



Homelessness in the Denver Metropolitan Area

2012 Homeless Point-In-Time Study

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Acknowledgements

This is the eleventh Homeless Point-in-Time study conducted by The Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) since 1998. Linda Barringer and Pat Lease, Co-Chairs of MDHI's Research Committee, supervised the study. The Denver Department of Human Services contributed funding for this project.

MDHI identified people in each jurisdiction to help coordinate and to ensure that all providers within their jurisdiction were participating, attending training, and distributing and collecting survey forms. The outstanding participation by all area providers in the 2012 survey was a direct result of the coordinated efforts of the following point persons:

Adams County	<i>Alicia Aguilar & Isabel Soto-Traver</i>
Arapahoe County	<i>Shawn Moore, Josh Meis, Keith Singer, Cara Tejada</i>
Aurora	<i>Sharon Duwaik</i>
Boulder County	<i>Lora Lefhae & Janet Walker Ready</i>
City and County of Broomfield	<i>Sharon Farrell</i>
City and County of Denver	<i>Chris Conner</i>
Douglas County	<i>Peter Ericson</i>
Jefferson County	<i>Linda Barringer & Jennifer Murphy</i>
Domestic Violence Providers	<i>Wendy Oldenbrook</i>
Jails	<i>Teri Marquantte</i>
Outreach	<i>Randle Loeb</i>
Veterans	<i>Katie Herrmann & Amanda Kocsis</i>
Youth	<i>Nicole Sherwood & Chris Venable</i>

A special acknowledgement is made to all of the volunteers who administered the Point in Time survey and to Adeeb Khan with Mile High United Way who assisted with volunteer recruitment for the Point in Time count.

This study could not have been completed without the support and dedication of the many homeless service providers throughout the Denver Metropolitan area. A special note of thanks goes to the hard working individuals who strive to provide a decent and safe place for homeless people to live.

Finally, this report would not have been possible without the cooperation of the survey respondents who completed surveys and provided us with confidential information about their experiences and reasons for homelessness.

Collectively, these survey responses provide all of us with a better understanding of the local magnitude of homelessness and the work that lies ahead of us to ensure that all people in our community have a safe and decent place to call home.



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Denver City Council

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Homeless Veteran's and Women's Advocate
Lease Associates

Kay Ramachandran
Homeless Advocate

Linda Richardson
Homeless Advocate

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

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ADAMS

AGENCY

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ADAMS 14 SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADAMS COUNTY FOOD DISTRIBUTION CENTER
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ADAMS COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES
ADAMS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 27J
ADAMS COUNTY WORKFORCE AND BUSINESS CENTER
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H.A.A.T. FORCE: SOUTH METRO
HIS HANDS CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES
INTER-FAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES
INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK
IT TAKES A VILLAGE
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LOVE INC. OF LITTLETON
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. LIBRARY
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AGAPE FAMILY SERVICES
ATTENTION HOMES
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FIRST UNITED METHODIST
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LABOR FINDERS
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LONGMONT HOUSING AUTHORITY
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SAFEHOUSE DENVER
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THE GATHERING PLACE
THIRD WAY CENTER
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VA MEDICAL CENTER
VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA
WARREN VILLAGE

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DOUGLAS COUNTY HOMELESS PREVENTION
DOUGLAS COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES
DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS
DOUGLAS COUNTY YOUTH INITIATIVE
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PARKER TASK FORCE
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JEFFERSON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES
JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

MOTELS ON WEST COLFAX
METRO COMMUNITY PROVIDER NETWORK (MCPN)
MOUNTAIN RESOURCE CENTER--CONIFER
SHANNON'S HOPE
STRIDE
THE ACTION CENTER
WATERSTONE CHURCH FOOD BANK

On Monday night, January 23, 2012, there were 12,605 homeless men, women and children counted in the annual Point-In-Time study in Metropolitan Denver.

The total homeless count, including respondents and family members:

Total Homeless	
Respondents	5,900
Family members	6,705
Total All Homeless	12,605

In 2012, a greater number of the surveys that were collected were identified as not homeless than in 2011. Many of these surveys were collected at places such as employment services, food pantries, and other human services agencies. Given that MDHI collected 1,294 more surveys this year and that 25 percent of those surveyed were determined to be not homeless versus 18 percent in 2011, the data strongly suggest that an increasing number of people are in crisis and are on the edge of falling into homelessness.

Unsheltered—All Homeless

Nearly 1,000 people (964) were living on the street, under a bridge, in a car, etc. on the night of January 23, 2012. This number represents 7.6 percent of all homeless people, up from 5.1 percent in 2011. Of households with children, 3.7 percent were unsheltered, that is, 303 persons in families with children were on the street, in a car or camping out.

Of unsheltered persons, the proportion of households with children substantially increased this year from 2011: compare 31.4 percent to 22.8 percent.

Domestic Violence – Respondents and All Homeless

Fully 600 respondents (11.4%) reported that domestic violence was the reason for their homelessness, although more than that number (640) did not answer this question. This suggests that a number of respondents intentionally skipped this question and that a higher number are homeless due to domestic violence than reported. When considering all homeless persons, 1,383 adults and children (12.7%) were homeless due to domestic violence.

When considering all homeless persons, 67 adults and children were on the street or sleeping in cars because of domestic violence.

Newly Homeless

On January 23, 2012, one in four (25.7%) of all homeless or 3,239 people – up from 23.7 percent in 2011 – were considered newly homeless. Of the newly homeless, 666 were households with children, or of all homeless persons, approximately three out five persons (70.7%) were living in households with children.

Gender – Respondents

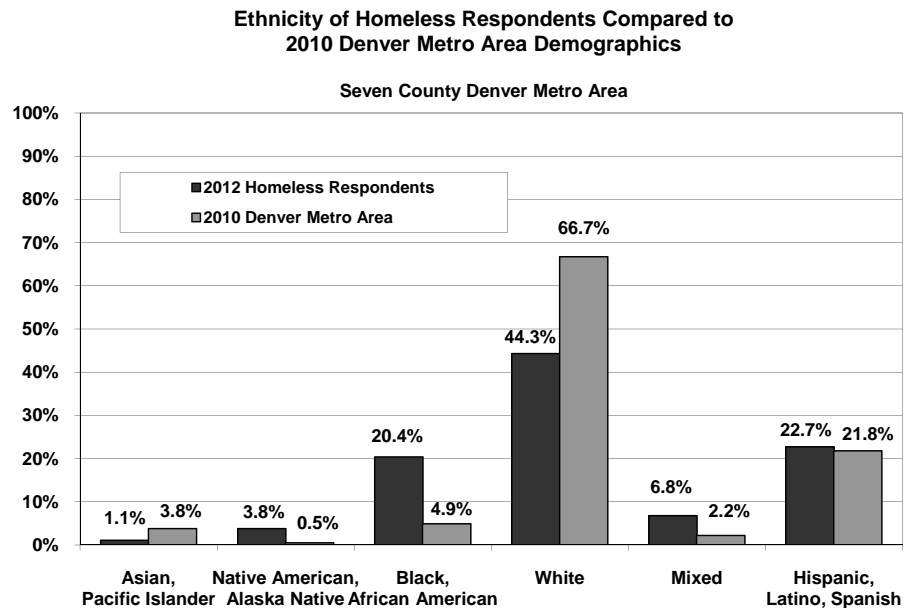
Male respondents outnumber female respondents: 55.4 percent to 43.6 percent. Sixteen people (0.3%) identified themselves as transgender.

