-time estimates for 2006 through 2008. The report also provides one-year estimates of the total sheltered population based on information from local Homeless Management Information Systems. The one-year estimates account for persons who used a homeless residential program at any time during a 12-month period. The report compares one-year estimates for 2007 and 2008.

I am especially pleased with this year's report because community participation in the AHAR has grown significantly and is expected to continue during the next few years. Between 2007 and 2008, the number of communities participating in the AHAR increased from 98 to 222, the largest one-year increase since HUD began collecting information for the AHAR.

The report comes at a time of economic uncertainty and provides a few early indicators of how the economic downturn may be affecting the housing situation of low-income and vulnerable Americans. In these times, it is especially important to have comprehensive information about people who have become homeless. This latest report will be important in informing policy decisions and developing new strategies to prevent homelessness and assure decent affordable housing for our citizens.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shaun Donovan".

Shaun Donovan  
Secretary

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This 2008 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) was developed by a team of researchers from Abt Associates Inc. and the University of Pennsylvania Center for Mental Health Services and Research. The team was led by Principal Investigators, Dr. Jill Khadduri (Abt) and Dr. Dennis Culhane (University of Pennsylvania). Dr. Alvaro Cortes (Abt) served as project director and was responsible for leading the data collection and analysis effort. Additional team members include: Tom Albanese, Larry Buron, Lauren Dunton, Nichole Fiore, Lindsay Fox, Tyronda Gibson, John Griffith, Mary Joel Holin, Emily Holt, Bulbul Kaul, Michelle Klausner, Joshua Leopold, Saty Patrabansh, Louise Rothschild, Kate Ryan, Brian Sokol, Brooke Spellman, K.P. Srinath, Matt White, and Jeff Smith (all from Abt Associates) and Stephen Poulin (University of Pennsylvania).

The effort to develop an Annual Homeless Assessment Report began in 2002. Since then, the project has benefited greatly from the contributions of a number of HUD staff. Paul Dorman of the Office of Policy Development and Research, and Julie Hovden and Michael Roanhouse of the Office of Community Planning and Development have provided overall leadership and vision. The project has also benefited from the support of other HUD staff in the Office of Community Planning and Development, especially Mark Johnston and Ann Oliva. As a consultant to HUD, Dr. Martha Burt has provided thoughtful input on early drafts of the report.

Finally, this project and this report could not have been possible without the participation of staff from Continuums of Care, local government agencies and nonprofit agencies responsible for HMIS implementation in communities across the country as well as HMIS software solution providers. Their continued commitment is greatly appreciated.





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## Executive Summary

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is pleased to present the 2008 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), the fourth in a series of reports on homelessness in the United States. The reports respond to a series of Congressional directives calling for the collection and analysis of data on homelessness. The 2008 AHAR breaks new ground by being the first report to provide year-to-year trend information on homelessness in the United States. The report provides the latest counts of homelessness nationwide—including counts of individuals, persons in families, and special population groups such as veterans and chronically homeless people. The report also covers the types of locations where people use emergency shelter and transitional housing; where people were just before they entered a residential program; how much time they spend in shelters over the course of a year; and the size and use of the U.S inventory of residential programs for homeless people. This AHAR also is the first to compare Point-in-Time estimates reported by Continuums of Care across several years.

### *Data Sources Used in the AHAR*

The AHAR is based on two data sources:

1. **Continuum of Care applications** are submitted to HUD annually as part of the competitive funding process and provide one-night, Point-in-Time (PIT) counts of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations. The PIT counts are based on the number of homeless persons on a single night during the last week in January, and the most recent PIT counts for which data are available nationally were conducted in January 2008.
2. **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)** are electronic administrative databases that are designed to record and store client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of homeless persons. HMIS data is used to produce counts of the sheltered homeless population over a full year—that is, people who used emergency shelter or transitional housing programs at some time during the course of a year. The 2008 AHAR uses HMIS data for the most recent, one-year reporting period and compares these data to previous HMIS-based findings.

### Point-in-Time Estimates of Homeless Persons in 2008

*On a single night in January 2008, there were 664,414 sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons nationwide. Nearly 6 in 10 people who were homeless at a single point-in-time were in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs, while 42 percent were unsheltered on the “street” or in other places not meant for human habitation.*

About three-fifths of the people homeless on a single night were homeless as individuals (62 percent), while two-fifths (38 percent) were homeless as part of a family. Family members were much less likely than individuals to be unsheltered. About 27 percent of all homeless family members were unsheltered on the night of the point-in-time count, while almost half of homeless individuals were unsheltered.

One-day PIT counts of homelessness changed little between 2007 and 2008: the total number of homeless persons decreased by about 1 percent or 7,500 people.

Information from CoC applications includes counts of particular homeless subpopulations, including people whose homelessness is chronic—that is, individuals with disabilities and long or frequent patterns of homelessness. National policy has focused on ending chronic homelessness through funding incentives to develop permanent supportive housing and through the dissemination of best practice strategies for reducing chronic homelessness. Measuring the scope of chronic homelessness remains challenging, however, and thus the PIT estimates of persons experiencing chronic homelessness that are reported in CoC applications should be interpreted as approximations. The January 2008 PIT estimate of chronic homelessness is 124,135 persons, or 30 percent of all homeless individuals. The PIT count of chronically homeless persons in 2008 is nearly identical to the count in 2007.

The concentration of homeless persons in a state—or the estimated number of homeless persons as a percent of the state’s total population—varies considerably across the United States. On a single night in January 2008, the states with the highest concentrations of homeless people were Oregon (0.54 percent of the state’s population), Nevada (0.48 percent), Hawaii (0.47 percent), and California (0.43 percent). More than half of all homeless people on a single night in January 2008 were found in just five states: California (157,277), New York (61,125), Florida (50,158), Texas (40,190) and Michigan (28,248). Their share is disproportionate, as these states constitute only 36 percent of the total U.S. population. Mississippi, South Dakota, and Kansas had the nation’s lowest concentration of homeless persons.

Homelessness is heavily concentrated in urban areas. For example, 91 percent of Nevada’s homeless population was located in the Las Vegas CoC and almost 67 percent of Michigan’s homeless population was in the Detroit CoC. Other states with high concentrations of homeless persons in urban areas included: Arizona (60 percent were located in the Phoenix Continuum of Care), Pennsylvania (nearly 50 percent were located in Philadelphia CoC), and California (40 percent were located in the Los Angeles CoC). In both 2007 and 2008, one in five people homeless on a single night in January were in Los Angeles, New York, or Detroit.

## **One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Homeless Persons, October 2007-September 2008**

*About 1.6 million persons used an emergency shelter or a transitional housing program during the 12-month period (October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008), suggesting that 1 in every 190 persons in the United States used the shelter system.* The nation's sheltered homeless population over a year's time included approximately 1,092,600 individuals (68 percent) and 516,700 persons in families (32 percent). A family is a household that includes an adult 18 years of age or older and at least one child. All other sheltered homeless people are considered individuals. Considered as households rather than separate people, there were 159,142 sheltered families, about 14 percent of all sheltered homeless households.

The total number of sheltered homeless persons remained essentially unchanged between 2007 and 2008, increasing by only 5,200 people. However, the household composition of the sheltered homeless population shifted somewhat between 2007 and 2008. The number of homeless individuals was fairly stable, while homelessness among persons in families increased by about 43,000 or 9 percent. Accordingly, the share of family households among all sheltered households also increased, by nearly 3 percentage points.

### **Sheltered Homeless People in 2008**

The one-year estimates based on HMIS data include detail on the demographic characteristics of the 1.6 million people who were homeless in a shelter some time over the course of a year, where they were before they entered the residential program, and for how much of the year they stayed in the shelter.

The most common demographic features of all sheltered homeless people are: male, members of minority groups, older than age 31, and alone. More than two-fifths of sheltered homeless people have a disability. At the same time, sizable segments of the sheltered homeless population are white, non-Hispanic (38 percent), children (20 percent), or part of multi-person households<sup>1</sup> (33 percent).

Approximately 68 percent of the 1.6 million sheltered homeless people were homeless as individuals and 32 percent were persons in families. When compared to family members, people who use the homeless residential system as individuals are particularly likely to be men, middle aged (between the ages of 31 and 50), and to have a disability. About 13 percent of sheltered homeless individuals are veterans. By contrast, sheltered homeless families are very likely to be headed by a woman under age 30 without a male partner. A

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<sup>1</sup> This includes multi-adult and multi-child households that are counted in the AHAR as separate individuals, as well as family households composed of at least one adult and one child.

majority of homeless families have 2 or 3 members. Half of all children in families are 5 years old or younger.

In 2008 more than two-thirds of all sheltered homeless people were located in principal cities, with 32 percent located in suburban or rural jurisdictions. Nearly 1 in every 66 persons living in principal cities in the United States accessed a homeless shelter, compared to about 1 in every 450 persons living in suburban or rural areas. Individual sheltered homeless people are more heavily concentrated in urban areas than sheltered homeless families. Seventy-one percent of individuals access residential services for homeless people in principal cities of metropolitan areas (formerly called central cities), compared to 62 percent of persons in families.

About two-fifths of people entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing program during 2008 came from another homeless situation (sheltered or unsheltered), two-fifths came from a housed situation (in their own or someone else's home), and the remaining one-fifth were split between institutional settings or other situations such as hotels or motels. Families were particularly likely to be housed the night before becoming homeless: more than 6 in 10 were either in their own housing unit (19 percent), staying with family (28 percent), or staying with friends (15 percent).

Most people had relatively short lengths of stay in emergency shelters: three-fifths stayed less than a month, and a third stayed a week or less. Stays in transitional housing were longer: about 40 percent stayed 6 months or more in 2008. Nearly 1 in 5 people in transitional housing was there for the entire year.

## **Trends in Sheltered Homelessness, 2007-2008**

The 2008 AHAR is the first to report year-to-year trend information about homelessness in the United States. These estimates compare the HMIS-based data for October 2007 through September 2008 with the data for October 2006 through September 2007. Overall, the total number of sheltered homeless persons was about the same in both 2007 and 2008, about 1.6 million people. Homelessness among individuals remained relatively unchanged, but the rise in family homelessness was considerable, with an increase of 43,000 persons in families, or 9 percent, from 2007. The share of people in families who are sheltered increased from 29 percent to 32 percent.

Sheltered homelessness among individuals may be characterized increasingly by people with relatively high needs. Between 2007 and 2008, the share of sheltered homeless individuals who were in institutional settings (e.g., prisons, jails, or inpatient facilities) the night before they became homeless increased. Also, among persons who provided information, the share of sheltered homeless adults who report a disability increased, and the percentage of individual homeless people with very short stays in emergency shelter declined. These shifts

may suggest that communities have achieved some success in preventing homelessness among individuals with less severe needs, thereby resulting in a sheltered homeless population with greater needs.

The numbers of both sheltered homeless individuals and sheltered homeless family members dropped somewhat in principal cities. The numbers of both populations increased substantially in suburban and rural areas. The share of the sheltered homeless population in suburban and rural areas grew from 23 percent in 2007 to 32 percent in 2008. The increase does not reflect increased capacity of residential programs in suburban and rural areas, but instead more intensive use of that capacity.

The 2008 reporting period ended just as the economic recession was accelerating, thus it may be premature to expect impacts on sheltered homelessness. Nonetheless, there are some possible early indications of how sheltered homelessness may be changing during the economic downturn. The first indication is the rise in family homelessness, which is considered to be more sensitive to economic conditions than homelessness among individuals. Second, between 2007 and 2008 there was a decrease in the share of people who reported they were already homeless prior to entering a homeless residential program and an increase in those who reported that they were living with family or friends the night before entering the homeless residential facility. This could reflect the economic downturn, because people tend to use all alternative housing options before resorting to the shelter system. Finally, a larger percentage of sheltered homeless persons came from stable accommodations prior to entering a facility—that is, they were in the place they spent the night before becoming homeless for a year or more.

## **The Nationwide Capacity of Residential Programs for Homeless People**

In their annual applications to HUD, CoCs submit information on their inventories of residential beds for homeless people. In 2008, CoCs reported a total of 614,042 year-round beds nationwide, almost evenly divided among emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing.

For several years, one of HUD's policy priorities has been the development of permanent supportive housing programs that provide a combination of housing and supportive services to formerly homeless people with disabilities. The number of permanent supportive housing beds in 2008 was 195,724, a 22 percent increase since 2006.

Between 2007 and 2008, the rate at which beds in residential programs were used on an average day increased to 91 percent for emergency shelter and 83 percent for transitional housing. The increase was greatest for transitional housing programs in suburban and rural areas, which experienced a 10 percentage point increase, from 74 to 84 percent.

## Looking Ahead

The 2009 AHAR will continue to provide Congress and the nation with updated counts of homelessness nationwide, including counts of individuals, persons in families, and special population groups such as chronically homeless people and persons with disabilities. The next report will also use HMIS-based trend data for three years, 2007-2009.

The 2009 AHAR will also feature two important additions: a special chapter on homeless veterans and data on HUD's efforts to prevent homelessness and re-house homeless people through the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). The chapter on homeless veterans comes at a time when many service men and women are returning from active duty in Iraq and being deployed to Afghanistan. Thus, the chapter will provide an important baseline understanding of homelessness among veterans that, in turn, can be used to assess how homelessness among veterans may change over time.

Finally, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Congress allocated \$1.5 billion for a Homelessness Prevention Fund, which supports HPRP. The purpose of HPRP is to provide homelessness prevention assistance to households who would otherwise become homeless—many due to the economic crisis—and to provide assistance to rapidly re-house persons who are homeless. HUD will begin collecting data from HPRP programs nationwide and report this information in the 2009 AHAR.



# Chapter 1

## Introduction

This report is the fourth Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) and the first to provide year-to-year trend information on the prevalence of homelessness nationwide, the demographic characteristics of homeless people, and the way homeless people use the residential services system. The report provides the latest counts of homelessness nationwide—including counts of individuals, persons in families, and special population groups such as veterans and persons experiencing chronic homelessness. The report also covers the types of locations where people use emergency shelter and transitional housing; where people were just before they entered a residential program; how much time they spent in shelters over the course of a year; and the size and use of the U.S. inventory of residential programs for homeless people.

This report breaks new ground by being the first AHAR to compare annual sheltered counts from year to year. It is also the first report to compare Point-in-Time (PIT) counts across multiple years. These comparisons are useful for several reasons. First, the comparisons suggest whether homelessness is increasing or decreasing nationwide and thus help to gauge whether the nation’s policy responses are making progress toward preventing and ending homelessness. They also suggest how the portrait of homelessness—or the demographic composition of the homeless population—may be changing over time. This understanding helps both policymakers and practitioners to target particular homeless subpopulations that need additional assistance. Finally, annual comparisons reveal how shelter use patterns may be fluctuating, which, in turn, may prompt funding reallocations to support programs that are in high demand.

### 1.1 History of the AHAR

At the direction of Congress, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) created uniform national data definitions for local Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS), instructed programs receiving HUD McKinney-Vento funding to report to those systems, and encouraged all programs for homeless people—regardless of their funding source—to report data to the HMIS. HMIS implementations have grown stronger over the past several years and, recognizing their usefulness for local planning and policy-making, an increasing number of emergency shelters and transitional housing programs participate in an HMIS. Emergency shelters and transitional housing programs are the primary providers of residential services to homeless persons.

Six years ago, HUD established a nationally representative sample of communities and began working with those and other communities willing to provide their HMIS data to produce unduplicated estimates of users of emergency shelter and transitional housing. An

unduplicated estimate means that each person is counted once during a given time period, even if the person is served multiple times during that period. Since 2005, communities have been submitting unduplicated counts of shelter users as well as other information about their demographic characteristics and patterns of service use for analysis and reporting in the AHAR. HUD has supported local efforts to submit data to the AHAR by providing technical assistance on how to increase participation in HMIS among homeless service providers and on improving the accuracy and reliability of the data. Four reports have been submitted to Congress since HUD launched this effort:

- The first report (2005 AHAR) covered a three-month period in 2005 and was based on HMIS data reported by 63 communities.
- The second AHAR (2006 AHAR) covered six months, January through June 2006, and included information from 74 communities.
- The third AHAR (2007 AHAR) was the first report to cover an entire year, October 2006-September 2007, and serves as the baseline for analyzing trends over time. For this report, the number of communities providing useable data had increased to 98.
- This 2008 AHAR uses HMIS data provided by 222 communities nationwide, covering about 40 percent of the total U.S. population, to produce nationwide estimates of sheltered homelessness. The report covers the period from October 2007 through September 2008.

In addition to supporting data collection through HMIS, HUD has required CoCs to report PIT data collected for a single night in January as part of communities' applications for McKinney-Vento funding. PIT data provide a one-night "snapshot" of homelessness within each CoC. HUD provides technical assistance to communities on how to conduct these PIT counts, focusing on improving the accuracy of the counts by helping communities develop sound enumeration strategies. As a result, the reliability of PIT data has improved greatly over time. The CoC applications also provide information on the inventory of residential programs, beds, and units for homeless people.

## **1.2 AHAR Estimates for 2008**

The AHAR provides two types of estimates. The CoC PIT data provide estimates of all people who are homeless either in shelters or in places not meant for human habitation (colloquially, "the street"). The HMIS data collected for the AHAR make it possible to present one-year estimates of all people who are sheltered homeless at some time during a year. Both types of estimates are important:

- The PIT data provide a total count of all homeless people on a single night in January and describe the share of people who are sheltered (i.e., in emergency shelter or

transitional housing) or unsheltered (i.e., in a place not meant for human habitation) on that night.

- The HMIS data provide a more detailed demographic profile of sheltered homeless people and their use of the residential services system during a one-year period.

The estimated totals for 2008 are that:

- About 664,000 people were homeless—sheltered and unsheltered—on a single night in January 2008.
- About 1.6 million people were homeless in emergency shelters or transitional housing at some point during the year between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2008.

### *Definitions of Key Terms*

1. **Individuals:** The HMIS-based estimates of sheltered homeless individuals include single adults, unaccompanied youth, persons in multi-adult households, and persons in multi-child households. A multi-adult household is a household composed of adults only—no children are present. A multi-child household is composed of children only (e.g., parenting youth)—no adults are present.
2. **One-Year Sheltered Counts:** 12-month counts of homeless persons who use an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time from October through September of the following year. The one-year counts are derived from communities' administrative databases, or Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).
3. **Persons in Families:** The HMIS-based estimates of homeless persons in families include persons in households with at least one adult and one child.
4. **Point-in-Time (PIT) Counts:** One-night counts of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations. The one-night counts are reported on CoC applications and reflect a single-night during the last week in January.
5. **Principal City:** Following guidance from the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, the AHAR replaces the term "central city" with "principal city." The largest city in each metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area is designated a principal city, and other cities may qualify if specified requirements (population size and employment) are met.
6. **Sheltered:** A homeless person who is in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program for homeless persons.
7. **Unsheltered:** A homeless person who is living in a place not meant for human habitation, such as the streets, abandoned buildings, vehicles, parks, and train stations.

Data do not exist to support an unduplicated estimate of the total number of people who are sheltered and unsheltered homeless over the course of a year.<sup>2</sup> However, given the information provided in this report, it is roughly estimated that 2 million people were homeless—sheltered and unsheltered—at some time during 2008.

### 1.3 This Report

*Chapter 2 provides more detail on the “counts” of homeless persons.* The counts are based on the PIT estimates for individuals and members of families who are in shelters and on the streets, as well as the HMIS-based estimates of individuals and families who access a shelter at some time during 2008. The chapter describes trends in the PIT estimates over a three-year period, 2006-2008, and also provides detail on how homelessness varies from state to state and for particular cities.

*Chapter 3 describes the sheltered homeless population in 2008.* The chapter focuses on the demographic characteristics of sheltered homeless people and how they differ from the characteristics of people living in poverty. It also discusses the types of locations where people use emergency shelters and transitional housing programs and how people use residential programs (e.g., which programs they use and how long they stay).

*Chapter 4 focuses on trends in sheltered homelessness between 2007 and 2008.* The chapter describes shifts in the homeless population between individuals and families, the changing geography of homelessness, and changes in the use of the residential system for homeless people. The chapter also reports changes in the patterns of becoming homeless—that is, where people said they were the night before entering an emergency shelter or a transitional housing program and how long they had been there.

*Chapter 5 documents the numbers and locations of residential programs for homeless people,* including emergency shelters, transitional housing programs as well as permanent supportive housing. The chapter also reports how intensively emergency shelters and transitional housing programs are used and how that has changed over time.

Appendix A provides a list of the communities providing useable data to this 2008 AHAR. Appendix B describes the methodology for selecting the nationally representative sample of communities, collecting and cleaning the data, and for weighting and adjusting the data to create the national estimates. Appendix C presents the PIT estimates for each state and CoC. Appendix D consists of detailed tables based on the HMIS data. The tables provide counts of

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<sup>2</sup> Adding the unsheltered count from the Point-in-Time estimate to the HMIS-based one-year count would miss people who were unsheltered on some other night during the year but not when the “street count” was conducted. On the other hand, adding the unsheltered count also would double-count the large fraction of the people who are unsheltered homeless on a particular night but who go to emergency shelters at some time during a year and are already counted in the HMIS data.

sheltered homeless people in numerous categories for 2007 and 2008 and are intended to supplement the information provided in the body of the report.

## **1.4 Trends in Homelessness and the Economic Crisis**

This first year-to-year comparison of HMIS data on sheltered homelessness is of particular interest because of the economic and foreclosure crisis that began in December 2007. Changes across the two years provide an early glimpse at the effect of the recession on homelessness, but the full effect of the economic and foreclosure crisis has yet to be observed in the AHAR. The data collection period for the 2008 AHAR ended on September 30, 2008, just as the crisis was accelerating, yet the impact of the crisis continues to unfold throughout the United States. Also, as suggested in this report as well as in other studies, people who are in jeopardy of losing their homes due to unemployment or foreclosure typically rely on other housing options before resorting to the shelter system. For example, people often stay with family and friends until they either regain their financial footing, move to another location, or become homeless.

Both PIT and HMIS data show that, while homelessness remains predominately an urban phenomenon and most people are homeless as individuals rather than as members of families, homelessness became more common among families between 2007 and 2008. This shift is probably related to the economic crisis, although it is unknown if it will persist.

The data also show that, in spite of the economic crisis, there was a decline in homelessness in urban areas (defined as principal cities of metropolitan areas). This drop may reflect progress communities were making in ending chronic homelessness before the economic downturn. Chronic homelessness refers to individuals who have experienced repeated episodes of homelessness or have been homeless for several years. Ending chronic homelessness has been a national policy objective that has been supported by significant investments in developing permanent supportive housing. For several years communities have reported declines in the number of persons experiencing chronic homelessness.



## Chapter 2

# National Estimates of All Homeless People, Sheltered and Unsheltered

This chapter presents the most recent national estimates of all homeless people in the United States, both those who are in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs and those who are found in the annual “street count” to be in places not meant for human habitation. The chapter presents two types of estimates:

1. *One-night, Point-in-Time (PIT)* counts of both sheltered *and* unsheltered homeless populations are based on data from the CoC applications, which are submitted to HUD annually and indicate the number of homeless persons during the last week in January. The most recent PIT counts for which data are available nationally were conducted in January 2008.<sup>3</sup> PIT counts include the “street counts” that, through a variety of methods, estimate the number of unsheltered homeless people in each community, as well as estimates of sheltered homeless people based on a census of shelter and transitional housing occupants on a particular night.
2. *Counts of the sheltered homeless population over a full year*—that is, people who used emergency shelter or transitional housing programs at some time during the course of the year—are based on the longitudinal HMIS data collected by HUD from a nationally representative sample of communities. These one-year counts of sheltered homeless people account for people who used a residential program for homeless people at any time from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008.

Using both types of estimates, the chapter:

- ***Presents the PIT counts of all sheltered and unsheltered homeless people,*** distinguishing between sheltered and unsheltered homeless people and between people who are homeless as individuals and as members of families. The chapter also describes how these estimates changed between 2006 and 2008 and provides detailed estimates for each state.
- ***Presents the PIT counts of homeless “subpopulations.”*** Subpopulations include people who are chronically homeless; people with severe mental illness and/or

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<sup>3</sup> A communitywide PIT count demands considerable local resources and planning. Therefore, HUD requires communities to conduct PIT counts biennially. In the past, some communities chose to conduct their counts in even-numbered years while others chose odd-numbered years. To synchronize the timing of communities’ PIT counts, HUD required all communities to conduct a count in 2007 and thereafter will require communities to conduct a count in alternating years. Nonetheless, about 67 percent of CoC chose to conduct a PIT count in 2008, which may not be representative of all communities nationwide.

substance abuse issues; veterans; unaccompanied youth; and people living with HIV/AIDS.

- *Presents the one-year estimates of sheltered homeless people based on HMIS data*, which are provided separately for individuals and persons in families. The chapter also describes how those estimates changed between 2007 and 2008. This summary of the one-year estimates is expanded in chapter 3, which discusses demographic characteristics and patterns of sheltered homelessness in 2008, and in chapter 4, which elaborates on trends in sheltered homelessness between 2007 and 2008.

## 2.1 PIT Counts of Homeless People

On a single night in January 2008, there were 664,414 sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons nationwide (see Exhibit 2-1). About 58 percent (386,361) were in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs, while 42 percent (278,053) were unsheltered.

<b>Exhibit 2-1: Homeless Individuals and Persons in Families by Sheltered Status, 2008</b>		
<b>Household Type</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Total</b>		
Sheltered	386,361	58.2%
Unsheltered	278,053	41.8%
Total	664,414	100.0%
<b>Individuals</b>		
Sheltered	204,855	49.3%
Unsheltered	210,347	50.7%
Total	415,202	100.0%
<b>Persons in Families</b>		
Sheltered	181,506	72.8%
Unsheltered	67,706	27.2%
Total	249,212	100.0%

Source: 2008 Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, CoC Point-in-Time Homeless Population and Subpopulations Charts

Approximately three-fifths of those homeless on a single night in January 2008 were individuals, and about two-fifths were homeless as members of families. People who become homeless as individuals have different needs and experiences from parents who become homeless together with their children, and communities often have different approaches and discrete programs designed to serve these two population groups. As shown on Exhibit 2-1, family members were much less likely than individuals to be unsheltered (i.e., in a place not meant for human habitation): 27 percent of homeless family members were unsheltered in January 2008, compared to 51 percent of homeless individuals.



*664,414 people were homeless on a single night in January 2008.*

The higher sheltered rates among persons in families are expected because unsheltered situations can be particularly unsafe for children, and thus families tend to use all available options to avoid unsheltered homelessness. In addition, many communities have explicit policies to reduce the number of children on the streets by using hotel or motel vouchers, churches, and other mechanisms to shelter

homeless children. It is also possible that families who are on the verge of becoming literally homeless have more alternative housing options than homeless individuals because family and friends are less willing to let them go to a place not meant for human habitation. Finally, it is possible that in some communities, families have more access to shelter than individuals because the amount of shelter capacity for homeless families exceeds the need. (See chapter 5 for information on the inventory of residential programs for homeless people.)

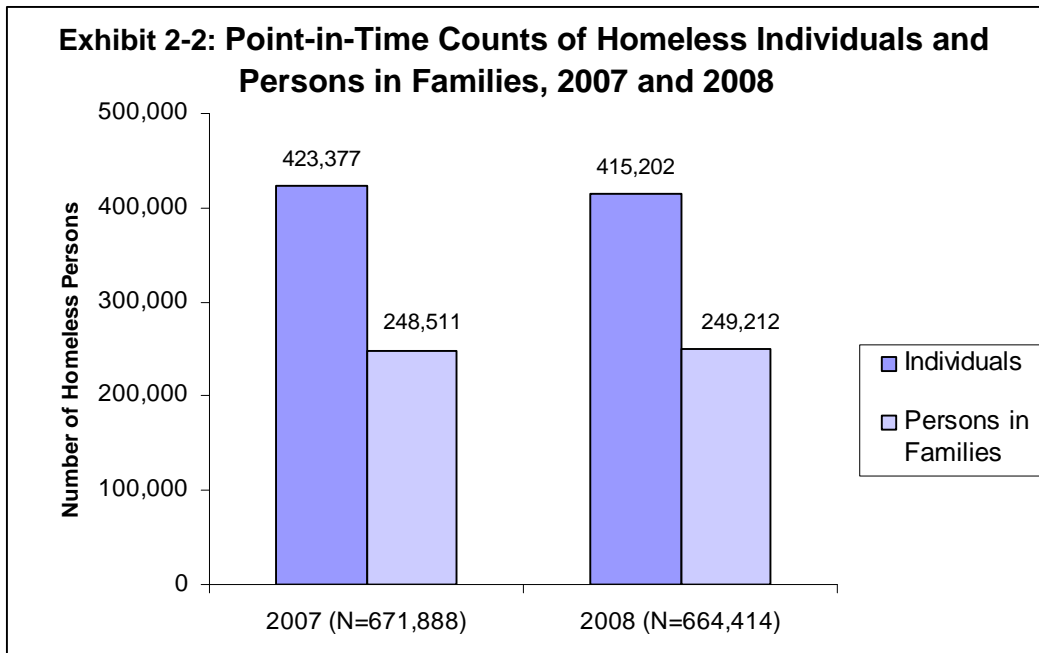
## **2.2 Trends in PIT Counts of Homeless People**

One-day counts of homelessness changed little between 2007 and 2008: the total number of homeless persons decreased by about 1 percent or 7,500 people (see Exhibit 2-2). However, changes are more pronounced when considering homeless individuals and persons in families separately. The number of homeless individuals on a single night in January dropped by 2 percent (about 8,200 people), while the number of homeless families increased very slightly (700 people in families). Accordingly, persons in families constitute a slightly larger share of the total homeless population (38 percent) in 2008 when compared to the estimates for 2007 (37 percent).<sup>4</sup> As discussed later in this chapter and in chapter 4, the shift toward families between 2007 and 2008 was more pronounced on the one-year count of sheltered homeless people—that is, among people who were in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs at some time during the course of a year.

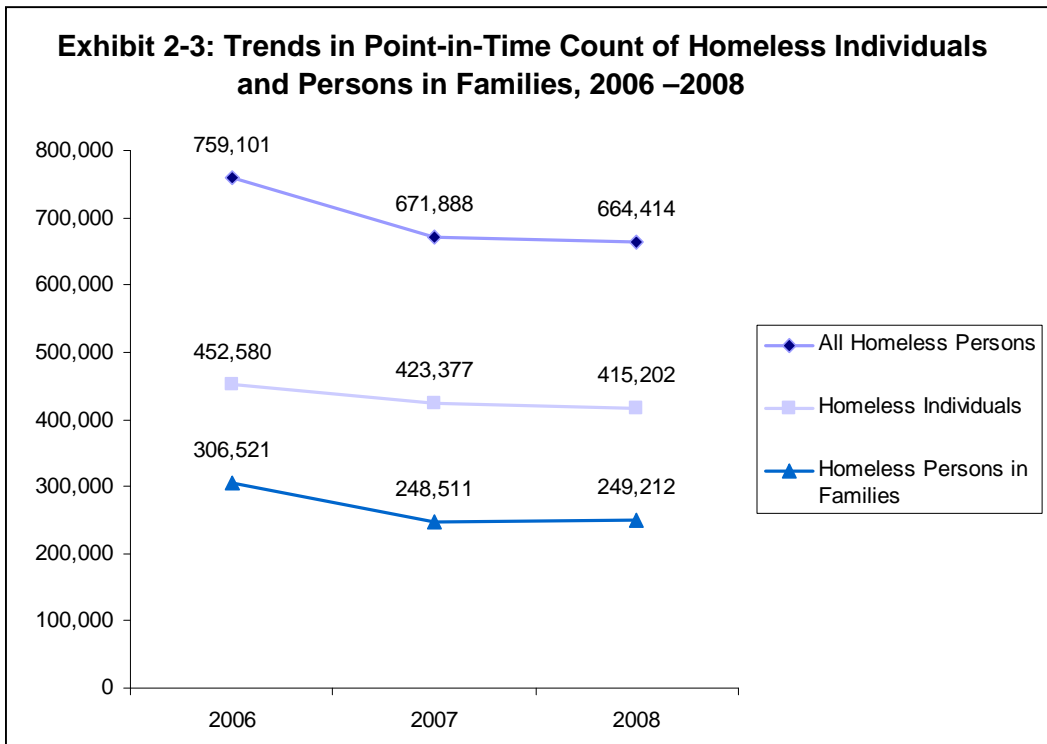
The number of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January declined much more over the two-year period, 2006 to 2008 (see Exhibit 2-3). From 2006 to 2008, the total number of homeless persons dropped 13 percent (from 763,000 to 664,400), the number of homeless individuals declined 8 percent (or about -37,000 people), and the number of persons in families declined 19 percent (or -57,000 people). However, the declines leveled in 2008.

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<sup>4</sup> The decrease in homelessness among individuals and the increase among persons in families are also observed if the comparison of PIT data is limited to CoCs that conducted new counts in both 2007 and 2008. About 67 percent of CoCs conducted counts in both years. Among these CoCs, the total number of homeless persons decreased by less than one percent (or -2,000 people), including a 2 percent decrease among homeless individuals (-3,330 people) and a 1 percent increase among homeless persons in families (1,300 people). A communitywide PIT count demands considerable local resources and planning. Therefore, HUD requires communities to conduct PIT counts biennially—beginning in 2007 and every other year thereafter.



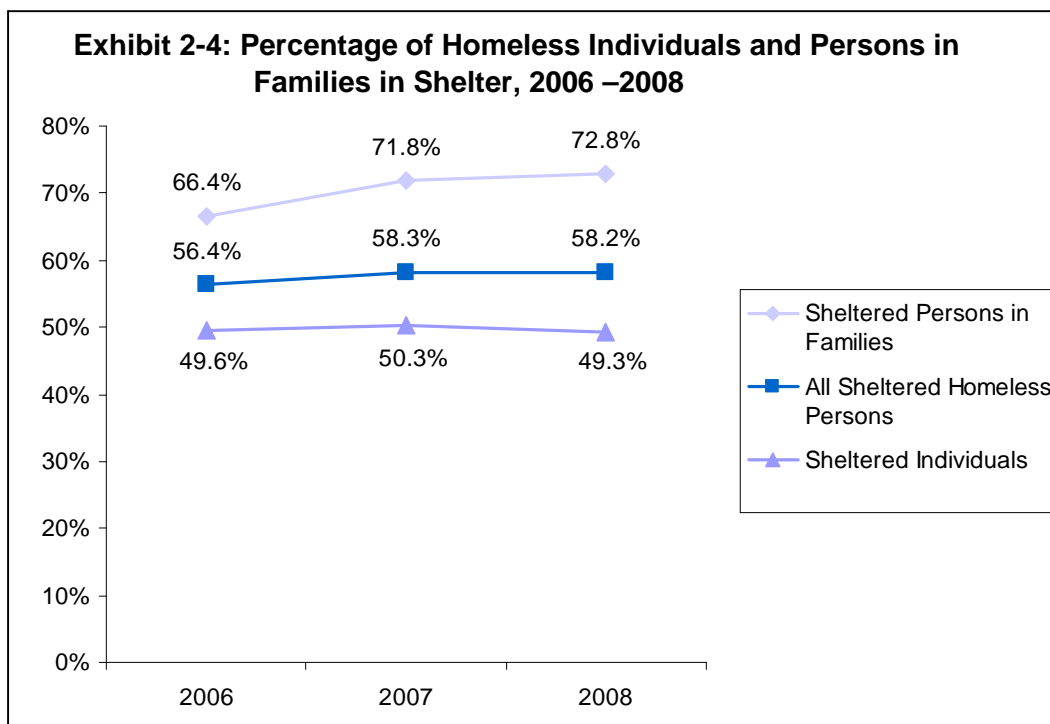
Source: 2007 and 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Point-in-Time Homeless Population and Subpopulations Charts



Source: 2006 through 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Point-in-Time Homeless Population and Subpopulations Charts

Most of the decline took place between 2006 and 2007, rather than between 2007 and 2008. As noted in the 2007 AHAR, some of the decline between 2006 and 2007 may have been associated with improved methods for counting people, especially unsheltered persons who may be scattered throughout a community and hidden from enumerators who conduct the “street count.” For example, anecdotal evidence suggests that communities have improved their ability to identify and canvass areas with known homeless populations and develop appropriate statistical techniques to account for people who may have been missed through direct observation. By 2008, many communities had well-developed PIT count methods, and the estimates derived from these methods are reasonably reliable.

According to the PIT data, the percentages of homeless people who were sheltered or unsheltered did not change for individuals between 2007 and 2008 or over the two-year period, as shown in Exhibit 2-4. However, sheltered rates among homeless persons in families increased from 66 percent in 2006 to nearly 73 percent in 2008. This finding may reflect improved standardization in the methods for counting the unsheltered homeless population.



Source: 2006 through 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Point-in-Time Homeless Population and Subpopulations Charts

### State PIT Counts of Homeless Persons

Exhibit 2-5 presents the percentage of each state’s population represented by homeless persons on a single night in January 2008. The percentages are ranked from highest to lowest. (Appendix C provides the detailed PIT count information by state and Continuum of

Care). On a single night in January 2008, the states with the highest concentrations of homeless people were Oregon (0.54 percent or 20,653 people), Nevada (0.48 percent or 12,610 people), Hawaii (0.47 percent or 6,061 people), and California (0.43 percent or 157,277 people). These states also had high concentrations of homeless people in 2006 and 2007. Mississippi, South Dakota, and Kansas had the nation's lowest concentration of homeless persons.

**Exhibit 2-5: Estimates of Homeless Persons as a Percent of State's Total Population, 2008<sup>1</sup>**

Rank <sup>2</sup>	State	%	#	Rank <sup>2</sup>	State	%	#
1	Oregon	0.54%	20,653	26	Wyoming	0.14%	751
2	Nevada	0.48%	12,610	27	Connecticut	0.13%	4,627
3	Hawaii	0.47%	6,061		Missouri	0.13%	7,687
4	California	0.43%	157,277		North Carolina	0.13%	12,411
5	Washington	0.34%	21,954		South Carolina	0.13%	5,660
6	New York	0.31%	61,125		Utah	0.13%	3,434
7	Colorado	0.30%	14,747	32	Alabama	0.12%	5,387
8	Michigan	0.28%	28,248		Indiana	0.12%	7,395
9	Florida	0.27%	50,158		Louisiana	0.12%	5,481
10	Alaska	0.24%	1,646		Pennsylvania	0.12%	15,378
11	Massachusetts	0.22%	14,506	36	Arkansas	0.11%	3,255
12	Nebraska	0.22%	3,985		Delaware	0.11%	933
13	Georgia	0.20%	19,095		Illinois	0.11%	14,724
	Maine	0.20%	2,632		Iowa	0.11%	3,346
15	Arizona	0.19%	12,488		Ohio	0.11%	12,912
	Kentucky	0.19%	8,137		Oklahoma	0.11%	3,846
17	Texas	0.17%	40,190		Rhode Island	0.11%	1,196
18	Maryland	0.16%	9,219		Virginia	0.11%	8,469
	New Jersey	0.16%	13,832		West Virginia	0.11%	2,016
	Tennessee	0.16%	9,705	45	Idaho	0.10%	1,464
21	Minnesota	0.15%	7,644		North Dakota	0.10%	615
	Montana	0.15%	1,417		Wisconsin	0.10%	5,449
	New Hampshire	0.15%	2,019	48	Mississippi	0.07%	1,961
	New Mexico	0.15%	3,015		South Dakota	0.07%	579
	Vermont	0.15%	954	50	Kansas	0.06%	1,738

<sup>1</sup> District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Territories are not included: District of Columbia (1.02% or 6,044 people), Puerto Rico (0.08% or 3,012 people), Virgin Islands (0.55% or 602 people), and Guam (0.47% or 725 people).

<sup>2</sup> Rank is based on the number of homeless persons as a percent of the state's total population.

Sources: 2008 Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, CoC Point-in-Time Homeless Population and Subpopulations Chart; 2007 American Community Survey

More than half of all homeless people were found in just five states on a single night in January 2008: California (157,277), New York (61,125), Florida (50,158), Texas (40,190), and Michigan (28,248). Their share is disproportionate, as these states constitute only 36 percent of the total U.S. population. Also, several western states had high concentrations of homeless persons, including Oregon, Nevada, California, and Washington.

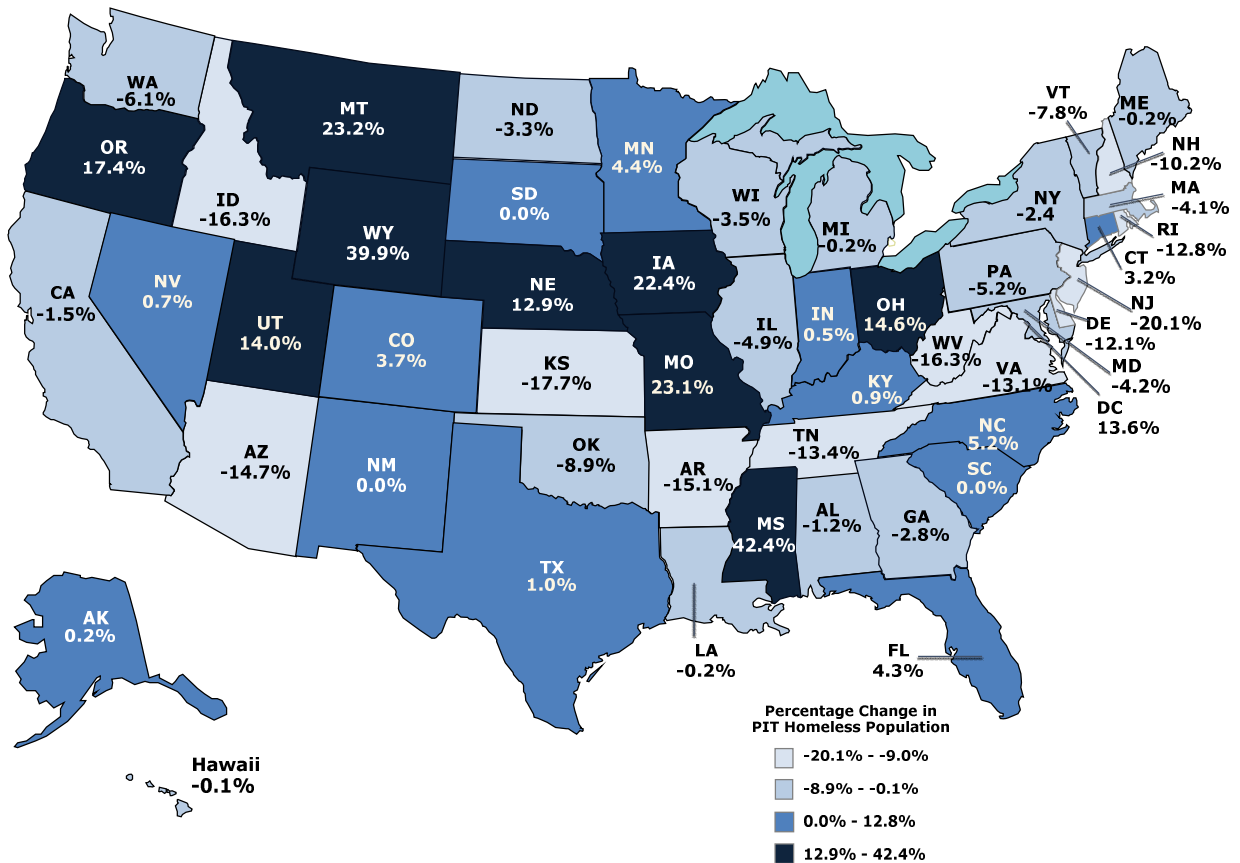
In 2008, only eight states had higher shares of their homeless population in unsheltered locations than in shelters: California (70 percent unsheltered), Colorado (53 percent), Florida (59 percent), Georgia (54 percent), Hawaii (55 percent), Michigan (58 percent), Nevada (61 percent), and Oregon (52 percent). With the exception of Colorado and Michigan, all of these states are located in the South and Southwest where the warmer weather may make living in unsheltered locations more tenable.

- *1 of every 200 people in Oregon, Nevada and Hawaii is homeless.*
- *1 of every 230 people in California is homeless.*

Exhibit 2-6 displays the percentage change in the size of the homeless population by state from 2007 to 2008. During this period, just over half (28 out of 50) of the states experienced a decline in their total PIT homeless population, resulting in nearly 20,000 fewer homeless persons in these jurisdictions on the night of the January PIT count.

