

Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing, and Battered Women's Shelters

*Data collection project
Eighth annual report*

AUGUST, 1999

**EMERGENCY SHELTERS, TRANSITIONAL HOUSING,
AND BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTERS
DATA COLLECTION PROJECT
EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT
(Based on Data Collected During 1991 – 1998)**

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INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

This is the eighth annual report of an ongoing community project to collect data about homeless adults and their children who use emergency shelters and transitional housing in Ramsey County. The purpose of the project is to help funders, policymakers, and providers make decisions about homelessness by providing reliable and useful information. The community organizations listed in the Acknowledgements have demonstrated strong and continuous support for the project since it began in 1991, and next year there will be the ninth annual report of data collected during 1999.

Policy changes in service delivery since the project started include Ramsey County's investment in a Central Intake office (1992), a diversion program (1993) and a 30-day residency requirement (1997).

DATA COLLECTION METHODS

Common data elements, collectively defined, are used across sites to ensure data comparability. The data set was modified slightly in 1994 to reflect changing reporting needs. Data are collected at intake for all persons entering emergency shelter, transitional housing, and battered women's shelters. Additional data are collected for all persons exiting transitional housing and, starting in July 1994, for persons exiting emergency shelter through Central Intake. Data are collected via self-administered forms at the Union Gospel Mission and by staff at other sites.

Manual or computerized data are submitted to Wilder Research Center each quarter. After being loaded into a common data base, the data are aggregated and unduplicated for reporting. Unless otherwise noted, descriptive data are reported for the most current stay. There was a major effort during 1994 and 1995 to improve the quality of existing data and establish mechanisms to maintain data integrity. One result was a slight difference in counts and numbers between this and previous reports for 1991 to 1993 data.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR THIS REPORT

The information in this report is based on data collected for all of 1998 by Catholic Charities, Ramsey County, and the Union Gospel Mission, for emergency shelter; by Juel Fairbanks, RoseCenter, Theresa Living Center, Union Gospel Mission, Wellsprings Living Center, the St. Paul YWCA, and the Wilder ROOF project, which includes East Metro Women's Council, Emma Norton Residence, and Jendayi Place for transitional housing; and by Casa de Esperanza, Eagle's Nest, Family Violence Network-Hillhome, and Women's Advocates, for battered women's shelter. (Refer to Appendix I on page 47 for a list of all data sources since 1991, including the addition of new programs for existing providers and the discontinuation of programs and/or project participation.)

ORGANIZATION OF THIS REPORT

This report begins with a summary of key findings focusing on usage, shifts, and repeat patterns. The report then describes persons who use emergency shelter and/or transitional housing, including their exit status, and it concludes with a brief look at the women who use battered women's shelters.

The report focuses on findings in 1998, but also includes some comparison data from previous years (1992-97).

SUMMARY AND IMPLICATIONS

Unduplicated counts

The unduplicated number of persons who have used shelter in Ramsey County between 1991 and 1998 is estimated at about 30,000, including:

- About 18,284 adults (mostly single men), and over 7,095 children, in emergency shelter.
- About 1,900 adults (mostly females), and over 900 children, in transitional housing.

(An estimated third of the women and children who have stayed in transitional housing and battered women's shelters are included in the count for emergency shelter, where they have also stayed.)

Usage patterns in these different settings have changed dramatically since this project began in 1991. There has been a significant reduction in the number of persons using emergency shelters, and a significant increase in the number of women and children using transitional housing and battered women's shelters. It appears that these shifts correspond directly to, and are most likely caused by, corresponding changes in capacity.

- In 1998, the number of persons using emergency shelter was at the lowest level since 1991. The number of stays reported, which had been fairly consistent from 1991 to 1995, decreased by about 600 in 1996, almost 1,000 in 1997, and almost 1,000 in 1998.
- The number of persons using transitional housing (primarily women and children) has increased each year from 1992 (n=385) to 1997 (n=1,030). In 1998, the number of persons using transitional housing was about 250 fewer than 1997 (counts for Naomi Family Center was not included in 1998). For every person in transitional housing in 1992, there were 14 persons in emergency shelter, compared to 4 in 1998.
- The number of women and children using battered women's shelters has also increased each year from 1992 to 1997. In 1998, the number of women and children was about 400 fewer than 1997. However, on average, they stayed longer.

Children

Children represent a substantial proportion of all persons in different types of sheltered settings in Ramsey County, including 45 percent in battered women's shelters, 42 percent in transitional housing, and 27 percent in emergency shelters. Roughly seven in ten children sheltered in Ramsey County are African-American and more than half are school age.

Stable and Changing Characteristics of Shelter Users

Throughout these shifts in shelter usage in Ramsey County, some characteristics of the sheltered populations remain fairly constant, while others change over time.

- In emergency shelter, the make-up of the overall population remains at slightly over half single men, about one fourth children, and the rest single women or adults with children. The racial composition has been unchanged since 1992, including that of adults with children, among whom two-thirds or more are African-American. A relatively small percentage (7%) of all adults are recently steadily employed and are, compared to the general shelter population, receiving or earning more than double the average monthly income, more likely to have completed high school or a GED, and less likely to return to shelter.

Compared to earlier this decade, last year's emergency shelter population overall is: older, by 2-3 years; receiving or earning slightly more income but still averaging under \$400 a month; and more than twice as likely to find the lack of affordable housing a barrier to having their own place.

- In transitional housing, the vast majority is women and children who stay an average of 5-6 months. About three in ten are steadily employed when they exit transitional housing, a slight increase over the proportion who are steadily employed upon entering.

Although the proportion of all women in transitional housing who self-report problems with drinking/drug use has not changed since 1991, reports of staying at a treatment facility within a month of entering transitional housing have increased significantly, from 3 percent in 1991 to 23 percent in 1998.

- In battered women's shelters, 80-85 percent of the women served since 1991 are in their 20s or 30s.

Compared to the early 1990s, a greater proportion of women who stay in battered women's shelters are 30 years or older and a greater proportion are African-American. It also appears that a growing number of these women enter battered women's shelters unaccompanied by children.

Another noteworthy shift has been where emergency shelter users are from and where they last lived. Between 1993 and 1998 there was a gradual decrease in the proportion of adults from outside Minnesota (from 44 to 30%) and last living outside Minnesota (from 34 to 23%).

Repeat Use of Emergency Shelter in 1998

- Thirty-eight percent of single men returned to shelter, down 6 percent from last year and about the same as the 1992-1995 levels. The average total number of days (for all stays) for single men in 1998 was one month.
- Fifteen percent of single women returned to shelter, up 6 percent from last year. The average total number of days (for all stays) for single women in 1998 was three weeks.
- Sixteen percent of families with children returned to shelter, about the same as in previous years. Their average days of total stays was one month.

Men return to shelter sooner than do women (3 months and 6 months, respectively). In 1998, about one in four single men stay in emergency shelter a total of two or more weeks, compared to one in ten families and only a few single females.

Urban Nomads

In a recent study of homeless women at the University of Massachusetts, the majority of women cited domestic violence as the root cause of their homelessness, with lack of affordable housing a contributing factor. Having left homes they would not return to, and unable to afford other housing, these women became what the study calls “urban nomads.” Although this project cannot determine the root causes of homelessness among the persons sheltered in Ramsey County, the concept of a nomadic lifestyle is apparent for some women sheltered in Ramsey County. For example:

- About 10 percent of the persons (mostly women and families) diverted from shelter eventually return to enter shelter.
- About 21-25 percent of all females who were in emergency shelter or transitional housing in Ramsey County in 1997 moved to another form of temporary housing—with friends or family, a motel or hotel, treatment, or another shelter—upon exit.
- Women in transitional housing who have been in “the system” for 5-6 years, compared to all users of transitional housing, are twice as likely to have moved from their own place due to eviction, stayed with friends or family, and had problems finding affordable housing on their available income, and they are much more likely to have been in treatment for drinking/drug use.

Affordable Housing Shortage

The Twin Cities has a severe shortage of lower-priced housing. According to the Family Housing Fund (www.fhfund.org/Research/need/htm), incomes have not kept pace with rental increases, Federal housing programs have been cut back, about 9,000 federally subsidized housing units are at risk of conversion to market-rate rents, and vacancy rates are just over 1 percent. The bottom line: “There are 68,900 renter households with annual incomes below \$10,000 in the metropolitan area, but only 31,200 housing units with rents affordable at this income level (rents no more than 30% of income).”

For perspective, to afford a typical two-bedroom apartment renting at about \$620 per month, a family needs a monthly income of at least \$2,083 (\$25,000 per year).

- Families with children entering emergency shelter in 1998 had monthly incomes averaging \$443. Families with children entering transitional housing had monthly incomes averaging \$713.
- Of the families with children leaving emergency shelter in 1998, 36 percent moved to permanent housing.
- Families with children doubling-up or living with friends or relatives is higher in 1998 than in 1997, both as last living arrangement before entering emergency shelter (78% vs. 71%) and as the living arrangement after leaving emergency shelter (19% vs. 12%).

Welfare Reform

Some family advocates fear that the new five-year welfare limits and welfare-to-work policies will lead to increased homelessness.

- The percentage of families with children in emergency shelter reporting AFDC (MFIP/TANF) as a source of income dropped from 45 percent in 1997 to 39 percent in 1998.
- Employment or income problems as the self-reported reasons leading families with children to need emergency shelter dropped from 39 percent in 1997 to 30 percent in 1998.

The results of a 30-day residency requirement that went into effect in the middle of 1997 indicate there was not a subsequent change in the percentage of shelter users *last living* in Ramsey County, but there was a subsequent and significant increase in the percentage of shelter users *from* Ramsey County.

Implications

Since this project began in 1991, the lack of affordable housing continues to be a strong factor in the reason why persons seek shelter in Ramsey County. These users appear to fall into one of two groups: those who stay a relatively short period of time and do not return, and those who return, some after an extended period of time.

- Most adults who use emergency shelter stay only once or twice, and most of those who stay in transitional housing leave in good standing and do not return to emergency shelter. Based on these findings, shelter programs in Ramsey County appear to serve their intended purposes for the majority of persons served.
- In addition to chronic users of emergency shelter (roughly 50-100 single men), there also appears to be a sub-population of female users of emergency shelter and transitional housing for whom long-term stable housing may be unattainable due to a complex set of problems (see last year's report of case studies of some chronic users). Long-term programs such as supportive housing, which offers a permanent place to live combined with on-going support services, may better serve the chronic shelter users.
- It may be that the shortage in affordable housing is contributing to longer stays in emergency shelters, with the mean total number of days in shelter for families with children increasing from 14 days in 1997 to 17 days in 1998.

Results from the most recent statewide homeless survey indicate problems with drinking/drug use and domestic violence continue to be underreported for this project. There are two areas—battered women's shelters and men in emergency shelter—for which this project continues to be unable to provide useful information to providers, policy-makers, funders, and others interested in homelessness in Ramsey County:

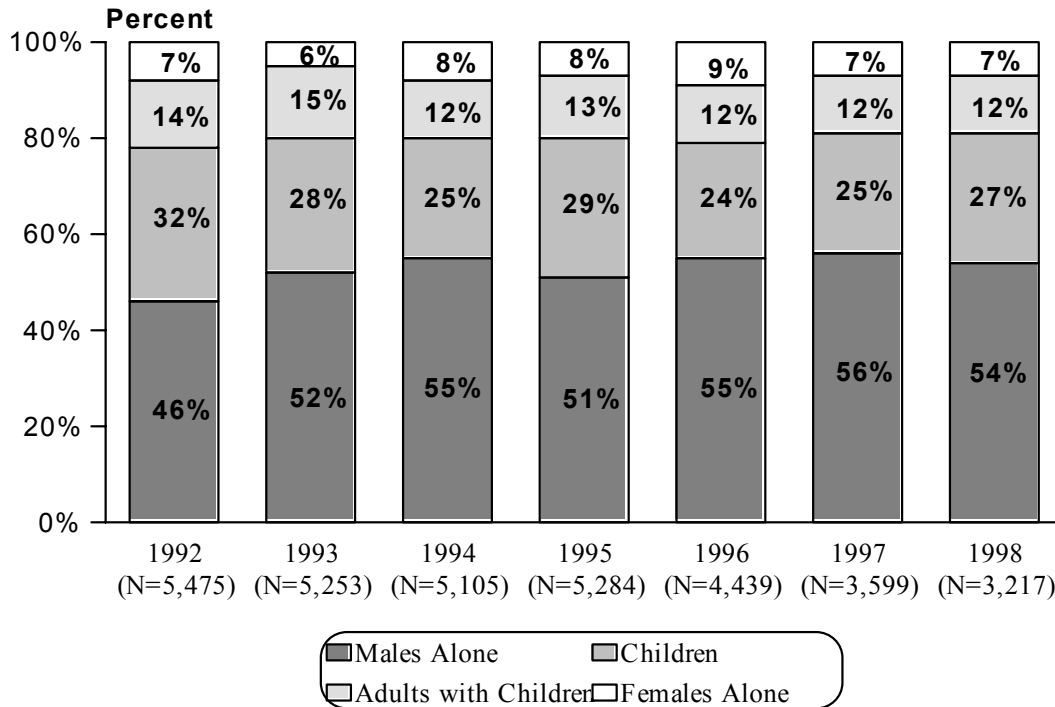
- Since about half of the women who are homeless and sheltered in Ramsey County stay in battered women's shelters, it would be helpful to know how many return to that setting, and how often, as well as how many also use emergency shelter and/or transitional housing. Data that would allow cross-referencing of records and datasets are not reported for this project.
- Among users of emergency shelter, single men represent the largest segment but are, at the same time, the least well-defined in terms of where they come from and their reasons for seeking shelter. Data that would answer these types of questions are consistently missing.

USAGE SUMMARY

EMERGENCY SHELTERS

In 1998, the number of persons staying in emergency shelters was at the lowest level since we began reporting in 1991.

