

**Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance
2011 Annual "Point-In-Time" Homeless Count and Census
Dallas County**



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Executive Summary

MDHA and Solutions to Homelessness

Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance (MDHA) is a public policy focused non-profit advocacy organization, provider of services through the Bridge homeless assistance center and a repository of crucial information about the challenges and solutions to homelessness. The public policy issues that are central to solving homelessness need to be discussed and addressed based on data and rational planning for affordable and specialized housing, healthcare, and other human services.

Bringing more science and less bias into any problem solving process is helpful; for the thousands of people experiencing homelessness in Dallas County a belief in the ultimate strength of the human spirit and the ability of human beings in crisis to overcome the hardships they face is paramount to taking action at the level of the individual citizen and concerted community action.

We believe that the Dallas area cannot maximize its potential for economic vitality, a healthy citizenry, and safe and wholesome urban centers without strategic attention to the plight, and the strengths, of the poor, disabled and those who find themselves on the margins of our community.

MDHA Constituents

At our best the Alliance strives to bring the interests of homeless children and families, youth and adults experiencing homeless into the Dallas area market place of ideas and public policy dialogue. MDHA also supports the needs of the individuals and organizations that care for people experiencing homelessness, policy makers who make difficult decisions about scarce resources and the public that elects them.

The MDHA Point-In-Time Count and Homeless Census

The annual Point-In-Time Count and Census is truly a community endeavor that gathers and analyzes data on homelessness in Dallas County. Beyond the work of the Alliance this information is used by local government entities, healthcare providers, non-profit service organizations, faith-based groups and state and federal agencies.

MDHA appreciates the valuable support of the City of Dallas in conducting the Count. The City's Department of Housing and Community Services, the Dallas Police Department including the Outreach and Crisis Intervention team make the Annual Count possible. Heartfelt thanks to the 193 volunteers who served in a variety of roles on the night of the Count, to the staff members of the 46 participating agencies, and to the 38 data entry volunteers who finished entering more than 3,400 surveys in record time this year.

Snapshot of the 2011 Count

2011 marks the seventh consecutive year MDHA has published a report based on newly gathered data on homelessness. From a historical perspective we can see trends are being developed, successes can be noted, and future challenges identified. In this report we learn:

- The total homeless population number remains basically level, 5,783 in 2011 compared to 5,750 in 2010 with 31% of those becoming homeless last year.
- 2,822 women and children comprised 48% of the total homeless population with 51 of the children unaccompanied 17 and younger in age.
- Of those homeless longer than one year, 51% were living in transitional or permanent supportive housing which is a decrease from 62% living in transitional or permanent supportive housing in the previous year's count who reported being homeless longer than one year.
- Chronically homeless individuals, those homeless longer than one year with a disability, numbered 514 similar to the 2010 total of 504. Since 2004 the number of chronic homeless has decreased 57%.

Are we continuing to make progress?

Although the total number of homeless remained relatively stable in 2011 compared to 2010 MDHA believes this was quite an accomplishment for the community given the challenges of the economy, the loss of jobs, homes and additional stress put on our public health and human service systems by increased demand and often reduced resources. Additional data gathered recently includes a report from UT Southwestern that homelessness in the public mental health system has been cut in half since the opening of the Bridge in 2008.

Observations

- The Dallas community is gaining ground in moving chronically homeless single adults into transitional and permanent supportive housing but needs to do much more – for the sake of our homeless neighbors and for the economic interests of our local governments. Success in housing means fewer homeless individuals on the streets and in emergency shelters, reduced jail and criminal justice costs and reduced psychiatric and other hospitalizations.
- The sustainability of the Bridge given its track record in achieving recovery for chronic and long term homeless individuals in permanent supportive housing must be a community priority.
- Our public behavioral health entity (mental health and substance abuse services) NorthStar, is over extended, underfunded, and beginning to lose ground in its ability to address the needs of people with mental disorders and addictions in the region.
- Because of the tragedy of homeless, the costs of undertreated mental health and substance conditions in homeless adults (three times higher than in other

populations with mental disorders) immediate attention to prioritization of homeless populations in services funding makes human and economic common sense.

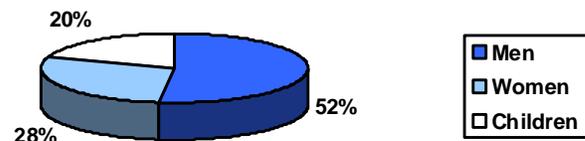
- The most difficult to count and an almost invisible homeless population are the families with children and youth 17 years of age and younger living on their own. Our efforts to track the unmet needs of families who are homeless and to articulate clearer solutions need to be redoubled.
- Local policy makers including those that give oversight to the public mental health and substance abuse system need to increase attention to effective research and planning and targeted funding to develop permanent supportive housing for homeless populations with mental illnesses and addictions. Our data clearly supports the notion that with increased permanent supportive housing the tide has turned in our efforts to end chronic homelessness.
- We must also provide these supportive housing programs for families experiencing homelessness where one of the parents is diagnosed with a disability.
- Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance's collaboration with the Dallas Housing Authority has resulted in placing more than 600 chronically homeless persons in housing units over the past two years and the Housing Authority is to be commended.
- The need for more short-term transitional housing is apparent for youth and young adults who do not qualify for permanent supportive housing. Many of them have the capacity to become gainfully employed and fully self-sufficient, once short-term problems are addressed and resolved.
- Investing more public dollars into affordable housing for families and individuals with the lowest incomes will pay off in human and economic outcomes and the quality of life in the Dallas area.
- The continuing increase in the number of women and children and unaccompanied children 17 and younger is of concern and needs more focus from MDHA and the community in the following months.

MDHA 2011 Point-in-Time Homeless Count and Census Report – Dallas County FULL REPORT

Total Homeless Population

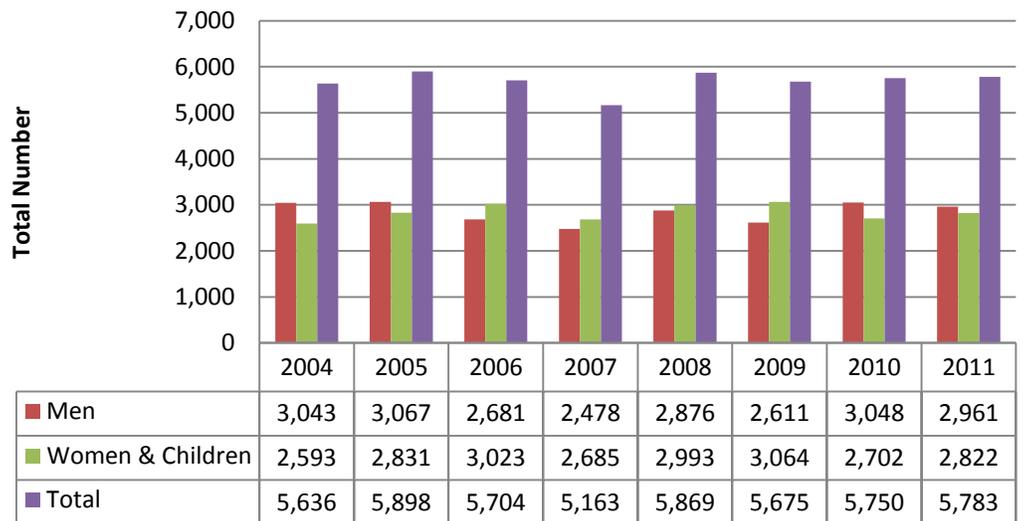
For the annual Point-in-Time Count, the total homeless population counted in Dallas County on the January 27, 2011 was **5,783**. This includes **4,626** adults, **1,106** children in family units and **51** unaccompanied children.

2010 Homeless Population



This represents less than 1% **increase** over last year's total number of 5,750. For the second year, the percentage of men who are homeless (52%) is larger than the percentage of homeless women and children. The number of homeless children remained level with 2010 numbers, but women increased a percentage point.

Comparison of Men to Women & Children



Survey / Sample Size

In 2011, **3,128 surveys** were completed, representing a **4% increase** when compared with the number of surveys completed last year.

In 2011, **4,034 total people** were represented on surveys, representing a **5% increase** when compared with the number of people represented last year.

71% of the homeless individuals counted on January 27 were represented on surveys.