The states that experienced the largest reductions in their homeless populations between 2007 and 2008 were West Virginia and Idaho (-16 percent), Arkansas and Arizona (-15 percent), and Tennessee and Virginia (-13 percent). Conversely, several states—especially states that are predominantly rural—witnessed large increases in their homeless populations, such as Mississippi (42 percent), Wyoming (40 percent), Montana and Missouri (23 percent), and Iowa (22 percent). Some of these states had relatively small numbers of homeless persons and thus slight changes in these numbers could result in large percentage changes. (The appendices in the report provide further details by state.) Nonetheless, an increase in homelessness among rural communities is also evident in the HMIS-based estimates, as discussed in chapter 4.

**Exhibit 2-6: Percentage Change in the Point-in-Time Estimates of Homeless Persons by State, 2007-2008**



Source: 2007 and 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Point-in-Time Homeless Population and Subpopulations Charts

Despite some increases in homelessness in rural areas, urban areas represented a large percentage of the total homeless population in many states in 2008. For example:

- Arizona: Nearly 6 in 10 homeless persons (58 percent) were located in the Phoenix/Mesa/Maricopa County CoC.
- Arkansas: More than one-half of the total homeless population (56 percent) was located in the Little Rock/Central Arkansas CoC.
- California: The Los Angeles City and County CoC had 44 percent of California’s total homeless population.
- Colorado: Nearly 6 in 10 homeless persons (58 percent) were located in the Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative CoC.
- Illinois: The Chicago CoC accounted for 41 percent of all homeless persons in Illinois.
- Michigan: Almost two-thirds of homeless persons (64 percent) were located in the Detroit CoC.

- Nevada: The Las Vegas/Clark County CoC contained 91 percent of the state’s total homeless population.
- New Mexico: Albuquerque served more than 4 in 10 (42 percent) of the state’s homeless population.
- New York: More than 8 of 10 homeless persons (82 percent) were located in the New York City CoC.
- Pennsylvania: The Philadelphia CoC served nearly one-half of the homeless population (45 percent) in the state.
- Utah: Two-thirds of homeless persons (67 percent) were located in Salt Lake City and County CoC.

On the night of the January 2008 PIT count, one in five homeless persons (20 percent) was located in Los Angeles, New York, and Detroit.

### 2.3 PIT Counts of Homeless Subpopulations

Information from CoC applications also includes counts of particular homeless subpopulations: people who are chronically homeless; people with severe mental illness; people who have substance abuse problems; veterans; unaccompanied youth; and people living with HIV/AIDS. Estimates of homeless subpopulations are only of sheltered homeless people.

*About 124,000 of those found homeless on a single night in January 2008 were chronically homeless people.*

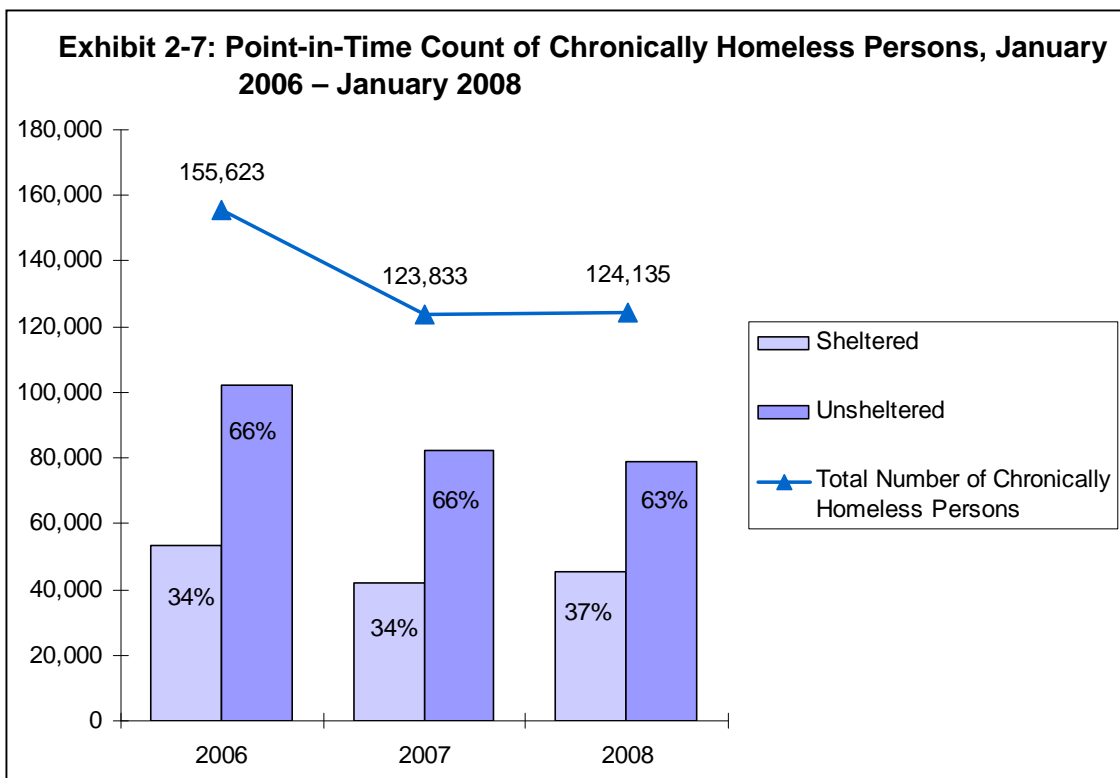
For many years, national policy was focused on ending chronic homelessness through funding incentives to develop permanent supportive housing and through the dissemination of best practice strategies for reducing chronic homelessness. Measuring the scope of chronic homelessness remains challenging, because the definition of chronic homelessness<sup>5</sup> is based on both historical information about a person’s experiences being homeless and specific demographic characteristics, and because communities have difficulty collecting such information for their PIT counts. Thus, the PIT estimates of chronically homeless persons reported in CoC applications should continue to be interpreted as *approximations*.

On a single night in January 2008, CoCs reported a total of 124,135 persons experiencing chronic homelessness or about 19 percent of the total homeless population and 30 percent of homeless individuals. The number of chronically homeless persons declined considerably between 2006 and

<sup>5</sup> A chronically homeless person is defined as an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. To be considered chronically homeless, a person must have been on the streets or in emergency shelter (e.g., not in transitional or permanent housing) during these stays.

2007, but was level between 2007 and 2008 (Exhibit 2-7). The PIT count of chronically homeless persons in 2008 is nearly identical to the count in 2007 (the difference is +302 people). The proportion of sheltered, chronically homeless persons has increased slightly from the previous two years, from 34 percent in 2006 and 2007 to 37 percent in 2008.

Comparing the 2008 count with previous estimates should be done with care, especially for subpopulations, because about one-third of CoCs did not conduct a new PIT count in 2008, but rather reported counts from their 2007 enumeration on their 2008 application. However, if the analysis is restricted to CoCs that conducted actual counts in 2007 *and* 2008, the number of chronically homeless persons remains essentially the same. Nonetheless, several large cities that did counts in both 2007 and 2008 reported sizable declines in the number of persons who were chronically homeless: New York City (-26 percent); Phoenix (-20 percent); Philadelphia (-8 percent); and Boston (-7 percent).



Source: 2006 through 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Point-in-Time Homeless Population and Subpopulations Charts

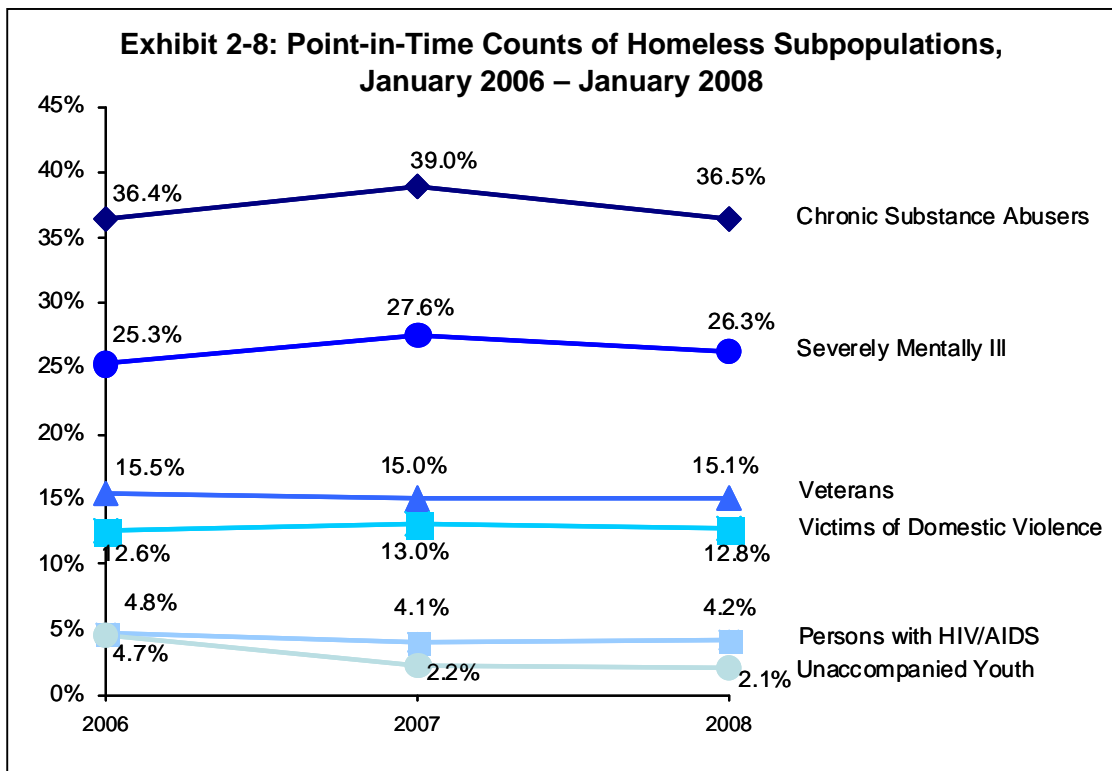
CoCs also report counts of other sheltered subpopulations in their applications. According to this information, on a single night in January 2008:

- Veterans represented about 15 percent of the total sheltered adult population.



- Persons living with HIV/AIDS accounted for 4 percent of sheltered adults and unaccompanied youth.
- Recent victims of domestic violence comprised almost 13 percent of all sheltered persons.
- Persons with severe mental illness represented about 26 percent of all sheltered homeless persons.
- Persons with chronic substance abuse issues accounted for 37 percent of sheltered adults.
- Unaccompanied youth represented 2 percent of the sheltered homeless population.<sup>6</sup>

The PIT estimates of homeless subpopulations are remarkably consistent for 2006, 2007, and 2008 (Exhibit 2-8). The proportion of sheltered homeless persons in each category fluctuates by a few percentage-points across the years, but generally, the patterns are level.



Source: 2006 through 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Point-in-Time Homeless Population and Subpopulations Charts

<sup>6</sup> Information on homeless subpopulations may not be collected from all homeless persons, and as a result, the percentages reported in this report are based on different homeless populations (as the denominator in the percentage calculation). Subpopulation information is collected from sheltered adults only, sheltered adults and unaccompanied youth, or all sheltered persons.

## 2.4 Estimates of Sheltered Homeless Individuals and Families During a One-Year Period

This section provides the estimates of the sheltered homeless population based on HMIS data that covers a 12-month reporting period. The estimates account for homeless people who used an emergency shelter and/or a transitional housing program at any time from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008. The annual estimates are based on an unduplicated count of persons served in emergency shelters and/or transitional housing, meaning that persons who used several residential facilities during the one-year reporting period are counted only once. The estimates are based on 427,201 records of homeless persons from 222 jurisdictions nationwide, statistically adjusted to produce the national estimates.

### *Who is Counted in the One-Year HMIS-based Estimates Reported in the AHAR?*

The one-year estimates account for sheltered homeless people who used an emergency shelter and/or a transitional housing program at any time from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008.

The estimates do not account for:

1. Homeless persons who lived on the streets or in places not meant for human habitation *and* did not access a residential homeless program during the one-year reporting period.
2. Homeless persons who used only a domestic violence shelter *and* did not access a residential homeless program that serves the general homeless population.<sup>a</sup>
3. Homeless persons in the U.S. Territories or Puerto Rico.

<sup>a</sup> Domestic violence shelters include rape crisis centers, battered women's shelters, domestic violence transitional housing programs, and other programs whose primary mission is to provide services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Pursuant to the Violence against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005, domestic violence shelter providers are prohibited from entering client information into an HMIS.

### **Estimate of Sheltered Homeless Persons during a One-Year Period**

About 1,594,000 persons used an emergency shelter or a transitional housing program during the 12-month period October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008, suggesting that about 1 in every 190 persons in the United States used a homeless residential facility at some point

during that time (see Exhibit 2-9).<sup>7</sup> The nation’s sheltered homeless population included approximately 1,092,612 individuals (68.6 percent) and 516,724 persons in families (32.4 percent). Considered as households rather than separate people, there were 159,142 sheltered homeless families, representing about 14.4 percent of all sheltered homeless households.<sup>8</sup>

<b>Exhibit 2-9: Estimates of Sheltered Homeless Individuals and Persons in Families During a One-Year Period, 2007-2008</b>				
	<b>2007</b>		<b>2008</b>	
	<b>Total Number</b>	<b>% of Sheltered Homeless Population</b>	<b>Total Number</b>	<b>% of Sheltered Homeless Population</b>
<b>Total Number of Sheltered Persons<sup>a</sup></b>	1,588,595 <sup>c</sup>	100%	1,593,794 <sup>c</sup>	100%
Individuals <sup>b</sup>	1,115,054 <sup>d</sup>	70.2%	1,092,612 <sup>d</sup>	68.6%
Persons in families	473,541 <sup>d</sup>	29.8%	516,724 <sup>d</sup>	32.4%
<b>Number of Sheltered Households with Children</b>	130,968	—	159,142	—

<sup>a</sup> These estimated totals reflect the number of homeless persons in the 50 states and the District of Columbia who used emergency shelters or transitional housing programs during the one-year period from October 1 through September 30 of the following year. The estimates do not cover the U.S. Territories and Puerto Rico and do not include persons served by “victim service providers.” The estimated totals include an extrapolation adjustment to account for people who use emergency shelters and transitional housing programs but whose jurisdictions do not yet participate in their respective HMIS. However, a homeless person who does not use an emergency shelter or transitional housing during the 12-month period is not included in this estimate. Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

<sup>b</sup> This category includes unaccompanied adults and youth as well as multi-adult households without children.

<sup>c</sup> This estimate includes unaccompanied individuals and persons in households. In 2007, the 95 percent confidence interval for the estimated number of sheltered homeless persons in the population was 1,043,775 to 2,133,415 persons (or +/- 544,820 persons). In 2008, the 95 percent confidence interval is 1,180,758 to 2,006,830 (or +/- 413,036 persons).

<sup>d</sup> In both 2007 and 2008, approximately 1 percent of homeless persons were served both as an unaccompanied individual and a person in a family. In this exhibit, such people appear in both categories in 2008, so the total number of sheltered persons is slightly less than the sum of individuals and families.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

The total number of sheltered homeless persons was fairly stable between 2007 and 2008, increasing slightly by about 5,200 people (or 0.3 percent). However, the household composition of the sheltered homeless population shifted appreciably. Homelessness among individuals remained relatively unchanged, whereas homelessness among persons in families increased by about 43,000 (or 9 percent). Accordingly, the share of family households among all sheltered households also increased, by nearly 3 percentage points, from 11.7

<sup>7</sup> According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the estimated total U.S. population was 304,059,724 persons on July 1, 2008.

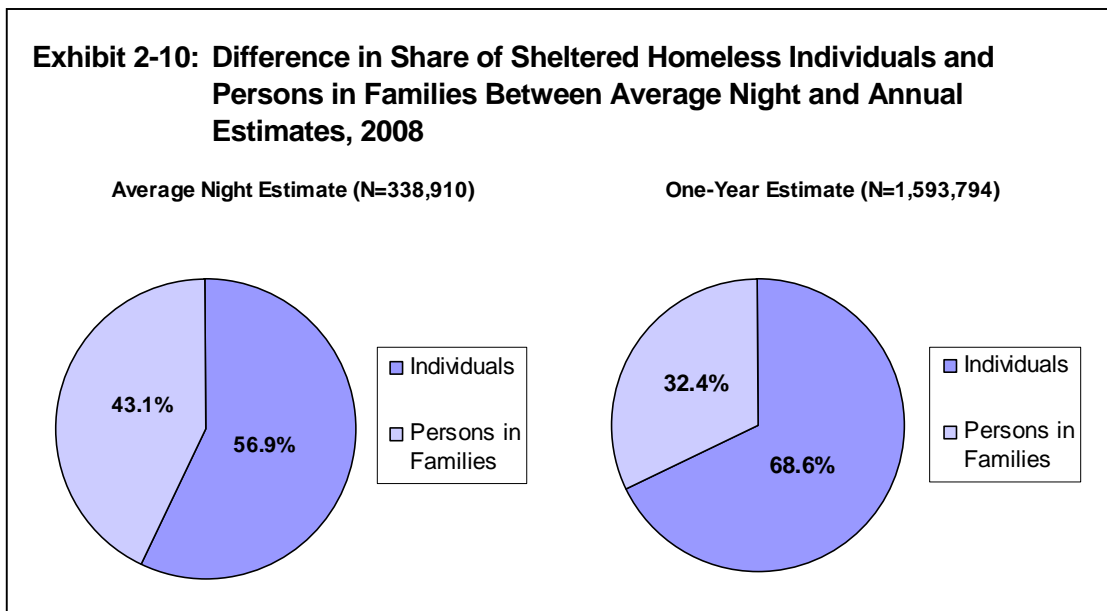
<sup>8</sup> There were 1,092,612 homeless individuals, nearly all of whom were individual adult males, individual adult females, or unaccompanied youth. There were also 20,488 adults in multi-adult households. Assuming 2 adults per multi-adult household and each individual as a household, the percent of households that were families is 14.4 percent (or 159,142 divided by 1,102,856).

percent in 2007 to 14.4 percent in 2008. Chapter 4 explores trends in sheltered homelessness among individuals and persons in families in greater detail.

*Although national estimates of the sheltered homeless population show little change since 2007, homelessness increased by 9 percent among persons in families.*

The share of sheltered homeless people who are individuals or persons in families differs between the one-day count and the count over the course of a year (see Exhibit 2-10). In 2008, about 338,900 people were in an emergency shelter or a transitional housing program on an average day, about 21 percent of the total annual estimate. On an average night, individuals represented 57 percent of the sheltered population, and persons in families represented 43 percent.<sup>9</sup> However, the one-day estimates of the split

between individuals and family members were very different from the one-year-estimates, which show that individuals comprised about 68 percent of people in shelters at some time during the year were individuals and only 32 percent were persons in families.



Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008

The larger share of persons in families on an average day compared to a longer period is a pattern that has been observed in previous Annual Homeless Assessment Reports. The pattern highlights how individuals and persons in families use shelter differently. Families stay in shelters for longer periods than individuals. As a result, persons in families are more

<sup>9</sup> The HMIS-based estimate for an average day between October 2007 and September 2008 was only slightly lower than the PIT estimate for a particular day in January 2008: about 386,400 people, of whom 53 percent were individuals and 47 percent persons in families.

likely to be present on any particular day, and the share of persons in families will be higher on an average day than over the course of a year. The share of sheltered homeless people represented by persons in families diminishes over time (e.g., 3 months, 6 months, or 12 months) as more individuals cycle in and out of the shelter system.<sup>10</sup> Chapter 3 provides more detail on the patterns of shelter use for homeless individuals and families.

## 2.5 Summary of the National Estimates of All Homeless People

In summary, the single-night, PIT count estimates are that:

- 664,000 people were homeless in shelters or unsheltered, a 1 percent decline from 2007. More than three-fifths (62 percent) were individuals and about two-fifths (38 percent) were persons in families.
- Nearly 6 in 10 homeless persons (58 percent) were in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program and the rest were unsheltered—that is, in places not meant for human habitation.
- In 2008, states with the highest estimates of homeless persons as a percent of each state’s total population were Oregon, Nevada, and Hawaii (1 in every 200 people) and California (1 in every 230 people). These states also had high concentrations of homeless persons in both 2006 and 2007. Homelessness continues to be concentrated in CoCs that cover major U.S. cities.

The one-year estimates based on HMIS are that:

- About 1,594,000 people used an emergency shelter and/or a transitional housing program during the 12-month period October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008, suggesting that about 1 in every 190 people in the United States experienced sheltered homelessness.
- The total number of sheltered homeless persons remained relatively unchanged between 2007 and 2008. However, whereas homelessness among individuals was fairly stable, homelessness among persons in families increased by about 9 percent.

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<sup>10</sup> The 2007 Annual Homeless Assessment Report provides estimates of seasonal trends in the number of sheltered homeless people and the split between individuals and families, showing that estimates of the number of homeless individuals peak in January and reach their lowest point in October. Estimates of sheltered persons in families do not vary as much; they are highest during April and lowest in October. The 2008 HMIS-based estimates of seasonal trends are similar.



## Chapter 3

# Sheltered Homeless People in 2008

This chapter provides a profile of the roughly 1.6 million people who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at some time from October 2007 through September 2008. The chapter is based on HMIS data reported by 222 jurisdictions nationwide, weighted to represent the entire nation. The chapter focuses on:

- ***The demographic characteristics of sheltered homeless people.*** Who were the sheltered homeless? How did the characteristics of homeless persons compare to those of the overall population living in poverty and the U.S. population as a whole?
- ***The location of homeless service use.*** In what types of communities (urban, suburban or rural) did people use emergency and transitional housing programs? Where did they stay before using residential homeless services?
- ***The patterns of homeless service use.*** How did people use emergency and transitional housing programs? How long did people stay in homeless residential facilities?

Each of these topics is discussed for the total sheltered population and then separately for individuals and for persons in families. The HMIS-based estimates of sheltered homeless individuals include single adults, unaccompanied youth, persons in multi-adult households, and persons in multi-child households. A multi-adult household is a household composed of adults only—no children are present. A multi-child household is composed of children only (e.g., parenting youth)—no adults are present. The HMIS-based estimates of homeless persons in families include persons in households with at least one adult *and* one child.

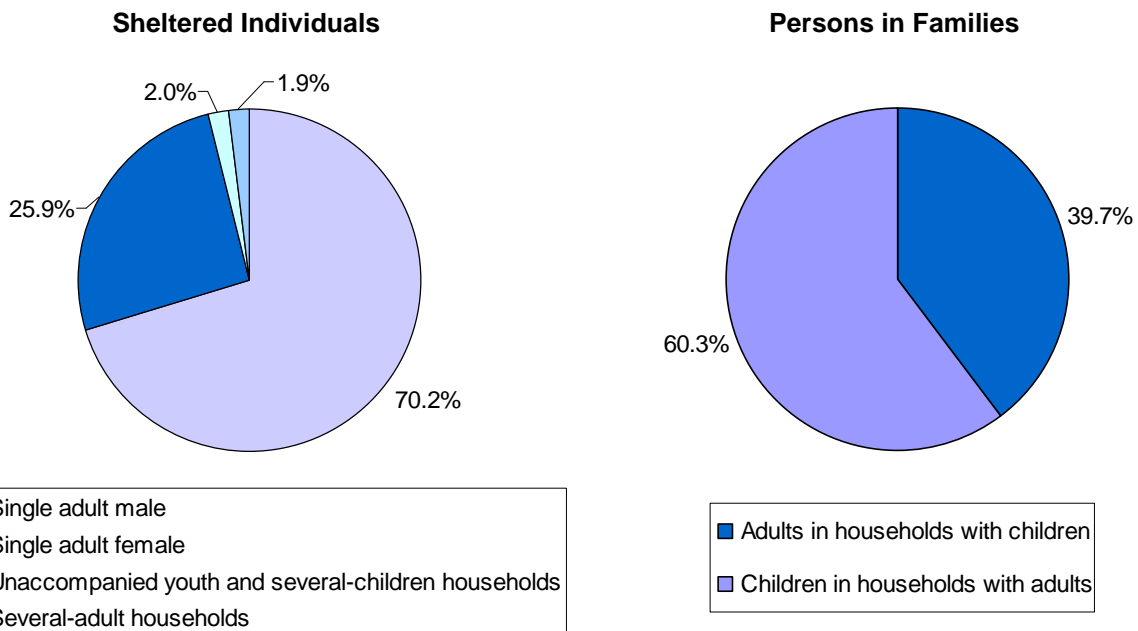
### 3.1 Characteristics of People Using Homeless Shelters, 2008

Approximately 68 percent of the 1,594,000 sheltered homeless people were homeless as individuals and 32 percent were persons in families. As displayed in Exhibit 3-1, more than two-thirds of sheltered individuals were single adult men, and about one-quarter were single adult women. Very few people were homeless together with other adults but no children, and very few were unaccompanied or parenting youth. Among persons in families, 60 percent were children under age 18, and 40 percent were adults.

#### ***Characteristics of All Sheltered Persons, 2008***

- *Adult men (64 percent of adults)*
- *Minority (62 percent of all persons)*
- *Age 31 to 50 (40 percent of all persons)*
- *Alone (67 percent of all persons)*
- *Disabled (43 percent of all adults)*

### Exhibit 3-1: Household Composition of Sheltered Individuals and Persons in Families, 2008



Sources: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008

#### Characteristics of All Sheltered Persons

A homeless person looks similar to a low-income housing tenant or other poor person, but considerably different from a typical person in the overall U.S. population (see Exhibit 3-2). Among the most common demographic features of sheltered homeless persons they are: male,<sup>11</sup> members of minority groups, older than age 31, and alone. More than two-fifths of sheltered homeless persons are disabled.<sup>12</sup> This demographic profile is likely to agree with commonly held perceptions about who is homeless in the United States. But while accurate, these perceptions should not overlook sizable segments of the sheltered homeless population that are white, non-Hispanic (38 percent), children (20 percent), homeless together with at least one other person (33 percent), or veterans (12 percent).

<sup>11</sup> Males represent 63 percent of the sheltered adult population and 61 percent of all sheltered homeless people. The gender of children who are homeless is almost evenly split between males and females, similar to the overall U.S. population.

<sup>12</sup> According to HUD's HMIS Data and Technical Standards (69 FR 45888, July 30, 2004), a disabling condition includes a diagnosable substance abuse disorder. However, the U.S. Census Bureau does not include substance abuse disorders as a form of disability, and thus the broader definition used by HUD is likely to result in larger estimates of homeless persons with disabilities compared to the U.S. poverty and general population.



### Exhibit 3-2 Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Persons in 2008 Compared to the 2007 U.S. and Poverty Populations

Characteristic	Percentage of All Sheltered Homeless Persons, 2008	Percentage of the 2007 U.S. Poverty Population	Percentage of the 2007 U.S. Population
<b>Gender of Adults</b>			
Male	64.0%	39.9%	48.7%
Female	36.0%	60.1%	51.3%
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	80.5%	75.7%	85.0%
Hispanic/Latino	19.5%	24.3%	15.0%
<b>Race</b>			
White, Non-Hispanic	37.9%	45.7%	65.8%
White, Hispanic	11.6%	12.9%	8.1%
Black or African American	41.7%	23.1%	12.4%
Other Single Race	3.4%	15.5%	11.5%
Multiple Races	5.4%	2.8%	2.2%
<b>Age <sup>a</sup></b>			
Under age 18	20.4%	34.0%	24.6%
18 to 30	22.5%	23.6%	18.1%
31 to 50	40.3%	22.2%	28.6%
51 to 61	14.0%	8.9%	13.6%
62 and older	2.8%	11.0%	15.2%
<b>Household Size <sup>b</sup></b>			
1 person	66.7%	37.3%	47.5%
2 people	9.3%	4.8%	2.2%
3 people	9.5%	13.0%	11.5%
4 people	7.0%	16.7%	18.2%
5 or more people	7.5%	28.2%	20.5%
<b>Special Populations</b>			
Veteran (adults only) <sup>c</sup>	11.6%	5.1%	10.5%
Disabled (adults only) <sup>c</sup>	42.8%	30.7%	17.7%

<sup>a</sup> Age is calculated based on a person's first time in shelter during the one-year reporting period.

<sup>b</sup> If a person is part of multiple households or the household size changed during the reporting period, the household size reflects the size of the first household in which the person presented during the one-year reporting time period.

<sup>c</sup> Veteran and disability status are recorded only for adults in HMIS. The percentage calculations shown indicate the percent of homeless adults with this characteristic. Numerous records were missing information on disability status (22.0 percent) and veteran status (7.5 percent) in 2008. The percentage calculations include only persons whose disability and veteran status was known.

Sources: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008; 2007 American Community Survey

Nonetheless, the demographic groups that are overrepresented in the homeless population relative to the U.S. population as a whole are African Americans, adult males, single-person households, people age 31 to 50, and people with a disability. Veterans are also slightly overrepresented in the homeless population when compared to the overall U.S. population.

**African Americans.** In 2008, African Americans comprised 41.7 percent of the homeless population, almost 3.5 times their share of the U.S. population. African Americans are disproportionately represented in the poverty population, but they are even more disproportionately represented in the homeless population. They represent a share of the homeless population 1.8 times higher than their share of the poverty population.

The disproportionate representation of African Americans in the homeless population is related to urban concentrations of homelessness. According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, about 53 percent of the African American population lives in principal cities compared to 23 percent of the white non-Hispanic population and 47 percent of the white Hispanic population.

**Adult males.** Adult men were heavily overrepresented in the homeless population. More than three-fifths of homeless adults were men (64.0 percent) compared to 48.7 percent of the overall population and only 39.9 percent of the poverty population. The large proportion of adult men in the shelter system probably reflected several factors. Single men who are poor may be more vulnerable to homelessness because of large gaps in the Unemployment Insurance program and because the largest safety net programs, such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Social Security, are for families or elderly people. The share of unemployed workers receiving unemployment insurance has declined in recent decades and is currently only 37 percent.<sup>13</sup> The sizable gap in unemployment insurance coverage may be particularly perilous for men because poor women are likely to be accompanied by children and thus eligible for TANF. Adult poor men also have higher rates of substance abuse than women, but substance abuse has not been a categorical eligibility criterion for SSI since 1996. Thus, some women may fall through one social safety net but be caught by another; men may miss them all.

In addition, men are more likely than women to have institutional histories that are related to homelessness, including incarceration. And finally, relatives may feel a stronger need to give a temporary home to families with children than they do to single men.

However, the share of sheltered homeless men reported in the AHAR may be artificially high. Some shelters have policies prohibiting men over a certain age from sleeping in family shelters, requiring men and teenage boys to stay at men's shelters alone. As a result, some of

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<sup>13</sup> Stone, Chad, Robert Greenstein, and Martha Coven. 2007. *Addressing Longstanding Gaps in Unemployment Insurance Coverage*. Washington D.C.: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

the men who are being counted in the AHAR as unaccompanied individuals may be part of intact families that are housed elsewhere.<sup>14</sup> Also, the HMIS data presented here do not include adults served by domestic violence providers, most of whom are women.

**Single-person households.** Two-thirds (67 percent) of the total sheltered population were in single-person households, nearly 2 times the proportion of these households in poverty and about 1.5 times the national proportion. As shown in Exhibit 3-1, most homeless people in single-person households were men, and thus the reasons both single-person households and men are disproportionately represented in the sheltered homeless population are likely the same.

**People age 31 to 50.** Two-fifths (40 percent) of the sheltered homeless population were between the ages of 31 to 50, compared to only 29 percent of the total U.S. population and 22 percent of the poverty population. Middle-aged people may be more likely to be homeless because substance abuse or mental illness issues become more acute during this life stage. If people have struggled for a while because of mental health, substance abuse, or financial issues, by age 30 or older they may have exhausted their alternatives for living with friends and family. The shelter system may be their last remaining option.

**People with disabilities.** Among adults, 17.7 percent of the U.S. population had a disability whereas an estimated 42.8 percent of sheltered homeless adults had a disability.<sup>15</sup> A disability, particularly one relating to substance abuse or mental health issues, can make it difficult to work enough to afford housing. Indeed, the higher share of adults with disabilities in the poverty population (30.7 percent) relative to the U.S. population is an indication of this difficulty. People with disabilities are an even higher share of the homeless population than the poverty population, suggesting that disabled persons face additional difficulties in gaining access to permanent housing. People with disabilities may have difficulties searching for a unit or finding a landlord willing to rent to them. Their disability may make it less easy to accommodate them without adaptive supports.

Also, the ability of SSI and SSDI to avert homelessness among persons with disabilities is uncertain. In 2009, the average monthly SSI payment was \$504<sup>16</sup> (or about \$6,048 annually) and

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<sup>14</sup> A study of patterns of homelessness among families in four communities—Houston TX, Washington DC, Kalamazoo MI, and upstate South Carolina—tracked people from their first entry into the homeless services system (based on HMIS data) for 18 months (30 months in DC) and found that many adults who were homeless as part of a family during part of the tracking period used shelters for individuals at other times during the tracking period. Brooke Spellman, Jill Khadduri, Brian Sokol, and Josh Leopold, *Costs Associated with First-Time Homelessness for Families and Individuals*. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, forthcoming 2009.

<sup>15</sup> HUD's definition of disabling condition is broader than the definition used by the U.S. Census Bureau. See footnote 12 for more information.

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Social Security Administration Office of Retirement and Disability Policy. Monthly Statistical Snapshot, March 2009. Available at [http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/quickfacts/stat\\_snapshot/](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/quickfacts/stat_snapshot/).

the poverty rate for a single-person household was \$10,830.<sup>17</sup> Accordingly, the average annual SSI payment is about 44 percent below the poverty level, and thus people with disabilities who lack a sufficient work history to qualify for SSDI—common among people with severe mental illness or substance abuse issues—are more susceptible to deep poverty.

**Veterans.** The national estimates also show that veterans are slightly more likely to be represented in the sheltered homeless population than the general population. They comprise an estimated 11.6 percent of the adult homeless population compared to 10.5 percent of the U.S. adult population. But veterans are a much smaller share of the adult poverty population (5.1 percent) than the homeless population, in part because the adult poverty population includes fewer adult men who are the most likely to be veterans. The estimated number of homeless veterans should be watched closely as the number of veterans returning from recent combat increases during the next few years.

### Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Individuals

Most sheltered homeless individuals are men. In 2008, 70 percent of the roughly 1.1 million people who were in emergency shelter or transitional housing programs as individuals were men and only 26 percent were adult women staying alone (as shown in Exhibit 3-1). Seventy-three percent of the individual adult population are men (see Exhibit 3-3). For every 100 men living by themselves with income below the poverty line, 12 are likely to be in the sheltered homeless population at some time over the course of a year compared to 4 of every 100 women living alone in poverty. In contrast to individual sheltered homeless people, 55 percent of poor adults living alone are women. There is little research that explains why single men may more often go to shelters than single women.

#### *Characteristics of Sheltered Individuals, 2008*

- *Men alone (73 percent of adults)*
- *Minority (55 percent of all persons)*
- *Age 31 to 50 (52 percent of all persons)*
- *Alone (98 percent of all persons)*
- *Disabled (47 percent of adults)*

Exhibit 3-3 shows some other demographic features of the sheltered homeless population separately for individuals and for persons in families. Even though the majority of all sheltered persons are minorities, almost half of all individuals (44.6 percent) are non-Hispanic whites. Thus, many whites and minorities experience homelessness differently—whites more often as single persons and minorities more often as persons with accompanying children.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *The 2009 HHS Poverty Guidelines*. Washington, DC. Available at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/09poverty.shtml>.

### Exhibit 3-3: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Persons by Household Type, 2008

<i>Characteristic</i>	<b>Percentage of All Sheltered Homeless Population</b>	<b>Percentage of Individuals</b>	<b>Percentage of Persons in Families</b>
<b>Gender of Adults</b>			
Male	64.0%	72.5%	19.2%
Female	36.0%	27.5%	80.8%
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	80.5%	83.0%	74.6%
Hispanic/Latino	19.5%	17.0%	25.4%
<b>Race</b>			
White, Non-Hispanic	37.9%	44.6%	24.4%
White, Hispanic	11.6%	11.0%	13.1%
Black or African-American	41.7%	37.0%	50.9%
Other Single Race	3.4%	2.8%	4.8%
Multiple Races	5.4%	4.7%	6.8%
<b>Age <sup>a</sup></b>			
Under age 18	20.4%	2.0%	60.3%
18 to 30	22.5%	22.5%	21.5%
31 to 50	40.3%	51.5%	16.7%
51 to 61	14.0%	20.0%	1.3%
62 and older	2.8%	4.0%	0.2%
<b>Household Size <sup>b</sup></b>			
1 person	66.7%	97.8%	0.0%
2 people	9.3%	1.9%	25.0%
3 people	9.5%	0.2%	29.6%
4 people	7.0%	0.1%	21.8%
5 or more people	7.5%	0.0%	23.7%
<b>Special Populations</b>			
Veteran (adults only) <sup>c</sup>	11.6%	13.4%	2.0%
Disabled (adults only) <sup>c</sup>	42.8%	47.1%	18.4%

<sup>a</sup> Age is calculated based on a person's first time in shelter during the one-year reporting period.

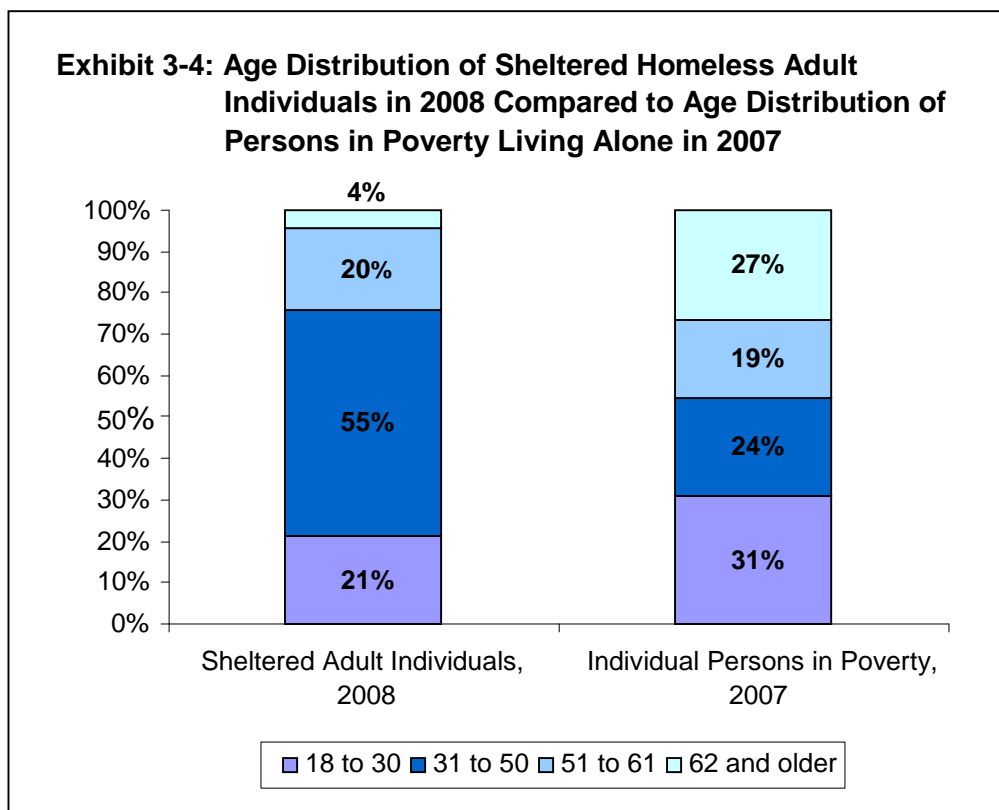
<sup>b</sup> If a person is part of multiple households or the household size changed during the reporting period, the household size reflects the size of the first household in which the person presented during the one-year reporting time period.

<sup>c</sup> Veteran and disability status are recorded only for adults in HMIS. The percentage calculations shown indicate the percent of homeless adults with this characteristic. Numerous records were missing information on disability status (22.0 percent) and veteran status (7.5 percent) in 2008. The percentage calculations include only persons whose disability and veteran status was known.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008

A larger proportion of adult individuals are disabled or veterans compared to all sheltered homeless adults. Nearly half (47.1 percent) of adult individuals have disabilities, and 13.4 percent of adult individuals are veterans. Extensive research has shown high rates of alcohol/drug abuse and mental health problems among homeless adults. The higher rate of veterans among individuals compared with all homeless adults reflects the fact that the overwhelming majority of sheltered individuals are men.

The most common age group among sheltered homeless individuals is 31-50. Only 4 percent of sheltered homeless individuals are 62 or older, much lower than the 27 percent of poor persons living alone in that age group (Exhibit 3-4). The scarcity of elderly people in the homeless population may reflect two factors: high early mortality and premature disability among persons experiencing chronic homelessness<sup>18</sup> and the strong social safety net in the United States for people aged 65 or older, including Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security, Medicare, and public and other assisted housing for seniors. This safety net should help most vulnerable older single individuals avoid having to go to a shelter to secure a roof over their heads.



Sources: Homeless Management Information System data 2008; 2007 American Community Survey

<sup>18</sup> Barrow, S.M., D.B. Herman, P. Cordova, and E.L. Struening. 1999. Mortality among Homeless Shelter Residents in New York City. *American Journal of Public Health*, pp. 529-534; Hibbs, J. R., L. Benner, Lawrence, B., R.S. Klugman, I. Macchia, A. K. Mellinger, and D. Fife. 1994. Mortality in a Cohort of Homeless Adults in Philadelphia, *The New England Journal of Medicine*, Vol. 331(5): 304-309.

## Characteristics of Sheltered Persons in Families

In 2008, there were about 517,000 persons in families, representing 32 percent of all sheltered persons. Considered as households rather than separate people, there were about 159,000 sheltered families (or 14.4 percent of all sheltered homeless households). The most common demographic features of sheltered family members are that adults are women, children are young, the family identifies itself as belonging to a minority group, and the family has 2 or 3 members. Very few persons in families are veterans (2 percent), and less than 1 in 5 of the adults in families has a disability.

### *Characteristics of Sheltered Persons in Families, 2008*

- *Female adults (81 percent of adults)*
- *A minority (76 percent of all persons)*
- *Children Under 6 (51 percent of children)*
- *Two or 3-person households (55 percent of all persons)*

Adults who become homeless together with children are usually, but not always, women. In 2008, 19 percent of adults in families with children were men. Presumably most adults are parents of the children that accompany them, although some may be grandparents or other relatives. By comparison, men represent 33 percent of all adults in families living in poverty.<sup>19</sup>

Many persons in families are minorities, especially African Americans and Hispanics. Less than one-quarter of sheltered persons in families were white and not Hispanic (24 percent). A much higher percentage of sheltered homeless families were African American than of families in the poverty population (51 versus 26 percent), while a lower percentage of sheltered homeless family members were Hispanic or Latino compared to the poverty population (25 versus 31 percent).

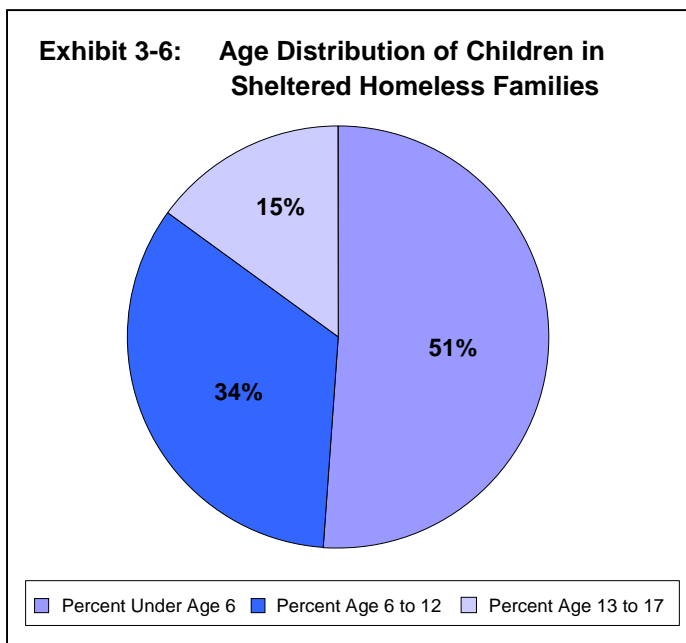
A typical homeless family consists of a mother and either one or two children (the average number of children is 1.5). Such families would need a two-bedroom apartment or house for

<sup>19</sup> People who become homeless as individuals also may be parents of minor children. Children of homeless individuals may be in the custody of the other parent, may have been left in someone else's care rather than brought into a shelter, or may have been placed out-of-home by the child welfare system. Burt, Martha, Laudan Y. Aaron, and Edgar Lee, *Helping America's Homeless*. Washington DC: Urban Institute Press, 2001, provides estimates based on the National Survey of Homeless Providers and Clients of the percentage of *all* homeless people who are parents of minor children. A study that used HMIS data to track homeless families in Houston TX, Washington DC, Kalamazoo MI, and Upstate South Carolina for an 18-month period used a somewhat different definition of family from the AHAR. For that study, a group of people was considered a family if it included both an adult and a child during *any* homeless program stay over the tracking period, whereas the AHAR defines a family as an adult with an accompanying child at the point of *first entry* into a residential program for homeless people. The study of homeless families in four communities found that a high percentage of families that had more than one program stay during the tracking period changed household composition between stays and that adult members of families sometimes appeared in programs for individuals during the 18-month tracking period. Spellman, Khadduri, Sokol, and Leopold, *op. cit.*

permanent housing. Homeless families have smaller household sizes than the poverty population in general (Exhibit 3-5), resulting from a combination of fewer two-adult households and fewer households with more than two children. Homeless families may have additional children who are not with them in a residential program for homeless people because they have been left with relatives or friends or experienced out-of-home placements by the child welfare system.

