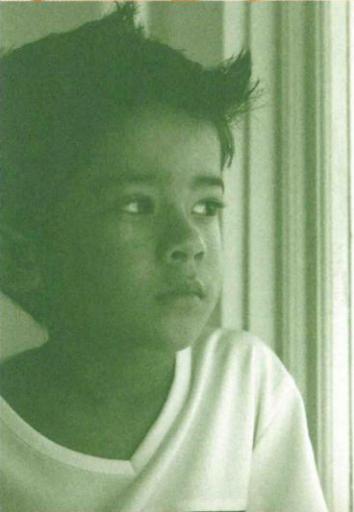


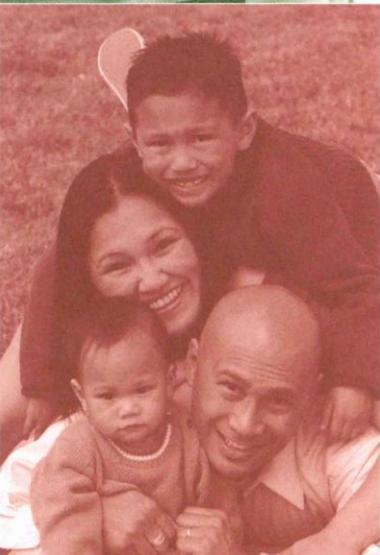
Wilder  
Research

# Homeless service use in Minnesota

*Emergency shelter, transitional housing,  
and permanent supportive housing, federal  
fiscal year 2010*



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*Emergency shelter, transitional housing, and  
permanent supportive housing, federal fiscal year  
2010*

**May 2011**

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Finally, we thank the thousands of shelter guests, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing program clients whose personal information has been aggregated for purposes of this report.



# Summary

Over 20,700 people stayed in the emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing programs that participate in Minnesota's Homeless Management Information System during federal fiscal year 2010 (October 2009 to September 2010). Collectively, these organizations provide about 9,700 beds per night, which is 72 percent of the state's total capacity of approximately 13,500 emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing beds.<sup>1</sup>

## *Background*

This is the third in a series of annual reports on the use of homeless services in Minnesota. The first two reports in this series included information on two types of temporary housing: emergency shelter and transitional housing, which typically allows stays of up to two years. This is the first in the series to include use of permanent supportive housing, which provides residents with longer-term housing. Note that those residing in emergency shelter and transitional housing are sometimes counted among those experiencing "literal" homelessness, along with those living on the streets. The first time inclusion of permanent supportive housing in this report, however, constitutes an important step forward in understanding the larger continuum of housing services for homeless and formerly homeless persons in our state.

It is important to note that this report is *not* a comprehensive report about all homelessness in Minnesota. Much of the report is restricted to shelter stay patterns and demographic characteristics of those served by programs participating in Minnesota's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), a federally-mandated but locally controlled system that collects client-level information primarily from organizations receiving certain federal and state funds.<sup>2</sup>

This report builds directly on the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's major yearly report to Congress on homelessness, the *Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR)*. A handful of areas in Minnesota have contributed aggregate data to the national AHAR since it began in 2005. The federal fiscal year 2010, which ran from October 2009 through September 2010, marked the third year in a row that every jurisdiction in Minnesota contributed data to the report.

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<sup>1</sup> Note that these numbers do not include approximately 650 emergency shelter and transitional housing beds across the state located in programs that exclusively cater to victims of domestic violence.

<sup>2</sup> For more on Minnesota's HMIS, see [www.hmismn.org](http://www.hmismn.org)

## *Quarterly point-in-time counts*

Throughout this report, we show the number of people staying in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing on one night in each quarter: October 28th, 2009, and January 27th, April 28th, and July 28th, 2010, the same point-in-time dates used for the national AHAR.

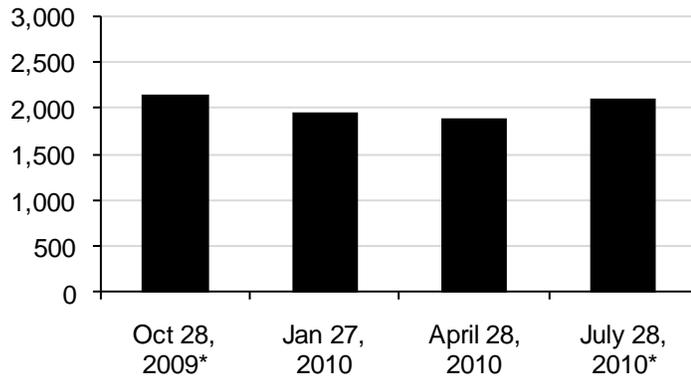
These quarterly counts are based primarily on data collected in Minnesota's HMIS, supplemented by data readily available from shelters in Hennepin and Ramsey counties. Between the HMIS and supplemental data, these quarterly counts include persons served in approximately 81 percent of the state's emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing beds. More specifically, this includes 74 percent of the state's emergency shelter beds, 82 percent of the state's transitional housing beds, and 83 percent of the state's permanent housing beds.

The number of persons served in these programs was fairly stable throughout federal fiscal year 2010. The high point came on July 28, 2010 with 10,448 clients served while the low point occurred on April 28, 2010, with 10,188 clients served, a difference of less than 3 percent. With a fixed bed capacity of approximately 11,000 beds, between 93 and 95 percent of emergency shelter, transitional, and permanent supportive housing beds were being used on each of the point-in-time dates.

The quarterly counts for emergency shelter show somewhat higher occupancy rates and greater seasonal variation than the transitional housing or permanent supportive housing counts. The number of persons served in emergency shelter ranged from a low of 1,880 in April to a high of just over 2,100 in both October and July. Since the quarterly counts come from shelters that provide a collective fixed capacity of approximately 2,020 beds, it appears that shelters were at or near full capacity in each quarter. In fact, emergency shelter use exceeded fixed bed capacity in both October and July when many families were provided shelter at an overflow facility.

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## 1. Persons served in emergency shelter: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts



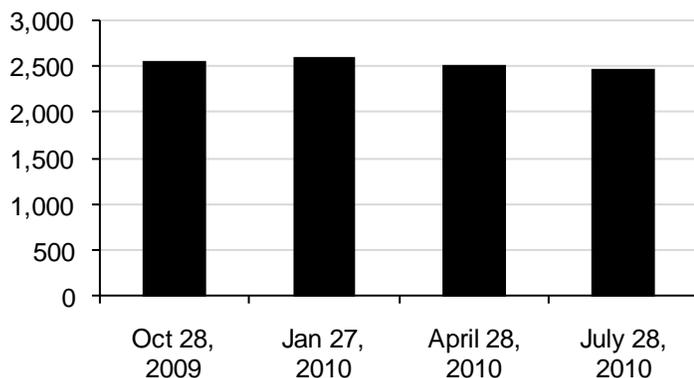
**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, supplemented by Hennepin County emergency shelter billing system and the Catholic Charities Dorothy Day shelter (collectively 74% of the state's fixed emergency shelter capacity).

\* Number served exceeds fixed capacity.

Transitional housing providers participating in HMIS provided a collective fixed capacity of over 2,600 beds. These programs were fullest in January, when they collectively provided housing to nearly 2,600 people. In January, approximately 99 percent of beds were full, compared to the low in July of approximately 94 percent. Since transitional units can be full even when beds are not, and since units become vacant as people move in and out of programs, these data suggest that transitional programs were operating near capacity throughout the year.

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## 2. Persons served in transitional housing: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts



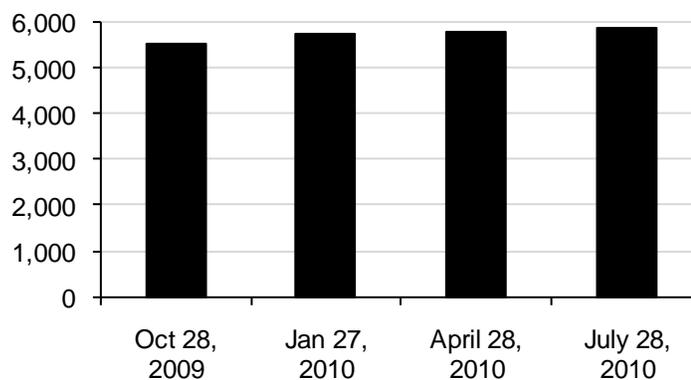
**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS (82% of the state's transitional housing capacity).

\* Number served exceeds fixed capacity.

The point-in-time counts for permanent supportive housing remained consistently high throughout the year, with at least 93 percent of the beds collectively provided by those programs occupied in each of the four quarterly counts. The capacity of these programs increased over the course of the fiscal year, as new units became available, particularly through the state’s initiative to end long-term homelessness. Thus, the collective fixed capacity of these programs ranged over the course of the year from approximately 5,835 beds on October 28, 2009, to approximately 6,268 beds on July 28, 2010. The number of persons served in permanent supportive housing ranged from a low of 5,548 in October to a high of 5,858 in July. Like transitional housing, permanent supportive units can be full even when beds are not, and since units become vacant as people move in and out of programs, these data suggest that permanent supportive housing programs were also operating at near capacity throughout the year.

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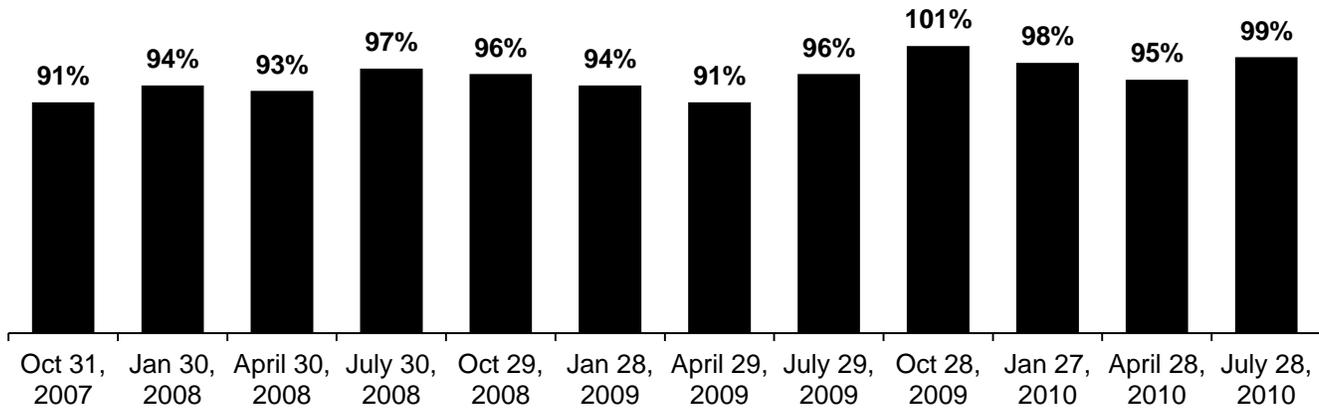
**3. Persons served in permanent supportive housing: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS (83% of the state’s permanent supportive housing capacity).

Combined quarterly point-in-time counts for emergency shelter and transitional housing programs have been tracked since 2008. Although bed capacities are difficult to precisely measure, these programs collectively provide about 4,650 beds per night. Thus, among the most notable findings from this study is that, overall, emergency shelters and transitional housing programs were operating near full capacity throughout the year. Further, these programs were, on average, closer to capacity in federal fiscal year 2010 than in the previous year.

4. **Occupancy rates for emergency shelter and transitional housing: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts, federal fiscal years 2008-2010**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, supplemented by Hennepin County shelter billing system, St. Paul’s Union Gospel Mission (in 2007 and 2008), and the Catholic Charities’ Dorothy Day shelter (collectively 78% of the state’s combined transitional and emergency shelter capacity in 2008, 79% in 2009, and 78% in 2010).

***Data collected over the course of the year***

From October 2009 to September 2010, over 20,700 people stayed in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing programs that participated in Minnesota’s HMIS. About 9,400 of these were served in emergency shelters throughout the state, 4,700 stayed in transitional housing, and 7,200 stayed in permanent supportive housing. Nearly 500 stayed in both emergency shelter and transitional housing.<sup>3</sup>

The 9,400 staying in emergency shelters that participate in HMIS included:

About 3,600 people served in families, defined as households including at least one adult and at least one minor child. This includes 1,200 families with 2,100 minor children.

- About 5,800 people served as individuals, including 350 unaccompanied youth, age 17 or younger.

Approximately 30 percent of emergency shelter beds in Minnesota were in programs participating in HMIS during federal fiscal year 2010. That level of participation does not allow us to make estimates of *all* shelter use throughout the state.

<sup>3</sup> Counts of people receiving services from more than one housing type are only calculated in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) for emergency shelter and transitional housing, therefore potential overlaps between permanent supportive housing and the two other types of housing are not reported here.

HMIS participation is higher among transitional housing providers, and even better for permanent supportive housing. Approximately 82 percent of all transitional housing beds and 83 percent of permanent supportive housing beds were in programs that participated in HMIS during federal fiscal year 2010. Therefore, the number of people who stayed in HMIS-participating transitional housing and permanent supportive housing programs can be used to estimate the total number of people who resided in all transitional and permanent supportive housing programs throughout the state.

An estimated 5,800 people resided in transitional housing for the homeless in Minnesota sometime in federal fiscal year 2010. This includes:

An estimated 4,000 people in families, defined as households including at least one adult and at least one minor child. This includes 1,300 families and 2,400 minor children.

- An estimated 1,800 people served as individuals, mainly single adults, but also including approximately 120 youth age 17 or younger, 32 of whom were teen parents who received housing along with their children.

In addition, an estimated 8,800 people resided in permanent supportive housing in Minnesota sometime in federal fiscal year 2010. This includes:

- An estimated 4,600 people in families, defined as households including at least one adult and at least one minor child. This includes 1,300 families and 2,900 minor children.
- An estimated 4,200 people served as individuals, all single adults.

### **Lengths of stay**

Length of stay, especially for emergency shelters, can be influenced by a number of factors, from availability of alternative housing to both formal and informal policies enforced by local programs. While longer stays in emergency shelter often indicate less housing stability in a person's life, longer stays in transitional or permanent supportive housing often indicate greater housing stability and lead to better outcomes upon exit.

Length of stay for both persons in families and individuals in emergency shelter has remained fairly steady over the past three years. Approximately 61 percent of persons in families served in emergency shelter stayed for one month or less in fiscal year 2010, compared to 60 percent in 2009 and 56 percent in 2008. Approximately 76 percent of individuals served in emergency shelter stayed for one month or less in fiscal year 2010, compared to 74 percent in both 2009 and 2008.

In fiscal year 2010, transitional and permanent supportive housing programs were generally successful in maintaining longer lengths of stay for residents. Approximately 77 percent of persons in families and 63 percent of individuals served in transitional housing stayed three months or longer. Each of these increased slightly over the previous two years. In permanent supportive housing, 74 percent of persons in families and 67 percent of individuals stayed for at least nine months.

## **Demographics**

The following descriptive information – gender, age, race, disability, and veteran status – is based on data recorded by emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing providers participating in Minnesota’s HMIS.

### **Gender**

Three-quarters of adults served as individuals in emergency shelter were men. Most adults served with minor children in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing were women. A little over half of adults served as individuals in HMIS-participating transitional housing programs were women.

### **Age**

In general, adults served as individuals tend to be older than those served in families. Only 34 percent of individuals served in emergency shelter were age 30 or younger, compared to 65 percent of adults served in families in emergency shelter. Adults served as individuals in transitional housing tended to be older than those served in families, but somewhat younger than individuals served in emergency shelter. Families in all program types were most likely headed by single young women, though women heading families in permanent housing tended to be older than those in shelter and transitional housing.

Most children served in families in both emergency shelter and transitional housing were quite young. Over half of children served in families in either emergency shelter or transitional housing were 5 or younger, with the most of the remainder in their elementary school years. Children served in families in permanent supportive housing tended to be older than children served in emergency shelter or transitional housing. In addition to children served in families, approximately 440 adolescents were served on their own in emergency shelter and transitional housing programs participating in HMIS during

federal fiscal year 2010. No unaccompanied youth under age 18 were housed in permanent supportive housing programs during the fiscal year.<sup>4</sup>

## **Race and ethnicity**

Persons of color are highly over-represented among those experiencing homelessness, both nationally and in Minnesota. Data from the emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing programs participating in Minnesota's HMIS reflect this trend as well. These data also show that the race and ethnicity, like gender and age, vary by service type and household status.

While 89 percent of Minnesota's population is white, less than one-quarter of persons in families served in emergency shelter were white, as were just over one-third of persons in families served in transitional housing.<sup>5</sup> African Americans comprise only 5 percent of the state's overall population but were the most common racial group among persons served in families, particularly in emergency shelter and permanent supportive housing. Similarly, American Indians, accounting for about 1 percent of the state's population, made up 13 percent of those in families in emergency shelter, 9 percent of those in families in transitional housing, and 11 percent of those in families in permanent supportive housing.

Almost half of those served as individuals in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing were white, about 30 percent were African American, and approximately 10 percent were American Indian.

Latinos comprise about 4 percent of Minnesota's population and continue to make up a small proportion of people served, with the largest proportion (10%) found among those in families in emergency shelters. A significant portion of persons staying as families in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing identified as multi-racial, with the highest proportion (14%) found within those in transitional housing.

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<sup>4</sup> We are not able to report on all unaccompanied youth by Minnesota's predominant definition, which allows programs to serve those up to age 21, since the federal AHAR tables that underlie much of this report provide only the broad age categories 13-17 and 18-30.

<sup>5</sup> 2009 U.S. Census. <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/27000.html>, accessed April 8, 2011.

## 5. Race and ethnicity of persons served in federal fiscal year 2010, by housing type and family status

	Persons in families in emergency shelter	Individuals in emergency shelter	Persons in families in transitional housing	Individuals in transitional housing	Persons in families in permanent housing	Individuals in permanent housing
White, non-Hispanic/Latino	23%	45%	34%	46%	26%	49%
Hispanic/Latino, any race	10%	8%	7%	8%	6%	4%
Black or African-American	45%	28%	36%	34%	47%	31%
Asian, Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%
American Indian or Alaska Native	13%	10%	9%	8%	11%	11%
Several races	10%	6%	14%	9%	10%	6%
Unknown/Other	1%	7%	1%	0%	1%	0%

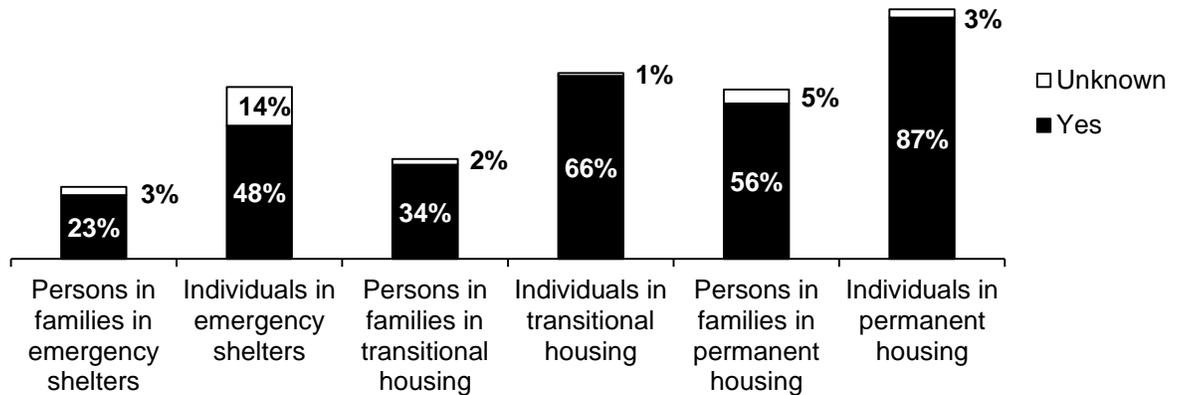
**Sources:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

### Disability status

Providers participating in HMIS routinely report whether the adults served in their programs have a broadly-defined "disabling condition." Disabling conditions includes long-term physical, mental, and emotional impairments, as well as HIV/AIDS or a diagnosable substance abuse disorder that is of long duration and impairs the ability to live independently (see page 12).

Adults served as individuals are more likely to report a disability than are adults served in families, and those served in permanent and transitional housing are more likely to report a disability than those served in emergency shelter. Nearly 90 percent of individuals served in permanent supportive housing in federal fiscal year 2010 had a disability, compared to 66 percent of individuals in transitional housing and 48 percent in emergency shelter. Among adults served in families, one-quarter of those in emergency shelter, one-third of those in transitional housing, and just over half of those in permanent housing had a disability. As a point of comparison, 46 percent of all adults experiencing homelessness, both sheltered and unsheltered, reported a disability in Wilder's 2009 Statewide Homeless Survey (though the survey does not include permanent supportive housing).