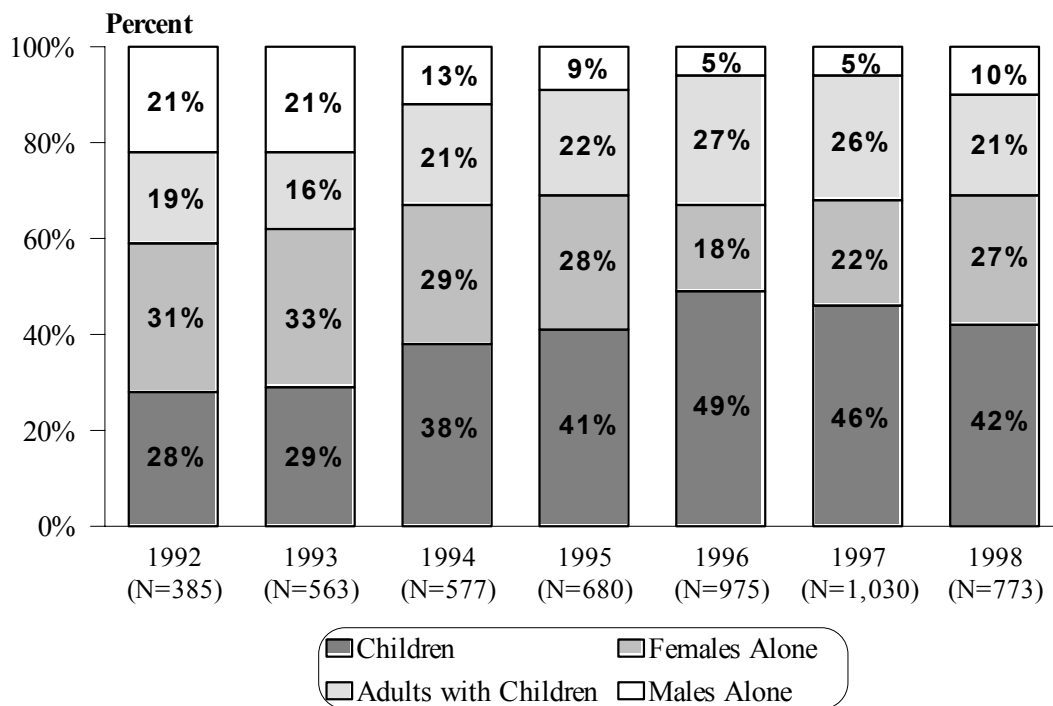
- The decreases are largely attributable to reduced capacity at the predominant men's shelter, and a new 30-day residency requirement for families entering shelter.
- The proportions of single men, single women, adults with children, and children were almost the same in 1998 as in 1997.



Altogether, 18,284 different adults, and over 7,095 different children, have stayed in Ramsey County emergency shelters since we began reporting in 1991. In any given year, less than 5 percent of adult shelter users stayed alone and at other times stayed with children; they are counted only as "in families."

Year	Total	Males Alone	Females Alone	Adults w/Children	Children	Families*
1992	5,475	2,544	386	775	1,770	642
1993	5,253	2,711	316	773	1,453	627
1994	5,105	2,808	408	613	1,276	421
1995	5,284	2,678	415	671	1,520	520
1996	4,439	2,452	378	522	1,087	440
1997	3,599	2,022	238	427	912	358
1998	3,217	1,733	215	390	879	296

* One or more adults plus one or more children identified as a family unit.



Capacity Analysis

A table showing the average monthly use and capacity at each shelter can be found on page 48.

- Average use at the Mission was at or near capacity of 82 beds from May through November and exceeded capacity during the months of January through April and again in December.
- Average use at Lowry Family Shelter was above its capacity of 55 beds in April, July, August, and September; at or near capacity in January and October; and below capacity in February, March, May, June, November, and December.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

The total number of persons staying in transitional housing has increased every year between 1992 – 1997. However, the number decreased to 773 in 1998.

- There were significant increases in capacity between 1992 and 1995. In addition, the Wilder Roof Project was added to this report in 1996, adding capacity for serving 224 individuals.
- The majority of individuals using transitional housing since 1994 have been women and their children.

Altogether, 1,915 different adults, and over 900 different children, used transitional housing in Ramsey County between 1991 and 1998.

- Notes: 1) Number of adults and children in transitional housing are number served.
 2) 1996 and 1997 include counts provided by Naomi Family Center for its transitional housing program; data on individual women and children were not collected and submitted for this report.

BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTERS

Over 2,300 individuals exited battered women's shelters in Ramsey County in 1998.

- There was a significant increase in capacity in 1995, and a small increase in 1996.
- About 55-60 percent of all persons staying in battered women's shelters are children.

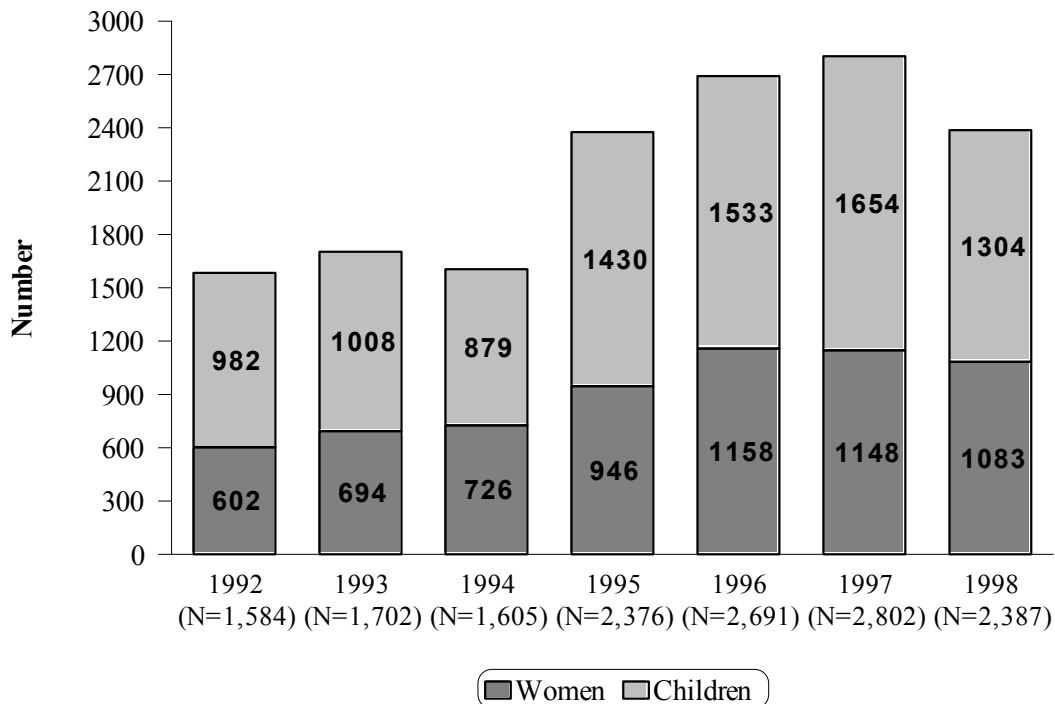


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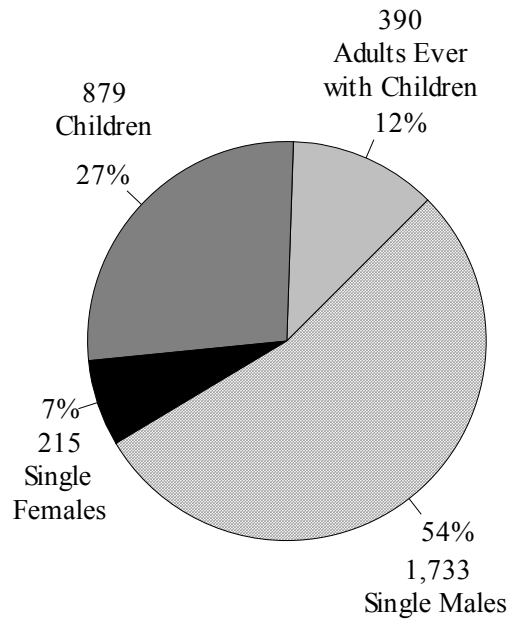
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EMERGENCY SHELTERS

COUNT OF INDIVIDUALS

In 1998, over 3,200 individuals used emergency shelters in Ramsey County. Over half were men staying alone, and over a third were individuals in families.

Figure 1 **Individuals Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998**
(N=3,217)*



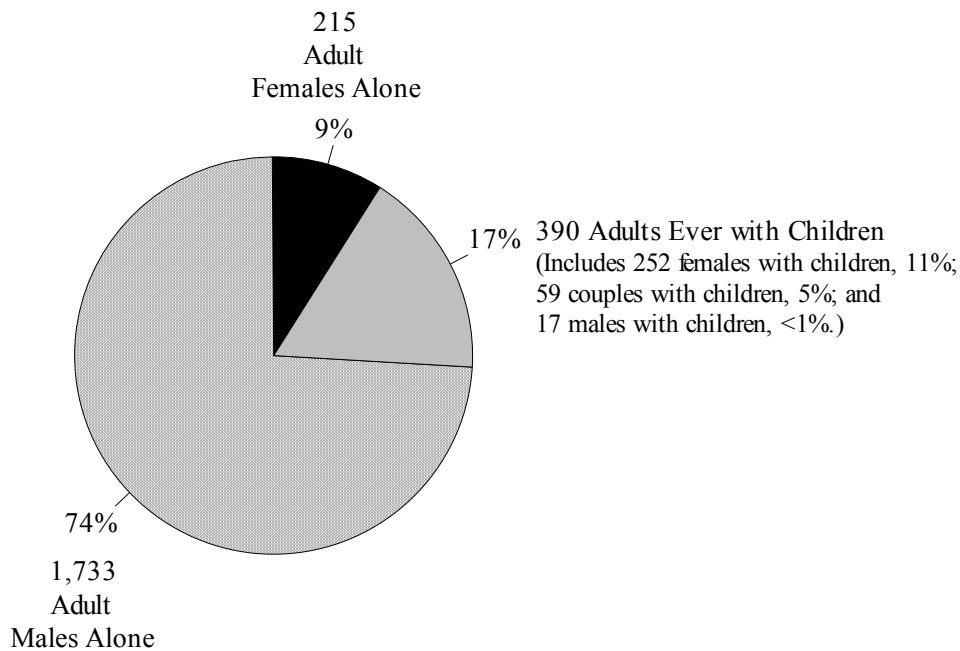
* Adults who entered shelters both alone and with children during the year are counted only as “in families.”

COUNT OF ADULTS

Over 2,000 different adults used emergency shelters in Ramsey County in 1998. Over 70 percent were men staying in shelter alone, and 9 percent were women alone. The remaining 17 percent were adults bringing with them 879 children. These proportions are roughly the same as 1997.¹

These unduplicated counts include emergency shelter stays at Catholic Charities' Mary Hall, Lowry Family Shelter, Union Gospel Mission, and overflow sites, all located in Saint Paul (see Appendix I for a complete list of shelters and populations served).

**Figure 2 Adults Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998
Family Status While at Shelter (N=2,338)***

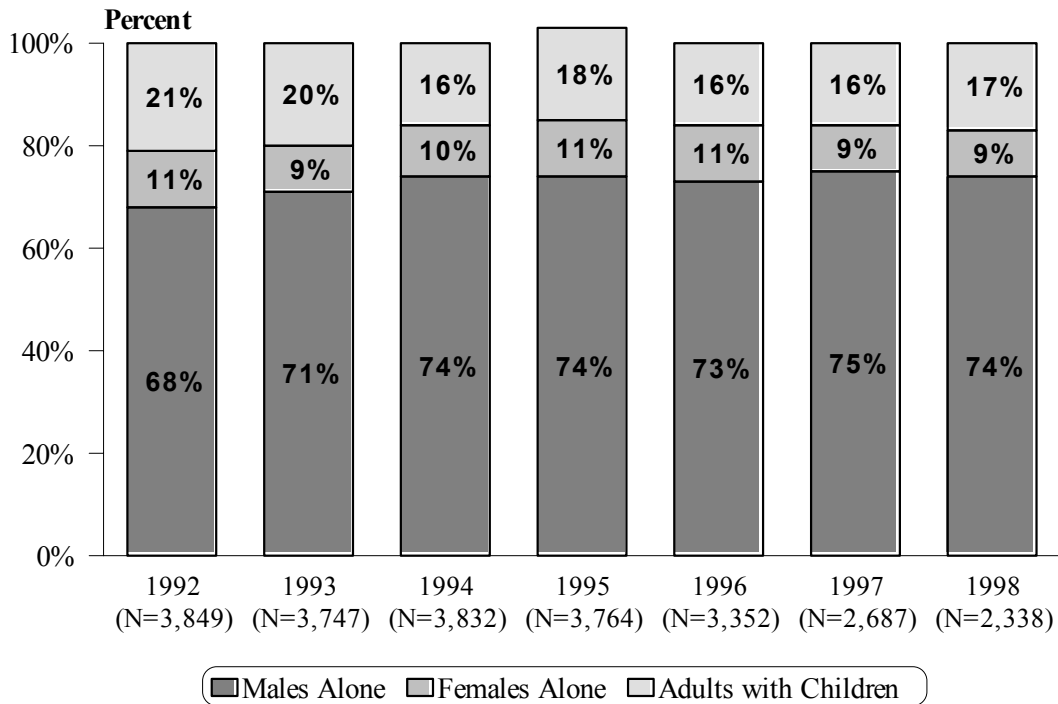


* Adults who entered shelters both alone and with children during the year are counted only as "in families."

¹ Males and females staying alone in shelter may be referred to as "singles," "single men," or "single women" throughout this report. This is a descriptor of their status while staying in shelter, not necessarily their marital status or typical living situation.

A significantly smaller number of adults stayed in emergency shelter in 1997 and 1998 than in each of the previous five years.

Figure 3 Adults Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998
Family Status While at Shelter*



* Adults who entered shelters alone and, at other times, stayed with children during a year are counted only as “in families” for that year.

See page viii for the number of males alone, females alone, and adults with children, by year.

PROFILE OF EMERGENCY SHELTER USERS

SEX AND AGE OF ADULTS USING EMERGENCY SHELTERS

In 1998, over three-fourths of adult shelter users were male (78%).

Two-thirds were between ages 30 and 49. On average, single adults were 36 (female) and 39 (male) years old and adults with children were 31 years old.

- The proportion of adults between ages 40 and 49 has increased from 17-19 percent in the early 1990's to 28 percent in 1998.
- Since 1994, the average age for adults alone has increased from 33 to 36, and for adults with children from 28 to 31.

RACE/ETHNICITY OF ADULTS USING EMERGENCY SHELTERS

The proportion of African-Americans among all adults in shelter increased from 1992 to 1994 and has remained level since then.

