



HOMELESSNESS IN METROPOLITAN DENVER

SIXTH ANNUAL POINT-IN-TIME STUDY, 2005

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A special thank you to the MDHI stakeholders providing service and support to homeless men, women and children in metropolitan Denver. Please see the list of participating Agencies on the following pages.

Thank you to the many community members who volunteered through their employers to help make this year's Point-in-Time study as representative of our community as possible. Those companies were:

- Denver Department of Human Services
- Downtown Denver Partnership
- Hilb, Rogal and Hobbs (HRH)
- Kaiser
- KPMG
- Lockheed Martin
- Mile High United Way
- Murray, Franke, Greenhouse, List & Lippitt, LLP
- Primesource Staffing
- Qwest Communications
- RBC Dain Rauscher
- Salvation Army
- Schwab

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Finally, this report would not have been possible without the cooperation of the nearly 6,000 homeless individuals who completed the survey. Collectively, these survey responses provide all of us with a better understanding of the local magnitude of homelessness and the work that lies ahead to ensure that all people in our community have a safe and decent place to call home.

**This report may be found on the Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative website at:
www.MDHI.org**

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WATERSHED SCHOOL BOULDER LIBRARY

PREFACE

This report, *Homelessness in Metropolitan Denver, Sixth Annual Point-In-Time Study, 2005* provides our community with a count of the number of persons in metropolitan Denver who were identified as lacking a permanent place to stay on Jan 24, 2005. It also helps identify the characteristics, many of the causes of homelessness and related issues and needs from the perspective of those who experience homelessness.

It is important to understand what this study is not. It is not an “exact” count of every single person who is homeless in the metropolitan Denver area. This survey seeks to identify the number and characteristic of persons who are homeless at a particular point in time. It only captures information on people who were either 1) receiving or seeking assistance through homeless resource providers on that day, or 2) were persons who confirmed their homeless status when approached on the street by outreach workers. The information is also dependent on a person’s willingness to complete the survey.

We know that this type of survey will always represent an undercount of the true numbers and characteristics of people in our community who lack safe, decent and permanent homes in our communities. However, this report does provide us with a valuable snapshot of the homeless condition for over 10,000 people in our community on the night of January 24, 2005.

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HOMELESSNESS IN METROPOLITAN DENVER

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I. INTRODUCTION

For more than ten years, the Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) has provided the leadership, support and structure necessary to develop and sustain a comprehensive system of housing and services for persons who are experiencing homelessness within the seven-county (Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson Counties) Denver metropolitan area, also referred to as a Continuum of Care.

Designing, implementing and maintaining a continuum of care homeless service delivery system requires the on-going collection and analysis of data on the number, location and demographic characteristics of homeless persons who need access to emergency shelter, supportive housing, permanent housing and specialized services. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the primary source of federal funding for housing support for the homeless, now requires that each Continuum of Care across the country, conduct a “point-in-time” survey every three years during the month of January. HUD, MDHI, local governments, municipalities, and service providers use the information collected by the point-in-time survey to assess, project and plan strategies and services to eliminate homelessness.

This study reports on the sixth homeless point-in-time survey completed in the Denver metropolitan area. Research efforts have built upon previous surveys, beginning with Dr. Franklin James of the University of Colorado at Denver, who conducted the initial *Denver Metropolitan Homeless Survey* in 1988 and studies completed in June 1998, September 2000, October 2001 and every January from 2003 to 2005.

In October of 2004, Mile High United Way (MHUW) and MDHI joined efforts to provide the most accurate information possible regarding homelessness in the metropolitan Denver area. In addition to funding the 2005 Point-In-Time study, another valuable resource that MHUW brings to this partnership is the ability to mobilize volunteers from the private, public and non-profit sectors. This year MHUW mobilized more than 90 volunteers to help distribute, administer and collect surveys.

II. BACKGROUND

The National Coalition for the Homeless (NCH) reports that a growing shortage of affordable housing, together with an increase in poverty is largely responsible for the rise in homelessness over the past 20-25 years.¹ Reports of a strong economy and low unemployment hide many of the reasons why people are homeless. Low wages and less secure jobs offering fewer benefits, strengthens the disparity between rich and poor. For these Americans, work is no escape from poverty. The Institute for Children and Poverty report an enormous gap between the number of affordable housing units and the number of people needing them, as well as rising rental costs beyond the ability of poor individuals and families to afford.² The NCH reports that the loss of single room occupancy housing, such as boarding houses and single rooms in downtown areas, has also had a severe impact on homelessness. They report that in Denver, from 1971 to 1981, 64 percent of this type of housing was lost.³

Many additional factors contribute to homelessness, such as mental illness, domestic violence, lack of affordable health care and substance abuse, among others. Homelessness often results from a complex set of circumstances, requiring that people choose between food, shelter and other basic needs.

A. Difficulty Counting the Homeless

Information provided by the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, 1999, reported on by NCH, wrote that a review of homelessness in 50 cities throughout the country found that in all of these cities, the estimated number of homeless people far outnumbered the availability of emergency shelters and transitional housing spaces. Therefore, many homeless individuals and families are forced to live with relatives and friends in crowded, temporary arrangements, often referred to as “doubled-up.” These people are experiencing homelessness but are less likely to be recognized as being homeless.

Point-in-time studies are a “snapshot” of homelessness, counting those who are homeless at a particular time. Point-in-time studies are complicated by the fact that many people will not be counted because they are not easily found. These people may be staying in cars, campgrounds or other “hidden” locations. This accounts for the term “snapshot” as homeless counts may miss significant numbers of homeless people, including those living in doubled-up situations. NCH writes, “. . . homelessness is impossible to measure with 100 percent accuracy. More important than knowing the precise number of people who experience homelessness is our progress in ending it.”⁴

¹ National Coalition for the Homeless. “Why Are People Homeless? NCH Fact Sheet #1.” National Coalition for the Homeless. September 2002. 4/12/2005 <<http://www.nationalhomeless.org/causes.html>>

² National Coalition for the Homeless. “Why Are People Homeless? NCH Fact Sheet #1.” National Coalition for the Homeless. September 2002. 4/12/2005 <<http://www.nationalhomeless.org/causes.html>>

³ National Coalition for the Homeless. “Why Are People Homeless? NCH Fact Sheet #1.” National Coalition for the Homeless. September 2002. 4/12/2005 <<http://www.nationalhomeless.org/causes.html>>

⁴ National Coalition for the Homeless. “How Many People Experience Homelessness?” NCH Fact Sheet #2.” National Coalition for the Homeless. September 2002. 4/12/2005 <<http://www.nationalhomeless.org/causes.html>>

III. METHODOLOGY

The MDHI Data Committee, made up of staff members from agencies serving the homeless, MDHI board members, MHUW staff, homeless individuals, the MDHI Director and the research consultants, met to refine the process for collecting information.

A. Survey Revision

The MDHI Data Committee, as well as additional homeless providers and homeless persons, revised the 2005 survey to simplify the language and format. This process included an examination of the challenges that were identified in the previous year. A series of at least six meetings were held to review the survey questions and the resulting data to determine how the survey and the data collection process could be improved from the previous year. These meetings were widely publicized and more than 35 people helped to develop the 2005 Point-In-Time Survey.

B. Training

Training and materials were provided to every participating service provider in the seven-county, 14-municipality region in metro Denver. County coordinators were recruited who were responsible for each of the seven counties. Approximately 71 people were trained, representing people from shelters, transitional housing programs, churches, food pantries or food banks and outdoor meal-sites, domestic violence programs, mental health centers, hospitals, government agencies, MDHI and others. Volunteers were also recruited from the private sector to help administer the questionnaire. In addition, street outreach to the homeless was organized in downtown Denver and along east and west Colfax. This outreach was expanded to include using homeless and formerly homeless individuals to help administer the survey. These volunteers were provided with specialized training and instructions to improve the quality of the data collected. Detailed information about the trainings, the instructions given to the volunteers and copies of the English and Spanish 2005 surveys may be found in the Appendix.

C. Agencies

Every year, a large number of agencies participate in collecting data and distributing the survey. This year, MHUW co-sponsored the study and was instrumental in gathering volunteers to help agencies administer the survey without affecting service to their clients.

D. Data Cleaning

A committee made up of the MDHI Director, the Chairperson of the MDHI data committee and the researchers for the 2005 count, developed criteria for determining if a respondent to the survey was homeless or not (the criteria may be found in the Technical Report in the Appendix). A larger committee of approximately 20 persons, including service providers, MDHI board members and researchers, went over each survey individually and excluded those who did not meet the established criteria for homelessness. With some surveys, it was unclear whether the respondent was homeless or not homeless. A smaller group of volunteers reviewed these surveys and determined whether the respondent was homeless.

Detailed information about the process for cleaning and analyzing the data is contained in the Technical Report in the Appendix. Past reports have been challenged because of concerns about double counting homeless persons and including non-homeless individuals in the count. For 2005, special care was taken to avoid these problems. A committee, referred to previously, determined the appropriateness of each record for inclusion in the count. Every completed survey (record) was reviewed after data entry by the researchers, to further eliminate duplicates and those who were not homeless.

The following report details the findings based on an analysis of the total metro Denver area. Analysis of survey respondents by city and county may be found in the Appendix.

IV. FINDINGS

A. TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS AND HOMELESS PERSONS

The data presented in this report reflect the responses of those individuals who completed the survey, referred to as “*Respondents*” in the report. Some homeless persons were certainly missed, but it is assumed that the data collected is a good representation of the total population.

The total number of homeless persons, in this report, is the sum of those who completed the survey (1 in each case), plus the number of persons who were determined to be homeless *and* accompanying the respondent on January 24, 2005. This total number of homeless persons is referred to as “*All Homeless Persons*,” meaning all of those homeless persons counted in this report.

Almost six thousand (5,826) persons completed the 2005 Point-In-Time survey and were determined to have been homeless on the night of January 24, 2005. The survey respondents were accompanied by 4,432 others, for a total of 10,268 persons who were homeless on January 24th.

Note: Survey respondents often did not answer every question. Therefore, the percentages reported in each sub-section of the report and in individual tables and graphs represent only those people who answered the particular question, and do not represent the total number of respondents. In other words, the percentages do not include the percentage of “missing” responses.

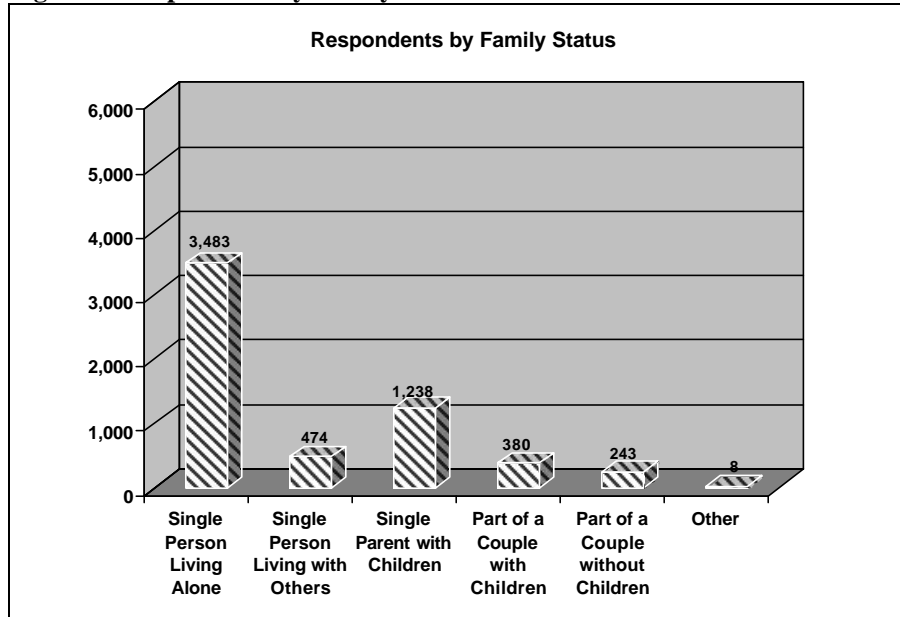
B. RESPONDENTS

The 2005 Point-In-Time Survey provides information about those who completed it and those who accompanied them on the night of the count. The information in Section B, however, refers to the *respondent* only; the data cannot be extrapolated to those who accompanied the respondents.

