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2007
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2010
2011

Point in Time Survey

**of Milwaukee's
Homeless Citizens**

**Milwaukee Continuum of Care
December 2011**

2011 Point in Time Survey of Milwaukee's Homeless Citizens

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2011 Point in Time Survey of Milwaukee's Homeless Citizens

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of the **volunteers**
who interviewed homeless people on the street,
meal programs, at libraries and other sites in Milwaukee.

Thank you to all of the **emergency shelters and
transitional housing programs**
who worked with the Point in Time Team to insure an
accurate count of the people in their facilities.

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to talk with their guests.

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so they could be counted.

Thank you to the **Center for Urban Initiatives and Research**
for their extraordinary technical support and careful data analysis.

Thank you to the **homeless people** who agreed to be interviewed
and shared their stories with us.

Thank you everyone!

INTERVIEW LOCATIONS

The 2011 Point in Time Count interviewed homeless people at the following locations.

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
Autumn West Safe Haven
Casa Maria Emergency Shelter
Cathedral Center
Center for Veterans Issues
Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center
Community Advocates Family Support Center
Community Advocates Milwaukee Women's Center
Daystar
Guest House
Health Care for the Homeless
Hope House
La Causa
Meta House
Milwaukee County Safe Haven
My Home Your Home
Pathfinders Youth Shelter
Project Restore
Rescue Mission Joy House
Salvation Army
Sojourner Truth House
Walker's Point Youth and Family Center
YWCA

Unsheltered Locations

Milwaukee Public Library Bay View
Milwaukee Public Library Central
Milwaukee Public Library East St. Ben Community Meal
Repairers of the Breach
St. Vincent de Paul (North)
St. Vincent de Paul (at South Division)
The Gathering Downtown
The Gathering South Side
Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church

Street Outreach Teams

Health Care for the Homeless Street Outreach
Milwaukee Police Department Homeless Outreach Team
Street Beat

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2011 Point in Time Survey of Milwaukee's Homeless Citizens

POINT IN TIME: IN-DEPTH INFORMATION ABOUT MILWAUKEE'S HOMELESS POPULATION

TOTAL HOMELESS POPULATION

The Point in Time is a snapshot of homelessness on ONE DAY.

On January 26, 2011, there were 1,466 homeless adults and children counted by the Point in Time. On July 27, 2011, 1,436 homeless adults and children were counted.

All of the references to Point in Time Surveys refer to surveys or counts done on a single day. This is a different number than the number of people homeless in a community during the course of the year. According to Milwaukee's HMIS (Homeless Management Information System), in 2010, there were 6,169 (unduplicated count) people who were homeless and staying in emergency shelter, transitional housing, or safe havens. In other words, the Point in Time count represents only about a quarter of the number of people homeless during the year.

Milwaukee's Point in Time homeless population increased by 13% between 2007 and 2009 and then declined by 12% in 2011 (Winter Count) and another 2% in 2011 (Summer Count). The changes in Milwaukee's homeless population are more dramatic than the national changes. This may reflect successes in homelessness prevention in Milwaukee through the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program as well as the increase in permanent supportive housing for people with disabilities.

	2007	2009	2011-Winter	2011-Summer
Milwaukee Point in Time Homeless Population	1,470	1,660	1,466	1,436
Percent Change		13%	-12%	-2%
U.S. Point in Time Homeless Population	671,888	664,414	649,917	NA
Percent Change		-1%	-2%	

INTERVIEW RESULTS

The 2011 January Point in Time counted 1,466 homeless adults and children. Of this number, a total of 852 homeless people were interviewed. Thirty-six (36) were interviewed on the street using a short survey form which asked basic demographic information. The short form was used when homeless people were encountered in places where the weather conditions and the nature of the interaction prevented use of the long form. The long interview form was administered to most people (816). **The long interview form results are reported in this section.** Whenever possible, comparisons for the three Points in Time (2007, 2009, and 2011) are reported.

Data Reports: Comprehensive data reports prepared by the Center for Urban Initiatives and Research at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee are included in the Appendix (which compares sheltered and unsheltered homeless) including: 1) 2011 Milwaukee Homeless Point-in-Time Survey Results Report, March 2011; and 2) 2011 Milwaukee Homeless Point-in-Time Summer Count, October 2011. Also available on request are three additional special reports: 1) 2011 Homeless Point-in-Time Survey: Homeless Once versus Two or More Times; 2) A Look at Homelessness and Sexual Orientation; and 3) Disabled compared to Non-Disabled. (Contact Scott Davis at davisgs@uwm.edu.)

The following sections report information only for the 852 homeless people who were interviewed on January 26, 2011.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender

The majority of the 852 homeless people interviewed for the Point in Time were men. Men have consistently outnumbered women in the homeless population. However, the gender gap in 2011 is smaller than in 2009.

	2007	2009	2011
Male	55%	61%	58%
Female	45%	39%	42%

In the general population of both the City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee County, the genders are evenly split: 49% of the population was male and 51% female. The homeless population, however, was disproportionately male with 1.4 homeless male for every 1 homeless female.

- ★ **National comparison:** According to the 2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, the great majority of homeless individuals in shelters nationally are men (73%); only 27% are women.

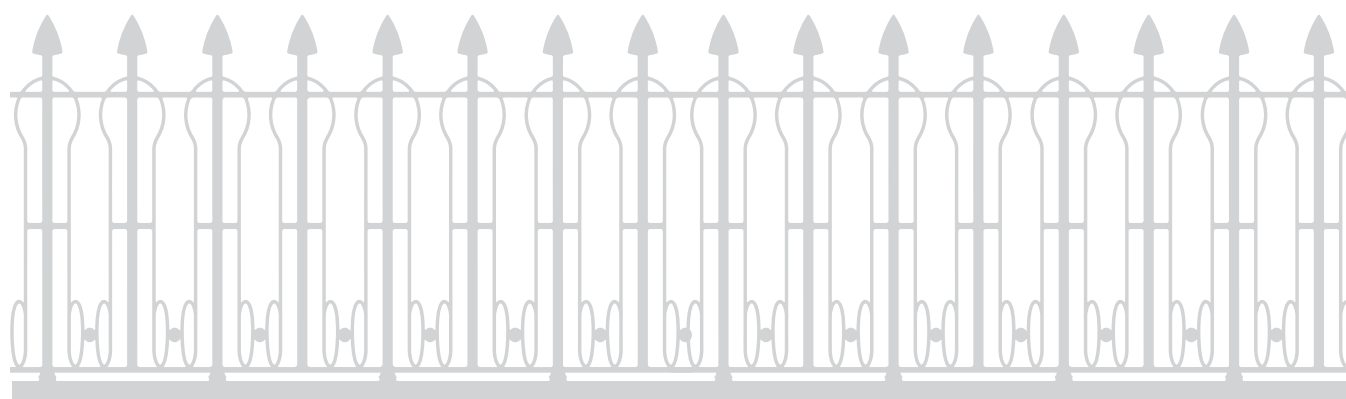
Age

The Point in Time survey focuses on adults; therefore, the age distribution below reflects the ages of the 852 adults who were interviewed. There were many children who were counted as part of the Point in Time but they are not included in this age distribution. As in 2007 and 2009, the 2011 homeless continues to show a bulge in the 41 to 60 year age range. In 2011, 56% of the homeless population fell in this age range compared to 60% in 2009 and 51% in 2007. There continues to be a very small percentage of homeless over the age of 61, although the percentage has increased since 2007.

	2007	2009	2011
18 years or under	4%	3%	3%
19 - 30 years	23%	20%	21%
31 - 40 years	18%	16%	17%
41 - 50 years	31%	33%	30%
51 - 60 years	20%	27%	26%
61 or older	2%	3%	4%

The median age of homeless people interviewed by the 2011 Point in Time survey was 44 years.

The mean age was 41.82 years.



Race/Ethnic Origin

Two thirds (63%) of Milwaukee's homeless population is African American; this has changed very little since 2007. In 2011, there was a slight increase in African Americans and a decrease in Hispanic/Latino and White homeless. Other population groups (Asian, Native American and Mixed/other) stayed about the same.

	2007	2009	2011
African American	62%	61%	63%
Hispanic/Latino	6%	7%	4%
White/Caucasian	29%	29%	25%
Asian	1%	<1%	1%
Native American	1%	1%	2%
Mixed/other	6%	5%	5%

When the race/ethnic origin characteristics of the homeless population are compared to that of City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee County residents, the disproportionality is striking. Summing up, African Americans were significantly overrepresented in the homeless population relative to the African American population in the City of Milwaukee and the County as a whole. Hispanics and Whites were significantly underrepresented.

	2011 Homeless	City of Milwaukee – Total Population	Milwaukee County – Total Population
African American	63%	38%	25%
Hispanic/Latino	4%	16%	12%
White/Caucasian	25%	47%	63%
Asian	1%	3%	3%
Native American	2%	1%	1%
Mixed/other	5%	11%	8%

Household Status

Nearly all homeless adults (94%) identified themselves as single; this included never married as well as divorced or separated. Six percent (6%) identified as part of a couple.

Most homeless (76%) were single adults, living with no children; 24% were in families, either with or without children. Adults in families with children comprised 20% of the total population. Families with children had an average of 2.0 children.

- ★ **National comparison:** The “2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress,” known as the AHAR, summarizes Point in Time data from Continuums of Care across the U.S. That data, for 2010, indicated that 63% of homeless nationally were single adults and 37% were persons in families. This is significantly different than the 76%/24% split seen in Milwaukee.

Sexual Orientation

Of the 816 homeless people interviewed, 93% answered a question about their sexual orientation that stated, “*Do you consider yourself to be...?*” Of those responding, 90% indicated they were heterosexual or straight, 2% gay or lesbian, 2% bisexual, 1% questioning/not sure, and 5% refused to answer. The incidence of gay/lesbian (2%) was comparable to the most recent national estimate of 1.7% (Williams Institute on Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy, UCLA) as was the incidence of bisexuality (2%) when compared to the national estimate of 1.8%. It is important to note, however, that many Point in Time interviews occurred in congregate settings, e.g. meal programs, waiting areas, where people may have been reluctant to share this information, resulting in a possible undercount of the non-heterosexual population. Because anecdotal information suggests that gay/lesbian people are more vulnerable to homelessness as well as more vulnerable to violent crime, the next in-depth Point in Time should develop ways to insure respondent privacy in order to obtain the most accurate data possible.

LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS

There has been a change in the length of homelessness over the past several years. The proportion of shorter-term homeless (homeless for less than a year) increased from 64% in 2007, 62% in 2009 to 71% in 2011. Conversely, the proportion of longer-term homeless (homeless for more than a year) decreased from 34% in 2007, 37% in 2009, to 29% in 2011.

The increase in the shorter-term homeless population may be one sign that homelessness has reached into a new population – people who have never been homeless before, people who may be affected by the poor job market and the stagnant economy after having been employed and able to maintain their own housing.

	2007	2009	2011
Less than 1 month	20%	10%	22%
More than 1 month but less than 1 year	44%	52%	49%
1 to 3 years	25%	24%	19%
More than 3 years	9%	13%	10%
Not sure/don't know	3%	2%	1%

In Milwaukee, 73% of homeless said they had previously lived in an apartment with a formal lease or rental agreement.

16% had previously owned a home.

TIMES HOMELESS

Roughly half (48%) of the homeless interviewed for the Point in Time survey had been homeless a single time; the remainder had been homeless twice or more (47%) and a small but significant percentage (5%) could not remember the number of times they were homeless in the past three years. The percentage of people who were homeless four or more times in the past three years dropped significantly from 20% in 2007 to 14% in 2011.

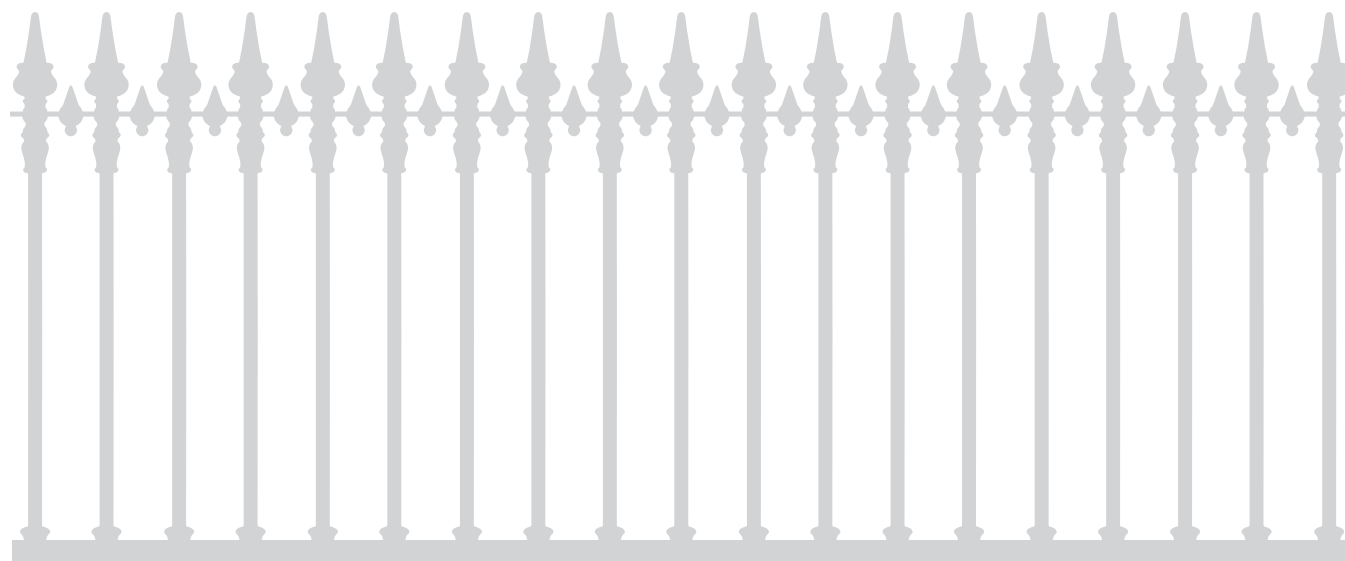
	2007	2009	2011
1 time	43%	48%	48%
2 times	26%	24%	22%
3 times	11%	10%	11%
4 or more times	20%	19%	14%
Not sure/don't know	NA	NA	5%

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

Chronic homelessness is a term established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to describe homeless adults with a disability and who have been homeless for a year or four or more times in the past three years. Until 2010, only single adults could be considered chronically homeless; now adults in families who meet the criteria can also be classified as chronically homeless.