Adult Population

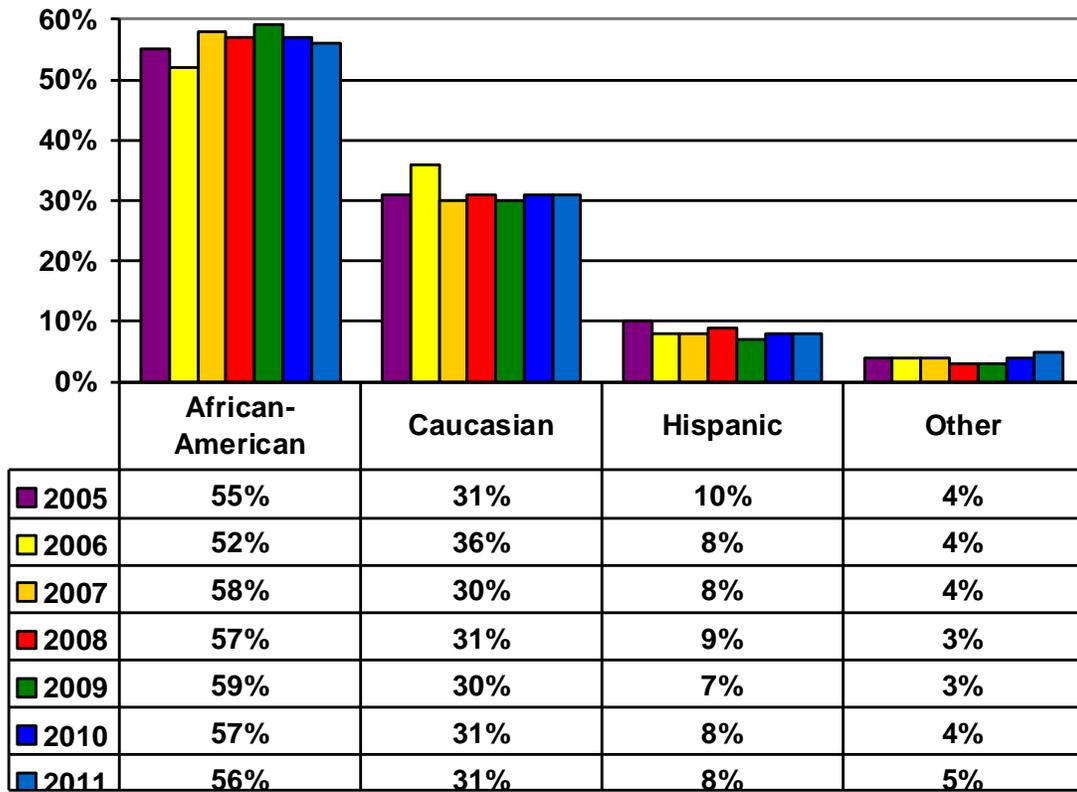
- **3,311 Adults** were represented on the surveys.
- **Adults** made up **80%** of the total homeless population.
- **8%** reported having formerly been in foster care.

2011 - Total Adults of Known Gender			
Number / %	Adult Males	Adult Females	Total Known Gender
Number	1,806	1,033	2,803
% of Known Gender	64%	36%	100%

2011 - Total Adults of Known Race						
Number / %	African American	American Indian	Caucasian (White)	Hispanic (Latino)	Other	Total Known Race
Number	1,533	35	856	221	102	2,747
% of Known Race	56%	1%	31%	8%	4%	100%

The 2011 results demonstrate that African-Americans continue to represent the largest percentage of the total adult homeless population.

Homeless Adult Racial Demographics



2011 - Total Adults of Known Age		
Age	Number	% of Total Known Age
18-21 Years	116	4%
22-29 Years	292	10%
30-39 Years	503	18%
40-49 Years	790	28%
50-59 Years	854	30%
60-69 Years	210	7%
70 + Years	12	3%
Total Known Age	2,777	100%

Age of Homeless Adults

As a percentage of the homeless population surveyed

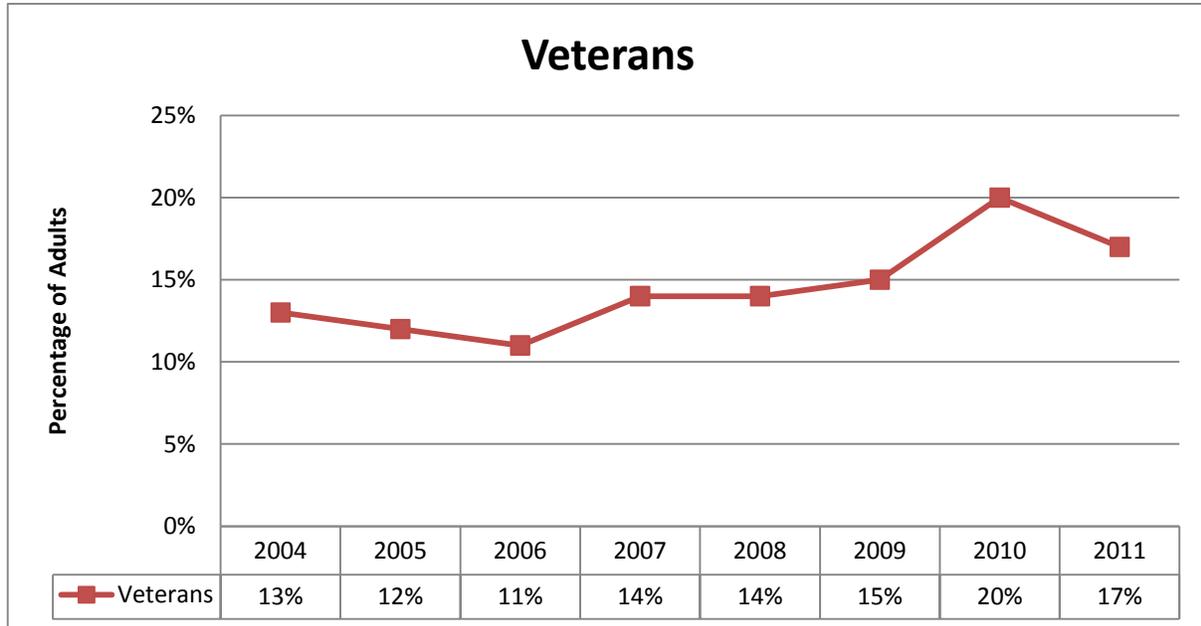
AGES	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
18 – 21	4%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%
22 – 29	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	9%	9%	10%
30 – 39	25%	23%	21%	20%	19%	20%	18%	18%
40 – 49	35%	37%	32%	33%	34%	34%	30%	28%
50 – 59	20%	20%	25%	28%	26%	27%	32%	30%
60 – 69	4%	5%	6%	4%	6%	6%	7%	7%
70 +	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%

The 2011 results support that the homeless population is aging along with the mainstream national population. The largest clusters of age are in the age groups of "40-49" and "50-59." Percentage increases were found in the "18-21" and the "22-29" age groups while those 70 and older increased from 1% to 3% and represented 3.5% of the total number of persons surveyed.

2011 - Total Known Marital Status		
Marital Status	Number	% of Total
Divorced	717	24%
Married	177	6%
Separated	296	10%
Single	1,660	56%
Widowed	110	4%
Total Known Marital Status	2,960	100%

Veterans

The percentage of adults who are reporting Veteran status has decreased this year from 20% to 17% of those surveyed. Of Veteran's experiencing homelessness, 21% surveyed report being chronically homeless.