1. Family Status

The family status identified by the person who completed the survey, reflects how they portrayed themselves. Persons were considered, “Single and alone” if no one was with them or those with them were not homeless. “Single with others” indicates persons who were with other homeless individuals but the others were not family members such as a spouse or child. Single persons living alone make up the largest group of respondents, representing 59.8 percent of all respondents.

Figure 1. Respondents by Family Status



2. Age of Respondents

Respondents ranged in age from six to 87 years. The average age for individuals completing the 2005 Point-In-Time Survey was 38.4 years old.

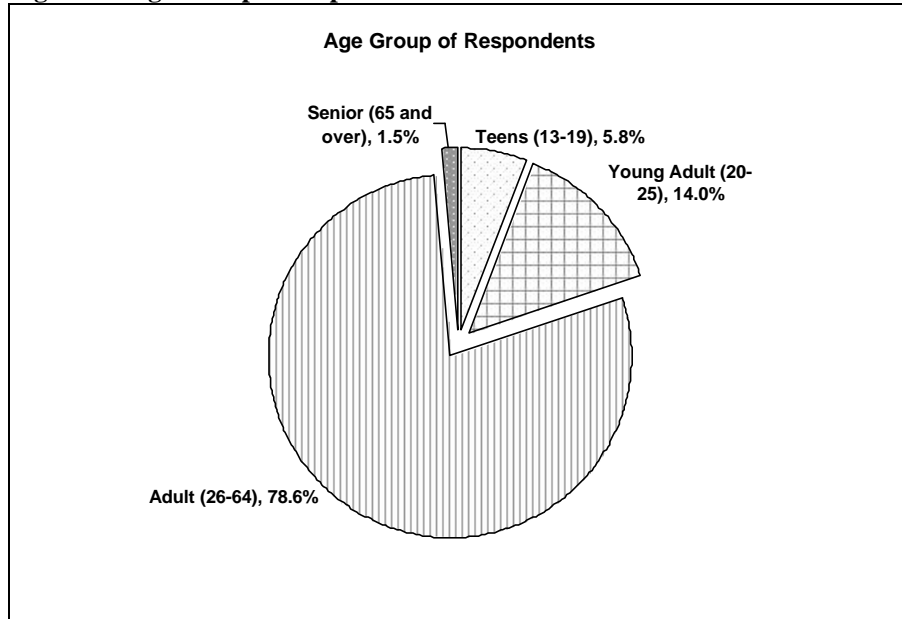
Table 1. Age of Respondents

AGE GROUP	NUMBER	%
School Age (12 and under)	6	.1
Teen (13-19)	331	5.8
Young Adult (20-25)	799	14.0
Adult (26-64)	4,493	78.6
Senior (65 and over)	85	1.5
TOTAL	5,714	100

3. Number of Children, Teens, Adults and Elderly Respondents

The vast majority (78.6%) of people completing the survey are in the adult category. One in five (19.8%) are teens or young adults. Six respondents are under the age of twelve, but were responding for a family that was homeless. Eighty-five individuals are older than 65, six of them over 80 years of age.

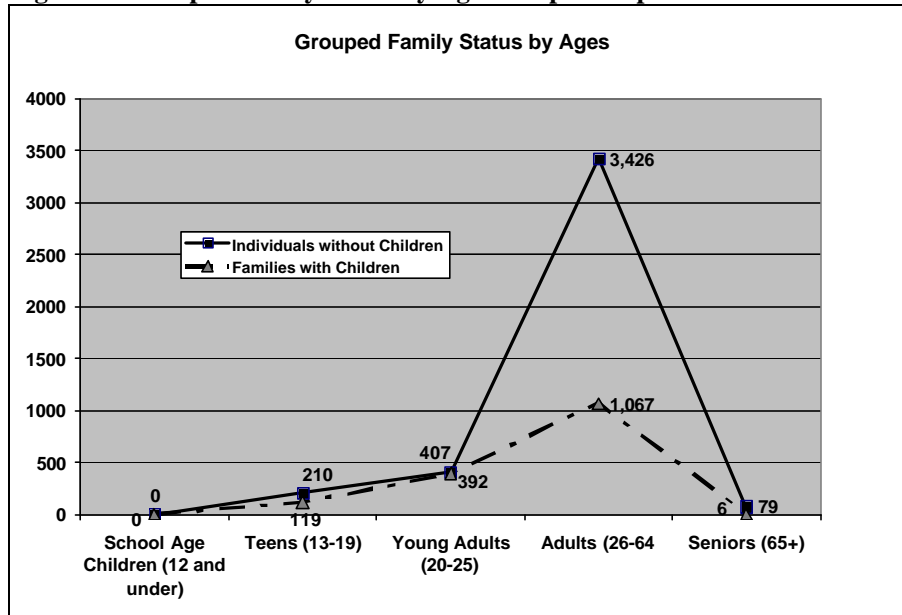
Figure 2. Age Groups - Respondents



4. Age Group and Family Status of Respondents

In the young adult age group, respondents without children (392) are about equal to those respondents in families with children (407). In the remaining age groups, the vast majority of respondents are individuals without children and families. In the senior group, the six respondents with children are identified as grandparents caring for grandchildren. Figure 3 provides the number of respondents in each age category by their grouped family status, illustrating that the great majority of respondents with and without children are in the “Adults” age group.

Figure 3. Grouped Family Status by Age Groups - Respondents



5. Ages of Child and Youth Respondents

Many programs serving children and youth need breakdowns of homeless youth ages that are unique to their program. Table 2 provides information on the number of children and youth respondents between the ages of 6 and 25. The six children, twelve or under were reporting for their homeless families.

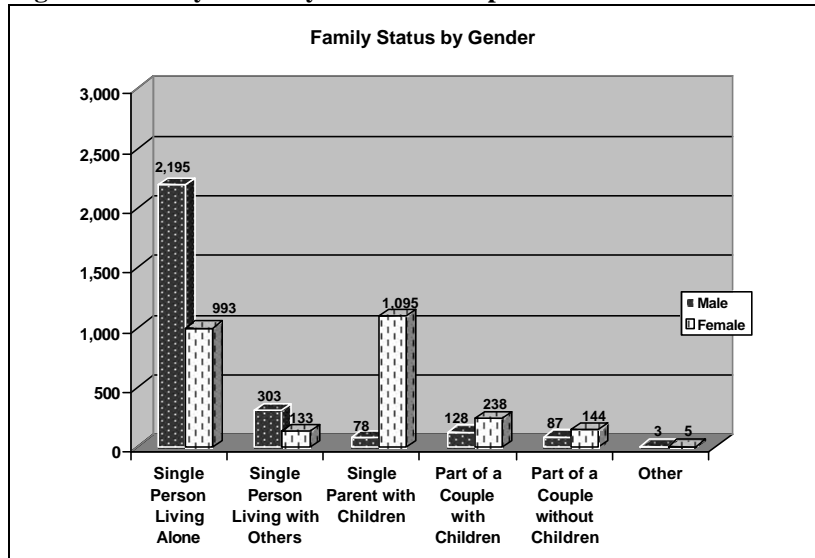
Table 2. Youth Ages - Respondents

AGE	NUMBER	%
6	1	.1
7	3	.3
9	1	.1
12	1	.1
13	1	.1
14	5	.4
15	10	.9
16	14	1.2
17	49	4.3
18	109	9.6
19	143	12.6
20	153	13.5
21	141	12.4
22	123	10.8
23	132	11.6
24	130	11.4
25	120	10.6
Total	1,136	100.0

6. Family Status and Gender of Respondents

The majority of single persons (alone or with others) are male. Females almost exclusively head single parent families. Most of the individuals who completed the survey for the couple (with or without children), were female. Couples could be same sex or different sexes.

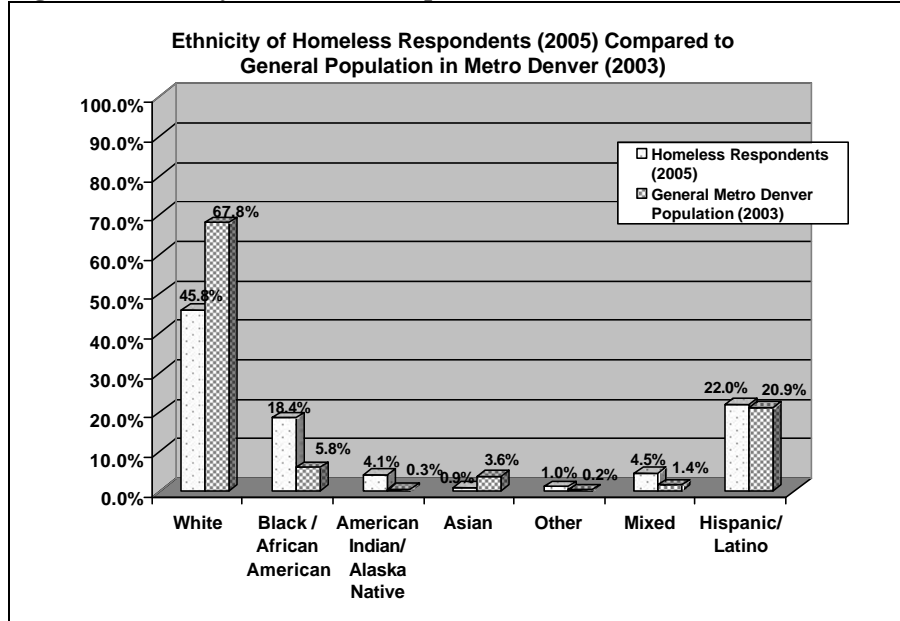
Figure 4. Family Status by Gender of Respondents



7. Ethnicity of Respondents

In a comparison of those who completed the 2005 Point-In-Time Survey with the general population of metro Denver in 2003, whites are under-represented and minorities are over-represented among the homeless.⁵

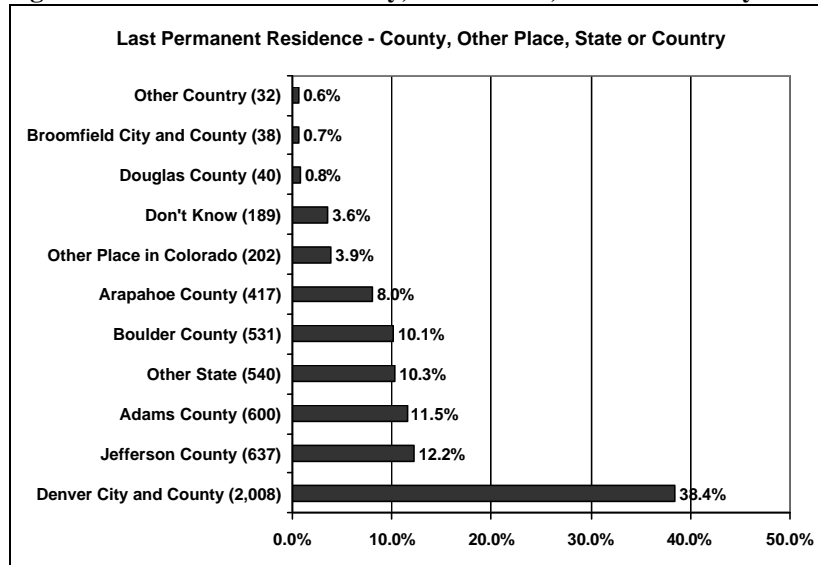
Figure 5. Ethnicity of Homeless Respondents and Metro Denver



8. Last Permanent Residence

Respondents were asked to indicate the county where they last lived before they became homeless. The largest percentage of respondents indicated they had come from Denver.