In 2011, one out of four homeless people counted in the Point in Time (26%) was chronically homeless. This is significantly lower than in 2009 (34%) and 2007 (31%). A major reason for this positive trend is the creation of 134 new permanent supportive housing units for chronically homeless people since 2007, all developed with support from the Milwaukee Continuum of Care as well as support from Low Income Housing Tax Credits, City and County Housing Trust Funds, foundations and other investors.

- ★ **National comparison:** The “2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress” reported that 17% of homeless nationally met the criteria for chronic homelessness. This is significantly lower than the 26% chronic homeless rate reported for Milwaukee.



VETERANS

One out of four (26%) homeless persons was a veteran. A veteran was defined as a person who had served in the U.S. Armed Forces or a person who was activated into active duty as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist.

Of the homeless people who indicated they were veterans, 84% said they had received honorable discharges; 16% received less than honorable discharges. A veteran did not have to have an honorable discharge in order to be considered a veteran for the purposes of the Point in Time survey although discharge status does play a role in veterans' access to various services.

★ **National comparison:** That National Coalition for Homeless Veterans estimates that 107,000 veterans are homeless in the U.S. on any given night. This comprises 16% of the total Point in Time count of homeless nationally. The national rate is significantly lower than the percentage found in Milwaukee (26%).

Comparing veterans to non-veterans in Milwaukee:

There are a number of ways that homeless veterans differ from homeless non-veterans. First, homeless veterans tended to be much older than homeless non-veterans. Most notably, 48% of non-veterans were age 41 or older compared to 90% of veterans, indicating that Vietnam-era and First Gulf War veterans continue to experience significant problems. At the same time, many predict increasing veteran homelessness as troops return from Iraq and Afghanistan later this year and into 2012.

Homeless veterans were also different in terms of race/ethnic origin with a significantly lower proportion of African Americans (56% of veterans vs. 65% of non-veterans) and a higher proportion of Caucasians (34% veterans vs. 23% non-veterans). Veterans were also significantly more likely to be homeless for a long period of time: 41% of veterans were homeless a year or more compared to 26% of non-veterans. There were not significant differences, however, in the number of times homeless.

AGE	Homeless Non-veteran	Homeless Veteran
18 or under	4%	0%
19-30	27%	4%
31-40	19%	7%
41-50	28%	32%
51-60	19%	49%
61 and over	2%	9%

**Homeless veterans –
26% of the homeless population**

**City of Milwaukee veterans –
7% of the population age 18 and over**

**Milwaukee County veterans –
8% of the population age 18 and over**

Race/ Ethnic Origin	Homeless Non-veteran	Homeless Veteran
African American	65%	56%
Hispanic/Latino	4%	2%
Caucasian	23%	34%
Asian	1%	0%
Native American	1%	3%
Two or more races	5%	3%
Other	1%	3%

Length of Homelessness	Homeless Non-veteran	Homeless Veteran
Less than 1 month	21%	20%
1 to 3 months	24%	18%
4 to 6 months	16%	12%
Longer than 6 months but less than 1 year	14%	8%
1 to 3 years	17%	25%
More than 3 years	9%	16%
Not sure/don't know	<1%	2%

VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

Domestic violence and violent crime were prevalent in the homeless population. A third of homeless (33%) indicated that they were victims of domestic violence; 67% were not domestic violence victims. One in four homeless people (27%) had been victims of violent crime; 74% were not violent crime victims. Disabled people were significantly more likely to have been victims of violent crime (30%) than people who were not disabled (18%).

Most (70%) of homeless domestic violence victims were not currently receiving services related to domestic violence. Similarly, most (81%) of violent crime victims were not currently receiving services related to the crime incidence.

- ★ **National comparison:** According to the 2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, 12% of homeless people are domestic violence victims. This is about a third of the domestic violence rate for Milwaukee homeless (33%).

SPENT LAST NIGHT

About one in six homeless people (16%) interviewed for the Point in Time had spent the previous night sleeping on the street, in a public facility, car, or abandoned building. People sleeping in these locations are said to be unsheltered. Most homeless people (84%) spent the previous night in an emergency shelter, transitional housing program, or safe haven. This was a new question in 2011 so comparison data are not available.

	Sheltered	Unsheltered
Milwaukee	84%	16%
United States	62%	38%

- ★ **National comparison:** The sheltered/unsheltered distribution in Milwaukee is significantly better than that of the country as documented in the “2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress,” a document which summarizes data submitted from Points in Time conducted by 503 Continuums of Care across the U.S. This report indicates that 62% of homeless across the country were sheltered while 38% were unsheltered. This difference may be attributable to several causes; among them might be difficulties in reaching and counting unsheltered homeless during the last week in January when many take refuge in hard to find places in abandoned buildings or other out of the way places or the adequacy of the Milwaukee shelter system’s capacity to house people during the survey period.

UNSHELTERED DURING PAST SIX MONTHS

To measure the extent of people being unsheltered, e.g. living on the street or other place unfit for human habitation, the Point in Time survey asked people to recall their experience over the past six months. The responses indicate that nearly one in five (18%) of homeless people interviewed had spent time living on the streets or under a bridge.

	Homeless
On the streets/under a bridge	18%
In public facilities, e.g. bus station, library	10%
In a car or other vehicle	14%
In a vacant or abandoned building	11%

SHELTER USE

To examine patterns of shelter utilization, the Point in Time survey asked people where they had stayed during the past year, e.g. which shelters. Of the 816 homeless people interviewed, 61% had stayed in an emergency shelter during the past year; the remainder (39%) had either stayed in transitional housing or were unsheltered, e.g. on the street or other place not fit for human habitation. This was a new question in 2011 so comparison data are not available.

Emergency Shelter	Type	Homeless
Rescue Mission: Safe Harbor	Single men	31%
Guest House	Single men	26%
Salvation Army Emergency Lodge	Single men, women and families	26%
Cathedral Center	Single women and families	24%
Other type of shelter, e.g. church	Varied	12%
ANY domestic violence shelter	Domestic violence victims/families	10%
Family Support Center	Families	8%
Repairers of the Breach	Day shelter	8%
Rescue Mission: Joy House	Single pregnant women and families	8%
Hope House	Single men	6%
ANY homeless youth shelter	Youth	4%

More than a third of homeless (37%) had stayed in more than one shelter in the past year.

Of those who had stayed in shelter in the past year, 13% had stayed at both the Rescue Mission/Safe Harbor and Guest House; 7% had stayed at both Rescue Mission/Safe Harbor and Salvation Army; and 4% had stayed at both Salvation Army and Cathedral Center. These shelter pairs have noted that many of their clients go 'back and forth'. The survey data indicate, however, that this occurrence may be less common than previously thought.

MOBILITY

One out of five homeless people (20%) interviewed did not live in the City of Milwaukee last year. This was a significant increase over 2009 (16%) and 2007 (14%) and may be indicative of the broad geographic impact of the poor economy and the depressed job market. Especially noteworthy is the fact that 11% of Milwaukee's homeless respondents said they had lived out of the State of Wisconsin last year. How and why these individuals are coming to Milwaukee is not known; further research in this area may help explain this growing phenomenon.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the mobility rate for Milwaukee County residents as a whole was 20% in 2009, meaning that one in five county residents lived in a different house the year before (2008). Of those who changed residence, most moved within the county (15%) with the remainder (5%) from a different county in Wisconsin, a different state, or abroad. This 5% in-migration evidenced by the County's population at large is less than half the rate of 11% reported by people who are homeless. In other words, homeless people have a higher rate of in-migration from other counties/states/abroad than the population in general.

City of Residence for Homeless - Last Year

	2007	2009	2011
Milwaukee	86%	84%	80%
Suburb of Milwaukee or other city/place in Wisconsin	5%	8%	9%
Other city/place in another state	9%	8%	11%

REASON FOR HOMELESSNESS

People become homeless for a variety of reasons. The Point in Time survey asked homeless people: *What is the main reason or root cause why you became homeless?* Only the first response mentioned by a respondent was recorded.

The top four reasons were unemployment (25%), low or no income (20%), roommate or family conflict (13%), and addiction (10%). All other reasons were cited by 6% or less of the homeless population. Data on reasons for homelessness are available for 2007 and 2009; however, the categories are not exactly comparable to 2011. However, unemployment and low/no income were the top causes of homelessness in 2007 and 2009 as well as in 2011. Homelessness is usually the result of a combination of factors; while one may stand out as the most pressing reason, it is usually a combination of joblessness, mental health or addiction issues, family estrangement, and other problems that ultimately result in homelessness.

¹ In 2011, the Point in Time adopted the reasons for Homelessness categories utilized by the Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).

	2011
Unemployment	25%
Low or no income	20%
Roommate or family conflict	13%
Addiction	10%
Physical/mental disabilities	6%
Eviction	5%
Family/domestic violence	5%
Other	5%
Unable to pay rent/mortgage	3%
Jail/prison/criminal history	2%
Needs better environment	2%
Family/personal illness/injury	1%
Denied/delayed/term public assistance	1%
Transient	1%
Disaster	<1%
Can't find affordable housing	<1%
Lifestyle preference	<1%
Moved	<1%
Poor rental/credit history	<1%

EMPLOYMENT

Overall, the percentage of homeless who were employed full or part time went up 1 percentage point from 21% in 2009 to 22% in 2011. The percentage of homeless employed part time went up (from 12% to 13%) and those employed full time declined (from 9% to 8%).

Employment Status	2007	2009	2011
Employed part time	NA	12%	14%
Employed fulltime	NA	9%	8%
Unemployed	NA	79%	78%

Key to planning solutions to the extraordinary unemployment among homeless people is the fact that nearly all have work histories that included at least one full time job. Long-term unemployment (a year or more) is itself a major barrier to employment and was very prevalent in the homeless people surveyed.

Even though the great majority of respondents (78%) reported being currently unemployed, nearly all (86%) had a full time job at some point in their lives. However, 14% had never had a full time job.

Sixty four percent (64%) of unemployed homeless had been jobless for a year or more. Almost one out of four (25%) had been unemployed for over three years. The specifics: 19% less than 6 months; 17% more than 6 months but less than 1 year; 40% 1 to 3 years; and 25% more than 3 years. Unemployed homeless were asked if they were willing and able to work. The majority (68%) said yes; 32% said no.

EDUCATION

Milwaukee homeless have a high school graduation rate (75%) that is just 5 percentage points lower than the City of Milwaukee's population (80%). Moreover, 38% of homeless had some education beyond high school including college, technical school, or trade school.

Homeless people surveyed in 2011 had higher levels of educational attainment than those surveyed in 2009. The percentage of high school drop outs went from 28% in 2009 to 25% just two years later.

Education Status	2007	2009	2011
Less than high school	NA	28%	25%
High school diploma/ GED/HSED	NA	43%	38%
Some college/technical/ trade school	NA	23%	31%
College degree or higher	NA	4%	7%

Indicative of the changes in the economy were the increase in the percentage of homeless people with some college/technical/trade school (23% in 2009 and 31% in 2011) and the increase in the percentage of college graduates (4% in 2009 and 7% in 2011).

When combined, the percentage of homeless people with some post-high school education up to and including college graduation was 27% in 2009 and 38% just two years later in 2011. This is indicative of the reach of the poor economy and the increasing numbers of people with skilled training and college education unable to find work.

Key to planning solutions to the extraordinary unemployment among homeless people is the fact that nearly all have work histories that included at least one full time job. Long-term unemployment (a year or more) is itself a major barrier to employment and was very prevalent in the homeless people surveyed. Homeless people have something to offer in the job market (work histories and willingness to work) along with educational assets with 3 out of 4 having high school diplomas and more than a third with some college education.