**6. Disability status of adults served in federal fiscal year 2010 by housing type and family status**



**Sources:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010, and Wilder Research Statewide Homeless Survey.

**Note:** In this graph “Yes” indicates “disabling condition” for those reported in HMIS.

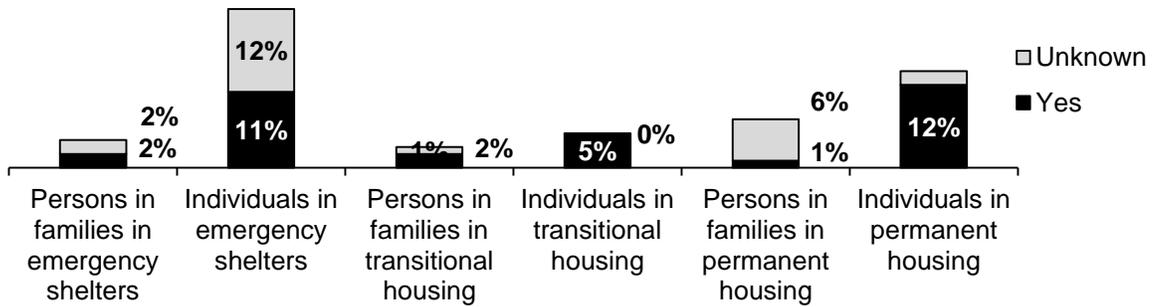
HUD defines a disability based on the more broadly defined term “disabling condition,” which includes physical, mental, or emotional impairments which are expected to be of long or indefinite duration, which substantially impede an individual’s ability to live independently.

**Veterans**

Over the course of the federal fiscal year, approximately 1,100 veterans of the armed forces were served in the emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing programs participating in Minnesota’s HMIS. The majority of them (594) stayed in emergency shelters as individuals. In fact, 11 percent of all individuals in emergency shelter are known to be veterans. This is the same percentage of adults with veteran status found in Wilder’s 2009 Statewide Homeless Survey.

Veterans are again a special focus of this year’s report. Comparisons between veterans served in emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and all adults served in these programs found that veterans are more likely to have a disability, more likely to enter shelter from the streets (“places not meant for human habitation”), tend to be older, and are more likely to be white males.

**7. Veteran status of adults served in federal fiscal year 2010 by housing type and family status**



**Sources:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010, and Wilder Research Statewide point-in-time homeless survey.

A veteran is defined as someone who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States for 180 or more days. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

# Background

This is the third annual report on the use of housing services by people experiencing homelessness in Minnesota. The first-time inclusion of permanent supportive housing in this year's report constitutes an important step forward in understanding the larger continuum of housing services in our state.

This report builds directly on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) *Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR)*.<sup>6</sup> The AHAR is a congressionally-mandated report that seeks to better inform the nation's understanding of homelessness and improve policymaking related to homelessness. As stated in HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan's foreword to the 2009 AHAR:

...The tragedy of homelessness is faced by every community. To tackle this challenge, we need the best data available and a coordinated federal response... With essential research tools like AHAR and a new strategy that makes ending and preventing homelessness a priority for ever federal agency, that opportunity is closer than ever for all Americans.

Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) are a primary data source for the AHAR as well as this report. HMIS is a federally mandated, but locally controlled database that collects information on clients of organizations serving those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. As such, HMIS is a continuous database; it collects service start- and end- dates (or program entry- and exit-dates) as well as various demographic characteristics, for individuals served throughout the year. Minnesota's HMIS, administered by Wilder Research, includes approximately 200 nonprofit and governmental organizations throughout the state.<sup>7</sup>

Minnesota has participated in the AHAR since its inception in 2005. For the first three data collection periods, however, Minnesota's participation was limited to several "sample sites" chosen by HUD to represent similar jurisdictions nationally.<sup>8</sup> Starting in federal fiscal year 2008 (October 2007 to September 2008), HUD made a concerted effort to expand participation beyond the sample sites. In addition, after four years of implementation, participation in Minnesota's HMIS grew to a level meeting HUD's thresholds for at least

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<sup>6</sup> US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development (July 2009), *The 2008 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (currently available at [www.hudhre.info/documents/4thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf](http://www.hudhre.info/documents/4thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf) ).

<sup>7</sup> For more information about Minnesota's HMIS, please see [www.hmismn.org](http://www.hmismn.org)

<sup>8</sup> Minnesota's AHAR sample sites are: Northwest Hennepin County (not including Minneapolis, Bloomington, or Plymouth), Moorhead, Norman County, Rochester, City of St. Paul, and Washington County.

partial AHAR participation in each of Minnesota's 11 HUD-related "Continuum of Care" regions. Thus, federal fiscal year 2008 was the first year in which the aggregate AHAR data sent to HUD was also useful for local purposes here in Minnesota.

The main body of this year's report focuses on emergency shelter, transitional housing, and, for the first time, permanent supportive housing programs. While several other types of programs participate in Minnesota's HMIS, such as homeless prevention programs, we currently do not have the resources to analyze these data in a manner consistent with the analysis presented here.

We hope to expand the report to present a more comprehensive and detailed analysis in the future. This report again includes a special section on veterans, as HUD continues to focus on homelessness for this population.

## *Limitations*

This is *not* a comprehensive report on all homelessness in Minnesota. It is limited to use of emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing services, and does not include the many prevention, rapid re-housing, and supportive services programs across the state that may impact the number of people that become homeless each year.<sup>9</sup> Most sections of the report are further limited to organizations that participate in Minnesota's Homeless Management Information System. The proportions of such programs that participate in HMIS are noted throughout the report, and are summarized in the report's appendix. Importantly, domestic violence shelters are not represented in these data due to current restrictions on participating in HMIS.

## *Definitions*

**AHAR:** Annual Homeless Assessment Report, HUD's annual report to Congress. The AHAR is based largely on aggregate data submitted in pre-defined table shells by HMIS administrators across the nation. These tables are a primary source for Minnesota's Homeless Service Use Report.

**Continuum of Care:** HUD defines a CoC as a community plan to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the specific needs of people who are homeless as they move to stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency. It includes action steps to end homelessness and prevent a return to homelessness, and serves as the body through which governmental and non-profit organizations annually submit a joint application for HUD's competitive

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<sup>9</sup> For reports on the use of state-funded homeless prevention and supportive services programs (Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program and the state's initiative to End Long Term Homelessness) see <http://www.hmismn.org/reports>.

“McKinney-Vento” homeless assistance funding. Minnesota currently has 11 Continuum of Care regions, as shown in the appendix to this report.

**Disability:** HUD defines a disability based on the more broadly defined term “disabling condition,” which includes physical, mental, or emotional impairments which are expected to be of long or indefinite duration, which substantially impede an individual’s ability to live independently.

**Emergency shelter:** HUD defines emergency shelter as any facility with overnight sleeping accommodations, the primary purpose of which is to provide temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness. The length of stay can range from one night up to as much as three or more months.

**Families:** Because this report relies on the aggregate data provided for HUD’s AHAR, it also relies on the way that HUD organizes households in that report, which includes defining people as served either as part of a “family,” or as an “individual.” For purposes of the AHAR, HUD defines a family as a household composed of two or more related persons, at least one of whom is a child accompanied by an adult. As a result of this definition, adolescent parents and their children are considered to be individuals in this report, as are married couples with no children and other households with no minor children.

**Homeless:** Based on statutory language, HUD currently defines as homeless: “1) an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and 2) an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is (a) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill), (b) an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or 3) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping, accommodation for human beings.”<sup>10</sup> This definition, sometimes referred to as defining “literal homelessness,” specifically excludes those who are doubled up with friends or family.

**HMIS:** A Homeless Management Information System is a database that allows organizations that provide services to people experiencing homelessness to collect client information electronically and to produce required reports. An important characteristic of HMIS is that it centralizes data in one place so that persons served by multiple organizations

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<sup>10</sup> USC 42, Chapter 119.1 ([www.hud.gov/homeless/definition.cfm](http://www.hud.gov/homeless/definition.cfm)). The federal definition of homelessness has been modified in the recent HEARTH Act, but reporting procedures have to do with this new definition will not be implemented until HUD publishes new rules to implement this legislation.

can be “unduplicated,” or counted only once, in aggregate reporting. Minnesota’s HMIS is a statewide system administered by Wilder Research and overseen by a statewide Governing Group, involving approximately 200 nonprofit and governmental organizations throughout the state, most of which receive federal or state funds that require use of the system.

**HUD:** United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Individuals:** Because this report relies on the aggregate data provided for HUD’s AHAR, it also relies on the way that HUD organizes households in that report, which defines people as served either as part of a “family,” or as an “individual.” For purposes of the AHAR, HUD defines an individual as a single person served by themselves, with the exception of adolescent parents and their children, married couples with no children, and other households comprised only of adults, each of whom are counted as individuals.

**Permanent supportive housing:** HUD defines permanent supportive housing as long-term, community-based housing that has supportive services for homeless individuals with disabilities. This type of housing is designed to help formerly homeless persons live as independently as possible, and there is no time limit.

**Transitional housing:** HUD defines transitional housing as a project that is designed to provide housing and appropriate support services to people experiencing homelessness to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months. Transitional housing typically includes a higher level of supportive services than emergency shelter. Transitional housing is a type of “supportive housing” and is included in the definition of homelessness due to the time limits typically imposed on its participants. The time-limited nature of transitional housing is the primary distinguishing feature between it and permanent supportive housing.

**Turnover rate:** Turnover rates are the number of times a particular bed “turns over” to a new person. If one person exits a bed during the year and another moves in, the turnover rate is 2 ( $2 \text{ people} \div 1 \text{ bed} = \text{a turnover rate of } 2$ ).

**Veteran:** A veteran is defined as someone who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States for 180 or more days. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

## ***Methods***

In most ways the methods used for this report mirror those used in the national Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR): when people receive emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing services, their demographic

information is recorded in HMIS and these data are then aggregated according to the definitions noted above.

Readers familiar with the AHAR will find that the methods used in this report differ from the AHAR in a few ways. First, in reporting on characteristics of persons served, the national AHAR generally reports percentages that exclude missing values from the denominator. While that is an acceptable practice, we have chosen to report percentages that include missing values, and make the percentage reported as “unknown” somewhat more explicit throughout this report.

Another distinction between this report and the AHAR is that while the HMIS data in the national AHAR is extrapolated to represent *all* users of emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing, most of the HMIS data presented here represent only those receiving services from emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing providers that participate in Minnesota’s HMIS. The research design of the national AHAR allows generalizations to be made since the research team started by establishing a nationally representative sample of jurisdictions, much like a sample of eligible voters is surveyed to make generalizations about all voters in election-year polling. Forming a similar representative sample of Minnesota for the purposes of this report is not possible, since there are far fewer jurisdictions within one state from which a representative sample can be drawn.

This report does make some estimates, however. In the chapters on transitional housing and permanent supportive housing, we have estimated the number of people using those programs. These estimations (or, more properly, extrapolations) use the same methodology found in the national AHAR. HUD’s methodology assumes that bed use patterns are the same in all programs, regardless of whether the program participates in HMIS. So if a given region has 100 beds, with 70 of those beds covered in HMIS and 30 not covered, the estimation would go as follows:

	In HMIS	Not in HMIS	Total
Beds	70	30	100
Average number of people served per night	65	?	?
Average bed utilization rate	65/70=93%	?	?
Estimated bed utilization rate	-	93%	93%
Estimated average number of people served per night	-	30 * 0.93 = 28	65+28=93

The AHAR makes extrapolations when bed coverage exceeds 50 percent in a given region. For this report we have done the same: because state-wide bed coverage of transitional housing and permanent supportive housing exceeds 50 percent, we are able to present estimates. When bed coverage is 50 percent or less, as is the case for emergency shelter programs state-wide, we simply report the numbers as entered into HMIS by participating programs. The maps at the end of this report provide a summary of HMIS bed coverage during federal fiscal year 2010.

### ***Other sources of information about homelessness in Minnesota***

It is important to distinguish HMIS from several other sources of information concerning homelessness in Minnesota, most importantly the Statewide Homeless Survey. The statewide survey, which has been conducted by Wilder Research every three years starting in 1991, remains the gold standard for comprehensive information on homelessness at a single point in time in Minnesota.<sup>11</sup> The statewide survey differs from the Homeless Service Use Report in several important ways:

	<b>Statewide Homeless Survey</b>	<b>Homeless Service Use Report</b>
Data collection period	Single point in time (late October), once every 3 years.	Continuously over the course of a year.
Primary data collection method	Survey (face to face interviews by volunteers).	HMIS database (typically information is collected on paper forms by caseworkers and later entered into the on-line database).
Locations included	All known Emergency Shelters (including domestic violence shelters), and transitional housing programs.  As many "street" locations as possible (encampments, cars, vacant buildings, etc.).	Emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing providers participating in HMIS,* including nearly 30% of all emergency shelter beds, 80% of all transitional housing, and 83% of all permanent supportive housing beds during federal fiscal year 2009.
Primary purpose	In-depth look at characteristics of people experiencing homelessness.  (Also commonly cited for number of people experiencing homelessness.)	Volume and patterns of service usage, including demographic and household characteristics.

\* In some cases we have supplemented data from HMIS with additional information, as noted throughout the report.

<sup>11</sup> See [www.wilder.org/homelessness.0.html](http://www.wilder.org/homelessness.0.html)

The Statewide Homeless Survey has been expanded in recent years to include companion studies, most notably a survey of homelessness on several reservations in Minnesota. Several other sources provide information relevant to homelessness in our state, including:

**HUD point-in-time “January counts.”** Since 2005, HUD has required Continuum of Care regions that apply for funding under its McKinney Vento homeless assistance program – the major source of ongoing federal funding for transitional and supportive housing for people who have experienced homelessness – to count the number of people experiencing homelessness on a single night in late January. This count includes people housed in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, as well as a “street count” of those found homeless in non-shelter locations. HUD requires regions to report certain demographic information for those counted in shelter programs, and encourages regions to do the same for unsheltered homeless.

The national AHAR uses the January counts to estimate homelessness at a given point in time, and make state-by-state comparisons of rates of homelessness.<sup>12</sup> Generally, we feel that it is premature to place too much weight on such comparisons since the January counts in many regions have fluctuated too widely year-to-year to be explained by actual changes in homelessness.

**The Quarterly Shelter Survey**, produced by the Minnesota Department of Human Services’ Office of Economic Opportunity. This survey, which the OEO administers to coincide with Wilder’s Statewide Homeless Survey and the January point-in-time counts, asks shelters to report how many people they serve in a given night each quarter, including limited demographic information.

In addition, individual counties, programs, intermediaries, and advocacy groups commonly produce reports on homelessness, ranging from fact sheets that incorporate information from local and national sources to full-scale evaluations to test the efficacy or cost-benefit of various interventions. A noteworthy source of information about homelessness in Minnesota, including activities aimed at ending homelessness, are the several regional plans to end homelessness, which collaborate under the collective umbrella of “Heading Home Minnesota.”<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Also see M. William Sermons and Meghan Henry (January 2009), *Homelessness Counts: Changes in Homelessness from 2005 to 2007*, National Alliance to End Homelessness ([www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2158](http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2158), accessed March 22, 2009).

<sup>13</sup> For more information, see: [www.headinghomeminnesota.org/](http://www.headinghomeminnesota.org/).

## ***Number of people experiencing homelessness in Minnesota***

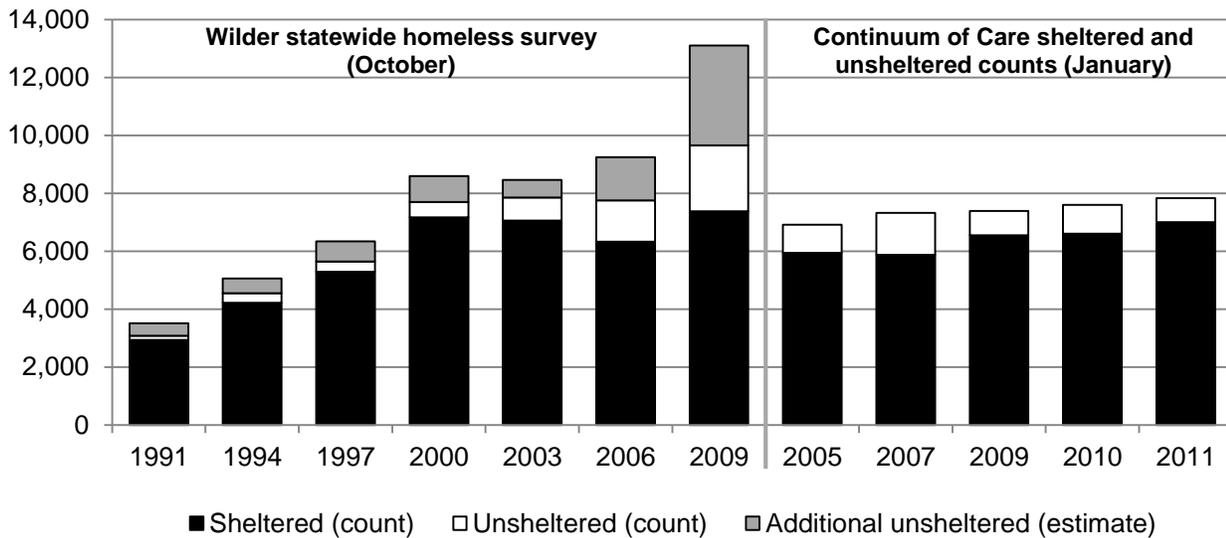
The primary function of this report is to show patterns in service use for people experiencing homelessness. A point of context for this report, however, concerns the broader magnitude of homelessness. While the HMIS data that are at the center of this report provide a sense of demand for available services, HMIS provides only part of the broader picture of homelessness.

A complete measure of the magnitude of homelessness requires comprehensive survey efforts that include “street counts” of people not accessing homeless services, as well as service locations that do not participate in HMIS, such as domestic violence shelters, detox centers, food shelves, and hospital emergency rooms. To systematically and comprehensively conduct such surveys requires considerable expertise and resources.

As mentioned above, Wilder Research has been conducting a statewide survey of homelessness every three years since 1991. Additionally, for the past few years Continuum of Care regions throughout the state have been conducting January counts in conjunction with their annual applications for funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

It is important to note that the January counts in particular have been improving over time but are not yet conducted in the same way throughout the state. The January “street counts” are particularly difficult to conduct accurately, as these counts of people experiencing homelessness in places “not meant for human habitation” rely largely on volunteer surveyors. Counting the number of homeless can be difficult at any time of the year, whether in urban locations with several abandoned buildings, or in the vast stretches of rural Minnesota. The HUD-mandated timing of the survey, during the last week in January, also likely under represents the number of people who would be found living in non-shelter locations in Minnesota during the spring, summer, or fall.

## 8. Point-in-time counts of people experiencing homelessness, 1991-2011



**Source:** *Wilder Research Statewide Homeless Survey and aggregated January counts conducted by HUD-related "Continuum of Care" regions throughout the state.*

According to the most recent statewide survey 13,100 people were homeless on the night of October 22, 2009. This is an increase of about 4,000, or roughly 40 percent, over the previous survey. Much of the increase is attributable to an increased effort to count people experiencing homelessness in non-shelter locations: the "street count" increased by 60 percent over 2006. However, the counts of people in sheltered locations were also up by more than 15 percent, suggesting that the recession, which has been accompanied by a foreclosure crisis, high unemployment rates, and cuts to various safety net programs, has resulted in higher levels of homelessness.

# Permanent Supportive Housing

This chapter summarizes what is known about persons receiving permanent housing services in Minnesota during federal fiscal year 2010. For purposes of this report, permanent housing is defined as long-term, community-based housing that has supportive services for homeless individuals with disabilities. Permanent supportive housing providers are self-identified by Continuum of Care regions throughout the state. Many are funded through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development or through the state's plan to end long-term homelessness, administered by Minnesota Housing. Both of those funding streams require HMIS participation.

According to Continuum of Care regions throughout the state, there were approximately 7,300 beds available in the state's permanent housing programs during federal fiscal year 2010. Slightly over half of these beds – about 3,900 – were designated for people in families, with the remaining 3,400 designated for individuals.

All of the data in this chapter rely on information collected by providers participating in Minnesota's HMIS. Overall, HMIS participation is high throughout the state for permanent housing programs. About 83 percent of all permanent beds were covered in HMIS throughout federal fiscal year 2010, meaning that information on individuals residing in these beds is recorded in HMIS. Participation rates are higher for family beds (91%, or about 3,500 of approximately 3,900 beds), than for individuals (73%, or about 2,500 of approximately 3,400 beds).

It is important to note that bed capacity is difficult to define with precision since many programs are flexible and a unit that is used for a single individual at one time may be used by a mother and her two children the next. Additionally, some permanent supportive programs are voucher-based; instead of operating from a fixed location, these programs help their participants secure housing on the private market. When households exit these programs, and vouchers change hands, the capacity necessarily changes to the size of the incoming household. For these reasons, bed utilization rates are difficult to precisely measure and are presented as approximations.

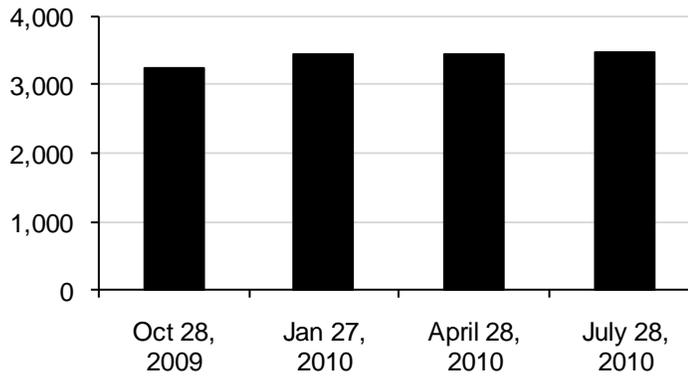
## *Quarterly point-in-time counts*

The data in this section come from permanent housing providers throughout the state that participate in HMIS and do not include estimates to account for non-participating providers. According to the quarterly counts from HMIS, the number of people served in permanent housing rose over the course of the fiscal year. For families, the high point came on July 28, 2010, when permanent housing providers served nearly 3,500 persons

in 1,005 families. At that point, nearly 100 percent of the permanent beds represented in HMIS were occupied (Figure 9).