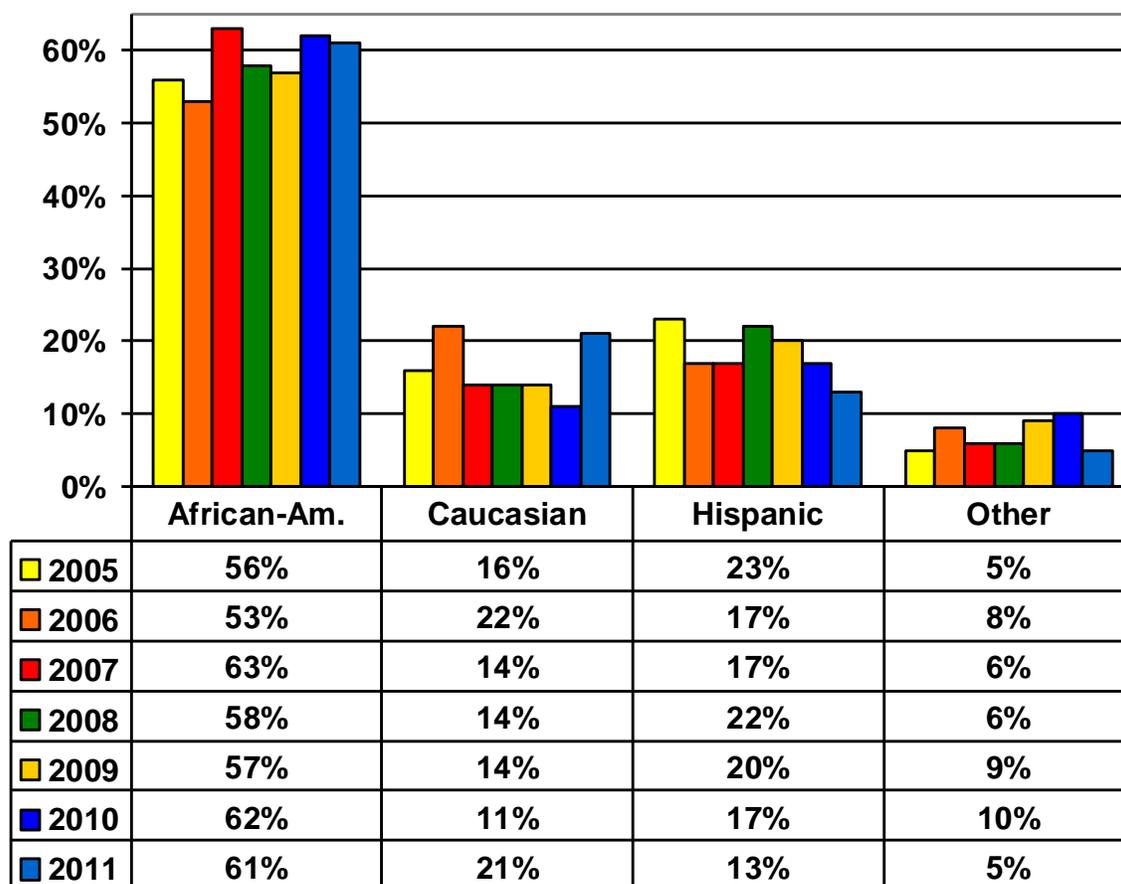
Child / Youth Population

- **461 Respondents** indicated that they **had children living with them** on the night of the count which was an increase of 27% from 2010
- **823 Children** were represented on the surveys which was an **increase of 8%** from 2010.
- **51 Unaccompanied Children were discovered.**
 - **25 of the Unaccompanied Children** were represented on surveys.
 - **13 of the Unaccompanied Children** were identified by the Dallas ISD.
 - **13 of the Unaccompanied Children** were identified by the Mesquite ISD.
- In 2011, **children and youth** made up **20%** of the total homeless population, **level with 2010.**

2011 - Total Children / Youth of Known Gender			
Number / %	Minor Males	Minor Females	Total Known Gender
Number	431	386	817
% of Known Gender	53%	47%	100%

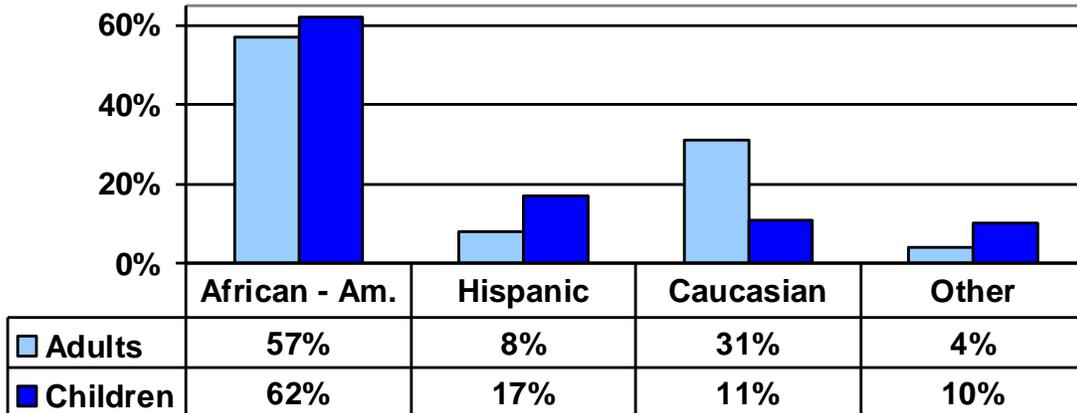
2011- Total Children / Youth of Known Race						
Number / %	African American	Caucasian (White)	Hispanic (Latino)	American Indian	Other	Total Known Race
Number	482	163	107	2	38	792
% of Known Race	61%	21%	13%	<1%	5%	100%

Homeless Children & Youth Racial Demographics



The following table illustrates that, for the sixth year, there appears to be an over-representation of homeless Hispanic children and youth as compared to the adult homeless Hispanic population.

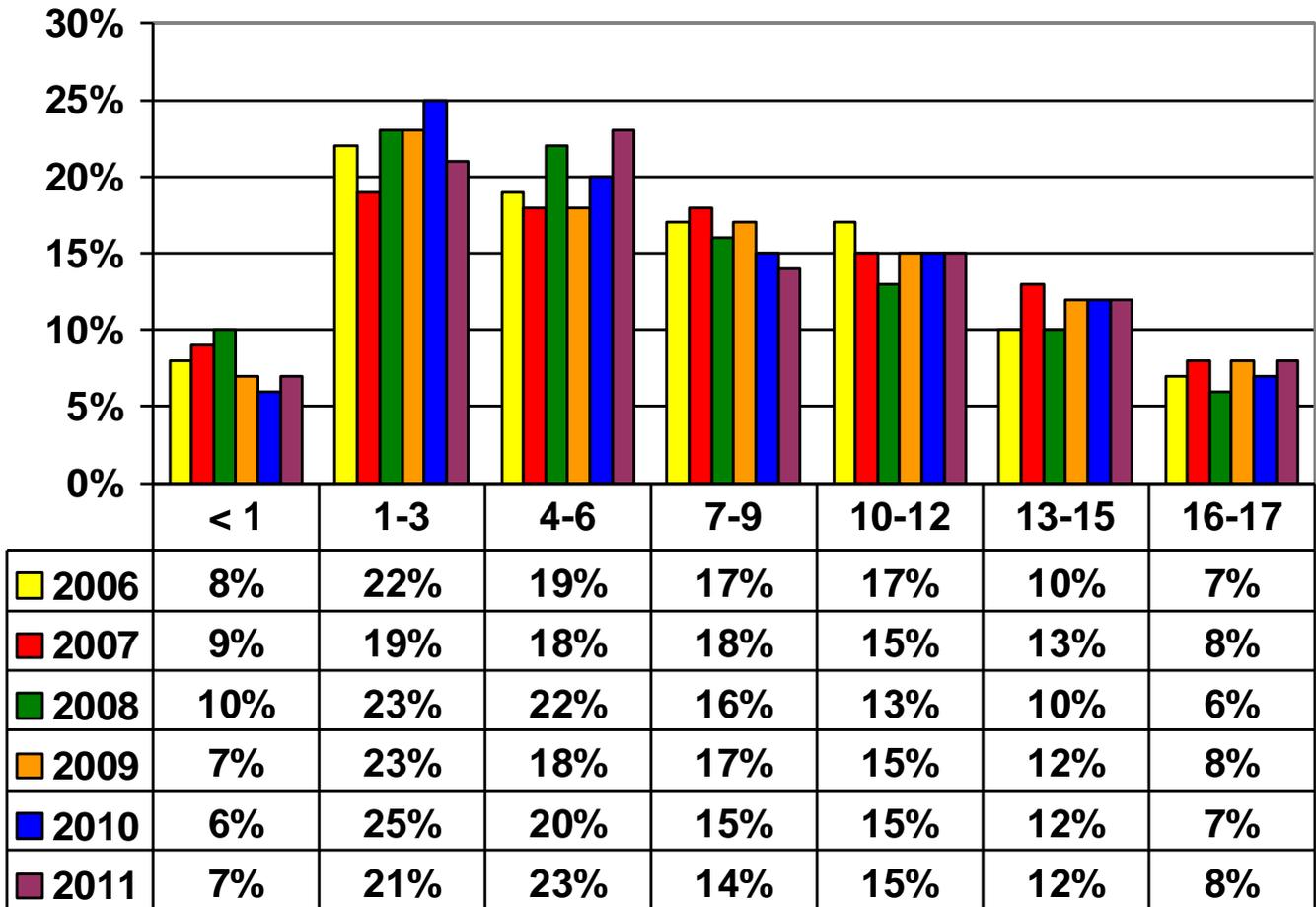
2011 Comparison of Racial Demographics between Adults and Children / Youth



The largest representation of children was in the age group of 4 – 6 years (23%), with the second largest age group being 1 – 3 (21%).