Table 1 Characteristics of Adults Who Entered Ramsey County Emergency Shelters in 1992 to 1998

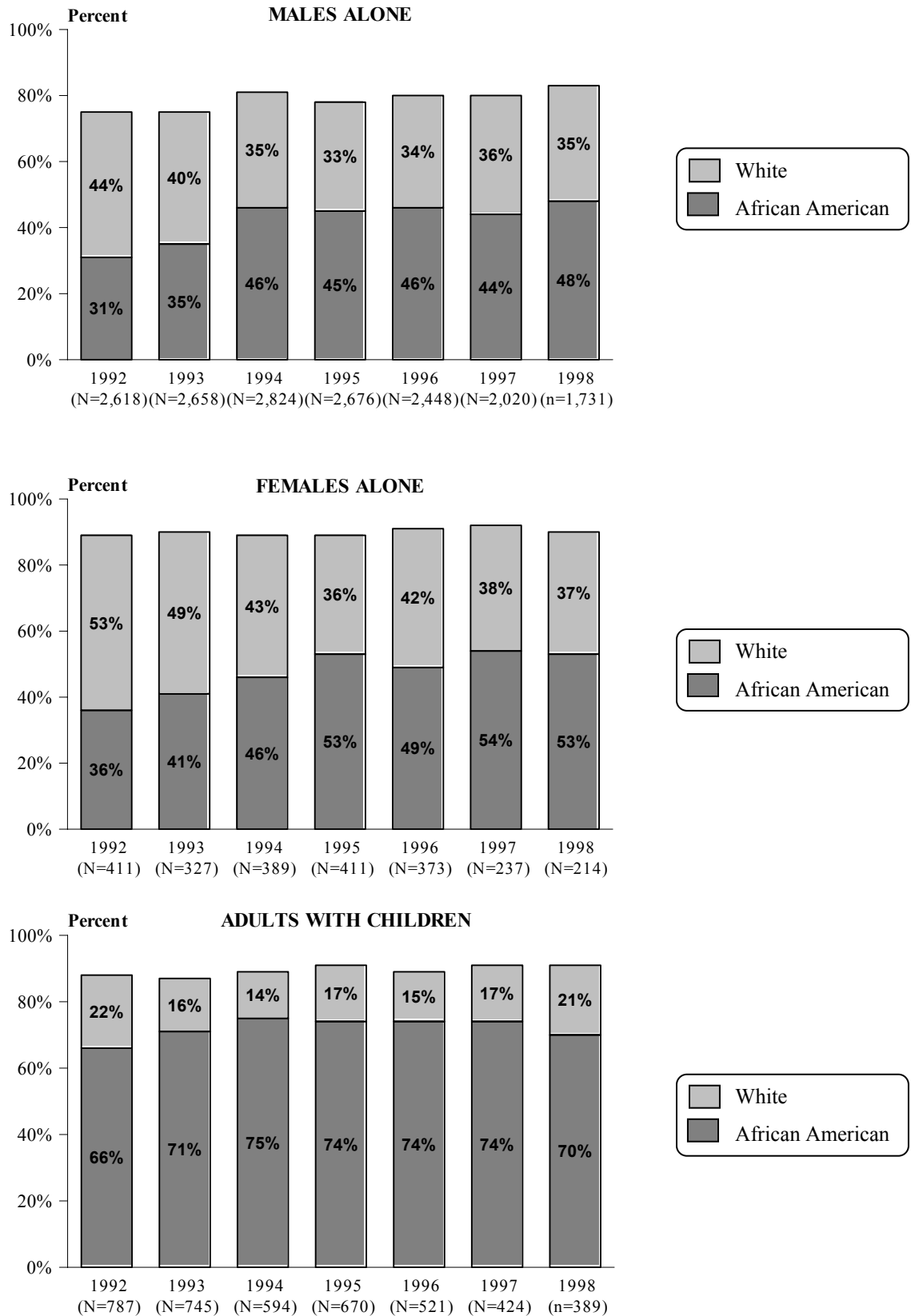
	1992 (N=3,849)	1993 (N=3,747)	1994 (N=3,832)	1995 (N=3,764)	1996 (N=3,352)	1997 (N=2,687)	1998 (N=2,338)
Sex							
Female	27%	25%	23%	26%	24%	22%	22%
Male	73%	75%	77%	74%	76%	78%	78%
Age	(N=3,655)	(N=3,622)	(N=3,504)	(N=3,546)	(N=3,188)	(N=2,525)	(N=2,257)
<20	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%
20-29	32%	30%	30%	29%	24%	22%	19%
30-39	37%	38%	40%	39%	41%	39%	39%
40-49	17%	19%	17%	21%	22%	27%	28%
50-59	7%	7%	6%	6%	7%	8%	8%
60+	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Race/Ethnicity	(N=3,816)	(N=3,762)	(N=3,730)	(N=3,757)	(N=3,342)	(N=2,681)	(N=2,334)
White	40%	36%	32%	31%	32%	33%	33%
African American	39%	42%	50%	51%	51%	50%	52%
Hispanic	16%	16%	12%	14%	12%	12%	11%
American Indian	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%
Other	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%

As Figure 4 shows, roughly two-thirds to three-quarters of all adults with children, compared to less than half to half of single adults, were African-American.

Table 2 Adults Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998
Race/Ethnicity

	All Adults (N=2,334)	Males Alone (N=1,731)	Females Alone (N=214)	Adults with Children (N=389)
White	33%	35%	37%	21%
African American	52%	48%	53%	70%
Hispanic	11%	13%	3%	6%
American Indian	3%	3%	4%	3%
Other	2%	2%	2%	<1%

Figure 4 Adults Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998
African Americans and Whites



CHILDREN IN EMERGENCY SHELTERS

Altogether, 879 different children used emergency shelters in Ramsey County in 1998.

- Over a third (39%) were pre-school age, four or younger, and the remainder were school age, 5 to 18.
- Three-fourths were African American.
- Families had two or three children, on average, about the same since 1992.

Table 3 **Characteristics of Children With Adults in Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998**

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Sex	(N=1,874)	(N=1,447)	(N=1,273)	(N=1,520)	(N=1,087)	(N=912)	(N=879)
Boys	49%	50%	50%	48%	51%	52%	52%
Girls	51%	50%	50%	52%	49%	48%	48%
Age							(N=877)
2 or younger	30%	23%	29%	29%	29%	24%	24%
3-4	17%	17%	17%	19%	17%	15%	15%
5-9	30%	33%	32%	30%	30%	32%	31%
10-12	13%	14%	13%	13%	13%	14%	16%
13-14	5%	7%	5%	5%	7%	8%	8%
15-18	4%	5%	3%	4%	5%	7%	6%
Race/Ethnicity							(N=870)
African American	76%	77%	82%	82%	76%	76%	75%
White	14%	10%	9%	10%	11%	13%	15%
Hispanic	5%	6%	5%	6%	4%	3%	5%
American Indian	3%	4%	2%	1%	5%	4%	3%
Other groups	2%	4%	2%	2%	4%	4%	1%
Number of Children Per Family	(N=642 Families)	(N=627 Families)	(N=421 Families)	(N=520 Families)	(N=440 Families)	(N=358 Families)	(N=378 Families)
1	27%	29%	35%	33%	40%	35%	33%
2	28%	30%	28%	31%	28%	30%	30%
3	22%	19%	18%	20%	17%	17%	18%
4	12%	10%	11%	10%	9%	10%	12%
5	4%	6%	4%	4%	4%	6%	4%
6	4%	4%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%
7 or more	4%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Mean	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.3
Median	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF ADULTS BEFORE ENTERING EMERGENCY SHELTERS

Adults were asked to report all of their living arrangements during the month before entering shelter. In 1998:

- More than two-thirds of females alone and families with children stayed with friends or relatives.
- One in four males alone stayed on the streets and one in five stayed at another shelter.*

Table 4 Adults Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998
Previous Living Arrangements by Family Status (Multiple Responses)

	All Adults (N=966)	Males Alone* (N=444)	Females Alone (N=180)	Adults with Children (N=342)
Friends or relatives	61%	43%	70%	78%
Own place	16%	11%	12%	25%
On the streets	17%	27%	14%	5%
Another shelter	13%	20%	10%	5%
Treatment facility	4%	5%	7%	<1%
Correctional facility	3%	5%	2%	0%
Other	10%	11%	7%	10%

* These figures should be interpreted cautiously because they are based on a 26 percent sample.

Since 1992, proportionately more adults with children reported doubling up before coming to shelter, and more single females reported living on the street.

PREVIOUS ADDRESSES OF ADULTS BEFORE ENTERING EMERGENCY SHELTERS

Less than half of the adults entering emergency shelters in 1998 reported their last permanent address and where they lived most of the last five years (reported as "from"). Among them:

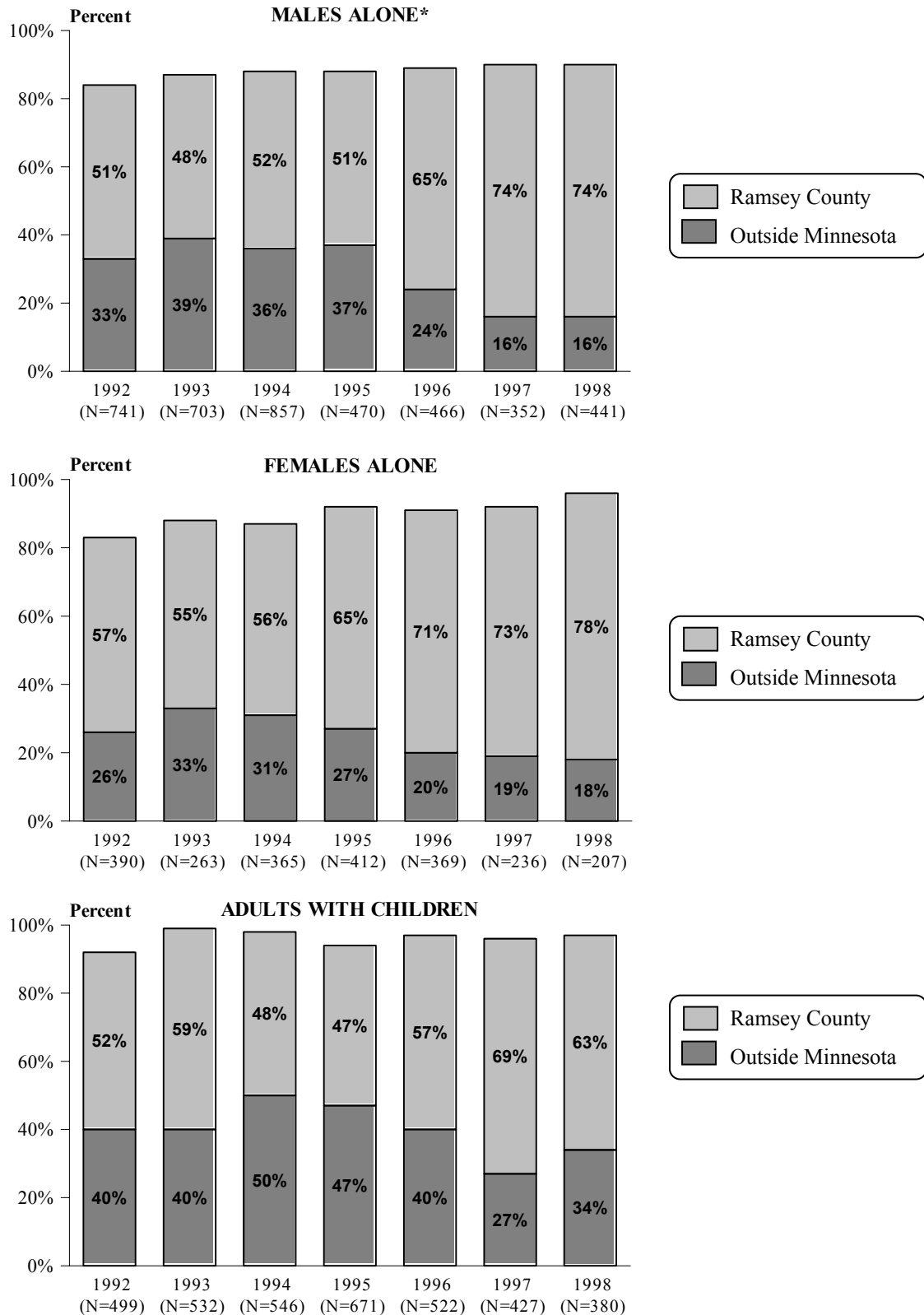
- A higher proportion of respondents in 1997 and 1998 than in previous years reported that Ramsey County as where they lived most of the last five years.
- The proportions of adults with children last living or "from" outside Minnesota were less in 1997 and 1998 than in previous years.
- Over 90 percent who last lived in Ramsey County were also "from" Ramsey County and over three-fourths (82%) who were "from" Ramsey County last lived in Ramsey County.