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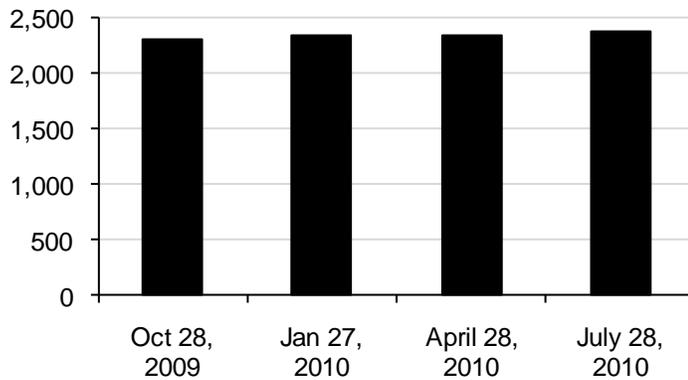
**9. Persons in families in permanent housing: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

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**10. Individuals in permanent housing: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

A similar trend of increasing usage over the course of the fiscal year occurred in permanent housing beds for individuals. On July 28, 2010, permanent housing providers served nearly 2,400 individuals, with approximately 95 percent of beds occupied.

Because this was the first year for permanent housing to be included in the national AHAR, comparisons to previous years are not yet available.

## *Data collected over the course of the year*

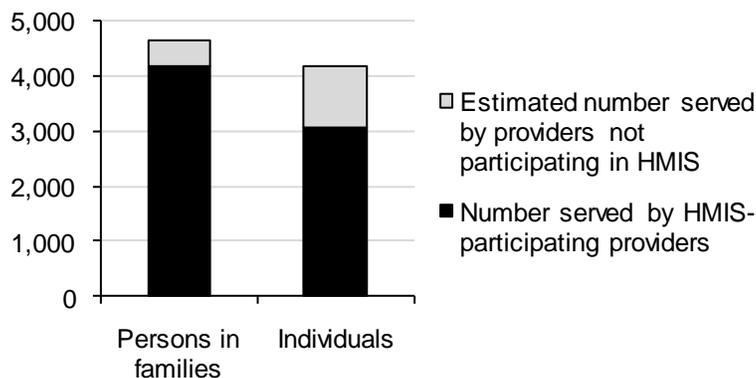
This section also relies on data collected by permanent housing providers participating in HMIS during federal fiscal year 2010. Approximately 83 percent of the permanent housing beds in the state participated in HMIS throughout that time, including 91 percent of family beds and 73 percent of beds for individuals. Since the coverage levels were relatively high, we have used the count of people served in HMIS-participating permanent housing programs to estimate the number served in all programs throughout the state, using the simple extrapolation method described in the first chapter of this report.

Based on the 4,200 people in families and the 3,000 individuals recorded as served during the data collection period by permanent housing providers participating in HMIS, we estimate that approximately 8,800 people were served in all homeless-designated permanent housing throughout the state during federal fiscal year 2010. This includes:

- An estimated 4,600 people in families headed by adults, including 1,335 families and 2,900 minor children.
- An estimated 4,200 people served as individuals, all as single adults.

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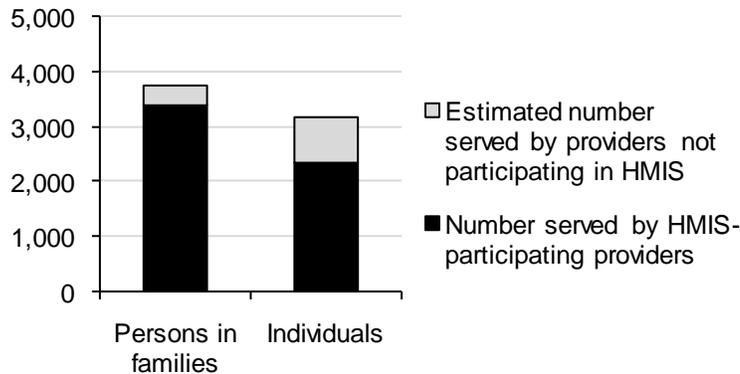
### **11. Total number served in permanent housing over the course of federal fiscal year 2010**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

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**12. Average number served per night in permanent housing over the course of federal fiscal year 2010**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

On an average night in federal fiscal year 2010, permanent housing programs throughout the state served an estimated 6,900 people, including an estimated 3,200 individuals and another 3,700 persons served in 1,100 families. These estimates are based on the averages observed in permanent housing programs participating in HMIS throughout the year.

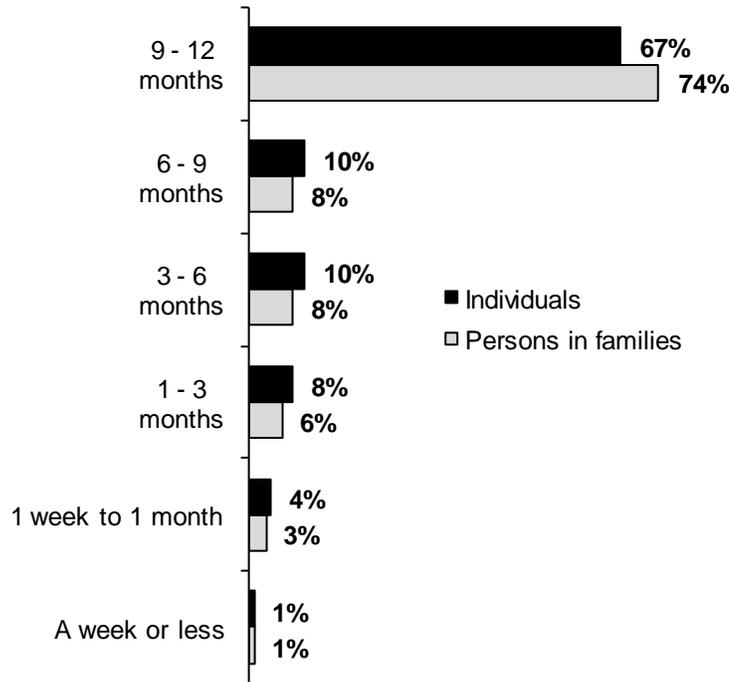
Permanent housing programs that participate in HMIS throughout the state served an average of 5,700 people per night in federal fiscal year 2010, including 3,400 people in 1,000 families, and more than 2,300 individuals (Figure 12). Given that HMIS participating permanent housing providers have a collective capacity of approximately 6,000 beds, the average utilization rate for permanent supportive housing providers in federal fiscal year 2010 was 95 percent. Utilization rates were slightly higher for family beds (96%) than for individual beds (94%) in Minnesota.

**Lengths of stay and turnover rates**

As defined by this report, “length of stay” includes all days in permanent housing during the data collection period, regardless of whether they were spent continuously in the same program or broken up into several stays at different providers. The lengths of stay reported here include only those stays recorded in HMIS. Note that these numbers are restricted to actual days in permanent housing during the data collection period and many of those served during that period have longer stays since they entered prior to October 2009 or exited after September 2010.

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**13. Number of days in permanent housing over the course of federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

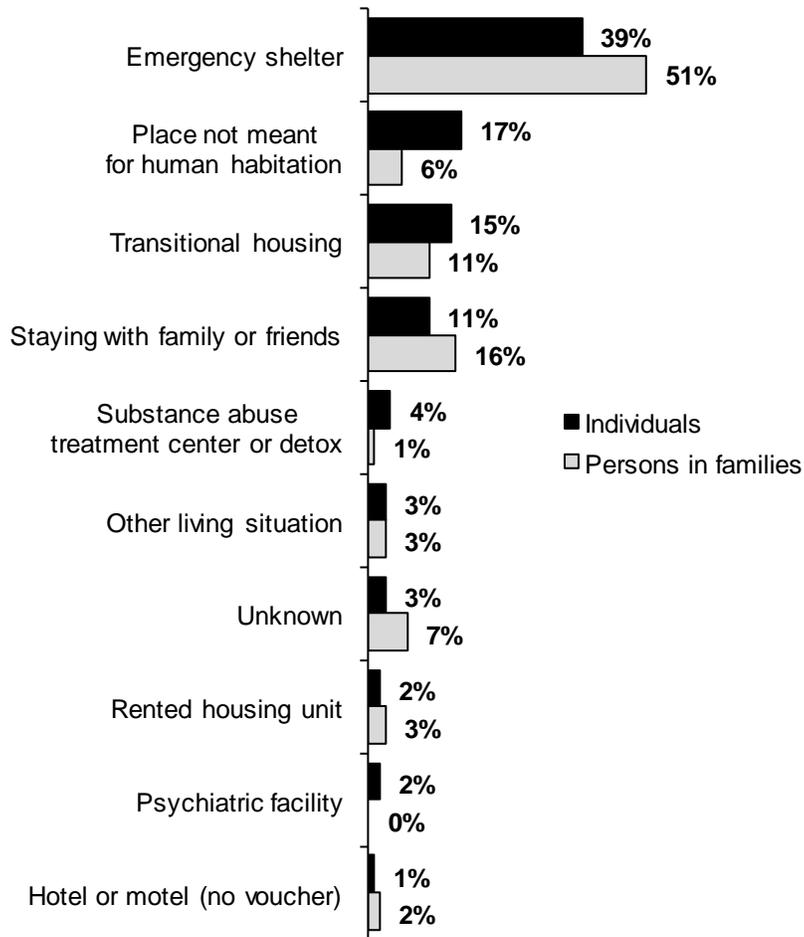
Lengths of stay for persons in families were similar to those for individuals, with persons in families staying, on average, slightly longer. The longer stays for families translate to lower turnover rates than for individuals. In federal fiscal year 2010, an average permanent housing bed for persons in families was occupied by 1.1 people, whereas an average permanent housing bed for individuals was occupied by 1.2 people.

**Prior living situations**

“Prior living situation” refers to the place where the person seeking services stayed on the night before entering permanent housing. The majority of persons in families entering permanent housing came from an emergency shelter, as did over one-third of individuals.

The second most common living situation for the night prior to program entry was the home of family or friends for persons in families; for individuals it was transitional housing programs (Figure 14).

**14. Prior living situation of persons residing in permanent housing during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010. See the appendix for additional detail concerning prior living situations.

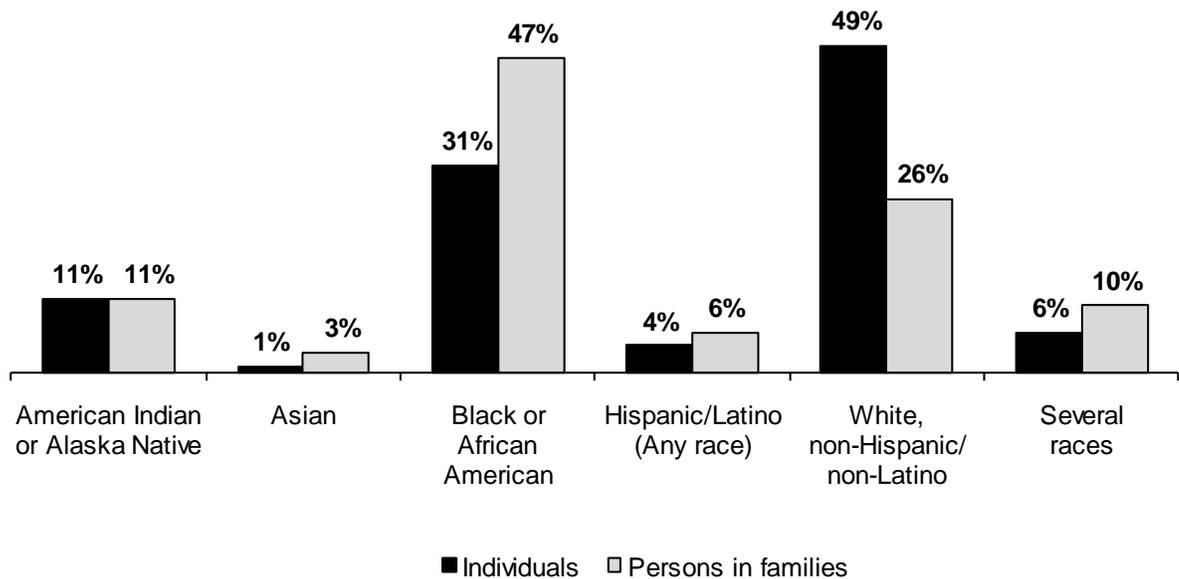
**Demographics**

Eighty percent of families in permanent housing were female-headed households, whereas the majority of individuals in permanent housing (64%) were male. The age of individuals in permanent housing was generally older than the heads of household in families, as 31 percent of individuals in permanent housing were over age 50, compared to 1 percent for families.

Similar to the racial breakdown of those in transitional housing, individuals in permanent housing were more likely to be white, while families in permanent housing were more likely to be African American. Ten percent of persons in families and 6 percent of those

served as individuals identified as multi-racial. Eleven percent of individuals and persons in families identified as American Indian and a smaller proportion identified as Latino.

**15. Race and ethnicity of persons residing in permanent housing during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

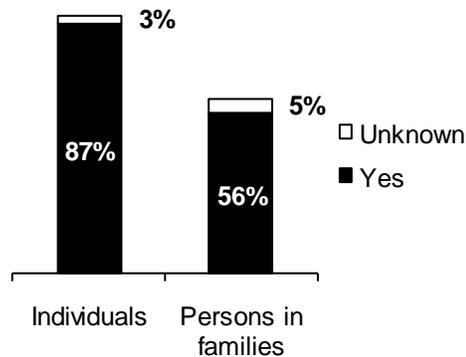
**Disability status**

Both individuals and adults in families in permanent housing had a higher rate of disabilities than those served in emergency shelter or transitional housing.<sup>14</sup> Individuals in permanent supportive housing reported a disability at higher rates than adults in families. Over half of adults in families in permanent housing reported having a disability, compared to over three-fourths of individuals in permanent housing (Figure 16). Adults served in permanent supportive housing, whether served as individuals or part of a family are more likely to report a disability than those served in emergency shelter or transitional housing.

<sup>14</sup> It should be noted that permanent supportive housing programs funded by HUD require that a family member have a disability. Further, permanent supportive housing programs are more likely to serve people experiencing long-term homelessness, who are more likely to have a disability.

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**16. Disability status of persons residing in permanent housing during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

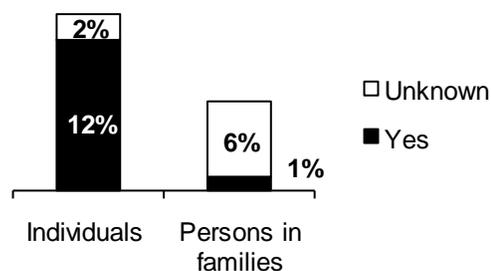
HUD defines a disability based on the more broadly defined term "disabling condition," which includes physical, mental, or emotional impairments which are expected to be of long or indefinite duration, which substantially impede an individual's ability to live independently.

**Veteran status**

Any adult who has either served in the US armed forces for at least 180 days or in the reserves or National Guard who was called up to active duty should be recorded as a military veteran in HMIS. Only a small proportion (1%) of adults in families in permanent housing were veterans, with a much larger proportion of veterans (12%) being served in permanent housing for individuals.<sup>15</sup>

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**17. Veteran status of persons residing in permanent housing during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

A veteran is defined as someone who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States for 180 or more days. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

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<sup>15</sup> For more on veterans, see the concluding chapter of this report.

# Transitional housing

This chapter summarizes what is known about persons receiving transitional housing services in Minnesota during federal fiscal year 2010. For purposes of this report, transitional housing is defined as housing that is designated for people who are homeless, with supportive services attached, and time-limited to 24 months. Transitional housing providers are identified by Continuum of Care regions throughout the state. Many are funded through the state's Transitional Housing Program, administered by the Department of Human Services' Office of Economic Opportunity, or by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Both of those funding streams require HMIS participation.

According to Continuum of Care regions throughout the state, there were around 3,200 beds available in the state's transitional housing programs during federal fiscal year 2010. Nearly three-quarters of these beds – about 2,350 – were designated for people in families, with the remaining 850 designated for individuals. Overall, there has been very little change in the total number of transitional housing beds from the first of these reports in 2008 to 2010.

It is important to note that bed capacity is difficult to define with precision since many programs are flexible and a unit that is used for a single individual at one time may be used by a mother and her two children the next. Additionally, some transitional housing programs are voucher-based; instead of operating from a fixed location, these programs help their participants secure housing on the private market. When households exit these programs, and vouchers change hands, the capacity necessarily changes to the site of the incoming household. For these reasons, bed utilization rates are difficult to precisely measure and are presented as approximations.

All of the data in this chapter rely on information collected by providers participating in Minnesota's HMIS. About 82 percent of all transitional beds were covered in HMIS throughout federal fiscal year 2010, meaning that information on individuals residing in these beds is recorded in HMIS. Participation rates are higher for family beds (85%, or approximately 2,000 of 2,350 beds), than for individuals (73% or approximately 620 of 850 beds). Overall, HMIS participation was high throughout the state for transitional housing programs, with the exception of programs serving individuals in the Central Continuum of Care region.<sup>16</sup>

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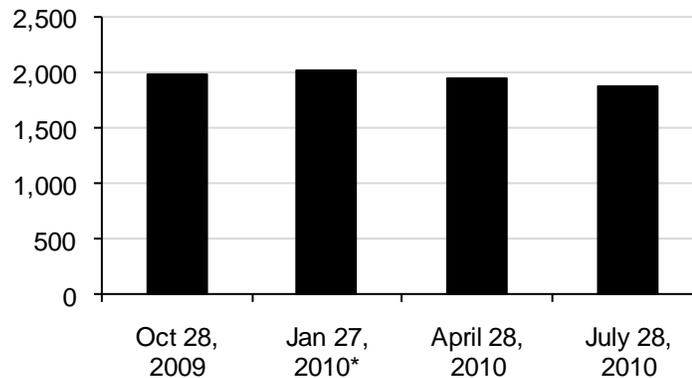
<sup>16</sup> Emergency shelters and transitional housing programs that exclusively cater to victims of domestic violence collectively provide over 650 beds statewide and are not included in this report, due to their restrictions on HMIS participation. See the supplemental information about shelters for victims of domestic violence. Also see the appendix tables for additional details on the information provided throughout this chapter, including bed coverage by Continuum of Care region.

## Quarterly point-in-time counts

The data in this section come from transitional providers throughout the state that participate in HMIS and do not include estimates to account for non-participating providers. According to the quarterly counts, the number of people served in transitional housing was both stable and high during the year. For families, the high point came on January 27, 2010 when transitional housing providers served over 2,020 persons in 664 families. At that point more than 100 percent of the transitional beds represented in HMIS were occupied. Six months later, HMIS-participating providers were serving just under 1,900 people in 621 families (Figure 18).

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### 18. Persons in families in transitional housing: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts

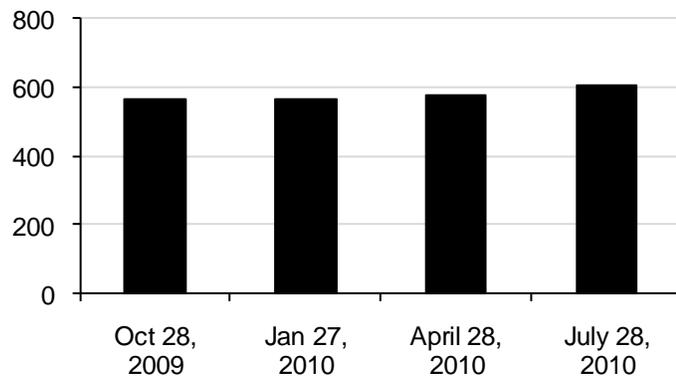


**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

\* Number served exceeds fixed capacity.

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### 19. Individuals in transitional housing: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

Likewise, the number of those served in transitional housing as individuals was both stable and high throughout the year. At the end of July, the quarterly counts reached a high of 603, and at that time about 97 percent of the 620 transitional beds for individuals represented in HMIS were filled.

Overall the quarterly counts for both families and individuals in federal fiscal year 2010 are very similar to those reported for federal fiscal year 2008 and 2009. For those served as part of a family, the three-year high point came on January 27, 2010 when 101 percent of beds represented in HMIS were being used; indicating that some of the transitional housing capacity that is typically used by individuals was being used by families at that point in time. The three-year low point was on October 31, 2007 with 90 percent of transitional housing beds for families being used. For individuals, 98 percent of the beds were occupied on July 30, 2008, marking a three-year high, but were least utilized on October 29, 2008 and January 28, 2009, when 83 percent of beds were being used.

### ***Data collected over the course of the year***

This section also relies on data collected by transitional housing providers participating in HMIS throughout federal fiscal year 2010. Over 80 percent of the transitional beds in the state participated in HMIS during that time, including 85 percent of family beds and 73 percent of beds for individuals. Since the coverage levels were relatively high, we have used the count of people served in HMIS-participating transitional housing programs to estimate the number served in all programs throughout the state, using the simple extrapolation method employed in the national AHAR and described in the first chapter of this report.