SPECIAL FOCUS: Unemployment Among Homeless People

Employment status: Most (78%) of homeless surveyed were unemployed; 22% had full or part time jobs. There were several statistically significant differences in employment status:

Sheltered vs. unsheltered: Unsheltered homeless (those living on the street or other places not fit for human habitation) were more likely to be unemployed (88%) compared to sheltered (76%).

Education status: Homeless people without a high school diploma were more likely to be unemployed (88%) than those with a high school diploma or more education, i.e. some college or technical training, or college degree (75%).

Length of homelessness: Unemployment significantly increases for people homeless for 3 years or more.

Length of homelessness	Less than 1 month	1 to 3 months	4 to 6 months	Longer than 6 months less than 1 year	1 to 3 years	More than 3 years
Percent unemployed	77%	70%	82%	78%	79%	87%

Chronic homeless status: People identified as chronically homeless were more likely to be unemployed (88%) than non-chronically homeless (76%).

Housing status: Persons in transitional housing were less likely to be unemployed (68%) than people in emergency shelter (84%), Safe Haven (96%), or on the street (81%).

Institutional discharge: Homeless people who had been discharged from a hospital/health care facility with no place to stay within the past six months were more likely to be unemployed (88%) than those without such discharges (76%). A similar pattern is seen with discharges from mental health facilities and jail.

Disability status: Persons with mental illness were more likely to be unemployed (85%) than persons without mental illness (73%). Similarly, people with medical conditions were more likely to be unemployed (86%) than people without such conditions (73%). Learning disabilities also resulted in a higher unemployment rate (84%) compared to the non-learning disabled (77%).

Violence: Persons who had been victims of domestic violence or other violent crime were more likely to be unemployed. DV victims' unemployment rate was 82% compared to non-DV people (75%). Crime victims' unemployment rate was 83% compared to 76% for non-victims.

Involvement with other systems: Unemployed homeless people were involved in other systems at the following rates: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare 15%, Juvenile Justice/Children's Court 14%, criminal justice system 36%, foster care 10%, Corrections/Probation/Parole 31%, TANF W-2 28%, Veterans Affairs 17%, mental health system 36%, substance abuse services 29%, medical/disability system 30%, special education.

DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS

In 2011, 64% of homeless people reported having one or more disabilities or special needs. There have been several significant changes in the disabilities reported by homeless people between 2007 and 2011. Mental illness increased while alcohol and drug abuse both declined. The incidence of medical condition/disability more than doubled in just two years. Also significant is the threefold increase in the percentage of people with a developmental disability or learning disability; and although the percentage is small, the proportion of HIV/AIDS tripled during this period.

★ **National comparison:** According to the 2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, 26% of sheltered homeless have serious mental illness, 35% have substance abuse (alcohol and/or drug), 4% reported HIV/AIDS.

Disability status was correlated with where homeless people had stayed, e.g. shelter, in the past year. Salvation Army Lodge, Guest House, and the Rescue Mission Safe Harbor and Joy House all served a comparatively higher proportion of disabled homeless people.

Disability/ Special Need	2007	2009	2011
Mental Illness	33%	41%	39%
Medical Condition/ Disability	17%	32%	39%
Alcohol Abuse	30%	27%	26%
Drug Abuse	30%	25%	22%
Developmental Disability/Learning Disability	4%	10%	15%
HIV/AIDS	<1%	2%	3%
Other	6%	1%	1%

Shelter	Not disabled	Disabled
Guest House	20%	80%
Hope House	84%	16%
Cathedral Center	35%	65%
Family Support Center	56%	44%
Salvation Army Lodge	16%	84%
Rescue Mission Safe Harbor	27%	73%
Rescue Mission Joy House	38%	63%
ANY Domestic Violence Shelter	57%	43%
ANY Youth Shelter	53%	47%
Other Shelter	21%	79%

¹ The 2007 PIT did not ask this question. Instead it included these discharge situations as possible causes for homelessness, resulting in a non-equivalent set of responses.



Disability status was correlated to length and frequency of homelessness. Disabled homeless were significantly more likely to be homeless for long periods of time. A third (32%) of disabled homeless had been homeless for a year or more compared to 20% of not disabled homeless.

Length of Homelessness	Not disabled	Disabled
Less than 1 month	32%	17%
1 to 3 months	26%	20%
4 to 6 months	13%	16%
Longer than 6 months but less than 1 year	9%	14%
1 to 3 years	15%	20%
More than 3 years	5%	12%
Not sure/don't know	<1%	1%

Disabled homeless people were significantly more likely to be homeless multiple times: 29% had been homeless three or more times in the past three years compared to 16% of not disabled homeless.

Homeless episodes past 3 years	Not disabled	Disabled
Once	57%	44%
Twice	22%	22%
Three	7%	13%
4 or more times	9%	16%
Not sure/don't know	5%	5%

Whether people are able to access services to address their disability or special need is an important variable in their homelessness. This year, the Point in Time survey asked people who indicated that they had a disability or special need whether they were currently receiving services for that problem.

Disability/special need	Not receiving services	Receiving services
Mental illness	46%	54%
Medical condition/physical disability	44%	56%
Alcohol abuse	53%	47%
Drug abuse	54%	46%
Developmental disability	75%	25%
Learning disability	90%	10%
HIV/AIDS	14%	86%
Other	20%	80%



HIV/AIDS and “Other” were the two disability/special need categories where the majority of people were currently receiving services (86% and 80% respectively). Persons with developmental disabilities or learning disabilities were less likely to be receiving services (25% and 10% respectively).

When we look more closely at the four disabilities/special needs which account for the largest percentage of homeless people, only about half are currently receiving services. In other words, nearly half of those with mental illness (46%) were untreated as were 44% of those with medical conditions/physical disabilities; 53% of those with alcohol abuse; and 54% with drug abuse.

It is important to note, however, that the rate of service utilization for homeless persons with mental illness is somewhat higher at 54% than the rate reported by the general population with mental health problems. Less than half (49%) of Wisconsin adults reporting serious psychological distress received mental health treatment according to the Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 Profile: Mental Health issued by the WI Department of Health Services (2010).

There are important consequences if people are not getting services for serious mental illness, addiction, or physical health problems. First, they present a significant challenge to the staff of emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, most of whom are not trained or resourced sufficiently to respond well to critical needs. Second, untreated serious problems impede efforts to obtain employment, follow through with applications for mainstream benefits, gain admission to permanent supportive housing, and pursue other goals.

SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT

The Point in Time Survey asked this question about system involvement: *Are you now or have you ever been involved with the following systems?* This was a new question in 2011 so comparison data are not available.

System	Homeless Involvement
Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare	14%
Juvenile Justice System/Children’s Court	12%
Criminal Justice System (Adult)	34%
Foster Care	9%
Corrections/Parole/Probation	29%
W-2	27%
Veterans Affairs	18%
Mental Health System	32%
Substance Abuse System	28%
Medical/Physical Disability System	25%
Special Education/Learning Needs System	9%

More than half of homeless (58%) said that they were involved with two or more systems.

MAINSTREAM BENEFITS

Mainstream benefits, also known as government benefits or programs, can provide a foundation of support that can stabilize homeless individuals and families and enable them to obtain and maintain permanent housing. Assisting homeless people to obtain the benefits to which they are entitled is a major focus of the Continuum of Care's member organizations. One area that shows substantial improvement is Food Share/Food Stamp enrollment which doubled in the past four years from 35% of homeless counted by the 2007 Point in Time to 72% in 2011.

The percentage of people on SSI/SSDI actually declined; this may be the result of the transition of many chronically homeless people into new permanent supportive housing. The combined SSI/SSDI utilization rate of 13% for homeless people is only slightly higher than the 9% rate evidenced for Milwaukee County households as a whole, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Twenty percent (20%) of people with disabilities as indicated in the Point in Time also reported receiving SSI/SSDI.

Mainstream Benefit	2007	2009	2011
Social Security	6%	5%	5%
SSI/SSDI	15%	19%	13%
Medicare	17%	19%	7%
Medicaid (Title 19, BadgerCare/Plus/Core)			39%
W-2 (TANF)	9%	9%	14%
Child Support			5%
Food Share/ Food Stamps	35%	45%	72%
WIC	NA	NA	8%
Veterans Benefits/ Health Care	2% 5%	2% 6%	13%
Unemployment Compensation	1%	3%	5%
Other	5%	4%	1%



INSTITUTIONAL DISCHARGES

When people are discharged from institutions with no place to go, they often end up living on the street or emergency shelter. Sometimes, people were homeless when they entered the institution. Being hospitalized after an Emergency Room visit would be an example. Other times, the institutionalization itself played a part in a person losing his/her housing. Losing one's job and not being able to pay rent as a result of hospitalization would be an example. The Point in Time Survey asked: *In the past 6 months, have you been discharged from any of the following places WITHOUT a place to live?*

Institution	2007	2009	2011
Hospitals	NA	12%	12%
Mental Health Facility	NA	6%	6%
Jail/House of Correction	NA	7%	8%
Prison	NA	2%	3%
Foster Care	NA	1%	1%

Nationally, 6% of people in emergency shelter and transitional housing had been discharged from a psychiatric facility, substance abuse center, or hospital; 4% from jail, prison or juvenile detention, and <1% from foster care.

The Milwaukee Continuum of Care looks closely at institutional discharges because of the impact on the homeless services system. This year, the Continuum organized a special Health Care Discharge Work Group to tackle the problem of discharges of people who are recovering from illness or surgery who have no place to live. The result has been a closer working relationship with hospital discharge planners and work on an agreement between the hospital systems and the Continuum to work to prevent discharges to the street or shelter in the future.

² The 2007 PIT did not ask this question. Instead it included these discharge situations as possible causes for homelessness, resulting in a non-equivalent set of responses.



SPECIAL FOCUS: Homeless Single Adults and Hospital Discharge

Hospital discharge history: This data brief looks at the issue of hospital discharge with no place to stay for single homeless adults who were interviewed in the 2011 Point in Time Survey (January 26, 2011). Of the 581 single adults, 84 (14%) reported having been discharged from a health care institution (hospital) within the past six months with no place to stay. This represents 1 out of 7 homeless single adults. There are several statistically significant differences between the Discharged Group and the Non-Discharged Group.

Employment status: The Discharged Group was more likely to be unemployed (87%) than the Non-Discharged Group (76%).

Frequency/length of homelessness: The Discharged Group was more likely (62%) to have been homeless two or more times in the past three years compared to the Non-Discharged Group (38%). This is a dramatic difference between the two populations. The Discharged Group showed longer episodes of homelessness as well.

Mental health facility discharge: The Discharged Group was much more likely (30%) to have also experienced a discharge from a health care facility (hospital) without a place to stay within the past six months. Among homeless people in the Non-Discharged Group, only 3% had experienced a hospital discharge with no place to stay. This supports the existence of a co-occurrence of mental health and physical health disorders and/or the utilization by persons with mental illness of hospital emergency departments for mental health-related problems.

Mental illness identified as problem: The Discharged Group was more likely to indicate having mental illness (58%) compared to the Non-Discharged Group (39%).

Jail/Prison discharge: The Discharged Group was much more likely to have been discharged from jail within the past six months (26%) than the Non-Discharged Group (7%). This pattern was also evident with prison discharges although the total number of prison discharges was small.

Involvement with other systems: People who experienced hospital discharges with no place to stay were often more involved than non-discharged people in other systems. Significant differences in system involvement occurred relative to the following:

System	% of Discharged Group involved in this system	% of Non-Discharged Group involved in this system
Criminal justice	48%	37%
Corrections/parole/probation	46%	33%
Mental health services	50%	32%
Medical/physical disability services	52%	27%
Special education/learning disability services	16%	9%
SSI/SSDI	24%	14%
Medicaid/BadgerCare	39%	28%

IMMEDIATE NEEDS

Homeless people who were interviewed for the Point in Time were asked: *What kind of help do you need right now?* The goal with this question was to identify homeless people's sense of priorities. In other words, what did they think they needed right now to address their situation?

Type of help	Does not need help	Needs help
Help finding work/employment assistance	43%	57%
Help finding permanent housing	20%	80%
Emergency shelter	85%	15%
Food	75%	25%
Rent/utility assistance	51%	49%
Transportation/bus passes	39%	61%
Medical care	62%	38%
Dental care	50%	50%
Mental health care/treatment	74%	26%
Substance abuse treatment	86%	14%
Help getting a Wisconsin ID or driver's license	66%	34%
Help getting government benefits	66%	34%
Child care	95%	5%
Help with child support	88%	12%
Help getting my children back (family reunification)	94%	6%
Other	98%	2%

While help finding permanent housing topped the list, the second most mentioned need was transportation assistance. This need is also frequently articulated in focus groups with homeless people as being a major concern relative to getting to appointments and work.

