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# The 2011 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress

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**November 2012**



The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of Community Planning and Development

## Foreword



I am pleased to submit the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) 2011 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress. The AHAR provides national estimates of the current state of homelessness in the United States and the use of homeless assistance programs. Since its inception in 2007, the AHAR has evolved into the most important resource for understanding homelessness in America. It is being used to inform national homelessness

policy, help local communities target their service systems more effectively, and track progress we make toward the goals of *Opening Doors*—the first federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. Indeed, with the knowledge gained through this report, we are better positioned to end this national tragedy once and for all.

Some of the information in this volume has already been published in December 2011, in *The 2011 Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness: Supplement to the Annual Homeless Assessment Report*, which focused on the local Point-in-Time (PIT) counts of all sheltered and unsheltered homeless people on a single night in January 2011. This report builds on that effort while providing more in-depth information on people who were homeless in shelters over the course of a year (October 2010–September 2011). These one-year estimates are based on information from local Homeless Management Information Systems submitted by hundreds of communities nationwide.

This report also contains some relatively new features of the AHAR: it provides separate estimates of sheltered homelessness among the veteran population and descriptions of the characteristics of formerly

homeless people who transitioned into permanent supportive housing programs.

The report shows that our collective efforts to address homelessness are making a difference. Since 2010, the number of people in shelter decreased by nearly six percent, and the decline was felt by people who experience homelessness alone, by families with children, by our nation's veterans, and by people who experience chronic homelessness. We've made this progress during incredibly challenging economic circumstances – demonstrating that hard work, determination, and a commitment to data-driven practices can produce better outcomes for the thousands of Americans who left homelessness and have now found stable housing. Our progress also demonstrates that collaborative partnerships across all levels of government and with local service providers are critical to addressing homelessness successfully. As we leverage mainstream housing, health, education, and human service programs, these partnerships are marshaling the talents and resources of government agencies and departments, nonprofit organizations, universities and other researchers, and technical assistance providers to create sustainable and effective responses to homelessness in our communities.

As we build on this work, the use of better, more accurate data to measure our progress and inform our policies will continue to be an important tool in ending homelessness and ensuring that all Americans have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Shaun Donovan', written in a cursive style.

Secretary Shaun Donovan  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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## Definition of Terms

**Children** are people under the age of 18.

**Chronic Homelessness** refers to an individual or family with an adult with a disabling condition who either has been continuously homeless for a year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years.

**Continuums of Care (CoC)** are local planning bodies responsible for coordinating the full range of homelessness services in a geographic area, which may cover a city, county, metropolitan area, or even an entire state.

**Emergency Shelter** is a facility with the primary purpose of providing temporary shelter for homeless people.

**Family** refers to a household that has at least one adult and one child. It does not include households composed of only of adults or only children.

**Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)** is a software application designed to record and store client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of homeless people.

**Individual** refers to a person who is not part of a family during his/her episode of homelessness. They are homeless as single adults, unaccompanied youth, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households.

**One-Year Shelter Counts** are counts of homeless people who use an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time from October through September of the following year. The one-year counts are derived from

communities' administrative databases, or Homeless Management Information Systems.

**Permanent Supportive Housing** is designed to provide housing (project- and tenant-based) and supportive services on a long-term basis to formerly homeless people with disabilities.

**People in Families** are people who are homeless as part of households that have at least one adult and one child.

**Point-in-Time (PIT) Counts** are one-night counts of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations. The one-night counts are conducted by Continuums of Care nationwide, and occur during the last week in January of each year.

**Principal City** is the largest city in each metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area. Other smaller cities may qualify if specified requirements (population size and employment) are met.

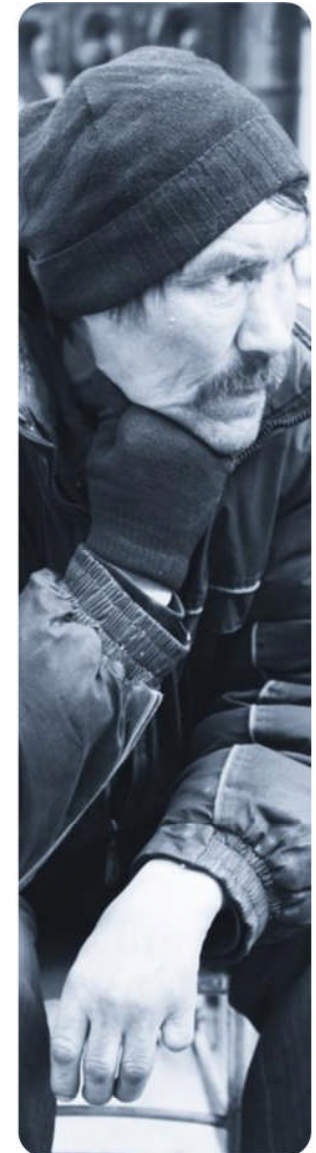
**Several Races** is assigned to people that indicate they are more than one race.

**Sheltered Homeless People** are people who are staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens.

**Transitional Housing Program** is a type of housing in which homeless people may stay and receive supportive services for up to 24 months.

**Unsheltered Homeless People** include people who live in places not meant for human habitation, such as the streets, vehicles, or parks.

**Veteran** refers to any person who served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States.





## Overview of the Report

### Introduction

Between 2007 and 2011, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has released an annual report on the extent of homelessness in the United States—the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR). The report documents how many people are using shelter programs for homeless people, and how many people are in unsheltered locations that are often called “the streets.” The AHAR is delivered each year to the U.S. Congress, and its contents are used to inform Federal, State, and local policies to prevent and end homelessness.

This 2011 AHAR presents the most recent national estimates of homelessness, focusing on people who experience homelessness by themselves, as family members, and as members of specific subpopulations. For each of these populations, the estimates describe how homelessness has changed over time and provide a demographic profile of homelessness in America.

### Types of AHAR Estimates and Data Sources

The estimates presented throughout this report are based on aggregate data submitted by hundreds of communities nationwide. There are two types of estimates: Point-in-Time (PIT) counts and one-year counts based on Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data.

The PIT counts offer a snapshot of homelessness—of both sheltered *and* unsheltered homeless populations—on a single night. The one-night counts are conducted by Continuums of Care (CoC) in late January and reported to HUD as part of their annual applications for McKinney-Vento funding. In addition to the total counts of homelessness, the PIT counts provide an estimate of the number of homeless people within particular subpopulations, such as chronically homeless people and veterans. For the 2011 AHAR, all 432 CoCs in the United States reported PIT estimates of homeless people in their communities, covering virtually the entire United

States. HUD has standards for conducting the PIT counts, and CoCs use a variety of approved methods to produce the counts. Researchers review the data for accuracy and quality prior to creating the PIT estimates for this report.

The one-year estimates provide counts of homeless people who use an emergency shelter, transitional housing facility, or permanent supportive housing program at any time from October through September of the following year. Excluded from the HMIS are: people in unsheltered locations, in programs targeting victims of domestic violence, and in safe havens. These one-year estimates provide information about the demographic characteristics of sheltered homeless people and their patterns of service use. The 12-month counts of sheltered homelessness are produced using HMIS data from a nationally representative sample of communities. The data are weighted to provide a statistically reliable estimate of the total number of people who access shelter throughout the year. For the 2011 AHAR, the estimates were derived from aggregate HMIS data reported by hundreds of communities nationwide, representing 2,777 cities and 1,532 counties.

Below is a chart outlining key information about the current and next report.

Report Year	Volume	Primary Data Source	Type of Estimate	Primary Level of Analysis	Reporting Period
2011	1	PIT & HIC	1-day count	CoC	Jan. 2011
	2	HMIS	Longitudinal 12-month	National & State	Oct. 1, 2010 - Sept. 30, 2011
2012	1	PIT & HIC	1-day count	CoC	Jan. 2012
	2	HMIS	Longitudinal 12-month	National & State	Oct. 1, 2011 - Sept. 30, 2012



As of 2012, HUD will release two AHAR volumes each year. Volume 1 will focus on the Point-in-Time (PIT) estimates of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless people on a single night in January, as well as the bed inventory data (HIC, or Housing Inventory Count). The volume will present the information mostly at the CoC-level to offer a community-level perspective of homelessness. Volume 2 will focus on the HMIS-based longitudinal estimates of sheltered homelessness during a 12-month period, from October 1 to September 30 of the reporting year. The longitudinal estimates will highlight national trends in sheltered homelessness and point-in-time estimates at the state level. Beginning in 2013, HUD will report on homeless children-only households separately.

### **This Report**

The content and layout of the 2011 AHAR departs from past reports in several important ways. To facilitate the public's access to the desired information, the report is organized by population type (all homeless people, individuals, families and children, chronically homeless people, and veterans) and the narrative has been streamlined.

The information pertaining to homeless veterans is incorporated into this report, and HUD will no longer issue a separate supplemental AHAR on homeless veterans. Finally, like the 2010 AHAR, this report describes the characteristics of residents of permanent supportive housing (PSH).

### **NOTE TO READERS:**

Throughout this report, information in the narrative may not be reflected in the corresponding tables. Information for this report was drawn from several data sources, including HMIS and the American Community Survey. Not all information, such as statistics on each state, is in this report, but detailed data tables can be downloaded from HUD's Homelessness Resource Exchange at <http://www.hudhre.info/>. Those tables are:

1. 2011 AHAR HMIS Estimates of Homelessness.xlsx
2. 2011 AHAR HMIS Estimates of Homeless Veterans.xlsx
3. 2011 AHAR\_HMIS Estimates of People in PSH.xlsx
4. 2011 AHAR\_HMIS Estimates of Veterans in PSH.xlsx

The AHAR estimation methodology and underlying assumptions for the information presented in this report are consistent with past reports. For more details, the AHAR methodology and supporting data can be downloaded from: <http://www.hudhre.info/>.

## Key Findings

The 2011 AHAR shows steady declines in homelessness nationwide among all subpopulations.

### All Homeless People

- An estimated 1,502,196 people used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program during 2011 (from October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011).
- The total number of people in shelter over the course of the year declined by 5.7 percent between 2010 and 2011, and by 5.4 percent between 2007 and 2011.

### Homeless Individuals

- An estimated 984,469 individuals used a shelter or transitional housing program at some point during 2011, representing nearly 66 percent of the annual sheltered homeless population.
- The total number of individuals in shelters declined by 5.6 percent between 2010 and 2011, and by 11.7 percent between 2007 and 2011.

### Homeless Families

- An estimated 537,414 people in 172,767 families used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program during 2011.
- The number of sheltered people in families increased for four consecutive years between 2007 and 2010, before declining in 2011 by nearly 30,000 people (5.3 percent). Nonetheless, about 64,000 more people in families were in shelter in 2011 than in 2007, an increase of 13.5 percent.
- In 2011, an estimated 341,040 homeless children were in shelters, and most (321,548 children or 94 percent) were in families. The number of children in shelters increased by 1.9 percent (6,221 children) between 2007 and 2011.

### Homeless Veterans

- An estimated 141,449 veterans used an emergency shelter or a transitional housing program at some time in 2011.
- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of veterans in shelter during a one-year period decreased by more than 2 percent. Since 2009, the number of sheltered veterans in the United States has decreased by almost 6 percent.

### Chronically Homeless People

- On a single night in January 2011, 107,148 people were chronically homeless in the United States, 16.8 percent of all homeless people. Chronic homelessness on a single night declined by 2.4 percent between 2010 and 2011, and by 13.5 percent between 2007 and 2011.
- The proportion of the homeless population that is chronically homeless has declined by approximately 9 percent between 2007 and 2011.

### People in Permanent Supportive Housing

- Almost 300,000 people resided in permanent supportive housing (PSH) in 2011.
- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of people in PSH has increased by 1.2 percent. This increase reflects a 14 percent increase in the number of individuals in PSH.

## Interpretation of the Findings

The 2011 AHAR provides a thorough overview of homelessness in the United States, providing a rich understanding of how the extent and nature of homelessness is changing over time. The report highlights two important trends that have continued since the first AHAR was released in 2007. First, sheltered homelessness among families with children increased steadily between 2007 and 2010, declining slightly in 2011. The significant and multi-year rise in family homelessness occurred in the wake of the recession, and the report provides some evidence that the economic downturn had a particular impact on the stability of family households. Between 2007 and 2011, the number of persons in families coming from stable housing arrangements just prior to entering the shelter system has increased by 38,090 people (a 38.5 percent increase). The direct movement of families from stable housing into shelter demonstrates that families in economic distress are at particular risk of becoming homeless, perhaps because they often have fewer housing options than one-person households. For instance, families can be hard to accommodate with friends and other family members given their size, the presence of children and teenagers, and the financial costs incurred by the hosts (e.g., higher utility costs). In addition, families often have fewer affordable housing options in the rental market, and this may have been exacerbated by the significant increase in the demand for rental housing as many Americans lost their homes during the foreclosure crisis. The fact that we did not see the same upward trend in individual homelessness may also reflect the reality that individuals often become homeless for reasons related to long-standing disabilities and health issues rather than to recent job loss.

Second, the 2011 AHAR shows that homelessness overall has declined since 2007. The decline was observed for nearly all homeless populations: people who experienced homelessness by themselves, the nation's veterans, and by people who experienced chronic homelessness. The size of the declines ranged between 5 and 13 percent, depending on the population. Most notably, homeless shelter use among single adults dropped below 1 million nationally for the first time since these data have been collected. The 2011 AHAR also shows a decline in family homelessness from 2010, the first decline since 2007. These declines could well be attributable to recent policy initiatives:

- Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). In the first two years of HPRP, the program served more than 900,000 people with prevention services and, among those who exited from the program, 89 percent left to permanent housing. HPRP also re-housed nearly 168,000 homeless people into permanent housing during the same time period. The number of assisted people will increase considerably when data for the final year of the program are available.
- HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program. Since its inception, HUD-VASH has supported the move of 35,894 veterans into permanent housing and out of the nation's shelters.
- Development of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). More than 86,000 PSH units have been developed since 2007, far outpacing the development of any other type of bed in the inventory of homeless programs.

While these important outcomes may have been helped by other factors—for example, economically distressed households deciding to live in doubled-up situations for longer periods of time, thereby avoiding entry into shelters—the volume of people who averted or left homelessness through HPRP, HUD-VASH, and the development of PSH units was sizable and undoubtedly contributed to the overall decline in homelessness.

Over the next few years the nation's ability to continue these marked reductions will be challenged by several intensifying factors. First, the current economic climate may jeopardize critical funding streams for homeless assistance programs, including funding for McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants that are the primary source of federal funding dedicated to programs serving homeless people. Funding for HPRP was temporary and ends in 2012; thus, its mitigating effect on homelessness, and family homelessness in particular, could also be ending soon. Second, the troop drawdowns in Iraq and Afghanistan will bring home many veterans, and some will need housing and supportive services to avoid homelessness and transition successfully into civilian life. Lastly, the lagging effects of the recession may linger for years to come, and it is unclear whether the sustained unemployment among many Americans or the ongoing effects of the foreclosure crisis will lead to increases in homelessness. These factors, however, can be understood and subsequently addressed with the proper data. The information presented in the 2011 AHAR suggests that local homeless assistance providers, Continuums of Care, and government agencies at all levels can work together under difficult circumstances to still reduce homelessness in America.

A black and white photograph showing a pair of hands, likely belonging to an elderly person, gently holding a small, fragile house made of cardboard. The house has a gabled roof and a rectangular doorway. The hands are positioned as if supporting the house from underneath, symbolizing the struggle for housing and shelter.

# **All Homeless People in the United States**

## Total Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness

(Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories)

(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

The Point-in-Time (PIT) estimates are one-night counts of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations. The one-night counts are conducted by CoCs nationwide and occur during the last week in January of each year.

### On a single night in January 2011:

- 636,017 people were homeless in the United States.
- Almost two-thirds of homeless people (61.7 percent) were in shelter on the night of the PIT count. More than one third (38.3 percent) were in unsheltered locations.

### Between January 2010 and January 2011:

- Homelessness on a single night declined 2.1 percent (13,900 people).
- The number of people in shelter declined 2.8 percent (11,227 people).
- The number of people in unsheltered locations declined 1.1 percent (2,673 people).
- The percentage of all homeless people who were in shelter remained constant (62 percent).

### Between January 2007 and January 2011:

- Homelessness on a single night has declined by 5.3 percent (35,871 people).
- The number of people in shelter was nearly the same, increasing by 0.2 percent (915 people).
- The number of people in unsheltered locations has declined considerably, by 13.1 percent (36,786 people).

Table 1: PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2007-2011

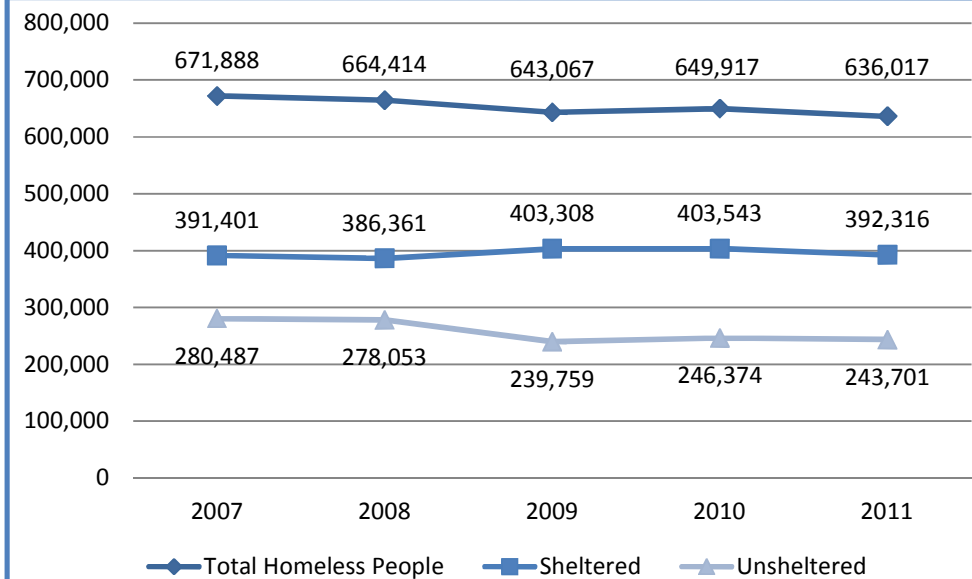


Table 2: Changes in PIT Estimates of Homelessness, 2007-2011

Change	Total People		Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2010 to 2011	-13,900	-2.1%	-11,227	-2.8%	-2,673	-1.1%
2009 to 2011	-7,050	-1.1%	-10,992	-2.7%	3,942	1.6%
2008 to 2011	-28,397	-4.3%	5,955	1.5%	-34,352	-12.4%
2007 to 2011	-35,871	-5.3%	915	0.2%	-36,786	-13.1%

## Total Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness by State

(Maps include Puerto Rico and U.S. territories; tabulations do not)  
(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

### On a single night in January 2011:

- California accounted for more than 1 in 5 homeless people in the United States (21.4%).
- Five states accounted for half of the nation's total homeless population: California (21.4%), New York (10.0%), Florida (8.9%), Texas (5.8%), and Georgia (3.3%).
- The 25 states with the lowest share of the nation's homeless population account for less than 10 percent of all homeless people in the United States.

### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, 23 states and the District of Columbia experienced an increase of 12,693 people in total. The increase was offset by a large decrease of 25,499 people in 27 states.
- Between 2007 and 2011, 27 states and the District of Columbia experienced an increase of 30,230 homeless people in total. The increase was offset by a sizable decline of 65,685 people in the remaining 23 states.
- The District of Columbia and several states experienced increases in homelessness each year between 2007 and 2011, including Alaska, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, Ohio, and South Dakota.
- Ten states experienced decreases in homelessness each year between 2007 and 2011: Arizona, Illinois, Indiana, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Washington.

Note: Additional detail on state-level estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

Table 3: Share of the Total Homeless Population by State, 2011

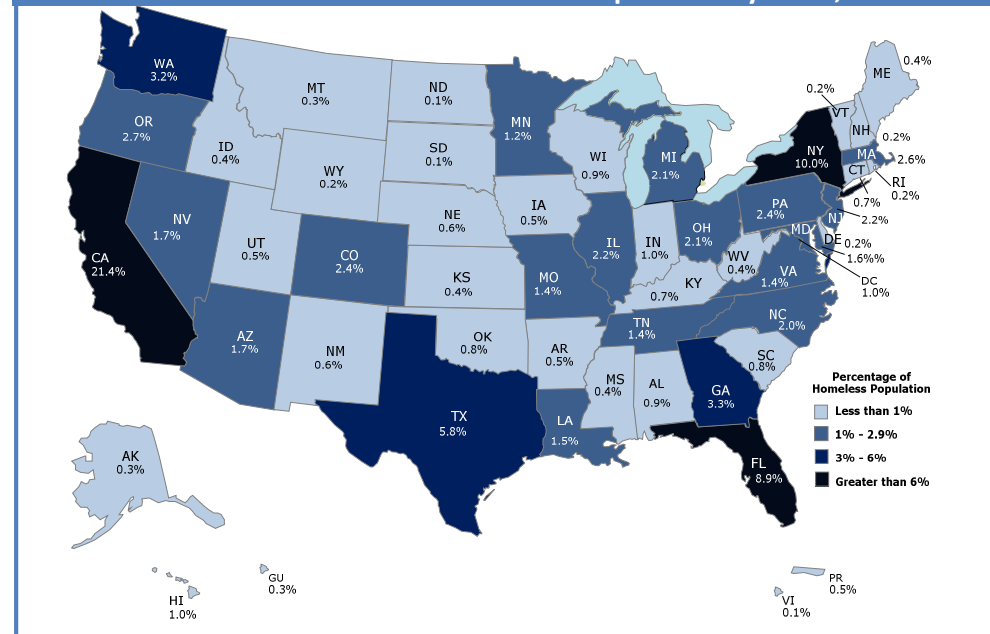


Table 4: States with the Largest Change in PIT Estimates of Total Homelessness, 2007-2011

Increases ▲			Decreases ▼		
State	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
California	2,997	2.3%	Nevada	-4,015	-27.5%
Texas	1,790	5.1%	Arizona	-3,207	-23.4%
Georgia	1,139	5.7%	Louisiana	-3,191	-25.6%
Missouri	867	10.7%	Washington	-2,439	-10.7%
North Carolina	705	5.8%	Oregon	-2,238	-11.5%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>					
Florida	8,618	17.9%	California	-23,804	-14.9%
Louisiana	3,797	69.1%	Michigan	-15,110	-53.4%
Missouri	2,742	43.9%	Arizona	-4,142	-28.3%
Ohio	1,766	15.7%	New Jersey	-3,177	-18.3%
Massachusetts	1,537	10.2%	Washington	-2,940	-12.6%



## Total PIT Estimates of Homelessness by State and Sheltered Status

(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

### On a single night in January 2011:

- Half of all unsheltered people in the United States were found in California (35.0%) and Florida (14.7%).
- The District of Columbia and 11 states sheltered more than 90 percent of their total homeless populations: Maine, Delaware, Rhode Island, Iowa, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, North Dakota, Wisconsin, South Dakota, and New Jersey.
- In several states, the majority of homeless people were unsheltered, including: Louisiana, Florida, California, Oregon, Colorado, Georgia, Nevada, and Mississippi.

### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, 21 states and the District of Columbia witnessed an increase in their sheltered homeless population, which was offset by a large decline in the remaining 29 states.
- Between 2010 and 2011, the unsheltered homeless population increased in 22 states (13,933 people), but declined in 28 states and the District of Columbia (15,798 people).
- Between 2007 and 2011, 24 states and the District of Columbia experienced an increase in sheltered homelessness (19,788 people), which slightly outpaced the decline among the remaining 26 states (18,722 people).
- Between 2007 and 2011, 19 states experienced an increase in their unsheltered population (22,209 people), offset by a dramatic decrease in 31 states and the District of Columbia (58,730 people).

Table 5: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Sheltered Homelessness, 2007-2011





Increases 			Decreases 		
State	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
New Jersey	747	6.2%	Nevada	-3,303	-42.1%
Michigan	645	6.3%	Colorado	-2,885	-31.9%
New Mexico	645	30.6%	New York	-1,689	-2.7%
Pennsylvania	618	4.6%	Washington	-1,414	-8.6%
Ohio	495	4.6%	Illinois	-1,119	-9.2%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>					
New York	2,497	4.4%	Texas	-3,910	-17.1%
Massachusetts	2,248	16.4%	New Jersey	-2,006	-13.5%
California	2,180	4.5%	Washington	-1,782	-10.6%
Ohio	1,844	19.7%	Oregon	-1,317	-15.8%
Missouri	1,581	30.8%	Arizona	-1,316	-15.3%

Table 6: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Unsheltered Homelessness, 2007-2011

Increases 			Decreases 		
State	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
California	3,205	3.9%	Arizona	-3,295	-50.7%
Colorado	2,519	39.0%	Louisiana	-2,500	-29.8%
Texas	2,009	12.6%	Oregon	-2,019	-16.5%
Georgia	1,162	10.5%	Washington	-1,025	-16.0%
Illinois	733	33.5%	Nevada	-712	-10.6%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>					
Florida	8,323	30.2%	California	-25,984	-23.4%
Louisiana	4,309	273.2%	Michigan	-14,422	-86.1%
Colorado	1,716	23.7%	Arizona	-2,826	-46.9%
Missouri	1,161	104.6%	Nevada	-1,674	-21.7%
Texas	1,033	6.1%	New York	-1,653	-31.1%

Note: Additional detail on state-level estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).



### One-Year Estimates of All Sheltered Homelessness

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey, 2010)

The one-year estimates account for all people who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time from October 1 through September 30 of the following year. The estimates are based on a nationally representative sample of communities that submit aggregate HMIS data to HUD. The estimates statistically adjust for people who use programs for homeless people that do not yet participate in their local HMIS—thus providing a complete enumeration of shelter users in each community—and are weighted to represent the entire country. The one-year estimates do not include: (a) shelter users in Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories; (b) people served by victim service providers; and (c) people in unsheltered locations who never accessed a shelter program for homeless people during the 12-month period.

HUD encourages communities that are not in the nationally representative sample to participate in the AHAR, and participation is reported to HUD in the annual competitive CoC funding process. The number of communities reporting HMIS data to the AHAR has increased dramatically: 98 (2007), 222 (2008), 334 (2009), 411 (2010), and 425 (2011). As a result, the precision of the national estimates continues to improve each year. The 95 percent confidence interval for the total sheltered homeless population is 1,261,349 to 1,743,043.

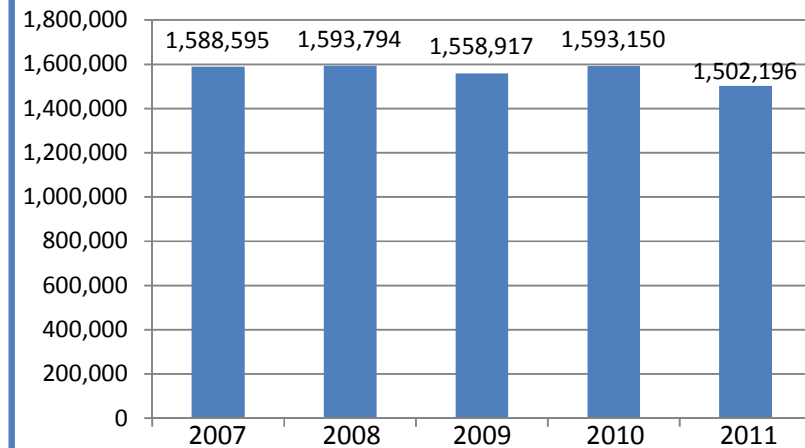
#### 2011 Estimate of Sheltered Homelessness:

- The estimated number of people who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time from October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011 was 1,502,196 people.
- 1 in 201 people in the U.S. were homeless and in shelter during that year.