2011 - Total Children / Youth of Known Ages		
Age	Number	% of Total Known Age
< 1 Year	59	7%
1-3 Years	180	21%
4-6 Years	196	23%
7-9 Years	119	14%
10-12 Years	132	15%
13-15 Years	100	12%
16-17 Years	69	8%
Total Known Age:	855	100%

Age of Homeless Children & Youth



Youth Survey and Dallas County ISD Information Related to Homelessness

The current U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) definition of homelessness often excludes many homeless children attending Dallas County School Districts. In an effort to provide a more inclusive picture of homelessness among children in Dallas County, a separate Youth Survey was developed for the 2011 Point-In-Time Count and Census additionally two school districts in Dallas County, the Dallas ISD and Mesquite ISD, provided information from the homeless liaison data that is reported to the U.S. Department of Education.

The U.S. Department of Education uses a broader definition for homelessness than that utilized by HUD. Most notably, the Department of Education includes additional provisions for persons who:

- share the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- live in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations.¹

The numbers below represent homeless children reported by participating Dallas County School Districts.

School District All Grades	# of Homeless Children on January 27, 2011
Dallas ISD	1,240
Mesquite ISD	Not reported
TOTAL:	1,240

School District	# of Unaccompanied Children under the age of 18 enrolled in school on the day of the Count
Dallas ISD	13
Mesquite ISD	13
TOTAL:	26

The Youth Surveys conducted by personnel from agencies who work with homeless children and young adults provided the following information on 22 of the 51 children identified as unaccompanied children 17 and younger. Their living arrangements are based on the 22 surveys and percentages are based on the number of surveys.

- 11 or 50% of those surveyed were living in emergency shelter
- 5 or 23% were couch/sofa surfing
- 2 or 10% were doubled up with family or friends
- 1 or 5% was living outdoors

¹ *Questions and Answers on Special Education & Homelessness*. U.S. Department of Education. February, 2008. <http://www.ed.gov/policy/speced/guid/spec-ed-homelessness-q-a.doc>

2011 – Known Ages of Youth on the Youth Survey		
Age	Number	% of Total Known Age
14 Years	7	21%
15 Years	4	11%
16 Years	7	21%
17 Years	16	47%
Total Known Age:	34	100%

2011 - Known Gender of Youth on the Youth Survey			
Number / %	Minor Males	Minor Females	Total Known Gender
Number	21	12	33
% of Known Gender	64%	36%	100%

2011- Known Race of Youth on the Youth Survey						
Number / %	African American	Caucasian (White)	Hispanic (Latino)	American Indian	Other	Total Known Race
Number	16	7	6	0	1	30
% of Known Race	53%	24%	20%	0%	3%	100%

The 22 Youth who completed surveys reported:

- 50% or 11 had been homeless less than one (1) month
- 27% or six (6) had been homeless for 11 months or longer
- 50% or 11 were homeless because of family problems
- 27% or 6 were homeless because of not enough money
- 18% or 4 were homeless because they had been thrown out

Top five needs indicated from the surveys included the following:

1. GED or High School Diploma
2. Food Stamps
3. Job Training
4. Job Placement
5. Medical Care

Causes of Homelessness based on the Point-In-Time Count and Census Surveys

When asked to provide between one (1) and three (3) reasons why they were homeless, respondents provided the following information. Not everyone who completed a survey provided responses to this question. Percentages are based on the number of surveys completed, not the number of respondents who answered the question.

The main cause remains "Unemployed, Lost Job." In 2011, this category increased to 54% from 51% in 2010. The 3% increase in unemployment is likely due to the continuing high unemployment rate and sluggish economy.

The percentage of respondents who indicated that they were homeless due to Mental Illness rose to 30% in 2011 from 27% in 2010.

The percentage of respondents who indicated they were homeless due to Substance Abuse / Dependence declined to 30% in 2011 from 34% in 2010.

Self-Reported Cause of Homelessness					
Reason Homeless	Number	% of Total	Reason Homeless	Number	% of Total
Unemployed, Lost Job	1,674	54%	Medical Disability	620	20%
Substance Abuse/ Dependence	941	30%	Eviction	400	13%
Not Enough Money	1,200	38%	Legal Problems	340	11%
Family Problems	747	24%	Other	137	4%
Mental Illness	947	30%	Natural Disaster	32	1%
Domestic Abuse	310	10%	Sex Offender	20	<1%

Hurricane Evacuees

In September of 2005, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the U.S. Gulf Coast, which led to the unprecedented evacuation of millions of families and individuals to new cities across the country. Our proximity to the affected area brought several thousand households into Dallas. The majority of these households were able to utilize the resources allocated by FEMA to secure housing. Some were not. Beginning in 2006, MDHA included some questions to learn about evacuees who joined those in Dallas who were already homeless. Since that time, natural disasters have continued to play a significant role in the relocation of several households throughout the region.

Which Hurricane	2008	2009	2010	2011
Gustav	--	2	0	0
Ike	--	6	4	4
Katrina	38	34	57	33
Rita	78	3	2	4

City Moved From	
Leesville, LA	New Orleans, LA
Biloxi, MS	
Beaumont, TX	Houston, TX

Frequency / Duration of Homelessness

- **1,537 respondents (49%)** indicated that they had been **homeless for at least 1 year** which represented a 10% decrease from the 2010 respondents.
Of these respondents who provided sufficient information to determine where they were living:
 - **471 (31%)** were living in **Permanent Supportive Housing** (down from 32% in 2010)
 - **305 (20%)** were living in **Transitional Housing** (down from 32% in 2010)
 - **69 (4%)** were living in **Drug Treatment** (down from 5% in 2010)
 - **461 (30%)** were living in **Emergency Shelter** (up from 20% in 2010)
 - **119 (8%)** were living **Outdoors or in Abandoned Buildings** (level with 2010)
 - **69 (4%)** were living in **Motels or Other Locations** (up from 3% in 2010)

- **257 respondents (8%)** indicated that they had been **homeless 4 or more times in the past 3 years** which represented a 2% increase from the 2010 respondents.
Of these respondents who provided sufficient information to determine where they were living:
 - **42 (16%)** were living in **Permanent Supportive Housing** (down from 27% in 2010)
 - **56 (22%)** were living in **Transitional Housing** (down from 24% in 2010)
 - **8 (3%)** were living in **Drug / Alcohol Treatment** (down from 15% in 2010)
 - **110 (31%)** were living in **Emergency Shelter** (up from 30% in 2010)
 - **6 (2%)** were living **Outdoors or in Abandoned Buildings** (level with 2010)
 - **27 (10%)** were living in **Motels or Other Locations** (up from 3% in 2010)

- **970 respondents (31%)** indicated that they had become **homeless for the first time in the past 12 months** down from 32% in 2010.
Of these respondents who provided sufficient information to determine where they were living:
 - **147 (15%)** were living in **Permanent Supportive Housing** (up from 7% in 2010)
 - **250 (26%)** were living in **Transitional Housing** (down from 36% in 2010)
 - **18 (2%)** were living in **Drug / Alcohol Treatment** (down from 9% in 2010)
 - **431 (44%)** were living in **Emergency Shelter** (up from 40% in 2010)
 - **27 (3%)** were living **Outdoors or in Abandoned Buildings** (down from 5% in 2010)
 - **74 (8%)** were living in **Motels or Other Locations** (up from 3% in 2010)

Of those reporting that they were homeless for the first time, **865** indicated how long they had been homeless:

2011 - Known Results for How long Homeless (Less than 1 year)					
Number / %	< 1 month to 2 months	3 to 5 months	6 to 8 months	9 to 11 months	Total Known Time Period
Number	285	237	213	130	865
% of Total	33%	27%	25%	15%	100%