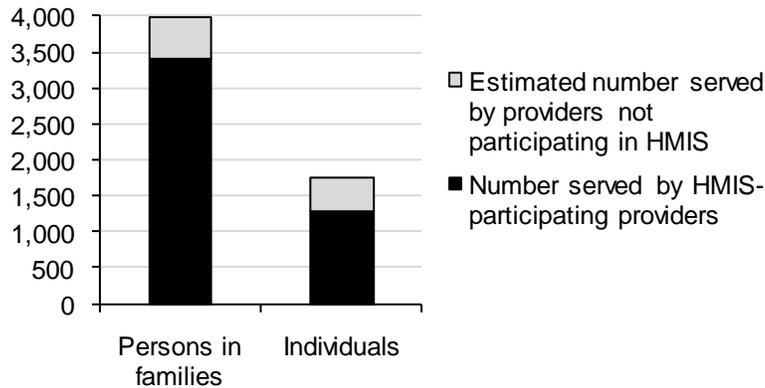
Based on the 3,400 people in families and the nearly 1,300 individuals recorded as served during the data collection period by transitional housing providers participating in HMIS, we estimate that 5,800 people were served in all homeless-designated transitional housing throughout the state during federal fiscal year 2010. This includes:

- An estimated 4,000 people in families headed by adults, including 1,300 families and 2,400 minor children.
- An estimated 1,800 people served as individuals, mainly single adults, but also including approximately 120 unaccompanied youth age 17 or younger, 32 of whom were teen parents and received housing along with their children.<sup>17</sup>

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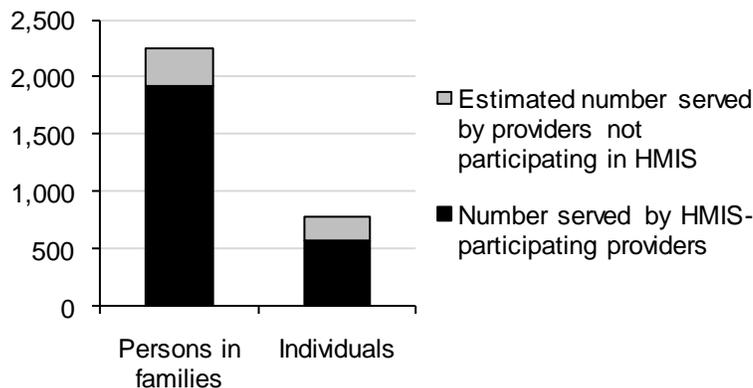
<sup>17</sup> We are not able to report on all unaccompanied youth by Minnesota's predominant definition, which allows programs to serve those up to age 21, since the federal AHAR tables that underlie much of this report provide only the broad age categories 13-17 and 18-30.

**20. Total number served in transitional housing over the course of federal fiscal year 2010**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

**21. Average number served per night in transitional housing over the course of federal fiscal year 2010**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

Transitional housing programs that participate in HMIS throughout the state served an average of 2,500 people per night in federal fiscal year 2010, including 1,900 people in over 600 families, and nearly 600 individuals (Figure 21).<sup>18</sup> Given that HMIS-participating transitional housing providers have a collective capacity of over 2,600 beds, the average utilization rate for transitional housing providers in federal fiscal year 2010 was 95 percent.

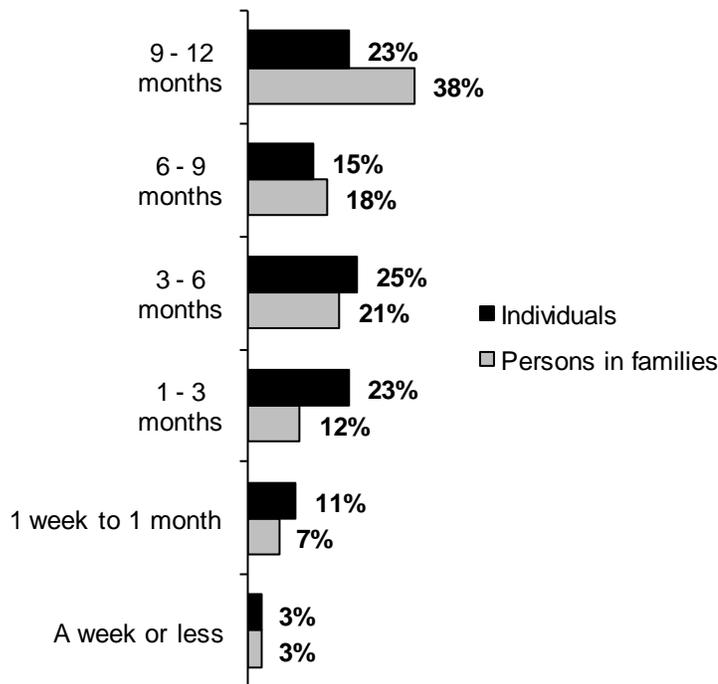
<sup>18</sup> This is significantly lower than the 4,263 transitional housing residents counted on October 22, 2009, the night of Wilder’s most recent Statewide Homeless Survey ([http://www.wilder.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/research/HomelessCounts2009\\_5-10.pdf](http://www.wilder.org/fileadmin/user_upload/research/HomelessCounts2009_5-10.pdf), page 2). The difference could be due to a number of reasons, including differences in the way certain programs were categorized in that study as opposed to this one, as well as the necessary exclusion of domestic violence programs from participation in HMIS, due to federal privacy legislation.

Utilization rates were higher for family beds (96%) than for individual beds (92%) in Minnesota. This rate is higher than both the 90 percent average utilization rate for transitional housing providers in 2009 and the 92 percent average utilization rate in 2008.

**Lengths of stay and turnover rates**

As defined by this report, “length of stay” includes all days spent in transitional housing during the data collection period, regardless of whether they were spent continuously in the same program or broken up into several stays at different providers. The lengths of stay reported here include only those stays recorded in HMIS. Note that this number is restricted to actual days in transitional housing during the data collection period. Many of those served during that period have longer stays since they entered prior to October 2009 or exited after September 2010.

**22. Number of days in transitional housing over the course of federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

Lengths of stay can be influenced by everything from availability of alternative housing to both formal and informal policies enforced by local programs. Families tend to stay longer in transitional housing than do individuals. This has consistently been the case for the past three years. In each, more than 50 percent of persons in families stayed in

transitional housing for more than six months during the fiscal year; by comparison, fewer 40 percent of individuals stayed that long.

The longer stays for families translate to lower turnover rates than for individuals. In federal fiscal year 2010, an average family transitional bed was occupied by 1.69 people, whereas an average transitional bed for individuals was occupied by 2.09 people.

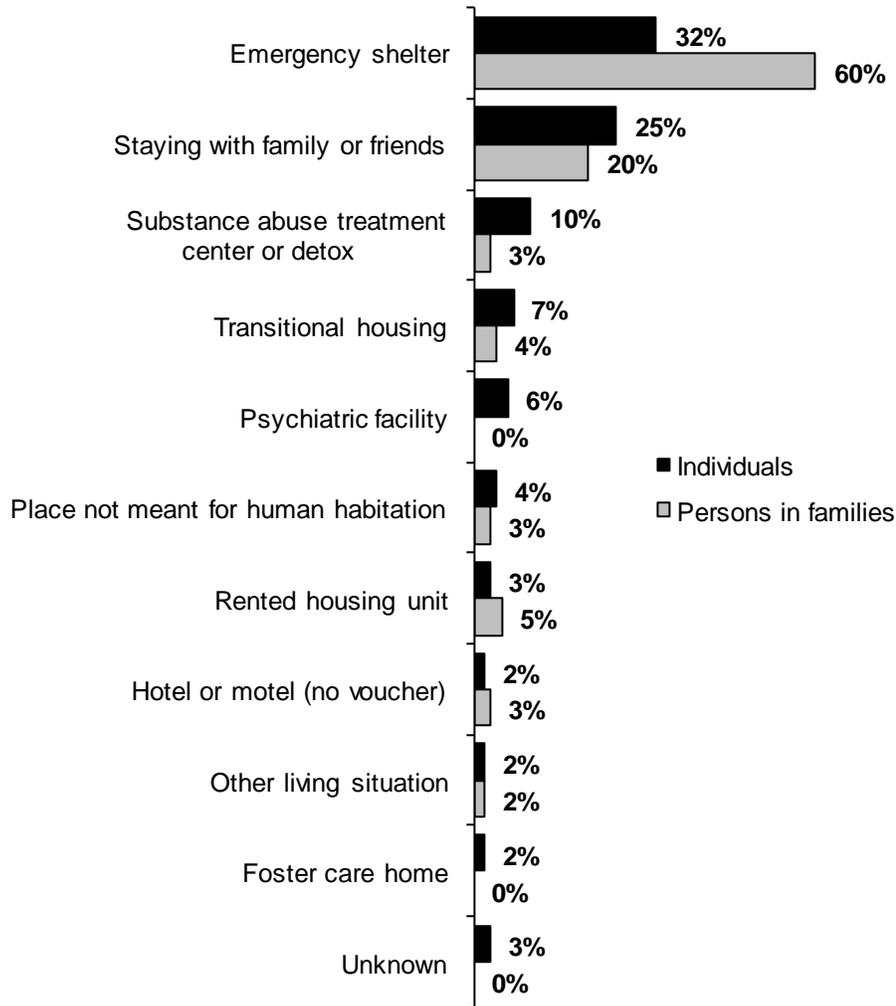
### **Prior living situations**

The “prior living situation” is the place where the person seeking services stayed on the night before entering transitional housing. The majority of people entering transitional housing came from emergency shelters or from the home of friends or family. This is generally the same pattern observed in the two previous year’s reports; however, persons in families are increasingly more likely to have come from an emergency shelter. In 2010, 60 percent of families entered transitional housing from emergency shelter, compared to 56 percent in 2009 and 47 percent in 2008.

Fewer than 10 percent of clients in transitional housing reported entering from each of the other possible prior living situations, including substance abuse treatment center or detox, other transitional housing programs, places not meant for human habitation, psychiatric facilities, and motels (Figure 23).

As was the case in 2008 and 2009, when asked how long they had stayed in the prior living situation, most people indicated that the prior situation was unstable. In 2010, nearly three-quarters of persons in transitional housing had entered immediately after leaving somewhere they had stayed for three months or less.

**23. Prior living situation of persons residing in transitional housing during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010. See the appendix for additional detail concerning prior living situations.

**Demographics**

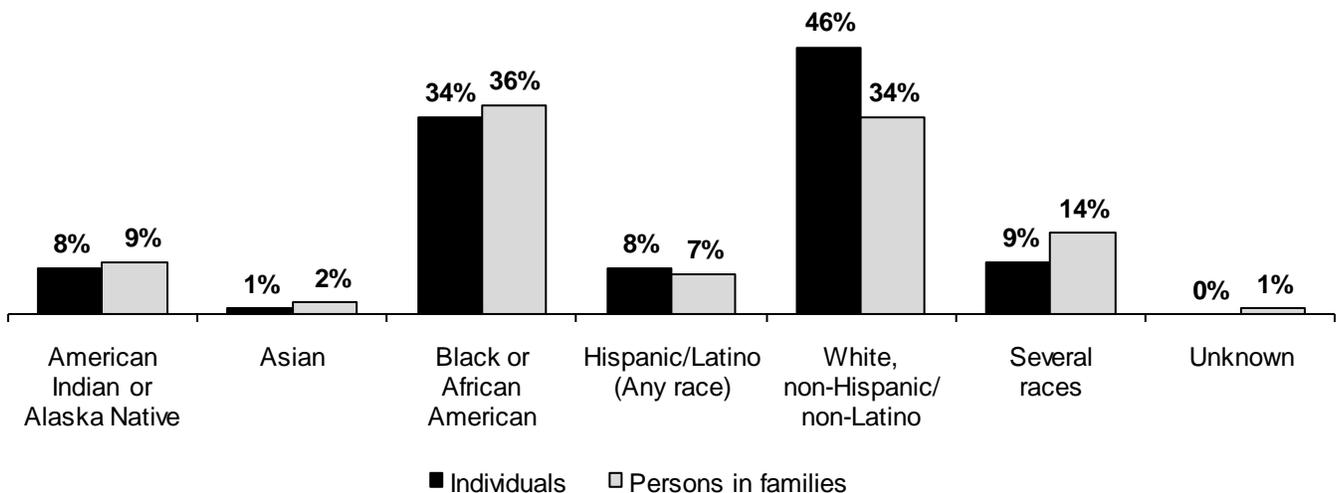
As in 2008 and 2009, the majority of families with children served in transitional housing continued to be headed by females and more than half of those served as individuals in transitional housing were female. Also, adults served in families continue to be younger than those served as individuals. Over 60 percent of adults in families were in the 18-30 age category, compared to less than 50 percent of adult individuals. Additionally, only 3 percent of the adults served in families (i.e., with minor children present) were older than 50, compared with 14 percent of adults served as individuals.

Nationally, women head the majority of families served in transitional housing (82%), but individuals in transitional housing are more likely to be male (67%). Like Minnesota, nationwide numbers indicate that adults in families tend to be younger, with 54 percent of adults in families in the 18 to 30 age category and only 3 percent older than 50. Around one-quarter of individuals in transitional housing were in both the 18-30 and the over 50 age categories.<sup>19</sup>

In 2010, individuals in transitional housing were most likely to be white (Figure 24); however, they were more likely to be African American than in past years. Thirty-four percent of individuals were African American in 2010, up from 31 percent in 2009 and 27 percent in 2008. Families in transitional housing were about equally likely to be white as African American. Each year, fewer than 10 percent of those served in transitional housing identified as American Indian or Latino.

Similar to Minnesota, individuals in transitional housing nationwide are most likely to be white (44%) or African American (37%). Nationwide, families in transitional housing are less likely to be white (28%) than in Minnesota. Also, they are more likely to be African American (39%), and much more likely to identify as Latino (25%).<sup>20</sup>

**24. Race and ethnicity of persons residing in transitional housing during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

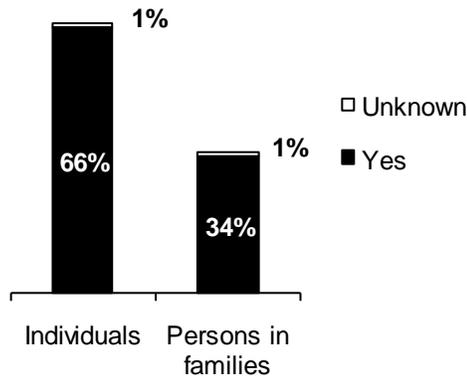
<sup>19</sup> *The 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (accessed March 11, 2011 at <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>), page D-6.

<sup>20</sup> *The 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (accessed March 11, 2011 at <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>), page D-6.

## Disability status

More than one-third of adults in families in transitional housing reported having a disability compared to two-thirds of individuals in transitional housing. These rates are nearly identical to the rates reported in Minnesota in both 2008 and 2009, but higher than the national rates reported in the 2009 AHAR, which indicated that 16 percent of adults in families and 26 percent of adults served as individuals had a disability.<sup>21</sup>

### 25. Disability status of persons residing in transitional housing during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

HUD defines a disability based on the more broadly defined term "disabling condition," which includes physical, mental, or emotional impairments which are expected to be of long or indefinite duration, which substantially impede an individual's ability to live independently.

## Veteran status

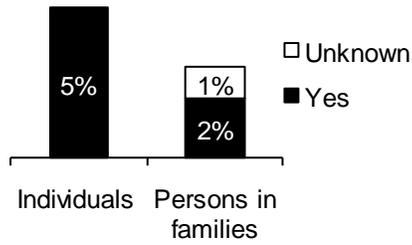
Any adult who has either served in the US armed forces for at least 180 days or in the reserves or National Guard who was called up to active duty should be recorded as a military veteran in HMIS. Only a small proportion of individuals (5%) and adults in families (2%) in transitional housing identified as veterans. In 2010, individuals in transitional housing were slightly more likely to be veterans than in the two previous years. This is lower than the rate reported nationally, where 14 percent of individuals in transitional housing were veterans.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>21</sup> *The 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (accessed March 11, 2011 at <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>, page D-6.

<sup>22</sup> *The 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (accessed March 11, 2011 at <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>, page D-8.  
For more on veterans, see the concluding chapter of this report.

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**26. Veteran status of persons residing in transitional housing during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

A veteran is defined as someone who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States for 180 or more days. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

# Emergency shelter

Emergency shelter is housing that is designated for people who have no other place to stay. Emergency shelter is intended to be short-term, and some county-funded shelters have a policy restricting stays to 30 days or less. Compared to transitional and permanent supportive housing, emergency shelter programs typically have fewer services and only limited case management.

According to Continuum of Care regions throughout the state, there was a fixed, year-round capacity of over 2,750 beds available in the state's emergency shelters during federal fiscal year 2010. This does not include domestic violence shelters or temporary capacity provided through overflow or emergency hotel vouchers. About half of these beds were used to serve persons in families, while the other half were used for individuals, including fewer than 100 beds designated for unaccompanied youth, typically age 21 or younger.

During the data collection period, about 30 percent of all emergency shelter beds were covered in HMIS, meaning that the programs that provide the beds are participating in HMIS. Bed coverage rates are virtually identical for family and individual beds. HMIS participation rates are much lower for emergency shelter than other types of homeless services in Minnesota since fewer shelters are mandated by their funders to participate in HMIS or they are privately run.

In addition to data collected about those served in fixed, year-round beds, this report includes information about those served in non-permanent emergency shelter capacity, including overflow beds and emergency hotel vouchers. The report does *not* include data from emergency shelters that exclusively serve victims of domestic violence since this type of shelter is restricted from fully participating in HMIS.<sup>23</sup>

For the quarterly point-in-time counts we were able to supplement the HMIS data with data from larger providers that currently do not participate in HMIS. These supplemental sources bring bed coverage levels to 74 percent for emergency shelter beds. Unfortunately we cannot use this supplemental data in other parts of this chapter since at present we only receive aggregate numbers from these sources and are unable to un-duplicate that data with the individually-identifiable data in HMIS.

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<sup>23</sup> See the supplemental information about shelters for victims of domestic violence. Also see the appendix tables for additional details on the information provided throughout this chapter.

## *Quarterly point-in-time counts*

The quarterly point-in-time counts presented here are a combination of HMIS data submitted to HUD as a part of the AHAR reporting process, and supplemental data provided by the Hennepin County shelter billing system and Catholic Charities' Dorothy Day shelter in St. Paul.<sup>24</sup> These supplemental sources bring bed coverage levels to 58 percent (761 of about 1,300 beds statewide) for persons in families and 88 percent (1,265 of about 1,440 beds) for individuals.

As in prior years, shelters serving individuals were consistently at or over capacity throughout the year. Little seasonal variation is reflected in the quarterly point-in-time counts for persons served as individuals. The counts peaked on January 27, 2010 with 1,267 people served, and decreased by fewer than 70 people in the spring.

The number of persons served in families also exceeded the reported fixed shelter bed capacity at points over the year. This is largely due to Hennepin County's "right to shelter" policy. Hennepin County grants vouchers to families seeking emergency shelter when its fixed capacity shelters are full. Fixed shelter capacity was exceeded on two of the four point-in-time periods, October 28, 2009 and July 28, 2010.

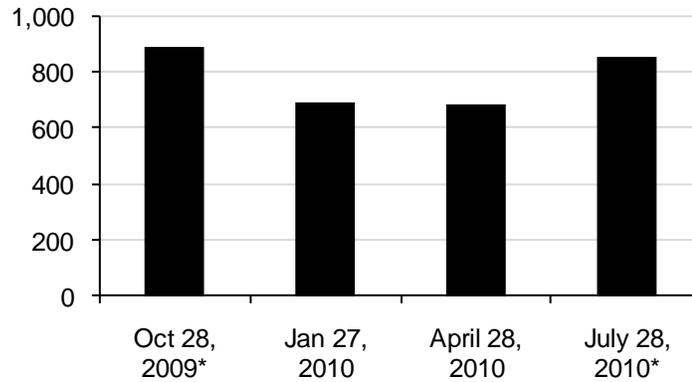
As opposed to individuals where we see little seasonal variation, the quarterly point-in-time data for persons served in families shows an increase in the number of families seeking shelter in both October and July. This pattern is similar to prior years. However, unlike the previous years where the high was in July, in 2010 the number of persons in families served in the represented shelters was highest on October 28, 2009 with 891 persons in families served. The low of 628 came on April 28, 2010.

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<sup>24</sup> Data from Hennepin County's shelter billing system include the following shelters: Salvation Army Harbor Light, including Sally's Place and Safe Bay; People Serving People; Catholic Charities secure waiting and pay-for-stay shelters, and Simpson's women's shelter, as well as emergency vouchers into motels including the Francis Drake Hotel.

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**27. Persons in families in emergency shelter: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts**

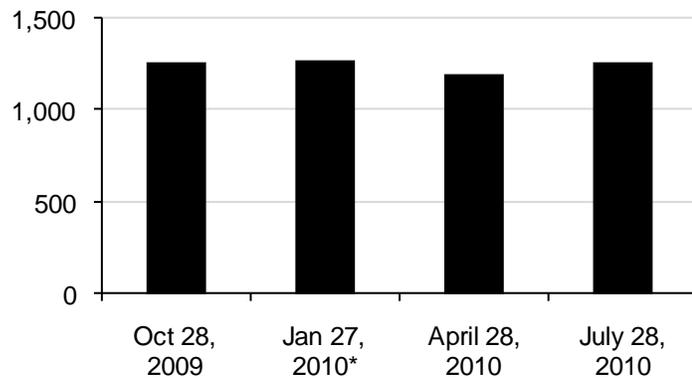


**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010, supplemented by Hennepin County emergency shelter billing system.