Table 6. Gender – Respondents

	Frequency	Percent
Males	3,211	55.4
Females	2,572	44.4
Transgender	16	0.3
Total		

Race/Ethnicity – Respondents

Compared to the general population of the 2010 seven county Denver Metro area, whites are substantially under-represented and minorities are over-represented among the homeless population.¹



¹ Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation. (Metro Denver Counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Boulder, Denver, Douglas, Jefferson).

<http://www.metrodenver.org/demographics-communities/demographics/ethnicity.html>

Family Type – All Homeless

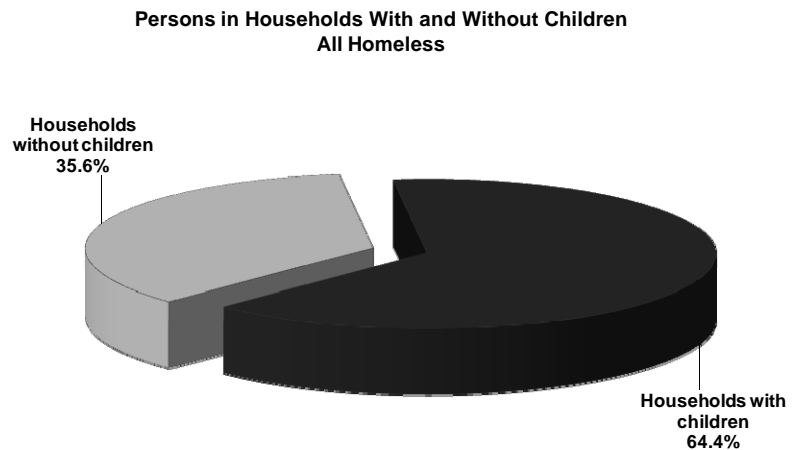
The largest proportion of all homeless persons are part of a single parent household.

Family Type – All Homeless

	All Homeless	Percent of All Homeless
Single	3,814	30.3%
Single parent with children under 18	4,747	37.7%
Couple with children under 18	3,320	26.3%
Couple without children	724	5.7%
Total	12,605	100.0%

All Homeless Persons in Households With and Without Children

Homeless persons are much more likely to be living in households with children than without children: 64 percent versus 36 percent.



Disabling Conditions – Respondents

The largest group of respondents indicated that they or another adult in their household have a serious mental illness, followed by serious medical or physical conditions or a substance abuse problem.

Disabling Conditions -- Respondents

	Frequency	Percent
Mental illness	1,230	20.8
Medical or physical condition	1,092	18.5
Substance abuse	1,058	17.9
Developmental disability	234	4.0
HIV/AIDS	81	1.4
Other disability	166	2.8

Chronically Homeless - Respondents

Nearly one in ten (8.9%) respondents –523 individuals – meet HUD’s definition of chronically homeless.

Chronically Homeless -- All Homeless

Of all homeless persons, 720 or 5.7 percent are chronically homeless. Of all chronically homeless persons (respondents and their family members), the largest group is single individuals and the small number of family members with them (66.6%). Persons in families comprise one-third (33.4%) of all chronically homeless persons.

	All Homeless	Percent of All Homeless
Single	479 ²	66.6
Single parent with children under 18	100	13.8
Couple with children under 18	55	7.7
Couple without children	86	11.9
Total	720	100.0%

Of all chronically homeless persons, approximately two out of every five (41.9%) people were on the street or sleeping in a vehicle on Monday night; over half (58.1%) were staying in an emergency shelter.

Counties

The largest proportion (41.8%) of all homeless persons spent Monday night in the City and County of Denver. More, however, spent Monday night in other Metro area counties (57.9%).

Employment

- One-third of respondents reported “lost job/can’t” find work as a reason for their homelessness
- Nearly one in ten respondents reported they have work but their wages are too low as a reason for their homelessness
- One-third reported they or someone else in their household had worked in the past month

² There are 437 chronically homeless persons whose family type is identified as ‘single’; however, considering all homeless persons, there are 479 chronically homeless persons in this category. This is due to some single respondents having family members with them, such as a sibling or an adult respondent with a parent.

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On Monday night, January 23, 2012, there were 12,605 homeless men, women and children counted in the annual Point-In-Time study in Metropolitan Denver.

I. INTRODUCTION

With the help of volunteers, service providers, staff, and outreach workers, the Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) conducted a point-in-time (PIT) study of homeless persons in the seven-county Denver metropolitan area. A point-in-time count provides a snapshot of homelessness by counting those who are homeless at a particular time. However, surveyors can easily “miss” homeless individuals and families.

The Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) is a coalition working with homeless assistance agencies in the seven-county Denver metropolitan area to coordinate the delivery of housing and services to homeless families, individuals, youth and persons with disabilities. MDHI seeks to provide the leadership, support and structure necessary to develop and sustain a comprehensive system of housing and services for those experiencing homelessness. Referred to as the Continuum of Care, this system encompasses Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson Counties. With emphasis on prevention, MDHI works to unite housing and service providers, neighborhoods, funders, business and non-profit organizations, government agencies and other groups and individuals across the metropolitan area in an ongoing effort to break the cycle of homelessness and help homeless persons achieve and maintain maximum self-sufficiency.

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 homeless people, requires that each Continuum of Care across the country conduct a “point-in-time” survey every two years during the month of January. HUD, MDHI, local governments and service providers use the information collected by the point-in-time survey to assess, project and plan strategies and services to eliminate homelessness.

MDHI defines homelessness as:

- 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;
- Staying temporarily with family or friends while looking for a permanent place to live;
- Staying temporarily in a hotel/motel while looking for shelter or housing;
- 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 within seven days and having no subsequent residence identified and lacking the resources and support networks needed to obtain access to housing.

II. UNDERSTANDING THE DATA

Undercounting

There is no disagreement that it is difficult to count homeless people. The one consistent finding in all the research on homelessness is that surveys undercount homeless populations. It is easy to “miss” homeless individuals and families -- they might not receive services at the agencies where homeless persons are counted on the night of the PIT, or if they do frequent a particular agency, they might not be there during the count. People enter and leave homelessness frequently and may become homeless shortly after the point-in-time study. The comprehensiveness of a sheltered homeless count is entirely dependent upon the level of participation of agencies and organizations that serve homeless individuals and families.

Unsheltered homeless people are particularly difficult to count. By definition, they are not in places where they can easily be counted, such as transitional housing and homeless shelters.¹ We do not count many homeless people because they are not in places where they can be

¹ For example, “Number of Homeless Ohioans,” Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio, 8/27/02; “Report on Homelessness in North Dakota, March 2005” (p. 15); S.J. Farrell and E.D. Reissing, “Picking Up the Challenge: Developing a Methodology to Enumerate and Assess the Needs of the Street Homeless Population,” *Evaluation Review*, Vol. 28, No. 2, April 2004, pp. 144-155.

found, much less where they have the opportunity to complete a survey, such as those living on the street, in automobiles and other kinds of crude and temporary housing. Youth on their own, recently homeless persons and individuals and families who are doubled up with friends and relatives are often underrepresented among those who access homeless services.² Others are homeless due to domestic violence and, because of confidentiality concerns, do not complete surveys. Still other homeless people are likely afraid of being counted, such as undocumented persons.