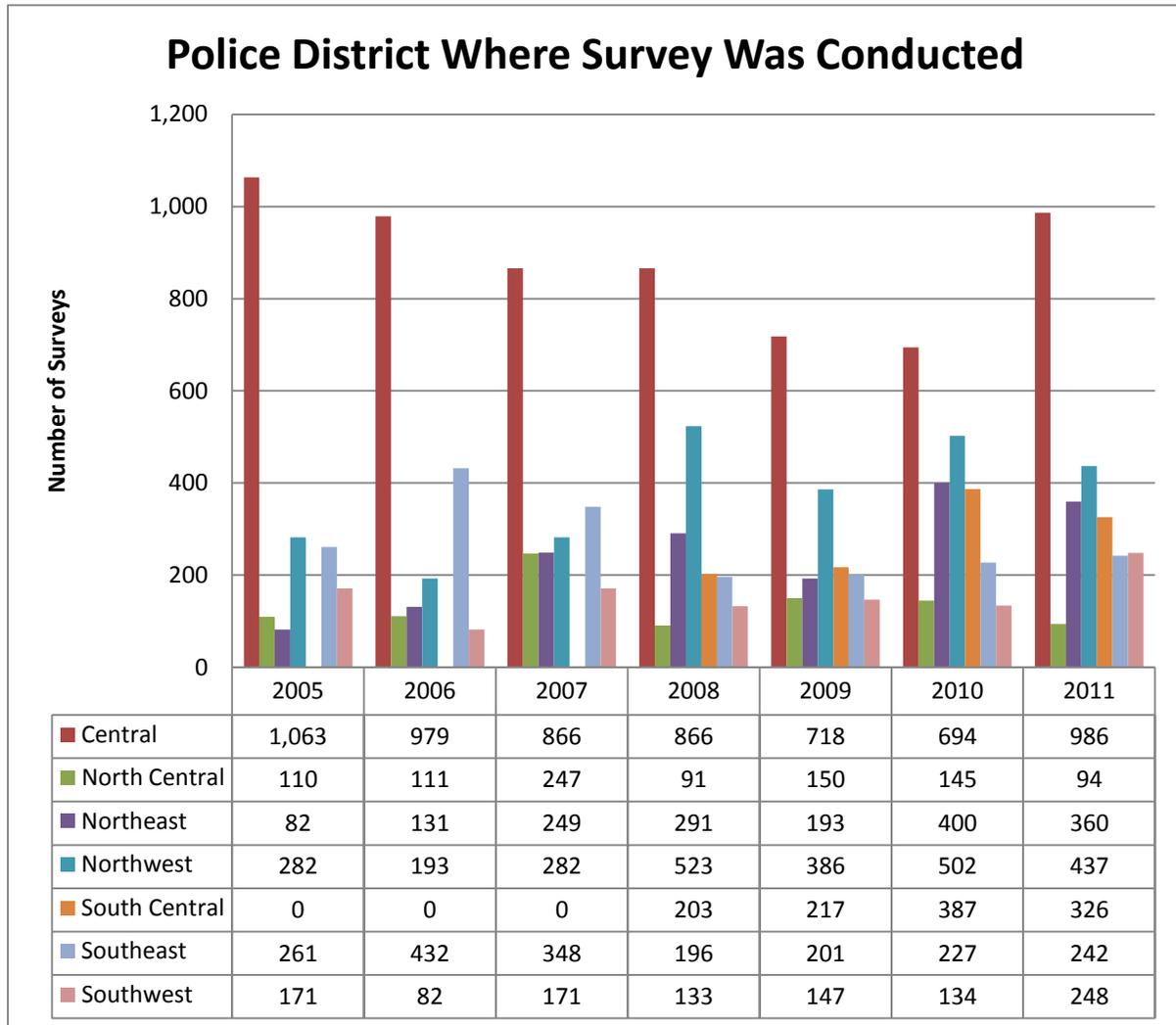
Survey Location

2011 – Known Results for City where survey was completed

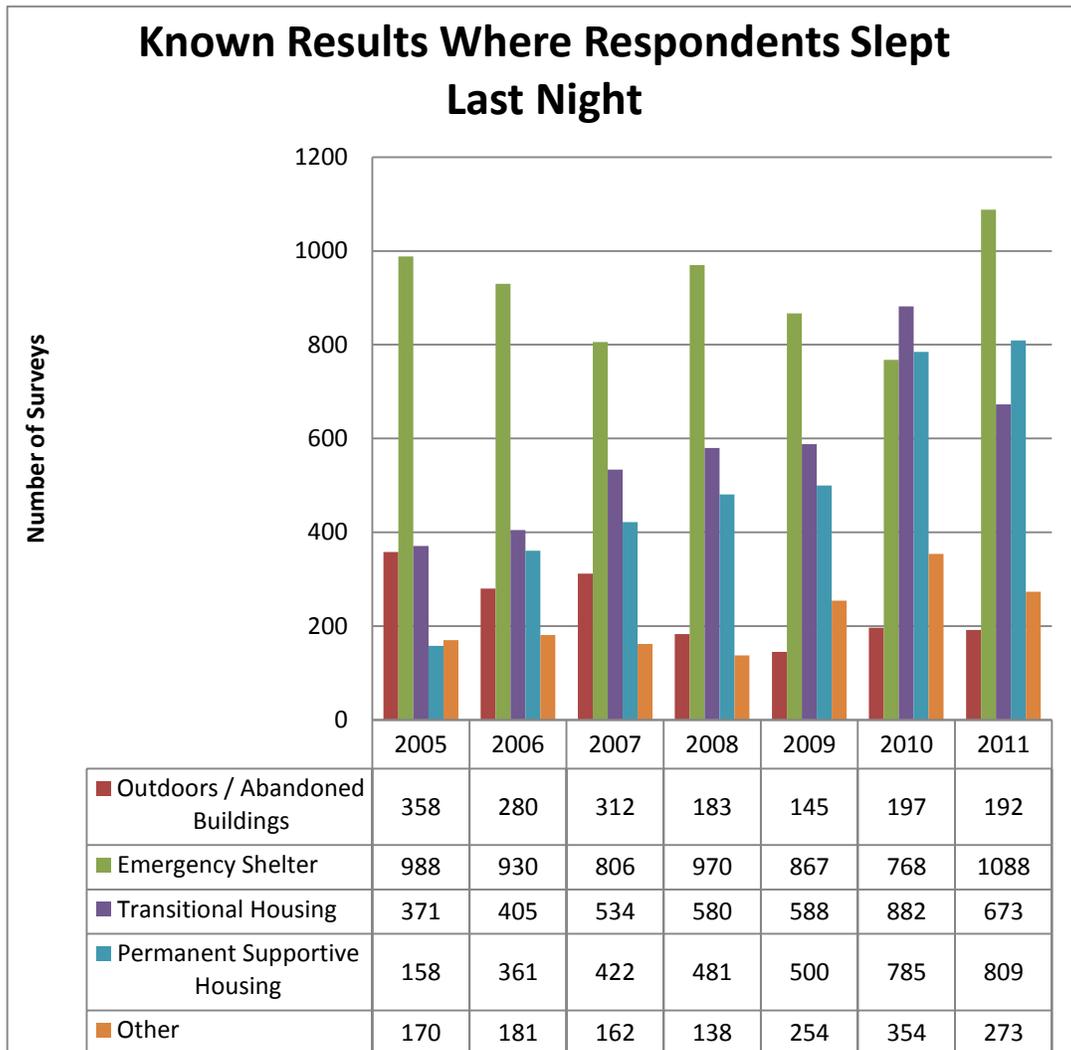
City	Carrollton	Coppell	Dallas	Garland	Grand Prairie	Hutchins	Irving	Total
Number	1	1	2,966	58	13	1	88	3,128
% of Total	<1%	<1%	95%	2%	<1%	<1%	3%	100%

As housing opportunities are created for homeless and formerly homeless populations across the city, the number of homeless individuals in the City of Dallas Central Police District has declined. **PLEASE NOTE:** As demonstrated in the chart below, boundaries for police districts were changed in 2008, and a South Central Division was added.

Police District Where Survey Was Conducted



Sleep Location



Percentages in housing programs increased for the **sixth consecutive year**. Dallas has successfully increased the numbers of persons who have achieved housing placement each year since the 2004 implementation of the Dallas 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. A comparison of 2005 figures to 2011 shows a:

- **46% decrease** in those sleeping **Outdoors or in Abandoned Buildings**
- **10% increase** in those sleeping in **Emergency Shelters**
- **81% increase** in those sleeping in **Transitional Housing (TH)**
- **412% increase** in those sleeping in **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)**

The 2011 increase in those sleeping in Permanent Supportive Housing can be attributed to two factors:

1. Targeted increase in housing placements and development.
2. The stimulus funds received by the area for Rapid Re-Housing of homeless households.

