2009

HOMELESSNESS IN MILWAUKEE

Results of the January 28, 2009,
Point in Time Survey of Milwaukee's Homeless Citizens

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THANK YOU

The 2009 Point in Time Survey is a project of the Milwaukee Continuum of Care made possible by the participation of **41 organizations** including emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, meal programs, homeless services providers, street outreach, and churches. Staff in these organizations generously assisted the survey effort in many ways including conducting interviews themselves, providing space and opportunities for volunteers to conduct interviews, and lending their experience and advice to the overall survey effort. The Continuum appreciates the broad participation of homeless service providers across the community in this year's survey project.

The Continuum is grateful to the over **70 volunteer interviewers** who came out on January 28, 2009, to help document the challenges faced by the homeless citizens of Milwaukee. Volunteer interviewers had the daunting challenge of convincing people to answer 21 questions about the experience of homelessness. That they were so successful (919 completed interviews) makes this year's report an extremely valuable resource.

Most of all, the Continuum of Care thanks the **919 homeless people** who agreed to be interviewed and who agreed to share information about their situation in order to help the whole community better understand homelessness. We appreciate their patience with the survey process and their contribution to this report.

Thanks also to the **Continuum of Care Research Work Group** chaired by Steve Schultz and members Candice Amil, Hope House, Bob Waite, 2-1-1 @ IMPACT, Todd Clausen, Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee, and Scott Davis, Center for Urban Initiatives and Research at UW-M. Candice Amil, Coordinator of the Milwaukee HMIS System, was instrumental in insuring that the sheltered portion of the point in time count was correct and coordinated with ServicePoint data.

Scott Davis, **Center for Urban Initiatives and Research at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee**, managed the entire data entry and statistical analysis process. The Continuum is indebted to CUIR for this substantial contribution of time and expertise. The quality of the survey analysis is a direct result of CUIR's efforts.

Jessica Shriver, Coordinator
Milwaukee Continuum of Care
Point in Time Survey Coordination

Janice Wilberg, Ph.D., CoC Consultant
Wilberg Community Planning, LLC
Point in Time Survey Report Development

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INTRODUCTION

Every two years, the Milwaukee Continuum of Care conducts a Point in Time census of homeless people who are living on the street and other places not fit for human habitation as well as those who are living in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. This report provides information gathered as part of the 2009 Point in Time conducted January 28, 2009.

The 2009 Point in Time Survey counted a total of 1,660 adults and children who were homeless on the night of January 28, 2009, including 965 adults and 349 children counted directly by the Point in Time and an additional 346 adults and children reported by the Rescue Mission. Of the 965 adults counted by the Point in Time, 919 were directly interviewed by Point in Time volunteers. This report presents the results of these interviews.

METHODOLOGY

Both sheltered and unsheltered homeless adults were interviewed using a 21-question survey instrument which was an enhanced version of the 2007 survey. This year's survey attempted to gather more information about education, employment, and access to benefits, and also included an open-ended question asking respondents their views on how to end homelessness in Milwaukee. Unsheltered persons were interviewed at various known locations including meal programs, drop in centers, libraries, and churches as well as on the street or in encampments in the area. Sheltered persons were interviewed at the emergency shelter or transitional housing program where they were currently residing. A copy of the survey instrument is included in this report.

DATA ANALYSIS

Completed surveys were scanned by the Center for Urban Initiatives and Research at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and data analysis was conducted under the direction of Scott Davis, CUIR Researcher, in collaboration with Continuum of Care consultant Janice Wilberg.

REPORT CONTENTS

This report includes five sections:

- 2009 Results and Comparison to 2007
- At a Glance: Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless Adults
- At a Glance: Female and Male Homeless Adults
- At a Glance: Disabled and Non-Disabled Homeless Adults
- At a Glance: Veterans and Non-Veterans

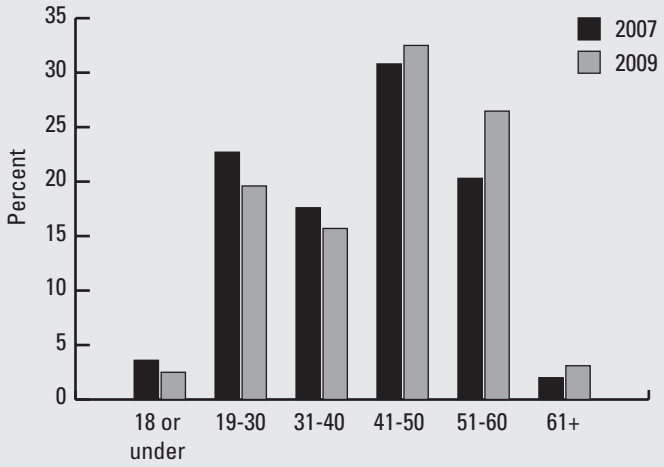
The report also includes a sampling of homeless persons' response to the question: What is the one thing that could end homelessness in Milwaukee?

Demographic Characteristics of Homeless Adults

AGE

Age	Number	Percent
18 years or under	23	2.5%
19 – 30 years	179	19.6%
31 – 40 years	144	15.7%
41 – 50 years	297	32.5%
51 – 60 years	244	26.7%
61 years or over	28	3.1%
Total	915[1]	100.0%

This year: Homeless adults tended to be middle-aged with 59.2% falling in the 41-60 age range. Twice as many homeless adults fell in the 41-50 age range as in the 31-40 range (297 or 32.5% ages 41-50 compared to 144 or 15.7% ages 31-40). The number of homeless adults drops dramatically at age 61, with only 3.1% falling in this category.



Compared to 2007: Homeless people in the 2009 Point in Time Survey tended to be older than those counted in 2007. Look specifically at the percentage decreases in the younger age ranges (18 and under, 19-30, and 31-40) and the increases in the older age ranges (41-50, 51-60, and 61 and over).

GENDER

Gender	#	%
Male	561	61.1%
Female	357	38.9%
Total	918	100.0%

This year: About 6 out of every 10 homeless persons interviewed for the Point in Time Survey were men.

Compared to 2007: The percentage of males was higher in 2009 (61.1%) than in 2007 (55.0%). This is a fairly dramatic increase in a two-year period.

[1] A total of 919 homeless people were interviewed, but not all respondents answered every question.

RACE AND ETHNIC ORIGIN

Age Range	#	%
African American	553	60.9%
Asian	2	.2%
Native American	11	1.2%
Mixed Race	40	4.4%
Caucasian	260	28.6%
Hispanic/Latino	58	6.5%
Other	42	4.6%
Total	908	100.0%

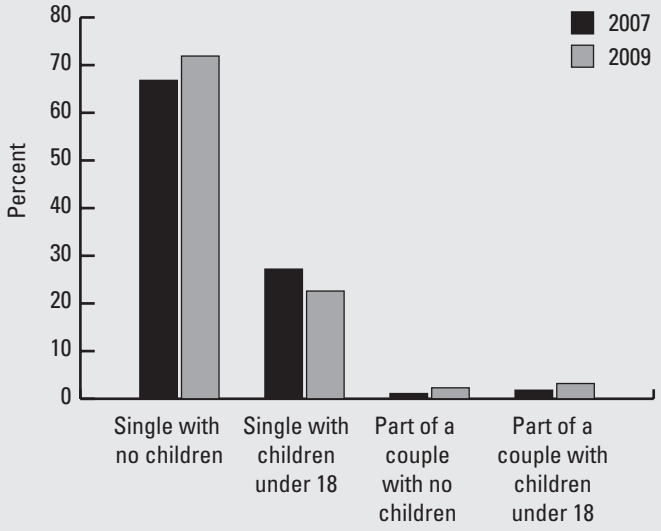
This year: The majority of homeless adults was African American (60.9%); the next largest group was Caucasian (28.6%) followed by Other and Mixed Race, which together represent 9.0% of the total. A small percentage of those interviewed were Hispanic/Latino (6.5%). It is important to note that Hispanic/Latino individuals can be of any race so this percentage is separate from the percentages reported for the racial categories.

Compared to 2007: There was virtually no change in the race and ethnic origin distribution compared to 2007.

HOUSEHOLD STATUS/FAMILY COMPOSITION

Gender	#	%
Single with *no* children	658	71.9%
Single with children under 18	207	22.6%
Part of a couple with *no* children	21	2.3%
Part of a couple with children under 18	29	3.2%
Total	915	100.%

This year: Most homeless adults were childless – 74.2% were either single with no children or part of a couple with no children. About a quarter of homeless adults were parents – 25.8%.



Compared to 2007: There was a higher proportion of childless adults in the 2009 homeless group when compared to 2007, and a lower proportion of adults with children under the age of 18. Also note the increased percentage of couples counted in 2009 as compared to 2007.

HOMELESS CHILDREN

Family size of homeless families	#	%
1 child	63	36.8%
2 children	65	38.0%
3 children	27	15.8%
4 children	9	5.3%
5 children	4	2.3%
6 children	2	1.2%
7 children	1	.6%
Total	171	100.0%

The survey asked the question," How many children under 18 spent the night with you last night who also do not have a permanent place to live?" This question was not asked in 2007.

A total of 171 homeless adults reported having their children under the age of 18 stay with them the previous night and not having a place to live.

This year: The survey results indicate that the vast majority (90.6%) of homeless families are comprised of 3 or fewer children. Fewer than 1 in 10 homeless families (9.4%) were large families, i.e. 4 or more children.

VETERAN STATUS

Veteran Status	#	%
Veteran	163	17.8%
Not a veteran	753	82.2%
Total	916	100.0%

This year: Nearly 1 in 5 homeless adults identified him or herself as a veteran.

Compared to 2007: The percentage of homeless adults who were veterans was virtually unchanged from 2007 (17.1%) to 2009 (17.8%).

DISCHARGE HISTORY

Respondents were asked the question: In the past 6 months, have you been discharged from any of the following places WITHOUT a place to live?

The problem of institutions discharging people to shelter or to the streets has been recognized across the U.S.; each year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development asks the Milwaukee Continuum of Care to document what is being done to prevent inappropriate discharges from hospitals, mental health facilities, jails, prisons, and foster care.

Discharge Facility	#	%
Hospital/health care facility	106	11.5%
Mental health care facility	52	5.7%
Jail/House of Correction	68	7.4%
Prison	22	2.4%
Foster Care or Group Home	11	1.2%

This year: This is a new question that was added in 2009 so we are not able to compare results to 2007. In 2007, we tried to quantify the problem of institutional discharges to shelter or the street by only asking the question, "Where did you spend last night?" This year, the survey planning team focused the question on five key institutions and lengthened the period of time (from 1 night to anytime during the past 6 months). The key finding is that there were 259 instances in which people reported being discharged from an institution, e.g. hospital, prison, without a place to stay. If this was an unduplicated count (and we cannot assure that it is since respondents could report more than one instance), it would represent 28.2% of the total number of homeless adults surveyed.

REASONS FOR CURRENT EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS

Respondents were asked the question: "Why did you become homeless this time?" and were allowed to choose all of the answers that applied to their situation. (There were about 1.5 answers for each person interviewed.)

Reason	2009 #	2009 %	2007 %
Employment-related:			
Lost job/cannot find work	355	38.6%	27.7%
Wages too low	93	10.1%	11.9%
Family/relationship-related:			
Family break-up	135	14.7%	12.3%
Abuse/violence	99	10.8%	7.0%
Asked to leave place where I was staying	120	13.1%	12.6%
Runaway/thrown out	36	3.9%	1.7%
Institution-related[1]:			
Foster care/group home discharge	4	.4%	0%
Jail/prison discharge	78	8.5%	7.4%
Housing-related:			
Eviction[2]	120	13.1%	14.3%
Foreclosure	34	3.7%	
High housing costs	99	10.8%	5.2%
High utility costs	61	6.6%	3.1%
Health/mental health-related:			
Medical problems	93	10.1%	6.4%
Mental illness	115	12.5%	8.0%
Substance abuse problems	174	18.9%	13.3%
Lost benefits	35	3.8%	2.2%
Other:			
Other	63	6.9%	9.7%

[1] Hospital discharge was inadvertently omitted from the 2009 survey.
[2] Eviction and foreclosure were merged in the 2007 survey.
[3] Don't know/not sure was not included as a response category in 2007.