#### Trends :

- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of people in shelters declined by 5.7 percent (90,954 people).
- The number of people in shelters during 2011 was lower than in the previous four years. Since HUD began tracking the number of shelter users during a full-year timeframe (2007), the estimated number of people in shelters has declined by 5.4 percent (about 86,400 people).

**Table 7: Estimates of Sheltered Homelessness During a One-Year Period, 2007-2011**



**Table 8: Change in the One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Homelessness, 2007-2011**

Change	Number	%Change
2010 to 2011	-90,954	-5.7%
2009 to 2011	-56,721	-3.6%
2008 to 2011	-91,598	-5.7%
2007 to 2011	-86,399	-5.4%

Note: Additional detail on state-level estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

## Characteristics of All Sheltered Homeless People: Gender and Age

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2006-2010)

### In 2011:

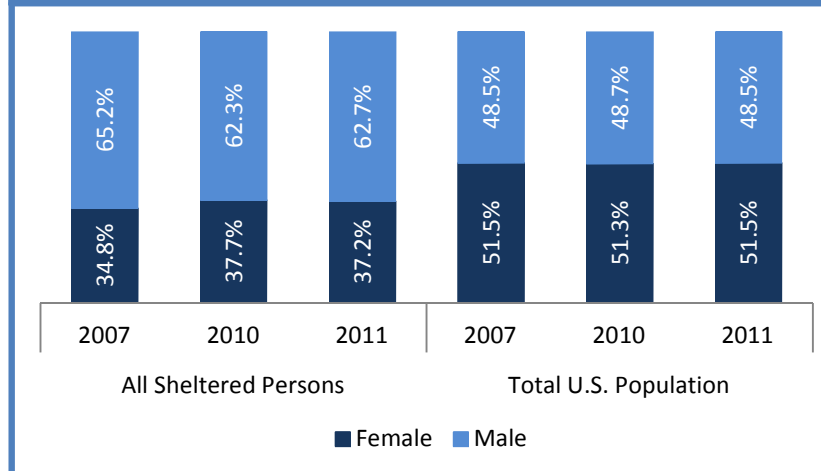
- About 63 percent of all homeless adults in shelter were men, and about 37 percent were women.
- Men in the adult homeless population are overrepresented compared to men in the adult U.S. population.
- The gender differences are even more pronounced when the U.S. poverty population is compared to the sheltered homeless population. About 58 percent of poor adults are women.
- Most homeless people in shelter are between the ages of 31 and 61 (51 percent), and very few are over age 62 (about three percent). About one-fifth (22.1 percent) are minors, under the age of 18.
- By comparison, the age distribution among the total U.S. population is more evenly distributed, and a much larger share of the total U.S. population is over the age of 62—about 16 percent.
- A much larger share of the U.S. poverty population is under age 18—about 34 percent.

### Trends:

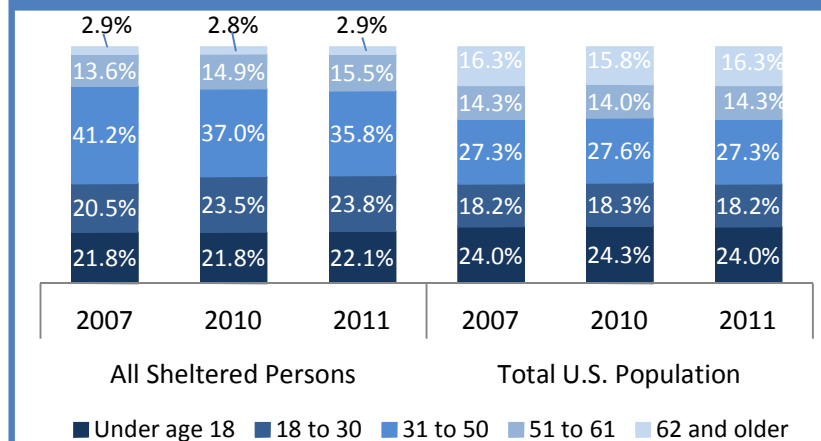
- The gender profile of sheltered homeless people has remained stable between 2010 and 2011, but shifted slightly between 2007 and 2011. The share of adult women in the shelter population has increased by 2.4 percentage-points, coinciding with an increase in homeless families, typically headed by single adult women.
- Between 2007 and 2011, the age distribution of sheltered homelessness has shifted, with shares of people under age 31 increasing from 42 to 46 percent, and shares of people over age 51 increasing from 16 to 18 percent.

Note: Additional detail on gender and age estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 9: Gender of All Sheltered Homeless Adults and Total U.S. Population, 2007-2011**



**Table 10: Age Distribution of All Sheltered Homeless People and Total U.S. Population, 2007-2011**



### Characteristics of All Sheltered People: Ethnicity and Race

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2006-2010)

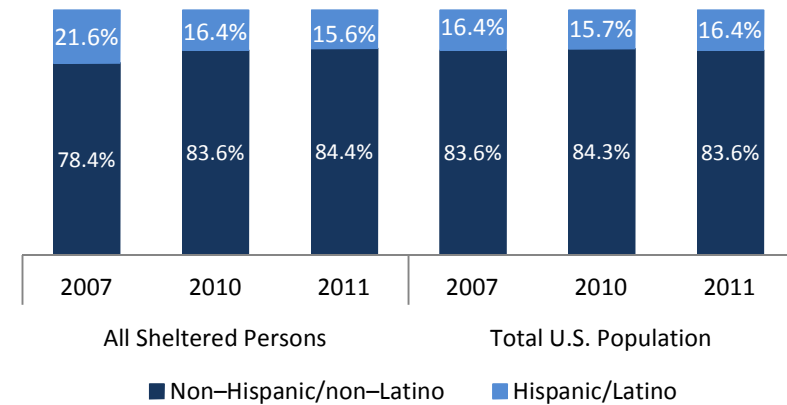
#### In 2011:

- About 60 percent of the sheltered homeless population were minorities, comprised mostly of African Americans (38.1 percent). Other minority groups include: white Hispanic/Latino (8.9 percent), several races (7.9 percent), American Indian or Alaska Native (4.0 percent), Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (0.8 percent), and Asian (0.7 percent).
- Minorities, especially African Americans, were significantly overrepresented in the sheltered homeless population when compared to their share of the total U.S. population. Minorities overall were about 1.5 times more likely to be in the sheltered homeless population than in the total U.S. population, and African Americans were 3 times more likely.
- More than 8 in 10 sheltered homeless people were non-Hispanic/non-Latino, about the same proportion found in the total U.S. population.

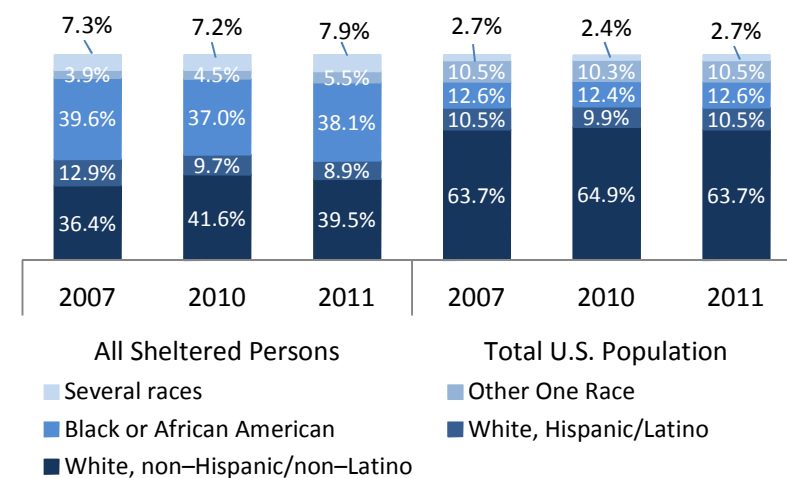
#### Trends:

- The share of minorities in the sheltered homeless population dropped slightly, from about 64 percent in 2007 to 60 percent in 2011. The share of minorities in the total U.S. population remained essentially unchanged.
- The share of Hispanics/Latinos in the sheltered homeless population declined slightly, from an estimated 22 percent in 2007 to about 16 percent in 2011. The decline within the sheltered population occurred despite stability in the share of Hispanics/Latinos in the total U.S. population.

**Table 11: Ethnicity of All Sheltered Homeless People and Total U.S. Population, 2007-2011**



**Table 12: Race of All Sheltered Homeless People and Total U.S. Population, 2007-2011**



Note: Additional detail on ethnicity and race estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

## Characteristics of All Sheltered Homeless People: Household Size and Disability Status

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2006-2010)

### In 2011:

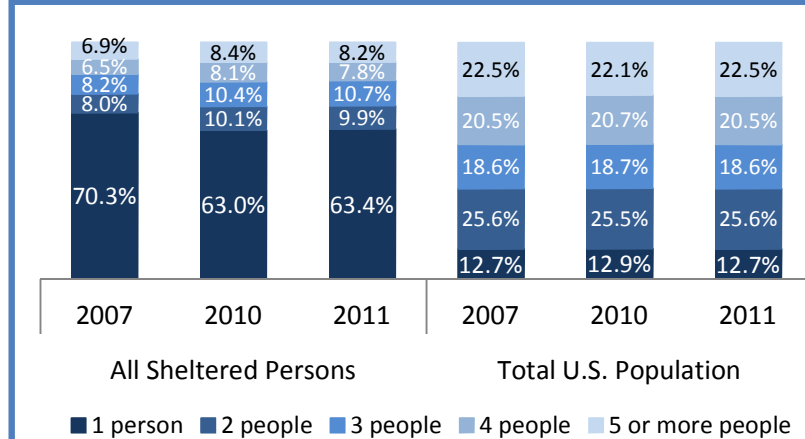
- The overwhelming majority (63.4 percent) of households in homeless shelters were composed of one person—typically a single adult man. Few households (16 percent) had four or more people. (The separate sections of this report on homeless individuals and families provide more detail).
- In stark contrast, few households (about 13 percent) in the total U.S. population were composed of one person, and many (43 percent) had four or more people.
- Sheltered homeless people had much higher rates of disability than the general population: 38 versus 15 percent. Put differently, people in shelter were 2.5 times more likely to be disabled than people in the general population.

### Trends:

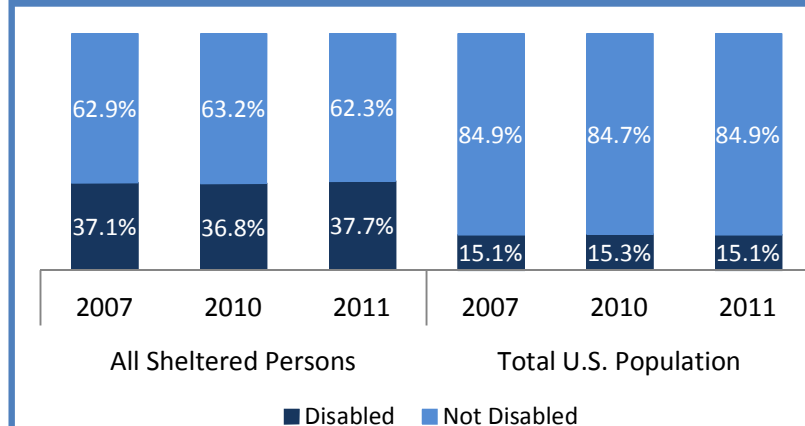
- The size of sheltered homeless households changed between 2007 and 2011, with the share of one-person households shrinking from 70 to 63 percent in 2011. The change was prompted by the increase in family homelessness from 2007 to 2010, documented in past AHAR reports and in the separate section of this report on homeless families.
- The share of sheltered homeless people with a disability has remained remarkably steady between 2007 and 2011 (about 37 percent), much like the unchanged proportion of people with disabilities in the total U.S. population (15 percent).

Note: Additional detail on household size and disability estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 13: Household Size of All Sheltered Homeless People, 2007-2011**



**Table 14: Disability Status of All Sheltered Homeless People, 2007-2011**



## Geographic Distribution of All Sheltered Homeless People

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2006-2010)

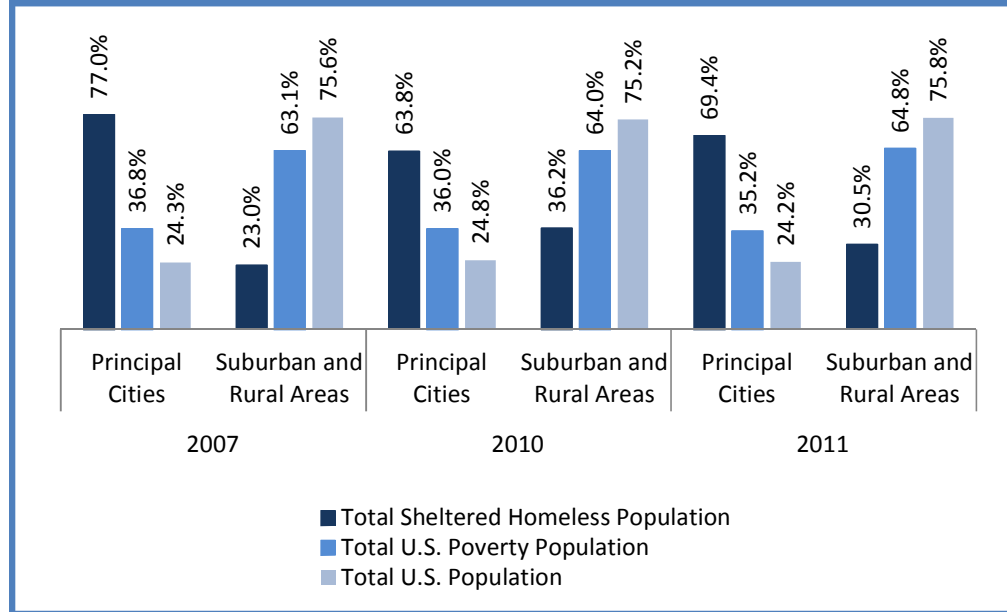
### In 2011:

- About 7 in 10 homeless people in shelter (69 percent) were located in principal cities, and 31 percent were in suburban and rural areas.
- By comparison, the geographic distributions of both the total U.S. population and the poverty population were nearly inverted. About three-quarters of the total U.S. population (76 percent) and 65 percent of the U.S. poverty population were located in suburban and rural settings.

### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, there was a slight increase in the number of sheltered homeless people in principal cities (about 25,000 people or 2.5 percent). The increase was more than offset by a sizable reduction in the number of homeless people in suburban and rural areas (about 118,000 people or 20.4 percent).
- Despite the recent trend, between 2007 and 2011 the number of sheltered homeless people in principal cities has declined considerably (about 179,000 people or 14.7 percent), while the number of homeless people in suburban and rural areas has increased (about 91,000 or 24.8 percent).
- By comparison, the number of all Americans and poor Americans located in both cities and suburban and rural areas has increased between 2007 and 2011.

**Table 15: Geographic Distribution of Sheltered Homelessness Compared to U.S. Total Population and U.S. Poverty Population, 2007-2011**



**Table 16: Percentage Change in the Geographic Distribution of Sheltered Homelessness Compared to Total U.S. Population and U.S. Poverty Population, 2007-2011**

Population	2007-2011		2010-2011	
	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas
Sheltered Population	-14.7%	24.8%	2.5%	-20.4%
U.S. Poverty Population	12.1%	20.6%	5.2%	9.0%
U.S. Population	2.0%	2.8%	-1.8%	1.4%

Note: Additional detail on geographic estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

## Characteristics of All Sheltered Homeless People by Geography

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

### In 2011:

- Sheltered homeless people in principal cities were considerably more likely to be members of minority groups compared to homeless people in suburban and rural areas (66.4 versus 47.2 percent).
- Sheltered homeless people in suburban and rural areas were younger than their principal city counterparts. For example, sheltered homeless people in suburban and rural areas were 1.2 times more likely to be under age 18 than homeless people in principal cities.
- Sheltered homeless people in principal cities were more likely to be homeless alone (one-person households) than people located in suburban and rural areas (66.3 versus 56.9 percent).

### Trends:

- The percentage of sheltered homeless people in principal cities who are Hispanic/Latino has declined: 23.9 percent in 2007, 20.2 percent in 2010, and 18 percent in 2011.
- The composition of sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas has become increasingly minority: 44.3 percent in 2007, 54.6 percent in 2010, and 52.8 percent in 2011.
- Reflecting a rise in family homelessness within suburban and rural communities, the share of homeless one-person households in these areas has declined: 65.1 percent in 2007, 57.2 percent in 2010, and 56.9 percent in 2011.

Note: Additional detail on characteristics can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 17: Characteristics of All Sheltered Homeless People by Geography, 2011**

Characteristic	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural
Number of Homeless People	1,041,863	458,652
<b>Gender of Adults</b>		
Female	34.7%	43.3%
Male	65.2%	56.7%
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	82.0%	90.0%
Hispanic/Latino	18.0%	10.1%
<b>Race</b>		
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	33.6%	52.8%
White, Hispanic/Latino	9.9%	6.6%
Black or African American	42.1%	29.3%
Other one race	6.0%	4.5%
Several races	8.4%	6.8%
<b>Age</b>		
Under age 18	20.6%	25.5%
18 to 30	23.1%	25.3%
31 to 50	36.8%	33.4%
51 to 61	16.3%	13.5%
62 and older	3.2%	2.3%
<b>People by Household Size</b>		
1 person	66.3%	56.9%
2 people	9.5%	10.8%
3 people	9.5%	13.5%
4 people	7.2%	9.0%
5 or more people	7.5%	9.8%
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>		
Yes	37.0%	39.5%
No	63.0%	60.5%

## Patterns of Homeless Service Use Among All Sheltered People: Multiple Program Use and Prior Living Arrangement

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

### In 2011:

- More than 4 in 10 people (42.3 percent) who entered shelter during the 12-month reporting period came from a housed situation; that includes people staying with family (18.0 percent), with friends (13.9 percent), in rented housing (9.3), and in owned housing (1.0 percent). Among renters, few had housing subsidies—3.4 percent had a VASH voucher and 8.4 percent had another form of subsidy.
- Many people were already homeless (38.6 percent) just prior to entering a shelter, including 21.7 percent who came from emergency shelters, 14.4 percent from unsheltered locations, and 2.4 percent from transitional housing.
- A sizeable share of people came from institutional settings (11.5 percent), with 4.7 percent coming from a correctional facility, 3.9 percent from a substance abuse center, and 2.9 percent from a hospital or psychiatric facility.
- Most sheltered homeless people (76.0 percent) used an emergency shelter only during the 12-month reporting period. Fewer people (18.4 percent) used a transitional housing program only, or accessed both types of housing during the year (5.6 percent).

### Trends:

- From 2007 to 2011, fewer people overall have entered the shelter system.
- Housing is the prior living arrangement with the largest decline in people between 2010 and 2011 (52,508 people).
- Between 2007 and 2011, the number of people entering the shelter system from institutional settings has increased (5.9 percent), with declines from all other prior living arrangements. From 2007 to 2011, the largest decline was in the number of people entering shelter from another homeless situation (65,194 people).

Note: Additional detail on prior living estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

Table 18: Where People Lived Before Entering Shelter, 2007- 2011

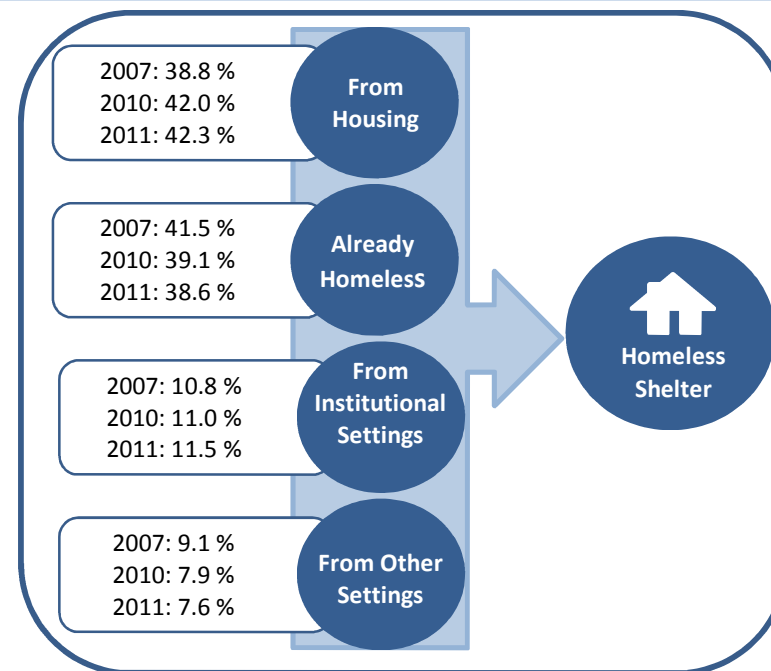


Table 19: Change in Where People Lived Before Entering Shelter, 2007-2011

Prior Living Arrangement <sup>1</sup>	2007-2011		2010-2011	
	Number	%Change	Number	%Change
Housing	-20,433	-3.9%	-52,508	-9.5%
Already Homeless	-65,194	-12.4%	-38,046	-7.7%
Institutional Settings	7,564	5.9%	-13,539	-9.0%
Other Settings	-33,212	-27.1%	-16,343	-15.4%

<sup>1</sup> To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. See the 2011 AHAR methodology document for more details.



## Patterns of Homeless Service Use Among All Sheltered People: Length of Stay and Other Bed Use Patterns

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

### In 2011:

- About one-third of people in emergency shelters (31.7 percent) stayed one week or less, and more than half of all shelter users (58.1 percent) stayed one month or less. By comparison, almost half of all people in transitional housing (46.2 percent) stayed between 1 and 6 months.
- Emergency shelters are high-volume, high-turnover programs. The median length of stay was 23 nights, about six people were served per available bed throughout the year, and 88.1 percent of all emergency shelter beds were occupied on an average night.
- Transitional housing programs are intended to have longer-term stays. The average length of stay was 154 nights (about 5 months), and 2 people were served per available bed throughout the year. Transitional housing programs occupied 83.4 percent of beds on an average night.

### Trends:

- People have stayed in emergency shelters longer over time, with the average length of stay increasing from 46 nights in 2007 to 54 nights in 2011.
- Transitional housing programs came closer to full occupancy over time, with the average daily occupancy rates steadily increasing from 76.9 percent in 2007 to 83.4 percent in 2011.

**Table 20: Length of Stay in Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing, 2011**

Length of Stay <sup>1</sup>	Emergency Shelters		Transitional Housing	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
<b>7 days or less</b>	386,502	31.7%	18,796	5.2%
<b>8 to 30 days</b>	322,562	26.4%	43,755	12.2%
<b>31 to 180 days</b>	419,306	34.3%	165,656	46.2%
<b>181 to 360 days</b>	69,667	5.7%	82,011	22.8%
<b>361 to 365 days</b>	23,004	1.9%	48,697	13.6%

<sup>1</sup> Length of stay accounts for multiple program entries/exits by summing the total number of (cumulative) days in a homeless residential program during the 12-month reporting period. The maximum length of stay is 365 days, corresponding to the total days observed for this reporting period.

**Table 21: Bed Use Patterns for People in Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing, 2007-2011**

Bed Use Patterns	Emergency Shelters			Transitional Housing		
	2007	2010	2011	2007	2010	2011
<b>Median number of nights</b>	18	20	23	113	135	120
<b>Average number of nights</b>	46	49	54	149	162	154
<b>Average occupancy rate<sup>2</sup></b>	88.5%	86.2%	88.1%	76.9%	82.5%	83.4%
<b>Turnover rate<sup>3</sup></b>	7.3	6.5	6.1	1.8	1.8	2.0

<sup>2</sup> The average daily occupancy rate is calculated by dividing the average daily census during the 12-month reporting period by the total number of year-round beds in the inventory

<sup>3</sup> The turnover rate measures the number of people served per available bed over the 12-month reporting period, and is calculated by dividing the total number of people served by the number of year-round beds.

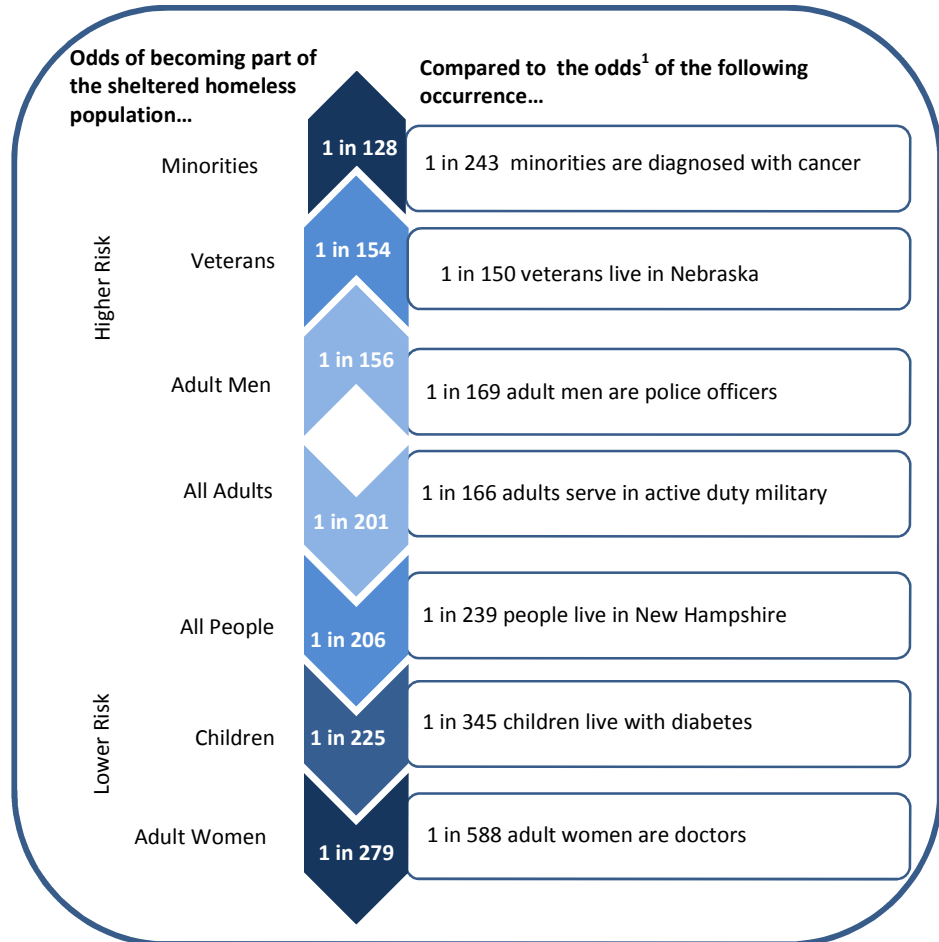
Note: Additional detail on length of stay and bed use estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

## Odds of Becoming Part of the Sheltered Homeless Population

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2011)

- Just more than 1 in 200 people in the United States became homeless at some point during the year. The odds of becoming homeless were greater than the odds of living in the state of New Hampshire (1 in 239).
- Members of minority groups are at greatest risk of becoming homeless (1 in 128). The likelihood of a member of a minority group becoming homeless is nearly double that of their risk of being diagnosed with cancer.
- Veterans also have a higher risk of becoming homeless when compared to other adults, as 1 in 154 veterans were homeless. Comparatively, 1 in 150 veterans live in Nebraska.
- Adult men were at higher risk of homelessness compared to other adults, as 1 in 156 adult men became homeless at some point over the course of the year. For men, the likelihood of becoming homeless was higher than the chances of becoming a police officer.
- The odds of any adult becoming homeless is 1 in 201, which is only slightly less likely than that of an adult serving in the military on active duty (1 in 166).
- Children are generally at lower risk of becoming homeless, but are more likely to become homeless (1 in 225) than they are to have diabetes (1 in 345).
- The likelihood of a woman becoming homeless (1 in 279) was more than double the likelihood that she was a doctor in 2011 (1 in 588).