Increased Housing Placements & Development:

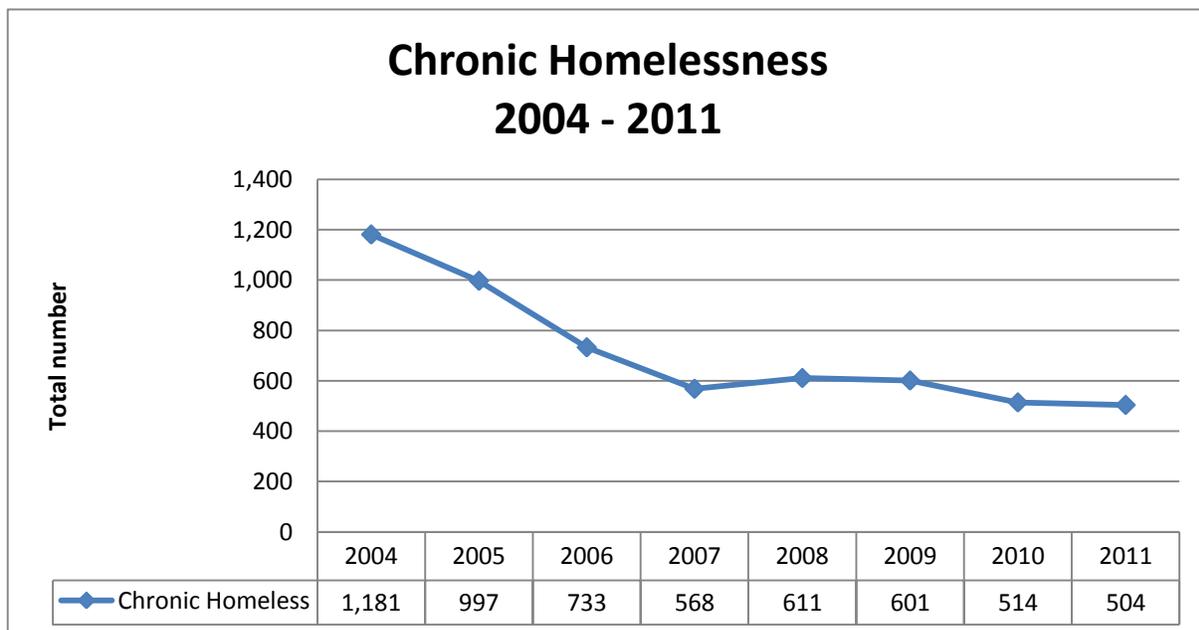
The variables leading to these positive results are most likely due to three strategies outlined in the 10-Year Plan:

- The development of **230 additional PSH units**. These additional beds / homes were funded primarily through the HUD Continuum of Care and in partnership with NorthStar, the local administrator for public funds in the area of behavioral healthcare, and the Dallas Housing Authority.
- Ongoing efforts in outreach engagement provided by the Assertive Homeless Crisis Outreach Unit.
- Utilization of The Bridge, Dallas' multi-service campus for people experiencing homelessness, to help people residing in shelters address their health and income needs and transition to housing.
- **388** people transitioned from shelters to housing, through utilization of The Bridge homeless alliance center which represented an 8% increase from the previous year.

Chronic Homeless Population

In 2011, there were **504 Chronically Homeless** individuals in Dallas, a **decrease of 2%** from 2010. Since 2004, the number of Chronically Homeless individuals has **decreased 57%** due in part to the community's focus on addressing the issues effecting this population.

Below is a comparison of the actual number of Chronically Homeless:



Comparison of Chronic Homeless to the Overall Homeless Population

Below is a comparison of selected demographics in the total homeless population and the chronic homeless population:

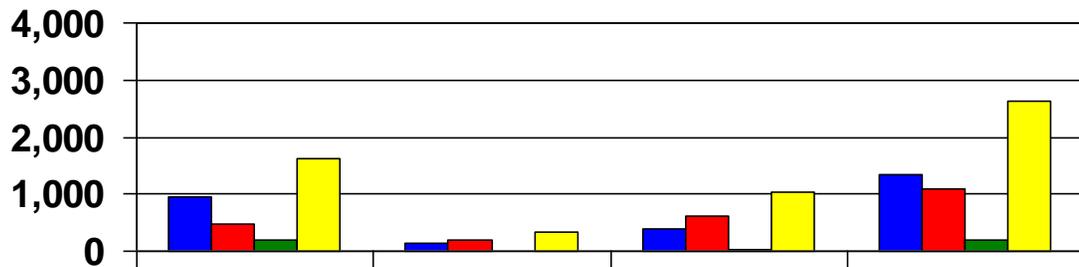
Characteristic	Total Homeless Population				Chronic Homeless Population			
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2008	2009	2010	2011
Male:	63%	61%	66%	64%	88%	81%	85%	82%
Female:	37%	39%	34%	36%	12%	19%	15%	18%
African American:	57%	59%	57%	56%	63%	65%	58%	53%
Caucasian:	31%	30%	31%	31%	28%	27%	32%	34%
Hispanic:	9%	7%	8%	8%	5%	4%	5%	7%
Other Race/Ethnicity:	3%	4%	4%	5%	4%	4%	5%	6%
Substance Abuse:	38%	37%	41%	30%	56%	56%	55%	37%
Mental Illness:	29%	33%	38%	30%	34%	44%	40%	29%
Physical Disability:	21%	26%	24%	20%	37%	44%	37%	30%

Comparison of Veteran Demographics to the Overall Homeless Population

As the community becomes more aware of the needs of veterans from previous wars and returning veterans from the current war, the following demographics are being reported for this unique sector of the homeless population.

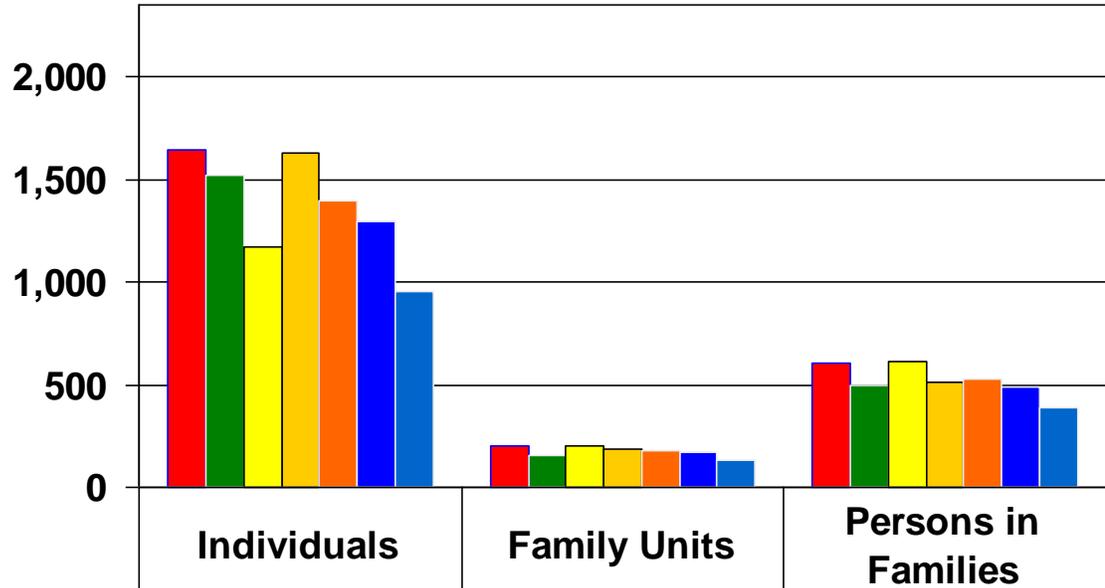
Veterans	Veteran Sub-Population as a % of the Total Homeless Adult Population	Chronic Veterans as a % of the Total Chronic Homeless Population
Year	2011	2011
% of Total:	17%	22%
Male:	23%	24%
Female:	3%	2%
African American:	10%	24%
Caucasian:	7%	19%
Hispanic:	3%	3%
Other Race / Ethnicity:	6%	19%
Substance Abuse:	18%	93%
Mental Illness:	12%	82%
Physical Disability:	12%	51%