This year: The #1 most frequently stated reason for homelessness was "lost job/cannot find work" which was indicated by 38.6% (or 355) of the 919 homeless adults interviewed. When combined with "wages too low," employment-related reasons represented nearly half (48.7%) of the reasons mentioned for homelessness. Health/mental health-related reasons represented 45.3% of reasons cited; family/relationship-oriented reasons represented 42.5%; housing-related represented 34.2%; and institution-related represented 8.9%.

Compared to 2007: Interestingly, all but 2 of the reasons on the list showed an increased percentage of respondents selecting them as the reason for their current episode of homelessness. The only exceptions were "wages too low" and "other."

CITY OF RESIDENCE – LAST YEAR

City	2009 #	2009 %	2007 %
Milwaukee	767	83.8%	85.9%
Other city/place in Wisconsin	72	7.9%	4.8%
Other city/place in another state	75	8.2%	9.3%
Outside of US	1	.1%	0%

This year: The great majority (83.8%) of homeless people had lived in Milwaukee this time last year; however, nearly one out of four (16.2%) had lived either somewhere else in Wisconsin or in another state/country.

Compared to 2007: There are two interesting changes. First, in 2009, there was a slightly higher percentage of people who had lived somewhere outside of Milwaukee compared to 2007 (16.1% in 2009 compared to 14.1% in 2007). Second, there were many fewer 'missing' respondents, i.e. people who didn't answer this question, in 2009 (only 4) compared to 2007 (25).

LENGTH OF CURRENT EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS

Length of current episode of homelessness	2009 #	2009 %	2007 %
Less than 1 month	83	9.5%	19.6%
1 to 3 months[1]	155	17.8%	
4 to 6 months	133	15.3%	44.2%
Longer than 6 months but less than 1 year	162	18.6%	
1 to 3 years	207	23.8%	24.8%
More than 3 years	112	12.9%	8.9%
Not sure/don't know	19	2.3%	2.6%
Total	871	100.0%	100.0%

This year: About 1 out of homeless adults had been homeless for less than a month; that means that 9 out of 10 were homeless for more than a month. About half (51.7%) had been homeless for one to 12 months. Over a third (39.0%) had been homeless for a year or more. In 2009, 34.0% of surveyed homeless adults were chronically homeless according to the HUD definition (person with a disability who has been homeless for one year or more or homeless 4 or more times in the past three years). This is significantly higher than 2007 when the percentage of chronically homeless was 28.4%.

Compared to 2007: In 2007, 2 out of 10 homeless adults surveyed were 'short-timers' – people who had been homeless for less than a month compared to just 1 out of 10 in 2009. There were fewer 'short-timers' in 2009 than in 2007 – in other words, people tended to report longer episodes of homelessness. People were more likely in 2009 than in 2007 to have experienced a period of homelessness ranging from one to 12 months, 51.7% of respondents (2009) compared to 44.2% (2007). Also of note is the increased percentage of people reporting long periods of homelessness (more than 3 years), 12.9% of respondents (2009) compared to 8.9% (2007).

FREQUENCY OF HOMELESSNESS

Times homeless in past 3 years	2009 #	2009 %	2007 %
1 time	410	47.5%	42.5%
2 times	206	23.8%	26.4%
3 times	87	10.1%	11.0%
4 times	39	4.5%	5.7%
5 or more times	122	14.1%	14.4%
Total	864	100.0%	100.0%

This year: About half of those surveyed (52.5%) had been homeless multiple times in the past three years. One out of 5 (18.6%) had been homeless four or more times during this period.

Compared to 2007: 2009 shows an increased percentage of people who have been homeless just one time (47.5% in 2009 compared to 42.5% in 2007). The percentage of people experiencing multiple episodes of homelessness decreased during this period from 57.5% in 2007 to 52.5% in 2009.

[1] In 2007, the categories 1 to 3 months, 4 to 6 months, and longer than 6 months but less than a year were combined into one category of more than 1 month but less than a year.

EDUCATIONAL LEVEL

Educational level attained	#	%
Less than high school diploma	253	27.8%
High school diploma	266	29.3%
GED	126	13.9%
Some college, technical or trade school	206	22.7%
Associate degree	23	2.5%
Apprenticeship program	3	.3%
Bachelor degree or higher	32	3.5%
Total	909	100.0%

This year: Three out of four respondents (72.2%) had attained a high school diploma or higher level of education. Comparable data for 2007 is not available because this question was not included on that year's survey.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Employment status	#	%
Employed part time	110	12.0%
Employed full time	83	9.1%
Unemployed	722	78.9%
Total	915	100.0%

This year: Only about one out of five (21.1%) homeless adults was employed either full or part time. Comparable data for 2007 is not available because this question was not included on that year's survey. Homeless people with a high school diploma or GED or college or training after high school were significantly more likely to be employed either part time or full time than those without that credential. While 14.7% of homeless people without a high school diploma were employed, 23.3% of those with a high school diploma or GED and 24.7% of those with post high school-college or training had full or part time jobs.

Duration of unemployment: Unemployment tended to be of long duration. Of those unemployed, 70.5% had been without a job for six months or more. The length of unemployment was strongly correlated with the length of homelessness; in other words, homelessness and unemployment seemed to mirror each other.

Willing and able to work: Unemployed respondents were asked if they were willing and able to work. Of those who were unemployed, 67.9% indicated that they would take a job if offered; 32.1% said that they were not willing and able to work. Among disabled persons, 60.3% were willing and able to work compared to 91.4% of non-disabled persons.

DISABILITIES/SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Disability Status

Homeless adults were asked this question: "Do you think or have you been told that you have any of the following?" Respondents could select more than one disability/condition.

Disability/condition	2009 #	2009 %	2007 %
Mental illness	378	41.1%	33.3%
Physical disability	296	32.2%	16.9%
Alcohol abuse	250	27.2%	29.8%
Drug abuse	231	25.1%	30.3%
Developmental disability/learning disability	94	10.2%	3.6%
HIV/AIDS	14	1.5%	.4%
Victim of domestic violence	115	12.5%	6.4%
Other	10	1.1%	6.4%

This year: Four out of ten homeless adults (41.1%) reported thinking or having been told that they had mental illness. This is the most prevalent disability reported, followed by physical disabilities, and then alcohol and drug abuse. In 2009, 73.7% of homeless adults were identified as disabled; this meant that they had one of the disabling conditions listed in this section with the exception of domestic violence, or they were receiving SSI/SSDI. Respondents averaged 1.5 disabilities each.

Compared to 2007: The most striking changes have to do with the incidence of mental illness (increasing from 33.3% in 2007 to 41.1% in 2009), drug abuse (decreasing from 30.3% in 2007 to 25.1% in 2009), and developmental disability/learning disability (increasing from 3.6% in 2007 to 10.2% in 2009).

GOVERNMENT BENEFITS UTILIZATION

Government Benefits Utilization

Homeless adults were asked the following question: "Are you or any of your children with you now receiving any of the following government benefits?" Respondents could select more than one answer.

Government Benefit	2009 #	2009 %	2007 %
Social Security	42	4.6%	6.2%
SSI/SSDI	175	19.0%	14.6%
Medicaid/Medicare	174	18.9%	16.8%
GAMP/BadgerCare Plus	2203	22.1%	15.8%
TANF/W-2	84	9.1%	9.2%
Food Stamps	416	45.3%	34.6%
Veterans Benefits/Pension	15	1.6%	2.1%
Veterans Health Care	57	6.2%	5.0%
Unemployment Benefits	27	2.9%	1.4%
Other	33	3.6%	4.8%
No benefits of any kind	172	18.7%	24.4%

This year: The most frequently used government benefit was Food Stamps, followed by GAMP/BadgerCare Plus, SSI/SSDI, and Medicaid/Medicare.

Compared to 2007: Several areas are worth mentioning: SSI/SSDI increase from 14.6% in 2007 to 19.0% in 2009; GAMP/BadgerCare Plus increase from 15.8% to 22.1%; and the increase in Food Stamps from 34.6% to 45.3%, and the decrease in the percentage of people who received no benefits.

GETTING HELP

Homeless adults were asked this question: "In the past month, what services did you or anyone in your family with you now need but could not get?' Respondents could select more than one answer.

Type of help	2009 #	2009 %	2007 %
Finding work/employment assistance	213	23.2%	20.7%
Finding permanent housing	246	26.8%	17.1%
Emergency shelter	59	6.4%	6.3%
Food	101	11.0%	8.0%
Rent/utility assistance	112	12.2%	9.1%
Transportation/bus passes	154	16.8%	8.4%
Medical care	87	9.5%	11.2%
Dental care	133	14.5%	9.2%
Mental health care	56	6.1%	2.9%
Alcohol or drug abuse treatment	37	4.0%	2.9%
Getting a Wisconsin ID or driver's license	94	10.2%	4.1%
Getting government benefits	80	8.7%	5.9%
Child care	20	2.2%	2.4%
Other service	19	2.1%	3.1%
No service gaps identified	326	35.5%	41.2%

This year: Homeless adults identified finding permanent housing as the most prevalent unmet need (26.8%), followed by employment help (23.2%), transportation/bus passes (16.8%), and dental care (14.5%).

Compared to 2007: Respondents were more likely to identify service gaps in 2009 than they were in 2007. In 2009, 64.5% of homeless adults identified at least one service gap in the past month compared to 58.8% in 2007. The biggest increases were in the area of finding permanent housing, transportation, dental care, getting a Wisconsin ID or driver's license, and mental health care.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographic Indicator	Sheltered #	Sheltered %	Unsheltered #	Unsheltered %
Age*				
30 or younger	182	24.4%	20	11.8%
31-40 years	123	16.5%	21	12.4%
41-50 years	240	32.2%	57	33.5%
51-60 years	182	24.4%	62	36.5%
61 and over	18	2.4%	10	5.9%
Total	745	81.4%	170	18.6%
Gender*				
Female	338	45.3%	19	11.0%
Male	408	54.7%	153	89.0%
Veteran				
Yes	141	18.9%	22	12.9%
No	604	81.1%	149	87.1%
Ethnic Origin*				
African American	464	62.9%	89	52.4%
Asian	2	.3%	0	0%
Native American/Alaska Native	7	.9%	4	2.4%
Mixed Race	33	4.5%	7	4.1%
Caucasian/White	207	28.0%	53	31.2%
Other	25	3.4%	17	10.0%
Hispanic Origin[1]*	40	5.4%	18	11.1%
Household Composition				
Single Person/No Children	517	69.6%	141	82.0%
Single Parent with Children under 18	191	25.7%	16	9.3%
Part of a Couple without Children under 18	14	1.9%	7	4.1%
Part of a Couple with Children under 18	21	2.8%	8	4.7%

[1] Consistent with the definition of the U.S. Census Bureau, Hispanic individuals can be of any race.

* A chi-square test was performed for associations between variables. Items with an asterisk (*) had a statistically significant difference found at the $p<0.05$ level.

Analysis: ***The sheltered population tends to be significantly younger*** than the unsheltered population. Almost one quarter (24.4%) of the sheltered adults were under age 30 compared to just 11.8% of unsheltered adults. The age differential is most evident in the 51-60 age range with 24.4% of sheltered adults in this age range compared to 36.5% of unsheltered adults. In both groups, the number of older adults, ages 61 and over, drops dramatically, although here again, unsheltered adults were twice as likely as older adults. ***The unsheltered population is almost entirely male*** (89.0%) with only 11.0% female. The gender split among sheltered adult is more evenly split with 45.3% female and 54.7% male. ***Veterans comprised a higher percentage of sheltered homeless*** (18.9%) compared to unsheltered (12.9%) homeless. ***African American individuals comprise the majority in both sheltered and unsheltered groups;*** however, their representation is greater in the sheltered population (62.9%) compared to unsheltered (52.4%). The representation of persons of Hispanic origin in the unsheltered population (11.1%) is twice than of sheltered (5.4%). ***Unsheltered homeless persons were significantly more likely to be single with no children*** (82.0%) compared to sheltered persons (69.6%). Conversely, single parents with children under 18 were more likely to be sheltered (25.7%) than unsheltered (9.3%). There was a greater percentage of couples – both with and without children – among the unsheltered population (8.8%) compared to sheltered (4.7%).

EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS

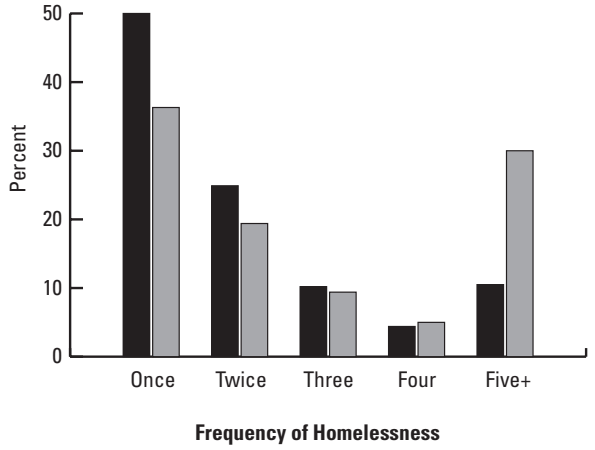
Reasons for Homelessness	Sheltered #	Sheltered %	Unsheltered #	Unsheltered %
Lost job/can't find work*	271	36.3%	84	48.8%
Wages too low	80	10.7%	13	7.6%
Family breakup*	118	15.8%	17	9.9%
Abuse/violence*	95	12.7%	4	2.3%
Asked to leave where staying*	109	14.6%	11	6.4%
Runaway/thrown out of house*	34	4.6%	2	1.2%
Discharged from foster care or group home	3	.4%	1	.6%
Medical problems*	86	11.5%	7	4.1%
Discharged from jail or prison	63	8.4%	15	8.7%
Eviction*	111	14.9%	9	5.2%
Foreclosure*	32	4.3%	2	1.2%
High housing costs	85	11.4%	14	8.1%
High utility costs	58	7.8%	3	1.7%
Substance abuse problems*	152	20.3%	22	12.8%
Lost benefits	32	4.3%	3	1.7%
Mental illness*	108	14.5%	7	4.1%
Other	47	6.3%	16	9.3%
Discharge History (discharged in last 6 months with no where to go?)				
Hospital/health care facility*	73	9.8%	33	19.2%
Mental health facility	41	5.5%	11	6.4%
Jail/House of Correction*	43	5.8%	25	14.5%
Prison	15	2.0%	7	4.1%
Foster care or group home	9	1.2%	2	1.2%
Disabilities/Special circumstance				
Mental illness*	336	45.0%	42	24.4%
Medical condition/physical disability	251	33.6%	45	26.2%
Alcohol abuse	212	28.4%	38	22.1%
Drug abuse*	202	27.0%	29	16.9%
Developmental disability/learning disability	80	10.7%	14	8.1%
HIV/AIDS	12	1.6%	2	1.2%
Domestic violence*	103	13.8%	12	7.0%

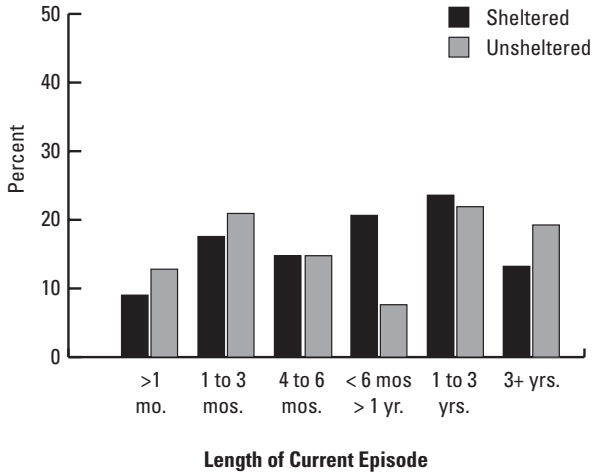
Analysis: ***Unsheltered adults were significantly more likely than sheltered adults to report "lost job/can't find work" as the reason for their homelessness*** (48.8% vs. 36.3%) but they were less likely to cite any other reason, such as asked to leave, medical problems, eviction, and substance abuse problems among others. This may mean that unsheltered adults were less willing to share this information with interviewers or there may be some other cause. Unsheltered adults were twice as likely to indicate "Other" and "Not sure/don't know" (12.8% vs. 7.5%). With regard to disabilities and other special circumstances, unsheltered adults were less likely than sheltered adults to indicate any of the several disability categories. Sheltered adults indicated a significantly higher incidence of mental illness, drug abuse and domestic violence.

FREQUENCY AND LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS

Frequency & Length of Homelessness	Sheltered #	Sheltered %	Unsheltered #	Unsheltered %
Frequency of Homelessness*				
Once	352	50.0%	58	36.3%
Twice	175	24.9%	31	19.4%
Three	72	10.2%	15	9.4%
Four	31	4.4%	8	5.0%
Five or more	74	10.5%	48	30.0%
Length of Current Episode*				
Less than 1 month	64	9.0%	19	11.7%
1 to 3 months	121	17.1%	34	20.9%
4 to 6 months	108	15.3%	25	15.3%
Longer than 6 months but less than 1 year	149	21.0%	13	8.0%
1 to 3 years	170	24.0%	37	22.7%
More than 3 years	81	11.4%	31	19.0%

Analysis: The frequency of homelessness is much different for sheltered and unsheltered adults. Nearly 75.0% of sheltered adults had been homeless 1 to 2 times compared to 55.7% of unsheltered adults. At the other end of the spectrum, *just 10.5% of sheltered adults had been homeless 5 or more times compared to 30.0% of unsheltered adults.* The differences are not so striking relative to the length of the current episode of homelessness. However, the greatest difference is with regard to mid-length homelessness, i.e. longer than 6 months but less than 1 year.

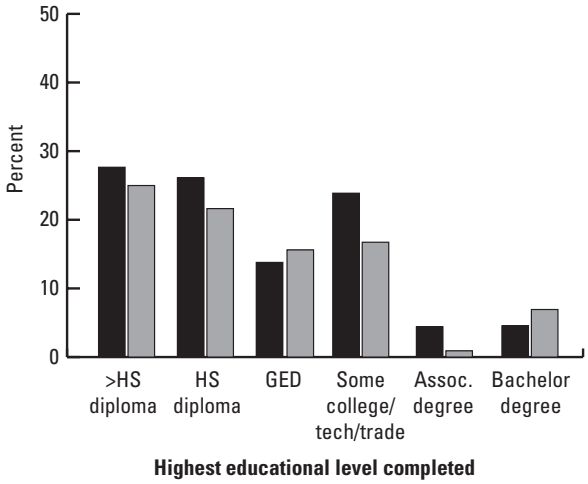


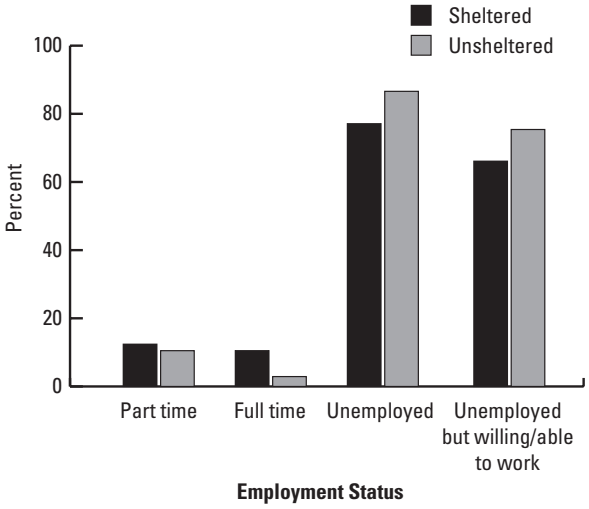


EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Education and Employment	Sheltered #	Sheltered %	Unsheltered #	Unsheltered %
Highest educational level completed				
Less than high school diploma	207	28.1%	46	26.7%
High school diploma	205	27.8%	61	22.9%
GED	100	13.6%	26	15.1%
Some college, tech or trade school	180	24.4%	29	16.9%
Associate degree	22	3.0%	1	.6%
Bachelor degree or higher	23	3.1%	9	5.2%
Employment status*				
Part time employment	92	12.4%	18	10.5%
Full time employment	78	10.5%	5	2.9%
Unemployed	573	77.1%	149	86.6%
Unemployed but willing and able to work	373	66.1%	104	75.4%

Analysis: There were not dramatic differences between sheltered and unsheltered adults relative to educational levels except in the area of "some college, tech or trade school/apprenticeship" and "associate degrees" where unsheltered adults reported significantly lower rates. Unsheltered adults were significantly more likely than sheltered adults to be either unemployed or employed part-time (97.1% vs. 89.5%). Unemployed unsheltered adults were significantly more likely to indicate that they were willing and able to work.





BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE

Benefits and Assistance	Sheltered #	Sheltered %	Unsheltered #	Unsheltered %
Current Government Benefits				
Social Security	30	4.0%	12	7.0%
SSI/SSDI*	151	20.2%	24	14.0%
Medicaid/Medicare*	160	21.4%	14	8.1%
GAMP/BadgerCare Plus*	189	25.3%	14	8.1%
BadgerCare*	100	13.4%	12	7.0%
TANF/W-2*	83	11.1%	1	.6%
Food Stamps*	372	49.8%	44	25.6%
Veterans Benefits/Pension	14	1.9%	1	.6%
Veterans Health Care*	54	7.2%	3	1.7%
Unemployment Benefits	20	2.7%	7	4.1%
Other	31	4.1%	2	1.2%
None	115	15.4%	57	33.1%
Service Gaps				
Help finding work*	154	20.6%	59	34.3%
Help finding permanent housing*	174	23.3%	72	41.9%
Emergency shelter*	24	3.2%	35	20.3%
Food*	61	8.2%	40	23.3%
Rent/Utility Assistance*	80	10.7%	32	18.6%
Transportation/Bus passes*	109	14.6%	45	26.2%
Medical care	64	8.6%	23	13.4%
Dental care*	99	13.3%	34	19.8%
Mental health care/treatment*	39	5.2%	17	9.9%
Substance abuse treatment*	25	3.3%	12	7.0%
Help getting Wisconsin ID or driver's license*	67	9.0%	27	15.7%
Help getting government benefits*	54	7.2%	26	15.1%
Childcare*	20	2.7%	0	0%
Other	16	2.1%	3	1.7%
No service gaps identified*	299	40.0%	27	15.7%

Analysis: ***Unsheltered adults had significantly lower rates of utilization*** of SSI/SSDI, Medicaid/Medicare, GAMP/BadgerCare Plus, BadgerCare, TANF/W-2, Food Stamps, and Veterans Health Care than sheltered adults. At the same time, unsheltered adults expressed higher levels of need for assistance in key areas including help finding work, help finding permanent housing, emergency shelter, food, rent/utility assistance, transportation, dental care, mental health and substance abuse treatment, and help getting driver's licenses. Most revealingly, ***only 15.7% of unsheltered adults said they had no service gaps compared to 40.0% of sheltered adults.***

DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographic Indicator	Female #	Female %	Male #	Male %
Age*				
30 or younger	140	39.3%	62	11.1%
31-40 years	71	19.9%	73	13.1%
41-50 years	74	20.8%	222	39.8%
51-60 years	63	17.7%	181	32.4%
61 and over	8	2.2%	20	3.6%
Gender				
Female	356	38.9%		
Male			558	61.1%
Veteran*				
Yes	9	2.5%	153	27.3%
No	346	97.5%	407	72.7%
Ethnic Origin*				
African American	236	66.7%	317	57.3%
Asian	1	.3%	1	.2%
Native American/Alaska Native	4	1.1%	7	1.3%
Mixed Race	21	5.9%	19	3.4%
Caucasian/White	79	22.3%	181	32.7%
Other				
Hispanic Origin[1]	19	5.4%	39	7.2%
Household Composition*				
Single Person/No Children	175	49.2%	482	86.4%
Single Parent with Children under 18	167	46.9%	40	7.2%
Part of a Couple without Children under 18	6	1.7%	15	2.7%
Part of a Couple with Children under 18	8	2.2%	21	3.8%
Sheltered/Unsheltered*				
Sheltered	338	94.7%	408	72.7%
Unsheltered	19	5.3%	153	27.3%

[1] Consistent with the definition of the U.S. Census Bureau, Hispanic individuals can be of any race.