Figure 6. Last Residence - County, Other Place, State or Country



⁵ U.S. Census Bureau. "American Community Survey 2003 Data Profile, Denver, CO PMSA." April 5, 2005 <<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/Profiles/Single/2003/ACS/CO.htm>>

9. Last Permanent Housing Compared to January 24, 2005

When the location of the last permanent housing is compared to the place where respondents spent January 24, 2005, several things become clear. Some communities, for example Boulder, serve the vast majority of all homeless persons who come from that community. Other communities do not have sufficient resources for homeless individuals from their community and they are served elsewhere. Denver, for example, is likely to provide homeless services for homeless persons from other counties in the Metro area, other parts of Colorado and other states and countries.

Table 3 is a two-way table and allows the reader to examine the relationship between the two variables represented in the table, in this instance, the county where the respondent had their last permanent residence, and the county where the respondent spent the night of January 24th. For example, while 42.2 percent of respondents whose last permanent residence was in Arapahoe County, spent the night of January 24th there, an almost equal percentage (41.5%) reported they spent the night of January 24th in Denver City and County.

Table 3. Place Where Respondent Spent January 24th by Last Permanent Residence

	PLACE WHERE RESPONDENT SPENT JANUARY 24TH										
	Adams	Arapahoe	Boulder	Broom-Field	Denver	Douglas	Jefferson	Other Place in CO	Other State	Other Country	Don't Know
LAST PERMANENT RESIDENCE	%										
Adams	55.9	5.4	1.7	3.1	26.5		3.5	1.0	.7		2.2
Arapahoe	9.1	42.2	1.2		41.5		4.9	.7			.2
Boulder	.6	.4	93.3		3.4		.2	.8	.8		.6
Broomfield	16.7	2.8	16.7	30.6	25.0		5.6	2.8			
Denver	2.7	2.9	2.1	.1	86.6	.3	4.4	.4	.2	.1	.4
Douglas	7.7	7.7	5.1		61.5	10.3	7.7				
Jefferson	4.5	3.0	1.6	.2	24.3	.2	64.5	.3	.2	.2	1.1
Other Place in CO	5.1	5.1	15.5		52.6		10.7	9.7		.5	.5
Other State	7.2	5.5	19.4	.4	55.7	.6	8.1	.6	1.5	.2	.9
Other Country		9.4	34.4		40.6			3.1	3.1	6.3	3.1
Don't Know	3.2	15.1	6.5		25.4		5.9	1.1		.5	42.2

10. Factors Associated with Homelessness

a. Causes of Homelessness

Respondents can be grouped into individuals with children and families and individuals without children and families. Both individuals with families and children and individuals without children identified loss of a job as the most common cause of homelessness. Respondents in families differed from respondents without families in the other primary causes of their homelessness. Individuals with families and children were more likely than respondents without families and children to identify relationship problems and abuse or violence. Individuals without families and children were more likely than those with families and children to identify substance abuse and mental illness as causes of their homelessness.

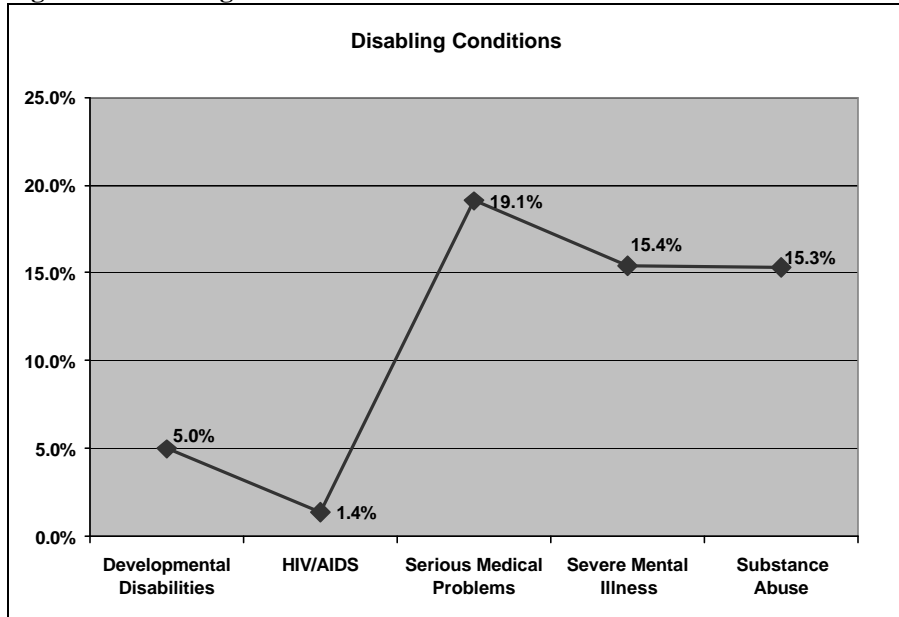
Table 4. Causes of Homelessness by Family/Non-Family Member

CAUSE OF HOMELESSNESS	INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT FAMILIES AND CHILDREN %	INDIVIDUALS WITH CHILDREN %
Lost Job	36.7	34.4
Alcohol/Substance Abuse	16.9	5.9
Relationship Problems	16.4	26.9
High Housing Costs	15.9	28.1
Eviction	12.6	17.9
Medical Problems	11.5	7.2
Mental Illness	10.9	3.2
Moved to Find Work	8.1	7.6
Legal Problems	7.7	4.6
Bad Credit	7.1	8.1
Abuse or Violence	7.6	18.6
Utility Bills	6.2	10.2
Discharged from Jail	5.8	1.3
Problems with Benefits	5.1	6.6
High Medical Expenses	4.2	4.0
Lived with Someone Sent to Jail	2.4	4.2
Discharged from Foster Care	1.6	1.1
Sexual Orientation	1.0	0.2

b. Disabling Conditions

Respondents were asked to identify if they have any of five disabling conditions that are expected to last a long time and contribute to their homelessness. The largest group of respondents indicated that they experienced serious medical problems, followed by mental illness and substance abuse.

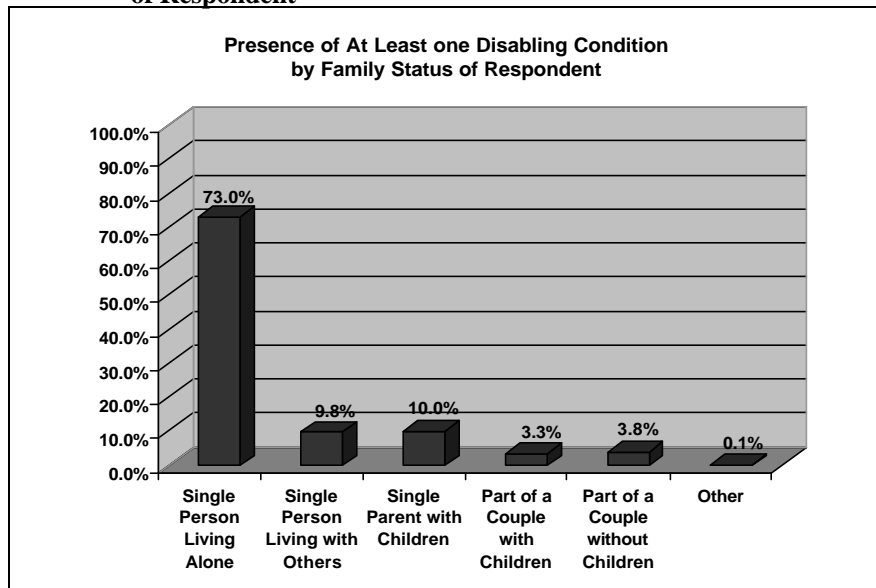
Figure 7. Disabling Conditions



c. Disabling Conditions and Family Status

Individuals without children are much more likely than respondents in families with children to have at least one of the five identified disabling conditions (serious medical problems, developmental disability, severe mental illness, HIV/AIDS, substance abuse).

Figure 8. Presence of at Least One Disabling Condition by Family Status of Respondent



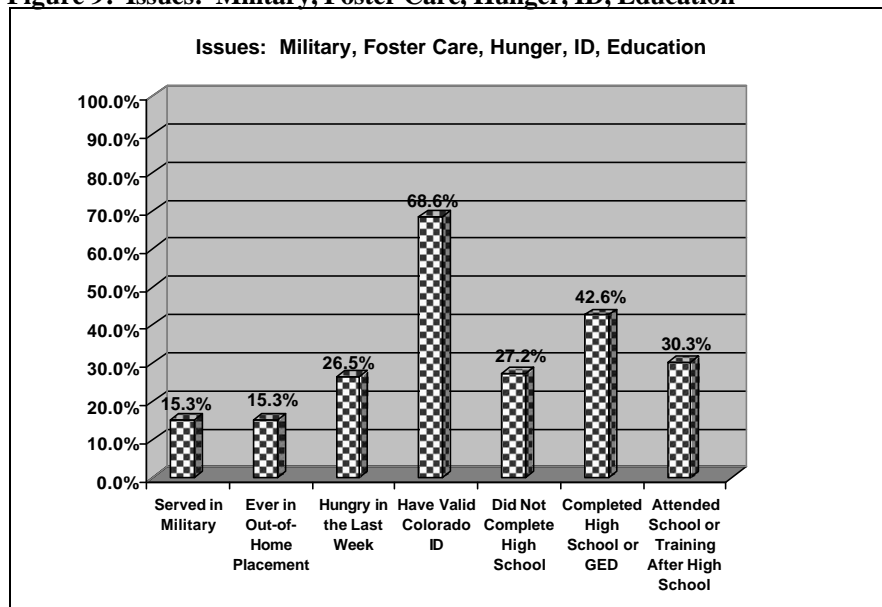
11. Issues: Military, Foster Care, Hunger, ID Card, Education

Respondents were asked if they had ever been in the military, in any kind of out-of-home placement, if they had recently been hungry, if they had a valid Colorado ID and their

level of education. Responses to these questions are crucial in understanding their issues and planning needed services.

Those with military background might be eligible for additional services. Evidence of the relatedness of foster care participation and homelessness can help guide changes in the child welfare system. Those who provide food to homeless persons need to understand the extent to which the current programs meet the need. Lack of education can be a barrier to earning enough to support stable housing. Likewise, a valid ID can be essential in qualifying for employment, housing and other resources.

Figure 9. Issues: Military, Foster Care, Hunger, ID, Education



12. Income and Resources

a. *Money*

Almost half (45.5%) of all respondents reported having either no money the prior year or having less than \$1,000 that year. Families were likely to fall into the \$1,000-\$9,999 a year category, with single parents with children the most likely (49.8%) to have had this income in the prior year. Those respondents reporting that they were part of a couple, both with or without children, reported the highest incomes for last year.