<b>Exhibit 3-5: Household Sizes of Sheltered Homeless Families and Poor Families 2008</b>		
<b>Household Size</b>	<b>Percentage of Sheltered Homeless Families</b>	<b>Percentage of Poor Families</b>
2 people	25.1%	7.7%
3 people	29.5%	20.7%
4 people	21.8%	26.6%
5 or more people	23.6%	44.9%

Sources: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008



Sources: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008

Sheltered families are young. More than half (54 percent) of the adults in families were between age 18 and 30, representing a considerably larger number than the 42 percent of adults in poor families who are that young.<sup>20</sup> The younger age of parents could help explain the smaller household sizes of sheltered homeless families compared to all poor families.

Homeless children in emergency shelters and transitional housing were also relatively young. More than half (51 percent) were under age 6, and another 34 percent were age 6 to 12, while only 15 percent were age 13 to 17 (Exhibit 3-6).<sup>21</sup>

<sup>20</sup> Adults in sheltered families also are younger on average than individual sheltered homeless people. This is not surprising given that adults in sheltered homeless families are mainly women currently or recently of childbearing age.

<sup>21</sup> Recall that, for this analysis, the definition of a family is a household with at least one adult (age 18 or older) and at least one child (age 17 or younger). An under 18-year old homeless teenager with her child and no adults are counted as two individuals.



## 3.2 Location of Homeless Service Use, 2008

### Geographic Location of Sheltered Homeless Persons

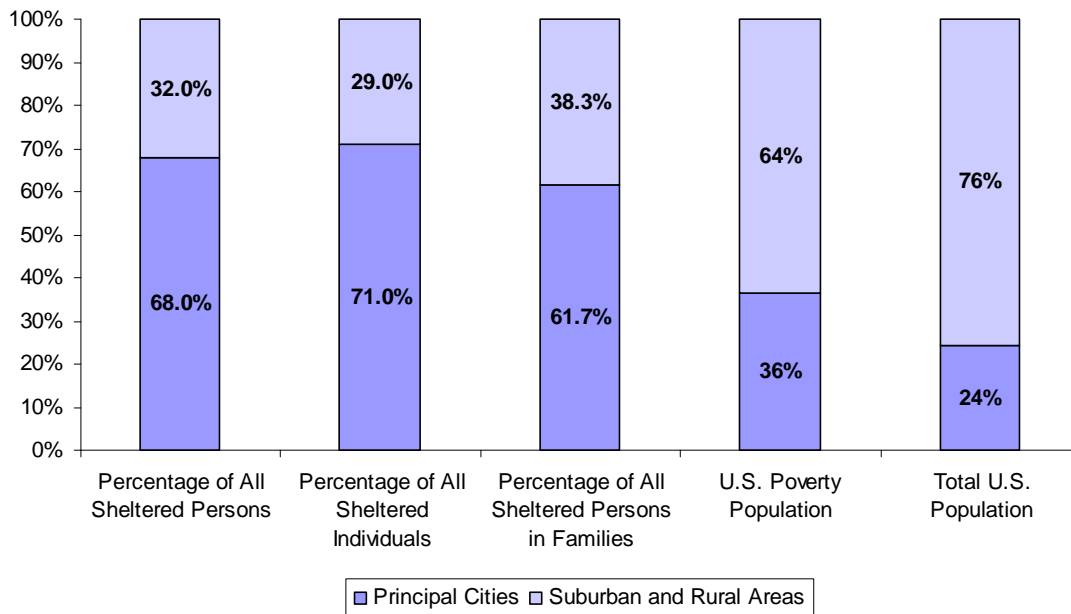
In 2008, sheltered homelessness was concentrated in urban areas (see Exhibit 3-7). More than two-thirds of all sheltered homeless people were located in principal cities, with 32 percent located in suburban or rural jurisdictions. Nearly 1 in every 66 persons living in principal cities in the United States was homeless, compared with about 1 in every 450 persons living in suburban or rural areas. The geographic distribution of the sheltered homeless population varied somewhat by household type. Individuals were more likely than persons in families to be in urban areas. Seventy-one percent of individuals accessed residential services in principal cities in 2008 compared with 62 percent of persons in families.

Exhibit 3-7 also shows that the share of sheltered homeless persons in principal cities was almost twice the share of the poverty population in principal cities (68 versus 36 percent) and almost three times the share of the entire population in principal cities, which was only 24 percent. Thus, while suburbanization has taken hold for most Americans since the 1950s, the homeless sheltered population is found largely in principal cities.

The concentration of homeless persons in urban areas is related to several issues. Principal cities have structural factors that may make homelessness more common, including high rates of unemployment and lack of affordable housing. Also, high demand for services may saturate the social service system in large cities, which may limit the ability of these systems to adequately serve persons at risk of becoming homeless. In addition, the concentration of homeless persons in urban areas may be driven in part by the concentration of homeless residential programs in these areas. As discussed in chapter 5, the majority of residential homeless service providers (53.6 percent) and nearly two-thirds of all service beds (66.4 percent) are located in principal cities. Thus, it is possible that homelessness appears to be mostly an urban phenomenon because homeless people move to areas where services are abundant. However, interpreting the potential association between the location of homeless people and the location of service providers raises the proverbial “chicken or the egg” conundrum: do homeless people move to service-rich areas or are service providers purposively located where the demand for services is greatest? Data from HMIS cannot disentangle these questions of cause and effect.

Not surprisingly, the characteristics of homeless persons in urban versus suburban/rural areas varied much like the characteristics of individuals versus persons in families. Compared with their suburban/rural counterparts, sheltered persons in urban areas were more likely to be male (66.6 percent versus 58.0 percent) and one-person households (69.7 percent versus 60.4 percent).

**Exhibit 3-7: Geographic Distribution of the Sheltered Homeless Population by Household Type, 2008**



Sources: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008

### Movement into the Shelter System

In addition to the type of location where people receive homeless residential services, communities participating in the AHAR also provided information on where people stayed the night before they entered the shelter system. In 2008, the night before entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility, about two-fifths of all sheltered persons came from another homeless situation, two-fifths moved from a housed situation (their own or someone else’s home), and the remaining one-fifth were split between institutional settings (e.g., a psychiatric hospital or jail) and hotels, motels, or other unspecified living arrangements (see Exhibit 3-8). The most common prior living arrangements were staying with friends or family (28.5 percent) and staying in another homeless residential service facility (24.3 percent). About 13 percent were on the streets or another place not meant for human habitation the night before program entry, and a similar proportion came from a home they rented or owned.

#### *Movement into the Shelter System, 2008*

Compared to sheltered persons in families, individuals were:

- 1.5 times *more* likely to come from an existing homeless situation
- 5.7 times *more* likely to come from an institutional setting
- 1.6 times *less* likely to be housed on their own or with family or friends

A comparison of living arrangements between sheltered individuals and persons in families reveals several striking differences. More than 6 in 10 persons in families came from a housing situation, with most staying with family and friends. Only about one-quarter of persons in families were already homeless prior to entering the shelter system during the one-year reporting period, and very few were in institutional settings. By comparison, fewer than 4 in 10 individuals came from a housing situation, two-fifths were already homeless, and more than 1 in 10 came from an institutional setting. Thus, for individuals, the most common pathway into the shelter system during the one-year reporting period was another homeless location, whereas among persons in families it was from a “housed” situation.

**Exhibit 3-8: Previous Living Situation of People Using Homeless Residential Services, 2008<sup>a</sup>**

Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry	Total	Percentage of Individual Adults <sup>b</sup>	Percentage of Adults in Families
<b>Total Already Homeless</b>	37.2%	39.4%	25.9%
Place not meant for human habitation	12.9%	14.7%	4.0%
Emergency shelter or transitional housing	24.3%	24.8%	22.0%
<b>Total from “Housing”</b>	41.0%	37.0%	61.5%
Rented or owned housing unit <sup>c</sup>	12.5%	11.2%	19.2%
Staying with family	16.4%	14.2%	27.8%
Staying with friends	12.1%	11.6%	14.5%
<b>Total from Institutional Settings</b>	11.9%	13.6%	2.4%
Psychiatric facility, substance abuse center, or hospital	6.7%	7.6%	1.8%
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	4.8%	5.6%	0.5%
Foster care home	0.4%	0.4%	0.1%
<b>Total from Other Situations</b>	10.1%	10.0%	10.2%
Hotel, motel (no voucher) or “other”	10.1%	10.0%	10.2%
<b>Number of Homeless Adults</b>	<b>1,283,272</b>	<b>1,092,612</b>	<b>203,199</b>

<sup>a</sup> The exhibit reports on adults and unaccompanied youth only because the HMIS Data and Technical Standards require the information to be collected only from these persons. About 21 percent of the records in HMIS were missing this information in 2008.

<sup>b</sup> This category includes unaccompanied adults and youth as well as multiple-adult households without children.

<sup>c</sup> Includes a small percentage in permanent supportive housing.

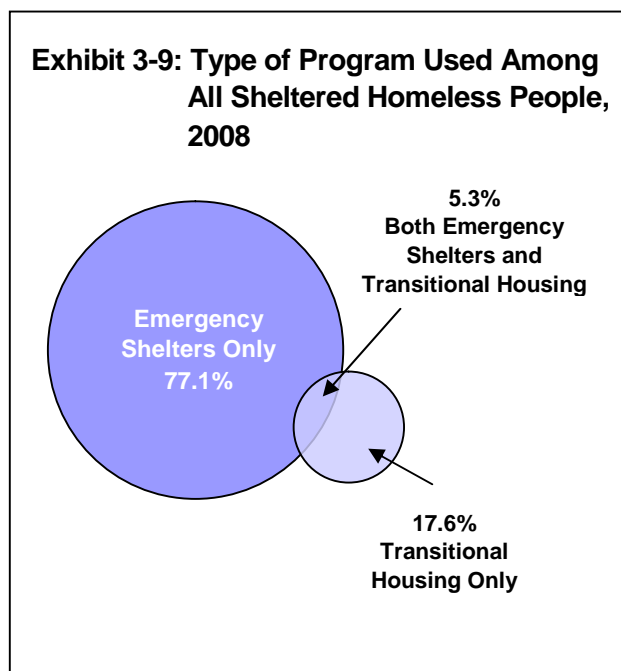
Sources: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008

### 3.3 Patterns of Homeless Service Use, 2008

#### Emergency Shelters or Transitional Housing

In 2008, most of the 1,594,000 sheltered homeless people used an emergency shelter only (77 percent or 1,228,224 persons), while a smaller number used only a transitional housing program only (about 18 percent or 280,877 persons). As shown in Exhibit 3-9, few persons used both an emergency shelter and transitional housing during the 12-month period (5 percent or 84,693 persons).

These estimates reinforce findings from previous AHARs that few sheltered homeless persons follow a linear progression through the shelter system during the 12-month period—e.g., from emergency shelters to transitional housing (and then to permanent housing). Recent research has similarly concluded that few homeless persons use the shelter system sequentially. Most homeless people—both individuals and families—enter and exit homeless residential programs just one time, while others have multiple program “stays” but usually not in a linear sequence.<sup>22</sup> Indeed, homelessness is mostly an episodic or short-term phenomenon—that is, people cycle through the homeless system quickly and may not stay in the system for long periods of time—and, as a result, many homeless persons do not use transitional housing.<sup>23</sup> The short-term nature of homelessness may be aided by program models (e.g., Housing First and Rapid Re-housing) that attempt to place homeless persons directly into permanent housing from emergency shelters or the streets, thereby bypassing transitional housing programs.



Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008

The type of residential homeless program used varies somewhat by household type. More than four-fifths of sheltered homeless individuals (81 percent) used only emergency shelters in

<sup>22</sup> Spellman, Khadduri, Sokol, and Leopold, *Costs Associated with First-Time Homelessness for Families and Individuals*, *op. cit.*

<sup>23</sup> Culhane, D.P., S. Metraux, J.M. Park, M.A. Schretzmen, and J. Valente. 2007. Testing a Typology of Family Homelessness Based on Public Shelter Utilization in Four U.S. Jurisdictions: Implications for Policy and Program Planning. *Housing Policy Debate*, 18(1): 1-28. Kuhn, R., and D.P. Culhane. 1998. Applying Cluster Analysis to Test of a Typology of Homelessness: Results from the Analysis of Administrative Data. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 17(1): 23-43.

2008, compared with 69 percent of persons in families. Part of the explanation may be the relative supply of different types of residential homeless programs for individuals versus families, a topic discussed in chapter 5.

### Length of Stay in Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing

Most people who enter a homeless residential facility leave quickly, but the amount of time spent varies considerably by program and by household type (see Exhibit 3-10). Three-fifths of those using emergency shelters stayed less than a month in total, and a third stayed only a week. Individuals in emergency shelters stayed the shortest amount of time: 65 percent stayed less than a week, and only 5 percent stayed for 6 months or more. The median length of stay for individuals in emergency shelters was 18 days. By comparison, families in emergency shelters stayed longer: 50 percent of persons in families spent a week or less; 10 percent stayed for 6 months or more; and the median length of stay was 30 days.

<b>Exhibit 3-10: Number of Nights in Shelter by Program and Household Type, 2008</b>						
<b>Length of Stay <sup>a</sup></b>	<b>Emergency Shelters</b>			<b>Transitional Housing</b>		
	Total	Individuals	Persons in Families	Total	Individual	Persons in Families
<b>Percentage of People</b>						
1 week or less	33.3%	37.4%	23.5%	5.7%	6.2%	5.1%
1 week to < 1 month	27.5%	27.8%	26.7%	12.6%	14.3%	10.3%
1 month to < 6 months	32.8%	29.8%	40.3%	42.0%	44.6%	38.6%
6 months to < 1 year	4.7%	3.9%	6.7%	21.7%	18.5%	25.9%
Entire year	1.6%	1.1%	2.8%	18.0%	16.4%	20.1%
<b>Average (Median) Time</b>						
# of nights	21	18	30	130	107	161

<sup>a</sup> The length of stay reported in this exhibit accounts for the total number of nights in shelters during the 12-month reporting period. Some people may have lengths of stay longer than a year if they entered a residential program prior to the start of the data collection period or remained in the program after the end of the data collection period.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008

Families stay in shelter for longer periods of time for several reasons. Unsheltered homelessness can be particularly dangerous for families with children, and thus families are more likely to stay in shelters until other housing accommodations are available. Also, families may have a more difficult time finding housing—on their own or with family or friends—because they need additional space. More than a fifth of persons in families were in households with 5 or more family members (see Exhibits 3-3 and 3-5), and the availability of appropriately-sized, affordable housing for these families may be especially limited.

People in transitional housing programs generally stay for much longer periods of time. About 40 percent of all persons stayed in transitional housing for 6 months or more in 2008, with many staying for the full 12-month reporting period. Here again, persons in families stayed longer than individuals. The median number of days among persons in families was 161 compared to 107 for individuals.

The longer lengths of stays in transitional housing are expected because these programs are designed differently. Transitional housing is designed to serve clients for up to two years while helping them transition to permanent housing, whereas emergency shelters are designed to help people avoid unsheltered homelessness and, sometimes, to enter a longer-term program to help them overcome their housing crisis.

### “Heavy Users” of Emergency Shelters

To help understand the characteristics of “heavy users” of the homeless services system, communities participating in the 2008 AHAR reported the number and characteristics of people who stayed in emergency shelters for six months or longer during the one-year period. These heavy users represent only 7 percent of all persons who used emergency shelters in 2008. As shown in Exhibit 3-11, the characteristics of these heavy users are substantially different from those of the overall population of shelter users during this period.

**Exhibit 3-11: Demographic Characteristics Associated with Staying in Emergency Shelters More than Six Months, 2008**

Race	All Persons in Emergency Shelters in 2008	Long-Term Stayers in Emergency Shelters in 2008
Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity	20.9%	28.7%
Black or African American	42.3%	56.6%
Children under Age 18	18.4%	26.4%
Household with 5 or more People	7.1%	13.5%
Number of People	1,312,917	81,016

*Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008*

The comparison indicates that minorities—specifically Hispanics and African Americans—and large families are disproportionately represented in the heavy-users group. Both Hispanics and African Americans are disproportionately represented in the overall homeless population, so it may be that the same factors that lead to greater risk for homelessness for these groups also lead to longer stays. White, non-Hispanic families also may go to emergency shelters in communities that have more resources for outplacements from emergency shelter into transitional or permanent housing relative to need.

### 3.4 Summary of All Sheltered Homeless People in 2008

In summary, the estimates of the sheltered homeless population in 2008 indicate that:

- Nearly 1 in every 66 persons living in principal cities in the United States is homeless, compared to about 1 in every 450 persons living in suburban or rural areas.
- African Americans are disproportionately represented in the homeless population relative to the overall U.S. population and the poverty population. They comprise 41.7 percent of the homeless population, 3.5 times their 12.4 percent share of the U.S. population and 1.8 times their 23.1 percent share of the poverty population.
- Other demographic groups overrepresented in the homeless population relative to the overall U.S. population are adult males, people age 31 to 50, single-person households, and people with a disability.
- Homeless sheltered individuals most often are male, members of a minority group, between the ages of 31 and 50, disabled, and experiencing homelessness alone. By contrast, family households in the shelter system are very likely to be headed by a minority woman without a male partner, under age 30, and in a household with 2 or 3 members.
- More than two-thirds of all sheltered homeless people were located in principal cities, with 32 percent located in suburban or rural jurisdictions. Individuals are more likely to be in urban areas than persons in families. Seventy-one percent of individuals are accessing residential services in principal cities compared to 62 percent of persons in families.
- The night before entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility, about two-fifths of the people came from another homeless situation (sheltered or unsheltered), two-fifths were moving from a housed situation (their own or someone else's home), and the remaining one-fifth were split between institutional settings and a variety of other living situations.
- Most people have relatively short lengths of stay in emergency shelters: three-fifths stay less than a month and one-third stay a week or less. Stays in transitional housing are longer: about 40 percent stayed 6 months or more in 2008. Nearly 1 in 5 people in transitional housing were there for the entire year for which HMIS data were analyzed.





## Chapter 4

# Trends in Sheltered Homelessness between 2007 and 2008

This chapter describes changes between 2007 and 2008 in the numbers and characteristics of people who were in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time during a one-year period. The chapter is based on data from local Homeless Management Information Systems that were submitted by communities nationwide and statistically adjusted to represent the entire nation.

The chapter breaks new ground by being the first AHAR to describe year-to-year changes in people who are sheltered homeless at some time during the year.<sup>24</sup> The exact time periods covered by the HMIS data used in this chapter are October 1, 2006-September 30, 2007 and October 1, 2007-September 30, 2008. For simplicity, we refer to these periods as 2007 and 2008.<sup>25</sup> The year-to-year comparisons suggest how patterns of homelessness may be changing over time.<sup>26</sup>

The chapter focuses on three types of changes:

- *Changes in the sheltered homeless population between 2007 and 2008*, including changes in household type, geographic location, and demographic characteristics.

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<sup>24</sup> Chapter 2 of this report describes trends in people found to be either sheltered or unsheltered homeless on a particular night in January based on Point-in-Time counts conducted by communities and reported to HUD in CoC applications. In that case, we describe a three-year trend, 2006-2008, but with much less detail on characteristics of homeless people and their use of the homeless services system.

<sup>25</sup> The second period ended just before the current economic downturn became severe and widespread, although the recession began in December 2007. According to the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased 4.8 percent to 5.5 percent between February and May 2008 and to 6.2 percent in September 2008. By December 2008 (after the study period for this report), it had increased to 7.2 percent. In December 2008 the National Bureau of Economic Research declared that the current recession began in December 2007, saying: "...a peak in economic activity occurred in the U.S. economy in December 2007. The peak marks the end of the expansion that began in November 2001 and the beginning of a recession." See <http://www.nber.org/cycles/dec2008.html> and [http://www.usatoday.com/money/economy/2008-12-01-recession-nber-statement\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/money/economy/2008-12-01-recession-nber-statement_N.htm), accessed April 27, 2009.

<sup>26</sup> The estimates are offered with an important caveat. As discussed earlier, the precision of the HMIS-based AHAR estimates has improved considerably compared to previous reports, but some communities still are unable to provide complete data. Thus, the HMIS-based estimates have wide confidence intervals (see Exhibit 4-1).

- *Changes in the patterns of becoming homeless*, based on the HMIS questions that ask where people were the night before they became homeless and how long they had been there.
- *Changes in how people use the homeless services system* and, specifically, whether they use emergency shelter or transitional housing and how long they stay in residential programs for homeless persons during a 12-month period.

## 4.1 Changes in the Sheltered Homeless Population between 2007 and 2008

In 2008 about 1,594,000 persons used an emergency shelter, a transitional housing program, or both. This was a slight increase over the total number of sheltered homeless people measured for 2007, as shown in Exhibit 4-1. The total number of sheltered homeless persons increased by about 5,200 people, only three-tenths of a percent. However, the composition of the sheltered homeless population shifted appreciably.

**Exhibit 4-1: Changes in Total Sheltered Homeless Individuals and Persons in Families, 2007-2008**

Household Type	2007		2008		Change 2007-2008
	Total Number	% of Sheltered Homeless Population	Total Number	% of Sheltered Homeless Population	
Total Number of Sheltered Persons <sup>a</sup>	1,588,595 <sup>c</sup>	100%	1,593,794 <sup>c</sup>	100%	+5199
Individuals <sup>b</sup>	1,115,054 <sup>d</sup>	70.2%	1,092,612 <sup>d</sup>	68.6%	-22,422
Persons in Families	473,541 <sup>d</sup>	29.8%	516,724 <sup>d</sup>	32.4%	+43,183
Number of Sheltered Households with Children	130,968	—	159,142	—	+28,174

<sup>a</sup> These estimated totals reflect the number of homeless persons in the 50 states and the District of Columbia who used emergency shelters or transitional housing programs during the one-year period of October 1 through September 30 of the following year. The estimates do not cover the U.S. Territories and Puerto Rico and do not include persons served by “victim service providers.” The estimated totals include an extrapolation adjustment to account for people who use emergency shelters and transitional housing programs but whose jurisdictions do not yet participate in their HMIS. People who are homeless but do not use an emergency shelter or transitional housing program during the 12-month period are not included. Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

<sup>b</sup> This category includes unaccompanied adults, unaccompanied people under 18 years, and multi-adult households without children.

<sup>c</sup> In 2007, the 95 percent confidence interval for the estimated number of sheltered homeless persons in the population was 1,043,775 to 2,133,415 persons (or +/- 544,820 persons). In 2008, the 95 percent confidence interval is 1,180,758 to 2,006,830 (or +/- 413,036 persons).

<sup>d</sup> In both 2007 and 2008, approximately 1 percent of homeless persons were served both as an individual and as a person in a family. In this exhibit, such people appear in both categories in 2008, so the total number of sheltered persons is slightly less than the sum of individuals and families. The percentages use the sum of all individuals and persons in families as the denominator, rather than the unduplicated number of sheltered persons.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

As noted in chapter 2, homelessness among individuals remained relatively unchanged, but the rise in family homelessness was considerable with an increase of about 43,000 persons in families, or 9 percent, from 2007. The share of people who are sheltered as family members increased from 29.8 percent to 32.4 percent (Exhibit 4.1). Described as households rather than as separate people, the share of family households among all sheltered households increased from 11.7 percent in 2007 to 14.4 percent in 2008.<sup>27</sup>

### **Changing Geography of Homelessness**

The types of locations in which people used residential homeless programs also shifted markedly between 2007 and 2008. Overall, sheltered homelessness is concentrated in urban areas. As noted in chapter 3, during 2008, 68 percent of sheltered homeless people were located in principal cities. However, between 2007 and 2008, the sheltered homeless population grew substantially in suburban and rural areas and fell in principal cities. As seen in Exhibit 4-2, the share of the sheltered homeless population in suburban and rural areas grew from 23 percent in 2007 to 32 percent in 2008, while the share in principal cities fell from 77 to 68 percent. Because many rural areas were unable to submit useable HMIS data to the AHAR, the data for 2007 and 2008 do not support separate estimates for suburbs and rural areas, although we know from the PIT estimates presented in chapter 2 that several predominantly rural states experienced sizable increases in their single-night counts of homeless people from 2007 to 2008. HUD is currently targeting HMIS technical assistance to rural areas, and the expectation is that future AHARs will be able to report separate estimates for suburban and rural areas.

The higher share of homeless people in suburban and rural areas is related in part to the increase in sheltered family homelessness. The percentage of persons in families in suburban and rural areas increased considerably from 26.9 percent in 2007 to 38.3 percent in 2008, as shown in Exhibit 4-3. However, the share of sheltered homeless individuals also increased in suburban and rural areas between 2007 and 2008, by almost 8 percentage points. The number of sheltered individuals and family members in principal cities decreased.

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<sup>27</sup> As described in chapter 2, there were 1,092,612 homeless individuals, nearly all of whom were individual adult males, individual adult females, or unaccompanied youth. There were also 20,488 adults in multi-adult households. Assuming 2 adults per multi-adult household and each individual as a household, the percent of households that were families is 14.4 percent (or 159,142 divided by 1,102,856).

**Exhibit 4-2: Change in the Geographic Location of the Sheltered Homeless Population, 2007 and 2008**

Geographic Location	All Sheltered Homeless Persons in 2007		All Sheltered Homeless Persons in 2008		Change from 2007 to 2008 in Percentage Points
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Principal Cities	1,221,044	76.9%	1,084,335	68.0%	-4.9
Suburban or Rural Areas	367,551	23.1%	509,459	32.0%	+8.9

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

**Exhibit 4-3: Change in the Geographic Location of the Sheltered Homeless Individuals And Families, 2007 and 2008**

Household Type	All Sheltered Homeless Persons in 2007		All Sheltered Homeless Persons in 2008		Change from 2007 to 2008 in Percentage Points	
	Percent in Principal Cities	Percent in Suburban or Rural Areas	Percent in Principal Cities	Percent in Suburban or Rural Areas	Percent in Principal Cities	Percent in Suburban or Rural Areas
Individuals	78.7%	21.3%	71.0%	29.0%	-7.7	7.7
Persons in Families	73.1%	26.9%	61.7%	38.3%	-11.4	11.4

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

We investigated whether increased capacity among emergency shelters and transitional housing programs in suburban and rural areas could explain the higher numbers of sheltered homeless people in that type of location, but found that the capacity did not change much between 2007 and 2008. Instead, it appears that the existing capacity was more intensively used in suburban and rural areas in 2008 than 2007. (See chapter 5 for a detailed discussion of shelter capacity and utilization rates.)

**Changing Demographic Characteristics of Homeless Individuals and Families**

Across all sheltered homeless people, demographic characteristics changed little between 2007 and 2008, as shown in Exhibit 4-4. The largest changes are a 3.6 percentage-point decrease in single-person households and a 5.7 percentage-point increase in the share of adults with disabilities. The decrease in single person households results from the decrease in individual shelter users relative to persons in families. Or put differently, as the share of persons in families increases, the share of multi-person households must necessarily increase as well.

### Exhibit 4-4 Change in the Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Persons, 2007-2008

Characteristic	Percentage of All Sheltered Homeless Population		
	2007	2008	Percentage Point Change
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White <sup>a</sup>	49.3%	49.5%	+0.2
Black or African American	39.6%	41.7%	+2.2
Other Single Race	3.9%	3.5%	-0.4
Multiple Races	7.3%	5.4%	-1.9
<b>Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity</b>	21.6%	19.5%	-2.1
<b>Male (adults)<sup>b</sup></b>	65.2%	64.0%	-1.2
<b>Age<sup>b</sup></b>			
Under age 18	21.6%	20.8%	-0.8
18 to 30	20.5%	22.2%	+1.7
31 to 50	41.2%	40.3%	-0.8
51 to 61	13.6%	14.0%	+0.4
62 and older	2.9%	2.8%	-0.2
<b>Persons by Households Size<sup>c</sup></b>			
1 person	70.3%	66.7%	-3.6
2 people	8.0%	9.3%	+1.3
3 people	8.2%	9.5%	+1.3
4 people	6.5%	7.0%	+0.5
5 or more people	6.9%	7.5%	+0.6
<b>Veteran (adults)<sup>d</sup></b>	13.2%	11.6%	-1.6
<b>Disabled (adults)<sup>d</sup></b>	37.1%	42.8%	+5.7

<sup>a</sup> Approximately one-quarter of people identifying their race as white also identified their ethnicity as Hispanic/Latino. We do not have data on how many people of other races also identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino.

<sup>b</sup> Age is calculated based on a person's first time in shelter during the covered time period. A child is defined as a person age 17 or under, and an adult is defined as a person age 18 or older.

<sup>c</sup> If a person is part of more than one household over the study period, the household size reflects the size of the first household in which the person presented during the covered time period. If household size changed during the program episode (i.e., a household member left the program early or joined later), household size for each person reflects household size on the day that person entered the program.

<sup>d</sup> Veteran status and whether a person had a disabling condition are recorded only for adults in HMIS. The percentage calculations shown indicate the percent of homeless adults with this characteristic. A substantial number of records were missing information on disability status (32.4 percent in 2007 and 22.0 percent in 2008) and veteran status (15.9 percent in 2007 and 7.5 percent in 2008). The percentage calculations include only persons whose disability and veteran status was recorded.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

The increase in the share of persons with disabilities is unusually large for a single-year change and may reflect a pattern of increasing need particularly among individuals who become homeless. However, the estimated change may not reflect simply an actual change in the characteristics of the homeless population, but may also reflect the difficulty of collecting this information reliably. This variable has consistently had a high missing rate in HMIS data, although it has vastly improved. Disability status was missing for 32 percent of adults in 2007, but only for 22 percent in 2008. It may be that adults with missing information on disability status are more likely to be disabled than adults who had the information reported, and thus as missing information becomes known, the proportion of persons with a disability increases. On the whole, the lower missing rate in 2008 gives us a higher degree of confidence in the 2008 estimates, which suggests that approximately 4 out of every 10 homeless adults for whom we have information had a disability.

Some other changes in the portrait of homelessness emerge when we look separately at homeless individuals and homeless persons in families and also distinguish between white people who describe their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino and those who do not. For both household types, the percentages who are not minorities—that is white and not Hispanic—increased between 2007 and 2008, by 4 percentage points for individuals and 3.1 percentage points for families, as shown in Exhibit 4-5. White Hispanics dropped among the individual homeless population, but increased among the family population. The opposite pattern held for people describing themselves as black or African American, with an increase among individuals and a decrease among persons in families as a percentage of all sheltered homeless people. The total number of African American persons in families increased slightly, but this increase was outstripped by larger increases in numbers of white sheltered homeless families, both Hispanic and non-Hispanic.

**Exhibit 4-5 Change in Race and Ethnicity of Sheltered Homeless Individuals and Families, 2007 to 2008 <sup>a</sup>**

<b>Sheltered Individuals</b>			
<b>Race</b>	<b>% of Individuals 2007</b>	<b>% of Individuals 2008</b>	<b>Change in Percentage Points</b>
White, non-Hispanic/Latino	42.6%	44.6%	+4.0
White Hispanic, Latino	14.1%	11.0%	-3.1
Black or African American	33.2%	37.0%	+3.8
Other Racial Groups <sup>b</sup>	10.1%	7.5%	-2.7
<b>Sheltered Persons in Families</b>			
<b>Race</b>	<b>% of Persons in Families 2007</b>	<b>% of Persons in Families 2008</b>	<b>Change in Percentage Points</b>
White, non-Hispanic/Latino	21.3%	24.4%	+3.1
White Hispanic, Latino	9.8%	13.1%	+3.3
Black or African American	55.2%	50.9%	-4.3
Other Racial Groups <sup>b</sup>	13.6%	11.6%	-2.0

<sup>a</sup> Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

<sup>b</sup> Includes persons who identify as multiple races.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

The increase in white, non-Hispanic people for both populations, families and individuals, may be related to the geographic shift towards suburban and rural areas. The trends among white Hispanics and blacks are more difficult to interpret. Race and ethnicity was another area in which reporting improved between 2007 and 2008. For example, the percentage of records missing information on race dropped from 11.6 in 2007 to 7.66 in 2008. Increasing family homelessness among whites, both Hispanic and non-Hispanic, may be related to the economic downturn.

Exhibit 4-6 shows some slight changes in the household characteristics of homeless families between 2007 and 2008. Adults who become homeless together with children are usually—but not always—women. In 2008, 19 percent of adults in homeless families with children were men, about one percentage point more than in 2007. The proportion of family members who were adults also appeared to grow slightly between the two years, reflecting a slight decrease in the number of children rather than an increase in the number of multi-adult households. In 2007, the average number of adults per household was 1.37, while in 2008 the average was 1.28.

<b>Exhibit 4-6: Changes in the Household Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Families, 2007-2008 <sup>a</sup></b>			
<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Percentage of Sheltered Homeless Persons in Families 2007</b>	<b>Percentage of Sheltered Homeless Persons in Families 2008</b>	<b>Change in Percentage Points</b>
<b>Adults and Children</b>			
Adults	38.4%	39.7%	+1.2
Children	61.6%	60.3%	-1.3
<b>Gender of adults</b>			
Women	82.0%	80.9%	-1.1
Men	18.0%	19.2%	+1.1

<sup>a</sup> Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

## 4.2 Changing Patterns of Becoming Homeless, 2007-2008

The patterns for prior living arrangement are another area in which the HMIS data show some notable changes from 2007 to 2008, both for all sheltered homeless people and for individuals and families considered separately. Among all homeless people, the share who reported that they were already homeless at the time they entered a shelter or a transitional housing program dropped, while the share who reported that they came from some type of housing—their own or staying with family or friends—rose. In 2007, 42 percent reported that they were either on the street or in a different emergency shelter or transitional housing

facility the night before. In 2008, this number dropped to 37 percent. Also, the percentage that had been staying with family or friends increased from 26 percent in 2007 to 29 percent in 2008. People who lost their housing because they could no longer pay for it or because a rental unit was foreclosed may have first stayed with friends or family but then turned to the homeless services system after wearing out their welcome or tiring of the situation. These changes may be early signs of the impact of the economic downturn on homelessness.

Exhibit 4-7 shows these patterns for individuals. When asked about their living arrangement just before they entered a shelter or a transitional housing program, about the same percentage of homeless individuals—slightly less than 15 percent—said that they were in a “place not meant for human habitation,” but somewhat smaller percentages in 2008 than in 2007 said that they had been either in emergency shelter or transitional housing. Accordingly, the percentage already homeless at the time they entered a residential program for homeless people dropped from 43.3 to 39.5 percent.

**Exhibit 4-7: Change in Previous Living Situation of Individuals Using Homeless Residential Services, 2007-2008**

Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry	Percentage Distribution 2007	Percentage Distribution 2008 <sup>a</sup>	Change in Percentage Points
<b>Total Already Homeless</b>	<b>43.3%</b>	<b>39.5%</b>	<b>-3.8</b>
Place not meant for human habitation	14.8%	14.7%	-0.1
Emergency shelter	25.2%	22.0%	-3.2
Transitional housing	3.2%	2.7%	-0.5
<b>Total from Some Type of Housing</b>	<b>36.5%</b>	<b>37.0%</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Rented housing unit <sup>b</sup>	10.3%	9.2%	-1.1
Owned housing unit	1.9%	2.0%	0.1
Staying with family	15.2%	14.2%	-1.0
Staying with friends	9.1%	11.6%	2.5
<b>Total from Institutional Settings</b>	<b>12.1%</b>	<b>13.6%</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Psychiatric facility, substance abuse center, or hospital	6.6%	7.6%	1.0
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	5.0%	5.6%	0.6
Foster care home	0.5%	0.4%	-0.1
<b>Total from Other Situations</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Hotel, Motel (no voucher) or “other”	8.2%	9.9%	1.7
<b>Number of Homeless Adults</b>	<b>1,115,054</b>	<b>1,092,612</b>	<b>--</b>

<sup>a</sup> The percentage of HMIS records missing this information dropped from 32 percent in 2007 to 21 percent in 2008.

<sup>b</sup> Includes a small percentage in permanent supportive housing.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008



About the same percentages—roughly 37 percent—said they had been in a housing unit (their own or someone else’s) before entering a shelter. However, as shown in Exhibit 4-7, the number of individuals staying with friends before entering a shelter increased by 2.5 percentage points. An increasing pattern of people coming to shelter after staying temporarily with friends may indicate that more individuals are finding themselves unstably housed and becoming homeless after exhausting short-term alternatives.

Also, an indication that the economic downturn may have started to affect patterns of homelessness among individuals is the stability of the previous night’s living arrangement. A larger percentage of individuals entering residential programs for homeless people in 2008 compared to 2007 had been in the place they spent the previous night for more than a year: 27 percent in 2008 compared with 24 percent in 2007. Thus, in addition to fewer people coming from situations in which they already were homeless, more came from situations that previously had been relatively stable.

Somewhat higher percentages of individual sheltered homeless people in 2008 than in 2007 said that they had been in institutional settings such as jails or residential treatment facilities or in “other” living arrangements. This pattern also may suggest that residential programs for homeless individuals on average are serving an increasingly needy population.

Exhibit 4-8 shows changes between 2007 and 2008 in the living situations of homeless people in families prior to entering emergency shelters or transitional housing. The patterns shown in these data reveal more clearly the effect of homeless families of the worsening economic situation. Previous research has shown that family homelessness is more sensitive than individual homelessness to business cycles,<sup>28</sup> which also may help explain why family homelessness increased in 2008 although individual homelessness did not. As shown in Exhibit 4-8, a smaller share of families were already homeless, either in a “place not meant for human habitation” or in a different shelter or transitional housing program: 25.9 percent in 2008, compared with 30.3 percent in 2007. The share of families coming from a “housed” situation rose to 61.5 percent, a 7.1 percentage-point increase between 2007 and 2008.

While the percentage coming from a housing unit the family owned dropped somewhat and remained small, a much larger share came from a rented housing unit. This may reflect the initial effects of the foreclosure crisis on renters. In addition, larger shares than in 2007 said that they had been staying with family or with friends before becoming sheltered homeless. As was the case for individuals, an increasing percentage of adults in families—in this case a 5 percentage point increase from 18.1 percent to 23.1 percent, said that they had been in the place they stayed the previous night a year or longer.

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<sup>28</sup> Culhane, Dennis P, Stephen R. Poulin, Lorraine M. Hoyt, and Stephen Metraux. 2003. *The Impact of Welfare Reform on Public Shelter Utilization in Philadelphia: A Time-Series Analysis*. *Cityscape* (6)2: 173-185.

**Exhibit 4-8: Change in Previous Living Situation of Adults in Families Using Homeless Residential Services, 2007-2008**

Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry	Percentage of Adults in Families 2007	Percentage of Adults in Families 2008	Change in Percentage Points
<b>Total Already Homeless</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>25.9%</b>	<b>-4.4</b>
Place not meant for human habitation	3.6%	4.0%	0.4
Emergency shelter	23.3%	19.8%	-3.5
Transitional housing	3.4%	2.2%	-1.2
<b>Total from Some Type of Housing</b>	<b>54.4%</b>	<b>61.5%</b>	<b>7.1</b>
Rented housing unit <sup>a</sup>	13.0%	16.8%	3.8
Owned housing unit	3.8%	2.4%	-1.4
Staying with family	24.2%	27.8%	3.6
Staying with friends	13.4%	14.5%	1.1
<b>Total from Institutional Settings</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Psychiatric facility, substance abuse center, or hospital	1.9%	1.8%	-0.1
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	0.4%	0.5%	0.1
Foster care home	0.0%	0.1%	0.1
<b>Total from Other Situations</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>-3.0</b>
Hotel, motel (no voucher) or "other"	13.0%	10.0%	-3.0
<b>Total Homeless Adults in Families</b>	<b>179,401</b>	<b>203,199</b>	<b>--</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes a small percentage in permanent supportive housing.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

### 4.3 Changing Use of the Residential System for Homeless People, 2007-2008

Despite more frequently entering shelters or transitional housing from “housed” situations, people did not leave homeless residential programs more rapidly in 2008 compared to 2007. On the contrary, they had longer “stays” or total lengths of time spent in homeless programs during the 12-month period. As Exhibit 4-9 shows, the median length of stay increased by 4 nights for individuals in emergency shelter, by 16 nights for individuals in transitional housing, and by 10 nights for families in transitional housing.

**Exhibit 4-9: Change in Median Length of Stay, by Shelter and Household Type, 2007-2008**

Household Type	Median Nights in Shelter		Change in Median Nights in Shelter from 2007 to 2008
	All Sheltered Homeless Persons in 2007	All Sheltered Homeless Person in 2008	
<b>Emergency Shelters</b>			
Individuals	14 nights	18 nights	+ 4 nights
Persons in Families	30 nights	30 nights	No change
<b>Transitional Housing</b>			
Individuals	91 nights	107 nights	+ 16 nights
Persons in Families	151 nights	161 nights	+ 10 nights

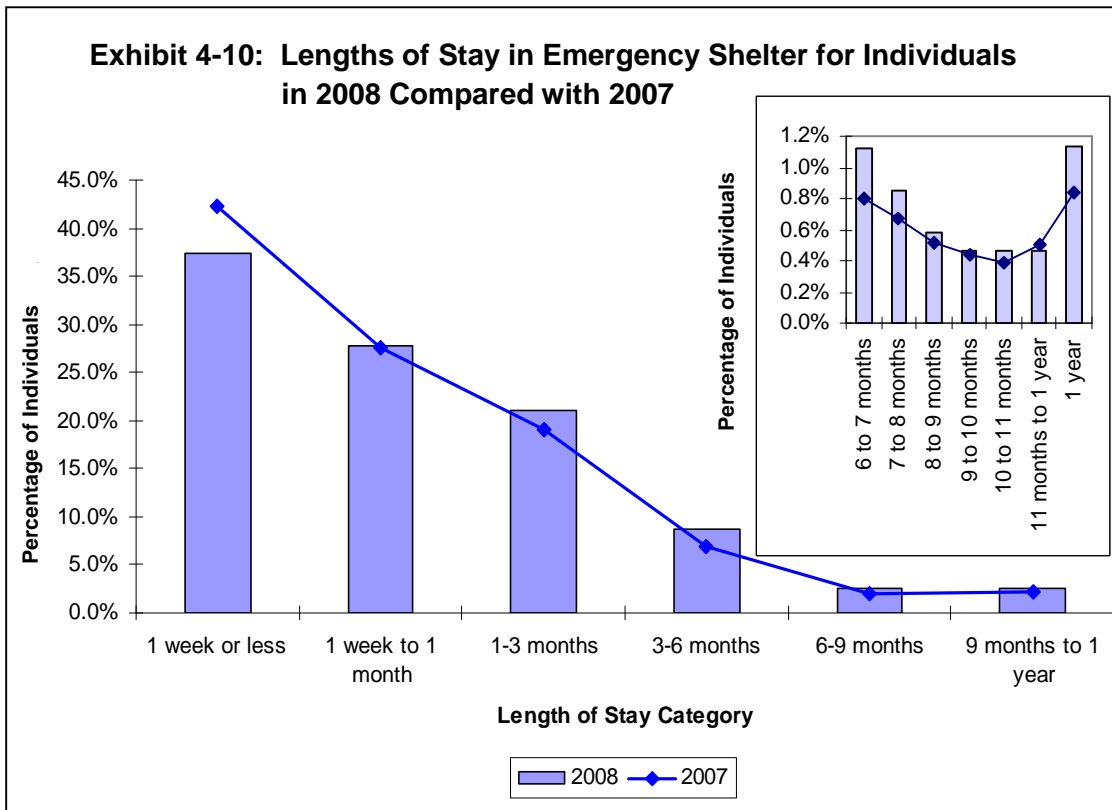
Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

**Changes in Lengths of Stay in Emergency Shelter, 2007-2008**

Exhibit 4-10 shows the pattern of lengths of stay for individuals in emergency shelter in more detail. Fewer individuals were in shelter a week or less in 2008 than in 2007 (37 versus 42 percent), and more had stays between one and six months. The inset in Exhibit 4-10 provides additional details on individuals who stayed in shelter for 6 months or more. The inset shows that, within this group of individuals, a larger fraction (although still just slightly more than 1 percent) stayed in emergency shelter for the entire year for which AHAR data were collected.<sup>29</sup>

Longer stays for individuals in emergency shelter in 2008—in particular the decrease in those staying a week or less compared with 2007—could reflect the same phenomenon suggested by the increase in those coming out of jail, prison, or inpatient treatment facilities. It appears that fewer individuals entering emergency shelters are experiencing a very short and easily resolved housing crisis, and more need a few weeks to find an alternative arrangement.