Table 22: Odds of Becoming Part of the Sheltered Homeless Population, 2011



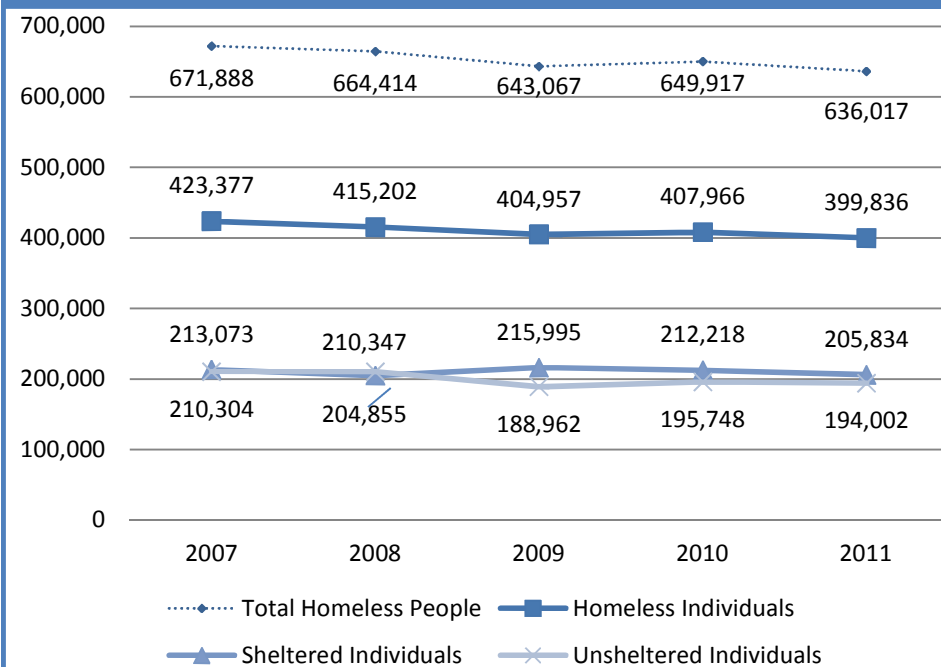
<sup>1</sup>

Data obtained through the Center for Disease Control (2008, 2011), Current Population Survey (2011), Veteran Population Projection Model (2010), and National Diabetes Fact Sheet (2011).

A black and white photograph showing a pair of hands, likely belonging to a person of African descent, gently cupping a small, fragile house made of cardboard. The house has a gabled roof and a rectangular doorway. The hands are positioned as if protecting or supporting the structure. The background is blurred, showing more hands and what appears to be a bed or a similar surface.

# **Homeless Individuals in the United States**

**Table 23: PIT Estimates of Homeless Individuals by Shelter Status, 2007-2011**



**Table 24: Changes in PIT Estimates of Homeless Individuals, 2007-2011**

Change	Total Homeless Individuals		Sheltered Individuals		Unsheltered Individuals	
	Number	%Change	Number	%Change	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>	-8,130	-2.0%	-6,384	-3.0%	-1,746	-0.9%
<b>2009 to 2011</b>	-5,121	-1.3%	-10,161	-4.7%	5,040	2.7%
<b>2008 to 2011</b>	-15,366	-3.7%	979	0.5%	-16,345	-7.8%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>	-23,541	-5.6%	-7,239	-3.4%	-16,302	-7.8%

### PIT Estimates of Homeless Individuals (Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories)

(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

For the PIT count, homeless individuals refers to people who are not part of a family during their episode of homelessness. They are homeless as single adults, adults in multiple-adult households, or youth in households without an adult (unaccompanied youth and multi-child households). Beginning in 2013, HUD will report on homeless children- and youth-only households separately from other household configurations.

#### On a single night in January 2011:

- 399,836 individuals were homeless in the United States, representing 62.9 percent of the total homeless population.
- Just over half (51.5 percent) were living in shelter on the night of the PIT count, and just fewer than half (48.5 percent) were living in unsheltered locations.
- Homeless individuals represent approximately 80 percent of all people living in unsheltered locations.

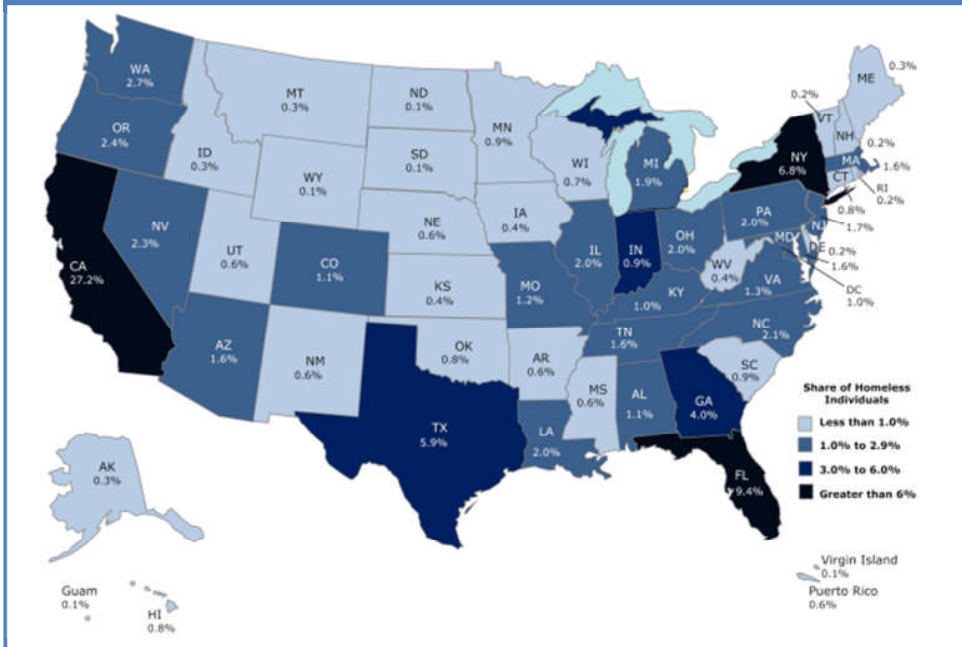
#### Between January 2010 and January 2011:

- The total number of homeless individuals declined by 8,130 people (2.0 percent).
- The number of homeless individuals living in shelter declined by 6,384 people (3.0 percent).
- The number of unsheltered individuals declined by less than 1.0 percent (1,746 people).

#### Between January 2007 and January 2011:

- Homelessness among individuals declined by 5.6 percent (23,541 people).
- The number of homeless individuals living in shelter on a single night has declined by 3.4 percent (7,239 people).
- The number of homeless individuals living in unsheltered locations has decreased by 7.8 percent (16,302 people).

**Table 25: Share of the Total Individual Homeless Population by State, 2011**



**Table 26: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Homeless Individuals, 2007-2011**

▲ <b>Increases</b>			▼ <b>Decreases</b>		
State	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
California	23,727	2.2%	Nevada	-3,544	-37.7%
Florida	1,846	4.9%	Colorado	-3,028	-66.6%
Georgia	1,598	10.0%	Arizona	-2,823	-44.1%
New York	1,045	3.8%	Louisiana	-2,160	-27.2%
Pennsylvania	676	8.6%	Oregon	-1,286	-13.6%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>					
Louisiana	4,968	167.1%	Virginia	-920	-19.2%
Florida	4,544	13.8%	Colorado	-2,298	-33.6%
Georgia	3,454	27.6%	Arizona	-3,617	-36.1%
Missouri	1,321	39.6%	Michigan	-9,919	-56.5%
Maryland	1,301	25.8%	California	-9,968	-8.4%

### PIT Estimates of Homeless Individuals by State

(Maps include Puerto Rico and U.S. territories; tabulations do not)  
(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

#### On a single night in January 2011:

- 5 states accounted for over half of all homeless individuals in the U.S. on a single night: California, New York, Florida, Texas, and Georgia.
- California alone accounted for 27.2 percent of all homeless individuals in the country.
- Individuals made up at least 80 percent of the total homeless population in three states: California (80.0%), Louisiana (85.5%), and Nevada (88.8%).

#### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of homeless individuals declined by 18,025 people in total within 27 states and the District of Columbia. In 6 of those states (Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, North Dakota, Louisiana, and Vermont) the number of homeless individuals declined by more than 20 percent.
- The remaining 23 states witnessed increases in the numbers of homeless individuals between 2010 and 2011 (a total of 11,543 people). Although the increases in the number of homeless individuals in Montana, Arkansas, and Alaska were small relative to other states, the increases represented substantial changes for these states (22.9, 18.2, and 15.0 percent change, respectively).
- Between 2007 and 2011, 27 states have experienced declines in the number of homeless individuals (42,229 people), which outpaced the increases in the number of homeless individuals by the remaining 23 states and the District of Columbia (20,318 people).
- One state, Georgia, has experienced consecutive increases in the number of homeless individuals from 2007 to 2011.
- Massachusetts and Washington have experienced consecutive decreases in the number of homeless individuals from 2007 to 2011.

Note: Additional detail on state-level estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 27: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Sheltered Individuals, 2007-2011**

▲ <i>Increases</i>			▼ <i>Decreases</i>		
State	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
New York	1,550	7.0%	California	-3,274	-10.1%
Pennsylvania	747	12.2%	Nevada	-2,830	-45.4%
Florida	703	5.3%	Colorado	-1,925	-42.1%
New Jersey	689	13.1%	Texas	-842	-7.5%
Indiana	520	19.0%	Tennessee	-822	-16.2%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>					
Florida	1,162	9.1%	Texas	-2,712	-20.7%
New York	935	4.1%	Washington	-1,895	-23.4%
Ohio	737	13.2%	Massachusetts	-1,507	-21.0%
Missouri	702	27.4%	California	-1,469	-4.8%
North Carolina	642	11.9%	Michigan	-1,246	-17.9%

**Table 28: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Unsheltered Individuals, 2007-2011**

▲ <i>Increases</i>			▼ <i>Decreases</i>		
State	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
California	5,647	7.6%	Arizona	-3,141	-53.6%
Georgia	1,822	20.8%	Louisiana	-1,967	-25.5%
Florida	1,143	5.1%	Colorado	-1,103	-36.8%
Illinois	680	37.8%	Oregon	-881	-12.4%
Arkansas	377	46.7%	Nevada	-714	-10.6%
<b>2007 to 2010</b>					
Louisiana	4,926	602.2%	Michigan	-8,673	-81.9%
Georgia	3,809	56.2%	California	-8,499	-9.6%
Florida	3,382	16.7%	Arizona	-2,878	-51.4%
Maryland	877	57.7%	Colorado	-1,895	-50.0%
Missouri	619	79.9%	New York	-1,653	-32.1%

**PIT Estimates of Homeless Individuals by State and Sheltered Status** (Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories)

(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

**On a single night in January 2011:**

- The District of Columbia and 5 states sheltered more than 90 percent of their total homeless individual population on the night of the PIT count: North Dakota, Iowa, Rhode Island, Delaware, and Maine.
- In California and Louisiana, more than 70 percent of homeless individuals were counted in unsheltered locations. Several other states had the majority of homeless individuals in unsheltered locations, including Hawaii, Georgia, Oregon, Nevada, Florida, Mississippi, and Texas.
- Almost two-thirds of all unsheltered individuals in the U.S. were counted in 3 states: California (41.6 percent), Florida (12.3 percent), and Texas (6.9 percent).

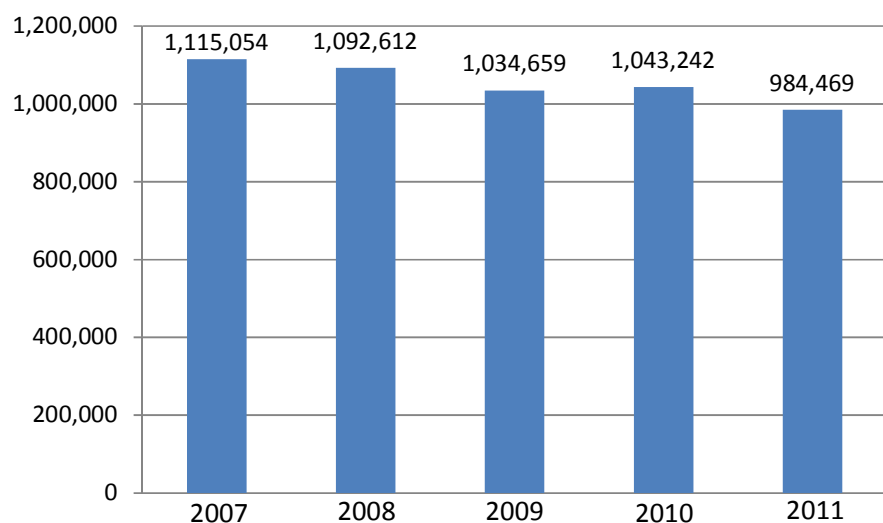
**Trends**

- In 26 states, the number of sheltered individuals increased by a total of 6,572 people between 2010 and 2011. In 24 states and the District of Columbia, the number of homeless individuals declined almost twice as much in total (12,626 people).
- Between 2010 and 2011, most states (29 states and the District of Columbia) experienced declines in the number of homeless individuals living outside on a single night in January (12,416 individuals), slightly outpacing increases in the remaining 21 states (11,988 individuals).
- Between 2007 and 2011, half of states have experienced a decrease in the number of sheltered homeless individuals (15,546 people), outpacing the increase throughout the rest of the U.S. (8,656 people).
- During the same time period, the number of unsheltered individuals increased by 16,688 in 20 states, and declined by 31,709 in 30 states and the District of Columbia.

Note: Additional detail on state-level estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).



**Table 29: Estimates of Sheltered Individuals  
During a One-Year Period, 2007-2011**



**Table 30: Change in the One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Individuals,  
2007-2011**

Change	Number	%Change
2010 to 2011	-58,773	-5.6%
2009 to 2011	-50,190	-4.9%
2008 to 2011	-108,143	-9.9%
2007 to 2011	-130,585	-11.7%

### One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Individuals

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

The one-year estimates account for all individuals who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time from October 1 through September 30 of the reporting year. The estimates are based on a nationally representative sample of communities that submit aggregate HMIS data to HUD. The estimates statistically adjust for individuals who use shelter programs for homeless people that do not yet participate in their local HMIS—thus providing a complete enumeration of sheltered individuals in each community—and are weighted to represent the entire country. The one-year estimates do not include: (a) sheltered individuals in Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories; (b) individuals served by victim service providers; and (c) individuals in unsheltered locations who never accessed a shelter program for homeless people during the 12-month period.

#### 2011 Estimate of Sheltered Individuals:

- The estimated number of individuals who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time from October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011 was 984,469 people.
- 1 in 153 individuals in the U.S. were homeless and in shelter.

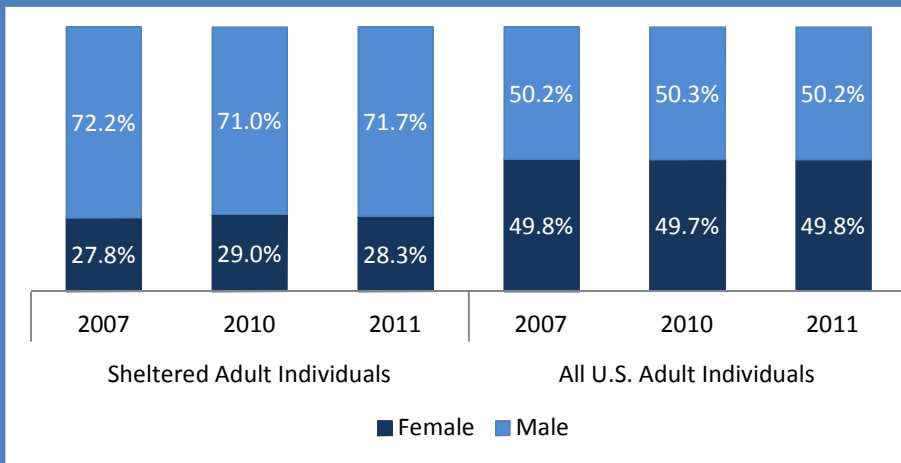
#### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of individuals in shelters has declined by 5.6 percent (58,773 people).
- The number of individuals in shelters in 2011 is lower than past years. Since HUD began tracking the number of shelter individuals during a full-year timeframe in 2007, the estimated number of individuals in shelters has declined by 11.7 percent (130,585 people).

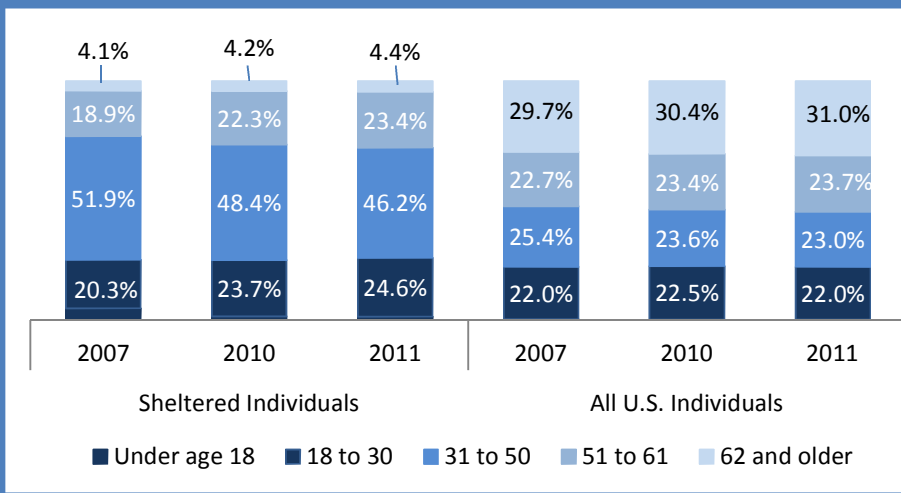
Note: Additional detail on estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).



**Table 31: Gender of Sheltered Adult Individuals and All U.S. Individual Adults, 2007-2011**



**Table 32: Age Distribution of Sheltered Individuals and All U.S. Individuals, 2007-2011**



## Characteristics of All Sheltered Individuals: Gender and Age

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2006-2010)

### In 2011:

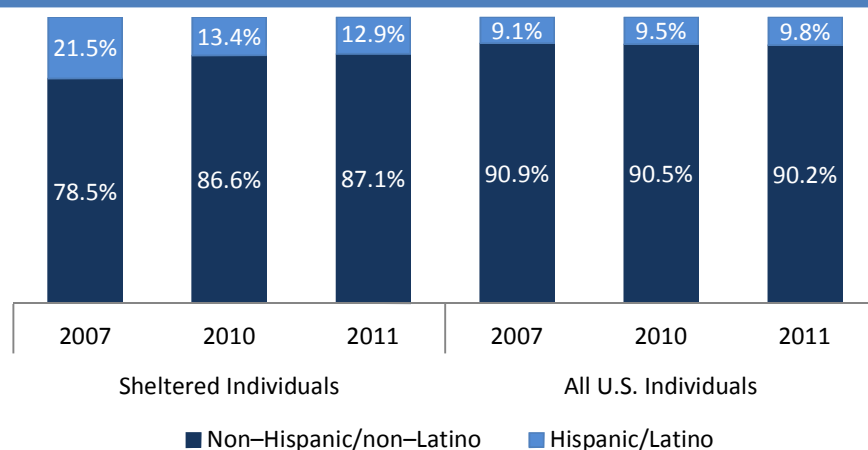
- About 72 percent of all adult individuals in shelter were men and 28 percent were women.
- Unlike sheltered adult individuals, the gender profile of all U.S. adult individuals had nearly half men and half women, and all U.S. adult individuals in poverty was about 53 percent women.
- Most individuals in shelter are between the ages of 31 and 61 (70 percent), and a much smaller number were over age 62 (about four percent). Very few (less than two percent) were minors under the age of 18 (not labeled).
- By comparison, among all U.S. individuals a much larger share were over the age of 62—about 31 percent.
- Similarly, nearly one-quarter of U.S. individuals in poverty were over the age of 62.

### Trends:

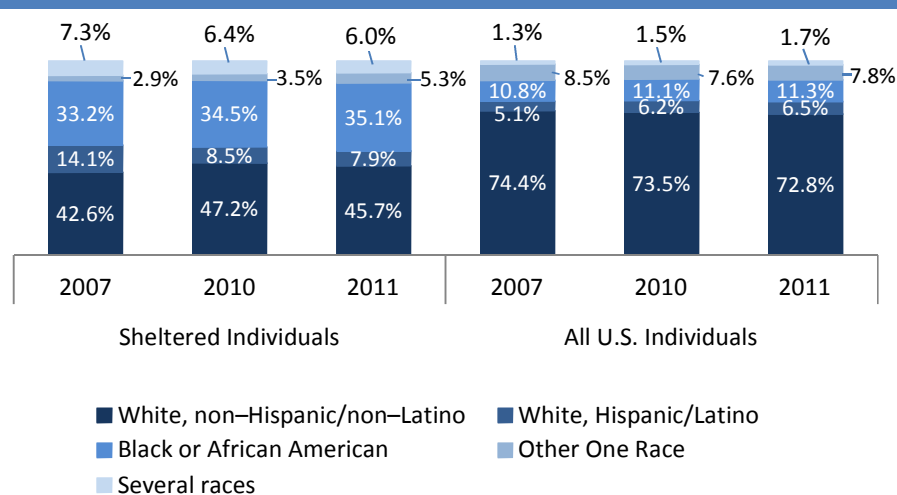
- The gender profile of sheltered individuals has remained stable over recent years.
- Between 2007 and 2011, the age distribution of sheltered individuals has shown small increases in people age 18 to 30 (from 20 to 25 percent in 2011) and people from age 51 to 61 (from 19 to 23 percent in 2011). Over the same time period, the share of people age 31 to 50 has slightly decreased (from 52 to 46 percent in 2011).

Note: Additional detail on gender and age estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 33: Ethnicity of Sheltered Individuals and All U.S. Individuals, 2007-2011**



**Table 34: Race of Sheltered Individuals and All U.S. Individuals, 2007-2011**



## Characteristics of All Sheltered Individuals: Ethnicity and Race

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2006-2010)

### In 2011:

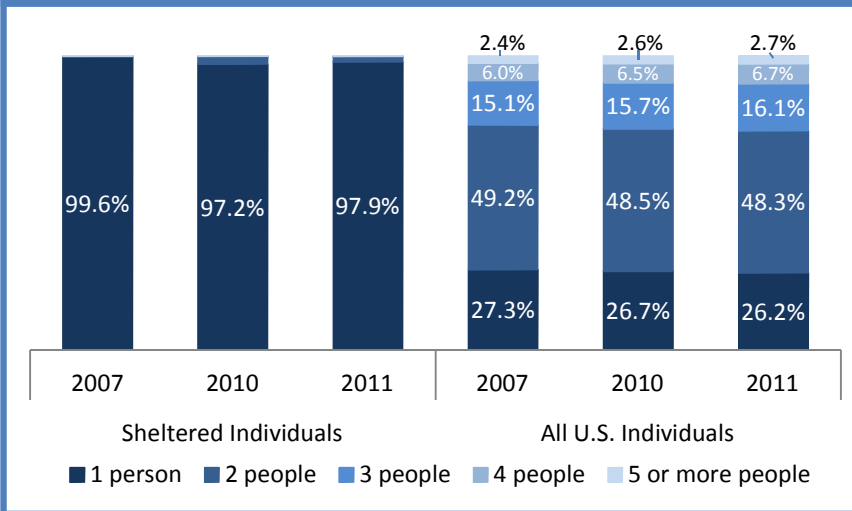
- Nearly 9 in 10 sheltered individuals were non-Hispanic/non-Latino (87.1 percent), which is about the same proportion found among all U.S. individuals (90.2 percent).
- About 55 percent of sheltered individuals were minorities, comprised mostly of African Americans (35.1 percent). Other minority groups include: white Hispanics/Latinos (7.9 percent), several races (6.0 percent), American Indian or Alaska Native (4.0 percent), Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (0.5 percent) and Asians (0.7 percent).
- Minorities, especially African Americans, were overrepresented in the sheltered individual population when compared to their share of all U.S. individuals. Minorities were about two times more likely to be in the sheltered individual population than in the total individual U.S. population, and African Americans were three times more likely.

### Trends:

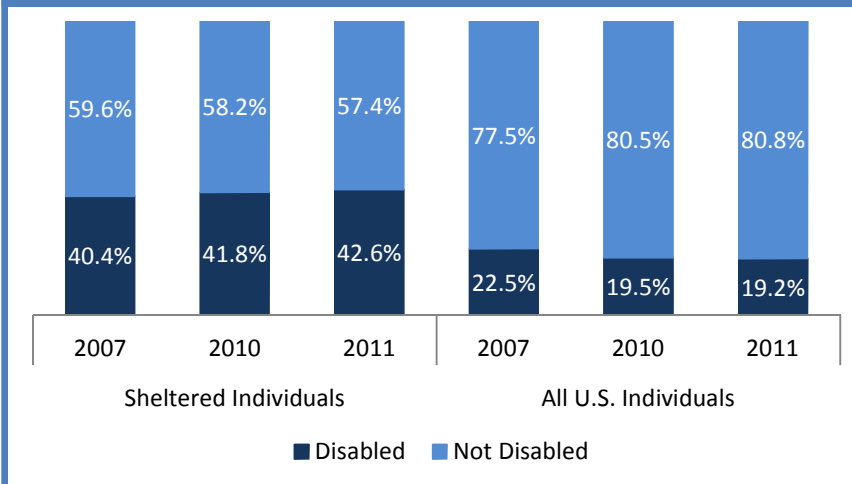
- The share of Hispanics/Latinos in the sheltered individual population declined from 14.1 percent in 2007 to 7.9 percent in 2011. During the same period, the share of Hispanics/Latinos in the total individual U.S. population slightly increased (from 5.1 percent to 6.5 percent).
- Between 2007 and 2011, the share of minorities decreased among both sheltered individuals (from about 67 to 64 percent in 2011) and among minorities in the U.S. individual population (from 74 to 73 percent in 2011).

Note: Additional detail on ethnicity and race estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 35: Household Size of Sheltered Homeless Individuals and All U.S. Individuals, 2007-2011**



**Table 36: Disability Status of Sheltered Homeless Individuals and All U.S. Individuals, 2007-2011**



### Characteristics of All Sheltered Individuals: Household Size and Disability Status

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2006-2010)

For this analysis, a household of individuals refers to any household that does not have at least one child and one adult. Such households may consist of adult roommates, married or cohabiting couples without children, single adults, multiple children, or an unaccompanied youth.