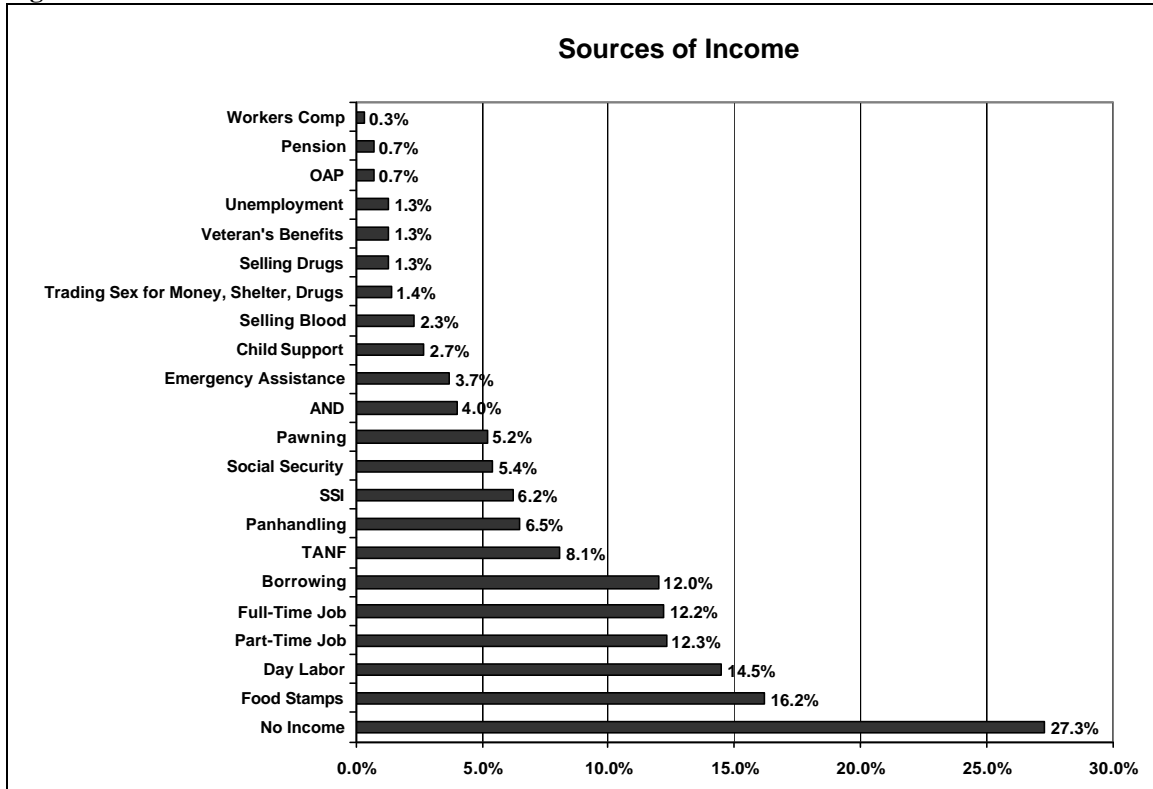
Table 5. Family Status by Money in Prior Year

FAMILY STATUS	NO MONEY	LESS THAN \$1,000	\$1,000-9,999	\$10,000-19,999	\$20,000 OR MORE
	%				
Single Person Living Alone	22.2	26.2	36.7	10.2	4.7
Single Person Living with Others	25.8	30.6	30.6	10.3	2.6
Single Parent with Children	15.0	21.0	49.8	10.9	3.3
Part of a Couple with Children	14.3	17.2	41.0	20.1	7.4
Part of a Couple without Children	28.2	22.5	34.7	8.0	6.6

b. Sources of Income

When asked the source of their income or resources, more than one in four respondents stated that they had no income the preceding year. Food Stamps and various types of work (day labor, part time job and full time job) provided the largest percentage of respondents with resources.

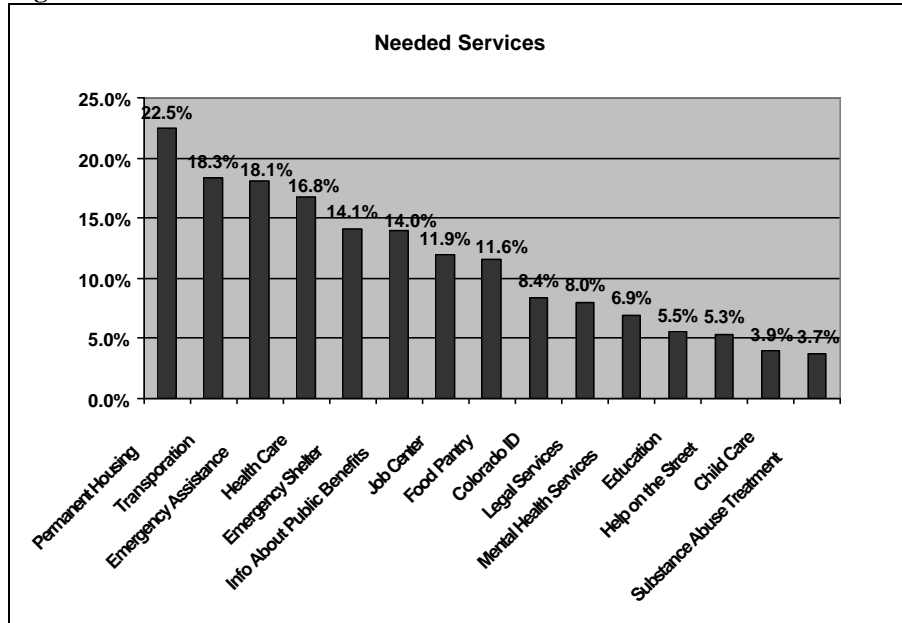
Figure 10. Sources of Income



13. Needed Services

Respondents were asked what services they needed in the past month that they were unable to obtain. Permanent housing was cited by almost one-quarter (22.5%) of all respondents. Transportation, emergency assistance and health care were the next most frequently cited services needed.

Figure 11. Needed Services

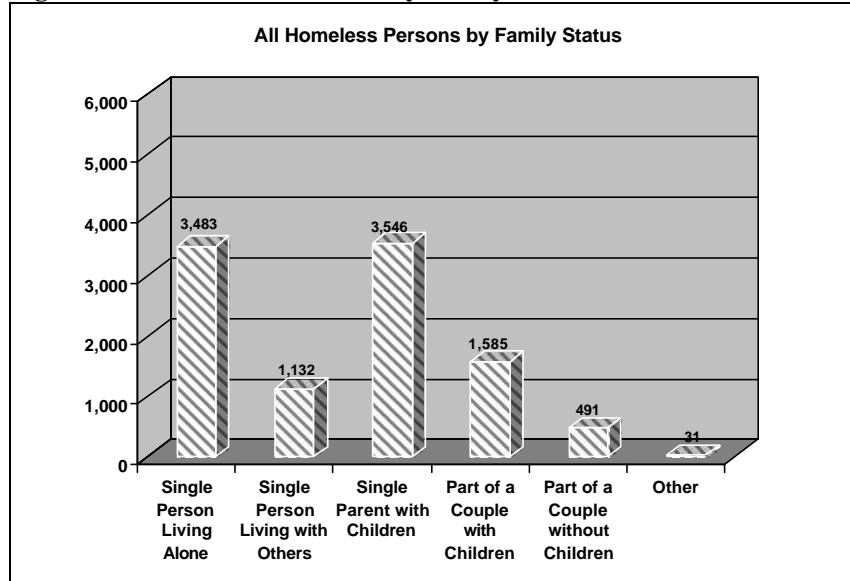


C. ALL HOMELESS PERSONS

1. Family Status

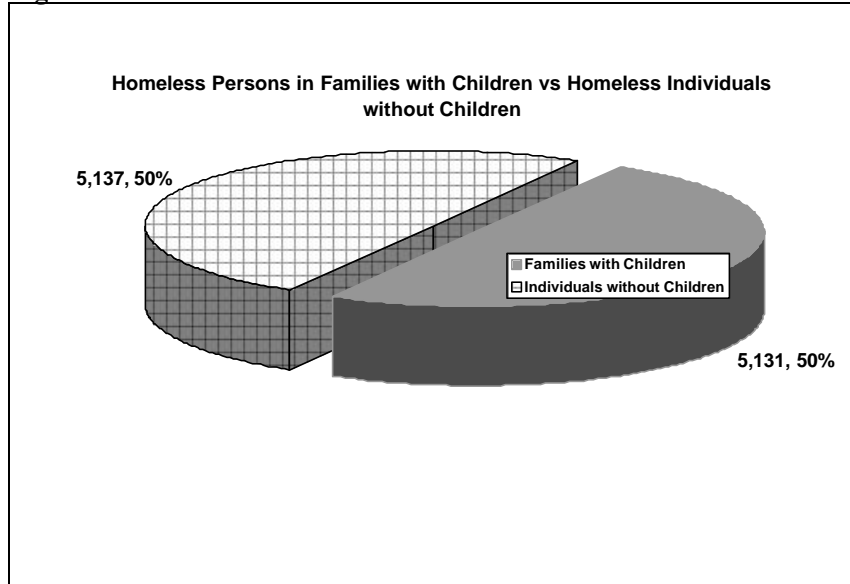
Persons with children (whether a single parent or a couple) are considered to be families. For the purpose of this report, two adults together are not considered a “family” unless they have children.

Figure 12. All Homeless Persons by Family Status



Persons in families with children (5,131) make up half (50%) of all persons who were homeless on January 24, 2005.

Figure 13. Homeless Families with Children vs. Individuals without Children



2. Where All Homeless Persons Spent January 24, 2005 by Type of Place, City and County

Survey respondents were asked to indicate in what type of facility or place they spent the night of January 24, 2005. In addition, they were asked separate questions about what city and county that facility or place was located. In some instances, their responses to city and county did not match. Therefore, the city and county responses are described separately.

The responses of those who completed the survey were applied to the number of persons who accompanied them to get the following percentages. Forty-six percent (46%) of all homeless persons spent the night of January 24, 2005 in the City and County of Denver. However, the majority of homeless persons (54%) spent the night of the 24th in cities and counties other than Denver.

a. *Cities and Counties*

Figure 14 reports the percentage and the number of all homeless persons staying the night of January 24th in the various cities. Figure 15 describes the counties, other places in Colorado, other states and those spending the night in a different country.

Figure 14. City Where All Homeless Persons Spent Night of January 24th

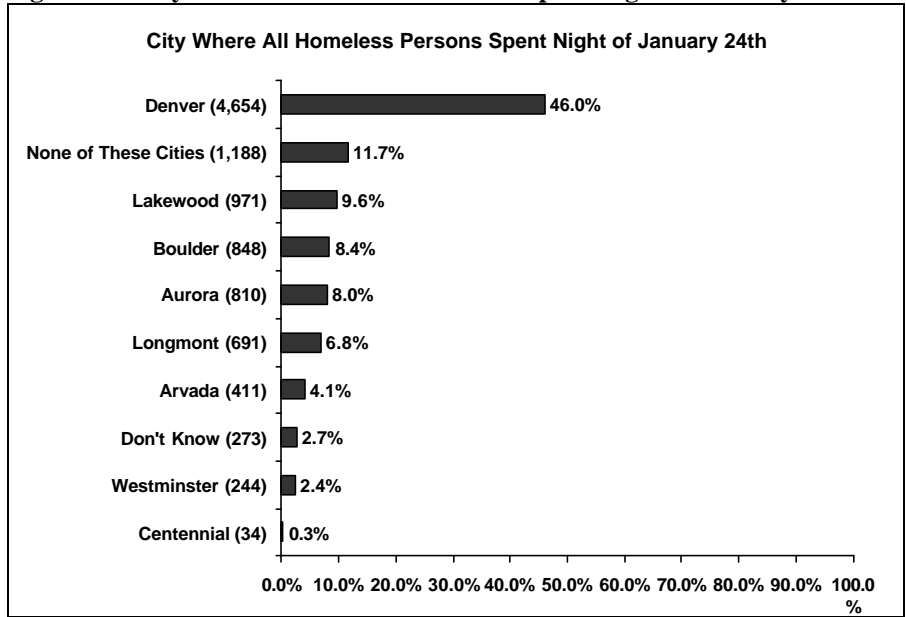
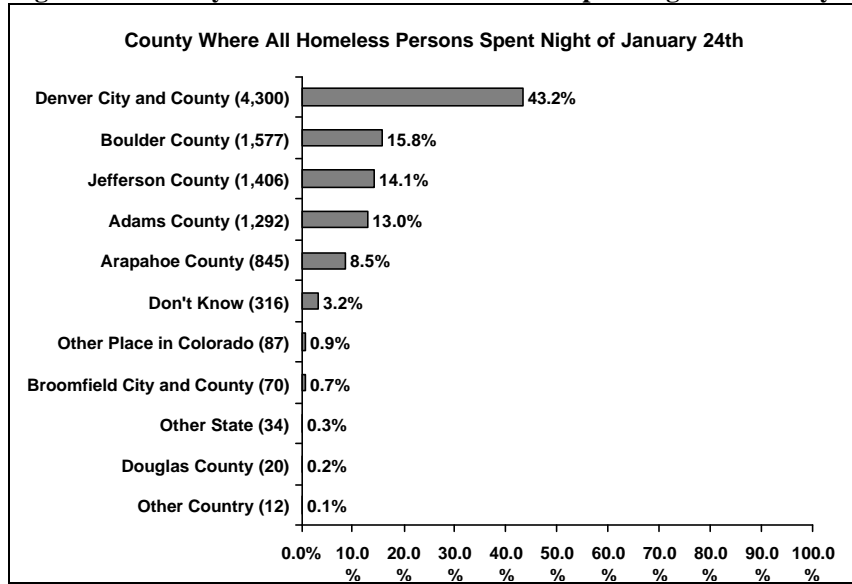