**Table 5 Adults Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998
Last Permanent Address and Where From**

	Last Permanent Address (N=1,028)	Where Lived Most of Last Five Years (N=1,008)
Ramsey County	71%	62%
Other Twin Cities Metro	6%	7%
Other Minnesota	1%	2%
Outside Minnesota	23%	30%

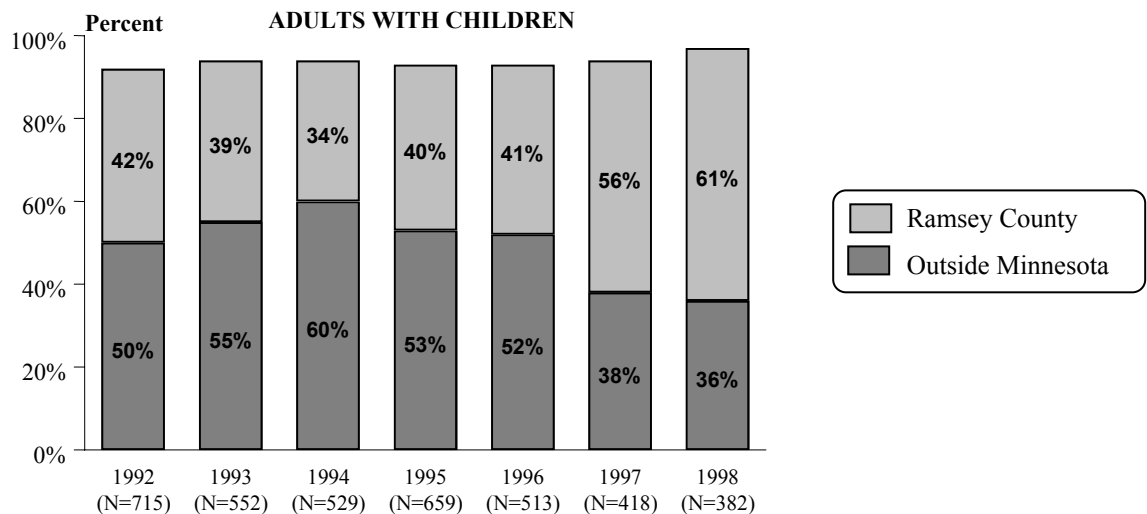
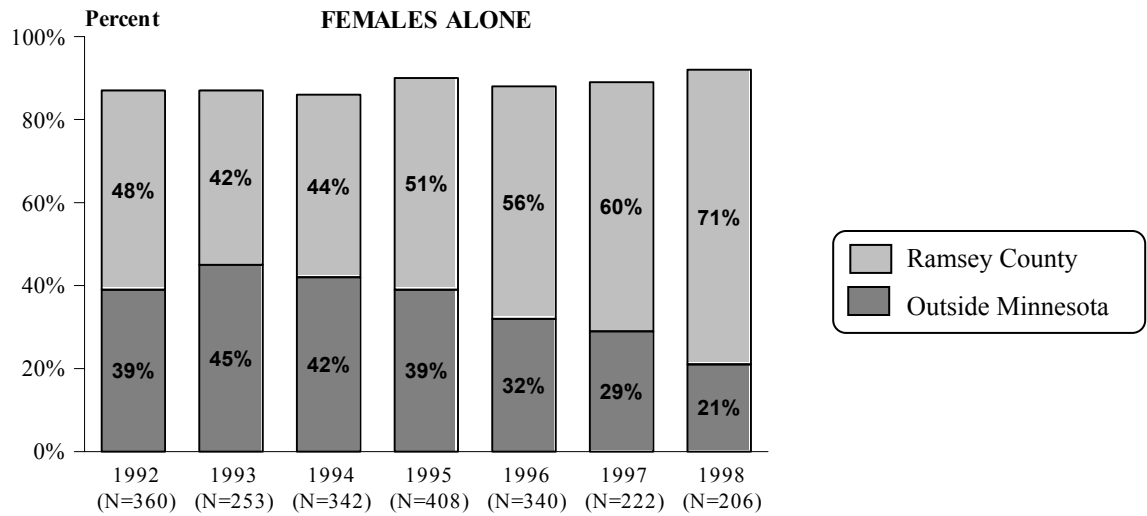
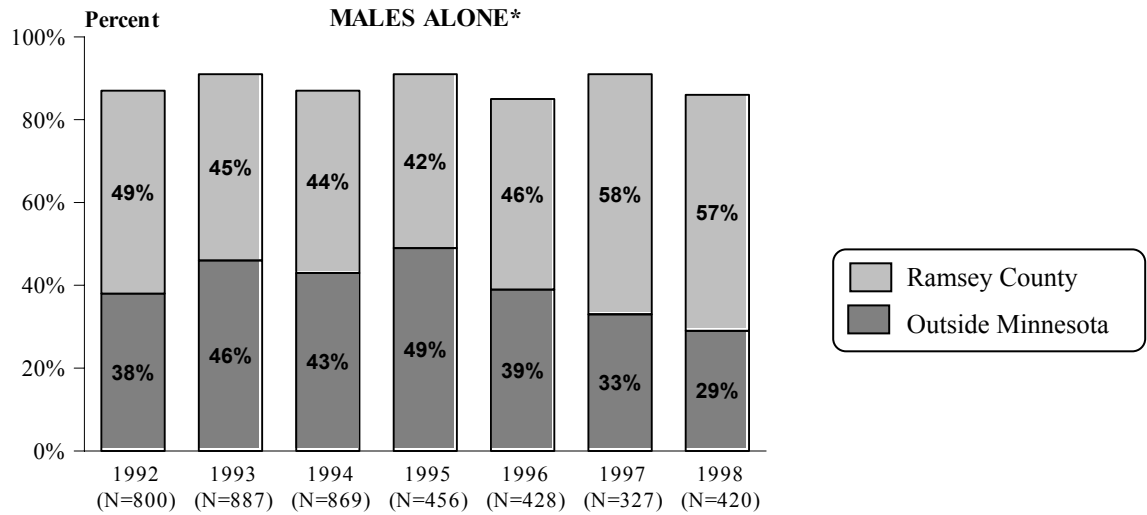
Figures on pages 10 and 11 show comparisons of previous locations by family status for 1992 to 1998.

Figure 5 Adults Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998
Last Permanent Address



* These figures should be interpreted cautiously because they are based on a 16-30 percent sample.

**Figure 6 Adults Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998
Where Lived Most of Last Five Years**



These figures should be interpreted cautiously because they are based on a 16-30 percent sample.

EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF ADULTS IN EMERGENCY SHELTERS

Among adults using emergency shelters in 1998, about two-thirds (65%) reported completing high school or having a GED. Educational levels have been about the same since 1994.

Figure 7 Adults Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998
Highest Educational Level (N=997)

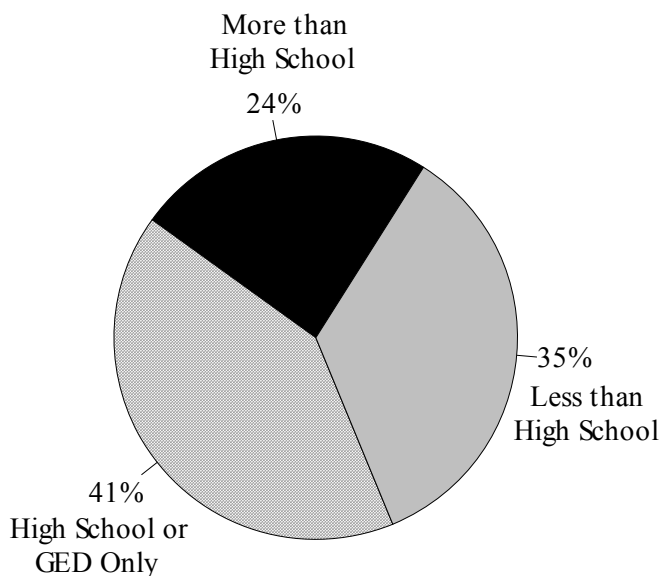


Table 6 Adults Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998
Proportion Completing High School or GED

Year	All Adults (N)	Males Alone* (N)	Females Alone (N)	Adults with Children (N)
1992	61% (N=1870)	63% (N=880)	67% (N=409)	54% (N=581)
1993	53% (N=2094)	67% (N=989)	54% (N=319)	36% (N=786)
1994	68% (N=1923)	75% (N=953)	66% (N=382)	57% (N=588)
1995	64% (N=1430)	70% (N=358)	66% (N=412)	59% (N=660)
1996	67% (N=1312)	73% (N=445)	66% (N=358)	62% (N=509)
1997	65% (N=975)	74% (N=334)	66% (N=226)	57% (N=415)
1998	65% (N=997)	72% (N=414)	62% (N=203)	59% (N=380)

* These figures should be interpreted cautiously because they are based on reports from 13-37 percent of the total population of adult males alone in emergency shelters.

INCOME SOURCES OF ADULTS IN THE MONTH BEFORE ENTERING EMERGENCY SHELTERS

Adults entering shelter were asked to report all of their income sources for the prior month.

About 40 percent of all adults reported having no source of income in the month before entering shelter. Reports of no income source were higher for adults with children in 1998, compared to previous years.

- More females alone reported no income in 1998 than in 1997 (55% vs. 46%).
- More single males reported wages from steady work and/or day labor in 1998 than in 1997 (36% vs. 25%).*
- Less than half of adults with children received AFDC.

Table 7 Adults Entering Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998
Income Sources in the Month Before Entering Shelter (Multiple Response)

	All Adults (N=1,069)	Males Alone* (N=518)	Females Alone (N=196)	Adults with Children (N=355)
No income	42%	37%	55%	40%
Steady work	15%	22%	9%	9%
AFDC	14%	<1%	3%	39%
SSI	14%	14%	17%	11%
Day labor	9%	14%	6%	3%
SSD	5%	7%	6%	1%
GA	4%	7%	5%	1%
Unemployment	1%	2%	0%	<1%
Other	2%	3%	3%	1%

* These figures should be interpreted cautiously because they are based on a 30 percent sample.

Steadily Employed Shelter Users

In 1998, there were 163 persons who reported steady work within one month of entering shelter (up from 126 persons last year). Compared to all adults in shelter:

- A higher proportion was persons of color (76% vs. 66%).
- More likely to have a high school education (76% vs. 65%), and they report much higher average incomes (\$826 vs. \$350).
- Less likely to return to shelter (18% vs. 32%).
- Less likely to report that employment/income (15% vs. 31) as a reason for seeking shelter.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF ADULTS IN THE MONTH BEFORE ENTERING EMERGENCY SHELTERS

The overall average household monthly income when entering shelter is \$350, about the same as in 1997. Zero income is reported by 40 percent of adult shelter users.

Compared to 1997, average income was unchanged for adults receiving GA/AFDC and higher by 22 percent for adults working steady jobs.

Average income was the highest for adults reporting income from steady work (\$827), followed by GA/AFDC (\$489), and day labor (\$295).

**Table 8 Adults in Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998
Household Income Last Month**

	All Adults (N=867)	Males Alone* (N=357)	Females Alone (N=170)	Adults with Children (N=299)**
0	40%	42%	54%	28%
<\$200	5%	8%	2%	2%
\$200-399	10%	8%	9%	12%
\$400-599	24%	19%	28%	28%
\$600-799	9%	6%	4%	16%
\$800-999	4%	5%	1%	4%
\$1,000+	9%	12%	2%	10%
Mean	\$350	\$347	\$223	\$443
Median	\$250	\$100	0***	\$437

* These figures should be interpreted cautiously because they are based on a 21 percent sample.

** Unduplicated number of families with 353 adults.

*** More than 50 percent did not report incomes.

After being at decreased levels from 1993 to 1995, the average income in 1996-1998 returned to the level reported in 1992.

Table 9 **Adults In Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1992-1998**
Average Household income Last Month

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>
Mean	\$384	\$307	\$308	\$280	\$352	\$349	\$350
Median	\$400	\$268	\$270	\$197	\$400	\$337	\$250

REASONS LEADING ADULTS TO ENTER EMERGENCY SHELTERS

Adults entering shelters were given a checklist of possible reasons leading them to need shelter and were asked to check all of the reasons that apply to them. Based on their reports in 1998:

- About two-thirds of all adults reported seeking shelter because of personal/family crisis and more than half did so because of the lack of affordable housing.
- Almost a third cited employment/income.
- Compared to 1997, there was a significant decrease in the rate of eviction (17% vs. 30%), especially for females alone (13% vs. 32%) and adults with children (25% vs. 43%).

Table 10 **Adults In Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998**
Self-Reported Reasons Leading to Shelter (Multiple Responses)*

	<u>All Adults</u> <u>(N=1,041)</u>	<u>Males Alone*</u> <u>(N=488)</u>	<u>Females Alone</u> <u>(N=194)</u>	<u>Adults with Children</u> <u>(N=359)</u>
Personal/family crisis	65%	49%	80%	80%
Lack of affordable housing	57%	57%	49%	62%
Employment/income	31%	27%	44%	30%
Eviction	17%	12%	13%	25%
Mental Illness	4%	5%	7%	1%
Drinking/drug use	6%	8%	8%	2%
Physical abuse	4%	<1%	7%	7%
Fear of crime/violence	2%	1%	3%	1%
Displaced from housing	2%	2%	2%	3%

* Percents are based on an unduplicated number of reasons ever reported per person during any stay. There were no reasons reported for 72 percent of males alone.

HOUSING OUTCOME OF ADULTS EXITING RAMSEY COUNTY FUNDED EMERGENCY SHELTERS

Housing outcome upon exit from shelter was reported for 328 adults with children and 209 single females. (Outcome was reported for only 26 percent of males alone; of these, the outcome was unknown for 86 percent.)

- Thirty-three percent of the adults with children exited to new housing.
- Ninety-two percent of single females had an unknown outcome.

Table 11 Housing Status of Adults Exiting Ramsey County Funded Emergency Shelters, 1998

	Females Alone (N=209)	Adults With Children (N=328)
New housing	6%	33%
With friends/relatives	<1%	19%
Motel/hotel	0%	14%
Another shelter	1%	5%
Return to current housing	<1%	3%
Transitional housing	0%	2%
Other	1%	3%
Unknown	92%	20%

ADULTS DIVERTED FROM EMERGENCY SHELTER

Altogether, 113 adults (3 without children) seeking emergency shelter in Ramsey County in 1998 were diverted elsewhere. They were mostly females (88%), with an average of two children and median gross income of \$532 per month. A third (33%) of these adults reported being homeless when they come to shelter.

- Nearly three-quarters (72%) received cash assistance for rent, mortgage, or damage deposit.
- One in ten (10%) moved to new housing.
- Almost two-thirds (64%) returned to their current housing.
- One person returned to shelter after diversion.

Since the diversion program began in mid-1993, 452 families have been served, about 10 percent of whom have eventually returned to stay in shelter.

EMERGENCY SHELTER USE PATTERNS

NUMBER OF STAYS IN EMERGENCY SHELTERS

A shelter stay can include an absence of up to 3 nights between uses. New stays are counted only when a person has been out of shelter more than 3 nights before returning.

There were 4,094 separate stays reported for 1998, 83 percent of which were by single men, 6 percent by single women and 11 percent by adults with children.

The number of stays reported, which had been fairly consistent from 1991 to 1995, decreased by about 600 in 1996, about 1,100 in 1997, and almost 1,000 in 1998. However, there was little change in the distribution of stays within and across family status.

- About two-thirds of all adults, and proportionately more females than males, continued to have just one stay.
- The highest number of stays for single men was 22, compared to 4 for adults with children, and 3 for females alone.