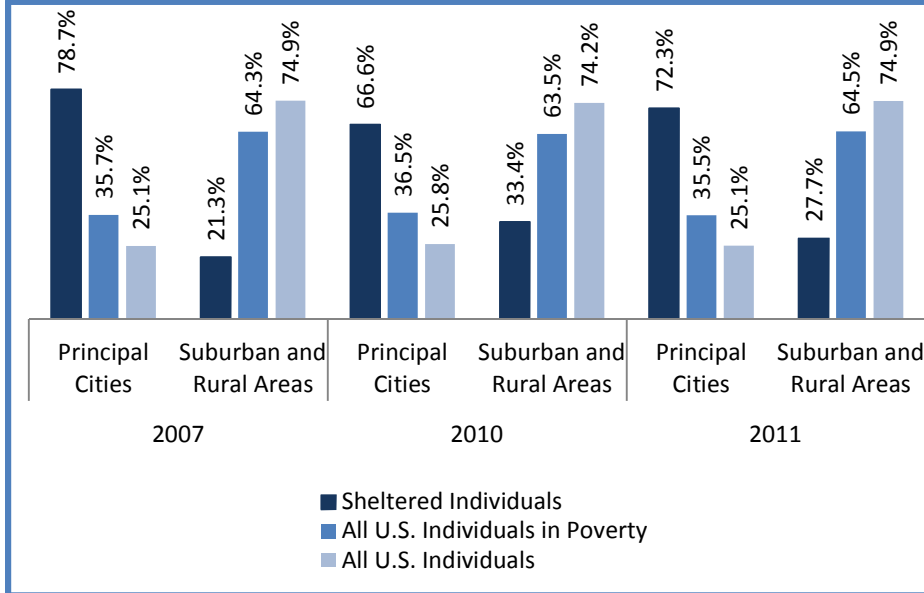
#### In 2011:

- Nearly all sheltered individuals (97.9 percent) were in households of one person; That is, they were homeless alone, and very unlikely to enter shelter as a couple.
- In stark contrast, 26.2 percent of all U.S. individuals comprised of 1-person households, and 48.3 percent had two people living together. In the U.S., about 25 percent of individuals lived in a household of three or more people. These households may have multiple adults or multiple children.
- Sheltered individuals had much higher rates of disability than the general individual population: 42.6 versus 19.2 percent. Put differently, sheltered individuals were two times more likely to be disabled than individuals in the general population.

#### Trends:

- The size of sheltered households of individuals has remained steady over recent years with only a slight decrease in percentage of one-person households from 99.6 percent in 2007 to 97.9 percent in 2011.
- The share of sheltered individuals with a disability has increased slightly between 2007 and 2011, by about two percent. Over the same time period, the share of individuals in the general population with a disability has shown a small decrease (three percentage points).

**Table 37: Geographic Distribution of Sheltered Individuals Compared to All U.S. Individuals and U.S. Individuals in Poverty, 2007-2011**



**Table 38: Percentage Change in the Geographic Distribution of Sheltered Individuals Compared to All U.S. Individuals and U.S. Individuals in Poverty, 2007-2011**

Population	2007-2011		2010-2011	
	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas
Sheltered Individuals	-19.0%	14.8%	2.3%	-21.8%
U.S. Individuals in Poverty	14.8%	15.5%	3.2%	7.6%
U.S. Individuals	5.8%	5.6%	-1.1%	2.2%

### Geographic Distribution of All Sheltered Individuals

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2006-2010)

#### In 2011:

- About 7 in 10 homeless individuals in shelter (72 percent) were located in principal cities, and the balance (28 percent) were in suburban and rural areas.
- By comparison, the geographic distributions of all U.S. individuals and U.S. individuals in poverty were nearly inverted. About three-quarters of all U.S. individuals (75 percent) were located in suburban and rural settings, and one-quarter (25 percent) were in principal cities. Among individuals in poverty, the geographic distribution was also heavily tilted toward suburban and rural areas (64 percent).

#### Trends:

- From 2007 to 2011, sheltered individuals experienced a large geographic shift from principal cities (a decrease of about 165,000 people or 19 percent) to suburban and rural areas (an increase of about 35,000 people or 15 percent). This four-year increase of sheltered individuals in suburban and rural areas would have been more pronounced if not for the large one-year decrease from 2010 to 2011 (about 75,000 people or 22 percent).
- By comparison, instead of a shift from urban to rural areas for U.S. individuals (all or in poverty) from 2007 to 2011, the numbers of individuals increased in both principal cities and in suburban and rural areas.

Table 39: Characteristics of Sheltered Individuals by Geography, 2011

Characteristic	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural
Number of Sheltered Individuals	710,994	272,124
<b>Gender of Adults</b>		
Female	26.0%	33.1%
Male	74.0%	66.9%
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	84.8%	93.1%
Hispanic/Latino	15.2%	6.9%
<b>Race</b>		
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	40.3%	59.6%
White, Hispanic/Latino	9.4%	4.1%
Black or African American	38.5%	26.5%
Other one race	5.9%	3.6%
Several races	5.9%	6.2%
<b>Age</b>		
Under age 18	1.3%	1.6%
18 to 30	23.5%	27.5%
31 to 50	46.8%	44.7%
51 to 61	23.7%	22.5%
62 and older	4.7%	3.8%
<b>People by Household Size</b>		
1 person	98.0%	97.7%
2 people	1.7%	1.9%
3 people	0.2%	0.4%
4 people	0.0%	0.0%
5 or more people	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>		
Yes	41.4%	45.5%
No	58.6%	54.5%

**Characteristics of All Sheltered Individuals by Geography**

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

**In 2011:**

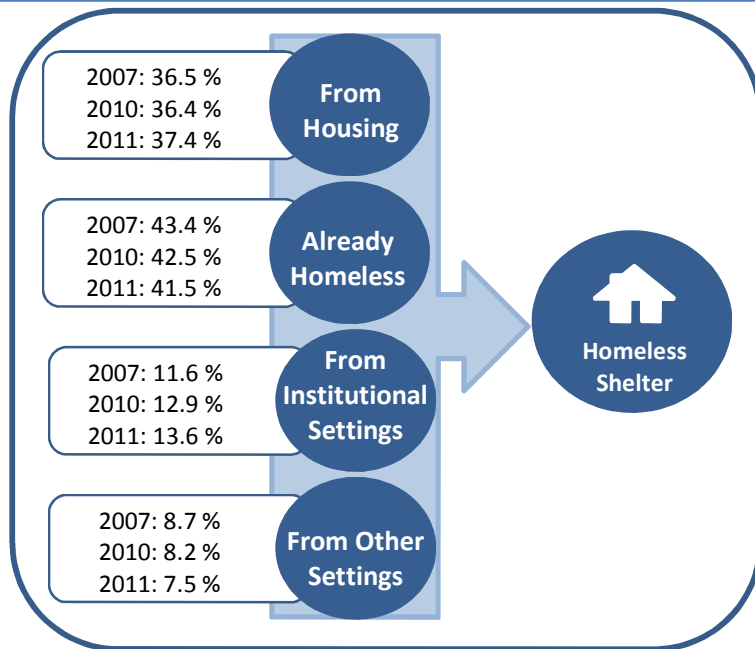
- Sheltered individuals in principal cities were considerably more likely to be members of minority groups compared to homeless individuals in suburban and rural areas (59.7 versus 40.4 percent). For example, sheltered individuals in principal cities were 2.3 times more likely to be Hispanic/Latino and 1.5 times more likely to be African American.
- The age breakdown of sheltered individuals in principal cities was very similar to the breakdown of their suburban and rural counterparts.
- In principal cities, about 1 in 4 homeless individuals were women. In suburban and rural areas, a larger fraction, about 1 in 3 homeless individuals, were women.

**Trends:**

- The percentage of sheltered individuals who are Hispanic/Latino and located in principal cities has declined steadily: 23.4 percent in 2007, 17.3 percent in 2010, and 15.2 percent in 2011.
- The racial composition of sheltered individuals in suburban and rural areas has become increasingly white non-Hispanic/non-Latino: 52.8 percent in 2007, 59.5 percent in 2010, and 59.6 percent in 2011.

Note: Additional detail on demographic characteristics can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info)

**Table 40: Where Individuals Lived Before Entering Shelter, 2007-2011**



**Table 41: Change in Where Individuals Lived Before Entering Shelter, 2007-2011**

Prior Living Arrangement <sup>1</sup>	2007-2011		2010-2011	
	Number	%Change	Number	%Change
Housing	-51,387	-12.2%	-36,038	-8.9%
Already Homeless	-62,513	-13.3%	-38,338	-8.6%
Institutional Settings	9,279	7.5%	-14,244	-9.7%
Other Settings	-26,178	-26.2%	-15,007	-16.9%

<sup>1</sup> To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. See the 2011 AHAR methodology document for more details.

## Patterns of Homeless Service Use Among All Sheltered Individuals: Multiple Program Use and Prior Living Arrangement

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

### In 2011:

- Most sheltered individuals (78.8 percent) used an emergency shelter only during the 12-month reporting period, and fewer (15.6 percent) used a transitional housing program only. Few shelter users accessed both types of housing during the year (5.7 percent).
- More than 1 in 3 (37.4 percent) sheltered individuals came from a housing situation prior to entering shelter. Of those coming from housing, 55.6 percent were staying with family, 43.1 percent with friends, 18.0 percent in rental housing, and 2.7 percent in owned housing.
- Many people were already homeless (41.5 percent) just prior to entering a shelter, including 22.3 percent from an emergency shelter, 16.6 percent from unsheltered locations, and 2.5 percent from transitional housing.
- A share of people came from institutional settings (13.6 percent), with 7.1 percent coming from a correctional facility, 4.5 percent from a substance abuse center, and 1.9 percent from a hospital or psychiatric facility. Of those individuals not already homeless, 23.2 percent came from institutions.

### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, the flow of individuals into the shelter system has decreased, with the greatest decline from those already homeless (38,338 individuals).
- Between 2007 and 2011, there was an increase in the number of individuals entering the shelter system from an institutional setting (by 9,279 people).

Note: Additional detail on prior living estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 42: Length of Stay for Individuals in Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing, 2011**

Length of Stay <sup>1</sup>	Emergency Shelters		Transitional Housing	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
7 days or less	296,570	35.8%	12,490	6.0%
8 to 30 days	215,492	26.0%	30,007	14.4%
31 to 180 days	261,024	31.5%	101,613	48.7%
181 to 360 days	43,982	5.3%	41,735	20.0%
361 to 365 days	11,332	1.4%	22,601	10.8%

<sup>1</sup> Length of stay accounts for multiple program entries/exits by summing the total number of (cumulative) days in a homeless residential program during the 12-month reporting period. The maximum length of stay is 365 days, corresponding to the total days observed for this reporting period.

**Table 43: Bed Use Patterns for Individuals in Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing, 2007-2011**

Bed Use Patterns	Emergency Shelters			Transitional Housing		
	2007	2010	2011	2007	2010	2011
Median number of nights	14	16	20	91	105	102
Average number of nights	38	43	49	130	142	139
Average occupancy rate <sup>2</sup>	90.2%	87.7%	91.0%	80.7%	82.6%	86.8%
Turnover rate <sup>3</sup>	8.9	7.4	7.1	2.1	2.1	2.3

<sup>2</sup> The average daily occupancy rate is calculated by dividing the average daily census during the 12-month reporting period by the total number of year-round beds in the inventory.

<sup>3</sup> The turnover rate measures the number of people served per available bed over the 12-month reporting period, and is calculated by dividing the total number of people served by the number of year-round beds.

## Patterns of Homeless Service Use Among All Sheltered Individuals: Length of Stay and Other Bed Use Patterns

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

### In 2011:

- About one-third of individuals in emergency shelters (35.8 percent) stayed one week or less, and more than half of all individuals (61.8 percent) stayed one month or less. By comparison, almost half of all individuals in transitional housing (48.7 percent) stayed between 1 and 6 months.
- Emergency shelters are high-volume, high-turnover programs. In 2011, the average length of stay for individuals was 49 nights, about 7 people were served per available bed throughout the year, and 91 percent of all emergency shelter beds were occupied on an average night.
- Transitional housing programs are intended to have longer-term stays. The average length of stay was 139 nights (about 4.5 months), and two individuals were served per available bed throughout the year. In transitional housing programs, 86.8 percent of individual beds were occupied on an average night.

### Trends:

- Individuals stayed in emergency shelters for longer periods of time, with the average length of stay increasing from 38 nights in 2007 to 49 nights in 2011. Accordingly, turnover rates in emergency shelters declined from 8.9 to 7.1 during this same time period.
- Occupancy rates for individuals in transitional housing has increased in past years, with the average daily occupancy rates steadily increasing from 80.7 percent in 2007 to 86.8 percent in 2011.



A grayscale photograph showing a pair of hands gently cupping a small, handmade house. The house is constructed from cardboard, with a gabled roof and a rectangular doorway. The hands are positioned as if they are carefully holding or presenting the house. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light gray.

# **Homeless Families with Children in the United States**

## PIT Estimates of Homeless Families with Children

(Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories)

(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

Homeless families with children refer to households composed of at least one adult and one child.

### On a single night in January 2011:

- 236,181 people were homeless in 77,186 family households.
- 78.9 percent of homeless people in families (186,482 people) were living in shelter, and 21.0 percent (49,699 people) were living in unsheltered locations.

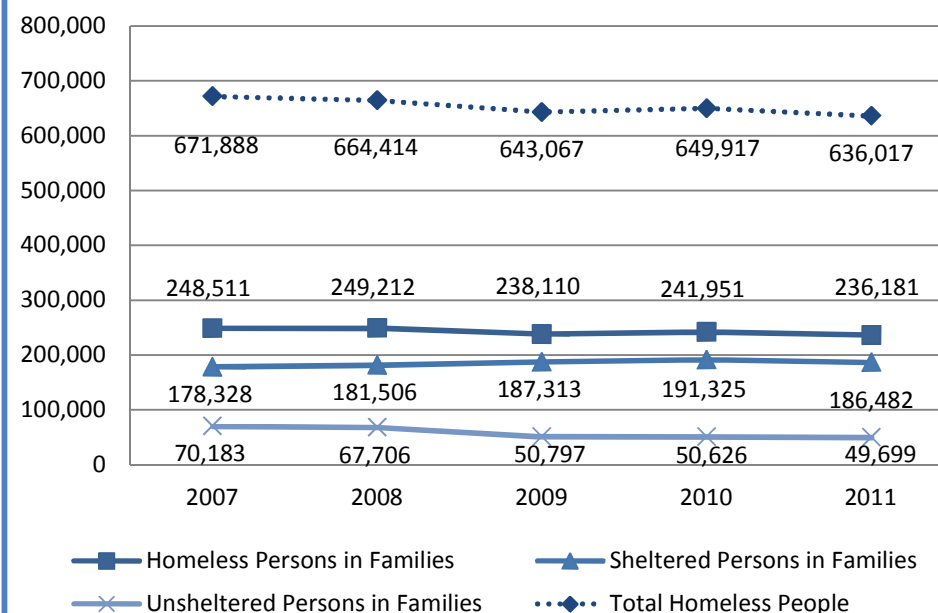
### Since January 2010:

- The number of homeless people in families on a single night declined by 5,770 people (2.4 percent), representing a decline of 2,260 family households (2.8 percent).
- The number of people in families living in shelter declined by 2.5 percent (4,843 people), and the number of unsheltered people in families declined by 927 people (1.8 percent).
- The proportion of homeless families that were sheltered or unsheltered on a single night remained unchanged, with roughly 80 percent of homeless families living in shelter and 20 percent living in unsheltered locations.

### Since January 2007:

- The number of homeless people in families on a single night has declined by 12,330 (5.0 percent), representing a decrease of 6,749 family households (8.0 percent).
- The number of sheltered people in families has increased by 4.6 percent (8,154 people), while the number of unsheltered people in families has declined by 29.2 percent (20,484 people).
- A smaller share of homeless families were counted in unsheltered locations (21.0 percent) in 2011 than in 2007 (28.2 percent).

**Table 44: PIT Estimates of Homeless People in Families by Shelter Status, 2007-2011**



**Table 45: Changes in the Total PIT Estimates of Homeless People in Families, 2007-2011**

Change	Total		Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	Number	%Change	Number	%Change	Number	%Change
2010 to 2011	-5,770	-2.4%	-4,843	-2.5%	-927	-1.8%
2009 to 2011	-1,929	-0.8%	-831	-0.4%	-1,098	-2.2%
2008 to 2011	-13,031	-5.2%	4,976	2.7%	-18,007	-26.6%
2007 to 2011	-12,330	-5.0%	8,154	4.6%	-20,484	-29.2%

### PIT Estimates of Homeless Families with Children by State

(Maps include Puerto Rico and U.S. territories; tabulations do not) (Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

#### On a single night in January 2011:

- Six states accounted for nearly half of the nation's total count of homeless people in families on a single night: New York (15.4 percent), California (11.6 percent), Florida (8.2 percent), Texas (5.7 percent), Colorado (4.5 percent), and Massachusetts (4.4 percent).
- In several states, more than half of the homeless population was people in families, including Colorado (69.9 percent), Massachusetts (61.9 percent), New York (56.8 percent), Minnesota (54.5 percent), Maine (51.6 percent), New Jersey (51.6 percent), and Wisconsin (50.9 percent).
- The 25 states with the lowest share of homeless people in families nationally accounted for approximately 10 percent of all homeless people in families in the United States.

#### Between 2010 and 2011:

- Between 2010 and 2011, 21 states and the District of Columbia experienced an increase of 9,801 homeless people in families, which was offset by a decrease of 16,125 people in families in the remaining 29 states.

#### Between 2007 and 2011:

- In just more than half of states (26 states and the District of Columbia), homelessness among people in families has increased (by 19,979 people). The other 24 states saw declines in the number of homeless people in families (33,523). Large declines in California (13,836 people) and Michigan (5,191 people) drove the overall decline.
- Three states and the District of Columbia experienced increases in family homelessness each year between 2007 and 2011: Hawaii, Massachusetts, and North Carolina.
- Two states experienced decreases in family homelessness each year between 2007 and 2011: Maine and Kentucky.

Note: Additional detail on state-level estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

Table 46: Share of the Total Homeless Family Population by State, 2011

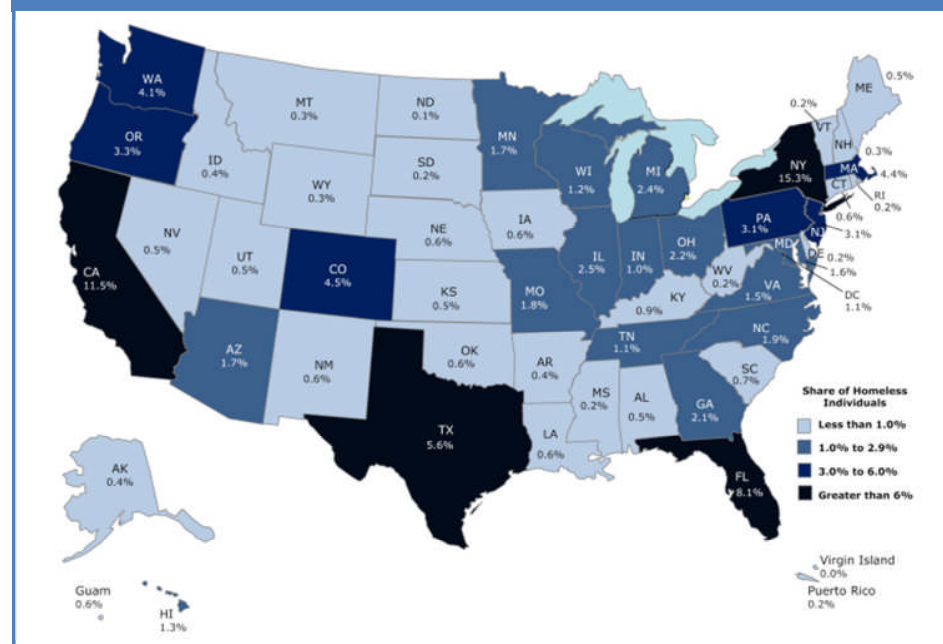


Table 47: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Homeless People in Families, 2007-2011

▲ Increases			▼ Decreases		
Change	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
Colorado	2,662	33.7%	New York	-3,206	-8.2%
Texas	2,291	20.7%	Florida	-2,710	-12.4%
North Carolina	763	19.9%	Washington	-1,406	-12.8%
Missouri	637	17.2%	Louisiana	-1,031	-43.3%
California	624	2.4%	Illinois	-991	-14.5%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>					
Florida	4,074	27.1%	California	-13,836	-33.7%
Massachusetts	3,485	51.0%	Michigan	-5,191	-48.3%
Colorado	3,189	43.2%	Georgia	-2,118	-29.8%
New York	1,562	4.5%	Kentucky	-1,979	-47.4%
Missouri	1,421	48.8%	Nevada	-1,969	-62.5%

## PIT Estimates of Homeless Families with Children by State and Sheltered Status

(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

### On a single night in January 2011:

- Twenty-four states and the District of Columbia sheltered more than 90 percent of their total homeless people in families.
- Six states account for almost half (49.7 percent) of all sheltered people in families nationally: New York (19.3 percent), California (11.6 percent), Massachusetts (5.5 percent), Washington (4.8 percent), Texas (4.6 percent), and Pennsylvania (3.9 percent).
- In some states, more than half of homeless people in families were counted in unsheltered locations, including Colorado, Florida, and Oregon.
- Florida accounts for 1 in 4 people in homeless families nationally.

### Between 2010 and 2011:

- The District of Columbia and 28 states experienced declines in the number of sheltered people in families (11,652 people), which outpaced increases in the remaining states (6,765 people).

### Between 2007 and 2011:

- Twenty-five states and the District of Columbia witnessed increases in the number of sheltered people in families (17,484 people), compared to 24 states that reported declines in the number of sheltered people in families (9,528 people).
- Thirty-one states experienced declines in the number of unsheltered people in families (33,929 people), and California accounted for more than half (7,485 people) of the total decline.

Note: Additional detail on state-level estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 48: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Sheltered Families, 2007-2011**

▲ <i>Increases</i>			▼ <i>Decreases</i>		
Change	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
California	3,066	16.5%	New York	-3,239	-8.3%
Texas	623	7.8%	Florida	-1,696	-19.8%
Ohio	461	10.4%	Illinois	-1,044	-16.2%
Missouri	409	13.4%	Colorado	-960	-21.5%
Kansas	360	54.4%	Washington	-927	-9.5%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>					
Massachusetts	3,755	57.5%	Texas	-1,198	-12.3%
California	3,649	20.3%	Kentucky	-993	-33.0%
New York	1,562	4.5%	New Jersey	-932	-11.9%
Ohio	1,107	29.2%	Florida	-867	-11.2%
District of Columbia	1,085	67.7%	Illinois	-792	-12.8%

**Table 49: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Unsheltered Families, 2007-2011**

▲ <i>Increases</i>			▼ <i>Decreases</i>		
Change	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
Colorado	3,622	104.9%	California	-2,442	-30.7%
Texas	1,668	53.8%	Oregon	-1,138	-22.0%
North Carolina	834	151.9%	Florida	-1,014	-7.7%
South Carolina	413	219.7%	Maryland	-917	-41.1%
Tennessee	247	34.6%	Georgia	-660	-28.4%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>					
Florida	4,941	67.9%	California	-17,485	-76.1%
Colorado	3,611	104.2%	Michigan	-5,749	-93.4%
Texas	1,050	28.2%	Georgia	-2,855	-63.2%
Missouri	542	161.8%	Nevada	-1,932	-97.9%
Oregon	536	15.3%	Kentucky	-986	-84.6%

### One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Families with Children

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

The one-year estimates account for all people in families who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time from October 1 through September 30 of the following year. The estimates are based on a nationally representative sample of communities that submit aggregate HMIS data to HUD. The estimates statistically adjust for people in families who use shelter programs for homeless people that do not yet participate in their local HMIS—thus providing a complete enumeration of sheltered people in families in each community—and are weighted to represent entire country. The one-year estimates do not include: (a) sheltered people in families in Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories; (b) people in families served by victim service providers; and (c) people in families in unsheltered locations that never accessed a shelter program for homeless people during the 12-month period.

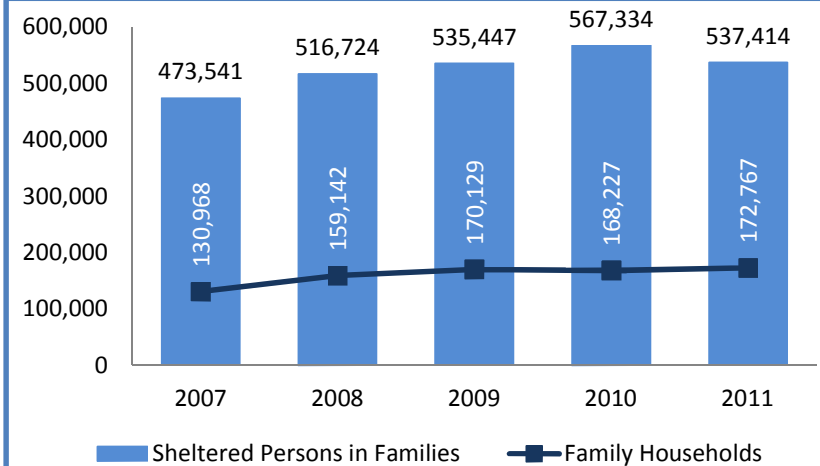
#### In 2011:

- An estimated 537,414 people in 172,767 families used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program between October 1, 2010 and September 30, 2011.
- People in families comprised 35.8 percent of the total sheltered homeless population in 2011.
- 1 in 296 people in families in the U.S. was homeless in shelter at some point during the year.

#### Trends

- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of sheltered people in families declined by nearly 30,000 people (5.3 percent).
- The number of family households, however, increased slightly, by 4,540 households (2.7 percent) between 2010 and 2011.
- The number of sheltered people in families increased for four consecutive years, from 473,541 in 2007 to 567,334 in 2010, before declining in 2011. Nonetheless, there were about 64,000 more people in families in shelter in 2011 than there were in 2007, an increase of 13.5 percent.