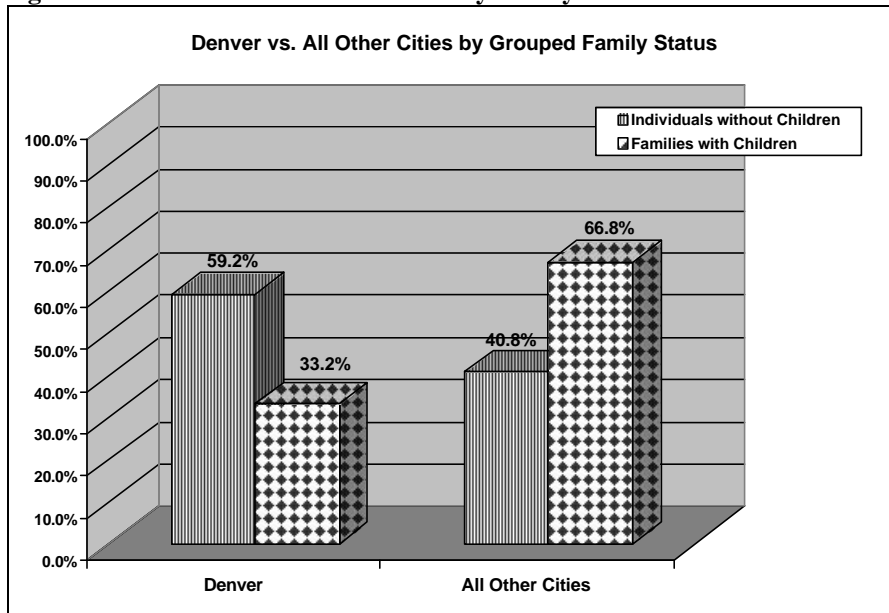
Figure 15. County Where All Homeless Persons Spent Night of January 24th



b. City and Family Status

There is a difference between homeless families with children and homeless individuals without children with regard to where they are more likely to have spent the night of the survey. The majority of individuals without children (59.2%) indicated they spent that night in Denver. Conversely, the majority (66.8%) of families with children spent that night in counties and places other than Denver City and County.

Figure 16. Denver and All Other Cities by Family Status

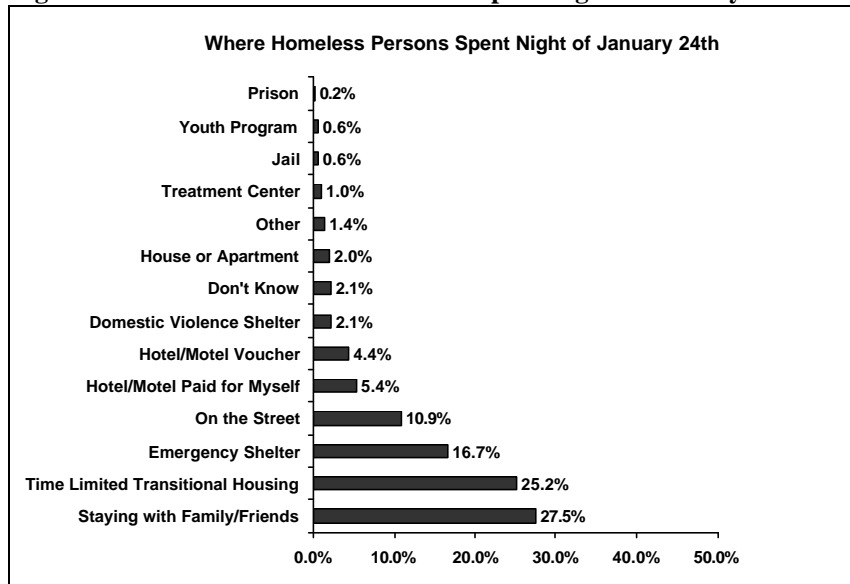


3. Type of Place

a. Type of Place All Homeless Persons Spent January 24, 2005

On January 24, 2005, the majority of all homeless persons were either doubled up (staying temporarily with family or friends), in an emergency shelter or in time-limited transitional housing. One in ten (10.9%) of all homeless persons were unsheltered (on the street or other locations not designed for human habitation)

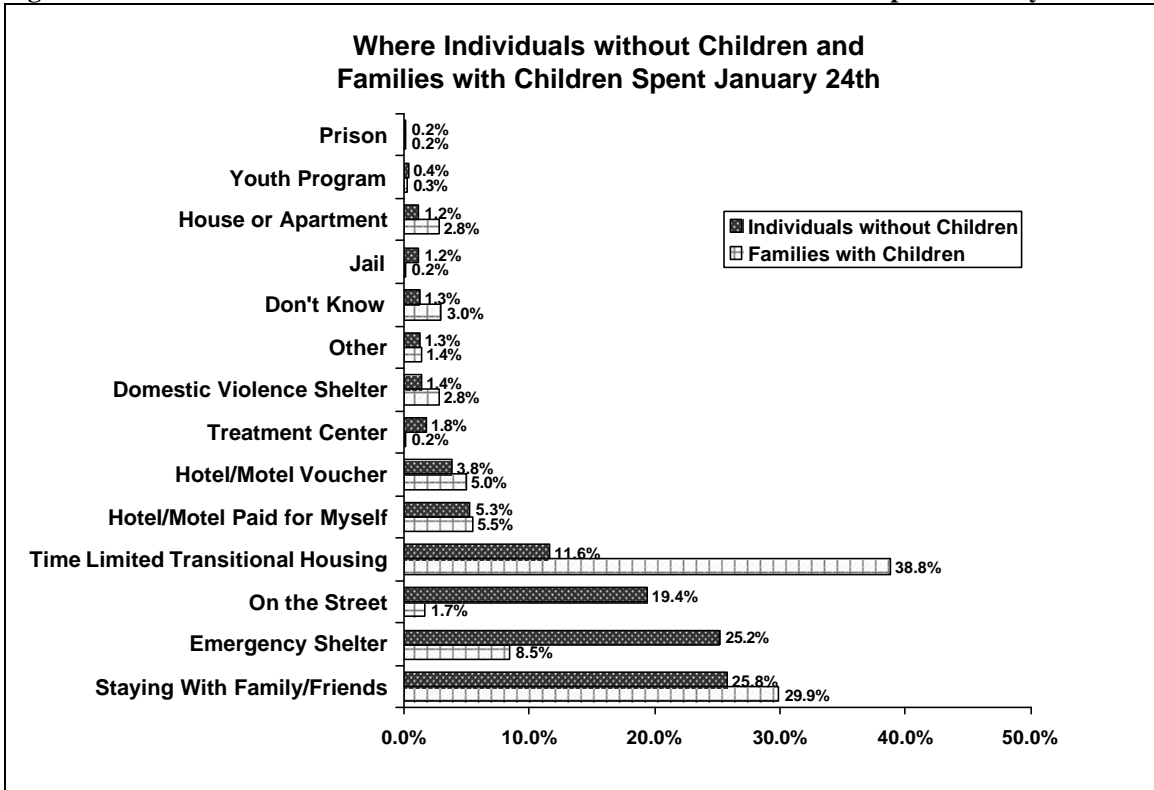
Figure 17. Where All Homeless Persons Spent Night of January 24th



b. Type of Place and Family Status

Families with children and individuals without children differed in the types of places where they spent January 24, 2005. Figure 18 shows that families with children most often identified time-limited transitional housing and staying with family or friends. Individuals without children most often identified emergency shelter, staying with family or friends or on the street.

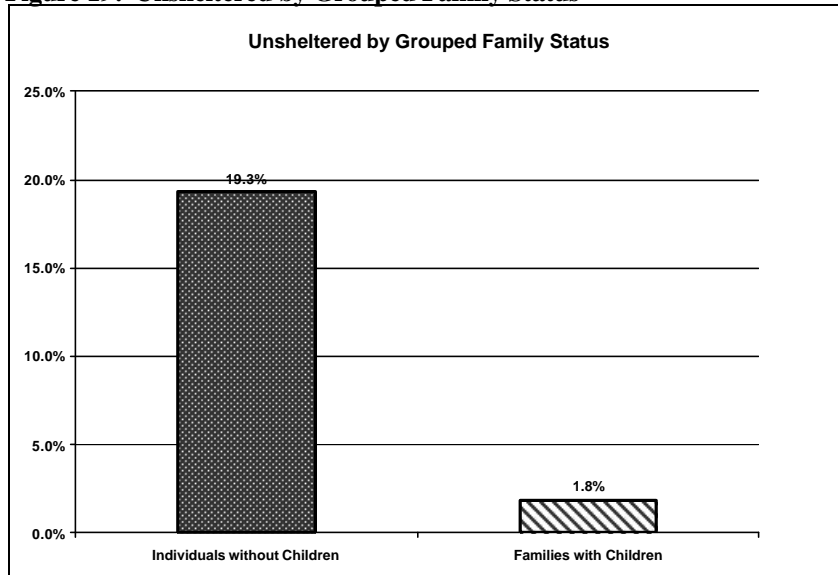
Figure 18. Where Individuals without Children and Families with Children Spent January 24th



c. Sheltered vs. Unsheltered and Family Status

Almost one in five individuals without families and children were unsheltered (living on the street or other place not designed for human habitation) on January 24, 2005. Two percent of individuals in families with children were unsheltered on that night.

Figure 19. Unsheltered by Grouped Family Status



4. Age, Gender and Relationship of Those with Respondents

It is important to note that not all of those who completed the survey responded to the question on the survey that described those who were with them on January 24, 2005. Respondents were asked to fill in initials, age, gender and the nature of the person’s relationship to them. If a respondent filled in any one of these categories, the person was counted; it was not necessary for the respondent to fill in all sections of the grid to have an accompanying person counted. Consequently, the totals for each of these categories may not match the total number of those determined to be accompanying the respondent.

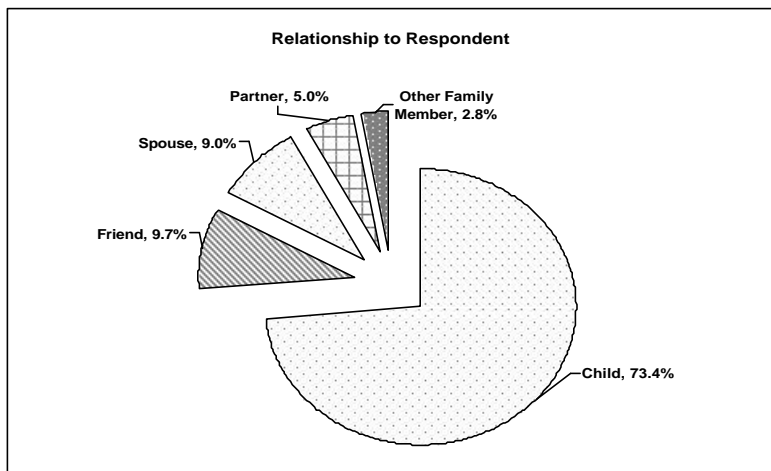
a. Gender

There were 2,255 respondents who indicated the gender of those accompanying them. Slightly more than half (53.4%) of those identified were male.

b. Relationship

A total of 2,025 respondents indicated the relationship of those who were with them. The largest group accompanying respondents were children. It should be noted that couples referred to each other as both spouse and partner. Sometimes, friendship groups also referred to each other as partners.

Figure 20. Relationship to Respondent



c. Age

One thousand, nine hundred and sixty-five respondents (1,965) indicated ages of the persons accompanying them. They ranged in age from less than one year to 88 years of age.

Table 6. Age Group of Those with Respondent

AGE GROUP	%
Infant and Toddler (0-3)	23.5
Pre School (4-6)	14.1
School Age (7-12)	21.2
Teen (13-19)	15.8
Young Adult (20-25)	05.6
Adult (26-65)	19.1
Senior (65+)	00.6

d. Total Number of Children and Youth

Children and youth are represented in the survey database as the respondent, friend of respondents of any age and children of single parents and couples. The total number of all homeless children and youth (ages 0-19) is 3,683, more than one-third (35.8%) of all persons homeless on January 24, 2005.