\* Number served exceeds fixed capacity.

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**28. Individuals in emergency shelter: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010, supplemented by Hennepin County emergency shelter billing system and the Catholic Charities Dorothy Day shelter.

\* Number served exceeds fixed capacity.

## ***Data collected over the course of the year***

The remainder of this chapter includes data about people served by emergency shelter providers participating in Minnesota's HMIS throughout federal fiscal year 2010, which included about 29 percent of all emergency beds for persons served in families (approximately 380 of 1,300 beds statewide), and 31 percent of all emergency beds for persons served as individuals (approximately 450 of 1,400 beds statewide). During the data collection period bed coverage was high in most Continuum of Care regions, with the notable exceptions of Hennepin County family shelter and shelter for individuals in Hennepin and Ramsey counties.<sup>25</sup>

HMIS participation rates for emergency shelters during federal fiscal year 2010 were not high enough to allow us to estimate total numbers served in shelter throughout the state from those observed in HMIS, but they do provide insights into the characteristics and stay patterns of those served in participating shelters.

Over the course of the 12 months that ran from October 2009 to September 2010, over 9,400 people were served in emergency shelters throughout the state that participate in Minnesota's HMIS. This includes:

- 3,600 people served in families headed by adults, including nearly 1,200 families and 2,200 minor children.
- 5,800 people served as individuals, including 350 unaccompanied youth, age 17 or younger.<sup>26</sup>

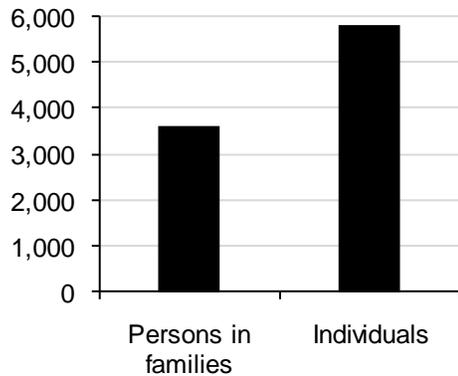
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<sup>25</sup> See the appendix for detailed information on each Continuum. Beds capacities are approximations since many shelters will accommodate either individuals or families and families can range from 2 persons to several. Additionally, these numbers do not include beds designated exclusively for victims of domestic violence.

<sup>26</sup> We are not able to report on all "unaccompanied youth" by Minnesota's predominant definition, which allows programs to serve those up to age 21, since the federal AHAR tables that underlie much of this report only provide only the broad age categories 13-17 and 18-30.

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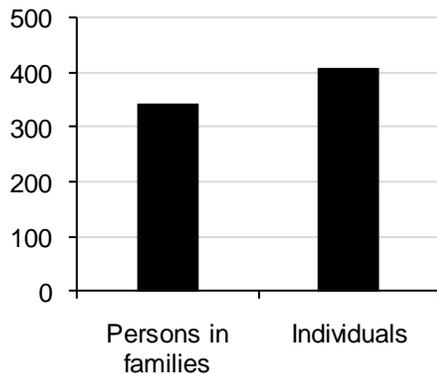
**29. Total number served in emergency shelter over the course of federal fiscal year 2010**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

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**30. Average number served per night in emergency shelter over the course of federal fiscal year 2010**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal Year 2010.

During an average night in federal fiscal year 2010, about 350 persons in families and nearly 410 individuals stayed in the emergency shelters that participate in HMIS. Since the approximate bed capacity of HMIS participating providers was 380 for families and 450 for individuals, this means that the average bed utilization rates for HMIS participating family shelters was 90 percent, and the average utilization rate for individuals was 97 percent. As a point of comparison, the national emergency shelter

utilization rates reported in HUD's 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report were 87 percent for family beds and 90 percent for individual beds.<sup>27</sup>

The 10 percent of emergency shelter beds for families that were vacant on the average night during federal fiscal year 2010 should not be taken to mean there is too much shelter capacity for families in Minnesota for several reasons. First, bed capacities can be challenging to determine for family units: some units may include five or more beds, but may be considered full when occupied by a family of two or three. Additionally, beds that may be reported as designated for families may sometimes be occupied by individuals (and vice-versa), especially in greater Minnesota, where the few shelters often operated in a flexible fashion to meet current needs. Finally, as shown in the quarterly point-in-time counts, demand for family beds exceeded available capacity on particular nights throughout the year.

### **Lengths of stay and turnover rates**

Families tend to stay longer in emergency housing than do individuals. Lengths of stay can be influenced by factors ranging from the availability of alternative housing to both formal and informal policies enforced by local programs. It is important to note that length of stay is restricted to actual days in shelter during the data collection period; many of those served during the period entered prior to October 2009 or exited after September 2010. Also, while "length of stay" conceptually includes all stays in any shelter during the data collection period, practically it only includes shelters participating in Minnesota's HMIS.

The longer stays for families translate to lower turnover rates. In federal fiscal year 2010, an average family emergency shelter bed was occupied by 9.49 people, whereas an average emergency bed for individuals was occupied by 13.86 people. These turnover rates are similar to those reported in Minnesota for the past three years, but are higher than the nationally-reported rates of 4.7 and 8.1, reflecting a shorter average stays in the shelters participating in Minnesota's HMIS.<sup>28</sup>

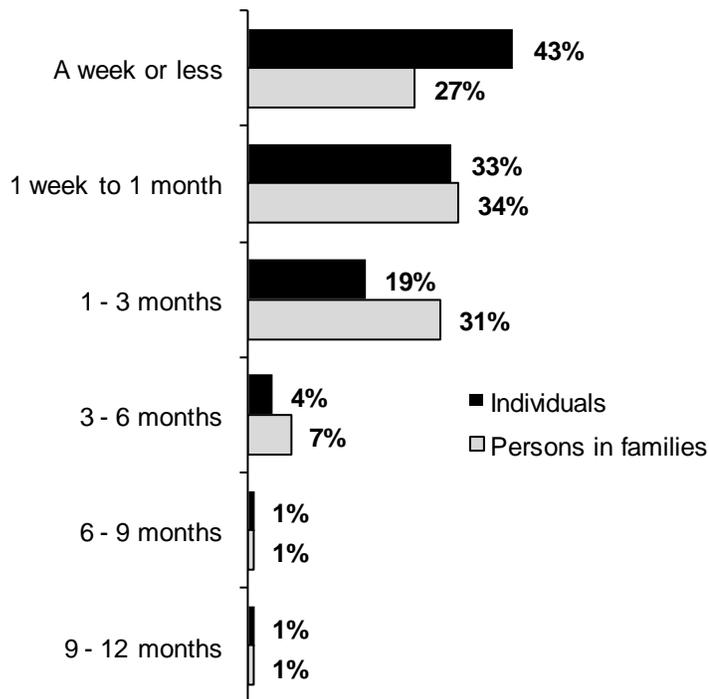
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<sup>27</sup> *The 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (accessed March 11, 2011 at <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>), page 68.

<sup>28</sup> *The 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (accessed March 11, 2011 at <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>), page 68.

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**31. Number of days in emergency shelter over the course of federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

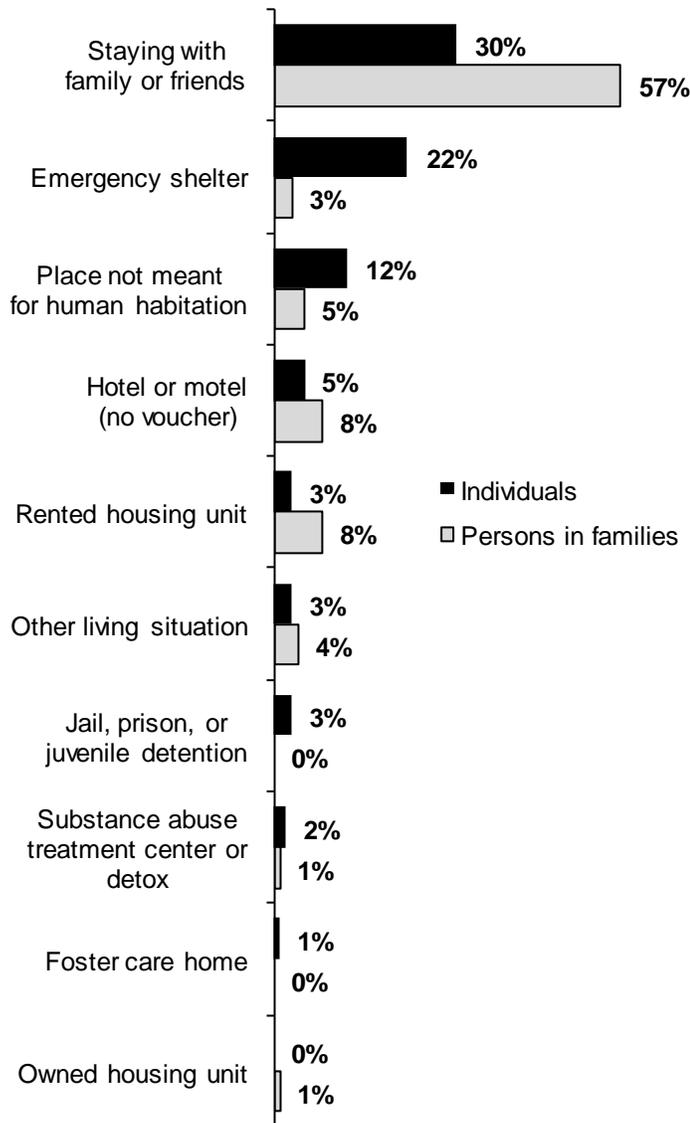
**Prior living situations**

“Prior living situation” refers to the place where the person seeking services stayed on the night before entering shelter. Both individuals and persons in families were most likely to enter an HMIS participating shelter from the home of a friend or family member (30% and 57% respectively). Another emergency shelter was also a likely prior living situation for both individuals and persons in families. Nearly one-quarter of individuals and over 10 percent of persons in families report moving between shelters.

Clients were less likely to report coming directly to shelter from a housing unit that they owned in 2010 (1% for persons in families and 0% for individuals) than they were in 2009 (2% and 1%) or 2008 (4% and 1%). However, they were just as likely to report entering emergency shelter from a housing unit that they rented, as was reported in 2009 or 2008. Few individuals or persons in families reported entering shelter from an institutional setting, including jails or prisons, substance abuse treatment facilities, or psychiatric facilities.

As was the case in 2008 and 2009, both families and individuals in emergency shelter tended to report little stability in their prior living situation. Nearly 70 percent of both families and individuals stayed in their prior living situation for less than three months. Of those, 39 percent of persons in families and 40 percent of individuals stayed a week or less.

**32. Prior living situation of persons served in emergency shelter during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010. See the appendix for additional detail concerning prior living situations.

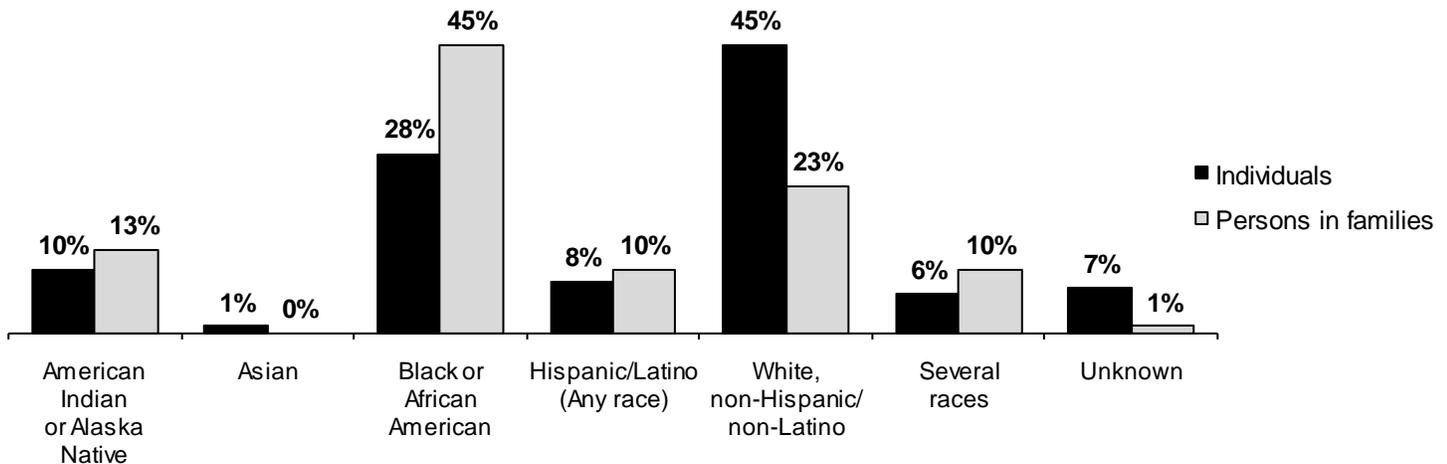
## Demographics

Over three-quarters of adults in families in emergency shelter were female while a similar proportion of individuals in shelter were male. Adults in families tended to be younger than adults served as individuals, with nearly two-thirds of adults in families in the 18-30 year old range, compared with less than one-third of adults served as individuals. Similar results are found nationwide with adults served in families tending to be younger and female, while individuals were more likely to be older and male.<sup>29</sup>

Although around 70 percent of all persons in shelter were either African American or white, persons served in families were more likely to be African American (45%) while individuals were more likely to be white (45%). The racial differences between adults served in families and those served as individuals have remained consistent over the past three years.

Nationally, emergency shelter clients served as part of a family are just as likely as in Minnesota to be African American (45%) and they are somewhat less likely to be white (19%). However, they are much less likely to be Latino, one-quarter nationally compared to 10 percent in Minnesota. Individuals in emergency shelter nationally were also less likely to be white and more likely to be Latino, but to a lesser degree.<sup>30</sup>

### 33. Race and ethnicity of persons served in emergency shelter during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status



Source: Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

<sup>29</sup> *The 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (accessed March 11, 2011 at <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>), page D-5.

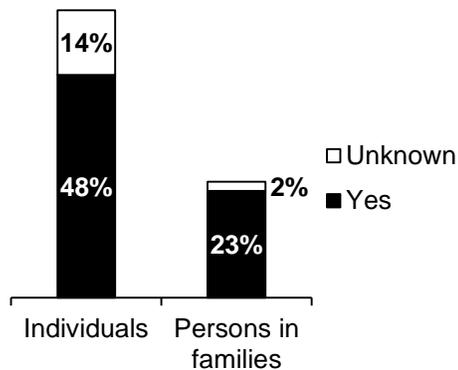
<sup>30</sup> *The 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (accessed March 11, 2011 at <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>), page D-5.

## Disability status

As was the case in previous years, a greater proportion of adults in emergency shelter served as individuals (48%) than adults served as part of a family (23%) reported having a disability. Disabilities were more prevalent among those served in HMIS-participating shelters in Minnesota than in shelters nationally. According to the most recent national AHAR, about 11 percent of adults in families and one-third of individuals served in shelter were reported as having a disabling condition.<sup>31</sup>

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### 34. Disability status of adults served in emergency shelter during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

HUD defines a disability based on the more broadly defined term "disabling condition," which includes physical, mental, or emotional impairments which are expected to be of long or indefinite duration, which substantially impede an individual's ability to live independently.

## Veteran status

Any adult who has either served in the US armed forces for at least 180 days or in the reserves or National Guard who was called up to active duty should be recorded as a military veteran in HMIS. A greater proportion of adult individuals in emergency shelter (11%) were reported as veterans, compared to adults in families (2%). As was the case in 2008 and 2009, over 600 veterans were served either as individuals or as part of a family in HMIS-participating shelters in Minnesota. Furthermore, the proportion of adults in

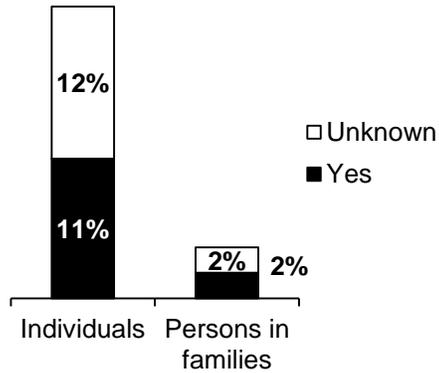
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<sup>31</sup> *The 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (accessed March 11, 2011 at <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>), page D-6.

Minnesota's HMIS-participating shelters who are veterans continues to be similar to the proportions reported in the nationwide in 2008 and 2009.<sup>32</sup>

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**35. Veteran status of persons served in emergency shelter during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

A veteran is defined as someone who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States for 180 or more days. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

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<sup>32</sup> *The 2008 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (accessed March 11, 2011 at <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/4thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>), page D-7.

*The 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress* (accessed March 11, 2011 at <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>), page D-6.

For more on veterans, see the concluding chapter of this report.

# Emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing use, combined

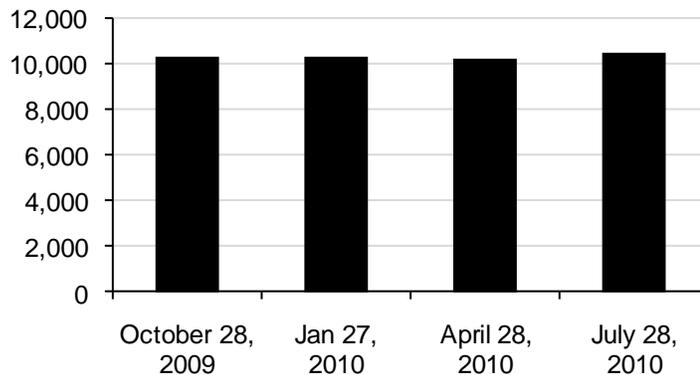
This chapter combines the data from emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing to give an overall picture of the use of these three types of housing. The section on quarterly counts includes data from both HMIS and supplemental data provided by emergency shelters in Hennepin and Ramsey counties. The section “data collected over the course of the year” relies only on information collected through the state’s HMIS, and does not include supplemental data or estimates for providers that did not participate in HMIS during federal fiscal year 2010. Programs that cater exclusively to the needs of domestic violence victims are not included in this report.<sup>33</sup>

## *Quarterly point-in-time counts*

Combined together, the number of persons served in emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent supportive housing, through HMIS participating shelters and those providing supplemental data, was fairly stable over the year, ranging from a low of about 10,200 in April 2010 to a high of nearly 10,500 in July 2010.

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### **36. Persons served in emergency shelter, transitional housing or permanent supportive housing: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010, supplemented by Hennepin County emergency shelter billing system and the Catholic Charities Dorothy Day shelter.

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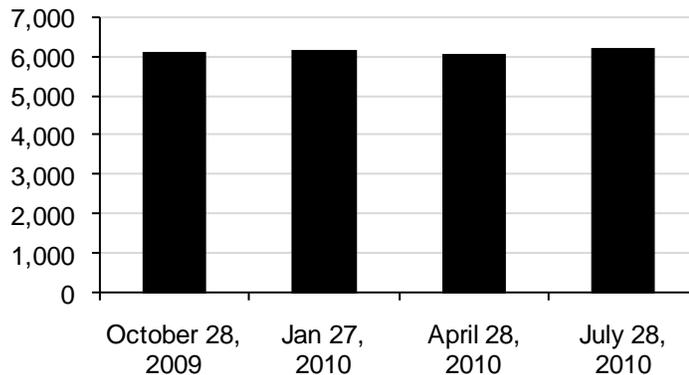
<sup>33</sup> Emergency shelters and transitional housing programs that exclusively cater to victims of domestic violence collectively provide over 750 beds statewide. See the supplemental information about shelters for victims of domestic violence. Also see the appendix tables for additional details on the information provided throughout this chapter.

The separated quarterly counts for those served in families with minor children (Figure 36) and those served as individuals (Figure 37) shows that the total number in each group was fairly stable throughout the year. Among both family and individual beds, the highest utilization occurred in July 2010 while the lowest utilization was in April 2010. For both groups, the difference between the high and low point of utilization was less than 3 percent.

Although bed capacities are difficult to precisely measure, these programs collectively provide about 6,300 family beds per night. Nearly all of those family beds for the three program types were full throughout the year. Bed utilization rates were at or above 96 percent for each of the four dates, and were the highest in July 2010.

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**37. Persons in families in emergency shelter, transitional housing or permanent supportive housing: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts**

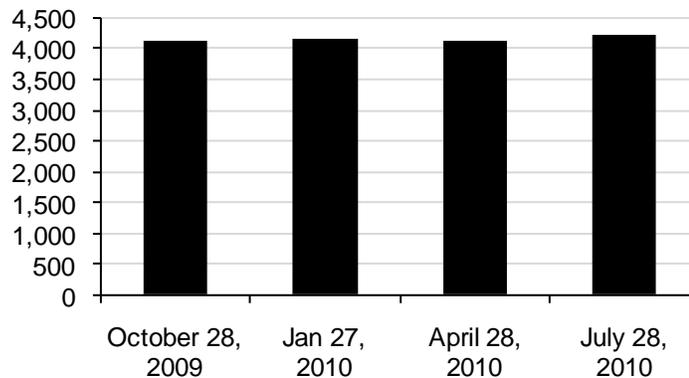


**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010, supplemented by Hennepin County emergency shelter billing system.