**Table 50: Estimates of Sheltered People in Families During a One-Year Period, 2007-2011**



**Table 51: Change in Sheltered People in Families, 2007-2011**

Change	Number	%Change
2010-2011	-29,920	-5.3%
2009-2011	1,967	0.4%
2008-2011	20,690	4.0%
2007-2011	63,873	13.5%

## Characteristics of Sheltered Families with Children: Gender and Age

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2006-2010)

### In 2011:

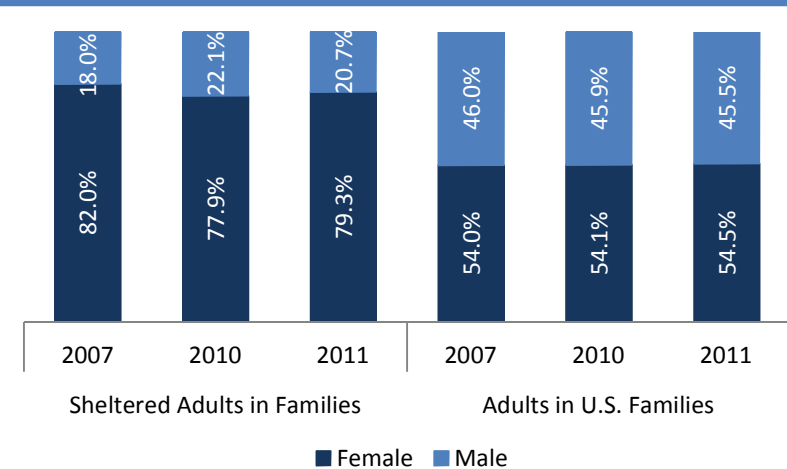
- Nearly 80 percent of sheltered adults in families were women, and just over 20 percent were men.
- The gender profile of adults in sheltered families differed considerably from the U.S. population. In 2011, 54.5 percent of adults in families within the U.S. population were women, and 45.5 percent were men.
- By comparison, two-thirds (64 percent) of adults in families within the U.S. poverty population were women.
- An estimated 341,040 homeless children were in shelters, and most (321,548 children or 94 percent) were in families.
- Adults in sheltered families were also younger than their counterparts in the U.S. population; 22.3 percent of adults in sheltered families were between the ages of 18 and 30, compared with just 14.5 percent of adults in U.S. families.
- In 2011, approximately 54 percent of adults in families in poverty were under the age of 18; 19.4 percent of adults were under 30.

### Trends:

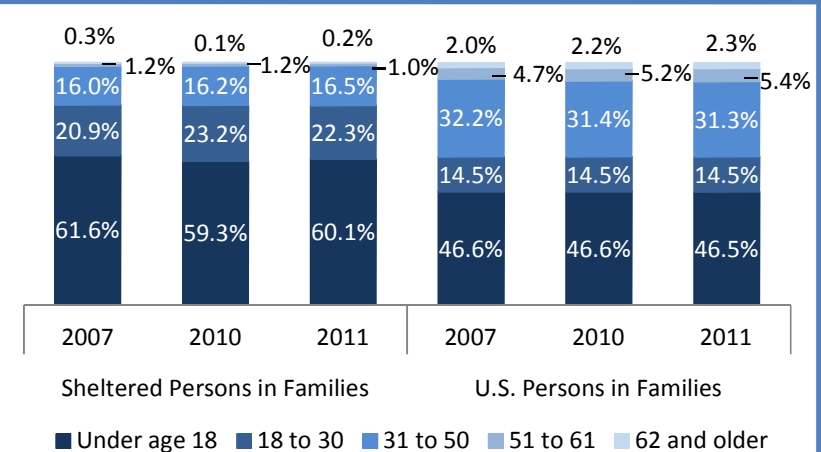
- The gender profile of adults in sheltered families has remained fairly constant over the last five years, remaining close to 80 percent female and 20 percent male.
- The number of children in shelters increased by 1.9 percent (6,221 children) between 2007 and 2011.
- From 2007 to 2011, the share of adults in families age 18 to 30 has remained constant, comprising one-fifth of people in sheltered families.

Note: Additional detail on gender and age estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 53: Age Distribution of Sheltered Adults in Families and Adults in U.S. Population, 2007-2011**



**Table 52: Gender of Sheltered Adults in Families and Adults in U.S. Population, 2007-2011**





## Characteristics of Sheltered Families with Children: Ethnicity and Race

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2006-2010)

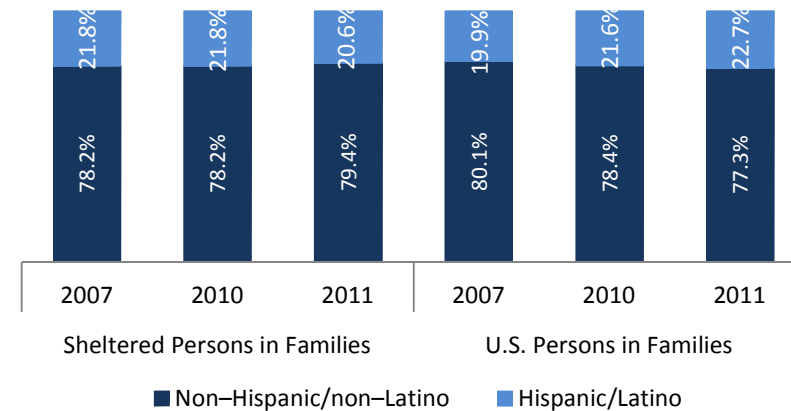
### In 2011:

- Of sheltered people in families, 20.6 percent were Hispanic/Latino, a slightly lower share than the U.S. family population (22.7 percent).
- The racial characteristics of homeless people in families differed greatly from those of all U.S. families. Minorities were overrepresented as a part of the sheltered family population: 71.9 percent of the sheltered family population in 2011, compared with 45 percent of all U.S. families.
- African Americans comprised 43.6 percent of the sheltered people in families, and 28.1 percent were white, non-Hispanic/non-Latino. The remaining population was: Asian (0.6 percent), American Indian or Alaska Native (4.8 percent), Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (0.9 percent), or several races (12.6 percent).
- Minorities were also overrepresented among people in families living in poverty in 2011: 34.3 percent were Hispanic/Latino, 24.1 percent were African American, 20.3 percent were another single race or of multiple race; 34.8 percent were white, non-Hispanic/non-Latino.

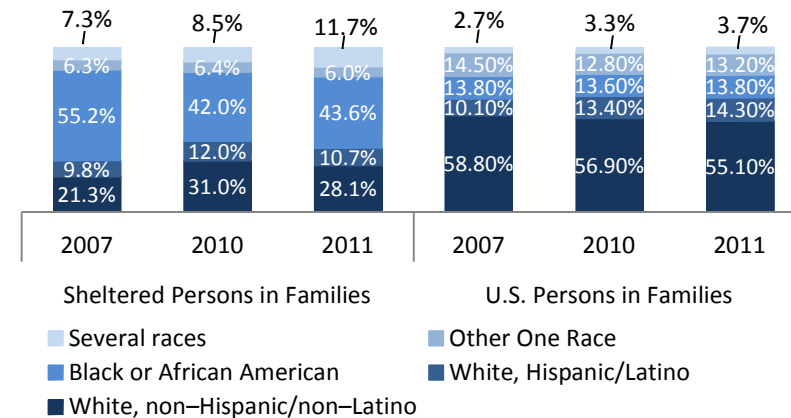
### Trends

- The share of sheltered people in families that are non-Hispanic/non-Latino has remained constant between 2007 and 2011, at just fewer than 8 in 10 sheltered people in families.
- The share of sheltered people in families that are African American has declined between 2007 and 2011, from 55.2 percent to 43.6 percent in 2011. The share of sheltered people in families that are white, non-Hispanic/non-Latino has increased between 2007 and 2011, from 21.3 percent to 28.1 percent in 2011. Comparatively, the share of the U.S. family population that is African American has remained constant at just fewer than 14 percent, and the share of total families that are white, non-Hispanic/non-Latino has declined slightly from 58.8 percent to 55.1 percent.

**Table 54: Ethnicity of Sheltered People in Families and U.S. Family Population, 2007-2011**



**Table 55: Race of Sheltered People in Families and U.S. Family Population, 2007-2011**





## Characteristics of Sheltered Families with Children: Household Size and Disability Status

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2006-2010)

In this analysis, a family must consist of at least one adult and one child. The minimum household size, therefore, is two people. These households include family structures such as a single-parent family, two-parent family, or three-generation family.

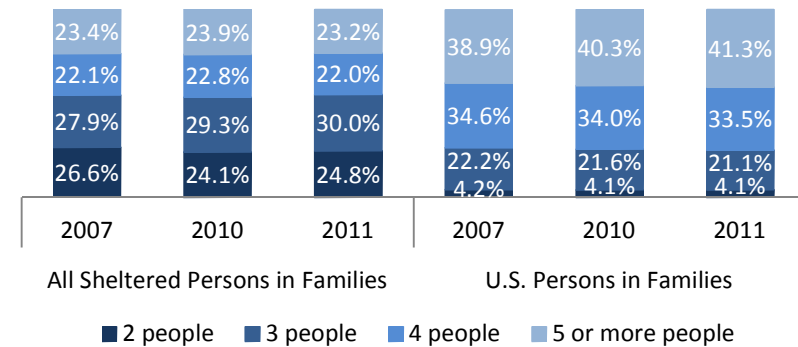
### In 2011:

- One-quarter of families in homeless shelters were composed of two people, and 30 percent of families had three people.
- Homeless families are smaller than all U.S. families and U.S. families in poverty. Only four percent of U.S. families had two people in 2011, and 21.1 percent were composed of three people (compared to 24.8 percent and 30 percent of sheltered families, respectively).
- Almost half of families in poverty were comprised of five or more people (48.6 percent), and only one-quarter were made up of three people or fewer (compared with nearly 56 percent of homeless families).
- Homeless people in families experienced double the rates of disability than all U.S. families: 16 versus 8 percent, respectively.

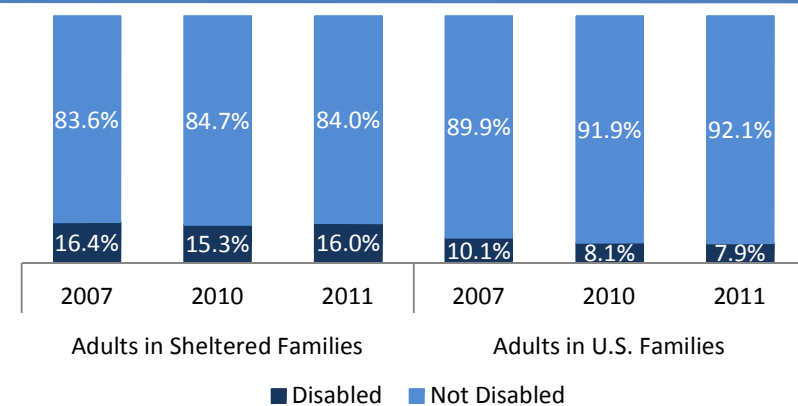
### Trends:

- The percent of sheltered families that were larger in size (four or more people) remained constant between 2007 and 2011 (at about 45 percent). The household size of all U.S. families is larger than that of sheltered families (75 percent of all families had four or more people), and has also changed very little over the last four years.
- Disability status for sheltered people in families with children has also remained mostly unchanged between 2007 and 2011. Rates of disability for adults in sheltered families have remained around 16 percent, while the rate of disability for adults in all families in the U.S. has declined slightly (from 10.1 percent to 7.9 percent).

**Table 56: Household Size of Sheltered Families and all U.S. Families, 2007-2011**



**Table 57: Disability Status of Sheltered Families and All U.S. Families, 2007-2011**



## Geographic Distribution of Sheltered Families with Children

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

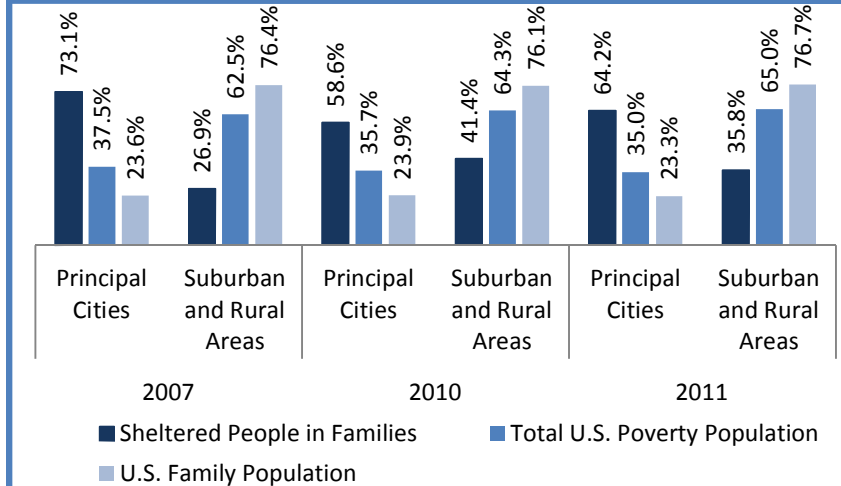
### In 2011:

- About two-thirds of people in families in shelter (64.2 percent) were located in principal cities, and the remaining one-third (35.8 percent) were in suburban and rural areas.
- The geographic distribution of the total U.S. family population was very different. People in U.S. families were much more likely to live in suburban and rural areas (76.7 percent) than sheltered people in families. Families in poverty, too, were more likely to live in suburban and rural areas compared to homeless families. Two-thirds of people in families living in poverty were located in suburban and rural areas in 2011, and one-third were located in principal cities.

### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of sheltered families in principal cities increased by 3.6 percent (11,965 people). During the same time period, the number of sheltered people in families in suburban and rural areas declined by 18 percent (42,236 people).
- The most recent trend, however, reverses trends over the past four years. Between 2007 and 2011, there was a very slight decrease in the number of sheltered people in families in principal cities (about 1,343 people or less than one percent). During the same time period, there was a sizable increase in the number of sheltered families in suburban and rural areas (65,091 people or 51.1 percent).

**Table 58: Geographic Distribution of Sheltered Families, all U.S. Families, and Families in Poverty, 2007-2011**



**Table 59: Percentage Change in the Geographic Distribution of Sheltered People in Families Compared to all U.S. Families and U.S. Families in Poverty, 2007-2011**

Population	2007 – 2011		2010 - 2011	
	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas
Sheltered People in Families	-0.4%	51.1%	3.6%	-18.0%
U.S. Families in Poverty	10.6%	23.6%	6.4%	9.8%
U.S. Family Population	-1.6%	0.4%	-2.6%	0.7%

## Characteristics of Sheltered Families with Children by Geography

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

### In 2011:

- Roughly 65 percent of sheltered people in families were located in principal cities.
- Sheltered people in families located in principal cities were considerably more likely to be members of minority groups compared to homeless people in families in suburban and rural areas, (80.4 versus 56.9 percent). For example, 18 percent of people in families in principal cities were Hispanic/Latino compared with 10 percent of those in suburban or rural areas, and nearly one-half of families in principal cities were African American compared with one-third of families in suburban or rural areas.
- Sheltered people in families located in principal cities had similar representation among various age groups to sheltered families in suburban or rural areas.
- Sheltered people in families in principal cities were slightly more likely to be in two-person households (25.6 percent) than families located in other areas (23.4 percent). Sheltered adults in families in principal cities were slightly more likely to be women (80.4 percent) than in suburban areas (77.4 percent).

### Trends:

- Between 2007 and 2011, the racial composition of sheltered people in families located in suburban and rural areas has become increasingly white: 28.1 percent in 2007, 47.1 (2010), and 43.1 percent (2011).
- The percentage of sheltered people in families in suburban and rural areas that were non-Hispanic/non-Latino rose steadily from 74.5 percent in 2007, 84.5 percent in 2010, to 85.5 percent in 2011.
- The percentage of sheltered people in families that were African American located in suburban and rural areas has declined, from 53.3 percent in 2007 to 33.3 percent in 2011.
- The rate of disability for sheltered adults in families has risen in suburban and rural areas each year between 2007 and 2011.

Table 60: Characteristics of Sheltered People in Families by Geography, 2011

Characteristic	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural
Number of Homeless People	344,689	192,374
<b>Gender of Adults</b>		
Female	80.4%	77.4%
Male	19.6%	22.7%
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	82.0%	85.5%
Hispanic/Latino	18.0%	14.5%
<b>Race</b>		
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	19.6%	43.1%
White, Hispanic/Latino	10.9%	10.2%
Black or African American	49.5%	33.3%
Other one race	6.1%	5.7%
Several races	13.9%	7.7%
<b>Age</b>		
Under age 18	22.3%	22.2%
18 to 30	15.7%	17.7%
31 to 50	1.0%	1.2%
51 to 61	0.1%	0.2%
62 and older	3.2%	2.3%
<b>People by Household Size</b>		
1 person	N/A	N/A
2 people	25.6%	23.4%
3 people	29.0%	31.8%
4 people	22.2%	21.5%
5 or more people	23.2%	23.4%
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>		
Yes	14.2%	19.0%
No	85.8%	81.0%

### Patterns of Service Use among Sheltered Families with Children: Multiple Program Use and Prior Living Arrangement

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

#### In 2011:

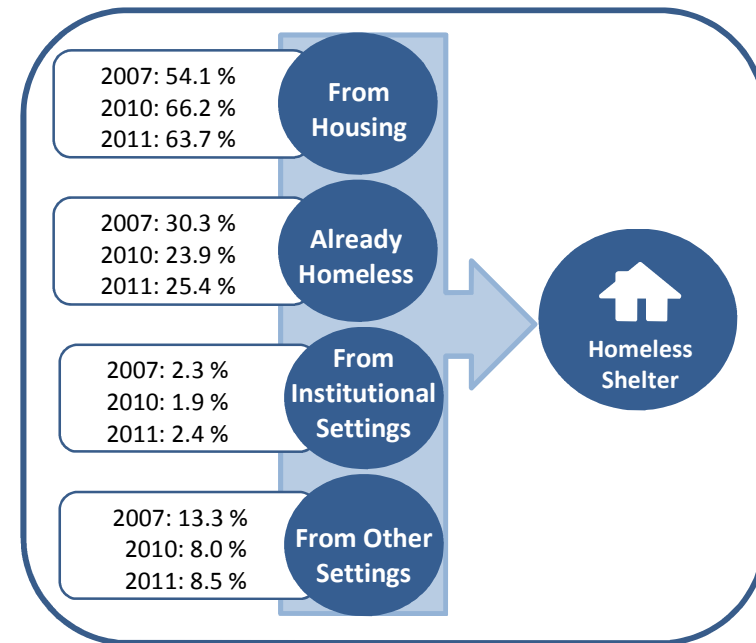
- Nearly two-thirds (63.7 percent) of adults in families who entered shelter during the 12-month reporting period came from a housing situation. Of those coming from housing, 51.8 percent stayed with family, 18.2 percent with friends, 23.3 percent in rental housing, and 1.6 percent in owned housing.
- One-quarter of adults in families (25.4 percent) were already homeless prior to entering shelter: 18.9 percent from an emergency shelter, 4.6 percent from unsheltered locations, and 1.9 percent from transitional housing.
- A small share of adults in families (2.4 percent) came from institutional settings such as psychiatric facilities, correctional facilities, and hospitals.
- Most sheltered people in families (71.3 percent) only used an emergency shelter during the 12-month reporting period, and fewer (23.6 percent) only used a transitional housing program. Few families used both types of shelter programs during the year (5.1 percent).

#### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of adults in families accessing shelter services directly from housing has considerably declined (15,584 adults or 10.2 percent). The number of adults accessing shelter from institutional settings increased (583 adults or 13.5 percent).
- Between 2007 and 2011, the pattern of service use among people in families has changed considerably. The number of people in families accessing shelter services from housing has increased by 38.5 percent (more than 38,000 people). Most of this increase is associated with families coming directly from a rented unit (18,582 adults) or staying with family (16,825 adults).

Note: Additional detail on multiple program use and prior living estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 61: Where Adults in Families Lived Before Entering Shelter, 2007-2011**



**Table 62: Change in Where Adults in Families Lived Before Entering Shelter, 2007-2011**

Prior Living Arrangement <sup>1</sup>	2007-2011		2010-2011	
	Number	%Change	Number	%Change
Housing	38,090	38.5%	-15,584	-10.2%
Already Homeless	2,322	4.4%	-71	-0.1%
Institutional Settings	937	23.7%	583	13.5%
Other Settings	-6,818	-29.0%	-1,706	-9.3%

<sup>1</sup> To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. See the 2011 AHAR methodology document for more details.

## Patterns of Homeless Service Use Among Sheltered Families with Children: Length of Stay and Other Bed Use Patterns

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2007-2011)

### In 2011:

- About one-quarter of people in families in emergency shelters (23.2 percent) stayed one week or less, and more than half of all users (50.4 percent) stayed one month or less. By comparison, 13.4 percent of people in families stayed in transitional housing for one month or less, and 42.6 percent stayed between 1 and 6 months.
- The average length of stay for people in families was 64 nights, about 5 people were served per available bed throughout the year, and 84.2 percent of all emergency shelter beds were occupied on an average night.
- Transitional housing programs are intended to have longer-term stays. The average length of stay was 175 nights (nearly six months), and fewer than two people were served per available bed throughout the year. In transitional housing programs, 80.1 percent of beds were occupied on an average night, which was slightly lower than the rate for all homeless people (83.4 percent).

### Trends:

- The length of time people in families were staying in emergency shelter changed little. While the average length of stay decreased from 67 nights in 2007 to 64 nights in 2011, the median number of nights in emergency shelter remained unchanged (30 nights) and the turnover rate remained stable (4.9 to 4.8 people per bed).
- The length of stay of people in families in transitional housing also largely remained unchanged. While the median number of nights decreased from 151 to 149, the average number of nights increased from 174 to 175. However, the occupancy rates of transitional housing have increased from 72.9 percent in 2007 to 80.1 percent in 2011.

**Table 63: Length of Stay of People in Families in Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing, 2011**

Length of Stay <sup>1</sup>	Emergency Shelters		Transitional Housing	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
7 days or less	94,694	23.2%	6,477	4.2%
8 to 30 days	110,886	27.2%	14,096	9.2%
31 to 180 days	163,895	40.1%	65,373	42.6%
181 to 360 days	26,872	6.6%	40,933	26.7%
361 to 365 days	12,067	3.0%	26,453	17.3%

<sup>1</sup> Length of stay accounts for multiple program entries/exits by summing the total number of (cumulative) days in a homeless residential program during the 12-month reporting period.

**Table 64: Bed Use Patterns for People in Families in Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing, 2007-2011**

Bed Use Patterns	Emergency Shelters			Transitional Housing		
	2007	2010	2011	2007	2010	2011
Median number of nights	30	29	30	151	175	149
Average number of nights	67	61	64	174	186	175
Average occupancy rate <sup>2</sup>	85.9%	84.0%	84.2%	72.9%	82.4%	80.1%
Turnover rate <sup>3</sup>	4.9	5.2	4.8	1.6	1.7	1.7

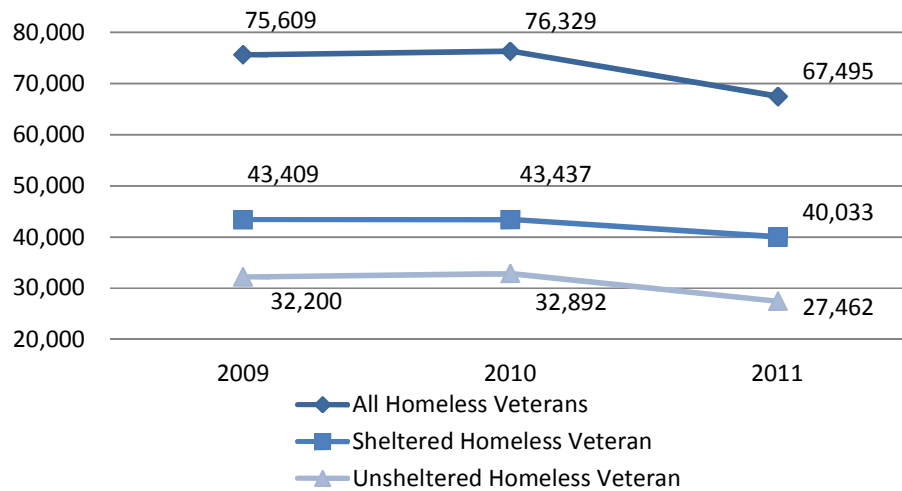
<sup>2</sup> The average daily occupancy rate is calculated by dividing the average daily census during the 12-month reporting period by the total number of year-round beds in the inventory

<sup>3</sup> The turnover rate measures the number of people served per available bed over the 12-month reporting period, and is calculated by dividing the total number of people served by the number of year-round beds.

A grayscale photograph of a pair of hands, likely belonging to an elderly person, gently cupping a small, crocheted house. The house is made of a light-colored, textured yarn and has a simple rectangular body with a small square doorway and a gabled roof with a decorative scalloped edge. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light gray.

# **Homeless Veterans in the United States**

**Table 65: Point-in-Time Estimates of Homeless Veterans by Sheltered Status, 2009-2011**



**Table 66: Change in the Total PIT Estimate of Homeless Veterans, 2009-2011**

Change	Total Homeless Veterans		Sheltered Veterans		Unsheltered Veterans	
	Number	%Change	Number	%Change	Number	%Change
2010 to 2011	-8,834	-11.6%	-3,404	-7.8%	-5,430	-16.5%
2009 to 2011	-8,114	-10.7%	-3,376	-7.8%	-4,738	-14.7%

### PIT Estimates of Homeless Veterans (Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories)

(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2009-2011)

Obtaining accurate estimates of homeless veterans is an important focus for both HUD and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). As described in previous reports, HUD and the VA have worked collaboratively to produce accurate estimates of homeless veterans. As a result of these efforts, the PIT and 12-month counts of homeless veterans have become increasingly precise. For a full discussion, see the *2011 Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness: Supplement to the Annual Homeless Assessment Report* and *Veteran Homelessness: A Supplemental Report to the 2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress*.

#### On a single night in January 2011:

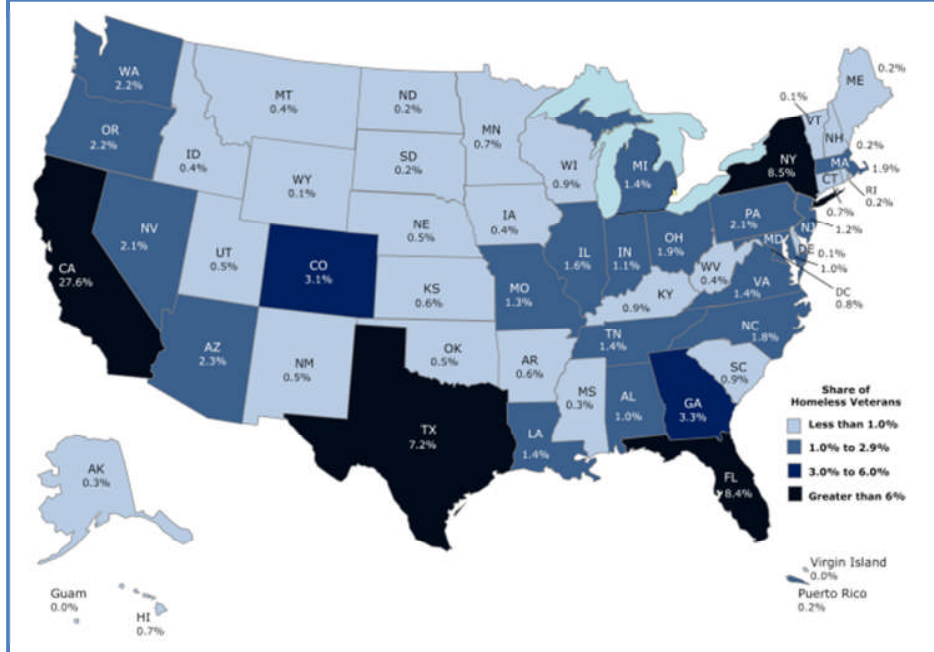
- 67,495 veterans were homeless in the United States, representing 14 percent of all homeless adults.
- About 59 percent of homeless veterans were sheltered (40,033 people), and an estimated 41 percent were in unsheltered locations (27,462 people).