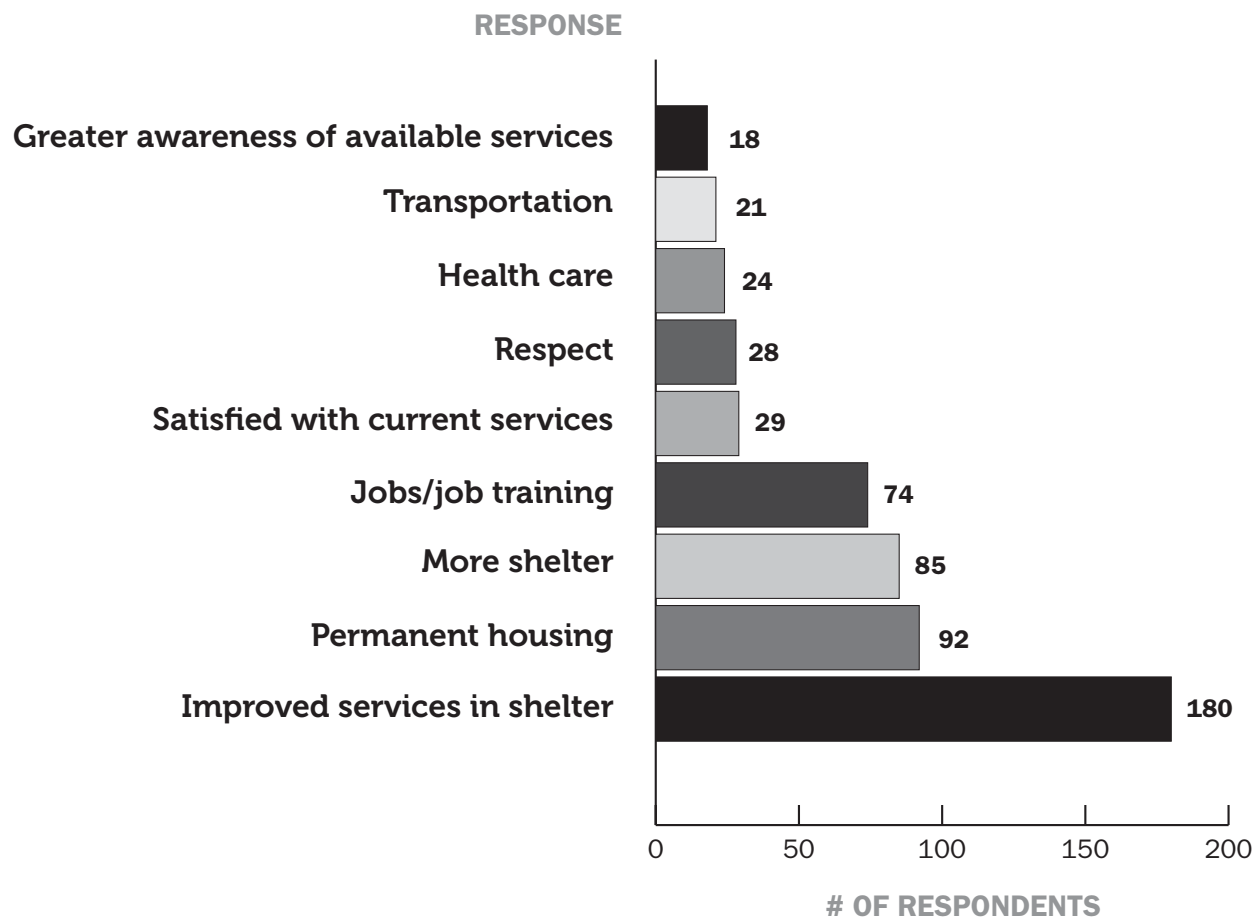
Consumer-defined needs in rank order:

1. Help finding permanent housing
2. Transportation/bus passes
3. Help finding work/employment assistance
4. Dental care
5. Rent/utility assistance
6. Medical care
7. Help getting government benefits/Help getting ID or driver's license
8. Mental health care/treatment
9. Food
10. Emergency shelter
11. Substance abuse treatment
12. Help with child support
13. Help with family reunification
14. Child care
15. Other

Homeless Consumers' Views

At the end of the Point in Time Survey, we asked this question of the homeless people who were interviewed: *What would you suggest to make services for homeless people better?*

By far, the greatest area for improvement focused on improved services in shelter, specifically, substance abuse and mental health services, case management, educational services, and computer access among others. Housing – emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent affordable housing – was the next most frequently mentioned way to improve services for homeless people. Representative comments offered by homeless respondents are on the next page.



Consumers' Comments about How to Improve Services

Greater awareness of available services

More awareness of services

More information about resources

It would be nice if the homeless community had better access to helpful information.

Transportation

Ability to have better transportation

Transportation assistance

Provide weekly bus passes.

Health care

Affordable health care

Medical insurance for everyone

Not so long of a wait for things like dental care

Satisfied with current services

The help you all have given me means a lot and I thank you from my heart.

It's beautiful. It's all good.

I can't see anything wrong with the system. It's been very good to me.

Respect

Removing stigma and showing compassion

Treat all homeless with dignity and respect

Just because we are homeless, don't look down on us. We all make bad choices sometimes.

Jobs/job training

More job training programs in shelters

More support when having job interviews and after you find a job

Getting help with working experience and filling out applications

More shelter

More shelters for single women

There needs to be more room/space available for all those that need a place to stay.

I would say if they had more shelters it would make it better for some who are homeless.

Permanent housing

More affordable housing

More funding for permanent housing and rental assistance programs

Give housing quicker.

Improved services in shelter

Keep clients motivated. Make sure clients are fully informed of services that are available.

Getting better resources, getting what they need to get back on their feet..

A more rapid system that can really tell a person's needs without a whole lot of red tape

Point in Time Interviewers' Perspectives: What Interviewers Heard from Homeless People

The January 2011 Point in Time mobilized a small army of interviewers. Thirty of those interviewers responded to a follow-up survey designed to get their feedback about ways to improve the survey process in the future. In summary, they thought the survey preparation and implementation went well with 93% indicating that their interviewing experience as positive.

We asked interviewers this question:

The homeless people you talked to had opinions and experiences that went beyond the survey.

Tell us the one or two most important things you heard firsthand from homeless people.

This what our interviewers passed on to us from the homeless people they talked to. All of these comments came from people who were interviewed at meal programs, libraries, or the Rescue Mission. The majority of these respondents were single adults.

They need jobs and for people to treat them respectfully.

More individual services are needed such as case management/mentors. Upset due to the lack of support/compassion that they received from some of the workers at the shelter.

I heard if I only was given a chance to improve myself. Homeless are misunderstood by the private sector.

One gentleman came from California to find work. I'm not sure why anyone thinks Milwaukee has more jobs available than other communities. Another person mentioned that he was homeless because his landlord was foreclosed on. There should be some legal recourse for people in this position to get their month's rent and security deposit returned to them.

Very difficult for them to locate resources and travel there.

People mostly wanted to expand on the question on how to improve services, but mostly it was in broader ways beyond actual services, e.g. create more jobs. Also people wanted services to be more empowering rather than requiring them to adhere to rules like going to church.

One gentleman stated, "I am stubborn and don't want help. I have been surviving in the streets this long. Why change?"

Why can't some of these foreclosed homes be used for housing for the homeless. Family situations such as divorce, domestic violence caused them to be homeless.

The participants at (shelter) felt like they were not treated appropriately and felt that they are not being informed about the housing programs that may be available to them.

One person stated she walked out of her low-income housing because there were too much drugs. Maybe management should look into that.

Opinions about specific shelters were shared.

A veteran said he'd lived at the shelter several years and didn't want any benefits from the VA except his health care.

One gentleman recently became homeless due to a dispute in his living arrangement. Now he is having difficulty getting back on his feet. The consistent theme was the need for employment.

A man I interviewed who had SSI benefits was homeless every month because family or friends always ask him to leave after he helps pay rent. Person has mental health issues.

Mostly, they talked about how it is difficult to obtain benefits that might help due to not having the stability of a place to live.

I heard such a sense of frustration with finding work and also figuring out where to get help with certain things. One of the men had a great suggestion of having one central location (and have it well-advertised) that could tell each person where to find the services they need.

The two I spoke to had very broad recommendations for improvement. One focused on discrimination. The second person was clearly mentally ill.

Many of the people I surveyed didn't count because that are transiently homeless, living couch to couch, with no permanent residence and because of the way the first two questions were asked, they couldn't be counted as 'truly homeless' although they are.

I heard consistent frustration at not being able to find work.

One gets up at 4:00 a.m. to go to temp office trying to get a job for the day. One young man has child support payments that he can't even think of paying since he does not have a job. Many stayed with friends or relatives. I was surprised at how willing people were to take the survey.

Transportation is an obstacle to the clients finding employment and there was a great lack of health care among those I interviewed. It is hard for people to work on bigger issues such as employment and housing when their basic physical and mental health needs are not being addressed.

Most people I came across just wanted work. That was a recurring theme.

When interviewers are able to engage people in conversation, the result is information that goes beyond the survey boxes being checked. This was the first year that we asked interviewers to sum up those conversations for us and it yielded valuable insight into the lives of homeless people in Milwaukee.



Point in Time Seasonal Comparison

2011 Winter Point in Time Compared to the 2011 Summer Point in Time

Introduction

The official Point in Time across the U.S. is conducted in the third week of January and is conducted regardless of the weather situation. Sometimes Milwaukee's January weather is extremely challenging for Point in Time workers and the Continuum of Care members have long thought that homeless people are much harder to find in deep winter than they would be in warmer weather.

To determine whether in fact there is a seasonal differential in homelessness in Milwaukee, the Continuum of Care conducted both the regular Winter Point in Time (January 26, 2011) and a Summer Point in Time (July 27, 2011). The same methodology was used for both Points in Time, including a count of sheltered homeless using the HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) and a street count of unsheltered homeless conducted by community volunteers. There were two implementation challenges for the Summer Point in Time which may have affected the results: 1) the Summer Point in Time had significantly fewer volunteers to conduct the unsheltered homeless portion; and 2) heavy thunderstorms covered Milwaukee for most of the afternoon and evening of the count. The Milwaukee Police Department Homeless Outreach Team noted that many of the 'regulars' that they normally see at night were not outside. These two factors were likely to have reduced the number of homeless people who were counted.

Total Number of Homeless Adults and Children Counted

Winter Count:	1,466
Summer Count:	1,436

The Summer Point in Time counted 1,436 homeless adults and children; this is a 2% decrease from the Winter Point in Time count (1,466).

In contrast, data collected by 2-1-1 @ IMPACT for the same days at the Points in Time indicate increased requests in July over January. Specifically, on January 26, 2011 (Winter Point in Time date), there were 33 callers requesting shelter; on July 27, 2011 (Summer Point in Time date), there were 37 requesting shelter, an increase of 12%. This level of increase is consistent with the anecdotal reports of homeless service providers who suggest that families and friends are less likely to ask homeless people who are temporarily staying with them to leave during cold weather.

Seasonal Comparisons: Following is information presented for several variables comparing the Winter Point in Time results to the Summer Point in Time results. In both instances, the data reported are only for the ADULT POPULATION. In the case of the Winter Point in Time, the data are only for those adults who were interviewed (852). For the Summer Point in Time, the data are for all adults, those interviewed on the street as well as those whose information was gathered directly from HMIS (980).

GENDER

Gender	2011 Winter PIT	2011 Summer PIT
Male	58%	64%
Female	42%	36%

	2011 Winter PIT	2011 Summer PIT
RACE/ETHNIC ORIGIN		
African American	63%	68%
Hispanic/Latino	4%	5%
Caucasian	25%	22%
Asian	1%	1%
Native American	2%	1%
Two or more races	4%	1%
Other	2%	1%
VETERAN STATUS		
Veteran	25%	20%
Non-Veteran	75%	80%
VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR VIOLENT CRIME		
Domestic Violence Victim	17%	33%
Violent Crime Victim	27%	37%
SHELTERED/UNSHELTERED HOMELESS		
Sheltered	87%	89%
Unsheltered	13%	11%
LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS		
Less than 1 month	21%	8%
1 to 3 months	22%	14%
4 to 6 months	15%	9%
Longer than 6 months but less than 1 year	12%	15%
1 to 3 years	19%	28%
More than 3 years	11%	26%
NUMBER OF TIMES HOMELESS		
Once	47%	44%
Twice	22%	17%
Three Times	12%	10%
4 or More Times	15%	29%
CHRONICALLY HOMELESS		
One or more disabilities	64%	52%
DISABILITY STATUS		
Chronically Homeless	26%	24%

Discussion

In many instances, the results for the Winter and Summer Points in Time are roughly comparable. These include gender, race/ethnic origin, veteran status, sheltered/unsheltered, number of times homeless, and chronically homeless. While there are some interesting differences such as the 58% male in Winter compared to the 64% male in Summer, most of these differences could be attributed to the variations in PIT count implementation and/or other natural variations in the population.

However, there were differences that are dramatic and hard to explain. These include the percentage of domestic violence victims (17% Winter vs. 33% Summer) and Violence Crime Victims (27% Winter vs. 37% Summer). Also of note were the significant differences in length of homelessness. The Winter PIT counted 58% of adults as being homeless less than 6 months compared to 31% of the Summer PIT. Conversely, 42% of the Winter PIT homeless adults had been homeless 6 months or more compared to 69% of the Summer PIT homeless adults. Another dramatic difference was in the percentage of homeless reporting one or more disabilities. In the Winter PIT, 64% indicated disabilities compared to 52% in the Summer count.