2011 Location by Housing Type



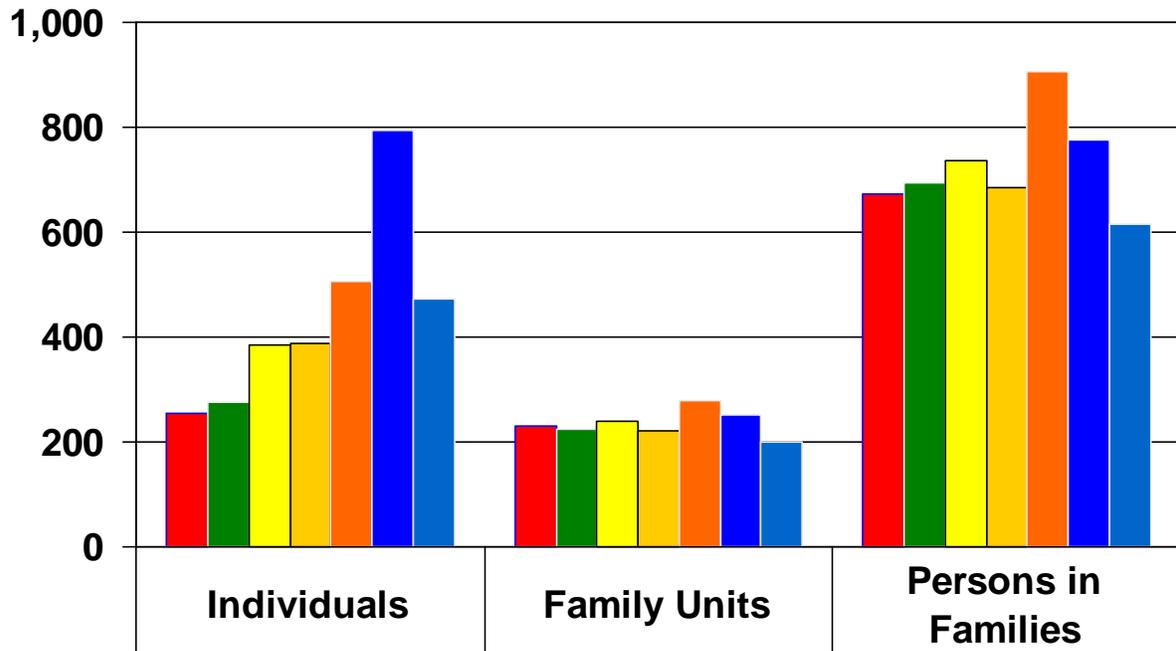
	Individuals	Family Units	Persons in Families	Total
Shelter	957	131	389	1,346
TH	474	199	616	1,090
Unsheltered	187	5	17	204
Total	1,618	335	1,022	2,640

Comparison of Emergency Shelter



	Individuals	Family Units	Persons in Families
■ Shelter 2005	1,642	202	606
■ Shelter 2006	1,519	155	494
■ Shelter 2007	1,174	202	612
■ Shelter 2008	1,632	190	512
■ Shelter 2009	1,394	178	531
■ Shelter 2010	1,297	167	490
■ Shelter 2011	957	131	389

Comparison of Transitional Housing



	Individuals	Family Units	Persons in Families
TH 2005	256	229	672
TH 2006	276	223	695
TH 2007	386	240	735
TH 2008	388	221	686
TH 2009	505	280	907
TH 2010	795	251	777
TH 2011	474	199	616

Population Characteristics

Respondents completed a personal profile that applied to them or their spouses. Below are the responses representing adults and unaccompanied youth.

Population Characteristics					
Category	Number	% of Total*	Category	Number	% of Total*
Employed (Working right now)	330	10%	Substance Abuse History	1,221	38%
Unemployed (No job at all)	1,999	62%	Mental Illness	1,230	38%
Underemployed (Part Time/Low Pay)	275	9%	Been Tested for HIV/AIDS	1,275	40%
Veteran	532	17%	Diagnosed with HIV/AIDS	178	6%
Disabled	948	30%	Domestic Abuse Victim	407	13%
Ex-Offender	642	20%	High School Diploma or GED	914	28%
On Parole	96	3%	Some College	805	25%
On Probation	175	5%	College Graduate / Diploma	263	8%
Medical Problems	1,222	38%	Ever in Foster Care	221	7%

*These percentages were gathered based on the total number of adults and unaccompanied youth represented on the surveys. However, not everyone who completed a survey provided answers to the questions in this section.

The percentage of respondents indicating *Unemployed, No job at all* increased in 2011 from 59% to 62%. This is likely a due to the economic environment and an example of the high unemployment rate.

It should be noted that 20% of the population indicated that they are ex-offenders, which presents a significant barrier to both employment and sustainable housing.

The percentage of adults who are reporting Veteran status decreased 3% this year, as indicated in the chart below.

Benefits / Services Still Needed

Respondents were asked to indicate which benefits and / or services they needed at the time the survey was completed. Below are the surveyed responses:

Benefits and Services Still Needed					
Benefit / Service	Number	% of Total*	Benefit / Service	Number	% of Total*
Bus Pass	1,203	38%	Legal Aid	346	11%
Dental Care	1,046	33%	Case Management	291	9%
Job Placement	980	31%	Life Skills	278	9%
Permanent Housing (Not Disabled)	918	30%	Mental Health Care	258	8%
Transportation	853	27%	GED Options	204	7%
Job Training	655	21%	Unemployment Benefits	196	6%
Clothing	642	21%	Substance Abuse Treatment	171	5%
Food Stamps	635	20%	Emergency Shelter	195	6%
Medical Care	620	20%	Child Support	145	5%
SSI/SSDI	497	16%	Veteran's Benefits	144	5%
Education Options	509	16%	Child Care	97	3%
Permanent Supportive Housing (Disabled)	449	14%	Veteran's Health Care	94	3%
Emotional Support	435	14%	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)	85	3%
Transitional Housing	399	13%	English Classes	57	2%
Emergency Food	373	12%	Social Security (62+)	41	1%
Picture ID	362	12%	Women, Infants & Children (WIC)	32	1%
Phone Messaging	348	11%			

* These percentages were gathered based on the total number of surveys. However, not everyone who completed a survey provided answers to the questions in this section. In addition, not everyone who completed a survey qualifies to receive all of these services for themselves or other members of their household.

For the fifth consecutive year, Bus Passes are the top benefit needed. Dental Care climbed to the second most requested benefit needed and Job Placement stayed in the top three requests.

Permanent Housing (not Disabled) is the fourth greatest need followed by Transportation and Job Training to round out the top five (5) services needed. This is a change from previous when Food Stamps made the top five. This may indicate that service providers are connecting persons experiencing homelessness to mainstream resources more effectively.

Benefits Being Received

Respondents were asked to indicate which benefits they were currently receiving at the time of the survey. Below are the responses, based on the number of surveys received.

Benefits Being Received		
Benefit	Number	% of Total*
Food Stamps	1370	44%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income)	410	13%
SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance)	324	10%
WIC (Women, Infants & Children)	101	3%
Veteran's Benefits	87	3%
Social Security (62+)	86	3%
TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families)	83	3%
Child Support	56	2%
Unemployment	47	2%
DARS	31	1%

* These percentages were gathered based on the total number of surveys. However, not everyone who completed a survey provided answers to the questions in this section. In addition, not everyone who completed a survey qualifies to receive all of these services for themselves or other members of their household.

Benefits Which Have Expired

Respondents were asked to indicate which benefits they had been receiving at one point, but which had expired at the time the survey was completed. Below are the responses, based on the number of surveys received.

Benefits Which Have Expired		
Benefit	Number	% of Total*
Food Stamps	632	20%
Unemployment	280	9%
WIC (Women, Infants & Children)	99	3%
TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)	77	2%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income)	55	2%
SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance)	50	2%

* These percentages were gathered based on the total number of surveys. However, not everyone who completed a survey provided answers to the questions in this section. In addition, not everyone who completed a survey qualifies to receive all of these services for themselves or other members of their household.

Glossary of Terms

Chronically Homeless Person – An unaccompanied adult who has been homeless for at least one year or has experienced four episodes of homelessness in the last three years and has a disabling condition. For the purposes of this definition, these individuals must either live on the streets or in emergency shelters.

Drug / Alcohol Treatment Facility – Any facility which has as its primary purpose providing in-patient treatment to those suffering from substance abuse / dependence.