Table 12 Adults In Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998
Number of Separate Stays (with More Than 3 Nights Between Uses)*

<u>Number of Stays</u>	<u>All Adults (N=2,312)</u>	<u>Males Alone (N=1,712)</u>	<u>Females Alone (N=211)</u>	<u>Adults with Children (N=389)</u>
1	68%	62%	85%	84%
2	16%	17%	14%	12%
3	6%	8%	1%	3%
4	4%	5%	0%	1%
5	2%	3%	0%	0%
6	1%	2%	0%	0%
7 or more	3%	4%	0%	0%
Mean	1.8	2.0	1.2	1.2

* Based on exited stays only.

TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS ADULTS STAYED IN EMERGENCY SHELTERS IN 1998

For all adults entering and exiting emergency shelters in 1998, 19% stayed just one day. Another 9 percent stayed just two days.

The total number of days in shelters for about half of all adults is a week or less, about the same as for the past two years.

- The median number of total days in shelter was 15 for families, 7 for males alone, and 7 for females alone.
- The highest number of total days in shelter in 1998 was 288 days for males alone, 130 days for females alone, and 66 days for families.

Table 13 Adults in Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998
Total Number of Days in Shelters*

	Males Alone (N=1,712)	Females Alone (N=211)	Adults with Children (N=389)
1 – 7 days	51%	53%	29%
8 – 14 days	13%	20%	18%
15 – 21 days	8%	15%	18%
22 – 28 days	6%	8%	18%
29+ days	22%	5%	17%

On average, in 1998:

- Males alone spent about 3 weeks in shelter.
- Families with children spent about 2 weeks in shelter.
- Females alone spent about 1 week in shelter.

Shelter users from outside Minnesota, compared to those from Minnesota, stay, on average:

- 3 days longer for any given stay (13 vs. 10).
- 1 day longer in total (15 vs. 14).

**Table 14 Adults in Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998
Mean and Median Total Number of Days in Shelters***

	1992 (N=3,639)	1993 (N=3,676)	1994 (N=3,762)	1995 (N=3,715)	1996 (N=3,330)	1997 (N=2,670)	1998 (N=2,312)
Males Alone							
Mean	16	18	16	17	20	20	20
Median	5	7	6	4	6	6	7
Females Alone							
Mean	13	15	13	12	9	8	11
Median	8	13	9	8	4	6	7
Adults With Children							
Mean	15	14	14	15	14	14	17
Median	11	10	12	14	12	12	15

* Based on exited stays only.

REPEAT USE OF EMERGENCY SHELTERS

Re-entering shelter after being gone for four or more nights is considered a new shelter stay. In 1998, repeat use (having more than one stay) was similar to previous years. About a third (32%) of the adults in shelter had more than one stay and accounted for 62 percent of the total number of stays.

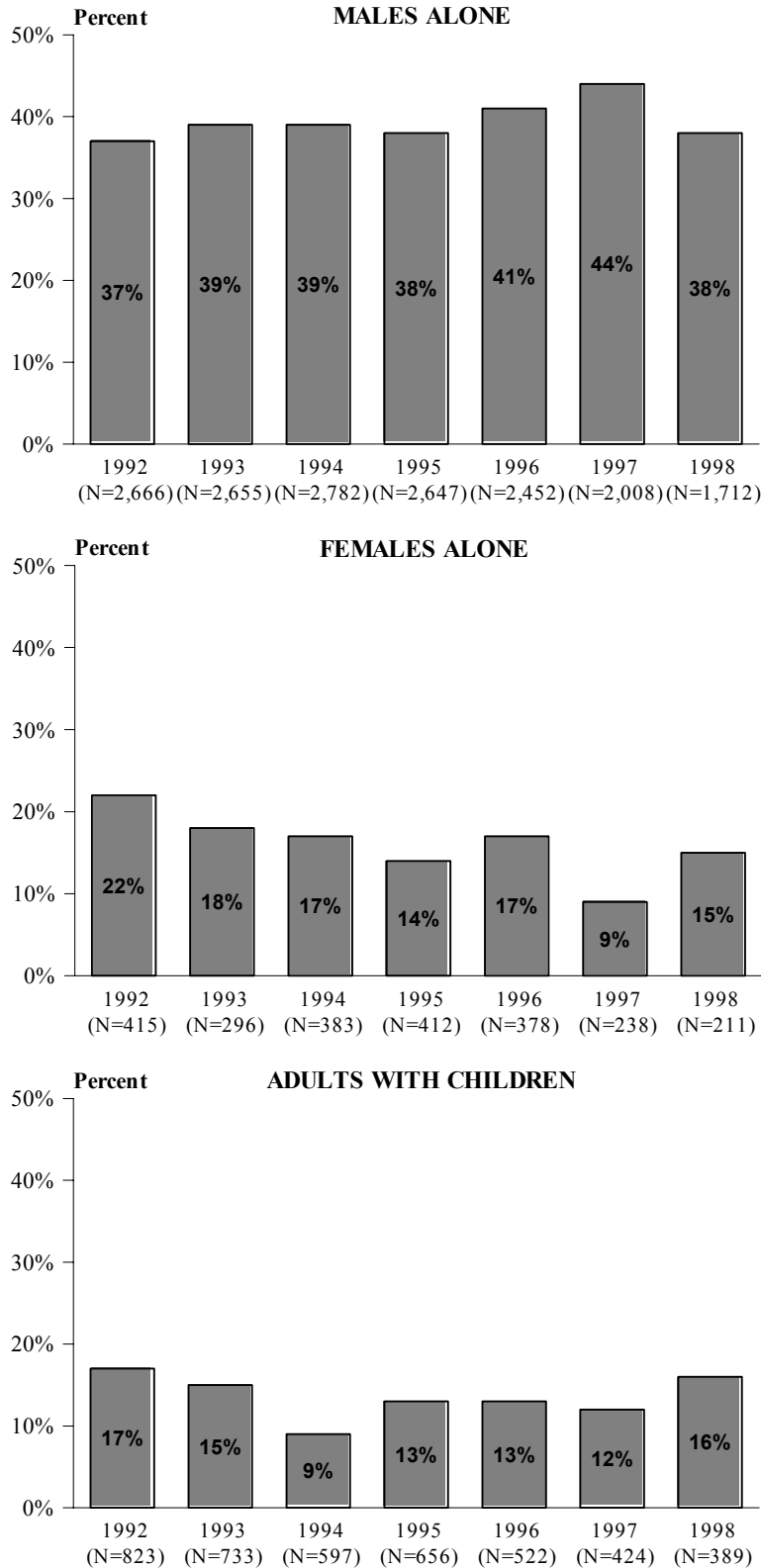
- Repeat use remains more common for males than females (37% vs. 15%).
- Compared to 1997, repeat use increased slightly for females alone and adults with children and decreased for males alone.

Figure 9 shows the proportion of adults who had more than one stay in 1998. Each bar is divided between those who spent a total of two weeks or more in shelters and those who spent less than two weeks. Among these repeat shelter users:

- Males alone were more likely to stay a total of two weeks or longer than females alone or adults with children.
- Fourteen percent out of 16 percent of families with children stayed two or more weeks.

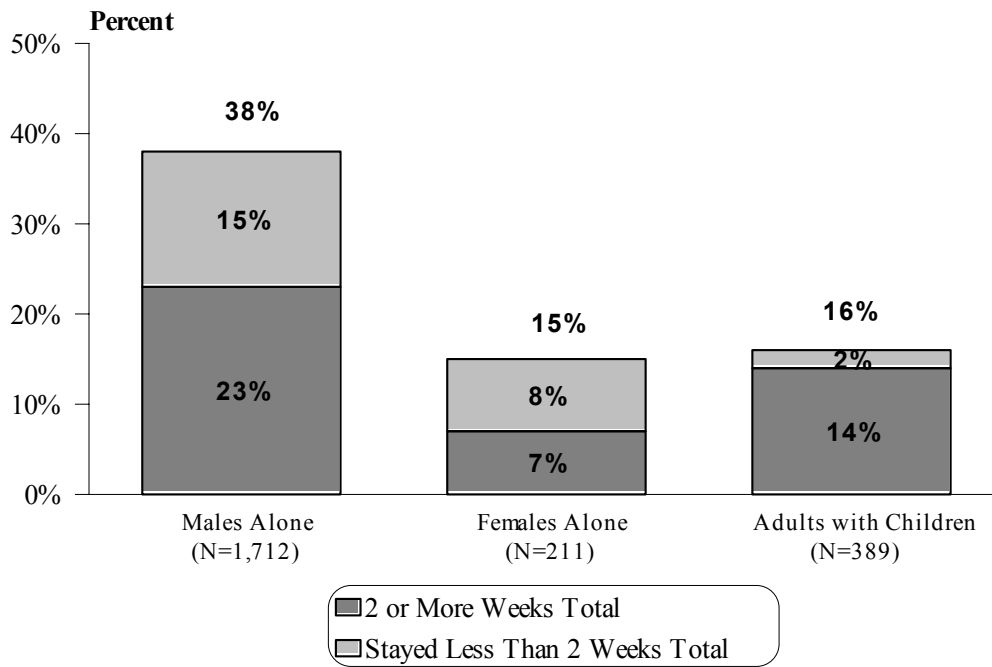
For all adults who stay in shelter more than one time, the average length of time in shelter was 35 days.

Figure 8 Adults Re-Entering Shelter Within The Same Year, Ramsey County, 1992-1998*



* Previously reported percentages for 1992 to 1993 are different due to changes in the definition of a stay and data cleaning.

Figure 9 **Adults in Emergency Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998**
Repeat Users by Family Status (Percent Reporting More Than One Shelter Stay
Spaced by 3 or Fewer Days in 1998)*



The average time between stays for all stays was:

- About 1 month for males alone and about 2 months for families with children and for females alone in 1998.
- About 3 months for males alone, 6-7 months for females alone, and 7 months for families with children across years (1992-1998).

CHRONIC USE OF EMERGENCY SHELTERS

Chronic shelter users stay in shelters at least one night every quarter or eight or more days per quarter for three out of four quarters. This population has been fairly stable since 1992, making up 2-3 percent of all adults in shelter.

Over 90 percent of chronic users are single men, and they are slightly older than shelter users in general. There is little other descriptive data reported for chronic individuals. Their use of shelter in 1998 averaged:

- 9 stays during the year;
- 115 total days for the entire year, about the same as in 1997.

EMERGENCY SHELTER STAYS IN 1991 TO 1998

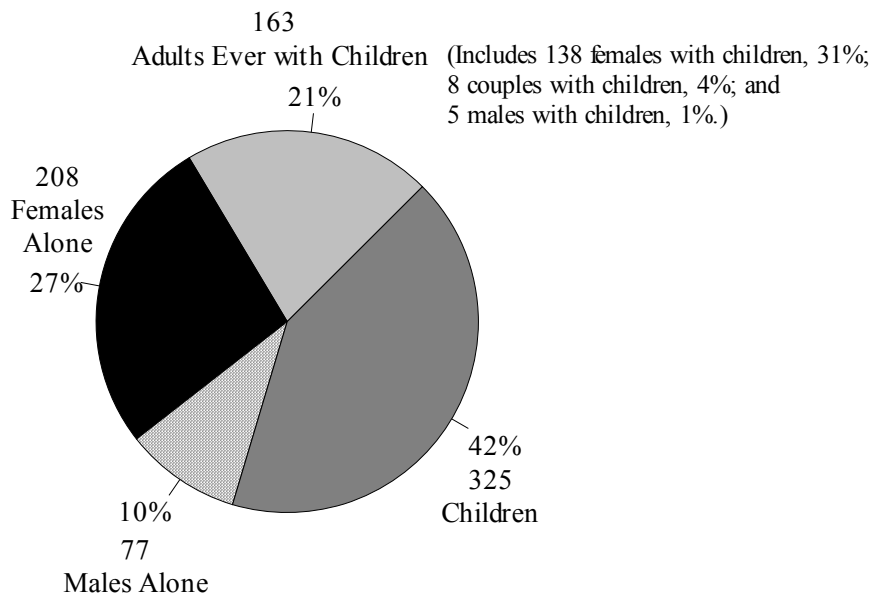
Unduplicating 1991 to 1998 stays, 18,284 different adults used emergency shelters in Ramsey County, including over 12,268 males alone; 2,179 females alone; and 3,837 adults with children.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAMS

COUNT OF INDIVIDUALS

In 1998, 773 individuals lived in transitional housing in Ramsey County. Compared to the proportions in 1997, there were more males alone and females alone and slightly fewer families with children.

Figure 10 **Individuals Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998**
(N=773)



COUNT OF ADULTS

Of the 448 adults who used transitional housing in 1998, 46 percent were females alone, 36 percent were adults with children, and 17 percent were single males.

These counts are based on adults staying in transitional housing programs at RoseCenter, Theresa Living Center, Union Gospel Mission and its Naomi Family Center, St. Paul YWCA, Wellsprings Living Center, and the Wilder ROOF Project, which also includes Emma Norton Residence, East Metro Women's Council, and Jendayi Place.