This was the first time that the Milwaukee Continuum of Care conducted a Summer Point in Time count. However, both Winter and Summer Points in Time will be required by funding sources going forward. As additional counts are conducted, additional insight can be gathered about seasonal differences in the homeless population. This first set of comparisons should be considered exploratory until further data are collected.



Calls to 2-1-1 @ IMPACT

2007 - November, 2011

2-1-1 is Milwaukee's primary information resource telephone service. 2-1-1 maintains a comprehensive resource directory that provides information about emergency food, homelessness and emergency shelter, health care, alcohol and other drug abuse, mental health, housing and other problems.

Shelter Requests - Full Year

Issue	Yr 2011 (> Nov)	Yr 2010	Yr 2009	Yr 2008	Yr 2007
Crisis Nursery	382	196	95	48	53
Day Shelter	144	75	74	105	119
Domestic Violence Shelter	1,293	1,053	874	754	846
Emergency Shelter	13,787	13,791	10,585	10,006	9,242
Runaway / Youth Shelter	311	257	219	186	223
Transitional Shelter/Housing	666	676	325	359	458
Total	16,583	16,048	12,172	11,458	10,941
Total Calls for Period	104,002	132,248	141,625	130,083	120,192
Pct of Calls	15.9%	12.1%	8.6%	8.8%	9.1%

Shelter Requests - January

Issue	Yr 2011 (> Nov)	Yr 2010	Yr 2009	Yr 2008	Yr 2007
Crisis Nursery	20	9	6	2	3
Day Shelter	13	9	6	7	5
Domestic Violence Shelter	78	65	38	48	68
Emergency Shelter	926	999	702	700	824
Runaway / Youth Shelter	21	17	9	9	36
Transitional Shelter/Housing	44	43	20	34	36
Total	1,102	1,142	781	800	972
Total Calls for Period	9,245	10,701	10,772	9,947	10,041
Pct of Calls	11.9%	10.7%	7.3%	8.0%	9.7%

Shelter Requests - "Count Day"

Issue	Winter PIT 1/26/2011	Summer PIT 7/27/2011
Crisis Nursery	0	1
Day Shelter	0	1
Domestic Violence Shelter	2	4
Emergency Shelter	31	30
Runaway / Youth Shelter	0	1
Transitional Shelter/Housing	0	0
Total	33	37

Key Indicators

- Proportion of shelter calls related to total calls has been increasing from 2008 (8.8%) to 2011 (15.9%).
- Calls for all types of shelter and transitional housing have increased substantially since 2009.
- The proportion of shelter callers who are familiar has decreased and the proportion of single women has increased.

Household Makeup - Full Year

Issue	Yr 2011 (> Nov)	Yr 2010	Yr 2009	Yr 2008	Yr 2007
Family	5,904	6,457	5,487	5,737	5,496
Single Female	5,459	5,961	4,038	3,617	3,439
Single Male	2,025	2,488	2,229	1,778	1,679
Youth	158	192	226	179	209
Total	13,546	15,098	11,980	11,311	10,823

Household Makeup - January

Issue	Yr 2011 (> Nov)	Yr 2010	Yr 2009	Yr 2008	Yr 2007
Family	329	484	307	352	457
Single Female	413	293	285	266	328
Single Male	196	222	188	176	193
Youth	8	15	13	8	32
Total	946	1,014	793	802	1,010

Household Makeup - "Count Day"

Issue	Winter PIT 1/26/2011	Summer PIT 7/27/2011
Crisis Nursery	0	1
Day Shelter	0	1
Domestic Violence Shelter	2	4
Emergency Shelter	31	30
Runaway / Youth Shelter	0	1
Transitional Shelter/Housing	0	0
Total	33	37

January 2010 National Point in Time Count

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development presented the combined results of all the PITs across the country in a report entitled “The 2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress.” Here are the highlights:

- 649,917 homeless people
- 62% sheltered
- 38% unsheltered
- 63% individuals
 - 52% sheltered
 - 48% unsheltered
- 37% persons in families
 - 78% sheltered
 - 22% unsheltered
- 109,812 chronically homeless – 17% of total homeless population
- Sheltered – Special Populations
 - Serious mental illness 26%
 - Substance abuse 35%
 - HIV/AIDS 4%
 - DV 12%
 - Youth 1%
- Sheltered – Discharge
 - Psychiatric facility, substance abuse treatment of hospital 8%
 - Jail, prison or juvenile detention 5%
 - Foster care <1%

Median Length of stay

Individual – Emergency Shelter	16 days
Family – Emergency Shelter	29
Total – Emergency Shelter	20
Individual – Transitional Housing	105 days
Family – Transitional Housing	175
Total – Transitional Housing	135

Source: The 2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, June 2011.

¹ Data on special populations and Institutional Discharges are only available for people in shelter, i.e. emergency shelter, transitional housing.

Point in Time Comparisons 2007 – 2010 for Selected U.S. Cities

CoC	2007 PIT Count	2010 PIT Count	Percent Change 01-10	2010 Population	Ratio Homeless: Population
Anchorage AK	842	1,113	32%	291,826	1:263
Birmingham AL	1,240	1,069	-14%	212,237	1:200
Phoenix AZ	5,595	4,270	-24%	3,251,876	1:769
San Francisco, CA	2,912	2,881	-1%	805,235	1:286
Sacramento, CA	1,447	1,540	6%	1,418,788	1:1,000
Des Moines, IA	942	956	1%	203,433	1:217
Indianapolis, IN	1,634	1,361	-17%	820,445	1:625
Boston, MA	4,798	4,884	2%	617,594	1:126
Baltimore, MD	1,978	2,191	11%	620,961	1:286
Hennepin County MN	2,428	2,808	16%	1,156,212	1:416
Omaha, NE	1,632	1,335	-18%	408,958	1:312
Buffalo NY	1,008	724	-28%	261,310	1:370
Cleveland OH	2,001	2,140	7%	1,280,122	1:625
Portland OR	2,284	2,644	16%	583,776	1:222
Pittsburgh PA	1,132	1,146	1%	305,704	1:270
Nashville TN	1,766	1,985	12%	601,222	1:303
San Antonio TX	1,798	1,674	-7%	1,327,407	1:833
Seattle WA	5,680	6,222	10%	1,931,249	1:313
Milwaukee WI	1,295	1,317	2%	947,735	1:714
WI Balance of State	2,817	3,207	14%	NA	NA

Source: The 2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, June 2011.



2011 Point in Time Survey of Milwaukee's Homeless Citizens

APPENDIX

2011 Milwaukee Homeless Point-in-Time Survey

Results Report

March 2011

Prepared by G. Scott Davis
Center for Urban Initiatives and Research
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

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Introduction

Every two years, the Milwaukee Continuum of Care (CoC) conducts a point-in-time census of homeless adults, both sheltered and unsheltered. Volunteers conduct counts and interviews at various sites throughout Milwaukee, including meal sites, outdoor encampments, shelters, and other places. This took place on January 26-27, 2011.

The following results report responses to items for all respondents on the Sheltered and Unsheltered surveys (long-form). See Appendices A and B for a copy of the surveys. There were 816 total respondents, with 706 (86.5%) completing the Sheltered version and 110 (13.5%) completing the Unsheltered version.

In addition, crosstab analyses (chi-squared) or one-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) were performed on all variables as appropriate to identify whether a statistically significant difference exists between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents. Statistical significance was set at the $p < 0.05$ level. Results with statistically significant differences are noted throughout this report.¹

NOTE: The researchers neither intend nor imply that the following results are representative of all homeless individuals in Milwaukee; rather it is an observation of these respondents.

Note: Missing responses are not included in this report. Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Individual Demographics

Age.²

There is no significant difference between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents in terms of age. Overall, ages ranged from 12 to 88 years of age, with a mean age of 41.9 years (N=777). For Sheltered respondents, ages ranged from 12 to 88 years of age, with a mean age of 41.91 years (N=680), and for Unsheltered respondents, ages ranged from 19 to 66 years of age, with a mean age of 42.1 years (N=97).

Gender.

In both groups, males outnumber females, as shown in Table 1 on the next page. However, this is only a slight difference in the Sheltered group, while there are four times as many males as females in the Unsheltered group. This is a statistically significant difference between groups, with a higher proportion of males in the Unsheltered group than in the Sheltered group.

¹ Crosstab statistical tests become unstable with inconclusive significance when cell sizes (number of responses to a particular response) are fewer than 5. As such, these are not reported as significant in this report.

² Three responses for age were removed as errors: 1 year, 2 years, and 4 years.

Table 1: Gender by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Gender</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Female	319	45.7%	21	20.2%
Male	379	54.3%	83	79.8%
Transgender	0	0%	0	0%
TOTAL	698	100%	104	100%

Race / Ethnicity.

As seen in Table 2, there are differences between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents by race/ethnicity, but these are not statistically significant. In each group, African Americans represent the highest proportion, with 64.2% of Sheltered respondents and 57.7% of Unsheltered respondents. Caucasians are the next highest in both, with 25.6% of Sheltered respondents and 25.0% of Unsheltered.

Table 2: Race / Ethnicity by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Race / Ethnicity</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
African American / Black	449	64.2%	60	57.7%
Asian	4	0.6%	0	0%
Hispanic / Latino	25	3.6%	6	5.8%
Native American/Alaska Native	8	1.1%	4	3.8%
Two or More Races	24	3.4%	4	3.8%
Caucasian / White	179	25.6%	26	25.0%
Other	10	1.4%	4	3.8%
TOTAL	699	100%	104	100%

Sexual Orientation.

Respondents were asked to indicate their sexual orientation. There was no statistically significant difference between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents. The most frequent response in each group was heterosexual/straight, with 91.0% of Sheltered and 86.3% of Unsheltered respondents. See Table 3a on the following page.

Table 3a: Sexual Orientation by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Orientation</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Heterosexual/Straight	599	91.0%	88	86.3%
Gay or Lesbian	12	1.8%	4	3.9%
Bisexual	10	1.5%	4	3.9%
Questioning/Not Sure	7	1.1%	1	1/0%
REFUSED TO ANSWER	30	4.6%	5	4.9%
TOTAL	658	100%	102	100%

The responses were collapsed into a dichotomy of LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, or questioning) or non-LGBTQ (heterosexual/straight). Respondents who refused to answer were excluded. As shown below, there are differences between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents, but this is not statistically significant. It is interesting to note that 5% of Sheltered respondents reported LGBTQ status – which is less than general population estimates, whereas 9% of those who are Unsheltered respondents reported LGBTQ status – which is about equal to general population estimates

Table 3b: LGBTQ Status by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Status</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
LGBTQ	29	4.6%	9	9.3%
Non-LGBTQ	599	95.4%	88	90.7%
TOTAL	628	100%	97	100%

Household Characteristics

Single Person or Part of a Couple.

Respondents were asked to report whether he/she was a single person or part of a couple. As shown below in Table 4a, single persons are more frequently identified in both the Sheltered (95.6%) and the Unsheltered group (86.4%). Being part of a couple is three times more likely to be reported by Unsheltered respondents than Sheltered respondents – 13.6% compared to 4.4%. This is a statistically significant difference. See Table 4a.

Table 4a: Single or Couple Status by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Status</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Single Person	670	95.6%	95	86.4%
Part of a Couple	31	4.4%	15	13.6%
TOTAL	701	100%	110	100%

Households with Children.

Respondents were asked how many children less than 18 years of age were presently with them. As shown in Table 4b, nearly a quarter of Sheltered respondents reported children in their households (22.5%), compared to less than one in twenty Unsheltered respondents (3.6%). This is a statistically significant difference.

Table 4b: Children in Household by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Status</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Children	159	22.5%	4	3.6%
No Children	547	77.5%	15	96.4%
TOTAL	706	100%	110	100%

Of all households with children, the average number was 2 children, with a minimum of 1 child and a maximum of 7 children. Of the Sheltered households with children, the average number was 2 children, with a minimum of 1 child and a maximum of 7 children, while for the Unsheltered households with children, the average number was 2 children, with a minimum of 1 child and a maximum of 4 children.

Single Parent or Two Parent Households.

As shown in Table 4c on the next page, the majority of households with children across both Sheltered and Unsheltered groups are single parent households. Of Sheltered respondent households, 93.1% are headed by a single parent, and all of the Unsheltered respondent households are headed by a single parent.

Table 4c: Single or Two Parent Household by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Status</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Single Parent	148	93.1%	4	100%
Two Parents	11	6.9%	0	0%
TOTAL	159	100%	4	100%

Homeless Count from Surveys.

By using the responses to previous items, the researchers were able to determine an estimate of the number of individuals who were homeless. There were a total of 862 adults and 338 children, for an overall total of 1,200 individuals from these two survey forms. Of this number, 28.2% are children. See Table 4d.

Table 4d: Counts of Homeless by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Individuals</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Adults	737 ³	93.1%	125	100%
Children	330	6.9%	8	0%
TOTAL	1,067	100%	132	100%

³ For the Sheltered responses, there were 5 missing responses for single or part of couple. These were assumed to be single adults for the count.