Beds for individuals in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing were similarly full during the federal fiscal year 2010. There are approximately 4,700 individual beds participating in HMIS, and these beds were utilized, on average, 95 percent during the fiscal year. Although utilization rates remained fairly steady throughout the year, those for individual beds were lowest in April 2010 and highest in July 2010.

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**38. Individuals in emergency shelter, transitional housing or permanent supportive housing: Quarterly point-in-time HMIS counts**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010, supplemented by Hennepin County emergency shelter billing system and the Catholic Charities Dorothy Day shelter.

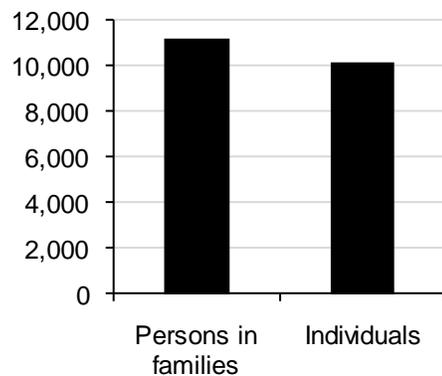
***Data collected over the course of the year***

This section relies only on information recorded in HMIS by participating emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing providers. Although HMIS participating providers include a total of about 10,700 of the state's combined total of nearly 13,300 beds, for a total bed coverage rate of 81 percent, we do *not* provide estimates of all persons served in the combined total of all the state's emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing providers. This is because the bed coverage rates are lowest among the emergency shelters, and emergency shelters serve a higher volume of people than do transitional and permanent supportive housing programs.

Over 20,700 people stayed in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing programs that participate in HMIS during federal fiscal year 2010 (October 2009-September 2010). This count included nearly 11,200 served in families with minor children and nearly 10,200 served as individuals. A small portion of both persons in families and individuals were served by more than one housing type.

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**39. Total number served in emergency shelter, transitional housing or permanent supportive housing over the course of federal fiscal year 2010**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal Year 2010.

**Demographic comparisons**

This section compares the characteristics of those served in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing programs participating in Minnesota’s HMIS during federal fiscal year 2010 with other relevant data sources. None of the comparisons is a strictly “apples to apples” comparison: the national AHAR data represents all persons served by emergency shelter and transitional housing providers nationally; the 2009 Statewide Homeless Survey is a point-in-time survey that includes persons served in domestic violence programs, as well as people found living in areas not meant for human habitation, and the general population numbers are also intended to represent a single point in time.

Comparing racial characteristics from Minnesota’s HMIS data to the state’s general population, it is notable that persons of color continue to be highly over-represented among the homeless. This is especially true for African Americans, but also holds for American Indians and Latinos. Asians, on the other hand, are under-represented among those experiencing homeless in Minnesota. Comparing data from Minnesota’s HMIS to the national AHAR, Minnesota appears to have much higher proportions of people identifying as American Indian and lower proportions of people identifying as Latino among those experiencing homelessness.

Data from Minnesota’s HMIS show a higher prevalence of disabilities than does the national AHAR. The rate of disabilities among those experiencing homelessness in Minnesota, whether measured in HMIS or in the Statewide Homeless Survey, appears to be far higher than in the general population.

**40. Characteristics of those served in Minnesota's emergency shelters and transitional housing programs in federal fiscal year 2010, as compared with other selected data sources**

	As represented in Minnesota's HMIS <sup>a</sup>						2009 National AHAR <sup>b</sup>	2009 Statewide Homeless Survey <sup>c</sup>	Minnesota, general population <sup>d</sup>
	Persons in families in Emergency Shelter	Individuals in Emergency Shelter	Persons in families in Transitional Housing	Individuals in Transitional Housing	Persons in families in Permanent Housing	Individuals in Permanent Housing			
<b>All persons</b>	3,617	5,823	3,393	1,294	4,188	3,046	1.56 million	9,654	5.2 million
<b>Race and ethnicity</b>									
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	23%	45%	34%	46%	26%	49%	36%	39%	89%
Black or African American	45%	28%	36%	34%	47%	31%	36%	41%	5%
American Indian or Alaska Native	13%	10%	9%	8%	11%	11%	3%	11%	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0%	1%	2%	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%	4%
Several races	10%	6%	14%	9%	10%	6%	7%	8%	1.5%
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	10%	8%	7%	8%	6%	4%	19%	7%	4%
<b>Adults</b>	1,452	5,353	1,288	1,181	1,540	3,033	1.21 million	6,176	3.9 million
Disabled	23%	48%	34%	66%	56%	87%	34%	46%	14%
Veteran	2%	11%	2%	5%	1%	12%	11%	11%	11%

**Sources:** (a) Emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing programs participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010; (b) US Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress; (c) Wilder Research, 2009 Statewide Homeless Survey (point-in-time); (d) US Census Bureau. **Note:** National AHAR data has been re-calculated to include unknowns. Statewide Homeless Survey includes the weighted characteristics of those in emergency and transitional housing as well as the number of those interviewed in non-shelter locations (the total does not include the total 13,100 estimated to be literally homeless on the night of the survey); Census data on disabilities includes estimates for persons age 16 and older.

# Special focus: Veterans

Homeless veterans are a special focus of this report, as they were in the 2009 Homeless Service Use Report and the 2009 national Annual Homeless Assessment Report. For purposes of this report, a veteran is defined as someone who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States for 180 or more days and does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

This chapter does not provide a comprehensive assessment of all services for veterans or a definitive count of the number of veterans experiencing homelessness in Minnesota. For example, it does not include the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs' veterans' homes, which provide over 850 units of supportive housing for veterans regardless of whether they have experienced homelessness. Like other parts of this report, the information provided here is limited only to permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, and emergency shelters participating in Minnesota's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

During the data collection period, there were 96 beds designated specifically for homeless veterans and their families in Minnesota. The majority of these beds, 78, were designated as transitional housing beds for homeless veterans and their families. The remaining 18 beds were within permanent supportive housing programs. About half of these beds were covered in HMIS, meaning the provider of those beds recorded client data into HMIS.<sup>34</sup> This chapter combines information about those served in the beds designated for homeless veterans with information collected about veterans who were served in other programs participating in Minnesota's HMIS

## *Quarterly point-in-time counts*

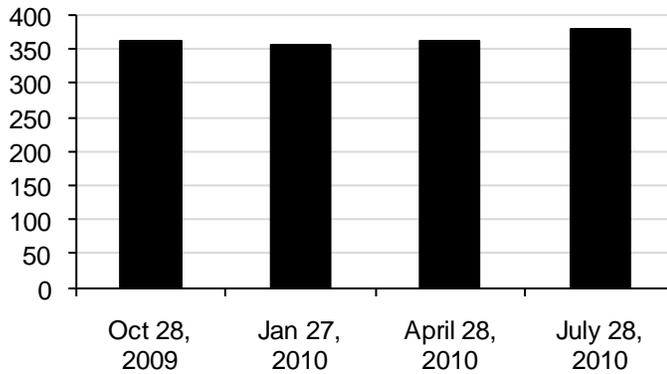
The number of veterans served in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing programs that participate in HMIS was fairly stable throughout the year, ranging from just under 360 on January 27, 2010 to nearly 380 veterans on July 28, 2010. Most veterans, about 90 percent, were served as individuals, while only 10 percent were served as part of a family.

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<sup>34</sup> See the appendix tables on veterans for additional details on the information provided throughout this chapter.

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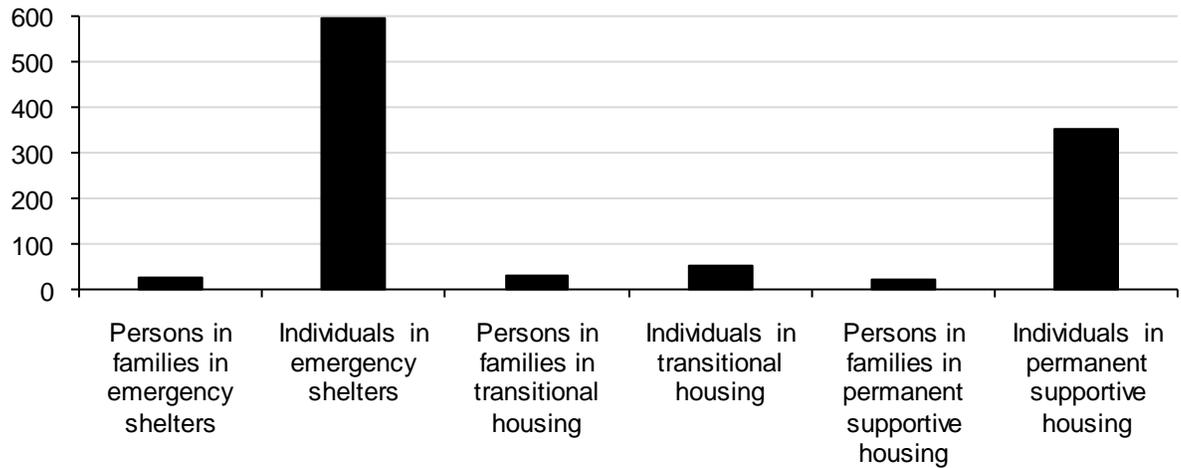
**41. Veterans served in permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, or emergency shelter: Quarterly HMIS point-in-time counts**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

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**42. Veterans served in federal fiscal year 2010, by housing type and family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

## ***Data collected over the course of the year***

The remainder of this chapter refers to the nearly 1,100 veterans served by emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing programs participating in HMIS over the course of federal fiscal year 2010. This includes over 600 veterans served in emergency shelter, nearly 100 veterans served in transitional housing, and nearly 400 veterans served in permanent supportive housing.

### **Lengths of stay**

As defined by this report, “length of stay” includes all days in permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, and emergency shelter during the data collection period, regardless of whether they were all spent continuously in the same program or broken up into several stays at different programs. The lengths of stay reported here include only those stays recorded in HMIS. Note that this number is restricted to actual days in housing during the data collection period and many of those served during that period have longer stays since they entered prior to October 2009 or exited after September 2010.

As is the case with the general homeless population, veterans served in families tended to stay longer in all forms of housing than veterans served as individuals. When compared to the previous year, veterans served as part of a family stayed longer in emergency shelter. In 2010, 82 percent stayed less than three months while 96 percent stayed three months or less in 2009. On the other hand, veterans served as part of a family had shorter stays in transitional housing. In 2010, 32 percent stayed less than three months, whereas 25 percent stayed less than three months in 2009. Lengths of stay for individual veterans in either housing type were nearly identical from 2009 to 2010.

### **Prior living situation**

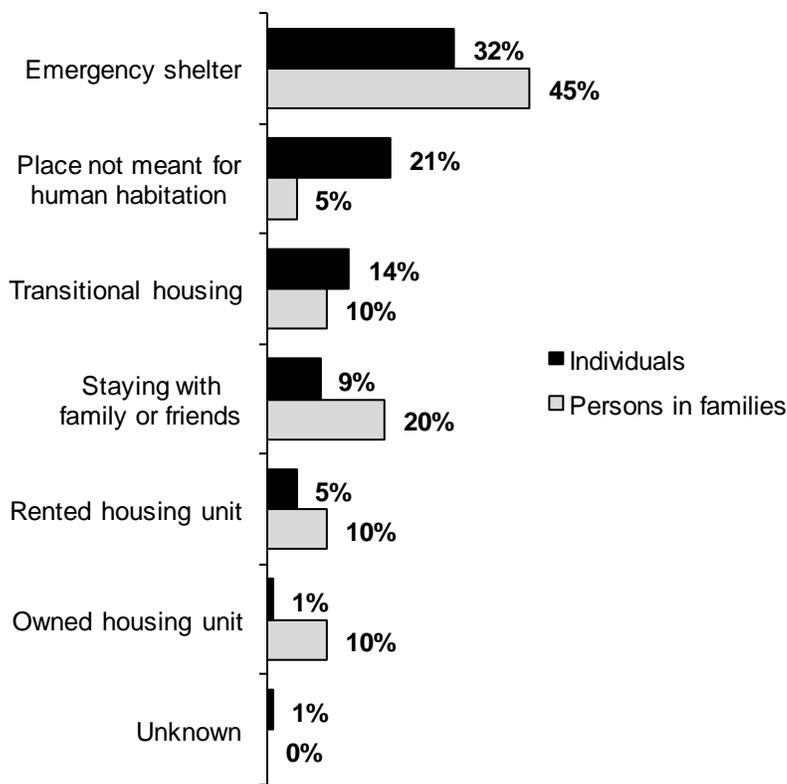
“Prior living situation” refers to the place where the person seeking services stayed on the night before entering emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent supportive housing. Veterans were most likely to report staying with friends or family members (53%) or in an emergency shelter (29%) prior to entering emergency shelter, transitional, or permanent supportive housing.

Veterans served as individuals in permanent supportive housing were more likely than any other group to have been living in a place not meant for human habitation prior to program entry (21%). Seventeen percent of veterans served as individuals in emergency shelter also report entering shelter from a place not meant for human habitation. Both proportions are higher than those of the homeless population in general, where 17 percent of individuals in

permanent supportive housing and 12 percent of individuals in emergency shelter reported entering housing from a place not meant for human habitation.

Similar to the broader population of persons served in homeless-designated housing programs, veterans reported that their prior living situation was unstable. More than three-quarters of all veterans served had stayed at the previous night's living arrangement for three months or less. As a whole, veterans were more likely to report having stayed at the previous night's living situation for one week or less (31%) than was the general homeless population (25%).

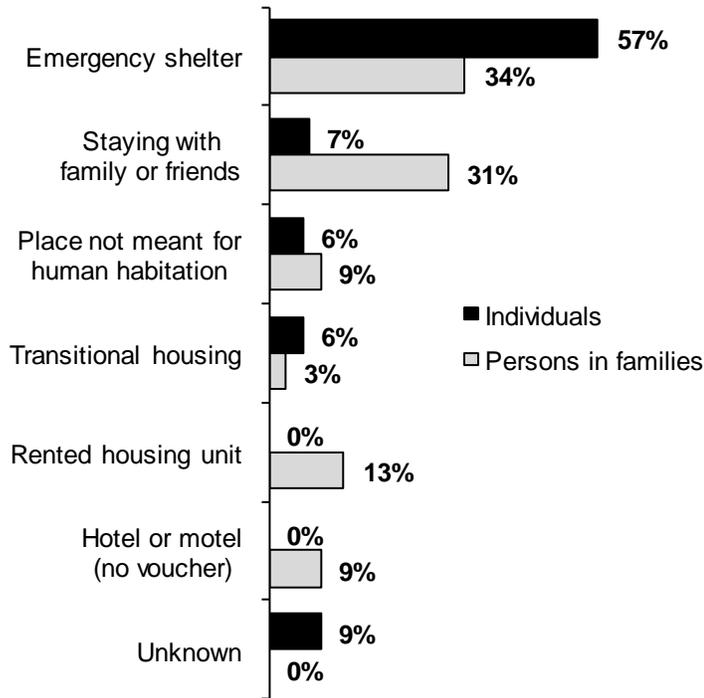
**43. Prior living situation of veterans residing in permanent supportive housing during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010. See the appendix for additional detail concerning prior living situations.

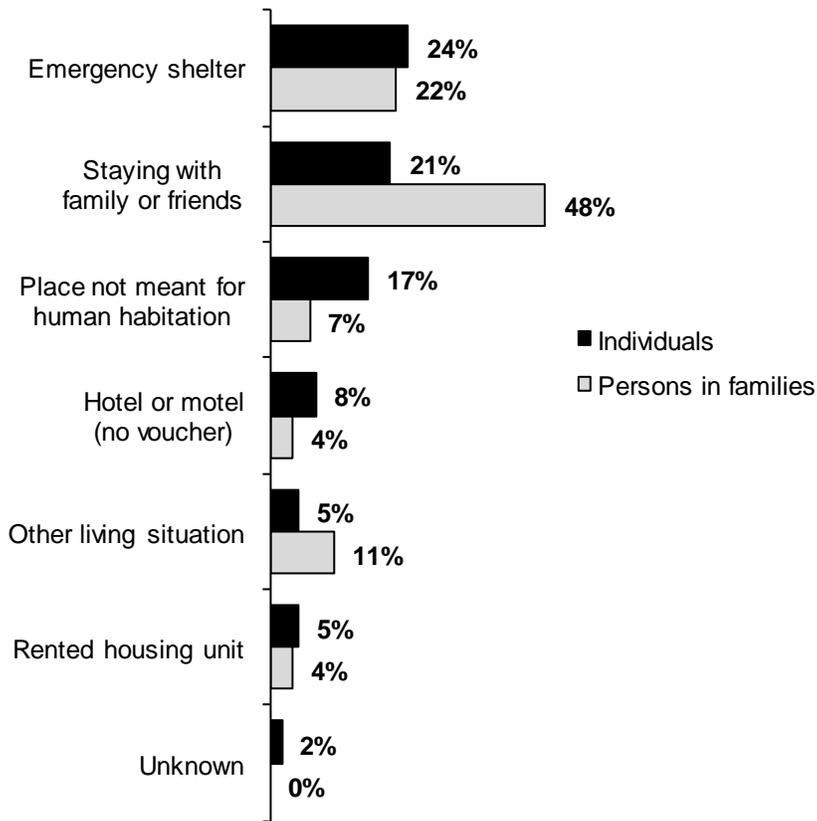
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**44. Prior living situation of veterans residing in transitional housing during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010. See the appendix for additional detail concerning prior living situations.

**45. Prior living situation of veterans residing in emergency shelter during federal fiscal year 2010, by family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010. See the appendix for additional detail concerning prior living situations.

**Demographics**

As was the case in 2009, veterans, especially those served as individuals, were predominantly male. Nearly 95 percent of veterans served during federal fiscal year 2010 were male. While female veterans made up nearly half of the veterans in families, they were only 7 percent of the veterans served as individuals.

Veterans tended to be older than non-veterans, especially when served as individuals. When served as individuals, only 8 percent of veterans in emergency shelter and 13 percent of veterans in transitional housing were in the younger 18-30 year-old range, compared to over one-quarter of all persons served as individuals in emergency shelter and almost half of all persons served as individuals in transitional housing. When compared with 2009 where 5 percent of veterans in emergency shelter and just over 10 percent of

veterans in transitional housing were in the 18-30 year-old range, veterans tended to be somewhat younger in 2010 than in 2009.

Race and ethnicity also varied between veterans and non-veterans. Veterans were more likely to be white than the general homeless population. Nearly two-thirds of all veterans were white, compared with just over one-third of the homeless population in general. Although still overrepresented, veterans were less likely to be African American than the general homeless population, making up 21 percent of homeless veterans, versus 37 percent of the homeless population.

**46. Race and ethnicity of veterans served in federal fiscal year 2010, by housing type and family status**

	Persons in families in emergency shelter	Individuals in emergency shelter	Persons in families in transitional housing	Individuals in transitional housing	Persons in families in permanent housing	Individuals in permanent housing
White, non-Hispanic/Latino	56%	63%	45%	65%	45%	65%
Hispanic/Latino, any race	0%	3%	6%	3%	0%	3%
Black or African-American	37%	21%	13%	30%	36%	19%
Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	1%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0%	5%	9%	2%	9%	9%
Several races	7%	7%	9%	4%	5%	3%
Unknown/Other	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%

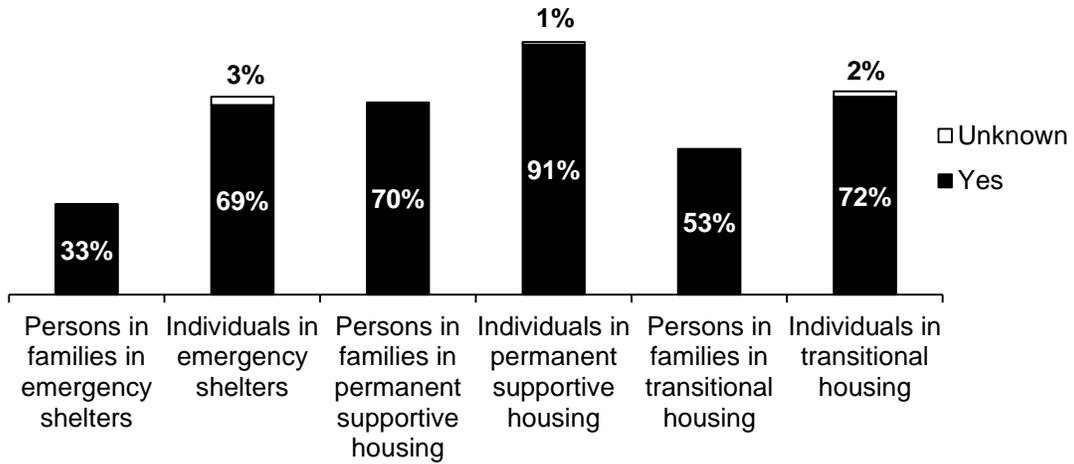
**Sources:** Organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

**Disability status**

Veterans served in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing were more likely to report a disability than the general homeless population. Three-quarters of veterans, compared to 55 percent of all adults served in HMIS-participating providers reported a disability. Overall, clients served as individuals in permanent supportive housing programs were most likely to report a disability whether or not they were a veteran, while 91 percent of veterans and 87 percent of all adults served as individuals in permanent supportive housing reported a disability.

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**47. Disability status of veterans served in federal fiscal year 2010, by housing type and family status**



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

HUD defines a disability based on the more broadly defined term "disabling condition," which includes physical, mental, or emotional impairments which are expected to be of long or indefinite duration, which substantially impede an individual's ability to live independently.