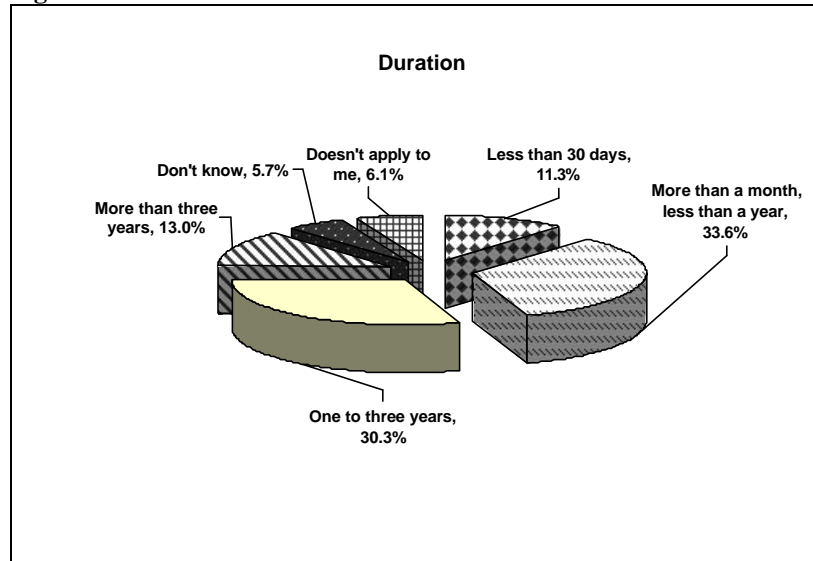
5. Duration and Episodes of Homelessness

Duration of homelessness refers to how long a particular episode of homelessness has lasted. Number of episodes refers to the number of separate times a person has experienced homelessness, regardless of how long each of the episodes lasted.

a. Duration

Slightly more than one in ten (11.3%) homeless persons had been without a permanent place to stay for less than 30 days. Almost equal numbers of homeless persons were homeless less than one year (44.9%) as were homeless more than one year (43.3%).

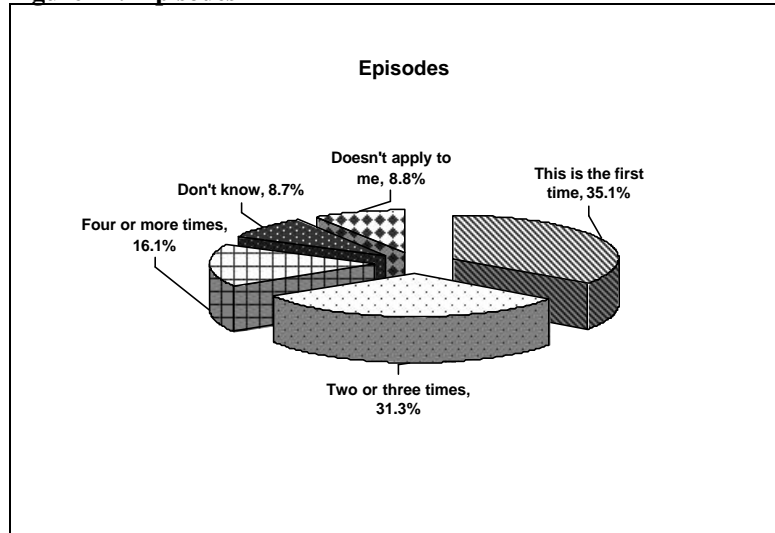
Figure 21. Duration



b. Episodes

A little more than one-third (35.1%) of homeless persons were experiencing their first episode of homelessness (regardless of the length of time that episode had lasted).

Figure 22. Episodes

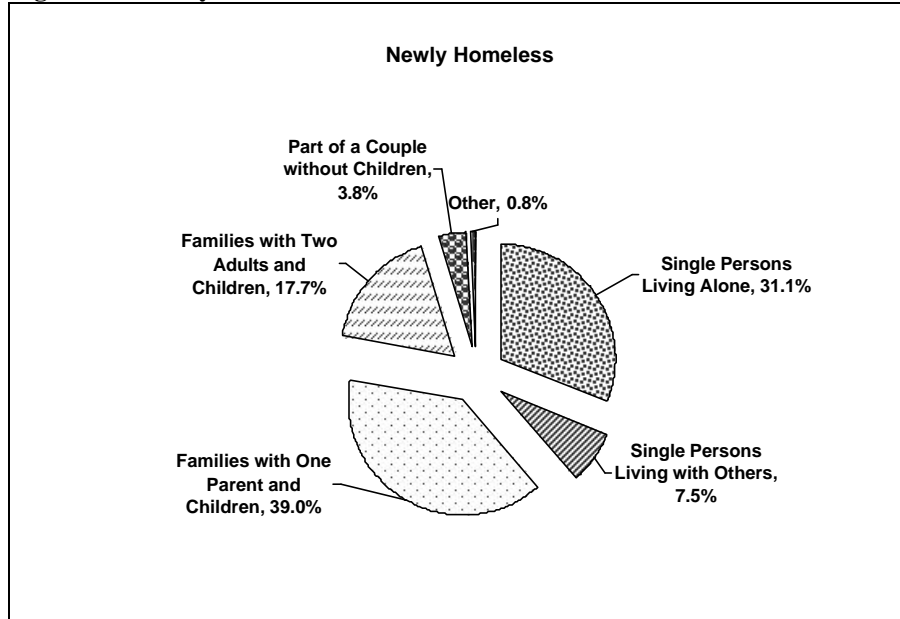


6. Newly and Chronically Homeless

a. *Newly Homeless*

For the purpose of this study, people were considered “newly homeless” if had been homeless for less than one year, and this was their first episode of homelessness. On January 24, 2005 1,824 individuals, or 17.7 percent of all homeless persons were considered newly homeless; more than half of them (56.7%) were part of a family with children. Single parent families are the largest percentage of that group.

Figure 23. Newly Homeless



b. *Chronically Homeless Persons*

HUD defines chronic homelessness as:

- single persons living alone, and
- having a chronic debilitating condition, and
- having been homeless continually for one year or more, or
- having four or more episodes of homelessness in three or more years.

Three out of five (59.8%) respondents to the survey is a single person living alone. Two out of five (40.9%) has a chronic debilitating condition. Of those respondents who answered the question about duration and episodes of homelessness, 13.8 percent had been continuously homeless for a year or more, while 6.8 percent had been homeless four or more times in three years. When all of these elements are considered together, however, 348 respondents (7.3%) met the full criteria for chronic homelessness.

V. SUMMARY

Homelessness continues to be a critical issue in metro Denver. More than 10,000 persons lack a permanent residence on any given night. Some of these persons are on the street or in cars; others are temporarily housed in emergency shelters, daily motels or in the basements or spare rooms of family or friends. For all of these persons, and especially for the third of them who are children or youth, this is a devastating experience.

Many homeless persons suffer from mental illness or serious medical problems. Others have simply lost jobs or suffered family disruption. Many lack education, job skills and family supports. All need a safe, secure and permanent place to live.

Some of those who are homeless are employed or receiving public benefits. However, these sources of income are often inadequate in meeting the cost of housing, food, utilities and medical care. Many of these individuals need services that are unavailable or inaccessible to them.

People cycle into homelessness every day. Families represent a large segment of the “newly homeless.” They may be found in emergency or temporary facilities or doubled up with others, but they are “homeless” because they have been unable to secure stable, safe, and permanent housing.

Other persons experience “chronic homelessness.” The majority of these persons are male and most often found on the street, in emergency shelters or doubled up with others. They have major medical or mental conditions that make permanent, stable housing difficult to achieve.

Regardless of the cause of a person’s homelessness, their family status or their particular needs, homelessness is a problem that affects all citizens of metro Denver. Additional attention and resources are needed to reduce its occurrence and impact on the individuals, families and children experiencing homelessness.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Technical Report

Appendix B: Definitions

Appendix C: English and Spanish Surveys

Appendix D: List of Figures and Tables

APPENDIX A: Technical Report

I. INTRODUCTION

Counting the number of homeless persons at a particular point-in-time and accurately documenting their situation and needs presents several challenges. Many homeless individuals and families are indistinguishable from others observed throughout the community. They may be working, sitting in a fast food restaurant, in the library or walking their child home from school. Others may be in locations where it is difficult to contact them, such as abandoned buildings or under bridges. Additionally, some homeless persons experience cognitive confusion, rendering their responses to questions inconsistent.

There are two ways to address these issues. By increasing the number of respondents and the range of locations where they are contacted, we can help reduce the impact of these problems, and by taking these issues into account during the data analysis process, we can clean the data in a way to maximize internal consistency in each record.

This technical report delineates the methods used to avoid double counting of homeless persons who responded to the survey instrument more than once or who report that they are accompanied by other homeless persons, who may have also completed a survey. Also described is the work done to avoid counting persons as homeless who are not actually in that situation. While it is very important to avoid double counting, it is also important to remember that not every homeless person in the area was counted, as many are “hidden” or have avoided attempts to document them.

This technical report describes the process used to collect, clean, and analyze the data contained in the *Homelessness in Metropolitan Denver, Sixth Annual Point-In-Time Study, 2005*. It delineates the approaches taken to ensure the broadest representation of participants and the greatest accuracy of their responses.

II. DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

A. County Coordinators/ Participating Agencies

The Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) and Mile High United Way were responsible for the distribution of surveys to agencies serving the homeless. Each metro county had a coordinator who recruited agencies and ensured that completed surveys were returned to MDHI for analysis. English and Spanish versions of the survey were made available electronically, and all agencies made the copies they needed and put their name on every survey form. Approximately one hundred and forty-seven different organizations, or departments within organizations, participated in the 2005 count.

B. MHUW Volunteers

Because agencies serving the homeless are often understaffed, making it difficult to divert time and resources, they were assisted in 2005 by corporate and community volunteers who were recruited and trained by Mile High United Way (MHUW). The volunteer participation this year allowed the agency staff to focus on the demand for services.

C. Language

The 2005 survey was available in Spanish and English. The vast majority of surveys (95.4%) were completed in English.

D. Training for Data Collection

The researcher in charge of the *Homelessness In Metropolitan Denver, Sixth Annual Point-In-Time Study, 2005*, trained County coordinators and agency personnel in the use of the survey. The training provided overview information regarding the deadline for administering and returning the surveys, some changes that were made to the survey for 2005, and information about how to avoid survey duplication. This overview also delineated the advantage of actually completing the survey with each respondent, and at the very least, being available to answer questions. The training also provided additional instructions about the survey itself. Additional instructions for dealing with the problem of over-counting were emailed to the volunteers who participated in the training.

Following are the training documents:

Training Document - Overview

- Although the point in time date is January 24, 2005, surveys are to be administered between January 25 and January 28 with all surveys returned to MDHI by January 31.
- There are some changes that have been made to the survey in order to avoid duplication and confusion about homeless status that occurred last year. Other changes include using the first person and simplifying the language. Questions are reordered so that the most important questions for the annual count come on the first page.
- The ideal situation is for a service provider to complete the survey with each respondent. The provider asks the questions and completes the form with the respondent's answers. If this is not possible, and respondents complete the forms themselves, providers should supervise the process and be available to answer questions. Some surveys should be checked for accuracy.
- Providers should inform respondents that the identifying information of initials, gender and age are only to help avoid counting the same person more than once if they happen to fill out the form in different locations, and in no way will be used to identify them.
- If respondents fill out the survey, and it is not their first time doing so this year, encourage them to use the same initials and age and to honestly answer the question regarding prior surveys completed. This aides in the elimination of duplicates

Training Document - Instructions for Completing the Survey

Page 1 of the survey provides all the information needed for an accurate count of homeless persons in metro Denver as of January 24, 2005. Page 2 gives a portrait of the homeless respondents.

Question 1 - agency collecting the survey – providers should complete this and put the full name of the agency.

Questions 2 & 3 - letters from last name, first name and middle name and age must be filled in completely. These are used to create a unique case record and not for individual identification.