Education

Respondents were asked to indicate the highest level of education completed. The most frequently identified category by both Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents in a high school diploma, GED, or HSED, with 36.5% and 46.2%, respectively. There were a slightly higher percentage of Sheltered respondents with some college (32.2%) than Unsheltered respondents (20.8%). However, there are no statistically significant differences between the groups in terms of education.

Table 5: Education by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Level of Education</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Less than High School	170	24.9%	27	25.5%
HS Diploma/GED/HSED	250	36.5%	49	46.2%
Some College/Tech/Trade School	221	32.2%	22	20.8%
College Degree or higher	43	6.3%	8	7.5%
TOTAL	684	100%	106	100%

Veteran Status

To determine veteran status of respondents, members of the Continuum of Care determined that a respondent needed to respond yes to either serving in the U.S Armed Forces or to having been activated as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist. Results are shown in Table 6 on the following page.

There was a statistically significant difference between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents by veteran status. Sheltered respondents were more likely than Unsheltered respondents to being categorized as a veteran – 26.9% compared to 17.4%, respectively.

Table 6: Veteran Status by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Status</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Veteran	177	26.9%	15	17.4%
Not a Veteran	480	73.1%	71	82.6%
TOTAL	657	100%	86	100%

Employment Status

Current Employment Status.

A majority of individuals in both the Sheltered and Unsheltered groups reported being unemployed (76.3% and 87.7%, respectively). About one in four Sheltered respondents is employed part-time or full-time, compared to about one in eight Unsheltered respondents. See Table 5a.

Table 5a: Current Employment Status by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Status</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Employed Part-Time	99	14.4%	10	9.4%
Employed Full-Time	64	9.3%	3	2.8%
Unemployed/Not Employed	524	76.3%	93	87.7%
TOTAL	687	100%	110	100%

Ever Had a Full-time Job.

Those respondents who reported being either employed part-time or unemployed were asked whether he/she ever had a full-time job. As shown in Table 5b, 86.9% of Sheltered respondents and 81.3% of Unsheltered respondents reported having had a full-time job at one point. This is not a statistically significant difference.

Table 5b: Ever Had a Full-Time Job by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Response</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Yes	431	86.9%	65	81.3%
No	65	13.1%	15	18.8%
TOTAL	496	100%	80	100%

Length of Current Unemployment.

Unemployed respondents were asked how long they have been unemployed or without work. Although there are some differences across Sheltered and Unsheltered responses, there was no statistically significant difference. About three out of five Sheltered respondents and seven of ten Unsheltered respondents have been unemployed for a year or longer. See Table 5c on the next page.

Table 5c: Length of Current Unemployment by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Length of Time</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Less than 6 months	93	20.8%	9	11.4%
More than 6 months but less than 1 year	74	16.5%	14	17.7%
1 to 3 years	172	38.4%	36	45.6%
More than 3 years	109	24.3%	20	25.3%
TOTAL	448	100%	79	100%

Unemployed, but Willing and Able to Work.

A question on the survey asked only those unemployed whether they were physically and emotionally able to work. The intent of the question was to determine if there was a potential debilitating condition preventing ability to seek or maintain employment.

There was a statistically significant difference between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents. About four in five Unsheltered respondents (79.7%) reported being willing and able to work but unemployed, compared to just about two-thirds of Sheltered respondents (65.6%).

Table 5d: Willing and Able to Work by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Response</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Yes	322	65.6%	63	79.7%
No	169	34.4%	16	20.3%
TOTAL	491	100%	79	100%

Homelessness Items

Length of Current Homelessness.

Respondents were asked to report the length of time they have currently been homeless, or if they are not currently homeless. Unsheltered respondents reported current homelessness for longer periods of time overall than Sheltered respondents. Almost half of Unsheltered respondents (47.7%) reported being homeless for one year or more compared to about a quarter of Sheltered respondents (25.4%). This is a statistically significant difference. This is a criterion for determining chronic homelessness (one year or longer).

Table 6: Length of Current Homelessness by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Length of Time</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Less than 1 month	162	23.0%	14	12.8%
1 to 3 months	171	24.3%	9	8.3%
4 to 6 months	99	14.1%	21	19.3%
More than 6 months but less than 1 year	86	12.2%	13	11.9%
1 to 3 years	116	16.5%	36	33.0%
More than 3 years	63	8.9%	16	14.7%
Not Sure / Don't Know	7	1.0%	0	0%
TOTAL	704	100%	109	100%

Times Homeless During the Last Three Years.

Respondents were asked to report the number of times that they have been homeless over the past three years, or if they are not currently homeless. See Table 7 on the following page.

Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents reported the number of times homeless during the past three years rather similarly, without any statistically significant differences. Just under a third of Unsheltered respondents (28.7%) and about a quarter of Sheltered respondents reported being homeless three or more times during the past three years. In terms of, one in five Unsheltered respondents (20.4%) and about one in eight Sheltered (13.0%) respondents reported being homeless as four or more times in past three years, a criterion for determining chronic homelessness.

Table 7: Times Homelessness Past 3 Years by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Times</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Once	335	48.9%	47	43.5%
Twice	152	22.2%	22	20.4%
Three	78	11.4%	9	8.3%
Four or more	89	13.0%	22	20.4%
Not Sure / Don't Know	31	4.5%	8	7.4%
TOTAL	685	100%	108	100%

Homelessness Contingency related to Chronic Homelessness.

As mentioned previously, the length of homelessness and the number of times homeless during the past three years are criteria used in the definition of chronic homelessness. Specifically, if one is either homeless for one year or longer or homeless four or more times during the past three years, then he/she meets part of the definition.

As shown in Table 8, there is a considerable difference between the number of Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents who meet this part of the definition related to chronic homelessness. Just over half of Unsheltered respondents (52.7%) meet this contingency compared to about a third of Sheltered respondents (30.5%). This is a statistically significant difference.

Table 8: Homelessness Contingency by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Meet Contingency</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Yes	215	30.5%	58	52.7%
No	491	69.5%	52	47.3%
TOTAL	706	100%	110	100%

Core Reason for Current Homelessness.

Respondents were asked to report the core reason that he/she became homeless. These responses were coded according to the Homeless Primary Reason categories. The five most frequently identified reasons for Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents are shown in Tables 9a and 9b on the next page. A full listing can be found in Appendix C.

The top three reasons are identical across both Sheltered and Unsheltered groups – Unemployment, Low or No income, and Roommate or Family Conflict. Addiction and

Physical/Mental Disabilities round out the top five reasons for Sheltered respondents, while Other Reasons and Needs Better Environment complete the Unsheltered top five.

Table 9a: Top Five Reasons for Homelessness - Sheltered Respondents

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Unemployment	175	27.2%
Low or No Income	148	23.0%
Roommate or Family Conflict	99	15.4%
Addiction	81	12.6%
Physical / Mental Disabilities	45	7.0%

Table 9b: Top Five Reasons for Homelessness - Unsheltered Respondents

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Unemployment	43	41.7%
Low or No Income	27	26.2%
Roommate or Family Conflict	15	14.6%
Other	8	7.8%
Needs Better Environment	5	4.9%

Where Slept or Spent the Previous Night.

The survey asked respondents to identify where he/she had slept or spent the previous night. See Table 10a below. There are differences between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents related to where he/she had slept or spent the previous night. The most frequent response for Sheltered respondents was Transitional Housing (48.6%), followed by Emergency Shelter (38.0%) and Safe Haven (9.1%). In contrast, Other was the most frequent response for Unsheltered respondents (52.8%), followed by Emergency Shelter (25.0%).

Table 10a: Where Slept or Stayed Previous Night by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Place</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Transitional Housing	342	48.6%	2	1.9%
Emergency Shelter	267	38.0%	27	25.0%
Safe Haven	64	9.1%	6	5.6%
On the Streets/Under a Bridge	0	0%	1	0.9%
In Public Facilities	0	0%	1	0.9%
In a Car or Other Vehicle	0	0%	1	0.9%
In a Vacant/Abandoned Building	0	0%	6	5.6%
Other	30	4.3%	57	52.8%
TOTAL	703	100%	108	100%

Table 10b on the following page shows the specific responses given by Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents related to an “Other” place.

**Table 10b: Other Place Spelt or Stayed Previous Night
by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status**

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
Place	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Specific Shelter	15	51.7%	14	27.5%
Friend	3	10.3%	19	37.3%
Family	1	3.4%	9	17.6%
Hospital / Medical Facility	7	24.1%	0	0%
Hotel / Motel	0	0%	3	5.9%
Other	2	6.9%	2	3.9%
Outside	0	0%	2	3.9%
AODA Care Facility	1	3.4%	0	0%
Police Station	0	0%	1	2.0%
Public Facility	0	0%	1	2.0%
TOTAL	29	100%	51	100%

Past 6 Months – Lived in Places Not Meant for Habitation.

The survey asked respondents to identify whether he/she had lived in any of four possible places typically not meant for human habitation. Unsheltered respondents are more likely to report having lived in all places not meant for human habitation than Sheltered respondents. In most cases, they are at least three times more likely – and all of these differences are statistically significant.

**Table 11: Lived in a Place Not Meant for Habitation in the Past 6 Months
by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status**

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
Place	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
On the Streets/Under a Bridge *	89	13.3%	53	49.5%
In Public Facilities *	55	8.2%	24	24.2%
In a Car or Other Vehicle *	78	11.7%	26	26.8%
In a Vacant/Abandoned Building *	54	8.2%	29	29.6%

** denotes a statistically significant difference*

Past 6 Months – Discharged Homeless from a Facility.

The survey asked respondents to identify whether he/she had been discharged from any of several facilities without a place to live (homeless) as shown in Table 12 on the next page. The only significant difference is found for those discharged from jail or the house of corrections. Unsheltered respondents are about three times more likely to report

having discharged homeless from this facility in comparison to Sheltered respondents (18.6% compared to 6.9%, respectively).

Table 12: Discharged Homeless from a Facility in the Past 6 Months by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Facility</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Hospital/Health Care Facility	74	11.0%	15	14.9%
Mental Health Care Facility	42	6.3%	6	6.1%
Jail/House of Corrections *	46	6.9%	19	18.6%
Prison	15	2.2%	4	2.5%
Foster Care/Group Home	5	0.8%	1	1.0%

** denotes a statistically significant difference*

Past Year – Stayed in an Emergency Shelter in Milwaukee.

The survey asked whether a respondent had stayed in an emergency shelter in Milwaukee in the past year. There is no difference between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents related to this item. See Table 13a.

Table 13a: Stayed in a Milwaukee Emergency Shelter in Past Year by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Response</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Yes	425	62.6%	57	53.8%
No	254	37.4%	49	46.2%
TOTAL	679	100%	106	100%

Past Year – Which Emergency Shelter in Milwaukee.

Respondents who answered “yes” that he/she had stayed at an emergency shelter were asked to identify which shelters those were from a list. See Table 13b on the next page.

Significant differences between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents were only found for three Milwaukee Emergency Shelters.

- Sheltered respondents were about two-and-a-half times more likely to identify Cathedral Center than Unsheltered respondents (25.9% to 10.2%).
- For Repairers of the Breach, Unsheltered respondents were six times more likely than Sheltered respondents (33.3% compared to 4.9%) to report a stay within the past year.

- Unsheltered respondents were almost three times more likely than Sheltered respondents to report a stay at the Rescue Mission Safe Harbor for Single Men (71.7% compared to 25.6%).

**Table 13b: Which Milwaukee Emergency Shelters in Past Year
by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status**

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Shelter</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Guest House	99	26.5%	11	24.5%
Hope House Single Men	24	6.5%	1	2.0%
Cathedral Center *	102	25.9%	5	10.2%
Family Support Center	32	8.5%	0	0%
Salvation Army Emergency Lodge	99	26.2%	10	20.8%
Repairers of the Breach *	18	4.9%	16	33.3%
Rescue Mission Safe Harbor for Single Men *	97	25.6%	38	71.7%
Rescue Mission Joy House for Families	30	8.0%	2	4.2%
ANY Domestic Violence Shelter	40	10.8%	2	4.1%
ANY Homeless Youth Shelter	17	4.6%	0	0%
Other Type of Shelter	40	11.2%	7	14.9%

** denotes a statistically significant difference*

Past Housing and Residency

Residence – Formal Rental Agreement or Home Ownership.

The survey asked whether a respondent had ever had a formal rental agreement or lease or owned a home. There is no difference between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents related to this item.

As seen in Table 14, Sheltered respondents were more likely than Unsheltered respondents to have either had a formal rental agreement or lease (75.5% to 58.7%, respectively) or owned a home (17.2% to 9.3%, respectively).

Table 14: Had a Formal Rental Agreement or Owned a Home by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Residence</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Formal Rental Agreement/Lease *	498	75.5%	61	58.7%
Owned a Home *	105	17.2%	9	9.3%

** denotes a statistically significant difference*

City of Residence Last Year.

The survey asked respondents to identify where he/she had lived at this time last year. As seen in Table 15 on the following page, the responses from Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents are virtually identical. By far the most frequent response for both groups was within the City of Milwaukee.