#### Trends:

- After a slight increase between 2009 and 2010, homelessness among veterans declined between 2010 and 2011, with a net decrease of 10.7 percent (8,114 people).
- A higher share of homeless veterans were in shelter in 2011 (59 percent) than in both 2009 and 2010 (about 57 percent in each year).
- The share of veterans among all homeless adults declined in recent years, from 16 percent in 2010 to 14 percent in 2011.



**Table 67: Share of the Total Veteran Homeless Population  
by State, 2011**



### PIT Estimates of Homeless Veterans by State

(Maps include Puerto Rico and U.S. territories; tabulations do not)

(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2010)

#### On a single night in January 2011:

- Four states accounted for more than half of the nation's homeless veterans: Texas (7.2 percent), Florida (8.4 percent), New York (8.5 percent), and California (27.6 percent).

#### Between 2010 and 2011:

- 35 states witnessed declines in their numbers of homeless veterans, with the largest decreases in Louisiana (52.9 percent), West Virginia (47.6 percent), and Kansas (46.0 percent).
- Florida had the largest decline in the number of homeless veterans (2,150 veterans), nearly double the decline of Nevada, with the second largest decline (1,096 veterans).
- The remaining 15 states had increases in their numbers of homeless veterans. The largest percent increases were in Colorado (57.6 percent), New Jersey (43.0 percent), and Rhode Island (35.2 percent).

#### Between 2009 and 2011:



- Two-thirds of states (34 of 50) experienced decreases in their numbers of homeless veterans. Four states had considerable decreases in excess of 40 percent: Louisiana, Nevada, Delaware, and Mississippi.
- Among the 16 states with increases in homeless veterans, the largest percent increases were in Utah (107.8 percent), Arizona (65.0 percent), and Colorado (41.0 percent).
- Colorado had the largest increase in its number of homeless veterans (603 veterans), more than triple that of Oregon (197 veterans), the state with the second largest increase.

**Table 68: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of  
Homeless Veterans, 2009-2011**



▲ <i>Increases</i>			▼ <i>Decreases</i>		
Change	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
Colorado	758	57.6%	Florida	-2,150	-27.6%
New Jersey	244	43.0%	Nevada	-1,096	-43.4%
Oregon	189	14.7%	Louisiana	-1,065	-52.9%
North Carolina	164	15.1%	Tennessee	-714	-42.5%
Missouri	93	12.3%	Arizona	-702	-31.5%
<b>2009 to 2011</b>					
Colorado	603	41.0%	Florida	-1,491	-20.9%
Oregon	197	15.5%	Nevada	-1,189	-45.4%
New Jersey	193	31.3%	Louisiana	-1,035	-52.1%
Utah	179	107.8%	California	-899	-4.6%
Arizona	162	65.0%	Arizona	-815	-34.8%

Note: Additional detail on state-level estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 69: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Sheltered Veterans, 2009-2011**

Increases 			Decreases 		
Change	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
Colorado	528	61.9%	Florida	-542	-19.2%
New York	200	4.0%	Nevada	-538	-43.7%
New Jersey	180	36.9%	Alabama	-524	-57.5%
California	89	1.3%	Georgia	-347	-25.3%
Oregon	82	14.3%	Tennessee	-343	-31.9%
<b>2009 to 2011</b>					
Colorado	417	43.3%	Nevada	-637	-47.9%
Utah	200	181.8%	Florida	-631	-21.7%
New York	199	3.9%	Massachusetts	-499	-29.2%
New Jersey	126	23.2%	Alabama	-471	-54.9%
Arizona	100	60.0%	Texas	-370	-13.5%

**Table 70: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Unsheltered Veterans, 2009-2011**

Increases 			Decreases 		
Change	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
Colorado	230	49.7%	Florida	-1,608	-32.3%
North Carolina	130	73.4%	Louisiana	-1,006	-66.5%
Oregon	107	15.0%	Arizona	-668	-56.7%
Missouri	95	73.1%	California	-619	-4.9%
Alabama	94	52.8%	Nevada	-558	-43.1%
<b>2009 to 2011</b>					
Oregon	214	35.4%	Louisiana	-1,037	-67.2%
Colorado	186	36.7%	Florida	-860	-20.3%
Missouri	95	72.6%	California	-789	-6.2%
Illinois	89	39.3%	Arizona	-617	-54.8%
New Jersey	67	89.2%	Nevada	-552	-42.8%

## PIT Estimates of Homeless Veterans by State and Sheltered Status

(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

### On a single night in January 2011:

- 13 states (Pennsylvania, South Dakota, New York, Kentucky, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine, Iowa, Wisconsin, Delaware, North Dakota, and Rhode Island) and the District of Columbia sheltered more than 90 percent of their total homeless veterans on the night of the PIT count.
- Two-thirds of unsheltered veterans were counted in three states on a single night: Texas (9.2 percent), Florida (12.3 percent), and California (43.7 percent).
- In several states, more than half of homeless veterans were counted in unsheltered locations, including California, Florida, Hawaii, Oregon, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, and Nevada.

### Between 2010 and 2011:

- 32 states experienced declines in the number of sheltered veterans (4,276 total in those 33 states). These declines far outpaced the increases of sheltered veterans in the remaining 18 states (1,386).
- In most states (34), the number of unsheltered veterans decreased. The declines in Florida (1,608) and Louisiana (1,006) together account for 40 percent of the total decrease across those 34 states (6,530 veterans).

### Between 2009 and 2011:

- Homeless counts have decreased among sheltered veterans in 33 states, but nearly tripled in Utah (from 110 to 310 people).
- The number of unsheltered veterans decreased in 32 states.

Note: Additional detail on state-level estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

### One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Veterans

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2009-2011; American Community Survey 2010)

Since 2009, HUD has estimated the annual number of homeless veterans in shelter. The one-year estimates account for all veterans who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program, including programs that specifically target veterans, at any time from October 1 through September 30 of the following year. The estimates are based on a nationally representative sample of communities that submit aggregate HMIS data to HUD. The estimates are statistically adjusted to include veterans who use shelter programs for homeless people that do not yet participate in their local HMIS—thus providing a complete enumeration of sheltered veterans in each community—and are weighted to represent the entire country. The one-year estimates do not include: (a) sheltered veterans in Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories; (b) veterans served by victim service providers; and (c) veterans in unsheltered locations that never accessed a shelter program for homeless people during the 12-month period. We estimate that the number of homeless veterans using shelter during this period was between 110,320 and 172,578. Homeless veterans are also analyzed as individuals and in families. Homeless veteran individuals are those that are homeless without at least one child, while homeless veterans in families are those in households including at least one child.

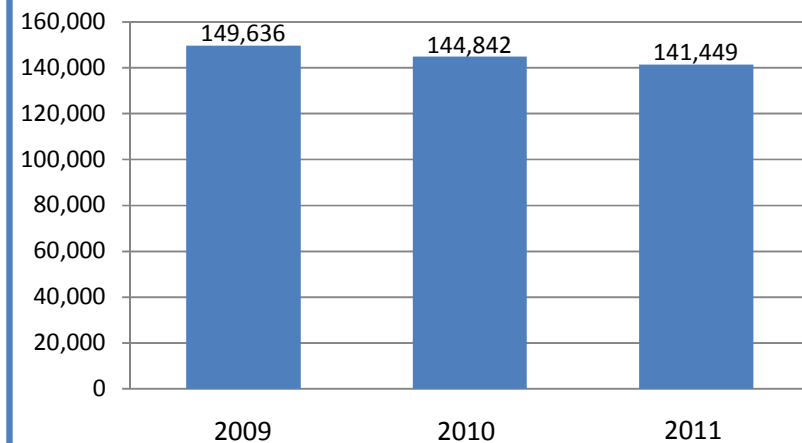
#### In 2011:

- The estimated number of veterans who used an emergency shelter or a transitional housing program at any time from October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011 was 141,449 veterans.
- 1 in 154 veterans in the U.S. were homeless in shelter during this period.

#### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of veterans in shelter during a one-year period decreased by 2.3 percent (3,393 veterans).
- Since 2009, the number of sheltered veterans in the United States has decreased by 5.5 percent (8,187 veterans).

**Table 71: Estimates of Sheltered Veterans During a One-Year Period, 2009-2011**



**Table 72: Changes in the One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Veterans, 2007-2011**

Change	Number	%Change
2010 to 2011	-3,393	-2.3%
2009 to 2011	-8,187	-5.5%

### Characteristics of All Sheltered Veterans: Gender and Age

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2009-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2008-2010)

#### In 2011:

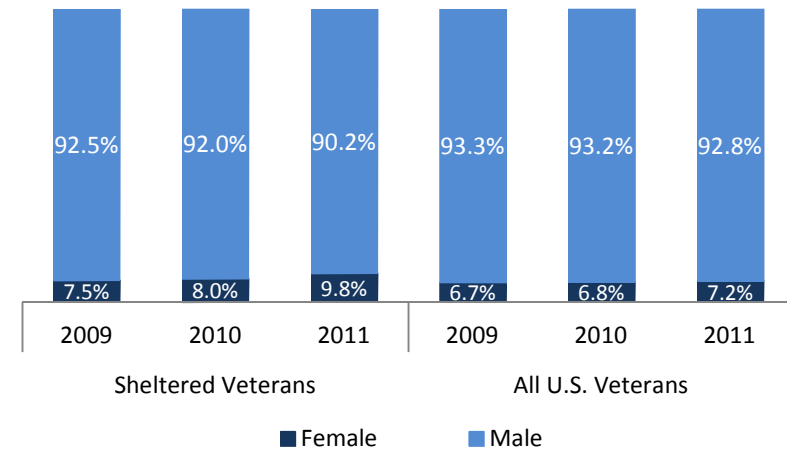
- Nine in 10 sheltered veterans were men. This is smaller than the proportion of men among all U.S. veterans (92.8 percent), but higher than the proportion of men among U.S. veterans in poverty (89.3 percent).
- Most homeless veterans in shelter were between the ages of 31 and 61 (81.4 percent). The remaining were distributed equally among older and younger age groups (9.5 percent age 62 and older, 9.1 percent age 30 and younger).
- By comparison, the age profile among all U.S. veterans is much older. More than half (51.8 percent) were age 62 and older, while only 5.4 percent were age 30 or younger. Those age 31 to 50 make up 42.8 percent of all veterans.

#### Trends:

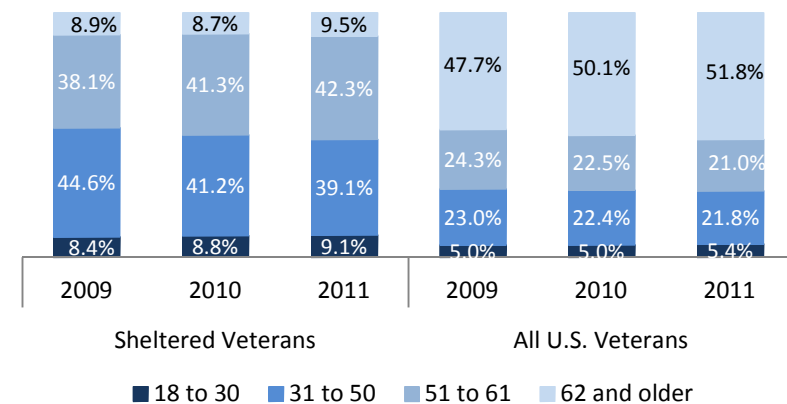
- The percentage of women among sheltered veterans increased by 1.8 percentage points between 2010 and 2011 and by 2.3 percentage points since 2009. The higher risk of homelessness among female veterans was highlighted in past AHAR Veteran reports and appears to be confirmed by the 2011 estimates.
- Over recent years, the age distribution among sheltered veterans has shifted slightly. From 2009 to 2011, the share of veterans age 31 to 50 has decreased by 5.5 percentage points (from 44.6 percent to 39.1 percent), while the share of veterans age 51 to 61 has increased by 4.2 percentage points (from 38.1 percent to 42.3 percent). The proportion of young veterans in shelter has increased by 0.7 percentage points. Similar shifts have occurred in the oldest and youngest age groups of the total veteran population.

Note: Additional detail on gender and age estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 73: Gender of Sheltered Veterans and All U.S. Veterans, 2009-2011**



**Table 74: Age Distribution of Sheltered Veterans and All U.S. Veterans, 2009-2011**



### Characteristics of All Sheltered Veterans: Ethnicity and Race

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2009-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2008-2010)

#### In 2011:

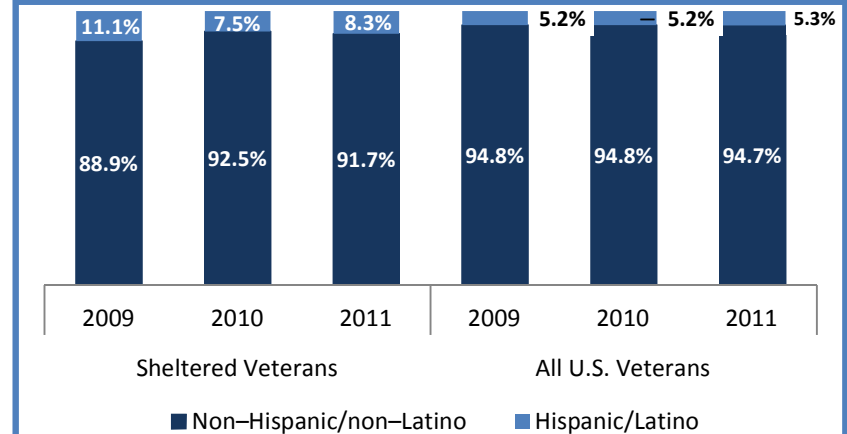
- About 8 percent of sheltered veterans were Hispanic/Latino, which is 3 percentage points more than the proportion found in the total U.S. veteran population.
- Nearly half of the sheltered veteran population (49.0 percent) were members of minority racial groups, composed mostly of African Americans (35.5 percent).
- Minorities, especially African Americans, were significantly overrepresented in the sheltered veteran population when compared to their share of the total U.S. veteran population. In general, minorities are about 2.5 times more likely to be in the sheltered veteran population than in the total U.S. veteran population, and African Americans are 3.2 times more likely.
- Minorities were also overrepresented in the population of U.S. veterans in poverty (30 percent) when compared to their share of the total U.S. veteran population.

#### Trends:

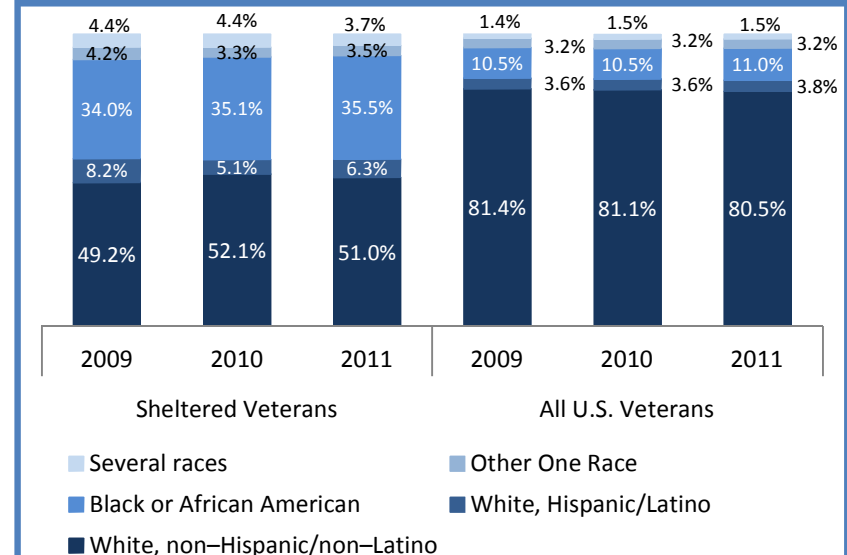
- The share of Hispanics/Latinos in the sheltered veteran population declined slightly, from an estimated 11.1 percent in 2009 to about 8.3 percent in 2011. In contrast, the proportion of Hispanics/Latinos in the total U.S. veteran population remained fairly constant.
- The share of minorities in the sheltered homeless population decreased by about 2 percentage points in recent years (from 50.8 percent in 2009 to 49.0 percent in 2011).

Note: Additional detail on ethnicity and race estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 75: Ethnicity of Sheltered Veterans and All U.S. Veterans, 2009-2011**



**Table 76: Race of Sheltered Veterans and All U.S. Veterans, 2009-2011**



## Characteristics of All Sheltered Veterans: Household Type and Disability Status

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2009-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2008-2010)

### In 2011:

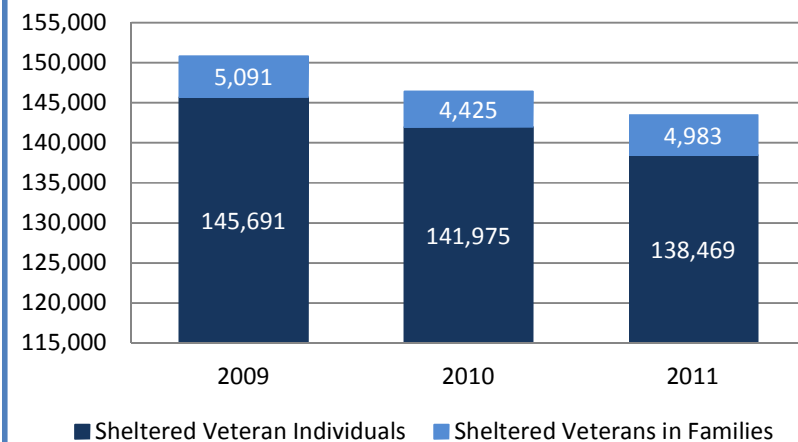
- Among the 143,452 veterans in shelter in 2011, the vast majority (96.5 percent) were individuals while the rest (3.5 percent) were members of families.
- Sheltered veterans had much higher rates of disability than both the U.S. veteran population and poor veterans. While approximately 1 in 4 veterans were disabled and 1 in 3 poor veterans were disabled, more than 1 in 2 sheltered veterans were disabled.

### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of sheltered veteran individuals decreased by 2.5 percent (3,506 veterans).
- The number of sheltered veterans in families increased by 12.6 percent (558 veterans) between 2010 and 2011.
- The share of sheltered veterans with a disability, which dropped slightly from 2009 to 2010 (from 52.6 to 50.5 percent), rose to 54.2 percent in 2011.
- The percentage of all U.S. veterans with a disability has remained steady since 2009 (about 26 percent each year), while the percentage has decreased by 4 percent among poor U.S. veterans (from 41 to 37 percent).

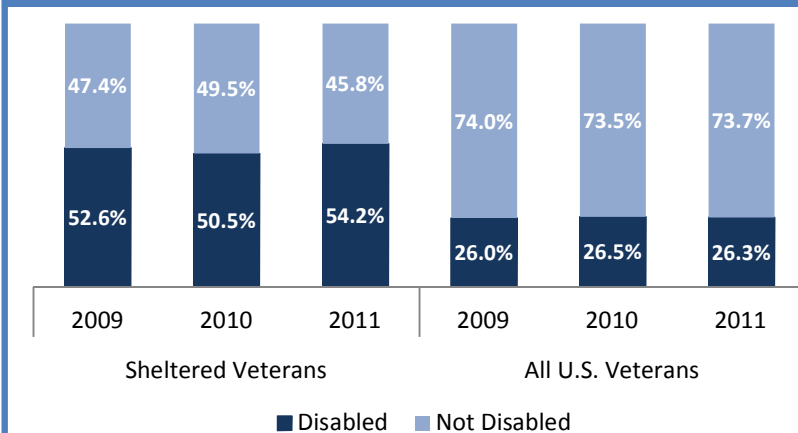
Note: Additional detail on household type and disability estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 77: Types of Households Among Sheltered Veterans, 2009-2011<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>1</sup> The number of sheltered veterans served as individuals and as members of families may not sum to the unduplicated total number of sheltered veterans because some veterans were served as both individuals and as family members.

**Table 78: Disability Status of Sheltered Veterans and All U.S. Veterans, 2009-2011**



### Geographic Distribution of All Sheltered Veterans

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2009-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2008-2010)

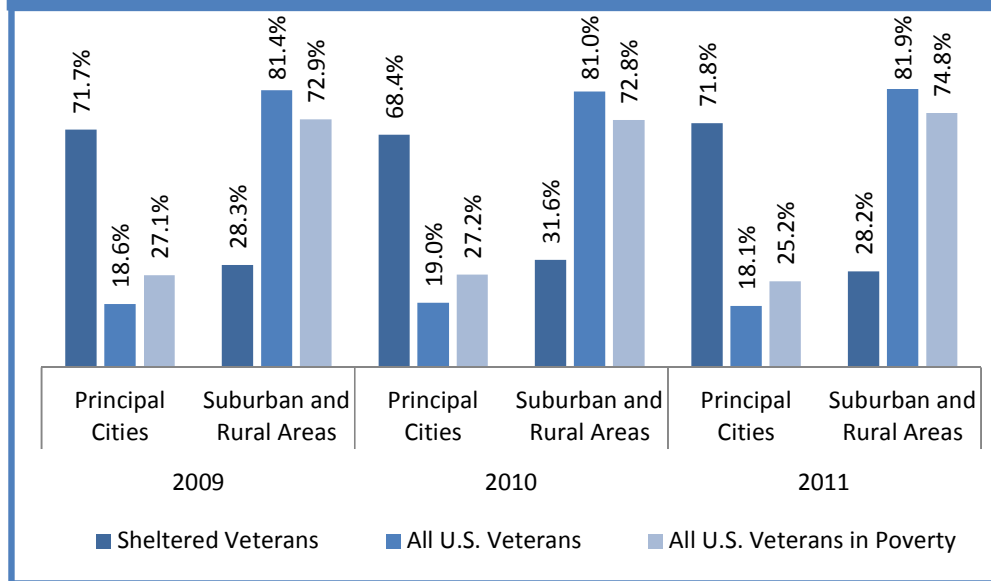
#### In 2011:

- About 7 in 10 veterans in shelter (72 percent) were living in principal cities, and the balance (28 percent) were in suburban and rural areas.
- By comparison, the geographic distribution of both the total U.S. veteran population and veterans in poverty were nearly inverted. Roughly three-quarters of poor U.S. veterans (75 percent) and 82 percent of all U.S. veterans were located in suburban and rural areas.

#### Trends:

- There was a stable number of sheltered veterans in suburban and rural areas from 2009 to 2010 (45,066 people in 2009 to 45,772 people in 2010). The count dropped back to about 40,000 people in 2011.
- By comparison, the number of poor U.S. veterans in suburban and rural areas increased by 9.4 percent since 2009, from about 586,000 people in 2009 to about 641,500 people in 2011.
- The number of sheltered veterans in principal cities dropped from 2009 to 2010 (about 105,000 people in 2009 to 102,000 people in 2010, a 2.9 percent decrease). Over this same time period, the total number of U.S. veterans in principal cities also declined (about 2.5 million to 2.4 million people, a 6 percent decrease).

**Table 79: Geographic Distribution of Sheltered Veterans Compared to All U.S. Veterans and U.S. Veterans in Poverty, 2009-2011**



**Table 80: Percentage Change in the Geographic Distribution of Sheltered Veterans Compared to All U.S. Veterans and U.S. Veterans in Poverty, 2009-2011**

Population	2009-2011		2010-2011	
	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas
Sheltered Veterans	-2.9%	-11.6%	2.5%	-13.0%
All U.S. Veterans in Poverty	-0.5%	9.4%	-6.1%	4.1%
All U.S. Veterans	-5.7%	-2.6%	-5.4%	0.4%

Note: Additional detail on geographic estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).



## Characteristics of All Sheltered Veterans by Geography

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2009-2011)

### In 2011:

- Sheltered veterans were 2.5 times more prevalent in principal cities than in suburban and rural areas, while all homeless people were 2.3 times more prevalent.
- Sheltered veterans in principal cities were considerably more likely to be members of minority groups compared to sheltered veterans in suburban and rural areas, (54 versus 36 percent). For example, sheltered veterans in principal cities were 3 times more likely to be Hispanic/Latino and 1.4 times more likely to be African American.
- The age profile of sheltered veterans in principal cities was similar to those in suburban and rural locations.

### Trends:

- The percentage of women among sheltered veterans in principal cities rose from 7 percent in 2010 to 10 percent in 2011.
- The percentage of sheltered homeless people in principal cities who are Hispanic/Latino remained constant from 2010 to 2011.
- In principal cities, while the share of sheltered veterans age 31 to 50 has steadily decreased (45 percent in 2009 to 42 percent in 2010 and 38.7 percent in 2011), the share of sheltered veterans age 51 to 61 has gradually increased (38 percent in 2009 to 41 percent in 2010 and 42.8 percent in 2011).

**Table 81: Characteristics of All Sheltered Veterans by Geography, 2011**

Characteristic	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural
Number of Sheltered Veterans	101,537	39,816
<b>Gender of Adults</b>		
Female	10.0%	9.3%
Male	90.0%	90.6%
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	89.8%	96.6%
Hispanic/Latino	10.2%	3.4%
<b>Race</b>		
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	45.7%	64.4%
White, Hispanic/Latino	7.7%	2.5%
Black or African American	38.5%	28.0%
Other one race	4.3%	1.7%
Several races	3.8%	3.4%
<b>Age</b>		
18 to 30	9.1%	9.1%
31 to 50	38.7%	40.2%
51 to 61	42.8%	41.3%
62 and older	9.5%	9.4%
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>		
Yes	53.7%	55.3%
No	46.4%	44.7%

Note: Additional detail on characteristics can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

## Patterns of Homeless Service Use Among All Sheltered Veterans: Multiple Program Use and Prior Living Arrangement

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2009-2011)

### In 2011:

- More than 3 in 10 (31.1 percent) veterans who entered shelter during the 12-month reporting period came from a housed living situation, including 11.1 percent staying with family, 10.8 percent with friend, 7.9 percent in rental housing, and 1.1 percent in owned housing.
- Excluding those already homeless, more than half of veterans entered shelter from a housed setting (58.1 percent). This is lower than the corresponding percentage for all persons (69.0 percent).
- Nearly half of veterans were already homeless (46.4 percent) just prior to entering shelter, including 23.0 percent from emergency shelter, 18.9 percent from unsheltered locations, and 4.5 percent from transitional housing.
- A smaller share of veterans came from institutional settings (14.9 percent), although this is larger than the share of all homeless people (11.5 percent). The source of this larger share among homeless veterans is those coming from a hospital or psychiatric facility (6.2 percent compared to 2.9 percent among all homeless people).
- Among those veterans not already homeless, 27.8 percent entered shelter from institutional settings.
- Of sheltered veterans, 63.0 percent used only emergency shelters during the 12-month reporting period. Fewer (30.8 percent) used only transitional housing programs, although this is nearly double the use among all homeless people.

### Trends:

- From 2010 to 2011, the number of veterans entering shelter declined, with the largest declines from already homeless veterans (7,130 people).
- From 2009 to 2011, the number of veterans entering the shelter system from a housed situation dropped considerably (by 7,027 people or 14.9 percent).