Questions 4 & 5 - these items are used for group calculations, not for individual identification.

Question 6 - living situation determines the number of individuals versus family members.

Question 7 - this item determines those who are homeless as of the point in time date. If the respondent doesn't remember where they were on the night of January 24, they can say where they were the night before completing the survey.

Questions 8 - this item helps to determine if the respondent is homeless in instances where their answer to the prior question might have indicated that they were in a permanent situation.

Question 9 - this item helps to describe those who, in addition to the respondent, are homeless on January 24. If the respondent was staying temporarily with others who are not homeless, they are not to be included in this table.

Question 10 - these cities entitlement cities for community development block grants and are required to address homelessness in the consolidated housing plan that they submit to HUD.

Question 11 - this item provides the metro Denver breakdown of homeless persons as of the point in time date.

Question 12 - this item identifies the last permanent residence of the respondent.

Questions 13 & 14 - these items are used to determine the newly homeless (first episode, less than 30 day); chronically homelessness (more than one year or four or more times in the past three years) and the annual prevalence of homelessness (newly homeless x 11 plus the number homeless persons as of the point in time date. If the respondent has a permanent residence, they check “doesn't apply to me.”

Question 15 - these conditions are part of the HUD definition of chronic homelessness.

Question 16 - these are some typical causes of homelessness. If the respondent has a permanent residence, they check “doesn’t apply to me.”

Questions 17 – 21 - these questions address particular concerns of the population.

Question 22 - this question asks for annual income. If the respondent is in a family, it could include money from all family members. If the respondent isn’t sure of their money, they should make a best guess.

Question 23 - this section has some traditional sources of income and some non-traditional ones. Respondents should be encouraged to be as candid as possible.

Question 24 - this section will determine gaps in service or needed services.

Question 25 - this item will help identify duplicate surveys.

Additional Instructions for Dealing with the Problem of Over-Counting

- The form is to be completed by only one person in each household. A household is a group of people who share money, resources, and support. Individual adults who share a living space are not a household, if they do not share money and other resources.
- If you have a mother, father and two children, either the mother or father should complete the form but not both. The one person who completes the form should include the other adult and the children on item 9. If both completed a form and included the others in their family on item 9 – we would be double counting them.
- If you have two adults sharing a living space who do not share money or resources, each should complete a form but not include the other person in item 9. If each included the other on item 9, we would be double counting them. They should also identify themselves as a single person, living with others (item 6 – choice 2).

III. DATA CLEANING PROCESS

A. Committee Process

A committee made up of the MDHI Director, the Chairperson of the MDHI data committee and the researchers for the 2005 count, developed criteria for determining if a respondent to the survey was homeless. A larger committee of approximately 20 persons, including service providers, MDHI board members and researchers, went over each survey individually and pulled out the surveys of those who did not meet the homeless criteria. Another group reviewed these surveys, and together, made the final determination.

B. Criteria for Determining Homelessness vs. Non-Homelessness

The following criteria were applied to all surveys:

- If the response to Q7 is “1-6,” THE PERSON IS HOMELESS.
- If the response to Q7 is “7- 12,” check responses to Q8. If Q8 is “no” or “don’t know,” THE PERSON IS HOMELESS.
- If the response to Q7 is “13 - permanent supportive housing (for previously homeless persons),” and Q8 is “yes” THE PERSON IS NOT HOMELESS.
- If the response to Q7 is “13 - permanent supportive housing (for previously homeless persons),” and Q8 is “no” or “don’t know,” THE PERSON IS HOMELESS (they could have been evicted from their permanent place after **January 24th, 2005** and are now homeless).
- If the response to Q7 is “12” coupled with a “yes” in Q9, THE PERSON IS NOT HOMELESS.
- If the response to Q7 is “7, 8, 9, 10” coupled with a “yes” to Q8, THE PERSON IS NOT HOMELESS (the person could have been in those places on **January 24th** but returned to a permanent home after that).
- If the response to Q7 is “11,” coupled with a “yes” to Q8, THE PERSON IS HOMELESS (even if they consider the transitional housing to be their home, hence the “yes” to Q8).

C. Elimination of Duplicates

When surveys are self-administered, duplicates are inevitable. Several steps were taken to address this issue.

- People were instructed to complete only one survey, but if they completed more, they were asked to use consistent initials and to indicate how many times they had completed a survey this year. This last item proved to be ineffective in that some who said they had completed multiple surveys had no others with the same set of initials. Other instances had two or three records from the same person but each time was identified as the first survey completed.
- To clean the data, all surveys were arranged alphabetically. If three initials matched, then age and gender were checked. If those matched, the city and type of place where they spent January 24 were checked and if these were the same, duplicates were removed leaving only one record for that person. If the city and place did not match, other items were checked and if they matched (i.e.: number of persons with them, etc) any duplicates were removed. If it was not clear that the records were duplicates, none were removed.

D. Surveys Eliminated to Reach Final Data Set

Almost 8,000 surveys were collected. Prior to data entry 1,385 were removed because they were too incomplete to be usable or the respondent was determined to be non-homeless. Another 388 were excluded before data entry due to their status as “residents in permanent supportive housing”. After data entry, 348 records were removed because they were clear duplicates. The final data set included surveys from 5,826 respondents.

Appendix – Table 1. Eliminated Survey / Final Number in Data Set

CATEGORIES OF ELIMINATED SURVEYS	NUMBER
Total Number of Surveys Collected	7,947
Number Removed as Unusable	21
Number Removed as Non-Homeless Persons	1,364
Number Removed as Duplicates	348
Number Removed as Residents in Permanent Supportive Housing for Formerly Homeless Persons	388
Final Data Set - Number of Respondents	5,826

E. Guidelines for Cleaning the Variable for the Number of Persons with Respondent (count)

Cleaning the data set to determine the number of persons accompanying a respondent, proceeded with attention to the following three somewhat contradictory concerns:

- avoid double counting
- avoid counting as homeless, the non-homeless persons with whom a homeless person was residing temporarily
- account for the many homeless persons who did not fully complete surveys

The following conventions were observed for each individually reviewed case record:

- 1. Respondent identified the place they stayed on January 24 as “staying temporarily with family or friends”**
 - if individuals considered “other family” were identified as being with the respondent, they were not counted, but “spouse” and “child” were counted
 - if individuals considered as “friend” were identified as being with the respondent, they were counted, on the assumption that a single person might have chosen this category even though the place they stayed was a “crash pad”
 - if individuals considered as “friend” were identified, only two were counted to avoid double counting

- 2. Respondent identified the place they stayed on January 24 as “emergency shelter,” “transitional housing,” “domestic violence shelter” or “on the street”**
 - if individuals considered as “spouse” or “child” were identified as being with the respondent, all were counted
 - if individuals considered as “friend” or “partner” were identified as being with the respondent, no more than two were counted – to avoid double counting

3. **Respondent identified the place they stayed on January 24 as “prison” or “jail”**
 - no additional individuals were counted as being with the respondent based on the assumption that others identified may not have been homeless

4. **Respondent identified the place they stayed on January 24 as “treatment program,” “youth program”**
 - no more than two others were counted as being with the respondent based on the assumption that the others may have also been homeless but there was a need to avoid double counting

5. **Respondent identified the place they stayed on January 24 as “hotel-motel”**
 - all those identified were counted on the assumption that they represented one household

6. **Other Notes**
 - There were several cases of children or youth being the respondent for the household. These were included.

 - If respondents included themselves in the relationship grid (despite instructions to avoid this), their info was removed from the count.

Table 2 is from the 2005 data -base prior to cleaning. The totals represent the number of records (individual surveys) in which the number of persons accompanying the respondent were counted. Table 3 represents the number of persons accompanying the respondent AFTER the records were cleaned. There are many more instances of 4, 5, 6 and 7 persons counted in the first table, than the second.

Appendix - Table 2. 2005 Data PRIOR to Cleaning

FAMILY STATUS	COUNT OF PERSONS								TOTAL
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Single Person Living Alone	2,641	206	53	19	4	6	6	16	2,951
Single Person Living with Others	430	190	100	42	28	18	14	12	834
Single Parent with Children	139	490	348	167	73	30	14	10	1,271
Part of a Couple with Children	66	48	125	111	66	37	16	10	479
Part of a Couple without Children	54	124	13	11	3	1	1	6	213
Other	48	11	11	6	2	2	1	0	81
TOTAL	3,378	1,069	650	356	176	94	52	54	5,829

Appendix – Table 3. 2005 Database AFTER Cleaning

FAMILY STATUS	COUNT OF PERSONS								TOTAL
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Single Person Living Alone	3,483								3,483
Single Person Living with Others	21	263	180	8	1			1	474
Single Parent with Children	10	571	377	174	79	20	4	3	1,238
Part of a Couple with Children		6	136	113	67	35	16	7	380
Part of a Couple without Children	1	238	3		1				243
Other	1		4			3			8
TOTAL	3,516	1,078	700	295	148	58	20	11	5,826

F. Guidelines for Cleaning and Clarifying the Variable for Living Situation

The relationship grid (survey question 9) contributed to a designation of the respondents “living situation.” The place respondents spent January 24 (i.e.: staying with others) did not contribute to the “living situation” variable because a respondent could be staying with others but none of them were determined to be homeless and therefore could not be counted.

The living situation variable was changed to match the relationship grid. Regardless of what was checked in living situation, if there was no information in the relationship grid, the respondent was considered to be single and living alone. Even if they checked living with family or friends, if none were counted in the relationship grid, they were considered to be single and living alone.

Respondents were considered to be:

- “single and living alone” if they had no one counted in the relationship grid.
- “single and living with others” if they had friends counted in the relationship grid.
- “single parent” if they identified only children in the relationship grid.
Grandparents with children were identified this way, as were multi-generational families (ie: mother, her daughter and her grandson).
- “part of a couple” with children” if they identified another adult and children in the relationship grid.
- “part of a couple without children” if they identified a spouse or partner but no children in the relationship grid.

IV. SUMMARY

In past years, the important information contained in the annual count of homeless persons has been over-shadowed by criticisms about over counting and inaccuracies. For 2005, extra efforts were made to ensure the accuracy of the numbers through training, data cleaning and data analysis.

APPENDIX B: Definitions

The following is a list of definitions used in the *Homelessness in Metropolitan Denver, Sixth Annual Point-in-Time Study, 2005* report, provided by Linda Murphy, MDHI Director

An individual is considered homeless if he or she is:

- sleeping in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, or abandoned or condemned buildings;
- sleeping in an emergency shelter;
- spending a short time (30 consecutive days or less) in a hospital or other institution, but ordinarily sleeping in the types of places mentioned above;
- living in transitional/supportive housing but having come from streets or emergency shelters;
- being evicted within a week from a private dwelling unit and having no subsequent residence identified and lacking the resources and support networks needed to obtain access to housing; or
- being discharged from an institution and having no subsequent residence identified and lacking the resources and support networks needed to obtain access to housing.

Chronically homeless person – An unaccompanied 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. Regardless of circumstances, a family is not considered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the definition of chronically homeless at this time.

Denver Metropolitan Area – includes Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Boulder, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson Counties

Disabling condition – is one that is expected to be of continued and indefinite duration; substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently; and is of such a nature that the disability could be improved by more stable conditions. Disabilities primarily targeted are: serious mental illness, chronic alcohol and/or other drug abuse including the co-occurrence of two or more conditions; and AIDS or related diseases.

Emergency shelter – is short term housing, generally 30-120 days, which is designed to meet the basic needs of the homeless.

First-Time Homeless – people who report that this is their first episode of homelessness, regardless of how long in duration.

Homeless Families – Includes a household with two or more related persons, at least one of whom is a child.

HUD – U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) – is a private, non-profit organization that serves as the homeless continuum of care for the seven county metropolitan Denver area. Among many other projects and activities, MDHI conducts the annual Point-in-Time survey.

Mile High United Way (MHUW) – unites and focuses the community’s resources to help people help themselves. Beginning in 2005, MHUW partnered with MDHI to conduct the annual Point-in-Time survey.