<sup>29</sup> Length of stay in a homeless residential facility is limited to the 12-month reporting period (October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008). The length of stay among persons who entered a facility before the start of the reporting period or who did not leave by the end of the reporting period was restricted to the time spent in the facility during the 12-month period. Thus, the maximum length of stay is 366 nights (2008 was a leap year).



**Exhibit 4-11: Individuals Who Stayed in Emergency Shelter More Than 180 Days, 2007 and 2008**

Characteristics	Percentage of Long-Stayers 2007	Percentage of Long-Stayers 2008	Change in Percentage Points
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	73.5%	77.0%	3.5
Female	26.5%	23.0%	-3.5
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White, non-Hispanic/Latino	31.9%	34.8%	2.9
White, Hispanic/Latino	11.0%	12.8%	1.8
Black or African American	49.9%	45.4%	-4.5
Other racial groups	7.3%	7.2%	-0.1
<b>Age<sup>a</sup></b>			
18 to 30	12.6%	16.7%	4.1
31 to 50	50.3%	51.9%	1.6
51 and older	34.9%	30.6%	-4.3
<b>Veteran (adults only)<sup>b</sup></b>	--	15.4%	--
<b>Disabled (adults only)<sup>b</sup></b>	--	39.7%	--

<sup>a</sup> Age categories do not sum to 100 percent because of the small numbers of people homeless alone who were under 18 years of age.

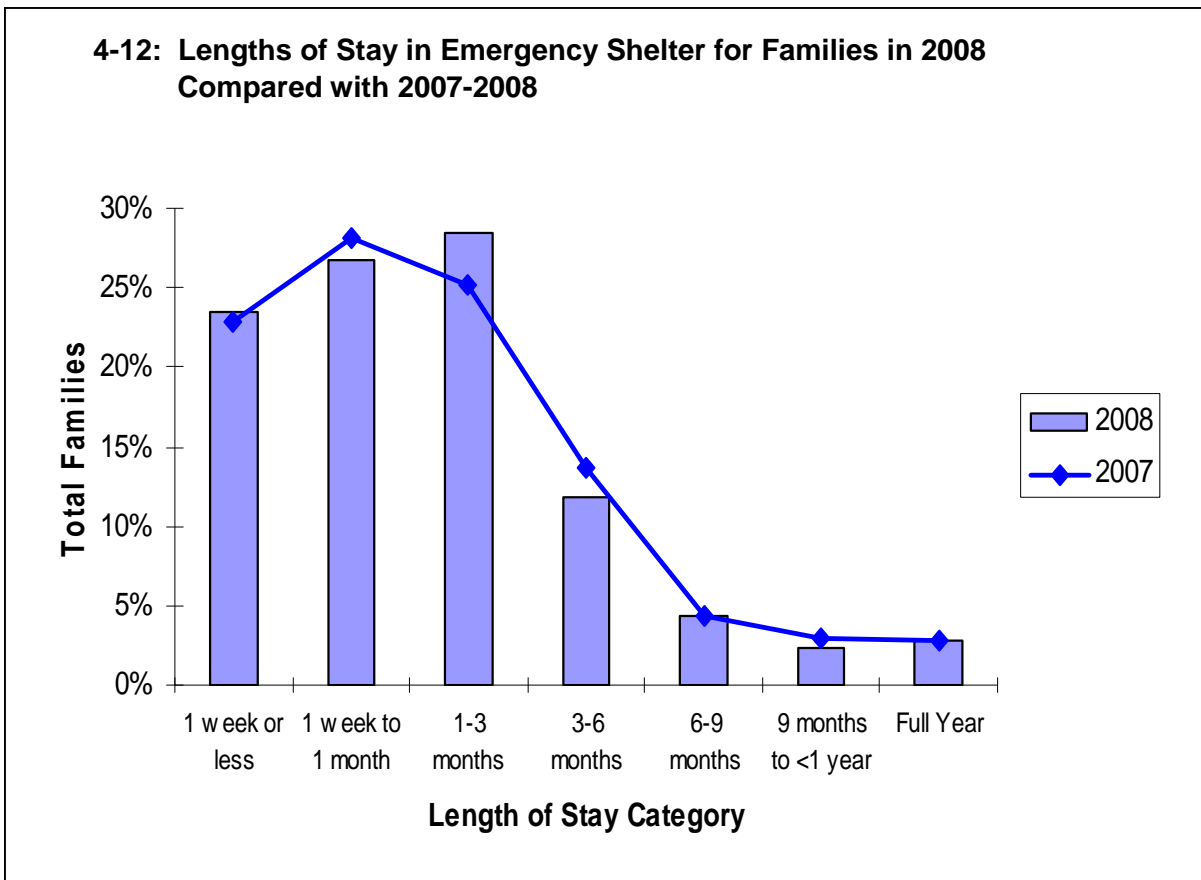
<sup>b</sup> Because of the very different rates of missing data between 2007 and 2008 for veteran and disability status, the comparison to 2007 is not shown for these characteristics.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

Exhibit 4-11 focuses on those individuals who stayed in emergency shelter for six months or more, a group that makes up only 5 percent of all individuals using emergency shelters. The comparisons of demographic characteristics between 2007 and 2008 show that these heavy users of emergency shelters, while still predominately African American, are becoming somewhat more white and Hispanic.

Heavy users of emergency shelter as individuals also were somewhat younger in 2008 than they were in 2007, although the percentage older than 50 (30.6 percent) remained substantially greater than the percentage of all individuals in emergency shelters who were in that age group (24.5 percent).

The 30-day median length of stay for families in emergency shelter was the same in 2008 as in 2007, but the pattern changed somewhat, as illustrated in Exhibit 4-12. As the exhibit shows, the percentage of families with stays between a week and a month dropped somewhat, while the proportion staying between one and three months increased, now becoming the most common length of stay category. As was the case in 2007, a substantial number of families (23.5 percent in 2008) were able to resolve their housing crisis within a week. But among those unable to do so, a larger percentage in 2008 stayed in shelter for at



Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

least a month.

Families experiencing unusually long stays in emergency housing were particularly likely to be African American in 2008, 70.6 percent, compared with 50.9 percent of all sheltered homeless families. However, this percentage dropped by a startling 17.3 percentage points, from 87.9 percent in 2007 (see Exhibit 4-13). The proportional reduction is the result of both a raw decline in the numbers of African American families who stayed more than six months in emergency shelters (despite an increase in the overall number of African American families) and rising numbers of long-term stayers among Hispanics. The number of white, non-Hispanic families staying more than six months remained steady across the two years, despite rising overall numbers. This may also reflect a rise in families entering emergency shelter in the latter half of the year as the economic crisis deepened, and this may have prevented them from reaching the six-month stay mark within the study period.

This apparent change between 2007 and 2008 in the racial and ethnic profile of families staying in emergency shelter for more than six months is difficult to interpret. It should be kept in mind that such heavy users of emergency shelters made up only 9.8 percent of all homeless persons in families who used emergency shelter in 2008 (see Exhibit 4-11 above). The shifting geography of family homelessness, with growth in the numbers and percentages of persons in families found in suburban and rural areas, may help explain both the decline in the percentage of all sheltered homeless family members who are African American (from 55.2 to 50.9 percent) and an even steeper decline in the percentage of families with long stays in emergency shelter who are African American.

**Exhibit 4-13: Change in Persons in Families Who Stayed in Emergency Shelters More Than 180 Days, 2007-2008**

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Percentage of Long-Stayers 2007</b>	<b>Percentage of Long-Stayers 2008</b>	<b>Change in Percentage Points</b>
White, non-Hispanic/Latino	6.8%	8.0%	+1.2
White, Hispanic/Latino	2.6%	9.5%	+6.9
Black or African American	87.9%	70.6%	-17.3
Other single- and multi-race groups	2.7%	12.0%	+9.3

*Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008*

#### **Changes in Lengths of Stay in Transitional Housing, 2007-2008**

Lengths of stay in transitional housing are much longer than lengths of stay in emergency shelter. Homeless persons are expected to remain in transitional housing long enough to complete a program that helps overcome barriers to obtaining and maintaining permanent housing. For transitional housing used by individuals, lengths of stay grew between 2007

and 2008, as shown separately for men and women in Exhibit 4-14. For men, the median length of stay in transitional housing grew from 89 days in 2007 to 101 days in 2008. For women, the median grew from 95 days in 2007 to 120 days in 2008. Women were more likely than men to be in transitional housing for at least the entire year (21 percent of women versus 14 percent of men), and these percentages also had increased from 2007, when only 12 percent of women and 9 percent of men stayed a year or more in transitional housing.

Longer stays in transitional housing among individuals could reflect the selection—or self referral—into transitional housing of a higher percentage of individuals who need more time to become ready for a permanent housing placement or who are more willing to cooperate with the requirements of the transitional housing program. Longer stays in transitional housing also could reflect the greater difficulty that individuals and programs have with finding subsidized supportive or affordable mainstream housing for an outplacement from the transitional program.

<b>Exhibit 4-14: Lengths of Stay in Transitional Housing for Individual Sheltered Men and Women, 2007 and 2008</b>				
<b>Length of Stay</b>	<b>Percentage of Individuals in Transitional Housing 2007</b>		<b>Percentage of Individuals in Transitional Housing 2008</b>	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
A week or less	7.7%	8.8%	6.0%	6.5%
One week to one month	15.8%	15.2%	14.7%	13.7%
One to 3 months	26.9%	24.7%	26.3%	23.1%
3 to 6 months	22.2%	20.5%	20.7%	17.6%
6 to 9 months	11.0%	11.6%	11.7%	10.2%
More than 9 months but less than a year	7.3%	7.6%	7.1%	8.1%
A year or more <sup>a</sup>	8.9 %	11.6%	13.6%	20.8%
Median shelter nights	89 days	95 days	107 days	120 days
<b>Total number of persons</b>	<b>127,515</b>	<b>72,907</b>	<b>130,306</b>	<b>76,066</b>

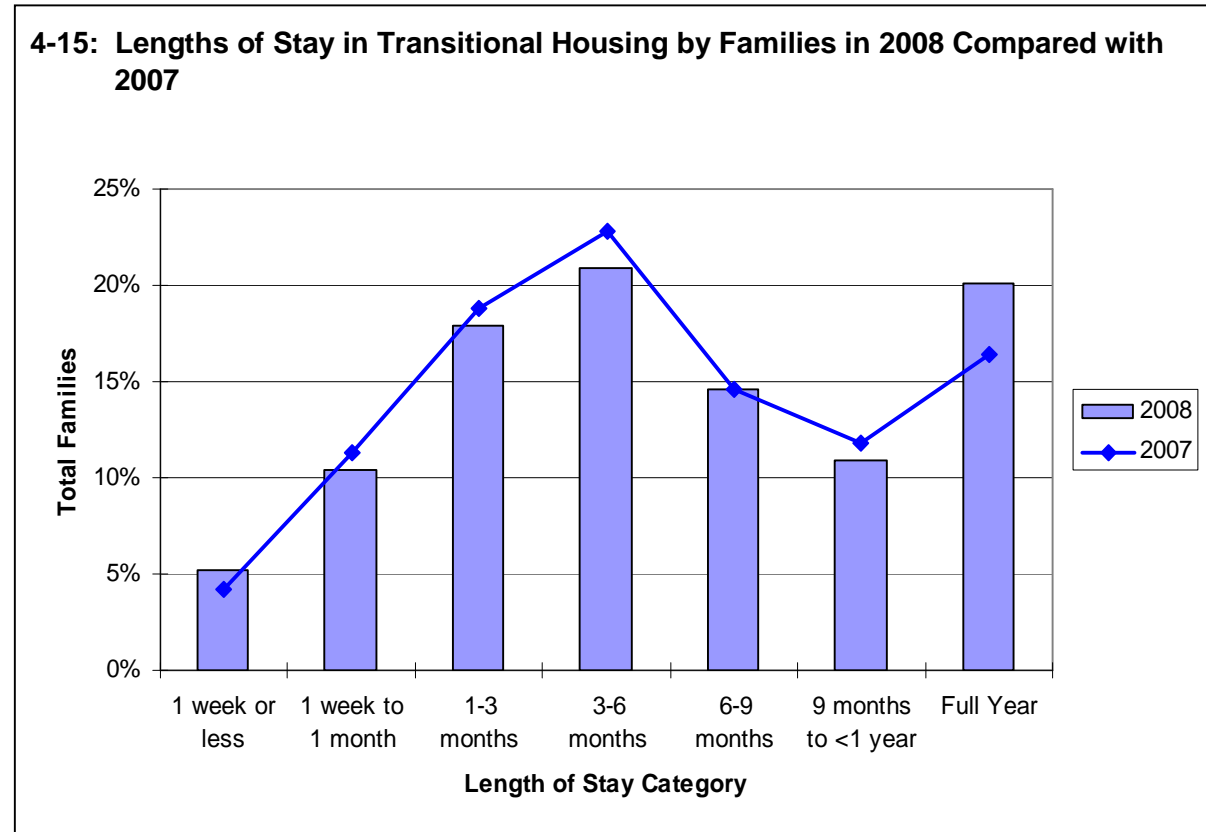
<sup>a</sup> Some individuals had lengths of stay longer than a year because they were in a program at the start of the data collection period or remained in the program after the end of the data collection period.

*Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008*

Families were somewhat more likely in 2008 than in 2007 to use transitional housing. The percentage of family members using transitional housing, either alone or together with emergency shelter, increased from 30.5 to 31.3 percent. The median length of stay for families in transitional housing grew from 151 days to 160 days between 2007 and 2008. Exhibit 4-15 provides more detail on lengths of stay in transitional housing. Most striking is the increase in families staying in transitional housing at least a full year, now more than a fifth of all families using transitional housing. This could reflect greater success of transitional housing programs in retaining families through a period needed to complete the

program, or it could reflect greater difficulty in finding appropriately-sized, subsidized or unsubsidized permanent housing for families.

The economic downturn may make it more difficult for both persons in families and individuals to leave homelessness, if they cannot obtain employment that will enable them to sustain their own housing, and this may help account for longer lengths of stay in transitional housing.



Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2008

#### 4.4 Summary of Trends in Sheltered Homelessness between 2007 and 2008

Comparisons of the sheltered homeless population data between 2007 and 2008 indicate that:

- The composition of the sheltered homeless population shifted somewhat. While the overwhelming majority of people in emergency shelter or transitional housing at some time during a one-year period were individuals, the share of persons who were sheltered as family members increased from 28.9 percent to 32.1 percent.



- The number of both individuals and family members in emergency shelter or transitional housing in principal cities dropped somewhat, and the numbers of both sheltered homeless populations increased substantially in suburban and rural areas.
- Between 2007 and 2008, the share of the sheltered homeless population in suburban and rural areas increased from 23 percent to 32 percent. The increase does not reflect increased capacity of residential programs in suburban and rural areas, but instead more intensive use of that capacity.
- There were early signs of the potential impact of the economic crisis on homelessness. Between 2007 and 2008, there was an increase in the share of people living with family or friends the night before staying at a homeless residential program, a decrease in the share who reported they were already homeless, and an increase in the percentage who reported they had been in the place they stayed the night before for a year or more. These trends probably reflect the effect of the economic downturn that began in December 2007 and intensified toward the end of the period defined as 2008 (October 2007-September 2008).
- People are using homeless residential shelters for a longer amount of time. The share using emergency shelters or transitional housing for more than a month during the one-year period increased from 44.3 percent in 2007 to 48.2 percent in 2008. A somewhat higher percentage used transitional housing, which accounts in part for the longer stays overall. At the same time, the median length of stay in transitional housing also increased from 2007 to 2008 by 16 nights for individuals and 10 nights for persons in families.

The changing patterns of homelessness between 2007 and 2008 suggest that family homelessness may be sensitive to ups and downs in the national economy. In response to the economic crisis, homelessness grew among families, grew in suburban and rural areas, and became relatively more white and non-Hispanic. Many families were able to resolve their housing crisis quickly, spending short times in emergency shelter. But those who were not able to leave sheltered homelessness quickly had relatively longer stays in emergency shelter or transitional housing and were more likely to use transitional housing.

In contrast, the changes between 2007 and 2008 suggest that individual sheltered homelessness may be characterized increasingly by people with relatively high needs, as the number of individuals in emergency shelter or transitional housing remained stable despite the economic crisis. Indications of an individual homeless population with relatively higher needs are the increase in the share of individual homeless people who were in institutional settings the night before they became homeless, the increase in the share of sheltered homeless adults who report that they have a disability, and a drop in the percentage of individual homeless people with very short stays in emergency shelter. It may also suggest that communities have achieved some success in preventing homelessness among individuals with less severe needs.

While the 2008 data collection period (October 2007-September 2008) was still fairly early in the economic downturn, the effects of the recession were becoming evident, especially for families, among whom a substantial percentage in 2008 compared with 2007 came from a “housed” situation before entering sheltered homelessness. While the small share of families coming from a housing unit they owned did not increase, the share coming from a unit they rented increased, as did the shares reporting that they had been staying with relatives or friends.

## Chapter 5

# The Nationwide Capacity of Residential Programs for Homeless People

This chapter describes the nation’s capacity to provide shelter or permanent supportive housing for homeless and formerly homeless people. The inventory of beds is reported for four types of residential programs: emergency shelters, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and safe havens.<sup>30</sup> The chapter presents information on:

- *The 2008 inventory of beds by residential program type.* The chapter also presents the total number of beds dedicated to serving individuals and persons in families, as well as specific homeless subpopulations—e.g., unaccompanied youth, veterans, and victims of domestic violence.
- *The geographic location of beds in 2008,* focusing on the total number of beds by state and the proportion of beds located in urban and suburban/rural areas.
- *The frequency of bed use (or the bed utilization rate)* for emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. Bed utilization rates are also reported by geographic location.
- *Changes in the nation’s capacity to provide shelter or housing* for homeless and formerly homeless persons from 2006 to 2008.

With one exception, all of the information presented in this chapter was reported by CoCs in a bed inventory that is part of their annual applications for funding. The exception is that the bed utilization and turnover rates use one-year estimates of shelter users as well as bed inventory information, and thus are based on both HMIS data and CoC application data.

### 5.1 Inventory of Residential Programs and Beds, 2008

#### Total Number of Residential Programs and Beds

The 2008 national inventory of residential programs and year-round beds<sup>31</sup> serving homeless and formerly homeless persons included an estimated 19,563 residential programs and an estimated

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<sup>30</sup> HUD required CoCs to report safe haven programs separately in Exhibit 1 of the CoC application for the first time in 2008. See box below—“Types of Residential Programs”—for a definition of a safe haven.

<sup>31</sup> Year-round beds are available for use throughout the year and are considered part of the stable inventory of beds for homeless persons.

614,042 beds (see Exhibit 5-1).<sup>32</sup> The number of programs is divided almost evenly among emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing, with about a third of beds located in each program type.

### *Types of Residential Programs*

1. **Emergency Shelter:** A facility whose primary purpose is to provide temporary shelter for people who otherwise would be forced to stay in a place not fit for human habitation.
2. **Transitional Housing:** A residential program intended to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families into permanent housing. Homeless persons may live in transitional housing for up to 24 months and receive services that prepare them to obtain and retain permanent housing.
3. **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH):** Long-term, subsidized housing with supportive services for formerly homeless persons with disabilities to enable them to live as independently as possible in a permanent setting.
4. **Safe Havens:** A form of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons with severe mental illnesses who are on the streets and have been unable or unwilling to participate in supportive services.

### *Types of Beds Reported in a CoC Housing Inventory*

1. **Year-round beds:** Beds available for use throughout the year and considered part of the stable inventory of beds for homeless persons.
2. **Seasonal beds:** Beds usually available during particularly high-demand seasons (e.g., winter months in northern regions or summer months in southern regions), but not available throughout the year.
3. **Overflow beds:** Beds typically used during emergencies (e.g., a sudden drop in temperature or a natural disaster that displaces residents). Their availability is sporadic.
4. **Voucher beds:** Beds made available, usually in a hotel or motel. They often function as overflow beds. Some communities, especially rural communities, use vouchers instead of fixed shelters, and thus these beds also can also be year-round beds.
5. **Family units:** Housing units (e.g., apartments) that serve homeless families. Each family unit includes several beds.

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<sup>32</sup> The 2008 inventory includes beds that were reported by CoCs as part of their current and new inventories. The current inventory was available for occupancy on or before January 31, 2007. The new inventory was available for occupancy between February 1, 2007 and January 30, 2008.

### Exhibit 5-1: National Inventory of Residential Programs and Year-Round Beds, 2008<sup>a</sup>

Program Type	Programs		Beds	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Emergency Shelter	6,076	31.1%	211,222	34.4%
Transitional Housing	7,215	36.9%	205,062	33.4%
Permanent Supportive Housing	6,146	31.4%	195,724	31.9%
Safe Haven <sup>b</sup>	126	0.6%	2,034	0.3%
<b>Total Number</b>	<b>19,563</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>614,042</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Year-round beds are available for use throughout the year and are considered part of the stable inventory of beds for homeless persons. The bed inventory includes beds in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Territories of Guam and the Virgin Islands.

<sup>b</sup> The 2008 CoC application asked CoCs to report information on safe havens separately for the first time.

Source: 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Housing Inventory

The national bed inventory also includes safe haven programs. In 2008, CoCs were required to report safe haven programs separately on the CoC application for the first time. (In previous years, safe haven programs were reported as either emergency shelters or transitional housing.)

#### Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing

In 2008, the national inventory of year-round beds for homeless persons was split almost evenly between emergency shelter and transitional housing programs. Emergency shelters dedicated slightly more than half of their beds to homeless individuals, while transitional housing programs dedicated slightly more than half of their beds to homeless families (see Exhibit 5-2). Family beds are located within units—such as apartments or single rooms that are occupied by one family—and programs that served families had 65,587 family units with an average 3.2 beds per unit. Transitional housing programs provided more than half of all family units nationwide (54 percent), and the remaining units were provided through emergency shelters.

In addition to their year-round beds, CoCs must report their inventory of seasonal and overflow or voucher beds in emergency shelters. These beds are typically used during inclement weather conditions or when demand for shelter services exceeds the year-round bed capacity. The 2008 national bed inventory included 20,413 seasonal beds and 37,141 overflow or voucher beds. If these beds are added to the total number of year-round shelter beds in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, the nation's peak bed capacity for homeless persons in 2008 was 473,838 beds.

#### Permanent Supportive Housing

For several years, one of HUD's policy priorities has been the development of permanent supportive housing programs that provide a combination of housing and supportive services to formerly homeless people with disabilities. In 2008, the nation's permanent supportive

housing inventory included nearly 196,000 beds (see Exhibit 5-3). About 61 percent of these beds (119,143) served unaccompanied individuals, with the remaining 39 percent serving families (76,581). The inventory of permanent supportive housing beds for families was distributed across approximately 27,000 family units, with an average of 2.9 beds per unit.

**Exhibit 5-2: Number of Emergency and Transitional Beds and Units in Homeless Assistance System Nationwide, 2008**

	Year-Round Beds			Total Yr-Round Family Units	Other Beds	
	Total Year-Round Beds	Family Beds	Individual Beds		Seasonal	Overflow or Voucher
<b>Emergency Shelters</b>						
Current inventory	211,222	98,703	112,519	30,117	20,413	37,141
<b>Transitional Housing</b>						
Current inventory	205,062	110,973	94,089	35,470	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>						
Current inventory	416,284	209,676	206,608	65,587	20,413	37,141

Source: 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Housing Inventory

**Exhibit 5-3: Number of Permanent Supportive Housing Beds in Homeless Assistance System Nationwide, 2008**

	Year-Round Beds			Total Yr-Round Family Units
	Total Year-Round Beds	Family Beds	Individual Beds	
<b>Permanent Supportive Housing Programs</b>				
Current inventory	195,724	76,581	119,143	26,729

Source: 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Housing Inventory

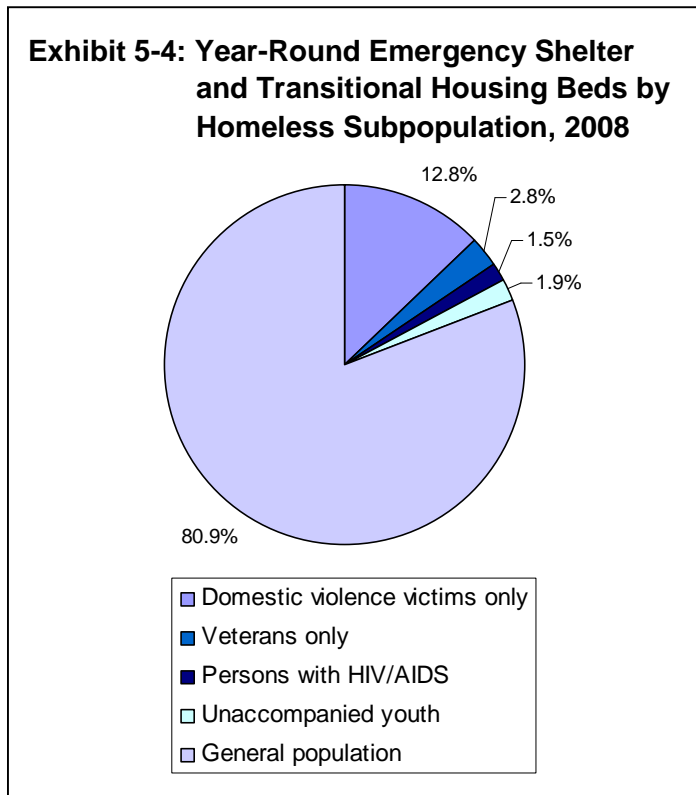
### Safe Havens

HUD funds safe haven programs designed to serve people with severe mental illness. Safe haven programs resemble permanent housing in that homeless persons may reside in these 24-hour residences for an unspecified duration in private or semi-private accommodations. Occupancy is limited to no more than 25 persons. The nation's inventory of safe haven programs included 2,034 beds in 2008, less than one percent of the total bed inventory. All safe haven beds served homeless individuals. As CoCs continue to report on safe haven programs in their CoC applications, future AHAR reports will track changes in the safe haven bed inventory over time.

## Inventory of Beds for Homeless Subpopulations

Emergency shelter and transitional housing programs reserve a portion of their beds for a variety of homeless subpopulations with special characteristics and needs. In 2008, about 81 percent of beds were available to the general homeless population, with the remainder of beds reserved for specific subpopulations: approximately 13 percent for victims of domestic violence; 3 percent for veterans; 2 percent for unaccompanied youth; and 2 percent for persons living with HIV/AIDS (see Exhibit 5-4).<sup>33</sup>

While both emergency shelters and transitional housing programs target about one-fifth of their beds for specific populations, the target population varies slightly by program type. A larger proportion of beds were available for victims of domestic violence in emergency shelters (16 percent) than in transitional housing (9 percent). Transitional housing programs reserved more beds for veterans (5 percent) and for persons living with HIV/AIDS (2 percent), compared to emergency shelters (0.8 percent for both population types). The share of beds for unaccompanied youth was the same for both emergency shelters and transitional housing programs (2 percent).



Source: 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Housing Inventory

## 5.2 Geographic Location of Beds, 2008

### Distribution of Beds by State

Exhibit 5-5 shows the total number of beds by state. The exhibit also provides a beds per capita rate that is equal to the number of beds per 1,000 people in the state. Nationwide, there were 2 beds for homeless and formerly homeless persons per 1,000 people in the United States.

<sup>33</sup> The CoC application reports beds dedicated to unaccompanied youth separately from beds dedicated to victims of domestic violence, veterans, or persons living with HIV/AIDS. The exhibit assumes that beds dedicated to unaccompanied youth are mutually exclusive from beds dedicated to these other subpopulations.

**Exhibit 5-5: National Inventory of Year-Round Beds and Beds Per Capita Rate by State, 2008<sup>1</sup>**

Rank	State	# of Beds	Beds Per Capita Rate	Rank	State	# of Beds	Beds Per Capita Rate
1	District of Columbia	8,858	15.0		New Hampshire	2,350	1.8
2	New York	88,998	4.6		Ohio	20,240	1.8
3	Oregon	14,215	3.8	29	Delaware	1,509	1.7
4	Maine	4,718	3.6		Iowa	5,102	1.7
	Hawaii	4,600	3.6		Indiana	10,817	1.7
6	Washington	23,123	3.5		Florida	31,026	1.7
7	Massachusetts	22,339	3.4		Missouri	9,955	1.7
8	Alaska	2,163	3.2	34	Louisiana	7,137	1.6
9	Nevada	7,162	2.8	35	Wisconsin	8,255	1.5
10	Minnesota	13,135	2.5		Wyoming	777	1.5
11	Vermont	1,495	2.4		Montana	1,407	1.5
12	Rhode Island	2,449	2.3	38	Alabama	6,752	1.4
13	Connecticut	7,563	2.2		Georgia	13,936	1.4
	California	79,119	2.2		Idaho	2,188	1.4
15	Arizona	13,321	2.0		Tennessee	8,885	1.4
	Pennsylvania	25,481	2.0		West Virginia	2,586	1.4
	South Dakota	1,636	2.0	43	North Carolina	11,998	1.3
18	Nebraska	3,463	1.9	44	Virginia	9,542	1.2
	North Dakota	1,199	1.9		Arkansas	3,359	1.2
	Kentucky	7,950	1.9	46	Kansas	3,192	1.1
	New Mexico	3,685	1.9		South Carolina	4,958	1.1
	Michigan	18,561	1.9		Oklahoma	4,002	1.1
23	Illinois	23,642	1.8		Texas	26,473	1.1
	Maryland	10,212	1.8		New Jersey	9,280	1.1
	Utah	4,931	1.8	51	Mississippi	2,044	0.7
	Colorado	8,849	1.8		Total	610,637	2.0

<sup>1</sup> The beds per capita rate indicates the number of residential beds per 1,000 people in the state. Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories are not included: Guam (303 beds and 2.0 beds per capita), Virgin Islands (157 beds and 1.4 beds per capita), and Puerto Rico (2,945 beds and 0.7 beds per capita).

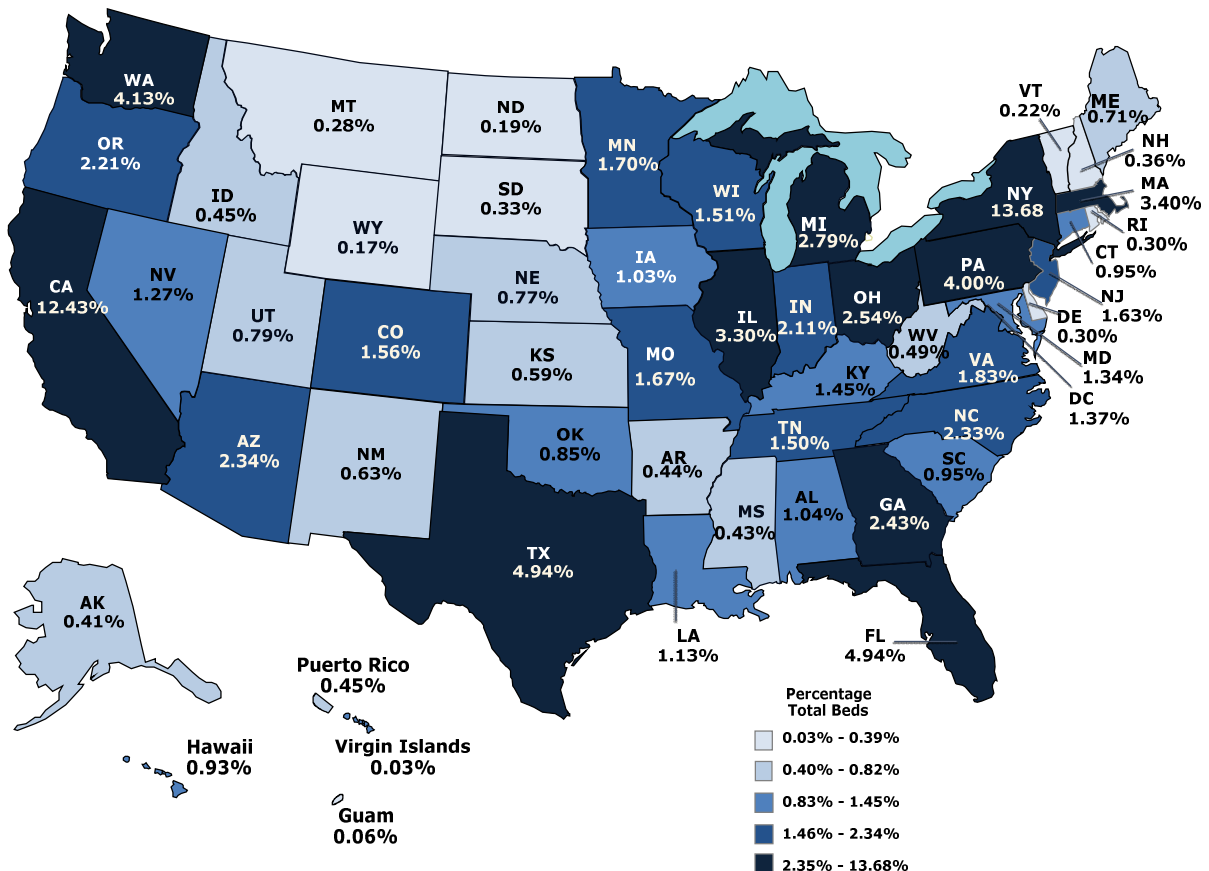
Sources: 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Housing Inventory; 2007 American Community Survey

The median number of beds per capita was 1.8. The District of Columbia has 8,858 beds, and its per capita rate surpassed all states, with 15 beds per 1,000 people. The State of New York had the largest inventory of beds in the country (88,998 beds) and the second highest per capita rate (4.6). California also had a very large bed inventory (79,119 beds), and its per capita rate was slightly above the national average (2.2). Among the five most populous states in the United States—California, Texas, New York, Florida, and Illinois—Texas had the lowest number of beds in



proportion to its population. Nonetheless, all populous states tended to have a large share of the total national bed inventory (see Exhibit 5-6).

**Exhibit 5-6 Percentage of the Nation's Bed Inventory by State, 2008**



Source: 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Housing Inventory

### Distribution of Beds by Urban and Suburban/Rural Areas

According to information submitted by CoCs in 2008, more than half of all programs and almost two-thirds of all beds are located in a principal city (see Exhibit 5-7). The distribution of programs and beds varies by program type. Transitional housing and permanent supportive housing programs follow a similar distribution as the nationwide inventory. But a large majority of safe haven programs and beds —about three-quarters—are located in principal cities. While about two-thirds of emergency shelter beds are located in principal cities, less than half of the programs are located in these areas. The seemingly inconsistent distribution of emergency shelter programs and beds is driven by the fact that emergency shelter programs tend to be larger in principal cities than in suburban and rural areas. The average size of an emergency shelter in principal cities was 52 beds, compared to 20 beds in suburban and rural areas.

### Exhibit 5-7: Distribution of Bed Inventory by Geographic Area, 2008

Type of Program	Total Number		Percentage of Total	
	Principal City	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal City	Suburban and Rural Areas
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>				
Number of programs	2,817	3,259	46.4%	53.6%
Number of year-round beds	147,186	64,036	69.7%	30.3%
<b>Transitional Housing</b>				
Number of programs	3,991	3,224	55.3%	44.7%
Number of year-round beds	126,826	78,236	61.9%	38.2%
<b>Permanent Supportive Housing</b>				
Number of programs	3,587	2,559	58.4%	41.6%
Number of year-round beds	131,869	63,855	67.4%	32.65
<b>Safe Haven</b>				
Number of programs	93	33	73.8%	26.25
Number of year-round beds	1,536	498	75.5%	24.5%
<b>Total</b>				
Number of programs	10,488	9,075	53.6%	46.4%
Number of year-round beds	407,417	206,625	66.4%	33.6%

Source: 2008 Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Housing Inventory

## 5.3 Bed Utilization and Turnover Rates, 2008

This section describes the average daily bed utilization and bed turnover rates by residential program type and geographic area. The bed utilization and turnover rates use one-year estimates of shelter users based on HMIS data as well as bed inventory information reported by CoCs in their annual applications. The HMIS data account for the total number of persons who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility at any point from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008.

### Emergency Shelters

Between October 2007 and September 2008, over 90 percent of emergency shelter beds were occupied on an average day (see Exhibit 5-8). Emergency shelter beds dedicated to individuals were near full capacity—around 94 percent occupied on an average day—whereas 86 percent of beds for persons in families were occupied on average. Emergency shelters also had high bed turnover rates, especially among homeless individuals. Seven homeless persons were served per bed each year, with a slightly higher turnover rate among individual beds and a lower rate among family beds.

### *Types of Bed Utilization Rates*

1. **Average daily utilization rate:** The percentage of available year-round equivalent beds occupied on an average night during the 12-month reporting period. Year-round equivalent beds include seasonal beds that have been pro-rated for the portion of the year that they are available.
2. **Turnover rate:** The total number of people served per year-round bed during the 12-month reporting period.

Emergency shelters located in principal cities had particularly high utilization rates but slightly lower bed turnover rates when compared to similar programs located in suburban/rural areas. About 93 percent of beds in principal cities were occupied on an average day compared to 86 percent of beds in suburban and rural areas. Beds dedicated to individuals in both principal cities and suburban/rural areas had higher utilization and turnover rates than those dedicated to persons in families.

**Exhibit 5-8: Average Daily Utilization and Turnover Rate of All Year-Round Equivalent Beds by Program and Household Type and by Geographic Area, 2008<sup>a</sup>**

Rate <sup>a</sup>	Emergency Shelters			Transitional Housing		
	Total	Individual	Family	Total	Individual	Family
<b>Overall</b>						
Utilization rate	91.0%	94.3%	86.1%	82.7%	87.1%	78.4%
Turnover rate	6.9	8.3	5.0	1.8	2.1	1.6
<b>Principal City</b>						
Utilization rate	93.1%	95.2%	89.7%	81.8%	84.8%	78.2%
Turnover rate	6.7	8.2	4.6	1.9	2.0	1.7
<b>Suburban and Rural Areas</b>						
Utilization rate	85.8%	91.9%	78.3%	83.9%	91.4%	78.6%
Turnover rate	7.3	8.7	5.7	1.8	2.3	1.5

<sup>a</sup> The rates reported in the exhibit are based on year-round *equivalent* beds. A year-round equivalent bed is equal to the total number of year-round beds plus the total number of seasonal beds in proportion to the amount of time these beds were available during the one-year reporting period.

<sup>b</sup> The exhibit provides two types of bed utilization rates—average daily bed utilization rates and bed turnover rates. The average daily bed utilization rate is calculated by dividing the average daily census during the study period by the total number of year-round beds in the current inventory and then converting it to a percentage. The turnover rate measures the number of persons served per available bed over the 12-month period. It is calculated by dividing the number of persons served by the number of year-round beds.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2008

## Transitional Housing

Compared to emergency shelters, transitional housing programs have lower bed utilization and turnover rates. About 83 percent of transitional housing beds were occupied on an average day, and beds dedicated to individuals were again more likely to be occupied than those serving persons in families (87 percent versus 78 percent). Not surprisingly, bed turnover rates in transitional housing were much lower than those of emergency shelters. During the one-year reporting period, a transitional housing bed for either individuals or persons in families typically serves two people.

Unlike emergency shelters, transitional housing programs located in suburban/rural areas have higher bed utilization rates than those located in principal cities. About 84 percent of transitional housing beds in suburban/rural areas are occupied on an average day compared to 82 percent of beds in principal cities. There is little difference in bed turnover rates by geographic area for transitional housing programs.

The 2008 data on bed use reinforced two patterns that have been consistently observed in other studies: (1) emergency shelters have higher average daily utilization rates and turnover rates than transitional housing programs, and (2) beds for unaccompanied individuals have higher average daily utilization rates and turnover rates than beds for persons in families.<sup>34</sup> Duration in a shelter and frequency of bed use both affect turnover rates. The shorter the average length of stay and the faster a program can fill a vacant bed, the higher the turnover rate. These findings are consistent with the information reported in chapter 3, which shows that people who stay in emergency shelters had shorter lengths of stay than those who stay in transitional housing programs, and that individuals who stay in both program types had shorter lengths of stay than families.

## 5.4 Changes in the National Inventory of Residential Programs and Beds, 2006-2008

### Changes in the Total Number of Residential Programs and Beds

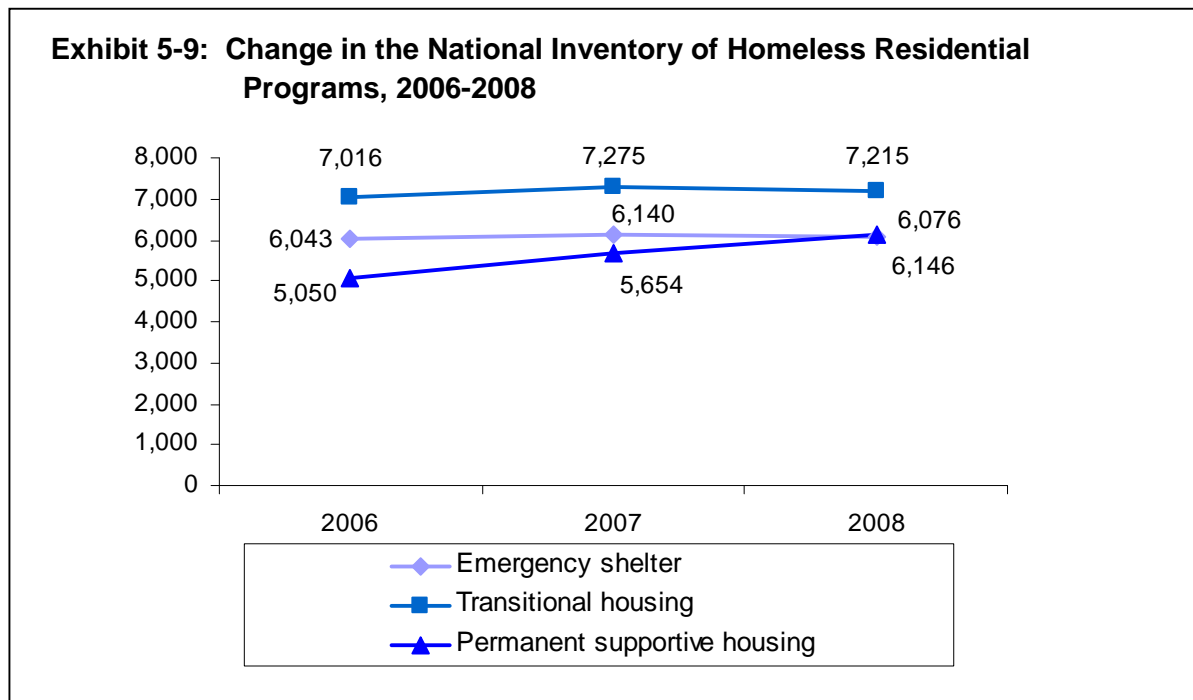
Since 2006, the total number of residential programs in the national inventory of programs serving homeless and formerly homeless persons has increased by 1,454 (see Exhibit 5-9).<sup>35</sup> The increase includes an additional 33 emergency shelters (0.5 percent increase since 2006), 199 transitional

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<sup>34</sup> Burt, Martha and Sam Hall. 2008. *Transforming the District of Columbia's Public Homeless Assistance System*. Washington D.C.: Urban Institute.