Table 82: Where Veterans Lived Before Entering Shelter, 2009 - 2011

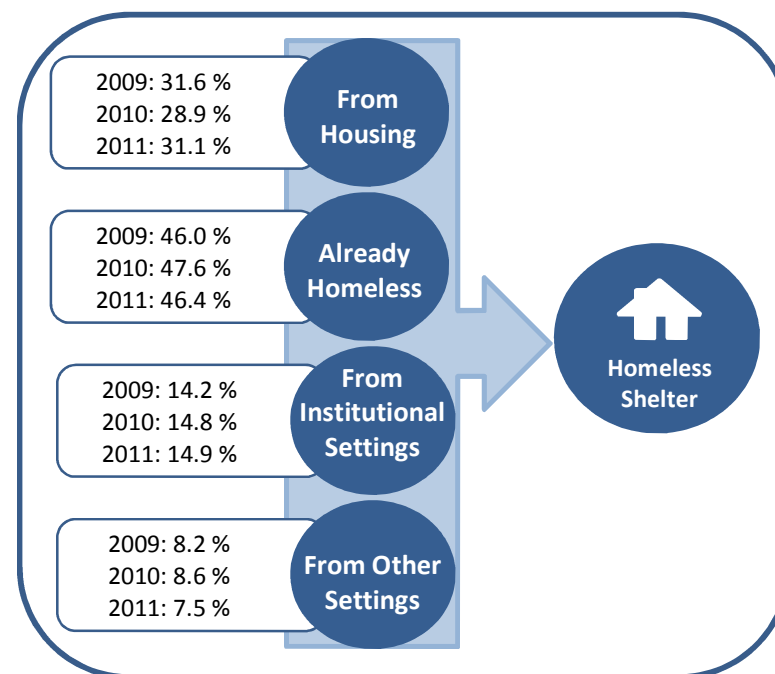


Table 83: Change in Where Veterans Lived Before Entering Shelter, 2009-2011

Prior Living Arrangement <sup>1</sup>	2009-2011		2010-2011	
	Number	%Change	Number	%Change
From Housing	-7,027	-14.9%	-1,685	-4.0%
Already Homeless	-6,883	-10.0%	-7,130	-10.3%
From Institutional Settings	-1,478	-7.0%	-1,620	-7.6%
From Other Settings	-2,081	-17.1%	-2,425	-19.3%

<sup>1</sup> To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. See the 2011 AHAR methodology document for more details.

## Patterns of Homeless Service Use Among All Sheltered Veterans: Length of Stay

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2009-2011)

### In 2011:

- Emergency shelters are high-volume, high-turnover programs. The average length of stay for veterans in emergency shelters was 50 nights, slightly shorter than the average stay for all emergency shelter clients (54 nights).
- Transitional housing programs are intended for longer-term stays. The average length of stay was 138 nights (about 4.5 months), which was more than 2 weeks shorter than the average stay for all transitional housing users (154 nights).
- About one-third of all veterans in emergency shelters (34.4 percent) stayed 1 week or less, and 60.7 percent stayed 1 month or less. By comparison, more than half of all veterans in transitional housing (52.6 percent) stayed between 1 and 6 months.

### Trends:

- Overall, veterans stayed in emergency shelters for consistent periods of time over the past 3 years. The median and average number of nights were steady from 2009 to 2011.
- The lengths of stay for veterans in transitional housing has decreased in recent years. From 2009 to 2011, the median number of night declined by 15 nights (from 120 nights to 105 nights).

**Table 84: Length of Stay in Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing, 2011**

Length of Stay <sup>1</sup>	Emergency Shelters		Transitional Housing	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
<b>7 days or less</b>	33,596	34.4%	2,469	4.7%
<b>8 to 30 days</b>	25,644	26.3%	6,916	13.2%
<b>31 to 180 days</b>	32,168	32.9%	27,443	52.6%
<b>181 to 360 days</b>	5,015	5.1%	10,403	19.9%
<b>361 to 365 days</b>	1,255	1.3%	4,968	9.5%

<sup>1</sup> Length of stay accounts for multiple program entries/exits by summing the total number of (cumulative) days in a homeless residential program during the 12-month reporting period. The maximum length of stay is 365 days, corresponding to the total days observed for this reporting period.

**Table 85: Length of Stay<sup>2</sup> for Veterans in Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing, 2009-2011**

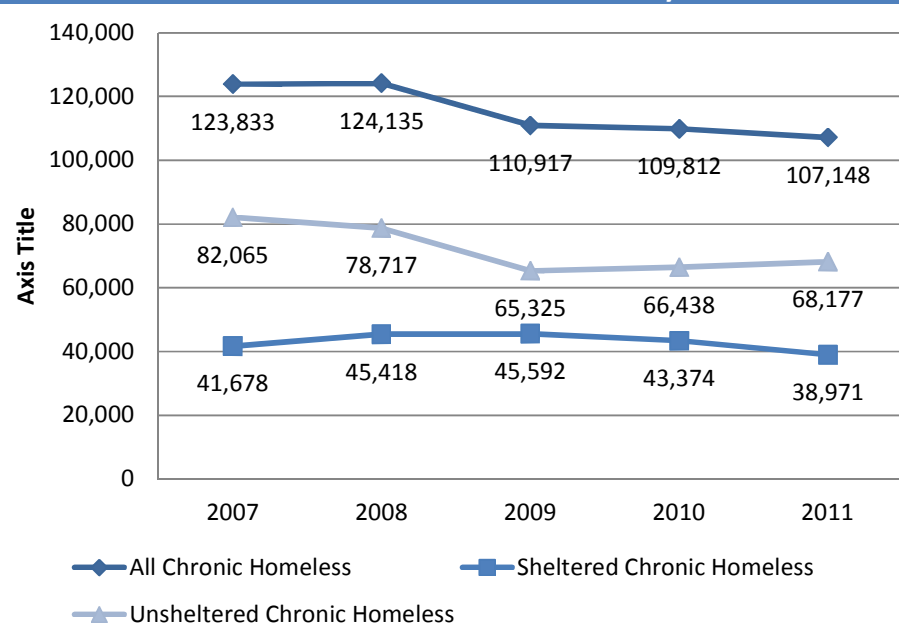
Measure	Emergency Shelters			Transitional Housing		
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
<b>Median number of nights</b>	21	22	21	120	109	105
<b>Average number of nights</b>	47	48	50	149	142	138

<sup>2</sup> The maximum length of stay is 365 days, corresponding to the total days observed for this reporting period.



# **Chronically Homeless People in the United States**

**Table 86: PIT Estimates of Chronic Homelessness by Sheltered Status**



**Table 87: Change in the Total PIT Estimate of Chronic Homelessness, 2007-2011**

Change	Total Chronically Homeless		Sheltered Chronically Homeless		Unsheltered Chronically Homeless	
	Number	%Change	Number	%Change	Number	%Change
2010 to 2011	-2,664	-2.4%	-4,403	-10.2%	1,739	2.6%
2009 to 2011	-3,769	-3.4%	-6,621	-14.5%	2,852	4.4%
2008 to 2011	-16,987	-13.7%	-6,447	-14.2%	-10,540	-13.4%
2007 to 2011	-16,685	-13.5%	-2,797	-6.7%	-13,888	-16.9%

### PIT Estimates of Chronically Homeless People

(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

A person is considered chronically homeless if he or she has a disability and has been continuously homeless for a year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness over the prior three years. Over the past decade, there have been numerous local, State, and federal initiatives aimed at moving chronically homeless people off of the streets and into permanent housing. These initiatives have resulted in consistent declines in the number of chronically homeless people.

#### On a single night in January 2011:

- 107,148 people were chronically homeless in the United States, 16.8 percent of all homeless people.
- About 63.6 percent of chronically homeless people were in unsheltered locations (68,177 people); 36.4 percent were counted in shelters (38,971 people).

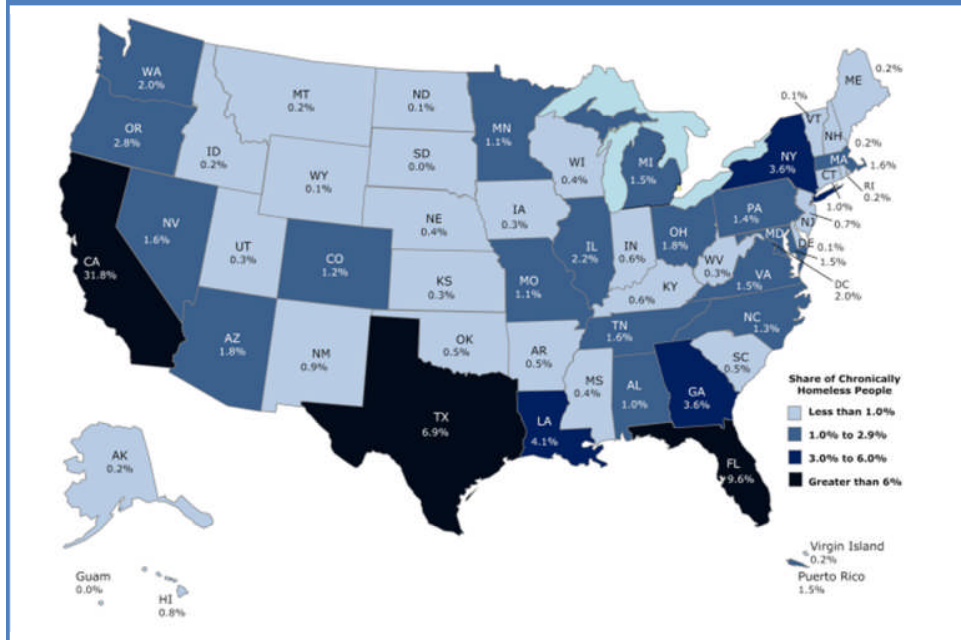
#### Between January 2010 and January 2011:

- Chronic homelessness on a single night declined by 2.4 percent (2,664 people).
- The proportion of the homeless population that is chronically homeless declined slightly, from 16.9 percent to 16.8 percent.
- The number of chronically homeless people in unsheltered locations increased by 2.6 percent (1,739 people).
- The proportion of chronically homeless individuals living in unsheltered locations has increased, from 61 percent to 64 percent.

#### Between January 2007 and January 2011:

- Chronic homelessness on a single night has declined by 13.5 percent (16,685 people).
- The number of chronically homeless people in unsheltered locations decreased by 16.9 percent (13,888 people).
- The proportion of the homeless population that is chronically homeless has declined by approximately 9 percent.

**Table 88: Share of the Total Chronically Homeless Population by State, 2011**



**Table 89: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Chronically Homeless People, 2007-2011**

State	Increases Number	%Change	State	Decreases Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
Florida	1,031	11.2%	Tennessee	-834	-33.4%
Texas	878	13.5%	Nevada	-801	-31.6%
Oregon	416	16.0%	Maryland	-552	-25.3%
Illinois	266	12.5%	Louisiana	-463	-9.6%
Georgia	244	6.7%	New York	-419	-9.8%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>					
Louisiana	3,790	674.4%	California	-9,646	-22.1%
Florida	2,800	37.5%	New York	-2,636	-40.7%
Georgia	1,395	56.2%	New Jersey	-1,775	-70.3%
District of Columbia	333	18.9%	Massachusetts	-1,124	-40.3%
New Mexico	260	36.6%	Tennessee	-1,106	-40.0%

## PIT Estimates of Chronically Homeless People by State

(Maps include Puerto Rico and U.S. territories; tabulations do not)  
(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

### On a single night in January 2011:

- In five states and the District of Columbia, more than 1 in five homeless people were chronically homeless: Texas (20.0 percent), Connecticut (23.4 percent), California (25.0 percent), New Mexico (27.0 percent), District of Columbia (32.0 percent), and Louisiana (46.8 percent).
- California accounted for one-third of all chronically homeless people in the United States (34,040 people).

### Between 2010 and 2011:

- 22 states experienced increases in the number of chronically homeless people (totalling 4,353 additional people in those 22 states).
- Decreases in the number of chronically homeless people were witnessed in 28 states and the District of Columbia, (6,253 fewer people in those 29 places) outpacing the increases in the other states.

### Between 2007 and 2011:

- 18 states and the District of Columbia experienced increases in the number of chronically homeless people. These increases summed to 9,907. During the same time period, 32 states experienced decreases in the amount of -25,068. In California alone, there were nearly 10,000 fewer chronically homeless people in 2011 than there were in 2007.
- Only one state, Florida, experienced decreases in their chronically homeless population each year between 2007 and 2011.
- Three states: Utah, New Jersey, and New York, witnessed increases in the numbers of chronically homeless people each year between 2007 and 2011.

Note: Additional details on state-level estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).



**Table 90: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Sheltered Chronically Homeless**

▲ <i>Increases</i>			▼ <i>Decreases</i>		
State	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
Georgia	346	23.1%	California	-1,138	-16.3%
New Mexico	223	65.4%	Tennessee	-668	-44.7%
Arizona	194	35.7%	Florida	-505	-13.6%
Utah	140	112.0%	Maryland	-428	-34.8%
Arkansas	122	84.1%	Ohio	-388	-23.2%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>					
Florida	1,353	73.5%	New Jersey	-972	-61.4%
Georgia	733	66.2%	West Virginia	-879	-83.1%
District of Columbia	379	26.3%	Massachusetts	-737	-35.8%
New Mexico	319	130.2%	New York	-658	-27.3%
Michigan	215	23.2%	Texas	-595	-18.1%

**Table 91: States with the Largest Changes in PIT Estimates of Unsheltered Chronically Homeless**

▲ <i>Increases</i>			▼ <i>Decreases</i>		
State	Number	%Change	State	Number	%Change
<b>2010 to 2011</b>					
Florida	1,536	27.8%	Nevada	-735	-32.2%
California	1,359	5.1%	Louisiana	-395	-8.6%
Texas	760	19.3%	New York	-269	-11.4%
Oregon	395	20.6%	Arizona	-190	-13.7%
Illinois	312	44.9%	Utah	-182	-64.8%
<b>2007 to 2011</b>					
Louisiana	3,858	1,148.2%	California	-9,522	-25.2%
Florida	1,447	25.7%	New York	-1,978	-48.7%
Georgia	662	48.1%	Michigan	-1,320	-73.8%
Oregon	571	32.8%	Tennessee	-1,038	-55.5%
Nevada	193	14.2%	Arizona	-953	-44.2%

**PIT Estimates of Chronically Homeless People by State and Sheltered Status**

(Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, PIT Homeless Population and Subpopulations, 2007-2011)

**On a single night in January 2011:**

- The District of Columbia and 7 states sheltered more than 80 percent of their chronically homeless population: Nebraska (81.1 percent), New Jersey (81.3 percent), Delaware (84.3 percent), Wisconsin (84.6 percent), District of Columbia (86.9 percent), North Dakota (94.0 percent), Maine (95.3 percent), and Rhode Island (97.2 percent).
- In 18 states, chronically homeless people were more likely to be living in unsheltered locations than in shelter, and in four states more than 80 percent were living on the street: California (82.9 percent), Hawaii (87.7 percent), Nevada (89.2 percent), and Louisiana (96.4 percent).
- Of all unsheltered chronically homeless people in the United States, California accounted for 42.4 percent (28,214 people).

**Between 2010 and 2011:**

- 17 states and the District of Columbia experienced increases in the number of chronically homeless people (1,902 people). The declines in the number of chronically homeless people in shelter witnessed by the 33 remaining states (5,853 people) offset the increases.
- The number of chronically homeless people living in unsheltered locations increased in 23 states ( 5,395 people). California and Florida account for nearly half of the increase experienced by those 23 states.

**Between 2007 and 2011:**

- The number of chronically homeless people increased in 16 states (7,417 people), which was offset by the decreases experienced in 33 states and the District of Columbia (20,113 people).
- The number of chronically homeless people in unsheltered locations decreased by 16.9 percent (13,888 people).

Note: Additional detail on state-level estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).



A grayscale photograph of a pair of hands gently holding a small, handmade house. The house is constructed from cardboard, with a gabled roof and a rectangular doorway. The hands are positioned as if presenting or supporting the house, symbolizing care and shelter.

# **People in Permanent Supportive Housing in the United States**

## One-Year Estimates of People in Permanent Supportive Housing

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011)

In 2010, HUD began collecting aggregate HMIS data on people residing in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs. PSH programs are designed to serve people who were homeless with disabling conditions that interfere with their ability to maintain housing on their own. PSH programs provide permanent housing combined with intensive supportive services to stabilize formerly homeless people in housing, and assist them in becoming as self-sufficient as possible. The following section provides information on people residing in PSH any time between October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011. Counts of individuals and people in families may not sum to the total number of people in PSH because some people were served in both household types during the reporting period.

### In 2011:

- 298,257 people resided in PSH from October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011.
- Individuals comprised 64.7 percent of the population (193,214 people) living in PSH.
- People in families with children make up the 35.3 percent of the PSH population (105,274).

### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of people in PSH has increased by 1.2 percent (3,508 people).
- The number of individuals in PSH has increased by 14.0 percent (23,770 people).
- The number of people in families living in PSH decreased by 16.3 percent (20,463 people).

Table 92: People in PSH by Household Type, 2010-2011

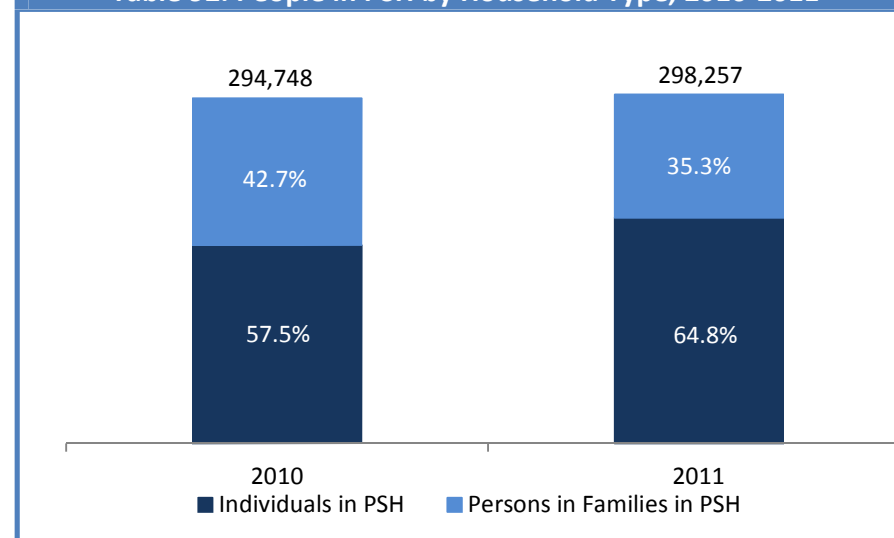


Table 93: Change in the One-Year Estimates of People in PSH, 2010-2011

Population	Number	%Change
Total People in PSH	3,508	1.2%
Individuals in PSH	23,770	14.0%
People in families in PSH	-20,463	-16.3%

## Characteristics of People in PSH: Gender and Age

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011)

### In 2011:

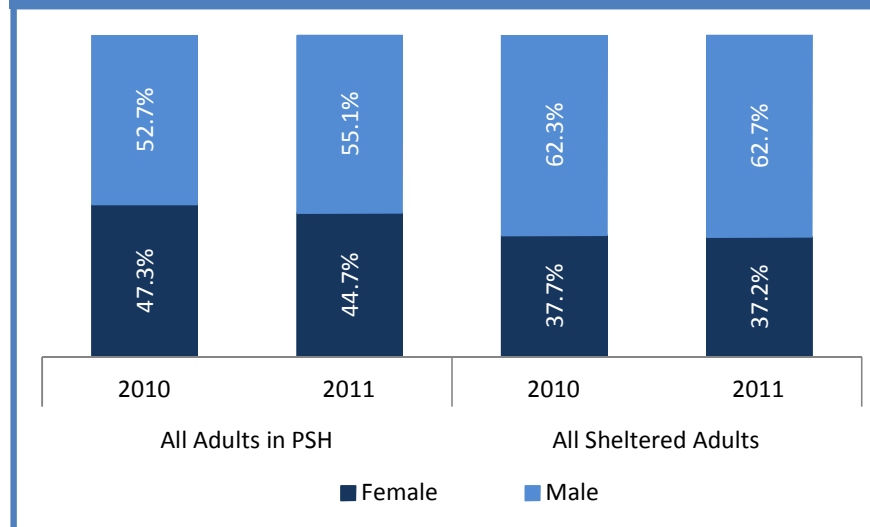
- About 45 percent of all adults in PSH were women (105,196 people) and 55 percent were men (129,613 people). Women make up a greater share of adults in PSH than all sheltered adults.
- Individuals in PSH were more likely to be female (37 percent) than individuals in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs (28 percent).
- The gender profile of adult individuals in PSH was considerably different than that of adults in families in PSH. In 2011, 37.2 percent of adult individuals in PSH were women (71,110 people) compared with 78.8 percent of adults in families in PSH (34,167).
- Most people in PSH were ages 31 to 61 (61.0 percent), and very few were age 62 or over (5.4 percent). About one-fifth (20.7 percent) were minors under the age of 18.
- Individuals in PSH were older—nearly 81 percent were ages 31 to 61, compared with only 24.4 percent of people in families. Also, 8 percent of individuals in PSH were 62 and older, compared with less than 1 percent of people in families.
- Nearly 60 percent (58.2 percent) of people in families in PSH were children under the age of 18. Less than 1 percent of individuals in PSH were under age 18.

### Trends:

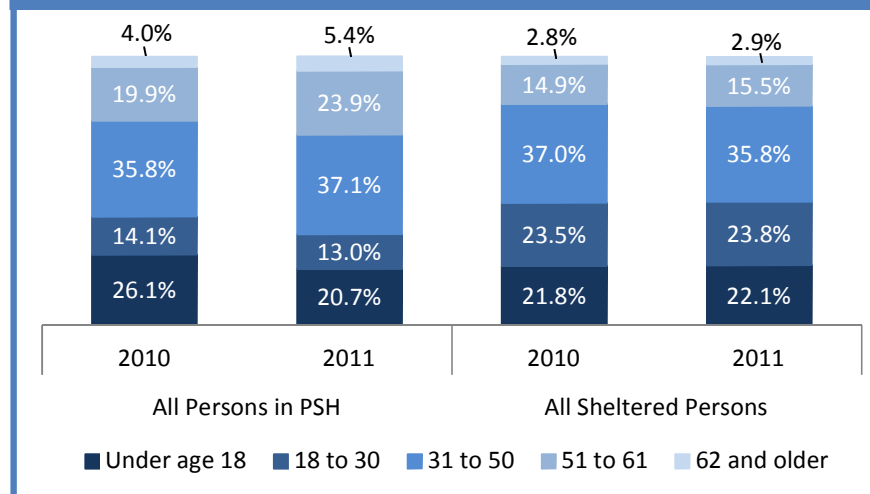
- The gender distribution of people in PSH changed slightly between 2010 and 2011. Adult women comprised a slightly smaller share of the PSH population (47.3 percent compared with 44.7 percent in 2011).
- People in PSH were older in 2011 than they were in 2010. The percentage of people under 18 decreased from 26.1 percent to 20.7 percent, and the percentage ages 31 to 61 increased from 55.7 percent in 2010 to 61.0 percent in 2011.
- As in 2010, the proportion of people in PSH in 2011 ages 18 to 30 (13.0%) was lower than the proportion in shelter (23.8%).

Note: Additional detail on gender and age estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 94: Gender of All Adults in PSH and All Sheltered Adults, 2010-2011**



**Table 95: Age Distribution of People in PSH and All Sheltered Homeless People, 2010-2011**



## Characteristics of People in PSH: Ethnicity and Race

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011)

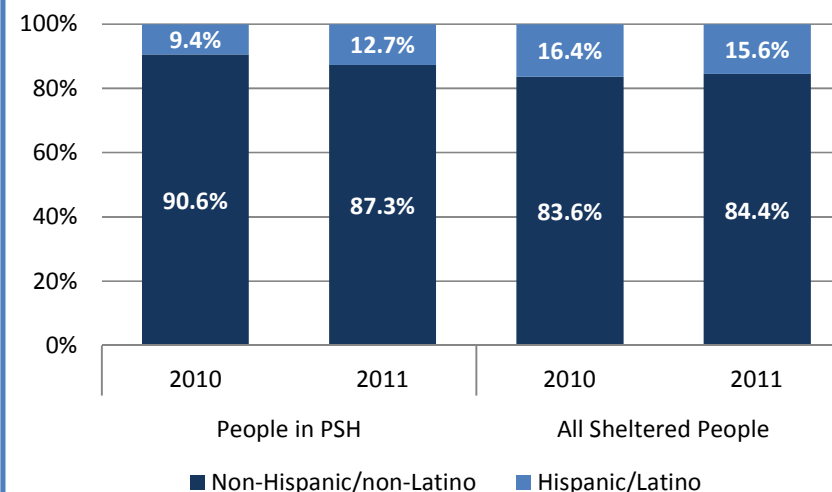
### In 2011:

- Nearly 9 in 10 people living in PSH were non-Hispanic/non-Latino (87.3 percent or 253,357 people), which was slightly higher than the proportion found in the sheltered homeless population.
- The racial characteristics of the PSH population were similar to those of the sheltered population. About 60 percent of people in PSH were minorities, comprised mostly of African Americans (42.2 percent).

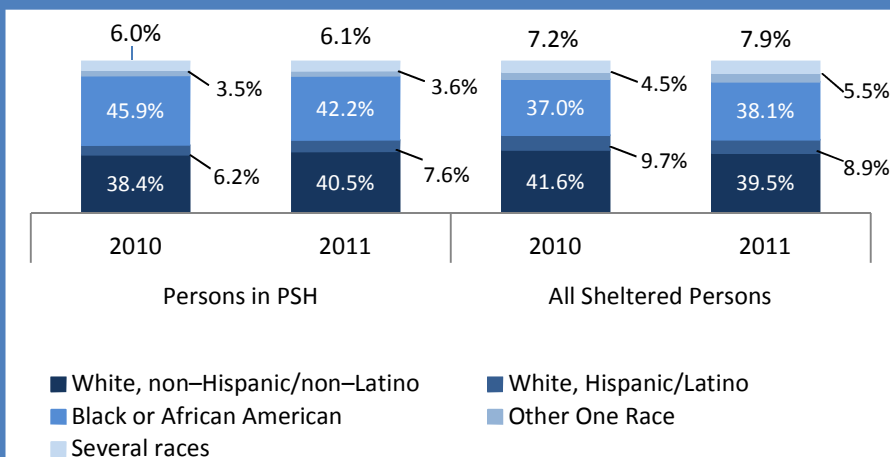
### Trends:

- While the percentage of sheltered homeless people that are Hispanic/Latino decreased, the share of Hispanics/Latinos in the PSH population increased, from an estimated 9.4 percent in 2010 to about 12.8 percent in 2011.
- Between 2010 and 2011, the share of the PSH population that was white, non-Hispanic/non-Latino increased slightly from 38.4 percent to 40.5 percent. The share of African Americans in the PSH population dropped slightly, from 45.9 percent in 2010 to 42.2 percent in 2011.