Figure 11 **Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998**
Family Status While in Transitional Housing (N=448)

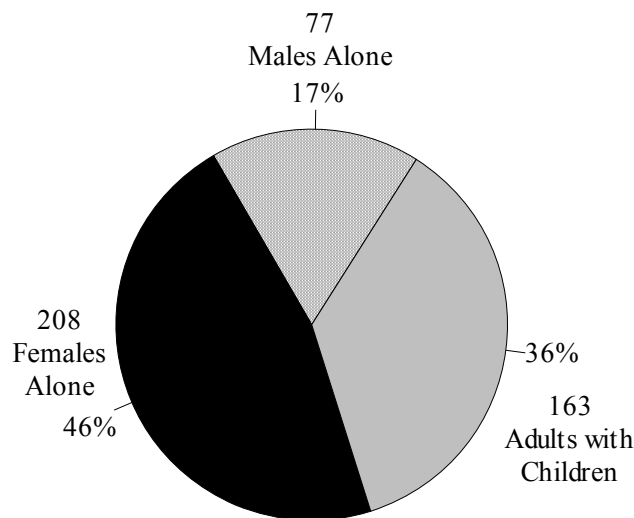
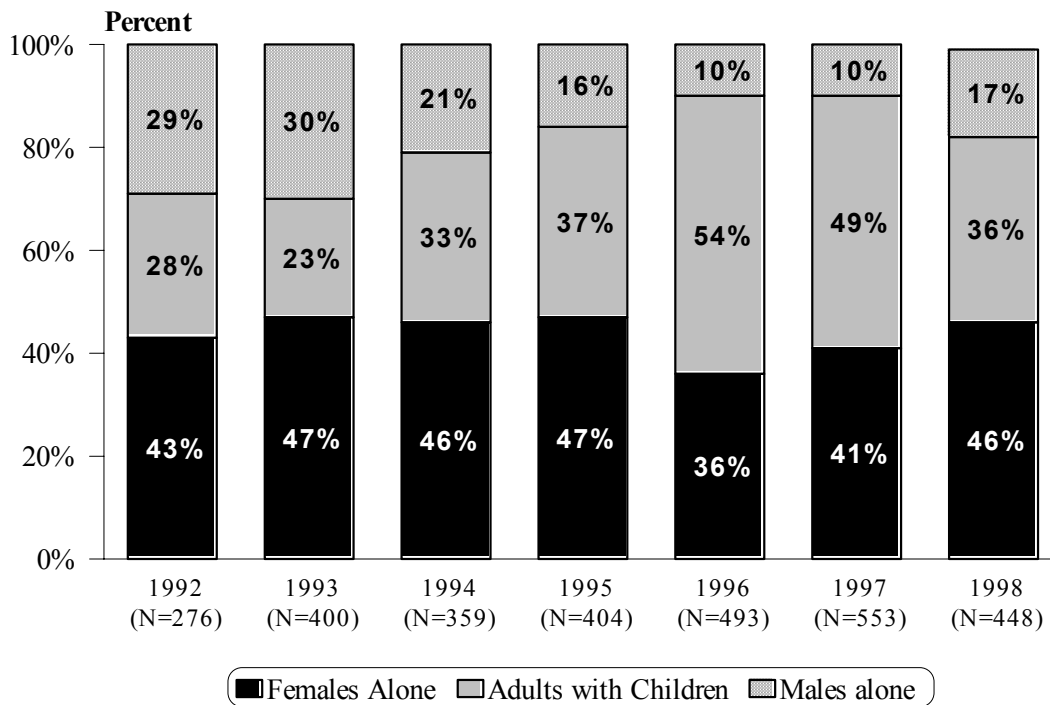


Figure 12 Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998, Family Status While in Transitional Housing.



Notes: 1) 1996 and 1997 include counts provided by Naomi Family Center for its transitional housing program; data on individual women and children were not collected and submitted for this report.

- From 1992 to 1996, the proportion of adults with children increased from 28 to 54 percent, and the proportion of single males decreased from 29 to 10 percent.
- Much of this shift was due to three programs serving adults with children which joined the project in 1994 (East Metro Women's Council), in 1995 (Union Gospel Mission's Naomi Family Center), and in 1996 (Wilder ROOF Project, which includes Jendayi Place and additional beds through Emma Norton Residence and East Metro Women's Council).
- The number of available programs and beds for single men also decreased during this time.
- In 1998, the proportion of adults with children and the proportion of single males went back to the 1995's levels. Counts for Naomi Family Center, however, are not included.

PROFILE OF PERSONS USING TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAMS

GENDER AND AGE OF ADULTS USING TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Eighty percent of adults staying in transitional housing were female.

More than half were between ages 20 and 39.

Compared to emergency shelters, transitional housing served proportionately more females (80% vs. 22%). Also, a higher proportion was under age 30 (39% vs. 22%).

RACE AND ETHNICITY OF ADULTS USING TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

In 1998, Whites account for almost half (48%) of all adults in transitional housing; however, two-thirds of adults with children were African American.

Table 15 **Characteristics of Adults Using Transitional Housing
Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998**

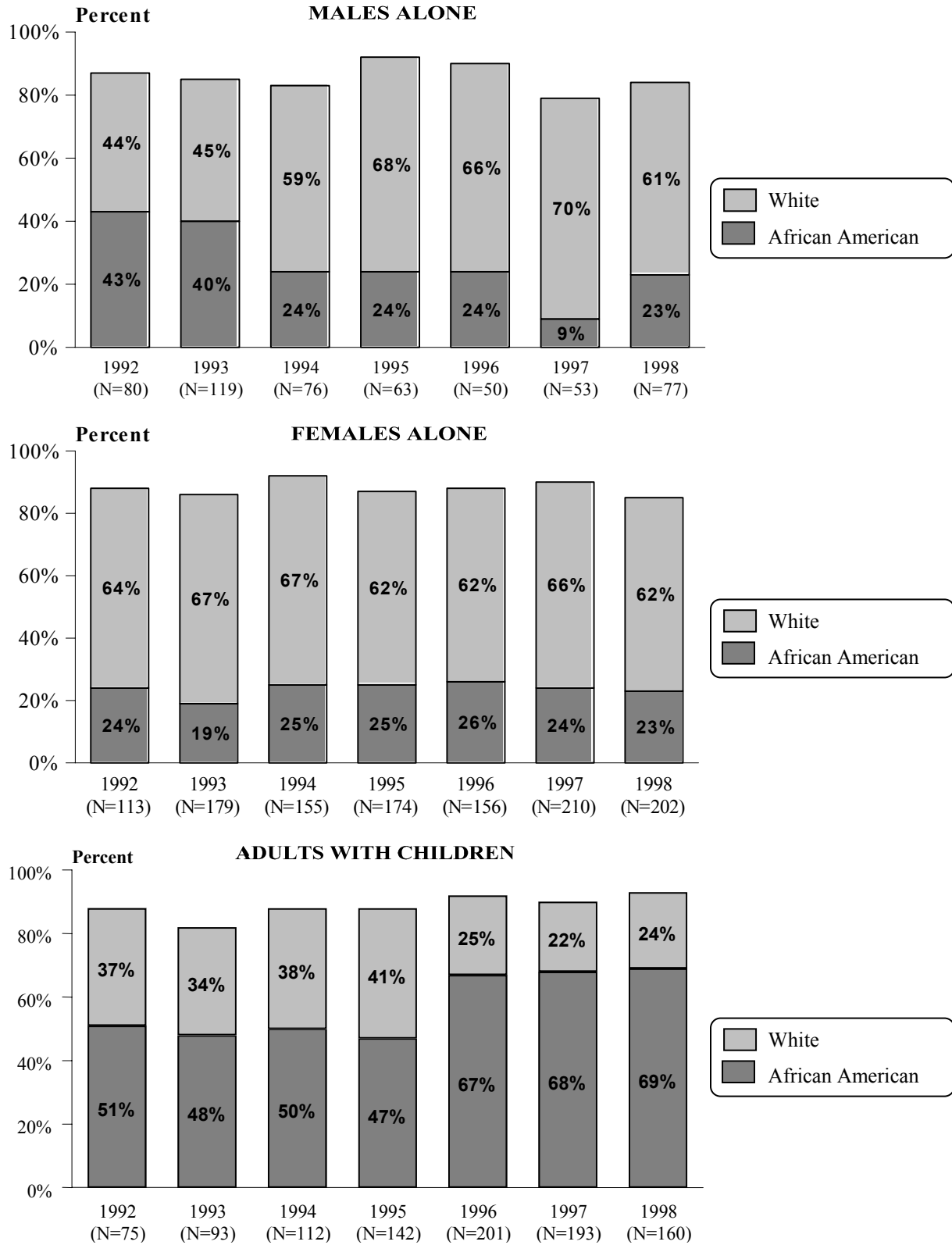
	1992 (N=276)	1993 (N=400)	1994 (N=359)	1995 (N=404)	1996 (N=420)	1997 (N=471)	1998 (N=448)
Sex							
Female	70%	71%	78%	84%	87%	89%	80%
Male	30%	30%	22%	16%	13%	12%	20%
Age			(N=354)	(N=392)	(N=413)	(N=469)	(N=443)
≤18	2%	2%	1%	<1%	3%	3%	3%
18-19	8%	6%	6%	8%	9%	9%	8%
20-29	38%	38%	37%	35%	35%	34%	28%
30-39	33%	33%	34%	35%	31%	31%	31%
40-49	15%	17%	17%	17%	17%	19%	23%
50-59	5%	4%	5%	4%	4%	3%	6%
60+	0%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	2%
Race/Ethnicity			(N=343)	(N=379)	(N=406)	(N=457)	(N=439)
White	50%	52%	55%	55%	44%	48%	48%
African American	37%	32%	33%	33%	46%	41%	40%
American Indian	6%	7%	4%	3%	5%	6%	6%
Hispanic	4%	4%	4%	3%	2%	2%	1%
Asian	2%	3%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Other	2%	3%	2%	5%	2%	3%	5%

Table 16 **Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998**
Race/Ethnicity

	All Adults (N=439)	Males Alone (N=77)	Females Alone (N=202)	Adults with Children (N=160)
White	48%	61%	62%	24%
African American	40%	23%	23%	69%
Hispanic	1%	1%	<1%	1%
American Indian	6%	9%	6%	4%
Asian	1%	1%	1%	1%
Other	5%	4%	8%	1%

The proportion of African American families in transitional housing increased from 47 percent in 1995 to 68 percent in 1997, largely due to the addition of the Wilder ROOF project, in which 90 percent of the families are African American. This proportion remained stable in 1998.

Figure 13 Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1992-1998
African Americans and Whites



CHILDREN IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Altogether, 325 children lived in transitional housing with their parents in 1998, a slight increase over last year. Half were 4 years old or younger. The number of children per family averaged about 2, ranging from 1 to 5.

Table 17 Characteristics of Children with their Parents in Transitional Housing (Upon entering), Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998

	1992 (N=109)	1993 (N=163)	1994 (N=218)	1995 (N=276)	1996 (N=341)	1997 (N=363)	1998 (N=325)
Sex							
Boys	50%	53%	52%	55%	51%	50%	48%
Girls	50%	47%	48%	46%	49%	50%	52%
Age							(N=321)
2 or younger	38%	30%	29%	33%	37%	35%	33%
3 – 4	13%	16%	20%	20%	18%	16%	17%
5 – 9	29%	32%	33%	27%	29%	30%	31%
10 – 12	13%	15%	10%	13%	11%	11%	10%
13 – 17	7%	8%	7%	7%	6%	9%	9%
Race/Ethnicity							(N=169)
African American	60%	66%	62%	59%	64%	71%	69%
White	22%	17%	23%	27%	19%	16%	20%
American Indian	6%	8%	1%	2%	3%	4%	2%
Hispanic	9%	4%	4%	3%	4%	3%	1%
Asian	3%	4%	4%	3%	2%	3%	2%
Other Groups	0%	2%	6%	7%	8%	3%	6%
Number of Children Per Family							(N=151 Families)
1	43%	48%	50%	48%	47%	48%	40%
2	30%	22%	21%	25%	27%	24%	26%
3	16%	18%	20%	22%	20%	19%	19%
4 or more	10%	11%	8%	5%	6%	10%	14%
Mean	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.2
Median	2	2	1	2	2	2	2

Notes: 1) 1996 and 1997 include counts provided by Naomi Family Center for its transitional housing program; data on individual women and children were not collected and submitted for this report.

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF ADULTS BEFORE ENTERING TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

In the month before entering transitional housing, almost one in three adults (32%) lived with friends or relatives and/or at another shelter.

- Adults with children were much more likely than females alone to have stayed at another shelter (53% vs. 15%).
- Conversely, females alone were much more likely than adults with children to have stayed at a treatment facility (40% vs. 2%) or a hospital (8% vs. <1%).

**Table 18 Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998
Previous Living Arrangements Before Entering (Multiple Responses)**

	All (N=383)	Females Alone (N=207)	Adults with Children (N=159)
Friends/relative	32%	27%	35%
Another shelter	31%	15%	53%
Treatment facility	23%	40%	2%
Own residence	10%	13%	7%
Hospital	5%	8%	<1%
On street	4%	3%	3%
Correctional facility	1%	1%	0%
Other	4%	3%	4%

Altogether, 103 adults in transitional housing in 1998 previously stayed in emergency shelter in Ramsey County, some as far back as 1991.

PREVIOUS ADDRESSES OF ADULTS BEFORE ENTERING TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

In 1998, 46 percent of the adults in transitional housing reported a last permanent address in Ramsey County, about the same as 1997. Another 37 percent reported a last permanent address elsewhere in the Metro Area.

- In 1998, about one in four adults with children (23%) reported a last permanent address outside Minnesota, the smallest proportion since 1993.

Table 19 **Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998**
Last Permanent Address

	All (N=309)	Females Alone (N=199)	Adults with Children (N=93)
Ramsey County	46%	47%	44%
Other Twin Cities Metro	37%	40%	33%
Other Minnesota	3%	4%	0%
Outside Minnesota	14%	10%	23%

In 1997 and 1998, compared to previous years (1992-1996), slightly more adults were “from” Ramsey County.

In 1997 and 1998 compared to earlier years, the proportion of adults with children “from” outside Minnesota was at the lowest levels (7-8%).

Table 20 **Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998**
Where Lived Most of Last Five Years

	All (N=382)	Females Alone (N=203)	Adults with Children (N=161)
Ramsey County	59%	47%	73%
Other Twin Cities Metro	32%	42%	21%
Other Minnesota	2%	3%	0%
Outside Minnesota	7%	7%	6%

In 1998, a higher proportion of adults in transitional housing were “from” Ramsey County than last lived there (59% vs. 46%), and a smaller proportion were “from” outside Minnesota than last lived there (7% vs. 14%).

