

## BACKGROUND AND NOTES ON THE 2015 TABLES FOR YOUTH

These tables provide detailed survey results from the October 2015 Statewide survey of people without permanent shelter. The data are provided to help planners and service providers develop summary information about the characteristics of homeless people, their experiences and needs, and the barriers that prevent them from obtaining housing.

For actual counts of people who were homeless on October 22, 2015, see the report *Statewide and Region Counts of Homeless People* found at [http://mnhomeless.org/minnesota-homeless-study/detailed-data-counts/2015/All-2015-Homeless-Counts\\_3-16.pdf](http://mnhomeless.org/minnesota-homeless-study/detailed-data-counts/2015/All-2015-Homeless-Counts_3-16.pdf). Other reports regarding the 2015 homeless study are published at [www.mnhomeless.org](http://www.mnhomeless.org) as they are available.

To fit with legislation, we have defined these segments of the youth homeless population as follows:

- **Unaccompanied minors:** age 17 and under and not with their parents.
- **Young adults:** age 18 through 24.
- **Youth** combines both groups to describe all homeless persons ages 17 and under and on their own.

Interviews were conducted on October 22, 2015 with 213 unaccompanied minors, ages 17 and under, including 119 in temporary housing programs and 94 in non-shelter locations. These minors had a total of 5 children with them. In addition, interviews were conducted with 1,250 young adults, ages 18 through 24, including 889 in temporary housing programs and 361 in non-shelter locations. Young adult respondents had a total of 539 children with them.

## NOTES FOR INTERPRETING THE DATA TABLES

**Tables report frequency distributions for all questions included in the survey. There are two sets of data tables about homeless youth. The first includes breakdowns by geographic area** (Twin Cities metro area vs. greater Minnesota), **by gender, and by shelter type** (emergency shelter, transitional housing programs, and temporary arrangements/street). **The second includes break-downs by age grouping** (minors vs. young adults) **and by geographic area** (Twin Cities metro area vs. greater Minnesota) The metro region includes the following counties: Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington. Temporary arrangements include outside, abandoned buildings, staying with friends or family members, and temporary paid, exchange, or voucher arrangements.

**The data tables are organized by question.** Within each question, data tables display the responses for greater Minnesota, the Twin Cities metro area, and statewide. For one set of data tables, they are also organized by shelter type (emergency shelter, transitional housing programs, and temporary arrangements/street) and gender; for the other, they are organized by age grouping (minor youth, age 17 and under vs. young adults, age 18-24).

**The total number of responses is different for each question, based on the number of valid responses to that question.** Missing data (cases when a respondent did not answer a question) are not reported or included in the percentages.

**The percentages apply only to the respondents who were qualified to answer that question.** Some tables report data that were collected only from those who answered a previous question in a certain way.

For example, many questions about children are asked only of those persons who have children with them, so the percentages apply only to that group.

**The tables do not contain data for all homeless youth in Minnesota.** Although efforts were made to interview as many persons as possible, not all homeless youth staying in shelter on October 22, 2015 were interviewed for this study. Based on counts of actual shelter use on survey night, 49 percent of youth were interviewed. Interviews are only conducted with one person per household and the survey is voluntary. In addition, youth are more likely to be sleeping in temporary arrangements with friends and less likely to be found in shelters. It was not feasible to cover the state to find all homeless youth staying in non-shelter locations. Consequently, this study describes primarily those homeless youth who are connected in some way to service providers and does not represent all youth experiencing homelessness on the date of the survey.

**Unlike in the adult data tables, these data are not weighted.** In the companion adult tables, survey results have been statistically adjusted to reflect the actual adult populations residing in shelters and transitional housing programs (1,502 men and 1,428 women) on the day of the survey. We do not weight the data in the youth tables. This is because many homeless youth do not use shelter and we do not want to over-represent the backgrounds and experiences of the small proportion of those using shelter during the one-night snapshot.

For questions about the study, please refer to our publications on homelessness at [www.mnhomeless.org](http://www.mnhomeless.org) or contact [michelle.gerrard@wilder.org](mailto:michelle.gerrard@wilder.org).

**220. How long has it been since you have had contact with any of your family or relatives other than those living with you here?**

<i>By Region Within Age Group</i>	Unaccompanied minors (17 years or younger)						Young adults (18 to 24 years)						Total (24 years or younger)					
	Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide		Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide		Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Less than 1 month	43	78.2%	59	76.6%	102	77.3%	186	74.4%	274	74.3%	460	74.3%	229	75.1%	333	74.7%	562	74.8%
More than 1 month, but less than 1 year	8	14.5%	10	13.0%	18	13.6%	39	15.6%	56	15.2%	95	15.3%	47	15.4%	66	14.8%	113	15.0%
1 year or more	4	7.3%	8	10.4%	12	9.1%	25	10.0%	39	10.6%	64	10.3%	29	9.5%	47	10.5%	76	10.1%
<b>Total</b>	55	100%	77	100%	132	100.0%	250	100%	369	100%	619	100.0%	305	100%	446	100%	751	100.0%