Table 15: City of Residence Last Year by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Place</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
City of Milwaukee	556	79.4%	91	82.7%
Suburb of Milwaukee	27	3.9%	3	2.7%
Other city/place in Wisconsin	36	5.1%	5	4.5%
Other city/place in another state	78	11.1%	11	10.0%
Outside of the U.S.	3	0.4%	0	0%
TOTAL	700	100%	108	100%

Conditions and Issues Other than Homelessness

The survey tried to determine what conditions and other issues in addition to homelessness that respondents were facing. This included mental health, substance abuse, medical, conditions, and many others. Respondents could select as many as was appropriate.

Five Most Frequent Conditions or Issues.

The five most frequently reported conditions or issues are similar for both Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents, with differing orders (See Tables 16a and 16b).

Table 16a: Top Five Systems with Involvement by Sheltered Respondents

1. Mental Illness
2. Medical Condition/Physical Disability
3. Alcohol Abuse Issues
4. Drug Abuse Issues
5. Learning Disability

Table 16b: Top Five Systems with Involvement by Unsheltered Respondents

1. Medical Condition/Physical Disability
2. Alcohol Abuse Issues
3. Mental Illness
4. Drug Abuse Issues
5. Learning Disability

Differences in Conditions or Issues

As shown in Table 16c on the next page, there are mostly similarities between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents and the other conditions and issues that they face in addition to homelessness. There were only two where the differences were statistically significant:

- Mental illness, with Sheltered respondents more likely than Unsheltered respondents to report this condition (41.5% compared to 21.8%, respectively).
- Drug abuse, with Sheltered respondents more likely than Unsheltered respondents to report this condition (23.1% compared to 15.5%, respectively).

Table 16c: Other Conditions or Issues by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Condition</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Mental Illness *	293	41.5%	24	21.8%
Medical Condition/Physical Disability	278	39.4%	37	33.6%
Alcohol Abuse Issues	186	26.3%	28	25.5%
Drug Abuse Issues *	163	23.1%	17	15.5%
Developmental Disability	37	5.2%	7	6.4%
Learning Disability	77	10.9%	12	10.9%
HIV / AIDS	20	2.8%	2	1.8%
Other	5	0.7%	0	0%

** denotes a statistically significant difference*

Receiving Services for Other Identified Conditions and Issues.

If a respondent reported experiencing a condition or issue, then he/she was asked to identify whether he/she was currently receiving services for that condition or issue. The information presented in Table 16b only includes responses from those who stated that he/she was experiencing the condition (i.e., for services related to mental illness, only those who reported mental illness issues were included).

As shown in Table 16d on the following page, Sheltered respondents were often much more likely than Unsheltered respondents to be currently receiving services for conditions and issues that they are experiencing. Due to the small number of cases in the Unsheltered group, statistical significant difference cannot be reliably determined.

**Table 16d: Receiving Services for Other Conditions or Issues
by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status**

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Condition</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Mental Illness	168	57.3%	2	8.3%
Medical Condition/Physical Disability	168	60.4%	10	27.0%
Alcohol Abuse Issues	99	53.2%	2	7.1%
Drug Abuse Issues	80	49.1%	3	17.6%
Developmental Disability	10	27.0%	1	14.3%
Learning Disability	8	10.4%	1	8.3%
HIV / AIDS	18	90.0%	1	50.0%
Other	4	80.0%	-	-

Disability Contingency related to Chronic Homelessness.

The second contingency related to chronic homelessness includes whether a person is either experiencing a disability (mental illness, medical/physical condition, alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or developmental disability) or receives SSI or SSDI benefits. As seen in Table 16e, there is only a slight difference between the Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents (68.0% and 62.7%, respectively). This is not statistically significant.

Table 16e: Disability Contingency by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Meet Contingency</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Yes	480	68.0%	69	62.7%
No	226	32.0%	41	37.3%
TOTAL	706	100%	110	100%

Victim of Violence

Victim of Domestic Violence or Violent Crime.

A new series of questions asked whether a respondent was a victim of domestic violence or a victim of a violent crime, such as assault or battery.

As shown in Table 17a, these results are similar between Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents related to being a victim of violence. About a third of Sheltered (33.4%) and just over a quarter of Unsheltered (27.3%) reported being a victim of domestic violence. In contrast, a third of Unsheltered (30.9%) and a quarter of Sheltered (25.8%) reported being a victim of a violent crime. These differences are not significant.

Table 17a: Victim of Violence by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Type</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Domestic Violence	236	33.4%	30	27.3%
Violent Crime	182	25.8%	34	30.9%

** denotes a statistically significant difference*

Receiving Services for Victims of Violence.

If a respondent reported being a victim of violence, then he/she was asked to identify whether he/she was currently receiving services for that issue. The information presented in Table 17b only includes responses from those who stated that he/she reported being a victim of violence (i.e., for services related to domestic violence, only those who reported experiencing domestic violence were included).

Sheltered respondents were often much more likely than Unsheltered respondents to be currently receiving services for their victimization. Due to the small number of cases in the Unsheltered group, statistical significant difference cannot be reliably determined (see note on page 3).

Table 17b: Receiving Services for Victims of Violence by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Shelter</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Domestic Violence	80	33.9%	1	3.3%
Violent Crime	41	22.5%	1	2.9%

** denotes a statistically significant difference*

Involvement with Other Systems

A new series of questions asked whether a respondent has ever been involved with any of selection of systems within the Milwaukee community. The intent was to determine the extent of multi-system involvement by homeless individuals.

Top Five Involved Systems.

Four of the five most frequently reported systems that respondents reported involvement are found on both the Sheltered and Unsheltered lists. However, the orders of frequency differ (See Tables 18a and 18b).

Table 18a: Top Five Systems with Involvement by Sheltered Respondents

1. Mental Health System
2. Criminal Justice System
3. Substance Abuse System
4. Corrections / Parole / Probation
5. W2

Table 18b: Top Five Systems with Involvement by Unsheltered Respondents

1. Criminal Justice System
2. Corrections / Parole / Probation
3. Medical/Physical Disability System
4. Mental Health System
5. Substance Abuse System

Differences in Involvement with Other Systems

In general, the levels of involvement with other systems are similar across Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents. However, there are four systems where the differences are statistically significant.

Sheltered respondents were two-and-a-half times more likely than Unsheltered respondents to report involvement with W2 (28.8% to 12.7%, respectively). In addition, Sheltered respondents are about twice as likely as Unsheltered respondents to report involvement with Veteran Affairs (19.5% to 10.0%) and involvement with the Substance Abuse System (29.9% to 15.5%). Regarding involvement with the Mental health System, Sheltered respondents were more likely than Unsheltered respondents by almost half, with 33.6% compared to 21.8%. A full listing is shown in Table 18c on the following page.

Table 18c: Other System Involvement by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>System</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare	104	14.7%	13	11.8%
Juvenile Justice/Children's Court	89	12.6%	12	10.9%
Criminal Justice System	234	33.1%	44	40.0%
Foster Care	65	9.2%	9	8.2%
Corrections / Parole / Probation	206	29.2%	33	30.0%
W2 *	203	28.8%	14	12.7%
Veteran Affairs *	138	19.5%	11	10.0%
Mental Health System *	237	33.6%	24	21.8%
Substance Abuse System *	211	29.9%	17	15.5%
Medical/Physical Disability System	179	25.4%	27	24.5%
Special Education/Learning Needs System	64	9.1%	8	7.3%

** denotes a statistically significant difference*

Government Benefits Received

The survey tried to determine whether respondents were currently receiving any government benefits. This included SSI/SSDI, BadgerCare, Food Stamps, and a list of several others. Respondents could select as many as was appropriate. See Table 19a.

Top Five Government Benefits Received.

Four of the top five government benefits are found on both groups' lists. The two most frequently identified government benefit for both Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents were Food Share / Food Stamps and Medicaid. SSI/SSDI made both groups top five, as did veteran Benefits/health care, but in differing order. Sheltered respondents reported W2 benefits as third most frequent government benefit, while Unsheltered identified Social security as fourth most frequent government benefit. See Tables 19a and 19b below.

Table 19a: Top Five Government Benefits Received by Sheltered Respondents

1. Food Share / Food Stamps
2. Medicaid
3. W2
4. Veteran Benefits / Health Care
5. SSI / SSDI

Table 19b: Top Five Government Benefits Received by Unsheltered Respondents

1. Food Share / Food Stamps
2. Medicaid
3. SSI / SSDI
4. Social Security
5. Veteran Benefits / Health Care

Differences in Government Benefits Received.

In general, the proportions of Sheltered and Unsheltered respondents who reported receiving various government benefits are rather similar. In addition, these results are similar overall to the previous question related to system involvement. However, there are three government benefits that show a clear statistically significant difference. systems where the differences are statistically significant.

- Sheltered respondents were about three times more likely than Unsheltered respondents to report receiving Veteran benefits or healthcare (14.6% to 5.5%).
- Sheltered respondents are more likely than Unsheltered respondents to report receiving Medicaid benefits (40.2% to 27.3%).
- Sheltered respondents were more likely than Unsheltered respondents to report receiving Food Share or Food stamps (73.2% to 60.9%).

See Table 19c on the next page for a full listing.

Table 19c: Government Benefits Received by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Benefit</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Social Security	34	4.8%	10	9.1%
SSI / SSDI	94	13.3%	15	13.6%
Medicare	47	6.7%	8	7.3%
Medicaid (<i>Title 19, BadgerCare, BadgerCare Plus, BadgerCare Core</i>) *	284	40.2%	30	27.3%
W2	107	15.2%	3	2.7%
Child Support	41	5.8%	3	2.7%
Food Share / Food Stamps *	517	73.2%	67	60.9%
WIC Benefits	621	8.6%	2	1.8%
Veteran Benefits / Health Care *	103	14.6%	6	5.5%
Unemployment Benefits	33	4.7%	4	3.6%
Other	5	0.7%	1	0.9%

** denotes a statistically significant difference*

Current Service Needs

Respondents were asked to report current needs for services or help. This ranged from employment assistance to medical care to childcare, along with many others. Respondents could select as many as was appropriate, or if there were no service gaps.

Top Five Service Needs.

The top three service needs identified by both Sheltered and Unsheltered groups – Help finding permanent housing, Transportation, and help finding work/employment assistance – are identical with more need in general reported by Unsheltered respondents. Dental care was also identified by both groups, but it is the fifth highest need for Sheltered and the fourth highest need for Unsheltered respondents. See Tables 20a and 20b below.

Table 20a: Top Five Service Needs Of Sheltered Respondents
1. Help finding permanent housing
2. Transportation / Bus passes
3. Help finding work/Employment assistance
4. Rent / Utility assistance
5. Dental care

Table 20b: Top Five Service Needs of Unsheltered Respondents
1. Help finding permanent housing
2. Transportation / Bus passes
3. Help finding work/Employment assistance
4. Dental care
5. Help getting a WI ID/Driver's license

Differences in Service Needs.

In general, the proportions of Unsheltered respondents reported a higher level of need than Sheltered respondents. A full listing can be found in Table 20c on the next page.

For half of the identified needs, these differences are insignificant. However, there are seven current needs that show a clear statistically significant difference⁴ between Unsheltered and Sheltered respondents. Across all of these, Unsheltered respondents were more likely than Sheltered respondents to report a current need related to -

- Help finding work or employment assistance (71.8% Unsheltered to 54.2% Sheltered).
- Emergency shelter (40.9% Unsheltered to 10.6% Sheltered).
- Food (50.0% Unsheltered to 21.5% Sheltered).
- Transportation / bus passes (78.2% Unsheltered to 58.2% Sheltered).

⁴ Although these differences may be statistically significant, it is unclear if these have practical significant (i.e., both groups show a high percentage of need).

- Medical care (50.9% Unsheltered to 35.6% Sheltered).
- Dental care (63.6% Unsheltered to 47.5% Sheltered).
- Help getting a Wisconsin ID or driver's license (51.8% Unsheltered to 31.7% Sheltered).

Table 20c: Current Service Needs by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Need</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Help finding work/Employment assistance *	383	54.2%	79	71.8%
Help finding permanent housing	559	79.2%	91	82.7%
Emergency shelter *	75	10.6%	45	40.9%
Food *	152	21.5%	55	50.0%
Rent / Utility assistance	348	49.3%	56	50.9%
Transportation / Bus passes *	411	58.2%	86	78.2%
Medical care *	251	35.6%	56	50.9%
Dental care *	335	47.5%	70	63.6%
Mental health care / treatment	182	25.8%	27	24.5%
Substance abuse (AODA) treatment	101	14.3%	15	13.6%
Help getting a WI ID/Driver's license *	224	31.7%	57	51.8%
Help getting government benefits	239	33.9%	40	36.4%
Child care	37	5.2%	3	2.7%
Help with Child Support	87	12.3%	8	7.3%
Help getting my children back (<i>Family Reunification</i>)	44	6.2%	5	4.5%
Other *	14	2.0%	6	5.5%

** denotes a statistically significant difference*

Chronic Homelessness

As mentioned previously, the accepted definition of chronic homelessness has two contingencies that must be met, as follows:

- Homelessness Contingency: One must either be homeless for one year or longer, or be homeless four or more times during the past three years (see page 13).
- Disability Contingency: One must either have a significant disability (mental illness, medical condition/physical disability, alcohol or drug abuse, or developmental disability), or be receiving SSI/SSDI government benefits (see page 21).