Figure 14 Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998
Last Permanent Address

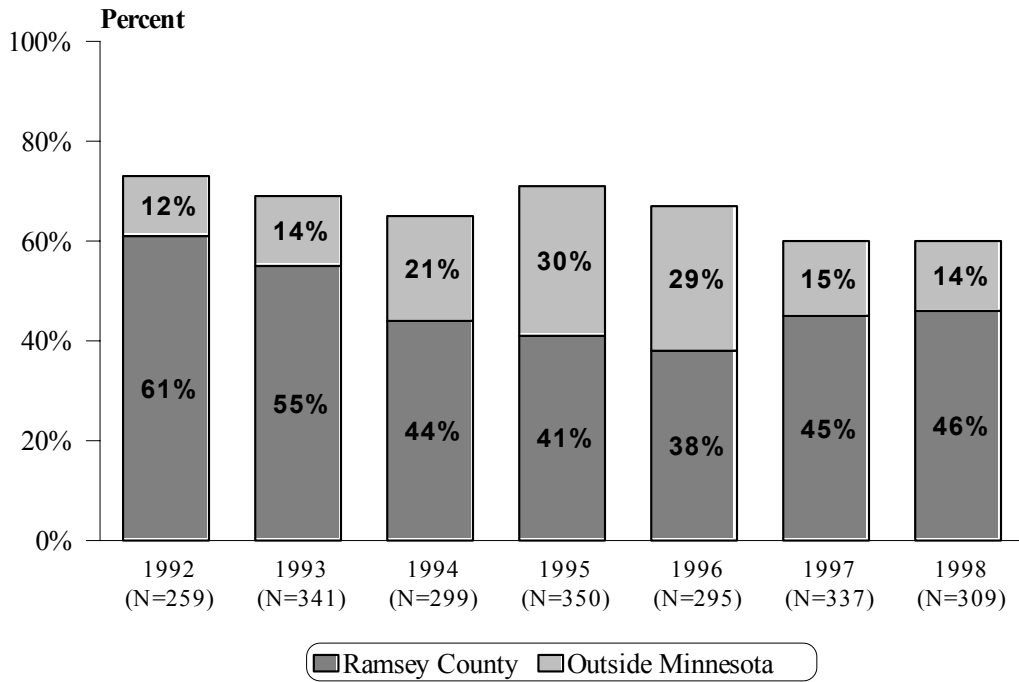
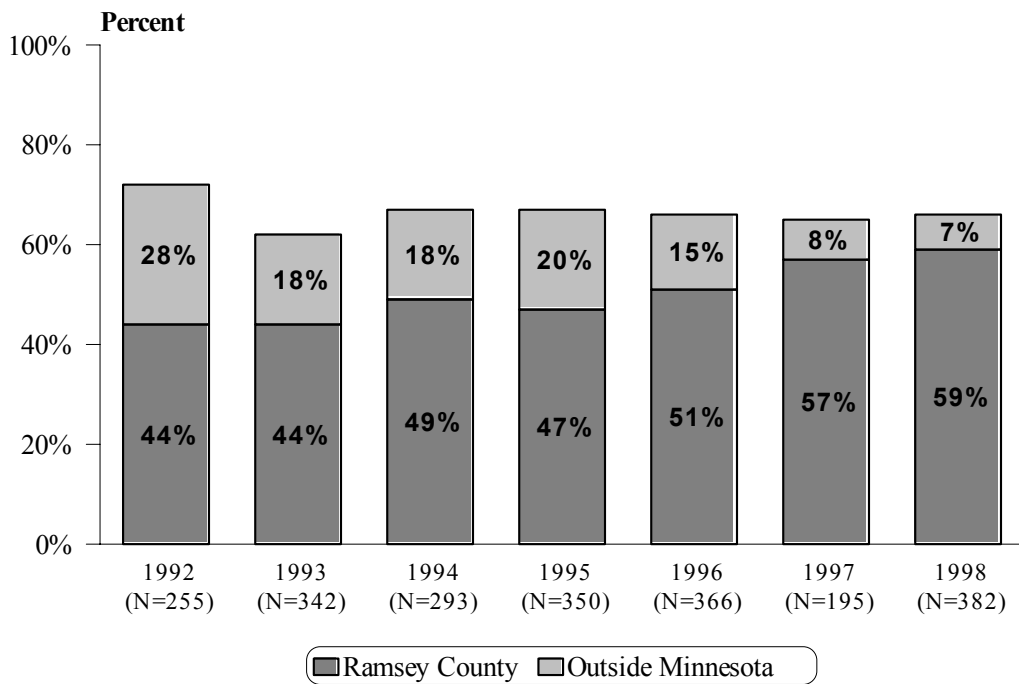


Figure 15 Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998
Where Lived Most of the Last Five Year



EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF ADULTS UPON ENTERING TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Among adults using transitional housing programs in 1998, 70 percent reported having a high school level education when they first entered the program.

Figure 16 Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998
Highest Educational Level Upon Entering Transitional Housing (N=357)

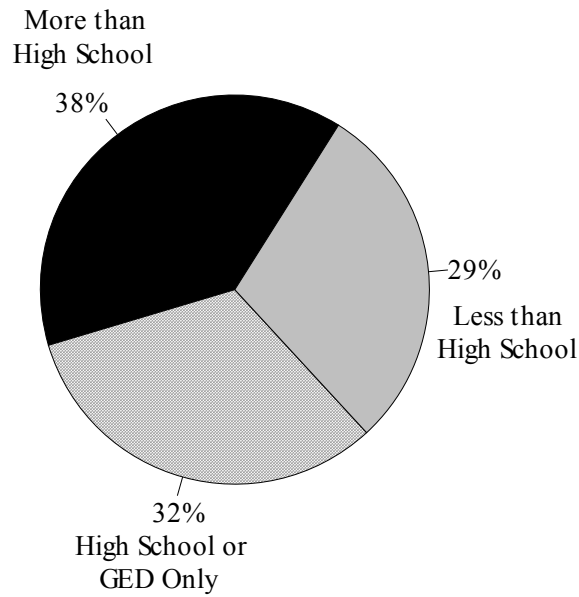
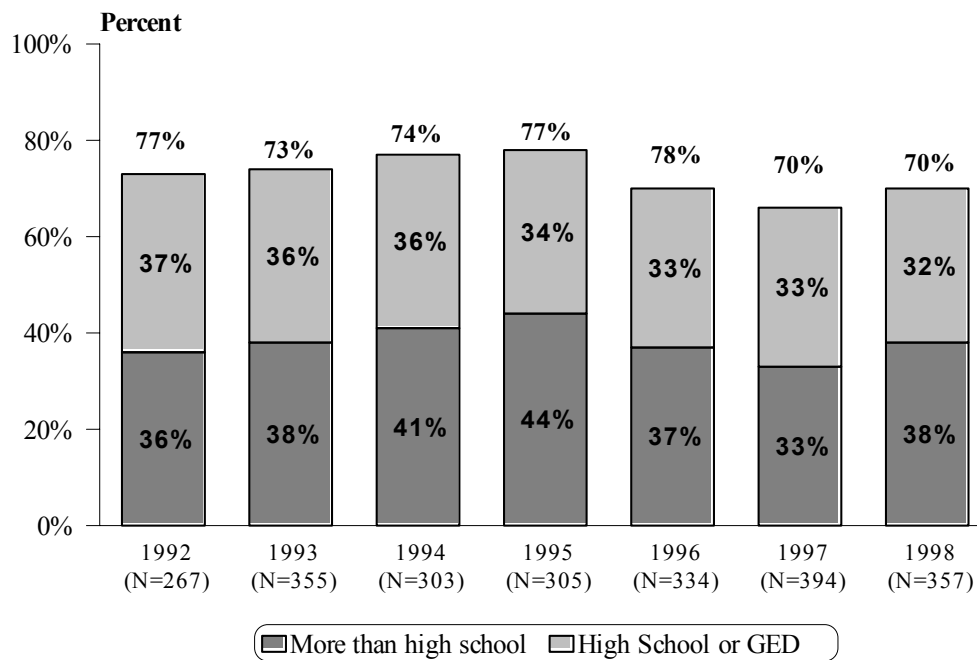


Figure 17 Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1992 to 1998
Proportion Completing High School or GED at the Time of Entry



EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF ADULTS UPON ENTERING TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Twenty-four percent of all adults entering transitional housing in 1998 reported income from steady work and 4 percent reported income from day labor in the previous month.

- Females alone were more likely as those with children to be working (33% vs. 17%).

HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF ADULTS IN MONTH BEFORE ENTERING TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

In 1998, the average household monthly income (in the month before entering transitional housing) was \$548, higher for females with children (\$713) than for single females (\$390).

- The majority of adults with children received AFDC (83%).
- Over one in four single females (28%) received GA.
- Nineteen percent of single females received SSI and/or SSD.

**Table 21 Adults Entering Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998
Income Sources in the Month Before Entering Shelter (Multiple Responses)**

	All (N=378)	Females Alone (N=200)	Adults With Children (N=160)
AFDC (TANF, NFIP)	36%	2%	83%
Steady work	24%	28%	16%
GA	16%	30%	0%
SSI	8%	7%	9%
SSD	7%	12%	1%
Day Labor	4%	5%	1%
Unemployment	2%	3%	1%
Other	27%	16%	41%
None	11%	18%	2%

REASONS LEADING ADULTS TO ENTER TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Persons entering transitional housing were given a checklist of reasons leading them to need transitional housing and were asked to report all that apply to them.

- Lack of affordable housing remained the most frequently reported reason among families with children.
- Drinking and drug use was reported by 61 percent of single females and 16 percent of adults with children.
- Over 40 percent of females alone reported mental illness, up from 26 percent in 1996.
- From 1991 to 1996, reports of employment/income as a problem, or as a reason for seeking transitional housing, decreased from 36 percent to 17 percent, then increased to 38 percent in 1998.

Table 22 Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998
Self-Reported Reasons Leading to Transitional Housing (Multiple Response)*

	All (N=324)	Females Alone (N=201)	Adults with Children (N=106)
Lack of affordable housing	51%	43%	69%
Drinking, drug use	47%	61%	16%
Employment/income	38%	33%	47%
Personal/family crisis	34%	38%	26%
Mental illness	30%	45%	5%
Physical abuse	21%	17%	31%
Eviction	13%	13%	12%
Fear of crime/violence	11%	13%	10%
Displaced from housing	<1%	0%	1%

* Percents are based on an unduplicated number of problems ever reported per person during one or more stays.

STATUS OF ADULTS AT EXIT FROM TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Last year, 276 adults exited transitional housing in Ramsey County. There is no exit data for 51 of the 61 males alone who left transitional housing in 1998. Among the 215 other adults:

- Thirty-seven percent moved to rental housing.
- Sixteen percent moved in with friends or relatives.
- Nine percent moved to public housing.

Where adults moved to when they left transitional housing was:

- Unknown for 58 percent.
- Ramsey County for almost 30 percent.
- Metro area for 9 percent.
- Outstate Minnesota or outside Minnesota for the remaining 3 percent.

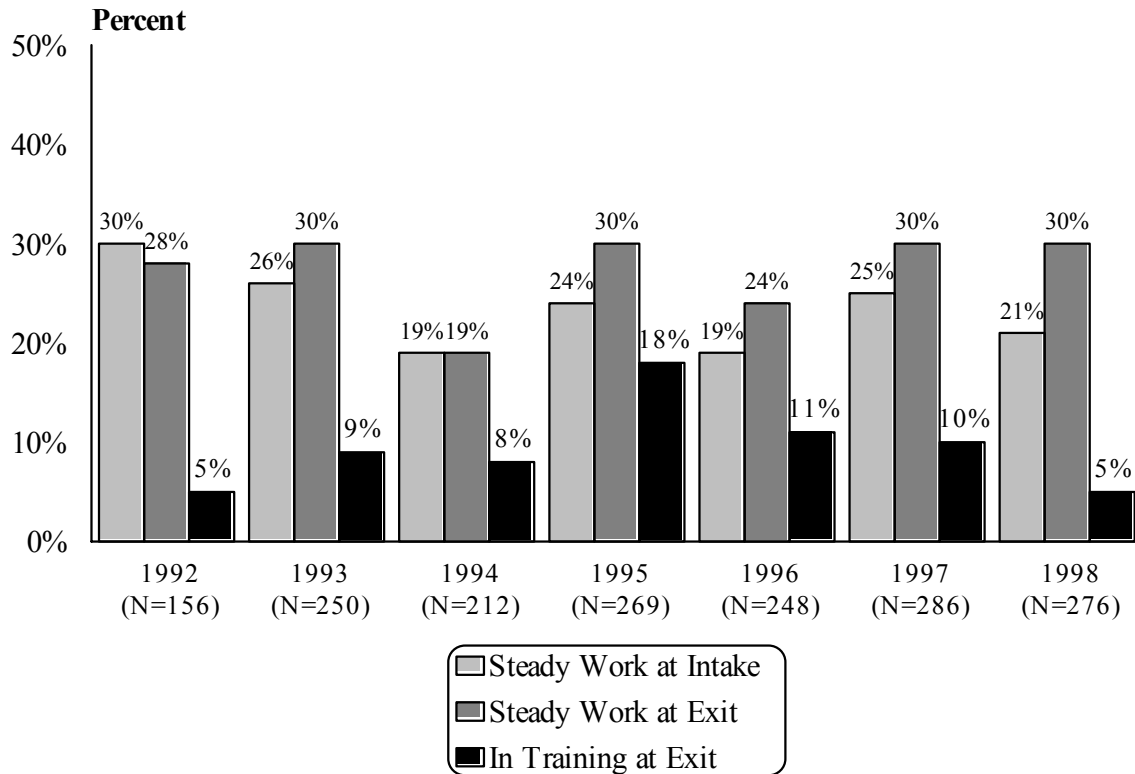
Table 23 Adults Using Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998
Housing Status at Exit

	All* (N=215)	Females Alone (N=139)	Adults with Children (N=76)
Rental housing	37%	31%	49%
With friends/relatives	16%	20%	9%
Public housing	9%	7%	12%
Section 8 housing	1%	0%	3%
Treatment	5%	7%	0%
SRO housing	<1%	1%	0%

* Males alone are not included.

Among adults who left transitional housing in 1998, a slightly larger proportion were steadily employed at exit than at intake. This pattern has held since 1995.

Figure 18 Adults Exiting Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998
Steady Work in the Month Before Entering, and Steady Work and In Training at Exit from Transitional Housing



ADULTS RETURNING TO EMERGENCY SHELTER AFTER LEAVING TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Altogether, 259 adults of the 1,733 adults (15%) who exited transitional housing from 1991 to 1998 later entered emergency shelters (11 of them more than once).

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING USE PATTERNS

LENGTH OF STAY IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Based on 276 reported exits during 1998, adults stayed in transitional housing, on average, about six months, the same as in 1996 and 1997.

- Families stayed the longest (about 9 months).
- Females alone stayed about 6 months and males alone stayed about 2 months.

Table 24 **Adults Exiting Transitional Housing, Ramsey County, 1998**
Length of Stay in Transitional Housing

	All (N=276)	Males Alone (N=61)	Females Alone (N=139)	Adults with Children (N=76)
<1 month	17%	26%	20%	5%
1 – 3 months	35%	54%	22%	17%
4 – 6 months	18%	18%	27%	25%
7 – 9 months	11%	0%	13%	20%
10 – 12 months	5%	0%	6%	8%
13 – 18 months	5%	0%	4%	11%
19 – 24 months	6%	0%	6%	12%
>2 years	2%	2%	2%	3%
Mean number of days	173	59	174	263
Median number of days	106	58	113	206

BATTERED WOMEN SHELTERS

This profile is based on exit information provided by Casa de Esperanza, Women's Advocates, Eagle's Nest, and Family Violence Network-Hillhome.