Emergency Shelter – A facility with the primary purpose of providing temporary or transitional shelter for persons experiencing homelessness or for specific homeless population's. Among these are domestic violence shelters, family shelters, shelters for single men and women, etc. Although Emergency Shelters may provide supportive services, their primary focus is on the provision of temporary shelter.

Household – A group of individuals, of which at least one is the primary caregiver, who are living together and related by blood, marriage or self-proclamation.

Permanent Supportive Housing – A housing facility in which homeless persons with disabilities live and receive supportive services that enable them to live more independently. The key component of Permanent Supportive housing as to Transitional Housing is that residents must have a disability in order to qualify, and can continue to live in that facility and receive services for as long as they choose to, without time limits.

Transitional Housing – A housing facility in which homeless persons live and receive supportive services that enable them to live more independently. If the project is funded by HUD, a maximum limit of 24 months is assigned for each resident/family unless extenuating circumstances exist. Projects which are not funded by HUD may set their own limits for length of residency. The key components of transitional housing as compared to Emergency Shelter are the extended length of stay and the ubiquitous presence of supportive services, whether on or off-site.

Unaccompanied Children – In the past, HUD has defined an unaccompanied youth as any person under age 18 who presented for services alone. HUD has relabeled the "unaccompanied youth" category to "unaccompanied children." The definition of an unaccompanied child has not changed. HUD decided to change the terminology to clarify that its definition only refers to a person who is under age 18.

Acknowledgements

Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their assistance in making the 2011 Dallas Homeless Count and Census a success.

Organizations Providing Resources and Planning Assistance

City of Dallas – identification of encampments and organizational support from the Crisis Intervention Department
Community Dental Care – donated toothbrushes toothpaste for delivery to the outdoor homeless participating in the survey
Dallas Police Department – provision of 34 officers to escort survey volunteers and training assistance for the volunteers
EagleOne Services – design and updating of the database
Metrocare Services – assisted with the identification of encampment locations and surveying of remote areas during the Count
Transicare Services – available during the Count to transport people in crisis
United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, Inc. – IT and computer lab resources
ValueOptions – on-site authorization of treatment services to those seeking assistance during the count.

38 Volunteers Assisted with Data Entry (many of whom participated on multiple days)

Lisa Allen	David Kellogg
Claudia Cano	Barbara Kuhlke
Allyn Carrell	Cassandra Lott
Elfrieda Cole	Pamela Mahomes
Anthony Collins	Francesca Martinez
George Conn	Delores Murphy
Oma Conn	Melonee Orum
George Conn	Yolanda Phelps
Sandra Coppo	Mary Reed
Teresa Handel	Talethia Roberts
Lurendia Harden	Jan Robinson
Karen Hare	Kera Robinson
Ericka Hightower	Pat Sabin
Anthony Hogg	Laurie Suomala
Patricia Holt	Gaylord Thomas
Kate Gabriele	Victoria Walton
John Grieger	Nanci Williams
Jessica Gurkoff	Staci Woodruff
Yvette Joya	Adrienne Zimmern

A Special Thank-You to those in our community experiencing homelessness...

We especially want to thank the homeless citizens who were willing to share their personal experiences so that we could gain a better understanding of the challenges they face daily, and whose stories will remind us that these numbers and statistics represent a human condition that must be remedied.

46 Agencies Participated in the Count

24 Hour Club	Dallas International Street Church	Prince of Wales
AIDS Services Of Dallas	Family Gateway	Promise House
Austin Street Centre	Genesis Women's Center	Salvation Army
Brighter Tomorrows	Homeward Bound	Shared Housing
Bunkhaus	Housing Crisis Center	Soul's Harbor
Center of Hope	Interfaith Housing	SoupMobile
CitySquare	LifePath Systems	The Bridge
City of Dallas	LifeNet Community Behavioral Healthcare	The Family Place
City of Garland	Magdalen House	Turtle Creek Recovery
City of Irving	Methodist Hospital	Union Gospel Mission
City of Plano	Metrocare Services	Veteran's Affairs
ABC Behavioral Healthcare	Mosaic Family Services	Operation Relief Center
Community of Hope	New Beginning Center	Reconciliation Outreach
Dallas County	Nexus Recovery Center	Welcome House
Dallas Housing Authority	Parkland Hospital	
Dallas Life	Our Friend's Place	

193 Community Volunteers conducted the Census Survey

Juana Acosta	Kevin Franklin	Jessica Meier
Junsuk Ahn	Dennis Friedel	Purline Mitchell
Mark Agnew	Zandra Galindo	Sherry Melvin
Darius Ahmadi	Claudette Gomez	John Monroe
Rachelle Alexander	Christina Gonzales	Jan Mosebrook
Homer Allen	Chance Gray	Susan Moye
Jeanette Anderson	Lashaundra Greenhouse	Nellie Muhammad
Bonnie Athens	Jessica Guzman	Deloris Murphy
Chad Baker	Jonathan Guzman	Negin Najafian
Grant Baird	Ivory Hall	Timothy Netters
Sarah Balog	Lurendia Harden	Thao Ngo
Willie Baronet	Rev. Jimmie Harp	Judy Noble
Lisa Barnett	Nicole Harrel	Julie Noble
Christine Baud	Tom Heines	Charissa Nosenzo
Vicki Bearrow	Alan Henderson	Frank O'Hagan
Trisha Beaver	Cameron Hernholm	Rich Olivarez
Aretha Beckett	Dave Hogan	Melonee Orum
Darrell Belcher	Anthony Hogg	Jillyanne Ottey
Rebecca Bird	Amanda Holt	Anthony Parker
Brenda Brooks	Valencia Hooper	Jalah Parker
Dwan Brown	Maria Hurtado	Leah Parker
Gayla Burton	Lee Hutchins	Shan Plavets
Angie Byrd	Rickey Johnson	Stephen Pogue
Mary Caldwell	Zachary Johnson	Byanka Ponce
Miranda Carter	Linda Jones	Stephen Pope
Jessica Casenave	Cassandra Jones	Cindy Quezada
John Castle	Kathy Jones	Mary Reed
Jennifer Chapman	David Jones	Deanna Rivera
Chelsea Ciszewski	Jean Jones	Jacque Roberson
Ron Cowart	Giovani Jonenson	Talethia Roberts
Sharon Cox	James Kappelle	Latessa Roby
Sheri Crandall	Mike Katz	Frank Rodriguez
Jana Creech	Carmen Koger	Joann Rodriguez
Winford Cross	Caitlin Krauss	Sally Rosenberg
Diana Cuellar	Marie Krebs	Alexis Sanchez
Stephanie Davis	Elaine Kyle	Patti Scali
Tami Davis	Karl Lauby	Karen Schmidt
Adrienne Davis	Kim Leshar	Paul Scott
Amy Dennis	Demetra Lewis	Jasmine Setayesh
Josi Diaz	Anthony Logson	Vaishali Shah
Tom Dobson	Michael Lowery	Joseph Shipley
Jasmaine Dowe	Diana Luck	Mitra Shirmanesh
Dottie Dunnam	Karla Lynch	Ifetayo Smalls
Dabney Dwyer	David Maroney	Janet Smith
Kevin Dym	Henrietta Martin	Dianne Solis
Kristen Earwood	Micah Martinkus	Cathy Song
Grant East	Jim McCarthy	Susan Spalding
Jared Edwards	Margaret McIntyre	Kim Sparks
Amanda Elliot	Jeffrey McKown	Stefan Spong
Kassandra Escobedo	David McLaurin	Edward St. John
Damaris Eustice	Connie McLouth	Alexandria Stapp
Mike Feanza	Brian McLosth	Oliver Stark
Karen Favors	Ashlee McQuiston	Susan Stark
Lizette Flores		

193 Community Volunteers conducted the Census Survey (continued)

Paul Stauffer	Charlie Tupper	Hillary Wiggins
Hope Stedman	Christy Turner	Alex Williams
Raythetta Stern	Jeff Turner	Kevin Witt
Barbara Sun	Joseph Townson	Crystal Wolverton
Larry Sykes	Rosalinda Trevino-Ortega	Linda Woolley
Eliza Talamantes	Tiffany Tisdale	Cheryl Wooldridge
Stesha Tacker	Verlean Walton-Brooks	Joe Yanezz
Terri Tacker	Victoria Walton	Lisa Zale
Stephanie Terrill	Dan Ware	Dana Zobel
Marilu Thorn	Edith Washington	Dennis "DZ" Zweigle
Angel Trimble	Carol Webster	
Brian Tusi		

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