Motel Vouchers – in lieu of money, some specific departments of local government and non-profit agencies provide vouchers to homeless individuals and families to be turned in for a night’s lodging at designated motels in the Denver metro area.

Newly Homeless –People who reported being homeless for the first time and for less than one year. This number includes individual respondents as well as persons in families with children.

Permanent Supportive Housing – is a place where formerly homeless persons with diagnosed and chronic disabilities reside and whose rent is subsidized through funding received from HUD.

Point-In-Time (PIT) – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the primary source of federal funding for housing support for the homeless, requires that each Continuum of Care across the country, conduct a “point-in-time” survey every three years during the month of January. The point-in-time survey counts homeless persons on one identified night.

Respondent – the person completing the point in time survey.

Staying with Others – homeless persons temporarily staying with family or friends. These are not long-term living arrangements for themselves or their families.

Transitional Housing – time-limited housing that provides supported housing, linked with intensive case management and services for individuals, families and youth who have come from the streets or emergency shelters. The housing can be for no more than two years and may be project-based or scattered-site.

APPENDIX C: Survey (English)

1. Agency collecting the survey: _____

We need your help! Your answers help us know what types of housing and services you need. All answers are confidential.

2. First letter of my last name: _____ First letter of my first name: _____ First letter of my middle name: _____

3. My age: _____
Transgender

4. My gender (*check only one*): 1 Male 2 Female 3

5. My Race/Ethnicity (*check only one*): 1 Asian
Hispanic/Latino/Chicano/Mexican

4

2 Native American/Alaskan Native 5

White

3 Black/African American

6 Mixed

7 Other _____

6. My living situation (*check only one*):

1 I am a single person, living alone

2 I am a single person, living with others (family/ friends)

3 I am a single parent with children

4 I am part of a couple with children

5 I am part of a couple without children

6 Other _____

7. Where I spent **last Monday night, January 24, 2005** (*check only one*):

1 on the street (under a bridge; in an abandoned building or vacant apartment; public building; car; squat; traveling on a bus; camping out)

2 emergency shelter for homeless persons (including youth on their own)

3 domestic violence shelter

4 staying with family or friends, couch surfing (not a permanent situation)

5 hotel/ motel (paid for by emergency housing voucher or agency)

6 hotel/motel (that I paid for myself while looking for stable housing)

7 treatment center (psychiatric hospital; detox facility; medical hospital)

8 youth program (foster home; group home; detention, residential treatment center)

9 jail

10 prison

11 time-limited/ transitional housing (for formerly homeless persons)

12 house or apartment (where my name is on the lease or mortgage)

13 permanent supportive housing (for previously homeless persons)

14 other _____

15 don't know

8. I consider the place where I am going to stay tonight my home (*check one*): 1 Yes 2 No 3 I don't know where I'm going to stay tonight

9. People who were with me on **Monday night, January 24, 2005** (*if you were staying temporarily with family or friends, do not include them – DO NOT INCLUDE YOURSELF*):

Person #1	Person #2	Person #3	Person #4	Person #5	Person #6	Person #7
Initials	Initials	Initials	Initials	Initials	Initials	Initials
Age	Age	Age	Age	Age	Age	Age
Gender:	Gender:	Gender:	Gender:	Gender:	Gender:	Gender:
1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender
Relationship to me:	Relationship to me:	Relationship to me:	Relationship to me:	Relationship to me:	Relationship to me:	Relationship to me:
1 <input type="checkbox"/> Child	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Child	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Child	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Child	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Child	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Child	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Child
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Partner	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Partner	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Partner	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Partner	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Partner	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Partner	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Partner
4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other family	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other family	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other family	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other family	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other family	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other family	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other family
5 <input type="checkbox"/> Friend	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Friend	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Friend	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Friend	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Friend	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Friend	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Friend

10. City where I spent **last Monday night, January 24, 2005** (*check only one*):

1 Arvada

3 Boulder

5 Denver

7 Longmont

9 None of these cities

2 Aurora

4 Centennial

6 Lakewood

8 Westminster

10 Don't know

11. County or other location where I spent **last Monday night, January 24, 2005** (*check only one*):

12. The last place I lived that I considered to be a permanent place or my home (*check only one*):
- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adams County | <input type="checkbox"/> Broomfield City and County | <input type="checkbox"/> Jefferson County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arapahoe County | <input type="checkbox"/> Denver City and County | <input type="checkbox"/> Other place in Colorado _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boulder County | <input type="checkbox"/> Douglas County | <input type="checkbox"/> Other state _____ |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other country _____ |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
13. Length of time since I last lived in a permanent place that I considered to be my home (*check only one*):
- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> less than 30 days | <input type="checkbox"/> one to three years | <input type="checkbox"/> don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> more than a month but less than a year | <input type="checkbox"/> more than three years | <input type="checkbox"/> doesn't apply to me |
14. The number of times in the **last three years** when I have been without a permanent place that I considered to be my home (*check only one*):
- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> this is the first time | <input type="checkbox"/> two or three times | <input type="checkbox"/> four or more times | <input type="checkbox"/> don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> doesn't apply to me |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|
15. Conditions that I currently have (*check as many as apply*):
- | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> serious medical problems | <input type="checkbox"/> severe mental illness | <input type="checkbox"/> developmental disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS | <input type="checkbox"/> substance abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
16. Situations that caused me to leave my permanent home (*check as many as apply*):
- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> lost a job/couldn't find work | <input type="checkbox"/> discharge from foster care | <input type="checkbox"/> medical expenses too high |
| <input type="checkbox"/> moved to find work | <input type="checkbox"/> relationship problems or family break-up | <input type="checkbox"/> bad credit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> alcohol/substance abuse problems | <input type="checkbox"/> got evicted/ kicked out of place | <input type="checkbox"/> couldn't pay utilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> medical problems in myself or family | <input type="checkbox"/> mental illness | <input type="checkbox"/> housing costs too high |
| <input type="checkbox"/> abuse or violence in my home | <input type="checkbox"/> discharged from prison/jail | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> problems with public benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> someone I lived with got sent to prison/jail | <input type="checkbox"/> doesn't apply to me |
| <input type="checkbox"/> problems related to my sexual orientation | <input type="checkbox"/> legal problems | <input type="checkbox"/> don't know |
17. I served in U.S. military: Yes No
18. As a child or youth I was in foster care or another type of out-of-home placement: Yes No
19. In the last week, I was hungry because I couldn't get enough food or get to places that had food: Yes No
20. I have a valid Colorado State Identification Card or Driver's License: Yes No
21. My education (*check only one*): did not complete high school high school graduation or GED school or training after high school
22. Money I had to spend last year (*check the closest estimate*):
- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I had no money | <input type="checkbox"/> less than \$1,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 - \$9,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000 - \$19,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20,000 or more |
|---|--|--|--|---|
23. Where I get my income/resources (*check as many as apply*):
- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have no income | <input type="checkbox"/> panhandling/asking for money on street | <input type="checkbox"/> Old Age Pension (OAP) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> full-time job | <input type="checkbox"/> borrowing from family/friends | <input type="checkbox"/> TANF/Colorado Works |
| <input type="checkbox"/> part-time job | <input type="checkbox"/> pawning items | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security (disability or retirement) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> unemployment benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> child support/alimony | <input type="checkbox"/> emergency assistance from an agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> day labor/ temp job | <input type="checkbox"/> SSI | <input type="checkbox"/> selling drugs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> workers comp | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> trading sex for money, shelter or drugs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pension | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Stamp benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> selling blood/plasma | <input type="checkbox"/> Aid to Needy Disabled (AND) | |
24. Services that I needed but couldn't get in the past month (*check as many as apply*):
- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Health care | <input type="checkbox"/> Help for folks on the street | <input type="checkbox"/> Help knowing what Public Benefits I'm eligible for |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food pantry/community meal sites | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health care | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Treatment for alcohol or drug abuse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job service center | | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Help getting a valid Colorado ID |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child care | | | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency shelter or vouchers | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal services | <input type="checkbox"/> Help finding permanent housing | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

APPENDIX C: Survey (Spanish)

1. Agencia que realizó la encuesta: _____

¡Necesitamos su ayuda! Sus respuestas nos ayudan a saber que tipo de vivienda y servicios usted necesita. Todas las respuestas son confidenciales.

2. Primera letra de mi apellido: _____ Primera letra del nombre: _____ Primera letra de mi segundo nombre: _____

3. Mi edad: _____ 4. Mi género (*cheque solo uno*): 1 masculino 2 femenino 3 otro

5. Mi raza/grupo étnico: (*cheque solo uno*):
 1 Asiático 4 Hispano/Latino/Chicano/Mexicano
 2 Nativo Americano/Nativo de Alaska 5 Blanco
 3 Afro-Americano 6 Mixto 7 Otro _____

6. Mi situación familiar (*cheque solo una*):
 1 soy una persona soltero-a, viviendo *solo* -a 4 Formo parte de una pareja con hijos
 2 soy una persona soltero-a viviendo con otros (familia/amigos) 5 Formo parte de una pareja sin hijos
 3 Soy padre-madre **soltero-a** con hijos 6 otro _____

7. Donde pasé **la noche del lunes 24 de Enero 2005** (*cheque solo una*):
 1 en la calle; (bajo un puente; en un edificio abandonado; en un apartamento vacante; edificio publico; en el auto; en un lugar sin permiso; viajando en Autobús; acampando)
 2 refugio de emergencia para personas desalojadas (incluyendo jóvenes independientes)
 3 refugio para la violencia domestica
 4 viviendo con familiares o amigos, de casa en casa (situación no permanente)
 5 hotel/motel (pagado por el programa de vivienda o agencia de servicios de emergencia)
 6 hotel/motel (pagado por mí mismo mientras busco una vivienda estable)
 7 centro de tratamiento (hospital psiquiátrico; centro de rehabilitación; hospital médico)
 8 programa juvenil (hogar autorizado; hogar de grupo; penitenciaria para menores; centro residencial de tratamiento)
 9 cárcel
 10 prisión
 11 tiempo limitado/hogar de transición (para personas previamente desamparados)
 12 casa o departamento (donde mi nombre está en el contrato o hipoteca)
 13 vivienda permanente auxiliada (para personas previamente desamparadas)
 14 otro _____
 15 no sé

8. Considero mi hogar el lugar en donde me quedaré esta noche (*cheque solo uno*): 1 sí 2 no 3 no sé donde me quedaré esta noche.

9. Gente que estuvo conmigo **la noche del lunes 24 de Enero del 2005** (*si se estaba quedando temporalmente con familiares o amigos no los incluya a ellos y NO SE INCLUYA USTED MISMO*):

Persona #1		Persona #2		Persona #3		Persona #4		Persona #5		Persona #6		Persona #7	
Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales	Iniciales
Edad	Edad	Edad	Edad	Edad	Edad	Edad	Edad	Edad	Edad	Edad	Edad	Edad	Edad
Género:	Género:	Género:	Género:	Género:	Género:	Género:	Género:	Género:	Género:	Género:	Género:	Género:	Género:
1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Masculino
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Femenino
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Otro
Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:	Relación conmigo:
1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a	1 <input type="checkbox"/> hijo-a
2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a	2 <input type="checkbox"/> esposo-a
3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a	3 <input type="checkbox"/> compañero-a
4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar	4 <input type="checkbox"/> otro familiar
5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a	5 <input type="checkbox"/> amigo-a

10. Ciudad en donde pasé **la noche del lunes 24 de Enero del 2005** (*cheque solo una*):
 1 Arvada 3 Boulder 5 Denver 7 Longmont 9 ninguna de estas ciudades
 2 Aurora 4 Centennial 6 Lakewood 8 Westminster 10 no sé

11. Condado u otra localidad **en donde** pasé la noche en **lunes del 24 de Enero del 2005** (*cheque solo uno*):
 1 Condado de Adams 4 Condado y Ciudad de Broomfield 7 Condado de Jefferson
 2 Condado de Arapahoe 5 Condado y Ciudad de Denver 8 otro lugar en Colorado _____
 3 Condado y Ciudad de Boulder 6 Condado de Douglas 9 otro Estado _____
 10 otro Condado _____
 11 no sé

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