In 1998, 1,083 women and 1,304 children exited battered women shelters in Ramsey County.

- Over half (60%) were African American and one in five was White.
- Their average age was 31. The youngest was 16 the oldest was 78 years old.
- Sixty-two percent had a high school education, including 24 percent with post-secondary schooling.
- Over half came from Ramsey County (51%) and over a third from Hennepin County (35%).
- Fifty-eight percent of the women had children with them at the shelter. Thirteen percent of these women had four or more children with them. The average number of children was two.
- Of the 1,304 children exiting battered women shelters in 1998, about half were under 6 years old and half were school age.
- The mean length of stay was 17 days.

Table 25 Profile of Women and Children Who Exited Battered Women Shelters, Ramsey County, 1998

<u>Age</u>	<u>(N=1,083)</u>
16-19	8%
20-29	39%
30-39	40%
40+	14%
<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>	<u>(N=1,028)</u>
African American	60%
White	22%
American Indian	9%
Hispanic	6%
Asian	2%
Other groups	1%
<u>Highest Education Level</u>	<u>(N=943)</u>
Grade school	38%
High school	39%
Vocational/Technical	12%
College	12%
<u>Last Permanent Address</u>	<u>(N=991)</u>
Ramsey County	51%
Hennepin County	35%
Washington County	3%
Dakota County	1%
Other Minnesota	6%
Other State	4%
<u>Has Children Along</u>	<u>(N=1,083)</u>
	58%
Number of Children Per Family at Shelter	
1	41%
2	31%
3	15%
4	8%
5+	5%
Mean	2.1
Ages of Children	<u>(N=992)</u>
0-2	29%
3-5	27%
6-10	29%
11-18	16%
<u>Length of Stay (in days)</u>	
Mean	17
Median	9

APPENDIX I

Data Sources

**Data Sources For Aggregate Reporting Of
Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing, And Battered Women's Shelters
In Ramsey County**

Date Started with Project	Agency/Program	Male Alone	Female Alone	Couples with Children	Male with Children	Female with Children	Youth
<i>Battered Women's Shelters</i>							
10/01/91	Casa de Esperanza		X			X	
04/01/92	Women of Nations/ Eagle's Nest		X			X	
07/01/91	Women's Advocates		X			X	
10/01/94	Family Violence Network/Hill Home		X			X	
<i>Emergency Shelters</i>							
01/01/91	Catholic Charities and Central Intake	X	X	X	X	X	
01/01/91	Union Gospel Mission	X				X ⁽¹⁾	
<i>Transitional Housing</i>							
01/01/91	Catholic Charities	X ⁽²⁾					
01/01/94	East Metro Women's Council			X	X	X	
07/01/91	Emma Norton Residence		X				
07/01/92	Juel Fairbanks	X	X		X	X	
01/01/96	Jendayi Place					X	X
07/0/191	Rose Center		X				
07/01/92	Sarah Family ⁽³⁾					X	
07/01/91	Theresa Living Center		X			X	
07/01/92	Union Gospel Mission	X	X ⁽⁴⁾			X ⁽⁴⁾	
07/01/92	Wellsprings Living Center		X				
01/01/96	Wilder ROOF			X	X	X	
01/01/91	YWCA (St. Paul)		X			X	

- (1) Naomi Family Center's emergency shelter as of September 1, 1993.
- (2) Catholic Charities' transitional housing program closed in the fall of 1993.
- (3) Sarah Family discontinued project participation as of April 1, 1993.
- (4) Naomi Family Center's transitional housing program as of July 1, 1995.

APPENDIX II

**Emergency, Battered Women, and
Transitional Shelter Summary**

St. Paul Housing Information Office

**EMERGENCY, TRANSITIONAL AND
BATTERED WOMEN SHELTER SUMMARY
TYPES AND CAPACITIES**

In Saint Paul the direct service residential providers are the following:

	Bed Capacity
<u>Youth Shelters</u>	
Ain Dah Yung	10
Safe House	<u>6</u>
	16
<u>Adult Shelters</u>	
Lowry Family Shelter	55
Mary Hall Shelter for Men	20
Union Gospel Mission	82
Church Basement Use	<u>16</u>
	173
<u>Battered Women Shelters</u>	
Casa De Esperanza	15
Eagle's Nest	26
Women's Advocates	<u>45</u>
	86
<u>Transitional Housing</u>	
Emma Norton Residence	32
Juel Fairbanks	24
Rose Center	7
Theresa Living Center	22
YWCA Transitional Housing	126
Naomi Family Center	65
ROOF (Wilder Community Social Services, ReCONNECT, East Metro Women's Council)	224
Jendayi Place	12
New Foundations	<u>18</u>
	530

Usage and Capacity of Shelters in 1998

	Capacity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Nightly Average for the Year
Union Gospel Mission	82	103	98	111	90	82	79	82	81	78	77	82	86	87.2
Lowry Family	55	54	49	45	56	47	50	56	56	60	52	49	46	51.7
Women's Advocates	45	43	27	47	44	43	36	43	51	49	55	49	53	45
Casa de Esperanza	15	15	16	16	19	18	20	20	19	19	19	18	19	18.2
Eagle's Nest	26	34	27	38	38	40	35	38	37	34	38	39	38	36.3
Mary Hall – Men	20	19	17	19	17	17	15	14	15	12	17	18	19	16.5
Churches (overflow)	16	7	4	1	0	0	13	9	11	14	11	7	7	8.4

ADULT SHELTERS

Union Gospel Mission (Men):

During cold months (December – April), usage was higher than the capacity. The usage was at the highest level in March.

Lowry Family

In 1998, the average nightly usage was slightly higher than capacity in April, July, August and September. During the other eight months, the nightly average usage was lower than the capacity.

Mary Hall Shelter (Men)

Overall, the average nightly census was lower than the capacity. The highest levels of usage were between October and May.

Churches

Overall, usage was much lower than the capacity.

BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTERS

Casa de Esperanza

During February through December, the average nightly census showed slightly higher usage than capacity.

Eagle's Nest

Overall, usage was higher than the capacity level.

Women's Advocate

The usage levels were the highest between August and December. The lowest was in June.

**EMERGENCY, TRANSITIONAL AND
BATTERED WOMEN SHELTER SUMMARY
TYPES AND CAPACITIES**

YOUTH SHELTERS

Ain Dah Yung: 1089 Portland

Ain Dah Yung is a shelter and counseling center for 10 runaway and homeless youth; most specifically, American Indian. They provide transportation to schooling and provide counseling for both youths and their families.

Cross Streets: 1167 Arcade (offices)

A crisis intervention program for youth on an "in home basis" well as a diversion program. This program offers services to youth in crisis and run-away youth (ages 8-18). The goals of this program are to intervene early and provide services directed towards reunification with their family, if in the best interest of the youth. If not, the program provides shelter referrals and schooling/employment counseling. They work closely with the police departments and Ramsey County Children's Mental Health.

Safe House: 1696 Dayton

Operated by Lutheran Social Services, this program is designed to provide emergency overnight lodging for homeless youth who are connected to daytime service programs. This program can accommodate up to six youth. They refer youths to outreach workers and other agencies which can facilitate their needs.

ADULT SHELTERS

Mary Hall "Safe Waiting for Men" 438 Main

Offers 20 beds for October through April 15 in the former nurses' residence (known as Mary Hall) which sits north of St. Joseph's Hospital. Occupants are sober adult males who are eligible for "Emergency Assistance." Intake is on-site by a county worker and is available between the hours of 9 A.M. until 9 P.M. A man may stay for no more than a total of 30 days per quarter. Accommodations are cots in former office space. On nights of excess demand, referrals are made to the Union Gospel Mission.

Lowry Family Shelter, 345 No. Wabasha

This agency offers 55 beds of emergency shelter to family groupings. Ten of the beds are held in reserve for single women. The length of stay is 30 days per quarter (county policy). Shelter guests are required to pay for their own stays as soon as they receive income from work or the MFIP program. The rate is approximately \$30 per day per family member. The accommodations are small 1 bedroom and efficiency apartments with their own bathrooms. Meals are offered in a common dining room. There is day care space where the children can play. School bus pickup is available for school age children. Intake occurs from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily from the "Central Intake" office of the county located in Mary Hall.

The Union Gospel Mission: 435 E. University

Offered 70 dormitory style bunk beds (increased to 82 beds in December 1997) The beds are available free to those adult men who attend the evening chapel service. Fifty-two (52) beds are reserved for paying customers (\$4.50/night paid in advance for up to 14 days). The remaining 30 are free and distributed by a daily lottery. Those that do not win a bed are offered one of the additional 25 sleeping mats in the lobby. Those who are unable to obtain a sleeping mat or who arrive after evening services are offered a chair for the night.

On bitter cold nights this shelter is committed to not turning away adult men (even though they had been previously banned). Residents are required to leave in the morning with their possessions unless they rent one of the 45 lockers. Two free meals are available with the bed.

If a shelter guest has income such as General Assistance (\$203), Social Security, or work, he is expected to pay a modest amount (\$4.50/night). He is also put on a list to obtain a private room in the attached 142 unit, single room occupancy hotel.

The Union Gospel Mission hotel space rents for \$130- \$150/month. In addition, they offer a recovery program for alcoholics. Participants share a room and after a couple of months have the opportunity to graduate to the single room occupancy apartments also on site.

The Mission hosts a medical clinic (in cooperation with the City of St Paul and Ramsey County Public Health Departments) and a dental clinic.

Church Shelters (Saint Paul Council of Churches)

Twelve churches take monthly turns and open their common spaces as an emergency overflow shelter for the final 20 days each month. They take in families who cannot be placed by the Emergency Shelter Intake Office. They provide sleeping space to 16 people at a time and provide them with a substantial evening snack and a continental breakfast. In 1998 they provided 1,684 bed nights of service.

The congregations volunteering their spaces are: Grace UCC, Cathedral of St. Paul, Morning Star Baptist, St. Peter Claver, Mount Olivet Baptist, Gloria Dei Lutheran, South St. Paul Lutheran, Fairmount MNC, Merriam Lexington Presbyterian, House of Hope, Central Presbyterian, Central Park UMC.

BATTERED WOMEN SHELTERS

Casa De Esperanza: (Address withheld)

Offers 15 beds to battered women and their children (if any). Length of stay may be as short as few hours or as long as 30 days. Meals are provided. Intake occurs at any time day or night. This agency provides weekly visits by a physician and on-site support groups. Casa conducts an aftercare program for former shelter residents which includes assistance applying for welfare and finding housing. Shelter users may remain throughout the day.

Eagles Nest (Leach and McBoal)

Offers 26 beds to battered women and their children. The primary focus group is Native American families but in practice includes all ethnic groupings. They have a community advocacy program providing assistance obtaining Orders for Protection, housing and food. Children's programs are also available.

Women's Advocates: 584 Grand

Offers 53 beds to battered women and their children. Length of stay may be several hours to over two months. All meals and personal items are provided. Intake occurs at any time day or night. Shelter users may remain throughout the day. Safety and protection planning is provided. A 24-Hour Information and Referral and Crisis Telephone Line is available. Support groups for both residents and community members are provided. Pro se divorce clinic monthly by appointment. Health Care for the Homeless staff provides an Acute Care Clinic weekly and a Chemical Health Education Group once a week. Women's Advocates staff Family Court twice weekly to assist community women in obtaining Orders for Protection. On-site services include support, advocacy, assistance in pressing criminal charges, in obtaining an Order for Protection and in obtaining housing.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Emma Norton 670 North Robert Street

This residence has set aside 45 of its 60 rooms to work with women without children who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. They may be in recovery from chemical dependence, coping with mental health challenges, or coming from a battered situation. Others will be restabilizing their lives after having experienced a personal loss. The agency provides affordable housing (\$225/mo shared room, \$325/mo single room) in a secure setting, meals, assistance in goal setting, advocacy and referrals. Residents must be engaged in some effort that will move them beyond their state of transition to more permanency. Emma Norton also offers off-site family reunification, which reunites homeless women and their children. An additional eight families were enrolled in this program in 1997.

Juel Fairbanks Ed La Fromboise Residence, 816 North Albert

This duplex structure with its two units can serve up to 8 people in a variety of men, women, and children combinations. On a space available and individual need basis, this facility functions as either a transitional facility or as an emergency shelter. Adult residents must demonstrate a willingness to follow a recovery program (if applicable). Case management services and short term counseling are provided. Length of stay can be 6 months. Intake is independent of the adjacent halfway house program and the outpatient program. The general program format is connection to services, then employment, followed by permanent housing.

RoseCenter Home of the Good Shepherd 1435 Grand Ave.

RoseCenter is a transitional housing project for single women 18- 24 years old. They house, educate and help the women to find jobs. The average stay is 9 to 12 months, however some stay for up to two years. Those women with mental health problems, chemical dependency and/or children are not eligible.

Naomi's Family Center (old Capp Towers site) 84 units of transitional housing for women with children.

The program offers on-site day care and job training.

Theresa Living Center 917 E. Jessamine

"TLC" is a 12 unit transitional housing facility. They serve single women, or those who are pregnant, or have one child with them and help them to re-establish themselves. Residents are required to set and pursue goals. Intake is either direct or via referrals from other agencies. The women have four to eighteen months to become self-sufficient. TLC operates Caroline Family Services, scattered site housing for 10 single women.

YWCA 198 Western

The YWCA operates transitional housing for women (both single women and single parents) in six buildings on three sites. Residents have their own independent and complete apartments and benefit from subsidized rent. Program goals include job training and other educational activities and, when necessary, chemical dependency programs. Program participants receive extensive life skills counseling. When ready, the YWCA helps to establish and acclimate the woman into independent living.

Jendayi Place 450 North Grotto, Suite #3

The Jendayi Place serves pregnant girls and girls with children and provides them with needed services. It has 12-bed capacity.

New Foundations (Crestview) 1161 Westminster #4, 55101

New Foundations serves homeless women in recovery and their children. The program provides intensive social services within an affordable housing environment for 18 families. They are currently expanding to serve an additional 19 families.