# Appendix

*Supplemental information about use of services provided by shelters exclusively serving victims of domestic violence*

*Maps: Number served and bed coverage by Continuum of Care region, federal fiscal year 2009*

*AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2009, statewide<sup>35</sup>*

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<sup>35</sup> For details by region, see companion report, Homeless Service Use in Minnesota: Continuum of Care regional tables, federal fiscal year 2010 ([www.wilder.org/report.html?id=2425](http://www.wilder.org/report.html?id=2425)).

## ***Domestic violence shelter stay data***<sup>36</sup>

- According to Wilder’s 2009 Statewide Homeless Survey, 29 percent of adult homeless women in Minnesota are fleeing domestic violence. In addition, 48 percent of homeless women reported having stayed in an abusive relationship because they had nowhere else to live.

### **Fiscal year 2010 overview:**

- The Minnesota Office of Justice currently provides funding for 27 shelters and 32 hotel/motel/safe home programs. Of the 27 shelters, 662 emergency shelter beds are available nightly. The number of beds at hotel/motel/safe home programs varies daily according to availability in the geographic area.
- In state fiscal year 2010, state-funded emergency domestic violence shelters sheltered 4,271 women and 4,721 children (Total- 8,922). These domestic violence victims stayed in emergency shelters for 215,168 bed days during this period. State funded hotel/motel/safe home programs provided services for 1,147 victims for a total of 5,139 bed days.
- The Day One® database system reports “real time” bed availability and services information for over 56 Minnesota-area domestic violence emergency shelters, safe housing programs and community-based programs. Of the 27 Minnesota Day One® participating emergency shelters in fiscal year 2010 an average opening of 1.7 beds per program each day.

### **Trends fiscal year 2003 to fiscal year 2010:**

- The average length of stay at emergency shelters has increased 33 percent (18 to 24 days) from fiscal year 2003 to fiscal year 2010. Although in FY10 shelter intakes increased 3.0 percent, bed days decreased 6.9 percent between FY09 and FY10, which means the average stay decreased 9.1 percent.
- In a FY08 survey of Day One® participating programs, 84 percent of the respondents indicated that this increase could be strongly attributed to families being unable to transition from emergency shelter due to a lack of affordable housing.
- From fiscal year 2003 to fiscal year 2010 the number of Day One® transportation vouchers provided to families relocating to shelters outside their geographic area (due to lack of available beds or for safety reasons) increased over 42 percent.
- Calls to the statewide Day One® Minnesota Domestic Violence Crisis Line increased 65 percent from fiscal year 2003 to fiscal year 2010. The line received an average of 978 calls a month in fiscal year 2010.

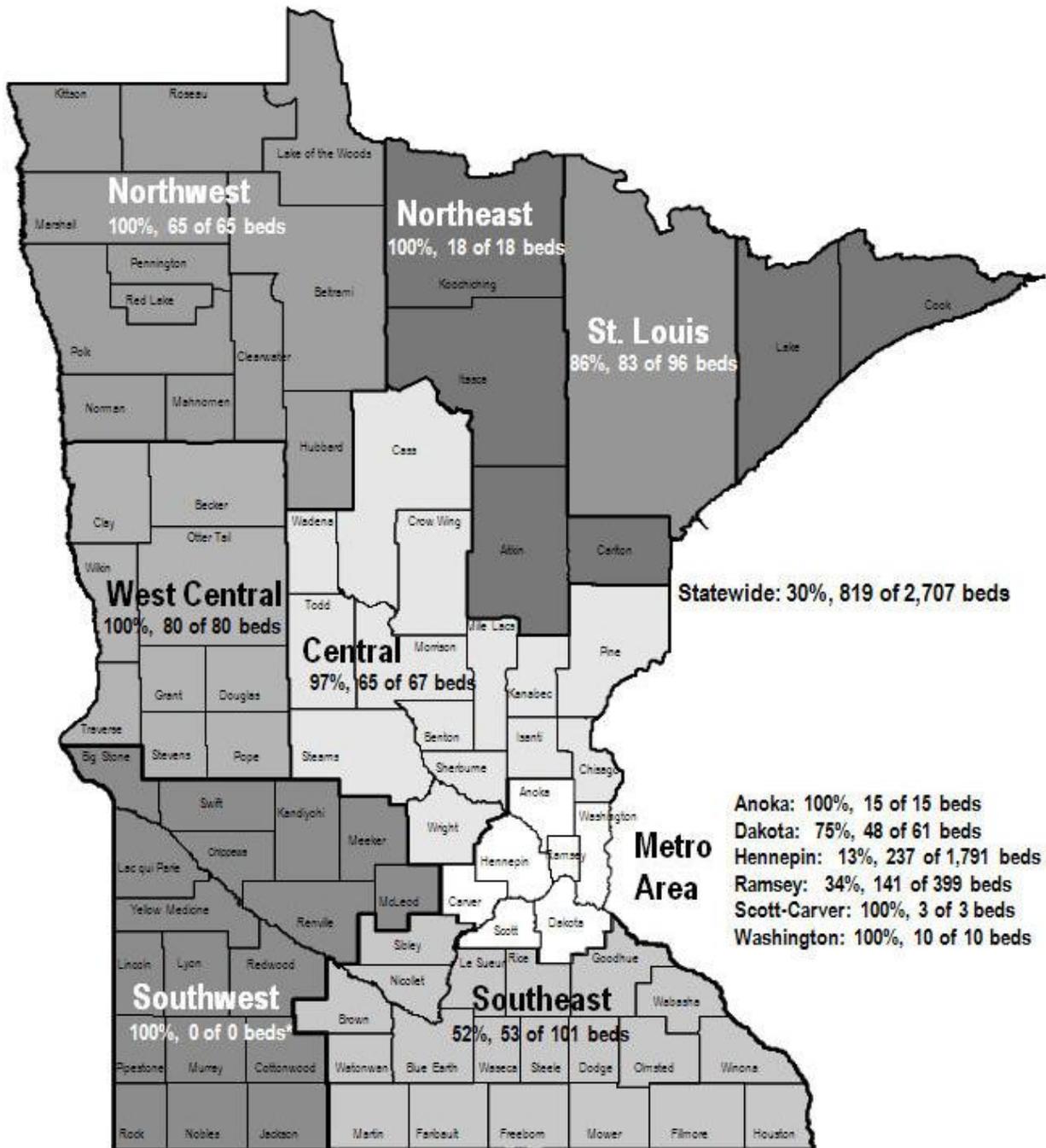
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<sup>36</sup> This summary was provided by Colleen Schmitt with Minnesota’s Day One® Domestic Violence Crisis Line.

## Number served and bed coverage by Continuum of Care region

### Emergency shelter, federal fiscal year 2010

Percentage of each regions' total emergency shelter beds that are accounted for in Minnesota's HMIS



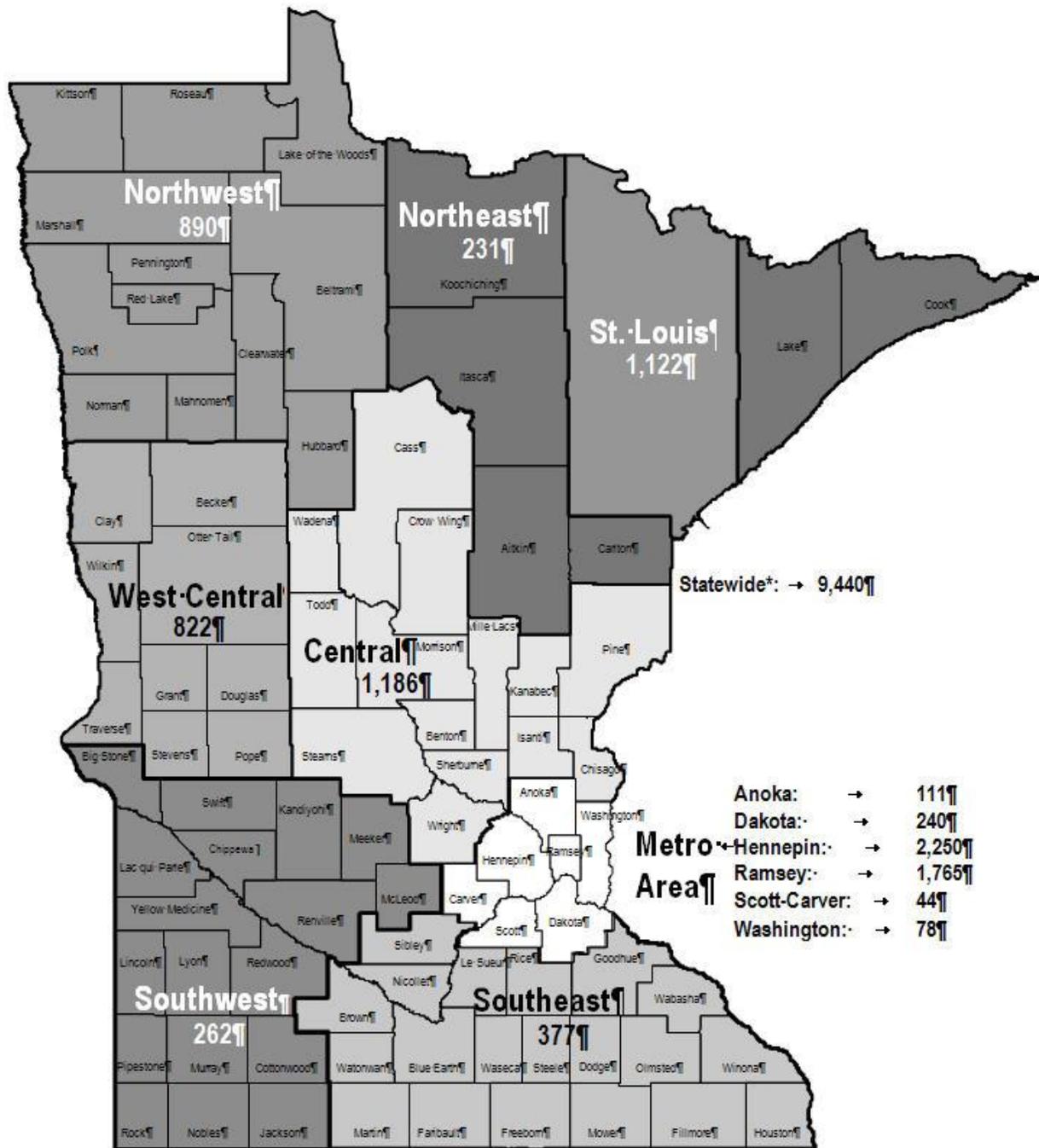
**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

**Note:** For additional details see companion report: *Homeless Service Use in Minnesota; Continuum of Care regional tables, federal fiscal year 2010* (available at [www.wilderresearch.org](http://www.wilderresearch.org)).

\* Includes emergency shelter provided via hotel/motel vouchers. Voucher use is often accounted for in HMIS but is not included in the calculation of bed coverage.

## Emergency shelter, federal fiscal year 2010

Total number of people served over the course of the year in emergency shelter programs that participate in Minnesota's HMIS



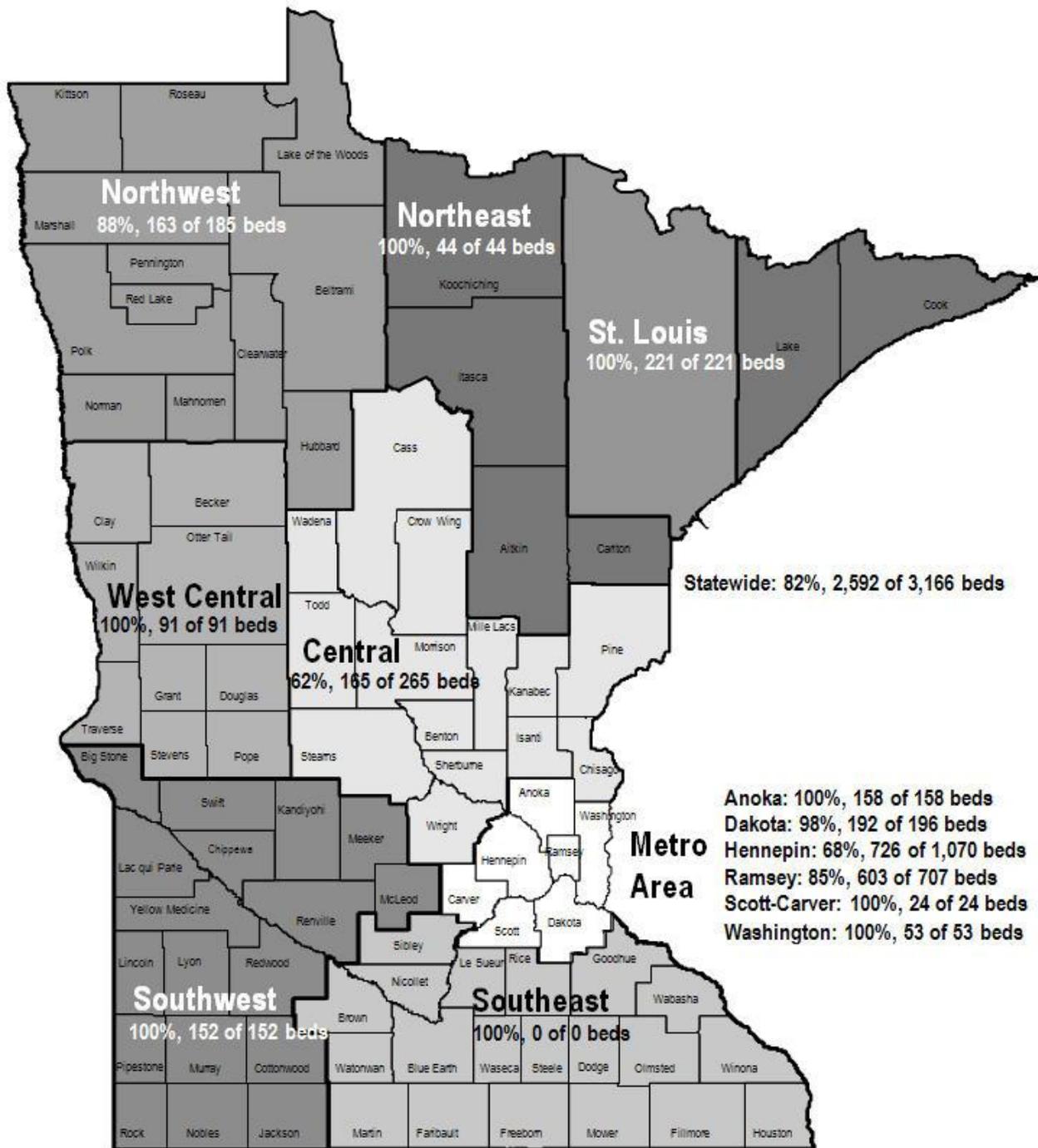
**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

**Note:** For additional details see companion report: *Homeless Service Use in Minnesota; Continuum of Care regional tables, federal fiscal year 2010* (available at [www.wilderresearch.org](http://www.wilderresearch.org)).

\*It is expected that total persons served statewide does not equal the sum of the regional totals.

**Transitional housing, federal fiscal year 2010**

Percentage of each regions' total transitional housing beds that are accounted for in Minnesota's HMIS

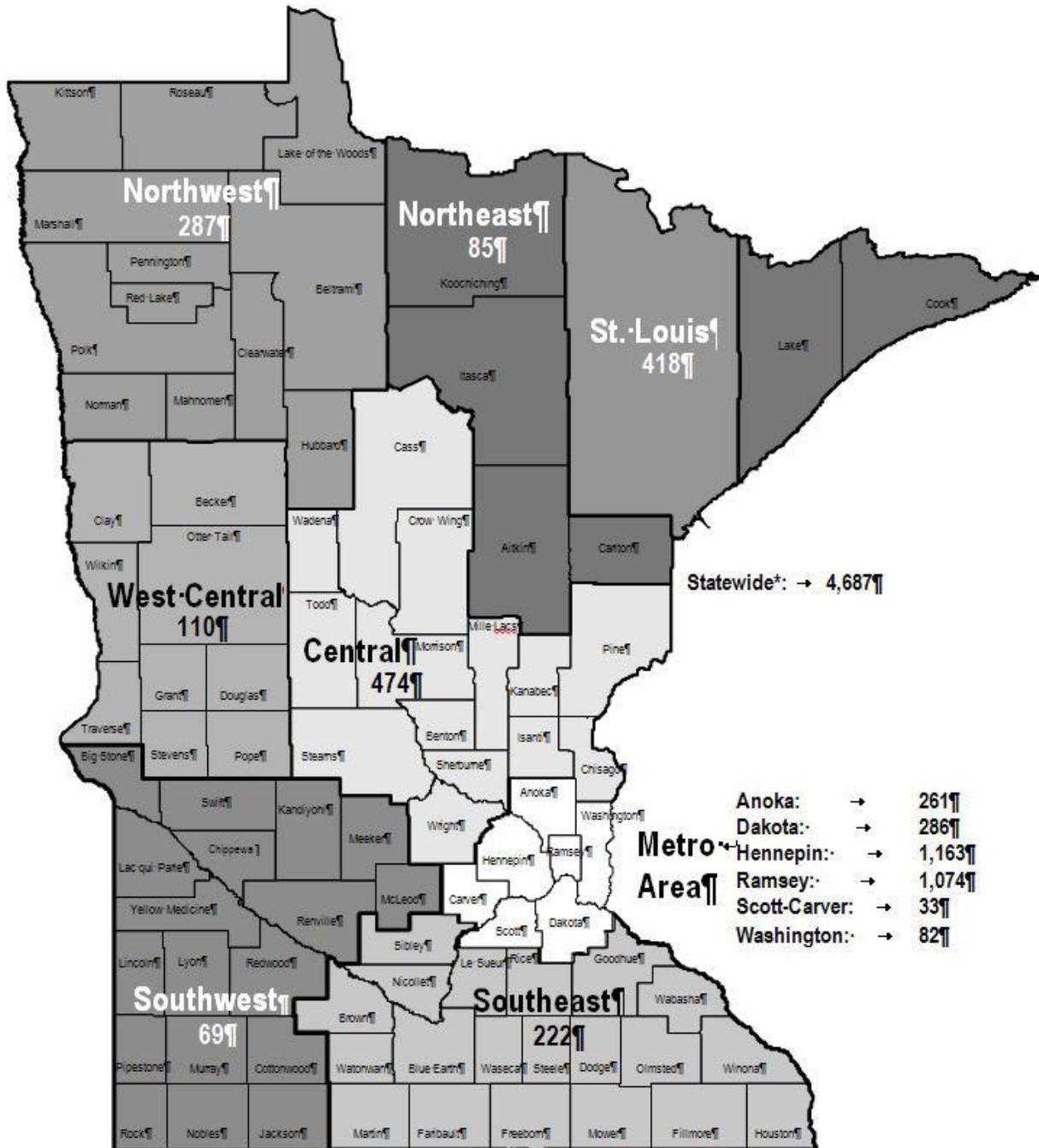


**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

**Note:** For additional details see companion report: *Homeless Service Use in Minnesota; Continuum of Care regional tables, federal fiscal year 2010* (available at [www.wilderresearch.org](http://www.wilderresearch.org)).

## Transitional housing, federal fiscal year 2010

Total number of people served over the course of the year in transitional housing programs that participate in Minnesota's HMIS



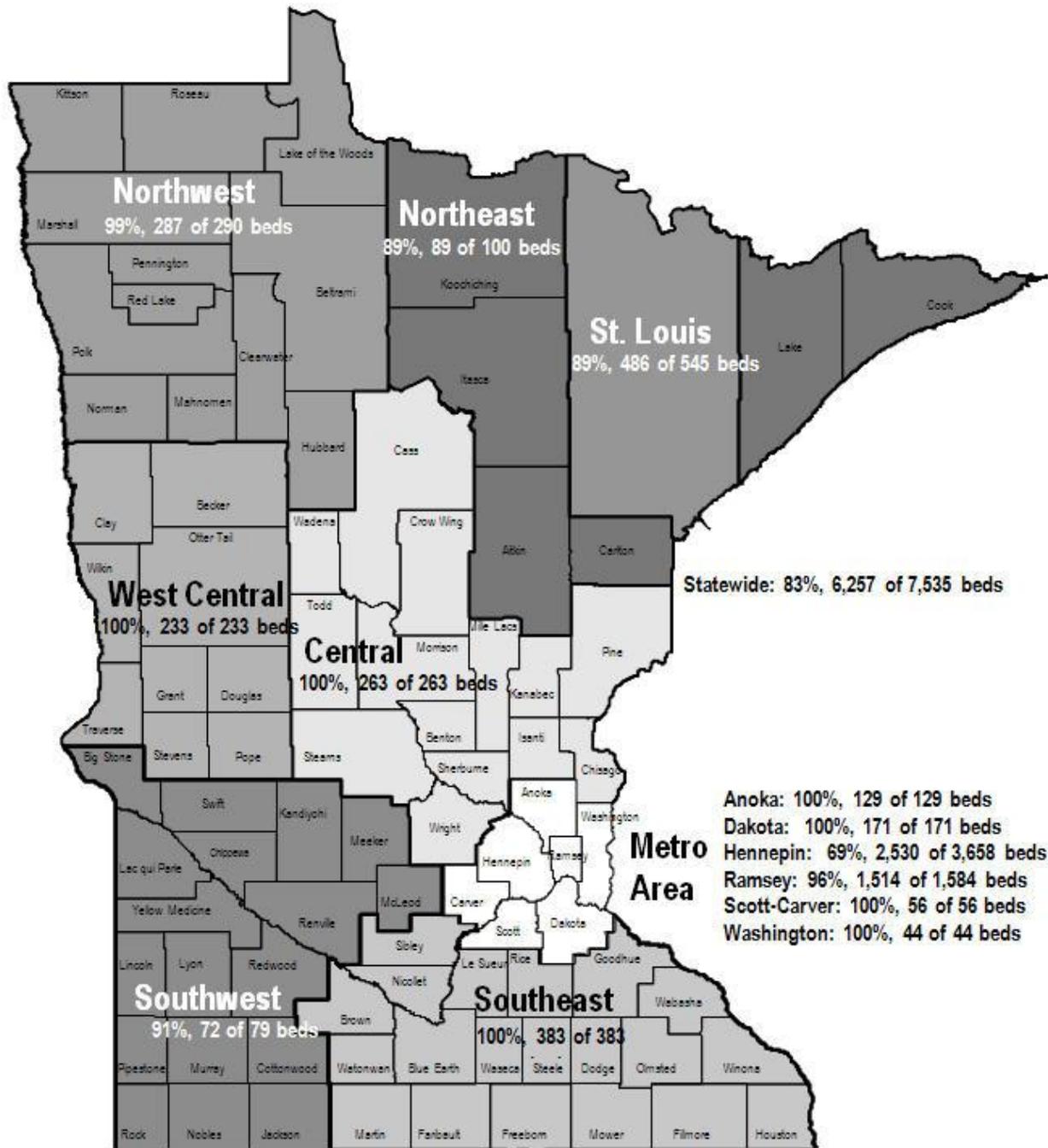
**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

**Note:** For additional details see companion report: *Homeless Service Use in Minnesota; Continuum of Care regional tables, federal fiscal year 2010* (available at [www.wilderresearch.org](http://www.wilderresearch.org)).