<sup>35</sup> There were an additional 126 safe haven programs that were excluded from this analysis because 2008 was the first year in which these programs were reported separately and thus trend data is not available. If safe havens were included, there would be 1,580 more programs in 2008 than 2006.

housing programs (2.8 percent), and 1,096 permanent supportive housing programs (21.7 percent).



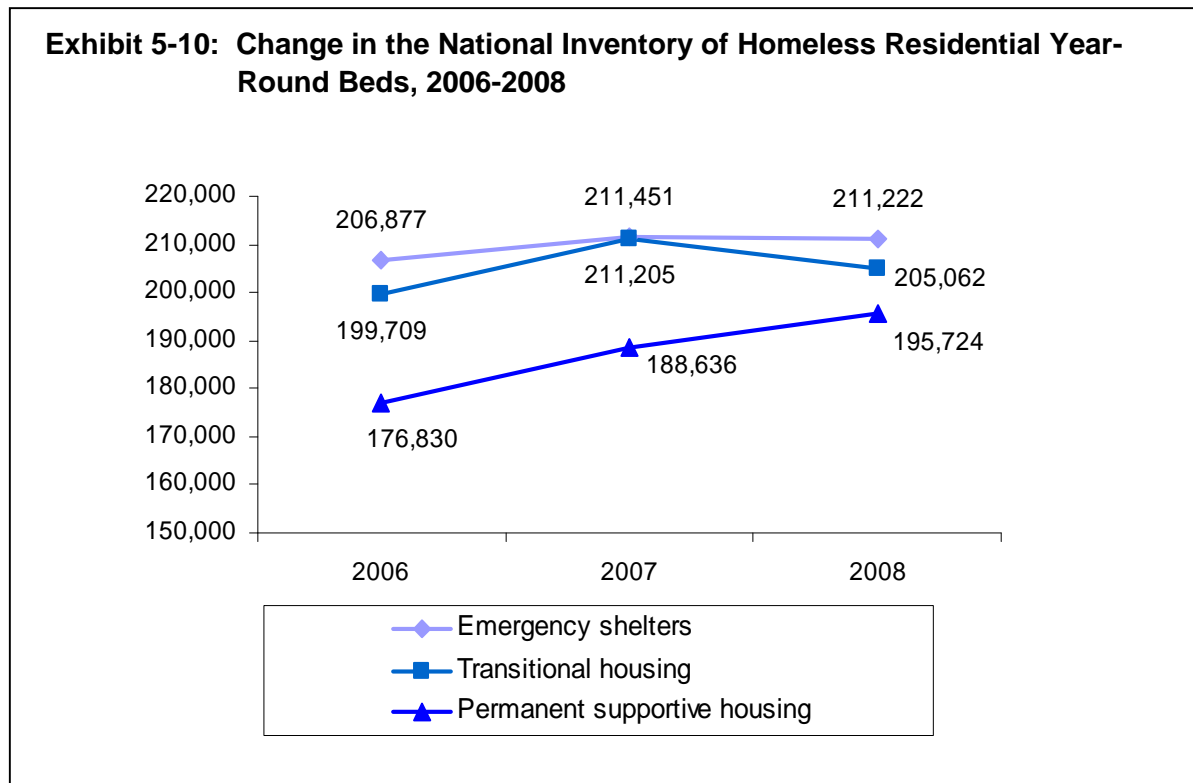
Source: Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Housing Inventory, 2006-2008

During the same 3-year period, the total number of beds available in residential programs throughout the United States increased by almost 31,000 beds (or 5 percent), reflecting an increase in beds across all program types (see Exhibit 5-10). The number of emergency shelter beds increased by 4,345 (2 percent), the number of transitional housing beds increased by 5,353 (3 percent), and the number of permanent supportive housing beds increased by 18,894 (11 percent).

The increase in the inventory of permanent supportive housing programs and beds is particularly noteworthy because it is consistent with HUD’s emphasis on expanding the stock of supportive housing. In collaboration with the Interagency Council on Homelessness, HUD has placed federal policy and funding behind local efforts to end homelessness through permanent supportive housing. Hundreds of city governments have responded by developing “10 year plans” that place a priority on expanding permanent supportive housing in their communities. HUD has also partnered with the Department of Veterans Affairs to administer jointly a new federal Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program. The HUD–VASH program combines rental assistance for homeless veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs at its medical centers and in the community.

As reported in chapter 2, the number of persons who were chronically homeless remained essentially the same from 2007 to 2008, despite adding nearly 19,000 permanent supportive

housing beds during this period. It is possible that the number of persons experiencing chronic homelessness kept pace with the new inventory—that is, the new inventory of permanent supportive housing beds offset increases in chronic homelessness—and in the absence of the new inventory, the number of chronically homeless persons would have increased. This finding may also suggest the need to target permanent supportive housing beds more effectively to persons experiencing chronic homelessness.

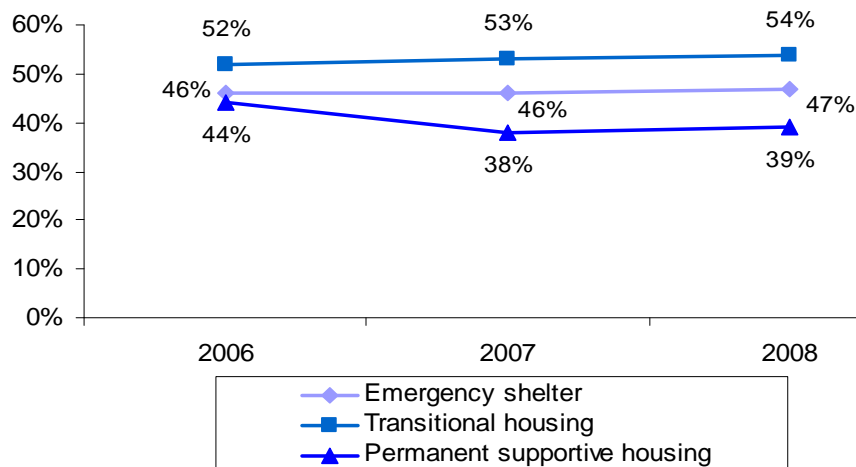


Source: Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Housing Inventory, 2006-2008

### Changes in the Inventory of Beds for Homeless Subpopulations

The overall proportion of beds dedicated to homeless individuals and persons in families has remained fairly constant since 2006. The percentage of beds dedicated to homeless persons in families has remained level in emergency shelters, at about 46 percent, and also in transitional housing, at about 53 percent (see Exhibit 5-11). The percentage of permanent supportive housing beds for families has decreased slightly since 2006, from 44 percent to 39 percent in 2008, likely reflecting the increased number of new units resulting from an emphasis on ending chronic homelessness through permanent supportive housing programs (by definition, all chronically homeless persons are individuals).

**Exhibit 5-11: Change in the Percentage of Beds Dedicated to Persons in Families by Program Type, 2006-2008**



Source: Continuum of Care Application: Exhibit 1, CoC Housing Inventory, 2006-2008

### Changes in Average Daily Utilization and Turnover Rates

Average daily utilization and turnover rates increased from 2007 to 2008 (see Exhibit 5-12).<sup>36</sup> Overall, utilization rates among emergency shelters and transitional housing programs increased 2.5 and 5.8 percentage points, respectively. Bed turnover rates for both program types changed little from 2007 to 2008.

Changes in bed utilization patterns, however, varied depending on the geographic location of programs and beds. Use of emergency shelters on an average day increased in principal cities (5.5 percentage points), but decreased in suburban and rural areas (5.6 percentage points). The decrease was attributed to a large decrease among emergency shelters that served families (from 93.9 percent in 2007 to 78.3 percent in 2008), which offset a slight increase among emergency shelters that served individuals (from 89.7 percent in 2007 to 91.9 percent in 2008). Bed turnover rates declined very slightly.

<sup>36</sup> The rates reported in the 2008 AHAR were based on year-round *equivalent* beds. A year-round equivalent bed is equal to the total number of year-round beds plus the total number of seasonal beds in proportion to the amount of time these beds were available during the one-year reporting period. In previous AHARs, both the average daily utilization and turnover rates were based on year-round beds. Rates based on year-round *equivalent* beds are more precise in that these rates account for seasonal beds, which, in some communities, represent a large percentage of their total bed inventory.

**Exhibit 5-12: Average Daily Utilization and Turnover Rate of All Year-Round Equivalent Beds by Program Type and by Geographic Area, 2007-2008<sup>a</sup>**

Rates <sup>b</sup>	Total		Principal City		Suburban/Rural	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
<b>Average Daily Utilization Rate</b>						
Emergency Shelter	88.5%	91.0%	87.6%	93.1%	91.4%	85.8%
Transitional Housing	76.9%	82.7%	78.6%	81.8%	73.7%	83.9%
<b>Turnover Rate</b>						
Emergency Shelter	7.3	6.9	7.5	6.7	6.6	7.3
Transitional Housing	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.8

<sup>a</sup> The rates reported in the exhibit were based on year-round *equivalent* beds. A year-round equivalent bed is equal to the total number of year-round beds plus the total number of seasonal beds in proportion to the amount of time these beds were available during the one-year reporting period. The rates reported for 2007 will not match the rates reported in the 2007 AHAR because previous AHARs calculated utilization rates based on year-round beds. Rates based on year-round equivalent beds are more precise in that these rates account for seasonal beds, which, in some communities, represent a large percentage of their total bed inventory.

<sup>b</sup> The exhibit provides two types of bed utilization rates—average daily bed utilization rates and bed turnover rates. The average daily bed utilization rate is calculated by dividing the average daily census during the study period by the total number of year-round beds in the current inventory and then converting it to a percentage. The turnover rate measures the number of persons served per available bed over the 12-month period. It is calculated by dividing the number of persons served by the number of year-round beds.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2007 – 2008

## 5.5 Summary of the Nationwide Capacity of Residential Programs for Homeless People

Use of transitional housing programs increased in principal cities and surged in suburban/rural areas. The increase in principal cities (3.2 percentage points) included an increase in bed use among both individuals (4.1 percentage points) and persons in families (2.1 percentage points). In suburban/rural areas, the use of beds in transitional housing programs increased by 10.3 percentage points, which was consistent across programs serving individuals and families. These findings were consistent with the sizable increase in suburban/rural homelessness that was reported in chapter 3.

In sum, the bed inventory data reported by CoCs show that:

- The 2008 national inventory of residential programs and year-round beds serving homeless and formerly homeless persons included an estimated 19,563 residential programs and an estimated 614,042 beds.
- The 2008 national bed inventory included 20,413 seasonal beds and 37,141 overflow or voucher beds. If these beds are added to the total number of year-round shelter



beds in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, the nation's peak bed capacity for homeless persons in 2008 was 473,838 beds.

- The increase in the nationwide inventory of programs between 2006 and 2008 for homeless and formerly homeless persons was driven almost entirely by the 22 percent increase in the inventory of permanent supportive housing programs.
- Between 2006 through 2008, the total number of beds available in residential programs throughout the United States increased by almost 31,000 (5 percent), reflecting an increase in beds across all program types.
- Between 2007 and 2008, the average daily bed utilization rate increased overall, but surged by 10 percentage points among transitional housing programs in suburban and rural areas.



## Chapter 6

### Looking Ahead

The 2008 AHAR is the first report to provide year-to-year trend information on the prevalence of homelessness nationwide, the demographic characteristics of homeless people, and the way homeless people use the residential services system. The trend information is based on HMIS data collected at the local level and covers a two-year period, from October 1, 2006-September 30, 2007 and October 1, 2007-September 30, 2008. It is also the first report to compare PIT estimates reported by CoCs across multiple years.

The trends observed in this report reinforce some of the findings from previous AHARs. Namely, homelessness remains predominately an urban phenomenon and most people are homeless as individuals rather than as members of families. But trends in the 2008 AHAR also provide an early indication of how homelessness may be changing over time and whether the current economic and foreclosure crisis has led to higher rates of homelessness. Overall, the number of sheltered homeless persons has remained relatively unchanged from 2007 to 2008, at about 1.6 million people over the course of the year, but the composition of the sheltered homeless population has shifted appreciably. During the two-year period, the number of sheltered persons in families increased by 9 percent, and families now represent nearly one-third of the entire sheltered population, up from 29 percent in 2007. This shift has occurred simultaneously with another important shift: between 2007 and 2008, the share of the overall sheltered homeless population living in suburban and rural areas increased from 23 percent to 32 percent.

So far there is little evidence to suggest that the early months of the economic recession have created a surge in the number of sheltered homeless persons, but the early signs of the recession's impact are present. In fact, it may be premature to expect these changes in the 2008 AHAR because the impact of the crisis continues to unfold and the data collection period for the 2008 AHAR ended on September 30, 2008, just as the crisis was accelerating. Also, there is an expected time delay between the moment someone loses her job or home and the moment she enters the shelter system. People typically would rely on other housing options—such as family and friends—before resorting to the shelter system. Data in the 2008 AHAR reinforce this point. Between 2007 and 2008, there was an increase in the share of people coming to shelters who were living with family or friends the night before entering a homeless residential facility, as well as an increase in the percentage that were staying in a place for one year or more before becoming homeless. These trends probably reflect the early signs of the economic downturn.

## 6.1 The 2009 AHAR

The 2009 AHAR will continue to provide Congress and the nation with updated counts of homelessness nationwide, including counts of individuals, persons in families, and special population groups such as chronically homeless people and persons with disabilities. The next report will also use trend data for three years (2007-2009) to explore changes in the demographic profile of homelessness; where people use emergency shelter and transitional housing; where people were just before they entered a residential program; how much time they spend in shelters over the course of a year; and the size and use of the U.S inventory of residential programs for homeless people.

These topics will be explored using data from an ever-expanding group of communities that participate in the AHAR. Between 2007 and 2008, the number of communities that provided useable data to the AHAR increased from 98 to 222, the largest increase since HUD first began collecting data for the AHAR. HUD expects this trend to continue, and future AHARs will soon be reflecting data collected by the majority of Continuums of Care nationwide. As a result, the precision of the national estimates are expected to improve with each successive report.

The 2009 AHAR will also feature two important additions: a special chapter on homeless veterans and data on HUD's efforts to prevent homelessness and re-house homeless people through the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). The chapter on homeless veterans comes at a time when many service men and women are returning from active duty in Iraq and being deployed to Afghanistan. Thus, the chapter will provide an important baseline understanding of homelessness among veterans that, in turn, can be used to assess how homelessness among veterans may change over time.

In addition, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Congress allocated \$1.5 billion for a Homelessness Prevention Fund, which supports HPRP. The purpose of HPRP is to provide homelessness prevention assistance to households who would otherwise become homeless—many due to the economic crisis—and to provide assistance to rapidly re-house persons who are homeless. HUD will begin collecting data from HPRP programs nationwide and report this information in the 2009 AHAR.

HUD continues to view the AHAR as the primary resource for up-to-date information about homelessness based on locally-derived HMIS data and is exploring ways to make these data readily accessible to states, localities, and the general public. Based on the AHAR, policymakers and practitioners alike will be able to better understand homelessness in their communities, allocate local homeless assistance funds effectively, improve program operations, and work toward the ultimate goal of ending homelessness.

**Appendix A: List of 2008 AHAR Sample Sites and  
Contributing Communities**

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Sample Sites</b>								
1	AK-501	Alaska Balance of State	Hoonah-Angoon	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
2	AL-502	Northwest	Lawrence County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
3	AZ-500	Rural Arizona CoC	Flagstaff	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
4	AZ-502	Maricopa CoC	Phoenix	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	CA-501	City and County of San Francisco	San Francisco	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
6	CA-506	Monterrey County	Seaside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	*
7	CA-507	Marin County CoC	Marin County	No	No	No	No	No
8	CA-510	Modesto/Stanshlaw County Collaborative	Modesto	No	No	No	No	No
9	CA-514	Fresno Madera CoC	Fresno	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
10	CA-600	County of Los Angeles	Los Angeles	No	No	No	No	No
11	CA-600	County of Los Angeles	Los Angeles County	No	No	No	No	No
12	CA-600	County of Los Angeles	Pico Rivera	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
13	CA-601	City of San Diego	San Diego	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
14	CA-602	Orange County CoC	Mission Viejo	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
15	CA-607	Pasadena CoC	Pasadena	No	No	No	No	No
16	CA-608	County of Riverside CoC	Moreno Valley	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
17	CO-500	State of Colorado CoC	Crowley County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? 1	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Sample Sites</b>								
18	CO-500	Colorado Balance of State	Saguache County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
19	CO-503	Metro Denver Homeless Initiative	Adams County	Yes	Yes	Yes	*	*
20	CT-502	Hartford CoC	Hartford	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
21	CT-503	Bridgeport CoC	Stratford	Yes	*	Yes	*	*
22	DC-500	District of Columbia Homeless Services	Washington DC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
23	DE-500	Wilmington CoC	Wilmington	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
24	DE-500	Delaware Statewide	Sussex County	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
25	FL-500	Sarasota/Bradenton/Manatee Counties	Sarasota	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
26	FL-503	Polk/Hardee/Highland CoC	Polk County	Yes	No	Yes	No	*
27	FL-504	Volusia County CoC	Deltona	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
28	FL-514	Ocala/Marion County	Marion County	No	*	No	No	No
29	GA-500	Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative	Atlanta	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
30	GA-501	Georgia BofS CoC	Macon County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
31	GA-501	Georgia BofS CoC	Oconee County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
32	GA-501	Georgia Balance of State	Putnam County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
33	GA-501	Georgia	Seminole County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
34	GA-504	Augusta-Richmond County	Augusta-Richmond	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Sample Sites</b>								
35	IA-501	Iowa Balance of State	Monona County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
36	ID-501	Idaho Balance of State	Oneida County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
37	IL-510	Chicago CoC	Chicago	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
38	IL-511	Cook County CoC	Cook County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
39	IL-513	Springfield	Sangamon County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
40	KS-507	Kansas Balance of State	Barton County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
41	KY-500	Hardin County Commonwealth of Kentucky CoC	Hardin County	Yes	No	*	No	Yes
42	LA-502	Northwest Louisiana	Bossier City	Yes	*	Yes	*	No
43	LA-506	Northlake Homeless Coalition	Slidell	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	*
44	LA-506	Slidell/Livingston/Saint Helena	St. Tammany Parish	Yes	*	*	*	Yes
45	MA-500	Boston	Boston	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
46	MA-512	Lawrence/Burlington CoC	Lawrence	No	No	No	No	No
47	MA-519	Greater Attleboro/Taunton CoC	Attleboro	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
48	MD-601	Montgomery County CoC	Montgomery County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
49	ME-500	Maine Balance of State	York County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
50	MI-500	Michigan Balance of State	Delta County	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	Yes



#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Sample Sites</b>								
51	MI-500	Michigan Balance of State	Bernien County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
52	MI-501	City of Detroit CoC	Detroit	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
53	MI-503	Macomb County CoC	Macomb County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
54	MI-504	Farmington Hills	Farmington Hills	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
55	MI-508	Lansing/East Lansing/Ingham County CoC	Lansing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
56	MI-509	Washtenaw County CoC	Washtenaw County	Yes	Yes	Yes	*	Yes
57	MN-500	Minneapolis/Hennepin County CoC	Hennepin County	Yes	Yes	Yes	*	Yes
58	MN-501	St. Paul/Ramsey County CoC	St. Paul	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
59	MN-502	Southeast and South Central Regional Network	Rochester	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
60	MN-506	Northwest Minnesota CoC	Norman County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
61	MN-508	West Central Minnesota CoC	Moorhead	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
62	MN-512	Washington County CoC	Washington County	Yes	Yes	Yes	*	*
63	MS-501	Mississippi Balance of State CoC	Hattiesburg	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
64	MS-501	Mississippi Balance of State CoC	Humphreys County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
65	MS-501	Mississippi Balance of State	Sunflower County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
66	MT-500	State of Montana CoC	Billings	No	No	No	No	No
67	MT-500	State of Montana CoC	Great Falls	No	No	No	No	No

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Sample Sites</b>								
68	NE-501	City of Omaha	Council Bluffs	Yes	*	*	*	*
69	NE-501	Omaha/Council Bluffs	Douglas County	No Shelter Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
70	NJ-501	Bergen County	Bergen County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
71	NJ-503	Camden City/Camden County	Camden	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
72	NJ-510	Ocean County CoC	Brick Township	Yes	*	Yes	*	*
73	NV-500	Southern Nevada CoC	Clark County	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
74	NY-501	Chemung County CoC	Elmira	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	Yes
75	NY-505	Syracuse County CoC	Onondaga County	Yes	*	*	Yes	Yes
76	NY-509	Troy/ Rensselaer County	Rensselaer County	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	*
77	NY-509	Allegany County	Allegany County	Yes	*	*	Yes	Yes
78	NY-600	New York City Coalition/CoC	New York City	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
79	NY-603	Nassau/Suffolk Coalition for the Homeless	Islip Town	No	No	*	No	No
80	OH-502	Cleveland/Cuyahoga County/Cleveland CoC	Cleveland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
81	OH-507	Lancaster/Ohio Balance of State	Lancaster	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	*
82	OH-507	Springfield/Ohio Balance of State	Springfield	No	No	No	No	No
83	OH-507	Putnam/Ohio Balance of State	Putnam County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
84	OK-500	North Central Oklahoma	Pawnee County	No	No	No	No	No

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Sample Sites</b>								
85	OK-503	Midwest City/State of Oklahoma	Midwest City	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
86	PA-500	Philadelphia/City of Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
87	PA-507	Central-Harrisburg Region of Pennsylvania	Lycoming County	Yes	*	Yes	No	No
88	PA-507	Central Harrisburg Region of Pennsylvania	Snyder County	Yes	*	Yes	*	Yes
89	PA-601	Southwest Region PA	Westmoreland County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	*
90	SD-500	South Dakota	Hamlin County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
91	TX-600	Dallas/Dallas Homeless CoC	Dallas	No	No	No	No	No
92	TX-602	Houston/Harris County	Houston	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
93	TX-603	El Paso/EI Paso CoC	El Paso	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
94	VA-500	Chesterfield County VA	Chesterfield County	No	*	No	*	No
95	VA-507	Portsmouth/Portsmouth CoC	Portsmouth	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
96	VT-501	Chittenden County	Chittenden County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
97	WA-500	Seattle-King County CoC	Seattle	No	No	No	No	No
98	WA-501	State of Washington CoC	Skagit County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
99	WA-501	Washington Balance of State	Franklin County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
100	WA-501	State of Washington CoC	Adams County	No Shelter Providers	*	*	*	*
101	WA-507	Yakima City and County	Yakima	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
102	WI-500	Forest County/State of Wisconsin CoC	Forest County	Yes	*	Yes	Yes	*

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Contributing Communities</b>								
1	AK-500	Anchorage	Anchorage	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
2	AR-500	Little Rock CoCdd	Little Rock CoC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	AR-501	Fayetteville/Northwest Arkansas CoC	Fayetteville/Northwest Arkansas CoC	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
4	AR-504	Delta Hills	Delta Hills	Yes	No	*	Yes	No
5	AR-505	Southeast Arkansas	Southeast Arkansas	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	*
6	AR-506	Arkansas Balance of State	Arkansas Balance of State	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	*
7	AR-508	Old Fort Homeless Coalition	Old Fort Homeless Coalition	Yes	No	*	Yes	Yes
8	AZ-502	Maricopa CoC	Maricopa County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
9	CA-500	Santa Clara County	Santa Clara County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
10	CA-504	Sonoma County	Sonoma County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
11	CA-505	Contra Costa County	Contra Costa County	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
12	CA-610	San Diego County	San Diego County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
13	CO-504	Colorado Springs/EI Paso County	Colorado Springs/EI Paso County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
14	CT-503	Greater Bridgeport	Bridgeport	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
15	CT-506	Greater Norwalk Area	Greater Norwalk Area	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	Yes
16	CT-508	Greater Stamford/Greenwich Area	Stamford	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
17	CT-510	Bristol	Bristol	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Contributing Communities</b>								
18	FL-501	Tampa/Hillsborough County	Tampa/Hillsborough County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
19	FL-502	Pinellas	Pinellas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
20	FL-503	Polk County, Lakeland/Winterhaven	Lakeland	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
21	FL-503	Polk County, Lakeland/Winterhaven	Winterhaven	Yes	Yes	Yes	*	*
22	FL-506	Tallahassee/Leon	Tallahassee/Leon	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
23	FL-507	Orlando/Orange/Osceola/Seminole County	Orlando/Orange/Osceola/Seminole County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
24	FL-520	Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Sumter Counties CoC	Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Sumter Counties	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
25	FL-602	Punta Gorda/Charlotte County	Punta Gorda/Charlotte County	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	Yes
26	FL-603	Lee County	Lee County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
27	GA-500	Atlanta Tri-Jurisdiction	Atlanta Suburban (Fulton-DeKalb Counties)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
28	GA-503	Athens/Clark County	Athens/Clark County	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
29	HI-500	Hawaii State	Hawaii State	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
30	HI-501	Honolulu CoC	Honolulu CoC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
31	IA-500	Sioux City/Dakota County	Sioux City/Dakota County	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
32	IA-501	Iowa CoC	Iowa CoC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
33	IA-502	Moines/Polk County	Des Moines	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
34	ID-501	Statewide CoC	Idaho Balance of State	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
35	IL-502	Waukegan/N. Chicago/Lake County	Waukegan/N. Chicago/Lake County	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Contributing Communities</b>								
36	IL-504	Madison County	Madison County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
37	IL-505	Evanston CoC	Evanston CoC	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
38	IL-506	Joliet/Bolingbrook/WillCounty	Joliet/Bolingbrook/WillCounty	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
39	IL-507	Peoria Area	Peoria Area	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
40	IL-512	Central Illinois	Central Illinois	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
41	IL-513	Springfield/Sangamon County	Springfield/Sangamon County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
42	IL-517	Kane County	Kane County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
43	IN-502	State of Indiana	State of Indiana	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
44	KS-501	Greater Kansas City	Wyandotte County	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
45	KS-505	Johnson County	Johnson County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
46	KY-500	Commonwealth of Kentucky/Balance of State	Commonwealth of Kentucky/Balance of State	Yes	No	No	No	No
47	KY-501	Louisville/Jefferson County	Louisville/Jefferson County	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
48	LA-500	Acadiana	Acadiana	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
49	LA-505	Northeast Louisiana	Northeast Louisiana	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
50	MA-503	Cape Cod/Islands	Cape Cod/Islands	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
51	MA-509	Cambridge CoC	Cambridge CoC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
52	MA-515	City of Fall River	City of Fall River	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
53	MD-501	Baltimore City CoC	Baltimore City CoC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Contributing Communities</b>								
54	MD-503	AnneArundel County	Anne Arundel County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
55	MD-506	Carroll County	Carroll County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
56	MD-600	Prince Georges County/Maryland	Prince Georges County/Maryland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
57	ME-500	Statewide CoC	Statewide CoC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
58	ME-501	GreaterPenobscot/Bangor	Greater Penobscot/Bangor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
59	ME-502	City of Portland	Portland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
60	MI-500	Michigan Balance of State	Michigan Balance of State	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
61	MI-502	Out-Wayne Cty	Out-Wayne Cty	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
62	MI-504	Oakland County	Oakland County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
63	MI-505	Flint/Genessee County CoC	Flint/Genessee County	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
64	MI-507	Kalamazoo	Kalamazoo	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
65	MI-508	Lansing/Ingham County CoC	Lansing/E Lansing/Ingham County CoC	Yes	Yes	Yes	*	Yes
66	MI-510	Saginaw County	Saginaw County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
67	MI-516	Muskegon City and County	Muskegon City and County	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
68	MI-517	JacksonCity/County	JacksonCity/County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
69	MI-519	Holland/Ottawa County	Holland/Ottawa County	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
70	MN-500	Minneapolis/Hennepin County	Minneapolis/Hennepin County	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
71	MN-501	St. Paul/Ramsey County	St. Paul/Ramsey County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Contributing Communities</b>								
72	MN-502	Southeast Minnesota	Southeast Minnesota	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
73	MN-503	Dakota County	Dakota County	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
74	MN-504	Northeast Minnesota	Northeast Minnesota	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
75	MN-505	Central Minnesota	Central Minnesota	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
76	MN-506	Northwest Minnesota	Northwest Minnesota	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
77	MN-507	Anoka County	Anoka County	Yes	*	Yes	Yes	No
78	MN-509	Duluth/St. Louis County	Duluth/St. Louis County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
79	MN-510	Scott/Carver County	Scott/Carver County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
80	MN-511	Southwest Minnesota	Southwest Minnesota	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
81	MO-500	St. Louis County CoC	St. Louis County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
82	MO-600	Greater Springfield	Greater Springfield	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
83	MO-604	Kansas City/Jackson County	Kansas City/Jackson County	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
84	MO-606	Missouri Balance of State	Missouri Balance of State	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
85	MS-503	Gulf Port/Gulf Coast Regional	Gulf Port/Gulf Coast Regional	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
86	MT-500	Montana	Montana	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
87	NC-505	Charlotte-Mecklenberg	Charlotte-Mecklenberg	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
88	NC-509	Gaston/Lincoln/Cleveland	Gaston/Lincoln/Cleveland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
89	ND-500	North Dakota	North Dakota	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No



#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Contributing Communities</b>								
90	NE-501	Omaha Area	Omaha Area	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
91	NH-501	City of Manchester	City of Manchester	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
92	NH-502	Greater Nashua CoC	Greater Nashua CoC	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
93	NJ-505	Gloucester County	Gloucester County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
94	NJ-506	Jersey City/Hudson County	Jersey City/Hudson County	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
95	NJ-507	Middlesex County	Middlesex County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
96	NJ-508	Monmouth County	Monmouth County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	*
97	NJ-511	Passaic County	Passaic County	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
98	NJ-512	Salem County	Salem County	Yes	*	Yes	*	Yes
99	NJ-515	Union County	Union County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
100	NY-508	Buffalo/Erie County	Buffalo/Erie County	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
101	NY-511	Broome County/City of Binghamton	Broome County/City of Binghamton	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
102	NY-512	City of Troy and Rensselaer	City of Troy and Rensselaer	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
103	NY-523	Saratoga	Saratoga	Yes	No	*	Yes	Yes
104	NY-601	Dutchess County	Dutchess County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
105	NY-608	Ulster County	Ulster County	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
106	OH-500	Cincinnati-Hamilton County CoC	Cincinnati-Hamilton County CoC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
107	OH-501	Greater Toledo	Greater Toledo	Yes	No	Yes	No	No

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Contributing Communities</b>								
108	OH-504	Youngstown/Mahoning County CoC	Youngstown/Mahoning County CoC	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
109	OH-505	Dayton/Kettering/Montgomery County	Dayton/Kettering/Montgomery County	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
110	OK-501	Tulsa CoC	Tulsa CoC	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
111	OR-500	Lane County	Lane County	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
112	OR-501	Portland-Grasham-Multnomah County CoC	Portland-Grasham-Multnomah County CoC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
113	OR-503	Central Oregon	Central Oregon	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
114	OR-506	Washington County, OR	Washington County, OR	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
115	OR-507	Clackamas County	Clackamas County	Yes	Yes	Yes	*	Yes
116	PA-503	Luzerne County	Luzerne County	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
117	PA-505	Chester County	Chester County	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
118	PA-508	Scranton/Lackawana PA	Scranton/Lackawana PA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
119	PA-600	Allegheny County/Pittsburgh	Allegheny County/Pittsburgh	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
120	RI-500	Rhode Island CoC	Rhode Island	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
121	TN-500	Chattanooga CoC	Chattanooga CoC	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
122	TN-501	Memphis-Shelby CoC	Memphis-Shelby CoC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
123	TX-500	San Antonio/Bexar County	San Antonio/Bexar County	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
124	TX-503	Austin/Travis County	Austin/Travis County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
125	TX-504	Victoria	Victoria	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

#	CoC Code	Continuum of Care Name	AHAR Jurisdiction Name	Participated in the AHAR? <sup>1</sup>	Reporting Categories Used in the AHAR			
					Emergency Shelters for Families	Transitional Housing for Families	Emergency Shelters for Individuals	Transitional Housing for Individuals
<b>Contributing Communities</b>								
126	TX-601	Tarrant County/Fort Worth	Tarrant County/Ft. Worth	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
127	TX-610	Denton (was TX02 West TX)	Denton	Yes	*	Yes	No	*
128	TX-611	Amarillo	Amarillo	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
129	VA-601	Fairfax County	Fairfax County	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
130	WA-508	Vancouver/Clark County	Vancouver/Clark County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
131	WI-500	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
132	WI-501	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
133	WI-502	Racine City/County	Racine City/County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
134	WI-503	Madison/Dane County	Madison/Dane County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
135	WV-500	Wheeling-Weirton County CoC	Wheeling-Weirton County	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

<sup>1</sup> A community designated as a "complete zero provider" does not have any emergency shelters or transitional housing programs located in their jurisdiction.

\* Indicates a zero-provider reporting category, meaning that the community does not have any programs in the category.



## **Appendix B: Data Collection and Analysis Methodology**

## B.1 Introduction

This document summarizes the methodology for producing the 2008 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR). Abt Associates and the University of Pennsylvania Center for Mental Health Policy and Services Research (the AHAR research team) developed the methodology.

The 2008 AHAR is based on two primary sources of data:

1. *Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)*. The HMIS data were collected from a nationally representative sample of communities<sup>1</sup> and cover a one-year reporting period, October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008. The data contain information on homeless persons who used emergency shelters or transitional housing at any point during this time period. Data are unduplicated at the community-level and reported in the aggregate. HMIS data include information on the number, characteristics, and service-use patterns of homeless persons. Each AHAR incorporates HMIS data for the most recent, one-year reporting period and compares these data to previous findings. The 2008 AHAR provides comparisons of HMIS data from 2006-2007 (first reported in the 2007 AHAR) to data from 2007-2008.
2. *Continuum of Care (CoC) applications*. The CoC application data were collected from all CoCs in 2008, and the 2008 AHAR compares these data to data from the previous two years. The CoC application data complement the HMIS-based data by including an estimate of the number of unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January. They also include an estimate of the number and basic demographic characteristics of sheltered homeless persons on that night and the number of emergency shelter and transitional housing beds available to serve homeless persons. The information comes from the CoC applications that all CoCs must complete to be eligible for HUD McKinney-Vento Act funding.

The remainder of this appendix describes the AHAR sample data in more detail. Section B-2 discusses the population represented by the AHAR sample and the information collected about persons experiencing homelessness. Section B-3 describes how the nationally representative sample was selected and the number of communities that were able to contribute local HMIS data to the AHAR. Section B-4 presents the results of the data cleaning process and describes how usable data were identified for the final AHAR analysis

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<sup>1</sup> Data from AHAR sample sites is supplemented with data from other Continuums of Care that were not selected as part of the original sample but chose to contribute their HMIS data for the AHAR. These communities are called 'contributing communities'; unlike AHAR sample sites, contributing communities only represent themselves in the national estimates, meaning their data is not weighted to represent other communities to produce the national estimate.

file. Section B-5 describes the process for developing the analysis weights for each site to produce nationally representative estimates.

## **B.2 Data and AHAR Reporting Categories**

This section describes the target population for inclusion in the AHAR sample, the source of data, and the data collection process.

### **Target Population for the AHAR Sample**

The HMIS-based data in the AHAR sample includes information on all persons experiencing homelessness who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility at any time during a one-year period, from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008.

The sample does not include individuals who are homeless but live in an area not within a Continuum of Care, or individuals who live in a CoC community but do not use an emergency shelter or transitional housing program. However, given that CoCs cover 97 percent of the U.S. population, including all areas thought to face a high rate of homelessness, few homeless persons are likely to live outside CoC communities. The target population also excludes CoCs in Puerto Rico and other U.S. Territories. Hence, the estimates represent the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The unsheltered homeless population—persons who live on the streets or other places not meant for human habitation—is not represented by the HMIS data in the sample if such persons do not use an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility at any time during the one-year data collection period.

One caveat associated with the use of HMIS data for national reporting is that an important subset of homeless service providers is not permitted to participate fully in data collection. The 2005 Violence against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act prohibits “victim service providers”<sup>2</sup> from entering personally identifying information into an HMIS. Even though CoCs were required to include these programs as part of their housing inventory in their funding application, we excluded their beds from our extrapolations; thus, the national estimate of the sheltered homeless population does not include persons using residential “victim service” providers.

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<sup>2</sup> The term victim service provider is defined as “a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization, including rape crisis centers, battered women’s shelters, domestic violence transitional housing programs, and other programs whose primary mission is to provide services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking” (72 FR 5056, March 16, 2007).

## Homeless Management Information System Data

The information on homeless persons in the AHAR sample is based on HMIS data collected by local homeless assistance providers. HMIS are computerized data collection applications operated by CoCs that store data on homeless individuals and families who use homelessness assistance services.

HMIS data have some important features. First, they have been standardized nationally in accordance with HUD's National HMIS Data and Technical Standards Notice (Data Standards).<sup>3</sup> All HUD McKinney-Vento-funded homeless programs are required to collect 14 universal data elements from every client served.<sup>4</sup> The Data Standards define each data element. The universal data elements include information on a client's demographic characteristics (e.g., date of birth, ethnicity and race, gender, veteran status, and disability status) and recent residential history (e.g., residence before program entry, program entry and exit dates, and zip code of last permanent address). The data are essential to obtaining an accurate picture of the extent, characteristics, and patterns of service use of the local homeless population.

Second, HMIS data include personally identifying information that allows local communities to produce an accurate de-duplicated count of homeless persons in their communities, including a client's full name, date of birth and Social Security Number. The personally identifying information may be used in combination with other client-level information to calculate the number of unique users of homeless services and to identify persons who use several types of services.

Third, HMIS data may be manipulated to produce a more comprehensive picture of homelessness when compared to older data collection systems (e.g., paper records). Given that the data are stored electronically in sophisticated software applications, data users may produce cross-tabulations and other outputs that were impractical or impossible before the advent of HMIS. As a result, HMIS data offer new opportunities to study the nature and extent of homelessness.

### AHAR Reporting Categories

To facilitate the AHAR reporting process, the AHAR research team developed five reporting categories that are used to collect information from participating communities. All of the information required in the reporting categories is based on the universal data elements specified in the HMIS Data Standards. The five reporting categories are:

1. Individuals served by emergency shelters (ES-IND)

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<sup>3</sup> 69 FR 45888, July 30, 2004.

<sup>4</sup> Two of the universal data elements (Veterans Status and Disabling Condition) are asked of adults only; two other data elements (Residence Prior to Program Entry and Zip Code of Last Permanent Address) are asked of adults and unaccompanied youth only.



2. Individuals served by transitional housing facilities (TH-IND)
3. Families served by emergency shelters (ES-FAM)
4. Families served by transitional housing facilities (TH-FAM)
5. A summary table

Reporting categories 1 through 4 contain several sections. The first section is an extrapolation worksheet for estimating the total number of individuals or persons in families that used an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility during the data collection period. This section guides the community through a process for estimating the number of individuals or persons in families served by providers participating in HMIS as well as by nonparticipating providers. A limited amount of data from the HMIS and communities' bed inventory is required to complete the extrapolation. The remaining sections in each set of reporting categories are designed to capture information about the homeless population in the community. Each set of reporting categories is designed with embedded codes to check for data errors, such as missing values or inconsistent information. A summary sheet of data errors is automatically generated as communities complete the reporting categories, prompting communities to review and correct any errors.

The final set of reporting categories —the summary tables—is designed to save time and increase data accuracy. The tables provide estimates of the total unduplicated count of persons who used a participating and nonparticipating emergency shelter or transitional housing program in each jurisdiction during the data collection period. The summary tables also show estimates of the demographic characteristics of the service-using population, patterns of program use, and the average daily utilization rate among persons accessing shelters and transitional housing. The summary tables automate many calculations and are designed with embedded data quality checks that list error messages when inconsistent information is entered.

The data submission process is channeled through the AHAR Exchange, a web-based data collection instrument designed specifically for the AHAR. Communities login to the AHAR Exchange using a unique username and password and submit the data by either typing the aggregate data into each reporting category or by uploading all their data via an XML schema into the appropriate reporting category. Each community is assigned a data quality reviewer (a member of the research team) who reviews each submission and works collaboratively with representatives from the community to fix any data quality issues. A public version of the AHAR Exchange is available for viewing and local use: <http://sandbox.hmis.info/>.

## B.3 Sample Selection

This section describes the procedures for selecting a nationally representative sample of 102 jurisdictions for the AHAR.<sup>5</sup>

### CDBG Jurisdictions Are the Primary Sampling Units

The AHAR uses the geographic areas defined for the allocation of CDBG funds as the primary sampling unit. The four types of CDBG jurisdictions are:

- Principal cities<sup>6</sup>
- Cities with 50,000 or more persons (that are not principal cities)
- Urban counties
- Rural areas or non-entitlement jurisdictions

CDBG jurisdictions constitute the basic building blocks of CoCs. In some cases, the CDBG jurisdiction and the CoC represent the same geographic area (e.g., principal cities are often a single CoC), but, in other situations, the CDBG jurisdiction is a geographic subunit of the CoC (e.g., a small city with 50,000 or more persons may be a subunit of a countywide CoC). The selection of 102 CDBG jurisdictions ensures the inclusion of a wide range of sites in the AHAR as well as the reasonably precise measurement of the characteristics of homeless persons and their patterns of service use.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development provided a sampling frame for the selection of CDBG jurisdictions. The sampling frame is a list of all 3,142 CDBG

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<sup>5</sup> The initial AHAR sample consisted of 80 jurisdictions. Some jurisdictions from the original sample—especially jurisdictions representing rural areas—were unable to provide data to the AHAR because of HMIS implementation issues or other data quality concerns. In addition, several of the rural sample sites did not have any homeless residential service providers located in their jurisdiction. As a result, we were unable to report data by geography. In an effort to improve the scope and quality of data from rural jurisdictions, 22 additional rural jurisdictions were added to the AHAR sample. Thus, there are now 102 AHAR sample sites.

<sup>6</sup> The original file from which the sample was selected used the category of “central city” for CDBG jurisdictions rather than “principal city.” However, the CDBG program moved to designation of principal city rather than central city following the OMB guidance, and the definition of central city and principal city are slightly different (see 24 CFR Part 570). Of the 482 CDBG central city jurisdictions that existed both before and after the definition change, 327 central city jurisdictions (68%) became principle cities with the definition change. A small number of non-central cities (85 out of 2,501) in the original file were categorized as principal cities in the 2007 CDBG file. In our analysis by CDBG jurisdiction and in procedures for adjusting the sampling weights, we used the community’s current CDBG jurisdiction to ensure that our results accurately represented the current system for designating CDBG jurisdictions.

jurisdictions within the 430 CoCs in the 50 states as of 2002.<sup>7</sup> The next section describes the decision to stratify the sites based on geographic type, along with the procedures for selecting certainty and non-certainty sites.

### **Stratifying the Sample by Type of Geographic Area**

A CDBG jurisdiction may be a large principal city of a metropolitan area, a smaller city with a population of 50,000 or more, one or more suburban or urban fringe counties, or a rural area. As such, the number of homeless persons in each jurisdiction varies considerably.

Using the relative size of the homeless population in each CDBG jurisdiction to select a sample may increase the precision of the estimates for any particular sample size. However, with the number of homeless persons in each CDBG jurisdiction unknown, the study team assumed that the total population in each CDBG jurisdiction provided a measure of relative size of the homeless population for purposes of sample selection. The study team premised the assumption on the likelihood that the number of homeless persons is correlated with the total population in the area served by the CDBG jurisdiction. The team further refined the assumption by dividing the sample into strata based on the expected rate of homelessness.<sup>8</sup>

Earlier research on homelessness indicates that the rate of homelessness varies by type of geographic area. For example, Burt (2001) found that 71 percent of the homeless persons using homeless-related services are located in principal cities but that only 30 percent of the total U.S. population lives in principal cities.<sup>9</sup> By contrast, rural areas account for 9 percent of the homeless population, but 20 percent of the overall population. Further, suburban/urban fringe areas represent 21 percent of homeless persons, but 50 percent of the overall population. These findings suggest that, before using the total population as a proxy for the relative size of the homeless population, the CDBG jurisdictions should be stratified by type of geographic

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<sup>7</sup> HUD provided a file called “COC\_GeoAreasInfo.xls” with a list of 3,219 CDBG jurisdictions, jurisdiction type, and population of each jurisdiction. Geographic areas in the U.S Territories and Puerto Rico and three duplicate records were eliminated, resulting in a sampling frame of 3,142 CDBG jurisdictions. In addition, four CDBG areas in Massachusetts and one in New Hampshire included overlapping geographic areas and double-counted the population; therefore, the population was evenly divided across the overlapping CDBG jurisdictions before sampling.