Submitted Surveys

Table 1 describes the number of point-in-time surveys collected by agency staff and volunteers and the number of surveys removed from the final database.

Table 1. Survey Collection and Elimination

Surveys collected	8,361
Not homeless removed	2,083
Survey missing all data	1
Duplicates removed	319
Spent night out of Metro area removed	58
Final cases in database	5,900

In 2012, a greater number of the surveys that were collected were identified as not homeless than in 2011. Many of these surveys were collected at places such as employment services, food pantries, and other human services agencies. Given that MDHI collected 1,294 more surveys this year and that 25 percent of those surveyed were determined to be not homeless versus 18 percent in 2011, the data strongly suggest that an increasing number of people are in crisis and on the edge of falling into homelessness.

MDHI recruited as many service providers, volunteers and outreach workers as possible for the 2012 count. MDHI used an extensive system of trained agency staff and volunteers to collect the survey data in order to keep the cost of the point-in-time count affordable. Where possible, volunteers and agency staff assisted homeless (or assumed homeless) individuals to complete the two-sided survey.

Variables

Some variables are reported only for respondents and others for both respondents and all homeless. For all homeless people, the data represent respondents and the family members who are with them. Table 2 describes which variables from the survey are reported for respondents, for all homeless and for both.

² *Ibid.*

Table 2. Reporting on Survey Data Points / Variables

VARIABLES	RESPONDENTS	ALL HOMELESS
Age	X	
Chronic homelessness	X	X
City		X
County	X	X
Disabling conditions ³	X	
Duration of homelessness	X	
Episodes of homelessness	X	
Ethnicity	X	
Foster care	X	
Family type	X	X
Gender	X	
Government benefits	X	
Households with and without children	X	X
Last permanent place	X	
Military service	X	
Where spent Monday night	X	X
Newly homeless		X
Reasons for homelessness	X	
Unsheltered		X
Victim of domestic violence	X	X
Working	X	

³ Respondents were asked, "Do you or any adult in your household (eighteen or older) have any of the following?" and given a list of conditions and told to check all that apply.

III. FINDINGS

Some survey respondents did not answer every question. As a result, the percentages reported in each sub-section of the report, in tables and in graphs represent only those people who answered the particular question and not the total number of respondents. In other words, unless otherwise noted, the percentages do not include “missing” responses. *Additionally, when adding up numbers in various categories, the number will not always equal the number of “respondents” or “all homeless” due to survey questions that were not answered.*

We report the findings for respondents and all homeless. Respondents are those individuals who completed the survey. The “all homeless” category is the sum of respondents and the homeless family members with them. The findings are reported in one or both of these two categories, depending on which category is most useful and informative and on whether the variable logically can be imputed to all homeless. For example, military status can be reported for respondents only, while it makes sense to report where people spent Monday night for all homeless.

The 2012 Point-In-Time results are extremely consistent with last year’s findings unless noted in the report.

Total Estimated Homeless Persons

Some respondents who identified themselves as having children, either as part of a couple or as a single person/parent, did not document these family members when completing their survey. Other respondents reported they were part of a couple without children but did not document their spouse or partner. Where respondents did report their family members with them on the night of January 23rd, we calculated the average number of family members in the appropriate category and applied the average to those respondents that neglected to report any information about their family members. For example, if a respondent said they were a single parent with children and did not indicate the number of people with them or report ages or relationships in the family “table,” the researchers applied the average family size for single parents.⁴

The total homeless count, including respondents and family members is shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Total Homeless

Respondents	5,900
Family members	6,705
Total All Homeless	12,605

⁴ The average household size for single parents is 3.15 persons, and the average household size for couples with children is 4.35 persons.

DEMOGRAPHICS

1. Family Type

The family type identified by the person who completed the survey reflects how they portray themselves. People who identified themselves as single or as part of a couple without children are grouped as “Households without Children.” People who identified themselves as a single person/parent with children or as part of a couple with children are categorized as “Households with Children.”⁵ Family type is reported for respondents and for all homeless, while households with and without children is reported only for all homeless.

Single respondents are predominantly male – 2,437 individuals (75.1%). One-quarter of single respondents are female – 801 individuals (24.7%), and nine are transgender (0.3%). In contrast, single parents are much more likely to be female than male: 81.6 percent compared to 18.3 percent.

Table 4 describes respondents by family type and Table 5 shows the percentage of all homeless people by family type.

Table 4. Family Type - Respondents

	Frequency	Percent
Single	3,295	55.8
Single person/parent with children under 18	1,506	25.5
Couple with children under 18	763	12.9
Couple without children	336	5.7
Total	5,900	100.0

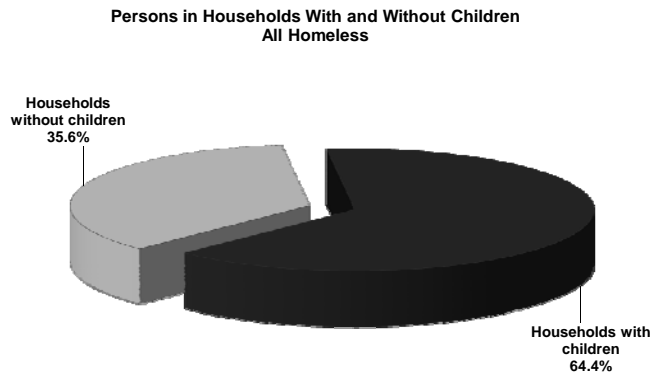
Table 5. Family Type – All Homeless

	All Homeless	Percent of All Homeless
Single	3,814	30.3%
Single parent with children under 18	4,747	37.7%
Couple with children under 18	3,320	26.3%
Couple without children	724	5.7%
Total	12,605	100.0%

⁵ There are some exceptions to this rule. A single person or a couple without children may have reported having a child under 18 with them, such as a sibling, a nephew, etc. In these cases, they were counted as a household with children but remain in the “single” category.

Homeless persons are much more likely to be living in households with children: 64 percent versus 36 percent. The number of persons living in households with children is up slightly from 2011 (compare 64% to 62%).

Figure 1. All Homeless Persons in Households With and Without Children



2. Ages

Respondents range in age from 13 to 96 years. Their average age is 41 years old.

Table 6. Ages – Respondents

	Frequency	Percent
Teen (13-17)	60	1.0
Young Adult (18-24)	717	12.5
Adult (25-64)	4838	84.1
Senior (65 and over)	136	2.4
Total	5751	100.0

3. Gender

Male respondents outnumber female respondents: 55.4 percent to 43.6 percent. Sixteen people (0.3%) identified themselves as transgender.