Analysis: Females comprised 38.9% of the homeless adults surveyed; males comprised 61.1%. Homeless women generally tended to be younger and there were significant gender differences in the ***proportion of adults ages 41 and over*** (40.7% of homeless females compared to 75.8% of homeless males). Gender differences were also evident with regard to ethnic origin; here, ***women were more likely African American*** (66.7% female vs. 57.3% male) and less likely Caucasian/White (22.3% female vs. 32.7% male). Not surprisingly, there were significant gender differences with respect to ***household composition*** with women significantly more like to be single parents with children under 18 while men were twice as likely to be single without children. Last, women were much more likely to be sheltered (94.7% female vs. 72.7% male).

EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS

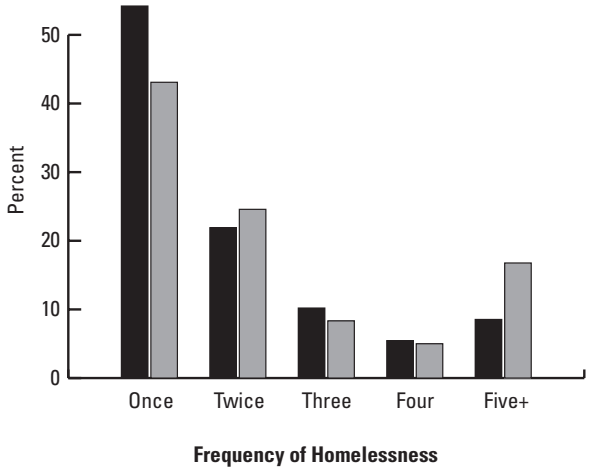
Reasons for Homelessness	Female #	Female %	Male #	Male %
Lost job/can't find work*	108	30.3%	246	43.9%
Wages too low*	48	13.4%	45	8.9%
Family breakup*	70	19.6%	65	11.6%
Abuse/violence*	73	20.4%	26	4.6%
Asked to leave where staying*	65	18.2%	55	9.8%
Runaway/thrown out of house	19	5.3%	17	3.0%
Discharged from foster care or group home	3	.8%	1	.2%
Medical problems	36	10.1%	56	10.0%
Discharged from jail or prison*	15	4.2%	63	11.2%
Eviction*	67	18.8%	53	9.4%
Foreclosure	11	3.1%	23	4.1%
High housing costs*	58	16.2%	40	7.1%
High utility costs*	43	12.0%	18	3.2%
Substance abuse problems*	38	10.6%	135	24.1%
Lost benefits*	23	6.4%	12	2.1%
Mental illness	45	12.6%	69	12.3%
Other	27	7.6%	36	6.4%
Discharge History (discharged in last 6 months with nowhere to go?)				
Hospital/health care facility*	27	7.6%	78	13.9%
Mental health facility	21	5.9%	31	5.5%
Jail/House of Correction*	10	2.8%	58	10.3%
Prison	6	1.7%	16	2.9%
Foster care or group home	3	.8%	8	1.4%
Disabilities/Special circumstance				
Mental illness	151	42.3%	226	40.3%
Medical condition/physical disability*	101	28.3%	194	34.6%
Alcohol abuse*	48	13.4%	201	35.8%
Drug abuse*	58	16.2%	172	30.7%
Developmental disability/learning disability	28	7.8%	66	11.8%
HIV/AIDS	3	.8%	11	2.0%
Domestic violence*	67	18.8%	47	8.4%

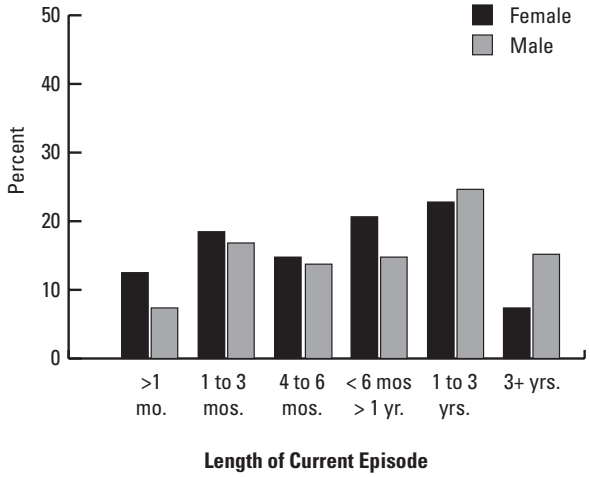
Analysis: Females and males showed **significant differences in the reasons for homelessness.** There were significant gender differences on 11 of the 17 reasons listed. Men were more likely than women to attribute their homelessness to 'lost job/can't work', discharge from jail or prison, or substance abuse problems while women were significantly more likely than men to cite 'wages too low', family breakup, abuse/violence, having been asked to leave where they had been staying, eviction, high housing and utility costs, and lost benefits. Examining differences in ***discharge history***, men were significantly more likely than women to cite recent discharge from a hospital/health care facility and jail/house of correction. With regard to ***disabilities/special circumstance***, men were significantly more likely to report the presence of a medical condition/physical disability, alcohol abuse, or drug abuse.

FREQUENCY AND LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS

Frequency & Length of Homelessness	Female #	Female %	Male #	Male %
Frequency of Homelessness*				
Once	186	54.1%	224	43.2%
Twice	74	21.5%	131	25.2%
Three	37	10.8%	50	9.5%
Four	15	4.4%	24	4.6%
Five or more	32	9.3%	90	17.3%
Length of Current Episode*				
Less than 1 month	42	12.2%	41	7.8%
1 to 3 months	64	18.6%	91	17.3%
4 to 6 months	54	15.7%	78	14.8%
Longer than 6 months but less than 1 year	77	22.4%	85	16.2%
1 to 3 years	76	22.1%	131	24.9%
More than 3 years	25	7.3%	87	16.5%

Analysis: Men were significantly more likely than women to have ***multiple episodes of homelessness*** (45.9% female vs. 56.8% male) and to have a ***current homeless episode*** lasting a year or more (29.4% female vs. 41.4% male). Males were significantly more likely than females to be chronically homeless (47.7% male compared to 36.2% female).

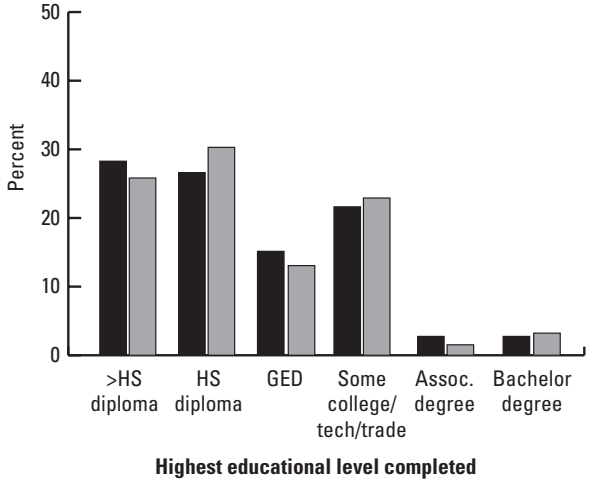


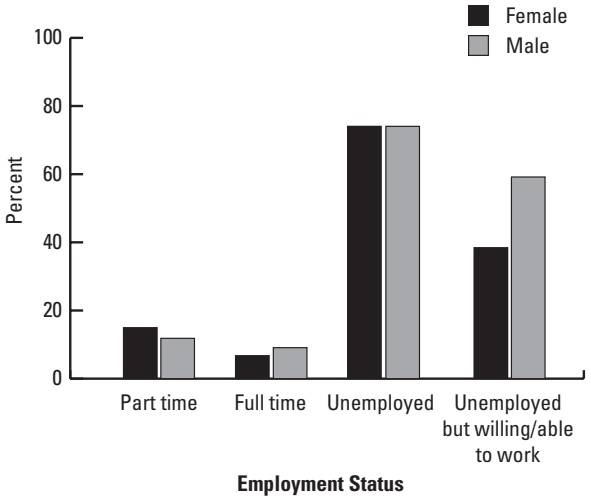


EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Education and Employment	Female #	Female %	Male #	Male %
Highest educational level completed				
Less than high school diploma	103	29.1%	150	27.1%
High school diploma	99	28.0%	167	30.1%
GED	51	14.4%	75	13.5%
Some college, tech or trade school	78	22.0%	130	23.5%
Associate degree	11	3.1%	12	2.2%
Bachelor degree or higher	12	3.4%	20	3.6%
Employment				
Part time employment	47	13.2%	63	11.3%
Full time employment	28	7.9%	55	9.8%
Unemployed	280	78.9%	441	78.9%
Unemployed but willing and able to work	277	39.5%	424	60.5%

Analysis: There were no significant gender differences relatives to education and employment except in one area – unemployment but willing and able to work. Unemployed men were much more likely to indicate a willingness to work (60.5%) compared to unemployed women (39.5%).





BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE

Benefits and Assistance	Female #	Female %	Male #	Male %
Current Government Benefits				
Social Security	20	5.6%	22	3.9%
SSI/SSDI*	83	23.2%	91	16.2%
Medicaid/Medicare*	115	32.2%	59	10.5%
GAMP/BadgerCare Plus*	56	15.7%	147	26.2%
BadgerCare*	87	24.4%	25	4.5%
TANF/W-2*	79	22.1%	5	.9%
Food Stamps*	204	57.1%	212	37.8%
Veterans Benefits/Pension	4	1.1%	11	2.0%
Veterans Health Care*	3	.8%	34	9.6%
Unemployment Benefits	9	2.5%	18	3.2%
Other*	22	6.2%	11	2.0%
None*	40	11.2%	132	23.5%
Service Gaps				
Help finding work*	69	19.3%	143	25.5%
Help finding permanent housing	92	25.8%	153	27.3%
Emergency shelter*	14	3.9%	45	8.0%
Food*	25	7.0%	76	13.5%
Rent/Utility Assistance	47	13.2%	64	11.4%
Transportation/Bus passes*	46	12.9%	108	19.3%
Medical care*	23	6.4%	64	11.4%
Dental care	45	12.6%	87	15.5%
Mental health care/treatment*	13	3.6%	43	7.7%
Substance abuse treatment	10	2.8%	27	4.8%
Help getting Wisconsin ID or driver's license	29	8.1%	65	11.6%
Help getting government benefits	27	7.6%	52	9.3%
Childcare*	17	4.8%	3	.5%
Other	4	1.1%	14	2.5%
No service gaps identified	117	32.8%	209	37.8%

Analysis: Overall, ***benefit utilization*** was greater among homeless women than homeless men with 88.8% of women reporting one or more benefits compared to 76.5% of men. There were several gender differences that related specifically to program eligibility factors, e.g. BadgerCare is a program for children and their parents, veterans' benefits generally affect more men than women because of the gender distribution in the military. However, there are other benefits that would seem to be gender neutral where women were significantly more likely to be covered such as SSI/SSDI and Food Stamps. Conversely, men were significantly more likely to indicate that they ***needed but didn't get help*** in particular areas including help finding work, emergency shelter, food, transportation, medical care, and mental health treatment. Overall, however, men and women had about the same rate of identifying one or more service gaps (67.2% female vs. 62.2% male).

DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographic Indicator	Disabled #	Disabled %	Non-Disabled #	Non-Disabled %
Age*				
30 or younger	111	16.5%	91	38.1%
31-40 years	109	16.2%	35	14.6%
41-50 years	232	34.4%	64	26.8%
51-60 years	200	29.7%	43	18.0%
61 and over	22	3.3%	6	2.5%
Total[1]	674	73.8%	239	26.2%
Gender*				
Male	444	65.8%	115	47.7%
Female	231	34.2%	126	52.3%
Veteran*				
Yes	131	19.4%	31	12.9%
No	209	87.1%	543	80.6%
Ethnic Origin*				
African American	394	58.8%	158	66.9%
Asian	1	.1%	1	.4%
Native American	8	1.2%	3	1.3%
Mixed Race	27	4.0%	13	5.5%
Caucasian/White	216	32.2%	43	18.2%
Other	24	3.6%	18	7.6%
Hispanic Origin	36	5.5%	22	9.3%
Household Composition*				
Single Person/No Children	521	77.4%	136	56.7%
Single Parent with Children under 18	115	17.1%	92	38.3%
Part of a Couple without Children under 18	15	2.2%	6	2.5%
Part of a Couple with Children under 18	22	3.3%	6	2.5%
Sheltered/Unsheltered*				
Sheltered	567	83.9%	179	74.3%
Unsheltered	109	16.1%	62	25.7%

Analysis: Disabled homeless adults were ***significantly older*** than non-disabled adults. Two-thirds (67.4%) are ages 41 or over compared to 47.3% of non-disabled adults. Although there is a significant gender difference in disability status, the percentages mirror the gender distribution in the surveyed homeless population. ***Veterans*** were significantly more likely than non-veterans to be disabled (19.4% disabled vs. 12.9% non-disabled). ***Single adults with no children*** were significantly more likely to be disabled than single adults with children (77.4% disabled vs. 56.7% non-disabled). Last, disabled homeless adults were more likely to be **sheltered** than unsheltered (83.9% disabled vs. 74.3% non-disabled).