As shown in Table 21, there is a considerable difference between the proportion of Sheltered respondents and Unsheltered respondents who meet the definition of chronic homelessness. Whereas about one in four Sheltered respondents (24.4%) meet the definition, one in three Unsheltered respondents (33.6%) meet the definition. This is statistically significant.

Table 21: Chronic Homelessness by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status				
	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Meet Definition</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Yes	172	24.4%	37	33.6%
No	534	75.6%	73	66.4%
TOTAL	706	100%	110	100%

APPENDIX A: Sheltered Survey Form

Interviewer Initials: _____

Interview Site: _____

2011 Continuum of Care Point-in-Time SHELTERED Survey

SCREENING QUESTIONS FOR INTERVIEWER			
S1: Identify the type of shelter where the interviewee currently lives. <i>(Select only ONE response)</i>		S2: Was this information collected - ?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Transitional Housing <input type="checkbox"/> Safe Haven		<input type="checkbox"/> Face-to-face <input type="checkbox"/> From File/Record	
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.			
D1: FIRST Initial: _____	D2: MIDDLE Initial: _____	D3: LAST Initials: _____	D4: Month Born (#): _____

1. Before you came here, how long have you been without a permanent place to live this time?
(choose only ONE response)

☐ 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

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

☐ Once (1)

☐ Twice (2)

☐ Three (3)

☐ Four or more times (4 +)

☐ NOT SURE / DON'T KNOW

3. Are you - (choose only ONE response)

☐ A single person (including divorced or separated)

☐ Part of a couple

4. How many children under 18 stay with you and are also homeless? (if none, enter 0) _____

5. 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.

6. Where did you sleep or stay last night?

☐ Emergency Shelter

☐ Safe Haven

☐ Transitional Housing

☐ On the Streets / Under a Bridge (etc)

☐ In Public Facilities (*bus station, library, etc*)

☐ In a Car or Other Vehicle

☐ In a Vacant or Abandoned Building

☐ Other: _____

7. In terms of housing, have you ever...

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Had a formal rental agreement or lease?

Owned a home?

Interviewer Initials: _____

Interview Site: _____

8. In the past 6 months, have you lived -

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	On the Streets / Under a Bridge (etc)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Public Facilities (bus station, library, etc)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	In a Car or Other Vehicle
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	In a Vacant or Abandoned Building

9. In the past 6 months, have you been discharged from any of the following places WITHOUT a place to live? (choose ALL that apply)

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospital / Health Care Facility
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Health Care Facility
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jail / House of Corrections
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prison
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster Care / Group Home

10. What is the main reason or root cause why you became homeless? (* FIRST RESPONSE ONLY *)

11a. Have you stayed in any Emergency Shelter in Milwaukee in the past year?

☐ Yes ☐ No

IF **NO**, SKIP TO QUESTION 12

11b. ONLY IF YES TO Q11a: In the past year have you stayed in.... (READ EACH - choose ALL that apply)

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Guest House
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hope House Single Men
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cathedral Center
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family Support Center
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Salvation Army Emergency Lodge
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Repairers of the Breach
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rescue Mission Safe Harbor for Single Men
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rescue Mission Joy House for Families
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ANY Domestic Violence Shelter
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ANY Homeless Youth Shelter
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Type of Shelter (church, etc)

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

YES	NO	IF YES: Are you currently receiving services?	YES
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Condition/Physical Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alcohol Abuse Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drug Abuse Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Developmental Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HIV / AIDS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. Have you ever been a victim of -

YES	NO	IF YES: Are you currently receiving services?	YES
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Domestic Violence / Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Violent Crime (Assault, Battery, etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Interviewer Initials: _____

Interview Site: _____

14. What best describes your current employment status?

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

IF EMPLOYED FULL TIME, SKIP TO QUESTION 18

15. Have you ever had a full-time job?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

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

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

IF NO, SKIP TO QUESTION 18

17. ONLY 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

18. What best describes your education?

- ☐ Less than High School
- ☐ High School Diploma / GED / HSED
- ☐ Some College / Technical / Trade School
- ☐ College Degree or higher

19a. Have you served in the U.S. Armed Forces?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ☐ Not Sure / Don't Know ☐ REFUSED TO ANSWER

19b. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ☐ Not Sure / Don't Know ☐ REFUSED TO ANSWER

19c. Did you receive an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

20. Are you now or have you ever been involved with the following systems? (*choose ALL that apply*)

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Juvenile Justice / Children's Court
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal Justice System
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster Care
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Corrections / Parole / Probation
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	W2
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Veteran Affairs
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Health System
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Abuse System
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical / Physical Disability System
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Education / Learning Needs System

21. Are you currently receiving ANY of the following government benefits? (*choose ALL that apply*)

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Security
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SSI / SSDI *
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicare
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicaid (<i>Title 19, BadgerCare, BadgerCare Plus, BadgerCare Core</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	W2
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child Support
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food Share / Food Stamps
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WIC Benefits
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Veteran Benefits / Health Care
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unemployment Benefits
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____

Interviewer Initials: _____

Interview Site: _____

22. What kind of help do you need right now?
(choose ALL that apply)

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help finding work / Employment assistance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help finding permanent housing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency shelter
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rent / Utility assistance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation / Bus passes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical care
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dental care
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental health care / treatment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substance abuse (AODA) treatment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help getting a WI ID or Driver's license
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help getting government benefits
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child care
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help with Child Support
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help getting my children back (Family Reunification)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____

23. What would you suggest to make the services for homeless people better?

24. What is your age in years? _____

25. What is your gender?

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Transgender

26. What best describes your race / ethnic background?
(choose only ONE response)

- ☐ African American / Black
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Hispanic / Latino
- ☐ Native American / Alaska Native
- ☐ Two or More Races
- ☐ Caucasian / White
- ☐ Other (describe): _____

27. Do you consider yourself to be ...

- ☐ Heterosexual or straight
- ☐ Gay or lesbian
- ☐ Bisexual
- ☐ Questioning / Not Sure
- ☐ REFUSED TO ANSWER

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
PARTICIPATION!**

APPENDIX B: Unsheltered Survey Form

Interviewer Initials: _____

Interview Site: _____

2011 Continuum of Care Point-in-Time UNSHELTERED Survey

ASK THESE TWO SCREENING QUESTIONS FIRST TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT TO PROCEED			
S1: Do you have a permanent place to live? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		S2: Do you consider yourself to be homeless? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
PROCEED ONLY IF THE PERSON ANSWERS <u>NO TO S1</u> AND <u>YES to S2</u>			
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.			
D1: FIRST Initial: _____	D2: MIDDLE Initial: _____	D3: LAST Initials: _____	D4: Month Born (#): _____

1. How long have you been without a permanent place to live this time?

(choose only ONE response)

- ☐ 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

2. Including now, how many times have you been without permanent housing in the last three years?

(choose only ONE response)

- ☐ Once (1)
- ☐ Twice (2)
- ☐ Three (3)
- ☐ Four or more times (4 +)
- ☐ NOT SURE / DON'T KNOW

3. Are you - (choose only ONE response)

- ☐ A single person (including divorced or separated)
- ☐ Part of a couple

4. How many children under 18 stay with you and are also homeless? (if none, enter 0) _____

5. 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.

6. Where did you sleep or stay last night?

- ☐ Emergency Shelter
- ☐ Safe Haven
- ☐ Transitional Housing
- ☐ On the Streets / Under a Bridge (etc)
- ☐ In Public Facilities (bus station, library, etc)
- ☐ In a Car or Other Vehicle
- ☐ In a Vacant or Abandoned Building
- ☐ Other: _____

7. In terms of housing, have you ever...

- | YES | NO |
|---|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Had a formal rental agreement or lease? | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Owned a home? | |

Interviewer Initials: _____

Interview Site: _____

8. In the past 6 months, have you lived -

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	On the Streets / Under a Bridge (etc)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Public Facilities (bus station, library, etc)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	In a Car or Other Vehicle
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	In a Vacant or Abandoned Building

9. In the past 6 months, have you been discharged from any of the following places WITHOUT a place to live? (choose ALL that apply)

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospital / Health Care Facility
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Health Care Facility
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jail / House of Corrections
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prison
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster Care / Group Home

10. What is the main reason or root cause why you became homeless? (* FIRST RESPONSE ONLY *)

11a. Have you stayed in any Emergency Shelter in Milwaukee in the past year?

☐ Yes ☐ No

IF NO, SKIP TO QUESTION 12

11b. ONLY IF YES TO Q11a: In the past year have you stayed in..... (READ EACH - choose ALL that apply)

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Guest House
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hope House Single Men
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cathedral Center
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family Support Center
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Salvation Army Emergency Lodge
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Repairers of the Breach
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rescue Mission Safe Harbor for Single Men
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rescue Mission Joy House for Families
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ANY Domestic Violence Shelter
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ANY Homeless Youth Shelter
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Type of Shelter (church, etc)

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

YES	NO	IF YES: Are you currently receiving services?	YES
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Condition/Physical Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alcohol Abuse Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drug Abuse Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Developmental Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HIV / AIDS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. Have you ever been a victim of -

YES	NO	IF YES: Are you currently receiving services?	YES
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Domestic Violence / Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Violent Crime (Assault, Battery, etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Interviewer Initials: _____

Interview Site: _____

14. What best describes your current employment status?

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

IF EMPLOYED FULL TIME, SKIP TO QUESTION 18

15. Have you ever had a full-time job?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

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

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

IF NO, SKIP TO QUESTION 18

17. ONLY 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

18. What best describes your education?

- ☐ Less than High School
- ☐ High School Diploma / GED / HSED
- ☐ Some College / Technical / Trade School
- ☐ College Degree or higher

19a. Have you served in the U.S. Armed Forces?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ☐ Not Sure / Don't Know ☐ REFUSED TO ANSWER

19b. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ☐ Not Sure / Don't Know ☐ REFUSED TO ANSWER

19c. Did you receive an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

20. Are you now or have you ever been involved with the following systems? (*choose ALL that apply*)

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Juvenile Justice / Children's Court
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal Justice System
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster Care
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Corrections / Parole / Probation
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	W2
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Veteran Affairs
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Health System
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Abuse System
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical / Physical Disability System
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Education / Learning Needs System

21. Are you currently receiving ANY of the following government benefits? (*choose ALL that apply*)

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Security
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SSI / SSDI *
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicare
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicaid (<i>Title 19, BadgerCare, BadgerCare Plus, BadgerCare Core</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	W2
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child Support
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food Share / Food Stamps
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WIC Benefits
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Veteran Benefits / Health Care
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unemployment Benefits
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____

Interviewer Initials: _____

Interview Site: _____

22. What kind of help do you need right now?
(choose ALL that apply)

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help finding work / Employment assistance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help finding permanent housing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency shelter
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rent / Utility assistance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation / Bus passes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical care
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dental care
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental health care / treatment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substance abuse (AODA) treatment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help getting a WI ID or Driver's license
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help getting government benefits
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child care
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help with Child Support
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Help getting my children back (Family Reunification)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____

23. What would you suggest to make the services for homeless people better?

24. What is your age in years? _____

25. What is your gender?

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Transgender

26. What best describes your race / ethnic background?
(choose only ONE response)

- ☐ African American / Black
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- ☐ Hispanic / Latino
- ☐ Native American / Alaska Native
- ☐ Two or More Races
- ☐ Caucasian / White
- ☐ Other (describe): _____

27. Do you consider yourself to be ...


- ☐ Heterosexual or straight
- ☐ Gay or lesbian
- ☐ Bisexual
- ☐ Questioning / Not Sure
- ☐ REFUSED TO ANSWER

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
PARTICIPATION!**

APPENDIX C: Core Reasons for Homelessness by Group

Table 22: Core Reasons for Homelessness by Sheltered or Unsheltered Status

	<i>Sheltered</i>		<i>Unsheltered</i>	
<i>Reason</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Unemployment	175	27.2%	43	41.7%
Low or No Income	148	23.0%	27	26.2%
Roommate or Family Conflict	99	15.4%	15	14.6%
Addiction	81	12.6%	3	2.9%
Physical / Mental Disabilities	45	7.0%	3	2.9%
Family / Domestic Violence	42	6.5%	3	2.9%
Other	34	5.3%	8	7.8%
Eviction	40	6.2%	2	1.9%
Unable to Pay Rent / Mortgage	21	3.3%	3	2.9%
Needs Better Environment	17	2.6%	5	4.9%
Jail / Prison - Criminal History	15	2.3%	3	2.9%
Family / Personal Illness / Injury	13	2.0%		0.0%
Denied / Delayed / Term Public Assistance	9	1.4%		0.0%
Moved	7	1.1%	1	1.0%
Transient	8	1.2%		0.0%
Can't Find Affordable Housing	4	0.6%		
Lifestyle Preference	3	0.5%	1	1.0%
Disaster	3	0.5%		0.0%
Poor Rental / Credit History	1	0.2%	1	1.0%



2000
2001
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2010
2011

Point in Time Survey

**of Milwaukee's
Homeless Citizens**

**For more information
about the Milwaukee
Continuum of Care, see
www.milwaukeeecoc.org**