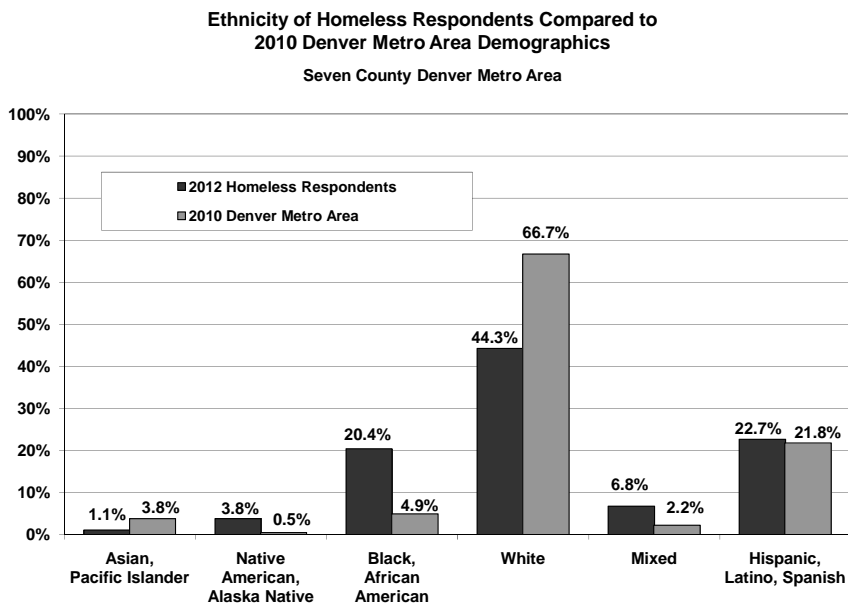
Table 7. Gender - Respondents

	Frequency	Percent
Males	3,211	55.4
Females	2,572	44.4
Transgender	16	0.3
Total		

4. Race/Ethnicity/Language of Respondents

Compared to the general population of the 2010 seven county Denver Metro area, whites are substantially under-represented and minorities are over-represented among the homeless population.⁶

Figure 2. Ethnicity of Homeless Respondents Compared to 2010 General Population



Five percent (4.9%) completed the survey in Spanish.

HOUSING AND RISK FACTORS FOR HOMELESSNESS

5. Reasons for Homelessness

Respondents were given a list of possible reasons for their homelessness and asked to indicate “all that apply.” Overall, loss of a job was the most common reason given, although fewer respondents reported unemployment as a reason for their homelessness than they did in 2011. This reason was followed by, relationship or family breakup, housing costs, substance abuse and eviction or foreclosure.

⁶ Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation. (Metro Denver Counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Boulder, Denver, Douglas, Jefferson).
<http://www.metrodenver.org/demographics-communities/demographics/ethnicity.html>

Table 8. Reasons for Homelessness -- Respondents

	Frequency	Percent
Lost job/can't find work	1,926	32.6
Relationship or family break-up/death in the family	1,020	17.3
Housing costs too high	1,016	17.2
Substance abuse	622	10.5
Eviction/foreclosure	600	10.2
Mental illness, emotional problems	599	10.2
Medical problems including physical, dev disability	521	8.8
Abuse or violence in home	488	8.3
Have work but wages too low	485	8.2
Discharged from jail, prison, halfway house	438	7.4
Utility costs too high	421	7.1
Runaway/discharged from foster care	63	1.1
Sexual orientation	35	0.6
Other reason	642	10.9

Survey respondents wrote in “other” reasons for their current episode of homelessness. The most common “other” reason for homelessness was some form of legal problem, often a criminal record. Other common reasons were immigration issues including “deportation” of a family member and various problems with government benefits, such as respondents had lost their benefits or were waiting for benefits. Additional reasons for homelessness were landlord problems, bad credit, dangerous or unhealthy living conditions (overcrowding, bed bugs, building unsafe or not up to code), fire or the building had been sold or condemned.

There are differences between households with and without children in their reasons for homelessness, some more striking than others. Table 9 compares the five most frequently reported reasons by households with and without children.

Table 9. Top Five Reasons for Homelessness – Respondents in Households With and Without Children

Reasons for Homelessness	Households Without Children		Households With Children	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Lost job/can't find work	1,240	34.6	686	29.7
Housing costs too high	488	13.6	528	22.8
Relationship or family break-up/death in the family	534	14.9	486	21.0
Substance abuse	503	14.0	119	5.1
Eviction/foreclosure	330	9.2	270	11.7

6. Domestic Violence

This year, we included a question that specifically asked if the respondent was homeless due to domestic violence. Fully 600 respondents (11.4%) reported that domestic violence was the reason for their homelessness, although more than that number (640) did not answer this question. This suggests that a number of respondents intentionally skipped this question and that a higher number are homeless due to domestic violence than reported. The great majority who are homeless due to domestic violence are female (82.2%); 17.3 percent are male and three (0.5%) are transgender. When considering all homeless persons, 1,383 adults and children (12.7%) were homeless due to domestic violence.

Table 10 shows that nearly one-third of respondents spent Monday night in transitional housing or in a shelter (either emergency shelter or domestic violence shelter) and nearly one in five were staying with family or friends.

Table 10. Domestic Violence as Reason for Homelessness and Where Spent Monday Night - Respondents

	Frequency	Percent
Transitional housing	192	32.1
Temporarily with family/friends	108	18.1
Emergency shelter	99	16.6
Domestic violence shelter	87	14.5
On street, under bridge, etc.	36	6.0
Hotel/motel paid for by voucher	18	3.0
Hotel/motel paid for yourself	17	2.8
In car or other vehicle	9	1.5
In own apt or house	9	1.5
Substance abuse treatment program	7	1.2
Section 8 housing	5	.8
Youth shelter	4	.7
Jail/prison	4	.7
Perm supportive housing	2	.3
Halfway house	1	.2
Total	598	100.0
Missing where spent night	2	
Total	600	

When considering all homeless persons, 67 adults and children were on the street or sleeping in cars because of domestic violence.

7. Disabling Conditions

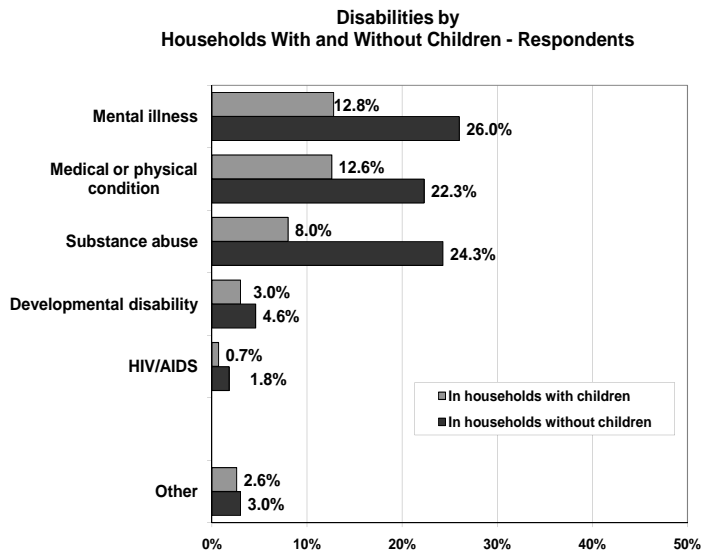
HUD requires that the point-in-time survey include questions asking respondents to identify if, at the time of the survey, they or another adult in their household had any of the following disabling conditions – serious mental illness, a serious medical condition, chronic substance abuse issues, a developmental disability, or HIV/AIDS. Nearly half (44.1%) of respondents reported that they or some adult in their household had at least one of the five disabling conditions, *not* including some “other” disabling condition. Of those with any disabling condition, two-thirds (67.5%) reported only one disabling condition, one-quarter (24.1%) reported two, and 8.4 percent reported that an adult in their household had three or more disabling conditions.