[1] The Point in Time Survey counted 913 persons who responded to questions regarding disability status. Included in this definition are individuals who indicated that they had or had been told they had one of the following conditions: mental illness, medical condition/physical disability, alcohol abuse, drug abuse, developmental disability/learning disability, or HIV/AIDS OR they were receiving SSI or SSDI.

EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS

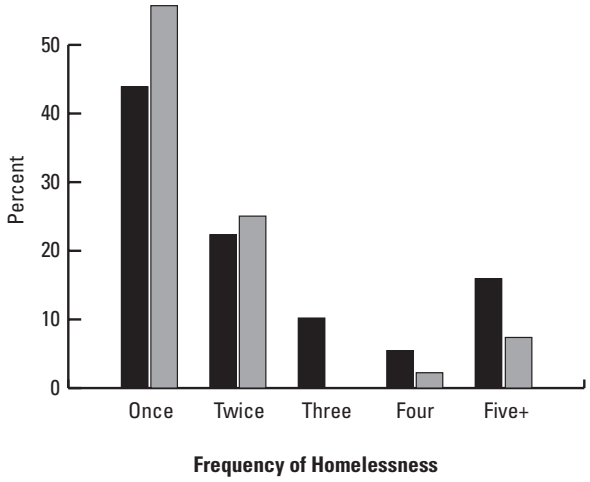
Reasons for Homelessness	Disabled #	Disabled %	Non-Disabled #	Non-Disabled %
Lost job/can't find work*	243	35.9%	111	46.1%
Wages too low*	54	8.0%	39	16.2%
Family Breakup	92	13.6%	43	17.8%
Abuse/violence	72	10.7%	27	11.2%
Asked to leave where staying	95	14.1%	25	10.4%
Runaway/thrown out of house	26	3.8%	10	4.1%
Discharged from foster care or group home	2	.3%	2	.8%
Medical problems*	85	12.6%	7	2.9%
Discharged from jail or prison*	70	10.4%	8	3.3%
Eviction	89	13.2%	31	12.9%
Foreclosure	25	3.7%	9	3.7%
High housing costs	67	9.9%	32	13.3%
High utility costs	39	5.8%	22	9.1%
Substance abuse problems*	170	25.1%	4	1.7%
Lost benefits*	31	4.6%	4	1.7%
Mental illness*	113	16.7%	2	.8%
Other	52	7.7%	11	4.6%
Discharge History				
Hospital/health care facility*	95	14.1%	11	4.6%
Mental health care facility*	50	7.4%	2	.8%
Jail/House of Correction*	57	8.4%	11	4.6%
Prison	19	2.8%	3	1.2%
Foster Care/Group Home	8	1.2%	3	1.2%

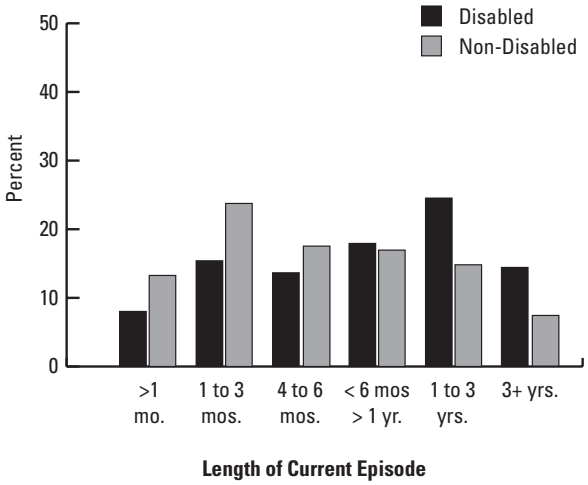
Analysis: Disabled and non-disabled adults shared many of the same ***reasons for homelessness***; however, disabled adults were more likely to cite medical problems, substance abuse, mental illness, lost benefits, and discharge from jail or prison. Non-disabled adults were more likely to attribute their homelessness to having lost a job or being paid too little. Not surprisingly, disabled adults were significantly more likely to report having been discharged from a hospital or mental health facility without a place to stay; also noteworthy is that disabled adults were significantly more likely to report having been released from the jail or House of Correction with no place to stay.

FREQUENCY AND LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS

Frequency of Homelessness*	Disabled #	Disabled %	Non-Disabled #	Non-Disabled %
Once	285	44.4%	125	56.8%
Twice	148	23.1%	56	25.5%
Three	70	10.9%	17	7.7%
Four	34	5.3%	5	2.3%
Five or more	105	16.4%	17	7.7%
Length of current episode*				
Less than 1 month	53	8.0%	30	12.9%
1 to 3 months	97	14.6%	58	24.9%
4 to 6 months	91	13.7%	42	18.0%
Longer than 6 months but less than 1 year	120	18.1%	41	17.6%
1 to 3 years	169	25.5%	37	15.9%
More than 3 years	94	14.2%	18	7.7%

Analysis: Disabled homeless adults were homeless more often and for longer duration than non-disabled adults. One-third of disabled adults (32.6%) had been ***homeless 3 or more times*** in the past 3 years compared to 17.7% of non-disabled adults. Moreover, 39.7% of disabled adults had a ***current episode of homelessness*** lasting one year or more compared to 23.6% of non-disabled adults.

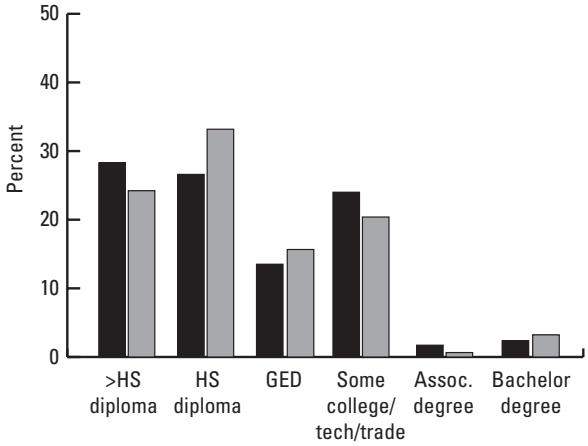


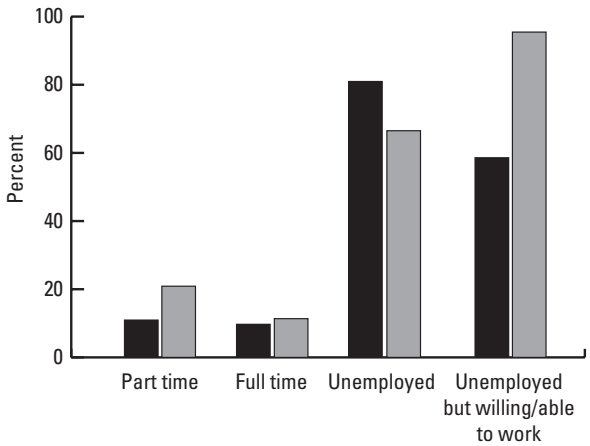


EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Education and Employment	Disabled #	Disabled %	Non-Disabled #	Non-Disabled %
Highest educational level completed				
Less than high school diploma	195	29.2%	58	24.2%
High school diploma	185	27.7%	80	33.3%
GED	87	13.0%	39	16.3%
Some college, tech or trade school	158	23.7%	50	20.8%
Associate degree	19	2.8%	4	1.7%
Bachelor degree or higher	23	3.4%	9	3.8%
Employment*				
Part time employment	61	9.1%	49	20.5%
Full time employment	55	8.2%	28	11.7%
Unemployed	558	82.8%	162	67.8%
Unemployed but willing and able to work	322	60.1%	155	93.9%

Analysis: There were no statistically significant differences between disabled and non-disabled homeless adults relative to their ***educational levels***. Employment was a different matter; disabled adults were much less likely to be ***employed full time*** (9.1% disabled vs. 20.5% non-disabled) or part time (8.2% disabled vs. 11.7% non-disabled). The overall unemployment rate for disabled homeless adults was significantly higher at 82.8% than the rate for non-disabled (67.8%). Not surprisingly, unemployed disabled adults were significantly less likely to be willing and able to work (60.1% disabled vs. 93.9% non-disabled).





BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE

Benefits and Assistance	Disabled #	Disabled %	Non-Disabled #	Non-Disabled %
Current Government Benefits				
Social Security*	37	5.5%	5	2.1%
SSI/SSDI*	175	25.9%	0	0%
Medicaid/Medicare*	150	22.2%	24	10.0%
BadgerCare Plus*	166	24.6%	36	14.9%
BadgerCare*	57	8.4%	54	22.4%
TANF/W-2*	51	7.5%	33	13.7%
Food Stamps*	290	42.9%	125	51.9%
Veterans' Benefits/Pension	14	2.1%	1	.4%
Veterans' Health Care*	53	7.8%	4	1.7%
Unemployment Benefits	18	2.7%	9	3.7%
Other	26	3.8%	7	2.9%
None*	108	16.0%	64	26.6%
Service Gaps				
Help finding work*	142	21.0%	70	29.0%
Help finding permanent housing	190	28.1%	55	22.8%
Emergency shelter	43	6.4%	15	6.2%
Food	81	12.0%	20	8.3%
Rent/Utility Assistance	82	12.1%	30	12.4%
Transportation/Bus Passes*	125	18.5%	28	11.6%
Medical Care	67	9.9%	20	8.3%
Dental Care	106	15.7%	27	11.2%
Mental Health Care/Treatment*	48	7.1%	8	3.3%
Substance Abuse Treatment*	36	5.3%	1	.4%
Help getting Wisconsin ID or driver's license	76	11.2%	18	7.5%
Help getting Government Benefits	58	8.6%	21	8.7%
Childcare	14	2.1%	6	2.5%
Other	15	2.2%	4	1.7%
No service gaps identified	238	35.2%	88	36.5%

Analysis: Disabled homeless adults were significantly more likely to have Social Security, SSI/SSDI, Medicaid/Medicare, BadgerCare Plus, and Veterans' Health Care but less likely to have BadgerCare, TANF/W-2, or Food Stamps. Overall, disabled adults were significantly less likely than non-disabled adults to report having no ***government benefits*** (16.0% disabled vs. 26.6% non-disabled). There were significant differences in service gaps between the two groups relative to help finding work, transportation, mental health care and substance abuse treatment.

VETERANS AND NON-VETERANS

Demographic Indicator	Veterans #	Veterans %	Non-Veterans #	Non-Veterans %
Age*				
30 and younger	6	3.7%	196	26.1%
31-40 years	8	4.9%	135	18.0%
41-50 years	81	50.0%	215	28.7%
51-60 years	62	38.3%	182	24.3%
61 years and older	5	3.1%	22	2.9%
Total	163	17.8%	753	82.2%
Gender*				
Female	9	5.6%	346	45.9%
Male	153	94.4%	407	54.1%
Ethnic Origin				
African American	90	55.9%	461	62.0%
Asian	0	0%	2	.3%
Native American	1	.6%	10	1.3%
Mixed Race	5	3.1%	35	4.7%
Caucasian/White	58	36.0%	202	27.2%
Other	7	4.3%	34	4.6%
Hispanic Origin	5	3.2%	52	7.1%
Household Composition*				
Single Person/No Children under 18	138	85.7%	518	69.0%
Single Parent with Children under 18	9	5.6%	198	26.4%
Part of a Couple without Children under 18	5	3.1%	16	2.1%
Part of a Couple with Children under 18	9	5.6%	19	2.5%
Sheltered/Unsheltered*				
Sheltered	141	86.5%	604	80.2%
Unsheltered	22	13.5%	149	19.8%

Analysis: By far, the most striking difference between homeless veterans and non-veterans is ***age***. Nearly all homeless veterans (91.4%) were age 41 or older compared to 55.9% of homeless non-veterans. Conversely, while 44.1% of homeless non-veterans were age 40 or younger, only 8.6% of homeless veterans were in that age range. The ***gender*** difference – with virtually all (94.4%) veterans being male – generally reflects the male dominance in the military. Although there were some slight differences with respect to ***ethnic origin***, none reached the level of statistical significance; the veteran population had a somewhat smaller percentage of African American and larger percentage of Caucasian than non-veterans. There were significant differences in ***household composition*** with veterans much more likely to be single adults with no children under 18 (85.7%) than non-veterans (69.0%). Both veteran and non-veteran populations exhibited the same rates of being ***sheltered*** at the time of the survey.

EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS

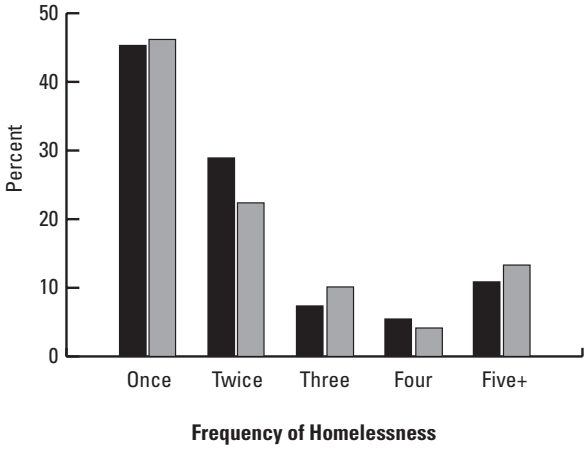
	Veterans #	Veterans %	Non-Veterans #	Non-Veterans %
Reasons for Homelessness				
Lost job/can't find work*	81	48.7%	272	36.1%
Wages too low	17	10.4%	76	10.1%
Family breakup	16	9.8%	118	15.7%
Abuse/Violence*	6	3.7%	93	12.4%
Asked to leave where staying	15	9.2%	104	13.8%
Runaway/thrown out of house	5	3.1%	30	4.0%
Discharged from foster care or group home	0	0%	4	.5%
Medical problems	20	12.3%	72	9.6%
Released from jail or prison	19	11.7%	59	7.8%
Eviction	21	12.9%	98	13.0%
Foreclosure*	13	8.0%	21	2.8%
High housing costs	13	8.0%	86	11.4%
High utility costs	10	6.1%	50	6.6%
Substance abuse problems*	62	38.0%	112	14.9%
Lost benefits	4	2.5%	30	4.0%
Mental illness	23	14.1%	92	12.2%
Other	5	3.1%	10	1.3%
Discharge History				
Hospital/health care facility	25	15.3%	81	10.8%
Mental health care facility	10	6.1%	42	5.6%
Jail/House of Correction	9	5.5%	59	7.8%
Prison*	9	5.5%	13	1.7%
Foster care or group home	4	2.5%	7	.9%
Disabilities/Special circumstance				
Mental illness	63	38.7%	314	41.7%
Medical condition/physical disability	61	37.4%	233	30.9%
Alcohol abuse*	78	47.9%	171	22.7%
Drug abuse*	66	40.5%	165	21.9%
Developmental disability/learning disability	14	8.6%	79	10.5%
HIV/AIDS	3	1.8%	10	1.3%
Domestic violence/abuse	16	9.8%	99	13.1%

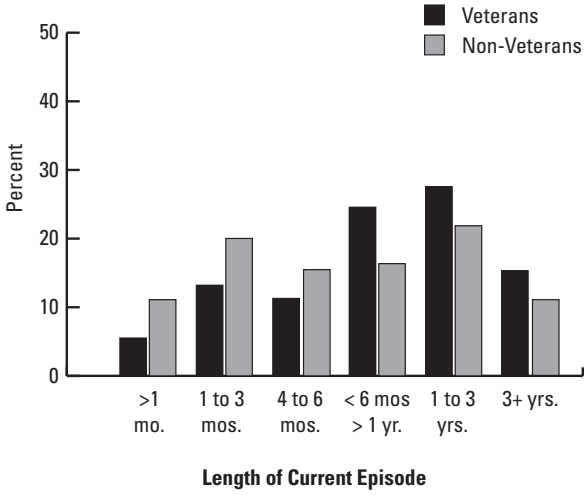
Analysis: These are the areas that really stand out in terms of the ***reasons for homelessness*** for veterans. Veterans were much more likely to cite lost job/can't find work, foreclosure, and substance abuse problems as the reasons for their current homelessness. Relative to substance abuse, veterans were $2^1/_2$ times more likely to cite this as a cause for homelessness (38.0%) than non-veterans (13.9%). The substance abuse theme is reinforced in the area of disabilities with 47.9% of veterans reporting issues with alcohol abuse compared to 22.7% of non-veterans and 40.5% indicating drug abuse compared to 21.9% of non-veterans.

FREQUENCY AND LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS

	Veterans #	Veterans %	Non-Veterans #	Non-Veterans %
Frequency of Homelessness in Past 3 Years				
Once	71	46.4%	338	47.7%
Twice	45	29.4%	160	22.6%
Three	11	7.2%	75	10.6%
Four	8	5.2%	31	4.2%
Five or more	18	11.8%	104	14.1%
Length of Current Episode				
Less than 1 month	9	5.7%	74	10.4%
1 to 3 months	19	12.0%	135	19.0%
4 to 6 months	17	10.8%	116	16.3%
Longer than 6 months but less than 1 year	39	24.7%	122	17.2%
1 to 3 years	45	28.5%	161	22.7%
More than 3 years	24	15.2%	88	12.4%

Analysis: There were no statistically significant differences relative to the frequency of homelessness in the past 3 years and the length of the current episode of homelessness. However, there was an indication that veterans tended to have longer current episodes of homelessness; 68.4% of homeless veterans had been homeless for 6 months or more compared to 52.3% of homeless non-veterans. Conversely, there was a lower proportion of newer homeless (less than 6 months) among veterans (28.5%) compared to non-veterans (45.7%).

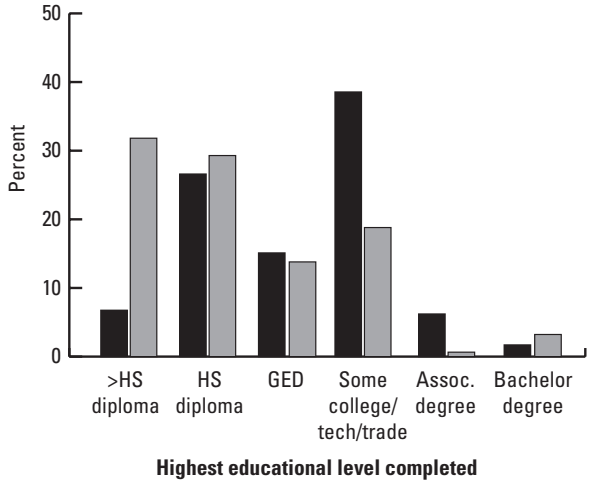


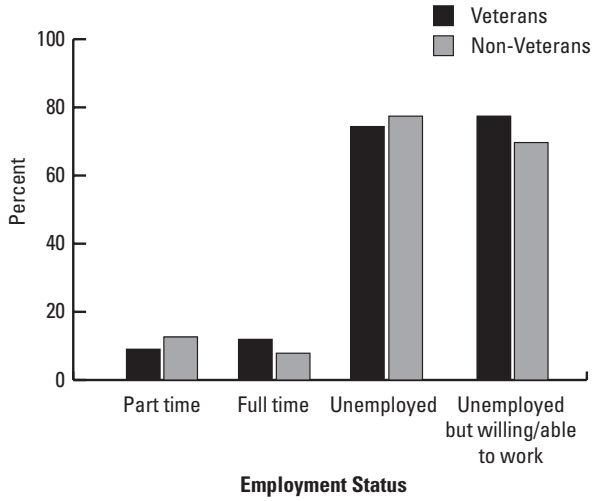


EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, INCOME/BENEFITS SUPPORT

Education and Employment	Veterans #	Veterans %	Non-Veterans #	Non-Veterans %
Highest educational level completed*				
Less than high school diploma	12	7.6%	239	32.0%
High school diploma	44	27.8%	222	29.7%
GED	23	14.6%	103	13.8%
Some college, tech or trade school	63	39.9%	145	19.4%
Associate degree	12	7.6%	11	1.5%
Bachelor degree or higher	4	2.5%	28	3.7%
Employment				
Part time employment	15	9.3%	95	12.6%
Full time employment	20	12.4%	62	8.3%
Unemployed	126	78.3%	594	79.1%
Unemployed but willing and able to work*	96	80.0%	378	65.3%

Analysis: Homeless veterans were significantly better educated than non-veterans. For example, 7.6% of veterans had less than a high school diploma compared to 32.0% of non-veterans. Further, 50.0% of veterans had post high school education including college, technical/trade school, apprenticeship, associate degree and bachelor degree compared to 24.6% of non-veterans. In other words, veterans were twice as likely as non-veterans to have post-high school education. And although employment and unemployment rates were fairly similar for veterans and non-veterans, unemployed veterans indicated a significantly greater willingness to work





BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE

	Veterans #	Veterans %	Non-Veterans #	Non-Veterans %
Current Government Benefits				
Social Security	5	3.1%	37	4.9%
SSI/SSDI*	15	9.2%	160	21.2%
Medicaid/Medicare*	7	4.3%	166	22.0%
BadgerCare Plus*	12	7.4%	190	25.2%
BadgerCare*	8	4.9%	104	13.8%
TANF/W-2*	3	1.8%	81	10.8%
Food Stamps	38	23.3%	376	49.9%
Veterans Benefits/Pension*	11	6.7%	4	.5%
Veterans Health Care*	55	33.7%	2	.3%
Unemployment benefits	4	2.5%	23	3.1%
Other	3	1.8%	30	4.0%
None*	52	31.9%	119	15.8%
Service Gaps				
Help finding work	41	25.2%	171	22.7%
Help finding permanent housing	36	22.1%	209	27.8%
Emergency shelter	16	9.8%	43	5.7%
Food	17	10.4%	84	11.2%
Rent/utility assistance	23	14.1%	89	11.8%
Transportation/bus passes	30	18.4%	124	16.5%
Medical care	15	9.2%	71	9.4%
Dental care	27	16.6%	105	13.9%
Mental health care/treatment	11	6.7%	45	6.0%
Substance abuse treatment	6	3.7%	31	4.1%
Help getting Wisconsin ID or driver's license	17	10.4%	77	10.2%
Help getting government benefits*	25	15.3%	55	7.3%
Childcare	2	1.2%	18	2.4%
Other	7	4.3%	12	1.6%
No service gaps identified	65	39.9%	261	34.7%

Analysis: In terms of ***government benefits***, veterans were significantly less likely to have public health care coverage, e.g. SSI/SSSDI, Medicaid, Medicare, BadgerCare Plus, or BadgerCare. The differences between veterans and non-veterans in these areas were substantial. Veterans were more likely to have veterans' benefits and health care; 33.7% had veterans' health care but overall veterans were not advantaged when it came to government benefits. Nearly a third of homeless veterans (31.9%) reported having no benefits at all compared to 15.8% of homeless non-veterans. There was virtually no difference between the two groups with respect to ***service gaps***.

SURVEY COMMENTS

These are responses to the open-ended question on the survey: "What do you think is the ONE THING that could end homelessness in Milwaukee?"

- A place to stay that I can afford.
- Training for good paying jobs.
- More transitional houses.
- More jobs for people without high school diploma.
- Letting people live in the buildings downtown that don't have anything in them.
- Shorter waiting lists for low income housing for the people who really need it.
- More things for low income people to do that can't work, like our space.
- The economy improving.

- Have some place to go when you are 10 and have to leave your foster family.
- Awareness.
- Have someone help them when they get out of prison.
- More programs and emergency shelter.
- Have Shawna start more programs.
- More help for single mothers.