**Table 96: Ethnicity of People in PSH and All Sheltered Homeless People, 2010-2011**



**Table 97: Racial Distribution of People in PSH and All Sheltered Homeless People, 2010-2011**



Note: Additional detail on ethnicity and race estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

## Characteristics of People in PSH: Household Size and Disability Status

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011)

### In 2011:

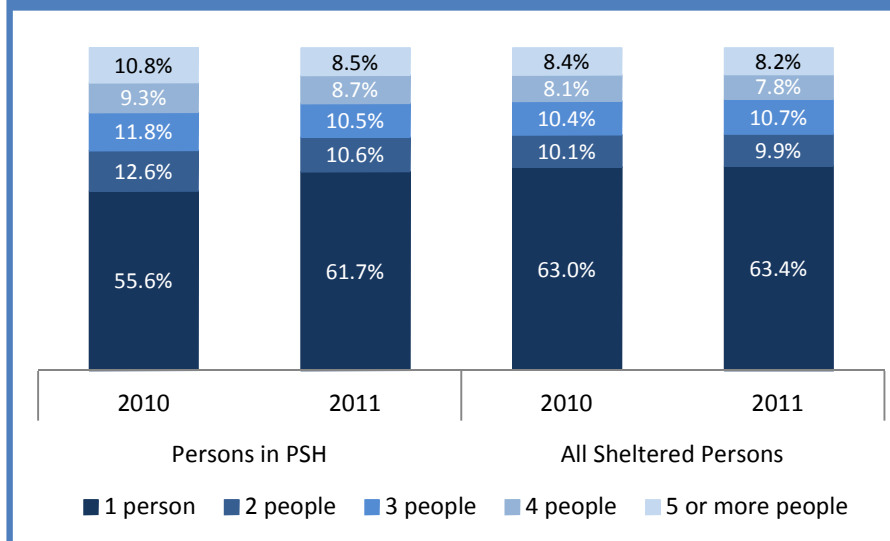
- The household size of people in PSH is similar to that of all sheltered people, with a majority living on their own. The percentage of people living in one person households in PSH (61.7 percent) is slightly lower than that of all sheltered people (63.4 percent) and slightly higher for the people living in households with 4 or more people (17.2 percent compared to 16.0 percent).
- Of adult tenants, 82.1 percent had a disability (181,876 people). This is a much higher proportion than is experienced by all sheltered people (37.7 percent).
- The rate of disability was higher for individuals in PSH (86.3 percent) than it was for people in families (63.0 percent). By comparison, the rates of disability for both household types in PSH were higher than their counterparts in shelter (42.6 and 16 percent, respectively).
- Three-quarters of adults in PSH with a disability experienced mental health issues (29.2 percent), substance abuse issues (9.3 percent) or both (27.6 percent).

### Trends:

- The household size of people in PSH changed between 2010 and 2011, with the share of 1-person households rising from 55.6 to 61.7 percent.
- The share of adults in PSH who are disabled has increased between 2010 and 2011, from 78.8 percent to 82.1 percent.
- Between 2010 and 2011, the percentage of adults in PSH with mental health issues increased from 24.2 percent to 29.2 percent; the share with substance abuse issues declined from 11.9 percent to 9.3 percent; and the share that experienced both substance abuse and mental health issues increased from less than one-fifth (17.3 percent) to more than one-quarter (27.6 percent).

Note: Additional detail on household size and disability estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 98: Household Size of People in PSH and All Sheltered Homeless People, 2010-2011**



**Table 99: Rates of Disability Among Adults in PSH, 2010-2011**

Disability Type <sup>1</sup>	2010	2011
Any Type of Disability	78.8%	82.1%
Mental Health	24.2%	29.2%
Both mental health & substance abuse	17.3%	27.6%
Physical Disability	13.2%	18.4%
Substance Abuse	11.9%	9.3%
Missing this information	8.2%	8.7%
HIV/AIDS	6.4%	6.0%
Developmental Disability	3.3%	4.9%

<sup>1</sup> Percent of adults with disabilities will not sum to 100 percent because people in PSH may have more than one type of disability.

## Geographic Distribution of People in PSH

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011; American Community Survey Data, 2009-2010)

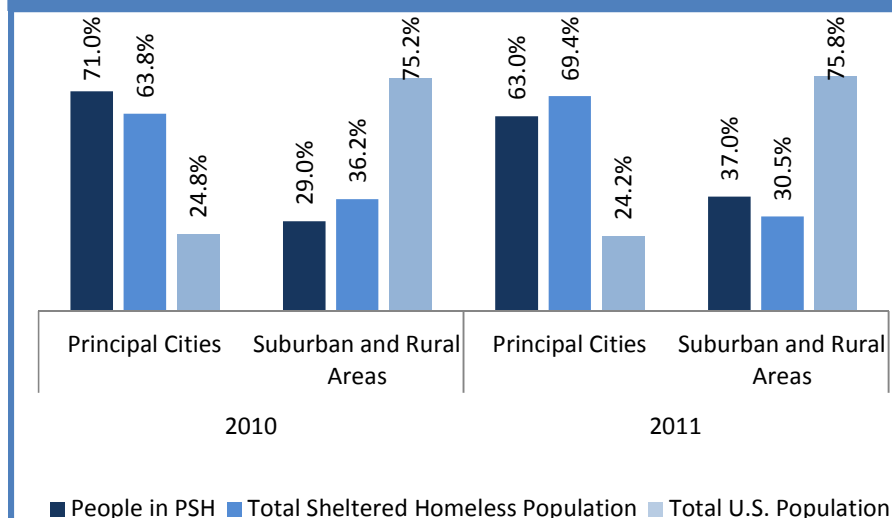
### In 2011:

- Of people in PSH, 63 percent were located in principal cities and 37 percent lived in suburban and rural areas.
- By comparison, a larger share of the total homeless population was located in principal cities (69 percent) and a much smaller share of the total U.S. population lived in principal cities (24 percent).

### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of people in PSH located in principal cities decreased by 20,656 people (nearly 10 percent).
- During the same period, the number of people in PSH located in suburban and rural areas increased by 23,817 people (nearly 28 percent).
- The changes experienced among people in PSH differs dramatically from the changes observed among the nation's total sheltered population. Sheltered homelessness in principal cities increased by 2.5 percent (25,148 people) and declined in suburban and rural areas by 20.4 percent (117,783 people).

**Table 100: Geographic Location of People in PSH, All Sheltered Homeless People, and Total Population, 2010 – 2011**



**Table 101: Change in Geographic Location of People in PSH and All Sheltered People, 2010 – 2011**

Population	Number		%Change	
	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas
People in PSH	-20,656	23,817	-9.9%	27.9%
Total Sheltered Homeless Population	25,148	-117,783	2.5%	-20.4%

## Characteristics of People in PSH by Geography

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011)

### In 2011:

- Adults in PSH in suburban and rural areas are slightly more likely to be women (46.0 percent) than their counterparts in principal cities (44.0 percent).
- People in PSH in principal cities were considerably more likely to be members of minority groups compared to their counterparts in suburban and rural areas (68.6 versus 44.2 percent). For example, 49.7 percent of PSH tenants in principal cities were African American compared with 29.6 percent of people in PSH in suburban or rural areas.
- PSH tenants in principal cities were slightly older than those in suburban and rural areas, with 5.9 percent over the age of 62 compared with 4.4 percent of suburban and rural areas.

### Trends:

- The percentage of Hispanic/Latino people living in PSH and located in principal cities increased between 2010 and 2011, from 9.1 percent to 14.8 percent.
- The share of PSH tenants in suburban and rural areas who are white, non-Hispanic/non-Latino increased slightly, from 53.6 percent in 2010 to 55.8 percent in 2011.
- In principal cities, the percentage of PSH tenants who were African American decreased, from 52.9 percent to 49.7 percent in 2011.
- In both principal cities and suburban and rural areas, the percentage of people in PSH who are under the age of 18 declined, from roughly one in four in 2010 to one in five in 2011.
- The rates of disability increased in both principal cities (78 percent in 2010 to 82.0 percent) and suburban and rural areas (80 percent to 82.2 percent).

**Table 102: Characteristics of People in PSH by Geography, 2011**

Characteristic	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural
Number of People in PSH	187,481	109,060
<b>Gender of Adults</b>		
Female	44.0%	46.0%
Male	55.8%	53.9%
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	85.2%	90.7%
Hispanic/Latino	14.8%	9.3%
<b>Race</b>		
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	31.4%	55.8%
White, Hispanic/Latino	8.5%	6.1%
Black or African American	49.7%	29.6%
Other one race	1.2%	0.7%
Several races	2.2%	2.1%
<b>Age</b>		
Under Age 18	20.5%	21.1%
18 to 30	12.5%	13.8%
31 to 50	36.6%	37.9%
51 to 61	24.5%	22.8%
62 and older	5.9%	4.4%
<b>People by Household Size</b>		
1 person	62.0%	61.1%
2 people	10.4%	11.0%
3 people	10.2%	10.9%
4 people	8.8%	8.6%
5 or more people	8.6%	8.5%
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>		
Yes	82.0%	82.2%
No	18.0%	17.8%

Note: Additional detail on characteristics can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).



## Patterns of Homeless Service Use among People in PSH: Multiple Program Use and Prior Living Arrangement

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011)

### In 2011:

- Few PSH tenants used other residential services during the one-year period. Fewer than 10 percent (9.4 percent) of individuals and 8 percent (7.5 percent) of families used emergency shelter or transitional housing during the reporting period.
- Most people accessed PSH from a homeless situation. Approximately three-quarters (74.9 percent) were homeless the night prior to entering PSH. Individuals were more likely to be homeless (76.7 percent) than families (66.6 percent) prior to entering PSH.
- Families were more likely to enter PSH from another housed situation. More than one-fifth (21.8 percent) of families accessed PSH from housing, compared to 11.4 percent of individuals.
- A small share of tenants came from institutional (5.4 percent) or other (6.5 percent) settings.
- Excluding those entering PSH from a homeless situation, 60.1 percent entered from a housed setting, which is lower than the corresponding percentage for all homeless persons (69.0 percent).

### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011, the share of people entering PSH from a homeless situation increased considerably. The percent of those entering PSH from a homeless situation in 2010 was just more than 66 percent, compared with nearly 75 percent in 2011. The number of people entering PSH from homelessness increased by more than 36,000 people, or 28.2 percent.
- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of people accessing PSH directly from housing declined by 9.5 percent (almost 3,500 people).
- The share of people coming from institutional settings increased by 3.1 percent from 2010 to 2011.
- Those accessing PSH from other settings declined as well, by over 40 percent (7,274 people).

Note: Additional detail on prior living estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

Table 103: Where People Lived Before Entering PSH, 2010-2011

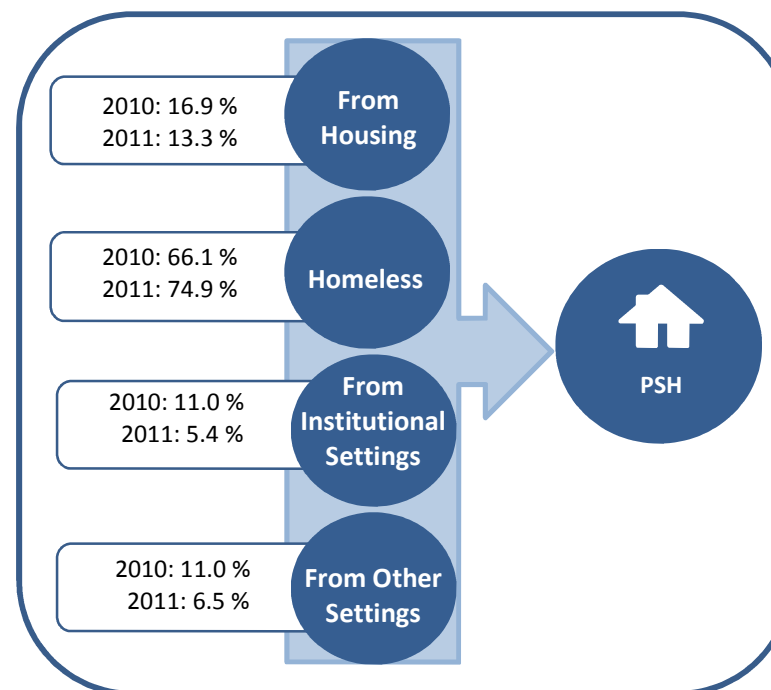


Table 104: Change in Where People Lived Before Entering PSH

Prior Living Arrangement	2010-2011	
	Number	%Change
Housing	-3,473	-9.5%
Homeless	36,231	28.2%
Institutional Settings	338	3.1%
Other Settings	-7,274	-40.3%

## Patterns of Service Use among People in PSH: Length of Stay and Other Bed Use Patterns

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011)

### In 2011:

- The number of people entering PSH was 75,533. Approximately two-thirds of those were individuals and one-third were people in families.
- The number of people exiting PSH in 2011 was 56,286. Just more than 55 percent of those exiting were individuals and 45 percent were people in families.
- The overall turnover rate (the number of people served by each bed over the course of the year) for PSH beds was 1.13. The rate was 1.16 for beds serving individuals and 1.08 for beds serving people in families.
- Less than one-third of people in PSH (29.9 percent) lived there for one year or less. Of those, 14.2 percent stayed in PSH less than 6 months, and 15.7 percent lived in PSH for 7 to 12 months.
- Nearly half of all tenants (49.2 percent) stayed 2 years or longer, and one-fifth (20.9 percent) lived in PSH for between 1 and 2 years.

### Trends:

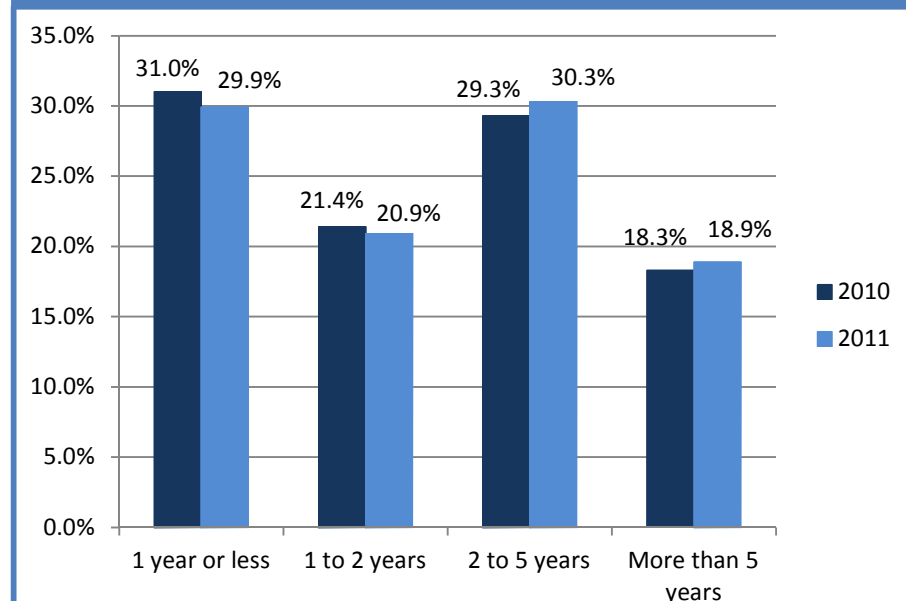
- The total number of people entering PSH increased by more than 4,800 people or 6.0 percent between 2010 and 2011. The number of people leaving PSH decreased by nearly 2,500 people or 4.5 percent, supporting the slight shift toward longer stays.
- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of individuals entering PSH remained largely unchanged, but the number of individuals exiting PSH declined by 19.5 percent (5,785 people). The number of people in families entering PSH increased during the same time period, by 16.2 percent (4,800 people). The number of people in families exiting PSH also increased slightly, by 14.7 percent (3,300 people).
- The percentage of people living in PSH for longer than two years increased from 47.6 percent in 2010 to 49.2 percent in 2011.

Note: Additional detail on length of stay estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

**Table 105: Change in People Entering and People Exiting from PSH, 2010-2011**

Entry and Exit into PSH	Number	%Change
People Entering PSH	4,833	6.0%
People Exiting PSH	-2,448	-4.5%

**Table 106: Change in the Length of Stay Among People in PSH, 2010-2011**



## Destination at Exit among People in PSH

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011)

### In 2011:

- Most people exiting PSH left to housing (67.3 percent). Of those, most (40.4 percent) moved into a rented housing unit. Half of those did so with some sort of subsidy and half with no subsidy.
- Very few (1.5 percent) left for a housing unit that they owned. Nearly 20 percent moved out of PSH and in with a friend or family member.
- People in families were much more likely than individuals to leave PSH for a rented unit (54.4 percent compared with 40.4 percent), but were slightly less likely to leave for a unit with a subsidy attached (25.4 percent versus 28.3 percent).
- Slightly more than 7 percent of people that exited PSH became homeless (8.8 percent of individuals and 3.9 percent of families). Individuals were more likely to exit to emergency shelter (4.8 percent), and families were nearly equally likely to exit to emergency shelter (2 percent) or transitional housing (1.6 percent).
- Nine percent of people exited to institutional settings, with more than half (4.7 percent) of those exiting to jail or prison.

### Trends:

- Between 2010 and 2011 the number of people that exited to housing increased by 15.8 percent (4,318 people). However, the share of all people that exited to housing decreased slightly, from 68.4 percent in 2010 to 67.3 percent in 2011.
- The share of individuals that exited to housing remained the same, while the share of people in families increased slightly, from 80.7 percent to 82.6 percent.
- The share of people exiting to homelessness increased, from 5.3 percent in 2010 to 7.3 percent in 2011. This results in an increase of 1,315 people (62.5 percent) exiting PSH to a homeless situation between 2010 and 2011.

**Table 107: Destination at Exit Among People in PSH, 2010-2011**

Exit to...	2010			2011		
	All People in PSH	Individuals in PSH	People in Families in PSH	All People in PSH	Individuals in PSH	People in Families in PSH
<b>Housing</b>	68.4%	60.6%	80.7%	67.3%	60.4%	82.6%
<b>Homeless Situation</b>	5.3%	6.8%	2.8%	7.3%	8.8%	3.9%
<b>Institutional Setting</b>	9.5%	13.9%	2.5%	9.0%	11.4%	3.8%
<b>Other Setting or Unknown</b>	16.9%	18.7%	14.0%	16.4%	19.4%	9.6%

**Table 108: Change in Destinations at Exit, 2010-2011**

Exit to...	Number	%Change
<b>Housing</b>	4,318	15.8%
<b>Homeless Situation</b>	1,315	62.5%
<b>Institutional Setting</b>	464	12.3%
<b>Other Setting or Unknown</b>	-5,046	-24.4%

Note: Additional detail on destination estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

## One-Year Estimates of Veterans in PSH

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011)

The following section provides information on veterans residing in PSH from October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011. Counts of veterans served as individuals and as members of families may not sum to the total number of veterans in PSH because some veterans were served in both household types.

The one-year estimates of veterans in PSH *do not* include veterans living in HUD-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) programs. The HUD-VASH program combines Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance with case management and clinical services provided by the VA. Information about veterans in the HUD-VASH program is not reported into communities' HMIS or their bed inventories, and thus was not tabulated for the 2011 AHAR. Administrative data from the HUD-VASH program indicate that 35,894 veterans have been housed through the program between 2008 and 2011.

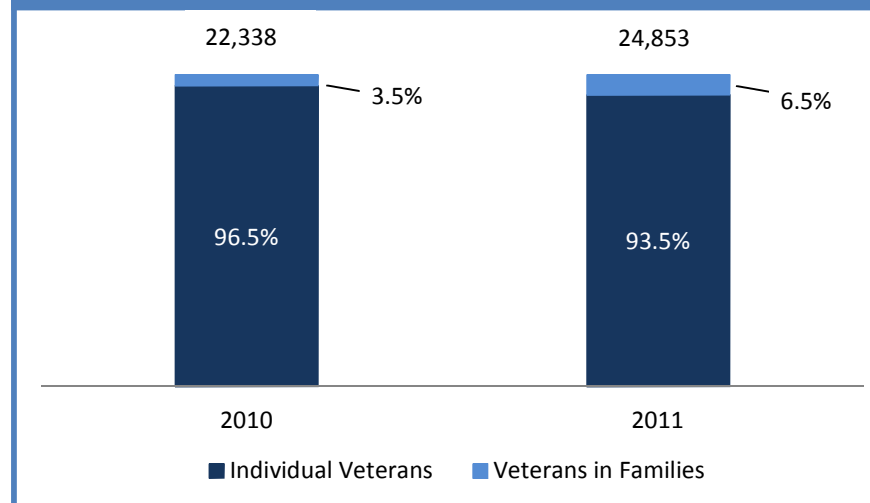
### In 2011:

- An estimated 24,853 veterans were residing in PSH in 2011.
- 93.5 percent of veterans in PSH (23,238 veterans) were living by themselves, and 6.5 percent (1,631 veterans) were in families.
- In addition, an estimated 35,894 veterans were in the HUD-VASH program through 2011.

### Trends:

- From 2010 to 2011, the number of veterans in shelter has increased by 2,515 people (11.3 percent).
- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of individual veterans increased by 7.8 percent (1,687 people), and the number of veterans in families increased by more than 100 percent (827 people).

**Table 109: One-Year Estimates of Veterans in PSH, 2010-2011**



**Table 110: Change in Number of Veterans in PSH, 2010-2011**

Population	Number	%Change
Total Veteran Population	2,515	11.3%
Individual Veterans	1,687	7.8%
Veterans in Families	827	102.8%

## Characteristics of Veterans in PSH

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011)

### In 2011:

- Most veterans in PSH are men (89.1 percent). Veterans in families are much more likely to be women (48.2 percent) than individual veterans (8 percent).
- Few veterans in PSH are Hispanic/Latino (6.1 percent). However, the share of veterans that are Hispanic/Latino more than doubles among veterans in families (13.7 percent).
- The racial characteristics of veterans in PSH resemble those of veterans in the shelter population, except individual veterans in PSH are more likely to be white, non-Hispanic/non-Latino (52.7 percent), and veterans in families are more likely to be minorities (56.2 percent).
- Nearly half of veterans in PSH are ages 51 to 61 (48.6 percent), and nearly two-thirds are age 51 or older (63.3 percent). By comparison, veterans in shelter are younger than veterans in PSH (9.1 percent are age 18 to 30, compared with 3.2 percent in PSH).
- The overwhelming majority of veterans in PSH were disabled (86.0 percent). Individual veterans were more likely to be disabled (86.8 percent) than veterans in families (77.4 percent).

### Trends

- Between 2010 and 2011, the percentage of veterans in PSH that are women increased from 8.8 percent in 2010 to 10.8 percent in 2011.
- The proportion of minority veterans in PSH declined slightly, from 49.6 percent in 2010 to 47.8 percent in 2011. The decline occurred despite the increase among minority veterans in families, from 49.2 to 56.2 percent.
- Slightly fewer veterans in PSH are ages 18 to 30 in 2011 (3.2 percent) than were in 2010 (4.7 percent). The only age group to experience an increase between 2010 and 2011 was the 62 and older group (12.1 percent in 2010 to 14.7 percent in 2011).

Note: Additional detail on characteristics and disability estimates can be found at [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info).

Table 111. Characteristics of Veterans in PSH, 2011

Characteristic	All Veterans	Individual Veterans	Veterans in Families
Number of People in PSH	24,853	23,238	1,631
<b>Gender of Adults</b>			
Female	10.8%	8.2%	48.2%
Male	89.1%	91.7%	51.9%
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	93.9%	94.4%	86.3%
Hispanic/Latino	6.1%	5.6%	13.7%
<b>Race</b>			
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	52.1%	52.7%	43.9%
White, Hispanic/Latino	4.6%	4.0%	12.7%
Black or African American	37.5%	37.9%	32.6%
Other one race	2.5%	2.5%	2.2%
Several races	3.2%	2.9%	8.7%
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 30	3.2%	2.4%	13.4%
31 to 50	34.3%	32.7%	56.8%
51 to 61	48.6%	50.1%	26.4%
62 and older	14.7%	14.7%	3.4%
<b>Disabled</b>			
Yes	86.0%	86.6%	77.4%
No	14.0%	13.4%	22.6%

Table 112: Rates of Disability Among Veterans in PSH, 2010-2011

Disability Type <sup>1</sup>	2010	2011
Any Type of Disability	80.0%	86.0%
Mental Health	31.7%	30.6%
Both mental health & substance abuse	22.6%	28.9%
Physical Disability	17.3%	19.2%
Substance Abuse	15.6%	9.7%
HIV/AIDS	8.4%	6.3%
Developmental Disability	4.4%	5.2%

<sup>1</sup> Percent of adults with disabilities will not sum to 100 percent because people in PSH may have more than one type of disability.

## Patterns of Homeless Service Use among Veterans in PSH: Multiple Program Use and Prior Living Arrangement

(Homeless Management Information System data, 2010-2011)

### In 2011:

- A small number of veteran PSH tenants used other residential services during the one-year period. About 12 percent of individuals and 17 percent of families used emergency shelter or transitional housing during the reporting period.
- Most veterans accessed PSH from a homeless situation. Over three-quarters (78.9 percent) were homeless the night prior to entering PSH. Individuals were more likely to be homeless (79.6 percent) than families (68.3 percent) prior to entering PSH.
- Veterans in families were more likely to enter PSH from another housed situation. About 14 percent of veterans in families accessed PSH from housing, compared to 10 percent of veteran individuals.
- A small share of veteran PSH tenants came from institutional settings (5.7 percent) or other settings (5.1 percent).

### Trends:

- From 2010 to 2011, the distribution of prior living situations among veterans using PSH services shifted mostly toward those who were already homeless. The share coming from homeless situations increased by 3.4 percentage points (from 75.5 percent to 78.9 percent).
- Between 2010 and 2011, the flow of veterans into PSH has increased among those coming from homeless and institutional settings. The largest numeric increase was among veterans coming from homeless settings with a one year rise of 2,973 people (18.8 percent). The number coming from other settings decreased by 294 people (19.4 percent).

Table 113: Where Veterans Lived Before Entering PSH, 2010 - 2011

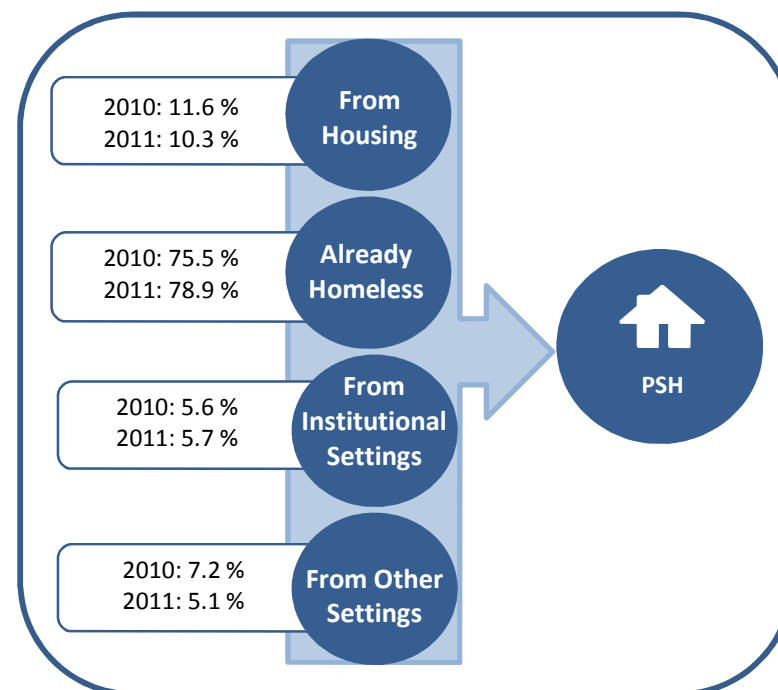


Table 114: Change in Where Veterans Lived Before Entering PSH

Prior Living Arrangement	2010 - 2011	
	Number	%Change
Housing	2,973	18.8%
Already Homeless	15	0.6%
Institutional Settings	186	15.7%
Other Settings	-294	-19.4%