The largest group of respondents indicated that they or another adult in their household have a serious mental illness, followed by serious medical or physical conditions or a substance abuse problem. Many respondents noted a household member was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and/or are bipolar. A number of respondents indicated that an adult in their household had a serious sight or hearing condition, and others reported they had an autistic child or other loved one.

Table 11. Disabling Conditions -- Respondents

	Frequency	Percent
Mental illness	1,230	20.8
Medical or physical condition	1,092	18.5
Substance abuse	1,058	17.9
Developmental disability	234	4.0
HIV/AIDS	81	1.4
Other disability	166	2.8

Households without children were substantially more likely than households with children to report that an adult has a disabling condition: compare 63.9 percent with 46.9 percent. Households without children are more than twice as likely as households with children to report substance abuse or a serious mental illness.

Figure 3. Respondents - Disabling Conditions by Households With/Without Children

8. Military Service, Foster Care, Work

Respondents were asked, “Have you served in the U.S. Armed Forces or were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?” We also asked respondents if they had ever been in foster care, and if so, had they aged out of foster care in the past six months. Additionally, we asked if in the past month they or anyone else in their household had received any money from working.

Military Service

More than one in ten respondents (12.9%) served in the military. This is a slight increase from 11.7 percent in 2011. The average age of the 710 veterans is 51. The vast majority are male (89.8%), and nearly four-fifths are single (79.9%). Nearly one-third (30.7%) were staying in an emergency shelter, over one-quarter (26.2%) were in transitional housing, 11.9 percent were couch surfing. Fully 15.4 percent (109) were unsheltered on Monday night, compared to 11.3 percent in 2011. Ninety-two veterans (13.0%) were identified as chronically homeless. Not surprisingly, one in four (25.8%) veterans reported having a medical or physical condition, and more than one in five have a mental illness or a substance abuse problem (21.3% and 22.7% respectively). Fully 29.2 percent of these veterans are not collecting any government benefits.

Foster Care

Slightly more than one in ten respondents (11.2%) said they had ever been in foster care, and of these, 14.1 percent reported they had aged out of foster care at some time in the last six months.

Work

Nearly one-third (31.4%) of respondents reported they or anyone else in their household had worked in the past month. Those who reported working were relatively evenly divided between households with children (48.0%) and without children (52.0%).

9. Government Benefits

Respondents were asked to indicate all of the government benefits that anyone in their household received. The majority (60.4%) reported that their household received some type of government benefit. This was a somewhat higher percentage than last year (58.4%). Of those receiving benefits, half (50.1%) were receiving one benefit, one-third (32.1%) were receiving two benefits and 17.7 percent were receiving three or more government benefits. On average, households with children were receiving 2.0 government benefits, while households without children received 1.5 benefits. Of all respondents, the greatest proportion (43.6%) said they receive food stamps, and nearly a quarter (23.4%) said they get Medicaid/Medicare.

NATURE OF HOMELESSNESS

10. 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 household has experienced homelessness, regardless of how long each of the episodes lasted.

Table 12. Duration of Homelessness -- Respondents

	Frequency	Percent
Less than 1 month	637	11.7
More than 1 month but less than 1 year	2,296	42.2
1 to 3 years	1,280	23.5
More than 3 years	553	10.2
Don't know	70	1.3

* The table adds up to 88.9 percent. The missing percentage represents those respondents who reported they were not homeless in this question, but indicated homelessness in their answers to other questions.

Duration

Over half (53.9%) of respondents say their household has been homeless for less than one year, while one-third (33.7%) have been homeless for one year or more.

Episodes

The single largest group of respondents (44.7%) said their household was experiencing its first episode of homelessness in the last three years on the night of January 23. More than one in five (21.6%) had been homeless twice in the last three years, and nearly one in ten (9.6%) had been homeless five or more times.

Table 13. Episodes of Homelessness

	Frequency	Percent
Once in last three years	2,420	44.7
Twice in last three years	1,169	21.6
Three times in last three years	633	11.7
Four times in last three years	207	3.8
Five or more times in last three years	520	9.6

* The table adds up to 91.4 percent. The missing percentage represents those respondents who reported they were not homeless in this question, but indicated homelessness in their answers to other questions.

Tables 14 and 15 show the differences between households with and without children regarding episodes and duration of homelessness. Households without children are twice as likely to have been homeless five or more times in the last three years, and more than four times as likely to have been homeless for more than three years.

Table 14. Episodes of Homelessness by Households With and Without Children

	Episodes in Last Three Years	Frequency	Percent
Households Without Children	One	1,456	43.2
	Two	665	19.7
	Three	419	12.4
	Four	150	4.4
	Five or more	411	12.2
Households With Children	One	964	47.2
	Two	504	24.7
	Three	214	10.5
	Four	57	2.8
	Five or more	109	5.3

Table 15. Duration of Homelessness by Households With and Without Children

	Duration of Homelessness	Frequency	Percent
Households Without Children	Less than 1 month	395	11.6
	More than 1 month but less than 1 year	1,256	37.0
	1 to 3 years	835	24.6
	More than 3 years	491	14.5
	Don't know	44	1.3
Households With Children	Less than 1 month	242	11.8
	More than 1 month but less than 1 year	1,040	50.7
	1 to 3 years	445	21.7
	More than 3 years	62	3.0
	Don't know	26	1.3

11. Chronically Homeless Individuals

HUD Definitions and Criteria

Historically, HUD has defined chronic homelessness as:

- Single persons living alone, and
- Having a chronic debilitating condition, and
- Sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation and/or in an emergency homeless shelter, and
- Having been homeless continually for one year or more **OR** having four or more episodes of homelessness in three or more years.

HUD defines a disabling condition as “a diagnosable substance abuse disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability or chronic physical illness or disability.” A disabling condition limits an individual’s ability to work or perform activities of daily living.

As of 2011, HUD includes families in its definition of chronically homeless. This report includes the following descriptions of the chronically homeless:

- Number of chronically homeless single individuals
- Number of chronically homeless family units
- Number of chronically homeless -- **All Homeless** persons

Based on HUD criteria, unaccompanied homeless children under the age of 18 are not counted as chronically homeless individuals. In this study, no respondents under 18 were identified as chronically homeless.

Chronically Homeless Respondents

Nearly one in ten (8.9%) respondents – 523 individuals – meet HUD’s definition of chronically homeless. More than three-quarters (78.8%) of the chronically homeless, or 409 persons, are male, 108 (20.8%) are female and two people identify as transgender.

Chronically Homeless Single Individuals and Families

The great majority of chronically homeless respondents are single (437 persons or 83.6%). Families -- respondents who are not single individuals -- comprise 16.4 percent of chronically homeless respondents. A greater percentage of chronically homeless respondents are single this year than in 2011 (77.9%), and a smaller proportion are single parents with children this year than last: 6.1 percent versus 10.7 percent.