- Jobs/low income housing.
- More agencies to help.
- More jobs.
- Don't know.
- Create new jobs, educational programs" to help people.

- To create more jobs.

- Prevent drugs, help to rent.

- Have Shawna run programs to help women get jobs and housing (shelters)
- Women's programs.
- Employment.

- More people like Shawna.

- Classes to teach how to get a job.
- Everybody needs a home/more apartments.
- Have more shelters, try to connect with Milwaukee employers because being homeless doesn't mean you don't have abilities.
- Togetherness understanding each other's needs.
- Having a place to go.
- I don't know.
- Places that are on the south side.

- Studio apartments, one bedroom apartments that aren't more than my SSI check.
- Better treatment for everything.
- Get more money on my check.
- Houses for mentally ill people.
- Me stop drinking.
- Landlords who understand a mentally ill person.
- If there were more group homes.
- Give everyone a place to stay
- More jobs, affordable rent.
- More room and boards, shelters.
- I couldn't tell you, I don't know.
- Affordable housing.
- More family support. Better foster or kinship homes for children in the welfare system to avoid children from moving from one home to another.
- Employment-long term job placement so you can provide for yourself and family.

- If community will work together and help one another- help our kids.

- I don't think there is anything that could end homelessness.
- Affordable housing.
- I don't know.
- More jobs, better schooling, affordable housing.

- More jobs
- Affordable Housing.
- Good Paying Jobs.
- More government benefits.
- More TLP Programs, more jobs and higher wages.
- Higher wages, lower rent.
- Stay focused and look for as much help as you can get.
- Helping people and children out more that's what I think will stop the homeless.
- People need to be willing to work.

- More training for better jobs.
- If everyone is educated themselves on where shelters were and how to get into them.
- Family Support.
- Safe Haven Programs.
- Government assistance with jobs.
- It will never end.

- More compassion for people with needs.
- Jesus
- 24 Hour drop-in-center- a one-stop shop for all needs (like Paradise Gardens in Chicago.
- Don't know.
- Government Housing.
- AODA Treatment
- More Jobs.
- Affordable Housing, On the job training, Bring back CETA program.
- Keeping people informed of resources and how to get assistance and help to know what questions to ask. I don't know what questions to ask.
- Education for work and parenting.
- Taking an empty building and turning it into a shelter.
- Therapy to find out what the problem is. Education to teach people to maintain employment.

- Better paying wages for people, affordable housing, counseling for budgeting and maintaining household. Counseling for drug or mental issues.
- Good education and jobs.
- More programs, More low income housing.

- More help with day care.
- Landlords should work with tenants more to avoid eviction by establishing payment plans when they fall behind in rent.

- Obama.
- More jobs, better landlords, and more affordable rent.

- More jobs that pay a livable wage with benefits.
- Jobs, Jobs, Jobs, people then will be able to pay their rent.
- Transitional Housing for all homeless people.

- Housing
- Upgrade infrastructure with pre-screened personnel with specific job skilled training to work with Dept of Public Works- county 2 tier pay system.

SURVEY COMMENTS

- More jobs that will hire persons with criminal records.
- Educational funds for people who can't afford to go to school. More homeless shelters.
- There is no single solution.
- More access to AODA treatment facilities, for poverty level incomes, more facilities.
- More low income housing.
- In regards to Veterans, limit amount of times Veterans can come into domiciliaties to four times maximum. More jobs, more vocational rehab opportunities, and job training.
- A miracle from God.
- Nothing is going to help except job placement programs.
- Foreclosure assistance end substance abuse.
- Not sure - improving the economy.
- Make it a dry country.
- Governor Doyle more jobs, bail out for homeless programs.
- An act of God, more jobs.
- I have no idea.
- Not sure.
- More employment.

- More job and more assistance in matching the housing with the money you make.
- Don't' know.
- Awareness of the dangers of alcohol and cocaine.
- Better jobs, more treatment places for AODA and mental illness, affordable, safe housing.

- There is Pathfinders. There is also all these place to live like Walker's Point. Build more like them.
- More places for youth to go.
- Everyone gets checks.
- Help with priorities.
- Understanding of people in poverty.
- Permanent jobs/income

- Create more jobs and housing.
- Economy stimulus check.
- Better education.
- Create more homeless shelters and more jobs.
- Job training programs.
- Help for people coming out of prison.
- Low income housing, BETTER ECONOMY.
- More jobs and government help until jobs are found.
- Find jobs for people.

- Income.
- Permanent housing.
- Employment.
- Stay clean and sober.
- Lower taxes.
- Ending my medical issue.
- I don't think there is anything to stop the problem.
- Try help people more with shelter and money.
- Economy improving.
- Drugs-stop use and more alcohol and drug counsel!
- Employment.
- More jobs.
- The people that can work, should work.
- Nothing.
- More affordable homes. Programs that can assist individuals with rent.

- More jobs.
- More shelters.
- People helping people.
- Make Milwaukee residents aware of services they could receive to help them not become homeless.
- If wealthy people would donate to the poor who need it.
- More resources, better transportation to and from employment! You have a better chance of finding employment if you have a car.
- Full time jobs, better jobs with responsibilities.

- Psych evaluations to pin point why individuals are chronically homeless. Substance abuse treatment.
- Jobs!
- Less divorces.
- Tolerance towards others with red tape.
- More mental health services.
- More help in dealing AODA issues.
- Change in economy.
- Providing more jobs.
- Moving out of Milwaukee.
- Open more shelters.
- Large influx of money, major cultural changes towards homeless people.
- More places like this one. More jobs, no shelters.
- Giving people a chance, not just giving off of a report of some kind.
- More services for homeless people.
- Better landlords that work with their tenants.
- Better education and more accessible higher education. It's too expensive to go to college.
- Better jobs and higher wages.
- People coming together to make more jobs and low income housing.
- More job opportunities.
- More opportunities for felons. Less jobs overseas. Easier access to information on jobs and education.

- Never gave it much thought.
- Education and training programs provided to everyone who wants it.

- Periodic screenings by social service personnel at the various shelters throughout the city to identify and service and direct the home-less to organizations that meet their needs. Social services personnel separate from the shelter. Separate group that actually has the means and authority to provide.
- Affordable housing. Lower child support laws. Do away with interest.
- A site that can help all be a safe place like here at UPC.

- Employment.
- Veterans getting their benefits. Jobs for Vets. Affordable housing free attorneys.
- That's a hard questions to answer.
- Good Jobs.

- Get my GED and a job and housing.
- More jobs, less drug abusers.

- Jobs for men not just women and children.
- More people caring about others, and helping them out.
- By receiving work or help.

- Medical help, and low income housing.
- Lower payments for housing and utilities.
- Affordable housing. Jobs. Free Education
- Free job in better career fields than present. And professional legal help with problems.

SURVEY COMMENTS

- Employment Assistance

- A better spiritual understanding.
- Work for the people.
- Neighborhood adult and youth corps jobs. Program with the city.

- Social Workers! People that work with others one on one.
- A job or non-service VA Pension.
- Nothing, always is going to be homeless people.
- W-2 training program needs to have better placement for the client.
- Not have enough shelters.
- People continue to stay focus on finding jobs. Believe and follow their dreams.
- Jobs and education.
- Follow rules that are set for you.
- Higher paying jobs.
- Money for housing.

- Quicker benefit approval
- Legalize drugs
- Social reform - more jobs.
- Employment resources.
- Prayer to God.

- People working together
- People should love one another.
- Employment for all.

- Change people's mindset.
- Stop landlords from evicting families especially with children. Because of the economy down swing.
- I think that housing could help.
- Jobs
- Low income housing for people with felonies or criminal record.
- Money
- Jobs more affordable housing, money.
- Better jobs in Milwaukee and other resources help.
- Homes for homeless
- More job training to hire.
- Move case management help and more funds for helping for bus ride and other services.

- Jobs
- Fixing up most of 08 the vacant houses will end homelessness.
- Stop domestic violence and it would end homelessness.
- Public Resources.
- Jobs.
- A miracle.
- More jobs.
- More family resources.
- Medical deals and economy
- Education-developing a work ethic-especially developing skills for employment.

- More involvement in Habitat for Humanity and food drives.
- More programs created toward educating and assisting those who have an unfair advantage. Giving them resources to help themselves get into a more stable situation.
- More jobs.
- More transitional living facilities and more shelters like the women's centers and family support centers.
- More jobs and assistance more transitional living for single women.
- More jobs.
- Education.
- Housing.

- Stricter laws on drugs and alcohol.
- More jobs.
- Control drug flow into US. Alcohol.
- Housing opportunities.
- Better/more jobs.
- Curbing the "career" homeless people problem.
- More jobs in Milwaukee.
- More jobs… More drug and alcohol treatment programs.
- More affordable housing for men.
- Available descent paying jobs.
- People enhancing employment skills.
- Can't end it.
- Socialism
- More jobs available for disabled people, more vigilance against drugs.
- There will be no end to homelessness.
- More treatment centers.
- Everyone work.
- More shelters.
- More jobs.
- More shelters.
- Educational training for employment.
- Not sure.
- Jobs
- Work programs.
- Accountability of officials entrusted to allocate funds to eradicate homelessness.
- More jobs.
- Affordable Housing.
- I think that it should be community services where we should build apartments for the homeless, which means work for them to pay of rent and utilities.

- One thing that I think that would end homelessness in Milwaukee would be having more programs like Lissy's Place in Milwaukee.

- More city Jobs and also more subsidized homes.
- People caring more about other people and stop thinking because people are homeless they are sick.
- Higher pay wage in Milwaukee
- Better jobs.
- More jobs available for the homeless. More access to shelters.
- People need to work or get any type of income.
- Treatment for substance abuse issues. Too many homeless people addicted to drugs. Economy.
- Welfare system-men should be able to get money, not just food-to have outlets to find a job-for 6 months.
- More assistance with finding affordable housing.
- More AODA and mental illness programs.
- If people had jobs with good wages.
- If corporate heads were not so greedy.
- Social services for those suffering mental and chemical issues.
- Get people jobs.
- Improve drug/alcohol and mental health awareness services.
- You can't end homelessness because of the way society approaches the situation. I feel like the money that is being paid and is easily misused.
- More funding, resources for the homeless.
- A place where a person can live that's decent, more than Rescue Mission Shelter.
- Jobs
- More affordable housing help for people in trouble.
- Jobs!
- More jobs, more housing. Help folks who are willing to help themselves.
- More jobs, low/affordable, safe housing

SURVEY COMMENTS

- Individualized job training for folks without higher education
- Not going to happen
- Money, people willing to help, treat others how you want to be treated.
- More jobs
- If people would have a better understanding of homelessness and what we deal with daily.

- Education-free college education
- Jobs that have higher wages, increase minimum wage.
- Better education and availability of Section 8 and HUD programs.

- The government could end homelessness today if they wanted to. How about more money for the cities to build housing for the homeless? This world is rich and resourceful.
- More consideration for others. Stop being selfish.
- Told he is too old for work.
- Nothing.
- More jobs.
- Need of work, housing and basic education. Being able to speak English.
- A miracle!
- More jobs.
- Better economy.

- Being with your family
- More diverse interaction activities at the homeless shelter.
- We need more jobs. We need nicer social service workers that treat people with respect.
- More jobs with better pay.
- Help with making the move back to employment.
- Good employment/Drug treatment programs.
- Support to people who are willing to help themselves.
- Rental assistance-more jobs.
- End poverty

- Help with job search, funding for jobs, schooling for more jobs.
- Some choose homelessness, some don't. Building housing, provide security, get diploma and job, get people on their feet.
- More job availability, can't get a rooming house with a drug addiction record.

- Jobs
- More government subsidized housing.
- Create more high paying jobs.
- Social security

- Jobs or stimulus checks
- Better awareness of resources available. Lack of ID to apply for programs.
- Treat people as they should be treated. Don't charge so much for a place and credit checks don't help. Better wages!
- More employment and education or training.
- Giving people fair rent.
- More jobs and housing.

- Problem with getting identification card, unemployment situation, honest landlords/reasonable housing.
- More jobs and more full time shelters
- More places for low income cheaper places.
- Good paying job affordable housing.