\*It is expected that total persons served statewide does not equal the sum of the regional totals.

## Permanent housing, federal fiscal year 2010

Percentage of each regions' total permanent supportive housing beds that are accounted for in Minnesota's HMIS

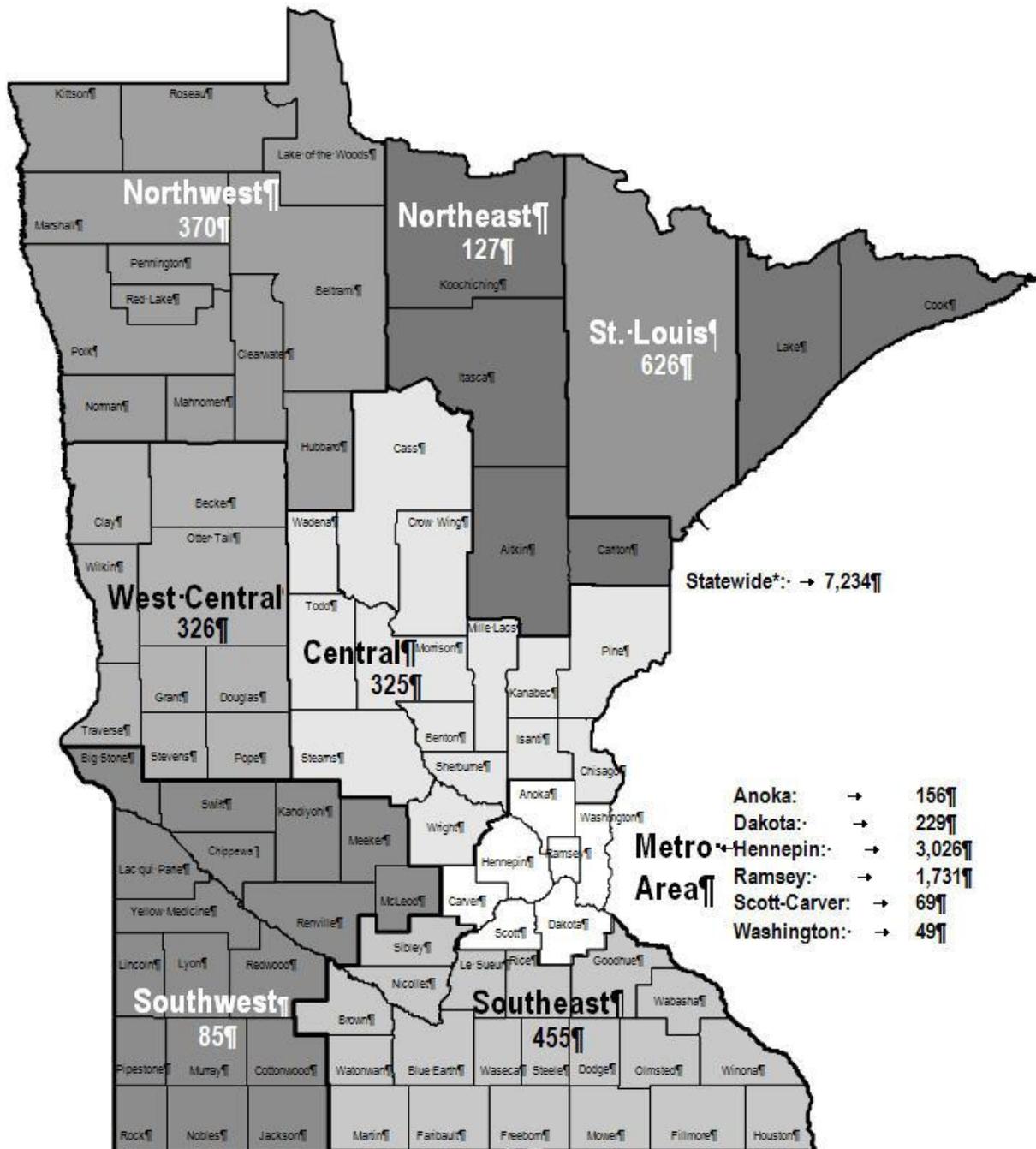


**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

**Note:** For additional details see companion report: *Homeless Service Use in Minnesota; Continuum of Care regional tables, federal fiscal year 2010* (available at [www.wilderresearch.org](http://www.wilderresearch.org)).

## Permanent housing, federal fiscal year 2010

Total number of people served over the course of the year in permanent supportive housing programs that participate in Minnesota's HMIS



**Source:** Organizations participating in Minnesota's HMIS, AHAR tables for federal fiscal year 2010.

**Note:** For additional details see companion report: *Homeless Service Use in Minnesota; Continuum of Care regional tables, federal fiscal year 2010* (available at [www.wilderresearch.org](http://www.wilderresearch.org)).

\*It is expected that total persons served statewide does not equal the sum of the regional totals.

## AHAR tables, federal fiscal year 2010

### A1. Statewide

<b>Reporting Period: 10/1/09 - 9/30/10</b>	<b>Emergency Shelter – Families</b>	<b>Emergency Shelter – Individuals</b>	<b>Transitional Housing – Families</b>	<b>Transitional Housing – Individuals</b>	<b>Permanent Housing – Families</b>	<b>Permanent Housing – Individuals</b>
Number of beds in HMIS (% of total beds)	381 (29%)	446 (31%)	2,005 (85%)	621 (73%)	3,798 (91%)	2,492 (73%)
Number of beds not in HMIS	928	1,014	346	228	369	909
Number of people (families) served on an average night	343 (109)	408	1,919 (628)	571	3,399 (982)	2,332
<b>Number of people (families) served on the night of:</b>						
Wednesday, October 28, 2009	351 (106)	408	1,983 (643)	564	3,245 (937)	2,303
Wednesday, January 27, 2010	374 (106)	400	2,026 (664)	567	3,431 (984)	2,335
Wednesday, April 28, 2010	342 (102)	405	1,944 (639)	574	3,451 (995)	2,339
Wednesday, July 28, 2010	376 (114)	435	1,875 (621)	603	3,481 (1,005)	2,377
Average utilization rate	90%	97%	96%	92%	96%	94%
Turnover rate (the average number of people to use each bed)	9.49	13.86	1.69	2.09	1.11	1.22
Unduplicated number of people (families) served	3,617 (1,156)	5,823	3,393 (1,983)	1,294	4,188 (1,210)	3,046

**Source:** Minnesota's HMIS (aggregate data submitted to HUD as part of the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) project). "Number of beds" is taken from each continuum's annual Exhibit 1 application to HUD, supplemented by information received from programs during the process of assembling data for submission to HUD for the national AHAR. Bed capacities should be considered approximations, since many programs can flex actual capacity between individuals and families, and to accommodate various family sizes.

**Note:** Quarterly counts may not precisely sum from Continuum of Care data in companion reports since statewide numbers were run from live database approximately two months after reporting at the Continuum of Care level.

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**A1. Statewide (continued)**

<b>Quarterly counts, including supplemental shelter data</b>	<b>Emergency Shelter – Families</b>	<b>Emergency Shelter – Individuals</b>
<b>Number of people (families) served on the night of:</b>		
Wednesday, October 28, 2009	891 (282)	1,258
Wednesday, January 27, 2010	688 (224)	1,267
Wednesday, April 28, 2010	682 (222)	1,198
Wednesday, July 28, 2010	855 (258)	1,257

**Source:** Minnesota's HMIS (aggregate data submitted to HUD as part of the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) project), supplemented by Hennepin County emergency shelter billing system (Salvation Army Harbor Light, including Sally's Place and Safe Bay; People Serving People; Catholic Charities secure waiting and pay-for-stay shelters, and Simpson's women's shelter, as well as emergency vouchers into motels including the Francis Drake Hotel) and the Catholic Charities Dorothy Day shelter.

## A2. Statewide – Demographics

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Persons in families in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Individuals in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Persons in families in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Persons in families in Permanent Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Permanent Housing</b>
Number of Sheltered Homeless Persons	3,617	5,823	3,393	1,294	4,188	3,046
<b>Gender of adults</b>						
Female	78%	23%	82%	58%	80%	36%
Male	22%	74%	18%	42%	20%	64%
Unknown	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Gender of children</b>						
Female	49%	55%	50%	66%	50%	38%
Male	51%	45%	50%	34%	50%	62%
Unknown	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	90%	90%	93%	92%	94%	96%
Hispanic/Latino	10%	8%	7%	8%	6%	4%
Unknown	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Race</b>						
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	23%	45%	34%	46%	26%	49%
White, Hispanic/Latino	6%	3%	4%	2%	3%	2%
Black or African American	45%	28%	36%	34%	47%	31%
Asian	0%	1%	2%	1%	3%	1%
American Indian or Alaska Native	13%	10%	9%	8%	11%	11%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Several races	10%	6%	14%	9%	10%	6%
Unknown	1%	7%	1%	0%	1%	1%

**A2. Statewide – Demographics (continued)**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Persons in families in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Individuals in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Persons in families in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Persons in families in Permanent Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Permanent Housing</b>
<b>Age</b>						
Under 1	8%	0%	7%	1%	5%	0%
1 to 5	28%	0%	28%	1%	22%	1%
6 to 12	18%	2%	19%	1%	24%	0%
13 to 17	6%	6%	7%	7%	13%	0%
18 to 30	26%	26%	24%	43%	19%	17%
31 to 50	13%	43%	13%	35%	17%	50%
51 to 61	1%	15%	1%	13%	1%	27%
62 and older	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	4%
Unknown	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**A2. Statewide – Demographics (not extrapolated) (continued)**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Persons in families in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Individuals in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Persons in families in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Persons in families in Permanent Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Permanent Housing</b>
<b>Persons by household size</b>						
1 person	0%	96%	0%	93%	0%	94%
2 people	25%	3%	27%	6%	20%	5%
3 people	28%	1%	31%	1%	23%	1%
4 people	26%	0%	19%	0%	21%	0%
5 or more people	21%	0%	23%	0%	36%	0%
Unknown	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Number of sheltered adults	1,452	5,353	1,288	1,181	1,540	3,033
<b>Veteran (adults only)</b>						
Yes	2%	11%	2%	5%	1%	12%
No	96%	77%	97%	95%	93%	86%
Unknown	2%	12%	1%	1%	6%	2%
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>						
Yes	23%	48%	34%	66%	56%	87%
No	74%	38%	64%	33%	39%	10%
Unknown	3%	14%	2%	1%	5%	3%

### A3. Statewide- Prior Living Situation

	Persons in families in Emergency Shelter	Individuals in Emergency Shelter	Persons in families in Transitional Housing	Individuals in Transitional Housing	Persons in families in Permanent Housing	Individuals in Permanent Housing
Number of Sheltered Homeless Persons	3,617	5,823	3,393	1,294	4,188	3,046
<b>Living arrangement the night before program entry</b>						
<b>Total from Homeless Situation</b>						
Place not meant for Human Habitation	5%	12%	3%	4%	6%	17%
Emergency Shelter	13%	22%	60%	32%	51%	39%
Transitional Housing	0%	1%	4%	7%	11%	15%
<b>Total From Housing Situation</b>						
Permanent Supportive Housing	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Rented Housing Unit	8%	3%	5%	3%	3%	2%
Owned Housing Unit	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Staying with Family or Friends	57%	30%	20%	25%	16%	11%
<b>Total from Institutional Settings</b>						
Psychiatric Facility	0%	1%	0%	6%	0%	2%
Substance Abuse Treatment Center or Detox	1%	2%	3%	10%	1%	4%
Hospital (nonpsychiatric)	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	0%	3%	0%	2%	0%	0%
<b>Total from Other Situations</b>						
Hotel or Motel (no voucher)	8%	5%	3%	2%	2%	1%
Foster care home	0%	1%	0%	2%	0%	2%
Other living situation	4%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%
Unknown	2%	13%	0%	3%	5%	3%

**A3. Statewide- Prior Living Situation (continued)**

	<b>Persons in families in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Individuals in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Persons in families in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Persons in families in Permanent Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Permanent Housing</b>
<b>Stability of Previous Night's Living Arrangements</b>						
Stayed 1 week or less	39%	40%	15%	19%	10%	13%
Stayed more than 1 week, but less than a month	21%	18%	14%	21%	16%	14%
Stayed 1 to 3 months	9%	11%	41%	28%	32%	24%
Stayed more than 3 months, but less than a year	15%	8%	24%	21%	24%	22%
Stayed 1 year or longer	14%	7%	5%	6%	12%	23%
Unknown	3%	16%	1%	5%	5%	4%
<b>Zip Code of Last Permanent Address (90+ days)</b>						
Within Minnesota	70%	55%	77%	79%	78%	72%
Outside of Minnesota	26%	21%	20%	15%	13%	10%
Unknown	4%	24%	3%	6%	9%	17%

**A4. Statewide – Length of Stay**

<b>Length of Stay</b>	<b>Persons in families in Emergency Shelter Percentage</b>	<b>Individuals in Emergency Shelter Percentage</b>	<b>Persons in families in Transitional Housing Percentage</b>	<b>Individuals in Transitional Housing Percentage</b>	<b>Persons in families in Permanent Housing Percentage</b>	<b>Individuals in Permanent Housing Percentage</b>
A week or less	27%	43%	3%	3%	1%	1%
1 week to 1 month	34%	33%	7%	11%	3%	4%
1 - 3 months	31%	19%	12%	23%	6%	8%
3 - 6 months	7%	4%	21%	25%	8%	10%
6 - 9 months	1%	1%	18%	15%	8%	10%
9 - 12 months	1%	1%	38%	23%	74%	67%
Unknown	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**A5. Statewide – Long-term Stays (More than 180 days)**

<b>Length of Stay</b>	<b>Persons in families in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Individuals in Emergency Shelter</b>
Number of Sheltered Homeless Persons	3,617	5,823
Number of persons staying more than 180 days	42	78

**A6. Veterans-Statewide**

<b>Reporting Period: 10/1/09 - 9/30/10</b>	<b>Emergency Shelter – Families</b>	<b>Emergency Shelter – Individuals</b>	<b>Transitional Housing – Families</b>	<b>Transitional Housing – Individuals</b>	<b>Permanent Housing – Families</b>	<b>Permanent Housing – Individuals</b>
Number of people (families) served on the night of:						
Wednesday, October 28, 2009	3 (3)	48	16 (16)	21	19 (17)	256
Wednesday, January 27, 2010	2 (2)	37	16 (16)	21	19 (17)	261
Wednesday, April 28, 2010	2 (2)	42	18 (18)	23	20 (18)	257
Wednesday, July 28, 2010	4 (4)	52	21 (21)	23	22 (20)	257
Unduplicated number of people (families) served	27 (27)	594	32 (32)	54	22 (22)	352

**Source:** Minnesota's HMIS (aggregate data submitted to HUD as part of the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) project).

**Note:** Quarterly counts may not precisely sum from Continuum of Care data since statewide numbers were run from live database approximately two months after reporting at the Continuum of Care level.

## A7. Veterans Statewide – Demographics

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Persons in families in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Individuals in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Persons in families in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Persons in families in Permanent Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Permanent Housing</b>
Number of Sheltered Homeless Persons	27	594	32	54	22	352
<b>Gender of adults</b>						
Female	70%	4%	34%	22%	45%	5%
Male	30%	95%	66%	78%	55%	94%
Unknown	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	100%	97%	94%	97%	100%	97%
Hispanic/Latino	0%	3%	6%	3%	0%	3%
Unknown	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Race</b>						
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	56%	63%	63%	65%	45%	65%
White, Hispanic/Latino	0%	2%	6%	0%	0%	2%
Black or African American	37%	21%	13%	30%	36%	19%
Asian	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0%	5%	9%	2%	9%	9%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	0%
Several races	7%	7%	9%	4%	5%	3%
Unknown	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%

**A7. Veterans Statewide – Demographics (continued)**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Persons in families in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Individuals in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Persons in families in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Persons in families in Permanent Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Permanent Housing</b>
<b>Age</b>						
18 to 30	60%	8%	44%	13%	36%	6%
31 to 50	33%	43%	44%	52%	54%	35%
51 to 61	7%	38%	12%	33%	5%	46%
62 and older	0%	9%	0%	2%	5%	13%
Unknown	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Persons by household size</b>						
1 veteran	100%	100%	100%	100%	82%	100%
2 veterans	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	0%
3 veterans	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
4 veterans	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
5 or more veterans	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unknown	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>						
Yes	33%	69%	53%	72%	70%	91%
No	67%	28%	47%	26%	30%	8%
Unknown	0%	3%	0%	2%	0%	1%

**A8. Veterans Statewide- Prior Living Situation**

	<b>Persons in families in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Individuals in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Persons in families in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Persons in families in Permanent Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Permanent Housing</b>
Number of Sheltered Homeless Persons	27	594	32	54	22	352
<b>Living arrangement the night before program entry</b>						
<b>Total from Homeless Situation</b>						
Place not meant for Human Habitation	7%	17%	9%	6%	5%	21%
Emergency Shelter	22%	24%	34%	57%	45%	32%
Transitional Housing	0%	1%	3%	6%	10%	14%
<b>Total from Housing Situation</b>						
Permanent Supportive Housing	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Rented Housing Unit	4%	5%	13%	0%	10%	5%
Owned Housing Unit	0%	1%	0%	0%	10%	1%
Staying with Family or Friends	48%	21%	31%	7%	20%	9%
<b>Total from Institutional Settings</b>						
Psychiatric Facility	0%	2%	0%	6%	0%	3%
Substance Abuse Treatment Center or Detox	4%	4%	0%	7%	0%	8%
Hospital (nonpsychiatric)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Total from Other Situations</b>						
Hotel or Motel (no voucher)	4%	8%	9%	0%	0%	1%
Foster care home	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Other living situation	11%	5%	0%	2%	0%	3%
Unknown	0%	2%	0%	9%	0%	1%

**A8. Veterans Statewide- Prior Living Situation (continued)**

	<b>Persons in families in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Individuals in Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Persons in families in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Persons in families in Permanent Housing</b>	<b>Individuals in Permanent Housing</b>
<b>Stability of previous night's living arrangements</b>						
Stayed 1 week or less	41%	45%	9%	19%	10%	11%
Stayed more than 1 week, but less than a month	7%	18%	13%	19%	20%	17%
Stayed 1 to 3 months	26%	15%	41%	20%	20%	23%
Stayed more than 3 months, but less than a year	15%	9%	25%	20%	25%	19%
Stayed 1 year or longer	11%	7%	13%	9%	20%	26%
Unknown	0%	5%	0%	13%	5%	3%
<b>Zip code of last permanent address (90+ days)</b>						
Within Minnesota	67%	61%	84%	85%	85%	81%
Outside of Minnesota	30%	30%	16%	13%	15%	10%
Unknown	3%	9%	0%	2%	0%	9%

**A9. Veterans Statewide – Length of Stay**

<b>Length of Stay</b>	<b>Persons in families in Emergency Shelter Percentage</b>	<b>Individuals in Emergency Shelter Percentage</b>	<b>Persons in families in Transitional Housing Percentage</b>	<b>Individuals in Transitional Housing Percentage</b>	<b>Persons in families in Permanent Housing Percentage</b>	<b>Individuals in Permanent Housing Percentage</b>
A week or less	33%	37%	3%	7%	5%	2%
1 week to 1 month	37%	33%	3%	7%	5%	4%
1 - 3 months	26%	24%	19%	22%	5%	10%
3 - 6 months	4%	6%	16%	30%	5%	11%
6 - 9 months	0%	0%	25%	11%	9%	10%
9 - 12 months	0%	0%	34%	23%	71%	63%
Unknown	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%