Table 16. Chronically Homeless by Family Type – Respondents

	Number	Percent
Single	437	83.6
Single parent with children under 18	32	6.1
Couple with children under 18	13	2.5
Couple without children	41	7.8
Total	466	100.0

Chronically Homeless by County

The great majority of chronically homeless respondents spent Monday night in Denver as reported in Table 17. Similarly, Denver reported the highest percentage of chronically homeless respondents as compared to its homeless population of respondents, followed by Boulder County. Table 18 describes the proportion of chronically homeless respondents based on each county’s homeless respondent population.

Table 17. Chronically Homeless Respondents by County

	Number	Percent
Adams	14	2.7
Arapahoe	14	2.7
Boulder	89	17.0
Broomfield	0	0
Denver	387	74.0
Douglas	2	.4
Jefferson	17	3.3
Total	523	100.0

Table 18. Proportion of Chronically Homeless Respondents Within Each County

	Number	Percent
Adams	14	1.6
Arapahoe	14	3.2
Boulder	89	9.9
Broomfield	0	0
Denver	387	13.0
Douglas	2	3.1
Jefferson	17	2.9

Chronically Homeless -- All Homeless

Of all homeless persons, 720 or 5.7 percent are chronically homeless.

Consistent with chronically homeless respondents, of all chronically homeless persons (respondents and their family members),

the largest group is single individuals and the small number of family members with them (66.6%). Persons in families comprise one-third (33.4%) of all chronically homeless persons.

Table 19. ALL Homeless – Chronically Homeless by Family Type

	All Homeless	Percent of All Homeless
Single	479 ⁷	66.6
Single parent with children under 18	100	13.8
Couple with children under 18	55	7.7
Couple without children	86	11.9
Total	720	100.0%

Of all chronically homeless persons, approximately two out of every five (41.9%) people were on the street or sleeping in a vehicle on Monday night; over half (58.1%) were staying in an emergency shelter.

12. Where All Homeless Persons Spent Monday Night

On January 23, 2012, all homeless people were predominantly staying temporarily with family or friends (32.3%), in transitional housing (24.2%) or in an emergency / domestic violence shelter (19.1%). A slightly higher proportion of all homeless persons were staying temporarily with family or friends this year than in 2011: compare 32.3% to 30.9%.

⁷ There are 437 chronically homeless persons whose family type is identified as 'single'; however, considering all homeless persons, there are 479 chronically homeless persons in this category. This is due to some single respondents having family members with them, such as a sibling or an adult respondent with a parent.

Table 20. Where Spent Monday Night – Respondents and All Homeless

	Respondents	All Homeless	Percent of All Homeless
Temporarily with family or friends	1,500	4,040	32.3
Transitional housing	1,330	3,029	24.2
Emergency shelter	1,381	2,179	17.4
On the street, under a bridge, abandoned bldg, car, etc	489	732	5.9
Hotel, motel paid for by self	297	623	5.0
Own apt or house	169	500	4.0
Hotel, motel paid for by others, vouchers	150	380	3.0
In a car or other vehicle	123	232	1.9
Domestic violence shelter	109	213	1.7
Substance abuse treatment program	117	183	1.5
Halfway house	51	84	0.7
Section 8 housing	26	77	0.6
Permanent supportive housing	27	68	0.5
Youth shelter	30	49	0.4
Hospital	22	39	0.3
Jail, prison	19	34	0.3
Somewhere else	13	38	0.3
Juvenile detention	1	1	<0.1
Total	5,854	12,499	100.0

Note that 46 respondents did not report where they spent Monday night.

13. Unsheltered

Of all homeless people, 7.6 percent (up from 5.1% in 2011) or 964 people were unsheltered (living on the street, under a bridge, in an abandoned or public building, in a car, camping out, etc.) on the night of January 23.⁸ Of those who were unsheltered, the majority were persons living in households without children (68.6%), while nearly one-third (31.4%) of all unsheltered persons had children with them. This represents a substantial increase from 2011: compare 31.4% to 22.8%. Of households with children, 3.7 percent were unsheltered, that is, 303 persons in families with children were on the street, in a car or camping out.

⁸ This percentage is *slightly* (0.2%) lower than the 7.8 percent of all homeless who were unsheltered in Table 19 above. The difference is because Table 19 is based only on people who actually reported where they spent Monday night. The 7.6 percent is based on all homeless, including those who did not indicate where they spent Monday night.

14. Newly Homeless

For the purpose of this study, people were considered “newly homeless” if they had been homeless for less than one year and this was their first episode of homelessness. On January 23, 2012, one in four (25.7%) of all homeless persons, or 3,239 people – up from 23.7 percent in 2011 – were considered newly homeless. Of the newly homeless, 666 were households with children, or of all homeless persons, fully 70.7 percent were living in households with children.

15. Counties / Cities

Table 21. County Where Persons Spent Monday Night – All Homeless

	Respondents	All Homeless	Percent of All Homeless
Adams County	864	2,500	19.8
Arapahoe County	432	1,090	8.6
Boulder County	901	1,970	15.6
Broomfield City & County	67	193	1.5
Denver City & County	2,988	5,271	41.8
Douglas County	65	146	1.2
Jefferson County	583	1,435	11.4

The largest proportion (41.8%) of all homeless persons spent Monday night in the City and County of Denver. More, however, spent Monday night in other Metro area counties (57.9%). Adams County showed the most dramatic increase in number of homeless persons as well as the proportion of homeless across the Metro counties. Further, although the proportion of homeless persons in Denver is nearly the same this year as last, the number of all homeless people increased from 4,166 to 5,271.

Counties

Counties differ in proportion of homeless households with and without children. The majority of households without children (56.5%) indicated that they spent Monday night in Denver. Conversely, the majority of households with children (66.3%) spent Monday night in counties other than Denver.

Table 22 shows the percentage of all homeless persons in households with children in each of the seven Metro counties. The majority of all homeless persons in every county are living in a household with children.

Table 22. Persons in Households With Children by County – All Homeless

	All Homeless	Percent of All Homeless
Adams County	2,115	84.6
Arapahoe County	729	66.9
Boulder County	1,205	61.2
Broomfield City & County	166	86.0
Denver City & County	2,733	51.9
Douglas County	108	73.9
Jefferson County	1,057	73.7

Cities

Table 23 shows the five most frequently reported cities where all homeless persons spent Monday night.

Table 23. City - All Homeless

	All Homeless	Percent of All Homeless
Denver	5,274	41.8
Aurora	1,051	8.3
Longmont	883	7.0
Commerce City	765	6.1
Lakewood	750	6.0

16. Last Permanent Residence

Respondents were asked to indicate the county where they last lived before they became homeless. The largest single percentage (37.4%) of respondents indicated their last permanent residence was in Denver City and County, although a combined 43.8 percent were from one of the Metro counties other than Denver. More than one in ten (13.5%) homeless respondents were from out of state, 3.6 percent were from a Colorado county other than one of the seven Metro counties in this study, 1.2 percent were from somewhere in Colorado but did not report the county and a very small number (0.4%) were from out of the country.

Table 24 compares the county where respondents spent the night of Monday, January 23 and the county where respondents had their last permanent residence. For example, out of 866 respondents who spent the night in Boulder County, 564 said that Boulder was their last permanent residence, 160 were from out of state and 46 were from another Colorado county.