<sup>8</sup> Sampling based on the expected rate of homelessness is an attempt to obtain more precise estimates than those yielded by a simple random sample. If the proxy for the expected rate of homelessness is not correlated with the actual rate of homelessness, the resulting estimates will still be unbiased; however, the extra precision gains go unrealized.

<sup>9</sup> Burt, Martha. 2001. Homeless Families, Singles, and Others: Findings from the 1996 National Survey of Homeless Assistance Providers and Clients. *Housing Policy Debate*, V12 (4), 737-780. This report presents the share of the homeless population by urban/rural status. The share of the population in each type of geographic area comes from the author’s calculations based on March 1996 Current Population Survey data. The results from the Burt study were based on central cities rather than principal cities, but we refer to them as principal cities here because of the high degree of overlap and to make the discussion easier to follow.

area to account for the fact that the ratio of homeless persons to the population varies across geographic areas. Hence, the study team divided the CDBG jurisdictions into four groups based on their classification for the allocation of CDBG funds: principal cities, other cities larger than 50,000, urban counties, and rural areas (i.e., counties that are part of non-entitlement areas). Such stratification increases the precision of estimates.

### **Very Large CDBG Jurisdictions Selected with Certainty**

Given that the size of the population across CDBG jurisdictions is skewed by a few very large jurisdictions covering areas with several million residents, a useful strategy for reducing sampling variability in the estimated number and characteristics of homeless persons is to select very large jurisdictions in the sample with certainty. Selecting a CDBG jurisdiction with certainty means that the CDBG jurisdiction represents only itself in the sample estimates but ensures that the sample does not exclude the largest jurisdictions, whose number and characteristics of the homeless population could substantially affect national estimates. Exhibit B-1 lists the 18 CDBG jurisdictions selected with certainty.

For selecting the certainty sites, the study team divided the CDBG jurisdictions into the four geographic-type strata. Assuming the rate of homelessness was the same in each area within each stratum, the study team calculated the standard deviation (square root of the variance) of the number of homeless persons for the entire stratum. The team then recalculated the standard deviation by excluding the largest site (as if that site were taken with certainty) to obtain a relative estimate of the reduction in the variance of the estimates that would occur if that site were selected with certainty. In the event of substantial reduction in the variance due to the selection of the certainty unit, the overall variance of the sample estimates will be smaller as the variance contribution to the estimate from the certainty sites is zero. The process of selecting the next-largest site as a certainty site continued until the reduction of the variance or standard deviation was small or marginal. The process resulted in the identification of 11 certainty sites consisting of eight principal cities, one other city larger than 50,000, and two urban counties (but no non-entitlement areas).

Based on earlier research findings showing that homeless persons are disproportionately located in principal cities, the study team identified 7 additional principal cities as certainty sites, for a total of 15 principal cities in the certainty sample (and 18 certainty sites in total). The team selected the 7 additional principal cities with certainty because the cities had among the largest populations of persons living in emergency and transitional shelters in the 1990 and 2000 Census counts.<sup>10</sup> All 7 certainty sites had one of the 10 largest counts in

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<sup>10</sup> For 1990 counts, see U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. "Allocating Homeless Assistance by Formula." A Report to Congress, 1992. For 2000 counts, see U.S. Census Bureau. "Emergency and Transitional Shelter Population: 2000." A Census 2000 Special Report.

either 1990 or 2000.<sup>11</sup> Given that so many homeless persons live in these cities, it is important to include them with certainty in a nationally representative sample.

<b>Exhibit B-1: Geographic Characteristics and Population of 18 Certainty Sites</b>					
	<b>Geographic Area</b>	<b>Type of CDBG Entity</b>	<b>Size of Housed Population</b>	<b>Census Region</b>	<b>CoC Name</b>
1	NEW YORK CITY	Principal City	8,008,278	Northeast	New York City Coalition/CoC
2	LOS ANGELES	Principal City	3,694,820	West	County of Los Angeles, CA
3	CHICAGO	Principal City	2,896,016	Midwest	Chicago CoC
4	HOUSTON	Principal City	1,953,631	South	Houston/Harris County
5	PHILADELPHIA	Principal City	1,517,550	Northeast	City of Philadelphia
6	PHOENIX	Principal City	1,321,045	West	Maricopa CoC
7	SAN DIEGO	Principal City	1,223,400	West	City of San Diego Consortium
8	DALLAS	Principal City	1,188,580	South	Dallas Homeless CoC
9	DETROIT	Principal City	951,270	Midwest	City of Detroit CoC
10	SAN FRANCISCO	Principal City	776733	West	City and County of San Francisco
11	BOSTON	Principal City	589,141	Northeast	City of Boston
12	WASHINGTON, DC	Principal City	572,059	South	District of Columbia Homeless Services
13	SEATTLE	Principal City	563,374	West	Seattle-King County CoC
14	CLEVELAND	Principal City	478,403	Midwest	Cuyahoga County/Cleveland CoC
15	ATLANTA	Principal City	416,474	South	Atlanta Tri- Jurisdictional
16	LOS ANGELES COUNTY	Urban County	2,205,851	West	County of Los Angeles, CA
17	COOK COUNTY	Urban County	1,712,784	Midwest	Cook County CoC
18	ISLIP TOWN	City >50,000	322,612	Northeast	Suffolk County CoC Group

<sup>11</sup> The other 8 certainty sites in principal cities were all ranked in the top 15 in the 1990 or 2000 Census counts.

## **Selection of Non-Certainty Sample**

The selection of the non-certainty sites occurred in two phases. Phase one was completed in 2005 and included 62 non-certainty sites. The 62 non-certainty sites and the 18 certainty sites (80 total sample sites) constituted the original sample for the 2005, 2006, and 2007 AHARs. Phase 2 was completed for the 2008 AHAR and added 22 non-certainty sites to the original sample.

*Phase 1: Selecting 62 Non-Certainty Sites.* To select the 62 non-certainty sites for the original sample, the study team divided the 3,124 CDBG jurisdictions into 16 strata based on the four types of geographic areas and Census regions. As discussed earlier, the team divided the sample into strata based on the type of geographic area because earlier research indicated that the rate of homelessness is higher in principal cities than in other areas. The team further divided the sample into Census regions because business cycles might affect regions differently and result in variation in rates of and trends in homelessness across regions. Dividing the sample into strata that are more similar in terms of the rate of homelessness and the characteristics of homeless persons than the overall population reduces the variance of the sample estimates for a particular sample size. Stratified sampling also eliminates the possibility of some undesirable samples. For example, with a simple random sample, one possible sample might include sites only in rural areas or sites only in the Northeast, both of which are undesirable samples.

One possibility considered for the non-certainty sample was allocation of the sample to the stratum in proportion to the population in each stratum. However, such an approach ignores the research indicating that a disproportionate share of the homeless is located in principal cities. Ignoring information on the location of the homeless population would lead to a relatively high degree of imprecision in national estimates such that 20 of the 62 non-certainty sites would be allocated to principal cities, 6 to non-principal cities, 16 to urban counties, and 20 to rural areas. The same number of rural areas as principal cities would be selected even though earlier research suggests that only 9 percent of the homeless population lives in rural areas whereas 70 percent lives in principal cities.

Another possibility under consideration for the non-certainty sample was allocation of the total non-certainty sample of 62 CDBG jurisdictions to each of the 16 strata in proportion to the adjusted population in each stratum, where the adjustment accounts for different rates of homelessness across geographic areas. This allocation method produces the highest degree of precision of national estimates for a given sample size. The adjusted population is the population of persons living in an area multiplied by an adjustment factor for the expected rate of homelessness in that area. With the rate of homelessness in principal cities roughly five times that of other areas, the study team multiplied the population in principal cities by five so that the adjusted populations would reflect the relative number of homeless persons

expected in each stratum.<sup>12</sup> If the adjusted population were used to allocate the non-certainty sites across the strata, 39 of the 62 original non-certainty sample sites would have been allocated to principal cities, 4 to non-principal cities, 8 to urban counties, and 11 to rural areas. While optimal for national estimates, the number of sites in the non-principal city stratum was too small for subnational estimates.

The sampling allocation procedure ultimately used for AHAR data collection strikes a balance between the most precise national estimates possible with a sample of 62 non-certainty sites and reasonably sized samples from each of the four types of geographic areas. The study team allocated the 62 original non-certainty sample sites across the 16 strata based on the square root of the adjusted population. The result is a sample allocation between the allocation in proportion to the population and the allocation in proportion to the adjusted population. Accordingly, 27 of the 62 original non-certainty sites are in principal cities, 8 are in non-principal cities, 13 are in urban counties, and 14 are in rural areas. The allocation means lower variances of the estimates than either simple random sampling or sampling in direct proportion to the population and provides better representation of non-principal city areas than the allocation in proportion to the adjusted population.

To select the non-certainty sites in each stratum, the study team divided the sites into groups based on size and then randomly selected one site from each group. The number of non-certainty sites allocated to each stratum determined the number of groups, and each group in a stratum contained the same number of sites. Sampling from groups based on population size is beneficial in that it ensures that the sample has a similar distribution of CDBG jurisdiction sizes as the population. Given that the size of the homeless population is expected to correlate with the total population within strata, similarity in distribution is an important feature of the sample.

*Phase 2: Adding 22 Rural Non-Certainty Sites.* The data collection results from the 2005-2007 AHAR reports indicated that many rural communities (or non-entitlement CDBG areas) did not have emergency shelters or transitional housing programs located in these jurisdictions. Among the few rural sample sites that did have emergency shelters and/or transitional housing programs, many of those programs were not entering data into an HMIS. As a result, previous AHAR reports did not capture information from many rural jurisdictions, and the lack of data increased the variance of the AHAR estimates and made the analysis of rural/suburban versus urban homelessness less reliable.

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<sup>12</sup> The ratio was determined as follows. Burt (2001) found that 71 percent of the homeless population lived in central cities in 1996. At the same time, Current Population Survey data indicate that only 30 percent of the overall population lived in central cities at that time. The ratio of the share of the homeless population to the share of the overall population in central cities is 2.36. The ratio is 0.42 for non-principal city portions of Metropolitan Statistical Areas and 0.46 for rural areas. Dividing the principal city ratio by the rural ratio (2.36/0.46) equal 5.1, suggesting that the rate of homelessness is about five times higher in central cities than in rural areas.

In 2008, 22 new rural communities were added to the AHAR sample, increasing the total number of rural jurisdiction to 36 and the total number of AHAR sample sites to 102. The new AHAR sample sites were selected in the same manner as the original non-certainty sample sites. The original 2002 sampling frame of 3,142 CDBG jurisdictions within the 430 CoCs in the 50 states was used to select the new rural communities. However, the original file was compared with an updated 2006 CDBG list of jurisdictions to remove from the sampling frame jurisdictions that had either merged with other jurisdictions since 2002 or had changed their status from non-entitlement (rural) areas to entitlement areas.

The sample was stratified to ensure that each of the four census regions was represented. The goal was to select at least three rural communities from each census region that had at least one emergency shelter or transitional housing program. In some cases, more than three communities for a particular region were selected if inventory information reported by CoC suggested that the communities did not have any emergency shelters or transitional housing programs. That is, from each region, we randomly selected rural jurisdictions until we had at least three rural jurisdictions with at least one emergency shelter or transitional housing program. In total, 22 new rural sample sites were added; three from the Northeast region; seven from the South region; seven from the Midwest region; and five from the West region.

The final AHAR sample contains 102 sample sites, and Exhibit B-2 shows the total number of certainty and non-certainty sites selected from each region-CDBG type stratum. The sample sites contain over 40 million persons, or approximately 16 percent of the population living within CoC communities and 14 percent of the U.S. population. The expectation is that the sample will contain an even higher proportion of the U.S. homeless population because the selection procedures intentionally oversampled areas with a high rate of homelessness (i.e., principal cities). About two-fifths of the selected sites (42 sites) are principal cities, even though only one-third of the total population lives there. The other 60 sample sites were distributed across the three remaining CDBG jurisdictions: non– principal cities with a population over 50,000 (9 sites), urban counties (15 sites), and nonentitlement/rural areas (36 sites). Appendix A lists all CDBG jurisdictions in the sample.



<b>Exhibit B-2: Number of Sites in Universe and Sample by Region-CDBG Type</b>				
<b>Stratum</b>	<b>Number of Geographic Areas in Universe</b>	<b>Number of Certainty Sites in Sample</b>	<b>Number of Noncertainty Sites in Sample</b>	<b>Total Sample</b>
Northeast Principal City	86	3	5	8
South Principal City	151	4	8	12
Midwest Principal City	124	3	7	10
West Principal City	106	5	7	12
Northeast City >50,000	81	1	2	3
South City >50,000	48	0	2	2
Midwest City >50,000	55	0	1	1
West City >50,000	114	0	3	3
Northeast Urban County	33	0	3	3
South Urban County	54	0	4	4
Midwest Urban County	33	1	3	4
West Urban County	34	1	3	4
Northeast Non-entitlement County	148	0	6	6
South Non-entitlement County	812	0	11	11
Midwest Non-entitlement County	890	0	11	11
West Non-entitlement County	373	0	8	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,142</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>102</b>

### **Addition of Contributing Sites**

In addition to the 102 sample sites selected for the study, many other communities nationwide volunteered to provide data for the report to help produce more precise national estimates. The additional communities are entire Continuums of Care and are termed “contributing sites.” In the 2008 AHAR, 135 contributing communities provided data for use in the AHAR report. As with the sites selected with certainty, data from the contributing sites represent themselves in the national estimates. Appendix A lists the contributing communities in the 2008 AHAR.

## **B.4 AHAR Data Cleaning**

This section presents the data cleaning results for the AHAR. For each AHAR sample site and contributing community, the study team reviewed each reporting category (e.g., ES-IND) for reporting irregularities, focusing on three indicators:

- HMIS-bed coverage rate

- Average daily bed utilization rate
- Proportion of missing variables

### **Bed Coverage Rate**

HMIS-bed coverage rate refers to the proportion of beds in a community that participate in HMIS. The HMIS-bed coverage rate is equal to the total number of HMIS-participating beds divided by the total number of beds in a community. The indicator is important because the accuracy of the extrapolation technique depends on obtaining reasonably high bed coverage rates.<sup>13</sup> The study team evaluated each reporting category on its own merits—that is, calculated an HMIS-bed coverage rate for ES-IND, ES-FAM, TH-IND, and TH-FAM separately—and excluded from the final AHAR analysis any reporting category with an HMIS-bed coverage rate below 50 percent.

### **Average Daily Bed Utilization Rate**

Average daily bed utilization rate refers to the frequency of bed use on an average day. It is equal to the number of homeless persons who use a program on an average day during a specified period divided by the total number of year-round equivalent beds<sup>14</sup> in the current inventory during the same period. Utilization rates above 100 percent typically indicated missing exit dates in the HMIS; unusually low utilization rates often suggested that providers did not enter data on all clients served into HMIS. In situations where unusually high or low utilization rates could not be explained or confirmed as accurate by the community, the study team excluded from analysis all data from the reporting category.

### **Proportion of Missing Variables**

Missing data limit the ability to present a complete picture of homelessness. Exhibit B-3 presents the proportion of missing values for the weighted 2008 AHAR data. The data element most constrained by missing values was disability status, which was missing for 22 percent of adult clients. Though still a high rate, 2008's rate of missing disability status is

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<sup>13</sup> Before releasing the AHAR reporting requirements, the study team tested the extrapolation procedures with data from Philadelphia and Massachusetts under a variety of coverage rate assumptions, taking a random sample of providers (to match 50, 75, and 90 percent HMIS bed-coverage rates) and comparing the extrapolated estimates to the true population counts for these jurisdictions. The findings show that extrapolation estimates were accurate for HMIS bed-coverage rates above 50 percent and were more precise with higher coverage rates. The threshold of an HMIS bed-coverage rate of 50 percent was as representative as possible of a set of participating sample sites. (See 2004 National HMIS Conference Breakout Session Materials “Extrapolation Methods” for more information on the extrapolation testing, available at [www.hmis.info](http://www.hmis.info).)

<sup>14</sup> A year-round equivalent bed counts seasonal beds as partial beds in direct proportion to the length of the covered period for which the provider makes the bed available. For example, a bed from a provider with a seasonal bed open in January, February, and March would count as one-fourth of a bed if the covered period were 12 months.

considerably lower than the missing disability rate in the 2007 AHAR (32.4 percent). The missing data rates for veteran status (7.5 percent) and ethnicity (3.4 percent) were less than half the rate in earlier AHARs. Missing rates have also declined for most other data elements but still remain high for data that communities were not required to collect before release of HUD’s Data Standards: living arrangement before program entry (21.3 percent), length of stay in earlier living arrangement (28.9 percent), and ZIP code of last permanent address (27.1 percent).

<b>Exhibit B-3: Proportion of Missing Values across All AHAR Reporting Categories (weighted data), 2008</b>					
<b>Variable</b>		<b>Percentage Missing</b>	<b>Variable</b>		<b>Percentage Missing</b>
1.	Gender of adults	0.3	8.	Disability status	22.0
2.	Gender of children	0.4	9.	Household type	0.5
3.	Ethnicity	3.4	10.	Living arrangement before program entry	21.3
4.	Race	7.7	11.	Length of stay in earlier living arrangement	28.9
5.	Age	1.0	12.	ZIP code of last permanent address	27.1
6.	Household size	0.5	13.	Number of nights in program (adult males)	3.2
7.	Veteran status	7.5	14.	Number of nights in program (adult females)	2.3

The study team did not exclude reporting categories from the AHAR analysis file because of missing data. Instead, the estimates are based on non-missing data, and the team has marked estimates in the AHAR report based on data elements with missing rates over 20 percent.

Based on the data-quality indicators, the study team classified all sample sites and the contributing communities into five categories describing the usability of their AHAR data. Exhibit B-4 summarizes the findings. Overall, 222 communities participated in the AHAR, including 87 sample sites and 135 contributing communities. Overall, 80 communities (33 sample sites and 47 contributing communities) provided usable data across all four reporting categories; 113 communities (25 sample sites and 88 contributing communities) submitted usable data for only some of their reporting categories; and 29 had no emergency shelter or transitional housing providers located within the sample site.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>15</sup> These sites still contribute to the national count of homelessness because they represent other communities with no providers.

<b>Exhibit B-4: Communities Participating in the 2008 AHAR by Participation Status</b>				
<b>Status</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>Number of Sample Sites</b>	<b>Number of Contributing Communities</b>
	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Number</b>		
<b>Participating in the AHAR</b>				
All table shells	20	80	33	47
Partial table shells	28	113	25	88
Complete Zero Providers	7	29	29	-
Subtotal	55	222	87	135
<b>Not Participating in the AHAR</b>				
Submitted unusable data	6	24	5	19
No data submitted	39	155	10	145
Subtotal	45	179	15	164
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>299</b>

In total, 15 of the 102 sample sites (15 percent) were unable to participate in the AHAR, in most cases because implementation issues prevented the site from producing information from their HMIS. A few of the sites were far enough along to submit data but were still working through implementation problems or had recently made major changes to their system that raised questions about the data quality. The study team judged data to be unusable if the bed coverage rate was below 50 percent; if the bed utilization rates were unreasonably high/low and could not be properly explained; if the community contact expressed concern over data accuracy; or if the other quality control procedures raised issues that site staff could not rectify.

More than twice as many contributing communities (from 98 to 222) provided data for this report than for the previous AHAR report, an increase of 127 percent. Moreover, the number of usable reporting categories increased from 233 in the 2007 AHAR to 507 in the 2008 AHAR. (Exhibit B-5 shows the number of usable reporting categories for the 2008 AHAR.) In total, there were 427,201 person-records reported across the AHAR reporting categories and used to generate the national estimates.

<b>Exhibit B-5: Number of Communities Providing Data by Reporting Category, 2008</b>			
<b>Program-Household Type</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Sample Sites</b>	<b>Contributing Communities</b>
Emergency shelters for individuals	113	32	81
Transitional housing for individuals	122	35	87
Emergency shelters for families	121	39	82
Transitional housing for families	151	47	104
<b>Total</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>354</b>

**Note:** The tallies include only the reporting categories where the site has providers in a given category and provides usable data. The table does not include the 29 complete zero provider sites.

## B.5 AHAR Weighting and Analysis Procedures

This section describes the process of obtaining national estimates from the raw HMIS data submitted by participating communities. The estimates of the number and characteristics of the homeless population using homelessness services are based on weighted data. The study team designed the sampling weights to produce nationally representative estimates from the sites that provided data. The steps for obtaining the final estimate are listed here and described in more detail below.

- **Step 1:** Staff from the AHAR sample sites filled out reporting categories with information (raw data) from emergency shelters and transitional housing providers that had entered data into their local HMIS.
- **Step 2:** The raw data were adjusted by reporting category within each site to account for providers that did not participate in the site's HMIS.
- **Step 3:** Base sampling weights were developed for all selected sites based on the assumption that 100 percent of the AHAR sample sites provided information.
- **Step 4:** Base sampling weights were adjusted to account for contributing sites.
- **Step 5:** Weights were adjusted for nonresponse to determine the preliminary analysis weights.
- **Step 6:** Based on national totals of emergency and transitional housing beds, a post-stratification adjustment was made to arrive at the final analysis weights.
- **Step 7:** A final adjustment factor was derived to account for people who used more than one type of homeless service provider.
- **Step 8:** National estimates were calculated by using the final weight (Step 6) and the final adjustment factor (Step 7).

**Step 1: Staff from AHAR sites filled out reporting categories with information from emergency shelters and transitional housing providers that had entered data into their local HMIS.**

Participating communities logged into the AHAR Exchange—the web-based data collection tool designed for the AHAR—and entered the information (raw data) on the number of homeless persons, their characteristics, and their patterns of service use. The information was reported separately for each reporting category: individuals using emergency shelters (ES-IND); persons in families using emergency shelters (ES-FAM); individuals using transitional housing (TH-IND); and persons in families using transitional housing (TH-FAM). The information was then aggregated into a fifth set of tables, the summary tables, to provide total cross-program estimates for the site. A public version of the AHAR Exchange is available for viewing and local use: <http://sandbox.hmis.info/>.

**Step 2: The raw data were adjusted by reporting category within each site to account for providers that did not participate in the site’s HMIS.**

Where participation in the HMIS was less than 100 percent, the raw data at each site were upwardly adjusted to account for nonparticipating providers (i.e., providers that did not submit data to HMIS). This adjustment, or extrapolation, was carried out separately by reporting category within each site. The extrapolation technique assumes that nonparticipating providers serve the same number of unique persons per available bed as participating providers during the study period. It makes a small adjustment for the overlap between users of participating and nonparticipating providers.<sup>16</sup>

The post-extrapolation results for each site are estimates of the homeless population served by each reporting category and the total sheltered homeless population at all emergency shelters and transitional housing in the entire site during the study period.

**Step 3: Base sampling weights were developed on the assumption that 100 percent of the AHAR sample sites provided information.**

The study team selected the largest sites (i.e., the CDBG jurisdictions with the largest populations) with certainty. As such, each site’s base sampling weight is 1.0, meaning that each respective site’s data represent only that site. The study team divided the noncertainty sites into 16 strata based on the four Census regions (East, West, Midwest, and South) and four CDBG types (three types of entitlement communities—principal city, urban county, other city with population greater than 50,000—and one type of nonentitlement community). The base sampling weights for the noncertainty sites are the inverse of the probability of selection. For example, if 1 out of 100 sites was selected in a stratum, the base sampling weight for selected sites in that stratum would be 100 (the inverse of  $1/100 = 100$ ). Each noncertainty site in a stratum had the same chance of being selected; therefore, each has the same weight.

If all the sample sites provided full AHAR data (in the absence of contributing sites), national estimates of the homeless population would be calculated by multiplying each site’s base sampling weight by the extrapolated number of persons with each characteristic at the site and then aggregating across sites.

**Step 4: Base sample weights were adjusted to account for contributing sites.**

One hundred and thirty-five communities volunteered to provide their HMIS-based data for the 2008 AHAR. The data from these communities—or contributing communities—increase the reliability of the AHAR estimates. The 135 CoCs that are contributing communities

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<sup>16</sup> Given that data from nonparticipating providers were not available, it is impossible to verify this assumption. However, it is the most reasonable assumption in that it is accurate when nonparticipating providers are missing at random or at least not systematically missing in a way correlated with the number of people they serve per available bed.

represent 725 CDBG jurisdictions.<sup>17</sup> The study team treated all of these sites as certainty sites and assigned them a weight of 1.0 such that each site would represent only itself in the national estimates. The study team adjusted the base sampling weights of the noncertainty sites downward to represent only the noncontributing sites in their respective stratum. For example, assume that there were two sample sites in a stratum and that both originally had a base weight of 100. If the contributing sites represented 10 CDBG jurisdictions in that stratum, the sample weight for each sample site would be downwardly adjusted to 95. In other words, the two sample sites originally represented 200 sites in their stratum, but, with the contributing sites now representing 10 of those 200 sites, the sample site needs to represent 190 sites. The addition of the contributing sites did not affect the base sampling weights of the certainty sites.

If all the sample sites and contributing sites provided full AHAR data, the study team would calculate national estimates of the homeless population by multiplying each site's base weight by the extrapolated number of persons with each characteristic at the site and then aggregating across sites.

**Step 5: The base weights were adjusted for nonresponse to derive the preliminary analysis weights.**

The above base weights assume that all the sample and contributing sites provided data for all four reporting categories except for those for which they have no providers in their jurisdiction. Unfortunately, 15 sample sites were not able to provide any usable data, and 25 other sample sites were unable to provide data for all their reporting categories (i.e., they provided partial data). Eighty-eight contributing sites also provided only partial data. In addition, 29 sample sites had no providers (i.e., no emergency shelters or transitional housing programs). The 'zero provider sites' are part of the estimate (because they represent themselves and all nonsample zero provider sites in the population) but need to be treated differently from the other sites. Once the study team confirmed that the site had no providers, it needed no further information. Given that the zero provider sites did not have any information for the AHAR reporting categories, none of them was a nonrespondent.

Recognizing that some participating sites provided only partial data (i.e., data on some but not all of their reporting categories) and that the data proved useful for the AHAR report, the study team carried out the nonresponse adjustment to the weights separately for each of the four reporting categories. That is, each site contributing data to the AHAR has four analytic weights—one for each reporting category. However, for any reporting category for which a

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<sup>17</sup> The AHAR sample consists of CDBG jurisdictions that are either the same as the CoC or part of the area covered by the CoC. CDBG jurisdictions are the building blocks of the CoC. The contributing sites volunteered as CoCs. For example, the Iowa State CoC represents 104 CDBG jurisdictions: 96 nonentitlement communities and 8 principal cities. Most other contributing sites represent between 1 and 7 CDBG jurisdictions.

site was not able to provide data, the analytic weight is zero. The respondent sites for that reporting category represent the site. (Step 8 describes the procedure for aggregating across reporting categories to arrive at national estimates.)

Below is a description of how the weight for each type of site was adjusted for nonresponse to derive the final analysis weights.

- a) The weights of the *contributing sites* did not change; each contributing site continued to represent itself with an analytic weight of 1.0 for each program-household type for which it provided data.
- b) The weights of the *no-provider sites* did not change. Their weight remained the base weight calculated in Step 4 because all zero provider sites in the sample are considered respondents. In essence, the no-provider sites produced a response of 100 percent. Stated differently, since none of the *non-response* sites has no providers, the no-provider sites would not appropriately represent them.
- c) For the *certainty sites* providing data, base weights were adjusted so that the analytic weights represented all certainty sites. The adjustment was made separately for each program-household type within four weighting classes based on region: North, South, East, and Midwest.<sup>18</sup> The nonresponse adjustment was based on the relative number of shelter beds in the nonrespondent sites and accounts for the possibility of a high degree of size variation among certainty sites. The nonresponse adjustment formula follows:

Total number of beds within a reporting category at certainty sites in region	÷	Number of beds within reporting category at respondent certainty sites in region
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For example, assume that six of the seven certainty sites in the West provided TH-IND data and that one site did not. If the nonrespondent certainty site had 1,000 TH-IND beds and the six participating certainty sites had 5,000 beds, the weight of the six participating certainty sites would be multiplied by 6/5 (6,000 divided by 5,000). The adjustment assumes that the nonrespondent certainty sites would serve approximately the same number of persons per bed as the participating certainty sites. The nonresponse adjustment for certainty sites was derived separately by region based on the judgment that homeless providers in principal cities in the same region were more likely than principal cities overall to serve persons with similar characteristics.

<sup>18</sup> Fifteen of the 18 certainty sites are principal cities; therefore, the nonresponse adjustment essentially occurs within CDBG type.



- d) For the *noncertainty sites*, the weights of the participating sites were upwardly adjusted to represent all the sites meant to be represented by the nonrespondent sample sites. The adjustment was carried out separately for each program-household type within 16 weighting classes based on type of CDBG jurisdiction and region: (1) principal city, (2) city with greater than 50,000 population, (3) urban counties, and (4) and nonentitlement areas. The nonresponse adjustment was the same as that used for certainty sites--the ratio of total number of beds in the weighting class divided by number of beds in participating sites.

**Step 6: A post-stratification adjustment was carried out to create final analysis weights.**

A post-stratification adjustment based on national totals of emergency and transitional housing beds accounted for new CDBG jurisdictions added since 2002 as well as for any differences in the average size of sample and nonsample sites. This final adjustment to the analysis weights applied only to noncertainty sample sites. The preliminary analysis weight (from Step 5) is the final analysis weight for certainty sites, no-provider sites, and contributing sites.

The initial AHAR sample was drawn from the number of CDBG jurisdictions in existence in 2002. Since that time, however, the number of CDBG jurisdictions has increased from 3,142 to 4,115.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, the study team adjusted the analysis weights to account for the expansion. The increase in CDBG jurisdictions was not evenly distributed; most of the growth occurred in the South, particularly in the rural South. Thus, we adjusted the weights separately for each of the 16 strata. The adjustment factor was the ratio of total number of beds in the strata in 2008 (after excluding beds from certainty and contributing communities) to the weighted number of beds in the noncertainty sample sites in the strata providing usable data.<sup>20</sup> The number of beds for the adjustment was based on the housing inventory chart submitted as part of the 2008 CoC application.

The adjustment both corrected for the difference in the number of CDBG jurisdictions in CoCs between 2002 and 2008 and adjusted for any differences in the number of beds per CDBG sample site and CDBG nonsample site in the same stratum.

The Step 6 weights are the final analysis weights for use with the sample and data provided to produce separate national estimates of the homeless population for each reporting

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<sup>19</sup> The 4,115 CDBG jurisdictions also include nonfunded CDBG jurisdictions not part of the original sampling frame.

<sup>20</sup> Several hundred beds on the 2008 CoC application (less than 1 percent of all beds) did not match a known geocode, making unclear the CDBG jurisdiction in which the beds were located--even after manual review. We assigned the beds to CDBG type within each region in the same proportion as the beds with valid geocodes.

category. However, to aggregate the data across reporting categories, a further adjustment is needed to account for persons who used more than one program type during the study period.

**Step 7: Final adjustment factor was derived to account for users of several program types.**

To calculate national estimates that require data aggregation across the four reporting categories, an adjustment is needed for persons who used more than one program-household type during the study period. That is, if a person used an emergency shelter for individuals and then a transitional housing program for individuals, the person will appear in more than one set of reporting categories for the study period; aggregation of the numbers from the four reporting categories would double count that person. The needed adjustment is the same type of adjustment embedded in the AHAR summary table for sites providing data on all four reporting categories. For the 80 participating sites (33 sample sites and 47 contributing communities) providing data on all four reporting categories, the adjustment factor was the actual adjustment factor calculated from how much overlap the sites reported with their HMIS data. However, for the 113 participating sites that provided only partial data, it was not possible to calculate the overlap adjustment factor from their data. Instead, for all partial reporting sites, the study team used the average overlap adjustment factor from the 80 sites providing full data. Thus, for partial reporting sites, the overlap adjustment factor was assumed to be 0.9622.

The overlap adjustment factor was calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Total unduplicated number of persons served at the full-reporting sites}}{\text{Total number of persons served at the full-reporting sites before accounting for persons served by more than one program-household type}}$$

**Step 8: Calculate national estimates.**

To calculate national estimates, the study team first calculated the total number of persons with each characteristic within each of the four reporting categories. Then, within each reporting category, the team multiplied the final analysis weight (from Step 7) for each site by the number of persons with that characteristic in that site's reporting category. Next, the team summed the number of persons in each site across sites to arrive at the estimated number of persons with that characteristic who were served in that reporting category. For estimates of the number of persons served by all four reporting categories, the team summed totals across the four reporting categories and then multiplied by the adjustment factor from Step 7. Percentage calculations followed the same procedures by calculating both the numerator and denominator of the desired percentage.

**Appendix C: Continuum of Care Point-in-Time  
Counts of Homeless Persons**

**C1: Changes in Point-In-Time Estimates of Homeless Population by State, 2007-2008**

<b>State</b>	<b>2008 Total Homeless Population</b>	<b>2007 Total Homeless Population</b>	<b>2008-2007 Total Change</b>	<b>2008-2007 Percent Change</b>
Alabama	5,387	5,452	-65	-1.19%
Alaska	1,646	1,642	4	0.24%
Arizona	12,488	14,646	-2,158	-14.73%
Arkansas	3,255	3,836	-581	-15.15%
California	157,277	159,732	-2,455	-1.54%
Colorado	14,747	14,225	522	3.67%
Connecticut	4,627	4,482	145	3.24%
Delaware	933	1,061	-128	-12.06%
District of Columbia	6,044	5,320	724	13.61%
Florida	50,158	48,069	2,089	4.35%
Georgia	19,095	19,639	-544	-2.77%
Guam	725	725	0	0.00%
Hawaii	6,061	6,070	-9	-0.15%
Idaho	1,464	1,749	-285	-16.30%
Illinois	14,724	15,487	-763	-4.93%
Indiana	7,395	7,358	37	0.50%
Iowa	3,346	2,734	612	22.38%
Kansas	1,738	2,111	-373	-17.67%
Kentucky	8,137	8,061	76	0.94%
Louisiana	5,481	5,494	-13	-0.24%
Maine	2,632	2,638	-6	-0.23%
Maryland	9,219	9,628	-409	-4.25%
Massachusetts	14,506	15,127	-621	-4.11%
Michigan	28,248	28,295	-47	-0.17%
Minnesota	7,644	7,323	321	4.38%
Mississippi	1,961	1,377	584	42.41%
Missouri	7,687	6,247	1,440	23.05%
Montana	1,417	1,150	267	23.22%
Nebraska	3,985	3,531	454	12.86%
Nevada	12,610	12,526	84	0.67%
New Hampshire	2,019	2,248	-229	-10.19%
New Jersey	13,832	17,314	-3,482	-20.11%
New Mexico	3,015	3,015	0	0.00%
New York	61,125	62,601	-1,476	-2.36%
North Carolina	12,411	11,802	609	5.16%
North Dakota	615	636	-21	-3.30%
Ohio	12,912	11,264	1,648	14.63%
Oklahoma	3,846	4,221	-375	-8.88%
Oregon	20,653	17,590	3,063	17.41%
Pennsylvania	15,378	16,220	-842	-5.19%
Puerto Rico	3,012	4,309	-1,297	-30.10%
Rhode Island	1,196	1,372	-176	-12.83%
South Carolina	5,660	5,660	0	0.00%
South Dakota	579	579	0	0.00%

**C1: Changes in Point-In-Time Estimates of Homeless Population by State, 2007-2008**

<b>State</b>	<b>2008 Total Homeless Population</b>	<b>2007 Total Homeless Population</b>	<b>2008-2007 Total Change</b>	<b>2008-2007 Percent Change</b>
Tennessee	9,705	11,210	-1,505	-13.43%
Texas	40,190	39,788	402	1.01%
Utah	3,434	3,011	423	14.05%
Vermont	954	1,035	-81	-7.83%
Virgin Islands	602	559	43	7.69%
Virginia	8,469	9,746	-1,277	-13.10%
Washington	21,954	23,379	-1,425	-6.10%
West Virginia	2,016	2,409	-393	-16.31%
Wisconsin	5,449	5,648	-199	-3.52%
Wyoming	751	537	214	39.85%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>664,414</b>	<b>671,888</b>	<b>-7,474</b>	<b>-1.11%</b>

## C2: Point-In-Time Estimates from January 2008 of Homeless Population by State

State	Total Sheltered Population	Total Unsheltered Population	Total Homeless Population	State Population	Homeless Rate
Alabama	3,843	1,544	5,387	4,661,900	0.12%
Alaska	1,452	194	1,646	686,293	0.24%
Arizona	6,970	5,518	12,488	6,500,180	0.19%
Arkansas	2,020	1,235	3,255	2,855,390	0.11%
California	46,965	110,312	157,277	36,756,666	0.43%
Colorado	6,877	7,870	14,747	4,939,456	0.30%
Connecticut	4,020	607	4,627	3,501,252	0.13%
Delaware	862	71	933	873,092	0.11%
District of Columbia	5,666	378	6,044	591,833	1.02%
Florida	20,724	29,434	50,158	18,328,340	0.27%
Georgia	8,865	10,230	19,095	9,685,744	0.20%
Guam	103	622	725	154,805	0.47%
Hawaii	2,703	3,358	6,061	1,288,198	0.47%
Idaho	1,250	214	1,464	1,523,816	0.10%
Illinois	11,480	3,244	14,724	12,901,563	0.11%
Indiana	5,923	1,472	7,395	6,376,792	0.12%
Iowa	3,087	259	3,346	3,002,555	0.11%
Kansas	1,500	238	1,738	2,802,134	0.06%
Kentucky	6,195	1,942	8,137	4,269,245	0.19%
Louisiana	3,700	1,781	5,481	4,410,796	0.12%
Maine	2,588	44	2,632	1,316,456	0.20%
Maryland	6,054	3,165	9,219	5,633,597	0.16%
Massachusetts	13,437	1,069	14,506	6,497,967	0.22%
Michigan	11,781	16,467	28,248	10,003,422	0.28%
Minnesota	6,270	1,374	7,644	5,220,393	0.15%
Mississippi	1,206	755	1,961	2,938,618	0.07%
Missouri	5,607	2,080	7,687	5,911,605	0.13%
Montana	1,007	410	1,417	967,440	0.15%
Nebraska	3,227	758	3,985	1,783,432	0.22%
Nevada	4,863	7,747	12,610	2,600,167	0.48%
New Hampshire	1,535	484	2,019	1,315,809	0.15%
New Jersey	11,860	1,972	13,832	8,682,661	0.16%
New Mexico	1,748	1,267	3,015	1,984,356	0.15%
New York	56,516	4,609	61,125	19,490,297	0.31%
North Carolina	8,025	4,386	12,411	9,222,414	0.13%
North Dakota	596	19	615	641,481	0.10%
Ohio	10,377	2,535	12,912	11,485,910	0.11%
Oklahoma	2,803	1,043	3,846	3,642,361	0.11%
Oregon	9,946	10,707	20,653	3,790,060	0.54%
Pennsylvania	14,079	1,299	15,378	12,448,279	0.12%
Puerto Rico	810	2,202	3,012	3,954,037	0.08%
Rhode Island	1,142	54	1,196	1,050,788	0.11%
South Carolina	3,086	2,574	5,660	4,479,800	0.13%
South Dakota	538	41	579	804,194	0.07%

**C2: Point-In-Time Estimates from January 2008 of Homeless Population by State**

<b>State</b>	<b>Total Sheltered Population</b>	<b>Total Unsheltered Population</b>	<b>Total Homeless Population</b>	<b>State Population</b>	<b>Homeless Rate</b>
Tennessee	5,660	4,045	9,705	6,214,888	0.16%
Texas	24,080	16,110	40,190	24,326,974	0.17%
Utah	3,178	256	3,434	2,736,424	0.13%
Vermont	696	258	954	621,270	0.15%
Virgin Islands	115	487	602	108,612	0.55%
Virginia	6,895	1,574	8,469	7,769,089	0.11%
Washington	15,456	6,498	21,954	6,549,224	0.34%
West Virginia	1,422	594	2,016	1,814,468	0.11%
Wisconsin	4,934	515	5,449	5,627,967	0.10%
Wyoming	619	132	751	532,668	0.14%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>386,361</b>	<b>278,053</b>	<b>664,414</b>	<b>308,277,178</b>	<b>0.22%</b>

# Appendix C-3

Continuum of Care Point-In-Time Homeless Counts, 2006-2008														
#	CoC Number	CoC Name <sup>1</sup>	Sheltered PIT Counts			Unsheltered PIT Counts			Total PIT Counts				% of Statewide Count	
			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	Total Change 07-08		% Change 07-08
1	AK-500	Anchorage CoC	921	842	1,042	102	132	246	1,023	974	1,288	49	5.0%	62.15%
2	AK-501	Alaska Balance of State CoC	531	545	544	92	123	195	623	668	739	-45	-6.7%	37.85%
3	AL-500	Birmingham/Shelby Counties CoC	1,240	1,240	1,653	864	864	775	2,104	2,104	2,428	0	0.0%	39.06%
4	AL-501	Mobile City & County/Baldwin County	341	410	482	183	239	302	524	649	784	-125	-19.3%	9.73%
5	AL-502	Florence/Northwest Alabama CoC	178	131	109	71	134	112	249	265	221	-16	-6.0%	4.62%
6	AL-503	Huntsville/North Alabama CoC	637	756	928	77	74	44	714	830	972	-116	-14.0%	13.25%
7	AL-504	Montgomery City & County CoC	327	331	373	117	125	106	444	456	479	-12	-2.6%	8.24%
8	AL-505	Gadsden/Northeast Alabama CoC	262	104	95	36	15	9	298	119	104	179	150.4%	5.53%
9	AL-506	Tuscaloosa City & County CoC	192	332	177	4	13	7	196	345	184	-149	-43.2%	3.64%
10	AL-507	Alabama Balance of State	666	492	263	192	192	144	858	684	407	174	25.4%	15.93%
11	AR-500	Little Rock/Central Arkansas CoC	1,176	1,187	12,495	635	635	576	1,811	1,822	13,071	-11	-0.6%	55.64%
12	AR-501	Fayetteville/Northwest Arkansas CoC	273	244	170	40	35	21	313	279	191	34	12.2%	9.62%
13	AR-502	Conway/Faulkner, Perry Counties CoC	59	59	1,048	104	104	135	163	163	1,183	0	0.0%	5.01%
14	AR-504	Delta Hills CoC	374	391	681	443	510	888	817	901	1,569	-84	-9.3%	25.10%
15	AR-505	Southeast Arkansas CoC	120	120	53	10	10	69	130	130	122	0	0.0%	3.99%
16	AR-506	Johnson, Pope, Yell Counties CoC	18	18	0	3	3	0	21	21	0	0	0.0%	0.65%
17	AZ-500	Arizona Balance of State CoC	956	1,013	998	1,984	1,984	1,642	2,940	2,997	2,640	-57	-1.9%	23.54%
18	AZ-501	Tucson/Pima County CoC	1,251	2,010	1,938	1,108	1,191	642	2,359	3,201	2,580	-842	-26.3%	18.89%
19	AZ-502	Phoenix/Mesa/Maricopa County	4,763	5,595	5,416	2,426	2,853	2,063	7,189	8,448	7,479	-1,259	-14.9%	57.57%
20	CA-500	San Jose/Santa Clara City & County	2,101	2,101	2,623	5,101	5,101	4,389	7,202	7,202	7,012	0	0.0%	4.58%
21	CA-501	San Francisco CoC	2,400	2,912	2,749	2,771	2,791	2,655	5,171	5,703	5,404	-532	-9.3%	3.29%
22	CA-502	Oakland/Alameda County CoC	2,342	2,342	2,590	2,496	2,496	2,539	4,838	4,838	5,129	0	0.0%	3.08%
23	CA-503	Sacramento City & County CoC	1,349	1,447	1,584	1,266	1,005	645	2,615	2,452	2,229	163	6.6%	1.66%
24	CA-504	Santa Rosa/Petaluma/Sonoma County	782	782	954	532	532	783	1,314	1,314	1,737	0	0.0%	0.84%
25	CA-505	Richmond/Contra Costa County CoC	903	903	993	3,159	3,159	5,278	4,062	4,062	6,271	0	0.0%	2.58%
26	CA-506	Salinas/Monterey County CoC	509	509	539	893	893	1,067	1,402	1,402	1,606	0	0.0%	0.89%
27	CA-507	Marin County CoC	602	602	575	400	400	442	1,002	1,002	1,017	0	0.0%	0.64%
28	CA-508	Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County	486	486	674	2,303	2,303	2,679	2,789	2,789	3,353	0	0.0%	1.77%
29	CA-509	Mendocino County CoC	285	284	142	1,138	1,138	1,509	1,423	1,422	1,651	1	0.1%	0.90%
30	CA-510	Turlock/Modesto/Stanislaus County	634	634	678	959	959	935	1,593	1,593	1,613	0	0.0%	1.01%
31	CA-511	Stockton/San Joaquin County	2,051	2,176	2,772	303	303	588	2,354	2,479	3,360	-125	-5.0%	1.50%
32	CA-512	Daly/San Mateo County CoC	704	704	740	1,094	1,094	491	1,798	1,798	1,231	0	0.0%	1.14%
33	CA-513	Visalia, Kings, Tulare Counties CoC	189	280	1,330	851	826	668	1,040	1,106	1,998	-66	-6.0%	0.66%
34	CA-514	Fresno/Madera County CoC	1,951	2,735	2,553	1,556	1,512	0	3,507	4,247	2,553	-740	-17.4%	2.23%
35	CA-515	Roseville/Placer County CoC	450	450	375	137	137	91	587	587	486	0	0.0%	0.37%
36	CA-516	Redding/Shasta County CoC	201	250	205	62	46	87	263	296	292	-33	-11.1%	0.17%
37	CA-517	Napa City & County CoC	219	219	194	146	146	143	365	365	337	0	0.0%	0.23%
38	CA-518	Vallejo/Solano County CoC	457	457	561	1,499	1,499	2,979	1,956	1,956	3,540	0	0.0%	1.24%