**221. In the last 12 months, have any of the following people helped you to find the services you need?**

<i>By Region Within Age Group</i>	Unaccompanied minors (17 years or younger)						Young adults (18 to 24 years)						Total (24 years or younger)					
	Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide		Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide		Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Friend	35	61.4%	38	46.9%	73	52.9%	153	60.5%	229	61.1%	382	60.8%	188	60.6%	267	58.6%	455	59.4%
Partner / Significant other	9	15.8%	24	28.9%	33	23.6%	79	31.2%	138	36.4%	217	34.3%	88	28.4%	162	35.1%	250	32.4%
Your parent	20	36.4%	28	34.1%	48	35.0%	94	37.2%	115	30.4%	209	33.1%	114	37.0%	143	31.1%	257	33.5%
Another relative	25	43.1%	31	37.3%	56	39.7%	92	36.2%	131	34.7%	223	35.3%	117	37.5%	162	35.1%	279	36.1%
Social worker	31	53.4%	42	51.2%	73	52.1%	104	40.9%	178	47.5%	282	44.8%	135	43.3%	220	48.1%	355	46.2%
Shelter staff person	17	29.3%	35	42.7%	52	37.1%	88	34.6%	154	40.8%	242	38.4%	105	33.7%	189	41.2%	294	38.1%
Youth worker	27	46.6%	24	29.3%	51	36.4%	109	42.9%	193	51.2%	302	47.9%	136	43.6%	217	47.3%	353	45.8%
Outreach worker	7	12.3%	10	12.5%	17	12.4%	62	24.8%	99	26.4%	161	25.8%	69	22.5%	109	24.0%	178	23.4%
Teacher or other school staff	23	40.4%	29	34.9%	52	37.1%	34	13.4%	88	23.3%	122	19.3%	57	18.3%	117	25.4%	174	22.5%
Guardian ad Litem or other court staff	6	10.5%	6	7.5%	12	8.8%	10	4.0%	18	4.7%	28	4.4%	16	5.2%	24	5.2%	40	5.2%
Foster or Host Home parent	4	6.9%	4	4.9%	8	5.8%	11	4.3%	11	2.9%	22	3.5%	15	4.8%	15	3.3%	30	3.9%

**222. Is there currently any adult in your life that you trust and have regular contact with?**

By Region Within Age Group	Unaccompanied minors (17 years or younger)						Young adults (18 to 24 years)						Total (24 years or younger)					
	Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide		Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide		Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Yes	51	91.1%	68	81.9%	119	85.6%	202	82.1%	280	75.1%	482	77.9%	253	83.8%	348	76.3%	601	79.3%
No	5	8.9%	15	18.1%	20	14.4%	44	17.9%	93	24.9%	137	22.1%	49	16.2%	108	23.7%	157	20.7%
<b>Total</b>	56	100%	83	100%	139	100.0%	246	100%	373	100%	619	100.0%	302	100%	456	100%	758	100.0%

**223. For those with adults who they trust and have regular contact with, who is that?**

By Region Within Age Group	Unaccompanied minors (17 years or younger)						Young adults (18 to 24 years)						Total (24 years or younger)					
	Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide		Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide		Greater Minnesota		Metro		Statewide	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Your parent	16	31.4%	28	42.4%	44	37.6%	59	30.7%	77	27.9%	136	29.1%	75	30.9%	105	30.7%	180	30.8%
Another relative	16	31.4%	15	22.7%	31	26.5%	46	24.0%	69	25.0%	115	24.6%	62	25.5%	84	24.6%	146	25.0%
A friend	8	15.7%	5	7.6%	13	11.1%	30	15.6%	35	12.7%	65	13.9%	38	15.6%	40	11.7%	78	13.3%
Partner or significant other	-	-	5	7.6%	5	4.3%	19	9.9%	32	11.6%	51	10.9%	19	7.8%	37	10.8%	56	9.6%
Youth worker	4	7.8%	1	1.5%	5	4.3%	17	8.9%	25	9.1%	42	9.0%	21	8.6%	26	7.6%	47	8.0%
A social worker	3	5.9%	3	4.5%	6	5.1%	6	3.1%	17	6.2%	23	4.9%	9	3.7%	20	5.8%	29	5.0%
Teacher or other school staff	2	3.9%	7	10.6%	9	7.7%	2	1.0%	6	2.2%	8	1.7%	4	1.6%	13	3.8%	17	2.9%
A shelter staff person	1	2.0%	1	1.5%	2	1.7%	4	2.1%	8	2.9%	12	2.6%	5	2.1%	9	2.6%	14	2.4%
A foster or Host Home parent	1	2.0%	1	1.5%	2	1.7%	4	2.1%	3	1.1%	7	1.5%	5	2.1%	4	1.2%	9	1.5%
Outreach worker	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2.1%	2	0.7%	6	1.3%	4	1.6%	2	0.6%	6	1.0%
Guardian ad Litem or other court staff	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0.7%	2	0.4%	-	-	2	0.6%	2	0.3%
Pastor	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.5%	-	-	1	0.2%	1	0.4%	-	-	1	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	51	100%	66	100%	117	100.0%	192	100%	276	100%	468	100.0%	243	100%	342	100%	585	100.0%