Table 24. County of Last Permanent Residence by County Spent Monday Night

Last Permanent Residence	County Spent Monday Night							TOTAL
	Adams	Arapahoe	Boulder	Broomfield	Denver	Douglas	Jefferson	
Adams	576	24	16	6	139	2	43	806
Arapahoe	43	192	3	2	174	2	22	438
Boulder	6	0	564	8	27	1	2	608
Broomfield	3	0	7	32	6	0	0	48
Denver	75	99	41	2	1,785	1	109	2,112
Douglas	1	3	1	1	21	40	3	70
Jefferson	29	19	10	3	128	0	318	507
Other Colorado County	25	10	46	3	95	3	23	205
In Colo, County missing	16	7	7	0	34	0	2	66
Out of state	43	52	160	5	444	13	47	764
Out of country	1	1	11	0	11	0	0	24
	818	407	866	62	2,864	62	569	5,648

The number of respondents in the table reflects the number of respondents who provided information about *both* where they spent Monday night *and* the county where they last had a permanent residence.

Table 25 provides some characteristics of those respondents who spent Monday night in a location different from their last county of permanent residence.

Table 25. Monday Night in a Location other than County of Last Permanent Residence – Respondent Demographics⁹

COUNTY WHERE SPENT MONDAY NIGHT	Number of Respondents from a Different County	Respondents in Households With and Without Children				Newly Homeless Respondents		Chronically Homeless Respondents	
		Without Children		With Children					
Adams	242	122	50.4	120	49.6	70	28.9	8	3.3
Arapahoe	215	106	49.3	109	50.7	54	25.1	6	2.8
Boulder	302	228	75.5	74	24.5	80	26.5	43	14.2
Broomfield	30	13	43.3	17	56.7	7	23.3	0	0
Denver	1,079	764	70.8	315	29.2	297	27.5	132	12.2
Douglas	22	14	63.6	8	36.4	8	36.4	1	4.5
Jefferson	251	129	51.4	122	48.6	69	27.5	6	2.4

⁹ This table represents respondents who did not spend Monday night in their Metro area county of last permanent residence, including respondents from somewhere in Colorado with county missing, out of state and out of country.

The proportion of respondents with and without children who spent Monday night in a county different from their last permanent residence varies across counties. The majority of respondents who spent Monday night in Denver, Boulder and Douglas Counties and were from areas outside of their respective counties are living in households without children, while the proportion of respondents in households with and without children in the other four counties is split approximately evenly.

The key messages from Table 25 are:

- On average, approximately one-quarter to one-third of respondents who spent Monday night in a county different from their county of last permanent residence were newly homeless.
- Boulder and Denver Counties have the highest proportion of chronically homeless respondents who reported another location as their last permanent residence.

Summary

Thousands of people on any given night lack a safe and permanent home in Metro Denver. More homeless adults and children were counted this year than last: compare 12,605 to 11,377 in 2011. Given that the count is entirely dependent upon participation, we cannot say with complete certainty that homelessness is up in the seven county Metro area, but it likely is.

A greater number of surveys in 2012 were collected from respondents who later were identified as not homeless than in 2011. The respondents who were not homeless were at places such as employment services, food banks, emergency service providers and other human service agencies. This signals that an increasing number of people are at risk.

The Point-In-Time study shows that persons living in households with children continue to account for the majority of all homeless persons in Metro Denver. The number of homeless women is approaching that of homeless men, primarily because of the large number of single parents and couples with children. Minorities are significantly over-represented among the homeless population compared to the 2010 Metro Denver population.

The majority of respondents received some type of government benefit, and nearly one-third were working in the past month. Nearly half of respondents reported that they or some adult in their household had at least one disabling condition. The largest proportion indicated that a household member experienced a serious mental illness, with many citing post traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD) and/or bipolar disorder.

One-third of all homeless people spent Monday night temporarily with family and friends, one-quarter were in transitional housing and one-fifth in an emergency/domestic violence shelter. Persons in households with children were substantially more likely to stay with family or friends or in transitional housing, while persons in households without children were much more likely to have spent Monday night in an emergency shelter.

The proportion of people living on the street and in cars has increased from 2011. Nearly 1,000 children and adults were unsheltered on Monday night, January 23, 2012. Of all homeless people, 7.6 percent (up from 5.1% in 2011) or 964 people were unsheltered (living on the street, under a bridge, in an abandoned or public building, in a car, camping out, etc.). Further, the number of families who are unsheltered has substantially increased from 2011: compare 31.4% to 22.8%.

A greater number of all homeless persons were considered to be newly homeless this year than last. Of the newly homeless, fully 70.7 percent were living in households with children. Nearly

one in ten (8.9%) respondents are chronically homeless, of whom the great majority are single males.

The change in HUD's definition of chronically homeless is a step forward in accurately defining and reporting on persons experiencing chronic homelessness. Service providers have long been aware that families as well as single individuals face the catastrophic problems associated with being chronically homeless. Of all chronically homeless persons, more than one in five are in households with children.

Respondents most frequently report that their current spell of homelessness is due to unemployment, followed by relationship or family break-up and housing costs. A number of respondents volunteered that they are homeless because they have a criminal record, because of immigration issues, landlord problems or substandard/condemned housing. Additionally, this year, we directly asked respondents if they were homeless due to domestic violence. Fully 600 respondents reported that domestic violence was the reason for their homelessness. Most of this group spent Monday night in transitional housing, an emergency/domestic violence shelter or staying temporarily with family and friends. When considering all homeless persons, 67 adults and children were on the street and sleeping in cars because of domestic violence.

It is imperative that we find effective and permanent housing solutions for the large number of homeless individuals and families. The problem is not abating: in 2012, fully one quarter of all homeless persons are newly homeless, and nearly three-quarters of this group are living in households with children. Further, one in five of all chronically homeless are in families with children. Perhaps of even greater concern is the substantial increase in families with children who are living on the street, camping out or staying in cars. Nearly one-third of all unsheltered homeless are in families with children, up from less than one-quarter in 2011. These families need help now.

IV. METHODOLOGY

MDHI collected data in the last week in January, referencing the point-in-time as the night of Monday, January 23, 2012.

Survey Instrument

The survey instrument was developed by the Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI). The survey was revised based on input from MDHI Board members and on changes in HUD definitions.

Data Entry/Cleaning

A professional data entry firm entered the survey data. The researchers performed numerous procedures to identify data entry and logic errors. For example, the researchers ran frequencies on all variables to check for out of range / incorrect values; coded and cleaned all open-ended responses; did countless logic checks comparing “Family Type” and family member data; and performed many additional logic checks on all data points.

The researchers paid particular attention to identifying family type and households with and without children. Although evidence of children in a household often was not thoroughly or consistently documented, if there was solid evidence that the respondent had any children under 18 years of age, the household was identified as a household with children. Respondents age 17 or under were automatically classified as a household with children.

The number of homeless persons in a household could be counted if the respondent: 1) entered the number of people in the household, and 2) identified the family members who were with them on Monday night. In many cases, responses to these questions were inconsistent; handling these cases required extensive data examination and cleaning.