Continuum of Care Point-In-Time Homeless Counts, 2006-2008														
#	CoC Number	CoC Name <sup>1</sup>	Sheltered PIT Counts			Unsheltered PIT Counts			Total PIT Counts				% of Statewide Count	
			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	Total Change 07-08		% Change 07-08
39	CA-519	Chico/Paradise/Butte County CoC	322	936	370	270	542	620	592	1,478	990	-886	-59.9%	0.38%
40	CA-520	Merced City & County CoC	135	221	221	2,320	2,420	2,420	2,455	2,641	2,641	-186	-7.0%	1.56%
41	CA-521	Davis/Woodland/Yolo County CoC	228	228	230	186	186	460	414	414	690	0	0.0%	0.26%
42	CA-522	Humboldt County CoC	322	322	366	585	585	1,481	907	907	1,847	0	0.0%	0.58%
43	CA-524	Yuba City, Marysville/Sutter, Yuba Counties CoC	483	299	202	111	63	326	594	362	528	232	64.1%	0.38%
44	CA-525	El Dorado County CoC	75	91	0	75	16	0	150	107	0	43	40.2%	0.10%
45	CA-526	Tuolumne, Calaveras, Amador Counties CoC	79	79	0	321	321	0	400	400	0	0	0.0%	0.25%
46	CA-600	Los Angeles City & County CoC	11,442	11,442	9,878	57,166	57,166	72,413	68,608	68,608	82,291	0	0.0%	43.62%
47	CA-601	San Diego CoC	2,618	2,469	3,623	1,736	1,016	1,849	4,354	3,485	5,472	869	24.9%	2.77%
48	CA-602	Santa Ana/Anaheim/Orange County CoC	2,578	2,578	2,101	1,071	1,071	747	3,649	3,649	2,848	0	0.0%	2.32%
49	CA-603	Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County	1,480	1,480	1,147	2,773	2,773	2,911	4,253	4,253	4,068	0	0.0%	2.70%
50	CA-604	Bakersfield/Kern County CoC	905	905	681	632	632	625	1,537	1,537	1,306	0	0.0%	0.98%
51	CA-605	San Buena Ventura/Ventura County	359	359	419	931	931	563	1,290	1,290	982	0	0.0%	0.82%
52	CA-606	Long Beach CoC	1,679	1,679	1,670	2,150	2,150	2,805	3,829	3,829	4,475	0	0.0%	2.43%
53	CA-607	Pasadena CoC	434	434	754	549	535	411	983	969	1,165	14	1.4%	0.63%
54	CA-608	Riverside City & County CoC	1,330	1,330	1,654	3,178	3,178	3,131	4,508	4,508	4,785	0	0.0%	2.87%
55	CA-609	San Bernardino City & County CoC	1,220	1,220	945	5,749	5,749	3,530	6,969	6,969	4,475	0	0.0%	4.43%
56	CA-610	San Diego County CoC	1,799	1,512	2,799	2,302	2,329	2,232	4,101	3,841	5,031	260	6.8%	2.61%
57	CA-611	Oxnard CoC	192	67	318	479	604	324	671	671	642	0	0.0%	0.43%
58	CA-612	Glendale CoC	233	233	104	63	63	185	296	296	289	0	0.0%	0.19%
59	CA-613	El Centro/Imperial County CoC	156	113	0	237	229	0	393	342	0	51	14.9%	0.25%
60	CA-614	San Luis Obispo County CoC	281	187	222	569	2,221	2,186	850	2,408	2,408	-1,558	-64.7%	0.54%
61	CO-500	Colorado Balance of State CoC	1,233	1,093	1,578	3,955	3,357	8,736	5,188	4,450	10,314	738	16.6%	35.18%
62	CO-503	Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative	4,951	5,185	5,390	3,531	3,513	3,271	8,482	8,698	8,661	-216	-2.5%	57.52%
63	CO-504	Colorado Springs/El Paso County CoC	693	693	752	384	384	407	1,077	1,077	1,159	0	0.0%	7.30%
64	CT-500	Danbury CoC	116	127	258	7	25	32	123	152	290	-29	-19.1%	2.66%
65	CT-501	New Haven CoC	722	641	858	94	137	319	816	778	1,177	38	4.9%	17.64%
66	CT-502	Hartford CoC	1,251	891	829	18	16	0	1,269	907	829	362	39.9%	27.43%
67	CT-503	Bridgeport/Stratford/Fairfield CoC	311	324	338	31	32	40	342	356	378	-14	-3.9%	7.39%
68	CT-504	Middletown/Middlesex County CoC	187	201	289	89	101	22	276	302	311	-26	-8.6%	5.96%
69	CT-505	Connecticut Balance of State CoC	387	492	399	184	155	53	571	647	482	-76	-11.7%	12.34%
70	CT-506	Norwalk/Fairfield County CoC	183	213	191	15	49	8	198	262	199	-64	-24.4%	4.28%
71	CT-507	Norwich/New London City & County	288	248	250	16	37	110	304	285	360	19	6.7%	6.57%
72	CT-508	Stamford/Greenwich CoC	255	252	403	51	49	23	306	301	426	5	1.7%	6.61%
73	CT-509	New Britain CoC	103	91	162	54	74	21	157	165	183	-8	-4.8%	3.39%
74	CT-510	Bristol CoC	62	59	58	19	32	47	81	91	105	-10	-11.0%	1.75%
75	CT-512	City of Waterbury CoC	155	132	171	29	104	35	184	236	206	-52	-22.0%	3.98%
76	DC-500	District of Columbia CoC	5,666	4,980	5,286	378	340	347	6,044	5,320	5,633	724	13.6%	100.00%

Continuum of Care Point-In-Time Homeless Counts, 2006-2008														
#	CoC Number	CoC Name <sup>1</sup>	Sheltered PIT Counts			Unsheltered PIT Counts			Total PIT Counts				% of Statewide Count	
			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	Total Change 07-08		% Change 07-08
77	DE-500	Delaware Statewide CoC	862	854	876	71	207	213	933	1,061	1,089	-128	-12.1%	100.00%
78	FL-500	Sarasota, Bradenton, Manatee Counties	530	494	945	831	518	385	1,361	1,012	1,330	349	34.5%	2.71%
79	FL-501	Tampa/Hillsborough County CoC	1,050	1,050	6,241	5,433	5,433	3,630	6,483	6,483	9,871	0	0.0%	12.93%
80	FL-502	St. Petersburg/Pinellas County CoC	1,305	1,305	2,214	1,221	1,221	1,389	2,526	2,526	3,603	0	0.0%	5.04%
81	FL-503	Lakeland/Highlands Counties CoC	499	487	420	156	315	413	655	802	833	-147	-18.3%	1.31%
82	FL-504	Daytona Beach/Flagler Counties CoC	576	569	514	1,225	909	2,146	1,801	1,478	2,660	323	21.9%	3.59%
83	FL-505	Fort Walton Beach/Walton Counties CoC	330	105	116	1,433	2,074	2,065	1,763	2,179	2,181	-416	-19.1%	3.51%
84	FL-506	Tallahassee/Leon County CoC	495	495	580	95	95	111	590	590	691	0	0.0%	1.18%
85	FL-507	Orlando/Orange/Seminole Counties CoC	2,366	2,003	2,308	1,368	1,820	1,989	3,734	3,823	4,297	-89	-2.3%	7.44%
86	FL-508	Gainesville/Atachua, Putnam	279	263	278	465	415	487	744	678	765	66	9.7%	1.48%
87	FL-509	Fort Pierce/St. Lucie/Martin Counties CoC	298	458	494	1,205	1,276	1,819	1,503	1,734	2,313	-231	-13.3%	3.00%
88	FL-510	Jacksonville/Duval, Clay Counties CoC	1,492	1,585	1,462	1,093	1,158	1,263	2,585	2,743	2,725	-158	-5.8%	5.15%
89	FL-511	Pensacola/Esca/Santa Rosa County CoC	375	347	294	653	282	894	1,028	629	1,188	399	63.4%	2.05%
90	FL-512	Saint Johns County CoC	106	106	163	1,132	1,132	834	1,238	1,238	997	0	0.0%	2.47%
91	FL-513	Palm Bay/Brevard County CoC	502	502	1,002	1,397	1,397	663	1,899	1,899	1,665	0	0.0%	3.79%
92	FL-514	Ocala/Marion County CoC	312	312	331	168	168	1,079	480	480	1,410	0	0.0%	0.96%
93	FL-515	Panama City CoC	211	211	226	102	102	833	313	313	1,059	0	0.0%	0.62%
94	FL-516	Winterhaven/Polk County CoC	209	0	0	285	0	0	494	0	0	0	0.0%	0.98%
95	FL-517	Hardee/Highlands Counties CoC	91	664	2,531	2,867	240	546	2,968	904	3,077	2,064	228.3%	5.92%
96	FL-518	Columbia/Suwannee CoC	92	85	110	190	165	82	282	250	192	32	12.8%	0.56%
97	FL-519	Passo County	1,500	1,379	2,499	2,574	881	1,178	4,074	2,260	3,677	1,814	80.3%	8.12%
98	FL-520	Citrus/Hernando/Lake	216	192	411	888	1,827	1,001	1,104	2,019	1,412	-915	-45.3%	2.20%
99	FL-600	Miami/Dade County CoC	3,227	3,012	2,955	1,347	1,380	1,754	4,574	4,392	4,709	182	4.1%	9.12%
100	FL-601	Ft Lauderdale/Broward County CoC	2,453	2,453	2,672	701	701	442	3,154	3,154	3,114	0	0.0%	6.29%
101	FL-602	Punta Gorda/Charlotte County CoC	450	450	123	280	280	3,191	730	730	3,314	0	0.0%	1.46%
102	FL-603	Ft Myers/Cape Coral/Lee County CoC	386	433	706	513	1,949	1,372	899	2,382	2,078	-1,483	-62.3%	1.79%
103	FL-604	Monroe County CoC	477	477	437	644	644	544	1,121	1,121	981	0	0.0%	2.23%
104	FL-605	West Palm Beach/Palm Beach County	727	727	860	1,039	1,039	714	1,766	1,574	0	0	0.0%	3.52%
105	FL-606	Collier County CoC	160	365	277	129	119	236	289	484	513	-195	-40.3%	0.58%
106	GA-500	City of Atlanta CoC	4,725	4,725	4,368	2,115	2,115	2,115	6,840	6,840	6,483	0	0.0%	35.82%
107	GA-501	Georgia Balance of State CoC	2,267	1,971	3,319	7,073	8,284	9,162	9,340	10,255	12,481	-915	-8.9%	48.91%
108	GA-503	Athens/Clarke County CoC	303	333	388	159	131	87	462	464	475	-2	-0.4%	2.42%
109	GA-504	Augusta CoC	496	451	532	32	38	37	528	489	569	39	8.0%	2.77%
110	GA-505	Columbus-Muscogee/Russell County CoC	244	188	246	374	352	220	618	540	466	78	14.4%	3.24%
111	GA-506	Maricopa/Cobb County CoC	329	329	330	208	208	330	537	537	660	0	0.0%	2.81%
112	GA-507	Savannah/Chatham County CoC	501	344	316	269	170	343	770	514	659	256	49.8%	4.03%
113	GU-500	Guam CoC	103	103	258	622	622	792	725	725	1,050	0	0.0%	100.00%
114	HI-500	Hawaii Balance of State CoC	746	755	926	1,565	1,565	1,522	2,311	2,320	2,448	-9	-0.4%	38.13%

Continuum of Care Point-In-Time Homeless Counts, 2006-2008														
#	CoC Number	CoC Name <sup>1</sup>	Sheltered PIT Counts			Unsheltered PIT Counts			Total PIT Counts				% Change 07-08	% of Statewide Count
			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	Total Change 07-08		
115	HI-501	Honolulu CoC	1,957	1,957	1,050	1,793	1,793	1,085	3,750	3,750	2,135	0	0.0%	61.87%
116	IA-500	Sioux City/Dakota County CoC	260	159	165	11	11	26	271	164	191	107	65.2%	8.10%
117	IA-501	Iowa Balance of State CoC	1,824	1,340	1,746	126	189	497	1,950	1,529	2,243	421	27.5%	58.28%
118	IA-502	Des Moines/Polk County CoC	1,003	942	1,209	122	99	1,530	1,125	1,041	2,739	84	8.1%	33.62%
119	ID-500	Boise/Ada County CoC	553	472	133	58	109	11	611	581	144	30	5.2%	41.73%
120	ID-501	Idaho Balance of State CoC	697	653	997	156	515	310	853	1,168	1,307	-315	-27.0%	58.27%
121	IL-500	McHenry County CoC	195	235	177	4	18	16	199	253	193	-54	-21.3%	1.35%
122	IL-501	Rockford/Winnebago, Boone Counties	525	525	448	50	50	1,219	575	575	1,667	0	0.0%	3.91%
123	IL-502	North Chicago/Lake County CoC	430	486	405	9	10	9	439	496	414	-57	-11.5%	2.98%
124	IL-503	Champaign/Urbana/Champaign County CoC	416	416	295	13	13	13	429	429	308	0	0.0%	2.91%
125	IL-504	Madison County CoC	189	203	308	25	37	79	214	240	387	-26	-10.8%	1.45%
126	IL-505	Evanston CoC	93	93	95	90	90	89	183	183	184	0	0.0%	1.24%
127	IL-506	Joliet/Bolingbrook/Will County CoC	299	379	345	10	18	43	309	397	388	-88	-22.2%	2.10%
128	IL-507	Peoria/Perkin/Woodford CoC	342	336	362	8	98	124	350	434	486	-84	-19.4%	2.38%
129	IL-508	East Saint Louis/Saint Clair County CoC	218	442	349	452	357	757	670	799	1,106	-129	-16.1%	4.55%
130	IL-509	Dekalb City & County CoC	106	106	67	24	24	29	130	130	96	0	0.0%	0.88%
131	IL-510	Chicago CoC	4,346	4,346	4,969	1,633	1,633	1,702	5,979	5,979	6,671	0	0.0%	40.61%
132	IL-511	Cook County CoC	1,069	1,069	1,024	168	168	61	1,237	1,237	1,085	0	0.0%	8.40%
133	IL-512	Bloomington/Central Illinois CoC	399	399	339	68	68	47	467	467	386	0	0.0%	3.17%
134	IL-513	Springfield/Sangamon County CoC	228	245	297	7	15	58	235	260	355	-25	-9.6%	1.60%
135	IL-514	DuPage County CoC	642	642	538	124	124	19	766	766	557	0	0.0%	5.20%
136	IL-515	South Central Illinois CoC	235	214	127	35	32	141	270	246	268	24	9.8%	1.83%
137	IL-516	Decatur/Macon County CoC	167	167	180	180	180	197	347	347	377	0	0.0%	2.36%
138	IL-517	Aurora/Elgin/Kane County CoC	418	418	452	56	56	54	474	474	506	0	0.0%	3.22%
139	IL-518	Rock Island...Northwestern Illinois CoC	268	506	676	84	94	126	352	600	802	-248	-41.3%	2.39%
140	IL-519	West Central Illinois CoC	99	148	140	130	157	138	229	305	278	-76	-24.9%	1.56%
141	IL-520	Southern Illinois CoC	796	796	401	74	74	218	870	870	619	0	0.0%	5.91%
142	IN-500	South Bend/Mishawaka/St. Joseph County CoC	681	584	0	317	0	0	998	584	0	414	70.9%	13.50%
143	IN-502	Indiana Balance of State CoC	3,878	3,878	5,086	1,028	1,028	2,504	4,906	4,906	7,590	0	0.0%	66.34%
144	IN-503	Indianapolis CoC	1,364	1,634	1,993	127	234	147	1,491	1,868	2,140	-377	-20.2%	20.16%
145	KS-501	Kansas City/Wyandotte County CoC	109	130	100	57	57	75	166	187	175	-21	-11.2%	9.55%
146	KS-502	Wichita/Sedgwick County CoC	445	473	394	28	53	195	473	526	589	-53	-10.1%	27.22%
147	KS-503	Topeka/Shawnee County CoC	316	226	457	25	1	19	341	227	476	114	50.2%	19.62%
148	KS-505	Overland Park/Johnson County CoC	147	147	157	87	87	80	234	234	237	0	0.0%	13.46%
149	KS-507	Kansas Balance of State CoC	483	483	2,026	41	41	1,452	524	524	3,478	0	0.0%	30.15%
150	KY-500	Kentucky Balance of State CoC	2,416	2,421	3,611	1,611	1,895	476	4,027	4,316	4,087	-289	-6.7%	49.49%
151	KY-501	Louisville/Jefferson County CoC	2,537	2,407	1,465	145	180	602	2,682	2,587	2,067	95	3.7%	32.96%
152	KY-502	Lexington/Fayette County CoC	1,242	1,112	841	186	46	50	1,428	1,158	891	270	23.3%	17.55%

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#	CoC Number	CoC Name <sup>1</sup>	Sheltered PIT Counts			Unsheltered PIT Counts			Total PIT Counts				% of Statewide Count	
			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	Total Change 07-08		% Change 07-08
153	LA-500	Lafayette/Acadiana CoC	457	457	508	174	174	172	631	631	680	0	0.0%	11.51%
154	LA-501	Lake Charles/Southwestern Louisiana	54	219	158	40	28	36	94	247	194	-153	-61.9%	1.72%
155	LA-502	Shreveport/Bossier/Northwest CoC	898	723	605	144	134	143	1,042	857	748	185	21.6%	19.01%
156	LA-503	New Orleans/Jefferson Parish CoC	990	990	1,460	629	629	591	1,619	1,619	2,051	0	0.0%	29.54%
157	LA-504	Baton Rouge CoC	675	801	722	331	241	22	1,006	1,042	744	-36	-3.5%	18.35%
158	LA-505	Monroe/Northeast Louisiana CoC	201	262	316	75	51	78	276	313	394	-37	-11.8%	5.04%
159	LA-506	Sidell/Livingston/Southeast Louisiana CoC	210	203	246	312	231	154	522	434	400	88	20.3%	9.52%
160	LA-507	Alexandria/Central Louisiana CoC	93	140	1,379	35	48	147	128	188	156	-60	-31.9%	2.34%
161	LA-508	Houma-Terrebonne CoC	122	122	135	41	41	65	163	163	200	0	0.0%	2.97%
162	MA-500	Boston CoC	5,014	4,798	4,956	184	306	261	5,198	5,104	5,217	94	1.8%	35.83%
163	MA-501	Franklin/Holyoke County CoC	1,013	911	517	77	53	40	1,090	964	557	126	13.1%	7.51%
164	MA-502	Lynn CoC	350	208	189	39	28	3	389	236	192	153	64.8%	2.68%
165	MA-503	Cape Cod/Islands CoC	424	368	510	317	329	498	741	697	1,008	44	6.3%	5.11%
166	MA-504	Springfield CoC	676	1,020	410	20	33	37	696	1,053	447	-357	-33.9%	4.80%
167	MA-505	New Bedford CoC	299	356	384	81	34	50	390	390	434	-10	-2.6%	2.62%
168	MA-506	Worcester City & County CoC	1,257	1,268	1,149	34	34	23	1,291	1,302	1,172	-11	-0.8%	8.90%
169	MA-507	Pittsfield/Berkshire County CoC	210	315	288	27	59	67	237	374	355	-137	-36.6%	1.63%
170	MA-508	Lowell CoC	390	418	314	8	14	28	398	432	342	-34	-7.9%	2.74%
171	MA-509	Cambridge CoC	424	376	405	62	56	44	486	432	449	54	12.5%	3.35%
172	MA-510	Gloucester...Essex County	625	584	516	31	22	54	656	606	570	50	8.3%	4.52%
173	MA-511	Quincy/Weymouth CoC	233	246	221	23	34	35	256	280	256	-24	-8.6%	1.76%
174	MA-512	Lawrence CoC	270	291	140	30	19	12	300	310	152	-10	-3.2%	2.07%
175	MA-513	Malden/Medford CoC	123	115	140	7	22	18	130	137	158	-7	-5.1%	0.90%
176	MA-514	Framingham/Waltham CoC	629	575	382	7	172	24	636	747	406	-111	-14.9%	4.38%
177	MA-515	Fall River CoC	138	139	143	5	14	11	143	153	154	-10	-6.5%	0.99%
178	MA-516	Massachusetts Balance of State CoC	373	599	357	28	24	15	401	623	372	-222	-35.6%	2.76%
179	MA-517	Somerville CoC	177	196	215	2	15	10	179	211	225	-32	-15.2%	1.23%
180	MA-518	Brookline/Newton CoC	118	128	205	3	2	11	121	130	216	-9	-6.9%	0.83%
181	MA-519	Attleboro/Taunton/Bristol County CoC	103	229	230	30	63	90	133	292	320	-159	-54.5%	0.92%
182	MA-520	Brockton/Plymouth City & County CoC	591	573	543	54	81	102	645	654	645	-9	-1.4%	4.45%
183	MD-500	Cumberland/Allegany County CoC	83	141	161	49	21	26	132	162	187	-30	-18.5%	1.43%
184	MD-501	Baltimore City CoC	1,978	1,978	2,321	629	629	583	2,607	2,607	2,904	0	0.0%	28.28%
185	MD-502	Harford County CoC	132	132	95	13	13	20	145	145	115	0	0.0%	1.57%
186	MD-503	Annapolis/Anne Arundel County CoC	240	218	208	50	71	99	290	289	307	1	0.3%	3.15%
187	MD-504	Howard County CoC	135	151	153	24	24	29	159	175	182	-16	-9.1%	1.72%
188	MD-505	Baltimore County CoC	393	576	510	33	58	66	426	634	576	-208	-32.8%	4.62%
189	MD-506	Carroll County CoC	161	161	186	13	13	29	174	174	215	0	0.0%	1.89%
190	MD-507	Cecil County CoC	139	117	80	13	2	45	152	119	125	33	27.7%	1.65%

Continuum of Care Point-In-Time Homeless Counts, 2006-2008														
#	CoC Number	CoC Name <sup>1</sup>	Sheltered PIT Counts			Unsheltered PIT Counts			Total PIT Counts				% Change 07-08	% of Statewide Count
			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	Total Change 07-08		
191	MD-508	Charles, Calvert, St. Mary's CoC	253	302	370	1,685	1,671	240	1,938	1,973	610	-35	-1.8%	21.02%
192	MD-509	Frederick City & County CoC	224	214	198	22	9	14	246	223	212	23	10.3%	2.67%
193	MD-510	Garrett County CoC	63	63	42	19	19	12	82	82	54	0	0.0%	0.89%
194	MD-511	Mid-Shore Regional CoC	139	139	75	171	172	219	310	311	294	-1	-0.3%	3.36%
195	MD-512	Hagerstown/Washington County CoC	192	209	219	22	3	23	214	212	242	2	0.9%	2.32%
196	MD-513	Wicomico/Somerset/Worcester CoC	214	178	157	37	37	62	251	215	219	36	16.7%	2.72%
197	MD-600	Bowie/Prince George's County CoC	798	823	890	145	345	401	943	1,168	1,291	-225	-19.3%	10.23%
198	MD-601	Montgomery County CoC	910	1,016	991	240	123	173	1,150	1,139	1,164	11	1.0%	12.47%
199	ME-500	Maine Balance of State CoC	1,341	1,358	1,277	31	40	26	1,372	1,398	1,303	-26	-1.9%	52.13%
200	ME-501	Bangor/Penobscot County CoC	523	486	539	8	13	23	531	499	562	32	6.4%	20.17%
201	ME-502	Portland CoC	724	732	773	5	9	0	729	741	773	-12	-1.6%	27.70%
202	MI-500	Michigan Balance of State CoC	1,319	1,319	1,377	931	931	713	2,250	2,250	2,090	0	0.0%	7.97%
203	MI-501	Detroit CoC	4,738	4,738	4,311	13,324	13,324	10,516	18,062	18,062	14,827	0	0.0%	63.94%
204	MI-502	Dearborn/Wayne County CoC	618	618	503	247	247	240	865	865	743	0	0.0%	3.06%
205	MI-503	St. Clair Shores/Warren/Macomb County	251	251	314	518	518	261	769	769	575	0	0.0%	2.72%
206	MI-504	Pontiac/Royal Oak/Oakland County	402	402	598	609	609	695	1,011	1,011	1,293	0	0.0%	3.58%
207	MI-505	Flint/Genesee County CoC	227	213	293	18	141	1,899	245	354	2,192	-109	-30.8%	0.87%
208	MI-506	Grand Rapids/Wyoming/Kent County	752	807	814	42	105	55	794	912	869	-118	-12.9%	2.81%
209	MI-507	Portage/Kalamazoo City & County	783	593	411	79	21	1	862	614	412	248	40.4%	3.05%
210	MI-508	Lansing/East Lansing/Ingham County	391	391	347	17	17	68	408	408	415	0	0.0%	1.44%
211	MI-509	Ann Arbor/Washtenaw County CoC	357	357	252	56	56	180	413	413	432	0	0.0%	1.46%
212	MI-510	Saginaw City & County CoC	274	274	268	87	87	17	361	361	285	0	0.0%	1.28%
213	MI-511	Lenawee County CoC	85	85	85	8	8	24	93	93	109	0	0.0%	0.33%
214	MI-512	Grand Traverse/Antrim, Leelanau Counties	216	216	109	25	25	141	241	241	250	0	0.0%	0.85%
215	MI-513	Marquette/Alger Counties CoC	37	37	78	0	0	9	37	37	87	0	0.0%	0.13%
216	MI-514	Battle Creek/Calhoun County CoC	164	117	98	110	88	49	274	205	147	69	33.7%	0.97%
217	MI-515	Monroe County CoC	131	131	56	11	11	49	142	142	105	0	0.0%	0.50%
218	MI-516	Norton Shores/Muskegon City & County	171	147	223	180	185	63	351	332	286	19	5.7%	1.24%
219	MI-517	Jackson City & County CoC	344	282	328	70	181	19	414	463	347	-49	-10.6%	1.47%
220	MI-518	Livingston County CoC	58	58	57	5	5	31	63	63	88	0	0.0%	0.22%
221	MI-519	Holland/Ottawa County CoC	291	306	0	0	13	0	291	319	0	-28	-8.8%	1.03%
222	MI-522	Alpena, Iosca, Presque Isle/NE Michigan CoC	67	67	0	38	38	0	105	105	0	0	0.0%	0.37%
223	MI-523	Eaton County CoC	105	105	110	92	92	20	197	197	130	0	0.0%	0.70%
224	MN-500	Minneapolis/Hennepin County CoC	2,813	2,428	3,058	556	556	357	3,369	2,984	3,415	385	12.9%	44.07%
225	MN-501	Saint Paul/Ramsey County CoC	1,170	1,170	809	124	124	0	1,294	1,294	809	0	0.0%	16.93%
226	MN-502	Rochester/Southeast Minnesota CoC	413	413	420	33	33	48	446	446	468	0	0.0%	5.83%
227	MN-503	Dakota County CoC	476	303	264	72	60	182	548	363	446	185	51.0%	7.17%
228	MN-504	Northeast Minnesota CoC	114	116	90	116	116	47	230	232	137	-2	-0.9%	3.01%

Continuum of Care Point-In-Time Homeless Counts, 2006-2008														
#	CoC Number	CoC Name <sup>1</sup>	Sheltered PIT Counts			Unsheltered PIT Counts			Total PIT Counts				% of Statewide Count	
			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2007	2008	2006	Total Change 07-08		% Change 07-08
229	MIN-505	St. Cloud/Central Minnesota CoC	313	313	306	76	76	88	389	389	389	0	0.0%	5.09%
230	MIN-506	Northwest Minnesota CoC	199	235	99	31	31	11	230	266	110	-36	-13.5%	3.17%
231	MIN-508	Moorehead/West Central Minnesota	165	165	160	77	77	76	242	236	236	0	0.0%	3.17%
232	MIN-509	Duluth/Saint Louis County CoC	294	294	333	207	207	18	501	501	351	0	0.0%	6.55%
233	MIN-510	Scott, Carver Counties CoC	188	106	75	64	46	44	252	152	119	100	65.8%	3.30%
234	MIN-511	Southwest Minnesota CoC	125	80	37	18	89	10	143	169	47	-26	-15.4%	1.87%
235	MO-500	St. Louis County CoC	396	290	326	62	46	80	458	336	406	122	36.3%	5.96%
236	MO-501	St. Louis City CoC	1,173	1,173	930	213	213	108	1,386	1,386	1,038	0	0.0%	18.03%
237	MO-503	St. Charles CoC	305	227	133	288	271	351	593	498	484	95	19.1%	7.71%
238	MO-600	Springfield/Webster Counties CoC	506	478	495	207	40	59	713	518	554	195	37.6%	9.28%
239	MO-602	Joplin/Jasper/Newton County CoC	307	298	232	73	8	147	380	306	379	74	24.2%	4.94%
240	MO-603	St. Joseph/Buchanan County CoC	131	100	88	28	0	0	159	100	88	59	59.0%	2.07%
241	MO-604	Kansas City/Lee's Summit CoC	1,560	1,445	3,590	534	154	203	2,094	1,599	3,793	495	31.0%	27.24%
242	MO-606	Clay, Platte Counties CoC	1,229	1,050	914	675	346	148	1,904	1,396	1,062	508	36.4%	24.77%
243	MS-500	Jackson/Rankin, Madison Counties CoC	795	440	514	507	278	71	1,302	718	585	584	81.3%	66.39%
244	MS-501	Mississippi Balance of State CoC	344	344	1,665	41	41	338	385	385	2,003	0	0.0%	19.63%
245	MS-503	Gulf Port/Gulf Coast Regional CoC	67	67	454	207	207	139	274	274	593	0	0.0%	13.97%
246	MT-500	Montana Statewide CoC	1,007	855	879	410	295	452	1,417	1,150	1,331	267	23.2%	100.00%
247	NC-500	Winston Salem/Forsyth County CoC	423	479	1,001	29	24	39	452	503	1,040	-51	-10.1%	3.64%
248	NC-501	Ashville/Buncombe County CoC	429	448	418	80	187	80	509	635	498	-126	-19.8%	4.10%
249	NC-502	Durham City & County CoC	554	502	460	36	37	42	590	539	502	51	9.5%	4.75%
250	NC-503	North Carolina Balance of State	1,732	1,460	645	777	961	573	2,509	2,421	1,218	88	3.6%	20.22%
251	NC-504	Greensboro/High Point CoC	879	980	880	108	202	228	987	1,182	1,108	-195	-16.5%	7.95%
252	NC-505	Charlotte/Mecklenburg County CoC	1,550	1,648	1,448	438	328	1,143	1,988	1,976	2,591	12	0.6%	16.02%
253	NC-506	Wilmington/Brunswick/Pender CoC	427	419	285	69	209	388	496	628	673	-132	-21.0%	4.00%
254	NC-507	Raleigh/Make County CoC	1,071	973	875	73	70	106	1,144	1,043	981	101	9.7%	9.22%
255	NC-508	Anson/Richmond CoC	98	92	124	135	97	142	233	189	266	44	23.3%	1.88%
256	NC-509	Gastonia/Cleveland/Lincoln CoC	257	214	204	663	438	588	920	652	792	268	41.1%	7.41%
257	NC-511	Fayetteville/Cumberland County CoC	266	313	331	808	444	510	1,074	757	841	317	41.9%	8.65%
258	NC-513	Chapel Hill/Orange County CoC	177	183	205	18	25	32	195	208	237	-13	-6.3%	1.57%
259	NC-516	Northwest North Carolina CoC	162	168	116	1,152	901	860	1,314	1,069	976	245	22.9%	10.59%
260	ND-500	North Dakota Statewide CoC	596	577	537	19	59	77	615	636	614	-21	-3.3%	100.00%
261	NE-500	North Central Nebraska CoC	840	167	240	335	90	159	1,175	257	399	918	357.2%	29.49%
262	NE-501	Omaha/Council Bluffs CoC	1,125	1,632	1,443	72	238	189	1,197	1,870	1,632	-673	-36.0%	30.04%
263	NE-502	Lincoln CoC	865	838	833	286	128	614	1,151	966	1,447	185	19.2%	28.88%
264	NE-503	Southwest Nebraska CoC	72	72	80	13	13	19	85	85	99	0	0.0%	2.13%
265	NE-504	Southeast Nebraska CoC	177	101	149	7	7	4	184	108	153	76	70.4%	4.62%
266	NE-505	Panhandle of Nebraska CoC	79	122	179	42	47	100	121	169	279	-48	-28.4%	3.04%

Continuum of Care Point-In-Time Homeless Counts, 2006-2008														
#	CoC Number	CoC Name <sup>1</sup>	Sheltered PIT Counts			Unsheltered PIT Counts			Total PIT Counts				% Change 07-08	% of Statewide Count
			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	Total Change 07-08		
267	NE-506	Northeast Nebraska CoC	69	75	67	3	1	32	72	76	99	-4	-5.3%	1.81%
268	NH-500	New Hampshire Balance of State CoC	830	769	612	156	531	632	986	1,300	1,244	-314	-24.2%	48.84%
269	NH-501	Manchester CoC	373	307	484	203	197	771	576	504	1,255	72	14.3%	28.53%
270	NH-502	Nashua/Hillsborough County CoC	332	197	212	125	247	370	457	444	582	13	2.9%	22.63%
271	NJ-500	Atlantic City & County CoC	398	425	396	78	89	252	476	514	648	-38	-7.4%	3.44%
272	NJ-501	Bergen County CoC	1,514	1,210	993	113	182	502	1,627	1,392	1,495	235	16.9%	11.76%
273	NJ-502	Burlington County CoC	780	780	742	116	116	238	896	896	980	0	0.0%	6.48%
274	NJ-503	Camden City & County CoC	446	639	595	272	214	401	718	853	996	-135	-15.8%	5.19%
275	NJ-504	Newark/Essex County CoC	884	1,906	1,262	152	420	420	1,036	2,326	1,682	-1,290	-55.5%	7.49%
276	NJ-505	Gloucester County CoC	176	137	200	14	30	28	190	167	228	23	13.8%	1.37%
277	NJ-506	Jersey City/Hudson County CoC	1,976	2,678	2,677	251	164	296	2,227	2,842	2,973	-615	-21.6%	16.10%
278	NJ-507	New Brunswick/Middlesex County CoC	545	728	468	247	268	182	792	996	650	-204	-20.5%	5.73%
279	NJ-508	Monmouth County CoC	676	757	1,064	87	73	112	763	830	1,176	-67	-8.1%	5.52%
280	NJ-509	Morris County CoC	189	229	330	35	63	37	224	292	367	-68	-23.3%	1.62%
281	NJ-510	Lakewood Township/Ocean County	309	381	515	28	43	41	337	424	556	-87	-20.5%	2.44%
282	NJ-511	Paterson/Passaic County CoC	314	831	856	204	231	140	518	1,062	996	-544	-51.2%	3.74%
283	NJ-512	Salem County CoC	302	454	178	8	11	8	310	465	186	-155	-33.3%	2.24%
284	NJ-513	Somerset County CoC	285	343	450	17	23	35	302	366	485	-64	-17.5%	2.18%
285	NJ-514	Trenton/Mercer County CoC	851	1,242	648	138	356	186	959	1,598	834	-609	-38.1%	7.15%
286	NJ-515	Elizabeth/Union County CoC	1,072	1,072	1,267	116	116	297	1,188	1,188	1,564	0	0.0%	8.59%
287	NJ-516	Warren County CoC	394	215	230	23	7	1	417	222	231	195	87.8%	3.01%
288	NJ-518	Cape May County CoC	286	242	259	14	8	7	300	250	266	50	20.0%	2.17%
289	NJ-519	Sussex County CoC	260	355	354	16	4	17	276	359	371	-83	-23.1%	2.00%
290	NJ-520	Cumberland County CoC	203	106	84	43	57	66	246	163	150	83	50.9%	1.78%
291	NM-500	Albuquerque CoC	989	989	1,168	287	287	2,481	1,276	1,276	3,649	0	0.0%	42.32%
292	NM-501	New Mexico Balance of State CoC	759	759	881	980	980	726	1,739	1,739	1,607	0	0.0%	57.68%
293	NV-500	Las Vegas/Clark County CoC	3,844	3,844	2,774	7,573	7,573	9,424	11,417	11,417	12,198	0	0.0%	90.54%
294	NV-501	Reno/Sparks/Washoe County CoC	765	765	377	98	98	83	863	863	460	0	0.0%	6.84%
295	NV-502	Nevada Balance of State CoC	254	209	185	76	37	147	330	246	332	84	34.1%	2.62%
296	NY-500	Rochester...Monroe County	591	602	666	4	10	16	595	612	682	-17	-2.8%	0.97%
297	NY-501	Elmira/Chemung County CoC	176	174	158	1	1	28	177	175	186	2	1.1%	0.29%
298	NY-502	City of Auburn/Cayuga County CoC	33	33	44	12	22	73	45	55	117	-10	-18.2%	0.07%
299	NY-503	Albany City & County CoC	466	539	361	72	80	46	538	619	407	-81	-13.1%	0.88%
300	NY-504	Cattaraugus County CoC	54	104	559	15	38	90	69	142	649	-73	-51.4%	0.11%
301	NY-505	Syracuse/Onondaga County CoC	675	729	737	11	11	12	686	740	749	-54	-7.3%	1.12%
302	NY-507	Schenectady City & County CoC	129	209	253	66	79	69	195	288	322	-93	-32.3%	0.32%
303	NY-508	Buffalo/Erle County CoC	859	1,008	1,036	208	161	138	1,067	1,169	1,174	-102	-8.7%	1.75%
304	NY-510	Tompkins County CoC	62	62	72	16	16	34	78	78	106	0	0.0%	0.13%

Continuum of Care Point-In-Time Homeless Counts, 2006-2008														
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			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	Total Change 07-08		% Change 07-08
305	NY-512	Troy/Rensselaer County CoC	134	166	237	59	46	222	193	212	459	-19	-9.0%	0.32%
306	NY-513	Wayne County CoC	88	98	40	0	0	2	88	98	42	-10	-10.2%	0.14%
307	NY-514	Jamestown/Dunkirk/Chautauqua County CoC	63	67	0	2	8	0	65	75	0	-10	-13.3%	0.11%
308	NY-516	Clinton County CoC	48	48	0	5	5	0	53	53	0	0	0.0%	0.09%
309	NY-517	Orleans County CoC	34	34	28	5	5	20	39	39	48	0	0.0%	0.06%
310	NY-518	Ulster/Rome/Oneida County CoC	300	300	314	16	16	36	316	316	350	0	0.0%	0.52%
311	NY-519	Columbia/Greene County CoC	172	311	311	0	14	14	172	325	325	-153	-47.1%	0.28%
312	NY-520	Franklin County CoC	6	27	27	4	1	1	10	28	28	-18	-64.3%	0.02%
313	NY-522	Jefferson County CoC	292	0	144	5	0	34	297	0	178	0	0.0%	0.49%
314	NY-523	Saratoga	117	146	234	49	109	135	166	255	369	-89	-34.9%	0.27%
315	NY-524	Niagara CoC	138	161	155	6	8	4	144	169	159	-25	-14.8%	0.24%
316	NY-600	New York City CoC	46,955	46,617	51,664	3,306	3,755	3,843	50,261	50,372	55,907	-111	-0.2%	82.23%
317	NY-601	Poughkeepsie/Dutchess County CoC	463	463	457	84	84	89	547	547	546	0	0.0%	0.89%
318	NY-602	Newburgh/Middletown/Orange County CoC	217	227	302	94	187	83	311	414	385	-103	-24.9%	0.51%
319	NY-603	Islip/Suffolk County CoC	1,661	1,661	2,532	67	67	196	1,728	1,728	2,728	0	0.0%	2.83%
320	NY-604	Yonkers/Westchester County CoC	1,693	1,693	1,878	136	136	89	1,829	1,829	1,967	0	0.0%	2.99%
321	NY-605	Nassau County CoC	690	690	1,124	91	91	91	781	781	1,215	0	0.0%	1.28%
322	NY-606	Rockland County CoC	84	435	214	57	53	0	141	488	214	-347	-71.1%	0.23%
323	NY-607	Sullivan County CoC	109	267	225	30	76	32	139	343	257	-204	-59.6%	0.23%
324	NY-608	Ulster County CoC	207	158	255	188	201	147	395	359	402	36	10.0%	0.65%
325	OH-500	Cincinnati/Hamilton County CoC	1,061	987	1,145	55	59	199	1,116	1,046	1,344	70	6.7%	8.64%
326	OH-501	Toledo/Lucas County CoC	705	631	597	254	114	142	959	745	739	214	28.7%	7.43%
327	OH-502	Cleveland/Cuyahoga County CoC	2,091	2,001	2,059	151	184	210	2,242	2,185	2,269	57	2.6%	17.36%
328	OH-503	Columbus/Franklin County CoC	1,224	1,259	1,168	117	114	189	1,341	1,373	1,357	-32	-2.3%	10.39%
329	OH-504	Youngstown/Mahoning County CoC	225	232	239	11	17	7	236	249	246	-13	-5.2%	1.83%
330	OH-505	Dayton/Kettering/Montgomery CoC	814	719	523	30	66	0	844	785	523	59	7.5%	6.54%
331	OH-506	Akron/Baberton/Summit County CoC	636	632	833	104	192	195	740	824	1,028	-84	-10.2%	5.73%
332	OH-507	Ohio Balance of State CoC	3,225	2,498	4,392	1,300	1,023	2,780	4,525	3,521	7,172	1,004	28.5%	35.04%
333	OH-508	Canton/Stark County CoC	396	421	399	513	115	358	909	536	757	373	69.6%	7.04%
334	OK-500	North Central Oklahoma CoC	215	173	173	26	39	33	241	212	206	29	13.7%	6.27%
335	OK-501	Tulsa City & County/Broken Arrow	694	594	524	35	72	49	729	666	573	63	9.5%	18.95%
336	OK-502	Oklahoma City CoC	1,013	1,278	1,293	322	456	133	1,335	1,734	1,426	-399	-23.0%	34.71%
337	OK-503	Oklahoma Balance of State CoC	151	149	138	6	82	96	157	231	234	-74	-32.0%	4.08%
338	OK-504	Norman / Cleveland County	178	322	201	400	272	218	578	594	419	-16	-2.7%	15.03%
339	OK-505	Northeast Oklahoma CoC	202	150	177	168	155	140	370	305	317	65	21.3%	9.62%
340	OK-506	Southwest Oklahoma CoC	152	226	77	16	24	19	168	250	96	-82	-32.8%	4.37%
341	OK-507	Southeastern CoC	198	197	160	70	32	18	288	229	178	39	17.0%	6.97%
342	OR-500	Eugene/Springfield/Lane County CoC	1,365	1,560	1,184	772	772	109	2,137	2,332	1,293	-195	-8.4%	10.35%