- More jobs
- More jobs

- More housing and shelters; more government funding.

- More places to work.

- Help people with benefits (SSI) get place to stay.
- Get more jobs for homeless persons
- Having a service to assist the homeless jobs, housing and social programs, such as AODA and mental health.
- Open more shelters and educate people; more advertising of shelter.
- If the city would take some of the budget money and re-examine where it should be spent--like employment service.
- More housing for people.
- Job training and jobs.

- More jobs
- Affordable housing.
- Individual getting their affairs together.
- Housing project for homeless, factory where they can work.
- Can't think of anything.

- Act of God!
- More jobs
- Well paying jobs and low income housing.

- All disabled get $1,200.00 a month on SSDI

- More shelters, more places to live.
- More jobs

- Having jobs or more jobs for people that are qualified, train beyond of farther than the skills they have.
- Jobs.

2-1-1 @ IMPACT REQUESTS FOR EMERGENCY SHELTER

2-1-1 @ IMPACT NEED REQUESTS – 2008

Shelter Type	Total Calls	% of Total
Emergency Shelter	10,006	87.3%
Domestic Violence Shelter	754	6.6%
Transitional Shelter/Housing	359	3.1%
Runaway / Youth Shelter	186	1.6%
Day Shelter	105	0.9%
Crisis Nursery	48	0.4%
Total	**11,458**	**100.0%**

(Note: Individual callers may present more than one need, resulting in more total needs than total callers.)

2-1-1 @ IMPACT CALLERS – 2008

Caller	Number	% of Total
Family	5,685	50.4%
Single Woman	3,566	31.6%
Single Man	1,756	15.6%
Youth	175	1.6%
Couple	99	0.9%
Total	**11,281**	**100.0%**

2-1-1 @ IMPACT NEED REQUESTS – JANUARY 2009

Shelter Type	Total Calls	% of Total
Emergency Shelter	702	89.9%
Domestic Violence Shelter	38	4.9%
Transitional Shelter/Housing	20	2.6%
Runaway / Youth Shelter	9	1.2%
Crisis Nursery	6	0.8%
Day Shelter	6	0.8%
Total	**781**	**100.0%**

(Note: Individual callers may present more than one need, resulting in more total needs than total callers.)

2-1-1 @ IMPACT CALLERS – JANUARY 2009

Caller	Number	% of Total
Family	304	38.4%
Single Woman	283	35.7%
Single Man	185	23.4%
Youth	13	1.6%
Couple	7	0.9%
Total	**792**	**100.0%**

MILWAUKEE NEED REQUESTS – JANUARY 28, 2009

Shelter Type	Total Calls	% of Total
Emergency Shelter	24	92.3%
Transitional Shelter/Housing	2	7.7%
Crisis Nursery	0	0.0%
Day Shelter	0	0.0%
Domestic Violence Shelter	0	0.0%
Runaway / Youth Shelter	0	0.0%
Total	**26**	**100.0%**

(Note: Individual callers may present more than one need, resulting in more total needs than total callers.)

2-1-1 @ IMPACT CALLERS – JANUARY 28, 2009

Caller	Number	% of Total
Couple	12	46.2%
Single Woman	10	38.5%
Single Man	4	15.4%
Family	0	0.0%
Youth	0	0.0%
Total	26	100.0%

Interviewer Initials: _____ Interview Site:_____

2009 Continuum of Care Point-in-Time Survey (Unsheltered)

ASK THESE TWO SCREENING QUESTIONS FIRST TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT TO PROCEED	
S1: Do you have a permanent place to live? ☐ Yes ☐ No	***S2: Did you spend LAST NIGHT in a shelter or transitional housing?*** ☐ Yes ☐ No
PROCEED ONLY IF THE PERSON ANSWERS NO TO BOTH QUESTIONS	

SURVEY IDENTIFICATION CODE

In order to make sure we don't interview anyone more than once, we are asking for the first letter of your first and middle names, the first three letters of your last name, and the month that you were born.

FIRST Initial: ___	***MIDDLE Initial:*** ___	***LAST Initials:*** ___ ___ ___	***Month Born:***	1	2	3	4	5	6
				7	8	9	10	11	12

1. What is your age?

☐ 18 years or younger

☐ 19 – 30 years

☐ 31 – 40 years

☐ 41 – 50 years

☐ 51 – 60 years

☐ 61 years or older

2. What is your gender?

☐ Female

☐ Male

3. Have you served in the U.S. Military?

☐ Yes

☐ No

4. Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino?

☐ Yes

☐ No

5. What best describes your racial background? *(choose only ONE response)*

☐ African American / Black

☐ Asian

☐ Native American / Alaska Native

☐ Mixed Race

☐ Caucasian / White

☐ Other (describe):_____

6. Are you - *(choose only ONE response)*

☐ A single person (including divorced or separated)

☐ A single parent with children under 18

☐ Part of a couple WITHOUT children under 18

☐ Part of a couple WITH children under 18

7. In the past 6 months, have you been discharged from any of the following places WITHOUT a place to live? *(select all that apply)*

☐ Hospital / Health Care Facility

☐ Mental Health Care Facility

☐ Jail / House of Corrections

☐ Prison

☐ Foster Care / Group Home

Interviewer Initials: _____

Interview Site:_____

7. What city did you live in at this time last year?

- ☐ City of Milwaukee
- ☐ Suburb of Milwaukee
- ☐ Other city/place in Wisconsin
- ☐ Other city/place in another state
- ☐ Outside of the U.S.

8. What best describes your education?

- ☐ Less than High School
- ☐ High School Diploma
- ☐ GED
- ☐ Some College / Technical / Trade School
- ☐ Associate's Degree
- ☐ Apprenticeship Program
- ☐ Bachelor's Degree or higher

9. What best describes your employment status?

- ☐ Employed, PART TIME *(less than 40 hours/week)*
- ☐ Employed, FULL TIME
- ☐ Employed, MORE THAN FULL TIME
- ☐ Unemployed / Not employed

IF EMPLOYED, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 12

10. IF UNEMPLOYED: Are you willing and able to work? *(physically and emotionally)*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

IF NO, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 12

11. IF UNEMPLOYED: How long have you been unemployed / without work?

- ☐ Less than 6 months
- ☐ More than 6 months but less than 1 year
- ☐ 1 to 3 years
- ☐ More than 3 years

12. Where did you spend last night?

- ☐ On the street, under a bridge, or camping out
- ☐ In a non-residential building *(i.e., bus station)*
- ☐ In a car or other vehicle
- ☐ Traveling on a bus
- ☐ Hotel/motel paid for by YOURSELF
- ☐ Hotel/motel paid for by SOMEONE ELSE
- ☐ Temporarily with FAMILY
- ☐ Temporarily with FRIENDS
- ☐ Psychiatric care facility / hospital
- ☐ Medical facility / hospital
- ☐ Substance abuse treatment program
- ☐ Jail
- ☐ Prison
- ☐ Halfway house
- ☐ Juvenile Detention
- ☐ Foster care / group home
- ☐ Not sure / Don't know
- ☐ Somewhere else (describe):_____

13. How many children under 18 spent the night with you last night who also do not have a permanent place to live?

- ☐ NONE (0)
- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6
- ☐ More than 6

Interviewer Initials: _____

Interview Site:_____

14. Why did you become homeless this time? *(choose ALL that apply)*

- ☐ Never, I am NOT homeless
- ☐ Lost Job / Cannot Find Work
- ☐ Wages Too Low
- ☐ Family Break-up
- ☐ Abuse / Violence
- ☐ Asked to Leave
- ☐ Runaway / Thrown out
- ☐ Foster Care / Group Home Discharge
- ☐ Medical Problems
- ☐ Jail / Prison Discharge
- ☐ Eviction
- ☐ Foreclosure
- ☐ High Housing Costs
- ☐ High Utility Costs
- ☐ Substance Abuse Problems
- ☐ Lost Benefits
- ☐ Mental Illness
- ☐ Other (describe):_____
- ☐ Not sure / Don't know

15. How long have you been without a permanent place to live this time? *(choose only ONE response)*

- ☐ Never, I am NOT homeless
- ☐ Less than 1 month
- ☐ 1 to 3 months
- ☐ 4 to 6 months
- ☐ Longer than 6 months but less than one year
- ☐ One to three years
- ☐ More than three years
- ☐ Not Sure / Don't Know

16. Including now, how many times have you been without permanent housing in the last three years? *(choose only ONE response)*

- ☐ Never, I am NOT homeless
- ☐ Once (1)
- ☐ Twice (2)
- ☐ Three (3)
- ☐ Four (4)
- ☐ More than four times

17. Do you think or have you been told that YOU have any of the following? *(choose ALL that apply)*

- ☐ Mental Illness
- ☐ Medical Condition or Physical Disability
- ☐ Alcohol Abuse Issues
- ☐ Drug Abuse Issues
- ☐ Developmental Disability / Learning Difficulties
- ☐ HIV / AIDS
- ☐ Domestic Violence / Abuse
- ☐ Other (describe):_____
- ☐ NO ISSUES IDENTIFIED

18. Do you think or have you been told that YOUR CHILDREN WITH YOU NOW have any of the following? *(choose ALL that apply)*

- ☐ Does Not Apply – NO CHILDREN
- ☐ Mental Illness
- ☐ Medical Condition or Physical Disability
- ☐ Alcohol Abuse Issues
- ☐ Drug Abuse Issues
- ☐ Developmental Disability / Learning Difficulties
- ☐ HIV / AIDS
- ☐ Domestic Violence / Abuse
- ☐ Other (describe):_____
- ☐ NO ISSUES IDENTIFIED

Interviewer Initials: _____

Interview Site:_____

19. Are YOU OR ANY OF YOUR CHILDREN WITH YOU NOW receiving ANY of the following government benefits? *(choose ALL that apply)*

- ☐ Social Security
- ☐ SSI / SSDI *
- ☐ Medicaid / Medicare
- ☐ GAMP / BadgerCare Plus
- ☐ Badger Care
- ☐ TANF / W2
- ☐ Food Stamps
- ☐ Veteran Benefits / Pension
- ☐ Veteran Health Care
- ☐ Unemployment Benefits
- ☐ Other (describe):_____
- ☐ NONE OF THE ABOVE
- ☐ Not sure / Don't know

20. Have YOU OR ANY OF YOUR CHILDREN WITH YOU NOW APPLIED for ANY of the following government benefits? *(choose ALL that apply – approximate date)*

- ☐ Social Security (date):_____
- ☐ SSI / SSDI (date):_____
- ☐ Medicaid / Medicare (date):_____
- ☐ GAMP / BadgerCare Plus (date):_____
- ☐ Badger Care (date):_____
- ☐ TANF / W2 (date):_____
- ☐ Food Stamps (date):_____
- ☐ Veteran Benefits / Pension (date):_____
- ☐ Veteran Health Care (date):_____ _____
- ☐ Unemployment Benefits (date):_____
- ☐ Other (describe):_____
- ☐ NONE OF THE ABOVE
- ☐ Not sure / Don't know

21. In the past month, what services did YOU OR ANYONE IN YOUR FAMILY WITH YOU NOW NEED but could NOT GET? *(choose ALL that apply)*

- ☐ Help finding work / Employment assistance
- ☐ Help finding permanent housing
- ☐ Emergency shelter
- ☐ Food
- ☐ Rent / Utility assistance
- ☐ Transportation / Bus passes
- ☐ Medical care
- ☐ Dental care
- ☐ Mental health care / treatment
- ☐ Substance abuse (AODA) treatment
- ☐ Help getting a WI ID or Driver's license
- ☐ Help getting government benefits
- ☐ Child care
- ☐ Other (describe):_____
- ☐ NO SERVICE GAPS IDENTIFIED

22. What do you think is the ONE THING that could end homelessness in Milwaukee?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2009

HOMELESSNESS IN MILWAUKEE

Results of the January 28, 2009, Point in Time Survey of Milwaukee's Homeless Citizens

For more information about the Point in Time Survey,
contact Janice Wilberg, Ph.D., Wilberg Community Planning
at (414) 962-3726 or jwilberg@wi.rr.com.

For more information about the Milwaukee Continuum of Care,
contact Jessica Shriver, Continuum of Care Coordinator
at (414) 449-4767 or jessicas@communityadvocates.net.

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