Criteria for Eliminating Not Homeless

The researchers established clearly defined, objective criteria to identify homelessness. Determining whether a respondent was homeless initially was determined by where he or she spent the PIT night. As needed, other questions were included in the decision process. Many surveys had inconsistent responses. In these situations, the researchers examined responses indicating housing status and developed additional criteria so they could sort respondents consistently.

Duplicates

The PIT survey was conducted over a 24-hour period in order to reduce the number of duplicate surveys. However, duplicates are inevitable. Several steps were taken to address this issue:

- Although agency staff, volunteers and homeless respondents were instructed to complete a survey for every homeless individual or family, only one survey was counted for each household.
- Agency staff and volunteers were trained regarding the critical nature of obtaining the identifying information at the top of the survey form.

A unique identification or pin number was created for each respondent. This identification number consisted of first initial, middle initial, first three letters of last name and month respondent was born, as well as age and gender. The researchers omitted duplicated based on this pin number.

New in 2012

We developed several more explicit rules for determining whether or not a respondent was homeless and if a household included children under 18. The rules reflected our best efforts to handle missing or inconsistent responses and to avoid undercounting or overcounting homeless respondents and families with children.

- If a survey had a lot of missing data and it was not possible to find consistent evidence of homelessness or not being homeless, and the only information indicated homelessness, we identified the respondent as homeless.
- If respondents said they were living with family and friends on Monday night and said the arrangement is permanent, but said that they are homeless now (q. 7) and also indicated they were homeless in response to other questions, we identified them as homeless.
- If respondents reported they were a single parent with children under 18 or part of a couple with children under 18 but only listed adult children in the table identifying household members, we changed their family status to indicate no children under 18. This was particularly common for respondents with children aged 18 to 22.
- If the respondent reported having children in the table identifying household members but did not state their children's ages, the researchers had to create a logical and consistent rule based on existing data. If the respondent was age 38 or younger, the respondent was counted as having a child under 18. For respondents age 39 or older, we assumed that the listed child was age 18 or older.

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Agency: _____ Program: _____

County: _____

Please complete the following information about yourself:

First initial Middle initial First 3 letters of last name Month you were born (Circle 1 response):

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

1. What is your age? _____
2. Are you...
1 Male 2 Female 3 Transgender
3. Have you served in the U.S. Armed Forces or were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a reservist?
1 Yes 2 No
4. Which category **best** describes your background? (Check only ONE response)
1 Asian/Pacific Islander
2 Black/African American
3 Hispanic/Latino(a)/Spanish
4 Native American/Alaska Native
5 White
6 Mixed race
7 Other → Describe: _____
5. Are you: (Check only ONE response)
1 A single person (including separated or divorced)
2 A single parent/person **with** children under 18 (including separated or divorced)
3 Part of a couple **with** children under 18
4 Part of a couple **without** children under 18
5 Other → Describe: _____
6. Have you ever been in foster care?
1 Yes 2 No 3 Don't know
- 6a. If yes, have you aged out of foster care in the past 6 months?
1 Yes 2 No 3 Don't know

7. ARE YOU HOMELESS NOW?
1 Yes 2 No 3 Don't know
8. Including now, how many times have you been homeless in the **last three years**? Check only ONE response.
1 One
2 Two
3 Three
4 Four
5 Five or more
6 I have not been homeless at any time in the last three years
9. How long have you been homeless **this time**? (Check only ONE response)
1 Less than one month
2 More than one month but less than 1 year
3 1 to 3 years
4 More than 3 years
5 Don't know
6 I am not homeless now
10. In the next 7 days, are you being evicted or thrown out of the place you are staying?
1 Yes 2 No 3 Don't know
- 10a. In the next 7 days, are you being released from an institution (hospital/treatment program, jail, halfway house, etc.) and have no place to stay?
1 Yes 2 No 3 Don't know

11. Where did you spend the night of Monday, January 23, 2012? (Check ONE response)

1 <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency shelter	9 <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent supportive housing
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic violence shelter	10 <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital
3 <input type="checkbox"/> On the street, under a bridge, abandoned building, public building, traveling on a bus, camping out, etc.	11 <input type="checkbox"/> Halfway house
4 <input type="checkbox"/> In a car or other vehicle (not including public transportation)	12 <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile detention
5 <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel/motel paid for by yourself while looking for housing	13 <input type="checkbox"/> Substance abuse treatment program
6 <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel/motel paid for by others/vouchers	14 <input type="checkbox"/> Jail /prison
7 <input type="checkbox"/> Youth shelter	15 <input type="checkbox"/> Transitional housing (time-limited)
8 <input type="checkbox"/> Temporarily with family or friends ↓ If with family or friends, do you have an arrangement to stay there permanently? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	16 <input type="checkbox"/> Section 8 housing
	17 <input type="checkbox"/> In your own apartment or house that you rent or own?
	18 <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhere else → <i>Where?</i>

12. Including yourself, how many household members who usually live with you were homeless on the night of Monday, January 23rd? Write number here: # _____

13. Complete the following table for yourself and those household members who usually live with you.

BE SURE TO INCLUDE AGES!

AGE		RELATIONSHIP TO YOU			
Person 1		YOURSELF - PERSON ANSWERING SURVEY			
Person 2		1 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/partner	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Son/daughter	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Grandchild	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Person 3		1 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/partner	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Son/daughter	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Grandchild	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Person 4		1 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/partner	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Son/daughter	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Grandchild	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Person 5		1 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/partner	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Son/daughter	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Grandchild	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Person 6		1 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/partner	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Son/daughter	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Grandchild	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other

14. Do you or any adult in your household (eighteen or older) have any of the following: (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- 1 Serious mental illness
- 2 Serious medical or physical condition
- 3 Alcohol or drug abuse
- 4 Developmental disability
- 5 HIV/AIDS
- 6 Other → Describe: _____

7 NONE of these

15. In what city/town did you spend the night of Monday, January 23, 2012?

(Fill in city/town name)

16. In what county did you spend the night of Monday, January 23, 2012?

(Fill in county name)

17. What was the last City, County and State you consider to be your permanent place to live?

City County State

17a. How long has it been since you lived there?

18. In the past month, have you or anyone else in your household received any money from working?

- 1 Yes 2 No

19. Are you or anyone else in your household receiving ANY of the following government benefits?

(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- 1 SSI/SSDI Supplemental Security Income/Soc. Sec. Disability
- 2 Social Security Retirement Benefits
- 3 TANF Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- 4 Food Stamps
- 5 VA Pension/Benefits
- 6 Medicaid/Medicare
- 7 Aid to the Needy Disabled (AND)
- 8 Any other government benefit
- 9 Receiving NO government benefits

20. Why did you become homeless this time?

(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- 1 I am NOT homeless now
- 2 Lost job/can't find work
- 3 Have work but wages are too low
- 4 Relationship or family break-up/death in family
- 5 Abuse or violence in your home
- 6 Runaway/throwaway/discharged from foster care
- 7 Sexual orientation
- 8 Discharged from jail, prison or halfway house
- 9 Medical problems including physical or developmental disability
- 10 Eviction/foreclosure
- 11 Housing costs too high
- 12 Utility costs too high
- 13 Alcohol or drug abuse problems
- 14 Mental illness/emotional problems
- 15 Other reason → Describe: _____

21. Are you homeless because of domestic violence?

- 1 Yes 2 No