Continuum of Care Point-In-Time Homeless Counts, 2006-2008														
#	CoC Number	CoC Name <sup>1</sup>	Sheltered PIT Counts			Unsheltered PIT Counts			Total PIT Counts				% Change 07-08	% of Statewide Count
			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	Total Change 07-08		
343	OR-501	Portland/Gresham/Multnomah	2,284	2,284	2,749	1,634	1,634	2,355	3,918	3,918	5,104	0	0.0%	18.97%
344	OR-502	Medford/Ashland/Jackson County CoC	628	351	199	26	273	571	684	624	770	30	4.8%	3.17%
345	OR-503	Central Oregon CoC	270	315	352	1,466	1,714	472	1,736	2,029	824	-293	-14.4%	8.41%
346	OR-504	Salem/Marion/Polk County CoC	581	581	570	1,416	1,416	921	1,997	1,997	1,491	0	0.0%	9.67%
347	OR-505	Oregon Balance of State CoC	4,289	2,804	2,212	3,574	1,630	1,048	7,863	4,434	3,260	3,429	77.3%	38.07%
348	OR-506	Hillsboro/Beaverton/Washington County	363	268	245	409	412	416	772	680	661	92	13.5%	3.74%
349	OR-507	Clackamas County CoC	166	166	167	1,410	1,410	1,601	1,576	1,576	1,768	0	0.0%	7.63%
350	PA-500	Philadelphia CoC	6,414	7,193	6,477	457	447	176	6,871	7,640	6,653	-769	-10.1%	44.68%
351	PA-501	Harrisburg/Dauphin County CoC	355	358	394	66	54	85	421	412	479	9	2.2%	2.74%
352	PA-502	Upper Darby/Delaware County	610	659	700	43	37	31	653	696	731	-43	-6.2%	4.25%
353	PA-503	Wilkes-Barre/Luzerne County	161	165	154	10	23	7	171	188	161	-17	-9.0%	1.11%
354	PA-504	Lower Merion/Montgomery	455	407	576	24	119	53	479	526	629	-47	-8.9%	3.11%
355	PA-505	Chester County CoC	286	300	247	28	87	41	314	387	288	-73	-18.9%	2.04%
356	PA-506	Reading/Berks County CoC	429	681	392	67	58	31	496	739	423	-243	-32.9%	3.23%
357	PA-507	Altoona/Central Pennsylvania CoC	974	952	818	65	65	146	1,039	1,017	964	22	2.2%	6.76%
358	PA-508	Scranton/Lackawanna County CoC	222	202	214	38	20	83	260	222	297	35	17.1%	1.69%
359	PA-509	Allentown/Northeast Pennsylvania CoC	672	597	547	48	48	42	720	645	589	75	11.6%	4.68%
360	PA-510	Lancaster City & County CoC	668	549	511	39	40	50	707	589	561	118	20.0%	4.60%
361	PA-511	Bristol/Bensalem/Bucks County CoC	481	254	346	4	8	51	485	262	397	223	85.1%	3.15%
362	PA-600	Pittsburgh...Allegheny County CoC	1,088	1,132	1,216	220	248	81	1,308	1,380	1,297	-72	-5.2%	8.51%
363	PA-601	Southwest Pennsylvania CoC	523	570	508	58	58	60	581	628	568	-47	-7.5%	3.78%
364	PA-602	Northwest Pennsylvania CoC	272	274	268	9	9	5	281	283	273	-2	-0.7%	1.83%
365	PA-603	Beaver County CoC	131	131	109	82	82	2	213	213	111	0	0.0%	1.39%
366	PA-605	Erie City & County CoC	338	317	306	41	76	90	379	393	396	-14	-3.6%	2.46%
367	PR-502	Puerto Rico Balance of Commonwealth	8	566	499	699	1,438	1,335	707	2,004	1,834	-1,297	-64.7%	23.47%
368	PR-503	South/Southeast Puerto Rico CoC	802	802	927	1,503	1,503	1,603	2,305	2,305	2,530	0	0.0%	76.53%
369	RI-500	Rhode Island Statewide CoC	1,142	1,323	1,332	54	49	108	1,196	1,372	1,440	-176	-12.8%	100.00%
370	SC-500	Charleston/Low Country CoC	482	482	2,436	57	57	278	539	539	2,714	0	0.0%	9.52%
371	SC-501	Greenville/Anderson/Spartanburg Upstate	1,100	1,100	1,202	506	506	611	1,606	1,606	1,813	0	0.0%	28.37%
372	SC-502	Columbia Midlands CoC	946	946	1,241	623	623	1,412	1,569	1,569	2,653	0	0.0%	27.72%
373	SC-503	Myrtle Beach/Sumter City & County	431	431	460	1,339	1,339	1,477	1,770	1,770	1,937	0	0.0%	31.27%
374	SC-504	Florence City & County/Pea Dee CoC	127	127	125	49	49	372	176	176	497	0	0.0%	3.11%
375	SD-500	South Dakota Statewide CoC	538	538	987	41	41	42	579	579	1,029	0	0.0%	100.00%
376	TN-500	Chattanooga/Southeast Tennessee CoC	72	307	382	15	757	303	87	1,064	685	-977	-91.8%	0.90%
377	TN-501	Memphis/Shelby County CoC	1,482	1,744	1,582	84	70	194	1,566	1,814	1,776	-248	-13.7%	16.14%
378	TN-502	Knoxville/Knox County CoC	816	830	709	114	126	155	930	956	864	-26	-2.7%	9.58%
379	TN-503	South Central Tennessee CoC	239	281	248	89	79	140	328	360	388	-32	-8.9%	3.38%
380	TN-504	Nashville/Davidson County CoC	1,751	1,766	1,486	466	390	496	2,217	2,156	1,982	61	2.8%	22.84%

Continuum of Care Point-In-Time Homeless Counts, 2006-2008														
#	CoC Number	CoC Name <sup>1</sup>	Sheltered PIT Counts			Unsheltered PIT Counts			Total PIT Counts				% of Statewide Count	
			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	Total Change 07-08		% Change 07-08
381	TN-506	Oak Ridge/Upper Cumberland CoC	196	196	382	508	508	744	704	704	1,126	0	0.0%	7.25%
382	TN-507	Jackson/West Tennessee CoC	251	254	243	1,936	2,001	1,630	2,187	2,255	1,873	-68	-3.0%	22.53%
383	TN-509	Appalachian Regional CoC	345	345	314	214	214	208	559	559	522	0	0.0%	5.76%
384	TN-510	Murfreesboro/Rutherford City CoC	75	290	260	148	148	84	223	438	344	-215	-49.1%	2.30%
385	TN-512	Morristown/Tennessee Valley CoC	433	433	0	471	471	0	904	904	0	0	0.0%	9.31%
386	TX-500	San Antonio/Bexar County CoC	2,518	1,798	1,278	1,545	449	353	4,063	2,247	1,631	1,816	80.8%	10.11%
387	TX-501	Corpus Christi/Nueces County CoC	163	163	334	114	114	2,766	277	277	3,100	0	0.0%	0.69%
388	TX-503	Austin/Travis County CoC	1,305	1,395	1,171	2,146	3,886	1,854	3,451	5,281	3,025	-1,830	-34.7%	8.59%
389	TX-504	Dewitt, Lavaca, Victoria Counties CoC	309	309	60	178	178	257	487	487	317	0	0.0%	1.21%
390	TX-600	Dallas City & County/Irving CoC	3,345	3,041	2,984	213	367	376	3,558	3,408	3,360	150	4.4%	8.85%
391	TX-601	Fort Worth/Arlington/Tarrant County	2,473	2,675	2,814	203	201	350	2,676	2,876	3,164	-200	-7.0%	6.66%
392	TX-603	El Paso City & County CoC	968	968	1,017	273	273	198	1,241	1,241	1,215	0	0.0%	3.09%
393	TX-604	Waco/McLennan County CoC	259	259	202	172	172	258	431	431	460	0	0.0%	1.07%
394	TX-607	Texas Balance of State CoC	5,503	5,503	2,669	5,133	5,133	10,257	10,636	10,636	12,926	0	0.0%	26.46%
395	TX-610	Denton City & County CoC	90	111	184	78	96	286	168	207	470	-39	-18.8%	0.42%
396	TX-611	Amarillo CoC	486	298	330	54	133	837	540	431	1,167	109	25.3%	1.34%
397	TX-613	Longview/Marshall Area CoC	334	260	136	158	114	0	492	374	136	118	31.6%	1.22%
398	TX-624	Wichita Falls/Archer County CoC	231	214	0	49	49	0	280	263	0	17	6.5%	0.70%
399	TX-700	Houston/Harris County CoC	5,017	5,017	0	5,346	5,346	0	10,363	10,363	0	0	0.0%	25.79%
400	TX-701	Bryan/College Station/Brazos	219	219	0	70	70	0	289	289	0	0	0.0%	0.72%
401	TX-702	Conroe/Montgomery County CoC	131	0	0	26	0	0	157	0	0	157	0.0%	0.39%
402	TX-703	Beaumont/South East Texas	468	468	0	242	242	0	710	710	0	0	0.0%	1.77%
403	TX-704	Galveston/Gulf Coast CoC	261	184	0	110	83	0	371	267	0	104	39.0%	0.92%
404	UT-500	Salt Lake City & County CoC	2,138	1,881	2,202	158	198	203	2,296	2,079	2,405	217	10.4%	66.86%
405	UT-503	Utah Balance of State CoC	827	630	834	51	86	73	878	716	907	162	22.6%	25.57%
406	UT-504	Provo/Mountainland CoC	213	187	211	47	29	158	260	216	369	44	20.4%	7.57%
407	VA-500	Richmond/Henrico, Chesterfield, Hanover Counties CoC	907	1,014	727	166	144	214	1,073	1,158	941	-85	-7.3%	12.67%
408	VA-501	Norfolk CoC	441	436	536	61	104	64	502	540	600	-38	-7.0%	5.93%
409	VA-502	Roanoke City & County/Salem CoC	497	528	363	7	38	18	504	566	381	-62	-11.0%	5.95%
410	VA-503	Virginia Beach CoC	406	430	335	78	46	293	484	476	628	8	1.7%	5.71%
411	VA-504	Charlottesville CoC	224	237	163	15	28	94	239	265	257	-26	-9.8%	2.82%
412	VA-505	Newport News/Virginia Peninsula CoC	486	569	622	40	339	257	526	908	879	-382	-42.1%	6.21%
413	VA-507	Portsmouth CoC	177	165	217	45	52	54	222	217	271	5	2.3%	2.62%
414	VA-508	Lynchburg CoC	211	98	98	45	191	191	256	289	289	-33	-11.4%	3.02%
415	VA-509	Petersburg CoC	29	39	69	45	41	25	74	80	94	-6	-7.5%	0.87%
416	VA-510	Staunton/Waynesboro/Augusta, Highland Counties CoC	94	94	0	15	1	0	109	95	0	14	14.7%	1.29%

Continuum of Care Point-In-Time Homeless Counts, 2006-2008														
#	CoC Number	CoC Name <sup>1</sup>	Sheltered PIT Counts			Unsheltered PIT Counts			Total PIT Counts				% of Statewide Count	
			2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	Total Change 07-08		% Change 07-08
417	VA-512	Chesapeake CoC	38	86	21	14	43	186	52	129	207	-77	-59.7%	0.61%
418	VA-513	Shenandoah/Warren Counties CoC	127	218	827	50	47	26	177	265	853	-88	-33.2%	2.09%
419	VA-514	Fredericksburg/Stafford Counties CoC	127	515	413	67	46	34	194	561	447	-367	-65.4%	2.29%
420	VA-517	Danville, Martinsville CoC	77	69	59	133	118	22	210	187	81	23	12.3%	2.48%
421	VA-518	Harrisburg/ Rockingham County CoC	61	108	89	7	9	3	68	117	92	-49	-41.9%	0.80%
422	VA-519	Suffolk CoC	30	21	9	18	9	65	48	30	74	18	60.0%	0.57%
423	VA-521	Virginia Balance of State	359	505	474	111	103	201	470	608	675	-138	-22.7%	5.55%
424	VA-600	Arlington County CoC	231	243	218	179	219	142	410	462	360	-52	-11.3%	4.84%
425	VA-601	Fairfax County CoC	1,623	1,439	1,337	212	154	228	1,835	1,593	1,565	242	15.2%	21.67%
426	VA-602	Loudoun County CoC	136	114	103	24	97	81	160	211	184	-51	-24.2%	1.89%
427	VA-603	Alexandria CoC	238	283	271	68	92	108	306	375	379	-69	-18.4%	3.61%
428	VA-604	Prince William County CoC	376	356	318	174	258	180	550	614	498	-64	-10.4%	6.49%
429	VI-500	Virgin Islands CoC	115	72	94	487	487	354	602	559	448	43	7.7%	100.00%
430	VT-500	Vermont Balance of State CoC	439	516	575	194	280	195	633	796	770	-163	-20.5%	66.35%
431	VT-501	Burlington/Chittenden County CoC	257	204	167	64	35	52	321	239	219	82	34.3%	33.65%
432	WA-500	Seattle/King County CoC	5,808	5,680	5,964	2,693	2,222	1,946	8,501	7,902	7,910	599	7.6%	38.72%
433	WA-501	Washington Balance of State CoC	4,660	4,968	4,370	1,971	2,027	1,634	6,631	6,995	6,004	-364	-5.2%	30.20%
434	WA-502	City of Spokane CoC	1,080	889	1,030	290	194	505	1,370	1,083	1,535	287	26.5%	6.24%
435	WA-503	Tacoma/Lakewood/Pierce County CoC	1,478	1,342	952	265	254	239	1,743	1,596	1,191	147	9.2%	7.94%
436	WA-504	Everett/Snohomish County CoC	1,205	2,150	1,579	956	1,303	1,662	2,161	3,453	3,241	-1,292	-37.4%	9.84%
437	WA-507	Yakima City & County CoC	345	541	458	141	143	152	486	684	610	-198	-28.9%	2.21%
438	WA-508	Vancouver-Clarke County CoC	880	1,164	1,120	182	228	271	1,062	1,392	1,391	-330	-23.7%	4.84%
439	WI-500	Wisconsin Balance of State CoC	2,817	2,817	2,907	288	288	357	3,105	3,105	3,264	0	0.0%	56.98%
440	WI-501	Milwaukee City & County CoC	1,295	1,295	1,308	175	175	548	1,470	1,470	1,856	0	0.0%	26.98%
441	WI-502	Racine City & County CoC	258	250	278	1	6	27	259	256	305	3	1.2%	4.75%
442	WI-503	Madison/Dane County CoC	564	723	990	51	94	94	615	817	1,084	-202	-24.7%	11.29%
443	WV-500	Wheeling/Weirton Area CoC	85	96	61	7	22	54	92	118	115	-26	-22.0%	4.56%
444	WV-501	Huntington/Cabell, Wayne Counties	232	273	227	32	58	85	284	331	312	-67	-20.2%	13.10%
445	WV-503	Charleston/Kanawha/Clay Counties CoC	264	263	326	99	62	76	363	325	402	38	11.7%	18.01%
446	WV-508	West Virginia Balance of State CoC	841	1,515	354	456	120	124	1,297	1,635	478	-338	-20.7%	64.34%
447	WY-500	Wyoming Statewide CoC	619	397	337	132	140	192	751	537	529	214	39.9%	100.00%
	<b>TOTAL</b>		386,361	391,401	427,971	278,053	280,487	331,130	664,414	671,888	759,101	-6,185	-0.9%	

<sup>1</sup> Only active 2008 CoCs are reported in this table. All inactive or closed CoCs have been included in the national totals for 2006 and 2007, but are not individually reported.



**Appendix D: Counts of Homeless Sheltered  
Persons Using HMIS Data**

## Appendix D-1: Estimate of Sheltered Homeless Individuals and Families during a One-Year Period, October 2007–September 2008

Household Type	Number of Sheltered Persons	
	Number	Percent
All Sheltered Persons...	1,593,794	100.0
...in emergency shelters only	1,228,224	77.1
...in transitional housing only	280,877	17.6
...in both emergency shelters and transitional housing	84,693	5.3
Individuals...	1,092,612	67.9
...in emergency shelters only	885,402	55.0
...in transitional housing only	146,298	9.1
...in both emergency shelters and transitional housing	60,911	3.8
Persons in Families...	516,724	32.1
...in emergency shelters only	354,997	22.1
...in transitional housing only	134,678	8.4
...in both emergency shelters and transitional housing	27,050	1.7
Households with Children	159,142	100.0

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

## Appendix D-2: Sheltered Homeless Persons by Household Type, October 2007–September 2008

Household Type	Number	
	Number	Percent
Number of Homeless Persons	1,593,794	100.0
Individuals	1,092,612	
Single adult male households	765,153	47.8
Single adult female households	281,900	17.6
Unaccompanied youth and several-children households	21,705	1.4
Several-adult households	20,488	1.3
Unknown	3,365	--
Persons in Families	516,724	
Adults in households with children	203,199	12.7
Children in households with adults	309,259	19.3
Unknown	4,266	--

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

**Appendix D-3: Seasonal Point-in-Time Count of Sheltered Homeless Persons  
by Household Type, October 2007–September 2008**

Number of Sheltered Homeless Persons	All Sheltered Persons	Individuals		Persons in Families	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
On a single night in					
October 2007	323,836	180,416	55.7	143,420	44.3
January 2008	348,855	204,117	58.5	144,737	41.5
April 2008	336,124	188,962	56.2	147,161	43.8
July 2008	328,296	181,532	55.3	146,764	44.7
On an average night	338,910	192,999	57.0	145,911	43.1

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

**Appendix D-4: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Persons by Household Type, October 2007–September 2008**

Characteristics	All Sheltered Persons		Individuals		Persons in Families	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Number of Homeless Persons	1,593,794	100.0	1,092,612	100.0	516,724	100.0
Gender of Adults	1,261,391		1,070,543		203,199	
Female	452,820	36.0	293,338	27.5	163,942	80.9
Male	805,164	64.0	774,205	72.5	38,836	19.2
Unknown	3,407	--	3,000	--	421	--
Gender of Children	328,027		21,909		309,259	
Female	163,669	50.1	10,011	46.5	155,223	50.4
Male	163,032	49.9	11,534	53.5	153,060	49.7
Unknown	1,326	--	364	--	976	--
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	1,240,191	80.5	878,655	83.0	370,716	74.6
Hispanic/Latino	300,058	19.5	179,945	17.0	126,212	25.4
Unknown	53,544	--	34,011	--	19,797	--
Race						
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	558,238	37.9	447,677	44.6	117,724	24.4
White, Hispanic/Latino	170,002	11.6	110,790	11.0	63,037	13.1
Black or African American	614,024	41.7	371,413	37.0	245,081	50.9
Asian	12,181	0.8	7,985	0.8	4,364	0.9
American Indian or Alaska Native	28,137	1.9	16,964	1.7	11,546	2.4
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	10,378	0.7	3,392	0.3	7,125	1.5
Several races	78,765	5.4	46,681	4.7	32,829	6.8
Unknown	122,069	--	87,709	--	35,019	--
Age						
Under 1	35,113	2.2	3,082	0.3	32,425	6.3
1 to 5	127,184	8.1	3,452	0.3	124,925	24.4
6 to 12	107,287	6.8	3,201	0.3	105,060	20.5
13 to 17	58,018	3.7	12,149	1.1	46,462	9.1
18 to 30	350,274	22.2	243,609	22.5	110,197	21.5
31 to 50	636,651	40.3	556,949	51.5	85,330	16.7
51 to 61	220,374	14.0	216,283	20.0	6,427	1.3
62 and older	43,450	2.8	43,129	4.0	1,093	0.2
Unknown	15,444	--	10,757	--	4,806	--
Persons by Household Size						
1 person	1,057,947	66.7	1,068,352	97.8	0	0.0
2 people	146,697	9.3	21,010	1.9	127,059	25.0
3 people	150,983	9.5	2,054	0.2	150,564	29.6
4 people	110,754	7.0	989	0.1	110,818	21.8
5 or more people	119,498	7.5	204	0.0	120,342	23.7
Unknown	7,915	--	2	--	7,941	--



**Appendix D-4: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Persons by Household Type, October 2007–September 2008**

Characteristics	All Sheltered Persons		Individuals		Persons in Families	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Veteran (adults only)						
Yes	135,583	11.6	133,431	13.4	3,647	2.0
No	1,031,798	88.4	866,235	86.7	175,798	98.0
Unknown	94,011	--	70,877	--	23,755	--
Disabled (adults only)						
Yes	421,246	42.8	397,807	47.1	27,182	18.4
No	562,560	57.2	447,766	53.0	120,701	81.6
Unknown	277,586	--	224,970	--	55,316	--

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

**Appendix D-5: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Persons in Emergency Shelters, October 2007–September 2008**

Characteristics	Persons in Emergency Shelters		Individuals		Persons in Families	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Number of Homeless Persons	1,312,917	100.0	946,313	100.0	382,046	100.0
Gender of Adults	1,070,999		931,866		151,957	
Female	354,126	33.1	236,997	25.5	121,365	80.0
Male	714,317	66.9	692,522	74.5	30,363	20.0
Unknown	2,556	--	2,347	--	229	--
Gender of Children	240,024		14,255		228,363	
Female	119,685	50.1	6,818	49.2	114,152	50.2
Male	119,105	49.9	7,042	50.8	113,357	49.8
Unknown	1,234	--	395	--	854	--
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	1,012,782	79.1	752,236	81.3	271,293	73.2
Hispanic/Latino	267,697	20.9	172,555	18.7	99,509	26.8
Unknown	32,438	--	21,522	--	11,244	--
Race						
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	441,171		371,810		74,367	
White, Hispanic/Latino		36.3		42.8		20.5
Black or African American	156,366	12.9	108,068	12.4	51,095	14.1
Asian	514,698	42.3	325,264	37.4	195,055	53.8
American Indian or Alaska Native	10,187	0.8	7,080	0.8	3,228	0.9
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	21,838	1.8	13,316	1.5	8,776	2.4
Several races	8,250		2,660		5,689	
Unknown	64,132	0.7	40,587	0.3	24,295	1.6
Unknown	96,274	5.3	77,529	4.7	19,542	6.7
Unknown		--		--		--
Age						
Under 1	25,249	1.9	2,108	0.2	23,440	6.2
1 to 5	93,735	7.2	1,788	0.2	92,941	24.5
6 to 12	79,330	6.1	2,692	0.3	77,497	20.4
13 to 17	41,357	3.2	7,666	0.8	34,128	9.0
18 to 30	285,183	21.9	206,371	22.1	82,205	21.6
31 to 50	543,199	41.8	486,098	51.9	63,527	16.7
51 to 61	191,503	14.7	188,639	20.2	5,264	1.4
62 and older	41,061	3.2	40,770	4.4	868	0.2
Unknown	12,301	--	10,180	--	2,176	--
Persons by Household Size						
1 person	913,337	69.8	924,277	97.7	0	0.0
2 people	110,682	8.5	19,465	2.1	92,584	24.5
3 people	111,049	8.5	1,645	0.2	110,587	29.2
4 people	81,906	6.3	766	0.1	82,051	21.7
5 or more people	92,429	7.1	161	0.0	93,277	24.6
Unknown	3,515	--	0	--	3,548	--

**Appendix D-5: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Persons in Emergency Shelters, October 2007–September 2008**

Characteristics	Persons in Emergency Shelters		Individuals		Persons in Families	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Veteran (adults only)						
Yes	113,092	11.4	111,650	12.8	2,807	2.1
No	882,950	88.7	760,664	87.2	132,945	97.9
Unknown	74,957	--	59,551	--	16,205	--
Disabled (adults only)						
Yes	323,440	39.1	307,386	42.4	20,393	17.9
No	503,512	60.9	416,857	57.6	93,332	82.1
Unknown	244,047	--	207,623	--	38,232	--

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

**Appendix D-6: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Persons in Transitional Housing, October 2007–September 2008**

Characteristics	Persons in Transitional Housing		Individuals		Persons in Families	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Number of Homeless Persons	365,570	100.0	207,209	100.0	161,728	100.0
Gender of Adults	258,138		198,449		62,020	
Female	122,585	47.7	72,400	36.6	51,268	82.9
Male	134,530	52.3	125,226	63.4	10,542	17.1
Unknown	1,023	--	823	--	210	--
Gender of Children	104,772		8,760		97,038	
Female	52,260	50.0	3,666	41.9	49,147	50.7
Male	52,317	50.0	5,080	58.1	47,708	49.3
Unknown	195	--	14	--	183	--
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	289,211	84.8	173,637	90.2	118,090	77.7
Hispanic/Latino	51,999	15.2	18,778	9.8	33,849	22.3
Unknown	24,360	--	14,794	--	9,788	--
Race						
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	145,806	43.6	98,278	50.9	48,837	33.8
White, Hispanic/Latino	25,818	7.7	10,130	5.3	16,109	11.1
Black or African American	131,064	39.2	69,665	36.1	62,473	43.2
Asian	2,771	0.8	1,414	0.7	1,380	1.0
American Indian or Alaska Native	7,612	2.3	4,258	2.2	3,396	2.4
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	2,800	0.8	974	0.5	1,855	1.3
Several races	18,551	5.6	8,225	4.3	10,547	7.3
Unknown	31,147	--	14,265	--	17,131	--
Age						
Under 1	11,724	3.2	1,180	0.6	10,690	6.7
1 to 5	39,955	11.0	1,845	0.9	38,475	24.2
6 to 12	33,432	9.2	652	0.3	33,081	20.8
13 to 17	19,573	5.4	5,054	2.5	14,735	9.3
18 to 30	83,205	23.0	50,197	24.3	33,633	21.2
31 to 50	127,701	35.3	102,481	49.7	26,426	16.6
51 to 61	41,393	11.4	40,229	19.5	1,592	1.0
62 and older	4,965	1.4	4,731	2.3	295	0.2
Unknown	3,622	--	840	--	2,802	--
Persons by Household Size						
1 person	201,512	55.8	203,393	98.2	0	0.0
2 people	43,707	12.1	2,933	1.4	41,288	26.3
3 people	47,774	13.2	551	0.3	47,602	30.3
4 people	34,556	9.6	269	0.1	34,559	22.0
5 or more people	33,340	9.2	61	0.0	33,547	21.4
Unknown	4,681	--	2	--	4,731	--

**Appendix D-6: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Persons in Transitional Housing, October 2007–September 2008**

Characteristics	Persons in Transitional Housing		Individuals		Persons in Families	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Veteran (adults only)						
Yes	29,465	12.6	28,757	15.8	1,060	2.0
No	203,748	87.4	153,105	84.2	52,435	98.0
Unknown	24,924	--	16,587	--	8,526	--
Disabled (adults only)						
Yes	122,972	58.1	115,784	67.6	8,267	19.5
No	88,872	42.0	55,624	32.5	34,164	80.5
Unknown	46,294	--	27,041	--	19,588	--

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

**Appendix D-7: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Persons by Location, October 2007–September 2008**

Characteristics	Principal Cities		Suburban and Rural Areas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Number of Homeless Persons	1,084,335	100.0	509,459	100.0
Gender of Adults	880,382		381,010	
Female	293,155	33.4	159,665	42.0
Male	584,790	66.6	220,374	58.0
Unknown	2,437	--	971	--
Gender of Children	202,034		125,995	
Female	99,136	49.2	64,533	51.6
Male	102,400	50.8	60,633	48.4
Unknown	498	--	829	--
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	813,303	77.7	426,888	86.5
Hispanic/Latino	233,369	22.3	66,689	13.5
Unknown	37,663	--	15,881	--
Race				
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	322,604	32.8	235,634	48.4
White, Hispanic/Latino	131,768	13.4	38,324	7.8
Black or African American	447,238	45.4	166,785	34.2
Asian	8,344	0.9	3,837	0.8
American Indian or Alaska Native	16,180	1.6	11,957	2.5
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	5,789	0.6	4,589	0.9
Several races	52,425	5.3	26,340	5.4
Unknown	99,987	--	22,082	--
Age				
Under 1	22,671	2.1	12,443	2.5
1 to 5	78,865	7.4	48,320	9.6
6 to 12	66,228	6.2	41,059	8.1
13 to 17	33,864	3.2	24,155	4.8
18 to 30	226,577	21.1	123,697	24.5
31 to 50	451,666	42.1	184,985	36.6
51 to 61	158,169	14.7	62,204	12.3
62 and older	34,854	3.3	8,596	1.7
Unknown	11,442	--	4,001	--
Persons by Household Size				
1 person	750,464	69.7	307,483	60.4
2 people	95,577	8.9	51,121	10.0
3 people	91,909	8.5	59,073	11.6
4 people	67,734	6.3	43,019	8.5
5 or more people	71,098	6.6	48,400	9.5
Unknown	7,553	--	363	--

**Appendix D-7: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Persons by Location, October 2007–September 2008**

Characteristics	Principal Cities		Suburban and Rural Areas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Veteran (adults only)				
Yes	101,194	12.3	34,389	10.1
No	724,409	87.7	307,389	89.9
Unknown	54,779	--	39,232	--
Disabled (adults only)				
Yes	245,537	38.0	175,709	52.2
No	401,331	62.0	161,229	47.9
Unknown	233,514	--	44,072	--

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

**Appendix D-8: Earlier Living Situation of Persons Using Homeless Residential Services by Household Type, October 2007–September 2008**

Earlier Living Situation	All Sheltered Adults		Individual Adults		Adults in Families	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Number of Homeless Adults	1,283,272	100.0	1,092,612	100.0	203,199	100.0
Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry						
Place not meant for human habitation	129,804	12.9	125,330	14.7	6,671	4.0
Emergency shelter	219,057	21.7	187,812	22.0	33,352	19.8
Transitional housing	26,824	2.7	23,232	2.7	3,774	2.2
Permanent supportive housing	3,078	0.3	2,598	0.3	507	0.3
Psychiatric facility	14,691	1.5	14,677	1.7	218	0.1
Substance abuse treatment center or detox	40,005	4.0	37,818	4.4	2,385	1.4
Hospital (nonpsychiatric)	12,629	1.3	12,397	1.5	361	0.2
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	47,993	4.8	47,387	5.6	920	0.5
Rented housing unit	101,735	10.1	75,588	8.9	27,881	16.5
Owned housing unit	20,942	2.1	17,021	2.0	4,118	2.4
Staying with family	165,839	16.4	120,981	14.2	46,873	27.8
Staying with friends	122,005	12.1	99,231	11.6	24,481	14.5
Hotel or motel (no voucher)	33,443	3.3	24,083	2.8	9,783	5.8
Foster care home	3,897	0.4	3,821	0.5	132	0.1
Other living arrangement	68,027	6.7	60,722	7.1	7,417	4.4
Unknown	273,303	--	239,914	--	34,327	--
Stability of Previous Night's Living Arrangement						
Stayed 1 week or less	187,886	20.6	163,851	21.3	26,803	17.3
Stayed more than 1 week, but less than a month	140,522	15.4	116,940	15.2	25,370	16.3
Stayed 1 to 3 months	196,519	21.6	163,432	21.3	35,520	22.9
Stayed more than 3 months, but less than a year	146,024	16.0	116,195	15.1	31,657	20.4
Stayed 1 year or longer	241,002	26.4	207,438	27.0	35,939	23.1
Unknown	371,319	--	324,755	--	47,911	--
ZIP Code of Last Permanent Address						
Same jurisdiction as program location	584,514	62.5	465,919	60.0	125,013	73.1
Different jurisdiction than program location	351,476	37.6	310,367	40.0	46,020	26.9
Unknown	347,281	--	316,325	--	32,167	--

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding. Number of adults is equal to the number of adults in families and individuals, including unaccompanied youth.

Source:

Homeless Management Information System

data, October 2007–September 2008.



**Appendix D-9: Earlier Living Situation of Persons Using Homeless Residential Services in Emergency Shelters, October 2007–September 2008**

Earlier Living Situation	Adults in Emergency Shelters		Individual Adults		Adults in Families	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Number of Homeless Adults	1,085,286	100.0	946,313	100.0	151,956	100.0
Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry						
Place not meant for human habitation	117,429	14.1	114,380	15.8	5,047	4.1
Emergency shelter	164,657	19.7	151,306	20.9	15,280	12.5
Transitional housing	13,276	1.6	12,524	1.7	924	0.8
Permanent supportive housing	2,382	0.3	2,006	0.3	408	0.3
Psychiatric facility	10,512	1.3	10,443	1.4	224	0.2
Substance abuse treatment center or detox	17,560	2.1	17,175	2.4	580	0.5
Hospital (nonpsychiatric)	11,759	1.4	11,603	1.6	315	0.3
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	36,671	4.4	36,607	5.1	577	0.5
Rented housing unit	95,417	11.4	73,489	10.2	23,354	19.1
Owned housing unit	19,262	2.3	16,130	2.2	3,363	2.8
Staying with family	138,600	16.6	102,959	14.2	37,486	30.7
Staying with friends	112,735	13.5	93,532	12.9	20,744	17.0
Hotel or motel (no voucher)	29,402	3.5	21,496	3.0	8,253	6.8
Foster care home	2,273	0.3	2,199	0.3	109	0.1
Other living arrangement	62,727	7.5	57,902	8.0	5,595	4.6
Unknown	250,623	--	22,562	--	29,698	--
Stability of Previous Night's Living Arrangement						
Stayed 1 week or less	175,380	23.1	153,611	23.5	24,191	20.8
Stayed more than 1 week, but less than a month	108,363	14.3	90,369	13.9	19,522	16.8
Stayed 1 to 3 months	149,836	19.8	129,855	19.9	22,084	19.0
Stayed more than 3 months, but less than a year	112,757	14.9	91,981	14.1	22,291	19.2
Stayed 1 year or longer	211,958	28.0	186,832	28.6	28,285	24.3
Unknown	326,992	--	293,665	--	35,583	--
ZIP Code of Last Permanent Address						
Same jurisdiction as program location	489,234	61.0	400,306	58.7	95,468	72.9
Different jurisdiction than program location	313,026	39.0	281,762	41.3	35,557	27.1
Unknown	283,026	--	264,245	--	20,931	--

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding. Number of adults is equal to the number of adults in families and individuals, including unaccompanied youth

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

**Appendix D-10: Earlier Living Situation of Persons Using Homeless Residential Services in Transitional Housing, October 2007–September 2008**

Earlier Living Situation	All Adults in Transitional Housing		Individual Adults		Adults in Families	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Number of Homeless Adults	266,713	100.0	207,209	100.0	62,020	100.0
Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry						
Place not meant for human habitation	21,627	9.3	19,806	11.1	2,062	3.7
Emergency shelter	66,338	28.6	47,069	26.3	19,929	35.7
Transitional housing	15,249	6.6	12,293	6.9	3,102	5.6
Permanent supportive housing	880	0.4	761	0.4	120	0.2
Psychiatric facility	4,998	2.2	5,005	2.8	14	0.0
Substance abuse treatment center or detox	24,866	10.7	23,134	12.9	1,931	3.5
Hospital (nonpsychiatric)	1,589	0.7	1,551	0.9	59	0.1
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	14,092	6.1	13,840	7.7	405	0.7
Rented housing unit	12,151	5.2	6,290	3.5	5,989	10.7
Owned housing unit	2,879	1.2	1,914	1.1	994	1.8
Staying with family	35,705	15.4	24,163	13.5	11,815	21.2
Staying with friends	15,528	6.7	10,648	6.0	5,043	9.0
Hotel or motel (no voucher)	5,508	2.4	3,486	2.0	2,073	3.7
Foster care home	1,805	0.8	1,796	1.0	33	0.1
Other living arrangement	9,080	3.9	6,979	3.9	2,202	4.0
Unknown	34,416	--	28,474	--	6,249	--
Stability of Previous Night's Living Arrangement						
Stayed 1 week or less	22,272	10.8	18,572	11.5	3,951	8.3
Stayed more than 1 week, but less than a month	40,589	19.6	33,777	21.0	7,211	15.2
Stayed 1 to 3 months	57,707	27.9	42,671	26.5	15,626	33.0
Stayed more than 3 months, but less than a year	41,851	20.3	31,198	19.4	11,055	23.3
Stayed 1 year or longer	44,202	21.4	35,019	21.7	9,566	20.2
Unknown	60,092	--	45,972	--	14,612	--
ZIP Code of Last Permanent Address						
Same jurisdiction as program location	130,130	69.5	94,837	67.9	36,560	74.1
Different jurisdiction than program location	57,060	30.5	44,874	32.1	12,757	25.9
Unknown	79,523	--	67,498	--	12,703	--

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding. Number of adults is equal to the number of adults in families and individuals, including unaccompanied youth.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

<b>Appendix D-11: Earlier Living Situation of Persons Using Homeless Residential Services by Location, October 2007–September 2008</b>				
<b>Earlier Living Situation</b>	<b>Principal Cities</b>		<b>Suburban and Rural Areas</b>	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Number of Homeless Adults	893,780	100.0	389,492	100.0
Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry				
Place not meant for human habitation	94,432	14.0	35,371	10.6
Emergency shelter	157,620	23.4	61,437	18.3
Transitional housing	18,544	2.8	8,280	2.5
Permanent supportive housing	1,891	0.3	1,186	0.4
Psychiatric facility	8,865	1.3	5,826	1.7
Substance abuse treatment center or detox	21,783	3.2	18,222	5.4
Hospital (nonpsychiatric)	8,089	1.2	4,540	1.4
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	30,327	4.5	17,666	5.3
Rented housing unit	72,437	10.7	29,299	8.7
Owned housing unit	12,095	1.8	8,846	2.6
Staying with family	104,946	15.6	60,893	18.2
Staying with friends	76,029	11.3	45,976	13.7
Hotel or motel (no voucher)	15,662	2.3	17,781	5.3
Foster care home	2,733	0.4	1,164	0.4
Other living arrangement	49,192	7.3	18,835	5.6
Unknown	219,135	--	54,168	--
Stability of Previous Night's Living Arrangement				
Stayed 1 week or less	107,472	17.9	80,414	25.7
Stayed more than 1 week, but less than a month	85,759	14.3	54,763	17.5
Stayed 1 to 3 months	133,313	22.2	63,206	20.2
Stayed more than 3 months, but less than a year	93,539	15.6	52,485	16.8
Stayed 1 year or longer	179,430	29.9	61,573	19.7
Unknown	294,267	--	77,051	--
ZIP Code of Last Permanent Address				
Same jurisdiction as program location	404,082	64.8	180,433	57.8
Different jurisdiction than program location	219,880	35.2	131,596	42.2
Unknown	269,817	--	77,463	--

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding. Number of adults is equal to the number of adults in families and individuals, including unaccompanied youth.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

**Appendix D-12: Length of Stay in Emergency Shelters by Household Type, October 2007–September 2008: Counts**

Length of Stay	Persons in Emergency Shelters	Individuals			Persons in Families
		All	Male	Female	
Number of Homeless Persons	1,311,023	946,121	699,564	243,815	380,320
Length of Stay	1,311,026	946,121	699,563	243,815	380,319
1 week or less	425,896	342,647	256,323	84,920	88,145
1 week to 1 month	350,960	255,118	190,723	63,659	100,159
1 to 2 months	197,580	129,736	91,588	38,087	70,131
2 to 3 months	99,071	63,419	44,309	18,977	36,808
3 to 4 months	61,862	41,585	30,635	10,942	21,064
4 to 5 months	36,603	22,741	16,918	5,465	14,342
5 to 6 months	24,345	15,467	11,536	3,923	9,213
6 to 7 months	16,854	10,292	8,024	2,264	6,789
7 to 8 months	13,087	7,761	6,002	1,757	5,514
8 to 9 months	9,381	5,295	4,008	1,283	4,220
9 to 10 months	6,934	4,195	3,161	1,032	2,841
10 to 11 months	7,175	4,174	3,372	803	3,101
11 months to 1 year	6,937	4,195	3,265	930	2,846
1 year	20,649	10,442	7,843	2,587	10,482
Unknown	33,692	29,054	21,856	7,186	4,664

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding. Total homeless persons may not add up to the sum of the length-of-stay counts because length of stay was not collected for persons who could not be designated as adult or children.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

**Appendix D-12: Length of Stay in Emergency Shelters by Household Type, October 2007–September 2008: Percentages**

Length of Stay	Persons in Emergency Shelters	Individuals			Persons in Families
		All	Male	Female	
Number of Homeless Persons	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Length of Stay					
1 week or less	33.3	37.4	37.8	35.9	23.5
1 week to 1 month	27.5	27.8	28.1	26.9	26.7
1 to 2 months	15.5	14.2	13.5	16.1	18.7
2 to 3 months	7.8	6.9	6.5	8.0	9.8
3 to 4 months	4.8	4.5	4.5	4.6	5.6
4 to 5 months	2.9	2.5	2.5	2.3	3.8
5 to 6 months	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.5
6 to 7 months	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.8
7 to 8 months	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.7	1.5
8 to 9 months	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	1.1
9 to 10 months	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.8
10 to 11 months	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.8
11 months to 1 year	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.8
1 year	1.6	1.1	1.2	1.1	2.8
Unknown	--	--	--	--	--

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding. Total homeless persons may not add up to the sum of the length-of-stay counts because length of stay was not collected for persons who could not be designated as adult or children.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

**Appendix D-13: Length of Stay in Transitional Housing by Household Type, October 2007–September 2008: Counts**

Length of Stay	Persons in Transitional Housing	Individuals			Persons in Families
		All	Male	Female	
Number of Homeless Persons	362,910	207,209	130,306	76,066	159,058
Length of Stay	362,908	207,210	130,304	76,066	159,058
1 week or less	20,270	12,551	7,610	4,905	7,940
1 week to 1 month	44,476	28,991	18,544	10,380	15,911
1 to 2 months	48,068	32,914	20,918	11,925	15,614
2 to 3 months	29,263	17,915	12,228	5,627	11,664
3 to 4 months	27,294	16,420	11,161	5,189	11,156
4 to 5 months	23,776	12,774	7,867	4,870	11,242
5 to 6 months	20,144	10,527	7,227	3,265	9,790
6 to 7 months	19,179	9,892	6,281	3,578	9,466
7 to 8 months	14,149	6,921	4,459	2,439	7,357
8 to 9 months	11,833	5,742	3,989	1,733	6,202
9 to 10 months	10,074	4,744	3,006	1,715	5,413
10 to 11 months	10,753	4,920	3,263	1,637	5,947
11 months to 1 year	10,779	5,348	2,585	2,752	5,528
1 year	63,762	33,235	17,169	15,748	30,959
Unknown	9,088	4,316	3,997	303	4,869

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding. Total homeless persons may not add up to the sum of the length-of-stay counts because length of stay was not collected for persons who could not be designated as adult or children.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.

**Appendix D-13: Length of Stay in Transitional Housing by Household Type, October 2007–September 2008: Percentages**

Length of Stay	Persons in Transitional Housing	Individuals			Persons in Families
		All	Male	Female	
Number of Homeless Persons	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Length of Stay					
1 week or less	5.7	6.2	6.0	6.5	5.2
1 week to 1 month	12.6	14.3	14.7	13.7	10.3
1 to 2 months	13.6	16.2	16.6	15.7	10.1
2 to 3 months	8.3	8.8	9.7	7.4	7.6
3 to 4 months	7.7	8.1	8.8	6.9	7.2
4 to 5 months	6.7	6.3	6.2	6.4	7.3
5 to 6 months	5.7	5.2	5.7	4.3	6.4
6 to 7 months	5.4	4.9	5.0	4.7	6.1
7 to 8 months	4.0	3.4	3.5	3.2	4.8
8 to 9 months	3.3	2.8	3.2	2.3	4.0
9 to 10 months	2.9	2.3	2.4	2.3	3.5
10 to 11 months	3.0	2.4	2.6	2.2	3.9
11 months to 1 year	3.1	2.6	2.1	3.6	3.6
1 year	18.0	16.4	13.6	20.8	20.1
Unknown	--	--	--	--	--

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding. Total homeless persons may not add up to the sum of the length-of-stay counts because length of stay was not collected for persons who could not be designated as adult or children.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2007–September 2008.





